

DATE: November 1, 2016
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MEMORANDUM TO: Department Scouting Chairpersons
Conference Attendees

**SUBJECT: REPORT OF THE 4th DEPARTMENT SCOUTING
CHAIRPERSONS TELECONFERENCE**

Attached is the report of the 4th Annual American Legion Department Scouting Chairpersons Teleconference and the teleconference transcript that was held on October 27, 2016.

On behalf of the Americanism Commission Chairman Richard W. Anderson, we wish to thank all who attended the teleconference.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have questions or concerns regarding the Scouting and The American Legion. With our best wishes for success in 2017, I remain,

Sincerely,



Shayne Abrahams Sr.
Assistant Director
Americanism Division

Attachment

Cc: Richard W. Anderson, Chairman, Americanism Commission
Department Adjutants
Jill Druskis, Director, Americanism Division
Michael Buss, Deputy Director, Americanism Division

**The American Legion
4th Annual Department Scouting Chairperson Teleconference
October 27, 2016
Indianapolis, Indiana**

Digest of Proceedings

Thursday, October 27, 2016

Shayne Abrahams Sr. (IN), Assistant Director, Americanism Division, The American Legion, called the 4th Annual Department Scouting Chairperson Teleconference to order at 1:00 p.m. Elwin Spray, Chairman, Community Relations Task Force, Boy Scouts of America, gave an invocation and led the group in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Department chairpersons, alternates, and guests introduced themselves to the group. Twenty departments were represented by their chairperson or designated alternate with a total of twenty-three in attendance. Attendees included: Alaska – Raymond Untiet; Arkansas - Lee Johnson; Arizona – Wayne Chatfield; California – Michael Feist; Colorado – Jerry Lollar and Steve Hayes; Florida - Wayne Newland; Illinois - Leon Kraut; Iowa –Kathy Nees and Donald Rasmussen; Maine - William Benson; Missouri – Jerome Goolsby; Montana – Dick Ellwein; Nebraska – Brent HagelPitt; Nevada – Jim Stewart; New York - Jean Williams and Steve Mataraza; Ohio – George Lude; Oregon - David Bone; Pennsylvania – William Douglass; South Dakota – Richard MacDonald; Tennessee – Paul Gish; Washington – James Davidson as well as six subject matter experts Don McChesney, Marcos Nava, Margie Worrell, Larry Chase, Elwin Spray, and Tim Anderson.

Introduction – Shayne Abrahams, Assistant Director, Americanism Division, The American Legion

A brief introduction, welcome, review of ground rules and review of teleconference objectives was given by Mr. Abrahams. Mr. Abrahams then read a brief bio of Americanism Commission Chairman, Richard Anderson, who would provide welcome and greetings.

Welcome & Greetings– Richard Anderson, Chairman, Americanism Commission, The American Legion

(Please see attached transcript for details)

Introduction – Marcos Nava, National Office, Boy Scouts of America

Mr. Nava welcomed teleconference attendees and read the bio of Don McChesney, Assistant Chief Scout Executive, National Office, Boy Scouts of America.

Welcome & Greetings– Don McChesney, Assistant Chief Scout Executive, National Council, Boy Scout of America

(Please see attached transcript for details)

Kiwanis International – Margie Worrell, Boy Scouts of America

Mrs. Worrell gave a brief background on the global service organization Kiwanis International that partnered with Boys Scouts of America.

(Please see attached transcript for details)

2017 Boy Scout Jamboree – Marcos Nava, National Office, Boy Scouts of America

Mr. Nava gave brief background on the history of the National Jamboree, and also an overview of what the 2017 Boy Scout Jamboree action-packed days of adventure would entail. The 2017 National Jamboree will take place in Mount Hope, West Virginia next to the New River Gorge National River. Anyone looking to attend, National Headquarter has secured a budget for 8 American Legion Scouters. Those interested should email Shayne Abrahams at sabrahams@legion.org with a brief bio of scouting history.

(Please see attached transcript for details)

The Role of the Council Commissioner – Larry Chase, Recruitment and Retention Chair, Boy Scouts of America

Mr. Chase provided information of how the National Council can support local scouting. Mr. Chase describe how the Key 3 provide leadership. The key 3 consist of volunteers who serve as either president or chair, commissioner, and a professional who provides guidance to volunteers. Mr. Chase also gave information of resources available from the website beascout.org. Mr. Chase provided answers to the questions from members of the teleconference.

(Please see attached transcript for details)

BSA Membership Plan – Marcos Nava, National Office, Boy Scouts of America

Mr. Nava provide information on the importance of membership. The National Board has developed a plan to provide quality sustainable growth. Mr. Nava stress the importance of sustaining scouting from youth childhood to adulthood. Mr. Nava also mentioned adding pilot programs to grow scouting and also building adventure.

(Please see attached transcript for details)

Exploring Program – Tim Anderson, Senior Director of Exploring, Boy Scouts of America

Mr. Anderson gave a brief overview of an outstanding program called Exploring, and how it impacts the community. Mr. Anderson explained how the Exploring program gives a real world hands on career experience for youth. It is an opportunity to find out what career they may have interest in. There are 12 career fields of Exploring. Mr. Anderson also detailed the four

phase program startup for the Exploring Program. Mr. Anderson provided answers to the questions from members of the teleconference

(Please see attached transcript for details)

The American Legion Scouting Report – Shayne Abrahams, Assistant Director, Americanism Division, The American Legion

Mr. Abrahams provided the following report on The American Legion and Scouting:

- 33 applicants for the Eagle Scout of the Year Award
 - Goal is to have every department participate
- Eagle Scout of the Year – Jacob Kelley (WI)
- 17 square knots awarded for 2016
- 607 square knots awarded to date
- Frank Belgrano Trophy – Department of New York
- Eagle Scout and Sea Scout Quartermasters Certificates can be downloaded at www.legion.org/scouting
- 16,260 Eagle Scout Certificates and 10,351 C Scout Quartermaster Certificates to date
- 2017 Scouting Conference will be October 27, 2017 at BSA National Headquarters in Dallas, Texas

Lets Hear from You - Shayne Abrahams, Assistant Director, Americanism Division, The American Legion

Mr. Abrahams facilitated a discussion regarding best practices, and emerging American Legion Scouting issues.

(Please see attached transcript for details)

Closing Remarks – Shayne Abrahams, Assistant Director, Americanism Division, The American Legion

Mr. Abrahams thanked everyone for participating. He also offered to assist in any way possible to help further the scouting programs.

Elwin Spray offered the Benediction. With no other business to come before the group, the Teleconference adjourned at 4:00 p.m.