

Troop 870 Parent Meeting Minutes October 3, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:11 by Mike Marston, Troop Committee Chair.

Campouts – The October campout is October 14-16 at Enchanted Rock in the Texas Hill Country. The activity will be climbing. The SMIC is Al Estes. Scouts who are Star and above will experience “real rock” climbing while First Class and below will likely do tower climb and repelling. Scouts will leave Friday at 4 pm. Registrations were due Monday, contact Joe Layden ASAP if your Scout is planning to attend and has not turned in the registration form. Scouts will have a dinner stop on the way to camp, so please have them bring money or a sack meal, they will also need money for a meal on the way home Sunday.

Fall Camp – Fall camp will be November 18-23 at the Lost Bayou Camp in Louisiana. Scouts will depart from UBC on Friday and return on Wednesday, the day before Thanksgiving. Registration is due by October 24 to Kevin Chian. Fall camp will likely need additional adult volunteers. Please check the merit badge descriptions to determine if your Scout’s choices have any required fees.

Summer Camp - June 18-24, 2017. Location is Camp Hale, Oklahoma. Registration will begin in January. Because of travel time (approx. 10 hours) the troop will likely leave on June 17 and spend one night on the road.

Service Projects –

1. Matt Estes’ Eagle Project is ongoing. He will email the troop with information on his next workdays. Matt thanked those who have been able to help him so far.
2. UBC Fall Festival, Monday, Oct. 31 from 5:30-8:30. The troop will not have a regular meeting this night, instead they will be helping with the UBC Fall Festival. They will help set-up, run games, clean up the event and assist UBC staff wherever needed. Working at the Fall Festival will count toward service hours. Please note that all scouts need at least three service hours to attend fall camp.
3. Bay Area turning Point Food Drive is scheduled for Nov. 18-19. Mr. Lupo will have more information about this at the November parent meeting.

Flag Holiday – The final flag holiday for 2016 is Veterans Day.

Flags will be put out on Sunday, Nov. 6 and brought in on Sunday, Nov. 13. IF YOUR SCOUT HAS SIGNED UP FOR A FLAG HOLIDAY THEY MUST SHOW UP TO COMPLETE THEIR ROUTES. IF YOU ARE SIGNED UP FOR VETERANS DAY, OR STILL NEED TO COMPLETE YOUR SECOND FLAG DUTY, YOU WILL RECEIVE AN EMAIL FROM MR. LAYDEN.

Senior Patrol Leader – SPL Jack Roark encouraged everyone to attend the October campout at Enchanted Rock, and also to volunteer at the UBC Fall Festival on the 31st. He reported that the September campout was a success. Xander Rodriguez spoke about the World Friendship Fund, a BSA charity that provides fund to Scout troops in countries who need support. He collected monies tonight that will be donated to the Fund.

Re-charter – Sharon Marston noted the recharter forms will be given out next week to the Scouts. **The forms and payments are due back no later than Nov. 7.** If you do not get the form from your Scout after next week's meeting, please contact Sharon by email. Merit Badge counselor forms will be attached to the recharter form. Make sure that your YPT is current. If it expires in December or January, you should complete a new certification and include that with your recharter form.

Scoutmaster Steve Sambell- Mr. Sambell noted the good turnout for September's campout and encouraged everyone to attend the campout at Enchanted Rock in October. Mr. Sambell and Mr. Marston have found a new 7x12 trailer for troop. Cost is \$4200. They plan to sell or trade-in the older 6x10 trailer, approx. value \$800. If any parents know someone who may like to purchase this trailer, please contact Mr. Sambell. They hope to have the new trailer by Fall camp. He presented an idea to have the troop purchase a set of identical tents for troop members. The goal is to purchase these tents before Camporee.

High adventure: Northern Tier 2017 –Currently only four scouts interested in attending, the troop has already paid a deposit and there are two slots still open. Crew size is 6 scouts and 2 adults. Northern Tier is a canoeing/open water high adventure camp in Minnesota planned for July 2017. Please email Mr. Sambell immediately if interested.

Order of the Arrow – Elections will be held on November 14 for new members of the OA. OA members are peer elected. To be eligible a scout must be First Class and have 15 camping nights in the two year period prior to the election.

Service Hours – Mr. Sambell noted that there are numerous opportunities outside the troop to accomplish service hours. However service hours outside the troop need to be approved in advance to be able to count towards scout service. If a scout is accomplishing only the minimum of 3 hours between long term camps it is highly encouraged that those hours be performed at a Troop 870 service project. Again any outside hours should be approved in advance to avoid any confusion.

URGENT VOLUNTEER NEEDS

ACTIVITY COMMITTEE CHAIR, JOE LAYDEN, WILL BE AGING OUT OF THE TROOP THIS SPRING. WE NEED SOMEONE TO TAKE THIS POSITION ASAP.

AND

OUR TROOP COMMITTEE CHAIR, MIKE MARSTON IS ALSO COMPLETING HIS TERM AS TROOP COMMITTEE CHAIR IN JANUARY, AND MUST BE REPLACED.

Looking forward over the next two years, the Troop will also be losing the majority of current ASMs as their scouts age out. All of these positions are critical to the success of the troop! Scouting is a volunteer organization, and all Troop 870 parents should consider taking one of these positions for the benefit of the troop.

Contact Mike Marston, Troop Committee Chair for more information.

Calendar

October 8 – Ries Klein Eagle Scout Court of Honor, 12-2:00pm, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

October 10 – Troop Meeting

October 14-16 - Enchanted Rock Campout

October 17 – Troop Meeting

October 24 – Troop Meeting

October 31– No Troop Meeting /Troop will volunteer at UBC Fall Festival 5:30-8:30

November 7 - Troop Meeting and Parent meeting; Scout Master Conferences

November 14 – Final BORs for 2016; OA Elections

Adjourned at 8:15 pm

Suzanne Sambell

Troop 870 Secretary

Troop Website <http://troop870wubc.com/>

District Website <http://san-jacinto.shac.org/>

Council Website <http://www.samhoustonbsa.org/>

OA Lodge <http://oa.samhoustonbsa.org/>

OA High Adventure <http://oa.samhoustonbsa.org/oa-high-adventure>