

## **SEABEES TEACH CUB SCOUTS WOODWORKING SKILLS**

**By: LTJG Matthew Richardson**

Naval Mobile Construction Battalion ONE's (NMCB ONE) Detail Sigonella recently hosted the local Cub Scout Wolf Den (Cub Scout Pack 53) for woodwork training. Ten Wolf Cubs came to Camp Olsen Friday afternoon, September 26, with a mission to build a birdhouse. They accepted and completed that mission; all while having some fun.

Six members of the Detail were on hand to provide the training but they weren't all builders. Detail Officer in Charge, LTJG Matthew Richardson said, "When I mentioned that the Cub Scouts would be coming, a lot of people wanted to help. We had Builders, Steel Workers, a Construction Mechanic, and an Equipment Operator all swinging hammers." The training started when BUCN James Barthel handed out nails and gave a brief safety lecture, "Now don't stab each other with these."

BU3 (SCW) John Bogard and SW3 (SCW) Gordon Harvey designed the birdhouse and precut the wood. "Instead of birdhouses, I wish we could have had these kids building forms for our fence project to get some work out of them," said BU3(SCW) Bogard. "They could have had the forms when we were done, but I guess forms really don't look that great hanging from a tree in the front yard."

It took the ten Wolf Cubs an hour and a half to complete the birdhouse. Ryan Dowling, age 7 1/2, said, "I had fun. I learned how to build a birdhouse and will paint it and put it outside." He wasn't the only one who wanted to hang his birdhouse outside. Mychael Smith, age 7, said, "I took an extra nail to hang it when I get home."

Cub Scout Pack 53 is composed of 14 Wolf Cubs and is led by LCDR Teri Moore and her husband John. They meet on Friday afternoons and participate in all kinds of fun events from rock climbing to hiking Mt. Etna. "This is a great event because the Cub Scouts earn their Woodworking Patch," said LCDR Moore. "It also meets an achievement requirement towards each Scout's Wolf Badge and an elective requirement towards his Arrow Points."



SWCN (SCW) shows Wolf Cubs Emerson Bonga and Michael Jones how to assemble the birdhouse.



CMCN holds two pieces of wood together while Wolf Cub Emerson Bonga nails them together.