

May 2026

Scouting America™

Southern Sierra Service Area of the Greater California Council

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

[Visit the Service Area Website](#)

[Visit the Greater California 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>

Greater California 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)

- May 2 - Star Wars STEM Day
- May 3 - Commissioner Meeting
- May 5 - Give Big Kern Day
- May 9 - Life to Eagle Workshop
- May 10 - Mother's Day
- May 14 - Roundtable for all Leaders
- May 16 - Trail to First Class Palooza
- May 17 - Jamboree Troop PLC Meeting
- May 19 - Service Area Committee Meeting
- May 24 - Jamboree Troop Meeting
- May 25 - Memorial Day - Office Closed
- May 28 - OA - LEC Meeting
- June 3 - Range & Target Committee Mtg
- June 7 - Commissioner Meeting
- June 8-11 - Day Camp - Dinotopia
- June 16 - Service Area Committee Meeting
- June 19-21 - OA Ordeal
- June 21 - Father's Day
- June 21 - Jamboree Troop PLC Meeting



- June 28 - Jamboree Troop Meeting
- June 22-27- NYLT - Youth Training
- June 25 - OA - LEC Meeting

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**



**The Scout Office & Trading
Post will be closed
Monday, May 25
in honor of Memorial Day**

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.

ATTENTION

Be sure to check the service project opportunities, community events and special invitation listings following the "Training" section of this newsletter.

New Adult Registration Requirement

Starting April 1, a middle name will be required for all adult registrations to help make the CBC process more inclusive and informative. For individuals who do not have a middle name, a "No Middle Name" option will be available during the registration process.

Congratulations - Troop 47

2026 Super Troop



The 2026 annual Southern Sierra Camporall was an amazing success!

Scouts from throughout the Tejon District gathered at the Glennville Rodeo Grounds for a weekend of Scout skills, fellowship, and weather.

Over 250 Scouts and leaders camped, bonded and competed.

All the scouts worked hard to win the coveted Super Troop award and one lucky patrol was deemed the "Top Dog" patrol.

They competed in traditional scout skills, like knot tying and fire building, but also had some less traditional challenges, like changing tires and plumbing a sink. We were all glad that one of our mystery challenges included the return of rifle shooting in the form of precision BB guns.



Camporall Awards

Super Troop: Scouts BSA Troop 47

Golden Tomahawk Award: Troop 125 Black Eel Patrol

<u>1st Place Overall</u> <u>(numerical order only)</u>	<u>2nd Place Overall</u> <u>(numerical order only)</u>	<u>3rd Place Overall</u> <u>(numerical order only)</u>
194 – Top SPL Challenge score	1	55
300 – Top Campsite Inspection	3	484
712 – Top Theme Project Score	125	760
2119 – Top Uniform Inspection Score	711	1776
	848	

GREAT JOB, SCOUTS!

Special thanks to Chuck Monaco and his team of volunteers that organized and delivered a wonderful weekend of Scouting. Much was happening this weekend and all of our volunteers are

appreciated. Finally, all Scouts and leaders should be commended for displaying their best by living the words of the Scout Oath and Law.

Thank You for 8 Great Years Camporall Chair - Chuck Monaco

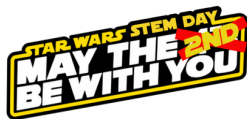


2019 - 2026

**Thank you from all the scouts and leaders that shared the FUN of
Camporall over these past 8 years!**

Chuck Monaco (left) is shown with his closest support crew, two of his sons, Talen & Trystan, and favorite sidekick, David Kampa.

Star Wars STEM Day Saturday, May 2, 2026



Cub Scouts can join us in a morning full of the excitement of a galaxy far, far away as we explore science, technology, engineering and math.

Scouts will be able to see 3d printers in action, practice programing their own computer games, make their own origami lightsaber, meet a droid builder of the 501st Legion and MORE!

Where: Bakersfield Esports Center - (7104 Golden State Hwy, Bakersfield, CA 93308)

When: Saturday, May 2

Check In opens: 8:30 am

Program Ends: Approx. 12 noon

Cost: \$10 per scout

Register online at: <https://www.scoutingevent.com/047-STEM26>

Registration deadline - May 1, 2026 - 5:00 pm

Questions? - Cameron Hutton at 661-325-9036 x103

Reminder - All adults & youth onsite must turn in a Health Form Parts A & B at check in.

Show our Scouting Strength to the Community - Give Big Kern is Tuesday, May 5 -- This Coming Tuesday --



Give Big Kern—Do you have neighbors who need to donate some money to get a tax break? If they are not donating to the Southern Sierra Service Area, Give Big Kern is coming up on Tuesday, May 5th. If they are not giving directly to our service area, they can give to a non-profit organization that moves them to action.

Donate Between NOW & Tuesday, May 5, any amount online:

<https://www.givebigkern.org/donate/southern-sierra-council>

Please share this link with your friends and contacts that are interested in supporting our young people. Your generous gift is greatly appreciated and very important to keep Scouting alive in our area.

A graphic for a Southern Sierra Service Area Roundtable. It features a background image of a mountain range under a blue sky with white clouds. In the top left corner, there is a circular logo with a Scout emblem and the text "Stay Informed" and "Attend Roundtable". To the right of the logo, the text reads "Southern Sierra Service Area Roundtable" and "May 14th at 7 PM on Zoom".

**Southern Sierra Service Area
Roundtable**
May 14th at 7 PM on Zoom

Please join us for the Southern Sierra Service Area Roundtable on Thursday, May 14th at 7:00 PM! This Roundtable is being presented via Zoom only. There will be no in-person meeting. \

You can join Roundtable by clicking on this link!

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88944116715?pwd=uUPSPemmu0SJHfN8zXC2hbQhTijnff.1>

All Scouters should attend Roundtable, but please have at least one leader from your unit attend. Join us for important information, great discussions, and to share ideas.

The breakout topics for this Roundtable will be:

Cub Scout Breakout: Pack Summertime Activities and a recap of Cub Scout Recruiting.

Scouts BSA Breakout: Preparing for Summer Camp and The Importance of Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops (ILST).

As a reminder, Roundtable attendance is a way to fulfill one of the requirements to earn most of the adult leader training awards, as well as earn points for the new Commissioners' Pack and Troop of the Year Awards!

See you at Roundtable!

Trail to First Class Palooza

Saturday, May 16, 2026

Trail To First Class-Palooza is a great chance for newer Scouts BSA to focus on learning skills and completing rank advancement requirements.



Older scouts have a valuable chance to practice leading and instructing, which is what Scouting is about.

Troops are welcome to stay overnight both before and after the advancement activities.

Restroom and water sources are available.

Where: Fort Tejon State Historic Park (4201 Fort Tejon Rd, Lebec, CA 93243)

When: May 16th 8am-4:30pm

Cost: \$10 for Saturday day, \$15 for scouts and leaders camping overnight.

Register online at: <https://www.scoutingevent.com/047-TTFC26>

Questions? - James Avery at james.avery.bsa@gmail.com or Cameron Hutton at 661-325-9036 x103

Fund Your Adventure with Camp Card Sales



Looks like the sale is winding down. Remember to settle your unit accounts by June 5.

The detailed process is described in: [Product Sales — Golden Empire Council](#). The short version is to keep your commission; bring the rest of the money (\$2.50 per sold card) and unsold cards to the council office

on M Street in Bakersfield.

If your Cub Scout or Scout sold 20 cards, there is still time to get entered for a chance to have your registration paid for summer camp! Remember to enter the seller's information at: [GEC-2026 I Sold 20](#). This is also where we track who will receive

tickets to the Bakersfield Train Robbers baseball game (instead of the Sac Republic soccer game).



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
- Centennial Elementary
- 15200 Westdale Dr

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

Day Camp Registration

Twilight Camp Registration

2026 NATIONAL JAMBOREE

SUMMIT BECHTEL RESERVE
JULY 22-31



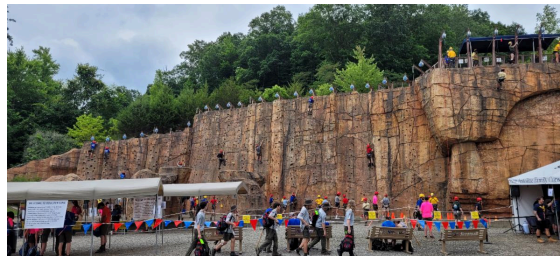
Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia

Jamboree is less than 3 months away.

Jamboree Troop Meeting

Sunday, May 17, 2026 - PLC Meeting - 7:00 pm

Sunday, May 24, 2026 - Jamboree Troop Meeting - 7:00 pm



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



Need help filling empty Cub Scout dens with leaders or youth, or both?

Need a feeder pack to help keep your troop sustainable?

Know of a house of worship that needs help with their youth program?

We can help. Give Alan a call at 661-325-9036, Ext. 104.

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 Scout 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.**

We have collected over \$7,000 in payment and pledges from Friends of Scouting visits!

Thank you for supporting Scouting through your tax-deductible gifts. These donations help to keep support for the Scouting program within a relatively short drive.

We still have a handful of unit visits to make. Please contact Cameron at 661-325-9036 to schedule a presentation.

Eagle Nest

- If you have any questions or need assistance with the Eagle process, please contact the Scout 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

Online Registration Link: <https://www.scoutingevent.com/047-EWMay26>

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 newest Eagle Scout during the month of April!
The new Eagle is from Troop 442**

CAMPING

Delivering the Promise

GOLDEN EMPIRE COUNCIL
CAMP WINTON
FUN. ADVENTURE. LEGACY.
JOIN US FOR A WEEK OF UNFORGETTABLE OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES, WITH A FULL, ALL-INCLUSIVE CATALOGUE OF RANGE AND TARGET SPORTS, AQUATICS, SCOUTCRAFT, AND SO MUCH MORE.

REGISTRATION OPEN NOW FOR ALL SESSIONS
4 WEEKS AVAILABLE

JUNE 21- JUNE 27
JULY 5- JULY 11
JULY 12- JULY 18
JULY 19- JULY 25

SCAN THE CODE TO LEARN MORE

916-333-5434 WWW.GEC-BSA.ORG/CAMPING JULIA.HAWKINSON@SCOUTING.ORG

Golden Empire Council
CUB SCOUT
RESIDENT CAMP
2 SESSIONS
6/28- 7/1 or 7/1- 7/4
CAMP WINTON
Pioneer, CA

Join us for a week of non-stop Cub Scout fun! Camp Winton is OPEN to Cubs this summer, with a full program planned- handicraft, range and target activities, aquatics, campfires, and so much more!

916-333-5434 www.gec-bsa.org/camping julia.hawkinson @scouting.org

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" SOLD OUT

*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](#)

Order of the Arrow



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

Continuing Fellowship on the Scouting journey

Mark Your Calendars

May 28 - LEC - Lodge Executive Committee

Merger talks have begun with Amangi-Nacha Lodge (Golden Empire Council) and we are both preparing to form a new Lodge with a new Name and Totem.

Stay tuned!

ORDEAL IS COMING

- Ordeal is scheduled for June 19-21 and will be held at Rancho Escondido (5604 S. Kelso Valley Rd., Weldon, CA)
- We are in need of Elangomats for Ordeal. Please contact Chris Snavely (email to: cjsnavely1@gmail.com) and/or Chuck Monaco (email to: cmonacoscouts@gmail.com)
- We are in need of Ceremonialist for this year's Ordeal. Please contact Trystan Monaco (email to: trystanmonaco19@gmail.com) and/or Chuck Monaco (email to: cmonacoscouts@gmail.com)

2026 OA Dues - Time to Pay - \$20

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

<https://www.scoutingevent.com/047-Dues26>

Questions:

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

Training News & Resources



TRAINING CALENDARS – SUMMER 2026

SOUTHERN SIERRA SERVICE AREA

June 22-27

NYLT

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

Camp Rancho Alegre, Santa Barbara

August 20 - 6:30 pm

Service Area Training Planning Mtg.

Zoom:

ID: 314 211 1129 Password: 928897

GREATER CALIFORNIA COUNCIL

July 12-17

NYLT

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

NorCal AA, Dobbins

August 22

Cub Leader Basic Training (in-person)

Kairos School, Vacaville

<https://scoutingevent.com/047-104536>



WOOD BADGE BEADING CEREMONY

Congratulations!

Roger Smith, Owl Patrol, course 3-58-24, completed his 5 goals of his Ticket. Some of the goals he chose was taking Range Safety Officer and



Merit Badge Counselor trainings so he can better support the scouts in his troop.

Roger was beaded in a ceremony on April 13, 2026, at Troop 484 in Bakersfield, where he is the Scoutmaster. Roger's son, Owen Smith, did the honors of presenting the Wood Badge regalia. Joey Bland, Wood Badge Course Director, officiated the ceremony, assisted by Carolyn Forster.



NATIONAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP TRAINING

A great opportunity for Scouts BSA to meet and interact with other scouts from the Southern California area.

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>

Greater California (previously Golden Empire) & Greater Yosemite Councils

July 12-17, 2026

NorCal Adventure Area, Dobbins

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

Greater California Council (previously Golden Empire)

September 5-7 & September 25-27, 2026

NorCal Adventure Area, Dobbins

Registration: <https://scoutingevent.com/047-104539>

Greater LA Council

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

Camp Trask, Monrovia

Registration: <https://www.scoutingevent.com/033-NYLT>

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.



CALLING ALL REGISTERED ADULTS:

Get the best **leadership training** from people you know.
Ask your unit for **scholarships** for leadership training.

Leadership training for every level of registered adult:

Cub Scouting Troop Venturing

Wood Badge supports leadership, continuity, sustainability adult membership retention, and strengthens Scouting America programming for our youth.

Greater Yosemite Council

May 1-3 & May 16-17, 2026
Camp Warren McConnell, Livingston, CA

Registration: <https://yosemitescouting.doubleknot.com/event/wood-badge-2026/3096809>

Greater LA Council

September 18-20 and October 3-4, 2026
Hubert Eaton Scout Reservation, Cedar Glen, CA & Camp Trask, Monrovia, CA

Registration: <https://scoutingevent.com/033-WoodBadge>

Greater California Council

September 25-27 & October 10-11, 2026
NorCal Adventure Area, Camptonville, CA

Registration Information: <https://www.gec-bsa.org/training>

Western LA Council

October 2-4 & October 17-18, 2026
Camp Verdugo Oaks, CA

Registration: <https://bsa-la.doubleknot.com/event/2026-wood-badge-course/3125733>

Los Padres & Ventura Councils

October 10-12 & October 24-25, 2026
Rancho Alegre, Santa Barbara, CA

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

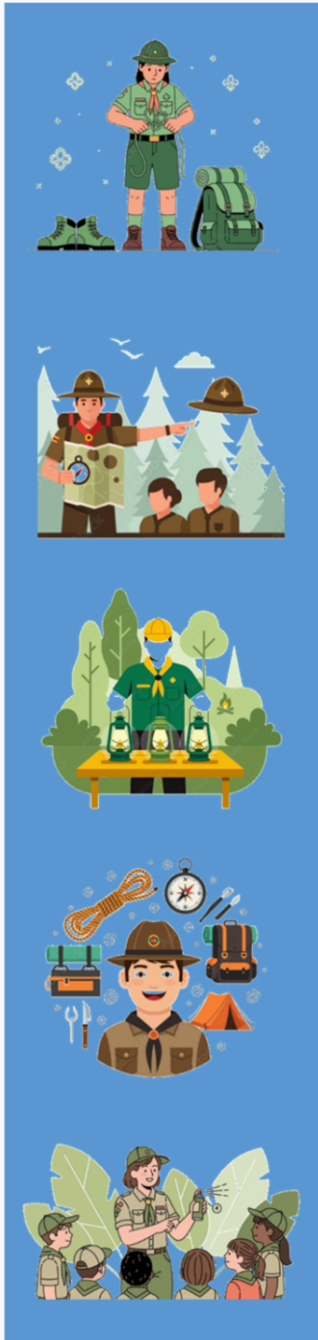
WHAT IS WOOD BADGE?

Wood Badge is the most advanced leadership training course for adults offered by the Scouting America. The training course is rich in scouting history and tradition and incorporates current leadership techniques and methodology.

PREREQUISITES:

- Be a registered adult member of Scouting America
- Have completed basic training requirements for your registered scouting position prior to the course.
- Be capable of functioning safely in an outdoor environment. All participants are required to complete the **Annual Health and Medical Record (parts A, B and C)**:
https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/680-001_ABC.pdf

Questions: Carolyn Forster CJForster1964@gmail.com



Lead-the-Way

Help our Service Area **GROW** and **GO!** New Packs and Troops are forming as our membership is increasing. We need **YOU** to help our new leaders bring quality programming to our youth.

You are invited to become a trainer or presenter at any upcoming training event.

Adults learn from the best – YOU!

Do you have an outdoor skill you would like to share?

Want to brush up on your presentation skills in a comfortable environment?

Trainings happen twice a year, but you only need to commit to one!

Full curriculum with scripts and facilitated learning outlines are already available.

Find out how you can help adults become more confident in the outdoors and leading youth. All it takes is a day to share your knowledge with our new leaders.

We can train you to be confident, effective, and start your next leadership journey as a presenter/trainer.

CONTACT:
 Carolyn Forster
 Tejon Service Area Training Chair
 Greater California Council
CJForster1964@gmail.com

Awards for Adults

Awards

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

Our adult volunteers work tirelessly to bring quality programming for our youth.

Often leaders feel they don't need an award or it's not necessary to make a big deal about them. However, our youth would not have the valuable programming, the unique outdoor experiences, or training in basic outdoor and life skills they get in Scouting America.

Awarding leaders is celebrating the good works it takes to make your unit and the scouts successful.

Leaders wearing their earned knots shows they are trained and experienced to provide programming for the youth.

**** Let's KNOT forget to recognize all our leaders! ****

KNOT OF THE MONTH –

Den Leader Training Award



Tenure:

Can be earned for each year of tenure as a Den Leader per Cub Scout level: Lion, Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelos, or AOL.

Training:

- Complete the position-specific training for the selected den leader position.
- Attend a Pow Wow*, University of Scouting**, or attend at least 4 Roundtables during the tenure

Performance: Do 5 of the following –

- Have an Assistant Den Leader who meets regularly with your den/patrol.
- Have a Den Chief who meets regularly with your den/patrol.
- Have at least 70% of your active den/patrol Cub Scouts renew their registration or cross over to a Scouts BSA Troop.
- Take leadership in planning and conducting a den/patrol service project.
- Have a published meeting/activity schedule for the den/patrol's parents.
- Participate with your den/patrol in a Cub Scout day camp or long-term (resident) camp.
- Complete Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO) training.
- Participate with your den in at least 2 pack or patrol camping activities.
- Take leadership in planning 2 den/patrol outdoor activities.
- Hold monthly activity planning sessions with your assistant den leaders.

APPLICATION: <https://www.scouting.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/Den-Leader-Training-Award-25.pdf>

WHERE IT IS AWARDED

- You can complete the application yourself or your Pack Committee Awards Chair can complete it for you.
- This award can be presented at a Pack meeting or at the Annual Service Area Adult Recognitions Dinner at the end of January. Please submit the application to Cindy Basham by the first week of January so it can be included in the announced awards.

**PowWow – Fun day learning tips and techniques for making your Pack or Troop fun! Great for networking with other scouters.*

***University of Scouting – Choose from a variety of trainings such as CPR, Training Fundamentals, tips and techniques for running your unit i.e. fundraising, membership, leadership, budgeting, working with youth with disabilities, camp cooking, high adventure, and MORE! Great for networking.*



**MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND
SERVICE PROJECT OPPORTUNITY**

Historic Union
Cemetery
730 Potomac Street

FRIDAY

May 22nd at 5:00 P.M.
Flag Placing

MONDAY

Flag Pickup
4:30 P.M.

CONTACT

Please RSVP with Troop 300
Scoutmaster Stacey Hoffman
661-303-9932



Flag Day - Sunday, June 14

10:30 am (exact time TBD)

Bakersfield Elk Lodge - 30th Street - Bakersfield

The Elk's Lodge is requesting a troop/patrol to provide a ceremonial flag retirement as a part of their Flag Day Celebration.

Troop would provide the fire (bring a fire ring) and 5-6 flags to retire (Scout office has flags to retire).

Lunch will be provided.

Please contact Cindy at the Scout Office for the contact to the Elks.



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

May 2026 Family Friendly Activities

Sunday, May 17 - Hart Park

2:00 pm

Panning for Kern River Gold



Possible Eagle Projects

Historic Union Cemetery

730 Potomas Ave - Bakersfield

Contact Patrick Steele at (661) 662-5072 for project ideas

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



June 8-11

Cub Scout Day Camp

June 19-21

OA Ordeal

July 6-9

Cub Scout Twilight Camp

July 18-31

National Jamboree Tour/Summit

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

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