

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

Now that summer is coming to an end, summer camps are also done. National Jamboree is over. Units and scouts, are back from Philmont treks. I hope all units had an enjoyable summer camp program. All this sounds like excellent unit programs with wonderful stories and adventures.

This month's Cub Scout breakout session will focus on recruitment, retention, and suggestions for first meetings for new families. The Scouts BSA session will be focused on the dual Scoutmaster, with the Council Tournament of Roses Troop. We'll review the procedures and the fun new Eagle Scouts will have and all the events the troop is invited to. Parents and scout leaders, come to Roundtable and learn more!

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](#).

### Join Us In- Person



**Wednesday, 08/12 7 PM**

Duarte Elk's Lodge  
2436 East Huntington Drive  
Duarte

## Eagle Corner

By Steve Salyards

### JULY EAGLES

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

- |                              |                             |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ◆ Elgin Szeto, Troop 126*    | ◆ Caleb Chow, Troop 141     |
| ◆ Kenneth Spencer, Troop 486 | ◆ Tyler Benson, Troop 443   |
| ◆ Ethan Recendez, Troop 104  | ◆ Gavin Hamilton, Troop 483 |
| ◆ Declan Wagner, Troop 486   | ◆ Katerina Carr, Troop 110  |
| ◆ Miles McInnis, 104         | ◆ Jacob Stemwell, Troop 111 |
| ◆ Caroline Tsai, Troop 141   | ◆ Jeremy Yu, Troop 125      |

\* Earned in June 2026



## Safety Moment - Distracted Driving

Distracted driving is considered "any activity that diverts the driver's attention away from driving," according to the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration. The distractions can include a wide range of a driver's or passenger's personal actions or activities while in a vehicle. Even if a driver is only trying to keep Scouts in their seats while the vehicle is in motion, that is a distraction.

[Click here](#) to learn more.



## New Merit Badges

By John Campbell

### WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT MERIT BADGE

On July 22, 2026, the new Wildland Fire Management Merit Badge went from the test lab to the official list of Merit Badges. The official Announcement was made on July 23, 2026, at the National Jamboree.



As destructive as wildfire can be, managed wildland fire can also be beneficial. Fire plays a critical process in many ecosystems and can enhance habitats, reduce fuel loads, and support forest regeneration. Understanding and managing wildland fire is a complex undertaking. Striking a balance between preventing and suppressing harmful human-caused wildfire while promoting beneficial fire in the landscape will be the challenge as we continue to live with fire in the United States. As Scouts, we can learn and do our part to make our homes, our camps, and our communities more resilient and resistant to wildfire and we can understand the natural role that fire plays in our nation's wildlands. We can explore and consider careers in wildland fire management or even become wildland firefighters.

[Click here](#) to view the new merit badge's complete Digital Resource Guide.

### COMPETITIVE GAMING MERIT BADGE

Scouting America announced the launch of the Competitive Gaming merit badge on July 24, 2026, at the National Jamboree, introducing Scouts to the exciting world of esports while emphasizing teamwork, communication, leadership, sportsmanship, and responsible digital engagement.



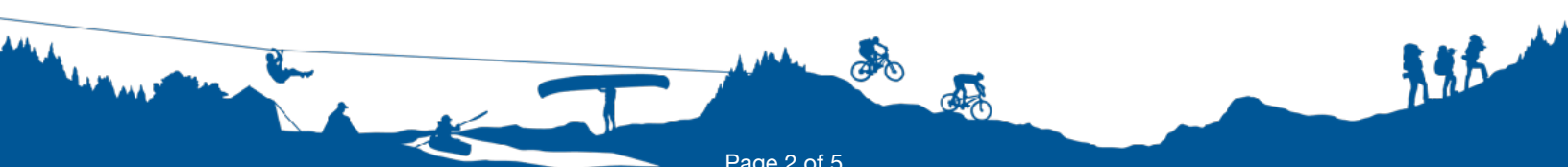
"Scouting has always evolved to reflect the interests and future opportunities facing young people," said Roger Krone, president and CEO of Scouting America. "By introducing the Competitive Gaming merit badge, we are meeting Scouts where they are while reinforcing the values that have defined Scouting for generations."

The requirements for this new merit badge and the Digital Resource Guide that goes with it can be found [here](#).

## Upcoming Events

|               |                                                                                            |
|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 08/22         | <a href="#">Pioneering Merit Badge</a> , Cushman Watt Scout Center                         |
| 08/23         | <a href="#">Mile Swim Award</a> , Trask Scout Reservation                                  |
| 08/29         | <a href="#">Scouts Range Merit Badge</a> , Trask Scout Reservation                         |
| 09/26         | <a href="#">Community Wheels Fest Program for Cub Scouts</a> , Firestone Scout Reservation |
| 09/27         | <a href="#">Snorkeling Award</a> , Trask Scout Reservation                                 |
| 10/23 - 10/25 | <a href="#">BooFest for Cub Scouts</a> , Firestone Scout Reservation                       |

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



## SYT: Safeguarding Youth Training

By Jesse Hires

We still have a large number of registered adults with expired SYT. If you haven't taken your training yet, please visit [my.scouting.org](https://my.scouting.org) and take your training today! The new Safeguarding Youth training which will take 90 minutes and expire in a year, and the annual training renewal is only 15 minutes. [Click here](#) to learn more!



## Upcoming Training

|               |                   |                                                                                              |
|---------------|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 08/15         | 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM | <a href="#">Rangemaster Training, Trask Scout Reservation</a>                                |
| 08/29         | 7:30 AM - 5:00 PM | <a href="#">SoCal Commissioners College, Santiago Canyon College</a>                         |
| 09/18 - 09/20 | Overnight         | <a href="#">Wood Badge (Session 1), Hubert Eaton Scout Reservation</a>                       |
| 09/19         | 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM | <a href="#">HAT Desert Camping and Travel Training, Cushman Watt Scout Center</a>            |
| 10/03 - 10/04 | Overnight         | <a href="#">Wood Badge (Session 2), Trask Scout Reservation</a>                              |
| 12/18 - 12/20 | Overnight         | <a href="#">National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) Session 1, Trask Scout Reservation</a> |
| 01/08 - 01/10 | Overnight         | <a href="#">National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) Session 2, Trask Scout Reservation</a> |

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

## Recruitment

Need recruiting materials for your units. Visit our [Recruitment Materials page](#) and request and/or download flyers, yard signs, posters, brochures, and more!

Hosting a recruiting event or joining a community event? Don't forget to submit a Geofence Marketing Request as early as possible so we can help spread the word and reach families in your area with targeted digital advertising.

Request your geofence campaign here: <https://greaterlascouting.org/geofence-request-form/>



## Managing Multiple [my.scouting.org](https://my.scouting.org) Accounts

By Estela Chicas

Need help managing multiple [my.scouting.org](https://my.scouting.org) accounts? It's never been easier than with the new Scouting America guide. [Click here](#) to view our full one-page guide.



## Popcorn Fundraiser Updates

By Clark Mason

Did you miss the council popcorn fundraiser kickoff on Saturday 8/1? Those in attendance had a blast kicking off the popcorn season! There is now updated content on the GLAAC website for the fundraiser including the new kernel guidebook. I recommend checking out the [Greater LA Scouting Popcorn site](#).

### THIS YEAR'S POPCORN HIGHLIGHTS

**Bonus Gift Card:** In addition to Trail's End Rewards for scouts, GLAAC is offering a bonus incentive: Scouts that sell \$1,600+ will receive a bonus \$50 Amazon gift card at the end of the sale.

**Popcorn Returns:** GLAAC is allowing returns of popcorn in saleable condition of up to 10% of your initial order if returned by 9/15/26.

**Unit Popcorn Kickoff Contest:** Historically units that hold a unit fundraiser kickoff perform better. GLAAC is encouraging every unit participating in the popcorn fundraiser to host a unit kickoff. GLAAC is sponsoring a contest for the best GLAAC Unit Popcorn Kickoff. The unit that wins will receive a \$100 discount on their recharter dues. Units can enter the contest by hosting a unit popcorn kickoff before Monday 8/31/26 and emailing a collage of pictures from their kickoff to Estela Chicas by Wednesday 9/2/26. GLAAC will select one unit as the winner. If you need help or ideas on how to hold a unit kickoff, contact your SGV Popcorn Kernel Clark Mason.

**Unit Restocking between Orders:** If a unit is running low on popcorn or wants to get a supply because they missed the initial order deadline, there will be a supply in the district this year starting 8/15. Popcorn can be picked up in Glendora or can be delivered to roundtable. Just make arrangements with Clark Mason by contacting him at [jclarkmason@hotmail.com](mailto:jclarkmason@hotmail.com) or via phone at 626-825-4093.

If your unit hasn't registered to participate, it is not too late. [Click here](#) or on the image ave to register your.

There are many methods to fundraise with popcorn, so I encourage your unit to sign up and ask for help from Estela Chicas or myself to make it a success for your unit and scouts!

Feel please contact me at [jclarkmason@hotmail.com](mailto:jclarkmason@hotmail.com) if you want suggestions, help or ideas in planning your popcorn fundraiser.



## Celebrate Your Years of Service in Scouting

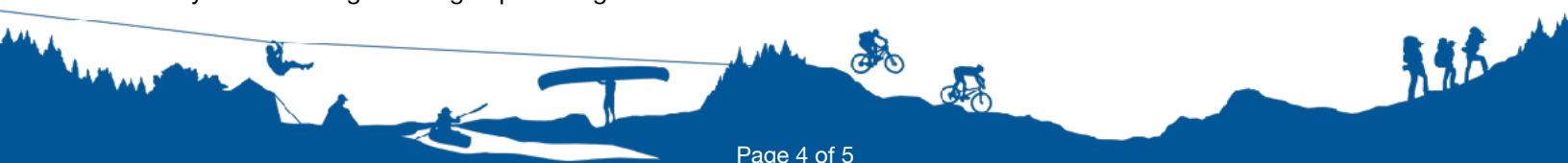
From Greater LA Scouting Newsletter



Have you been a registered Scouter for **5 years or more**? You may be eligible for the **Scouting America Veteran Award**, recognizing your dedication and commitment to the Scouting movement. Youth tenure counts toward your total years of service, and Veteran pins are available from **5 to 90 years**.

To apply, complete the [Veteran Award Application](#) and submit it to Danette Verdugo at [danette.verdugo@Scouting.org](mailto:danette.verdugo@Scouting.org) or mail it to Greater LA Scouting, 2333 Scout Way, Los Angeles, CA 90026.

Thank you for making a lasting impact on generations of Scouts!



## Upcoming Events

Click the images below for more details.



**CELEBRATE**  
THE HISTORY THAT SHAPED OUR NATION

**EARN THE LIBERTY IN ACTION:  
250<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CHALLENGE EMBLEM**

**LIBERTY IN ACTION:  
250<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CHALLENGE**

**LIBERTY IN ACTION: 250<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY Challenge**  
In honor of America's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Scouting America invites Scouts across all programs to take part in the Liberty in Action: 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Challenge. By completing requirements centered on American history and civic values, Scouts can earn this commemorative patch while deepening their understanding of our nation's past.



**GET READY FOR A NEW YEAR OF  
SCOUTING  
ADVENTURES**

**2 EASY WAYS TO SAVE ON UNIFORMS**

**SAVE 10% OR SAVE 20%**

**ON UNIFORM BOTTOMS  
WHEN YOU PURCHASE ANY  
MATCHING UNIFORM TOP.**

**CLUB SCOUTS FULL UNIFORM:  
TOP, BOTTOMS, BELT, HODDIE/SWEAT,  
MIDCAMPFIRE JACKET, CAP, & SOCKS.  
SCOUTS BSA & VENTURING  
FULL UNIFORM:  
TOP, BOTTOMS, BELT, CAP, & SOCKS.**

RESTRICTIONS MAY APPLY. NEW SALES ASSOCIATE FOR DETAILS.  
OFFERS APPLY TO CLUB SCOUTS, REGENTS BSA, AND VENTURING.



**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.



**Scouting Aquatics**

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

July 28-Aug 1 Lake Tahoe - Canoe and Camping Float Trip  
Aug 4 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@waterbuggs.com](mailto:kricket@waterbuggs.com)



**SAVE THE DATE**

**Greater Los Angeles Area Council**  
Scouting America

**2026 GOOD CHARACTER GALA**  
*Honoring*

**CRAIG DARIAN**  
Chairman & CEO  
Occidental Entertainment Group Holdings

**NATHAN HOCHMAN**  
District Attorney  
Los Angeles County

**"Helping Today's Youth Become Tomorrow's Leaders!"**

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2026**  
Taglyan Complex, Los Angeles  
Reception 6:00 PM - Dinner 7:00 PM

## 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](#).

