



THE SETAUKET SPY

Benjamin Tallmadge District
Cub Roundtable News Letter



Volume 3 Number 6

January 2009 Cub Scout Roundtable

February 2009 Cub Scout Theme

AMERICAN ABC'S

Webelos: Scholar & Engineer

Tigers: Achievement Number 4

For updated info on District Events, please visit:

<http://btdistrict.org>

MONTHLY THEME INFORMATION FOCUS

Take a personalized tour of the USA by the letters: Austin, Baton Rouge and Cambridge to Xenia, York and Zion. Our country contains an endless variety of scenic and historic places. What is special about these places? This month we'll find out by visiting historic places, theme parks, museums, and zoos. Choose a city or an historical site to highlight. Invite a guest speaker who can share something special about the places your Cub Scouts have picked to discover. Use maps or collect tourist brochures to learn more about places to visit. Your local historical society or public library is a great place to get started. Celebrate your blue and gold banquet with local foods from your choices of the ABCs and decorate to highlight your choice. This would be a good month to work on the Citizenship belt loop or pin or the Geography belt loop or pin.

The Benjamin Tallmadge District has some great places to use for this theme: Aquebogue to Yaphank. And Historical?? There are several Historical Societies you can turn to. The Suffolk County Historical Society has its home base in Riverehead, at 300 West Main Street.

CORE VALUES **CUB SCOUT ROUNDTABLE** **LEADERS' GUIDE**

Some of the purposes of Cub Scouting developed through this month's theme are:

- Fun and Adventure** - Boys will enjoy the trip through history and across the nation as they discover what it has to offer.

- Preparation for Boy Scouts** - Boys will learn to honor America as all Boy Scouts should.
- Family Understanding.** Family relations will be strengthened as family members share their experiences of places they have been.

The core value highlighted this month is:

- Citizenship.** Through learning about places and people in America, the boys will come to understand what being a citizen entails and develop pride in America. Can you think of others??? Hint – look in your Cub Scout Program Helps. It lists different ones!!



SPECIAL FOCUS: **WEBELOS TO SCOUT** **TRANSITION**

Your plans for the Blue & Gold Banquet are set. Food and entertainment has been arranged, your Advancement Chair is busy putting arrows and belt loops together for the presentation. Families are on-board. Your Webelos Leader and group will be missed since that den is graduating. What are they graduating into and why is it important that the Pack see this Graduation?

It should be the aim of every Den Leader to see their Cub Scouts go forward into a Boy Scout Troop. *"It is the goal of each Webelos den leader to graduate every Webelos Scout into a troop. This is accomplished with help from other pack and troop leaders."* In Boy Scout Roundtable sessions, Troops are encouraged to outreach to the area Packs. But it is just as important for the Cub Pack to reach out to the "Big Boys."

Ceremonies as creative as they come, mark the literal passage of a Cub Scout to a Boy Scout Troop. The title usually reflects the BRIDGING of one generation to another. But this ceremony is preceded by

months of preparation including Webelos Leader Training.

Why a Webelos-to-Scout Plan?

The Webelos-to-Scout plan is a cooperative effort between the pack and troop that results in increased transition of Webelos Scouts to Boy Scouting. It gives Webelos Scouts and their families an awareness of the troop program, troop leadership, advancement, and an appreciation of troop organization and relationships. Studies have shown that when the plan is used, a high percentage of Webelos Scouts move into the troop easily and eagerly.

Leaders in the Webelos-to-Scout Plan

Each of the leaders in the plan has an important role to play to attract Webelos Scouts into the troop. Key leaders in the plan are the

- Webelos Den Leader & Assistants
- Webelos Den Chief
- Cubmaster & Assistants
- Scoutmaster & Assistants
- Webelos to Scout Transition Committee Person
- Unit Commissioners
- Council Membership Committee

How the Webelos-to-Scout Plan Helps Boys

The Webelos Scouting introduces the Webelos Scout to Boy Scout skills and future advancement experiences. He sees boy leadership at work in the troop and senses his own potential as a junior leader. He becomes more confident and enthusiastic about the patrol method, district Camporee, summer camp, and perhaps even a national Jamboree. In short, the boy's desire for troop membership is the result of this gradual change in appetite for troop-oriented activities.

How the Webelos-to-Scout Plan Helps Leaders

For the troop leader, it means more boys-boys already trained in the Boy Scout joining requirements, and boys whose families have been supporting them in pack activities.

For the Webelos den leader, it means fulfillment. It means direct help in advancement and on Webelos overnights, as well as a pleasant association with the Boy Scout troop. The time spent with a boy is productive as seen in the boy's desire to continue in Scouting. Hopefully, it also means a transition to a troop committee position or maybe an Assistant Scoutmaster position. Your Webelos Scouts will be thrilled to see you as part of the team on the Troop side as well.

To the Cubmaster it means assurance of stable Webelos dens, more graduations, better ceremonies, easy access to den chiefs, and pack meetings that feature lively and participating Webelos dens and Boy Scout troop guests.

Putting the Webelos-to-Scout Plan to Work

With the help of the unit commissioner, make a list of nearby troops with leaders' names, addresses, and phone numbers. The unit commissioner can help bring together the Webelos den leader, Cubmaster, and Scoutmaster for their first meeting. If a commissioner is not available, either the Cubmaster, Webelos den leader or other Pack committee member will need to take the initiative to get things going.

The purpose of this first meeting is to get acquainted, define responsibilities in the Webelos-to-Scout plan, discuss leadership needs, and make plans to recruit the necessary leaders. It is also a time to talk about opportunities for joint Webelos den-troop activities.

Develop a plan for regular communication between key leaders in the Webelos-to-Scout plan, to keep everyone informed of graduations, joint activities, needs, and opportunities.

Set up a tentative calendar of joint Webelos den-troop activities for fifth grade Webelos Scouts. Hold the Webelos annual program planning meeting, incorporating the joint activities in the annual plan.

It is a curious fact that **studies show that a boy has to be asked 6 times to join before he feels invited.** It is equally important to speak to their parents about the VALUES of Scouting. Scouting teaches leadership skills, problem solving skills, communication skills, ethical decision-making and more. Don't miss the opportunity of including Webelos Scouts' parents to insure that they are as excited about the possibilities of joining a Boy Scout Troop as their sons are. Contact Benjamin Tallmadge District Leadership for any questions or clarification to this article.

THE UNIFORM: LINK FROM WEBELOS TO BOY SCOUTING

In a sea of blue shirts, there is the chance that you will see a khaki-tan colored shirt and green pants. This is probably due to the fact that the wearer is looking forward to graduating into a Boy Scout Troop.

Webelos Cub Scouts are still a part of a Cub Scout Pack and may be broken up into separate Dens for each year of the two-year "exposure period". They currently may also may wear the Boy Scout (khaki-tan) uniform with the Webelos Cub Scout neckerchiefs, insignia and blue shoulder loops to distinguish themselves from the rest of the boys in the Pack as well as the boys in the Troop(s) they are working with in accomplishing their successful transition. Webelos Dens can currently use the Boy

Scout Patrol medallions and call themselves the "Eagle Den", for instance, instead of "Den 5" or "Den 7".

Part of the Webelos Scout effort is to earn their Arrow of Light. This important award (The Highest Award in Cub Scouting) is reflected in a special patch that sits on the Boy Scout Uniform under the left shirt pocket. This award follows him into adulthood as he wears a square knot patch of green and red on a tan background.

Wearing the Uniform

In general, every Cub Scout should wear his uniform to all Cub Scouting activities, including den and pack meetings, unit outings, and any activities done with members of the den or pack. When playing sports, going to camp, or participating in other physical activities, Cub Scouts can wear the alternate Pack Tee Shirt. Here are some tips for wearing the uniform:

- ☑ DO keep the uniform clean and in good repair. The official uniform is a sturdy, machine-washable garment that will last for years with proper care.
- ☑ DO be sure to wear the complete uniform. A Cub Scout wearing a uniform with parts missing is not in uniform.
- ☑ DO NOT wear non-BSA badges, awards, or insignia on the Cub Scout uniform or make any alterations to the uniform or insignia.
- ☑ DO NOT mix uniform parts with non-uniform clothing, such as wearing a uniform cap with other clothing or wearing the uniform shirt without the neckerchief. The uniform should be treated as a unit—worn in its entirety, or not at all.

Any time you are uncertain about proper uniform wear, ask the den leader for guidance. Plan on a Uniform Inspection Pack Night prior to your Blue and Gold Banquet. Take the opportunity of a group shot and then distribute the photo at your Blue and Gold Banquet. Need an inspection sheet? Here's a link to the official version: <http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/34282.pdf>

ADULT RECOGNITION: SQUARE KNOTS FOR YOUR UNIFORM

I don't usually do this but I got really excited about a recent article in the Scouting Magazine for January/February 2009. It was entitled "Know your Knots" and it was all about the different knots available for adults in recognition for the important work Leaders do for their Cub Scouts. I am highlighting the Cub ones here:

- ☑ **Arrow of Light** (Red & Green on Tan) for

earning the Arrow of Light as a Cub Scout.

- ☑ **Religious Emblem** (Silver on Purple for youth) can be worn if earned as a youth.
- ☑ **Tiger Cub Den Leader Award** (Orange and Brown on Yellow) awarded to those who completed training and serving as a Tiger Cub den leader for a year.
- ☑ **Cub Scout Den Leader Award** (Yellow on Navy Blue) has similar training and serving for a year.
- ☑ **Webelos Den Leader Award** (Yellow on Yellow) the same.
- ☑ **Cub Scouter Award** (Light Blue and Yellow on Navy Blue) is for 2 years in a pack and appropriate training.
- ☑ **Cubmaster Award** (Blue on Yellow) is for serving as assistant and then Cubmaster for a year each and complete the training.
- ☑ **Pack Trainer Award** (Navy Blue/Yellow Braid on Yellow with Navy Blue border) is for your trainer to complete two years of service and fulfilling other responsibilities.

TIGERS

Achievement 4 Family Activity: How I Tell It

This requirement is about Communication. Getting our Tigers to talk with others and be positive in what they say. They may learn how to carry on conversations and a little about mass communication.

Tigers can learn there are many modes of communication – when we talk, write, dance, sing or draw pictures. We communicate too with our faces when we frown or smile and our bodies with how we stand or move our arms.

Our uniforms and beads (on our Tiger totems) and patches communicate information about who we are and what we like to do.

Achievement 4 Family Activity

4F - At a family meal, have each family member take turns telling the others one thing that happened to him or her that day. Remember to practice being a good listener while you wait for your turn to talk.

Mealtime conversations should be kept positive. Sharing your day's activities could become a regular family activity. Try to do this at a meal when everyone is there. Sharing amongst family members is always good so try to keep doing it even if only a few members are present.

Achievement 4 Den Activity

4D - Play "Tell It Like It Isn't"

This is the old "Whistling Down the Alley" game where the boys line up and pass a secret along. By the time it gets to the end, it usually is different than the start. *The more boys the more fun.*

The Adults should join in, too, to make the line longer.

After the game discuss how things your Tiger may hear may not always be accurate. That messages change as they are passed from person to person. Discuss, too, how unkind words (gossip) can do harm and is often untrue. Cubs should only try and say things that are true. **Honesty** is a core value of Cub Scouting.

Achievement 4 Go and See It

4G - Visit a television station, radio station, or newspaper office. Find out how people there communicate with others.

Our local newspaper encourages tours. I confirmed with one of the District's Unit Commissioners that the *North Sun Newspapers* welcomes dens to come and visit them. Don't limit it to Newspapers. Kids can go see your High School Radio Station or even Stony Brook University's WUSB 90.1FM.

WEBELOS

SCHOLAR

Den Activities

Circle Ten Council

- Let the boys talk about what's going on in school. Don't try to change any of their ideas, but guide the discussion in such a way that they will see the value of an education.
- Learn about the history of education, how schools developed in America.
- Prepare a chart of the school system and explain and discuss with boys.
- Discuss & do a den service project for the school.
- Have a panel of parents with various jobs explain their schooling and training for these jobs.
- Invite an educator to talk with the den about some of the scholar requirements.
- As a den, talk about good study habits.
- Tour a local high school or visit a local college campus.
- Play a Newspaper Search game looking for articles about education.
- Encourage boys to find out all they can about schools in your community ... the different types and how they work... the problems and opportunities. Discuss these at a den meeting.
- Have the boys make a daily time schedule and use it to determine if they are making the best use of their time.

Careers in Education

Circle Ten Council

Have each boy choose one career in education and think of what may be involved in that career. Have them make a collage of pictures that relate his ideas about that career. You may be surprised at a Webe-los Scout's perception of some of these jobs. When done, discuss them and clarify any misconceptions.

Seven Ways to Improve Grades

Circle Ten Council

Learn to Listen - Look at the speaker, concentrate on his words, take notes, participate in discussions.

Develop Good Study Habits - Avoid distractions, have supplies handy, do homework at the same time each day, make a list, do the things you hate first, schedule a short break if needed.

Use the Right Reading Technique - learn to skim by glancing through whole paragraphs at a time; use slower, more careful reading when you must understand and remember.

Improve Your Vocabulary - look up words you don't know, write them down, use the word(s) in your next conversation.

Sharpen Your Writing Skills - brainstorm for ideas, organize your thoughts, keep sentences short, use neat handwriting, double check spelling and punctuation.

Learn How to Take Tests - study well ahead of time (don't cram), relax, then face the test; read the directions carefully; answers questions you know for sure, pace yourself, work steadily; go back and fill in missing answers as best you can; double check your work for careless errors and omissions.

Develop a Positive Attitude - you are what you think you are - use positive thinking!

Scout Sabbath (February 7) &
Scout Sunday (February 8)
is coming....

How are you going to celebrate it this year??

- * Will you meet your Cub Scouts in a local House of Worship for Services?
- * Will you give them a patch for the effort?

The Catholic Committee on Scouting has patches at reasonable costs. We can help you plan for a great experience. Please email Sylvia Murdolo at encourager@optonline.net.

ENGINEER

IDEAS FOR DEN ACTIVITIES

- Learn to use a level.
- Make a pulley and use it correctly.
- Visit a construction site and see the plans which are being followed .
- Make catapults and demonstrate them at Pack meeting.
- Make a home made flashlight.
- Learn electricity safety.
- Invite an architect to come and visit. Have the architect show and explain a floor plan of a house.
- Discuss property lines. Have a surveyor show how property lines are determined and measured.
- Discuss different types of engineers. If one can visit your den, let the engineer describe briefly what he does.

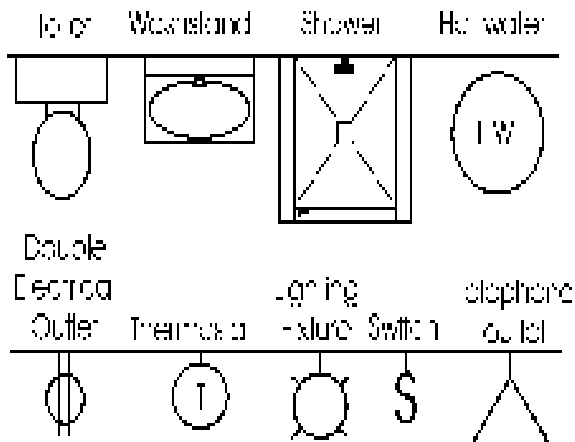
WATER TURBINE

Materials: Pencil, paper plate with ridges, water faucet and sink

With the pencil, poke a hole in the center of the paper plate. Insert the pencil through the hole in the plate, wiggling the pencil back and forth so the hole is loose enough that the plate turns easily on the pencil. Turn on the tap water to produce a steady stream of water. Hold the pencil so that one edge of the paper plate touches the water. The plate will spin. If you turn the faucet higher the plate will spin faster. What did you do? You have just created a primitive waterwheel or water turbine.

BLUEPRINT SYMBOLS.

Can be used in floor plans drawn for requirement 8 of the Webelos Engineer activity badge. Make a game of learning them by putting each one on a 3" x 5" card and using them as flash cards.



SURVEY PLANS

- ☑ The U.S. Department of the Interior publishes geological surveys of the whole country. Quad-angle maps can be purchased. Check out your book stores, or local map stores.
- ☑ Look at a map which includes your town and try to find your house. What is the exact longitude and latitude of your home.
- ☑ Find your meeting place, nearby lakes, and other points of interest.

I got this info at:

<http://wtsmith.com/rt/webactbadge/engineer.html>

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

January, 2009

- 8: Roundtable
- 17: New Leader Essentials (9:30am)

February, 2009

- 5: Commissioners Meeting
- 7: Scout Sabbath
- 8: Scout Sunday
- 12: Roundtable
- 22: JCOS Awards Breakfast at Temple Beth Chai

March, 2009

- 7: SCOUTING FOR FOOD Kickoff
- 5: Commissioners Meeting
- 12: Roundtable
- 20: SCOUTING FOR FOOD bags collected
- 26: Council Fellowship Dinner

April, 2009

- 2: Commissioners Meeting
- 4: BALOO Training
- 4: Catholic Cub Fun & Faith Day
- 9: Roundtable
- 17-19: JCOS Annual Conclave at BHSC
- 25: CUB for CUB Event

May, 2009

- 2: District Dance
- 7: Commissioners Meeting
- 9: Work Day at Baiting Hollow Scout Camp
- 14: Roundtable
- 22-25: Family Camp Weekend
- 23: Memorial Day Flag Placement
- 30: Memorial Day Flag Pick UP

June, 2009

- 4: Commissioners Meeting
- 6: Flag Retirement Ceremony
- 11: Roundtable

July, 2009

Summer events are at *Baiting Hollow Scout Camp*

- 2-5: Family Camp
- 11-12: Cub-Parent Weekend
- 18-19: Cub-Parent Weekend
- 25-26: Cub-Parent Weekend

August, 2009

- 1-2: Cub-Parent Weekend
- 8-9: Cub-Parent Weekend
- 13: Roundtable

GATHERING ACTIVITIES



**N
S
y
Corner**

January Jinks

Source: <http://www.brownielocks.com>

National Clean Up
Your Computer
Month

Universal Letter
Writing Week,
January 8-14

Organize Your Home
Day, January 12

National Volunteer
Blood Donor Month

No Name Calling
Week, January 21-25

National Compliment
Day, January 24