

Connections 1/13/25

Start Team – 7:01PM

Training Update – Cub Basic leader March 14 9-1 at council office, den leader, cubmaster, committee sign up online

Baloo and IOS training – Scouts – March 29/30 at Norcal, Fall dates to come.

Council office Scout store is now open, please come by the new office, big change, lots of stuff going on. Lots of large screen tv's and room for trainings. Jim was promoted to field director, which means he will be overseeing Placer as DE until they find the replacement.

Re-charter – Going along really well, missing unit annual re-charter paperwork. Council will be reaching out to units who are missing, DE's will be gone the rest of this week, but will be contacting the units next week if there is anything missing, or anything wrong with the re-charter. A number of applications have already been submitted

Sportsmans Expo this weekend – Like to help? Sign ups on the council website, come visit, starts Thursday, Youth starts Friday from 3-8pm, Sat and Sunday. If you come in uniform you get in free. Parking is \$10. SAFE Archery, fishing pond, climbing, etc.

Council Dinner – Saturday Feb 8th at Timbers at the lodge in Sun City; Registration is open, \$60/person where council honors great service at the district and council. Other rec for OA and council and district services.

Camporee – Last weekend of April, @the Grounds

NYLT – 3 courses coming up, 1) Feb 14-17 Feb 22-23 at Camp McConnel in Livingstone, 2) Combine Course with Greater Yosemite Jun 8-13 at Camp McConnel, 3) Aug 29- Sept 1 , Sep 13-14 at Norcal. Youth version of Woodbadge, great for BSA Scouting units.

Woodbadge – Great partnership to the youth who are trained in the unit. (*BSA) Only spring course May 24-26th, Jun 7 & 8, \$200 early bird price. Conflict resolution, team building, recruit people from your unit. Those who have attended say they should of went sooner, not later.

District Dinner – March 1st, 4th Annual Pinewood Derby Championship. Winners from the units need to contact Trevor Strosnider. \$10 to cover cost of awards, youth are free. Looking for donations for auction. Looking for photos for annual video. Unit leaders need to submit their designation of Golden Bolo. Will be Potluck. Text photos to Mr. Jacques 530.368.7697 6pm. 5pm for PWD Championship; Youth free, registration is open; bring a dish to share for the potluck.

Placer Auction – Placer bucks, bring them to the District Dinner, seeking donations, need 11 more. Artwork, scout patches, gift cards, Dutch oven, etc. If you have a donation, please let Mike T know.

Prize Drawing – 7:25pm

7:30pm- Placer welcomes Council President Mark Wong and Vice President of Properties John Walton for an open discussion:

At family camp there was time where leaders rose a number of issues – Handed out sheet for efficiency of time.

Other districts have questions as well. No long drawn out, want to move along quickly.

- 1) Lassen is closed, board said to recapitalize the asset. The council has been under headwinds both financially and , council used Lassen to shore up the financials. Small percentage used.

Now leasing the new office, sold the old council office. Do not own Cole or Winton, supposedly harder to sell, and make a profit. Norcal is going to be a multi purpose facility; which places Lassen on the chopping board. Lassen Alumni is helping finding a buyer and possibly program. Yes on cub resident camp, on the weekend, Fri-Sun in three separate regions of the state. Locations unknown at this time. Plans for this summer? Yes. Spring, Summer and Fall; how can units plan? Miscommunication at the highest levels? Is there a meeting we can go to provide input? MW says yes; but nothing communicated. Expand the number of cub scouts who can go to camp; 400ish, what does GEC see the attendance be? More affordable, more local? This year will be the “learning year” Covid, LDS and other impacts, trying to bring us the best program. Be patient, in flux. Trying to get locations and dates as soon as possible.

- 2) Lassen Camp is closed, so not able to used. The hope is to be able to use norcal, restroom facilities are not cub level; using chemical toilets, campsites are extremely primitive, gearing up to make it Hoping to invite units to Winton for work weekend Aug 15th-first snow fall, lots of remodel, repair, up in the air for use. Limited use for Camp Hosts: JW goal is to get done, that didn't get done, need to develop a group of people who have keys, meet people, know where to turn on/off things, working on trying to get established this year. Maybe an incentive plan? Looking for volunteers.
- 3) Council fee – board to allocate \$40k to Winton and Lassen, allocated to make sure Lassen was able to support the final year. Council has been running on a shoestring budget. Sale of council office has been directed to Winton and Norcal. First time ever, the properties has an operating budget. Going to hire contracts to do the work right, not just band-aid. Camp Winton will have some immediate work done. Tent platforms, septic, and work on rifle range.
- 4) Overhead and contiengy fees – Key 3+ are all now board members; MW came up over a decade ago, needs to go to finance committee, MW to go to leadership. 50% goes to Council fees
- 5) Volunteers – try to get BSA and OA to help. Parents pay to be there, then stuck at a station. How can we attract or help volunteers? Pushed to District. Other districts have done: Get one paid scout if they volunteer; No guidance, completely lost and volunteers did not have info before the cubs were in front of them.
- 6) Training - Only 2 trainings due to low attendance. Need participation and trainers. When dates move it hurts attendance.
- 7) National Awards Program – Council person who knows all of the awards, not everyone knows about it, and there is no council person who knows. GS is going to mention at the next advancement committee meeting.

Scouting America the movement is a volunteer and nonprofit; trying to steer an oil tanker on dime, so much energy to put in to get any thing changed. Have a question you would like to get answered? Send your question to Greg Shultz.