

NOVEMBER 2019



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

Newsletter



St. Aidan's Remembrance Day Service

The Remembrance Day ceremony, hosted by the Saint Aidan's Parish, is a very special event for our entire Scout Group. It gives us an opportunity to pay our respects to those who have served, and are currently serving, in the Canadian armed forces. It also provides us with an opportunity to show support for the church, that graciously sponsors our Group.

A thank you to Scout Chloe and Venturer Edgar for handing out programs. To Venturer Heather for carrying a flag in the opening procession, as well as Cub Andrew, Scout Sophie and Scout Kaeda who helped laid the wreaths presented by each level of government.

We would also like to thank Cub Philippe, Scout Indira, Venturer James and Scouter Bill for doing a reading and prayer during the service.



Beaver Tales

November was a really good month for the Beavers. Full of all sorts of adventures. We started off with some community service. Each year, we ask the Beavers to contribute some small items like school supplies or a toy for Operation Christmas Child. These shoeboxes are sent to a child in a developing country and it may be the only present they get all year.



The Beavers sure showed their generosity and donated many items.



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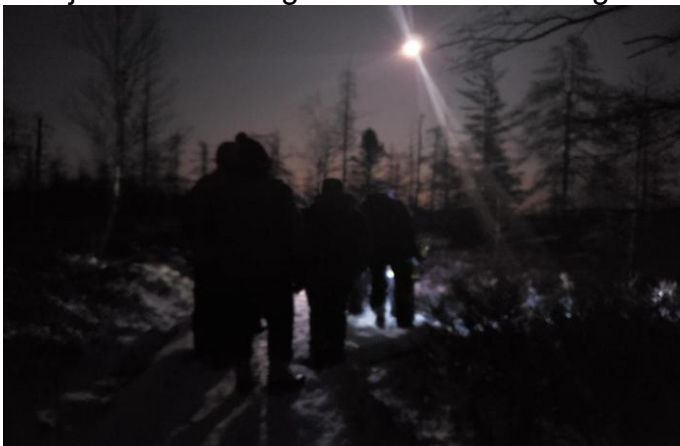
There was enough to fill 15 shoeboxes. These will certainly make many boys and girls happy at Christmas time.



We then started a new theme that will take us over 3 meetings – outer space.



The following week, the Beavers got outside. Yes, it was the first snow of the season and yes it was about -12 degrees not including the wind chill, but it was an otherwise beautiful night. Some very hardy Beavers met at the Mer Bleu Boardwalk for a night time hike. The Beavers were very excited to be out in the snow at night with just their flashlights and the moon's light.



The first meeting focused on building a space ship, station or rover out of mini marshmallows and toothpicks. There were some really great inventions.



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We ended the month by visiting the Alta Vista Retirement Home. The Beavers had practiced their Christmas carols the previous week and we sang five carols for the residents. They loved hearing their young voices.



Thank you to Rainbow for organizing this visit.

Coming up in December are two more meetings on our space theme and our Holiday party.

The Beavers then sat with the seniors, chatted with them, made a card for them and shared a treat.



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Cub Corner

November has come to a close already? How did that happen?

Our Fall Camp took place at Apple Hill Scout Reserve from November 1-3. Some 19 of our 25 Cubs sacrificed a weekend of eating Halloween candy to come to camp. We all agreed that -4C was too cold to tent, so all of us slept inside Wade Lodge. Except for the exceptionally brave Raksha, who spent two nights in her little tent. Way to go Raksha!



Thanks to Akela's husband, we have a new piece of camping gear – our own Tippy Tap! Great for washing your hands before and after cooking – amongst other things! My gosh the water

gets cold in November though!

As always, we ate well at camp. Although Akela is a little disappointed that no one said they liked her green eggs and ham. Funny, it all disappeared, so someone must have eaten it.



The spaghetti and meatballs at Saturday lunch – planned and cooked by our Howlers – was a HUGE hit. Great job Howlers! Akela asks the all important question – what will you be cooking for us at Spring Camp Howlers?

The Cubs built shelters using available wood and some tarps and emergency blankets;



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did out patented 101st Cubs Playground Inspection – it passed BTW.



found evidence of porcupines munching on the barks of trees;



collected up hazelnuts to store in little caches – in case of attacks by hungry squirrels;



And we hiked through mud to the Archery Range where Akela gave a brief demonstration and then a lesson. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves, but we all agreed, more time on the range would have been fun. The

idea was floated around for a meeting and lesson at an actual archery range. Then we all had to hike our way back through the mud to Wade Lodge.

We teamed up with the 1st Ile Perrot Scouts who were up at Apple Hill that weekend as well (clearing the path to the archery range actually) and had a joint campfire run by our Howlers. Everyone had a great time and we were able to share ashes.



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Scouter Rainbow from the 1st Ile Perrot was able to provide a spreadsheet with all the campfires that had shared these ashes, dating back to 1933. We are proud to be included on the list.



Scouter Sunshine also popped in to do a draw for camp gear for each Cub who sold over \$100 in popcorn. Congrats to Cub James, who not only had the most sales, but also won.

Cubs Andrew and Philippe participated in the St. Aidan's Remembrance Day Service. Thank you to both of you. Everyone involved did a wonderful job.



We did our Remembrance Day meeting a little early and learned a lot of details about World War II. We were all familiar with the story of Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes, but the cranes can be a hard piece of origami to learn. We made small origami

salt sellers, aka "cootie catchers", from our Hug a Tree packages left over from camp instead. Maybe we can learn cranes in the spring.

Mid November saw us earning badges and learning some signalling. Morse Code, Naval Flag Signalling, Semaphore and the NATO Phonetic Alphabet are just some of the things we learned about. We didn't get to try all of the activities so we'll probably do a Part 2 meeting later in the winter.



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Our second to last November meeting revolved around the Cubs favourite topic – FOOD.



Bagheera led us on a wonderful food science adventure. We learned why popcorn pops, why soda fizzes, and how to change the freezing point of ice – by making ice cream of course!



We ended November by reviewing what we enjoyed about Fall's programming and came up with ideas for Winter programming. Then Akela threw us outside and made us play frozen tag. She said we had to sing "Let it Go" after we were tagged. That didn't work so well because

some of us didn't know the words. Being true to ourselves – as all Cubs should be – we changed it to toilet tag. Akela appreciated the honesty, but toilet tag? We ended the evening back inside with Hathi teaching some new campfire songs.



Coming up in December – show and tell, the Howler run meeting and out end of 2019 cookie exchange.



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Scout Trails

November for the Scouts built on what was started in the previous two months. The Troop overall is become more cohesive and the senior and junior Scouts are connecting more. We have three Patrols and they were challenged to come up with an animal that best represents their patrol. They needed to come to a consensus.



Coyote Patrol with Chloe as Patrol Leader and Henry as Assistant Patrol Leader represents cleverness and bursts of energy.



Fox Patrol with Indira as Patrol Leader and Kyle as Assistant Patrol Leader represents diplomacy and cunning.



Raccoon Patrol with Luca as Patrol Leader and Sofia as Assistant Patrol Leader represents curiosity and dexterity.

The Scout Leaders think they chose very well.

The Scouts went on a really nice hike at the beginning of the month. They did a network of trails in the Mer Bleu sector just off Anderson

Rd. This was followed by a relaxed board game night – another one of their choices.



There was a draw of camping gear for the Scouts who sold more than \$100 in popcorn and congrats to Sophie who won some cool stuff. Thanks to all Scouts who sold popcorn.

Part-way through the month, our 10 Scouts attending next summer's Great Lakes Jamboree ran the canteen at the Canterbury Christmas Craft Fair as a fundraiser.



It was a lot of work but paid off with some \$557 raised towards our food for the week. Thanks to the parents who donated baked goods.



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The Scouts also did something totally awesome that has become somewhat of an annual tradition – because they keep putting it on their list of things to do – a night at Laser Quest!



We finished up the night with a camp preparation meeting. Yes – we went camping the last weekend of November and yes it was cold. Our senior Scouts planned the Scout's Own while the younger Scouts learned some basic knots, thanks in part to Sophie – handy for lashing sticks together.



They certainly needed it our annual pre-winter camp, aka our shelter-building camp. A tradition started many years ago and always very popular. Likely it's the survival challenge aspect that the Scouts need to work together in small teams to build a shelter in the woods and sleep in it. We hold this camp at Baxter Conservation Area and on the Friday night, slept in the small River Cabin, which is heated by a wood stove.

On Saturday, they spent the better part of the day, building their shelters. We had four shelters, varying in sizes and shapes but pretty sturdy.



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There were ample sticks, rope, tarps, dead leaves and pine needles to make for good insulation. Straw is used as the floor of the shelters and emergency blankets help keep them warm.



Despite it going down to -15C at night (did we mention it was cold?), three of the four shelters made it through the whole night. Just five of the 14 Scouts there came back to sleep in the cabin part way through the night because they were too cold.



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We had some great campfires to warm ourselves and keep us moving, a very touching Scout's Own run by the senior Scouts and a short hike on Sunday morning.



When asked why they love this camp, it's the challenge and not many teenagers their age are spending their weekend outside doing these things. Scouters Francois, Melissa and Shazeela were very proud of the Scouts.



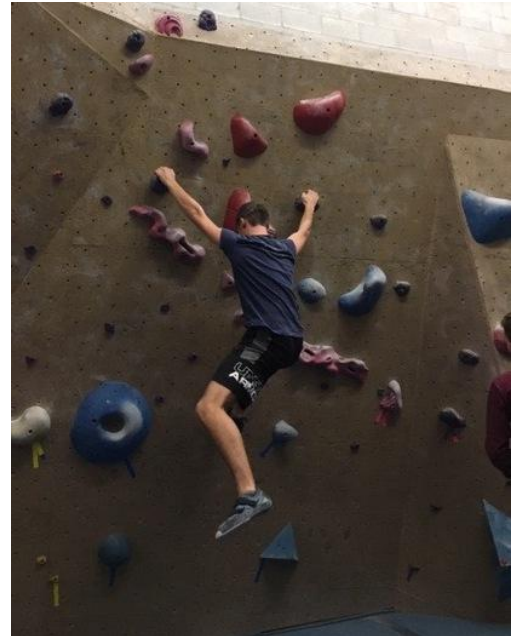
Venturer News

In true Venturer fashion, it seems that we barely sat still this month. In November, the Venturers did some much beloved activities – climbing, eating and building.

The youth spent a couple of hours climbing and bouldering (climbing to a maximum allowable height without a harness) at Coyote Rock Gym.



The bouldering built many muscles as well as blisters.



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Finally, when their hands could not take it anymore, the youth found a matted area and came up with some other creative activities.



Grocery shopping is always fun with the Vents. We have to say – they are getting pretty good at it! They came within \$1 of their budget this time. Their menu and budget seems to always have room for pie (or rather pies).

All the food was devoured at the following weekend camp. Baxter Conservation Area is just outside the city and one the Vents favourite camps.



This is where they spend a few hours building a shelter out of spars and leaves, without chopping anything down. They are quite adept at this now, and this year's abode fit all five of them nicely. Two bales of straw made it quite comfortable.



The weekend also included much time on the ice, as the pond was frozen hard. The Vents were crazy creative, playing happily outdoors for a couple of hours (with no electronics!).



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All Section Winter Camp

Our highly anticipated annual All Sections Winter Camp is scheduled for the weekend of **January 10-12** at Camp Opemikon on Christie Lake near Perth. This is the first weekend after we return from Winter Break. This is the only such camp during the year when all of the youth get a chance to be together at a camp. For those who signed up, expect directions, a map of camp and packing list the first week of January.

Dates for your Calendar

- **December 24, 25, 31 and January 1:** No meetings
- **January 7 & 8:** First meetings of 2020
- **January 10-12, 2020:** All Sections Winter Camp at Opemikon

There were equally creative games indoors in the cabin, until the Leaders finally declared the WE were going to bed, even if they weren't. The next morning they were spoiled with fresh made crepes. Ah, the life of a Vent!

Visit our website regularly for updates:

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



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

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



"Rubbing sticks together was a great idea. After 40 minutes, I'm so warm I don't need a fire!"



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