



Troop 477 Committee Meeting Minutes

July 7, 2003

Committee Chairman Jeff Glaze called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

Attendees: Jeff Glaze, Peter Bain, Joseph Clements, Bill Aaron, Tom Bever, Walt LaRoche, Mike LaPrade, Mark Botsch and Carolyn Sparks. Latecomers from the PLC meeting: Jeremy Weber, Bruce Lendeman, Bob Melton, Wendy Gibbons, and Eric Kiesel.

Committee Reports:

Troop Committee Secretary Minutes from June meeting approved, appropriate follow up recommended to all by Jeff. Carolyn Sparks present to take minutes.

Camping Chairman Peter Bain present.

Summer Camp Review: see scoutmaster's minute.

July Water Sports weekend July 11th-13th. Peter Bain reporting for campmasters Matt Bickerstaff and Hal Breffle (not present). Have tour permit, other appropriate forms available. Jeremy Weber and Mike LaPrade planning to take their boats. Final headcount still unknown, but Bruce Lindeman to obtain headcount.

Philmont Planning: Peter Bain reported a problem with the National Tour permit application, but a new application was filed via fax 7/7; he has been following up and should resolve the problem. Tom Bever (campmaster) present and reporting. Medical forms are being reviewed for any missing information, and releases are being obtained from all parents. Camp stoves may only be flown with empty canisters. Most recent training trip was most rigorous yet, and stamina of all was tried. Participants should be ready for Philmont. Weight requirements have been reviewed. Steven Bancroft and Dan Cohen are registered as adult leaders, and Tom has sent out extensive memos to all adults going regarding the 16 issues that need to be covered (CPR training, Youth Protection, among them). Leaving one week from Thursday on 2 fifteen-passenger vans, motel reconfirmed. There will be one guide assigned for the tour of the Air Force Academy, though rumor indicates only 10 people per guide are allowed. If this is the case, the group will split and one half will go to the Garden of the Gods while the other half tours. Flight leaves at 8:45 a.m., all to wear Class A Uniforms. The van carrying 14 people is listed to be driven by Tom or Bob with Jeff Glaze and Lisa as supplementary drivers of other vehicles for other passengers and gear. Any expenses incurred on the trip should be paid as you go on your credit card to be reimbursed after return. The same individuals will be bringing everyone back from the airport upon their return. All attendees are reminded that no knives may be carried on the airplanes. Tickets transferred to Tom and appropriate adults at end of meeting. Each boy will take photographs with provided cameras on an assigned day along with some adults who also will be taking photos with their own cameras, so we should get a good presentation when they return. More discussion at end of this segment regarding specifics of who will be driving van (whether it be Peter or Jeremy).

Committee Chairman's Report: Jeff Glaze

Jeff will be putting together a power point presentation on camping and backpacking ideas to present to the patrol leaders to be getting ideas from their patrols before the planning weekend. Walt also requested Jeff to include the fall and Spring Camporees in his presentation. The fall camporee will be Oct. 3-5th with the theme of Adventure Camp, or nature oriented and will be sponsored by OA. The spring camporee should be the first weekend of May.

The BSA is encouraging scouts to participate in ready campaigns with local civil defense or homeland security departments. These provide service opportunities in emergency preparedness



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drills with Dekalb county and other local organizations. **Del Price** could check on follow up of these opportunities. Boys could work toward emergency preparedness badge.

Service Opportunity – Norcross Marriott is holding a convention on July 31st-Aug. 3rd for the visually impaired and the Boy Scouts have been requested as guides for the convention. Info is listed on the Hightower Trail Web site.

Chartered Organization Representative Mark Botsch was present. Jeff has spoken with Steve Handler about the God and Country Program, which hasn't been offered by the troop since 1996. This will make all groups represented once the program is begun (Jewish and Catholic God and Country awards have continued to be awarded in our troop). **Jeff requested that Mark follow up** to push the effort to completion.

Scout Hut phone bill has not yet been resolved, but Mark will negotiate the matter.

The front door to the scout hut will be replaced by adults in troop to keep costs to a minimum. They will get and install the door and submit the expenses, estimated to be around \$120.00-\$130.00. The equipment room door will be replaced at a later date. The current front door is not secure and takes priority. There is a possibility that the installation of the door could be negotiated to offset the phone bill.

Unit Commissioner Paul Porwoll was absent. Walt LaRoche was present however. Next Roundtable July 8th. Emphasis was placed on this monthly meeting as a wonderful training and information session that should be attended by as many as can go. Both Walt and Jeff **encouraged any to attend that can**. It is one of the items that may go toward getting the Scouter's Key.

The New Calendar is posted both on the bulletin board of the scout hut and on the website. The District Calendar includes most, though not all of Council event dates. The Council calendar is available on the Council website (Hightower Trail).

Boy Scout Leader Training will be offered in the fall on either Wed. or Thurs. nights in September and then the first or second weekend in October.

August 9th is the day a troop rep needs to pick up packet at Mason Mill Park at 8:30a.m. Map is on the website.

August 16th is popcorn training, though the boys in our troop have chosen not to participate. Later in the meeting when the budget was reviewed, adults questioned this decision and Bob agreed to follow up more with the boys. Apparently proper recognition was not given for the extraordinary sales by one boy.

Commissioner College is the end of Sept. They are encouraging everyone to go even if not a leader. Website has more info on this. It is worthwhile and fun event.

Nov. 1st is the date of the fall NESA day, which also happens to be the day for the ordeal if tapped out for O.A. This will be in addition to the spring NESA day.



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Nov. 8th is the tentative date for the District Merit Badge Day. Info from last year's clinic still on website, and this year's will likely be similar. The Golf and Aeronautics Badges will be available but these will need early sign-up.

Dec. 13th is recharter day at place of roundtable.

Newsletter and Communications Jeff Glaze has copies of the directory available if needed.

Treasurer Mike LaPrade present to distribute report. One blank check still not reported back from summer camp. Wendy to follow up with Nancy Farrey regarding the amount spent at Costco. Discussion followed that the usual method of paying out of troop accounts needs to be by reimbursement except as approved in advance for large amounts.

There are still outstanding collections from the scouts for summer camp. These should have been collected before leaving for camp, as a timetable for amounts due was sent out well in advance. Collection of these moneys before attendance should be enforced.

After calculation, the budget would be in deficit by \$1000.00 if not for the popcorn money. Some form of fund raising will be needed to offset this amount, or other fees will have to be increased. In the past, the excess spent on summer camp (for snacks and adult fees) was paid by the troop, as well as awards and other items as per the report distributed. Adults have traditionally not had to pay the full amount for summer camp. 2 may go for free, 2 are paid for by the troop, and the amount for the final 2 adults was divided up by all 6 adults.

Mike needs receipts at earliest convenience to pay out more efficiently. Also to adjust the amounts charged for events, we need to have the correct amounts spent on trips.

The amount received from popcorn in the past will need to be made up somewhere by fund raising or other sources. This item should be added to the planning calendar for discussion with the boys. Noted by Jeff Glaze.

Community Service/Good Turn chairman Del Price absent. Jeff outlined service opportunities under Committee Chairman's report.

Advancement Chairman Jack Linder not present. Summer camp was successful with 23 merit badges awarded to 14 boys, and 3 Boards of Review resulted in rank advancements while at camp this year. Details of these were sent out by email previous to this meeting.

We are in need of a metal working merit badge councilor. This to be pursued by Carolyn Sparks.

Jeff reviewed the steps involved in earning a merit badge. The summary:

- 1) Boy gets signed merit badge form from Scoutmaster, who will assign a counselor (boy can express preference).
- 2) Boy phones merit badge counselor to let him know he wants to earn the badge.
- 3) Boy gets merit badge pamphlet on his subject.
- 4) When boy is ready, he calls counselor again to make an appointment and brings things he has made to meet the requirements. When counselor is satisfied that the scout knows the subject and has met requirements, he signs the form
- 5) Boy gives the signed form to his Scoutmaster who will present the badge to him.



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Bob Melton will assign the merit badge counselor when he is present. If he is not present, Jack Linder, Jeff Glaze, or Bob's First Assistant Scoutmaster may assign a merit badge counselor. This keeps the Scoutmaster's role more clear.

The PLC meeting did address the need for prompting the boys of needed merit badges for Eagle award.

Suggestion was made that boys should be alerted by the Assistant Scout Master in charge of the patrol of any potential merit badges that could be earned on upcoming trips. Suggestion was made to add merit badge requirements that would be covered onto the equipment list for the trips so the boys can act proactively and have their blue cards with them.

Equipment and Facilities chairman Hal Breffle (absent). Dutch door is in the plans for the equipment room. This will be a "homemade" type door to be done after the front door is taken care of.

Though we think there is enough equipment (stoves in particular) for Philmont, if there is one short, it will be purchased when they get there.

Jeff Glaze is changing the locks on the storage cabinets and the combination for the key box on the wall. Adults will be notified of the new combination. The cabinet contains the keys for the equipment cabinets.

Membership Chairman Henry Fisher not present, but Jeff forwarded his report prior to the meeting. He is working on recruitment at the schools and will be asking Bob's help to stir enthusiasm among the boys for an open house for some displays at the Church and at school registrations.

Henry is working on Den Chiefs now, and has a schedule for Den Chief training and 3 boys committed.

Webelos Woods is also a potential recruiting opportunity as brought up by Walt. This is a District event in which the Webelos of various packs and Boy Scout Troops can come together, and the Webelos can visit the different troops to see what they do, and offer some quality time to talk to the Scoutmaster. This is still in the discussion stage by the district.

Dear Bob Melton, I noted from the June minutes a request for you to add a September Show and Do to your planning calendar. This wasn't brought up at this particular meeting.

Hospitality co-chairs Nancy Farrey and Sara Costner were absent. Nothing to report other than a Court of Honor is approaching soon.

Summer Camp Review: Wendy Gibbons reported that she had reviewed the Eagle required merit badges that would be offered with every boy that could get them and persuaded some of the boys to do some of the required badges among the fun ones at summer camp.

There was very little modeling, since there was such a lack of older scouts. It would be ideal if next year we could encourage more of the older scouts to attend.



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The agenda this year was organized such that the programs were all held before noon, and the afternoons were free periods to either pursue merit badges or do activities the boys wanted to do. The rifle range, ropes course, and water activities were readily available to anyone who wanted. None of the boys stayed in camp in the afternoons, and all seemed to enjoy camp greatly in spite of rain.

Bob Melton said this is the first of the many summer camps he has attended that he had to take clothes to the Laundromat to DRY them.

Bob said he thinks that Woodruff may possibly be the nicest Boy Scout Camp in the country, and the only way to ruin it would be to have bad staff (not the case this year).

Walt mentioned that if any of the boys ever want to be a counselor at the camp, they need to go for several years before applying for Junior Leader Training.

Training Chairman Joseph Clements will be sending a spreadsheet to everyone to fill in the blanks. There are web links for some training courses and he will reference these. Joseph also reviewed the application for the Boy Scout Leader's Training Award (the green knot). It works similar to the boys' merit badge applications.

Senior Patrol Leader's Report Harrison Bain is the new SPL. The Assistant Patrol Leader hasn't been selected yet, but elections to be held upcoming. Bob requested that the assignment be retroactive to July 1st for the SPL.

Scoutmaster's Report: Bob Melton present.

Paul Weber is now registered as an adult leader.

August 14th is the date for the Eagle Court of Honor for Josh Weiner. He wants to use the Fellowship Hall.

The Eagle Court of Honor for Paul Weber will be held when the family decides the date. Bob would like to hold the Eagle Courts of Honor in the Sanctuary.

Harrison Bain has finished his Eagle Project.

September camping trip will be to Scoutland for Water Sports
October camping trip will be backpacking on the lower Bartram Trail near the Chattooga.

Walt reminded everyone that the Fall Camporee is the First weekend in October. Though the troop doesn't generally participate, patrols may if they wish.

Annual Planning Meeting August 16th-18th:

Jeremy Weber's lake house is not available on this weekend. Peter Bain to check the availability and dates for his cabin. Either the location or the date will need to be changed. All Greenbar boys should attend. (All Patrol Leaders, Assistant Patrol Leaders, Scribes, Quartermasters, or any position of responsibility). Adults cook, and recreation will be water skiing and wave runners (driven by adults). This trip is a reward/treat for the boy leaders. Plans will be made through November 2004. The patrol leaders should attempt to find out all the things that the boys do like about the troop, that they don't like about the troop, and comments and suggestions of activities



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the boys want to do to bring to the meeting. All adults send ALL items needing to go on calendar to Bob Melton. Some items missed this year's calendar, such as the Memorial Day activity.

Meetings: next ones this month on Orienteering. Last Meeting in July will have emphasis on Personal Fitness (and the merit badge). August meetings will bring us back to Health Care.

David Fessendon will be the Assistant Scoutmaster for the Cobra Patrol.

Bob thanked all of the adults who went to summer camp: Wendy Gibbons for organizing, David Fessendon and Carolyn Sparks who attended adult leader training, Nancy and Don Farrey for trading off with each other to cover the week, as well as Hal Breffle, Eric Kiesel, Jeremy Weber, and Corky Gibbons.

Committee Meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Next committee meeting is Monday August 4th, 2003 at 7:30 PM.