



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 Michelle.Shoemake@scouting.org
Shipping is available



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 Clerk

Michelle Shoemake - Ext. 108
michelle.shoemake@scouting.org



SSC Program Committee Meeting

Program Committee Meeting
Thursday, October 5
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 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 Upcoming Dates to Remember *(See articles below for details)*

- October 14-15 - BALOO & IOLS

- October 20-21 - Tigermania
- October 20-21 - Wolf/Bear Campout
- October 21 - JOTA - Jamboree on the Air - Ridgecrest
- November 4 - Lion's ROAR
- November 4 - Merit Badge Midway
- November 4 - Trainings - Den Chief, Leave No Trace, Fundamentals of Training
- November 8 - Eagle Scout Workshop
- November 9 - Roundtable
- November 11 - Veterans' Day Parade



Trading Post Open on Saturday October 7 & 14

**TRADING
POST**



TRADING POST



**2417 M Street - Bakersfield
(just north of 24th & M)**

**To accommodate the
continued new
membership**

The Scout Office Trading
Post will be open on
Saturday for
two additional weeks

**October 7
October 14
Hours: 11am to 3pm**

Uniforms, patches, books, etc.
Anything a new (or existing)
member will need.

Webelos Woods Thank you



Over 50 Webelos and Arrow of Light scouts (and their adults) attended Webelos Woods at Gergen Ski Ranch on September 8-10th .

They completed many advancement adventures from Cast Iron Chef to First Responder. The scouts also had a chance to practice their marksmanship with BB guns. The lake was full, so all our scouts had a chance to be in the Webelos Woods armada!

All this fun and learning would not have been possible without the Leadership of Dave Kampa, so thank you Dave for being a great Camp director. Loads of thanks also go

out to the 80+ Scouts and leaders of various troops who volunteered to run the various stations, cook, organize campfire, and make sure everyone stayed safe.

This event was truly an example of what the Southern Sierra Council can accomplish when we come together.



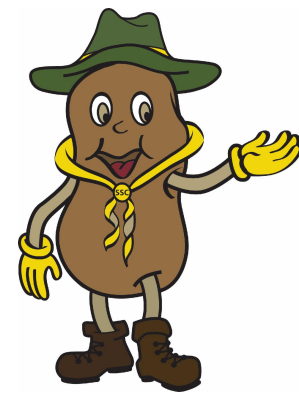
BSA Baked Potato Booth Another Spudtacular Year!!

The 2023 Kern County Fair & SSC Baked Potato Booth are calling it a wrap at 10:00 pm today (Oct. 1).

The SSC Baked Potato Booth happened because of the 100+ volunteers who washed, wrapped, baked and served over 11,000 potatoes. Gallons of sour cream, mac & cheese, chili verde and chili/cheese were served. Each with the care of the SSC volunteers.

As another year comes to a close - our heartfelt gratitude goes out to every single volunteer who gave their time and talent to make sure the potato booth was a success. Success that will now bring more Scouting to the scouts of Southern Sierra Council.

A special THANK YOU to "A Sign Factory" for the menus and signage that highlight the booth!!



4th Quarter Call to Join the Badger Troop *Keep the Adventures Coming...*



As we begin the 4th quarter of 2023, there are still a lot of adventures and activities before the end of 2023. When you join the badger troop you will help Scouting and the scouts of the Southern Sierra Council enjoy these events and highlight what Scouting has to offer.

Badger troop members continue into the next year to support the adventures and activities

in 2024 and beyond. The calendar is already full of Scouting provided by the volunteers and staff of the Southern Sierra Council. It takes all of us doing our best to make Scouting stronger in our communities.

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 local Scouting. Over the course of the year, your recurring monthly donation becomes a significant contribution to help Scouting grow locally.

New "Badger Troop" members will receive the special Council Shoulder Patch in recognition of their exclusive membership.

To join the Badger Troop, click the button below:

Join the Badger Troop Here

POPCORN! POPCORN! POPCORN... THERE'S STILL TIME TO JOIN THE FUN...



The Trails End Popcorn Sale season is underway. Second orders for storefront sales have been submitted. Scouts are also doing a great job with Online Direct Sales.

Packs and Troops are working hard to make the 2023 Trails End Popcorn sale count for better Scouting. Many have exceeded their goal and are now setting an even larger goal.

There are several ways to sell popcorn: storefront, wagon sales, and online direct sales. Your unit can earn up to 42% commission. There are great Council prizes for the Scouts to earn.

The Condors Night for Top Sellers is on Saturday, December 9. Scouts that sell over \$1,000 in popcorn will receive 2 tickets to the Condors game.

Already, 40 scouts have earned the Condors tickets with their sales of \$1,000 or more.

Click [HERE](#) for more information about this year's Popcorn sale.

If you need assistance with popcorn products - contact Randy at 661-325-9036.

Bakersfield units: Questions about storefronts -

Upcoming Dates:

- **October 12-13:** Second order product pickup – Details coming soon.
- **November 10:** Deadline to return unsold popcorn. Unit may return up to 10% max. 2% bonus commission for no returns by unit. No returns will be accepted after this date.
- **November 10** - Deadline to submit unit final order online
- **November 30** - Final Order Pick-up

2023 Heroes (Military) Popcorn Patch

Any Scout that sells at least \$100 in Heroes & Helpers donations (\$30 or \$50 items on the order form) will receive the 2023 special edition of the Southern Sierra Council Heroes (Military) shoulder patch.

This year's patch recognizes our Search & Rescue heroes.



Recharter Timeline & Membership Fees



Unit Recharter - 2024

The BSA issues charters to community organizations to enable them to use the Scouting program under their own leadership as a service to their children, youth, and families. Rechartering is the process of renewing the charter agreement between the BSA and the organization, and renewing the registration of youth and adult members. Every unit must recharter annually.

Youth Protection Training (YPT) is required annually of all adult leaders. To reregister for 2024, every adult 18 years of age and over must have taken YPT during the year of 2023. Anyone without the 2023 renewal will be dropped until compliant and then they are eligible to reregister (a new adult application will be required).

Recharter Unit Timeline

Stage 1 - Recharter Prep - Oct. 1 to Oct. 31 (Assign Recharter Champion, complete Membership Inventory, review Journey to Excellence status & start collecting renewal fees)

Stage 2 - Internet Recharter - Nov. 1 to Dec. 1 (Unit collects final renewal fees, updates roster, submits recharter online, submits payment to Council along with Journey to Excellence scorecard)

Stage 3 - Council Process - Dec. 1 to Dec. 31 (Validates recharter & resolves defects)

Recharter Fees for 2024

- Youth - \$95 (National \$80 plus Council \$15)
- Adult - \$75 (National \$60 plus Council \$15)
- Exploring - Adults & Youth - \$65 each
- Scout's Life -- \$15 per year
- Unit Recharter Fee - \$100 per unit

Recharter Training Overview - Thursday, November 9 - at Roundtable

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 (NESAs). Join NESAs at <https://nesa.org/>



LIFE-TO-EAGLE WORKSHOP

Wednesday, November 8 - 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Scout Office - 2417 M Street

Online Registration: <https://www.scoutingevent.com/030-EagleFall23>

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 newest Eagle Scouts during the month of September! The new Eagles are from Troops 13 & 194.

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 -

- October 19 - OA Chapter Meeting
- October 25 (Wednesday)- OA Lodge Executive Committee

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.

- **NEW - OA Jamboree patch set - OA members only - \$15**

Easy way to pay your annual OA Dues -

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

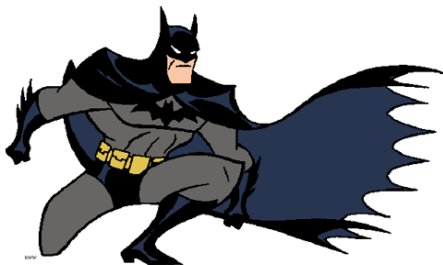
Questions:

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

Super Hero Academy

Cub Overnighter for Wolves and Bears

Registration Deadline - Wednesday, October 18 at 11:59 pm



**The annual Cub Overnighter
for
Wolf and Bear Cub Scouts**

Does your Bear/Wolf have what it takes to be the next Batman or an Avenger? If they do, they're invited to come out to Southern Sierra Council's Super Hero Academy.

The Academy will feature a campfire on Friday night, many fun activities in super hero training sessions on Saturday which will help towards their rank advancement, and also includes BB guns and archery!

When: Friday, October 20 to Saturday, October 21.

Check-in begins at 5:00pm on Friday evening. The event will end by 4:00pm on Saturday.

Location: Gergen Ski Ranch – 10658 Round Mountain Road, Bakersfield.

We want everyone to have a great time, so we've chosen the Gergen Ski Ranch just 20 minutes from downtown Bakersfield as the location to train your Cub Scout super heroes.

Besides being close to town, the ranch has ample parking and flush toilets, so it's easy on the parents!

Cost: \$35 per Scout/parent team. Additional family members can attend for \$20 per person. *No program is provided for additional family members.*

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

Registration now open at <https://scoutingevent.com/030-WBAcad23>

If you have questions or are able to help run a super hero training session on Saturday, please reach out to Robert Foster via email, robert@robertf.org.

It's the 2023 Tigermania

BLAST OFF TO NEW ADVENTURES!

Registration Deadline - Wednesday, October 18 at 11:59 pm



All Tigers and their parents are invited to Tigermania!

Our time together will include Bobcat advancement activities, games, archery, and much more!

Arrive on Friday night (check in starts at 5:00 pm) and set up your campsite. Don't forget to eat before you come on Friday. Saturday breakfast and lunch will be prepared and provided by our kitchen crew for you. Activities will conclude by 4:00pm on Saturday.

When: Friday, October 20 through Saturday, October 21

Location: Gergen Ski Ranch – 10658 Round Mountain Road, Bakersfield

Cost: \$35 per Scout/parent team. Additional family members can attend for \$20 per person. *No program is provided for additional family members.*

All Tigers or attendees under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

Don't forget to eat before you come on Friday or bring a sack dinner.

Register Online Today! <https://www.scoutingevent.com/030-Tiger23>

Questions? Email Amy at scoutmom.as@gmail.com

DON'T FORGET:

Camping Gear

Sleeping Bag

Tent

"Camp Chair"

"Refillable Water Bottle"

"Annual Health & Medical Record" - Parts A & B for all attendees

BSA Jamboree On The Air

Saturday, October 21 - Ridgecrest



The Sierra Amateur Radio Club (SARC) in Ridgecrest is hosting a Scouts BSA Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) event on

October 21st from Noon to 3:00 PM
at the Kern County Library in Ridgecrest.

Scouts BSA, Cub Scouts, brothers, sisters, friends, and Parents are all invited to try and contact other Scouts and Hams across the world, experiment with electronic circuits, and try to find a radio “fox” using hand-held radios and directional antennas.

The address of the library is 131 E Las Flores Ave, Ridgecrest, CA 93555.

For more information contact:

Cap Casperson at (760) 608-1444 or wx1wiz@gmail.com or

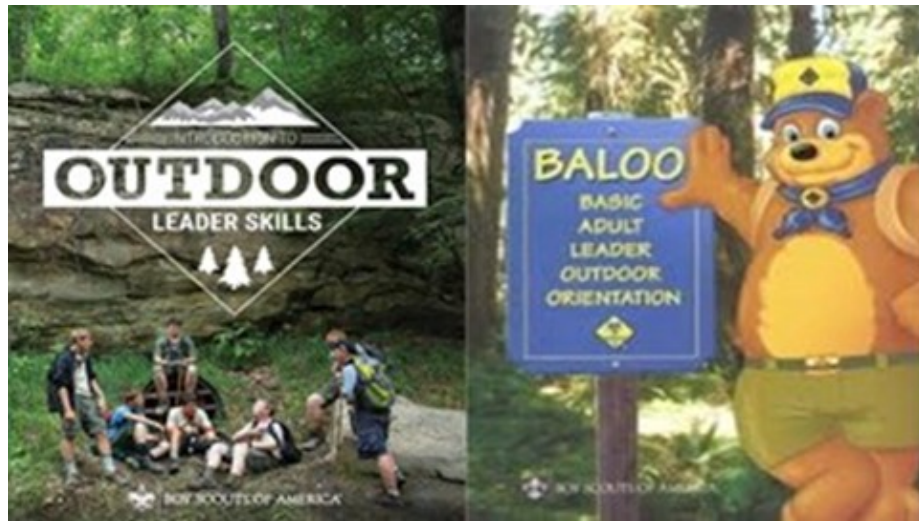
Francina at (760) 382-8462 or kn6loa@gmail.com.

Come and join us “On The Air”!

Upcoming Training Courses



HURRY! Registration CLOSES 10/12!!



BE A SCOUT FOR A WEEKEND

BALOO or **IOLS***

October 14 thru 15, 2023

Tejon Ranch Old Headquarters, Arvin

**Overnight camping is required to complete either course.*

REGISTRATION: <https://scoutingevent.com/030-BALOOIOLS>

Adult trainings to learn outdoor skills needed for Cub Scout outdoor events/overnight camping or teaching trail-to-first class skills to Scouts BSA.

Who should attend:

- **BALOO** - Any registered adult volunteer to help the Pack be able to go on outdoor activities and overnight campouts.
- **IOLS**: Any registered adult to assist with trail-to-first class scouting skills; required training for **Scoutmaster/Assistant Scoutmaster** positions.

CONTACT:

Carolyn Forster, Course Director
CJForster1964@gmail.com

YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING (YPT)

ALL YPT Renewals are Due BEFORE October 1

YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING (YPT)

Everyone: YPT taken during 2023 is required for recharter.



My.Scouting.org *

(You can retake YPT at My.Scouting.org any time during the calendar year. It will not be "assigned" to you in the system.)

- **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



Support our volunteer leaders!

VALUES OF LEADERSHIP ONLINE AUCTION:

Starts at 5:00 pm on **October 10**
through midnight **October 24**

Lots of great items to choose from including:

- Camping equipment
- Gift items
- Jewelry
- Thurman Orthodontics services - braces/Invisalign discount and gift bag
- Raising Cane's grab bag
- Gift certificates (restaurants, theater, sports, and more)
- Vintage collectibles
- Scouting memorabilia
- Games

And more . . .

You can choose to bid on your favorite items, opt to “buy it now” to bypass the bidding, or donate directly to the Wood Badge scholarship/course expenses fund.

Keep visiting the BiddingOwl.com site for additional items and more information: <https://www.biddingowl.com/Auction/index.cfm?auctionID=27320>

All proceeds support participant scholarships and course expenses for Tri-Council Wood Badge courses.

NATIONAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP TRAINING (NYLT)



A great opportunity for female as well as male Scouts BSA to meet and interact with scouts from the Southern California area.

NATIONAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP TRAINING (NYLT)

February 17-19 and February 23-24, 2024

Camp Verdugo Oaks, Castaic (near Templin Highway on Grapevine)

Registration/Info: <https://www.vhcbbsa.org/content/112710/National-Youth-Leadership-Training--Weekend-1>

What is National Youth Leadership Training? NYLT is the entry-level program for youth ages 13-17 to learn and practice leadership skills with their peers in an outdoor environment. Leadership skills are essential for all youth to

navigate everyday challenges and be more successful with school and college/university, band/sports, church, community service, work, family life, and, of course, Troop and Crew youth leadership. Scouts participating in the NYLT course are better prepared for life.

Qualifications:

- Youth ages 13-17 years old (Troop or Venture Crew)
- Earned 1st Class rank or higher
- Recommended by the Scoutmaster for NYLT

Scholarships: Youth may request scholarships for registration fees through their Troop or Venture Crew, the Council office, or the NYLT course itself.

Course Leadership: The NYLT course is run by youth and adult volunteers with Southern Sierra Council and possibly some volunteers from Verdugo Hills Council and Long Beach Area Council. Youth volunteers have completed the NYLT course and are ready to take on new leadership challenges.

Outdoor Expo - Three Events - One Location Saturday, November 4 Location - TBD

Lion's ROAR - for all Kindergarteners & Adult Partner

Lions ROAR

**Come to the Annual Lions ROAR!!!
For Scouting Fun and A Roaring Good Time!!**

Time: 8:00 am to 12:30 pm

Fee: \$15 per Lion - \$5 per Adult Partner
(adult partner must be present with Lion at all times)



A Patch for an Adult may be purchased for an additional \$2.00.

Register online at: <https://scoutingevent.com/030-lion23>

Merit Badge Midway



Time: 8:00am to 4:30pm

Cost: \$5 per merit badge until October 27, 2023 -
\$7 after.

Bring a sack lunch if staying the full day.

Register Online at: <https://scoutingevent.com/030-MBfall23>

Merit Badges Being Offered

Full Day
8:30am to 4:30pm
Citizenship in the World *
Dentistry *

Morning Session
8:30am to 12:00 pm
Electricity
Fire Safety *
Leatherwork
Weather *

Afternoon Session
1:00pm to 4:30pm
Electricity
Weather *
Wood Carving

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

Training Opportunities - In-person



Register Online at: <https://scoutingevent.com/030-trainingfall23>

Den Chief Training - 8:30am to 11:00am

This course is for Scouts BSA & Venturers who assist a Cub Scout den. It is recommended for den leaders, cubmasters, scoutmaster/asst. scoutmasters & crew advisors to understand the scope of the Den Chief responsibilities.

Leave No Trace 101 - 8:30 am to 12:00pm

This course integrates Scouting's ethical and decision-making focus into the outdoor environment, providing Scouting members with a principled framework to assist in arriving at making ethical decisions in the outdoors. *There is a materials fee of \$5 payable to the instructor.*

Fundamentals of Training - 8:00 am to 12:30 pm

This course is an introductory course for new and experienced Scouting trainers to learn BSA teaching techniques and skills.

Veteran's Day Parade - Bakersfield Saturday, November 11

All packs, troops, crews & posts are invited to join the SSC Veteran's Day Parade entry. The parade will be in downtown Bakersfield on Saturday, November 11. Parade kicks off at 10:00 am.

**This year's theme is
"Veterans Prepared to Serve"**



The entry is registered in the walking/marching category. Wagons, pushmobiles, etc. are welcome. There will be a couple pickups and trailers for those needing a break or unable to walk the distance.

Theme related posters & handheld flags are encouraged for all. Please bring your unit

flags and banners to identify your group.

Each unit is responsible for their own scouts, leaders & families and bringing their own decorations.

Please email Cindy Basham at cbasham3504@gmail.com if your unit would like to participate. Individual scouts (with an adult) are invited to participate if their unit is not planning to attend.

The parade entry number & meeting location will not be available until November 1. This information will be sent out to all who sign up as soon as it is received.

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.

Dates to Remember

December 2
Pushmobile Races
(Registration Opens - November 1)

December 9



Scout Night at the Condors Game 7:00 pm - \$18 per ticket

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

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