September 2016

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

Apple Day – October 1

Apple Day is our first fundraiser of the year and one that Scouts have been doing since 1932.

Why do we do Apple Day:

- It's a chance for the youth to give back to the program that gives them so much.
- We add minimal levies to our registration fees (it means we only keep $20 of the registration fee you pay) and are thus the lowest cost group around. That means we are almost 100% dependent on dues and fundraising to run the group.
- It shows community service and gives visibility to scouting.
- It's fun – ask any who have done it.

Early results show that some $2,400 was collected, meaning $1,800 stays with the 101st. Thank you to all who took part.

Beaver Tales

The Beaver Leaders – Bubbles, Echo, Rusty, Sunshine and Tic Tac welcome our returning and new Beavers. Getting to know each other was the focus of the start of another year of Beavers. That, and getting outside and reinforcing the outdoor element of the program with a walk to Weston Park.

The Beavers also started the year with their annual Fall Mini-Camp the weekend of September 17-18 at Baxter Conservation Area on the Rideau River near Kars. We had 17 Beavers attend camp.

The Beavers went on a nature hike, played games, did a scavenger hunt and craft.

The rain was no deterrent for our hardy Beavers and the parents who took the time to spend a day in nature just at Ottawa's doorstep. It even held off long enough so that we could have a real campfire. What a great way to kick off the year.

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We capped off the month with a meeting to prepare for our Investiture Ceremony, which is when they officially become member of the Colony. We look forward to another fun-filled year of adventure.

Cub Corner

September has been a fun-filled and busy start to the 2016-17 Cub Year! It was so nice to see the return of so many friendly faces and the addition of new friends to the Cub Pack.

At our first meeting, the Cubs were introduced to the new Scouts Canada's Canadian Path program, and took part in an activity to contribute their ideas to planning our adventures for the upcoming year. The Pack came up with creative and imaginative ideas which they will help plan and actualize over the coming months.

Mid-September, the Pack went on a nature hike through Mer Bleu Conservation Area. The Cubs learned interesting facts about the peat bog, how it was formed, its unique contribution to the environment and about the plants and animals

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that make up its ecosystems. Working in their lairs, they did a quiz at the end to test their knowledge. The evening ended with a treat when Kaa (Scouter Will) played his guitar and led the group in a sing-a-long to "This Land is Our Land".

Many of the Pack attended our Fall Camp, which was held at Rideau Hill Campground in Osgoode. In total, there was about 140 Cubs and Scouters from the Rideau Area who attended for a weekend of making new friends, dressing up and participating in Halloween-themed activities.

The activities challenged the youth to develop their skills in teamwork, hand-eye coordination, storytelling, communication and creativity, while having a blast at the same time! There was a formal campfire in which all the Cub Packs sang songs, performed skits and encouraged each other with funny cheers. It was wonderful to introduce the new members of the pack to the formal rituals of the campfire, and to watch them captivated with the Campfire Chief's recitation of the poem "The Cremation of Sam McGee".

The month ended with a lovely investiture ceremony at Weston Park, in which new Cubs James, Danielle, Eli and Denis-Guillaume were welcomed to the pack.

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We also welcomed new Leader Hathi (aka Scouter Richard),

and our Cub leadership team comprised of: (Sixers) Cubs Kieran, Indira, Samuel, Chloe and Radley;

And our Seconders: Cubs Mason, Luca, Kai and Tyler.

Scout Trails

The Scouts got off to a great start in September. Most Scouts last year are returning and we have four new Scouts this year, including three who leaped-up from Cubs. The Scouts got right into the planning for the year, which is a core element of the new Canadian Path program. The program is meant to be youth-led since it's their program after all.

The first big event was attending the annual Brotherhood Camporee on September 23-25 at Wellesley Island State Park in New York.

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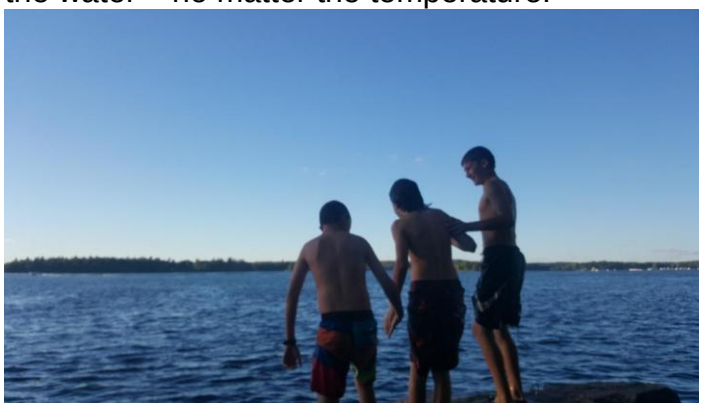
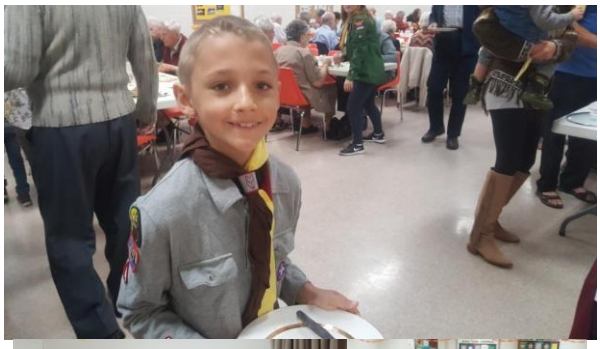
This annual camp has brought together Scouts from Ontario and New York for over 40 years and alternates between Canada and the US. Camping on the shores of the St. Lawrence Seaway and the 1000 Islands was new for most Scouts but it didn't take long until they got into the water – no matter the temperature.



There were tones of activities, including a military display, games, birds of prey, archery, target shooting, and of course lots and lots of badge trading with our American hosts.

The following week, the Scouts did some community service and lent a hand at St. Aidan's annual Harvest Dinner. This is a much anticipated event for the Scouts who love to "do a good turn for someone else".

The organizers at St. Aidan's said that many people attending agreed that they could not do it without the Scouts. We even had a Cub help out and Bucky paid them a visit too.



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The Scouts served 229 meals, 140 pound of turkey that raised $4000 for the parish. Great job Scouts for making your Leaders very proud of you.

Scouters Ruth, Melissa, Mike and Sara look forward to more adventures with our awesome Troop.

Last July 9-17, 11 Scouts and 7 Leaders headed down to the 12th Great Lakes Jamboree at Camp BEL in Dorchester, ON just outside London.

This Jamboree is held every two years and had about 500 participants from Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, the US and even a troop from Scotland. We even saw our good friends from 1st Howick, QC. This was the first time our group attended and it certainly won't be the last time.

Yes, the weather was hot and we we're sleeping on the ground for a week with at times crabby Scouts (and Leaders without enough coffee) but what a fantastic adventure.

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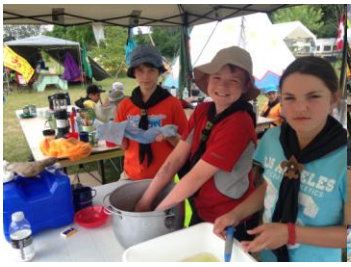
Everyone got along very well and had a fantastic time with the very cool activities, which included a day at a local water park.

We did leather craft, handicraft, metal working at a real forge, geocaching, outdoor skills, target shooting, archery, repelling, canoeing and dutch oven cooking – and of course lots of badge trading for those Scouts obsessed with it. We even took a day off and headed for a day at Ipperwash Beach on the shores of Lake Huron.



We are sure there will be many to sign up for the next Great Lakes Jamboree in 2018.

Venturers News

The Venturer Scouting year got underway in early September with the annual Couch Rally. The rally involves wheeling a couch around downtown Ottawa, finding landmarks through a series of clues and inviting passerbys to sit on the couch and get their picture taken.

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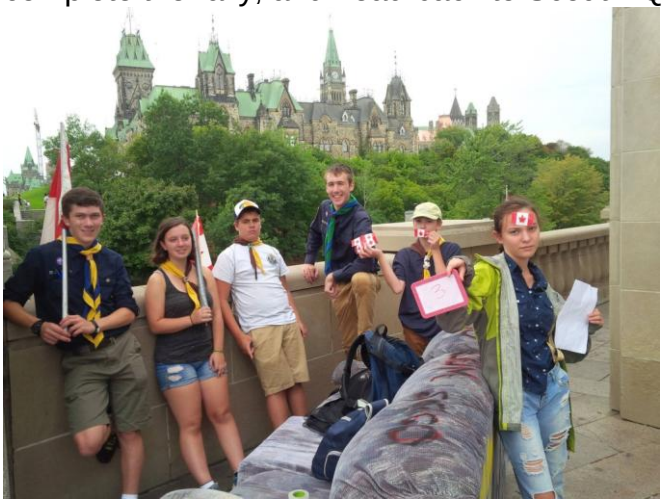
Points are awarded for the number of clues solved - and landmarks found - and the numbers of people in the photos. The 101st Venturer Company got at least 40 Carleton students in one photo! And the rain held out long enough to complete the rally, and head back to Scout HQ.



The Company has 7 Vents this year, including 2 that are also registered in Med-Vents; an occupational-based Venturer Company which provides first responder medical training and real life assignments at events that may provide an opportunity to apply their training.

The Vents then headed downtown on a Wednesday evening to check more items off the couch rally 'scavenger hunt' list. While passing the Hill, the Company stop to see the festive opening of the One Young World gathering. We heard speeches by the former Irish Prime Minister Mary Robinson, and rocker Sir Bob Geldoff.

The next big event in two weeks is the medieval-themed Rovent camp at Ope. The Vents will be busy next week painting shields, and planning a catapult.

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Scout Popcorn

It's that time of year again with Scout Popcorn. Youth received their envelopes, which includes all of the information to sell delicious popcorn to repeat or new customers. This is our most important fundraiser of the year. In 2015, youth raised enough funds to cover the cost of paying for Leader and youth training, neckers and the cabin rentals for the all section winter camp at Opemikon (some $2000). It also allows us to purchase some in badly-needed new camping equipment.

More information can be found at:
http://www.scouts.ca/popcorn/

Dates for your Calendar

- **October 14-16:** Venturers at RoVent
- **October 25 & 26:** Scout Popcorn orders due
- **October 29**: Rideau Area All Sections Activity Day at Saunders Farm
- **December 2-4:** Joint Cub and Scout Pre-Winter Camp at Baxter Conservation Area

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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