In this season of giving, would you consider a gift to support our Scouting programs for youth in our community?

Nearly 4,000 families right here in the greater Long Beach area enjoy quality year-round programs. With your help, this is only a small sample of what we can do:

- Enroll more low-income youth
- Help provide uniforms and awards
- Get more youth outdoors
- Make improvements at Tahquitz
- Upgrade equipment at the Sea Base

Your financial help allows us to make a significant impact on young lives. As Thanksgiving nears, we thank you for your support. We also invite you to give a meaningful gift supporting tomorrow’s leaders with strong values prepared for life as productive citizens.

Give online. The safest, easiest, and most convenient way to send your gift is online at LongBeachBSA.org/donate

Checks can be mailed or delivered to our local Scout office at 401 E 37th St. Long Beach 90807.

Call us over the phone at 562-427-0911. Our sincere thanks for considering making a year-end 2016 gift to the Long Beach Boy Scouts.

From the Desk of John Fullerton
Continued from page 1
Stay tuned for more opportunities to become engaged in our 100-year celebration and for progress on the new Lion program for Kindergarten age boys!

Every fall season we tell each other, “I can’t believe this past year is almost gone. Where does the time go?” Stretched over decades, that question becomes, “Where did the last 100 years go?” That’s right; we are already planning for the next century as we’ll be celebrating our first 100 years in Long Beach come 2019.

While the last century has seen considerable change, the mission of the Boy Scouts remains the same: to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling values and leadership abilities. It’s our methods that must always remain fresh and relevant to the society in which we live. It’s the “how” that will be the subject of conversation among our Board, staff, and community leaders over the next two years.

Speaking of relevant programs, I’m excited to announce a new pilot program in Long Beach. For 25 years, the youngest Cub Scouts joined at age six. With families committing their time earlier and earlier to other activities, Scouting was often aced out of many family schedules. As of this September, Long Beach is piloting a national program introducing Cub Scouts to kindergarten-age boys. The Lion program engages families with boys age 5 which will bring it into line with the traditional start of kindergarten and group sports. Like all of Scouting, Lions will be hands-on, fun, and family oriented. Our goal is to enroll 100 Lions by December 2016.

FROM THE MOUNTAINS TO THE SEA

Summer Means Camping

Perhaps nowhere other than in Southern California can Scouts choose between the mountains or the seashore for an unforgettable summer camping experience. Between June and August, nearly 1,500 Scouts, aged 10 – 17, elected to spend a week either at Camp Tahquitz, perched high in the San Bernardino Mountains, or at the Long Beach Sea Base, tucked in a corner of Alamitos Bay.

At Camp Tahquitz, 940 youth participated in hiking, shooting, climbing, horseback riding, and swimming. Each week’s camp offered lifetime firsts and awe-inspiring experiences from cooking outdoors to saddling a horse, from identifying indigenous flora to star gazing in complete darkness. Scouts were encouraged to participate in activities with their troop, as well as to explore new challenges on their own under the supervision of camp leaders. Each option helps to develop teamwork, leadership and personal growth. Many of the Scouts completed merit badge achievements spanning hobby, career, and life skills in over 45 fields of interest.

While the mountain air is an awesome retreat, some boys yearn for the sea, and the Sea Base Aquatics camp offered 642 Scouts a week of fun on the water. Scouts learned water safety, navigational basics and boating skills, and had fun utilizing terrific assets such as canoeing, sailing, paddleboarding, motorboating, and kayaking. Small Boat and Intermediate Sailing emphasized instruction in seamanship, teamwork and leadership. And, because Sea Base is also an educational center, Scouts were able to take a break from the water to earn merit badge classes in the Council’s growing body of STEM-related subjects, including animation, robotics, weather and environmental sustainability, as well as more traditional crafts such as pottery and photography.

Regardless of which camp is chosen, each summer camping season offers Long Beach Area Council youth both lifelong memories and an annual tradition whose impact we know will last for a lifetime.
Koch Cup in Long Beach

Beating the odds of history, the bi-annual 2016 William I. Koch International Sea Scout Cup went to an international team from New Zealand for the first time since the race was introduced in 2002 by Dr. Koch. The Long Beach team won the hearts of hometown fans with an impressive second place showing. Won in 2014 by the Orange County team, the Koch Cup has gone to a Southern California Sea scouts team five times in the last eight regattas.

The 2016 Koch Cup event was again co-hosted by the Long Beach Area Council and the Long Beach Yacht Club, and underwritten by Oxbow Carbon LLC, while Cal State Long Beach provided the housing for the visiting Sea Scouts. Teams competed in Flying Junior sailboats provided by the Long Beach Sea Scouts, Long Beach Yacht Club and the United States Sailing Center. Like the world-famous America’s Cup, the Koch Cup trophy was designed by Asprey & Garrard’s at the request of Dr. Koch who then donated it to the Boy Scouts Team five times in the last eight regattas.

Over 80 Sea Scouts, ranging in age from 14 to 20, converged on Long Beach from over 10 different countries and around the US for the five-day sailing competition which concluded on Thursday, August 5 at the Long Beach Yacht Club for 100 donors and friends to meet Dr. William I. Koch.

The proud winners of the 2016 Cup were Nicholas Gardiner, 17, and Nicholas Williams, 15, from Long Beach which he visits on a regular basis. Happily, one recent visit at the camp reunion was his first visit to camp in its current location in Barton Flats!

Research by council historian Paul Muehlebach traced the Chief of the Tribe from 1945 – nine years before Ron! His attendance at the camp reunion was his first visit to camp in its current location in Barton Flats!

The Shoulders on Which We Stand

For as long as we can remember, every year at the Camp Tahquitz Staff Reunion, Ron Korman has been the “last man standing” as the elder statesman of camp alumni. Ron served as Chief of the Tribe of Tahquitz 62 years ago in 1954. This past July, there was someone else still standing.

Born in 1930 in Long Beach, Vince Jones joined the Cub Scouts in 1941, graduated to the Boy Scouts in 1942, and earned his Eagle in 1943 at the age of 13, along with Bronze, Gold and Silver Palms. He was initiated into the Tribe of Tahquitz in 1944 at the Camp’s former location in Idyllwild, and was elected Big Chief for the 1945-46 camping season a year later at the age of 15.

After graduating from Wilson High School in 1948, Vince earned his Bachelor’s degree from Dartmouth College in 1952. He returned to the Camp and served as its Camp Director that summer before entering Stanford University where he earned a law degree. By then, the ties that bound him to Camp Tahquitz had stretched as far as they were going to go. Vince’s career took him away from Southern California including to Chicago where he served many years as Corporate Counsel for the legendary Sears Roebuck & Co. He later established a private law practice in Northern California where he remained.

Today, Vince lives in Concord, California, but still owns properties in Long Beach area. The Yacht Club is a valuable partner in providing aquatics programs for youth in Long Beach. The AS&F Foundation has given generously to construct the pedestrian bridge and upgrade the dining hall at Camp Tahquitz, and support ScoutReach, the Council’s program to extend Scouting to income-disadvantaged youth in the Long Beach area.

Breakfast with Businessman Bill Koch

In a rare opportunity to spend time with an international corporate leader, the Council hosted a breakfast on Friday, August 5 at the Long Beach Yacht Club for 100 donors and friends to meet Dr. William I. Koch.

Dr. Koch is the founder of Oxbow Carbon LLC, the largest marketer and producer of calcined coke in the world. In town for the eighth running of the William I. Koch International Sea Scout Cup, Dr. Koch talked about his personal philosophy, the 3Ts – talent, teamwork and technology – which he claimed helped his team win the 1992 America’s Cup when all the sailing experts had discounted them.

“Ordinary people,” he said, “doing things extraordinarily well as a team will beat – every time – a bunch of superstars with their accompanying egos.”

The Long Beach Area Council Board President Michael Trainotti served as the morning’s emcee, while his son Nicholas, who is working on his Eagle level, gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance. After welcoming Dr. Koch and the guests, the elder Trainotti said the Council was depending on them and all of the community’s leaders to help the Board plan for their second century as they near their 100 year anniversary in Long Beach in 2019.

Stelton shares his passion for learning and his drive to succeed were demonstrated by his completing two LA Marathons while still in high school, and culminated in his graduating from Jordan with multiple honors. Today, we are proud to say that Stelton is in his first year studying computer science at UC Santa Cruz.

An Impressive Young Man

The Long Beach Area Council has many stories of young men who found their footing or turned their lives around through Scouting. But every so often a story comes to our attention that profoundly demonstrates the hard work, accountability and grit that are the model of a Scout’s well developed character. This is the story of Stelton Phelps.

Stelton joined the Scouts at a 4th grader at Dooley Elementary School in Long Beach. He joined because he liked the uniforms and wanted to be a part of a group. Staying in the Scouts through middle school, Stelton was uprooted when his family moved to Bellflower, and then uprooted again when they returned a few years later. Fortunately, Stelton stayed with the Scouts through the two moves, continuing even after he entered Jordan High School. At Jordan, he directed an impressive large scale project building shelving and storage carts for the school’s computer room.

Stelton’s commitment and drive to succeed were demonstrated by his completing two LA Marathons while still in high school, and culminated in his graduating from Jordan with multiple honors. Today, we are proud to say that Stelton is in his first year studying computer science at UC Santa Cruz.

Stelton shares his passion for learning and his drive to succeed with his mother, who is currently earning her own degree at UCLA. Scouting served Stelton well, and by his many accomplishments, it is clear that he gave back as much as he received. Well done, Stelton!