



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



SSC Program Committee Meeting

**Thursday, June 1 - 6:30 pm
via Zoom**

2023-2024 Calendar Planning will continue

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

Council Summertime Dates to Remember

(See articles below for details)

- July 15 - Rollerskating

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

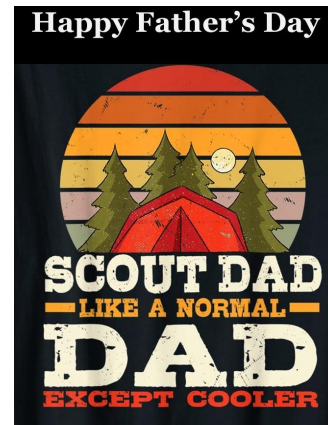
Council Commissioner - General Support

Cindy Basham - Ext. 102
cbasham3504@gmail.com

- July 15 - Popcorn Sales Kickoff
- August 10 - Fall Recruiting Kickoff
- August 12 - Fishing Night
- August 12 - Program Preview 2023-2024

**NEW - Nationwide Council Events
Calendar with full search &
filtering features**

<https://global.scoutingevent.com>



3rd Annual Online Auction "Celebrating Scouting Stars"



The 3rd Annual "Celebrating Scouting Stars" online auction was a complete success. Thank you to the generous sponsors that provided exciting items for the auction. We had 80 items from over 40 local businesses and individuals donated to this year's auction.

Congratulations and thank you to our winning bidders. The great deals you received will make Scouting stronger.

Start gathering items and ideas for the 4th annual Celebrating Scouting Stars online auction in 2024. If you would like to help with the event, contact the Scout Office at 661- 325-9036.

**Many Thanks!!
Skye Fosdick & James Avery**

Trail to First Class Palooza

Over 50 Scouts honed their skills and earned rank requirements at Trail to First Class Palooza. They hiked, ran, tied knots and practiced first aid, knife safety and fire starting skills.

A huge thanks goes to James Avery for organizing and leading the event, but it wouldn't be possible without all the scouts and leaders who ran the stations and shared their knowledge. What a great way to have scouts from all over work together.

STEM Day

Our Cub Scouts had a great time practicing their science and engineering skills at STEM Day.

A big thanks goes out to Skye Fosdick for organizing the event. We also greatly appreciate Amy Swidecki and Heather Kampa for helping scouts with their fun STEM projects.

Lastly, Thank you parents for bringing your scouts and participating in this event.

Summertime Activity for June - Day Camp Two days left - Register by Friday, June 2

Parent Orientation - Friday, June 9 - 6:00 pm

The last day to register for day camp IS June 2.
[Register here for Cub Scout Day Camp](#)

Day Camp - Parent Orientation - Friday, June 9 - 6:00 pm

June 9th will be **Day Camp Parent Orientation**. Please join us at the **Council Office** at 6pm for an early check-in, special early information and scouts will receive their Day Camp t-shirts. Coming to this orientation will make everything run smoothly for our first day check-in and will make your scout prepared for a fun week!



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
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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!

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

Shooting Sports Committee Meeting



Wednesday, June 7, 2023
7:00 pm to 8:30 pm
Scout Office - 2417 M Street

Everyone Invited - if you are interested in shooting sports - this is the meeting you will want to attend.

The purpose of BSA shooting sports is to teach firearm safety while introducing youth to a variety of shooting sports programs.

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

Join the Badger Troop & Support Local Scouting

The Southern Sierra Council Badger Troop is growing. Over the past few months, more people have joined the Badger Troop to help Scouting “go and grow” in our communities. Thank you, Badgers, for your steadfast generosity. You are making a difference.



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 a convenient way to support Scouting in our community. Over the course of the year, your monthly donation becomes a significant contribution to making Scouting happen locally. The first 100 members will receive the special “charter member” patch.

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

POPCORN 2023! FUNDING YOUR SCOUTING ADVENTURE



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.

If you are looking for a fundraiser that provides 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. Retail prices for products range from \$15 to \$50.

There are several new products this year: S'mores, Sea Salt individual packs, and improved flavor White Cheddar. Product will be available to sell starting the weekend of September 15.

Come join us at the Popcorn Leaders Kick-off on **Saturday, July 15**, 10:00am at Rollerama (7850 Brimhall Road). There are benefits for attending: your Pack or Troop will receive an additional 2% commission and a \$50 store credit at our Trading Post. Attendees will also receive a \$10 Starbucks gift card.

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

Fall Recruitment: Sharing the Scouting Adventure

Our youth, schools and neighborhoods need Scouting now more than ever. The Southern Sierra Council membership growth team needs your help. Over the coming weeks, we will be organizing a recruiting effort that will provide more opportunities for our young people to join Scouting this fall. Your Pack, Troop and Crew will play an important role in getting the values of the Scout Oath and Law to more families in the coming months.



You are invited to attend our Fall Recruitment Kick-off on **Thursday, August 10** at 7:00pm @ the Scout Office. The Kick-off will also be available via Zoom for folks outside of Bakersfield. We will have pizza and ice cream to celebrate the start of a new Scouting season.

Please make plans to attend... the more the merrier. We will review the fall recruitment plan, display materials, talk about social media and share best practices for successful recruitment of youth and adults. Please RSVP at <https://scoutingevent.com/030-Recruiting> so we can plan for food.

Remember, use your summertime activities as an opportunity to welcome new families into your Pack, Troop or Crew. Just contact Cameron or Randy at the Scout Office with the activity details (date, time, location), and we'll provide flyers, posters and yard signs for you to display in your neighborhoods to promote the event.

The membership recruiter incentives are still available to recognize Scouts and parents that bring new youth to your Pack, Troop or Crew.



***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.

Program Preview

2023-2024 Calendar Rollout



Mark your calendars and make plans to attend the Southern Sierra Council's Program Preview. This special event for Scout leaders will be on **Saturday, August 12 @ 6:00pm**, at the Park at Riverwalk in Bakersfield.

Featured at Program Preview will be the Council's 2023-24 calendar of events. Come to this event and receive important information about the activities, training courses, service projects, and more happening in the coming year. There will be volunteers in attendance that will be happy to share about their programs and answer questions you may have.

Bring your Scouts and fishing pole, too. The Southern Sierra Council Fishing Night will be happening at the same location, the Park at Riverwalk, from 6pm to sunset.

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

Wednesday, August 23 - 6:30 pm to 8:30 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

2023 Eagle Scouts, Leaders & Parents - Mark your calendars for the 2024 Eagle Dinner - Thursday, March 21, 2024 at Luigi's Warehouse. The Eagle Class of 2023 will be celebrated!

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 - details & registration at <https://scoutingevent.com/030-OASpring23>

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.

Easy way to pay your annual OA Dues -

Pay online at <https://scoutingevent.com/030-OA2023Dues>

Questions:

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

ARRL Kid's Day - June 17

ARRL Field Day - June 24



American Radio Relay League (ARRL) offers an event designed to promote Amateur Radio to our youth.

Kids Day is designed to give on-the-air experience to young people and hopefully foster interest in getting a license of their own. It is also intended to give older hams a chance to share their station and love for Amateur Radio with children.

Children across the US will be on the air to talk to.

ARRL Kid's Day
Saturday, June 17, 2023
10:00 am
Yokut's Park - 4200 Empire Dr.
(all scouts must be accompanied by a parent)

All participants are eligible to receive a colorful certificate.
Schedule will be provided the week prior to event.



This is a good time to finish or start your Radio Merit badge requirement 9a.
Don't forget to bring your blue card.
Plan on 1 hour for this event
The event will be an hour for a group of 3

Please email Terry Godley at N6AJ@arrl.net if you are interested.

June 24th is Field Day, this is another opportunity to start or finish your Radio Merit Badge requirement 9a.

The event will be at Yokuts Park - 4200 Empire Dr.
Plan on 1 hour for this event
If you and your scout will be attending or have any questions, please email Terry Godley at n6aj@arrl.net
Schedule will be provided the week prior to event.
Don't forget your Blue card
The event will be an hour for a group of 3

Contact for both of the above radio events is

Terry Godley - Merit Badge Counselor
email: n6aj@arrl.net

Summertime FUN!
Join us for our Cub Scout Summertime Activities

Scout Skate Party



Rollerama-West
(7850 Brimhall Rd)

Saturday, July 15th

10am-noon

\$5 per skater

Scout Skate registration opens June 15

[Scout Skate - Register Here](#)

Cub Scout Fishing Night

Where: Park at River Walk, Area 1

When: August 12th 6-8pm

\$5 per fisher.



Gear/bait supplied. No fishing license needed for participants under 16.

Upcoming Training Courses



COUNCIL TRAINING COMMITTEE

Tuesday, August 8* @ 6:00 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



Hurry!! Registration is filling up - Don't miss your opportunity to attend Wood Badge in 2023!

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.

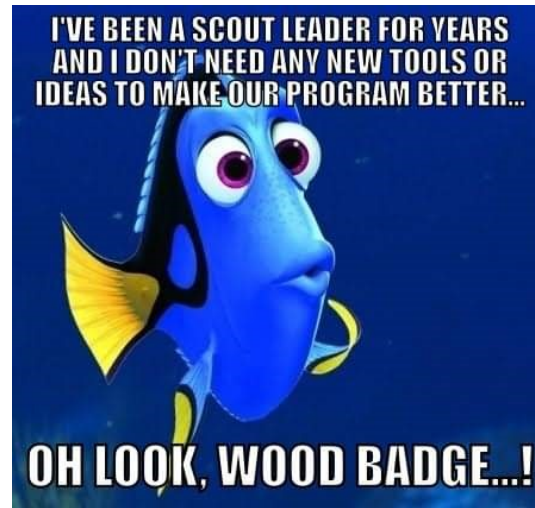
REGISTRATION: <https://www.longbeachbsa.org/training/woodbadge/>

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.

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**



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.

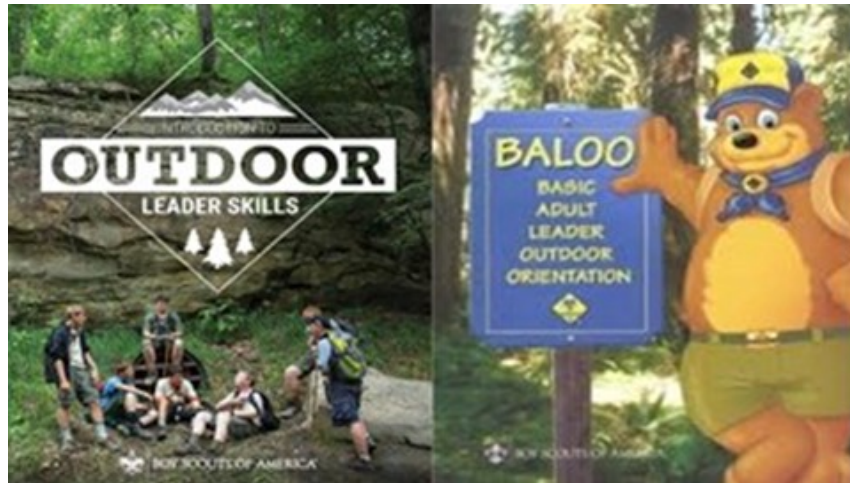
***ONLINE BEST PRACTICES:** For best results please consider:

- 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 scouters 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



SURVEY: BALOO/IOLS PARTICIPATION

Attention **Committee Chairs, Cubmasters, Scoutmasters, and Unit Commissioners:**

You have received an email with a survey regarding potential interest in our scheduled fall 2023 BALOO/IOLS courses.

Please make it a priority to respond to the survey **before June 30** so we can take appropriate actions on offering these courses effectively for all volunteers.

- **BALOO (Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation)** training is required for all Packs to have a BALOO-trained adult participate at every outdoor activity and overnight campout.
- **IOLS (Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills)** training is required for all Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters to be fully trained and qualify for recharter in that leadership position.

Thank you for taking the time to respond to our survey.

Regards,
Carolyn Forster
Council Training Chair



TRAINERS, PRESENTERS,

COOKS, & HEALTH OFFICERS

**We appreciate all our volunteers' time, treasures, and talent!
Join the training team as a trainer, presenter, cook, or as a Health Officer**.**

What's involved:

- Attend the 4 Council Training Committee meetings annually
(March, May, August, September)
- Participate in 1-2 (or more) Council training events of your choice annually.
- **Trainers/Presenters** – Teach BSA outdoor skills, CPR/1st Aid* skills, presentation skills, and/or leadership skills to adult learners and Scouts BSA; Course syllabus already outlines the scope and expectations for you. (**trainer must be CPR-trainer certified*)
- **Cooks** – become BSA food service and safety certified. Council will pay for your training!
- **Health Officers** – **must be a currently certified healthcare professional (EMT, Nurse, Doctor, or similar) and complete the BSA Health Officer training (review a short PowerPoint). Primary responsibility is basic first aid only; if more medical attention is required – call 911.

Courses needing adult volunteer trainers and presenters:

- **Den Chief** – (morning; Fall)
- **Fundamentals of Training** (morning; Fall)
- **Trainers EDGE** (all day; April)
- **CPR/1st Aid** (**trainer must have current CPR-trainer certification*) (TBD)

Courses needing adult volunteer trainers/presenters, cooks, and health officers:

- **BALOO/IOLS** – 1½ days includes overnight camping (Fall/Spring)
- **NYLT** – 5 weekdays, 2 weekend days including camping (Summer)
- **Wilderness First Aid** – 2 days including overnight camping (TBD)
- **Wood Badge** – 5 days on course (3 days-F/S/S & 2 days-S/S); may be additional days for staff development and pre-course set up with staff (Fall)

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.



NEW FOR 2023

Effective September 1, 2023:

Two registered adult leaders 21 years of age or over are required at all Scouting activities, including all meetings. There must be a registered female adult leader 21 years of age or over in every unit serving females. A registered female adult leader 21 years of age or over must be present for any activity involving female youth or female adult program participants.

Notwithstanding the minimum leader requirements, age and program-appropriate supervision must always be provided.

All adults staying overnight in connection with a Scouting activity must be currently registered in an adult fee required position as listed or as an adult program participant. [Limited exception [follow link for exception details] for Cub Scout overnight Programs.] (Note: Registration as a Merit Badge Counselor does NOT meet this requirement.)

BSA policy: <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/gss01/#a>

All adults (ages 18+) participating with the Pack, Troop, or Venture Crew with overnight scouting activities and camping MUST BE:

- Registered with BSA
- Background Checked
- Fingerprinted
- Complete Youth Protection Training (My.Scouting.org)
- Complete the corresponding training for your primary position. (For example: If you are registered as a Committee Member, you must complete Committee Training and YPT on My.Scouting.org.)

Please communicate with your Committee Chair and Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, or Crew Advisor about what registered position you will fulfill with the Pack, Troop, or Venture Crew.

We appreciate your continued participation and volunteering with unit and

council events and activities. Thank you for completing these BSA requirements before September 2023.

Special Invitations



Ventura County Council presents...
POWDER HORN



September 8-10, 2023

Use the QR Code to the right of go to:
www.vccbsa.org/powderhorn

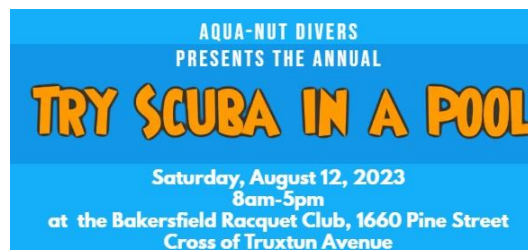
What Is Powder Horn and Why Should I Attend?

Powder Horn is a resource course designed to introduce Scouting's adults and youth to the exciting high-adventure program possibilities for their unit. The course supports the mission of strengthening units so they can achieve the mission of the Boy Scouts of America.

The ultimate goal is for the participants to leave the Powder Horn course with a list of ideas to help their program, along with the contacts and resources needed to implement them. This will lead to a more exciting and robust program, which in turn should lead to increased membership and a higher retention rate in our units.

When you complete the course you will receive a Powder Horn device that hangs from your left pocket and a Powder Horn certificate. These items identify you as someone that has completed this advanced training. They will also serve to remind you of your ongoing commitment to service and Scouting.

Contact Ed Pounds - SSC Angling Chair if you have any questions.
graniteprocessinginc@gmail.com



\$35.00 per person

Must be 10 years old or older to participate

For full details: <https://aqua-nut.com/events.html>

Questions - Contact SCUBA Merit Badge Counselor - Jeff Haynes at jhaynesdc@sbcglobal.net

Dates to Remember



July 15

SSC Roller Skating Party
Popcorn Kickoff

August 10

Fall Recruiting Training

August 12

SSC Fishing Night
Program Preview for 2023-2024

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

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