

District Committee Meeting
June 2, 2016
One Bergen County Plaza
Hackensack, NJ,

Key People

Ken Dutcher, District Chair
Mark Wrightington, District Vice-Chair for Program
Paul Adams, District Vice-Chair for Development & Fundraising
Steve Leonardi, District Field Director

Opening and Handouts

Norman Kasser led the opening Pledge followed by the Scout Oath and Law. Handouts were tonight's agenda, which had been e-mailed in advance, the District's Membership Report (as of June 1), and the Council Friends of Scouting (FOS) report (May 31). Ken Dutcher welcomed everyone.

Top of Mind Query

Barry Messner asked for a discussion later about how to "restructure FOS," saying, "The effort going into FOS is wasteful. Something really needs to be done about it." *[Editor's note: The discussion Barry asked for did not happen due to lack of time.]*

Ed Quinn told about a session that he will run on power boat safety later this month. It will be an all-day session for Scouts that will result in a license that "will be good forever."

Charlie Binder said that he discovered by chance that he had been dropped from the Merit Badge Counselor database, and that Kate Merritt was able to quickly reactivate his record. His advice: "Tell anyone you know who is a counselor to check up."

Paul Adams said that he was very close to getting a large grant from Investors Bank and asked Ken if the entire amount might be credited to the Three Rivers Community FOS campaign. Ken was "99% certain from a previous conversation," but said that he will double check with NNJC Scout Exec Steve Gray.

Rich Habick said he will run a training session for new Merit Badge Counselors this Saturday in Saddle Brook.

Planning for a Fireside Chat in the Fall

Steve Leonardi said that the other two districts had run very successful roundtable style sessions with excellent turnout, with about 90% of units attending. He proposed that TRD should also run one in the fall "as a complement to our upcoming Program Launch." There was discussion about the ideal month, with December suggested due to its closeness to rechartering, and November suggested in order to avoid conflicts with the Christmas and family rush. In addition to rechartering, Steve proposed reviewing the

activity calendar for the rest of 2016-17, scheduling OA elections, and scheduling FOS presentations.

In response to Mark Wrightington's question about how to ensure good attendance, Steve recalled a session several years ago that was labeled as a "compliance meeting" and was "sold as a mandatory meeting" and each unit was required to have representation. Steve said that subsequent yearly meetings were also well attended, even without the "compliance/mandatory" designation, and recommended that TRD should use softer terminology when naming its session.

Problems with the Online Commissioner's Toolbox

Bob Lilley said, "The Commissioner's Toolbox seems to be locked!" He explained that the online system was implemented as a way for Unit Commissioners to record their visits along with comments about a given unit's health. Summary data from the Toolbox is automatically fed into the district's annual Journey to Excellence scorecard. Because the Toolbox is so unresponsive and "frustrating to use," the Commissioner Staff decided to return to the old paper-based way of recording visits. He added that Phil Mollica had proposed using a volunteer "Scribe" to collect the paperwork and to handle all access to the Toolbox.

Norman proposed that the Commissioner staff could use an online system such as Google Docs instead of paper, with the Scribe working from Google instead of from paper. Steve proposed asking Geoff Zoeller to act as Scribe, since he had already done something similar last year, resulting in a silver level on the JTE "Unit Contacts" speedometer.

Upcoming Cub Family Weekend (Jun 11-12)

Mark explained that TRD is responsible for staffing this NNJC event, and that so far very few adults had volunteered. The resulting discussion took up well over 30 minutes:

- o Chuck Mason will run the BB range.
- o Charlie Binder and Scouts from his troop will run the Archery range.
- o Mal Ginsburg from Lenape Trail District will do Leatherwork but asked for two helpers.
- o Registration will be handled by Sal Bellomo, co-Chair Nancy Duncan, and a lady Assistant Scoutmaster from Fairview.
- o So far no one has volunteered to man the kitchen, with "can't make it" from Joe Mertens and Ed Hill. Steve got "I'll check my calendar" from John Brobson.
- o Mark said that only seven people out of 100 had responded to his broadcast appeal for help, saying, "People just aren't answering." Mark said that Joel Lieberman had provided the address list that he had used.
- o Ken will ask Ron Geschwinder if anyone from Eastwick College's culinary program can assist.
- o Ken will ask Roberta Hanlon if anyone from the Westwood High School cooking program can assist. *[Editor's note: No one was available due to the prom, but Roberta thought future events might work, since the school encourages students to get experience cooking for large groups.]*

- o Ken will also contact a Scout in River Vale who was in his Jamboree troop and is attending the Culinary Institute of America learning to be a chef. Ken also will ask the boy's father, who is a professional chef for Bank of America in its private dining rooms in NYC.
- o Ken proposed adults from Montvale who cook for an annual spaghetti dinner. *[Editor's note: No one was available due to the troop going whitewater rafting, but they may be available for future events.]*
- o Mark proposed asking one of the people who will work as kitchen staff for Turrell or No-Be summer camp.
- o Sal proposed asking Donna Bielauskas, who cooked during a recent campout.
- o Mark said that last year's kitchen staff spent too much time cutting up and prepping half chickens. Warren Dressler proposed changing the food order to portion-sized chickens. Later in the meeting Charlie proposed serving spaghetti instead.
- o Mark and Warren both spoke about future participation from the OA and trying to prevent date conflicts on the 2017 calendar.
- o Mark was hesitant about asking Jim Patterson, who will be the Weboree cook one week prior to the Cub Family Weekend, saying, "It's only one week's notice. If we had thought about him a month ago..."
- o Ken proposed that the free time between dinner and campfire might be a good time to ask parents for help cleaning up in the kitchen. It explained that it was important that the cooks should not be asked to also clean up so as not to get burnt out. Mark agreed.
- o Mark reminded everyone that staff was needed for stations other than the kitchen and the two ranges. Mark's e-mail broadcast asked Scout troops to provide staff, who will camp and eat for free.
- o Mark said that he needed someone to run the Rocket station because Ken Hesse and his son will be out of town and Ed Ference will be recuperating. Barry Messner proposed Angela Maccone of Park Ridge who ran a rocket derby for her pack.
- o Mark had not yet contacted co-chairs Trish Regan and Nancy Duncan asking if they know of people who can act as staff.
- o Mark said that he and Joel had discussed a "last resort" of asking the parents attending the weekend to pitch in. Mark explained why he was so hesitant to take that route, saying, "We told parents to come and spend a weekend with their kids, and then we tell them they can't spend time because we need them to work in the kitchen."
- o Charlie wondered if his Scouts in Archery might be able to move with the Cubs to a second station, but Mark explained how the group rotation schedule will require them to remain in Archery for the entire time.
- o Mark asked Steve if the DEs will be able to come and pitch in. Mark himself plans to be there.
- o Ken concluded by asking everyone present to come up with names and said that he and Mark would then reach out to ask those people for help.

Upcoming TRD Fishing Derby (Jun 18)

Mark said that registrations have already started to come in and that he was not concerned, since the event always attracts a crowd and is always well run.

Upcoming Program Launch and Barbecue (Jun 7)

Ken asked each of the operating committees about their plans for the Program Launch and also asked about general planning and logistics.

- o **Camping:** Barry Messner said that he had asked each summer camp director to assign someone, but he hadn't yet heard back from any of them. As a fallback we can play each camp's promotional video. Barry said he has a projector, and Steve said that Kevin Dolce will also be there and will bring a screen.
- o Responding to Barry's not receiving responses, Mark was irritated that camp directors didn't seem to give priority to promoting their own camps, saying, "This should be part of the contract when you hire [a camp director]. He should be required to do a certain number of camp promotions." However, Steve said that he had spoken with all the camp directors at various times and that he understood that all will attend: Joe Mertens for Lewis, Alex Canale for Turrell, and Henry Hahn for Yaw Paw. Only No-Be-Bo-Sco had not responded to any of the three district launches. *[Editor's note: Later in the meeting Jim Wrynn reported that No-Be Range Director Bruce Lemken will attend the launch.]*
- o **Popcorn:** Steve verified that Walter Robinson will attend in order to promote the 2016 popcorn sale, calling it "Number one on the list" in recognition of the subsidy given to the Program Launch by Trail's End. Steve said he will bring money to reimburse event cook Ron Geschwinder.
- o **Set up:** Ed Quinn pointed out that volunteers will be needed to come early and set up the table and chairs, proposing 6:30 PM. Mark reminded Ed that he had volunteered last month to ask the American Legion to turn on their soda taps and that money raised by Bob Lilley's 50-50 raffle was earmarked to pay for the taps and/or for a general donation. Ed also pointed out that the Legion normally charges groups \$150 per event to cover the cost of cleaning up after. Mark responded by saying we would just do whatever it was that we did last year.
- o **Training awards:** Ed said that he had prepared handout cards for Scouters to use when applying for training awards. He thought that cards were much more effective than the current online form, and that he had reproduced the cards that the council used to provide years ago.
- o **FOS presenters:** Paul Adams said that he wants to demonstrate to potential FOS presenters how easy it has become to make a presentation and said he will need one of the council's "presentation boxes." Mark was skeptical that anyone would willingly want to stop by Paul's table, saying, "You'll need a hook or a lasso to get them there." Bob Lilley proposed setting up a screen by the food line.
- o **Advancement:** Anthony Catalano verified that he has everything he needs to set up a table.
- o **Membership:** Steve said that he had spoken with Biff Van Kleef and that there will be membership packets to hand out, mostly geared toward Cub recruiting in the fall.

- o **Training:** Sal said he will have flyers prepared and agreed with Ken's suggestion to also encourage adult training awards. He also told about an upcoming University of Scouting session on July 23 in Secaucus, which will be a repeat of a surprisingly successful session from last year. Ken asked Sal to also hand out flyers for the next Wood Badge course.
- o **Commissioners:** Bob Lilley said that he will hand out job descriptions for Unit Commissioners and for District Committee members, using "official" text that Joel Lieberman will provide. Barry Messner had misgivings, saying "Those descriptions will scare people away," and offered to write his own "softer" versions.
- o **National Jamboree:** Steve said that Kate Merritt will have a table with flyers for the Jamboree.
- o **Activities:** Mark said that he will have flyers and also a sample Gold Rush wagon and Klondike sled.
- o **Attendance:** In response to Mark's question, Norman said that 58 people had registered using the on-line system, but he guessed that Leslie Sonkin will have more, since people were instructed to contact her instead of using the problematic online registration system. Ken urged everyone present to attend and to promote joining the District Committee.
- o **Golf Outing:** Paul suggested "save the date" flyers for the annual golf outing, and agreed with Steve that they should be part of the FOS table. Paul and Bob were concerned that information about the outing was not getting down to the unit level.

Training Committee Update

Sal said that Camp Turrell will offer adult Scoutmaster/Assistant training sessions during each summer camp week, and Camp Lewis will do the same for Cub leaders. He said, "They have the staff they need for these sessions, but if anyone wants to help out, they won't say 'No.'"

Commissioner's Minute

Barry Messner's comment was simple: "We need more Commissioners." However, Sal took the opportunity to thank Barry Messner and Bob Lilley for "outstanding work they do at their end of the district." Barry Messner pointed out that other commissioners were present tonight equally deserving of praise. Sal also had good words for District Commissioner Barry Goldman, saying how effective he is.

Membership Report

Norman pointed out that tonight's Membership Report handout shows that we lost 130 youth versus last year. Steve addressed that number during his DE's Minute (below).

District Director's Minute

Steve had several pieces of good news to pass on. He and Rosa Urena just visited the West New York police department, which followed another visit that he and Joel had done two weeks ago in Secaucus. Both departments were enthusiastically ready to

sponsor Explorer posts in the fall. Popularity in West New York was so high that they might have to cap the enrollment at 100. He said, "We think we're beating our heads against the wall for membership, but that's not the case. Scouting and Exploring are thriving more than I've ever seen it, especially in Three Rivers District." Steve told how the police departments got involved starting with a police professional seminar that was also attended by a representative from BSA National, and how a ZIP code connection triggered an e-mail to Rosa.

Steve said that Cub Scout spring recruiting was going very well with "oodles of kids joining now" just in time for the June 18 Fishing Derby. He said that Joel had to miss tonight's meeting in order to spend time "reengaging" the Demarest pack, which is having its second meeting of kids and parents, and is one signature short of becoming active again.

Referring to the negative membership report, Steve said that they were still "mopping up" temporarily dropped units that had failed to meet the new Youth Protection training requirements. He estimated that 10 units totaling about 100 kids were still pending. He joked that they were "still meeting as functioning groups, but were doing so at their own risk -- and they know it!" He added, "Hopefully things will be better next year."

Back to the Upcoming Cub Family Weekend

Steve ended his minute by quoting Zig Ziglar, "If it wasn't for problems, we'd all be out of a job," and expressed his confidence that the Cub Family Weekend "would come together." Mark agreed but had his own concern, saying to Steve, "You were intending to go to the OA weekend but changed your plans," which might cause other people to lose their sense of urgency with "Somebody else will take care of it." Mark wondered aloud, "Sometimes I think you have to let things fail in order to let it sink in." Steve responded that we should do some serious planning over the summer to prevent a reoccurrence next year, which Ken summarized as "Lessons learned from these past six months."

**District Committee Meeting
June 2, 2016
One Bergen County Plaza
Hackensack, NJ,**

Attendance

Paul Adams
Sal Bellomo
Charlie Binder
Barbara Bruno
Anthony Catalano
Warren Dressler
Ken Dutcher
Dona Furfaro
Rich Habick
Norman Kasser
Drew Eric Kudlack
Steve Leonardi
Bob Lilley
Barry Messner
Bill Metts
Tom Molnar
Dennis Ng
Ed Quinn
Mark Wrightington
Jim Wrynn



AGENDA
FOR THE
DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEETING
OF THE
THREE RIVERS DISTRICT
JUNE 2, 2016

1. Call to Order of the Committee Meeting made by Mark Wrightington (7:30pm).
2. Pledge of Allegiance, Scout Oath, Scout Law – Norman Kasser (7:30 – 7:35pm).
3. Welcome/Opening Remarks – Ken Dutcher (7:35 – 7:40pm).
4. Issues/Matters deserving of the District Committee’s Attention – Ken will ask each Attendee to share their list of **What is “Top of Mind”?** (7:40 – 7:50pm).
5. Report by a District Commissioner regarding the last Commissioner’s meeting (7:50 – 7:55pm).
6. Update regarding the Cub Family weekend at Camp Lewis on June 11-12 – Mark Wrightington (7:55 – 8:10pm).
 - (i) **review the Staff list: Who is doing What? Where do we still need help?**
7. Update regarding the Cub Scout Fishing Derby on June 18 – Gerry Beatty & Mark Wrightington (8:10 – 8:15pm).
 - (i) **will there be a Camp Promotion?**
 - (ii) **how have we Promoted this event?**
 - (iii) **do we have enough helpers?**
8. Action Plans from the Chair or Vice Chair of each TRD Operating Committee: **What is each committee doing in connection with our District PROGRAM LAUNCH next week? (on JUNE 7): what displays, brochures, other “takeways“ or information will each committee have available?** (8:15 – 8:40pm).
 - (i) Camp Promotion/Outdoors – Barry Messner
 - (ii) Advancement & Recognition – Ed Ference & Rich Curran
 - (iii) Membership – Biff van Kleef
 - (iv) Activities & Civic Service – Mark Wrightington
 - (v) Finance/Fundraising: *status of FOS presentations* – Paul Adams

(vi) Training, including an update of the Council Training Committee mtg on 5/31 – Sal

(vii) Nominating – Bob Lilley

(viii) What else?

9. Commissioner's Minute (8:40 – 8:41pm).
10. Other Urgent Matters as necessary or advisable (8:41 – 8:50pm).
11. Recap of Action Plans/ Assignments & Next Steps coming out of tonight's meeting – Norman Kasser & Mark Wrightington (8:50 – 8:55pm).
12. The District Executive's Minute – Joel Lieberman (8:55 – 8:56pm).
13. Closing Remarks/ Adjournment – Ken Dutcher (8:56 – 9:00pm).

Report: 0119 v6.00
 Date: 06/01/2016
 Time: 18:18:24

Three Rivers District
 District Totals Report
 June 01, 2016 (06/01/2016)

Three Rivers District

	Youth		Adults			Boys' Life			On-Time		Qual Unit		100% BL		Ldr Trn		Units		
	Last Year	This Mo.	Last Year	Last Mo.	This Mo.	Last Year	Last Mo.	This Mo.	Last Year	This Mo.									
	Year	Mo.	Year	Mo.	Mo.	Year	Mo.	Mo.	Year	Mo.									
Boy Scouts of Amer.																			
Tigers	57	0	441	50	0	39	29	0	226										
Cub Scouts	902	0	932	539	0	492	478	0	477	58	61	0	0	23	20	24	33	72	69
Webelos	1042	0	618	62	0	40	572	0	360										
Lone Cubs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total Cub Scouting	2001	0	1991	651	0	571	1079	0	1063	58	61	0	0	23	20	24	33	72	69
Boy Scouts	1850	0	1719	1229	0	1052	1031	0	908	69	75	0	0	21	19	28	31	82	79
Lone Scouts	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Varsity Scouts	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
Total Boy Scouting	1852	0	1719	1229	0	1052	1031	0	908	69	75	0	0	21	19	29	31	83	79
Venturers	115	0	112	72	0	55	5	0	3	10	8	0	0	0	0	7	8	15	13
Sea Scouts	7	0	16	9	0	7	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	2
Total Venturing	122	0	128	81	0	62	5	0	3	11	9	0	0	0	0	8	10	16	15
Non-Units	0	0	0	27	27	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Traditional	3975	0	3838	1988	27	1712	2115	0	1974	138	145	0	0	44	39	61	74	171	163
Learning For Life																			
LFL Elementary	0	0	26	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
LFL Junior High	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
LFL High School	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
LFL Explorers	51	0	211	31	0	29	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	6	6
LFL Special Needs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total LFL	51	0	237	31	0	32	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	6	8
TOTAL	4026	0	4075	2019	27	1744	2115	0	1974	138	146	0	0	44	39	62	74	177	171

Northern New Jersey Council, BSA

**COUNCIL FRIENDS OF SCOUTING
MAY 31, 2016 (END-OF-MONTH REPORT)**

Campaign	Chairman	2016 Goal	31-May-16	31-May-15	+ / - Last Year YTD	% Raised to Date
Board Leadership	Joe Healy	\$ 155,000	\$ 153,800	\$ 151,479	\$ 2,321	99%
Board Community **	Chuck Shotmeyer **	\$ 120,000	\$ 137,336	\$ 114,991	\$ 22,345	114%
Direct Mail	Jack Desch	\$ 15,000	\$ 5,946	\$ 6,089	\$ (143)	40%
BOARD TOTALS **		\$ 290,000	\$ 297,082	\$ 272,559	\$ 24,523	102%
RAMAPO VALLEY						
Family	Mike Cowan / Joe Mertens	\$ 105,000	\$ 60,432	\$ 62,214	\$ (1,782)	58%
Leadership **	Larry Burke **	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,543	\$ 12,456	\$ 3,087	104%
Community	Jack Desch	\$ 50,000	\$ 24,385	\$ 36,665	\$ (12,280)	49%
RAMAPO VALLEY TOTALS		\$ 170,000	\$ 100,360	\$ 111,335	\$ (10,975)	59%
THREE RIVERS	Paul Adams					
Family	Sal Bellomo	\$ 95,000	\$ 61,898	\$ 60,801	\$ 1,097	65%
Leadership **	Bob Lilley **	\$ 16,500	\$ 17,260	\$ 13,389	\$ 3,871	105%
Community	Paul Adams	\$ 35,000	\$ 22,449	\$ 21,396	\$ 1,053	64%
THREE RIVERS TOTALS		\$ 146,500	\$ 101,607	\$ 95,586	\$ 6,021	69%
LENAPE TRAIL	Alan Kirshenbaum					
Family	Cheryl Jiosi	\$ 51,000	\$ 37,080	\$ 30,496	\$ 6,584	73%
Leadership **	Ken Fineran **	\$ 14,000	\$ 14,152	\$ 14,385	\$ (233)	101%
Community	Bill Downey, Jr.	\$ 35,000	\$ 31,045	\$ 27,520	\$ 3,525	89%
LENAPE TRAIL TOTALS		\$ 100,000	\$ 82,277	\$ 72,401	\$ 9,876	82%
METRO LIFE DIVISION	Noemy Valazquez					
Family	Rosa Urena	\$ 7,000	\$ 1,835	\$ 572	\$ 1,263	26%
Leadership	Vacant	\$ 6,000	\$ 2,850	\$ 2,550	\$ 300	48%
Community	Vacant	\$ 30,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 7,200	\$ (6,200)	3%
METRO LIFE DIVISION TOTALS		\$ 43,000	\$ 5,685	\$ 10,322	\$ (4,637)	13%
GRAND TOTALS	Jack Desch	\$ 749,500	\$ 587,011	\$ 562,203	\$ 24,808	78%

RGarland/dm

** ACHIEVED GOAL!