

RTH Roundtable Field Trip Ideas 2007

Moon Marble

600 East Front Street
Bonner Springs, KS 66012
913-441-1432
www.moonmarble.com

If you don't know about this place and are a scout leader - shame on your fellow leaders!!!
This is the all time favorite scout trip, they'll want to go back every year.
Learn how to play marbles, what the different names mean, learn to shoot, watch them make a glass marble, & get to pick out a tube of marbles to take home (\$5)

Arabia Steamboat Museum

Excavation in 1988 uncovered the world's largest collection of preserved 1856 frontier supplies
400 Grand Boulevard (city market)
Kansas City, Mo
816-471-4030 (infoline)
816-471-1856 (for group reservations)
www.1856.com

Johnson County Museum of History

Permanent and changing exhibits explore life in Johnson County, KS
The 1950's All-Electric House (We toured it a Christmastime and saw the aluminum tree and the 1950's style toys)
6305 Lackman Road
Shawnee, KS
913-715-2550
www.jocomuseum.org

Kansas City Museum

Hands-on science and history exhibits Challenger Learning Center, planetarium and national history hall
3218 Gladstone Blvd
Kansas City, MO
816-483-8300
www.kcmuseum.com
The website also takes you to Union Station and Science City

Union Station / Science City

816-460-2020
www.unionstation.org
All kinds of fun things here!
**Science City has an outline of scout achievements on the website

Creative Candles

2101 Broadway, Kansas City, MO 64108
816-474-9711
www.creativecandles.com
Cost - FREE

Olathe Daily News

514 S. Kansas Ave
Olathe, KS 66061
913-764-2211

Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City

925 Grand Boulevard
Kansas City, MO 64198
Tours can be scheduled through the Public Affairs Department (816)
881-2683
<http://www.kc.frb.org/Pubaffrs/kansascity.htm#Tours>
Cost - FREE

Grinter Place State Historic Site

1420 S. 78th Street (at K-32)
Kansas City, KS
913-299-0373
www.kshs.org/places/grinter

Legler Barn Museum Complex

14907 West 87th St. Pkwy
Lenexa, KS
913-492-0038
www.idirnet/~lhskc/barnpage.html
It is believed that both Quantrill and Jesse James used this limestone barn as a hideout during raids in Lawrence, KS.
1912 Railroad Depot & prairie schooner

Cedar Cove Conservation Park (Louisburg)

3783 Highway 68
913-837-5515
www.kansastravel.org/cavecovecats.htm
Located just 4 miles east of Louisburg, Kansas on Highway 68, Cedar Cove is a nonprofit organization devoted to the care and preservation of Siberian tigers and other endangered big cats.
\$5 – Ages 5 and over

Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art

4525 Oak Street
Kansas City, MO
816-751-1278
www.nelson-atkins.org

William Marra Museum

450 East Park Street

Olathe, KS

913-791-0573

www.kefdcc.org/museum.html

Exhibits photographic works of students who attended the Kansas State School for the Deaf.

Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art

4420 Warwick Blvd.

Kansas City, MO

816-753-5784

www.kemperart.org

The Leathersmith Supply Company

9335 West 87th Street

Overland Park, KS 66212

913-901-0105

Learn about leather, it's uses, where it comes from, and complete a leather project to take home.

Knife cases, coup fobs, neckerchief slides, coasters, coin cups, etc.

Prices range from 75 cents to \$7.

The Clay Cafe

Great Plains Mall, Olathe

913-254-9102

Pick out a small piece and the kids can paint it - no clean up for the leader!!!!

Glow in the Dark Golf

Great Plains Mall, Olathe

For \$5 the kids get to do all 3 courses and take home a glow in the dark necklace.

Great art on the walls, fun course!

Burr Oak Woods Conservation Nature Center

1401 NW Park Road

Blue Springs, MO 64015

816-228-3766

www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/cnc/burroak

Hiking, Hiking, Hiking, Hiking, and more Hiking

Learn about animals and habitats along the way

They have programs for scouts.

Lanesfield School Historic Site

187th Street & Dillie Road

Edgerton, KS

913-893-6645

www.jocomuseum.org

1869 one room schoolhouse

Coldwater Springs Buffalo Ranch

31695 Coldwater Road

Louisburg, KS 66053

(913) 837-3773

Groups of 15-25

Cost: \$10 for adults, \$5 for children. A working buffalo ranch with 300 head of buffalo. Tours given by tram while guide explains the history of the buffalo, Indians and the Civil War. The ranch also includes two lakes, seven ponds, camp sites, pavilion rental and plans to add tee pees for rent.

Shawnee Indian Mission State Historic Site

3403 West 53rd Street

Fairway, KS

913-262-0867

www.kshs.org/places/shawnee

New Century Airport - US Army Reserve Helicopter Unit

913-782-1077x229 - talk to Cliff

Kids can sit in the pilot's seat of a CH-47 Chinook - our guys are still talking about this one three years later!

The JO

1701 West 56 Hwy

Olathe, KS

www.thejo.com

regional call center 816-221-0660

I've never met a group of people more excited about public transportation! We learned a lot - and they took us through the BUS WASH! It was cool!

Shawnee Town

57th Street & Cody

Shawnee, KS

913-248-2360

www.cityofshawnee.org/parks/ShawneeTown/shawneetown.htm

Best trip for scouts! Kids LOVE this place!

Adults \$1

Kids 6-12 \$.50

Louisburg Cider Mill

913-837-5202

1-800-748-7765

www.louisburgcidermill.com

Call for hours

September - All Month - FRESH CIDER IS READY— Cider Mill Pressing is open for tours and fresh Cider tasting! Pumpkins, gourds, Indian Corn and more! Lots of Fall Decoratives.

October - All Month - OCTOBER FUN — Pumpkins - Biggest & Best Patch.

Hay Castle, Hay Maze, Wagon Rides, more.

Mahaffie Farmstead and Stagecoach Stop

Olathe, KS

913-971-5111

www.olatheks.org/Visitors/Mahaffie

(Closed in January/February)

We've gone to feeding time and enjoyed it. It's Thursdays, April-Oct at 3:00, \$1 per person. The man that takes care of the animals is very knowledgeable about their care and the history of the different breeds

Arboretum & Botanical Gardens

179th Street and Antioch

Overland Park, KS

913-685-3604

www.opprf.org

300 acre arboretum, open all year, is a serene and tranquil place to enjoy nature. Miles of trails, several gardens. Great place for kids to hike, kid friendly garden area - grass mazes, tee pee on a hill, scout friendly...

My kids love Art in the Arboretum (usually in the fall) There are lots of nature-related crafts and games. The Luminary Walk (first weekend in December) is fun, despite the cold weather.

**Great place to volunteer!

Powell Observatory

Northwest of Louisburg, KS

913-438-3825

<http://www.askconline.org/powell.htm>

Saturday evenings May-October, view a film and peek at the HUGE telescope! (Must be 36" tall to see in lens) Some nights, amateur and professional astronomers will have all sorts of different telescopes available for viewing.

\$3 donation per person.

((WEAR BUG SPRAY))

Powell Gardens

1609 N.W. US 50

Kingsville, MO

816-697-2600

www.powellgardens.org

915 acre botanical garden. The butterfly festival in August is lots of fun.

**Great place to volunteer

Hallmark Visitors Center

Crown Center

2501 McGee Tfwy

Kansas City, MO

816-274-3613

<http://hallmarkvisitorscenter.com>

Kaleidoscope

Crown Center
2501 McGee Tfwy
Kansas City, MO
816-274-8300

www.hallmarkkaleidoscope.com

Okay, the kids visit this place in kindergarden, but they can visit until they are twelve! And they love it so much more when they are in 2nd-4th grade. Great for working on Art badge or loop or just for fun (CHEAP TRIP, too!)

Lakeside Nature Center

4701 East Gregory
Kansas City, MO
816-513-8960

Free Admission. Hands-on activities, offer scout programs for a small fee.

Martha Lafite Thompson Nature Sanctuary

407 N Lafrenz Rd
Liberty, MO 64068
816-781-8598

www.naturesanctuary.com

Hiking trails, nature exhibits, great place to hike. Offers programs for scouts

Prairie Center

135th & Cedar Niles Road - Olathe
913-856-7669

www.kdwp.state.ks.us/

Great place to go hiking, 300 acres, 6 nature trails

Kansas City Zoo

6800 Zoo Drive
Kansas City, MO
816-513-5700
www.kansascityzoo.org

Kauffman Stadium Tours

1-800-6ROYALS
Royals Blue Crew

www.royals.com click on "kids"

click on "Kauffman Stadium" and "ball park tours" for tour information.

See the stadium when NO ONE else is there! Sit in the Press Box. Sit in the Dug Out, see the visitors locker room, the interview room & more!

Tours this year are May 30-August 31. There are VIP tours year-round. Tickets can be purchased online as well as at the stadium.

Tour tickets are available at Gate A, located on the corner of Royal Way and Lancer Lane at the Harry S. Truman Sports Complex. Groups of 30 or more will receive a \$1.00 discount per person.

To reserve a private tour, call 816-504-4222

Russell Stover Candies

320 East 51st Street
Kansas City, MO 64110
816-753-1677

By appointment only

I think the location in Overland Park has tours, too - but am not sure.

8928 West 95th Street
Overland Park, Kansas 66212
(913) 649-6702

Children's Peace Pavilion

1001 W. Walnut
Independence, MO
816-521-3033

Creative learning environment for kids

www.kidpeace.org

Deanna Rose Memorial Farmstead

913-897-2360

www.opprf.org

12 acre park.

See and learn about animals and plants. Has a one room country school house, old time fishing pond, horse drawn wagon rides, pony rides, Kansas Indian encampment, mining exhibit, nature trail and MORE. 2007 - Dairy barn is now open.

Admission is free - there is a fee for activities.

Wonderscope Children's Museum

5705 Flint Street

Shawnee, KS

913-268-8130

www.wonderscope.org

Prairie Oak Nature Center

14701 Mission Road (at Ironwoods Park)

Leawood, KS

913-681-0902

www.kcnature.org/prairieoak

Cabins to rent, walking trails, reptile and amphibian wildlife presentations, fishing programs, climbing wall, paddle boat rentals, playground, challenge course (great teambuilder for leaders), and more...

The National Agriculture Center and Hall of Fame

630 Hall of Fame Drive

Bonner Springs, KS

913-721-1075

<http://aghalloffame.com>

KC Pumpkin Patch

29755 W 191st St

Gardner, KS

913-484-6251

www.kcpumpkinpatch.com

Group Rate \$5 per child (includes pumpkin up to 8 pounds)

Children's Museum of Kansas City

4301 State Ave.

Kansas City, KS

913-287-8888

www.kidmuzm.org

Hands-on activities for kids - home of the recycled materials center. Offer programs tailored to scouts.

Recycled Materials Center

The best way to find the Recycled Materials Center is to go to the Children's Museum of Kansas City website at www.kidmuzm.org and click on RMC (there are other links to museum activities and exhibits). Donated paper, magnets, flat shapes, stickers, notecards, envelopes, wire, ribbon, pantyhose, tubes, spools, yarn...you'll be amazed what you can get for under \$1! Great place for a field trip!

Olathe Hy-Vee

16100 West 135th Street

Olathe, KS 66062

913-780-9339

Kiddie Tours - See how they run the store - make a cookie, make a pizza, create a floral display, get a free video rental.

Resources from Roundtable - Stuff That Works

Olathe Aquafest

Cedar Lake

Annual Event – Aug. 25, 2007 this year

913-971-6263

<http://olatheks.org/residents/recreation>

This free event celebrates water in our lives, designed to bring families, adults and children of all ages from the community together for an evening of celebrating water fun and educational activities focused on water.

You can download the Olathe Parks and Rec catalog at this site, or pick up a copy at an Olathe Library. There is information on other special events in the city.

Kansas City Renaissance Festival

Bonner Springs

www.kcrenfest.com

Federal Reserve Bank

www.kansascityfed.org

Can request tours online

Area theatres -

Coterie Theater - Crown Center, lower level

<http://www.thecoterie.com/>

Put on plays for children - group rates available

(816) 474-6552

Theater for Young America

<http://www.tya.org/>

Puts on plays for children - group rates available

Theatre for Young America now performs at Union Station (I saw a play there yesterday) and Wonderscope Children's Museum at 5705 Flint in Shawnee.

The Union Station ticket number is 816-460-2020

Wonderscope ticket number is 816-460-2083

Kansas City Repertory Theatre

UMKC

816-235-2700

www.missourirepertytheatre.org.

They now have two theatres, 4949 Cherry in KCMO and 13th and Walnut in KCMO

Johnson County Community College - Yardley Hall

12345 College Blvd

www.jccc.net/carlsencenter

469-4445

Often has free community events - band concerts, plays, etc

Volunteer/ Service opportunities -

Harvesters, The Community Food Network

3801 Topping

Kansas City, MO 64129

816-929-3000

<http://www.harvesters.org> (click on volunteer)

Family sorting area is open 7 days a week. Sort and repackage donated food items.

JOCO Meals on Wheels

913-477-8174

11875 S. Sunset

Suite 200

Olathe

www.volunteermatch.org/orgs/org10328.html

Bridging the Gap

PO Box 10220

Kansas City, MO 64171

Laura O'Brien (816)561-1087

www.bridgingthegap.org

www.kcwildlands.org

Projects may include pulling invasive plant species, lopping woody growth, cleaning and maintaining trails, reseeding, etc.

Notes from Scout Leaders:

Pancake breakfast - we hosted a pancake breakfast last weekend which grossed just under \$1,500 and our pack netted over \$1,100. I can share details with anyone wondering how to make such an event happen.

Raingutter Regatta - We have this in the summertime under a park shelter adjacent to a playground (for younger sibling entertainment). We have two 10-ft raingutters we'd loan out. Usually we food color one trough yellow (gold) and the other blue.

Diane Conner 3315

Engineer Pin - Mike Ross City of OP 895-6000 Great Program, Really into Scouting

Letter boxing -

<http://www.letterboxing.org/BoxByRegion.php?region=North%20East%20Kansas>, can be incorporated into a Hike, or Bike ride

Todd Frank, 3316

Our Bear Den really enjoyed:

The Ernie Miller Woods Park (913) 764-7759

We did "Animal Clues" this yr

last yr we did "Survival Hike"

They have some really great guided tours and presentations for Scouts

Red Cross Safety Brigade

Last yr we did Germ Busters (free)

(816) 931-6662 x269

Last yr we also did

Powell Observatory in Louisburg KS

We clearly saw the ring around Saturn and they gave a great presentation on Space and Astronomy

(913) 837-5305 - 10297 W 263rd St, **Louisburg, KS**

Johnson County Museum was good this yr also.

David Henggeler, 3030

Have a doctor come in and dissect something. I have heard long memories of one doing pig's feet and how the boys really liked it.

Do service projects. The kids really liked cleaning the stream last year. The weather was great and the area was not muddy. All kinds of junk was found.

We have our boys sit on the floor instead of on chairs. It is lots quieter.

Mike Fischer, 3132

We just had a "Rocket Derby" and it was a lot of fun for everyone (cubs & adults)! Alan built the same rocket launchers that we used at the District campout last October. It was a rainy night, so we were forced inside. We angled the rocket launchers (air compressors) and had a ball.

As for the speakers/presentations, I can tell you that we had Mad Science of KC come last December, and I was not totally impressed. I won't ask them back again, I think we had a poor scientist leading us that night, because all the information I gathered on them, indicated that it was a great program.

Nancy Rowland, CC, Pack 3210

Our boys always seem to enjoy the hayrides through Johnson County Parks and Rec. We recently took the Tigers to the Johnson County Museum in Shawnee for a museum scavenger hunt. We're planning a tour of Community America bank. I'm told there are cookies involved, so it should go well.

Andrea DeHart, 3204

Pack activities

- Simple games we play are a hit. The kids can hardly wait to get to play. I had no idea hot potato and limbo were so popular! Tossing games and carnival type games are great, too.
- Skits are not so popular. The only skits that go well are the ones where the boys get to be rude or silly - I've run out of them.
- As mentioned, I had a meteorologist come and bored us with 20 minutes of tornado footage. He had promised weather balloons and instruments. He just kept complimenting the instruments we made at den. I thought it would be cool to compare. We finally cut him off and did our experiments but ran out of time.
- We enjoyed our service project going to the assisted living center and performing Christmas carols and playing games with the residents. Silly songs and fast-moving games are the key. We didn't get a lot of attendance, but those that were there had a good time.
- I am trying to spice up advancement ceremonies. Our Knighting in November was great as well as our face-painting at B&G. Other months are harder to get stuff that holds their attention.
- We are planning a bicycle rodeo in June and are having trouble getting help to make sure it goes off well. Neither fire nor police departments are interested in attending. All the internet sites say the fire and police are always there.

Den activities

- We had a fireman come to speak and it was a disaster. I had seen demonstrations on the fire triangle in another community. I requested such a demonstration and got a boring lecture.
- Moon Marble was a hoot! I think we have to go every year JUST CAUSE!
- My boys love the crafty stuff. Dads roll their eyes sometimes, but it is hard to pull the boys away from it.
- We went to the Lenexa post office - boring. Nothing much happens at the branches any more. Most of the work is done out of town. The hit was the candy they gave out at the end. I bought them stamps; they seemed to like that.

Lynn Noland, 3203

The Leathersmith Supply Co

9335 W 87th St PO, KS 66212

913-901-0105

Mark Smith, owner

Hours are T-Sat regular office hours, but you can schedule a 6:30 time with him and he stays open late for you! He accommodated 10 scouts very well. We had a choice of their project and ended up making pocket knife holders. The kids got to weave the pieces together, use hammers and make designs in their leather pouch. It did take about 2 hours, but they loved it. He does have scout designs also and is used to having them there for projects, but call before to make an appointment. Kits were \$6 a piece.

Chris Alvarez, 3434

Bear Ach. 3; Over the years, I have taken all three of my Bear Dens on a tour of the Olathe Cemetery on Woodland Ave. We completed Ach. 3a and 3j by talking about what makes America special and the Character Connection for Citizenship while having a snack around the flag pole at World War I circle - there is a U.S. flag flying, so we had our opening ceremony there also. I have an historical synopsis of the Olathe Memorial Cemetery that I shared with the scouts that included info. on 2 KS governors that are buried in the cemetery which completes Ach. 3b. Ach. 3d was completed by visiting the cemetery. I have a map and cemetery investigation sheet with questions on it that the scouts used to learn how to read a map and investigate the cemetery while exploring and looking for the answers on the investigation sheet. We took time to decide which type/style of headstone was most impressive to each of the scouts and we took supplies along to make tombstone rubbings. When we left the cemetery, I have a Historic Olathe map that shows Olathe Memorial Cemetery, First City of Olathe Barn, Site of St. Paul A.M.E. Church, First House Built in Olathe, First Permanent Post Office in Olathe, Evans Court, First House in Olathe to have Indoor Plumbing, Old Olathe Lake, Water Works Park and Frisco Lake. We took a driving tour around town to see all but the last three locations mentioned above - the map provides a little info. regarding each site that instigated good conversation with the scouts along the way. This completed Ach. 3c I will bring a copy of the Historic Olathe and Olathe Memorial Cemetery maps along with the Historical Synopsis of the cemetery and the investigation sheet to the next RT meeting for preparation for the June Planning Fair. Another excellent place to visit for Ach. 3d is Mahaffie Farm and Stagecoach Stop for a tour. Also, an excellent Pack activity at the Olathe Memorial Cemetery is the Graveyard Walk around Halloween. Volunteers from Mahaffie appear as some of the most heralded and infamous figures from Olathe's past near their individual graves. It is a 30 minute tour on Thurs., Fri. & Sat. nights starting from nearby Northview Elementary School that stops at about 8 graves, where actors dressed like the person buried there will speak or re-enact an event about the person buried there and how that person influenced Olathe's past. For information regarding this tour, I called 913/971-5111 (don't know if that will still be a good number), but since it's sponsored by Mahaffie, you could contact them if the number has changed. As I review some of my files, I'll try to share more, but this was one of my favorites over the years.

For Webelos, Burr Oak Woods and Conservation Area has excellent opportunities for some of their requirements.

Tana McGovern, 3240

We have done the following with our den:

1. Moon Marble
2. Herb Cast, Wood Carver
3. TV Station tour
4. IBEX Rock Wall Climbing, Blue Springs, MO
5. Johnson County Executive Airport - tour
6. Poplar Court Retirement Center (in Olathe) at Christmas - sang Christmas carols

With our Pack we have done the following:

1. Mic O Say Dancers have performed
2. Rain Gutter Regatta
3. Service Project - at Harvesters, Kansas City, MO
4. Pot Luck Picnic at Heritage Park

These are a few of the things that we have done.

Michelle Smith, 3241

Following are some places we've visited as a family. Some are nearby, others are a little farther away.

Ernie Miller Nature Center
909 N. Highway 7, Olathe
913-764-7759

www.icprd.com click on "parks and facilities" on the pull-down menu, click on "Ernie Miller"
Among other things, there are indoor nature programs in the winter and amphitheater programs in the summer. There is a small fee.

Cave Spring
8701 E Gregory Blvd
KCMO
816-358-2283

www.cavespring.org

This was a stop on the Santa Fe Trail. It has walking trails and a small cave with a spring where the settlers would stop

Lone Elm Park
16900 S. Lone Elm
City of Olathe, 913-971-6263

Another stop on the historic trails and is also the site of an old farm, with the wells still in existence. During the cooler months after the weeds have died, you can clearly see the wagon ruts.

City of Olathe Special Events

www.olatheks.org/Residents click on >Parks and Recreation>Special Events for community activities including Aquafest, activities at Mahaffie, etc. The Cemetery tours are in October and not at all scary, but very informative about Olathe history. My kids love the Civil War reenactment and the Wild West show at Mahaffie.

Cosmic Mini Golf
764-5565

I took the boys there in December and they charged me \$8 per person for 3 games.

Cabela's
913-328-0322

I think the aquariums are a great place to identify fish for the Wolf elective

Midland Railway
Baldwin City
www.midland-ry.org
913-371-3410

Liberty Corn Maze
www.libertycornmaze.com
816-781-9196

Go after dark and take a flashlight, it's lots of fun

Toy and Miniature Museum

www.umkc.edu/mm

5235 Oak

KCMO

816-333-9328

Johnson County Parks and Recreation

www.jcprd.com

Lots of free and low-cost ideas, including Trout Stocking at Heritage Park and Shawnee Mission Park (March and October) and Theater in the Park during the summer.

CW Parker Carousel Museum

3205 Esplanade

Leavenworth, Ks

913-682-1331

www.firstcitymuseums.org

This museum is run by very friendly volunteers, they love kids. Admission includes a carousel ride.

Capitol Dome Tours

Topeka

Not for those with a fear of heights!

www.kshs.org

This site has links to other state historic sites, the state history museum, and other tours of the Capitol building

Ft. Osage 816-650-3737

Sibley, Mo

Missouri Town 1855 816-503-4860

www.jacksongov.org/content/1169 >"recreation">"historic sites"

Features historic reenactments on some weekends. Missouri Town is in Fleming Park, which has a small herd of buffalo.

Prairie Park Nature Center

2730 SW Harper

Lawrence

www.lprd.org/ppnc.shtml

785-832-7980

Very nice nature center with several live animals, including birds of prey. Also has a walking trail and fishing.

KU Natural History Museum

www.nhm.ku.edu

1345 Jayhawk Blvd

785-864-4540

Lots of fossils, dinosaur bones, mounted animals, live snakes, and a bee tree

Squaw Creek Eagle Days
Mound City, Mo
www.fws.gov/midwest/SquawCreek
660-442-3187

Usually the first week in December. Dozens of eagles are present in the area, along with thousands of geese and ducks. The visitor's center features presentations of captive eagles. Cold but fun!

Pony Express Museum
914 Penn St
St Joseph, MO
www.ponyexpress.com
1-800-530-5930

Jesse James Farm
21216 James Farm Rd
Kearney, Mo
www.jessejames.org
816-628-6065

This is a place I would not have visited if not for the boys. It was actually quite interesting. We learned a lot about the Border War.

National Frontier Trails Museum
318 W. Pacific
Independence, Mo
816-325-7575
www.ci.independence.mo.us/nftm

Something that we haven't done yet, but hope to this summer is a wagon ride in Independence:

www.pioneertrailsadventures.com
816-456-4991
Andrea DeHart 3204

There are a couple of items that we do each year that the scouts consistently enjoy:

1. Cub Olympics – we typically do this in September. This puts the scouts outside while new registration occurs inside with parents. Cub Olympics is a series of stations with some athletic event - baseball throw, chin up competition, foot race, soccer kick, etc. The important thing is to keep a variety of skills in play so that small, tall, short, fast, & slow can each succeed at one or more events
2. Spring Fling – this Pack meeting is the last one of the year, typically the first Saturday in June – we have an all day event for all scouts – fishing, arts & crafts, games and an evening program / camp-out for Webelos. The evening program is a cook-out and some activity (rockets is usually a big hit). We have camp-fire and skits. Cook breakfast in the morning and break camp
3. Cub Scout University – this is a good indoor activity for the winter months. We set up stations and let the scouts by rank rotate thru the stations. The stations are rank appropriate activities that are similar in nature. We adopt the activity to the requirements for that rank. Typical stations include first aid / safety, knot tying, art / craft, handyman activity, learn a skit / song.

Ed Edmondson 3476

Here's a quick list of things I could think of that we (or others in Pack 3132) have done:

Den Activities

Overland Park Arboretum: nature hike, leaf rubbing, observe the weather

Deanna Rose Children's Farmstead: we rode our bikes there on the bike/hike trail, then looked at animals and played on the playground.

OP Fire Station #3 (on Switzer at ~137th, across from Deanna Rose Children's Farmstead): station tour, which was very good, and highlighted by an emergency call as they wrapped up, so the boys got to watch them suit up and drive away. (The OPFD also has a "Fire Safety House" that's supposed to be good, but I haven't been there.)

KC Zoo: They now have programs tailored for scout groups of each level. Our den visit was several years ago. We had a talk in one of the classrooms, got to see some small animals, handle some pelts, antlers, etc. I think we saw an IMAX movie, too.

Mahaffie Farmstead: (historical site) tour of the grounds and a stagecoach ride

Johnson County Sun office: This fulfilled the requirement to visit a newspaper, TV, or radio station, and was okay. Another den visited one of the TV stations (can't remember which one), which was more interesting, but farther away.

Moon Marble: ~\$5, demonstration of marble-making, excellent instruction on playing marbles (by a very energetic former scout), covers almost all of the requirements for the Marbles belt loop. I highly recommend this trip. I bought the marbles that were made when our two sons' dens visited (~\$15-20 each); the boys thought these were really neat.

Olathe Public Safety Center (on old Hwy. 56 near the Great Mall):

Police Department tour. Sometimes includes seeing the cells and being locked in, but they had "guests" while we were there, so we didn't go into the jail section.

Olathe City Hall open house: short talk, Q&A, tour; fulfilled requirement, but didn't interest the boys as much as a visit to a fire station, police station, or court would have.

Pack Activities

Pack Family Campout: Held in Cub World at Camp Naish. We reserved the pavillion and Lost Mine areas. We set it up sort of like Camporee with rotations through a nature hike, learning and playing ultimate (belt loop earned), learning and playing Mountain Ball (parent participation), playing in the Lost Mine, and free time to plan skits for campfire or work on other achievements with their dens (Webelos made bird houses). We made foil meals for dinner and had a campfire with numerous skits, which the boys LOVED. A smashing success. We had a patch made for all participants.

Fall hayride: We used to have this at Heritage Park, which the boys always enjoyed. A family in our pack has a contact with someone with a private farm, where we've held it the last 3 years. This allows us to ride through farm fields and trees instead of on paved roads, which is nice. We build a fire and have s'mores and apple cider. Although we were lucky to stumble onto this site, other packs may find

they have similar contacts if they ask.

Pinewood Derby: Pretty self-explanatory. Top three finishers in each den get medals, fourth and fifth place get ribbons. "People's Choice" award voted on by each den as well. Top three in pack get trophies. A patch for all participants.

Spring picnic with games led by each den, such as flag football, PVC catapults with velcro balls and a big felt castle target, target-casting with a fishing pole, bean bag toss, and assorted other games of skill.

Fishing Derby: held at a private pond, with prizes for most fish, biggest fish, smallest fish, biggest non-fish, etc. Everybody gets a fishing lure or some other small prize and a patch for participating.

T-Bones game: The overnight for scouts is fun, but for the last two years, we've picked a different night and bought a block of reserved seats (on the shady 3rd base side). A patch for participants.

Laser Tag: All scouts and leaders are paid for from pack funds if our fundraisers went well; family members are encouraged to pay and play. A patch for participants.

Tom