



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Troop 146

St. Francis Church
308 Jefferson Street
Hoboken, NJ 07030
www.troop146.org

June 5, 2018

To: Members and Friends of Boy Scout Troop 146

Here is a summary of the Troop Committee meeting and Board of Review that took place this evening in the Hoboken Multi Service Center. The next Committee meeting and Board of Review will take place on September 25, 2018 in the Multi Service Center.

1. Present

Lenny Luizzi (presiding)	Ken Nilsen
Norman Kasser	Gretchen Scheiman
Tom Muldowney	Dan Weaver

2. New Tenderfoot Scout

Andrew Lopez was reviewed and passed for Tenderfoot.

3. Jason's Eagle Scout Ceremony (May 12)

Attendance was lighter than usual due to Mothers Day weekend, with 11 Scouts and 17 Troop 146 leaders and parents. Marie said that Lenny was sick, so Ken Howitt filled in for him. Eagle Scout Rick Mason administered the Eagle Oath and gave Jason advice on the responsibilities of his new rank. Among the guests were representatives from the Mayor's office, the Police Department, the Three Rivers District, and Bob Manzari for the Vets, speaking as a member of the American Legion. There were also three clerics: Rabbi Robert Scheinberg, Father Bob O'Hare from St. Peter's Prep, and Msgr Paul Bochicchio from St. Francis.

4. Two Eagle Boards (May 14)

Henry Plotka and Aaron Kurland passed their Eagle Boards of review on the same evening, at 6:00 PM and 7:00 PM, respectively. They must remain "unofficial" Eagles until we hear back from BSA National, at which time we can make an official announcement and also schedule Eagle ceremonies.

5. Two New Boy Scouts

Joe Scalzo registered with the troop on May 8, and, along with Nick Facchini, recruited classmate Andrés Rodriguez, who registered on May 29. Both are 13 years old.

6. Tour of the Naval Academy at Annapolis (May 18-20)

This camping trip was touch-and-go right up to the last minute, when the weather report finally said that we would encounter lots of rain, but no thunderstorms with dangerous lightning. The Saturday tour of the Naval Academy was really well done by Midshipman and Eagle Scout Nate Knueven and was mostly rain-free. Scouts were Teddy Muldowney, Zack Scheiman, Ryan Womack, plus Zack's Cub Scout brother Noah. Adults were Norman, Bob, Tom Muldowney, and Paul and Gretchen Scheiman. Dan Weaver provided the menu and purchased the food.

7. Redo of the Troop 146 Website

Gretchen used her laptop to demonstrate a completely revised troop website, created using up-to-date development tools. She stated several reasons for the revision, such as making it easier for Scouts to apply updates, being a better advertisement for the troop, and creating a platform for internal communications among the Scouts and among the

parents. Gretchen pointed to the prominent "Join Us" banner that shows our meeting location and the date of the next Tuesday meeting. the banner is supplemented by a series of photos showing Scouts doing cool things. Some additions are a list of past Eagle Scouts, the list of monthly camping trips, a short history that Lenny promised to pad out, and a photo blog. New is a "Scout Portal," intended to contain the information that Scouts will find useful, such as their advancement records, as well as a "Scribe's Corner" for patrol scores and Scout announcements and Troop Committee announcements. Gretchen said that she included links to both Hoboken Cub packs, since both are feeders to the troop.

Gretchen will shortly try to get a Scout to volunteer for the position of Troop Webmaster, and she will also try to form a committee of Scout website helpers. The Webmaster should add new photos with captions as they become available, adding that the captions posted by Scouts should be "in their voice." Gretchen would also like the Webmaster to periodically write up something that looks like a press release, which reminded Norman that it would be a good idea for the Troop Committee to have an adult member in charge of publicity. Ken Nilsen said that the Hoboken Reporter has made it easy to submit articles using their online system and added that the Hoboken Patch would be another good outlet.

Gretchen said that she hoped that the Webmaster and his committee would come up with their own projects, such as improving the graphics. Dan suggested a project where the Webmaster would establish a repository for uploaded photos that he could select from.

Turning to internal communications, Gretchen proposed setting up "Google Groups," and passed around a handout that explained why and how and who. For example, the Troop Committee might have a broadcast list, and each patrol might have its own broadcast list, controlled by the Patrol Leader. Norman said that the Scoutmaster Handbook recommends that each patrol member should have an assigned duty. We already have Patrol Quartermasters, but we could also add a Patrol Webmaster. Ken suggested a Patrol Historian. Gretchen also proposed some kind of newsletter for parents.

On a different subject, Gretchen said that Henry had been meeting with the Patrol Leaders at the end of a few Tuesday meetings in order to plan for the next week. This should be made more routine. Also, each Patrol Leader should be tracking how well his members are advancing, and poll them for what activities they would like to do. He should also encourage them to earn more points in the competition by attending more troop events. Norman responded that we already schedule "Patrol Corners" prior to the opening and sometimes after the opening, in which Patrol Leaders take attendance. He proposed giving each Patrol Leader a checklist of additional things to get done during Patrol Corners.

Looking at the many photos that are planned for the new website, Ken proposed asking all parents to sign a standard "photo release agreement." Gretchen agreed and said she will compose one, but pointed out that none of the photos currently posted actually show any Scout faces.

8. Vets Memorial Service (May 20)

Scouts who attended and formed the Color Guard were Veer Agarwal, Aidan Ward, and Gabriel Weaver.

9. Memorial Day Parade (May 23)

We had a very good turnout with 13 Boy Scouts, 19 Cubs from Pack 146, and 6 Cubs from Pack 18. Once again we were honored by marching at the very front, just behind the Vets themselves. Norman sent a thank-you to Post Commander John Carey, who replied, "Thank You for your support over the year." Carey also asked us to provide Scouts on Flag Day (see below).

10. **Philmont Shakedown Backpacking Trek (May 26-28)**
 Dan described the 3-day trip and named the Scouts who backpacked and camped: Xavier Aniello, Patrick Groo, Aidan Ward, and Gabriel Weaver. Adults were Vincent Aniello, Matt Groo, Colum Ward, and Dan Weaver. Later Dan provided an analysis showing that the trail they took was comparable to the trail they will take to Mt. Baldy in Philmont. Dan also reminded the Scouts that their treks will count towards Camping and Hiking and Backpacking merit badges. Lenny asked for a name change from "Venture Patrol" to "Adventure Patrol," saying that the current name causes confusion with the Boy Scout "Venturing Program" and its "Venture Crews."
11. **Father Mike's Memorial Mass and Garden Dedication (Jun 4)**
 We had a good turnout at the Monday evening Memorial Mass at St. Francis, followed by a dedication of the Memorial Garden in the back courtyard. The garden was conceived and constructed by Aaron Kurland as his Eagle Scout project. In addition to Aaron, other Scouts attending were Veer Agarwal, Jayden Altamura, Leo Burnett, Christian Englehardt, John Facchini, Nick Facchini, Henry Plotka, Arjun Puri, Frankie Sanchez, Zack Scheiman, Gabriel Weaver, and Ethan Zhang. Lenny said that Ethan, who normally wears a cassock as an Alter Server, instead got permission from Father Chris to serve wearing his Scout uniform. Father Chris also thanked the Scouts during his homily, singling out Aaron. Lenny said that the troop got a huge round of applause.
12. **Upcoming Court of Honor (Jun 12)**
 Tenderfoot badges will be presented to Charlie Greenwood, Niklas Tseng, and Andrew Lopez. We will formally induct Joe Scalzo and Andres Rodriguez into the troop. Merit badges were earned by Aaron Kurland, Tige Mauseth, Henry Plotka, Zack Scheiman, and Ethan Zhang. Liam Richardson's Anonymous Patrol will be recognized for winning the patrol competition. There will also be lots of other awards and recognitions.
13. **Upcoming Flag Day at the Elks Lodge (Jun 14)**
 Post Commander John Carey requested a few Scouts to assist the Elks with their annual Flag Day ceremony. Norman said he will do his best to get a good turnout as a way to say thank-you to both the Elks and the Vets for their support.
14. **Upcoming Backpacking Trek (Jun 16-17)**
 Unlike the rugged Philmont shakedown trek, above, this backpacking trek will be far less challenging, following a portion of the Appalachian Trail that runs through Harriman State Park.
15. **Summer Camp Rosters (Jul 9-14 and July 15-21)**
 In addition to the Scouts and adults listed here, we expect to also host a few Scouts from Weehawken Troop 223, to be named later. Henry Plotka will work as staff.

July 8-14

Veer Agarwal
 Teddy Muldowney
 Arjun Puri
 Frankie Sanchez
 Hudson Tseng
 Niklas Tseng
 Aidan Ward
 Jeremy Warren
 Nate Warren
 Gabriel Weaver
 Ethan Zhang

July 15-21

Veer Agarwal
 Chris Englehardt
 John Facchini
 Nick Facchini
 Charlie Greenwood
 Andrew Lopez
 Tige Mauseth
 Victor Mauseth
 Arjun Puri
 Aidan Ward
 Jeremy Warren
 Nate Warren

Adults	Adults
Norman Kasser	Norman Kasser
Bob Manzari	Bob Manzari
Baleria Franqui	Joe Facchini
Nai Zhang	

Five Scouts in the above list will attend camp for both weeks. Not listed is Jayden Altamura, who will drive up with his mom on Thursday just to get a feel for how a Boy Scout camp works -- hopefully he'll sign up for a full week in 2019. Note that several Scouts have also applied to work at the 1-week Cub Day camp that will take place in August at Pershing Field in Jersey City. Jack Nilsen worked there as staff last year. The others who applied were all campers last year, but are now Boy Scouts.

16. Summer Camp Merit Badges

Camp Turrell opened its online merit badge sign-up system a couple weeks ago, but so far only Aidan Ward and Gabriel Weaver have made selections. Joe Facchini proposed to the Scouts that they should spend time working on merit badge pre-requisites. The Scouts selected First Aid, and so Joe ran two sessions covering how to move a victim using various techniques described in the Scout Handbook.

17. Pack 146 Now Also Meets at the Multi Service Center (started May 14)

Pack 146 has already conducted two meetings in the Multi Service Center, with one more coming up before they break for the summer. Due to bad communications, the building supervisor mistakenly gave away the meeting space to another group on two of our Mondays, requiring hasty Plan-B relocations.

18. Finances

Prior Scout balance: \$2222.31
 Current Scout balance: \$1634.58
 Money came in from troop dues.
 Money came in from a History-CD sale
 Money came in as a donation for T-shirts for the Holy Name Society
 Money went out to reimburse Norman for 1st qtr expenses.
 Expected expense: Reimburse Norman for 2nd qtr expenses.

Prior Cub balance: \$2052.91
 Current Cub balance: \$1234.94
 Money went out to reimburse Norman for 1st qtr expenses.
 Expected expense: Reimburse Norman for 2nd qtr expenses.

For the Committee,



Norman Kasser
 Scoutmaster