



Area Forum

March 18, 2010

Presbyterian, Church

Smiths Falls



Present: John Stalker, AC; Jean Lasenba, Finance; Hope Gray, AC Recognition; Diana Nuttall, Registrar; Chris Tyler, Area; Roger Nuttall, Area; Stan Lasenba, Camp Warden; Andres Beelich, AC Youth, Alex Beelich; AC Program; Bill Lawrence, Gr. Com, Almonte; Allen Sinfield, Gr. Com Beckwith and Brad Simpson, Tech / Fundraising.

Regrets: Michelle Niefer, Torsten Dekart, Matt Courtland, and Joan Smith

Agenda Items:

O'Canada

Scouter's 5: How do you measure a leader.

Minutes Accepted: John says to hold off until next meeting. Any individual group from Merrickville who wants to submit report can do so to Michelle.

Stan asked about - retention bonus. 70% retention and 100% of youth and adults qualifies.

John Stalker, Area Commissioner: j_stalker@sympatico.ca

Commissioner's Report: Council Management Advisory Committee met yesterday. I will review at this meeting. John welcomed everyone and thanked everyone for coming on March Break.

- Retention bonus will qualify as of end of April each year. Cheques to be issued to areas and groups will have 90 days to process followed by a phone call from Council and a further 30 days grace to cash it or a \$30.00 fee will be charged. Other councils report 3% of youth not being registered. Not such a problem in ours.
- Council PR; Flotilla on the Rideau Canal next year. As many scouts in canoes as possible.
- Budget for council is under!?!? still sorting out. John has a list of people who are missing PRC's etc. 7-8 people.
- Popcorn cheques ready and John has. Drummond, Elmsley, Carleton Place and Smiths Falls.
- National Museum is looking for financial aid for shelving etc. Stan makes motion for 50.00 donation. Chris seconds it. Diana raises concern about donating from the Area when it's a national institution and when we as an area don't use the facility very often. Suggestion that we put the word out to have individual donations. Area to put out a challenge to council areas to match our donation. Vote taken. Diana against, Chris abstained and all others in favor.
- John is still looking for people to submit names of youth and leaders for awards.
- Next meeting April 15th. Mike Jowett will be in Attendance. Council Commissioner. Best Behavior. We encourage all groups to be in attendance (represented). The more the merrier. We want Happy commissioners.
- We need to give our hard working volunteers the recognition they are due. I am asking that you take a careful look at your staff, and put them in for an award as suitable. Hope and I are available to help, and there are several free training sessions (3hr) coming up. One just held was very successful.
- The Child Tax Credit is the same as last year.

My concerns at the moment are:

- Leaders who have not yet taken WB1.
- Prospective members (awaiting VRAD etc.)
- How to maintain our numbers and hopefully expand, and attendance at Area meetings. It is important to have as full representation as possible as this is how we communicate. If the GC cannot attend, then would it be possible to have a fill-in, either temporary or permanent?

- I have a list of Awards due to Volunteers (mostly Long Service Awards).
- I am leading a Senior Section WB1 March 26/27 at Scout HQ, and on the SOS (Scouting Outdoor Skills) Challenge May 15.

Council report:

Kelly Banks – Field Executive: kbanks@scouts.ca

DAC Reports:

i: **Youth – Andreas Beelich** dreas94@hotmail.com
Matt Courtland nardog16@gmail.com

These are some of the things that we discussed at the last VCYN meeting.

* **World Jamboree in Sweden:**

- will cost \$4400.00 per youth/leaders to go (not including plane ticket)
- will cost \$4100.00 for offer of service (without plane ticket)

* **Chief Scout Award Ceremony:** This is being run by the youth and will be taking place in Saint Basil's church outside of Ottawa.

- To all Group Commissioners:

Encourage your youth to strive towards this award for next year if they are not already.

ii: **Training – Michelle Niefer** mniefer@sympatico.ca

* WB1 and SOS outdoors go to training site. April 17th Trainers Conference. Sir Robert Borden HS. \$20.00. Three courses per person. See council website.

iii: **Program - Alex Beelich** alex.beelich@nlfincan.ca

Spring Camporee planning meeting held March 1st.

Three planning committees formed representing each of the sections, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. A general update meeting is to be held March 31st. Messages have been sent to all Scouters in the Area requesting their input. Camp is planned for May 28- 30th.

Brian Billings is working with the 1st Merrickville Venturer Company on the OMNR rat snake project at Murphy's Point. Constructing and monitoring rat boxes. April is scheduled for this activity.

Our next event Beaver Buggy/Kub Kars/ Scout Trucks is planned for April 10th at the County Fair Mall in Smiths Falls. Please ensure all trophies have been updated and are available for this year's event. Details, including a schedule of events will be forwarded to all groups shortly.

Pitch in Canada events are being planned various groups. Valley Highlands Badge section is available for all participants.

Scout Trees are planned for early May, please refer to Brian Billing's report for additional details. Valley Highlands Badge section is available for all participants.

Nitevent is scheduled for early May. Details will follow. Hope to see a strong representation from all Troops.

Valley Highlands Founder's Week Badge is available for all participants please contact your Group Commissioner for additional details.

A detailed outline for our Canoe week in Algonquin was circulated to all groups eligible.

Trip is scheduled for July 4th until July 10th, 2010.

Cost is \$150.00 per participant all inclusive.

All interested Scouts, Cubs, and Adults should contact the following to reserve a space.

Alex Beelich – DAC Programme- alexbeelich@gmail.com

Hope Gray – DAC Awards - hope@kevinrobertgray.com

Additional information sessions will follow.

Alex Beelich – DAC Program

613-283-3307 home

iv: **Camp Warden – Stan Lasenba** – lasenba@sympatico.ca

Whispering Pines Camp Report
March 2010

I visited the camp and everything seems to have come through the winter OK. I repaired the area where the fire was built for the winter challenge. Remember everyone fires should only be in fire pits. The new tarp has arrived, Thanks to Alan Yates and the ventures for picking it up in Ogdensburg. This tarp is not as heavy as the last one but I was ensured that it would be fine. It seems to be the same as the original. Signs for the registration box and also one to display emergency phone numbers have been purchased.

Road into camp is still soft and should not be used until it dries some more.

Expenses

Tarp	172.35
Signs	57.50
Total	229.85

v: **Honours & Awards – Hope Gray** hope@kevinrobertgray.com

Hope reordered spirit of scouting award for a right hand and a left hand one.

vi: **Scout Tree Co-Ordinator - Brian Billings** - brian_billings@carleton.ca

Plant date approaching - Saturday May 1st, 2010 at the D/NE Landfill Site. Scoutrees Kits are here tonight (thanks to John for picking up) and those groups requiring same, please do not hesitate to contact me. Scoutrees is a great fundraiser and gives everyone donating a good feeling because it is an environmental initiative and there is a lot of promotion currently underway everywhere about “greening” our environment and the benefits of doing same. Groups using Scoutrees as a fundraiser keep 85% of funds raised - only 15% of your donations received need to be remitted to Area for the Brotherhood Fund. As in previous years, I will make my offer again to attend any group meetings to make a brief presentation on Scoutrees and why we do it and can give it both the fundraising or the environmental theme (just advise me as to your group’s desire and I will tailor my talk accordingly). All Scouting Youth taking part in this year’s Scoutrees Event will receive the Area Crest for their “wheel badge” acknowledging their participation...so come on out and “fill your wheel.” More details will follow at the April Area Meeting - Lanark Cedar is once again sponsoring the cost of the tree seedlings and I believe will be hosting the BBQ after the plant (I am following up with Sandy GRELLA in early April and will provide details as soon as I have them in place). I also have a few framed certificates that I need to get out to last year’s donors and will be focusing on that and potential submissions for this year’s plant between now and the next Area Meeting.

Black Rat Snake Project - Pat GORE from the Community Stewardship Council of Lanark County (CSCLC) has been in touch with me to advise that the date for the construction of the Black Rat Snake enclosures is set for Saturday, April 17th at Murphy’s Point Provincial Park. The CSCLC is looking for VHA Scouts to really take on this project and own it as far as the maintenance and repair of these structures...there is even the opportunity to host these structures at Whispering Pines. The Merrickville Venturer Company has expressed a deep interest in this project and I will be following up with them to firm up date and details with them in the next week or so. John advised that the Rover Crew might also be interested in assisting with this initiative and Stan indicated that he would welcome the opportunity of having Whispering Pines as a potential nesting site for the Black Rate Snake structures...I will copy all of the above on my communications with the CSCLC as this project date and details are finalized.

vii: **Technology / Fundraising - Bradley Simpson** bradleysimpson@sympatico.ca

Tech report: Brad's email has changed as of Oct. 2009 and it is as bitterandsweet@storm.ca. This could explain why things haven't been updated.

viii : **Financial: Jean Lasenba** - lasenba@sympatico.ca

Bills to be paid. 3of 4 can be paid. Alex gave cheques for 907.20 for pitch in, Cub car and year-end camp. To Alex #2 engraving for trophy 37.74 Impessa. Stan Camp 229.85 Scouts Canada Museum 50.00

Jean moves we pay and Hope seconds. Discussion voted and passed with the usual pomp and ceremony.

viii: **Registrar: Diana Nuttall:** dcn@storm.ca

Registrar: Diana asked about bring a friend forms?? Please check area registrations for area personal hand back in now or next meeting.

8.3% down in registrations. Council is 93.4 of LY. Elmsley and Carleton Place are over 100%

GROUP REPORTS:

2nd Almonte:

1. EVENTS TO DATE:
 - a. Beavers, Cubs and Scouts participated in special meetings at my house for B.P. Week. I set up a "museum" in three rooms, and gave the kids a historical tour and then with permission from the Fire Chief, had evening campfires in my laneway, where the Sections enjoyed cooking marshmallows and drinking hot chocolate.
 - b. Cubs have been working on Kub Kars and have been learning their knots and lashing skills by building tripods in my yard.
 - c. Scouts went to their winter campsite on 28 Feb. for an afternoon of fun, which included archery and lunch around the campfire. They are still working on 18 Wheelers in my shop.
2. FUTURE EVENTS:
 - a. Cubs and Scouts are heading to the National War Museum on 27 March.
 - b. Cubs and Scouts will be participating in the Kub Kar / 18 Wheeler Rally on 10 April.

Bill Lawrence, Group Commissioner

1st Beckwith: no report received

Carleton Place: No report received

1st Drummond: No report received

1st Elmsley: No report received

1st Merrickville: No report received.

4th Perth:

The 4th Perth Group Committee met on March 4th.

Past Events The Beaver Colony continues to grow and be active. The Scout Troop is always busy with badge work and special projects. The Venturer Company does what a Company does!

We had a very busy February 27th starting with the Scouts bowling for Big Brothers/Big Sisters and collecting almost \$500. They had lunch back at the church and kept busy all afternoon. The 18 Wheelers raced after the Beavers arrived at 4:00 p.m. and then the Beavers burned up the track with their Beaver Buggies. The day ended with a family potluck dinner. Service Awards were distributed and prizes to the Scouts and Venturers as well as crests to both Scouts and Beavers. The service of Drew Price earned special recognition.

Upcoming Plans We are moving towards an active recruitment campaign, scheduling a church attendance for April 25th, organizing a barbeque for May 15th, and doing the things that 4th Perth does best.

We identify no problems but look forward to a great year-end.

Arnel W. Pattermore, Group Commissioner

2nd Smiths Falls: No report received.

New Business: John would like to thanks Perth, Smiths Falls, Beckwith and Merrickville for inviting him to BP banquets.

Diana moves to adjourn.

820pm

Chris abstains!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Minutes recorded by Brad Simpson

Minutes Read at Area Forum and motion to accept: _____

Minutes Signed by: _____ on _____.
John Stalker, Area Commissioner Date