



Prepared. For Life.™

Katahdin Area Council Trading Post Hours

Monday, Wednesday & Friday

8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday & Thursday

10:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

1st & 3rd Saturday of each Month

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Starting September 4th, 2012

Call 207-866-2241 or visit us at

www.KatahdinAreaBSA.org

Pay by credit card and we will ship it to you!

You can also email Vicki at

vmower@bsamail.org



Katahdin Area Council, BSA

**2012-2013
Parent's Guide to
Cub Scouting**

For more information/questions call 207-866-2241
Or visit our website at KatahdinAreaBSA.org

Scouting's Vision

The Boy Scouts of America is the nation's foremost youth program of character development and values-based leadership training. Scouting is unique because it allows entry at any age, from 7 years on up, and at any skill level in a child's development. Scouting also has longevity. It is common for several members of the same family, even generations, to follow each other into Scouting. And it's not unusual to find Scouts who have made a 10- to 12-year commitment to Scouting.

Scouting's vision and promise will continue to:

- Offer young people responsible fun and adventure;
- Instill in young people lifetime values and develop in them ethical character as expressed in the Cub Scout

Scout

- Promise and Law of the Pack;
- Train young people in citizenship, service and leadership; and
- Serve America's communities and families with its quality, values-based program



(I PROMISE TO DO MY BEST TO)

Important Information

Scout's Name

Den Number

Den Leader's Name

Phone / Email _____/

Pack Number

Cubmaster's Name

Phone / Email _____/

Other Information _____

Advancement Continued



Webelos Scouts (Fourth and fifth grade, or age 10). Webelos (from “**WE**’ll **BE** **LO**yal Scouts,” pronounced WEE-buh-lows) is a transitional level in Scouting that shifts the emphasis from the home-centered activities of Tiger Cubs, Wolf and Bear Scouts, to more group-centered activities. This stage prepares the Scout for participation in the great adventure of Boy Scouting. Webelos provides boys with a variety of new experiences to help them assume responsibilities and gain maturity, knowledge and skills.

Advancement and recognition are based on earning activity badges to work toward the Webelos badge. Twenty different activities are grouped into five categories: physical skills, mental skills, community, technology and outdoor. After the Webelos badge, the Scout can complete additional activities to earn the Compass Points emblem and the Arrow of Light Award, Cub Scouting’s highest award.



Benefits of Scouting

Scouting Provides Lifelong Benefits

Scouting gives youth the opportunity to try new things, be of service to others, build self-confidence and reinforce ethical standards. These opportunities not only help them when they are young, but carry forward into their adult lives. What children learn in their formative years is instrumental in shaping their character as adults—and building strong character takes time. Don’t expect it to happen in just a few days, a few months or even a year!

Scouting builds character by teaching confidence and self-reliance and promoting positive role models as your child grows and develops. Through planned advancement, Scouts are always in a learning environment, increasing their capacity for goal-setting, choice-making and accomplishment.

Scouting is educational, and Scouts are more often involved in after-school activities such as sports, visual arts or hobbies than youth who have never been in Scouts. Scouts are more likely to graduate from high school. This is especially true of Scouts for five years or longer.

espe-
youth
been
years or



(do my duty to God and my country)

Scouting with Your Child

Scouting Brings Families Together

Scouting is unique in that it offers families a variety of Experiences not found in other activities. In Cub Scouts, the adult partner is more involved in den meetings and most activities are designed for family involvement. Den meetings last about an hour and activities for recognition can be completed at home.



Advancement Continued

Tiger Cub Scout (First grade or age 7). Tiger Cub advancement is divided between activities boys at home and activities done in den meetings with their adult partner. Tiger Cub den meetings follow a concept of “search, discover and share,” so you and your Scout will **search** out new activities, **discover** new things and **share** them with others.



Wolf Cub Scout (Second grade or age 8). The trail to the rank of Wolf Cub Scout is more challenging with 12 achievements, each with multiple tasks. Achievements include more physical activity in “Feats of Skill,” learning about safety in “Know Your Home and Community” and reacting to various situations in “Making Choices.”



Bear Cub Scout (Third grade or age 9). To earn the rank of Bear Cub Scout, the Scout must complete 12 achievements from a list of 24. The Bear trail achievements are in four categories: God, Country, Family and Self. Achievements include: “Ways We Worship,” “Take Care of Your Planet,” “Family Fun” and “Be a Leader.”



Advancement

Since its inception in 1911, the term “Eagle Scout” has been synonymous with the pinnacle of Scouting. It’s even found its way into the vernacular to mean “a straight-arrow and self-reliant man” (Merriam-Webster Online). More than 2 million Scouts—only 4% of overall Scout membership—have claimed the rank of Eagle Scout. Yet it’s the overwhelming vision and desire of nearly every Scout. The path to achievement of the Eagle Scout rank includes accomplishing specific requirements at six Boy Scout ranks before being named an Eagle Scout.

You do not have to go all the way through Cub Scouting to achieve the rank of Eagle Scout. Being a Cub Scout does provide you with activities and experiences that will support your family.

The Cub Scout Ranks

Cub Scouts advance through their ranks by age, and work on age-appropriate activities with their adult partner. No matter at what age or grade a boy joins Cub Scouting, he must earn his **Bobcat** badge before advancing to Tiger Cub, Wolf, Bear or Webelos Scout. The “trail” to Bobcat has eight “tracks,” including, learning the Cub Scout Promise, handshake, salute and motto.



Parent's Role

The Parent's Role in Scouting

As a parent, you're a primary role model for your child. Scouting provides a time-tested structure that helps bond parent/child development through group and individual activities, recognition and advancement. Children need your guidance along their Scouting path, not to do the work *for* them, but *with* them.

Adult role models in Scouting provide an ideal learning experience for all youth. Every adult volunteer has something valuable to offer. On a typical weekend campout, a Scout might work with an adult volunteer who teaches the fishing belt-loop, with a Scout mom teaching orienteering, go on a five-mile hike with another adult leader and end the day learning how to clean



The Scout Uniform

The purpose of the Scout uniform is two-fold: By dressing alike, Scouts show they are equals. The uniform is also a sign to others that the Scout is a person who can be trusted. While the attire changes at each level of Scouting, a complete official uniform includes:

- the Scout long-sleeved or short-sleeved shirt;
- Scout pants or shorts;
- Scout belt and buckle;
- Scout socks or knee socks; and
- a neckerchief and cap.

A neckerchief and cap or campaign hat are optional. The full uniform should be worn for all ceremonial and indoor activities, such as pack or troop meetings and courts of honor, and during special outdoor occasions, such as Scout shows, flag ceremonies and special times at summer camp. It should also be worn when travelling to and from such events. Scouts may wear pack or troop T-shirts or shorts.



How Scouting Works

Scouting is a large national organization, but efficient at delivering support and resources at every level to make sure individual

Scouting's Structure



Team (Varsity Scouts), or

Your child is part of a group of five to eight scouts:
Den (Cub Scouts),
Patrol (Boy Scouts),
Team (Varsity Scouts), or

Several of these smaller groups make up a **unit**, which is called a:
Pack (Cub Scouts),
Troop (Boy Scouts),



Each unit is chartered to an organization—typically a religious, civic, educational or other community-based organization.

Several **units** make up a **district**, which is governed by one of more than 300 **local councils**.

Local councils, each with a local volunteer executive board, are organized into an **administrative area**.

Five to eight **administrative areas** make up each of four **regions** in the U.S.: North-east, Southern, Central and Western—each with



The **National Council** is directed by the National Executive Board and administered by the Chief Scout Executive and a staff of professional Scouters at the national office, headquartered in Irving, Texas.