

Troop 870 Parent Meeting April 6, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Sharon Marston at 7:07 pm.

April Campout –April 25-26, camping on Saturday /Sunday at Bay Area Park. This is the new scout campout and older Scouts are needed to attend to help teach camping skills to our troop's newest members. Kevin Qian has the registration forms which are due on April 10. Ben Edwards will be the SMIC for the campout. Loading will be on Friday, April 24.

Summer Camp- Camp Woodruff, GA. Joe Layden noted that 20 Scouts are currently signed up and also that the merit badge slots are all filling up very quickly. There could be availability for a few more Scouts, but he will need that registration ASAP. The fees for camp are \$450 which includes camp costs and travel. There are certain programs that require additional fees at this camp. Please make sure to read the attachments sent by Joe to see if your scout will need to bring additional money for these fees. This camp does provide tents and cots so these will not need to be packed. The troop is driving a trailer with all the footlockers and large duffels. Scouts should only plan to bring a carryon personal pack on the airplane – no checked baggage.

Medical Forms – In order to attend summer camp the medical forms, Parts A,B, and C must be turned in by mid-June. This does require the doctor's form, so please make your appointments soon. All medical forms are good for one year. Turn in to Becky Roberts.

Flag Work Days – and Holiday Signups – Sign-up sheets were passed around. Each Scout is expected to participate in at least one work day and two holiday flag days. The first work day is this Saturday, April 11 at the Pinebrook Pool from 10-noon and from 8-12 at the storage shed. Next work day is April 18 at Pinebrook Pool 10-noon, and then on May 9 scouts will need to meet at the shed, then will drive the routes to check on the curb markers. Please contact Paul Nguyen if you still need to sign up. Paul is also looking for adults to help on the holiday flag distribution/recall days.

Memorial Day –May 22/May 29

Independence Day - July1/July8

Patriot Day - Sept 9/Sept 13

Veterans Day - Nov 8/Nov.14

Crew 870 – Is also starting a flag service project and will be selling flag subscriptions for the Brookwood neighborhood. The crew and their leader, Barton Bennett, will be at the Pinebrook pool event on Saturday to sign up Brookwood neighborhood residents into this program.

Service Projects – May 2 the troop will have its annual mulching project at Ms. Nicklow's home to honor her late husband, one of the troop's former ASMs. More information about times/sign-ups will be emailed.

Scout Fair – Saturday, April 18, from 8-3 at Reliant. The troop will be making mini-pancakes. Scouts will need to sign up for a two hour shift to help prepare, cook and clean up at the end of the day.

Swim Test – The annual swim test will be held on May 4 at the Brookwood Pool. This is a Monday and will be considered our regular meeting. There may also be scoutmaster conferences as well at the pool. All Scouts must pass the swim test in order to participate in any major camp event or water-based activity. Please meet at the Brookwood pool at 7 pm on May 4.

Scoutmaster/Mr. Sambell

The theme for April is Public Speaking and Communication. May's theme is Fishing.

SPL Matt Estes and the troop leadership have worked hard on the plan for Scout Fair, so please try and sign up for a shift. At the April new scout campout, Matt and the older scouts will be working with new Scouts on their Tenderfoot requirements. Mr. Sambell distributed a list noting the camping nights completed by each scout. He emphasized that more scouts need to sign up for the monthly camping opportunities. It is a lot of work to prepare for these and there has not been good participation lately. This past Saturday was the Quartermasters weekend where troop members cleaned and organized the troop's storage area. All the patrol boxes were cleaned and put back together properly. The boys worked very hard on this and will make sure that the boxes are kept organized in the future.

Order of the Arrow – Those who have been invited to the Order of the Arrow can participate in the ordeal on Saturday, April 24, which is the same day as new scout campout. The ordeal will be held locally at Armand Bayou Nature Center and the

cost is \$60 which includes meals, sash and handbook. Please contact Barton Bennett if you have questions.

Eagle Project – Dylan Senderling will be presenting his Eagle project plan to parents at our April 13th meeting. He would appreciate any parents who can come to listen and provide feedback. His initial plan is for a food drive and concert.

Wood Safety Tips – Ben Edwards, ASM, presented some different types of knives and gave some knife safety tips. Soon, new scouts will begin to earn their **Totin Chip**, which allows them to use /carry a knife at scout events. Ben suggested that parents read the **Totin Chip** section of the handbook before buying their son a knife.

The troop is expecting eight new scouts to join. Sharon Marston will accept their registration forms at the upcoming meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 8:12

Suzanne Sambell

Troop 870 Secretary