



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

DENVER AREA COUNCIL

September 27, 2018

Attendees:

Name	Present
Greg Ostravich	Yes
Shawn Connelly	Yes
Mike Shapiro	
Dave Reynolds	
James Dockter	
Jenna Wilkin	
Ariella Wells	

Pledge of Allegiance

Dvar Torah - Parshah Sukkot - Leviticus 22:26-23:44

This Parshah first mentions a calf, lamb, or kid must be left with its mother for seven days. One may not slaughter the animal and its offspring on the same day. Then it talks about various festivals and their dates; including that on the 15th day (and the subsequent 6 days) of the seventh month no work should be done and then talks about Sukkot offerings which were to be brought to the Temple.

I picked the Chassidic Masters interpretation of this parshah.

The festivals are "callings of holiness" (*mikra'ei kodesh*), in the sense that each is a landmark in time at which we are empowered to call forth the particular holiness or spiritual quality imbedded within it. On the first Passover, for example, G-d granted us the gift of freedom. On the first Shavuot, He gave us the Torah; on Rosh Hashanah, G-d became king of the universe; on Yom Kippur, we received the gift of *teshuvah*; and so on. But freedom, wisdom, awe, joy, peace, and the other divine gifts granted in the course of our history are constant needs of the soul; they are the spiritual nutrients that sustain her in her journey through life. G-d embedded these qualities within the very substance of time and set "appointed times" at which they can be accessed. Each year, when we arrive at the juncture of time where a particular spiritual quality has been embedded, we are granted the ability to access it once again.

The special mitzvot of each festival are the tools with which we "call forth" the "holiness" of the day: eating matzah on Passover unearths the gift of freedom, sounding the *shofar* on Rosh Hashanah calls forth its quality of awe, and so on with all "the appointed times of G-d."

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Review August meeting minutes.

Old Business -

Unit Status –

Temple Emanuel – Pack 1874:

Asked Steve Stark about materials in the basement from the previous unit.

Trailer – Have we got it from LTC Peterson? No; need to follow-up with Mike Shapiro to see if it's at DAT or with LTC John Peterson.

Aish, HEA (Hebrew Educational Alliance) and Temple Sinai – Mike was reaching out to them. ; Mike not here; no update.

Chabad – contacted yet?

1613 – Starting up again with DAT and the Jewish Day School for a Troop but they'll also create a pack. Shawn will be an ASM; Mike will be the Unit Commissioner for 1613 along with 1874.

Question: Denver JCOS Certificate for Sam?

Shawn has provided an updated template; Greg uploaded it to the Google Drive.

Programs

Kinnus - Did we decide on a date for this? Sukkot? Lag Bomer?

We talked about for the Lag B'omer we could do a campfire activity and use it as a secondary "Crossover" for the scouts too. Can grill burgers and hot dogs. Also, a possibility somebody might donate steaks.

Lag B'omer it is; need to pick a date.

Next question: If it's crossover should we just do a cookout and not an overnight? Thursday May 23rd is Lag B'omer; do we do it in town on the 23rd? Or the weekend before? Sunday May 19th, 2019 looks good. It's Pesach Sheni but that shouldn't be an issue. Let's do it at Hamilton Scout HQ; Shawn will reserve the campfire ring.

Next up: Talk about programming next month. Do we do demo of setting up tents and scoutcraft? Think about this for the next meeting.

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Religious awards - Any new scouts working on this? Updates? No.

JCOS Program @ Philmont in Summer 2019? Anybody going? Not sure; follow-up next month on this.

Scout Sabbath – Update: We talked about possibly February 2nd and that Shawn would put together a patch for this. We'll need to put out something a week or two ahead of time. Have scouts show up in Field Uniform on Scout Shabbat.

We'll have one for Emanuel (1874) and one for DAT (1613) and we need to put together a flyer and distribute it to the congregations. Greg will ping Rabbi Black at Emanuel to make sure that's a good date; and Mike Shapiro will talk to DAT and BMH about it as well. If that date works for all congregations, we'll proceed.

Basically, show up in uniform for services.

DTGC (Duty to G-d and Country) – G-d and Country Breakfast: Hosted by Dan Ritchie at DU 11/8/2018 7:30 – 9:00 at the International Relations Complex. James Dockter will ask Rabbi Black about doing the invocation. TODO Greg – Register and ask for a half-day at work. Shawn and Mike need to register. Shawn will follow-up with Lindsey for Kosher food again. Need to make sure it's pareve or dairy so we don't have any issues like meat and can't have coffee with cream.

New Business – Any?

None

Next Meeting?

October 25th, 2018 – 7 PM at Hamilton Scout HQ

Closing (Scoutmasters Minute) – Greg

This was a scoutmaster minute I gave on April 13th, 2015. It doesn't really go with the Parshah, but it seems to fit with what we do during the High Holy Days in order to make tshuvah.

4/13/2015 - Mistakes / Regret

We all make mistakes.

We all say or do things that sooner or later we come to regret.

Here are some things that we will never be sorry for.

Thinking before acting,

Hearing before judging,

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Forgiving your enemies,
Being candid and frank,
Helping a fallen brother,
Being honest in business,
Thinking before speaking,
Being loyal to your faith,
Standing by your principles,
Stopping your ears to gossip,
Bridling a slanderous tongue,
Harboring only pure thoughts,
Sympathizing with the afflicted,
Being courteous and kind to all.

- Author Unknown

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