



# Old Baldy Council PACK 730 SCOUT NEWS



December 2005 Issue

[www.pack730.us](http://www.pack730.us)

Diamond Bar, California

## *Theme: Faith, Hope & Charity*

Always do good, and be good. That is **CHARITY** to yourself and others.

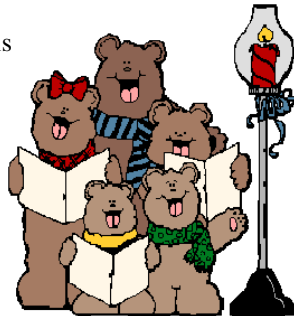
Always have **FAITH**, in yourself and in your beliefs.

Always have **HOPE**, because difficulties in life help us learn, grow, and eventually transform us into better people!

## *Caroling*

A carol is a song of rejoicing associated with festive occasions and religious celebrations. The word originally meant a circle dance accompanied by a song. Carols have carried on the glad tidings of Christmas since medieval times.

Many Christmas carols were written in the 15th century. Unlike hymns, carols are often light and happy. According to one legend, the very first carol was sung by the angels announcing Christ's birth to the shepherds.



Some say the tradition of caroling began as early as the 1400s when wandering minstrels performed songs in exchange for donations to be given to the needy. Later, the English night watchmen would sing while making their rounds at holiday times. In the United States, carols were limited to church until about 100 years ago. At that time, the practice of singing door to door became popular.

In the mid 17th century when the celebration of Christmas was banned, the carols might have been lost forever. But the carols were kept alive for almost 200 years by people singing them in private. With the invention of inexpensive printing processes in the 1800s, traditional carols were published in book form.

The origins of many popular carols, including "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen" and "The First Noel," are unknown. One of the most famous carols, "Silent Night,"

was written in Austria by Josef Mohr and church organist, Franz Gruber when the church organ malfunctioned on Christmas Eve. Hurriedly Mohr wrote the song and asked Gruber to pick out a guitar accompaniment.

## *Holiday Season*

Did you know that during this time of year there is more than one celebration. Here is a list a few of them:

### **Ramadan** – Nov 27 thru Dec 26

It is a time for inner reflection, devotion to God, and self-control. Muslims think of it as a kind of tune-up for their spiritual lives. It's also a time to think about the less fortunate, study the Quran (Muslim holy book), and do good deeds.

### **Chanukah/Hanukkah** - Dec 26 thru Jan 2

Feast of Dedication / Feast of Lights

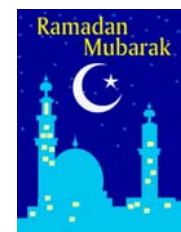
Is a Jewish celebration that lasts for eight days and nights, starting on the 25th of Kislev on the Hebrew calendar. In Hebrew, the word "Hanukkah" means "dedication." The holiday commemorates the rededication of the holy Temple in Jerusalem after the Jews' 165 B.C.E. victory over the Hellenist Syrians.

### **Kwanzaa** - Dec 26 thru Jan 1

African American celebration based on the Nguzo Saba (seven guiding principles), one for each day of the observance. It is a time of reaffirming African-American people, their ancestors and culture. Kwanzaa, which means "first fruits of the harvest" in the African language Kiswahili, has gained tremendous acceptance.

### **Boxing Day** – Dec 26

A holiday celebrated in Britain, Australia, New Zealand, and Canada. The tradition of opening the alms boxes placed in churches over the Christmas season. The contents were distributed amongst the poor of the parish.



## *Next Pack Meeting Music Magic*

Cub Scouts will get their vocal cords humming and their instruments strumming in a musical extravaganza! Learn to sing a variety of styles like pop, country, or barbershop. Work on the Academics belt loop or pin in Music. Learn the history of a particular song or songs or learn about the various musical instruments. Why not use odds and ends to make your own instruments and accompany the choir?

## *What's Going On?*

Each of the Den's current and upcoming activities:

### Webelos

#### **Golden Eagles:**

The Golden Eagles have been working on their Scholar Activity Badge. They all have a better understanding on how our school system works. Because of the holidays, we decided to have a Christmas potluck at last Monday's den meeting. We invited the Wolves. There was plenty of food for all.

#### **Lightning Bolts:**

The Lightning Bolts have been very busy since the last Pack Meeting. The boys went on two field trips, both in November.

On their first trip they went to Cal Poly Pomona to see the Rose Parade Float. They had an opportunity to see the float as it was being built. They learned about how the float was designed, and what's involved in building the float.

On their second trip, the boys went to Logan's Candy Factory in Ontario and learned about candy making. They witness the process for making candy canes. Since these candy canes are hand made, they taste much better than the ones you buy at Wal-Mart or Target. Finally, the boys had the opportunity to see the largest hand made candy cane in the world.

During the month of December, the boys finished the requirements needed to earn their Fitness Activity Badge. They are currently working on the requirements for their Citizen Activity Badge.

This month the boys will be going on a field trip to Pasadena. During this trip, the boys will have the opportunity to see as Volunteers start applying flowers on the Cal Poly Float. This should be a fun field trip.

### Bears

The Bears have been busy since the last pack meeting. In November we visited a Sheriff's station and were given a tour by one of our Den Dad's, Brian Doyle, who is a deputy sheriff. On the same day we also drove on to Long Beach airport and had a tour of the Helicopter division for the L.A. County Sheriff's department. It was a great event.

We have been working on our "Leave No Trace" award by learning the principles of leave no trace and by applying these principles on a hike we took at Chino Hills State park. We also practiced using the buddy system for the first time on that hike with a good degree of success. Also in December our leader, Bob Stuard, finally completed the remainder of his training as a den leader and is now fully trained.

### Wolves

The Wolves and Tigers have been learning about tools. They learned how to identify and use many tools such as hammers, different types of pliers and different types of screwdrivers. They also had a fun work shop at the Home Depot.

### Tigers

The Tigers have been working with the Wolves on their achievements which included a trip to Home Depot. The Pack is currently developing a plan so that the Tiger den will branch off from the Wolves. Details will be discussed at the upcoming committee meeting.

## *Pack Calendar*

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- Dec 21** Committee Meeting  
7:30 PM It's a Grind
  - Jan 12** Roundtable  
7:00 PM Westmont United  
Methodist Church
  - Jan 23** Pack Meeting  
7:30 PM Mt. Calvary
  - Jan 25** Committee Meeting  
7:30 PM It's a Grind
  - Feb 2** BALOO  
8:30AM - 4:30PM 301 Scout House,  
Grove & 4<sup>th</sup>, Ontario
  - Feb 5** Scout Sunday

## *Cubmaster Final Thought*

Mend a quarrel \* Seek out a forgotten friend \*  
Dismiss suspicion and replace it with trust \* Write a letter  
\* Give a soft answer \* Encourage youth \* Manifest your  
loyalty in word and deed \* Keep a promise \* Forgo a  
grudge \* Forgive an enemy \* Apologize \* Try to  
understand \* Examine your demands on others \* Think  
first of someone else \* Be kind \* Be gentle \* Laugh a little  
more \* Express your gratitude \* Welcome a stranger \*  
Gladden the heart of a child \* Take pleasure in the beauty  
and wonder of the Earth \* Speak your love and then speak  
it again

