



ROUNDTABLE MATTERS

Pacifica District, Greater Los Angeles Area Council, Scouting America February 2026
Gary Thompson, Roundtable Commissioner roundtable@pacificabsa.org

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

SAFETY MOMENT FOR FEBRUARY Don't fall victim to Frostbite. Serious injuries can occur when it's cold and you spend time working, playing, or sleeping outside, particularly if you are wet or your clothes are wet or too tight. Scouts should be instructed to inform an adult as soon as possible if they are at an event, winter camp, or troop campout and start experiencing any of the symptoms in this [Safety Moment](#).

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

Feb 13-16 [Camp Big Horn Winter Camp](#) (Scouts) [Hubert Eaton Scout Reservation HESR Main Gate](#)
Feb 20-22 [Camp Big Horn Winter Camp](#) (Scouts) [Hubert Eaton Scout Reservation HESR Main Gate](#)
Feb 21 [Paul Bunyan](#) (Scouts) [Camp Trask Scout Reservation - GLAAC](#)
Feb 21 [Rangemaster Training](#) (Scouters) [Camp Trask Scout Reservation - GLAAC](#)
Feb 21 [HAT Canoeing the Lower Colorado](#) (Scouters) [Frank G. Bonelli Regional Park](#)
Feb 21-22 [NRA Rifle Instructor Course](#) (Scouters) [Firestone Scout Reservation](#)
Feb 27-Mar 1 [Camp Big Horn Winter Camp](#) (Cubs) [Hubert Eaton Scout Reservation HESR Main Gate](#)
Feb 27-Mar 1 [HAT - Adult Leaders Backpack Training](#) (Scouters) [Camp Trask Scout Reservation - GLAAC](#)
Mar 6-8 [Camp Big Horn Winter Camp](#) (Cubs) [Hubert Eaton Scout Reservation HESR Main Gate](#)
Mar 6-7 [OA Trade-O-Ree & MB Day](#) (Scouts & OA) [Foothill Vineyard Church](#)
Mar 7 [Innovation Science MB](#) (Scouts) [Camp Trask Scout Reservation - GLAAC](#)
Mar 21-22 [HAT Wilderness and Remote First Aid](#) (Scouters) [Cushman Watt Scout Center](#)
Mar 27-29 [Rocket Academy](#) (Cubs) [Firestone Scout Reservation](#)
Apr 16 Pacifica District Dinner (Scouters)
Apr 17-19 [Pio Pico Pirate Camporee](#) (Scouts) [Prado Regional Park](#)
Apr 17-19 [OA Induction](#) (OA & OA Staff) [Hubert Eaton Scout Reservation HESR Main Gate](#)
Apr 24-26 [Rose Bowl Camporee](#) (Scouts) [Camp Trask Scout Reservation - GLAAC](#)
Apr 24-26 Pacifica District Camporee (Scouts) [Firestone Scout Reservation](#)
Sep 18-20 [Woodbadge Weekend 1](#) (Scouters) [Hubert Eaton Scout Reservation HESR Main Gate](#)
Oct 3-4 [Woodbadge Weekend 2](#) (Scouters) [Camp Trask Scout Reservation - GLAAC](#)

UNIFIED SCOUTS BSA HANDBOOK The new unified handbook blends the version for boys and the version for girls into a single handbook. No program or requirements changes.

AMERICA250 EAGLE SCOUT CERTIFICATE To commemorate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, and continued partnership of Scouting America with America250; all Eagle Scouts who earn the rank in 2026 will receive a special commemorative Eagle Scout Certificate. This is automatic starting 1 Feb.

CAMP CARDS Scout cards are discount cards with local deals and savings. Each card sells for \$10 and the scout gets \$5 to pay for camp fees, registration and other scouting activities. [Learn more here](#).

CAMP STAFF Looking for the perfect summer job? Check out our summer camp staff opportunities [here](#).

KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT Pacifica leadership are investing in creating a knowledge management repository to aid Ship, Crew, Troop and Pack leadership. Beta version will be available soon.

MERIT BADGE CHANGES There were major and minor revisions to more than 80 merit badges. Want the details? Find them [here](#). The BSA Guide to advancement has a summary on their page and a reminder that scouts who started on

the previous version can continue on that version until complete or change to the new merit badge requirements. Here's the [summary page](#).

PACIFICA DISTRICT ANNUAL AWARD DINNER We are going back to The Cheesecake Factory in Redondo Beach! Mark your calendar for Thursday, April 16, to celebrate our 2025 District Award of Merit recipients and other prestigious awards! The booking site will be up and running shortly so do not sleep on this! Book ASAP to avoid disappointment as space is limited! Spread the word!!

CAMP CHERRY VALLEY WORK WEEKENDS Want to roll up your sleeves to get Camp Cherry Valley ready for the upcoming season? Register [here](#).

POSITION TRAINED? The updated Position Trained Requirements document is now available. It outlines what is needed for an adult leader to be considered fully trained. Trained leaders may wear the official Trained emblem once they have completed Safeguarding Youth training and the courses listed in [this updated document](#).

NYLT It's not too early to start preparing your scouts for [NYLT](#). Mark your calendar. Trask, Dec 18-20 2026 and Jan 8-9 2027. This high energy, outdoor experience helps develop new leadership, team building and problem solving skills.

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 just a 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](#).

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

HIGH ADVENTURE REGISTRATION The High Adventure camps registration for 2027 is open for all 4 high adventure camps.

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.

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.

WITH RECRUITMENT COMES AN UPDATED PIN Since we're kicking off our recruiting season, now is a great time to update your www.beascout.org pin for your unit. See [this article](#) for more information!

UPDATE ON SCOUT HANDBOOK TRANSLATIONS Do you have multilingual scouts and families? Spanish-language versions of Cub Scouts and Scouts BSA Handbooks are available on Amazon and Kindle. Traditional and Simplified-Mandarin, Braille and more languages are coming soon due to the Lilly Endowment to help ensure families can enjoy scouting.

UPDATED MERIT BADGE RESOURCES Updated resources make it easier than ever for Scouts to work on merit badges. Fresh videos, updated pamphlets, and online tools are now available for a wide range of merit badges, including Nuclear Science, Sustainability, Exploration, Genealogy, Painting, Sculpture, Dog Care, Fingerprinting, Scholarship, Robotics, Insect Study, Mammal Study, Environmental Science, Graphic Arts, Music, Pets, Family Life, Bird Study, Nature, Animation, Reptile and Amphibian Study, Digital Technology, Home Repairs, Camping, and Hiking. All of these resources can be found on the [Merit Badge Hub](#), which provides the latest requirements, downloadable pamphlets, helpful videos, and other materials in one easy-to-access location. More updates will be added soon.

UNIFORM SQUARE KNOTS Not the bowline and half hitch – the other knots. Uniform square knots. Currently, there are 32 authorized square knots you can wear on your uniform; however, the Uniform and Insignia guide limits you to three rows of three knots, for a total of nine. Did you know, generally speaking, Scouting America has a policy not to authorize a new square knot if there is some other item that already recognizes the accomplishment or achievement? And, did you know the policy also restricts new knots by expecting at least 500 people to be eligible to earn the knot in a 10-year period? [Learn more here](#).

MISS JOURNEY TO EXCELLENCE? Scouting America has launched a Unit Self-Assessment tool which looks a lot like Journey to Excellence. It's for your own edification, annual planning, and general assessment of unit health. [Check it out](#).

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/>

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.

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 next Chapter Meeting is scheduled for 7:30-8:30 PM Tuesday, February 24th, at the Torrance Scout Center (2365 Plaza del Amo, Torrance, CA 90501).

2026 Lodge Dues may be paid [here](#).

The Lodge Trade-O-Ree patch trading event will be held Saturday, March 7th, at the Foothills Vineyard Church (100 E Foot Hills Blvd, San Dimas, CA 91773). [Youth members may earn “Fang Funds” they can spend on any Scouting relate activity by serving as event Staff. Additional information may be found here.](#)

The Spring Induction Weekend is scheduled for April 17-19, 2026, at the Hubert Eaton Scout Reservation. Lodge members and Candidates will be contacted by email with details and registration links.

To request a Unit Visit, Unit Election, or Camp Promotion visit please contact the Lakota Chapter Adviser, Bob Hodgkiss, at oachapteradviser@pacificabsa.org, or respond to the emails sent by Tuku’ut Lodge.

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.