



PACK 503 NEWS

Vol. 2, Issue 6

April 2005

Blackwell Forest Preserve ... Here We Come!

Sign up today for Pack 503's Great Scout Campout May 14 — 15 at Blackwell Forest Preserve in Wheaton. Scouts and a parent (no siblings please per Three Fires Council) are invited to spend Saturday and Sunday relishing the great outdoors by hiking, fishing, tossing Frisbees, playing soccer and telling stories by the campfire.

Sounds like fun, doesn't it? To join the action, submit your completed forms and payment to Craig Mankowski no later than **Friday, May 6, 2005**. Required documents include: 1) one completed enrollment form; 2) two completed Class 1 medical forms (one per attendee); and 3) one check, payable to Pack 503, at \$5 per person.

For copies of the Class 1 medical form, visit the web site at <http://www.scouting.org/forms/34414.pdf>. For additional information, or to sign up to assist during the campout, contact Craig Mankowski at 305-9777.

PACK 503'S GREAT SCOUT CAMPOUT ENROLLMENT FORM
Saturday, May 14 through Sunday, May 15, 2005
BLACKWELL FOREST PRESERVE

Scout Name: _____ Den: _____

Attending Parent(s) Name(s): _____

Telephone No.: _____ Emergency No.: _____

Number of completed Class 1 medical forms enclosed: * _____

Check No.: ** _____ Amount: *** _____

*One per attendee

**Payable to: Pack 503

***Cost: \$5 per person

Craig Mankowski
639 Balmoral Circle, Naperville
305-9777; csmankowski@yahoo.com

EVEN MORE CAMPING FUN

"Crossing Over" Campfire:

Date: Thursday, *May 26*
Time: 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Location: **Seager Park Pavilion**
1163 Plank Road, Naperville

Join us for an evening of fun as we celebrate another year of scouting and honor scouts crossing over.

Anyone interested in helping to set up the campfire site should contact Charlie Souhrada at 778-8047 or cpans4@comcast.net.

For directions to the pavilion, visit <http://www.napervilleparks.org/npdParkDetails.asp?parkid=20>.

Webelos Overnight Camp:

Date: Sat., *June 4* – Sun., *June 5*
Time: Sat., 8:30 a.m. – Sun., 8:30 a.m.
Location: **Thunderbird Youth Camp**
Greene Valley Forest Preserve
79th & Greene Road, Naperville

Please mark your calendars for Three Fires Council's 2005 Webelos Overnight, Saturday, June 4 – Sunday, June 5.

The cost of the overnight is **\$10 per person** (Please make checks payable to "Three Fires Council"). An adult must accompany each scout. Each attending person must submit medical forms provided earlier.

Parking during this event is extremely difficult so carpools are strongly encouraged. Parking permits will be issued in May.

Check with your den leaders (4, 6 and 8) if you have questions regarding this event. Or, visit the web site at <http://www.dupageforest.com/PRESERVES/greenevalley.html>.

Webelos Overnight forms and fees are due to Charlie Souhrada no later than Monday, May 2.

Summer Day Camps:

Thirty-two scouts will attend the Webelos Days (14) and Trailblazers Day Camps (18) on July 7 & 8 and the week of July 11, respectively.

Parents should look for more information in your son's backpack towards the end of May.

In the meantime, if you have questions, please contact Lynn Amend at 717-7216 or amendhome@msn.com.

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

Date: Monday, *May 30*
Time: 10:00 a.m. (Pack 503 meets)
10:30 a.m. (Parade begins)
Location: **Centennial Beach Parking Lot**
320 W. Jackson Ave., Naperville

Scout families, start your walking! Scouts, parents and siblings are invited to march in this year's Memorial Day Parade.

Scouts should wear their uniforms ... AND ... new this year ... the Pack is encouraging all scouts to create a patriotic hat. Decorate an existing hat with as many patriotic stars, bars and streamers as you can find! Or, create your own from scratch! It's all part of the fun of this traditional holiday event that kicks off the summer season.

Meet in the Centennial Beach parking lot at 10 a.m., and look for Pack 503's banner and scouts wearing patriotic hats! The parade is scheduled to begin at 10:30 a.m., so don't forget to apply sunscreen before leaving the house.



ANNUAL KICKBALL GAME

Date: Sunday, *June 12*
Time: 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Location: *Prairie Elementary School*

Enjoy a good, old-fashioned kickball game at the Prairie playground. Whether you're an old hand or a young gun, everyone's welcome (weather permitting)!

COMMUNITY SERVICES RECAP

This month, scouts collected "big" in two community service events: 1) Prairie Clean-up; and 2) Scouting for Food.

Forty-three scouts helped clean up Prairie Elementary, making small work out of a big job. Scouts and parents also collected more than 900 pounds of food for the Loaves and Fishes program.

Congratulations and thanks to Kirsten Holzauer and George Sokol for coordinating these events, and to all of our scouts for helping make our community better!

SPEAKING OF COMMUNITY . . .



Check out **Sasha Cohen** from Den 9 as he performs in the high-energy musical production, "**Nature Calls!**" Show dates are: Sun., May 1, Morton Arboretum (1:00 and 2:30 p.m. — **FREE ADMISSION**); and Sat., May 7, Crossroads Theatre (2:00 and 5:00 p.m., — \$8 per person). If you're interested in attending, please contact Cathy Cohen at 355-6127.

RE-CHARTERING RECAP

The pack is officially 82 — 82 scouts deep, that is. Patricia Brown, Don Pugh, Barry Robinson, Charlie Souhrada and Phil Gorski met with potential scouts and their parents at

last month's Scout Round-up and signed on nine new scouts — five Tiger Cubs and four upperclassmen. Please help welcome these boys and their families.

If you know anyone interested in joining scouts, please contact Patricia Brown at 848-1349 or tbrown6720@sbcglobal.net.

LEADERS OF THE PACK

May 1 marks the official start of the new scouting year. It also marks the end of two leaders' tenure — Don Pugh, Pack Committee Chair, and Kirsten Holzauer, Treasurer.

Don will assume a new role as Pack Training Coordinator, and Kirsten will continue to serve as leader of Den 4.

New Pack Committee:

Barry Robinson replaces Don Pugh as Pack Committee Chair. Barry has served as Den 8's leader for the past four years and will continue in this role.

Peter Fales replaces Kirsten Holzauer. Peter has served as Den 3's leader for the past three years and will continue in this role.

Congratulations and best wishes to Barry and Peter in their new responsibilities.

SILVER ACORN AWARD WINNER

Earlier this month, Three Fires Council awarded Charlie Souhrada, Pack 503's Cubmaster, the Silver Acorn Award. The award is given to individuals who sow the seeds that help the unit grow, just like the acorn grows into a mighty oak tree. The efforts of a good leader affect the unit growth and make it as durable as the oak tree.

Congratulations, Charlie, on winning this award and for helping to make Pack 503 as strong as an oak tree.



AND THE SURVEY SAYS . . .

***“In Scouting, a boy is encouraged
To educate himself instead
Of being instructed.”***

~ Sir Robert Baden-Powell
(British army officer and
Founder of the Boys Scouts)

Taking Sir Baden-Powell’s words to heart, Pack 503 is committed to developing successful programs that provide opportunities to educate and develop our scouts.

Introduction:

In 2004, the pack conducted our first-ever survey to gain feedback and improve activities and events. Input from the survey was incorporated throughout this year’s program and sparked special emphasis on three core areas:

- 1) Uphold the Cub Scout motto — “Do Your Best”;
- 2) Develop/build pride in scouting and personal accomplishments; and
- 3) Generate a sense of community with the pack and the community.

Methodology:

In March 2005, a 10-question online survey was e-mailed to all current pack members listed in the October 2004 roster. Families without e-mail access received printed copies.

To encourage member participation, the den with the highest percentage of surveys returned was awarded a pizza party. A reminder e-mail was sent to all den leaders on April 6, 2005, indicating the April 13, 2005, deadline was close at hand.

Overall, 67% — 56 out of 84 scout member families — responded to the survey. This provides a high degree of

certainty that the results, based on the survey, are representative of the entire pack.

Survey Snapshot . . .

Respondents expressed a **high level** of satisfaction with the following elements:

Element	% Rate
Son’s Den Experience	80%
Overall Cub Scout program	77%
Pack 503 News	75%
Pack 503.org Web Site	59%
Pack Meetings	49%

Respondents expressed a **mid-level** of satisfaction with the following elements:

Element	% Rate
Pack Meetings	43%
Pack 503.org Web Site	39%
Pack 503 News	21%
Overall Cub Scout Program	21%
Son’s Den Experience	18%

Respondents expressed a **high- to mid-levels** of satisfaction with the following elements:

Element	% Rate
Uphold the “Do your Best” motto	80%
Develop/build personal pride	76%
Generate sense of community	69%

Winners of this year’s pizza party give-away are:

Den: Leader(s)	% Part.
Den 6: Souhrada/Ryan/Amend	100%
Den 7: Mankowski	100%

The pack’s leaders are working to incorporate this input and other survey results in the 2005-06 program. To see what’s in store, stick around and join the fun!



BIG SHOUTS OUT TO . . .

- **Don Pugh** for his time and dedication throughout his service as Pack Committee Chair. The committee will miss his time and generous hospitality each month;
- **Kirsten Holzhauer** for her time and dedication throughout her tenure as Treasurer. We'll miss her patience and kindness — especially when asking for last-minute check requests. Watch out, Peter, the bar's been set way high.
- **Lynn Amend** for coordinating the summer day camps for the past two years;
- **Patricia Brown** for coordinating the re-chartering effort this year;
- **Randy Carr** and **Craig Mankowski** for coordinating May's pack outing at the Blackwell Forest Preserve;
- **Kathy Hendrickson, Lisa Lopez, Steve Cohen, Karen Bagan** and **Don Pugh** for coordinating this year's Blue and Gold dinner; and
- **ALL VOLUNTEERS** — especially den leaders — for your time and dedication to helping our sons learn to "Do Their Best."

BLUE & GOLD BANQUET PHOTOS



SAVE THE DATES*

AUGUST	
PACK OUTING	Rain Gutter Regatta Date/Time: Sun., Aug. 28 , 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Location: TBD
SEPTEMBER	
PACK EVENT	Cub Scout Round-up Date/Time: Tues., Sept. 13 , 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Location: Prairie Elementary School LRC
PACK MEETING	Topic: TBD Date/Time: Thurs., Sept. 22 , 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Location: Prairie Elementary School
OCTOBER	
PACK MEETING	Pumpkin Carving Contest Date/Time: Thurs., Oct. 20 , 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Location: Prairie Elementary School
NOVEMBER	
PACK MEETING	Topic: TBD Date/Time: Tues., Nov. 15 , 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Location: Prairie Elementary School
DECEMBER	
PACK MEETING	Topic: TBD Date/Time: Thurs., Dec. 15 , 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Location: Prairie Elementary School
JANUARY	
PACK MEETING	Pinewood Derby Date/Time: Thurs., Jan. 19 , 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Location: Washington Junior High School Gym
FEBRUARY	
PACK MEETING	Blue & Gold Banquet Date/Time: Fri., Feb. 17 , 7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Location: Washington Junior High School
MARCH	
PACK MEETING	Magic of Scouting Date/Time: Tues., Mar. 14 , 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Location: Prairie Elementary School
APRIL	
PACK EVENT	Cub Scout Round-up Date/Time: Thurs., April 13 , 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Location: Prairie Elementary School - LRC
PACK MEETING	Topic: TBD Date/Time: Thurs., April 27 , 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Location: Prairie Elementary School
MAY	
PACK MEETING	Crossing Over & Annual Pack Campfire Date/Time: Thurs., May 25 , 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Location: Prairie Elementary School (in event of rain)

2005-06 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**Note: All dates, times and locations are subject to change.*

