

CUB SCOUT PARENT

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“Let’s give every child the opportunity to change their life through Scouting.”

Welcome to Scouting,
During 2011, the Greater St. Louis Area Council is celebrating its centennial—an impressive 100 years in Scouting.

Today, Scouting offers young people opportunities to achieve their full potential. The Boy Scouts of America is ever changing. As a contemporary organization, it addresses and meets the needs of today’s youth.



The Cub Scout program is like an extension of your family: It follows your values, focuses on the overall care and well-being of your child, and is always there for you. In the Boy Scout program, merit badges address current interests—nutritional lifestyle and fitness programs, science and technology initiatives and a hands-on robotics program. Through our Venturing and Exploring programs, co-ed high school groups experience relevant initiatives in career development; personal fitness and health; science and math; and high adventure. Through these programs, Scouting actively contributes to workforce development and the economic vitality of our community.

Scouting has always been a tremendous resource for mentoring youth. Our Council is always looking for good, strong mentors—leaders who can influence and inspire our children and help them achieve their goals. It is an all-important role—working with and shaping future leaders. Help change your child’s life, your life and the lives of others.

Best wishes,

Ron Green
Scout Executive/CEO

An investment of your time in Scouting will have a lifelong impact on your family, visit: www.ScoutParents.org

Why Join Cub Scouts?

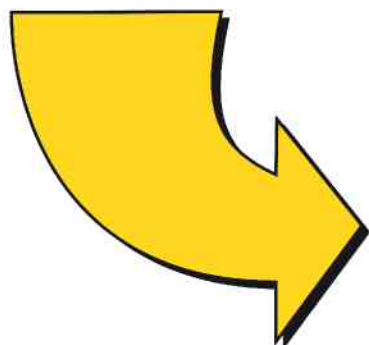
- Your time is valuable. Today's families, more than ever, struggle to find time to spend together. Cub Scouting helps to support your family by providing ready-made opportunities for you and your son to do things together.
- Your son needs to belong to a group of boys his own age. Through this sense of belonging he builds his self-esteem and learns to get along with others. As a parent, you want to be assured the groups your boy joins will teach values consistent with good citizenship, character development, and physical fitness. Boy Scouts of America has been weaving these lifetime values into fun and educational activities since 1910.
- In a society where your son is taught that winning is everything, Cub Scouting teaches him to "Do Your Best" and to be helpful to others.
- Scouting teaches family values and works to strengthen your relationship with your son. Scouting activities can bring added value to the time you already have with your son.

But we know that boys do not join Cub Scouting just to get their character built. Boys join because it is fun.

Scouting is fun
with a purpose!



How Cub Scouting Works



One unique thing about Cub Scouting is that you, as his family, join in on the program with your son, and you will help him along the way. The family is the basis of Cub Scouting. Cub Scouts exist to support your family and help enrich your family time together. Boys use a different handbook at each grade level with suggested activities that are age-appropriate for their developmental level. As your boy advances through these books by working on activities with you, he will earn badges and other recognition to be proudly worn on his uniform. Your son's success in Cub Scouting depends on you!

The Cub Scout program takes place at two levels. Your son will be a part of a *den*; a small group of boys in the same grade level, who meet at least twice a month. All dens, from grades one through five, make up the *pack*. Once a month, all dens and their families, are together at the pack meeting.

Pack Meetings

The Cub Scout pack is made up of all the dens, which meet monthly at the pack meeting, led by the Cubmaster. At this meeting boys show off newly learned skills. They participate in games, skits, songs and are recognized for the badges they have earned. The pack meeting is a family affair. Parents and siblings can see the achievements of their Cub Scout.

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Dens

The Tiger Cub den (Grade 1)

Parents are most involved at the Tiger Cub level. The boy and his parent or guardian join the den and attend all meetings and activities together.



The den is made up of three to eight parent-son teams. Each den has a Tiger Cub den leader (one of the parents) who helps coordinate the meetings. The parent-son teams take turns hosting the activities and plan the meetings with the Tiger Cub den leader. The den has three meetings a month: one is a den meeting focused on advancement; one "Go See It" activity (the den, as a group visits a community place of interest); and the monthly pack meeting.

The Wolf (Grade 2) and Bear (Grade 3) Cub Scout dens

Parents are vital to Cub Scout dens in both helping the den leader and home support. Scouts are beginning to be more independent. Not every boy will need a parent at each meeting. The den consists of four to eight boys, a den leader and assistant den leader (parents of some of the boys), and often a den chief (a Boy Scout who helps the den leader). They meet at least twice monthly at a regularly scheduled time and place, and attend the monthly pack meeting with their families.



Webelos Scout den (Grades 4 and 5)

The Webelos den is similar to Wolf and Bear Cub Scout dens. However, more emphasis is placed on the boys taking leadership roles as they prepare to become Boy Scouts.



How You can Help

The most important help you can provide your son is to work with him on his Cub Scouting activities. His handbook is full of age-appropriate activities you will enjoy doing together at home. When he completes an activity or project, it is your responsibility to sign his book to verify he has done his best. It is important for you to attend the monthly pack meeting with him to celebrate his achievements.

Your role as a parent is the secret of success to the Cub Scouting program!

The den and the pack rely on parent participation to run a successful program. Cub Scouting operates through volunteer leadership. Consider volunteering as a member of the pack's leadership or as a parent helper. Volunteer leaders are an example of Scouting's principle of service to others. By volunteering in Scouting, you are giving your son the gift of your time. What could be more valuable? You will have an opportunity to be a positive influence in his and his friends' lives. Here are some of the ways you could volunteer:

Den Leader - Leads the den meetings. Attends the monthly pack meeting and committee meeting.

Cubmaster - Helps plan and carry out the pack program with the assistance of the pack committee. Presides over the monthly pack meeting. The Cubmaster attends the monthly committee meeting.



Spending Time With Your Child:

The Secret of Success!

Come join the fun of Cub Scouting as a family. You'll build new friendships as you work with the parents in your son's den. The example you set as a volunteer instills important values that help your son and others grow to be good citizens.

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The Pack Committee

Pack committee members perform administrative functions of the pack.

Committee Chairman - Presides over all pack committee meetings. Helps recruit volunteer leaders and attends the monthly pack meeting.

Advancement Chairman - Maintains advancement records for the pack. Orders all badges and awards. Attends the monthly pack meeting and committee meeting.

Secretary/Treasurer - Keeps all records for the pack, including pack bank account, financial records, etc. Attends the monthly pack meeting and pack committee meeting.

Pack Trainer - Coordinates training for adults. Promotes basic leader training and roundtable meeting attendance. Attends the monthly pack meeting and committee meeting.

Parent Helpers

Each year the pack will undertake several short-term projects. Parents and other volunteers are needed for activities such as pack fund-raisers (Popcorn Sale), Scouting for Food, Pack Good Turn, Pinewood Derby, Blue and Gold Banquet, Friends of Scouting, Pack Graduation, and Day Camp. These jobs are of short duration and enable all families to assist with important pack responsibilities.

Every leader
must be trained.
Continue your
orientation and
training by visiting:

www.myscouting.org



Cub Scout Advancement

The Cub Scout advancement program is an excellent way for you to spend quality time with your son. The responsibility of a boy earning awards in Cub Scouting lies with the family. Some advancement requirements are done at den meetings but most are completed at home. For each special skill or activity your son completes, you will sign off on those requirements needed to earn his next award. As a result, the awards he earns increase his knowledge, skills, self-esteem and confidence. You can be a part of it by actively participating in the Cub Scout program with him.

Paying for Fun with Popcorn

Scouting conducts the Popcorn Sale each October. Entire packs, individual dens, or even individual Scouts may sell. Scouts can earn awesome prizes, a **camp scholarship**, post-high school scholarships and other great incentives!

Ask your Cubmaster or den leader when your Popcorn Kickoff will be. The sale is simple and very profitable, which makes paying for Scouting easy. We're excited for your participation in our popcorn fundraiser! **Please call (314) 361-0600 STL, (573) 335-3346 Cape Girardeau, (618) 942-4863 So. IL for more information.**

Besides having fun
and learning cool
stuff, I have made
friends in my pack!



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Pack activities

Pinewood Derby - Scouts participate in the thrill of model car racing! The Pinewood Derby is a parent/son project in which they build a race car from a block of wood. Boys race their cars against one another in the pack.

Blue and Gold Banquet - This is Cub Scouting's birthday party intended for all pack members and their families.

Cub Scout Camping - The Council's camping department offers several overnight experiences for the Scout and parent or guardian. Dad & Lad and Mom & Me are two such events. In addition, overnight summer camping for Webelos is held three days (Webelos mini-camp) and six days (Webelos camp).

Scouting for Food - The annual food drive is held in November to benefit local food banks as part of our "Good Turn" to help the hungry. Last year over 2 Million cans were collected!

Field Trips and Special Outings - These are great ways to learn more about the people and places in your community.

Taste of Scouting - This event held at Beaumont Scout Reservation occurs each October and is for new Scouts. More than fifteen activities are offered including bb guns, archery and a tour of Mud Cave.

Fall Fright Fest - With a Halloween theme, more than 1,000 Cubs and parents will experience spooky encounters, games and snacks. This annual event is held at Beaumont Scout Reservation in mid-October. Sign up with your pack.

How Much Does Scouting Cost?

\$15 Registration fee

Annual fee for youth and leaders. (The leader's fee includes a subscription to *Scouting* magazine)

\$12 - Boys' Life Magazine

Optional, but highly recommended.

Pack Dues — The amount varies by pack, depending on money-earning projects conducted by the pack to operate its programs.

Uniform — The uniform's cost vary by program for both youth and adults. See www.scoutstuff.org for details and current prices. Uniforms may also be purchased at your local Scout Shop.

Books — Youth handbooks include: *Tiger Cub Handbook*, *Wolf Handbook*, *Bear Handbook*, and *Webelos Handbook*. Adult leaders use the *Den & Pack Meeting Resource Guide*, *Cub Scout Leader Book*, *Webelos' Leader Guide* and *Cub Scout Leader How-to Book*. See www.scoutstuff.org or your local Scout Shop for prices and a variety of other resources.

No boy will be refused membership due to financial concerns. every Scout is afforded the opportunity to earn his own way by participating in the council-wide popcorn sale.



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What does scouting cost?

Tiger & Cub Scout Checklist:

_____	Shirt (Short Sleeve)	\$22.99
_____	Switchback (Pants)	\$24.99
_____	Cub Scout Belt	\$ 7.99 - \$9.99

Hats:

_____	Tiger Cap	\$12.99
_____	Wolf Cap	\$12.99
_____	Bear Cap	\$12.99
_____	Webelos Cap	\$12.99

Neckerchiefs:

_____	Tiger	\$ 5.99
_____	Wolf	\$ 5.99
_____	Bear	\$ 5.99
_____	Webelos	\$ 6.99

Insignia:

_____	Council Shoulder Patch	\$3.25
_____	Webelos Colors	\$ 4.49
_____	Unit Numeral(s)	\$ 1.19
_____	Den Numeral	\$ 1.49

Neckerchief Slides:

_____	Tiger Cub	\$ 3.99
_____	Wolf	\$ 3.99
_____	Bear	\$ 3.99
_____	Webelos	\$ 3.99

Handbooks:

_____	Tiger	\$ 6.99
_____	Wolf	\$ 8.99
_____	Bear	\$ 8.99
_____	Webelos	\$ 8.99

TOTAL:

Prices as of June 1, 2011. Subject to change.



My pack number is: _____

my den number is: _____

My den leader's name is: _____

My den leader's phone number is: _____

My den meets on (day): _____

My den meets at (time & place): _____

My Cubmaster's name is: _____

My Cubmaster's phone number is: _____

My pack meets on (day): _____

My pack meets at (time & place): _____



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
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The Greater St. Louis Area Council
is a United Way agency.

www.stlbsa.org