

CHAPTER 1

High Adventure Awards of Orange County Council

MINARET WILDERNESS

This award no longer exists as the Minaret Wilderness has been added to the Ansel Adams Wilderness, but patches may be earned while inventory lasts.

This Award is suited for registered Scouting Units with intermediate backpacking experience desiring an extended wilderness trip.

Requirements:

1. Comply with the GENERAL REQUIREMENTS.
2. Have completed a minimum of one weekend hike prior to taking this trek.
3. Complete a backpack trek requiring 12 scheduled hours of hiking, occupying at least three days and two nights with at least one of these nights being spent in the Minarets Wilderness Area.
4. At least one adult must have completed a Backpack Training course.



FIG. 1-1
MINARETS WILDERNESS
3" x 3"

NIGHT CAMPER

This award is available to any registered member of the Boy Scouts of America who meets all of the requirements of this award.

Requirements:

1. Camp the required number of nights. This is defined as living and sleeping in a tent, or "under the stars" away from permanent human habitation.
2. The High Adventure Award form is not required. This award may be purchased directly "over the counter" at the Scout Shop.
3. This is a "cumulative" award and may be earned in conjunction with other High Adventure Awards.
4. The award is available in increments of: 20, 40, 60, 80, and 100 nights.
5. All camping must be an official scout outing, covered by B.S.A. Tour Permit.



FIG. 1-2
NIGHT CAMPER
3" x 4"

SEVEN LEAGUE BOOT AWARD

Requirements:

1. It may be earned concurrently with other High Adventure Awards. The Orange County High Adventure Team has designated the 7-League Award as a special cumulative distance award.
2. All mileage must be on backpacks with an overnight camp in a trail or primitive campsite.
3. Requests shall be verified from Personal or Unit Records, Tour Permits, or High Adventure Backpack Awards. The information must be submitted in tabular form listing: Date, Location of Trek, Mileage, or Scheduled Backpack Hours.
4. Backpacks must have complied with the Area IV General Requirements.
5. The 7-League Boot Award and 100 Mile Segment is awarded at the completion of the first 100 miles.
6. Additional segments are awarded at 200, 300, 400, 500, 750, and 1,000 mile increments.



FIG. 1-3
SEVEN LEAGUE BOOT
3" x 2" SEGMENT 1" x 2"

THREE DAY BACKPACK

Requirements:

1. Comply with the GENERAL REQUIREMENTS.
2. Make a backpack of 12 hours scheduled backpack time in 3 consecutive days and nights.
3. Camp in two (2) separate campsites in the backcountry or primitive areas. Campsites must be at least 2-1/2 hours scheduled backpack time from both the trail-head and the pick-up point.
4. Violation of any U.S. Forest Service, or National Park, or State Park regulations immediately disqualifies the ENTIRE group.
5. At least one adult must have completed a Backpack Training course.



FIG. 1-4
THREE DAY BACKPACK
3" x 3"

TRAIL BUILDER

The Trail Builder Award has been established to encourage PROPER trail maintenance wherever needed. Many hiking and riding trails are being closed because of lack of money and manpower to maintain them at a safe level. If these trails are to continue to be available, users of these trails must accept some of the responsibility for their maintenance.

Awards are available in 25, 50, and 100 hour increments. Members of registered Scouting Units may qualify for this award by meeting the following requirements.

Requirements:

1. Comply with the GENERAL REQUIREMENTS.
2. Obtain a Tour Permit for each trip taken.
3. Work must be performed with the use of tools, i.e.: McLeods, Pulaskis, pry bars, saws, shears, etc.
4. Work must be approved under the direct supervision of a Scout Leader.
6. Apply for the award on Council Trail Award Application. Omit parts which do not apply.
7. Name and/or number of trail worked and trail location MUST be included.

NOTES:

1. Hours accumulated for earning Trail Boss Award cannot be applied towards this award.
2. Before and after photos of Scouts working are appreciated for use in public relations.



FIG. 1-5
TRAIL BUILDER 25,50,100 HRS.
3"X3"

HIGH LOW AWARD

This award may be obtained only after both trips have been completed and all requirements have been met. Both trips, Mt. Whitney and Bad Water in Death Valley, must be completed in a 24 month period.

This award is for Scouts and Scout Leaders who meet the following requirements.

Requirements:

1. Comply with the General Requirements.
2. At least one adult going on both trips must have completed a Council Basic Backpack Awareness Course and at least one adult must have a current Red Cross First Aid Card or equivalent.
3. Minimum requirements for Mt. Whitney:
 - a. Each participant must complete two overnight backpacking hikes camping over 8,000 feet in preparation for the Mt. Whitney hike.
 - b. The trip must be at least a 3 day backpacking trip.
 - c. Each participant must reach the top of Mt. Whitney and sign the registration book at the summit. This is the highest point in the lower 48 states at 14,495 feet above sea level.
4. Minimum requirements for Death Valley:
 - a. The outing must be at least 1 night in Death Valley and may be a tailgate campout.
 - b. Visit the museum at Furnace Creek.
 - c. Visit Bad Water. This is the lowest point in the United States at 250 feet below sea level.



FIG. 1-6
HIGH LOW AWARD
4" x 5"

TARABEL TRAIL

The Tarabel Trail is a moderate training hike for beginning hikers. The trail leads to a hidden year round creek in a small oak valley called Indian Kitchen or the Grapevine. The trail follows the old Indian and Cowboy trail that lead to the Salton Sea. This is a minimum impact camping area and no open fires are allowed. If you pack it in you pack it out. Topo maps are Bucksnot Mountain and Hot Springs Mountain and the trailhead starts at Lost Valley Scout Reservation.

Requirements:

1. Comply with the GENERAL REQUIREMENTS.
2. Read the "Outdoor Code" in the front of this book and pledge to follow it.
3. Pledge to protect the wilderness and not litter or pollute water sources.
4. Demonstrate to your hike leader that you are carrying the ten essentials.
5. Explain to your hike leader the treatment for ticks and snake bite.
6. Have someone read the trail history to the group (available at Lost Valley).
7. Hike to Indian Kitchen for patch and segment.
8. Hike to Sage Flat for an additional segment.



FIG. 1-7
TARABEL TRAIL
4" DIA. w/Segments

BUCKSNORT MOUNTAIN

A challenging 11 mile hike for older Scouts or Venturers. This hike offers very little shade and is a dry trail and it is recommended each person carry 2 liters of water have a water stash where the trail crosses the road. No open fires and you pack out what you pack in. Topo maps are Bucksnot Mountain and Hot Springs Mountain and the trailhead starts at Lost Valley Scout Reservation.

Requirements:

1. Comply with the GENERAL REQUIREMENTS.
2. Read the "Outdoor Code" in the front of this book and pledge to follow it.
3. Pledge to protect the wilderness and not litter or pollute water sources.
4. Demonstrate to your hike leader that you are carrying the ten essentials.
5. Explain to your hike leader the treatment for ticks and snake bite.
6. Show your hike leader that you have a properly packed pack.
7. Hike to Combs Pass on the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT). This can be done from Lost Valley via the Burkenstock Trail or at the Lost Valley road and PCT junction to the pass and return to Lost Valley for a 9 mile hike.



FIG. 1-8
BUCKSNORT MOUNTAIN
2½" DIA.

SANTIAGO PEAK

This is a strenuous, but rewarding, 8-10 hour day hike to the summit of Orange County's highest peak. The hike is a 15 mile round trip hike with a 4000 foot elevation gain to Santiago Peak's summit of 5687 feet. On a clear day you will have breathtaking views of Santa Catalina and San Clemente islands. On the horizon you will see the Santa Monica, San Gabriel, San Bernadino, Santa Rosa, and Cuyamaca mountains as well as Palomar Mountain. Far to the south you might the mountains of Mexico.

This award is for Scouts and Ventures, at least 13 years old, and Scouters who meet the following requirements.

Requirements:

1. Comply with the High Adventure General Requirements.
2. At least one adult going on the training hike and summit hike must have completed a Council Basic Backpack Awareness Course and at least one adult must have a current Red Cross First Aid card or equivalent.
3. Participants must complete a 10 mile training day hike within 60 days prior to the summit trip.
4. You must start and end your day hike in the dirt parking lot just past the Holy Jim Volunteer Fire Dept. 4.7 miles after turning off the Live Oak Canyon Road.
5. This award may only be earned between October 1st and Memorial Day. This award is closed during the summer months.
6. A photo of the group on the summit must accompany the High Adventure Award application.

NOTE: It is recommended that groups bring water for the whole hike as Bear Springs is sometimes dry. Trail description and directions can be found in Jerry Schad's book, "Afoot and Afield in Orange County". Use the Santiago Peak topo.

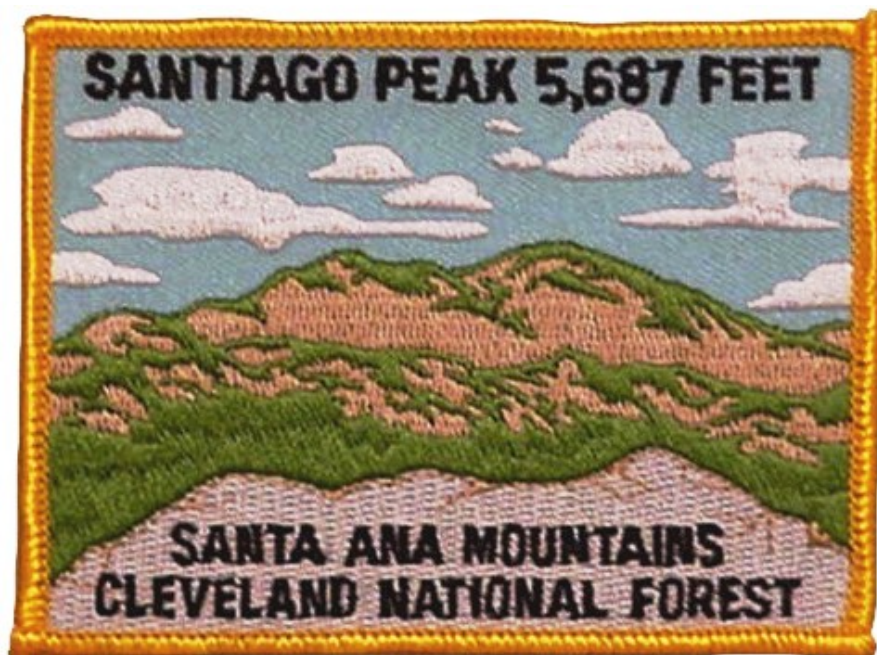


FIG. 1-9
SANTIAGO PEAK
3" x 4"

BACKCOUNTRY LEADERSHIP AWARD

This award was developed and sponsored by Troop 636, Rancho Santa Margarita. The purpose of this award is to recognize older scouts who serve in a leadership capacity to younger scouts during a long-term High Adventure backpack (minimum 6 days and 5 nights). The scene in the patch depicts an older Scout pointing the way to two younger Scouts up the Class 2 route between Minaret and Iceberg Lakes below the Minarets in The Ansel Adams Wilderness.

Only registered Boy Scouts and Venturers, ages 14 through 20 who have completed the 8th grade are eligible. Venturers must serve in a leadership capacity to younger Boy Scouts. The award is earned in conjunction with completion of the requirements of any long-term High Adventure backpacking award. The following requirements are not absolute, but meant to serve as guidelines to the adult trek leader in his/her decision as to which Boy Scouts and/or Venturers are deserving of the award.

Requirements:

1. During the entire trek, serve in a leadership capacity to younger scouts. This leadership can be modeled after the duties of a Patrol Leader, Troop Guide, Senior Patrol Leader, or Junior Assistant Scoutmaster.
2. Instruct and supervise younger scouts in basic backpacking skills such as campsite selection and setup, stoves and cookery, orienteering, water purification, bear management and minimum impact camping. Demonstrate by action the Outdoor Code.
3. Instruct and supervise younger scouts in the completion of advancement requirements.
4. Shoulder a greater proportion of the weight of patrol and/or troop common gear.
5. Show Scout Spirit at all times, both on the trail and in camp.



FIG. 1-10
BACKCOUNTRY LEADERSHIP AWARD
4" x 6"

JIM HAWKINS MOUNTAINEERING AWARD

This award was developed and sponsored by Troop 636, Rancho Santa Margarita, and honors Jim Hawkins, Chairman of the Los Angeles Area Council High Adventure Team for over 30 years. The upper portion of the medal depicts Dusy Basin in King's Canyon National Park and three creatures that inhabit the Sierra High Country: Yellow-bellied Marmot, Clark's Nutcracker and Golden Trout. The lower portion shows 14,496-foot Mt. Whitney, the highest point in the continental United States.

Requirements:

1. Earn any eight short-term High Adventure backpacking awards.
2. Earn the equivalent of 12 hours of any trailbuilding award(s).
3. Earn the Peakbagger Award.
4. Earn and 2 long-term High Adventure backpacking awards (minimum 6 days and 5 nights).
5. Climb any one of California's fifteen fourteeners, either as a day hike, on a short-term backpack, or on a long-term backpack. If Mt. Whitney is climbed, the "14495 Club" award may also be earned.
6. Earn three of the following merit badges: backpacking, camping, climbing, hiking, or wilderness survival.

Adult Scouters earn this award by completing requirements 1 through 5.

Reference:

Climbing California's Fourteeners, S. F. Porcella and C.M. Burns, The Mountaineers, Seattle, WA, 1999



FIG. 1-11
JIM HAWKINS MOUNTAINEERING AWARD

JOHN MUIR TRAIL (JMT) THROUGH TREK

This award was developed and sponsored by Troop 1210 (Foothills Church), Rancho Santa Margarita, California.

Requirements:

1. Through-trek the John Muir Trail, either from north (Happy Isles) to south (Whitney Portal), or from south to north, 218.5 miles.
2. Utilize up to four food re-supply options, either any of the JMT lateral trails (through trekkers may use support crews to carry in fuel and food, and haul out trash), or the following re-supply locations: Red's Meadow, Vermilion Valley Resort or Muir Trail Ranch.

References:

1. Wenk, E and Morey K: *John Muir Trail: The Essential Guide to Hiking America's Most Famous Trail*, Fourth Edition. Wilderness Press, Berkeley, CA, 2007.



FIG. 1-12
JOHN MUIR TRAIL
THROUGH TREK
MEDAL

WHITE MOUNTAIN

This award was developed and sponsored by Troop 1210 (Foothills Church), Rancho Santa Margarita, California. California has 15 peaks over 14,000 feet, including 14,246 foot White Mountain located just north of the Bristlecone Pine Forest east of Owens Valley. Bristlecone Pines are the oldest living single organisms on the planet at over 4,000 years old. Located at the 12,470 foot level is the University of California White Mountain-Barcroft Research Station, where U.C. faculty and students in the biological and physical sciences conduct high altitude field research during the summer.

Requirements:

1. Climb and “summit” White Mountain in the Inyo-White Range.
2. If time allows and if permission is granted, visit the Barcroft Research Station (contact: Denise Waterbury-Scheduling Coordinator, White Mountain Research Station, 3000 East Line Street, Bishop, CA, 760-873-4344 and wmsinfo@ucsd.edu).

References:

1. Porcella SF and Burns CM: Climbing California’s Fourteeners. The Mountaineers, Seattle, WA, 1999.
2. Secor RJ: The High Sierra: Peaks, Passes and Trails, Third Edition. The Mountaineers, Seattle, WA, 2009.
3. White Mountain Research Station Website: www.wmrs.edu

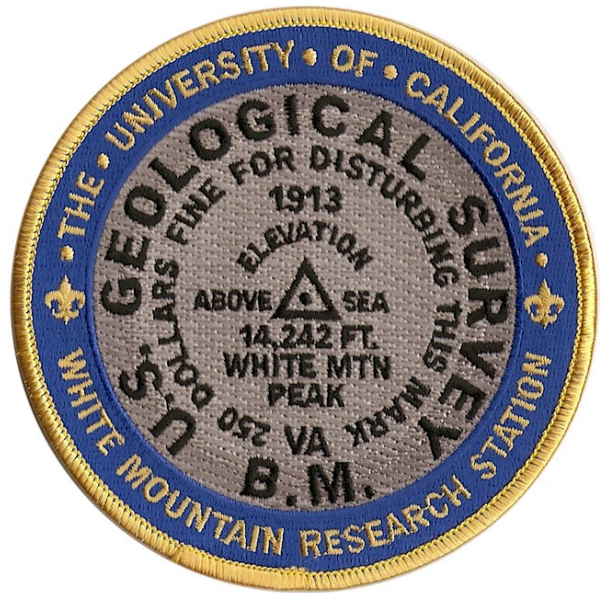


FIG. 1-13
WHITE MOUNTAIN
4½ DIA.

MOUNT WHITNEY DAY TREK

This award was developed and sponsored by Troop 1210 (Foothills Church), Rancho Santa Margarita, California.

Requirements:

1. Climb and “summit” 14,496 foot Mt. Whitney as an in-and-out trek from Whitney Portal in a 24-hour period.
2. Acclimate by camping and sleeping at Whitney Portal the night before the trek.

References:

1. Croft, P and Benti, W: Climbing Mt. Whitney. Spotted Dog Press, Inc. Bishop, California, 2005.
2. Richins, Jr., P: Mount Whitney: The Complete Trailhead-to-Summit Hiking Guide. The Mountaineers Books, Seattle, WA, 2001.



FIG. 1-14
MT. WHITNEY DAY TREK
4½ DIA.

EAGLE SCOUT PEAK

This award was developed and sponsored by Troop 1210 (Foothills Church), Rancho Santa Margarita, California. In 2006, five Orange County Council Eagle Scouts measured the most accurate to date elevation, latitude and longitude of Eagle Scout Peak in the backcountry of Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Park. The Eagle Scouts used a Trimble R8 GPS receiver, and the measurements will become the official U.S. Geodetic Survey reading. The data appears on the award. The 4 inch patch is a replica of the brass GPS Control Point medallion with stem that was forged and is on public display in the Superintendent's Office of Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Park. The medallion was not set in rock on the summit to observe the "Leave No Trace Philosophy". The 3 inch patch with button loop is designed for uniform wear. Successful completion of the requirements earns both patches. An article about this project was published in the June, 2007 issue of *Point of Beginning*, the most respected journal for the geodesy and surveying industry in the United States (www.pobonline.com Archive of Past Issues).

Requirements:

1. Climb and "summit" Class 2 Eagle Scout Peak in the Sequoia backcountry, as either an in-and-out trek from the Crescent Meadow Trailhead, or as part of the High Sierra Trail-Giant Forest to Mineral King High Adventure Award from the Los Angeles Area Council.

References:

1. Morey K, White M et. al.: Sierra South, Eighth Edition. Wilderness Press, Berkeley, CA, 2001.
2. Secor RJ: The High Sierra: Peaks, Passes and Trails, Third Edition. The Mountaineers, Seattle, WA, 2009.

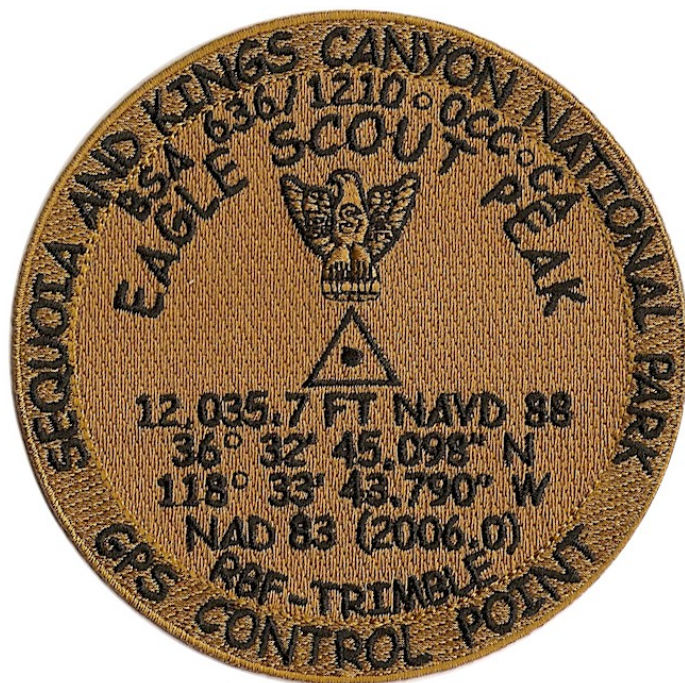


FIG. 1-15
EAGLE SCOUT PEAK
4½ DIA.



FIG. 1-16
EAGLE SCOUT PEAK POCKET PATCH
3½ DIA.