

DAC-BSA JCOS
Meeting Minutes
4/28/2011

In attendance:
Mike Shapiro
Shawn Connelly
Stuart Zipper
Greg Ostravich

Opening

Pledge of Allegiance

D'var Torah – Mike Shapiro delivered the d'var Torah, based on the Portion Kedoshim.

The golden rule comes from Kedoshim. Treat people as a mensch; don't make judgments based on somebody's appearance. Take the time to learn something about them. Nobody's really an ogre. Even Shrek was nice. Individuals with the most notorious reputations aren't as bad when you get to know them. Be a little more patient and forgiving; you may be surprised at how lovable someone can be.

Review Minutes from last meeting
No changes to the minutes; minutes approved.

Old Business

Google calendar works. Greg will post the minutes there also.

Religious Merit Badge College?

No update from Colorado Springs. Matt Maranto is setting this up. It will be on a Sunday; so Sabbath observant Scouts can attend, but the chosen Sunday is the day after Yom Kippur. Observant Scouts may opt to be building their Sukkahs that day. There will be time to work the religious emblem but no details yet. Shawn tried making contact with Lisa Holstein at Pike's Peak council, but hasn't gotten through yet. The event will be at Monument or Castle Rock.

This events programming may overlap with the mini-Kinnus we are considering during Sukkot. We may have the scouts start with this college; finish or continue at Sukkot. Our Committee members should become familiar with the requirements for religious emblems. See below under new business.

Kinnus

Mike hasn't heard back from Hyiam about holding it at Dat. Rabbi Alter may have some reservations - some people don't write during Kol Hamoed, the intermediate days of holidays Like Sukkot and Pesach. Stuart doesn't think it should be an issue for the scouts. If Rabbi Alter is not OK with that date we can look into Chabad or BMH.

Support Letters? No progress this month; Mike is mentally drafting a letter.

Website

Shawn hasn't posted the content yet but he will try this month. Other stuff took priority. Content should include:

Links to National sites and Western Region.

Agendas are in folders as well as minutes.

Link to Google Page would be great; to the Calendar.

Joey Quick - DAC Outreach initiative

Shawn and Mike met with Joey Quick regarding the Council outreach efforts to get more Jewish troops and sponsorship, and suggested our proposed Kinnus may be a vehicle for that initiative. We could invite adults; and have a separate outreach session while the Scouts work their emblems. The congregation in Evergreen (Judaism in the Foothills?) might be interested;

Chaplain Aide Training - course update

August 14th - at Scout Headquarters; 1 PM - 9 PM. Greg will update this on our Google Calendar. The course trains a "team" consisting of a youth, the troop's Chaplain Aide, and an Adult Troop Committee Member, the troop Chaplain. Greg will mention the course to Troop 873; see if kids are interested; other adults as well. Greg mentioned that his Troop Chaplain wears a neckerchief with a crucifix. Greg will check on JewishScouting.org to see if there is a Jewish neckerchief for the Chaplain. Mike will ask Amy McNeil about the crucifix neckerchief.

Calendar - done.

New Business

Shawn provided an outline for the New Jersey Kinnus. Webelos II were invited as well. Greg thought we should do that, also. If we build our Kinnus around a religious emblems 'college', cub scouts would certainly be invited. Stuart though we should find out what they charged; Shawn will download the application and see.

Link for the NJ Kinnus <http://njkinus.org/main/>

Merit Badge College / Religious award

DAC JCOS should provide a list for religious award counselors. We each should download the requirements from (<http://jewishscouting.org>), and self-assign, at our next meeting a specific religious emblem with which to become familiar. There are four Jewish Emblems including the adult - One for cubbies; One for Boy Scouts under 13; one for Boy Scouts over 13; one for adults, and there's a Higher Award done by the National Committee.

Next Meeting: - Date: 5/28 / Time: 7:30 pm / Location: Mike's home

Future Meetings:

3rd night of Hanukkah is OK for December's meeting.

June - Mike is out of town. We'll meet somewhere else.

Mike may be in Florida for November; we'll Skype Mike in for the call.

Closing (Scoutmaster's Minute) - Based on this week's parshe again.

We should be Holy.

How do we act Holy?

By being Moderate in how we enjoy or do what's permitted.

For example: we should eat a Kosher Diet; but does one eat because he's a gourmand? Or because he needs nourishment? Do you eat in a rush, and gulp our food like an animal, or do we slow down and enjoy the food? If we do the things permitted with moderation and some restraint we are acting in a Holy manner.