

# Troop 323 Monthly Newsletter

*TRUSTWORTHY – LOYAL – HELPFUL – FRIENDLY – COURTEOUS –  
KIND – OBEDIENT – CHEERFUL – THRIFTY – BRAVE – CLEAN – REVERENT*

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September Newsletter

September 10, 2011

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## 2012 Bumble Bee Planning Conference: Laying Out the Roadmap

The annual Troop 323 Planning Conference was held Saturday & Sunday, August 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Participants of the Planning Conference stayed at the Big House at Bumble Bee Ranch, the site of our annual Crossover event. The primary goal was to discuss and plan the troop 2012 calendar. The conference was a success due to the hard work of both parents and Scouts alike. When you see the people named below please thank them for their work. Spencer Sawottke did a good job leading the discussion and has begun transitioning the Senior Patrol Leader role to Sean Plaum which will take place officially at the Court of Honor, September 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Scouts:** Spencer Sawottke, Sean Plaum, Spencer Giesemann, Nick Petkiewicz, Kyle Spenik, Ryan Lange, Erik Struckmeyer, Brenden Rawlins, Thomas McCarthy, Wesley Bohult and Andrew Muskatevc. **Adults:** Barry Giesemann, Dave Wright, Wade Clemons, Glenn Teille, Tim Rawlins. **Saturday only:** Paul Foulger, Bob Ballou, David Oakley, Dan McCarthy and Stefan Bohult.



What is genius -- but the power of expressing a new individuality?  
-- Elizabeth Barrett Browning



A single idea, if it is right, saves us the labor of an infinity of experiences.  
-- Jacques Maritain



All quiet on the western front.

## Carlos Waldron: Eagle Scout



Carlos Waldron is pictured with current Troop 323 Scoutmaster Barry Gieseemann and incoming Troop 323 Scoutmaster Dave Wright.

Carlos Waldron achieved the Rank of Eagle on September 1, 2011 and joins a long line of other boys from Troop 323 who have reached Boy Scout's highest rank. Carlos joined Troop 323 on February 25, 2008. Carlos is a member of the Big Horns patrol and completed his Eagle Scout project at the Andre House, a Catholic Soup Kitchen and homeless outreach center located in downtown Phoenix. Carlos collected

backpacks and toiletries for the Andre House Shower Program. He also organized a half day work event at the Andre House filling toiletries, re-stripping the parking lot and completing a hanger project for the clothing donation program.

Carlos' favorite merit badge was the Aviation merit badge and his favorite outing was the Aravaipa outing. Carlos completed 57 nights of camping, hiked more than 79.5 miles and, completed more than 51.2 service hours. Congratulations can be sent to [jwaldron2@cox.net](mailto:jwaldron2@cox.net).

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**ATTENTION: ALL TROOP 323 Members**  
**Brenden Rawlins EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT**  
**8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**  
**Saturday, October 8, 2011**



**The Upward Foundation**  
**6306 N. 7<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Phoenix, AZ 85014**

Come help Brenden Rawlins with his Eagle project as he constructs steel cabinets, paints and beautifies the campus of The Upward Foundation. This nonprofit provides special education and childcare for children with developmental disabilities. Your contribution of time will also earn you community service hours toward your next advancement. Brenden will share more information at the upcoming Troop meeting. In the meantime, please mark your calendars!!!

## September/October CALENDAR

Date	Day	Time	Location	Activity
9/13	Tue	7:00 p.m.	All Saints Church in Fellowship Hall	Troop Meeting and BOR's
9/14	Wed	7:00 p.m.	All Saints Church **please note date was changed for Sept.	Troop Committee Meeting
9/17 – 9/18	Sat - Sun	7:30 a.m.	Meet at LOM School parking lot Trip leader Dave Christiansen	Horton Springs backpack outing
9/26	Mon	7:00 p.m.	Scoutmaster Giesemann's home	Patrol Leaders Council Monthly Meeting (PLC)
9/27	Tue	7:00 p.m.	All Saints Church in Sanctuary	Court of Honor ***New SPL and SM starts
10/5	Wed	7:00 p.m.	All Saints Church in small classroom	Troop Committee Meeting
10/8	Sat	8:00 a.m.	Upward Foundation, 6306 N. 7 <sup>th</sup> Street	Brenden Rawlin's Eagle Project
10/11	Tue	7:00 p.m.	All Saints Church in Fellowship Hall	Troop Meeting
10/21-10/23	Fri – Sun	5:00 p.m.	Meet at LOM School parking lot Trip Leader Scoutmaster & Scott Sawotke	Camporee-Rancho Tres Brisas in Camp Verde by river
10/24	Mon	7:00 p.m.	Scoutmaster Wright's home	Patrol Leaders Council Monthly Meeting (PLC)
10/25	Tue	7:00 p.m.	Moon Valley Park *not at the church	Troop Meeting and Recharter deadline
11/5	Sat	8:30-11:30 a.m.	All Saints Church Leader Mr. Giesemann	Troop Leadership Training for Scouts

1. **All adults are encouraged to come to Troop Committee meetings.**  
First Wednesdays -- 7:00 p.m. – All Saints Church (note Sept date change)
2. **Patrol Leaders, Scribe, Guide, SPL, ASPL's are required to attend PLCs** at Scoutmaster Giesemann's home (*Next PLC Meeting: September 26 @ 7:00 p.m.*)
3. **Greenway Parkway Patrol Clean-up: September – Vikings; October – Wolverines; November – Bighorns; December – Coyotes**

## **September Outing: Backpack to Beautiful Horton Springs!!!**

Don't miss the first outing of the season. The September outing will be a backpack outing to Horton Springs located northeast of Payson and just below the Mogollon Rim. **We meet at Lookout Mountain School parking lot at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup>** to depart by 8:00 a.m. or earlier. We'll return Sunday, early afternoon. Scouts will eat by patrols and to encourage the patrol method, adults should plan to eat separately. Troop cost is \$10 per each adult and Scout to cover gas reimbursement, and Scouts should share food costs with their patrol. Bring cash for fast food on Sunday return. See trip outing information provided by Mr. Christiansen. Don't overload your packs or your backs! **BSA health forms must be current to attend this outing or you will be turned away at the parking lot.**

## **Sean Plaum Elected to Senior Patrol Leader (SPL)!!!**

Congratulations to Sean Plaum, Troop 323's newest Senior Patrol Leader. Sean is a Life Scout and is a freshman at Thunderbird High School. Sean has been involved in Troop 323 since 2008 and has been supported by his parents each step of the way. Sean was elected on August 17<sup>th</sup> at the opening Scout meeting and will serve for one year starting at the end of the Court of Honor, September 27<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in being one of the Assistant Senior Patrol Leaders or any of the other troop leadership positions please notify Sean and Mr. Wright immediately. Many positions are coming open.

Sean's primary responsibilities include running the twice monthly troop meetings, leading the Patrol Leaders Council meetings, working closely with the Scoutmaster to implement the Scouting calendar activities, and work

diligently to support Scouts so every Scout in the troop will be successful and enjoy Scouting.

## **COURT OF HONOR**

The first Troop 323 Court of Honor will be held **September 27 at 7:00 p.m.** at All Saints Church in the Sanctuary. The Court of Honor occurs three times throughout the year and it is a time to recognize Scouts who have earned merit badges or advanced within rank. As well, the ceremony allows for troop leadership to recognize other notable accomplishments. In addition to Scout awards, the upcoming Court of Honor will serve as the official transition of Scoutmaster from Barry Giesemann to David Wright. This transition, which began six months ago, will officially occur on this evening. As well, Senior Patrol Leader Spencer Sawottke will turn over leadership to Sean Plaum.

You can help David Wright and Sean Plaum in this transition by committing to one of the many Scout leadership and adult volunteer positions.

## **Rechartering: Don't be Left Behind!**

Each year, Troops 323 is required to recharter or register its members, both Scouts and adult leaders. This process happens in the fall and will again be led by Linda Wright with additional assistance from John Waldron. In the upcoming weeks you will learn more about dates, registration forms, troop fees and training requirements to ensure all Scouts and adult volunteers are accounted for in the Troop. Health forms and registration must be current for Scouts to attend outings and activities. If you have any questions, please contact Linda Wright at [dwright125@cox.net](mailto:dwright125@cox.net). **Please help Linda and John by giving them all the necessary information before our deadline of Tuesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>.**

## **Parent Volunteers Needed**

Troop 323 is in need of a variety of volunteer positions. We are asking that each family have at least one parent identified in a volunteer position. Some adults and some families have taken on more than one position so please help. There are many to choose from and require many different skillsets. Some of these positions are only busy a portion of the year and some require an extended commitment. No doubt, there is a position just right for you. **Some of these positions are needed immediately** to ensure the troop keeps running effectively. The following is a list of adult volunteer/leadership positions in no particular order:

### **Adult Volunteer Positions:**

Chartering Organization Representative  
Committee Chair  
Scoutmaster  
Patrol Advisors/ Assistant Scoutmasters  
Assistant Scoutmasters  
Troop Treasurer  
Troop Committee Secretary  
Outdoor Activities Coordinator  
Advancement Chairman  
Equipment Coordinator/Troop Trailer  
Fundraising Coordinator/Golf Tourn.  
Membership/Rechartering Coordinator  
Medical Records Coordinator  
Troop Newsletter Editor  
Troop Webmaster  
Eagle Advisor  
Troop Clothing Coordinator  
Camp Geronimo Coordinator/Planner  
Troop Training Coordinator  
Adult to Lead Scout Training  
Cub Scout Pack 323 Liaison  
Board of Review Adult Participants  
Crossover Coordinator  
Outing Leaders  
Church Cleanup/Service Coordinator  
People to Liaison with our district  
Merit Badge Counselors  
Scouting for Food Coordinator

## **Adult Training Requirements**

To remain in good standing with Troop 323 and be rechartered in the Fall of 2011 there will be new training requirements for adult leaders for the upcoming year. **There's training coming up Saturday, September 24<sup>th</sup>.** See Dave Wright's recent email for more good information.

### **Necessary Adult Training**

#### **Every Registered Adult must take:**

Fast Start (online)  
Youth Protection (required every 2 yrs)  
This is Scouting! (online)

### **Trip Leaders**

Hazardous Weather (online)

### **Scoutmaster & All Assistant SM's**

Intro to Outdoor Skills  
Scoutmaster/Asst SM Specific Training  
(held in classroom)

### **Required for Most Outings**

CPR, Safe Swim, Safety Afloat and Climb on Safely

### **AZ Diamondbacks Boy Scout Event**

**Saturday, 1:00 p.m., September 24<sup>th</sup>** is Boy Scout time at the Diamondbacks game. Not only are tickets reduced but \$5.00 from each ticket sold benefits Scouting. Tickets range from \$17 – \$50 to witness the Diamondbacks take on the Giants. Maybe you'll be on TV. **Please contact Scott Sawotke ASAP** if you are interested in attending and purchasing tickets ([ssawot@cox.net](mailto:ssawot@cox.net) or fax: 623-580-0430) because he wants to place the order by Wednesday, 9/14.

### **Greenway Park Clean-up:**

Just a reminder, each month a different patrol is responsible for cleaning up

Greenway Parkway from 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue to 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Patrol leaders must report clean-up service hours for all participants to Scott Sawotke ([ssawot@cox.net](mailto:ssawot@cox.net)). The city of Phoenix is now requiring all participants to either wear safety vests, or other bright clothing. Our class B shirts cover this. Per the city and per BSA we must have at least 2 adults participating. Also, the city now wants us to report to them once a cleanup is done so they know we're doing it. Otherwise we'll lose our prime piece of the parkway!

**September – Vikings**

**October – Wolverines**

**November – Bighorns**

**December – Coyotes**

### **2013 Jamboree and Other BSA Camps Available to You:**

If you were at our August 17<sup>th</sup> troop meeting you heard a presentation by Steve Miller regarding the July, 2013 Jamboree. **Call Steve (602-989-6505)** or email [stevemiller.az@cox.net](mailto:stevemiller.az@cox.net) if you're interested in attending the troop he'll be leading. This is a great event for Scouts but you need to plan ahead.

Many of our bright Scouts have expressed an interest in attending a summer camp in San Diego or elsewhere instead of our annual trip to Geronimo. There are great BSA camps throughout the U.S. that any Scout can attend on their own or get a small group together, such as the Florida Sea Base but to attend as a troop the time commitment of our top leaders would be tremendous.

### **Camporee Coming!!!**

Our original planning calendar showed the dates for our October outing as the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend. Please note the outing is on the 4<sup>th</sup> weekend. **We depart Lookout Mountain School on Friday, late afternoon, October 21<sup>st</sup>** and drive

to Rancho Tres Brisas, adjacent to the Verde River in Camp Verde, AZ. We'll return on Sunday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Adult volunteers in our district are planning a great event and we'll have to register as a group online soon. Some of the activities include orienteering, Frisbee golf, ham radio, climbing, canoeing, inner tubing, the infamous Verde River Rope bridge, water balloon launch, and Mark Twain boat building. We are inviting the Webelo II's of Pack 323 and their parents to camp with us so we need a good turnout of Scouts and adults to help make them feel welcome.

### **What Else is Coming?**

Troop Leadership Training available to all Scouts will be held on **Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.** at All Saints Church. All Scouts should have this training.

National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) is scheduled for **Monday – Friday, December 19-23 overnight at the Heard Scout Pueblo**. This training is a must and the troop may pay half the registration cost if you ask the committee. Unfortunately most of our Scouts don't start their Christmas break until **Friday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>**. Your Scoutmaster is in negotiations with the BSA to change the dates but that may be beyond his control, just like getting school principals, band directors, and coaches to coordinate their schedules with our troop activities.

The next and final Order of the Arrow Ordeal for the boys who were elected last spring is scheduled for **October 7-9<sup>th</sup>** at the Heard but you must register online at [www.grandcanyonbsa.org](http://www.grandcanyonbsa.org) and go to the OA section. The boys who attended the Camp Raymond Ordeal need to notify Scott Sawotke so he can record it in Troopmaster and give you credit for the number of nights you camped.

The troop needs to plan for a **Saturday of service this fall** as a way of showing our appreciation to All Saints Lutheran Church. If a Scout, under the guidance of their parent, wants to take this on as a leadership position please contact Dave Wright ASAP ([mr.wright@cox.net](mailto:mr.wright@cox.net))

Soon Darrin Kloostra will be working with the Scouts, the PLC, and the Troop Committee to come up with a date to inventory and clean the gear stored in the troop trailer. Our Saturdays are filling up fast so stay tuned.

### **Thank You!!!**

As your Scoutmaster I will always be thankful for the opportunity working with a great group of boys and their families. I truly enjoy camping with the boys even if it involves an occasional night of inadequate sleep due to the hard ground or worrying about some boys destroying a miniature train site at a Camporee. I enjoy seeing all the boys mature and seeing them in the other activities they're involved with. I've gotten a chuckle from hearing a young Scout yell out "hello Barry" as he passed me by in the park.

Many people have contributed to Troop 323 and sometimes I've forgotten the simple word of saying thanks. I appreciate all of the adults who have stepped forward and committed to being trip leaders for our upcoming outings. I appreciate all of the adults who come to our meetings and who volunteer their time in various capacities. I appreciate the fact that you have encouraged your son(s) to be a part of our troop. The Boy Scouts of America will continue to ask more and more out of us, such as all the training required for all registered adults in order to recharter in October, but we will manage as long as we keep reminding ourselves it's for the good of the boys, which in turn is for the good of our community. I plan to continue to

help our troop as an Assistant Scoutmaster and Patrol Advisor of the Coyotes. After the Court of Honor I'll be deleting my email address [323.scoutmaster@cox.net](mailto:323.scoutmaster@cox.net).

Yours in Scouting, Barry Giesemann.

### **Useful Sites**

[www.phoenix323.org](http://www.phoenix323.org)  
[www.bsahandbook.com](http://www.bsahandbook.com)  
[www.myscouting.org](http://www.myscouting.org)  
[www.grandcanyonbsa.org](http://www.grandcanyonbsa.org)  
[www.grandcanyonbsa.org/training](http://www.grandcanyonbsa.org/training)  
[www.tbirdscouting.org](http://www.tbirdscouting.org)  
[www.meritbadge.org](http://www.meritbadge.org)  
[www.scouting.org](http://www.scouting.org)  
[www.scoutstuff.org](http://www.scoutstuff.org)

### **WORDS OF WISDOM**

*Experience enables you to recognize a mistake when you make it again.*

Franklin P. Jones

### **Newsletter Editor NEEDED!**

If you are interested in taking over the role of Troop 323 Newsletter Editor in January 2012 please contact John Waldron. Please send all submissions for the October Newsletter to [jwaldron2@cox.net](mailto:jwaldron2@cox.net) by **September 28, 2011**.