



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 - Plus forward to your unit families***



Award orders can be emailed ahead to be pulled and have ready when you arrive. Email (Advancement reports and a PO) to Mary Castaneda at [mary.castaneda@scouting.org](mailto:mary.castaneda@scouting.org)  
Shipping is available



### SSC Program Committee Meeting

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1  
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](http://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.

#### Council Office Contacts

(661) 325-9036

#### Scout Executive

Randy Saunders - Ext. 104  
[randy.saunders@scouting.org](mailto:randy.saunders@scouting.org)

#### District Executive

Cameron Hutton - Ext. 103  
[cameron.hutton@scouting.org](mailto:cameron.hutton@scouting.org)

#### Office Manager

Mary Castaneda - Ext. 108  
[mary.castaneda@scouting.org](mailto:mary.castaneda@scouting.org)

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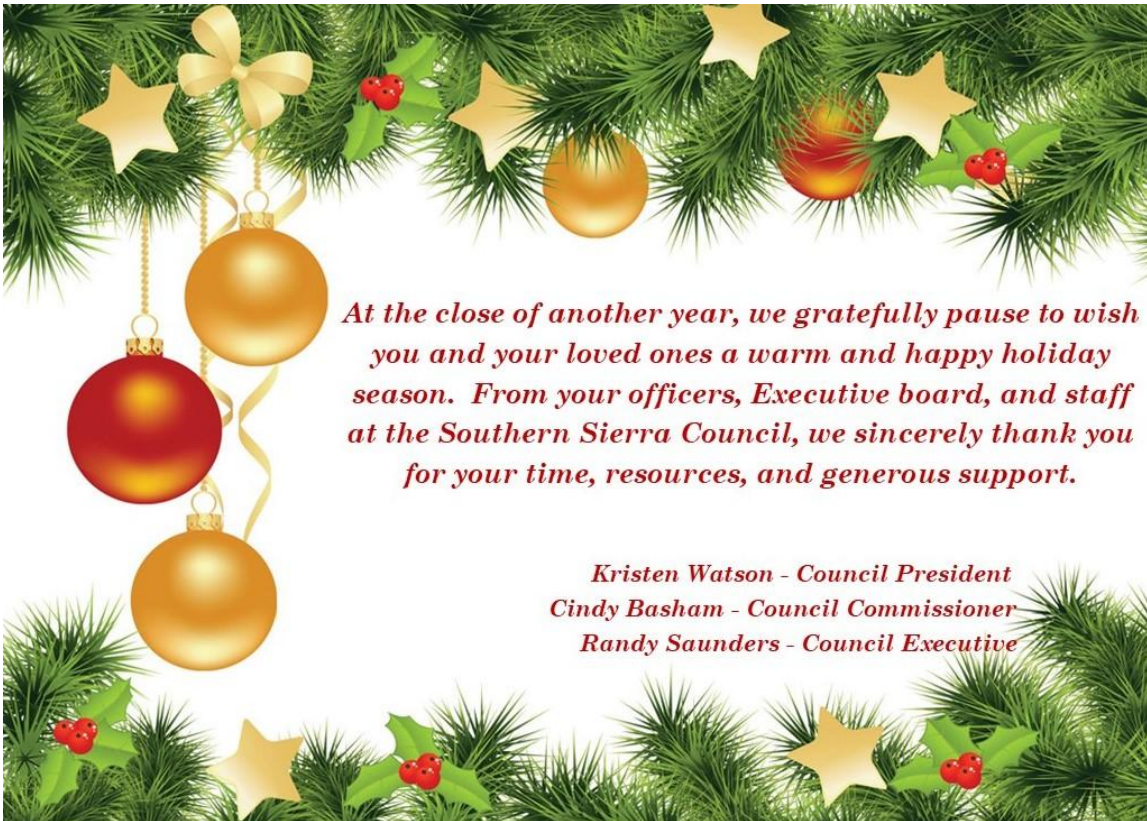
**Council Commissioner - General Support**  
Cindy Basham - Ext. 102  
[cbasham3504@gmail.com](mailto:cbasham3504@gmail.com)

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



## In the Spirit of the Season



**Great Scouting happens because of great  
Scouters and Volunteers!**



Lions Roar, an event for Kindergarten Cub Scouts and their parents, was held on Saturday, November 5 @ Westside Church of Christ. Ten Lions roared through a fun morning of activities and crafts. Special thank you to Amy Swidecki, who organized this wonderful event. Thanks also to Alanna Philbin-Way, Heather Howard, Nicole Saunders and Troop 194, who led the activity stations.

The morning of Saturday, November 5, at Westside Church of Christ included training for youth and adults. Thank you to the the Council Training Team! Den Chief Training was presented by Mario Arribas, Outdoor Ethics by Maria Brown and Youth Protection Training by Carolyn Forster.



Merit Badge Midway was also held on Saturday, November 5, at Westside Church of Christ. Over 80 Scouts attended sessions offered for six merit badges. The volunteer counselors for the merit badge were: Bill Bliss – Soil & Water Conservation, Carolyn Forster – Traffic Safety, Terry Godley – Radio, Cindy Basham – Safety, Brian Atwater & Rob Trost – Architecture, and David Kampa – Search & Rescue, with expert assistance from Kern County Search & Rescue’s Capt. Aaron Lynam, Lt. Stephani Irvine, EMT Nick Fuentez and EMT Scott Yadon. Thank you to everyone who spent their valuable time to teach skills to participating Scouts.

Special thanks to Dewayne Marney, the Council chef. Dewayne, with assistance from Irene Rodriguez, prepared and served lunch for the merit badge attendees and staff.



Dewayne then prepared lunch for the Veterans Day parade participants the following Friday with the help of Alanna Philbin-Way and Nathan Way.

Thank you Dewayne for the great meals!

We also recognize Rick Pierce and the Westside Church of Christ for allowing access and being awesome hosts for this great day of Scouting. Thank you Rick!

## The Joy of Giving

As we enter the last month of 2022, we are celebrating a year of growth in Scouting in the Southern Sierra Council. Our membership has grown by over 14% overall... including an incredible 38% increase in Cub Scouts! All of our activities and events saw larger participation this year.



Before we launch into the 2023 Scouting year, we need your generous help to close this year. The Southern Sierra Council continues to operate on a lean budget... A SCOUT IS THRIFTY. To continue to support and grow local Scouting, we need you. You can provide the gift of Scouting this holiday season.

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.

Please make a donation to the Southern Sierra Council this holiday season. 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!

# Popcorn for Sale - Great Stocking Stuffer



The Trails End Popcorn sale has wrapped up. Congratulations to all of the Packs, Troops, Scouts and volunteers that worked hard and sold over \$250,000 of popcorn this fall. The results for top sellers will be announced soon.

There is still a limited amount of popcorn available at the Scout Shop for sale. Popcorn is an excellent holiday gift item for co-workers, teachers, neighbors, and friends. AND buying popcorn helps support the Southern Sierra Council.

Here is a list of the items available right now. Once it's sold out, it is gone until next fall.

- Gift Box (Kettle Corn & White Cheddar) \$42
- Chocolatey Pretzels \$28
- Salted Caramel Corn \$25
- 18 pack Unbelievable Butter Microwave \$23
- White Cheddar \$23
- Blazin Hot \$23
- Kettle Corn \$23
- Popping Corn \$17
- Caramel Corn \$15

**Stop by today and pick up your favorites.**

## 2022 PUSHMOBILE RACES

Saturday, December 3, 2022



**Location: Valley Baptist - Olive Drive Campus  
5500 Olive Drive - 93308**

**\*\*\* Races occur in the WEST parking lot - ALL Parking is in the EAST parking lot \*\*\***

**Check-in: 7:30 am - 8:30 am - Races begin at 9:00 am**

**\$10.00 per racer**

**ONLINE REGISTRATION ONLY - Except on Race Day**

Register at <https://scoutingevent.com/030-pushmobile22>

Registrations accepted up to & including Race Day

(If not registered by 12/2/22 at 5:00 pm you must bring registration form on Race day with cash or check payable to SSC - BSA, No Exceptions)

**\*\*\* No Refunds - Races are rain or shine \*\*\***

**REMEMBER - AB Medical Form for everyone in attendance**

**These forms are required for participation**

**All racers must wear long pants, close-toed shoes & helmet to participate**

**Snack Bar will be available to purchase snacks before & throughout the event.**

Pushmobile Car & Race specifications being used for this Council event are available on the SSC website [SPECS](#).

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

## Scout Night at the Condors... Tickets are Still Available



Colorado Eagles  
vs  
Bakersfield Condors

Bakersfield Condors hockey action is back! So is Scout Night with the Condors.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, **December 3 @ 7:00pm**. Scouts attending the game will be able to participate in the fan tunnel welcoming the team onto the ice before the game. Scouts will also serve as the Colorguard during the National Anthem. Popcorn top sellers will also be recognized during intermission.

All Scouting families are welcome to participate in Scout Night with the Condors. Tickets for the Scouts section will be available for purchase and pick-up at the Scout Office (Thursday-Friday noon to 5:00pm). Cost is \$18 per ticket. The game starts at 7:00pm.

## Join the Badger Troop and Support Local Scouting

The Badger Troop is the Southern Sierra Council's recurring gift club. By contributing \$20 or more per month through your credit or debit card, you'll help provide a steady stream of support to the Council.



Recurring gifts are convenient. Over the course of the year, your small monthly donation becomes a significant contribution to making Scouting happen locally. The first 100 members will receive the special "charter member" patch.

Become a Badger today... click [HERE](#)

## Recharter Timeline & Membership Fees Due Online by Monday, December 5

### Unit Recharter 2023

All recharterers are to be completed in the Online Recharter System **no later than Monday, December 5**. This deadline has been extended to give one more meeting after Thanksgiving to collect money and finalize the 2023 roster. (Initial deadline was Nov. 30)

All money is due at the Scout office no later than Friday, December 9. Fees can be paid by check or credit card. **Do not pay online** - if the recharter requires adjustments there are no refunds and no way to adjust an online payment. If not able to deliver in person - You can call the office to make a credit card payment for the recharter or mail a check to arrive by Dec. 9. If recharter adjustments are made - the council will only submit to National the required fees and you will be notified the remainder will stay with the unit account at the office.

### Remaining Recharter Unit Timeline

**Stage 1** - Past due - Recharter Prep

**Stage 2** - Internet Recharter - Due Online by Dec. 5 (Unit updates roster, collects fees & submits online)

**Stage 3** - Council Process - Dec. 6 to Dec. 31 (Validates recharter & resolves defects)

Remember that everyone must have taken YPT in 2022.

All adults must be 100% trained in their position. Those remaining in the same position are already trained but anyone moving to a new position will need to be trained for that new position.

Be sure to turn in the unit's Journey to Excellence form for 2022 with payment. No paper copy of recharter needs to be turned in. JTE information and forms can be found here.

### **Recharter Fees for 2023**

- Youth - \$90 (National \$75 plus Council \$15)
- Adult - \$60 (National \$45 plus Council \$15)
- Scout's Life - \$15 per year
- Unit Recharter Fee - \$100 per unit

2023 Online Recharter User Guide

If you have any questions or need assistance with the unit recharter please contact your Unit Commissioner or Council Commissioner, Cindy Basham (cbasham3504@gmail.com).

## **Attend Scout Leader Roundtable by Zoom**



Providing 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.

**Thursday, December 8, 2022  
7:00 pm to 8:00 pm  
via Zoom**

**Zoom link will be sent to all registered Scouters on Tuesday, December 6.**

### **What is Roundtable?**

Roundtable is a monthly program that gives leaders up-to-date information on National & local Scouting and provides a forum for leaders to offer and receive help from their fellow Scouters.

### **Who should attend?**

Everybody! Roundtable is designed for all leaders – Venturing Crew Advisers, Scoutmasters, Cubmasters, Webelos Leaders, Committee Members, Assistant Scoutmasters, Den Leaders, Commissioners; every scouting position has a place at Roundtable. Whether you've been in Scouting for 40 years, or just signed up last week, Roundtable has a lot to offer you.

### **Why should I go?**

Because Roundtable is by, for, and about YOU, unit leaders, committee members and commissioners! Roundtable is loaded with ideas, discussion, and demonstrations of all kinds. Got a particular problem you just can't work out? Come to Roundtable and ask the group – draw on the years of Scouting experience made available just for you.

## **Council Jamboree Contingent Fundraiser**



**Support the Council Jamboree  
contingent by dining at  
Panda Express - All Locations**

**Thursday, December 15, 2022**

## [Panda Express Fundraiser link](#)

Online Ordering Only at any Panda Express ALL DAY  
use online order code 910030

Enjoy delicious food in a fun atmosphere along with your family and friends while earning funds in support of the Council's Jamboree Contingent.

**Share the link with your family and friends - available nationwide**

**With each order using the above order code on Dec. 15, Panda Express will donate 28% of sales to the Jamboree contingent.**

for other Jamboree fundraising information go to:

<https://sscbsa.org/camping/national-scout-jamboree/>

## Order of the Arrow



### Upcoming OA Events - OA Members:

Watch for Emails & Reminder Notices - Be sure to sign up for events.

- December 17 - LLD - Lodge Leadership Development - 8:30 am to 7:30 pm - 35118 McMurtrey Ave - 93308 - Cost \$20

[Info & Registration for LLD](#)

All youth OA members interested in a youth leadership role in the lodge (Chief / Vice Chief / Secretary) are strongly encouraged to attend all of these events.

Questions:

Contact Lodge Advisor - Chuck Monaco at (661) 303-8636 or [cmonacoscouts@gmail.com](mailto:cmonacoscouts@gmail.com) or Lodge Chief - Aiden Moore at (661) 535-9238

## Eagles Nest

- If you have any questions or need assistance with the Eagle process please contact the Council office for direction.
- 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 at <https://nesa.org/>



- **Class of 2022 Eagle Scouts, Parents & Leaders - Mark your calendar for Thursday, March 16 for the 2023 Eagle Dinner**

### LIFE-TO-EAGLE WORKSHOP

**Thursday, January 19 - 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

## Silver Beaver Nominations Due

Thursday, December 1, 2022 by 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 at the link shown 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](mailto:cbasham3504@gmail.com).

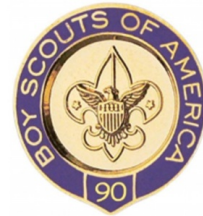
All nomination MUST be received no later than DECEMBER 1, 2022.

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 28, 2023.

[Silver Beaver Nomination Form](#)

## Council Volunteer Recognition Dinner Saturday, January 28, 2023



**You are Cordially invited to the  
SOUTHERN SIERRA COUNCIL**

**Annual  
Volunteer Recognition Dinner**

**Saturday, January 28, 2023  
Hodel's Country Dining - 5917 Knudsen Dr. -  
Bakersfield**

**Doors open 5:30 pm --- Program begins 6:00 pm**

**Individual Tickets - \$35.00**  
**Sponsored Table for Eight - \$260.00**  
**Online Reservations - Click [HERE](#)**

This annual event recognizes Scouts, Scouters, and Community Leaders who give outstanding service to the Scouting movement along with units for their council support.

The highlight of the evening, the Silver Beaver - the council level distinguished service award of the Boy Scouts of American. It is considered the highest award a Boy Scout council can bestow upon a volunteer Scouter. The Silver Beaver Award is given to individuals who, through hard work, self-sacrifice, dedication and many years of service, have evidenced exceptional service to the BSA, service of exceptional character to non-Scouting youth, and service or standing within the community.

Again this year we will be recognizing Scouting Veteran Leaders--from 5 years to 90 years. If 2022 was a 5-year milestone for your or a fellow leader, please submit a Veteran Award Application. Applications should be submitted to the Scout Office no later than January 15, 2023. Veteran Award Application is available at the registration page shown above.

Silver Beaver Boosters are encouraged to donate in support of the Silver Beaver award. Donation can be made on the reservation page.

## Cub Scout - Winter Extravaganza



**Saturday, January 21, 2023**  
**9 am - 12 pm**  
**Check-in starts at 8:30 am**

First Presbyterian Church - 1705 17th St. (corner of H & Truxtun)  
*Event is in the gym - located at the west end of the parking lot*

Come join us for a fun filled morning of winter themed crafts, skits, songs, and activities! We'll have plenty of fun for ALL Cub Scouts.

Bring a bag of canned food items, and receive a patch!

Registration opens online December 15 at <https://scoutingevent.com/030-WE>

Cost is \$5.00 per scout - **Deadline for registration is Thursday, Jan. 19.**

ALL Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Leaders & Family Members on site MUST turn in an "AB medical" form

## Council Day of Service

**Be a part of Day of Service on**  
**Saturday, February, 4, 2023!**

The goal of Day of service is to maximize Scouting's service to Kern, Inyo & Mono counties by consolidating a variety of service projects, chosen by our Scouts and Scout leaders. Put simply, we are asking you to set aside at least two hours the first Saturday of February for you

and your scouts to make a difference in your neighborhood or community.



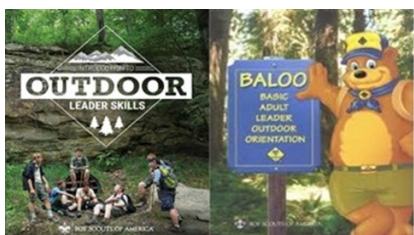
### Special 2023 "Day of Service" Patch

Units that record their project in Scoutbook and email the report form to [cbasham3504@gmail.com](mailto:cbasham3504@gmail.com) by Friday, February 10 will earn a patch for each Scout/leader who participated.

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

*Day of Service Report form will be available in the February newsletter.*

## Spring Training Courses



**BALOO** or **IOLS**\*

**March 25 thru 26, 2023**

**Desert Empire Fairgrounds**

**520 S. Richmond Road, Ridgecrest**

*\*Overnight camping is required to complete either course.*

***Registration coming soon.***

**NEEDED: A few experienced volunteers to help present scouting skills to adult leaders**

### CONTACT:

Carolyn Forster, Course Director  
[CJForster1964@gmail.com](mailto:CJForster1964@gmail.com)

Adult trainings to learn outdoor skills needed for Cub Scout outdoor events/overnight camping or trail-to-first class skills for Scouts BSA Troop.

### **Who should attend:**

- **BALOO** - Any registered adult volunteer to help the Pack be able to go on outdoor activities and overnight campouts.
- **IOLS** - Any registered adult to assist with trail-to-first class scouting skills; required training for Scoutmaster/Assistant Scoutmaster positions.

### CONTACT:

Carolyn Forster, Course Director  
[CJForster1964@gmail.com](mailto:CJForster1964@gmail.com)



### **What is Trainer's EDGE?**

**Trainer's EDGE** helps develop skills for effective communication and presentation. Learn techniques to engage your audience, enhance your presentation, and gain confidence in your delivery. Trainer's EDGE

'trains the trainer' to practice using presentation behaviors and resources in a safe, positive, hands-on training experience.

- **Recommended for:** Council, District, and Unit Trainers, Youth\* and Adult Leaders
- **Required for:** Wood Badge staff

*\*Scouts BSA in attendance may also complete Public Speaking Merit Badge & start Communication Merit Badge.*

### **TRAINER'S EDGE**

**Saturday, April 15, 2023**

**8:00 am to 4:00 pm**

**Scout Office - 2417 M Street - Bakersfield**

**Registration coming soon.**

**Pre-course Presentation Assignment:** Participants have a "pre-class assignment" to complete the course. Please prepare an 8-10 minute training presentation on any topic from any BSA material. You can design your own or choose one from an existing BSA training.

Your presentation should allow you to demonstrate the skills of a trainer. As a part of the afternoon program, you will make your presentation to a small group of other participants. Part of this course provides an opportunity for us all to learn from each other!

Course Director  
Carolyn Forster  
[CJForster1964@gmail.com](mailto:CJForster1964@gmail.com)





## ADULT RECOGNITION LUNCHEONS

- **Bakersfield – Saturday, March 4**
- **Ridgecrest – Sunday, March 26**

**Registration coming soon.**

Everyone is invited to the annual Adult Recognition Luncheons in March. Invite your entire unit to attend the luncheon and appreciate all the leaders and volunteers who give up their time, talents, and treasures to make your unit grow and go!

Now is the time to request your Leader Knots and Awards to your unit's Award Chair. Your time and commitment to your scouts and families is valuable and we want to honor you! Show your growth in the BSA program by receiving your knots and awards at the annual Adult Recognition luncheon. (See links to adult awards below.)

**DISTRICT AWARD OF MERIT:** This is the highest honor a District can award to a volunteer. Who are those volunteers who have stepped up to take on an event for scouts or leaders at any level.

NOMINATIONS: Submit nominations to Cindy Basham for this important recognition.

**VOLUNTEER AWARDS:** Recognition is not just for specific positions. All volunteers are valuable. You or your unit can recognize anyone who has volunteered time to your scouts and unit with our Council's 'Unit Award of Appreciation'. There is no limit to nominate anyone and everyone who has volunteered with your unit, registered or not, to be recognized at the luncheon.

### LEADER AWARDS & KNOTS:

Adult Awards & Recognition:

<https://www.scouting.org/programs/cub-scouts/what-cub-scouts-earn/adult-awards-and-recognition/>

Adult Recognition for Exceptional Service:

<https://www.scouting.org/programs/cub-scouts/what-cub-scouts-earn/adult-awards-and-recognition/adult-recognition-for-exceptional-service/>

Awards Central:

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



## COUNCIL TRAINING COMMITTEE

**Tuesday, March 7 @ 6:30 pm**

**Zoom: ID: 314 211 1129 Password: 928897**

### Why should I attend this committee?

Training doesn't happen by magic or accident; nor is it created by a single person. It takes planning and input from ALL the units to ensure the training needed is offered timely and is engaging for all

participants. Your voice and volunteer time is needed to provide the best training for all adults throughout our Council. **Training is a vital part of your unit's growth, succession planning, and member retention.**

**Anyone can represent your unit at the Committee meetings** – Please assign someone who isn't otherwise engaged in your unit activities to attend the 4 meetings per year.\*

**Who should attend:**

- **Trainers**
- **Committee Chair** or **Committee Training Chair** (\*If you don't have these positions currently filled – any volunteer in your unit may attend to take notes)
- **Unit Commissioners**
- **Wood Badge participants and staff**

## Dates to Remember



**March 4, 2023**

Merit Badge Midway  
Council Pinewood Derby

**April 28 - 30, 2023**

Camporall  
Order of the Arrow Callout Ceremony

Southern Sierra Council | 2417 M Street, Bakersfield, CA 93301

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