

Cub Scout Pack 444



Information Booklet 2008-2009

WELCOME TO PACK 444

Your son has been registered as a new or returning Cub Scout in Pack 444. All Cub Scouts are members of the Pack; however there are different levels within the Pack.

The boys are grouped by grade level:

1st grade - Tiger

2nd grade - Wolf

3rd grade - Bear

4th grade - Webelos I

5th grade - Webelos II

The individual levels are formed into Dens. Usually, each level consists of one Den. A larger group may require more than one Den. We would like to keep Dens to a manageable and efficient size. Each Den has a Leader and often has an Assistant Leader. *Due to the young age, it is required that Tiger Cubs have a partner attending each Den meeting. The partner can be a parent or a relative.*

Cub Scouts is an all-volunteer organization. Your Committee and Den Leaders are all volunteers. Every year we have a need for additional volunteers. As older boys move on to Boy Scouts, their parents go along with them, many of whom were active volunteers.

Your son's Den Leader or the Committee may ask for your assistance. Please say **"yes"** The more participation we have from parents, the more beneficial Cub Scouting will be to your son!

If everyone does a little, no one has to do a lot.

Ways that you can help:

- Become a Den Leader, Assistant Leader or Committee member.
- Offer to make phone calls for your Den Leader.
- Offer to help track the boys' progress in their books, so the Den Leader can concentrate on the Scouts.
- Arrange carpools with parents having scheduling problems on meeting nights.
- Offer to assist in a fundraiser or event.
- Ask a Leader or Committee person: “***How can I help?***”

Cub Scouting is a family centered organization. ***It is very important that parents work with your sons at home, on their advancements.*** The Cub Scout books are easy to follow and fun. Many of the advancements can be completed by simply performing normal family functions. Check with your son's Den Leader to see what advancements will be completed at Den meetings and which would best be completed at home.

Any and all advancements can be completed at home, at your own pace.

Pack 444 Organization

Cub Scout Pack 444
Indian Trail District
Greater Niagara Frontier Council (GNFC)

Indian Trail Senior District Executive: Justin King
Indian Trail District Commissioner: Mike Hilczmayer
Unit Commissioner: Patty Danni

Chartered Organization of Maplemere Elementary PTA
Chartered Organization Representative: Amy Guppenberger

Committee Members

Committee Chairperson: Laura Tirone
Cubmaster: Nick Ruber
Assistant Cubmaster: *Position Currently Available*
Treasurer: Bill Stoj
Secretary: *Position Currently Available*
Advancements: Julie Kremer
Blue & Gold Dinner: Julie Kremer & Chris Kremer
Popcorn Chairperson: Lori Whitecar
Pinewood Derby: Chris Kremer
Camping: Peter Stecher

Den Leaders

Den 1 - Tiger

Leader: Christine Steward

Assistant: *Position Currently Available*

Den 2 - Wolf

Leader: John Duffy

Assistant: *Position Currently Available*

Den 3 – Bear

Co-Leaders: Cheryl Vance & Becky Silverberg

Den 4 – Webelos I

Co-Leaders: Peter Stecher & Nick Ruber

Den 5 – Webelos II

Co-Leaders: Chris Kremer & Laura Tirone

Meetings

Meetings are held at Maplemere Elementary School cafetorium, every Thursday. Meetings begin at 6:30. Scouts should be at the school by 6:20.

Generally, the first three weeks of the month are Den meetings. The fourth week of the month is the Pack meeting.

The Pack meeting is an awards night. This is a more formal meeting where Scouts are rewarded for their achievements. It is vitally important for all parents to attend the Pack meetings, to show support for their sons. It is also a night when important announcements are made concerning upcoming events.

The exact dates of Den meetings and Pack meetings can be found in the schedule which is available on the Pack's web site - <http://www.cubpack444.org>. All planned events for the year are listed in the schedule.

All Scouts *must* be signed in to all Den meetings by a parent. This assists us in keeping attendance, as well as assuring that all Scouts are accounted for.

Uniforms

The Pack has designated three uniform classes:

“A” Uniform: Cub Scout shirt; blue *dress pants (no jeans or sweats)*; neckerchief & slide; hat is optional; shirts tucked neatly into pants.

“B” Uniform: Cub Scout shirt; blue casual pants; neckerchief & slide; hat is optional; shirts tucked neatly into pants.

“C” Uniform: Pack 444 T-shirt; casual blue pants or shorts; hat is optional.

The typical uniform designations are:

“A” uniform - Pack meetings, Blue & Gold Dinner, ceremonies.

“B” uniform - Den meetings, BSA-sanctioned events.

“C” uniform - Camping, outings, non-BSA-sanctioned events.

All Scout uniforms and supplies can be purchased at the GNFC Scout Shop which is located at the Council Service Center:

2860 Genesee Street; Buffalo, NY 14225
Phone (716) 891-4022, fax (716) 512-6217

The Scout Shop Hours from September – June are:
Monday, Wednesday & Friday - 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM
Tuesday & Thursday - 10:00 AM – 7:30 PM
1st & 3rd Saturdays - 10:00 AM- 2:00 PM

Uniform Requirements

Scout Shirt: Blue for Cub Scouts, tan or blue for Webelos

Neckerchief: Appropriate color for rank, slide. *Store will advise.*

Patches: GNFC Council, 444, World Brotherhood, American flag. All other necessary patches will be provided by the Pack.
Store will advise on correct patches.
Both the store and the Pack can advise on patch placement and installation.

Pants: Blue dress pants, blue casual pants (no holes or frays).

Hat: Any sanctioned Cub Scout hat is acceptable, but optional.

Pack 444 Code of Conduct

- Arrive at meetings by 6:20, so that we can begin by 6:30.
- Wipe your shoes or boots, so as not to track water into the School.
- Hang coats on coat rack in hallway.
- Be prepared – Be in proper uniform for meetings, tucked in and neat. Have your Scout book with you.
- Have a parent sign you in, and advise your parent to pick up informational flyers on the sign-in table.
- Go directly to cafeteria, do not go in halls, rooms, or gym, unless accompanied by an adult, or instructed to do so.
- **Never** run in halls. Do not touch anything hanging on walls.
- Be courteous to your fellow scouts. No running, wrestling or yelling. No inappropriate language, **ever**.
- Be courteous to your Pack leaders. Watch for the Scout Sign (all quiet). Listen to all instructions and announcements. Don't be disruptive during meetings
- **Be a good Scout.**

Remember: It is a *privilege* for our Pack to use the facilities at Maplemere Elementary. Let's respect the property and keep that privilege.

Fundraisers

Pack 444 usually has two fundraisers each year.

Our primary fundraiser is selling Trails End Gourmet Popcorn. Typically, the popcorn sale kits are handed out at re-registration meeting, in early September. Completed popcorn orders are due back by late October. Popcorn orders are then picked up, for distribution, around mid-November. Our goal of the *Ideal Year of Scouting* is based primarily on strong popcorn sales. Please begin as soon as you receive your packet, and sell as much as possible.

The more a Scout sells, the less his parents will be asked to subsidize upcoming events. As mentioned earlier, our goal is to sell enough popcorn to cover *all* expenses, for *all* Scouts, for the entire season, *including camping*.

Our secondary fundraiser is a Hot Dog Sale during the summer. We have had great success with this in the past. Each Scout is assigned a day and time (one-and-a-half hours) to sell Hot Dogs with boys from the Pack. There are typically 4 Scouts selling during a time slot, with adult supervision and adults doing the cooking.

Note: The Hot Dog Sale is not a sanctioned BSA event. Cub Scout shirts cannot be worn. We encourage boys to wear their Pack 444 T-shirts and hats (Class "C" uniform).

Major Events

The following is a list of *typical* annual events. The Pack Committee is always looking for new and exciting activities so these events may change during the year. Remember to check the Pack's web site – <http://www.cubpack444.org> where you will find the most up-to-date information and schedule of events, watch for e-mailings from the Pack, and/or pick up flyers at the sign-in table.

- October:** Halloween Activity Day at Scouthaven, Trick-or-Treating at the Amherst Museum
Popcorn sales. Pinewood Derby Cars Are Handed Out.
- November:** Popcorn Sales, Pickup Popcorn Orders.
- December:** Holiday party
- January:** Pinewood derby.
- February:** Akela–Scout Bake-Off (Specific Dens)
- March:** Akela–Scout Bake-Off (Specific Dens)
- April:** Blue & Gold Dinner, Moving up Ceremonies, Graduation to Boy Scouts.
- May:** Space Derby
- June:** Summer Activity- (Flag Day, Bisons Baseball And Other Activities.)
- July:** Summer Activity- (March in the Old Home Days Parade, Hot Dog Sale)
- August:** Summer Activity- (Camping at Scouthaven, Welcome-Back Picnic, Raingutter Regatta, Pack Olympics)
- September:** Roundup, Re-Registration, Den Meetings Resume

Cub Scout Basics

Akela: The Cub Scout term for a leader- any leader- including Den Leaders, Cubmasters, teachers, parents, and any other adult the Scout looks up to. Akela can sign off on all achievements.

Achievements: requirements for advancement listed in the Tiger, Bear, and Wolf Cub Scout books. The badges are awarded at Pack meetings. Boys are also recognized with beads for partial completion, as earned. They can be earned in Dens or as desired, at home.

Arrow of Light: Highest award available in Cub Scouting. Awarded to Webelos Scouts after completing requirements.

Arrow points: Additional achievements for Wolf and Bear Scouts.

Belt Loops: Additional achievements in sports and academics.

Bobcat Badge: First badge earned by Cub Scouts, when they join the Pack or after completing Tiger Cubs.

Chartered Organization: The organization that sponsors a Cub Scout Pack. They are responsible for overseeing the Pack and ensuring that BSA guidelines are followed. (Ours is the Maplemere Elementary PTA)

Chartered Organization Representative: Committee member responsible for reporting Pack progress to the Chartered Organization. (Amy Guppenberger)

Charter renewal: Annual process during which the charter issued by BSA to the chartered organization is renewed. The Pack Committee must verify the list of boys and adults registered in the pack, along with an annual renewal fee.

Cub Scout Sign: Used when Cub Scouts recite the Cub Scout Promise and law. The sign is also used to get attention and quiet at any Cub Scout function. To make the sign, hold up your right hand, with the arm straight and first and middle fingers extended. The other fingers and thumb are folded over into the palm.

Den Chief: A Boy Scout who serves as an assistant to a Cub Scout Den Leader.

Denner: A Cub or Webelos Scout elected to assist the Den Leader for one month. If an Assistant Denner position is used, the Assistant Denner will become Denner the following month.

Friends of Scouting: Fundraiser for our local Council.

Pinewood Derby: Boys build wooden race cars, with adult assistance, and race them down tracks for prizes and trophies.

Raingutter Regatta: Boys build wooden sailboats, with adult assistance, and race them in a water-filled gutter, by blowing on the sails.

Space Derby: Boys build wooden rockets, with adult assistance, powered by rubber band-driven propellers. The rockets are raced between starting and finish gates on “tracks” of fishing line.

Tiger Cub Promise:

"I promise to love God, my family, and my country, and to learn about the world."

Tiger Cub Motto: "Search, Discover, Share."

Cub Scout Promise:

"I (name) , promise to do my best,
To do my duty to God and my country,
To help other people, and
To obey the Law of the Pack."

Law of the Pack:

The Cub Scout follows Akela.
The Cub Scout helps the pack go.
The Pack helps the Scout grow.
The Cub Scout gives goodwill.

Cub Scout Motto: Do Your Best.

Webelos: Pronounced *Wee-buh-lows*, is made up of the first letters of these words: "**WE**'ll **BE LO**yal **S**couts". This reminds Cub Scouts that they'll soon be Boy Scouts