

**Soaring Eagle District
District Committee Meeting, LDS Church, 10555 West Road
June 4, 2013**

Attending were Vickie Oehring, Becca Franco, Neal Farmer, Tiffany Riggs, Mike Kapser, Bob Hohne, Laban Marsh, Mark Danheim, Steve Ware, Giff Danheim, Ronna Stonely, Susan Flores, Jim Anderson, Amber Anderson, Claudia Jorgensen, Steve Hargis, Ajey Chandra and Daniel Gildersleeve.

Opening: Welcome and pledge by Neal Farmer.

JOURNEY TO EXCELLENCE

There are 18 metrics in the JtoE, and only a few were mentioned this month.

FINANCE

FRIENDS OF SCOUTING CAMPAIGN – This year's goal is to raise \$78,177, but we are \$19,178 short. In order to reach gold status for District Journey to Excellence, SED must reach the \$78,177 figure. There are plans for call-downs in the works. Some units have not had Friends of Scouting presentations, and will be scheduled.

MEMBERSHIP

There currently are about approximately 1,800 youths being served in Soaring Eagle District within 84 units. The 84 units include a recently added Spanish-speaking Pack and a Spanish-speaking Troop in the Waller Ward of the LDS.

The district's goal for calendar year 2013 is to add 280 youths who have not previously been in Scouts.

MEMBERSHIP TRAINING – There will be a district membership committee formed, which will assist in obtained members on the unit level. There will be training for district membership chairs and their committees at 7 p.m., Wed., July 24 and 7 p.m., Wed., July 31, at the Cockrell Center. Also, SED is looking for a Retention Chairman.

COMMISSIONERS

NEW COMMISSIONER TRAINING – A training session will be from 6-10 p.m. on Thurs., June 20, at the LDS Chapel on West Road at Wheatland. For more information, please e-mail Mark Danheim at mark.danheim@pointsmith.com.

UNIT HEALTH FORMS – The forms were due at the end of May. Please get with your units, as this is an important part of the Journey to Excellence program.

NEW UNIT COMMISSIONER RECRUITING – More commissioners are wanted.

UVTS UPDATE – If you have had problems entering your unit visitation data, please e-mail your information to Mark Danheim and he will input the data for you. Mark's e-mail is mark.danheim@pointsmith.com. We have had a low number of unit visits reported on the computer system.

PROGRAMS

Cub Scout Day Camp is June 11-14 at Cypress Bible Church, 11711 Cypress-North Houston Road 77439. Coordinator Ronna Stonely said that set-up for Day Camp will be at 4 p.m., Mon., June 10, and that many are needed to assist. There will be BB guns and archery at Day Camp, and canopies – including pop-up tents – are needed to shelter participants. For more information, please contact Ronna at gonzimom@juno.com.

BELT LOOP BONANZA – The BLB, which is an event used to recruit new Cub Scouts, is Sept. 21 at St. Timothy's United Methodist Church, 8787 North Houston-Rosslyn, 77088. We plan to include archery and BB guns this year.

SCOUTINGMASTER TRAINING – Bob Steubing has been named the leader of training for Scoutmaster Fundamental Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills. The next outdoor Scoutmaster training will be Sept. 24-26 at New Kentucky Park near Tomball. A second training is tentatively scheduled for Feb. 28-March 2 at the same venue.

GOOD TURN DAILY – Cheryl Moyers has been named chairman of the Good Turn Daily program. All Scouts who are applying for the Eagle rank **MUST** put their service hours on goodturnforamerica.org, and include the certificate as part of the Eagle application. Any person can turn in hours for any service project on the site. You and your unit each will get credit for the service hours, with the unit's hours credited toward the Journey to Excellence program. Projects Also, any SED Scouts or Scouters who record "green" service hours through goodturnforamerica.org can receive a SED patch and ribbon at Roundtables. Those Green service hours can include work at Trash Bash, Earth Day or Arbor Day projects.

WEBELOS-TO-SCOUT EXPO – Save the date: WTSE is Oct. 25 at Bovay Scout Ranch. More to come later.

FIRST AID – The district plans to bring back a district-wide First Aid Meet. A date has yet to be determined. Also, the plan is to have manned First-Aid areas at all district functions this year.

Also, Jersey Village fire chair Mark Bintz wants to increase the number of people involved in the city's Citizen Emergency Response Team. People will be trained in First Aid, which will help when we man our district-wide events.

ORDER OF THE ARROW – The OA has decided to open non-members to activities for a day to expose them to the things that happen in the honor camping group.

CAMPING – Since not all campouts require camping permits, unit leaders are asked to turn in when they are going on campouts at Roundtable, to your unit commissioner or to the district executive. This will allow Scouting to track the number of campouts.

NEW TRAINING ANNOUNCEMENT – It was pointed out that all unit leaders – which means Cubmasters, Scoutmaster and Den Leaders (adults who have contact with kids) – will have to be trained in leader-specific areas in 2013, or the unit will not be able to re-charter in December.

EAGLE SCOUT ASSOCIATION – Sam Houston Area Council has begun a local Eagle Scout Association, with Steve Hargis as the SED representative. That group will have meetings, from which local Eagle Scouts who are not associated with a troop or Pack can attend and offer to assist area units. Merit badge counselors could be obtained from this association. Suggestions included asking Eagle Scouts without a unit to assist with Camporee, and inviting them to the Patron's Dinner fundraiser.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUMMER DISTRICT PICNIC – The summer picnic will be from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. on Sat., July 27, at Bane Park off of West Little York near Gessner. The event will be co-coordinated by Jim and Amber Anderson. Each family is asked to bring a side dish. Hot dogs and buns will be provided, and will be cooked again by Bob Dunn.

Please coordinate through Amber Anderson at amberanderson5190@sbcglobal.net, to make sure there are not too many of the same sides. You also are asked to RSVP to Amber to make sure there is enough food.

The fishing belt loop again will be offered, but you likely will need to bring a fishing pole. Other games include washers, horseshoes, watermelon spitting contest, stomp rockets and door prizes. Also there will be a contest to put rubber bands around a watermelon and see whose rubber band makes the melon explode. Indian dancers from the OA Iron Horse District also will perform. The gates open at 8 a.m., and coordinators will be there to secure spots on the lake for the fishing belt loop. The times for the event are 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

WEBSITE – Please send all updates for the website to the vice chair of your area. Those updates will be funneled through them (i.e. Becca for programs) instead of being sent directly to webmaster Rich Weiser for the website, www.sedbsa.com. Those vice chairs are -- **Programs:** Becca Franco at francob@sbcglobal.net; **Finance:** Wade Bitter at wade.bitter@gmail.com; and **Membership** to Griff Danheim at griff.danheim@sbcglobal.net.

FACEBOOK – The district has a Facebook page, called “**Soaring Eagle District.**” On Facebook, go to that site and ask to be friends, and you will be friended. Immediate information can be found on the Facebook page. Pictures of recent events around the district are being posted on the page.

EXPLORERS – Daniel Gildersleeve, the newly appointed Explorer executive for the North District of SHAC, attended the SED meeting seeking assistance. Daniel is looking for people to assist with Explorers, which is looking for business to base their units out of rather than schools or religious locations. The Explorers can teach boys and girls about law enforcement, fire safety, health care, engineering, architecture and other careers. Harris County Sheriff Adrian Garcia is a proponent. To contact Daniel, call his office at 713-756-3348, or e-mail daniel.gildersleeve@scouting.org.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS NO DISTRICT ROUNDTABLE MEETING IN JUNE OR JULY.

This committee will meet the first Tuesday of each month, except for July. The only district event in July is the annual picnic. Please let me know of any changes, additions or corrections to these minutes, no matter how small or trivial. Sincerely,

- Neal Farmer
- 713-849-9860 – home office
- 713-899-0783 – cell