

# ORIENTATION

## Welcome to Pack 130

“Fun with a Purpose” for boys in First through Fifth Grades!



Welcome to Pack 130. We think our Pack is special—and it is! Pack 130 is a diverse group of families with one goal: To teach our sons to have fun while learning something new. And with a little healthy respect for God and country thrown in for good measure. If you are a parent who has been involved in scouting in

the past, then you know the drill. If you are new, then this Packet is for you.

In addition to this Packet, please visit the Pack 130 website for more information, updates, and the calendar of events:

[www.pack130.squarespace.com](http://www.pack130.squarespace.com)

### Pack Leaders

The Pack is run entirely by unpaid volunteers whose main purpose for taking on this challenge is their love for the kids and their belief in the Core Values of Scouting. And, yes . . . we have jobs during the day, too!

The Pack Committee, which consists of the Committee Chair, Cubmaster, Treasurer, Secretary, and the Committee Members (Den Leaders and scout parents), develops budgets, approves expenses, arranges for facilities, and conducts overall planning.

Committee Chair: Angie Bennett  
Cubmaster: Nichola Carr-Welch  
Treasurer: Mary Jane Robinson  
Secretary: Sandra McCoy  
Overnighter Coordinators: Shane Kimzey & Josh Lack

### HOW DOES CUB SCOUTING WORK?

A unique feature of Scouting is that you, his family, join in the fun with your son, and you will help him along the way. Scouting exists to support your family and help enrich family time together. Boys have a different handbook at each grade level with activities that are age-appropriate, challenging, and fun! As your boy, with help from you and his Scout leaders, advances through the activities in the book, he will earn badges and other awards that he can wear on his uniform and be proud of.



The Cub Scout program takes place at two levels. Your son will be part of a **Den**, which is a group of boys in the same grade level. Dens usually meet once or twice a month and work on activities in the handbooks and other fun things. All Dens, from grades one through five, make up the **Pack**. We have a Pack Meeting about once a month. The Cubmaster leads this meeting, where the boys are recognized for major achievements, play games, sing songs, and receive some type of entertaining program.

**ADVANCEMENT**

Boys at each grade work to earn rank badges.



**BOBCAT**—The entrance rank for Cub Scouting, passed by all boys regardless of age.



**TIGER**—The rank earned by 1<sup>st</sup> grade Cub Scouts.



**WOLF**—The rank earned by 2<sup>nd</sup> grade Cub Scouts.



**BEAR**—The rank earned by 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Cub Scouts.



**WEBELOS**—The rank earned by 4<sup>th</sup> grade Cub Scouts.



**ARROW OF LIGHT**—A special award earned by 5<sup>th</sup> grade Cub Scouts before they advance to Boy Scouts.

**WHEN AND WHERE ARE THE MEETINGS?**

The Pack (the whole group of boys in grades 1-5) usually meets at Bellaire United Methodist Church, 4417 Bellaire Blvd., for Pack Meetings on the first Monday of each month from 7-8 pm.

The Tiger Den usually meets once per month in the church and once per month at a field trip location (such as a fire station) to be determined by the den.

All the other dens usually meet twice a month in the Scout House, which is directly across the street from the church.

The exact dates and times will be announced by the Den Leaders.

We also have other Pack-wide activities, such as campouts and service projects, throughout the year. The complete Pack calendar is available on ScoutTrack and on the Pack 130 website, [www.pack130.squarespace.com](http://www.pack130.squarespace.com)

**HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?**

Cub Scout Pack 130 is a nonprofit organization. The annual dues are \$85 per Cub. That cost includes the registration fee the Pack must pay for each boy, Boy's Life magazine, a cool Pack t-shirt

(worn for events where a full uniform is not required), monthly program costs, advancement and awards, and basic participation costs for the Pinewood Derby, other Pack events, and Den Meetings. Some events and outings will have additional fees, but we try to keep these to a minimum. Dues payments do not cover all expenses we have for the year, and the amount the Pack can subsidize is determined in part by how well we do in our annual fundraisers, particularly selling popcorn.

You will also need to purchase your son's uniform and handbook, which may cost around \$60-75.

Full and partial scholarships are available. We also have some used uniform items available. Please ask the Cubmaster (Nichola Carr-Welch) or the Committee Chair (Angie Bennett) for more information about scholarships and help with uniforms.



### WHAT ARE MY RESPONSIBILITIES AS A CUB SCOUT PARENT?

All parents should:

1. Purchase your Scout's uniform and handbook as appropriate for his rank. More information is provided below.
2. Attend meetings and activities. Scouting is a family activity, and **a parent is required to attend all meetings and activities with their Scout**, including Den Meetings, Pack Meetings, service projects, and campouts.
3. Help your son earn achievements at home. The Pack and Dens support the boys in earning their ranks, but family involvement is critical. Some requirements are done at Den Meetings, but others are done only with you! You can sign off on his requirements when you think your son has done his best. Look through your son's handbook and become familiar with what your Scout needs to do. Help him work through the requirements. Ask your Den Leader for any help you need.
4. Show your Scout you are proud of his achievements in Cub Scouting by promptly attaching his awards to his uniform.

5. Assist your scout's Den Leader by sharing your interesting hobby or profession with the Den, helping to organize a field trip, or just stepping up when help is needed.
6. Support our Pack fundraisers. All monies earned by our scouts are used to fund Pack activities and awards for the kids.



### SAFETY

Your son's safety while participating in Scouting is one of our top priorities.

We collect medical forms and health insurance information for each boy, which we bring to all outings and campouts.

Youth Protection Training is required for all leaders and encouraged for all parents. We strictly follow the Boy Scout policy of 2-deep leadership, which simply means that no boy can be alone at any time with any leader or other adult who is not their parent/guardian.

Alcohol, tobacco products, and firearms are prohibited at all Scout events and activities, including campouts.

### FUNDRAISING

Pack 130 participates in the the Trail's End Popcorn Sale. This is a door-to-door sale where our Cubs (with a parent) collect popcorn orders and deliver the popcorn when we receive it.

Traditionally, the popcorn sale is the primary fundraiser each year for the Pack, so we really ask for everyone to participate. Each Cub is eligible for certain prizes based upon the amounts sold. We generally ask every Cub to collect at least \$300 in popcorn sales.

This year, we will also participate in the Scout Fair coupon book fundraiser in the spring.



## SUMMARY OF MAJOR PACK ACTIVITIES

### PACK MEETINGS

Our Pack Meetings are generally on the first Monday of the month. This is where the boys receive rank awards, and the Cubmaster provides enriching and entertaining programming for the boys.

Meetings: 9/14, 10/5, 11/2, 12/7, 3/7, 4/4

### POPCORN FUNDRAISER WILL BEGIN SOON!

Our major fundraiser will begin soon. Proceeds from these sales help fund various events, such as the Pinewood Derby, the Blue & Gold Banquet, the bowling party, and awards. It is also a great chance for the boys to learn to speak to adults and develop selling skills . . . along with earning great prizes. Orders and money due on 11/20; Popcorn Distribution 12/12.

### CAMPOUTS

It is hard to imagine, but the weather will eventually cool down, and we will soon be looking forward to our Fall Campout. We will be camping at Brazos Bend State Park on the weekend of 10/2-10/4. Our Spring Campout will be the weekend of 2/19-2/21. The entire family is welcome to both campouts. They are great fun and the highlight of the year for many scouts.

### BLUE & GOLD BANQUET

In February, Scouting celebrates its birthday with the Blue & Gold Banquet. Pack 130's Blue & Gold Banquet, this year on 2/6, is a catered event, where the Pack joins together to celebrate with a good meal, some exciting entertainment, and a special ceremony for our oldest Scouts.

### PINEWOOD DERBY

The Derby is one of our biggest events of the year. Derby car kits will be distributed at the Pack Meeting on 11/2. Then, after you sketch your design, bring it to "Cut Day" on 12/5 at the Scout House. Complete your car over the holidays, and Race Day is 1/9. Mandatory weigh-in, registration, and turning in cars for Race Day is 1/8.

### SCOUTING FOR FOOD

Pack 130's annual service project is a food drive for the Christian Community Service Center (CCSC). This year we will hold the drive in early November. Beginning on Saturday, 11/7, the boys will distribute flyers to homes in Bellaire asking for food to be set out on doorsteps on Saturday 11/14. On that day, Scouts will gather and load the food onto the empty shelves in CCSC's pantry. The kids love to help out, and it is very satisfying for them to see how much they have helped people in need.

### RELIGIOUS AWARDS

"A Scout is reverent." All Scouts show this by being faithful in their duty to God. God and Family and God and Me are the religious emblems for Scouts of Protestant faiths and are offered at Bellaire UMC. Each faith has its own requirements for earning its emblem. For more information, you can contact our Religious Awards Coordinator, Sandy Smith, at [sandysmith@pdq.net](mailto:sandysmith@pdq.net).

### PACK COMMITTEE PLANNING MEETINGS

The Pack is run by volunteers. We meet monthly to plan our upcoming events. We welcome new ideas and help along the way. Please join us! Next meeting: September 14th (7:00 PM at the Scout House).

UNIFORMS AND HANDBOOKS

Wearing uniforms helps bring us together as a Pack and as Scouts. Scouts must wear their full uniform (called the Class A uniform) to all Den and Pack Meetings. Pack 130 t-shirts, which you will receive upon registration, are worn on campouts and other events where appropriate as instructed by your Den Leader.

Pack 130 has a “belt up” uniform policy, which means a Scout can wear any pants, socks, or shoes with his uniform, although most Scouts wear either jeans or navy pants (with the 4th & 5th grade Scouts wearing khaki pants).



What to Buy

When you purchase your uniform, this is the minimum you will need to buy:

1. Uniform shirt (navy for grades 1-3, khaki for grades 4-5).
2. Neckerchief (specific to the Scout’s grade).
3. Scout belt. The boys earn awards that go on the belt, so this special belt is necessary.
4. Appropriate starter patches. Just tell the Scout Shop you are with Pack 130.
5. Scout Handbook (specific to the Scout’s grade).

Optional purchases include:

1. Scout hat. Many Scouts enjoy wearing these, but they are not required. There is a hat for each grade.
2. Neckerchief slide. These attach to the neckerchief to keep it in place, but a knot works just as well.
3. Scout pants, socks, etc. You’ll find many other Scout accessories available at the Scout Shop.

ATTACHING UNIFORM PATCHES

Starter patches and other appropriate patches should be attached to your Scout’s uniform in a timely manner. You can either sew them on yourself, or you can have someone sew them on for you. The Scout Shop offers this service (although sometimes the turnaround time is long

early in the year), or you can try the Sewing Center, 6509 South Rice Ave. in Bellaire (little pink building across the street from Jax Grill). The Scout Shop also sells a product called Badge Magic, which is an extremely sticky adhesive, as an alternative to sewing. **This year, the Scout Shop will have a seamstress on site the first three Saturdays in Sept.**



Houston Scout Shop

713.865.5190  
M-F, 9-6  
Sat, 10-5  
In Sept, Sat 9-6

The Houston Scout Shop is located at 2225 North Loop West, Suite A, Houston, TX 77008. From Bellaire, take 610 all the way around to the TC Jester exit. It is in the Cockrell Scout Center on the south side of the freeway. Look for the huge American flag.

## SCOUTS TODAY, STRONG CITIZENS AND LEADERS TOMORROW

### For every 100 boys who join Scouting:

2 will become Eagle Scouts  
 17 will become future Scout volunteers  
 12 will have their first contact with a church  
 1 will enter the Clergy  
 5 will earn their Church's award  
 18 will develop a lifelong hobby  
 8 will enter a vocation learned through the Merit Badge program  
 1 will use Scouting skills to save his own life  
 1 will use Scouting skills to save the life of another person  
 RARELY will one be brought before the juvenile court system

### Scouts also account for:

64% of Air Force Academy graduates  
 68% of West Point graduates  
 70% of Annapolis graduates  
 72% of Rhodes Scholars  
 85% of FBI agents  
 26 of the first 29 astronauts

Scouting makes a difference!



### WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Pack 130 is a volunteer organization that runs completely by parents donating their time to make sure our boys have a great program. Whether you can give a little or a lot of your time, we can always use more help!

Consider volunteering in your son's Den by being a Den Leader or helping the Den Leader gather materials or leading part of a Den Meeting. Share your talent, profession, or community contacts to help us put on programs for a Den or the Pack.

Each year, the Pack will undertake many short-term projects, such as fundraisers, Scouting for Food, service projects, Pinewood Derby, Blue & Gold Banquet, Graduation, and others. We need volunteers for all these activities, so please notify your den leader if you can help!

BELLAIRE  *United Methodist Church*  
 Connecting People



### OUR SPONSORING ORGANIZATION

Bellaire United Methodist Church has a long tradition of supporting the Boy Scouts of America. As our chartered sponsor, its role is to provide facilities and leadership for both the Cub Scout and Boy Scout Program. BUMC also sponsors Boy Scout Troop 222. Pack 130 thanks BUMC for its support.

Pack 130 is open to all faiths.