



# BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

## DENVER AREA COUNCIL

October 25, 2018

Attendees:

Name	Present
Greg Ostravich	X
Shawn Connelly	X
Mike Shapiro	X
Dave Reynolds	X
James Dockter	
Jenna Wilkin	X (Via phone)
Ariella Wells	

### Pledge of Allegiance

#### Dvar Torah - Parashat Vayera – Genesis 18:1-22:24

Summary from Chabad Website: Angels visit Abraham and Sarah, informing them that Sarah would give birth to a child despite her advanced age. The angels whisk Lot and his daughters out of Sodom, and overturn and destroy the entire region. Abimelech, king of the Philistines, attempts to make Sarah part of his harem, but through divine intervention she is released unharmed. Isaac is born, and Ishmael and Hagar are expelled from Abraham's household. Abraham makes a peace treaty with Abimelech. The story of the "Binding of Isaac" is recounted – Isaac's "near-sacrifice" experience.

I didn't find an interpretation of these events but thought hospitality might fit somewhere within the intent of the scout oath and law. It's Lot's hospitality that showed G-d there was at least one righteous man in the city of Sodom worth saving and it's what saved Lot and his daughters.

**Review September meeting minutes.**

**Old Business -**

**Unit Status –**

Temple Emanuel – Pack 1874 – Vote was on Tuesday 10/23/2018; review results. – Didn't hear from Steve Stark; but James Dockter said the vote went through successfully.

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Asked Steve Stark about materials in the basement from the previous unit. – Emailed before; did it again on Monday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Trailer – Have we got it back? It was with 1613; not Lt. Col. Peterson. And it's at DAT. DAT is also starting up Daisies, Brownies, and Cadets too!

LTC Peterson had BMH Troop equipment. Mike Shapiro will follow-up with him on Saturday.

Aish, HEA (Hebrew Educational Alliance) and Temple Sinai – Mike was reaching out to them; any update? No update this month from Mike. But Michaela from DAC has reached out to Temple Sinai. No word yet on that.

Rabbi Leban from “The Jewish Experience” – Jenna had contacted him to help with DAT. He doesn't have to lead up the unit, but he can chip in. Can we get a flyer for the DAT troop? Rachel Rubin is working on that.

Chabad – contacted yet? No. Rabbi Popak Jr. at Stapleton was interested in Explorers but haven't heard back.

1613 – Mike is the Unit Commissioner; Shawn an ASM. Jenna is the Committee Chair. Next meeting is November 7<sup>th</sup>; one outing a month, next one is November 18<sup>th</sup>. Every other week for Troop Meetings. The boys are interested in film making; they'll go on a hike and make a movie about the year of their troop. Look at the film making merit badge; they could get credit for this.

### Programs

*Kinnus: Lag Bomer – Hamilton Scout HQ in the Courtyard 5/19/2019 9-4*

Programming suggestions?

Starter list; let's add to it and discuss:

- Demo of Setting up Tents
- Knots
- Pioneering
- Cooking Demonstration – using stove
- Cooking with Dutch Oven – Mike Shapiro; Shawn will bring them.
- Patrol Box usage
- What to Bring and not bring for a camping trip
- Bonfire

We may see if some of the more seasoned scouts in 1613 will lead this up. Also, adults from Pack 1874

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Also, Memorial Day Weekend – Sunday, stay through Monday at Odom Farm. See below on New Business.

Religious awards - Any new scouts working on this? No news about this. Jenna can follow-up on this with 1613. Also, we need to let 1874 know about this too.

JCOS Program @ Philmont in Summer 2019? Anybody going? Not sure; follow-up next month on this. We'll find out the date for next time. If somebody wants to go Shawn would go down too. Mike Shapiro might go too. We need to get the dates. Shawn will find out. Note: Don't get in the 2<sup>nd</sup> lunch shift; needs to be the first ship because Kosher meals need to thaw. Tents have electricity for CPAPs.

Scout Sabbath – Update: We talked about possibly February 2<sup>nd</sup> and that Shawn would put together a patch for this. Follow-up from our various units' clergy to see if that date works OK. – Follow-up. Rabbi Black asked about what it was; that date might work for them. DAT & BMH we're trying to find out. Shawn is investigating for getting patches for this.

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. Address is: 2201 S Gaylord St, Denver, CO 80208.

Did James Dockter reach out to Rabbi Black for the invocation? Yes; he did but Rabbi Black is on vacation. Kosher meals have been ordered and they are pareve. Greg has Google Cloud Day downtown but will leave late from the breakfast. Greg, Shawn and Mike need to register. We think James Dockter has registered us; but not sure what we need to do. Shawn will verify.

Shomer Shabbos Wood badge – Baltimore Area Council May 20<sup>th</sup> – May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019.:

Baltimore Area Council is sponsoring a Sabbath Friendly Wood Badge course during the spring of 2019. The course will be held from Monday, May 20, 2019 (7:30 am) until Friday, May 24, 2019 (4:15 pm). Dates and meals have been designed to meet the obligations of a variety of religious observances, including strictly Kosher food and time for religious obligations to be met. An orientation meeting (recommended, but not required) is scheduled for Thursday, May 9, 2019 at 7 pm.

### **New Business –**

Two Eagle Candidates; Mayer Reynolds & Sam Strear; Greg may act as an advisor for Sam Strear.

Camping at ODOM with a Denver Area Council wide Jewish Unit event:

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Mike Shapiro shared this from J.D. Leonard

What are your thoughts about putting together at campout at Odom Farm for all the Jewish troops and packs and their families in the Denver area?

There is a wonderful barn that could be used for all sorts of activities. With good planning, I feel, we could find volunteers to run activities on Saturday night and Sunday. We could do service projects, activities, games, archery etc. on Sunday. We can even have a real campfire on Saturday night.

The barn can be used for everything but cooking as no open flames of any sort are allowed inside. I would be glad to help if a time next May or early June might work.

Note: JD is unavailable on May 17<sup>th</sup> → Sunday to Monday of Memorial Day Weekend.

Council Camporee for 2019 at PV; Set-up a Shomer Shabbos Experience. Shawn will reserve Caribou campsites for that as well as the Dietler Commissary. September 20-22, 2019. This won't interfere with the High Holy Days which are at the end of the month.

Rabbi Horowitz at BMH may want to join us for the committee.

### **Next Meeting?**

November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018 – 6 PM at  
Tentatively: Hamilton Scout HQ, 10455 W 6th Ave, Lakewood, CO 80215  
Maybe at DAT instead. Jenna will reach out to them.

### **Closing (Scoutmasters Minute) – Greg**

*Since next month is Thanksgiving I've picked one related to that:*

Thanksgiving

As Americans, we have a lot to be thankful for this Thanksgiving. We live in freedom, and most of us have an abundance of food and clothing and adequate shelter.

We are as blessed as any people in the world, but sometimes we forget that and gripe that we don't have even more. Let's remember that a lot of the world's population goes to bed hungry every night in homes that few Americans would want to live in.

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So, it's good to remind ourselves occasionally that we are lucky and to thank God for our blessings. That's what Thanksgiving really is, a time to give thanks. The Pilgrims started it more than 300 years ago when they gathered to thank God for a bountiful harvest.

Today Thanksgiving is a time for family gatherings around a groaning table followed by watching football games. There's nothing wrong with that.

But it's important that we don't forget the real meaning of Thanksgiving. So when you sit down with your family for Thanksgiving dinner, take time to count your blessings and thank God for them.

Note: Mike Shapiro added Thanksgiving was modeled after Sukkot.

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