

Cub Scout Pack 53 Newsletter



October 2008
Volume 3, Issue 2

We're on the Web!
www.pack53hew.org

The Cub Master's Welcome

I want to welcome everyone back this year and especially all the new scouts. This was our largest recruitment ever ... so far 29 new scouts and we now have ~85 scouts in our Pack ... TRULY FANTASTIC. Please take a look at the new upgraded website, it has a lot of scouting links all our activities for the year. Take the time to get to know your den leader and offer them any help they need. We have a great set of leaders assembled to answer all your questions. Please feel free to contact me as well. Regards, Greg Charache - Cub Master Pack 53

Upcoming Events

- ◆ 51st Annual on the Air Jamboree 10.18-19.08
- ◆ Corn Maze Hay Ride 10.19.08
- ◆ Scouts Religious Awards Information Meeting 10.20.08
- ◆ Camping - Quail Ridge 10.25.08
- ◆ End of popcorn sale 11.01.08
- ◆ Scouts to the Rescue 11.01.08
- ◆ Howell Living Farm Corn Harvest 11.08.08
- ◆ November Pack Meeting & Food Drive 11.20.08 **
- ◆ Pack Feast & Toy Drive 12.12.08**

Pack Meeting Agenda - 10.16.08 6:00 to 7:00 pm

Gathering Activity - Den 5
Welcome and Announcements
Opening Flag Ceremony - Den 5
Awards - Stephanie Muller
Pack Meeting Activity - Spaghetti / Marshmallow Towers
Closing Flag Ceremony - Den 5

Fall Campout -

This year's fall camping event is being held at Quail Hill Scout Reservation.
<http://www.qhsrcamp.org/>

Cub Scouts and their families are welcome to attend the Fall Campout. This is not a drop-off event and each Cub Scout must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. The activities are geared toward Cub Scout achievements, but siblings are welcome to attend. Siblings must be accompanied at all times by their parent or guardian.

The cost is \$10 per person for ages 5 and older. This pays for the food and campsite reservations.

We camp overnight from Saturday until Sunday morning. Generally scouts arrive between 12 and 2 pm for set-up and we run activities starting at 2 pm. Meals include Saturday night dinner and Sunday breakfast.

We run the event rain or shine. So please be prepared for rainy weather.

Please contact Greg Charache by email or phone to sign up or ask additional questions. Home Phone: 609-371-2407. Email: gcharache@verizon.net. A separate email announcement will be sent out with further details.

www.ScoutParents.org

Is your son new to scouting? Do you have a lot of questions? Check out this website, it has loads of information, including ways to get involved in your scout's pack and den. "Your child will be way more successful in [scouting] if he feels like this is something that's important to his whole family."



Hay Ride & Corn Maze

Pack 53's hayride and corn maze will be held on Sunday, October 19, at 5 pm at Westhaven Farm, 725 Route 524, Allentown, N.J. The evening will include an adventure filled 45 minute hayride and a chance to pick a pumpkin and gourd. Each child will receive a decorative ear of corn. They can also visit the farm animals and try out the straw jump.

The cost will be \$6 per child and \$3 for adults.

At the end of the hayride you have two choices for the corn maze. The ½ mile kid's maze is free. The challenging 2 mile maze (approximately 1 hour) is a \$1 per person.

Please RSVP to Michele Catana momsclub_ew@hotmail.com or call 371-7343.

Directions:

From the intersection of CR 539 & Conover Rd. Take CR 539 south for 4.9 miles. Turn right onto CR 524. Farm is on you right in 2.5 miles.

**Change of Meeting Location

Please note that for the November and December pack meeting our location has changed to the Ethel McKnight School located at 58 Twin Rivers Dr. South. December's meeting is our annual pack feast and toy drive. Please note this is on Friday December 12th starting at 6:30 pm.

POPCORN SALE DID YOU KNOW?

Our pack is part of the Central New Jersey Council of the Boy Scouts of America. The council puts on programs such as Scouts to the Rescue that our boys are able to benefit from. It also provides leader training and runs the camps that so many of our boys love. The activities and camps cost more money than they raise. One way the costs are offset is through popcorn. Popcorn sales not only help our pack pay for activities and advancement, it also helps our local Boy Scout council. 70% of what is sold comes back to scouting. Our Pack gets 36% and the Council gets 34%. By selling popcorn we are not only helping our pack to have the best possible program we are helping our boys have opportunity to enjoy the many advantages scouting can bring on a much larger scale. The great thing about the popcorn sale is it benefits our scouts personally by allowing them an opportunity to work on their persuasion skills and learn how to talk to adults in addition to their leaders, teachers and family. It benefits our pack by

allowing us to keep dues low and only do one fundraiser a year. It also benefits our boys by helping to pay for the many council activities they participate in. Thank you for your support of scouting and your commitment to keeping our program great!

-Our overall sales goal is \$12,000 so we need to keep selling.

-All orders and money are due to Amy Richardson no later than NOVEMBER 1

-If you would like to check out some popcorn to sell and deliver contact Amy Richardson 448-0074 for more information.

-OrderPopcorn.com is a good way to sell to distant friends and family

-If you do not have an order key for your scout email Amy directly at richardsonclan06@comcast.net and she will get it to you.

Community Service Corner

Hightstown Tree Survey Update

We are almost finished! We had 23 scouts and their families participate on Oct. 5th for three sessions of tree survey. We were able to complete three more streets that day. Since then we have been trying to finish up the last two - Main Street and South Main Street. This Saturday morning, Oct. 18th we will be heading out to South Main Street to finish it up. Please contact Pam Parker if you are interested in helping out.

November Food Drive

Each year Pack 53 has a food drive to benefit our local food pantry. We ask that each person attending the November Pack Meeting bring a non-perishable food item to donate to the Food Pantry of the Community Action Center. Together we can help stock the shelves with hearty food for the upcoming colder months.

Corn Harvest for Wildlife

On November 8, 2008 we will be going to Howell Living History Farm for their annual Corn-Picking Party. Come join us from 1-4 for corn-picking and feed-mixing activities, music, food, crafts, and wagon rides. Naturalists from the Mercer County Wildlife Center will give a demonstration at 2pm. Admission is free; food, rides, crafts, and admission to the corn maze is priced on a per-purchase basis. No RSVP is necessary. I will be at the front entrance at 1pm to take attendance. After that, you will be free to explore the farm with your family or den. Don't forget to pick some corn!

-Stephanie Muller

51st Annual Jamboree On The Air



October 18-19, 2008

The largest Scouting event in the world is JOTA. Jamboree-on-the-Air, or JOTA, is an annual Scouting and amateur radio event sponsored by the World Scout Bureau of the World Organization of the Scout Movement. Thousands of amateur radio stations around the world participate. If the conditions are right, it is common for over a hundred Scouting countries to talk to each other during the weekend!

What

In the United States, Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts visit a local amateur's ham shack during JOTA. Many districts and councils hold events that coincide with JOTA, where amateurs set up stations giving Scouts and leaders a chance to talk with Scouts from other areas.

The exchanges typically include information such as

- Name
- Location
- Scout rank
- Hobbies
- Age

Some exchanges lead to long-lasting friendships and the exchange of photos, badges, pins, and patches.

Who

JOTA welcomes participation by Scouting and amateur radio enthusiasts of all ages:

- Cub Scouts
- Boy Scouts
- Venturers
- Brownie Scouts
- Girl Scouts
- Former Scouts and Scouters
- Amateur radio operators
- Anyone interested in doing a Good Turn for Scouting

Where

In Mercer Area District, The Delaware Valley Radio Association (DVRA) hosts an open house for Scouts at its club station at Mercer County Airport. The Open House is from 9 AM to 4 PM on JOTA Saturday. If your unit is bringing more than six scouts, bring them at different times during the day so they can all get a chance to talk on the radio without a long wait.

The DVRA radio station is on Route 579 directly across from the Ewing Township Water Tower at Exit 2 of I-95. Look for the antennas!

If you have questions, see www.w2zq.com for details or contact Gary Wilson, K2GW at 609-890-3370 or k2gw@arri.net