
Pack 1601 Newsletter– January 2009 Edition



From our Cubmaster

Cub Scouts and families of Pack 1601

Well another Pinewood Derby completed! CONGRATS to the winners. February 21st will be the District PWD event and each 1st place person in each Den gets to represent the Pack at the District races. I hope everyone can come out and cheer them on. Times for each rank will be sent out when we get them. Next month is the B&G. This is where we celebrate Scouting's 99th birthday, as well as honor those Webelos IIs who have achieved the Arrow of Light. We also say good bye to the Webelos IIs as they cross over into Boy Scouts. It will be a fun filled event, and we hope everyone can come and join in. Also, on 16 Feb, 5:30 – 8:00 pm, we will be doing Laser Tag at Shadowlands again. This is a fun time for all and everyone is invited.

I did want to thank the Pinewood Derby Committee (Pit Crew) for a phenomenal night of racing:

Kurt Gustafson
Brandon Jones
Dave Haug
Mike Clark
Bill Warne
Tony Hines
Jose Castillo
Sharmi Thahir
John Hawley
Kirk Jester

I would also like to thank all those who helped out the day of the races

Kirk Jester
Cubmaster, Pack 1601

Upcoming Events 2008

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
February 16	Shadowlands Laser Tag
February 20	Blue and Gold Banquet
Beginning of March	Caps Game Family Outing (date not set)
March 17	Pack Meeting 7:00 pm
March	School Conservation

Adult Volunteers Our pack runs on Adult volunteers, so it is critical everyone help out as much as they can. As people rotate in and out of the Pack we have a constant need for new volunteers. Several of the positions have been filled, and we thank folks for stepping up. However, the boys and the Pack still need your help. We have several more important positions to fill:

Some of the remaining positions to fill include:

- Recruiting & Join Scouting Coordinator
- Assistant Cubmaster
- Wolf Den Leader

Contact either Kirk Jester or Keir Froberg if you are interested

Tonight's Pack Meeting Tonight's Pack Meeting will be very exciting for everyone. The Pine Wood Derby Race is the years most anticipated event. **Good luck** to all the Scouts (and their Dads). Below are several pictures from last years PWD.



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2008 and MUST be taken every two (2) years. If you have taken this class in the past it might be time to take it again. Please visit the Capital Area Boy Scouts web site at www.boyscouts-nac.org and look under the Training menu. This online training takes less than a half hour. When you have completed it, please send Mohammad Thahir an email (Pack Training Coordinator) at: thahirm@yahoo.com Thank You!

Den Happenings

Den 1: Wolves This month the Wolves have been working on Achievement 4, Know Your Home and Community, from the Wolf Handbook. Jonathan's Dad, Dana led the den at the den meeting and did a great job! The boys split up into two teams and had a good time playing "Who do you contact if this happens?". It was a fun way for the boys to learn about who to contact in different situations and emergencies.

The scouts also made Emergency Contact Information cards that they could put next to their phone or on the refrigerator to have handy in case of an emergency. Finally, they made a list of things that they could do to help around the house. Using these ideas, they then made a chart to take home to track the things they do to help out over the next month.

At their next den meeting, Kenny's Dad, Ken, will be leading the boys through Achievement 5, Tools for Fixing and Building. The scouts will be learning all about different tools and what they're used for.

The wolves are very excited about the Pinewood Derby and we'd like to wish everyone luck on race day.

Den 3: Bears: The Bears have been practicing whittling with soap at our last meeting, along with some athletic competitions of throwing and arm wrestling. In November we learned how to tie some basic knots.

We plan to go tubing and skiing in the next couple of weeks which will complete one of our requirements. We want to say congratulations to our scouts for achieving their belt loops:

Soccer - William, Callum, Derek, Patrick

Chess - Eli, Callum

Swimming - Danny, Donny, William L, Eli, Callum, Michael, William W, Patrick

Den 5: Webelos 1 Den 5 has been working diligently towards some of their achievements. In our Monday evening meetings, the Webelos have learned about the

Our Next Pack Meeting Our next Pack meeting will be March 17, 7pm, Lees Corner Cafeteria. Hope to see you there.

Popcorn Sales A note from our Popcorn Kernel: Thank you everyone for doing a great job selling popcorn this year. I want to thank each of the Scouts and their parents for selling popcorn and for helping out at the Popcorn booths. Due to slightly over ordering we have popcorn left to sell. We have extra - 15 pack of Butter and Kettle Corn. We are considering one more Popcorn booth. Date and time to be determined. If you would like to purchase popcorn or have any questions please contact Mike at scharschool@yahoo.com or popcorncol@yahoo.com or on his cell phone at 703-964-7436.

Training The Pack's policy is that one parent from each family take the Youth Protection on-line course. *Youth Protection requirements have changed as of June*

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proper use of hand tools, and in the most recent meeting, began construction of a pair of catapults. This activity is will count towards not only their craftsman achievement, but also towards their engineer achievement. The catapults will be completed at the beginning of the next meeting, and the Webelos will then have a short competition using the catapults.

On the home front, the Webelos have been tracking their exercise activity as part of the requirements under the Physical Skills group of achievements.

Den 8: Webelos 2 The Webelos 2 have been very busy earning their activity pins and working towards the Arrow of Light. In addition to our activities, members of the den have visited with Boy Scout troops trying to decide which troop they want to join.

We have gone cold-weather camping with Troop 1530, and launched rockets with Troop 160. We have earned Readyman, Geologist, Scientist and other activities during December and January.

Michael has overcome the many challenges of needing to be away from the den meetings and members while visiting with his father. He took his book with him and continued to earn the pins on his own initiative; He was also able to bring in his coin collection to show the den and help all of the boys learn more about coin collecting.

Tristan is one of the scouts that went camping during the November cold snap. He showed perseverance during the outdoors orienteering in that cold rain. Despite the cold weather and cotton clothes, he was able to be tough enough to get through that night.

Ben C. is a scout who shows the most Positive Attitude in most of the things that he does including cub scouts, sports and playing the violin. He worked towards Readyman, and Braved a boy scout 'monkey' rope-bridge at a troop meeting, He lives the scout law tenet of Cheerful.

Isaac is one of the most Resourceful scouts in the den. He has been self motivated earning his pins, and has stepped-up to take over emailing me with questions directly. Lately he has been busy building robots as a part of the Oak Hill E. S. Robotics team and still be active with us.

Conner is one of the most creative scouts that we have; helping everyone to see things from a different perspective. He auditioned and earned a spot as a part of the cast for Beauty and the Beast with the Alliance Theater acting group. Lately, he has been very active with

his winter swim league (Herndon Commanders); where he has been mastering the 200-meter Individual Medley Relay. And he has still been active with us!

Giuseppe has been working really hard at earning his sports belt loops as well as keeping up with all the other activities like building rockets with Troop 160 and launching them at Haymarket. He has shown Courage and in choosing his own path to walk.

Theo has been actively visiting with Troops both camping and firing off rockets. He is working towards learning the trombone and keeping up with school. He may be one of the only scouts in the den to earn Aquanaut (only two other scouts are close!)

Ben J. has been working very hard on his activities since he just joined us in the fall. In just 4 months he has earned his Webelos badge, and the necessary activity pins to catch up with the rest of the den!

Upcoming Events

Please mark your calendar for the following events.

Blue and Gold Banquet is planned for February 20th. We will be celebrating Scouting's 99th birthday, as well as honoring those Webelos IIs who have achieved the Arrow of Light. We also say good bye to the Webelos IIs as they cross over into Boy Scouts. If you have any questions please contact Claudia Carr cmbcarr@yahoo.com (Blue & Gold Chair), Kirk Jester jesters92@cox.net or Keir Froberg mickbfroberg@yahoo.com.

How the B&G began: In 1933 "Cub Leaders' Round Table" suggested Parent / Cub dinners. Soon thereafter, Pack 1 of Michigan City started a tradition of pot-lucks where the dads were to bring utensils made of wood; whittled by the Cub with his dad. In the 1930s father / son 'bean dinners' and 'Cub family dinners' began to become commonplace. Finally, in 1943 the name "Blue and Gold Banquet" first appeared in BSA literature, and became synonymous with "celebrating the birthday of Scouting."

Today, the Blue and Gold banquet is one of the highlights of the program year. It brings together the Pack's families for a dinner and an evening of fun. The meal is important, but even more important is the warm, congenial atmosphere created as families enjoy each other's company.

Caps Game Family Outing is being planned for the beginning of March. More details to come. If you have any questions contact Larry Connor at lconnor@mapl.net.

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School Conservation is being planned in March. We gather at the school to do weeding, planting, mulching and some general sprucing up of the grounds for our annual school service project. More details to come. If you have any questions contact Tom Legg 703 901 9663.

Update on Scouting for Food 2008: An article about Scouting for food from -The Scouter Digest, Winter Edition, January - March 2009 (shortened for length):

Scouting for Food 2008

Thousands of Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and Venturers went door to door throughout their neighborhoods distributing more than 1 million bags on Saturday November 1. Scouts, siblings, and adult leadership returned to collect bags of donated food for hungry people in their communities to be distributed to local food banks. At press time, 7047 youth were logged in as having participated along with 4716 adults. This represents 312 units with a total of 426,387 pounds of food collected, far less than the council's collective goal of 1 million pounds of food. The National Capital Area Council extends a heart-felt THANK YOU to Safeway,

WUSA 9 and the Capital Area Food Bank for their support of this drive and to everyone that helped out in this year's Scouting for Food drive.

Pack Contact Names

Cubmaster: Kirk Jester

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Committee Chair: Keir Froberg

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703-801-2041

Affiliation: Pack 1601 is chartered by the Lees Corner Elementary School PTA. Our Charter Organization Representative is PTA President, Gary Stumpf. We truly appreciate the support of the Lees Corner PTA and Lees Corner Principal, Clay Sande.

For all this information and more see our Pack Web site
www.pack1601.org.

Any questions or additions please email Kurt Gustafson
at kgustafson2@gmail.com

What has your Den been up to? Show and Tell by sending your pictures and comments for the next Newsletter to Betsy: elizabeth_legg@yahoo.com

