



San Gabriel Valley Council PACK 730 SCOUT NEWS



November 2006 Issue

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Diamond Bar, California

Cubs in Shining Armor

Let our heroes shine as they welcome new "Cub Knights" into their den and pack. Learn about chivalry and the rules of the round table. Make medieval costumes and design your own coat of arms, find out what life was like in the times of castles and knights.

Celebration of Thanksgiving Around The World



Throughout history many cultures have given thanks for a bountiful harvest. They might differ in their forms and presentations. But their spirit - setting aside a date to reflect on life's blessings, remains the same.

As evident from most of the cultures people would associate these with harvest festivals in

gratitude of the God who protects them and their crops. Harvest festivals and thanksgiving celebrations held by the ancient Greeks, the Romans, the Hebrews, the Chinese, and the Egyptians all reflect the similar spirit.

The 1st Americans - Even in prehistoric times, the first Americans observed many rituals and ceremonies to express gratitude to a higher power for life itself. A Seneca Indian ritual, for example, states, "Our Creator...Shall continue to dwell above the sky, and this is where those on the earth will end their thanksgiving."

The Greeks - On the first day of the festival married women would build leafy shelters and furnish them with couches made with plants. On the second day they fasted. On the third day a feast was held and offerings to the goddess Demeter were made - gifts of seed corn, cakes, fruit, and pigs. It was hoped that Demeter's gratitude would grant them a good harvest.

The Egyptians - The celebration of the spring-time harvest festival by the ancient Egyptians was dedicated to the honor of Min, their god of vegetation and fertility. Spring being the harvest season of the Egyptian's the festival was held during this season.

The festival featured a parade in which the Pharaoh took part. After the parade a great feast was held. Music, dancing, and sports were also part of the celebration. When the Egyptian farmers harvested their corn, they wept and pretended to be grief-stricken. This was to deceive the spirit which they believed lived in the corn.

The Romans - The Roman celebration of Cerelia, a harvest festival, was dedicated to the honor of Ceres. Ceres was their goddess of corn (from which the word cereal comes). It was also an autumnal festival held each year on October 4th. Offerings of the first fruits of the harvest and pigs were made to Ceres. The celebration included music, parades, games and sports and a thanksgiving feast.

This was a glimpse of the overwhelming unity in the spirit of the thanksgiving celebration in all ancient cultures across the world. Prayer, parade, feast and the fervor are common to most of them, though the mode of celebration differs.

We wish you and your families a
VERY HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Food Drive

We will be having a food drive on December 2, 2006 from 10:00AM through 2:00 PM, at the VONS on Diamond Bar Blvd. Each den will be responsible for one (1) hour shift. We will be handing out flyers asking for food donations that we will be giving to the local churches. The tentative schedule is:

10:00 – 11:00 – Wolf
11:00 – 12:00 – Webelo II
12:00 – 1:00 – Webelo I
1:00 – 2:00 - Bear

What do the Colors Mean?

The Cub Scout colors are blue and gold. They have special meaning, which will help boys see beyond the fun of Cub Scouting to its ultimate goals. The blue stands for truth and spirituality, steadfast loyalty, and the sky above. The gold stands for warm sunlight, good cheer and happiness.



Caroling

We will be having our annual caroling activity on December 15, 2006, at 7:00PM. We will carol at the retirement apartments next to the bowling alley. Afterwards we will go to Deane Homes Swim Club for hot coco, popcorn and other snacks. While at the swim club, we will be having a book exchange for all people who wish to participate. The participations are to purchase a \$7 or less book that is appropriate for scout age children. The books are to be wrapped and we will be drawing numbers to see who gets which unopened book. People can then "trade" books with one and another after all have opened theirs. Everyone is encouraged to participate; scouts, siblings, parents, or anyone who attends.

Pinewood Derby

Our Pinewood derby will be held on January 14, 2007 at Mount Calvary's gym. Check-in begins at 1:00PM and the races will start promptly at 2:00PM. Again we will have an "open" division for adults and siblings who wish to make and race their own car. See your den leaders for more information, rules and when the cars will available for pickup.

Who has been in Scouting?

Here are a few facts about some people who have been in scouting. See how many people you have heard of.



FAMOUS SCOUTS:

Henry Aaron - baseball player
Bill Clinton - Cub Scout, President of US
Harrison Ford - actor "Indiana Jones, Star Wars"
Bill Gates - founder of Microsoft Corp.
Bruce Jenner - Olympic Decathlete, Gold Medalist
John F Kennedy - first US President who was a Scout
Nolan Ryan - pro baseball pitcher
Paul McCartney - singer/songwriter/bassist for the Beatles
Jim Morrison - Rock Legend
John Major - Prime Minister of England

FAMOUS EAGLE SCOUTS:

Neil Armstrong - astronaut, first man on moon
William Devries - MD, transplanted first artificial heart
Arthur Eldred - First Eagle Scout
Gerald Ford - U.S. President (1st Eagle to be President)
Steven Spielberg - Movie producer "Jaws, Jurassic Park"

Of the 214 former and present astronauts, 142 have taken part in Scouting.

Eagle Facts:

Only 1.2 million boys have reached Eagle in over 80 years (15,000 a year, roughly). Only 2 in 100 that join Scouts make Eagle--that's 0.5% of the male population.

Pack Calendar

Nov 27 Pack Meeting
7:00 PM Deane Homes
Dec 2 Food Drive
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM VONS
Dec 15 Caroling (in place of
Pack Meeting)
6:00 PM Senior Center
Dec 20 Committee Meeting
7:30 PM It's A Grind
Jan 14 Pinewood Derby
1:00 PM Mt. Calvary
Jan 24 Committee Meeting
7:30 PM It's A Grind
Jan 29 Pack Meeting
7:00 PM Deane Homes

Cubmaster Final Thought

A Winner

A Winner respects those who are superior to him and tries to learn something from them.
A Loser resents those who are superior and rationalizes their achievements.
A Winner explains.
A Loser explains away.
A Winner says, "Let's find a way".
A Loser says, "There is no way".
A Winner goes through a problem,
A Loser tries to go around it.
A Winner says, "There should be a better way to do it".
A Loser says, "That's the way it's always been done here".
A Winner shows he's sorry by making up for it.
A Loser says, "I'm sorry," but does the same thing next time.
A Winner knows what to fight for and what to compromise on.
A Loser compromises on what he shouldn't, and fights for what isn't worth fighting about.
A Winner works harder than a loser and has more time
A Loser is always too busy to do what is necessary.
A Winner is not afraid of losing,
A Loser is secretly afraid of winning.
A Winner makes commitments,
A Loser makes promises.

Which are you?

