

**Soaring Eagle District  
District Committee Meeting, LDS Church, 10055 West Road  
Feb. 4, 2014**

**Attending were Vickie Oehring, Neal Farmer, Tiffany Riggs, Laban Marsh, Mark Danheim, Steve Ware, Bobby Hale, Mark Hoffart, Wanda Pinson, Bob Steubing, Robert Ausmus, Mike Kasper, Steve Hargis, Becca Franco and Mike Walker.**

Opening: Welcome, Scout law and pledge by Steve Ware.

Song was by Vickie Oehring.

Prayer by Neal Farmer.

### **FINANCE**

The Friends of Scouting presentations will begin in February, usually at Blue & Banquets Gold banquets or Courts of Honor. Please sign up with Klaus Oehring at [klausoe@gmail.com](mailto:klausoe@gmail.com), and with Tiffany Riggs at [tiffany.riggs@shac.org](mailto:tiffany.riggs@shac.org). It takes about \$200 per kid to run SHAC, but fees bring in only about an average of \$50 per kid. So the rest of the fees have to be raised through Friends of Scouting.

The district will be asked to raise **\$68,947 with Friends of Scouting**, which is approximately \$10,000 under what was asked last year from the Council.

District finance chairman Klaus Oehring wants to have a **Patron's Dinner** in the fall, where we ask business leaders in the Soaring Eagle District geographic area to donate money to the FOS Community fund. The district also has talked about having a **gunshot tournament** as well as a day as **Top Golf** to raise money for the FOS Community fund, as well as create community within the SED units.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Ten units have dropped from Soaring Eagle since 2013, which means we have **74 active units** at this point in 2014.

We still have **39 units with defective re-charters**, which means that those units in danger of losing their charters on March 1.

We will have a **Spring Rally** on May 3 at Foundry United Methodist Church, 8350 Jones Road, where we will try to sign up new Scouts and send them to the unit near their home. We were able to sign up 12 new Scouts at last year's Spring Rally.

Since most principals in Cy-Fair ISD have disallowed Boy Talks during lunches within the schools, we are going to have to rely on other avenues of recruiting Scouts. We can:

- \*Have Scouts wear their uniforms to school on the day of rallies.
- \*Host a booth at Meet the Teacher before school opens, and host a booth at PTO meetings at night.
- \*Have kids wear stickers on their clothing at school the day of rallies.
- \*Have boys run flag ceremonies at their respective schools before school begins.

We did not meet our membership goals last year, and SHAC will give us goals for 2014 around May.

## **COMMISSIONERS**

COMMISSIONERS NEEDED – Vickie Oehring said **more commissioners are needed** for the district. Commissioners are trained to have sage advice for units only after unit leaders request the advice. Vickie can be reached at [vickieoehring@yahoo.com](mailto:vickieoehring@yahoo.com).

Vickie Oehring gave Steve Ware **an appreciation gift** at the District Committee Meeting for having 7 visits in January as an Assistant District Commissioner. SED had 26 visits registered on the UVTS system, and so far in February has had 10 commissioner visits to district units.

If you are having problems registering your visits as a commissioner, please contact Vickie at her e-mail listed above.

**Commissioners will meet** on the second Thursday of each month at the same place as Roundtable – the LDS Chapel at 10555 West Road. Cub Scout and Boy Scout Roundtables will begin at 7 p.m. – which is 30 minutes sooner than Boy Scout Roundtable has previously begun – and will break out from the Roundtables at approximately 7:45 p.m.

## **PROGRAMS**

### **TRAINING**

**University of Scouting** is Sat., Feb. 8, at Ben Davis High School in Aldine, 12525 Ella Blvd near Beltway 8. (This is not Jeff Davis High School in HISD). Every adult on every level of Scout leadership can be trained at this event. To preregister, go to the SHAC website at [www.samhoustonbsa.org](http://www.samhoustonbsa.org). If you make a last-minute decision to attend, you can do so but will need to bring your own lunch and eat off-campus during the noon hour.

**Scoutmaster Fundamentals and Introduction to Outdoor Leader** training will be offered in February. Discussion of changing the date is under review and will be handled by call down, Roundtable announcement and Website/Facebook post. Bob Steubing is the trainer.

DISTRICT DINNER – The awards dinner was very successful, with about 125 people attending. Karen Lade did an excellent job with the decorations, and – among many other things -- made centerpieces that looked like campfires. The centerpieces will be used by some Packs at respective Blue & Gold Banquets. Some could not attend the dinner, and will receive their recognition at the February Roundtable on Feb. 13.

SCOUTING FOR FOOD – The event was successful. Units in the district has been assigned a goal of raising 6,000 pounds of food. SED brought in 11,000 pounds, and four units have yet to report all of their foodstuffs. Tiffany Riggs said that the district could reach 12,000 pounds of food.

Judy Lizzaraga was cited as performing so well on the district level in coordinating the Scouting for Food event – from e-mails, to registering people, sending units to different neighborhoods, to coordinating how to count the food – that she was recognized by Tiffany Riggs for a job well-done. She did so well, that the Council wants to steal her for next year. Contact Judy at [judy@jdmit.com](mailto:judy@jdmit.com) to congratulate her.

FIRST AID MEET – The SED First Aid Meet did not have any participants from the Boy Scouts, so it was used as a warm-up for next year's meet. Coordinator Mike Walker thanks paramedics from Brazos District for attending.

The next First Aid Meet tentatively is for October, and scenarios will be sent to troops to generate excitement to participate. An idea is to have the EMD and Fire Department from the City of Jersey Village to assist, so that more will be involved and more professionals can assist the boys in learning first aid.

The district can send two patrols to the Council First Meet on Feb. 15, and will invite patrols to represent Soaring Eagle District.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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](http://www.sedbsa.com). Those vice chairs are -- **Programs**: Becca Franco at [francob@sbcglobal.net](mailto:francob@sbcglobal.net); **Finance**: Klaus Oehring; and **Membership** to Griff Danheim at [griff.danheim@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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.

ARROW OF LIGHT – The Order of the Arrow put on two very well-run Arrow of Light ceremonies – one on December and one in January – where Webelos II kids crossed over from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts. Photos from the ceremonies are on the District Facebook page: Soaring Eagle District.

CAMPOREE/TRASH BASH – Mike Marquart and Troop 1177 are heading up the SED **Camporee**, which is March 28-30 at Spring Creek Park in Tomball.

Registration materials are available by e-mailing Mike at

[michaelmarquart@yahoo.com](mailto:michaelmarquart@yahoo.com) and on the district website at [www.sedbsa.com](http://www.sedbsa.com).

**Trash Bash** will meet at Bang Elementary School again this year, but is the same Saturday as Camporee. So the older boys who go to Camporee will have a conservation project selected by the park ranger to also participate in the same theme as Trash Bash.

Trash Bash is where people in our geographic area meet at Bang and clean up area waterways, such as White Oak Bayou, and receive a T-shirt and a lunch.

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SED Day Camp – Volunteer Kick-Off meeting was held Feb. 4. More meetings will be scheduled. Watch the SED website and Facebook page for more dates. Ronna Stonely is the Day Camp Director.

WINTER CAMP – 2014 will be the last Winter Camp at Camp Strake. Many anticipate that it will sell out, so be sure to try and sign up early. More information is to come about that camp, which is the week immediately after Christmas. Any Order of the Arrow members eligible for Brotherhood should save the date for a Brotherhood Ceremony, which is during mid-week of winter camp.

THANKS TO DIANA WRIGHT FOR NECKERCHIEFS – Diana Wright is a former Rising Star Award winner and Silver Beaver winner. She continues to sew the Soaring Eagle Award neckerchiefs that she started five years ago. Many thanks to her for the outstanding job on the award recognition scarves.

Thanks to the SED Awards Committee for their work on the program to recognize the volunteers. Special community recognitions were also presented to The Backyard Grill and the Houston Cy-Fair Lions Club.

The Houston Cy-Fair Lions Club recognized the Soaring Eagle District for 5 years of service to the Cheer Basket Project.

WEBELOS DO YOUR BEST – The Webelos Do You Best Campout is April 25-27, at a site to be determined.

BOY SCOUT ROUNDTABLE – The Boy Scout Roundtable will begin at 7 p.m. instead of 7:30 p.m. in February. The change will continue for the rest of the year.

This Soaring Eagle District 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. We also are looking for a new scribe to take these minutes for the district.

Sincerely,

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