Class Outline - Bear Den Leader Workshop

by Liam Murphy, Pack 4 Ithaca Bear Den Leader

In this class, we will take 40 minutes to try to apply our basic training to running a Bear den. So we will be looking at the 8-9 year old boy and what he needs to be able to succeed at this stage and how we can be sowing the seeds of his later Scouting growth, both in terms of personal skill and in terms of leadership.

Introduction – What is a "Bear"
- review of Bear development from Cub Basic
- personal experience
- "Boy" "Eager" "Adventurous" "Reluctant"

Why are We Here? - what are our rewards and what are our challenges

What Is Important in a Good Bear Program - the 5 "P's" as applied to Bears
- Parents
    - what is the difference between asking and involving?
- Participation
    - denners, den meetings and choosing awards
- Pleasure
    - do we remember to have fun? Do we remember what the boys think is fun? Why or Why not?
- Planning
    - what do we do to make the program accessible
    - how to use monthly themes (or not)
    - using character connections
- Program
    - do we do what boys need or what we need?
        - using clear rules, regularity, giggles & wiggles to your advantage
    - strategies for working on that "last minute" complex
        - the beginnings of self-motivation – but only the beginnings
    - is lockstep advancement really needed?
    - planning the year – how to balance the four requirements

What Resources are available
- always start with the handbook!
- Cubmaster Handbook
- Program Helps
- Scouting Magazine
- Internet, including:
    - http://usscouts.org/cubmaster/index.asp
    - Virtual Cub Leader's Site - http://www.geocities.com/cybercubber/
    - Baden Powell site - http://www.ithaca.ny.us/Orgs/Scouts/baden.html
    - Other units!
- couple of helpful forms