



Volume 4, No. 5 | February 2023

GRAND CANYON CONNECTION



- 04 / [Scout Executive Column](#)
From the Scout Executive CEO / by Andy Price
- 05 / [Headline News](#)
Recruiting Resources
- 05 / [Support Scouting / Development](#)
Tax Credit Donations
- 07 / [Membership](#)
Mentoring Relationships
- 08 / [Advancement](#)
New Advancement Classes
- 08 / [Merit Badges Workshops](#)
Upcoming Merit Badge Workshops
- 08 / [Shooting Sports](#)
Open Shoot at the Heard Scout Pueblo
- 09 / [Camping and Activities](#)
Summer Camp
- 10 / [Training and Leadership](#)
Instructor Training
- 11 / [Safety Moment](#)
Incident Reporting
- 18 / [Council Directory](#)

Recruitment Resources
Free Summer Camp for New Scouts
 Offer ends on March 31, 2023



Nothing highlights the fun and excitement of Scouting like summer camp! With these limited-offer recruiting materials, invite families to join us in the great outdoors!

GET MEDIA KIT

DISTRICTS
CENTRAL
GILA RIVER
LOST DUTCHMAN
PINNACLE PEAK
PONDEROSA
SONORAN SUNSET

WIPALA WIKI LODGE

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



Interested in Scouting?
 Get **FREE CAMP** enrollment
 when you join now!

We can't wait to see you next Thursday, March 2 at 7:00 PM on Zoom for our Council Roundtable



NEWS YOU NEED

- [New Fireside Chats](#)
- [New 2022 Impact Report](#)
- [Dave Alexander Leadership Plaza](#)
- [Geronimo Endowment Fund \(GEF\)](#)
- [The Importance of Commissioner Service](#)
- [Arizona Tax Credit Giving Guide](#)

CUB SCOUT PROGRAM

- [New Open Shoot for BB Gun](#)
- [New Archery Open Shoot](#)
- [New Gila River District Cub Scout Activity Day](#)
- [Cubmaster Resources](#)
- [The Advancement Trail](#)
- [#Cubchatlive by Scouting Magazine](#)

OLDER YOUTH PROGRAMS

- [New Wilderness First Aid with Front Range CPR](#)
- [New 2023 NYLT Summer Session](#)
- [New Open Shoot for Rifle](#)
- [New Archery Open Shoot](#)
- [New Gila River District Merit Badge Day](#)
- [New Merit Badge Workshop Calendar](#)

WORTH REPEATING

- [Online Scout Shop Available Now](#)
- [Advancement Resources](#)
- [Incident reporting in the BSA](#)
- [Scouter Code of Conduct](#)
- [SAFE Checklist](#)
- [Guide to Safe Scouting](#)
- [Guide to Awards and Insignia](#)

SCOUTERS

- [New Council Roundtable](#)
- [SCOUTBOOK: Transferring from Another Unit](#)
- [New Eagle Scout Process Virtual Course](#)
- [New Advancement Class Troop Leaders](#)
- [New Wilderness First Aid with Front Range CPR](#)
- [New Short Term Admin Camp Training](#)
- [New Paddle Craft Safety Course](#)
- [New Recruiting Resources](#)
- [Wood Badge 2023](#)

PARENTS

- [Council Calendar](#)
- [New Advancement Class for Parents](#)
- [Safety Moment: Incident Reporting](#)



WOOD BADGE

Interested in attending Wood Badge?
The 2023 Course is now open.

REGISTER TODAY

MESSAGE FROM SCOUT EXECUTIVE

Happy Birthday to the Boy Scouts of America! February 8, 1910, (113 years ago) marked the beginning of a movement that started with the “Boy Scout” program and has grown and evolved over time to serve youth ages 5-20 and created leaders who have led governments, businesses, charities, and families. Today BSA serves all youth who want to participate and subscribe to do their best to live up to the ideals of the Scout Oath and Law. Today youth learn to Be Prepared as they discover their path and enjoy outdoor adventures that instill leadership, life skills, and character.

Here locally, we’ve closed the door on 2022 and I’m proud to announce that we operated for a second consecutive year with total revenues exceeding expenses. We were in the black in 2022 and this marks the first time in many years where we’ve operated at surpluses for two years in a row. This is a major success, although we continue to be overly reliant on the generosity of a single donor. Our leadership team is continuing to work today and into the future to broaden revenue streams so that we are not so reliant on any one funding source.

Another major project that is underway is our “GCC 3.0” council re-design. Our council was organized in 1921, when businesses and organizations looked much different than they do today; the world looked much different as well, with no internet, no computers, and no interstate highway system. While GCC has evolved over the years, we decided it was time to re-envision how a council operates, how it achieves its mission, and how it leverages its resources (people - volunteers and staff, camps, and financial) in support of local Scouting. In support of packs, troops, crews, ships and posts; this is where Scouting and its magic happen for youth.

We’ll be rolling out details on the 3.0 plan throughout the year, as we plan a go-live date of February 2024. 3.0 will be one of our topics at this year’s Fireside Chats. By the time this newsletter is published, we’ll have already hosted Fireside Chats in Phoenix and Gilbert., but all Scouters are invited to participate in upcoming Fireside Chats:

Tuesday, March 21 Flagstaff: Federated Community Church, 400 W. Aspen Ave., Flagstaff

Zoom Meeting ID: 813 0522 7213 • Passcode: 344988 • Telephone Only: 1-669-900-6833
6:30 PM Ice Cream Social | 7:00 PM Fireside Chat Begins

Tuesday, March 28 Peoria: The Café at Christian Community Center / Basecamp Youth Center, 14202 N. 73rd Ave., Peoria

Zoom Meeting ID: 864 9368 5998 • Passcode: 699077 • Telephone Only: 1-669-900-6833
6:30 PM Ice Cream Social | 7:00 PM Fireside Chat Begins

Tuesday, April 18 Yuma Airport 2nd Floor Conference Room, 2191 E. 32nd St., Yuma

Zoom Meeting ID: 841 8160 2744 • Passcode: 916439 • Telephone Only: 1-669-900-6833
6:30 PM Gathering/Light Refreshments | 7:00 PM Fireside Chat Begins

Monday, April 24 Prescott: American Evangelical Lutheran, 1085 Scott Dr., Prescott

Zoom Meeting ID: 849 2787 5762 • Passcode: 918468 • Telephone Only: 1-669-900-6833
6:30 PM Ice Cream Social | 7:00 PM Fireside Chat Begins

Andy



Recruiting Resources, New Updates & More!

New recruiting resources are here! Check out the updates below from Grand Canyon Council, BSA, and the greater BSA.

NEW Scouts BSA Flyer

The latest recruitment flyer from Grand Canyon Council designed for Scouts BSA is ready for you to use for recruiting! This flyer highlights the features and benefits of the program and has a customizable bottom section where you can add your Troop's specialized information and QR code. Try it out today!



[GET FLYER](#)

FREE Summer Camp for New Scouts!

Nothing highlights the fun and excitement of Scouting like summer camp! Let's help new families join the fun. Free summer camp is available to new Scouts that join now through March 31, 2023!

[GET MEDIA KIT](#)

BSA Updates Coming & Resource Reminders

BSA will continue to use the #AdventureOn recruiting materials. Expect to see a whole set of new #AdventureOn assets in the BSA Brand Center in the weeks ahead. In the meantime, continue using the BSA Recruitment site and the existing #AdventureOn Cub Scout and Scouts BSA materials. Visit [Scouts BSA Recruiting](#).

Arizona Tax Credit Donations

\$400 per Individual / \$800 per Married Couple

In Scouting, every new adventure, every campout, and every badge is a chance to learn new skills and gain new experiences. Scouts and their families are welcomed into an inclusive community that encourages them to try new hobbies, serve their community, and explore the outdoors while learning about the world around them. Through these experiences, Scouts gain knowledge and skills; create and

strengthen relationships with family, friends, and communities; and learn to lead values-based lives that build their character and leadership abilities. Contributions support at risk youth and gives them opportunities through Scouting that don't exist anywhere else.

Tax Code 20437

[LEARN MORE](#)

DONATE A BRICK

The Dave Alexander Leadership Plaza

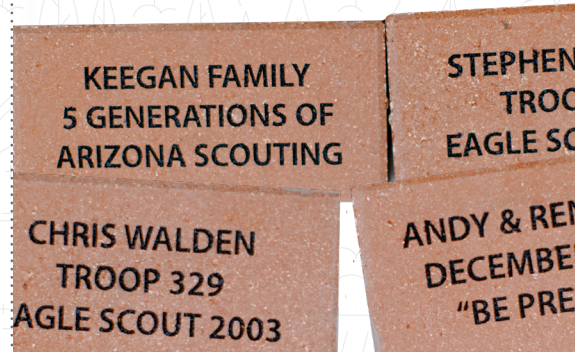
Planned improvements to the Heard Scout Pueblo over the next several years will transform it into a premier facility – “Adventure Base Phoenix” – offering Scouting programs and activities for Scouts and the community-at-large. It will include the headquarters of Grand Canyon Scouting, a Scout Shop, training facilities, and activity centers. The Heard Scout Pueblo will become the center of Scouting in Phoenix.

To help construct the leadership plaza and fund our master planning process, we hope you will join Dave and his vision by purchasing a commemorative brick, paver, or boulder in honor of a friend, family, fellow Scout or Scouter, etc., to be added to the completed project. All funds generated will be used to install the leadership plaza and help fund the master plan for Heard Scout Pueblo.

Thank you for all you do for scouting!

If you have any questions, please contact the Scout Office at 602-955-7747, ext 221.

[LEARN MORE](#)





SUN DEVIL BASEBALL

Mar. 24 (FRI) vs Arizona - 7:00 P.M - WEAR GOLD

Mar. 25 (SAT) vs Arizona - 6:00 P.M - WEAR GOLD

Mar. 26 (SUN) vs Arizona - 4:00 P.M - WEAR GOLD



Scouts Weekend

Calling All Scouts!!

Sun Devil Athletics is offering discounted baseball tickets to the participants, families, and friends of the Boy Scouts of America during our home series against our rival Arizona. Ticket purchasers will also be invited to join us for a pre-game concourse tour of Phoenix Municipal Field



Tickets Just \$9

To purchase visit

<https://fevo.me/scoutsweekend2023>

For more information call Nash at (480) 727-3524 or email at nash.thompson@asu.edu

Mentoring Relationships – Understanding Development Stages

Although every child's development is unique and youth will achieve developmental milestones at different ages, all young people will have distinct needs and challenges as they grow and learn. Knowing broadly what these needs are will help you better understand how to support the young person you are mentoring in the Scouting program. The following are broad developmental stages that most youth move through at their own pace, but most often during these time periods:

Early elementary school – 5- 8 years of age:

- Just beginning to explore the world outside of their family
- Occasionally struggle to manage their emotions and behavior
- Very self-focused, but starting to have more concern for others
- Learn-by-doing so benefit from hands-on activities and play
- Have short attention spans – enjoy doing part of tasks but may not finish
- Cannot multi-task – need to focus on one thing at a time
- Concrete thinkers – must see, hear, touch, smell, or taste in order to think about it
- Are curious about “why” and “how”
- Right and wrong is generally based on family definitions
- Want to please adults/parents

Late elementary school and early middle school – 9 to 11 years of age:

- Enjoy group activities and cooperation
- Prefer to be with member of the same gender
- Still self-focused but understand others have perspectives different from their own
- Want things to be fair or equal and judge in absolutes
- Sense of humor has developed
- Can focus attention for longer periods of time
- Start showing independence through disobedience, back talk, and rebellion
- Peers gain importance – youth worry about fitting in
- Can struggle with transition from elementary (more regimented environment) to middle school (more social and academic oriented environment)
- Pleasing adults/parents becomes less important, but is still see them as the authority

Late middle-school and early high school – 12 to 14 years of age:

- Rapid changes in physical appearance - growth spurts and hormone changes
- Want to be less involved with family to be their own person
- Peers take on an even larger role in their life
- Develop romantic attractions and interest in bodies, and sex
- Increased use of social media
- Can be extremely self-conscious and critical of self
- Interested in making their own decisions and shaping their world rather than relying on adults to come up with solutions
- Can use logic, reason, and abstract thinking
- Develop strong interests that may change as they explore opportunities
- Can be empathetic to others in their social sphere but still worry about self-image and fitting in

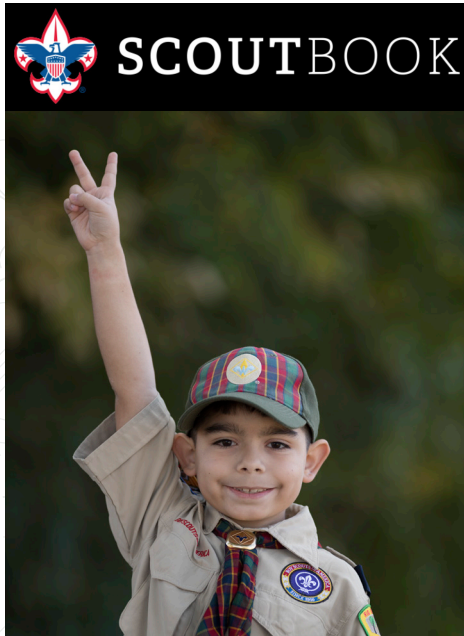
Late High School – 15 to 18 years of age:

- Most physical changes have stopped, but body image and appearance concerns remain
- Desire status among their peers
- Want to be a part of a group but have an individual identity
- Interested in dating and co-ed activities
- Want adult leadership roles
- Learning how to make commitments and follow through
- Personal philosophy begins to emerge
- Developing own set of values and beliefs
- High level of abstract thinking and problem-solving abilities
- Developing community consciousness and concern for well-being of others
- Like to demonstrate their knowledge and teach others

For more information on Developmental Stages and how to work with youth at each stage, check out this resource:

Rider, A (2021) Ages and Stages of Youth Development;
<https://extension.sdstate.edu/ages-and-stages-youth-development>

Scoutbook: Preparing to Bridge Webelos to Scouts BSA



“Webelos” stands for “We’ll Be Loyal Scouts.” As Webelos near the end of the Cub Scout trail, it’s time for them to embrace that pledge and prepare for the next leg of the journey: Scouts BSA.

Please read over the information at the link below on how to easily transfer your Scouts over while keeping their advancements intact. There are several different tools available to transfer scouts (and sometimes adults). Using one of the online transfer tools is the most efficient way to transfer a Scout from one unit to another. A paper application is typically not needed. All transfers will appear in Scoutbook 24 to 48 hours after the transfer is accepted by the receiving unit.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Life to Eagle Briefing Virtual Class

March 8, 2023 Virtual Course



The Grand Canyon Council, BSA will be holding a virtual briefing in early March covering the Eagle Scout Process from Life to Eagle. The free virtual class is open to Scouts BSA Leaders and Scouts.

We will go over the Eagle project requirements and the Eagle application process. Including:

- How to pick a good project that will pass review
- How to navigate the Life to Eagle process
- How to use the required BSA forms
- How to use the Grand Canyon Council Eagle Candidate portal
- Reference letter process
- How to request an Eagle Board of Review
- Other misc. questions

There are two opportunities:

- [Eagle Process Briefing - March 8](#)
- [Eagle Process Briefing - March 9](#)

The briefing is free, but please sign up for materials.

Open Shoot at the Heard Scout Pueblo

Shooting Sports workshops occur monthly at the Heard Scout Pueblo. Got questions? Contact, Gary Jordan, at garyinlaveen@yahoo.com

- [Open Shoot for Rifle and BB Gun](#)
- [Archery Open Shoot](#)

Merit Badge Workshops

Visit each registration for prerequisites, fees, and additional information. Take the time to read each of the requirements and understand what we will be covering.

- [Environmental Science](#)
- [Personal Management](#)
- [Shotgun](#)
- [Fishing and Fly-Fishing](#)
- [Citizenship in the World](#)

[VIEW CALENDAR](#)

Advancement for Troop Leaders & Parents

March 18, 2023 Virtual Course

Registration is open for the virtual Advancement class made for Troop Leaders and Parents. This class goes beyond what is taught in the BSA online training; it is ideal for existing unit leaders and committee members, soon to be unit leaders or committee members and those who are responsible for administering advancement for a troop. It is also open for Parents who want a fuller understanding of Scouts BSA advancement. View the subjects covered and register today!

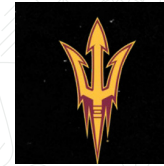
[REGISTER NOW](#)

APPLICATIONS FOR 2023 R-C CAMP STAFF ARE AVAILABLE! APPLY NOW!



Scouts Weekend with ASU Baseball

Mar 24, 2023 - Mar 26, 2023
Phoenix Municipal Stadium



Sun Devil Athletics is offering discounted baseball tickets to the participants, families, and friends of the Boy Scouts of America during our home series against our rival Arizona.

Scouts of America during our home series against our rival Arizona.

GET TICKETS



R-C Cub Scout Resident Camp

June 2023 R-C Scout Ranch

Cub Family Adventure Camp at R-C is the premier Cub Scout Resident Camp in Arizona!

Get ready for your Cub Scout voyage! The ideal summer program opportunity for Cub Scouts, their families, and leaders to work on rank advancement and outdoor skills, participate in Cub Scout activities, and enjoy the great outdoors! **Sign up by April 1 and get a camp t-shirt with your registration!**

REGISTER NOW

Gila River District Event

March 25, 2023

Mountain View Lutheran Church



Day filled with Cub Scouting fun! Crafts, STEM, Yo-Yos, Raingutter Racing and a host of fun activities for Cub Scouts and Scouters to enjoy.

DISCOVER MORE



2023 Geronimo Summer Camp

June 2023 Camp Geronimo

Welcome to Camp Geronimo 2023! We are excited to offer the following programs this year: Youth Merit Badge Program, Brownsea Island Program: First-Year Camping Experience, Fast Track (for those who attend w/o their unit, we provide the leadership), Fish Camp, Spade Ranch High Adventure, Geronimo DIY, Drone Flight School, and Counselor in Training!



REGISTER NOW

Merit Badge Day

Gila River District Event

March 11, 2023

Mission Del Sol Presbyterian Church



Scouts BSA members are invited to Gila River District's Merit Badge Day. Please email Joe Berretta

at azberrettas@cox.net or Kathy Polowski at kpolo55@gmail.com with questions.

DISCOVER MORE



2023 Winter Homecoming Volunteer Recognition

Our Council is blessed with amazing volunteers who generously offer their time to support the Scouting program and inspire the next generation of leaders. We celebrated our volunteers on Saturday, February 11, 2023, at the Heard Scout Pueblo Norton Amphitheater. Congratulations to our 2022 Council Honorees! Thank you for your outstanding contributions, dedicated years of service, and leadership to youth and Scouting in the Grand Canyon Council, BSA! [Visit Facebook for the full album.](#)

Grand Canyon Council Roundtable

March 2, 2023 Zoom Meeting

Roundtable occurs monthly, on the first Thursday at 7:00 PM via ZOOM. Roundtable provides supplemental training specific to your role in Scouting and relevant to the time of year. To learn more visit, The [Council Roundtable](#) HUB Channel today!

Leave No Trace Trainer Course

March 2023 (HSP)



Participants will receive hands-on training in Leave No Trace skills, ethics, and the Seven Principles of Leave No Trace in both

classroom and outdoor environments.

Participants are required to attend all sessions, give a Leave No Trace presentation/demonstration (topic to be coordinated prior to course), and camp overnight. Graduates of the course will be recognized as Leave No Trace Trainers within the BSA and with the Center for Outdoor Ethics. Graduates will be able to conduct Leave No Trace Awareness Workshops and may assist on future Leave No Trace Trainer courses.

REGISTER TODAY

Short Term Admin Camp Training

March 4, 2023 (HSP)



The Grand Canyon Council BSA is hosting a Short Term Camp Admin Training, on March 4, 2023, at the Heard Scout Pueblo.

All Scouters who intend on organizing, leading, assisting, or conducting any one, two, or three-night camping events on behalf of their district, Council, or OA are encouraged to participate. **Scouters who joined us in 2020 will need to re-certify. Registration Closes: 02-25-2023. To learn more and register go to: [Short Term Admin Camp Training- Stone Lodge](#)**

Paddle Craft Safety Course

April 22, 2023 Cactus Aquatics

Youth and adult leaders wishing to take their units on canoeing activities and other flat water paddling experiences. Participants must be 15 years of age or older.

- April 22: Cactus Aquatics Center
- April 22: Chaparral Lake
- November 11: Bartlett Lake

LEARN MORE

Wilderness First Aid with Front Range CPR

March 11-12, 2023 (HSP)

Front Range CPR is excited to be back in Arizona offering affordable Advanced Wilderness Training courses.

Two 16-hour program courses will be held at the Heard Scout Pueblo:

- March 11-12, 2023
- March 17-18, 2023

LEARN MORE

Wilderness First Aid

April 14, 2023 Camp Geronimo

The Grand Canyon Council plans to facilitate a Wilderness First Aid and CPR & AED Course at Camp Geronimo on April 14-16. Must be at least 14 years old.

LEARN MORE

BSA Lifeguard Training

April 29, 2023 (HSP)

BSA Lifeguard Training Parts one and two is open for registration at the Heard Scout Pueblo Pool April 29-30, 2023. Parts three and four will be held May 2023.

LEARN MORE

Important Update to Scouting's Barriers to Abuse



As part of our ongoing commitment to abuse prevention, the Boy Scouts of America is updating the adult supervision requirements for overnight activities. This update enhances the minimum "two-deep leadership" requirements by additionally requiring every adult present on overnight activities to be a registered member of the Boy Scouts of America.

These adults must submit an adult application and registration fee, undergo a criminal background check, a volunteer screening database check, and must complete mandatory Youth Protection training. Please note, a limited exception for parents and legal guardians of Cub Scout youth attending overnight with their children is planned due to the family-centric nature of Cub Scouting.

All Cub Scout Packs, Scouts BSA Troops, Venturing Crews, Sea Scouting Ships, Exploring Posts, council, and district overnight programs will be required to comply with this update by September 1, 2023. We encourage early adoption before the effective date. This updated Barrier to Abuse can be referenced as part of the Guide to Safe Scouting, Youth Protection, and Adult Leadership section, [Scouting's Barriers to Abuse](#).

More information will be shared at Roundtables and other Council gatherings, but for now, if you have questions, please reference [Youth Protection and Barriers to Abuse FAQs](#).

John Rosenlund / Grand Canyon Council Enterprise Risk Management Chair

Safety Moment: Incident Reporting

Timely and complete incident reporting provides the BSA with an opportunity for analysis of incidents that occur and promotes continuous improvement of our programs. In our experience, the sooner a clear, concise, and complete incident report is made, the sooner that an appropriate response to the incident can occur.

Why report an incident? The information reported from incidents helps identify areas for improvement so we can help prevent the reoccurrence of similar incidents. The BSA cannot address a concern if we do not know about it. Reporting incidents promptly is also critical so the BSA can respond in a timely manner and manage claims properly.

How do I report an incident? There are incident reporting tools to assist you in collecting the facts of the incident to provide to the council. See BSA's Incident Reporting webpage (see "All Things Incident Reporting" in the "Resources" section, below).

RESOURCES

[All Things Incident Reporting](#)

[Incident/Near Miss Reporting Infographic](#)



WOOD BADGE

What is Wood Badge?

- Advanced leadership training
- Takes place over 2 weekends, including 5 days and 4 nights
- Immersion in leadership theory, leadership skills, and fun!

Why take Wood Badge?

- Participants learn skills that enable them to be better leaders, deliver a higher quality program, and provide more meaningful experiences for Scouts.

Who can take Wood Badge?

- Cub Scout Leaders
- Scouts BSA Leaders
- Venturing Adult leaders
- Sea Scout Adult Leaders
- District Volunteers
- Council-level Volunteers
- Professional Scouters
- Council Staff
- New or Experienced Scouters

Wood Badge Details

- Must attend both weekends
- Camping on the second weekend
- Must have completed basic trainings for your current position
- Early Bird price by 6/10/2023

REGISTER TODAY





Outgoing Lodge Chiefly Speaking 2022 Wipala Wiki Lodge Chief

It has been an amazing past year for the Wipala Wiki Lodge. The Lodge achieved many highs and overcame many lows. I am super excited to announce in 2022 the Wipala Wiki Lodge earned National's status of being a Thriving Lodge. For those that may not know this is part of a National Program in the Order of the Arrow for Lodges called the Performance Measurement Program. There are 10 categories that Lodges can earn points in including unit elections, inductions, activation, membership retention and growth, training, and service. Depending on the number of points earned the top Lodges will be named Thriving or Highly Performing Lodges. I am beyond proud of the Lodge Leadership and members for making this possible. For those that were not at our Lodge Banquet I shared an inspiration message to not just our Arrowmen but all scouters, friends, and family that I want to share with you. "You have the power to start the change you want

to see." As leaders we often find there is never enough time to change everything or make it perfect. But that doesn't mean we can't start the change. If you believe in something, be the one to start it. Be the one to do it. It takes someone to start change and that someone is you. You have the power, and nothing can stop you. Be the change that our Order, that Scouting, that our World needs right now. Change starts with you. As I write my final Chiefly Speaking, I want to say thank you from the bottom of my heart to each and every one of you. Scouting wouldn't be what it is without you. It has been an absolute honor and privilege serving as your 2022 Wipala Wiki Lodge Chief. Always feel free to reach out to me at joshua.balch@wipalawiki.org. Never forget you have the power to start the change you want to see.

Signing off, Joshua Balch



2022 Wipala Wiki Lodge Annual Banquet

Great Wolf Lodge January 27, 2023

The Wipala Wiki Lodge hosted its Annual Lodge Banquet to celebrate the successful year, recognize the outgoing leadership, welcome the incoming leadership, and present many awards to deserving Arrowman. The Banquet was a huge success with over 170 members, families, and friends in attendance.

A'la: Riely Bradley and Jackson H.
Axe: Joshua Balch and Justin Bradley
Naatavi: Doug Ullrich and John McLellan
Lifetime: Bob Hetrick
James E West: Joshua Balch
Founder's Award: Joshua Balch and Jack McLellan



WIPALA WIKI LODGE
ORDER OF THE ARROW

Vigil Candidates: Nick B., Daniel G., Jackson H., Alyse S., Richard Reitz, Ben Schiffer, Daryn Wright, and Paul Balch

Thank you to everyone that joined us for this amazing evening. We look forward to seeing you at all of our upcoming events!



Central District Celebrates with Fun, Festivities, & Fellowship at our annual District Awards & Celebration Dinner



THANK YOU SCOUT FAMILIES, VOLUNTEERS AND SCOUTS for joining us for a fantastic Awards Dinner celebrating those who serve Scouting upon the eve of BSA's 116th birthday! Amidst a sea of khaki, blue and green, balloons and lots of colorful smiles, we recognized and honored those who have truly made a distinctive difference in the life of Scouting in Central District this past year!

The evening began with an opening prayer and words from Reverend Fernando Camou, Eagle Scout, of St. Simon & Jude Cathedral, hosts of our event and Charter Partner to Troop 148, Scoutmaster, Jim Petersen. Dinner was deliciously prepared and served by "The Bubbas", a group of Scouter friends who share a passion for Scouting and cooking with Dutch ovens, who abide by the motto, "Never trust a skinny cook" and proud to report that "Many have eaten here, few have died." Following our meal, our Council President Tom Curzon kicked off our program sharing inspiring words for our future growth in Grand Canyon Council – the future is bright!

Our awesome Master of Ceremonies for the evening, Doug Ullrich, Scoutmaster of Troop 747, also our Order of the Arrow Chapter Advisor, paved the road for a successful evening; introducing our District Committee members who awarded all our 2022 recipients, both unit and district volunteers. We celebrated Families of the Year, Adult Leadership Excellence

Awards, Pack and Troops of the Year along with Scout and Cub Scout of the Year. Our Eagle Scout Project of the Year was presented along with 19 Spark Plug Awards for new leaders who have inspired their units to grow and have FUN. All nominations came from the volunteers themselves who recognize "above and beyond" unit and district service. We enjoyed the return of an Eagle Scout after 15 years from a local troop who shared his journey beyond earning the rank – how Scouting has positively impacted his love for learning and teaching others what it means to "give back". Truly inspiring! 2022 was also a year where two distinguished volunteers from Central were nominated to receive the Meritorious Service Star, a Council award, to be awarded at the Council Honors Recognition Event the following weekend!

Congratulations to everyone, all volunteers and the spouses and families that support them! We couldn't do it without everyone's help! The evening concluded with parting words of wisdom from Lord Baden Powell (George Cannelos) who reminded us of all that "Scouting and service, building skills, leadership, the Oath and Law is needed more now than ever. By sharing these values of Scouting with everyone; every youth and every family, we will strengthen the values and moral compass within our society. We all must invite others to join the Scouting movement with us and continue to make a difference in our communities!"

Thank you Roger Ottaway, our District Activities and Civic Service Chair, and your committee for your leadership and coordination of this great event. Together we created a wonderful evening celebrating and honoring those who serve Scouting in our Central District within the Grand Canyon Council.

Scout Sunday at First United Methodist Church

Sunday, February 12, Girl Scouts and Scouts BSA Celebrate Duty to God and Servant Leadership



The pews at First United Methodist Church, Phoenix were filled with a sea of khaki, navy blue, gold and green, hosting Scouts of all ages as we celebrated Scout Sunday for both the Scouts BSA and Girl Scout Programs. Girl Scout Troop #3462 and Scouts BSA Troops 41, 513 and Cub Pack 335 and their families participated together in two services to honor our tradition and Scout Law: A Scout is Reverent. The youth worked with Pastor David Rennick serving as greeters, ushers, offering, and as scripture readers. Stevi Shearer, Girl Scout leader for over 19 years, shared her many years of love and passion for Scouting and the how the program develops independent and self-confident young women, and teaches excellent salesmanship skills through annual cookie sales! Council

Executive Board member, Judy Walden, long time member of First Church and volunteer, shared a few words on the 3 duties of Scouting; duty to God and country, duty to others and duty to self, emphasizing how both programs develop character, citizenship and servant leadership in our youth for tomorrow! With the help of the congregation, the Scouts assisted in the collected food for First's Church Pantry which serves the homeless. Everyone was uplifted with energy from Scout families on this Sunday morning while we celebrated Scouting for all, reinforcing the 12th point of the Scout law - A Scout is Reverent while our youth experience "Duty to God " as a practical reality. Our future is bright! First Church will host Scout Sunday again next year so please stay tuned.

Troop 329 Sheeps Bridge



On February 11, 2023, Scouts BSA Troop 329 went on a camping trip to Sheeps Bridge. The Scouts learned the history of the bridge, built in 1940 allowing sheep to cross the Verde River in Arizona. The Scouts organized what they would be eating as well as planning who needed to bring what. Despite the campsite being around 60 miles from where the Troop started it took the Troop over 3 hours to arrive at their campsite due to the terrain.

During the campout, Scouts learned how to fish. Despite how many Scouts there were, not even one caught a fish. The Scouts witnessed a variety of animals, such as cows, rabbits, javelina, and white-tailed deer. The Troop camped near a natural hot spring; for most of the Scouts, it was their first time seeing a hot spring. Getting to the hot spring was a tedious task for the Scouts. They had to navigate through tall overgrown bushes and muddy terrain, even through a tunnel made of branches and bushes. The tunnel was so dark that they couldn't see anything without a flashlight. They had a great campfire with skits and jokes, enjoying the red, white, and blue cobbler made by the boys in a Dutch oven. Troop 329 had a fantastic time and looking forward to their next adventure.

Central District Welcomes Two New Eagle Scouts

Central District welcomed two new Eagle Scouts in February. Both from Troop 441, meet Maxwell H. (left), who led the Veritas Garden and replanting project to clean up and revitalize the large courtyard area for students and staff to enjoy, and Jack L. (right), who led the construction and installation of a large shade structure for the H.E.A.R.T. Center that caters to providing children with alternative and intentional therapeutic learning opportunities using horses and nature.

Thank you once again to our district and volunteer board reviewers, parents, and adult Scouters who enthusiastically support and celebrate these young men!

Congratulations, Eagle Scouts, for your hard work and incredible community service.



SONORAN SUNSET DISTRICT



Sonoran Sunset District Recognition Dinner Volunteer Recognition Dinner

After a couple of years of being unable to “Group Gather,” the District finally had a volunteer recognition dinner. The event was a sit-down buffet, attended by 65 Scouters, held at the Arrowhead Valley Retirement Resort, followed by the awards presentation in their theater. Eric Hiser, VP of the Program, was the guest speaker.

Pack 194, Troop 5526, Crew 546, and their leaders were recognized along with this year’s District Award of Merit recipients, John Meury and Charles “Chip” Main.

A big thanks to Troop 3546 Color Guard, Robert Colony, and his “behind the curtain” team for such a great event.





Gila River District's Cub Scout Activity Day

A Free Day of Fun Cub Scout Activities

March 25, 2023 Mountain View Lutheran Church

Gila River District is announcing its 2023 Cub Scout Activity Day. A Free Day filled with Scouting fun! Crafts, STEM, Yo-Yos, first responders, demonstrations, rain gutter regatta racing, and a host of other fun activities for Cub Scouts and Scouters to enjoy. Also, included in the day's activities will be the Gila River District Pinewood Derby, open to all Cubs with available classes for siblings and older family members!

The Cub Scout Activity Day is also about recruiting Cubs! We encourage Scouts to bring a friend to join in the fun and learn about Scouting!

Details for the Cub Scout Activity Day, Pinewood Derby rules, and registration can be found at:

<https://scoutingevent.com/010-gilacubadventure>

REGISTER TODAY

Gila River District's Merit Badge Day

March 11, 2023 Mission Del Sol Presbyterian Church

Gila River District's Merit Badge Day 2023 is fast approaching. Scouts BSA members are invited to join us on Saturday, March 11, 2023, for a day of learning and fun! The event will be at Mission Del Sol Presbyterian Church, and is located in Tempe at 1565 E. Warner Rd. just west of the intersection of Warner and McClintock. The event is FREE.

Pre-registration is required. The registration deadline is March 8, but, in case there is work that should be done before the clinic, it is best to register as early as possible! You will receive an email to confirm your registration, and information will be provided about any pre-work. Class size for some classes is limited. Don't delay! Register today!

Check-in starts at 7:30 am, with our opening ceremony at 8:00 am.

Please note that Scouts staying all day must bring their own sack lunch and beverage. Scouts cannot leave the church campus to purchase fast food nearby. A morning and afternoon snack will be provided.

MERIT BADGES OFFERED:

- ALL DAY--First Aid, Art
- AM or PM offering--Personal Fitness, Outdoor Ethics Awareness
- AM Only--Cycling, Family Life, Auto Maintenance, Chess, Pulp and Paper
- PM Only--Citizenship in the Nation, Personal Management, Safety, Scouting Heritage
- LUNCHTIME--Fingerprinting.

Please register at the link below:

<https://forms.gle/MWVaNqGNDnVsKdAc9>

Please email Joe Berretta at azberrettas@cox.net or Kathy Polowski at kpolo55@gmail.com with questions.

REGISTER TODAY



Pinnacle Peak Celebrates the Best of 2022!

The Pinnacle Peak district annual awards celebration was held on February 2nd at Cross in the Desert Methodist Church. The night highlighted the positive impact that Scouts BSA can have on their communities, showcasing the achievements of our members over the past year.

Chris Bosn, Pinnacle Peak District Executive, spoke to the importance of the work we as Scouters do to change young people's lives in a real and positive way. The successes of Pinnacle Peak in 2022 were a recurring theme; growth in membership year over year, the generosity of our district in ensuring scouting for years to come, and the awesome participation in our district programming with events like R-Boo-C and Ahoy-o-ree.

The awards ceremony was the highlight of the evening, with awards being presented to individuals and groups in a range of categories. The recipients were chosen based on their contributions to the organization and their impact on the community, and they were celebrated in front of a packed audience of family, friends, and supporters.

Overall, the awards ceremony was a fitting tribute to the hard work and dedication of Pinnacle Peak's Scouts and Scouters. Tom Collins, District Chair of Pinnacle Peak, noted, "the sheer number of nominees we had for this year's awards, over 120 different nominations received serves as a testament to our continued success." With a number of new programs and

initiatives, Scouts BSA in the Pinnacle Peak District is poised to make an even greater impact in the years to come, empowering the next generation of leaders to make a positive difference in the world.

2023 Pinnacle Peak Honorees

- Cubscout of the Year: Neala Twaddell, Pack 416
- Scouts of the Year: Domenic Kite, Troop 818 and Morgan Willis, Troop 3030
- Pack of the Year: Pack 323
- Troop of the Year: Troop 531
- District Award of Merit: Rachel Davis, Pack 416 and Stephen Houghton, Troop 869
- Amythest Award: Gregg Hayes, Troop 607
- Cub Master of the Year: Joe Macdonald, Pack 603
- Scoutmaster of the Year: Tim Whitney, Troop 818
- Committee Member of the Year: David Cole, Troop 648
- Committee Chair of the Year: Scott Bottjen, Pack 619
- Den Leader of the Year: Richard Bohman, Pack 335
- COR of the Year: Kevin Joy, Pack 0226, Pack 0619, and Troop 3226
- Assistant Scoutmaster of the Year: Craig Luther, Troop 432
- Scouting Family of the Year: Silverman Family Troop 3030, 30, 2030
- Crew Advisor of the Year: Charles Thomas, Crew 2616
- District Commissioner of the Year: Avery Thresher



CUSTOMER SERVICE

Customer Service Specialist / [Lisa Knight](#), ext 221
 Customer Service Manager / [Kathy Coleman](#), ext 223
 Accounting Assistant / [Maria Meneses](#), ext 240
 Office Manager / [Amanda Foster](#), ext 228

MARKETING

Marketing Assistant / [Tarryn Hutchison](#), ext 226
 Marketing Director / [Collin Reed](#), ext 211

PROGRAM AND PROPERTIES

Program Assistant / Open
 Program Business Administrator / [Katie Fisher](#) ext 239
 Program Executive / [Brendan Switts](#), ext 229
 Assistant Director of Support Services / [Nick Hutchinson](#), ext 204
 Director of Support Services / [Greg Harmon](#), ext 253

FIELD SERVICES / DISTRICTS

Field Admin Assistant / [Madeline Bonifield](#), ext 255
 New Unit Sales Executive / [Emily Gesell](#), ext 249
 Director of Field Services / [Davis Fox](#), ext 251
 Field Director / [Matt Hill](#), ext 202
 Lost Dutchman District Executive / [Abby Lyon](#), ext 218
 Pinnacle Peak District Executive / [Chris Bosn](#), ext 257
 Gila River District Executive / [Cameron Kamphausen](#), ext 210
 Field Director / [Patrick Gamble](#), 236
 Central District Executive / [Ty Simonian](#), ext 257
 Sonoran Sunset District Executive / [Gage Hopkins](#), ext 250
 Ponderosa Senior District Executive / [Zoe Lambiase](#), 949-701-5977

DEVELOPMENT

Development Admin Assistant / [Jennie Cardenas Gonzalez](#), ext 260
 Event Planning Assistant / [Julia Henzler](#), ext 206
 Development Officer / [Nikki White](#), ext 218
 CDO/Director of Development / [Andrew Dilliner](#), ext 232
 Director of Donor Engagement / [Dave Jarvis](#), ext 241

CEO/ SCOUT EXECUTIVE

Scout Executive / Andy Price

DAVE ALEXANDER
SCOUT SERVICE CENTER
 8840 E Chaparral Rd Suite 200,
 Scottsdale, Arizona 85250
 602-955-7747
GCC.info@Scouting.org
www.GrandCanyonBSA.org
www.gcc-hub.org

CAMPING

Camp Geronimo
 Camp Ranger
 Chris Baughman
 928-450-7379

Heard Scout Pueblo
 Camp Ranger
 Alex Evans
 480-450-4862

R-C Scout Ranch
 Camp Ranger
 Craig Burkholder
 765-667-7506

Camp Raymond
 Camp Ranger
 Rick Brown
 928-899-7862

@GRANDCANYONBSA
 #grandcanyonbsa
 #discoveryourpath

[FACEBOOK](#)

[INSTAGRAM](#)

[TWITTER](#)

[YOUTUBE](#)

[LINKEDIN](#)