

**Soaring Eagle District
District Committee Meeting, LDS Church, 10055 West Road
June 03, 2014**

Attending were Neal Farmer, Steve Ware, Bob Steubing, Bob Dunn, Richard Stonely, Erik Craig, Mike Walker, Bobby Hale, Vickie Oehring and Tiffany Riggs.

Opening: American Pledge of Allegiance and Scout law by Steve Ware.

Prayer by: Vickie Oehring.

Song by: Vickie Oehring.

FINANCE

The Patron's Dinner was a success, with Klaus Oehring as the event chairman. Harris County Sheriff Adrian Garcia spoke and drew a standing ovation. We gave him a soaring eagle statue. The SED Businessman's Award was given to Mark McShaffry, who owns Backyard Gill and has assisted area Boy Scouts for years. Initial reports are that the event raised about \$7,500 for the community side of the District's Friends of Scouting campaign.

Along with a \$10,000 gift from Mark Danheim's company, PointSmith Co., we have raised \$18,418 of the \$20,000 the Council assigned us to raise for the community side of Friends of Scouting.

On the family side of Friends of Scouting, we were asked to raise about \$47,000, and we have raised about \$29,243. We are exploring ways to raise more money for the Council.

Scout Fair ticket sales hit 100 percent of what the Council assigned us to sell, and we were the first District to hit 100 percent for 2014. The committee was chaired by Erik Craig. We raised \$99,560. (Soaring Eagle District yell: HUH!)

A Council Friends of Scouting event will be at 7 a.m., Thurs., June 19, at the River Oaks Country Club. National Oilwell Varco has underwritten the event. You can attend and give money and pre-determine that the money can go to any district in the Council. So if you want to give, you can attend and designate money for the Soaring Eagle District.

More about the event, including how to RSVP, will be on the SHAC website.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership vice chairman Griff Danheim is working to get **adult volunteers** to assist with recruiting on the Cub Scout, Boy Scout and Venturing levels. We are waiting to hear from the principals at each of the schools in our section of CFISD to see what dates in September they want to have School Night for

Scouting. So far, only Kirk Elementary School has given a date to us, which is 7 p.m., Sat., Aug. 16, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Once we have dates, we will have flyers printed by Council to distribute to give to the elementary schools in our District. We need volunteers to get the flyers to the schools three weeks in advance of the School Night for Scouting at that venue.

REVIEW FROM PREVIOUS MONTHS: 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 in August 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.**

***Send flyers advertising membership rallies to the schools to put in the Thursday folders that go home with kids.**

***Have a booth at the annual Fall Festival or Spring Fling at each elementary school, with the Pinewood Dery track or Raingutter Regatta set up.**

The **Belt Loop Bonanza** has been set for Sept. 20 at a place to be determined. The BLB is where Cub Scout can bring friends and use the event as a recruiting tool, and also earn belt loops. Please mark your calendars. We plan to add training for color guards who start off the school day at their respective school's flagpoles, and will offer it to Scouts and non-Scouts.

We currently have 1,314 youths in the District, which is about 11 percent under what we had at this time last year when we had 1,692.

The best way to recruit for Scouts is to replace yourself each year with a friend, relative or neighbor.

COMMISSIONERS

COMMISSIONERS NEEDED – Commissioners must be trained by September, or they will be removed as a commissioner by year's end. Soaring Eagle District had a successful training session on May 13, which had 15 Commissioners receiving training.

The District has 42 **unit visits** recorded by commissioners to units in May. District Commissioner Vickie Oehring said many thanks.

There are seven units without a commissioner. There also is a need for Assistant District Commissioners, who oversee the unit commissioners. There currently are two Assistant District Commissioners and the goal is to have four.

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.

Commissioners are asked to check with their units to make sure that the units have started recording Journey to Excellence points now, rather than waiting until November.

PROGRAMS

TRAINING

A **Youth Protection Classroom Training** session on May 10 trained 45 Scouters, and was a success. Similar numbers of Scouters were trained at District Roundtables in April and May.

Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills and **Scoutmaster Specific Training** will take place in September at a time and date to be determined. This is in response to the request of new Scoutmasters in the District.

Day Camp is June 10-13, Tues, through Fri., at Cypress Church. Set-up for Day Camp begins at 4 p.m., Mon., June 9, and a lot of people are needed to help put the event together. Day camp boasts a morning session and an afternoon session. We will have archery, BB guns, Star Wars displays, kids will receive water bottles and mini-backpacks, volleyball, rock wall, and many other things. Please look at the new district website for more information.

The **District Picnic** is from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. on Sat., July 26, at the Lion's Den at Bane Park, which is at Gessner and West Little York. We need Scouters to bring fishing poles and equipment to the event that Cub Scouts can use, and we need someone to be at the pond on the park property to reserve spots for the Scouts to fish.

To keep costs down, we need Scouters to donate door prizes that young kids would like or have to do with camping. Please donate to Becca Franco at francob@sbcglobal.net.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEBSITE – The new Soaring Eagle District website is up and running and looks great. Go to www.soaringeagledistrict.net. Judy Lizarraga is the **new website coordinator**.

Please send all updates for the website to the vice chair of your area. Those vice chairs are -- **Programs**: Becca Franco at francob@sbcglobal.net; **Finance**: Klaus Oehring at klausoe@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. Hundreds of pictures of recent events around the district are being posted on the page.

FIRST AID MEET – The **District First Aid Meet**, which will determine the two Boy Scout patrols that are sent to the Council First Aid Meet, will be from 8 a.m. to noon on Sat., Nov. 22, at a place TBA.

MINUTES – We also are looking for a new person to attend SED Committee Meetings each month and take the minutes. We will double the current scribe's pay.

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