

2010 CUB SCOUT RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN

Tuesday, April 27, 2010

What an exciting time to be part of the Scouting movement! Thank you for your continued service in providing the Scouting program in your town. Please know that your work is truly making a difference in the lives of the boys in your pack and will have a lasting impact on them.

Traditionally, Cub Scout recruitment is a big focus in the fall when school is starting, this year the Del-Mi District would like to offer joining opportunities to families in the spring as well. To accomplish this, we (your unit and the district) will be committing to the following items:

- PARENT / RECRUITMENT MEETING

The recruitment will be similar to a school night that you experienced in the fall. A pack representative should reserve space in the school for a recruitment meeting. Due to ISTEP testing, this should be on or after May 12. When making the reservation, it is best to reserve two rooms—preferably the cafeteria and the gym. Once you have a confirmed date, please send it to schoolnight@del-mi.org so we can add it to our calendar.

The pack will be responsible for the presentation to parents and potential new Scouts. This presentation should introduce them to the Cub Scouting program and the opportunities offered to the boys. The pack should provide the leadership for this presentation and have leaders to assist with forming dens (if enough parents are present), entertaining the boys (working on a belt loop or playing Scouting themed games) and filling out applications. Registration will take place that evening and dens can be formed and leaders obtained if enough boys are present. The district will have some school night teams available to help if you feel that you need assistance. Please contact Kathy Smart to coordinate in advance at schoolnight@del-mi.org.

- BOY TALKS AND FLYERS

We would like to be able to give boy talk presentations to the Kindergarten classrooms at each school holding a spring recruitment meeting. Boy talks can begin taking place after May 10 once ISTEP testing has concluded. The district's professional staff will be available to provide the boy talks during the school day. Nat Baker and Shawn Way will schedule this with the school principal once we receive the date for your recruitment meeting. Holding a boy talk is one of the best ways to get the boys excited about joining Scouting and getting their parents to attend your recruitment meeting.

We will supplement the boy talks by sending home flyers with Kindergartners one week before the recruitment (if allowed by the school). As such, it is critical to provide the district with the date of your school night as soon as you have it.

- **SUMMER ACTIVITIES**

The district will be holding a “Hooked on Scouting” fishing derby that any new Scout joining in the spring will be able to attend. Additionally, existing Cub Scouts that recruit a friend to join the pack between now and the fishing derby will also be eligible to attend. The fishing derby will be held in June. It is scheduled for the evening of Thursday, June 24, at West Park in Carmel. To help cover the cost of food and supplies, the cost will be \$5.00 per Scout.

We will be asking packs to have a minimum of one leader attend if they have new Scout’s attending to have the opportunity to meet parents and answer questions about the pack. The Del-Mi District Activities and Civic Service Committee are looking for volunteers to help run the fishing derby. If you, or someone in your pack, is interested in assisting, please contact Shawn Way at sway@crossroadsbsa.org.

Another great way to engage new families is to invite them to any summertime pack activities that are scheduled. Doing so will allow the boys to experience the summertime fun of Cub Scouting before they start their den meetings in the fall. Boys recruited in the spring are also eligible to attend camp. Don’t be surprised though if parents aren’t interested due to supervision requirements for new tiger cubs or not having enough time to work the camp fee into their budget.

We hope that your pack will consider joining with the district in introducing families to the fun of Cub Scouting this spring. If you decide to do so, here are some pieces of information that will be helpful in organizing your program:

- Printed resources to provide to parents at recruitment event
 - Contact information for Pack leadership
 - Pack calendar and budget for upcoming year (or an example from this school year)
 - Information on the pack’s summer activities
 - Hooked on Scouting Fishing Derby Flyer (provided by district)

Potential parents want to see and understand ahead of time what will be happening and the cost to participate. Most likely, you have not already conducted your annual

program planning for the upcoming school year. We'd encourage you to attend the district's training at the May Roundtable, May 13, at 7:00 PM at Noblesville First United Methodist Church (2051 Monument Street, Noblesville, IN).

- **Joining Fees**

As a reminder, registration fees increased this year. Your pack's registration cycle is from April 1 to March 31 each year. If a Scout joins after April, his registration fee is prorated at a rate of \$1.25 per month. If a Scout starts in June, he will be joining for 10 months, his fee is 12.50. Boys' Life subscriptions cost \$1 per month so that fee would be \$10. All new Tiger Cubs will be registered in June once they can be registered as first graders.

- **Scout Education and Program Center**

The new Scout Education and Program center will be open all summer long for new and existing volunteers to get additional training and have questions answered. Please feel free to direct your volunteers to the center to have their questions answered that you don't know the answer to.

We look forward to working with you and all the volunteers in Pack insert number to make this a successful year in Hamilton and Tipton counties. Most importantly be proud of your efforts to help provide the Scouting opportunity to the boys in your area.

Yours in Scouting,

Kathy Smart
Cub Scout Recruiting Chair
(317) 843-0165
schoolnight@del-mi.org

Nat Baker
District Director
(317) 813-7127
nbaker@crossroadsbsa.org

Shawn Way
District Executive
(317) 813-7128
sway@crossroadsbsa.org