



## Area Forum

June 18, 2009

Presbyterian Church , Smiths Falls



**Present:** John Stalker, AC; Jean Lasenba, Finance; Michelle Niefer, Admin; Gen Stalker, DAC Youth, Roger Nuttall, Service Team; lex Beelich DAC Program; Stan Lasenba, Camp Warden; diana ;Nuttall, Area Registrar; Brian Billings, Scout Trees Coordinator; Chris Tyler, Group Comm, Westport; Angelique Jahn, 1<sup>st</sup> Elmsley; Larry Palmer, 4<sup>th</sup> Perth and Joan Smith 2<sup>nd</sup> Smiths Falls.

**Regrets:** Ken Richardson, Hope Gray, Brad Simpson, Kelly Banks

### Agenda Items:

**Minutes:** Unfortunately, the minutes of the last meeting are packed in boxes to move when Brad moves next week. When they are completed, they will be forwarded along with the other reports.

**John Stalker, Area Commissioner:** [j\\_stalker@sympatico.ca](mailto:j_stalker@sympatico.ca)

Council Management Advisory Committee met yesterday, saying goodbye to Doug Hall and his team. Doug has done a great job (100% membership, improvement of Voyageur's reputation on innovation in such things as training) and we will miss him, although Mike Jowett, the incoming CC, should also be great.

Mike's priorities are:

- Membership +3%
- Recognition: 5 National Adult Awards per Area
  - Increased Youth recognition - 2 Maples or Council youth awards/Area Awards
- Minimum 2 service visits per section/yr from Area Service Team, trainers, or Group Commissioner

The Voyageur Council Network forum is looking a uniforms for all sections except Beavers, to ry to have a lighter/cooler and more practical uniform while maintaining the current look, which a poll says most youth like. There are also some outstanding training requirements. Please get all requests for postponement or equivalency to me PDQ! I will have forms at meeting.

I also still have some commissioner's awards. Please check with your section leaders to see if they are missing theirs.

Our membership has been good this year. If not for a few who did not register, we would have easily exceeded last year's numbers. Congratulations everyone! I share Mike Jowett's view that we have to make a real effort to build Scouting at all levels. We are close to seeing Scouts Canada drop below a critical mass necessary to maintain itself. Scouting in Great Britain had the same problems, and through deliberate action has managed a remarkable increase in their numbers. Give it some thought please, over the summer, and make note of any ideas to help your groups and all the others achieve an increase in the fellowship of Scouting!

How are we going on succession plans? Area any groups foreseeing problems having enough leaders next year? I have 2 possible Area Youth Commissioners who are still considering the job. Gen and I will try to reassure them as to the requirements of the position and finalize one before the end of the summer.

Thanks to Scouting, I have no weekends available for a get-together until August. How would a weekday evening BBQ be, either next Thursday of sometime the week of June 29-July 3?

Council meets September 12<sup>th</sup> weekend at Opemikon for all Area Commissioners and DAC's.

### Council report:

**Kelly Banks – Field Executive:** [kbanks@scouts.ca](mailto:kbanks@scouts.ca) - attached

## DAC Reports:

### i: Youth - Gen Stalker [stargate\\_gal@hotmail.com](mailto:stargate_gal@hotmail.com)

- White water I and III went well
- White water II and kayaking did not go as well ; 5/50 finished including Gen; pulled out due to snow and hail
- Impeeza excellent camp
- Chief Scout – was an honour and pleasure to host.
- JC event – Jance June 21<sup>st</sup>
- RoVent – registration on
- Interview for 2 possible youth interested in DAC youth
- Any Venturers old enough and interested in Rovers contact John Stalker.

### ii: Training –

- Michelle has indicated that she would be interested in taking this on next year. Is there anyone who would like to replace her as Secretary?
- Attached Council training calendar to date

### iii: Program - Alex Beelich [alex.beelich@nlfincanial.ca](mailto:alex.beelich@nlfincanial.ca)

#### Summary of activities held and planned:

**May 22<sup>nd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> – Troop Camporee** held at Camp Whispering Pines 20 scouts participated.

Venturers from Perth were on hand to assist with various activities. Billed as a “Be Prepared Camp” activities also included Trail signs and Following the trails around Whispering Pines – Activity approx. 1 hour. Basic water safety, canoe strokes and proper methods to carry a canoe. Slalom course setup between 4 floating bottles spaced at 17 feet. Relay race across the bay stopping to pick up a baton and proceeding to Beaver pond area to deposit and obtain another baton. Paddle back to the beach where the final segment of the race occurred. Portage the canoe with all gear to top of the hill around a marker by the Kybo and back to the beach. All water events were timed. Points allotted based upon performance and time spent.

Roger and Ken visited around the camp at various times including meal time. Points were earned or lost based upon organization of camp site, neatness of tents, who was performing the various tasks including cooking and clean up. Points lost if adults were involved other than for instruction.

Informal campfire finished off Saturday eve.

Sunday at closing saw Smiths Falls rewarded as the 1<sup>st</sup> recipient of the Be Prepared Trophy – 2009.

**May 30<sup>th</sup> – Beaveree** held at Camp Whispering Pines.

Theme around “Forest of Fun” = 13 Beavers in attendance

Activities included crafts and games associated with the following forests- Sherwood forest, Australian Outback, Black Forest and the Rain Forest.

Each Beaver received stickers which were added to their personalized passports upon arrival at each station. Lunch was provided for all.

**June 5<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> – Impeeza** held at Camp Whispering Pines.

Theme: Around the World in two Days

A total of 5 locations were represented: China, Africa, Mexico, Europe & Australia

Activities included – Canoe racing (catamaran), Climbing tower, Climbing on Rope netting, Cooking using a cardboard box, Egyptian games, Crafts and games and Wide games

Mug Up offered a chance to sample different culinary delights from 5 continents.

Formal campfire finished off the evening sending everyone to their tent completely exhausted.

Sunday morning Stan oversaw the commemorating of the Chapel pulpit on behalf of

“Those who have gone home”

Impeeza finished off with the awarding of an Impeeza Trophy.

Merrickville's Cub Pack became the 1st winners of this Trophy.

Ryan Villeneuve- Carleton Place

Taylor Collinson – 1<sup>st</sup> Merrickville

Heather Yates – 1<sup>st</sup> Merrickville

Were recognized as this years recipients of the 6 Star and 7/8 Awards certificate

Their names have been added to the Trophy.

**Upcoming: Canoe trip to Algonquin Park.**

Leave by bus from Merrickville on Sunday June 28<sup>th</sup> and return on July 4<sup>th</sup>. 36 total Scouts/Cubs and leaders are participating.

**Lombard Fair** – July 31<sup>st</sup> – Aug 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009

**Next year's Calendar to include the following activities planned in Valley Highlands**

**Registration Week**- Sept 7<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>.

Brother Hood Camp – ??

**Apple Day October** - 3<sup>rd</sup>

**Fall Scout Camp** - Bike camp and Skills Camp October 23-25<sup>th</sup> – Whispering Pines

**Winter Campsite Prep Day** -December 5<sup>th</sup>

**Winter Camp training** – January 5<sup>th</sup> 2010

**Camp Zero** - January 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, 2010

**Cub Winter Challenge** – February 6<sup>th</sup>

**Beaver Burrrrr** –February 13<sup>th</sup>

**Scout and Guide Week**, Annual Banquets –

**Kub Kars and Scout Trucks** – April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010

**Scout Trees** – May 1<sup>st</sup>

**Pitch in Canada** – May 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>, 2010

**Nitevent** – May 7<sup>th</sup>

**Camp for All** – May 28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>

**Annual Canoe Camp and Still Camp** – June 27<sup>th</sup> – July 3<sup>rd</sup>. – Senior Cubs and Scouts.

**Lombardy Fair** – July 30<sup>th</sup> – August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2010

iv: **Camp Warden – Stan Lasenba – [lasenba@sympatico.ca](mailto:lasenba@sympatico.ca)**

The camp has been used every weekend either by the Area or by groups from Ottawa. I do not have a total as with the new trailer no place for the forms were done and some forms have not been returned, my fault. There were 3 urinals installed in 3 kybos, these were donated by Armstrong Pumping Service. The cost to install the new ones would have been about the same for the new ones as they are designed for the commercial toilets. Grass has been cut and some brush cutting done. Rideau Valley has made arrangements to have a summer student start to GPS all the trails. Next wed is the date we hope to start.

All the paper work for the trailer has been done except for transferring ownership, this will be done as soon as I receive the registration.

Income

1 <sup>st</sup> Manotick	100.00	
Air cadets	100.00	Rental of Area marquee
22 <sup>nd</sup> Orleans	<u>35.00</u>	
Total	235.00	

Expenses

Midway sports	gone home plaque	90.30
Action Sanitation	Soap dispenser	39.05
Canadian Tire	Door lock, signs	29.83
National grocers	Toilet paper	23.72
Home hardware	brass screws plaque	7.33
Joynt Auction	Rope and Hose	18.08
Canadian Tire	Fittings for urinal	29.89
Ultramar	gas for lawn mower	12.50
Creative Computing	Cubs own Copies	9.32
Total		260.02

v: **Honours & Awards – Hope Gray [hope@kevinrobertgray.com](mailto:hope@kevinrobertgray.com)**

\* Area crest " Spirit of Scouting " mentorship award. We need to keep in mind that it will be presented to adults and youth members.

vi: **Scout Trees - Brian Billings - [brian\\_billings@carleton.ca](mailto:brian_billings@carleton.ca)**

- Just a reminder to those groups who have yet to get 15% of their donations in to Area for contribution to the Brotherhood Fund in - please do so ASAP.
  - o I hoping to close out my Annual Scoutrees Report in early July.
    - 2200 trees in the ground
    - 80 area youth participating
    - \$3505.00 raised in corporate sponsorship.
- Presently working on getting certificates and letters of appreciation out to all corporate donors.
  - o Albany International
  - o Lambden Windows
  - o Lanark Cedar
  - o MOE – Ottawa Office
  - o Municipality of Drummond/North Elmsley
- Lanark County Community Stewardship Council has invited me to present a brief outline of planting activities with Scoutrees this past year...on queue for meeting in early July.
  - o Will present a Scoutrees certificate to Council and Jeff Ward at this meeting.
  - o Also need to present a Scoutrees certificate to Rideau Valley Conservation Authority and Dan Cooper for assistance with the plant.

- Would like to recognize the efforts of Dwaine CHATTAWAY - Merrickville Scouts who single-handedly raised over \$500 through fundraising efforts using Scoutrees as his medium.
  - o Certificate of Appreciation given to Alex BEELICH for presentation to CHATTAWAY at next Scout meeting in Merrickville.
- Presented invoice for re-imburement for \$28.25 – cost of frames for Scoutrees Appreciation certificates.

vii: **Technology / Fundraising - Bradley Simpson** [bradleysimpson@sympatico.ca](mailto:bradleysimpson@sympatico.ca)

- Still looking for current photos for the website

viii : **Financial: Jean Lasenba -** [lasenba@sympatico.ca](mailto:lasenba@sympatico.ca)

- Several cheques for Algonquin cheques came in (\$2,735).
- Expense cheques paid to: 1. Hope Gray \$3000. 2. Alex Beelich \$2,200. – all pertaining to Algonquin canoe trip.

**Motion:** For Jean Lasenba to purchase and stock supplies for the Bair Booth. Made: Jean Lasenba. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Brian Billings.

Vote: all in favour. Oppose: 0. Abstain: 0. **carried.**

**Motion:** made by Jean to pay all bills for a total of \$5,509.73. (canoe trip, Stan, Brian and booth); 2<sup>nd</sup> by Chris Tyler;

Vote: all in fvour. Oppose: 0. Abstain: 0. **Carried**

viii: **Registrar: Diana Nutall:** [dcn@storm.ca](mailto:dcn@storm.ca)

- Only 1 group sumitted early registration.
- Hopefully rest will do same. **Deadline June 26<sup>th</sup>** to be checked by Diana.

**GROUP REPORTS:**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Almonte:**

- no report

**1<sup>st</sup> Beckwith:**

- no report

**Carleton Place:**

- no report

**1<sup>st</sup> Drummond:**

- Scouts are going to attend the camp at Algonquin Park end of June
- Bottle Drive was a success
- Cubs attended Camp Impeeza; 1 White Tail Beaver joined them for the day
- Boat Races June 3<sup>rd</sup> at Stewart Park was our last official meeting for the year
- Year end wrap up camp June 12 – 14 at Ope was a great success 9 Beavers attended along with all of our Cubs & Scouts, Beavers stayed in Cabins with catering while Cubs & Scouts held a Be Prepared Camp. We had a joint campfire with Glen Tay Pathfinders, Perth Girl Guides and Nepean Beavers, Cubs & Scouts.

**1<sup>st</sup> Elmsley:**

Events: Camporee; Camp Impeeza, Beaveree, Bottle drive.

Nick Burns awarded Chief Scout on June 7<sup>th</sup>.

Future events: end of year family camp for all sections – St. Lawrence Island National Park.

Main efforts: Early pre-registration – Schools talks – end of year book work.

Issues: Past registration issues with headquarters.

Cubs / Scouts: as above; swim night at pool; game night; paddle making, last meeting finish paddles.  
Beavers: As above; dionours night; all about Canada; visit to Museum of Science & Technology / movie night.  
End of year barbeque at Bubbles house.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Merrickville:**

- Cubs attended Impeeza; Beavers attended Beaverree; Ventures – some did white water. Troop: Some went to camp

### **4<sup>th</sup> Perth:**

The 4th Perth Group Committee met on June 11th.

Events Past and Future: Our Cub Pack had a very succesful year with more than fifty badges being earned and Cubs becoming experts at knotting. The Scout Troop attended Area camp and have since had their own "Be Prepared" camp at Whispering Pines. The Venturers are planning a canoe trip into Otty Lake. There will likely be other camps and activities during the summer.

Big Achievement: A replacement trailer has been constructed by our leaders and is likely to be the envy of every other group around! There is a place for everything and it will be a great asset in future outdoor activities.

Looking Ahead: We feel confident that we will have a Beaver Colony next year. A new Group crest has been designed. We're certainly in the market for new leaders and more youth. And we will continue to build on a great tradition.

We extend greetings and best wishes for a wonderful summer to all our fellow Scouting enthusiasts.

Arnel W. Pattermore, Group Commissioner

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Smiths Falls:**

- all sections went to Toronto zoo by bus
- Sold tree seedlings to help finance trip
- Year end family camp
- Councillers in to give youth/parents counselling.
- 1 new leader.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Westport:**

We started the group with a Beaver Colony of six youth and two potential leaders, Tammy and Sylvain Leger. Early on Tammy stepped down as a leader due to family restrictions. We are still waiting for a PRC for Sylvain. Two youth dropped out during the year, one Tammy's son and the other an autistic child. After Christmas Dan and Ceri Lovell joined the colony as potential Leaders, Ceri is cleared and we have her PRC. Dan had a problem as a youth and needs to address this before he can be cleared.

We also started a Cub Pack of seven youth and one potential leader, Chris Marsh for whom we are still waiting for a PRC. Sheri Marsh started the ball rolling acting as Group administrator. Sherri had to take a back seat due to work and family commitments but is still very active. Of the seven youth, one dropped out for family reasons and another to soccer. One other lad joined the pack as a result of "friendfest"

Both sections have pursued an active and enjoyable program albeit a little difficult at times due to the St Edwards school schedule, but Rideau Vista School helped out and our meetings continued uninterrupted. We joined in the Cub winter fun day and the Kub Kar rally. Several meetings were held out-of-doors, including two trips to Foley Mountain and the Cubs held two weekend Camps, both at Whispering Pines Camp, the last being the Area Cub Camp 'Impeeza'.

We commenced the year with a Funding grant from the Area and this was subsequently bolstered by a grant from the Westport Lions Club and a few other donations. We also took over the 1<sup>st</sup> Portland Equipment and that helped a great deal, although much of it needed attention before it could be used. Other donations include books and program material, craft materials, and lastly a Kub Kar Track, so we are fairly well placed to go into the new Scout year.

School talks, if they can be scheduled in a timely fashion, may help to recruit new members for next year, but we may need to look at additional venues for branch sections due to the long distances of travel which few people are willing to make, especially in the current economic climate.

**Old Business:** All Outdoor Activity Guides for all sections (groups) to be handed in so that Michell can parcel them up for the year and stored at Headquarters.

**New Business:**

Funding: It was asked if Area would pay 1/3 for youth going to camp (Ope). After much discussion it was decided "No" in this situation as family can afford it.

Funding will be provided for registration if family in dire straits.

**I want to thank each and every one of you for your contributions to Scouting in Valley Highlands this year, and to wish you a Fantastic Summer! I look forward to seeing you all rested up and ready for another great year in August/September.**

**Next meeting-** Barbeque at John Stalker's – August 20<sup>th</sup>. More information to follow

Minutes Read at Area Forum and motion to accept: \_\_\_\_\_

Minutes Signed by: \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_  
John Stalker, Area Commissioner Date

Adjourned: 9:25 p.m.