



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



**Scout Office
&
Trading Post Hours**

Tejon District Website

www.sscscouts.org

Tejon District Facebook Page

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

Greater California Council Website & Calendar

<https://gcc-scouting.org/>

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

Service Area

Tejon District Upcoming Dates

(See articles below for details)

- Sept 2 - Tejon - Range & Target Committee Meeting
- Sept 7 - Labor Day - Office Closed
- Sept 8 - Safeguarding Youth Training (in-person, full 90-minute course)
- Sept 12 - Communication Merit Badge
- Sept 15 - So. Sierra Committee Meeting
- Sept 17 - OA Meeting (**NEW DATE**)
- Sept 23 - Kern County Fair - Potato Booth starts
- Oct. 4 - Potato Booth ends
- Oct. 9-11 - Webelos/AOL Campout
- Oct. 16-17 - Tiger/Wolf/Bear Campouts
- Oct. 20 - So. Sierra Committee Meeting
- Oct. 22 - OA Meeting

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



**The Scout office & Trading Post will be closed
Monday, September 7 for Labor Day.**

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

What's Happening in Tejon District?

SOUTHERN SIERRA - TEJON DISTRICT - CALENDAR
Available at [Calendar/Events — Golden Empire Council](#)

To filter for just So. Sierra-Tejon District select "List of Events Here" (red button)
In the filter section on the left, scroll down and check the Tejon District box
Select Search at the top and the right column will list the events in the So. Sierra-Tejon District

Available NOW - Military Knot



Honor the courage, commitment, and sacrifice of those who protect our freedom with the new Military Service Knot.

Reserved exclusively for those who have served or currently serve in the U.S. Military, full-time or in the reserves, this meaningful knot recognizes a proud legacy of service to our nation.

The Military Service Knot brings together the shared values of military service and Scouting, including leadership, preparedness, character, and a commitment to helping others. Its embroidered design creates a powerful symbol of dedication for those who have answered the call to serve.

Every purchase also helps fund free Scouting registration for children of military families. By purchasing the Military Service Knot, you help open the door for the next generation to experience outdoor adventure, build lifelong skills, grow in confidence, and discover the values of Scouting.

Celebrate your service while helping military families begin their own Scouting journey. The Military Service Knot is a meaningful recognition of those who have served and a powerful way to support the families standing beside them.

Bring your proof of service to Cindy at the Scout office to purchase the Military Service Knot

Available while supply lasts - \$10.00 per knot

Popcorn - Funding Your Unit Program

The council has sold \$297,323 in popcorn.

With \$101,401 in sales, Tejon is the top selling district out of eight in the council.

Congratulations on all of your hard work!

Helpful Resources

- [Trail's End Rewards](#)
- [Unit Leader Guide](#)
- [Parent Guide](#)
- [Product Order Form](#)



Be sure to join our Council **Facebook Group**! This group will be an important place for:
Announcements

Unit Transfers

Sales Tracking

Updates & Reminders

...and much more throughout the sale!

[Facebook Group Link](#)

Top selling units in Tejon District



1. Pack 58, \$34,694
2. Troop 194, \$32,282
3. Troop 712, \$9,620
4. Troop 47, \$8,700
5. Pack 25, \$8,698
6. Pack 711, \$4,848
7. Troop 1776, \$2,360
8. Pack 104, \$199

As of: Aug. 30, 2026



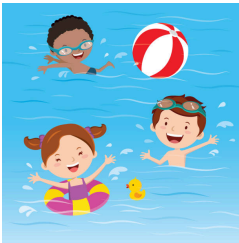
Top selling scouts in Tejon District



1. Samuel L., Pack 58, \$5,084
2. Caden L., Troop 194, \$4,948
3. Greyson W., Troop 194, \$3,999
4. Rashaan G., Troop 194, \$3,489
5. Beckett G., Troop 47, \$3,355
6. Alan J., Troop 194, \$3,290
7. Ollis F., Pack 58, \$3,004
8. Thomas T., Pack 58, \$2,889
9. Declan F., Troop 47, \$2,830
10. Ellington M., Pack 58, \$2,765
11. Sam C., Pack 58, \$2,593
12. Noah O., Pack 58, \$2,563
12. Nate O., Pack 58, \$2,563
14. Robert L., Troop 712, \$2,210
15. Sartaj R., Troop 194, \$2,205
16. Tommy I., Troop 47, \$2,050
17. Solomon G., Troop 194, \$1,842
18. Archer G., Troop 194, \$1,557
19. Andrew L., Pack 58, \$1,539
20. Ryan V., Pack 58, \$1,508

As of Aug. 30, 2026

Summertime Swim Party



Thank you to Program Chair, Sheri Stringer, for hosting the August Summertime activity at Riverlakes Pool!

40+ Cubs Scouts & their families enjoyed an afternoon of cool swimming fun to beat the hot weather.

Membership Resources



Join Scouting

With the new school year upon us, many of us see the start of a new Scouting program year. We are in the middle of scheduling information and recruiting nights this fall to help find new youth members and leaders for our packs, troops, and posts.

If there is a school that you want us to schedule on a certain night, give the office a call at 661-325-9036 and we will work on it.

We have reloaded on our support materials, and they are available to use. These includes flyers that have a customizable strip to include place, date, time to invite families to attend your unit's sign-up night.

We also have yard signs for visibility around the neighborhood the week before the recruitment night.

If you have youth that want to earn their recruiting patch—the national one (we'll add a second Southern Sierra Council one as a bonus), we have peer-to-peer business cards that can be used to invite friends to join in fun. Are you set for another year of fun?



Military Family Fee Waiver



Step-by-Step Online Registration Guide

IMPORTANT: The military Family Fee Waiver covers only the \$85 National Registration Fee.

BEGIN ONLINE

Select Get Military Code, highlighted here in yellow

Verify Military Affiliation

How does verifying work?
Scouting America Uses SheerID, a trusted partner, to verify that you are a member of the military. SheerID only collects information at assists in verifying your eligibility. Additional information or documentation may be requested.

Enter Service Member's information, making sure all fields are complete, including status and branch of service.

TO USE THE DISCOUNT CODE

Copy the Coupon Code & Apply the Discount Code as Shown Below

See that the Military Discount Code is applied, and complete the youth registration as normal.

To register, visit beascout.scouting.org, find your local Pack by typing in your ZIP code, and complete the verification process as shown above. Once verified, you will automatically receive a code, waiving the National fee. Please note you will need a second unique code to waive the Council fee, which can be obtained by calling the Tejon District Registrar, Cindy Basham at (661) 319-3954.

Need Assistance? Take screenshots of your progress and send them with your questions to Cindy.Basham@Scouting.org

STEM Committee Invites You

STEM Committee:



If your Cub Scouts or Scouts BSA members like STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) activities, we need to hear about it. We are restarting a STEM committee with monthly meetings—**usually the second Tuesday** of each month starting at 6:30PM and lasting an hour via Zoom:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85634619630?pwd=jEyiPWIKTziCCFCFvZaqqQX48p4lnH.1>

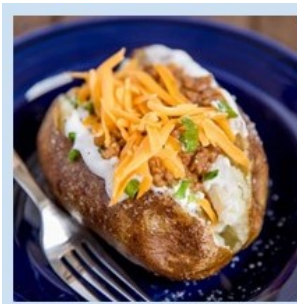
Meeting ID: 856 3461 9630

Passcode: 846418



Volunteers Needed

Baked Potato Booth - Sept. 23 to Oct. 4



The 2026 Kern County Fair is coming up quick - September 23 to October 4. That means the Potato Booth will be open for business for each of those 12 days.

To make the Potato Booth operate, we need Scouts, leaders, friends & family volunteers to work one or more shifts during the fair. Shifts are typically 3 to 4 hours.

Volunteers receive a ticket for fair admission, a parking pass, and a baked potato of their choice. Due to the nature of the work in the potato booth, the minimum age for a volunteer is eleven.

Scouts BSA troops have already committed to their day/shifts. Groups (workplace, church, school, etc.) can reserve a full shift (13 volunteers), multiple shifts or even a full day. This is an excellent opportunity for teambuilding and earning community service hours. PLUS you can attend the fair before and/or after your shift.

The schedule is posted at sccscouts.org (scroll down to see the fair booth schedule). Schedule is update nightly - be sure to check back for where your help is needed.

Sign up as an individual or with a group - email Cindy at cbasham3504@gmail.com to reserve your spot.

Celebrating the 250th Anniversary

How close is your unit to the 250 service hours goal?



SERVE. LEAD. IMPACT.

Impact365 builds character and strengthens communities—one Scout, one project, and one service hour at a time.

Are you doing your "Good Turn Daily"? If so, you are the embodiment of one of Scouting America's new initiatives, Impact 365. The initiative is a four-year one with themes of America250 for 2026 followed by Environment, Schools, and Safety. Members are encouraged to make a positive impact 365 days a year through local, flexible, and community-driven service projects.

For America250, every unit is encouraged to complete 250 hours of community service during 2026. These may be through usual unit service projects, Eagle and other rank service projects, or having the unit identify a community need and inviting families, alumni, and community partners to join and increase the impact.

Remember to log your service hours in Scoutbook so the successful impact can be shared with others. We want to hear about your successes, and will share them in the newsletter when you get word to us.

Recognition items will be available through the council trading post as they become available.

Liberty in Action 250th Challenge



Earn Yours Now!

Scouting America has launched the **Liberty in Action: 250th Anniversary Challenge**, a special nationwide program encouraging Scouts to celebrate the principles of citizenship, service, and patriotism that shape the United States.

Scouts across the country can earn the Liberty in Action 250th Challenge patch by completing activities that connect them to their communities and deepens their understanding of civic responsibility. The challenge highlights

the ideals of liberty, leadership, and service while helping Scouts actively explore what it means to be responsible citizens.

To earn the Liberty in Action patch, Scouts complete a series of age-appropriate activities that may include participating in community service projects, learning about local or national government, exploring historical sites connected to American liberty, and demonstrating strong citizenship in their units, schools, or neighborhoods.

Details about the program and requirements to earn the patch are at this Scout Shop blog: [Liberty in Action 250th Anniversary Challenge|Scouting America](#).

Cub Scout specific ideas to complete the requirements are available at: [How to celebrate America's 250th with your Cub Scouts - On Scouting](#).

The patch may be earned through February of 2027 and will be available through the trading post.

To purchase the patch - bring the completed award form marked with the requirements that were done. Be sure to put the person's name on their form.

Available at the Scout Office - \$4.99 each



America's 250th Pin



America's 250th Collector Emblem

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.

Range & Target Sports Committee



Interested in Range & Target Sports?

You are invited to the
Range & Target Sports Committee Meeting

Wednesday, September 2, 2026

7:00 pm

Scout Office - 2417 M Street

Questions: Contact Jeremy Brown
(661) 912-1261 or talonor@yahoo.com

CAMPING & OUTDOOR PROGRAMS

Camporall...Leadership Needed

Camporall 2027 is on the calendar, and we're seeking a volunteer chair to help bring the great event to life. Whether it's one person, a small team, or an entire Troop, the chair will guide the planning while relying on established processes and broad Troop and Crew support during the event itself. Most of the work centers on preparing the handbook, selecting activities and ensuring everything runs smoothly — a

rewarding way to strengthen our Scouting community and create an unforgettable experience for our youth. This is your chance to lead an event our Scouts look forward to every year!

Please contact District Program Chair, Sheri Stringer, if you have questions or are interested in chairing this great event. Sheri can be reached at (661) 619-9212 or stringersheri@gmail.com

Upcoming Cub Scout Campouts

Putting the Outing in Scouting

Webelos & Arrow of Light - October 9-11

Tigers, Wolves & Bears - October 16-17



WEBELOS/ARROW OF LIGHT ADVENTURE WEEKEND

Location: Buena Vista Aquatic Recreation Area - 13601 Ironbark Road

\$55 per person until 9/30/26

\$60 per person from 10/1/26 to 10/7/26

There is a \$7 per car gate fee (payable at the park entrance)

Staff: \$15 per person (Scouts BSA/Leaders assisting with activities)

Registration fee covers site, activities, meals & patch.

Registration online at: <https://www.scoutingevent.com/047-WebAOL26>

Deadline to register is October 7, 2026 - 11:59 pm

ALL Webelos, Arrow of Light Scouts and Parents are invited to attend this districtwide camping activity trip. Scouts will set-up camp, work on Adventure pins as well as participating in range & target sports and campfire programs.

WHEN:

Check-In - Friday, October 9th - Begins at 5 PM - Follow signs to registration

Check-Out - Sunday, October 11th - 10 AM - Assembly Area

WHAT TO BRING: Dinner on Friday event is to be provided by you. Please eat before camp or bring a sack dinner. There are no personal campfires or cooking areas allowed in camp. Also bring any/all camping gear. Tent, sleeping bag, sleeping pad, camp chair, etc. Packs will camp together in the same area. Pop-ups for shade & tables are suggested for the Pack's campsite.

IMPORTANT TO BRING: BSA Health Form - Parts A & B (Scouts & Adults)

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

Fun, food & activities are provided - you provide the camping gear and a Scout looking for fun and adventure. Get your Webelos or Arrow of Light den together and register early to save money.

Note - This is a Webelos/Arrow of Light and Adult partner event. Please no siblings. There are no facilities or activities for additional family members.



The campout will feature a campfire on Friday night, many fun activities on Saturday which will help towards their rank advancement, and also include BB and archery.

CUB OVERNIGHTER for Tigers, Wolves & Bears

Location: Buena Vista Aquatic Recreation Area - 13601 Ironbark Road

\$25 per person until 10/7/26

\$30 per person from 10/8/26 to 10/14/26

Registration fee covers site, activities, meals & patch.

There is a \$7 per car gate fee (payable at the park entrance)

Registration online at: <https://www.scoutingevent.com/047-TWB26>

Deadline to register is October 14, 2026 - 11:59 pm

When: Friday, October 16 to Saturday, October 17

(Check in begins at 5:00 pm on Friday evening)

The event will end by 4:00 pm on Saturday

Staff: \$15 per person (Scouts BSA/Leaders assisting with activities)

See the "what to bring" list attached to online registration.

All Cub Scouts or family under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

No program is provided for additional family members.

IMPORTANT TO BRING - A BSA Health form (parts A & B) - All attendees

Don't forget to eat before you come on Friday and be prepared for a night of camping & fun!

Friends of Scouting



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

We have collected over \$38,550.75 in payment and pledges from Friends of Scouting visits & community support!

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

Wednesday, November 4, 2026 - 6:30 pm
Scout Office - 2417 M Street - Bakersfield

Online Registration: Will open Oct. 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 August Eagle Scouts from Troops 55, 194(2), 395, & 442.

Order of the Arrow



YOWLUMNE Lodge

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

OA Yowlumne LEC - Thursday, Sept. 17 - 7:00 pm - Scout Office
OA Conclave - Friday, Sept. 18-20
OA - Potato Booth Shifts - Thursday, Oct. 1

Coming Soon

Lodge Leadership Development (LLD) - Saturday, Dec. 5 (afternoon)

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!

2026 OA Dues - Time to Pay - \$20

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

Questions:

Contact Lodge Advisor - Chuck Monaco at (661) 303-8636 or cmonacoscouts@gmail.com

Mark Your Calendars



Merit Badge Midway
Saturday, November 7, 2026
8:00 am to 4:30 pm
Bakersfield

Registration Online at
<https://www.scoutingevent.com/047-MB1126>

Cost: \$5.00 per badge until Oct. 31 2026 - then \$7 after
Final deadline - Friday, Nov. 6 - 12:00 noon

Morning Session
8:30 am - 12:00 pm
Competitive Gaming *
Game Design
Electronics *

Afternoon Session
1:00 pm - 4:30 pm
Competitive Gaming *
American Cultures *
Railroading *

Full-day
8:30 am - 4:30 pm
Citizenship in the Nation *

(*) Prerequisites apply - please see online registration for details. These must be completed & brought to the merit badge day to receive the full merit badge - otherwise a partial will be given until prerequisites are completed and submitted to the counselor.

Training News & Resources



As a registered adult in Scouting America, you are expected to keep your trainings current at all times.
NOTE: Expired training may result in membership suspension or even loss of membership.

TRAINING CALENDARS – FALL 2026

SOUTHERN SIERRA SERVICE AREA

Sept. 8 - 6 pm
S.A.F.E. Guarding Youth
Training (in person)

Note: This is the 90-minute full course.
Scout office, Bakersfield, CA

Sept. 18-20 & Oct. 3-4

GREATER CALIFORNIA COUNCIL

Sept. 5-7 & Sept. 18-20
NYLT (Greater Calif Council)
<https://scoutingevent.com/047-104539>
NorCal Adventure Base,
Dobbins, CA

Sept. 25-27 & Oct. 10-11

Wood Badge

(Greater LA Council)

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

Hubert Eaton, Cedar Glen, CA & Camp
Trask, Monrovia, CA

Oct. 2-4 & Oct. 17-18

Wood Badge

(Western LA Council)

[https://bsa-la.doubleknot.com/event/2026-](https://bsa-la.doubleknot.com/event/2026-wood-badge-course/3125733)

[wood-badge-course/3125733](https://bsa-la.doubleknot.com/event/2026-wood-badge-course/3125733)

Camp Verdugo Oaks, CA

Wood Badge

(Greater Calif Council)

<https://scoutingevent.com/047-104538>

NorCal Adventure Base,
Dobbins, CA



Take S.A.F.E. Guarding Youth Training
NOW at in-person training **OR**
complete it on-line anytime at My.Scouting.org

2026

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

TUESDAY

Sept 8, 2026

6:00 pm – 9:00 am

Scout Office, Bakersfield

SATURDAY

Nov 7, 2026

8:00 am – 11:00 am

TBA, Bakersfield

WHY DO I NEED TO RENEW SYT (previously known as YPT)?

S.A.F.E. Guarding Youth Training (SYT) is **required annually**, **BEFORE** your training expires,
(per SSSA policy 2015) for all registered adult volunteers and leaders.

- **REQUIRED ANNUALLY:** Den Leader, Cub Master, Scout Master, all Assistant positions, all Committee members, all District/Council positions, and Merit Badge Counselors.
- **RECOMMENDED:** All Parents/Adults are recommended and encouraged to complete SYT, even if you are not registered or in an official leadership role.

Thank you for continuing to keep youth safe in Southern Sierra Service Area.

CONTACT: Carolyn Forster, Council Training Chair
CJForster1964@gmail.com



COMPLETE ALL LEADER POSITION TRAININGS

National Scouting America is about to release, (likely in September or October) the revised position trainings for: Scoutmaster/Assistant Scoutmaster, all Cub Leader trainings, and Commissioner trainings.

If you are in the process of taking your online leader position training at My.Scouting.org you **MUST** complete any outstanding modules now. If you do not complete all the modules of the current version of your position training, your progress will be deleted, and you will need to restart your training from the start with the updated modules.



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!

Greater LA Council

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

Camp Trask, Monrovia

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

Verdugo Hills & Long Beach Area Councils

February 12-15, 2027 and February 19-21, 2027

Camp Trask, Monrovia

Event Info:

<https://www.vhscouting.org/content/136308/NYLT-Weekend-1--REQUIRED-for-completion->

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 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



All WOOD BADGE ALUM* and their families are invited to a Tri-Council Wood Badge Reunion!

SAVE-THE-DATE: Saturday, October 3, 2026

Bring your whole family for a fun day in the park with music, games, silent auction, barbecue, and fellowship. Location to be announced (near Glendale/Burbank area).

*Regardless of where you took your Wood Badge course, everyone is welcomed and encouraged to attend.



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
Southern Sierra Service Area
Tejon District Training Coordinator
Greater California Council
CJForster1984@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 – **Unit Leader Award of Merit**

This award recognizes Cubmasters, Scoutmasters, Venture Crew Advisors, and Sea Scout Skippers maintaining strong and viable units by reaching the quality benchmarks characteristic of strong units.



APPLICATION PROCEDURE

1. The Unit Committee Chair completes the Nomination Form on behalf of the Unit Committee; including the candidate. For Scout Troops, Venturing Crews, and Sea Scout Ships, the nomination must also include endorsement by the Senior Patrol Leader, Crew President, or Ship's Boatswain, as appropriate.
2. The Unit or District Commissioner certifies the nomination form as complete.
3. The Unit submits the nomination form to the council (Cindy Basham) for approval by the Scout Executive or Council Commissioner or President.

NOMINATION FORM: https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/512-003_WB.pdf?_gl=1*1n8tu5p*_ga*MTYxOTY1ODUwMy4xNzcwMTQzMTU5*_ga_20G0JHESG4*czE3ODU5NDg2NzlkczUzJGcxJHxNzg1OTQ4NzI0JGGo4JGwwJGgw*_gcl_au*MTcwODY5MzM4Mi4xNzg1OTQ4Njcy

BACKGROUND The award recognizes Unit Leaders of quality units meeting benchmarks characteristic of strong units.

REQUIREMENTS

The nominee must

1. Be a currently registered Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, Advisor, or Skipper who has served in that position at least 18 continuous months.
2. Meet the training requirements for the registered position.
3. Distribute a printed or electronic annual unit program plan and calendar to each family in the unit.
4. Have a leader succession plan in place.
5. Effectively use the advancement method so that at least 60 percent of the unit's youth have advanced at least once during the last 12 months.
6. Cultivate a positive relationship with the chartered organization.
7. Project a positive image of Scouting in the community.

WHERE IT IS AWARDED

The Unit Leader Award of Merit can be awarded at a unit Court of Honor or a District/Council award event such as district or council leader recognition dinners, training events, and board meetings.

A Scout is Helpful
Service hour opportunities

Volunteers Needed - September 12

Kern County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services is asking for volunteers to help with their annual Recovery Resource Fair in observance of National Substance Use Recovery Month in September.

The Resource Fair is on **Saturday, September 12th between 9AM and 1PM** at Central Park at Mill Creek.

Sixty vendors are slated to attend to over 600 attendees.

Volunteers will be asked to support the event through setup, distributing water/food to vendors, welcoming guests, groundskeeping, and other small tasks. The organizers will provide volunteer acknowledgement letters that include number of hours to each volunteer.



2026
**RECOVERY
RESOURCE FAIR**
Saturday, September 12
Central Park at Mill Creek

65 years
BUILDING ON A HISTORY OF
HOPE, HEALING, AND RECOVERY.
**KERN COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
RECOVERY SERVICES**

Volunteers Needed!

TO SIGN-UP
USE THE QR CODE



QUESTIONS? EMAIL SUDLIAISON@KERNBHRS.ORG

*Recovery is
R.E.A.L.*

Recovery Month.
Every Person.
Every Family.
Every Community.

Halloween/Harvest Festival help needed

This fall, we also have two major events and would love to invite Scouts and their families to attend — and Scouts and troops interested in volunteering to become part of them. We are offering vendor booths to any scout troops that have wares to sell to make troop money.

North Fork Ranch Harvest Festival — September 26, 2026

A full day of fall activities, vendors, food, music, entertainment and family fun.

North Fork Ranch Halloween — October 24, 2026 (Times have changed from (3:00-10:00))

Featuring our Haunted Hayride, Haunted Hike and CirqueSanity show, along with vendors, food, music and Halloween entertainment.

Vern Green and his incredible group of ghouls are heading up the Haunted Hike, and they are looking for volunteers. On the Haunted Hayride and ranch side as well as the Harvest Festival we also have numerous opportunities for Scouts and adult leaders to help with parking, games, guest assistance, activity supervision and other areas throughout the event.

We would welcome as much or as little help as your troop would like to provide.

There is plenty of room for camping, so both events can also become an overnight Scout adventure. Troops can participate in the event and then enjoy a night of cowboy camping under the stars in the mountains.

Vern has identified many additional opportunities that we would love to share with the Scouting community, and he has generously offered to help answer questions from troops and prospective volunteers.

Vern Green

[805.794.7255](tel:805.794.7255)

Hayvern@gmail.com

Note: North Fork Ranch is located in the Frazier Park area, directly south of what was formerly Camp Three Falls.

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

Possible Eagle Projects



Historic Union Cemetery
730 Potomas Ave - Bakersfield

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

TASC Scout Service Project Opportunities - located west of Frazier Park

Supporting Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Through Nature

TASC is a nonprofit organization providing innovative day, employment, and eco-therapeutic services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Our Frazier Park campus serves as a therapeutic forest where participants build independence while connecting with nature. Our Sanctuary in Santa Clarita is a care farm where individuals participate in a variety of eco-therapies. We welcome Scout service projects that improve accessibility, conservation, and outdoor education.

Contact Volunteer Coordinator - Tess at (818) 404-8608
volunteersnat@gmail.com

Note: This agency also has projects for Conservation Hours only.

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.

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



November 7

Lion's ROAR

Merit Badge Midway
Trainings: SYT & LNT

November 11

***Save
These
Dates***

Veteran's Day Parade

November 14

University of Scouting - Davis, CA

December 5

Pushmobile

December 19

Scout Night at the Condors

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

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