

1st Merrickville Group

Committee

Valley Highland District, Merrickville ON K0G 1N0, Canada

Notes of the Group Committee meeting held on **Thursday, October 23, 2003.**

Present: Allan Yates (Chair) Alex Beelich Mike Jackman
 Sheila Cornelisse George Clarke Stew Hamill
 Hope Gray Tammy Glaser Kieth Skelhorne

Next Meeting Date: Thursday, December 4, 2003, at 7pm (location: Sheila and Peter's house)

7:00pm - Allan called the meeting to order. The minutes of the last meeting were amended, Stew left message that a cheque to Hope for events (\$205) was missed and that the amount of cheque to Alex was increased to \$351.50.

Items discussed:

Thank-you to Hope and family for their hospitality as they hosted this meeting.

- Registration stands at 24 Beavers, 25 Cubs, and 16 Scouts.

- Colony Report: Sheila reported that the Beavers are doing okay financially. They had their investiture on October 21st leaving only one investiture to be done. They are running low on neckers, Hope has some to pass down. They are planning a combined Halloween party with the Cubs at their next meeting. The Beavers are to have a sleepover at Easton's Corners Community Centre on November 8th. Registration for the sleepover at the aviation museum stands at 18 children and 8 adults confirmed, the cubs have yet to hand in all their permission forms. It has been reported that a trip to Limerick would cost \$100 with \$75 to be returned upon cleanup.

- Pack Report: It was reported that the Cubs are doing okay financially. It was reported that 15 cubs were invested and all sixes and seconds have been picked. They have planned skits and campfires, a police night to get kids comfortable with the police and an extrication night with the fire department (Beavers to be involved). Dan Black will do a presentation for Remembrance Day. Vespers have been added to the end of the meeting. A planning meeting is scheduled for December 11th for next years events.

- Troop Report: Hope reported that the archery went good and they may go back again. All the scouts are going to patrol camp, 6 or 7 for training and the rest to join 137th Ottawa in pioneering. The scouts will be concentrating on their basic badges (ie. knife safety, fire stove and lantern permits) until christmas. They will also be working on collector badges and finishing their heritage badge requirements. A planning session needs to be held before next year.

- Financial Report: Stew was not able to attend so Allan reported the following:

- ~\$5000 in bank
- registration invoices from Scouts Can- in \$5,888, expected

\$1,287

- \$590.51 fair gates cheque received
- \$150 at region (Ted Hitsman)
- Soapbox -\$975 (region), \$450 handed in by George tonight, and

\$1,640 still to be collected

- photo receipts handed in to Allan tonight
- Legion - considering 1/3 subsidization and giving \$1,350 (need to send thank you letter- Allan)
- total assets + receivables = ~\$10,084, total liabilities ~ \$7,175.

It was decided that we should make a photo album and frame for the Legion to thank them. We will also do something similar for the Lions. Tim Hitsman should get a plaque at the annual banquet for all of his help.

- Apple Day: A discussion was held on how to make next year better. Suggestions included starting later, planning it for a weekend when no other events happening, spreading outside of Merrickville, and providing hot chocolate and cookies after the blitz.

- SoapBox Derby : The photographs have been received tonight. Allan reported a net profit of \$3,149 with \$1,050 still at region and \$2,025 still to be collected from sponsors (George brought in \$450 tonight reducing amount to \$1,575). A discussion was held on possible plans for next year. No decisions made except that we need to meet to talk about this some more. There isn't enough time to discuss at a regular group committee meeting.

- Popcorn: It was decided not to split the profits between the youth (in trust for activities) and the group but to keep the profits within the group due to difficulties in managing a split. A vote was held on whether the Scout Bucks should go to the youth or the group and they are to remain with the youth (3 for youth, 1 for group, 1 abstained). Allan will have handouts sheet available for next week.

- Neckers - We are okay for neckers as Hope is having some made and can hand down the smaller ones to the Beavers who are in need of some. The group was unsure how to deal with the cost of the neckers as 41 were lost last year. Some may be able to be gotten back by talking to parents of kids who didn't return or dropped out. The kids need to be more informed of their significance of the neckers colours making them mean more to them so hopefully less loss will occur.

- Remembrance Day - The event is being organized by Jack Jessop of the Legion and will take place at the community centre. There will be further details at a later date.

- Hats/Shirts - Alex brought in a sample of a hat that all agreed would be good for the group. The hat cost \$15 embroidery included. Hope showed a sample of the t-shirt the scouts wear. All liked it and decided to let scouts decide the colour (leaning toward navy blue). The cost of the shirts and hats will be added to registration fees.

- Area Meeting News - Allan reported that a new group committee handbook is available on the Scouts Canada website. Guidelines for each site and a five year plan have been set by Whispering Pines. If needed there are Service Scouters who can help sections organize better. A fundraising package for Forfar Dairy cheese was shown.

- Miscellaneous - Lee Horning has said he is available for any help the group needs for activities. All agreed we should use our resources more. Allan mentioned a Bridge Breaking event he saw. The event involved the building of popsicle stick bridges and then testing the strength of the various designs. The Loyalist area held such an event and it was fun.