

MAY 2019



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

Newsletter



Scoutrees 2019

On May 4th, a group of Beavers and Cubs with their parents and siblings gathered in a greenspace in Riverside South to do a good turn for the environment. We planted 180 trees in a area designated by the city as an are being reforested.



Scoutrees is also an important fundraiser for our group and this year we collected over \$3,600!! That's a record for this fundraiser. This is much needed at this time of year. A special shout out to Cub Alexander Kurz who canvassed all of the streets near his house and collected over \$600 by himself – what an example!



Beaver Tales

The Beavers last month of meetings started with the annual Swim-Up Ceremony for our White Tail Beavers.



Three Beavers, Harrison, Isabella and Alessandro, took part in the ceremony and “swam-up” the river to join the Cub Pack as Tenderpads. They received their new neckers from Akela.

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It was a special moment for them and the Beaver Leaders were proud of them and the time they spent in the Colony.



There was a sing-off with the Cubs who thought they could sing louder than the Beavers, Ha!



The week after, the Beavers came together at the church for a meeting to prepare for the spring camp. The last weekend of May is usually reserved for our Spring Camp. Beavers and their parents sleep in tents, this year at Foley Mountain Conservation Area in Westport. They raised the pirate flag.

The week after, the Beavers came together with the Cubs for the annual spring cleaning of Canterbury Park. The park was spotless with not a shred of trash left after they had gone over it.



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It was a pirate camp theme this year, with swords, hats and lots of talking like a pirate.



The Beavers went on a hike, including a stop at Spy Rock overlooking Westport. They saw a turtle, birds and a beaver lodge on their hike.



The afternoon got rained out a bit but they worked together to build pirate ships out of cardboard boxes.



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They then took them to the lake and launched them. The goal was to see how long it floated with a Beaver sitting inside. Some floated pretty well but the water was really cold.



The Beavers had a nice campfire despite the rain and the next day, the sun was shining and they had a treasure hunt and capped it off with Scout's Own.



What a great weekend spent in nature with the sound of the loons from the lake.



The Beavers last meeting was the last Tuesday of May and lots of Beavers earned their last badges.



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Cub Corner

As per usual, the Cubs have had a jammed packed schedule this month.

We started off the month with our swim up / leap up ceremony where we welcomed the tender pads to the Pack and said farewell to our Howlers.



It is a ceremony of pride and achievement, and for some of the Scouters, an emotional moment as we reflect on how far we've journeyed together.



We dug in and did our community service, which involved a spring clean-up of Canterbury Park with the Beavers. The youth did such a great job and finished early that we had a spirited sing off.



A special thanks to Baloo and his wife Diane, for leading the Cubs in a meeting focused on orienteering. Using their compass' the Cubs honed their directional skills and learned how to take a bearing through fun activities and practice...and a yummy treasure hunt at the end.



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We are finishing the month of May with some much needed planning and organizing for our Cuboree.



It will take place from May 31- June 2 at Apple Hill Scout Reserve. It is a dino-themed jamboree of several hundred Cub Scouts in the Council and looks like it will be a roaring good time.

The Cub Pack also officially welcomed Raksha as a Cub Leader after she moved up from being a Beaver Leader.



Scout Trails

The Scouts began May with a annual tradition of sorts – attending the famed RSVP Camp at Opemikon.

RSVP stands for “Rovers/Rangers, Scouts, Venturers, Pathfinders” so it is a joint camp with scouting and guiding groups at the senior sections. It’s very much a “social camp” with lots of time to meet new and old friends.

Our Scouts attended with our Venturers.



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They have lots of different activities during the day and archery and tomahawk proved to be very popular ones.



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Three of our Scouts, Henry, DG and Langdon made it to the finals in the Kubb Tournament and should be pretty proud.



In the evening the younger youth hit the dance floor almost immediately when the music started, while the older ones waited until it was a little darker out before they showed off their moves. And the weather was perfect.

Another big event for the Scouts in May was the Rideau Challenge Journey. This is a hike through Malborough Forest on the Rideau Trail.

There are three levels and we had one Patrol at the Bronze Level with Henry and Alex.



They did a 12KM hike during the day accompanied by Scouters Francois and Elena.

We had two Silver Patrols that hiked with no adults. The first was Indira, Chloe and Luca.



And Max, Edoardo and Sam.



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The Silver Patrols did 23KM over a day and half and camped overnight.



But on Sunday morning, they were refreshed and ready for the last part of their hike.

There was a lot of bonding time over the campfire in a location with no facilities whatsoever – no kybos either!!



The Rideau Challenge is exactly that – a challenge to work together, follow a map and instructions, be aware of their surroundings, stay safe and hydrated and rest your feet.



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Only one Patrol got a bit lost on Sunday morning but were soon back on track and finished only one hour later than they were supposed to. What an experience!!

The Scouts had a fun outdoor games night at Weston Park on May 22. The evening started with two intense rounds of Manhunt followed by a couple of challenging matches of capture the flag.



The real challenge was to find the best hiding place for the bright orange balls in an open area of the park!

The next game was a new one to the Scouts led by Scouter Elena; two teams faced off against each other in a battle to win points by capturing her necker & outrunning their opposite number back to their team.



At the end of the night the new Cub Scouts organized a quick game of Sandman which seemed appropriate for the dusky hour and yawning youth. Many thanks to Nick & Matthieu for leading the successful games night!

The Scouts finished off the month with a preparation meeting for their spring camp the first weekend of June.



Venturer News

The Venturers first adventure in May was to also attend the famous RSVP Camp. They camped with the Scouts and got to see friends in other Venturer Companies.

A staple at Venturer camps are chess games – but multiples ones happening together.



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So is canoeing and this time, they had to work together in canoe tag.



And of course, they cannot seem to stay away from hiking up McManus Rock.



The Venturers also did a shoreline cleanup in May and helped pick up trash along a section of the Rideau River.

It was an important part of their community service that the Venturers go willingly and organize principally themselves – with a bit of nudging from the Venturer Advisors.



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IMPORTANT - Early Registration for 2019-20

Early registration for the 2019-20 scouting year opens on May 1st!! 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 fee is \$215. It will increase to \$245 on July 1st. Register online at <https://www.myscouts.ca> and paying by Interac or credit card.

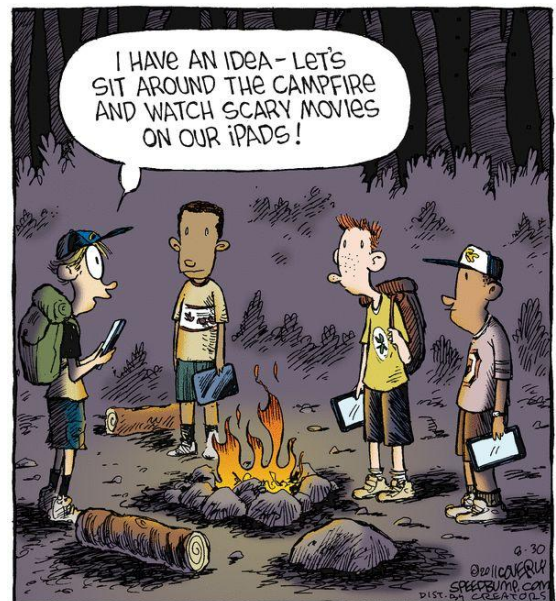
Dates for your Calendar

- **May 31-June 2:** Cubs Council Camp
- **June 1-2:** Scouts Spring Camp
- **June 7-9:** Cubs Seenee Camp & Venturers Canoe Camp
- **June 11:** Year-End Banquet at Canterbury Community Centre
- **June 14-16:** Scouts Canoe Camp



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>



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