

July 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 Cindy Basham at [cbasham3504@gmail.com](mailto:cbasham3504@gmail.com)  
Shipping is available



**The Scout Office & Trading Post will be closed Tuesday, July 4 in celebration of Independence Day!**



### SSC Program Committee Meeting

**No Program Meeting for July**

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](http://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 Summertime Dates to Remember

*(See articles below for details)*

- July 15 - Rollerskating
- 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>

**Council Office Contacts**

(661) 325-9036

**Scout Executive**

Randy Saunders - Ext. 104

[randy.saunders@scouting.org](mailto:randy.saunders@scouting.org)

**District Executive**

Cameron Hutton - Ext. 103

[cameron.hutton@scouting.org](mailto:cameron.hutton@scouting.org)

**Council Commissioner - General Support**

Cindy Basham - Ext. 102

[cbasham3504@gmail.com](mailto:cbasham3504@gmail.com)

## Day Camp Thank You! Heather Kampa & Staff



This year, we had 4 days of fun and adventure with all our Cub Scout friends at Day Camp. Our theme was "Off to the Races" and the scouts took off fast! They earned shooting sports awards, made cars, boats and planes to race and ended the week with a barbecue! Fun was had by all, but the event would not have been possible without the parents and volunteers staff members. Thank you all for your help and support, and a special, big thanks goes to Heather Kampa for leading it all.

We hope to see even more Cub Scouts at day camp next year, for our "Outdoor Adventure" camp. It will be June 10th-13th. Mark your calendars!

**Join Us for a Fun Time at  
2 different activities this summer!**  
Scouts are welcome to bring Friends & Family

## July Summertime Activity Saturday, July 15



### **Scout Skate Party**

Rollerama-West  
(7850 Brimhall Rd)

**Saturday, July 15<sup>th</sup>**

10am-noon

\$5 per skater

[Register for Skating](#)

## August Summertime Activity Saturday, August 12

### **Cub Scout Fishing Night**

Where: The Park at River Walk, Area 1

When: August 12<sup>th</sup> 6-8pm

\$5 per fisher.

Gear/bait supplied.

No fishing license needed for participants under 16.

Learn to fish like a pro with BSA certified angling instructors.

**Register online starting Monday, July 17.**



[Register for Fishing](#)

**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. Sign up now to 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. You 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  
Rollerama West (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.



Storefront sign-ups will be available at the Kick-off, as well. Attendees will also receive a \$10 Starbucks gift card.



## 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 the 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.

## Membership Fee Increase - Effective August 1

### New to BSA - Youth - Participants in kindergarten through age 20

- \$95 per year National Membership Fee/Council Program Fee
- \$25 one-time Joining Fee

### Former BSA Member - Youth - Participants in kindergarten through age 20

- \$95 per year National Membership Fee/Council Program Fee
- No Joining Fee

### New Adult Member

- \$75 per year National Membership Fee/Council Program Fee
- No Joining Fee

### New Exploring Youth and Adults

- \$65 per year National Membership Fee/Council Program Fee

### Recharter Fees for 2024

- Youth - \$95 (National \$80 plus Council \$15)
- Adult - \$75 (National \$60 plus Council \$15)
- Exploring Youth & Adult - \$65 (National \$50 plus Council \$15)
- Scout's Life - \$15 per year
- Unit Recharter Fee - \$100 per unit
- **NEW** - Merit Badge Counselor (not also registered in unit position) - \$25 National Fee (*MBC who are not also registered in a unit position are not allowed to attend overnight Scouting activities/events*).

### **NEW REGISTRATION PROCESS - NO PRORATION OF FEES**

- New members will pay the 2024 fee for a full 12 months of membership. (re: Aug '23 to Aug '24)
- During 2024 recharter - new members will show as prepaid - no money due
- New members will receive emails from National to renew their membership as their original registration becomes due in 12 months. (reminders sent at 90, 60 & 30 days prior to due date)
- Units will also receive email notifications for members needing to renew membership
- Current members will have a renewal date of 12/31 each year.
- There are no refunds of membership fees if a scout/adult discontinues participation.

Processes are under development - more information will be available at the Recruiting Training on August 10 (*see article above*) and during Recharter Trainings in the fall.

**EFFECTIVE**



## 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 River Walk 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 event chairs in attendance that will be happy to share about their programs and

answer questions you may have.

Pre-register online (to help with refreshments) at  
<https://www.scoutingevent.com/030-Program>

*Bring your Scouts and fishing pole, too. The Southern Sierra Council Fishing Night will be happening at the same location, the Park at River Walk, from 6pm to 8pm.*

## 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!*

**Congratulations to our two new Eagle Scouts during the month of June! The new Eagles are from Troops 125 & 2119.**

## Order of the Arrow



### Upcoming OA Events - OA Members:

Watch for Emails & Reminder Notices - Be sure to sign up for events. Mark Your Calendars NOW -

- No LEC Meeting for July
- August 24 - Lodge Executive (LEC) Committee Meeting
- September 15-17 - Fall Ordeal
- September 21 - OA Night in the Potato Booth
- September 22-24 - OA Section G18N Conclave
- September 28 - OA Night in the Potato Booth

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.

- Congratulations to the 22 new Arrowmen who recently completed their Ordeal at Camp Three Falls! These 22 were elected by their troop and have completed their Ordeal in honor of their troops' recognition.
- Thank you Josh Hernandez & Family for hosting the Lodge Activation Event & OA PoolBQ!
- NEW - Available July 28 - OA Jamboree patch set - OA members only - \$15

**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](mailto:cmonacoscouts@gmail.com) or  
Lodge Chief - Alexander Tindell at [tindellaj@gmail.com](mailto:tindellaj@gmail.com).

## Potato Booth is Coming Soon We Need Volunteers



### The 2023 Kern County Fair is scheduled for September 20-October 1.

That means the Boy Scout Potato Booth will be open for business soon. Did you know that we sold over 11,000 baked potatoes at last year's fair? That's a lot of spuds.

To make the Potato Booth operate, we need lots of Scouts, leaders and parents to volunteer to work a shift or two during the fair.

More details and a schedule will be available on July 14. Shifts typically last for three to four 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. Groups can reserve a full shift (10-12 volunteers), half a day, or even a full day. This is an excellent opportunity for Scouts to get some service hours and attend the fair.

Please contact Randy Saunders at [randy.saunders@scouting.org](mailto:randy.saunders@scouting.org) for more information. The Potato Booth schedule will also be available on our website, [www.sscbsa.org](http://www.sscbsa.org).

## Upcoming Training Courses



## COUNCIL TRAINING PLANNING MEETING\*

### 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, adult 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](mailto: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](mailto:tricouncilwoodbadge@gmail.com) or  
[CJForster1964@gmail.com](mailto: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



## 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: Wednesday, SEPTEMBER 13, 2023 @ 6 pm**

- **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



# 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 Planning Meetings annually  
(*March, May, August, September*)
- Participate in 1-2 (or more) Council training events of your choice annually.

## Volunteers needed

- **Trainers/Presenters** – Teach BSA outdoor skills, CPR/1<sup>st</sup> 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.

## Time commitment

### Classroom courses:

- **Den Chief** – (morning; Fall)
- **Fundamentals of Training** (morning; Fall)
- **Trainers EDGE** - Staff development: 1-2 Zoom meetings; Course: all day ( April)
- **CPR/1<sup>st</sup> Aid Course" all day (TBD)** (*\*trainer must have current CPR-trainer certification*)

### **Contact**

Carolyn Forster  
Council Training Chair  
CJForster1964@gmail.com

## 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](http://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](http://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](mailto:graniteprocessinginc@gmail.com)

**Saturday, August 12, 2023**  
**\$35.00 per person**

**Must be 10 years old**

AQUA-NUT DIVERS  
PRESENTS THE ANNUAL  
**TRY SCUBA IN A POOL**  
Saturday, August 12, 2023  
8am-5pm  
at the Bakersfield Racquet Club, 1660 Pine Street  
Cross of Truxtun Avenue

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](mailto: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

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

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [randy.saunders@scouting.org](mailto:randy.saunders@scouting.org) powered by



Try email marketing for free today!