



# Troop 141 Scoutmaster's

## Weekly Update January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011



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## WASSON PEAK HIKE!

**NOTE UPDATED TIME: Meet at 07:00** for WASSON PEAK Hike: [Click here for Info](#)

[Click here for PERMISSION SLIP](#)

This is a GREAT hike up one of Tucson's Iconic peaks.

We'll meet at the church at 07:00 Hours and drive to the Trailhead by Sun-up (About 08:00). Head up the trail and have Lunch at the peak.



Should be home by 4:00 or sooner.  
4 LITERS OF WATER NEEDED ON THIS HIKE.

We may do what we did last year and set up a Water Cache so we don't have to haul it all to the Top!

**PARENTS – WE NEED MORE DRIVERS**

## REGULAR MEETING – COLD WEATHER MONTH 01/10/11

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

**WHAT:** We'll be Talking bout our Gear and Setting up our TENTS on Monday night.

**GAME:** starts at 6:30

**NEW SCOUTS:** Learn about TROOP Gear stored in the TROOP SHED

**PARENTS:** **Mr. Long** will be tied up with the Scouts this week.

## MERIT BADGE CONTEST!

Last Fall we had a RANK Advancement Contest. This Spring, we'll do another contest by Patrol, with MERIT BADGES Earned being the counter. HURRY HURRY earn as many as you can and your Patrol can be the VICTORS!



Prize TBD – But it will be GOOD.



## 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, January 7

- This week is the coldest of the year on average. But look low in the east-northeast after 9 or 9:30 p.m. and there you'll see Regulus and the Sickle of Leo already on the rise — a distant foreshadowing of the coming of spring.

### Saturday, January 8

- Venus is at greatest elongation, 47° west of the Sun in the morning sky. This is nearly when Venus appears half-lit, or at *dichotomy*, in a telescope. In the coming weeks and months Venus will grow thickly gibbous while shrinking in apparent diameter; it's pulling far ahead of Earth in its faster orbit and is beginning to swing around to the far side of the Sun.



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### MERIT BADGES COMING IN JANUARY!

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



CAMPING: January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011



Leatherwork: January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2011



Communication: January 25, 2011



Sports: February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011



Cycling MB February 1<sup>st</sup>, 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!

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

### 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@scouttroop141.org](mailto:treasurer@scouttroop141.org).





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### PHYSICAL FORMS 2011 – DUE BY FEB 28TH, 2011

It's time to get your 2011 Physical forms done. [Click here for the A-B-C Form that you will need to take with you to the Dr. when you get your Physical](#) HINT: Fill most of this form out **ON LINE BEFORE** you print it.

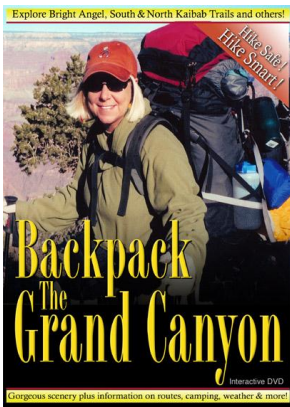
Mr. Winston has the physical forms for those who attended Camp Geronimo in 2010. BSA regulations now require new physicals each year so these are not valid for 2011. If you want your son's physical form returned please see Mr. Winston by Feb 1, 2011. The old physical forms will be shredded after Feb 1.

### 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 SCHOOL EASTER BREAK NOW APRIL 21-25<sup>TH</sup> 2011**



We aren't going to do RIM to RIM due to Logistical 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

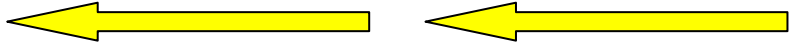


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**THERE IS ONLY 1 PARENT AND 1 SCOUT SIGNED UP – THIS TRIP IS IN DANGER OF CANCELLATION!!**



## 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 –

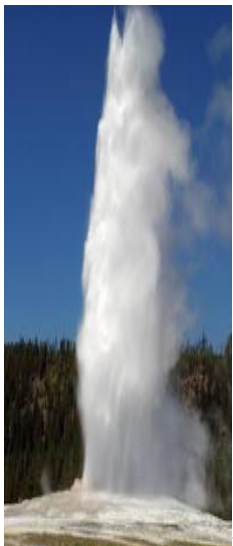
These kinds of things are very tough to do when acting the part of Scoutmaster. (I would much rather be the target of a dodge ball ☺ ) So I need your help. If everyone would choose just ONE event / outing to help with, it would make the year go so much more smoothly. So Look over the list at the top 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 – June 14-26, 2012**

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

**YELLOWSTONE: UPDATE DEC 2010**





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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 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



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- 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 11<sup>TH</sup>, 2011 AT THE TVLC.

#### 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.)



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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](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](http://www.troop1631.org/forms/Eagle_Scout_packet.rtf)
- Where to write for Congratulatory Letters:  
<http://usscouts.org/eagle/eaglecongrats.asp>

### CLASSIFIED ADS:

#### FOR SALE:

#### 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



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- 1 Drink bottle – Nice with an Orange thermal liner

### WEEKLY THOUGHT



#### Setting Goals

We are starting a new year, a new Scout Season and soon we'll have a new organizational make up. As a catalyst to help you set goals for yourself this spring, I started a MERIT BADGE CONTEST so that you can work with your patrol as a TEAM to reach the goal of winning a contest. But what about your PERSONAL goals?

Setting goals for your life is the real action that starts everything moving in a positive direction. When you know what it is that you want you unlock the positive mind and unleash the ideas and energy for achieving what you truly desire.

Maybe you have decided to earn 2-3 Eagle Required Merit badges this next few months. Maybe you have decided to run for Patrol Leader or Senior Patrol leader. Maybe you have decided to beat your brother to eagle scout at a younger age.

These are ALL attainable goals that Mr. Long and all scout leaders will help you attain this spring. But, every journey begins with a first step. That first step is up to you. Decide what you want to do and start it!

So what's a GOAL?

A **goal** or **objective** is a projected computation of affairs that a [person](#) or a [system](#) plans or intends to achieve—a personal or organizational desired end-point in some sort of assumed development. Many people endeavor to reach goals within a finite time by setting [deadlines](#).

Sounds pretty tough huh? Anything worthwhile is always tough. Just ask Paul H, Nick J or Greg R who got their Eagles at 13. , Just ask Alex C who was patrol leader 4 times. Just ask Kyle how difficult it was being senior patrol leader last fall, but what do all of these guys have in common?



#### THEY SET GOALS FOR THEMSELVES AND CHASED THEM

You will never know what target to shoot at until you see the Target!



This spring I encourage you to Reach a little further, stretch a little higher, and push yourself to get those Merit badges, fill that position of leadership, and or attain the next rank.

Mr. Long