



## 2019: A Year in Review

By Diane Disharoon, Yolano District Newsletter Editor

Happy Holidays and welcome to a year of beginnings for the Yolano District. As 2019 closes, we look back at past events and plan for the future...and what a year it's been!

In **January**, we began the process of getting to know each other. Even though we missed the familiarity of meetings and events, we greeted each other and soon began to recognize and grow from our strengths. Tyler Bonino, Senior District Executive, states, "We are excited for the change and the great things that will come from it."

**February** 2019 marked a historic event in Scouting history. The Boy Scouts formerly known as Boy Scouts of America has become Scouts BSA and includes girls. The Yolano District welcomed Troop 191 with Scoutmaster Ron Byrd and Scoutmaster Brian Meux for Troop 1625.

**March** hosted the Scouting for Food program headed by Guy Joseph. Troops, Packs and Crews in Davis, Dixon, Vacaville, and Woodland collected non-perishable items for their under-resourced neighbors in their communities.

In **April**, we recognized our greatest contribution to our communities: our Eagle Scouts. The 2018 Trailblazer District acknowledged 19 Scouts and the 2018 Yolo District declared 28 Scouts to Eagle Rank. The Woodland event recruited 32 potential youths that have cultivated into a brand new pack.

At **May's** District Dinner, groups and individuals were recognized for their time, talents and energy to the Scouting program. The multipurpose room/gym at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Dixon was decorated with Tropical trees, flowers, and Hawaiian leis, and catered by Buckhorn Steakhouse. Our newsletter featured a scouting family that was also published in the 'Bryan on Scouting' blog.

Cub Scouts came to Solano Community College Vacaville Center to race their cars at the first Yolano District Pinewood Derby in **June**. The Solano College's Department of Math and Sciences hosted hands-on STEM activities that included DNA and the use of microscopes, and introduced their Bachelor of Science program.

Camps opened their tents to Scouts and Adult leaders in the months of **July** and **August**. Over 45,000 scouts from all over the world converged at Bechtel Summit Reserve in West Virginia. The theme for the 24th World Scout Jamboree hosted by Mexico, Canada, and the USA was "Unlock a New World" which represents new adventures, cultures, and friendships that were shared at this amazing event. ... *Year Cont. on page 2*

### **Important Dates:**

**Dec 7:** Cold Weather Camping OKPIK, Camp Pollock, Sacramento

**Dec 15:** [iFly Skydiving: BSA Nova Engineering, Roseville](#)

**Dec 21:** Special Eagle Extension

2020

**Jan 2:** [Scout Night: Kings vs. Grizzlies, Golden One Center \(Special Pricing\)](#)

**Jan 17-19:** International Sportsman's Expo at Cal Expo, Sacramento

**Jan 25 & Feb 8:** Merit Badge Weekends

**Jan 31-Feb 2:** Klondike Derby

**Feb 8:** GEC 100 Anniversary Dinner

**Feb 15:** Pioneer Day Merit Badge, Vacaville

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With the logo that represents friendship and unity, Scouts and Adult leaders shared cultures and international Scouting by showcasing aspects through music, dance, discussions and most importantly...food!. The two week event began and ended with an address from Dr. Ban Ki-moon of the Korea Scout Association, covering a peaceful coexistence, being global citizens and to



implement positive changes against global warming. The 25th World Scout Jamboree will take place in South Korea in 2023.

Our **September** efforts focused on membership and succession planning. We introduced Geofencing, where parents with Facebook accounts will receive digital advertisements as they enter the school's virtual boundary. Troops, Packs and Crews also began registration for 2020 summer camps.

**October** introduced the Annual Autumn in the Park in Davis and Kidfest in Vacaville. Not only was there a change in the weather, but the District announced changes in their District meetings, the District boundary, and the National fees. BSA National camps announced their programs for Summer 2020. Bechtel Summit Reserve in West Virginia publicized their plans for the National Jamboree 2021 and Philmont Scout Ranch, High Adventure Base opened their lottery.

**November**...Recharter. After National BSA Office declared the increase in fees; Packs, Troops, and Crews strategized ways to promote new membership and educate current members the value in Scouting. National Council writes:

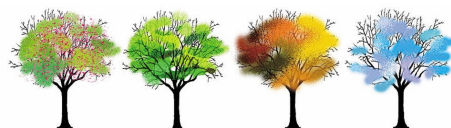
“That is why we are committed to ensuring that all youth can experience the character-building benefits of Scouting regardless of their financial situation. In addition to our existing council and unit membership assistance, we have established a national *Growing Future Leaders Fund*, which is funded entirely through donations, to provide additional financial support to those who need it.”

We also honored our Military Veterans as we placed flags on gravesites at our local cemeteries.

**December.** As the year comes to a close, we reminisce at all our accomplishments, and look to the future. There have been many changes and adjustments, but we have endured. Thank you to the Scouts, Cubs and Crews for asking questions, being persistent and to never forget the Scout Oath and Law.

Thank you for your continued role in empowering a generation of future leaders of character through our Scouting programs. For additional information or questions, feel free to contact our Yolano District Chairman, David Grundler, at [chairman@ydbsa.org](mailto:chairman@ydbsa.org) or our Senior District Executive, Tyler Bonino at <http://www.gec-bsa.org/district-operations/district-leadership/63294>.

On behalf of the Yolano District and the Golden Empire Council, we wish you and your families the very best during this holiday season and in the coming new year.



# The Silver Beaver Award

By David Grundler, Yolo District Chairman

Yolano District's Cathy Pickel-Hicks and Kurt Schmidl will be receiving the Council Award of Merit, a.k.a. the Silver Beaver, at the upcoming Council Dinner. Cathy and Kurt have dedicated their time and effort to the Golden Empire Council in a variety of roles.

Cathy's service includes a two-time Assistant Scoutmaster for our Council's National Jamboree Contingent, two-time Assistant Scoutmaster for National Youth Leadership Training, and as co-team lead for the Quartermaster section of the Logistics Department for Scout Expo. In addition, at the District level, Cathy has served as the chair for the Yolo District Nomination Committee, Member at Large for Yolo District Committee, Yolo District Cub Camp Program Director and volunteer, and Associate Adviser for Tito Wa Chapter of Order of the Arrow. At the unit level, Cathy has served as Pack Committee Chair for Pack 132, Den Leader for Pack 132, and Assistant Scoutmaster for Troop 139 as well as Crew Associate Advisor for Crew 66.

Kurt's service includes a four-time staff member for Scout Expo, most recently as Sub-Camp Chair. In addition, at the District level, Kurt has served as the camping co-chair for the Yolo District Committee, Member at Large for Yolo District Committee, Yolo District Cub Camp volunteer, and Klondike Derby Volunteer. Kurt is currently serving as Yolano District's Camping Chair. At the unit level, Kurt has served as Assistant Scoutmaster for Troop 111.

The Silver Beaver Award was introduced in 1931 and is the highest council-level distinguished service award of the Boy Scouts of America. Recipients of this award are registered Scouters who have made an impact on the lives of youth through service given at the council level.

Please join us at the council dinner to congratulate them on this achievement. The Golden Empire Council take place on Saturday, February 8th at the Memorial Auditorium in Sacramento. Fellowship begins at 5:30 pm followed by dinner at 6:30 pm. You can register by logging on <http://www.gec-bsa.org/event/100-years-anniversary-gala/2594874>.



# Yolano Pioneer Day

By Asia Evans, District Programs Vice Chair



Save the date! On Saturday, February 15th, the Yolano District will be hosting a Merit Badge Workshop focusing on Pioneering at Kairos Elementary School in Vacaville from 9 am to 3 pm. This Merit Badge is knowledge of ropes, knots, and splices along with the ability to build rustic structures by lashing together poles and spars—is among the oldest of Scouting's skills.

If you are interested in obtaining this important badge, contact Asia Evans to register or for more information at [den8akela@gmail.com](mailto:den8akela@gmail.com).

# January 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 - News Year's Day	2 - Scout Night (Kings vs. Grizzlies) Golden 1 Center	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17 - International Sportsman's Expo (Cal Expo)	18 - International Sportsman's Expo (Cal Expo)
19 - International Sportsman's Expo (Cal Expo)	20 - Martin Luther King Day	21	22	23	24	25 - Merrit Badge Weekend
26	27	28	29	30	31 - Klondike Derby	
						Submit newsletter corrections and articles to Diane Disharoon at <a href="mailto:newsletter@ydbsa.org">newsletter@ydbsa.org</a> .