



## BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

### Troop 146

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

June 4, 2019

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 St. Matthew Trinity Church. The next Committee meeting will take place in September, 2019, details to be announced.

#### 1. Present

Lenny Luizzi (presiding)	Lorraine Cademartori
Sonal Agarwal	Norman Kasser
Vivian Altamura	Ken Nilsen
Paul Bayliss	

#### 2. Board of Review

Gabriel Weaver was reviewed and approved for Star  
Jack Nilsen was reviewed and approved for Second Class  
Veer Agarwal was reviewed and approved for Tenderfoot  
Arjun Puri was reviewed and approved for Tenderfoot

Another Board of Review was conducted on April 9, with these approvals:

John Facchini was reviewed and approved for Second Class  
Will Sytsma was reviewed and approved for Second Class

#### 3. Troop 146 Finance Problems (Apr 3)

As reported in the March Troop Committee meeting minutes, a policy change at Acme headquarters caused us to cancel our annual Super Bowl Sunday bagging fund-raiser at the Hoboken Acme. This caused a real problem with the Troop's finances. Past bagging in 2016, 2017, and 2018 raised (rounded) \$600, \$850, and \$500, respectively. Lenny called for a meeting on April 3 to discuss alternatives, and was joined by Marie, Norman, and Paul Scheiman. Lenny said that he will ask some local business people to make donations (he has so far raised \$350). While tonight's meeting was in progress, Matt Groo was selling silkscreened "Troop 146" sweatshirts and T-shirts as a fundraiser. *[Note: He raised \$90.]*

Norman said that he will urge Boy Scouts to sell popcorn when the sale restarts in September, saying, "Many of our Scouts were super-salesmen when they were Cubs, and I intend to get them motivated again." He noted that Jack Cademartori sold the most last year and he said to Jack's mom Lorraine, "Next September I will ask you for a favor. During the opening of each Tuesday meeting, I'd like you to take a minute to ask, 'Who's selling popcorn?' Urge Scouts to do what Jack did last year. Urge them to set up Trail's End personalized websites and to actively sell." Lenny told Lorraine about a conversation with Jack, who said, "I didn't know that Boy Scouts sold popcorn." Lenny's response to Jack was, "Yes, we do, and it's very important."

Lenny said that he will convene another meeting in August to discuss additional ideas for fundraisers, such as a car wash or a bake sale. Lenny said that we try to keep Scouting for families as inexpensive as possible, saying, "Maybe that's why we're in financial trouble after 35 years."

#### 4. We Provided the Color Guard at the Veterans Memorial Service (May 19)

Ethan Zhang led our Color Guard of Jack Cademartori, Jovani Lugo, and Noah Scheiman during the Memorial Service conducted at the Hoboken Community Church at 6th and Garden. One of the parishioners told Norman, "Your Scouts looked much better this year than in the past." The

Sunday evening service took place during the same weekend as the X-Treme Sports event described above, and Noah was the only member of the Color Guard to participate in both.

**5. Memorial Day Parade (May 22)**

We had a very good turnout of 18 Scouts and lots of Cubs from both packs. Once again the Vets gave us the honor of being the parade's Color Guard at the very front, just behind the Vets themselves. Scouts were Veer Agarwal, Jayden Altamura, Jack Cademartori, John Facchini, Nick Facchini, Charlie Greenwood, Jovani Lugo, Tige Mauseth, Teddy Muldowney, Theo Platt, Ivan Radoslavov, Ryan Ramos, Noah Scheiman, Zack Scheiman, Will Sytsma, Aidan Ward, Rhys Wylie, and Ethan Zhang.

This year our contingent was joined by 16 Girl Scouts and their leaders. In past years they were placed somewhere in the middle of the parade, but they were unhappy that Boy Scouts were in front and they were not. They took their case to the Mayor, who agreed and told them that they could march up front and also be the parade's Color Guard. In the end, one Girl Scout with an American flag came to the very front and marched abreast with our Boy Scout American flag. The rest of the girls marched behind the Boy Scouts and more-or-less even with our Cub Scouts. Lenny explained how he was the one who worked out where to place the Girl Scouts. He said that he had been out of the country and really had no idea what was going on, "but I wound up doing the right thing."

American Legion Commander John Carey was not happy that the Mayor overrode his decision about where the Girl Scouts should march. After the parade he told Lenny, "The Boy Scouts earned their position at the front. They show up every cold February for our Four Chaplains wreath-laying, but I never see any Girl Scouts there." During the parade, Norman advised one of the Girl Scout leaders, "You should spend the next 12 months asking the Vets what you can do to assist them and earn your way to the front of next year's parade." He proposed that they start with the upcoming Elks Lodge Flag Day ceremony (see below).

**6. Upcoming Flag Day Ceremony at the Elks Lodge (June 14)**

This annual event is another opportunity for the Troop to show its support for both the Vets and the Elks. The ceremony includes an oral history telling how the American flag evolved from even before Betsy Ross up to the present day. As each of seven flags is described, one Scout will march up front to put that flag on display. Lenny said that several Scouts are working with him on the Citizenship in the Community merit badge. He insisted that any who had to miss the parade would need to attend the Elks Flag Day as a make-up.

**7. Troop 146 Eagle Projects**

Lenny took the opportunity to explain to the new parents how Troop 146 Eagle Scout candidates get approval for a proposed Eagle service project, and how it's based on who the beneficiary will be. The best project will benefit our sponsor, St. Francis Church. Next come the Hoboken Vets followed by the city of Hoboken. Even though many of our Scouts live in a surrounding town, Lenny will insist that the project benefit Hoboken -- but he did mention one Jersey city exception that he had allowed in the past.

**8. Smart Phones and Vending Machines Banned During Scout Meetings**

During the April 16 Scout meeting, Aidan gathered all the Scouts for a problem-solving session. There were complaints about Scouts tuning out during meetings due to smart phone usage, and Scouts disappearing during meetings to get snacks from the vending machines. The Scouts came up with these rules: 1) No food allowed starting with the formal opening and lasting until it's time for a game. 2) Smart phones must remain in the Scout's pocket 7:00-9:00 PM. Scouts voted for a 250 point penalty for a smart phone violation, plus confiscation.

The Boards of Review took up much of the allotted time, resulting in the agenda topics below not being discussed.

**9. Upcoming Court of Honor (Jun 11)**

In addition to the 6 rank advancements above, Scouts will receive a total of 34 merit badges and a number of skill awards, such as Totin' Chips and Cyber Chips. The Ninja Panda Patrol will be recognized for winning the spring 2019 patrol competition. Henry Plotka will receive a bronze palm to add to the two silvers already awarded; his total merit badge count is currently 58. Lenny will present a certificate to local businessman John Lawton in appreciation of his support for the troop.

**10. Passing the First Class Orienteering Requirement (Mar 30)**

Christian Englehardt and Ethan Zhang took advantage of an orienteering course that was set up in Allendale by a local Scoutmaster named Bob Rycharski. Last summer Rycharski asked us for advice on how to run a Second Class map-and-compass day hike, and he joined us when we ran a hike last July. He returned the favor by letting us know about his March 30 event in Allendale.

**11. A Cub Scout Food Drive at the Hoboken Acme (Mar 31)**

As reported in the March Troop Committee meeting minutes, a policy change at Acme headquarters caused us to cancel our annual Super Bowl Sunday bagging fund-raiser, and a policy change at ShopRite headquarters caused us to cancel our annual March food drive. Pack 146 Den Leader Dan Vinish found that Acme was okay with food drives, but approval must come from headquarters and not from the local store manager.

The Cub result was a moderately successful drive that gathered 165 pounds of donated food. Ten of our Scouts joined the Cubs and provided some of the muscle needed: Jayden Altamura, Thomas Bayliss, Jack Cademartori, John Facchini, Nick Facchini, Teddy Muldowney, Spencer Neissen, Theo Platt, Noah Scheiman, and Zack Scheiman. Now that we know it can be done, we'll request permission for next November. Lenny proposed running the drive in front of the large Acme at Newport, where we will surely gather far more than 165 pounds.

**12. Golf Merit Badge in Jersey City (April 1)**

Assistant Scoutmaster Francis Howitt signed up as a merit badge counselor for Golf and invited Scouts to join him for an evening at the Jersey City Skyway Golf Course. Attending were Jayden Altamura, Nick Facchini, Teddy Muldowney, Joey Nastasi, Nate Nastasi, Jack Nilsen, Henry Plotka, Arjun Puri, Will Sytsma. Adults were Ken Nilsen, Vivian Altamura, Dave Sytsma, Ken Howitt, and Joe Facchini. As of this writing, Henry and Will earned completions for the merit badge.

**13. Our Annual Historical Camping Trip: Tour West Point (Apr 12-14)**

Scouts attending were Veer Agarwal, Leo Burnett, Alex Cando, Erick Cando, John Facchini, Nick Facchini, Jovani Lugo, Teddy Muldowney, Joey Nastasi, Nate Nastasi, Jack Nilsen, and Ivan Radoslavov. Parents were Shilp Agarwal, Pete Burnett, Tom Muldowney, Chris Nastasi, and Gantcho Radoslavov. We chartered a school bus to drive us around the campus accompanied by a professional tour guide. At one stop, the guide mentioned that a lot of West Point construction is supervised by the Army Corps of Engineers, to which Chris Nastasi explained that he works for the Corps as a civilian and has indeed come to West Point several times on various jobs, "But this is the first time I came here as a tourist, and I'm learning a lot."

The troop's past historical trips all took place in May in order to increase the chances of having good weather; April weather is too unpredictable. However, when our plan to go whitewater rafting in April fell through, we opted for West Point in April and signed up for the Camp Turrell X-Treme Sports Weekend in May (see below).

**14. No Scout Meeting Easter Week - Advancement Clinic Instead (Apr 23)**

This Tuesday gathering was for Scouts wanting to get some requirements done and also for Scouts working on the Game Design merit badge. Scouts attending were Jayden Altamura, Thomas Bayliss, Frank Castro, Victor Mauseth, Teddy Muldowney, Arjun Puri, Noah Scheiman,

Zack Scheiman, and Ethan Zhang. Adults assisting were Norman, Gretchen, Brendan Wilder, and Paul Bayliss.

**15. Working as Staff at the Cub Scout Weboree (Apr 27-29)**

The Weboree is an annual event run by the council with the purpose of introducing older Cubs to the Boy Scout program (now "Scouting BSA") in order to ensure that they want to join a Scout troop when the time comes. The two Hoboken Cub packs attend each year, and Norman has volunteered to work as staff starting many years back. Joining Norman this year were Gretchen and three of our Scouts: Zack Scheiman, Liam Richardson, and Teddy Muldowney.

**16. Merit Badge Fair in Montclair (May 4)**

This event was organized by a Scout troop in West Orange, and 12 Hoboken Scouts signed up and attended, coming home with 26 merit badges and 2 partials. Scouts were Jayden Altamura, Thomas Bayliss, Jack Cademartori, John Facchini, Nick Facchini, Joey Nastasi, Nate Nastasi, Arjun Puri, Ryan Ramos, Noah Scheiman, Zack Scheiman, and Will Sytsma.

Gretchen found out about the event when she was contacted and asked to participate as a counselor for the Entrepreneurship merit badge. She then encouraged our Scouts to sign up as well. One sour note was the counselor at the fair for Archaeology, who must have been having a really bad day, resulting in a non-completion for Noah and for any other Scout who had the bad luck of dealing with this counselor.

**17. Camp Turrell X-Treme Sports Weekend (May 17-19)**

The X-Treme Sports Weekend is an annual May event run by the council, but we have always skipped it in favor of our own annual May historical camping trips. As described above, we shuffled our calendar and signed up for the May sports weekend. Scouts attending were Veer Agarwal, Thomas Bayliss, Andrew Lopez, Teddy Muldowney, Spencer Neissen, Jack Nilsen, Theo Platt, Arjun Puri, Zack Scheiman, Noah Schieman, Will Sytsma, and Ryan Womack. Adults were Norman, Bob, Ken Nilsen, Risa Becker, Karen Platt, Gretchen Scheiman, Paul Scheiman, and Dave Sytsma.

The camp was crowded with about 340 Scouts, lots of adults, and lots of staff. The weekend was run summer-camp style with morning and evening flag ceremonies and all meals served in the dining hall, which was packed. There were long lines at all three shooting sports (archery, rifle, and shotgun), requiring a lot a patience. Jack Nilsen was willing to wait and came home with an impressive rifle shooting target. When we will meet in September to plan our 2019-20 camping trips, we can expect Scouts to vote for a repeat.

**18. Henry Attended the Eagle Scout Recognition Dinner (May 22)**

Henry Plotka and his dad David accepted the council's invitation to attend a fancy dinner at the Valley Regency in Clifton, NJ. Many other Eagle Scouts from past years attended as alumni, with money raised going into a scholarship fund. Henry and the other new 2018-19 Eagles went for free, and each received a souvenir Eagle wrist watch and Eagle pen.

**19. The Patrol Competition is Ending with a Clear Winner (June 4)**

The scoreboard was reset in March when 9 Cubs bridged into the Troop and formed the "Ninja Panda" patrol, ready to compete against three patrols of older Scouts. The patrol competition will end with tonight's Scout meeting, and the Ninja Pandas will be declared the winners with a commanding lead.

Norman said that having the newest Scouts win is actually the best and hoped-for result, since it allows the newest Scouts to feel as if they really belong and fit in. The Patrol Leader is Joey Nastasi with Assistant Jack Cademartori. Each member of the patrol will receive a "Doctor's Note" token that can be turned in during a camping trip; the token allows that Scout to get out of a chore, such as washing dishes.

**20. Upcoming Backpacking Trek (Jun 15-16)**

Each year our June camping trip is reserved for backpacking, departing from Hoboken at 8:00 AM on Saturday, and returning mid-afternoon on Sunday. We typically hike one of the many

trails in nearby Harriman State Park, and this year will be the Pine Meadow trail with overnight camping near Pine Meadow Lake. Nick Facchini asked to be the steady cook in order to complete the "trail food" requirement of the Cooking merit badge.

For this and for the prior May X-Treme Sports camping trip, Gretchen experimented with an app called "Signup Genius." The object is to encourage more advance commitments to our camping trips. Although the signup portion of the app had limited success, Gretchen reported that her section labeled "Camping trips are a great opportunity for advancement" had in fact generated some interest and may have caused one or two additional signups.

**21. Upcoming Weeks at Scout Summer Camp (July 7-13 and July 14-20)**

Here are the rosters for each of the two weeks that we will attend Scout summer camp at Turrell.

<b>July 7-13</b>	<b>July 14-20</b>
Veer Agarwal	Veer Agarwal
Jayden Altamura	Leo Burnett
Leo Burnett	John Facchini
Jack Cademartori	Patrick Groo
Tige Mauseth	Andrew Lopez
Victor Mauseth	Tige Mauseth
Teddy Muldowney	Victor Mauseth
Ivan Radoslavov	Teddy Muldowney
Liam Richardson	Joey Nastasi
Noah Scheiman	Nate Nastasi
Zack Scheiman	Aidan Ward
Will Sytsma	Jeremy Warren
Aidan Ward	Nate Warren
Ryan Womack	Gabriel Weaver
Ethan Zhang	
Robert Carson (T223)	
Dan Daly (T223)	

Patrick Groo signed up for both our second week plus an extra week with the camp's "Soaring Eagle" program. Henry Plotka will be at camp working as staff, and Aidan Ward will be both camper and staff. Nick Facchini will work as staff at Camp Lewis. Adults planning to stay for some or all of a week are Vivian Altamura, Gretchen Scheiman, Nai Zhang, and Joe Facchini. We agreed to host two Scouts from Weehawken Troop 223 during our first week: Robert Carson and Dan Daly.

**22. The Multi-Service Center Sometimes Unavailable for Meetings**

As reported in the March Troop Committee meeting minutes, the Cub pack had to give up their meeting space on three Mondays, and the Boy Scouts had to give up the space on four Tuesdays. Tonight's meeting is the fifth Tuesday, this time due to Election Day. We are very grateful to Ken Nilsen, who has consistently managed to arrange for us to meet in St. Matthew Trinity Church, including this evening. By the way, the Cubs recently had to give up another Monday, but lucky for them, the 2nd floor gym happened to be available that night, and so they met up there.

Also mostly not available is the playground behind the center, with its basketball court and roller hockey rink. According to Facilities Manager Eddie Miller, the gates are supposed to remain open until 10:00 PM, but in fact someone comes by to lock up at 8:00 PM. Only twice this spring have we been able to get access. Norman's e-mail requests to Leo Pellegrini were not successful.

**23. Lenny is the Counselor for Citizenship in the Community Merit Badge**

In early April, Lenny started to run sessions for older Scouts working on the Eagle-required Citizenship in the Community merit badge. The last session before the summer break took place on May 1 with a tour of the WW I "boulder", a tour of the historical Lackawanna train station, and sitting in on a meeting of the City Council. Scouts who have attended some or all of the sessions are Jayden Altamura, Leo Burnett, Christian Englehardt, Nick Facchini, John Facchini,

Patrick Groo, Tige Mauseth, Jack Nilsen, Liam Richardson, Zack Scheiman, Aidan Ward, Gabriel Weaver, and Ethan Zhang.

**24. A Leadership Change in Pack 146**

There was a change in leadership for the Pack 146 Wolf Den of 2nd graders. Den Leader Dan Vinish was transferred by his employer to Texas, and another Cub dad, Dave Hodge, volunteered to fill in. If Hodge agrees to continue when meetings resume in September, we will ask him to officially register with the Scouts. Note that the Wolf Den is quite large with 11 Cubs.

**25. Finances**

Prior Scout balance: \$329.11

Current Scout balance: \$50.78

Money came in from troop dues.

Money came in as donations.

Money went out to reimburse Norman for 1st qtr expenses.

Money went out to reimburse Bob for 1st qtr expenses.

Expected expense: Reimburse Norman for 2nd qtr expenses.

Expected expense: Reimburse Bob for 2nd qtr expenses.

Prior Cub balance: \$2366.75

Current Cub balance: \$1128.28

Money went out to reimburse Norman for 1st qtr expenses.

Money went out to pay for the March Blue-and-Gold banquet.

Money went out to subsidize an April overnight at the Liberty Science Center.

Expected expense: Reimburse Norman for 2nd qtr expenses.

For the Committee,



Norman Kasser  
Scoutmaster