
WELCOME: To Russell Carmen and Danny Legaye with the Council Venturing committee.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING: Approved as written.

SAFETY: Bart already has 2015 VSE stickers on hand and will be available to inspect boats on January 31; please check your boats against the list of inspected items and call him to make an appointment. Also requested is a current list of AVO's and the boats they are qualified to sail.

TRAINING: Crisis Afloat training is scheduled for January 31. Not sure where just yet. University of Scouting is February 7, Benjamin Davis High School, 12525 Ella Blvd. Some volunteers still needed to teach. The next Seabadge will be at Sea Scout Base Galveston September 25-27.

BOATS AND GEAR: Marcus is tracking down a Catalina 22 with trailer for donation on Lake Conroe. He is also fielding requests for bottom paint. LYC has requested insurance certificates for Scout boats docked there.

PROGRAM:

VENTURING HIGHLAND GAMES CHALLENGE: 2/27/15-3/1/15 at Bovay. Russell Carmen and Danny Legaye were on hand to explain and promote the games. Saturday only from 10:00 a.m. till finish, will feature traditional Scotch games per the guide to safe Scouting. Camping the night before or after is optional and participants need to bring their own food. The modest fee of $10 includes a patch and the winning crew get kilts to take home.

SCOUT FAIR: April 18. There was a brief discussion about going outside. It was decided that would certainly bring on the rain and me might lose the prime indoor location that we had waited so long to get. About six ships said they would be there so far. Registration is open.

SAIL DAZE: We are confirmed with HYC for May 2. Mike White is prepared for doing food again and Kevin Plante said he would start counting boats.

OTHER BUSINESS:

SSA REVIEW: Nearly all kudos for Sea Scout Base Galveston. Great weather, great location, and no driving from Alvin halfway across Texas. There were plenty of suggestions to tweak the event next year, and it seems the kids from Dallas who were sent home with the flu served food on Saturday night and passed the disease on to Ship 1996 and 846. Aside from those who got sick, everyone was pleased with the event.
POWDERHORN: will be offered April 10-12 and 24-26. $275 included program, food and lodging. The first weekend will be at a KOA in Conroe and the second weekend at SSBG. http://www.samhoustonbsa.org/powder-horn for the website and http://samhoustonbsa.doubleknot.com/event/2015-powder-horn/1629852 for registration.

UNIVERSITY OF SCOUTING: February 7 at Benjamin Davis High School. Still may have some instructional positions to fill.

SUMMER LONG CRUISE OPPORTUNITIES: A few long cruise opportunities on the west coast have been offered: The Maritime Museum of San Diego is offering a cruise/history course July 6-July 12, cost unknown, but probably quite a bit. Contact Mike Philbrook on the west coast. The Propeller out of Seattle will be cruising to Alaska and back June 29 to July 19. $900 + transportation to Seattle for SEAL graduates or Able Sea Scouts. The Argo out of Seattle can maybe squeeze in one or two Texans for their San Juan Island cruise July 9 to July 19. $280 plus transportation and spending money. Contact me if there is an interested youth for either the Alaska cruise or San Juan Island cruise.

FLAGSHIP/ JTE SUBMITTALS: Due by January 31

VENTURING FORUM: January 27 at the Council office.

ROUNDTABLE: 846 had a great time at SSA with seven youth present. Chris and George are considering adopting TW Cook’s idea of offering Power Squadron Piloting in once a month on a Sunday. $35 plus materials for Sea Scouts. Drew Taylor just completed his Quarter Master with flying pennants. Gordon Start has a Philmont trip scheduled in 2016 and has openings for other scouts. Ship 1659 had a passel of new adults at SSA.

EXECUTIVE'S MINUTE: Recharters are finished with some touch-ups still going on; mostly training updating and recording for adults. It was suggested that Skippers start the process in August for the 2016 deadline of December 31. Scout Fair coupon books can net a good profit for any unit.

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS:

MEETING ADJOURNED: At 2116 until 1730, February 18 at the council office.

“It's not the size of the dog in the fight; it's the size of the fight in the dog.” - Mark Twain

“Old minds are like old horses; you must exercise them to keep them in working order.” John Adams