



New Scout Parent Information

Pack 507 Clarksville Sunrise Rotary

Pack 507 was chartered as a new Cub Scout Pack in the Cogioba District of the Middle Tennessee Council to the Clarksville Sunrise Rotary Club on November 1, 2010. 7 Scouts registered with the BSA as members of the Pack along with 4 adult volunteers that year. In 2015, the Pack had registered membership of 88 Scouts and 11 adult volunteers, making it the largest unit in the Cogioba District and the third largest among the 214 BSA units in the Middle Tennessee Council.

Volunteer leaders of Pack 507 sit on the district, council, and national committees for Youth Protection Training, Outdoor Program curriculum, policy and practice committee, and hold various positions within the overall national structure as leaders, committee chairpersons, and advisors to the professional staff.

Highlights of the Pack activities and recognitions bestowed upon the Scouts and Volunteers:

Unit Recognitions

Journey to Excellence Gold Unit Award	2010-2017
National Summertime Pack Award	2012-2015, 2017
National Den Award	2012-2015, 2017
William T. Hornaday Unit Conservation Award	2013

In 2014, Pack 507 was recognized by the BSA National STEM director for having the most recipients of the National Supernova STEM Award for any BSA unit in the nation.

In April 2014, the Tennessee Senate passed Senate Resolution 123 in recognition of Pack 507's achievements as one of the premier Scouting units in the nation and for its service to the community and state. In addition, resolutions 122 and 124 were passed and signed into law recognizing Pack 507 scouts Jackson Vernon as the first recipient on the national STEM award in Tennessee and Jack Cherry as the first Arrow of Light recipient in the Pack's history.

Volunteer Recognitions:

Scouting Alumni Service Award	National BSA Commissioner's Award
Leadership Training Award	Trailblazer Leadership Award
Unit Leader Award of Merit	U.S. Army Volunteer of the Year Award
High Adventure Powderhorn Leadership Award	Army Outstanding Volunteer Serv Award (x11)
William T. Hornaday Natl Conservation Award	

Scout Service



Along with participating each year in the Clarksville Veterans Day and Christmas parades, Pack 507 continues ongoing community service through many avenues with at least one service project planned for each month of the year. Some of the Scouts' regular service projects and charities it supports through service include:

Scouting for Food drive	MDA Walkathon
Dreams and Wishes of Middle Tennessee	Leukemia and Lymphoma Society
Manna Café	Room at the Inn
Ft. Defiance Preservation Society	Salvation Army
Sunrise Rotary Labor Day Ride	St. Baldrick's Foundation
Gilda's Club of Nashville	Relay for Life

Every year, registered members of the unit provide many hours of service to various community and national organizations as role models to the youth as they learn about being community servants and servant leaders in the community and nation. Since its founding, Pack 507 has provided over 12,000 hours of service in the furtherance of a Scout's duty to do a good turn daily.

Unit Organization

All BSA units are chartered by organizations who have received a charter from the BSA to further their service and outreach to their community. Each unit is controlled by the Chartering Organization who certifies and approves all leadership volunteers and provides the support and guidance to the unit through the principles of the organization. The "charter" is a type of franchise for Scouting in which the organization is allowed to use the program for the betterment of their community and furtherance of the organization.

The Chartering Organization is represented by the Charter Org Rep who is the liaison between the two. The COR sits as a member of the Council and National Committees to ensure the organization has a voice in considerations of policy and practices involving Scouting to align with the goals of the Charter.

At the beginning of each year, the Charter Org Representative for Pack 507 meets and interviews all leaders and prospective leaders prior to certifying them to ensure that the purpose and vision of Rotary International are reflected in the acts and service of the Pack and its leaders.

Each volunteer undergoes a rigorous background investigation by the BSA national office and are required yearly training in the BSA Youth Protection guidelines for proper interaction and unit management. Currently, The Pack 507 COR sits on the council and district training committees and is a lead trainer for the YP courses as well as program leadership training.

Rotary and the BSA



Rotary International and the Boy Scouts of America have partnered since the very beginning of the Scouting Movement. Local Rotary Clubs are the fourth largest group of chartering organizations to Scouts and the very first Scouting unit was chartered to Rotary One after a meeting between the first BSA national Commissioner, James E. West, and his friend and Rotary founder, Paul Harris. West had approached Harris for advice on heading the new national Scouting organization which Harris became extremely interested in and was once of the early major supporters for the program.

Today, nearly every state in America has a dedicated Rotary Scout Training Center sponsored and owned by rotary clubs and districts to provide leadership training for volunteers and opportunities for Scouts.

Cub Scouting and Pack 507

Why is joining the Cub Scouts such a great idea for young boys? First and foremost, it is fun for boys. What good is an extracurricular activity if it isn't fun? If your child is not enjoying himself, he will not want to stick with the activity, which will result in wasted time and money. But Cub Scouts involves such a variety of activities, so it is pretty certain that your son will not get bored. Also, Cub Scouts is a family endeavor; parents are encouraged and expected to take part in the meetings, projects, and field trips.

Cub Scouting is for boys ages 7 to 10, and the boys are divided into groups, or dens, by grade level. So, your child will be in a den with other boys from his class and/or neighborhood. This breeds a sense of familiarity and family among the den, which helps to bring the boys together as one unit. The grade your child is in will usually determine which type of Cub he is, as follows:

- Kindergarten=Lion Cubs
- First Grade= Tiger Cubs
- Second Grade= Wolf Cubs
- Third Grade = Bear Cubs
- Fourth and Fifth Grade= Webelos

Is Cub Scouting just about having fun? No, there is much more to it than that. In fact, there are 10 purposes of Cub Scouting:

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|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Character Development | 6. Respectful Relationships |
| 2. Spiritual Development | 7. Personal Achievement |
| 3. Good Citizenship | 8. Friendly Service |
| 4. Sportsmanship and Fitness | 9. Fun and Adventure |
| 5. Family Understanding | 10. Preparation for Boy Scouts |

Just looking at the list above should tell you how much a boy will learn from participating in Cub Scouts! It would be difficult to think of any other extracurricular activities that can help young boys work with their families to accomplish so much.



Now, exactly how do boys go about achieving all of these tasks? Each Cub Scout receives a handbook, and the handbook is filled with information about Cub Scouting as well as what the Scouts call 'electives.' Electives are activities that the Scouts must complete in order to earn badges. These activities are done with the parents' guidance and assistance as necessary, and they are designed to help the Scout to learn about and explore new concepts. Some examples include making leaf rubbings, making a bird feeder, playing a clean-up treasure hunt game, and collecting food and toys for the needy.

The boys also do activities with the other Scouts in the den. Den meetings are usually held at least once or twice a month. These are social events where group events take place. The Den Leader might direct the group in putting on a skit, completing an arts and crafts activity, or in working on an ongoing project.

Meetings

Pack 507 meets at the Christ Lutheran Church at 2425 Kirkwood Rd, just past the strawberry farm on Rossvie Rd. Each Tuesday den meetings for the ranks are held for scouts to work on their ranks and adventures. The last Tuesday of each month is when the overall Pack meeting is held where we hold our advancement and award ceremonies, play games, fellowship, and just have fun.

The Pack Committee, which consists of all parents and leaders, meets the last Sunday preceding the monthly pack meeting for program planning and updates on outings and events.

Pack 507 has been a very active unit from the beginning and plans outings for every month of the year including camping, hiking, history field trips, service projects, and a lot more. This is to ensure that even though every family's schedule is already busy, each scout will find at least a couple of outings that will fit into their family commitments and be able to take part in the full program.

What every parent really needs to know about joining Cub Scouts

1. What do I need to buy, and where do I get it?

- **Uniform**
 - Pack 507 focuses on Scouting being as accessible as possible to all families, and this consideration extends to the uniform. For Pack 507, an "official and complete" uniform consists of:
 - Scout uniform shirt
 - Scout belt (while any belt will work to hold up your pants, the adventure loops Cub Scouts earn fit better on the scout belt and allow them to display their accomplishments)
- **Patches**
 - Council patches- Scout store employees can help you find the ones you need.
 - Pack Numbers-



- World Crest Emblem
- American Flag
- Dun number patch
- **Scout Book** for age level
 - Each den (Tiger, Wolf, Bear, and Webelo) has their own book of requirements. Every scout needs his own book as he will write in it and keep track of his progress.
 - Tip- I highly recommend getting the spiral-bound book. It's more expensive but is easier to use and lasts longer!

2. Can't I just shop online?

Sure, you can shop on scoutstuff.org, and you can even buy some items on Amazon or eBay. But for a first visit, I recommend visiting the store in person, if you can. The local scout shop or Clarksville is at 1860 Wilma Rudolph Blvd, Clarksville, TN 37040.

3. Where do all the badges go? Do I HAVE to sew them on?

At the end of this guide is the BSA uniform inspection sheet showing where each patch goes. As much of a pain as sewing can sometimes be, I always recommend against using the product sold at the scout shops called "Badge Magic". It does save you from having to sew, but it's nearly impossible to remove the glue when you want to change out the scout's rank and the area the glue is put become stiff and uncomfortable. Our personal advice is to save yourself the headache that comes with Badge Magic or other iron-on style adhesives and just sew the patches.

4. What's our District? Do I need to know?

Your Council: We are a part of the Middle Tennessee Council, one of the largest and most successful councils for scouting programs in the US. The council was founded in 1920 and was the first integrated council the US offering the program for all boys in the 17 counties it encompasses. Our council camps are at Boxwell Reservation on Old Hickory Lake, Latimer High Adventure Reservation on the Cumberland Plateau, and Grimes Canoe Base on the Buffalo River.

Your District: We are in the Cogioba District, which is named for the Cherokee word meaning "dark fired tobacco" which made the area famous during the 19th century. Our district includes Montgomery, Stewart, Houston counties and Ft Campbell.

5. Den, Pack, Webelo....What? Help!

Cub Scouting can be a whole new language if you've never been part of it before. Here are some things you might need to know:

Den vs. Pack: A Cub Scout Pack includes all the boys in your group. **Packs** meet all together with their families once a month at Pack meetings. **Dens**, on the other hand, are smaller groups



organized by age and rank level. Dens meet weekly to complete activities in the Scouting handbooks. They include the following groups:

1. **Bobcat** – This is the entry rank for all Cub Scouters regardless of age. They will earn their Bobcat rank before earning any other achievements. There is a section in each handbook with requirements for earning the Bobcat rank, but Scouts only need to do it once.
2. **Lion** – Lions are scouts in kindergarten who are just beginning their scouting adventure.
3. **Tiger** – Tiger scouts are 7 years of age or in 1st grade.
4. **Wolf** – Wolf scouts are 8 years of age or in 2nd grade.
5. **Bear** – Bear scouts are 9 years of age or in 3rd grade.
6. **Webelos** – (stands for We'll Be Loyal Scouts) Webelos are 10 years old, or in 4th grade.

The dens aim to achieve rank by the end of the school year, and officially “crossover” to their next rank at our big year end ceremony campout.

6. Realistically, what is our time commitment?

The running joke that has been around for decades is that “Scouting: just an hour a week”. Even though that’s accurate as far as meeting times, leaders will spend varying amounts of time during the week in planning and preparation to ensure their scouts have the best experience possible.

Dens will meet each Thursday evening and the full pack meeting are held on the last Thursday of every month through the school year. We also plan monthly outings such as hikes, trips to local events or activities, and possibly day camp in the summer or an overnight camp (if your pack allows it).

Parents may be asked to help chaperone trips or help run den meetings from time to time. By joining Scouts, you automatically become a member of the Cub Scout Committee, so plan to attend monthly committee meetings if you can and offer your opinion on upcoming plans for the pack! The mantra is “when the boy joins, the family joins”. All family members, including siblings, are always welcome and included during Pack events.

Your actual time commitment is up to you, but the amount of time you devote to the adventure directly correlates to the amount of enjoyment your son will have.

7. What does my son *do* at Cub Scouts?

To earn their rank, boys complete Cub Scout adventures. Some are required to earn the rank, while others are elective, or optional. Each rank does require one “elective” adventure. The requirements for each rank are listed in the front of the Scout book.

Many of these adventures will be passed off during weekly den meetings. However, many of them also ask Scouts to complete requirements at home. Your Cub Scout ***will not earn rank without your help*** completing some adventures at home. Cub Scouts is meant to be a collaboration between the boys, Pack and Den leaders, and parents.

8. The book is huge! Will my son really pass off ALL these requirements?



Yes, if your son wants to and you support him. There is a lot to learn and enjoy, but it's all done with fun in mind and most of the time it's learning through playing and just getting to play games. There are certain required achievements for rank and many more than are just extra fun electives.

9. What kind of recognition will my Scout get?

When your Scout passes off all the requirements for an adventure, he will earn a belt loop. These belt loops will be awarded at the next Pack Meeting. He should receive the loop and a card. Some boys keep all the cards in a special book. Once a loop has been earned, boys can wear it on their belt to Den and Pack meetings.

10. What can a new parent do to become involved and help their son?

Every activity we hold has a committee to plan and put it on. Each den also must have a den leader and an assistant den leader. There are many, many ways a new parent can get involved that will fit into their schedule and ability regardless of what that it.

Example of Pack 507's yearly activity calendar.

Pack 507 Calendar 2012-2013

Month	Community Service	Outing	Misc Events
August			Cub Roundup at Rossview Elem
September	Trail clean-up Dunbar Cave State Park	Hike @Dunbar Cave State Park	
October		Cub and Family Weekend Camp-Boxwell Reservation	Popcorn Show and Sell
November	Veterans Day Parade	Pack trip-The Hermitage, Ice Skating, Parthenon Tour	
December		National Historic Trails Award Hike-Shiloh National Battlefield, Pinson Mounds, Casey Jones Railroad Museum	
January	Manna Café Food Drive		Pinewood Derby car building clinic
February		Pack trip-Tennessee State Museum, TN Legislature tour meet w/state senators and reps	Blue and Gold Banquet
March	Scouting for Food drive	Pack Campout-Ft Donelson National Battlefield	
April		Pack Campout-Land Between the Lakes	District Pinewood Derby Championships
May	Memorial Day Flag placements	Crossover campout-Wildcat Hollow BSA Reservation Kentucky	
June			Cub Scout Day Camp-Billy Dunlop Park
July			Cub Scout Resident Camp-Boxwell Reservation



Costs and Fees

B.S.A. National Registration

This annual fee must be collected in August from every registered Scout and Adult leader for the annual rechartering of the Pack in September. This fee includes the \$35.00 yearly membership to B.S.A. and \$1.00 for the insurance issued to cover the boys and Adult Leaders at all Scout functions.

Pack 507 Dues: \$50.00/yr

This fee goes towards the cost of your son's Pinewood Derby car, Pack events, rank badges, and scout awards that will be presented to him throughout the year. The deadline for this is the October Pack meeting.

Fund Raisers

Throughout the year there will be various fund-raisers. Some of these might go to benefit the Pack for a trip, outing, or needed supplies, and some to benefit the Scout, Pack, and [your Council]. As Cub Scouts, we will always try and make sure to emphasize the *fun* in *fund*raising. Thank you.

Cub Scouting and You

Scouting is a boy-led, family centered activity and throughout the year there are banquets, fund-raisers, Scout shows, parades, derbies, camping trips, and many other activities and functions for the entire family to be involved with. Ambitious as they are, a Cub Scout still needs *your* help in implementing the program and is your chance as a parent to take part in the unique opportunity not possible in many other activities to participate alongside your son.

Remember, the Pack is all of us working together... leaders, parents, and Scouts.

Unlike other programs your son might enroll in, Cub Scouting involves the whole family, no matter what size or parental make-up exists in the home. In Tigers, you are your son's Adult Partner and will be involved in every den meeting with him (Tigers are required to have a parent or guardian at every meeting with them). In Wolves and Bears, you are Akela, the wise leader of the tribe of Webelos, and the final judge of your son's efforts. At the Webelos rank, you are the Activity Badge counselors that could help influence a boy's career direction

Throughout the year you will have the opportunity to assist on different committees, and at different events. Please volunteer freely, and give of yourself when called upon to help. You will find it a rewarding experience, and one in which you and your son will remember that you did together. Thank you.