

**Virtual
Roundtable
HOLIDAY EDITION**

December, 2013



**BOY SCOUTS
OF AMERICA**
GREATER YOSEMITE
COUNCIL



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Message from the Scout Executive...

As we approach the end of 2013, I wanted to take a moment to thank all of you for everything that you do every day to make Scouting possible here in the Greater Yosemite Council. I know that 2013 presented some unique challenges as we worked through the national debate on membership standards in the early part of the year. I appreciate all of the time that each of you took to write, call, e-mail and express your views on every side of this subject. In the end, the vote was taken and we moved forward continuing to serving kids. I thank all of you for keeping a positive attitude as we worked through that issue. I know that there is still work to be done as we implement the new policy on January 1. We can't plan for every potential question that might arise, but If we approach each challenge in a scout-like manner, maintain a positive attitude, work together, and do what's best for young people, I believe that we will make the right decision every time.

Despite our early challenges, we can point to some great achievements. We had record attendance at Camp John Mensinger and the Pendola Sierra Adventure Base. In fact, if you include all programs, we camped over 1,000 campers. Likewise, we hosted over 900 Cub Scouts at our various Day Camps. Because of the quality programs that each of you offers, total membership grew and we increased retention for the third year in a row. We will have awarded 151 Eagle Ranks this year and several thousand other advancements. You collected more than 15 tons of food during this past Scouting for Food campaign, and have completed more than 30,000 hours of community service. At \$10.00 per hour, that's \$300,000 worth of community service. The next time someone questions the value of Scouting, feel free to share these numbers. Finally, we just finished the most successful popcorn sale in our history, selling just over \$345,000 in popcorn. Congratulations!

I am very excited about everything that we will accomplish in 2014. I expect record numbers at all of our camps. We are launching a new Cub Scout Summer camp program at Camp McConnell during two weekends in June and July for Cub Scouts and their families. I hope that each of you have already made your reservations. We have forged new strategic partnerships with other organizations that will enable us to serve even more young people, and we will be hosting our first annual Health Fare and 5 K run in October! It should be an exciting year.

I hope that each of you takes pride in the important contribution that you are making to the future of America. Young people are our greatest and most important "crop" here in the valley. Thank you for making sure that they grow up Prepared. For Life!

Merry Christmas!

In and around the Council...



Scouts and Scouters from all across the Council collected non-perishable food items for the needy during the annual **Scouting for Food** in November.

This year the Council provided door hangers that could be handed out prior to collection giving specifics on what food items are most needed and when to leave out their bags for pick-up. Folks even donated used glasses that will be distributed to those in need.



Pack 14 participants gather before hitting the neighborhoods to collect the bags they'd distributed the week before.



Most Sierra Valley units brought their donated items to the Modesto Scout Service center.. Wooden crates were filled and then loaded onto Salvation Army trucks.



Scouts from Pack and Troop 50 of Stockton participated in the 15th Annual Stuff the Bus drive, organized by the San Joaquin Regional Transit District.



Leaders and Scouts gathered on Saturday, November 23rd for the Council's annual **University of Scouting** training day.

Boy Scouts were trained to be Den Chiefs, Venturing Crew members completed



Introduction to Leadership Skills for Crews, and Scout Leaders at all levels took classes ranging from Ultralight Backpacking to Cub Scouts Academics & Sports Program.

The lunch hour festivities included Wood Badge beadings along with specially decorated cupcakes paying homage to the critters of those receiving their beads.



Beavers, Eagles & Owls!



David Bakken receives his "Staff" bead for his involvement in NYLT.



Wood Badgers Mark Clemens, Naoki Miyakawa, Mike Cummins, Jenni Long, Cameron Smith and Alex Garcia all receive their beads.



2012 Course Director Tim Long hands over the kudu horn to 2014 Course Director, Tony Tirre.



Spreading the Holiday Cheer!!

'Tis the season for Christmas Parades, Caroling, and Service Projects!



Merced's Pack 96 and Troop 88 join forces for the Merced Christmas Parade.



Riverbank Pack 10 lights it up for the annual parade of lights, taking the trophy home for "Best Walking Group" for the second year in a row!



Scouts from Pack and Troop 50 singing Christmas carols and giving out handmade ornaments to O'connor Woods residents.



Troop 451 and Troop and Crew 21 combine forces to make up boxes that will then be filled with food for the needy as a part of the Annual Turlock Together Food Drive. Behind the Scouts are some of the 2200 boxes put together at the Turlock Fruit Company.



TOLOMA LODGE

February 14—16
Pinecrest



\$15 per person
Units register online:
<http://www.yosemitescouting.org/event/oa-klondike-derby-winter-camporee-at-pinecrest-meadow/1421359>

Download 2014 Klondike Participation Guide:

<http://www.yosemitescouting.org/document/klondike-2014-participation-guide/132834>

2014 Lodge Dues

Can be paid online: <http://www.yosemitescouting.org/event/toloma-lodge-oa-membership-dues/1445279>

OR

Become a Silver Lynx member and prepay for your dues and 2014 Lodge events all at once with a discount!

<http://www.yosemitescouting.org/event/toloma-lodge-silver-lynx-membership/1446032>

Lakasami Clan of the Order of the Arrow



The Lakasami Clan meets at the Northland LDS Stake Center at 6060 Northland Road in Manteca on the second Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM. This active group of OA members gives flag opening service to the night's District Roundtable. They also discuss and work on native American crafts and plan OA activities. All Arrowmen in the District are invited to this meeting. For more information about the chapter, contact Kevin Lowery, the Clan Adviser, at familyfunsports@yahoo.com.

SUPER HERO NIGHT
Friday, January 10, 2014 @ 7pm

BOY SCOUT SLEEP OVER NIGHT
Saturday, March 1, 2014 @ 7pm

See flyer at end of Newsletter for more info



TOUR AND ACTIVITY PLANS

Just a reminder of when Tour and Activity Plans need to be submitted to the Council for approval:

(From the BSA website)

Q. When do I need to complete a tour and activity plan?

A. Times when a tour and activity plan must be submitted for council review include the following:

- Trips of 500 miles or more; or
- **Trips outside of council borders** (exception: not to your council-owned property); or
- Trips to Florida Sea Base, Northern Tier, Philmont Scout Ranch, Summit Bechtel Reserve (**you will be asked to present a copy of your tour and activity plan upon arrival**), national Scout jamboree, National Order of the Arrow Conference, or a regionally sponsored event; or
- When conducting any of the following activities outside of council or district events:
 - **Aquatics activities** (swimming, boating, floating, scuba, etc.)
 - Climbing and rappelling
 - Orientation flights (process flying plan)
 - **Shooting sports**
- Any activities involving motorized vehicles as part of the program (snowmobiles, boating, etc.); or
- At a council's request (**Contact your local council for additional guidelines or regulations concerning tour and activity plans; many have set guidelines for events or activities within council boundaries such as for Cub Scout overnight camping.**)

We encourage everyone to familiarize themselves with the Tour Plan process, at: <http://www.scouting.org/scoutsources/healthandsafety/tourplanfaq.aspx>

Commissioners' Corner

Attention: All Commissioner's!!! Save The Date!

On February 22nd, 2014 there will be a NorCal Commissioner's College. Guest Speaker will be our National Commissioner Tico Perez. It will be held in the Dublin, Pleasanton area. There will be nine different training tracks and over 30 courses for every level of Commissioner. The session's will run from approximately 10:00am to 4:30pm. This will be a good investment of your time that will address many subject's and continue to ensure we are providing the best service possible for our units. Hope to see you there.

In addition, could you please provide feedback to your District Commissioner about how it's going with The Unit Visitation Tracking System(UVTS). I've heard some reports that there is still difficulty in just trying to log in? Your response is appreciated.

Yours In Scouting,

G. Bruce Olson
Council Commissioner





Holiday Greetings Gold Country Scouters!

Eagle Scouts – Congratulations to the newest Eagle Scouts in Gold Country (months of October and November). Thank you to all who help with the Board of Reviews. We welcome 7 new Scouts to the Rank of Eagle.



Aidan Reed
Troop 148



Alex Garcia
Troop 50



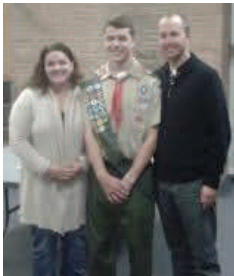
Andrew Arnell
Troop 170



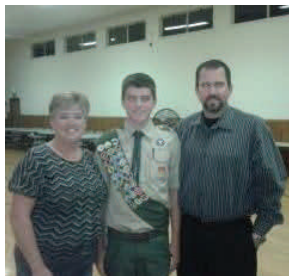
Joseph Ingram
Troop 399



Renold Victor
Troop 498



Tyson Doberneck
Crew 598



Nicholas Engle
Troop 199

*We wish You and Your Family a
Very Merry Christmas and a
Safe and Joyous New Year!*

~ Gold Country District Committee

Training - October, 2013



Jay Herbrand, Greater Yosemite Council Training Chair

Happy Holidays from the Training Team.

I encourage everyone to check out the new personal portal <https://my.scouting.org> which has many resources for units.

If you are one of a unit's Key Three (Committee Chair, Charter Representative, Unit Top Leader (Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, etc.) you have access to all the training records for your unit. They have graphs and different reports that you can use to see where your leaders stand when it comes to training. There are "how to use" presentations on the older myscouting.

Winter Awareness High Adventure Training **January 10 and 11** at the Modesto Scout Service Center. Come and find out everything you wanted to know about Camping in the cold.

BALOO Training will be held at the Modesto Scout Center on **Saturday, January 25, 2014**. This training is required for a Pack to go camping or an overnight event. It is an all day training.

Sierra Valley District Roundtables

Be sure to send someone from your unit to our monthly Roundtables. They are very informative and excellent opportunities for additional training and knowledge that you should not pass up. An example of recent content of the Roundtables follows. In November we had a display of fall products from the Modesto Scout Store. We also provided rechartering help. Units had the opportunity to bring laptops and rechartering paperwork and get their questions answered. The Cub breakout featured information on the pinewood derby. The Boy Scout Leader breakout had information



Scouters at Roundtable listen to Jim Stone talk about the Northern Tier High Adventure base.

about the high adventure base program of the Boy Scouts of America. An experienced trek leader talked about the various high adventure bases – particularly the Northern Tier High Adventure Base. Our Varsity breakout went over program needs for advisors. The **Valley Roundtable** is held the second Thursday of the month at the LDS Stake Center at 6060 Northland in Manteca. The **Sierra Roundtable** is held the second Tuesday of the month at the Methodist Church at 90 Yaney in Sonora. Both roundtables start at 7:00 and finish at 8:30 PM.



Sierra Valley Scouting for Food

Sierra Valley had a great Scouting for Food collection this year. 32,000 lbs. of food were collected by units in the district and delivered to local food banks. Many thanks to the units who participated in this important food collection. Thanks also to the Salvation Army who sent their mobile canteen to the Modesto Scout Center. Scouts and adults participating in the event enjoyed the hot chocolate the Salvation Army provided.



The Salvation Army mobile canteen truck provided hot chocolate for the Scouting for Food participants.

Congratulations to the New October & November Eagles of Sierra Valley District

Justin Todd Benziger Crew 40

Zachary Schuchardt Troop 2

Brandan Williamson Troop 440

David Edward Beall Troop 51

Loren James Bennion Crew 514

Aaron Mart Frazier Jr. Crew 501

Alexander James Gorman Troop 7

Dominick Joseph Gorman Troop 7

Joshua David Gorman Troop 7

Zachary W. M. Moldenhauer Troop 414

Roberto Valentino Reynoso Crew 503

Connor Richard Schmitz Troop 423

Trevor Spencer Thompson Crew 440

Thomas Gerald Trzcinski Troop 423



EAGLES NEST

Congratulations to our newest Eagle Scouts in the months of October and November. As of November 30, 2013 the Greater Yosemite Council, BSA has 141 Eagle Scouts.



<u>Eagle Scout</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Date</u>
Justin Todd Benziger	Crew 40	Sierra Valley	Oct 1, 2013
Zachary Schuchardt	Troop 2	Sierra Valley	Oct 1, 2013
Andrew Cory Arnell	Troop 170	Gold Country	Oct 16, 2013
Alex Rique Garcia	Troop 50	Gold Country	Oct 16, 2013
Joseph William Ingram	Troop 399	Gold Country	Oct 16, 2013
Aidan John Reed	Troop 148	Gold Country	Oct 16, 2013
Renold Logan Victor	Troop 498	Gold Country	Oct 16, 2013
Benjamin Claspill	Troop 94	Rio del Oro	Oct 23, 2013
Adam Evans	Crew 21	Rio del Oro	Oct 23, 2013
Tolleman Gorham	Troop 94	Rio del Oro	Oct 23, 2013
David L. McCord	Troop 81	Rio del Oro	Oct 23, 2013
John McCord	Troop 81	Rio del Oro	Oct 23, 2013
Kendrick Perata	Troop 9	Rio del Oro	Oct 23, 2013
Brandon Shively	Troop 21	Rio del Oro	Oct 23, 2013
Austin Sutton	Troop 21	Rio del Oro	Oct 23, 2013
Brandan Williamson	Troop 440	Sierra Valley	Oct 27, 2013
Loren James Bennion	Crew 514	Sierra Valley	Nov 3, 2013
Connor Richard Schmitz	Troop 423	Sierra Valley	Nov 3, 2013
Thomas Gerald Trzcinski	Troop 423	Sierra Valley	Nov 3, 2013
David Edward Beall	Troop 51	Sierra Valley	Nov 5, 2013
Alexander James Gorman	Troop 7	Sierra Valley	Nov 5, 2013
Dominick Joseph Gorman	Troop 7	Sierra Valley	Nov 5, 2013
Joshua David Gorman	Troop 7	Sierra Valley	Nov 5, 2013

Eagles Nest cont . . .

<u>Eagle Scout</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Date</u>
Carter Flanary Day	Crew 4	Rio del Oro	Nov 10, 2013
Aaron Mart Frazier Jr	Crew 501	Sierra Valley	Nov 10, 2013
Roberto Valentino Reynoso	Crew 503	Sierra Valley	Nov 10, 2013
Trevor Spencer Thompson	Crew 440	Sierra Valley	Nov 10, 2013
Zachary W. M. Moldenhauer	Troop 414	Sierra Valley	Nov 12, 2013
Scott Anthony Smith	Crew 93	Rio del Oro	Nov 17, 2013
Tyson Joshua Doberneck	Crew 598	Gold Country	Nov 20, 2013
Nicholas Robert Engle	Troop 199	Gold Country	Nov 20, 2013
Jacob Thomas Hess	Crew 111	Rio del Oro	Nov 20, 2013

Eagle Scout Alumni

The Greater Yosemite Council has a band of Eagle Scout brothers that are dedicated to upholding the honor of the Eagle Scout Badge. If you are an Eagle Scout and would like to be a part of the Yosemite Eagle Scout Alumni we would be honored to have you join. There are no dues but we encourage duty to God, community and others.



Contact **Dan Machado** @ dfmachado@ps1la.com or phone 209 840 2246. www.eaglescoutbadge.com



2013 Council Popcorn Sale Wrap-up

Congratulations to all the units who participated in this year's Popcorn Sale!

Thanks to the efforts of Leaders, Moms, Dads, **and especially our awesome Scouts**, the Council increased its sale by 32% over 2012!!!

Are you ready? The Council's 2013 sales total - Show & Sell, Take Order *and* Online combined - **\$345,442!!!**

Check back next month when we publish all of the top-selling Packs, Troops, Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts for each District!

A very special thanks to the amazing, above-and-beyond efforts of **Modesto's Pack 14** who wrapped up their sale at just under \$50,000!

(I wonder what their goal will be next year???)

Pictured are the Pack's "Popcorn Kings" who reached a certain level in their personal sales.





S.H.A.R.E.S.

A *Fresh* WAY TO
GIVE BACK

Greater Yosemite Council, BSA
Prepared For Life



S.H.A.R.E.S. cards are being mailed out to many in the Council. The card can be used at any SAVEMART, Lucky, S-MART foods, or FOODMAXX Super Markets. For every qualifying purchase that you use your GYC S.H.A.R.E.S. card the Greater Yosemite Council gets 3% on the total qualified purchase.

Ask family members, friends, neighbors, coaches, etc. to agree to swipe a GYC S.H.A.R.E.S. card on your Scout's behalf. Explain to them how the program works and how their support will

benefit our local Council and Scouts. Check with them periodically to answer any questions they may have.

Pick up your additional GYC S.H.A.R.E.S. cards for your family and friends at the Council Office or contact Jenni Long at (209)-545-6320 and we will be more than happy to mail you additional cards. There is no limit to the number of cards you are allowed to have and share.

Helpful Tips:

- * Keep your SHARES card in your wallet near your debit/credit card.
- * Simply alert the cashier that you will be using your SHARES card. You will then be asked to swipe your card prior to your usual form of payment.
- * Use your SHARES card with every purchase, big or small on bakery, deli, and pharmacy purchases as well.
- * **Non-qualifying purchases include:** postage stamps, all gift cards, Ticketmaster, event tickets, BART & transportation tickets, money orders & MoneyGram, Lotto, charity icon sales, fuel, check cashing fee, liquor, and sales tax.



Did your unit qualify for Journey to Excellence for 2013? Recharter is the perfect time to compare membership numbers, take an inventory on trained leaders, count up your unit's involvement in activities such as camp and service projects, and then fill out and submit your scorecard to your District Executive.

There are three levels of achievement, Bronze, Silver and Gold (see patch image below). PLUS, if your unit recharter with 100% Boys' Life magazine subscriptions (1 per household) the patches will even reflect that achievement!

To download the appropriate JTE scorecard for your unit type just go to www.scouting.org/JTE . Contact your Unit Commissioner if you have any questions. If you are unsure of who your Unit Commissioner is or need their contact information, call the Council office: (209) 545-6320.



Silver Beaver Nominations now being accepted!

Download form:

http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/512-103_WB.pdf

and submit to the Council by January 31st, 2014.

Silver Beaver honors will be awarded at the Annual Council Recognition Dinner on Wednesday, March 19th, 2014.





KINGSGROUPS **SPECIAL OFFER** **BOY SCOUT NIGHTS**

SUPER HERO NIGHT
FRIDAY, JANUARY 10, 2014 @ 7PM

BOY SCOUT SLEEP OVER NIGHT
SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 2014 @ 7PM

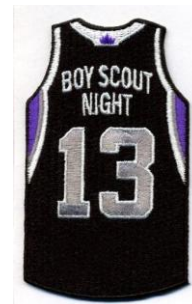


Meet and greet with your favorite super hero!

- \$49.00 - Lower Level, Corner
- \$24.00 - Upper Level, Sideline
- \$16.00 - Upper Level, Corner

Sleepover at Sleep Train Arena!

- \$62.00 - Lower Level, Corner
- \$35.00 - Upper Level, Sideline
- \$24.00 - Upper Level, Corner



**FOR MORE INFORMATION,
CONTACT:**

Will Davis
916.928.3697 or
wdavis@kings.com

PURCHASE TICKETS ONLINE AT:

www.kingsgrouptickets.com/GoldenEmpire

PASSCODE: Golden Empire

EVERY BOY SCOUT WILL RECEIVE A COMPLIMENTARY PATCH AT EACH GAME*

**With Scout Night event ticket. Based on availability*