

# TROOP 59

## Upcoming Meetings

**Troop Meeting:** Wed.,  
February 25th at 7:30

**Advancement Night:** Wed,  
December 18th at 7:30

## Upcoming Events

### LEAD Adult Training

January 31st @ Diablo Valley  
College, Pleasanton  
All adults are invited.

### Code Red

January 31st @ LDS Church,  
San Rafael, 8:30am-2:30pm

### Court of Honor (COH):

February 11th @ Sleepy Hollow  
Clubhouse, 6:30pm. Dinner  
included.

### Patrol Leader Committee Mandatory Training

February 22nd @ Camp  
Tamarancho, 9am-3pm

### Klondike Derby

February 27th - March 1st @  
Camp Marin Sierra

## COH Volunteers

The troop needs a few  
volunteers to help Sonya  
Angelone plan the Feb. 11  
Court of Honor—a dinner for  
scouts and their families with  
potluck desserts.  
[sonya.angelone@comcast.net](mailto:sonya.angelone@comcast.net) )

## New Committee Chair

My name is Ed Miller and I have the great honor and pleasure of serving as the new Committee Chair for Troop 59. Having been part of the Troop for almost two years now, I am looking forward to continuing and expanding the great work that has been done by our previous Committee Chair, Jim Barker, to whom we all owe a great deal of thanks.



I am very excited to support our "boy led troop" by providing the committee SUPPORT that they need to fulfill their plans. Adult leadership is crucial to providing the helping hands that are needed in order to support the troop program and assist the boys in being the best that they can be.

Our goal is to enable the Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmaster(s) the freedom to focus on helping the boys build and execute their programs. To do this the Committee assures that the troop is managed according to BSA policies, that troop funds are allocated properly and that the troop has the ability to support the plans determined by the boys, (including transportation, equipment and proper documentation). Towards these efforts we'll be doing everything possible to document and automate our processes over the course of 2015.

We are fortunate to have a strong and dedicated committee and I consider myself lucky to be part of the team listed below.

Beth Bailey-Gates	Advancement
Ned Farnkopf	Scoutmaster
David Goodman	Life To Eagle
Elliot Levin	Friends of Scouting
Nancy Mann/Sophie Kurnik	Communications
David Pearce	Trail To First Class
Alison Snow	Registrar
Tom Tuhtan /John Russo	Treasurer

Of course, it doesn't stop with Scoutmasters and Committee Members; parents play a VERY strong role in helping our boys accomplish their plan. Whether you are able to provide >>

## Love A Good Blog?

Beth Bailey-Gates also recommended the following blog to follow:

[blog.scoutingmagazine.com](http://blog.scoutingmagazine.com)

## New Merit Badges in 2015

**Signs, Signals and Codes:** The Signs, Signals, and Codes merit badge will cover Morse code, ASL, Braille, signaling, trail markings, and other nonverbal communications.

**Animation:** Computer or traditional animation tasks that will test a Scout's creativity, artistic skills, and storytelling abilities.

## T59 Meeting Schedule

### FOR ALL SCOUTS

**Regular Troop Meetings** are the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays at 7:30pm at Masonic Lodge

**Advancement Nights** are the 3rd & 5th Wednesdays at 7:30pm at Masonic Lodge

### OTHER MEETINGS

**Patrol Leader Meetings** are the 2nd and 3rd Thursdays at 7pm. Location: Ned Farnkopf's home

**Adult Committee Meetings** are the first Thursday of each month at 7pm at California Closets **All adults are welcome and encouraged to attend.**

transportation to and from a merit badge session; bring a shovel to a service project event; coordinate an outing or join a campout—we need your help! Please don't hesitate to be a part of our "boy led troop" and assist with the adult aspects of Troop 59.

*Yours in Scouting,*

Ed Miller

*Troop 59 Committee Chair*

## Boards of Review



The last step for scouts to advance in each rank is to

have a Board of Review. A Board of Review is made up of three to six adults in the troop who meet with the scout to assess their scouting experiences. Suggested questions are provided to parent volunteers but they are not limited to those questions.

The Board of Review is similar to an interview and is an experience that all scouts find helpful when they apply for their first job and sit for an interview. It's also a great way for parent volunteers to get to know the wonderful boys that make up Troop 59.

The next scheduled date for Boards of Review for scouts is *Wednesday, February 4th*. Scouts should plan ahead if they are close to their next rank advancement. All their other requirements, including the Scoutmaster Conference will have to be completed before Tuesday, February 3rd.

Parents will be needed to sit on the Boards of Review that evening. Please contact Beth Bailey-Gates ([bethmbg@gmail.com](mailto:bethmbg@gmail.com)) if you are able to volunteer or if you have any questions.

## Court of Honor and Troop Elections

*February 11, 2015*

The next Court of Honor is scheduled for *Wed., February 11 at 6:30 pm* at the Sleepy Hollow Clubhouse. A Taco Bar dinner is being catered by Marinitas. Families should bring drinks or a dessert to share. There will be a small charge per person for the evening. Check for an Evite to come out soon with more details. >>



This is also the evening for Troop elections. If you are running for one of the leadership positions in the Troop (SPL, Patrol Leader etc.) please contact Mr. Farnkopf to let him know. Scouts who plan to run for election should know that there is a mandatory leadership training day they must attend on *Sunday, February 22nd from 9am-3pm* at Camp Tamarancho.

## Philmont

### *August 2016*

You may have heard about the great time eight Troop 59 scouts (and three adults) had backpacking at Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico last summer. We had such a good time, we want to do it again!

We were lucky enough to secure a spot in August, 2016 and now is the time to claim one of those spots if you're interested. Scouts must be 14 years old by August 2, 2016 (or at least 13 years old and have completed 8th grade.) The dates of our trek are August 2-14, 2016.



Philmont offers more than just backpacking. Many of the backcountry camps are staffed and offer unique activities like black powder shooting, spar pole climbing, burro racing, atl-atl throwing, team challenge games, blacksmithing, rock climbing and so much more.

Don't miss this opportunity to challenge yourself and have a great scouting time. Please contact Mr. Farnkopf at [nedbluesky@hotmail.com](mailto:nedbluesky@hotmail.com) if you'd like to join us.

The cost for the trip is \$870 per person which will be paid in installments. There will be additional travel expenses to be determined later. Travel costs in 2014 were approx. \$500 per person.

## Troop 59 Fall ILST

by *Tristan Pearce* ILST stands for 'Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops'. The latest ILST was held at Scoutmaster Farnkopf's house, Sunday, December 7. The attendees were Tristan Pearce, Christian Russo, Taylor Gumm, Zac Farnkopf, Jackson Mason, Aidan Nelson, and Vinnie Kehrlein. This group discussed their personal and troop wide goals. They played several fun games that one way or another had to do with leadership skills, teamwork, and strategy. They discussed the aims and methods of scouting.

Following this was an amazing chili dog lunch with butterscotch and caramel cookies, (courtesy of Scoutmaster Farnkopf). They also discussed the importance of the Patrol Method. Their main goals for 2015 are to fully implement the patrol method, that all scouts no matter what rank get the most out of scouting, and to include more TTE campouts (trail to Eagle) for the older scouts. Overall, we had a fun and amazing time, and I deeply encourage anyone who is in a leadership position and did not attend to go to the next one on February 22nd, following winter elections.

## Marin Sierra Ski Trip Report

by Faris Griffin The ski trip went well and everybody had a good time. We stayed at Ibach Lodge with Pack 50 and had a very fun experience. We did a fire building contest, a campfire, and a snow hike. We also had other various activities like having a snowball fight and making snow forts. Over all it was a great trip and I think everyone will want to do it again next year

