
BALOO'S BUGLE



Volume 5 Issue 4

November 1998

The Pedro Patch Program is such a wonderful program I am using this as my lead article again. This is truly a win-win proposition. Read how your Cubs can earn a patch from Pedro.



SAY YES TO READING!

Each year Boy's Life has exciting program that encourages reading. I have gotten the following information and strongly encourage participation in this program. My son has received Pedro Patches in the past through this program. It really is a win-win type deal.

Write a one-page report titled "The Best Book I Read This Year" and enter it in the Boys' Life 1998 "Say Yes to Reading!" contest.

The book can be fiction or nonfiction. But the report has to be in your own words. Enter in the one of these three age categories:

- * 8 years old and younger,
- * 9 and 10 years old,
- * 11 years old and older.

When Pedro receives your report, he will send you a free patch. The top three winners from each age group will also get to pick a book from our special prize list, receive copies of "Codemaster" books 1 and 2, a set of the limited-edition Codemaster patch-and-pin set--plus have their names announced in this column!

The contest is open to all Boys' Life readers. Be sure to include your age and your grade in school on the entry. Send your report, along with a self-addressed, stamped envelope, to: BSA, Boys' Life Reading Contest, S204, P.O. Box 152079, Irving, TX 75015-2079. Entries must be postmarked by Dec. 31, 1998.

TRAINING TIP

What the Advancement Program does For the Boy

A boy's experience with achievements, electives, and activity badges will do more than help build his self-

reliance. It will also help him discover that he is now old enough to assume certain responsibilities toward other people. This is necessary as a foundation for good citizenship.

The advancement program gives a boy the recognition that he needs so much. Boys sometimes develop behavior problems in seeking recognition. If they receive proper recognition they might not need to do so many exasperating things in trying to gain it.

Many of the advancement projects are activities the entire family can enjoy together. This brings a boy and his family closer together.

Another training tip taken from the Cub Scout Leader Book. This book is available from your Scout Shop.

TIGER CUBS

Big Idea #7 Helping Others Denver Area Council

Practice the Cub Scout Salute, handshake and sign; set up a trash walk for your community; have a Tiger food drive and donate what is collected to a local food bank. Go visit the food bank when you drop off what you collected. Talk about how family members help each other at home.

Helping Others

Greater St. Louis Area Council

This meeting should really be held in November. You have already participated in Scouting for Food and you have helped others by doing this. This week before Thanksgiving would be perfect for this meeting. Borrow the book "Stone Soup" from your local library. Assign boys different items to bring to your meeting, such as the potato, the carrot, and other items brought by the townspeople in the story. Assemble in a kitchen, if possible, if not, make sure you have two identical crockpots. Bring a nice stone and put it in the bottom of the crockpot with some water. Have the Tigers, as you read the story, bring their item up and you will put it in the crockpot. After reading the story, have the Tigers prepare the table, and bring out the other identical pot with vegetable soup that you have made ahead of time. Sit down and enjoy your stone soup that you have made ahead of time. Sit down and enjoy your stone soup and be thankful for the gift of sharing.

Snowball Throw

Use a large wad of cotton or a Styrofoam ball. The boys sit in a circle facing each other. "IT" sits in the middle of the circle and everyone tosses the snowball over "IT" while

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"IT" try's to catch the snowball. Once "IT" catches the snowball, the Tiger who threw the snowball becomes "IT".

Musical Package

A small package is wrapped in masses of paper and string in a circle, players pass the package as the music plays. When the music stops, Tiger with the package unwraps one layer. Start the music again. Tiger who unwraps the final layer gets a small trinket.

Indian Nations Council

Tours

1. Visit a nursing home.
2. Take a tray of favors for the children's ward of a hospital.
3. Visit community organizations who give aid to the needy.
4. Visit a recycling center. Take aluminum cans and/or plastic containers.

Tiger Cub Activities

Name Tag

The boys can make a helping hand name tag. The boys trace their hand on fun foam or construction paper. You can hot glue or use Elmers glue to attach a safety pin. You can also use a straight pin.

Greeting Cards

Preparation: Ahead of time, leader makes eraser rubber stamps using Art Gum Erasers. Draw a simple design on side or end of eraser. With X-acto (or other sharp knife) cut away the background, so that the design is raised about 1/8" or more. Boys use any rubber stamp with stamp pad ink. Then fold paper like a greeting card. Boys decorate the front and inside as desire.

Big Idea

PRE-OPENING ACTIVITY

Gathering Snowballs

Santa Clara County Council

As the families gather, present each with a nametag, on which you have left room to write a number. The set-up for this game is a table on which you have placed cotton balls (be sure to have quite a few). You also need either wooden or good sized plastic spoons all the same size. As players enter room have them see how many cotton balls they can gather in an allotted time (10 or 15 seconds) and write their total on their nametag. Remember, with the spoon only; no hands allowed. At the end of the game, award a small prize for the one who collected the most balls.

A Visit From Saint Nicholas

Santa Clara County Council

Provide sets of four cards. On each card, write one of the first four lines of the famous Christmas poem:

"Twas the night before Christmas when all through the house

Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse.

The stockings were hung by the chimney with care
In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there.
Suspend the cards with a string around the necks of all the players. On signal, everyone is to scramble about seeking the other three lines of the poem. The first four to line up in the proper sequence are the winners.

Christmas Greeting Matchup

Santa Clara County Council

Below are holiday greetings from 6 different countries. See if you can match each greeting with the country it comes from. Work with your parents.

1. Feliz Navidad	a. Italy
2. Joyeux Noel	b. Spain
3. Frohliche Weinachten	c. France
4. Glaedelig Jul	d. Germany
5. Buon Natale	e. Poland
6. Wesolych Swiat Bozego Narodzenia	f. Denmark

Answers: 1-b, 2-c, 3-d, 4-f, 5-a, 6-e

OPENING CEREMONY

Holiday Spirit

Simon Kenton Council

Personnel: 5 Cubs

Props: Log candle holder with 3 candles (12") multipurpose lighter

Cub 1: The theme for this month is "Let's Celebrate!" and we have been busy getting ready for the Holiday season. This month there are three major holidays celebrated by a different Religion or Culture, Hanukkah, Christmas and Kwanzaa.

Cub 2: Hanukkah is the Jewish Feast of Lights or Feast of Dedication. The Hebrew word Hanukkah means dedication. It is a celebration of God's deliverance of the Jews in 165 BC. The Hanukkah holiday begins on the eve of the 25th day of the Hebrew month of Kislev, and lasts eight days. It usually falls in the month of December and is celebrated by lighting of candles in a special Hanukkah menorah. I light the first candle for Hanukah. (Lights the first candle)

Cub 3: Christmas is the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. Although the actual date of his birth is not known, early Church Fathers in the 4th century fixed the day as December 25, which conveniently coincided with other pagan holidays. The Christian priests obviously saw this choice as meritorious, using the old customary and popular feasting date but changing the rough pagan ways into a more civilized commemoration.. The word Christmas is taken from old English, Christes maesse or Christ's Mass. I light the second candle for Christmas. (lights the second candle.)

Cub 4: Kwanzaa is an African American holiday based on the traditional African festival of the first harvest crops. The word Kwanzaa comes from the phrase matunda ya kwanzaa, which means first fruits in Swahili. The holiday

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was developed in the United States in 1966 by M. Ron Karenga, a professor of Pan African studies and a black cultural leader. It begins on December 26th and lasts for seven days. The holiday centers around the seven principles of black culture that were developed by Karenga. These principles are: Unity; Self-determination; Collective work and responsibility; Cooperative economics; Purpose; Creativity; and Faith. I light the third candle for Kwanzaa. (Light the third candle)

Cub 5: With the spirit of the holiday candles now burning let us now begin our own celebration of our accomplishments this month.

Opening

Denver Area Council

Dear God, Today, this day, we give to You. Do within us what You want to do. Please make of our hearts Your vessel and servant. May the glorious light of the Lord of Creation find a restful home inside each of our souls. May we be no more who we used to be. We now embrace the divine child within us. May it burst forth now to bless the world. May we not be tempted to doubt the light that lights the entire world, illumine the earth and save the world. Thank You, Lord. Amen.

LEADER IDEAS

I asked for ideas for different service projects that packs have done. Below you will find many ideas that were sent to me. I thank everyone for helping me out.

When I was a Den Leader at Pack 939 in Florissant, MO, one of the good turn projects our Cubs did was serving as greeter as Sunday Mass. One or two Cub Scouts would come in uniform to the 10:30 Mass in uniform and greet parishioners as they came to Church. Chris, Baloo's Bugle While I was a cubmaster, our December pack meeting was always "Good Turn" events. Each den would be responsible for coming up with an idea and a recipient agency. My favorite was buying large quantities of dried beans (different colors make a good-looking bean soup). Quart Baggies, either a quarter-cup or half-cup measure for each bean type. (depends on how many varieties you have. I usually had 5.) Boys would go down the line putting one scoop of each bean in the baggie. We'd also put a printed recipe in each bag. These would go to the Salvation Army. One baggie would feed a full family at least once. Dried beans would not go bad if left on the shelf for long. The Salvation Army always seemed appreciative of these gifts and the boys loved putting them together. Also collected good used or new toys. Made placemats or other tray decorations for retirement homes. Nancy Rogers Will Rogers Council, Oklahoma

Each year in December, our Pack gathers empty coffee cans and decorates them with holiday paper. We then have the boys fill them with cookies donated by the various families in the Pack. These are then distributed to residents of the

veterans administration hospital in our area as a holiday treat. The vets love it and the boys get a great kick out of doing something for the vets. That's Pack 305, Kearny, NJ, Hudson Liberty Council.

Jim Miller, Sr.

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<http://www.stefford.com/hlcbasa/>

1) Made and served a full-spread turkey meal including - turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, gravy, 2 vegs, 2 salads, buns and cake - to residents of a local low-income apt complex (12 residents). Even included tablecloth and den-made decorations that the residents could keep. Asked residents to bring their own plates & silver and instructed them to divide and keep the leftovers. They loved it. 2) Made wooden toys, then visited a shelter for homeless families in a neighboring large city to tour the facility and give these toys to the shelter for the homeless kids for Christmas day. Den leaders cut out wooden blocks and the Cubs sanded and marked them like dice and/or letter blocks. Also made simple wooden tops. This was a real eye-opener for our Cubs who all come from moderate-income homes.

Barb Stephens Academic Computing Creighton University
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Our Bear den did a good turn by making Pine Cone Birdfeeders (spread peanut butter on pine-cones, roll in birdseed) and taking them out to a local retirement home. We hung them on the trees outside of the residents' windows and then went in and sang Christmas carols to the residents. This year we will do the same and stay and play board games with the residents. Birdfeeders are great because many of the residents are bedridden and cannot make it to the main hall. By hanging a feeder outside of the room window, they can have some feathered company. This also raises some awareness about our elders in an age when most families do not care for elderly relatives at home. Prepare the boys ahead of time that they may smell some smells that are unpleasant, etc., and why this is so, and be prepared to answer questions. It raised a very interesting discussion among the Scouts afterwards. My boys did great and cannot wait to do it again (we also went back in the Spring with birdhouses)!

Have a great time with this idea. Your Scouts will love it!
Lorie McGraw, Webelos Leader Pack 410
Etowah Creek District, Indian Waters Council, Columbia, SC

<http://home.att.net/~llmcgraw/etowah/ecc-indx.htm>

Visit the Slide Show for great Neckerchief Slide Ideas:

<http://home.att.net/~llmcgraw/etowah/slides.htm>

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When I was Cubmaster we annually went to a local nursing home and went Christmas Caroling. I noticed that we were always tripping over other groups doing the same thing. Everybody always remembers the old people at Christmas. We changed our plan and started going to the home in March and doing our regular Pack Meeting for the residence. We wheeled them down to the dayroom and back. We did an opening, songs, skits and awards. Afterwards we had (with approval) refreshments. The residents loved it and the boys warmed to the task after the first 10 minutes or so. The only concession we made was we made sure we sang songs the residents already sang - so they could join in.

Mike GO VOLS ! GO 3 !

I used to be an Owl...But I'll always be an Eagle! NE-IV-92

One of our cubs was at Brisbane's exhibition (big fair) and he and his family were watching the sheep dog trials when one of the dog owners had a heart attack in the middle of the arena. The cub asked his mother if he could go and help the people with the man because he had done his blue level first aid badge the previous week.

We recently did a Doorknock for the Australian Heart Foundation. All but two of our cubs (pack of 20) walked on two consecutive weekends to raise money for heart disease research. Great effort for 8 - 11 years olds. Most of their parents helped us too.

One cub was out shopping with his mother. This cub had a broken arm at the time. He had plaster on his arm almost up to his shoulder. He helped an old lady carry her groceries out to the bus stop and when the lady wanted to pay him he said no and that cub scouts should do a good turn every day.

Barbara Riley, Cub Scout Leader
Burlington, Qld, Australia

Here is an interesting thing that I did with my two sons last Xmas. I had an attack of the Scroogies last year and refused to participate and "put on" a Christmas for everybody. My boys unexpectedly agreed with me as they too didn't want to go through all the preparations, etc. and since my father wasn't able to come the 1400 miles to join us as he usually did, they said that Christmas wouldn't be the same anyway. Plus, they couldn't think of anything that they particularly wanted or needed. (I have two GREAT boys, don't you think?) Anyway, we decided that the reason for the season was to give unselfishly, so being a visiting nurse, we found a woman that needed hand railings at her back door so she could come and go without injury. We installed them for her on Christmas day as a surprise to her. She had no family that could have done this for her, as well as no money to get it done. After we did that, we went on to a relative's house and celebrated

normally with them at the Xmas feast. Ooooh, what a feeling! We had a WONDERFUL Christmas filled with joy 'cause we helped someone else instead of ourselves. By the way, I hope to have a "regular" Christmas again this year, but will probably always try to do some project like this from now on 'cause words cannot describe the feeling that you get when you give up something for another. My boys agreed.

Betsy "Beaver" Miller, RN, ASM, Troop 321, Tifton, GA

Back in Maine, my Pack (I was a CM then) as their "admission" to our Christmas Bowling Party, brought toys, games, coloring books, crayons, etc. to donate to under privileged children in our community. The Pack actually paid for the Bowling out of Pack money (plus the owner gave us a real break \$1 for shoe rental & \$1 for 2 strings of play each). The donated toys were given to the local Kiwanis Club that put together community Christmas Baskets for about 100 area families. We timed it so that the toys would be there the day the Kiwanis Club had the parents come to choose a toy for each child in their family. Everyone in the Pack thought it was a wonderful idea. The other good turn was they went to the local nursing home to sing Christmas Carols and serve Christmas cookies and punch. Here in Iowa, our Pack participates in the annual Holiday Parade. The older boys are dressed up as the 8 reindeer (including Rudolph) and pull the sleigh Santa is in (good thing the sleigh is built to pull easily 'coz "Santa" is not a light weight). The other boys wear elf hats and hand out candy canes to all the children along the parade route. I consider this a good turn as are helping to bring cheer to the community and most people don't realize we're Cub Scouts (between the costumes and being bundled up you can't see the uniforms). Hope some of this is useful to you. YiS, Dawn Moriarty, ACM Pack 62, Cresco, IA, Cub Scout Roundtable Staff & Cub Scout Camping Committee Chair, North Rivers District, Winnebago Council

Last year, we asked each family to bring to the December pack meeting a pair of gloves/mittens, a hat, or a pair of socks. We strung a clothesline across our stage and asked each family to clip on their donation when they arrived at the meeting. By the time the meeting started, the clothesline was filled across the entire stage. We had invited a representative from a local home for abandoned or abused children who gladly accepted the items for their kids at her facility.

Den and Service Projects
Santa Clara County Council

BALOO'S BUGLE

Collect clothing, toys, book, school supplies and canned goods for shelters for needy families

Make Christmas tree decorations, trays of favors, or holiday mantelpiece for nursing homes.

Visit, put on a skit, and sing songs at day care centers, nursing schools or nursing homes.

Read books to small children at day care centers; make friends with small children.

Save money from recycling, buy a tree, and trim it for a needy family.

Make holiday song books (decorate, staple or bind with ribbons) and give them out at nursing homes. Sing with them, first.

Make games or puzzles for shut-in, day care centers or needy families.

Collect and repair toys for Toys for Tots or a similar program.

Collect books and magazines for needy families, send them with homemade bookmarks.

Make bird feeders, string popcorn and cranberries and hang them where the elderly and the shut-ins may watch the birds come to feed.

Help elderly person or shut-ins to decorate their home for Christmas. Be sure to help them take down the decorations after Christmas.

Do yard work for the elderly or shut-in.

Clean up the grounds, plant flowers for the chartered organization.

Do yard work regularly during the month for a church or temple.

Please note:

Most institutions have restrictions; so be sure to clear with them before you undertake a project. When you are visiting a place that is normally isolated from the outside world, like a nursing home or convalescent home, please be careful about taking children who have severe colds. One official commented that their patients/residents are susceptible to outside germs.

Remind the boys that a service project is not limited to the holiday season. Many organizations need help throughout the year. The holiday season is just a good time to start a service project. Have the boys get involved in service projects year-round. Projects don't have to be big. Please read pages 9-10 to 9-11 in the Cub Scout Leader Book for a service project that will be ideal for other times of the year.

SONGS

The Twelve Scouting Days of Christmas

(Tune: 12 day of Christmas. Substitute Christmas for Scouting in the leading lines as you wish.)
Denver Area Council

On the first day of Scouting Akela gave to me ...
A Den Leader swinging from a tree!

On the second day of Scouting, Akela gave to me...

Two Screaming Bobcats,

And a Den Leader swinging from a tree.

OK, you should have the idea by now. Here's the rest of these silly verses.

Third Day

Three Skinny Wolves

Fourth Day

Four Hungry Bears

Fifth Day

Five Webelos

Sixth Day

Six Arrow Points

Seventh Day

Seven Silly Den Chiefs

Eighth Day

Eight Shouting Scouts

Ninth Day

Nine Warring Eagles

Tenth Day

Ten Derby Cars

Eleventh Day

Eleven Funny Den Skits

Twelfth Day

Twelve Wacky Cheers

Rudy, The Red-Nosed Cub Scout

(Tune: Rudolph, The Red-Nosed Reindeer)

Simon Kenton Council

Rudy, the red-nosed Cub Scout,

Had a very runny nose;

And if you ever saw it,

You would probably say, "Oh, Gross!"

All of the other Cub Scouts

Used to laugh and say, "Oh, Ick";

Parents would not go near him

'Cause they thought they might get sick.

Then one winter's Pack Meeting,

Akela said, "Sign's Up!"

Rudy, with your nose so wet,

A box of Kleenex is what you'll get!

Then all the Cub Scouts cheered him,

As he blew and blew and blew;

Rudy, the red-nosed Cub Scout,

We will DO OUR BEST with you!

Give a Gift

(Tune: I'd Like To Teach The World To Sing)

Simon Kenton Council

I'd like to give the world a gift,

That all men will be free.

And though I'm just a growing boy,

There's things that I can see.

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I see that Scouting is a way
To start to understand,
That caring, helping, smiling, learning
Help me be a man.
And so at Christmas there's a gift
That you can give to me.
Please help me grow in mind and spirit
To be what I can be.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Let's Celebrate Christmas

(Trapper Trails Council)

CHRISTMAS - Let it snow

SANTA - Ho, Ho, Ho

ANY REINDEER NAME -I'll pull Santa's Sleigh

One **CHRISTMAS** Eve the weather was horrible. The snowstorm was so bad **SANTA** could not see past the front of his cherry nose. What was **SANTA** to do? He asked all of his reindeer for helpful ideas.

DASHER told **SANTA** he could try to fly extra fast. This would create static energy, which would light up the sky. Unfortunately, even though **DASHER** could dash very fast, it wasn't fast enough.

DANCER and **PRANCER** found some **CHRISTMAS** tree lights to tie to the sleigh, but as soon as **SANTA** and the reindeer were 100 feet off the ground the cord came unplugged and they were in the dark again.

RUDOLPH who usually saved the day with his bright shiny nose had finally gotten over his cold and now had a regular black one like all the other reindeer.

VIXEN and **BLITZEN** gathered up some tinsel that sparkled. **CUPID** and **DONNER** who thought it was hay, ate it for a late night snack.

COMET decided to shine the chrome on **SANTA'S** sleigh. It shone so brightly **SANTA** could see for miles. Everyone had a great **CHRISTMAS** that year thanks to **COMET** and some elbow grease.

Merry Christmas

San Francisco Bay Area Council

Divide the group into two parts, naming one part **MERRY** and the other **CHRISTMAS**. Whenever the word **MERRY** is mentioned the **MERRY** group tries to out do the **CHRISTMAS** group with their **HO-HO-HO**.

Merry and Christmas are two words so bright,
Who float around in December both day and night.
If Merry is spoken, Christmas is next said,
For they belong together, all in Green and Red.
If Christmas were separated from Merry it would be so sad
And everyone would certainly feel very bad.
So to keep Christmas Merry right from the start,
Remember to feel Merry Christmas deep in your heart
So when you say it, you'll really sound merry

Then Christmas for you -- A true meaning will carry.
So let's do it now with all your might
Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night.

GAMES

Pack of Toys

Simon Kenton Council

All players except one are seated in a circle facing inward. Each seated player is given the name of a toy. "It" walks around the inside of the circle and says "SANTA PACKED HIS BAG AND IN IT HE PUT _____". Players representing the toys "IT" names get up and follow him around the circle. Suddenly "IT" shouts, "AND THE BAG BROKE!" All scramble for chairs including "It". The boy left without a chair becomes the new "IT".

Star Markers

Simon Kenton Council

Give each boy a 5: square of paper. At the signal, each player rips the paper, trying to make a five-pointed star. Judge calls time after 30 seconds, whether the star is finished or not. Best one wins.

SLIDES

Dog Biscuit Rudolph Neckerchief Slide

Santa Clara County Council

You will need one dog biscuit. Clear sealer. Brown paper. Red pompom. Wiggle eyes. Aluminum foil. Scissors. Glue. A section of 1/2" PVC pipe or neck piece from a plastic bottle.

Place biscuit on foil to prevent sticking. Spray with several coats of clear sealer. Do this ahead of time and let dry between coats. Cut antlers from brown paper, glue to back of biscuit. Glue wiggle eyes to brown felt circles, glue to face. Glue on pompom nose. Glue PVC piece or plastic bottle neck piece to the back.

FUN FOOD

Quick Peanut Butter Fudge

Northwest Suburban Council

For each Scout:

1 1/4 Tblsp margarine	2 Tblsp Karo red label syrup (light)
1 1/2 Tblsp Peanut Butter (creamy or chunky)	1/4 teaspoon vanilla
1/8 teaspoon salt	1 cup plus 2 Tblsp confectioners sugar
2 Tblsp chopped nuts	

Blend margarine, corn syrup peanut butter, salt and vanilla in mixing bowl. Stir in confectioners sugar gradually. Turn

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onto board and knead until well blended and smooth. Add nuts gradually, pressing and kneading into candy. Press out with hands into square 1/2 inch thick. Cut into serving pieces. Makes 1/2 pound fudge per scout.

Make for fun or make as gift for parents. Wrap in saran and decorate with ribbon or make a special decorated boy or candy dish to put fudge in. Remind scouts to refrigerate once the gift is taken home.

ADVANCEMENT CEREMONY

Santa's Magic Advancement Santa Clara County Council

Equipment: Christmas tree with lights, extra large cardboard telephone, small Christmas stockings with awards inside, candy canes for all children at the pack meeting.

Personnel: Santa Claus, elf (Cubmaster).

Setting: Hang the stockings with awards inside on the tree. Light the Christmas tree and dim the room lights. Santa Claus is outside the room but can be heard by the audience.

Cubmaster: (speaking into telephone) Santa Claus, you will be welcomed at the pack meeting. What can we do to help you get here, Santa?

Santa Claus: Why, sing "Here Comes Santa Claus.: It will give me all the magic I need to arrive. But remember, everyone must sing for the magic of their voices to guide me.

Cubmaster: Okay, Santa, we'll do our best! (Hangs up the phone and leads the song.)

On the last notes of the song, Santa arrives, calling "Ho, ho, ho, Merry Christmas!" and carrying his bag of gifts, including candy canes for all the children. He takes the stockings from the tree and picks out the advancement awards, calling on the recipients and their parents to come forward. After the parents have pinned awards on the boys' uniforms, Santa gives candy canes to all the children.

SKITS

Christmas Simon Kenton Council

9 Cubs each holding a large letter to spell out
"C-H-R-I-S-T-M-A-S"

C I stand for carols and for Christmas cheer

H I stand for holly that's hanging here. (Have a sting of holly from the letter.

R I stand for reindeer. I've never seen.

I I stand for ivy of Christmas green.

S I stand for Santa and skates and ski.

T I stand for tinsel on Christmas trees.

M I stand for message to you from me.

A I stand for angel atop a tree.

S I stand for secrets of every size. All wrapped and waiting for eager eyes.

All: We stand for letters that one by one, spell out a season of joy and fun.

Santa's Big Secret Santa Clara County Council

Cast: Santa, Reporter, Elves (any number).

Costumes: Santa outfit, Scout uniforms under jackets - elves wear jackets and knit hat or hooded sweatshirts.

Props: Toy making equipment and bags, microphone.

Setting: Elves are in background working, making toys or putting towns in sacks. Santa is directing them when reporter comes out with the microphone.

Reporter: This is Scoop Smith, the roving reporter for radio station KCUB on the scene here at Santa's workshop. Santa, may we have a word with you please?

Santa: Oh, sure, we're really busy getting ready for our deliveries. What can I do for you?

Reporter: All of our listeners want to know how you got into the gift business. Did your father give gifts or what?

Santa: Well, it all began when I was 7 or 8 years old... I just started doing good deeds, you know, helping people and such...and it became a habit.

Reporter: Good deeds, huh. That sounds familiar. Say, what is under that jacket?

Santa: That's my best-kept secret. (Opens jacket)

Reporter: A CUB SCOUT UNIFORM!!! You're a Cub Scout?

Santa: Yes, well, no. I WAS a Cub Scout, then a Boy Scout, and then an Explorer. I wear this uniform to remind me of where it all started...way back years and years ago. I just love helping other people and doing good things.

Reporter: Well, that explains your involvement. But how do you get all these elves to help you?

Santa: Show the man. (Elves open their jackets to show Cub Scout uniforms.)

DEN ACTIVITIES

Catching Snowflakes Greater St. Louis Area Council

Because snowflakes melt so quickly when they land on a warm surface, catching them requires some planning. Chill a dark sheet of construction paper outdoors on in the freezer. Examine single flakes with a magnifying glass as they land on the paper. (Before they melt!)

Permanent impressions of snowflakes can be made by catching falling flakes on a chilled pane of glass that has been sprayed with chilled hair spray or artists' fixative. (Both the glass and the spray can be stored in the freezer to await use) Keeping the prepared glass as cold as possible, take it outdoors and allow some flakes to settle on it.

When you have collected enough, take the glass indoors

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and let it dry at room temperature for about 15 minutes. You'll have a permanent record of some of nature's most amazing designs.

Hard Candy Christmas Greater St. Louis Area Council

Materials:

2 Rubber Bands	5"-diameter coffee can
Thick craft glue	Approx. 36 candy sticks
1 yd 1"wide ribbon	Flowers or small potted tree

Place the rubber bands around the coffee can, positioning 1 near the top and 1 near the bottom. Apply glue to 1 side of 1 candy stick. Slip the candy stick under the rubber bands, with the glue side toward the can. Continue in this manner until the can is covered. Let the glue dry.

Remove the rubber bands. Tie the ribbon in a knot around the center of the candy-covered can. Fill the vase with water and flowers or a small Christmas tree.

STUNTS AND TRICKS

Applauses Santa Clara Council

RUDOLPH APPLAUSE: Put thumbs to your head with fingers up, forming antlers. Wrinkle your nose, saying, "Blink, blink, bling."

ICE CUBE CHEER: Shape an ice cube with a thumb and index finger, saying, "COOOOOOOL!"

CLOSING CEREMONY

Snowflake Closing Ceremony Santa Clara County Council

Have Cub Scouts and family members cut out snowflakes when they enter the pack meeting, and put their names on them. (Six sided snowflakes can be made by folding a square sheet of paper in half, and then into thirds.) Tape or fasten to a wall, curtain, blackboard or window.

Have you ever caught a snowflake on a black piece of paper and studied it? It is so delicate and fragile that it melts almost before you can pick out its unique shape and structure. And it is unique, because each snowflake forms its own pattern of crystals in a six-sided shape. No two are exactly alike. There may be some that are similar, but none are the same.

Each of you created a snowflake tonight. Look at the variety and differences. Each of you started out with the same materials, but you created something that is truly unique.

Every person is unique, too. You may have your Mom's eyes, or your Dad's sense of humor. You may even be a twin and look so much alike that people have trouble telling

you apart. But you are different in the things you like, the things you think, and the way you live your lives. You have your own unique contribution to make to the world. You have your own unique gifts and talents that will benefit you and those around you. You have your own unique style, laugh, dreams, and strengths.

One snowflake will melt in an instant. But think of what happens when all those snowflakes are together in one place at one time. A pile of snow can make a ski jump, block a highway, or collapse a roof. A mountain of snow can provide water for a town for the whole summer, or carve the sides of a canyon. A lot of snow can accomplish things one snowflake can't, but it takes all of them working together to be successful.

Let's unite ourselves, each unique individual, and work towards the common goals of citizenship, service, physical and spiritual strength, and brotherhood, and see what a contribution we can make to the world. Let's stand and repeat the Cub Scout Promise and the Law of the Pack.

Year's End Closing San Francisco Bay Area Council

Staging: House lights are dimmed. Ceremony board or log containing 7 small candles and 1 tall candle representing the Spirit of Cub Scouting.

Cubmaster: (Lights candles) This last ceremony for 1998 is one of rededication. Tonight 4 candles represent the Cub Scout Ranks--Bobcat, Wolf, Bear, and Webelos. Will all Bobcat Cub Scouts and their parents please stand.

Bobcats, do you promise in 1998 to do your best to help other people and obey the Law of the Pack, and to advance in rank?

Bobcats: We'll do our best! (Extinguish Bobcat candle).

Cubmaster: (Follow same procedure for Wolf and Bear Cub Scouts).

Cubmaster: Will all Webelos and their parents please stand. Webelos, do you promise in 1998 to do your best to help other people and obey the Law of the Pack and to earn the Arrow of Light Award if you have not already earned it? Webelos: We'll do our best!

Cubmaster: Three candles and the Spirit of Cub Scouting candle remain burning. Those three candles stand for Follow, Helps, and Gives, which means, "We'll be loyal". Will you be loyal Cub Scouts in 1998? (All respond) (Three candles are extinguished). The Spirit of Cub Scouting will burn as it does in the hearts of Cub Scouts everywhere. May it continue to burn brightly in your hearts during the year of 1998 as we go upward and forward in Pack ____.
Good Night, Cub Scouts.

TRAINING AROUND THE U.S.

I will be spending Saturday, November 7th in Gadsen, AL which is about an hour from where I live at our UoS. I am going as a participant. If you have any questions about

BALOO'S BUGLE

our University of Scouting and would like to attend, please call Derrick Jordan at our Scout office at (205) 883-7071.

<http://www.bsagreateralabama.org/camping.htm>

University of Scouting--Greater Alabama Council

Over forty different hour-long courses are offered each year at this supplementary training event. In late fall, this event gives a Scouter an opportunity to gain more knowledge in areas past his basic training level. Courses are divided into Colleges of Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, Commissioner Science, and District Operations. In these classes, the well-trained staff of volunteers share an abundance of information on everything from running a pack meeting to outdoor cooking. The University of Scouting will be held on Saturday, November 7, 1998, at the campus of Gadsden State Community College. The University of Scouting is open to all Scouters and will feature courses in various Cub Scouting subjects like Cub Scout Spirit, Rope Magic, Pack Administration and Den Chiefs. Boy Scouting programs will include such favorites as Boy Scout Camping, Cooking, Wood Tools, Campfires and Scouting on the Internet. Other courses will be available in topics like Unit Commissioner Service, Charter Renewal, Youth Protection and Outdoor Program Promotion

YANKEE CLIPPER COUNCIL POW WOW

Saturday, November 14th
Maple Street Congregational Church
Maple Street, Danvers Massachusetts
8:15 am to 3:00 pm
Registration Fee -- \$10.00 per person
For more information and/or directions, they can contact me, Don Bohnwagner (DRBOHNSR@aol.com) or Gwilym Clarke (clarkgj@alfa.com).

Lorie, from South Carolina sent this

Indian Waters Council University of Scouting (formerly known as Supertrain) will be on Sat. Jan 17, 1999 in Columbia SC. Contact person(s):
Hal Donnelly <donnelly@scsn.net> Etowah Creek DE
Lorie McGraw <llmcgraw@worldnet.att.net>
Etowah Creek District Website
<http://home.att.net/~llmcgraw/etowah/ecd-indx.htm>
or Phone the Indian Waters Scout Service Center at (803)750-9855

From (Karweik, Barbara)

Our Pow Wow is Jan 30, 1999. Our theme is "Be Prepared to Do Your Best" and includes 89 courses for both Cub Scout and Boy Scout leaders. We expect about 1000 attendees. If anyone wants an application form or more information they can Email me Barb KarweikB@chi.osu.edu their name and address and I will respond.

It will be at Westerville North High School in Westerville OH which is a northern suburb of Columbus OH. It starts at 9 AM on Jan 30, 1999. Our Council phone number is 1-800-433-4051.

WEBELOS Citizen

Heart of America Council

The Webelos leader should plan carefully so that boys get a feeling for the real meaning of citizenship without spending a lot of time in study. There are various ways to do this. You might give them the opportunity to get a close look at government by planning a field trip to a local government agency or court. One of the best ways to stress the meaning of good citizenship is by practicing the good turn. This should be a "must" for every boy. Working on this badge can be exciting, fun and informative, or it can be just more reports to write.

Information Every Citizen Should Know

Heart of America Council

Who Succeeds the President? Everyone knows that in the case of the death of the President, the vice-president would take over the presidency. However, what happens if the vice-president also dies?

Congress dealt with this issue in the 1940's and decided that the following people should take over the Presidency in the order given:

President
Vice-President
Speaker of the House of Representatives
President pro tempore of the Senate
Secretary of State
Secretary of Treasury
Secretary of Defense
Attorney General
Postmaster General
Secretary of the Interior
Secretary of Agriculture
Secretary of Commerce
Secretary of Labor

This succession was established by an Act of Congress on July 18, 1947.

Opening Ceremony

Greater St. Louis Area Council

Have seven cards with one of each of the following letters, C-I-T-I-Z-E-N printed on them with the message for each letter on the back of the card.

C - CHOICE

As Americans we have the freedom of choice where we live and how we live

I INDIVIDUAL

Each of us had the freedom and the right to be ourselves

T- TOGETHER

Fifty separate states form one united nation.

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I - INDEPENDENCE

Our forefathers fought for our freedom to be an independent nation.

Z - ZEAL

Our devotion or duty to God, our country and ourselves.

E - ELECTION

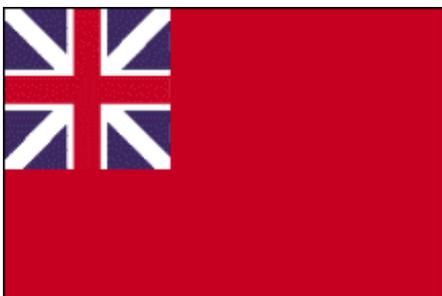
As Americans, we have the right to elect leaders to office who will serve our needs.

N - NATION

The United States of America, our home.

Please join us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Don Bohnwagner a scouter sent this to me. This is an excellent history of our American Flag.



Slowly, as a result of wars and purchases, the United Kingdom became the ruler of what was to become the thirteen colonies. The British Red Ensign was the flag that flew over the colonies in the New World from 1634 to the start of the War for Independence in 1775. The Red Ensign was a red flag with the Crosses of St. Andrew and George on a blue ensign.

“The United Colonies of America”

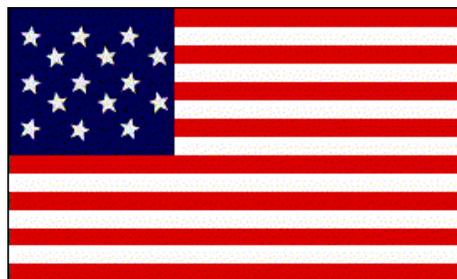
After fighting the early months of the war under flag of communities, militia group, and individuals, George Washington proposed that we have a flag of our own. He suggested that we overlay six white stripes on the red of the Red Ensign. It became the Flag of the “United Colonies of America”. It was carried on the Flagship “Alfred” by Lt. John Paul Jones on December 3, 1775. And was hoisted at the encampment on Prospect Hill in Cambridge Massachusetts on January 2, 1776 when General George Washington took command of the Continental army.

“Stars and Stripes”



This 13-Star Flag became the Official Flag of The United States on June 14, 1777 as the result of congressional action that took place on that date. The Continental Congress meeting in Philadelphia decided that the new nation should have a distinctive flag. It resolved “That the flag of the thirteen United States be 13 stripes, alternately red and white -- That the union be 13 stars, white on a blue field, representing a new constellation.” Francis Hopkinson was a delegate from New Jersey to the Congress, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, a member of the Maritime Committee. It was one of the Maritime Committee's assignment to recommend designs for a new flag for the United States of America. After the war, Mr. Hopkinson submitted a bill to Congress for the designs of currency, the Great Seal of the United States, a treasury seal, and for a flag. His flag design had thirteen alternating red and white stripes and a blue field containing thirteen white stars in the same configuration of the Rhode Island Flag (3-2-3-2-3). Many vexillologists believe Mr. Hopkinson's flag was the First Official Flag of the United States of America. Because of its colors and stars and stripes, it was known as “The Red, White, and Blue” and “The Stars and Strips”.

“The Star Spangled Banner”

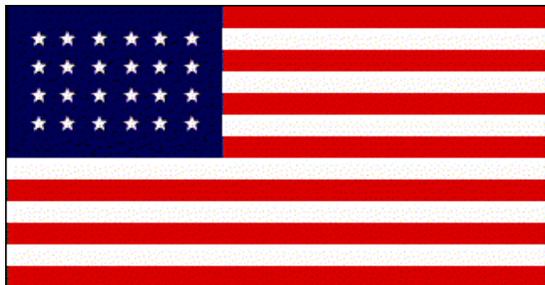


On January 13, 1794, the thirteen stars and stripe flag was replaced with a flag of fifteen stars and stripes. The two additional stars and stripes were added to represent the new states of Vermont and Kentucky. It was this flag that flew over Fort McHenry during the British bombardment on September 13th and 14th in 1814. It inspired a young Washington lawyer named Francis Scott Key to write the poem that became our

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National Anthem as a result our flag had another name
"The Star Spangled Banner".

"Old Glory"



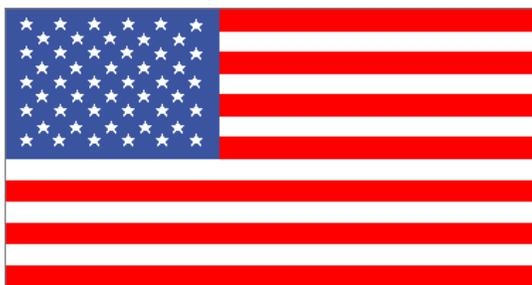
On July 4, 1822, the 24-star flag became the sixth "Stars and Stripes" to fly over the United States of America. "Old Glory", at first was a single flag the bore the name now familiar to us all. The flag belonged to Sea Captain William Driver. He received the flag in 1824. At that time he was about to sail from his homeport of Salem Massachusetts, on one of the trips that took him around the world. From that date on, the flag went with him on his ship "Charles Doggett" whenever he went.

In 1837, after countless voyages, Captain Driver retired from the sea and went to live Nashville Tennessee. Of course, he took his flag with him and displayed it on holidays and on St. Patrick's Day (March 17th, his birthday as well). He and his flag became well known in Nashville.

When the Civil War broke out those who hoisted American flags in Nashville were attacked by Southern sympathizers. Confederate soldiers searched Driver's home on several occasions for his flag, but never found it. When Union forces entered the city, Driver ripped open a bedspread and revealed his flag that had escaped any harm. Seeing it float from the top of the Capitol building in Nashville, Driver declared "I am ready to meet my forefathers knowing 'Old Glory' and Tennessee have been saved for the Union".

After the war, the story of Captain Driver's flag and its name spread by word of mouth and in books and newspapers. Although there is doubt about whatever happened to Old Glory, its name lives in the hearts of Americans.

"Our Flag"



Today, whatever you choose to call it, it has 50 stars one for each state of the Union. It is the 27th Official Flag of the United States of America -- Our Flag.

About The Author

Donald R. (Don) Bohnwagner Sr. is an Active Member of the North America Vexillological Association and New England Vexillological Association, a Standard Bearer of the National Flag Foundation, and a Patron Member of the Flag Research Center.

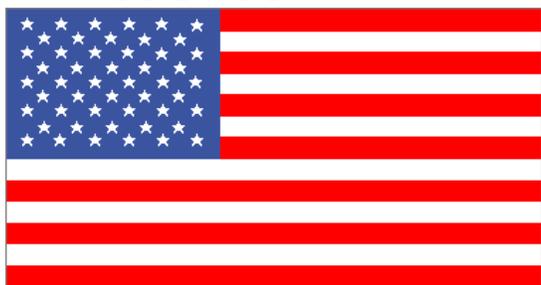
His interest in flags dates back to the spring of 1952, when his sixth grade teacher gave him a copy of a textbook that was being discontinued by the school system. The book was "The Story Of The American Flag" by Wayne Whipple. The book along with the fact that Don was born on June 14 1940, Flag Day, sparked an interest in the history of "Old Glory".

This spark smoldered until it became rekindled as a Boy Scout Leader in 1974. At that time one of the requirements for boy to become a Tenderfoot Scout was to "Describe and give a short history of the American Flag". As a visual aid to help boys better understand this requirement, Don purchased reproductions of the five flags -- The Queen Anne, Grand Union, Betsy Ross, Star Spangled Banner, and The Flag of 1818. From that point, his collection grew to include many reproductions of historic flags. Those of the Early Explorers of the "New World", the Revolutionary War, and the Civil War. Because of his knowledge and collection, Don has been invited to speak before Scouting groups and other civic organizations. From those speaking opportunities, he has developed a series of multi-media presentations called "Flags Over America".

"Call Me What You May ... I Am Your Flag"

Don Bohnwagner, Sr.

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Since its birth on June 14, 1777, our Flag has been called by many names. Whether you call it "The Red, White, and Blue", "The Stars and Stripes", "The Star Spangled Banner", or "Old Glory", it is the symbol of our country and of all that the United States of America has been, is, and will always be. It is Our Flag -- God Bless America.

We All Scream for Ice Cream

Viking Council

Ice cream was invented in Italy in the 16th century, but when Dolly Madison, wife of James Madison (the fourth President, served it at the White House it was still considered a delicacy. Since that time, ice cream has become America's favorite dessert, as evidenced by 1989 average consumption of 16 pounds per person per year! One third of all ice cream sold is vanilla, followed closely by chocolate and strawberry.

For your pack meeting help plan a patriotic ice cream social. Arrange for ice cream machines, electric or hand crankers, and have the ingredients all ready to mix when the pack meeting begins.

Serve in small sundae cups. (Find a local business willing to donate them.)

Tell It Like It Is

Viking Council

Send a den letter to the President of the USA!

The President and Mrs. Clinton

The White House

Washington, D.C. 20500

Craftsman

Sam Houston Area Council

To earn this badge the boys must complete 10 craft projects. There is no way these can all be completed at den meeting, so here is a chance to involve the parents. Have the boys get help from their fathers at home. You can also enlist the help of the fathers in furnishing tools to be used during den meeting.

Ideas for Den Meetings

- List tools needed to complete badge
- Visit cabinet shop, unfinished furniture shop, or lumber yard
- Make a tool chest or bench hook for sawing
- Have a birdhouse building project

- Invite someone to give a demonstration on the safe use of tools

For Materials

- Ask your lumber yard for scrap lumber they are going to throw away

Ask carpet companies for carpet scraps which are to be discarded

- Auto upholstery companies will sometimes give you plastic scraps left over from seat covers.

- Check with cabinet shops for scrap pieces of lumber, molding, etc.

Mineral Collection BookEnds

The Great Whidgit Whatchamacallit and Thingamajig Idea Book By

Sue Thomas and Betsy Warren, Greater St. Louis Area Council

Your rocks and minerals collection will probably have some beautiful pieces which you can put to use in a pair of book ends. Try to have pieces as identical possible to match up each bookend.

The right-angle wood base is made of 3/4" wood, the base measuring 4 3/4' square, the upright piece 4 3/4"x5 1/4".

These are simply nailed together to become your form.

The plaster is made by stirring 1 1/4 cups of plaster of Paris into a cupful of water in an old pan. When the mixture starts to thicken it is spooned immediately on the plaster form, building it up the back. Then a second batch of plaster is mixed in the same proportions and the form is built up further.

Press your specimens, foliage, figurines, etc., into this second layer before it hardens completely. You will have to work pretty fast. After a few hours you can slide the bookend off the wood base, peel back the foil and lift the bookend off. At this point, break off any thin irregular projections of the plaster for these will only crumble off later. After allowing a week for thorough drying, glue felt to bottom by applying glue on plaster first, then when that dries, add a second layer and a layer of glue on the left.

Web Sites

Tiger Cub program

<http://www.nashville.com/~pack188/atiger.htm>

Theme Related

Let's Celebrate

Christmas Traditions

<http://hipp.gator.net/xmastrad.html>

A Christmas Celebration, lots of ideas at this one

<http://www.crestviewfl.com/~christmas/index.htm>

Tracing Santa with Windows97

<http://www.eaze.net/~citiuss/santa.htm>

Santa Letter

<http://www.north-pole.co.uk/>

Christmas Around the World

<http://www.santaclaus.com/world.html>

Scouting sites

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Stan and Barb have an excellent comprehensive site

<http://members.aol.com/standcmr/index.html>

Lorie has put together a great site about Den Chiefs

<http://home.att.net/~llmcgraw/etowah/ecd-indx.htm>

and click on the Den Chief Training link.

Visit the Slide Show for great Neckerchief Slide Ideas:

<http://home.att.net/~llmcgraw/etowah/slides.htm>

Skip's site

<http://www2.inow.com/~wag/pack273.html>

Home page for United States Scouting Service Project

<http://www.usscouts.org/>

Really a nice bright look at Pack 242's site (W. Des Moines)

<http://www.geocities.com/Yosemite/Rapids/5115/index.html>

A cyber-scouting friend that I have had the pleasure of meeting has two neat scrolling items at his site

<http://members.aol.com/disunit1/pack9/pack9.htm>

Visit Pack 25 in New Haven, CT and sign there guest book

<http://members.aol.com/cubpack25/page1.htm>

Adult Leader Resources

Are you on day camp staff. Judy sent me this information and site

Lots of Cub day camps, Resident camps and Family camps are recruiting directors and program directors for next summer's fun, and an important factor in this process is training -- National Camp School!

This site:

http://users.aol.com/lwjones/scouts/ncs/n_camp_s.html

now has the 1998 camp schools' schedules. It is great

Fun Stuff

<http://www.random.com/free/>

Resources

The scouting graphics for all levels of scouting are available on line at

<http://usscouts.org/library.html>

It is also available for purchase as a CD Rom at the following number 1-800-SCOUTER