

## The "Deep Freeze" Overnight

Deep Freeze... the ultimate challenge. Scouts and Scouters test their winter camping skills and equipment against Mother Nature and her bag of crystalline tricks. Temperatures may drop to twenty below! The Deep Freeze overnight is not for the ill-equipped or inexperienced. Scout equipment is carefully checked and winter camping skills are honed in pre-Deep Freeze Troop campouts. Senior Scouts trained in winter first aid make hourly rounds of the Deep Freeze encampment all during the night, checking for cold Scouts and, when discovered, whisking them off to the Warming Hut. A night of winter camping, even an uneventful one, is long remembered. There is great satisfaction in doing something that few are even willing to think about!

The "Deep Freeze Snowball" is an award presented to each Scout and adult leader who spends the night "under canvas" as the saying used to be. Nowadays tents are made of nylon and provide less resistance to the weight of an overnight snowfall. But waking up in the morning with your "tent in your face" is just part of the experience! It's not unusual to see a few graybeards around a Deep Freeze campfire with a dozen or two white beads strung from their pocket flaps...

There is no doubt that Ted Brown holds the record for Deep Freeze overnights in this part of the country... Maybe even in the whole country.

Good Night Scouts....