



## Pack 118 FAQ's

### When do you meet?

We generally meet the first 3 Tuesdays of each month from September through May. Meetings begin at 6:30PM and conclude by 8:00PM (although the Tiger Cubs/First graders may dismiss earlier). Please be on time!

### Where do you meet?

We meet at St. Stephen United Methodist Church located at 6800 Sardis Road. Our Scout Room is in the rear of the church located in the building just across from the gym. For September, we begin in the Fireside Room on the right end front of the church.

Please do not drop boys off at the front of the church after September as those doors will be locked. All Cubs should enter through the rear of the church near the Scout Room and by the Youth Ministry Center (you will be given a facility tour on the first night).

### What does my son wear?

Pack 118 requires a Cub Scout uniform with all pieces except the pants (jeans, khakis, and shorts are acceptable). Uniforms are available at The Scout Shop located at 1410 East 7<sup>th</sup> Street (704-333-5471) OR The Carolina Scout Shop located at 2121 Westinghouse Blvd. (704-583-2127) Please call ahead for business hours. Unless otherwise noted, boys should wear these uniforms to Tuesday night meetings. These uniforms are called CLASS A's.

Pack 118 issues a Pack t-shirt with our logo for each boy. These shirts are referred to as CLASS B's.

## What are the different Cub Scout Ranks?

1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	Tiger Cubs (orange uniform accessories)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	Wolf Cub Scouts (yellow/red uniform accessories)
3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	Bear Cub Scouts (light blue uniform accessories)
4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Webelos I Scouts (Boy Scout uniforms---green/khaki)
5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Webelos II Scouts (Boy Scout uniforms---green/khaki)

## Do I have to remain at each meeting with my son?

For the Tiger Den (1<sup>st</sup> grade) a parent must remain at the meetings with his/her son. All other parents are encouraged to stay and offer assistance to the den leaders.

A common misconception is that Cub Scouts is a “Tuesday night babysitting service.” Make no mistake; if you are looking for a place to drop off your son with no additional commitments, Pack 118 is not the place for you. We encourage all parents to engage in this experience with your sons.

## What does it cost?

Annual dues are \$ 40.00. Our fiscal year runs from March 1 to February 28<sup>th</sup>. Therefore, new families joining in the Fall pay a prorated amount of \$ 20.00. Each year in February/March, all families pay the full \$ 40.00 for an entire year. This fee covers basic dues, a subscription to Boys Life Magazine, and BSA insurance.

Popcorn Sale---Each Fall the Pack participates in the local Scouting Council's Fundraiser with Trail's End Popcorn. Boys have the opportunity to sell popcorn door-to-door with an adult; sell at local business; and at other preset locations. Boys are compensated with prizes. The 27% of the profit goes directly into our treasury to fund Pack 118 activities.

Friends of Scouting---Each Spring families can contribute or pledge to contribute to the local council, Mecklenburg County Council, to help fund camp operations and pay the costs of operating Scouting in Mecklenburg.

## Are parents expected to help lead den meetings?

Yes, every parent should be willing to volunteer some of his/her time to work with the trained den leader(s) to provide quality meetings. Den leaders generally set the schedule and remain open to new ideas.

## What is the difference between a Pack Meeting and a Den Meeting?

Each Tuesday night meeting begins with the Pack together for general announcements and an opening flag ceremony. This generally lasts 10-15 minutes. From this point, the boys break into Den meetings with their respective ranks/grade level for activities, achievements, outings, etc.

A Pack meeting generally occurs on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month. On odd numbered months (Sept., Nov., Jan., March, & May) it is a *Formal Pack Meeting* meaning we begin with a pizza dinner before the dens lead to Pack in Opening flag ceremonies, skits & songs. On even numbered months (Oct., Dec., Feb. April), the *Pack Meeting is informal*. We meet briefly for awards and announcement. Boys break apart into their dens on informal Pack meeting nights.

## Do we camp?

Pack 118 has both a Spring and Fall Trip. The Spring trip is called "Spring Family Camping." We typically visit either a beach or mountain campground. The Fall trip may be camping (although it is not always. We have been to Charleston, SC, Washington, D.C., etc.)

All camping trips will be in campgrounds with running water, electricity, hot showers. No primitive camping for Pack 118 Cub Scouts.

## Are there other trips & outings?

Last year we began the tradition of a mid-year trip to a point of interest...Ripley's Aquarium to "Sleep with the Sharks." For January, 2010 we are going to camp overnight on the USS Yorktowne at Patriot's Point in Charleston. This trip is generally an "incentive" trip toward which boys can use their popcorn sale credits to help cover the costs.

## What volunteer opportunities are there for parents?

The Pack is totally volunteer led. We always need parents to become den leaders, serve as event coordinators, assist with registrations, help with Treasurer duties, and more. Each October there is a parent meeting after the informal Pack meeting to acclimate parents with the jobs of the current Pack year.

## Does the Pack have a website?

Yes, please visit <http://www.ststephenmc.net/pack118.html>

The website will be updated by the end of September each year with the current pack year's information, calendar,

## How do we get information about Pack events?

Pack 118 uses an online system called **Scouttrack**. Every family will be given a login to help track your boy's progress. The system also gives the Pack leaders the ability to send mass e-mails to the whole Pack, individual dens, and leaders only.

Generally there is a weekly e-mail. New families should be entered and receiving Pack 118 messages by mid-September. Make certain your internet service provider and Spam filters permit e-mail from something that resembles the following address: **mailbot-u47647@scouttrack.com**

## What are the other special events each year?

October: Annual Popcorn Sale Fundraiser  
& Webeloree.  
December: Charity Bake Sale & Auction.  
January: Pinewood Derby  
February: Blue & Gold Banquet  
April: Raingutter Regatta  
June: Cub Scout Day Camp  
July: Webelos Resident Camp  
August: Recruiting EXPO / Father-Son Trip for rising Web. II's.

## Are there summer camp opportunities?

The Etowah District of the Mecklenburg County Council hosts several camps each year. They include Cub Scout Day Camp (June); Webelos Resident Camp (July); Webeloree (October); Cuboree (April) and others. You will be notified well in advance of these camps to give you ample time to register for these opportunities.

## How much training have Pack 118 leaders received?

Every uniformed Pack 118 leader has completed at least 3 basic training classes. They include --- from Boy Scouts of America (1) Youth Protection and (2) Basic Leader/Cub Scout Fast Start/Position Specific Training and from St. Stephen United Methodist Church (3) Safe Sanctuaries. We are serious about maintaining Pack 118 as a child safe environment.

## Who are the Leaders?

Cubmaster: Chris Withrow (through 2/10)  
Skip Schroeder (beginning 2/10)

Asst. Cubmaster: Jonas Woodruff (through 2/10)

Committee Chair: Shelly Williams (through 2/10)  
Chris Withrow (beginning 2/10)

Advancements: Dave Miller / Anshu Gupta

Treasurer: Elaine Claiborne (through 2/10)

Webelos II Leaders: Brent Pitman  
Clay Claiborne

Webelos I Leaders: Frank Burnett  
Kristy Burke

Bear Leaders: Laurent Robert  
Mark Hansen

Wolf Leaders: Monica Schroeder  
Felix Dumitrache  
Andrew Kupfer

Tiger Leader: James Compton

## How are Pack activities determined and plans made?

The Pack leadership made up of the Den leaders, advancements coordinator, treasurer, Asst. Cubmaster, Cubmaster and Committee Chair make up the Pack Leadership Committee. Committee generally meets on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at 6:30 for approximately one hour to set plans and make policy for the Pack. All parents are encouraged to attend.

## Is Pack 118 open to Families of all Religious Faiths?

Yes. Although Pack 118 is chartered by St. Stephen United Methodist Church, a Christian church, we invite families of all faiths to join us. Historically, we have and do currently serve many non-Christian participants. Families participating in Pack 118 should remember that prayers/blessings, religious activities, and God & Country programs all focus on the Christian life.

St. Stephen UMC offers a wide variety of Christian Education opportunities; both Modern & Traditional worship services, incredible children's and youth programs. All Pack 118 families are invited to join worship and activities. For more information or if you would like to speak with a pastor, please contact either Chris Withrow, Cubmaster OR the church office at 704-364-1824.