



## DEN LEADER MINUTE

12/2/07

Another challenge we face in scouting... "Keeping everyone interested and excited." So how do we do that? Boys and their parents have different needs. "Some love crafts, others love the outdoors, while some even enjoy both."

Here are some suggestions:

- Ask your Den Leader Parents to fill-out the "Parent Resource Survey" (PDF file attached). Parents like to participate in areas where they excel or have a great interest.
- Mix it up a bit
  - Do a 'hands on' activity for half of the Den Meeting and then break and do something outside.
  - Possibly a game that links with the indoor activity?
  - Alternate indoor & outdoor activities to keep everyone engaged.
  - Do an activity where a very special badge or pin is awarded for completion of the event. Links are provided below.
  - Boys like to feel special and a unique award that is affixed to their shirt makes them 'stand out'.
- WOW them with an activity that takes them over the top.
  - Whitewater rafting.
  - Hiking in the snow right after a storm....looking for animal tracks.
  - Fishing with a real pro. Someone who can teach them the 'how-to's' and share the thrill of catching a really large fish.
  - Flint & steel or fire by friction instruction from your 'sister troop'.
  - Ski lessons at Campgaw.
  - Pinewood Derby Car secrets of winning (Google the web)
    - Weight placement
    - Axel & tire preparation
    - Car shape
- Poll/survey the Scouts & their parents every 2-3 months
  - What did you like?
  - What did you not like?
  - How can we change to be even more fun & interesting?
- Outside Resource:
  - [http://home.att.net/~Ramapo\\_Mountains\\_District/Htmlfiles/CubScoutOpportunities.htm](http://home.att.net/~Ramapo_Mountains_District/Htmlfiles/CubScoutOpportunities.htm) (paste into your web browser....special events, special badges/pins)



- <http://usscouts.org/advance/cubscout/Outdoor-Activity.asp> (paste into your web browser....cub scout outdoor activity patch requirements)
- (See linked file: [Cub Scout Outdoor Program Guidelines for 2007](#))
- (See linked file: [ParentTalentSurvey-Cubs](#))
- <http://usscouts.org/advance/boyscout/firem'nchit.asp> (paste into your web browser....firem'n chit requirement. Fire safety instruction & badge)
- <http://us.ppbsa.org/DMME/> (Patriots Path on-line Den Leader in a box. Weekly activities outlined)
- (See linked file: [Nobody Knows What a Boy is Worth](#))

We plan to share information with you on a regular basis. Please feel free to write us back with any questions, concerns or ideas for future editions.

WE HOPE THIS HELPS

Iaoapogh Mountains Membership Committee:

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