

**Soaring Eagle District
District Committee Meeting, LDS Church, 10055 West Road
Sept. 2, 2014**

Attending were Neal Farmer, Steve Ware, Bob Steubing, Bob Dunn, Bobby Hale, Ajey Chandra, Robert Ausmus, Judy Lizarraga, Robby Lizarraga, Tim Girgenti, Tony Hensdill, Vickie Oehring, Tiffany Riggs, Becca Franco, Robert Ausmus, Mike Walker, Linda Porras-Pirtle, Mike Kapser, Beth Kasper, Bob Hohne, James Harris, and Kelly Kenney.

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

Prayer by: Vickie Oehring.

Announcements: Neal Farmer introduced Tony Hensdill, who will replace Tiffany Riggs as the Soaring Eagle District Executive.

FINANCE

On-line popcorn sales have begun. Three district units have pre-purchased boxes of popcorn and have gone out and sold them at area stores, ala what the Girl Scouts do with cookies. So far, \$10,980 worth of popcorn has been sold. Our goal is to sell \$105,418, after selling about \$96,000 last year.

Erik Craig is the popcorn kernel for the District, in charge of getting popcorn information out. Training for popcorn sales is 7 p.m., Mon, Sept. 15, at Foundry United Methodist Church.

We plan on having a fourth Patron's Dinner this February. The idea is to invite area businesses to buy tables, which will allow us to raise less money from families in the District. Klaus Oehring is working on this project and could use some volunteers.

Another idea was to have a Patron's Breakfast in the fall, which is what another District does.

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. Please let him know if you can serve on a membership committee.

The dates for School Night for Scouting – where we recruit Cubs in the elementary schools – are Sept. 9 and Sept. 18. More than 15,000 flyers have been printed to distribute to elementary schools in the District. We will need help distribution flyers and need people stationed at four schools the nights of Sept. 9 and 18 to talk to prospective parents/kids. Those four schools are Hancock, Bane, Matzke and Holbrook.

Kids who join Scouting will receive a Whirly-Wheeler, which shoots into the air and has colorful lights.

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.**

A recruiting tool we can use is to have Cubs raise and lower the flags at their schools. To that end, 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. The event is called **Color Guard Camp** and will be between 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sat., Sept. 13, at the Lion's Den at Bane Park, near the intersection of West Little York and Gessner roads. You can register for it on-line at soaringeagledistrict.org.

Invited to attend are Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, civic clubs, businesses and anyone who has a flag in front of their building.

We currently have 1,329 youths in the District, which is about 11 percent under what we had at this time last year when we had 1,692. We have 72 units, which is down from 83 last year at this time.

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

COMMISSIONERS

Commissioners will meet at 7 p.m., Thurs., Sept. 11, at the LDS Chapel at 10055 West Road and Wheatland.

The Boy Scout Roundtable and Cub Scout Roundtable also will meet at 7 p.m.

Please enter your commissioner visits on the UVTS section of scouting.org.

Commissioners must be trained, or they will be removed as a commissioner by year's end. They will not be removed from Boy Scouts. Check with Vickie Oehring at vickieoehring@yahoo.com for more information.

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

Scoutmaster Specific Training (part 1) will be 7-9 p.m., Wed., Sept. 17, at Outback Grill.

Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills and **Scoutmaster Specific Training** (part 2 and 3) will take place in Sept. 19 and 20 at New Kentucky Park, 21710 FM 2920, in Hockley, Texas 77477. All Scoutmasters must be trained when the unit turns in its re-charter in December. To register or for questions, please contact Bob Steubing at bsteubing@comcast.net.

Tiger Day is set for Oct. 4, at a place to be determined.

Please contact Bob Steubing at bsteubing@comcast.net if your troop wants to go to the **Webelos to Scout Expo** in Oct. 24-25-26 at Bovay Scout Ranch. Cost is \$22 per Webelos and \$2 for other members of the troop. Registration materials are on the District website at www.soaringeagledistrict.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHOOTING MERIT BADGES – If a Scout has not finished the archery, shotgun or rifle merit badges, the Council will have a make-up day for those badges on Sept. 20. See www.shac.org for more details.

Cub Scout Pow Wow is Sat., Nov. 8, at Aldine Davis High School, 12525 Ella Blvd., Houston, Texas 77067. There are classes for Scouters and Scouts at this extravaganza.

To learn about the upcoming changes in Cub Scouts and Venturing, you can attend the Council's Advancement Academy from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., on Sat., Sept. 27, at the Cockrell Center. Cost is \$5 per person. Register at: <http://www.samhoustonbsa.org/advancement-academy>

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

The **Fun With Son** program for Cubs and an adult will be Fri.-Sat., Oct. 18-19, at Bovay Scout Ranch and Camp Strake. Soaring Eagle District will run the booths for leatherwork; beading; and mask-making and cape-making. We need

volunteers to assist with those three seminars. Contact Steve Ware to volunteer at sware@iwilson.com.

RELIGIOUS EMBLEMS – Emblems coordinator Judy Lizarraga has put a link to all the religious emblems on the District website at www.soaringeagledistrict.org. Judy is putting together an e-mail list of emblem coordinators to coordinate news of that program's interest. You can e-mail Judy at judy@jdmit.com.

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 klaussoeh@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. We will need to poll the troops to see if they would like to participate.

The Council Conservation Committee said that there are more than 200 projects that can be used for Eagle Scout projects. For more information, contact Griff Danheim at griff.danheim@sbcglobal.net. As per Council rules, all Eagle Scout projects must be cleared with SED's Greg Lueb. Greg's e-mail is gregwl@sbcglobal.net.

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

DISTRICT EXECUTIVE'S MINUTE – This was Tiffany's last meeting as the SED district executive. She will be at the Sept. 11 Roundtable to say goodbye to the rest of the District.

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