

MESA DISTRICT NEWS LETTER

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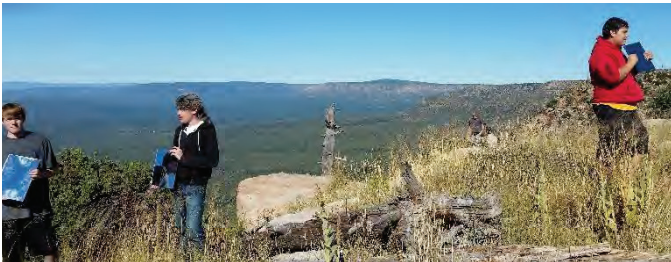
editor Dil Brinton Jr. dbrintonjr@yahoo.com

WELCOME BACK TO THE MESA DISTRICT

Last year we tried to bring back a newsletter to the Mesa District. This year we will try to have a newsletter that will have both information and pictures about the activities of the units in our district. If you would like to have your unit's activities, write it up and sent it in with a couple of pictures, to the newsletter. Let's make this year our best ever!

Yours in Scouting Dilworth Brinton Jr district scribe

VARSITY ON TARGET



Every year in September, the Mesa District Varsity scale mountains for "On Target". Each team uses mirrors to help reproduce early Arizona's heliographic system. The idea is to flash light from peak to peak using mirrors. About 700 participants had contacts from Tucson and Sierra Vista to the Rim. The east west coverage was from Phoenix to the White Mountain and the Gila Valley. About 68 teams from Arizona and 8 teams from Southern California participated. Below shows a successful 'flash' from a hundred miles away. Thanks to Bob Church and Wayne Lines for pictures of their team's adventure. Why not plan to join in next September?



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FALL CAMPOREE ON THE MORMON BATTALION TRAIL

The Fall means camporee for each scout district patrol. Although we asked for details and pictures, only the Central Patrol responded. They took about 90 boys and adults to Christmas Camp on the Mormon Battalion Trail. It is located between Maricopa and Gila Bend. The trail is a national historic trail not only for the march of the Mormon Battalion, but also the route of the Butterfield Stage Line, the Forty-Niners trail and the early Spanish trail. If done properly you can earn three separate historic trail patches at once.

The troop pitched camp on Friday night with a group from the Mormon Battalion reenactment group as part of the campfire. They tell the story of the Mormon Battalion's part in the war against Mexico in 1846. Their march across Arizona to California allowed the United States to claim the Southwest from Mexico. The flag of Christopher Layton was raised over Tucson as part of their march across Arizona.

The next day the boys hiked about 6 miles of the trail and learned about the Butterfield Stage route and the Battle of the Bulls to qualify for all three historic trail patches.

If you are interested is hiking this trail you MUST contact the Mormon Battalion group. (Call Bob Church at 480 965-2674) This area was closed to public use in 2010 and required a special use permit which is only issued to the Mormon Battalion reenactment group. Without having them along, the penalty is a \$500 fine from the Bureau of Land Management.



Shooting a flintlock rifle



Dominic Kristich gets 22nd Eagle Palm

Dominic Kristich, Mesa's Order of the Arrow past vice chief, has set a national record. With his Board of Review on December 13th, he was awarded his 22nd Eagle Palm. (That's a total of 131 merit badges!)

Dominic has recently begun his freshman year at NAU and is continuing his 11 years of active Scouting. He has his Order of the Arrow Virgil and has had two OA Lodge positions. In addition he has served on staff at all three of our council summer camps.

The former record of 20 Palms was held by Evan Spencer in Flagstaff in 2007 and was recognized as the National Record.



DE Fernando Gomez has a campfire

There used to be a merit badge called Firemanship. Now it is called Fire Safety. None the less, our District Executive, Fernando Gomez and his family should be awarded the badge!

In the early hours of December 5th, the fire alarm in their house went off. By the time the fire department arrived, the family had all escaped the house, but only wearing their pajamas. Everything was destroyed in the fire (their car was even melted). Fernando go his family settled in a nearby hotel. He borrowed a car and a scout shirt and was back on the job as our District Executive.



District Awards Dinner 2015

On December 3rd, the Mesa District held their awards dinner at E.V.I.T. In addition to great fellowship and fine food, over 100 awards were presented, including 16 Silver Beavers.

Awards given out were:

Cub Scout Hall of Fame

Greer Baldwin, Arlene Beck, Scott Beck, Christine Burrell, John Campbell, Thea Carling, Dewain Connally, Brad Dales, Kisha Gardner, Kathy Goettl, Dennis Haworth, Annette Haws, Lisa, Jones, Annette Justesen, Shannon Keydoszius, James McKinney, Karen Millett, Dave Montage, Amber Morrison Alma Parker, Sara Peacock, Sally Pickett, Janette Ramsey, Susan Ray, Adrian Wolfe.

Boy Scout Hall of Fame

Benjamin Adams, Jim Adcox, Dan Allen, Terry Baker, Maureen Baldwin, Steve Beck, Michael Bosen, Daniel Brinkerhoff, Michael Callaghan, Jennifer Cookman, Tobin Cookman, Jared Cox, Brigham Curran, Brian Driscoll, Ed Dunn, Ryan Forman, Matthew Gordon, Michael Gregg, Keith Griffin, Sylvia Hackett, Dave Hager, Lorna Hale, Jae Heiner, Wendi Heslop, Darrian Judkins, Dan Knutson, Brent Mabb, Scott Madsen, Richard MacKendrick, Michael Reeves, Kevin Scott, Sean Snitzer, Ron Taylor, Sabrina Taylor, Sherry Turner, Charles Turner, Stephanie Uchtyl, Travis Van Cleve, Mark Wagner, Sam Webb, Rob Williams, Michelle Zelinski, Keith Zelinski.

Varsity Hall of Fame

Leo Christensen, Zach Fuhriman, Levi Gibson Caleb Hinton, Johathan Hoose, Raymond Jones, Jake Lewis, Tommy Oaks, Larry Rowley, Dennis Schaub, Chris Soelberg

Venturing Hall of Fame

Jacob Hyatt, Jay Mitchell, Lance spencer, Larry Hook, Matt Fuhriman, Robert Peart, Salesi Uipi, Steve Brock

Ben Heywood Award

David Moore

District Chairman's Award

J. Mel Allen, Dick and Ada Carpenter

Family Scouting of the Year

Merrill & Wendi Heslop, Shawn & Tracy Cruse, Rob & Tiffany Williams

District Award of Merit

Rachel Angell, Greg Arnett, Manuel Banda, Shawn Cruse, Jason Dickson, Dave Dohrmann, Lennard Fuller, Owen Garner, Laure Griner, Melanie Horneman, Mike Johnson, Jennifer Knutson, James Peters, Barbie Shoemaker, Sarah Sokiveta, Herman Spier, David Weaver, Janice Wilstead