

April Parent Meeting Minutes 4/4/2011

- Kari Francis called the meeting to order
- Few announcements:
 - Passed a sheet around for parent participation- sign up under your child ONLY if YOU as a parent will be showing up. We are asking each family sign up for at least 2 events.
 - Asking for a lot of help for the troop triathlon May 14th. Requires a lot of people to help- will be from 8-12.
 - Having a meeting for new parents or parents that have questions- look for email- will be held April 25th
 - Also if you are a parent of a life scout- there will be a meeting for PARENTS ONLY on May 16th. There are a lot of steps involved to get from Life to Eagle so please attend if possible
 - If you receive an email asking for information please do not “reply all”. Reply to the sender only
 - Friends of scouting rep will be here in May at our court of honor (May 23rd) to get donations. Please be as generous as your budget allows.
- Opening prayer- given by Rudy Balciunas
- Mr. Stepchinski- what we need for camp outs.
 - Foldable cot especially for longer camp outs (summer camps and fall camp). The kind that comes in a bag works out well. Make sure that when you get it home try to set it up so that when your son gets to camp he is able to do it by himself.
 - Tent- largest investment you will make. Don't buy the 39.95 one as it will probably leak.
 - A 2 person tent is ideal- 8x8 ft. More than two boys in a tent is a party that lasts all night long. ☺
 - Features of the tent you should look for are to have a zipper, aluminum poles, make sure the rain fly that covers the tent.
 - Make sure it comes with a good bag
 - When you get it home make sure you pitch it a few times prior to camp out.
 - Will also need decent stakes- you will want to purchase these separately as the ones that come with the tent will most likely not hold well in a hard rain/ wind.
 - Ground cloth- needs to be sized so that it is not much bigger than the rain fly-
 - Camp chair- make sure your name is on it and troop number
 - Foot locker- can purchase them at academy for about \$35. Plastic and they will keep your stuff dry. This is how we transport the majority of the boys “stuff”. (please see email for details)
 - Sleeping bag- light weight is all you really need.
 - Mess kit- not absolutely necessary for the long term camp outs
 - Water bottles- must have at least one but 2 is recommended. Nalgene bottles are good because they won't break as easily
 - Hammer for ground stakes- small rubber mallet

- Backpack- will carry day gear with them in it- books, notes, hat, rain gear, water bottle etc.
- Rain gear- poncho is okay but jacket and pair of pants will work better.
- “Stuff” bags are good to have and can be found at academy.
- Flash light- head light is great to have as well. They can use them to help get their gear ready at night. A small flash light is good and convenient to carry.
- Plastic bags- need zip loc bags (gallon size is good)- good to put daily clothes in for the campout. Also good to have a hand full of other sized plastic bags- garbage bags/ grocery bags. Electronics will also be kept in zip loc type bags.
- Toilet paper! No explanation needed ☺
- Drinking cup- most will offer a drinking cup. It is good to have one that has a handle that can be tied to their backpack and used as needed.
- Mosquito netting is essential- not needed for BTR as they will be camping in tents.
- Boots are good to have! 2 extra pairs of shoes as well! Just in case of rain. If you buy new boots make sure you wear them for a couple of weeks prior to camp so they are broken in before you go to camp
- In your red folder there are a couple of lists that describe what you should bring for short term/ long term camp outs- they are also online
- Lane Francis- Senior Patrol Leader
 - Theme this month is scout skills- camporee is April 29-May 1 at Camp Strake- competitions between troops.
 - Next week (4/11) will be knot tying skills- new scouts can get signed off on some of their requirements
 - Next (4/11) week please bring items for Marine Care Box collection- an email will be forthcoming.
 - Following week (4/18) we will go over first aid
 - Fire building will be the next week (4/25)
 - 16th- brush clean up and garden boxes for the church- need 10-15 boys- next meeting will have sign up for this volunteer opportunity
 - Rebuilding Houston Together- go fix up an elderly persons home- will need 6-8 boys- Mr. Francis will send an email out soon with the details
 - Camporee will be April 29-May 1- meet here Thursday to load gear at 6pm and leave Friday at 5:30pm.
 - Next month’s theme is Aquatics. We will also prepare for the troop triathlon (swim, bike, run)- you can do whatever events you want (1, 2, or all 3) and we’ll have 2 distances from which to choose for each event - we want as many scouts as possible to participate
 - After tonight’s meeting the new scouts will meet and get familiar with each other.
- Mike Lovelace
 - Swim test will be after the triathlon- pool is rented from 8am – 12noon for the triathlon. Mike Lovelace will send out an email with details soon. Will be at Brookwood pool at . We will need LOTS of parents to help out.

- Re-cap on new guys- 18 new guys joined the troop this spring! ☺ WELCOME!

- Leah Galliker- report from treasurer
 - Have an annual budget for the first time in several years- if you would like to see it please contact Leah! We are on track where we want to be for the year. \$13 000 in the bank now but we have a lot of expenses going out soon ie. Re-stocking the boxes and helping with summer camp expenses
- Julie Lovelace/ Jennifer Crucian-Report from Advancement/ Boards of Review- One boy sitting for his Eagle Scout Bronze Palm Scoutmaster meeting this evening. Only one Board of Review will be needed for this. If you are a new parent please try to be here on April 25th. Parents are not responsible for signing book now, the boys are. If you have any questions prior to the 25th please contact Julie.
- Kari (for Mark Kuhlman-Report form the Fundraiser Chair)-Thanks to all the parents for the great turn out last Monday night. We got 31 new subscriptions. We have a couple more events where we can get more subscriptions. We have over 100 subscriptions from new and renewed subscriptions.
- Joe Layden- Report from Membership/ Training Chair-New parents: if you have not gotten a red folder please contact him and get it from him. On the inside pocket there is registration forms to be filled out. We are hoping to have one parent from each scout join. Youth Protection Training certificates go to Joe Layden
- Outdoor activities committee- always looking for more volunteers to serve on the committee
 - Battleship feedback from Leah Galliker- going to be a little bit tighter for the campout- need to make sure you get your paperwork in on time.. There were three new boys who biked the 18 miles and they all survived and made it to the battleship. The docent gave a great tour and said that our boys were very well behaved.
 - Camporee-4/29-5/1- Joe Layden- has forms for sign up- the dead line is next week-
 - The whole district is involved. The whole troop goes but will separate into patrols for the competitions
 - Thursday before Camporee your scout will bring his gear to church to load on the trailer. Do not pack class A as he will wear it on the trip.
 - Have them eat before they get to UBC to leave that Friday evening.
 - Bring \$10 for the Grubmaster to the meeting on Monday, April 25th
 - Saturday will be spent competing at the events at Camporee
 - Be back Sunday around 11:00 a.m.
 - Will need drivers for this event. If you are driving- need drivers license number and must meet the minimum coverage. Need to know what your coverage is. Must have a seatbelt for each scout you are transporting.
 - It is about an hour north of town.

- Lake Texana with canoes- 5/20-5/22- Registration will be out shortly. Everyone is welcome for this. You can participate if you are a swimmer, or if you will ride with a BSA lifeguard. More info on this will be out soon.
- BTSR- July 3-9- new scouts welcome as well. Cheryl Paul has registration forms
 - Leaving on the 1st coming back on the 11th
- Seabase- Leah Galliker- The SPL has been pulling the boys aside working together as a team. Hoping to get hotel registration finalized soon.
- Camp Philmont- If you are registered Tess sent out an email with payment schedule. The estimated dates are June 30-July12, 2012
- Service projects- Jed Login (outgoing chair) Alan Estes will be taking this position over
 - 4/16 UBC brush and troop equipment clean up 8:30-2:30- need to know if you will be volunteering as the church will provide sandwiches.
 - Care Package Drive for Marines- you should receive an email from Jeffrey Myers regarding donation ideas.
- Ed VanBlarcom suggested to the new parents to check with their companies/ corporation to see if they have volunteer matching program.

If you have any questions please email Kari Francis (Committee Chair) at shmandroo@aol.com