

To Our Rover Scouts

English Section



By Nguyen Van Thuat

2006



Foreword On The 2nd Edition

The booklet “To All Vietnamese Rovers” was first published in 1993 and in 13 years there have been many changes in our lives as well as in our Scouting activities. However, formal regulations have not been put in place for Vietnamese Scouting due to the simple fact that the Scout Association of Vietnam has not been officially re-established. Of course all overseas Vietnamese Scout units need to comply with the regulations of the National Scout Association with which they are registered for membership and activities.

In updating information on Rovering activities, this edition of “To All Vietnamese Rovers” has been revised to help Rovers respond to their present needs. This edition can also be regarded as a special contribution as well as a greeting from the author to the upcoming Jamboree Thang Tien 8, which will be held in California, USA from July 8 to July 14, 2006. What I’m hoping to achieve, through this booklet, is to provide you with the main features of the Rover Section and its activities, which may be useful and applicable to overseas Vietnamese Rover Crews.

The author wishes to thank Reverend Tien Loc, who was Commissioner for Rovers, the Scout Association of Vietnam before May 1975 for his provision of supplementary details when the booklet was reprinted by the “Rover Section Library” in Vietnam in 2004.

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- Vo Kim Tuan and Scouter Colin Platt OAM helped with the English version of the booklet which is beneficial to many young scouts.

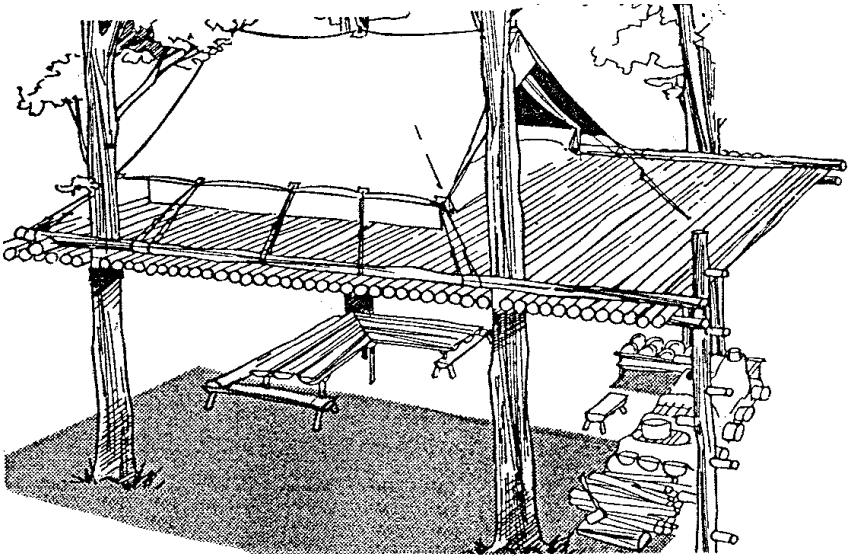
- Scouters Pham Trong Hanh, Pham Ngoc Lam, Tran Hoang Than and Ly Nhat Hui assisted with the tasks of layout, editing and contacting the print shop.

The author is extremely grateful to everyone for their assistance and support. Without your contribution and the support of the International Central Committee of Vietnamese Scouting, the reprinting of the booklet would not have been made possible.

I am sure “*Gửi Bạn Tráng Sinh*” is far from being perfect. I would appreciate comments from all of you, especially from Rovers, as your feedback would help to improve the booklet in future publications.

Sydney, Winter 2006

Nguyễn Văn Thuật



Welcome to the Rover Crew!



When you become a Rover whether you come from the Venturer Section or are just joining the Crew without having a Scouting background, you may have expectations that the Rover activities will offer you friendships, lots of fun, a good learning environment and plenty of opportunities to help you develop to your full potential.

Everybody wants to have a happy life and good friends so that they can learn from each other for mutual benefit and assistance. And through the work we do to help others we feel that our lives are more meaningful. You will be able to achieve these things when you join the Crew because this is the right environment for adult members of the Scouting Movement to meet for friendship. The exchange of ideas and experiences in the Crew will start them on the road to helping others. The founder of the Scouting Movement, Lord Baden-Powell, in his book "Rovering to Success" first published in 1922, wrote: "Rovers are a Brotherhood of Open Air and Service".

If the National Scout Association you are registered with for your membership has a Rover Section, you must comply with the regulations of that association. This booklet, however, will give you a better understanding of Rover activities in other countries as well as in Vietnam before May 1975. It will better equip and prepare you for whatever you may want to do in your Rover activities. On the contrary, if there is no Rover Section operating within the National Scout Association, this booklet will be of great personal benefit to you.

For those who have never been a Scout in the previous age groups (Joey, Cub, Scout, Venturer) a question may be asked: What is Scouting?

So before we discuss about Rover activities in detail let's have a brief look at the Scouting Movement.

What is Scouting?

Scouting can be understood in many different ways. For children between 6 and 11 years old (Joey and Cub Scouts) Scouting means imagination, enjoying fun games, listening to interesting jungle stories told by their leaders. Children between 12 and 14 years old (Scouts) understand Scouting is still full of fun in the same way as the first age group but with competitions included in their activities. Personal friendships together with learning new active skills to fit in with any situation helps them learn responsibility. For teenagers between 15 and 17 years old (Venturers) Scouting means new challenging activities which require significant effort to overcome. It also means they need to help their community and through this work they make their lives more meaningful and they become responsible for their own actions.



And of course for some, Scouting simply means having fun, singing, camping, caving, abseiling and working for the benefit of others.

All the above are some aspects of Scouting and while we all see it differently, understandably people look at Scouting from their personal perspectives and according to their positions. Perhaps the best way to help to understand Scouting is to look at the definition of Scouting on www.scout.org given by World Organization of The Scout Movement in Geneva, Switzerland:

- Scouting is... *Education for Life,
A Movement for Youth,
International,
Open to All,
Fun with a Purpose,
A Challenge for Adults,
Voluntary,
Non Political,
Non-Governmental*
- Scouting is... *a Method,*
- Scouting is... *a Code of Living,*
- Scouting is... *Meeting Real Needs*

The above definitions are then further explained, for example *“Education for life”* is detailed as *“Scouting complements the school and the family, filling needs not met by either. Scouting develops self knowledge, the need to explore, to discover, to want to know. Scouting discovers the world beyond the classroom, tapping the skills of others to learn and passing that knowledge on to others.”*

And the definition *“A movement for youth”* is detailed as *“Scouting is a Movement... on the move. Evolving and adapting everywhere, according to local conditions, serving according to local needs.”*

If we look at all the explanations detailed by World Organization of The Scout Movement we can have a clear overview about the great advantages of Scouting.

Since the Scout Movement was established in 1907, it is estimated that over 300 million people have joined the Movement and many of them have proved to be very successful. This is the world's biggest youth movement with 28 million members in more than 216 countries and territories and the membership is still growing.

Vietnamese Scouting Movement

Vietnamese Scouts began in Ha Noi in 1930 and spread out to provinces in central Vietnam and then to Southern Vietnam.

The Movement grew gradually and steadily due to tremendous efforts of the early generations. After the country was divided in 1954 a large number of Scouters and members left the North and went to the South. The Movement was then reinforced and continued to grow rapidly and was recognized by the World Organization of The Scout Movement in 1957. The Girl Guides Association of Vietnam was also recognized and granted membership of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts in 1966.

Before May 1975 there were about 15,000 Scout members in South Vietnam. Through its educational, social and youth activities, the Scout Movement was favoured and well recognized by the Vietnamese people as one of the rare organizations working for the benefit of the community at that time.

After the fall of Saigon, the Vietnamese Scout Movement continued to exist first in several refugee camps in South East Asia and later in countries where a large number of Vietnamese people are living.

Under the leadership of the International Central Committee of Vietnamese Scouting (ICCVS) and its standing committee (the ICCVS have representatives from countries where the Vietnamese Scout activities are running) the Movement is continuing to develop in pursuit of the principles and philosophy of the World Organization of The Scout Movement (WOSM) initiated by Lord Baden-Powell as well as contributing to the preservation of the Vietnamese culture. The ICCVS has been recognized by WOSM as representative of all Vietnamese Scouts branches. In respect of administration all Vietnamese Scout Units worldwide are an integral part of the National Scout Association of the country where they are operating and receiving support from them.

In France the Vietnamese Scout Association of France which represents all the Vietnamese Scout Groups in France is granted associate membership of French Scouting.

Today Vietnamese Scouts is a movement for boys and girls. The movement holds an International Jamboree of Vietnamese Scouting every four years. The eighth jamboree will be held in California, USA in July 2006 following previous ones in 1985, 1987, 1990, 1993, 1995, 1998 and 2002 in France, Canada, Australia and the United States of America.



Why Vietnamese Scouting? And For Whom?

Why should we join Vietnamese Scouting while the local Scout Groups of the country in which we live are so active? We are now living in our new country with new culture and lifestyle, we need to adapt to our new environment in order to survive and progress and for this reason, perhaps we need to strive for integration into the new society in the hope that we will be treated like those who were born here? In other words, why don't we mix up with the local Scouts of the country in which we live? Why should we keep Vietnamese Scout units operating separately from the local Scout Groups of the country of our residence?

In order to answer this question, we need to look back at our own experiences. We will find that on the one hand, we need to make an effort to adapt to our new country in many ways. For example, we need to learn the new language and culture, trying to seek employment or business opportunities, etc. so that we can survive and improve our lives. On the other hand there is always a need for us to maintain our cultural background and our identity. Obviously we want to speak Vietnamese, enjoy our Vietnamese food, listen to our Vietnamese music and in all the circumstances we feel that it is much easier for us to understand one another among our fellow Vietnamese.

Those needs can only be met on the basis of a national environment. The process of integration takes considerable time. Sociologists' studies have proved that it takes several generations before migrants' descendants can fit in with their new country. And while this process is still going migrants have the need to also maintain their original identity. Certainly in a short period of time, it is impossible for migrants to be able to adapt completely and totally to their new country and cut off all links with their origin.

Many years ago when I was living in Germany, a colleague of mine, in answering my question, said that a foreigner would always be considered by the German people a foreigner although he or she might speak very fluent German, had been naturalized and obtained German citizenship. He or she would never be considered a German by the German people. Another colleague of mine, an Australian who was born in Sydney, was a bit less serious, had an incomprehensible smile when referring to an Asian woman who had been living in Australia for a very long time and who was holding a high position in our company. This

woman was trying to prove she was a “real” Australian, just like any other Australians!

Whether you like it or not, the fact remains that there are differences between us and those who were born here (physical appearances, colour of hair and skin, culture). It takes time for us to adjust and adapt to our new environment before a harmonious integration can be completely achieved. Within Vietnamese families, there is the need for communication between children, parents and grand parents. This communication will help the children in their personal development through experience learned from previous generations. I’m sure you are aware of many sad stories that happened as a result of a lack of understanding or even worse communication breakdown between parents and children in many families. Our mother tongue is a means of connecting people of different ages, the young and the old because not many parents and grand parents are fluent in the language of the country of their residence to the extent that they can express themselves comfortably. Therefore, fluency in the Vietnamese language will help the children to communicate with their family, their relatives and all other Vietnamese people either in Vietnam or overseas and this in turn will definitely benefit them and broaden their future. In countries of resettlement new cultural values brought in by Vietnamese migrants are warmly welcome and some gradually becomes new traditions of these countries. Those who can speak more than the official language have more chance to get good jobs and more income. The maintenance and promotion of Vietnamese culture by Vietnamese overseas is really a necessary and practical effort.

The task of promoting the use of the Vietnamese language with the aim of maintaining our traditions and culture can be achieved through Vietnamese Scout units’ activities under the guidance of enthusiastic Scouters. And that is the reason to explain the continuing existence of the Vietnamese Scouts in many countries after 30 years of their resettlement. Understanding the importance of this issue, The International Central Committee of Vietnamese Scouting (ICCVS) through its Charter which was announced on 3 July 1983 in Costa Mesa (USA) confirmed the following two principles of the Vietnamese Scouts: “Continually observing the Scouts fundamentals and philosophy initiated by Lord Baden-Powell and other principles of the World Scout Movement and at the same time responding to the need of maintaining our national spirit and culture”.

Like any other Vietnamese organizations, Vietnamese Scouting is firstly a “warm cradle” where overseas Vietnamese can get together and feel like they are at home. The Vietnamese Scouting, however, does not

stop there, but they go further. Through brotherly and friendly connection within the World Scouting which is one of the essentials of the Scout Movement, you will have abundant opportunities for learning and integrating into your new country. The Vietnamese Scouting is building a two-way road, one will help you come closer to the country of your residence and the other provides you with a national cradle for your return to your cultural origin. So the Vietnamese Scouting can be seen as a bridge linking your new life to your origin.

In summary, the Vietnamese Scouting helps our children in maintaining our culture and traditions and at the same time responding to the need of integration into their new society under the guidance of Scouting.

Vietnamese Scouting – For whom?

Who are the targets of the Vietnamese Scouts? Obviously people targeted by the Vietnamese Scouts are the Vietnamese children. They are the hope and future of their country. By participating in Scout activities led by their enthusiastic and capable Scouters together with their supportive parents the children will have plenty of opportunities for learning and playing and through these activities they will be obtaining new skills. It should be noted that Scouting is an educational environment where the children can join in not only activities organized by the Scout Association of the country of their residence but they also learn about Vietnamese culture as well.

Of course the Vietnamese Scouts is for the children. However it also brings joy and satisfaction to their Scouters who make considerable sacrifice for the benefit of the children. These leaders, through their Scout activities, will find their lives more interesting and meaningful as they have more friends, learn more skills particularly management skills. They feel more satisfied as they are making contribution to the community in which they live. If everybody's goal is happiness and if happiness means joyfulness and pleasure deep down in our heart then Scouters are definitely happy people. Whenever a Scouter reflects on all the good work they have done for children, or seeing the children play and learn in a loving atmosphere they have helped create will give them enormous satisfaction.

Certainly, the contribution made by the Vietnamese Scouts and its members will bring good reputation to the Vietnamese community. All migrant or refugee communities will be very proud of their individual members and organizations who are successful and who make a significant contribution to their society. In contrast, we are very disappointed to see some members of our community who are criminals

and are in deep trouble with the law. We feel ashamed and embarrassed whenever their criminal activities are reported in the media.

The country of our residence will be pleased to see that its new settlers have become law abiding citizens and are contributing positively to their new country. This is also a way to show how much we appreciate all the help and assistance we received. Now we want to pay back to the country that was willing to open its arms to accept us.

This, in turn, will also benefit our Vietnamese homeland in many ways. Apart from financial assistance given by overseas Vietnamese to their relatives and friends back home, the overseas Vietnamese communities will continue to maintain and promote their cultural values and traditions. To these people, the image of Vietnam always exists in their heart and for that reason they are always willing to contribute to the building and development of their homeland when the time comes.



Organisation of A Rover Crew

Although the Scout Movement began in 1907 in the UK, the Rover Section only came into existence in 1917 in response to the need for providing activities for older Scouts. A year later, in 1918, the words "Rover Scouts" were officially created. In Vietnam, Lam Sơn (Hà Nội), Hồng Lĩnh (Vinh), Võ Tánh (Thanh Hoá) Rover Crews were the first ones to be established in 1936.

The Rover Crew is a place of gathering, learning and working for Rovers. Everybody wants to have friends, entertainment, and to get help when needed. They also want to be useful and productive to their society. The Rover Section is aimed to meet these needs. The term "Tráng Sinh" (Rover) reminds us of the image of a knightly man of the old time in Vietnam who often engaged in courageous actions for the protection of the poor, the weak and the disadvantaged. This also reminds us of one of the national heroes in our history - Pham Ngu Lao. This person was so concentrating on the State affairs while still making bamboo baskets that his leg was injured with a spear without him realizing it. Another hero was Tran Binh Trong who made a famous statement: "I'd rather be a ghost of the South than a King of the North". Also in our history a heroine Trieu Thi Trinh who said she wanted to step on "stormy waves" in order to save her country and her people. Although these images are no longer ideal role models to young Vietnamese people of today they are still relevant in painting the good picture of a Rover. Much effort has been made in search for an exemplary image of a Vietnamese Rover Scout. This issue was a topic for discussion at the National Conference of the Vietnamese Rover Scouts held in Dalat in 1969. Certainly the image of an exemplary Vietnamese Rover Scout of today needs to reflect our changing world.

If the Scout Movement's goal is to help make good citizens for the society, then the Vietnamese Scout at present is striving to make good citizens for the country of their residence and to maintain the national culture of their origin. And this is reflected in the spirit of our Vietnamese Scouting Charter. In the Scout Association's educational process, a Rover is an older Scout, who has developed physically and mentally into an adult following many years of passing through Joey Scout, Cub Scout, Scout and Venturer. So a typical Vietnamese Rover of today is probably someone who is a good citizen of the country of their residence and who still maintains the national spirit of their origin.

The Vietnamese Rover Section's motto worldwide is "Service". This motto reminds Rovers of their responsibility in helping their family,

Scouting Movement, their community and by so doing that they will enrich the lives of other people and also their own lives. Many Rover Sections mottos of other National Scout Associations are the same.

Ages Range of Rovers and Position of the Crew

All young people from 18 years of age and older can join a Rover Crew. In some countries, a 14 year old young person can join the Rover section. Details of the age ranges of Rovers in other countries will be shown in the chapter "An overview about current Roving". If you join the Rover Crew of a National Scout Association you need to comply with its regulations, including the ages range for Rovers. Experiences have shown that the maximum age limit is not really necessary, provided that you can join in with others to share the atmosphere. The flexibility helps the local Vietnamese Scout groups get more members; however if the formation of a Scout Fellowship seems to be more appropriate due to the nature of activities, the time limit of the local resource can be encouraging because it may also increase membership. A Rover Crew may be made up of leaders of a Scout Group or sometimes several Scout Groups or in a Region if they are not a great distance from each other. If for some reason a Vietnamese Scout Group can not be started in a particular place, we may begin the task by setting up a Patrol, or a Crew. Thus a Rover Crew may have about 10 members or sometimes up to 40 members in larger Crews. A Rover Crew may be registered with the National Scout Organization of the country of their residence or they can operate as a Group Council or a Scout Fellowship. This may be necessary if there is no Rover Section in their local area or if they find registration inconvenient.

Patrol

As a Rover, you will belong to a Patrol which is the basic unit of a Crew. Usually a Patrol has 5 to 7 members who are in close contact with each other because they live in the same area or work in the same company. Sometimes these people are in the same age group or previously attended the same school. Most importantly they are good friends and feel comfortable when working together. A Patrol should have a small number of people; otherwise it is harder for friendship to develop among members.

A Patrol Leader should be elected every 6 months or one year with possible re-election. The Patrol leader will be assisted by an assistant who will act on the leader's behalf in his or her absence. There may be other Patrol members with specific role such as secretary, treasurer, quartermaster etc...depending on the needs of the Patrol. All Rovers in

the Patrol should be encouraged to take turn to share responsibilities within their Patrol. This is a reflection of democratic spirit as well as an opportunity for Patrol members to learn about leadership and management skills. The Patrol is like a family as everybody joins in to work together and to enjoy together.

The Patrol may hold weekly or fortnightly meetings depending on its members' availability. For the Patrol with student members then meetings can only be held regularly after the members complete all their examinations. A meeting can take place at a member's house, during an excursion or outing and members don't have to wear uniform. To make the running of the Patrol more effective, close relationship, friendliness, mutual assistance among members are essential.

Work schedule for every 3 months, 6 months or a year should be planned by the Patrol in co-ordination with the programs of the Rover Crew and Scout Group. For example, the Scout Group may be running a couple of stalls in a Lunar New Year Festival and so the Patrol can take part in this task to help raise funds for the Group or for themselves. In a Full Moon Festival, the Patrol can help with the task of demonstrating how to make lanterns, or organize a lantern parade for children etc... The Patrol can also initiate entertainment activities for its members or help them to learn new skills when there is no activity being offered by the Rover Crew or Scout Group.

Club

In comparison with Patrol, Club is the learning and working environment for Rovers at a higher level, as it has a larger number of members. Each member in the club is capable of and interested in different things. Furthermore, the level of participation of each member also varies according to their availability. Some people are able to attend Scouting activities weekly or fortnightly, others can only be available seasonally. The club provides activities for Rovers who come from many different Patrols. Some people who join the Club are not necessarily Scout members, but they are interested in the activities organized by the Club.

Before a new Club is established, the Rover leader, together with representatives of Patrols and current Clubs (the Crew Executive) should consider what their needs are and set the goals to be achieved, based on their activity program for the whole year. This will be followed by discussions held by the Rover Crew to make a final decision before the new Club is established. The club members will then elect a leader for the Club. Some members may be invited by the Club leader to help him or her as assistants. Other members may be asked to take the role of

secretary, treasurer, etc. if necessary. The Club structure should be kept simple.

Project

In contrast with a Club which is a long term operational structure, a Project is established to carry out specific goals in a period of time. A project is not a permanent structure but a working method by which a task is to be carried out in a set period. A plan is needed in order to achieve certain goals. Thus there may be projects initiated by the Patrols, the Club or the Rover Crew. To have a better understanding of Projects, you can read "The Project Method" which appears later in this booklet.

Clubs and Projects should be open to non Scout members and people with experience and like interests. These people should be invited to take part in the Project as their participation will not only make the Project more successful but also help to promote our Movement.

Crew Executive

The Crew Executive comprises of Rover Leader and Assistant Rover Leader(s), the Patrol Leader and Assistant Patrol Leader, Club Leader and assistant Club Leader, Project Leader and Assistant Project Leader, Secretary, Treasurer and Quartermaster. The Crew Executive is responsible for study and planning of feasible activity programs. They are also responsible for implementing all tasks that have been decided by the Crew Council or instructed by the Branch or The Scout Association. The Crew Executive also suggests a set of moral values for Rovers to follow and monitors the implementation of these standards.

The Rover Leader is the Head of the Crew Executive who is regularly in contact with the Crew Executive and so is very well informed of what is happening and offers his or her advice accordingly. The Rover Leader must be thoughtful, considerate and especially fair-minded in their dealings with all Crew members. (S)he must have good knowledge and understanding of the Scouting principles and method thanks to their completion of Scouting training requirements and be in good shape financially. Otherwise it would be difficult for her/him to fulfill the responsibility especially if (s)he is leading a large Crew with both male and female members who come from different social backgrounds.

A Rover Leader, however, is not a leader with absolute power as Rovers work in a democratic environment. Any issues concerning the Rover section will always be discussed and decided by the Crew Executive and

the Crew Council. Although the Crew Executive operates under democratic principles, the opinion expressed by the member who is responsible for carrying out their task, should be respected. The reason for this is that the majority may not grasp the issue and may come up with decisions which are unrealistic and unachievable.

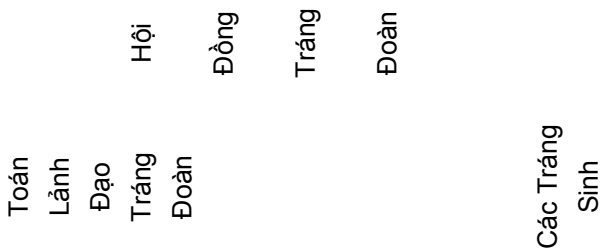
Crew Council

The Crew Council comprises of all Rovers. This is the highest body of the Crew that holds discussions and makes final decisions on any projects or activity programs of the Crew. All issues in respect of Scouting spirit, internal discipline, activity schedule, finances etc...are to be raised with the Crew Council by the Crew Executive for discussion and approval. Although this decision making process takes place under democratic principles with the final decision made by the majority, the Crew Council will always be seeking the endorsement of all participants especially on sensitive issues. To observe democratic principles, the Rover Leader who has the power of veto, uses this power only in situation where there have been a breach of the Scouting philosophy or principles. The Rover Leader presides over the Crew Council and Crew Council will select its members to be appointed as treasurer, quartermaster, secretary, etc.

Spiritual Leader

If the Crew Council has a chaplain or spiritual adviser these people will be taking part as advisors in meetings held by the Crew Executive as well as the Crew Council.

To understand the organizational structure of a Rover Crew, let's have a look at the following chart.



ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF A ROVER CREW

Trưởng Trường

Trưởng Phó (có thể là một nữ Trưởng)

Các Trường

Phụ tá Trưởng Trường

Hội

Đồng

Đường:
gồm các

Trưởng Sinh

đã Lên

Đường

Toán Trưởng

Toán Trưởng

Trưởng Xưởng

Trưởng Dự Án

Toán Phó

Toán Phó

Phó Xưởng

Phó Dự Án

Thư Ký

Thư Ký

Phân Xưởng A

Thư Ký

Thủ quỹ

Thủ quỹ

Phân Xưởng B

Thủ quỹ

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Crew's Records

The following records are very useful for the organization of a Crew. The sort of records to be kept varies depending on the need of individual Crew.

- **Application for membership:** This application contains all relevant details such as names, date of birth, address, telephone numbers, personal interests, personal skills, etc. These details will assist the Scouters committee to have a better understanding of the Rover so that they can lead the Crew more effectively. These personal details also enable the Scouters committee to hold birthday parties for their members.
- **List of Rovers and their addresses:** This record with all the names, addresses and the telephone numbers of the Rovers will help everyone in the Crew keep in touch with one another.
- **Crew's History Record:** This is the history record of the Crew which contains information on how the Crew was established and has been progressing, its achievements and difficulties encountered. etc. In this book, each of the Rovers is given a page for their personal details and fond memories to be recorded together with their photograph affixed on the page. This record will help strengthen the relationship of the Rovers in their Crew.
- **Financial record:** This record reflects all transactions regarding revenue collections and spending of the Crew which will need to be endorsed once a month or two months by the Trang Truong and Treasurer. The finance of the Crew must be reported by the treasurer at the Crew's meetings.
- **Record of minutes:** This is the record of all the meetings held and decisions taken by the Crew and the Crew Executive. This record helps everybody know exactly what was decided and how things were resolved.
- **Record of correspondence:** This record contains all the mail either received or sent by the Crew.
- **Website:** If your Rover Crew has the expertise and the access, establishing a website to promote Scouting and your Rover Crew is also very worthwhile and helpful for Scouting development. Many Rover Crews currently put in a lot of effort to improve their websites and so create more interest of other young people in joining their Crews.

Rover Method

To achieve adult members' educational objectives, the Rover Section employs some special approaches apart from common methods of the Scouting Movement. The main methods of the Scouting Movement can be briefly described as follows:

- **The Scout Law and Promise:** The 10 Laws and 3 Promises of Scouting are related to the character required of a good and useful citizen living in society. All Scout members are reminded that they should try their best to observe the Scout Law and Promise in their daily lives and should regard them as the symbol of the Scouting way of life.
- **Learning by Doing:** Scout activities are aimed at developing mental, physical and social skills not only by theoretical learning but by practical work and through the work Scout members will be able to learn from their own experience. This is one of the most effective ways of learning and applying what they have learned in the long run.
- **Working in small groups:** A Rover engages in a small group (team, patrol, etc.) that has about 5 or 7 Rovers of similar ages. This group has different work within the activity program designed by their Crew. The Rovers in each group will take turn in doing their duties so that the work of their group can be shared equally among the Rovers. This method is called Patrol System.
- **Physical and nature-oriented activity program:** The main features of Scout activities are fun and enjoyment and that explains why scout members always show their interest in these activities, especially the ones that are related to the natural environment. For example: camping, hiking, abseiling, boating etc... The majesty and splendors of the nature will bring peace and calmness to Scout members and at the same time help develop their mental well being in the sense that they are getting less dependent on material needs.

The Rover Section also applies the following 2 methods that are only suitable for Scout members at the adult level.

Self Development Plan

This is a self training program designed by each and every individual rover and is aimed at helping them come closer to Righteousness, Kind-heartedness and Aesthetic. For example, a Rover - who is a smoker and hasn't lived a healthy life for quite sometime - would promise that he

would make an effort to reduce the quantity of cigarettes taken (eg: half a packet per week and then would try even harder to quit completely in the near future). He would also promise that he would be living a healthy life for the next 3 months. Those promises are to be written down in his self training program.

In pursuing a self development plan you need to take a down to earth approach. The goals you set must be specific and achievable. You must try to avoid anything that is too abstract or unrealistic. For example, you vow not to use swearwords any longer, you are determined to do physical exercises daily for 15 minutes, you promise to quit alcohol completely for a month, or you will stop spending on shopping unnecessarily for the next three months and the \$200 you have saved will be used to help your family or children at a refugee camp, or you pledge that you will finish the remaining 2 subjects of your study within the next four months...

Before taking a self development plan, you should find a “mental supporter”, someone you can trust and respect so that you can discuss about what you are intending to do. In Scouting this person is called sponsor and normally (s)he is a Scouter or Rover who is very well mature, experienced and has a stabilized life, who can guide you and give you support . You should inform your Rover leader of your intention and the Rover leader and Sponsor will try to find ways to assist you. Of course, everybody needs encouragement, guidance and support when they are trying to do something positive to improve their life. Once your self development plan has been completed, you should inform your Rover leader of the results you have achieved, together with any comment made by your sponsor on the program.

The self development plan can be undertaken by Rovers at any time that suits them. It can be taken as many times as you like provided that one has to be completed before another starts. This program can be taken by both Scouters and Rovers. The completion of self development plan is one of the requirements before a Rover can be admitted to the Rover Departure Ceremony to become a fully invested Rover of the Vietnamese Scouting.



Project Method

In the field of management, the project method is considered as fundamental to carrying out any task. It is one of the keys for success.

The project method has been used as the principle method by the Rover Sections of many National Scout Associations (the Austrian Scouts and Guides, German Saint George Scout Association, Scouts et Guides de France, The Catholic Scout Association of Portugal...). To understand more about this method, please read the appendix entitled "Project Method" at the end of the booklet.



Rovering Activities

The Essence of Rovering Activities

When joining a Crew you want to get involved in interesting and joyful activities. Of course, the Rover section was established with the aim of creating an environment in which you and other Rovers can work together to achieve your expected goals. But in contrast to the activities of younger Scout members (Joey Scouts, Cub Scouts, Scouts and Venturers) the activities designed for the Rovers are based on two essentials that once you have understand them, you will definitely enjoy your involvement in the Rover section's activities. These two essentials are "Rover is a giver as well as a taker" and "Rover is a self educated person".

- Giving and Taking: This is the two inseparable aspects of Rover's activities. Rovers want to enjoy fun, have good friends and learn new skills from their Crew. They expect to get something beneficial out of their Crew's activities. The benefit enjoyed by an individual Rover is derived from the other Rovers' contribution and from the Scout Movement. Everybody in the Crew will benefit from the fruit of their shared work. But no one can always be "taking" without "giving" especially when he or she is an adult and capable of "giving". Certainly as a Rover you want to make a contribution and to share the work with others. If you are in a position to give more – and you do so – then you will find your life more meaningful and joyful. So every Rover is a giver as well as a taker. If a Rover doesn't get anything out of the Crew, if they find the Crew is offering them no fun, no interesting activities, not even friendships they have expected then they will sooner or later leave the Crew.

As far as the Crew's point of view is concerned, this body can't afford just to serve its Rovers continually, it can't be a "giver" at all times simply because it's not a charitable organization. Besides, if it keeps "giving" without "taking" then its resources will run out and its operation will cease. In participating in the Crew's activities, a Rover needs to bear in mind the balanced combination between serving and learning. When doing an assigned task, the Rover must set aside the time needed for learning so that they can be more effective and efficient in the future. And they need to put into practice what they have learned to benefit the people they are serving.

- Self educated Scout: As an excellent educational environment for Rovers of different ages and social backgrounds, the Crew will be

offering you good opportunities for your learning. You will not hear statements like "...Today I'm going to teach you about..." or "...You need to learn this or that..." because the Crew is like a family - a big Scouting family- whose members are all adults and they treat each other like their brothers and sisters. This is a relaxed and friendly atmosphere for everybody. Moreover, although Scouters are very experienced and capable in many areas, they don't come to the Crew for teaching but to give advice when it is needed. Other Rovers in the Crew will treat you like you are their brother or sister or their good friend. Bear in mind that you should keep an eye on everything in your Crew, good and bad, and surely you will be learning many interesting things.

You will be introduced to the Rover Section's methodology which is aimed at helping you succeed in educating yourself (self development plan) as well as in making your work more effectively (project method). However, you are under no obligation to train yourself, but as an adult, you do it voluntarily because you know that it is going to benefit you. Sometimes you may hear a sort of comment like " I haven't learned anything from the Crew!" In fact if you think it over, you will find that your Crew has created a good learning environment, provided you with all the means you need for your learning subjects, just like a cook who has prepared all the food for you in the kitchen but you need to go there and get the food yourself! You need to make an effort in order to achieve your goals.

Activity Program

Why do you need a program? Why don't we just simply take chances and respond to whatever needs that arise out of the blue? Perhaps it would be more interesting to do things this way as it might give us a pleasant surprise!

You will find that responding to a sudden need might bring a pleasant surprise to some of the people some of the time but this approach does not suit a Rover Crew which is a large group of people. On the contrary, a planned activity program is what the Crew needs as it will help them in using their time and resources more effectively.

- **Categories of programs:** There may be 3 kinds of programs depending on the length of time, for example: long-term (1 year or over), medium-term (3 to 6 months) and short term (monthly). The planning of an activity program for next year should be finalized by the end of the current year (in December at latest) to allow time for everybody to prepare and get ready for participation into the Crew's program. Furthermore, a year-long program may be broken down to several

medium-term programs depending on factors that affect the implementation of activities such as weather, members' examination time, holiday periods etc... Finally what needs to be done in a month (short-term program) will come to light once the medium-term program has been completed.

- Techniques of setting up the program: The Crew's activity programs are designed by the Crew Executive after receiving recommendations from the Patrol, Club and after the Executive has consulted with the Scout Group and their programs. The Crew needs to set goals for them in the year which must be realistic and reflect the needs of their members.

Any planned activity program would be discussed and approved by the Crew Council. Experience has shown that some events are held regularly at certain time of the year by the Vietnamese community organizations such as New Year Festival, Full Moon Festival etc... Besides, the Crew would need to take part in activities organized by local Scouts or governments and they may also do other things depending upon the Rovers' time and initiatives.

When the Crew has set up an activity program, the Patrols will design their own program. Of course the programs between these two bodies should not contradict each other but instead synergetic so that Rovers are given the best possible learning and working environment.

- Implementation of the program: Once a program has been set up whether by the Crew or the Patrol, it must be prepared carefully to ensure that it will be successful. As for a program which is set up by the Crew and carried out by the Club or Project then the Head of the Club or Project will take charge of that program (for example the Sports Club has organized a swimming day on a beach for Rovers. When that day comes the Head of the Club will be in charge of this program. The Project team has planned a clean-up day involving a larger number of Rovers then the Project Leader will be in charge of the task on that day).

All activities should be planned in advance and put in a timetable so that Rovers are well aware early enough so they can participate.

- Evaluation of the program: In order to create a learning opportunity for Rovers and to make the next program more effective, the task of evaluation of a completed program should be carried out. This process can be organized by the Patrol, Club, Project team, Crew executive or Crew Council depending on the importance and relevance of a particular program.

The criteria for evaluation of an implemented program is to see how successful it has been in regard to giving joy, a learning opportunity and also satisfaction to the Rovers and did it achieve goals. Other criteria for evaluation will be mentioned later in this book on the “techniques for evaluation of the project” under the heading “The Project method”.

Suggested activities

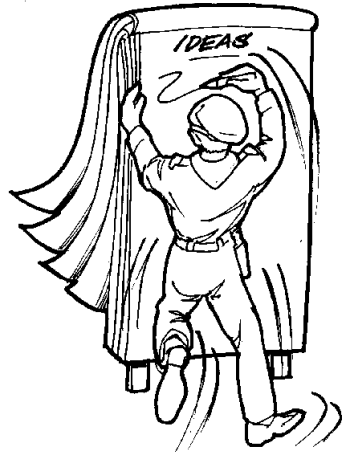
There are a wide range of activities for Rovers depending on their commitments, their health conditions and their resources. Following are just some suggestions:

*** Outings**

- Visiting a point of tourist attraction
- Going to a cinema
- Attending a flower display festival

*** Holding seminars on topics such as:**

- Discussions on current situation in our homeland
- An ideal partner – What would you expect from her/him
- What's the most effective learning method?
- How to gain employment
- Jobs with higher rate of employment and salary
- Love in the Vietnamese folk songs
- Education of children in modern life



*** Sports**

- Setting up a soccer team or a volley ball team
- Organising a sports competition
- Martial arts lessons and training
- How to maintain a healthy lifestyle

*** Scout leaders training**

- Leadership skills needed to lead a Scout section (Joey, Cubs, Scouts, Venturers and Rovers)
- How to design a good activity program?
- Understanding of psychology and the needs of Scout members in different age groups

- Patrol system
- Organizing an pilot team

✱ **Giving help**

- A fund raising in support of the victims of natural disaster
- A “one dollar campaign” for children living on the street
- Organizing Vietnamese language classes for local children.
- A concert for patients in hospital
- Meetings with homeless juveniles

✱ **Culture**

- Understanding a particular period in the Vietnamese history
- Visiting a historic location
- Inviting a guest speaker to speak about Vietnamese civilization.
- Introducing Vietnamese oil painting to Local Council
- Organizing Children’s Festival

✱ **Entertainment**

- A concert project on the occasion of Lunar New Year
- Setting up a singing club
- Inviting an actor to teach on mime.
- Writing songs for the Branch’s summer camps
- Publication of a selection of songs for children

✱ **Conducting a business**

- Implementing a fund raising project in support of the Group or Crew
- Inviting a guest speaker to speak about experiences in doing business
- Understanding your local market on handicraft products.
- Raising fund by organizing a food stall in New Year Festival
- Organizing a coffee table at your Scout Hall over the weekend

✱ **Photography**

- Inviting a photographer to give a lesson on photography
- Organizing a collection of photos/pictures
- Organizing a photography exhibition
- Making a video on Scouts’ activities
- Accepting bookings on wedding and funeral photograph services.

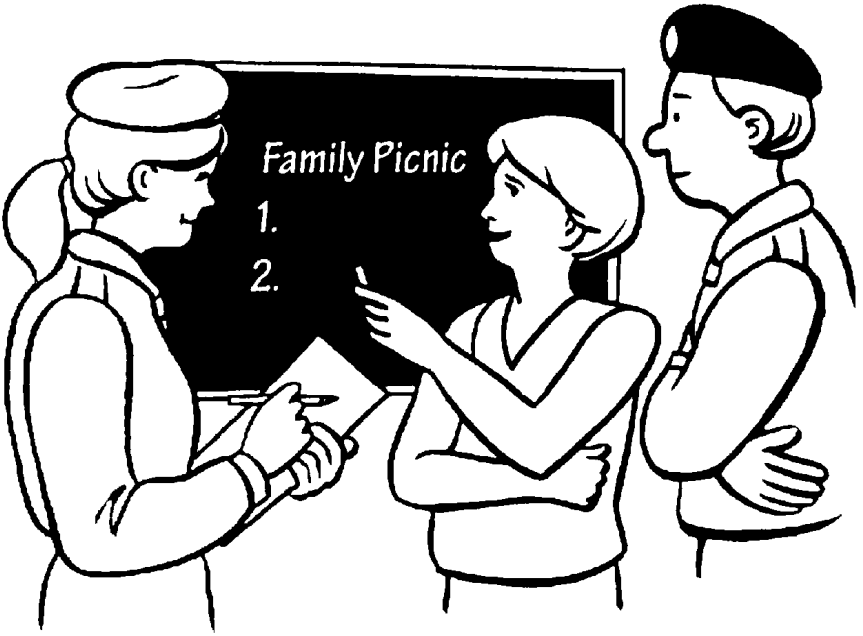
Rovermoot

One of the most attractive and probably the most large scale activities of the Rover section is Rover Moot. "Moot" is a Scottish word for gathering of the clan. Rover Moot is a gathering of Rovers from different backgrounds and possibly from different countries for friend making, experience exchange and entertainment. Rover Moots can be locally, nationally or internationally.

Each National Scout Association puts a lot of efforts in organizing big and outstanding Rover Moots. The first national Rover Moot in England was held at Yorks Wood Park, Birmingham in October 1923. The first World Rover Moot was in Kandersteg (Switzerland) in 1931 which attracted approximately 3,000 participants with a B.-P presence. There are so far the following World Rover Moots:

Year	Venue
1931	Kandersteg (Switzerland)
1935	Ingaro (Sweden)
1939	Monzie (Scotland)
1949	Skjak (Norway)
1953	Kandersteg (Switzerland)
1957	Sutton Coldfield (England)
1961	Melbourne (Australia)
1990-1991	Melbourne (Australia)
1992	Kandersteg (Switzerland)
1996	Ransberg (Sweden)
2000	Mexico City (Mexico)
2004	Hualien (Taiwan)
2008	Mozambique

Thanks to the spectacular programs which are continuously being improved in order to meet the expectation of the participants, Rover Moots are very popular and are a great attraction to Rovers to participate and they create many unforgettable memories.



Stages of a Rover Scout

To help you do your best with your potential and to learn more skills and prepare you for future tasks, the following are suggested stages:

Stage 1: Being a Rover squire:

- Get yourself familiarized with activities and other fellow Rovers and leaders in your Patrol, Club, Project team, Crew and Group.
- Understand the objectives and the philosophy of the World Organisation of the Scout Movement and the Vietnamese Scouting.
- Understand the organization and activities of your Crew.
- Understand and try to learn by heart the Scout Promise and Law.
- Attend the Investiture Ceremony to become a Rover (if you haven't attended previously).

Stage 2: Becoming a Rover Scout

- Continue to learn about the objectives, philosophy and history of the world organization of Scouting movement and Vietnamese Scouting.
- Learn about the Rover methodology (self-training method, project method...)
- Continue to take part in activities held by your Patrol, Club, Project team and Crew.
- Participate in the Scouter team of a Section (Joeys, Cubs, Scouts, Venturers) for at least 6 months and learn about essentials in regard to the Scout program in order to fulfill your responsibility as a Scouter in the section.
- Design and implement a self development plan with the assistance of a sponsor.



Stage 3: Departure

Departure is the stage where a Rover has reached maturity in many ways (age, completion of study, profession, family...) and is committed to the Scout spirit through continuing efforts in

implementing the Scout Promise and Law in their daily life. This is the image of an exemplary Vietnamese Scout: being a good citizen of the country of resettlement and preserving his or her national spirit. A Rover at the stage of departure can:

- Continue to engage in their Crew's activities and help other Scout members.
- Set up a new unit after completing all training programs as required.
- Be helpful to their family, Scouting, community, country and the world.



An Overview of Current Rovering

In England



Scouting was initiated by B.-P. in England in 1907 and expanded to other countries very quickly, in the next decade older Scouts wanted to engage in activities that were more suited to their interests and abilities. In 1916, some experiments were launched in order to meet these expectations. In

1918 the Rover Scout Section was officially accepted in England. In 1922, *Rovering to Success* was published and became the first Rover handbook. The Rover section grew as more and more members joined in England and it expanded into other countries. During the following decades, the regulations for the Rover Section in England were regarded as the model of Rovering in the world and Gilwell Park trained Scouters of other countries in the new program.

But 25 years after B.-P. death, in 1966, the General Report submitted by the Chief Scouts Advance Party after two years of hard work brought many changes to The Boy Scout Association. One of the changes was the closure of the Rover section which was replaced by Venture Scouts for young people who are between 16 and 20 years of age. Those who are over 20 years of age and do not become leaders can join the B.-P. Guild (or Scout Fellowship). In spite of the closure of the Rover section in England, Rover Crews in other countries continue to be active at the national, regional and international level and Rover activities are still going ahead.

In 2002 Scout Network for young people from 18 to 25 years old was formed by The Scout Association. Local Scout Networks can be based at County, District or Group. When reaching 25 years of age, the Scout Network member is encouraged to fulfill a new role in Scouting or to join the Scout Fellowship. Scout Network was announced as the fifth section of The Scout Association. The fourth section, the Beaver section was officially formed in 1986 and the other sections are Cub Scout, Scout, Explorer Scout. The Scout Network programme reflects the huge variation in Members' interests. Local Scout Network elects a coordinator from its membership. The Coordinator will meet with the County/Area Network Commissioner, their team and other coordinators. This is the Scout Network Committee. Traditional ceremonies designed for Rover section before 1967 which have been applied in many other countries are not included in the Scout Network essentials.

In the United States



After enjoying a Good Turn from an English Scout in a foggy day in London in 1909 Mr. William D. Boyce was so excited that he decided to see B.-P. After returning to the United States he did his best to work with his friends to start Scouting. Scouting got bigger and bigger in the United States. The United States Rovers, a non-profit organization in Virginia, revealed that the Rover Crews started in Seattle, Detroit, Toledo ... from 1928. In May 1933 the Boy Scouts of America officially started the Rover Section by accepting Rover Scouts who are 18 years of age or over. A Rover Wood Badge training course was conducted in 1935. However in 1952, for some reasons, probably due to shortage of Rovers, National Council decided to stop chartering new Crews and no longer recorded Rover membership after 1953. National also wanted to concentrate its efforts on Explorer Scouts who are from 14 to 21 years old (Sir J.S. Wilson, Honorary President, Boy Scouts International Committee, wrote as follows "Rover Scouts throughout the world are few in number..." in his foreword dated 15.11.1953 of The Rover Deputy Camp Chief's Handbook Fifth Edition 1954 published by Gilwell Park England). In February 1998, the Boy Scouts of America changed Exploring into Venturing for young people from 14 to 20 years old.

It is now unclear about the number of existing Rover Crews in the United States, however, some Crews did register as Explorer Posts of Boy Scouts of America. They therefore have two different names: one official name as Explorer Post of Boy Scouts of America and another name as Rover Crew XYZ. An example is "Dan Beard Rover Crew" which is registered as "Venturing Crew 1" in the Three Fires Council of the Boy Scouts of America. These Crews maintain traditional Roving such as Investiture of Rover Squire... There are also some other Crews which registered in Scouts Canada as their activity reports appear in Scouts Canada magazines, including their local Rover Moots. The Rover Scouts Association with its headquarters in Holland revealed that its members were scattered in many countries. Its model Crew is the First Arizona Rover Scout Crew in the United States.

In Australia



Scouting didn't take long to reach Australia and as early as 1908 Scouting for Boys was published in a Sydney newspaper. Visits made to Australia by B.-P. in 1912 and, in

later years (1931-34), further encouraged the extension of the Movement in Australia. Australia was made a member of the World Scout Organization of Scout Movement (WOSM) in 1953 and is a founding Member of the Asia-Pacific Region.

The Sixties were a time of change and renewal in the Scout Associations throughout the world. Many national associations found that their adult membership was spread too thinly, so the Rover Sections in many countries were disbanded, with the thought that these young adults should become Scout Leaders from the age 17 or 18. In Australia, the "Design for Tomorrow" Committee in 1970 recommended the abolition of the Rover Section in preference to a new section called Pathfinders. The Rovers of Australia rejected the plan, choosing instead to update the Program for the Rover Section and work towards achieving greater autonomy for the management of the Section. This was the time at which young women were welcomed to the Rover and Venturer Scout Sections of the Movement and trials of mixed units and crews were run. In 1974 the National Executive surveyed the differing types of Rover Crews functioning in Australia (both traditional and non-traditional) and recommended all the existing types of Crew should be permitted to function side by side. Hence, today, most Crews do things slightly differently to one another and set their own By-laws and Constitutions depending on what suits their needs. Scouts Australia officially welcomed girls and young women to its Rover Section in 1973.

Australian Rover Crew which normally has between 7 and 20 Rover Scouts operated by a Crew Executive chaired by the Crew Leader, and is usually supported by one (or more) Rover Advisor(s). Venturer Scouts advancing to Rovers and possessing Rover Link badge will be admitted as Rover Squire. Newcomers with no Scouting background need time to be invested as a Scout before being admitted as a Rover Squire.

The next step is practical and spiritual training of the Rover Squire that is supported by a sponsor before he/she is admitted to the Crew as a Rover in a Rover Investiture (or Knighting ceremony).

The Rover Investiture can be held after the completion of Rover Squire training and by the approval of the Crew. The Vigil or Self-Examination is a requirement before the Investiture. The content of the Vigil based on the ten quests nominated by B.-P. With the aid of questions, the young adults shall quietly think out what they are doing with their lives and whether they are prepared to be invested making the Scout promise from an adult point of view. The Rover Investiture will be held solemnly but may vary depending upon the tradition of the Crew.

Rover Boot Ceremony

When a Rover turns 26 it is time to move on from the Rover Section. At this point a 'boot' ceremony is held, which is cause for reflection on the experiences of Rover and to thank them for their contribution to Rovers. A boot ceremony will vary from Crew to Crew and could be a small affair with just the Crew or an open invite to all those people that the Rover knows. Crews may also consider inviting past members of the Rover Crew that may have been booted since the Rover first joined the Crew. It is important to tailor the boot ceremony to suit the Rover and make it a personal celebration of their Scouting experiences. It is customary in Australia to present the Rover with a parting gift, which is usually a mounted boot with plaque stating the Rover time in the section. The Crew may have other traditions which should be taken into consideration when planning the boot.

In Canada



By 1908, Scouting has taken root in Canada and in August 1910 Baden-Powell was invited to make a tour of the Dominion. The year 1911 was a coronation year in England and on July the 4th, the day George the Fifth was crowned King, a contingent of Canadian Boy Scouts was presented to him to mark the occasion. In 1911, B.-P. persuaded the new Governor General to accept the position of Chief Scout in Canada; the post filled by each succeeding Governor General to this day. In June 1914 the Canadian General Council with headquarters in Ottawa was incorporated by an Act of Parliament. The Act of Incorporation was a big step forward for Scouting in Canada because until that time, it had relied on the British Boy Scouts Association for much of its direction and resources. From its inception in Canada until 1914, Scouting had been directed by numerous provincial councils. There was a co-ordinating body based in Ottawa, the capital of Canada.

The Scout program was revised in 1968 and the Venturer program was added for boys 14-17 years old. A National Rover Subcommittee was set up to study the need for the Rover section, and in 1969 announced that there indeed was a need for Scouting for those between the ages of 17 and 23. In 1970, the Rover Subcommittee proposed a three year trial of co-ed membership as an option for Rover Crews, and review was discussed at National Rover Conference held in 1971.

The co-ed option was accepted officially for Rovers in 1973. An interim paper "Rovers '71" served as a resource for Rovers until a more

permanent Rover handbook could be prepared. In 1975, the Canadian Rover Handbook was released, and a new edition was produced in 1986. In 1984, as a result of a National Rover Survey, a recommendation was made to raise the age eligibility for Rover registration to include any male or female Rovers between 18 and 26 years of age. This made Rovers an adult section.

Canadian Rover Crews are similar to the Australian ones which consist of the Executive and Rover Advisor(s). However Rover Advisor in Canada plays a more important role than the counterpart in Australia and the head of the Crew Executive in Canada is called President/Chair and not Crew Leader as in Australia. Round Tables are meetings held between Rover Crews. They can be held on a district, regional or provincial level. The themes of Rover programs which have been used since the start of Rovering are as follows: Knighthood theme, nautical, aeronautical, musical or theatrical, computer, electronics... Ceremonies such as the Advancement ceremony of Venturer Scouts, the Vigil (Self-Examination), Rover Investiture set out to apply the regulations of the Scout Association U.K. originally proposed by B.-P., these are similar to Rover ceremonies in Australia; the only difference is Rover Advisor conducts the ceremony in Canada, not the Crew Leader as in Australia.

Leave-Taking Ceremony: At any time between the investiture and their twenty-seventh birthday a crew member will leave the Crew. Upon reaching twenty seven years of age it becomes obligatory for the Rover to leave the Crew. Whatever the reason for leaving the Rover Crew it is highly desirable to make a clean and formal break in a dignified manner, and this best accomplished by means of a brief ceremony.

The Rover Advisor can open the proceedings with a few appropriate remarks. The Crew will be reminded that the aim of the Rover Scouting is to help young people to become happy, healthy, useful citizens, and that one of their members has reached the point where they can go out on their own, confident that they have achieved that aim.

Advisor (calls the Rover forward): "Do you understand that in taking leave of the Rover Crew you take with you the obligations of living up to the Scout Law and Promise and promoting these principles into the community."

Rover: "Yes, I do."

Advisor: "This being your desire, I now ask you to reaffirm your Scout Promise."

The Rover reaffirms the promise. Following this, the advisor will make a few well chosen challenging remarks and wish the young person good luck in the name of the Crew

In France

The Scout Associations in France which belong to French Scouting which is also a national member of WOSM have fixed different ages ranges and used different terms for their Rovers. The term “Routier” which is mentioned in the Vietnamese translation of “Rovering to Success” and is said to originate from France (page 253) is no longer used by these associations.



Scouts et Guides de France – SGdF combined two associations: Scouts de France and Guides de France in 2004 and consists of approximately 66,000 members. Their “Rovers” are called “compagnons” and/or “Jeunes-en-Marche” and from 17 to 21 years old.

Eclaireuses et Eclaireurs Unionistes de France – EEUdF was formed in 1911. EEUdF currently attracted approximately 5,000 members. The aînés who are from 16 to 19 years old (ie. Rovers) form Clan from 6 to 8 members.



Eclaireuses et Eclaireurs Israélites de France - EEIF was formed in 1923, and announced that they attract approximately 4,000 members. The aînés who are from 18 to 35 years old (ie. Rovers) . Their motto is “meeting for action” (Se retrouver pour agir).



Eclaireuses et Eclaireurs de France - EEdF was formed in 1911. Its Rover section was formed in 1926 and Rovers was called “Routiers”, but they now are “aînés” from 15 to 19 years old. Clans consist of 10 to 15 aînés. EEdF reveals that it now attracts about 34,500 members (approximately 50,000 members in 1948).



Scouts Musulmans de France Its Rovers are called “compagnons” from 17 to 21 years old. No other detail was found for its Rover section.

The SGdF, EEIF, EEdF and EEUdF all pay attention to the implementation of the project of the whole group (Crew or Clan) in Rover activities.

In Other Countries

Rover ages ranges of National Scout Associations relating to WOSM are recorded as follows, please note that there may be more than one Scout Association in a country and not all of them form the Rover section:

Age of Rovers	Country	Name of Scout Association
18 to 25	England	The Scout Association
16 to 20	Austria	Pfadfinder und Pfadfinderinnen Österreichs (The Austrian Scouts and Guides)
17 to 25	Bangladesh	Bangladesh Scouts
18 to 22	Portugal	The Catholic Scout Association of Portugal (Corpo Nacional de Escutas)
17 to 21	Portugal	The Scout Association of Portugal
18 to 26	Brunei	Brunei Darussalam National Scout Association
18 to 26	Canada	Scouts Canada
16 to 25	India	The Bharat Scouts and Guides
18 to 21	Jamaica	Scout Association of Jamaica
15 to 19	Italy	National Corps of Italian Boy Scouts and Girl Guides (Corpo Nazionale Giovani Esploratori ed Esploratrici Italiani)
16 to 22	Italy	Association of Guides and Scouts of Italy (Associazione Guide e Scouts Cattolici Italiani)
18 to 25	Hong Kong	The Scout Association of Hong Kong
18 to 21	Netherland	Netherlands Scouting
18 to 26	Luxembourg	National Federation of Boy and Girl Scouts of Luxembourg
17 to 23	Luxembourg	Guides and Scouts of Luxembourg

Age of Rovers	Country	Name of Scout Association
17.5 to 40	Malaysia	The Scout Association of Malaysia
17 to 25	Mongolia	The Scout Association of Mongolia
16 to 25	Indonesia	Boy Scouts and Girl Guides Movement
18 to 25	Republic of Korea	Boy Scouts of Korea
18 to 30	South Africa	South African Scout Association
16 to 25	Nepal	Nepal Scouts
18 to 26	Taiwan	Scouts of China
16 and over	Norway	Norwegian Guide and Scout Association (Norges Spejderforbund)
18 to 24	Japan	Scout Association of Japan
16 to 20	Germany	German Saint George Scout Association (Deutsche Pfadfinderschaft Sankt Georg)
16 to 25	Germany	Guide and Scout Union (Bund der Pfadfinder und Pfadfinderinnen)
17 to 25	Pakistan	Pakistan Boy Scouts Association
17 to 21	France	Scouts et Guides de France
15 to 19	France	Eclaireuses et Eclaireurs de France
16 to 19	France	Eclaireuses et Eclaireurs Unionistes de France
18 to 35	France	Eclaireuses et Eclaireurs Israélites de France
17 to 21	France	Scouts Musulmans de France
14 and over	Finland	The Guides and Scouts of Finland
17 to 23	Philippines	Boy Scouts of The Philippines
18 and over	Senegal	The Scouts of Senegal
17 to 21	Singapore	The Singapore Scout Association
18 to 25	Thailand	The National Scout Organization of Thailand
18 to 34	New Zealand	Scouting New Zealand

Age of Rovers	Country	Name of Scout Association
18 and over	Sweden	The Swedish Guide and Scout Association
18 to 26	Switzerland	Pfadibewegung Schweiz (The Swiss Guide and Scout Movement)
18 to 24	Sri Lanka	Sri Lanka Scout Association
18 to 26	Uganda	The Uganda Scouts Association
17 to 20	Uruguay	Scout Association of Uruguay
17 to 26	Australia	Scouts Australia

Generally speaking, ages range of Rovers in these countries is from 17 to 25, however there are some exceptions:

- 18 and over in Senegal
- 14 and over in Finland
- 18 to 26 in Switzerland but it is acceptable if it is over 26
- 18 to 35 for aînés of Eclaireuses et Eclaireurs Israélites de France
- 18 to 26 in New Zealand. Associate Rovers are those who are from 26 to 34 years old, they should not take the lead in organizing activities, formal discussion on Rover issues and decision making on policy or programme as all the leadership, organization and decision making should come from the 18 to 26 years of age.

All the Rover Crews elect their Crew Leaders or Chair/President for a term of office. Most Crews are supported by Rover Scout Leaders or Rover Advisors who are appointed by the National Scout Associations after having completed required training courses and meeting required ages.

The motto "Service" is accepted by the majority of Rover sections, however some National Scout Associations do not concern about the motto or announce other mottos, such as "handle consciously" of The Swiss Guide and Scout Movement or "meeting for action" of Eclaireuses et Eclaireurs Israélites de France.

Ceremonies

Being the originating country of the Scouting Movement and the Rover section the regulations of the Scout Association (U.K.) were standards

for other National Scout Associations for a long period of time, even after the Rover section was disbanded in England since 1967, these regulations are still the basis of Rover section in many other countries.

Based on the legends of St. George (AD 303) and of the Knights of the Round Tables in the medieval days in Europe, B.-P. conceived the Knights of the Twentieth century as the ideal Rover Scouts and took the image of Knighting ceremony as the inspiration for Rover Investiture. Rover ceremonies have been designed by B.-P. in *Rovering To Success* (pages 218 and 219) as follows:

“Admission as a Rover Scout

Rover Scouts are organised as a “Crew” under a “Rover Leader”. In order to be admitted to a Rover Crew you must be 17, but preferably 18 years of age, and if you are not already a Boy Scout you have to be willing to take to the open air life of camping or hiking, and to carry out the Scout Law.

*You join on probation to see whether Rovering suits you or whether you suit Rovering. You are expected to study the Scout Promise and Law, and Scouting as it is given in the handbook *Scouting for Boys* and in this book, *Rovering To Success*.*

After this you will, if approved by the Rover Scout Leader and the Crew, be invested as a Rover Scout.

The investiture is a ceremony of admission. It is carried out according to the custom of the Crew and the wishes of the candidate. It is meant to show that you mean to take Rovering really seriously, and to do your best to understand its objects and methods and to carry them out. For this reason you should think the matter over very carefully to yourself beforehand.

*The general idea of the ceremony is contained in a pamphlet called *Rover Scouts - What They Are*, obtainable at Boy Scouts Headquarters...”*

These regulations were detailed in the Rover handbooks of the Boy Scout Association (U.K.) which were reprinted many times. The 1965 edition of this handbook named “Rover Scouts - What They Are and What They Do” defined the Rover ages range from 17 to 24 and the ceremonies of the Rover section are regulated as follows:

- The reception of a Rover Squire

- The Vigil or Self-Examination
- Rover Investiture

Details of each ceremony have been recorded in the Rover handbooks of some National Scout Associations and have been carried out so far by many, however the implementation is more or less flexible. After the investiture, the Rover are allowed to wear Rover insignia and badges and the most favourable one should be the badge “Rover Scout” and the metal hat badge “RS”.



The general research of Rover sections of the listed above Scout associations revealed that the great majority of them still maintain with flexibility the Vigil (or Self-Examination) and Rover Investiture (or Rover Presentation) designed by B-P, however the Rover Departure is not a popular ceremony. The Catholic Scout Association of Portugal (Corpo Nacional de Escutas) is the association that conducts the Rover Departure Ceremony. The Catholic organization “Riaumont” in France which runs a number of Scouting groups (no relations to WOSM) also maintains this ceremony. There are many similarities in conception and proceeding between the Rover Departure Ceremony in Vietnam before 1975 with the Rover Departure Ceremonies conducted by these two above mentioned organizations but not exactly the same. The Clan’s Council in The Catholic Scout Association of Portugal is also the Departure Council (i.e. approves the departures of Rovers).

The Rover Departure Ceremony conducted by Riaumont in France is held solemnly and seriously in the open air with the whole Clan, proposer, sponsors, Chaplain. After raising required questions and receiving satisfying replies, the Ceremonial Scouter gives bread, a tent, an axe, a bifurcate (thumb) stick, a Rover badge and shoulder knot (colored bands: yellow, green and red) to the Rover. The Chaplain then gives a Bible, prays and blesses him before the Crew circle opens and the Rover leaves to camp out on his own for one night, and if possible, also the following day.

Riaumont website states that its Rover Departure ceremony was similar to Scout de France’s one, however, this ceremony for some reasons was disappeared in Scout de France Rover section after World War II.

The Rover Departure Celebration conducted by The Catholic Scout Association of Portugal (Corpo Nacional de Escutas) is held solemnly before the altar in the church with the Crew, Leaders in the Group, sponsor and Chaplain. After raising required questions and

receiving satisfying replies, the Rover Scout Leader gives the Rover a tent, bread, torch, and a bifurcate stick and a Rover badge. The Chaplain then gives a Bible, prays and blesses the Rover before he walks toward the door of the church.

The Rover Departure ceremony has been regarded as a feature in Rovering in Vietnam and was understood that it derived from the Scout Associations in France in the late Thirties but it is no longer recorded in the current Rover manuals of the French Scout Associations being members of WOSM. (The Girl Guides Association of Vietnam announced “Lễ Nhập Thế” and “Lễ Thành Niên” for Rangers in its Ranger Section By-Laws published in 1967).

Methods of Rover Section

In Rovering To Success (page 208 and continued), B.-P. wrote about the methods of Rover Section: suggesting personal training would make the Rover resourceful to cope with whatever circumstances and service that would occur and would ensure success for young people for the future. In the continuing pages, B.-P. explains the usefulness of the Scout promise and laws for making one's life become meaningful and worth while. Rover manuals published in the U.K. such as “Rover Scouts” written by Gilcraft and published by Gilwell Park in 1933 (reprinted in 1938) and “Rovers Scouts. What They Are and What They Do” published by The Boy Scout Association U.K. (1965 edition) have given more details on these methods and paid attention to resourcefulness as well as mental and spiritual training. Gifcraft added the tools such as: discussions, camps, hikes, indoor programmes. The above mentioned manual “Rovers Scouts. What They Are and What They Do” has particularly brought up the “project” and “team work” as Rover methods, probably in order to meet the social economic situation in the Sixties which was more or less different with the Thirties.

The current manuals of several National Scout Associations touch upon other methods that are helpful for them to achieve the goals of Rovering in their own countries. For example the Swiss Guide and Scout Movement in “Stufenprofile” (edition February 2000, pp 26-27) wrote about its Rover methods: personal progress, Scout Promise and Law, living in the group, collective decision and responsibility, tradition and custom, living in the open air and game.

The German St George Scout Association wrote about the importance of Scout Promise and Law, and the feature of “on-the-way to adult / goal” of Rover; therefore engagement into social projects, international gathering,

thinking about personal future, self-responsibility are worthwhile matters in Rovering in Germany.

The Austrian Guide and Scout pays attention to the project method in its by-laws (edition 16.10.2005 pp. 7-8). The Catholic Scout Association of Portugal and SGdF, EEEdF, EEUdF, EEIF in France all emphasize the importance of community project for Rovers. Scouts Australia and New Zealand Scouting do not use the term "Rover methods" but explain that principles and fundamentals of Scouting are also applied for Rover section.

Rover Activities

Most Rovers are adults, except some National Scout Associations accept young people (teenagers) from 14 or 15 years old; therefore Rover programmes are generally very open minded and effective. All matters related to man or women can be Rover concerns. Generally speaking Rover programmes have only one limitation that is they must comply with Scouting purposes and principles. The New Zealand Scouting summarized Rover activities as follows: personal development, social activities and service.



In brief, the Rover section has been active for nearly 90 years since its inception in 1918. In spite of the closure of this section in the United States and in England more than 40 years ago, Rovering in many National Scout Associations recognised by WOSM are fairly strong in terms of interesting activities, number of Rovers and published manuals; however there are others that are not so well organized due to different reasons (shortage of leadership or resources, program content...). One thing is sure that Rovering can fulfill a real need for young people and Rover activities have been improved to meet the expectation of these young people. National Scout Associations that form Rover sections endeavour to select new methods (experiences) from other countries for application in their own situation, technical improvements in communications has allowed this to happen. New methods are also adopted through contact with others at international activities and international youth forums organized by WOSM. All of these methods try to maintain the traditions of the Rover Scout Section and also the principles of the Scouting Movement.

Rover Scout and The Role of Scouter

A thoughtful mind

If you join a Crew with the intention to learn more about Scout leadership before taking charge of a Section of younger members, you are definitely on the right track. If you haven't made up your mind, you still should take part in a Scouters Team of a Section sooner rather than later. Maybe you are a bit hesitant thinking that you have no skills in public speaking, singing, organizing games, doing a knot, finding directions or trekking marks etc... Individuals can do certain things so well that may even surprise themselves, they may never realize that they have got such talent! The maintenance of our race is very important and most people are doing this task exceptionally well but no one seems to realize that! Conducting a Scout Section is not deemed to be as difficult as the work you are doing in your professional life. And you have been doing it for a long time; some people work in only one specializing area for their entire life and they do it very successfully. It's much harder compared with the job that requires you to play with young people in Scouting.

Rewarding for Rovers

In nearly 100 years history of the Scout movement, at least 10 million people have taken responsibilities in doing this valuable job. Some people do it for a short period of time, others have a long term commitment. I meet many people who have been in charge of a Scout Section for over 10 years and then continued to take the role of leader of a Crew for a similar period. Due to wholeheartedly committed generations of adults, the Scout movement still exists and is continually growing bigger for the future. Those leaders must have found something interesting in their role as a Scouter and that was the reason why they have committed for such a long time.

If you have a chance to speak with those Scouters, you will realize that they are interested in what they are doing because through the role of conducting a Scout section, they have plenty opportunities to improve their skills such as leadership, management, self confidence, initiatives... Perhaps why they feel satisfied is because they find genuine friendships among their colleagues and that they are working together in pursuit of their idealism and aspirations. Also through the work they make new friends with whom they can share their happiness as well as sadness. If you think that the more good friends you have the richer you will become then Scout leaders are very rich people!

Scouting is a well organized and ordered movement which is not inflexible or conservative. In contrast, it is a very flexible and adaptable movement in which members treat one another like brothers and sisters. This characteristic has created an ideal environment for Scout members to work to the best of their ability while still feeling relaxed. Such a situation is very hard to find in most other organizations.

So you should not be worried too much about attempting Scouting tasks for which you are lacking in experience and knowledge. Certainly you don't have to do it alone as Scouters will share the work with you. Maybe you haven't done this work before or you are unfamiliar with it, however, it will not be as hard as you may think. What is required is effort on your part. A well, training courses are available from time to time and experienced Scouters will help you as much as you need. Besides, books and other material are also available to you for reference.

I know many people whose children were Scouts and they were told that there was a shortage of Scouters so they joined in order to give a hand. After they attended training programs as well as self-learning, they gradually became more and more involved in Scouting and gave great help in leading a Section. They discovered that Scouting was bringing to their lives plenty of joy and satisfaction and that they had more friends and so they decided to stay with the Movement. Many of these people have ended up becoming excellent Scouters. If you speak to the Scouters in your Section, you may find some of them are in fact the ones I am discussing.

Stepping forward with confidence

What is essentially required from you is that you have a love for children - the younger generation - and as well you are willing to use some of your time, together with others, to bring about activities that are fun and beneficial to everybody including yourself and by doing this you will help to improve our society.

It is true that as a Scouter you will face difficulties and challenges. As you know there are always challenges and problems of some kind in everybody's life and we need to try our best to deal with them. The sense of achievement that we get in solving the problems in our lives makes it worth while. And of course so far the challenges and problems in the Scouting environment have been overcome by at least ten million people. As Nguyen Thai Hoc wrote: "Whether or not the road ahead is difficult to go through is dependent on your will, not obstacles". What

really matters is that you are prepared to begin your journey of your own free will. I wish you a happy and successful journey.



Appendices

Project Method

When watching a splendid show on television, for example, an opening ceremony of an Olympics or when thinking about the magnificence and accuracy of a space program such as launching a spaceship into space together with amazing tasks performed by astronauts in space, we are fascinated and admire the ability and knowledge of people involved. In other words we praise them for their success which of course is due to their excellent management of the program.

In order to carry out such programs the organisers need to utilise many factors. One of the essential factors that helps the organizers achieve their goals is a scientific approach called “project method”.

In Scout activities and in applying the mottos “Be Prepared” and “Service”, Scouters and Rovers usually carry out various tasks (organizing camp, Vietnamese classes, concerts, jamborees etc...) so the application of the Project Method will be very helpful in the implementation of those tasks.

1.0 Definition

As early as the years BC, western philosophers defined method as a shortest path leading to success. The word “project” has been defined a little differently by top managers, but it can be understood as “a set of activities to produce a specific output which has a beginning and an end” (Dictionary of Business and Management – Bloomsbury Publishing Plc, London 2004, and Oxford Dictionary of Business – 3rd edition, Oxford University Press 2002). The “project method” mentioned here can be understood as one of the best and most cost effective ways possible to achieve our goals whatever they may be.

Unlike a Rover Patrol which is a basic and permanent operating Rover unit or a Club which is a unit for long term and specific tasks, the “project” is usually limited to a certain period of time and is aimed at achieving specific goals.

For example, a project to organize Vietnamese classes for beginners that should be carried out in three months starting from May 1, 2006 in the city of XYZ. This project is to be implemented by Patrol ABC or their group of supporters. Meanwhile the Rover Crew’s Vietnamese Club – a permanent unit with responsibility of Vietnamese classes – will provide any technical assistance required by the Patrol ABC or their group of supporters.

The process of Project method includes several stages. In short there are four main stages as follows:

- Initial research and project approval
- Preparation
- Implementation
- Conclusion

2.0 The Process

2.1 Initial research and project approval

2.1.1 Choosing a category and setting a goal

All projects aim at achieving a goal or goals on a particular kind of work. The choice of the work and the goals intended for the project is often based on the following criteria:

- The needs of the community, or the desires of a large group in the community that make a certain task necessary and that has led to the need for the project.
- The interest and concern of people who will be carrying out the project also greatly influences on the choices for that project.
- The resources that are available at the present or can be developed for the future are always important factors. We can't choose a project that is obviously beyond our ability.
- Other objective factors such as weather, time, location, transport, etc. also need to be taken into consideration.

2.1.2 Collection of data (information)

Data collecting is very important as it helps to paint a clear picture of the issue and helps us to avoid any misunderstanding, misconception or prejudice on the issue. There are many different ways to collect data. Some of those are as follows:

- **Interview:** Speaking directly (or by telephone) with people who can provide us with information relating to issues we are enquiring about.
- **Questionnaire:** If direct contact is not possible for some reason, a questionnaire should be sent to these people so that they can provide you with their answers. Of course all questions in the questionnaire should be simple and easy to understand.

- **Observation:** When collecting data, we need to monitor the progress of the task and keep an eye on all relevant factors.
- **Consultation:** We should seek advices and opinions from experts or people with knowledge and experience so that we can have a better understanding of the issue
- **Research for information from books, magazines, newspapers and websites, etc.** Generally speaking, most of information can be obtained from these sources. To save time, we need to take note or make a photocopy of what we have found and store them in suitable categories for our records.

2.1.3 Setting a goal

The data collected needs to be assessed in order to establish whether or not it is still useful and applicable or it has lost its value because it is outdated, untimely or one-sided.

After understanding the issue we need to set goals for our project. It's necessary to distinguish between a long term goal and a short term goal or different goals in different areas of the project. It's important to avoid unrealistic or unachievable goals.

2.1.4 Setting timeframe

Every project needs to have a timeframe. This means that we need to determine when a project should start and when it will come to an end. Depending on the nature and importance of a particular project, times should be allowed so that the project can be successfully completed.

2.1.5 Assessing what is needed for a project and its costs

In order to achieve the intended goals, it's important to prepare everything that may be needed in implementing the project. This would need to include of course its costs. These can be put into the following categories:

- **Finance:** We need fund to buy things or obtain services for the project. For example, to organize a camp, we need money to pay for campsite, food, transport etc...When we hold a concert, we need money to pay for a hall rental, decoration, PA system, clean-up, insurance, security, etc.
- **Tools and equipment:** Some projects need certain tools and equipment. We need to purchase those. Sometimes we can borrow them but we need to make arrangements well in advance. For example, to organize a camp, we need things like ropes, saws,

hammers, wooden poles ... to set up a camp gate. We also need all sorts of kitchenware for our cooking. All these things need to be put on a checklist and arranged accordingly.

- **Human resources:** Every project needs people to make it happen and as well we have people who are the beneficiary so we need to plan far ahead about who will be participating in the project. We need to determine the number of people required, when they are required and their specific responsibility. For example, to organize Vietnamese classes, we need volunteers who not only are willing to help but also have the necessary teaching skills.
- **Other Services:** There are projects where some services can be obtained free of charge but we need to make arrangements in advance. For example, we may get free transport from a youth or social welfare agency for our members during a camp or we may require a volunteer health care worker at the camp site if there is a large number attending the camp. Of course, we need to make arrangements in advance with relevant organizations to obtain these services.
- **Preparation for the unexpected:** Although what is needed for a project has been listed in reality there are certain things that happen unexpectedly so we need to prepare for this situation. For example, we need to set aside a sum of money to cover the cost of transport. We may not get free transport as previously arranged or we may need to prepare for a large number of people to stay indoors in case of bad weather (gusty wind, heavy rain) and tents are unusable.

2.1.6 Assessing the availability of resources

To meet the needs of a project, we need to know the sort of resources that are readily available and what we can obtain and what we hope we can obtain.

- **Available resources:** these are all the things that can be used at any time. For example, for a Vietnamese Culture Evening that would be held, and our Group is going to perform 5 items in this program and everyone involved in the performances has rehearsed and is ready to perform.
- **Resources that we can obtain:** these are things that can be obtained by people who draw up the project or the supporters of the project. These resources are not yet available but we know where they are and how to get them. In the previous example of a Vietnamese Culture Evening, the organizers of this program know that

the Group XYZ or the Association ABC can help by having their performance items added to the program.

- **Resources we hope we can obtain:** these are things that are not available and we are not sure where we can get them. Also in the above example – holding a Vietnamese Culture Evening – we want to have the solo of a traditional music instrument included in the program, and the organizers don't know who can play this instrument and where to find the player. Experience shows that a low cost project where resources are readily available or can be easily be obtained by the organizers is more achievable than the one that requires high costs and outsiders' support.

2.1.7 Project approval

Following an initial study of a project, if the working party has a view that the project will be responding to the needs and interests of a particular group and it is achievable, they may present it to their supervisor in a meeting which can be attended by supporters and others who are interested. This initial project will be discussed in detail and amendments can be made if necessary before it is finalized.

In case there are alternative projects to be presented to the meeting, then more discussions are needed as it will take longer for participants to reach an agreement about which project should be chosen (make sure everyone is satisfied, not reluctant) with the choice. Experience shows that the bigger a project the more careful you should be in any situation where the agreement and consent among people concerned is the most important factor that ensures the success of the project.

2.2 Preparatory stage

Any project, if you are well prepared, is more likely to be successful. There are various tasks involved in the preparatory stage depending on the nature of the project. Generally speaking, this stage is aimed at getting all the important things ready or creating favourable conditions prior to the implementation of the project. To understand what should be prepared for a project, some of the questions that may be asked are:

- What do we need to do first? When should it be done? Who will do it? How it can be done?
- How many people are needed for your project? What's required of them?
- What resources are needed? How can you get them?

All the information collected when you are initially studying the project is very helpful as it now points out to the project organizers what needs to be done in preparation. If necessary, you may do a more thorough study of the issue. Normally, the preparation of a project involves the following tasks:

2.2.1 Personnel issue

- **Forming a project team:** Any project will require a group of people who have the responsibility to make it happen, that is called a project team. The question of “who do what” depends on the amount of work and the availability of human resource in respect of your project. The person in charge of a project is called project leader (or project manager), who is assisted by several assistants (all these people should be closely working with one another in a friendly and harmonious environment). It is important that key personnel should be participating from start to finish especially in a protracted project. Changes can be made from time to time to personnel with less important duties but the best practice is that they take part in every stage of the project so that they can contribute and learn from it.
 - The allocation of workload among members of the working party should be made very clear by preparing a job description to avoid any possibility of stepping into somebody’s shoes or leaving some work unattended. Of course the work is to be allocated based on personal circumstances (their availability, health condition, ability, etc.). Basically everyone should be encouraged to take the opportunity to participate and share the work with others in the implementation of the project as we are all aware that one of the educational methods of our Movement is “learning by doing”.
- **Forming a support group:** Apart from a project team, you also need to invite other people who are reliable and have the means and ability to help you with your project. These supporters should be informed adequately in writing of the project in order to maximize their contribution. As a project is an opportunity to attract people who may be outside of our Movement effort should be made to have non-Scout members included in either the working party or support group. Normally a successful project is the one that can attract many new faces.

2.2.2 Documentation

It is important that the process of a project needs to be documented in detail so that everyone involved and particularly the working party can understand the full picture of the project. It is important to document what the needs are and what is to be achieved. It is better to document the task, from the beginning to the end as it helps in the publicity and

co-ordination of the project, making the project more likely to be successful.

Besides, documentation available from implemented projects (for example, a major project like the International Jamboree of Vietnamese Scouting) will greatly benefit anyone who is considering organizing a project. Certainly they can learn from previous experience and so achieve their project with pride.

The documentation comprises of all documents, diagrams, audio and video tapes, CD and DVD regarding a project. The documentation of a project can vary depending on the size and importance of a project. In a preparatory stage, documentation may include diagrams or charts to describe the project, especially the "Work schedule chart". Some other things may be needed such as flyers, posters, photographs, media reports, etc.

Below is an example of a Functional Chart and a Work Schedule Chart of a project.

- **Functional Chart:** this chart explains the structure and operation of a project with personnel given different roles. The Camp's Organizational and Operational Chart hereafter will give you an idea about the responsibility of various Groups in this summer camp. The number of committees of a camp may vary depending on the situation. It should be noted that:
 - *Command or line system (or personnel hierarchy):* any level of personnel receives orders from only one level of superior (single command system) or two or more levels of superiors (multi-command system).
 - *Advisory or staff system:* only give advice and don't make any decision or give any order.
- **Work Schedule Chart (*Gantt chart or bar chart*):** this chart will give you a general idea about how a project will be proceeding. To draw up this chart, you need to establish the following:
 - Order in which tasks need to be done.
 - Which tasks can be done at the same time?
 - The proposed starting and finishing time of each task.
 - Who will do it?

This information will be simplified and then put into the chart.

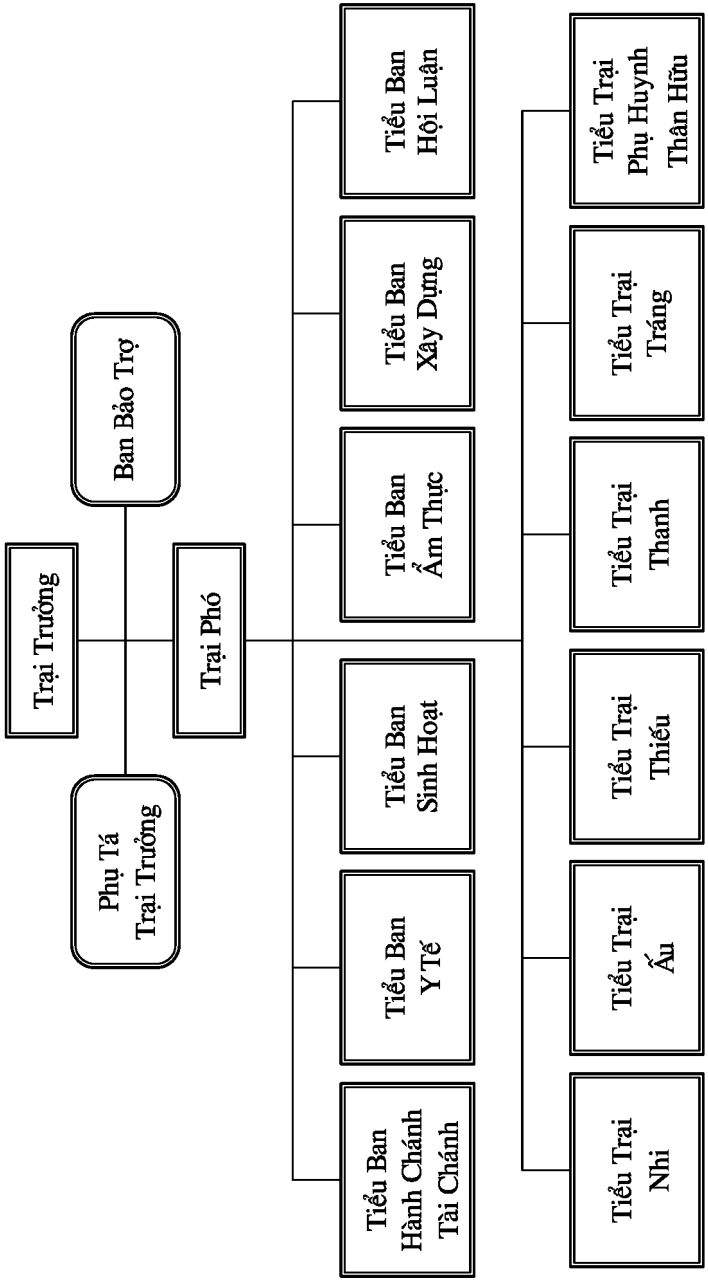
To give you an idea about this chart, please see the “Camp’s Preparatory Work in Progress Chart”. Of course, the tasks and the personnel listed in this chart are just an example. In reality, the organizers of a project can make any change or adjustment to the chart if necessary to suit their plan.

2.2.3 Obtaining resources

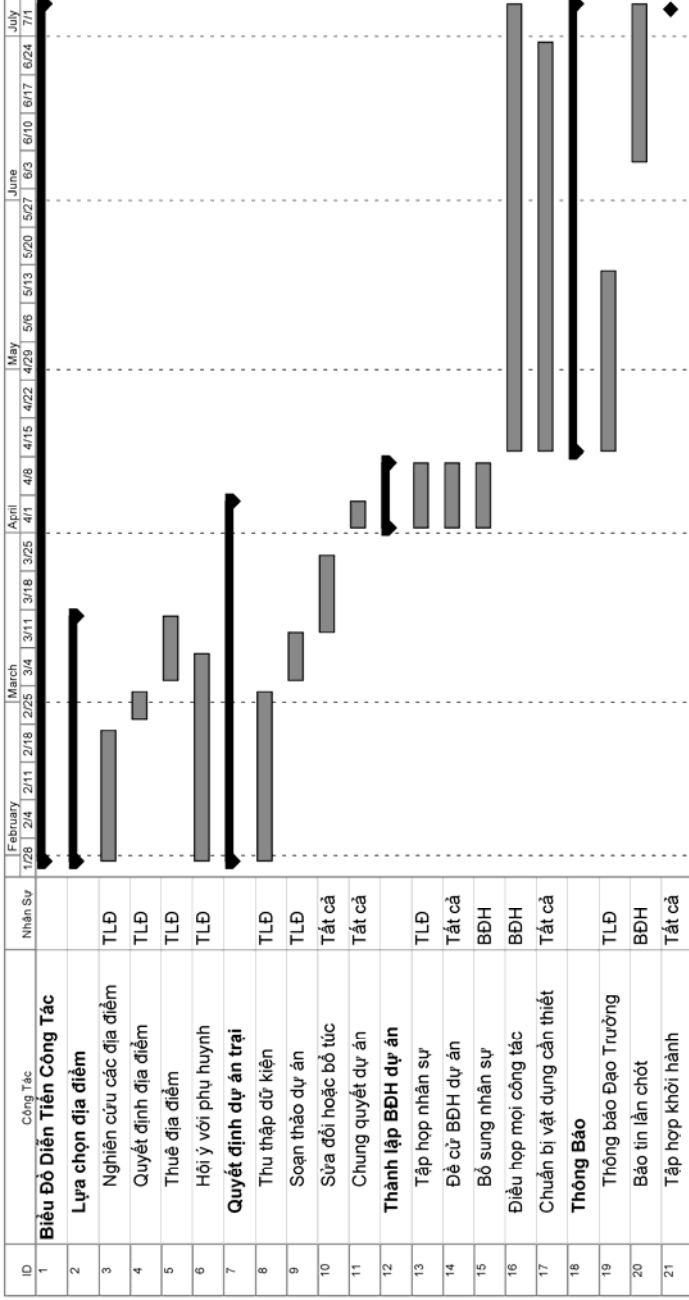
There are many different ways you can obtain resources needed for a project. Depending on the local situation, the nature of the project as well as the committees’ ideas and opinions, certain measures can be taken in obtaining the resources. Following are some of the approaches you may consider:

- **Self-supplied approach:** First of all, people who are directly connected to the project (organizers, beneficiaries) will need to make a contribution and provide what is needed to carry out the project. For example, in a project of Vietnamese classes for children, parents are asked to share the costs of teaching material (books, pens, chalks, etc.) and volunteer teachers bear the cost of transport themselves. Also included in this category is any overtime work taken on by individuals or groups or any other short term work aiming to get extra funds to support the project.
- **Direct Fund raising:** Fund raising has become vital for non-profit organizations. Fund raisers find it hard to raise cash or resources for

CAMP'S ORGANIZATIONAL AND OPERATIONAL CHART



CAMP'S PREPARATORY WORK IN PROGRESS CHART



TLD: Toàn Lãnh Đạo
 BDH: Ban Điều Hành

Legend:
 ■ Task
 ● Split
 ■ Progress
 ◆ Milestone
 ■ Summary
 ■ Project Summary
 ■ External Task
 ◆ External Milestone
 ⇓ Deadline

a project. This is in addition to the resources required for the normal programs of their organizations during the whole year. One of the best ways of fund raising is to contact directly potential sponsors in order to find out their policies and the required procedures. It is noted that potential sponsors normally require details showing the benefit of the project, sponsorship rights and the advantages for their company.

- ❖ **Contact charitable, social welfare, cultural, youth international organizations:** Many international organizations such as Caritas, Oxfam, Red Cross, Brot Fuer Die Welt, World Vision... usually set aside a special fund for support to certain projects, particularly in emergency and rehabilitation aids, culture or youth services. Their contact details can be found in websites, phone books or their promotional flyers.
- ❖ **Contact government departments and agencies at all levels:** for example the Department of Youth, Department of Community Services, Department of Culture and their local branches as well as Local Councils, Provinces and the Federal/State Youth Councils. Again these government organizations may have a funding program for special projects. You need to enquire with them to see if they can provide some financial support to your project.
- ❖ **Contact business community and individuals:** Some individuals and business community especially banks and big companies may be able to help you if they are of the view that your project is important and beneficial to the community and themselves. To obtain financial assistance from these peoples, you are better to find someone who is well-known in the community and who will be acting as “a patron”. Also you need to provide your sponsors with a receipt for their tax deductible contributions.

It should be noted that in order to obtain financial assistance from these organizations, your project must meet their criterion regarding their goals for the project, who will deliver it, who the beneficiaries are, deadline for lodgment of your application, all documents to be attached to support your application, etc.

- **Public fund raising:** Some projects can be supported by a fund raising appeal, especially the projects relating to a good cause, such as a fund raising appeal for natural disaster victims, construction of a community center... In these circumstances, the media plays a very important role in promoting the project. The following techniques can be considered:
 - ❖ **“Project Sponsored By...” Technique.** You may consider inviting a celebrity or someone with a high profile (or an

organization) to act as a sponsor for your project. This way, you may be able to attract a lot more people's attention, particularly business people and of course these people are in a better position to help you with your financial needs. In order to get their support, you need to have a "sizable project" and have good reputation and integrity to gain their trust.

- ❖ **“Project Fund Raising” Technique:** There are several things that you can do to raise funds for a project. For example, you can organize a concert, a stall, a dinner or provide services. Care should be taken when organizing these “along-the-way projects” as they can become an obstacle to the implementation of the main project (fund raising project failed because personnel too weary!).
- ❖ **“On The Spot Fund Raising” Technique:** In many situations, it is possible to engage in special activity such as a raffle, an auction while a project is still happening in order to raise extra funds on the spot. For example, in events such as a New Year Festival, a Cultural Day or a special concert to raise funds for natural disaster victims. It is important to make sure that you look at all legal aspects of the fund raising activity you are intending to organize to support your project, especially when there are a large number of people attending your activity or when food is served to them. To avoid any problems, it is necessary to enquire with local authorities and ask for approval if necessary.

2.3 Implementation of a project

After all steps of studying and preparing for your project have been taken, you are now ready to proceed with it, hoping that you are going to achieve your goals. This is a crucial stage as it decides whether or not your project will be successful.

The question of how to proceed with a project depends upon the nature of the project. You start by putting in place your plan with all resources that are available and get all of the personnel to take up their duties and let the organisation start moving as indicated in the Work Schedule Chart. It's important for the key organizing members of a project to closely monitor the implementation of the project. These people must be on hand to make any changes or adjustments to the original plan if necessary. For a long-term project, all the key members and supporters need to hold regular meetings to discuss and exchange ideas about how the project is progressing. It is also important to keep informed of the latest information on the project as this will strengthen their working relationship. In some cases, you may need to expand or simplify your project. Therefore, the time required to complete a project may be longer or shorter. Sometimes you have no choice but to shelve your project due to circumstances.

Any decision to make an adjustment or change to a project needs to be taken very carefully as it may affect not only the project being carried out but also any plan for the future.

2.4 End of a project

Certainly your project will come to an end at some point in time. There are several things you need to do at this stage.

2.4.1 Organizing end-of-a project celebration party

Your project ends with a celebration party. This is the opportunity to celebrate your achievement as well as for all people involved in the project to enjoy a happy ending to their hard work and to put behind them all the worries, stress, and sometimes disturbing experience they went through during the time of the project. It is also the opportunity to help develop and strengthen friendships among colleagues and co-workers because in some cases problems might occur, especially following a protracted major project. This may happen when there are personal conflicts or just disagreements in the way the project was carried out.

Depending upon how the majority wish to celebrate the completion of a project, the party can be organized in any way as long as it is not a burden or a “new project” for the organizers. It’s important that all people involved in the project take part in the party and enjoy it. To provide entertainment for participants, a “self made” entertainment program should be encouraged. Of course, this party should not be too costly and you need to put on a limit over the amount of alcohol served.

2.4.2 Project evaluation

All key people of a project need to sit down together to make an evaluation of how the project was selected, prepared and implemented.

- Aspects of the project to be evaluated:
 - Have all the goals of the project been achieved?
 - Which goals have been achieved and which goals have not?
 - What is the percentage of achievement for each goal?
 - Why can't it be 100% achievement? What are the objective/subjective obstacles? How do we overcome these obstacles?
 - Was there any change made to the original goals?
 - Was the project in line with the philosophy and principles of our Scouting Movement or Section?

- Was the task of studying, preparing and implementing of the project carried out properly and carefully?
 - What impact has the project had on individuals?
 - How did individuals take part in the project?
 - How do individuals feel about the project? Are they happy, encouraged, satisfied, unhappy, disappointed etc.
 - What lessons have been learned while the project was being carried out or after it has been completed?
 - What impact has the project had on the working party's members and the section/Crew?
 - How did the working party's members share the work during the time of the project?
 - Is there any issue with leadership and communication?
 - Was the structure of the project effective and efficient?
 - Was there any dispute, strife, disagreement or conflict that occurred and how did you resolve these?
 - What have the working party's members learned from the project?
 - What sort of personal relations among the working party's members after the completion of the project?
- Other factors to be considered in the evaluation of a project:
 - Be truthful, honest and friendly when expressing your opinion. You need to listen and show your respect for other opinions.
 - Choose a suitable time for the evaluation task. The best time is soon after the project is completed. If you leave it for too long, you will forget many things, especially the "feeling".
 - Everyone needs to have the opportunity to express their view.

2.4.3 Documentation to be finalized, its publication, recognition and storage

Any project, whether it was successful or unsuccessful needs to be looked at and brought to the attention of all people concerned so that everyone can learn from it as it will help them prepare for any future project.

For the purpose of publicity and gaining public support for future activity, the results of a project can be announced in newspapers, on radio, TV or website (if appropriate). Please do not forget to thank the sponsors. That can be a telephone call, a thankyou letter, a thanks note in the newspaper, a plaque or certificate of appreciation. A financial report should be published in newspapers for projects which received financial contribution from the public. As time goes by, details of a completed project will be lost or forgotten if there are no records. Therefore the

documentation of the project in its ending stage should be available and will be very helpful as a future activity planner.

For this reason, important details such as the goals of a project, the process of preparation and implementation as well as the results of the project need to be recorded and kept properly. For the documentation of a project, you can use certain things like photographs, reports, tape, CD, DVD, etc.

A recommended mode of a project (A recommended project skeleton):

❖ **Background and the importance of a project:**

- The circumstances and reasons (directly and indirectly) that have led to the creation of a project.

❖ **The goals:**

- What are you going to achieve? Why? And for whom?

❖ **Timing:**

- from date... to date
- Study and decision making stage
- Preparation stage
- Implementation stage
- Ending stage

❖ **Location:**

- What's the address? (street number, name of street and city, telephone number)

❖ **Personnel:**

- Who are in charge (Project team)?
- Who are participating?
- Who are advisers and supporters?
- Who are beneficiaries?

❖ **Job allocation and Description:**

- To whom the jobs are to be allocated? How they are coordinated?

❖ **Budget:**

- Expenditures: What do you need to buy? How much will these items cost?
- Revenues: To cover costs, where would the revenues be raised? How much realistically could be expected?
- What are other needs? How to meet those needs?

❖ **Implementation plan:**

- How to implement the project?
- What steps must be taken?
- Who will do the various jobs?
- How we do it?
- Which chart is to be used to describe this process?

❖ **Finalization:**

- What are the chances of success of a project and what are its benefits?

Be prepared to make changes, that is, additions to or subtractions from the item list suggested above in order to meet the needs of a specific project.

3.0 Conclusion

The project method can be an essential technique that will help us to achieve our goals with the least cost. Of course this method needs to be applied with flexibility depending on the situation and the nature of the project.

I hope that the information contained in this resource paper will assist everyone. It should allow Scouters, Rovers and Venturers to organize more effective and enjoyable activities and to achieve better results for your Group, Crew and Unit.

Mục Lục

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