

**Soaring Eagle District  
District Committee Meeting, LDS Church, 10055 West Road  
Aug. 4, 2015**

**Attending were Bob Dunn, Neal Farmer, Robert Ausmus, Tony Hensdill,  
Mark Hoffart, Megan Keck, Becca Franco and Vickie Oehring.**

Song by: Vickie Oehring.

### **FINANCE**

For **Friends of Scouting** goal is to raise about \$7,000 more from the District for Sam Houston Area Council in order to meet the goal of \$44,000 set by the Sam Houston Area Council for us. A committee was appointed of Ajey Chandra, Scott Thomas, Becca Franco and Neal Farmer to investigate a bowling tournament, a beer-tasting event and/or an event at Top Golf.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

New membership chairman Steve Ware held a program to teach representatives from each Pack about how to try and recruit new members at the same time as the District Committee Meeting was held. New yard signs were passed out and new ideas were given to try and get Scouters to bring in new recruits.

The dates for Packs to hold **recruiting events** at their respective schools or churches tentatively are Sept. 1 and Sept. 21. We are still waiting for approval by Cy-Fair ISD for those dates. However, if you can set a date with your principal for your school, you are free to use those two dates.

One idea is to have a recruiting booth at the **Cy-Fair ISD Back to School Expo**, which is 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sat., Aug. 15, at the Berry Center. We have invited representatives from Big Cypress and Copperhead Districts to man the booth with us. We need volunteers to help talk about Scouting in one-hour increments. Please e-mail Steve Ware at [steven.ware@dnow.com](mailto:steven.ware@dnow.com).

We have approximately 1,535 **Scouts registered** in the District, after having 1,693 registered at this time last year. We are at 71 units in the district.

Becca Franco has talked with a teacher at Cy-Fair High School, who teaches a high-adventure pilot program there. There could be up to 50 high school students who could join a Venturing post from that class, if a Soaring Eagle District membership proposal works out.

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

### **COMMISSIONERS**

District Commissioner Vickie Oehring is soliciting assistance from commissioners to assist with break-out sessions for Cub Scout leaders during the August 13 and September 10 Roundtables at the LDS Chapel, 10055 West Road at Wheatland.

Please enter your **commissioner visits** on the UVTS section of [scouting.org](http://scouting.org). A new way to report commissioners' visits is available at [www.my.scouting.org](http://www.my.scouting.org).

We need **more unit commissioners**. If your son has bridged to Boy Scouts from Cub Scouts, we think that former Cub Scout leaders will make great commissioners for Pack as they already will have a great deal of Cub knowledge.

## **PROGRAMS**

**Cub Scout Day Camp** was June 9-12 at the LDS Chapel at 12310 New Hampton Dr. It was a great success. We had 250 Cub Scouts, 40 siblings, 100 junior staffers, and 110 adults attend during two sessions – one morning and one evening.

Sept. 12-13, more than 300 **Sea Scouts** are expected at Lost Pine in Bastrop for a skills weekend. There will be advancement, as things like blind canoe races. Save the date. And in January, the Sea Scouts will meet at Galveston Sea Base for advancement activities. More than 300 from Texas, Oklahoma and Louisiana are expected.

Tiger Day will now be **Bobcat Day** on Sept. 26 at a place to be determined. This will be for family members who are new to Scouts, and teaches them about the Scouting movement. It will be run by Lynn Villareal. The plan is to have BALOO training at Bobcat Day, to assist new Cub leaders who need the training required for Pack campouts.

The summer **District Picnic** on July 25 at Bane Park was a success. There was a dunking booth, a watermelon-seed spitting contest, kickball, fishing, horse shoes and a meal was served.

**Webelos to Scout Expo** will be Oct. 23-24-25 at Spring Creek Park.

**Fun with Son**, which is fun activities for kids and (a) parent(s), will be Oct. 16-17-18 at Bovay Scout Ranch. One session will go Oct. 16 and 17, and the other group will go Oct. 17 and 18.

The Cub Scouts' **Pushmobile** will be in either December or January.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

It previously was announced that Re-charters had to be finished by December, 2015, or the unit would be dropped. However, there has been a problem

developing software, and the mandate to finish re-charters will begin in December, 2016.

WEBSITE – Due to liability reasons, the Soaring Eagle District website will be folded into the website run by SHAC. More on this later.

FACEBOOK – The district has a **Facebook page, called “Soaring Eagle District.”** Don’t forget to snap some close-ups as well as photos of people having fun at your events and e-mail them to [nfarmer07@att.net](mailto:nfarmer07@att.net) so they can be put on the District Facebook page.

**Suggestions that were made to get kids to participate in Boy Scouts:**

- \*\*\*get Scouts in uniform before other kids at youth activities – such as Little League games or soccer games – and perform an opening flag ceremony and hand out flyers.
- \*\*\*try to make the Venturing groups larger by recruiting high school age kids.
- \*\*\*the Council has asked four troops to have an Open House event at either a troop meeting or troop outing. Most recruiting efforts have been on the Cub Scout side and the Council wants to expand efforts into older getting more older kids.
- \*\*\*have more Boy Talks at school lunches, where they are allowed.
- \*\*\*participate in area parades, specifically in parades or on floats at St. Patrick’s Day, Fourth of July, Homecoming parades. Kids can walk or use things like a Pushmobile.
- \*\*\*another way to recruit is to get photos and news stories of Scouting events into the smaller, local newspapers and website.
- \*\*\*invite kids from your neighborhood to sell Scout Fair tickets.
- \*\*\*use school fairs to recruit kids.
- \*\*\*have recruiting booths at open houses and Meet the Teacher meetings.
- \*\*\*the District Executive will get a Dropped Scout Report – boys who no longer are in Scouts after being in Scouts in 2014 – and will try to contact boys to get them to come back.

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