



Soaring Eagle District History

The Soaring Eagle District was one of the administrative subdivisions of the Golden Empire Council. It was formed in the summer of 2001 when the Golden Bear District, which included Scouting units from Sacramento, Elk Grove, the River Delta communities, Wilton and Galt was divided into two new Districts—River City (which included the units in Sacramento) and Soaring Eagle (which included the rest of the Scouting units. In 2013, the Scouting units in Clarksburg transferred to the Capital Cities District (which had formed earlier from a merger of the River City and Rio Del Oro Districts). On February 1, 2020, the Soaring Eagle District dissolved and the 25 remaining Scouting units were reassigned to the newly formed Three Rivers District (along with units from the former Amador District and the former Capital Cities District).

In its 20-year history, the Soaring Eagle District provided a quality Scouting program for the units it served. The men and women of the District Committee planned, organized and put on high-quality programs that served the youth of the area and the local communities.

What follows are lists of some of the key people and district-level activities from that 20-year history.



District Chairs:

2001-2005	Daniel Pearson
2006	John Shook
2007-2010	Mike Krogen
2010-2015	Kyle Monson
2015-2018	Howard Sant
2018-2020	Robert Graves



[District Chairs are also members of the Council Executive Board]

District Commissioners:

2001 – 2007	Paul Carroll
2007 – 2012	Don Mahlke
2012 – 2017	Ken Johnson
2017 – 2018	Marc Grimm
2019 – 2020	Scott Nakaji



Soaring Eagle District Camporees:

The Soaring Eagle District sponsored a district camporee nearly every spring since its inception. The camporees in 2010 and 2015 were not held in the spring because of conflicts with the Scout Expo at Beale AFB during those years (the 2012 and 2018 Scout Expos were held in the fall).

Beginning in 2014, the District sponsored a second camporee in the fall dedicated to a "Trail to First Class Program." Unlike the spring camporees, this program would focus on teaching and evaluating the outdoor skills for the ranks up to First Class. This idea was the brainchild of one of the Eagle Scouts in Troop 118 who had organized a similar troop-level program the year before as a leadership project to satisfy his Life Scout leadership requirement. The 2014 fall camporee was called "The Uncamporee," and the subsequent fall camporees were known as Trail to First Class Camporees. There was no fall camporee in 2018 because of Scout Expo at Beale AFB.

Year	Location
2002-Spring	Van Vleck Ranch
2003-Spring	Van Vleck Ranch
2004-Spring	Van Vleck Ranch
2005-Spring	Rancho Seco
2006-Spring	Brannan Island
2007-Spring	McFarland Ranch
2008-Spring	McFarland Ranch
2009-Spring	McFarland Ranch
2010-Fall	McFarland Ranch
2011-Spring	Gibson Ranch
2012-Spring	Gibson Ranch
2013-Spring	Gibson Ranch
2014-Spring	Gibson Ranch
2014-Fall	Lake Camanche
2015-Fall	Lake Camanche
2016-Spring	Gibson Ranch
2016-Fall	Camp Yuba
2017-Spring	Camp Yuba
2017-Fall	Lake Amador
2018-Spring	Lake Camanche
2019-Spring	Lake Camanche
2019-Fall	McFarland Ranch

Twilight Camps: Twilight Camp was the Cub Scout day camp program which was offered by the Soaring Eagle District in late May or early June each year. The program typically featured games, activities, and stations for Cub Scouts from across the district. Beginning in 2009, the District offered a separate Webelos Academy program based on Webelos Activity Badge requirements with stations manned by Boy Scouts and Venturers from troops and crews from across the district. This arrangement significantly increased Webelos participation and enhanced the Webelos-to-Scout transition.

Year	Location
2002	Florin Creek Park, Sacramento
2003	Florin Creek Park, Sacramento
2004	Florin Creek Park, Sacramento
2005	Florin Creek Park, Sacramento
2006	Florin Creek Park, Sacramento
2007	Dillard Elementary, Wilton
2008	Dillard Elementary, Wilton
2009	James Rutter Middle School, Sacramento
2010	James Rutter Middle School, Sacramento
2011	James Rutter Middle School, Sacramento
2012	James Rutter Middle School, Sacramento
2013	Joseph Kerr Middle School, Elk Grove
2014	Joseph Kerr Middle School, Elk Grove
2015	Harriet Eddy Middle School, Elk Grove
2016	Harriet Eddy Middle School, Elk Grove
2017	Harriet Eddy Middle School, Elk Grove
2018	Harriet Eddy Middle School, Elk Grove
2019	Harriet Eddy Middle School, Elk Grove

In 2012, the Soaring Eagle District sponsored and ran the Webelos Subcamp and Webelos Academy at the Scout Expo at Beale AFB. The District Committee staffed the camp and provided oversight for the program, and troops from the district provided Boy Scouts throughout the day in shifts to staff the teaching stations in the Webelos Academy—most of which were copied from the Twilight Camp program.

District Pinewood Derby:

Each year the Soaring Eagle District put on a District Pinewood Derby for the participation category winners from each Cub Scout pack. Over the years, the event has been held in various locations—the old Florin Mall in the early 2000s, a car dealership in Elk Grove a couple of years later, and Saint Peter’s Lutheran Church and School in Elk Grove since at least 2009.

Roundtable:

The District Roundtable was put on each month by the Commissioner Staff throughout the history of the District. The program offered training and networking opportunities for Scouters across the district. It was held at the LDS Vintage Park Building up through 2018. In 2019 and 2020 the District Roundtable was held at Harriet Eddy Middle School.

Merit Badge Super Saturday:

The MBSS was a single-day merit badge midway for Boy Scouts from across the Soaring Eagle District. It has been held in various locations over the years, at the First Baptist Church (now Creekside Church) from at least 2007 to 2013, to the LDS Gardendale Building in 2015 and 2016, and the LDS Vintage Park Building from 2017 to 2019. Hundreds of Scouts earned one or two merit badges in classes offered in a wide variety of areas.

Scouting for Food:

Scouting for Food was a large-scale service project operated during most years of the district’s history. The Scouting units would collect non-perishable food items and donate them to the Elk Grove or Galt food banks. Most years, the Scouting for Food effort has been run in the Spring when the stocks in the food banks tend to run low (after numerous food drives in the Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday seasons). In some years, only a few units participated on their own over a limited area. Since 2017, Troop and Crew 118 took the lead in organizing the Elk Grove units to collect food throughout the city and donate the collected foodstuffs to the Elk Grove Food Bank—replenishing the shelves at a critically low point each year.

Facilities Agreement with Elk Grove Unified School District:

In 2010, the Board of Education of the Elk Grove Unified School District (EGUSD) was considering a new policy governing the use of school facilities by community organizations. The proposed new policy would’ve imposed significant user fees on the 11 Scouting units that met at EGUSD facilities at that time. Prior to that time, the EGUSD did not charge community organizations for using school facilities after school hours. For the 10 Cub Scout Packs and one Boy Scout Troop, as well as numerous Girl Scout troops, the proposed hourly fees were beyond their ability to pay and would have resulted in their having to move elsewhere. The District Chair coordinated with the Girl Scout Service Area Managers for the Elk Grove area and wrote to the school district. In his letter, the Chair pointed out how the proposed policy violated the applicable California law [The Civic Center Act, Education Code section 38130 et seq.] and would injure the Scouting program in the community [noting that Boy Scout troops are specifically mentioned in the Civic Center Act]. The Boy Scout and Girl Scout leaders subsequently met with the school officials and negotiated a modification to the policy which would allow Scouting units to qualify for fee waivers in exchange for reporting their community service activities to the District. The Board of Education passed the modified policy and the crisis was averted. In 2020, 13 of the 25 Scouting units in the Soaring Eagle District met in EGUSD facilities.



Final Roster of Soaring Eagle District Units—Units active on January 31, 2020:

Unit, Chartering Organization, Meeting Location:

Cub Scout Packs:

Pack 007, Elk Grove Optimist Club, Raymond Case Elementary, Elk Grove
Pack 16, Wilton Firefighter's Association, Dillard Elementary, Wilton
Pack 65, Prince of Peace Church, Feickert Elementary, Elk Grove
Pack 101, Lions Club of Rio Vista, Veterans Hall, Rio Vista
Pack 118, Pride of Laguna Creek Lions Club, Franklin Elementary, Elk Grove
Pack 143, Parents of Pack 143, Helen Carr Costello Elementary, Elk Grove
Pack 179, Elk Grove Lions Club, Edna Batey Elementary, Elk Grove
Pack 233, Good Shepherd Catholic Church, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School, Elk Grove
Pack 255, Laguna Sunrise Rotary Club, Stone Lake Elementary, Elk Grove
Pack 385, Parents of Pack 385, Adreani Elementary, Sacramento
Pack 599, Muslim Community & Youth Center, MCYC, Elk Grove

Scouts BSA Troops:

Troop 007B, Elk Grove Optimist Club, Harriet Eddy Middle School, Elk Grove
Troop 007G, Elk Grove Optimist Club, Harriet Eddy Middle School, Elk Grove
Troop 59, Elk Grove Lions Club, Elk Grove Youth Center, Elk Grove
Troop 118B, Pride of Laguna Creek Lions Club, Franklin Elementary, Elk Grove
Troop 118G, Pride of Laguna Creek Lions Club, Franklin Elementary, Elk Grove
Troop 163, Wilton Firefighter's Association, Wilton Fire Station, Wilton
Troop 285, Rio Vista Lions Club, Rio Vista
Troop 286, Elk Grove Historical Society, Irene West Elementary, Elk Grove
Troop 288, American Legion Post 233, California Montessori Project, Elk Grove
Troop 1119B, Parents in Support of Scouting, Galt
Troop 1119G, Parents in Support of Scouting, Galt

Sea Scout Ships:

Ship 1119 (S.S.S. Nebula), Parents in Support of Scouting, Galt

Venture Crews:

Crew 118, Pride of Laguna Creek Lions Club, Elk Grove
Crew 1119, Parents in Support of Scouting, Galt