

# 39<sup>th</sup> Cypress Newsletter



## WELCOME BACK!!

Hope you all had a great summer. This fall we will have an Otter den and perhaps two Timberwolf sixes. Now we have more ways to have fun outside.

This is our Scouting Group. It is led, planned, and supported by us. A traditional Scout Group does not have paid staff. We know that parents and children have busy schedules, but if we communicate well and share the tasks we will all have fun.

## TO DO'S:

1. **Re-enroll for scouting**
2. **Timberwolves start reading your manuals (Investiture or 2nd Star) to prepare for your badge tests**
3. **We need a Snack Coordinator!**



WFIS WOODBEADS TRAINING  
July 2017

July was an international WFIS training camp at the site of the Baden-Powell's first scout camp on Brownsea Island, England. Adult Scouters from Canada, Germany, England, Italy, Spain, Malta, India, Denmark, Belgium and the USA were there.

Good times, new friends, and ideas.



SCOUTS BEING PREPARED FOR CARNIVAL  
January 2017

The Scouts are getting ready for the carnival season. They practiced what to do to keep from getting lost, what to do if lost, and some simple first aid at our last meeting. They also got to see a puppet show in order learn about stranger safety.

## ENROLLMENT STEPS

Our website has more details under [Program](#). Leaders and children need to sign up annually at the start of the academic year. Dues are \$45 for Otters and \$50 for Timberwolves. Adult leaders get reimbursed for their necker and Criminal Record Check.

## COMMITTEE NEWS

We are officially a 501 c3 non-profit corporation and even have a bank account. This will be a great help as we are getting bigger and will have a Pathfinder Troop in a couple years which will also require insurance. If anyone knows an accountant who can verify our paperwork that would be helpful.

The committee is always looking for more members who can assist with supporting the group's education and service functions. Descriptions of positions can [be found at this link](#).

We need a **snack sign-up coordinator!** Please talk to William or Kyle.



**HAPPY SCOUTY MARDI GRAS!**  
February 2017

First parade of the year was a blast. Our scouts were really in the spirit to march with bringing an awesome BPSA wagon and sign, and passing out candy and beads. Their enthusiasm made it easy to make new friends along the parade route. Thanks to the Confetti Kids group for inviting us!



**SCOUT DAY HIKE FUN**  
March 2017

Our first day hike of the new year was great. All the animals and plants were getting an early start on spring just like us. We saw MANY snakes, frogs, and flowers. We also got to practice our knots and even made a moving gate out of small ropes.

## FALL SCHEDULE

*Most times are Sunday at 2-4:30pm unless mentioned otherwise.*

- September 10, Open House
- September 24
- October 7-8 campout
- October 22
- November 5
- December 3

## GROUP SECTIONS' NEWS

A Scout Group is divided into sections for different ages, but we will try to keep the youth sections meeting at the same time as much as possible. Hopefully there will be some activities that we can all do together.

*Parents please consider dropping off your Scouts (except Chipmunks) at meetings to foster independence. Timberwolves may camp with their Pack without family members if given the Pack Leader's approval. We still need a family member for Otter campouts and certain 'active' meetings.*

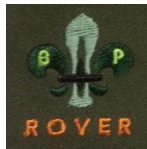
### Group Scoutmasters (GSM):

William Carter  
Kyle Radish

### <<<< Rover Crew >>>>

"Service"

Scouting is for all ages. For adults, **we need a Rover Crew Leader** to help organize adult camp outs and adult only volunteer projects. Please contact William or Pandora if you are interested. Think Mardi Gras social aid and pleasure club, but outside and without the booze. Hopefully we can have more Rover trips like we did last summer in Texas.



### <<<< Chipmunk Scurry >>>>

"Share and Prepare"

Chipmunks are unofficial pre-school scouts. Free play and exploring is a good activity for a Chipmunk. A parent must always supervise their own child. Chipmunks are invited to play with the Otters if they are able to do the activity.



### <<<< Timberwolf Pack >>>>

"Do your best"

The Timberwolf program is a lot of fun as it has loads of variety and independence. Timberwolves will be responsible for using their manuals as it tells them how to complete and record their proficiency tasks. We will start a Sixers' Council this year, think controlled democracy, to assist.

This fall the Timberwolves will be working on their **Investiture and & 2nd Star badges**. The sixers (with input from their sixes) will also choose any of the twenty proficiency badges to begin.



### Timberwolf Co-Leaders:

William Carter  
Ria McKnight  
Ann Schwab

### <<<< Otter Raft >>>>

"Busy and Bright"

The Otters will work on their Investiture, one of their Paw badges, and Safety badge this Fall.

### Otter Co-Leaders:

Kyle Radish  
Pandora Davis



## PARENT RESOURCES

Our [website](#) has prior newsletters, how to register, and links to all our forms. We also have a [google drive](#) that has safety information, your Scout's badge chart, and the snack sign-up list.



ROVER SEA SCOUTING  
March 2017

Rovers had a good morning sailing today. Great weather. Did some fun maneuvers. Saw a sea gull catch and eat a fish. Oh and guess who was circled by the WWII PT-305!!!

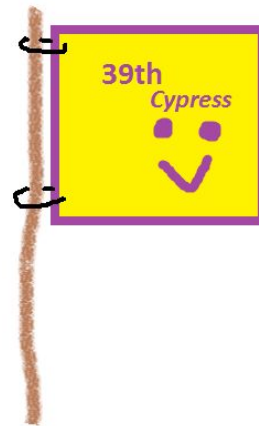
## REGIONAL & NATIONAL BPSA NEWS

There are a lot of BPSA camping activities. Look at the BPSA Trailhead discussion board ([Events](#)) or talk to William. Below are some international WFIS activities.

- Eurocamp18. (All) July 28th to August 4th, 2018 in the United Kingdom.

In our region, the BPSA does not have any day or resident camps. Jean Lafitte National Park has a winter camp. It fills up quick so show up the first day of registration to get a spot.

We are hoping again to camp with our neighbors, the 21st Dancing Rabbit in Mississippi, this year. More to come soon!



## WE NEED A FLAG!!

Flags in scouting are important for group spirit and so that we can find each other in a crowded park. We made a makeshift flag once for a campout and it worked great. We are looking for a family to help with creating a flag or a plan for the Group to make one. Please call William or Kyle with ideas.



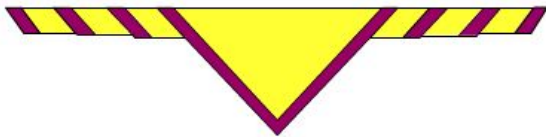
STREET SAFE SCOUTS  
March 2017

The Scouts had a great time at our last meeting learning about pedestrian and bike safety with the help from Bike Easy. We also got to play the Germ Game to discuss hygiene before getting ready for snack time. And there was a lot of bike riding!!

## NECKERS & UNIFORMS

We want every Scout to be a self-reliant and independent individual, but as we play as a team and help one another, uniforms are encouraged (no one will be turned away if they do not wear one though).

The Scouts are proud of the badges they have earned, and all the uniforms make us feel like a team. We have heard that super glue works better than fabric glue, but still do not be afraid of sewing needles as that works best.

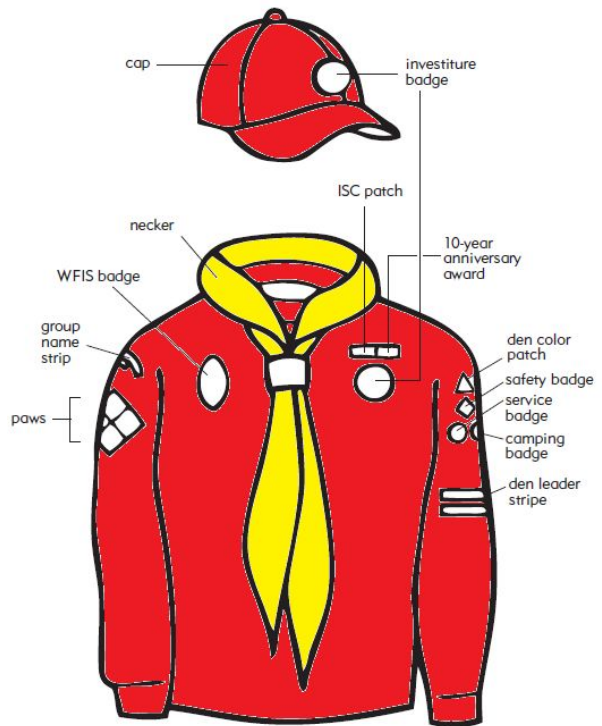


WELCOME NEW ROVER KNIGHTS  
March 2017

On March 17, 2017 at Lake Fausse Pointe State Park in south Louisiana Squires Kirby Hill (RESA Lone Scout) and James Edwards (BPSA-US 1st Lone Scouts) both were invested as Rover Knights.

Congratulations Rovers and welcome to the comradeship of open air and service!

### OTTER UNIFORM



Timberwolf Uniform Patch Guide



**GREAT SPRING CAMPING**  
April 2017

We had a great time at Buccaneer State Park. Plenty of exploring and fun to do around camp in just about perfect weather. Some of the scouts even made their first fire! The waxing moon, evening stories, and tall campfire made the s'mores extra yummy.



**GREAT SCOUT DAY HIKE!**  
May 2017

We had a good time hiking at our last meeting even when the trail turned into a pond and we had to turn around. It was fun just to sit there next to the water for a bit and listen to the sheep frogs who certainly did not mind the recent rains.



**CONGRATS SCOUTS!**  
May 2017

We were so very proud of all our scouts who did so well this year. It was also an important meeting for the scouts who got to "Swim Up" to their next scouting adventure. All those badges and experiences were well earned.\



**SCOUT FIELD DAY**  
April 2017

The Scouts had a great Spring Field Day. Many games were played including a good head balancing competition. Many thanks to the parents that helped run each station. We also got to enjoy meeting some new friends at our information table.



**ROVER SEA SCOUTING**  
June 2017

We had a great day sailing despite heading back early due to thunderstorm. Exciting to try out a new outboard in order to leave the marina. The photo is of the sails set wing on wing; the wind was perfect for it. I think we learned quite a bit about weather patterns and wind direction today!

## **WHO ARE WE AND WHAT DO WE DO?**

We are the 39<sup>th</sup> Cypress Group of the Baden-Powell Service Association which has more than fifty Groups in the United States. Our Group currently has three sections: Otters (5-7 year olds), Timberwolves (8-10 years old), and Rovers (18+). Unofficially we have Chipmunks (pre-schoolers), and once we gain more leaders we will have Pathfinders (11-18 years old) in order to be complete.

The 39th represents our city's longitude and latitude; roughly 30 degrees north and 90 degrees west.

We chose Cypress as our name because of its importance to our vulnerable coastline and our unique home/habitat.

We are members of the World Federation of Independent Scouts (WFIS); and as such are not in competition with other American Scouting Associations, we are their brothers and sisters in Scouting. We work closely with the Baden-Powell Scouts' Association of England and the Baden-Powell Service Association in British Columbia, Canada.

### **Scouting Is an Outdoor Movement**

Scouting is an outdoor movement and that is part of its character. The appeal of true Scouting has always been to that element of the vagabond, pioneer and explorer, which is part of our nature, and most evident in youth. The BPSA focuses on this aspect of the program and encourages our Scouts, parents and volunteers to plan programs that take advantage of being out of doors, whenever and wherever possible.

### **Scouting as it Was Meant to Be Played**

Traditional Scouting is not historical re-enactment, but for the most part an attempt to present Scouting as the game that was played prior to the 1970s; and following principles and practices laid down by Scouting's founder, Robert Baden-Powell. Our aim is to promote good citizenship, discipline, self-reliance, loyalty, and useful skills.

### **Putting Service before Self**

Scouting is a community-oriented experience, in that Scouts provide a function of public and community service. Scouting's aims and methods train the youth to put service before self, whether by participating in community service projects with the group, organizing a public service project with their patrol, or even helping out around their school and home. BPSA's program encourages leaders and volunteers to motivate the Scouts, no matter what section, to give back to the wider community in which they live. Service isn't something done as a requirement for a badge; it's something we do because we're Scouts!

### **Scouting for Youth and Adults, Boys and Girls**

Scouting is one of the best programs for developing character, improving resourcefulness, and learning responsibility and skills in public service; and BPSA believes this program should be available to everyone, youth and adult, regardless of religious beliefs, gender, or sexual orientation.

*Make scouting a tradition for your whole family!*