

The Newsletter of Packs 162 & 47

Bronx, NY
www.bsa162.com

January 2009



January Pack Meeting – we will be holding the **Pinewood Derby** at the January Pack meeting on Friday, January 30th at 7:30pm in the SFX cafeteria. Cars will be weighed in at the beginning of this event and must weigh less than 5 ounces. If you would like to check the weight of your car before the Pinewood Derby, there will be a preliminary weigh-in on Tuesday, January 27th at 7:30pm in the SFX rectory. Please see **Dean Manfredonia** if you have any questions about making the cars or about the race rules and regulations.

Working on the pinewood cars should be a happy experience so please keep this in mind and have fun working on your car. As you will find out the night of the Pinewood Derby, there are many different categories – your car just may be a winner in one of them! You may win a ribbon or even a trophy for first, second or third place. And then there is the prestigious “*sportsmanship*” award. The sportsmanship award is given to the individual who in the opinion of the judges has displayed the best sportsmanship during the evening so please keep this in mind during the race and be a good sport – *Scouts always are!*

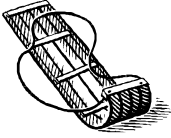
Remember – fun is the name of the game. Make working on your car an experience your family will remember with big smiles on their faces!

Thanks for the parents who are bringing snacks and refreshments to this meeting: **Rosellina Maher (drink), Alvaro Sanchez (drink), Brent Angley (drink), Noreen Radice (snack), Isabelle Lombardi (snack) and Kristine Priore (snack)** – this is a fantastic response! Thank you for helping out with this important part of our meeting – our Scouts certainly appreciate it.



Congratulations Corner – Bear Scout **Michael Vera** was Citizen of the Month in November at PS 108. Way to go Michael!

Bear Scout **Isiah San Pascual** won 2nd place in the CYO Art Contest. Great job Isiah.



The Klondike Derby - “Klondike Pandamonium” is the theme for the 2009 Klondike Derby held on Saturday, January 24th at Alpine Scout Camp. This is a Boy Scout event and Webelos are invited to participate. There will be more than 20 “towns” that may be visited to show knowledge of scouting including knots, lashings, fire safety, orienteering, nature, lifesaving, hiking, cooking, first aid, axe, knife and saw safety and maps and compass. The Boy Scouts of Troop 162 have invited the Webelos to stay overnight in their cabin on Saturday. More information will be available at the den meeting.

Our Pack won the Fastest Sled award last year and this time we hope to bring that award back “home” and let’s try for the North Pole award as well! *Practice makes perfect* so the Webelos have been practicing skills for this event at each den meeting – they were even “*put to the test*” by Troop 162 at a joint practice session on Saturday, January 17th and the Webelos did great! Remember, whether you win or not at the Klondike, the competition is fun and you will certainly learn a lot by competing in the event – *knowledge will always make you a winner!*



December Pack Meeting Recap – We had a fun-filled Pack Meeting on December 26th, 2008. Although snow prevented us from having the meeting on December 19th, we made sure to squeeze it in before Santa left for the North Pole. **Dean Manfredonia** was inducted as the Cubmaster of Pack 47 – the Pack thanks Dean for accepting this position and we look forward to giving him our fullest support. We also gave certificates and emblems for our fundraiser participants and we gave certificates and citizenship beltloops for our Pack food drive participants. Prizes were given to **Angela Rico**, the top overall fundraiser, and to our top Scout earners: **Brian and Aiden Manfredonia, Giulio Priore, and Brandon and Justin Vazquez.**

The Scouts and Pack families then joined in song to spread some Christmas cheer when all of a sudden, Santa came bounding into the cafeteria to distribute gifts to our Scouts. Santa even had gifts for Artie, Angela, Dean and Sean (thanks Kris!). The Pack wishes to thank **Mark Schoenstein** of Troop 162 for helping out with Santa and we also wish to thank **Hannah Cahill** for wrapping the gifts. **Giulio Priore**, our gifted photographer, took pictures of each Scout with Santa and then worked his magic to transform our cafeteria setting into one with a fireplace! Please see Giulio if you have not received a picture yet.

After Santa’s visit, we still had a lot of awards and advancements to give out. **Joe Radice** was given a training certificate for completing New Leaders Essential Training and he then said a few words about the training program. **George Febles** gave out physical fitness beltloops to those scouts that completed his great den meeting on fitness.

The following Webelos were awarded Activity Badges at the meeting: **Thomas Maher** (Family Member, Fitness), **Brian Manfredonia** (Artist), **Cameron Small** (Fitness), and **Brandon Vazquez** (Fitness, Webelos Colors). Also, **James Cahill** was selected as Denner and **Gavin Adin** was selected as Assistant Denner of the Webelos Den – congratulations! Let's go Webelos – keep earning those activity badges!

We concluded the Pack meeting playing the Left-Right game – always a crowd pleaser!

Also, many thanks to the people who brought refreshments and snacks to the Pack meeting – it is greatly appreciated.

(See pictures at end of newsletter)



Pack Food Drive Recap – On Saturday, December 13th, 2008, at 10am, the following scouts met in front of the Big Deal Supermarket on Morris Park Avenue: **Thomas Maher, James Cahill, Giulio Priore, Rey Antonio, Alvaro Sanchez, Brandon Vazquez, Michael Radice, Michael Vera, Anton Blair, Kevin Harman, Justin Vazquez and Luigi Broccoli**. As the mercury climbed to 27°, the scouts began setting up tables, flags, and food bins in preparation for the collection of non-perishable food for the growing number of needy families in our community. The drive, sponsored by the 49th Precinct and Community Board 11, has been organized for the 3rd consecutive year by **Angela Rico**. We received our 1st donation of food at 10:15am, marking the drive as officially underway. With the wind-chill factor making the temperature feel like 18°, the Tigers, Wolves, Bears and Webelos of the Pack, along with Scout Troopers **David Giancaspro, Zachary & Gregory Rico** were not about to back down in aide of those in our community, who find themselves down on their luck during these financially turbulent times.

The scouts distributed flyers to shoppers as they entered Big Deal Supermarket, and as they have for the 3rd consecutive year, our community minded citizens responded in a big way. Community generosity resulted in the collection of over 1,000 pounds of non-perishable foods for distribution to the needy. In addition, cash donations totaled \$265.00, which was spent wisely in Big Deal Supermarket on food that was added to the collection. By 2:30pm as the collection process was winding down, the temperature had thankfully risen to just over 32°. The boxes, bags, and bins of food were then loaded into volunteers' vehicles and hand delivered to the 49th Precinct. From there, 49th Precinct Community Affairs personnel, along with 49th Precinct Community Board President Joe Thompson will deliver the stipends to local food pantries and families of need in time for the Christmas Holidays. We sincerely thank **Joe Thompson** for his help. Joe stayed from beginning to end, helping with the collection. We also thank Councilman **James Vacca**, who also assisted in the process.

As the number of families in financial duress grows, and the need for action from those in position to help increases, our Scouts answered the call, as did the generous citizens of

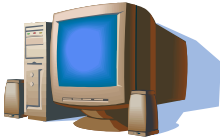
our Morris Park Community, of which we are all proud to be members. (Story Contributed by **Rob Rico**, see pictures at end of newsletter)



Training Opportunities – Every Scout deserves Trained Leaders and ... every Leader deserves training so s/he can help deliver a successful scouting program! Cub Scout Leaders (Cubmasters, Den Leaders and Committee Members) are considered trained when they have completed *Youth Protection*, *New Leader Essentials*, and *Leader Specific* training for their position.

Youth Protection Training: The first step for any new adult volunteer in a Pack, no matter what the position may be is to complete Youth Protection. Parent Guides on youth protection are printed in the front of Cub Scout handbooks. Youth Protection training can be done online at: <http://www.olc.scouting.org>

Leader Specific Training: The District has announced a Leader Specific Training date: it will be on Saturday, March 7th at 9am. An application is available. Please see **Artie Behrendt** or **Sean Cahill** if you would like more information on these training programs.



Pack Website – thanks to our webmaster wizard **Rob Rico**, our Pack website is chock full of important news which is only a mouse click away, please be sure to visit at least once a day! Please send all website contributions to Rob at robertjrigo@aol.com



Newsletter Contributions – although we can get computers to do amazing things, the newsletter can't write itself! We need you to contribute – please tell us about something your scout has done. Also, any pictures you take during pack events are always welcome and will be included in the newsletter. Send all contributions to **Sean Cahill** via email at cahill@aecom.yu.edu

Klondike Practice with Troop 162
(photos courtesy of Giulio Priore)



December Christmas Pack Meeting
(photos courtesy of Giulio Priore and Linda Cahill)



