

Pack 436 News

February 2020



PINEWOOD DERBY: Get out your saws, sandpaper, and paints! It's time for our annual Pinewood Derby on Saturday, Feb. 29 (Happy Leap Year!) in the JLES all-purpose room, beginning at 8 a.m. for registration and check-in. Racing will hopefully be underway about 8:30 a.m. In addition to the den races, there will be an "open" division for siblings. The track will be available for test runs the evening of Friday, February 28 at JLES, time to be finalized, but probably about 7:30-8:30 pm. The car kits have been distributed to the Den Leaders – please see your leaders if you still need your kit.

Rules for the cars were sent out through Scoutbook and are posted on the Pack website; there's an updated copy going out in parallel with the newsletter. We will be assigning numbers to each car that we will ask you to include on the vehicle (you can use the stickers in the kit); those are in the additional message going out at about the same time as the newsletter.

SOUSA AWARD – CONGRATULATIONS! A big congratulations and thank you to Stacey Buckner and Carolyn Silvey – they are this year's recipients of the Seneca District Outstanding Unit Scouter (SOUSA) Award, in recognition of their distinguished service to our Pack. They will receive their awards on March 24 at a District Court of Honor. For those who are interested, you're welcome to attend the court of honor and dinner – registration info is at <https://scoutingevent.com/082-31237>

PARENT PLANNING MEETING: Our semi-annual parent planning meeting is **Wednesday, February 19** from 7:30-9 p.m., at Jones Lane ES. This meeting takes the place of the Pack meeting – there is no regular Pack meeting for the Scouts this month. We encourage all of our families to have someone at this meeting – your input and feedback into how things are going and where we should be headed are crucially important. If you have something you'd like to share but won't be able to attend the meeting, feel free to contact [Eric](#) or [Howie](#).

THANK YOU: To Howie Draisen and helpers for running an amazing Lego Derby at our January meeting – the races and the disintegrations were quite exciting! To the Blue & Gold Committee (Kristen Hellewell, Melanie Liacouras, Gina Negrin, Mary Seonarain, Carolyn Silvey, and Fabiana Sivila) for a delicious and fun-filled evening for everyone.

MARCH PACK MEETING: Save the date for the March Pack meeting - a special outing to the National Cryptologic Museum in Annapolis Junction, MD (adjacent to Ft. Meade), on Saturday, March 21, 2020, from 12 – 2 p.m.

SPRING HIKE: Our Pack Hike this spring will be in late March or early April at the Underground Rail Trail at Woodlawn Manor Cultural Park in Sandy Spring. More details to follow!

SPRING FAMILY CAMPOUT: Mark your calendars! Pack 436 will camp at Antietam National Battlefield the weekend of April 24-25. The battleground – located in the Cumberland Valley of western Maryland – has a rich history and is the site of the bloodiest one day battle in American history. Recreational activities include 15 miles of historic hiking trails – including the popular Final Attack Trails – park ranger programs, biking the battlefield tour road, and more. Signup and details will be provided in March.

UPCOMING DISTRICT & COUNCIL EVENTS:

- **Lion / Tiger 500:** For our Lion and Tiger Scouts, just in case you don't get enough excitement at our Pinewood Derby, you can also attend the District's "Lion / Tiger 500"! The race is Saturday March 7, 9:30-11:30 a.m. at Epworth Methodist Church in Gaithersburg. The cost is \$5 per Scout and you can register at <https://scoutingevent.com/082-31236>. The Lion & Tiger den leaders also have more info.
- **District Pinewood Derby:** There will be a District Pinewood Derby, for the Scouts who qualify from our Pack (top finisher from each of the Tiger through Webelos 2 den level, plus a competitor in the Best Appearance competition); it will be held on April 18. More registration information to follow after the Pack races.
- **Archery Day:** The Seneca District will be holding an Archery Day on Sunday April 25 (the same day we get back from our Pack campout) from 12:30-4 p.m. at the Izaak Walton League at 7821 Snouffer School Rd, Gaithersburg. The cost is \$5 if paid in advance, or \$7 onsite; registration is at <https://scoutingevent.com/082-31238#>
- **BALOO training:** The Pack is required to have properly trained adults with us when we go camping; if you'd be willing to take the training, the Pack will reimburse the cost. The next "BALOO" session is the evening of May 6 (7:30-9:30 p.m.), and May 15-16 (5:30 p.m. Fri to 5:30 p.m. Sat). Contact Eric or Howie if you are interested, or you can register at <https://scoutingevent.com/082-28590>.

SUMMER CAMP:

Camp Snyder (current Lions, Tigers, & Wolves): For the younger boys (current Lions, Tigers, and Wolves), Camp Snyder, located near Haymarket, VA, has weekend programs in the summer that are a great introduction to camping for the Scouts. We will register as a Pack and available dates based on leadership availability are July 17-19 or July 30-August 2.

Camp starts 9 a.m. Friday morning and ends 9 a.m. Sunday. They have platform tents for us and we eat in the dining hall. The 2-night trip is designed to introduce Cub Scouts to overnight camps that they will get to experience in Boy Scouts as a longer, week-long event. Activities include swimming, archery, slingshots, BB's, boating, campfire skits, and more. It is for registered Cub Scouts only, no friends or siblings, and a parent or guardian is necessary (only one parent needed for multiple scouts in a family). There's more information at the camp's website:

<http://www.ncacbsa.org/outdoors/camp-william-b-snyder/summer-programs/>

Pricing for the weekend is \$240 for Scouts and \$80 for adults if paid by April 17; prices increase as the dates get closer. Contact Howie Draisen with questions (hdraisen@hotmail.com).

Goshen / Camp PMI (current Webelos & Bears): For the older Scouts (current Bears and Webelos), we are going to the Goshen Scout Reservation's Camp PMI, about 3.5 hours away, past Harrisonburg, VA, for the week of July 19-25. We'll need at least 3 parents there at all times, and one or two more would be ideal, but you wouldn't have to stay the full week.

Camp PMI provides programming in aquatics, scoutcraft, BB's, archery, ecology and handicraft. They also are situated at the foot of the Viewing Rock Trail, which leads to one of the most amazing views on the Eastern seaboard.

Prices for the week start at \$385 for Scouts and \$225 for adults (which can be split between 2 if each stays half the week) if paid by April 12; prices increase closer to the camp dates. Contact Dan Helgerman (helgermann@gmail.com) if you have any questions, and we'll get working on registration shortly. Council has information at <https://www.gotogoshen.org/camps-programs/camp-pmi/>