



Troop 97 News

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

May/June 2016

TROOPCALENDAR

May

- 14-15 Muckenthaler Car Show, AOCs Mr. Phillips/Mr. Roznowski
- 28 Flag Placement, Loma Vista, AOC Mr. Zhu
- 30 Memorial Day Ceremony, Loma Vista, AOC Mr. Zhu

June

- 13 Parent Meeting, MPC, 7 pm
- 14 Spring Court of Honor / Morgan's Eagle COH, 7 pm
- 20-24 Cub Scout Day Camp, Firestone, AOC Patrick Huber
- 21 Troop Picnic, Acacia Park, AOC Mrs. Phillips
- 26- National Youth Leadership

July

- 10-16 Summer Camp, Chawanakee
- 11, 12 No Meetings (Summer Camp)

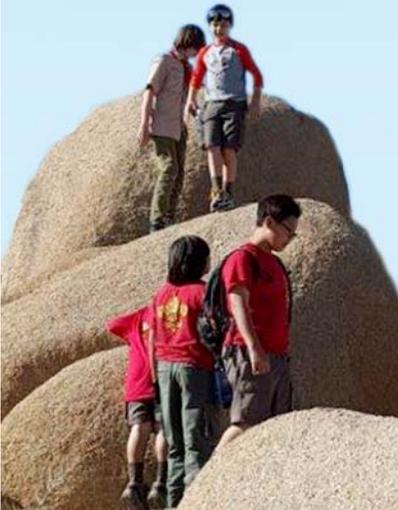
August

- 8 Parent Meeting, MPC, 7 pm
- 16 Patrol Leadership Elections

September

- 12 Parent Meeting, MPC, 7 pm
- 27 Fall Court of Honor, MPC, 7 pm

We're always looking for willing parents to help out with upcoming outings and events. Attend a parent meeting or contact **Mr. John Phillips** at john.phillips@mto.com.



Bottom Left: Bouldering at Joshua Tree. Above: Six Troop 97 adults were honored at the District Awards Dinner for extraordinary volunteerism. Article on page 2. Photos: Bob Muleady.

ScoutmasterNews

It has been a mad rush since our recently bridged Scouts joined the Troop, getting them up to snuff on some Scout skills and knowledge in the short amount of time before Camporee. As it was, we had a very successful Camporee at Oso Lake, with all of our patrols earning ribbons for the events in which they competed. As the first official Scout-level outing for most of our first years in the **Honey Badger Patrol**, it was a great way to start a Scouting career.

We also had some of our adult leaders recognized at the District level. The experiences enjoyed by our sons in Troop 97 begins with our parents who volunteer their time and effort. Our thanks and congratulations go out to **Mr. Mason, Mr. Phillips** and **Mr. Petersen**.

The countdown clock for summer camp at Camp Chawanakee has begun. It will be a week of incredible fun, bonding and earning of merit badges. I have been to five summer camps as a boy and ten as an adult leader. Without a doubt, they are some of my fondest memories.

Our thoughts, prayers and best wishes for good health go out to **Mr. Gread**, a long-time member of Troop 97, who is on the road to recovery. He has been the backbone of this Troop for over a decade and we look forward to his return. *Go, Patriots!*

– Bob Muleady, Scoutmaster

Your newsletter is signing off for the summer. T97 News will be back in September with reports on summer activities and upcoming events. Meanwhile, stay connected by visiting our website at <http://troop97ocbsa.org> or, even better, attend a Parent Meeting on the 2nd Monday of each month (no July meeting).

KudosCorner

- The Troop thanks AOCs
 - Rick Moline – Peter’s Canyon
 - ASM Gene Mason – Joshua Tree
 - James Graham – Camporee
 - Theresa Jauregui – Scout-O-Rama

Our Scouts enjoyed fun and organized outings because of these volunteers and the parents that make it so.

- Kudos to ASM John Phillips for stepping up to be Adult Volunteer Coordinator. AOCs (Adult Outing Coordinators) are essential to all Troop activities.



Photos courtesy of Gene Mason

District Awards Dinner

MARCH 16, 2016 – At the annual Los Amigos District Awards Dinner, four Troop 97 adult leaders were rewarded for their ongoing service as volunteers. ASM and Treasurer **Pete Petersen** and ASM and official AOC arm twister **John Phillips** were recipients of the Extra Mile Award for their work in the Troop. Both have been helpful in the past on Troop outings as well.

Gene Mason was awarded Assistant Scoutmaster of the Year for 2015, a much deserved accomplishment. His coordinating of most of the Troop outings and his work helping Scouts with rank advancement have been invaluable.

Scoutmaster **Bob Muleady** was selected as a recipient of the Los Amigos District’s 2015 District Award of Merit honor for his many years of service with Troop 97 and the Order of the Arrow. **Joe Koch** was awarded a pin from the Annual Giving Society for his donations to the BSA and **Linda Henke** was honored as Commissioner of the Year.

District Awards are a way of saying thank you to the volunteers in Scouting. With these parent’s “one hour a week” of service, our boys are getting a fuller Scout experience which will help prepare them for their future.

“Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does.”

– William James, American Philosopher

Peters Canyon

APRIL 9, 2016 – What a great six-mile hike on a cool Saturday morning! The boys identified a variety of plants and birds and learned how to recognize poison oak as there was a lot along the trail. The hike was pretty level with only one really big hill and a couple medium-size hills. There was also a creek trail along with a bird sanctuary which was closed. I would suggest this hike again as it is close and scenic.

– Rick Moline, AOC



SUMMER CAMP at CHAWANAKEE: July 10-16, 2016

Medical forms due soon.

Make an appointment for your Summer Camp physical. Download forms at www.troop97ocbsa.org.

Click on “Resources” > “Forms” > “Health Form (pdf)”



Photos by Gene Mason

Backpacking in Joshua Tree

An annual favorite outing is adapted for a first year adventure

MARCH 12-13, 2016, PINE CITY – The boys love going to Joshua Tree National Park, so we always make an annual event of it. In March, a group of 13 boys and three adults hiked up the Pine City Trail in the central portion of the park in search of a flat place to sleep and some good climbing rocks, not necessarily in that order. This trip’s hiking route was kept short and with low elevation gain with the intention of encouraging first years to participate. Two, **Devonte** and **Diego**, stepped up to give it a try.

Our destination was an open cluster of pinyon pines a little more than a mile from the trailhead, but we planned to stop short of that spot to pitch camp because the area was closed at night due to “sheep activity.” Furthermore, the closed area border was not marked, and the surrounding terrain lacked distinct geographical features other than rock, rock, shrub, tree, and rock, which increased the difficulty in knowing where we were. However, through the wonder of GPS, we were able to confirm when we had reached the boundary. We turned off trail and **RJ**, our Senior Patrol Leader, and **Skye** helped us scout out a campsite.

The land in this particular spot was quite flat and, as a Scout would say, “boring.” I must admit that even we adults were a little dismayed at the lack of possible campsites. After moving off the trail sufficiently, the adults were ready to settle for a barren stretch of sand that, while still boring, would afford fewer sore adult backs in the morning. **RJ**,

however, was undeterred. A little further away beyond some trees, he found a cozy alcove among some perfect climbing rocks and even some pines to offer a little shade.

We set up camp and ate lunch. **RJ**, **Sebastian** and **Ethan** volunteered to help out some younger Scouts by running back to the car for errant tent poles. Then we all went on a short hike up to Pine City where we found the really big (and proper) climbing rocks. All was right with the world again.

We returned to camp for dinner and the boys played capture the flag among our own rocks till well after dark. The Milky Way came out, we may or may not have heard a “bob-cat,” and then we went to bed. We are pleased to report that the new green 3-man tents can still hold a 7-kid card party inside.

On Sunday we broke camp, held a short Scout’s Own on the rocks and headed back to the cars. Since we made good time back (thoughts of In-N-Out will do that), we made a quick side trip hike to the Desert Queen gold mine, which was operational until 1961, and saw the shafts and derelict equipment.

We’d like to thank **Mr. Moline** and **Mr. Petersen**, whose attendance and driving made this trip possible, and also **Mrs. Lopez** for organizing the payments, paperwork and tour permit.

– ASM Gene Mason, AOC



Troop 97 Makes a Fine Showing at Camporee 2016

APRIL 29 - MAY 1, 2016 – This year's Los Amigos District Camporee was held at Oso Lake (Rancho Santa Margarita) rather than Firestone. New this year was a canoeing event and a 2-mile hike around the lake. Prizes were split into three age divisions and all T97 patrols placed in at least one event. Our first-year patrol, the **Honey Badgers**, did a great job working together on their first group outing, and the senior patrol **Rangemasters** turned in a strong performance, placing in several competitions. **Andy** and **RJ**, as SPL and acting-ASPL, were effective leaders throughout the weekend. We also congratulate **Michael Z** on being inducted into the Order of the Arrow at the Camporee Campfire. Below are our competition results:

Honey Badgers (Devonte, Daniel, Diego, Keith, Jake, Dylan, Joey)

- 1st Tomahawks
- 1st First Aid
- 2nd Canoeing
- 2nd Golden Spoon

Jackalopes (Shaun, Gabe, Alex)

- 1st Lumberjack

Burnt Toast/Spicy Tacos (Kyle, Kobin, John, Peter, Ethan, Justen, William)

- 1st First Aid (perfect score!)

Rangemasters (RJ, Andy, Skye, Michael, Sebastian)

- 2nd Overall
- 1st Orienteering
- 1st Tomahawks
- 1st Golden Spoon
- 2nd Blind Tent Setup
- 2nd First Aid
- 3rd Lumberjack

Troop 97 ran the First Aid event which was expertly organized again by **ASM Dr. Carr**. Patrols had to assess four different emergency scenarios, demonstrate proper bandaging, perform patient transport without stretchers and describe proper use of automatic defibrillators. Thanks to strong parent support of this outing, we had enough judges to quickly run visiting patrols through our challenging event. In addition to Dr. Carr, we'd like to thank **Mr. Nguyen** and new parents **Mrs. Roberts** and **Mr. Finken** for making this outing successful. We'd also like to thank **Mr. Graham** for collecting money and registering the Troop and **Mrs. Lopez** for filing the tour permit.

– ASM Gene Mason



Photos: Bob Muleady



Scout-O-Rama 2016

MAY 7, 2016 – Scout-O-Rama was at Oak Canyon Park again this year with many demonstrations of Scout skills and plenty of delicious, free cooking samples to go around. Troop 97’s booth featured our traditional pigs-in-a-blanket snacks made in Dutch ovens, the famous nail-stacking game, gum drop construction, and the stilt-walking challenge. Heavy rain Friday night and rain again Saturday afternoon kept the dust down and created just the right amount of mud for maximum kid enjoyment. We would like to thank all of the Scouts and families that helped with this event, but we especially recognize **Mrs. Jauregui** for registering us, **Mrs. Rawlins** for supply purchases, **Mrs. Razi** for Camp Card sales, and **Mr. Gibson** and **Mr. Phillips** for hauling all the equipment.

– ASM Gene Mason



Photos: Gene Mason

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