

39th 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. **Otter guardians must sign-up for the Snack and Co-Leader list**
3. **Timberwolves, start reading your manuals (Investiture or 2nd Star) to prepare for your badge tests**

FALL SCHEDULE

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

- Sept. 9 @ St. Bernard State Park Splash Pad
- Sept. 23
- Oct. 7
- Oct. 21
- November 3 weekend - CAMP
- TBA optional hike
- Dec. 2
- Dec. 16
- December Planning meeting TBD



WFIS EUROCAMP, England

July 28 to August 4, 2018

The WFIS international camp was held in England in Europe this year. Twenty-three countries attended including the BPSA-US!

ENROLLMENT STEPS

We are again accepting new applications and renewals for the 2018-2019 year for Otters (~5-7) and Timberwolves (~8-10). How many can join depends on how many involved families we have as we are an all volunteer group. We can also have Chipmunks (preschool) and Pathfinders (11-18) if anyone wishes to lead those sections.

Our website has more details under [Program](#). Leaders and children need to sign up annually at the start of the academic year. Dues are \$50 for Otters and \$60 for Timberwolves. Returning adult leaders get reimbursed for their necker and Criminal Record Check.

COMMITTEE NEWS

We are 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 next year which will also require insurance. If anyone knows an accountant who can verify our paperwork that would be helpful.

Being a non-profit will be a great help as we are getting bigger and will have a Pathfinder Troop in 12 months which will require insurance. To pay for insurance, spare tents, and equipment for all to share we also need someone to help organize fundraising.

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



WATERFALLS NEAR NOLA?!

July 2018

The trails in our area are not always flat and swampy. One of our Rovers scouted out Clark Creek Nature Area in Mississippi and found some great hills and waterfalls to hike. What a great way to cool off after a hike.



DEER ISLAND

June 2018

The Gulf Coast is lined with many small barrier islands. A close one to shore is near Biloxi, MS. To beat the heat some of our families went to the beach and sent photos from Deer Island. Two of the families proved you can do coastal cruising in an inflatable row boat!

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.

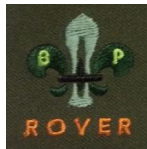
Group Scoutmasters (GSM):

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.

We will also try to use a Sixer Council so the older Cubs have a little say-so in for the camps and meetings.



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.

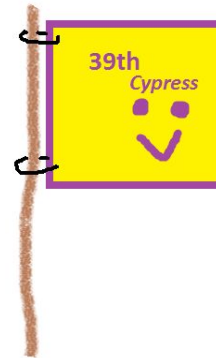
Otter Co-Leaders:

We do not have any one leader this year so [all guardians who want their children to participate must sign up for a co-leader day](#). We will use the Snack Den Parent form.



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.



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.



BROWNSEA TRAINING CAMP
September 2018

Our Rovers met with the Texas Rovers last weekend at Fort Boggy State park for the regional adult leader training camp. We all learned a great deal about how to implement the traditional scouting program. Best yet we had oodles of great camaraderie and fun.



WOODBEADS TRAINED

The Brownsea Training Camp was extra special as the first WFIS Woodbeads insignia was awarded to a BPSA-US member. To complete Woodbeads one must attend national and international training camps, complete two knowledge exams, and complete a personal project.

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.

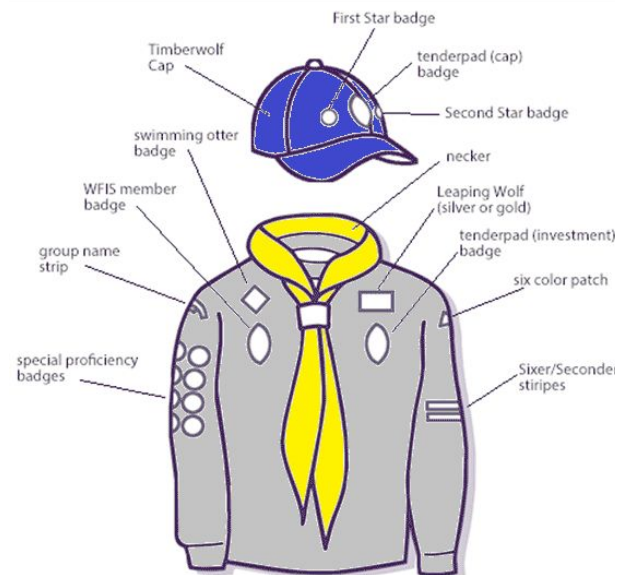
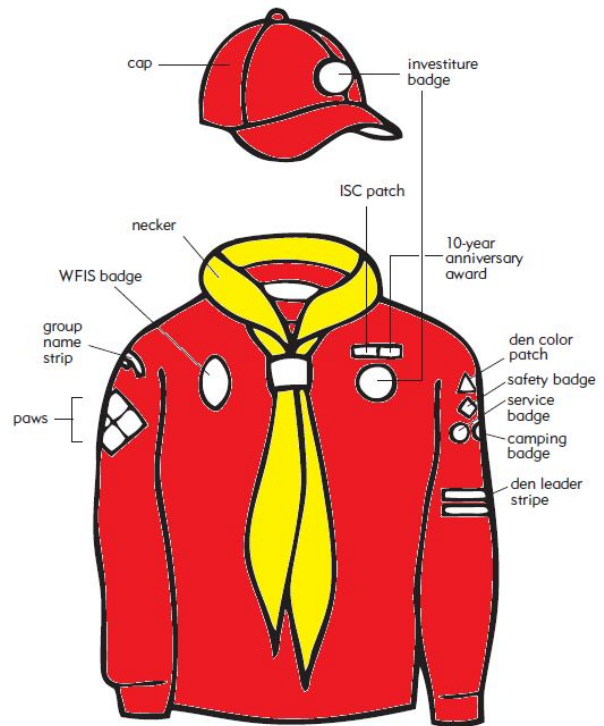
NECKERS & UNIFORMS

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.



OTTER UNIFORM



Timberwolf Uniform Patch Guide

WHO ARE WE AND WHAT DO WE DO?

We are the 39th 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!