

The **Scouter** newsletter is here. Look inside to learn what's new in the SGVD, including upcoming events, training opportunities, new merit badges, Friends of Scouting updates, and much more. Also, check out the I Scout Because article featuring **Clark Mason**.

Roundtable

By *David Granillo*

Welcome to the end of the year! The Roundtable staff wishes every scout leader a Merry Christmas with their families. We know all leaders and their families are busy this time of year, but we still want to see your smiling and happy faces at Roundtable. Two items to note for this month:

1. We, in Scouting, are here to give service. That means, lets help others, who need help. Please bring some non-perishable food donations so we can help give them a Christmas to remember. Remember, "A Scout is helpful."
2. We are having a white elephant gift exchange at Roundtable this month. Bring a wrapped gift within a \$10-\$15 price range. Don't put a name on it, men or women, this is fun Christmas event.

At Roundtable, we will have fun fun, enjoy Christmas music, play a Christmas game, and have a white elephant gift exchange event. If units have questions, need guidance, or have suggestions for Roundtable topics of interest, please email David Granillo.

Join Us In- Person



Wednesday, 12/10, 7 PM

Azusa Eagles Lodge
1603 San Gabriel Canyon Rd
Azusa

Park in the back & enter rear door

Eagle Corner

By *Steve Salyards*

NOVEMBER EAGLES

Please join us in congratulating the SGV District's Scouts who earned their Eagle Rank in November!

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| ◆ Julian Orue, Troop 167 | ◆ Zaden Abernathy, Troop 110 |
| ◆ Shane Files, Troop 491 | ◆ Jerry Wang, Troop 111 |
| ◆ Stephen Maciel, Troop 373 | ◆ Ethan Anderson, Troop 66 |
| ◆ Luke Yang, Troop 111 | ◆ Noah Tandoc, Troop 104 |
| ◆ Jaden Che-Duan Joe, Troop 167 | ◆ Sarah Li, Troop 333 |



LIFE TO EAGLE ORIENTATIONS

What is a "Life to Eagle Orientation"? It's an informational session designed to guide Life Scouts and their parents through the process of earning the Eagle Scout rank, the highest rank in Scouting America. These orientations provide clarity on the requirements, procedures, and resources needed to successfully navigate the journey from Life Scout to Eagle Scout. If your Life Scout is actively working towards the Eagle Scout rank, please join us so they can be prepared!

Life to Eagle Orientations have been scheduled for the following dates at 7 pm at St. Dorothy Catholic Church, 241 S Valley Center Ave, Glendora, CA 91741:

- ◆ Thursday, January 22, 2026
- ◆ Wednesday, May 27, 2026

I Scout Because

By Clark Mason

I was in Cub Scouts in Montana in my youth with a bunch of my friends. I remember that at least one of my grade school photos was me in my uniform, I liked that picture. I recall my involvement in Cub Scout as being very passive, my parents were running a small business, and I don't think they dedicated a lot of time to Cub Scouts. Although something about my experience resonated because I kept parts of my uniform and my pinewood derby cars and some of my awards and books. Looking back, I don't think I was an impressive Cub Scout, not a lot of awards earned, and I don't recall bridging to Boy Scouts, but I recall vaguely I made it there without a lot of hoopla. My scouting career abruptly ended in seventh grade when I moved to California.



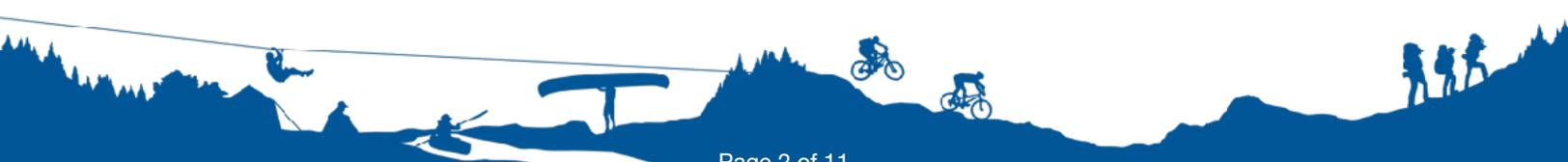
I Scout Because
SCOUT STORIES



Fast forward 29 years, I have a first-grade son and his closest friend's dad asked if I wanted them to do Cub Scouts together. I was super busy, and I did a lot of volunteer work for various organizations, but heck yay I wanted my son to do Cub Scouts. The dad asked if I wanted to be an assistant den leader. I was vague and non-committal, but I didn't think there was much to it, so basically agreed. The more involved I got, the more responsibility I was willing to take on. Fairly quickly I was dropping or letting go or lessening my other volunteer work and shifting that time to scouts. I saw something in being a scout leader that I had missed as a youth and I wanted to make it fun for my son and his friends. I also loved that my volunteer time was connected to my son and was a family program that my whole family could do together.

So, I scout because being a scout leader brings me immense joy and I am able to create and/or enhance programs that gets youth interested and excited about creating experiences that hopefully will stick with them for a lifetime. It also allows me to engage my own children in a program that is about character development, leadership development, citizenship training and personal fitness that has an outdoor element. My boys and all the other youth in the program are building lifelong skills. It is also personally gratifying seeing youth develop in the program and the impact leaders can have by helping to create a great program. I've been a

Den Leader for 13 years and a Cubmaster for 12 years creating memories for the scouts in the program and I have enjoyed every minute. Scouting has had an enormous impact on my life and I look forward to seeing all the things it can do to help youth of today and tomorrow.



District News

By Estela Chicas

COMBINED TROOP PILOT

The “Family Troop” option will become available to all chartering organizations as a third option on December 15th, 2025. Troops will continue to be able to organize as boy troops and girl troops or choose the option of “Family Troop”.

RENEWAL INFORMATION

As of December 1st, all volunteers and scouts that have not renewed their membership have officially dropped from the rosters and are they are no longer able to attend any meetings or outings. **So, please review your rosters!**

If they want to be reinstated, they MUST use our council payment link to submit their renewal fee because that is the only way that the youth can be backdated correctly. If they register through the online system, they will change their effective date to the month they pay in and have gaps in their membership. Adults cannot be backdated; they will be renewed effective the month they pay. You can [make a payment here](#).

UNIT UPDATES

Thank you to all the units that renewed on time! Now that we’ve gotten past the renewal process, I need your assistance to collect the Charter Agreement! Please [email me](#) copies if you already have them and I will be sending a separate email with reminder. Here are the links to the various Charter Agreements:

- ◆ [Annual Charter Agreement](#)
- ◆ [Catholic Traditional Charter Agreement](#)
- ◆ [United Methodist Affiliation Agreement](#)

DISTRICT VACANCIES

SGV is looking forward to filling in the Activities Chair position. The Activities Chair responsible to the program chair for running fun, exciting, safe program for units. Promote the organization and implementation of service projects as a way to educate Scouts and make them aware of their obligation as scouts to help others. If interested, please let [email me](#).

FRIENDS OF SCOUTING

Thank you to everyone that has donated towards our FOS Goal! Our district needs to get \$1,800 to reach our FOS Goal for 2025! Please consider donating to help us achieve this!

A SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM ESTELA

Dear San Gabriel Valley Families,

Thank you for all your support this year and your patience. I’m truly grateful to work with volunteers like all of you that are always there for me when needed!

I wish you all a wonderful Christmas and I’m looking forward to 2026 as we continue to grow our District together.

Here’s to another year of teamwork and even greater success!



Troop 104 of Arcadia Gains Insight and Appreciation During Police Station Visit

By Johnny Tseng

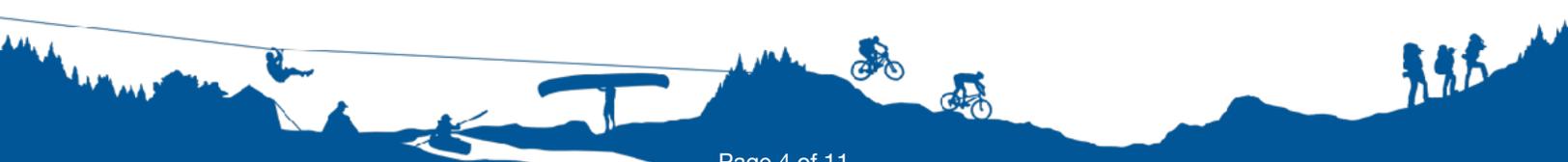
Arcadia, CA — In a meaningful blend of education and community engagement, Troop 104 of Arcadia recently embarked on a memorable visit to the local police station. The scouts were welcomed by officers and staff for an immersive tour of the department’s state-of-the-art facilities, offering a firsthand look at the tools and technologies used to keep the community safe.

The visit was more than just a walk-through—it was an opportunity for the scouts to work toward their Crime Prevention merit badge. Through interactive discussions and demonstrations, they learned about the importance of situational awareness, the role of law enforcement in deterring crime, and practical steps individuals can take to contribute to a safer neighborhood.

For many in Troop 104, the experience sparked a newfound appreciation for the dedication and professionalism of Arcadia’s law enforcement personnel. From dispatch operations to forensic tools, the scouts gained insight into the complexity and commitment behind every badge.

“It’s experiences like these that help build respect, understanding, and a stronger sense of civic responsibility in our youth.”

Troop 104 extends heartfelt thanks to the officers and staff who made this visit possible. Their openness and enthusiasm left a lasting impression, reinforcing the vital role they play in protecting and serving the Arcadia community.



Friends of Scouting

By Drake Rubalcava

Hello SGVD Scouters, and Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.

I would like to thank those of you and the units across the SGV in supporting our FOS goal this year under my first year in leadership. I appreciate all of you who contributed to helping our district and Council better help our youth across the region.

We are, as of 12/02/25, at \$7,272.48 which means we are 69.3% towards our goal. While I realize that the holiday season in swing this means our families are preparing for the holiday and end of the year. We still would like those of you who want to make a lasting impact towards our youth and contribute to our goal for 2025.

Otherwise, we are looking forward to you and your units contributing to our new goal in 2026.

As always the district key 3 and myself are continuing to redevelop our FOS efforts throughout the district, please feel free to send your feedback or suggestions to myself via email, drakerubalcava@outlook.com.



Upcoming Events

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| 12/06 | <u>20 Mile Hike</u> , Gabrielino National Recreation Trail |
| 12/27 (more dates) | <u>Winter Merit Badge Programs</u> , Trask Scout Reservation |
| 01/16 - 01/18 | Winter Camp for Cub Scouts, Hubert Eaton Scout Reservation* |
| 01/23 - 01/25 | Winter Camp for Scouts BSA, Hubert Eaton Scout Reservation* |
| 01/30 - 02/01 | Winter Camp for Cub Scouts, Hubert Eaton Scout Reservation* |
| 02/13 - 02/15 | Winter Camp for Scouts BSA, Hubert Eaton Scout Reservation* |
| 02/20 - 02/22 | Winter Camp for Scouts BSA, Hubert Eaton Scout Reservation* |
| 02/27 - 03/01 | Winter Camp for Cub Scouts, Hubert Eaton Scout Reservation* |
| 03/06 - 03/08 | Winter Camp for Cub Scouts, Hubert Eaton Scout Reservation* |
| 01/17 | <u>Winter Fest</u> , Trask Scout Reservation |
| 01/28 | <u>Council Annual Recognition Dinner</u> , Quiet Cannon |
| 02/06 | Scout Shabbat - SAVE THE DATE |
| 07/19-31 | <u>2026 National Scout Jamboree</u> , Summit Bechtel Reserve |
| 09/11 - 09/13 | Catholic Scout Camporee - SAVE THE DATE |
| 09/11 - 09/13 | Catholic Parent & Leader Program - SAVE THE DATE |
| 09/12 | Catholic Cub Day - SAVE THE DATE |

* **Links will be posted soon. Be sure to check the SGV District Calendar later this week to register.**
For more information on the events above and additional upcoming events check the SGV District Calendar.

A Legacy of Leadership: Temple City's Troop 167 Celebrates 75 Years

By John Orofolo

TEMPLE CITY, CA – On Saturday, October 25, 2025, Boy Scout Troop 167, chartered at St. Luke's Catholic Church, gathered to celebrate a remarkable milestone: its 75th anniversary.

Established in December 1949, Troop 167 proudly holds the title of Temple City's longest continuously active boy scout troop. This enduring presence has profoundly shaped the lives of over 300 young men. In its 75-year history, the troop has produced 118 Eagle Scouts and has been guided by the dedication of 34 Scoutmasters.

The celebration, held at St. Luke's Parish Hall, was attended by 130 guests, serving as a heartfelt reunion that bridged generations of Scouting. The crowd included current scouts and their families, 22 Eagle Scout alums, and many other scouts who had spent time with the troop over the years. Some alumni traveled from out of state to attend. The troop's deep history was on full display, with attendees representing Eagle Scouts from as far back as 1969. The legacy of leadership was also honored, with 11 current and former Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters in attendance, including a Scoutmaster who led the troop during the 1970s.

The troop's long-standing commitment to the community was formally recognized by the city and Scouting officials. Tom Chavez, a councilmember for the City of Temple City, presented Troop 167 with a certificate of recognition for its decades of service. Representatives from Greater Los Angeles Scouting—including Estela Chicas, Susan Kimball, and Michael Balingit—were also present to celebrate the troop's significant achievement.

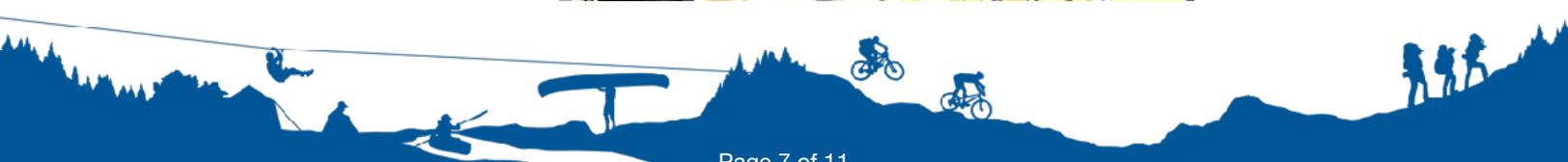
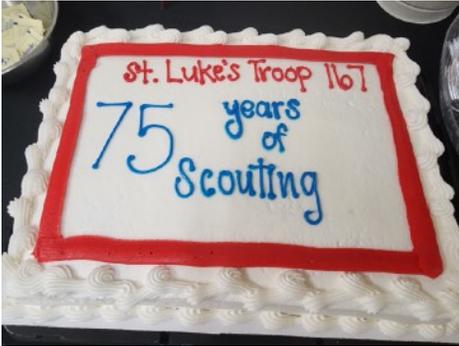
Today, Troop 167 continues to be a vibrant and active force for youth in the community. The troop holds weekly meetings on Thursdays and schedules a wide array of weekend outings, such as camping, backpacking, hiking, biking, and various community service projects.

Troop 167 remains a proud supporter of its charter organization by participating in St. Luke's annual Fiesta and is a familiar sight at the Temple City Camellia Festival, where members raise funds for their many activities, including their highly anticipated annual trip to Powell's Ranch every January. *More pictures on next page.*



Temple City's Troop 167 Celebrates 75 Years (Cont'd)

By John Orofola



Updates and New Names for Trainer Development Courses

By *Melissa Brown*

Scouting U is proud to announce updates to two essential training courses, formerly known as Fundamentals of Training and Trainer’s EDGE.

Fundamentals Part 1: Science of Training ([PDF here](#))

Designed for trainers of all experience levels, this course explores proven methods for effective teaching and communication. It helps new trainers build confidence and gives experienced trainers fresh strategies to enhance their skills—both in Scouting and beyond. Online version of Science of Training is in development, with facilitator guides planned for both courses to support virtual delivery. Expect release in 2026.

Fundamentals Part 2: Craft of Training ([PDF here](#))

The second step in the train-the-trainer continuum, this course emphasizes practice, refinement, and real-time feedback. Trainers develop their abilities through hands-on learning and peer collaboration, building on faculty development opportunities offered in advanced leadership programs.

Upcoming Training

| | | |
|---------------|--------------------|---|
| 12/13 | 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM | Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops (ILST) , Trask Scout Reservation |
| 12/13 | 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM | HAT - Winter Camping and Travel Training , Cushman Watt Scout Center |
| 01/05 | 7:30 PM - 10:00 PM | HAT - Cross Country Skiing and Snow Shoeing , Cushman Watt Scout Center |
| 01/16 - 01/17 | Two Days | Scouting for Everyone , Cushman Watt Scout Center |
| 01/24 | 7:30 PM - 10:00 PM | HAT - Cross Country Skiing and Snow Shoeing , Cushman Watt Scout Center |
| 03/21 - 03/22 | Overnight | HAT - Wilderness and Remote First Aid , Cushman Watt Scout Center |

For more information on the trainings above and additional upcoming training check the [Scouting Training Calendar](#).

Safety Moment - Winter Sports Safety

Beyond camping, a number of cold-weather activities present challenges to Scouts and leaders, such as alpine or cross-country skiing, ice skating, sledding, ice fishing, and snowshoeing. Essential ingredients for fun include skill training and an awareness of the hazards unique to these activities.

[Click here](#) to learn more.



Local Scouts Lead the Way in 72nd Arcadia Festival of Bands

By John Orofolo

Continuing a beloved local tradition, dozens of scouts from the San Gabriel Valley proudly took part in the spectacular flag procession of the 72nd Arcadia Festival of Bands (AFOB) on Saturday, November 22, 2025.

The Arcadia Festival of Bands, which first began in 1953, is one of the premier marching band competitions in Southern California. For nearly two decades — approximately 20 years — local scouting units have been an integral part of the event's opening ceremony.

This year's participation saw a robust turnout from several Scouting America units, as well as two local Girl Scout units - Troops 2881 and 70671.

The participating Scouting America units included Arcadia Pack 122, Troops 103G, 104, 125, 126, 333G, 832, and 2131.

Joining them were Alhambra Troop 286 and Troop 921, demonstrating widespread community support.

The Scouts' role in the flag procession serves as a powerful reminder of their commitment to patriotism, service, and upholding community traditions. Their participation set a high-spirited and respectful tone for the day-long festival.



Scouting Scholarships

By John Campbell

The excellence that is developed by the youth who invest the effort in Scouting is recognized by several institutions that offer scholarships. There are colleges and universities that offer specific scholarships to those who have obtained the rank of Eagle Scout. Here is just a short list of examples:

- ◆ Blackburn College: Offers an award of up to \$5,000 upon admission.
- ◆ Mississippi State University: Provides \$6,000 (\$1,500 per year) for entering freshmen who are Eagle Scouts.
- ◆ Stanford University: The Dofflemyer Honors Scholarships are available to Eagle Scouts seeking a degree, based on financial need.
- ◆ Waynesburg University: Offers \$2,000 over four years to Eagle Scouts.

The Belcher Foundation Eagle Scout Scholarship is for Eagle Scouts in the Greater Los Angeles Area Council who plan to attend a four-year college or university following high school graduation. The funding will be a 2-year \$7,000 college scholarship awarded each year in the amount of \$3,500 the first year, renewable for a second year, with at least 24 college credits completed and a college grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 or above.

If you are Jewish and an Eagle Scout take a [look at these opportunities](#).

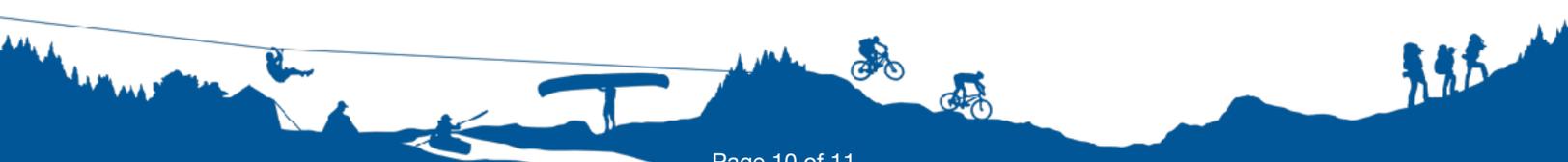
You will find a [long list of scholarships at scouting.org](#). You can apply for these online right from the website.

The Eagle Scout Alumni Association of Alpha Phi Omega offers A scholarship between \$2,000 and \$5,000 that will be awarded to an Eagle Scout who has shown active participation in school, Scouting activities, and community service. In addition, they will have demonstrated a commitment to Leadership Friendship & Service.

The National Eagle Scout Association (NESA) has several really great scholarships with the biggest one being \$50,000.00. The time to apply for these is NOW, as the application portal is open from December 1, 2025, through January 31, 2026. Eagle Scouts need to be members of NESA to be eligible for these scholarships. A 5-year membership is \$100 and a lifetime membership is \$500. If you join within six months of your Eagle Board of Review, you get a 15% discount on membership.

This is a great list of many scholarships available to Eagle Scouts: <http://www.eaglescout.itgo.com/Scholarships.html>

[This is an old article from Scouting Magazine](#) with information about scouts and the military academies.



Upcoming Events

Click the images below for more details.



2026 NATIONAL SCOUT JAMBOREE
JULY 19-31, 2026

Jamboree is more than a destination. It's the adventure of lifetime. And there is simply nothing else like it on the planet.

Sign up now at
ScoutingEvent.com/033-Jamboree



Scouting America
ELEVATE
2026
NATIONAL JAMBOREE

GREATER LOS ANGELES SCOUTING

SAVE THE DATE



CATHOLIC SCOUT CAMPOREE
September 11 - 13, 2026

CATHOLIC PARENT & LEADER PROGRAM
September 11 - 13, 2026

CATHOLIC CUB DAY
September 12, 2026

For questions or to request a registration packet*, please contact us at:
ccs.glaac@gmail.com

Programs sponsored by:
The Catholic Committee on Scouting for the Greater Los Angeles Area Council

* PLEASE NOTE: Registration packets will be available at the end of January 2026. You are strongly encouraged to register as early as possible since space will be limited.

REV: 10/31/25

Scouter Newsletter Archives

Missing an issue of your favorite newsletter? Check out our [archives here](#) to see back issues.

San Gabriel Valley District (SGVD) Resources

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SCOUTER Editor in Chief: [Maureen McLaughlin](#)

Please consider making a one-time, monthly, or quarterly donation to [Greater LA Scouting](#).

