

Southern California Council Meeting Minutes
7:00pm, 29 April 2010
Escondido United Reformed Church
1864 North Broadway, Escondido California

Opening Prayer and Devotion was offered by Rob Balt, Head Counselor Escondido URC (1536) at 7:10 pm. He read first from Ecclesiastes 3:1-9. Rob encouraged the council members to use our time wisely in serving our clubs and cadets. Also, he challenged each counselor to ask himself if he is demonstrating Christian character and really living by the Cadet Code that our boys recite at every meeting. After reading 2 Chronicles 15:7, he reminded us that we should not give up on our efforts because we are living sacrifices to the LORD.

The council watched the 2011 International Camporee promotion video as a precursor to the workshops. DCE Workshops were provided by Craig Doty, Head Counselor Bayview OPC (1585) and Bernie Gabrielse, Head Counselor First URC of Chino (1530).

Craig led a discussion roundtable workshop on portions of the Head Counselor certification course. The men discussed some of the challenges and duties of being a club's head counselor. Craig encouraged the men in attendance to begin the planning for next year's club events in this season and to take advantage of the other counselor's talents and abilities to spreading the wealth of club responsibilities. Jim Tanis, Counselor Bellflower Bethany (1518) asked about the feasibility of rotating the head counselor position to avoid burnout. The group discussed this and provided some feedback. Craig concluded the workshop by encouraging the men to complete the course and send it to him for grading.

Bernie led us in a workshop – "Future Planning". In a time when the Cadet year is winding down, we need to finish strong and start looking toward next year. The question was asked of the group, *what is the role of Cadetting in your church?* Our answers emphasized outreach ministry. *Are you willing to change* was asked? The demographics of our churches and neighborhoods are changing. Even Cadets is prayerfully considering changing our name to meet the challenges of the changing environment. When the name change was initially introduced, the opposition was 95%. Today only 52% of the Cadet Congress opposes such a change. During this period, our sister program – GEMS has grown by 11%, all the while Cadetting is decreasing in numbers of registered counselors, boys, and clubs.

Bernie read Ephesians 4:11-12 and emphasized the service mentioned therein. We are challenged to deploy our boys into acts of service next year. Several suggestions were discussed. Lastly, the group discussed some ideas for next year.

After a break for coffee and refreshments, the Business Meeting was called to order by Dave Dalton, Head Counselor Westminster OPC (1539) at 8:45pm.

Roll Call was taken with the following clubs reporting attendance:

Number	Name	Present
1503	Anaheim CRC	
1509	Artesia 1 (inactive)	
1512	Artesia Trinity CRC	
1585	Bayview OPC	2
1518	Bellflower Bethany	3
1569	Bellflower Bethel	
1515	Bellflower 1	
1521	Bellflower Rosewood	
1531	Crosspoint CRC	
1530	Chino	2
1517	Anaheim Christ Reformed (URC)	
1536	Escondido URC	2
1539	Long Beach CRC	
1558	Oasis Moreno Valley	
1548	The River (Redlands)	
1557	Hope Riverside	
1560	San Diego CRC (inactive)	
1561	San Diego New Life PCA	2
1563	Sun Valley	1
1565	San Marcos CRC	
1566	Westminster OPC	2

Church name in bold indicates H/C attending

Old Business

Matt Gabrielse, Council Congressman and Counselor First URC of Chino (1530) provided the latest registration and financial data for the upcoming summer Counselors' Convention. He noted the total income as \$28,207.

Counselors Attending	3	
	5	
Spouses Attending	2	
Children Attending	1	
	6	
Councils Represented	1	
States Represented	3	
Provinces Represented	4	
	1	

The following council clubs have raised funds. Bellflower Bethany - \$2,000; Chino 1 - \$400; Crosspoint - \$400; Long Beach CRC - \$2,000; Bayview - \$148.52; and Westminster OPC - \$1,603.50. Another \$500 will be arriving from Westminster in the near future. Craig encouraged everyone to continue with fundraising efforts. He highlighted that the amount received thus far represents approximately 24% of the funds needed for the convention. Bernie stated that he has mailed out letters to every club member on the West Coast (approximately 350). These letters not only encourage the counselors to attend the summer convention, but also ask for help in raising funds by advertising and/or sponsorship and donations.

Craig highlighted the continuing need for daycare/chaperones at the convention. Dave announced a willingness on his part to help with accommodations for childcare workers who come from outside the local (San Diego area) and require a room at the hotel.

Dave reminded the council of the upcoming West Coast Camporee proposed for July 28-31 in North Fork, CA. No further information, e.g., registration forms, etc. have been received from the Golden Bear or Pacific Sierra councils.

Dave asked if the date for the 2010 Marksmanship/Archery Invitational Dates had been finalized. Dave Lewis replied that he had not heard yet of a decision for either November 6th or 13th at Valley Christian. This item was continued to the next regularly scheduled meeting.

The council discussed the makeup of the certification course, noting that previously held events have diverged from those required in the Corps handbook for Camping Certification. Only axemanship, firebuilding and camp cooking/layout/cleanup are required in the handbook. The council decided to continue with the additional classes for shelter building and first aid. The following clubs/counselors will lead the various classes:

- Axemanship – Dave Lewis
- Firebuilding – Bill Mulder
- Shelter building – Ron Flietstra
- First Aid – Dave Dalton
- Camp Cooking – Jim Grasmeyer

Ken Klaasen, Head Counselor, Sun Valley Christian Reformed Church (No. 1563) asked what time the course would end on Saturday. The certification course will begin at 8:30am at

Westminster OPC and end around 2:00pm. A lunch break will be taken. Dave Dalton agreed to contact event leaders for confirmation and any needs. Dave reminded the council that this year's certification is open to all but the course in 2011 will be limited to those cadets and counselors who will be attending the 2011 International Camporee at Camp Whitetail in Michigan.

Reports

The Congressman Report was provided by Matt Gabrielse. He noted the ongoing prayer list published by Grand Rapids. He also receives monthly financial reports for council giving to Corps. All offerings are due to the DYM headquarters by June 30th. Dave Dalton interjected that it is important that clubs keep records of the offerings provided to Corps since sometimes these offerings, if not correctly addressed, can be given to the incorrect DYM office. Dave Lewis strongly encouraged clubs to send in their offerings before the deadline (and to provide a copy to our congressmen) since Corps has assessed a \$20 penalty for late submissions.

The DCE Report was given Craig Doty. He noted that this past February's West Coast Counselor's Conference in Visalia was well attended. He also noted that next year's conference will be hosted by First URC of Chino on the third full weekend in February.

Craig reminded those counselors in attendance that counselor and head counselor certification courses should be provided to him for grading. Certificates and counselor stripes would be handed out at council meetings or other council events. Bernie mentioned that each counselor should be actively involved in promoting Cadetting with churches that currently do not involve themselves with the Cadets. Jim Tanis asked if the council should be kept informed of clubs that are struggling. Bernie replied that certainly for prayer and consultation, we should be aware of any club in this predicament.

Bernie reminded the council of the Blue Star award for counselors. For any counselor that he feels should receive this award, the club's head counselor should submit a recommendation (form on the website) to the Blue Star committee. Committee members include: Jim Grasmeyer, Bernie Gabrielse, Bill Mulder, and John deVries. The committee will consider and decide on awarding the Blue Star.

Craig encouraged council members to utilize his and Bernie's DCE office to provide training for clubs and the council. If an individual club desires a particular topic to be discussed, it should be sent to Bernie or Craig for a workshop to be developed. In this way, club and council training meets the needs of our counselors.

The Treasurer Report was given by Dave Lewis, who noted that our currently checking account balance is \$435.00 and we have approximately \$600 in accounts receivable. The question was asked if our income from Pinewood Derby covered the costs. Dave stated that net proceeds from the Pinewood Derby were about \$200.

Quartermaster Report by George Bell was not provided.

New Business

Rueben Settergren, Counselor at New Life PCA (1561) and Council Webdude proposed an in-depth discussion at the next council meeting for using telephone conferencing (telecon) to facilitate meetings and involve more counselors. D. Lewis encouraged the idea by saying a few satellite sites would be better – Crosspoint, Bethany, New Life, and Chino 1. Rueben said that he would have some information on costs, options, and possibly a demonstration at the August council meeting at Chino 1.

Craig introduced the draft 2010-2011 Council Calendar noting that some churches have already begun scheduling next year's events. By finalizing the council calendar now, clubs would be in a better position to negotiate facility use and plan for their own events. Jim Tanis offered Bellflower Bethany to host the November council meeting. After a motion and second, discussion was closed. The council members voted unanimously to approve the calendar as modified. Rueben asked if these events would be placed onto the council website calendar; Craig replied that yes they either are already posted, or will be posted shortly.

Craig encouraged council members to utilize the council website. He thanked Rueben for his work on the website and also highlighted the calendar feature. Rueben offered to assist any club that wishes to avail itself of the functions inherent with GoogleCalendar.

Council President Dave Dalton announced the next Council meeting at First URC in Chino, beginning at 7:00pm on August 26, 2010. Workshops will include Counselor Certification and one other to be announced.

Dave Dalton thanked Rob Balt and the other counselors from Escondido URC for hosting the meeting. Dave the meeting closed with prayer to our Great God and King at 9:45pm for the ministry to the boys in our clubs, the decisions and plans made tonight, and traveling mercies. The council concluded the meeting by singing the Cadet Hymn.

In Christ's Service

Craig P. Doty