

39th Cypress Newsletter



Welcome Back!!

Hope you all had a great summer break. Our Otter Raft, Timberwolf Pack, and Pathfinder Troop had a great Spring with many skills learned, and I am sure they are ready to start having fun outside again too.

In the Spring we had to stop our meetings early. We will be able to Scout this Fall using State Covid guidelines, but we will not have an official fall campout.

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 adults and children have busy schedules, but if we communicate well and share the tasks we will all have fun.



FALL SCHEDULE

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

- October 25
- November 8
- November 22
- December 6
- *TBD December 20 make-up day or trail hike or nothing*

TO DO'S:

1. Make sure those uniform shirts still fit!
2. **Renewal & Registration** -- Look for an email mid-October.
3. Look for a Snack/Co-Leader email sign-up also mid-October
4. We need extra leaders for all sections; please volunteer!



HAPPY SCOUT WINTER

January 2020

The weather was so wonderful the last meeting as the woods made a great wind break. Timberwolves played knot games and worked on their fort. Otters sewed their names into bookmarks using Morse code. They then walked into the woods and built a small wall by weaving sticks.



TAKING A BREAK FROM THE PARADES

February 2020

Otters and Chipmunk made tunnel books and shared collections of items found in nature. The Timberwolves practiced sewing by stitching Morse code messages into book marks. Some practiced their bowlines after and made lassos. It was also great that we got to meet some fellow Scouts from a local Cub Pack who were learning about what other scout programs do.

ENROLLMENT STEPS

We are again accepting new applications and renewals for the 2020-2021 year for Otters (~5-7), Timberwolves (~8-10), and Pathfinders (~11-18). How many can join depends on how many involved families who can lead meetings as we are an all volunteer group.

Renewal and Registration will be emailed to you and questions answered at our first meeting on October 25 or by email. Our website has more details under [Sign-Up!](#)

Leaders and children need to sign up annually at the start of the academic year. Dues are \$50 for Otters and \$60 for Timberwolves & Pathfinders. Returning adult leaders (Scouters/Rovers) get reimbursed for their necker and Criminal Record Check.

FALL GROUP CAMP

Due to the logistics of COVID we will not have a formal fall camp. Please go camping as individual families instead.



FAMILY 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.

REGIONAL & NATIONAL BPSA NEWS

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

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.

Guardians 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.

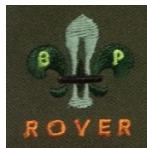
Group Scoutmasters (GSM):

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 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 guardian 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. The Sixers' Council has done great at suggesting Pack Meeting activities. If you think your child would be interested in being a rotating Sixer please talk to us.

This fall we will continue to work on our Star badges and look forward to camping together as a Pack in the spring.

Timberwolf Co-Leaders:

William Carter
??



<<<< Otter Raft >>>>

"Busy and Bright"

The Otters will work on a Paw Badge and start their Safety this fall. There still needs to be discussion on who will lead.

Otter Co-Leaders:

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<<<< Pathfinder Troop >>>>

"Be Prepared"

Pathfinders conduct their own activities with adult supervision. We do need new leaders once the Troop grows at the end of the year.



Troop Scoutmaster:

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ZOO TIME
March 2020

The Timberwolves Pack and Otter Raft went to visit their kin at the Audubon zoo. They learned how the zoo rescues animals and promotes conservation of endangered species. The Otters also went on a scavenger hunt too.



SCOUT ON!
May 2020

Camp. This last weekend would have been our last scout meeting/camp of the year. We did have two families go camping by themselves. Hooray! From the pictures it looks like they had some fun. Yummy looking pancakes and marshmallows...

Scout On! Please remember that Scouting is not just at meetings in uniforms. It is a lifestyle that you can do all the time. Go outside. Learn something new. Help others or nature. That is Scouting.



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 hand sewing needles as that works best.



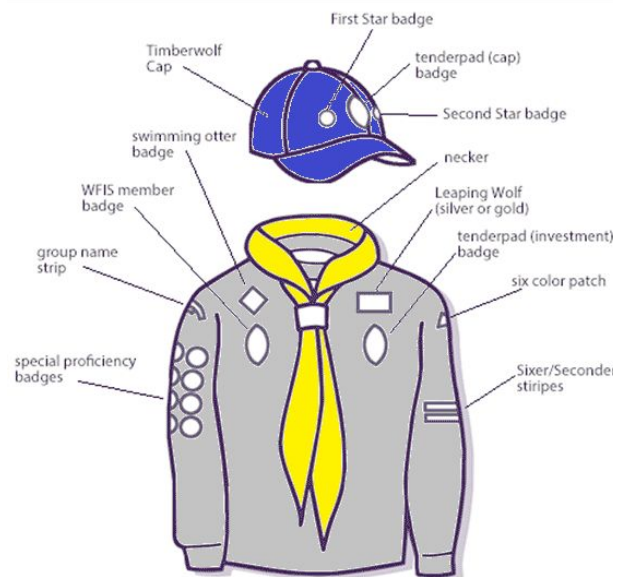
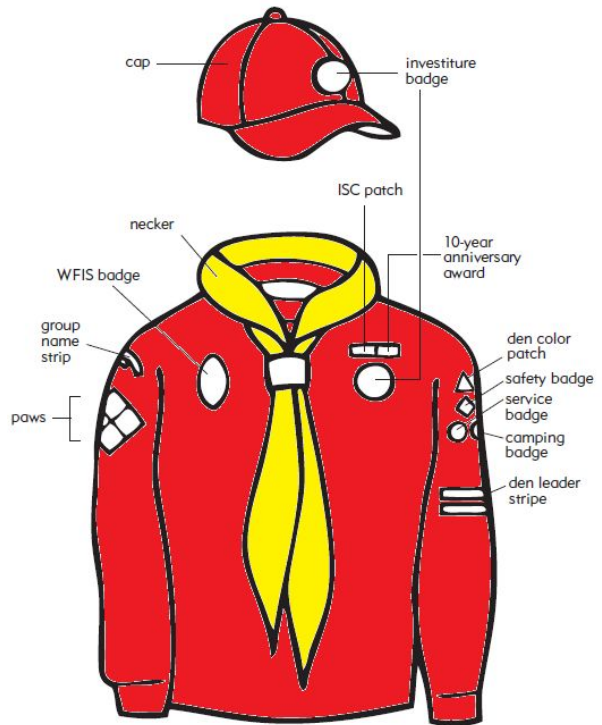
COMMITTEE NEWS

We are a 501 c3 non-profit corporation. This helped us set up a bank account that allows us to handle all our payments electronically, allows us some limited liability protection for volunteers by law, and may help us get cheaper insurance.

Being a non-profit will be a great help as we are getting bigger and have a Pathfinder Troop which would benefit from 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](#).

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 four sections: Otters (5-7 year olds), Timberwolves (8-10 years old), Pathfinders (11-18 years old) and Rovers (18+). Unofficially we have Chipmunks (pre-schoolers).

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 create better citizens by promoting character, fitness, useful skills, and service.

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, and Everyone

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!