

Troop 997 Committee/Parent Meeting Agenda
February 8, 2024

Attendees: Kasey King, Scott Madden, Erin Madden, Michelle Dunajcik, Jeff Veenstra, Doug Webster, Terry Martin, Robert Contreras, Jason Hughes, and Jennifer Roth

Motion to convene meeting: Doug motioned; Michelle seconded.

Last Meeting Minutes: There was an update to the last meeting minutes to Adopt-A-Family. Last meeting minutes were approved with updates. Jeff motioned to approve; Terry seconded.

Old Business: Cheryl will not be attending this meeting. The committee meetings and PLC have been moved to the YMCA small meeting room.

Activity Report: Jason Hughes – Our January campout was the Winter Klondike at Beaumont, and it went pretty well. One issue we did have was the blue cards were not available, so the scouts were not able to participate in the shooting sports. We will come up with a better way of handling this in the future. Cheryl has provided a Klondike update in the Scoutmaster report. We will need to reserve Round Spring for the August campout. We can always cancel if we change our minds on the August program. When we do reserve it, we will only need it for Friday night since we will be on the sandbar on Saturday night. The February campout will be in Shiloh. The March campout is the New Scout campout at Cuivre River. April is the Spring Camporee, and we still need a location for the May campout.

February - Backpacking

- Feb 4 Scout Sunday
- Feb 5 7:15 Troop Court of Honor & Friends of Scouting Presentation @ Ostmann Elementary, Return troop tents & dining fly's, Shiloh sign up & payment due
- Feb 6 7pm BT Roundtable @ KoC
- Feb 8 7:15 Committee meeting @ YMCA
- Feb 12 7:15 Troop meeting @ Ostmann Elementary
- Feb 15 7:15 PLC @ YMCA
- Feb 16 Shiloh 5:00 pm Meet at Ostmann
- Feb 19 **NO MEETING** - RETURN FROM SHILOH
- Feb 26 7:15 Troop meeting @ Ostmann Elementary - Welcome New Scouts
- Mar 4 6:30 Northern Tier planning meeting, 7:15 Troop meeting @ Ostmann Elementary

Advancement: Jeff Veenstra – COH went well. We're trying to add more to the COH other than advancements. We are trying to give more information to the parents and families. There have been updates to the Scout and Star rank as of January 1, 2024. There is no more Cyber Chip, and it is being replaced with a series of videos. A paper will then need to be signed and turned in after the videos have been watched. There have been several merit badge updates as well.

Adult Training: Kasey King – Wilderness First Aid is available in several sessions this Winter/Spring, including CPR/AED training for those that need it. Sign up early and complete the Online Navigator portion (estimate ~8 hr) prior to attending the in-person training. We have 5 adults who have expiring YPT in the first quarter of 2024, I'll be notifying them to update their training.

Equipment Report: Jeremy Pionke – N/A

Membership: Robert Contreras – Recharter is complete, and we received approval from Council. One of the new scouts dropped off but should be on our roster. Mr. Contreras is working with council to fix the problem.

Medical: Robert Contreras – Most of the scouts and parents are compliant in regard to the medical forms. We will check before the scouts leave to go to Shiloh to make sure no one is missing a form, or a form needs to be updated.

Service/Good Turn: Friends of Scouting – Website present to track funds towards our goal of \$3250/\$4150.
<https://fundraise.givesmart.com/vf/SCOUTS2024/BTTroop997>

Committee Chair: Kasey King – Leadership needs for the troop and scoutmaster succession plan. We may need to create a committee and get outreach for the scoutmaster succession plan. We will need to spend time to educate the new parents on how the troop works and maybe send out a parent survey since we do need more help from the parents.

Shiloh 2024: Terry Martin – We are staying at the Henderson Armory this year. The Savannah Armory wanted one of their employees there the entire time we were there and the cost to us was going to be \$1,200.00 whereas Henderson only wanted a \$300 payment for the entire weekend with a signed contract. There are eight adults and twelve youth attending Shiloh this year. Kasey will go early to get food for the Saturday and Sunday hikes. Molly Monday is set up for both days. Kasey will go to Piggly Wiggly and Little Ceasars for chicken and wings.

Summer-camp 2024: The cost to attend summer camp 2024 is \$425 for early bird pricing due by April 8th. The troop that was on our site last year reached out to ask if they can share with us again. I discussed with Mr. King and we both felt that was a good fit otherwise we risk council randomly assigning another unit to our site. Tom Jolley is the Scoutmaster and expects to have about 5 scouts. The rest of his troop will be at Sea Base High Adventure. Our troop discussions (at summer camp) of the adventure last year inspired them to give it a go! We will also have a provisional Scout that will be with us for summer camp as well. We are getting scouts registered but we need the rest of the scouts to get registration complete so we can make sure they get the merit badge sessions they want.

Clear-Bead Campout: François Lavere – 01/20/2024 The Clear Bead campout was held on January 20th at Klondike Park. We had a campfire with fireside stories and snacks. When we got up in the morning the temperature was -9 so we packed up camp and headed home.

Northern Tier 2024: Scott Madden – Northern Tier prep meeting is Monday, March 4th. All scouts should attend with an adult. The hotel is booked. We need to book the vans and have the drivers book them because their information will need to be collected at the time of booking. We will need to get the medical forms turned in, we need the roster for the flights, we need to design the shirts, and we need to figure out the crews. We will start working on these items at the March 4th meeting. The Northern Tier balance is due on 3/1/2024. The money for summer camp has been moved over from the Northern Tier bank account.

Summit Bechtel 2025: Angela Pionke – N/A

inclement weather. Our January campout was the 26th through the 28th surrounding the Boone Trails Winter Klondike on Saturday. The Klondike event offered merit badges and sled racing. We got to meet & greet sled dogs of three different breeds during a presentation following lunch. Since we combined with another district for the event, our sled racing spot was at the very end of the session. The course was longer than in years past & had more entries than I've seen in a long time. Due to our slot being towards the end, our scouts chose to try for an award by going the slowest time, but returning with the most amount of water (in a five-gallon bucket). Once the crowd realized what they were doing, we received much comradery for the strategy. Since it was raining, we managed to "Add" water to our bucket and the crowd was laughing. Meanwhile the Hot Rod races (sleds with wheels) had started. We were not able to compete in the Hot Rod round, which was a disappointment & lesson learned for all. Closing ceremonies were canceled because all units had left due to the rain. We returned to our campsite for dinner, a Scouts Own and a warm fire before bed. One scout left the campout early on Saturday night. Sunday morning, we packed up and headed home. Mrs. Hall's car had a dead battery, but we were able to get a jump from some gentlemen at Emerson. Court of Honor was this past Monday. Wood Badge Information Dinner is February 26th. If you are interested in attending & need a sponsor, please let myself or Mr. King know. Reminder that there are changes to Rank Advancement and merit badges that have gone into effect. Mr. Veenstra has taken the time to type up an information sheet for the Cyber Chip portions.

Life to Eagle - Ron Krull – Zaden is down to 6 months. He had a meeting last week with his beneficiary and they have agreement on what he is making for the band. He thought he may have his proposal ready by this coming Monday night. He is making progress on completing merit badges. I emailed Luke asking about progress on his plan since we last met to review it, I haven't heard anything back from him yet. Owen is working on his merit badges and is down to about 10 months. Our other 3 life scouts still have more than a year to go.

NYLT - Connie Krull – Connie will be sending out information to our eligible (First Class) scouts this weekend.

New Scouts – Cheryl McCrary – New Scouts will have their first troop meeting on February 26. Nathan King will be the Troop Guide. Senior Patrol Leader & Assistant Senior Patrol Leader elections will take place on February 26. New patrols will be assigned the following week. The New Scout campout will be March 15-17 and I will be looking for registered adults to help with specific areas for that campout. If I haven't reached out to you yet & you would be interested and available to help out that weekend, please let me know.

Order of the Arrow – Doug Webster – The Spring Conclave is April 12th-14th. The OA One Day of Service is on May 11th. There will be a Chapter Social in March at Kokomo Joes in St. Peters.

New Business: The O'Fallon Hoots will host a Scout Night again this summer. There are opportunities to earn the Theater merit badge and the Citizenship in Society merit badge. Powder Horn and Den Chief training are also available. Please check the Council website for more details. The Fall Camporee will be held at Warren Levis.

End of Committee Meeting motion: Jeff motioned; Doug seconded.