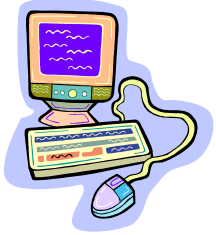


Pack News

PACK WEBSITE



Be sure to check out the website often for Den schedules, present and past newsletters, links of interest and other information. The website is usually up to date and can be relied on to provide current information. The website is located at www.geocities.com/cubscoutpack285. The website will NOT contain personal information. The Pack is looking for someone to author/maintain the website; if you are interested in supporting the Pack with a few hours a MONTH of your time, please see Karl (Cubmaster) at your earliest convenience. He can be reached at 301-668-2235.

PACK ICE SKATING



On Saturday February 16, thanks to the support of the Scouts and their parents with the fundraising this year, the Pack was treated to almost two hours of ice skating at Skate Frederick! The turnout for this event was outstanding with more than 50 scouts and families participating in the fun. Amazingly, with some of the spills that were had that night, nobody left the skating rink with broken bones or cuts – maybe a few bruised knees, elbows thighs...and...egos...but little else! Thanks go out to Suzie Fitzgerald (Webelos II Leader) who set this up for the pack. This is definitely something that we must do ever year! Anyway, enjoy a few photos of from the night



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RECHARTERING



Rechartering is tonight! There will be a nominal *fee of \$40* associated with Rechartering. The fee goes towards registration, insurance, Boys Life, Scout books and much more. *Rechartering is very time sensitive and therefore MUST be completed by TONIGHT!* Cristi Homburg (Tiger Assistant Den Leader) and I will come around to each Den tonight and will solicit the parent/grandparent/guardian of each scout their intent to recharter/renew their commitment with Pack 285 and collect their fee. I sincerely hope that you recharter with Pack 285 because the Pack is making a difference for you AND your son. If you are contemplating whether to stay in Cub Scouts or would like to join a different Pack and would like to discuss further, don't hesitate to contact the Cubmaster and/or your Den Leader.

LONGABERGER BASKET LOTTO



Did you enjoy the Pack Ice Skating activity? Did you enjoy the Blue & Gold? What do these two activities have in common – *they were FREE!* These activities were provide free of charge to the Pack and their families because of the fundraising that was done in the past. Without fundraising, our Pack could not, would not thrive! *It is extremely important that every scout family participate in this activity.* ALL the proceeds are used to purchase belt loops, patches, books, entertainment and much more. So, help support the Pack and give that special Mother a Mother's Day gift! See the website for more information and/or contact Tina Foertschbeck (Tiger Leader).

MARCH ACTIVITIES

- March 9th – Pinewood Super Derby
 - Frederick Towne Mall
 - Check In Time for Pack 285 – 1:00 pm – 1:20pm
 - If you have questions, see Tina Foertschbeck (Tiger Leader) or Cubmaster
 - Lets CHEER for the Scouts of Pack 285

- March 18th Pack Meeting – Flag Retirement Ceremony
 - Theme – Litter to Glitter
 - Webelos II Bridging to Boy Scouts

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- March 18 – 2008 Cub Scout Day Camp Registration
 - Information can be found [here](#) OR on the website
 - Boys in grade 1 (as of September 2008) through Webelos are eligible to attend day camp.
 - The camps open Monday mornings from June 16 through July 28, and camps are held in your local communities
 - The cost is **\$130 'Early Bird'** per boy for a full week of fun, if paid by **April 11, 2008**.
 - Later sign-ups are **\$150 until May 23, 2008**, and **\$175 after May 24, 2008**.
 - New Cub Scouts (any rank) will receive the 'Early Bird' discount of \$130 for day camp, but will need to register using paper registration rather than online
 - More information from Pack 285 Day Camp Coordinator has been given to your Den Leader. Information on the website forthcoming...

• SUMMER ACTIVITIES

JUNE

Annual Friends & Family Campout & Fishing Derby

Start planning for this great summer activity. This activity is lots of fun for the entire family. Reserve your campsite now!

- Where: Cunningham State Park
- When: June 13-15
- More information will be forthcoming...

JULY

We don't have anything – yet – however, here is your chance to help! If you have an idea, please pass it on to your Den Leader or to the Cubmaster.

AUGUST

Annual Rain Gutter Regatta

The date for the regatta is set for AUGUST 23 at Ballenger Creek Park. Although the time isn't set yet, please mark it on your calendar...

DEN NEWS



Tigers This month the Tigers worked on Achievement #4, 'How I Tell It' and learned quite a bit about communications. We also prepared for the Blue & Gold Ceremony.

The Tiger Scouts learned about different types of communications including Morse code, telephone, newspaper, radio, TV, secret coders and sign language. Scout Justin Barish demonstrated sign language as he uses it everyday to communicate with his family. He showed the Scouts how to sign the alphabet, numbers from 1-10, how to count by 10's, and some shortcuts used in sign language. The Scouts were given two pages of sign language ready references so they could become more familiar with signing as communication.

Scout Nathan Swiger's dad, Dan, demonstrated a computer monitoring station with hand held radios. One radio could send and receive and the other was set to receive only. He showed the Tigers the radio signal wave form of several 'channels' on a laptop screen. Mr. Swiger, with the assistance of the Tiger Scouts, demonstrated how radio signals being broadcast could be detected by a scanner. He also showed them that with a listening station, the communications could be monitored. The Tigers took turns transmitting secret messages from the hallway to the other end of the cafeteria. The Tigers at the monitoring station could detect and hear the communication and, in each case, learned the secret message. The Tigers realized that radio communication can be accomplished through walls and over long distances. They also learned that signing as communication was effective not only in close range, but also through glass and across noisy rooms where even shouting could not be understood. It was fun!

The Tigers also played a game 'Tell it Like it Isn't.' We started with a sentence and each Tiger took a turn whispering the sentence to the next Tiger. We quickly learned that once a sentence is whispered in someone's ear and it goes around repeatedly, what comes out at the end is nothing like the original sentence! The Tigers are looking forward to wrapping up Achievement #4 by taking a tour of the Key 103 Radio Station next month for our 'Go and See It.'



During our next meeting this month, the Tigers talked about the Blue and Gold ceremony. We talked about how it is the birthday of the Cub Scouts and that we celebrate it just like we celebrate their birthdays every year. We talked about the theme being Chinese New Year and that we would celebrate with a Chinese dinner. In order to prepare for the dinner, the Tigers created a special Blue and Gold slide for their neckerchief that was painted blue and gold that would be worn for this special occasion. Look for these on our Tigers during the ceremony! The Tigers also created a name plate for themselves to be placed on the dinner table. Each Tiger got to color a wooden name plate and their picture was taken and placed inside. This will become a special memento for the Tigers to keep after we celebrate Blue & Gold. Stop by our table and see them!

During this meeting we also discussed the Basket Bingo fundraiser, summer camp, and rechartering.

Wolves





Bears



Webelos I The Webelos worked on the Scholar achievement pin and Chess belt loop this month. We are proud to say that all of the boys have good grades and show good character in school. Each of the boys was able to tell us how they have helped others with school work. The boys learned about the game of Chess and spent half of the meeting challenging each other to matches. We have never seen them so quiet.



Webelos II Here we are, at the end of the cub scouting road. What a long, strange trip it's been...! This month, Jack, Billy, Clayton, Jaeden and David earn their Arrows of Light. We worked very hard this year so that we could earn all 20 activity pins available to WEBELOS. This month we earned Readyman and Handyman. A special thanks to Joe Macinnes for providing the venue for this requirement. I have provided some pictures of handyman for the newsletter. I would like to say that I am very proud of these boys. Jack, Billy, David and Clayton have been with me since they were Tigers. Jaeden, since he was a wolf. The only thing left for us to do is bridge to boy scouts.

Congratulations boys!!!

Enjoy the pictures of the Den working on their Handyman requirement!

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