



2007 Camporee Champions • Troop 319

Troop 319 Scouting Gazette



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Event Calendar

Camping & Adventures:

Dec. 7-9 • Desert Fun, Anza-Borrego

Dec. 15 • SCUBA with Santa
New departure: 1:30 pm – St. Andrew's

Jan. 5 • Mt. Laguna 10 mile day hike

Jan. 19-21 • Desert backpack trip
(3 days / 16 miles)

March 14-16 • Camporee (details TBA)

March 26-29 • Kartchner Caverns, AZ

April 19 • Scout Fair

Merit Badges:

Personal Fitness: Saturday mornings
Dec. 8th & 15th - 8:30am - Lemon Ave. Elem.

Eagle Court of Honor:

Dec. 30 (Sunday) • Anthony M. & Joe H.
La Mesa Masonic Lodge • 4731 Date St. • 2pm
RSVP by Dec. 21 to beth.morgante@cox.net.

Service Projects:

Feb. 10 • Scout Sunday, 9am
St. Andrews church service

Meetings:

Dec. 10 • Troop Meeting
• 6:00pm PLC meeting
• 6:45pm Scout gift exchange & pie toss

Jan. 28 • Webelos Crossover 6:30pm

— Riddle Me This —

You find yourself trapped inside a room without a door, window, or any other type of opening. The only things in the room with you are a table and a mirror. How will you escape?

Old Favorites & New Adventures

Desert fun in Anza-Borrego • December 7-9

... or the continuing adventures of Mr. Jones in the mud caves. Camp, hike, work on the Reptile & Amphibian merit badge, learn first hand how menacing a cholla cactus can be, and so much more! The troop will be camping at a new site, known only to Mr. Jones, his father, several hundred lizards, a few scorpions, and a claustrophobic/lactose-intolerant tortoise named Berthold. The caravan will meet at St. Andrew's on Dec. 7 at 5:30 p.m. and will depart at 6:00 sharp.



SCUBA with Santa • December 15

Free SCUBA class and a chance to get an underwater photo with Santa while sitting at the bottom of an indoor pool—*how cool is that?! Join the caravan at St. Andrew's at 1:30 p.m. (new time)* and follow us to the **Sports Chalet** store in Pt. Loma Plaza (3695 Midway Dr.). Bring a bathing suit, towel, and a new toy (\$15 - \$20 value suggested) to donate to the store's toy drive for St. Vincent de Paul. A photo CD of each scout's dive will be available for \$10 at the store.

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Troop 319's Eagle Ranks Soar

An impressive number of scouts from 319 have attained the rank of Eagle in recent years: Cameron B. (2004), Spencer M. (2005), Garrison R. (2006), Kyle K. and Anthony M. (2007), and Joe H., pictured on Oct. 9, 2007 with Troop leader Bruce Browne (left) and Eagle Board Chairman and Superior Court Judge David Gill (right). A joint Court of Honor ceremony will be held for Anthony and Joe on Dec. 30 at 2 p.m. at the La Mesa Masonic Lodge (4731 Date St.). **Please RSVP by December 21 to beth.morgante@cox.net.**



The troop's Eagle ranks will soar higher in 2008 and beyond as other troopmembers, including Luke A., Tom D., and Robert S., are working to complete their Eagle projects and board of review process.

Slimy as a Snake

and Other False Beliefs about Reptiles & Amphibians



A healthy snake's skin can be shiny, even iridescent, but never slimy; and you won't get warts by handling toads. Superstitions, folktales and half-truths abound when it comes to snakes, frogs, turtles and their kind. You might find some of the following false beliefs useful when working on the Reptile & Amphibian Study merit badge.

- You can protect yourself against snake bite by wearing an emerald.
- Frogs can predict the weather:
*A frog that croaks during the day,
is a sign that rain is on its way.*
- Salamanders poison springs and will jump into a person's mouth.

Fact or Fiction Scout Quiz

- 1) If you count the segments of a rattlesnake's rattle you will know its age. **True/False**
- 2) Some frogs produce a natural antifreeze and can survive being frozen solid. **True/False**
- 3) The oldest recorded pet tortoise lived to be 70 years old. **True/False**
- 4) Salamanders and newts can re-grow a leg that has been cut off. **True/False**

Old Favorites & New Adventures (*continued*)

Camporee • March 14-16, 2008 — *We are the Champions*

Camaraderie and competition: Help defend Troop 319's status as Camporee Champs. Details about the campout and competition events will be coming soon. Plan to attend and watch for the signup sheet.

Kartchner Caverns • March 26-29

Spring break in an Arizona cave—where else would you go? Other stops on the trip will include the Pima Air/Space & Missile Silo Museums, the Sonora Desert Museum, and possibly Old Tucson and/or a ghost town. The group will camp at Catalina State Park.



To learn more about about Kartchner Caverns and view a spectacular photo slide show of the cave log on to www.explorethecaverns.com. For more trip information contact Mr. Pedersen at geofossil@cox.net.



Drop & Give Me 20! (Then 20 More!)

The quest for a Personal Fitness merit badge has motivated many of our scouts to start a regular workout routine and healthy lifestyle that will, hopefully, stick with them into adulthood. Follow these tips to enhance workouts and reduce injury.

- Stretch cold muscles for 3 to 5 minutes before exercising to increase flexibility and reduce the possibility of a muscle strain.
- After vigorous exercise, take 10 minutes or so to cool down gradually. Do not stop abruptly—walk around a bit.

For more tips about diet and exercise visit the *President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports* (www.fitness.gov/10tips.htm).

Answers to Last Issue's Quiz

1. What is the #1 desert hazard? ⇨ lack of water
2. What is the #1 weather-related desert killer? ⇨ flash flood
3. What is the #1 killer of hikers outdoors? ⇨ hypothermia
4. What knot is most used in rescue situations to lift people?
⇨ the bowline knot

Riddle Me This Solution

If put in a barrel, it makes it lighter. You can see it, but can't touch it.

Answer: A hole — Thanks Eric C.

I Want You to Support Operation Sell Popcorn!



The popcorn fundraiser ends soon and 319 has product left to sell. Remember: *A portion of your sales is deposited into your scout account to help pay for summer camp and other trips.* December is a great time to sell popcorn for use at office parties and holiday potlucks.



Living the Scout Law — A scout's behavior, good or bad, reflects back on the scout, his family, and the troop. Always remember: *A scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent.* Tell us how you incorporate the Scout Law, Oath, Motto, Slogan, and Outdoor Code in your daily life. Submit your example(s) to geofossil@cox.net