



TROOP 209 CATALINA COUNCIL, TUCSON, ARIZONA



Committee Meeting Notes November 16, 2009

The following are highlights from the Committee Meeting held for Troop 209 on November 16, 2009 at SEAS:

Event Debriefs

- 10/24 Merit Badge College – A merit badge college was held at the LDS Northstake Center on Chapala Drive for scouts. There were over 100 scouts in attendance and they worked on several merit badges. Reports were that the classes were well organized and well attended. Several Troop 209 scouts attended the event.

*Another merit badge college is planned for **Saturday, February 20th** at Raytheon. Scouts will need to sign up **(via Catalina Council)** between ~~Thanksgiving and Christmas~~ **and Feb 1**. ~~Some~~ **The four** of the merit badges planned to be offered include: **Electronics, Engineer, Space Exploration, and Radio**. *ID's will be required to enter the plant. ~~An Open House for Raytheon is also being planned for that day. More info will becoming available distributed by Catalina Council near Christmas.~~**

- 11/1 Scout Olympics – A Scout Olympics was held at Harelson Elementary School for Webelos. Troop 209 had 13 scouts helping out at the event and each will receive credit as a service project. There was a good turnout from the Webelos. Barbara Pieper organizes the annual event and submitted a photo to Council for publication in the Frontiersman.
- 11/8 Putt Put Golf Service Project – Scouts had an opportunity to help out a mini-golf tournament held at Golf N'Stuff on Tanque Verde Road. The tournament started at 1:30 PM with the scouts being asked to keep scores of the participants on the various holes. Lunch was provided and scouts were able to play games at the center before the event. Joyce Contrades will be providing a roster of the scouts that attended.
- 11/7 Anza Trek – A hike of nearly 5 miles was held on the Anza Trail. This annual hike was attended by over 400 scouts and adults. Adam Contrades and Nathan Malis hiked the trail, participated in a mini-service project, and camped out overnight. With the campout, they qualified for a National Historic Trail patch.
- 11/9 Merit Badge Councilor Training – Dave Tast held a merit badge councilor training session for the troop. He had prepared a powerpoint presentation and reviewed the responsibilities required by a councilor. Turnout was low, but one adult did complete the training.

A Northern Tier planning meeting was also held this evening. Irene Calis will be helping on the transportation arrangements and John Longhofer will be covering the adult training requirements such as First-aid. In January, Ed Madson's son will be able to visit the troop and fill us in on Northern Tier. He had spent some time at the camp.

- 11/11 Knights of Columbus Veterans Dinner – Troop 209 had 13-15 scouts help out the Knights at their annual Veterans Dinner held last Wednesday at SEAS. Louis Pieper made a suggestion about the possibility of the scouts marching in the downtown parade next year. This topic will be forwarded to the scout for consideration.
- 11/12 Catalina Council Open House – An Open House was held at the Christ the King Church near Ina Rd/Shannon Rd this past Thursday at a time that the Roundtable sessions are normally held. The open house event gives Webelo scouts in the Council an opportunity to visit several troops and gives the troops a chance to show off their programs. A lot of visitors came to the open house and we had 3 Webelos visit the troop this Monday from that event. Troop 209 had a slide show, flyers for the Pin Clinic and Parker Canyon Campout as well as a brochure containing an overview of the troop. We had several adults and scouts man the table for the night.
- Popcorn Wrap-Up – Popcorn sales for the troop have finished and the tally is in. The troop sold over \$20,000! This was more than double last years total. Special thanks to Carol Dusek and her organization, persistence and perseverance in overseeing the fundraiser for this year. Added thanks to Jeffery Young and Ann Pena who helped Carol as well as to the scouts and parents who participated. Carol provided Ernie Vigil with a breakdown of the sales per scout and the amount to be credited to their account.

Near Term Events

- 11/21-22 – Backpacking Trip – Mike Knutson told the committee of a last minute change in plans for the backpacking trip planned for Mt. Wrightson. He found that there weren't any guarantees for water available along the trails where the hike was planned so an alternative was chosen. Scouts will now be going to Mt. Lemmon and hiking a point-to-point hike. They will start near Camp Lawton and hike to Hutches Pool for an overnight. Sunday morning, the scouts will hike on to Sabino Canyon. Scouts will meet at SEAS at 5:30 AM, Saturday November 21st and depart at 6:00 AM. The normal Friday night departure was shifted to Saturday morning to avoid a night hike to camp for the younger scouts. The early time was chosen to get the scouts on the trail early and to avoid travel delays anticipated from the El Tour bicycle event. The scouts will be separated into two groups with older scouts blazing the trail for the younger ones. Mike Knutson, Blake Kelly, Dave Tast, and David Tetrault were among the adults going on the hike. Scouts have been preparing for the trip the past couple of weeks with backpack checks. Those not able to have had their packs checked were told that they could go to Mr. Knutson's house to get that done prior to the hike. We had 22 scouts signed up for the trip. Shuttle and pick-ups were discussed at the committee meeting with Mike having enough drivers to transport

the scouts. Robert Malis is available with a pick-up truck to help with the shuttle and transport packs.

- 12/12-13 Pin Clinic and Lock-in – The upcoming pin clinic and lock-in was discussed. This event is held by the troop to provide an opportunity to help Webelos with their pin requirements, give them a chance to interact with the troop, and get them thinking about joining up with the troop after their crossover. Scouts helping out in either the morning session or afternoon session will be able to participate in an overnight “lock-in” where they can bring in their games and videos and hang-out till Sunday morning. The event will be held at Beautiful Savior Academy on Thornydale Road, north of Ina Road and sessions for Readyman, Artist, Showman, Communicator, and Arrow of Light will be supervised. Robert Malis volunteered to oversee the planning of the event. Details needing to be worked out include: getting adult sign-ups for supervision, getting certificates of completion of the pins for the Webelos, arranging the menu and food pick-up, arranging the food preparation, and food arrangements for the lock-in for the boy scouts following the pin clinic. Foods discussed include: hotdogs, chips, and cookies for the Webelos and pizza for the boy scouts.

Mike Gay mentioned that there is a food drive going on for the Council similar to last year. He inquired if the troop was interested in participating, similar to last year; with scouts/adults bringing food to the Pin-Clinic. This is a variation of the way the drive was planned, but gives the troop a convenient way of participating. The committee thought this was a good idea and we will publicize this at upcoming meetings. Mike said that he can then take the food to one of the drop off points.

- Recharter, Dues/Registration Collection – Troop 209 is in the process of the annual recharter and needs dues and registration collected for each scout and adult registered with the troop. Fees include: \$40 dues (6 months) per scout, \$16 registration per scout and per adult, \$12 Boys Life subscription, and \$10 Order of the Arrow dues per scout if they are an OA member. There is a maximum \$100 for dues per family per year. Recharter is requested by the Council to be completed in early December 2009. Joe Vaskovic has scheduled a meeting with the Knights of Columbus on November 23rd to review their coordination with the troop.

Congratulations to Harry Contrades as the new Knight’s representative to the troop. Max Jimenez will continue as a liaison between the Knights and the troop.

- Honey Baked Ham Fundraiser – Barbara Pieper has forms for this fundraiser that sells certificates that can be used for purchase of Honey Baked Hams. Scouts selling the certificates get a portion of the sales and these funds go to their scout account.
- Christmas tree sales – Last year the troop participated in the sale of Christmas trees by the northwest YMCA at Magee/Shannon. Scouts helped trim/load trees that were purchased. We didn’t earn that much money since a planned order wasn’t placed. Overall, though, parents and scouts had a fun time and asked if

they we could participate in the program again this year. Dave Tast is in communication with Lisa Powell, one of the organizers, and will provide further details as they become available.

- Reservations for 2010 Campouts – Dave Ammons said that reservations were made for January’s Parker Canyon campout. He did raise some concerns about events planned for April, May, and June. An April campout planned at Apache Lake may have the water too cold for the troop and the sites for the Family Camp for May and Shooting Camp in June need to be selected. A number of locations need considerable lead time to lock in a reservation and we may be limited if the locations are selected soon. Joe Vaskovic suggested that the scouts discuss where they would like to hold these events at next week’s scout meeting.

Future Events

- 12/21 Court of Honor – The upcoming Court of Honor was discussed. Barbara Pieper suggested a theme of “Home for the Holiday’s” and volunteered to oversee some of the planning of the event. A menu of turkey and ham was suggested and that those attending could bring side dishes that went along with this. An estimate of 150 people could be attending the event with plans on offering an invitation to Webelos.

A gift exchange occurring on that evening was discussed and the committee agreed to follow our recent practice of those bringing a gift to exchange getting a chance to receive a gift. Names would be drawn to pick a gift and you could pick a gift previously picked by someone else. Barbara said that she could supply gifts that would be given to the Webelos who attended the ceremony.

- Spring Camporee – Robert Malis is the troop’s chairman for organizing the preparation for the Spring Camporee planned for March 26th- 28th at Double V Campground. There are currently 13 different troops participating in the planning. Troop 209 would likely be responsible for registration and planning of activities at the campfire and the other troops would be running the other events. Camporee planning meetings will be scheduled on Monday evenings and be held at SEAS. The first planning meeting, however, hadn’t yet been set.
- Wilderness First Aid – John Longhofer was arranging wilderness first-aid training for adults and scouts for the troop and council and is currently planning 2/13 and 2/20 for this. Wilderness first aid is a two day class with 8 hours each day. CPR is not included, but can be added which results in two 10 hour days.

Scoutmaster Update

Mike Knutson provided the update to the coming weekend’s backpacking trip, discussed the Pin Clinic/Lock-in, and said that reservations were made for the Parker Canyon Campout.

Subcommittees

The committee meeting was running a little long this evening. Only brief mention was made of the following:

- **Treasurer's Report:** Ernie Vigil stated that only a few people have turned in dues/registration. He reminded everyone that the funds can be transferred from the scout accounts to make the payment. Also, funds from popcorn sales were added to the scout accounts. Ernie passed out a balance sheet of the troop's account as well as a summary of funds in individual scout accounts.
- **Webelos Transition:** The recent Council Open House, our upcoming Pin Clinic, an invite to Webelos to our Court of Honor, and invitation for them to join us on the Parker Canyon Campout all are aimed at giving Webelos the opportunity to experience and get to know our troop. The troop uses these activities to attract new scouts from the Webelos rank.
- **Adult Training:** Mention was made of the available on-line training for Youth Protection and Troop Committee Challenge. Joe Vaskovic needs to follow-up on this past spring's SEAS Youth Protection Training. All new registered adults need to pass the BSA Youth Protection Training soon after becoming registered.
- **Merit Badge Opportunities:** The troop offered opportunities for the Fly Fishing, Cycling, and Canoeing merit badges. Some requirements of these badges still need to be completed by scouts.

There was a brief discussion on merit badges. Merit badges need to be followed up upon by the scout rather than having the merit badge councilor checking up on the scout for completion of a badge. In cases such as the Fly Fishing, Cycling, and Canoeing merit badges, the troop offered supervision of these through the initiative of the councilor and they oversaw some of the requirements either during the course of the troop's outdoor activities or prior to the Monday meeting. If a scout or group of scouts is interested in a particular merit badge, they can contact Dave Tast, our new Merit Badge Councilor chairman.

Next Meeting – December 14th, 2009