

Troop Committee Meeting – Sept. 11, 2005

In Attendance: Bob Peters, Cricket Coorough, Gene Directo, Claire Gilless, Vance Gilless

Meeting began at 4:05.

Opening comments by Vance:

It was a good summer and we seemed to go out with a bang – summer camp, back packing and Fiesta Island.

We received a thank you card from the Bitzer family that we will show at the upcoming court of honor.

Vance attended a kick off meeting at the Verdugo Hills Council on Thursday, Sept. 8. There have been several personnel changes and things seem to be transitioning smoothly and efficiently. Office staff now has a goal to return all calls and e-mails within 24 hours and mail in a timely manner.

There is now a museum at the council office, located upstairs.

Need to re-do the merit badge counselor list and have everyone re-register with the council. Claire needs to call Christy Brown, the new registrar.

Vance attended the session about the rechartering of the troop. Emphasis on getting youth and adults involved. When the adults recharter they will be doing criminal checks and ask for your social security number. Number one job is to deliver the scout program to the kids.

The council is organizing a fund-raiser for the hurricane disaster victims. They are collecting clothes and food that will be delivered to the Red Cross. They need uniforms for boys who may have had theirs destroyed in the hurricane. Also, they are asking that each scout donate \$1 to the disaster relief fund – hope to have this collected by Oct. 13 Round Table meeting.

The council is also sending a group to Philmont this year.

There was no secretary's report from the last meeting on May 22. Mentioned at that meeting: Claire would try to send out e-mail messages to ones who have e-mail updating them with each month's activities. Cricket would take the treasurer's job; all outdated checks are now accounted for. We all approved that the meeting occurred and were happy with the outcome.

Treasurer's Report:

Balance of \$2,584.37.

Upcoming money needed: \$60.00 to Bob for Jr. Leader Training and to Dave.
\$20.00 was spent for new checks.
Still have \$20.00 to collect from people who went to Fiesta Island.
\$577.00 in scout funds; does not include recent duck adoption fund-raiser.

Scoutmaster's Report:

Great summer with 2 back packing trips, 2 high adventure patches earned, and start of venture patrol. Only suggestion is that we go back to the earlier registrations for events. Ron Coste has offered to help implement this.

Venture patrol has a new patch that the boys may want to earn. Includes a 50 mile outing on water, 8 nights of camping, etc.

Information about the summer camp for next year (www.craterlakecouncil.org)

Camp Makualla, meaning the gathering place, is in southern Oregon on Crater Lake in the Cascade Mountains. They provide the tents and if we have 16 campers we will get the campsite to ourselves. Takes 23 hours by train or 18 hours by auto. Cost is \$200 for out of council troops but can get discounts if we pay within their schedule. Amtrak is about \$150 round trip. Dates would be in the month of July or first week of August.

Court of Honor:

Shane needs a scarf since he's been in the troop over a year now.

Some still challenged by the pull up, key is to be practicing.

Cricket will arrange refreshments for this court of honor, will get volunteers.

This court of honor will have:

1 rank advancement

1 bronze palm

36 merit badges

Several patches from summer camp including:

16 beaver awards

3 over night bike trip

12 otter swim

13 tomahawks

15 whitewater

9 Sentinel Peak

18 Camp Whitsett

6 Rock Climbing

2 COPE

7 First year program

Outdoor Activities:

Sept. outing is scheduled for the 17-18. This is not going to be an overnight campout now – has been changed to help boys start on their cooking merit badge. Schedule is as follows: Friday, 16th, scouts are needed to help at the church with set-up for their annual rummage sale. Cub scouts will have a campout to help guard the grounds. Sat. scouts

will be needed in the afternoon to help with take down. Sunday afternoon the boys will do some cooking with Dutch ovens.

October outing will stay as planned – outing will be to Joshua Tree. Gene will check with the Rock Gym in Long Beach to look for a guide for the outing. Need to have someone who can be there all day Sat. and half of Sun.

Fund Raising:

Boys earned 40% of duck fundraiser money for their troop funds. The troop also earned a small portion of which \$50.00 will be donated to the hurricane disaster relief funds that are being collected by the council

Pancake breakfast tickets will go on sale beginning Tuesday the 13th. The pancake breakfast is on Oct. 15 and tickets will sell for \$3.00 each. Boys will earn \$2.00 each toward their scout funds.

Popcorn and wreath sales will be available to those who wish to do them. Cricket will organize this.

Summer Camp:

Was good this year. Everything got to be smooth sailing at the end and then it was time to go. Wish was that it could have gone another week. Enjoyed that the campsite was close to the big tent. Everyone loved the white water rafting.

Parent's Meeting:

October 30, 4:00 at the TUMC.

Need to look at the bi-laws although they seem to be ironed out fairly well.

Recharter packets will be handed out at this meeting.

Cricket and Claire will arrange refreshments.

Scoutmaster's Term in Office:

Currently there is a 5-year limit mentioned in the bi-laws. Thought it would be good to change to being a 3-year clause with every 2 years as an extension. Good that there is more parental involvement and help.

Recruitment:

Kick off meeting mentioned a recruitment night. Usually we have absorbed the cub scouts, but this year there are no second year Webelos coming up from the pack.

Mentioned the attrition rate in scouting. Thought we should consider a "bring a friend to scouts" night/open house possibly in November.

Training:

New packet. High Adventure team needs to get caught up with training, especially the water trek leader since the venture patrol would like to focus on water outings.

Mentioned to Vance about doing the Troop Committee Challenge within our troop.

Advancements:

Court of Honor mentioned above.

Strive for no more last minute pushes like before last court of honor.

Equipment:

Need to check on getting a canopy repaired (damaged at Fiesta Island).

On-line photo policy:

Council may have a parental permission form, if not we should be able to find one similar to what was used at summer camp or via the Girl Scouts.

Bob will check on the web site being updated since it was mentioned that the calendar was out of date still.

Meeting adjourned at 5:55