



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

DENVER AREA COUNCIL

Jewish Committee on Scouting

Agenda

8/22/13

Opening

Pledge of Allegiance

Dvar Torah – Mike

Moses reminds the Jewish people of the miraculous events in the desert during the Exodus. They didn't know/see/have any of the miracles until that point in time. We view things differently looking back – we have a different reference/frame of mind looking back. The moment something happens in our lives we have crystal clear clarity; but our perspective and belief looking back changes.

Review July meeting (no minutes available)

Accepted and posted on the website.

Old Business

Jamboree 2013 (5 minutes per ea attendee)

Wet and muddy. Ambient showers.

Hyiam: Shomer Shabbat Contingent – the work that the coordinators did prior really paid off. The cooperation on the part of everyone involved outside of the shomer Shabbat contingent was evident and appreciated. Humungous tent for the contingent and an eruv already erected. Motion sensor on bathroom disabled so lights left on. Not National Jewish Committee on Scouting but National for BSA that did these amazing things. Hyiam wasn't involved personally with the preparation; heard second hand about this. One highlight was supposed to be a real dinner Friday night. Hot chicken dinner. Plus at Summit Center they had that too; supposed to be trucked over. Dinner time rolls around at 9:30 PM; hot boxes opened up. Hyiam was the Rabbi; asked by the contingent. He was the only Rabbi with the group; didn't realize he'd be doing that. Food not double wrapped; aluminum foil around it not done properly. Sixty people; 9:30 PM; what do we do? Earlier in the week Hyiam had been collecting food and gathering it for that purpose. Somebody radioed for peanut butter. Dinner was cornbread, bread, and peanut butter. It was a big mistake on the part of NJCOS not to include the shomer Shabbat contingent in the meal planning.

Shawn:

Lots of discussion on the J-Scouts Yahoo group about Jambo.

Greg: He went to the Friday night dinner where they did a service. Also prepared cards with prayers and a Muslim scout was thrilled to do a prayer of his own faith. Prayers included Jewish, Christian, Buddhist, and Islamic prayers. Also put together a prayer service. Had a challenge with treif only options the last day at Wright-Patterson for dinner.



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Mike said something similar happened at Summer Camp at PV – camp staff stirred Kosher food with treif ladles.

Somebody has to be **DIRECTLY** involved in meal supervision for a Shomer Shabbos Contingent.

Chaplain Aid Training (CAT) - Mike

October 26th, University of Scouting. On a Saturday. Will do another one on a day that's not Saturday in the Spring.

Recognition for Jewish Scouts - Certificate created (Shawn bring copies?)

How far back do we go? 2 years? If somebody asks we don't say no?

Shawn will check how far back some of the scouts we know about Eagled.

We'll make some for Geoff and Zach along with some other scouts we know are Jewish and would have earned this.

Fall Kinus – Oct 20, 2013

Greg – update on contact with Ekar Farms

Greg contacted Aaron Ney about the free option on October 20th; but with some things going on at DAT it may be challenging; should we push back to Channukah? We need to come up with some better games too.

1st Day of Thanksgiving; same as 19 years ago; same as 19 years from now. 1899 it was a day early. 1975 ish Mike had gone to see a friend for Thanksgiving and celebrated Hannukah the next day too.

What weekend works best? December 8th? That may work well. It's outside of Channukah but people are still in town. Outside of winter break. Greg e-mailed Aaron to see if we can work on a greenhouse project for Ekar Farms.

Jewish Girl Scouting (Venture Crew?) –

Tabled item, open for discussion – NJCOS not sanctioned by a Jewish organization. It is sanctioned by BSA; it's the only organization. This may be out of our purview; we'll put this off for now.

Hyiam could pick that up if somebody picks up his Scout Troop and Cub Pack; but would rather get a female leader since we're trying to create a female crew. Any rebbetzins in the Orthodox Community we could plug into? Is there a core of the young women we could recruit for a venture crew? We could possibly pick up a parent. Could we draw from Beth Yaakov?

We're currently short on options for other youth. Tabled pending demonstration of interest.

Chabad Sponsored Venture crew @ Stapleton?? – maybe in Spring

Coordinator overwhelmed right now; tabled until the Spring.

New Business (?)

New JCOS Chairman – let's work with him to coordinate future events.



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He sent us an e-mail; asking to make the JCOS more responsive and asking for our input.

Yehuda Katz was on staff at Jamboree, assigned as a commissioner for the Shomer Shabbat contingent site.

Next Meeting: - Date / Time / Location

9/30/2013 – Monday night. 7:30 PM – 9:00 PM ish.

Closing (Scoutmaster's Minute) – Mike

Aish – Rabby Eli Shauer?

Taking the first fruits; bringing them to the Cohen.

Midrash teaches us this about the first fruit when the world was created.

Some orthodox congregations will look for the first bud and put a thread through it to denote it.

Man was placed in the world to recognize its creator. We are too distracted with other things and think ourselves masters of our universe. The first fruits remind us of our place; man may nurture and develop the fruit; but those fruits are G-d's doing.

When we recognize everything is a gift from G-d – only then do we have the ability to form a relationship with him.