

November 2021



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](#)

Be sure to select "View Entire Message" at the bottom of page one to see full newsletter

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



Orders can be emailed ahead to be pulled and have ready when you arrive. Email (Advancement reports and a PO) to Cindy Basham at cbasham3504@gmail.com
Shipping is available



SSC Program Committee Meeting

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4
6:30 pm via Zoom**

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.

Council Website & Calendar

www.sscbsa.org

Council Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/sscbsa>

Both are great ways to keep up with what's happening throughout the month and for the upcoming year.

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You shop. Amazon gives.

Council Office Contacts

(661) 325-9036

Scout Executive

Randy Saunders - Ext. 104
randy.saunders@scouting.org

Office Manager

Mary Castaneda - Ext. 108
mary.castaneda@scouting.org

Council Commissioner - General Support

Cindy Basham - Ext. 102
cbasham3504@gmail.com

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.



A BIG Spud THANK YOU!



Ten intense days of baking, preparing and serving potatoes wrapped up at the Kern County Fair in early October.

Thank you to all that volunteered their time and talents to bake & serve over 9,000 potatoes.

Gross sales were \$100,189 - potatoes will once again be a big spud success for Scouting.

Cub Scout Adventure Thank You!!



Thank you to Skye Fosdick & all the session leaders for an outstanding Outdoor Expo!

Thank you to Amy Swidecki & sidekick Miranda Swidecki, for another year of roaring fun at Lion's ROAR and at the "Tigers, Wolves & Bears...Oh My" overnighter at Tejon Old Headquarters. Thank you, Dewayne Marney for the excellent meals and the many staff members that made the activities what Scouting is supposed to be...Fun!

Popcorn Time - Final Stages



The Trail's End popcorn sale is entering its final stages. The last product order has been placed and the popcorn will be available to pick up from the Scout Office on November 19-20.

Online direct sales are still open for your Scouts. Scouts receive 1.5 rewards points for online direct and all credit card sales. You don't have to handle product or money (credit card payments) for online sales.

The Heroes patch honors firefighters this year. To earn this patch, Scouts need to collect at least \$100 in American Heroes donations. Scouts can continue to collect donations towards earning this patch until November 30.

Kernels (and leaders) of popcorn selling units, please review and complete the items on this checklist by November 30:

1. Pick-up final order on November 19-20. Randy will contact you to make arrangements.
2. Submit the Trails End Rewards prizes that your Scouts have earned online
3. Send Randy the # of Scouts that sold popcorn for participant patch
4. Send Randy the # of Scouts that earned the Heroes patch
5. Send Randy the name of the top selling Scout, and \$\$\$ sales total for that Scout, for top unit seller prize
6. Pay balance due to the Council

PLEASE COMPLETE ALL OF THESE ITEMS BY NOVEMBER 30, 2021.



There is still some popcorn available at the Scout Office for any unit or Scout that wants to sell.

Contact Randy at randy.saunders@scouting.org for availability and to make arrangements to pick up.

Be Thankful for Scouting - Donate Online

During this season of Thanksgiving, we all have so much to be thankful for right now. The rain we received last week was much needed. As Scouts and parents, we have many blessings to remember and honor. We live in an area that is within close proximity to many great locations for Scouting adventures. We have amazing Scouting leaders and volunteers that are committed to providing the best Scouting possible.



The Southern Sierra Council is an important component to the great Scouting experience we have to offer young people. The leadership and staff of the Southern Sierra Council are working hard to provide the resources and funds needed to keep Scouting alive and prospering in our area.

We need your help. Please consider making a donation to the Southern Sierra Council this month in honor of Thanksgiving. 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 and well in our area.

Thank you for your support!

Randy Saunders - Scout Executive

Growing Scouting Invite Your Friends to Join Any Time

Scouting is a full year program. Any week or season is a great time to do Scouting activities.

Scouts can earn badges all year long. So, Scouts can and should invite their friends to join them any time to participate



in their adventures. There are some excellent opportunities on your Pack or Troop's calendar for new families to discover what Scouting has to offer. Remember, new Scouts that join your group have parents that can potentially help as volunteers and eventually, leaders.

You should continue to encourage your current Scouts to invite their friends to attend den meetings, Pack activities, and Troop functions. We have incentives for our young recruiters listed below. Parents and leaders can also be part

of the recruiting team for your unit.

The Southern Sierra Council will offer the following incentives for your Scouts and parents. Please share these with your group:

- **Youth:** Invite another youth to join your Pack or Troop between June 1 and December 31. When the invited youth joins, the Scout will receive a special incentive.
 - Cub Scout youth: Pinewood derby car kit and patch
 - Scouts BSA youth: Pocket knife and patch
 - Newly recruited youth: patch
- **Parent, leader or any adult:** Invite a parent to bring their youth to join their Pack or Troop between June 1 and December 31. If the invited youth joins, the adult will receive a Starbucks gift card. If the invited youth's parent becomes a registered volunteer, the adult will get two Starbucks gift cards.

The Southern Sierra Council provides materials and resources to help your unit grow.

- Flyers - Customized for your unit & recruiting events
- Posters
- Yard Signs
- Social Media Promotion

Contact Randy or Cindy at the Scout Office for more information and to coordinate your recruiting efforts.

New Merit Badge - effective November 1 Citizenship in Society



On November 1, the Boy Scouts of America launched the Citizenship in Society merit badge, its newest merit badge for youth in the Scouts BSA program (ages 11-17).

In case you've heard rumors or seen early reports on this merit badge before its release, let us offer some clarity on what the Citizenship in Society merit badge is. All key facts and information about this merit badge can be found at www.scouting.org/dei. If you hear or read something about the merit badge that is not included on the above-mentioned site, then it's not connected to the merit badge.

What you will see in the information and approach surrounding this badge:

Like every other merit badge Scouts earn, this merit badge encourages Scouts to embark on a journey of discovery. In this case, it's a journey of self-discovery. They will explore a variety of topics around diversity, equity and inclusion, and they will discuss how they apply their findings to life as a Scout and good citizen in society.

Though we all come from differing backgrounds, in Scouting, our goals and commitments are the same. We all take the same Scout Oath, and we all follow the same Scout Law. This merit badge aligns with the Scout Oath and Scout Law, which collectively encourage Scouts to respect the beliefs of others, be kind and courteous, and help other people at all times.

What you won't see in the Citizenship in Society merit badge:

There is no merit badge booklet with prescribed approaches or ideologies. There are no requirements meant to drive a particular response or lead a Scout down a path toward a predetermined conclusion.

The Citizenship in Society merit badge wasn't developed by one person. In fact, the merit badge was

developed by multiple Scouting volunteers, youth, and professional staff working together. Just like every other merit badge, this one connects Scouts with a merit badge counselor who will help facilitate discussion with the Scout as they seek to further understand the topic and the world we live in.

The Boy Scouts of America has a commitment – both to developing a culture where every youth, volunteer, and employee feels a sense of belonging, and to building communities where every person feels respected and valued. The Citizenship in Society merit badge is an important initiative within that larger commitment.

We are grateful to all our volunteers who join us in partnering with families and communities to shape young people of high moral character with greater respect, empathy, and understanding of perspectives, including those different than their own. Thank you again for all you do to support Scouting. Your work is valued and appreciated.

Citizenship in Society Merit Badge

- Elective Merit Badge - Beginning November 1, 2021
- Eagle Required Merit Badge - Beginning July 1, 2022

How to Become a Citizenship in Society Merit Badge Counselor

- Indicate interest by submitting a "Merit Badge Counselor Information" form to the Council Office.
- Include with the form your background in the subject matter, experience, training & qualifications
- Complete an interview with the Council's DEI Chairman
- Register with the BSA in the position of Merit Badge Counselor (*if not currently*)
- Complete Citizenship in Society Merit Badge Counselor specific training
- Complete basic Merit Badge Counselor training (*if not previously completed*)

- Approved counselors must agree to actively serve on the Council's Diversity, Equality & Inclusion committee for the calendar year. (4 meetings per year)

- MBC service is for the calendar year only - Annual renewal is required.
 - New counselors will serve until 12/31/2022

2022 Pack/Troop Recharterers Due by Nov. 30

All Unit Key 3 have received the 2022 Recharter instructions plus documentation to reference during the process.

Reminders

- All adult leaders must have taken or renewed their Youth Protection Training in 2021
- All adult leaders must be 100% Position-Specific trained for each position they are serving
- All adult leaders must have a Criminal Background Check Authorization on file with the council. (these do not need to be resubmitted each year - only those missing the CBC form are needed to be scanned and uploaded to recharter system)
- No new application is needed annually for existing leaders/scouts in a pack or troop showing on the roster. Applications are only for those being added to the pack or troop roster during recharter. (New applications will be scanned and uploaded to recharter system).

Recharter Fee for 2022 - (Same as 2021)

- Youth - \$84 (National \$72 plus Council \$12)
- Adult or Explorer - \$60 (National \$45 plus Council \$15)
- Unit Charter Fee - \$75.00 per unit

Recharter System Opened - October 15, 2021

(Unit Key 3 have access)

Completed Recharterers Due - November 30, 2021



Hybrid General Topic Roundtable - for all leaders In-person & via Zoom

**Thursday, November 11
7:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Scout Office & Zoom**



Roundtables provide unit leaders with the skill to do and the will to do what is needed to ensure that every member of every unit has a great Scouting experience. They build upon the foundation provided by position-specific basic training and each leader's commitment to serving youth through Scouting.

Mark Your Calendar for Next Month
SPECIAL TOPIC ROUNDTABLE
Thursday, December 9

SCOUTS BSA Highlights

- New Merit Badge - Citizenship in Society
- Merit Badge Counselor Qualifications
- Guest Presenter - Council DEI Chairman, Mario Arribas
- Plus Shooting & Tools Safety

CUB SCOUT LEADER Highlights

- Activities Done Safely
- Age Appropriate Activities
- Know Your Guide to Safe Scouting
- Patriotic & Holiday Service

Zoom link will be sent to all Registered Leaders on Tuesday, November 9

Webelos Woods Webelos, AOL & Scouts BSA 4th & 5th Graders



SSCBSA PRESENTS:

WEBELOS WOODS 2021

*Seeking
Adventure!*

All WEBELOS and Arrow of Light Cub Scouts are invited to attend this Council-wide event. Here the Scouts will set up camp, work on Adventure Loops (listed below), participate in a camp-fire program and interfaith service.

WHEN: Check-In: Friday November 5, 2021 – Begins at 5PM - Follow Signs to Registration
Check-Out: Sunday, November 7, 2021 – 10AM – Assembly Area

WHERE: Gergen Ski Ranch – 10658 Round Mountain Road - Bakersfield

COST: Early-Bird: \$30 per person - October 1 – 18
Standard: \$40 per person - October 19 – November 4
Late/On-Site: \$50 per person - November 5

WHAT TO BRING: Dinner on Friday evening is to be provided by you/Pack. Please eat before camp or bring a sack dinner. There are no personal campfires or cooking areas allowed in camp. Also bring any/all camping gear: Tent, Sleeping Bag, Sleeping Pad, etc. Packs will camp together in the same area.

IMPORTANT: Each Pack is required to bring paper plates, cups and utensils for the 4 provided meals. This is to keep the cost down as well as save water that would be

used for dishes in the kitchen.

Additionally, please have a skit or song you would like to perform as a Den/Pack for the Saturday evening campfire.

QUESTIONS: Contact Camp Director David Kampa 661-703-2161
david.kampa1@gmail.com

ACTIVITIES TO INCLUDE: Archery, BB Gun, First Responder, Outdoor Adventurer, Scouting Adventure, Castaway, Into the Woods, and Campfire Programs!

To register, please visit <https://scoutingevent.com/030-51552>

Bakersfield Veterans Parade November 11, 2021



The council is sponsoring an entry in the Bakersfield Veterans Day Parade on Thursday, November 11. All packs & troops are invited to be a part of the entry.

This year's theme is "Veterans our Valued Treasures"

Final parade entry details will be received this week from the American Legion – please email Cindy Basham at cbasham3504@gmail.com if your pack/troop would like to participate.

Super Scouting Saturday



Three Outstanding Events—One Great Day of Scouting

December 4, 2021

Order of the Arrow
Lodge Leadership
Development
& Banquet

Cub Scout
Pushmobile

Scout Night
at the
Condors

2021 PUSHMOBILE RACES

Saturday December 4th, 2021

Location: Valley Baptist – Olive Drive Campus
5500 Olive Dr. 93308

*** Races occur in the WEST parking lot.

ALL Parking is in the EAST parking lot***

Check-in starts: 7:30am

Registration closes at 8:40 am

Races begin at 9am



REMEMBER AB Medical Form for everyone in attendance

**Early bird registration cost per racer \$5, on/or before by Nov. 19.
After 11/19/21 cost per racer is \$7**

Registrations accepted up to & including Race Day

REGISTRATION IS ONLINE ONLY (Except for Race Day)

Register at: <https://scoutingevent.com/030-51626>

(If not registered by 12/3/21 at 5:00pm you must bring registration form on Race day with cash or Check payable to BSA, No Exceptions)

No Refunds – Races are rain or shine

Snack Bar will be available before & during races.

Pushmobile Car & Race specifications being used for this Council event are available on the SSC website [HERE](#). Cars not meeting specifications will be permitted to race but will not be eligible for awards.

Questions – Call Event Chair: Brent Wuertz at 661-599-2487 or Council Staff Advisor: Randy Saunders at 661-325-9036

Order of the Arrow



Upcoming OA Events - OA Members:

Watch for Emails & Reminder Notices

- November 2 - LEC - Lodge Executive Committee Meeting - 7:00 pm - Scout Office (in-person)
- November 18 - Chapter meeting (*date change due to Thanksgiving holiday*)
- December 4 - LLD & Banquet

For more information:

Lodge Chief - Tucker Monaco - tucktuck712@gmail.com

Chapter Chief - Trystan Monaco - trystanmonaco@yahoo.com

Lodge Advisor - Bill Hurley - whurley6@icloud.com

Scout Night at the Condors



ONTARIO
PEIG
SATURDAY
DEC. 4
7:00PM
VS ONTARIO

FOR MORE INFO ABOUT YOUR GROUP EXPERIENCE USE THIS LINK

<https://condors.isportstix.com/order/group/boyscouts/>

It's that time of year again...

The Condors will be hosting Scouting families & friends

PLUS recognizing the winners of the 2021 Pushmobile Races.

Doors for the game open @ 6:00 pm – puck drops at 7:00 pm

Group Tickets – \$18.00 each (order deadline Friday, Dec. 3 at 5:00 pm)

Order online at <https://condors.isportstix.com/order/group/boyscouts/>

Silver Beaver Award Nominations

Deadline for Nominations – December 1 – 5:00 pm



The Silver Beaver Award is the council-level distinguished service award of the Boy Scouts of America. Recipients of this award are registered adult leaders who have made an impact on the lives of youth through service given to the council. The Silver Beaver is an award given to those who implement the Scouting program and perform community service through hard work, self sacrifice, dedication, and many years of service.

The Silver Beaver nomination form is available by going to the link below.

The nomination form and supporting information for the Silver Beaver award should be placed in a sealed envelope with "Silver Beaver Nomination" on the outside and either delivered to the Council Office – Attention: Cindy Basham or emailed to cbasham3504@gmail.com.

All nominations MUST be received no later than DECEMBER 1, 2021.

Nominations are confidential – please do not alert the nominee their name is being submitted for consideration.

The Silver Beaver award will be presented at the Council Volunteer Recognition Dinner on Saturday, January 29, 2022.

Silver Beaver Nomination Form

Eagles Nest

LIFE-TO-EAGLE WORKSHOP

Thursday, November 10 - 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm
Scout Office - 2417 M Street

Life Scouts, Parents and Leaders are invited to the Life to Eagle Workshop. This is an interactive workshop/seminar detailing the Eagle Rank process from project inception through preparation for the Eagle Board of Review

- If you have any questions or need assistance with the Eagle process please contact the Council office for direction.
- **Class of 2021 Eagle Scouts, Parents & Leaders - Mark your calendar for the March 24, 2022 Eagle Dinner.**
- Membership empowers Scouting's mission, protects the Eagle Scout legacy, and keeps alumni connected. Give your Eagle pride a purpose with membership in the National Eagle Scout Association (NESA).



Join NESA

Training Updates & Information



Questions about training or training requirements

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



COUNCIL TRAINING COMMITTEE
Tuesday, March 8 @ 6:30 pm on Zoom

We need your input! ALL Packs and Troops should have a representative at each Training Committee meeting.

- Get the latest information and updates on trainings affecting your unit.
- Answer questions about trainings.
- Get involved with presenting trainings.
- Make training a regular feature of your unit's overall commitment to bringing the best BSA programming for the youth and families.

Council Training meets 4x's per year: March, May, August, & September

Who should attend:

- **All units should have a representative at Training Committee.**
- **All Trainers, Unit Training Chair or Committee Chair, Commissioners, recent Wood Badge participants, and**
- **Anyone interested in training or the training schedule**



THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO COMPLETED THEIR YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING ON TIME THIS YEAR!

Youth Protection Training completed annually is a standard in Southern Sierra Council. All registered adults are required to complete YPT annually, before October 1st.



NYLT Youth Scholarship Ornaments

Since 2018 the Southern Sierra Council National Youth Leadership Training program has sold an annual \$10 ornament to fundraise scholarship money to ensure that no scout is denied the opportunity for lack of funds.

There are leftover stock from previous years and they are offering the current patch plus 2 from previous years for \$25, or complete

set for \$30.

Please support NYLT Scholarships and the youth training opportunity provided.

Contact Course Director, Maria Brown at mariambrown614@gmail.com to get your NYLT ornaments.

COORDINATORS & PRESENTERS NEEDED



- **BALOO - March 19-20**
- **EDGE - April 2**
- **IOLS - October 8-9**

Contact: Carolyn Forster, CJForster1964@gmail.com

Coordinator Responsibilities:

- Outdoor skills competence is not required.
- Current registration and YPT.
- Coordinate and gather a group of experienced Scouters to support presentations of trainings for attendees.
- Schedule and present 2 Staff Development meetings.
- Work with experienced coordinators available for guidance and best practices.
- Syllabus is already developed for these trainings; includes agenda outline, presentation descriptions, and timing.

Presenter Responsibilities:

- Knowledgeable and experienced with topic(s) to be presented.

- Current registration and YPT.
- Follow the scope of the BSA syllabus for the assigned training presentation.
- Bring associated presentation materials to enhance learning for the students.
- Syllabus and experienced coordinators available to assist you.



BASIC ADULT LEADER OUTDOOR ORIENTATION (BALOO)

Saturday, March 19 *THRU*
Sunday, March 20, 2022
(BALOO is an overnight camping learning experience)

All Cub Scout level leaders - BALOO training is **required** for Packs or Webelos/AOL Dens to be qualified to take Cub Scouts on outdoor activities and overnight campouts. BALOO training is only offered 1x per year in Southern Sierra Council.

PRE-REQUISITES:

- Registered leader or adult volunteer
- Youth Protection Training
- BALOO Introduction (My.Scouting.org)

Questions about BALOO?

Contact Carolyn Forster
 CJForster1964@gmail.com

(Registration & location to be announced soon.)

Volunteers are Priceless!



ADULT APPRECIATION LUNCHEONS

Saturday, March 12 - Ridgecrest

Saturday, March 26 - Bakersfield

We value all our volunteers for the many hours they give to making Southern Sierra Council and your Units have the best programming for the youth throughout the year.

Let's celebrate our adult volunteers at the annual Adult Appreciation Luncheon. (More information about time and location soon.)

Recognize your leaders for all they do for your unit. Check out all the BSA awards and see what you or your leaders qualify to earn. Many are based on tenure and activities you are already doing with your unit.

Leader Awards: <https://www.scouting.org/awards/awards-central/>

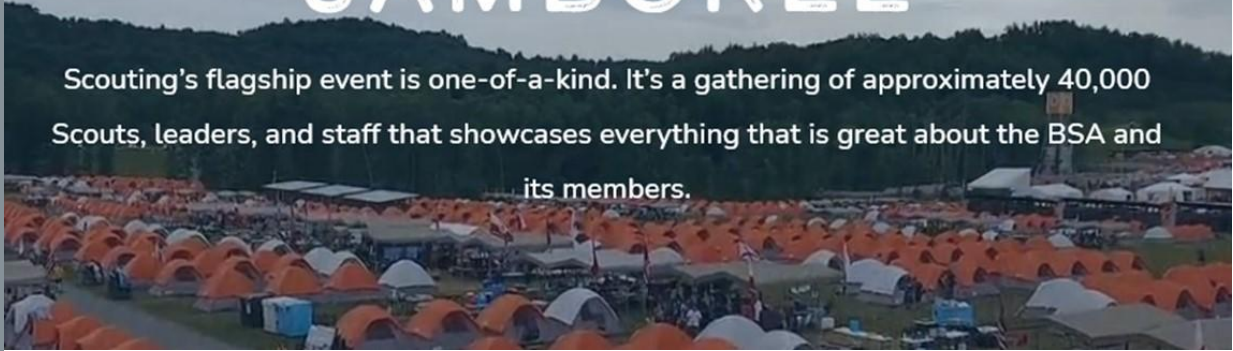
Recognize other volunteers in your Unit who go above and beyond but who are not in a specific position or may not even be in the BSA. People like your Treasurer or Camping Chair, the custodian who stays late at the school where you meet, or someone who donates time or things so your Unit can go and grow!

Watch for the **UNIT AWARD OF APPRECIATION** nomination link in the December issue of the newsletter. Start planning now the unit's nominations and submit by March 4, 2022.

Save The Date
2023 NATIONAL SCOUT JAMBOREE

NATIONAL JAMBOREE

Scouting's flagship event is one-of-a-kind. It's a gathering of approximately 40,000 Scouts, leaders, and staff that showcases everything that is great about the BSA and its members.



Scouts BSA - This is an experience of a lifetime.

July 19 - July 28, 2023

Bechtel Summit Reserve - West Virginia

Register your email at jamboree.scouting.org to receive updates as plans develop.

Southern Sierra Council will form a troop to attend - Watch these newsletters for more information on applying to attend with the SSC Contingent.

PROMOTIONAL VIDEO

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=veWwTG-gNUo>

Dates to Remember



Winter Extravaganza

January 8, 2022

Council Day of Service

February 5, 2022

Merit Badge Midway

March 5, 2022

Council Pinewood Derby

March 26, 2022

Camporall

April 29 - May 1, 2022