

The Cub Gazette

~ A newsletter for Southborough Cub Scout Pack 26 ~

WELCOME TO A NEW SCOUT YEAR !

Welcome to Pack 26!

We would like to welcome all new scouts and their families to Pack 26. Two new Tiger Dens are joining our pack this Fall. In addition, we have added 5 new Cub Scouts to our existing Wolf and Bear dens to bring our total headcount to 58. This will be an exciting year for our scouts as they progress along the Tiger, Wolf, Bear and Webelos trails.

Since several of you are new to the pack I would like to take moment to let you know some of the events we enjoyed last year.

The year started with much pride as Pack 26 marched in the Heritage Day parade. Our first outing was a Boston harbor cruise and a haunted tour of Fort Warren on George's Island – much fun was had by all!



As the Holiday season approached Southborough residents were greeted by Pack 26

Cub scouts who were selling Hanukkah candles and Christmas wreaths. This is our largest fundraiser and helps us to support all the exciting activities and events throughout the Scouting year.

In addition to fund raising, dens were busy assembling gift baskets for several seniors in our community. These baskets help to bring a little warmth and cheer to a sometimes lonely group of elders. Community service is an important part of Pack 26. Approximatey 15 baskets were made by the scouts and delievered on time for the holidays.

January is **Pinewood Derby** time at Pack 26. Scouts and their parents gathered to race cars that they carved out of a single block of wood. If you remember anything about Cub Scouts it is the Pinewood Derby. Good fun, friends and a "little" competition.

In February Cub Scouts donned their aprons and showed up to work at our third annual Valentine's Day luncheon for Southborough senior citizens. Several Scouts and parents helped to take lunch orders and serve food to over 25 seniors. After lunch the Cub

Scouts played bingo with their guests. This was a great experience for all!

At the end of February we come together for our annual Blue and Gold Banquet. Second year Webelos take great pride in "crossing over" to Boy Scouts as they earn the Arrow of Light award, the highest award in Cub Scouting.

In May over 45 Scouts and parents learned about tidal pools, saw some really neet animals – including a two headed turtle! - and took in the stars at the Ecotarium museum and planetarium. The overnight program and sleepover was a great success and will be repeated in the future.

Several other events included a night of Hockey with the Worcester Ice Cats, a night of Baseball with the Pawtucket Redsox, A day at Roller Kingdom in Hudson, and participation in the Earth Day clean up around St. Matthews church.



A 2002/2003 Pack Year!!!

Annual events to be repeated include, the Heritage Day Parade, our annual fund raiser, the Pinewood Derby and the Blue and Gold Banquet. Many of last year's events such as the Worcester Ice Cats, the PawSox, the Valentines Day luncheon may also be

~ Important info to remember ~

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Next Pack Meeting: ****Oct. 28****

Pack 26 website:
<http://home.att.net/~tdeschamps>

repeated. This year we are planning two overnights, a sleep over at the Higgins Armory in Worcester and an overnight camp out in June.

Do you have any ideas that we may enjoy as a pack? I am always open to suggestions. Maybe you have a special hobby, an exciting job – many things could be shared with our Scouts...Just let me know!!

STAYING INFORMED

FYI....

How does one keep up with all the things going on in Cub Scouts, especially with everything else that happening in our lives?? Sports, school, family - there are many things that command our attention each and every day. There are a few ways, but the most important is coming out to the Pack Meetings, held at St. Matthew's Church. At each Pack Meeting the Scouts will receive the awards they have earned that month, learn about upcoming events, and more importantly, have a chance to sign up for the many events we organize.

What if you missed a Pack Meeting? All the Den Leaders are encouraged to bring extra copies of the newsletter home to pass out at their next Den Meeting, and the newsletter will always (and sometimes *before* the Pack Meeting) be on the Pack 26 website - see page 1 at the bottom for the address. With the web site, and this newsletter, there will never be a time when someone can say "Hey, I didn't know about that!!" Of course, as always, everyone can feel free to e-mail or call me at home if there is a question or a concern, that's what I'm here for!!
☺

NOVEMBER 1 EVENT

Higgins Armory

Pack 26 and Pack 1 will be spending the night at Higgins Armory Museum on Friday November 1st. this popular program is an interactive parent-child adventure studying the Middle Ages and the Renaissance. Participants will sleep in the Quest Gallery, enjoy a Medieval Pizza Party, learn about the Arms and Armor of a Knight, try on pieces of armor and equipment. They will also participate in a heraldry lesson and a shield workshop. This event is limited to 80 people max. (40 scouts and 40 adult partners). The cost is \$25.00/person with all money due by October 15. I am expecting a large turnout so please sign up tonight.



OCTOBER EVENT

A Fall Hike

hiking trip up Mt. Monadnock has been scheduled for Sunday, October 20. Mount Monadnock is located in Jaffery, NH. We will plan on meeting at the main trailhead at 9:00AM. The hike is approximately 5 miles (round trip). Please feel free to sign up tonight. Mt. Monadnock is a great first hike for all ages. If you do plan on attending please pack and bring a lunch, trail snacks and water. All hikers should wear hiking boots that give proper ankle support and should bring appropriate clothing including a rain jacket, a fleece pull-over or something warm (preferably not cotton) if it is cold at the top.

IMPORTANT

Pack Dues - \$20

Please make every effort to get dues into me by tonight. If you're a 2nd year Webelo, then your dues are waived; if you just signed up for Scouts this year, then your dues were included in the sign up fee you paid in Sept. If you have any questions whether you owe dues, need additional information (such as a scholarship), or anything else, please see me. ☺

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Food Pantry Collection

Every year Pack 26 collects food for the food pantry in Southborough. The dens participate in a contest to try and collect the most items by the end of the year. Food pantry items should be brought to each of the monthly pack meetings. Last year Pack 26 collected a total of 677 items. The winning den will receive a free pizza party on Pack 26.

HELP THE PACK GO

Volunteer Forms

Please make every effort to send in your volunteer forms to my attention. We are requiring that all parents who do not hold a leadership position within the pack to sign up to help with at least one pack event. We need your help to make this a great year. Volunteer opportunities include:

Pinewood Derby Race

Community Service Projects

Spring Camping Trip

Blue and Gold Banquet

Wreath Sale and Other Fund Raisers

Craft Night

Valentines Day Luncheon

If you have already sent in your form, thank you. You will be contacted shortly to discuss the volunteer items that you are interested in.

Thank you

Iwould like to extend a special thank you fo all of the Den Leaders who have committed to make the 2002/2003 a great year for the boys. Please make sure to give you thanks and support to:

Beth W. - Den 4 Bear

Steve T. - Den 11 Webelo

Mike G. - Den 5 Wolf

Darcy H. - Den 10 Webelo

Karen F. - Den 2 Webelo2

Kelly W. - Den 1 Webelo2

Joe B. - Den 3 Wolf

Kathleen P. -Tiger Den

Virginia S. - Tiger Den