

Cradle of Liberty Council

TRUSTWORTHY LOYAL HELPFUL FRIEDLY COURTEOUS KIND

words to live by

OBEDIENT CHEERFUL THRIFTY BRAVE CLEAN REVERENT



A parent's guide to Cub Scouting



Cradle of Liberty Council



Volunteers are not alone

All these resources are available to help volunteers be successful

Staff Support:

Our professional and support staff can assist when needed and get you in touch with other necessary resources. In addition, each community is served by a full-time District Executive.

Roundtables:

A monthly leaders in-service meeting for all adult volunteers which provides help with crafts, games, skits, and songs for use in den and Pack meetings.

Program Helps:

A booklet which contains meeting plans for den and Pack meetings, as well as, ideas for crafts and games. It is also mailed in Scouting magazine.

Pack Leadership:

Most Packs have been in existence for many years and have existing leadership which will provide direct assistance and support to your den program. Many Packs even have a library of resource books to aid leaders in putting on quality den and Pack programs.

District Staff:

A group of Packs in a geographic area are organized into a district which is staffed by experienced volunteer corps of specialists to provide on-going support to Packs and dens.

Fast Start Training and Youth Protection:

Visit www.colbsa.org for many on-line training programs. Be sure to have your person ID number with you when you log on. If you do not know that number simply look on your ID card or call 610.688.6900 and ask for registration.

Essentials & Leader Specific Training:

The district provides frequent training courses in your community. This training is put on by experienced Cub Scout leaders. The training will give you a full understanding of the Cub Scout program, as well as, many aids and resources to help you in den positions. It is very important to attend New Leader Essential training, as well as, the Leader Specific Training for your particular position within the Pack.

Supplemental Training:

Cub Scout Pow-Wow is a great event to sharpen your skills and to get great information. Youth Protection Training and Risk Zone Training are two additional courses important to your leadership position. Details are available at the service center.



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Alexander, an 8 year old wolf cub, sent the Boy Scouts a letter about his first camping trip. In his letter he mentioned sleeping in a Tipi with spiders, fishing with his dad, playing baseball on a field of rocks, and listening to scary stories. Alex ends his letter with the type of enthusiasm only an 8 year old can bring to that experience. "I can't wait to go again!"

With our busy lives and demands on our time it is almost unimaginable to think about adding another activity for our kids. However, Scouting offers your son the skills to gain everything possible from every activity he pursues. Scouting can become a life long learning model for most boys.

Scouting will give your son the tools to pull lessons from the **baseball diamond**, the **classroom** and even the **dinner table** in equal parts to help him make positive decisions.

During his time in Scouting he'll be recognized for his efforts in art, science, athletics, and scholarship. He'll be asked to teach others boys about his strengths and value them for theirs. Most parents want their sons to grow up to be persons of worth, self-reliant, dependable, and caring individuals. Scouting has these same goals in mind for boys.

Scouting teaches first aid, swimming, outdoor skills, hiking, camping, and many other skills—life skills they will take with them into adulthood. Knot tying might seem a quaint and outmode skill in this computer age, but such hands-on learning develops coordination and helps boys realize their own potential for learning and mastering new skills. That builds pride and confidence to handle challenges that cross their path. Scouting builds young men who are competent to handle the tough questions.

While every skill Scouting teaches is important, the self-confidence, fun and sense of accomplishment boys get from skill-building activities are equally important. Each Scouting activity has the basic goal of building character.



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About the Scouting Organization

The den and Pack meetings are times for your son to learn grow and have fun!

- ▲ Your son is a member of a **den**. (Small group of boys his age)
- ▲ The **Pack** is made up of one or more **dens**.
- ▲ The **Pack** meets once a month in the **Pack** meeting.
- ▲ All families are expected to participate.
- ▲ **Pack** meetings are the high point of the month's den meetings.
- ▲ **Pack** meetings are a time for boys to be recognized for their accomplishments during the month, to perform skits and songs they have learned in den meetings, and to have fun with the entire family.

The Pack volunteer leadership is a fun way for you to get to know other parents.

- ▲ The **Pack** is lead by the **Cubmaster** and **Pack committee**, which is led by the **committee chairperson**.
- ▲ The **committee** consists of parents who serve as committee members and assist in the planning, organizing, and executing the **Pack** program, as well as, keeping records and managing **Pack** funds.
- ▲ The **committee** meets monthly to plan for upcoming activities and events.

The overall "owner" of the Cub Pack is the community. Truly a group of like minded parents working together to help kids. Here's how it works.

- ▲ The **Pack** is owned by a **chartered organization**.
- ▲ Sponsors include parent-teacher organizations, religious organizations, service clubs, or other organizations interested in youth.
- ▲ Sponsors approve leadership, help secure a meeting place, and enforce BSA and organization policies.
- ▲ Sponsors select a **chartered organization representative** to serve as a liaison between the **Pack** and the organization.

The Cradle of Liberty Council is the name given to the collective parents and resources used to move scouting forward. "The Council" provides the training, camping facilities, insurance, marketing, and overall Scouting policies and procedures.

- ▲ Your council is called the **Cradle of Liberty**, and serves over 600 Packs and Troops and about **25,000 Scout families**.
- ▲ About **7,500 volunteers** work to provide program to those scouts.
- ▲ About **40 staff** members work to serve those volunteers.



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Den Activities

Most dens conduct weekly meetings. These meetings last about 90 minutes. The components of a Den meeting should include:

Gathering (Ice breaker)

Opening (Cub Scout Promise, Pledge of Allegiance)

Business Items (Where we are going camping? Collect permission slips? Etc.)

Activity (This is the part of the meeting they will tell their friends about)

Closing (Law of the Pack, Den Cheer, or Akeala's thoughts)

The Curriculum for Den Meetings can be found in Cub Scout Program Helps. Program helps is a book provided free to each Pack from "the council."

Pack Activities

Most Packs conduct a well-planned and organized annual program. You will receive a specific calendar of events for your Pack, which may include several of the following:

Pinewood Derby

Boys, with assistance, build cars from pine blocks and race. Awards may be given for fastest, best design, and much more.

Blue & Gold Banquet

Celebrate the anniversary of Scouting in February with your Pack with dinner, entertainment, and special ceremonies.

Cub Scout Sports and Academics

Earn belt loops and pins by participating in a wide variety of sports and academic activities.

Scouting for Food

Participate in a national service project to collect canned food that is then distributed to the needy in your community.

Field Trips & Activities

Your Pack will participate in local field trips and in district and council activities like Scout Days with sports teams, Franklin Institute and others.



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Cub Scout Annual Highlights!

	Sign up for the online council newsletter www.colbsa.org From there you'll receive additional information and special program opportunities only available to members.
	Our recruitment sponsor Jeff Gordon wants to welcome your son to the fun of Cub Scouting and the excitement of the pine wood derby!
	The popcorn sale has helped hundreds of Packs and Troops change the way they deliver scouting. Now a boy can learn lessons, have fun, and raise all the money he needs to complete his "Ideal Year of Scouting." Last year our Scouts had the greatest sale in the country! It's TRUE!
	The highlight of every Cub Scout year. Spend time at camp next summer as a family, or with your son's friends from the Pack. Swimming lessons – Imaginative activities – Archery – Tons of Scouting Advancements – Outside organizations provide additional highlights!

Cub Program Partners

Academy of Natural Sciences
 American Helicopter Museum
 Bachmann Trains
 Battleship NJ
 Bear Creek
 Camden River Sharks
 Constitution Center
 Dutch Wonderland
 Fort Mifflin
 Franklin Institute
 Great Wolf Lodge
 Independence Seaport Museum
 K'Nex
 NJ Adventure Aquarium

PA Renaissance Faire
 Philadelphia Kixx
 Pennsbury Manor
 Philadelphia Soul
 Philadelphia Phantoms
 Philadelphia Phillies
 Philadelphia Rock Gym
 Philadelphia Wings
 Philadelphia Zoo
 Ride the Ducks
 Schuylkill Environmental Center
 Score Education Center
 Valley Forge Park



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What Does Scouting Cost?

IMMEDIATE COSTS

Annual Registration Fee	\$10.00
Annual <i>Boys' Life</i> Magazine (optional)	\$12.00
Handbook	\$ 3.50 - \$6.99 (depending on program)
Pack Program Fees	Determined Locally

PACK BUDGET

The Pack prepares an annual budget to fund their "ideal year" of Scouting which includes for most Packs, Den and Pack activities, awards and advancements, recognition, day camp, etc.

A Pack funds the annual budget in many ways. Often dues are charged to each Scout family to help fund the budget.

However, most Packs participate in the Council sponsored Popcorn Sale which offsets or eliminates Pack dues for Scout families and also helps boys raise enough money for their summertime camp experience. Your Pack leadership will give additional detailed information about your Pack budget and the annual popcorn sale.

UNIFORMS

Uniforms are not required to join Scouting, but they provide a special way for boys to display awards earned and show Scout spirit.

He wants to wear a uniform!

Your Pack has its own uniform guidelines. Uniforms can be purchased at one of the three Scout shops, on line at www.scoutstuff.org, as well as, at many thrift or outdoor shops.

"CAMPERSHIPS"

Financial assistance is available through Cradle of Liberty Council for summer camp programs. Amounts are based on need and availability.



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Who is Dr. Lizardo?

Dr. Lizardo, Tim E. Rover, Eagle Eye Jones, and Captain James T. Shortplank send letters and games home to all Cub Scouts throughout the year. They are part of an adventure story that encourages good "scout like" behavior, reading and writing skills, family activities, and imaginative play.

The letters tell a story of good guys vs. bad guys, time travel and history, scout skills and action. Many will be sent to you through e-mail, other's will be sent home directly addressed to him. After all every child loves to receive mail! The characters encourage his involvement in the Scouting program and ask him to directly interact with them throughout the year. They'll write letters, draw pictures, solve puzzles and play out stories with their friends.

All the games, activities and letters will be posted on-line after they go out in the mail. If he misses a letter he can always visit www.colbsa.org to print out the games or check in on the story progress.

The characters also visit Cub Scout events throughout the year, and "live" at summer camp. You'll be notified throughout the year about character appearances.

So open the mail, read along with him, and PLAY!

Contact information for the
Cradle of Liberty Council

1485 Valley Forge Road
Wayne PA 19087

22nd and Winter Streets
Philadelphia PA 19103

215.988.9811
610.688.6900

www.colbsa.org

things to know

colbsa.org	council web page
BEaSCOUT.org	join scouting
olt.scouting.org	on line training
scoutstuff.org	online scout store
orderpopcorn.com	on line popcorn sales