



TROOP 209 CATALINA COUNCIL, TUCSON, ARIZONA



Committee Meeting Notes March 9, 2009

The following are highlights from the Committee Meeting held for Troop 209 on March 9, 2009 at SEAS:

Friends of Scouting (FOS)

- Troop 209 achieved "Platinum" status in our contributions to the FOS for 2009. This will enable the troop to receive a 10% discount on summer camp

Event Debriefs

- We have attended a number of Webelos crossovers: Pack 212, 209, 303, 219, 231, and 211 and have 15 new boys join Troop 219 which is great news! Pack 261 will be having a crossover on May 2nd at Madera Canyon.
- February 20-22nd Troop 209 camped at Roosevelt Lake. This was a last minute change from a planned service camp at Oracle State Park. Among the activities was a hike to nearby ruins which ended up being about a 7 mile round trip. Word was that it was a great weekend and that the troop would go back to Roosevelt Lake again.
- March 7th there was an Old Pueblo District Dinner. At the dinner, Ed Madson and Jim Tarleton from our troop were recognized with the District Award of Merit. Troop 209 was also recognized by the FOS for achieving the "Platinum" level in contributions.

Near Term Events

- March 20-22nd the district will hold its Spring Camporee at the Hillman Ranch near Oracle AZ. The troop has been registered for the event. We will hold a planning meeting on March 16th to discuss drivers, adults attending, and food for the weekend.
- March 28th there will be a Scout Expos at Reid Park. The scouts need to decide whether or not they would like to participate. There is a registration form that needs to be filled out and is on the Council website. Jim Tarleton, Barbara Pieper, and John Longhofer will be attending. This would be an excellent recruiting opportunity since a number of cub scouts will be attending. The Council will be holding the Pinewood Derby finals there as well. A suggestion from the committee was the possibility of using the trebuchet's that were used this past fall by the troop at Double V. Minor repairs are needed, however, and some safety precautions would need to be strictly enforced. This item was left for the scouts to decide on whether to participate.
- March 23rd the troop will hold a New Parents Orientation. Blake Kelly and Barbara Pieper, along with Joe Vaskovic, will present information about Troop 209.
- April 4th the troop hike up Picacho Peak. This has become a regular event on the troop's calendar and affords the scouts with a short, challenging, and spectacular hike on a nearby landmark.

Future Events

- April 13th the troop will hold a Merit Badge Councilor Orientation class for adults interested in becoming a merit badge councilor for the troop.
- April 17-19th is a Rucker Canyon campout for the troop. Rucker Canyon is located in the southwest of the state in the Chiricahua Mountains about 2 ½ hours away. There is an 18 mile dirt road to the camp that is drivable by car. It has been a couple of years since the troop has been to this campsite. The camp has been reserved. Scouts will be able to go on a 2 mile hike to Fort Rucker and be able to practice their navigational skills with a compass. The troop will be looking for an adult to drive the supply trailer to camp.
- June 21-27th will be the dates for Summer Camp this year for Troop 209. Camp will be held at Camp Lawton and the troop has reserved a campsite for the week. Kim Ogden has volunteered to assist the organization of the camp and we will be getting together cost information. Initial information is that it is \$180 per scout, minus a 10% discount, and that is due March 31st. More information will become available to the troop in the next week or so. We are also looking for adults to serve as assistant scoutmasters for summer camp.
- July 19th-25th the Council will hold Pimaree XXII at Camp Lawton. This event is a joint scouting event with scouts from Mexico that affords the opportunity to share scouting culture and traditions. The application is available on the Council website.

Scoutmaster Update

- Mike Knutson said that there were 48 scouts in attendance for this Monday's meeting and that this was a record!
- Welcome to all new scouts and adults to Troop 209!!! The following info was passed on:
 - Troop 209 Handbook is available on-line at www.aztroop209.org
 - Scouts will need a permission slip filled out and submitted to the group leader for activities off-site from SEAS. This is available in the handbook and on-line.
 - A new medical form is available on-line. This is needed for the scouts to participate in events as well as participation in high adventure activities. In short, these are the parts of the forms and who fills them out:
 - Parts A and C can be filled out by the parents, replaces old Class I and II
 - Part B is filled out by a doctor, replaces Class III. This part is needed to be filled out for high adventure activities.Dave Ammons has been collecting the forms for the troop. A good time to get the doctor's signature is at the physicals for school.
- Lake Apache campout will be held May 15-17 instead of Memorial weekend. Dave Ammons said he would look into reserving the camp for that weekend.
- Scouts will need parts A and C of the medical form filled out and submitted to the troop if they will be attending the Spring Camporee.
- July 13th -18th are the dates for Polaris, a youth leadership training camp. The event will be held at Camp Lawton. See scout Max Jimenez for more information.

Subcommittees

Jim Tarleton gave an update on adult training:

- Troop 209 is up to date with BSA Youth Protection Training for the registered adults. All new registered adults will need to complete the BSA training within 90 days of submitting their application. This training is available on-line at <http://www.catalinacouncil.org/training/index.html> and a click on Boy Scout Leaders.
- 52% of the adults are trained for their position within the troop which is a big improvement over a recent check.
- Troop records are being reconciled with Council records regarding adult training
- Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton (SEAS) youth protection training needs to be addressed. Steve Bersack suggested talking to Robert Cavazos, from SEAS, who is a trained instructor. Along with the SEAS training, fingerprinting will need to be done. SEAS requires both BSA and SEAS youth protection training for any adults involved in youth ministry at the church. Joe Vaskovic said he will contact Robert.

Ernie Vigil gave an update a treasure's report update

- New scouts need to pay dues and registration. Dues are \$40/6 months or \$80 a year. Registration is \$10 for new scouts or \$1 for transfer from Webelos. The dues are pro-rated so now we will be collecting \$20 for this current half a year.
- Joe Vaskovic mentioned that dues are collected in August and in December at the time of recharter for the troop. New scouts will need to now pay for their first half of the year's dues.

Merit badge opportunities

- Currently there are a number of merit badges being overseen by councilors: Personal Fitness, Family Life, Environmental Science, Fly Fishing, Cycling, Astronomy, and Automotive.
 - Cooking will be overseen by Shannon Marty and First-Aid will be offered by Christopher Pena and both have had e-mails sent out asking for a show of interest.

Fundraising

- Dan Malone wanted the new parents to know that Popcorn Sales are the troop's major funding source. This fundraiser is a fall event and is the large source of scout's money for events throughout the year. Summer camp, for example, can be paid for out of a scout account.
 - Each scout, upon registration to the troop, gets a savings account that they can contribute money to for use during the year.

Polo Shirts

- Barbara Pieper brought in the polo shirts that had been ordered by the troop. The cost was \$19.95. No extras were ordered. Another order may be placed if there is interest. Barbara requested reimbursement from the troop for \$70 she contributed to the initial order set-up and the troop committee approved her request.

Additional Discussion Items

The following are adult training classes (Especially for helping with Summer Camp!):

- Outdoor Scout Leadership Training – March 13-14th, Double V (Friday night thru 6:00 PM Saturday) Call 648-9907 John Pevear for more info.
- Scoutmaster Specific Training – April 21st 6:00 or 6:30 for the first half of training, April 28th at 6:00 or 6:30 for the second half of the training.

Both are needed if you are considering serving as an assistant scoutmaster for the troop. In addition for you to formally become an assistant scoutmaster, an application form needs to be filled out. Adults interested in helping out with Summer Camp are encouraged to attend these training sessions.

The Troop 209 Handbook was discussed regarding the need for updates to out of date materials. Evelyn Bersack volunteered review the handbook and “flag” sections for revisions.