



Troop 141 Scoutmaster's

Weekly Update December 31st, 2010



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PIMA AIR & SPACE/TITAN MISSILE MUSEUMS

Meeting today at 09:00 at the Museum, then we'll have lunch there at the café (BRING A BAG Lunch if you want) we'll commute from there over to the Titan Museum and should be all done by about 2:00. This will satisfy some requirements of the [AVIATION MB](#) and Requirement #2 of the [Citizenship in the Nation MB](#):

REGULAR MEETING – 1ST OF 2011 – JANUARY 3RD

WHERE: At the Church Gym @6:30 (NOTE NEW TIME)

WHAT: We'll be talking about COLD Weather camping BRING YOUR SCOUT BOOK

GAME: starts at 6:30

NEW SCOUTS: If you haven't turned in your registration and troop/BSA fee, you are not a member of the troop. Please turn this in tonight.



PARENTS: Mr. long will be conducting a Mini-orientation meeting during the troop meeting in the Café.

SPACE EXPLORATION (POSTPONED):

Tuesday Night is the Space Exploration merit badge – There will be SIGN UPS for this because we have a FEW Rockets left from two years ago to give out. (But we used up all the engines). Mr. Obrien will be doing a

presentation, handing out rockets, inventorying what we need for motors, and conducting the shoot off on December 18th at Udall Park.

ASTRONOMY MERIT BADGE:

Even though this is not an eagle required Merit badge it takes a lot of work observing, drawing and pointing out astronomical objects

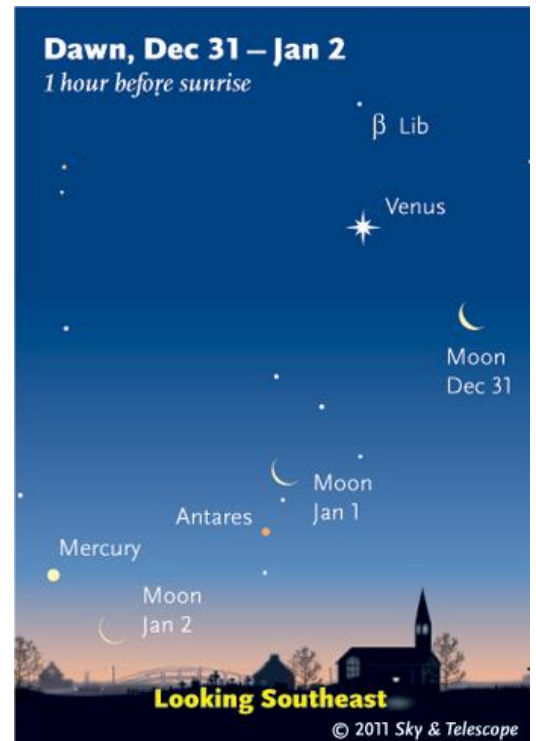
<http://www.skyandtelescope.com/observing/ataglance>

Friday, December 31

- The eclipsing variable star Algol in Perseus is at its minimum light, magnitude 3.4 instead of its usual 2.1, for a couple hours centered on 6:47 p.m. EST. It takes several more hours to rebrighten.
- ☑ After the noise and revelry at the turning of midnight, step outside into the silent, cold dark. If the sky is clear, Sirius will be shining at its highest due south. To its upper right, Orion is just beginning to tilt westward. To Sirius's upper left shines Procyon. And (if you're near latitude 39° north) Capella and the Castor-Pollux pair straddle the zenith. You're seeing a preview of how the stars will be arranged at nightfall toward winter's end.
- ☑ At dawn on the morning of January 1st (are you really going to be up then?) look far below Venus in the southeast for the thin crescent Moon. Antares and Mercury are also in the scene, as shown here.

Saturday, January 1

- Sirius, the Dog Star, sparkles low in the east-southeast after dinnertime. Procyon, the Little Dog Star, shines in the east about two fist-widths at arm's length to Sirius's left. If you live around latitude 30° (Tijuana, New Orleans, Jacksonville), the two canine stars will be at the same height above your horizon soon after they rise. If you're north of that latitude, Procyon will be higher. If you're south of there, Sirius will be the higher one.
- ☑ At dawn Sunday morning, look for very thin waning crescent Moon lower right of Mercury low in the southeast, as shown above. Binoculars will become necessary as dawn brightens.





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Sunday, January 2

- Uranus (magnitude 5.9) is within ½° of Jupiter this evening through Wednesday evening. It's just above or upper right of Jupiter as seen with binoculars from mid-northern latitudes. Don't confuse it with the 5.5-magnitude star 20 Piscium to Jupiter's lower right. Can you see a hint of aquamarine-green color in Uranus?

Lepus, the Hare, eternally crouches below Orion's feet.

Monday, January 3

- South of the feet of bright Orion, the Hunter, crouches dim Lepus, the Hare, quarry that Orion seems to be completely overlooking. Unlike many constellations, Lepus looks just like what it's supposed to represent. The Hare has a bunched-up body, long ears below Rigel, and a pointy nose aimed west. Under moderate to serious light pollution only his two neck stars are visible, but you can find the rest with binoculars. Just remember that Lepus is quite a bit larger than a binocular's field of view.

☐ The Quadrantid meteor shower may be visible tonight, depending on your location. Best chances are early Tuesday morning from Europe through Central Asia; also possible Monday evening for eastern North America. For more info see the January [Sky & Telescope](#), page 40.

☐ Earth passes through perihelion, its closest to the Sun for the year (just 3.4% closer than at aphelion in July).

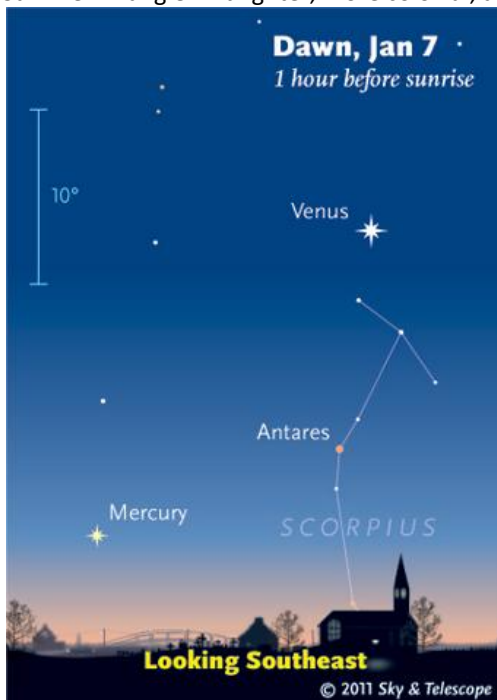
Tuesday, January 4

- Bright Vega is getting low now in the northwest after dark. Above it shines Deneb, the head of the Northern Cross — which has turned nearly upright as it heads down to plant itself in the northwestern horizon (as seen from mid-northern latitudes).

☐ New Moon (exact at 4:03 a.m. EST). The new Moon partially eclipses the Sun for a large region of Africa, Eastern Europe, and Southwest Asia; see [maps and other info](#).

Wednesday, January 5

☐ By 8 p.m. the Winter Triangle is well up in the east-southeast. It consists of Betelgeuse in Orion's leftmost corner, bright Sirius far below, and Procyon to the left of these two. It's altogether nicer than the more famous Summer Triangle — brighter, more colorful, and equilateral!



Scorpius has begun its slow trek from dawn backward through the night to become an evening constellation of summer. (The blue 10° scale is about the width of your fist held at arm's length.)

Thursday, January 6

- The two inner planets, Venus and Mercury, continue shining in the southeast at dawn almost unchanged since the beginning of the week, as shown at right for tomorrow morning. But notice that Antares and the rest of the starry background have slid a little higher toward Venus: the season marches on.



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MERIT BADGES COMING IN JANUARY!

There are a TON of Merit badges coming ! Two are Eagle Required.



PETS : January 4th, 2011



Leatherwork: January 29th, 2011



CAMPING: January 18th, 2011



Sports: February 1st, 2011



Communication: January 25,2011

UPCOMING EVENTS

(Color Coding RED TEXT is an event that has changed, Color coding /Shading other colors indicates a new event since the last email). As you can see we are getting a full schedule already. Additional details are available by viewing the Troop Calendar. As you can see we have a FULL month once again!

12/31/2010	Titan Missile Museum/Pima Air Museum
12/31/2010	New Year's Eve!
01/01/2011	New Year's Day!
01/03/2011	TROOP MEETING
01/04/2011	PETS Merit Badge
01/04/2011	Spanish Trails Round Table
01/08/2011	Wasson Peak 10 Miler (Hike)
01/11/2011	Committee Meeting
01/12/2011	Spanish Trails EAGLE Board of Review
01/13/2011	Order of the Arrow Monthly Meeting
01/17/2011	Martin Luther King Day
01/17/2011	TROOP MEETING
01/18/2011	Camping Merit Badge
01/19/2011	DEADLINE: Raytheon MB Day Signup
01/21/2011	Winter Camp - Lawton
01/24/2010	TROOP MEETING
01/25/2011	Communications Merit Badge
01/29/2011	Leather Work Merit Badge (Tandy Leather Factory Visit)
01/29/2011	Eagle Court of HONOR (Nick, Jacob, Greg)
01/31/2011	TROOP MEETING
01/01/2011	Sports Merit Badge



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SCOUT ACCOUNTS:

Mr. Winston keeps track of what scouts have in their accounts from scholarship to popcorn money. If you are curious what your balance of the individual fund is, please drop him an email at treasurer@scoutroop141.org.



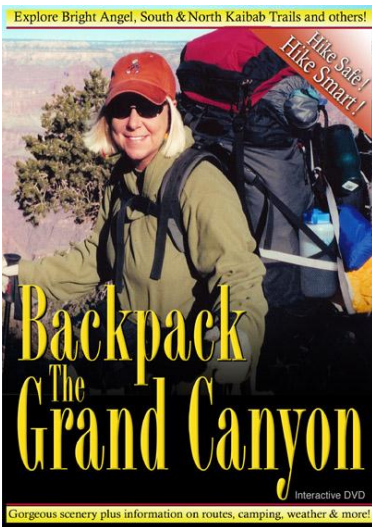
GERONIMO 2011



It may seem EARLY to talk about SUMMER CAMP, but it's time to start planning for Geronimo, - Even though this is in June, we collect down payments and partial payments from now until May.

Mr. Winston has again offered to be the Leader of this event (As he has so many times before) but has hinted that this is his LAST Year at Geronimo. SO, if you want to get BIG "G" Gold to sew on your sash, This is a GREAT Year to do that.

Here is [a Flyer with Information about the Summer Camp experience at Geronimo:](#)



GRAND CANYON BACKPACK TRIP-SIGN UP IS NOW THE DATES HAVE SHIFTED TO MATCH THE EASTER BREAK NOW APRIL 21-25TH 2011

We have to submit our application to the National Park service on December 1st for a 2011 APRIL trip down the Kaibab/Bright angel Trails. We aren't going to do RIM to RIM due to Logisital challenges, but we WILL camp in the bottom of the Canyon, and come up the BRIGHT ANGEL trail.

We are limiting this trip to **two groups of 11**. That means that each group will be limited to Two adult leaders and 9 Scouts. (This is a NPS limitation on # of campers).

[YOUTUBE OF A BACKPACK IN THE GRAND CANYON](#)

IT IS IMPORTANT FOR YOU TO CLICK THIS LINK IF YOU WANT TO GO IN APRIL:

[I want to Hike the Grand Canyon in April](#)

Click here





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EVENT HELP 2010-2011

NEXT TRIP IS IN JANUARY – WINTER CAMP- Mr. Juhash has offered to LEAD and run the Camping Merit Badge (Snow camping)

As you can see there is a HUGE amount of FUN planned for this year. We'll not exactly PLANNED yet, but simply identified. Mr. LONG NEEDS YOUR HELP. I need a parent to be the lead on every trip/outing or event. What does this mean?

- Promote (Via Web page, PowerPoint, personal experience, etc).
- Arranging Permits/Reservations, etc.
- Setting the Sign Up sheets out
- Collecting money and giving it out to the patrol Grub Master
- Designating an Adult Grub master –

These kinds of things are very tough to do when acting the part of Scoutmaster. (I would much rather be the target of a dodge ball ☺) So I need your help. If everyone would choose just ONE event / outing to help with, it would make the year go so much more smoothly. So Look over the list at the top of this Blast, and see what outing might interest you. Any one of the bullets above you could help out with would be very appreciated as well.

PARENTS –MR. LONG NEEDS HELP ORGANIZING TRANSPORTATION – GETTING FOOD BOUGHT FOR ADULTS, SIGNING UP KIDS, ETC.

LONG TERM EVENTS

Scout-O-Rama

You will not want to miss the upcoming 2011 Scout-O-Rama event on Saturday, **March 26, 2011** - back at the Reid Park Bandshell and hill. The event will have many fun activities for Scouts and it is a great way for our community to come look and see what we are doing. What is Scout-O-Rama? The Scout-O-Rama is our annual Scout Show. It is the place to showcase what your pack, troop, team and crew like to do. Last year activities included a scuba pool, sponsored by the Dive Shop, marshmallow shooters and rainwater regatta, volleyball cannons, a YMCA climbing tower, a pioneer tower, a real race car, the Pinewood Derby finals, and so much more! Units will be able to sell advance tickets with loads of valuable coupons prior to the event, at many grocery stores in Southern Arizona, and keep 50% of the sales! Look for details in the next few months! Do not miss this event. Put it on your calendar now!

PHILMONT 2012 – GOT THE PACKET IN THE MAIL TODAY!

Troop 141 has won the lottery for an IDEAL trek in Philmont!

Boy Scouts of America

Philmont Scout Ranch Expeditions

would like to congratulate

Troop 141 of the Catalina Council
(Sponsor: Tanque Verde Luthern Church - Tucson, AZ 85749)

Your unit has been picked as a winner for a reservation in 2012



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at Philmont Scout Ranch.



Your arrival date is June 14, 2012.
(Departure: June 26, 2012)

We have your unit confirmed for 18 youth and 5 adults (2 crews).

You will be receiving a confirmation letter by mail in 2-3 weeks.

Yellowstone July 2011! THIS IS SO HUGE, SO EXCITING that it has burst out into its own Category!

YELLOWSTONE: UPDATE DEC 2010



Hello Everyone!

I have not received much of a reply regarding the whitewater rafting and mountain biking but I am sure the interest is there. From my conversations with the two businesses, these activities are very popular and it will be difficult, if not impossible, to add additional rafts or boats by mid-Spring. Therefore, I need to get a better idea of the interest by the 2nd week of January for the rafting trip and by the end of January for the mountain biking trip. So far I have 9 people (Rencken x 2, Winston x 4, Lochner, Foss and DiAnna) for the rafting trip which is enough for one raft and 5 people (Rencken x 2, Winston x 2 and Lochner) for the mountain biking. Right now I have a temporary reservation of 3 rafts and 10 bikes but I can increase or decrease as needed. If you do not state your interest in either of these activities by the deadline then I am going to assume you are not interested.



If the whole group does not go whitewater rafting (a likely occurrence) then we will need 2 adults to stay with the scouts that do not go rafting. We will need at least one (but preferably both) of the adults with youth protection training. It would be extremely helpful if all adults who are going on this trip do the online training. It only takes about 15-20 minutes and you can print up your card. Follow this link for more information: <http://www.scouting.org/Training/YouthProtection.aspx>

We need at least one other adult to stay with the scouts during the mountain biking excursion. We already have one youth protection trained adult who has declined the mountain biking activity.

For those adults who will not be participating in the rafting and biking, we will have to plan some activities for those scouts who also are not rafting or biking. If your scout or child is not going to participate in the rafting or biking, please ask them what kind of activities they would like to do. I was thinking that we could plan a 10 mile hike on one of the days to assist with the hiking merit badge. We could try to get some of the outdoor merit badges (soil and water conservation, mammals, bird study, nature, insect life, forestry, environmental science, weather etc.). We might even be able to bring a few telescopes.

One scout has expressed interest in fly-fishing. I have no experience in fly-fishing and I will defer to someone who has interest and/or experience. At the very least if we get enough interest from the scouts we could have at least 2 adults.

I would also like to start information regarding vehicles/drivers. Obviously this will be a trip in which we will need lots of drivers. At present we have 53 people signed up (18 adults representing 12 families and 35 scouts/siblings). Please let me know the vehicle you plan on driving and how many seat belts you have. I need to



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confirm that you are registered with the troop as a driver. If you are not registered with the troop, I need you to do so (<http://www.scouttroop141.org/parents/DriverInfo.html>). This is important so you can be covered by BSA insurance as well as your own insurance. Even if you think you will only be driving your family members, I need you to be registered with the troop. You never know when we may need you to transport another scout.

We will be taking the troop trailer and Mr. Volkman has agreed to haul the trailer. I would like to have a back-up person just in case.

Also, you can start paying for the trip. I will accept checks made out to "Troop 141" or cash. I would like to have all of the money collected by mid-April. If this is a problem then please see me and I will try to work with you. I have already put \$100 of my money down for the camping deposit as well as my credit card for the hotel deposit and will put my credit card for the rafting and mountain biking. If you have to cancel after you have paid, I will do my best to get as much of your money back as possible.

The current costs per person are:

- \$75 for gas (even if you plan on driving)
- \$40-80 for hotel--2 nights (depending on 2-4 person occupancy at \$80/night)--I will do my best to get 4 scouts/room
- \$25 camping and Yellowstone admission fees
- The cost for food is to be determined (we will be cooking as a group).

Other costs per person:

\$45 for whitewater rafting

\$25 for mountain biking

If you have decided not to go to Yellowstone, please let me know and I will remove your name from this list.

TROOP COMMITTEE CHAIR NEEDED

After a LONG and Tireless term as committee chair, Mr. Siepker has asked for relief. His work situation requires him to be so busy as to not have enough time to dedicate to being committee chair. Behind the scenes, Mr. Siepker worked hard to give us the results we saw in 2010. He has done a great job supporting the Scouts this last year and a half and we should all congratulate him. He's one of the finest leaders I have ever known.

SO WE NEED A NEW VOLUNTEER- ASAP:

So what is it all about to be Committee Chair of the Troop Committee?

Take a look at THIS PRESENTATION called [the COMMITTEE Challenge](#) to see what it's all about.

Troop Committee Mission Statement

The troop committee, which is the troops Board of Directors, supports the troops adult and youth leaders in delivering a quality program to the troops Scouts

But you don't need to be the Chairperson to help out. Take a moment to look at the presentation and see where you can fit in. As always, ALL PARENTS ARE WELCOME TO COME TO THE COMMITTEE MEETINGS. The next one is JANUARY 11TH, 2011 AT THE TVLC.



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TCC Responsibilities

- Organize the committee to see that all functions are delegated, coordinated and completed.
- Maintain a close relationship with the chartered organization representative and the [Scoutmaster](#).
- See that unit leaders and committee members have training opportunities.
- Interpret national and local policies to the unit.
- Work closely with the Scoutmaster in preparing [Troop Committee](#) meeting agendas.
- Call, preside over, and promote attendance at monthly unit committee meetings and any special meetings that may be called.
- Ensure unit representation at monthly roundtables. **(Mr Long does this)**
- Secure top-notch, trained individuals for camp membership.
- Arrange for charter review and recharter annually. **(Mrs Barone Does this)**
- Plan the charter presentation program. **(Mr. Volkman Does this)**

Qualifications

“ **Qualification.** Adults citizens, or adult non-citizens who reside within the country, may register with the [Boy Scouts of America](#) in any capacity if they agree to abide by the [Scout Oath](#) or Promise and the [Scout Law](#), to respect and obey the laws of the United States of America, and to subscribe to the precepts of the [Declaration of Religious Principle](#). All [leaders](#) must be 21 years of age or older, except [assistant Scoutmasters](#), [assistant den leaders](#), [assistant Cubmasters](#), [assistant Webelos den leaders](#), and [assistant Varsity Scout coaches](#), who must be 18 or older. ”

— [Adult Application, No. 524-501A](#)  PDF (420 KB) (Previous editions obsolete.)

Additionally,

“ **Youth Protection training** is required for all BSA registered volunteers, regardless of their position. New leaders are **required** to take [Youth Protection](#) training **before** they submit an application for registration. The certificate of completion for this training must be submitted at the time application is made and before volunteer service with youth begins. ”



LIFE TO EAGLE:

Some of you had asked where the application and Eagle packet are – So I re-posted them here:

- Here is the 12 Step Presentation for going from Life Scout to Eagle Scout:
<http://catalinacouncil.org/spanishtrails/Life-to-Eagle.pdf>
- Here is the New Application for Eagle
http://catalinacouncil.org/spanishtrails/Eagle_Application_09.pdf
- Here is an Editable version of the Eagle Workbook:
http://www.troop1631.org/forms/Eagle_Scout_packet.rtf
- Where to write for Congratulatory Letters:
<http://usscouts.org/eagle/eaglecongrats.asp>



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CLASSIFIED ADS:

FOR SALE:

Pack 186 is selling a canoe - It's a 17', flat keel Grumman canoe. Includes a small, outboard trolling motor. I think it needs a battery. Custom camouflage paint job. \$575.
Please contact Mike Hammarstrom via email mhammarstrom@cox.net

Wanted:

New Trailer ! Mr Bailey and Mr. Siepker have been searching extensively for a new trailer. Their extensive research has determined the problem is very complex.

- 1) A single axle Trailer (Like the one we have) is able to carry slightly more weight if we beef up the springs. This option is cheaper but may not meet the capacity needs. It's simple, doesn't require brakes.
- 2) A dual Axle Trailer – can carry up to 7,000 lbs, but is heavier making it difficult to move into and out of the shed by hand, requires electric brakes (Which means the tow vehicles have to have a controller) and are more expensive.

THE COMMITTEE HAS DECIDED TO MOVE FORWARD ON BUYING A USED TRAILER

– Thanks to the hard work of Mr. Bailey who weighed 100's of options features and caveats.

Wanted - Old stuff

If you have any shoes, uniform shirts, pants, etc, please consider donating these to the troop inventory for those scouts less fortunate. Thanks!

Lost n. Found

If you are missing any gear, it's probably in the troop shed. . WE CLEANED A LOT OUT AT THE COURT OF HONOR, BUT I STILL HAVE:

- 1 hacksaw – Likely from the carpentry MB day
- 1 Drink bottle – Nice with an Orange thermal liner

WEEKLY THOUGHT

Our Focus this year

As we bid good bye to the 2010 100th Anniversary of Boy Scouting in the United States of America, it's time to reflect a little bit on how much got accomplished last year.

We advanced in rank 47 TIMES!

SCOUT	8
TENDERFOOT	8
SECOND CLASS	7
FIRST CLASS	5
STAR	10
LIFE	4
EAGLE	5

This made me very proud as you all worked so hard to get those cool 2010 Rank badges. Several scouts advanced more than one rank in 2010.

We Earned back BIG G GOLD at Summer Camp (No small Feat!), This was HUGE! Thank you all for working so hard at making this happen.



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Two of our scouts had the opportunity to go the National Jamboree, Greg and Travis sent us back info daily that went into the Jamboree [BLOG: 2010 National Jamboree BLOG](#)

We had a Great time at the Spanish Trails 100 year anniversary Camporee at Camp Lawton where we learned how to Toss Tomahawks, Start a fire with a Bowstring, and race on land Skis.

And then there were Merit badges: we earned **!!! 300 !!!** merit badges in 2010. I couldn't believe it myself so I ran the report twice and posted it up here: [2010 MB report.](#)

We coined a new name for Andrew – **MR MERITBADGE** who earned **23** in 2010 alone! That's almost 10% of the total!

So what about 2011?

Let's see if we can TOP 2010 with More Ranks, More Merit badges and COOLER trips than we did in 2010. It will be hard, but if anyone can do it, it will be **TROOP 141**, the finest troop in the BSA. With that in mind, take a moment to look over the calendar and see what badges are already planned.

If you are a parent, take a moment to brows through [this Website](#) to see what knowledge/skills/work experience you could share with a scout. Without you, results like those above are IMPOSSIBLE!!!!

