

**Troop 285**  
**PARENTS MEETING 8/15/11**

Present: George Boller, Maria Kaczmarek, Kieth Martin, Jim Stuhr, Evan Wardner, Darryl Colosi, Margaret Stuhr, Brian D'Arcy, John Fithian, David Pouliot, Mark McMullen, Bob Chiavetta

**Scoutmaster Report: Dr Brian D'Arcy**

Special thanks to Asst Scoutmaster Adam Ziccardi and all the adults who made Summer Camp so successful.

Scheduled date for the Planned Scout Garage Clean-up has again been changed to **SUNDAY, AUGUST 28TH**. This will be followed by a Scouting Year Kick Off Pool Party at the Colosi's. Watch your email for a note with all the details

BSA Youth Leadership Training for ALL Youth Leaders is tentatively scheduled for **Saturday September 10<sup>th</sup>**. (subsequent conversations with the Scoutmaster determined that this date will have to change) ALL Newly Elected or Appointed Youth Leaders are required to attend, regardless whether they have attended leadership training in the past. Rule of thumb is if you are getting credit for a position of responsibility for rank advancement then you need to attend. Any Scout who holds a Patrol level position of responsibility (ie Asst Patrol Leader, Patrol Quartermaster, etc) are welcome to attend but not required. As the winner of the test for the last Leadership Training, T.M. will receive a \$25 gift card to the Scout Store.

Dave Pouliot suggested that each Patrol have a Asst Scoutmaster assigned to them to help mentor the Patrol Leaders. Dr D'Arcy will get together with the Asst Scoutmasters and develop a plan to do this.

Code of Conduct forms for the 2011-2012 Scouting Year will be sent out via email and will also be available at the "Pool Party". They need to be returned by the 1<sup>st</sup> Troop Meeting (**Thursday, Sept 8<sup>th</sup>**). Scouts will not be allowed to attend Any Troop meetings or Activities until they turn in a completed form.

The PLC has requested that a Troop Survey assessing our progress toward becoming a "Boy Led Troop" be conducted twice a year. The 1<sup>st</sup> one will be sent out via email and will also be available at the "Pool Party". They need to be returned by the 1<sup>st</sup> Troop Meeting (**Thursday, Sept 8<sup>th</sup>**). Results will then be collated and presented for discussion

A close relationship with the senior WERBELOS is being developed. Unfortunately this years WEBELOS Extreme event is being held the same week end as our Troop Allegheny Canoe Trip. The Scoutmaster is working with the Den Leaders to arrange for other interactions during the year so that those Scouts Crossing Over the Bridge in the Spring have a good idea of how Scouting works. In addition John Fithian is going to be in contact with the Den Leaders for the Junior WEBELOS to keep communications open with them too.

**Committee Chair Report: George Boller**

There are still open positions on the Troop Committee. Two very critical positions are on the Who's Who Committee. Darryl Colosi emphasized that the by-laws of the Who's Who Committee requires

that we maintain a minimum of four member on the committee. Presently we only have two, Nancy Rand and Kathy Holder. Two more parents are needed or we will loose our involvement (and the income it provides) in the program.

Please review <http://www.troop285.com/media/leaders-info/Troop%20285%20Committee%202011%2006012011.html> to see where you can lend a helping hand to make the Scouting Experience for your Scout all it can be.

Margaret Stuhr suggested that the password to the protected area of the Troop Web Site be changed. A email with the new login and password will be sent out to all membership once it is activated.

She also requested information on the status of second Eagle Scout Recognition Plaque. Presently Don Marks has the plaque and is trying to match up the hardware that is on the first plaque. He will then have name plates made and all the names inscribed. The goal is to have it completed for the next COH.

### **Treasurers Report: Bob Chiavetta**

Bob Chiavetta reported that the Troop's accounts (Troop and Scout Individual accounts) have a total of \$12,567.32. \$11,7010.95 and \$856.37 respectively. A question was raised concerning the amount of money that the Troop carries from year to year. All present agreed that the funds available are needed to support the Troop and considering the present decline in money raised from the Who's Who the balance is probably going to decrease. It is also expected that with the Troop Garage Clean-up we may find that there are items that need to be replaced.

### **Fund Raising Report We still need a Chairperson for this position**

**Who's Who** As mentioned earlier we need TWO volunteers to join the Who's Who Committee. Darryl Colosi, who's wife Angela just left the Who's Who Committee stated that a lot more income could be generated by the fund raiser if the parents of the Troop played a bigger part in selling ads. Net proceeds from ad sales are split 50-50 between Troops. 4 and Troop 285. Please look at the ads in the Who's Who, if a business you frequent is not there, asked them if they'd like to support Scouting by placing an ad. They do not have to be limited to Orchard Park.

**Pop Corn** George Boller proposed that the Scouts could pay for all their week end camping for the year by selling just \$550 worth of Popcorn. Any Scout who reaches the Troop Goal of \$600 would receive a \$25 gift card from Troop 285, a \$20 Amazon Gift Card from Trails End and a Zyclone Launcher. Selling \$1550 would provide the Scout with the funds to pay for week end camping and Summer Camp. In addition, at the \$1550 level the Scout would receive \$185 in gift cards. Details to the Popcorn fund raiser will be released at the "Pool Party"

### **Advancement Report: Darryl Colosi**

You can now follow your Scouts progress on the Web by going to <http://www.troop285.com/pages/home.php> and clicking on TroopMaster Web and logging in with the login and password that was sent out to each family in June. If you can not find your login information please contact George Boller at [gboller@troop285.com](mailto:gboller@troop285.com). As we get more familiar with this program we will expand it's use.

Dave Pouliot is finalizing a list of parents that will be our BOR (Board of Review) Team. Procedures are being developed to ensure Scout know exactly what they need to do to schedule and complete a Scoutmaster Conference and BOR.

**COH K. D.** is our newest Eagle Scout and will be recognized at a COH **October 13<sup>th</sup>**. We will also be recognizing all Scouts who have advanced since our last COH.

### **Outdoor Activities Report : We still need a Chairperson for this position**

**Summer Camp** As mentioned earlier we had a very successful camp. Many merit badges were completed and based on all comments by participants, everyone had a good time. Notable achievements were: Campmaster, Adam Zicarrdi took 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the Camp Rifle competition (which was a higher score that last years 1<sup>st</sup> place score) , “Grampa” Jerry not only was the Piped Piper of Fishing again, he also help a Scout from Troop 230 (our sister Troop at Camp) earn his Fishing Merit Badge and Troop 285 helped in the rescue of several Troop 230 Adults in an overturned canoe.

**September Campout** We will be canoeing the mighty Allegheny River **Sep16-18**. Permission slips will need to be turned in at the first Scout Meeting September 8<sup>th</sup>. If you do not sign up by then you will not be able to participate in this campout. Watch for details in an email.

**High Adventure** A great deal of interest on the part of members of the PLC has been express to do a Birchbark Expedition. This is a canoeing high adventure in Algonquin Provincial Park in Canada. Anyone interested in **helping** to organize this activity please contact George Boller at [gboller@troop285.com](mailto:gboller@troop285.com) or Dr Brian D'Arcy at [bbdmd@chsbuffalo.org](mailto:bbdmd@chsbuffalo.org) . We need to start preparations now to make this a successful event. Go to <http://www.wnyscouting.org/openrosters/ViewOrgPageLink.asp?LinkKey=33744&orgkey=2037> to read more about this exciting adventure.

### **Equipment Coordinator Report**

Dave Pouliot is coordinating the Troop Garage Clean-up. As such he has reluctantly accepted the Position of Equipment Coordinator but would gladly accept an assistant to train and take over the job.

**Scout Garage Clean-up** Will be done the morning of **August 28<sup>th</sup>**. Dave Pouliot will be sending out an email with details. Plans are to have as many people show up at 10:00am as possible and work until completion or 4:00pm which ever comes first.

**Equipment Repair/Replacement** Adam Ziccardi replaced the broken wooden flag poles. Dr D'Arcy suggested that we replace the worn Troop and American. Jim Stuhr reported that the Troop Refrigerator has ceased to work, John Fithian is looking in to have a replacement donated by Kelley's Appliances.