



TROOP 209 CATALINA COUNCIL, TUCSON, ARIZONA



Committee Meeting Notes March 30, 2009

The following are highlights from the Committee Meeting held for Troop 209 on March 30, 2009 at SEAS:

Event Debriefs

- March 20 – 22nd Spring Camporee held went well. There were over 300 adults and scouts out near Oracle for the Camporee. The older patrol placed 3rd overall in competitions and received a 3rd place in cooking. One casualty was the troop's EZ-Up which was damaged by some wind but was repaired using parts from another broken one the troop has. A big hit was a demonstration by the Pinal County Canine team. Scouts enjoyed a camp fire, rifle shooting, skeet shooting, and several events involving throwing Native American weapons.
- March 28th the Scout Expos was held at Reid Park. Barbara Pieper and Jim Tarleton attended as well as our scouts Kyle Pieper and Patrick Bersack.
- March 28th James Knutson worked on his Eagle Scout project at the Dove of Peace church on Rollercoaster Road off of Oracle Road. A number of scouts attended to help reset brick pavers and paint walls in a courtyard at the church.
- March 29th Troop 209 scouts went to Rocks and Ropes to practice their climbing skills. John Longhofer organized the event. We had 9 scouts and 7 adults there. At least one scout, Patrick Bersack, completed some requirements of his Climbing merit badge.

Near Term Events

- March 31st is the last day that you can pay the \$162 fee for summer camp. You can still sign up after this, but it will cost \$171 till May 1st. This year the troop will be attending the summer camp held at Camp Lawton on June 21st thru June 27th. Here are some of the details:
 - 29 scouts are currently signed up
 - A committee of Dan Malone, Dave Tast, Harry Contrades, Mike Gay, Greg and Kim Ogden and Chris Pena has been formed. Dan Malone will serve as the Assistant Scoutmaster attending the camp.
 - A preliminary roster and fee will be turned in by April 1st for those signed up and paid the \$162. A listing of merit badges the scouts will be interested in will also need to be included.
 - Greg Ogden will be turning in the roster and fee.
 - Mike Gay will be coordinating the merit badge sign-ups.
 - An e-mail will be sent to parents and scouts asking for them to list their choices.
 - Some merit badges, such as Climbing, have age restrictions.
 - The troop will not be advancing any summer camp fee for scouts.
 - Scouts will need medical forms Parts A, B, & C turned in.

- The troop needs to know what medications any of the scouts attending summer camp need.
- Copies of the front and back of Health Insurance Cards are needed.
- Financial Aid forms were passed out and Evelyn Bersack will post a copy of the form on the troop's website (aztroop209.org). This form can also be used for uniforms and handbooks that are available through Council.
- April 4th there will be a hike to Picacho Peak. Picacho Peak is located north of Marana on the west side of I-10 and is one of the landmarks between Tucson and Phoenix. For the hike:
 - Meet at SEAS at 6:45 and be ready to leave at 7:00.
 - A drivers list was circulated in Committee by Chris Pendleton and an attendance list was made by the scouts. 22 scouts signed up tonight.
 - Chris Pendleton will obtain the permit.
 - Mike Gay, Chris Thomas, and George Horton will supervise the hike..
 - For the hike, please bring:
 - Water, preferably in a hydration pack.
 - Lunch for eating at the top
 - Good shoes for hiking. Sneakers not recommended.
 - Work gloves. They help with climbing the cables in steep sections
 - Sunscreen
 - Hiking sticks are not recommended.
 - It takes about 45 minutes to drive from SEAS to Picacho Peak. The scouts can expect to return shortly after noon or early afternoon.
- April 13th, Blake Kelly will hold a Merit Badge Councilor Orientation. This class provides an overview of guidelines that are needed to oversee scouts working towards a particular merit badge. You do get credit for adult training and you will be issued a card upon completion of the course.
- April 18th, the Knights of Columbus could use help cleaning up from a Rummage Sale they will be having at SEAS. Scouts can stop by at SEAS on Saturday, April 18th, at 11:00 to lend a hand.
- April 17th thru 19th will be a Troop 209 campout at Rucker Canyon. The camp has been reserved. The troop will hold a planning meeting on April 13th to discuss the details such as leaders, drivers, permit, food/cooking, and activities.
- April 21st and 28th Indoor Scoutmaster Training will be held at Christ the King church located on Ina Road. This is a two-part training class and will be held in the evening between 6:30-9 PM. Please contact the Council rosemary@catalinacouncil.org in advance to sign up.
 - This training, as well as the Outdoor Scoutmaster Training, is recommended for leaders attending summer camp. An Outdoor Scoutmaster Training class may be available in May. Contact Catalina Council with inquiries.

Future Events

- April 27th – Spring Court of Honor. Troop 209 will hold its Spring Court of Honor on at SEAS on that Monday Evening. Here is what was discussed:
 - Shannon Marty will coordinate the food for the evening.
 - Will need volunteers for clean-up after the ceremony.
 - The Committee suggested scout patrols for this duty.
 - The next two weeks Boards of Review will be held by the troop. Lewis Pieper will compile a list of merit badges/awards by April 20th

- Parents/scouts could review the list to see that we have their advancements recorded.
 - Scouts will need to select a theme for the Court of Honor.
 - Mike Knutson will not be able to attend this event.
 - Will need an Assistant Scoutmaster to help with the organization.
 - Scouts will need to work on a script.
- May 15th – 17th Lake Apache – Dave Ammons said that Lake Apache doesn't take reservations for camping and it is first come, first serve.
 - Dave will be going up on Thursday, the 14th to stake out a site.
 - 12 canoes have been reserved from the Council and the troop has 2.
 - 3 trailers will need to be towed: Scout trailer and 2 canoe trailers.
 - The canoe trailers are kept at Double V.
 - Need drivers able to tow the trailers.
 - Dan Malone offered the use of his truck as an option.
- July 13-18 Polaris will be held at Camp Lawton. This is a youth leadership camp. Scouts need to sign up through the Council. Scouts usually need to be 12 years old, at least a 1st Class rank, and have Mike Knutson sign-off on the scout.
- July 19-25th Pimaree will be held at Camp Lawton. This event is held every other year between the USA and Mexico and is a great opportunity to meet scouts from Mexico. Barbara Pieper had a flyer and it can be found at: http://www.catalinacouncil.org/camping/PIMAREE_XXII_Registration_Forms.pdf

Scoutmaster Update

- Mike Knutson gave the following update at the meeting:
 - Gave an update regarding the Camporee and those comments are mentioned up above in the discussion about Event Debriefs
 - Adults are encouraged to attend the Indoor Scoutmaster Training being held on April 21st and 28th.
 - 43 scouts were in attendance at the meeting this Monday night.
 - May 2nd the troop will hold a swim test at Double V. Dave Ammons will check reservations.
 - September 4-7th campout will be held at Quemado Lake, New Mexico, east of Show Low. A site has been reserved. This is the traditional Labor Day planning camp.
 - New scouts are encouraged to talk to Mike regarding their scout badge. This is in preparation for their board of review. Full Class A uniforms are needed for the board of review meeting.
 - Mike said he will put our troop into the lottery for Northern Tier, a high adventure camp in Minnesota, for the summer of 2010. There are three high adventure camps available for scouts: Northern Tier, Sea Base (Key West, Florida), and Philmont (New Mexico). Due date is April 1 for the lottery. Costs will be about \$50/day fee plus transportation (air fare, rental cars) and that it will be more expensive than a Philmont camp.
 - Troop 209 went to Sea Base last summer and to Philmont the summer before. This year, scouts will be going to Cavalcade, a special camp at Philmont.
 - Northern Tier may conflict with the National Scout Jamboree scheduled for the summer of 2010.
- Ed Madson mentioned that his older son attended Northern Tier and could be a source of information to the troop.

Subcommittees

- Updates to the Troop 209 handbook were discussed. Evelyn Bersack has reviewed the document and e-mailed an edited copy to Joe Vaskovic. Joe then e-mailed the copy to all registered adults requesting comments on the edits.
 - A separate meeting from a Committee meeting will be held to discuss the edits and comments. Once that is held, the Committee could then formally approve changes to the document.
- Adult education was discussed:
 - Joe Vaskovic e-mailed a list of adults active within the troop to SEAS and has been in e-mail discussions with Robert Cavazos. Robert said that he would be able to present the SEAS youth protection training to the troop. We will likely need more than one session since the listing is near 30 people. SEAS requires all adults active within ministries of the church to have this training.
 - There is a first time background check fee that will need to be paid by the adults. The cost is \$13 for continuous residents of Arizona for the past 5 years, and \$24.99 if they had resided in another state.
 - We will keep you posted on dates/times that the training gets scheduled.
 - Jim Tarleton expressed that we are nearly 100% trained for adults regarding BSA youth protection training. New registered adults must complete this training within 90 days of registration and it is available on-line through the Catalina Council website. <http://olc.scouting.org/>
 - Jim mentioned that “This is Scouting” replaces “New Leadership Essentials” in the adult training.
 - Jim encouraged active adults to take the Wood Badge training. It is scheduled for the fall, October 10-12th and 24-26th at the Double V Campground. The application is available at: http://catalinacouncil.org/WOOD_%20BADGE_%20Flyer_%202008.pdf
- 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.
 - Dan Malone will hold a bike ride on Saturday, April 4th beginning at 9:30 and starting from Ironwood Ridge High School located west of La Cholla Blvd on Naranja. A 10 mile ride is planned with an extended option to 15 miles offered.
 - Cooking will be delayed until August
 - First Aid will begin in the near future. We have a list of interested scouts and Christopher Pena offered to oversee this merit badge.
 - Barbara will be starting Dog Care next Monday, April 6th. Sessions will begin at 6:30 and will continue for the next two months. You need a pet dog (or have access to one!) to be able to complete some of the requirements.
- Barbara Pieper is again taking orders for Troop 209 polo shirts. The cost is \$19.95.