



Roundtable Matters

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

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

GOODBYE ZOOM, HELLO GOOGLE MEET Update your calendar to the new Google Meet for Roundtable
<https://meet.google.com/ktz-teot-vcy>

SAFETY MOMENT FOR AUGUST Remember to get medical information with the new family registrations on the Form 680. Ensure you take a moment to get to know the new scouts including any dietary restrictions, allergies, medications, or limitations on participation. For August, review the [Annual Health and Medical Information](#) safety moment. Get tips like this and more at [BSA Safety Moments](#).

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

Aug 15-16	Trail to First Class (Scouts) ♣ Camp Trask Scout Reservation - GLAAC
Aug 16	OA Lodge Banquet (OA) @hill harbison house
Aug 19	OA Lodge Executive Committee (OA) Cushman Watt Scout Center
Aug 22	GLAAC Quarterly Strategic Planning Meeting (Scouters) ♣ Cushman Watt Scout Center
Aug 27	Pacifica Cub Scout Information Sessions (Prospective Cub Families) via Zoom (6:30-7:00 pm)
Aug 29	Range MB (Scouts) ♣ Camp Trask Scout Reservation - GLAAC
Aug 29	Welding MB (Scouts) ♣ Camp Trask Scout Reservation - GLAAC
Sep 2	Pacifica Cub Scout Information Sessions (Prospective Cub Families) via Zoom (6:30-7:00 pm)
Sep 8	Pacifica Cub Scout Information Sessions (Prospective Cub Families) via Zoom (6:30-7:00 pm)
Sep 13-14	Pacifica Fish Camp (Scouters) ♣ Cabrillo Beach
Sep 16	OA Lodge Executive Committee (OA) Cushman Watt Scout Center
Sep 18-20	Woodbadge Weekend 1 (Scouters) Hubert Eaton Scout Reservation HESR Main Gate
Sep 19	HAT - Desert Camping (Scouters) Cushman Watt Scout Center
Sep 19	Operation On Target (See Flyer)
Sep 21	Pacifica Cub Scout Information Sessions (Prospective Cub Families) via Zoom (6:30-7:00 pm)
Sep 26	Community Wheels (Cubs) ♣ Firestone Scout Reservation
Oct 3-4	Woodbadge Weekend 2 (Scouters) Camp Trask Scout Reservation - GLAAC
Oct 7	Pacifica Cub Scout Information Sessions (Prospective Cub Families) via Zoom (6:30-7:00 pm)
Oct 9	Good Character Gala (Scouters) ♣ Taglyan Complex
Oct 9-11	Jungle Expedition - Lost Pepperdine (Scouts) ♣ Camp Big Horn Hubert Eaton scout reservation
Oct 10	Pacifica MB Day (Scouts) Torrance Scout Center
Oct 10-11	First Night Camping Cub Experience (Potential Cubs) Hopkins Wilderness Park
Oct 21	OA Lodge Executive Committee (OA) Cushman Watt Scout Center
Oct 23-25	Boofest (Cubs) Firestone Scout Reservation
Oct 23-25	Training N Transition (AOL) Camp Trask Scout Reservation - GLAAC
Oct 24-25	HAT - Wilderness and Remote First Aid (Scouters) Cushman Watt Scout Center
Nov 6-8	OA Fall Induction (OA) ♣ Firestone Scout Reservation
Nov 7	10-mile Hike (Scouts) Bridge to Nowhere - Trailhead
Nov 13-15	Pumpkin Smash (Scouts) ♣ Firestone Scout Reservation
Dec 5	20-mile Hike (Scouts) @san Gabrielino Rec Area
Jan	Webelos Woods/AOL Adventure (Webelos, AOL and Scouts)

HAILS Welcome Jim Kennedy as the Pacifica District Commissioner and Joy Torrero as the Director of Community Growth!

SCOUTCONNECT Scouting America has launched a redesigned BeAScout website and registration process that will simplify joining Scouting and serve as a gateway to the new ScoutConnect platform. Over the next couple years, all digital platforms will migrate to ScoutConnect. Check out this [video demo](#).

RECRUITING Pacifica is upping our recruiting game this year, and focusing on Cubs. Information sessions, recruiting materials, cub campout experience, geofenced ads; we're pulling all the stops to help our Pack this year. If there's something you need, please let your Unit Commissioner know. Want to see what the National team is doing? Check out their [instagram](#) or [Facebook](#). Looking to make your unit flyer? Have you checked out the resources on the [Scouting America Brand Center](#)?

NYLT It's not too early to start preparing your scouts for [NYLT](#). Mark your calendar. Trask, Dec 18-20 2026 and Jan 8-10 2027. This high energy, outdoor experience helps develop new leadership, team building and problem solving skills.

CAMP COOKING HEALTHIER Looking to guide your cooking MB or Troop campouts with healthier meal options? Check out this article from [OnScouting](#).

CHIPMUNK Can't wait until Kindergarten to be a Lion? How about the new Chipmunks? Check out this article from [OnScouting](#).

SCOUTING AMERICA IN THE NEWS Have you read the article on [Josh Hart](#) or Erica Song's [OpEd in the NYT](#)?

MILITARY FAMILY FEE WAIVER Effective June 1, 2026, Scouting America is expanding access to Scouting for military-connected youth by waiving the \$85 national youth registration fee for eligible families. To receive the waiver, families should select "Get Military Discount Code" during the online registration process, complete the verification steps, receive the verification code, and enter it at checkout. Once the code is applied, the national registration fee is reduced to \$0. Waiver does not apply to the Council or unit fees.

PACIFICA DISTRICT VACANT POSITIONS Actively seeking nominations or volunteers for Pacifica's Roundtable Commissioner, MB Dean, Eagle Book Reviewers 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 AOL/Webelos Woods, Geocache Day, Camporee Committee, and a Fishing Merit Badge Camping Weekend. If you are interested in supporting any of these events, please contact Sheila at Sheandjc@yahoo.com.

PACIFICA FISH CAMP (FISHING MERIT BADGE): This experience offers Scouts the chance to catch a fish and fulfill the requirements for the Fishing Merit Badge. Scouts will spend half a day ocean fishing aboard the Monte Carlo, departing from 22nd Street Sportfishing Landing in San Pedro. After fishing, Scouts and staff will take a brief 20-minute walk to Cabrillo Beach Youth Center, where they will spend the night and complete the Fishing Merit Badge requirements the following day. Certified Angling Educators, Instructors, Directors, and Fishing Merit Badge Counselors will guide all participants in enjoying ocean fishing. This trip is ideal for both first-time and experienced fishermen. The registration link is on the Pacifica calendar. For more information contact Michael Fleder at redelfm@yahoo.com

PACIFICA MERIT BADGE DAY – OCTOBER 18, 2025: We are looking for merit badge councilors for our merit badge day. If you are available for a few hours or the full day, please consider conducting a session for our Scouts at our merit badge day. It will be held at the Torrance Scout House. To volunteer or for more information, 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.

BELAY ON UPDATE The Belay On manual recently got updated, check it out [here](#).

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT INSURANCE? Have you taken a look at the [Scouting America Insurance policy](#) to find out what's covered?

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

THE ADVENTURE PLAN Have you checked out [The Adventure Plan](#) yet? It's a great resource to help scouts and leaders work through the steps needed to plan an outing or adventure.

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.

MERIT BADGE CHANGES Wildfire Management and Competitive Gaming have graduated from being a Lab to a real merit badge. 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](#).

MERIT BADGE TEST LAB Have you checked out the [MB Test Lab](#)? Get the latest on auctioneering, sewing & needlework, dance, physics, military and veterans, life skills and psychology.

EAGLE ADVANCEMENT Eagle candidates please review the "[Path to Eagle](#)" (Rev. 5/2026) in addition to other resources. See these [great tips from Scouting Magazine](#) on helping Scouts, especially those who are neurodivergent, on their path to Eagle. District Eagle Project approver is Mr. Cortenbach, who can be contacted at 310-891-2301. Once your Eagle project is completed and your Eagle requirements are met, review Eagle application and Eagle book with your troop advancement chair to confirm records agree with troop records. Then contact Mrs. Christensen at (310) 283-7197 for the Pacifica verification and review. 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 a profile or join date. Check out the resources in the [Advancement Information Section](#).

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 meeting invitations via the LodgeMaster application.

The next Chapter Meeting is scheduled for 7:30-8:30 PM Tuesday, **August 11th**, at the Anderson Park Scout Center (2206 Farrell Ave, Redondo Beach, CA 90278). A key activity will be electing new Chapter officers for the September 2026 - August 2027 Program Year.

Registration for the Section G18N Conclave September 18-20, 2026, at Camp Rancho Allegre in Santa Barbara may be completed [here](#).

Due to scheduling conflicts, the 2026 Summer Induction Weekend was canceled. The next Induction Weekend will be November 6-8, 2026. Candidates and Lodge members will be contacted by email when registration is available.

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

Congratulations to Ms Sheila Stewart from the Lakota chapter who was recently selected for the Vigil Honor, the OA's highest of the three Honors!

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.