

October 2014



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

Newsletter



Apple Day 2014

Apple Day is Scouts Canada's oldest fundraiser and first took place in 1932. Our Group has been taking part in this annual activity since we were founded in 1961. This year, Apple Day took place on October 4th at three locations.

We collected a record total of just over \$1800. The Group keeps 75% of what we collected and that goes right back into the program. Thank you to the youth and parents who helped out raise funds and increase the visibility of scouting in our local community.

Thank you to our Scouts and Venturers who came to the church to polish apples, fill baskets, count and roll coins as donations came back.



Beaver Tales

The Beavers started the month of October with some community service by cleaning up Canterbury Park with the Cubs. We do this twice a year through the Adopt-a-Park program with the City of Ottawa.

This was followed by the big night when the Beavers recited their promise and received their necker and tail. We welcomed many new Beavers to the Colony with an almost equal number of Brown, Blue and White Tails. We also invested a new Leader: Tic Tac (Kerry Chalmers).



October 2014

The Beavers then took advantage of a nice evening and had a night-time hike through the Mer Bleue Conservation Area. We had many eager Beavers ready with their flashlights and headlamps to explore the bog at night away from the noise and light of the city. The outdoors being a critical component of scouting at all ages, the Leaders make sure to get the Beavers on a hike at least once every season.

We capped off October with our Halloween party with excellent costumes, songs, games and a very scary haunted house courtesy of our Scout Troop.



Cub Corner

The Cubs started out the month of October with the biannual Canterbury Park Cleanup. Our Pack teamed with the Beavers and roamed the park and surrounding area in search of every last bit of garbage they could find. We left the park sparkling and we were all reminded of how important it is to help take care of our community.

We spent one meeting designing and constructing a mini-golf course from recycled materials. The Cubs came up with some very interesting and tricky designs and the following week, we set up the course at Weston Park and we honed out putting skills on some very challenging obstacles. We also learned about how to make necessary design modifications on the fly!



Kaa also introduced the cubs to "light writing" with flashlights and a camera (on a tripod) set with a long exposure time. If you've never tried this out, ask your Cub to explain how to set it up and give it a try, its great fun!



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As usual, the Cubs have been working hard at their badges and the first badge-testing night was epic- the Leaders awarded a record number of badges, awards, and stars- great work Cubs!

October closed with our annual Halloween costume party. This year, we welcomed the Cub Pack from the 104th Ottawa Group as the first part of a group exchange- our Pack will be visiting with the 104th at their site later in the year. Our hall was bursting with ghouls and characters of all types. The Scouts put together a fantastic spooky haunted house which the Cubs (at least those brave enough to enter!) loved. We also enjoyed some party games, spooky stories, and of course, our traditional witches' brew which included such delicacies as dragon's blood and frog spawn.

This month, we are looking forward to two "Minecraft" themed meetings that will be led by our Sixer's Council. We will also be remembering our Veterans on Remembrance Day.

Scout Trails

The Scouts started October by going for a night hike at Pine Grove Trail and holding an impromptu investiture at the main trail marker. Scouter Shazeela presented a new woggle to Damir; Jordan was presented with a special leather woggle by his father that was passed down from his grandfather; while Scouters Sara, Kristel and Shazeela present woggles to new youth and promoted Sam and Stephan to Assistant Patrol Leaders and Nick and Casey to Patrol Leaders. Following the investiture we continued our hike around the boardwalk trail.



The Scouts then did a great community service at the St. Aidan's Harvest Dinner (see separate story). The following week the youth played some new games, practiced their knots, reviewed Emergency Preparedness and had a planning meeting to discuss upcoming Area events and camps from October to January 2015.

Finally, the youth were extremely busy leading up to Halloween by organizing and running the 2nd Annual Haunted House for the Cubs and Beavers in the lower hall music room. We welcomed the 104th Ottawa Cubs to our event and it was a hit with youth and leaders alike. Looking forward to making this an annual event.



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We then travelled to Laser Quest on October 29th for 3 action-packed games.

We look forward to preparing for our two upcoming camps in November and December and our next 3 community service events: Scout Food Drive; St. Aidan's Holiday Bazaar; and Remembrance Day church parade all before November 11th.

Venturers News

The focus of the Venturer's activities this past month was on preparing for Rovent, the medieval themed camp at Ope. Along with 400 other Venturers and Pathfinders, the 101st Company participated in a series of 'Hobbit' games, the catapult competition and of course the Siege! Prior to going to Rovent, the Vents painted their shields, and re- built their two catapults.



Within seconds of the Siege beginning, the Orchard at Ope at snowing flour bombs, and the Venturers were soon blanketed in white. As you can see from the before and after pictures, there is no hiding during the Siege. The rain held off nicely which was appreciated given that flour and water DO mix.



Saturday evening, the Venturers attended the Feast in the dining hall. A three hour dance kept the Venturers going until 11pm after which the Teepee was transformed into a theatre for a marathon showing of The Lord of the Rings trilogy. The sun rose with a few (cold) stalwarts huddled in their sleeping bags under the Teepee.

In anticipation of Halloween, the Vents went to Saunders Farm for Frightfest. All survived the haunted hayride and the 'scrambles'. November will bring an early winter camp, and preparations for our winter activities such as the Adirondack's High Adventure in the mountains around Lake Placid.



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Scouts help out at St. Aidan's Harvest Dinner

The Scout Troop's second community service events for October was a great success on October 8th when the Troop turned out in full force to lend a hand during St. Aidan's Harvest Dinner for 1-2 hour shifts. The youth waited on parishioners by serving drinks, desserts, cleaning dishes and cleaning up the main hall following the event. Everyone did a fantastic job and Debbie Trickey, organizer sent out a huge thank you for their help.



The Scouts then enjoyed a great turkey dinner in the lower hall (their favourite part of the night).

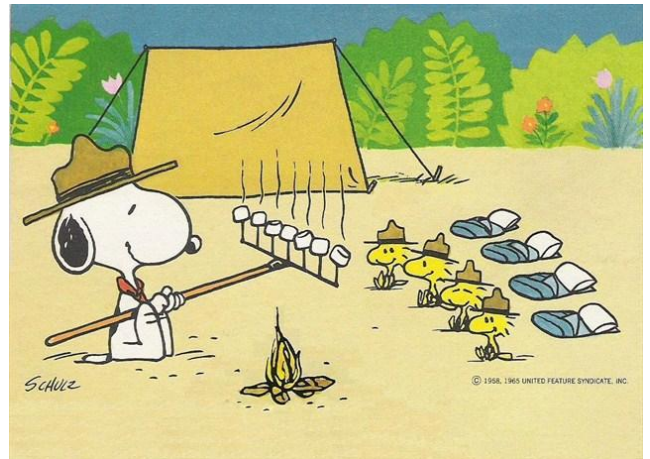


WE NEED NEW LEADERS!!!

If you are interested in joining in on the fun and giving back to your community, don't hesitate to come forward. Maybe there's a grandparent, aunt, uncle, cousin, friend, neighbour that would make a great Leader. We need new Leaders, especially in Beavers and Cubs.

Dates for your Calendar

- November 1: Scouts Food Drive
- November 14-16: Scouts Fall Camp at Legewade
- November 15-16: Beavers White Tail Sleepover at Museum of History
- December 5-7: Scouts and 3rd Year Cubs Pre-Winter Camp at Baxter C.A.
- December 16 & 17: Last meetings of 2014
- January 6 & 7: First meetings of 2015
- January 9-11: All Sections Winter Camp at Opemikon



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