



Smoke Signals

Brampton Area Newsletter

www.bramptonscouts.com



March 2005

Commissioner's Corner

Communication

Do we communicate? Should we communicate?

Scouting is the best kept secret and we keep it that way.

If you were asked by a coworker what did you do this weekend? Do you openly tell your coworkers that you were on a Scouting adventure, or just say not much? Too many times we make decisions for other people. We think nobody is interested in what we are interested in or we tell people only what we think might interest them. We need to all be like sponges and soak up the information around us. What we do with that information next is up to you. We can be like a little water spring and only leak out what we feel is of interest. Or we can be like a waterfall and pass on as much information as we know and let them decide what interests them. You need to think of communication like a chain, each link depends on the last to be connected. We all depend on communication with each other to find out what is going on in Scouting. Keeps the communication going right on down to the parents of the youth we work with. Let those parents know what is going on, what are we afraid of that they might get interested and want to find out how they can become a Leader? That would be great, tell the parents about the many website like the Brampton website www.bramptonscouts.com and National's website www.scouts.ca Let the parents see what we are all about let them decide. Other avenues of communication we have are the Smoke Signals newsletter. This is your newsletter, all of us want to hear what is going on in your group. So often we only have a couple of Area announcements, I would like to challenge each group to send something in to the next Smoke Signals tell us some thing you have recently done or are about to do. Send your articles to Scouter Bruce @ brampton_scouts@rogers.com not later then the 20th of the month. The Communication chain is now in your hands don't be the broken link.

I would to thank the Igloo Team for inviting me out to the Igloo camp weekend and congratulations on your hard work. Every one was having a great time.

I would also like to thank the Kub Kar Committee for asking me out to the Kub Kar preliminary and the finals. Congratulations on a job well done.

And I'd like to thank 1st Huttonville for inviting me out to their Baden Powell Church Service and Brunch at Huttonville United Church.

Yours in Scouting

Fred Mertinz

Brampton Area Commissioner

PRC's

If you obtained your PRC (Police Record Check) in 2002, it is time to have it renewed before the start up of the new Scouting Year in September.

Scouts Canada require that you have a valid PRC before being with the youth.

Currently for Volunteer PRC's , Peel Regional Police report that it is taking up to 8 weeks to complete the process.

Membership and Retention

Please ensure that all of your Youth and Volunteers are registered, if not they are not covered by Scouts Canada's insurance. It is critical that we know that your records are up to date.

As for retention, please find out why some of your members are not attending your weekly meetings and why others do not plan to return in September.

Also, you need to know the status of your Volunteers for September. This will help your section and group plan for your 2005-6 activities.

At this time of the year it is the time for succession planning to ensure the viability of your group.

If you know of any areas of potential growth for Brampton Area, please advise Fred Mertinz and I of your ideas. We can follow up with the help of our Field Executive.

Frank W. Brown
Deputy Council Commissioner
Central Escarpment Council

Just a reminder about the e-mail I sent out to all groups about Scoutrees. As far as I know we will be planting at the same site as last year - Calvert Park at the corner of Vodden and Main. The date is usually the first Saturday in May. If the date and place is incorrect then I will advise all groups as soon as I have the information.

For those groups that have not advised of their participation, please let me know when you are able so that I can place the order for kits. The sooner I have the information the sooner I can get the kits and get them out to the groups. I would also like to know how many kits will be required for each group.

Y.I.S.

Oscar Coleman
Scoutrees Co-ordinator

The new Brampton Area Directory is ready. If anyone should want a copy Email me at brampton_scouts@rogers.com



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□ Notice to Scouting Parents

We are currently operating bingo sessions in support of local Scouting at the Rotary Club of Brampton owned Rutherford Bingo hall. At the start of this year the Bingo Committee decided that funds earned should be used to assist as many parents as possible to meet the costs of various Scout camps and events. There will be approximately 6 camps identified each year where parents are invited to come out and volunteer for bingo to receive the \$75 session credit. We also anticipate doing this on a long-term basis for some of the more distant and expensive Scouting adventures such as a Canadian Jamboree. With any of the identified camps that your child's Group will not be attending we can arrange for single (or several) youth to "join up" with some of the groups that will be attending. It is a very cooperative effort where we hope that every child gets the most out of Scouting along with the opportunity to meet other youth and attend as many camps as possible to enhance the experience.

The bingo hall itself now features a state of the art DSR (designated smoking room) which cost over \$300,000 and the rest of the hall is smoke free. Volunteers have the opportunity to sign up for jobs that do not involve going into the DSR. It's easy and we have fun while helping the kids.

The camps the bingo committee have designated for this year are:

- Brampton Area Everton Cub Camp (1 week)....August (2 sessions covers the cost)
- Brampton Area Camp Discovery...August (1 week) last year Cubs and Scouts (1 session will cover the cost)
- Scouts Canada CCJ05...Quebec July 2005 (cost and availability tba)
- Scouts Canada Haliburton Scout Camp July/August 2005 (cost and availability tba)
- Scouts Canada Fort George...(Sept 05) hands on history of the war of 1812

I used bingo funds for a number of years to fund my sons Scouting experience until he left Scouting in 1999. Thanks to bingo he was able to attend and be involved in many exciting and enriching Scouting adventures. For further information how you as a parent can use this fundraising tool to your child's advantage contact Dennis Bank @ 905.457.1903 or by email at dbank@sympatico.ca

The Brampton Scout Shop

10747 Heart Lake Road
Brampton, Ontario L6T 3S1

Ph: 905 451 – 3249

Fax: 905 451 8544

email:

bramptonshop@scouts.ca

Customer Appreciation Week

March 21 – 26, 2005

Free Gift

Treats

For this week only we will take an extra
10% off the last ticket price on all sale items!

Mitts

Winter Boots

snowpants

Winter Jackets

Bonus Offer for this week

All Snorkeling and Swimming gear - 10% off.

Hours of Operation:

Mon. Tue. Wed. 10:00am – 6:00pm

Thursday 10:00am – 8:00pm

Friday 10:00am – 6:00pm

Saturday 10:00am – 4:00pm



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Kub Kars '05

The committee wishes to thank all leaders, adults and most of all the Cubs for participating in this years Kub Kars. Having such a good turn out makes the effort worth while.
This years winners were:

RACE CARS

#21 Damon Recagno	5 th Brampton
#5 Aaron Skrotzki	5 th Bramalea
#25 Jamie Lustig	8 th Brampton

DESIGN

#6 Ada White	13 th Bramalea
#1 Michael Whitten	24 th Brampton
#2 Jake Shewfelt	13 th Brampton

TRUCKS

#6 Kyle Barnes	2 nd Brampton
#3 Reggie Gallop	7 th Brampton
#1 Mark Gaudet	2 nd Brampton

Congratulations to all for making this a successful Kub Kar Rally.

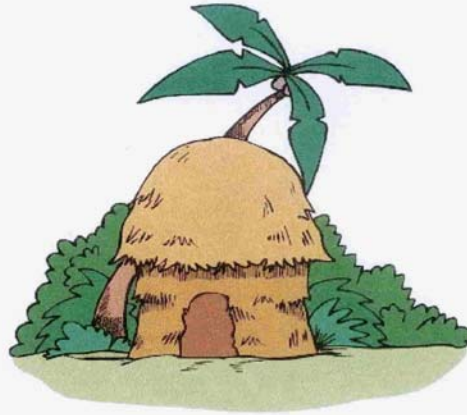
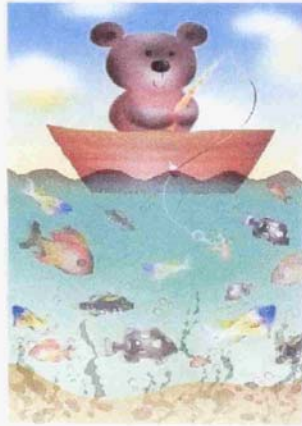
Next year the committee is hoping to expand the racing. There will be Kub Kars for Cubs, Kub Kars for Others (leaders, parents and other youth) and Trucks. Kub Kars will race in the morning and Kars Others and trucks in the afternoon.

Next years Kub Kar preliminaries will be held on Sat. Jan. 28th 2006. The location is still to be determined. Finals will be Sat. Feb. 18th 2006 at Shoppers World Brampton.

Hope to see all of you next year and bring a friend.

The Kub Kar Committee '06
Always looking for help

Brampton's Cuboree Survivor



**The fishing people are
gathering this summer at
Valens Conservation Area near
Hamilton June 3, 4 & 5th 2005
to try their luck at Brampton's
Cuboree Survivor.**

Packs who are planning to attend this years Brampton's Cuboree Survivor are asked to sign up on March 10, 2005 at Brampton Scout House between 7:30 and 9:00pm. We will be asking for a \$50.00 non refundable check to hold a spot at the Cuboree, plus a volunteer from the group to sit on the committee

For more information, please contact Jeebi at jeebi@sympatico.ca .