



Roundtable Matters

Pacifica District, Greater Los Angeles Area Council, Scouting America
Gary Thompson, Roundtable Commissioner

July 2025

roundtable@pacificabsa.org

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

SAFETY MOMENT FOR JULY Scouting adventures thrive in the great outdoors—along trails, at campsites, deep in forests, and beneath the shelter of towering trees. Nature offers an ideal setting for learning, exploration, and leadership, but it also brings inherent risks. One of the most often overlooked, yet potentially life-threatening, hazards is the presence of hazardous trees. Each year, falling trees and limbs cause serious injuries, fatalities, and significant property damage. In Scouting, where youth and adults spend extended time in wooded environments, recognizing and managing tree hazards isn't just good practice, it's a critical component of safety. [Here's a resource](#) to help you learn more. Get this and more at [BSA Safety Moments](#).

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADVENTURE (this list is NOT inclusive—check the [Council Calendar](#) for even more!)

Jul 7-10	Trail to Eagle (Scouts) Camp Trask Scout Reservation - GLAAC
Jul 11-13	NYLT weekend 2 (Scouts) Cabrillo Beach Youth Waterfront Sports Center
Jul 14-18	Cub Twilight Camp (Cub) Camp Trask Scout Reservation
Jul 14-18	Innovation Outpost (Cub & community) Cabrillo Beach Youth Waterfront Sports Center
Jul 19	Operation On Target (Scouts) email heliograph09+OT2015@gmail.com
Jul 20	Gun Safety and Fun Water Balloon Shoot (Scouts) Firestone Scout Reservation
Jul 23	Popcorn Fundraising Best Practices (Scouters) Webinar
Aug 24	STEM Shoot (Scouts) Camp Trask Scout Reservation - GLAAC
Aug 30	Rifle or Shotgun MB (Scouts) Camp Trask Scout Reservation - GLAAC
Sep 5-7	OA Summer Induction (OA) 📍 Hubert Eaton Scout Reservation HESR Main Gate
Sep 20	Operation On Target (Scouts) email heliograph09+OT2015@gmail.com
Sep 26-28	Pacifica AOL Woods (AOL and Scouts) El Dorado Park
Oct 10-12	Secrets of Lost Camp Pepperdine (Scouts) 📍 Hubert Eaton Scout Reservation HESR Main Gate
Oct 18	Pacifica MB Day (Scouts) @ Torrance Scout House
Oct 24-26	Boofest (Cubs) Firestone Scout Reservation
Nov 1	10 Mile Hike (Scouts) Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area
Dec 6	20 Mile Hike (Scouts) Gabrielino Trail Western Trailhead

MERIT BADGE PAMPHLET UPDATE The free public PDF version of all merit badge pamphlets is now [available online here](#). This is part of a program to transition towards a comprehensive Scouting digital platform.

CAMP CARD SEASON Camp Cards are available now through 15 September. Check it out [here](#) and have your scouts earn funds to offset costs for summer camp.

POPCORN SEASON The Greater LA Scouting is happy to offer this popcorn fundraising opportunity. Popcorn sale begins at the end of summer and through the fall. Popcorn can help raise funds to help Scouts and their families cover registration fees and uniforms and create fewer out-of-pocket expenses for the families. Scouts may still participate if their unit doesn't. [More information here](#).

WOOD BADGE 2025 Wood Badge Course 3-33-25 will be held September 19-21, 2025, and October 4-5, 2025, at the Hubert Eaton Scout Reservation. Registration for the course is available [here](#). Please feel free to contact the Course Director, Jeremy Williams, at jediforcejeremy@gmail.com or 626-622-1488 if you have questions.

TRAINING UPDATE FOR LEADERS As part of Scouting America retiring Journey to Excellence, training modules for this in position and leader training has now been removed.

2025 FALL CUB SCOUTS MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT KICKOFF Thursday, July 31, at 8:00 PM ET, Cub Scout unit leaders and council staff can hear from national and council-level volunteers and staff about effective strategies, success stories, and fresh ideas to enhance local recruitment efforts. The focus will be on fostering a strong recruitment mindset and generating momentum for reaching more families this Fall. Register here.

2025 FALL CUB SCOUTS MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT KICKOFF Thursday, August 7, at 8:00 PM ET, Scouts BSA unit leaders and council staff will receive practical tools for a successful fall recruitment season. Led by a dynamic team of national and council-level volunteers and staff, the event will feature engaging sessions focused on proven strategies to enhance and expand local Scouts BSA programs. [Register now here.](#)

FAMILY ADVENTURE CAMPS Is your family looking for an unforgettable summer adventure? Have you looked at our High Adventure Camps? <https://www.scouting.org/national-high-adventure-bases/family-adventure-camp/activities/>

HIKING MERIT BADGE HIKE For all Scouts working on earning the hiking merit badge, the 2025 hikes have been scheduled. Ten-mile hike will be conducted on November 1st. We will have a 20-mile hike on December 6. This is earlier than the first week in January when we have had it in the past. These hikes are also great training hikes for Philmont and are completely free. Come out and join us as we hike through some of our beautiful California trails. For more information, please contact Sheila at sheandjc@yahoo.com.

ATTENTION MERIT BADGE COUNSELORS: Thank you all for playing your part in the development of our youth by serving as a merit badge counselor. If you know of anyone that has a talent for teaching youth, there is probably something that person could contribute. Mention the possibility of becoming a counselor and point the person to the website <https://greaterlascouting.org/pacifica-advancement-information/> which has the document that describes our process.

NATIONAL JAMBOREE 2026 REGISTRATION IS OPEN Jamboree isn't just a place—it's a once-in-a-lifetime experience that will ignite your spirit of adventure and push you beyond your limits. It's not camp. It's not a weekend outing. It's something far bigger. The 2026 National Jamboree, held July 22–31 at the breathtaking Summit Bechtel Reserve, is a 360-degree explosion of fun, friendship, and hands-on adventure. Picture yourself zip-lining through the trees, scaling rock walls, conquering obstacle courses, and meeting thousands of Scouts from across the country—all while discovering strengths you didn't even know you had. This is your hero's journey—a challenge to become the best version of yourself. You'll go farther, climb higher, and come home transformed. [Registration is now open for GLAAC's Contingent Troops.](#)

PACIFICA'S ARROW OF LIGHT (AOL) WOODS: Registration Opening Soon for AOL Scouts and Troops for Pacifica's Arrow of Light (AOL) Woods that will be held on September 26th to 28th at El Dorado Park. We are looking for enthusiastic units to staff stations for the AOL Patrols, run the campfire, conduct the interfaith worship service and to staff the events. We would also like other units to come out and be a part of our midway. The midway will provide your unit an opportunity to introduce your unit to our AOL Scouts if you are not staffing a station. We want to have a fun and exciting weekend for our Webelos. For more information please contact Kathy at Pacificawebeloswoods@gmail.com.

HOLD THE DATE – PACIFICA'S SPRING CAMPOREE APRIL 2026: Pacifica's 2026 Spring Camporee will be held April 24-26th at Firestone Scout Reservation.

PACIFICA DISTRICT VACANT POSITIONS Actively seeking nominations or volunteers for Pacifica's Roundtable Commissioner and Training Chair,. Please contact eric.arentsen@gmail.com with your nominee. We welcome Alan Franz as District Vice Chair, Andrew Tew as District Program Chair, Susan Griego as District Popcorn and Camp Card Chair, Sheryl Ruskin continuing as Special Events / District Award Dinner Chair, and Alfredo Chavez as the District Executive!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED Pacifica District, we need volunteers to plan and staff some of the awesome events we are planning for next year. We need volunteers to organize our Scouting for Food. We also need volunteers to help staff our Geocache Day, Camporee Committee, Fishing Merit Badge Camping Weekend and a Family Day at Cabrillo. If you are interested in supporting any of these events, please contact Sheila at Sheandjc@yahoo.com.

MEDICAL PERSONNEL AND RANGEMASTERS NEEDED: If you are a nurse, nurse practitioner or doctor, we need your help. One of the requirements for certain overnight activities is that we have medical personnel onsite. If we don't have volunteers, we have to add the cost of hiring someone to the cost of the event or cancel the event if we can't find someone. Please contact me if you are willing to help staff one of our events. We also need rangemasters to help out at our ranges. Our camps have limited resources and sometimes cannot provide the support we need to efficiently run our ranges. Please let me know if you are willing to help out during our events. If you are supporting the event, you can attend the event free of charge. Please contact Sheila at sheandjc@yahoo.com for more information or to volunteer.

DEN MEETING ACTIVITY CARD The Den Meeting Activity Card Deck is a valuable resource for Cub Scout leaders to plan and conduct Den Meetings. The cards provide instructions for games, skill-building activities, and crafts related to specific adventure or rank requirements. These decks assist Den Leaders in organizing fun, engaging, and educational meetings for the Scouts. Learn more by watching [this recent video](#).

BEAR CAN RENTALS Need to keep Yogi and Boo-Boo out of your troop food on campouts but don't have a bear can? See the Bear Can Rental flyer in RTM! Ranger Smith and your scouts will thank you.

UPDATED EAGLE SCOUT EMBLEM The Scouting America Eagle Scout Emblems are now available at National Scout Shops. Previous emblems will remain available until the stock is depleted.

BSA FISHING Calling all Cub Scout units in the Pacifica District. Take advantage of this resource to enhance your unit's fishing activities and ensure your leaders are well-prepared and trained. For any questions regarding fishing activities for your unit and available adult training opportunities, please contact Dane Shigemura. I am your dedicated point of contact for all fishing-related inquiries and will be able to provide the necessary information and support. Email: dane_shigemura@yahoo.com

RECRUITMENT Council has been getting ready for our recruitment season, if you have any questions with what items we have available to help with your recruitment please check out the council's recruiting page <https://greaterlascouting.org/recruitment-materials-order-page/>

EAGLE ADVANCEMENT Eagle candidates please review the "[Path to Eagle](#)" (Rev. 1/2025). See these [great tips from Scouting Magazine](#) on helping Scouts, especially those who are neurodivergent, on their path to Eagle. Eagle Project approver is Mr. Cortenbach who can be contacted at wpcortenbach@gmail.com or by phone at 310-891-2301. Scout profile and join date will be requested from Council and Scout will be assigned a book check person. Please do not contact the Council directly for profile or join date. Please call Mrs. Christensen at (310) 283-7197 for the Pacifica verification and review once the Eagle book and application are ready. Prior to contacting Pacifica District for approval, please review Eagle application and Eagle book with your troop advancement chair to confirm records agree with troop records and Eagle book is complete. Please check out the resources in the [Advancement Information Section](#). The updated Eagle Application and Confidential Appraisal Reference Letter are also included in RTM.

ORDER OF THE ARROW (OA) The OA is Scouting's Honor Society for Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouts. Members ("Arrowmen") provide service to their home Units, the Pacifica District, our Council, and BSA nationally. OA provides Youth members additional service and leadership opportunities that help them grow and build experience. Members are sent virtual Meeting invitations via the LodgeMaster application.

The Lakota Chapter **will not** hold monthly Chapter Meetings in July (enjoy Summer Camp!). Plans for the August Chapter at which Chapter Elections will be held will be emailed to Chapter members later this summer.

The Summer Induction Weekend is currently scheduled for September 5-7, 2025, at the Hybert Eaton Scout Reservation. Candidates and Lodge Members will be sent emails with the details when registration opens.

Registration for the Section G18N Conclave to be held September 19-21, 2025, at the Cabrillo Youth Center may be completed [here](#).

To request a Unit Visit, Unit Election, or Camp Promotion visit please contact the Lakota Chapter Chief at lakotachchief@gmail.com and the Chapter Adviser, Bob Hodgkiss, at oachapteradviser@pacificabsa.org.

CHECK US OUT!

Virtually all info is available online: Events, Dates, Fliers, Contacts, Training, Etc.

Pacifica District Website: <https://GreaterLAscouting.org/pacifica-district/>

GLAAC Website: <https://GreaterLAscouting.org/>

AT ROUNDTABLE Have an event you'd like to promote at Roundtable or flyer you'd like to include with *Roundtable Matters*? We welcome all appropriate additions to our Roundtable program. Have a topic you'd like to see as a breakout session or big rock? Send an email proposal to gary.thompson@pacificabsa.org or roundtable@pacificabsa.org two weeks before Roundtable to get started.