

November 2025



Scouting America

Southern Sierra Service Area of the Golden Empire Council

Keeping you up to date with what is happening in local Scouting.

[Visit the Service Area Website](#)

[Visit the Golden Empire Council Website](#)

Be sure to select "View Entire Message" at the bottom of page one to see full newsletter - Plus forward to your unit families
NEW INFORMATION ALL THE WAY TO THE LAST PAGE!!



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

Council Website & Calendar

www.sscscouts.org

Council Facebook Page

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

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

Service Area Upcoming Dates *(See articles below for details)*

- Nov. 1 -Outdoor Expo - Lion's ROAR, Leave No Trace, Safeguarding Youth Training, Merit Badge Midway
- Nov. 9 - NRA RSO class
- Nov. 11 - Veterans Day Parade
- Nov. 12 - Eagle Workshop
- Nov. 13 - Roundtable - Renewing Your Unit for 2026.
- Nov. 15 - Jamboree Day Hike
- Nov. 20 - Jamboree Troop Meeting
- Nov. 27-28 - Office Closed
- Dec. 1 - Condors Tickets on Sale
- Dec. 5 - Popcorn invoices payments due
- Dec. 5 - Popcorn Council Prize Orders due
- Dec. 6 - Pushmobile
- Dec. 13 - Personal Mgmt Session 2
- Dec. 18 - OA Xmas Party
- Dec. 20 - Scout Night at the Condors
- Dec. 24-25 - Office Closed
- Dec. 31 - Scout Expo Registration Deadline
- Dec. 31 - Trading Post closed for inventory



Scout Office & Trading Post Hours

**Monday to Friday
12 pm to 5 pm**



The office & trading post be closed on Thursday, November 27 & Friday, November 28 to celebrate the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Scout Office Contacts

(661) 325-9036

Field Director

Alan Young - Ext. 104

(408) 564-3385

alan.young@scouting.org

District Executive

Cameron Hutton - Ext. 103

(661) 428-0382

cameron.hutton@scouting.org

Council Commissioner - General Support

Cindy Basham - Ext. 102

(661) 319-3954

cbasham3504@gmail.com

cindy.basham@scouting.org



Welcome Alan!

Alan Young

Field Director, Golden Empire Council

Alan Young has been actively involved in Scouting since his days as a Cub Scout in Southern California. A proud **Eagle Scout, Silver Beaver, and Order of the Arrow Vigil Honor** member and **Founder's Award** recipient, Alan has dedicated his life to developing leaders and strengthening Scouting programs at every level.

He began his professional Scouting career in 1997 with the **Catalina Council** in Southern Arizona, where he partnered with volunteers to revitalize the council's **Scoutreach** program—an initiative later featured in the **2003 Boy Scouts of America Annual Report**. Over the years, Alan has served in a variety of key staff advisor roles across several councils, including **Santa Clara County, Mt. Diablo Silverado, and the Golden Gate Area Council**, before joining the **Golden Empire Council**.



Alan and his field service teams have consistently excelled in **membership growth, unit development, and fundraising success**. His most recent team of four District Executives was recognized as the **top-producing group in the Golden Gate Area Council** at the close of 2023.

A passionate trainer and mentor, Alan has shared his expertise through numerous **training and leadership development programs**, including **NYLT, Kodiak, and BALOO**. He has directed or

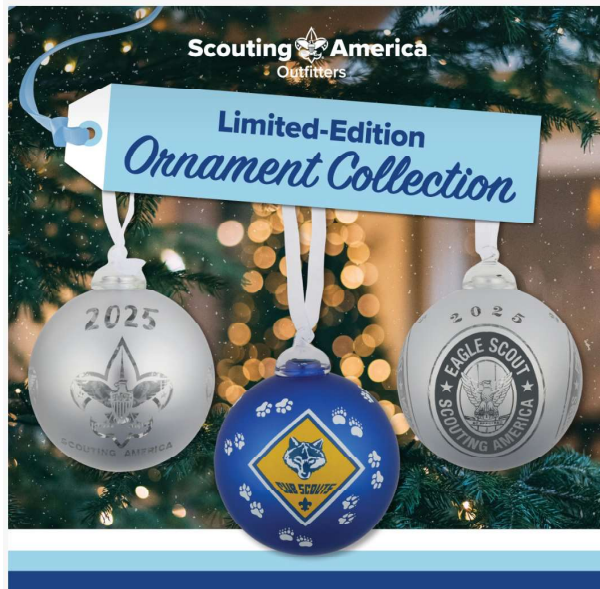
advised multiple **Cub Day Camps**, **Cub Resident Camps**, and **Scouts BSA Summer Camps** for more than a decade.

Nationally, Alan has served on the staff of **six National Jamborees**, **six National Order of the Arrow Conferences**, and **one World Scout Jamboree**. He also served as **Vice President of SOSSI (Scouts on Stamps Society International)**.

Alan earned dual **B.S. degrees in Physics and Mathematics** from **Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo**, and an **M.S. in Atmospheric Sciences** from the **University of Arizona**. In his free time, he enjoys spending time outdoors, solving Sudoku puzzles, and playing baseball and chess.

In his current role, Alan provides leadership as **Field Director of the Southern Sierra Service Area**, which serves the **Tejon District in Kern, Inyo, and Mono Counties**. His experience and leadership will be invaluable as we continue to grow Scouting throughout Central California.

Available NOW at the Scout Office



- Eagle Scout 2025 Etched Glass Ornament
- Cub Scout Paws Etched Glass Ornament
- Scouting America 2025 Fleur-de-Lis Etched Glass Ornament

\$14.99 Each

It's a Team Effort

Thank You to all that made the campouts happen!!



A GREAT TIME WAS HAD AT GERGEN!!

October was the month for campouts. The weekend of October 11 was the Webelos/AOL Adventure Camp. Webelos and Arrow of Light scouts and their parents enjoyed a beautiful weekend of Scouting Adventures.

Thank you to Troop 194 for chairing the campout and to all the troops that planned and executed the adventure action!

The next weekend Tigers, Wolves & Bears, along with their parents, enjoyed an overnight experience with a campfire, rockets, hiking, astronomy, and more.

Thank you to Amy Swidecki and her team who led Tigermania; to hike leader,

Alexander Tindell; Rocketeer, Cameron Hutton; Registrars Alanna Philbin-Way & Gayle Achuff; and to Cindy Basham, Kim Keith & Bella Maness for providing the adventures for the Wolves & Bears!

For both events, Range & Target team, Jeremy Brown, James Avery & Ross Keith kept the BB & Archery activities moving, and to Dewayne Marney who provided meals for all. Thank you for your continued support of these events!



2025 Cub Scout Pushmobile Saturday, December 6, 2025 Check-in Opens 7:30 am - Races Begin 9:00 am



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

Register online at: <https://www.scoutingevent.com/030-PM25>

**EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION COST IS \$8 PER RACER ON OR BEFORE NOV. 25.
AFTERWARDS COST IS \$10 PER RACER**

Online Registration will close on December 5th
Registrations accepted up to & including Race Day
(if not registered by 12/05/25 @ 5:00 pm you must bring registration fees and register at the tent on Race day with cash or Check payable to Southern Sierra Council
No Refunds - Races are rain or shine

*****Races occur in the WEST parking lot.**

Check-in: 7:30 am- 8:30am for Walk-ins
Registration closes at 8:30am, Races begin at 9:00am

**SNACK BAR WILL BE AVAILABLE BEFORE AND DURING RACES FOR DRINKS/SNACKS
New Mini Pancakes**

REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR MEDICAL A/B FORMS

Pushmobile Car & Race specifications being used for this Council event are available on the SSC website at www.sscscouts.org. Cars not meeting specifications will be permitted to race but will not be eligible for awards.

Questions: Event Chair - Brent Wuertz at (661) 599-2487 or bdogsf49@gmail.com

NEW FOR PARENTS

Safeguarding Youth Parents Video

SYT Parent Video

Scouting America Introduces Safeguarding Youth Parents' Guide Video

Safeguarding our youth is everyone's responsibility.

As Scouting America continues to invest in prevention efforts, we have recently introduced this Parents' Guide video, which will also be sent directly to the parents of new members.

With this new asset, we aim to share key aspects of our Safeguarding approach with new parents while encouraging them to take the full Safeguarding Youth Training and join the journey with their child.

This video doesn't replace the written Parent Guides but instead acknowledges that people absorb information in different formats.

Please watch it, share it with your parents and volunteers, and encourage them to share it with their own networks.

As Scouting America's Chief Safeguarding Officer, Glen Pounder plays a pivotal role in leading the assessment and oversight of all youth safeguarding activities nationwide. His responsibilities include policy formulation, training, liaison with the National Executive Board, strategic planning, external partnerships, and legislation.



2026 National Scout Jamboree

AN EPIC EVENT WITH 20,000 FRIENDS



Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia

- 15,000 Scouts, Leaders & Service Team
- Zipline - one of the longest in North America
- World-Class Skate Park
- ATV Offerings
- Treetop Canopy Tours
- Rock Climbing
- Water Activities
- Patch Trading
- Stadium Shows
- and more...

Jamboree is less than 9 months away.



Jamboree Troop Meeting

Thursday, November 20 - 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm
Stine School - 4300 Wilson Road



Jamboree Staff Needed: There are also opportunities for volunteers to participate at the National Scout Jamboree as a member of the Jamboree Service Team. More information about Jamboree Service Team can be found at www.jamboree.scouting.org under the JST/Staff tab.

JAMBOREE TROOP MEMBERS -
Hart Memorial Park Southern Loop trail

This is a 3.3 mile hike along the Hart Memorial Park Southern Loop trail. We will be meeting at the parking area next to the Sheriff's Pistol Range.

Date: November 15th, 2025

Start Time: 10 AM

Location: Mirror Dr, Bakersfield, CA

All participants are required to bring a copy of their Annual Health and Medical Record (AMHR) parts A and B of their medical forms, and a water bottle.

Sign up here: <https://forms.gle/MttGXmGDxf31HzNg8>

POPCORN! POPCORN! POPCORN!



One hundred sixty nine scouts have sold \$265,143 in popcorn so far this year - and we're not done selling yet!

All unit invoices are to be paid in full by Dec. 5. Units that do so will receive a 3 percent bonus.

Deadline to submit council prize orders is also Dec. 5.

Scouts Night at the Condors is Saturday, Dec. 20 - popcorn sellers will receive special recognition at that game.

Along with Trail's End Rewards, there are some excellent local prizes that Scouts can earn. Unit Kernels will receive reminders to submit prize orders.

- All Scouts that sell at least one item receive a popcorn patch.
- Any Scout that collects at least \$100 in Heroes and Helpers donations will receive the special Heroes shoulder patch.
- Any Scout that sells at least \$1,000 in popcorn will receive two tickets to "Scout Night at the Condors game on Saturday, December 20. There will also be special opportunities and recognition at the Condors game.
- Any Scout that sells at least \$2,500 in popcorn will receive a \$200 gift card from Amazon, Walmart or the Scout Shore.

Scout Night at the Condors

Saturday, December 20 @ 7 pm



On Saturday, December 18, Southern Sierra scouts and their families will flock to the Bakersfield Condors game for an evening of hockey and fun.

We will also be recognizing our amazing popcorn selling Scouts at the game, too. Scouts that sold at least \$1,000 in popcorn have earned two tickets to the game.

Additional tickets for the Scout section of the arena are available for purchase online.

[Order Condors Tickets Here](#)

**Deadline to get tickets for this seating section is Sunday, December 7 at 11:59pm,
Cost for tickets is \$20.00 each.**

The game starts at 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 Color guard during the National Anthem. Popcorn top sellers will be recognized on the scoreboard during intermission. Following the game, scouts will be able to be part of the group photo on the ice.

Units and families will be seated together. Tickets will be available from your unit representative starting Monday, December 8 (noon to 5pm)

Membership/Recruiting

Peer-to-Peer Recruiting

Scouts - Recruit a friend to join Scouting

Once the new recruit is registered the original scout will receive a SSC Recruiter Patch & a recruiter strip for their uniform.

In addition, the original scout will receive one of the following:
 Cub Scouts will receive the lantern/fan combo
 Scouts BSA will receive a pair of Scouting binoculars



**Unit Leaders - Contact
 Cindy at the Council
 office to receive
 recognition items for the
 Scout & new recruit.**



Congratulations to scouts from Packs 25, 33, 341 & 413 for recruiting a new scout!!

Now is the time to invite new families to join the adventure of Scouting!

Whether you're a leader or a parent, you play a key role in growing your unit and sharing the fun.



2026 Scouting Year is Rapidly Approaching

Effective November 1, 2025, in addition to the national registration fees, the updated council fees for new and renewing members will be:

Golden Empire Council 2025-2026 Annual Membership Fees			
	National	Council	Total Annual Fees
Participants K-20 years of age Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing, Sea Scouts	\$85/YR	\$80/YR	\$165/YR
All Registered Adult Volunteers (Volunteers with multiple registrations only pay once)	\$65/YR	\$60/YR	\$125/YR
All Exploring Youth and Adults	\$50/YR	\$20/YR	\$70/YR
Merit Badge Counselors (Who are not already a registered volunteer)	\$25/YR	\$25/YR	\$50/YR
Scout Life Magazine Fee (Optional)	\$15/YR	\$0	\$15/YR

To keep Scouting accessible for all families, we're introducing **flexible payment options**. When registering or renewing online, you can now choose quarterly or monthly installments. Making the monthly youth registration cost as low at \$15.26 per month

UNIT RENEWAL FEE

\$100/yr

For all new and existing units.

SCOUT LIFE MAGAZINE FEE



\$15/yr



Roundtable for all Leaders

Member & Unit Renewal Process

Thursday, November 13 - 7:00 pm

Scout Office - 2417 M Street (there will also be a zoom option)



Hot Topic: It's That Time - Unit and Member Renewal

Guest Speaker - Paul Helman

Unit Recognition Program

Are you the person responsible for renewing your unit?

This is the meeting for you - be familiar with the process to make renewing your unit easy for you & renewing your members easy for them.

Badgers Make Important Contributions to Southern Sierra Scouting



Change the Lives of Future Leaders!

Cub Scouts and Scouts BSA learn to be prepared for every challenge. Investing enables Southern Sierra's Scouts to continue growing in the skills that prepare them for life.

Give a gift to Scouting to help change the lives of future leaders.

Join the Southern Sierra Badger Troop - Southern Sierra's recurring gift club.

By contributing \$20 or more per month by credit or debit card, you'll help provide a sustainable funding source for local Scouting programs.

Recurring gifts are a convenient way to support Scouting in our community. Over the course of the year your monthly donation becomes a significant contribution to making Scouting happen.

To join the Badger Troop, click this link
<https://donations.scouting.org/#/council/030/appeal/5374>

Advancement News

New Merit Badges - Counselors Needed

Artificial Intelligence and Cybersecurity Merit Badges



Scouting is stepping boldly into the digital age with the release of its two newest merit badges — Artificial Intelligence and Cybersecurity — now available for Scouts to begin earning!

Artificial Intelligence Merit Badge

This exciting new badge introduces Scouts to the rapidly evolving world of AI. Scouts will explore how AI systems work, where they're used in everyday life, and the ethical responsibilities tied to their development and use. From machine learning to real-world applications, this badge challenges Scouts to think critically about technology's future — and their role in shaping it.

Cybersecurity Merit Badge

Focused on digital safety and responsibility, the Cybersecurity badge equips Scouts with essential skills to navigate today's online world securely. Scouts will learn about protecting personal data, identifying cyber threats, and understanding how to be safe and smart in a connected world.

These new merit badges reinforce Scouting's mission to prepare youth with the knowledge and skills they need for the future.

If you have the expertise to be a counselor for one or both of these new badges please submit a Merit Badge Information form to Cindy at the Scout office.

Eagle Nest

- If you have any questions or need assistance with the Eagle process, please contact the Council office for direction.

- Give your Eagle pride a purpose with membership in the National Eagle Scout Association (NESA). Membership empowers Scouting's mission, protects the Eagle Scout legacy, and keeps alumni connected. . Join NESA at <https://nesa.org/>



LIFE-TO-EAGLE WORKSHOP

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Scout Office - 2417 M Street

Online Registration Now Open:

https://www.scoutingevent.com/030-EagleWS_Nov25

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.

Order of the Arrow



Continuing Fellowship on the Scouting Journey.

Nov. 20 - LEC - 7pm

Scout Office (3rd Thursday due to Thanksgiving)

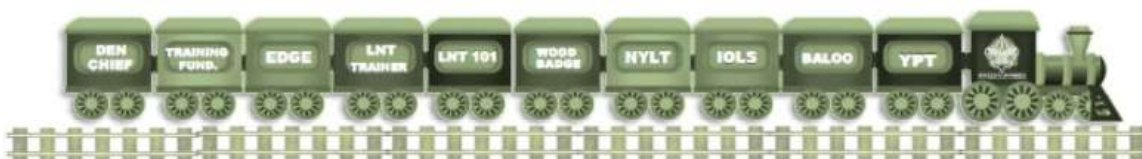
YOWLUMNE Lodge

The **Order of the Arrow (OA)** is the honor society of Scouting America composed of Scouts and Scouters who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives as elected by their peers

Questions:

Contact Lodge Advisor - Chuck Monaco at (661) 303-8636 or cmonacoscouts@gmail.com or Lodge Chief - Talen Monaco at (661) 525-6586 or T3Monaco@gmail.com.

Training News & Resources



S.A.F.E. Guarding Youth Training (SYT)

Youth Protection Training (YPT)



is now known as -

S.A.F.E. Guarding Youth Training (SYT)

Everyone: Get a head start NOW to complete your annually required SAFEGuarding Youth Training.

YPT or SYT taken during 2025 is required for membership renewals.

[My.Scouting.org](https://my.scouting.org) *

(You can take SYT at [My.Scouting.org](https://my.scouting.org) any time during the calendar year. It will not be "assigned" to you in the system.)

- **RECOMMENDED** for ALL adults even if you are not registered.
- **REQUIRED** for ALL registered adults annually.

SSC SYT POLICY: SYT is required annually in Southern Sierra Council (SSC) per Board policy established in 2015. Although National Scouting America has a minimum 2-year requirement, SSC requires **ANNUAL (every calendar year)** renewal of SYT by all registered adults for recharter qualification.

For 2025 ONLY: If you last took YPT during 2024, you MUST take the new SYT course on-line at [My.Scouting.org](https://my.scouting.org) during 2025 to qualify for renewal with Southern Sierra Council (see note above regarding SSC policy for annual renewal).

***ONLINE BEST PRACTICES:** For best results please consider:

- Use a desktop or laptop computer. **DO NOT** use your phone or iPad to take these trainings since it may not let you complete the training and/or may not generate your certificate.
- Use Google **Chrome** when accessing [My.Scouting.org](https://my.scouting.org) (other platforms are not necessarily supported)
- Logon during the early morning hours to avoid the rush of East Coast scouters logging in due to the time difference.
- **Be patient.** Once you complete your training on [My.Scouting.org](https://my.scouting.org), it may take up to 24-hours for you to receive your completion certificate by email.
- If you continue to experience issues with the online SYT course, please send me an email with screenshots and a description of your experience. **Do not keep trying to take it repeatedly.** We will work out the issues together.

CONTACT: Carolyn Forster, Training Coordinator CJForster1964@gmail.com

TRAINERS NEEDED – SPRING 2026

All leaders must be trained *before* working with youth.

Trainings for new and continuing leaders need trainers and presenters to be successful!

MARCH 14-15, 2026, Desert Empire Fairgrounds, Ridgecrest



**Basic Adult Leader
Outdoor Orientation (BALOO)**



**Introduction to Outdoor
Leader Skills (IOLS)**

All trainings have pre-made syllabus with scripts and instructions.

It just needs YOU to present it! **Experienced leaders** make great trainers and presenters!

- Presenters can either attend the entire training *or* just come to present their session.
- Presenters attend the course at no cost.
- A Zoom meeting will be scheduled for staff development and expectations.

Contact:

Carolyn Forster, Training Coordinator

CJForster1964@gmail.com

ADULT AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS



Did you know you, your leaders, and adult volunteers may qualify for an award? Awards for adults signify you have been trained, provide quality performance in your leadership role, you completed significant milestone(s), and are committed to helping our youth to be responsible citizens in the community. Check out all the awards you, your leaders, and adult volunteers deserve and may be qualified to receive. Adult leader and volunteer recognitions are presented at the Council Volunteer Recognition Dinner on January 24, 2026.

AWARDS CENTRAL (*all awards available*)

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

TRAINING AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

<https://www.scouting.org/training/training-awards-and-recognition/>

(Note: one of the requirements for Training Awards is “attend 4 Roundtables”; Roundtable is offered both in person and online to give everyone easy access to attend: Feb, May, Aug, & Nov. As an alternative, the leader can attend either a PowWow or University of Scouting, which are offered at nearby Councils throughout Southern California.)

- **Den Leader Training Award** – for all levels of *Den Leaders*
- **Scouter’s Training Award** – for each level of leader (*Cub Scouts, Troop, and Venturing*).
- **Scouter’s Key** – for *Cubmasters, Scoutmasters, Advisors (Venturing)*.
- **Trained Strip** – recognizing adults and youth who have completed the training required for their leadership position.

OTHER AWARD



William D. Boyce New Unit Organizer Award – for leaders who organize a new, traditional unit (*Cub Scout Pack, Scouts BSA Troop, or Venture Crew*).



Unit Leader Award of Merit— The Committee Chair nominates and applies for the award for your unit's *Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, or Venture Advisor* who is running a quality program for the youth.

Unit Leader Award of Merit

APPLICATIONS/NOMINATIONS:

Cindy Basham, cbasham3504@gmail.com

Veterans Day Parade
Tuesday, November 11, 2025
Parade begins at 10am

Interested in participating in the 2025 Veterans Day Parade?

All units are invited to join the Scouting entry for the parade. Please email Cindy Basham at cbasham3504@gmail.com if you would like to be notified of the details once they are received.



Bring your unit & American flags along with your unit banner (if you have one). Handheld American flags and posters recognizing the Veterans are always a nice touch. A poster of YOUR favorite veteran??

Special Invitations for Scouts & Families

Special Invite for Scouts BSA

SCOUTING AMERICA
GOLDEN EMPIRE COUNCIL

SCOUT

EXPO

2026

AT BEALE AIR FORCE BASE

CELEBRATE AMERICA'S
250TH ANNIVERSARY WITH:

- 2 NIGHTS OF CAMPING
- THOUSANDS OF SCOUTS!
- SHOOTING RANGES
- PLANE & DRONE DISPLAYS
- MERIT BADGE OPPORTUNITIES
- CLIMBING WALLS + INFLATABLES
- SATURDAY NIGHT PERFORMANCE
- SUNDAY FUN RUN

When / Where:
APRIL 10-12, 2026
WHEATLAND, CA

All Scouts and Leaders are
Invited to Attend!
Registration ends 12/31/25
so sign up early!



Admission

\$65

For Scouts BSA

Scan the QR
for more info
and to register:



Email: GECscoutexpo@gmail.com With Questions or to Help!

Special Invite for Cub Scouts

SCOUTING AMERICA
GOLDEN EMPIRE COUNCIL

SCOUT EXPO

2026

AT BEALE AIR FORCE BASE

CELEBRATE AMERICA'S
250TH ANNIVERSARY WITH:

- 2 NIGHTS OF CAMPING
- THOUSANDS OF SCOUTS!
- SHOOTING RANGES
- PLANE & DRONE DISPLAYS
- FUN CRAFTS AND ACTIVITIES
- CLIMBING WALLS + INFLATABLES
- SATURDAY NIGHT PERFORMANCE
- SUNDAY FUN RUN

When / Where:
APRIL 10-12, 2026
WHEATLAND, CA

All Cub Scouts and Families
are Invited to Attend!
Registration ends 12/31/25
so sign up early!



Admission
\$50
Per Cub or Parent

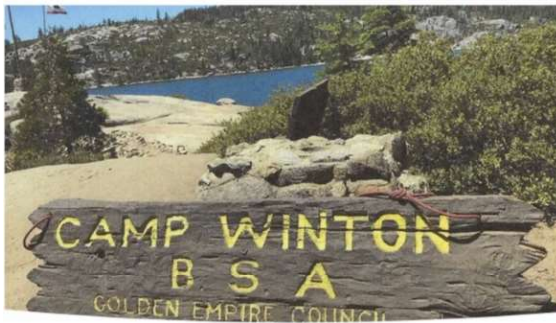
Scan the QR
for more info
and to register:



Email: GECscoutexpo@gmail.com With Questions or to Help!

Go to <https://www.gec-bsa.org/programs> for **Scout Expo Leaders Guide** and to register for this great event.

Still Looking for a Summer Camp?



CAMP WINTON

Are you ready to get your adventure on!?

Join us as we unveil the newly updated and renovated Camp Winton for Summer 2026!

Our lake-front camp is situated in the beautiful Tahoe National Forest on the stunning Lower Bear River Reservoir. Camp Winton provides an unforgettable week-long camping experience for Scouts BSA Troops, Crews, and Ships. The enthusiastic staff, professionally prepared meals and timeless Winton traditions make this a not to miss Scouting experience. Come and be a part of our legacy and find out why everyone loves Camp Winton!

Interested in being on 2026 Camp Staff?

[Apply Here!](#)

Register at: [Camp Winton Registration](#)

Stake Your Claim – Special Camp Pricing 25% off for Southern Sierra Units

2026 Camp Pricing:

- Early Bird (10/2/25–1/30/26): Youth \$760, Adult \$425, Webelos \$760
- Regular (1/31/26–6/1/26): Youth \$790, Adult \$425, Webelos \$760
- Late (6/2/26–start of camp): Youth \$835, Adult \$475, Webelos \$760

Bonus: One free adult per unit, plus a second free adult for every 15 registered youth.

Safety in Scouting

Incident Reporting Helps

Timely and complete incident reporting provides Scouting America with an opportunity for analysis of incidents that occur and promotes continuous improvement of our programs. In our experience, the sooner a clear, concise, and complete incident report is made, the sooner that an appropriate response to the incident can occur.



GENERAL INFORMATION

What is an incident? There are three types of reportable incidents:

- Near Miss—A near miss does not result in injury, illness, or damage, by definition, but it had the potential to do so.
- General Liability—Events or allegations of injury, illness, or property damage, including employment, director, and officer issues.
- Youth Protection/Membership Infraction—Allegations of abuse, violations of Scouting America guidelines or policies, or inappropriate behavior by a Scout/Scout leader/parent/other.

Why report an incident? The information reported from incidents helps identify areas for improvement so we can help prevent the reoccurrence of similar incidents. Scouting America cannot address a concern if

we do not know about it. Reporting incidents promptly is also critical so Scouting America can respond in a timely manner and manage claims properly.

When do I report an incident? You should immediately contact your local council to report and get assistance with serious, fatal or abuse incidents. Report within 24 hours if an injury or illness cannot be treated by Scout-rendered first aid, a medical professional such as a doctor or nurse was needed, or an ambulance was called.

How do I report an incident? There are incident reporting tools to assist you in collecting the facts of the incident to provide to the council. This is available on the council website www.sscscouts.org. Scroll down on the home page to "Incident Reporting Tools".

Reporting tips: It is important that incident reports are filled out as completely & timely as possible. This will help bring clarity to the situation and avoid unnecessary calls or emails for additional information. Photographs of the site, facilities, vehicles, or equipment can add value to the report. Remember to include only pertinent facts about the incident. Do not assign blame or include personal opinions. Stick to the facts.

[Navigating Incidents: Guide for Units](#)

Reporting Made Easy

How does Scouting America's anonymous reporting tool work?



Scan this QR code to add the Scouts First phone number to your address book. You can call or text it at any time.

Scout leaders, registered members, parents, Scouting professionals, or anyone else who believes a youth in Scouting might be at risk can call, text or email their concerns. You can report concerns not just of abuse, but of any unsafe activity at all.

While accurate information is critical to an appropriate response, a lack of specific information is not a reason to delay a report.

"As always, more information is better when reporting an incident, but we don't want someone to wait to report just because they don't have all the details," Pounder says. "We can start the conversation and gather the details as we go."

You will not be required to provide proof that a youth is in danger. All you are asked to do is report your concerns in good faith. You can also call, text or email if you have received a report of abuse and would like guidance on what to do next.

Utilizing the RealResponse platform, Scouts and their families can share their concerns and questions in real time, with the knowledge that these communications are going to the right place in the fastest way possible, creating meaningful dialogue about tough issues.

[For more information click here](#)

SCOUTS FIRST Helpline


SAFEGUARDING YOUTH

In an emergency or when complying with mandatory reporting, call 911 or your local authorities immediately. Then, report the incident to your council.

Report Concerns About Youth Safety

If you suspect a youth has been harmed or their safety is at risk—including violations of youth protection policies—contact your local council right away.

If you cannot reach your Scout Executive or local Council, report directly to Scouts First via:

 Anonymously Call or Text:
844-SCOUTS1

 Email: ScoutsFirst@Scouting.org

Scan to Message Anonymously!
(Via Real Response)



Your vigilance helps protect our Scouts. Thank you for taking action!



Dates to Remember

December 6

Pushmobile - Cub Scouts

December 13

Personal Mgmt. Merit Badge - Session 2

December 20

Scout Night at the Condors



Southern Sierra Service Area | 2417 M Street | Bakersfield, CA 93301 US

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