

Pack 606 Notes

Issue #2

Fall 2001



Scouts launch air+water powered rockets, constructed from old 2-liter soda bottles, during our pack's early October fall camping weekend at Broad Creek Scout Reservation.

From the Cubmaster

Many thanks to Assistant Cubmaster Ed Horvath for planning the Pack's fall camping trip. Over 70 scouts and parents attended, and many exciting activities took place.

I also wish to thank Clare Grasso for taking on the Webmaster duties. She is currently in the process of updating and improving our pack's web site (http://www.geocities.com/cub_pack_606/).

We were able to recruit 17 new Cub Scouts in September, including 13 new Tiger Scouts. While this was a good number, it was not enough to replace all those who either bridged from Webelos to Boy Scouts last spring or dropped out. At the end of September, the Pack had 97 registered Cub Scouts. Another half dozen boys or their parents expressed an interest at the September meeting, but did not follow through and join. It may be to our advantage to hold a recruiting drive, in May, to reach out to these interested boys.

On the financial front, our treasurer, Doug

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Mark your calendars

-A list of upcoming Pack 606 events

- Nov 15th (Thu), 7:00 -8:00 p.m. "Hometown Heros" Pack meeting ; HES.
- Nov 17th (Sat), 9:00 a.m -1:00 p.m. National Family Volunteer Day, Howard County Parks and Recreation. (By Den arrangement only.)
- Dec 13th (Thu), 7:00 -8:00 p.m. "Works of Art" Pack meeting and holiday Toys-For-Tots collection; HES.
- Dec 28th (Fri). Pack registration deadline for Klondike Derby; see your Den Leader.
- Jan 5th (Sat), 4:50 - 6:20 p.m. Ice skating, Gardens Ice House.
- Jan 12th (Sat). Nat'l Pike District Klondike Derby, Patapsco State Park, *McKeldin Area*. *Note new date and location, rally time TBA.*
- Jan 17th (Thu), 7:00 -8:00 p.m., tentative. "Did You Get My Message" Pack meeting and annual youth protection video viewing, HES.
- Feb 9th (Sat). Pinewood Derby; time and location TBA.
- Feb 16th (Sat). Nat'l Pike District Mall Show; Columbia Mall, time TBA.
- Feb 23rd (Sat), 10:00 a.m. Scouting for Food bag distribution, by den; meeting location TBA.
- Mar 1 (Fri), tentative. Initial deadline for Cub Scout Day Camp registration.
- Mar 2 (Sat), 10:00 a.m. Scouting for Food pickup.
- Mar 10th (Sun), 3:00 - 6:00 p.m. Blue & Gold Banquet and father-son cake bake auction; Laurel American Legion Post hall.
- Apr 21st (Sun). Bridging Ceremony; time and location TBA.
- Apr 27th (Sat). Keep America Beautiful Day neighborhood clean-up project; time and location TBA.
- May 17-19 (Fri-Sun), tentative. Spring camping weekend, Broad Creek Scout reservation.

From the BSA/BAC— Year Of Service Declared

As a result of the tragic events of September 11th, Baltimore Area Council has declared this Scouting year to be a "Year of Service." Several procedural changes and initiatives are being undertaken to accomplish this.

First, the opening ceremony for all unit meetings shall now include recitation of the Cub Scout Motto and the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the singing of "God Bless America."

Second, every Cub Scout and leader is directed to participate in the annual Scouting for Food drive, to be held the last weekend in February and the first weekend in March, 2002. The goal is to have every neighborhood in the entire Council's territory covered, and to achieve the largest total collection BAC has ever had.

Third, every unit is directed to adopt a neighborhood clean-up project on Keep America Beautiful Day, which is April 27, 2002. This is to be an outward sign to our friends and communities that we care deeply about the neighborhoods we live in.

Fourth, every unit will adopt a meaningful service project for their chartered organization, which in our case is HES. In this last case, we will need to receive some input from either the HES PTA or the school administration as to what they might feel is appropriate.

The overall goal is to ensure that every Cub Scout and leader in the area helps makes a statement that we are committed to serving others above ourself. According to John Maxwell, BAC Scout Executive, "In losing our self in others service we will bring quiet but tremendous recognition to the Scouting movement and the commitment of each person involved in Scouting."

In addition to the annual Scouting for Food Drive, the proceeds of which we deliver to Laurel's Elizabeth House, Pack 606 has annually participated in Christmas toy collections. We recently added voluntary membership food item collections to **each** pack meeting this year, also in support of Elizabeth House. However, we will now participate in the neighborhood clean-up day and service project in support of our school, as well.

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Scheckelhoff, is working to put together a more detailed budget than the Pack has had had in the past. One thing I am concerned about is that some of our leaders and/or parents are indirectly subsidizing the Pack. For example, Den Leaders and parents may purchase most of the refreshment items for pack meetings, and then never bother to submit receipts for reimbursement. While such generosity is appreciated, I am concerned that our pack's current good finances are partly a result of such generosity, and not entirely due to sufficient cash flow from dues and additional activity fees.

Once a more rigorous budget is prepared, the leadership committee will need to consider whether the \$40 annual registration fee is sufficient. (Also bear in mind that about a third of each \$40 fee is forwarded to BAC.) I am of the understanding that the Pack's fee has not increased in several years, and I would not be surprised if we found it advisable to increase the 2002 rechartering fee to \$45.

-David Arday, Cubmaster

Calling All Volunteers!

Four requests this time. We are looking for help with both the annual Pinewood Derby and Blue & Gold banquet. There are many individual tasks for each of these big events. We will be forming the planning committees in early December. Contact your Den Leader or the Cubmaster ASAP if you can help in any way.

We also need a volunteer to coordinate the Pack's 2002 NPD Day Camp registration and participation. Starting in February, this involves intermittent work over several months. Registration information and funds must be collected, organized, and forwarded. Information about the camp, received from District, must also be disseminated to parents of participating scouts. If you are interested in acting as the Pack's Day Camp Coordinator, please contact the Cubmaster.

And we need a volunteer to help plan and coordinate our service project for HES. Please contact the Cubmaster, if interested in helping.