



San Gabriel Valley Council PACK 730 SCOUT NEWS



September 2006 Issue

www.pack730.us

Diamond Bar, California

Zoo Adventures

Cub Scouts love animals in every shape and size so why not visit a zoo, animal park, pet shop or nature center? Perhaps you can get a behind the scenes tour while you are there. Create a pet zoo or study a favorite animal and make displays for the pack meeting. Learn about the history of zoos and the important work they do to prevent the extinction of endangered species. Earn the Wildlife Conservation belt loop and pin.

Our New Council



As many of you have heard, we have merged with a new Council recently. Here in a nutshell is what has taken place:

On May 1, 2006, Old Baldy Council (OBC) merged into two adjacent councils; San Gabriel Valley Council (SGVC) and California Inland Empire Council (CIEC). The Los Angeles County area of OBC (Sunset District) merged with the SGVC and the San Bernardino County area (Golden Eagle & Trails End Districts) merged with CIEC. Since Diamond Bar is part of the Sunset District, our Scout units were merged into the San Gabriel Valley Council. The Holcomb Valley Scout Ranch became the responsibility of San Gabriel Valley Council. All funds (endowment, Lodge, etc.) were divided between the councils based on registered members percentages.

How this will impact our pack directly is that we will have a larger group of commissioners and support personnel available to help the pack run better and to assist in fundraising and recruitment. Otherwise the only visible changes will be new shoulder patches, a new scout store and a new location for the monthly Roundtable meetings.

Bring a Friend to Scouting Night

At our next pack meeting (October 30th) we will be having a "Bring a Friend to Scouting Night".

This will be an opportunity for each scout to bring a friend (and their parents) and show them all the fun and exciting activities that happen in scouting. At the pack meeting we will have games and activities for everyone to try. Also the pinewood derby track maybe set-up (so bring your cars), along with some craft and art projects. Each den will have a "station" where the den will put on an activity for everyone to try. For each scout who brings a guest, they will complete the requirements for their Recruiter patch. There will be a "final" pack game at the end where you will get to use items your den leaders have you make in the next month This should be a fun time for all.



What is a Planet?

Leading astronomers declared on 8/24/06 that Pluto is no longer a planet under historic new guidelines that downsize the solar system from nine planets to eight.

Much-maligned Pluto doesn't make the grade under the new rules for a planet: "a celestial body that is in orbit around the sun, has sufficient mass for its self-gravity to overcome rigid body forces so that it assumes a ... nearly round shape, and has cleared the neighborhood around its orbit." Pluto is automatically disqualified because its oblong orbit overlaps with Neptune's.

Instead, it will be reclassified in a new category of "dwarf planets," similar to what long have been termed "minor planets." The definition also lays out a third class of lesser objects that orbit the sun -- "small solar system bodies," a term that will apply to numerous asteroids, comets and other natural satellites.

Now, two of the objects that at one point were cruising toward possible full-fledged planethood will join Pluto as dwarfs: the asteroid Ceres, which was a planet in the 1800s before it got demoted, and 2003 UB313, an icy object

slightly larger than Pluto whose nicknamed "Xena". For now, membership will be restricted to the eight "classical" planets in the solar system: Mercury, Venus,



Next Pack Meeting

Cub Scout Shipbuilders

Ships have played an important role in the history of our country since the earliest colonial days. Build a model of a ship and tell your den what it was used for – whaling, transportation, fishing, military or commerce. Learn to tie a square knot and other knots used by sailors. Visit a boatyard or a museum and learn how ships are made.

What are Dens?

Tiger Cubs (1st Grade)



The Tiger Cub program is an introduction into Cub Scouting. Each Tiger Cub must have an adult partner (usually a parent or guardian) who participates in each activity with them. Each Tiger Cub Den is kept organized by a “lead” adult partner called the Den Leader. Tiger Cubs earn orange, white, black, and yellow totem beads for various activities and electives. They work towards earning the Tiger Cub Badge that is worn on their totem and is transferred to their blue uniform when they graduate to Wolf.

Wolf Scouts (2nd Grade)



Wolf Scouts are boys who have completed the first grade. Wolf Scouts meet as a Den of six to ten boys, under the direction of their Den Leader and Assistant Den Leader. The Den Meetings provide an opportunity to play games, learn new skills, go on outings and tours, and to work on achievements. Twelve achievements must be completed in order to earn the Wolf Badge.

Bear Scouts (3rd Grade)



Bear Scouts are made up of boys who have completed the second grade. God, Country, Family, and Self are the main themes of the twelve achievements required to earn the Bear Rank. Bear Den Meetings are similar to the meetings held by Wolves. Scouts will learn new skills and work on achievements both at home and in Den Meetings.

Webelos Scouts (4th and 5th Grades)



Webelos is the last rank in Cub Scouting. It is an acronym for “We’ll Be Loyal Scouts.” Under the direction of the Den Leader and assistant(s), Webelos Scouts will work to earn Activity Pins for a wide variety of hobby and career activities ranging from science to sports. They also work towards the Webelos Badge and finally the Arrow of Light Award, Cub Scouting’s highest honor.

Calendar listing meetings for Sep 25, Sep 20, Sep 30, Oct 12, Oct 18, and Oct 30 with times and locations.

Cubmaster Final Thought THAT FIRST STEP

The Chinese have a saying, "The journey of a thousand miles starts with a single step. " There's a lesson for us in that saying.

I'm thinking of advancement. If you come to den meetings without ever looking in your Scout Handbook all week long and if you never ask how to pass a test or who to see about an advancement requirement, you'll never advance very far in Scouting. In Scouting, and in life, the rewards don't come to those who sit back and wait for something to be handed to them on a silver platter.

I would like to see every one of you set the Arrow of Light badge as you goal in Cub Scouting.

Whatever the goal you set for yourself, remember that only you can take that first step toward it. No one can do it for you. Once you've taken that first step the next step becomes easier. And the ones after that will be easier still because you're on the way along the Scouting trail.

Pack Leadership

- Cubmaster: Ken Kuhlman
Assistant Cubmaster: Open
Treasurer: Martha Alfaro
Committee Chair: Chris Whatley
Secretary: Mary Udengwu
Recruiting: Open
Advancements: Betty Kirchgraber
Training: Ralph Rodriguez

