

# Sea Base Opens Up to Community

Continued from page 1

“Sea Base is a jewel,” said Fullerton, “which has served the council and our Scouts well for many years. We’re spending a significant amount of money to upgrade the property, both inside and out, to make it safe for year-round occupancy. It makes sense that, not just Scouts, but **any boy or girl in the greater Long Beach area should be able to benefit from this beautiful facility.**”

Said Trish, “Game Design and Development is not all we do. We have three other major focus areas: LEGO® based activities, including the EV3 Robotics and mechanics, Fabric and Fiber, and Youth Development, including service to autistic youth, entrepreneurship and leadership development.”

Site Director Chris Macy sees many advantages to this expanding open-door policy. “All kids today need somewhere safe they can go to learn, socialize and have fun with proper supervision. And, Trish’s classes have shown us that many kids are hungry to learn more creative, even career-directed, skills. We have kids as young as six years old who are building sophisticated LEGO projects. The older teenagers are creating online games and comic strips. And if they all learn a little bit about Scouting while they’re in the building, so much the better.”

In the future, Fullerton envisions offering a wider range of programs and activities for the community. “With more program funding for staff, supplies and promotion,” he said, “we could provide a community meeting room, more youth classes, even classes for adults, like ESL, parenting and yoga. I’d like Sea Base to become a second home, not just for Scouts, but for the entire Long Beach community.”



Prepared. For Life.™

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

[www.longbeachbsa.org](http://www.longbeachbsa.org)

## We are the Village

Continued from page 1

What struck me while reading these vignettes was the compassion in the young men’s voices as they described how they identified the need and their pride in the finished projects. Most of the projects, even ten years later, are still there – a testament to the bond that exists between the Long Beach Boy Scouts and the community.

The article goes on to briefly state what each of the 51 Eagle Scouts is doing today. I can proudly say that they are all either in school, many in engineering and technology, or they’ve embarked on a career in public service – firefighting and teaching to name a few. The lessons of leadership, perseverance, teamwork and accountability have stayed with them. After their education, we hope that many of them will stay in Long Beach and raise their families here, putting these qualities to work on behalf of their hometown.

Whether it’s Eagle Scouts projects, Troop Community Service days, or honoring Long Beach leaders, the council and the Long Beach community are a team; by working together, we make each other stronger. I look forward to many more opportunities to strengthen this important relationship.



From the desk of  
**Scout Executive  
John Fullerton**

## We are the Village

A theme that seems to run through this newsletter is how much the Long Beach Area Council is intertwined with fabric of the greater Long Beach community. In March, we brought together community leaders and donors to meet former Secretary of Defense Dr. Robert Gates (see article inside). We’re providing programs at the Long Beach Sea Base open to all youngsters. We’re honoring a local corporation at our upcoming Distinguished Citizen award dinner.

Nothing could demonstrate this interconnectedness more than the lead article in the Spring issue of local magazine Long Beach 908: 51 thumbnail sketches of Eagle Scout projects done in East Long Beach over the last decade. These projects benefited local schools, churches, public departments, and libraries. They provided shaded seating areas, gardens, storage areas, play areas, book shelves – a host of improvements to make life and work easier for Long Beach residents.

Continued on back page



# Generations

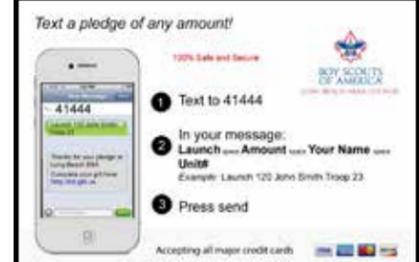
Boy Scouts of America • Long Beach Area Council



## Annual Giving Enters Mobile Age

In a sign of the times, the Long Beach Area Council reports that more and more of its donors, particularly Scout families, are donating through their cell phones, using the council’s new Mobile Cause application.

“We have to stay current with how people are living and giving today,” said Marc Bonner, Development Director. “It’s no longer reply to a direct mail appeal, or even give through the web site. People live hectic lives today and want everything, even donations, to be convenient and to travel with them wherever they go. That means letting them use their mobile phone to donate.”



Council donors certainly seem to appreciate this new vehicle. According to Bonner, almost 30% of their Scouting Family donations have come in through Mobile Cause so far in 2015. Because it bypasses cell providers, Mobile Cause doesn’t limit donors to \$5 or \$10, as with earlier cell phone programs. “There’s no limit on the donation amount,” Bonner added, “and it’s 100% secure.”

To use the text-to-give option, simply text Launch to 41444 and follow the prompts.

## Sea Base Opens Up to Community

Aided by property upgrades, a new full-time Director, and the vision of Scout Executive John Fullerton, the Long Beach Sea Base is moving toward taking on a broader role as a program activity resource within the Long Beach community.



The Sea Base was originally leased from the City of Long Beach in 1966, and today operates as the council’s Aquatics Day Camp, where Scouts learn seamanship skills and can choose between 40+ merit badges. In recent years, the facility has been open year-round to Scouts for after-school STEM classes and weekend craft activities. But, since 2012, under the direction of volunteer Trish Tsoiasue, and her colleagues Morio Murase and Caprice Rothe, classes in video game design and development have been open to several hundred boys and girls, aged 6 to 15, not all of them Scouts. This newest development is something Scout Executive John Fullerton hopes will continue and grow.

Continued on back page



## Camping and Positive Youth Development

If you find yourself sitting at the kitchen table thinking over whether to help send a kid to summer camp, we'd like you to consider this – in a recent study commissioned by 4-H, researchers concluded that “when the strength of adolescence is aligned with family, school, and community resources, positive youth development (PYD) will occur.” Positive Youth Development is exhibited by having the 5 C’s – competence, confidence, character, connection and caring – all of which leads to the 6th C – contribution!

The study, entitled “The Positive Development of Youth,” was conducted by the Institute for Applied Research in Youth Development at Tufts University. Over a 7-year period, over 7,700 adolescents in 44 states were followed, studied, measured and surveyed along with their parents, school officials and representatives of after-school community youth programs.



Where is camping in all of this you might ask? The study goes on to say that the most powerful community youth development programs are those that provide:

- Positive and sustained relationships between youth and adults... Camping, check!
- Activities that build important life skills... Camping, check!
- Opportunities for youth to use these life skills as both participants in and as leaders of valued community activities... Camping, check!

We all know that growing up is a process, with many twists and turns. What this study says, though, is that young people are as capable of learning values as are adults – maybe more so. And, they absorb more positive development if they are part of a community-resource program that provides strong mentoring relationships, have opportunities to learn important life skills, and the opportunities to put those skills to work within valued activities.

Sounds like a good reason to help send a kid to camp, doesn't it?

Summer Camp at Tahquitz opens on June 28 and runs for six weeks; Aquatics Camp at the Long Beach Sea Base opens on June 22 and runs for 8 weeks. Registration for both is now open. Help send a kid to camp! Contact Marc Bonner, Development Director, (562) 427-0911 x 280.

## BSA National President Dr. Robert Gates meets Long Beach Leaders and Donors

On March 5, 2015, the Long Beach Area Council and local business icon Keesal Young & Logan hosted National BSA President Dr. Robert Gates in downtown Long Beach for a select group of 100 community leaders and major donors. The reception – co-sponsored by TRISTAR Risk Management, Inc. – served both to introduce President Gates to the council's supporters and to express appreciation to its donors for their generosity over the years.



Dr. Gates, whose resume includes former CIA Director and US Secretary of Defense, as well as Distinguished Eagle Scout, charmed the audience with his self-deprecating description of a youthful teenage lack of direction. ***“The only thing I had done in my life to that point that led me to think that I could make a difference, that I could be a leader, was to earn my Eagle Scout badge,”*** he said.

He went on to say that he would not have achieved the professional success he did without Scouting. ***“Scouting had the greatest influence, together with my parents, in shaping my basic character and outlook on life.”*** Now 71 and an Eagle Scout since 1958, Gates said he learned teamwork, courage and leadership through his involvement in the Boy Scouts. “These are traits worth passing on.”

Among the guests were City Manager Pat West, Police Chief Robert Luna, 5th District Councilwoman Stacy Mungo, Commodore John Fleishman of the LB Yacht Club, Walt Florie and Ron Arias from the Miller Foundation, Dan Munzer of the Munzer Foundation, and several BSA board members.



Said Marc Bonner, council Development Director, “John Fullerton and I were so honored to be able to welcome President Gates to Long Beach and we appreciate the indispensable help provided by Keesal Young & Logan in providing such a perfect venue. We are hoping to make this donor appreciation reception an annual event.”

## Corporate Sponsor Spotlight:

### Valero Energy Builds its Philanthropy Around Kids



One wouldn't automatically think of associating an energy company with children, but Texas-based Valero Energy has built an impressive nationwide philanthropic story doing just that. Their Valero Open celebrity golf tournament, held every year in San Antonio, raises \$10.3 million for children's charities around the country, which is distributed locally through their 15 Operating Regions.

In Southern California, the Long Beach Area Council has been fortunate to be included among the two dozen children's charities Valero-Wilmington has chosen to support. According to Steve Faichney, Valero's Director of Public and Government Affairs, “we look for charities that focus on education, mentoring and that provide strong anti-gang influences. The Long Beach Boy Scouts does that and more.”

Over the years, Long Beach Area Council has indeed called Valero Energy a true friend, benefiting from a total of \$18,000 over the past two years, much of which has gone to support ScoutReach, the Council's after-school program that provides at-risk youth the full range of Scouting opportunities at no cost to them.

Speaking as a former Cub Scout, Faichney said, “I was so grateful growing up for the things I got from Scouting – outdoor skills, the need for self-discipline to earn merit badges, confidence and teamwork. Today it seems more important than ever to be able to offer young people these things, especially a respect for the environment and mentoring when so many kids come from single-parent households.”



Valero Energy has a lot to be proud of in its Southern California philanthropy. It's the 20th largest philanthropist in Los Angeles County and is counted among United Way's Top 25 donors, participating every year as a leader in its employee giving program, which raises money not just from the company, but from the Valero employees themselves.

“I often run across professionals,” said Faichney, “who were Scouts growing up and we compare our similar stories of camping and the hard work it took to earn those merit badges. And, I love it,” he added, “when I run across young men coming up through the company who have Scouting in their background. I know they've had that training in character-building and leadership that's the cornerstone of the Scouting experience.”

## Save the Date for the 2015 Distinguished Citizen Dinner

Circle Wednesday, June 3rd on your calendar for the 2015 Distinguished Citizen Dinner honoring local engineering firm Moffatt & Nichol with the “Good Scout of the Year Award.”

In a major departure from past venues, the 2015 Dinner will be held at the glamorous The Gallery at the Long Beach Arena. Local Eagle Scouts will be well represented, hosting booths around the room perimeter. In a rare opportunity, guests will be able throughout the evening to visit the booths, talk with individual Eagle Scouts and see up close and personal the types of personal projects each one is pursuing.

Board Members David Thornburg and Bob Graham will serve as event co-chairs. “We're looking forward to the 2015 Dinner with a lot of excitement,” Thornburg said. “The new venue takes things up a notch, and we couldn't ask for a more deserving awardee than Moffatt & Nichol. The Distinguished Citizen Award recognizes individuals, public servants and corporate representatives who exemplify Scout ethics and values – and they do just that.”



The global firm is being honored for the crucial role they played in the recent construction of the pedestrian bridge over Highway 38 at our very own Camp Tahquitz. Moffatt and Nichol not only performed the engineering design work, but as their contribution to this vital project, they waived their professional services fees which otherwise would have cost the project substantially. Eric Nichol, President, PhD, PE, will be accepting the award on behalf of the firm, saying, ***“It was important for the firm to take part in the bridge project. We believe it is essential to give back as much as possible in order to help promote and facilitate strength within the communities in which we serve.”***

Tickets to the 2015 Distinguished Citizen dinner are \$250 for individuals and a variety of table sponsorships between \$1,500 and \$7,500 are available. To register for tickets, go to [longbeachbsa.org/dcd](http://longbeachbsa.org/dcd) and click Register. For more information, please contact Marc Bonner, Development Director, (562) 427-0911 x 280.