

TOL Camp Board Meeting, January 15, 2012, Vallejo, CA, USA

In attendance: Pastor Kant, Steve Pechin, Pastor Schmidt, Tim Mann, Greg Pluckhan

Absent: Noel Ledermann

Opening Devotion – led by Pastor Kant, discussed the calling of Phillip and Nathanael, Jesus says, “Follow me” and “Keep following me.” Phillip said, “Yes.” It is easy to doubt God’s Word though. We need to say to others, “*Come and see*” that Jesus the Savior has defeated death and is the true God. The TOL kids will “*come and see*” the Savior at camp.

Minutes from the Post-Camp Meeting of July 31, 2011 were read by Greg and approved with a spelling correction duly noted by Steve to the craft lady’s first name (Jeaniece).

Treasurer’s Report by Tim Mann:

- Current balance = \$1243.71
- Cash at hand - \$64.60
- Insurance bill due now = \$1980.00

Tim says the current checking account with the Bank of America charges a penalty fee of \$14.00/month if the account balance goes below \$1500. Steve suggested looking into a different bank to maybe save some money here. Tim said Thrivent will be giving TOL \$400-500. In February, Greg will be donating \$2000+ from service work he provided his brother’s friend. Tim said he will donate funds too to help with the outstanding debt. The treasurer’s report was approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion of the recommendations made at the Post-camp meeting:

1. **Nurse (Stacie)** – need to make it very clear to counselors about the importance of kid’s medications and the need to take them to the nurse’s station, this point needs to be reemphasized.
2. **Activity Director (James)** – A need to have the “Rules” of all of the games. Steve now has the “Rules and Regulations” of the games. OK to have the Gold Rush with both seniors and intermediates playing together.
3. **Senior vs. staff games** – has created a concern for the junior and intermediate kids... lack of things to keep them occupied, and supervision. Kids can wander off from area to area. Pastor Kant felt there are too many “games” of senior vs. staff. Steve suggested just making “co-ed games;” this would save time. Greg enjoys the senior boys vs. the MEN camaraderie and competition. To help with the juniors and intermediates during the Sr. vs. staff games, the kids could engage with crafts, play in the dining hall, or be on the hard-court.

Tentative proposal for Senior vs. Staff games:

1. Keep B-Ball the same on Tuesday, Sr. vs. staff (men and women and co-ed)
2. Friday have co-ed volleyball
3. Friday have co-ed softball
4. Drop Sr. vs. Staff volleyball (men vs. women)

Pastor Kant said it would be a good idea to *first establish staff interest* of “who” of the staff will play in these games, and which staff will not participate. Then, the non-participating staff could be assigned to watch the juniors and intermediates and cover all of the bases.

4. **Nature Hike** – Pastor Kant again discussed a one-hour long hike during one Bible Study hour, midweek (Wed. or Thurs.), for the juniors and intermediates. The same day would be used for both age groups; however each group would have their own hike (not mixed). The idea is to have an educational hike that also incorporates the Word. The hike would allow time to stop and talk about things. John Keibel is a strong candidate; Nathan Sweetman was also considered.
5. **Pastor Marquardt’s SWOT** (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats) suggestions:

Themes – consider for 2012 the theme of “Shine On based on Philippians 2: 15-16. Greg suggested adding 4G, making the theme “**Shine On 4G.**” 4G meaning “for God.” This idea was received favorably by the majority of board members, except Steve, who groaned.

T-shirts for camp – pros and cons were discussed. The cons include having to get the “artwork” done each year and the difficulty doing such, and then there are the shirt sizes to deal with, and the actual number of shirts needed. The pros include the support of that year’s theme and promotion/advertising for future years. A thought was made to keep the cross and tree logo on the front and change the artwork on the back. The board will give this more thought.

Publicity by Seniors to help promote camp – Steve discussed creating a TOL promotional DVD to be taken to the WELS churches by a couple of senior campers who would “talk-up” camp interest and answer questions. Vaughn Klebig had previously filmed footage of camp for such a DVD, however the footage was lost.

Mr. Bill’s camp DVD was discussed. Bill is on staff at camp and for the price of \$7.00 a camper, he will put together a DVD for the kids (and staff?) to take home. Questions arose about Bill’s DVD: What is the intended content of the DVD? What kind of background music will be on the DVD? No carte blanche music, it needs to be pre-approved so it meets with our scriptural standards. A release/waiver will need to be added to the camper application for the DVD. Tim moved to ask Bill Curney to produce a souvenir DVD for the kids at \$7.00 per person and a short “teaser” to be used as a promotional thing for the churches to help with camper interest. This motion was approved.

Big Brother/Big Sister ideas – the Board decided not to have one on one mentoring, but instead this concept will be a continued expansion of the “All Camp” activity. Mentoring will be accomplished through each individual team, as in the past. The idea of having each “Team” having a meal or two together was considered. More discussion will be needed here.

NEW BUSINESS

2012 Camp Fees – may need to increase 1st camper fees by \$15.00. Steve will speak with Todd about the 2012 rates, so no final decision on camp fees now.

Recruiting teachers – consider inviting one guest lecturer per level, to be utilized in the middle of the week maybe.

Publicity 2012 – already discussed.

Theme 2012 – “*Shine ON 4G*”

Staff Recruitment – tabled for next meeting.

Nominations for Board positions – tabled for next meeting.

Action Items:

Pastor Kant – 1. contact John Keibel to be TOL’s naturalist.
2. contact Pastor Ryan Cortright.
3. contact Nathan Sweetman.
4. recruit instructors, consider calling the area Lutheran grade school teachers.

Greg – 1. contact Jeff Smith about church artist to help with future t-shirt artwork.
2. contact Gary Hochmuth about Apostle’s t-shirts for WELS Men’s Retreat.
3. Gear-up the design contest for the next TOL t-shirt for 2013.

Pastor Schmidt – contact Maren McPeak about TOL poster idea, 11” x 17”.

Steve – 1. contact Mr. Bill about the TOL DVD and the “Teaser DVD” and get the “skinny.”
2. contact Todd about 2012 camper fee schedule, address the \$7.00 DVD too.

Tim – 1. get wording together for DVD waiver on 2012 camper application.
2. look into other banks to see if we can get a better deal on a checking account to avoid the monthly \$14 ding.

MEETING SCHEDULE for 2012

March 25 - Board Meeting (may not need this one, but keep open in case)
May 20 – Board and Annual Meeting
July 1 – Orientation Meeting
August 5 – Post-camp Meeting
November 11 – Board Meeting

All meetings begin promptly at 2:30pm in Vallejo, CA, USA.

Meeting closed with a prayer by Pastor Schmidt, and then the Lord’s Prayer.

Humbly submitted by Dr. Greg Pluckhan, secretary extraordinaire.