



Southern California Cadet Council Meeting Minutes
7:00pm, 2 February 2012
Bellflower Bethany Christian Reformed Church
17054 Bixby Avenue, Bellflower, California

The third regular meeting of the Southern California Cadet Council in Cadet year 2011-2012 was called to order at 7:12pm by Dave Dalton, Council President and Head Counselor at Westminster OPC (Club No. 1566).

Opening Prayer and Devotion

Provided by Jim Tanis, Head Counselor for Bellflower Bethany CRC (Club No. 1518). He provided an alternative method for teaching the reformed doctrines. Instead of using the acronym T-U-L-I-P, he demonstrated for the counselors that F-A-I-T-H would work in some cases. F = fallen; without hope of restoration or reconciliation before a Holy God; A = adopted into the family of God; I = Intentional Grace/Salvation; purposed from God; T=Transformed, by the Spirit; and finally H=Held by God, e.g., perseverance of the saints.

Workshops were provided by the counselors of Bellflower Bethany and Bernie Gabrielse, Council Lead DCE and Head Counselor, First URC of Chino (Club No. 1530). Bernie led a workshop designed to encourage and provide counselors with the tools for helping Cadets work on the badges. Bellflower Bethany provided a preview of the software for use at the March Pinewood Derby. Counselors were shown the steps necessary to pre-register the Cadets prior to March 31st, as well as some of the capabilities of the software used at the derby.

Paul DeVries, counselor at Bellflower Bethany, led the introduction by drawing the counselors' attention to the "Pit Pass". This is a card, which on one side will provide the boy's name, club number, and car number. The pass will be filled in at registration by certifying the car eligible to race, i.e., proper weight and assembly. Once stamped, the "Pit Pass" provides information on which "heats" the boy's car will be racing in.

To facilitate pre-registration, Rueben Settergren, Head Counselor, New Life PCA La Mesa (Club No. 1561) previewed the Microsoft Excel file which will be pushed out to each head counselor via email. This file should be filled in by the head counselor, listing every boy in the club and assigning them a number, which should be written onto their derby car. The file, when completed, should be provided to Bethany for help organize the boys at registration. It was noted that this "pre-registration" will save time and clubs were encouraged to use Google-Docs to share the Excel file and complete it prior to March 23rd.

Paul noted that while pre-registration will list all the boys coming from the club, only at registration will those boys in attendance and their pinewood derby cars, be approved for racing. A cadet who is pre-registered, but does not attend, will not be placed into the computer software for racing. It was noted that any boy who does not complete the registration process at Bethany would NOT race at the derby. Once registration is closed and the heats organized, no other racers will be allowed to register. Clubs were encouraged to have all cadets and their cars arrive in plenty of time to complete the registration process.

At registration, the cars will be organized by age group: A-D, for judging as most unusual design and best workmanship. This will be the only time where the cars will not be in the boys' possession during the derby race.

Pits will be available and clubs encouraged to develop some identifying marker – a flag, banner, stand, or likewise to identify their “pit”. This area will be available for adjustments in the car during the race, e.g., wheels being straightened, etc. NO ADDITIONAL WEIGHTS are allowed; the maximum weight remains at six ounces. Any car found to have weight added after registration will be disqualified.

Pits will open at 11:00am on March 31st and the first flag for racing will drop at 1:00pm.

Jim Tanis suggested an alternative for the awards and offered Bethany to procure stands for each car finishing in the top 4 for each age group. It was recommended that any discussion along these lines include Dave Lewis, Council Treasurer.

Jim also suggested that each boy pay a nominal registration fee (\$2.00) to include a lunch. This will minimize the boys' presence at any snack bar. He also recommended the snack bar not be open once the races begin, to minimize food/drinks being brought into the racing area.

After a coffee break and refreshments, the Business Meeting was called to order by Dave Dalton at 8:40p.m. Roll Call was taken with the following clubs reporting counselors attending:

Number	Name	Present
1503	Anaheim CRC	
1509	<i>Artesia 1 (inactive)</i>	
1512	Artesia Trinity CRC	3
1585	Bayview OPC	1
1518	Bellflower Bethany	7
1569	Bellflower Bethel	1
1515	Bellflower 1	
1521	Bellflower Rosewood	
1531	Crosspoint CRC	3
1530	Chino 1	5
1517	Anaheim Christ Reformed (URC)	
1536	Escondido URC	
1539	Long Beach CRC	3

Number	Name	Present
1558	Oasis Moreno Valley	
1548	The River (Redlands)	
1557	Hope Riverside	
1560	<i>San Diego CRC (inactive)</i>	
1561	San Diego New Life PCA	1
1563	Sun Valley	2
1565	San Marcos CRC	
1566	Westminster OPC	1

Church name in bold indicates H/C attending

Two at-large council members attended – George Bell, Council Quartermaster and Gary Evans, Council Vice-President

Church information in italics indicates club inactive for the 2011-2012 Cadet year

Old Business

GPS Units to Borrow. Dave Dalton introduced a request from Denise Noble (wife of Artesia Trinity counselor Ron Noble) for the GEMS campout in March. Clubs which have GPS units should contact Denise. Also, John DeVries, counselor from Crosspoint Church (Club No. 1531) will need to borrow GPS units for the Southwest Region Counselors Conference which will be held on March 2-3 in Escalon.

Reports

Congressman Report. Jim reviewed the discussion relevant to the proposals before council, providing those attending the meeting with a summary of the talking points made at Congress.

DCE Report. Craig Doty reminded the council of the upcoming Southwest Region Counselors' Conference in March. He asked for workshop ideas and specifically requested anyone who would be willing to assist in a workshop contact him or Bernie.

Bernie presented two counselor certificates; one to Victor Leal from Sun Valley (Club No. 1563) and the other to George Hoekstra from First URC (Club No. 1530). Craig presented a counselor certificate to Rueben Settergren, on behalf of Evan Vis from New Life PCA. Also presented were head counselor certificates to Ed Haringa from Crosspoint, and Rueben Settergren.

Quartermaster Report. George Bell noted that he will be moving his offices to Paramount in the next few weeks, and will be bringing some “free giveaways” to the next council meeting.

Treasurer Report. Dave Lewis had provided an updated report via email since he was not able to attend the council meeting. The report was reviewed by Gary Evans; the current checking

balance is \$3,103.02 and the accounts receivable at \$165.48. Clubs with balances due were encouraged to remit payment to Dave Lewis.

Secretary Report. Craig Doty noted the current status of the website for the counselors and the council event schedule (also available on the web). He recommended that more clubs add their local information onto the council's calendar website. Craig also asked that counselors update the Council Members list.

New Business

Council Camporee. Bill Mulder, Head Counselor Artesia Trinity CRC (Club No. 1513) discussed possible locations and dates for our summer camping trip. Several suggestions on locations came from the floor. It was decided the camporee will be held on one of the last two weekends in June. A deadline of 1 April 2012 was decided for a location to be finalized.

Proposed Amendments to the Cadet Constitution. Continuing from his Congressmen's report, Jim reviewed the two proposed changes to our organization's constitution. He noted that for the first time in many years, the number of registered Cadets stands below 10,000 and the number of clubs below 600. This follows a trend in the Christian Reformed Church of lower numbers within existing churches, and few churches within the denomination. It was noted that both these proposals have been distributed to clubs via email, and are available on the council website.

It was M-S-P to consider these two proposals for a vote before the council. Dave Dalton opened the floor to discussions, first considered was Proposal number 1 which would allow the executive committee to turn down proposals which "contradict a decision made by the Cadet Congress of the previous two years". This would change Article 5, Section 58. After it was clarified this proposal would disallow a proposal to be reintroduced for two calendar years, the council voted on Proposal 1. The proposal passed with twenty-four "ayes" and one "nay".

The council then took up Proposal 2, which would allow Articles 1, 2, and 3 of the constitution to be changed only in that "the name of the organization may be changed" and that by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the membership.

Several counselors spoke for or against the proposal. (Bullets are identified as generally positive, e.g., for the proposal or negative, e.g., against the proposal.) Some of the highlights of the discussions were:

- "-“ Councils and clubs need to do more to encourage churches and individuals to join Cadets. Let us not be quick to change the name when we have not sought other avenues.
- "-“ There should be a goal of each club to grow at least by 10%.
- "+“ Nothing against the proposal, but doubts the results will change. It is a matter of doing the hard work to offer Cadetting to our communities and leave the results to God
- "-“ Club growth will come only by having strong male leadership in the church. It has been lost in society in general and that is being reflected in the churches.

A question was asked what steps have been taken to reach out the area churches that do not have a Cadet program, as well as to our own clubs. Jim stated that he personally visits with each club at least once a year. Both Bernie and Craig routinely visit clubs to inquire about counselor education needs, and both have visited one URC church in the San Diego region, but acknowledged that more could be done.

Bernie went on to remind the council members that it was only a few short years ago when the number of clubs in the council numbered twenty-five. With this year almost over, only eighteen clubs make up the council membership. Clearly, we need to focus our efforts on making Cadetting appealing to area churches; not letting them come to us, but actively seeking them out.

It was noted that this proposal only addresses the issue of the name change, no other changes to the corps' curriculum or Landmarks would be undertaken, unless approved by a two-thirds vote of the membership. Some counselors noted this proposal is simply an attempt to provide an appeal to churches that, while reformed in discipline, reside in an area antithetical to the reformed doctrines.

Closing discussion, Dave Dalton called for a vote on Proposal 2. The proposal passed with nineteen "ayes" and six "nays".

It was recommended that clubs and counselors not attending the council meeting be afforded an opportunity to vote on these two proposals. Jim agreed to receive votes until March 31st. He would then compile the council votes on these two proposals and forward them to Grand Rapids.

Next Council Meeting. Dave Dalton announcement the next regular meeting of the Southern California Cadet Council will be held on April 26th at Crosspoint CRC beginning at 7:00pm.

After thanking the counselors from Bethany CRC for hosting our meeting, Dave Dalton closed with prayer for the ministry to the boys in our clubs, the decisions and plans made tonight, and traveling mercies at 9:40pm. The council concluded the meeting by singing the Cadet Hymn.

In Christ's Service,

Craig P. Doty