



BOY SCOUTS
OF AMERICA®
SOUTHERN SIERRA COUNCIL

SSC Scouting News

Keeping you up to date with what is happening in the Southern Sierra Council.

[SSC Website Link](#)

Due to the state mandate concerning the COVID-19 pandemic

**The Trading Post and Scout Office are
ONLY
open for curbside pick-up & service
Monday thru Friday - Noon to 5:00 pm**

Please schedule a pick-up in advance by emailing necessary documentation (Advancement reports and a PO) to Mary Castaneda at Mary.Castaneda@scouting.org or by calling (661) 325-9036

Shipping is available



Council Office Contacts

(661) 325-9036

Scout Executive - Randy Saunders
randy.saunders@scouting.org

Office Manager - Mary Castaneda
mary.castaneda@scouting.org

District Associates

Greg Etheridge
gregory.etheridge@scouting.org

Blake Nettleton
blake.nettleton@scouting.org



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Tejon District Committee Meetings

First Thursday of each month - 6:30 pm
Thursday, August 6 via Zoom

Meetings are currently being held via Zoom but will resume, when allowed, at the Scout Office.

The District Committee mobilizes resources to ensure the growth and success of units. Districts are responsible for carrying out four standard functions: membership, fund development, program, and unit service.

All interested adults are invited to attend.

Please email your interest in receiving the Zoom link to the meeting to:

SouthernSierraCouncil.bsa@gmail.com.

District Chairman -

John Ryan
jwryan61@gmail.com

District Commissioner -

Patricia Martin-Galvin
pmg.tejon@gmail.com

Meetings - Scouting from Home

1st Tuesday



First Tuesday Registration

Register by using the button above.
The meeting link will be sent to all that
register for the event.

Join us for **FIRST TUESDAY** - Monthly training for adults and leaders!

**Managing the unit's BeAScout pin,
Online Leads & Applications**

**Tuesday, August 4
6:00 pm to 7:00 pm**

Learning objectives:

- How to keep your contact information available for scouts looking for a unit
- How to manage leads that come in through the BeAScout pin
- How to manage online applications in a speedy and efficient way

Registration closes at 5:30 pm on the day of the event.

Eagle Extensions

- **Scouts BSA** - Eagle Project delayed by Covid-19 and you are turning 18? Scouts can submit a letter requesting an **extension to September 30, 2020**. Please include the need for the extension and the reason (Covid-19) in the letter. An adult registration form & Youth Protection Training is required upon turning 18
- The deadline for girls to be a part of the Inaugural Class of Eagle Scout has been extended to January 31, 2021. To further support the Inaugural Class, all boards of review will be dated with the same date by the National Service Center.
- This extension applies to all Scouts who were granted the Inaugural extension, regardless of gender.
- As a reminder, all requirements must be completed while the individual is a registered member of Scouts BSA, .
- Boards of Review must be completed by the January 31, 2021 date.



Journey to Excellence



Program Preview - Upcoming Events

Time to Plan the 2020-2021 Unit Calendar

Providing a year-round quality Scouting program should be the goal of every Scouting unit.

Check out what the council has coming up to kick off the process and reserve the event dates for Scouting fun.

A variety of events - some virtual...some not. As Scouting looks to reopen, take advantage of events to keep your scouts and families engaged.



THURSDAY, AUGUST 13 - 6:30 PM - via Zoom

Scouting through a pandemic! This is a Zoom meeting to bring you the upcoming events and special interest items for the coming year. Information will be provided on:

- Training - IOLS, Trainers' EDGE, NYLT
- Membership & Recruiting
- Popcorn & Fundraising
- Camping - Tigermania, Webelos Woods, Camporall, Camp Kern
- Recharter Process and Timeline
- Activities- Outdoor Expo, Pushmobile, Twilight Camp Event
- Advancement - Merit Badge Fair

A Zoom link will be sent on Monday, August 10 to all registered adult leaders.

National BSA presents - Family Fun Fest

A promotional graphic for the Boy Scouts of America Family Fun Fest. On the left, a young boy in a red t-shirt is smiling and holding a red and white rocket. The background is a solid blue color. On the right, the text reads: 'BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA' in white, followed by 'FAMILY FUN FEST' in large white letters with a yellow underline. Below that is 'BUILD YOUR ADVENTURE' in white. At the bottom, it says 'Rockets, derby cars, funny pets and so much more... all without leaving home!' in white. Finally, it says 'AUGUST 8, 2020' in white with yellow arrowheads on either side, and 'On Facebook Live' in white below that.

This very special online-only event is just for families like yours! There will be cool hands-on activities, interviews with amazing people, and opportunities to make your community better with a service project.

Join in on the fun with activities like designing a Pinewood Derby car and baking homemade treats for your pets with a trained chef. We'll post items you'll need for each activity, here and on Facebook, so you can build your own adventure!

If you're already a Cub Scout, you'll love it! If you're not a Scout but want to find out about all the fun and cool things Scouts do – this is your chance! And, it's always more fun with friends, so invite some of yours to join you online for the Family Fun Fest!

Win prizes - Lots to give away

Tons of cool prizes for Family Fun Fest, like Scout Shop gift cards, Pinewood Derby bundles, hammocks, backpacks, portable batteries, tents... and more!

Starts at 8:00 am - Pacific Time

FAMILY FUN FEST - Info and Registration

2020 Council Popcorn Sale



Popcorn!!! Popcorn!!! Popcorn!!!

The Trail's End popcorn sale has already started with online direct sales. However, it is not too late to join in and get started.

At this time, we have not been able to secure storefront sales opportunities at the large chain stores. We will continue to follow-up with these locations. However, there may still be options for your unit to do storefront sales at open businesses in your area. With the help of your parents, reach out to some of the banks, hardware stores, automotive shops, and other open businesses to set up a booth and sell popcorn.

Trail's End has made some significant changes to the online direct sales this year. First, all of their products are available online, Second, online sales receive double the rewards points. And, you don't have to handle product or money (credit card payments for online sales).

The take order option is always an option for Scouts to sell popcorn, too.

If your unit has not registered yet, now is the time to log-in to Trail's End and get started. If your unit is not participating, but your Den or Patrol wants to, we can make it happen for you. Contact the Scout Office or randy.saunders@scouting.org.

Upcoming reminders:

- August 6 – Storefront sales order due online
- August 29 – Storefront product distribution, by appointment
- September 10 – Storefront sales order #2 due online

Friends of Scouting

A note from Scout Executive - Randy Saunders

I hope you and your family are healthy and doing well facing the challenges the COVID-19 pandemic. I believe that, despite the trials we have endured, the strength of our families will be the force that helps us all persevere. Scouting, like many other pillars of our communities, continues on. Scouts have been meeting virtually, camping via online connection, serving others by completing projects in small groups... all while living the Scout Oath and Law. Leaders and parents have worked hard to keep our Scouts active, healthy and safe.

Friends of Scouting is the annual fund drive that raises the dollars needed to support our efforts in providing the best Scouting possible. Some ways that Friends of Scouting helps our Scouts are:

- Adult and youth leader training support & materials
- Day and overnight camping programs support
- Advancement and training record keeping, including Eagle Scout application processing
- Communication and online resources
- Trading Post stocked with uniforms, literature, and badges
- Camp Kern upkeep and improvements

All Friends of Scouting dollars are used to fund local Scouting. Please consider making a donation. You can give online by selecting the logo below.



Thank you for supporting Scouting in the Southern Sierra Council.

Scout Me In... Growing your Pack, Troop or Post this Fall

While Scouting continues on during a challenging time for all of us, we also need to offer our program to new families. Recruiting new youth and families this fall will offer some unique opportunities to try something new. And we need to grow Scouting because our communities need more Scouts.

The Southern Sierra Council membership team is committed to helping your Pack, Troop or Post with new youth recruitment. We will assist with providing planning and materials for your efforts. Here are some ideas for your leadership group to consider. Ideally, these would be in-person events, but virtual meetings would work, too.



Cub Scout Packs:

- Back to the Pack event for current families – held just before the school year starts, this event

brings current Pack families together and provides opportunity to assess volunteer needs for upcoming year.

- Join Night: - held in the first few weeks of the school year (before Labor Day), new youth and families are invited to this gathering... just for them. An orientation and sign-up are done here.
- Invite-a-friend event – Could be first Pack meeting or a special activity in September where Scouts invite one of their friends to attend and join. There will be an incentive for Scouts that participate.

Scouts BSA Troops:

- Open House – held in September for new families, the Troop can showcase their program and invite the new youth to join.
- Peer-to-peer invitation – Scouts invite their friends to join. There will be an incentive for Scouts that participate

Exploring:

- Every Exploring Post adds new members in a unique manner for their program. Contact Randy at randy.saunders@scouting.org to discuss options.

Here are a couple of key pointers for all Packs, Troops and Posts

- **Social media** – The use of social media can be helpful in recruiting and “spreading the word” for your Scouting program. Geofencing is also a good tool to use for promotion. The Council will provide geofencing promotion for your recruitment events, in-person or virtual. Just provide basic event information (form on website).
- **Incentives** – The incentive period runs from August 1-October 31. To qualify for the incentive item, the Scout must invite a new youth to join their Pack or Troop. The new youth must join (complete application, pay fee, and turn in) by October 31. Here are the incentives for peer-to-peer recruiting. All new Scouts will receive a patch.
 - Cub Scouts – Pinewood Derby race car kit
 - Scouts BSA – Pocket knife
 - Explorers – Exploring lapel pin
 - Adults – Starbucks gift card. Adults receive second Starbucks gift card if new Scout parent joins (completes application, pays fee, and completes training by December 31).
- **School access** – It is understood that access to schools for distribution of fliers or other promotion methods will probably not be possible this year. However, if you gain any access through your personal contacts, we can produce fliers and other marketing materials.
- **Materials** – Materials will be available starting on August 10 – fliers, posters, yard signs, applications, parent guides, etc.

Fall Recruitment Resources

For more information, contact Randy Saunders at randy.saunders@scouting.org

Membership Fee Increase - Effective August 1

New to BSA - Youth

- \$66 per year National Membership Fee (prorated per month - \$5.50) plus
- \$25 One-time Joining Fee (no proration)
- Council Program Fee waived

Former BSA Member - Youth

- \$66 per year National Membership Fee (prorated per month - \$5.50) plus
- \$18 per year Council Program Fee (prorated per month - \$1.50)

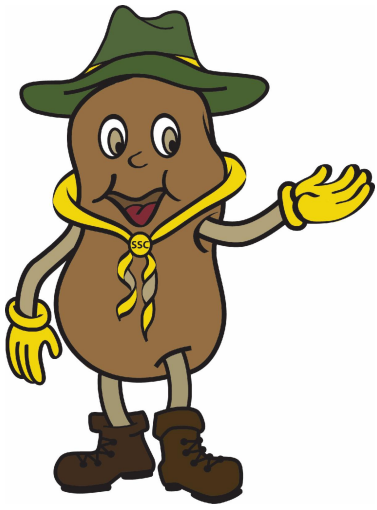
Adult or Explorer

- \$42 per year National Membership Fee (prorated per month - \$3.50) plus
- \$18 per year Council Program Fee (prorated per month - \$1.50)

Recharter Fees for 2021

- Youth - \$84 (National \$66 plus Council \$18)
- Adult or Explorer - \$60 (National \$42 plus Council \$18)
- Unit Recharter fee - \$75 per unit

No Fair...No Problem...the 2020 Potato Booth



There will not be a Kern County Fair this fall. However, Bakersfield still needs it's baked potatoes with special toppings.

So, the Southern Sierra Council will be setting up three potato booths around the city during the dates of the Fair - September 23 to October 4

We need Scouts and adults to operate these booths and make those potatoes the masses want.

More information is coming in the next few weeks.

This is an excellent service opportunity and we'll be operating with all health and safety expectations being met.

Camp Kern 2021 Summer Camping in the Sierras



While there wasn't any summer camp at Camp Kern in 2020, there was a lot of clean-up, painting, and improvements getting done to the facilities and property. Camp Kern looks better.

Camp Kern will be open for summer camp in 2021. There will be exciting programs and two new camping opportunities available...Webelos Adventure Camp and Scouts BSA Tri-Camp.

There will be a **[Zoom session on Wednesday, August 19 @ 6:30 pm](#)** that will introduce the 2021 Camp Kern Summer Camping Season to leaders. All Scout leaders, including Troop youth leadership, are welcome to participate.

Mark your calendars and be on the lookout for your email invitation and Zoom access.

Training News & Upcoming Courses



[Questions about training or training requirements](#)

Contact Council Training Chairman - Carolyn Forster at cjforster1964@gmail.com



INTRODUCTION TO OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP SKILLS (IOLS)

Saturday, Sept 12 AND Sunday, Sept 13
Camp Hamilton, 34999 Lerdo Hwy, Bakersfield

REGISTER (by 8/28)

COST: \$40

NOTE: Space is limited - register ASAP; IOLS is only offered 1x per year

IOLS Registration

Who should attend IOLS:

- Scoutmasters & Asst. Scoutmasters (required)
- Webelos/AOL Den Leaders (prep for Scouts BSA)

PRE-REQUISITES:

- Registered adult
- Current **Youth Protection Training** (completed during 2020)
- **Hazardous Weather Training**

COVID-19 safety:- All participants & staff

- Are required to wear a mask in designated areas (when in close proximity to others) - bring your own mask is preferred; disposable masks will be available.
- Will have their temperature tested upon arrival and at recommended intervals throughout the event.
- CDC, state, and county recommended safety guidelines will be observed at all times.

Specific details of supplies, equipment, and safety requirements will be sent to all registered participants.



YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING (YPT)

Any time is a great time to complete your Annual Renewal. Take advantage of your time at home to complete this important training during 2020.

Even though we are not meeting in-person, YPT always applies. Remember when you are conducting virtual meetings and sending text/email to youth you need to maintain 2-deep leadership at all times.

Youth Protection Training may be completed online at: My.Scouting.org or In-person trainings will **ONLY** be available on these dates:

6:00 pm, Scout office
2417 M Street, Bakersfield
(mask required; please, no children due to sensitive topics discussed)

- **Tuesday, August 18**
- **Wednesday, August 26**
- **Wednesday, September 2**
- **Tuesday, September 15**

- **Saturday, October 10** (at Outdoor Expo)
 - 8:30 am to 11:00 am

Everyone is responsible to complete YPT every calendar year in Southern Sierra Council per Board Policy established in 2015. (For example, if you last completed YPT in 2019, you must renew it sometime during 2020 to qualify for the next recharter).

No pre-registration required for YPT in-person classes - only masks and social distancing



Saturday, October 10
First Congregational Church
5 Real Road (corner of Stockdale & Real)

FUN & SCOUTING SKILLS FOR CUB SCOUTS

Troops:

Your troop can gain valuable experience using the EDGE method teaching younger scouts how to fold and respect the flag properly, learn the BSA oath, law, and sign, or first aid technique.

Guides:

Older scouts/adults needed to guide groups of cub scouts throughout the event. A pre-meeting about expectations will be provided prior to the event.

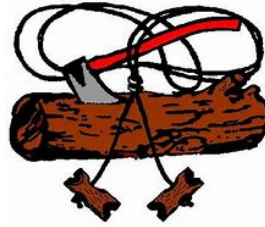
Cub Scouts/Scouts BSA outdoor skills

- BSA Traditions
- Flag etiquette
- Plants & Animals
- First Aid basics
- Food & Nutrition
- Backpacking Basics
- Safety & Hazards

Adult/Older Scout trainings:

- CPR/1st Aid Certification
- Den Chief Training
- Merit Badge Counselor Training
- Other? _____

Please contact Carolyn Forster, cjforster1964@gmail.com to host a training, a booth, or be a guide.



WOODBADGE

Register for the premier adult leadership development course for the Boy Scouts of America.

Wood Badge is leadership training for all Scout Leaders who are involved at any level of scouting: Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, and Venturing, as well as Council and District leaders and professionals.

Learn by doing, gain leadership knowledge from experienced leaders, include the mission of the BSA into your unit's program. If you are sending your scouts to NYLT (National Youth Leadership Training) you should attend Wood Badge. All adults gain valuable and current leadership skills. Work with your unit if you need assistance with the registration fees.

(NOTE: Due to requirements related to Covid-19, scheduled courses listed could be postponed at any time. Please contact the host Council directly for current information)

GREATER LOS ANGELES AREA COUNCIL WOOD BADGE

October 2-October 4 AND October 24-October 25

Hubert Eaton Scout Reservation and Camp Trask

Registration no later than Sept 1: <https://boyscoutsla.doubleknot.com/event/2020-wood-badge-participant-rescheduled/2671174>

Cost: \$295

Questions about Wood Badge:

Carolyn Forster, cjforster1964@gmail.com

Maria Brown, mariambrown614@gmail.com

Chris Moore, ScouterChrisMoore@gmail.com

Council Training Committee Meeting

Join us at Council Training Committee to give your input on trainings needed for your unit, your leaders, and your scouts.

Who should attend:

- Please invite your Pack or Troop Committee Training Chair or Committee Chair to attend these meetings (forward this e-mail to your Committee Training Chair). The Training Committee is the *best* opportunity to coordinate trainings for your unit's needs.
- Wood Badgers are also encouraged to attend for support with your ticket activities and how you can continue to promote Wood Badge to all leaders.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, August 25 @ 6:30 pm

Location: Zoom - Meeting ID 314 211 1129, Password 343932

Please contact Carolyn Forster, cjforster1964@gmail.com if you have questions or would like to provide input for the next meeting.

National Jamboree

There are still a few spots left for both boys & girls

2021 National Jamboree **"Scouting's Flagship Event"**

POSTPONED
Reschedule Date Pending

Scouts at least 12 years old and First Class rank at the time of Jamboree will have the time of their lives.

Join 36 scouts and 6 leaders from So. Sierra Council as they experience 13 days of ultimate Scouting with 40,000 scouts from across the nation.

Check out the details.

Council Jamboree Information



Jamboree Troop Meetings (Virtual)
Monthly - Third Thursday
6:15 pm to 8:00 pm

DIGITAL CUB SCOUT SONGBOOK

Listen to your favorite songs from the now-digital **Cub Scout Songbook**

Now you can listen to your favorite tunes featured in the revised Cub Scout Songbook. The book features a link to SoundCloud so you can hear each song.

The link below will take you to the perfect resource for leaders to build den and pack spirit and enthusiasm.

<https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2020/06/30/listen-to-your-favorite-songs-from-the-now-digital-cub-scout-songbook/>

Dates to Mark on the Calendar

Camporall - Postponed until April 2021

**Council-wide Roundtable for Cub & Scout Leaders
Thursday, September 10 - 6:30 pm via Zoom**

**Certified Angling Instructor Course
September 17-20 at Buena Vista Lake**

**Family Fishing Day
October 3 @ Lake Isabella**

**Tigermania (All Tigers and one parent)
October 16-17 at Tejon Ranch Old Headquarters**

**Webelos Woods (All Webelos & AOL)
October 23-25 - Location TBD**

**Cub Scout Twilight Fun Camp (All cub scouts)
November 7 - Details to follow**

Cub Scout Pushmobile - Postponed to March 6, 2021