Dear Scout leader;

As a member of the scouting family, we hope that you, your family and neighbors are safe and are remaining healthy. For those of you whose family or neighbors are sick, please remember that we are thinking of you.

Our nation and our state have been through World Wars, Depressions, and natural disasters. Scouting has been with you and your family through all of these crises, and we will continue to be here to provide whatever help we can offer to you and your family.

While no one knows for sure what will happen in the next few months, we at the Long Beach Area Council want to assure you that we are still planning to hold Summer Camp at Camp Tahquitz. Additionally, the Long Beach Area Council and Camp Tahquitz are aware of and share concerns for the safety of our families and Scouting community. As we prepare to provide your Scouts with a summer camp experience that will create a lifetime of memories, we are also taking extra measures to ensure that everyone stays safe and healthy at camp. Our goal has not changed: to help others at all times. And, safety continues to be our first priority.

We are following the direction of our health agencies and have closed our facilities through the end of April. But, we are still working. In preparation for camp, remember that we do have protocols in place for controlling and preventing the spread of communicable diseases in camp. Additionally, Our camp doctor and camp medics are reviewing and updating the current protocols to make sure we have the best strategies and information available to our staff. We are also taking other steps to provide a safe and healthy environment for everyone including the institution of policies and procedures that not only meet all Center for Disease Control (CDC) and local health agency guidelines, but exceed them. We are monitoring the ever-changing situation; as guidelines change externally we are updating our policies for the camp accordingly.

While it is true that we may have to adjust and adapt the program, at this point we are working under the assumption that we will be able to provide the youth and families of our area with an amazing summer program.

We recognize that the COVID-19 virus situation is fluid and we must be prepared for anything.

We will be in contact with you over the next few weeks, keeping you informed about the progress of summer camp. We also want to be able to answer any questions that you or your families might have regarding the summer.
To do this, we would like to ask two favors of you:

First: please be sure that we have current email addresses for your troop. Please forward to us the emails of any additional troop leaders (or parents) in your troop who would be interested in these newsletters;

Second: please send us any questions about camp that you and your parents might have. While we may not be able to answer each question personally, we plan to collect all of the questions and provide a FAQ in the upcoming newsletters for all troop leaders and parents (after all, if you have the question – there are probably other troops that have the same question). Please direct the questions to nathanael.mooberry@scouting.org.

Please also remember that there are council campership funds available to attend summer camp at Camp Tahquitz. No Scout should be denied an opportunity to attend summer camp because of his or her family’s financial challenges. Click here for the Campership Application.

As we prepare for the summer, where we hope to provide a great adventure for all of our youth and family after these trying times, we want to assure you that Scouting is here for you and your family.

Yours in Scouting,

Michael Dermody
Summer Camp Director

Nathanael John Mooberry
Council Program Director

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