

Troop 1333 Committee Meeting Minutes – Sunday, August 5, 2007

Members Present: *Terri Byrne, Alan Carmichael, Lisa Gerdes, David Gibson, John Landry, Kim Medina, Pauline Ramsey, Daree Stracke, Kimberly Thompson, James Y'Barbo, Mike Zarella*

*Mike Zarella* led the meeting in the absence of Committee Chair, *Ken Zoeller*. He opened the meeting with prayer at 3:55 pm.

#### *Notable Calendar Highlights*

August 26 – Court of Honor

September 21, 22, 23 - Camping at Galveston

October 20 - 21 – Smoked Chicken Fundraiser

October 12, 13, 14 – Camping at Enchanted Rock

October 27, 28 - Camping at Kaiserhof for Cub Scout Recruiting

December 8, 9 – Troop Service Project - Storm Water Inlet Marking

#### *Scoutmaster Report – John Landry*

*John* requested that future troop committee meetings be convened at the same time as the troop meetings from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month. *Mike* made note of the request to mention to Ken.

*John* reported continued A/C difficulties, mentioned electrical problems and flooring issues left to be resolved in addition to carpet installation that needs to occur in the Scout Hut. The carpet installation has run over budget due to flooring problems.

*David Gibson* volunteered to contact the carpet installer.

Once the electrical and plumbing issues are corrected, *David Gibson* would like donate an ice maker for the Scout Hut.

*John* indicated he would be meeting with *Joel Eisenbrauer*, the new Charter Organization Representative (COR) to discuss what maintenance items the Trinity Lutheran Church (TLC) would be able to address. And to discuss ways to have Scout goals shared with church council.

#### *Scout Fair Tickets Complete*

Scout Fair patches will be distributed at the next Court of Honor (August 26). *Mike* will check to see if there were any Scout Shop coupons from the ticket turn-ins. *Kim Medina* reported a few bookkeeping issues that she would like to address next year by working more closely with the troop scribe. *John* is hopeful that the experience gained this season will enhance next year's handling of the ticket turn-in's. *Kim* would also like to see better marketing to the Scouts to increase participation in the troop. **30% of each Scout Fair ticket sold goes directly to individual Scout accounts.** That represents 100% of the troop's portion of the district-wide fundraiser.

### Fall Popcorn Sale

*Kim Medina* will attend the district kick-off meeting on August 21. *Alan Carmichael* offered his assistance to her with the fundraiser. Troop kick-off will be at the Court of Honor on August 26. **100% of the proceeds from the sale of popcorn go directly to individual Scout accounts.**

*Lisa Gerdes* will provide a report showing the amount of money each Scout has in his personal troop account.

### Annual Troop Family Dinner and Smoked Chicken Fundraiser

*James Y'Barbo* will be the Smoked Chicken Fundraiser Chair. *Kimberly Thompson* will head up marketing outside of TLC in neighborhood newsletters and other places. *Pauline Ramsey* will coordinate the Troop Family Dinner, the location of which will likely be the school gymnasium (as in the past).

The goal will be to concentrate on advance orders and to encourage each Scout to sell chickens individually. Additional chickens will be available on the day of the sell. Discussions included the possibility of moving the "chicken kitchen" to the Scout Hut and placing the smokers in a more visible location on the church parking lot near Spring Cypress to attract buyers.

*James* will meet with individuals who participated last year so he can develop a how-to manual for future reference. A few names were mentioned from last year: *Kim Medina* (chickens and cooking supplies); *Gary Adams'* dad (delivered chickens); *Pauline Ramsey* coordinated the annual troop family dinner; *Carmichaels* donated foil and pans; Scouts each contribute a case of Coca-Cola (part of the recipe). Past troop committee meeting notes are available on the troop website which gives some details regarding last year's event.

After last year's event, *Ken Zoeller* had noted that we need to purchase the chickens by number and not by pounds. 400 chickens will provide 800 halves. Chickens are sold by the halves. Traditionally, the fundraiser was billed as a "free-will" service not specifying a price for each order. The average price for a half chicken is \$10.

*John Landry* commented that most of the purchases from last year were made by troop families followed by members of TLC. *Kimberly* will address some marketing ideas to help increase sales outside of the troop and TLC.

### Winter 2007 and Summer 2008 Camps

There is an interest among the Scouts to attend a local winter camp to work on badges and National Youth Leader Training (NYLT) during Christmas break.

The Patrol Leaders Council (PLC) is already looking at facilities for summer camp 2008 for which reservations will need to be made.

### Other High Adventure Opportunities

*John Landry* is researching low cost options for a ski trek possibly to Middle Park Colorado. Other outing possibilities include: Northern Tier, Philmont, Diamond H.

It was noted that some Scouts may need to look into getting passports or updating existing passports.

### Court of Honor – August 26

COH will include a ceremony to transition new troop leadership (Scouts) as well as rank recognitions and other awards.

### Review Troop Calendar on-line often!

A quick review of the troop calendar includes Camporee at Strake in March hosted by Troop 1333 and coordinated by *David Gibson*, a canoe trip (watch for fall training opportunities), wilderness first aid training, Court of Honor and troop family picnic in May at Spring Creek Park, summer camp in June and Chain of Lakes in July.

### Outdoor Activities - Daree Stracke

*Daree* discussed refunds for summer camp fees to those who had to back out. There was agreement to *Daree's* suggestion that those who signed up and backed out after the fees had been set must pay for the expenses that the troop is unable to receive reimbursement. An example is the bus fee. All refunds, such as the camp fee, would be designated for deposit into the scout's troop account and no direct refunds from the troop would be made. This proposal was supported by *Lisa Gerdes* as the Troop Treasurer. A rebate of \$40.00/scout from the Diamond H excursion will go to the scouts' troop accounts.

### Life to Eagle Committee – Sandy Y'Barbo

*James Y'Barbo* reported out for *Sandy*. Due to the declining participation at the last two meetings, the LTE committee will not meet again until September and at that time *Sandy* will arrange both a LTE committee meeting and a parent's meeting to kick the program back off for the fall. *Sandy* needs the tracking spreadsheet updated and *Mike Zarella* will provide the information for the update from Troopmaster. There are 21 Life scouts on the troop roster.

### Haberdashery- David Gibson

*David* stated that more troop patches will be needed for the neckerchiefs as the newer scouts achieve Tenderfoot rank. *David* has been paying about \$10/patch at Action and has been paying for the patches and other items without troop reimbursement. *Pauline Ramsey* recommended an on-line ordering company for the patches that might reduce the cost to \$2/patch. *David* was encouraged to consider this option if he intends to seek troop reimbursement to minimize the impact on troop finances. Looking

into a banner for the troop but the PLC has not yet settled on a design.

### Membership – David Gibson

The Troop will be hosting a Webelos recruitment event at Kaiserhof in October (final calendar pending). *David* indicated the number of potential recruits from the Packs in the T1333 area is about 120 and he has set a personal goal of 30 new scouts recruited to the troop. *David* was cautioned that the troop may not have the resources (i.e. equipment) to absorb this many new scouts at once. *Mike Zarella* added that 30 new scouts would be well above the number set by Ken Zoeller in the Centennial Award application. [Review of the application after the meeting indicates the goal was 18 for 2007.]

### Chaplain – David Gibson

God and Church class for the Protestant associated denominations will be resurrected by *David* and he will create a matrix of all the scouts' affiliations to provide assistance to every scout on earning the religious emblem of their faith. *Kim Medina* expressed a concern that a scout service was not held at the Chain-O-Lakes campout but was reassured that one was held by *David Gibson* although it was not the traditional service as the troop was trying to leave the campgrounds ahead of poor weather. It was noted that holding service at campouts is not only important as a component of the scout program's core values but that the scouts associated with Trinity must attend a certain percentage of church services for credit [didn't capture the exact reason why].

### FOS - David Gibson

*David* requested permission to send letters to all parents who have not yet completed an FOS pledge card in an effort to earn the Pacesetter award. *David* only has 18 pledge cards from the troop and needs one from everybody, even if they indicate they don't want to donate. The Committee agreed to *David's* proposal.

### Training - Kimberly Derry-Thompson

*Kimberley* was introduced as the new Committee Training Coordinator after she had to leave for the troop meeting. The news was well received by the committee. *David Gibson* suggested that *Kimberly* contact *Cindy King* of the Polaris District for assistance.

### Advancement - Mike Zarella

*Mike* reminded the committee about the upcoming Court of Honor on August 26th. *Bryan Medina* will be assembling the script and serve as the Master of Ceremonies as part of his Communications merit badge requirement. *Mike Zarella* will send scripts to *Bryan* to assist. The COH will include a ceremony for the handoff of the SPL and PL duties.

### Website - Mike Zarella

*Mike* notified the committee that there would be no updates to the site between Aug 8th and Aug 18th. There was agreement from the committee that the website is useful and helpful to the troop.

### BOR - Pauline Ramsey

*Pauline* reported that the new Board of Review Guidance document is being used. *Pauline* asked if *Mike Zarella* would be able to put together the binders before leaving on vacation. *Mike* will not be able to get it done in time so *Pauline* will do it as she has all the documents on a CD. *Pauline* stated that she is making sure BOR teams ask scouts about their duty to God.

### Kaiserhof 5-year Plan - David Gibson

*David* is meeting with *Denise Kaiser* this week (08.05.07) to discuss what improvements we can make and what she will support. The general issue is access for parking. Without adequate parking, the site is not used enough to keep it maintained for ongoing use. *David* will report his discussions with *Denise*.

### Other business

*Alan Carmichael* discussed the status of the trailer replacement. *Alan* estimates that we could receive up to \$1000 for the current trailer and the estimated cost of a new trailer is \$4000. The money from the garage sale booth would also be applied toward the purchase. The balance was to be made up by *Alan* and *Daree Stracke*. *Alan* asked permission to send a note to the troop soliciting additional donations from troop parents (this would reduce the total burden on *Alan* and *Daree's* generosity). *Alan* will draft a letter and send to *Ken Zoeller* for review before sending to the troop.

There was a general discussion and concern about purchases for non-anticipated items such as backpacking and high adventure supplies. There are more requests coming for high adventure related equipment such as backpacking tents and water purifiers. The Troop Committee supports this program direction by the troop but was uncertain how much impact it was having on the budget since this was not anticipated when the current budget was developed. *Lisa Gerdes* had left by the time of this discussion so Treasurer in-put was unavailable. The Committee recognized that a financial planning meeting is needed to determine if current fundraising activities were sufficient to sustain requests as well as grow with the troop (e.g. high adventure, recruitment goals).

An item of concern that came up at the Troop meeting is that the Enchanted Rock campout with T382 conflicts with the Chicken Fundraiser date. *James Y'Barbo* will contact *Ken* to see if an alternate date is okay considering other Trinity activities.

*Mike Zarella* adjourned the meeting sometime after the secretary left. [Notes: *Mike* continued to take notes and passed them along to the secretary for inclusion in the minutes.]

The next Troop Committee meeting date will be announced.