

**Troop 53 Parent Committee Meeting
McFarland Lutheran Church
Monday, August 20, 2007**

Present: Jackie Hickey, Janis Lugo, Greg Francis, Mark Birrenkott, Tom Hovel, Christine Weidner, Jeanne Sterken, Robin Roberts, Pat Hare, Joan Hare

Meeting called to order at 6:40 pm

Approval of June 11, 2007 Minutes: Motion made for approval by Jackie; seconded by Mark.

Reports

Scoutmaster Report: Brock Chalmers reported that 11 boys and five adults attended the High Adventure at Boundary Waters. Ten boys attended the summer camp at EBSR. One scout from Troop 628 joined our group.

Woodman Center campout for August 10-12, 2007 was canceled due to not having 2-deep adult leadership. This has been a slow August, which is to be expected.

Tony Lugo-Caruso and Brant Birrenkott attended National Youth Leadership Training for one week at EBSR. They will work on their three goals to earn the NYLT bolo.

Court of Honor coming up this Sunday, August 26 behind McFarland Lutheran Church. If weather is bad, we will move into the church. Troop meetings start on Monday, September 10.

Senior Patrol Leader: Brant Birrenkott reported a lot was done at the planning meeting; we've planned whole year. Canoe trip for August 18 was postponed.

Advancement: Tom reported for Rich Prewett. Jonathan Hare to Tenderfoot. Conley Potter to Second Class. James Hickey and Joshua Hare to First Class. Tom reported that we need new Advancement Chair. Rich Prewett will fill in as necessary. Tom will make announcement at Court of Honor.

Quartermaster Report: Mark reported on replacing some tents. We can buy a couple of used, A-frame, 2-man tents from Philmont. Jeanne will look into cost of tents from LL Bean. Another family is willing to donate another canoe to us. This is a 17-footer, includes paddles, life jackets. Need to just pick this up. Mark reported this will be his last year as Quartermaster; hoping there is another person who wants to step up, and he can groom through this year.

District Roundtable Representative: Popcorn sales information given to Jackie. There is an opportunity for a Wreath sale for Venture Crews. Order of Arrow-Tichora Lodge: Will get more information on opportunity to be runners to people in boxes at Camp Randall.

Pope Pius XII Religious Medal: There will be an informational meeting for scouts and parents on Wednesday night, August 29, 7:00-8:00 p.m. at St. Patrick's Catholic Church Parish Center, 434 N. Main Street, Cottage Grove. You must be a registered Boy Scout of the BSA age 15-17, or a registered Venture member of the BSA age 15-20. An overview of the program will be presented.

Christine is working on the Northern Tier closeout. She and Mark will get together and work on reconciliation of expenses and budget.

Christine reported that she would like to step down as Roundtable Chair.

Old Business

Tom willing to appoint patrol food subcommittee; handling food and payments.

New Business

Approval of 2007 troop calendar. Discussion on having a training session on pancake breakfast during first part of November. Would cover what to do and not to do at pancake breakfast. This would fit in with theme for November which is cooking.

Three Merit Badges offered for the year: Personal Management, Physical fitness, and Communications. Greg Francis has offered to do Personal Management.

Parent Committee wondering why Token Creek campout scheduled for May 16-17, and Pack/Troop campout May 30-June 1 will probably be Token Creek?

Sea Base High Adventure during Spring Break in March is tentative.

Motion by Janis to approve Calendar, seconded by Robin.

Motion carries. 2007 Troop Calendar approved.

Parent Committee will be discussing some minimal requirements (age, rank) for attendance at High Adventures at future meeting.

Dues: Keep at \$45; includes \$15 for Boys Life. Motion by Pat to approve; seconded by Robin.

Pat and Robin presented information on ScoutTrack.com. This is an internet-based service that the Cub Scouts currently use, and would be a supplement to our Troop 53 website. This was set up to help the Cub Scouts with communication issues. Every parent and scout would have ability to log in. Can track advancement progress of the scouts. Would be able to send broadband e-mail messages. Have found this to be well worth it for the Cub Scouts. Cost is \$40 per year for the Troop. Motion by Jackie to approve getting this set up for Boy Scouts; seconded by Robin. Motion carries and is approved. Will announce this at Court of Honor.

Treasurer's Report

Joan to let Mark and Tom know what the balance is in general account. There is \$500-\$600 left on P-cards from the High Adventure; will get credit back.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. Motion made by Jean and seconded by Robin.

Respectfully submitted,
Janis Lugo