



# WELCOME TO TROOP 653

**Mesa, AZ**

Troop Charter: Central Christian Church of the East Valley  
933 N. Lindsay Road, Mesa, AZ 85213



This packet has important information about our Troop and tells about the scouting program.

- PLEASE READ CAREFULLY WITH YOUR PARENTS OR GUARDIAN-

Please ask any of our Scouts or Adult leaders any questions you have about our Troop or Scouting. You can also find a lot of information in your new Boy Scout Handbook.

*Once you have registered with our Troop, be sure to go to our troop website (listed below) and request joining our parent Google group to regularly receive, up to date, troop information.*

[www.troop653.com](http://www.troop653.com)

To each new scout, our leaders wish you a *great* Scouting adventure!

## Table of Contents

<b>HISTORY OF TROOP 653</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>TROOP STRUCTURE</b> .....	<b>3</b>
TROOP COMPONENTS .....	3
TROOP COMMITTEE .....	3
SCOUTMASTERS .....	3
SENIOR LEADERSHIP.....	4
SUPPORT OFFICES .....	4
PATROL STRUCTURE.....	4
<b>LEADERSHIP AUTHORITY</b> .....	<b>5</b>
BSA ORGANIZATION .....	5
YOU.....	5
<b>TROOP PROGRAM</b> .....	<b>6</b>
THEME.....	6
WEEKLY MEETINGS .....	6
TYPICAL MEETING AGENDA .....	7
MONTHLY ACTIVITIES .....	8
SUMMER CAMP .....	8
HIGH ADVENTURE .....	8
SERVICE PROJECTS .....	9
FUND RAISERS .....	9
TRAINING.....	9 & 10
<b>OPPORTUNITIES IN SCOUTING</b> .....	<b>11</b>
RANK STRUCTURE.....	11
ADVANCEMENT .....	12
MERIT BADGES .....	13
SPECIAL AWARDS .....	13
CERTIFICATIONS.....	13
ORDER OF THE ARROW .....	14
VENTURING/EXPLORERS.....	14
<b>UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT</b> .....	<b>15</b>
UNIFORMS .....	15 & 16
EQUIPMENT.....	16 & 17
<b>REGISTRATION, DUES, &amp; FEES</b> .....	<b>18</b>
<b>TROOP WEBSITE</b> .....	<b>19</b>
<b>SUMMARY</b> .....	<b>19</b>
<b>APPENDIX A - TROOP 653 ADULT LEADERSHIP ROSTER</b> .....	<b>20</b>
TROOP SCOUTMASTERS .....	20
TROOP COMMITTEE .....	20
<b>NEW SCOUT NOTES &amp; RESOURCES</b> .....	<b>21</b>

## **History of Troop 653**

Troop 653 is a part of the Mesa District, one of 22 districts in the Grand Canyon Council, (Formerly the Theodore Roosevelt Council) and has been one of the largest troops in the East Valley. Our Grand Canyon Council is the one of 301 councils, nationwide.

Around 1968, Troop 653 was formed at the original location of Central Christian Church, located closer to downtown Mesa. The troop became inactive for several years, but in 1987, Troop 653 became active again and has been growing ever since.

Mr. Eric Overtoom is our current Scoutmaster. If you have any questions about the Troop or Scouting, please feel free to contact our Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmasters. In addition, any of our leadership team will be happy to answer anything they can.

### **Eric Overtoom**

**Home: 480-649-3607**

**Cell: 480-729-3252**

## Troop Structure

### ***Troop Components***

Troop 653 has the following components:

Youth:

Scouts  
Patrols  
Leadership Council  
Support Offices

Adults:

Scoutmasters  
Troop Committee

### ***Troop Committee***

The Troop Committee consists of a Committee Chairman, interested parents and friends of scouting. The Committee approves the troop program, selects Scoutmasters and performs other functions for the troop. A full list of the current committee is listed on page 20; Appendix A, Troop 653 Adult Leadership Roster.

The following are several positions you should become familiar with:

Committee Chairman – **Mr. Bob Ewald**

The Committee Chairman will register you in the troop and ensure the appropriate council information is up to date for the scouts. Mr. Ewald can be reached at home at **480-962-0145**.

Advancement Chairperson – **Mr. Patrick Krause**

The Advancement Chairperson tracks your advancements which include ranks and merit badges. If you have transferred from another troop, she will update your records so you may continue your advancement toward Eagle and beyond.

Treasurer - **Ms. Liz Ewald**

The treasurer will make sure that your dues are current and that special events are paid and recorded. The Treasurer is also responsible for reporting the troop's overall budget at the monthly committee meetings.

### ***Scoutmasters***

Troop adult leadership consists of concerned volunteers, approved by the Troop Committee, who care about youth in our community. They are:

- Scoutmaster
- Assistant Scoutmasters

For a current list of adult leaders; see Appendix A, Troop 653 Adult Leadership Roster

## ***Senior Leadership***

The Troop is lead by several experienced scouts.

- Senior Patrol Leader
- Assistant Senior Patrol Leader(s)

These scouts lead meetings and activities for the troop. They head the Leadership Council.

The Leadership Council is responsible for planning and executing the Troop Program. The Leadership Council consists of:

- Patrol Leaders
- Assistant Patrol Leaders
- Junior Assistant Scoutmaster (if applicable)

## ***Support Offices***

The Troop has several officers who help the leaders with the program and other functions. These offices can include:

- Scribe
- Quartermaster
- Librarian
- Chaplain Aide
- Historian
- Bugler
- Troop Guide
- Order of the Arrow (OA) Representative

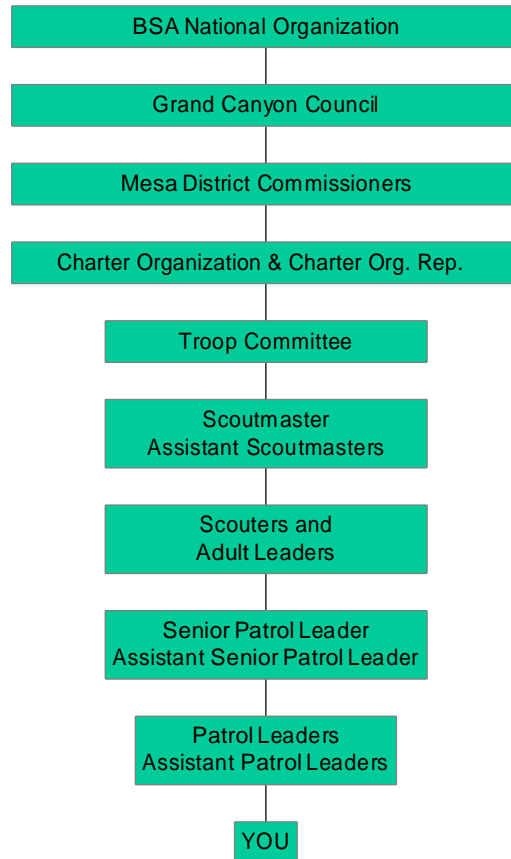
Please refer to the current Troop 653 Support Offices List. You will be asked to fill or assist in some of these positions very soon. Most of these positions are for a six month period, changing in July (at summer camp) and again in December.

## ***Patrol Structure***

The founder of scouting, Lord Baden-Powell, stated the “ideal” Scout Troop is four patrols, eight boys each (32 total). Troop 653 tries to model that “ideal” formation.

## Leadership Authority

### *BSA Organization*



### *You*

Together, WE are the body of Scouting. Like your body, we have many parts, large and small, working together. When any part of you gets hurt, ill, or cannot function, your entire body suffers. When YOU do not do YOUR PART in the Scouting activities, the goals of Scouting and the Troop suffer.

Troop 653 leaders want you to become part of the troop and help the entire troop progress. That means following instructions given by adult and Scout leaders. Adult leaders of this troop believe the best quality of a future leader is to be a good follower.

Unlike Cubs, there is not one adult leader for every two or three Scouts. Two or three adults lead groups of 10 to 25. **Youth leadership, with adult guidance, is the key to Scouting.**

You will move into leadership roles soon! Then you will understand the need to be a good follower and the importance of following your leader's instructions.

## Troop Program

### ***Theme***

Our Troop has selected three major areas of focus for our primary program:

- **Outings involving camping**
- **Low-impact backpacking**
- **Scout Advancements**
- **Community Service**

All activities center around one or more of these interests.

### ***Weekly Meetings***

Scout meetings begin at Central Christian Church, 933 N. Lindsay Rd., Mesa, AZ 85213, each Tuesday **promptly** at 7:00 p.m. *Please do not be late.* We meet in the New Life Center building on campus. We meet upstairs in the Lodge.

If you cannot make it to a meeting, please call your Patrol Leader.

The Troop follows Mesa Public Schools calendar for holidays. We do not meet on school holidays or national holidays throughout the year. Unlike, Cub Scouts, we DO meet throughout the summer with a few breaks due to summer camp dates, etc.

See the Troop Calendar for meeting dates and activities. This can be found on the troop website at [www.troop653.com](http://www.troop653.com) under Calendars on the drop down menus across the top of the webpage.

We strongly suggest boys and parents refer to this calendar at least once a week, maybe Sunday afternoon, to review the Tuesday night meeting agenda and upcoming activities and outings.

### **Required at meetings "Be prepared":**

- \*Class A uniforms during the school year, unless otherwise specified
- \*Class B uniform during the summer months
- Scout Handbook
- Notebook or Pad
- Pen or Pencil

\*See page 15 for uniform descriptions.

## **Typical Meeting Agenda**

### **Room set-up at 6:45 p.m.**

Each month a patrol may be assigned to set up before and after the meeting clean-up the room and return it to its original configuration. If you are in the designated Service Patrol, plan to arrive 15 minutes early and stay 15 minutes after the meetings of that assigned month.

### **Formal Opening – promptly at 7:00 p.m.**

- Presentation of Colors
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Scout Oath & Scout Law
- Outdoor Code
- Posting of Colors

### **Welcome and Announcements**

Scoutmasters and Scouts

### **Troop Business**

- Outing Preparation
- Fund Raising Development
- Elections
- Discussions

### **Patrol Activities, Rank advancement work, and/or Merit Badge work**

### **Pre-Closing**

- Presentation of Awards
- Scoutmaster's Minute
- Prayer

### **Closing**

- Retreat Colors
- Adjournment

Meetings end at 8:30. **We ask that all parents/guardians arrive by 8:30 to pick up their Scout.**

Remember if you are assigned as the Service Patrol; plan to stay an extra 15 minutes for room cleanup.

If a Scout needs additional one-on-one assistance, please contact the appropriate leader to set up an appointment before or after the regular meeting.



## ***Monthly Activities***

In Troop 653 we do our best to plan one weekend overnight activity each month.

Monthly activities and outings include:

- **Backpacking Trips**
- **Campouts**
- **Summer Camp**
- **Camporees**
- **Day Training Sessions**
- **Tours**
- **Service Projects**
- **Fund Raisers**

## ***Summer Camp***

Each year, all troop members may attend a weeklong summer camp at beautiful **Camp Geronimo** near Pine, AZ. Scouts can select from a variety of things to do. Merit badge training, swimming, hiking, nature trails, and camping provide a full schedule for the week. You will learn more about summer camp soon.

There are also other camps available for Scouts to attend. One of these camps is Camp Raymond near Williams, AZ. It is a true “Wilderness Camp” with many opportunities not available at Camp Geronimo. Lake Pleasant, northwest of Phoenix, offers many water-related activities in the summer. They offer summer day camp and a Trail to Eagle overnight camp where you can work on Eagle related merit badges. More information is available on the web at [www.doubleknot.com/openrosters/view\\_homepage.asp?orgkey=62](http://www.doubleknot.com/openrosters/view_homepage.asp?orgkey=62). Select Council Camps under the menu on the left side of the page.

## ***High Adventure***

Troop 653 identifies a High Adventure trip each year. Typically this trip is for boys who have made First Class Rank, are 14 years or older and have attended two years of summer camp. These trips are more challenging and require camping skills, experience, and more advanced abilities. Currently there are four BSA High Adventure Camps around the country. These camps are Northern Tier (BSA base camp for boundary water canoeing), Camp Philmont (BSA backpacking camp in New Mexico), Sea Base (BSA water sports camp in the Florida Keys) and the Summit Bechtel Reserve (new home to the National Jamboree) in West Virginia. Troop 653 has also developed some unique High Adventure trips such as; backpacking in Havasupai Falls and California’s Kings Canyon National Park, and participating in RAGBRAI (Annual 500+ mile bicycle ride across Iowa (from the Missouri River to the Mississippi River)). Check out any of these camps and locations on-line.

## ***Service Projects***

Boy Scouts are known for their service work and Troop 653 conducts various service projects which improve our community and environment. A project may be as a Troop, Patrol, or individual. Participation in most will apply toward your rank advancement.

## ***Fund Raisers***

Troop 653 requires a sound financial base to be able to provide a positive experience for the scouts at both meetings and outings. Troop 653 holds fund raisers to help cover the cost of troop activities and keep our annual dues low. The Troop has held carwashes and garage sales in the past to help raise funds. In order to make the events successful, we require all Scouts to participate in our yearly fundraisers. The funds raised from the events assist with maintaining troop equipment such as the trailers, camp gear, fund scholarships, and other incurred costs. Fundraising ideas are always welcome.

## ***Training***

The Mesa District and Grand Canyon Council offer several training programs for Scouts and Adult Leaders. They include:

### **National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)**

NYLT is held each year at one of the Scout Camps. It provides a leadership adventure for older Scouts. Once you have achieved First Class rank you are eligible to participate in NYLT. Our troop budgets four partial scholarships per year. Be sure to let the Scoutmaster know if you are interested in applying for NYLT.

### **Scoutmasters Roundtable**

The first Thursday of each month leaders from the entire Mesa District meet at the LDS Church on Brown Rd., west of Stapley Dr. in Mesa, for training sessions and district Patrol Corners. It is a great chance to meet other troop leaders and share ideas and lessons.

### **Scoutmaster Fundamentals**

Three or four times each year this training is held at various locations. The program consists of various sessions and an overnight campout. All Committee Members are urged to attend.

### **University of Scouting**

This is a continuing program available to all adult leaders. Scouting has so many aspects, no one can learn everything. Many classes are available on-line.

## ***Training continued***

### **Wood Badge**

Wood Badge is the ultimate Scout training adventure for leaders. Taken from Scouts point of view, this training and earning your Wood Badge Ticket is the Ph.D. for Scout Leaders.

### **Youth Protection Training (YPT)**

All adult Leaders (and other adults) are required to take the BSA on-line class; “Youth Protection Training” (YPT) every two years. **Also, any parent or sibling 18 or over, who wishes to join the troop on an outing or assist with rank advancements or merit badges, must take this on-line class and provide a copy of their certificate to our training coordinator.** Ask any of the leaders for information regarding this class.

Troop 653 Welcome Packet  
**Opportunities in Scouting**

**Rank Structure**

The seven ranks of Scouting are:



**Eagle**



**Life**



**Star**



**First Class**



**Second Class**



**Tenderfoot**



**Scout**

Boys who have met the joining requirements earn the rank of Scout. At our Court of Honor, we celebrate Scout Achievements with family and friends where Scouts are awarded their rank advancements and merit badges. A card and patch is received for each rank you earn. Rank patches are worn on your left shirt pocket. Make sure you save your cards as you will need them in the years to come. We suggest you get a three ring binder and plastic (protector) pages made for baseball card collections. These easily store your rank and merit badge cards for future reference. Staples, Office Max etc sell these protector pages.

## **Advancement**

The Scout Handbook defines the ranks requirements. Our program offers each Scout the chance to complete them. New Scouts who join after graduating out of Webelos will receive a formal orientation. Your orientation will cover more about how to achieve the rank of First Class.

The Advancement Chairperson monitors your progress carefully. He/she will track your achievements as you complete your requirements. When you have completed requirements for a rank he/she will confirm you have met them all. Then you can schedule a **Scoutmaster Conference** and **Board of Review**.

The **Scoutmaster Conference** is your chance to discuss any matter of concern with the Scoutmaster. It is another chance for him to inspire you to progress through Scouting. You also learn how to help him and the other leaders meet our Troop Goals.

A **Board of Review** is a group of committee members and higher-ranking Scouts. They review the requirements for the Rank and make sure you meet them. **Scout Spirit** is an important factor. It is judged by your appearance, how you wear the uniform and your enthusiasm. The board then discusses your review. If you qualify, you are advanced in rank. If not, the board informs you of items you need to learn or improve before you may advance.

After making **First Class** rank, you continue your trail to **Eagle Scout** by way of **Star** and **Life** ranks. More is expected from these scouts than when they were in the lower ranks. **Boards of Review** get much harder. \*\* See Note on page 13.

After the rank of **Life Scout**, you prepare for the top Rank in Scouting; **Eagle Scout**. The Assistant Scoutmaster over Eagle advancement guides the advancement to Eagle. You must complete all requirements plus develop and manage an important service project. You will prepare your own Eagle Packet and stand before a **Council Board of Review**. The Scoutmaster(s) is/are always available to guide you through this.

The **Eagle Packet** contains several items. They are:

- Eagle Application Forms
- Letters of Recommendation
- Your Eagle Project Report
- All rank advancement, merit badge cards and certificates you received during your scouting career.

**Save everything you receive.** Put cards, patches, merit badges and Scouting souvenirs in a safe place for this important future use. **This is why we suggested the three-ring binder with card holding pages.** Contact Advancement Chairperson and the Assistant Scoutmaster over advancement to Eagle, for more information or to discuss your advancement status. Your dues need to be current to receive advancements.

## **Merit Badges**

Our Troop program offers merit badges of interest to Scouts during meeting and outings. There are also many opportunities throughout the Mesa-Phoenix area that provide merit badge workshops, as well as, Camp Geronimo, Lake Pleasant, and Camp Raymond. Each merit badge requires you to contact a specific merit badge counselor prior to starting a badge. The Troop and district provide individual counselors for all badges. You will learn more about the merit badge process during orientation and while participating in our Troop.

Scouting currently has 137 merit badges you can earn. Each rank requires a certain number and specific badges. **Eagles Scouts** must have earned 21 total merit badges.

Each year, scouts who are ranked First Class and above may participate in the troops annual planning meeting which happens in December. These boys are responsible for gathering ideas and planning where our troop will go on outings, the following year. They also select and rank a selection of merit badges they would like to see offered throughout the year. Our Merit Badge Coordinator assists in finding specific Counselors to teach these badges.

**\*\*Please note:** Anyone can sign off a requirement in your Scout Handbook. All we ask is that whoever signs off on the requirement makes sure that the scout is proficient on the skill being signed off. For example, if you sign off on a first aid requirement such as how to treat a bee sting please be sure the Scout knows what to do so when he is asked in his Board of Review so he won't be embarrassed because he doesn't know the answer.

We ask that you do some home work because there is more opportunity to learn some skills at home or on a family campout, outing, or trip. For example; on a family campout or even in your own back yard a Scout, under adult supervision, could learn how to build a proper camp fire and then they could sign him off.

Or you take a trip to a Phoenix museum or zoo, the Scout could take his handbook and sign off 10 local animal and plant species.

Please take some time to work with your son each week because 20 -25 minutes on Monday night is all we have time for during troop meetings. Besides some of this stuff is fun---Who doesn't like to build a fire?

## **Special Awards**

Your Scout Handbook describes many special awards available. The council has a Trails Award Program. You will earn many of these by attending activities. We often use these trails for overnight and day trips.

Many opportunities exist for individual and group awards. More information is found in your Scout Handbook.

## ***Certifications***

To perform certain functions, Scouts need certification from the Troop or higher authority. To carry and use a knife or other cutting tool, you require a **Totin' Chip**. To start a campfire you must have your **Fireman's Chip**. These cards certify you were trained in use and safety of cutting tools and fire. You must follow **BSA** established rules for your safety and the safety of others.

Higher certifications include the **BSA Lifeguard**, which you may take locally or at **Camp Geronimo**.

For more rugged backpacking trips, the Troop requires certification of all backpacking skills. You may be certified two ways:

- Attend a beginner or intermediate backpacking trip
- Attend a training session where you demonstrate backpacking skills

## ***Order of the Arrow (O.A.)***

Several members of Troop 653 belong to a special honor organization known as the **Order of the Arrow (O.A.)**. New members are elected by the troop each spring. Induction into the O.A. usually occurs at a '**Call-Out**' and members must endure an '**Ordeal**'. You will learn more of this honored society as your scouting progresses.

## ***Venturing/Explorers***

A Venturing/Explorer Post is a group of older Scouts who have special interests. The Mesa District started a High Adventure Explorer Post. It is a very good opportunity to meet Scouts from other troops. More information about Explorers and Venturing is available from the Leaders.

## Uniforms and Equipment

### **Uniforms**

Troop 653 is a FULL UNIFORM Troop. Many Troops with the Mesa District and Grand Canyon Council require the full Scout uniform. We have several classes of uniforms. *Most trip flyers will state uniform requirements for each activity.*

#### **Class A**

- Troop Hat
- Formal tan Scout Shirt (With all Patches and insignia extras and top button unbuttoned.)
- Neckerchief
- Scout Pants or Scout Shorts
- Scout Belt
- Scout Socks, if wearing shorts

#### **Class A with Honors**

- Class A; listed above
- Merit Badge Sash
- Order of the Arrow Sash (if applicable)

#### **Class B**

- Troop Hat
- Brown Troop Tee shirt
- Scout Pants or shorts
- Scout Socks, if wearing shorts

#### **Class C**

- Any Scout related Tee Shirt
- Any Type Pants
- Any Type Socks

If you used the formal tan Scout shirt in Webelos:

- Remove all Cub insignia (except Arrow of Light)
- Replace the blue epaulets with green epaulets

You will then have the formal tan Boy Scout uniform shirt.



## Troop 653 Welcome Packet

Uniforms are available at:

**Mesa District BSA Store**  
**Riverview Mall (between Bass Pro and Cinemark Theatres)**  
**Mesa Arizona**  
**P 480-926-0345**

**BSA Scout Shop**  
**At Grand Canyon Council Headquarters**  
**2969 North Greenfield Road**  
**Phoenix, AZ**  
**(One Block North of Thomas at the Squaw Peak Parkway)**

### ***Equipment***

To go on many of the Troop activities, you will need a variety of outdoor equipment. Many outings require certain equipment. Optional items will make the activities more pleasant.

Equipment will vary depending on activity, skills and personal desires. Some equipment can be rather expensive. There is a wide variety of price and quality. We suggest you wait to purchase equipment until after you have had our camping orientation and even have been on a few outings with minimal, shared, or borrowed equipment.

We will cover much of the equipment required during orientation. We suggest where to get the best deals. Many 'tricks' have saved Scouts (and their families) lots of money. Others have tried things they wished they had not.

Shop wisely to get the most for your money. **REI** and **Sportsman Warehouse** are generally good places to shop.

**There are two lists to follow. The first is for car camping and when we plan group meals.**

#### **(Car & Group) Camping Equipment**

##### ***Required***

- Sleeping Bag (or Blankets)
- Ground Pad
- Mess Kit (plate, bowl, knife, fork, spoon, cup)
- Hygiene Kit (washcloth, soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant)
- Canteen or Water Bottles
- Tent
- Raingear
- Backpack (or Storage Bag)
- Scout Handbook
- Paper and Pencil or Pen

## Troop 653 Welcome Packet

### *Optional*

- Scout Knife
- Compass
- Flashlight (with Extra Batteries)
- Clipboard or Notebook

### **Backpacking Equipment**

#### *Required*

- Sleeping Bag
- Ground Pad
- Cook Kit (backpack stove, cooking pans)
- Mess Kit (plate, bowl, knife, fork, spoon, cup)
- Hygiene Kit (washcloth, soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant)
- Personal First Aide Kit
- Canteen or Water Bottles
- Tent
- Raingear (large enough for you and the pack)
- Backpack
- Flashlight (with Extra Batteries)
- Scout Handbook
- Paper and Pencil or Pen

#### *Optional*

- Scout Knife
- Compass
- Extra Straps or Line

## Registration, Dues, and Fees

Registering with Troop 653 registers you with the Grand Canyon Council and National BSA organization.

Troop 653 dues are \$100 per year. Our troop's fiscal year begins in February. If your son joins on any month other than February, your dues will be prorated for the year. Your dues pay for the following:

- BSA (Council and National) Registration
- Merit Badge books
- Awards and insignia
- Special Awards
- Some activity registrations or costs
- Equipment and supplies
- Troop Uniform (1-time issue of hat, Class B tee shirt, and neckerchief)
- Adult Leader Fee's
- Boys Life magazine subscription
- Insurance

Due to the increased cost of fuel, we have found it necessary to supplement our activity costs with fuel fees for most trips. Any time we can, we try to utilize the churches 15-passenger vans, but for some trips we need additional private vehicles to haul packs, pull the troop trailer or travel where there are four-wheel drive vehicles needed. We will alert you to additional costs for each trip list.

Scholarships for dues are available. Please speak to the Scoutmaster about this at any time.

**Your dues need to be current in order to receive advancements.** Please check with the Treasurer or Advancement Chairs if you need to know your status of dues.

Our Troop has a "Uniform Closet" which has gently used uniform parts for use by any boy. Please contact the Uniform Closet Chairperson, Scoutmaster, or any Leader for access to the current supply. This closet may also have various pieces of camping equipment and items such as hiking boots. **Please consider upcycling the items your son grows out of and bring them freshly washed to any meeting.**

## Troop Website

Troop 653 has a website for information distribution, references, sharing troop history, etc. Certain parts of the site are only available to troop members. When you join the troop, you will be able to request permission to access all parts of the site.

You will find the troop calendar, links to informational sites, useful tools, trip photos, the latest copy of this *Welcome Packet*, etc. all which you can access 24/7.

**We encourage our families to use this tool regularly.** [www.troop653.com](http://www.troop653.com)

## Google Group

Once you have joined Troop 653, please go to the Troop website, listed above and request to be added to the Parent Google group.

Troop 653 has created a Google group that includes all of its scout members, parent's email addresses. This is a great way that the troop's leaders can communicate with the whole troop, efficiently. You may receive an email (via the Google group) in which you would like to reply to the sender with a question. It is VERY important that you DO NOT CLICK; REPLY, as this will go to everyone on the list (70+ families), but rather, select the personal address of the sender. **Please DO use this resource, as the leaders welcome this efficient use of communication.**

This will cut down any irrelevant email traffic. TOO MUCH TRAFFIC = NO ONE READING. Please be aware of this. We want to communicate relevant, important information, the best way we can, and the best way for all the troop members.

## Summary

This packet contains *a lot* of information and we hope it is helpful to you and your parents as you begin your scouting adventure. Remember your new Scout Handbook also contains a lot of very useful information. Be sure to refer to it as you learn new skills, achieve ranks, work on merit badges, record camping trips, activities, and service hours. We are pretty sure you will still have this book, fifty years from now.

If you have just graduated Webelos, the next few weeks are very important. **New Scout Orientation** will provide more information about Troop 653 and Scouting. Please make every effort to attend these new scout orientations or receive make-up orientation. You will also be placed in a Patrol and we believe you will see how you can benefit from and really enjoy your years ahead in Scouting.

If you have any questions, please contact any Scout or Adult Leader.

***Again, WELCOME TO TROOP 653 – please see the last page.***

## Appendix A - Troop 653 (Adult) Leadership Roster

### **Charter Organization**

**Central Christian Church of the East Valley, Mesa, AZ**  
Charter Organization Rep      *Rick Wagner*

### **Troop Scoutmasters**

<b>Scoutmasters</b>	<i>Eric Overtoom</i>
<b>Assistant Scoutmaster</b>	<i>Pete Knudson</i>
<b>Assistant Scoutmaster</b>	<i>Scott Thompson</i>
<b>Assistant Scoutmaster</b>	<i>Paul Sharpy</i>
<b>Assistant Scoutmaster</b>	<i>Berwyn Wilbrink</i>
<b>Assistant Scoutmaster</b>	<i>Don Avery</i>
<b>Assistant Scoutmaster</b>	<i>Patrick Krause</i>

### **Troop Committee 2018-2019**

<b>Committee Chairman</b>	<i>Bob Ewald</i>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<i>Liz Ewald</i>
<b>Advancements</b>	<i>Patrick Krause</i>
<b>Merit Badge Coordinator</b>	<i>Patrick Krause</i>
<b>Order of the Arrow Reps.</b>	<i>Paul Sharpy</i>
<b>Eagle</b>	<i>Pete Knudson</i>
<b>High Adventure</b>	<i>Pete Knudson</i>
<b>Fundraising</b>	_____
<b>Scribe</b>	<i>Jennifer Decker</i>
<b>Transportation</b>	_____
<b>First Aide</b>	_____
<b>Training Coordinator</b>	_____
<b>Quartermasters</b>	
<b>Chaplain</b>	_____
<b>Event Refreshments</b>	_____
<b>Watersports</b>	<i>Berwyn Wilbrink</i>
<b>Uniform Closet</b>	<i>Georgina Marin</i>
<b>Troopmaster Support</b>	<i>Berwyn Wilbrink</i>
<b>Web Master</b>	<i>Berwyn Wilbrink</i>

Troop 653 Welcome Packet  
***Boy Scout Troop 653, Mesa District, Grand Canyon Council***  
***Mesa, AZ***

**NEW SCOUT INFORMATION**

Every visiting or new Scout is encouraged to complete this portion of the “Welcome Packet” before he leaves his first meeting. We know there will be questions that come up during the next week or so and this is a great way to get some quick answers.

The Troop 653...

SENIOR PATROL LEADER is \_\_\_\_\_

His Phone Number is \_\_\_\_\_

His email address is \_\_\_\_\_

If I was assigned to a Patrol, my new Patrol is \_\_\_\_\_

My PATROL LEADER is \_\_\_\_\_

His Phone Number is \_\_\_\_\_

SCOUTMASTER is Mr. Eric Overtoom

Mr. Overtoom’s contact info: Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

TROOP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN is Mr. Bob Ewald

Home: \_\_\_\_\_

ADVANCEMENT CHAIRMAN is Mr. Patrick Krause

Home/Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

TROOP TREASURER is Ms. Liz Ewald

Home/Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

For more information the Troop website: [www.Troop653.com](http://www.Troop653.com)

Today’s date: \_\_\_\_\_