

Section 4 Annual Planning Meeting notes:

Thank you all for taking time out of your schedule to come and meet to plan out the year. I want to give a special thanks to Gene Green and Spirit Life church for hosting the meeting and providing a wonderful dinner for us. We also want to welcome the new outpost from Family Life in Ocala being started up by Ely. They plan to launch their program in September and we look forward to seeing them grow and reach many young men. In case you missed any notes or dates please see the following discussion topics we spoke on.

Pow-Wow

Pow-wow is quickly approaching. Take note that the early registration deadline is 3/24/24. You will want to take full advantage of that date as you receive \$10 off per boy.

The theme is Treasure Island (pirates).

There are two work days that we have set to ensure the campsite is up-kept. February 24th is the first cleaning day and that follows a district staff meeting. March 23rd is the second (Main) cleaning day and if you want to mark off your area, this would be the time to do so.

Pow-wow is from April 5th-7th. All the information you need can be found on powwow.us but should you have any questions – feel free to reach out to me.

Questions that still need answers: Why are there two outpost 11's (one may be FMD) , How do you sign up for family camping, & where does the can foods go for the can food drive? We will work to get answers to these questions.

Racecar derby

Our race car derby will be on May 11th. The current plan is to have it at Ocala First. Should that change we will inform you. The cost of the event is \$15. Any non-racer that comes and only wants to partake in the lunch can pay \$5. In years past we have opened it up to the Girls Ministries if they want to be a part of it as well. They will race in the respective age groups (ex. A 3rd grade girl would race with the discovery ranger group)

For every boy you bring, also bring a cheap toy (we raffle these off throughout the event) Every boy(or girl) wins a CHEAP TOY.

As Ocala is the host church, they will provide the Lunch.

Registration begins at 8:30 and the racing should begin at 9:30.

WCO – Training

The district is holding a WCO –world class outpost training in Ft Meade at camp wilderness. This is on May 17-18. Early registration is \$55. If you are looking to attend this I highly recommend taking your entire Ranger leadership team as they prompt you with questions that concern your individual church.

Essentials – Training

Also on the path of training is Rangers Essentials. The Church on the Hill (Bellevue) will be hosting an essentials training on June 15th. Registration is at 8:30 and the class will run to close to 5:00. Lunch will be provided. The cost is \$30 but the class is limited. I will open it up to Section 4 first and if you want to pay in full nor or partial payment of even \$10 to secure a spot before I make it available to the district, please do so. There are 25 spots available and I know Ocala, Oxford, and Eustis have people who need this training course. Contact me should you want to secure spots.

25 mile patch

We had mentioned about there being 3 patches a boy can earn for completing different milestones (25, 50, &100 miles) this can be hiking, swimming, running, or biking. I mentioned this suggestion to see if as a section we had any interest in promoting a 25 mile bike ride. We could meet at the Santos trail head and have the boys ride 12.5 miles into the trail and 12.5 miles back and upon return they would receive their 25 mile patch. You could even turn this into a fundraising event and have people sponsor the boy for \$1 a mile (or whatever they want to donate) No date was set for this but if as a section we deem there is enough interest in this, we can work to get it set up and promoted. If we put it on the calendar I was thinking about the possibility of sometime in August.

Round up

Date: October 11 – 13

Camp sozo is unfortunately still unable for us to use as a camp site. Last year Gene was gracious enough to allow us to use his barn. We are planning again to use his property. If you have any suggestions for activities or want to bring something for the boys to do please get with me and lets work on scheduling this all out. As always we will have an evening service both Friday and Saturday. Friday night dinner will be provided by Eustis. The cost of this event is \$20/person.

I will bring a sermon on Saturday night and should anyone else like to bring a sermon to the boys on Friday night please let me know. I would like for there to be multiple people the boys get to hear from.

Fundraising Ideas

Raising funds for your group can always be tough but some ideas were mentioned in case you were looking to do something different.

Carwash: either at your church or a local business.

No bake –bake sale: get the women’s group to donate baked goods that you turn around and auction off. Often the very same women will bid on their own items!

Bike-a-thon: doing a set number of miles (like the 25 mile patch idea above) and having people sponsor a kid per mile.

Calendar fundraiser: Put a large 31day calendar in a large traffic area and the church that all they have to do is pick a day of the month and that is how much they donate to the Ranger Program. Once you add all that up (1+2+3+4+5....) you get \$496 for filling every day. (suggestion: add a spiritual emphasis to it and ask the people to pray for the Ranger ministry specifically on the day they signed their name to)

There are many more options and ideas out there but if you need some more suggestions or guidance, feel free to reach out to me. If you have a fundraiser going on, let me know and if we can advertise it on our sectional facebook page - I would be happy to!

Final Thoughts

Gene Green has done an amazing job at guiding the section and if you ever need anything, Gene is a powerful prayer warrior. I still have much to learn myself but I’ve felt like Aaron and Hur helping Moses hold up the staff in my support of Gene but now Gene is looking to pass it on to myself. I may not feel like I have all the answers but I am a Ranger so I am Ready for Anything. The reason any of us can be ready for anything is because God will supply our need.

So I am here for you now should you ever need anything and I am more than willing to help you out as much as I can. Just keep in mind, I am just one man. I have a wife and 2 kids. I am also a youth pastor and a men’s director at our church and on top of all that I work a manufacturing job that takes 50/hr per week of my time.

Don’t let any of that discourage you from reaching out to me. You can email me, text me, or even call me and if I cannot take your call, I will return it as soon as I can. I pray that we can help support each other both physically and spiritually.

Thank you,
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