

GULF COAST COUNCIL
SCHOOL NIGHT
FOR
CUB SCOUTING
2010



Gulf Coast Council
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Pensacola, FL 32514
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Toll free (888) GULF BSA
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BEFORE YOU LEAVE HOME

- Contact District Headquarters. Phone number _____
 - Choctaw** – Bryant Perkins (850) 683-0330
 - Lake Sands** – Brandon Goodwin (850) 784-1886
 - Pensacola Bay-Escambia and Atmore** – Brandon Jacola (850) 501-9329
 - Pensacola Bay-Santa Rosa and Brewton/Flomaton** – Billy Egan (850) 207-5038
- Prepare your pre-opening activity
- Wear your uniform
- Review agenda and practice your presentation
- Take a calculator
- Take 20-30 pens
- Take some change. Both bills and coins.
- Take masking tape

6:00 p.m. ARRIVE AT SCHOOL

Unload cars and get everyone to set up materials, displays, exhibits, head table, Tiger cub area, chairs, etc. (Hurry! you don't have much time.)

6:30 p.m. PRE-OPENING

- Someone should greet people as they enter and direct them to visit display areas and to their correct table marked by school grade. Have a sign-in sheet for them to fill out before they sit down.
- Hand each family a copy of your year's activities, and other Scout handouts.
- A sign is up with Pack number, chartered organization, location, date, and time of Pack meetings.
- Signs are on tables for (1st Graders & Parents), (2nd Graders & Parents), (3rd Graders & Parents) and, (4th / 5th Graders & Parents).
- Starting Now! Put on an exciting program at "School Night" to sell boys and parents. (i.e.: Slides & photos, Pinewood Derby Track-action, etc...Remember: "People jump on bandwagons and they jump off sinking ships"...which are you going to show them?)

7:00 p.m. OPENING CEREMONY (Start on Time)**Teach "When the Sign Goes Up"**

Explain that whenever you raise your hand in the Cub Scout sign, the group is to become very quiet and pay attention. Have everyone practice it a few times until it becomes automatic. This method of getting order saves your voice and nerves.

Flag Ceremony

Have everyone stand and salute. The flag is marched up with all saluting. The flag is halted at the head and turned about face, whereupon all assembled give the Pledge of Allegiance, The Cub Scout Promise, and Invocation.

Welcome

Welcome everyone. Introduce yourself, and other leaders. Tell a little about your pack and a few super fun activities. Try an Ice Breaker. Do a quick silly song, etc. Start with excitement. It's like a cold, you can't catch it if no one's got it'

7:15 p.m. ORGANIZE YOUR TABLES

Ask everyone to sit with their family at the group of tables marked with their son's school grade. Ask them to sit parent-boy-parent-boy. If ten or more boys are in a single grade, split the tables evenly by the number of boys. (*This is your early den formation.*) Even if most are already at the proper tables, a number of families will still need to move to a new table.

Do not let the boys or any other children run in hallways, stay outside, back of room, etc. Have **all** children sit **NEXT** to their parents or guardian.

7:20 p.m. THE PURPOSE OF CUB SCOUTING

Boy Needs

- TO HAVE FUN - (Is the biggest thing for the boy) i.e.: Cuboree, Day Camp, Pinewood Derby, Campouts, Fishing, BB Gun Shooting, etc., etc.
- TO ACHIEVE - (Each Boy works at his own speed as best he can, and then gets his reward. Scouting has no negatives or bad grades)
- A SENSE OF BELONGING - (He is a member of both the Pack & Den)
- TO LEARN NEW SKILLS - (Different things are taught every month in a fun and positive way. Cub Scouts learn BY DOING THINGS)

Parent Concerns

- Your son will learn to "Do His Best". This is the Cub Scout Motto.
- Family understanding. Parents will be involved in the things he does.
- Character development, Learning sportsmanship, and positive attitudes.
- Good Citizenship. This is getting along with other boys and adults, and learning how to be a leader.
- To develop a positive attitude about learning (*Show the Fun Wolf Book*)

We all want our sons to become fine young men. Cub Scouts will help make this happen. Cub Scouts mix fun and excitement into activities that teach character, citizenship, and personal fitness.

This starts the scripted section

7:30 p.m. PACK AND DEN ORGANIZATION

*Time to
control
the
noise*

(This is the time to have all children go to a separate part of the room with some cub scout leaders and den chiefs to work on fun things while the leadership needs are explained to the parents.)

How do we make all this happen? We use a plan that's been proven for 100 years. Scouting is fun for the entire family. We are a "family organization."

All boys join a Cub Pack. The Pack meets once a month and it's a family meeting. (Mom, Dad, Brothers, Sisters, etc.)

All the individual grades are in Dens that have 6 to 8 members and meet once a week with their Den Leader.

The Cub Pack has a **Pack Committee made up of parents** who help in areas such as: Secretary, Treasurer, Awards, Special Events, and Pack Meetings.

The pack has a **parent who serves as Cubmaster**. This person sets up the once a month Pack Meeting and works with the Pack Committee and Den Leaders. The Den Leaders are also parents and they all require yet another parent as the Assistant Den Leader. **The Den Leaders meet one hour a week with their sons and five or six of his friends. The full support of every parent is essential to have a quality Cub Scout Program.**

Cub Scouting should never be used as a child care service.

But it is quality family time that will enrich your life as well as your son's.

7:35 p.m. LEADER RECRUITMENT

There are a lot of **new** boys here tonight who want to become **new** Cub Scouts.

"I hope it comes as no surprise to you" "That in order for new boys to become new Cub Scouts, we must have new Parents to become new Leaders!

We have talked about why boys want to be Cub Scouts and why parents want their sons to be Cub Scouts.

But for all of this to happen, everyone must get involved.

We need for everyone to do their fair share, so a few will not be doing everything.

Some of you here tonight will want to become Den Leaders. Some will become Assistant Leaders. Some will become Pack Committee Members.

Every year, over 2 million American boys are Cub Scouts, and every year ½ million parents are their Cub Scout Leaders. Folks, that's one out of every four parents as Leaders nationwide. In our local Scout District, we have one out of every three parents as leaders.

If everybody works together, then the program works and everyone enjoys it.

What we get out of it depends upon what we put into it.

If you are sitting with someone you already know, you might decide to team up and assist each other with a Den.

Remember: We cannot sign up new boys without new Leaders.

I don't know how close you are to your son, but Cub Scout Leaders do develop a special relationship with their son. If you want quality time with your son, then be his Cub Scout Leader.

If you don't get deeply involved with your son now, it will be too late when he becomes a teenager.

If you just want to just have a lot of fun with your son, be his Cub Leader.

7:40 p.m. DEN ORGANIZATION

The way we get leaders is for each table group to introduce themselves to one another and decide for themselves who would be the best leaders for their sons.

For every Den of 6 to 8 boys we must have ONE Den Leader, ONE Assistant Den Leader, and would like ONE member for the Pack Committee. The registration fee to be a Leader for 16 months is \$21.00 - the same as the boys. Boy's Life fee (optional) is \$16.00.

You will only have a few minutes to select your leaders. Everyone at your table must take a turn talking. Everyone should say, in turn, if they are willing to be the Leader, the Assistant, or be on the Pack Committee, **“OR” you should give your reason why you cannot be a Leader for your son.**

Now! There are three reasons that won't count - so don't even use them!

1. “Somebody else would do a better job.”

(These are your children and they need your love & attention. Nobody can do that better for your son than you.)

2. “I've never done anything like this before, I wouldn't know how.”

(Every year ½ million parents are Cub Leaders; we will show you how. Scouting offers a blueprint plan for each den level to use in preparing for meetings. Den leaders will get a 16 meeting plan to follow and detailed agendas for each meeting. Can't get easier than that!)

3. “I would like to, but I just don't have the time.”

(Den meetings take place at a time the leaders decide upon. They can be on a Saturday, weeknight, anytime.)

Let's face it; we make time for the things that are important to us.

We realize that there are many important things that you do,
but are any of those things more important than your son?

Is anything more important to you than what kind of man he grows up to be?

Will he be of good character and a good citizen?

Be honest with yourself! What kind of quality activities are you doing
together with your son **now**?

Are they things that really count? Do they really make a difference?

Or are you like most of us, needing something like Scouting to help?

The last thing I am going to do is read you a poem called "A Boy's Eyes"
It is based upon a true story, written by a Cubmaster. After I finish, you will
need to start your table discussion. We will bring around the materials you
need. As soon as you have your Leaders, please let me know!

*(Read "A Boy's Eyes" and finish with "Good luck at your tables." Now quickly pass out
Adult Applications, Cub Applications, Pens. and a large envelope to each table.)*

*(If a group is sitting silent, just help them get started. Appoint a Table Duty Foreman, ask everyone to
introduce themselves and say what they think about being a leader. Do not stay with a single group or get
caught by a bunch of questions. Let them talk it out among themselves. Stay busy away from the tables.)*

8:00 p.m. REGISTRATION

**As each group completes their leadership, have all the new leaders stand
and introduce themselves and their position. Lead in a big applause for
each one.**

Once leadership is secured, parents may complete all applications and pay
fees. The only fees to be collected at this meeting are the \$21.00 registration
fees and \$16 Boy's Life fees(optional). Parents may pay by cash, check
(made payable to Gulf Coast Council) or credit card. If someone wishes to
pay by credit card they simply need to write, "WISH TO PAY BY CREDIT
CARD. PLEASE CONTACT ME AT PHONE NUMBER _____" on
the bottom of the application. A representative from the council office will
call them for their credit card information. Do not take any credit card
information at the school night. Have the new den leadership collect and
turn in all applications and registration fees to you.

If a group fails to select leadership, explain that their boys cannot join at this
time, but each boy will be placed on a waiting list. They can join as soon as
leadership is secured. Encourage each parent to reconsider and to go around
the table one last time. If all this fails, assign a person to make a waiting list
with names and telephone numbers. Make no promises of fitting the boys into
existing dens. The pack should still collect completed applications in this
situation, but should not collect money from a group with no leadership.

*Having a
second
meeting to
recruit
leaders or
volun-
teering
someone
who is not
present
just
doesn't
work.
It really is
all or
nothing
tonight!*

If more than one unit is at a school, make sure there is already an agreed upon method for where the families will be assigned. Geography or neighborhoods are the best methods. In no case should there be outward competition for new Scouting families. Such competition or arguments can only result in a very bad impression of Scouting for the new families. Besides, if a new Scout and his family later find that another unit is more convenient or better suited for them, they can always transfer.

Let people know that as they finish, they may leave. All new leaders should have their materials kit and a copy of their den roster. All applications and fees are to be turned in and guarded. Make sure you get two den rosters and all copies of all applications.

DON'T LET THE MEETING GO PAST 8:30 P.M.

8:30 p.m. LEAVING

Make sure you have all report envelopes, applications and fees from each den.

Help straighten up the meeting room and thank the custodian. (Please get all materials, pencils, paper, trash on tables, etc.) Turn off lights and lock the building if needed and you cannot find the custodian.

- **Bring all of your applications and registration fees etc. to the District Report Meeting.** We will have coffee, refreshments, adding machines, and security. You can work up your report and check your copies there. Don't forget to pat yourself on the back for a job well done.
- **The Report Meeting will only be on:**

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- **PLEASE: PLAN, REHEARSE, HIGHLIGHT, MAKE NOTES, AND GET LOTS OF PEOPLE TO HELP YOU.**

A Boy's Eyes

**"I'd like to be a Cub Scout -----"
(His eyes were deepest blue)
"I'd like to learn, and play, and build
Like Jim and Freddy do."**

**"I know how to use a hammer;
I can drive a nail if I try.
I'm eight years old, I'm big and strong
And hardly ever cry."**

**I gave him the application
And parent participation sheet.
(His eyes were filled with sunshine
As he left on dancing feet.)**

**Next day, my friend was back again,
A dejected little lad.
"I guess I'll skip the Cub Scouts."
(His eyes were dark and sad.)**

**"My Mom is awful busy,
She has lots of friends, you see.
She'd never have time for a den;
She hardly has, for me."**

**"And Dad is always working ----
He's hardly ever there.
To give them any more to do
Just wouldn't be quite fair."**

**He handed back the papers
With the dignity of eight years,
And, smiling bravely, left me
(His eyes were filled with tears.)**

**Do you see your own boy's eyes
As other people may?
How he looks when you're "too busy"
Or "just haven't time" today?**

**A boy is such a special gift ----
Why don't you realize,
It only takes a little time
To put sunshine in his eyes.**