



Phoenix District Newsletter - December 4, 2015

PHOENIX DISTRICT: HELPING UNITS SUCCEED

www.phoenix.shac.org

December

5 - College of Commissioner Science (Council)

January

7 - Roundtable / OA Chapter Meeting

23 - District Dinner (Volunteer Recognition)

30 - Scouting for Food - Door Hanger Distribution

February

4 - Roundtable / OA Chapter Meeting

6 - Scouting for Food - Food Pick Up

12 - Quarterly Business Meeting

13 - University of Scouting

26-28 - Camporee

March

3 - Roundtable / OA Chapter Meeting

4-5 - Outdoor Leader Training

18-20 - Wood Badge 16-1 Weekend 1

University of Scouting - February 13

University of Scouting is a day of training for leaders of all program areas to come together for a day of fun, fellowship and learning. For more information, go to www.shac.org/uos.

New Phoenix District Chairman

Please welcome our new District Chairman, Randy McQuay. Randy is the CEO of TriStone Realty Management, TriStone Realty Investments, and their affiliated companies. He has been a Scoutmaster for over 16 years, a Varsity Coach for 2 years, and an Explorer Post Advisor for 3 years. He is Wood Badge trained (SR-788). He will be an excellent addition to the Key Leaders of the Phoenix District. A big thank you goes out to our outgoing District Chairman, Troy Black and Vice Chairman, Dave Peterson for their district leadership!



NEW PHOENIX EAGLE SCOUTS

Blake Rafferty - Troop 626

Joshua Peter Coxon - Troop 111

Hari Sagar - Troop 1333

Michael Turner Clem II - Troop 1550

Ryan Andrew Wells - Troop 626

Aaron Varghese Mathews - Troop 626

Commissioner's Corner

It's December, which means that it's time to complete RECHARTER for your units! Online recharter training or assistance is available at <http://phoenix.shac.org/home> on our District home page under Recharter.

Recharter packets can be turned in on 12/03 at Phoenix District Roundtable, or on 12/10 at the Phoenix District Committee Meeting. Recharter turn-in deadline is on Saturday 12/12 at the SHAC office at TC Jester.

Remember, the top Unit Leader (Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, Venturing Crew Advisor, etc) must be fully position trained as a pre-requisite for your unit to successfully rechartered, and all adult leaders must be up-to-date on YPT training for their positions.

If you have any questions, please contact your Unit Commissioner, Asst District Commissioners, District Commissioner, or District Executive. Thanks for your assistance. Let's Do Our Best to be on time for Recharter this year!

Thanks!

Kevin Renfro, Phoenix District Commissioner
kevin.renfro@gmail.com

Council Training

Wood Badge - 2016

- S3-576-16-1 March 18-20 and April 8-10 (Fri-Sun)
- S3-576-16-2 September 8-10 and October 13-15 (Thurs-Sat)
- S3-576-16-3 September 16-18 and October 21-23 (Fri-Sun)

Rocket Safety Reminder

On November 14, 2015, an adult Scouter was killed when he was struck by a launched rocket. At this time, the cause of the accident is not known.

Rocket Academies have traditionally been a one-day event for communities and neighborhoods. They are a good way to show the broad spectrum of activities and learning associated with Scouting, and can educate participants and attendees about the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) program.

Safety is always a paramount consideration. This tragic accident serves as a reminder to take appropriate safety measures, and the BSA wishes to re-emphasize the following as unit, district, and council rocket activities are considered.

- Review and be familiar with the Natl. Assoc. of Rocketry safety code, which can be found at www.nar.org
- Determine if there are any local rules and regulations regarding the type, size, and launching of rockets within your community.
- Be aware of and guided by the Sweet 16 of BSA Safety.
- Complete a Program Hazard Analysis in an effort to identify and be familiar with the hazards and risks associated with this activity.
www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/680-009.pdf

Events

Phoenix District Dinner - January 23, 2016

Kleinwood LDS Church, 16535 Kleinwood Drive
Online reservations at phoenix.shac.org

District Dinner is an opportunity for a night of fellowship and great food as we acknowledge and thank our adult volunteers for the hard work and dedication that made this year incredibly successful. Phoenix District's outstanding leaders at the unit and district levels will also be recognized. All volunteers in Phoenix District are invited.

Reservations are required no later than by 1/14/16 as the dinner order is placed with the caterer. Reservation is your acknowledgement that payment is required whether you are able to attend or not. Cancellations must be made by January 16, 2016. The cost is \$18 per person. Online registration is your commitment; payment is required to confirm your reservation. Paper registration forms and payments may be turned in at roundtable on December 3, 2015, or January 7, 2016.

Award Nomination Forms - Nominations can be submitted online at phoenix.shac.org or a paper version of the nomination form can be turned in at the December or January roundtable. Nominate Scouters who have served Phoenix District youth above and beyond the call of duty. The deadline for submitting nominations is January 10, 2016.

Community Leadership Award is presented annually to a community leader who has provided outstanding support to the Scouting program in our district.

Chartered Partner Award is for chartering organizations who demonstrates outstanding or distinctive relationships beyond the normal expectation. The chartering organization should provide noteworthy service to youth, contributing to increased youth participation, cooperates with the district and/or council, involve the instructional head in the selection of quality unit leadership, and causes a greater comprehension in the use of Scouting within the community organization.

District Award of Merit is a council award presented by districts. The award is available to Scouters who render service of an outstanding nature at the district level.

Family of the Year Award is presented annually to a family who has, as a group, provided outstanding support to the Scouting program in our district.

Jack of All Trades Award is for that unit Scouter whose unit always seems to turn to when there is a need within the unit.

Rising Phoenix Award is for that Scouter whose unit always seems to turn to when there is a need within the district.

Unit Service Award recognizes exceptional BSA leaders who work with youth at the unit level. Each unit is strongly encouraged to consider leaders in their unit for nomination.

Scouting for Food



A Cub Scout promises to "give goodwill" and a Boy Scout promises "to help other people at all times." There is no better way to show our Scouting Spirit than by participating in the annual Scouting for Food drive! Now is the time to show our community the Scouting values of being loyal, helpful, kind and cheerful.

In partnership with the Houston Food Bank and "Souper Bowl of Caring," this council-wide service project begins Saturday, January 30, 2016 as Scouts distribute door hangers in their neighborhoods to announce the upcoming food drive. Scouts return the following Saturday, February 6, 2016, to pick up and deliver donations to their local food banks and pantries.

Camping

Cub Scouts:

Organized camping is a creative, educational experience in cooperative group living in the outdoors. It uses the natural surroundings to contribute significantly to physical, mental, spiritual, and social growth. Cub Scouting offers camping opportunities for Cub Scouts through day camps, resident camps, Webelos den overnight campouts, council-organized family camps, and pack overnights.



Boy Scouts, Teams, Crews, Ships:

Winter Camp is a wonderful opportunity for troops to camp and Boy Scouts to earn merit badges. Merit badge classes are taught by Scouters with real-life experiences in the field. The 30th annual winter camp will be held at Bovay Scout Ranch. Over 50 merit badge classes are offered, including many merit badges that are not normally offered at summer camp. There is still time to register.

If you still are looking for a summer camp please keep El Rancho Cima as a possible summer camp destination.

Camporee is the perfect time for scouts to get together to display their scout skills. Keep February 26 thru the 28 on your troop calendar to attend.

Daniel DeMaranville, Camping Chair - demaran@sbcglobal.net



ORDER OF THE ARROW - Phoenix Chapter

Colonneh Lodge #137

Order of the Arrow (OA)

<http://www.colonneh.org>

<http://www.aa-bsa.org/>

Arrow of Light Season has begun! - Contact our Ceremonies Adviser Lynn McKee to schedule your date!

Order of the Arrow ORDEALS- December 11-12 is your last change to complete your ordeal in 2015. If you were elected in 2014 and have not completed your ordeal, you can register at <http://oa.samhoustonbsa.org/ordeals>.

For Questions: Contact either Chapter Chief Matthew Adkins @ futureairman84@gmail.com or Chapter Adviser Rhonda Bill

#daretodo

<http://www.aa-bsa.org/> - the Official National OA Web Site.

<http://www.colonneh.org/> - the Official Colonneh Lodge Web Site.

<http://www.aggiecorps.org/programs/AggieEagles/> - Aggie Eagle Program

rhonda.bill@sbcglobal.net - Rhonda Bill - Phoenix Chapter Adviser