

November 2014



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

Newsletter



Scout Popcorn Campaign 2014

Another Scout Popcorn campaign has come to a close and thanks to the efforts of the youth and parents, it was very successful one. We didn't quite reach last year's record but still sold \$10,998 worth of popcorn. That amounts to a lot of popcorn!! The group will keep about \$5,000 of that amount, the rest going to pay for popcorn itself and part to fund Scouts Canada programs like financial assistance for Scouts in need. The portion we keep pays for programming in all four sections, training for youth and leaders, supplies like neckers and woggles, and camps. Popcorn alone subsidizes the all section winter camp to the amount of some \$1,500 so we can keep the cost low for parents.

Our participation rate was about 65% of youth selling popcorn, with many over the \$300 mark. Every year, we recognize our top sellers in each section and they get the chance to pie the Group Commissioner in the face at the end of the year celebration. This year's top sellers are:

Beavers: Benjamin Finn

Cubs: Indira Marier

Scouts: Samuel Marier

Venturers: Dylan McCarthy

A special thank you to our parent volunteers who helped out with this year's campaign. Michelle Janes coordinated the campaign, put together all the packages, got them to the youth, collected the orders and inputted them into the order system. On collection night, she was helped by Diane Lagace and Marlene Drouin. Congratulations to all and enjoy your popcorn!



Christmas Appeal (Mitten Tree)

Those of us in Scouting know that when all children have access to opportunities to learn skills, connect with the community and play safely, great things happen! Children who participate in enriched experience programming have better self esteem, do better in school and strive for more from life.



Not all children in Ottawa have these opportunities. This is where [Christie Lake Kids \(CLK\)](#) comes in. CLK creates opportunities for economically disadvantaged children and youth in Ottawa that changes the trajectory of their young lives through sport, arts, camp, mentoring and leadership programming that recognizes their needs, supports and challenges them. One of these programs is run 2 blocks from St. Aidan's at the Dempsey Community Centre. CLK's summer camp is also just up the road from Camp Opemikon.

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For our Christmas Appeal this year, we are going to gather toques, mitts and socks for kids involved in CLK programs. You'll know from your own children that these items wear out or go missing during the winter. We will also accept gently used toques and mitts.



We will also put together gift packages for women to be distributed through [The Well](#), a women's drop-in centre on Elgin Street. These packages will include small toiletries, candies, bus tickets, mitts or a hat.

Our Mitten Trees will be up again on December 2nd and 3rd. We know that you're pulled a dozen different ways at Christmas for good causes. If you take a mitten (or two), your gift will be put to immediate good use. Please bring in your donations by December 9 or 10.

Finally, thank you to Venturer Advisor Dan McCarthy for once again coordinating this year's Appeal. It shows the true Christmas spirit!

[Beaver Tales](#)

November is a month when the Beavers remember our Veterans and give something to others who have nothing.

First though, the Beavers had a music night and made some cool instruments themselves. It was also our first Bring a Friend night and we hope to have another in the new year.



The Beavers showed the true Christmas spirit by taking part every year in Operation Christmas Child. This is a charity-run project where shoe boxes filled with small items like toys, school supplies and personal items are sent to boys in girls around the world. This will be the only present these children will likely receive all year. The Beavers filled 15 shoe boxes that will be delivered to boys and girls in third world countries. The Beaver Leaders were overwhelmed with the generosity shown by the Beavers.



The Beavers then spent a meeting building a "car" out of a cardboard box, big enough for them to sit in. The following week, the Beavers had a drive-in movie night and watched short films while eating popcorn and drinking juice in their cars. They watched Mickey Mouse, Mr. Bean, Looney Tunes and the Penguins of Madagascar but The Muppets' version of Queen's Bohemian Rhapsody and the Swedish Chef making popcorn stole the show.



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Cub Corner

The Cubs had another great month with lots of fun activities. We started November with a badge testing night and many Cubs came well prepared. Congratulations to all of them for being so keen to earn their stars and badges.

The following week was Remembrance Day and the Cubs walked from St. Aidan's to the Perley Rideau Veteran's Health Centre where they laid wreaths in a small ceremony to honour our soldiers. The Cubs were very respectful and made the Leaders extremely proud. We always say that we have the best Cubs in the world!



The following week was our second meeting organized by the Sixers Council. A Sixers Council is when the Sixers (senior Cubs in charge of a Six) come together to plan and organize a meeting or activity. We have great Sixers and Seconds (the Cubs who assist a Sixer) this year and they have come up with excellent ideas for a meeting. Of course, it is centred on the current popularity of Minecraft. Each Cub made a Minecraft-themed woggle and then each Six build a house/fort out of cardboard boxes. They then got to "attack" each other with old socks. As you can see the designs were very creative.



The following week was another badge testing night and we had a speaker from the Ottawa Food Bank to tell the Cubs about the realities of people needing to use food banks. In the near future, the Cubs will do their own food drive which will be donated to the Heron Emergency Food Centre to help people right in our own community. The Cubs also decorated shoe boxes for the Christmas Appeal.

The first weekend in December, our 3rd year Cubs will be attending a pre-winter camp with the Scouts at the Baxter Conservation Area. A great opportunity to link with the Scouts and they will have two sessions on orienteering and winter survival skills.



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Scout Trails

The Scouts started November off with community service taking part in the annual scout food drive on Saturday November 1st at the local Metro on Walkley Road. We started as early as 9am sharing shifts to cover the entire morning. Thank-you Scouts for helping out to ensure that we had a good contribution to the Ottawa Food Bank this year.

Damir and Jacob were on hand to help out at the St. Aidan's Christmas Bazaar, which had a very successful attendance. The Scouts were busy taking apart tables, stacking chairs, carrying boxes and learning how to pack fragile items. Clean up duties went by very quickly and lots of thanks were given to our scouts for their help.

Some of our Scouts along attended the St. Aidan's Remembrance Service on Sunday November 9th. (See the story later in this newsletter).



Our fall Scout camp this year was at Camp Legewade on November 14 to 16th, a small group with Sam, Stephan, Max and Damir attending. It will be a difficult camp to top our menu was top rate, chicken and beef fajitas, camp pizza, pancakes and bacon was easily accomplished by our Scouts.



On the Saturday we set off to hike and ended up scaling 'mount' Calabogie ski hill! The view was clear and it was quite a different experience climbing up a ski hill, we were very lucky to see deer running by at the top of the ski hill.



Our picnic at the top of the hill had other hikers envious, fajitas and hot chicken soup was on the menu, a much welcome meal after the challenging hike up the steep slope.



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November meetings focused on rebuilding two Klondike sleds for the upcoming challenge in January. The Scouts are designing the sleds and working together to get the sleds competition ready. Power tools are the highlight of the activities.

Scouts are also busy planning for the next camp in December at the Baxter Conservation Centre which will be a linking activity with 3rd year Cubs and we look forward to camping with them.

Venturers News

The 101st Company has a new executive: Co-President's Allyson and Meagan; Vice-President Maddie; Treasurers Aidan and Dana; and Secretary Ben B. Thank you to outgoing President Dylan, who served in that role two of the last three years, and outgoing Secretary Joshua. The new executive is hard at work coordinating a range of activities for the Venturers through to Christmas and the New Year.



Venturers Graeme, Joshua and Shiloh, along with Scouters Mike and Dan assisted the Royal Canadian Legion on Remembrance Day during services at the National War Memorial. We distributed poppies, and handed a booklet 'Order of Service' to hundreds of people, among the thousands that jammed downtown Ottawa that day. It was a special feeling to be inside the main security perimeter and that close to the Veterans. We also had a close up view of the Veteran's march past, and of the Silver Cross Mother, the Governor General and Prime Minister as they arrived for and departed the service. It was a beautiful sunny day, and even if it had been rainy and cold, we still would have been warm!



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The 8 Venturers that travelled to Newfoundland this past summer for AdVenture 2014 wrote a journal of their trip -- a day by day re-telling of all the adventures they experienced at the jamboree, and during a three day stay in St. John's. The journal has been submitted to Scouts Canada for consideration for the Amory Adventure Award, given annually to a Venturer Company which displays the most initiative in conceiving, planning and executing an outdoor adventure activity. The Venturers have received a crest in recognition of their entry to the competition. The crest shows Jacques Cartier's ship Grande Hermine and the Canadian space satellite Allouette. Congratulations to Aidan, Allyson, Daniel, Dylan, Joshua, Maddie, Meagan and Sarah for their initiative to put the trip journal together.

The Venturers welcomed a special guest to a meeting in November – Karen Gormley, Ottawa representative for the Duke of Edinburgh Award program. The 'Duke of Ed' was initiated more than 50 years by Prince Philip, and is a non-competitive programme in which participants set and achieve personal goals for community service, skills, fitness, and adventure. It is a great way to explore new interests and try new challenges that youth might not have done otherwise, and even stretch their 'comfort zones'. The Award is open to all young Canadians age 14 years to 24 years old, and has 3 levels: bronze, silver and gold. The program really complements the Scouting program at the Venturer level.

Later in December, the Venturers will be 'shoe-boxing' at Billings Bridge Plaza in support of the Group's Christmas Appeal for Christie Lake Kids, and the Well, a women's drop-in centre on Elgin Street. And they are looking forward to the all-sections camp at Ope in January and

returning to Lake Placid for the Adirondack High Adventure in February.

Remembrance Service at St. Aidan's



On Sunday, November 9th, a group of Scouts and Leaders attended a special service by our sponsor, St. Aidan's Anglican Church to honour our Veterans.

Scout Casey Higginson was one of the flag bearers at the opening and closing of the service. Scouts Samuel Marier and Damir Rimad and Cub Scout Indira Marier laid wreaths. Venturer Scout Daniel Cloutier, Scouts Ethan Humphries and Damir Rimad and Cub Scout Indira Marier presented commemorative coins to the Veterans.

Scout Leader Sara Walker gave a reading and Scout Leader Tad Higginson gave the Prayers of the People. It was a very nice service and we are grateful to Reverend Linda Hill and the entire St. Aidan's Parish for welcoming our Scouting Group in their celebration.



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White Tail Sleepover

The White Tail sleepover is a once-as-a-beaver event. It's typically the first opportunity for our older Beavers to spend a night without parents, in a museum doing some pretty cool activities. This year was the 25th anniversary and this year it was at the Museum of History.

After we arrived and setup our beds around the Children's museum area, we were off to adventures. We started in a basement section of the museum, and got to feel real beaver pelts, and learned about the settlers and how they traded various items for pelts.



As representatives of "New France", we even had our own brief trading session, trading things like blankets, axes and jewelry for beaver pelts. We then all learned about how drums are used to communicate stories, and told a story of our own.

From there we got to see an IMAX of the Galapagos Islands and its very varied and unique wildlife, and how they have adapted like nowhere else in this world - very cool indeed. The Beavers showed they were also adaptable, and especially liked wearing their IMAX glasses in creative ways. To keep up their energy, all got to enjoy a HUGE chocolate cookie and juice. Then it was off to a large indoor 'campfire' of songs and skits.



Around 10:30pm (yes your Beaver stayed up that late), we finally returned to our beds. We tried to do a walk around the museum and see the other areas, but space was pretty limited with over 200 people setting up. Retiring to the house of Japan, which was our new "ie" ("house" in Japanese) for the evening, the Beavers settled down pretty quickly.



Morning comes quickly, as the "Good Morning Beavers" is chimed out promptly at 6:15am. With limited time to get everything packed up and long lines at the washrooms, it was a tight timeline, but many more adventures to do. A scavenger hunt through the Children's Museum looking for tools, building and playing with wooden spinning tops amongst the tall totem poles, some free time in the construction area, and of course breakfast were all to be done before 9am. A few Beavers toured the museum afterwards with family, but most headed off for a bit of a rest and more adventures in their day.



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Ottawa Food Bank
La Banque d'Alimentation d'Ottawa

metro

Scout Food Drive

On November 1st, our Scouts participated in the Scout Food Drive. This is an annual event and 2014 marks the 25th year Scouts have been out at Metro stores collecting food and cash donations for the Ottawa Food Bank. The 101st Scouts showed the true spirit and collected lots of food and cash donations to help others at the Metro on Walkley Road. Great work!!



101st wins Four Program Quality Awards

Scouts Canada's programs are designed to deliver fun, challenging, outdoor programs to youth of all ages. To ensure that all members receive quality Scouting programs, as well as ample opportunities to develop themselves, the following Program Standards have been established for each Scouting section. Each year, Group Commissioners submit each section for the Quality Standard Awards based on criteria in categories such as program planning, outdoors, environmental awareness, youth input, family/parent involvement, spiritual emphasis, membership retention and growth, linking with other sections, community service and leadership. All four of our sections won this award for the last scouting year of 2013/14: our Beaver Colony, Cub Pack, Scout Troop and Venturer Company. Congrats to our Leaders for a job well done!!



All Sections Winter Camp

Our highly anticipated annual All Sections Winter Camp is coming up the weekend of January 9-11. This is the only such camp during the year when all of the youth get a chance to be together at a camp. Confirmations and payments are due by **December 17th** to secure your spots.



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Ontario Trillium Foundation Grant Update

This past spring and into this fall, the 101st Scouting youth have been eating more pancakes, bacon and French toast on their camping trip than ever before! Why is that you may ask? The answer is that as part of our new equipment purchases made possible through the Ontario Trillium Foundation grant we received earlier this year, we now have a super-duper large grill, camp stove! Flipping pancakes (as in the photo) has never been easier or as much fun.



During the winter months, all sections went out snowshoeing on several occasions because we were able to buy about 20 new pairs of snowshoes – again because of the Ontario Trillium Foundation grant. The Venturers for example, had several practice trips around Ottawa and in Gatineau Park, and then for the first time, participated in the Adirondack High Adventure in Lake Placid in February. On this trip, they climbed Mount Cascade.

In the spring, 12 Venturers and 3 senior Scouts took Whitewater 1 training on the Petawawa

River. Our OTF grant subsidized the cost of this training and allowed us to reduce the fee from \$140 per person to a much more affordable \$65. This was the largest 101st Ottawa youth contingent that participated in any single training activity in years. Our new dining shelter has kept Beavers, Cubs and Scouts dry through wet, blustery days.

In the summer, the Venturers headed off to Newfoundland for AdVenture 2014 with the 101st's new light-weight tents, and camping/cooking equipment – again purchased through the grant received from the Ontario Trillium Foundation. In the past month, Scouters Shazeela and Mike from Troop were able to take Advanced Wilderness First Aid training – an essential skill for guiding our youth in new adventures. And how did we pay for this? You guessed it – the grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

Funding from this important community-focused organization has allowed us to plan new adventures for our youth, provide essential training for youth and adult leaders, and purchase the gear necessary to run our camps and other activities efficiently and safely. We greatly appreciate this support of the Ontario Trillium Foundation and the Government of Ontario in this regard.

Dates for your Calendar

- December 5-7: Scouts and 3rd Year Cubs Pre-Winter Camp At Baxter Conservation Area
- December 16 & 17: Last meetings of 2014
- January 6 & 7: First meetings of 2015
- January 9-11: All Sections Winter Camp at Opemikon
- January 31: Scouts Klondike Derby
- February 22: Cubs Rideau Area Kub Kar Rally and Scouts Truck Rally



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