

Pack 137 Newsletter

April 2007

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Pack Positions

These are some of the critical roles that are needed to run a health pack:

- Party Master (Organize Summer Events)
- Chief Mechanic (Pinewood Derby)
- Popcorn Kernel (Fund Raising - Popcorn Sales)
- Editor-in-Chief (Newsletter, Publicity/Media)
- Secretary
- Photographer
- Treasurer (Budget, Bank Account, Books, Pack Finances)
- Committee Chair (Lead Committee)
- Assistant Cubmaster (Assist the Cubmaster)
- Quarter Master (Manage Pack Physical Assets)
- Blue & Gold Coordinator
- Pack Trainer

Game "Night"

We are planning a game "night" for the Cubs to have fun and for them to invite their classmates, friends and neighbors – before the end of school.

We are hoping to hold this event in the ACS gym. We are going to divide the gym into 4 to 8 sections – the Tigers will have 1 to 2, the Wolves will have 1 to 2, the Bears will have 1 to 2, and the Webelos will have 1 to 2. We are going to

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Cub Scout Summer Camp is Here!

You should have received a 3 page flyer in the mail from the Great Southwest Council about the Cub Scout camps last week – In case you didn't get it, let me know and I can get copy to you.

There are 3 basic camps and 1

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Big Benefits in Cub Scouting

As a parent, how do you decide which activities are going to occupy your kids/families time? Soccer, Baseball, Basketball, Gymnastics, Karate, Playstation, etc., etc., etc.

Let's face it, all of us feel stretched as it is - and if you have multiple kids, forget it.

I must confess my bias - I am

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Council Fund-raising

Our Council (The Great Southwest Council) and Cliff's amusement park have entered into a fundraising arrangement where you can pass out "dollar bill" type coupons where for each coupon redeemed earns the Council \$1. Please see your Den Leader for copies of the coupons. Please feel free to make additional copies as needed.

Pack Summer Events

- K9/Police Demonstrations (April 28)
- Game Night (May)
- Scout Camp (May, June)
- Hiking (June)
- Akela's Revenge (July)
- Isotopes Scout Night – Camp out (July)
- Rocket Launches (August)
- Fishing (August)
- Falcon Catch, Tag & Release
- Archery
- Campfire
- Scout Magic Workshop
- Service Project (Park Clean up, etc.)
- Making Den Flags
- Craft Event

Anyone BALOO Trained?

Does anyone have BALOO (Basic Adult Leader Outdoor) Training?

BALOO Training is required for any adult planning a pack campout. I would like to see if we can schedule some overnight activities and I do not yet have it. Please let me know as soon as possible so we can start making plans.

There is BALOO training going on the weekend of 4/28 for any interested. If you are interested, please call Stan Beck at 797-4428.

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Big Benefits in Cub Scouting *(Continued from Page 1)*

very pro Scouting. I grew up in Scouts, from Cub Scouts to Eagle and beyond. Scouting is an organization that is like no other. Let's take a look at some of the wonderful benefits of Cub Scouting... (I found this great article on [scouting.org - http://www.scouting.org/cubscouts/about/parents/benefits.html](http://www.scouting.org/cubscouts/about/parents/benefits.html))

The Benefits of Cub Scouting

As a worldwide brotherhood, Scouting is unique. It is based on the principles of loving and serving God, of human dignity and the rights of individuals, and of recognizing the obligation of members to develop and use their potential. It is a movement dedicated to bringing out the best in people. Cub Scouting doesn't emphasize winning as an end result, but rather the far more demanding task of doing one's best.

When Scouting can help nurture courage and kindness and allow boys to play, to laugh, to develop their imaginations, and to express their feelings, then we will have helped them grow. We want boys to become useful and stable individuals who are aware of their own potential. Helping a boy to learn the value of his own worth is the greatest gift we can give him.

Cub Scouting Is Fun

Boys join Cub Scouting because they want to have fun. For boys, however, fun means a lot more than just having a good time. "Fun" is a boy's code word for the satisfaction he gets from meeting challenges, having friends, feeling good about himself, and feeling he is important to other people. While the boys are having fun and doing things they like to do, they also learn new things, discover and master new skills, gain self-confidence, and develop strong friendships.

Cub Scouting Has Ideals

Cub Scouting has ideals of spiritual and character growth, citizenship training, and personal fitness. The Cub Scout Promise is a pledge of duty to God and family. The Law of the Pack is a simple formula for good Cub Scouting and good citizenship. The Cub Scout motto, "Do Your Best," is a code of excellence. The Tiger Cub motto, "Search, Discover, Share," encourages personal growth and fitness. Symbols, such as the Cub Scout sign, Cub Scout salute, and the Living Circle, help boys feel a part of a distinct group and add to the appeal of belonging to a widely respected organization.

Cub Scouting Strengthens Families

The family is an important influence on our nation's youth. There are many different types of family structures in today's world. Scouting is a support to all types of families as well as to organizations to which families belong. We believe in involving families in the training of youth, and we are sensitive to the needs of present-day families. Cub Scouting provides opportunities for family members to work and play together, to have fun together, and to get to know each other a little better.

Cub Scouting Helps Boys Develop Interests and Skills

In Cub Scouting, boys participate in a broad array of activities. Cub Scouts develop ability and dexterity, and they learn to use tools and to follow directions. Recognition and awards encourage them to learn about a variety of subjects, such as conservation, safety, physical fitness, community awareness, academic subjects, sports, and religious activities. These interests might become a hobby or even a career later in life.

Cub Scouting Provides Adventure

Cub Scouting helps fulfill a boy's desire for adventure and allows him to use his vivid imagination while taking part in skits, games, field trips, service projects, outdoor activities, and more. The use of a monthly theme lets a boy play the role of an astronaut, clown, explorer, scientist, or other exciting character. Boys find adventure in exploring the outdoors, learning about nature, and gaining a greater appreciation for our beautiful world.

Cub Scouting Has an Advancement Plan

The advancement plan recognizes a boy's efforts and achievements. It provides fun for the boys, teaches them to do their best, and helps strengthen understanding as family members work with boys on advancement requirements. Badges are awarded to recognize advancement, and boys like to receive and wear these badges. The real benefit comes from the worthwhile things the boy learns while he is earning the badges, as his self-confidence and self-esteem grow.

Cub Scouting Creates Fellowship

Boys like to be accepted as part of a group. In Cub Scouting, boys belong to a small group called a den where they take part in interesting and meaningful activities with their friends. The Cub Scout den and pack are positive places where boys can feel emotionally secure and find support. Each boy gains status and recognition and has a sense of belonging to this group.

Cub Scouting Promotes Diversity

In Cub Scouting, boys may learn to interact in a group that may include boys of various ethnicities, income levels, religions, and levels of physical ability. By having fun together and working as a group toward common goals, Cub Scouts learn the importance of not only getting along, but also of working side by side with other boys of different races, classes, religions, cultures, etc.

Cub Scouting Teaches Duty to God and Country

The BSA believes that no member can grow into the best kind of citizen without recognizing an obligation to God, and encourages both youth and adult leaders to be faithful in their religious duties. The Scouting movement has long been known for service to others. Scouting believes that patriotism plays a significant role

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Big Benefits in Cub Scouting” (continued from page 2)

in preparing our nation's youth to become useful and participating citizens. A Cub Scout learns his duty to God, country, others, and self.

Cub Scouting Provides a Year-Round Program

Cub Scouting has no specific "season"—

it's a year-round program. While spring and summer pack activities are informal and there are many activities that Cub Scouts do outdoors, there's still plenty of fun to be had in the fall and winter: the pinewood derby, blue and gold banquet, skits, stunts, craft projects, and indoor games help to round out an entire year of fun and activities.

Cub Scouting Is a Positive Place

With all the negative influences in today's society, Scouting provides your son with a positive peer group who can encourage him in all the right ways. Carefully selected leaders provide good role models and a group setting where values are taught

Game “Night” (continued from page 1)

need 2 adults to work each of the 4 to 8 game stations. We are also going to need a clean-up crew to clean up afterwards.

We have a couple of options as far as dates go. One is to hold it 5/25 (Friday) afternoon. 5/4 (Friday) is a half-day – kids are out by 11:30am. We could start the event by 12:30 giving people time to get lunch beforehand.

The question is do we have enough adult help to pull a mid-day event off?

Another option is hold this on a Friday

night – say starting at 6pm and going until 8pm. A Friday night might work best for this – especially for the Kindergarteners and 1st graders.

I need feedback on the timing of this ASAP because we have to coordinate our intentions with ACS and we don't have much time left.

Also, I need to know who will be willing to help out. Remember, this be a lot of fun for the kids. We might try to do some adjunct activities like face painting also.

I'm working on getting descriptions of the games out to the den leaders so they can review them with their dens.

Remember, this is Fun/Recruitment event so we want to invite any and all Cub Scout age boys we know – including Kindergarten (The Kindergarteners will be next year's Tigers.).

We will be giving out door prizes (still working on what) and little trinket prizes at the game stations.

Cub Scout Summer Camp is Here” (continued from page 1)

twilight camp (for Webelos Scouts). All of the camps are excellent, but the one that seems to stand out among the others is the camp over in the East Mountains.

Why? Because it's a little more secluded and the boys really feel like they are getting away.

The dates for this camp are June 5th through the 8th and it runs from 8:30am to 3:00pm each day (it's a day camp).

The boys will be doing all sorts of fun things: crafts, sports & games, Scout Skills, BB-guns, archery, science & nature and special events.

We need adults to help volunteer to help lead/guide the boys at camp – in fact, we need 1 adult per 4 boys. It would be great if some adults could take off 4 days from work to help, but that is probably not realistic for most – so, we are allowed to

'swap out' adult leaders as needed. For example, John Smith can take June 5th, Amy Taylor can take June 6th, etc.

In case you can't make it to the East Mountain camp, then by all means enroll in one of the others around town.

The cost for camp is \$60 per boy if you register before the “deadline” date and \$75 if register after the “deadline” date. I am the Pack Day Camp Coordinator for Pack 137, so you will need to get your forms and money into me as soon as possible. If someone would like to attend camp but can't afford to, please see me and we will try to get something worked out.

You are encouraged to invite Cub Scout age neighbors and friends to go to Cub Scout camp. The more the better – just remember that we need to maintain the 1 to 4 child ratio.

Here are the camps and their details:

Eisenhower Middle School
Camp Dates: 5/29 through 6/1
Deadline Date: 5/21

East Mt. Elks Refuge (Recommended)
Camp Dates: 6/5 through 6/8
Deadline Date: 5/22

Alvarado Park/LDS Church
Camp Dates: 6/19 through 6/22
Deadline Date: 6/5

Webelos Twilight
Camp Dates: 7/10 through 7/13
Deadline Date: 6/25

If you will be attending more than one camp, I need a separate form filled out for each one. Make checks payable to “Great Southwest Council, BSA.”

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Upcoming Activities/Events

April 2007

04/27 (Fri) to 04/28 (Sat) – I.O.L.S. – Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills, Grace Park, Tijeras, NM, 6:30pm (Fri) – 10:00pm (Sat). Course Fee \$15

04/28 (Sat) – Albuquerque Police Department – Foothills Area Command. Mounted Patrol, K-9 Units, SWAT, Traffic Units; Tour facilities, speak with officers

04/28 (Sat) – BALOO (Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation), Comanche Elementary School, 8:30am – 4:00pm

May 2007

05/05 (Sat) – Sandia Mountain Natural History Center “First Day Series” – Birds of the Sandias, 9am-3pm

05/15 (Tue) – Registration Deadline for Akela Summer Camp, Eisenhower Middle School

05/22 (Tue) – Registration Deadline for Akela Summer Camp, East Mt. Elk’s Refuge

05/29 (Tue) – Space Station Akela Summer Camp, Eisenhower Middle School, 05/29 (Tue) through 06/01 (Fri), 8:30am to 3pm. Registration Deadline 05/15 (Tue)

05/?? – Committee Planning Meeting (Budget, Calendar of Events, Dues, Awards, Service Projects)

05/?? – Leader’s Meeting

June 2007

06/02 (Sat) – Sandia Mountain Natural History Center “First Day Series” – Geocache/GPS Basics, 9am-3pm

06/05 (Tue) – Registration Deadline for Akela Summer Camp, Alvrado Park/LDS Church

06/05 (Tue) – 06/08 (Fri) - Space Station Akela Summer Camp, East Mt Elk’s Refuge, 8:45am-3:30pm. Registration Deadline 06/05 (Tue)

06/14 (Thu) – Round Table, Sombre del Monte Church, 2528 Utah, 7pm

06/19 (Tue) - 06/22 (Fri) – Space Station Akela Summer Camp, Alvarado Park/LDS Church, 8:45am-3:30pm. Registration Deadline 06/05 (Tue)

06/25 (Mon) – Registration Deadline for Akela Summer Camp, Webelos Twilight Camp

06/?? – Committee Meeting

06/?? – Leader’s Meeting

July 2007

07/07 (Sat) – Sandia Mountain Natural History Center “First Day Series” – Orienteering, 9am-3pm

07/10 (Tue) - 07/13 (Fri) – Space Station Akela Summer Camp, Webelos Twilight Camp. Registration Deadline 06/25 (Mon)

07/12 (Thu) – Round Table, Sombre del Monte Church, 2528 Utah, 7pm

07/27 (Fri) – 07/29 (Sun) – Akela’s Rendezvous

07/27 (Fri) – 08/08 (Wed) – World Jamboree, England

07/?? – Committee Meeting

07/?? – Leader’s Meeting

August 2007

08/04 (Sat) – Sandia Mountain Natural History Center “First Day Series” – Plant Identification, 9am-3pm

08/09 (Thu) – Round Table, Sombre del Monte Church, 2528 Utah, 7pm

08/14 (Tue) – All Hands Meeting

08/20 (Mon) - 08/24 (Fri) – School Night for Scouting

08/23 (Thu) - 08/25 (Sat) – Wood Badge, Part 1 (must attend both weekends), Camp Frank Rand, Chimayo, NM

08/28 (Tue) – Popcorn Kernel Training

08/28 (Tue) – Pack Meeting

08/?? – Committee Meeting

08/?? – Leader’s Meeting

09/06 (Thu) - 09/08 (Sat) – Wood Badge, Part 2 (must attend both weekends), Camp Frank Rand, Chimayo, NM

09/13 (Thu) – Round Table, Sombre del Monte Church, 2528 Utah, 7pm

09/25 (Tue) – Pack Meeting (Boy Scout Troop Presentation)

09/28 (Fri) to 09/29 (Sat) – I.O.L.S. – Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills

09/29 (Sat) – BALOO (Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation)

09/?? – Committee Meeting

09/?? – Leader’s Meeting

October 2007

10/11 (Thu) – Round Table, Sombre del Monte Church, 2528 Utah, 7pm

10/13 (Sat) – Metro Day of Training (Cubmaster, Den Leader, Tiger Leader, Committee Member)

10/16 (Tue) – Popcorn Orders Due

10/23 (Tue) – Pack Meeting

10/27 (Sat) – Popcorn Distribution Day

10/?? – Committee Meeting

10/?? – Leader’s Meeting

November 2007

11/03 (Sat) – Cub Scout Leader’s Pow Wow

11/08 (Thu) – Round Table, Sombre del Monte Church, 2528 Utah, 7pm

11/13 (Tue) – Popcorn Settlement Day

11/17 (Sat) – Recharter Turn-in

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11/27 (Tue) – Pack Meeting

11/?? – Committee Meeting

11/?? – Leader’s Meeting

December 2007

12/13 (Thu) – Round Table, Sombre del Monte Church, 2528 Utah, 7pm

12/17 (Mon) – Popcorn Prize Order Deadline

12/?? – Committee Meeting

12/?? – Leader’s Meeting

January 2008

01/?? – Pinewood Derby

01/22 (Tue) – Pack Meeting

01/?? – Committee Meeting

01/?? – Leader’s Meeting

February 2008

02/?? – Blue and Gold Banquet

02/26 (Tue) – Pack Meeting

02/?? – Committee Meeting

02/?? – Leader’s Meeting

March 2008

03/25 (Tue) – Pack Meeting

03/?? – Committee Meeting

03/?? – Leader’s Meeting

April 2008

04/22 (Tue) – Pack Meeting

04/?? – Committee Meeting

04/?? – Leader’s Meeting

May 2008

05/27 (Tue) – Pack Meeting

05/?? – Committee Meeting

05/?? – Leader’s Meeting

Pack 137 Newsletter

Leadership Corner

Training

I went to the semi-annual Cub Scout leadership training at the Sandia Presbyterian Church (Eubank and Paseo Del Norte) this past Saturday (4/14) and it was excellent.

The day was broken up into two parts - the first part was a general introduction to Cub Scouting, which I found very informative; the second part was broken up into specific disciplines (Tiger Den Leader, Den Leader, Committee Member, Cub Master). The Cubmaster session was very informative and I got ask a myriad

of questions to an entire room of experienced Cubmasters. Needless to say, I came away with so much information and a lot of new connections.

If you haven't yet attended the Cub Scout Training, you are really missing out. I want to encourage/challenge each leader to take the training that is coming up in October - you will not regret it - neither will the boys. After all, trying to do your job without the necessary tools is too much work.

Remember, your boys deserve a well-trained leader. Be the best you can be for them!

Round Table

This past Thursday night, I attended the monthly Round Table leadership event at the Sombre del Monte Church (2528 Utah NE - just north of Flying Star on Manual) and it was excellent.

I was particularly impressed by the looseness of the atmosphere - a lot of joking around and having fun. It was like a Pack Meeting of sorts. We played games, got a chance to win things for the pack at an auction using "BALOO

Bucks" as the currency. They provide a lot of great planning materials for an entire months worth of activities.

We broke off into different groups according to our interests (Den Leader, Tiger Den Leader, Committee, Cubmaster) and got a lot of great and useful information.

I highly recommend the Round Table meetings for all leaders - it was that good. It is well worth your time. They are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month.

The Importance of Recognition

Most people don't volunteer for recognition, but don't make the mistake of not sincerely appreciating the efforts of others and recognizing them. There are so many great way to recognize someone - a handwritten thank-you note, a home-crafted award. Be sure to let your parents know how much you appreciate their involvement. Let them know that they are investing in something very worthy and important.

BALOO Needs You

If any of our leaders has had BALOO (Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation) training, please let me know because it is a requirement for us to have a BALOO trained leader involved in the planning and execution of Pack camping events.

BALOO includes information on

- Preparations for camping with Cub Scouts
- Site selection
- Parent involvement
- Health and safety
- Equipment
- Feeding
- Introduction to outdoor skills

Also, let me encourage you to get your BALOO training also. I will be doing it as soon as I can. The next BALOO event is 4/28 - give me a shout if you are interest and I get you the details.

How to Avoid the Big Drop-off

This is a tip that I learned from the Leadership Training that I attended on 4/14 and I wanted to share it with you.

When I talk about the Big Drop-off, I'm talking about Cub Scouts that for one reason or another decide to leave the Scouting program.

One of the reasons older Cub Scouts tend to lose interest in Cub Scouting has to do with not having enough interesting activities that appeal to the older Scout. Let's face it, there is a world of difference between a Tiger and a Webelos II (a first grader and a fifth grader) - they are just in dif-

ferent places.

Pack-wide activities often have to be watered down a bit to accommodate the various ages and abilities - and that's okay. However, that makes it especially important to provide the older Cub Scouts with opportunities to do some more advanced things. Get those Webelos outdoors - hike, fish, work on more challenging service projects. Be creative and use your imagination. Poll the older scouts and ask them what kind of cool outdoor things they would like to do.

It's also very important to start introducing Webelos to the Boy Scout world. Start researching good solid Troops - go visit a Troop Meeting - this gives the Webelos vision about the next stage beyond Cub Scouts.