Awards Dinner Honors PoLB Exec Chris Lytle

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Governor George Deukmejian, Mayor Bob Foster, Mayor Beverly O’Neill, Samuel A. Keesal, Jr., Dr. Mike Walter, Richard Steinke, former Long Beach City Manager Gerald Miller, and last year’s recipient, Southern California Edison President Ron Litzinger. This year’s celebration also marked the 100th Anniversary of the Eagle Award.

Named to the Port’s top management position in 2011, Mr. Lytle is a shipping industry veteran who served as Deputy Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer from 2006 to 2011. He joined the Port in September 2006 as Managing Director overseeing the Trade Relations and Operations Bureau.

Mr. Lytle holds a master’s degree in business administration from the University of Puget Sound and a bachelor’s degree in business administration from Central Washington University. He also served as an Infantry Officer in the U.S. Army.

Mr. Lytle serves as a Director of the Marine Exchange of Southern California, and as a Director on the Long Beach Area Chamber of Commerce Board. Mr. Lytle, his wife, Stephanie, and their three sons live in Los Alamitos, California.

Improving Camps and Facilities is a ‘Capital’ Idea

A few months ago, we launched the Building for Generations capital campaign—the first such campaign since 1964. Buoyed by the recent sale of the underutilized Will J. Reid Scout Park property in Long Beach, and a generous lead grant from a private Southern California foundation, we are on our way.

With a campaign goal of $5.5 million, we will be reaching out to the community and major donors and, over the next few months you will be informed of many exciting fundraising activities and events. We invite you to join in and help us reach our goal.

Over the last 50+ years, thousands of deserving kids have had their lives enriched through the unique Scouting programs and activities offered at Camp Tahquitz and Sea Base. But looking down the road, these facilities must now offer those same experiences to new generations. Today, the need for Scouting is stronger than ever. We are re-visioning our organization for the future and, in so doing, are creating a new legacy of service to our community, our Scouts, and their families.

Building for Generations is truly a “capital” idea whose time has come.

Trust for Public Lands’ Offer for Will J. Reid Scout Park to Benefit Scouting Programs

The Council Executive Board has accepted the offer of $4,850,000 from the Trust for Public Lands for the 11-acre Will J. Reid Boy Scout Park in North Long Beach. The park, including the swimming pool open to the public, will continue operating during the escrow process, according to John Fullerton, Scout Executive. A decline in use and an increase in maintenance costs convinced the Board it was time to sell the property.

“This sale does three things,” noted Fullerton. “First, it allows us to become fiscally stable. Second, it keeps the property as an open space. And third, we will be able to now do some much needed capital improvements to our other properties.”

Annual Distinguished Citizen Awards Dinner Honors Port of Long Beach Executive Director Chris Lytle

Chris Lytle was named Good Scout of the Year and Distinguished Citizen of 2012 at the annual fundraising banquet this past May. Mr. Lytle is Executive Director of the Port of Long Beach and an Eagle Scout.

“This celebration honors someone who has demonstrated unwavering commitment to their profession while improving the quality of their community,” said Council President Jim Jeffery. “Receiving the 2012 Good Scout of the Year award, Chris is recognized for his outstanding involvement in the community and his demonstration of the ideals of the Boy Scouts of America.”

The “Good Scout of the Year” award is presented to individuals and corporate citizens whose ethics and values are representative of the Scout Oath and Law. Since 1978, this annual event — which draws more than 450 business, civic, and government leaders — has recognized some of Long Beach’s most accomplished citizens, including:

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Annual Sea Scout Golf Tournament Set for Oct. 11th

The third annual golf tournament to benefit the Long Beach Sea Scout Squadron has been set for a Thursday, October 11, 2012, at the California Country Club in Whittier, California. Registration begins at 6:00 a.m. with Shotgun Start at 7:00 a.m. Golf cart and sit-down lunch is $125 per golfer. Four-somes are $500; Hole Sponsor is $50. For more information and registration, contact Chairman Rich Butler at (562) 769-3886 or Co-Chairman Lonny McClure at (310) 422-2780.

Sea Scout activities are related to maritime careers, seamanship, and service. Sea Scout advancement includes, among many other things, learning about safety, lifesaving, and first aid, as well as all aspects of proper boat handling including marlinespike seamanship, piloting, navigating, signaling, and weather forecasting at sea. The program is defined by tradition, maritime adventure, and fun . . . and can be summarized in four S’s: Scouting, Seamanship, Service, and Social activities. Scouting offers young people such a range of learning opportunities from camping skills to seamanship . . . it really gives kids a chance to discover and grow and gain immeasurable self-confidence.”

Scout-O-Rama Salutes a Century of Sea Scouting

Scout-O-Rama was held this past June at Heartwell Park in Long Beach, and more than 2,500 Scouts, along with families, friends, and volunteers, came together for the annual one-day event. This year’s theme, Charting a Course for the Future: 100 Years of Sea Scouting, sought to honor a century of adventures at sea.

In addition to the traditional Troop displays, exhibits, and Scouting hands-on activities, Scouts also enjoyed learning about seamanship skills such as knot tying, chart reading, and navigation. As well there was a Tiger Shark lagoon set up, talks by Long Beach Search and Rescue, the Long Beach Police Department, and the Civil Air Patrol. Entertainment was provided by the Tribe of Tahquitz performing Native American dances.

According to District Executive Brian Morrissey, “We wanted to emphasize ocean adventures this year and honor 100 years of Sea Scouts. Sea Scouts is defined by tradition, maritime adventure, and fun . . . and can be summarized in four S’s: Scouting, Seamanship, Service, and Social activities. Scouting offers young people such a range of learning opportunities from camping skills to seamanship . . . it really gives kids a chance to discover and grow and gain immeasurable self-confidence.”

Southern California Foundation Provides Lead Gift for Capital Campaign

A private Southern California foundation has provided a lead gift of $500,000 for the Building for Generations capital campaign. Specifically, this gift will be used at Camp Tahquitz to build a pedestrian bridge over State Highway 38 (which currently divides the camp), and refurbishing the family restrooms/shower facilities.

Camp Tahquitz is 640 acres of rolling green meadows and thick alpine forest located in the San Bernardino National Forest. Facilities include an aquatics center, canoeing and fishing lake, a stable, climbing wall, climbing tower zip line, mountain bike trails, and shotgun and archery ranges. Each year, thousands of campers enjoy overnight and extended camping there, and are able to hike and backpack through remote areas of the adjacent San Gorgonio Wilderness Area. The camp is used year-round by Scout groups, as well as educational, religious and civic organizations. In 2011, over 15,000 “camper days” were spent at Tahquitz.

Tahquitz serves over 1,200 youths from a wide variety of ethnic, racial and social backgrounds. Campers also include youth with an assortment of physical disabilities, who will be able to enjoy a richer camping experience due to our commitment to ensuring ADA compliance for all Tahquitz facilities, including recent construction of wheelchair ramps for two of its largest, most-used buildings.

If you would like to contribute to the Building for Generations capital campaign, please contact Development Director Pamela Bumpgardner at (562) 427-0111, extension 280.

Munzer Lake Dedicated at Camp Tahquitz

The three-acre lake at Camp Tahquitz, was dedicated this past June in honor of William “Bill” Munzer, a longtime supporter of Boy Scouts, who passed away in late 2010. Munzer Lake will continue to provide adventures on the water such as canoeing, kayaking, and fishing for hundreds of Scouts every year.

Bill was born in Santa Ana, California in 1954. In 1981 he moved with his family to Long Beach. Bill attended local schools during his youth. He graduated from Northern Arizona University in 1976 and became president of Stretch-Vent Packaging Systems and served in that position for 12 years until the business sold in 2002. An excellent athlete, Bill was an avid tennis player, skier, golfer, swimmer and surfer. He was also a passionate supporter of the Boy Scouts; Daniel and Jeffrey both achieved the rank of Eagle Scout.

Million Dollar אחרונות

Earl B. Miller founded Sully-Miller Contracting Company in 1923 with his partner, George W. Sully. The company eventually became one of California’s leading asphalt manufacturing contractors. Earl and Lorraine Miller’s love for the children of Long Beach prompted them to establish the Earl B. and Lorraine H. Miller Foundation in 1967.

The Earl B. and Lorraine H. Miller Foundation recently awarded $50,000 to the Long Beach Area Council in support of ScoutReach. The ScoutReach program offers at-risk youth, who otherwise cannot afford to participate in Scouting activities, the same opportunities to develop leadership skills, and build character, citizenship and personal fitness, and help young people reach their full potential. ScoutReach emphasizes service to minority populations and currently operates in 21 public schools within the Long Beach Unified School District. ScoutReach accounts for 25% of the total youth served by ScoutReach in Long Beach.

A recent independent evaluation of the program found that, during the 2011-2012 academic year, ScoutReach enrolled 1,281 boys ages 6 to 13 years. Of those enrolled, 792 (61.8%) boys came from primarily low-income Hispanic and African American households, which are frequently single-parent family units.

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