



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 - 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 office will be closed Monday, May 31 for Memorial Day

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 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



SSC Program Committee Meeting
Thursday, May 6 via Zoom
6:30 pm

The SSC Program Committee is responsible for strengthening and enriching unit program by overseeing the program functions of Activities & Civic Service; Advancement; Camping; and Training.

All program committee members and interested adults are invited to attend this meeting led by Council Vice-President of Program, Sheri Stringer.

These meetings will be held on the first Thursday of each month.

All registered leaders were emailed the Zoom link on Tuesday, May 4. Please email cbasham3504@gmail.com if you are unable to locate link.

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gregory.etheridge@scouting.org

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Simply [click here for AmazonSmile](#), select "Southern Sierra Council, BSA" as your organization.

Silver Beaver Congratulations!

Stephen Boyle & Jerry McAbee 2020 Silver Beaver Recipients



Council-Level Distinguished Service Award

Give Big Kern - Tuesday, May 4



May 4 is Give Big Kern Day.

Support Scouting and Show Kern County that Scouting Continues On!

Observed on the first Tuesday in May, "Give Big Kern" is a dynamic and fun day of giving hosted by Kern Community Foundation to foster local philanthropy in support of charitable organizations in Kern County. The effort allows participating agencies to gain visibility as they engage the entire community in "One day to celebrate the giving spirit of Kern County!"

The Southern Sierra Council has been a participant in "Give Big Kern" since 2017. Last year, we had 38 donors contribute a total of \$12,000. All "Give Big Kern" donations 100% go to and support the Southern Sierra Council.

Our goal this year is to raise \$20,000 and receive 100 donations.

"Give Big Kern" is May 4, but all donations received between now and the 4th will be counted towards the grand total of this collective effort. We have received over \$6,500 from 34 donors already! The Council is continuing to struggle with raising the funds necessary to support local Scouting. Your generous contribution is vital to our cause. Every gift of any amount makes a huge difference.

Please consider making a donation to the Southern Sierra Council to show Kern County that Scouting is alive and well. You can donate any amount online at <https://www.givebigkern.org/organizations/southern-sierra-council>.

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

Camporall LITE



Camporall LITE 2021



Thank you to Chuck Monaco and his team for an outstanding event!
125 scouts & 60 adults had a great day of Scouting!

General Topic Roundtable - for all leaders



Zoom link will be sent to all Registered Leaders by Tuesday, May 11

SPECIAL TOPIC ROUNDTABLE - Thursday, June 10

Scouting through the Summer

**Thursday, May 13
7:00 pm to 8:00 pm**

Please join us for information on "Summer of Service" - Scouting families joining together across the country in a spirited Summer of Service! As we have throughout history, Scouting families are answering the call to work together in service of the greater good.

Plus - Scouting has just begun rolling again - don't stop just because it's summer. This is every unit's chance to put the outing back in Scouting.

Camp Kern Update - May 2021

It has been eight months since Camp Kern was devastated by the Creek Fire. The wildfire consumed most of the structures and ravaged the ponderosa pine forest. Thankfully, the waterfront docks and barges were untouched by the fire and are still on the lakeshore.

Since the fire, many of you have shared stories, memories and photos of experiences at Camp Kern. Keep them coming. The camp has been a

special place for Scouts to connect with the outdoors in Scouting since the 1930s. Countless numbers of Scouts have spent summer nights under the stars at Camp Kern. This location has been significant and meaningful to the Southern Sierra Council for over eight decades.



With the onset of winter, not much has happened at Camp Kern since last September. A small team of the Council's leadership made a site visit with the insurance claim adjuster to assess the damage. Cal OES and the US Forest Service have made a few visits to examine the debris and tag any hazardous materials. Since the road into camp is inaccessible once the snow accumulates, we have not removed any debris or had any equipment enter the property.

As we move into the late spring and summer, the snow will melt and we can get to work at Camp Kern. We are working with FEMA and Fresno County to proceed with proper debris removal. As you can imagine, this is a well-regulated process that requires us to comply with county, state and federal rules to ensure proper removal of materials, sorted by environmental hazards, is done in such a way to not compromise the natural integrity of the landscape. Most of the work will be done by certified contract services.

When there are opportunities for us to work with a volunteer force, we will contact you to enlist your help. Again, with safety as a top priority, please do not enter the camp property without permission from the Southern Sierra Council.

Our priority for the summer of 2021 is to complete the debris removal, dropping dangerous burnt trees, and making the site safe for future activity. Over the next few months, the Council's Team Phoenix task force will assemble to research, discuss, and present a plan for moving forward to serve the camping/outdoor needs of our Scouts. This will include some visioning sessions for, and consideration of, the most appropriate program elements for Scouting today into the future. We will want your insights and feedback. Any suggestions you have for camping facilities for the Southern Sierra Council can be sent to the Randy Saunders, our Scout Executive, at randy.saunders@scouting.org. Your input is needed and appreciated.

Popcorn Is Back!!!

As our world becomes more normal, the Trails End Popcorn sale is back!!!

Storefront sales will be available again. Online Direct Sales are also back for 2021.

The Trails End Popcorn sale is an excellent opportunity for your unit to raise money, provide your Scouts the ideal Scouting year, and support the Southern Sierra Council.

Attend our Popcorn Leaders Orientation on Saturday, July 17 and receive the latest information about the upcoming sale.

Southern Sierra Council's



Leaders Kick-off

Saturday, July 17th 9:00am

Scout Service Center
2417 M Street, Bakersfield, CA

2021 Trails End Popcorn Sale Information

Trails End Technology Updates – Manage group or individual sales

Set goals – Product Lineup – Increase Sales – Incentives

Popcorn Kernel or Unit Designee – There will not be any activities for kids

Kick-off will also be available via Zoom, details forthcoming

Please visit Trails End website to register for 2021 sale

**** RSVP via email to: randy.saunders@scouting.org ****

[Be sure to sign up for the sale with Trails End.](#)

[Link to Trails End Sign Up](#)



Online Auction - Celebrating Scouting Stars



I am sure you and your scouting families have missed us at your Blue and Golds and Courts of Honor presenting our annual Friends of Scouting Speeches. As this year continues to fly by, it looks like you might miss us again this year. You can come out of hiding now...I don't have that "FOS Brochure" with me.

All jokes aside, we are looking ahead to better times and moving forward to present our **1st Annual Online Auction – "Celebrating Scouting Stars"**. While much of the world has stopped, our mission to bring Scouting's values and lifelong skills to all youth continues here in the Southern Sierra Council. Now, more than ever, we need your help to keep Scouting strong.

The Southern Sierra Council Staff is challenging every unit in the Council to donate at least 5 items, experiences, gift certificates, etc. to help us reach our goal of \$5000.

Are you a "Camp Master" that can offer a weekend experience or other skills? Do you have any hidden crafting talents? Do you have connections to businesses in the community? We are looking for you! We are striving to feature local businesses and talents in our auction every year to help us give back to places that support us. Your unit's donations and donors will be featured on our website and throughout our promotions.

2021 "Celebrating Scouting Stars" online auction will begin on May 21, 2021, at 5 pm and run through Memorial Day on May 31, 2021, at midnight.

We will provide documentation of the tax-deductible donation. Please call me at 661.325.9036 with a description of your item. I can arrange pick-up at your convenience.

Trail to First Class Palooza



The **Scout** rank is oriented toward learning the basic information every youth needs to know to be a good Scout. It starts with the Scout demonstrating knowledge and understanding of the Scout Oath, Scout Law, Scout motto, and Scout slogan and then introduces the Scout to basic troop operations and safety concerns.

Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class ranks are oriented toward learning and practicing skills that will help Scouts develop confidence and fitness, challenge their thought processes, introduce them to their responsibilities as citizens, and prepare them for exciting and successful Scouting experiences. Requirements for the Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class ranks may be worked on simultaneously; however, these ranks must be earned in sequence. It is possible - *and encouraged!* - for Scouts to reach the rank of First Class within one year of joining their Troop. Once a Scout achieves First Class rank, he will be eligible for leadership positions.

Join us June 5, 2021, for the Trail to First Class Palooza. Lunch is included in registration. Camp Hamilton is the Meeting place, 8 am-5 pm.

[Register Here](#)

**Saturday, June 5, 2021
8:00 am to 5:00 pm**

Two Sessions:

**AM: Scout and Tenderfoot
PM: Second Class and First Class**

**Camp Hamilton - 34999 Lerdo Highway
\$15 per scout - lunch included**

Cub Scout Day Camp



**CUB SCOUT DAY CAMP REGISTRATION IS LIVE!
DON'T MISS THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE CUB SCOUTING YEAR**

Tigers, Wolves, Bears, and Webelos/ AOL will participate in fun, exciting exploration themed activities including Games, Archery, BB Gun Shooting, Crafts, and Fitness

WEIRD SCIENCE

**June 11-13, 2021
9:00 AM to 12:00 PM
Council Service Center
2417 M Street, Bakersfield**

[Register Here](#)

Let's Talk Recruitment



While we are still uncertain how the rest of this year will look concerning the reopening of schools and our recruitment efforts for inviting more youth to participate in our programs.

We do know for certain, that we must continue to ask our friends to join and provide as many opportunities as possible to communicate the message that Scouting is an outstanding value and an outstanding program for preparing our youth for their futures!

Starting this Summer, we encourage units to pass along Flyers to friends via email, text, Nextdoor, Facebook, and WhatsApp. We also encourage units to create Facebook Events and hold Virtual or In-Person Recruitment Events.

Scouts that recruit a new friend can earn the Recruiter Patch from the Scout Office.

Challenge each Scout in your Unit to share a Flyer with at least 1 friend and invite the friend to an in-person or virtual meeting/activity/event.

Open Houses

The Southern Sierra Council will be holding 5 Open Houses throughout the community during the months of June and July. Your unit will be invited to join us depending on location. This will be an opportunity not to be missed for your unit's recruitment.

Facebook Event

Use your Unit Facebook Page to promote your Units Virtual/In-person Kickoff/Open House. Encourage each member of your Unit to share the Facebook Event to their network to promote your awesome Unit and recruit new members!

Nextdoor App

Use the Nextdoor App to promote your Unit Kickoff/Meetings/Events. Nextdoor is the neighborhood hub that connects you with the people living in your local area. Encourage each member of your Unit to post in their "Neighborhood" to recruit new members!

Invitation Manager

Invitation Manager is your lead resource tool. This is where any inquiries from BeAScout will come in and await your response. You can also add leads manually during joining events or from names provided by unit members and send invitations to join that include a link to your unit's application. There is also a URL and QR code specific to your unit that can be downloaded from this tool to use in your unit's recruitment efforts.

Application Manager

Application Manager is the place where you review and act on applications that are submitted by families. Most families expect a response within 24 hours of applying.

If you need assistance with any of the above, reach out to your Unit Commissioner. They are here to help you be successful

Flyer Request

We are happy to produce as many recruitment flyers that your unit needs at no cost to you. We ask that all flyers be made by the council, so we can keep BSA brand identity in line, and we keep track as to where they are being handed out. We ask units not to produce any on their own, without prior approval.

LET'S GET RECRUITING!

Help Other People at all Times

Join Scouting families across the country in a spirited Summer of Service!

As we have throughout our history, Scouting families are answering the call to work together in service of the greater good.

From public health drives...to caring for the environment...to assisting neighbors in need...Scouts have always been a force for positivity and goodness in our community. This summer, we're stepping up again, and we need you! With big projects or small, join us in the national Summer of Service!

Get Involved by doing the following:

- (1) Plan - Find a way to serve others
- (2) Serve - Do your project or activity (April 1 - October 31)
- (3) Post - Post about your service on social media
- (4) Report - Tell about what you did
- (5) Celebrate! Print certificates & order patches to commemorate your service!

Council Summer of Service Project

Saturday, August 28

Mark your calendars - Watch for more details in upcoming newsletters

For more information about the National program "Summer of Service"

go to <https://www.scouting.org/summerofservice/>





Upcoming OA Events:

Watch for Emails & Reminder Notices

- May 4 - LEC - Lodge Executive Committee Meeting

Order of the Arrow Details & Desserts

Ordeal Information Meeting

Saturday, May 29 - 8:00 am to 10:00 am

Scout Office - 2417 M Street

For more information or to schedule a visit:

Lodge Chief - Tucker Monaco - tucktuck712@gmail.com

Chapter Chief - Trystan Monaco - trystanmonaco@yahoo.com

Lodge Advisor - Bill Hurley - whurley6@icloud.com

Eagles Nest

- Congratulations to five new Eagle Scouts during the month of April! These scouts are members of Troops: 125, 136, 194, & 442, .
- If you have any questions or need assistance with the Eagle process please contact the Council Office for direction.



Questions about training or training requirements

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

Training News & Upcoming Courses

COUNCIL TRAINING COMMITTEE

We will be planning the Training Calendar for 2022 at the next Council Training Committee.

The Training Committee is the best opportunity to coordinate training for your unit's needs. Join us at Council Training Committee to give your input on training needed for your Unit, your leaders, and your scouts.

Who should attend:

- **ALL** Pack or Troop Committee Training Chair or Committee Chair
- 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.**

New Date - Next Meeting

Tuesday, **May 11, 2021** @ 6:30 pm

Location: Zoom

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



TRAINING ATTENDANCE PREREQUISITES

*For all in-person or virtual trainings, the following requirements **always** apply:*

- **All participants** must have Medical Forms A&B ([680-001_ABC.pdf \(scouting.org\)](#));
- Medical Form Part C for camping 72 hours+ and/or high adventure activity
- **Adult participants** must have current Youth Protection Training (taken during 2020 or 2021) - [My.Scouting.org](#)

WOOD BADGE



WOOD BADGE

Wood Badge is the premier **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.

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.

HURRY! Early Bird registration ends soon - ONLY \$260

2021 WB Registration Open Now

- [Tri-Council Wood Badge: August 27-29 AND October 1-2, 2021](#)

***Scholarships are available -
Ask your Pack/Troop,
Council, or Wood Badge
Course.***

Questions about Wood Badge:
Carolyn Forster,
cjforster1964@gmail.com
Maria Brown,
mariambrown614@gmail.com

BUILD YOUR CONFIDENCE IN
SCOUTING AND IN LIFE

**JOIN
WOOD BADGE
TODAY**

BEST SCOUT TRAINING YOU'LL EVER HAVE

SIGN UP HERE

WOODBADGE2021.COM

SPACE IS LIMITED TO 56 PARTICIPANTS

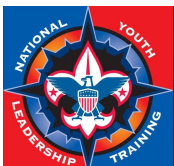
DON'T MISS OUT

Tri-Council Wood Badge

Long Beach - Southern Sierra - Verdugo Hills

National Youth Leadership Training

NYLT YOUTH PARTICIPANTS - REGISTRATION NOW OPEN



Course Dates: Monday, June 21 through Saturday, June 26

National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) will provide your youth leaders with leadership and team building skills to manage the troop/crew program. The course is organized to teach skills based on:

- A month in the life of a troop/crew, including patrol, unit and team meetings; program, and an outpost trip.
- Patrols/teams experiencing and observing the stages of team development.
- A toolbox of leadership skills including planning, conflict resolution, and evaluation.

Our objective is for the participants to return to their troops/crews with enthusiasm and ideas that will help make their job easier, more fun, and improve the units program and progress.

- Scouts BSA must be 13 years of age and earned First Class Rank
- Venturers must be 14 years of age and completed Officer Training by June 1st.
- Must be competent in Scout skills
- Must have participated in Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops (ILST) or Introduction to Leadership Skills for Crews (ILSC).

NYLT - Participant Info

Camp Hamilton - Needs Clean Up Day Help



There is a fundamental truth that gives us hope – that together we can do extraordinary things. Over the past year, the entire world has come together to stand up, to help out, to give back, and to heal.

Camp Hamilton has been a Pillar of Support for the Southern Sierra Council to help us keep the “Outing” in Scouting. We cannot say Thank You enough.

Camp Hamilton holds a Memorial Day Celebration annually and to prepare for the event, they are holding a clean-up day Saturday, May 15, 2021. Service is part of Scouting. Service goes beyond advancement requirements. If you can, please be Helpful by attending this cleanup event to give back to Camp Hamilton who has given us so much in our time of need.

SSC Backpacking Locations

Mt. Pinos Backpacking One Hour from Bakersfield

1. The Frazier Park – Mt. Pinos – Cerro Noreste – Piru River landscape allows scouts to drive to trailheads on Saturday morning or Friday night. Backpack from the Mt. Pinos parking lot to Cerro Noreste – Campo Alto with a one night stop over at Sheep Camp is an excellent easy get in shape first of the season backpack adventure.

Mt. Pinos elev. 8,831' – Cerro Noreste elev. 8,280' - Tuolumne Meadows Campground elev. 8,600'

2. Half Moon NFS camp is a great entry way to Stone House, Little Mutau and Sesepe Hot Springs and Fish Bowls.

3. From Gold Hill NFS camp head west one hour high above the Piru River to the first river crossing and stake your tent on a wide sandy bench – 20 scouts easily. Dennis Gagnon. 1991. *Hike the Santa Barbara Backcountry*. Santa Cruz. Western Tanager Press. 184p.

Safety Rule of Four – Guide to Safe Scouting

No fewer than four individuals (always with the minimum of two adults) go on any backcountry expedition or campout.

Casa Vieja – Sherman Pass Rd. - Kennedy Meadows – Hwy. 395

Casa Viejo Meadow is where Golden Trout dart under green grass banks and a scout peers in wonder if his drop line will catch one. This is a one hour backpack adventure from the trailhead which is East of the Blackrock Ranger Station where you fill out your Golden Trout Wilderness Permit. Blackrock is in the middle of the Kern Plateau on the Sherman Pass Rd accessible via the Kern River Road or Hwy. 395 turn West just north of the Ridgecrest exit. Suzanne Swedo. 2004. *Hiking California's Golden Trout Wilderness*. The Globe Pequot Press. 244p

Greg Etheridge – A big thank you to Greg for his service to Scouts.

Greg recently was trained and certified as an USA Archery Level II Instructor which means he can train Level I instructors to be a rangemaster for older scouts.

ARC Wilderness Survival First Aid – Greg also is now an ARC Wilderness Survival First Aid Trainer.

Which means these two much needed trainings can be accomplished right here in Bakersfield!

Kudos Greg

Jeremy Brown is the SSC Shooting Sports Chairman and a BSA Shooting Sports Director.

Randal Mapstead - SSC Camping Chairman

New Features on My.Scouting

My.Scouting.org is rolling out a new feature called "Position Manager" who has the power to change a leader's position without turning in a new application.

A new Position Manager tool, found on the Organization Manager page of My.Scouting, has been rolled out in the last few days. This new tool updates and replaces the current Organization Security Manager and gives any currently chartered unit the ability to change leader registrations without having to fill out applications and take them to the council office.

Position Manager will allow Chartered Organization Representatives and their designees to change any leader positions, except the Chartered Organization Representative, with the drag of the mouse. It will require an overnight sync, and then the new leadership position will be updated in the unit.

The assignment of functional assignments like Key 3 Delegates and Membership Chair can be done in Position Manager too. The attached Job Aid will illustrate the new tool and its features.



[Position Manager Job Aid](#)



USA Archery Level 1 - Level 2 Instructor Class
Saturday, May 15 to Sunday, May 16

Cub Scout Rangemaster Training
Saturday, May 15 - 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Tigermania
October 16, 2021

Council Pushmobile
Delayed until December 4, 2021

Leave No Trace Trainers Course
Coming in 2021

