

May 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 Monday, May 29 for Memorial Day.



SSC Program Committee Meeting

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

2023-2024 Calendar Planning will begin

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 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.

Council Office Contacts

(661) 325-9036

Scout Executive

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

District Executive

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



**Families Can Have Fun and Learn at
Philmont This Summer**

**See article below showcasing the
Philmont Family Adventure Camp**

Show our Scouting Strength to the Community

Give Big Kern is Tuesday, May 2



Give Big Kern Day is Tuesday, May 2.

The Council needs everyone's help with raising the funds necessary to grow and support local Scouting. Your generous contribution is vital to our cause. Every gift of any amount makes a huge difference.

Donations to the Southern Sierra Council through Give Big Kern help Scouting go and grow locally. Here are a few examples:

- The Council pays for and provides accident insurance that helps parents pay for the treatment of injuries that happen at Scouting activities.
- The Council provides liability insurance coverage that protects charter organizations, meeting locations, and Scouting volunteers.
- The Council provides recruiting materials and tools to help Packs and Troops grow their membership. The Council had a 16% membership growth in 2022.
- The Council keeps and inventory of materials and supplies that are used for activities, overnight campouts, and training courses.
- The Council office provides one-stop service to parents and leaders, whether it's to purchase Scout uniforms and supplies, or checking advancement records for Eagle Scout candidates.

Our goal this year is to raise \$20,000 and receive 100 donations.

Please consider making a donation to the Southern Sierra Council on Give big Kern Day 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

Camporall Soaring to Success!!!



The 2023 edition of the Camporall was an amazing success. Scouts from throughout the Southern Sierra Council gathered at Camp 3 Falls for a weekend of Scout skills and fellowship.

Special thanks to Chuck Monaco and his team of volunteers that organized and delivered a wonderful weekend of Scouting. Congratulations to all of the patrols and Scouts that received special recognition for their efforts. Finally, all Scouts and leaders should be commended for displaying their best by living the words of the Scout Oath and Law.

Congratulations!
2023 Super Troop

Troop 712



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.

CUB SCOUT STEM DAY

Saturday, May 6th, 2023

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

Location: Christ Church of the Valley
13701 Stockdale Hwy.
(corner of Stockdale & Jenkins)



Cost: \$5 per scout

Online registration open - <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.

Training Committee Meeting



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

Quarterly Roundtable - May 11 The Park at River Walk



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!
Weather permitting - water games - wear your Activity uniform & bring a chair
Nature discovery, mini geocache activity

**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.

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

Congratulations to our newest Eagle Scout during the month of April! This Eagle Scout is from Troop 2119.

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 james.avery.bsa@gmail.com or Cameron Hutton (661-325-9036) at cameron.hutton@scouting.org

Online Registration Open: <https://www.scoutingevent.com/030-TTFC23>

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.

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 Kampa, 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

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.

POPCORN! POPCORN! POPCORN!



The Trails End Popcorn Sale is back for 2023. Last year, our Packs & Troops put nearly \$100,000 into their Scouting adventures by selling popcorn. The average unit commission was 42%... well above the national average. Southern Sierra Scouts sell over \$1,200 each... INCREDIBLE!!!

If you are looking for a fundraiser that provides a huge opportunity, no up-front costs for the product, and has an excellent rewards program for the Scouts... Trails End Popcorn is for you. There are several ways to sell popcorn: storefront, wagon sales, and online direct sales. Your unit can earn up to 42% commission. Product will be available to sell starting September 15, a few weeks later AND cooler (hopefully), than in the past.

Come join us at the Popcorn Leaders Kick-off on Saturday, July 15, 10:00am (location pending).

There are benefits for attending: your Pack, Troop or Crew will receive an additional 2% commission and a \$50 store credit at our Trading Post. Attendees will also receive a \$10 Starbucks gift card. We will roll out the product line-up for this year and announce the Council prize program... Condors tickets are back.

Please RSVP for the Popcorn Kick-off to Randy at randy.saunders@scouting.org.

Order of the Arrow



Upcoming OA Events - OA Members:

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

- May 25 - OA Lodge Executive Committee meeting
- 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.

Philmont - Family Adventure Camp



Families Can Have Fun and Learn at Philmont This Summer

What does it take to build a dynamic and resilient Scouting program filled with adventure and learning? How do you create a program that keeps youth, leaders, and families engaged and energized to keep coming back for more? Find out at Philmont Training Center (PTC) this summer.

PTC has something for all Scouters. You'll be learning from their enthusiastic and experienced faculty, many of whom literally "wrote the book" on the Scouting program. There are conferences for Den and Pack Leaders that will invigorate everyone to get the most fun out of the Cub program. You can learn to use games to invigorate Packs, Troops and Crews and other activities to make Scouting incredibly fun. If you train groups and teams, preside over meetings, or lead Scouts and Scouters, then you need to attend the Facilitator's Tool Box conference which will make your role easier and fulfilling. PTC has many more classes like this as well.

Moreover, Philmont Training Center offers the best family experience to everyone who attends. Your kids will be well taken care of in age-appropriate activities all day by Philmont's outstanding counselors. PTC even has day care for infants! Best of all, your spouse will be relieved of family duties to do what they like – whether create art in the craft center, venture out on hikes, visit local shops and museums, or just relax on the Villa Philmonte grounds. Evening programs include a western barbecue, movie night, and campfires. It's the best family togetherness vacation you can have, and you'll all come home with a lifetime of memories.

PTC also offers both full and half-week Family Adventure Camp that will let you all enjoy the activities they offer together as a family. You can hike to the top of the Tooth of Time, go on horse back rides, try your skills on the shooting range, learn fly fishing, or create art in their amazing craft center.

Check out all the PTC has to offer at <https://www.philmontscoutranch.org/ptc/>.

Would you like to have your Scouts earn the Radio Merit Badge?



Terry Godley, a Radio merit badge counselor, is willing to arrange a time to meet with Scouts in your Troop and set up a ham radio station at a park so they can do requirements toward earning the merit badge.

This will take about 1-2 hours, which will give the Scouts time to talk on the radio.

The rest of the requirements can be done at Troop meetings or at the Merit Badge Midway.

If you are interested, contact Terry Godley at (661) 380-0183

Here are a few dates of interest. Contact Terry for more information:

- June 17th - Kids Day: Twice a year, ARRL offers an event designed to promote Amateur Radio to our youth. Share the excitement with your kids or grandkids, a Scout troop, a church or the general public.
- June 24th - Field Day: Field Day is a great time to learn and operate. This will be open to any scout who might need to finish up their partial Radio badge or want to get a head start on working for the Merit Badge.



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.

Upcoming Training Courses

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 Troop or Crew
- Recommended by the Scoutmaster or Crew Advisor
- First Class Scout Rank minimum
- Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops (ILST)
- **BSA Medical Forms A,B & C:** https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/680-001_ABC.pdf

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:*

\$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**
- **Venturing**

Wood Badge supports leadership, continuity, adult membership retention, and strengthens 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 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

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



YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING (YPT)

ALL YPT Renewals are Due BEFORE October 1



YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING (YPT)

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

YPT taken during 2023 is required for recharter.

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

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

In-person YPT will be scheduled for mid-September

- **RECOMMENDED** for ALL adults even if you are not registered.
- **REQUIRED** for all registered adults before October 1st .

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

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

- Complete online YPT **BEFORE September**. After September – EVERYONE IN THE ENTIRE NATION is trying to update their YPT simultaneously, which often causes a delay/overload to the My.Scouting system during this time.
- Use a desktop or laptop computer. DO NOT use your phone or iPad to take these trainings since it may not let you complete the training and/or may not generate your certificate.
- Use Google Chrome when accessing My.Scouting.org (other platforms are not necessarily supported)
- Logon during the early morning hours to avoid the rush of East Coast scouts logging in due to the time difference.
- Be patient. Once you complete your training on My.Scouting.org, it may take upto 24 hours for you to receive your completion certificate by email.
- If you continue to experience issues with the online YPT course, please send me an email with screenshots and a description of your experience. Do not keep trying to take it repeatedly. We will work out the issues together.

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

Safety in Scouting Incident Reporting Helps

Timely and complete incident reporting provides the BSA 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 BSA 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. The BSA cannot address a concern if we do not know about it. Reporting incidents promptly is also critical so the BSA can respond in a timely manner and manage claims properly.

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

How do I report an incident? There are incident reporting tools to assist you in collecting the facts of the incident to provide to the council. This is available on the council website www.sscbsa.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.

Summer Fun for the Whole Family

Looking for a fun summer activity for your troop, Webelos den or family that's just a couple hours away?

Camp Whitsett - located north of Kernville - has invited all Southern Sierra Council scouts & families to be a part of their summer programs.

Check out the link below for:

- Scouts BSA Summer Camp
- Cub Family Camp
- Webelos Resident Camp

<https://www.campwhitsett.org/promotional-material/>

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

[Unsubscribe rjsaunders256@gmail.com](mailto:rjsaunders256@gmail.com)

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Sent by randy.saunders@scouting.org powered by



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