

4/22/79  
5:05 PM -

Mathew Levy

3 Scouts + Out planned to go. ( [redacted] )

[redacted] will personally call 3 parents. (Already reviewed w/ [redacted])

They should realize it is not troop function and not recommended by troop.

Rescyt <sup>Dyker</sup> in his was voluntary was necessary because no longer an approved leader for BSA. Related to his assoc with Scouts in troop.

Feel obligated as SM to advise the parents so they can make decision about son -

Jim Dyker appeared at troop mtg - unexpectedly (came out as Dist RT) - apparently to talk to some Scouts about same trip.

ML

(Also - Nathan - when he leaves active role in troop will pass up to entire class at that time and advise with)

March 22, 1979

Mr. Bill Scollay, Council Executive  
Long Rivers Council, B.S.A.

[REDACTED]  
Hartford, Ct.

Dear Mr. Scollay:

This is to bring you up to date on the latest problem with Jim Dyber in connection with Troop 164, and to ask you advice and assistance in the matter.

As I told you about a year ago, I learned that Jim was planning a canoe trip for the same time and place as our troop canoe trip, and I wrote him the enclosed letter about it. Jim responded by telephone and assured me that he had no intention of being part of our group, yet this proved not to be the case. Unknown to him and to Harry Leonard, then our scoutmaster and a close friend of Jim's, I observed the actual rendezvous that took place. Our troop was delayed in its start down the river for nearly an hour because of a leaky canoe; consequently, Jim and his companion (a former SPL of our troop)--who put in at the same general location as we--got a considerable head-start on us. Harry was obviously annoyed greatly by my insistence upon replacing the bad canoe (which would have floated for about ten minutes). Being quite suspicious, I drove down the river several miles and parked my automobile near a large bend where the river became calm. In a little while our group appeared in their canoes, whereupon Jim and his companion paddled out of the cove in which they had been waiting, and continued down the river in proximity with our group. Later, I learned from my son, who was on the trip, that Jim had camped about 50 yards from our camp, and that some of our scouts visited him then. Because Harry had already announced his resignation in June, I said nothing to him; and neither he nor Jim as yet knows that I personally witnessed the double-cross.

This year I backed into the scoutmastership--which I told the Troop Committee I was willing to assume only through June and for the purpose of giving them more time in which to acquire a permanent scoutmaster--and decided not to have the canoe trip because of a lack of qualified adult leadership for that kind of adventure. Night before last I learned that Jim had sent the enclosed communication to some of our active scouts, and I received a copy only last night. It is my understanding that Jim has been working through my new assistant scoutmaster, David Cheo, who was promoted to that office from SPS when he became 18 in January of this year. I have made an appointment with David for 3:00 p.m. today to get more details and straighten out the matter.

Quite naturally, I am disturbed by this turn of events, and I will appreciate any help you can give me.

Yours sincerely,

Nathan Levy, Jr.,  
Scoutmaster, Troop 164

CONF017096

March 11, 1979

Dear [REDACTED]

I understand you are interested in going on a group canoe trip with myself and some other young men who are former and present scouts of Troop 164. This is not a scout troop trip but a separate group which for the time being will be referred to as the West Hartford Canoe Club.

The trip will be Sat-sun. April 21-22 and will cost \$19/person plus food. This is a group rate and the more people we have the better chance we have of keeping this rate. We will be meeting at Norfelt School at 8:00 AM Sat. and be picked up on Sun at 3:00pm. We will need two cars for transportation up and back. If you would like to go please confirm your reservation by returning the attached permission slip signed by your parent (if under 18) and a \$10 deposit (make check out to: Jim Dyber). Mail the two things back to me so I receive them by Mon March 19th. If you have any questions give me a call - [REDACTED].

*Jim Dyber*

PERMISSION SLIP

I hereby give my son permission to attend the canoe trip on  
April 21-22. The trip will take place on the Housatonic  
River between Falls Village and Kent. The trip will be lead  
by Jim Dyber.

parents sign (if under 18)

Enclosed is \$10 deposit. Balance to be paid on Sat April 21.

Return this slip by mail to: Jim Dyber

[REDACTED]  
West Hartford, Ct. 06107

Return by March 19th

April 10, 1978

Mr. Jim Dyber

West Hartford, Ct. 06107

Dear Jim:

You will recall that, about two months ago, we discussed the canoe trip situation as a result of information I had which suggested that you were considering acting as one of the adult leaders on our Troop 164 trip this month. I stated that it was not possible for you to serve in that capacity and, further, that I was a little concerned about your visits to our campsites. You responded that you were not trying to get back into troop activities through the back door, but that you were thinking about organizing a canoe trip of your own for some of your friends. I then said that, while the troop has no right to tell you that you can't have a canoe trip with your friends, you could not use the troop for the purpose of organizing it. I also thanked you for the assistance you had given Harry Leonard in getting started as scoutmaster, but I also said I thought it was about time you let Harry manage things alone.

It has come to my attention that you spent a couple of hours at our last campout and that you now are planning a canoe trip for the same time and place as ours. Jim, I did not intend that you should interpret my earlier statements as a suggestion that you could join our trip (or have us join yours) in this "coincidental" way. Furthermore, if you have used visits to our campouts to recruit our scouts for your trip, that is not only improper, but completely inconsistent with the termination of your relationship with the troop.

I understand your affection for Troop 164 and your friendship for our scouts, and I realize that it is personally very difficult for you to break off so suddenly from Scouting. I now think it is time to cut the cord completely--for two reasons: First, I have the feeling that being around our troop may be too great a stimulus for you to get back into the midst of things. Second, it is quite difficult for a new scoutmaster to be the master under such circumstances--especially when he has to follow one with your particular skills and ability to create enthusiasm among boys. Harry deserves better than having to walk in your shadow.

Jim, you are making it hard on all of us. You are an intelligent man and should understand that the only sensible course is for you to discontinue completely your contact with our troop and with our active scouts. I hope you realize that, as chairman of the Troop Committee, I cannot permit this situation to continue. I hope you will make it unnecessary for me to bring the problem before the committee at its meeting next week.

Yours sincerely,

Nathan Levy, Jr., Chm. Trp. Comm.

CONF017099