

## Troop 870 Parent Meeting Minutes April 4, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 by Mike Marston, Troop Committee Chair.

**Campouts** –April 16-17 is the new scout campout, and will be held at Taylor lake Village Park. Please note that this is a change in location from the original site. Registrations are due at next week's meeting, April 11. Kevin Qian is the parent handling the registrations. Plans are to have the loading of equipment on Friday, the 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. An email will come soon with information to the time of departure for camp on the 16<sup>th</sup>. Please remember to wear Class As to and from camp.

**Mini-Philmont** – April 22-24. All participating scouts should have received the email from Joe Layden regarding this camp and should let him know if they are attending.

**Summer Camp** – Summer camp is set for July 17-23 at Buffalo Trails Scout Ranch near Fort Davis in far West Texas. **Amtrak now requires a 6-1 ratio for children/adults on the train and the troop is currently in need of one additional adult to ride the train to and from camp.** If you can volunteer for this, please contact Jennifer McBurnett or Joe Layden as soon as possible. The train will leave Houston on Saturday, July 16 in the early evening and will depart Saturday, the 23<sup>rd</sup>, and arrive in Houston early morning on Sunday, July 24<sup>th</sup>. Jennifer explained that the merit badge selection for summer camp will not be available until two weeks before camp.

**Merit Badge Counselor Coordinator** – Steve Bernay is the troop’s coordinator. He encouraged parents to consider signing up as a merit badge counselor. It is a great way to support the troop by helping guide Scouts through badge requirements. If interested, you can visit [meritbadge.org](http://meritbadge.org) to see the list of badges, or visit the troop’s website to see which badges are currently in need of counselors. A separate adult application is required to be approved as a merit badge counselor, but you may use the same information and references as the regular adult application.

**Flag Fundraiser** - An email was sent this week with a link to sign up for holiday flag distribution and flag workdays. Each scout must participate in at least two holiday flag placements and at least one flag work day. This Saturday, April 9, is our first workday, two shifts are scheduled; 8:30-11 and 11-1:30. You need only participate in one shift to complete your workday requirement. There is also a Route Prep workday scheduled for Saturday, May 14. Scouts will inspect the locations for subscribers’ flags and check that markers are visible and that the flag sleeve is easily found, they will also install new sleeves as needed. **The flag committee needs a parent volunteer to help with the data entry and billing process for this fundraiser. Please contact Mike Marston if you can help.**

**Eagle Scout Court of Honor** – Please join the troop in congratulating Andrew Francis on receiving his Eagle Scout rank. There will be a Court of Honor on Saturday, April 9 at

2:00 pmin the chapel at UBC. Scouts who attend should wear full Class A uniform, including sash and neckerchief.

**Trailer Replacement** – The troop’s smaller trailer is in need of repairs which are estimated to cost \$500-\$1000. The leadership has proposed to sell this smaller trailer and purchase a new, 14 ft. dual axle trailer for approx. \$3500. The larger trailer should be easier to tow as well as provide more space for gear. Bernadette Barton motioned to approve the purchase of a new trailer, seconded by John Filac, and the motion passed.

**Senior Patrol Leader** – Xander Rodriguez welcomed the new parents in attendance. He explained that Fishing was the theme for April and fishing related skills and games will be taught at each meeting, allowing scouts to complete some of the merit badge requirements. The April campout for new scouts is at Taylor Lake Village where the older Scouts and leaders will work with new scouts on Scout skills. Xander also suggested to new Scouts to start a binder to organize their paperwork, badges and completed rank/badge cards as way to keep all the required documents handy.

**Scoutmaster /Steve Sambell-** Mr. Sambell agreed that Xander’s binder idea is a good one. He noted that new Scouts will need to purchase the new Scout book, recommends the spiral bound version and should strongly consider also buying the cover. He noted that new scouts will not need to buy camping gear for the April campout, as they will share a tent. All scout’s personal gear should have their name on it. There

is a Scout store camping gear sale schedule for April 23 for those who are in need of new gear.

[Volunteer Openings](#) - We still need to fill some important volunteer positions within the troop. The current volunteers have done these jobs for several years – learn from them while you can! Any Scoutmaster, Chairperson, or current committee member will be glad to provide you more information. Thank you.

[Activity Committee Chair](#) – Helping to plan and coordinate the logistics of our monthly campouts. This is a great way to learn about the workings of the troop.

[Troop Committee Chair](#) – Ensures that leaders and committee members have training opportunities, interprets local and national Scout policies, works closely with the Scoutmaster in preparing Troop Committee meetings, presides over monthly unit meetings.

[Treasurer](#) - Maintains responsibility for the troop accounts.

[Registration](#) – Coordinates the yearly effort to recharter Troop 870 and processes adult and scout applications.

[NOTE: Prior to our regular parent meeting, a meeting for new scout parents was held. We would like to welcome the following new scouts to Troop 870!](#)

Ryan Glenn

Vincent Wang

Collin Gorham

Brandon Moree

Grant Raska

Parker Bourns

Nathaniel Joiner

Trey Schraider

Jack Stein

Griffin Snapka

Bryce Sturton

## Calendar

**April 9 – Flag Work Day at the storage facility. 8:30am-1:30pm**

**April 11 – Troop meeting – April Campout registrations due**

**April 15 – Loading for Campout**

**April 16-17 New Scout Campout at Taylor Lake Village**

**April 18 – Troop meeting**

**April 22-24 Mini-Philmont**

**April 25 – Troop Meeting**

**May 2 - Troop/ Parent meeting at UBC**

**May 9 - Swim Tests/All Scouts will meet at the Brookwood Community Pool. At 6:00pm\***

**\* - Please note this is a change from what was stated at the parent meeting on Monday.**

**The Brookwood pool was not available on the 2nd so the swim tests will now be held on May 9.**

**Adjourned at 8:12 pm**