

April 2016



101st Ottawa (St. Aidan's) Scouting Group

Newsletter



Scoutrees 2015

Scoutrees helps the environment, is a community project and important fundraiser for our Group.

Pledges are due May 3 for Beavers and May 4 for Cubs, Scouts and Venturers.

Dig Day (tree planting) is on May 7 at 10:00am at Queensway Park on Telesat Court off Blair Road.

Beaver Tales

Continuing our journey around the world, April brought us to Asia, where we learned there's a lot more to the continent than just great take-out food. It is also both the largest continent, covering 30% of the earth's surface, and the most populous with 4.4 billion people, and has seen the birth of many great inventions that are still very important to us today. The Beavers learned new songs, new words, new skills, tricky crafts and great games, but best of all, drank green tea at the tea party.

For Asian folklore week hosted by Sunshine, we started off with a traditional Indian game called Kabaddi, during which no-one had the slightest idea what was going on but had an absolute blast. It seemed to be some kind of training to cross a Mumbai street without getting hit by a taxi, producing much screaming and laughter. Then we learned that both China and India have over 1 billion inhabitants each, so think about

that the next time you're in the line-up for your morning Timmies. Next Hawkeye lead a Japanese rendition on the guitar of twinkle twinkle little star ("Kira kira hikaru") and we all managed to get through the line "mabataki shite wa" (pronounced "shee tay"), unscathed and none the wiser.

The following week we delved into the world of Asian Innovation, where we discovered China has pretty much got the whole thing sewn up. Over the years those clever fellows have been credited with the invention of, to name but a few, clocks, paper, the compass, gunpowder, tea, dominoes, printing and alcohol. Genius.



At the Innovation Stations, the Beavers split into lodges and played dominoes, made origami planes of not the most air-worthy design but still incorporating significant manual dexterity, had their first taste of orienteering with Bubbles and his compass, and then had their first taste of Tic-Tac's delicious fruit tea. After that, they ran around for a bit like lunatics.

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Week three we walked around the Science and Tech museum and took in some of the great technological sights on offer. We had intended to walk the Great Wall of China, but it was just a touch out of budget. We also invested two new Beavers to the Colony: Matthew and Rosie.



To wrap up the month we turned back to Asian tradition and called up our inner Bruce Lee, learning about Martial Arts. The Beavers were taught Martial Arts history and the spiritual tenets of Tae Kwon Do with Rusty; realized their inner peace through movement with Tic Tac's Totally Tai Chi Time; played a game of matching Asian symbols to get their Martial Smarts black belt with Hawkeye; and then spent a somewhat tricky time with Ringtail learning how to make awesome (but highly sprung and unstable) popsicle ninja throwing stars. Those who succeeded were rewarded with a shot at a full size print out of Sunshine stuck to the wall.

And so April wraps up our whirl-wind tour of the continents for this year. Culture night in May will allow the Beavers to show off something from



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their own heritage and culture, and then we have the very important Swim-Up Ceremony to look forward to, only to finish the year on a massive high (higher than the caffeine rush) with the colony's incredible Spring Camp, which this year will have an Olympic Theme to tie in nicely with our continental excursions.

Until next month, Sayōnara!

Cub Corner

We had our annual sleep-over at the church on April 1st. The Cubs practised setting up the tents so they are ready for the Cuboree at the beginning of June, they learned how to tie knots and wrapped the evening up watching Star Wars while munching on popcorn and chips.

The Cubs had a special guest from Canada Safety Council to talk about Pedestrian Safety. The guest speaker indicated that everyday we see people walking down the street talking on the phone, texting or using some other electronic gadget and not paying attention to where they are walking. Distractions while you are walking, especially in high traffic areas, may put you at greater risk of getting injured. Children and adults need to be aware of their surroundings. In many cases it is not the driver's fault. It is the responsibility of both the driver and pedestrian to ensure each other's safety by following some simple rules.

Pedestrians should:

- Stop, look and listen when they approach an intersection.

- Obey the rules of the road – cross at intersections or in pedestrian safety zones and not in between parked cars
- Look up from phones and other electronic devices when crossing the street and turn down the volume
- Make sure drivers see you before you cross
- Walk against traffic along roadsides without sidewalks
- Wear bright and reflective clothing when walking especially at night

They urge pedestrians to be conscious on their surroundings. Take safety into your own hands and don't assume because it is your turn to cross that drivers will stop for you. Only cross when it is safe to do so.



The Cubs also had a chance to build and test their very own high definition TV Antenna and were able to visit the Bookmobile which came on site to provide the Cubs with a sneak peak at what they have to offer at the Ottawa Public Library.



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The month rounded out with an outing to Weston Park where the Cubs learned how to take their pulse before and after exercising. After doing some stretching exercises which was led by Bagheera, the Cubs were split into three groups and had to work as a team to build a tent, tie and pull a tire across the field, lead a cub who was blindfolded to relocate apples from one bin to another and then try to manage to get two hockey sticks from the centre of a roped off area using the items provided (bungee cords, tape, stick).



The Cubs are looking forward to a very busy May which includes: The Jungle Book Movie, Swim-up/Leap Up Ceremony, a joint camp with the Scouts for 2nd and 3rd years, Canterbury Park Clean-up, PedalHeads, Scoutree Planting and our much anticipated Cuboree.

Scout Trails

April arrived with a whirlwind of various scouting activities. We began the month with a return visit to the Perley Rideau Veterans Hospital on a snowy evening to play Bingo.



Despite the weather, quite a few youth and leaders turned out for the evening to chat with the residents, provide assistance with their boards, calling their numbers, and escorting



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them to their rooms following the event as part of their community services.



St. Aidan's held a BAC Roast Beef Dinner on April 7th. Scouter Bill, Ansel and Scouter Sara were on hand to wait on the 65 attendees for a 3 course meal, drinks, and cleanup following the event and we even found time to enjoy a hearty meal with the church volunteers who worked hard in the kitchen that day.

The Scouts rented 2 tables at the Canterbury Community Centre Spring Garage Sale to do some fundraising for the *Great Lakes Jamboree* this summer. A huge thank you to everyone who dropped off sale items: various china pieces, books, movies, kids toys, 2 bins of baking items, collector dolls, and Scouter Shazeela's baked goods. The youth learned the art of making a deal to increase the sales. After a long day, we raised \$310 that will be put towards the Jamboree grocery bill. All leftover items were distributed to *Value Village & Salvation Army* following the sale to help others in our community.

Later that week, we practiced racing the Soapbox Derby car at Terry Fox Athletic Facility to work out any kinks and setup the 3 racing teams before the Rideau Area Race on Sunday, April 17th. There was a lot of hockey tape applied to the brakes while the drivers- Alex, Emmaus and Ansel took turns ensuring the car would pass the test during the race. There were quite a few upsets on Race Day as the car suffered from steering, crooked wheels and a slightly injured Ansel when the car fell sideways after hitting the curb.



Thanks to Ruth Marier (Bagheera) and Stacey Janes for being our pit crew who worked hard to maintain the vehicle.



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Unfortunately, our car didn't make it to the semi-finals yet congratulations to everyone for bringing home the 'Coolest Car' Trophy for the 2nd year in a row! The Scouts will have a busy fall ahead reconstructing the vehicle to keep it on the road for years to come.



We met Mr. McGuinty in a committee room and we talked about what Parliamentarians do and the important issues they deal with that affects all Canadians, including Scout-aged youth. We then go to visit the Library of Parliament, the only original part left after the great fire of 1916.

The following week, the Scouts were treated to a private tour of Parliament by our MP for Ottawa South, Mr. David McGuinty. We first met at the Centennial Flame to walk up to Centre Block and go through security. We were warmly greeted by everyone and they were pleased to see a group of local Scouts coming to see their Parliament.



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The extra special treat was getting to go onto the floor of the House of Commons right after they had adjourned and learn first hand how it works and what Mr. McGuinty does in the chamber. They learned that two sword lengths separate the government side from the opposition side and that the ceiling is a single piece of linen, which was a gift from the people of Ireland.



The Scouts were very impressed, some have never gone into Parliament before. A very worthwhile experience for all.



We closed off the month enjoying a new activity in Ottawa at Archery Games. This is an activity that takes place at an indoor tennis court (minus the net) while everyone is divided into 2 teams shooting marshmallow covered arrows at their opponents and taking out 4 targets for their team. During the event the organizers add or remove elements in the game making it more challenging as the evening progresses. Scouters Jean and Shazeela joined in the fun with 8 youth for 75 minutes of action packed fun and everyone voted to return again next year as it was better than Laser Quest.



Hard to believe there are only 6 weeks of Scouting left and our youth will be busy camping and enjoying the great outdoors in the coming month.

[Scouts at Rideau Area Outdoor Skills & Leadership Training](#)

This is a report from Scouter Melissa who accompanied three Scouts and a 3rd year Cub who attended outdoor skills and leadership (FAST) training on April 9th:



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First of all Adrian enjoyed himself learning all the outdoor skills. I met up with him while he was learning to use a pocket knife. He was very happy about that, and he was doing a great job too!

Now the Scouts :) I gotta say I was impressed how well Sam, Ethan, Ansel and Erin worked together. The're problem solving as a team was impressive. They were driven to figure out how to do and best perfect the task at hand. There was no bickering or delegation, they just did it and did it well without hesitation.



Each one of them demonstrated trust and leadership, but one stood out. That was Ansel. I had a Venturer come and ask if he was part of my Troop. She said she had never seen that leadership thought process from a young Scout before. He led the Scouts through the blind maze and helped each one individually and made sure they all got through safely. It was his descriptive direction and attention to detail that impressed her.

I was glad to have been there to see this side of them.

You would have been proud. :)
YIS
Melissa



Swim-Up and Leap-Up Ceremony

Soon the White Tail Beavers and 3rd Year Cubs will be making the swim-up or leap-up to the next level in scouting. This is an important event in the life of a Scout.



When: Tuesday, May 10 at 6:30pm
Where: St. Aidan's

What to do to prepare: Learn your new promise. Have your new uniform shirt from the Scout Shop.



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End-of-the-Year Party set for June 14

Our annual party to end the scouting year, hand out awards to the youth, and recognize our volunteers is set for **Tuesday, June 14 at the Canterbury Community Centre**. This year we hoping to have a guest speaker come in and some entertainment thanks to some very motivated Leaders. Stay tuned and mark your calendars!



IMPORTANT - Early Registration for 2016-17

Early registration for the 2016-17 scouting year (September 2016 to June 2017) opens on May 1st!! Every year, those who register early save the hassle of registering in the fall and also save \$20 off the regular registration fee.

The early registration fees are:

Beavers, Cubs & Venturers: \$200

Scouts: \$250 (the extra \$50 is to pay all dues at the beginning of the year)

Registration forms will be provided starting in May. The deadline for registering early and taking advantage of the reduced fee is June 30.

You can now register either:

- 1) The traditional way by completing the form and paying cash or cheque
- 2) Online at <https://www.myscouts.ca> and paying by credit card

Opemikon Summer Camps Registration Now Open

Camp Opemikon's Summer Camp Programs are available to everyone! Scouting and Non-Scouting Members are welcome!



Camp Opemikon offers awesome outdoor fun for boys and girls, ages 7 to 16. Our residential programs range from introductory camps for first time overnight campers to specialized camps in backpacking, paddling, and wilderness canoe trips. Swimming, paddleboats, archery, hiking, crafts, pioneering, rock climbing, ropes courses, campfires, Carnival and OPE Idol talent nights are all here at Camp Opemikon!

You can easily register online and bus transportation to and from camp is available.

More information at the following link:

<http://voy.scouts.ca/ca/camp-opemikon-summer-programs>



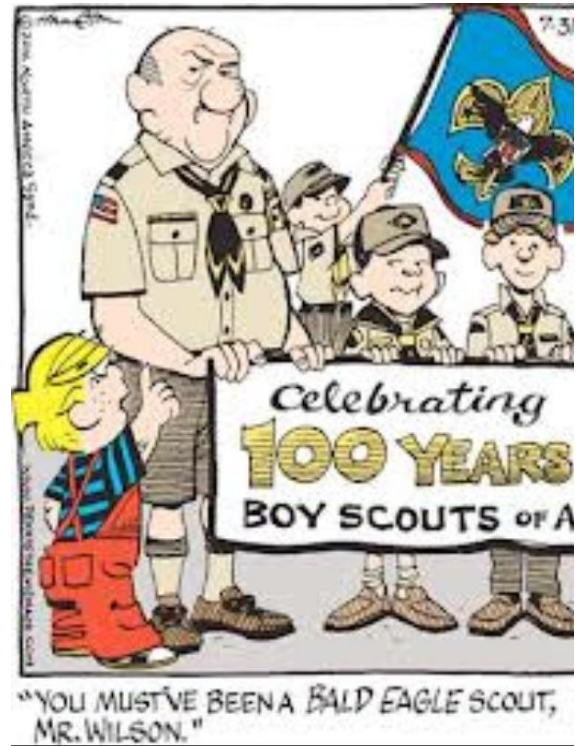
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Dates for your Calendar

- **May 4:** Cubs and Scouts at special showing of The Jungle Book Movie
- **May 7:** Scoutrees Dig Day at Queensway Park on Telesat Court
- **May 6-8:** Scouts and Venturers at RSVP Camp at Opemikon
- **May 13-15:** Senior Cubs/Scouts Joint Camp at Murphy's Point Provincial Park
- **May 27-29:** Beavers Spring Camp at Foley Mountain Conservation Area
- **June 3-5:** Cubs Voyageur Council Spring Camp at Apple Hill Scout Reserve
- **June 14:** End-of-the-Year Party and Banquet at the Canterbury Community Centre
- **June 17-19:** Scouts Canoe Camp at Lac du Poisson Blanc
- **July 9-17:** Scouts at Great Lakes Jamboree at Camp BEL near London, ON



Saying **Thanks** to a dedicated Scouter
is easier than you might think...

<http://www.scouts.ca/thanks/>

Visit our website regularly for updates:

<http://www.101ottawa.com/>



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