

## Helping Our Little Brothers in Blue: Venturing and Cub Scouts

by Aaron Stockwell  
Northeast Region Venturing President



"So Aaron, what are you doing this summer?" That was the way the conversation started out with the Camp Director of Camp Split Rock, in October of 2005. I had never considered working at my council's cub camp before. I always enjoyed a care free summer. I was asked to serve as the first ever Webelos Area Director at my camp. My duty was to design and carry out a program that would help Webelos Scouts transition to Boy Scouts. This included teaching the scouts the Scout Oath and Law as well as some of the Webelos Activity Badges. My other duties during the actual camp season were to supervise a staff of 5-6 other staff members, to teach skills to the scouts and supervising dens of Cub

Scouts as they traveled around to different areas at the camp.

So why did I work at Camp Split Rock? Anybody who works at a Scout Camp can tell you, it certainly isn't for money. It is for the reason that you are giving back to an organization that has helped you develop into who you are. There are other reasons as well. There is some-thing special about hearing a Cub Scout say the Scout Law for the same time.

That is my story of why I worked at camp. But why should you? First of all, most requirements for Venturing advancement have some aspect of teaching skills to others. This can include teaching skills at Cub Camp. This teaching can occur outside of camp as well. Maybe the Chartered Organization that charters your crew also has a Cub Scout pack.

Most councils have other programs for Cub Scouts. My council operates a program called Webelos Woods, where Cub Scouts get to work on Activity Pins, as well as learn camping skills with Boy Scouts. This past year, the Venturing Crews in my council helped with parking, and they also helped run the climbing tower.

Second of all, Cub Scouts need role models. They will look up to you, not only physically, but mentally as well. I still remember some of the camp staffers when I went to Cub Camp. If you wear the green uniform, they'll ask what it means. Tell them. Sure they are a few years off from being Venturers, but it doesn't hurt.



Finally, you'll have a great time. You will hone your teaching skills. You will form friendships with other staffers. From my time at camp, I learned that Cub Scouts are amazingly full of energy, they are hilarious to be around, and they of course remind me that this is the reason why I am in Venturing; to give back.

