

The 35th issue of the *Scouter* newsletter is here. Inside this edition you'll learn how to nominate your fellow leaders for a district award, hear the latest news from council, see upcoming events and training, and much more.

## 2025 District Awards

It is the time of year to recognize the San Gabriel Valley District adults who have worked hard this past year in your Units and the District. Please complete applications for any awards you feel you have earned and nominate those individuals who you feel deserve these awards. **Applications and nominations must be submitted by February 19th** to Estela Chicas ([estela.chicas@scouting.org](mailto:estela.chicas@scouting.org)), as we plan to honor award recipients during the District Dinner on March 5th. A list of the both National awards (presented by the District) and awards created by the District are listed below along with links to the applications. You will need to download the District applications in order to fill them in.

National Awards	District Awards
<a href="#">Cubmaster's Key</a>	<a href="#">Committee Chair of the Year (Pack, Troop, Crew)</a>
<a href="#">Scoutmaster's Key</a>	<a href="#">Baden Powell Award</a>
<a href="#">Venturing Advisor's Key</a>	<a href="#">Most Valuable Scouter Award</a>
<a href="#">Unit Leader Award of Merit</a>	
<a href="#">District Award of Merit</a>	

## Roundtable

By David Granillo

Happy Valentine's Day to all our adult leaders. We are glad to see so many leaders attending Roundtable. Please invite and bring someone from your unit this month. Roundtable is a great place to network with other leaders, see what the council and district is doing, and for unit program ideas. Just a reminder that we have a new location for our monthly Roundtable meetings this year - Duarte Elk's Lodge, 2436 E. Huntington Dr., Duarte, CA 91010.

This month our Cub Scout breakout session will focus on Pack Committees and retention. The Scouts BSA break out session will be focused on serving scouts with disabilities and/or special needs. If units have questions, please email [David Granillo](#).

### Join Us In-Person



Wednesday, 02/11, 7 PM

Duarte Elk's Lodge  
2436 East Huntington Drive  
Duarte

## Eagle Corner

By Steve Salyards

### JANUARY EAGLES

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

- ◆ John Equez, Troop 486
- ◆ Lyle Mideiros, Troop 407
- ◆ Lance Leung, Troop 111
- ◆ Matthew Wang, Troop 373
- ◆ Haoran "Henry" Zhang, Troop 126



SAVE THE DATE - Our next Life to Eagle Orientation is on Wednesday, May 27 at 7pm at St Dorthy's Church.

## Arcadia Troop 104 Scouts Earn AI Merit Badge Through Innovative Local Partnership

By Johnny Tseng

We're proud to announce that our scouts are among the first to earn the newly introduced Artificial Intelligence Merit Badge. This milestone was made possible through ASM, Johnny Tseng, who partnered with a local small business to deliver a dynamic, hands-on introduction to AI.

The program combined practical activities, guided research, and exposure to real-world applications of artificial intelligence. Scouts explored foundational concepts, experimented with AI tools, and discussed future learning pathways — equipping them with lifelong skills that will serve them well in our increasingly digital world.

This initiative reflects Troop 104's commitment to preparing youth for the challenges and opportunities of tomorrow.



## Council News

By Estela Chicas

### CHARTER AGREEMENTS

If you haven't already submitted your unit charter agreements, please complete the appropriate form linked below and send it to Estela **by February 28th**.

- ◆ [Annual Unit Charter Agreement](#) (all units not chartered by council or a church)
- ◆ [Annual Council Unit Registration Agreement](#) (units chartered by council)
- ◆ [Affiliation Agreement with Catholic Dioceses/Parishes/Schools Engaged with Scouting](#)
- ◆ [Affiliation Agreement with United Methodist Congregation Engaged with Scouting](#)



### FAMILY TROOPS

The option for units that have a boy troop and a girl troop that wish to convert into family troop is now available. If any current troops want to convert into a family troop, please complete the [Intent to Convert to a Family Troop Form](#) and send it to Danette Verdugo ([danette.verdugo@scouting.org](mailto:danette.verdugo@scouting.org)) and copy Estela ([estela.chicas@scouting.org](mailto:estela.chicas@scouting.org)).

### SGV DISTRICT DINNER

Save the date! The SGV District Dinner will be held on March 5th at Foothill Vineyard Church. More details will be posted on the [Greater LA Scouting Calendar](#) soon. Please check the calendar for event details soon.

### SCOUTING AMERICA BRAND CENTER

Looking to create your own flyers, announcements, emails, and more? Use the official [Scouting America Brand Center](#) to download official logos, Scouting America approved images, PowerPoint templates and more! You'll find everything you need for all your units - Cubs, Scouts BSA, Sea Scouts, Venturing, Exploring, and more.

You'll need to create an account, but don't worry, it's free. Be sure to follow the brand guidelines to use the official colors, fonts, and guidelines on how to use photos and logos. If you've ever wondered how this newsletter was created, it was by using resources from the Scouting America Brand Center.

### AB506 REQUIREMENT

All volunteers must complete the State mandated Trainings. If you haven't completed your training, [click here](#) to take your training today!

If you don't want to pay for the AB506 certificate, take a screenshot once they have completed the training and make sure the screenshot shows the name of the adult, the date, and our registrar will validate that information and record the training. Please reach out to [Estela Chicas](#) if you have any questions.

**Adventure Is...**

Join us March 5th for the  
**San Gabriel Valley  
District Awards Dinner**

5:30 pm - Social Hour  
6:30 pm - Dinner  
7:30 pm - Awards

Foothill Vineyard Church  
100 E Foothill Blvd  
San Dimas, CA 91773



## Sierra Madre Troop 373 Safety Course

By Detective Tony Huynh

Detective Huynh of the District Attorney's Bureau of Investigation Digital Forensics Unit recently visited Scouts BSA Troop 373 in Sierra Madre to lead an engaging and informative public safety course.

During the session, Detective Huynh covered a range of important topics including crime prevention strategies, the dangers of drugs and DUIs, and the growing role of drones in modern law enforcement. Scouts learned how technology and proactive safety measures play a vital role in keeping communities protected.

The course fulfilled most, if not all, of the requirements needed for the Crime Prevention Merit Badge, giving participating Scouts valuable knowledge as well as progress toward their advancement goals. Troop 373 expressed appreciation for Detective Huynh's expertise and the real-world insight he provided.



## Friends of Scouting District-Wide Fundraiser

By Drake Rubalcava

This month is an exciting month with all the things happening this month. In terms of holidays Happy Groundhog day, Happy Valentines Day, and Presidents Day. For any sports fans I hope you're excited like me and looking forward to a west vs. east coast showdown at Super Bowl LX on Super Bowl Sunday. And what I think is needed with what is currently happening and looking forward to the Winter Olympics taking place starting on Friday, February 6th in Milan.

As for Friends of Scouting (FOS), this year we are looking to achieve our goal again and with us exceeding our goal last year in 2025 I am hoping you will help me to achieve an exceeding goal again for 2026. We have happening now until March 20th a district-wide See's Candy Fundraiser I encourage you and your units to participate in. If you are a unit Key 3, I have already sent you the information but encourage you again to share with your scouts and families if you haven't done so already. [Click here for a PDF version of the product options.](#)

Any participates who raise at least \$25 or more will be awarded their 2026 FOS Sapphire Council Patch. Additionally, any unit who participates in the fundraiser no matter if it is one person or one family will allow that unit to earn their 2026 FOS participation ribbon and certificate. Lastly, units with 100% participation will earn their 2026 FOS presidential ribbon and certificate.



Ribbons and certificates will be awarded at Roundtable unless a unit reaches out requesting otherwise so I encourage you to attend Roundtable this month to see what is happening with your fellow leaders across our district.

Feedback is always welcomed in making our FOS efforts have meaningful impacts in our district.

## Upcoming Events

02/06	Scout Shabbat, Temple Beth Israel Pomona (flyer on Page 9)
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
02/21	Paul Bunyan Award, Trask 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
03/07	Innovation Science Merit Badge Day, Trask Scout Reservation
03/14	Cub Scout Adventure Day, Trask Scout Reservation
03/21	Scouts Range Merit Badge, Trask Scout Reservation
03/22	Kayaking Merit Badge, Santa Fe Dam (flyer on Page 9)
03/27 - 03/29	Cub Scout Rocket Academy, Firestone Scout Reservation
03/28	Citizenship Merit Badge Day, Trask Scout Reservation
04/11	Western University Open House, Annual Care Merit Badges, Western University
04/24 - 26	San Gabriel Valley District Camporee, Firestone Scout Reservation (more info coming soon)
07/19-31	2026 National Scout Jamboree, Summit Bechtel Reserve

For more information on the events above and additional upcoming events check the [SGV District Calendar](#).

## Monrovia Pack 66 Pinewood Derby

By David Granillo

On February 1st, Monrovia Pack 66 brought excitement and friendly competition to the Duarte Elks Lodge as they held their annual Pinewood Derby. This daylong event celebrated creativity, craftsmanship, and community spirit with a fun twist.

While Cub Scouts proudly showcased their handmade cars, the pack also opened the track to an adults division, giving parents and leaders a chance to join the action. Cheers, laughter, and a few good-natured rivalries filled the lodge as racers of all ages watched their cars speed down the track.

Cubmaster Hans Ludwig, who organized and emceed the event, kept the energy high throughout the day. His enthusiasm, along with the support of Pack 66 families and volunteers, helped make the derby a memorable experience for the entire community.

Monrovia Pack 66 continues to build traditions that bring families together and this year's Pinewood Derby was no exception.



## Recovering Scouting Unclaimed Property from State of California

By John Campbell

Whenever money (and sometimes other assets) do not get to their intended recipient, oftentimes, it will get escheated to the State of California. In Scouting, because of the frequency that unit bank accounts change addresses or units close, a surprising number of checks owed to units (and other Scouting entities), end up at the State of California's Unclaimed Property. Because of the way units are sponsored by their Chartered Organization, any claims for assets of defunct units belong to their Chartered Organizations. If you find claims for defunct units, you may help the Chartered Organization recover the claim and encourage them to use the funds for the support of current Scouting units. I recently found an old checking account that has more than \$10,000.00 in it that belongs to a Scout Camp that is still operating. Needless to say, the camp was very happy about the news when I called to inform them.

- ◆ **Search:** Use the search function on the state's website [claimit.ca.gov](http://claimit.ca.gov), trying different names for your unit or other entity that might have property that is now held by the State of California. The website is continuously evolving, so you need to navigate it carefully to achieve results.
  - ◆ Try the unit number alone: "Troop 123"
  - ◆ Add scouting terms: "Scout Troop 123", "Boy Scout Troop 123", "BSA", "Venturing Crew 123", "Camp \_\_\_\_\_", "\_\_\_\_\_ Council", "Pack\_\_\_\_\_".
  - ◆ Try Variations: Search with just the last name, first name and last name (e.g., "Boy Scouts"), or partial names to broaden results, like "Scout", "Scouts", "Scouting".
  - ◆ The search engine will not interpret for abbreviations, so search for "County Council" and "Cnty Concil", etc.
  - ◆ Search the chartered organization's name (e.g., the church or school).
  - ◆ Check older unit numbers if your unit has changed names or numbers.
  - ◆ You can use the City or Zip Code fields to narrow your search.
  - ◆ Search your own name, as individuals can also have unclaimed funds.
  - ◆ [Wikipedia has a List of Defunct Councils](#) that can help you find claims by the legacy names of your council.
- ◆ **Claim Your Funds:** If you find a match, follow the specific instructions on the state's website to file a claim, which may require proof of ownership and identity.

### WHAT YOU MIGHT FIND

Unclaimed property can include dormant bank accounts, old payroll checks, uncashed refunds, insurance benefits, or forgotten stock dividends that businesses have turned over to the state after a period of inactivity (typically 3-5 years).

**Important Note:** The search and claim process is free; beware of scams including offers you may receive in the mail, asking for payment to find or claim your property at other websites. Use the [State of California's Unclaimed Property website](#).

## Safety Moment - Asthma

Every day in the U.S., people die from asthma, a chronic lung disease that can worsen at any time and for many different reasons. When asthma is controlled, it should not interfere with a person's activity; however, when not controlled, it can cause life-threatening symptoms.

[Click here](#) to learn more.



## Training Awards

By *Melissa Brown*

Training opportunity in February and March - **Click flyer images to see full flyer**

### FIRST AID/CPR/AED INSTRUCTOR R.25 COURSE

February 21 & 22, 2026 9:30am - 1:00pm (Both day required for completion to receive certification)

Location: Jurupa Mountain Discovery Center. Cost \$90

Contact: [info.firstaidfield@gmail.com](mailto:info.firstaidfield@gmail.com)

### WILDERNESS AND REMOTE FIRST AID (2 DIFFERENT COURSES)

**Wilderness & Remote First Aid** - March 7 & 8, 2026 (Sat 8am - 5pm & Sun 8am - 3pm)

Location: Jurupa Mountain Discovery Center. Cost \$75

Maximum participants: 16

Contact: [info.firstaidfield@gmail.com](mailto:info.firstaidfield@gmail.com)

**Wilderness & Remote First Aid** - March 21 & 22, 2026 and CPR/AED by March 14, 2026

Location: Cushman Watt Scout Center, 2333 Scout Way, Los Angeles

Maximum participants: 45

Register: <http://glaachat-hat.org/register>

Cost: \$90

### Baloo Training or IOLS Training

Location: Camp Emerson in Idyllwild, CA (CIEC) March 28 & 29, 2026

Register: <https://iescouts.org/emersontraining/> (Registration Coming Soon)

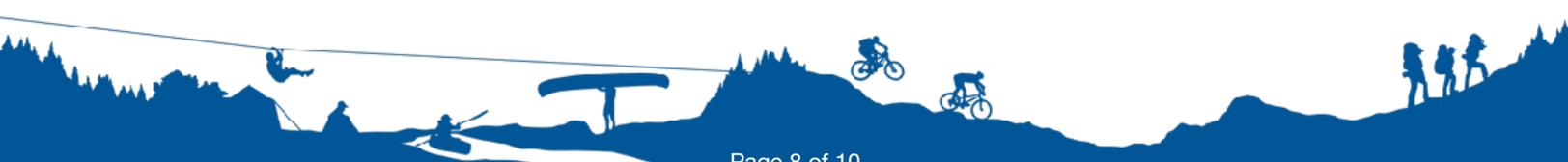
Cost: \$45



## Additional Upcoming Training

02/21	8:30 AM - 3:00 PM	Rangemaster Training, Trask Scout Reservation
03/21 - 03/22	Overnight	HAT - Wilderness and Remote First Aid, Cushman Watt Scout Center
05/09	9:00 AM - 2:00 PM	Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops (ILST), Trask Scout Reservation
08/09	9:00 AM - 2:00 PM	Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops (ILST), Trask Scout Reservation
08/15	8:30 AM - 3:00 PM	Rangemaster Training, Trask Scout Reservation

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



## Upcoming Events

Click the images below for more details.



**HELLO WORLD NOVA AWARD**  
Civic Engagement & Leadership Certificate

**NEW!** **Cybersecurity**  
The Cybersecurity Merit Badge equips Scouts with essential knowledge and skills to navigate and protect the digital world.

**NEW!** **Artificial Intelligence**  
To provide Scouts with a foundational understanding of AI, its societal implications, and the skills needed to become informed and responsible participants in a world increasingly shaped by artificial intelligence.

**Digital Technology**  
Teach Scouts about computers, the internet, and digital tools covering their history, how they work, ethical use, and future trends, with practical skills in content creation and online safety, connecting them to real-world applications and potential tech careers.

**January 10th & February 14, 2026**  
Each Session is from 10am-3pm

Scouts should be in **Class A Uniforms**, with their **water bottles** and a **sack lunch** for the noon break.

Register for this program using the link [bit.ly/2026HelloWorld](http://bit.ly/2026HelloWorld)

Bring \$25 cash or check (made out to Greater LA Scouting)

Questions? Text/Call...  
Karen +1.213.407.765  
Mark +1.626.919.2562

**Caltech Watson Building Room 104**  
Park for free in any unattended numbered spot at Holliston Parking Structure  
370 N. Holliston Ave. Pasadena



**Scouting Aquatics**

10am-3pm  
[bring a sack lunch and Health Form A and B]

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- Jan 25 Santa Fe Dam - Canoeing Merit Badge 1st half
- Feb 22 Santa Fe Dam - Canoeing Merit Badge 2nd half
- Mar 22 Santa Fe Dam - Kayaking Merit Badge

More to Come:  
Lifesaving Merit Badge  
Rowing Merit Badge  
Swim Lessons (Camp Trask)  
Hike Swim Award (Camp Trask)  
Standup Paddleboard Award  
Snorkeling Award (Camp Trask)  
Continuous: National Outdoor Award, Aquatics

Contact:  
Kricket McKay  
[kricket@waterbugs.com](mailto:kricket@waterbugs.com)



**Open House**

Western University  
College of Veterinary Medicine

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**April 11, 2026**

**Things to See & Learn**

- ✔ Student Club Booths: Tips on pet care, games & giveaways
- ✔ Pet Exhibits
- ✔ Scouts can earn Merit Badges
- ✔ Tips on Pet Care
- ✔ College Tours
- ✔ Food Vendors & So Much More

Contact Us:  
Ms. Stephanie Day  
[sday@westernu.edu](mailto:sday@westernu.edu)

**Scout Shabbat** is held yearly to coincide with the founding date of the Boy Scouts of America on February 8, 1916. Please join us in celebrate Scouting's 110th anniversary with Scout Shabbat Services. The National Jewish Committee on Scouting (NJCOS) urges all Jewish Scouting youth to show pride in their faith by holding a Scout Shabbat service for their unit, district or council.

Since 2015, The San Gabriel Valley District Boy Scout Religious Committee has been coordinating a yearly San Gabriel Valley celebration. The Twelfth annual event will be hosted this year at Temple Beth Israel in Pomona for all Scouting Youth and Scouters.

**Annual Scout Shabbat 2026 information:**

**Who:** Scouts BSA, Cub Scouts, Ventures, and their families

**When:** Friday, February 6, 2026 plan to arrive between **6:30PM- 7:15PM**

*We will not be able to sell patches this year. If you would like to purchase one, they can be found on the National Jewish Council on Scouting website. Please see information below. The image shown is last year's patch.*

Take your seats at **7:15PM** Service **7:30 PM to 9:00 PM**

**Where:** Temple Beth Israel, 3033 North Towne Ave., Pomona, CA (909) 626-1277

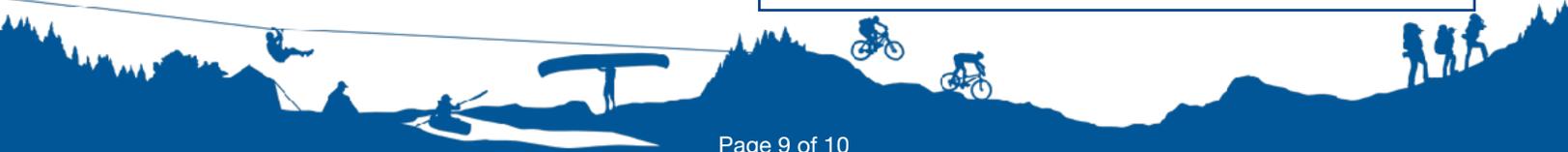
**Cost:** Attending this event is **FREE!!!** Please RSVP @ [c6cker@gmail.com](mailto:c6cker@gmail.com) so that we have enough refreshments. If you would like to attend virtually, please note that in your RSVP and you will be sent a link.

**Come and participate in a traditional Jewish Religious Service.**

**Additional Information:**

- Please direct any questions about this event to Cheryl Becker, Religious Emblems Coordinator/Committee Member for San Gabriel Valley Boy Scout District at [c6cker@gmail.com](mailto:c6cker@gmail.com).
- Scouts should wear their Class A uniforms, sashes and any Scouting religious awards earned.
- Scout Shabbat is open to scouts of all religions.
- Refreshments will be provided after the service; donation of sweets are appreciated.
- Scouts can obtain the event patch through the National Jewish Council on Scouting website at the link <https://www.jewishscouting.org/shop/>

Sponsored by The San Gabriel Valley District, Boy Scout Religious Committee and Temple Beth Israel.



## 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](https://ScoutingEvent.com/033-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](mailto: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: 10/1/25

## Correction from January 2026 Issue 34

Last month we shared the December Eagles list but inadvertently reference “Branden Chow” but it should have read “Brandin Chow”. We apologize for the error and congratulate Brandin on earning the rank of Eagle.

## 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**

[Website](#) | [Events Calendar](#) | [Volunteer Contacts](#) | [District Contacts](#) | [Newsletter Submissions](#)

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

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

