

2024-02-12 – Placer District Connections Meeting – First United Methodist Church Loomis

Welcome by Michael Jacques (District Roundtable Commissioner)

Flags by Michael Thabault (District Key 3+)

Invocation by Brent Lamkin (District Commissioner)

Greg Schultz (District Chair) – introduction of Jim Ford, Placer’s new District Scouting Executive.

Jim Ford – Background: He was a longtime parent in scouting, recently left the mortgage business after 32 years to become a BSA District Executive. Having fun at the council. He’s a big planner and loves to grow things. Recruiting is number one on his list. Wants to work with everyone to work with schools and make it happen. Wants to work with us on what schools we pull from- then carry out cafeteria talks, signup nights, etc. He was hired in August. Got his feet wet with the American River District, and now he’s excited to be helping Placer District. Phone 916-501-2015 (cell phone – always on).

Jim Ford - Announcements: Camp cards! Kickoff / Card pickup is Feb 24<sup>th</sup>. 8am to 1pm at Urban Air trampoline and Adventure – 1700 Arden Way. Climbing wall will be there. Signup sheet just went live today. If you want, please sign on.

Scouting for food – Council just ordered door hangers. If you want to participate, signup online is closed, but let Jim know – there are extra door hangers. 1 can is 1 pound for weighing purposes. Need to contact Council to coordinate dropoff/donation locations. Question: Are troops allowed to still sign up for camp cards? Yes. And Council will need help sorting camp cards – come help and get your cards before anyone else! Sorting is at council office- ask Jim for more details.

June 1<sup>st</sup> is the fishing derby. Folsom Blvd and Howe Ave. Behind the federal offices there. Date set, more info to follow.

Steve Croft was our interim District Executive, but he retired Jan 31<sup>st</sup>.

IOLS and BALOO – March 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> at Sierra Pines United Methodist Church, North Auburn. - IOLS is oversold by 18. BALOO has 12 spaces left. Huge thanks to Janna Polik, Mike Thabault and \_\_\_ are leading the charge (sorry I missed the 3<sup>rd</sup> name!) More info here: <https://scoutingevent.com/047-78315>

Next IOLS – April - Grinding Rock State Park.

Woodbadge 2024 – Mike Thabault – The course is over Memorial Day weekend, May 27-29<sup>th</sup> at Camp Lassen, and June 8/9<sup>th</sup> at the NorCal Adventure Area. Mike highly recommends Woodbadge for new leaders. This course gives you the tools to help recognize how scouts and adults operate and how to work with SPL, troop leadership, and operate with the patrol method. March 3<sup>rd</sup> price jump – price goes up \$25. Why wait to learn this amazing material as an old scout leader – learn the skills now and apply them now! Be a better leader and have fun! Lots of room!

Camporee – Mike Thabault - April 26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> at Camp Far West Lake. Registration goes live on Feb 19<sup>th</sup>. Early registration is \$30 from Feb 19<sup>th</sup> to March 17<sup>th</sup>. Last year most troops waited until the last minute to register, so this year there’s a push for earlier registration. \$35 from 3/17 to 4/12. Last 2 weeks before the event will jump to \$45. Leaders guide will be attached to registration. Units running an event can register 1 adult as staff (15 staff total).

Cuboree – May 11th at the NorCal Adventure Area in Dobbins CA. This year there will be more focus on shooting sports, or as BSA has renamed them, Range and Target Sports... Saturday May 11<sup>th</sup> is the date for the activities, with possibility to spend night beforehand. Info will go live on the website soon.

Placer Twilight Cub Day Camp – June 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> at The Grounds in Roseville. Daily from 4:00pm to 8:00pm. The theme is “Outdoor Adventure” and Brandon Zipp is the new Program Director. We will have more information on stations at the March 11<sup>th</sup> District Connections meeting, so be ready to finalize plans and sign up for stations!

Camp Lassen Resident Camp – Janna Polik, Program Director – Excited to announce the hiring of 3 key area directors: Aquatics / Climbing / Rangemaster. Lots of returning staff from last year. Cub sessions are full, just added session 4.

Recruitment Fair Recap – at the January 11<sup>th</sup> Placer Connections meeting 9 troops showed up to recruit AOL scouts to their troops. Next time coordinate this recruitment fair in September before the AOL scouts commit to troops.

District Dinner. March 9<sup>th</sup> - 26 days from today! Needs: 1. photos for district movie. Longer movie, 6 minutes. Will include trailers for camporee and twilight camp.

Send Michael Jacques 3 or 4 photos via text – 530-368-7697.

Auction – placer bucks – could use 3,4,5 more items. Baskets, camping gear, anything scout related. National Jamboree patches or?

Not doing desserts this year. But still POTLUCK. 2 serving tables.

Unit scouter of the year!!! Every pack and troop should recognize 1 or 2 (designate, not nominate) unit leaders. Let Michael Jacques know tonight. We had about 92 people last year. Aiming for over 100 this year. Mark Wong will preside – the new President of Golden Empire Council. JRD and David Hagar.

District Pinewood Derby – 5:00pm before the District Dinner at 6pm – need headshots of pack winners in Class A, no car, plain-ish background. 1:00 pm setup of track. Need help.

Drawing for Prizes – 7:38 pm.

Jim Ford – one more announcement: it is Friends of Scouting time. If you have a B+G scheduled, or an upcoming meeting - he just wants a few minutes of our time to pitch FOS.

Journey to Excellence scorecards – send to Brent in the next 2 weeks!!!

**Cub Breakout** – Packs working together.

The recent Roseville Glow Derby was given as an example of how units can work together to create an even better event and experience. Are there any other ideas for synergizing, or minimizing the duplication of efforts between packs?

Recruiting was identified as a big need, and a way that we can all work together. Flyers, recruiting events, business cards with pack and [placerscouting.org](http://placerscouting.org) info for kids to hand out in class, doing things together as Packs but recognizing that we don't get much support from Council. Printing of yard signs or banners. Creating our own resources and tailoring the message for our communities (not just BSA default materials).

Group raingutter regatta? How can we elevate a raingutter regatta with multiple packs?

Summer hikes open to all packs in the area? Start thinking of recruitment in the fall.

Campouts? The District cub camp in the fall was a great time. Camping is difficult with YPT and multiple chartering orgs.

Trevor – how many units have an advertising budget. This is essential for good recruiting.

It was mentioned that Slack didn't work for some people. They recommended Band – an app with calendar, fliers, etc. Slack has >70 people, but has been quiet lately. It was abuzz with planning for the Roseville Glow Derby, but goes through lulls.