

The *Scouter* newsletter is here. Learn more about exciting events like the Klondike Derby, Camporee, and more happenings in the San Gabriel Valley District.



## Klondike Derby

Have you ever heard of a Klondike Derby? If not, join ours on **Saturday, February 10th** at Camp Trask. It's only \$150 per patrol and includes weekend camping. This is a completion of Scout skills among patrols that are a pre-camporee style to get your unit prepared while supporting your local scout camp - Trask Scout Reservation. Don't want to participate but want to see what the Klondike Derby is all about? Come as a spectator for just \$35 per person.

Don't delay and don't miss out! Register your patrols ([click here to register](#)) now and start building your sleds! Register early so this fantastic event isn't canceled. This is your chance to prepare your unit for camporee and meet other troops.

## Upcoming Events

01/19 - 01/21	<a href="#">Weekend Camping</a> - Trask Scout Reservation
01/27	<a href="#">Handicraft Merit Badges</a> - Trask Scout Reservation
01/27	<a href="#">Pinewood Derby Car Building Workshop</a> - Trask Scout Reservation
02/09	<a href="#">2024 Annual Scout Shabbat</a> - Temple Beth Israel
02/10	<a href="#">Klondike Derby (pre-camporee)</a> - Trask Scout Reservation
02/22	<a href="#">Distinguished Citizen of the Year</a> - Glendora Country Club
02/24	<a href="#">Health &amp; Safety Merit Badge</a> - Trask Scout Reservation
03/02	<a href="#">Lion/Tiger Cub Scout Day</a> - Trask Scout Reservation
03/16	<a href="#">Citizenship Merit Badges</a> - Trask Scout Reservation

*\*All District Hikes are open to all scouters and their families, including dogs. No need for advance registration, just show up. For more information on the events above and additional upcoming events check the [SGV District Calendar](#).*

## Roundtable

By David Granillo

We have a new Roundtable Commissioner and staff. We will have munchies and something to drink. Give us a chance to help your unit program. Come with questions or your ideas. We will have fun.

We will have items to give all leaders that show up and attend Roundtable. We welcome all Scoutmasters, Assistant Scoutmasters, Troop Committee Members, Cubmasters, Assistant Cubmasters, Den Leaders, Weleblors Leaders, and Pack Committee Members. We will have announcements for all District and Council events. If your unit needs to announce something like a fundraiser, let your Roundtable Commissioner know. Come meet the District staff who are available to help your unit and to make your leader's lives easier.

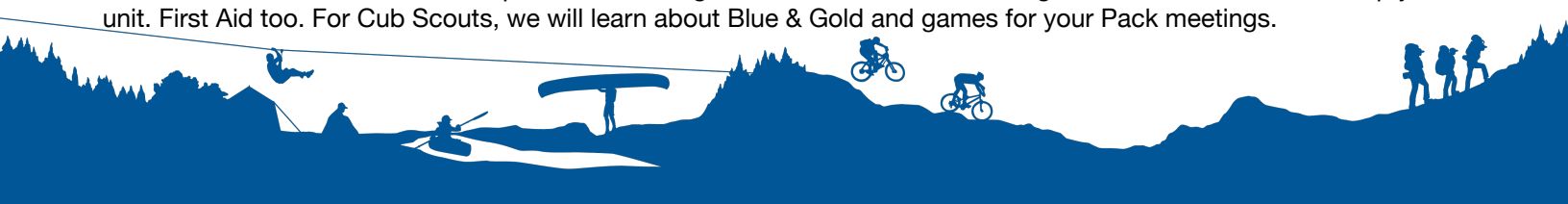
Roundtable starts at 7:00 PM and will have breakout sessions for Cub Scouts and Scouts BSA. This month, for Scouts BSA, learn more about the OA Chapter and the Lodge. See the benefit of being in the OA and how it will help your unit. First Aid too. For Cub Scouts, we will learn about Blue & Gold and games for your Pack meetings.

Join Us In-Person



Wednesday, 01/10 @7 PM

Azusa Eagles Lodge  
1603 San Gabriel Canyon Rd  
Azusa



## December Eagles

Please join us in congratulating the SGV District's Scouts who earned their Eagle Rank in December!

- ◆ Jack Douglas, Troop 411
- ◆ Adrian Trinh, Troop 266
- ◆ Amanda Chang, Troop 333G
- ◆ Flora Recendez, Troop 333G
- ◆ Kent Wilson, Troop 483
- ◆ Ernesto Segura Jr, Troop 818
- ◆ Ryan Douglas, Troop 411



## The Eagle's Nest

There will be a **Life to Eagle Orientation** on Tuesday, January 23rd at 7:00 PM at St Dorothy's Church, 241 South Valley Center Avenue, Glendora. Life Scouts (or those close to earning their Life Rank), parents, and troop leadership are encourage to attend.

## Advancement Reporting

By Brian McLaughlin

### INTRODUCTION

According to the BSA Guide to Advancement Section 4.0.0.2, "All Cub Scout, Scouts BSA, Venturing, and Sea Scouts ranks must be reported to local councils. The best and most accurate method is through the BSA's Scoutbook." Units should be reporting advancement monthly to ensure that member records are complete. Missing advancement records are a serious issue since accurate documentation is critical for rank advancement, membership transfers, or membership reinstatements.

*All badges of rank, merit badges and Eagle Palms are restricted items. Unit leadership may not purchase these insignia for presentation without having filed a report of the youth's advancement.*

Another important reason to report advancement regularly is to be able to produce an advancement report to take to the Scout Shop to purchase your badges of rank, merit badges and Eagle Palms. Note that Cub Scout Adventure loops and pins do not require an advancement report for purchase.

### ELECTRONIC ADVANCEMENT REPORTING

Section 6 of the Guide to Advancement provides more information about Electronic Advancement Reporting and clarifies the three methods for reporting advancement to the National BSA database:

1. enter data directly into Scoutbook ([scoutbook.scouting.org](http://scoutbook.scouting.org))
2. upload data into Internet Advancement ([advancements.scouting.org](http://advancements.scouting.org)) from third-party advancement software
3. enter the data manually into Internet Advancement ([advancements.scouting.org](http://advancements.scouting.org)).

### Benefits of Electronic Advancement Reporting

- Provides straightforward and direct method of reporting
- Eliminates issues with deciphering handwriting
- Helps in local council verification of Eagle Scout Rank Applications
- Records ranks, badges, and awards in accordance with BSA advancement rules
- Consolidates data files to reduce or eliminate record gaps when Scouts transfer units
- Supports national data analysis for advancement statistics
- Helps to assess and support unit success

### THIRD-PARTY TOOLS

Troopmaster/Packmaster and TroopWebHost are two of the most common third-party tools that units may be using to track unit activity and advancement. In most cases, units are likely using one of the tools since they existed long before Scoutbook was developed. Both of these third-party tools provide the ability to export a file that can be uploaded to BSA's Internet Advancement system to accurate report advancement to the BSA official database. Directions on how to do this for each tool are linked above.



## Advancement Reporting (continued)

### SCOUTBOOK

If a unit is not currently using a third-party tool to track advancement, it is recommended that you give Scoutbook a try. It is a free tool made available by the BSA, and when you use Scoutbook your scouts' advancement, award and activity data is automatically saved in BSA's official database.

Training is available for scouts, leaders and parents of SGVD units by contacting Brian McLaughlin at [brian@mclaughland.com](mailto:brian@mclaughland.com). These trainings work really well as online meetings so that they can be recorded and shared with others in your units.

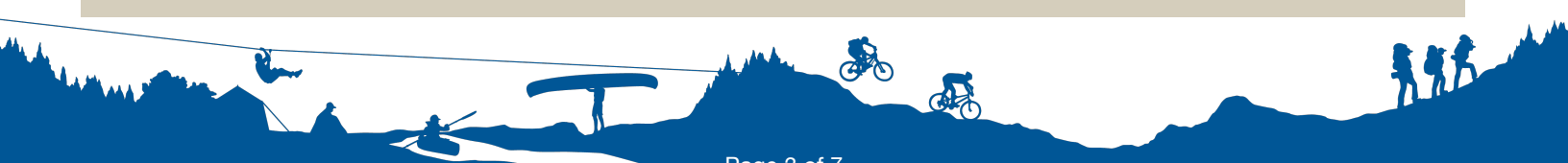
### Value of Using Scoutbook

- *Scouts and their parents or guardians can track the Scout's progress and confirm the accuracy of the information*
- *Scouts or their parents or guardians may indicate that a Scout is ready to finish requirements or rank*
- *Unit leaders are able to keep track of the progress of all their Scouts*
- *Advancement, awards, and other activities, such as service hours and camping, are promptly recorded*
- *Leaders enjoy having one place to go — on their smartphones, tablets, or computers — to track and approve advancement and other information*

## Upcoming Training

01/08	7:30 AM	HAT - Snow Shoe and Cross-Country Skiing - Cushman Watt Scout Center
01/20	9:00 AM - 2:00 PM	<u>ILST for Troops</u> - Trask Scout Reservation
01/20	8:30 AM - 3:00 PM	<u>Rangemaster Training</u> - Trask Scout Reservation
02/03 - 02/04	Overnight	<u>BALOO Training</u> - Trask Scout Reservation
02/10	8:00 AM	HAT - Canoe Training - Bonelli Park/Lake Puddingstone
02/23 - 02/25	Overnight	<u>HAT - Adult Leader Backpack Training</u> - Cabrillo Scout Center

For more information on the trainings above and additional upcoming training check the [Scouting Training Calendar](#).



## Commissioner's Corner

By Susan Kimball

Please plan to meet your 2024 Commissioners at Roundtable on Wednesday, January 10th at 7:00 PM at the Azusa Eagles Lodge (see Roundtable details on page 1).



## Journey To Excellence and AB506 Reminder

By Estela Chicas

What is Journey to Excellence? Glad you asked! [Click here to learn more.](#) Our Greater LA Scouting council has recently released the updated 2023 electronic [Journey To Excellence \(JTE\)](#) forms that units can fill out and submit online for [Packs](#), [Troops](#), and [Crews](#). Please be sure to fill out the correct form for your units. The deadline to submit the form has been extended to **January 31, 2024!**

Reminder - All leaders must complete the Livescan and AB506 training as soon as possible. To ensure your training is recorded properly send a copy of the training certificate to me ([estela.chicas@scouting.org](mailto:estela.chicas@scouting.org)), and I can submit to our registrar to record.

## Summer Adventure Youth Camp and Twilight Camp



Calling all cubs and their friends! Are you ready for an adventure that includes swimming, shooting sports, games, activities, crafts, nature, and so much more?! Considering attending Summer Adventure Youth Camp at Trask Scout Reservation Monday - Friday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM daily. Only have available some days? Pay for the days you want to attend. Click the appropriate link to sign up for [June 17th - 21st](#), [July 1st - 3rd](#), [July 15th - 19th](#).

Please note that we do have contingency plan in case of weather. There is plenty of indoor program area for the adventure to still be amazing.

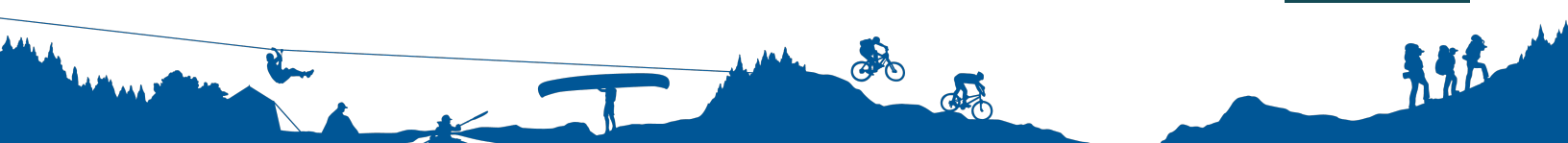
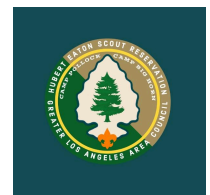
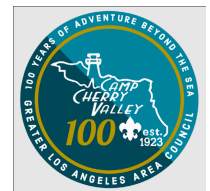
Evenings suit you better? Consider Twilight Camp [July 22nd through 26th from 4:30 PM - 7:30 PM.](#)

## Summer Camp Staff Opportunities

By Landon Butchell

We are looking for motivated individuals age 15<sup>1/2</sup> or older to join our Summer Camp Staff at [Camp Cherry Valley](#) and [Camp Big Horn at Circle X Ranch!](#) If you have anyone you would like to refer to us we would greatly appreciate it!

Working on a Camp Staff is truly a unique experience for a young person or someone of any age! We have a extremely diverse amount of program in our Council Resident Camps that caters to all audiences. If you're interested, please complete this application or contact Landon ([Landon.Burtchell@scouting.org](mailto:Landon.Burtchell@scouting.org)).





## Advancement Changes

By John Campbell

As of January 1, 2024, the following changes to Scouts BSA requirements become effective.

### RANK REQUIREMENTS

There were minor changes to Scout (6) and Star (6).

The Cyberchip has been phased out. Scouts should use the Personal Safety Awareness training at <https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/scouts-bsa/> for both Scout and Star ranks.

### EAGLE PALMS

Scouts BSA will no longer have to wait three months between Eagle Palms. They must earn five additional merit badges and live by the Scout Oath and Law.

### MERIT BADGES WITH SIGNIFICANT CHANGES TO CONTENT

- Automotive Maintenance – updated to include electric/hybrid vehicles (1c,d,e,f,g,h) (2a,b,c,d,e) (3c) (8a,e,f)
- Canoeing – major reorganization (3) (4b) (7) (8) (9)
- Coin Collecting – reorganization and updated for new/retired coinages (3) (4) (5) (6) (7)
- Fire Safety – safety updates (1c) (2) (4) (6b,c,d,g) (7a) (9a) (10a) (11)
- First Aid \* – more hands-on (2) (4) (7) (8d) (10) (11) (12) (13) (14) (15) (16)
- Golf – reorganized and added disc golf option (1) (2)
- Insect Study – expanded requirements (2) (4) (6a,b) (12)
- Journalism – included social media (2a1)
- Nuclear Science – updated, more active options (1a,b,c,d,e) (2b) (3a,b) (4,4c) (6a,b)
- Safety – updated to include natural disasters (1c) (2c,d,e)
- Skating – added skateboarding option (1b)(2) (Skateboarding Option), Ice Skating Option (2b1) (2d2), Roller Skating Option (2c1) (2d2)
- Surveying – added use of drones (2) (3) (4) (5) (6)
- Sustainability\* – major reorganization (1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9)
- Swimming\* – added correct demonstration of strokes (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9)

### MERIT BADGES WITH MINOR CHANGES

- Backpacking\* (11b)
- Bird Study (2) (4) (7) (8c) (9d) (11) (12)
- Camping\* (9c)
- Chemistry (2c) (5)
- Cooking (5 a,b,c,d,e)
- Digital Technology (1)
- Engineering (5) (6c)
- Fly-Fishing (3 b,c) (10)
- Indian Lore (2) (3) (4) (5)
- Law (1) (5) (11)
- Mining in Society (8c)
- Photography (1b)
- Plant Science (8 Option 1: Agronomy E5c)
- Programming (1a)
- Radio (9a5)
- Scouting Heritage (2b3, b4) (3) (4c)

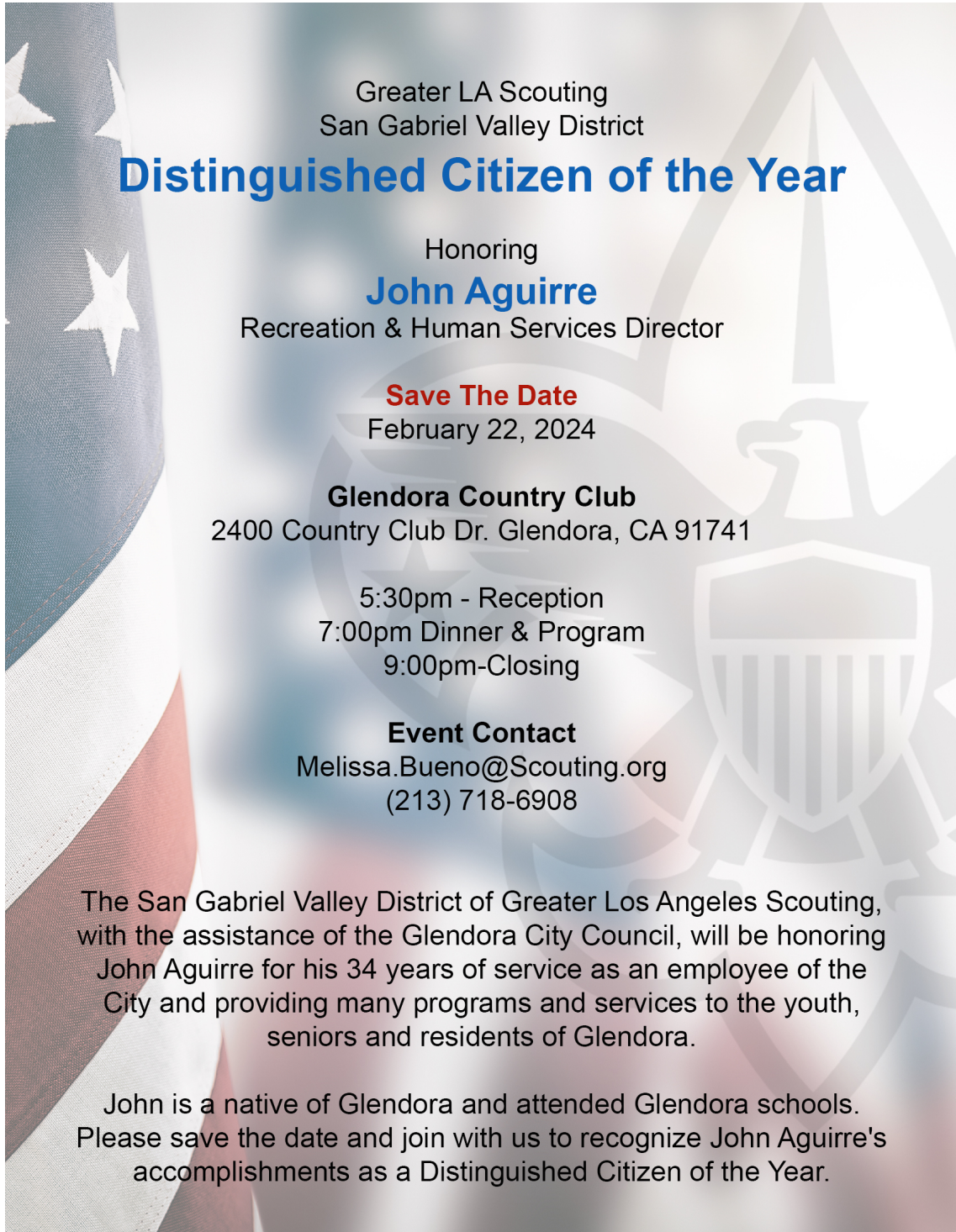


The most current requirements are at <https://www.scouting.org/skills/merit-badges/>.



## Distinguished Citizen of the Year

Save the date! The San Gabriel Valley District would love for you to join us. Registration link will be available soon.



Greater LA Scouting  
San Gabriel Valley District

## Distinguished Citizen of the Year

Honoring  
**John Aguirre**  
Recreation & Human Services Director

**Save The Date**  
February 22, 2024

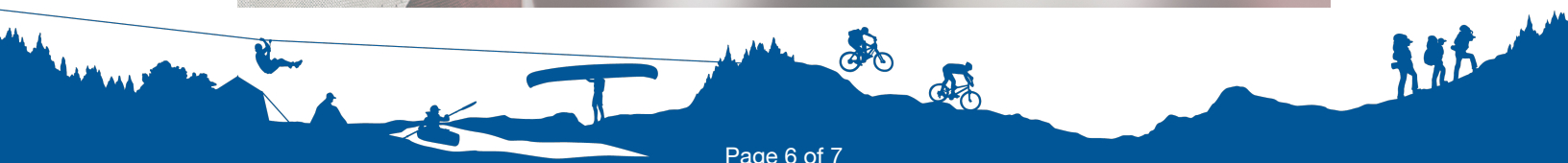
**Glendora Country Club**  
2400 Country Club Dr. Glendora, CA 91741

5:30pm - Reception  
7:00pm Dinner & Program  
9:00pm-Closing

**Event Contact**  
Melissa.Bueno@Scouting.org  
(213) 718-6908

The San Gabriel Valley District of Greater Los Angeles Scouting, with the assistance of the Glendora City Council, will be honoring John Aguirre for his 34 years of service as an employee of the City and providing many programs and services to the youth, seniors and residents of Glendora.

John is a native of Glendora and attended Glendora schools. Please save the date and join with us to recognize John Aguirre's accomplishments as a Distinguished Citizen of the Year.





## Volunteer at Camp Trask

Do you have Scouts in your unit that want to support their local camp? Do you want to support your local camp? Do you have Scouts that need service hours? If you can answer yes to any of these questions, we have the opportunity for you!

Camp Trask has volunteer opportunities on weekends throughout December. [Click here](#) for to register for one of their volunteer days.



## Upcoming OA Events

02/02 - 02/04	Overnight	<a href="#">Induction - Winter 2024</a> , Cabrillo Beach Youth Waterfront Sports Center
03/08 - 03/09	Overnight	<a href="#">Trade-O-Ree</a> , Foothill Vineyard Church
04/12 - 04/14	Overnight	<a href="#">Induction - Spring 2024</a> , Hubert Eaton Scout Reservation
05/17 - 05/19	Overnight	<a href="#">Kihaawk Fellowship 2024</a> , Cabrillo Beach Youth Waterfront Sports Center
07/29 - 08/04	Overnight	National Order of the Arrow Conference, University of Colorado Boulder

## Scouting Needs You!

The San Gabriel Valley District has open positions. If you're a leader and want to continue to give back to Scouting, please consider volunteering for one of these roles (click the links to learn more):

- ★ [Activities Chair](#)
- ★ [Health & Safety Chair](#)
- ★ [Program Chair](#)
- ★ [Friends of Scouting Chair](#)
- ★ [Marketing Chair](#)
- ★ [Special Events Chair](#)
- ★ [Fund Development Chair](#)
- ★ [Membership Chair](#)
- ★ [Training Chair](#)



### San Gabriel Valley District (SGVD) Resources

[Website](#) | [Events Calendar](#) | [Volunteer Contacts](#) | [District Contacts](#) | [Newsletter Submissions](#)

*SCOUTER* Editor in Chief: [Maureen McLaughlin](#)

Please consider making a one-time, monthly, or quarterly donation to [Greater LA Scouting](#).

