



## **Adventure awaits!**

**Join us in Scouts BSA Troop 614**

**SCOTTS VALLEY'S FAMILY TROOP**

Dear scouts and families,

On behalf of our charter organization (Scotts Valley Host Lions Club), the troop committee and adult leadership team, we are very happy that you are considering our troop as your new scouting home. Here in Troop 614, we value family, friendship, and community. We are wholly youth-led and believe in the ideals of scouting, namely: character development, leadership development, citizenship training, and personal fitness. In addition, we focus on scout skills, cooking skills, and first aid. We strive to make Troop 614 welcoming to scouts of all ages, skills, and abilities.

We know that choosing your new troop is a personal choice, and we believe you and your scout should be both comfortable and excited as you move into your new scouting family. Here are some things to factor in as you consider as making 614 your new troop:

- We are the first and only linked troop in the area (a troop for both boys and girls).
- We live by the Patrol Method. Scouts self-organize in smaller groups to practice new skills, teach others, and plan events like campouts, hikes, and advancements.
- We regularly support our community through volunteering. Each year, we support an annual crab feed, teach CPR, host a flag retirement ceremony, lead flag ceremonies, walk in the 4th of July parade, and support many other service projects.

- We value teamwork and youth leadership! We believe in giving scouts the opportunity to develop strong leadership skills throughout their time in Scouts BSA. We work together to ensure that each scout is able to have fun and achieve his or her goals.

### **Troop Meetings**

Our troop meets every second and fourth Wednesday of the month at St. Philip Episcopal Church in Scotts Valley (5271 Scotts Valley Drive). The meetings are from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. We meet throughout the year and may occasionally move the meeting date to work around holidays, spring break, and summer camp.

For scouts in leadership positions, there is one additional meeting per month (the patrol leaders council or PLC). These meetings are typically on the third Wednesday of the month and the Scotts Valley Boys and Girls Club (5060 Scotts Valley Drive) from 7:00 to 8:30 PM.

### **Activities**

Our goal is to provide a variety of outdoor adventures each month. These include:

- Campouts, hikes, and other events at least once a month
- At least one week of Summer Camp
- High adventure trips for older scouts
- District- or Council-level events

Please see our [annual plan](#) for more details.

### **Support from Parents/Guardians**

We need you! Our troop is an active troop and that requires many hands to help in a wide variety of ways. Family members can support scouts by:

- Making sure your scout is well-prepared for meetings, campouts, and other events.
- Actively following your scout's progress and individual goals in scouting.
- Regularly encouraging your scout to try new and challenging things.
- Monitoring the troop calendar, communications, and RSVP notifications in Scoutbook.
- Attending troop ceremonies and celebrations like the Court of Honor.
- Volunteering to support fundraising activities as well as Eagle and community service projects.

In addition, we welcome and encourage parents to attend troop meetings, campouts, and other events at any time. There are many adult leadership positions that need volunteers like you!

### **Questions?**

Feel free to reach out to the scoutmasters or assistant scoutmasters and we would be happy to answer your questions.