

The Varsity Letter

San Diego-Imperial Council - Boy Scouts of America

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The 27th Annual Varsity Scout Triathlon



The 27th annual Varsity Scout Triathlon is in the books! What a great day it was. The weather stayed cool, the water was warm, and the crowd was boisterous.

We had 202 individual participants and 46 three person teams. For a total of 290 athletes. Other than a few sore muscles there were no injuries.

Hats off go to Tom Naylor and Andy Schmidt for putting together a great event. We'll even give them credit for the cool temperatures.



(Continued on Page 2. More photos on Page 6)

The May Varsity Scout Leader Huddle:

May 16, 7:00 PM

The May Varsity Leaders Huddle will again be held at the Penesquitos Stake Center: 12835 Black Mountain Road, San Diego.

What is in store for this month's Huddle? How about learning some outdoor skills. Learning how to make char cloth and having a chance to practice your flint and steel. (This is a good emergency preparedness skill.) You will also learn three scout knots. Plus: making up a cobbler and eating it!

This is where all Varsity Leaders should be on this night. This Huddle will be an excellent source of information to help you run a better Varsity Scout Program. Share ideas with the other Varsity leaders that will be in attendance.

- Varsity Scout Coaches & Assistants
- Bishopric Counselors over Varsity Scouts and Teachers Quorum.
- Stake Leaders are also invited and encouraged to attend.

The Church teaches, "Wherefore, now let every man learn his duty, and to act in the office in which he is appointed, in all diligence" (D&C 107:99). Carried out, this suggests that members serving in Church assignments—including Scouting—will learn the responsibilities of their calling and then fulfill them to the best of their ability.

Scouting teaches that "every boy deserves a trained leader." The Huddle is training.

Game Design Merit Badge



Games are an important element in every culture around the globe. Simple games give structure to children's playtime and help enforce basic social skills like courtesy, sharing, and taking turns, and more intricate games can help children hone their logic, strategy, and even mathematics skills. Through Game Design, its newest merit badge, the Boy Scouts of America is opening the door for Scouts to put their creativity to the test. BSA representatives will introduce the new title at the SXSW Gaming Expo in Austin, Texas—a three-day event that provides gamers and game designers alike an opportunity to interact and learn from one another.

Whether it's soccer, a family night board game, or a handheld electronic device—games challenge us to overcome long odds, tell compelling stories, and work with or against one another. Games motivate both young and old to find creative solutions, practice new skills, and keep their brains active. Scouts who work on the Game Design merit badge will likely look at the games they play differently and with a new level of appreciation. To earn this merit badge, a Scout is required to analyze different types of games; describe play value, content, and theme; and understand the significance of intellectual property as it relates to the game industry.

Over a two-year period, volunteers from the game industry and game enthusiasts across the country created and tested the merit badge requirements and accompanying pamphlet text to ensure the merit badge pamphlet held the young person's interest, was challenging and fun, and required minimal out-of-pocket expense to complete.

The Scout puts his newfound knowledge to use by designing a game and creating a design notebook for this project. In his notebook, the Scout must demonstrate an initial concept, multiple design iterations based on initial testing, and feedback from blind testing. Once his concept is approved, the Scout can begin to build a prototype of his game. Testing of a Scout's game can be done at Scouting functions such as camp outings. For his game design, he can choose from a wide range of media, from cards to boards, dice, and even designing a smartphone application.

(Triathlon, continued from Page 1)

The Winners of the 27th Triathlon:

Scouts, 12-14:

James Mendenhall, Team 502, 45:08

Scouts 15-16:

Joseph Taylor, Team 695, 36:00

(This was an all time record for the Varsity Triathlon, for all age groups!)

Scouts 17-18:

Ben Jafek, Team 719, 36:59

Men 19-39:

Darrell Rowz, Team 526, 36:50

Men 40+

Jim Taylor, Team 696, 40:06

Young Women 13-18

Carly Smith, Team 641, 53:20

Women 19+

Tricia Greenwood, Team 718, 56:16

Relay:

Guy Baxter, Jonah Wilson, Bryce, Team 730, 41:11

We thank all those who participated and those that helped them.

All of the times can be found here:

<http://sdicbsa.org/varsity/events.html>

(More photos on Page 6)

10-year-old Boy Scout saves man's life in Austin

AUSTIN -- Officer after officer lined up Wednesday to shake 10-year old Hunter Aguilar's hand at Austin-Bergstrom International Airport.

Aguilar was awarded by the Austin Police Department after hearing a whistle blow while visiting his grandmother.

"I heard three whistles and I said 'dad, dad I heard three whistles' and he went down to go check and my grandma called 3-1-1," Hunter said.

"I told them what I heard then they said yes, that is an emergency and they transferred me to 9-1-1 and the paramedics were there," Hunter's grandmother, Angie Aguilar told KVUE.

The whistles came from a quadriplegic neighbor who needed help in his wheelchair.

"His wheelchair had gotten disconnected and he was immobile for about seven hours," said Aguilar's father.

Hunter and his family were watching TV late Tuesday night when it happened, and Angie Aguilar says she is so thankful Hunter was visiting because she never would have recognized the signal for help.

Charles Mead, and Austin Boy Scout leader tells KVUE not many people would have done what Hunter did Tuesday.

"There have been plenty of times where I've heard things in the middle of the night and didn't take action. Hunter remembered a lesson that was a part of his Cub Scout den meeting where they were talking about emergency signals," Mead said.

Mead said Hunter's actions show why the Boy Scouts organization is still important.

"There are a lot of people who always ask 'Is scouting relevant anymore?' and I think if you ask the person who got this help, only because Hunter remembered something he learned in scouting, that scouting's pretty relevant."

Now, Hunter may be honored with a National Boy Scout Heroism Award, but his actions in Austin will not be forgotten.

Again, ask yourself, how ready are my scouts, or my children to render emergency service?



Varsity Team 655 is hosting a 5K on Memorial Day, Monday, March 27th as a fundraiser for summer camp. The race will be held at Kit Carson Park in Escondido. There will be splash zones throughout the course to help racers cool off.

The race will be timed and the top three finishers in each age bracket will receive a medal. All participants will receive a t-shirt but you must preregister to get your shirt on the day of the race! This event costs \$25 and is open to the community. Please invite your friends and neighbors to participate in the fun!

Online registration:

www.getmeregistered.com/5kSplashDash

Paper Registration:

<http://goo.gl/2xo33>

Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/5kSplashDash

The Coach's Corner:

At the end of a Varsity Scout meeting is a great time for the Varsity Coach to take a few minutes to teach his boys a life's lesson.

It's called the Coach's Corner.

A young man wanted to meet God. He knew it was a long trip to where God lived, so he packed his suitcase with a bag of potato chips and a six pack of root beer and started his journey.

When he had gone about three blocks, he met an old man. He was sitting in the park, just staring at some pigeons. The boy sat down next to him and opened his suitcase. He was about to take a drink from his root beer when he noticed that the old man looked hungry, so she offered him some chips. He gratefully accepted it and smiled at the young man.

His smile was so pretty that the boy wanted to see it again, so he offered him a root beer. Again, he smiled at him. The boy was delighted! They sat there all afternoon eating and smiling, but they never said a word.

As twilight approached, the boy realized how tired he was and he got up to leave; but before he had gone more than a few steps, he turned around, ran back to the old man and gave him a hug. He gave him his biggest smile ever.

When the boy opened the door to his own house a short time later, his mother was surprised by the look of joy on his face. She asked him, "What did you do today that made you so happy?"

He replied, "I had lunch with God." But before his Mother could respond, he added, "You know what? He's got the most beautiful smile I've ever seen."

Meanwhile, the old man also radiant with joy, returned to his home. His son was stunned by the look of peace on his face and he asked, "dad, what did you do today that made you so happy?"

He replied "I ate potato chips in the park with God." However, before his son responded, he added, "You know, he is much younger that I expected."

Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around. People come into our lives for a reason, a season or a lifetime? Embrace equality!

Have lunch with God....bring chips.



Zion's Camp 2013

Celebrating 100 Years of LDS Scouting
Monday July 8 - Saturday July 13, 2013

In recognition of the 100th Anniversary of the partnership between the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints and the Boy Scouts of America, all San Diego and Imperial County LDS Stakes will be participating in a special week at Mataguay Scout Ranch known as Zion's Camp. This week will include special activities, speakers, and camping. For information on Zion's Camp or to register click on the link below:

<http://www.zionscamp2013.org/>

2013 Varsity Scout Cabinet Contact Information

Varsity Chairman:

- Barry Baker: iambarrybaker@gmail.com

Huddle Commissioners:

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- James LaLanne: ijamesl@yahoo.com

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Mountain Man Rendezvous Chair:

- Lon Atkinson: Booshway@VarsityRendezvous.com

Gadget of the Month

Cooks your food without hauling fuel, and charges the batteries of your electronic gadgets at the same time!



<http://www.biolitestove.com>

Items to Put on Your 2013 Varsity Scout Calendar

Varsity Scout Leader Huddles Penasquitos Stake Center

May 16th

August 15th

October 17th

- Stephen Baker: ircommando@gmail.com
- James LaLanne: ijamesl@yahoo.com

100 Year celebration - ZION'S CAMP

Camp Mataguay

July 8-13th

<http://www.zionscamp2013.org/>

Varsity Scout Leader Training

Ed Jones - Training Chairman

edjonesheating@hotmail.com

October 18-19th

Woodbadge '13

May 16-18th, June 6-8, 2013

<http://www.sdicsa.org/Training/W6-49-13-1/>

Triathlon

Tom Naylor - Triathlon Chairman

tnaylor@finsvcs.com

On-Target

David Jenkins: david.w.jenkins@navy.mil

Date still to be determined.

Mountain Man Rendezvous

Lon Atkinson - Booshway

Booshway@VarsityRendezvous.com

www.VarsityRendezvous.com

September 20-21st

