

SCOUT TROOP # 231

NEWSLETTER

Newsletter #3!!! - Let's keep our Troop up to date!

Send us any infos you'd like us to include in our next Troop's Newsletter.

Reach out to Indy, either in person, or via email (sarahvail1@yahoo.com). Thanks!

Scout Interview:

Nathan Free (a.k.a.: Scoutmaster Nate)

Big Scoop Alert: *What's your name?*

John Nathan Free

Who knew! Let's see what else we didn't know about our Nate!

When did you join the Scouts and which troop?

I grew up in Colorado Springs and joined the Scouts as a Wolf in First Grade. I continued with friends through Webelos, and my mother was our Den Leader. I experienced just two and a half years of Boy Scouts before moving to San Diego and then again Phoenix where I lost touch with Scouting. But, I was able to reach Life Scout in that short time!

What do you like most about being a scout?

Some of my favorite Scout memories were summer camp at Alexander, our Order of the Arrow Ceremony, our 2 day ascent of Pikes Peak, and a 50 mile hike!

What don't you enjoy as much?

My biggest regret is not staying in Scouting all the way through Eagle.

Your best memory from your Scouting time?

My greatest joy has come from my larked love of nature, my desire to "leave something better than I found it", whether that be an organization or a physical area, and my acquired desire to teach.

I became the Cubmaster of Pack 231 back in 2006, and then started our Troop in 2011 with seven Scouts.

My greatest joy comes from getting to know our boys and then see them grow into young men - through the activities and challenges we put forth for them.

And, every once in a while, I get a card, a call, or even a personal visit from a college student who says "Mr.Free, I get it! I know what you wanted for me, and I think I'm finally there!"

I enjoy making friends with the parents, and I am privileged to be considered a mentor for their boys. Yes, Scouting is great!



NEXT MEETINGS:

*Monday, 10/07/24 @5:30 PM

Troop Committee meeting
All parents welcomed too!

Please RSVP on our app, bring lots of questions & tips to improve our Troop!

*Monday, 10/07/24 @6:30 PM

Regular Troop meeting

We'll focus on Merit Badges.

Scouts!

Help your Patrol Leaders!
Give them ideas to make your learning FUN!

Next Events:

Scout Family Campout

Saturday, 10/12 - Tuesday, 10/15/24 @ San Rafael Swell / Goblin Valley area
(Sign up deadline: 10/04th)

Citizenship in the Nation Merit Badge Clinic (The CELL website)

Saturdays, 10/19 & 26, 2024

Citizenship in the World Merit Badge Clinic (The CELL website)

Saturdays, 10/19 & 26, 2024

Merit Badge University

Saturday, 11/16/24
Carbondale

No Troop Meeting on Monday, 10/14/24!

"The sport in Scouting is to find the good in every boy and develop it."

— Robert Baden-Powell



TIP for OUR SCOUTS:

Upcoming Merit Badge virtual classes earning options on The Cell website!

1) CELL's Scouts BSA Citizenship in the Nation Merit Badge Clinic: Saturdays, 10/19 & 10/26/24 (9:00 - 10:00 AM)

(<https://thecell.org/cell-events/scouts-bsa-citizenship-nation-merit-badge-virtual-clinic-04-22-23-919-431-226-438-807-772-227/>)

In this engaging clinic, Scouts will learn what it means to be an active citizen and about the many rights and responsibilities of being a citizen of the United States.

The \$1.50/person cost of each day of training has been generously underwritten by their sponsors.

2) CELL's Scouts BSA Citizenship in the World Merit Badge Clinic: Saturdays, 10/29 & 10/26/24 (10:30 - 11:30 AM)

<https://thecell.org/cell-events/scouts-bsa-citizenship-world-merit-badge-virtual-clinic-04-22-23-257-814-408-255-951-864-631-654-484/>

Scouts will learn how to be an active global citizen while increasing their awareness of other cultures and countries around the world.

The \$1.50/person cost of each day of training has been generously underwritten by their sponsors.

3) And don't forget to sign up for the Merit Badge University in person class in Carbondale on 11/16th!

Winter meetings start to become Merit Badge focused, since we have the majority of the winter inside.

We have to start thinking of what we want to learn as a patrol!

Check in with your Patrol Leader and give him your ideas! The winter time is also the season where the service hours we do are more meaningful (e.g.: our yearly Salvation Army Bell Ringing, Dropping off turkey dinners, Community market volunteering). Let's think of some more ways to help our community for the upcoming holidays. Talk to your Patrol Leader and suggest something you'd like to do!

TIP for OUR PARENTS:

Merit Badge Counsellors are not required, but they are important for our Troop.

We want to be able to give the skills and knowledge they need right inside our Troop. Being a M.B. Counsellor helps plan our meetings as well. We outline our meetings by the requirements of the Scouts, so if the majority of Scouts need "First Aid", we plan each meeting to meet that requirement.

Out of all the Eagle Scout required badges, in our Troop we only cover about a quarter of what is required for Eagle, so just imagine what our Scouts could accomplish within our Troop with more M.B. Counsellors on hand! If you have certain skills, or are passionate about a certain subject and would like to share that well of knowledge, please sign up to become a M.B. Counsellor for our Troop - our Scouts will thank you!

Help your Scout reach his goals, while also making our (volunteer) Leaders' lives a bit less hectic!

Our Leaders are happy to help out at any time, based on their availability too, but we've noticed how many Scouts decided to get their requirements as well as the Scoutmaster Conference at the very last minute.

Please make sure to have your Scout schedule:

- his sign offs weekly with a Leader - he can call any approved Leader and set it up.
- his Scoutmaster Conference at least 4 weeks before the next Court of Honor by setting it up with Nate.
- his Board of Review at least 3 weeks before the next Court of Honor by setting it up with Anne.

Scout Oath or Promise:

ON MY HONOR, I WILL DO MY BEST
TO DO MY DUTY TO GOD AND MY COUNTRY
AND TO OBEY THE SCOUT LAW;
TO HELP OTHER PEOPLE AT ALL TIMES;
TO KEEP MYSELF PHYSICALLY STRONG,
MENTALLY AWAKE AND MORALLY STRAIGHT.

With this Oath you promise to take care of Yourself, Others, Your Country, and God. It is your personal guide to Your Life to achieve a stronger character and greater values. Don't take this oath with carelessness, but with persistence and care. So you can embrace the lessons Scouting brings you.

The important thing is not to stop questioning.

—Albert Einstein