



Long Beach Area Council, BSA
 401 E. 37th Street
 Long Beach, CA 90807
www.longbeachbsa.org

Save the Date!
Distinguished Citizen Dinner 2016

On Wednesday, May 11, 2016, the Long Beach Area Council will honor Long Beach Mayor Dr. Robert Garcia with the Good Scout of the Year Award.

Dinner Chairman David Thornburg said, "I am thrilled to be honoring the Mayor. His passion for our city is second to none. Our superhero theme is a natural connection to Mayor Garcia's love for comic books. We're going to have a great time. You won't want to miss it."

Tickets to the 2016 Distinguished Citizen Dinner are \$200 for individuals. A variety of table sponsorships are available starting at \$1,750 and congratulatory ads start at \$500. Please visit our webpage for more information at longbeachbsa.org/dcd.

For additional information, please contact Marc Bonner, Development Director, at 562-427-0911 x 280 or by email at bonner@scouting.org.

From the Desk of John Fullerton

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Our Scouts proudly participated in several highly visible and well attended community events:

- Martin Luther King Jr Parade – January
- Cambodian Event – April
- Veteran's Parade – November
- Daisy Lane Parade – December

This emphasis on service benefits not only our community, but returns benefits to the Scouts themselves for years to come. According to a survey conducted by Baylor University, Scouts are more likely as adults to continue their service, exceed expectations and achieve their goals. And, if Mr. Amos is correct, they will also lead happier lives.

John Fullerton



Generations

Boy Scouts of America • Long Beach Area Council



From the Desk of
Scout Executive/CEO
John Fullerton

Wally Amos, founder of "Famous Amos" cookies said, "The roots of happiness grow deepest in the soil of service." The Boy Scouts have always known this, which is why the organization places such emphasis on being of service to one's family, community and country. Engrained in our mission, the **Scouts recognize that serving others is a building block of a well-rounded character**; it develops empathy, humility and a belief that we are part of something larger than ourselves. Service is the antidote to isolation, alienation and anti-social behavior.

In fact, it is this responsibility to serve that makes the Scouts unique among all other youth organizations. The Long Beach Area Council provides many opportunities throughout the year for the Scouts to stand up and be counted on behalf of our community. **The following achievements are from Long Beach alone in 2015:**

- Over 37,000 volunteer hours were donated by 3,853 youth
- Nearly 28,000 pounds of food were collected during our 2015 Scouting for Food campaign
- 2000 trees were planted in North Long Beach
- 5,200 flags placed for veterans
- 86 Scouts performed individual service projects as part of becoming an Eagle Scout

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Eagle Scout Teens Recognized

February 2016 saw 86 Eagle Scouts honored for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout the prior year in 2015. Each young man put an average of 150 hours into his project benefitting a local organization.

Council historian and Eagle Scout ('67) Paul Muehlebach, oversaw the presentation of a score of awards to various youth and adult leaders for their service to Scouting at The Grand Event Center in Long Beach.

Maybe it was the presence of honored guest Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia that prompted over 300 Scouts, families and friends to show up for the dinner, surprising everyone, especially the hotel staff who kept bringing out extra tables and chairs.

Upon arriving, Mayor Garcia first met privately with a group of eleven Eagle Scouts. He spoke to them at length about their projects, looking each of them in the eye, and giving his full sincere attention. On stage, Mayor Garcia told the current class they would always be grateful for this experience and that he expected great things of them in the future. He thanked all adult leaders in the audience and added that there wasn't another organization who gives back to the community as much as the Boy Scouts.

Long a measure of distinction for American youth becoming men, Eagle Scouts are the most impressive and promising youth in our community. **Since 2010, the greater Long Beach area has seen over 430 Eagle Scouts.** On average nationally, only six percent of all Boy Scouts earn the Eagle Scout rank.

Pictured: Long Beach Mayor Dr. Robert Garcia with representatives of the 2015 Eagle Scout class.





Long Beach Area Council Gets Top Grade from Rating Agency

The Council is proud to announce that Charity Navigator, America's largest and most-utilized independent evaluator of charities, awarded the Council its prestigious 4-star rating, earned by only 313 of the roughly 160,000 charities in the state of California.

Nationwide, only nine of 275 Boy Scout Councils have earned the 4-star designation. The coveted rating was based on superlative scores in Fiscal Management, Accountability, and Transparency, among other best practices. Additionally, the Long Beach Area Council - not the national organization - was named "Top 10 Charities Worth Watching" in the United States.

In his announcement letter, issued March 1 of this year, Michael Thatcher, President and CEO of Charity Navigator, wrote, "Receiving four out of a possible four stars indicates that your organization adheres to good governance and other best practices that minimize the chance of unethical activities and consistently executes its mission in a fiscally responsible way. Receiving our highest rating indicates that **Long Beach Area Council outperforms most other charities in America.** This "exceptional" designation from Charity Navigator differentiates Boy Scouts of America, Long Beach Area Council from its peers and **demonstrates to the public it is worthy of their trust.**"



Charity Navigator evaluates ten times more charities than their nearest competitor. Their data shows that its users gave more than they planned to before visiting the site, and in fact, estimated that in 2015, Charity Navigator influenced approximately \$10 billion in charitable gifts.

Koch Cup Sailing Competition Returns in 2016

The William I. Koch International Sea Scout Cup returns to Long Beach this summer. The Long Beach Sea Base is gearing up with excitement for the return of the prestigious Koch Cup sailing competition to Long Beach's Alamitos Bay this coming July.

Over 80 top young Sea Scouts from across the country and around the world, including from Brazil, Finland, Ireland, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, South Africa, Trinidad and Tobago, and United Kingdom, are expected to show up at the Long Beach Yacht Club for the bi-annual sailing competition, matching their seamanship and teamwork skills to take home the coveted William I. Koch International Sea Scout Cup.



Participants are scheduled to arrive in town July 30 with a closing ceremony on August 4.

Last here two years ago in 2014, the 2016 competition will once again be co-hosted by the Long Beach Area Council and the Long Beach Yacht Club, while Cal State Long Beach will provide the housing for the visiting Sea Scouts.



Southern California shone at the 2014 competition when neighboring Orange County Sea Scouts Laura Roudebush and Ben Brough (pictured below, with then-Chief Scout Executive Wayne Brock (left) and Bill Koch (right)), competing for the USA, sailed away with the Cup. In fact, the award has been won by Southern California Sea Scouts five times in the last seven regattas since 2002. We anticipate making this eight this coming August.



Sponsor Spotlight: Southern California Edison Gives Back to Youth



Revered by Southland non-profits for their \$5,000 Community Grants, Southern California Edison (SCE) is undeniably a giant in the local philanthropic community. While six-figure, multi-year grants might create the splash, said Ron Litzinger, President of Edison Energy Group and a member of the Long Beach Area Council Board, Edison made a conscious choice to spread its resources as widely as possible to their Service Area's diverse communities. "But it was not without controversy," he added. "In the end, we realized that while the larger grants might have a bigger single impact, these Community Grants were a lifeline to the hundreds of smaller organizations that were doing good work throughout the 80 some cities within SCE's service area." Last year, SCE gave \$20 million to local community programs and an additional \$1.2 million in college scholarships to STEM students.

Litzinger has seen SCE's philanthropic program go through many changes in his 29 years at Edison. "It was Janet Clayton, Sr. VP of Corporate Communications, who convinced us to institute program priorities" he said. "We think that education, environment, public preparedness and civic engagement exemplify SCE's values and what we believe make a community strong."

The fact, Litzinger said, that Scouting demonstrates all four values has made supporting the Long Beach Area Council a logical choice. "It was evident," he said, **"that Scouting educates young men in values and skills; Scouts have long been known to support a clean environment. Be Prepared!** is their slogan and the BSA is a civic leader in any community across the country." He added that they were delighted in 2015 when the BSA National Board eliminated all remaining barriers to adult membership and volunteerism.



"I was introduced to the Council," he said, "in 2008 when John Bryson, President of Edison International, was honored as the Council's Distinguished Citizen. I was honored myself with the same award in 2010 when I was President of SCE, but **it was only after all membership and leadership barriers were lifted that I felt I could take a more visible role by joining the Board.**"

As a Cub Scout, Boy Scout, Eagle Scout, National Outstanding Eagle Scout Award recipient and father of two Girl Scouts, Ron's own experience with Scouting rivals his long tenure with Edison. He continues to call Long Beach his home with his wife of 34 years. "We're on our third house," he added, "with no plans to move." Edison, the Boy Scouts and Long Beach are all lucky to have him.

Gathering of Eagles

On March 12, 2016 the Long Beach Area Council held its first Eagle Scout reunion in recent history at the Long Beach Petroleum Club. Board Member Richard Dempsey ('67) hosted the evening and welcomed 70 Eagle Scouts of all ages from Paul Kennard ('46) to Travis Burks ('11). They all got together to reminisce and more importantly to re-engage with current projects helping today's generation of Scouts.

Council historian Paul Muehlebach ('67) told the inspiring stories of the Long Beach Area Council's first seven Eagle Scouts from the 1920s.



Jim Jeffery ('58), past Council President and current Chair of the Long Beach National Eagle Scout Association chapter, reminded all Eagle Scouts that no matter when their membership began, their obligation to service remains current. **Being an Eagle Scout, he said, is a life-long honor and commitment to the Scouts and to their community.**

The highlight of the event was the presentation of two National Outstanding Eagle Scout Awards for a lifetime of service. Jim Hankla ('55), former Long Beach City Manager and Distinguished Eagle Scout, presented the NOESA awards to Jim Jeffery and Don McMackin ('73). Jeffery retired from the State of California as Assistant Fire Chief. Capt. McMackin (U.S. Navy ret.) was deployed twice to Kuwait and Afghanistan, and had previously served in Korea. He is an Eagle Scout, former Scoutmaster and current Sr. Naval Science Instructor at Lakewood High School.

