

Troop 8 Adult Leader Meeting
12/17/2008

Leaders Present:

Dave Besel
Greg Czech
Allen Williamson
Kent Plunket
Mike Poirier
Karl Quinn
Paul Burwinkle
Bob Sheierer

Summary:

Opened the meeting with a prayer. Introduced the new Scoutmaster (Dave), and Executive Assistant Scoutmaster (Paul). Paul's position places him as the Scoutmaster whenever Dave is out, deployed, or transferred on short notice. He will be fully informed and involved in all decisions and doings of the current Scoutmaster. An email alias was created for the troop to reach the Scoutmaster and Ex. ASM: scoutmaster@troop8augusta.com.

The meeting continued by going around the table for comments and/or suggestions from each leader. The purpose was to determine what we are doing right and where we can change our program to ensure the Troop is: boy led, fun, and meaningful for each scout. Discussion points are listed below, followed by our goals.

Discussion:

- Each scout should "count", they should feel accepted and respected. And the idea of "service to one another" should be stressed.
- Proper order and discipline during weekly troop meetings, PLCs, and camp outs.
- General communication techniques should be taught and used.
- We need to ensure the agenda is set so that training leads to fun, not the other way around.
- Scouts need to start using their "chain of command": Scout->PL, PL->SPL, SPL->SM.
- We need better structure within the camping events. (Proper Planning Prevents Poor Performance)
- We should start class A uniform inspections
- Meetings have been more productive over the past 2 months, we are on the upturn with our program. It is better organized
- PLC Meetings:
 - We need to reduce membership of the PLC; only should involve SPL,ASPL,PL,APL,Scribe
 - Patrol Leaders should take their own notes
 - All involved in the PLC should be in uniform
- We should visit other troop's PLC, and weekly meetings to gather ideas for our Scout Leaders and Adult Leaders on how the "Boy Led" troop is run and organized.
- Adult Leader Patrol. Idea is that the adult leaders will conform to a patrol and be named the Owl patrol, short for the "wise old owls"
 - Adults should wear uniforms, to include neckerchief and hat if that is what the scouts are wearing
- Scout House needs another good cleaning and organizing, meeting rooms should not double as storage areas. Need to set up a time for the scouts(including the owl patrol), cubs, and girls Scouts to organize each room and get a good system set up to organize/store all the gear
- We need help from the adult leaders to be Merit Badge Counselors.
- We also have openings in the following adult leader positions:

- Adult Quartermaster/Equipment Chairman
- Outdoor Chairman
- Adult Training
- Youth Training

Goals:

- Adult Leaders will from this point forward be named the Owl Patrol.
 - Email alias is: owls@troop8augusta.com
 - We will wear uniforms at meetings and camping events to include hat and neckerchief, when they are available. Paul also volunteered to acquire owl patches for each patrol member.
 - Owl Patrol will meet once each quarter to discuss our goals and course correct if necessary.
- Scoutmaster will work with the SPL and ASPL to ensure the Scout chain of command is being used and that the Scout leadership enforces order and discipline. Owl patrol will step in only when Scout leadership attempts are not successful.
- Each camping event will be assigned to an adult from the owl patrol for coordination. Sign-up sheets will be out as soon as event is on the calendar to ensure opportunity for maximum participation.
- Monthly Uniform inspections will be instituted.
- Scout Leadership and Owl patrol will attend a PLC meeting from a different Troop (coordinated by Paul), they will then attend a weekly meeting from that same troop after their PLC.
- If you are in the owl patrol and do not have read access to the Troopmaster database, contact Paul.
- Send out a survey to the Scouts for desired merit badges.
- Start offering Scouts Eagle required merit badges, and those at the top of the list from the Scout Survey.
- Work with others that use the scout house to organize and clean the space.

yours in scouting,
Dave Besel
Scoutmaster