

March 2015



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

# Newsletter



## Scoutrees 2014

Every year, thousands of scouts and volunteers head out at the beginning of May to plant Scoutrees. This is a way for scouts to make a difference for the environment and to beautify their community. Each tree planted produces oxygen, removes greenhouse gas carbon dioxide and makes the land less susceptible to flooding. Last year, the 101<sup>st</sup> Ottawa planted 185 trees.

But, Scoutrees is also an important fundraiser for our group. Each youth member will soon receive a pledge envelope to collect donations, of which our scouting group gets to keep 85% to fund our programs, camps, equipment, etc. Those who donate \$20 or more will receive a tax receipt. We encourage all youth to collect pledges of any amount to support our group and our tree planting efforts. Did you also know that 15% of pledges raised go to the Canadian Scout Brotherhood Fund. These funds assist Scouts in developing countries run self-help and community betterment programs that are adapted to local needs and conditions.

**Envelopes with pledges are due on May 5 for Beavers and Cubs and May 6 for Scouts and Venturers.**

Stay tuned for details on our "Dig Day" when we plant trees in our community.

## Beaver Tales

At the end of February, some 8 Beavers and 3 Leaders took part in the Rideau Area Winter Beaveree. The theme was the movie Ice Age and they had fun outdoors and indoors.



In March, the Beavers had some great adventures and new experiences. First they had some old-fashioned fun with a Country Fair complete with games where they won tickets they can exchange for a snack at the end of the meeting.

Then, the Beavers toured a science research lab at the University of Ottawa's medical campus behind the General Hospital. The tour was organized by Diane Lagace, mom of Beavers Tyler and Derek, who is a researcher on the brain at the lab. Her graduate students helped demonstrate the brain and its functions. The

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Leaders were very impressed with how well the Beavers behaved.

After March Break, the Beavers learned and touched different types of rocks and even made a pet rock to take home.

The White Tail Beavers have started their linking activities with the Cubs to help in the transition from Beavers to Cubs leading to the swim-up ceremony at the beginning of May. Next up, the Beavers are going bowling with the Cubs.

### Cub Corner

The Cubs kept busy in their den while the Ides of March dropped record-setting chills on the National Capital Region. We began the month with another round of Kub Kar racing, this time sharing the track with the White Tails' Beaver Buggies.

On the subject of White Tails, the Cubs have been hosting the tenderpads-in-training at the tail end (pun intended) of the Cub meetings. Kub Kar/Beaver Buggy racing was a great way for the youth to bond and show off their creative and technical talents.

March Break came and went, but the Cubs were breakin' out upon their return in a lively hip hop workshop taught by Katherine Prior. Katherine, a Canterbury High School dance student and rhythmic gymnastics coach (and big sister to Cub Kyle), taught the Cubs some signature hip hop dance moves and helped them pull it together in to a choreographed dance piece. The Cubs, Leaders and White Tails who joined them were left breathless and running for water after their performance to the parents.

Badge testing continues for each Cub, with a few new badges earned by some of the Cubs every week. The Cubs have also been taking turns reading *The Jungle Book* where time permits.

We'll soon be taking our show on the road with some bowling at Walkley Bowling, but our biggest adventure is yet to come: Camping at Foley Mountain Conservation Area in May. The Cubs got a head start on that by planning menus and skits, and practicing knots.

### Scout Trails

Wow! Talk about a busy month for the Scouts. They started by going to an Ottawa 67's game on March 6<sup>th</sup>. It was a great evening out and an exciting game even if the 67's lost in overtime.



The following week, the Scouts went swimming at the Splash Wave Pool. Both of these events were on a Friday so it took the Scouts out of their usual routine and added some fun to the program.



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After March Break, the Scouts met on a Thursday and invited the 3<sup>rd</sup> year Cubs to join them in a demonstration from Ottawa Swordplay. They learned about medieval swords and armour and got to practice a few swings (at each other too...but with foam swords).

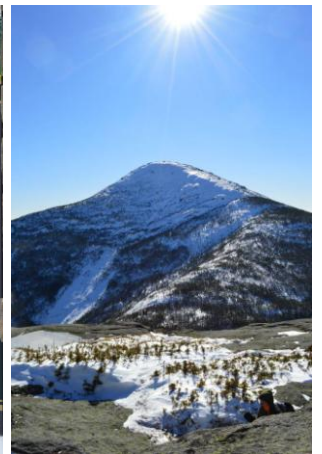
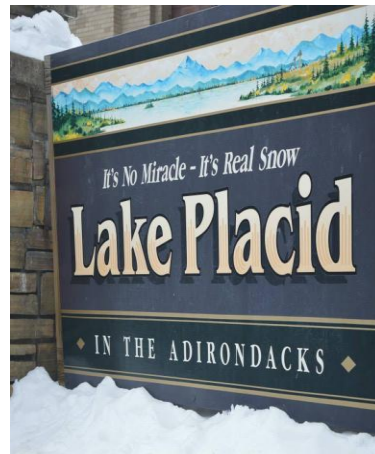


### Venturers News

Since our last update, 5 of the Venturers and 2 Advisors assisted the St. Aidan's Parish Community with their Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. The Venturers cleared tables, and put out new table settings between sittings, and at the end got to enjoy some pancakes and sausages as well! Thanks to Dana, Daniel, Haley, Graeme, and Shiloh.



Eight Venturers were awarded Rideau Area Participation Awards – congratulations to Aidan, Allyson, Ben B., Dylan, Dana, Graeme, Haley, Maddie, and Shiloh for your near perfect participation in last years' activities.



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The big event for the Venturers over the past month was a trip to Lake Placid at the end of February for the annual Adirondack High Adventure. The centerpiece of the weekend is the Saturday hike during which the Venturers snowshoed up a mountain. This year we snowshoed and scrambled to the top of Wright Peak, which at almost 5,000 feet, is one of the higher peaks in the Adirondacks. The climb is also rated as B+ in terms of difficulty. One of the pictures below shows a smiling group of our Venturers before we started the four mile ascent or 6 KM hike up to the top.



The first kilometer or so was fairly easy but then the trail became much steeper and the climb that much more arduous. As you can see though, the energy expended in the climb was well worth it as it was a clear sunny day (though still cold), and we could see for miles and miles as the song goes. While on top of the Peak, we invested Scouter Ben S, who is a junior Venturer Advisor.



Around 1:00 pm, we stopped on the trail for lunch – consisting of meat loaf sandwiches, granola bars, and for those who water bottles hadn't frozen, a few mouthfuls of water. We spent about a half hour on the summit, and then it was time to turn around and begin the descent. Because of the pressure on knees and thighs, going down is almost as trying as going up! The whole group made it back to the trailhead by about 5pm, so we were out on the trail for more than 7 hours. We then waited for our drives back into the town of Lake Placid, and a well-deserved pizza party!



On Sunday, the Venturers walked around the town, and some took in the toboggan slide which rockets you down 40 feet onto Mirror Lake for more than 100 yards. The Olympic skating oval



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was also open in the centre of town and of course there were lots of interesting snack places and souvenir stores to explore. The Venturers would like to thank Graeme's mom Erin and Daniel's parents Sandra and Jean, for devoting their weekend to getting the group to Lake Placid and back again, plus all the driving within the town itself. They also drove us out to the Wright Peak trailhead, which is about 20 minutes outside of Lake Placid. All returned safe and sound to Ottawa for supper on Sunday, though likely still a little stiff from the climb on Saturday."

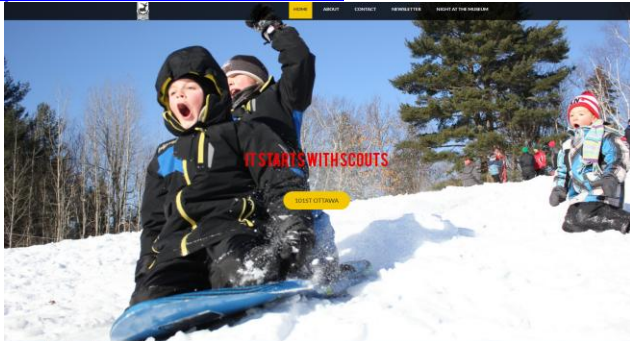
### [End-of-the-Year Party set for June 9](#)

Our annual party to end the scouting year, hand out awards to the youth, and recognize our volunteers is set for **Tuesday, June 9 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!

### [New 101<sup>st</sup> Ottawa Website](#)

Have you checked out the 101<sup>st</sup> new website? What are you waiting?

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



What will your  
**Good Turn** be?



#goodturn



### [Good Turn Week](#)

If one good turn deserves another, then 100,000 good turns deserve the same. Designed to spread friendliness and compassion throughout the country, Good Turn Week returns on April 25 – May 3.

Good Turn Week was established by Scouting youth to encourage Canadians of all ages to reach out and make a difference in the lives of other people and contribute to the development of stronger, friendlier communities.

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

### [Upcoming Dates for your Calendar](#)

- April 19: Scouts Soapbox Derby
- May 1-3: Venturers RSVP Camp
- May 2: Scoutrees Dig Day
- May 8-10: Cubs Spring Camp
- May 9-10: Scouts Rideau Challenge
- May 22-24: Beavers Spring Camp
- May 29-31: Cubs Rideau Area Spring Camp
- June 5-7: Scouts Voyageur Council Spring Camp at Opemikon
- June 12-14: Scouts Canoe Camp at Lac-du-Poisson-Blanc



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