



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

Newsletter



Beaver Tales

The Beavers started out November with doing a craft for Remembrance Day. They made a beautiful wreath of their hand prints that we will give to the Veterans when we visit the Perley Rideau Veteran's Home in late December.



The Beavers also 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 and 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 Leaders were overwhelmed with the generosity.

The following week was a chance to be outdoors and explore a local natural space. They hiked the boardwalk at the Mer Bleu Conservation Area and learned about this unique peat bog. This visit also counts towards the Beavers earning their Explorer Beaver Badge.



Then the Beavers explored another place in their neighbourhood by going to the Ottawa Paramedic Service Headquarters. They learned from the Medical Venturers (MedVents) what Paramedics do, what to do in an emergency and got a chance to visit the garage.



Checking out the bus, ambulances and equipments was the highlight of the night!!



The following two meetings, the Beavers made cars out large boxes so they can sit in them the following week to have drive-in movies. From the Muppets to Looney Tunes, the Beavers liked to chill in their box cars while eating popcorn.

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Cub Corner

As the Canadian Path is youth-led, we've been working this month to increase the level of responsibility and initiative of our scouting youth.

We started the month with our first Howler Council, where the Sixers were challenged to take responsibility for one area of the Jungle Map (Environment, Citizenship, Creative Expression, Beliefs & Values, and Active & Healthy Living) and, working with their Lairs, design a whole meeting, through which they will lead the rest of the Cub Pack in the New Year.



For Remembrance Day, the Cubs created "Post Cards for Peace", in which they created post cards with thoughtful messages about the service and sacrifice of Canada's veterans, and as a means of saying thank you. We took a hike

and delivered the cards to the Perley and Rideau Veteran's hospital, where Mang led the Pack through a beautiful ceremony of reflection and gratitude.

Mid-November we were all tied up! Literally! Cub Indra taught her fellow cubs how to make gimp bracelets using different knots. Cubs practiced various knots and put them to use in a series of fun activities designed by Hathi, including a tug-of-war.



On November 22, Scouter Bill, and two of our Venturers, Dana and Sam gave youth and parents a special presentation about how to prepare for a Winter Camp.

Scouter Bill showed the Cubs what kind of gear is important when winter camping, we learned about hypothermia and how best to stay warm. It was very informative and fun. The youth were given a survival game that worked on their teamwork and logic skills.



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We ended the month with a “taking stock” exercise of our Outdoor Adventure Skills in Winter Skills, Camping Skills, Trail Skills and Scoutcraft, with a view to working towards advancement in these areas, especially at our upcoming Winter Camp with the Scouts from December 2-4. The Cubs also began the cutting of their Kars, with the help of Akela Chris, and will continue working on them into December.



Scout Trails

November started with a visit to Coyote Rock Gym where Scouter Ruth belayed both Samuel and Scouter Sara up the easy wall as practice. The youth spent the night free climbing any wall under 10 feet tall contained within the building. Max encouraged Scouter Sara to follow them up a low wall to a ledge yet it proved challenging than it appeared and despite several failed attempts she never made to the ledge. They also mingled with a visiting patrol from the 28th Ottawa group.



Saturday, November 5 was a busy community service day for the Scouts. Firstly, 9 Scouts and 3 leaders spent the morning collecting food and donations at Metro on Walkley Road as part of the 27th Annual Scout Food Drive and loading the donated items into Purolator trucks during their hourly stops. The Venturers provided assistance at the Ottawa Food Bank unloading the donations, sorting items into various bins, and stocking shelves as part of the fall campaign. Secondly, we returned to St. Aidan's church to provide assistance with cleanup following the Holiday Bazaar and luncheon. Scouters Sara and Ruth were assisted by Nick and Adrian in tearing down tables, stacking chairs in both halls, and cleanup in time for the Sunday service. The church volunteers provided a huge thank you for our commitment at their events.

A youth leadership planning was held to decide joint activities for the joint cub-scout camp at Baxter, shelter building, games, and menu planning including Dutch oven cooking then provided ideas for meetings from December 2 to February. In lieu of Remembrance Day, the Scouts visited the War Museum on November 10th and took part of various activities, participated in a self-guided tour paying tribute to Canadian contributions at various worldwide conflicts and toured the vehicle room.

Sunday, November 13 was another busy day for the Scouts. St. Aidan's Church held their Remembrance Day parade attended by all-section youth and parents who participated in



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Scripture readings, flag and wreath bearers, assisted Veterans to and from their seats during the ceremony followed by snacks in the upper hall.

Meantime, Canadian Jamboree 2017 participants held their first fundraiser by running the canteen during the Canterbury Centre Christmas Craft Sale. We sold various baked goods, ornaments, hot dog and pizza lunch combos, and drinks to visitors and vendors combined earning us \$750 towards our final registration fees.

The Scouts returned to the Perley Rideau Hospital during their monthly bingo night. They assisted with number calling, raffle draws, talking to the patients and assisting them back to their rooms following the event.



Over the past two weeks, the Scouts have been busy designing their Scout Trucks and dropping in on Tuesday nights to cut out their pieces before putting everything together. They will put the finishing touches to their trucks in December to ensure everything is ready for race day in February 2017.



Before closing out the month they were busy working on personal badge progression, winter skills, knife permits and making final preparations for their pre-winter camp this weekend at Baxter Conservation Area with the Cubs. Stayed tuned for all the fun notes in the next newsletter!



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Venturer News

The Venturers closed October with their annual visit to Saunders Farm for the haunted hayride, and the spooky barn. The 101st Vents were joined by friends from another Company and some Rover friends. All returned safely!



With the onset of winter, the Vents are starting to think of activities to come such as snowshoeing, winter camping, and other cold weather outings. So, with the first hint of snow and cold, they've hit the trails to start practicing cold weather skills.



The following week, the Vents travelled downtown and hiked up to the Champlain statue at Nepean's Point behind the National Gallery. At the base of the statue, facing the ancient waterway of the Algonquin and looking off towards Parliament Hill,

the two newest members of the Company - Samuel and Stephan - were invested into Venturers. Welcome to the Company!



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The Vents started with a Wednesday evening short hike, followed by a tasty trail treat - cheese bun pizza. Very easy to make - fill a hollowed out cheese bun with marinara sauce, cheese and Genoa sausage, wrap in tinfoil, heat until the cheese melts, and enjoy. The light rain turned to snow flurries but the trail pizzas warded off the chill.



Christmas Appeal (Mitten Tree)

Each year, the 101st puts out a special Christmas Appeal to the youth and parents to help out others in our community. This year, we will again be seeking toques, mitts, gloves and socks for kids involved in Christie Lake Kids as well as gift baskets for Centre 454.



Christie Lake Kids (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.



We will also put together gift packages for Centre 454, a free daytime drop-in serving the homeless and those at risk of homelessness in the Ottawa area. We are committed to serving those who require assistance in the form of support services, social recreation and essential needs. The Centre provides supportive counselling, crisis intervention, hygiene supplies, laundry facilities and seasonal clothing. The outreach team provides support to disabled individuals as they apply for ODSP (Ontario Disability Support Program) benefits.

These packages can include small toiletries, candies, mitts or a hat.

Our Mitten Tree will be up next week again. 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 13th or 14th.



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Welcome Rascal!

A big welcome to our newest Beaver Leader who was invested in November. Rick Walker will now be known as Rascal the Otter to the Beavers. It's never too late for you to join the fund too. We are especially looking for another Cub Leader.

Dates for your Calendar

- **December 2-4:** Joint Cub and Scout Pre-Winter Camp at Baxter Conservation Area
- **December 27&28 & January 3&4: No meetings – Christmas Break**
- **January 22:** Beavers Rideau Area Winter Beaveree at Greely Legion
- **January 28:** Cubs Polar Day at Greely Legion
- **February 18:** Cubs Rideau Area Kub Kar Rally at Jim Durrell Arena
- **February 25:** Scout Trucks Rally
- **March 3-5:** All Sections Winter Camp at Opemikon



Saying Thanks to a dedicated Scouter is easier than you might think...

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

Visit our website regularly for updates:

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



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