

Huddle Handout

October 7, 2004
Volume 04, Issue 10

Varsity Pledge

As a Varsity Scout, I will:

Live by the Scout Oath, Law, Motto, and Slogan;

Honor the dignity and worth of all persons;

Promote the cause of freedom;

And do my best to be good team member.

Upcoming Events

- October 7 : Huddle
- October 21 – 22: Varsity Outdoor Training
- October 28: Commissioners Meeting
- November 2 : Election Day
- November 4 : Huddle
- November 6: Scout-O-Rama
- November 14: New Leader Essentials
- November 18: Commissioners Meeting
- November 25: Thanksgiving
- December 2: Mesa District Recognitions Dinner

On Target

On September 11, 2004 more than 50 Varsity Scout Teams from the Grand Canyon Council made their way to the high points all over central Arizona. They took mirrors, maps, compasses, cell phones and radios. A record 60 Teams signed up for this years event. The activity was clouded by... well clouds from about Mount Ord to the ease edge of the state. Those peaks on the west side enjoyed sufficient sunshine to have a great activity.

Several After Action Reports have already been turned in and you are encouraged to turn one in if you haven't already. Following the shining, where possible, a reflection was held that included the reading of a letter from the Young Men General President of the

LDS Church.

On Target Pins

Pins commemorating the On Target activity will be available at Huddle. These are the pins shown on the web site (www.mesavarsity.org).

District Awards

Please take some time and nominate a worthy scout leader for an award. The forms will be at Huddle or at www.mesavarsity.com.

The District Awards Banquet will be on Huddle night in December. It's Rendezvous Year, so wear your regalia!!

Training

September 3 & 4, 2004 was the semi-annual Varsity Leader Training for the Mesa District. There were 25 participants including several from the Salt River District. Heath Lindsey, Training Chairman for the Mesa District, did a fine job of preparing the staff and organizing the training.

Upcoming trainings include:

[Varsity] Outdoor Training

This training is the fourth step in the training continuum offered by the BSA to develop trained leaders. This training will be held at {TBA} on

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Team 6666 on Myrtle Point Watches Flash from Mount Ord. The Team saw flashes from 7 locations.

Mogollon Rendezvous 2005

This month we kick off our preparations for the Mogollon Rendezvous that will be held in March next spring. This event has grown in scope and participation since it's inception in 1993. This bi-annual event is a gathering of pilgrims and pork eaters and Varsity

Scouts at the R-C Scout Ranch on scenic Christopher Creek. There will be over 50 different activities from the Mountain Man era and Varsity Scouting. Most of the activities are run on a first come first served basis with each Team or Squad presenting a passport at the activity to earn points toward

top team. The Team showing the most Scout Spirit will win the coveted LTO (live the oath) award. Many events will present awards for the best individual and Team scores for that event. Begin now to prepare your Team so they will have a significant and

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Mesa District Varsity
Commissioners

Mike Heaton
Varsity Commissioner
969-5318

Vanessa Mortensen
Huddle Commissioner
797-8449

Heath Lindsey
Training Chairman
833-6459

Jason Reed
Booshway '05
668-2818

Bob Church
On Target Chairman
649-2044

Claud Cluff
Quartermaster
964-6596

What's Happening Continued...

Friday October 21st and 22nd. The activities will begin around 8:00 with an opening campfire and cracker-barrel. Saturday Morning will begin with a morning devotional and sunrise flag ceremony. After you cook your breakfast, the training sessions begin. Sessions include Rappelling, Rendezvous, Initiative Games, Basic Scout Skills, and Cooking. The training will wrap-up with everyone gathering to eat what the cooking classes have been working on all morning.

If you haven't had this training, or want a refresher course, or just want to camping with a bunch of great guys, the sign-up and come along! Contact Heath Lindsey for details.

New Leader Essentials

The Training course will be presented at various times throughout the year. The next course will be held on November 14th at 7:00 pm at the LDS Church on Miller and Brown (between Horne & Stapley). This portion of the training continuum is

required for all leaders and is an introduction to Scouting and the BSA.

Huddle

October will bring the kick-off for the Mogollon Rendezvous 2005 at Huddle. This rendezvous preview will bring together all of the outposts with sam-



rendezvous and a special Mountain Man Regalia fashion show. Probably the first of its kind! Don't miss it! Contact Vanessa Mortensen for details.

November Huddle is our annual trip to the Red Mountain Trap & Skeet Range. The November Turkey Shoot is a favorite activity for the Mesa District. We will meet at the range on Beeline Highway a mile or so east of the Gilbert Road Intersection. The fee is \$10 unless you bring your own shotgun shells. They have a few guns to borrow, but you should probably bring your own and avoid the wait.

Jamboree On the Air

This is an annual event with Scouts participating from around the world. Scouts communicate with each other via Amateur Radio and the help of a HAM Radio operator. Contact Fred "Ham Bone" Bollinger for details (480-986-8825/ab7jf@hotmail.com).

"A Scout is never taken by surprise; he knows exactly what to do when anything unexpected happens." - Baden Powell

?????????
Alta Mesa
???-???

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Central
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Bill Woods
Citrus Heights
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Todd Lorenzen
Kimball
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Dirk Martin
Kimball East
834-4901

From the Booshway...

Jason "Harley Reed—Mogollon Rendezvous '05

A Time for Choosing

Stephen Ambrose, in his book Undaunted Courage, speaks of Meriwether Lewis' choices in preparation for the famous Lewis and Clark expedition. Since Lewis was the principle planner for the trip "the responsibility was his for deciding the size of the expedition, how it

would proceed up the Missouri River, what it would need to cross the Rocky Mountains and descend the Columbia to the Pacific Ocean and return." These were especially important decisions since once they were underway "Lewis would be stuck with the de-

isions he had made during the planning process." Due in large part to Lewis' choices prior to the expedition, the men who traveled with Lewis and Clark, successfully completed their mission and helped to open the west to future travel and exploration.



Mad Max

From the Booshway...

Lewis and Clark understood how important these decisions would be in their lives and the lives of their crew. Much like Meriwether Lewis, we are asked to make many choices on a daily basis, some of them seemingly less important than others, but all of them influential in our lives.

In a meeting for all of the people of Israel, the prophet Joshua taught the people the importance of making good choices early on. "Choose you this day whom ye will serve" he told them, maybe hoping that they would understand that if the choice is made now the decisions later would be easier. President Dwight Eisenhower has said that "in war, before the battle is joined, plans are everything, but once the shooting begins, the plans are worthless." If we have already made our choices in an early stage of life, then when we are pressured to make those choices quickly, we will not fail to choose wisely. According to Richard L. Evans, "every young man and young woman should know early in life that there will inevitably come many such decisions to be made—all of them basically involving the question as to whether or not we should face reality now, and

pay the price, or postpone it, and pay double the price later—perhaps for much lost and nothing gained." Hopefully we can all choose now to do that which is right.

What are some of the choices we need to be making now? "President Hinckley. . . stresses that small, seemingly unimportant decisions can be pivotal: 'The little decisions can be so crucial and so everlastingly important in their consequences' (Conference Report, October 1994, p. 65). It is these small and simple things, the daily little choices we make that largely determine our course" (Osborn Poelman, Anne). One of the most important choices we can make now is the type of people we surround ourselves with. Our friends can have a tremendous influence on our lives that can leave lasting marks. With good friends we can be uplifted and encouraged to do those things that will improve our lives now and in the future. The scouting program offers the opportunity to associate yourself with people who share your same values and interests. Included in that circle of influence are your scout leaders. They too will help you to make important choices. Like the picture on the

cover, your leaders are similar to the man on the horse. From the higher vantage point he can see much farther and can warn of upcoming danger before it can be seen from the ground. In the case of your leaders, this fore-sight is the result of many years of experience and learning as they have traveled through the years of their lives.

In the book The Joy of the Journey, Ardeth Kapp teaches that "the battle between good and evil is very real. We determine by the choices we make each day where we stand, what our values are, and whom we have chosen to follow." If those choices are made before they challenge us, then the moment of trial will pass by us without the struggle and indecision that often accompanies it. Whether it is the friends we hang out with, the music we listen to, the schools we will eventually go to, or the careers we pursue, now is your time for choosing. The scout motto is 'be prepared', and we can only live up to that motto by making wise choices now.

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"Political right and public happiness are different words for the same idea." --Samuel Adams

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Mogollon Rendezvous 2005

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successful experience at the rendezvous. Here are some ideas for you to use in your preparation:

Moccasins
Pouches & Bags
Capotes
Hats
Shirts
Pants
Knives
Tomahawks (Show)

Traps & Trapping
Tanning
Fire Making
- Bow
- Flint & Steel
Team Building
Games
Throwing Hawks
Throwing Knives
Cooking
Black Powder
Rifle Building
Black Powder Rifle Shooting



Harley & Keener 2003

Make Powder Horns & Ball Bags
Make Trading items
Practice trading
Tying Fly's
Leatherwork
Bead Work
Flint knapping
Learn Mountain Man terms
Make Snow shoes
Practice story telling

Mesa District Varsity Scouts

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**This is a good spot
for a catchy thought.**

www.mesavarsity.org

Varsity Service Project

We will be doing the major service project for the camp on November 20th this year, instead of at the activity. Although there will still be a component of SERVICE at the rendezvous, the Council has asked us to spray the cabins with wood sealer prior to the winter season this year. The facilities at R-C are great and we will be doing a great service to the camp. Details are (or will soon be) posted on www.mesavarsity.org. Also check with your ADC to find out more information.

One more thing... Those teams who support this project will receive a special GOLD PASSPORT for use at the rendezvous. This Gold Passport will entitle the Team to special extra privileges at the rendezvous. Service should be incentive enough, but service and extra benefits is always good.

And another thing... Those teams who gave service at the Bark Beetle Battle, they are already getting a Gold Passport for their willingness to help! The council really appreciated their willingness to help, since there was a flash flood at Geronimo this summer and the clean channel probably helped prevent further disaster from happening.

Coach's Corner

Don't miss any opportunity for a "Coach's Corner" every time you conclude your meetings with your Scouts. Here is a couple ideas for you:

Leadership

We can teach principles of leadership, but we don't learn leadership unless we live it. Leadership is more effectively taught with a hands-on application. It cannot come out of a book, but must be drawn like steel, slowly and repetitively; working out the errors through actual experiences; tempering them with the fire of adversity through the elements of nature, given responsibility, and with personal conflict and resolution; and finally, polished through sacrifice, service, and compassion. Only then

do the simple experiences of the outdoors become the proving grounds that these young men need to prepare them for the greater experiences that will one day some thier way. That is what the Scouting program is all about. But it all starts with the Scout Oath: (Have Scouts rise and say the Scout Oath: On my honor, I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country, and to obey the Scout law; to help other people at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.

Choices

Imagine a man walking

down a corridor. At intervals along the floor of the corridor are keys. The man stops to pick some up and leaves others. Maybe he cannot hold all of the keys. Perhaps he is lazy and does not choose to pick up a particular key. He comes to a large room with many doors. Each door can be unlocked with a key. A few doors are already open. The man looks at the doors and reads the signs on them. Some of the doors are very attractive. Some hold no interest for him. Unfortunately, a few of the very attractive doors require keys that he did not pick up, and he cannot open

the doors. The keys are opportunities. The corridor is your life. The room is a cusp (where you have to make a choice) in your life. The doors are goals or rewards. If you do not grab the opportunities as you travel through life, you will not be able to unlock the door to your goal or reward. Get good grades NOW!! so that doors remain open for you for scholarships, or even college. Advance NOW!! So that you can finish your Eagle requirements before life throws roadblocks in your path. Exercise NOW!! So that you will have a better opportunity to make the team next season. Pick up the keys NOW!! So that you can open the doors when you want to or have to make a choice.

