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Message from the Scout Executive...

## A Legacy of Good Turns



Welcome to October! I am excited because we are well into another program year. Recruitment seems to be progressing well. Our advancement numbers are up, and we are training more leaders. Thank you all for making that happen. The cool nights and shorter days also indicate that it's almost time for our annual Scouting for Food Good Turn which is scheduled for Saturday November 16<sup>th</sup>. I hope that every pack, troop, team, crew, and post take the time to participate in some aspect of this year's collection effort. This year, the council is providing professionally printed door hangers that your unit can distribute in your chosen neighborhoods and then go back on November 16<sup>th</sup>, collect the food and take it to a collection center. If you have not yet signed up to participate in Scouting for food, you can do so on the council website. You can even select the specific part of your neighborhood where you will conduct the collection. **Please sign up for Scouting for food and coordinate your collection effort with the district. We want to avoid "double dipping" some neighborhoods and missing others altogether.** If your unit would prefer to assist in some other way besides collecting food, help is needed at collection centers to count and sort the food in each district. Please contact your District Executive or District Scouting for Food Chairperson to offer assistance.

Community Service is an important aspect of the Scouting Program. It's in our DNA. In fact our national website states that: "Young people need to serve. The level of community service is a good indication of the health of any society. Scouting has, from its inception, been deeply rooted in the concept of doing for others. "Do a Good Turn Daily" is a core Scouting precept." As I researched the facts I found that through the years, Scouting has always provided notable service when America needed it most.

- 1912:** The first national civic Good Turns were performed
- 1914:** The first tree-planting project was held in New York
- 1917:** Scouting's full resources were placed at the service of the government with a new Slogan: "Help Win the War"

### Scouts' War Effort: 1917–1918

- Sold Liberty bonds and war savings stamps totaling more than \$355 million.
- Collected 100 railroad cars full of nutshells and peach pits for gas mask manufacturing
- Distributed more than 300 million pieces of government literature
- Aided in food and fuel conservation projects
- Planted 12,000 Boy Scout war gardens.
- 1918:** BSA adopted the slogan "The War Is Over, but Our Work Is Not". Scouts rendered nationwide service during the influenza epidemic
- 1919:** U.S. Bureau of Naturalization invited Scouts to aid in its Americanization program
- 1934:** President Roosevelt called for help from the Scouts for the distressed and needy. This nationwide Good Turn resulted in the collection of 1,812,284 items of clothing, household furnishings, foodstuffs, and supplies.

## A Legacy of Good Turns (cont)

### Scouts' War Effort: 1941–1945

- Included 69 specific requests from the government
- Collected 30 million pounds of rubber during a two-week drive
- 20,000 Scouts earned the Gen. Douglas MacArthur Medal for Victory Gardens
- Distributed pledge cards for war bonds and savings stamps
- Distributed stamp posters .
- Collected aluminum, wastepaper, and salvage
- Conducted defense housing surveys
- Distributed air-raid posters
- Served as messengers and dispatch bearers
- Assisted emergency medical units
- Served as fire watchers



- 1952:** 2 million pounds of clothing were collected for domestic and foreign relief. Likewise, we distributed more than a million posters and 30 million Liberty Bell doorknob hangers in the Get-Out-the-Vote campaign.
- 1971:** The BSA launched the first Scouting Keep America Beautiful Day, where Scouts collected more than a million tons of litter.
- 1988:** First Scouting for Food National Good Turn was conducted and more than 60 million food items were collected the first year. During the ensuing 25 years many millions more have been collected and countless people have been able to eat because of this effort.
- 2008:** Arrow Corps 5 was launched. It was a partnership between the Order of the Arrow and the US Forest Service. 3,600 Scouts and adult volunteers participated, and \$5.6 million worth of improvements were made to national parks and public lands.

I hope that all units participate in our Legacy of Good Turns and make the time to participate in some aspect of Scouting for Food. If your schedule does not allow you to participate, then by all means choose something else. There is much to do and too few people to do it in all of our communities. Thank you for passing on this important lesson to our young people. Regardless of what project you do, Scouting For Food or something else – take the time to record your project on the national Good Turn website that can be found at [www.myscouting.org](http://www.myscouting.org). For specific instructions on reporting your unit's service hours, see the article further down titled *Reporting Service Hours*.

## Reporting Service Hours

All unit service projects should be reported on the Service Hours Reporting tab at [myscouting.org](http://myscouting.org). Every time your unit does a service project, someone should take 3 minutes and log it on the national site. We know that your unit does many great things throughout the year. If we have details, we can tell others and help to demonstrate the value of scouting to the general public. The steps are simple:

1. Log on to [www.myscouting.org](http://www.myscouting.org). (If you haven't done so yet, you will need to set up a [myscouting](http://myscouting.org) account.)
2. Once you are logged in, you can find the "Service Hours Reporting" tab on the left hand side of the home page in the blue box under unit tools.
3. If you have not done so already, you will have to set up a service hours account.
4. If you are a new user select *New Users Click Here*, agree to the Confidentiality Statement, and register your new account.
5. You will need a unit ID – contact the Council Office if you need this number.
6. Once you have registered and have an account you simply fill out the electronic form every time your unit completes any service project.\*

Thank you for taking the time to report the great work that you are doing!

\*Eagle Scout Service Projects are also entered through Service Hours Reporting.

# TOLOMA LODGE

Arrowmen have been busy this past month leading the annual Camp Minkalo tear-down project and celebrating new Vigil honorees at Fall Fellowship.

## Camp Minkalo Project

During the last weekend of September 32 volunteers, staff and arrowmen gathered to continue the tear-down of buildings at Camp Minkalo, Silver Lake. Two huge dumpster-fulls later, quite a dent was made in the progress. Next year will be the final year for this project — with enough help the Council and the Lodge will have cleared the demolished buildings and restored the area to the Forest Service's specifications.



Volunteers fill buckets with debris with beautiful Silver Lake in the background



By the end of Saturday these two dumpsters were filled to the brim!



Next year's project!

## Fall Fellowship and Vigil Ceremony

Toloma Lodge welcomed in seven new Vigil honorees the weekend of October 11th - 12th. These seven had to hold vigil over a private campfire all Friday night, being checked on periodically by their seven mentors. Saturday morning a special breakfast was served and they were awarded their Vigil names and plaques.



Brand new Toloma Lodge Vigil honorees (l-r): Dalton McCullough, Larry McCullough, Dylan Law, Josh Wilson, Judith Alvarado, Tim Long and Andrew Blazzard.



## October is Fire Prevention Month

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), a home structure fire was reported every 87 seconds in 2009. Is your family prepared for a fire emergency? October is National Fire Prevention Month and it serves as an excellent time to examine your preparedness. Do you have a home fire escape plan? Have you changed smoke-alarm batteries within the last year? Do you know the main reasons for fires starting in the home? Get more information on Fire Prevention Month and Week at the NFPA's website: <http://www.nfpa.org/>.

The recent wildfires in California serve as a reminder that BSA units play a vital role in fire prevention and awareness. This month is ideal for units to look over what they would do at a campout in the event of a wildfire and how they would prevent a fire from occurring. If you have a fire extinguisher in your quartermaster's equipment, when was the last time you inspected it? Great tips on preventing wildfires are a click away from Smokey the Bear's website: <http://www.smokeybear.com/index.asp>.

Want to inspect your meeting place? The appendix of the *Guide to Safe Scouting* features a **Meeting Place Inspection Checklist**. Check it out and stay safe!

### Commissioners' Corner

Calling all Unit Commissioners - recharter time is a perfect opportunity to schedule a unit visit and see how the process is going. You could take a "Recharter Inventory" of sorts:

1. Which adult will be handling the online recharter process?
2. Do they know their way around the online recharter portal?
3. Have they started the process to communicate with families about re-registering...getting updated addresses and contact information and collecting fees.
4. Have they determined which registered leaders need to retake Youth Protection?
5. Is someone in the Unit tracking Journey to Excellence?
6. Have they set a date when they plan to have everything turned in to the Council?
7. Do they have your contact information for when they have questions/concerns?



***Thank you for your continued service to our units!***



**Popcorn sales** are winding down - make sure you are aware of the upcoming deadlines and due dates:

**Friday October 25th** - those participating in the Show & Sell portion of the sale must "allocate" Show & Sell dollars to the Scouts who were involved in this part of the sale. If you have questions on how this is done in the Popcorn System you may call or e-mail Sara Heitz (209)566-7703 / [sheitz@bsamail.org](mailto:sheitz@bsamail.org) or contact your District Kernel for help.

**Friday November 1st** - all Take Order items must be entered in the Popcorn System and the unit Take Order order submitted to the Council. Unsold popcorn in sellable shape must be returned to the Council and Show & Sell unit payments (ONE CHECK FROM THE UNIT) must be remitted by 5pm.



## Greetings Gold Country Scouters

**Thank you Scoutmaster Earl Roider of Troop 145!** Your help with the startup of our new Pack 145 has been super GREAT! Thank you to your Scouts who have helped the new Scouts learn their Cub Promise and Law of the Pack. We cannot do this without GREAT leadership.

**Training** – Don't forget to sign up for the **Gold Country Training Conference on October 26<sup>th</sup>**! Every Scout deserves a Trained Leader. The location is right in your back door – Temple Baptist Church in Lodi. The more we have at the training conference the more your leaders will learn from one another. The signup forms are on the website at [www.yosemitescouting.org](http://www.yosemitescouting.org) or of course in the Council Office. See you at training!

**Eagle Scouts** – Congratulations to the newest Eagle Scouts in Gold Country (month of September). Thank you to all who help with the Board of Reviews. We welcome 5 new Scouts to the Rank of Eagle.



**Karl Diesel**  
**Troop 343**



**Isaac Serratos**  
**Troop 172**



**Juan Alvarez**  
**Troop 172**



**Jacob Balch**  
**Troop 10**



**Logan Sullivan**  
**Troop 302**

**Have you started your Recharter?** If you need help, remember to talk with your Unit Commissioner. Do you have access to a computer? If not, stop by the Stockton Service Center and we can help you get started. As a reminder, the recharter fee is \$24.00 and Boy's Life is \$12.00.

***Once again come join the fun and adventure!***

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### **HYLC 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Community Service for the Tuolumne River Regional Park**

The Hispanic Youth leadership Council (HYLC) has adopted the TRRP for the last ten years and is committed to two community service projects per year — one in the fall and the other in the spring.

On Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup> we had nearly 200 HYLC members ready to work along the Gateway Parcel. The young men and women did an amazing amount of clearing weeds from the 17 acre parcel, removed tons of litter, and painted out graffiti on 7th and 9th Street Bridges.

We want to give special thanks to the following schools that were present: Weston Ranch, Sierra, Lathrop, Pitman, Enochs, Gregori, Beyer, Waterford, Merced, Turlock, Patterson, Central Valley, Hughson, Buhach, and Orestimba.



## Modesto's International Heritage Festival

Crew 2 did a wonderful job running the climbing tower at the recent International Heritage Festival held at Modesto Junior College's East Campus. They helped 200 climbers do their best to make it to the top. The Venturers of the crew showed a lot of skill and experience working at the tower in this day-long activity. Many thanks to Crew Advisors Paulette Fields and Brad Stubbings for a job well done.



## Sierra Valley Scouting for Food

The November 16 Scouting for Food collection is coming quickly. This year we will use door hangers to advertise this food collection. These will be available the next two district roundtables and at the Modesto Scout Center. They also will be available from our volunteer coordinators for the district. Contact Kasey Moebius 982-9635 for the Manteca/Lathrop area and Kirk Van Katwyk 832-1660 for the Tracy area. Collection areas can be "registered" online — follow the "Scouting for Food" links and follow the steps to register your unit and order your door hangers.

## Congratulations to the New September Eagles of Sierra Valley District

*Kofi Aidoo of Modesto Crew 110*

*Logan Black of Oakdale Team 6042*

*David Brunn of Modesto Troop 49*

*Daniel Cota of Modesto Troop 194*

*Joseph Nielsen of Oakdale Crew 42*

*Brandon Rogers of Manteca Troop 423*



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## Rio del Oro District News October 2013



### Recharter Packet

Online rechartering is now open. Recharter Renewal Packets are now available for pick up if you have not received yours. We are having a rechartering training session at the November Roundtable night on November 13, 2013. For more information contact Adan Barajas at [abarajas@bsmail.org](mailto:abarajas@bsmail.org).

# Rio del Oro District News October 2013 (cont)

## Popcorn Sales

Greetings to all parents, leaders, and scouts. Hopefully your unit popcorn sales are doing great. We still have about two weeks to keep selling popcorn before the sale ends. Keep encouraging your scouts to sell and have a great sale.

I was at a meeting and I mentioned that the scouts were selling popcorn. Someone said "I didn't know that the scouts sell popcorn." I said to them, "We sell the best popcorn!"

Just remember that if you don't ask. People won't buy. For more information on the sale or due dates please call Sara Heitz at the office 209-545-6320 or email me at [abarajas@bsamail.org](mailto:abarajas@bsamail.org).

## Establishing Unit Traditions

The Leadership of Troop 451 -- the Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Patrol Leaders, and the Troop Scribe went on a campout/training session/planning session recently. Here they are at Dodge Ridge--hoping to go skiing there in a couple months!

Does your unit have a standing tradition regarding leadership and training — or maybe some completely different traditions? We'd love to hear about them and post them in the next issue of the Virtual Roundtable!



## Rio del Oro Membership

I wanted to personally thank those units who had recruitment nights in September with your efforts we were able to recruit and register a total of 25 boys for the month of September.

I want to encourage you to keep recruiting in the months of October and November and to keep filling up your Tiger, Wolf, Bear, and Webelos Dens. We all know that the more boys in a den the more fun they all have.

We still have supplies to make your job easier. The Greater Yosemite Council, BSA can make customized flyers and have posters to place in schools, Neighborhood Community Boards, Starbucks Coffee Shops etc., yard signs, pencils, stickers. We also have a membership team who is willing to do Boy Talks at the school you are recruiting from. The recruitment supplies are for your use. Please feel free to use them as needed. For more information you can email District Executive Adan Barajas at [abarajas@bsamail.org](mailto:abarajas@bsamail.org) or Membership Chair Dena Travao at [denatravao@yahoo.com](mailto:denatravao@yahoo.com).

## Family Camp

Are you registered to attend Cub Family Camp at McConnell this weekend, October 18th—20th? Call the Council office to see if there's still room!

## Scouting for Food

Scouting for Food door hangers are now available for pick up at the council office. Please go to the website and sign up for Scouting for food and indicate the quantity of the door hangers you would like. For more information Please Contact Ryan Cromar at [ryan.cromar@gmail.com](mailto:ryan.cromar@gmail.com).

# Rio del Oro District News October 2013 (cont)

## Training Dates

See the website for specifics on these important trainings. University of Scouting registration is online and ready to go:

<http://www.yosemitescouting.org/event/university-of-scouting-2013/1430574>

1. Leader Specific Training Day - LODI: 10/26/2013
2. Intro to Outdoor Leader Skills: 11/9 - 11/10/2013
3. University of Scouting 2013 - Modesto: 11/23/2013



## ***EAGLES NEST***

Congratulations to our newest Eagle Scouts in the month of September. As of September 30, 2013 the Greater Yosemite Council, BSA has 109 Eagle Scouts.

<u>Eagle Scout</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Date</u>
Aidoo Kofi	Crew 110	Sierra Valley	Sept 3, 2013
Logan Manning Black	Team 6042	Sierra Valley	Sept 3, 2013
David Andrew Brunn	Troop 49	Sierra Valley	Sept 3, 2013
Joseph Hyrum Nielsen	Crew 42	Sierra Valley	Sept 3, 2013
Michael James Stubbings	Troop 2	Sierra Valley	Sept 3, 2013
Brandon Michael Rogers	Troop 423	Sierra Valley	Sept 6, 2013
Juan Antonio Alvarez	Troop 172	Gold Country	Sept 18, 2013
Jacob Daniel Balch	Troop 10	Gold Country	Sept 18, 2013
Isaac Angel Serratos	Crew 172	Gold Country	Sept 18, 2013
Karl Diesel	Troop 343	Gold Country	Sept 18, 2013
Logan Sullivan	Troop 302	Gold Country	Sept 18, 2013
Daniel Dylan Cota	Troop 194	Sierra Valley	Sept 23, 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](mailto:dfmachado@ps1la.com) or phone 209 840 2246. [www.eaglescoutbadge.com](http://www.eaglescoutbadge.com)

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## Training - October, 2013



*Jay Herbrand, Greater Yosemite Council Training Chair*

Hello all leaders. Now is the perfect time after the busy startup of school, with fall in the air, and before the recharterers are due, to inventory your adult leaders in your units to see whether they are trained or not. Leader Specific Training is critical to the unit success and that of our Council. Greater Yosemite Council has approximately 30% of its Direct Contact Leaders (those that interact with scouts on a weekly basis) trained. We on the Training Team are trying to improve those numbers. We hope you take advantage of the following training opportunities in the coming month. Remember, ***Every Scout Deserves a Trained Leader!***

### **October 26 - *Leader Specific Training* for Cub Scout Leaders, Boy Scout Leaders and Venturing Leaders**

Come for a great day of Leader Specific Training. This event is in Lodi. More information is available from our website at this link: <http://www.yosemitescouting.org/event/1286976>

## University of Scouting

This full day of training has something for everyone. There are classes for adults in all program areas they will find useful. It is a chance for you to pick the classes you would like to attend. There are also two trainings for youth - Den Chief training and Introduction to Leadership Skills for Crews. The event takes place on Saturday, November 23 at the Dale Rd LDS Stake Center in North Modesto. There is more information at our website [www.yosemitescouting.org](http://www.yosemitescouting.org). Register for the event and choose your classes online:

<http://www.yosemitescouting.org/event/university-of-scouting-2013/1430574>

## Training Times

This is a great newsletter that is put out every quarter. It has the most current information about training coming from the National Office. In this issue there is information on the rollout of the new tools on the new portal [my.scouting.org](http://my.scouting.org) that will be your individual link to many tools and database information, changes to NYLT and Wood Badge, Training Conferences at High Adventure Bases, and other items. The entire Training Times along with all archived issues can be found on the National website at this link:

<http://www.scouting.org/training/trainingupdates.aspx>