



Troop 278 – Ahwatukee Parent Information

Troop278.net





Scoutmaster and Assistants

Does your Scout need a Scoutmaster Conference? Here is who you need *your son* to contact:

Randy Derr - Scoutmaster

– randerr77@gmail.com

ph 480-310-7967

Fraser Elliott – ASM

– Mail.fraser.elliott@gmail.com

ph 816-309-0322

Chee Lee – ASM

– cklee6177@gmail.com

ph 480-785-6683

ASM's approve
advancement for 1st
Class and below

Erik Vijums – ASM

– evijums@yahoo.com

ph 602-510-3945

Chris Lohman – ASM

– chris@southmountaintractor.com

ph 602-363-2396

Justin Turner – ASM

– archnemysis@gmail.com

ph 602-317-2727

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Scout Leadership Positions

- **SPL, Senior Patrol Leader**
- **ASPL, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader**
- **Historian**
- **Librarian**
- **Quartermaster**
- **Scribe**
- **Patrol Leaders**
- **Troop Guide (bring new scouts to PLC)**
- **Together these positions comprise the Patrol Leader's Council (PLC)**



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Troop Committee

Committee meetings are once per month and are usually held the 3rd Wednesday of each month with the exception of July due to summer camp.

- **Alan Tavassoli – Committee Chair**

- (appoint committee, assure representation at Roundtable, preside over monthly meetings)

- **Lisa Derr – Chartered Org Representative**

- (member of district committee, approves adult apps, liaison with Corpus Christi, appoints the committee chair, completes the annual recharter process)

- **David Diggs – Treasurer**

- (annual troop budget review, keep financial records, train scribe in record keeping, coordinate FOS, collect and make camp payments)

- **Guy Brown – Outdoor Coordinator**

- (promote National Camping Award, work with secretary to assemble medical and insurance binder for scoutmaster to take on outings, works with leadership on camping reservations and yearly calendar)

- **Allen Hartzell – Advancement Coordinator**

- (maintains scout records, oversees boards of review, coordinate advancement day attendance, stimulate advancement program, reports unit advancement to Council, gets badges, maintains MBC list, work with scribe to get patrol info, work with librarian, coordinate quarterly courts of honor, meet with District Committee Advancement chair and Council Committee Advancement Chair)

- **Dana Vijums – Secretary**

- (take and publish committee meeting minutes, send meeting notices, prepare family newsletter, conduct annual troop resource survey, work with outdoor coord. to assemble medical binder)

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Troop Committee cont.

- () – **Membership Coordinator**
- (smooth transition for new scouts, orientation for new parents, ensure crossover ceremony attendance, plan troop open house and Cub Scout recruitment)
- **Lisa Derr – Training Coordinator**
- (encourage youth leadership training, keep troop leadership compliant, introduce training opportunities)
- **Erika Gronek – Marketing and Website Communication**
- (keep troop calendar up to date, promote Troop activities online and in newspapers)
- **Suzie Davis – Fundraising**
- (coordinate annual fundraisers including Class B shirts, Christmas tree pick-up, popcorn or other BSA-approved sales)
- () **Equipment Coordinator**
- (work with quartermaster on inventory, proper storage, and maintenance; make periodic safety checks on all troop camping gear, supervise and help the troop procure camping equipment, maintain troop storage locker)
- **Lisa Derr - JTE Coordinator**
- (plan and keep track of troop service projects and record hours in JTE database; includes Scouting for Food)
- () **Chaplain**
- (give guidance to chaplain aide, encourage earning religious emblems, promote participation in/ activity in religious org of choice)

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Communications

- **Website www.troop278.net**
 - Calendar
 - Photo link – see what you are missing on outings
 - Forms – permission slips, packing checklists, camp physical
- **Monthly newsletter** - Committee meeting news and upcoming activities
- **Facebook: Ahwatukee BSA Troop 278**
 - Committee meeting news and upcoming activities
- **E-blast updates to the Troop – leadership only**
- (no personal use i.e. your son's school fundraiser, etc.)





Scouting & Troop Overview

- To help build values in young people and in other ways to prepare them to make ethical choices during their lifetime. The values we strive to instill are based on the Scout Oath and Law. The aim of Scouting is to build character, foster citizenship, develop fitness and confidence, and most importantly have fun!
- Troop 278 features an outdoor-oriented program that follows closely the BSA model of a youth-led troop. We plan an outing each month that may include hiking, backpacking, canoeing, skiing, boating, fishing, and of course summer camp.





Leadership & Advancement

- **Boy-led Troop**
 - SPL & Adult Leadership run an annual planning session
 - SPL & PLC define weekly meeting details
 - SPL runs Troop meetings
 - Many other leadership positions are available to Scouts
- **Rank Advancement**
 - Happens at a Scout's own pace – by acquiring skills, demonstrating leadership and service, he moves through a series of ranks all leading to the highest rank of Eagle Scout.
- **Scout > Tenderfoot > Second Class > First Class**
 - These ranks focus on learning specific Scouting skills
- **Star Scout > Life Scout > Eagle Scout**
 - These ranks focus on leadership, service, merit badges & elective skills
- **Once skills are mastered & requirements met, Scouts request a Scoutmaster Conference and then a Board of Review.**



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Leadership and Advancement cont.

- **Service projects are non-fundraising service activities for the local community. Hours of service are required for advancement at certain rank levels.**
- **While a Life Scout your Scout must plan and lead others in an approved service project of their choice for their Eagle Scout service project.**





Scoutbook

- www.scoutbook.com
- Scoutbook is an online tool for tracking advancement of scouts in the troop. Leaders can approve completion of requirements, and parents can track progress.
- Create a link on your cell phone for easy access
- Automatically generates a cc: for parents to ensure no one-on-one contact with scouts.
- Parents invite their scout to create a profile





Troop Meetings

- **Monday Meetings (7 – 8 p.m.)**
 - Flag Ceremony, SPL opening the meeting, announcements
 - Theme activity for the meeting
 - Skills
 - Scoutmaster Minute
 - SPL closing ceremony retiring the colors
- **Third Monday of each month is a PLC (Patrol leaders Council)**
 - Youth leadership meets to plan the next month's activities
 - No meetings on holidays
- **Meetings range from skill training, game nights, patrol challenges, boards of review, elections, and courts of honor.**
- **Youth Elections twice per year for troop leadership positions**





Outings

- **At least one troop-specific monthly outdoor/physical activity**
 - Put the OUTING in Scouting
 - Camping / backpacking / hiking / boating / fishing etc.
- **Additionally there may be district or other events**
 - Scout O Rama, Advancement Days, Camporees, Service Projects
- **At least 10 nights of camping per year (BSA goal) following Youth Protection guidelines**
 - Camping Merit Badge requires 20 camping nights
 - Order of the Arrow membership requires ___ camping nights
- **Every outing for which we travel requires a permission slip (available on our website)**
- **Establishing a purpose, reinforce character development, personal fitness, and skills**
- **Opportunity to use the Patrol Method**
 - Taking care of physical arrangements, equipment, forms binder
 - Selecting a site. Building a program of activities
- **Building a program of activities**
 - Nature and advancement skills
 - Exploration
 - Tracking and compass challenges
 - Environmental awareness
 - star hikes
 - conservation good turns
 - cooking specialties





Summer Camp

- **Camp Geronimo**
 - 7 day scout camp north of Payson
 - Amazing camp experience including merit badge opportunities with camping, hiking, swimming, canoeing, climbing, archery, rifle shooting
- **Camp Emerald Bay**
 - Catalina Island, every other year
- **Boundary Waters**
 - Planned by Order of the Arrow
- **Out-of-state BSA camps (Florida Sea Base, Connecticut June Norcross Scout Reservation)**



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Merit Badges

(see Guide for Merit Badge Counseling)

- **Merit Badges**

- Badges are required for advancement (Star, Life, Eagle ranks)
- There are over 134 merit badges to choose from
- You can find the requirements online at www.meritbadge.org or a link to it on our website
- www.scouting.org/merit-badges
- The Troop has a library of merit badge booklets. Current copies can be purchased at the Scout Shop for \$5 or viewed online
- Thirteen Merit Badges specifically required for Eagle Rank, 21 total required to complete





Merit Badge Process

Application for Merit Badge = Blue Card

- **Not like Cub Scout Belt Loops**
- **Must meet with the Scoutmaster before starting the merit badge**
 - Pick a subject and get a blue card
- **Then work to complete Badge**
 - Pick a buddy
 - Call a counselor
 - Learn
 - Show your stuff
 - Get the badge
 - Return blue card to Scoutmaster when complete for final signature
- **List of MB Counselors on file with Troop**
- **Council website calendar has merit badge clinics and Merit Badge University sign ups**
- **See www.scouting.org/programs/boy-scouts/advancement-and-awards/ for more details on Advancement Resources and educational presentations**
- **Advancement Days-** offered by Gila River District and other districts in the Grand Canyon Council. Check the GCC website calendar for events.

The form is titled 'APPLICATION FOR MERIT BADGE' and includes sections for 'Information for Applicant', 'Information for Counselor', and a signature line for the unit leader. It also features a grid for tracking progress and a barcode at the bottom left.





Merit Badge Counselor

- **Great Adult Volunteer opportunity to....**
 - Share your hobby or work experience
 - Help our scouts learn about various topics
- **Register (for free) with the Grand Canyon Council**
 - Complete YPT training and MBC orientation at my.scouting.org
(Menu _ my dashboard _ training center _ Boy Scouts and Venturing)
 - Complete Merit Badge Counselor Information Form
 - Give app and Information form to training coordinator for submission to Council



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Fundraising – Troop Dues

- **The Troop runs on Scouts paying their weekly/monthly dues**
 - \$5 per month
 - These funds pay for patches, pins, advancements and troop expenses (trailer insurance and storage, equipment storage)
- **Fundraising is vital to the troop and our only source of income**
 - Ideally hold 1-2 troop-wide fundraisers per year with parent support
 - Friends of Scouting, Popcorn sales, Christmas Tree Pick-up, Wreaths





Expectations and Volunteer Support

- **Expectations for Scouts**

- Attend the majority of regular troop meetings
- Attends at least 4-5 troop activities/events
- Support fundraising activities
- Have a Class A Uniform and Class B, yellow t-shirt
 - If you need help acquiring one, please discuss with the Scoutmaster or an ASM
- Participate in Patrol Events
- Have fun!

Garrett in Class A Field Uniform



Ian in Class B Shirt





Expectations and Volunteer Support

- **Expectations for Parents**
- **Troop 278 runs entirely on volunteer efforts...we need you!**
- **Parents share car pooling to troop events**
- **Parents volunteer *on the committee* or other support:**
 - Merit badge counselor
 - Trip leader or co-leader
 - Transportation
 - Trained leadership positions
 - Camp coordinator
 - Many more.....





Parent Note Page



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Contact Information

- Troop 278 is part of the Grand Canyon Council, Gila River District
- Grand Canyon Council Service Center
- 2969 N. Greenfield Rd
- Phoenix, AZ 85016
- 602-955-7747
- www.grandcanyonbsa.org

- DISTRICT CONTACT INFORMATION
- www.gilariverdistrict.org
- Tony Clark – Gila River District Executive
- 602-955-7747 ex. 241
- Tony.clark@scouting.org

- UNIT COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT COMMITTEE ADVANCEMENT CHAIR, COUNCIL COMMITTEE ADVANCEMENT CHAIR,
- NATIONAL WEBSITE
- www.scouting.org

- Registration database - www.My.scouting.org

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