



# BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

## DENVER AREA COUNCIL

January 31, 2019

Attendees:

Name	Present
Greg Ostravich	X
Shawn Connelly	X
Mike Shapiro (remote)	X
Dave Reynolds	X
James Dockter	
Jenna Wilkin (remote)	X
Ariella Wells	
Joe Black	X

### Pledge of Allegiance

#### Dvar Torah - Parshas Mishpatim

Following the revelation at Sinai, G-d legislates a series of laws for the people of Israel. These include the laws of the indentured servant; the penalties for murder, kidnapping, assault and theft; civil laws pertaining to redress of damages, the granting of loans and the responsibilities of the “Four Guardians”; and the rules governing the conduct of justice by courts of law.

Also included are laws warning against mistreatment of foreigners; the observance of the seasonal festivals, and the agricultural gifts that are to be brought to the Holy Temple in Jerusalem; the prohibition against cooking meat with milk; and the mitzvah of prayer. Altogether, the Parshah of Mishpatim contains 53 mitzvot—23 imperative commandments and 30 prohibitions.

G-d promises to bring the people of Israel to the Holy Land and warns them against assuming the pagan ways of its current inhabitants.

The people of Israel proclaim, “We will do and we will hear all that G-d commands us.” Leaving Aaron and Hur in charge in the Israelite camp, Moses ascends Mount Sinai and remains there for forty days and forty nights to receive the Torah from G-d.

One of the parsha discussed the fact that the laws included rules around slavery right after the Jews were freed from slavery in Egypt. The holidays of Passover, Sukkot, and Shavuot are described in this Parsha. Another bit of study asks a question which I will use as the basis for my commentary

**Prepared. For Life.™**





# BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

## DENVER AREA COUNCIL

tonight.

G-d commands Moses to write down the 10 Commandments on stone tablets so they can be taught. Why are they so important? Are they strictly for Jews or all people?

I picked that question because they remind me of the Oath, Law, and Outdoor Code. They are designed as a framework for moral and ethical guidance. It's the same with the 10 commandments. I would argue the 10 commandments are for all people, but some commandments are specific to Jews. In the same way if you "run the 12" and look at the oath you can find if any one action is something you should do or re-think, the same can be said with running the 10 Commandments. There are 613 mitzvot or commandments that were brought down from Sinai; but looking at the 10 can usually give you guidance in terms of what will be within the 613. You could even boil it down as Hillel did to this statement: "That which is hateful to you, do not do to your fellow. That is the whole Torah; the rest is the explanation; go and learn"

### **Review November meeting minutes.**

#### **Old Business -**

#### **Unit Status –**

Temple Emanuel – Pack 1874 – Still working on starting up the unit. Not sure if they'll be joining us for "Scout Shabbat."

BMH Troop Equipment: Update – No update this month; Mike will follow-up. He thinks it's in Petersen's shed. Note: 1613 has a full set of gear so maybe they don't need it. The Troop Trailer for 1613 is still at DAT.

Aish, HEA (Hebrew Educational Alliance) and Temple Sinai – Updates? No update; we'll try again for the next meeting. Aish, HEA, and Temple Sinai are Denver, so Michaela needs to contact. – Gilberto is discussing a unit with Sinai. I invited him to our JCOS meeting.

Mike isn't aware of anything at the Alliance or Aish.

New business: Communications from Gilberto discussing a new unit with Sinai.

Rabbi Leban from "The Jewish Experience" – Jenna had contacted; any update? No update; Jenna will follow-up for the next meeting.

Chabad – Any word with Rabbi Popak Jr. at Stapleton for Explorers?

Mike's not sure; let's table this for the Spring. Mike will be back in May. Let's discuss it then.

1613 – Have they been meeting every other week? How's it going?

Are they having "Scout Shabbat?" – Confirmed Scout Shabbat will be March 30<sup>th</sup>. They are

**Prepared. For Life.™**





# BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

## DENVER AREA COUNCIL

meeting every other week. Have an outing at least 1 per month. DU Observatory and tubing at Echo Mtn; Pinewood Derby. How as the lunar eclipse? Nobody responded but they did post so maybe they watched but not as a group. Dave Reynolds helped Jenna with JTE. Jenna will reach out to us too. The Boy Scout Troop lost a member; switched the time to an earlier time so membership is really low. Press release for the Intermountain Jewish News. Struggling with the older boys and leadership; how can we help? Maybe some Cubbies that are Arrow of Light Scouts that are transitioning into the Troop. Three or four 5<sup>th</sup> graders. Blue & Gold Banquet coming up; probably April 10<sup>th</sup> or May 1<sup>st</sup>. Can borrow a bridge from the Girl Scouts for the crossover.

### Programs

*Kinnus: Lag B'omer – Hamilton Scout HQ in the Courtyard 5/19/2019 9-4*

We had discussed these programming suggestions at the last meeting; do we want to flesh this out more? I believe Shawn has booked the facility for us.

Starter list; let's add to it and discuss:

- Demo of Setting up Tents – Are there tents here? There should be some in Colorado Adventure Point that we can use. Shawn will confirm. We'll practice beforehand. – *Shawn confirmed we have the tents.*
- Knots – Basic Knots? Decorative? Let's do both.
  - Square Knot
  - Clove Hitch
  - Two Half-Hitch
  - Taut line
  - Timber Hitch
  - Lashings
  - Bowline
  - Sheep shank
  - Decorative: Butterfly Knot (Shawn is working on this)
  - Decorative: Monkey Fist (Greg)
  - **Decorative: Turk's Head (Greg)**
- Pioneering (Poles for lashings? There is rope and poles here that can be used.
  - Tri-Pod for a Weather Rock (Shawn will bring a rock from Tahosa)
- Cooking Demonstration – using stove → 1613's stove
  - Eggs? Omelets? --> Boil in a bag and do pancakes on the griddle.
- Cooking with Dutch Oven – Mike Shapiro; Shawn will bring them. (can use as frying pan); Shawn has a pareve one at home.
  - Cobbler – with charcoal on the Dutch Oven; Charcoal here at Scout HQ
- Patrol Box usage
  - 1613 Patrol Box which is Kosher.
  - Trailer at DAT – need to bring it here for that event.; Shawn could trailer it over;

**Prepared. For Life.™**





# BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

## DENVER AREA COUNCIL

but when should we bring it? Coordinate with Jenna to come pick it up from DAT. Also, Jenna has a set-up (hitch and power) so she could pull it too.

- Because Shawn is now with the Camping Department Program items are easier to access; he runs Program.
- What to Bring and not bring for a camping trip – Mike will take this on. Lists in the Scouting Handbook. Flesh it out from there.
- Bonfire – We have the gas pit we can use for that. Shawn will follow-up.
- Still need kids to design a patch.

We may see if some of the more seasoned scouts in 1613 will lead this up. Also adults from Pack 1874 – revisit this because numbers are down in 1613 and 1874 isn't ready yet. Mayer Reynolds and Sammy Strear.

Memorial Day Weekend – Sunday, stay through Monday at Odom Farm. Note that the DAC bought Odom Farm. Still doing the Sunday to Monday of Memorial Day? Updates? Do we want to flesh this out more? Still doing the Hamilton Scout HQ event too? Yes; do both. Question about booking the venue. They have a hike planned there too; that would work too. Shawn will follow-up with them to see if we can use that venue. We're not sure if it's available because of the holiday. – Shawn still needs to confirm; will do that for next month's meeting. Transition still in process; Odom will own the property; it's been willed to the council when he passes but we can book events there pending Odom's approval.

Religious awards - Any word from Jenna about scouts in 1613? Will follow-up with 1874 when the Pack is up and running. No update; Jenna not on the call. I heard from a Den Leader that has kids working on their Aleph and Maccabee awards and followed up with them about that. Jenna sent the kids home with a notebook after they started it; will focus on it at different meetings.

Shawn also got e-mails from council staff on this; wants to recognize kids on the National level in May for earning their religious knot. Any word from Joyce Saitta on kids working on the religious award?

National JCOS Program @ Philmont in Summer 2019? Do we have the dates yet? Yes. Reminder from last meeting if you go: Don't get in the 2<sup>nd</sup> lunch shift; needs to be the first shift because Kosher meals need to thaw. Tents have electricity for CPAPs. – Not sure who is going yet; still working on this. – June 16<sup>th</sup> – June 22<sup>nd</sup> – Shomer Shabbos. Shawn and Greg might go.

Scout Sabbath – Update: Does February 2<sup>nd</sup> work? -- This is when there is a Commissioner Science College on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Can we do the 9<sup>th</sup> instead? Update on the patch. Did this date work for all congregations? Shawn said there's a National Patch. If the Pack isn't there yet Greg might join 1613 instead. Shawn will order some patches. Mike will follow-up with 1613. – Jenna said they are shooting for March 30<sup>th</sup> for DAT and I will attend. She is reconfirming with DAT on that date. – March 30<sup>th</sup> will be our date; if 1874 is around we can do it there too.

**Prepared. For Life.™**





# BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

## DENVER AREA COUNCIL

Shomer Shabbos Woodbadge – Baltimore Area Council May 20<sup>th</sup> – May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019.:

Anybody interested? Shawn, Mike, and I already have our beads.

Here are the details again:

Baltimore Area Council is sponsoring a Sabbath Friendly Wood Badge course during the spring of 2019. The course will be held from Monday, May 20, 2019 (7:30 am) until Friday, May 24, 2019 (4:15 pm). Dates and meals have been designed to meet the obligations of a variety of religious observances, including strictly Kosher food and time for religious obligations to be met. An orientation meeting (recommended, but not required) is scheduled for Thursday, May 9, 2019 at 7 pm.

### Opening Prayers for Scouting Events

I used the Schehiyanu at the Arapahoe District Commissioners meeting and for Round Table. It was well received.; Shawn had a going away party for a couple of District Executives. He did the Motzi for the blessing over the food. Joe mentioned that he tries to counsel people to have a nonsectarian prayer. Spiritual but not religious. Mayer also does that; says the Hebrew and then the English. Also “Prepare yourself in the manner to which you are accustomed.” Joe Black is working with National to help them learn this stuff too. Scouting is non-denominational and nonsectarian. If you’re with a larger group, we strive for this with the chaplain’s aide training. Faith based organization.

Two Eagle Candidates; Mayer Reynolds & Sam Strear; Updates and on if they need assistance? Mayer met with Joyce Saitta to discuss projects; may not do one within a faith-based organization. Just the project left. Greg Holt and Sammy exchanged e-mails – Sammy has something identified that was approved. Not sure what troop he’s in; the 5:30 meeting time doesn’t work for him in 1613. Keep the Cubbies at 5:30 and do the Boy Scouts 6-7; maybe that would help. Jenna’s in touch with Sammy’s dad.

Jewish Venturing Crew? – Joe Black was asking about this. Rabbi Popak might sponsor a couple of crews. Not far enough to see if this could go; right now, it’s stalled. Jenna said with 1613 they are not ready yet to have that. Maybe if we broke it out into separate packs that meet at separate times based on gender. Let’s revisit this next year?

Council Camporee for 2019 at PV; Set-up a Shomer Shabbos Experience. Shawn will reserve Caribou campsites for that as well as the Dietler Commissary. September 20-22, 2019. **[Done]** This won’t interfere with the High Holy Days which are at the end of the month. – Also pins – see below. What about the Ark for the Torah? Do we have a Torah we can use? Mike Shapiro has the Ark in his garage. Mike will see if we can get a Torah; Shawn has a place here at Scout HQ to store. Maybe ask DAT if we can borrow one? Jenna will ask DAT. Mike mentioned there’s a deerskin torah in Florida, but it will cost \$12K to get it Koshered.

**Prepared. For Life.™**







# BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

## DENVER AREA COUNCIL

Rabbi Horowitz at BMH may want to join us for the committee. – Mike hasn't reached out to him yet; but he will. He's got two young girls that were maybe going to join scouts, but it sounds like they went into girl scouts instead. Mike will follow up with another Rabbi at DAT to see if they want to join us.; Mike talked to the Rabbi about that; but DAT won't do a girl's unit yet; but Rabbi Horowitz is interested. The girls joined a Girl Scout Troop with Jenna. Jenna will ask the Rabbi Horowitz about that.

### **New Business –**

I had Shawn change the meeting to the last Thursday of every month.

Pin for Camporee – 10 Commandments – Tablets as a pin? Jenna can ask the kids.

Joe Black mentioned LDS faith invites scouting officials to their events. Let's do that with Scout Sabbath too that's March 30<sup>th</sup>. Also maybe a Seder in the future.

### **Next Meeting?**

February 28th, 2019 – 6 PM at DAT.  
6825 E Alameda Ave, Denver, CO 80224

TODO: E-mail Mike Greg's Camping Talk. (What to bring)

TODO: Greg will check the schedule for the JCOS at Philmont.

### **Closing (Scoutmasters Minute) – Greg**

My first SM Minute - January 5th, 2015.

This fits with the parsha and where both the Oath, Law, and Outdoor Code are like the 10 Commandments. Guide rails to help us.

Do you know what guide rails are?

In orienteering they are the things that keep you on course; to know you're headed in the right direction. Examples are man-made features like power lines and roads, or natural things like streams. Another example is on a railway; a guide rail keeps the train on the track.

Did you know we have guide rails as scouts?

Some great examples are the Scout Law, Scout Oath, and Motto.

**Prepared. For Life.™**





# BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

## DENVER AREA COUNCIL

They can be used to help keep us on-track or on-course in doing what's right.

Our former Scoutmaster David Gilfillan used to say, "When in doubt, run the 12."

What he meant was to repeat the Scout Law to yourself and see if whatever action you're about to take fits within the 12 points of the Scout Law.

When you don't know what to do, repeat the Scout Law and Scout Oath.

The twelve points of the scout law, and the 3 promises of the scout oath: Duty to God and country, Duty to other people, and Duty to self, will guide you to make the right choice if the choice you are making fits within these guide rails.

Just remember this:

12 / 3 it matters to me, all the way and every day

**Prepared. For Life.™**

