

## Manhattan Beach Scout Reaches 1,000 Backpacking Miles



Troop 849 scout, Connor Noda is presented with a commemorative plaque of his BSA Seven League Boot Award by Scoutmaster Dave Rolandelli as the first Troop 849 Scout to reach this milestone. The Seven League Boot Award includes patches for achieving 100, 200, 300, 400, 500, 750 and 1,000 mile milestones.

Manhattan Beach - Troop 849 in Manhattan Beach has a long history of over 50 years of outdoor activity especially backpacking. In spite of the Troop's backpacking focus, the Troop had not had a scout who accumulated 1,000 backpacking miles until now. This year, Connor Noda became the first scout to accumulate the milestone 1,000 backpacking miles in the Troop's history. Over his scouting career from age 11 to 17, Connor went on over 40 backpacking hikes ranging from one to eight nights, with nine of those trips being 50 miles or longer. Among his accomplishments was to complete the John Muir Trail in 2007 along with four of his fellow scouts and three adult leaders. He has been to the Mt Whitney summit three times, and completing nine days at the Philmont Scout Ranch in 2009.

He reached his milestone mile near the Piuma Road junction with the Backbone Trail in the Santa Monica Mountain National Recreation Area accompanied by fellow scouts Kyler Mozell, Eric Vandenberg, Ryland Miller and Nick Barber. His achievement has inspired the Troop's younger scouts to reach his backpacking milestones.