



Powahay District – Connecticut Yankee Council

CUB SCOUT POLAR BEAR “Critters & Cryptids”

Saturday, February 1, 2020

9:30 AM to 3 PM

\$15/Youth and \$12/Adult
Same price for the past 4 years!

Leaders and Parents Guide

We are back at the Stamford Museum and Nature Center for another Cub Scout Polar Bear with a fun “Critters & Cryptids” program. Cryptids are creatures whose existence is based on alleged sightings and recordings. Cryptozoology is the study of cryptids to analyze in a scientific fashion. Join us for a winter day of fun as Scouts become “Cryptozoologist” to study these mystical creatures as well “critters” that really do exist.

Online Registration at

<https://mycouncil.ctyankee.org/Event/595>

Deadline to sign up – Friday, January 24, 2020 or 300 sign ups -- whichever comes first.

This is a popular event; please get your registration in early.

Powahay District Polar Bear



Powahay Cub Scout Polar Bear Is hosted by the Stamford Museum & Nature Center

Stamford Museum & Nature Center is situated on a picturesque 118+ acre campus. Fun family programs year round. Ask about Scout programs.

Stamford Museum & Nature Center
39 Scofieldtown Road, Stamford CT 06903
<https://www.stamfordmuseum.org/>

PLEASE DO NOT contact the Stamford Museum and Nature Center regarding our Cub Scout Polar Bear -- Contact John Hanks at info@powahay.com

Introduction

The following information and guidelines will assist in making Cub Scout Polar Bear fun for our Cub Scouts and their Cub Families; as well as assisting the Cub Scout Activities Staff to provide a great day for all with as little stress as possible. Thank you for you anticipated cooperation.

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Eight Action Stations & Schedule

Both Indoor and Outdoor Stations

1. **Cryptozoology: Real or Reality** — While existence of the Yeti and Loch Ness Monster are still unknown, there are many animals like the giant squid and okapi that really do exist. Test your knowledge in our Real or Reality cryptid trivia.
2. **Fabulous Furbearers** -- Discover the largest mammals that really live in CT- black bear, moose, deer, and coyote—in this hands-on artifact lab.
3. **Magical Beasts and Where to Find Them** -- Discover some real-life magical beasts up close and personal!
4. **Oh Yeti!** -- A twist on the game Oh Deer!, Oh Yeti! Will give some chances to run while learning about how predator-prey relationships work and what the carrying capacity of an area is. Outdoor Station
5. **Planetarium -- Animals in the Sky** -- Discover the stories behind some of the common constellations in our sky and what time of year we can see them.
6. **Heckscher WILD! Self-exploration** -- 20 minutes of self-exploration in our Heckscher WILD! Exhibit. Exhibit will be staffed but there would be no formal program.
7. **A Life in the Wild** by Thomas D. Mangelsen photo exhibition. Mangelsen has spent over 40 years filming and photographing nature and wildlife from all over the world. A Life in the Wild is an exhibition containing 40 of Mangelsen’s most resonant images.
8. **Yeti Challenge** – Leave No Trace... Big Foot (Yeti) has been doing it for year! A District run station featuring the Yeti. We’ll take Scouts through the Cub Scout the requirements for the “Leave No Trace Awareness Award”. Plus learn about upcoming Scouting activities and programs.

SCHEDULE	
9:30 AM	GATHERING
Leaders Check-in Join In Activities	
10:00 - 10:20 AM	OPENING
<i>5 Minute Travel Time</i>	
10:25 - 10:45 AM	Station
<i>5 Minute Travel Time</i>	
10:50 - 11:10 AM	Station
<i>5 Minute Travel Time</i>	
11:15 - 11:35 AM	Station
<i>5 Minute Travel Time</i>	
11:40 - 12:00 Noon	Station
<i>5 Minute Travel Time</i>	
12:05 - 12:45 PM	LUNCH
<i>5 Minute Travel Time</i>	
12:50 - 1:05 PM	Station
<i>5 Minute Travel Time</i>	
1:10 - 1:30 PM	Station
<i>5 Minute Travel Time</i>	
1:35 - 1:55 PM	Station
<i>5 Minute Travel Time</i>	
2:25 - 2:55	Station
<i>5 Minute Travel Time</i>	
3:00 - 3:10	CLOSING

Cub Scouts will be divided into 8 teams rotating to 8 stations with two program areas. Teams will be divided into two groups of 4 teams rotating Program Area 1 — Upper Museum Building Programs and Area 2 — Lower and Farm area. **Rotation schedule and map of station locations will be given at check-in.**

Join In Activity

Arrive by 9:30 AM and enjoy some join in activities before the 10:00 AM Opening

Online Registration at

<https://mycouncil.ctyankee.org/Event/595>

\$15/Youth \$12/Adult Early Bird Fee

Powahay District requires online registrations for your unit to sign up and to **prepay** for District activities. Payments can be made by debit/credit cards.

Deadline to sign up – Friday, January 24, 2020 or 300 sign ups -- whichever comes first. This is a popular event; please get your registration in early.

Group registration required. This avoids duplicate sign ups and allows pack leadership to lock in payments from your Scout families. It provides the District with the necessary registration numbers for staffing and program needs.

Please enforce at the Unit Level — once a Scout or Scout Family gives you that commitment to register for an event that they are responsible for those fees. If they are unable to attend they still need to pay for the fee or find replacement within your unit. Or collect fees before you register.



Powahay District Refund Policy: There will be no refunds given unless there are extreme circumstances. Please understand that when you register a Scout for our programs we purchase supplies and materials for them so we cannot refund money for any other reason. We do not consider sports conflict as extreme circumstances. **District is not responsible for duplicate registrations.**

Polar Bear Guidelines

Gathering — Arrive by 9:30 AM! -- CHECK IN will occur outdoors in the Meadow Area.

- To speed up the registration process and ensure that the activities begin on time - we ask that you please designate only one person from your unit to check in at the registration table. No one other than that person should approach the registration table. When this happens it confuses staff and delays the check-in process. Full Roster required at check in.
- A second person from your unit that families can report to while a leader is checking in your pack is highly recommended. Also make sure that members know their Pack Number - believe it or not there are still people out there that do not know own their Pack's Number.

Cub Scout Polar Bear

- Cub Scouts will be divided into 8 teams rotating to 8 stations. Teams will be named after a cryptid creature.
- All stations are crewed by SM&NC Staff or volunteers - please follow their instructions and stay on schedule.
- We will have volunteers announcing time changes. Please move quickly and orderly to the next station.
- Please remember ... Doing ones best is most important. HAVE FUN!!!! If at the end of the day we have smiling Cub Scouts because they enjoyed the spirit of the day, then we will have true winners!
- Weather Alerts: Any delays of start time and/or cancellation due to a storm will be notified by email and posted at the council website. Please set up a phone chain with your participants.

Guidelines — please share with all participants:

- Restrooms are conveniently located through the Stamford Museum and Nature Center.
- This is an outdoor event and boys and parents should dress appropriately for the day. We will have some indoor stations for warming, and a first aid and warming area. Please be sure to dress not only your Scout, but also yourself, in warm layers for the day: Hat; Coat; Scarf; Gloves/Mittens; and snow boots. Be sure to also bring extra hat/gloves/mittens as well.
- Parking for the event will take place **at the upper parking area** (follow signs to the Observatory) off of Scofieldtown Rd. Parking in the main parking area could result in additional entrance fees. When arriving and departing please drive slowly as there will be lots of children in and around the area so extra care must be taken. Car Pooling is always a good idea.
- Please be careful of outside conditions, ice and snow.
- Snow ball fights are NOT permitted and can cause serious injuries. Please review with your Scouts and help us enforce this guideline.

Conduct and Behavior

Powahay District has a no tolerance policy for the following:

- Disrupting behavior
- Not following directions
- Being disrespectful to our Adult Staff, SM&N Staff, Leaders, and other Scouts

Youth members can be dismissed from the event for any of those violations

Adult Leaders/Parents

- Unit Leaders and parents are responsibility for the safety, wellbeing, **and behavior** of their charges at all times.
- Work with our staff in correcting behavior issues.
- Be proactive in removing Scouts being disruptive to the program. Bad behavior of a few can escalate quickly to others. Time-out areas can be established giving Scouts an opportunity to adjust their behavior.
- Follow BSA rules regarding discipline and other matters.

Special Awards & Recognitions at the Polar Bear

Powahay's Eagle Feather Presentation: District Recognition of Webelos earning the Arrow of Light Award will be presented at the Polar Bear. Native Americans believed that when all birds were created, the Eagle was chosen as the leader. The Eagle represents honesty, truth, majesty, strength, courage, wisdom, power and freedom. When one receives an Eagle Feather, that person is being acknowledged with gratitude, love and ultimate respect. The Eagle feather is thought to bring that person nearer to God. Senior Webelos will receive an Eagle Feather and certificate. The ceremony will take place at the closing ceremony.



Parking and Directions

POWAHAY DISTRICT CUB SCOUT PARKING

Please place on dash so it can be seen from windshield.

Name: _____

Unit: _____

Cell Phone: _____



GPS users enter - 151 Scofieldtown Road. Parking for the event will take place at the upper parking area (follow signs to the Observatory) off of Scofieldtown Rd. Parking in the main parking area could result in additional entrance fees. Car Pooling is always a good idea.

From the MERRITT PARKWAY:

Coming from either direction - get off Exit 35, and turn LEFT at the end of the exit ramp onto High Ridge Road. Follow for 3/4 of a mile. The Stamford Museum is located at the junction of High Ridge Road and Scofieldtown Road.

Directions from I-95 —South from NORWALK:

Take Exit 7 - Follow exit ramp across Atlantic Street onto North State Street. At the 4th set of lights, take a RIGHT onto Washington Boulevard. Follow signs for Route 137. Continue on Washington Boulevard crossing Long Ridge Road, ending at High Ridge Road. Take a LEFT onto High Ridge Road (Route 137). Continue on High Ridge Road - Passing under the MERRITT PARKWAY. The Stamford Museum is located at High Ridge Road and Scofieldtown Road, 3/4 of a mile north of the Merritt Parkway.

Powahay District Polar Bear

Lunch/Snack Canteen

We are looking to expand our Lunch/Snack Canteen with hot dogs, cup of soup, and a drink for \$5.00. Lunch tickets can be purchased at check-in. Hot chocolate available all day.

Packs also have the option to brown bag their lunch.



Checklist for the Polar Bear

- Start promoting the Cub Scout Polar Bear NOW
 - Review the fun stations on page 3.
- Have a pack Representative at the January 8 Roundtable for the final information. 7:15 PM at the Lapham Community Center, Waveny Park, 633 South Ave., New Canaan Directions at https://laphamcenter.org/welcome_directions.pdf
- Set up payment arrangements and deadlines to meet District Deadline of January 24, 2020.
 - Use Den Leaders to help with sign ups
 - Remind in weekly emails
 - Review the Online Registrations page
- Use January Pack and Den Meetings to prepare for the Polar Bear
- Review Dressing for a Winter Activity:
 - Long-sleeved shirt
 - Long pants
 - Sweater (fleece)
 - Long underwear (polypropylene)
 - Hiking boots or sturdy shoes (no sneakers)
 - Socks (wool or synthetic)
 - Warm parka or jacket with hood
 - Stocking hat
 - Mittens or gloves
 - Wool scarf
 - Rain gear
- We need HELP.** We are all volunteers running this event and we could help from your Pack.
 - Station Volunteers – All stations will be set up, no advance preparations needed. Just arrive early by 9 AM for a briefing of station assignments.
 - Snack/Lunch Station Servers
 - Parking
 - **TO VOLUNTEER CONTACT** John Hanks at info@powahay.com

Powahay Cub Scout Polar Bear

Make A Friend With Trading Cards

Mothman



Mothman is a cryptid described as a large monster standing over six feet tall, with wings six to ten feet across, menacing red eyes, and a body covered in feathers or fur. It is said that Mothman usually appears just before tragedy strikes as a warning of impending doom. Most of the sightings of the creature were associated with the collapse of the Silver Bridge, which connected Point Pleasant, WV to Gallipolis, OH, in 1967. This tragedy resulted in the deaths of 46 people.

The Jersey Devil




The Jersey Devil is a creature that makes its home in the dense woodlands of the Southern New Jersey Pine Barrens, a forbidding forest where few are brave enough to venture too deeply, yet despite thousands of sightings spanning back almost three centuries, the Devil has never been captured. Accounts vary, but many witnesses say it walks upright on two legs with cloven hooves, has a head like a horse, nasty claws, a forked tail, and leathery, bat-like wings.

Thunderbird



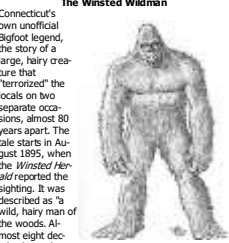
Thunderbird is a described as a large, bird-like creatures, generally identified with the Thunderbird of Native Americans. While the fossil record does show that giant birds (teratons) with wingspans between 13 and 16 feet were likely contemporary with early man. There have been recent reported sightings of a large bird with a wing span of 14 feet in the United States. It's been described as a bird that generally resembles a really huge condor, sometimes with eagle features.

Champ



Dozens of lakes around the world are supposed to house "monsters" of various sorts. Water cryptids from places other than the ocean are collectively called "lake monsters". In American folklore, Champ is the name of a lake monster said to live in Lake Champlain, a 125-mile long body of fresh water shared by New York and Vermont, with a portion extending into Quebec, Canada. Over the years, there have been over 300 reported sightings of Champ. It is believed to be the same creature as the Loch Ness Monster.

The Winsted Wildman




Connecticut's own unofficial Bigfoot legend, the story of a large, hairy creature that "terrorized" the locals on two separate occasions, almost 80 years apart. The tale starts in August 1895, when the *Winsted Herald* reported the sighting. It was described as "a wild, hairy man of the woods. Almost eight decades later, the Wildman reappeared again in late July 1972, the Hartford Courant reported that a "strange, man-like creature" was observed by two young men in the same area. It was suggested that what they may have seen was a black bear, they replied that "It was no bear."

The Connecticut Glawackus




The Glawackus struck fear in the hearts of many after attacking and mutilating local animals. Described as part-bear, dog and cat, first appeared in 1939 in Glastonbury, CT. They were said to have eaten cats and other small animals, and could be heard howling at night. The Glawackus legend appeared again in 1950, but has since vanished. Many individuals look to Fishers as the culprit behind the attacks, but the mystery still remains. Fisher are back in Connecticut. The fisher is a member of the weasel family and is known for being a ferocious predator. The sounds of a fisher have become notorious because they are similar to a child or a woman crying for help.

Chupacabra



The Chupacabra, has been haunting various parts of the globe since an initial sighting in 1995. When chupacabras are reported, they usually fall into one of two categories. First, common to the Puerto Rico, is a chupacabra that is reptile-like in nature with leathery greenish-gray skin and spines running down the spine of the back. It is three to four feet tall and is a bipedal—standing and hopping like a kangaroo. The second, increasingly common version of the chupacabra is more like a strange breed of wild dog or coyote. It lacks the hair of a dog, but features the pronounced spinal ridge or "spikes" similar to the reptilian chupacabra.

The Yeti



Yetis are also called abominable snowman and are believed to live in the Himalayan Mountains. They are a nocturnal animal (it sleeps during the day and does their moving about and hunting at night). The word yeti comes from a compound of Tibetan words that translates to "man-bear" or "cattle bear" (referring to the Himalayan brown bear). Natives of Nepal and Tibet say that the Yeti only shows itself to those who believe in it. Do you believe? The Yeti is described as being between 6-10 feet tall, walking upright and covered in white fluffy fur.

Cub Scouts will be divided into 8 teams rotating to 8 stations. Teams will be named after a cryptid:

1. Team Mothman
2. Team Jersey Devil
3. Team Winstead Wildman
4. Team Connecticut Glawackus
5. Team Thunderbird
6. Team Champ
7. Team Yeti
8. Team Chupacabra

Each Team will have a fun Fact Trading Card with information on their cryptid creature to trade with other teams. The purpose is for Scouts to approach other Team Cub Scouts to introduce themselves and what Pack and Town they are from and trade their cards. This can be done in-between stations, during the lunch period, and at the closing. At the end of the day, we hope each Scout will have eight Trading Cards and have made new friends.

- Start each of your Cub Scouts with one card to trade. Once they trade their card they can ask for another.
- Adult Leaders/Parents can encourage and help with the introduction (especially with shy Scouts) but let this be a youth to youth introduction.
- At the end of the event, each Scout should have eight different cards (one from each team). Adult Leaders/Parents should monitor and control that they are collecting different cards and not multiple of the same from a single team. We will have a limited supply of cards to trade.
- We recommend that that Packs provide a Ziploc bag for their Scouts with their name on it to keep their collected cards in. An Adult Leader/Parent may want to hold on to these until the closing.

Stamford Museum & Nature Center Presents **Thomas D. Mangelsen – A LIFE IN THE WILD**

American nature photographer Thomas D. Mangelsen has been praised by many as a spiritual descendent of Ansel Adams, Eliot Porter and Edward Weston. Over his more than 40 years of traveling to the wildest corners of North America and beyond, Mangelsen has become legendary for producing a body of work that includes truly awe-inspiring landscapes and some of the most recognizable wildlife scenes ever photographed, including many counted among the most important of the modern environmental age.

A LIFE IN THE WILD is an exhibition containing 40 of Mangelsen’s most resonant images—images that take viewers on a journey into the haunts of iconic species whose struggles for survival are metaphorical fulcrums for reflection in the 21st century.

In an age of rampant digital manipulation of imagery and an era in which many nature photographers take shortcuts to amass portfolios by frequenting “game farms”—facilities that rent out wildlife “models” by the hour—Mangelsen’s work stands as a striking and noble counterpoint, Allen says. Every single image in Mangelsen’s portfolio has been taken in the wild under natural conditions; the result of him waiting for the “picture perfect moment” across decades and often in hostile conditions. Such a body of work can only be achieved by having a heightened sense of animal behavior, an uncanny feel for being able to read changing atmospherics in the environment, and patience.



Let’s break out of the ‘recruiting season’ and welcome new Cub Scouts this winter The Polar Bear provides a great “Bring A Buddy Event”

Cub Scouts are encouraged to hold events where they invite a friend to join them and give their friends a taste of Scouting! The Polar Bear is the perfect event to show the excitement of Cub Scouts. We’ve included a suggested invite flyer on the following page.

- Packs are responsible for collecting the fees and registering your guests.
- **We cannot accept walk-ins** so pre-registration is required and by Friday, January 24, 2020 or 300 sign ups -- whichever comes first.
- The flyer on the next page can be downloaded in MSWord format to allow Packs to personalize the invite copy. You may want to invite “Bring A Buddy Guest” to your next Pack Meeting to collect the fees. Download flyer at https://www.ctyankee.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/bringbuddy_PB.docx.

Powahay District Polar Bear

My Best Friend Is A Scout!

(Inviting Cub Scout's Name)

Invites You to the Cub Scout Polar Bear

See details below

Come join the fun with your friends in Cub Scouts!

Please RSVP to:

Pack Contact Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Dear Parents,

The child on this invitation is a friend of your child, and a Cub Scout, and has personally invited your child to join them at this SPECIAL Cub Scout Event. In Cub Scouts, children have lots of fun, learn new things and make new friends. But Cub Scouts is much more than that, it is fun - with a purpose. Everything they will do in Cub Scouts - ceremonies, earn awards, sports, games and crafts, will be done with a specific purpose in mind. Take a look at the 12 Core Values Cub Scouting.

Citizenship, Honesty, Compassion,
Perseverance, Cooperation, Positive
Attitude, Courage, Resourcefulness,
Faith, Respect, Health and Fitness
Responsibility.

Please come join us at our event and see what all the fun is all about!



Powahay District
Connecticut Yankee Council

Cub Scout Polar Bear "Critters & Cryptids"

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\$15/Youth and \$12/Adult

**Stamford Museum
& Nature Center**

151 Scofieldtown Road,
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