

May 2024



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 [cbasham3504@gmail.com](mailto:cbasham3504@gmail.com)  
Shipping is available



### SSC Program Committee Meeting

**Program Committee Meeting**  
**Thursday, May 2**  
**6:30 pm via Zoom**

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

#### Council Office Contacts

(661) 325-9036

#### Scout Executive

Randy Saunders - Ext. 104  
[randy.saunders@scouting.org](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)

#### 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 Upcoming Dates to Remember *(See articles below for details)*

- May 4 - Cub Scout STEM Day

**Scout Office  
& Trading Post Hours  
Monday to Friday  
12 pm to 5 pm**

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- May 9 - Roundtable for all Leaders
- May 11 - Eagle Scout Workshop
- May 11 - OA Lodge Leadership Development
- May 16 - OA Details & Desserts
- May 16 - Council Training Planning Meeting
- May 18 - Trail to First Class Palooza
- May 23 - OA LEC Meeting
- May 27 - Office closed for Memorial Day
- May 30 - Unit Commissioner Meeting
- June 5 - Council Shooting Sports Committee Meeting
- June 7 - Cub Day Camp Parent Orientation & Staff Training
- June 10 to 13 - Cub Day Camp
- June 14-16 - OA Ordeal
- June 27 - OA LEC Meeting
- June 27 - Unit Commissioner Meeting

**The Scout Office  
& Trading Post  
will be closed  
Monday, May 27  
for Memorial Day**



## Camporall Powered by Patrols!!!



The 2024 edition of the Camporall was an amazing success.

Scouts from throughout the Southern Sierra Council gathered at the Glennville Rodeo Grounds for a weekend of Scout skills and fellowship.

Congratulations to all of the patrols and Scouts that received special recognition for their efforts.

Congratulations to Troop 712 for earning the Super Troop award, and to Troop 125 Blackbirds, who earned the Golden Tomahawk as the top patrol at Camporall.

Special thanks to Chuck Monaco and his team of volunteers that organized and delivered a wonderful weekend of Scouting.

Finally, all Scouts and leaders should be commended for displaying their best by living the words of the Scout Oath and Law.



## Camp Card Sales - Round 2 Starting May 1



The Southern Sierra Scout Camp Card Sale ended last week. Over 3,000 cards were sold, generating over \$7,500 in funds for Scouts to pay for their summer adventures.

There are still plenty of unsold Camp Cards available. The discounts on the card are good through the end of 2024.

So, Scouts will have another opportunity to sell Camp Cards to earn more funds to pay for more Scouting adventures.

Starting on May 1, Scouts can individually check out Camp Cards to sell. The cards sell for \$5. The commission is still 50%, meaning that a Scout will earn \$2.50 for each card sold. The selling period will end on June 14. All Scouts are welcome to participate, even if they didn't sell previously.

Please share this opportunity with the parents of your Scouts. Check-out and settlement will all be done with parents through the Scout Office.

Units will not need to coordinate sales for this period. Contact Cindy or Randy for more information or to pick up Camp Cards.

## Deliver the Promise of Scouting to our Youth... Give Big Kern is May 7



Give Big Kern Day is Tuesday, May 7. 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 keeps an 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

## **Cub Scout STEM Day Saturday, May 4**

**Cub Scouts are invited to a morning of Star Wars STEM activities. Learn about science and technology in a galaxy far, far away.**

**Activities include 3d printing, a Liquid Nitrogen demonstration and Star Wars Origami with author Christopher Alexander.**



**Saturday, May 4 - 9:00 am to 12:00 pm.  
Check in @ 8:30 am**

**Location: Christ Church of the Valley  
13701 Stockdale Hwy.**

**Cost:  
\$10 per scout  
Final registration deadline - May 1 - 11:59 pm**

**Medical A & B Forms are required for all attendees**

## Roundtable for all Leaders

Special Location - Kern River Parkway Nature Center  
Hosted by Kern River Parkway Foundation



KERN RIVER PARKWAY   
**NATURE CENTER**  
HART MEMORIAL PARK · BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA

### Announcing a new partnership with the Kern River Parkway Foundation

The Nature Center has developed a program for Webelos age scouts to experience the flora & fauna of Hart Park. Perfect for the Walkabout adventure pin or to put the outing back in Scouting. Learn from the experts - biologists, entomologists, ornithologists, geologists and more as they hike along the trails of Hart Park.

For Scouts BSA - Soon to be scheduled nature themed merit badge sessions. The foundation members are currently completing their registration as merit badge counselors.

**Mark Your Calendars - Roundtable for all Leaders**  
**Thursday, May 9 - 7:00 pm**  
**at the Kern River Nature Center**  
**8000 River Rd., 93308 (East end of Hart Park - formerly the Peacock House)**

Meet the foundation members and be introduced to the programs designed especially for scouts and their advancement needs.

Need conservation service hours? This is the place that can provide the opportunity to get those done.

Contact Carla Rivas - at [carlarivas55@gmail.com](mailto:carlarivas55@gmail.com)

## Trail to First Class Palooza Saturday, May 18



Join scouts from across the council for a productive day, while focusing on rank requirements for  
**Scout through 1<sup>st</sup> Class ranks.**

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

Great opportunity for older scouts to share their experience and earn their own

requirements.

Remember to bring a sack lunch and your A/B medical form!

## Saturday, May 18, 8am to 5pm

### Location: Panofsky-Wilson Preserve

(27750 Caliente Bodfish Rd, Caliente, CA 93518) - Map attached to registration page

Cost:\$10 per scout - registration deadline - Wednesday, May 15 - 11:59 pm

Online Registration only - <https://www.scoutingevent.com/030-TTFC24>

Questions: Contact James Avery (661-497-1605) at james.averybsa@gmail.com or Cameron Hutton (661-325-9036) at Cameron.Hutton@Scouting.org

#### Two ways to attend

- (1) With your troop - overnight camping allowed
- (2) As an individual - for the day only

## 4th Annual Online Auction "Celebrating Scouting Stars"



### We are excited to present our 4th Annual Online Auction – “Celebrating Scouting Stars”.

Last year's online auction was great. We had over 80 items and raised over \$6,000. 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 Scouting 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 Scouting.

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.

**2024's "Celebrating Scouting Stars" online auction will begin on May 17th, at 5 pm and run through Memorial Day on May 27th, at midnight.**

Documentation of your tax-deductible donation will be provided.

Please call or email Cameron Hutton at 661.325.9036

or [cameron.hutton@scouting.org](mailto:cameron.hutton@scouting.org) with a description of your item or more information. We can arrange pick-up at your convenience.

## Cub Scout Day Camp

Monday, June 10 to Thursday, June 13  
Parent Orientation - Friday, June 7

Mark your calendars!  
Get ready for our Outdoor adventures  
at day camp!

June 10<sup>th</sup> to June 13<sup>th</sup> 8:15am - noon each day.  
(drop off as early as 7:30am)

Location: Centennial Elementary (15200 Westdale Dr.)

### Prices

Early Bird - \$65 - until 5/5/24

Regular - \$75 - 5/6 to 6/5/2024

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.

Online Registration: <https://www.scoutingevent.com/030-DayCamp24>



## Eagle 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 11 - 9:00 am to 11:30 am  
Scout Office - 2417 M Street

Registration link: <https://www.scoutingevent.com/030-EW0524>

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

# Updated - Effective May 1, 2024 2024 Annual Membership Fees

## 2024 Annual Membership Fees Effective—May 1, 2024



Participants in kindergarten through age 20  
Cub Scouts   Scouts BSA   Venturing

**\$110**

(\$85 National fee + \$25 Council Program Fee)



All registered adult volunteers in unit &  
non-unit positions.

**\$80**

(\$65 National Fee + \$15 Council Program Fee)

### NEW-MEMBER JOINING FEE



ONE-TIME TO JOIN

**\$0**

**This fee has been eliminated**

*No joining fee for adult volunteers, Exploring participants, participants previously registered in any BSA program, or those transferring from one program to another*



Merit Badge Counselors who are not  
already registered volunteers

**\$25**

*(MBC who are not also registered in a unit position are not allowed to attend overnight Scouting activities/events)*

### SCOUT LIFE MAGAZINE FEE



**\$15**/YR



For all Exploring youth & adults

**\$65**

(\$50 National Fee + \$15 Council Program Fee)

### UNIT CHARTER FEE

For all new & rechartering units

**\$100/year**

## Order of the Arrow





## UPCOMING EVENTS

### LODGE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (LEC) MEETING

All are welcome and encouraged to attend our monthly planning meeting at the Scout Office, 2417 M Street on **Thursday May 23rd at 7PM**. Don't forget your sash!

### LODGE LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT (LLD)

**Saturday, May 11 - 8:00 am to 3:00 pm - Centennial Elementary School - 15200 Westdale Dr.**

This annual event is an opportunity for Arrowmen to lead fellow Scouts in hands-on team-building leadership activities. All OA members and older youth Scouts are encouraged to attend. Grab your PLC and bring your unit to the next level. All are welcome to this event. Lunch will be provided by the Order of the Arrow.

Registration link for LLD - <https://www.scoutingevent.com/030-LLD0524>

### DETAILS & DESSERTS

**Thursday, May 16 - 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm - Scout Office - 2417 M Street**

You've been called out by your fellow Scouts at Camporall and are wondering what happens next? Details and Desserts is the event for you! We will provide small dessert treats for you as candidates to welcome your candidacy to the Order of the Arrow. We will introduce Arrowmen to you, what the OA is as the National Honor Society, the purposed of the order, how you enter, and the expectations of returning service to your unit as you have previously demonstrated prior to being elected.

Registration link for Details & Desserts - <https://www.scoutingevent.com/030-DD24>

### 2024 ANNUAL ORDEAL - JUNE 14-16 - RETURN TO CAMP KERN!

Ordeal returns to Camp Kern! We are happy to announce that our 2024 Annual Ordeal will be held at Camp Kern on Huntington Lake. Register early to assist with car-pooling options. Ordeal will begin Friday evening and will end Sunday in the early afternoon. All current members are encouraged to attend in cheerful service with their fellow Arrowmen as we return to our camp home.

Registration link for Ordeal - <https://www.scoutingevent.com/030-Ordeal24>

***Please note - This is the ONLY Ordeal that will be held by the Lodge in 2024.***

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.

- **Attending the National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC) - July 29 to Aug. 3, 2024 at the University of Colorado Boulder?**
- **Reminder to keep you payments current at all times to hold your spot**

## HAVE YOU PAID YOUR 2024 OA DUES?

**Easy way to pay your annual dues -**

**Pay online at <https://www.scoutingevent.com/030-Dues>**

### Questions:

Contact Lodge Advisor - Chuck Monaco at (661) 303-8636 or [cmonacoscouts@gmail.com](mailto:cmonacoscouts@gmail.com) or Lodge Chief - Talen Monaco at (661) 525-6586 or [T3Monaco@gmail.com](mailto:T3Monaco@gmail.com).

## Training News & Resources



# Council Training Planning Meetings

**THURSDAY, May 16 @ 6:00 pm**

**Zoom:** ID: 314 211 1129 Password: 928897

***New trainers are needed!*** Many of our long-time trainers have retired or moved away. New trainers are needed to support trainings in Bakersfield throughout the year. Trainers can participate at as many training events or choose their one favorite event to support annually. Providing trainings in Bakersfield is helpful for adult volunteer ease of completing courses timely, without lengthy travel or overnight stays, and supports membership retention and providing the BSA programming for our youth.

## **May 16<sup>th</sup> Agenda**

- **Training Calendar Planning**
- **Planning for Wood Badge**

*And more . . .*

## **Why should I attend this meeting?**

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 (March, May, August, September).

## **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)

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## **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. Register early to ensure you have a spot – NYLT trainings in Southern California fill up fast and usually have a waiting list.

**ENSURE YOUR SPOT ON THE COURSE – REGISTER EARLY  
– COURSES FILL UP FAST!**

## **NATIONAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP TRAINING (NYLT)**

### **Las Vegas Area Council**

**May 26 – June 1, 2024**

**Logandale Fairground**

(Las Vegas, NV)

**Registration:**

[Link to Las Vegas NYLT](#)

### **Los Padres Council**

**June 24 - June 29, 2024**

**Camp Rancho Alegre**

(Santa Barbara - San Marcos Pass)

**Registration:**

[Link to Los Padres Council NYLT](#)

### **Long Beach Area Council**

**June 21-23 and June 28-30, 2024**

**Camp Tahquitz**

(near San Bernadino)

**Registration:**

[Link to Long Beach NYLT](#)

### **Western LA County Council**

**June 16 – 21, 2024**

**Camp Josepho**

(near Getty Museum)

**Registration:**

[Link to WLACC NYLT](#)

### **Sequoia Council**

**June 17 - 22, 2024**

**Camp Chawanakee**

(near Shaver Lake)

**Registration:**

[Link to Sequoia NYLT](#)

### **Orange County Council**

**June 17 - 22, 2024**

**Schoepe Scout Reservation**

(near San Diego)

**Registration:**

[Link to Orange County NYLT](#)

***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 13/14-17 years old (Troop or Venture Crew)
- Earned 1<sup>st</sup> 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 courses are run by youth and adult volunteers from sponsoring councils. Youth volunteers have completed the NYLT course and are ready to take on new leadership challenges.

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**Leadership training for every level of registered adult:**  
**Cub Scouting   Troops   Venturing**

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

**Tri-Council**

## **WOOD BADGE**

**September 6-8 & September 14-15, 2024**

**CampTahquitz & Camp Verdugo Oaks**

**Course Director: Joey Bland, Verdugo Hills Council**

**Questions:**

Joey Bland [joeybland@yahoo.com](mailto:joeybland@yahoo.com) or

Carolyn Forster [CJForster1964@gmail.com](mailto:CJForster1964@gmail.com)

***Scholarships may be available through your Unit, Council, or the course.  
Registration opening soon!***

**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 and C)** : [https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/680-001\\_ABC.pdf](https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/680-001_ABC.pdf)

**2024 Cub Scout Advancement Changes**  
**Effective June 1, 2024**



**Now available - NEW Cub Scout Handbooks  
Stop by the Scout Office to pick up a copy so you are  
prepared for the new program**

**Lion & Tiger - includes Scout & Parent Guides - \$12.99  
Wolf to Arrow of Light Handbooks - \$23.99**

To see the latest Cub Scout Program Updates:

<https://www.scouting.org/program-updates/cub-scout-program-updates-announced/>

**POPCORN! POPCORN! POPCORN!**



### **The Trails End Popcorn Sale is back for 2024**

Last year our Packs & Troops put over \$122,000 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 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. Product will be available to sell starting August 30.

Come join us at the Popcorn Leaders Kick-off on Saturday, July 20, 10:00am at the Rollerama West, 7850 Brimhall Road, Bakersfield.

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. We will review the plan for the 2024 sale.

Trail's End is booking storefront locations this year, which will expand locations and selling times for Scouts. 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](mailto:randy.saunders@scouting.org).

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## 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](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.

### [Navigating Incidents: Guide for Units](#)

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## 2026 National Scout Jamboree

**Coming in 2026**

**National Scout  
Jamboree**

**July 22-31, 2026**



# Summit Bechtel Reserve, WV

Minimum of 12 years of age on or before  
the first day of the Jamboree.

## Dates to Remember



**June 10-13, 2024**

Cub Scout Day Camp

**July 20, 2024**

Summer Event - Roller Skating  
Popcorn Kickoff

**August 10, 2024**

Summer Event

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

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