

**Troop 652 Parent Committee**  
**Meeting Notes**

Meeting Date: January 28, 2026

*\*\* Committee did not meet in December. \*\**

Meeting Location: St. Basil Parish Center, Classroom 10

Present: Robb Metyk, Cristie Snyder, Irene Christian, Renee Buszta, Denise Weisfelder, Mike Taylor, Shawna Melnykowski, Sal Caruso, Jane Mahoney, Pennilane Carlisle, Cory Webber, Brian Christian, Jerry Blayne, Robby Maher

I. Call to Order/Opening Remarks

Denise called to order the regular meeting of the Troop 652 Parent Committee at 6:36 PM.

II. Reports

Scoutmaster Open Discussion (Shawna, Irene, Robb)

- The Klondike was VERY COLD (-15 overnight to a recorded high of 10 degrees on Saturday), and the council event was reduced to a one-day activity. It was a dinosaur theme. Five girls and 17 boys attended the event. The girls' troop had one sled and earned 610 points in the competition. The boys' troop built one additional sled prior to the event and had three sleds in the Klondike. One of our boy patrols earned enough points (773) to place second overall in the competition. They were just three points short of being the first-place team! The girls won a new water cooler in the auction, and the boys won a new outdoor kitchen set, an axe, plus cast iron skillets. All scouts used their winter camping skills and had some good, cold fun.
- The four Klondike sleds need to be stored in the Annex. Leaders to determine how to hang on the walls.
- The next PLC meeting is February 10. Boys PLC plans to focus on a Scout Law theme each month and incorporate this in meetings and campouts. The PLC also determined that the girls' troop would run meetings on the first and third Wednesdays of the month, and the boys' troop would run troop meetings on the second and fourth Wednesdays.
- The PLC is interested in having a remote troop meeting to visit Lake Erie Council's Adventure Lab at the Service Center in Cleveland.
- The girls' troop has these upcoming events: Polar Bear Campout (February), Overnight Backpacking Trip (March), Pack 652 AOL Crossover (April), and TBD (May).
- The boys' troop has these upcoming events: Polar Bear Campout (February).
- Scout Sunday will be celebrated at St. Basil on February 8. We'll attend the 9:00 AM mass. All units and families should plan to attend. Please wear full class A uniform, including neckerchiefs.
- Shawna stated Independence United Methodist Church will host a Scout Sunday service on February 15 at 10:00 AM. Scouts and families are invited to attend. If you would like to host a Scout Sunday at your place of worship, please coordinate and share the details with the troops.
- Council's Trash the Trash Day will be held on May 2. Irene will coordinate.
- National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) will be held June 7-13 at Firelands. Justin and Greta have been selected to be on staff. Two girls and three boys have expressed interest in attending NYLT this year.
- Irene attended a meeting about Manatoc Summer Camp. Our troops will attend June 21-27. The camp theme will focus on the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary/birthday of the USA and will do merit badge scheduling differently this year. Pricing is \$470 early bird, \$485 regular, and \$500 late sign-up. Adult leaders are \$150.
- Robb shared information about council's Scouting University training program with adult troop leaders.

Outdoor/Activities (Craig, TJ)

- Craig is investigating a second week of summer camp in July for the troop, potentially at Seven Ranges Scout Reservation.

- Shawna stated that the Venture Crew has an opportunity to team up with Troop 810 to attend Philmont Scout Reservation in New Mexico this summer. Targeted dates are July 17-30. The trip will be open to anyone ages 14+.

#### Secretary (Cristie)

- Monthly notes and newsletters for 2025 will be archived in Google Drive.
- Pennilane misses the monthly troop newsletter and requested if it could be revived. Cristie will speak with Robb to coordinate.
- Information about taking the Engineering merit badge through the Harley-Davidson Museum was forwarded to all troop members.
- Information about Zink High Adventure Base in Tulsa, Oklahoma was forwarded to the troop scoutmasters, outings chair, and committee chair.
- Information about the 2026 Memorial Scout Camp (MSC) Campership Program was forwarded to the troop scoutmasters and committee chair.
- Information about the 2026 BSA Swamp Base Adult Leader Treks was forwarded to adult troop leaders.
- If there are changes or edits to dates and information posted on the troop website calendar, let Cristie know ASAP so she can make the necessary updates. Subscribers rely on us to keep a current web calendar.
- Reminder: Placing photos in GroupMe reduces their size and alters quality. Please post outings and activities photos in the troop's private Facebook group!
- The troop has general email addresses to reach leaders. A separate attachment of contact information will be included with this month's committee notes email.
  - Committee Chair, Troop: [committee.chair@troop652bsa.org](mailto:committee.chair@troop652bsa.org)
  - Treasurer, Troop: [treasurer@troop652bsa.org](mailto:treasurer@troop652bsa.org)
  - Advancement, Troop: [advancement@troop652bsa.org](mailto:advancement@troop652bsa.org)
  - Outings, Troop: [outings@troop652bsa.org](mailto:outings@troop652bsa.org)
  - Secretary, Troop: [information@troop652bsa.org](mailto:information@troop652bsa.org)
  - Scoutmaster, Boys: [scoutmaster@troop652bsa.org](mailto:scoutmaster@troop652bsa.org)
  - Scoutmaster, Girls: [scoutmastergtroop652@gmail.com](mailto:scoutmastergtroop652@gmail.com)
- Reminder: Parents should send an email to the troop secretary to make any updates, changes, or additions to contact information. This includes email lists and GroupMe.
  - If your scout has an email address, consider making them responsible by including their email, in addition to the parent's, on troop lists.
- Boy Troop: If you are on the boys' troop mailing list, you are able to communicate with all members of the boys' troop by sending an email through [troopmembers@troop652bsa.org](mailto:troopmembers@troop652bsa.org) and [troop-652-boys@googlegroups.com](mailto:troop-652-boys@googlegroups.com)
  - Please mark these two distribution lists as 'safe senders' in your mail client!!
- Girl Troop: If you are on the girls' troop mailing list, you can communicate with all members of the girls' troop by sending an email through [gtroopmembers@troop652bsa.org](mailto:gtroopmembers@troop652bsa.org) and [troop652g@googlegroups.com](mailto:troop652g@googlegroups.com)
  - Please mark these two distribution lists as 'safe senders' in your mail client!!

#### Treasurer (Sal)

- Troop dues are still missing for 2 female scouts and 8 male scouts.
- The ledgers have been closed for 2025 and are archived in Google Drive. 2026 records have started.
- Discussion: An unanticipated increase in fundraising dollars earned in 2025 (this is good!). Amount the troop spent per scout in 2025. Campership funds available for 2026. Potential ways to spend funds to benefit all scouts in the troop.
- Discussion: Campout costs and a reduction in camping fees. Cabins have been added as an option for a few times a year and are expensive. Going forward, troop campouts will be \$10 per scout. We will test this for a few months to see if this price is sustainable.
- Sal and Denise to have a budget meeting.

- Monthly financial reports for both troops were provided for inclusion with committee notes. Available to all troop members on request.
- Forward all receipts and finance questions to the treasurer so he can log purchases and answer questions. Please indicate what troop it's for. Send to [treasurer@troop652bsa.org](mailto:treasurer@troop652bsa.org)

#### Fundraising (Janet, Robby)

- Robby is still waiting for confirmation from St. Basil admin on a date for the girls' spaghetti dinner.
  - Note: After the committee meeting, Robby received notice that the date would be March 7.
- Brecksville Home Days are scheduled for June 19-21. The boys' troop will have a booth for the annual pop and water sale fundraiser. At this time, the girls will help but not have their own booth.

#### Advancement (Pennilane)

- The girls' troop is now up-to-date and has received the awards and patches that were backordered.
- The boys' troop had four Eagle Scouts in 2025. Discussion: Eagle Scout kits.
  - Eagle Scout kits (award medal, rank patch, and pins in a collector box) plus the Eagle neckerchief and Eagle slide will be purchased by the troop for those that make rank. Motion Sal, second by Denise.
- Lake Erie Council's annual Eagle Scout Class of 2025 Recognition Event is February 28 in Eastlake. This is an invitation event for new Eagles and their families; LEC sent information to the Eagle Scouts.
- To request a board of review or ask questions about advancement, scouts should send an email to [advancement@troop652bsa.org](mailto:advancement@troop652bsa.org)
  - Scoutmaster conferences for the boys can be requested at [scoutmaster@troops652bsa.org](mailto:scoutmaster@troops652bsa.org)
  - Scoutmaster conferences for the girls can be requested at [scoutmastergtroop652@gmail.com](mailto:scoutmastergtroop652@gmail.com)

#### Membership & Training (vacant)

- Currently, six boys are not renewed as BSA members.
- Discussion: How to recruit more girls to the troop. Irene will attend an online BSA recruitment seminar.
- Leader role changes: Craig has switched to assistant scoutmaster, TJ is outings chair, Robby is our troop chaplain, Jerry and Cory are committee members, and Kevin has decided to stay on as an assistant scoutmaster.
- Brian Christian has offered to be an Eagle mentor for any Life scout needing guidance while working towards that rank.
- All St. Basil volunteers are required to take VIRTUS training. If you think you may want to join the troop on campouts or as a leader, it is highly recommended that you attend a VIRTUS session at your earliest convenience. See VIRTUS dates and locations at [https://www.virtusonline.org/virtus/reg\\_list.cfm?theme=0](https://www.virtusonline.org/virtus/reg_list.cfm?theme=0)
- Troop volunteer requirements can be viewed at <https://troop652bsa.org/volunteers-needed/>

#### Equipment Coordinator (Jim)

- The boys' troop needs another two-burner stove for patrol use. Robb found a good option on Facebook Marketplace that he would like to pursue. Committee agreed he should investigate it.
- Justin has been "shopping" in the Annex storage to find gear and utensils for an additional patrol box.
- The boys' trailer needs necessary maintenance and improvement. It will be assessed with work scheduled for when it warms up.
- The girls' trailer needs necessary maintenance and improvement. Discussion: Eagle rank stickers on the trailer like the boys have. This will be pursued after trailer is repaired and painted.

#### Service Projects (vacant)

- Denise stated that Sara Blayne has offered to coordinate service projects. She will confirm with Sara.

III. Old business

- Camperships for 2026. The troop will award camperships to two boys and one girl this year. The application process will remain the same. Discussion: Who is eligible to win a campership. Awardees must use camperships on a summer camp or high adventure that Troop 652 is attending. Campership dollars are appreciated by parents but might not be as impactful for the scouts. Maybe consider a gear raffle or giveaway that would be helpful or enticing to the scouts.
  - Camperships cannot be awarded for two years in a row to the same scout. Motion Robby, second by Sal.

IV. Announcements

- Congratulations to Shawna for winning Lake Erie Council's Unit Scouter Award!! Shawna will be recognized at LEC's Celebration of Scouting event on March 7. Anyone is welcome to purchase a ticket and attend.
- Mike announced that LEC's annual NYLT/Wood Badge Scholarship Breakfast will be held on March 14 at Lakewood High School.

V. Adjournment

Denise adjourned the meeting at 8:15 PM. The next meeting will be held on February 25, 2026 at 6:30 PM.

See a full calendar of meetings and activities at [www.troop652bsa.org/events](http://www.troop652bsa.org/events)

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Draft notes submitted by Cristie on January 30, 2026. Reviewed and approved by Denise on February 1, 2026.