

# Boy Scouts of America celebrate 101st anniversary

## Scouting in the desert



Shown clockwise from front are Jonathan Heier of Troop 848, Daniel Miller of Troop 412 and Sam Johnson of Troop 35 boxing up food donations collected Saturday. Local Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts collected more than 8,200 pounds of food for the Ridgecrest Salvation Army's food pantry. See also related letter to the editor, this issue.

Photo by Laura Austin

By LINDA SAHOLT  
News Review Correspondent

The Boy Scouts of America have been a part of the lives of boys for a full century now. The 100th anniversary of Scouting was in

2011; this year Scouts celebrate the 100th anniversary of the rank of Eagle Scout.

Jerry Smith, Desert District chairman, oversees a district that stretches south from Mammoth

Lakes to California City and east to Death Valley. The district also includes the Trona and Kernville areas.

Smith estimates that there are only about 100 Boy Scouts in this

vast area, plus about 60 Cub Scouts.

Cub Scouts are boys ages 7 to 11; Boy Scouts are boys ages 11 and older. "When I was in Scouts, we had three or four times as many Scouts in this area," Smith remembered.

"Scouting is responsible for teaching me how to organize, plan and get ready for events in my life. So many people today are too busy."

What does Scouting offer? "Scouting instills a great set of values, like helping others, making a commitment to their country and their faith and incredible self-confidence. Many famous people were Eagle Scouts before becoming famous." Only about 2 percent of Scouts ever reach the rank of Eagle Scout. There are also the Venture Scouts, for boys and girls ages 14 to 22.

"Scouting develops a good moral and ethical framework for young men," said Smith. "We hide it among all kinds of fun activities. We challenge them to work through a series of requirements, to learn skills appropriate for their age.

"There's a lot of outdoor skills and physical fitness, plus being prepared and taking responsibility. They learn to do things by themselves, like camping, water sports, hiking, climbing, shooting sports and more.

"To me, it's an ideal combination of fun and learning."

Some great field trips have been planned.

For instance, members of one local troop plan to spend spring break hiking to the bottom of Grand Canyon, and camping along the river.

The mission statement of the Scouts is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in

them the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law.

"We are always looking for new members," said Smith.

If you know a boy who might enjoy becoming a Scout, check out the websites at [www.scouting.org/about.aspx](http://www.scouting.org/about.aspx) and [www.beascout.org](http://www.beascout.org) or call Smith at (760) 384-1170.



It was a joyous occasion on 11-11-11 when Dylan Michael de Geus, son of our grandchildren Amy Auld de Geus and Michael de Geus, arrived as a fourth-generation addition to the families of Howard and Barbara Auld, Bev and the late Leonard de Geus and Lois and the late Wallace Allan.



The Exchange Club of Ridgecrest meets every Thursday at noon at John's Pizza.

Be our guest!  
(760) 384-2673

### Got Health Insurance?

David Haugen Insurance Agency, Inc.

CA License #0G05847

1281 N. Norma St.  
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

1-760-446-4560



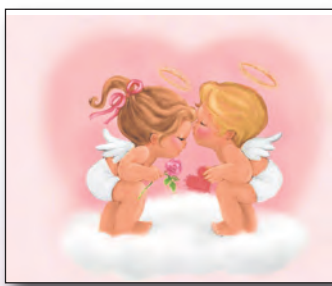
DAVID HAUGEN, Agent  
Lic. #0608412

LOCAL HEALTH-CARE REFORM EXPERTS!



Sarah Yoder, Agency Producer  
Lic. #0E00677

[www.HaugenInsurance.com](http://www.HaugenInsurance.com)



## Valentine Gifts!

Loads of NEW JEWELRY from the Phoenix Show

Native American, Sterling Silver, Turquoise and Natural Stone

Copper & Sterling Silver Bracelets, earrings, pendants  
Brand New Hopi Jewelry  
Great Prices for every Budget!

Remember to visit our HALF OFF Table!  
Sweatshirts NOW \$19.95!



100 E. Las Flores, Ridgecrest (760) 375-6900

You will like our prices too!

### A SCOUT IS TRUSTWORTHY

A Scout knows that he must be trusted; he must keep his promises. Nothing builds BOYPOWER like the Scouts. Will you help them?



GARY CHARLON  
- STATE FARM

995 North Norma St, Suite A • (760) 446-4279

### A SCOUT IS LOYAL



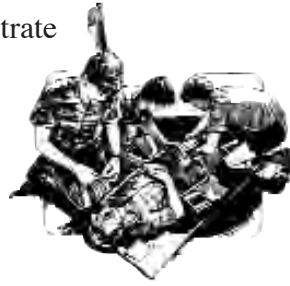
A Scout is loyal to his family, his friends and to his country. Help make our country strong. Support the Boy Scouts today.

A&L TIRE

317 W. Inyokern Rd. • (760) 499-6453

### A SCOUT IS HELPFUL

Boy Scouts demonstrate their helpfulness by doing a good turn daily. Scouting builds useful citizens. Help them.



THE NEWS REVIEW

109 N. Sanders • (760) 371-4301

### A SCOUT IS FRIENDLY

The moment a Scout joins a patrol he enters into a brotherhood. He becomes a brother to every other Scout.



BURKEY, COX, EVANS & BRADFORD

425 Drummond Ave. • (760) 375-1508

### A SCOUT IS COURTEOUS

Every Scout is a gentleman. The courtesy he practices helps make him a better man.



PEARSON'S AUTO WRECKING & 24-Hour Towing

1317 Inyokern Rd. • (760) 446-6583

### A SCOUT IS KIND

A Scout is a friend to animals. He will strive to save and protect all harmless life. Support Scouting. Be a Scout Volunteer.



MONOGRAMS PLUS

141 W. Ridgecrest Blvd. • (760) 371-7313

### A SCOUT IS OBEDIENT

A Scout obeys all duly constituted authorities... learning how to be a useful citizen. Nothing builds BOYPOWER like the Scouts.



ATLAS MOVING

RIDGECREST MOVING & STORAGE

880 S. Gateway • (760) 375-4133

### A SCOUT IS CHEERFUL

When a Scout learns to overcome difficulties with a smile, he grows to be a real man. America's manpower begins with BOYPOWER.



SNOW ORTHODONTICS

1101 N. Norma St. • (760) 446-2233

### A SCOUT IS THRIFTY

To be a thrifty Scout means saving for a good education or for something that will provide a better future. Support the Scouts.



SEARLS VALLEY MINERALS TRONA

13200 Main St., Trona • (760) 372-4311

### A SCOUT IS BRAVE

A Scout stands up for what he thinks is right when others try to change his mind. It takes backbone to be a Scout.



Cindy & Co. Hair Design

139 W. Ridgecrest Blvd. • (760) 375-3411

### A SCOUT IS CLEAN

When we say a Scout is clean, we mean in both body and mind. It means clean speech, a clean outlook and clean sportsmanship.



HOLLAND & LYONS MORTUARY AND DESERT MEMORIAL PARK

216 S. Norma • (760) 371-1376 • Lic #FD1184

### A SCOUT IS REVERENT

Reverence is more than just a work to Scouts. It means being faithful to religious obligations; serving God.



MAYOR PRO TEM CHIP HOLLOWAY