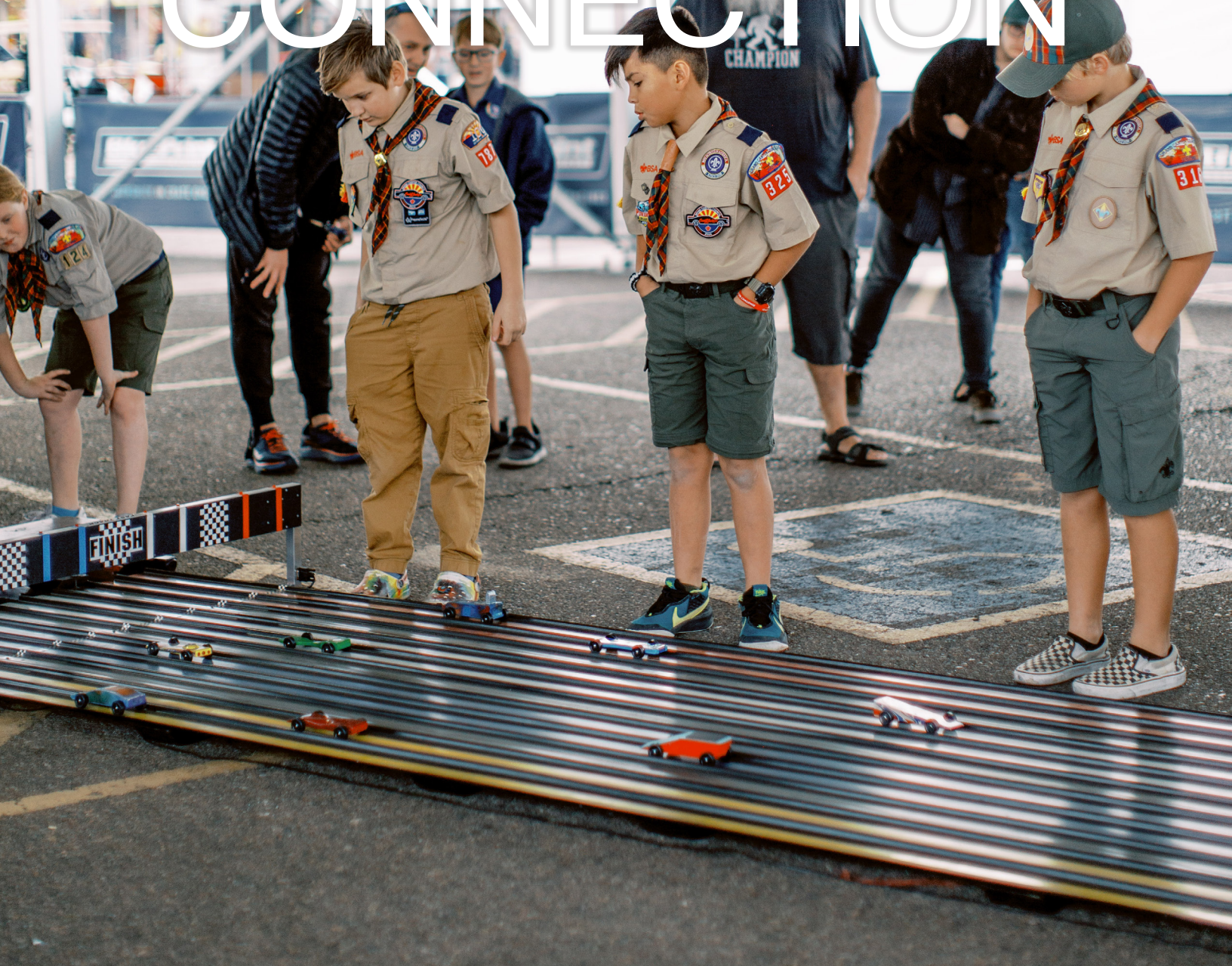




Volume 5, No. 4 | January 2024

GRAND CANYON CONNECTION



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Winter Homecoming: Celebrating Excellence in Scouting

Homecoming is just around the corner, and you won't want to miss this opportunity to unite with fellow Scouters and enhance your leadership skills. The College of Commissioner Science offers a unique educational experience for commissioners, aiming to empower units with the latest training and problem-solving techniques. The event also includes the Volunteer Teams Annual Conference and the Volunteer Recognition Event.

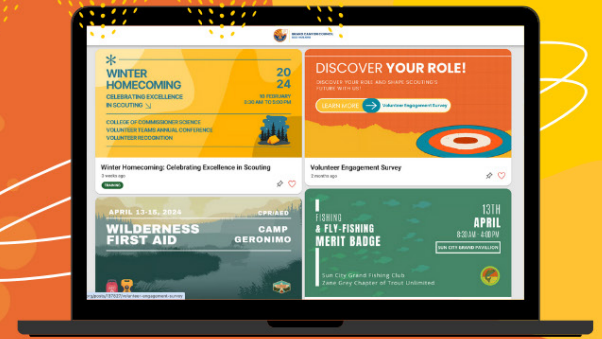
[LEARN MORE](#)

2023 Council Honors Recognition Celebration

We are thrilled to announce and congratulate the remarkable individuals who have been honored for their outstanding service and leadership in the world of Scouting. Join us at the 2023 Council Honors Recognition Celebration! Congratulate our outstanding volunteers at the Winter Homecoming on Saturday, February 10, at 1:00 pm, at Valley Presbyterian Church (6947 E. McDonald Dr., Paradise Valley, AZ 85253).

[LEARN MORE](#)

The HUB offers timely updates on activities, events, promotions & more! Sign up, subscribe to channels, & receive personalized emails!



NEWS YOU NEED

- [Dave Alexander Leadership Plaza](#)
- [Geronimo Endowment Fund \(GEF\)](#)
- [Geronimo Alumni Association](#)
- [Grand Canyon Council BSA 3.0](#)
- [Journeyage: Explore Our New Training Courses](#)
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CUB SCOUT PROGRAM

- [New Spring BALOO Training](#)
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- [Cub Scout Recruiting Materials](#)
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OLDER YOUTH PROGRAMS

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- [New Fishing and Fly-Fishing Merit Badge](#)
- [New Camp Geronimo Attendees, Mark Your Calendars](#)

WORTH REPEATING

- [Guide to Safe Scouting](#)
- [Scouting Safely](#)
- [Youth Protection](#)
- [Scouter Code of Conduct](#)
- [SAFE Checklist](#)
- [Guide to Awards and Insignia](#)
- [Advancement Resources](#)

SCOUTERS

- [Council Roundtable](#)
- [New Scout Sabbath](#)
- [New Scout Shop](#)
- [New Climbing and Rappelling at the Heard Scout Pueblo](#)
- [New Powder Horn 2024](#)
- [New Paddle Craft Safety-Canoe and Kayak Course](#)
- [New BSA Lifeguard Course -Join Us for Parts 1 & 2](#)
- [New BSA Climbing Instructor Level 1 Training](#)
- [New Wilderness First Aid Course](#)
- [New Short Term Camp Administrator Training](#)
- [New Philmont Contingent 2025](#)

PARENTS

- [New Arizona Coyotes: Special Offer for GCC](#)
- [Last Call: Join Us Courtside with Sun Devil Basketball](#)
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MESSAGE FROM SCOUT EXECUTIVE

As I reflect on the year behind and plan for the year ahead we have many reasons to be proud:

- For the third consecutive year we experienced growth in Cub Scouting, Venturing, and Exploring, and at year-end 5,766 registered youth were enjoying Scouting in Grand Canyon Council:
 - 2,781 Cub Scouts in 93 packs.
 - 2,817 Scouts in 153 troops.
 - 56 Venturers in 13 crews.
 - 112 Explorers in 7 posts.
- 3,038 Cub Scout rank advancements were earned, including 412 Arrow of Light awards.
- 2,527 rank advancements (including 292 new Eagle Scouts) and 10,923 merit badges we earned by our Scouts.
- 50,670 hours of community service were reported from Eagle Scout Service Projects and another 22,672 total hours of community service were reported by our units.

From a staff perspective, I'm proud to highlight that two of our team were selected to become Scout Executives of other councils in 2023:

- Davis Fox was selected in June to become Scout Executive/CEO for the Hawk Mountain Council, based in Reading, Pennsylvania. Davis is also one of our former Boy Scouts and an Eagle Scout from this council.
- Dave Jarvis was selected in December to become Scout Executive/CEO for the Oregon Trail Council, based in Eugene, Oregon.

Our Summer Camps were highlights of the year for many, and our camps were lauded by BSA NCAP Visitation Teams

for their excellence. Our spring and fall camporees and activities were successful and Scouts, leaders, and parents had great fun while learning and experiencing outdoor adventures.

Maintaining our 4 camps for year-round use is an expensive investment and a significant part of our operating expenses. Year-end financials aren't complete as I write this, but it appears that our financial performance exceeded budget.

These successes require a lot of people – Den Leaders & Scoutmasters, merit badge counselors and Unit Commissioners, District Executives and members of the Executive Board, and more all contributed to our shared successes. Arizona's future is a little brighter for all the good work that went into 2023 and we're poised for greater successes as we look ahead to 2024.

Thanks for everything you do to make Scouting an adventure in Arizona.





INTRODUCING OUR 2024 SCOUTS OF THE YEAR

Meet our outstanding 2024 Scouts of the Year – Morgan, Gideon, Ella, Vaughn, Mayzie, and Ryan! These young leaders have demonstrated exceptional dedication, leadership, and a commitment to the values of Scouting.

Explore their **NEW** video interviews now at: www.grandcanyonbsa.org/scoutsoftheyear

Mayzie Richins, a pioneering member of the inaugural girl cohort in Scouts BSA, swiftly reached First Class within 18 months. Serving as Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) for Troop 3050, she inspired peers, later taking on roles like Assistant SPL and Scribe. Attending the Council's 2021 NYLT session, Mayzie reprised her SPL role for an extra year. Now 3050's Junior Assistant Scoutmaster, she dedicates herself to coaching fellow Scouts. As a diligent Life Scout, Mayzie actively works towards completing her final Eagle requirements.

Eagle Scout **Vaughn Grosse**, now Junior Assistant Scoutmaster for Troop 8051, is a founding member and two-time President of Venturing Crew 8051. As a dedicated recruiter, he mentors and leads both units, actively coordinating community service opportunities. Pursuing a Law & Public Safety CTE course, Vaughn aspires to become a Firefighter. Notified on October 11th, 2023, he received approval for the Heroism Award from the National Court of Honor Committee. Nominated for Heart of Yuma's Outstanding Youth Leader in 2020 and 2022, and Gila River District's Scout of the Year Honorable Mention in March 2023, Vaughn's impactful actions speak louder than accolades.

Gideon Akaelue, a Life Scout and Order of the Arrow member in Troop 653, embodies Scout values from Cub Scouts to his Eagle journey. As Senior Patrol Leader at Camp Geronimo, he excelled in leadership, earning the Big G Gold award. Transitioning to Troop Guide, Gideon's commitment to mentoring and Scout principles makes him deserving of recognition.

Ryan Martin, a model of Scouting's mission for resilient servant leadership, held key roles like Troop Guide, Patrol Leader, ASPL, and SPL. Leading Troop Leadership Skills Training (ILST), he volunteered as a module trainer since 2020. Known for resilience and commitment, Ryan pursued and secured every desired role. As 2021 SPL, he attended NAYLE in West Virginia, later returning as an instructor in 2022. Expanding his impact, he served as Assistant Youth Course Leader for NYLT in Germany and Japan. Achieving Eagle rank in 2023, Ryan led a 9-day Canoe Trip in Minnesota. Beyond Scouting, he applies leadership in Basha High School's JROTC program.

Morgan Willis, a Scout for almost a decade, co-founded Scouts BSA Troop 3030 in 2019. She achieved a Philmont Trek, Sea Base Out Island Adventures, and the Paul Bunyan Award for Conservation in 2022. As Troop 3030's Senior Patrol Leader in 2023, she earned the Big G Gold and led Troop 4245 during the 2023 Jamboree female contingent. Trained in Outdoor Ethics, Leave No Trace, NYLT, and NAYLE, Morgan also excels in music and has academic and JROTC achievements.

Ella Miller, a Life Scout since 2019 with Troop 944 in Baltimore, smoothly transitioned to Troop 3015 in Cave Creek after moving to Arizona in 2022. An exemplary Scout, she showcases intelligence, maturity, and physical fitness, actively engaging in community service and excelling as a recruiter. As Troop 3015's Senior Patrol Leader, Ella prioritizes earning her Eagle Scout rank while managing school responsibilities. Known for resourcefulness, financial acumen, and supportive leadership, she embodies Scout values both in and out of uniform, backed by her dedicated Scout family.

[VIEW INTERVIEWS](#)



RACING TRADITION: GRAND CANYON COUNCIL SCOUTS TAKE THE LEAD AT THE PINEWOOD DERBY OPEN AT BARRETT-JACKSON AUCTION WESTWORLD OF SCOTTSDALE

Grand Canyon Council BSA teams up with Barrett-Jackson Car Auction for the third annual Pinewood Derby Open in a thrilling blend of tradition, craftsmanship, and speed. Held at Barrett-Jackson Westworld of Scottsdale on January 20, 2024, this event showcased the timeless Pinewood Derby, bringing families together and celebrating the spirit of Scouting.

The Grand Canyon Council’s CEO and Scout Executive, Andy Price, expressed his excitement about the partnership, stating, “The tradition continues for its third year at Barrett-Jackson, and we are honored to be a part of it.”

The Pinewood Derby, initially introduced in California in 1953, challenges Cub Scouts and their parents to transform simple materials – wood, plastic wheels, and nails – into custom race cars weighing five ounces or less. The goal is to create a sleek, speedy, and visually appealing car. Bringing this historic Scouting tradition to Barrett-Jackson adds a unique automotive flair and allows event sponsors to connect with like-minded enthusiasts and professionals dedicated to youth-focused initiatives.

At the Pinewood Derby Open, held against the backdrop of Barrett-Jackson auction pre-staging lanes, more than 30 Scouts unleashed their creativity on the track. The custom-built Pinewood Derby cars raced down the lanes, showcasing the Scouts’ dedication to craftsmanship. The event received special recognition as AZ Family 3 TV featured the exciting races, elevating the Pinewood Derby Open to even greater heights.

A round of applause is due for the Pinewood Derby Champions: Shaun N., securing 1st place, followed by Andrew T. in 2nd place with his speedy derby car, and Xander L. claiming 3rd place with pride. The event’s success wouldn’t have been possible without the participation of Scouts, families, and friends who made this day memorable.

To relive the excitement, a complete Pinewood Derby Open photo album is available on the [Grand Canyon Council’s Facebook page](#). The roaring engines and racing spirit at the Pinewood Derby Open at Barrett-Jackson Scottsdale celebrated a Scouting tradition and made lasting memories.

TROOP 531'S UNIQUE APPROACH TO WELCOMING NEW SCOUTS

Troop 531's Trail to Adventure: A Crossover Celebration



Scouts BSA Troop 531, located in North Phoenix and proudly chartered with Trailhead Youth Foundation, embodies the adventurous spirit and growth that defines Scouts BSA. Founded in October 2019 with just five boys, the troop quickly grew under the guidance of Scoutmaster Jess Rankin and the dedicated team of leaders. Fast forward to 2024, and Troop 531 stands proud with 71 Scouts and 10 Scoutmasters, with five of the original six boys now achieving the prestigious Eagle Scout rank.

Troop 531 engages in an annual planning meeting with a special PLC-only campout every April setting the stage for a year of thrilling adventures. The troop's calendar is packed with diverse activities, from sailing in the San Diego Harbor to rappelling an 80-ft cliff. In February, the Troop is gearing up for their own version of "Shark Tank" called "Scout Tank" as part of Entrepreneurship Month - a testament to their innovative spirit.

As youth transition from Cub Scouts to Troop 531, the troop's commitment to making the journey seamless and memorable shines through. The Crossover event is a grand affair, marked by Troop 531 swag and a warm welcome. What makes Troop 531 truly special is the post-Crossover camping trip, where new Scouts experience their first night camping "on their own."

Jess Rankin, Scoutmaster, highlights the significance: "Troop 531 has a strong bond with Pack 531, and our unique camping trip is designed

to let the new Scouts experience their first night 'on their own' with our leaders and experienced Scouts." The night includes setting up tents, learning Totin' Chip training, a night hike, and a campfire session with a musical twist, featuring everything from '80s hair bands to the timeless Rick Astley. As Rankin puts it, "The Crossover Ceremony and that first night of camping with the Troop should be special, not only to celebrate the accomplishment of earning the Arrow of Light (the highest rank in Cub Scouting, prepares a Webelos Scout to join a Scouts BSA Troop.) but to make their first Scouts BSA camping trip a great one!"

The troop's support extends well beyond the initial Crossover. Experienced Scouts use the EDGE method to teach Trail to First Class skills, fostering a sense of camaraderie among patrols (a mix of experienced and new Scouts). For parents, Troop 531 provides learning opportunities, encouraging them to play the role of a supportive coach at home and familiarize themselves with the Scout Oath and Law. A combination of Troop Parent Committee, Scoutmasters, and digital platforms ensures seamless communication and support.

Independence is a key focus for Troop 531, especially for Scouts experiencing their first camping trips without parents. The period between Crossover and June, when the troop heads to Camp Geronimo, becomes crucial. With intentional planning, registered Dads, and a balance between structure and fun, Troop 531 ensures Scouts build maturity and self-reliance.

Jess Rankin sums it up, "With a well-planned camping trip, the Scouts should be so tired, dirty, and having a lot of fun that they forget about video games and the fact that they just spent another couple of nights away from home." Troop 531 is more than a troop; it's a trail to adventure.

[VIEW ARTICLE](#)

FROM EAGLE SCOUT TO PARK RANGER DIRECTOR: A 20-YEAR JOURNEY IN LAW ENFORCEMENT AND RESOURCE PROTECTION



My name is Michael O'Connor, and I received my Eagle Scout in 1997 with Troop 1565 in Washington State. I am now the Director of the Park Ranger Law Enforcement Academy at Northern Arizona University, and I wanted to share about my experience in scouting and how it helped shape a 20-year career in Law Enforcement and how some of you may find your way into working in the Resource Protection career field with one of our tremendous land management agencies.

As a young scout, I found myself enjoying the incredible outdoors that the Pacific Northwest has to offer. I traveled many miles on foot with a 40-pound pack through Olympic National Park, North Cascades National Park, and numerous areas managed by the United States Forest Service. I was very fortunate that my troop had excellent adult role models who shared with us their passion for the outdoors and instilled the value of Scouting. I always asked myself, "who protects these places? Who protects the people that are out here enjoying the wilderness?"

As I progressed through scouting, I took on leadership roles that helped shape the man that I would later become. I became a member of the Order of the Arrow and then went on to earn my Eagle Scout. Joining the ranks of Eagle Scout has been a life-changing experience. Throughout my career and life as an adult, I

frequently look back upon my days in scouting with pride and a sense of accomplishment. Still to this day, I have on my professional work resume that I am an Eagle Scout.

It wasn't until I decided to attend Northern Arizona University that I learned that the protector of our parks and forests are the people of the National Park Service, US Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service. NAU offered a program through their Parks and The Recreation Management Department trained these individuals on how to do these jobs safely, efficiently and with compassion.

Now over 20 years after completing this same program I am proud to say that I am the Director of the Park Ranger Law Enforcement Academy at Northern Arizona University. I have come full circle. I am now able to be a part of the incredible program that NAU has that was created by those who came before me and instill a passion for public safety, the outdoors, and education.

I challenge each of you to continue to live by the Scout Oath, to accept a duty to your country, to help other people at all times, to stay strong, to focus on your mental health and strength, and to follow your moral compass. Public safety and Natural Resource Law Enforcement agencies are looking for community members who possess these qualities and strengths to protect our national treasures and landscapes for all to enjoy.

I would encourage you to explore Northern Arizona University and become the next generation of students at the Park Ranger Law Enforcement Academy. *Michael O'Connor, Eagle Scout 1997.*

CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE: 2023 COUNCIL HONORS RECIPIENTS

Grand Canyon Council 2023 Council Honors Recipients Announced!



We are thrilled to announce and extend our congratulations to the remarkable individuals who have been honored for their outstanding service and leadership in the world of Scouting. The Grand Canyon Council BSA takes pride in recognizing the invaluable contributions of these dedicated volunteer Scouters who have gone above and beyond.

Distinguished Service Star: Jacob Benyi and Gary Jordan

Jacob Benyi and Gary Jordan have been honored with the Distinguished Service Star for their outstanding dedication and contributions to Scouting. Their commitment and exceptional contributions have set them apart as true leaders and mentors, leaving a lasting mark on the Scouting community.

Silver Beaver Award: Joe Berretta, Gil Lau, Professor A. Compton Reeves, and Zoe Schnebly.

The Silver Beaver Award, a National honor, is bestowed upon individuals for exceptional service to youth at the council level. Joe Berretta, Gil Lau, Professor A. Compton Reeves, and Zoe Schnebly have demonstrated exemplary service, positively impacting the lives of countless young individuals. Their commitment to the principles of Scouting has earned them this prestigious recognition.

Meritorious Service Star: Chandra Clark, Randy Derr, Judy Keith, Joel Larson, and Sandy Walker.

The Meritorious Service Star is awarded for outstanding service to Scouting at the district or council level. Chandra Clark, Randy Derr, Judy

Keith, Joel Larson, and Sandy Walker have displayed exceptional dedication and service, contributing significantly to the growth and success of Scouting within their respective areas.

North Star: Phillip A. LaMell and Peter C. Smith.

The North Star Award is reserved for non-Scouters who have provided distinguished service to youth at the council level. Phillip A. LaMell and Peter C. Smith have gone above and beyond in their commitment to making a positive impact on the lives of young individuals, earning them this prestigious recognition.

District Award of Merit: Lindsay Kittler (Central), Ross Lemire, Gen Gross (Gila River), Jamie Mueller (Lost Dutchman), Jess Rankin, John McLellan, Sasha Willis (Pinnacle Peak), Amy Frederick, Matt Tantau (Ponderosa), and Kevin Forsythe, Karen Albers (Sonoran Sunset).

The District Award of Merit is awarded for exceptional service to youth at the district level. Lindsay Kittler, Ross Lemire, Gen Gross, Jamie Mueller, Jess Rankin, John McLellan, Sasha Willis, Amy Frederick, Matt Tantau, Kevin Forsythe, and Karen Albers have all demonstrated outstanding commitment and leadership within their respective districts.

Congratulations to all the recipients of the 2023 Council Honors! Your dedication to the principles of Scouting has not only impacted the lives of countless youth but has also enriched the Scouting community as a whole. Thank you for your tireless efforts and commitment to building a better future for the next generation.

Join us at the 2023 Council Honors Recognition Celebration! Congratulate our outstanding volunteers at the Winter Homecoming on Saturday, February 10, at 1:00 pm, at Valley Presbyterian Church (6947 E. McDonald Dr., Paradise Valley, AZ 85253). [Learn More >>](#)

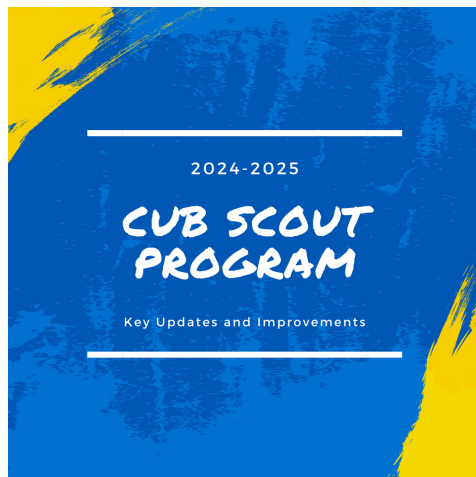


Grand Canyon Council BSA 2023 Impact Report is Here!

This report highlights our exciting journey, featuring achievements and milestones demonstrating our dedication to providing impactful Scouting experiences.

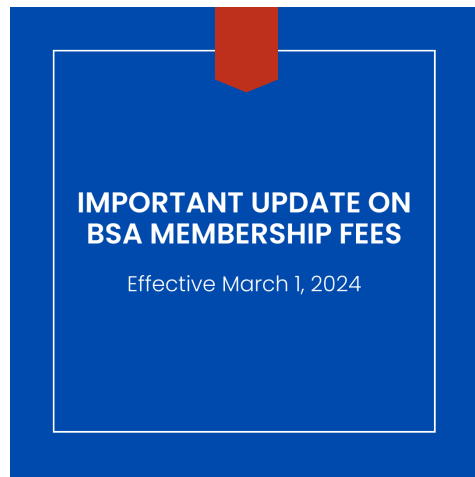
[VIEW IMPACT REPORT](#)

New Exciting Changes Ahead: Cub Scout Program 2024-2025



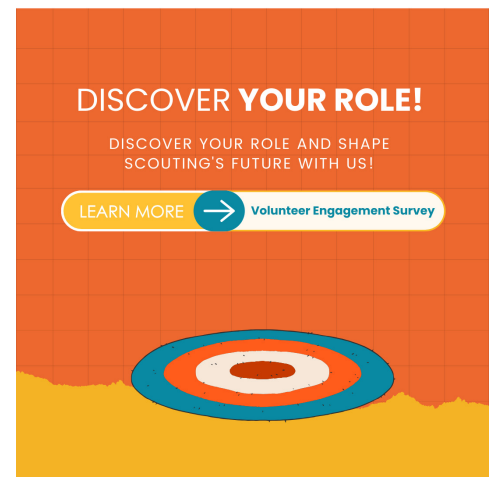
It's official! The Cub Scout program will be updated for the 2024-2025 program year. Over the past several years, the National Cub Scouting Committee, under the leadership of past chair Lisa Wylie and current chair Audrey Oakes, has identified four areas to improve the Cub Scout program to ensure that it is fun, simple, and easy. [Learn More >>](#)

New Important Update on BSA Membership Fees



We'd like to inform you of upcoming changes to BSA membership fees. Effective March 1, BSA is removing the new membership initiation fee (\$25) but increasing youth and adult fees by \$5 each (\$80 to 85 for youth and \$60 to \$65 for adults) [Learn More >>](#)

Complete Our Volunteer Engagement Survey



Discover your role: Take a moment to fill out our Volunteer Engagement Survey! Your input will help us align opportunities with your skills and passions. Discover your role and shape the future of Scouting with us! [Learn More >>](#)

Camp GERONIMO

Camp Geronimo Attendees,
Mark Your Calendars!

All participants who submit their deposit
by February 7 will receive a discount of \$15.

LIMITED
DISCOUNT **\$15 OFF**



UPCOMING MERIT BADGE EVENTS

20
24

EXPLORE THE VARIETY OF UPCOMING
MERIT BADGE OPPORTUNITIES

PROGRAMMING
CITIZENSHIP IN THE WORLD
PERSONAL MANAGEMENT

COMMUNICATION
PERSONAL FITNESS
AMERICAN HERITAGE

THE HEARD SCOUT PUEBLO SHOOTING SPORTS



- Rifle/BB Open Shoot
- Archery Open Shoot





Religious Activities Committee

Join us for a special evening of worship

SCOUT SABBATH FEBRUARY 09, 2024

JUNE 8 - JUNE 20, 2025



PHILMONT CONTINGENT

**PHILMONT SCOUT RANCH
NEW MEXICO**

BACKPACKING - GOLD PANNING - ADVENTURE





NOAC 2024

National Order of the Arrow Conference

July 29 to August 3, 2024

University of Colorado Boulder

The National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC) is the flagship national Order of the Arrow event. It is held every two years at a major university campus and is attended by as many as 8,000 Arrowmen from all 50 states. It is second only to the BSA National Jamboree in size and scope.

- Engaging activities
- Training sessions
- Patch trading
- Meet Arrowmen from across the country
- Large-scale shows
- Experience campus life
- Inter-lodge competitions

When your contingent steps onto campus, they will be joining a growing spirit of Scouting pervading Boulder. Soon after, our opening show will fill shoulder to shoulder with Arrowmen from across the country as we celebrate the OA. Speak with your contingent leader, lodge chief or lodge adviser for registration and pricing information.



Visit oa-bsa.org/noac to learn more!

NOAC 2024 Promotion Patch



NOAC

"Seek New Heights"

ARIZONA COYOTES GROUP NIGHTS

Grand Canyon Council BSA



VS



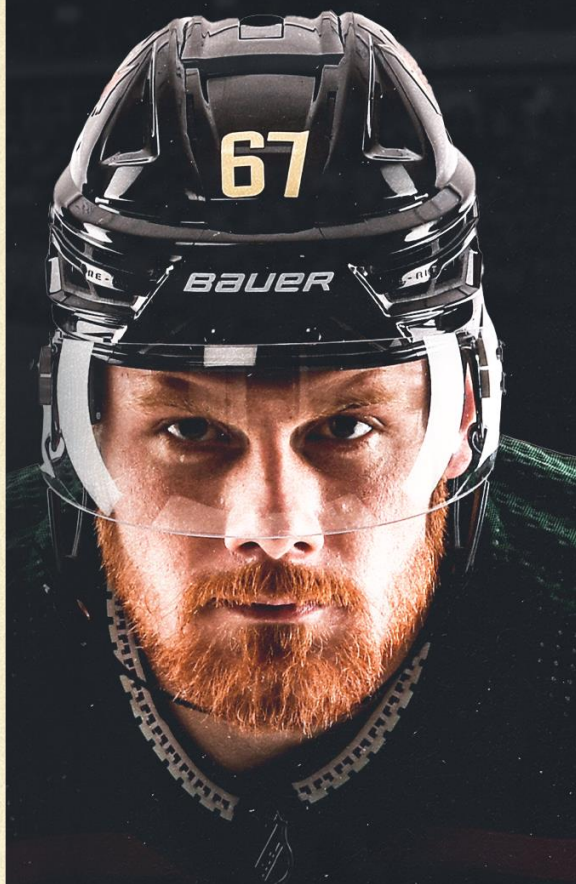
**Nashville
Predators**

**ARIZONA
COYOTES**

The Arizona Coyotes are proud to welcome Scouts of America, along with their friends & families, to Mullett Arena with an exclusive ticket package offer for our matchup on Thursday March 28th @ 7:00 PM vs. Nashville Predators!

A portion of the proceeds from each ticket purchased will directly benefit Scouts of America.

*If 100 tickets minimum are purchased through this link, the Arizona Coyotes will host a complimentary postgame slapshot experience on the ice!

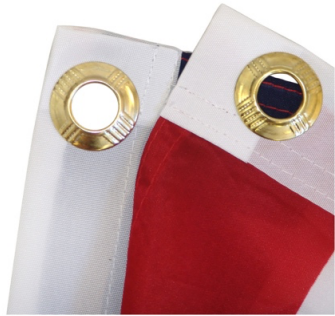


**ONE (1) FREE PATCH
INCLUDED WITH EACH
TICKET PURCHASED!**

TO PURCHASE, VISIT:
[https://fevoenterprise.com/event/
ScoutsofAmerica1](https://fevoenterprise.com/event/ScoutsofAmerica1) .



SAVE THE GROMMETS, HELP CREATE THE NEW BELL FOR THE NEW USS ARIZONA TO BE LAUNCHED IN 2025



PLEASE SAVE THE GROMMETS FROM RETIRED FLAGS AT HOME, SCOUT UNIT, OR POST. IF YOU DO NOT CHOOSE TO RETIRE SYNTHETIC FLAGS BY FIRE, YOU CAN CUT OUT THE GROMMETS AND TURN THEM IN, EVEN WITH A SMALL AMOUNT OF FLAG MATERIAL REMAINING. We will remove the excess cloth.

Grommets from the retired flags will be melted and combined with tin and Arizona copper to cast three bells for the US Navy to select for the official bell of the new USS ARIZONA (SSN-803).

1. Retire Flags. Save/collect grommets at your local home or facility for collection later.
2. Contact Gary Vaughan when you have grommets to provide (garyavaughan@gmail.com).
3. Arrangements for collections of the grommets will be made during the week of 19-24 February.

DEADLINE FOR COLLECTION OF GROMMETS is 24 FEBRUARY 2024.

USS Arizona (SSN-803)



The lead boat of the *Virginia* class,
USS Virginia (SSN-774)

CALL TO ACTION: The Arizona Sons of The American Legion are spearheading an effort to collect the brass grommets from as many retired national flags as possible. **WHY? In 2025 (estimated), the 4th naval vessel to carry the name USS ARIZONA (SSN-803) will be launched.** This will be the first time a vessel has held the name since 1941. **We are jointly working to collect brass grommets to be combined with AZ-mined copper to create three brass bells to be presented to the Navy, with one to be selected as the new vessel's bell.** **ACTION:** Please have your members and Scouts collect/save all brass grommets from retired or "to be retired" USA Colors and have them ready for a pick-up 19-24 February. Provide the name of the donor or organization (and their location) as they will become part of the bells' official history. The new USS ARIZONA will be a Virginia Class submarine (as pictured left).



5510 N Central Ave
Phoenix, AZ

SCOUT SUNDAY

Please join us to celebrate Scout Sunday
Sunday, February 11, 2024
First United Methodist Church



Scout Sunday 2024 is the 114th Anniversary of the BSA. We are commemorating this solemn day to reaffirm the Scout Oath and Promise, our “Duty to God” and recognizing the contribution of our youth and adult leaders in Scouting.

On Sunday, February 11, 2024 Scout will serve as bulletin distributors and greeters, welcoming friends and family members to the church service.

Please join us in your full Class A uniform. Invite friends and family members to join us to celebrate Scout Sunday at the 11:00 am Service – please arrive by 10:15 am



**For any questions please contact Geoffrey Boadu
Troop Chaplain: Troop 513
geoff.boadu.az@outlook.com**

WINTER HOMECOMING

CELEBRATING
EXCELLENCE IN
SCOUTING

THE COLLEGE OF COMMISSIONER SCIENCE
VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION EVENT



THE
COLLEGE
OF
COMMISSIONER
SCIENCE

New Join Us for Spring BALOO Training

February 24, 2024



Explore the outdoors with Spring BALOO Training! Join our Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO) for a thorough Cub Scout outdoor program introduction. Ideal for leaders incorporating camping into Pack activities! Ensure representation—each pack needs one trained adult. Early Bird Pricing at \$65 until December 27, 2023. [Learn More >>](#)

New Join Us for IOLS Training

March 9-10, 2024



Explore outdoor leadership at IOLS Training, March 9-10th at The Heard Scout Pueblo. Early bird pricing until Jan 13th! In-person, essential training for Scoutmasters, Assistant Scoutmasters, and Webelos Leaders. Gain lifelong IOLS Certification. Enhance your outdoor leadership skills. [Learn More >>](#)

New Join the Short Term Camp Admin Training

March 9, 2024



Join us on March 9 for an exciting opportunity to enhance your Scouting skills at the Short Term Camp Administrator Training hosted by the Grand Canyon Council! This 8-hour session is tailored for all Scouters interested in organizing one, two, or three-night camping events. [Learn More >>](#)

Upcoming Events:

Always view the GCC calendar at grandcanyonbsa.org/calendar for upcoming events and training opportunities!

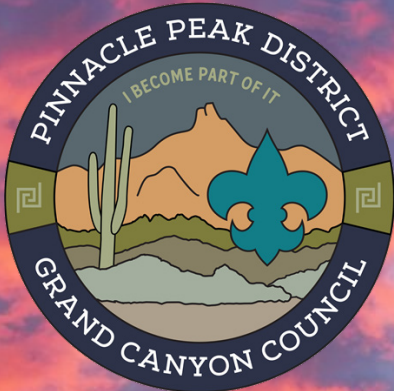


WELCOME EAGLE SCOUTS!

Central District is happy to introduce our first group of Eagle Scouts of the year 2024 as we welcome four new Eagle Scouts to the nest. These young adults tallied over 578 service hours for our community and we are so proud of each one of them. Congratulations go out to the following from left to right, Keira D. Troop 3329 Designed and built a “Mindfulness Garden” at Caesar Chavez High School; Joel D. Troop 244 Phoenix Rescue Mission Women’s Campus Upgrades; Kevin S. Troop 340 Diaper Drive for Maggie’s Place; Srivarun V. Troop 644 Homeless Supply Drive for Andre House.

In their own unique ways, they refurbished, built and re-built, painted, dug, hammered, gathered, distributed, corralled, and most importantly, led their teams of volunteers through the successful completion of their projects. Congratulations, Eagle Scouts, on a job well done!

Of course, these Scouts would not have gained this experience without the help from their parents, friends, family members, and dedicated Scouter volunteers to help guide them along their journey. We also thank you, volunteers, for participating to help facilitate their Board of Reviews and to St. Simon and Jude Church and Scoutmaster Jim Petersen from Troop 148 for hosting our special gathering this evening. Congratulations Eagles!



Pinnacle Peak District Awards

Thursday February 1st @ 7pm

Cross in the Desert

12835 N 32nd St, Phoenix, AZ 85032

Assistant Scoutmaster of the Year				
Brad Kerr	Mark Davis	Juan Nunez	Cal Carlson	Amber
Michael	Dean Clayton	Seth Wilson	Amy Barlow	Spletter
Lambrecht	David Wright	Ken Kennedy	Curtis Berry	Tim Boyle
Charter Organization Rep of the Year				
Twila (Lois)	George	Gregg Hayes	Jim Shanley	
Beberniss	Chartier	Mike Corso		
Committee Chair of the Year				
Bryan Madden	Joyce Betitta	Tammie White	Tod Filer	
Michael Kunze	Dave Cramer		Susan Shuman	
Kirk Colburn			Joyce Bonita	
Committee Member of the Year				
David Gironda	Ron McElhane	Tammie White	Gene Neal	
Candice Mingo	Leslie Newell	Melissa Prince	Sheri MacDonald	
Christina Vaaler	Jennifer Trifari	Martin	Amanda Houghton	
Cubmaster of the Year				
Jay Krich	Jeremy Podborny		Byron Jeffers	
Den Leader of the Year				
Fredric White	Josh Bowles	Kirk Coburn	Byron Jeffers	
District Cub Scout of the Year				
Jack Jeffers	Michael Corso		Lori Pitcock	
District Scout of the Year				
Enler Twaddell	Connor Carlson	Ella Miller	Blake Rankin	
Antonio Suero			Jack Senesac	
Scouting Family of the Year				
Joyce Bonita	Davis Family	Wilson Family	Cal Carlson family	
Byron Jeffers				
Scoutmaster of the Year				
Jess Rankin	Stephen	Kimberly	Sasha Brooks	Juan Nunez
Don Beerman	Vaaler	Schneider	Sasha Willis	
Gil Lau	Jamey Geer	Josh Motter	Rob Madden	
Plus:				
Troop of the Year	Crew of the Year	Pack of the Year		
And Many More Recognitions!!				

New Email Address Format

Grand Canyon Council BSA is transitioning to a new email address format to enhance our communication.

Old Email Format: first.last@scouting.org

New Email Format: first.last@grandcanyonbsa.org

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Gila River District Executive / [Cameron Kamphausen](#), ext 210

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Sonoran Sunset District Executive / Open, ext 250

Ponderosa District Executive / Open, ext 236

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Scout Executive / Andy Price

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Camp Ranger

Ken Noe

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Heard Scout Pueblo

Camp Ranger

Chuck Hawkins

(480) 363-7615

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Craig Burkholder

(765) 667-7506

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Camp Ranger

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928-899-7862

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