

April 2023



BOY SCOUTS
OF AMERICA®

SOUTHERN SIERRA COUNCIL

SSC Scouting News

Keeping you up to date with what is happening in the Southern Sierra Council.

[SSC Website Link](#)

Be sure to select "View Entire Message" at the bottom of page one to see full newsletter - Plus forward to your unit families



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



The Scout Office & Trading Post will be closed Friday, April 7 for Good Friday.

Both will be reopen on Monday, April 10.



SSC Program Committee Meeting

**NO PROGRAM MEETING
due to Spring Break**

**Next meeting
Thursday, May 4 - 6:30 pm
via Zoom**

The SSC Program Committee is responsible for strengthening and enriching unit program by overseeing the program functions of Activities & Civic Service; Advancement; Camping; and Training.

Council Office Contacts

(661) 325-9036

Scout Executive

Randy Saunders - Ext. 104
randy.saunders@scouting.org

District Executive

Council Website & Calendar

www.sscbsa.org

Council Facebook Page

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

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

Cameron Hutton - Ext. 103
cameron.hutton@scouting.org

Office Manager

Mary Castaneda - Ext. 108
mary.castaneda@scouting.org

Council Commissioner - General

Support

Cindy Basham - Ext. 102
cbasham3504@gmail.com



Congratulations! 2023 District Award of Merit Recipients James Dunn & Elaine Riendeau



Shooting Sports Committee



Interested in Shooting Sports?

You are invited to the Shooting Sports
Committee meeting

Wednesday, April 5, 2023

7:00 pm

Scout Office - 2417 M Street

SSC adheres to the Boy Scouts of America's longstanding policy of teaching its youth and adult members the safe, responsible, intelligent handling, care, and use of firearms, air rifles, BB guns, and archery equipment in planned, carefully managed, and supervised programs.

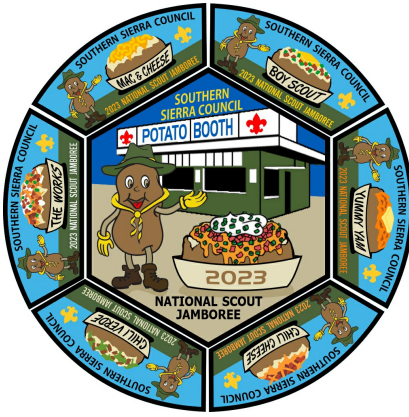
From Cub Scouting to Venturing, all program divisions use responsible outdoor activities to promote character development and values-based leadership training. Shooting sports have the ability to attract and retain youth in the movement. Millions of young people participate in one or more of the sports annually guided by adult volunteers who have the training and knowledge to provide quality programs in a safe and effective way.

The Shooting Sports Committee verifies qualified supervision, appropriate planning, approved ranges, and proper equipment is available for all shooting sports events. The committee supports the Council's

goals of ensuring training opportunities for leaders to help them support safe and authorized marksmanship activities.

Questions: Contact Council Shooting Sports Director, Jeremy Brown - (661) 912-1261 or talonor@yahoo.com.

Get Yours While They're HOT!!! 2023 Jamboree Patch Set Pre-order Open



The Southern Sierra Council is proud to have a contingent of 30 Scouts and leaders participating in the 2023 National Scout Jamboree this summer. Our contingent will be among thousands of Scouts from all across the USA and from other countries, as well. Our group has designed a special patch set for the Jamboree. This patch set represents something truly unique to the Southern Sierra Council... the POTATO BOOTH! The set includes seven patches, all potato booth themed.

The price for the set is \$40 (includes sales tax), a great deal. You can order yours today. Order online at <https://scoutingevent.com/030-PatchOrder>

You can also get the shoulder patch the contingent will wear on their uniforms.

Price for this special patch is \$5 (includes sales tax). You can also order these online at <https://scoutingevent.com/030-PatchOrder>.



We will accept pre-orders for Jamboree patches until May 15. Patches will arrive and be available by June 15.

Join the Badger Troop



Are you part of the Badger Troop yet?

The Badger Troop was started in 2022. How many Badger Troop members are there? Quite a few... and there is room for more new Badgers to join in 2023.

The Badger Troop is the Southern Sierra Council's recurring gift club. By contributing \$20 or more per month through your credit or debit card, you'll help provide a steady stream of support to the Council. Recurring gifts are convenient. Over the course of the year, your small monthly donation becomes a significant contribution to making Scouting happen locally. The first 100 members will receive the special "charter member" patch. Get one of these special patches while they last!

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

Summertime is a Great Time to Grow Scouting... Invite a Friend to Join

Scouting is the ultimate Adventure for our youth. There is so much a Scout can do... camping, fishing, shooting sports, learning life-saving skills, STEM, and on and on. About the only thing that can make Scouting better is to

have a friend along for the experience.

Well, now's your chance. Invite new families and friends to participate in your Summertime activities.

Packs, Troops, and Crews: make your summer activities opportunities for new Scouts to join. The Council will produce flyers, provide posters, yard signs, and geofencing via Facebook to help promote your activities. All you need to do is send the activity/event information (date, time, location) to randy.saunders@scouting.org.



We will offer the individual incentives for your Scouts and parents once again this year. This incentive program will last all of 2023. Whenever you have a Scout earn the incentive, contact Randy or Cindy at the Scout Office.



***These incentives
are available
throughout 2023.***



Youth: Invite a friend to join their Pack or Troop. Scouts are eligible to earn the incentive throughout 2023. When the invited youth joins, the Scout will receive their award.

- Cub Scout youth: \$10 Amazon gift card and patch
- Scouts BSA youth: \$10 Amazon gift card and patch
- Exploring youth: \$10 Amazon gift card
- Newly recruited youth: patch

Parents, leaders or any adults: Invite a parent to bring their youth to join their Pack or Troop. If the invited youth joins, the adult will receive a Starbucks gift card. If the invited youth's parent becomes a registered volunteer, the adult will get two Starbucks gift cards.

Trainers EDGE - April 15



What is Trainer's EDGE?

Trainer's EDGE helps Adult Leaders and Scouts BSA develop communication skills for effective presentation.

Learn techniques to engage your audience, enhance your presentation, and gain confidence in your delivery.

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

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

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

TRAINER'S EDGE

Saturday, April 15, 2023

8:00 am to 4:00 pm

Scout Office - 2417 M Street - Bakersfield

Registration link: <https://www.scoutingevent.com/030-TE23>

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

Your presentation should allow you to demonstrate the skills of a trainer. Use techniques learned during the course to enhance your prepared presentation. As a part of the afternoon program, you will make your presentation to a small group of other participants providing an opportunity for us all to learn from each other!

CONTACT:

Carolyn Forster

CJForster1964@gmail.com

Take Me Out to the Ballgame SF Giants Scout Day



The Southern Sierra Council is invited to Scouts Day at Oracle Park (San Francisco). Scouts can participate in a pregame parade and receive a special canteen.

Game Day: Sunday, June 25, 2023

Game Time: 1:05 pm

Giants vs Diamondbacks

The council is trying to form a contingent and must have a minimum number of interested participants to get group seating. If interested in attending, contact Cameron Hutton (**by April 21st**) at 661-325-9036 or cameron.hutton@scouting.org



2023 Camporall - "Seeking to Soar"

April 28 - 30, 2023

Camp Three Falls

A fun-filled weekend for all Scouts BSA Troops & Venture Crews

- Scored Activities
- Non-Scored Activities
- Troop Leadership Position Challenges
- Awards & Recognition
- OA Callout Ceremony



Guidebook available at registration link below

Camporall registration is OPEN

Online Registration at: <https://www.scoutingevent.com/030-camporall23>

Show our Scouting Strength to the Community Give Big Kern is May 2



Observed on the first Tuesday in May, Give Big Kern is a dynamic and fun day of giving hosted by Kern Community Foundation to foster local philanthropy in support of charitable organizations in Kern County.

The effort allows participating agencies to gain visibility as they engage the entire community in "One day to celebrate the giving spirit of Kern County!"

The Southern Sierra Council has been a participant in Give Big Kern since 2017. Last year, we had 49 donors contribute a total of \$14,870, a great showing! All Give Big Kern donations 100% go to and support the Southern Sierra Council. Our goal this year is to raise \$20,000.

Give Big Kern Day is May 2, **but all donations received in April will be counted towards the grand total of this month's efforts.** The Council needs everyone's with raising the funds necessary to grow support local Scouting. Your generous contribution is vital to our cause. Every gift of any amount makes a huge difference.

Please consider making a donation to the Southern Sierra Council to show Kern County that Scouting is alive and well. You can donate any amount online at <https://www.givebigkern.org/organizations/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.

Thank you for your support!
Randy Saunders - Scout Executive

CUB SCOUT PACKS

UPDATED guidelines for Cub Scout Pack Camping

The Boy Scouts of America has updated the guidelines for Cub Scout Pack campouts recently. The new guidelines are published in the newest version of the Guide to Safe Scouting. Please review these guidelines before organizing your next Pack campout.



Guidelines Specifically for Cub Scout Unit-Coordinated Camping

- Cub Scout camping is limited to their council's designated locations with appropriate facilities. *The Council will produce a list of approved sites for Packs to use and add sites as they are received.*
 - Councils use Pack Overnight Campout Site Appraisal Form (www.scouting.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/430-90218-PackOvernightForm_Fillable.pdf) to review and designate locations. *Send the form to Randy at the Scout Office and one of our volunteer appraisers will visit the site and review the form.*
 - Units can request from their council a site appraisal but cannot do their own appraisal.
- Cub Scout pack unit coordinated camping is limited to single overnight experiences.
- Cub Scout camping is a family-centric program.
- Cub Scout youth may tent with a parent or guardian as outlined in Scouting's Barriers to Abuse.
- Cub Scout youth should attend the camping event with their parent(s)/ guardian(s).
 - Lions and Tigers must have their adult partner present to take part.
 - For all other ranks: only in exceptional circumstances, a Cub Scout whose parent or legal guardian cannot attend a unit overnight camping trip may participate under the supervision of another registered adult member of the BSA, a parent of a Cub Scout who is also attending. The unit leader and a parent or legal guardian must agree to the arrangement, and all Youth Protection policies apply. At no time may another adult accept responsibility for more than one additional "non family member" youth.
 - Webelos and Arrow of Light Den Camping: Each Scout should attend with their parent(s) or guardian(s). A Webelos or Arrow of Light Scout whose parent or legal guardian cannot attend a den overnight camping trip may participate under the supervision of at least two registered leaders. The leaders and a parent or legal guardian must agree to the arrangement, and all Youth Protection policies apply.
- Only Webelos and Arrow of Light dens may conduct den coordinated campouts. Den camping only includes the Webelos or Arrow of Light youth. As with pack coordinated campouts, the den must have a BALOO trained adult leader in attendance and all Youth Protection policies apply.
 - Webelos/Arrow of Light Den Camping may participate and camp at a Scouts BSA troop unit campout. All Cub Scout camping requirements still apply, including the den must have a BALOO trained adult leader in attendance and all Youth Protection policies apply.
- In order to conduct a pack overnight campout at least one registered adult leader who is attending the campout must complete **Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO)** training.

3rd Annual Online Auction "Celebrating Scouting Stars"

We are excited to present our 3rd Annual Online Auction – "Celebrating Scouting Stars". Last year's



online auction was great. We had over 70 items and raised over \$4,000. We need your help to make this year's auction better.

Auction Items Needed

Please consider donating an item or gift certificate to help support us this year. These items can be gift certificates to a business, services, actual items such as art, jewelry, cosmetics, etc, or even monetary contributions. We are striving to feature local

businesses and individuals in our auction every year to help give back to places that support us.

Your donation will be featured on our website and throughout our promotions. Proceeds from your donated item will benefit the boys and girls in the Southern Sierra Council, and your support is truly appreciated. While we all continue to face great challenges, we know that providing quality youth development is vital for a strong future.

2023's "Celebrating Scouting Stars" online auction will begin on May 19th, 2023, at 5 pm and run through Memorial Day on May 29th, 2023, at midnight.

We will provide documentation of your tax-deductible donation. Please call or email Cameron Hutton at 661.325.9036 or cameron.hutton@scouting.org with a description of your item or more information. We can arrange pick-up at your convenience.



The Southern Sierra Council NCAP Team is looking for a few good Scouters to join our team. NCAP (National Camp Accreditation Program) provides a set of standards for both long- and short-term camps designed to:

Provide the framework to councils for the health, safety, and well-being -- of every camper, leader, visitor, and staff member while participating in a BSA-accredited camp.

Develop levels of standards -- so that each camper and leader obtains a quality program consistent with the BSA brand.

Even though we (SSC) currently don't have an operating Summer Camp, our Scouts attend camps around our territory (NST #3) which consists of all the California and Hawaii Scout camps, and being a member of the Council Assessment Team gives you an opportunity to influence the accreditation of those camps you or your Scout may attend.

The focus of the Council Assessment Team is to visit one or more summer camps that are not in their Council. The requirements to be an Assessment Team member are:

- Be a Scouting BSA registered adult.
- Be Youth Protection Trained.
- Be approved by our Scout Executive.
- Take an online National NCAP Training (1 Hour), available now.
- Take an in-person/zoom Zone Training (3 – 5 hours), available in April/May.

- Be available to participate in Camp Assessment(s) Mon-Fri, usually during the first or second week of summer camp.

If you are interested, please contact Cap Casperson, casperc@p@gmail.com, (760) 608-1444, or our Council Scout Executive, Randy Saunders. We look forward to welcoming you to the Team.

CUB SCOUT STEM DAY

Saturday, May 6th, 2023

9 am - 12 pm Check in @ 8:30 am

Location: TBD (in Bakersfield)

Cost: \$5 per scout



Online registration opens April 15 - <https://www.scoutingevent.com/030-STEM23>

Join us for a fun morning with a focus on science and related topics. Open to all cub scouts.

Questions: Contact Skye Fosdick (661-364-6265) at skyefosdick@gmail.com or Cameron Hutton (661-325-9036) at cameron.hutton@scouting.org

Remember to bring your Medical A & B forms for scouts & adults.

Quarterly Roundtable - May 11



Hello, summer! We've been expecting you — and especially your long days, warm weather and break from school.

Packs - One activity each month (June, July & Aug.) will earn the Summertime Pack Award. The goal is to provide an opportunity for the families to get together, to see one another, to create memories and enjoy themselves. Put the outing in Scouting.

Troops/Crews - Continue normal meetings throughout the summer - include summer camp, long distance backpacking & canoe/kayak/rafting trips, Philmont Treks, Sea Base, Swamp Base, etc. Enjoy Scouting in the outdoors.

May Roundtable will be an evening of fun Summertime games, Snacks & Scouting!

Thursday, May 11, 2023

7:00 pm

The Park at River Walk (Stockdale & Buena Vista)

East side of park by amphitheatre - look for council banner

The purpose of the quarterly Scout leader roundtable is to provide quality resources, knowledge, and skills to units leaders to enable and motivate them to deliver an outstanding program to their Scouts.

Roundtables focus on program highlights for upcoming months and are a great opportunity to meet with other leaders from your area.

Roundtables are conducted quarterly and for all Scouting leaders - Cubmasters, Den Leaders, Webelos Leaders, Scoutmasters, Assistant Scoutmasters, Venturing Advisors and unit Committee Members.

Trail to First Class Palooza

Saturday, May 20th, 2023

8:00 am to 5:00 pm



Location: Panofsky-Wilson Preserve
(27750 Caliente Bodfish Rd, Caliente, CA 93518)

Cost: \$10 per scout

Scouts BSA are encouraged to come work together on requirements for ranks Scout through 1st Class.

Questions: Contact James Avery (661-497-1605) at javery@gmail.com or Cameron Hutton (661-325-9036) at cameron.hutton@scouting.org

Registration opens online April 15: <https://www.scoutingevent.com/030-TTFC23>

Order of the Arrow



Upcoming OA Events - OA Members:

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

- April 20 - OA Chapter Meeting - 7:00 pm
- April 27 - OA LEC - Lodge Executive Committee - 7:00 pm - Scout Office - 2417 M St., Bakersfield
- April 29 - OA Callout Ceremony
- June 16-18 - OA Ordeal

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

Questions:

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

Eagles Nest

- If you have any questions or need assistance with the Eagle process, please contact the Council office for direction.
- Membership empowers Scouting's mission, protects the Eagle Scout legacy, and keeps alumni connected. Give your Eagle pride a purpose with membership in the National Eagle Scout Association (NESA). Join NESA at <https://nesa.org/>



LIFE-TO-EAGLE WORKSHOP

Saturday, May 13 - 9:00 am to 11:30 pm

Scout Office - 2417 M Street

Life Scouts, Parents and Leaders are invited to the Life to Eagle Workshop. This is an interactive workshop/seminar detailing the Eagle Rank process from project inception through preparation for the Eagle Board of Review

Congratulations to our newest Eagle Scout during the month of February! This Eagle Scout is from Troop 950.

Summertime Activity for June



On your mark, Get Set, GOOOOO!

To

Cub Scout Day Camp 2023



June 12th through June 15th

Green flag drops at 8:15am (Start time)

Checkered flag flies at Noon (end time)

Registration

Early: \$65 until 5/12/23

Normal: \$75 5/13 to 6/2/23

Location: Centennial Elementary (15200 Westdale Dr, Bakersfield, CA 93314)



Events include: BB gun shooting --- Field games --- Archery --- Crafts and fun activities!

Open to Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelos and AOL Cub Scouts!

Register at: <https://scoutingevent.com/030-DC23>

All tigers must have an adult partner with them at all times.

For proper supervision, all packs are responsible for providing 1 trained adult for every 5 scouts attending.

Questions? Contact: Heather Howard, Day Camp Director at 661-304-3424 or heatherhow80@gmail.com
OR Cameron Hutton, Staff Advisor at 661-325-9036 or cameron.hutton@scouting.org

Upcoming Training Courses



COUNCIL TRAINING COMMITTEE

Tuesday, May 9 @ 6:30 pm

Zoom: ID: 314 211 1129 Password: 928897

Why should I attend this committee?

Training doesn't happen by magic or accident; nor is it created by a single person. It takes planning and input from ALL the units to ensure the training needed is offered timely and is engaging for all participants. Your voice and volunteer time is needed to provide the best training for all adults throughout our Council. **Training is a vital part of your unit's growth, succession planning, and member retention, 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 4 meetings per year.*

Who should attend:

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

CONTACT:

Carolyn Forster

Council Training Chair

CJForster1964@gmail.com

**National
Youth
Leadership
Training**



NYLT is a leadership program for Scouts BSA youth members ages 13-20.

Participants learn leadership skills and techniques they can use in their Troop/Crew and other situations requiring leadership of self and others.

Pre-requisites

- Registered member of a Scouting Unit
- Recommended by the Scoutmaster or Crew Advisor
- BSA Medical Forms A, B & C
- First Class Scout Rank minimum
- Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops (ILST)

National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)

June 26 – July 1, 2023

Camp Verdugo Oaks

38001 Golden State Highway, Castaic

Registration: <https://www.scoutingevent.com/030-NYLT23>

Cost:*

\$295 – EARLY BIRD (by April 30)

\$325 – Regular (May 1-May 31)

\$350 – Late (June 1-15)

*Scholarships may be available from your Troop or Crew.



Leadership training for every level of registered adult: Cub Scout, Troop, or Venturing.

Wood Badge supports leadership, continuity, adult membership retention, and BSA programming for our youth.

Tri-Council

WOOD BADGE

September 8-10 & October 7-8, 2023

Camp Tahquitz, San Bernardino

Course Director: Aimee McCarty, Long Beach Area Council

Questions: tricouncilwoodbadge@gmail.com or CJForster1964@gmail.com

Cost: \$275

Scholarships may be available through your Unit, Council, or the course.

REGISTRATION: <https://www.longbeachbsa.org/training/woodbadge/>

What is Wood Badge?

Wood Badge is the most advanced training course for adults offered by the Boy Scouts of America. The training course is rich in Scouting history and tradition.

Participants spend 5 days and 3 nights learning modern leadership theories from contemporary scholars such as Ken Blanchard (author of the *One Minute Manager* series of books), Stephen R. Covey (author of *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People* and *Principle Centered Leadership*), and Spencer Johnson (author of *Who Moved My Cheese*), to name a few.

How will I benefit?

- Make a positive difference in the quality of your Scouting program and the impact Scouting has on the lives of its members.
- Be better prepared to give our youth the opportunity to live Scouting's values to become a better citizen.

Prerequisites:

- Be registered adult member of the Boy Scouts of America
- Have completed Basic Training 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)

To successfully complete Wood Badge, Scouters must:

- Attend and participate in BOTH weekends of the Wood Badge course

- Attend the mid-course patrol meetings
- Complete their Ticket goals within 18 months

Jamboree On The Air October 21 2023 Join with Scouts from around the World!



Nearly 1 million scouts from all over the world will gather Oct. 21 for JOTA Jamboree On The Air. It's the world's largest Scouting event!

Youth and adults of all ages are invited to come to a FREE EVENT on Oct. 21 (location TBA, in Bakersfield) for an opportunity to chat with other Scouts from around the world, via amateur radio stations that will be set up to allow everyone to get on-the-air!

There will be free food, fun games, and opportunities to earn international Scouting awards that count towards rank requirements! Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Venturers, Girl Scouts, please come in uniform. Dens, Packs, and Troops are welcome to come as a unit.

For more information contact, Terry Godley 661-380-0183 or n6aj@arrl.net.

Dates to Remember



July 15

Cub Scout Summertime Activity

July 20

Fall Recruiting Training

August 12

Cub Scout Summertime Activity

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

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