



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!!



ORDER AHEAD!

Award orders can be emailed ahead to be filled
and ready when you arrive.

Email (Advancement reports and a PO)

to cbasham3504@gmail.com

Shipping is available

Service Area Website & Calendar

www.sscscouts.org

Service Area Facebook Page

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

Golden Empire Council Website

<https://www.gec-bsa.org/>

All 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)

- Mar. 1 - Unit Commissioner Meeting
- Mar. 7 - Service Area Pinewood Derby
- Mar. 7 - Merit Badge Midway
- Mar. 12 - Class of 2025 Eagle Scout Dinner
- Mar. 14-15 - BALOO/IOLS - Ridgecrest
- Mar. 17 - Service Area Committee Meeting
- Mar., 21 - Pre-Camporall Workday
- Mar. 21 - University of Scouting - Sacramento
- Mar. 22 - Jamboree Troop Meeting
- Mar. 26 - OA LEC Meeting
- Apr. 3 - Office Closed - Good Friday
- Apr. 10-12 - Scout Expo
- Apr. 17-19 - Jambo Troop Campout
- Apr. 21 - Service Area Committee Meeting
- Apr. 24-26 - Camporall

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

**Scout Office
&
Trading Post Hours**

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



SPECIAL NOTICE

In accordance with the California State Law for youth organization volunteers, adults with expired membership are to be removed from the agency's DOJ database. For Scouting, that is 60 days after expiration.

When the former member returns, they will need to start the registration process as a new member. They will need to submit a new Adult Application, have a current Safeguarding Youth Training certificate and a new Live Scan.

If you know someone that has allowed their membership to lapse - be sure to let them know the above.

**Fund Your Adventure
with Camp Card Sales**



If you or your pack or troop needs some help to get to camp, pay for registration, or buy some things for your unit, we have a springtime fundraiser for you.

“Camp cards” are \$5 cards with discounts from stores from around the area that your youth can sell to the general public. By using the card once, the buyer

recoups his or her \$5 and your pack or troop earns \$2.50.

Your youth can raise enough to attend Cub Scout Day Camp, Cub Scout overnight camp at Camp Winton, Scout Summer Camp at Camp Winton, or other camps.

There are even drawings to attend those named camps by selling just a handful of cards. All of the details of this activity (which runs from March 1 through the end of May) can be found at the button below.

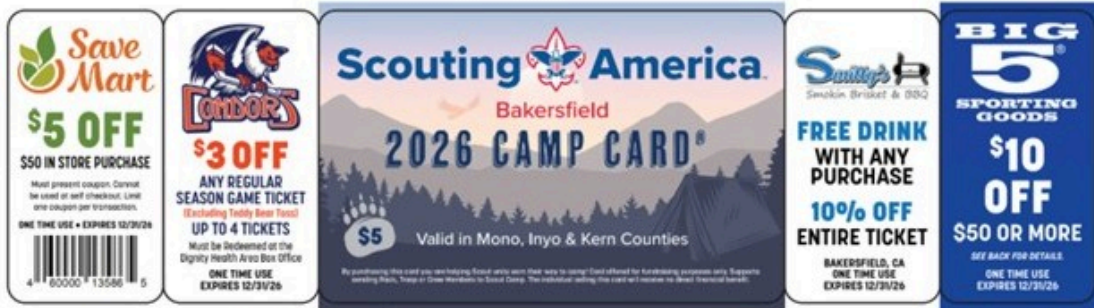
Remember that one of the prerequisites to be eligible for campships is participation in Camp Card and Popcorn sales to earn some of the camp registration fees. Contact the Scout office to join the sale.

Camp Card Leader's Guide

INCENTIVES - SOUTHERN SIERRA

- I Sold 20 Form - Every Scout who sells 20 cards (& submits the form online) will receive 2 tickets to "I Sold 20 - Train Robbers Night" on Saturday, June 13 plus a limited edition shoulder patch.
- They are also entered into a weekly drawing for free camp!

SELL THIS	GET THIS FREE
100 CARDS	Cub Scout Day/Twilight Camp
400 CARDS	Scouts BSA Resident Camp
500 CARDS	\$300 Amazon Gift Card
1,000 CARDS	\$750 Amazon Gift Card



Front ↑

Back ↓



2026 Council Pinewood Derby



Scouts, Start Your Engines!

Location: First Presbyterian Church
1705 17th Street - Bakersfield
(corner of H St. & Truxtun)

Date: Saturday, March 7, 2026

RACE TIMES

(Please arrive 30 minutes before your race time to check in)

LIONS - 8:30 am

TIGERS - 9:00 am

WOLVES - 9:30 am

BEARS - 10:00 am

WEBELOS - 10:30 am

ARROW OF LIGHT - 11:00 am

OPEN CLASS - 11:30 am

FINALS - 11:45 am

Online Registration - \$5 per car - Deadline by March 3rd Online
after March 3 & Onsite Registration cost per car - \$7.00

ONLINE REGISTRATION ONLY - Except on Race Day

Registration link - <https://www.scoutingevent.com/030-PW26>

Registrations accepted up to & including Race Day
(If not registered by 3/6/26 at 5:00 pm - you must bring registration on Race day - cash or check payable
to BSA, No Exceptions)
No Refunds

**REMEMBER AB Medical Form - required for everyone in attendance
(even parents & observers)**

Pinewood Derby car specifications and race rules being used for this Service Area event are attached to
this registration. Cars not meeting specifications will not be permitted to race.

Snacks will be available for purchase!

Questions contact:

Event Chair: Stevie McDonald - steviejomcdonald@gmail.com or
Council Staff Advisor - Cameron Hutton at 661-325-9036



DINOTOPIA

CUB SCOUT DAY CAMP 2026



DAY CAMP

By May 1-\$65
May 2-29- \$75



TWILIGHT CAMP

By May 1-\$65
May 2-June 19-\$75

**TRAVEL TO DINOTOPIA THIS SUMMER FOR
CRAFTS, CHALLENGES, GAMES AND DINO-SIZED MEMORIES!
OPEN TO TIGER, WOLF, BEAR, WEBELOS AND AOL SCOUTS!**

DAY CAMP

- June 8-11th 8-12pm
- Centennial Elementary
- 15200 Westdale Dr

TWILIGHT CAMP

- July 6-9th 5:30-8pm
- Scout Office
- 2417 M St.

949-421-8334 Steviejomcdonald@gmail.com Day Camp Director
661-325-9036 Cameron.hutton@scouting.org So. Sierra Scout Office



University of Scouting

University of Scouting is a fun, engaging day dedicated to learning and growing in Scouting!

Choose from a wide variety of sessions covering key Scouting topics and gain valuable skills you can take back to your unit.

Don't miss this chance to strengthen your leadership!

March 21st at Florin High School
7956 Cottonwood Lane
Sacramento, California 95828

Register before March 6th!

8:00am - 4:00pm

[Register Here!](#)

[Flyer Course Catalog](#)

Camporall - Work Day

Saturday, March 21, 2026

Saturday, March 21, 2026
9:00 am to 2:00 pm.
Glennville Rodeo Grounds

This will be our one and only Camporall Work Day. The Greenhorn Mountain Veterans Association, who allows us to use this facility, will be providing lunch but will not be able to accommodate special dietary requirements. This workday is how we start earning points for Camporall by providing Cheerful Service to the Veterans Association.

Since the Greenhorn Mountain Veteran Association is going to provide us lunch we need to get them some possible attendance numbers. [Please register by Wednesday, March 18.](#)

Once you have some tentative numbers from your unit please register at this link- <https://scoutingevent.com/030-Pre26> which can also be found on the Council Website Calendar.

We are looking forward to another great event. Start Preparing to Do Your Best! As always if you have any questions or concerns feel free to email or text cmnacoscouts@gmail.com or 661-303-8636

Hope to see you all on the 21st, if not before at another event.

Camporall

"Individually Capable - Together Unstoppable"
April 24 - 26, 2026



2025 Super Troop

Troop 300

Who will be the 2026 Super Troop?

CAMPORALL - 2026 "Individually Capable - Together Unstoppable"
Friday, April 24 to Sunday, April 26
Glennville Rodeo Grounds

Camporall handbook and registration information in available at:

<https://www.scoutingevent.com/030-Camporall26>

20 NATIONAL JAMBOREE 26 SUMMIT BECHTEL RESERVE JULY 22-31



Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia

Jamboree is less than 5 months away.

Jamboree Troop Meeting

Sunday, March 22 - 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm
Scout Office - 2417 M Street - Bakersfield



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.

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 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.**



Spread the Word!

Joining scouting provides numerous benefits, including developing life skills like leadership, self-confidence, and citizenship through hands-on activities and outdoor adventures. It also fosters personal growth, ethical development, and teamwork, while offering opportunities to explore different interests and build lifelong friendships.

Friends of Scouting



**FOS, or Friends of Scouting,
is the council-level annual giving
campaign.**

During this campaign, we visit pack meetings or troop courts of honor to explain the campaign and make an appeal for support.

The tax-deductible pledges help support local Scouting activities and programs.

Councils provide volunteer and staff training, insurance coverage, support staff, camps, equipment, recognition for leaders, administrative needs, a council website, scholarships, and so much more.

These FOS donations are voluntary and help all youth regardless of family income or other circumstances enjoy the benefits of the Scouting program.

Packs and troops will be contacted to schedule presentations in the coming few months.

Friends of Scouting to date:

Pack 25 - \$220.00

Pack 33 - \$1,160.00

Pack 341 - \$400.00

Total = \$1,780.00

More presentations are set for March. Watch next month's newsletters for an update.

Advancement News

Merit Badge Midway - Saturday, March 7

Location: First Presbyterian Church - 1705 17th St. (corner of H St. & Truxtun)

Cost is \$7 per merit badge

Merit Badges being offered

Note: Scouts are to select merit badges that do not have conflicting times.

All classes have limits. Sign up early to avoid the waiting list.

Check in opens at 8:00 am

Morning Sessions

Citizenship in the Community (Part 1) - 8:30 am to 12:00 pm * (morning only)

Collections - 8:30 am to 12:00 pm * (also available in the afternoon)

Electricity - 8:30 am to 12:00 pm * (morning only)

Game Design - 8:30 am to 12:00 pm (also available in the afternoon) - no prerequisites

Check in opens for afternoon only session - 12:45 pm

Afternoon Sessions

Collections - 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm * (also available in morning)

Family Life (Part 1) - 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm * (afternoon only)

Game Design - 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm (also available in morning) - no prerequisites

Cybersecurity - 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm * (afternoon only)

* = merit badges have prerequisites that must be done prior to attending the event - please refer to the "Merit Badge Prerequisites" attached to the registration link.

Registration link: <https://scoutingevent.com/030-MB0326>

Part 2 of Citizenship in the Community & Family Life will be Saturday, June 13 at the Scout office - Bakersfield.

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

Saturday, May 9, 2026 - 9:00 am

Scout Office - 2417 M Street - Bakersfield

Online Registration begins April 1

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.

**Congratulations to our two new Eagle Scouts during the month of February!
The new Eagles are from Troops 395 & 1776**

**2025 Eagle Scouts, Leaders & Parents -
RESERVATION DEADLINE - March 1**



Eagle Dinner

Thursday, March 12, 2026 at
Luigi's Warehouse

The Eagle Class of 2025 will be celebrated!

Register online by March 1 -

<https://scoutingevent.com/030-Eagle26>

Sponsorships are also needed to support Eagle scholarships.
Please use the link above to support the **Eagle Class of 2025**.

Eagle Advancement Update

NEW EAGLE SCOUT RANK APPLICATION &

Citizenship in Society Merit Badge Discontinuance

February 27, 2026

The Citizenship in Society Merit Badge will be discontinued effective Friday, February 27, 2026. Beginning on February 27, 2026, Scouts will no longer be able to start requirements on the Citizenship in Society Merit Badge. Those Scouts who had already started **and completed** any requirements for the merit badge will be allowed the rest of 2026 to complete the full merit badge and still utilize it for attaining the rank of Eagle Scout. This will only be allowed for those attaining Eagle Scout; any other Scouts who started requirements for the merit badge will not be allowed to earn the merit badge after the discontinuance date. This has been standard practice for Eagle requirements and other advancement changes in the past.

Effective Feb. 27, 2026, the rank of Eagle Scout will have 13 required merit badges instead of 14. All of the remaining 13 Eagle Required merit badges will still apply, just not Citizenship in Society, but Scouts will have 8 elective merit badges from which to choose instead of 7, and the total for Eagle Scout will remain at 21 merit badges (13 required + 8 elective = 21 merit badges).

Council & District Advancement Chairs as well as Council Registrars (Eagle Scout app processors) will have the ability to allow the Citizenship in Society Merit Badge to count towards Eagle Scout for those few Life Scouts who started the requirements prior to the discontinuance date, and will complete the merit badge before Dec. 31, 2026. .

Please note that the [Eagle Scout Rank Application](#) has also been updated to reflect the change.

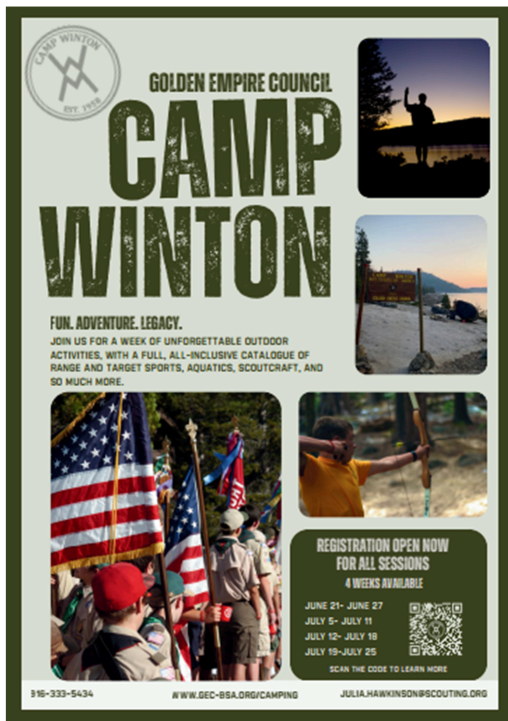
Those Scouts who choose to continue working on the Citizenship in Society Merit Badge will enter it as one of their 8 elective merit badges, or it may be used toward an Eagle Palm.

Merit Badge Counselors can continue working with Scouts until Dec. 31, 2026.

You can find the above links at <https://www.scouting.org/programs/scouts-bsa/advancement->

CAMPING

Delivering the Promise



NEW! Offering - Cub Scout Camp!

For the first time, Camp Winton is offering one dedicated week (two sessions) exclusively for Cub Scout Camp! Tigers through Arrow of Light Scouts are invited to join us for an unforgettable adventure with your Pack or Den.

Week 1 (June 28 - July 1) is SOLD OUT!

Week 2 (July 1 - July 4) is still open!

Early check-out is available for those who want to be home before July 4th! Cubs and parents do NOT have to hike into camp!

Reach out to Julia at 916-333-5434 or julia.hawkinson@scouting.org with any questions.

Exciting activities included with Scouts BSA registration!

Range & target sports – .22s are back, and ammunition is included

Waterfront adventures – enjoy our brand-new motorboat, plus fishing, canoeing, paddleboarding, sailing, the mile swim, and all water sports (skiing, wakeboarding, tubing)

Climbing – guided by a certified instructor on natural rock

Overnight canoe trek – paddle to a secret destination

New “Winton Wild” program – learn plant identification and foraging skills

SESSIONS:

Week 1) June 21 - June 27

Week 2) June 28 - July 4 - NEW: CUB SCOUT WEEK!

- Exclusively for Cub Scouts
- Session 1 SOLD OUT, Session 2 is still open

Week 3) July 5 - July 11

Week 4) July 12 - July 18 - *Provisional Week, filling up fast!

Week 5) July 19 - July 25

*Provisional week is for Scouts to attend solo without their unit.

Bonus: One free adult per unit, plus a second free adult for every 15 registered youth. (Does not apply to Cub Scouts)

[Register Here!](#)

[Check out our website for more info](#)

Interested in being on 2026 Camp Staff? [Apply Here!](#)

Order of the Arrow



Continuing Fellowship on the Scouting Journey

Mark Your Calendars

Mar. 26 - LEC - Lodge Executive Committee

ORDER OF THE ARROW ELECTIONS ! This year's elections are underway as we prepare for call-outs at the Southern Sierra Service Area Camporall at the Glennville Rodeo Grounds. Requirements include a minimum of 15 nights camping, including attending Summer Camp, High Adventure Base or NYLT.

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

2026 OA Dues - Time to Pay - \$20

Easy way to pay your annual dues - Pay online at:

<https://scoutingevent.com/030-dues26>

Questions:

Contact Lodge Advisor - Chuck Monaco at (661) 303-8636 or cmonacoscouts@gmail.com or
Lodge Chief - Gio Orna at (661) 487-9362 or gio.f.orna@gmail.com.

Training News & Resources



TRAINING PLANNING MEETING*

THURSDAY, May 14 @ 6:30 pm

Zoom: ID: 314 211 1129 Password: 928897

May 14th Agenda

- Training Calendar Planning for 2026/27
- Trainers needed for Fall 2026: BALOO & IOLS
- SYT & Hazardous Weather renewals
- Position training timing
- NYLT & Wood Badge

And more . . .

Why should I attend this meeting?

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 trainings are offered timely and are engaging for all participants.

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

Anyone can represent your unit at the Committee meetings – Please assign someone who isn't otherwise engaged in your unit activities to attend the *2 meetings per year (May and August).

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**
- **Anyone interested in trainings for your unit or becoming a presenter**

CONTACT:

Carolyn Forster

Council Training Chair

CJForster1964@gmail.com

TRAINING CALENDARS – SPRING/SUMMER 2026

SOUTHERN SIERRA SERVICE AREA

March 14

SAFEGUARDING Youth

(Walk-ins welcome)

Desert Empire Fairgrounds, Ridgecrest

March 14-15

BALOO or IOLS

https://scoutingevent.com/030-IOLSBALOO_0326

Desert Empire Fairgrounds, Ridgecrest

May 14

Service Area Training Planning

GOLDEN EMPIRE COUNCIL

March 21

University of Scouting

<https://scoutingevent.com/047-109209>

Florin High School, Sacramento

May 1-3 & May 16-17

Wood Badge

<https://scoutingevent.com/047-108810>

Camp McConnell, Livingston

May 2-3

BALOO or IOLS

<https://scoutingevent.com/047-104532>

Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/314211129?pwd=YjVDUmxDbHFGL2FJWHRpWkp3SWhGUT09>
Meeting ID: 314 211 1129 Passcode: 928897
Zoom Meeting
6:30 pm

June 22-27

NYLT

<https://scoutingevent.com/053-2026NYLT>
Camp Rancho Alegre, Santa Barbara

Nor Cal Adventure Area, Dobbins

July 12-17

NYLT

<https://scoutingevent.com/047-111923>
NorCal AA, Dobbins

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.

[My.Scouting.org](https://www.myscouting.org) *

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

TRAINING DATE

IN-PERSON:

S.A.F.E. GUARDING YOUTH TRAINING

Saturday, March 14, 2026 @ 2:00 pm

Desert Empire Fairgrounds, Ridgecrest

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

***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 (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, 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



Be prepared to camp with your Pack or Troop this spring & summer!

HURRY! Registration closes March 6!

BALOO or **IOLS**

March 14 thru 15, 2026*

Desert Empire Fairgrounds, Ridgecrest, CA

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

Registration: https://scoutingevent.com/030-IOLSBALOO_0326

Adults learn in a group setting about outdoor skills needed for all Cub Scout outdoor events/overnight camping **or** teaching trail-to-first class skills to Scouts BSA.

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/camping; Required training for **Scoutmaster/Assistant Scoutmaster** positions.

CONTACT:

Carolyn Forster, Course Director

CJForster1964@gmail.com



NATIONAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP TRAINING

A great opportunity for female as well as male Scouts BSA to meet and interact with scouts from all over California.

Register early to ensure you have a spot!

*NYLT trainings in Southern California **fill up fast** and often have a waiting list.*

Orange County Council

June 15-20, 2026

Irvine Ranch Outdoor Education Center, Orange

Registration: <https://scoutingevent.com/039-110697>

Sequoia Council

June 22-27, 2026

Camp Chawanakee, Shaver Lake

Registration: <https://scoutingevent.com/027-26NYLT>

Tri-Council: Los Padres Council, Ventura Council & Southern Sierra Service Area*

June 22-27, 2026

Camp Rancho Alegre, Santa Barbara

Scholarship available BEFORE May 1st

Registration: <https://scoutingevent.com/053-2026NYLT>

Golden Empire Council

July 8-12, 2026

NorCal Adventure Area, Dobbins

Registration: <https://scoutingevent.com/047-111923>

Greater LA Council

December 18-20, 2026 *and* January 8-10, 2027

Camp Trask, Monrovia

What is National Youth Leadership Training? NYLT is the entry-level program for youth ages 13-17 to learn and practice leadership skills with their peers in an outdoor environment. Leadership skills are essential for all youth to navigate everyday challenges and be more successful with school and college/university, band/sports, church, community service, work, family life, and, of course, Troop and Crew youth leadership. Scouts participating in the NYLT course are better prepared for life.

Qualifications:

- Youth ages 13/14-17 years old (Troop or Venture Crew)
- Earned 1st Class rank or higher
- Recommended by the Scoutmaster to attend NYLT course

Scholarships: Youth may request scholarships for registration fees through their Troop or Venture Crew, the Council office, or the NYLT course itself. Ask your Troop's COR if their organization offers camperships.

Special Invitations for Scouts & Families



KERN RIVER PARKWAY 
NATURE CENTER
HART MEMORIAL PARK · BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA

Looking for a great nature hike? Contact Carla - kernnaturecenter@gmail.com
Looking for an Eagle project - consider helping the Nature Center

March 2026 Family Friendly Activities

Sunday, March 15

1 pm - 3:30 pm

Family Kite Day with Dave & Jill Hanley. Free Kites provided!

Sunday, March 29

12 pm - 3:30 pm

Peacock Party - Celebrate 100 years of Peacocks at Hart Park

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 service area 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



April 10-12

Scout Expo

April 17-18

Jamboree Overnight Campout

April 24-26

Camporall

May 2

Cub Scout STEM Day

May 16

Trail to First Class Palooza

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

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



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