



Area Forum

Aug. 18, 2001

Presbyterian, Church

Smiths Falls



Present: John Stalker, AC; Diana Nuttall, A Sec.; Jean Lasenba A Treas.; Alex Beelich, DAC Programme; Michelle Niefer, DAC Training; Roger Nuttall, DAC Recognition; Stan Lasenba, Property Manager; Chris Tyler, AST; Carol Couter, GC 2nd Almonte; Allan Sinfield, GC 1st Beckwith; Elizabeth Docker, GC Carleton Place; Torsten Dekart, 1st Drummond; John Armstrong, GC 1st Elmsley; Larry Palmer, 4th Perth; Joan Smith, GC 2nd Smiths Falls.

Regrets: Andreas Beelich, Hope Gray

Call to order: at 7:05p.m.
O'Canada – All
Scouter's 5 – John S

Acceptance of minutes: Amendment; Omission of approval given to change the signing officers at the bank. Kim Comstock to be deleted and Alex Beelich to be added. Approval of minutes as amended Yeas – 14, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 1 Passed.

Business arising from the minutes: Policy on Injury or death to be postponed until the Oct meeting.

Reports:

John Stalker, Area Commissioner: j_stalker@sympatico.ca

Council report (Aug 17th)

- ^ As of the end of August, **Valley Highlands reached 106.3% in membership.** Well done.
- ^ **Group Commissioners conference:** September 15, 17 & 18th of September at Camp Opemekon there are sessions being presented for the Group Commissioner. There are five categories in which this weekend will be based on to give assistance to Gr. Commissioner and new information that is being presented from National.
- ^ **World Rover Moot** – August 8-13, 2013. This will be a big event and they have some great events lined up. Mark your calendars for this. This will be held in Ontario.
- ^ **Venturee** – Will be held at Haliburton Scout Reserve – 2012. For more details and dates, check the Council Website.
- ^ **Canoe Rally:** A group of Scouters plan to paddle down the Rideau Canal on September 3rd. They plan to put in at Dow's Lake and paddle down to the NAC. Check the Council website for more details, times, etc.
- ^ **Group Commissioner's training** (WB 1) is on August 26 & 27th and not 25th as sent out earlier in an e-mail. Another WB 1 will be held in November.
- ^ Amongst other things, Michelle Niefer was named Interim Area Commissioner for Valley Highlands Area, until such time as a new Commissioner is found. I would like to welcome Michelle and offer her any assistance she may require, while wearing several scouting hats at both the Area and Council levels. Michelle will fill you in on other items discussed.
- ^ I would also like to thank all of you for making my 3 years as AC so enjoyable. You have been a great team, and because of it we have made advances in programming and membership. I would like to thank each and every one of you, Service team and Group Commissioners/representatives alike!
- ^ FYI, I have taken on the role of Liaison from Voyageur Council to the committee to organize the 2013 World Rover aged Scout Moot in Low Quebec. I will also be remaining as Rover Advisor for Carleton Place, and taking on smaller challenges. To that end, I am doing the logistics for the Commissioners Retreat at OPE this September.
- ^ I will be around until my house sells, and if there is anything you need from me, or if Michelle is unavailable, Please feel free to contact me.

Expression of appreciation voiced by Chris and heartily endorsed by all. The Area wants to thank John for his three years of devoted service

Michelle Niefer, Area Commissioner mniefer@sympatico.ca

Welcome to all new and returning Scouters. A new Scouting year has begun – with it are some changes. I am your temporary Area Commissioner for 2011-12.

- ^ I would like to thank John Stalker on behalf of the Area for his past three years work as AC. It's a big job and he has done much, especially behind the scenes. Until John sells his home, he will still be working with us.
- ^ I will be making a few changes and once these are in place, I will keep you updated. Now for some cleaning up of our past year and moving on.
- ^ **Group Reports:** Attached is a template to be used by Group Commissioners for their Group reports. This was instituted by one of our past AC's, and we found that it was useful in giving your reports.
- ^ **Minutes:** Any group that has not submitted a report prior to the meeting or within a few days and/or has not sent a representative to give a report, will have "no report submitted" beside their name. We are going to ensure that the minutes go out within one week of the Area meeting so our Area Scouters will know what is going on in a timely manner.
- ^ **Financial Statements:** For all groups these are due into Area (Jean Lasenba) by mid September. We in turn must have these and ours submitted into Council by the end of September. In turn Council must have their financial report ready for the Annual General Meeting in November. **Your assistance in this would be appreciated.**
- ^ **Outdoor Activity Forms:** Would you please collect these forms from your Section leaders and send them into the next Area Meeting. Some groups/sections have still not done this. Hopefully every group was diligent in filling this out for their activities away from their meeting hall. These will all be boxed up and stored at Headquarters for safe keeping.
- ^ **E-Mails:** If you know of anyone who has changed their e-mail, and/or new leaders who have e-mails, please let us know so that we can update our e-

mail directory. This will ensure that all Section leaders will be up-to-date on all happenings in the area, including Area Events.

- ▲ **Area Quartermaster:** This is a position that has not been filled for many years, and hopefully we can make it active again. As you know, all equipment in Valley Highlands & Camp; Groups and Sections is covered by Scouts Canada Insurance Policy. As such, to ensure that we have it documented, we are going to make a list of all equipment in the Area and keep it updated in case we should ever need to make an insurance claim.

If I can have each section and group committee make a list of their equipment for documentation purposes (tents, stoves, canoes, trailers, etc) and send it into area where we will keep it on file. **This equipment will remain with maintained and used by the groups as usual.** Equipment tends to be kept in various homes of leaders and sometimes we lose track of it. It is another way to check the equipment for another Scouting year and make sure it is in good shape for future group events.

Together we can make anything happen in Valley Highlands

Council report: Kelly Banks – Field Executive: kbanks@scouts.ca no report

Secretary report: Diana Nuttall – dcn@storm.ca Please double check everyone's e-mails as I keep getting some returns.

DAC Reports:

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

Bills to be paid – Allan - \$25.00 for rental of Beckwith Hall

Chris - \$83.70 for Algonquin expenses

Stan - \$20.35 for gas for mower

Total - \$ 129.05

Moved by Elizabeth Seconded by John S. that the bills be paid

Yeas – 14, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 1 Passed.

Moved by Jean Seconded by Chris Approval for purchasing a stamp for “Deposit Only” Passed unanimously

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

On July 3rd, 75 Scouts, Senior Cubs and adult leaders embarked on the annual trek to Algonquin Park. Two school buses and a number of trucks transported all the equipment, food and campers to our destination at the Kiosk Station at the northern edge of Algonquin Park.

Upon arrival at the Kiosk Station the camp was divided into 3 groups and we began preparations for the up-coming week.

Group 1 – 1st time campers made up of senior cubs and some first year scouts. Their programme included day trips on the lake along with the development of camping skills and team work

Group 2- Scouts who had completed their initial training. Their program included participation in day trips and overnight excursions on the lake away from the group campsite.

Group 3 – campers/canoists who left the main campsite on a canoe trip into the interior of Algonquin. They moved daily to different locations throughout the Park.

More than 300 pictures have been added to the Valley Highlands website.

We returned home on July 8th. Planning has begun for next year's Valley Highlands annual canoe trip and still camp in Algonquin.

Our intention is to add a 4th component to next year's outing. Select Senior Scouts and a few leaders to embark on a FAST-paced 7 day excursion across the park.

The new Scouting year begins in earnest with registration in September and a new Scouting uniform unique to each section.

Scouting events

Apple Day October

JOTA (Jamboree on the air) October.

To enhance the JOTA experience a bicycle camp challenge has been suggested. Details to follow

Leadership week-end October a week-end for Patrol Leaders and their Assistants with Cub Sixers and Seconders. Details will follow in September.

Please forward any ideas/suggestions for events to the members of the Service Team.

iv: : **Youth - Andreas Beelich dreas94@hotmail.com**

Matt Courtland nardog16@gmail.com

v: **Recognition – Roger Nuttall rsnuttall@storm.ca**

Please fill in “My Scouting Resume” and send a copy to your Group Commissioner and one to me. If you feel that a fellow Scouter deserves an award, please write them up on the appropriate form found under “For Volunteers / Recognition” of the Scouts Canada web site. Send the write-up to me to review and pass on to Council.

vi **Registrar: - Jacynth Stalker j_stalker@sympatico.ca**

vii: **Technology / Fundraising - Mike Dobbie – 4mdobbie@gmail.com**

viii **Camp Warden – Stan Lasenba – lasenba@sympatico.ca**

One group has left some equipment at the Group's site contrary to our lease agreement with RVCA. There has been very little use during the summer although there was one group of 68 from Pennsylvania for one night. The Rovers have been asked to paint the kybos over the labour day week-end.

viii: **Scout Trees - Brian Billings - brian_billings@carleton.ca**

ix: **Popcorn – Brian Billings – - brian_billings@carleton.ca**

x: **Lombardy Fair Booth – Stan Lasenba lasenba@sympatico.ca**

Once again this year the organizing committee was Joan Smith, Jeff Crigger, Jean and Stan Lasenba. We would like to thank our dedicated leaders, group committee members, service team members, parents and youth who took the time to help out in the Scout booth. It seems each year it gets a little more difficult to fill all the spots. Special thanks to those who did double duty. I think the most disappointing thing was the number of calls Jeff and I made and left messages but the persons did not bother to return our calls. There was also a few “no shows” which

caused others to stay longer or for someone else to take up the slack. I hope this is not indicative of what Scouting is becoming when common courtesy is not observed. I had only one person apologize for missing their shift. Enough of the bad but I felt I needed to have this on record. Again this year the weather was fantastic and we were able to make a few more dollars than last year. The health dept. was happy with our set-up and also the fire department for this year, but stated that we would have to have the grill inspected by a qualified person for next year. As the grill is quite old and I know that one burner cannot be used, we should be looking at obtaining a newer one or have this one refurbished. When talking to Dennis Routier from the Kinsmen and mentioning that we went through 18 dozen eggs on Saturday morning and how difficult it was to keep the bacon and potatoes warm while cooking the eggs, he suggested that we could use chafing trays and I suggest we buy 2 for this purpose. Once again a good event supported by great people, not only does the camp have the funding it requires but Scouting is shown to be alive and well in this area.

Thank-you Scouters for your support and dedication in ensuring the youth of our Area will continue to have a great place to camp at no cost. You are the best.

Net profit this year is \$2851.61. This should pay for the lease and most of the upkeep for the forthcoming year.

GROUP REPORTS:

2nd Almonte: Carol Couter – lorac2233@yahoo.ca

Our registration will be taking place in conjunction with other volunteer groups in Mississippi Mills

1st Beckwith: Allen Sinfield – al1sin@hotmail.com

Registration will be Sept. 13

Carleton Place: Elizabeth Docker – Elizabeth.docker@sympatico.ca

Reference: Group Committee Meeting held Wednesday, June 8, 2011

1. **EVENTS TO DATE:** (since the last meeting)
 - a) Early Registration: We registered 14 youth and several leaders before the end of June to receive the early registration discount.
 - b) Algonquin Trip: Our senior Scouts and two leaders took part in the Area Algonquin trip and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make it an exciting and rewarding experience.
 - c) Venturer Canoe Trip: Under the leadership of Charles Courtland and Torsten Dekart, seven Venturers planned and executed a five-day, 100-kilometer canoe trip through Big Gull Lake, Kashwakamack Lake and Crotch Lake. A special thanks to Torsten for joining our company for the trip.
 - d)
2. **FUTURE EVENTS:** (within the next month)
 - a) Fall Registration: Fall registration will take place on Thursday, September 8, 2011 at St. James Parish Hall from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
3. **MAIN EFFORTS:** (the group's focus this period)
 - a) Registration and Fall Start-up
4. **ISSUES:** (items you need assistance with or questions you need answered)
 - a) Will Area and Council be promoting fall registration to help the groups increase their visibility?
5. **COMMENTS:** (general comments on your program and area program)
 - b) I have the Area promotion kit while John is in the process of moving. If anyone needs it, please let me know.

1st Drummond: Torstein Dekart – tdekart@on.aibn.com

Registration will be in the first week of school.

1st Elmsley: John Armstrong – armstrong24@sympatico.ca

Registration will be in the first week of school.

1st Merrickville: Hope Gray – hope@kevinrobertgray.com

1. Year end financial report following
2. Hope Gray will be taking the Group Commissioner's Woodbadge course in August at Camp Opemikon
3. Spring registration completed
4. Fall registration night is September 15 at the Merrickville Community Centre. This night is held in conjunction with the Girl Guides

4th Perth: Arnel Pattermore – arnel@falls.igs.net

4 youth attended the Algonquin camp. Registration will be on Sept.10.

2nd Smiths Falls: Joan Smith – joansmith_13@cogeco.ca

Reference: Group Committee Meeting held 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Old high school.

1. **EVENTS TO DATE:** (since the last meeting)
 - a. family camp in delta in June
 - b. youth and leaders went on the Algonquin canoe trip
2. **FUTURE EVENTS:** (within the next month)
Group Meeting, Sections planning meetings,
Registration on September 7th
3. **MAIN EFFORTS:** (the groups focus this period)
Enjoying the outdoors
More leaders
4. **ISSUES:** (items you need assistance with or questions you need answered)
we are almost at our maximum for youth should Area be looking into starting up another group in Smiths Falls
5. **COMMENTS.** (general comment on your program and area program)

Looking for leaders woggles who did their part 1 on line

Old Business:

New Business:

Adjournment: 8:52 p.m. moved by Jean; Seconded by Elizabeth.

Next meeting: Sept. 15 at 7:00p.m. at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Smiths Falls

Minutes Read at Area Forum and motion to accept: _____

Minutes Signed by: _____
John Stalker, Area Commissioner