



The Eagle Frontier

Also in May:

Eagle Court of Honor for Gerardo Gorospe



City of Cerritos Proclamation of Eagle Scout Prithvi Chauhan



CoH for Curtis Cha, Cristian Preciado, Edward Chiang, Nitin Sadras, and Vignesh Sadras



Spring Cen-Ten-O-Ree Camporee

On Friday, May 1st of 2015, Troop 693 traveled to Firestone Scout Reservation to join in on the Spring Cen-Ten-O-Ree Camporee, celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Los Angeles Area Council. All districts under the LAAC were invited. This involved new activities: fencing, ATVs, and a triathlon. The old activities were there too: archery, shotgun, and rifle shooting. The Scouts also collaborated in making a webelos bridge. The new Scouts in Troop 693 also had great time on their first Camporee, although they did complain that the live songs provided by a graduated Eagle Scout on Saturday night were all outdated. The food was, as usual for Troop 693, excellent. All in all it was a great learning experience for the younger scouts while they had fun in such a large event.



The Scouts cook breakfast early in the morning.

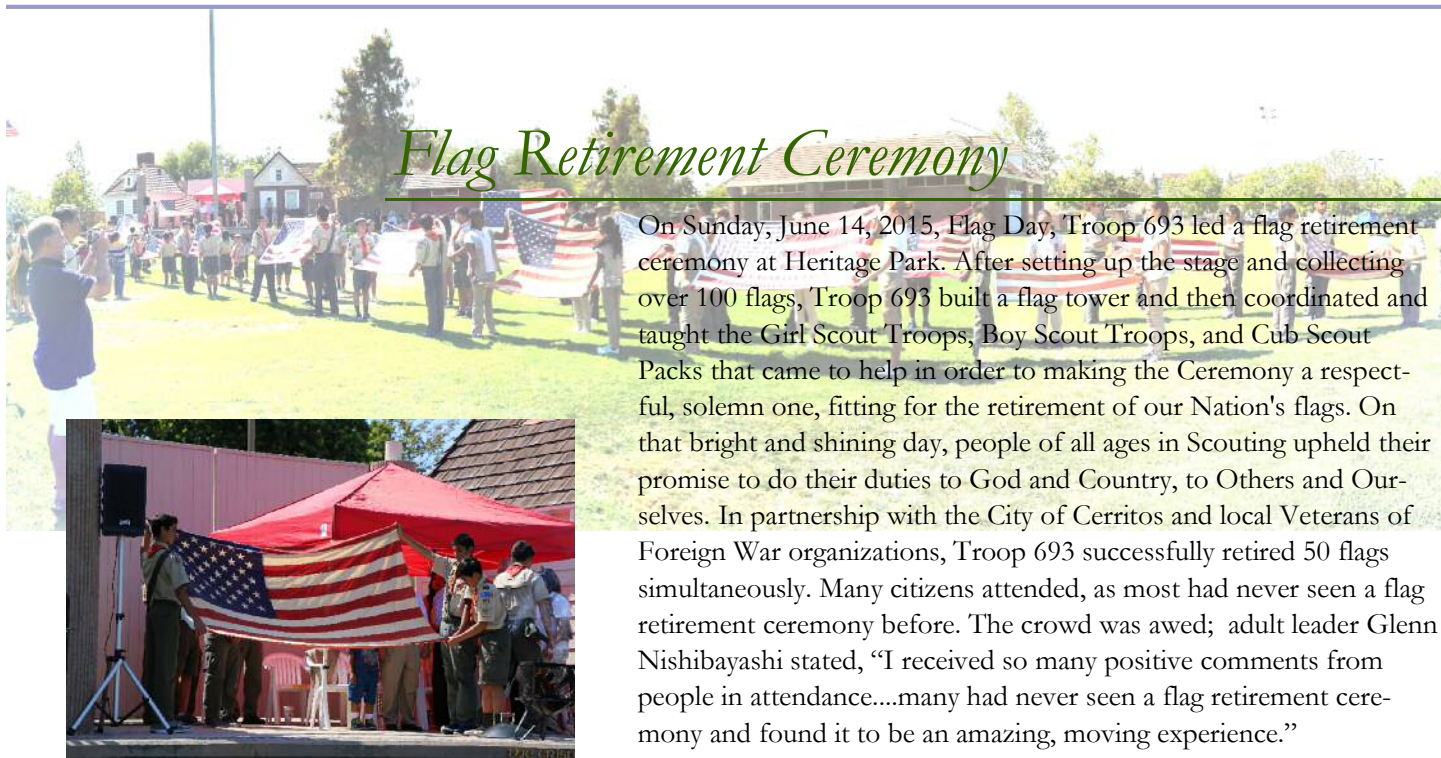
Thisara Gunawardhana's Eagle Project



In order to reach his goal of becoming Eagle, Thisara Gunawardhana first had to commandeer his Eagle Project. On Saturday, May 30, 2015 from roughly 8AM to 4PM Scouts and their friends help repaint the entire parking lot of Gonsalves Elementary School, Thisara's primary school. Pizza, soda, as well as a variety of fruits and other refreshments were served for lunch; with this energy everyone had fun completing the repainting of the parking lot.

Memorial Day Flag Ceremony

Troop 693 was invited to have a booth at the Memorial Day Ceremony on May 25 at the Cerritos Civic Center to honor veterans. The booth was filled with memorabilia and photos of Troop 693's recent trip to USS Arizona and USS Missouri, along with other information about Troop 693 and its activities. Also, a flag pole was built using poles and lashings that towered to about 20 feet. The scouts participated in the Pledge of Allegiance in and the younger scouts got some of their lashing requirement completed. It was also a good opportunity to promote the Flag Retirement Ceremony that took place on June 14 at 3PM.



Flag Retirement Ceremony

On Sunday, June 14, 2015, Flag Day, Troop 693 led a flag retirement ceremony at Heritage Park. After setting up the stage and collecting over 100 flags, Troop 693 built a flag tower and then coordinated and taught the Girl Scout Troops, Boy Scout Troops, and Cub Scout Packs that came to help in order to making the Ceremony a respectful, solemn one, fitting for the retirement of our Nation's flags. On that bright and shining day, people of all ages in Scouting upheld their promise to do their duties to God and Country, to Others and Ourselves. In partnership with the City of Cerritos and local Veterans of Foreign War organizations, Troop 693 successfully retired 50 flags simultaneously. Many citizens attended, as most had never seen a flag retirement ceremony before. The crowd was awed; adult leader Glenn Nishibayashi stated, "I received so many positive comments from people in attendance....many had never seen a flag retirement ceremony and found it to be an amazing, moving experience."

OC Food Bank Service Project

There were a few Philmont training hikes in June. Get ready for the Philmont Special Edition that will be released after the start of August!

With 21 volunteers, 3 adults and 18 scouts, Troop 693 set out to help the community by organizing and distributing the donated food at the Orange County Food Bank in Garden Grove on June 27. Packing and unpacking boxes, the scouts diligently accomplished their mission and felt a growing warmth in their hearts from helping the community and working together.



Cycling Merit Badge Completed!

Q: Why did the bike go slower than the car?

A: Because it was two tired.

Q: Why aren't bank tellers allowed to ride bikes?

A: Because they tend to lose their balance

Since January, 8 Scouts: Mohit Agrawal, Stephen Chang, Brandon Chen, Ethan Lee, Ethan Huang, Marcus Surjopolos, Jeffery Yoh, and Nathan Varghese have worked tirelessly with the dedicated adults Mr. Rajiv Agrawal, Mr. Gordon Davis, Mr. Ashok Chauhan, Mr. Art Chang, and Mr. Dennis Huang in order to complete the cycling merit badge, which requires a 50-mile bike ride with other rides of shorter distances. On June 27, 2015, they finished their 50-mile bike ride that started and ended at Regional Park. The scouts could not have achieved this without their own perseverance and the preparation and guidance of the adults.

Credit to: Mr. Agrawal