



Volume 3, No. 2 | November 2021

GRAND CANYON CONNECTION



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- GILA RIVER
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- PINNACLE PEAK
- PONDEROSA
- SONORAN SUNSET



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SPOTLIGHT EVENT

NEW "Holiday At The Heard" Celebrations and Recognition

December 11, 2021

"Holiday At The Heard" opens with Cub Scout Elves' Workshop and Reindeer Games. The NESAs Eagle Recognition event begins at 4:00PM. Eagle Rank recipients, family, friends, Alumni, and current Scouts and Scouters are all encouraged to register to attend! Following the NESAs Eagle Recognition, we encourage you and your guests to stay for the final Centennial Celebration at the Heard Scout Pueblo.

REGISTER TODAY!

SAFETY CORNER

Safety Moments are exactly what the name implies: opportunities to prepare for an activity, review safety measures and report incidents correctly. Safety Corner is where we will look to remind everyone of the need to always keep safety in mind during all of our activities. Written by Matthew Laudone, the volunteer chair of the Council's Enterprise Risk Management Committee.

SAFETY CORNER

NICE TO KNOW

- [NEW Holiday at the Heard Celebrations](#)
- [2020-2021 NESA Eagle Recognition Event](#)
- [Eagle Scout Project of the Year Form](#)
- [Holiday at the Heard- Scouting Expo](#)
- [NEW 2023 World Scout Jamboree](#)
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CUB SCOUT PROGRAM

- [NEW Cub Scout "Holiday at the Heard"](#)
- [NEW Barrett-Jackson Pinewood Derby Race](#)
- [December BB Open Shoot](#)
- [January Archery Open Shoot](#)
- [Cub Chat LIVE every Friday at 2 p.m. Central.](#)

SENIOR SCOUT PROGRAMS

- [NEW Citizenship in Society Merit Badge](#)
- [NEW Barrett-Jackson Automotive Maintenance](#)
- [NEW Programming Merit Badge](#)
- [2020-2021 NESA Eagle Recognition Event](#)
- [Winter Blast at R-C Scout Ranch](#)
- [NEW Apply for NESA Scholarships](#)
- [2022 Geronimo Camp Guide](#)
- [2022 Camp Geronimo Preview Webinar](#)



SCOUTERS

Thank you for your time and dedication to build tomorrows leaders through Scouting.

- [NEW Citizenship in Society Merit Badge](#)
- [NEW Leave No Trace Master Educator Course](#)
- [NEW Brand Messaging Training](#)
- [2022 Geronimo Camp Guide](#)

PARENTS

Thank you for supporting the scouting experience.

- [NEW Brand Messaging Training](#)
- [Scouting App for Advancement Tracking](#)
- [NEW Apply for NESA Scholarships](#)
- [NESA scholarships](#)

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

- [NEW Specialty Trainings](#)
- [Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Training](#)
- [Do's and Don'ts Before Your Next Unit Fundraiser](#)

JOIN SCOUTING

SUBSCRIBE NOW

MESSAGE FROM SCOUT EXECUTIVE

Andy Price



Happy November, Thanksgiving, and beginning of the holiday season! Before we know it, the holidays will be past and 2022 will be upon us. I hope your Scouting year is going well.

I recently completed my third year serving Scouting in our council and have been contemplating the progress we've made, despite significant headwinds. A few examples:

- We've moved into a Scout Service Center that is more accessible to more of our council's territory than our previous location – and our expenses have gone down.
- We've divested of unused property (Little Grand Canyon Ranch), generating cash and reducing operating overhead.
- We restructured our staffing model and reduced employee expenses by 33%, including outsourcing the accounting function which resulted in higher quality accounting work at lower cost.
- We've added new program opportunities to Scouts (Fish Camp & Drone Camp) along with numerous Cub Scout programs.
- We've rebuilt our website and introduced this newsletter, now in its third year of publication.

These are just a few examples of many successes and changes we've seen, with more to come. I hope none of this is news to you – if so, please consider participating in Roundtable and the Fireside Chats we host annually in each district. And be sure to check our website and social media channels regularly for the latest on Scouting in GCC. We're not the same council we were 3 years ago – I'm proud of everything we've accomplished so far and I'm excited about our bright future.

Thanks for your leadership and commitment to the youth of Arizona.

Andy





New Citizenship In Society Merit Badge

Designed to help Scouts learn about the different identities and characteristics we each possess, understand different perspectives and experiences, and promote good citizenship in society.

[LEARN MORE](#)

The Welcome to America Project (WTAP) is a local nonprofit organization addressing the urgent needs and immediate well-being of newly arrived refugee families through the provision of emergency supplies, basic necessities, and education. Refugees are individuals who have been relocated to the Phoenix area by the U.S. State Department. These families have usually been living in refugee camps for 10+ years and come from countries all over the world. The refugees we help are on a special visa and can ultimately become U.S. citizens. They are highly motivated, resourceful and eager to start a new life. They develop strong ties to their new communities, make active contributions, work hard, pay taxes and are expected to be self-sufficient within 6 months of arrival.



THE
**Welcome
to America**
PROJECT

Through weekly “Welcome” deliveries, WTAP greets refugees at their new residence and delivers emergency supplies and basic necessities – urgently needed items that can’t wait – including but not limited to food, cleaning and hygiene supplies, bedding, blankets, towels, cooking utensils, pots/pans, dishes, microwaves, rugs, lamps, kitchen tables and chairs, sofas, clothing, shoes, undergarments, a computer for work and school, and a bike for transportation.

It takes an entire community coming together to make this important work possible and we would like to invite Scouts to participate!

Opportunities include:

- Join us on a Welcome! Come out on a Saturday morning for a few hours and help deliver critical household items and a warm welcome to newly arriving refugee families.
- Volunteer for a Warehouse Workday! Help us organize, sort and pack donated items for the families we serve.
- Collect bikes, helmets and bike locks.
- Create hygiene, cleaning and other household kits that are a necessity for every family.
- Hold a furniture drive (small, apartment sized furniture).
- Eagle Scout Projects are also welcome

Please visit www.WTAP.org for more information or email Operations@WTAP.org.

**HOLIDAY AT
THE HEARD**

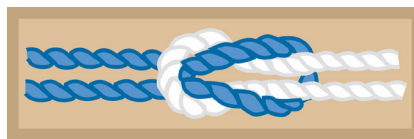
[LEARN MORE](#)



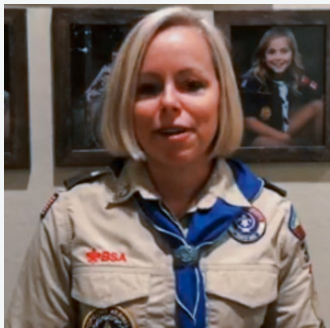
DECEMBER 11, 2021

2020 Council Honoree Continued

Throughout 2021 we have featured two of our 2020 Council Honors awards recipients. To learn more about our 2020 honorees and their impact on Scouting visit: [2020 Honorees](#)



Sondra Wendt 2020 Meritorious Service Star Honoree:



Sondra Wendt received the Meritorious Service Star Award and serves Scouting in the Pinnacle Peak District. She currently serves as Troop 834 and 3834 Treasurer and as the Council Fundraising Chair for the past 5 years. Here she uses her leadership and organiza-

tional talents to guide and coordinate council fundraising events; dates, logistics, training and kick-off events, while providing ongoing communication through Facebook with our district fundraising chairs which, in turn, directly support our units. Sondra gets things done! Serving at the unit level, she has been instrumental in recruitment, fundraising,

and serves as the unit committee chair which positively impacts the unit level. She was key in growing Pack 536 on the recruitment committee, while supporting the program in the role as Committee Chair. In 2018 Sondra received the Pack of the Year award from Pinnacle Peak for membership growth and providing an excellent program for the units she serves in the district. In addition, she started female Troop 3824 in 2019 which continues to thrive and grow today. Sondra is a blessing to our council in so many wonderful ways. Her enthusiastic smile and positive attitude coupled with accomplishing huge financial wins for our council while increasing membership in her local units demonstrates awesome Scout spirit and leadership within our council. It is for these reasons, and so many more, that Sondra heartily received the Meritorious Service Star! Congratulations, Sondra!!

Tim Smith 2020 Distinguished Service Star Honoree:



Tim Smith received the Distinguished Service Star and currently serves in the Sonoran Sunset District. He has been involved with many levels in the Scouting organization, from Area President to Pack Cubmaster and many volunteer positions in between. From a family of

Scouters, Tim brings a broad base of knowledge, leadership and Scout experience over many years of service as a Scout leader. This especially includes his understanding as what it means to be a Servant Leader as seen in his interactions with many Scout families and volunteers throughout our Council. Tim lives and loves Scouting! He serves on the National Council and here in Grand Canyon Council, Tim's role as Council Commissioner guided and focused our Commissioner Service to ensure our Scout families have what they need to grow and thrive in our program. Over the

past 10 years Tim has served many in other Council positions; the Executive Board, the Executive Committee, VP of Operations, Camp Commissioner and Advancement, all of which require leading volunteer teams to effectively serve our districts and units to be their very best for our youth. Tim's leadership at the district level continued to support the units as Chair, Eagle Scout counselor and Order of the Arrow coach, and founding Venture Crew 2090. He currently supports Pack 64 and is the Charter Organization Executive, bringing his years of service to the unit level to grow Scouting in the Sonoran Sunset district. We can all look to Tim as a great example of dedicated Servant Leadership in Grand Canyon Council, contributing much of his life to serving others, with both our volunteers and with the youth we serve. Many of us have experienced the imprint of Tim's legacy as we continue to promote the Scouting movement! It is with great admiration, honor and gratitude that Tim Smith receives the Distinguished Service Star for his many years of service to Scouting and his community. Congratulations, Tim!

New "Brand Messaging Training" with Marketing Partner LAVIDGE



We offered training to Scouters on best methods for social media and public relations (both which are available 'on demand'), and now we are pleased to announce "Brand Messaging Training." Our marketing project started with research conducted by Arizona State University on how Scouting is perceived by today's parents. This information has been used to create updated brand messaging that will inform our marketing work going forward; all with a goal of growing Scouting in Arizona. This training will provide background, talking points, and best methods and recruitment tools and resources to help you share our message to coworkers, neighbors, and anyone else who asks about Scouting.

[TAKE TRAINING](#)

[VIEW RESOURCES](#)

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

- [New Specialty Trainings](#)
- [NEW Apply for NESAs Scholarships](#)
- [Why 'Normal Friend Activities' are such an effective recruiting tool](#)
- [BSA Brand Center](#)
- [BeAScout Map Pins](#)
- [Fillable "Join Cub Scouting" Stickers](#)
- [Cub Chat Live](#)

2021 Holiday Giving Tree at the Scout Shop



One of our favorite things about the holiday season is the spirit of generosity that never fails to show out in full force. It just seems like the brisk air and long, dark, twinkly nights are synonymous with giving. In true alignment with the season and with the values of Scouting, this year, just like in years past, our Scout Shop has set up a Giving Tree. The store will have it up from November 13 - December 18, so don't delay on this! The Giving Tree is active in the Mesa Scout Shop and works just like the classic "Angel Tree", but for Scouting, and the tickets are designed to benefit Scouts who need a helping hand in purchasing their uniform and Scout gear. You can make a donation at the Mesa Scout Shop.

The Arizona Charitable Tax Credit

Arizona Charitable Tax Credit allows you to donate to a qualifying charitable organization such as Grand Canyon Council, BSA Outreach, LLC. to receive dollar for dollar tax credit on your state tax and claim it on your federal tax.

[LEARN MORE](#)



The First ever eScouts Tournament was a Success

Wow! We got to see some great competition amongst scouts from 80 units with members in Arizona, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and New Mexico. Here is a list of each unit that will be receiving 50% of the proceeds from eScouts:

- Grand Canyon Council Crew 546, 2030, and 8051.
- Blue Mountain Council Pack 252.
- Grand Canyon Council Pack 6, 64, 71, 88, 91, 100, 132, 147, 178, 276, 282, 316, 325, 329, 378, 402, 436, 441, 472, 513, 522, 524, 546, 555, 577, 603, 679, 848, 916, 990, 1776, 7112, 7140, and 8054.
- Blue Mountain Council Troop 148, 159, 305, 336.
- Grand Canyon Council Troop 3, 6, 10, 16, 17, 30, 39, 41, 78, 125, 127, 201, 280, 283, 285, 316, 325, 343, 400, 446, 522, 577, 607, 644, 648, 653, 738, 747, 777, 828, 993, 1776, 3329, 7006, 7010, 7031, 7039, and 8051.

ADDITIONAL WAYS TO GIVE

- [Support Scouting with PayPal Giving Fund](#)
- [Support Scouting with AmazonSmile this Holiday](#)
- [Order Your Arizona BSA License Plate](#)
- [Shop the Grand Canyon Council Online Trading Post](#)

Join us on December 4, 2021 for the last of two great eScouts events:

- **eScouts Rocket League Friends & Family Tournament**
Grab your friends and family (scout or non-scout) and join us for the last tournament of the year. Get out your laptop, controllers, joysticks, etc. and help us finish the year with the best fundraising event possible. Play at home, play at a friends house, play at Starbucks...just play. \$500 in prizes will be given away to the Top 3 teams and 50% of the proceeds will go directly to support your individual unit and/or Council.

The Tournament is December 4, 2021 at 12:00pm (AZ Time) and registration is only \$25 and can be done by going to www.eScoutsTournament.org and clicking the Register link. Price increases to \$40 on November 22, 2021.

- **eScouts Rocket League Tournament Championships!**
Join us at 4:00pm for the first ever LIVE STREAMED eScouts Championships and cheer on your scouts as they strive to take home two Nintendo Switches and other prizes. More information on how to watch live will be available soon and on the www.eScoutsTournament.org website.

Congratulations to our Sweet 16 with members of the Grand Canyon and Blue Mountain councils. See the winners list at www.eScoutsTournament.org/top-16

[LEARN MORE](#)



GIVING TUESDAY IS 11.30.21

BE PREPARED

#SCOUTON | #GIVINGTUESDAY



January 2022
Automotive Maintenance Merit Badge Workshop
Pinewood Derby Race



2021 Sporting Clays Classic



Thank you to those that participated in the Grand Canyon Council, BSA 2021 Sporting Clays Event on Saturday, November 13th, 2021, at the Rio Salado Sportsman's Club. Despite still having Covid restrictions, we had a great turn out of seven teams

which included:

- El Dorado Holdings
- Troop 747 (Sponsored by El Dorado Holdings)
- The Boren Family
- The Keegan Family
- Arizona Benefit Plans Inc.
- U.A. Local 469
- Rotary Club of Scottsdale

The competition was tough, but three winners were determined:

1st Place – Arizona Benefit Plans Inc. which included: Mike Hoffman, David Slepak, Andy Price, and Todd Walter

2nd Place – El Dorado Holdings which included: Jay Abraham, Brett Abraham, Matt Streich, and Cub Carter

3rd Place - U.A. Local 469 which included: Daniel Innes, Paul Innes, Larry Bourne, and Harry Innes

The Top 3 individual shooters were:

- 1st Place – Pat Baldwin
- 2nd Place – Daniel Innes
- 3rd Place – David Slepak

SAVE THE DATE: 2022 Sporting Clays Classic Saturday, November 12th, 2022!

Special thank you to our Station Sponsors: Rotary Club Scottsdale, The Scamardo Family, and Superstition Mountain Rotary Club >> [View Gallery](#)



Tickets to the SUNS vs Hornets
Compliments of American Legion



100 Scouts and Scouters will attend the Suns Vs. Hornets game December 19, 2021 compliments of American Legion. Over 35 different units will be featured on the big screen during half-time - ready to show their scout pride in uniform! Limited edition patches will also be given out to the Scouts at the game! Special thanks to American Legion for supporting scouting in Arizona.



New Citizenship In Society Merit Badge

Designed to help Scouts learn about the different identities and characteristics we each possess, understand different perspectives and experiences, and promote good citizenship in society.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Escape the Valley and end 2021 with a Winter Blast at R-C!

December 27, 2021 and January 1, 2022



In December of 2021, R-C Scout Ranch will be the place for earning advancement, growing as an individual, and having a great time. Get ready to earn unique badges not offered at summer camp, focus on Eagle required badges, and unique activities like a stargazing party, polar plunge, and a rockin' New Year's Eve Party! This program is lead entirely by provisional leadership handpicked from our best summer camp staff--no parents or unit leadership allowed. While atypical, this environment fosters creativity and learning, encourages personal responsibility, and provides lots of time with good friends. We are looking to have 25 participants by November 29, 2021. View Registration for more advancement details.

[WINTER BLAST](#)

New Virtual Advancement course for Troop Leaders and Parents

December 11, 2021 9:00am - 12noon AZ time

This virtual class on Advancement is ideal for unit leaders and those who are responsible for administering advancement for a troop. It is also a good class for Parents who want a fuller understanding of Scouts BSA advancement. This class goes beyond what is taught in the BSA online training. Review the subjects we will cover, including the new Eagle Required Citizenship in Society Merit Badge, and register today.

[REGISTER NOW](#)



New Eagle Candidate Paperwork Portal

The Grand Canyon Council introduced the new Eagle Candidate Paperwork Portal --Using this portal you are uploading the documents that are required for an Eagle Candidate to obtain Council certification and eventually the rank of Eagle scout! Review the Life to Eagle process and videos.

[THE LIFE TO EAGLE PROCESS](#)

January 2022
Automotive Maintenance Merit Badge Workshop
Pinewood Derby Race



THE WORLD'S GREATEST COLLECTOR CAR AUCTIONS®

MERIT BADGE WORKSHOPS

Virtual Merit Badge Workshops

- [Citizenship in the Nation \(11/30\)](#)
- [New Programming \(12/2\)](#)
- [Environmental Science \(12/7\)](#)

Visit each registration for prerequisites, fees, and additional information.

Open Shoot at the Heard

Shooting Sports workshops occur monthly at the Heard Scout Pueblo. December Open Shoot for Rifle and BB Gun is Saturday, December 17, 2021. For the rifle merit badge we recommend the Troop come to the Pueblo Friday evening to the range for the book portion. Then on Saturday they shoot for the qualification part. Got questions? Contact, [Gary Jordan](#).

Work on your Archery Merit Badge this January 2022 at the Heard Scout Pueblo. Note that this program only covers the Shooting qualifications for the Archery Merit Badge. If a full merit badge program is desired contact Council to find a Merit Badge Counselors to work with individual units on a merit badge program.

- [December Open Shoot for Rifle and BB Gun \(12/17\)](#)
- [January Archery Open Shoot \(1/22\)](#)

New Health Care Professions Merit Badge

Over the years new subjects have been added while others have been retired, depending on societal changes, technology, and the interests of our Scouts. The current Medicine MB is a good example of the upgrading and modernization. The Health Care Professions MB is available now! The previous Medicine MB is being retired. The style and design of the merit badge patch has not changed between the new Health Care Professions MB and the former Medicine MB. View the requirements now at: <http://scouting.org/advancement>

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

- [BSA Rank and Award Restricted Scout Shop Items](#)
- [Recommended Merit Badge Process for Parents](#)
- [Policy on Unauthorized Changes to Advancement](#)

New Eagle-Required Citizenship In Society Merit Badge

The Boy Scouts of America Introduces New Citizenship in Society Merit Badge. On November 1, 2021 the Boy Scouts of America launched the new Citizenship in Society merit badge. This merit badge encourages Scouts to explore important topics around diversity, equity, inclusion and ethical leadership and learn why these qualities are important in society and in Scouting.

Beginning July 1, 2022, the Citizenship in Society merit badge will be required for any youth seeking to achieve the prestigious Eagle Scout rank. For more details on this merit badge, please visit: www.scouting.org/dei.

- The new badge will be required for Eagle 7/1/2022
- It will be the 14th required badge with 7 optional badges required. 21 badges for Eagle will still be required.
- **Eagle Scout candidates will continue to use the current rank requirements until June 30, 2022 and will not be required to complete the new Citizenship in Society Merit Badge as long as they complete all of the current Eagle Rank requirements before July 1, 2022. They do not have to submit their final Eagle Scout application nor complete their Eagle Scout Board of Review prior to July 1, 2022, but must complete all current Eagle Scout requirements before then.**
- **Starting July 1, 2022, Eagle Scout candidates will be required to complete all Eagle Scout requirements including the new Citizenship in Society merit badge.**
- As has been the practice, the Local Council will be responsible for verifying in the system the Eagle Scout candidate and their completion of the Eagle Scout requirements. The Local Council will determine those Scouts that meet all requirements before July 1, 2022 under the current requirements, and those Scouts that fall under the new Eagle Scout requirements as of July 1, 2022.

More information on the new merit badge can be found here:

- [Citizenship in Society Announcement Video](#)
- [Citizenship in Society Merit Badge Counselor Guidelines](#)
- [Citizenship in Society Merit Badge Scout Requirements](#)

HOLIDAY AT THE HEARD

LEARN MORE



DECEMBER 11, 2021

The Centennial Scouting Expo

December 11, 2021 from 5-9pm



Our final centennial event of the year! The Grand Canyon Council BSA invites Scouts, Leaders, Families and the Community to an evening event spotlighting the best in Scouting! Celebrate 100 years of scouting with luminaries, historic tour and activities.

This is an open house event. Community welcome with free admission, December 11, 2021 from 5-9pm at the Heard Scout Pueblo:

1901 E Dobbins Rd,
Phoenix, AZ 85042

DISCOVER MORE

2020- 2021 NESA Eagle Scout Recognition Event

December 11, 2021 From 4-5pm



Honoring the Eagle Class of 2020 and Eagle Class of 2021. Eagle Rank recipients, family, friends, Alumni, and current Scouts and Scouters are all encouraged to register to attend. The Eagle Class of 2020 and 2021 members should plan to arrive between 3:00PM - 3:30PM to have their photograph taken and the Eagle Class will be receiving a special recognition item. Following the NESA Eagle Recognition event, we encourage you and your guests to stay for the Centennial Celebration Scouting Expo at the Heard Scout Pueblo from 5-9pm open to the Community.

REGISTER FOR NESA RECOGNITION



Elves' Workshop & Reindeer Games

Bring home holiday cheer at Cub Scouts "Holiday at the Heard!" Activities include: Shooting Sports, Elf Neckerchief, Visit from Special Guest, Antler Toss, Penguin Races, Gingerbread Golf, and Ornament Decorating! Lunch is

Provided with the price of admission!

REGISTER NOW



Camp Geronimo Open for Summer Camp 2022

The [2022 Camp Guide](#) is available now! Learn about all the new and exciting things coming to Camp Geronimo in 2022, including brand new merit badge offerings, the return of the Downhill

at the Heard. Meet our summer camp leadership team by viewing the first [2022 Camp Geronimo Webinar](#) recording now.



End 2021 with a Winter Blast at R-C Scout Ranch this December!

December 27, 2021 and January 1, 2022



R-C Scout Ranch will be the place for earning advancement, growing as an individual, and having a great time. Get ready to earn unique badges not offered at summer camp, focus on Eagle required badges, and unique activities like a stargazing party, polar plunge, and a rockin' New Year's Eve Party! This program is lead entirely by provisional leadership handpicked from our best summer camp staff—no parents or unit leadership allowed. While atypical, this environment fosters creativity and learning, encourages personal responsibility, and provides lots of time with good friends. We are looking to have 25 participants by November 29, 2021.

WINTER BLAST

New Automotive Maintenance Merit Badge Workshop & Pinewood Derby Race

January 22, 2022



The Grand Canyon Council and Barrett-Jackson will host the Automotive Maintenance Merit Badge Workshop and Pinewood Derby race January 22, 2022. Registration and details *coming soon!*

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

For inquiries about camping please email gcc.program@scouting.org

- [Fall is a great time for stargazing](#)
- [Register now for the Keys Experience at Sea Base](#)
- [Dutch-oven cooking 101](#)



Leave No Trace Master Educator Course 2022

This internationally recognized course is the top tier of Leave No Trace training and provides participants with an in-depth look at the skills and ethics of Leave No Trace.

REGISTER NOW

**50% OF THE PROCEEDS
GO BACK TO YOUR UNIT!**

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE A SCOUT TO PLAY!



**REGISTER NOW
ONLY \$25 / PER PERSON**

**EVERY PLAYER WILL
RECEIVE A FREE
T-SHIRT!**

**FAMILY & FRIENDS
TOURNAMENT**

DECEMBER 4, 2021

All ages – 12:00pm (Arizona Time)

**2 v 2 Single Match
DOUBLE ELIMINATION**

Registration price increases to
\$40 on November 22, 2021

**REGISTER NOW
www.eScoutsGaming.org**

OVER \$1,000 IN PRIZES!

- 1st place – \$200 (\$100 Per Gamer)
- 2nd place - \$150
- 3rd place - \$100

**ESCOUTS ROCKET LEAGUE
TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONSHIPS!**

Join us at December 4, 2021 at
4:00 pm for the first-ever LIVE
STREAMED eScouts Championships
Cheer on your scouts as they
strive to take home two Nintendo
Switches and other prizes!

www.eScoutsTournament.org

Any questions contact Jim Van Wicklin at 615-278-6555 | Jim.VanWicklin@scouting.org



SAFETY CORNER

Digital Safety and Online Scouting Activities

As Scouting moves to virtual and online platforms, we offer the following reminders to help keep kids safe. All youth protection rules also apply to digital and on-line communications. Please be sure all leaders understand these requirements. The below guidance applies to all online Scouting activities and meetings.

- **Follow all youth protection policies.**
 - **All youth protection policies still apply in an online environment. Ensure you always have two-deep leadership for online activities and meetings. Our ban on one-on-one contact between an adult leader and youth applies to all interactions – whether in person, online, through a web conference, over the phone, via text, or in any other form.**
- **Use business-oriented conference platforms that include good safety and privacy features instead of platforms with other primary purposes (such as gaming).**
 - **Review the BSA Digital Privacy and Social Media Guidelines linked below.**
- **Regularly review and implement the latest security features of your chosen platform to avoid unauthorized visitors or other security issues in your meetings.**
- **Do not record online activities/meetings that include youth participants.**
- **Recording of online activities that only involve adults is subject to local council legal review and approval. Check with your local council for guidance.**
- **Safeguard personal information.**
- **Collecting personal information from youth under 13 is not recommended.**

Resources to review and use to train Leaders:

- [Scouting's Barriers to Abuse](#)
- [BSA's Digital Privacy guidelines](#)
- [BSA's Social Media Guidelines](#)
- [American Camp Association Best Practices](#)
- National Center for Missing and Exploited Children
 - [Protecting Your Kids Online](#)
 - [Are Your Kids Home and Online](#)
 - [Common Sense Media 2019 Tweens and Teens Media Use Research](#)

New Virtual Advancement Course for Troop Leaders and Parents

December 11, 2021 9:00am - 12noon AZ time



This virtual class on Advancement is ideal for unit leaders and those who are responsible for administering advancement for a troop. It is also a good class for Parents who want a fuller understanding of Scouts BSA advancement. This class goes beyond what is taught in the BSA online training. Review the subjects we will cover, including the new Eagle Required Citizenship in Society Merit Badge, and register today.

[REGISTER NOW](#)



New Leave No Trace Master Educator Course

May 17, 2022 - May 22, 2022

This internationally recognized course is the top tier of Leave No Trace training and provides participants with an in-depth look at the skills and ethics of Leave No Trace. In addition to practical applications of Leave No Trace in the field, participants will also learn about various teaching styles, effective communication techniques, and how Outdoor Ethics fits into the BSA program.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

- [NEW Brand Messaging Training](#)
- [Recording Youth Training](#)
- [New Social Media Specialty Training](#)
- [New Public Relations Specialty Training](#)
- [Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Volunteer Training](#)

Veterans Day Flag Retirement Ceremony



Central Districts was well represented last night at our Veterans Day Flag Retirement Ceremony. The ceremony was held at the Phoenix North Mountain Park. Our intent was to honor Veterans by retiring flags that were tattered and worn out. These were flags that our Scouts collected at the Royal Palm Park July 4th Celebration this past summer.

Our theme this year was “how to retire a toxic flag”. We had a service for each style of retirement. The first service was to retire the nylon/polyester flags by separating the stars from the stripes by cutting them. The flag would cut vertically down from the top along the blue star field to the bottom, then folding into half, cutting each in the middle. Once cut they are no longer considered a flag and can be placed in the proper container and then discarded.

The second service was retiring flags by fire. Scouts can only retire flags made of cotton. We retired 16 cotton flags. All scouts in attendance had the opportunity to retire a flag. The service started out with the Cub Scouts retiring the first flag. A wonderful learning opportunity for our youngest Scouts.

Our Veterans Day flag retirement ceremony was successful in demonstrating how to honor our country’s symbol by retiring the worn out and tattered flags. In our last flag collection project, we picked up 257 total flags, 250 were nylon/polyester (97%), and 7 were cotton (3%). Our Scouts learned a valuable lesson to make sure they use cotton flags when doing a retirement ceremony by fire.

District Recognition Celebration

Save the date for Central District’s Awards Recognition event, February 5, 2022! Nominate those who deserve to be recognized for their contribution to the Scouting Program. Nomination ends December 17, 2021. View nomination descriptions and submission from at: [Central District Awards \(2021\)](#)

Nomination dates:

- Open – October 1, 2021
- Closes – December 17, 2021
- Dinner – February 5, 2022

NOMINATE TODAY

SCOUTED: *Holiday SAVINGS*

HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

ADVENTURE-READY GIFTS FOR EVERYONE ON YOUR LIST

Knock out some of your gift list

GIFTS UNDER \$25 GIFTS UNDER \$50 GIFTS UNDER \$75 GIFTS UNDER \$150

The Arizona Charitable Tax Credit

Arizona Charitable Tax Credit allows you to donate to a qualifying charitable organization such as Grand Canyon Council, BSA Outreach, LLC. to receive dollar for dollar tax credit on your state tax and claim it on your federal tax.

LEARN MORE

Gila River District Chair



I have just finished a quick 6-mile loop in the Superstition Wilderness as I write this – what a beautiful fall AZ. This time of year is why we all live in Arizona – the old west is alive and well with life – animals are out during the day and not hiding from the heat!

This is the optimal time for scouting in the outdoors and I encourage all units to get out for the experiential activities that is Scouting the right way, in a S.A.F.E manner and following the guidelines outlined in Council and BSA training. We are hopeful, barring anything that surprises us in the Winter, for face to face meetings again – with a remote-enabled elements for those unable to travel – for District business as usual in the Spring.

Please go to the website early and often and stay tuned for all District events in the Spring – and please ensure these are on your unit calendars – Note the calendar goes out 3 YEARS to ensure place holders are documented. Visit: [Upcoming District Events](#)

- Dec – Virtual Pinewood Derby Overhauledin'....Secret hacks to fast
- Jan – Face to Face Merit Badge clinics – topics being finalized
- Feb – Face to Face Annual District Recognition Banquet
- Mar – Face to Face Cub Scout Adventure Day, Pinewood Derby and Civic Service – Chandler Ostridge Festival
- Mar – Face to Face Yuma-area Pinewood Derby

Lastly, as you can imagine, fund raising is slow going and we still need your help - support our local Scouting program financially in the Day of Giving on Nov 30! All gifts this day will be matched!

Visit: [Be a friend of the Gila River District](#)

Yours in Scouting,
Kent Thomas / Gila River District Chair

Safe and Fun Regatta



In early September, Pack 8054 hosted its annual Rain Gutter Regatta. This year it was a different kind of race due to the COVID epidemic. Although the regatta was held outdoors, it was determined by Pack leadership that some alternate propulsion would be needed to preclude the kids blowing into each other's space and potentially spreading the virus. After various ideas were floated, it was determined that the safest and most effective propulsion method would be the use of battery-operated hand-held fans. The fans were the perfect method. They were small enough to easily handle, the air stream was focused, and the volume of wind was just right. Pack 8054 Rain Gutter Regatta was a safe and resounding success thanks to our parent's involvement and thinking of alternate propulsion means.

Turkey Traditions



Every year, Pack 8051 holds an annual Turkey bowl during the November Pack Meeting. Tom the Turkey Bowling Ball visits and each Scout gets a turn at using him to knock over pins. Each scout competes in their den, and then the winner of each den goes for the championship. The event brings great sportsmanship and is a lot of fun.

Pack 652 and Troops 653 and 2665 Honor Vets in Mesa Veterans' Day Parade



Veterans' Day gives us a special time to honor all of those who have served our country. No matter the branch of the service, veterans serve to keep us a free country. Mesa is the only city in the East Valley that still has a traditional Veterans' Day parade. Pack 652 and Troops 653 and 2665 represented Scouting to honor our veterans.



Troop 301 Participates in the Falcon Field RAF Cadet Memorial



Troop 301, Mesa AZ was honored to participate in the RAF Cadet Memorial Remembrance ceremony. Mesa's Falcon Field was used by the RAF during WWII as a training base. 23 cadets died during training. This commemorates the 80th anniversary.

Pack 555 Supporting Knights of Columbus and Aid to Women Center



On the weekend of 10/30-31, Cub Scout Pack 555 provided volunteers to collect baby bottles in support of the Aid to Women Center. This is an annual event sponsored by St. Timothy Catholic Church and Knights of Columbus Council #11536. Bottles are passed out at the beginning of October and returned with cash and checks on the last weekend of the month.





Lost Dutchman's Newest Eagles

Congratulations to the October 2021 Eagles! Total new Eagles in 2021 is 70! Congratulations to the Lost Dutchman

District's newest Eagle Scouts:

Hayden Campbell, Troop 451, BOR, 10/12/21, Project; Boulder Mtn Fire Hydrant Restoration, and Jayton "Cade" S. , Troop 777, BOR, 10/24/21, Project; Ramada Restore and Fence Painting.

Sonoran Foothills School Planter and Walkways



Nicholas C., of Troop 824, Pinnacle Peak District built two planters 4ft by 10ft long out of stone stacking bricks, topped with pavers for a finished look for this Eagle Scout Project with a total of 106 total volunteer hours. They were placed on each side of a walkway/entry way to the cafeteria/recess area. Nicholas also placed curbing that ran from one side of each planter, one was 20ft in length and the other was 56ft.

"I also made two walkways totaling 52.2 ft out of 16x16 concrete paver squares. By completing my project it will prevent rocks from being kicked over onto the basketball courts to help prevent injuries. It will also make it look nice. The planters will be used for educational purposes." Nicholas was inspired playing basketball while having rocks on the pavement making it difficult and dangerous to play. Share your project at: [Eagle Project Submission Form](#)

PINNACLE PEAK DISTRICT



Pinnacle Peak Camporee

Payson, Arizona October 22 through 24, 2021 – On Saturday morning, over 300 participants showed up for the Pinnacle Peak "Highland Games" Camporee. The weekend was filled with competition, teamwork, and recognition for all the patrols well-earned hard work at Campfire. To end the evening, the Black Mountain Order of the Arrow Chapter held a call out ceremony. A special thank you goes out to the Black Mountain Chapter for organizing the event and for a wonderful weekend at Camp Geronimo.

Ponderosa's Districts Newest Eagles

Congratulations to the Ponderosa District's newest Eagle Scouts: Jordan Parker Shepard - Troop 7039
Brandon Ross McLaws - Troop 7142





Sonoran Sunset's Newest Eagles

Congratulations to the Sonoran Sunset's District's newest Eagle Scouts:

- William H. Davis – Troop 99 - Belen Soto Garden Project - community garden at Belen Soto Elementary School in Goodyear, AZ.
- Cam A. Shepherd – Troop 515 - Arizona Game and Fish - interpretive trail displays to be used on educational trails.
- Zahary R. Stroh – Troop 546 - Remodeling 2 bedroom apartments at C3 - an organization that helps children who age out of foster care.
- Grant W. Valentin – Troop 365 – City of Peoria Trails - construct pvc trashbag holders to replace outdated pet waste removal stations along Skunk Creek and New River walking trails. 20 new/7 refurbished.

Pack 1776 Fall Family Camp at the Heard Scout Pueblo



On November 12-14 Pack 1776 had their Fall Family Camp at the Heard Scout Pueblo. "Cub Scout Pack 1776 had a fantastic Fall Family Camp in 2021."

"Our Scouts did some hiking and exploring, they made their own lunches, some even made their own grills to cook lunch on! They also learned about tying knots and making stretchers from Scouts BSA Troop 1776. All our Webelos even learned how to safely start and put out a fire.

We had fantastic fellowship at campfire with songs, skits, s'mores and more! Cub Scouts Pack 1776 is for K-5th grade boys AND girls, come join the adventure!" Contact: cubmaster.pack1776.az@gmail.com

FALL FAMILY CAMP





Dave Alexander Scout Service Center
 8840 E Chaparral Rd Suite 200,
 Scottsdale, AZ 85250
 602-955-7747 |
GCC.info@Scouting.org
www.GrandCanyonBSA.org

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Director of Field Services	Davis Fox , ext. 251
New Unit Director	Daniel Moore , 602-377-2802
Central District Executive	Ty Simonian , 949-633-8490
Gila River District Executive	Jessica Yiadom , 980-282-8585
Sonoran Sunset District Executive	Robert Butteweg , 480-206-3078
Field Director	Matt Hill , 602-451-8932
Lost Dutchman District Executive	Abby Lyon , 480-676-7232
Pinnacle Peak District Executive	Kerry Schofield , 623-755-3252
Ponderosa District Executive	Patrick Gamble , 602-820-6845
Scout Shop	Store Manager
1061 N. Dobson Road Suite 109	Janice Edwards
Mesa, AZ 85201	480.926.0345

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 LEAVE A LEGACY FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

