



# TROOP 181 BSA COMMITTEE MINUTES

March 3, 2009

*Note: this meeting was moved from February do to conflicts with the church.*

**Present:** Phil Reece, Belinda Cowdrey, Paul Dandrea, Tracy Mattison, Ryan Lambert, Derek Dwyer, Sandy Schwartz, MaryAnn Bushaw, Eric Schmidt, Terry Nichols, Craig Louthain, Matt Louthain

Meeting started at 8:20 PM

**Treasurer's Report:** Greg not here.

**Next Committee Meeting:** The calendar has it listed as March 24<sup>th</sup>; voted to move it to March 31<sup>st</sup>.

## Past Events

**Continuous Fire (Feb. 7-14):** *Are we staffing it again? Yes. Check with our newest Adults to check on their class schedules. Don Reis will continue to schedule us on Wednesday's, unless we request a change. It will now be at Harlem United Methodist Church, the same as last year. It will no longer be at the river. (11/25) We have a shift on Wednesday the 11th, 6:00 AM – 2:00 PM. The church is on Alpine Road. (12/23) Harlem United Methodist Church at 8411 North Alpine. (1/27) Just a reminder -- need workers. (03/03) 10 attended from our Troop throughout the week.*

**Merit Badge Sampler (Feb. 7 & 21):** (03/03) Several badges were canceled. 13 scouts attended; 8 were from our Troop. Only 3 merit badge cards have been turned-in, completed. Surveying has already gone to three sessions with another being planned.

**Scout Sunday CVUMC (Feb. 8):** *Pastor Nancy hasn't answered Terry's email yet as to when it will be. Bobby will be doing Scout Sunday on Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> at the Catholic Church to receive his religious award, and needs 2 color guards for American and Troop flags. (10/21) No date yet from CVUMC. (11/25) No date yet from Pastor Nancy. (12/23) [Post-meeting note: It will be February 8, at 10:00 am] (1/27) It is not the same weekend as Russell Woods this year. The church has another presentation that day – Jaycee's Breakfast for Camp New Hope. We are invited also. We want everyone here in uniform as a "thank-you" for making the Troop feel so welcomed. Please arrive 15-minutes, or more, early. (03/03) We got 32 patches. There were 27 from our Troop in uniform. That was lower than the last year. Terry said it was not because of the lack of the campout; it was the same weekend as the official Scout Sunday at all churches.*

**FOS (Feb. 10):** *(12/23) Behrensmeyers have been told when we are having our Family Night. (1/27) We have not heard back for a confirmation. (03/03) We are one donation away from making our goal. 8 families have not participated yet and Phil will be contacting them. Our goal actually went down this year, but we should meet it. MaryAnn said each goal is formed by multiplying the number of boys by \$125, plus 40% more. (That sounds reasonable, but it doesn't compute.) Our goal was \$2,750.*

**Re-charter (by Feb. 28):** (12/23) Terry has the packet. (1/27) 4 – 429, 6 – 400, 2 – 600 are planning on crossing over. Phil asked if we have people going to the Blue and Gold Banquets. Pack 429 is February 21<sup>st</sup>, 400 is February 22<sup>nd</sup>. [Post meeting note: Pack 600 is 2/22 and Pack 121 is 2/22 also.] (03/03) \$1140 for 36 scouts and 39 adults to be rechartered. We're adding 13 new scouts. Official number now is 49 youth and 42 adults. The new scouts either paid us or transferred from their packs. As a consistent benchmark, we recharter first, and then add graduates. The most we have ever had is 53.

**Scouting for Food (Feb. 28 and Mar. 7):** Who is going to run it this year? It's suggested Ryan and Derek do it. (10/21) Motioned and carried, even though they opposed. (11/25) They did not disagree tonight either. (12/23) They did not disagree tonight either. Maybe Tim can do it for his Woodbadge ticket. (1/27) Do we have anyone officially running it? Phil was signed-up to help. (03/03) Ryan and Derek ran it. They had 18 people on Saturday; 10 youth and 8 adults. We put out approximately 600 bag/door hangers. More volunteered tonight to help out this Saturday for pickup. (Post-meeting note: 24 people participated on 3/7. We put 8 cars in 4 subdivisions; finished collecting about 11:00; and filled 11 shopping carts at Helping Hands Pantry.)

### **Future Events**

**Adult Trainer Conference (Mar. 7):** (1/27) Sandy said The Trainer's Edge is train-the-trainer. Set for March 7<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Christ United Methodist church on Alpine at Highcrest.

**District Awards Nominations (due Mar. 13):** (12/23) Unit Spirit Award, Outstanding SM/ASM (one per district, Outstanding Committee member (CC, MC, CO; one per district), District Awards of Merit (5 for our district). (1/27) Need to vote on it tonight. One cannot receive the award more than once. Terry read the qualifications. Terry suggests that we do it next month so that we have a list of who has received the awards so we know who we can vote for. Terry will send out an email. (03/03) Sheets were handed-out and we need to vote on them tonight. Turn-in to Phil tonight, if possible. They're due by next Friday.

**Kiwanis Annual Pancake Day (Mar. 14):** (12/23) MaryAnn Bushaw has handled it recently. (1/27) MaryAnn did not stay to discuss it. (03/03) MaryAnn said it was canceled because Rock Valley College is redoing their gym. Something else is being planned in the future to replace it, but the Kiwanis Club is not revealing any details about it.

**Wilderness First Aid Training (Mar 28. & Apr. 4):** (1/27) It's required for Philmont and suggested for all High Adventure. It is March 28<sup>th</sup> and April 4<sup>th</sup> at Camp Lowden. The cost is \$90.

**Eagle Cave (Apr. 4-5):** (1/27) We could not get Eagle Cave until April 4<sup>th</sup> weekend. The cost is \$35.75 each. Includes Saturday Lunch, Supper, and Sunday Breakfast. Someone suggested 1/2 the cost for adults. Sandy had to pay \$5 per person; she reserved 20 spots. Terry will come up with a flyer. Our new scouts (Webelos) will not be able to go because we have to have the deposit in 2 months in advance. Scouts will pay \$18, adults will pay \$12 with the troop picking up the rest. It was voted on and approved. We will re-address inviting new scouts (Webelos) if we have room available, but charge them \$30 since they have not contributed to the troop yet. It was suggested that they would have to bring an adult since it is their first campout. The cost would be the same for their adult. The vote resulted in one objection, and the others approved. (03/03) 20 spots are reserved; 15 taken. Two Webelos scouts and their parents are begging to be included. We have to pay for 20. We are accepting the Webelos. We will still have 1 more spot available. We'll go up Saturday and come back on Sunday.

**Wanchanagi Recognition Dinner (Apr. 5):** (12/23) *Deadline to sign-up is Mar. 21 (not the 25th). (1/27) It was mentioned again. (03/03) This year it will be held at the Stockholm Inn. Cost is \$20.00. The restaurant is not open at that time, so we have the place to ourselves.*

**NYLT (June 14-20):** *Need to commit by April 21<sup>st</sup> and pay by May 1<sup>st</sup>. (03/03) We asked Matt if anyone has showed interest. We need to find out who is eligible. Terry said we need to start promoting it. Matt will be asking parents.*

**Summer Camp at Lowden (July 5–11):** *Summer camp at Camp Lowden has been reserved. The Council needs \$100 deposit to hold the date. (10/21) Sandy needs another \$100; it is a \$200 deposit. (1/27) Sandy needs to pay by April 5<sup>th</sup>, youth \$225, adults \$150. We would like to know how much points will be worth this year. In the past we had to pay \$25, and sometimes \$50. Terry proposes \$50 per Scout. Then full points are worth \$175.00. Craig seconds it. Voted on and approved. Approximately \$6,000 will be spent on summer camp, based on 30 scouts and 2 or 3 adults. (03/03) Sandy presented it tonight and sent something to Lori to put on the website. Lowden cost is \$225 by April 15<sup>th</sup> and \$275 late fee after May 15th.*

**High adventure camp (Summer 2009):** (5/20) *Paul brought the information on High Adventure Camps in Maine. The Boy Scout High Adventure one has 3 levels of Kayaking. You get to pick your own trek anywhere from calm waters to whitewater trails. The cost is about \$900 without travel fee. This covers everything they need. The duration of the trip is 6-days minimum, up to 8-days. If both boys and girls will be going we would need one adult of each sex to attend. The crew size should be 6 to 8. Maine High Adventure is the name. Deposit would be due by March 1<sup>st</sup> for reservation. Balance would be due upon arrival. The other ones he has are not Boy Scout run, but are private outfitters and the costs are similar. Ed suggests put options to boys and let them choose. Paul gave Belinda the brochure on it. (6/10) Tabling until it can be presented to the boys and they chose one. (07/22) Still tabled. (08/26) We talked a little about Sea Base, also about canoeing. Sandy suggested putting a person in charge of taking ideas. Sandy said she will do it. Ed will announce it at next meeting. Hopefully, there will be some planning at the September meeting. (09/30) Ed announced that we need to come up with ideas. Send them to Ed via email. They need to be to him before the November Court of Honor so we can present it that night to the boys. (10/21) Sandy suggested Washington DC; maybe tie it into a Jamboree 2010 visit. (1/27) Ed is not here to talk about it. (03/03) Ed suggested whitewater rafting or up to the Boundary Waters. It was also suggested that we combine something with the Jamboree next year and go through West Virginia. MaryAnn asked how many would qualify? Sandy suggested we check with the boys to see if there is an interest. It was \$460 2-years ago. Ed is still in charge and we are going to offer whitewater rafting in West Virginia; dates will be set next month.*

**The Tall Ship, Windy (Aug. 22):** *The cost is \$750 -- 50 people would make it \$15 per person. There will be a campout with it. Terry says we should consider inviting other troops or packs to fill-out our minimum costs, like we did last time. A \$250 deposit is needed. (10/21) Sandy paid the deposit and suggested we invite Webelos to come for the day also. (11/25) Concentrate on Webelos I and II of associated packs; take fliers to their Blue and Gold Banquets. We may offer it to other troops also. (1/27) Nothing new. (03/03) Nothing new.*

**National Scout Jamboree (2010)** – *It's something for us to consider! (08/26) The internet Courier gives the following information that is being passed around. Greg mentioned that he picked-up some brochures at summer camp and they were back with our paperwork in the back room. We discussed it and there was a suggestion that we could possibly just go as visitors. Nothing was decided, just discussed. Terry said he thought this was the last time that it would be in Virginia. (09/30) Nothing new. (10/21) The council is still looking for people to attend. They want to fill two troops (72-scouts and 8-adults at \$2000 each), and aren't half way there yet. If they don't get enough in a couple of weeks they will be dropping one of the troops. We believe any scout troop can visit on one day. (11/25) Sign-up ends in January. (1/27) We believe they were only*

able to fill one troop along with a couple alternates. (03/03) Council did not get enough for a second troop, but the council is keeping it and extending the opportunity.

### **Training:**

Gene Barney is the District Training Chairman.

**Youth Protection:** Do it online then let MaryAnn Bushaw know that you did it. Training is good for two years. Make sure **you** do it through the **District website** and not the national one!  
<http://www.wanchanagi.org/?p=training&a=htm&page=YouthProtect>

**Fast Start:** Do it online, and then let MaryAnn Bushaw know that you did it. Make sure **you** do it through the **District website** and not the national one!  
<http://www.wanchanagi.org/?p=training&a=htm&page=FastStart>

**New Leader Essentials:** Will be offered at the Roundtables for Jan. 8 and Feb. 12. (1/27) Starts at 6:30 at Christ United Methodist Church. Pete asked what it was. It can only be done in a group session, not online. Edmund is interested in that also. (03/03) Phil asked if we had anyone taking it. Alex took it at Roundtable. It is only one for Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts. New Leaders Essential is changing names and going online.

**Leader Specific:** <http://www.wanchanagi.org/?p=training&a=htm&page=ldrSpec> (1/27) A new course starts April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Phil said all of us have it. Edmund inquired, he is interested in doing this training.

### **Weather Hazards Training:**

<http://www.scouting.org/my scouting/elearning.aspx>

Do it online, then let MaryAnn Bushaw know that you did it. Make **sure you** do it through the **National website**. It is available through the Council website.

**Wood Badge For the 21st Century C-25-08 (Aug. 22-24 and Sep. 19-21, 2008):** (5/20) Tim is all set to go. Belinda signed-up and paid today. (6/10) Nothing new to report. (07/22) Ideas for tickets are; make up schedules for Roundtable, see MaryAnn. Sandy said you can volunteer at Day Camp also. (08/26) Belinda and Tim attended their first session this last weekend. Sandy is on staff as a Troop Guide. (09/30) Belinda had to tell what her ticket items were; we will get Tim's next month. (10/21) Tim is working his ticket. He is doing Woodcutters Ball, Baloo training, New Scout orientation, Community Pinewood Derby, and one other item. Belinda has 1 done. (1/27) Tim had a problem with one item, but he will be back on track. He has one done. Belinda has 2 done, 1 more this weekend, and 2 waiting for events to occur. (03/03) Belinda has 3 items done and her 4<sup>th</sup> one is coming around with the New Family Orientation on the 14<sup>th</sup>.

### **Wood Badge For the 21st Century C-54-09 (Aug. 21-23 and Sept. 18-20, 2009):**

2009 announcements are out. Tom Siefken will be the course director. (11/25) Dates are now set. (1/27) Phil encourages people to attend for this year. Our troop pays for it. You pay \$50 deposit up front and get reimbursed when you complete it. Phil will be on staff for this course. (03/03) We have 3 interested – Ryan, Derek and Greg. Derek has committed to it.

### Miscellaneous Business

**A garage at the fire station:** (08/26) *Building permit! Contractor! And groundbreaking this week!!* (09/30) *We saw the framing up for the garage at the Fire Station. They are working on it. When theirs is complete, we will get 2/3 of their old building.* (1/27) *Nothing new.* (03/03) *Nothing new.*

**Rotary Sign:** (09/30) *Rev. Richard Wang, former minister at CVUMC, said the Rotary sign needs to be repaired. He suggested a scout take it as a project. It's a sign with a case that takes announcements; it belongs to the Rotary Club. Resources could be provided. They would really like a scout or the troop to take on the project. Ed showed an interest and got his phone number. They would like to have it done before the winter sets in.* (10/21) *It's a small sign. Who's going to do it?* (11/25) *Nick Horan is looking for an Eagle project. Ed will look at it and see if it is big enough for an Eagle project. Ed will contact Rev. Wang.* (12/23) *Terry will look at it. We need to get back to Reverend Wang and do this as soon as the weather gets warmer.* (1/27) *Terry looked at pictures from Ed, and drove past it. It is not big enough for an Eagle project, but the Troop should do it anyway.* (03/03) *It will be a Troop project when the weather gets nicer. It's on State Street. It was originally an Eagle project for someone from Troop 57. It has weathered. It needs to be refinished. It is on the Fire Department property. Terry said it should be done by a couple of people.*

**Popcorn:** *We need to recruit a new Popcorn Kernel. Jessica wants out.* (03/03) *Phil asked if any of our new leaders have popcorn experience. Nobody knew.*

**100 Year Celebration:** (01/27) *Sandy heard new information at Pow Wow. We need to add these to our calendar. One is a biking trip, 100 miles. There is an Arbor Day event, a geocaching event, and more. Hall of Leadership award is also available, nominations February 8<sup>th</sup> through August 31<sup>st</sup> of 2009.* (03/03)

### New Business

**Missing calendar links:** *Roller skating, first aid meet, Eagle cave.* (03/03) *Roller skating was put on today. Tracy will be coordinating it for us. First Aid is not working. Eagle Cave is not working.*

**New Family Orientation (Mar. 14):** (03/03) *Belinda and Tim worked on it tonight. We are having it at Christ United Methodist Church. All the adults spots are full and Tim was still recruiting scouts. Those who signed up will be emailed their information within the next week. Talent surveys should be handed-out at this also to see where our new parents' interests lie.*

**Blackhawk Area College (Apr. 4):** (03/03) *Why? Terry said it is in the Courier. It is more training. It's being pushed through Commissioners and at Roundtables.*

**Cub Scout Pinewood Derby (Apr. 18-19):** (03/03) *This council events needs volunteers, older scouts, good advertising for the troop to other packs. Phil said we need to participate, if possible.*

**Midwest Regional Extrication Competition (May 16-17):** (03/03) *Are we still doing it? We need to find an adult to run it. Lois is not available this year.*

**BMX Food Tent (June 18-21):** (03/03) *Belinda is willing to help, but would prefer not to be in charge. Suggested she train a new parent. Suggestions will be made to the new parents at the Orientation.*

**Website:** (03/03) John Vermie wrote our website. It was originally on a server owned by a company that he had a share of. He sold his share with the stipulation that we would always have free space. The people that John sold it to sold it again and now a new company is looking at buying the server. We should start looking at a new host. Phil will talk with Lori about researching new companies.

**Cost of campouts:** (03/03) It is now \$8.00. Based on what we have been spending on campouts, along with the rise in gas and food, it's suggested we raise it. It was not intended to pay for them but to get commitments from people. Terry has been trying to get Greg to figure out what we have been spending on campouts, but we have never been able to get all the figures. Tracy volunteered to help Greg get this organized and put on a spreadsheet. They would like to go back at least 3 years. It was suggested that the amount be submitted whether a person wants to be reimbursed or not so records can be kept better. There was a suggestion that this be presented to the new families also at the Orientation. We will keep it the same as it for now but will review it periodically.

**Troop 57 Scout Fundraiser:** (03/03) A scout in Troop 57 has been diagnosed with bone cancer. Shepherd of the Valley Church is doing a fundraiser soon to help with the family's cost. They are also going to be doing a Blood Drive in May. MaryAnn said several of our boys came from Pack 429 and know the Scout. It was mentioned that we should be involved.

**Advancements:** (03/03) Our 2008 advancement rate was 35.6%. That just shows rank. We are below other troops. We need to push Patrol Coaches and advancements.

Ended 9:46 p.m.