

MARCH 2023



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

# Newsletter

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### Beaver Tales

With March Break, it's a shorter month in terms of meetings, but still for our busy Beavers, they like get outside and to do stuff.

We started the month with a meeting outside of building snow forts. There was still lots of snow at the church to allow for this and a decent cooperative efforts with their little shovels to build a fort big enough for all of them to fit inside.



The week after March Break, we had a craft night at the church. Beavers love, love, love to do crafts of all types. Thanks to Rainbow who organized this craft night, they made beautiful light catchers in the shape of the sun and the moon. It happened to be the week of the spring equinox, so perfect time as we changed seasons and sprang ahead in time.

The Beavers worked diligently to make their light catchers using wax paper, crayon shavings that were melted by the Leaders using a couple clothes irons, some string and beads. We hope they found somewhere to hang in your house.



The last week of March, the Beavers were back outside for a night of games at the church. They primarily played broomball in the church parking lot and also some soccer. Ah...to have the energy of a Beaver.

The spring will bring lots more time outdoors as temperatures warm up and our camp at the end of May.

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**Cub Corner**

Oh my Stars! Once I sent in all the pictures and the blurb for the February Newsletter, I realized I never mentioned ANYTHING about the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Gourmet Pancake Challenge! Then I realize I never mentioned ANYTHING about the Service Scavenger Hunt from CHRISTMAS! So, March will be a bit of a catch up month this year!



So, let's go back to December, we had several Cubs do the Service Scavenger Hunt – including at least 5 who cleaned bathrooms! Cubs! You are all AMAZING! I'd also like to point out that the Cubs didn't just do this in their own homes, several who were visiting relatives over the holidays also got in on the SSH action there as well. Great job Cubs! Well done!



Now, PANCAKES! Again, our Cubs are amazing, take a look at these yummy yummy pancakes. I think we can safely say that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Gourmet Pancake Challenge is a WIN! We'll bring it back next year!

Our first meeting in March took us into space. Cubs were asked to bring pillows or a blankie and we looked up at the stars. Well, what we could see outside – which was not much of anything – and what we could see inside with Akela's star projector. Once everyone made their own constellation on the star map – Akela is still not sharing that Oreo she's dipping in the Milky Way by the way – Cubs had a chance to draw their own on paper. Our Cubs are so creative.

March Break is upon us and there is no regular Cub Meeting. There will be a Challenge though. After much back and forth, we are calling this Chil's Challenge – mostly because he thought of most of it. Chil is Challenging the Cubs to make a set of Snow Goggles. That's Part 1. Part 2 of the Challenge is to make a second piece of Winter Gear with materials they already have at home. Cubs are to bring them to our upcoming excursion to Stanley's Maple Farm.



The first Tuesday after March Break had us meeting up at the Scouts Canada National Headquarters and Museum. We had a great



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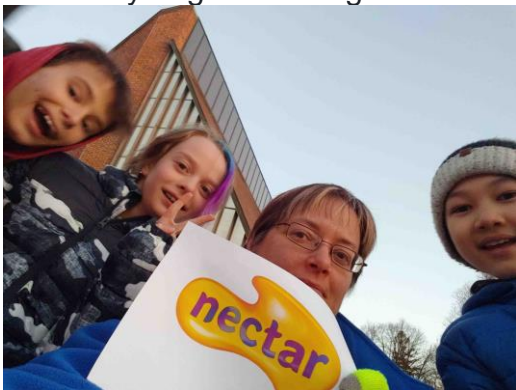
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turnout – except for our Tour Guide. So, being the intrepid Scouts that we are, we headed out for an Urban Hike and found a nearby park. Yay us and a huge Thank You to Chil who knew where the park was.



On Saturday March 25, a small group of Cubs met at Stanley's Olde Maple Farm in York's Corners to enjoy traditional sugaring off activities. Tractor and wagon rides, taffy on snow and a visit to the animal barn. We had lots of fun.

Finally we come to the last Tuesday of the month. We had a Special Guest Speaker who came in to speak to us about Pollinators and that the seeds that we planted about a month ago should be ready to go into the ground soon!



We also played a great game of Pollinator where the Cubs were bees who had to collect pollen (in the form of dried beans) and nectar (by visiting a Scouter to get energy) all while avoiding the Predator, played in turn by a bird (Chil), a snake (Kaa), and a Bear (Baloo). Great fun! We'll have to play this one again for sure!



Can't wait to see what our April Adventures are!



**Scout Trails**

We started a few years ago a tradition of having each Scout Patrol plan and run a meeting. It's important as our program is intended to be youth-led as much as possible. We have four patrols this year, so as we returned from March Break, it was what we focused on.



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First up was Raccoon Patrol and they decided to run a "carnival night". They set up several stations of carnival type games that the other patrols then rotated to. They even had a cotton candy making station – probably the favourite one of the Scouts, since, well it involved food, and sugar.



There was water pong, bowling, lawn darts and more. And the evening ended with a massive musical chairs – yes even at their age, they still love to play musical chairs.



The following week was Blue Jay Patrol's turn and they organized a "Shrek-themed game night". So, you are probably asking yourself, what does that mean? It was simple enough in that there were board games and other types of games brought to the meeting. But the extra was that they played Shrek soundtracks and had a Shrek movie line contest – we are not sure where this Shrek obsession comes from but they seem to be happy to share it.



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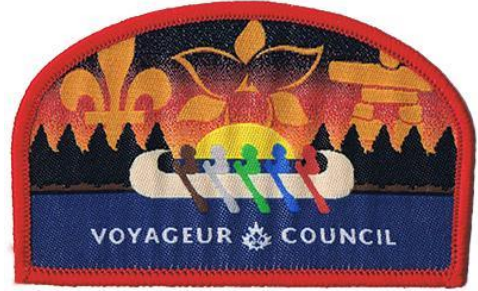


Thanks to both of these patrols for organizing their meetings. In April, it will be the turn of the remaining two patrols.



**Thank a Volunteer Today**

Want to say thanks to a volunteer – you can do so online and the volunteer will receive a special recognition. It's easy – just go to this website and fill out the information. You do need to know their real name – not just their leader name and if not sure ask them or another volunteer or parent. [www.scouts.ca/thanks](http://www.scouts.ca/thanks)



**Summer Camps at Opemikon**

For summer 2023, we are pleased to be bringing back our wide variety of great summer programming at Camp Opemikon. Youth can choose from a multitude of camping options including tents and cabins, and great instructor-led programming like archery, a low-ropes course, paddling excursions and guided trail hikes. There will also be a Family Adventure Camp August 5th-12th (more info about it will be available soon)

Since 1938, Camp Opemikon has served the camping needs of more than half a million members of the Scouting family. The camp is owned and operated by Scouts Canada, Voyageur Council, and is one of the finest residential Scout camps in Canada. It is located on Christie Lake just west of Perth, Ontario and 100 km southwest of Ottawa.

Registration and further information is at <https://www.scouts.ca/camps/camp-opemikon.html>



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