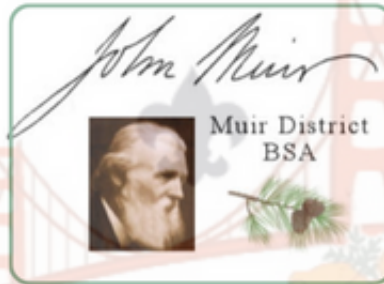


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Muir Newsletter May 2024

4/24/2024



May 2, 2024 District Roundtable In-Person!

The May 2024 Roundtable is scheduled for *Thursday, May 2, 2024 at 7:30 PM* in-person at the Concord Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Hall, 2290 Willow Pass Rd, Concord, CA 94520.

If you have any questions for Roundtable, please contact Arnel Jaime - District Commissioner, arnel.scouting@gmail.com and Mark Hall - Roundtable Commissioner, scouts@halls.net.



2024
National Venturing
Leadership Award



Muir District's and GGAC's First National Venturing Leadership Award Recipient: Patrick Jaime!

Congratulations to Patrick Jaime on being awarded the National Venturing
Leadership Award for 2024!

View the original announcement here:
<https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2024/04/15/meet-the-2024-recipients-of-the-national-venturing-leadership-award/>.

The Venturing Leadership Award (VLA) honors Venturers and Venturing Advisors who display exceptional dedication, give outstanding leadership and service to Venturing and Venturers, and who exemplify the Scout Oath and Scout Law. The VLA may be awarded at the Council, Territory, and National levels of the Venturing program. The National Venturing Leadership Award is conferred to those youth and adults who have gone above and beyond in the Venturing program to make an impact nationally.

Patrick is the first in Muir District and GGAC (since the 2020 council merger) to receive the National VLA and according to limited records, second within GGAC's legacy councils after Edward Abraham (SFBAC), 2015-16 National Venturing President. To date, Patrick has been awarded 5 of the 5 possible VLAs: Council VLA in 2018, Area VLA in 2018, Region VLA in 2021, Territory VLA in 2022, and now the National VLA in 2024; and has served 9-10 years in Venturing leadership positions.

Patrick Jaime has been involved with Venturing since 2014. He currently serves as the Council Service Territory 3 Venturing Advisor/Coordinator where he advises and guides the CST 3 VOA President, Vice President, and Task Forces in promoting and supporting the Venturing program of CST 3's respective councils. His involvement helps support the execution of the Venturing program in parts of California and Nevada. Patrick also serves as the National Venturing Committee's Awards & Recognition Pillar Deputy Chair, GGAC Assistant Council Commissioner for Venturing, Muir District Communications Chair, and multiple other positions in GGAC. Patrick is an Eagle Scout with 120 merit badges and 19 Eagle Palms (when he was still a youth) and a Summit Rank Recipient. He is an Order of the Arrow Vigil Honor Member of the Yerba Buena Lodge (formerly Ut-In Sélica Lodge), and a recipient of the District Award of Merit, James E. West Fellowship Award, Messengers of Peace Award, and Commissioner's Arrowhead Honor.

Note: the National VLA is limited to 12 recipients per year and voted by a selection committee at the national level consisting of past National VLA recipients. The National VLA is denoted by a silver medallion suspended from a red and white colored ribbon.

This was announced on 2/24/2023.



Muir Packs and Troops Photo Submissions

Greetings all Muir Packs & Troops! The Muir District wants to recognize and promote you and the activities you do via this FB group. If you are a member of this FB group, please post photos of your Pack/Troop participating in Scouting activities and include a brief article. I will limit these posts to once a week with exceptions for special events (Blue & Gold, Scout Sunday, Summer Camp, etc.).

As always, please adhere to BSA YPT policies including not tagging/writing the names of Scouts under age 18, make sure to get consent from the parents/guardians of Scouts before posting photos, and ensure the photos are Scouting appropriate.

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Muir Scouts in Action or Scouting Activities Submissions

At the same time, if you have any pictures or videos of Muir District Scouts in Action (service projects, heroism, etc.) or Scouting Activities (BSA derbies, training, blue and gold, court of honor, etc.) please email them to patrickj0208@yahoo.com and include a copy of the Medical Record ([Part A](#)) release for each Scout so that they can be recognized/featured in the District Newsletters!

We also accept any submissions of notable Scouting-related recognitions, awards, or news of Scouts/Scouters.

This was updated on 2/22/2024.



Scouting's Barriers to Abuse Update

Effective 9/1/2023

Youth Protection Barriers to Abuse Update – September 2023 (Clarification for Overnights)

All adults staying overnight in connection with a Scouting activity must be currently registered as an adult volunteer or an adult program participant. Adult volunteers must register in the position(s) they are serving in. For example, a Troop 123 leader **CANNOT** camp with Troop 321 *unless they are also a registered adult in Troop 321*.

Registration as a merit badge counselor position does not meet this requirement.

Please see the below excerpts from Aaron on Scouting:

"Q: Our Scouts BSA boy troop and our Scouts BSA girl troop are linked. Which troop do I need to be registered with to go on a joint campout?"

A: First, each troop is a separate unit and therefore each troop/unit must provide its own two-deep leadership, meeting the leadership requirements outlined in Scouting's Barriers to Abuse. Second, as with all adult volunteers, you must be registered for the position(s) in which you are serving. If you will be attending with the girl troop, you must be registered as an adult volunteer in the girl troop. If you will be attending with the boy troop, you must be registered as an adult volunteer in the boy troop. You can register for both troops (at no extra charge) and can select one troop for your primary registration and add the other troop as a multiple registration."

"Q: What about when Arrow of Light dens camp with Scouts BSA troops? Do the Arrow of Light parents have to register?"

A: The Arrow of Light den must camp according to the specific camping guidance for Cub Scouts. That means that Cub Scout parents or legal guardians are not required to register as leaders if they are attending with their own child or legal ward. However, they must be accompanied by a registered leader any time they are with youth members of any age other than their own child or ward. As always, one-on-one contact between any adult and youth members other than their own child or ward is prohibited. Reminder, if the troop and pack to which the AOL den belongs do not share the same charter partner, the troop and AOL den must receive permission from the council to hold the joint activity (see the [camping section in the Guide to Safe Scouting](#) for more camping details)."

Please share to all your Packs, Troops, units, and fellow volunteers.

[Youth Protection 2023 Update](#)

[Aaron on Scouting Q&A article](#)

This was updated on 2/22/2024.



Calling all Muir Eagle Scouts to join the GGAC Eagles Nest!

The GGAC Eagles Nest is an Eagle Scout community that launched on June 4, 2023 and since then, we are already 580+ members strong. This network of Eagle Scouts provides an opportunity for you to connect, learn, and grow alongside like-minded individuals who share your passion for Scouting. Now is the perfect time to join *and it's free*.

Earning the Eagle Scout award is a significant accomplishment that demonstrates exceptional leadership, character, and service to others. If you have earned this prestigious rank and are looking for ways to connect with other Eagle Scouts, consider joining the Golden Gate Area Council's Eagle's Nest. This group is open to all Eagle Scouts who reside, work, are registered, or were once members of the [GGAC or any of its legacy councils](#). Celebrate your achievement by joining the Eagle's Nest today and connecting with a community of fellow Eagle Scouts.

As a member of the Eagle's Nest, you'll gain access to various benefits and perks designed exclusively for Eagle Scouts. Here are a few highlights:

- **Stay Informed:** Receive timely emails with Eagle Scout-specific updates, news, and events.
- **Connections:** Connect with fellow Eagle Scouts through gatherings and events created for networking and fellowship.

- Get Eagle Gear: Enjoy early access to GGAC Eagle Scout & Eagle's Nest gear to display your achievement proudly.
- **Showcase Your Success:** Add your photo to our [Digital Eagle Scout Wall](#) and place a marker on our [Eagle Scout Project Map](#).

[Click Here to Join the Eagles Nest Today!](#)

Feel free to contact me for any Eagles Nest-related inquiries!

Once an Eagle, Always an Eagle

Patrick Jaime

Council NESAs Committee | Muir District Eagles Nest Ambassador

Golden Gate Area Council, BSA

(925) 451-6944 | patrickj0208@yahoo.com

<https://eagles.ggacbsa.org>



This was announced on 5/24/2023.



[Scouts BSA Troop social media content & resources](#)

Not sure if you are aware but National does have an active Scouts BSA Facebook page with all sort of content and resources for Troops. These posts cover content from camping, advancement, program, training, and more based on real time updates. For example, there will be several posts about camping and merit badges during Summer Camp season.

Check it out below and like/follow if you are not already!
<https://www.facebook.com/officialscoutsbsa>.



GGAC Eagle Rank Process

Attention Muir Eagle Coaches and scouts working on Eagle Scout: Eagle Scout Rank applications are sent to Golden Gate Area Council for approval signature by Nicole Ruvalcabo. Nicole's email is nicole.ruvalcabo@scouting.org.

If you have any Life Scouts who are nearing age 18, please have him or her visit the links here: [Eagle Rank Extension - Guide](#) & [Eagle Rank Extension - Form](#).

Muir District Website (subdomain of Council Website)

Reminder: we have a [website for our District!](#) Please go and check it out! Currently, the Zoom information for both the District Roundtable and the Commissioner & Committee Meetings are posted on the Home page. Advancement information such as the Life to Eagle Process, Guide to Advancement, and COVID-19 Advancement is available. There are Unit contacts which redirects to beascout.org.

<https://muir.ggacbsa.org>

Wek-Wek Village, Order of the Arrow web page

We also have a web page linked to the Muir website for the Wek-Wek Village, Order of the Arrow! It is located under the "OA tab at top in the Menu bar or you may go to: <https://muir.ggacbsa.org/wek-wek-village/>. That web page will have recent announcements, upcoming meetings/events, Village leadership roster, and a link to their Facebook page.

If you have any feedback on what we should have on our District website or OA web page, please let Patrick Jaime, District Communications Chair know at: patrickj0208@yahoo.com!



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

ORDER OF THE ARROW

Next Wek-Wek Village Meeting will tentatively be hybrid (Zoom and/or in-person) on March 2024!

Date, time, and location details will be posted on our Facebook page as soon as they are confirmed. Stay tuned for further updates via the link below:

<https://www.facebook.com/WekWekVillage>

Wek-Wek Village Merchandise for sale!

Purchase orders for Wek-Wek Village Merchandise are open for the upcoming holiday season! Show some Arrowman pride! Don't have to be an active OA member to purchase. Click the picture or on this link to order today: <https://forms.gle/F2488vuefBt6Y5oX9>



SALE
SALE
SALE
SALE



WEK - WEK VILLAGE MERCHANDISE

LIMITED EDITION

Order yours today at

<https://forms.gle/F2488vuefBt6Y5oX9>

Questions, comments, concerns
email us at
wekwek.yerbabuena.aa@gmail.com.

This was updated on 10/24/2023.



UPDATE: Mandated Reporter Training from the State of California has a 2 year expiration date.

The State of California passed AB506, which took effect on January 1, 2022. In 2023, the State updated the policy such that the Mandated Reporter training must be retaken every two years. In addition, the state has a *new higher quality version of the training*. This new training can be accessed from the California Scouting website: <https://californiascouting.org/training>.

The GGAC Executive Board has decided to treat this Mandated Reporter training like YPT requiring all adults to have a valid Mandated Reporter certificate for the entire registration period (through December 31, 2024). Therefore, most adults must retake Mandated Reporter training before they are eligible to recharter with their unit. **Note:** the Live Scan background check is currently NOT required every two years (supposedly just once and done).

Mandated Reporter Training is required in addition to our BSA Youth Protection Training. Volunteer leaders must complete the 2 hour training (or take it again before the expiration date) and upload their certificate here: <https://californiascouting.org/ggac/>.

Training details can be found at: <https://californiascouting.org>

AB 506: Live Scan background check (complete ASAP if you have not already)

A Live Scan background check (the digital version of inked fingerprinting) is required for all volunteers and staff. Live Scan replaces previous background checks; all volunteers will have to complete this once (if you haven't done so already).

We appreciate your patience and assistance as we join all California Youth Service

Organizations in improving youth protection.

District Committee Positions

Calling all adults over 21 years of age! If you are interested in or would like to learn more on how you can help Scouting in our area, contact our District Nominating Chair Arnel Jaime at arnel.scouting@gmail.com.



Muir District News

Want to get some late breaking Scouting news or post an event? Then join our Muir District Facebook Group page. Follow the link below, answer a quick question regarding your Scouting experience, and you will gain access to the group page. Don't forget to share this with members of your Pack or Troop!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/325497627480390/>

Latest/past District Newsletters can be found on our website's home page by clicking the "News" tab on the menu bar or go here: <https://muir.ggacbsa.org/news/>

Council News

Check out the Council website for the latest Council news, and updates:

<https://ggacbsa.org>.

Latest/past Council e-News can be found here: <https://ggacbsa.org/#elementor-action%3Aaction%3Dpopup%3Aopen%26settings%3DeyJpZCI6IjE5NjkwliwidG9nZ2xlljpmYWxzZX0%3D>

If you are not receiving the Council eNews, you may subscribe here:

<https://share.hsforms.com/1SAx-4jdpRreiwThejz8U7Qcwum3>



Congratulations to our Newest Muir Eagle Scout!

- Nathan Nicolas Fonken, T1351, 03/25/2024
 - Project Title: VFW Pathway Lighting Project
 - Project Summary: The scout installed 7 low-LED lights along a walkway at the VFW to light the path for older veterans. He originally intended to have the wires run through a PVC pipe but switched to just burying the wires. It would be easier for the workers to not deal with "weird angles of the trench" and tree roots and he hoped to save the beneficiary some money.
-



SCOUT SHOP
Official Retailer of the BSA

Pleasant Hill Scout Shop Information

The Scout Shop in Pleasant Hill is open and waiting for you to come purchase all your supplies! 508 Contra Costa Blvd. Suite K2, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523. Please visit [GGAC Scout Shop \(ggacbsa.org\)](http://ggacbsa.org) for information before you go. Store hours (including lunch break), available items, how to order ahead, and other useful tips are there.



Powerful Cub Scout leader resources

A lot of useful content is being posted on Scoutingwire at: <https://scoutingwire.org>.

From giving your new Den Leader instant meeting plans: <https://scoutingwire.org/this-new-video-series-delivers-the-ultimate-den-leader-experience/>.

To a host of other ideas like leading Zoom meeting for Cub Scouts, Virtual fall recruiting (including the use of digital applications and payment), and BeAScout tips, <https://scoutingwire.org/marketing-and-membership-hub/>.

GGAC Leave No Trace Courses 2024

Register now for the Spring 2024 Leave No Trace Courses; registration closes midnight May 15th. Registration for the Fall 2024 Leave No Trace Courses will be available on-line after June 2024. Email GGAC Outdoor Ethics Advocate Lillian Remer for any questions or for more information at: remer@astound.net



**Leave No Trace Level 1 Instructor
or
NEW Leave No Trace Skills Course
May 18-19, 2024
Camp Herms, El Cerrito, Ca**

We are offering a dual track hybrid course in order to comply with changes from Leave No Trace.

1. Registered Scouters (age 18 and over) may take the Level 1 (formerly Trainer) course leading to certification as a Level 1 Leave No Trace Instructor.
2. Registered Scouts (First Class and at least age 12) and Scouters may take the Leave No Trace Skills course (Certificate of Completion by Leave no Trace)

Level 1 Instructor certification will require 2 hours of on-line training and preparation of a 10-15 minute presentation prior to the weekend of outdoor training at Camp Herms.

Participants should already be familiar with the seven principles of Leave No Trace. The Skills course is highly recommended for Scouts who wish to hold the *Outdoor Ethics Guide* position of responsibility and will replace req. 6 for the National Medal for Outdoor Achievement.

Questions regarding the course may be directed to Lillian Remer at remer@astound.net

Registration will be available on line in January 2024 at <https://www.scoutingevent.com/023-LNTTSpring2024>. Cost \$40 until 2 weeks prior to class; \$45 after May 4.



**Leave No Trace Level 1 Instructor
or
NEW Leave No Trace Skills Course
October 12-13, 2024
Rancho Los Mochos, Livermore, CA**

We are offering a dual track hybrid course in order to comply with changes from Leave No Trace.

1. Registered Scouts or Scouters (age 18 and over) may take the Level 1 (formerly Trainer) course leading to certification as a Level 1 Leave No Trace Instructor
2. Registered Scouts (First Class and at least age 12) and Scouters may take the Leave No Trace Skills course (also certified by LNT.org)

Level 1 Instructor certification will require 2 hours of on line training and preparation of a presentation prior to the weekend of outdoor training at Rancho Los Mochos.

Participants should already be familiar with the seven principles of Leave No Trace. The Skills course is highly recommended for Scouts who wish to hold the *Outdoor Ethics Guide* position of responsibility and will replace req. 6 for the National Medal for Outdoor Achievement.

Questions regarding the course may be directed to Lillian Remer at remer@astound.net

Registration will be available on line after May, 2024 at <https://www.scoutingevent.com/023-LNTTFall2024>.

[Spring 2024 Registration](#)



GGAC Process for the Citizenship in Society Merit Badge

Updated information here: <https://ggacbsa.org/citizenship%20in%20society/>

All Scoutmasters and Committee Chairs received an email from May or June 2022 from the Council Advancement Committee with information about the Citizenship in Society Merit Badge.

The Scoutmaster should:

- Review the Citizenship in Society requirements.
- Review the Scout's record of completed merit badges.
- Discuss cohort participation with Scout and parent. Determine readiness.
- Complete the on-line form to submit a virtual blue card: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSca_YGcCVSBSxU-XIKSNhcmrZjr12UkrajEIWcAcy2CSuRKcw/viewform
- Ensure the parent is connected to Scout in Scoutbook as all communication and Merit Badge sign-offs will occur through Scoutbook.

MANY BSA TRAININGS ARE MOSTLY ONLINE



Scout leaders. To be registered as TRAINED in your role, you need to complete the following courses

- Basic Position-Specific Training
- Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills
- Hazardous Weather
- YPT Youth Protections

[Basic position-specific leader training](#) is for:

- Cub Scouting (Cubmaster, Assistant Cubmaster, Den Leader, Assistant Den Leader)
- Scouts BSA (Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster)
- Venturing (Crew Advisor and Associate Advisor)
- Sea Scouts BSA (all Adult Leaders)
- Exploring (Advisor and Associate Advisor)

Working on Eagle? Here are your contacts

District Advancement Chair: Carolyn Paulson: 925-586-4358, cdpaul1@hotmail.com

District Eagle Project Approval: Carl Bodin: 415-816-7307, carl.bodin@gmail.com

District Eagle Board of Review: Sherri Ruhl: 925-681-9566, muirdistricteaglechair@gmail.com

District Committee Leadership

Carl Bodin - District Chair, carl.bodin@gmail.com

Arnel Jaime - District Commissioner, arnel.scouting@gmail.com

Natalie Hannum - District Executive, natalie.hannum@scouting.org

Quick Links

Muir District subdomain (website)

<https://muir.ggacbsa.org>

Muir District Facebook Group

Council Facebook Page



Muir District Instagram
[@muidistrictbsa](#)



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Golden Gate Area Council, BSA, 6601 Owens Drive #100, Pleasanton, CA 94588

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