

Capshaw Pack Times

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Cubmaster Corner

The Spirit of Scouting

John Wiggins

Wow, another fall break has come and gone, the frost is on the pumpkins and a chill fills the night air. Once again it's time to load up the back packs, get the homework done, off to church, practice, den meetings, sell some popcorn, go to birthday parties, oh yeah- who's picking up whom from school today? What time is the doctor's appointment? How's your presentation at work coming along? Did you pay the water bill this month? Have a good day, see you tonight! Sound familiar? If you are like most of us this is a pretty close representation of our daily routine. Once again I'm scrambling to fit in another hour in next week's schedule and I'm wondering what I will have to put off until the following week. Something's got to give; is it family time, church, ball, scouts, work, that community service project I volunteered for? As I struggle to see what gets checked off the list I glance up at the news and hear of another case of the flu, some tragic crime that has been committed, another bankrupt company, an unethical business or political relationship, and the list goes on and on. I'm reminded of why Scouting is so important and why this year it's been around for 100 years. I wonder if these if these things would be happening is the men who are involved in these terrible things had had parents who were committed to them and had chosen Scouting as an avenue to enhance their development.

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Fall Campout: Big South Fork

October 30-November 1, 2009

Rick Le Borne

The fall campout is upon us; there is much to be gained by all from the experience – that is, once parents can be convinced that a cold, perhaps below-freezing night separated by material half the thickness of a bed sheet is anything but fun and sane. Oh, and the rain: There is always a chance of freezing rain. Sold on the experience? Gee, why not? Haven't been camping much? Camping in the past meant pitching a tent in your son's bedroom and handing him a flashlight?

Perhaps some facts can stir to life your curiosity: Pack 156 has been camping around this time of year for over 50 years. The numbers- cubscouts suffering from exposure or worse: ZERO. Parents suffering the same: ZERO. Cubscouts having a positive and memorable time: over 90%. Parents having a positive and memorable time: approximately 70%. Let's talk about that other 30%. That is, those parents not having such a good time out there in the freezing wilds of Big South Fork: Most of what attributed to the bad experience was due to a lack of information. A cold and wet family is not a happy family whereas a warm and dry family is a very happy one. Simple? Well, after some basics are explained, I think it is. Mr. Robert Craven, an ex-Pack 156 den/patrol leader and now with Troop 156, wrote up a list of guidelines that have helped many fall campout families come home as part of that wonderful "70%". I am copying his original list below. My word to the wise: A small tent is better than a big one. Why? – There is more cold air in a big tent to warm. The tent is for sleeping, it's not a house. The pack owns lots of camping equipment that is for your use – if you don't have something, see our cubmaster, John Wiggins.

Now for the list:

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What do my sons get from Scouting? It develops character and encourages spiritual growth, develops habits of good citizenship, (Lake Shore cleanup, Susan G. Komen race, Scouting for food), growing strong in mind & body (academic and sportsman electives), improves understanding within the family (working thru the books together), strengthens the ability to get along with others & respect for other people (ever been to a den meeting). Scouting creates a sense of personal achievement by developing new interests and skills (awards, skits), teaches boys to be helpful and to do one's best. It provides fun and exciting new activities (Fall Campout!), prepares them to be Boy Scouts, and they learn to respect God, their Country, nature and America's natural resources.

Do you think these things are worthwhile, enough at least to make time? Do you believe that you can make a difference in this world? Is Scouting worth a real commitment or is it something you show up for every now and then? I'm reminded of the parable that you reap what you sow. What are we / you sowing here at Pack 156?

What's Behind the Big Bang of Big Time Fireworks

A Go-See-Um with Mark Kriebel of Marks Pops

Stephen Phillips

Saturday October 5th 2009, Pack 156 did a "Go-See-Um" at Sherlock Park at Tennessee Tech's campus in Cookeville Tennessee. We met with Mark Kriebel, who owns a company called Mark's Pops. Mr Kriebel is a full service fireworks pyrotechnic, a guy who sells fireworks, and builds BIG fireworks shows. There is more information about Marks Pops on the internet, at www.markspops.com. Marks Pops sells fireworks for the Fourth of July at the intersection of Hwy 56 and Shepherdsville Rd, just north of Baxter. Look for the fireworks trailer on the left side of the highway going north!

Mark was building the show that he would fire off after the Tennessee Tech football game! Mark had a trailer with different "Mortars" (or "guns" they are also called) on it. A mortar is a special tube (designed NOT to blow up in your face!!) that fires a shell anywhere in size from a 2 1/2 inch up to a 8 1/2 inch shell up in the air where it explodes to the "Ohhhhs and Ahhhs" of kids from 8 to 80! Marks son Job showed us how he loads the different size shells in the tubes. Mark spent an hour explaining how he used a type of fuse called an "E-Match" to fire the different size shells from a safe distance. The E-Match generates a spark from an electric current. It is placed inside the shell, and hooked to a distribution panel a lot like a home stereo system. That distribution panel is hooked into computer cables that hook into a LARGER distribution panel that hooks to a computer box. That box allows Mark to fire the mortars in specific

Robert Craven's List for Camping

1. The most important thing about cub scout camping is to make it a fun educational experience.
2. Cub Scout camping is usually "tent" camping. At district sponsored events this will be a rule. No pop-ups, rv's, pick-up-truck-beds, back-seats, etc. – Tent only.
3. If you don't have a tent, ask. Usually one can be borrowed so that you can test your affinity to camping before jumping in with both feet. Boy scout troops usually have tents that can be borrowed etc. Inexpensive tents can be acquired at Walmart or BigLots.
4. Pitch a tent on the most level spot you can find relatively free from rocks, roots, etc. Of course you are outside so no spot will be "perfect".
5. Use a ground cloth under your tent to prevent moisture from seeping up into your tent. Do not let your ground cloth protrude from beneath your tent or it will channel water running off your tent into your tent.
6. A sleeping mat or pad is useful for cushioning your body but also providing a layer of insulation between you and the ground. The ground has tremendous heat sink potential and can suck heat out of you leaving you susceptible to hypothermia, etc.
7. A sleeping bag appropriate for the expected weather is important. A -20 deg F insulated mummy bag will be way to hot for summer camping, etc.
8. Make sure your tent is zipped up to keep critters out and bugs out while you are off doing activities.
9. Stake the tent down in case an unexpected wind comes up.
10. Always bring rain gear, even if it is only a lightweight poncho.
11. Always bring change of clothes, warmer clothes, cooler clothes, etc. Be prepared.
12. After a scout has been running around all day it is important to change into dry clothes before bed to prevent hypothermia.
13. Scouts will get dirty, muddy etc. Expect it and bring extra clothes if need be. Don't panic, they are boys, that's what they are supposed to do.
14. Class "A" uniforms will usually be worn for opening ceremony and final camp-fire ceremony. Class "A" use varies from camp to camp but bring it to "be prepared". All other times class "B" uniforms are appropriate. Class "B" uniforms are usually a t-shirt that the pack has agreed on, or it can be a t-shirt that they acquired at a day-camp etc. Either uniform can be worn over a long sleeve shirt if the weather is cooler. Weather may govern whether uniforms are required etc. In district events, class Bs help identify which scouts belong to which pack, etc. show unity, spirit, etc.
15. Absolutely no firearms, fireworks, paintball guns, bb-guns etc. Only bb-guns and archery on district run and certified ranges are permitted by BSA certified instructors.
16. Absolutely no alcohol.
17. No smoking in front of the boys, try to be discreet if

order and at different times.

That computerized box uses a special computer card built by a man named Tony especially for Mark. No one else in the US has this type of gear. The box can even be used wirelessly, so Mark can let the customer be on the other side of the football stadium from the display and shoot off the fireworks by pushing a special "dead man" button.

Mark gave the kids lots of safety advice, like

- 1) NEVER shoot fireworks from a PVC pipe, because if something goes wrong PVC splinters into a million shards, like shrapnel. Mark's mortars use a special type of plastic that "powders" if a shell blows up prematurely inside it.
- 2) Mark said ALWAYS follow the directions on the fireworks wrapper. If it says light it and run, then DO IT!
- 3) Mark said never put gunpowder in a wrapper. Gunpowder is a low-energy explosive that increases its power the tighter you wrap it.

Mark showed us how he uses a string coated with gunpowder as a fuse. If the fuse is laid on the ground, it burns slowly. If it's wrapped up in paper, it blew up like a firecracker!

Den News

A Review of September/October

Edited by Scoop Weatherby

Tiger Den 3

Submitted by Melinda Leftwich

In September the Tigers, leaders & siblings brought their collections to go along with the "Cub Scout Pockets" theme. Cool collections included Marvel comics figures, maps, Pokemon cards, rocks & minerals, vintage Hot Wheels, fuzzy critters, USPS mint sets, bouncy balls, army men, stickers and baseball cards. We also learned about each other along the way!

The boys, Akelas and leaders all pitched in to design & create our new Den 3 flag...special thanks to Rebecca Greene for her seamstress talents and to Assistant Leader Tom Stricklin for his painting expertise! Other projects included making boxes for the Scouting for Food project and cards for the nursing home, and working on learning our cub scout promise, salute and sign.

On our Go See It to TTU's Shipley Farms we saw lots of animals including goats, pigs, show cattle and sheep & we enjoyed running around the farm. The old red barn at Shipley Farms, built in the early 1800's, is on the TN Historic Register and part of the original log structure is still intact. We are proud of our Ten Terrific Tigers and look forward to a lot more excitement this Fall!

you must smoke.

18. Plan your meals, know which meals the pack will provide and which you are responsible for.
19. If you don't have Coleman stoves, etc. you can try to borrow, or simply prepare meals that require minimal cooking. Cook hotdogs over the fire. Cook baked potatoes in the coals of the campfire. Etc. If you are unsure what kinds of foods can be prepared without a stove, ask or research it on the internet.
20. What goes in the fire stays in the fire. If a scout "pokes" the fire with a stick, the stick must not be removed from the fire, it must be thrown in.
21. Hydration is very important, bring water bottles, etc.
22. All trash must be packed out! District scout camps have no trash service, be prepared to pack out any trash you create. Don't expect others to pack your trash out for you, be responsible.
23. Flashlights can be handy for night hikes, trips to the latrine at night, finding your clothes at night, etc.
24. No flames in the tents. (NONE)
25. A camp fire extinguisher should be clearly visible.
26. A camp first aid kit should be clearly visible.
27. All fuel should be stored in a clearly marked off fuel yard. No cub scout should enter the fuel yard.
28. All axes, hatches, saws, etc. should be stored in a marked off axe yard. No Cub Scout should enter the axe yard.
29. Knives are limited to Cub Scouts--Bear and above, who have completed the knife safety training and have their whittling chip. Any adult coming upon a scout with a knife may ask the scout to present their whittling chip. Any adult observing unsafe behavior of a scout with a knife may reprimand the scout and cut off a corner of the whittling chip. Any scout with all 4 corners of their whittling chip cut off will have their knife confiscated until such time as the scout repeats the knife safety training.
30. Be sure and attend the "camp-fire" ceremony. It is usually on Saturday night and involves, skits, songs, cheers, jokes, etc.
31. Sunday usually has a "church" service. A scout is reverent, each in his own way. These ceremonies are often performed by the scouts themselves and try to be generic praise to God so that each scout can worship and not be offended. The out-of-doors is a great witness to a "higher power" and can provide the inspiration for such a service.
32. At district camping events the various packs are often judged in a competition for a "spirit stick". Judging is based on many things including camp safety, cleanliness, organization, etc., Scout Activity, politeness of scouts, spirit of scouts, scout cheers, skits at the campfire ceremony, etc. Pack 156 held the spirit stick twice in recent years.
33. No electronic devices: no Gameboys, mp3 players, cd-players, boom-boxes, etc. This is camping, so let the boys learn to communicate and entertain themselves without all the modern electronic crutches.
34. Bring Frisbees, balls, hacky-sacks, etc. to engage scouts

Tiger Den 8

Submitted by Stacye Choate

Tiger Den 8 is getting off to a great start. We have five dedicated boys in our den. Matthew, Trip, Eli, Wade, and Wendell are each doing a great job learning the Cub Scout Promise and the Pack Law. Den 8 has had four den meetings as guests at St. Michael's Episcopal Church. We enjoyed making our family scrapbook and practicing our Cub Scout Salute to the United States Flag. We are very proud of our Den Flag. The biggest challenge has been getting the paint stains out of our Class A's following work on the flag. Thanks den mothers for all your hard work! The boys do a great job of "Leaving No Trace" by helping the den leader with clean up after each meeting. We enjoyed working our shift at Lowe's for the popcorn sales weekend. We are proudly wearing our Immediate Recognition Badges which are already adorned with a few beads. Happy Halloween from Tiger Den 8!

Wolf Den 15

Submitted by Jason Kesterson

The Pack 156 Wolf Den has had a great first 2 months of the year. After combining the 2 Tiger Dens from last year, we are up to a group nearly 10 Scouts strong. Our den has been working hard on our Achievements as well as practicing our Flag Ceremony skills that we hope to demonstrate later in the year. As many saw, the Wolves took one meeting to make a sign that has been used in most of our Popcorn Show & Sell Days. Our group also volunteered and worked a very

Patrol News

A Review of September/October

Edited by Scoop Weatherby

Thunderbird Patrol

Submitted by Ashley Eldridge

The Thunderbird Patrol is currently working on achieving activity badge for Citizen and Outdoorsman. We have added a few new scouts to our great patrol: Thomas Pardue, Tyler Greene, and Kyle Lyons. Thomas Pardue and Tyler Greene have completed their widdling chip. Thomas Pardue, Tyler Greene and Cameron Monks are currently working on their bobcat badge as well. We are looking forward to visiting Amazin Acres on Oct 23rd.

during down times. Hide and seek, tag, etc. are fun camp activities. If you don't want your scout finding the nearest mud-hole to play in (they love that) be prepared to encourage other activities, even lead activities, otherwise relax.

35. When buying a new tent, look for one that is easy to assemble and has a good rain fly that covers the whole tent. A vestibule area (like a porch roof) over the door is ideal.
36. If you buy a new tent, be sure and set it up before the camping trip. Become familiar with it, air it out, and if it isn't explicitly stated on the product literature it probably needs some water proofing sprayed on the seams, etc. Maybe even waterproof it even it is has been pre-waterproofed as added insurance.
37. Consider replacing bulky plastic tent stakes with lean metal ones. Less likely to break and more easily driven into the ground.
38. Plan to set up a dining canopy or rope suspended tarp in case of inclement weather. Much better than scrambling to improvise in the rain.

Patrol News (cont.)

Monkey Patrol

Submitted by Rick Le Borne

This is our fifth year with the Pack. Our boys have come quite far in terms of working toward the goals set forth by Baden Powell, the founder of Scouts. Individuals become members of a team serving each other to complete a task – any task! These past months the Monkeys have worked a Service project, building a mailbox post for an elderly woman in the neighborhood of our patrol meetings. She is a widow who shared the story of her late husband putting in the post that recently was taken by rot. She was proud to see the trouble all the boys had in breaking the concrete – “My husband built things to last!”. But the concrete did break, and the boys worked through the leadership of Seth and Philip (project patrol leader and assistant patrol leader, respectively) to erect the newly built and painted post, mix the concrete, and set the post level in three directions. Three meetings later, the mailbox was completed.

The newest Monkey is Gaven Hawk who has done quite well to date with keeping up with the fire-making challenges and knot tying practice. Payton has taken charge with Gaven for Color Guard ceremonies. As a group, we are working to get ready for the first Survival Weekend for Webelos.

Survival Weekend for Webelos

A weekend of outdoor skill building

By Scoop Weatherby

This year, a new event is being planned for our Webelos – *Survival Weekend* currently scheduled for the weekend of November 14th. Sounds a bit like reality TV, but the purpose is much more than entertainment. Webelos are cubscoouts beginning their transition into Boy Scouts. The weekend will be designed to give our Webelos an idea what the Boy Scouts do as compared to their cub scout experience to date. The focus will be on basic outdoor skills; shelter, navigation and the ability to provide warmth. The catch is that each of these categories will be taught from a pretty basic level. The site for the weekend is approximately three-quarters of an hour to an hour from Cookeville on approximately 500 acres of wilderness. It is hoped that a representative of the Air Force who has served in Afghanistan and graduated from SERE school will be on hand to share his knowledge. The SERE school is run by the 336th Training Group, U.S. Air Force Survival School at Fairchild Air Force Base, Wash., and provides Survival, Evasion, Resistance, and Escape (SERE) training primarily to aircrew members. Instruction concentrates on the principles, techniques, and skills necessary to survive in any environment and return with honor.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FALL CAMP OUT

BIG SOUTH FORK

OCTOBER 30-NOVEMBER 1

This is the first of our two yearly camping events – not to be missed!

SCOUTING FOR FOOD

CAPSHAW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

NOVEMBER 2-14

Food for the needy is collected in the school's classrooms.

Each den/patrol needs to decorate boxes for this collection.

HONORING OUR VETERANS

LOCAL CEMETERY ON JACKSON STREET AND BUFFALO VALLEY RD

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 7, 9-10AM

This is a yearly event in which our scouts will participate in a flag raising ceremony along with a military representative.

After the flag ceremony a brief speech is given to our boys by the military representative after which our boys place flags at the grave sites of our veterans.

POPCORN ORDER PICKUP

PLACE: AVERITT EXPRESS

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 8AM

ALL POPCORN CAN BE PICKED UP FOR DELIVERY.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS (CONT.)

NOVEMBER PACK MEETING

PLACE: CAPSHAW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAFETERIA

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 6-7PM

SUBMISSION FOR NOVEMBER

For November's edition, please send your den's news, pack related news, etc. to Rick Le Borne via e-mail:

RLEBORNE@TNTECH.EDU Note that pictures are

welcome! Just attach them to the e-mail. The deadline for November's issue is Thursday, November 13th.

Notes