

The Echo

May/Jun./Jul. 2008 Edition
BSA



Verdugo Hills Council,

Mission Popable: Rhys Teff is Verdugo Hills Council Top Popcorn Sales Scout!

Rhys Teff, Tenderfoot Scout of Troop 288 took the top prize as Top Popcorn Sales Scout with sales of \$2,504 this past season. Rhys has sold popcorn to fund his year of Scouting – every year- since he was a Tiger Cub. What's his secret you ask? He likes selling and he keeps on trying, even when a “no” response comes his way.

Rhys, who is a couple rank requirements away from being a Second Class Scout, enjoys everything Scouting has to offer. He aspires to attain the rank of Eagle one day and his attitude displays it.

On funding his way through Scouting, Rhys goes around his neighborhood with a “take order” popcorn form and lets people make their selection for delicious products they want to have. Once the take order time is complete Rhys goes into “show & sell” action by displaying ready to purchase popcorn product in store fronts locally where he lives. Of course with the store’s permission, he sells popcorn for about three weeks before he’s all out.

Rhys has funded his ideal year of Scouting each year over. It has allowed him to attend every outing he’s wanted to go on, be at every activity he’s wanted to be present at, have supplies and materials for all the fun Scouting stuff he looks forward to, and to pay his own way throughout it all.

Congratulations on a job well done Rhys! Keep it up!

2010 JAMBOREE

The Verdugo Hills Council is currently beginning the planning for the 2010 Jamboree!!! Please ask those you know that would make good Jamboree leaders to apply for be SM or one of the ASM’s. The deadline for submission of adult resumes will be Friday, August 29, 2008. There are forms on the website and in the Council Auditorium as to what information is required on your Scouting resume for the Jamboree Committee.

Two Jamboree information meetings have also been set: Thursday, October 30, 2008 at the Council Office, and Wednesday, November 5, 2008, in the Foothill District—exact location will follow later. Don’t dawdle—2010 will be here soon!!! If you need more information - please contact Verdugo Hills 2010 Jamboree Chairman—Larry Widdis at email: LWiddis@aol.com

MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW FOR: CUB SCOUT DAY CAMP 2008

“Wrangler Round-up!!!”

Are you looking for a golden opportunity for Cub Scouting fun? If so, make sure you sign up for Cub Scout Day Camp this summer! You can go to Camp Akela at Hansen Dam in August! The programs will include a variety of fun-filled crafts, activities, and opportunities for achievement and recognition. Don't miss this awesome chance for fun and enrichment this summer! Our town sheriffs (Den Leaders) and trackers (Den Chiefs) will be forming Posse's with as many deputies as we can roundup. Fee includes T-shirt and hat.

Camp Akela

August 11 – 14, 2008

Mon-Thurs 1:30pm – 6:30pm

Hansen Dam

Lake View Terrace

Camp Fees: \$80.00

Also: CAMP STAFF NEEDED

Adult Staff and Junior Staff Volunteers required immediately. These are 4 – Day Camps. If you are a 1st Class or 14 years of age or older you can receive up to 32 service hours by volunteering for this event. For more information please visit the website: www.vhcbasa.org, or contact Paul Reyes: phone: 818-243-6282, or email: preyes@bsamail.org.

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SCOUT CHALLENGE

On May 10, 2008, the Verdugo Hills Council will hold it's first annual Scout Challenge!!! The Scout Challenge is will be a photo scavenger hunt “type” event. For more information, please contact Council Activities Chairman Greg Granja via email: granjagl@aol.com.

Congratulations New Eagle Scouts!

The following young men have achieved the prestigious rank of Eagle Scout in the past three months:

David Bright	Troop 210
Jeffrey Facer	Troop 395
Justin Gillett	Troop 210
Stephen Johnson	Troop 106
Brendan Kelly	Troop 50
Christopher Rincon	Troop 288
Ethan Wiberg	Troop 390
Erik Anderson	Troop 398
Steven Johnson	Troop 398
Andrew Bentz	Troop 395
David Bentz	Troop 395
Raffi Diradourian	Troop 288
Jeffrey Graf	Troop 395
Lorenzo Hidalgo	Troop 188
Yihwan Kim	Troop 209
Alexander Ward	Troop 398
Zachary Ward	Crew 398



Spring Cub On - Rocket Academy! A huge success!!!

By: Kirstin Hofhine, Den Leader Pack 302

Held the last weekend in April every year, Rocket Academy takes place at our Council's very own Camp Verdugo Oaks, located just above Castaic Lake.

Crafts at this year's event included making UFO's, bead and lanyard work, leather crafting, painting rocket neckerchief slides and (most importantly) building your own rocket. The crafts area was facilitated by Win Ieraci from Pack and Troop 50 (Village Christian School in Sunland) with help from Pack 302's own Wolf leader, Kirstin Hofhine. A heartfelt thank you goes to Barb Peterson, the wife of Pack 302's Bob Peterson, for taking her time to cast 300+ plaster rocket neckerchief slides for the event – every single one was painted! Also a huge thanks to David Potter, who chaired the event, Rocket Master Joe Davenport, Assistant Rocket Master Gary Plumtree, and the Order of the Arrow Lodge—who ran the kitchen and worked as the service corps for the weekend!

Additional activities included archery, BB guns, rock throwing, box hockey, building with life-size tinker toys, swimming...and of course the launch of the rockets! Pack 302 Scouts held the honor of the final launch at Rocket Academy, achieving notability as the most successful one (in my opinion) with every rocket firing on cue.

As to activities throughout the day, a great time was had building with the giant tinker toys, and most youth could often be found in the Box Hockey area. Several youth also donned their swimsuit and entered the pool for a swim test administered by Camp first aid lady and pool supervisor, Bev Naudet of Pack and Troop 315 (Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in Sunland).

If you missed this year, please try to join us next April – it is a wonderful event, and one of the few where your Scout can earn the BB gun and Archery belt loops, or work toward those pins.

Council Calendar

Please refer to the Calendar Section of the website for your updated calendar. Remember: Dates subject to change - please call the Council to confirm. Phone (818) 243-6282 or Fax (818) 243-5169.

The Commissioner's Corner

By: Skip Gillett, IEC District Commissioner

Many adult leaders in Verdugo Hills Council are not aware of what a Commissioner's responsibilities are and many leaders do not have a Commissioner assigned to their unit. Unfortunately this scenario is way too common. Every troop, pack and crew should have a commissioner assigned to them. Every Commissioner should have no more than three units to be responsible for. That would be in a perfect world. The Commissioners in Verdugo Hills Council handle as many as six units and unfortunately, many units do not have a Commissioner.

Let's see what we can do about that. If everyone knew what a Commissioner's responsibilities are, then perhaps we can generate a little more enthusiasm and get more Commissioners on board. The Commissioner plays several roles, including friend, representative, unit-"doctor", teacher and counselor. First of all, the commissioner is a friend of the unit, the most important role of the commissioner.

Secondly, the commissioner is a representative. The average unit leader is totally occupied in working with the Scouts and has very little contact with the Boy Scouts of America. To them, the commissioner is the Boy Scouts and it is necessary to believe in the ideals, principles, and the policies of the Scouting movement.

The Commissioner is a unit "doctor". Prevention is better than a cure. It is necessary to see that the units make good "health practices" a way of life. When problems arise, the commissioner must act quickly, observe the symptoms, diagnose the ailment, prescribe a remedy and follow up on the patient. The Commissioner is a teacher, participating in the growth of the unit leaders, by sharing knowledge.

Lastly, the commissioner is a counselor. Helping the units solve their own problems. Everyone needs counseling from time to time, even experienced leaders.

Naturally, to be a Unit Commissioner, training is necessary. The training is a little different than other training schedules for adults. The format is the Commissioner's College. There are basic, bachelors, masters and Doctorate training sessions. Most commissioners take one course a year and each session is held in an eight hour day.

The unit commissioner is a Scouting generalist whose passionate overriding mission in Scouting is to help units succeed. Many parents of Eagle Scouts might want to stay involved in Scouting. Some adults might want to provide a service that will make a difference and others might find the words just read so inspiring, that you want to join the Commissioner Staff.

The only reason for having commissioners is to help units succeed.

The Foothill District Commissioner: Mark Ewoldsen: mewoldsen@dslextre.com

Or Foothills District Executive: Tony Enterante: Tenteran@bsamail.org

Iron Eyes Cody District Commissioner: Skipgillett@charter.net

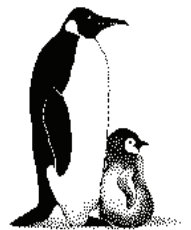
Or Iron Eyes Cody District Executive: Paul Reyes: PREyes@bsamail.org

President's Pipeline

By: Dennis Fors, 2008 Council President

Fellow VHC Scouters: there have been so many wonderful recent highlights in our Council, it's hard to know where to begin. Here are some that come to mind:

- Our Homenetmen (Armenian) Scouts had a well-attended and very uplifting grand opening of their new Camp Tecuya near Frazier Park. We wish them all the best with the new facility and look forward to holding our VHC Camporee there this fall.
- Under the leadership of Co-Chairs Dede Mueller & Greg Krikorian and their committee, we had a very successful and enjoyable Big Strike Auction. Thanks to all of you who so generously contributed to this major fundraising event.
- Attendance at our Cub Scout Rocket Academy zoomed to over 500 this year! Despite the heavy attendance & record heat, everyone had a terrific time thanks to the efforts of over 50 volunteers, including 25 older Scouts. Congratulations to all of our volunteers for a superb job.
- We've been having record turnouts at our various training sessions. Please keep coming... our excellent training staff can help you to deliver a quality program to your youth.
- Verdugo Hills Council continues to set the pace in unit and member growth. Invite your friends to join!



I hope you're all remembering to take an outing at least monthly and render a good turn every day. These goals have helped me to get more out of life, and I commend them to you in this Year of the Penguin.

SPE-LE-YAI LODGE IS OFF TO ANOTHER GREAT START

By: Ross Arnold, Lodge Advisor

In March, the Lodge participated in the W4A Conclave at Forest Lawn Scout Reservation. We were in charge of providing the sports activities, which was very challenging given the low temperature. At the Conclave our former Lodge Chief Manuel Sibrian was elected Section Vice-Chief. We had 20 of our members register for this annual activity. Next year our Lodge is the host lodge in March of 2009. In late April, the Lodge supported outdoor program by providing service at the Cub Scout Rocket Academy at CVO. Not only was one of our members the chair of this event, David Potter, but we also manned the Kitchen, worked in the Trading Post, and ran the campfire program. We also provided an Arrow of Light Ceremony during the campfire. The following weekend the Lodge held its annual Spring Service Weekend and Ordeal. We provided a great deal of service to CVO and inducted over 20 new members into our Lodge. Because Spe-Le-Yai is the host lodge for the next Conclave, we will be hosting all the Section Meetings for the coming year. The first Section Meeting will be held at the Council Office the first Saturday in June and will include a tour of our Council's Scout Museum.

During the summer of 2008, six of our members will be participating in ArrowCorp⁵. The Order of the Arrow has had a long-standing interest in coordinating a national service project, utilizing the infrastructure and leadership established over many years of success at the Boy Scouts of America's high adventure bases. Working closely together, the United States Forest Service and the OA have chosen five project sites, spread across America that will be the focus of our combined efforts. ArrowCorps⁵ (pronounced Arrow Corps Five) will provide an once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for each participant to set an example of leadership in service to those who treasure our national forests. Our lodge members will travel to Shasta-Trinity National Forest the second week of July. The ArrowCorps⁵ Shasta-Trinity National Forest Project (ASTP) is located in the Shasta-Trinity National Forest an hour drive through 60 miles of magnificent country side north of Redding, California. The California /Oregon border is another 60 miles north. Interstate 5 (I5), a major north-south highway, bisects the project into east and west sections, with the city of Mt. Shasta, at an elevation of about 3600 feet, being at about the center of the entire project elements. The ASTP consists of several elements of work on the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT), feeder trails to the PCT, illegal dump site clean-up, and fuel reduction. The purpose of the project is to provide much needed assistance to the National Forest with trail maintenance and clean-up that otherwise would not be done.

If you have any questions or would like more information about the Lodge, please contact the Lodge Adviser, Ross Arnold at 323-605-2740 or Arnold_Ross@lacoee.org or the Loge Staff Adviser, Tony Enterante at 818-243-62-82 extension 104 or Tenterante@bsamail.org.

From Guides for Officers and Advisers, 2006

Camp Promotion Team:

Every Order of the Arrow lodge has the responsibility to do a good job of promoting Scout camping. Arrowmen can do camping promotion individually in their unit or by becoming a member of the lodge's camp promotion committee. The lodge works closely with the council camping committee. The lodge supports the camping committee and, when requested, provides presentations to units on opportunities for summer camp and weekend camping experiences. These presentations can be in the form of a PowerPoint, videos, or display boards. Arrowmen are enthusiastic about camping and never miss an opportunity to encourage Scouts to enjoy the great outdoors. They are prepared to talk to parents of young men about the value of camping for their sons. If you would like a Camp Promotion presentation, please contact Joe Davenport at (818) 842-8272.

Unit Election Team

Often when a unit requests a camp promotion presentation the Unit Election Team goes along to provide the unit their annual Order of the Arrow election. Conducting successful unit elections are important for a number of reasons. First, they help accomplish the Order's purpose by providing new candidates for membership in the OA. The purpose of the unit election is to recognize those campers, Scouts and Scouters, who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives. This is the cornerstone of the OA and it relies on the unit elections to accomplish it. The unit election is also the first step in the induction process. The Order is very unique organization because candidates are elected by members and non-members. Since the non-members are not familiar with the Order, the unit elections must convey the principles and ideals of our organization so they can evaluate those who are eligible.

When the Election Team meets with the Scoutmaster before the troop meeting, they will ask for a list of eligible members. Before the elections, the Scoutmaster must determine which Scouts are eligible and if these Scouts are interested in becoming a member of the OA. After the election, the results of the vote is given to the Scoutmaster who may announce the result or wait until the next call out to have the Scouts "Called-out" at a Camp-O-Ree. It is not a requirement to participate in a "Call-out" to become a candidate. For example, if a unit holds its annual unit elections in the spring, their Scouts may take part in the Spring Ordeal in May and not have to wait until the Fall Camp-O-Ree to be "Called out".

To be eligible for membership in the OA, a youth Scout, under the age of 21, must meet the following requirement:

- Approval by Scoutmaster or Varsity team Coach
 - Be registered member of a Boy Scout troop or Varsity Scout team and hold First Class rank
 - Experienced fifteen (15) days and nights must include, but no more than one, long-term camp consisting of six consecutive days and nights of resident camping, approved and under the auspices and standards of the Boy Scouts of America. The balance of the camping must be overnight, weekend, or other short-term camps.
- Adult Scouters, 21 years of age or older and registered members of the Boy Scouts of America, can be considered candidates for adult membership in the OA. In each unit, if at least one youth candidate is elected, for every 50 registered Scouts, the unit committee may nominate one adult that meets the following requirements:
- Selection is based on their ability to perform the necessary function to help the Order fulfill its purpose, and is not for recognition.
 - The individual must be an asset to the Order because the demonstration abilities that fulfill the purpose of the Order.
 - The camping requirements set forth for youth members are fulfilled.
 - The adult leader's membership will provide a positive role model for the growth and development of the youth membership of the lodge.

If you would like the Lodge to conduct an election, please contact Paul Reyes at (818) 243-6282, extension 114.

Tributes

A donation to the Verdugo Hills Council
has been given in Honor of:

Mr. Fred Fiedler

Due to space limitations—if you would like the list of all who generously donated in honor of Mr. Fiedler—please contact Cece Nazarian at the Council Office: 818-243-6282, ext. 117

THE FOOTHILL DISTRICT DINNER

Date: Saturday, June 14, 2008
Time: 6:00 p.m. Social, 6:30 p.m. Dinner
Place: LDS La Crescenta Stake Center
4550 Raymond Avenue
La Crescenta, CA 91214

Cost: \$20.00 per person – until 6/1/07
\$40.00 per couple – until 6/1/07
\$25.00 per person – after 6/1/07
\$50.00 per couple – after 6/1/07

Who's invited?

All Volunteers in Scouting, Scoutmasters & Assistants, Cubmasters & Assistants, Committee Chairmen, Members of the Committee, Varsity Coaches & Assistants, Den Leaders & Assistants, Webelos Den Leaders & Assistants, Chartered Organization Representatives, District Committee Members, Commissioners and Guests.

Why do we have a District Dinner?

To recognize Packs, Troops, Teams & Volunteers for their service and participation during the past year. Highlights include the presentation of the District Award of Merit, Veteran's Award, Spouse Award, Extra Miler Award, Cubmaster Award, Cub Scouter Award, Den Leader Award, Webelos Den Leader Award, Den Leader Coach Award, Scouter's Training Award, Scouter's Key, Scoutmaster Award of Merit, Commissioner's Arrowhead Honor Award, Distinguished Commissioner's Service Award, Summertime Pack Award & National Camping Award.

Please nominate deserving adults & units for awards.

Forms are available on the Council Website: www.vhcbasa.org
"Committee Chairs and Unit Leaders: It is your responsibility to recognize the outstanding adult volunteers from your units so use these forms and, please, DO IT NOW!"

For more information, contact Tony Enterante, Asst. Scout Executive @ (818) 243-6282, Ext. 104; email: tenteran@bsamail.org

All award nominations must be turned in by May 23, 2007

A Cubmaster Minute

By: Paul Dols, Cubmaster Pack 310

When I think about what Cub Scouting means to me and my family I think of the friendships we have developed over the past few years and the skills and experiences we have had in our den. I also think about the experience as a Cubmaster and watching each of the boys in our Pack grow and become the epitome of what Scouting means. The Blue and Gold Dinner is the time we set aside each year to celebrate the contribution of Scouting to our community, our country, and our world. The Cub Scout Promise says it better than I can, our boys "promise to do their best, to do their duty to God and their country, and to obey the law of the Pack..." I am proud to be part of the Cub Scout tradition in the Crescenta Valley and the Verdugo Hills Council, and I am proud to be part of a loving, caring environment like Pack 310.

CUB SCOUT BIKE RODEO

Save the date! June 14, 2008 will be our Cub Scout Bike Rodeo. More information will be available on the Council Website:
www.vhcbasa.org!!!

Verdugo Hills Council

BOY SCOUTS  OF AMERICA®

Want current information about what's going on in the Verdugo Hills Council?



Check out our Web Pages at www.vhcsa.org, or connect up with someone in your unit who's on the district email list.

Foothill District:

Tony Enterante at tenteran@bsaemail.org

Iron Eyes Cody District:

Paul Reyes at preyes@bsaemail.org

Learning for Life/Scoutreach:

Vacant – please contact Tony Enterante

Finance/Endowment:

Maricela Orendain at morendai@bsaemail.org

Event Information:

Cece Nazarian at cnazarin@bsaemail.org



Verdugo Hills Council, BSA

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Glendale, CA 91201

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(818) 243-5169 (Fax)

Council Office Hours

Monday - Friday
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Scout Shop Hours

Monday - Friday
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Camp Verdugo Oaks

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Castaic, CA 91384

(661) 257-2265 (Voice)

(661) 257-0733 (Fax)

The Echo

Editor - Tony Enterante

BSA Websites

Council: www.vhcsa.org

National: www.scouting.org

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