

# Pack 436 News

## September 2017

**Welcome Back!** – We hope you all had a good summer and are glad you will join us for another exciting year in Cub Scouts. Our first Pack meeting will be held Tuesday, September 26<sup>st</sup> at Jones Lane ES and will start promptly at 7:00PM. Returning scouts please be in full uniform – NEW scouts do NOT need worry about the uniform for the first meeting. **Dues:** Your son's den leader will be collecting dues for the year - \$60 for the Tigers and \$80 for all the other boys. ***Please bring a check in the proper amount made out to "Pack 436" - it's important that we have all the boys covered before the campout on Sept 30.***

Note that this year's national and council registration costs have increased – we're working to mitigate that impact, including keeping a careful eye on expenses.

**Boating – September 17, Black Hills Park** – We'll be starting the year with a new outdoor activity – boating at Black Hills Regional Park, on the afternoon of Sunday September 17 at 2 pm. We won't be doing any sign-up in advance – you'll get a boat when you're there. Some key elements to note:

- Because this is an activity on the water and safety is paramount, a parent is required to be in the same boat with each Scout.
- Canoes, row boats, and pedal boats are available to rent first-come first-served to parents with a driver's license.
- We do want to try to get a tentative count – if you're planning to attend, please contact Dan Helgerman at [helgermann@gmail.com](mailto:helgermann@gmail.com).

**New Scout Recruiting:** We'd like to make a real effort this year to see if we can add plenty more Cub Scouts to our Pack. We have several things underway:

- **Bring a Friend:** Our boys can be our most effective voices: have your Scout tell his friends how much he likes Cub Scouts! Boys who recruit a friend into Scouts will earn a Recruiter patch they can wear on their uniform.
- **JLES Back to School Picnic / Pack t-shirt day:** We'll be at the JLES Back to School picnic on Friday September 8. Please have your Scout wear one of his Pack t-shirts to school that day so our Pack is visible to potential Scouts.
- **Back to School Night:** We will have a table at the JLES Back to School Night on Thursday September 14 (there's a single combined BTSN for all the grades).
- **Join Scouting Night** is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, September 19<sup>th</sup> starting at 7:00 PM at Jones Lane Elementary School. We'll be sending out fliers to JLES with the Friday September 15<sup>th</sup> flier distribution – if your Scout has a friend who's interested, invite him to join us! Please also have your Scout wear one of his Pack t-shirts that day too.

Remember that any boy in grades one through five is welcome to join even if they do not attend Jones Lane Elementary School. If you know of ANY boys who may be interested in joining, but cannot attend Join Scouting Night, please have their parents contact Eric Victory at [committeechair@pack436.com](mailto:committeechair@pack436.com) or Howie Draisen at [cubmaster@pack436.com](mailto:cubmaster@pack436.com).

**Call for Volunteers** – The experiences that we provide our boys as part of Scouting don't just happen by themselves – they require dedicated effort and support from parent volunteers. As with prior years, ***we are requiring that all our families volunteer for at least one position or activity within the Pack.*** We have done our best to offer a variety of roles, from those requiring some pretty intensive work focused at a specific time to those with a somewhat less intense commitment running throughout the Scouting year. We have worked to incorporate feedback on the volunteering system worked last year, and we're happy to continue to take suggestions for improvement.

Here are some of the positions we are currently looking to fill:

- Pinewood Derby: We're looking for several parents to cover everything from the race itself to handling refreshments and the student volunteers who help us out. Morning of the first Saturday in March.
- Scouting for Food: Coordinates the Pack's supplies and routes for our Scouting for Food dropoff and pickup - they happen first two Saturdays in November (5th & 12th).
- Raingutter Regatta: The Regatta is the main activity at our November Pack meeting - the boys race boats they have made.
- Blue & Gold Banquet: Coordinating all of the efforts to make our annual celebration of the boys' efforts pay off; we have a couple people signed up already, but this is one of our biggest jobs of the year. The banquet is the evening of the first Saturday in February.

You'll note that for the activities requiring multiple people, the sign-up doesn't break down individual tasks - we'll leave it to the group of volunteers to decide how to split up the activities. We'll be doing sign-up again this year via Sign Up Genius. Please visit the following link: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050545A5A96-cubscout3>, which shows the positions available (and those already filled). If you have taken a look and have questions about what's available and/or when the activity would happen, or if there's something else you have in mind to volunteer for, please contact Eric Victory ([committeechair@pack436.com](mailto:committeechair@pack436.com)).

**Popcorn Sales** – We'll have order forms available at the September Pack meeting, and we'd recommend starting soon (the earlier the better before everyone else has started their fundraising events). This is the **ONLY** fundraiser for the Pack and traditionally raises a **LARGE** amount of money to be used for Pack events. More details will follow at the first Pack meeting.

Also, our onsite popcorn selling opportunity this year is split into a few blocks:

- Saturday October 7, 11 am-1 pm, Giant-Kentlands
- Saturday October 21, 5-7 pm, Jersey Mike's-Kentlands

Stay tuned for time assignments by den. If you are unable to attend your Scout's den's scheduled time, please contact your den leader to let him or her know, and please make every effort to attend one of the other sessions - the sales at Giant are a big part of the Pack's sales.

For further information please contact Stacey Buckner at [popcornkernel@pack436.com](mailto:popcornkernel@pack436.com).

**Fall Family Camping** – Fall Family Camping will be September 30-October 1 (Sat-Sun) at Little Bennett State Park in Clarksburg. Sign up will be at the first Pack Meeting on September 26, or online – stay tuned for more from Sanjay. Cost will be \$10/family if you're staying

Saturday only, \$20/family if you are staying overnight to camp. Checks are preferred, payable to Pack 436. We will be sharing sites (2 families per site – there's PLENTY of room!). There will be more information at the September Pack meeting.

**Pack Calendar and activities** – The draft Pack calendar for the year is attached; it will be periodically updated on will be posted on our Website, so please check periodically for any changes.

**Pack 436 Website** – The Pack 436 website is [www.pack436.com](http://www.pack436.com). A copy of this newsletter as well as information about our meetings and events can be found at the website. The Pack calendar is on the website as a Google Calendar, so events can be added to your own calendars by clicking on the "Google Calendar" button just below the calendar on the right-hand side. Contact Steve Meyer ([webmaster@pack436.com](mailto:webmaster@pack436.com)) with any questions or comments.

**Communication** – We will continue communication via e-mail in the form of a monthly newsletter (and occasional "special announcements"). Your e-mail address will NOT be given out to anyone and will be used for Cub Scout related events ONLY. Please keep us informed of any changes in e-mail addresses. If there are any changes, please contact Eric Victory at [committeechair@pack436.com](mailto:committeechair@pack436.com).

**Feedback** – We encourage your feedback on ways that we can improve Pack 436. Please forward your input to Eric Victory (Committee Chairman) at [committeechair@pack436.com](mailto:committeechair@pack436.com) or Howie Draisen (Cubmaster) at [cubmaster@pack436.com](mailto:cubmaster@pack436.com). We appreciate your input!