



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

DENVER AREA COUNCIL

February 28, 2019

Attendees:

Name	Present
Ariella Wells	
Dave Reynolds	X
Greg Ostravich	X
Jenna Wilkin	X
Joe Black	
Mike Shapiro (remote)	X
Shawn Connelly	X
Sonya Lipman	

Pledge of Allegiance

Dvar Torah - Vayakhel (Exodus 35:1-38:20) (Parshat Shekalim)

Summary:

The Jewish nation donates the necessary materials to the Tabernacle, and Moses has to tell them to stop giving. Moses reiterates the laws of Sabbath observance. The Tabernacle and its vessels are built by a team of artisans.

Parsha – If There's a Will There's a Way by Rabbi Eli Scheller

This Parsha talks about Moshe calling upon the people to assist in construction of the *mishkan*, the tabernacle. The skills for this job included weaving, sewing, and building. Despite this, the Jewish people seemed to have no problem fulfilling their tasks. Where did they acquire the skills necessary for this?

Deep inside every person there are hidden talents which can be tapped into when one has a real desire to achieve something. The people who stepped forward to work in the *mishkan* did not know that they had such skills. However, as a result of their burning desire to be of assistance, they found untapped talents and hidden abilities that were used to fulfill their tasks.

Sometime a person may feel that he is inadequate, thinking, "I am just not cut out for this," or "I don't have the brains..." He may well be lacking something else - the desire to succeed. If someone has a strong will to

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accomplish something, he will achieve it. We can break beyond our limits and achieve the seemingly impossible - if there is a will.

Review January meeting minutes.

Old Business - Meeting Minutes Approved

Unit Status –

Temple Emanuel – Pack 1874 – No Update; they are still working on it. Greg gave the Committee Chair Jenna's info to reach out with questions.

Jenna **did** hear from Fatima; she doesn't have the time so we need to find somebody else to fill in.

BMH Troop Equipment: Update – We can't find it; will mark it as unavailable. We have what we need in the 1613 trailer.

Aish, HEA (Hebrew Educational Alliance) and Temple Sinai – Sinai has somebody that has approached them. Maybe Gilbert? We'll try and touch base again next month on this.

Rabbi Leban from "The Jewish Experience" – Jenna had contacted; any update? No update; Jenna will follow-up for the next meeting. – She spoke with Sarah Wolf and Sarah said she'd talk to him about it. We're hoping if they don't want to create a unit they'll join up with the DAT unit. They also run a "Sunday Experience" for B'nai Mitzvah candidates; maybe we can promote there.

1613 – Troop: Three or four 5th graders? Steve Parkhoff was interested; and Sammy Strear but they're the only two. Michael Joshua's son was interested; but couldn't join the snow tubing event. We need to seed the unit with older kids to get momentum. Crossover will help as well. Blue & Gold Banquet coming up – leaning toward the May 1st date. Jenna could use advice on how to plan it. Blue & Gold – celebration over the year; then the Crossover is a part of the same event. Should have 3 doing that. Can they borrow a bridge from the Girl Scouts for the crossover? Jenna will call the Colorado & Florida GS troop for that? Trailer – the school doesn't want it at DAT; can we put the trailer at Scout HQ. Shawn says yes. Let's do an inventory of what's in it too. Hitch fits Jenna's car; we'll check that when we finish the meeting.

Programs

Kinnus: Lag B'omer – Hamilton Scout HQ in the Courtyard 5/19/2019 9-4

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

- Demo of Setting up Tents – We need to practice before hand and reserve the tents.
- Knots – Basic Knots? Decorative? Let's do both.
 - Square Knot

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- Clove Hitch
- Two Half-Hitch
- Taut line
- Timber Hitch
- Lashings
- Bowline
- Sheep shank
- Decorative: Butterfly Knot (Shawn is working on this)
- Decorative: Monkey Fist (Greg)
- Decorative: Turk's Head (Greg)
- Pioneering – Shawn will ask about rope and poles
 - Tri-Pod for a Weather Rock (Shawn will bring a rock from Tahosa)
 - For rope lengths Mike suggested 25' of Green because there are 5 lengths of 5' and Green has 5 letters. Twenty feet of blue, 4 times 5. Red is 15, 3 x 5 and has 3 letters. Army Surplus store too.
- Cooking Demonstration – using stove → 1613's stove
 - Eggs? Omelets? --> Boil in a bag and do pancakes on the griddle.
- Cooking with Dutch Oven – Mike Shapiro; Shawn will bring them. (can use as frying pan); Shawn has a pareve one at home.
 - Cobbler – with charcoal on the Dutch Oven; Charcoal here at Scout HQ – Note: Shawn and Mike have a Kosher Dutch Oven they can bring. We need to follow-up if the Kosher dutch oven is OK with DAT. Jenna also has one from Hyiam Reiffman.
- Patrol Box usage
 - 1613 Patrol Box which is Kosher.
 - Trailer at DAT – Shawn will check with Jenna for inventory with the help of Dave Reynolds. Jenna has the combination to the lock.
- What to Bring and not bring for a camping trip – Mike will take this on and has Greg's document for that.
- Bonfire – We have the gas pit we can use for that. Shawn followed-up and we can use it.
- Still need kids to design a patch. Jenna will reach out to the Pack. April 10th as the deadline. Shawn will get Jenna some example patches we've used previously.
- Costs: Council will cover costs of facility; need to figure out costs for food.
- Parents and sibling are welcome.

We may see if some of the more seasoned scouts in 1613 will lead this up. Also, adults from Pack 1874 – revisit this because numbers are down in 1613 and 1874 isn't ready yet. Mayer Reynolds and Sammy Strear.

Memorial Day Weekend – Sunday, stay through Monday at Odom Farm. Note that the DAC bought Odom Farm. Still doing the Sunday to Monday of Memorial Day? Updates? Unit 1613

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might go camping that weekend. Let's see if we can get some volunteers. Shawn can help out with the camping. JD Leonard would love to see something that weekend.

Religious awards - Any word from Jenna about scouts in 1613? Kids are working on it; Jenna will work with them to finish out those awards.

Shawn also got e-mails from council staff on this; wants to recognize kids on the National level in May for earning their religious knot.

National JCOS Program @ Philmont in Summer 2019 June 16th – June 22nd

Scout Sabbath –Shawn will order some patches. Mike will follow-up with 1613. – Jenna said they are shooting for March 30th for DAT and I will attend. Looks like it will be at BMH. It'll be where the DAT Minyan meets. Can somebody follow-up with Rabbi Friedman? Let's e-mail Sammy and Mayer and see if they can join us; maybe give them an Aliyah for the service.

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.

Eagle Candidates – Mayer Reynolds & Sam Strear

- Mayer is one month away from turning 18; has completed his proposal. Fleece blankets for Children's Hospital.
- Sammy Strear – Mike will check with Greg Holt.

Jewish Venturing Crew? – Joe Black was asking about this. Rabbi Popak might sponsor a couple of crews. Not far enough to see if this could go; right now, it's stalled. Jenna said with 1613 they are not ready yet to have that. – Follow-up next month on this. Mike Shapiro will reach out to the Rabbi about this.

Rabbi Noam Horowitz at BMH may want to join us for the committee. – Mike spoke to him but since there isn't a co-ed unit at DAT that might not work. He's got two young girls that were maybe going to join Scouts, but it sounds like they went into girl scouts instead. Jenna will follow-up at DAT to see if we can find somebody to help out with being an ecclesiastical authority, so we follow laws around Kashrut. Yitzhak Estreicher is a Rabbi; he might be a good choice. We could also follow-up with Rabbi Friedman.

Council Camporee for 2019 at PV; Set-up a Shomer Shabbos Experience. Shawn reserved Caribou campsites for that as well as the Dietler Commissary. September 20-22, 2019. Mike Shapiro has the

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Ark in his garage. We'll set-up the Eruv. Patrol boxes are available. Jenna will see if we can get a Torah from DAT. Shawn has a place here at Scout HQ to store. Mike mentioned there's a deerskin torah in Florida, but it will cost \$12K to get it Koshered – considered but we can't afford it yet so we're going to pass.

Pin for Camporee – 10 Commandments – Tablets as a pin? Jenna can ask the kids.

Joe Black mentioned LDS faith invites scouting officials to their events. Let's do that with Scout Sabbath too that's March 30th. Also maybe a Seder in the future. And let's think about that for Lag B'Omer.

We discussed what's going on with the LDS leaving Scouting at the end of the year and some units are bringing in LDS Scouts.

New Business –

Summer Camp – maybe see if we can do it for the kids crossing over into Boy Scouts. 2nd Week of June until the end of July. Sunday to Saturday.
Hyiam has had the kids show up on Sunday and leave Friday afternoon. PV is always accommodating, and they bring up Kosher food packages for the adults. Staff loves it.

Jeffrey Cohen is looking for Scouters to serve on an Orthodox Advisory committee with the National Jewish Committee on Scouting.

Next Meeting?

March 28th, 2019 – 6 PM at DAT.
6825 E Alameda Ave, Denver, CO 80224

Note: Greg should be there; Sam's possibly playing at McCook, NE but Greg isn't sure he's going. Let's keep this date and adjust if I can't make it.

TODO items from last meeting:

- E-mail Mike Greg's Camping Talk. (What to bring) **(DONE)**
- Greg will check the schedule for the JCOS at Philmont. **(DONE – Available)**

TODO from the February Meeting -

- Mike Shapiro will follow-up with Rabbi Popak.

Closing (Scoutmasters Minute) – Greg

This was my 3/21/2016 Scoutmaster Minute.

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It reminds me of the parsha – tapping something you didn't know you had or could do.

Never Give Up - a true story

http://www.boyscouttrail.com/content/minute/never_give_up_a_true_story-171.asp

On July 25, 1962, fourteen-year-old Monroe County Boy Scout Dennis Churchill was fishing on Lake Erie with four companions when a sudden severe storm capsized their boat six miles from shore.

Dennis put on a life jacket then left the others clinging to the boat while he swam for help. With thunder and lightning crashing overhead, high winds gusting and waves six feet high washing over him, he swam for four hours through the storm before finally reaching shore near the Dundee Cement loading docks. He summoned help then went back out on the lake with the Sheriff's Department to find the overturned boat.

Dennis was credited with saving four lives that day including his own. On January 31, 1963 he was awarded the Gold Honor Medal by the National Council. Out of the more than 75,000 Monroe County residents that have been members of Scouting since October 16, 1911, he is the only one to ever receive the award. There were only 19 Honor Medals awarded in the nation during 1963 from a national membership of over 5,000,000 boys.

While Dennis was swimming through the stormy waters alone but for God, the violence of the waves literally ripped most of the clothing off those that stayed with the boat. They believed Dennis had drowned in the storm after he had been gone several hours and no help had come for them.

The wind and water took its toll on Dennis as he struggled to get help. He weighed but 124 pounds that day. He was in a state of total exhaustion at the end, but he couldn't give up. The lives of others were depending on him so somehow in those dark lonely moments he found the strength to keep going.

Each of you will have times in your lives where you feel alone, and you will want to give up on something, but you must learn to press on and do your best even if what you are trying to do doesn't seem attainable.

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