



Merit Badges. Experienced Scouts can concentrate on the Camping and Orienteering merit badges; they should complete most of the requirements. Depending on activities during the campout, they may also cover requirements in Cooking, Hiking, Wilderness Survival, and Orienteering.

PARENT PARTICIPATION

The patrol leaders' council can involve parents in the program feature this month by:

- Asking qualified parents to assist with instruction for orienteering.
- Having a family campout.
- Asking parents to provide transportation to the campsite.

PATROL LEADERS' COUNCIL

The PLC should meet in the middle of the previous month to plan troop activities for this program feature. If you don't complete all items on the following agenda, continue planning at PLC meetings after each troop meeting.

- Decide on a location for the Outback Weekend. Remember that you will need an area large enough to lay out an orien-

teering course, or at least have access to enough area to set the course.

- Plan the special activities for the campout. See the ideas on these pages.
- Inventory the troop camping equipment, if you have not done so recently.
- Get permission from the owners before laying out an orienteering course.
- Plan or review the details of troop meetings for the month. Assign patrol demonstrations for the month, covering skills that will be needed for the campout activities.
- Hold a junior leader training session on giving instructions (*Scoutmaster Handbook*).

FEATURE EVENT

Outback Weekend

There is fun and satisfaction in mastering map and compass skills. Orienteering is the art of traveling cross-country by compass and map and doing it so accurately that you arrive at specified points (called "controls") in a minimum amount of time. The winner of an orienteering meet is the one who