

October - November 2011



THE BEAVER BULLETIN #1

Welcome to the Beaver Bulletin, a monthly newsletter for parents and Beavers of the 2nd Brooklin Colony! We will use this newsletter to send you important information about Beavers, Scouting in general, and to keep you up to date about what's coming on our schedule.



It starts with Scouts.

Upcoming Beaver meetings and events:

October 17th

Regular meeting at the Brooklin Renaissance Baptist Church, 40 Vipond Road, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Please dress your Beaver for the outside conditions, as we will be having a (mostly) outdoor meeting.

October 22nd (Saturday, rain or shine)

Apple Day! This is an annual event that provides our Scouting youth with an opportunity to show their appreciation to the general public for their support throughout the year. Our youth distribute apples as a way of saying "Thank You" to the community. Donations are accepted, but we are not selling the apples - they are free to everyone in the community.

For the Beaver Scouts, we ask that they come out for at least an hour shift during this 8:30 to noon event. We will meet at the Apple Day headquarters (20 McBeth Place in Brooklin) at 8:30 A.M. to get our specific Apple Day instructions. Your Beaver should be in full uniform. We are usually done before noon. Once the youth have run out of apples, or their time is up, they can return to HQ and have a hot chocolate or snack before going on their way.

If you can help us out by volunteering for a supervising shift on Apple Day, please contact Jeff Solly at 905 655-8649.

This is also Electronic Recycling day! If you have any unwanted electronic items (computers, printers, phones, etc.) please bring them to 20 McBeth Place when coming for the Apple Day event, or alternatively, you can drop them off at Camp Samac. These items will be professionally disposed of through the appropriate methods.

October 24th

Regular meeting at the Brooklin Renaissance Baptist Church. A 'spooky' night of fun activities!

October 31st

No meeting tonight, as we expect most Beavers would rather be out trick or treating! However, the Scout Popcorn order forms and money are due by today (see **below** for details), to either

Ringtail or to Scouter Marg (13 Queen St.).

November 6th (Sunday)

Remembrance Day Service at St. Thomas Church (on Winchester Ave) at 10 am. Beavers and parents are invited by Reverend Claire Wade to attend the Sunday morning service (in uniform please!), as a reminder to the congregation that the church sponsors the 2nd Brooklin Scouts.

November 7th

Regular meeting night at the Brooklin Renaissance Baptist Church.

November 14th

Investiture Ceremony! When a child joins Beavers, he/she is called a Kit, the term used to describe a young Beaver. Kits may wear the Beaver hat and vest right away, but not the neckerchief -- this is presented to them when they are invested as an Eager Beaver. To become an Eager Beaver, a Kit must know the Beaver Promise, Law, and Salute.



Parents or guardians are invited to participate in our investiture ceremony. They are asked to stand behind their child when the Beavers receive their neckerchief. This is an important event in the life of a Beaver; and it will be even more special if the Beaver's parents or guardians are present and included in the ceremony. (If a parent or guardian or other member of the family is unable to attend, a Leader will act as a fill-in). Refreshments will be served -- additional treats are welcome!

General Announcements:

Scout Popcorn

The order forms handed out at our last meeting have an incorrect return date - these forms and money have to be turned in by the **31st of October**, not the 7th of November! Please remember that we don't have a meeting on the 31st, so you will need to hand in your completed forms and money at a meeting beforehand, or take them to Scouter Marg directly - she lives at 13 Queen St. here in Brooklin. Thank you for your fundraising efforts on behalf of 2nd Brooklin!

Beaver Law, Promise and Motto

All Beavers are expected to learn the Beaver Law, Promise and Motto as part of the world of Scouting. We would ask that parents work with their child at home to learn all three. They are as follows:

Beaver Law:	A Beaver has fun, works hard and helps family and friends.
Beaver Promise:	I promise to love God and to help take care of the world.
Beaver Motto:	Sharing, Sharing, Sharing.

The Law, Promise and Motto are all explained as part of the Beaver story, contained in Friends of the Forest, recommended reading for Beavers and available at any of the Scout Shops.

Drop Off and Pick Up Information

Please make sure that you sign your child in upon arrival to our meetings **and** sign him/her out when you leave! This is for the safety of all the Beavers, to make sure that everyone is properly accounted for. There is a sign-in/out sheet on the table inside the door for this purpose. Also, please ensure that your child arrives properly prepared and dressed for the program and activities scheduled for the evening or outing (inside or out). Beavers should come to the meetings wearing their full uniform; this helps to instill in the Beavers a sense of pride in their Scouting uniform!

Also, there is a silver box on the table for the Beavers to put in their weekly \$2 dues. This “feeding the Beaver” pays for the craft materials, special outing costs, ceremony refreshments, badges and crests that aren’t covered by the Scout registration fees. Please give your Beaver his dues in advance of the meeting, so that he/she can ‘feed the Beaver’ independently - this helps our Beavers gain a sense of contribution and commitment to the Beaver Colony.

Website

If you haven’t come across our 2nd Brooklin website already, the address is <http://brooklinscouting.ca> - here you can get the latest information and updates about 2nd Brooklin Group’s events and programs. Our new webmaster is promising an updated look and feel soon, so keep it bookmarked and check back often!

Call for volunteers - Beaver Scouts program update

In 2011, the Beaver Scouts program underwent its first review since its inception over 30 years ago. Member surveys, consultations, and analysis of Beaver Scout programs from other Scout associations have shaped the development of recommendations. We are heading into the final review phase that will lead to a national September 2012 launch of the revised Beaver Scouts program. We are now seeking volunteer working group members to guide the final recommendations and program resource development stage. Most meetings will be conducted via conference call, and work will be completed electronically and submitted via email.

Share our passion for the Beaver Scouts program and want to be involved in this opportunity? If so, we'd like to hear from you! Send your expression of interest, including a short background on skills, knowledge and experience to: ProgramReview@scouts.ca.

Phew!

My apologies - normally, the newsletter isn’t this long, but it’s the first one of the year, so there’s lots of details to cover. If you have any questions about these announcements or events, contact me by email at ringtail@brooklinscouting.ca, by phone at (905) 425-2665, or tap me at the end of one of our regular meetings.

Yours in Scouting,

Ringtail (Ian)

and Hawkeye (Brian), Malak (Hugh), Sunshine (Rob), Rusty (Julie) and Bubbles (Katherine)