

Welcome to Cub Scout Pack 854

Pack 854 has been going since 1993 or before. I started as a Den Leader in 1994 and became Cubmaster that year and I had a den to lead also. We have grown stronger through the years, even with the continual change in boys and families. I truly believe in the value of the Scouting program, including Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts.

Cub Scouts is a family based organization. It only works well with FAMILY PARTICIPATION. All family members, i.e.: grandparents, aunts and uncles etc. are welcome and encouraged to help with: advancement, projects, activities, recognition of achievements and awards. Pack meetings, events and functions are for the whole family, while den meetings are for the boys. While siblings are welcome at the church during den meetings they need to be kept from involvement with the den meetings most of the time. Parents and family members are always needed to help with the many leadership needs for our young men.

Our goals for our pack is to build CHARACTER in these young men as they grow, learn and develop while having FUN teaching time honored values like:

CITIZENSHIP

COMPASSION

COOPERATION

COURAGE

FAITH

HEALTH AND FITNESS

HONESTY

PERSEVERANCE

SPORTSMANSHIP

RESOURCEFULNESS

RESPECT

RESPONSIBILITY

Character is formed in children at 5 or 6 years in age to about 12 years of age (as an average). This is a very short period in our children's lives for the development of these many fundamental traits of character. Before 5 or 6 children learn basic skills and after 12 or so the peer influences make teaching these values much harder. We use family values and the combined family's strengths to make the PACK grow and succeed. The large pack family (the collected group of family members and other volunteers)

involvement and help is very important for the success of the program. We need all parents and families to help with the running, and implementing of events such as pack meetings, dinners, races and the many other activities that the pack will do during the year.

All pack leadership is provided by volunteers, they come from our families and community.

General Overview of Cub-scouting

NATIONAL BSA -Registration fees go to national (national registration, Boys Life magazine, and national BSA insurance) none of these monies stay in the area.

State --- Council (our council is Westark Area Council based in Fort Smith)

District ---RAZORBACK District based in Springdale

Units --- (Packs) we are Pack 854. We have a Pack committee made up of parents, family, and community members that run our unit while keeping with BSA policies. Training is available online and locally to help us with running our unit.

Dens --- Made up of boys the same age or grade in school.

Each den must have two leaders registered for every 6 -8 boys and a third if the den is larger. Two leadership deep is REQUIRED for all scout functions; this can include a non- registered family member.

Pack Dens

Tigers ---1st grade. The den is made up of boys with a registered adult partner. Adults participate in the program in all activities, crafts, etc. with the boys. This group also has field trips (Go See It) as part of their required agenda for advancement.

Wolves---2nd grade. Boys start working on some things individually and as a group with leaders and family help.

Bears---3rd grade. Boys are learning to do things on their own and as a group with help.

Webelos---4th and 5th grades. This is a 2 year program that prepares the boys for Boy Scouts, where the boys will start planning and achieving their advancement more on their own.

Uniforms (Pack 854 official policy)

Official scout shirt, scarf (colored per level) and belt are required. Hat and pants, (or shorts) are optional. We have "Class B" (or activity) tee shirts that are pack provided at this time.

Registration

BSA registration fees go to the national program and are due each year before Dec. We have had a fund raiser each year for the boys to earn their registration before they are due. This fund raiser also helps with many other needs of the pack, like the Class B tee shirts.

Dues

This money stays in the pack to cover awards, patches, crafts, derby (cars, boats and rockets), and other pack functions. We feel that the boys should learn to earn their way (and their family's way for all functions if possible). We try to provide everything for the whole family to participate in all pack functions, with no additional cost for the family. We spend on average \$125-\$200 per boy each year for all the various things we do. For 2009 the dues are still \$75.00 for the year. The boys can earn their dues by selling Trails End Popcorn each year in Oct. by selling \$400 in popcorn. Amounts less than \$400 are prorated.

Pack Activities

The pack committee chooses many activities for the pack each year. Some common ones that we try to do each year are: bowling, put-put golf, skating, bike rides, short hikes, movies, etc. We have district events like Cub Adventure (a themed district wide camp out each fall), Scouting for Food (a national community service project), Scout Sunday, summer Day Camp, etc. We try to have 1 or 2 pack family campouts each year (the whole family is invited to these) at Devils Den or another location nearby. We have 2 or 3 derby races each year, (Pinewood derby- the boys make a car from a block of wood, 4 nails and 4 tires), (Space Derby- a rubber band powered rocket), and Rain-gutter Regatta, these come in kits we buy from National. We have a Blue and Gold Banquet every Feb. to celebrate the birthday of Cub Scouting and many dinners to go with our Pack Meetings thru the year. Other activities are decided on by the pack committee as needed.

Feel free to call or e-mail me at any time with any questions.

Thank You,

Ron Luttrell

479-236-6563 or 479-586-9759

Or e-mail me at cubmasterron@cspack854.org