



CALIFORNIA LAND SURVEYORS ASSOCIATION

Surveying Merit Badge Committee

Report for The CLSA Board Meeting in Oakland on February 6, 2016

The Surveying Merit Badge event held at College of the Canyons on Saturday, December 5, 2015 was a success by any measure, even if space here limits me to only three of the four I would like to offer.

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Stephen Hughey

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Chapter

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I offer my "expert opinion" as the first measure, since I want to save the best of three for last. The event could not have been better organized, thanks to Regina Blasberg, the Chair of the Engineering Technologies Department and Land Surveying Program at College of the Canyons. She not only volunteered her time and skills, she also arranged the perfect place with the perfect equipment. Of greatest importance was the appeal she made months in advance that brought about what I thought was an ideal mix of skilled volunteers with both teaching experience and Scouting backgrounds: Tony Pratt and Resur Bongolan among others, including myself.

My second measure of success is that Regina asked us all to come back for another event in the spring, and the members of the volunteer staff all agreed to do so. At least one volunteer from the L.A. Chapter is even filing the paperwork for counselor status in order to hold another event at his home troop. This expanding effort and multiplication of Surveying Merit Badge events is key.

I offer as a third measuring stick the positive responses we heard from the parents of the twelve Scouts who earned their badges. This one from an email I received is typical:

This was a fantastic merit badge session and probably in the top 5 I've seen executed and we certainly have taken part in quite a few as both participants and leaders attending numerous midways and independent merit badge sessions.

Surveying for (Scout's name) is the 92nd merit badge earned (out of 137) and he really enjoyed it especially the hands-on and FIELD experience you were able to showcase is not too common. To be right next to college students during the session who were equally training and learning the same discipline was remarkable....

More importantly, I want to thank you for dedicating a full Saturday for teaching my son a great new skill and opening our eyes to what we see often around our city and don't take the time to fully appreciate what you all do to make our streets and dwellings safe. I know there was much planning involved having taught several merit badges myself to large groups of scouts.

If you or somebody in your chapter is interested in the Surveying Merit Badge or the Girl Scout Surveying program please feel free to contact me with your questions. Why not discover for yourself how rewarding the experience can be? I am available to Skype or even attend any of the chapter meetings to help organize an event, if we can work out the scheduling. If you have any questions regarding this program please feel free to contact me at smhughey@sbcglobal.net or phone at (818)203-7538.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Hughey , Chairperson