

## 20230410 – Placer District Connections Meeting Notes (BZ)

Meeting was opened by Michael Jacques, pledge of allegiance, invocation, and fun intro by YB Normal.

7:07PM – Items of general interest

Mike Thabault

Camporee is in 2 weeks! Troops that are running a station please stop by and talk with Mike to discuss space needs, etc. Register here: [https://scoutingevent.com/047-2023\\_PlacerDistrictCamporee#](https://scoutingevent.com/047-2023_PlacerDistrictCamporee#)

Kathy Neuberger:

Introduced Michelle Burns as the new Twilight Camp program director!!!

Twilight will be held at the Lincoln Fishery in June. The leaders did a site visit and said it will be an awesome venue. More info can be found here: <https://scoutingevent.com/047-PlacerTwilightCamp2023>

Resident Cub Camp @ Camp Lassen: Janna Polik is the program director!!!

Session 2 has a little space with the updated numbers. Session 5 has the best space. Others are filling up. More info can be found here: <https://scoutingevent.com/047-CampLassenCubCamp2023>

Resident BSA Camp @ Camp Winton: Jonathan Rogness is the program director!!!

Most sessions are filled, but week of 4<sup>th</sup> of July is still open. More info can be found here: <https://scoutingevent.com/047-CampWinton2023>

PUSH Dinner

Annual dinner to honor notable people in the community. This year the honorees are the Lund Family. May 22<sup>nd</sup> Monday night – Doubletree Hotel in Sac. The organizing committee needs suggestions of people to contact. Businesses you do business with, in the community, etc. Not regular FOS donors, rather bigger Corporations capable of donating. No cost to attend, but suggested donation of \$250. More info can be found here: <https://scoutingevent.com/047-2023pushdinner>

Jonathan Rogness

“Swing a Club for Scouting”: GEC Golf Tournament – Teal Bend GC, June 12<sup>th</sup>. Near SMF airport. Currently \$800/foursome or \$200/person, prices will rise to \$1k for a foursome or \$250 per person that includes greens fees, goodie bag, raffle, breakfast, lunch, and beverages are provided. (1<sup>st</sup> day of Twilight Camp). More info can be found here: <https://scoutingevent.com/047-GolfTournament>

Greg Schultz

Woodbadge is coming up! Fliers are online – GEC-BSA.org Sept 22-24, Oct 14-15. Need 30 people signed up 30 days in advance or national will pull it. More info can be found here: <https://scoutingevent.com/047-63667>

NYLT is June 11-16. Camp Mcconnell – in partnership with Greater Yosemite Council down at their property. Or the GEC only session Sept 2-4, and 22-24 at NorCal. More info can be found here:

[https://static1.squarespace.com/static/62a23582c701f60598f741db/t/63e29131e6fe7c17d28ef16c/1675792703240/2023+NYLT+Flyer+Updated+12\\_21\\_22++v.2+%283%29.pdf](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/62a23582c701f60598f741db/t/63e29131e6fe7c17d28ef16c/1675792703240/2023+NYLT+Flyer+Updated+12_21_22++v.2+%283%29.pdf)

Jon Kantola

Pack 48 storage unit needs to be empty this Wednesday. 2 pinewood derby tracks including 1 brand new maple track with electronics finish. There's a nice bridge for bridging ceremonies. And raingutter regatta tracks/gutters. Everything needs to go, otherwise it will be lost.

7:19PM – Prize Drawing. Danish Butter Cookies, Chocolates, beach balls, etc.

7:22PM – Main discussion topic – Providing value to unit leaders and increasing attendance

Brandon Zipp

Discussion on ways to improve the roundtable meetings. (Written up suggestions were sent to the committee and can be found posted on <https://placerscouting.org/resources/> )

The main discussion focused on creating value for unit leaders. Providing value will drive attendance. Tonight the announcements were minimized and only 12 minutes, and the rest of the time can focus on creating value for leaders. Awesome!

What would provide value to leaders? What do leaders want? Why are leaders not attending? We need to survey the units in the district to get feedback that will drive change in the district meetings.

Kathy's Notes:

Brandon Zipp and Trevor Strosnider did a great job of recapping a number of suggestions from the Slack group. One idea is to survey leaders about why they do not come to Connections. General comments have suggested the value proposition needs to be improved. So how to create value? See results of survey.

Trevor will create a QR code link to survey, distribute these links/cards at Camp-O-Ree cracker barrel, discuss at crackerbarrel.

The downhill packs have distributed minutes of Connections meetings and included other resources. This should be included on the district email invitation and on the calendar:  
[placerscouting.org/resources](https://placerscouting.org/resources)

Some other ideas that have come up:

- Position specific training—would people be willing to attend 3 meetings, because these trainings are usually around 3 hours?
- CPR—people could do the online portion, then come to Connections to finish the in-person portion.
- Protected discussion/sharing time on different topics.
- Hikes for kids
- Roleplaying “problem” situations
- Special needs kids
- Sage words for meeting management
- Navigating Scoutbook
- Inviting people who did interesting University of Scouting classes to come

Suggestion from Michelle Burns on creating value for leaders:

Activity fair for teachers / instructors. Bring stuff to do a craft/activity, instructions, share with the other leaders and everyone learns from each other.

Greg Schultz

As the District Chair, there is no “District” – only us. We are the district. We need help to implement technology. We need more help.

Discussion topic for the May 8<sup>th</sup> District meeting.

Making scouts fun! Each person needs to bring a joke, a run-on, a song... And write it out so people can share it. “Fun stuff for scout meetings”. Trevor will record and post on YouTube. In June we will have a short meeting at Twilight Camp, we are off in July, and in August will have our pizza kickoff meeting for the new Scouting year.