

San Juan Capistrano Rotary Club Scout Hut – Repairs and COVID-19 readiness

The SJC Rotary club owns and operates the Scout Hut in San Juan Capistrano. The Scout Hut is currently home to 8 scout troop serving more than 100 scouts in our community. The facility is also used by Boys Scouts of America for leader and other regional meetings. Additionally, the facility is used by the South Coast Literacy Council, a non-profit group using volunteers tutors, to provide English as a Second Language (ESL) courses for adults. The program serves approximately 30-50 students each year.

The Scout Hut needs repairs due to age and termites. Also, we need to make updates related to COVID-19 pandemic to make it ready for use by the Scouts and students. The funding would be used to purchase supplies; rent construction equipment and/or engage outside services, if needed and feed Rotarian and Scout volunteers on work- days. Labor for the project will be provided by our members and Scout Troop volunteers. We anticipate approximately 10-15 Rotarians and 15-20 scouts to participate on the various projects.

The following is a summary of the projects to be undertaken

- Backyard fence – remove and replace a damaged portion
- Termite Damage – repair wood as needed
- Windows – remove and replace
- COVID-19 and other health department upgrades – remove and replace carpet with vinyl flooring, remove and replace two-compartment sink with three-compartment sink and other minor items, build closet for storing cleaning/sanitizing supplies, etc.

Project date – July 2020 through September 2020

Santa's Visit

The club reaches out to 6 local elementary schools and invites children to participate in holiday crafts and a visit with Santa.

Event Day: gates open at 9:00 am. Children are treated to activities such as cookie decorating, holiday crafts, face painting etc. from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm. Mr. and Mrs. Santa arrive via Orange County Fire Authority Engine from our local Fire Station #7 and present each child with an age appropriate gift.

Rotarians (10-15) and volunteers (approx. 50 high school students) conduct the following activities:

- Toy distribution, including Spanish/English translation.
- Children's activities including cookie decorating face painting and holiday crafts.
- Decorate the Multipurpose Room at Marco Forster Middle School (MFMS) for Mr. and Mrs. Santa on stage and entry way.

The event serves about 500-600 kids

Event Date – December 12 or 19, 2020

1/11 Marine Corps Unit Support and Battalion Wall

The adopted Marine Corps unit for our town is the 1/11 Marine Unit. When the marines and sailors on Camp Pendleton are deployed the SJC Rotary through the 1/11 Adoption Committee and also directly support the families with various activities via their Family Readiness Officer.

Our club provides financial support to the Adoption Committee. The adoption committee works as a liaison between the community and the unit to respond to the needs of families while their loved ones are deployed. Additionally, we provide direct support, which typically includes supplies for the events and/or funding for activities. For this coming year, we plan to encourage Rotarians to participate by volunteering at events such as the Family Holiday Party, the Family Picnic Activities and Baby Showers. Our goal is to have at least 5-10 Rotarians to participate in each event.

We are also proposing to fund the 1/11 Battalion Wall at the 11th Marines Ceremonial Garden. The 11th Marines Ceremonial Garden, which is currently under construction, will be a serene place on Camp Pendleton designed to honor the history of the 11th Marines Regiment. The garden is a memorial site to honor all Marines and Sailors that have given the ultimate sacrifice for freedom. The project will also be a site for celebrations, promotions, and recruitments. The 11th Regiment is made up of 4 battalions. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 5th battalions. The project includes a 6 x 8 wall for each battalion.

The 1/11 Battalion wall is expected to be completed by November 2020 and support through the adoption committee occurs year-round. Most events occur between December 2020 and May 2021.