



# Troop 97 News

Scoutmaster Bob Muleady • Fullerton, CA • <http://troop97ocbsa.org>

March/April 2015

## TROOPCALENDAR

### March

**21-22** USS Midway Aircraft Carrier Museum, San Diego, AOC Jacque Andre

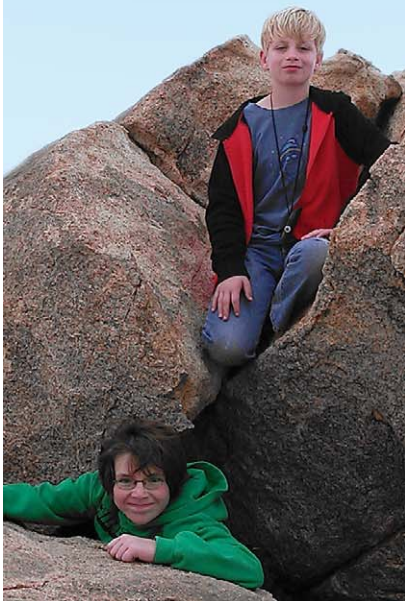
### April

**13** Parent Meeting, Choir Room  
**24-26** Camporee, Firestone, AOC OPEN

### May

**9** Scout-O-Rama, Oak Canyon Park, AOC OPEN  
**11** Parent Meeting, Choir Room  
**16** Muckenthaler Motor Car Festival, AOC OPEN  
**23** Memorial Day Flag Placement, AOC Mr. Gread  
**25** Memorial Day Celebration, AOC Mr. Gread  
**26** Spring Court of Honor, MPC

We're always looking for willing parents to help out with upcoming outings and events. Attend a parent meeting or contact **Mr. Steve Harris** at [steve.harris@nbcuni.com](mailto:steve.harris@nbcuni.com).



*Below Left: John and Kolin enjoy bouldering at Joshua Tree. Above: A great group of Scouts made the trek to Joshua Tree this year. Cold? Yes. Beautiful? Yes. Fun? Definitely!*

## ScoutmasterNews

It's that time of year when our Troop is refreshed with a new crop of Webelos Scouts joining us and, once again, we return to the task of setting them on a good path to their Scouting careers. With our new First Year Assistant Scoutmasters, **Mr. Huber** and **Mr. Harris**, the Trail to First Class program should be fun for our recruits. It's also a time for current Troop 97 Scouts to jump in and impart their experience and knowledge to the new arrivals.

As with all things, we can help them with encouragement and inspiration, but ultimately, it will be up to each boy to make the most of their time in scouting. The end goal is not just attaining the rank of Eagle, but forging friendships and learning life skills that will benefit them in the years to come.

Over the past 9 years with Troop 97, I have been fortunate to meet and work with some incredible young men who will be our future leaders. It is a privilege to be a part of their journey in scouting. I encourage every parent to step up and take an active role in our Troop. You will not regret the time you spend with your son and his fellow Scouts.

And now, just like every year, the cycle begins all over again. Let us extend a warm welcome to our new Scouts and their families.

– Bob Muleady, Scoutmaster

## Scout Sunday 2015

*A Scout is Reverent*

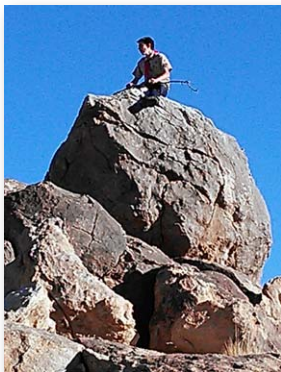
**February 8, 2015** – Troop 97 Scouts and scouters greeted the congregation at Morningside Presbyterian Church and participated in worship services during the annual Scout Sunday celebration. This day marks the founding of Boy Scouts in America and provides an opportunity for the Troop to show our appreciation. We are ever thankful for Morningside's support as our chartered organization.





Photos by Gene Mason

**Troop 97 Scouts**



JANUARY 31 - FEBRUARY 1, 2015 – Troop 97 has always enjoyed going to Joshua Tree National Park for the adventurous rock climbing and striking desert scenery. However, instead of car-camping at Indian Cove this year, we went on a short hike down the Boy Scout Trail designed to introduce the newer boys in the Troop to backpacking. The route was on a flat section only 3.5 miles from the trailhead and involved one night of camping. This choice limited the amount of food required, but was also partly necessitated by the fact that all water had to be packed in. Fifteen boys, including 3 on their first backpacking trip – **John, Kyle and Alex** (a visiting Webelo) – and 3 other parents (**Mr. Nguyen, Mr. Moline and Mrs. Bedard**) joined us on this outing into the open desert.

We left just after dawn from Morningside and arrived at the trailhead by mid-morning. The sky threatened rain and did sprinkle on us, but the chilly wind definitely had everyone pulling on hats and sweatshirts in the parking lot. We easily made it to the planned camping area through an open Joshua tree forest and declared ourselves “arrived” after comparing some of the more prominent rock piles to features on our topo map. **Morgan**, our Senior Patrol Leader for the outing, helped find a suitable campsite away from the trail, and we

set up camp and ate lunch. Afterwards, the boys spent the rest of the day doing what they like best – rock scrambling. Our campsite was well-suited for this activity since two large hills of rocks lay on either side.

We started dinner in patrols before dark and were treated to a spectacular sunset as the sun lit up different parts of the desert. First, the large hill behind us was suddenly turned to gold as the low sun escaped the clouds. Then the valley itself was filled with a shimmering amber glow. Finally, as the retreating sun sank below the mountains, it shot an arc of orange rays into the sky against the clouds that slowly faded to red. All the boys, and the grown-ups, too, could not help but just stand and point in excitement. After dark, the sky quickly cleared, and a bright moon and crystal clear stars greeted us.

Then it was *cold*. So we went to bed.

Sunday morning we watched the sun rise over the mountains, ate breakfast, gathered our things and headed out after a short Scouts Own held on the rocks. It was much warmer on the way back, which seemed to lengthen the trail, but we returned without incident and enjoyed seeing the rock formations in a different light.

Thanks goes to **Mrs. Lopez** for organizing all of the money and paperwork for the trip and to **Morgan** for his leadership and good example in watching after and helping the younger boys.

– AOC Gene Mason, ASM

## KudosCorner

- Kudos to AOC Mrs. Moline for a job well done in organizing our Annual Pancake Breakfast. Special acknowledgement goes to **ASM Harris** for his invaluable help and advice, **Mr. Petersen** for ticket sales and **Mrs. Anderson** for publicity. Thanks, too, to the many volunteers who made it a success!
- Thank you to **ASM Huber** and **ASM Harris** who have stepped up to take charge of First Years. They organized an evening of map and compass skills to ready all Scouts for Camporee.
- **Scoutmaster Muleady** headed up a fun evening of foil dinners and dutch oven cobbler with the Webelos. Thank you to the parents who helped prepare and supervise.
- Troop 97 thanks **ASM Mason** for the annual Joshua Tree trip change-up to an overnight backpack. We are grateful to all the adults who helped make it a fun, safe excursion.
- Congratulations **Mrs. Jauregui** for stepping up as **Troop Committee Chair**. She will fill a key role in our organization. We thank **Mr. Gread** for years of excellent and faithful service. He will continue in an advisory capacity because he is simply not allowed to retire.
- Our thanks to **Mrs. Lopez** for taking on the role of **Troop Secretary** in addition to the many tasks she manages for outings and fundraisers.
- Thanks, too, to **Mrs. Kuemerle** for doing Troop Registration. We are grateful for her continued dedication above and beyond the call of duty; her son Owen made Eagle in 2009.
- Congratulations to the Troop's Extra Mile Award Recipients: **Rank Advancement Chair Dan Nguyen**, **Mrs. Elaine Moline** and **Mrs. Melanie Anderson**. They will be honored at the Los Amigos District Awards Dinner on March 18. If you get a chance, thank and congratulate these extraordinarily volunteers.



**\$50/person**  
Merit Badge is  
additional \$50

### March 21 -22, 2015

Don't miss this adventure aboard the historic USS Midway WWII-era aircraft carrier in San Diego. Enjoy touring the ship's 60+ exhibits and 29 restored aircraft, earn an optional Aviation Merit Badge, dine on the mess deck and sleep in former enlisted crew berths.

## COOKOUT with the Webelos

**January 27, 2015** – Troop 97's Webelos Invitational this year was a little different from past years. We invited a number of Packs to visit us on January 27th for a Foil Dinner/Dutch Oven Cobbler Cookout evening. Everyone who attended had a great time and got to see a different form of cooking that the Troop does occasionally on campouts. The dinners turned out pretty well, too!

A big thanks to **Mr. Huber** for making sure flyers for the cookout were distributed at Roundtable, and to **Mr. Harris**, **Mr. Kuemerle** and others for keeping a safe eye on the cooking area during our event.

– SM Bob Muleady

## CAMPOREE SKILLS with the Troop

At a recent meeting, in anticipation of the upcoming Camporee, our boys introduced the younger Scouts to some of the intricacies of Map & Compass – orienting a map, taking a bearing, and identifying a compass rose and its purpose. In the 21st century of GPS and other fancy electronics, it's still good to have the knowledge of compass skills in case your battery dies on the trail.



## WELCOMING New Scouts

Troop 97 recently welcomed 5 Webelos Scouts into the adventurous world of Boy Scouts: **Alex**, **Shaun**, **Gabe**, **Bailey** and **Jonathan**. They have a long way to go over the years to achieve Scout's highest rank, but with encouragement and hard work, they may be able to join Troop 97's growing roster of Eagle Scouts. Congratulations and good luck!

– SM Bob Muleady



From Pack 1218

Photo: Leah Lopez



Scouts and guests enjoyed a morning of pancakes, sausage and eggs.

For more photos of our fabulous volunteers, please visit the Troop website at [troop97ocbsa.org](http://troop97ocbsa.org)



Photos by Marlene Chaw

### Service with a Smile

*Troop 97 serves it up again to the Fullerton community*



**MARCH 7, 2015** – The sound of swallows returning to Capistrano, the echoing crack of bats at spring training and the smell of sausage and pancakes are all rites of spring... well, at least they are in and around Southern California, and especially at Troop 97!

Saturday, March 7, was the date Troop 97 put on its annual – let me rephrase that – its **51st annual** Pancake Breakfast fundraiser. Scouts and parents worked together in tandem to organize

and run another fantastic early morning effort. It was an unqualified success!!

So fabled is this event that the Los Amigos District Council held its monthly meeting at a corner table that morning. Additionally, numerous Troop alumni attended and were the guests of honor seated at reserved tables near the entrance.

By 8:00 a.m. the dining room was packed with hungry customers and our Scouts served them like pros. The kitchen was humming with pancakes, sausage, and scrambled eggs, cooked to perfection and flying out to patrons with the speed and efficiency of seasoned line cooks.

Many thanks go out to our generous sponsor **Hidden Villa Ranch Eggs**, [www.hiddenvilla.com](http://www.hiddenvilla.com). These great folks never hesitate to offer up as many egg resources as we ask for. Not once have they ever balked at helping make this very

important fundraiser a success. A specific thank you to **Jennifer** at HVR for all her generosity and help!

Big thanks also go out to **Mrs. Elaine Moline**, who took on the very large task of leading and organizing the event this year. Mrs. Moline is a great example of a parent who has jumped in with both feet to help make our Troop thrive. As lead organizer of this event the last two years, I am especially thankful to her. With out the likes of **Mason, Muleady, Chaw, Huber, Alcaraz, Jauregui** and countless other parents, the event simply would not happen. Thanks also goes to the boys and their families for their cheerful volunteerism. With out all hands on deck an event we served over 350 customers from our local community.

If you are a parent of a 97 Scout, we want to remind you that only through YOUR help, can we continue to put on events like this that help keep this organization running for YOUR boy. Remember, this is a completely VOLUNTEER organization and it will not survive without your involvement. Don't know how? Please ask anyone in khaki; they'll be glad to show you how. It's painless...I promise.

– ASM Steve Harris

The community feel of this event was amazing from the boys to the parents to the patrons. We took notes of what to do or not do for next years event and I am looking forward to it. I will admit the most fun was getting to know the parents on a completely different level....with this I say thank you!"

– AOC Elaine Moline

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