

# Beaver Tales

*September 2011*

## **Welcome to New and Returning Beavers!**

It is always a pleasure to see our new and returning Beavers every September. We hope that you have had a safe and happy summer. We are looking forward to a great season. There are lots of fun themes and activities planned.

## **Weekly Meetings**

Our weekly meetings run from 6:30-7:30PM on Monday evenings at Cityview United Church. Meetings are usually cancelled on holiday Mondays, such as Thanksgiving. We do a lot of active games and we go outdoors when the weather permits. As such, please make sure your child comes to meetings with appropriate footwear. Since the Church lacks a water fountain, we would ask that Beavers come with a water bottle, clearly labeled with their name.

## **Jackpine Trail Outing**

On Saturday, September 24th, we will be doing a nature walk at the Jackpine trail. This is part of the Stony Swamp trail system and it can be reached from Moodie Drive (Parking Lot 9). The walk will happen from 9:30-11:30AM. Parents and siblings are welcome to join us! If possible, please RSVP by Thursday September 22nd, so we know what kind of numbers to expect. If you are dropping off your child, please let us know in advance, such that we can remain within the 1:3 adult-to-youth ratio required by Scouts Canada. This is a free event. Please bring a water bottle, appropriate outdoor shoes, hat, and a snack (although we have also been known to provide a treat on the trail!).

## **Apple Day**

Each year, our Colony participates in Scout Apple Day, which is one of our major fundraising events. This year, Apple Day will be on Saturday October 1st, from 10AM-3PM. We will be at the new Walmart on Baseline Road. We would like Beavers and parents to volunteer, where possible, to do a 1-hour shift. If you are interested, please let us know at your earliest convenience which time period you would prefer. A separate

e-mail will be sent closer to the date, advising of exact times and shift schedules.

## **Uniforms**

The Beaver uniform consists of a hat, a vest, and a necker (which is given at the Investiture - see below). The uniforms for Scouts Canada groups have recently been re-designed. However, it is not necessary to go out and purchase the new uniform; almost all of our Beavers are wearing the old uniform and this is perfectly fine!! If your child requires a uniform, please check with one of the leaders before purchasing a new one, as we have several of the old version vests and hats that have been recycled from past members. We would like each Beaver to have a complete uniform before the Tail Ceremony and Investiture.

## **Tail Ceremony and Investiture**

Our Tail Ceremony will take place during the September 26th meeting. At this ceremony, the Beavers receive a tail to fasten to their hats. The colour corresponds to their age - brown for the 5-year olds, blue for the 6-year olds, and white for the 7-year olds. The tail ceremony is a significant event in the life of a Beaver. It shows how he or she has grown over the past year, as the brown tail becomes a blue tail, and the blue tail becomes a white tail.

The Investiture is a ceremony in which new Beavers are officially welcomed or "invested" into our Beaver Colony. At this time, they receive their neck-scarf or "necker", as well as a woggle to fasten it. This year, our Investiture will take place during the October 17th meeting. The parent of the new Beaver is asked to stay with their child as he or she is invested. It is a very special ceremony with lots of picture-taking and some yummy treats!

## **Please save your shoeboxes!!**

Prior to the Tail Ceremony, we will be making "Beaver Boxes" which our Beavers can use to store their "old" tail once they receive their new one. This is also handy for storing miscellaneous "treasures" they pick up throughout the year. If possible, please save your shoeboxes for this purpose; they can be given to Rainbow on or before September 26th. Thanks in advance!

## **Beaveriee**

In keeping with Scouting tradition, a Fall Beaveriee is planned this year. This is a large combined event in which Beavers and leaders from many colonies in our area come together for a day of games, special activities, songs, and crafts. The date is Saturday,

October 15th, and more details will follow soon.

## E-mail List

If you have any questions about our Beaver Colony, meetings, or upcoming events, please don't hesitate to e-mail us [115.beavers@gmail.com](mailto:115.beavers@gmail.com) and we will reply as soon as possible. Contact information for specific Beaver leaders is given below. We routinely send the Beaver tales newsletter, as well as other important updates, via e-mail. If you wish to receive these e-mail notices, please ensure that we have your current e-mail address and we will add you to our distribution list. Thanks in advance!

## Website

The website for our Colony can be found at: <http://115thphscouts.tripod.com/id17.html>  
You can subscribe to the Colony's calendar using any iCal client via the following address:  
<https://www.google.com/calendar/ical/115.beavers%40gmail.com/public/basic.ics>

## Contacts

If you have any questions or comments, you can reach one of the colony leaders listed below:

- Robert Gill (Rusty), [rob.c.gill@gmail.com](mailto:rob.c.gill@gmail.com), 613-723-3426
- Heidi Gruber-Lagacé (Rainbow), [gabrielsmum@gmail.com](mailto:gabrielsmum@gmail.com), 613-226-7656
- Peter O'Connor (Hawk Eye), [p\\_oconnor@rogers.com](mailto:p_oconnor@rogers.com), 613-321-1744
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- Erin Lang (Bubbles), [eblang@rogers.com](mailto:eblang@rogers.com), 613-727-7369
- Dawn McLeod, photographer, [beaverpics115@gmail.com](mailto:beaverpics115@gmail.com)