

The new issue of the *Scouter* newsletter is here. Inside this edition you'll hear the latest news from council, see upcoming events and training, and much more.

## Roundtable

By *David Granillo*

We have made it to the mid year point. This month we have Flag Day and Father's Day. Remember all the Fathers who were and still are in scouting. Scout Leaders, remember your own fathers too. Leaders also fill in the role of fathers to all youth scouts in our Packs and Troops.

This month at Roundtable the breakout session for Cub Scouts leaders will be cub swap meet while Scouts BSA leaders will be focused on merit badge steps and discussions. Also, you'll hear about about all the wonderful activities in the district and council.

Don't forget to wear your leather fob and collect your monthly bead at Roundtable. Please invite your leaders, committee members, and parents to Roundtable this month and every month. See everyone there! If units have questions, please email [David Granillo](mailto:David.Granillo).

Join Us In- Person



Wednesday, 06/10 7 PM

Duarte Elk's Lodge  
2436 East Huntington Drive  
Duarte

## Eagle Corner

By *Steve Salyards*

### MAY EAGLES

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

- ◆ Carmen Garcia, Troop 407G
- ◆ Izen Salinas, Troop 443
- ◆ Brandon Liu, Troop 169
- ◆ Brayden Gerringer, Troop 66
- ◆ Brian Wang, Troop 161
- ◆ Nathan Lei, Troop 373
- ◆ Elgin Szeto, Troop 126



Thanks to all who attended the Life to Eagle Orientation last month.

## Troop 448 Scouts Earn the Ad Altare Dei

By *John Campbell*

I want to recognize the scouts from Troop 448 for earning the Ad Altare Dei religious medal:

- ◆ Manuel Arrieta
- ◆ Gabriel Gonzalez
- ◆ Lucas Maltez
- ◆ Enrique Perez

A Scout is Reverent.



## 2026 SGVD Camporee Post-Event Survey Summary

By *Brian McLaughlin*

On the weekend of April 24-26, 2026, we had 271 scouts and scouters participate in the 2026 San Gabriel Valley District Camporee. As part of the Camporee Committee's commitment to delivering an ever-improving program, the Post-Event Survey was circulated to the 1,205 adult recipients that are on the SGVD email distribution list. The survey was anonymous and was available to both attendees and non-attendees. The survey was open for about two weeks.

We received 22 responses; 4 of which were youths who had the survey forwarded to them by scouters. So, the 18 adult responses amount to less than 1.5% of the total possible respondents. In the context of camporee attendees, the response rate was about 8.1%. Of the 22 total responses, 8 of those respondents did not attend the camporee.

The survey results available to the SGV District leadership amount to between 8 and 14 responses. These responses are summarized in this article. If anyone is interested in reviewing the complete results, please reach out to [me](#) and I can share the full survey with you.

### OVERALL SUMMARY

Overall feedback from attendees was positive. Participants reported a strong likelihood of returning and recommending the event to others. The event activities received particularly high marks, while the primary areas for improvement were:

- ◆ Camp location concerns (dust, shade, allergies, insects, lack of facilities)
- ◆ Consistency and transparency of scoring
- ◆ Campsite layout and identification
- ◆ Communication regarding bonus activities and logistics
- ◆ Limited enthusiasm for potential future hot lunch offerings

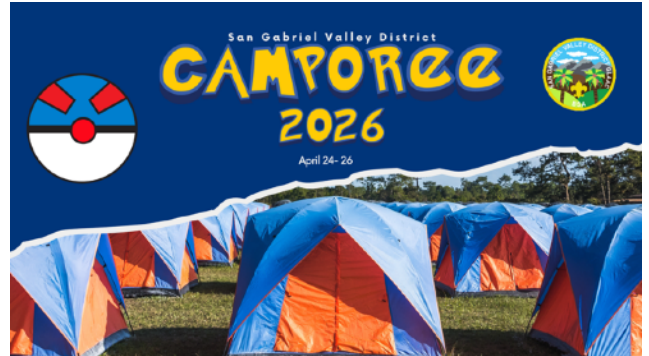
### FINAL THOUGHTS

Thank you to all the volunteers that help make Camporee happen. It is a lot of work to plan, organize and execute these events, and they would not be possible without all of you. An extra shoutout to Estela Chicas at Council for being the force of nature that she is to help all the volunteers!

Thank you to all the respondents, your feedback (both positive and constructive) is a gift and will help future camporees to better serve our youth.

To the 98.5% of people who received the survey and chose not to provide feedback, I understand that we are all busy, but your feedback would have been greatly appreciated. The adults that volunteer their time to make these events happen need your input and feedback to serve your youth. I will also add that constructive (negative) feedback without any suggestion of possible improvements is not particularly helpful.

To [view more details of the survey results please click here](#). If anyone has any questions about these survey results, please feel free to reach out to be at [me](#).



## Passing the Torch (Without Burning the Marshmallows)

BY SUSAN KIMBALL

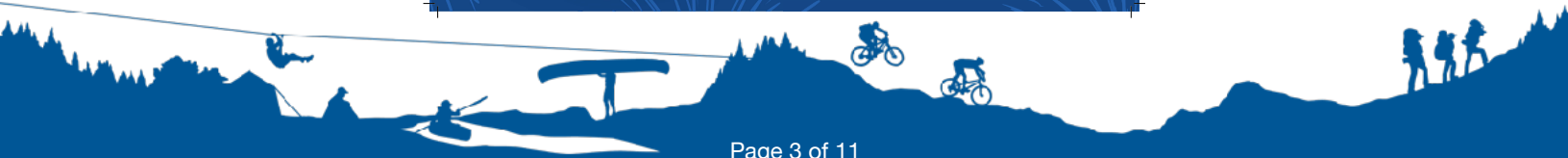
Anyone who has sat around a campfire knows there is a fine line between a perfectly golden marshmallow and a flaming torch. It takes patience, technique, and a wise mentor to show you how it's done. The same goes for growing our youth into great citizens. As adult leaders, our job isn't to live the adventure for them, but to guide them safely through it. We show them the ropes—and the roasting sticks—so they can step up and lead. After all, every adventure and skill taught serves as a foundation for tomorrow's leaders.



## Liberty in Action: America's 250th Anniversary Challenge

By John Campbell

[Click this link](#) to view the requirements to earn this special patch starting March 2026 through February 2027.



## Scouting America Recommits to Military Families

By Maureen McLaughlin

In a recent Scouting America Foundation announcement, they shared that Scouting America will waive the \$85 national registration fee for new or renewing Scouts from active-duty, guard, and reserve military families starting June 1, 2026. The Military Family Support Fund will also help offset additional expenses.

[Click here to read the article](#) or [click here to make a donation](#) to support Scouting America's military families. You can also [click here to read Scouting America's official Statement](#).



## Upcoming Training

06/13 - 06/14	Overnight	<a href="#">Adult IOLS</a> , Trask Scout Reservation
07/11 - 07/13	Overnight	<a href="#">Korean Language IOLS</a> , Cushman Watt Scout Center
08/09	9:00 AM - 2:00 PM	<a href="#">Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops (ILST)</a> , Trask Scout Reservation
08/15	8:30 AM - 3:00 PM	<a href="#">Rangemaster Training</a> , Trask Scout Reservation
08/29	7:30 AM - 5:00 PM	<a href="#">SoCal Commissioners College</a> , Santiago Canyon College
09/18 - 09/20	Overnight	<a href="#">Wood Badge (Session 1)</a> , Hubert Eaton Scout Reservation
09/19	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	<a href="#">HAT Desert Camping and Travel Training</a> , Cushman Watt Scout Center
10/03 - 10/04	Overnight	<a href="#">Wood Badge (Session 2)</a> , Trask Scout Reservation
12/18 - 12/20	Overnight	<a href="#">National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) Session 1</a> , Trask Scout Reservation
01/08 - 01/10	Overnight	<a href="#">National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) Session 2</a> , Trask Scout Reservation

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

## Guide to Useful Scouting Websites

By John Campbell

[Official information on Scouting](#)

[Renew your Safeguarding Youth](#) by utilizing the refresher course

[Official online portal and account management system](#) for Scouting

[Official Scout Shop](#) online

[Official news and information blog and resource hub](#) for Scouting

[ScoutBook](#) (Legacy)

[ScoutBook Plus](#)

[Official blog of Scouting Magazine](#)

[Official resource hub](#) that provides program features, meeting plans, and activity ideas for Scoutmasters

## SGVD Launches “Recruit 100” Summer Membership Initiative

BY ERICK BONILLA

SGVD is launching an ambitious and exciting summer membership campaign. The “Recruit 100” plan is a district-wide initiative designed to recruit 100 new youth members into SGVD units during Summer 2026. Led by the SGVD Membership Chair, the initiative focuses on growing participation in Packs and Troops while helping units build long-term membership strategies that support full charter goals for the council.

The Recruit 100 Plan challenges every unit to recruit at least two new members during the summer months. While the goal may sound simple, the collective effort across all units will create significant growth for the district and momentum heading into the fall recruiting season.

A major emphasis of the initiative is empowering units to take ownership of their recruitment efforts by identifying and utilizing dedicated New Member Coordinators (NMC). The NMC should serve as the primary point of contact for prospective families, ensuring that new members receive timely information, welcoming communication, and guidance through the joining process. National has identified this as a priority and wants every unit to establish a “go-to” person for membership inquiries rather than relying solely on the Unit Key 3 leadership team. By developing strong NMCs throughout the district, units can create a more sustainable and family-friendly recruitment experience.



### SUMMER RECRUITING OPPORTUNITIES ACROSS SGVD

To maximize visibility throughout the community, units are encouraged to participate in local summer events where families naturally gather. These events provide excellent opportunities to showcase Scouting programs, connect with parents, and invite youth to participate in activities.

Potential recruiting opportunities include:

- ◆ Movies in the Park
- ◆ Summer Concert Series events
- ◆ 4th of July Parades
- ◆ City Fireworks Shows
- ◆ National Night Out celebrations
- ◆ Farmer’s Markets
- ◆ Community festivals and neighborhood events

### SUPPORTING THE FUTURE OF SCOUTING

The Recruit 100 Plan represents more than just a membership campaign—it is a coordinated effort to strengthen Scouting in our district. By working together, empowering unit volunteers, and actively engaging local communities, we hope to introduce more families to the values, adventure, and leadership opportunities that Scouting provides. With the support of unit leaders, NMCs, commissioners, volunteers, and families, the district is confident that the Summer 2026 initiative will help create lasting growth and continued success for Scouting across the San Gabriel Valley.

For more recruiting ideas, visit: <https://greaterlascouting.org/membership-contacts/> or <https://www.scouting.org/programs/scouts-bsa/membership-corner/>.



## Council News

By Estela Chicas

### AB506 REQUIREMENT, TRAINING, CONSENT FORM, AND LIVE SCAN FORM

All volunteers must complete the State mandated Trainings. Here are some important links to help you find everything you need:

- ◆ [AB506 requirements](#)
- ◆ [2-hour mandatory training](#)
- ◆ [Consent form](#)
- ◆ [Live scan form](#)



### RECRUITMENT MATERIALS AND NATIONAL BRAND CENTER

If you are in need of recruitment materials to help you this summer and into the 2026-2027 year, please [click here](#). Remember, you can also access valuable resources help you create flyers, emails, presentations at more by creating an account on the [National Branding Center](#) page to download official logos, images, templates and more!

### SERVING SCOUTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Scouting is committed to inclusivity and welcomes children of all abilities. Programs are designed to adapt to meet the needs of every child. Visit the [Disabilities Awareness page](#) to learn more on support Scouts with special needs and access the [Inclusion Toolbox](#) to learn more.

### A REMINDER FROM NATIONAL

Encourage Your Units to Record Their Service Hours for [Impact365](#): Scouting's New National Service Initiative

Scouting has always believed that service is not just what we do—it's who we are. That legacy continues with Impact365, Scouting America's new multi-year national service initiative designed to inspire Scouts, families, and volunteers to make meaningful contributions to their communities every day of the year. To learn more about Impact365, and a new National Day of Service coming in November, visit the [website](#), click [here](#) to read more, and [view this recent webinar](#).

### SCOUT CARDS (FORMERLY CAMP CARDS)

The current top seller in both the District and Council is Caroline Tsai from our very own SGVD Troop 141 girls troop! It's not too late to start selling and help us meet our District goal to of \$52,500. The current 2026 gross is \$34,450 so we need your help to reach our 2026 goal.

Contact [Estela Chicas](#) if you are interesting in selling. You can get Scout Cards for free until June 14th but starting June 15th they will only be available for purchase. Visit the [Scout Cards page](#) to learn more.



I'd like to thank the following units for participating so far:

- |             |            |             |             |
|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| ◆ Crew 199  | ◆ Pack 457 | ◆ Troop 111 | ◆ Troop 333 |
| ◆ Pack 114  | ◆ Pack 462 | ◆ Troop 141 | ◆ Troop 373 |
| ◆ Pack 143  | ◆ Pack 490 | ◆ Troop 161 | ◆ Troop 407 |
| ◆ Pack 156  | ◆ Pack 551 | ◆ Troop 181 | ◆ Troop 423 |
| ◆ Pack 1926 | ◆ Pack 66  | ◆ Troop 185 | ◆ Troop 443 |
| ◆ Pack 423  | ◆ Pack 777 | ◆ Troop 188 | ◆ Troop 483 |
|             |            |             | ◆ Troop 551 |



## Don't go dark this summer: Grow 10 in June and Get Your \$100 National Charter Fee Covered

By *Estela Chicas*

Summer is one of the best times to showcase the excitement of Scouting. While other organizations slow down, Scouts are exploring the outdoors, attending camp, serving their communities, and creating unforgettable memories.

Keep your unit active, visible, and growing by inviting new families to join the adventure.

**Recruit 10 new Scouts or Explorers between June 4 and July 4, and Greater LA Scouting will cover your unit's \$100 National Charter Fee.**

Don't go dark. Grow your unit. Grow Scouting.

### ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Any Pack, Troop, Crew, or Post in good standing that recruits 10 or more NEW youth members during the campaign period qualifies.

### TO BE COUNTED TOWARD THE CHALLENGE:

- ◆ Youth must be fully registered between June 4 and July 4.
- ◆ All registrations must be verified by your District Representative.
- ◆ Youth must be brand new to the Scouting program.
- ◆ Units must be in good standing.

### IMPORTANT NOTES

- ◆ Transfers from another unit do not count.
- ◆ Former Scouts rejoining the program do not count.
- ◆ Adult registrations do not count.
- ◆ Only newly registered youth who are verified through official membership records will be counted toward the total.

This challenge is about more than reaching a number. It's about introducing more young people to the life-changing experiences Scouting provides while strengthening units across Greater Los Angeles.

Start inviting friends, neighbors, classmates, and community members today. A simple invitation can spark a lifetime of adventure.

**Grow 10 in June. Earn your \$100 National Charter Fee. Strengthen Scouting for the future.**



## The Merit Badge Test Lab

By John Campbell

The Scouts BSA Test Lab is an experimental pilot program launched by Scouting America to develop and evaluate potential new merit badges before they become official. It essentially acts as a research and development space where Scouts can test requirements, explore new topics, and directly shape the future of the Scouting curriculum.

### HOW THE TEST LAB WORKS

- ◆ Digital Resources: Instead of using traditional printed pamphlets, the Test Lab provides digital learning materials and links to help Scouts complete the requirements.
- ◆ Any Registered Adult: Because these badges are not yet official, Scouts do not need a designated Merit Badge Counselor. They can complete the tasks under the supervision of any registered adult volunteer.
- ◆ Feedback Surveys: Upon completing a badge's requirements, the Scout takes a brief survey to rate the difficulty, design, and overall fun of the concept.
- ◆ Earned Credit: Completing the requirements awards the Scout a certificate of completion. If the Test Lab badge eventually transitions into an official merit badge, the Scout automatically receives full advancement credit for it (provided they are still under 18).
- ◆ Expiration Dates: Every experimental topic has a fixed test window. Once the deadline hits, the badge is removed from the lab so the National Council can review feedback and decide its future.

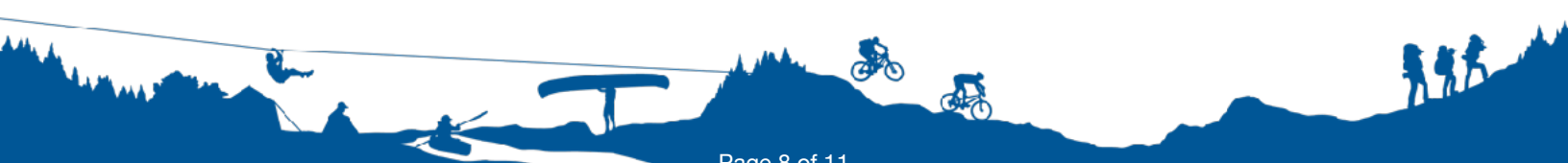
### CURRENT AND PAST TEST LAB TOPICS

The Test Lab continuously rotates in heavily requested concepts. Active or recently featured badges in the pilot program include:

- ◆ Competitive Gaming / Esports
- ◆ Military Service & Veterans
- ◆ Sewing & Needlework
- ◆ Dance
- ◆ Physics
- ◆ Psychology
- ◆ Wildland Fire Management
- ◆ Auctioneering
- ◆ Life Skills

### GET STARTED TODAY

[Click this link](#) to visit the Test Lab for more complete information. You can earn certificates now.



## Scouting America Alumni Event

By John Campbell

Join us for an extraordinary Gathering of Scouting Alumni, a unique event designed to unite esteemed adult Scouters and potential volunteers in a captivating social setting. This unforgettable evening promises meaningful connections, camaraderie, and inspiration.

Open to anyone who has been positively impacted by Scouting, their friends, and family members over 21, this event offers an opportunity to socialize, network, and share Scouting stories in a vibrant and engaging atmosphere, while overlooking beautiful downtown LA.

### DATE/TIME

Thursday, July 23, 2026 (5:30pm to 7:30pm)

### COST

\$20 covers cost of light refreshments, soft drinks, wine, and beer

### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

Ross Arnold at [rossarnold1213@gmail.com](mailto:rossarnold1213@gmail.com)

### LOCATION

Cushman Watt Scout Center - 2333 Scout Way, Los Angeles, CA 90026

## Safety Moment - Charcoal Safety

The day has come to an end and now your next adventure is cooking a cobbler for your evening dessert. Soon, you'll be ready to light a charcoal fire using your choice of approved Scouting equipment. However, when using charcoal, it is important to keep in mind that chemical fuels are not permitted for use in Scouting activities.

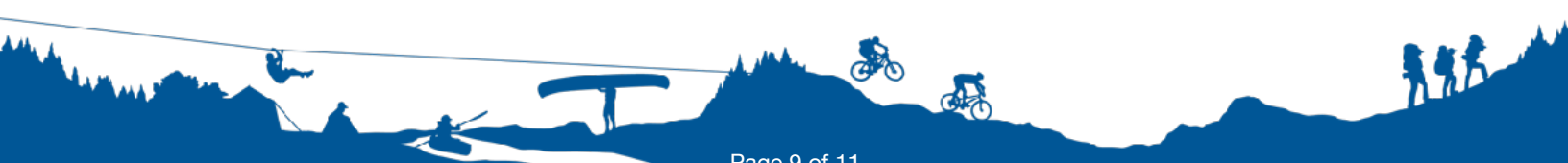
[Click here](#) to learn more.



## Summer is Coming

Outdoor activities are integral to meeting Scouts and their family's needs while also providing many of the most appealing features of the Scouting program. If you haven't signed up for summer camp yet this is your sign to do so.

Greater LA Scouting has many camp opportunities. Please [check out our local camps](#) and find the right date and location for your Packs and Troops today.



## Upcoming Events

06/08 - 06/13	<u>Trail to Eagle 2026 Week 1</u> , Trask Scout Reservation <b>SOLD OUT</b>
06/15 - 06/18	<u>Trail to Eagle 2026 Week 2</u> , Trask Scout Reservation
06/19	Offices closed in observance of Juneteenth, Cushman Watt Scout Center
06/22 - 06/25	<u>Trail to Eagle 2026 Week 3</u> , Trask Scout Reservation
06/29 - 07/02	<u>Trail to Eagle 2026 Week 4</u> , Trask Scout Reservation
07/19-31	<u>2026 National Scout Jamboree</u> , Summit Bechtel Reserve
07/23	<u>Gathering of Scout Alumni</u> , Cushman Watt Scout Center
08/09	<u>Stand Up Paddleboarding Award</u> , Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area
08/23	<u>Mile Swim Award</u> , Trask Scout Reservation
08/29	<u>Scouts Range Merit Badge</u> , Trask Scout Reservation
09/26	<u>Community Wheels Fest Program for Cub Scouts</u> , Firestone Scout Reservation
09/27	<u>Snorkeling Award</u> , Trask Scout Reservation
10/23 - 10/25	<u>BooFest for Cub Scouts</u> , Firestone Scout Reservation

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



The poster features a teal background with a white canoe and two crossed oars in the center. To the left is a red and white 'National Outdoor Awards Aquatics' logo. The background image shows a serene lake with forested hills. The text is arranged in a clear, readable layout.

### Scouting Aquatics

#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

- July 28-Aug 1 Lake Tahoe - Canoe and Camping Float Trip
- Aug 9 Santa Fe Dam - Standup Paddle Boarding
- Aug 23 Camp Trask - Mile Swim Award
- Sept 27 Camp Trask- Snorkeling Award

More to Come:  
Swimming and Water Rescue (available to adults as well)  
Continuous: National Outdoor Award, Aquatics

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

## 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: 10/31/25

## 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

[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](#).

