

January 2021



BOY SCOUTS  
OF AMERICA®

SOUTHERN SIERRA COUNCIL

## SSC Scouting News



**So. Sierra Council wishes you a happy 2021!**

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 -  
Staff & Visitors are required to wear a  
mask while at the Trading Post**

**The Trading Post and Scout Office  
hours are  
Monday thru Friday - Noon to 5:00 pm**

**The Trading Post and Scout Office will  
be closed on:**

**Friday, January 1, 2021  
and  
Monday, January 18, 2021**



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**Tejon District Committee Meetings**

First Thursday of each month - 6:30 pm

**Thursday, January 7 via Zoom**

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

The District Committee mobilizes resources

Orders can be emailed ahead to be pulled and ready when you arrive. Email (Advancement reports and a PO) to Mary Castaneda at [Mary.Castaneda@scouting.org](mailto: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](mailto:randy.saunders@scouting.org)

**Office Manager** - Mary Castaneda  
[mary.castaneda@scouting.org](mailto:mary.castaneda@scouting.org)

**District Associates**  
Greg Etheridge  
[gregory.etheridge@scouting.org](mailto:gregory.etheridge@scouting.org)

Blake Nettleton  
[blake.nettleton@scouting.org](mailto:blake.nettleton@scouting.org)

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:*  
[cbasham3504@gmail.com](mailto:cbasham3504@gmail.com)

**District Chairman** -  
John Ryan  
[jwryan61@gmail.com](mailto:jwryan61@gmail.com)

**District Commissioner** -  
Patricia Martin-Galvin  
[pmg.tejon@gmail.com](mailto:pmg.tejon@gmail.com)

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You shop. Amazon gives.

Amazon Smile is the same Amazon you know and love, but for every purchase you make, Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price to your selected organization.

Simply [click here for AmazonSmile](#), select "Southern Sierra Council, BSA" as your organization. and start shopping those after Christmas sales & January White sales.

## Support Scouting...Donate Online



Happy New Year. I am looking forward to the possibilities for a wonderful 2021. We have so much to look forward to this year, including seeing more of each other and making more Scouting adventures happen.

The leadership and staff of the Southern Sierra Council are working hard to keep Scouting alive and well in our area. Despite our efforts we are still short raising the funds needed to keep Scouting support available for our Packs, Troops, and Posts.

We need your help. Please consider making a donation to the Southern Sierra Council. You can donate any amount online [HERE](#).

Please share this link with your friends and contacts that are interested in supporting our young people.

Your generous gift is greatly appreciated and very important to keep Scouting alive in our area.

Thank you for your support!

Randy Saunders - Scout Executive

# Popcorn 2021



The Trail's End popcorn sale is turning the page from 2020 to 2021. Here are the totals from the 2020 sale:

- 17 units participated in the sale
- 108 Scouts sold popcorn
- \$47,893 total sales
- Pack 58 sold the most popcorn with \$26,971 in total sales. The top selling troop is Troop 484. Congratulations and thank you for the hard work!

If you have Scouts that sold \$100 in "heroes" donations, please send list to [randy.saunders@scouting.org](mailto:randy.saunders@scouting.org) in order to receive the military sales shoulder patches. We will continue this reward incentive into the spring and via online sales.

Trail's End is continuing the Online Direct Sales into 2021. Your Scouts can sell popcorn online at any time. This is an excellent opportunity for Scouts to earn money to help pay for summer camps and adventures.

Later this spring, as restrictions from the pandemic are eased, storefront sales will become available for units looking for a camp fundraiser. Dates have not been set as of yet. More information will be forthcoming. In the meantime, your leaders and parents should discuss participating in the popcorn sale this spring.

For more information or to get answers to your questions, contact Randy at 325-9036 or [randy.saunders@scouting.org](mailto:randy.saunders@scouting.org).

There is still a limited supply of popcorn for sale at the Trading Post. There is Caramel, White Cheddar, Blazin' Hot, Unbelievable Butter, and Sea Salt Caramel in stock. Come get yours today.

## We need you!! To help grow Scouting



Tried and true recruitment methods used to grow Scouting are really impossible during these times. However, there are still things we all can do to help grow Scouting now. I would encourage all Pack, Troop and Post leaders to review the list below and engage your Scouts and parents to participate in growing Scouting.

Why grow Scouting now??? Because all families should get an opportunity and invitation to participate in our character building youth development program. Scouting is more important than ever. Youth confined mostly to their homes need Scouting. Units always need new Scouts, and their parents... who become the future leaders of Packs, Troops and Posts.

Here are a few things your group can do now to help grow Scouting:

1. Recruit a New Member Coordinator. Click [HERE](#) for more information.
2. Have a calendar of virtual activities. While meeting in-person is ideal, virtual activities are still able to deliver Scouting programs.
3. Do a virtual cooking demo. Parents and Scouts can share their kitchens and concoctions with other members of their Den, Pack, Patrol or Troop.
4. Do a virtual campout. Whether it's in the living room or kitchen, this is an excellent opportunity to share a camping experience while staying socially distant.
5. Challenge Scouts to invite a friend to all virtual and in-person activities. Peer-to-peer is always the most effective method to grow Scouting.
6. Continue to invite past Scouting families to join in all activities.
7. Be Prepared for the first opportunity to have a large in-person activity. Invite families from schools and neighborhoods to join the event. While this event may not happen for a few months, go ahead and prepare.
8. The Scout office has resources to help spread the word. There are paper flyers, posters, yard signs, and social media promotions available. Contact us at 325-9036 or [randy.saunders@scouting.org](mailto:randy.saunders@scouting.org)

Thank you for your help. All of us together can keep Scouting alive and growing during this challenging times. If you have any ideas you would like to share, please contact us at the Scout office.

## GENERAL TOPIC ROUNDTABLE



**Zoom link will be sent to all Registered Leaders on Monday, January 11**

**GENERAL TOPIC ROUNDTABLE -**  
**Thursday, January 14**  
**7:00 pm to 8:00 pm**

**January Program:**

- **Cub Scout Leaders**
  - Virtual Blue & Gold Celebrations
  - Getting Parents Involved
- **Scouts BSA Leaders**
  - Youth Leadership Development
    - Guiding & Mentoring
  - Intro to Troop Leadership Skills
    - Troop Led Training

**NEXT SPECIAL TOPIC ROUNDTABLE - Thursday, February 11**

## Council-wide Annual Day of Service

What is your Pack, Troop or Post planning to do for their Day of Service project?

**Saturday, February 6**

- Food Drive - The Scout office has plenty of "Scouting for Food" door hangers available.
- Graffiti Removal
- Neighborhood Clean-up
- Hygiene Kits for the Homeless Center or Mission
- Mask construction for the local hospitals/care centers



- Possibilities are endless

Select the project that interests the Scouts in your unit. Each Scout is asked to do 2 hours of service on the first Saturday of February each year.

Individually or as a socially distanced unit - it's an opportunity to help the community.

### **Special 2021 "Day of Service" Patch**

Units that record their project in the JTE Database and turn in the report form to the Scout office will earn a patch for each Scout/leader who participated. The report form will be provided in the February newsletter.

## Cub Scout STEM Activity Day



Due to the current Covid restrictions - the Winter Extravaganza has been delayed to **Saturday, March 27**. Same exciting STEM program...Same Cub Scout FUN!  
More details will be out soon but mark your calendar and register now.

[Register for STEM Activity Day](#)

## Order of the Arrow



### **Upcoming OA Events:**

Watch for Emails & Reminder Notices

- Jan. 5 - LEC - Lodge Executive Committee Meeting
- Jan. 15-16 - Winter Fellowship

### **Congratulations to 2021 Lodge Officers:**

Lodge Chief - Tucker Monaco  
Lodge Vice Chief - Sam Picking  
Lodge Secretary - James Torres

## Eagles Nest

- If you have any questions or need assistance with the Eagle process please contact the Council Office for direction.
- Congratulations to five new Eagle Scouts during the month of December! These scouts are members of Troops: 47, 99, 484 & 848.

- Total of 58 scouts earned their Eagle rank in 2020. Congratulations to all!
- Class of 2020 Eagle Scouts, Parents, & Leaders - Mark your calendar for the March 9 Eagle Dinner.



## Pushmobile Mark Your Calendar for March 6



### Attention ALL Cub Scouts!!

Lions through Arrow Of Light

Please save the date, **MARCH 6, 2021** for the Southern Sierra Council Pushmobile Race.

So, dust off those pushmobiles, find those bicycle helmets and **BE PREPARED** for an Amazing Race!!!

Additional info to be sent out soon.

## Adult Leader Awards



K. Wicket 2013. behance.net/kwicket

It's time to apply for adult recognitions for your leaders and adult volunteers. We value all our volunteers and leaders and need to remember to recognize their work and achievements too. Although everyone says they are too humble to need an award for doing what they love to do, we recognize our adults to show appreciation and letting our scouts and families know you are invested in the BSA program, mission, and values.

Many of the awards involve tenure plus training and activities you are already accomplishing.

All BSA awards: <https://www.scouting.org/awards/awards-central/>

**Tejon District-Unit Award of Appreciation:** Nominate *anyone* with your Unit, registered or not, who helps your scouts grow and go! Appreciate the volunteer who helps coordinate campout locations or is your treasurer, for example; you can even nominate the janitor who stayed late and opened the school auditorium last year for your Unit each week. No restrictions on who can be nominated for this award.

E-mail Appreciation Award nominees to Cindy Basham, [cbasham3504@gmail.com](mailto:cbasham3504@gmail.com)

Unit Award of Appreciation form

### Save-the Dates:

**Tejon District Volunteer Recognition and Dinners**

- **March 13** - Ridgecrest

## Training News & Upcoming Courses



### Questions about training or training requirements

Contact Council Training Chairman - Carolyn Forster at [cjforster1964@gmail.com](mailto:cjforster1964@gmail.com)

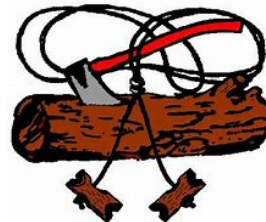


### Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation - BALOO

**Saturday, March 20 AND Sunday, March 21**

All Cub Scout level leaders - mark your calendar for BALOO training in Bakersfield. BALOO training is required for registered adults to be qualified to take Packs and Webelos Dens on overnight campouts.

If you are an experienced scouter and would like to help present camping skills at BALOO training, please contact Carolyn Forster at [cjforster1964@gmail.com](mailto:cjforster1964@gmail.com)



### 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.

Watch for Wood Badge course scheduled for 2021!

Questions about Wood Badge:  
Carolyn Forster, [cjforster1964@gmail.com](mailto:cjforster1964@gmail.com)  
Maria Brown, [mariaambrown614@gmail.com](mailto:mariaambrown614@gmail.com)  
Chris Moore, [ScouterChrisMoore@gmail.com](mailto:ScouterChrisMoore@gmail.com)

## **COUNCIL TRAINING COMMITTEE**

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

The Training Committee is the *best* opportunity to coordinate trainings for your unit's needs.

*Who should attend:*

- **ALL** Pack or Troop **Committee Training Chairs** and/or **Committee Chairs**
- Trainers
- 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, March 23, 2021 - 6:30 pm - Location: Zoom**

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

## **Dates to Mark on the Calendar**

**Council Volunteer Recognition Dinner**

**January 30 - Postponed to a yet to be determined date**

**Leave No Trace Trainers Course**

**February 26-28**