

January 2015



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

# Newsletter



## All Sections Winter Camp

Our most anticipated annual Winter Camp took place on January 9-11 at Camp Opemikon. This is the one camp in the year when all our sections get together for some fun in the snow. Weather-wise, we never can predict what we'll get. We've had rain, freezing rain, plus double digits, snowstorms, and -30's in the past. This year, we had perfect winter-like weather allowing time to enjoy the great Canadian outdoors.



We all had loads of fun snowshoeing, tobogganing and especially with a very successful campfire on Saturday night. Thanks to Cub Leader Kaa for being an outstanding (and very funny) Campfire Chief. As always, the food was great and plentiful and this year we again had the whole place to ourselves given we were 86 campers, including Leaders and parents who attended.

Our theme was Winter Fun. The Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Venturers got to spend time with one another with activities like making bannock,

building fires, doing a coloured ice cube scavenger hunt, and playing snoccer and snolf.



Thanks to our Scouts and Venturers for organizing our Scout's Own on the Sunday morning. It was very well done as usual and impressive as they organized it all themselves. The Beaver Leaders would also like to thank the parents who attended and helped out.



We are already looking forward to next year's camp.

## Beaver Tales

The Beavers came back from their holidays ready for some winter camping. Our first meeting back was spent preparing for camp. We covered what to bring to be prepared and thanks to Bubbles, learned some new cheers and skits. There were 18 Beavers who attended winter camp at OPE and they all had a blast. Can't wait for next year!

## January 2015

Here in this photo, the Beavers are getting ready to go snowshoeing at OPE.



And this is after snowshoeing. The Beavers did a great job going up hills and hiking through the snow.



The week after winter camp is usually one for indoor games on a cold winter's night. So we played board games brought in by the Beavers.



The Beavers then shifted their attention to their Beaver Buggies. They built and decorated them this one week and raced them the next week on our cool tracks.

You could feel the excitement in the air as the Beavers raced their Buggies. Thanks to the parents who came to the meeting to help out the Beaver Leaders with the Buggies.



Coming up in February are a tobogganing night, a Valentine's Day craft Bring a Friend night, snowshoeing hike and learning about animals in winter; not to mention the Winter Beaveree at the end of the month.



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Celebrating 54 years.**

January 2015

## Cub Corner

The Cubs started the New Year with a meeting to get ready for winter camp. They shared stories of their holidays, played some games, and practised their acting skills by doing skits at our own little indoor campfire.

The Cubs joined the other 101<sup>st</sup> sections for our annual winter camp at OPE. This year, the weather was cold but the Cubs stayed warm with lots of activities outside and lots of hot chocolate inside. The Cubs unpacked and got settled in on Friday night and then enjoyed mug up with the other sections.



On Saturday, they started off the day with some sledding. It took a bit of work to get the runs smoothed out but the Cubs' perseverance paid off and eventually, there were some fast runs.

The Sixer's Council also spent part of the morning setting up a tracking activity for the Beavers. In the afternoon, the Cubs and Beavers linked together to follow the tracks to a yummy treat. Later on, the Cubs linked with the Scouts to work on their fire building and starting skills. After that, it was time for some free time. Cubs spent time on the awesome luge run set up by the Scouts. Some Subs also chose to try out the snowshoes for a beautiful hike through the woods. In the evening,

we joined the other sections for the campfire and the Cubs tried out some new skits and cheers.

Some Cubs and Scouts were even brave enough to wash their faces with the fresh snow.



On Sunday morning, the Cubs packed up in record speed and then we joined the other sections for Scout's Own. That left just enough time for a little more sledding before it was time for lunch and heading home.



We had so much fun outside all weekend at winter camp, we decided to keep the outdoor fun going with our next meeting and met at Weston Park for skating. Despite the chilly weather, the Cubs had a great night playing hockey,



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January 2015

practising skating skills, testing for their skater badge and warming up with hot chocolate in the change room.

The Cubs explored the Museum of Nature for our third January meeting. They learned about perspective in art and did some sketches of exhibits. They wandered through the animalia, geology, oceans, mammals, and dinosaur exhibits and got to try out some of the hands-on activities. Don't be surprised if your Cub asks to go back again soon- there is so much to see there, most Cubs didn't want to leave.

In the last meeting of January, the Cubs started work on their Kub Kars. Once again, our pack is lucky to welcome back Akela Chris Hayes, who brings his wood working tools and sets up shop in the hall. The Cubs worked on their designs and with the help of Akela Chris, began cutting their blocks of wood to start the process of shaping them into their own unique cars. In the next two meetings, they will finish shaping, sanding and painting their cars to get them ready to race.

### Scout Trails

The Scouts came back from holidays and immediately got ready for the winter camp that weekend. The Scouts had fun building the toboggan run and in the cabin they shared with some 3<sup>rd</sup> year Cubs.



They played board games and enjoyed a great campfire and good food. The Scouts and Cubs

linked together to learn how to build fires in winter and they even set up the campfire for that night.



During the linking activity with the Venturers, the Scouts built a campfire and made bannock. However, how many Scouts and Venturers does it take to light a fire? Many as this picture shows...



On January 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>, several Scouts went out collecting bottles and cans as a fundraiser for their trip to ScotiaJamb in July. Otherwise, they were kept busy building their Klondike Sled and catapult for the Rideau Area Klondike Derby on December 31<sup>st</sup> in Russell. The Leaders are also hoping that the Scouts take a greater interest in

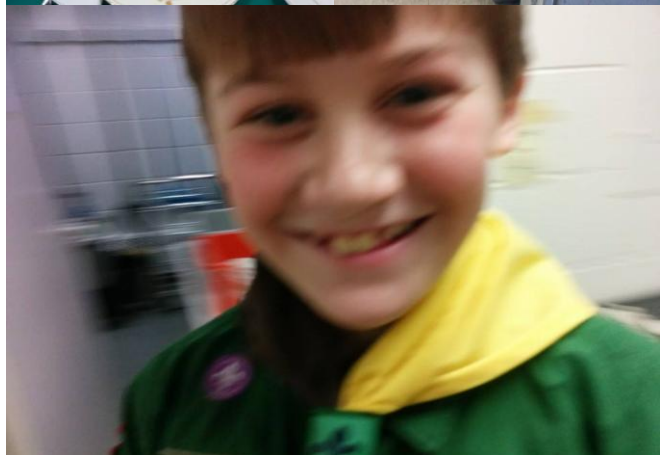


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January 2015

planning and organizing their own meetings, outings and camps and they held their first Patrol meetings followed by a Court of Honour on January 21<sup>st</sup>.

On Saturday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, three Scouts – Zion, Jordan and Max, helped serve and cleanup at the St. Aidan's Hearty Winter Lunch. Thank you Scouts once again for your community service and doing such a great job with our group sponsor.



### Venturers News

If you've been somewhere dozens of times, would you get tired of going? Well, the Venturers never get tired of going to Opemikon and especially during the winter! Nine of the Venturers packed up their winter gear, and spent the weekend with the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts.

The Venturers especially enjoyed the snoccer game, and the snolf course with the Beavers.



Not that the linking time with the Scouts wasn't fun too. The Vents mixed up two batches of bannock, and after lighting a big campfire, proceeded to cook pieces of the bannock on branches. There was much laughter though as pieces of the bannock fell off into the fire. In the end, some of the bannock treat was cooked through and enjoyed.



Saturday night was very cold but the Vents were warmed by the fantastic camp fire built by the senior Cubs and the Scouts. It was too cold to do the JC Penney skit but the Vents debuted the 'Don't know how to do that' skit. On Sunday morning, the Venturers and Scouts led the



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January 2015

group, including parents and leaders in a nature-themed Scouts Own. The chapel in the woods was beautiful with the snow softly falling, and the perfect setting for a quiet time of reflection and thanks. Scouters Mike and Tad also made a wonderful contribution to the Scouts Own.



The latter part of January is always quiet for Venturers as they study for and write their high school exams. At our first meeting in February, planning will begin in earnest for our trip to Lake Placid, New York for the Adirondack Mountain Adventure. Part of the preparations will include several snowshoe outings to get our legs in shape for that weekend.



### Honouring our Outstanding Leaders



Through the Scouts Canada Thanks button (<http://www.scouts.ca/thanks/>) on their website, any Leader can receive recognition for their outstanding work.

The following Leaders recently received Certificates of Commendation for Service to Scouting:

- Cub Leader Raksha (Kimberley Allo)
- Scout Leader Sara Walker – presented by Ken Shore the Rideau Are Commissioner



You're gggrrreeeaaaatttt!!! Keep up the good work and the youth are very lucky to have Leaders like you.

### Where do we get a Campfire Blanket?

Parents: You may have noticed that scouting youth get crests for attending events, participating in activities and fundraisers and can even trade them with other Scouts. You may have also noticed that we have a tradition of sewing them on our campfire blankets.

These blankets are great for keeping warm around the campfire and at night. They also allow the youth to show off all their crests! But,



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January 2015

where do you get one? You can use any wool or fleece blanket and sew the crests right on it.

Or the Scout Shop on Baseline Rd. also sell them. Both make great birthday presents and would be useful for spring camps. Get sewing!

The blue fleece poncho type is the nicest, warmest and softest one and sells for \$27.99 for the smaller size and \$34.99 for the larger size.



The grey acrylic blanket sells for \$13.99 for the smaller size and \$19.99 for the larger size.



### Quartermaster Needed!!



The 101<sup>st</sup> needs one or two individuals to take on the role of Quartermaster. We have needed this person for some time and the matter is becoming more pressing.

The Quartermaster should be familiar with camping gear in particular.



### **What is the role?**

- 1) Keep an inventory of all of our gear stored in the group equipment cupboard under the stairs at the church
- 2) Keep the storage space neat and organized
- 3) Keep track of what is in need of repair such as tents (you don't necessarily need to be the one to organize the repair but that would be ideal)
- 4) Be informed when a section or Leaders remove any gear from the cupboard for use (such as for a camp) and ensure it is returned in good shape
- 5) Provide advice to the Group Commissioner on equipment needs and repairs and attend one or two Group Committee meetings per year
- 6) Be involved in a meeting in the Fall where the Scouts and/or Cubs set up tents, stoves and lanterns to ensure they work

While not as exciting as being Q in a James Bond movie, this is a good way to get involved. See Group Commissioner, Francois Marier, if this interests you.

### New Gear bought with our Trillium Grant

In 2013, the 101<sup>st</sup> received a Trillium Foundation Grant, which was mainly for the purchase of new gear. We bought new snowshoes (used at OPE, during the Klondike Derby, in the Adirondacks, on hikes at Pine Grove, etc.), new tents (used on numerous camps even in Newfoundland last



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summer) and lots of much needed new camping equipment. Each section is now fully stocked for feeding hungry Scouts (and Leaders) during a weekend camp. Our last purchase included new water jugs, stoves, lantern, axes, saws, and lots of very compact and lightweight gear for the Scouts and Venturers to do more backpack and canoe camping.



But where to put it in our already overstuffed gear storage cupboard? That meant a Saturday afternoon spent at the church taking everything out and reorganizing it. Thanks Scouters Dan and Bill and Scouter Sara's husband Steve. Now, if we only had a Quartermaster...



Scotiajamb2015

### Scouts heading to Nova Scotia Jamboree this Summer

10 Scouts and 5 Leaders are heading to a major Jamboree in Nova Scotia in July called Scotiajamb 2015. Some 2000 Scouts are expected to turn up at this week-long event that will include ziplining, canoeing and kayaking, hiking, rock climbing, various crafts like leathercraft, blacksmithing, pioneering and rocket building. And that's just a taste of the activities waiting for them.

Thank you to those who donated bottles and cans during our bottle drive in January. We collected a total of \$167. This is in addition to Scout Popcorn sales and a night we spent at Sail just before Christmas bagging with the cashiers and collecting donations. Stay tuned as the Scouts look to more fundraising activities to pay for their trip.



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### Scout-Guide Week 2015

Every year, we celebrate Scout-Guide Week to honour the birthday of our founders: Lord Robert Baden-Powell and Lady Olave Baden-Powell. This year, it will take place from **February 15-22**. Each section will be recognizing this special event that week and flag-raising ceremonies will be held across Canada.

### Upcoming Dates for your Calendar

- January 31: Scouts Klondike Derby
- February 1: Scouts tending the fire at Balena Park Winter Carnival
- February 21: Cubs Rideau Area Kub Kar Rally
- February 28: Winter Beaverree
- May 2: Scoutrees Dig Day
- May 8-10: Cubs Spring Camp at Legewade
- May 9-10: Scouts Rideau Challenge
- May 22-24: Beavers Spring Camp at Legewade
- May 29-31: Cubs Rideau Area Spring Camp
- June 5-7: Scouts Voyageur Council Spring Camp

# LEAD

DON'T



# FOLLOW!



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