

APRIL 2018



101<sup>st</sup> Ottawa (St. Aidan's) Scouting Group

# Newsletter



## Scoutrees 2018

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

**Pledges are due May 1 for Beavers and Cubs and May 2 for Scouts.**

**Dig Day (tree planting) is on May 5 at 10:00am at Cedardale Park (250 Mary Drive).**



## Beaver Tales

In April, the Beavers started the month with a meeting about birds. We did a similar one last year, courtesy of Thunder who has organized both great meetings. The Beavers actually learned a lot about our feathered friends and this was a great lead-in to our visit to the Museum of Nature the following week.



The following week, we went to the Museum of Nature with the Cubs. Not only did we see birds, but we also saw dinosaurs and mammals.



The Beavers were very excited and had a great time. Thanks to the parents who accompanied us.



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The week after, we were scheduled to go on a hike, but the spring ice storm prevented us from doing that. Instead the Beavers went to the Greenboro Library. We met with a Librarian who told us where to find books and the Beavers were able to take out some books. Some even got their own new library card.

The last Tuesday of April was a special Friendship and Yoga night organized by Hawkeye. The Beavers did some friendship exercises, made friendship bracelets and practiced some meditation and yoga. It was a very zen evening for all (we loved it!!).



**Cub Corner**

April has been a very busy and diverse month for the 101st Ottawa Cub Pack.



We started the month with a very cool presentation on Medieval history, courtesy of Cub Andrew's dad, Shayne Dark.



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The youth learned about all how difficult (and somewhat gross) life was back in the day, and got to try on armour from Shayne's collection. We were amazed to learn about the different materials used, and how heavy some of it was



History and education continued to be a theme during our visit to the Museum of Nature. Rikki Tikki Tavi's scavenger hunt kept the youth occupied (and learning) as we visited the mammal, bird and dinosaur exhibits. It was also fun to see so many other scout groups there!



A cancelled rainy hike was turned into an awesome Laserquest adventure! Scouters and youth alike had a "blast" running the course, using their stealth skills to track down their fellow Cubs and have some laughs along the way.



Finally, Kaa and Mang led the youth in a meeting focused on health and fitness. The youth reviewed the Canadian Food Guide, components of a healthy diet and then participated to a gruelling physical fitness challenge while Rikki Tikki Tavi turned up the tunes.



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We finished the evening with Akela leading them in some cool down exercises and a lesson in mediation.

A special shout-out to Cubs Sophie and William, who braved the rain to participate in a fun orienteering clinic with the Scouts. The Ottawa Orienteering Club hid digital markers throughout Vincent Massey Park, and working in small teams, the youth used maps to find as many as they could.



We are all looking forward to our adventures in May which include a visit to the University of Ottawa laboratories, our Leap Up Ceremony,

and community service at the Shepherds of Good Hope community gardens.



### Scout Trails

The month began with permit night part 2 at the church on the April 3rd. Scouters Mike & AJ completed the axe and saw and knife permits with the first and second years while the older youth planned an engaging outdoor activity for the next meeting.



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The evening was rounded out with some fun indoor games where the Scout's great story-telling skills had everyone laughing!



On April 11 the 101st Scout Troop officially invested its newest member Toby in a ceremony at the church before heading over to Weston Park for a rousing game of capture the flag. It was a brisk evening so some hot chocolate a la Scouter Ruth was in order when they returned to the church.

April 18 was also a bit cool for the Soap Box Derby practice and tune-up at Mooney's Bay but the Scouts kept warm as they took turns bringing the racer back up the hill after each run. Once most of the kinks were worked out and the racer was put through its paces by all the drivers and pushers the Scouts enjoyed some play time at

the adjacent huge park. Many thanks to all the parents who helped out both that evening and the following weekend for the big race!

On Friday April 20 Scouter Jean led a great night of splashing and water fun at the Wave Pool.

Then on Sunday April 22 the big day arrived and the annual Soap Box Derby was held with 5 participating troops at the Terry Fox Athletic Centre.



The event was well-attended and lasted about 4 hours. After the warm-up practice runs a couple more adjustments were needed for the new brakes then the car began moving much more smoothly down the hill for the initial morning heats.



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Around noon a short lunch break was convened and the 101st was pleased to learn that they would compete in the finals. As their racer was a bit lighter than some of their competitors the Scouts noticed that it gained more momentum when an older youth was at the wheel. So Fourth Year Alex was nominated to drive for the final runs which ended up being a great decision as the 101st placed third place overall - congratulations to all who participated and a special thanks to the Scouts and their friends and family members who came to cheer the racers on.



For the last meeting of April, once again the youth proved that they can have fun whatever the weather. Not put off by the rain the youth participated in an orienteering event at Vincent Massey Park. The Ottawa Orienteering Club came and set-up the course with flags and electronic checkpoints.



Youth were paired up and had to collect as many checkpoints as possible in 45mins. A few of the older Cubs and some of the Venturers were able to make it and even the Scouters joined in the fun. The rain actually turned out to be a good thing to cool us down as we ran from one checkpoint to another.



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Next month begins the spring season with the RSVP (Rover, Scouts, Venturers, Pathfinders) camp at Opemikon.



### Venturer News

Practice makes perfect or perhaps just skilled. Regardless, it is always useful to practice long-learned skills. For that reason, the Venturers spent an evening reviewing safety and operating our propane and white gas stoves. While we increasingly rely on the propane canister stoves, the gas stoves generate more BTUs and thus burn hotter. While not (normally) relevant to spring camping, these stoves also function much better in cold weather. The Vents also reacquainted themselves with the propane and gas lanterns. Following this, and having worked up an appetite, the Vents put the stoves to good use by cooking up some Moose Droppings - essentially chocolate macaroons. Needless to say, they were enjoyed by all!

The Vents joined the Scouts for an evening of orienteering at Vincent Massey Park. Despite the continuous drizzle and showers, a great time was held, practicing map reading skills and solving the course set by the Ottawa Orienteering Club members. Thank you to them, and to the Scouts, for inviting us along for the activity.

Despite continuing chilly weather, the spring camping season is upon us. The first weekend of May sees the annual RSVP camp at Opemikon that the Vents and Scouts will be

taking part in. But to get ready for the RSVP camp, another important activity takes place - the Ope Work Weekend.



This year, about 95 Venturers, Rovers and Scouters from across Voyageur Council went to Ope to get the camp ready. Canoes were hauled down to the waterfront, canoe decks installed, cabins painted, windows washed, picnic tables built - well, you get a sense of the list of chores that were done. The 101st Ottawa Venturers were responsible for laying a new bed of wood chips under the high and low ropes courses. First the course areas were raked of fall leaves and winter tree debris, and the new chips were wheel-barrelled and shovelled in to place. Finally, we raked the chips to a nice even surface. The work was interrupted on Saturday by rain showers and hail. But like the mail, the Vents delivered.

While we were working, who walked by but Andrew Price, Scouts Canada's CEO. We had a nice conversation with Andrew and his wife Brenda, and of course, a photo. Andrew did his



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Scouting as a youth in Rideau Area, so well knows the value of Camp Opemikon to our Scouting youth.



### [Summer Camp at Opemikon](#)

Camp Opemikon offers summer camping programs for Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Venturer aged youth. Camps includes crafts, swimming, hiking, canoeing, campfires, theme weeks, and so much more. A truly memorable summer camp experience.

Information is now available at:

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

The Work Weekend provides our Vents with Community Service hours, and the satisfaction of providing a service to all Scouting youth. We were well-fed in the dining hall but there was no dance, no chocolate fondues or other essential elements of Venturer activities at Ope. Just the hard work. And now Ope - and the Vents - are ready for the RSVP camp next weekend. And seeing their wood chips help other Scouts safely use the high and low ropes courses.

### [IMPORTANT - Early Registration for 2018-19](#)

Early registration for the 2018-19 scouting year opens on May 1<sup>st</sup>!! Every year, those who register early save the hassle of registering in the fall and also save \$30 off the regular registration fee.

The early registration fees are:

**Beavers, Cubs & Venturers: \$215**

**Scouts: \$265 (the extra \$50 is to pay all dues at the beginning of the year)**

Returning members have a 2-week window (until May 15th) before registration opens to new members. The deadline for registering early and taking advantage of the reduced fee is June 30. Register online at <https://www.myscouts.ca> and paying by Interac or credit card.



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Dates for your Calendar

- **May 3-5:** Scouts & Venturers RSVP Camp
- **May 5:** Scoutrees Dig Day
- **May 11-13:** Senior Scouts Rideau Challenge
- **May 25-27:** Beavers Spring Camp at Legewade
- **June 1-2:** Cubs Overnight at Rideau Locks
- **June 12:** Year End Banquet at Canterbury Community Centre
- **June 8-10:** Cubs Spring Camp
- **June 15-17:** Scouts Canoe Camp at Lac du Poisson Blanc



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