



April 23, 2019

Dear Scouts and Scouters,

As you have probably heard, the Grand Canyon Council has been making a series of changes ranging from closing the Lake Pleasant Aquatics Camp to reducing our staffing in an effort to improve the solvency of the organization. This week we have had to make another difficult decision. Our camp attendance is down over 3,400 participants from last year representing a loss in gross revenue of \$700,000. This loss of revenue has forced us to delve deeply into budgets and we have decided to close Camp Raymond for the summer.

Our program team has already begun working on plans to pull the best programs and staff from both Geronimo and Raymond to create one amazing summer experience. This consolidation will allow us to provide more program opportunities, increased scout leader training, and new advancement opportunities for our youth.

We are personally calling troops that have signed up for Camp Raymond, and providing options for moving to Camp Geronimo, as described below. In a separate letter, we are also encouraging and inviting all Camp Raymond staff to come to Camp Geronimo to add to the amazing talent base already in place

Nestled at the base of the Mogollon Rim, Geronimo Offers:

- Hiking trails that explore the surrounding Tonto National Forest.
- A large swimming pool with open swim in the afternoons.
- Horsemanship Merit Badge and Troop Rides
- Camping in Council provided canvas tents
- A newly refurbished Trading Post
- High Speed Internet for Scout leaders
- A new older youth program focused on vocational skills such as welding and automotive mechanics.

Please know that all of our staff at Camp Geronimo, which includes our staff from Camp Raymond, are committed to providing your scouts with a high-quality program. We will work diligently throughout the summer to meet your scouts needs and ensure they have a fun and awesome camp experience.



For those leaders transitioning from Raymond to Geronimo, here are some quick facts:

- The Raymond registration fee of \$325 will cover the Camp Geronimo registration fee, which is normally \$350. No additional fees will be charged for registration.
- A High Adventure Program will be available though the options may change slightly.
- We are modifying our merit badge schedule so that all youth who have signed up for merit badges at Raymond will have the same schedule at Geronimo.
- Those attending Raymond session 3 (June 16-22) and session 4 (June 23-29) will be transferred seamlessly to Camp Geronimo. You do not need to contact the office, just know your youth have been transferred along with their merit badge choices.
- Those attending Raymond Session 1 (June 2-8) and Session 2 (June 9-15) will be contacted today by our program staff to discuss options. If Troops have difficulties providing leadership for a different week, we will provide leadership to ensure your youth have a memorable camp experience.

If you have questions or concerns, please email:

Cameron Farr—Camping Director

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Greg Harmon—Director of Support Service

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Amy Jo—Camp Registrar

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Thank you for your continued support as we transition through this difficult year. Please know that we are making these difficult decisions now so that we can maintain the integrity and quality of our scouting program.

Yours in Scouting,
Andy Price
Scout Executive