



TROOP 209 CATALINA COUNCIL, TUCSON, ARIZONA



Committee Meeting Notes September 21, 2009

The following are highlights from the Committee Meeting held for Troop 209 on September 21, 2009 at SEAS:

Event Debriefs

- 8/30 Court of Honor at Double V – Troop 209 held their summer Court of Honor at the Double V scout campground. Swimming was scheduled from 2-4:30 followed by dinner and the ceremony. Comments from the committee included that it was too hot, the only ones who swam were those needing to satisfy some of their merit badge requirements, it was a long day, there wasn't enough meat for the main dish at dinner, and it would have been better if there were servers at the buffet. Outside these comments, there was a good turnout by the troop.
- Popcorn Sales Update: Carol Dusek reported that the first weekend the scouts sold over \$3500 for the show-and-sells and that there was a total of over \$6200 including this past weekend, but not including donations. Carol will be scheduling additional show-and-sells this coming weekend and had sign-up sheets available at the meeting. A request was made for her to e-mail a list of available show-and-sell locations, times, and scouts that were signed up. Carol also mentioned that she can arrange show-and-sells at any of the Walgreen stores. All you have to do is tell her when and where you would like to sell and she will add it to the schedule. Regarding the Walgreen show-and-sells, Carol requested that you arrange the pick-up and drop-off of popcorn with her.

Carol talked about the way popcorn show-and-sell profits were going to be distributed among the participating scouts. It will be distributed similar to the way it has been done by the troop in the past with the money being pooled and distributed to the scouts based on the hours that they sold popcorn.

- 9/3 Troop Assistance with Pack 261 at Quail Run Elementary School – Pete Pederson reported that Tyler Allison and Chris Pederson went to Pack 261 to help supervise the cub scouts and that the Pack was very appreciative of the work that they did there. They spent time from 6-8:30 with the Pack.
- 9/4-9/6 Planning Camp, Quemado Lake, NM – Troop 209 went spent Labor Day weekend at Quemado Lake, NM, to work on their canoeing merit badges and to plan the troop's event calendar for 2009-2010. There was quite a bit of rain over that weekend and the scouts had only a few hours on the lake. The water level in the lake was down and there were large areas of shallow water making it difficult to canoe. Comments regarding the trip included: it was too far for what was accomplished, great campsite, successful at planning the upcoming year, and good food for the adults. *There was another comment regarding fishing at the lake. Since it was out of State, many people did not want to spend extra*

money on the fishing license to go fishing. If it was held in Arizona (on public land) this would not be an issue and there would be more adults and scouts enjoying this other activity. David Tetrault reported that he had a conversation with an elderly couple that were the caretakers for the camping areas. That couple remarked that in their 12 years at the campground, the troop was the best group at the campground and that they had never seen the place left so clean from such a large group! They would welcome the Troop back anytime! Those adults at the campout did say that they would go back to Quemado Lake again, but to check the water level prior to going.

- 9/19 Wasson Peak Hike – Troop 209 went to Wasson Peak in the Tucson Mountains this past Saturday and hiked the Kings Canyon Trail nearly 7 miles to the summit and back. Comments from the hike included: it was a nice hike, too hot, better to schedule this hike later in the fall or winter, and nearly everyone ran out of water. There was one Webelo from Pack 209 who joined the troop on the hike and there were also several adults along on the hike with the scouts. Mike Gay asked that the permission slips be distributed to the drivers. There was an instance where one scout didn't know their family's new telephone number and couldn't call the parent on the return trip. Fortunately, the scout had a brother in the troop who had called the parent and the parent was at SEAS when the troop arrived back from the hike.

Near Term Events

- 10/12 Columbus Day – No Meeting. Cary Kelly wondered if there should be a meeting on this day since it is the Monday prior to the Fall Camporee. The scouts typically make their plans for campouts the Monday before their event. A comment was made to do the planning on the prior Monday, October 5th. There wasn't a resolution to hold a meeting on the 12th, but that the scouts would need to decide if they wanted to meet on the 12th.
- 10/16 Fall Camporee – The Council's fall camporee will be held October 16th to 18th at Willow Springs Ranch, just south of Oracle, AZ. Packets are available on the Council's website. The troop will need to sign-up and put together their patrols for the competitions. This year there are plans to hold an event on Friday night in the dark.

Future Events

- 11/1 Scout Olympics – Barbara Pieper requested the help from scouts for this annual event that she has arranged for cub scouts. The Scout Olympics will be held at the Harelson Elementary School on Chapala Drive from 11 – 3. This is a great opportunity for the Troop to interact and have fun with the cub scouts.
- 11/13-15 or 11/20-22 Mt. Wrightson Backpacking – The troop anticipates holding a backpacking weekend in November on either of two weekends. Mt. Wrightson is the highest peak in the Santa Rita Mountains south of Tucson, just south of Green Valley and near Madera Canyon. The plan is to pick a weekend and have two backpacking hikes, one shorter one for the younger scouts and one longer one for the older scouts.

Scoutmaster Update

- Mike Knutson gave the following update at the meeting:

- Mike also said that the Quemado Lake campout was a good campout with the troop getting their planning done. It was wet and there wasn't much time for canoeing, but there was great food!
- The troop has a chance to have 3 crews go to Northern Tier next summer. Ernie Vigil is collecting down payment and the second installment was due tonight with the amount being \$125 per person. Mike said that the planning needs to start soon with those going on the adventure needing to discuss travel plans and details of the trip. There were a couple of questions from the committee. One was regarding the trip to Northern Tier and Mike said that each crew will likely be on their own route and that route would be decided when the crews arrive at the base camp there. Everyone going to Northern Tier, however, could travel from Tucson to Minnesota together. Another question was regarding requirements and Mike said that the scouts will need their canoeing merit badge and that Class III physicals will be needed for all participants.
- Mike talked briefly about the event calendar for 2009-2010. Most of it is in place but there may be some adjustments needed. One concern he had was a shooting campout scheduled next June for Tombstone which will likely be very, very hot.
- Next year's summer camp was discussed. The scouts had two choices with a preference for Camp Lawton and their second choice Camp Emerson near Palm Springs, CA. The scouts said if the committee wanted the scouts to go to Camp Emerson, they were OK with that. The scouts reasoning for Camp Lawton was that there are other events next summer that will cost money/time such as Northern Tier (6/26-7/2) and the National Jamboree (last week July- beginning of August) that they wanted to have a camp that was close by and convenient. The committee discussed that Camp Lawton would be OK this year, given the other events and the likelihood that scouts may want to participate in more than one of these events. Scheduling for summer camp was discussed with June 13-19th being selected. This date does not conflict with any of the other scout events and it might be a drier camp with these dates falling before the usual monsoon rains. Barbara Pieper offered to check the availability of these dates with the Council and to also see what campsites were available.

Subcommittees

- For a treasures report, Ernie Vigil briefly mentioned that the troop had collected over \$6200 dollars so far for the two weekends of popcorn show-and-sells. He was also collecting money for Northern Tier deposits.
- Several comments were made regarding the need for the troop to replace a couple of the tents. At the Quemado Lake campouts, at least two of the tents had broken zippers.
- Barbara Pieper talked about Webelos Transition. She mentioned the following event for targeting the troop's involvement with webelos: Scout Olympics, Pin Clinic, invite to December Court of Honor, Parker Canyon Campout.
- Jim Tarleton reviewed the available on-line training for committee adults: Youth Protection, This is Scouting, and Troop Committee Challenge. These three courses are needed for those serving on the troop's committee. John Longhofer mentioned that there is scoutmaster and assistant scoutmaster outdoor

leadership training this coming weekend at Double V. The event begins Friday night and ends Saturday afternoon.

- Merit badges that are currently being overseen by adults in the troop and need to be completed by the scouts include: Fly Fishing, Cycling, and Canoeing. There was a request for a list of incomplete merit badges by the scouts of the troop so that the committee can see if a number of scouts are missing requirements for one or more badges. The troop could then see if someone could supervise these scouts and assist them in completing their badges.
- A request was made to follow-up on the Uniformed Adults Subcommittee. This item has been on the agenda since June 2009 and there doesn't seem to be any progress. This subcommittee was to discuss ways of mentoring the scouts with the possibility of an adult assigned to a patrol to help with planning campouts, for example. It was noted that at the Quemado Lake campout, some of the scout meals were not too well planned out.

Other Topics

- Todd Wickizer presented the 2009-2010 event calendar to the committee and the following events were noted:
 - December pin clinic move from 12/5 to 12/12 to allow for scouts to attend an Order of the Arrow event on the 5th. Joe Vaskovic to contact SEAS regarding the availability of the date.
 - January will have the traditional Parker Canyon campout and Webelos invite.
 - February will have a winter survivor camp either at Camp Lawton or Zion National Park, Utah.
 - March has a Table Top Trail Hike. The location is 45 min- 1 hr from Tucson.
 - April will have a fly fishing campout. The dates need to get moved from the 4th, which is Easter. The location will need to be reviewed. Initially, the selected spot was Roosevelt Lake, but the water levels might not be suitable. Pete Pederson suggested somewhere near Showlow.
 - May has a Picacho Peak hike and Family Camp
 - June has a shooting camp in Tombstone, but the location may change based on Mike Knutson's comments.
 - July has a lock-in the last weekend
 - August has a Kitt Peak campout. The scouts would like to have a merit badge councilor for the Astronomy Merit badge available for this.
 - September there will be a planning camp at Lyman Lake.
 - October will have the Wasson Peak hike
 - November the troop would like to do a Grand Canyon hike/campout.
- There was a request for Den Chiefs for nearby cub scout packs. Pack 261 and Pack 209 requested help from the boy scouts. Scouts need to take the on-line class for Den Chief Training. A Den Chief is a leadership position and counts towards advancement. Pack 209 meets one or two Friday's a month at SEAS. Pete Pederson will provide the Pack 261 schedule.