



Roundtable Matters

Pacifica District, Greater Los Angeles Area Council, BSA
Gary Thompson, Roundtable Commissioner

August 9th, 2023
roundtable@pacificabsa.org

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

SAFETY MOMENT FOR AUGUST The BSA has adopted [Barriers to Abuse](#) policies for the safety and well-being of its members. These policies primarily protect youth members; however, they also serve to protect adult leaders. Registered leaders must follow these guidelines with Scouting youth outside of Scouting activities. Is it time to refresh your commitment by completing your [Youth Protection Training](#)?

RENEW YOUR YPT! Pacifica's standard is that adults must have YPT certificates that are valid for the entire charter period. Please plan ahead and make sure that your returning team's certs expire no earlier than 1 October 2024.

FALL RECRUITING SEASON IS HERE! As families get ready for school to start, they're looking for fun activities for their kids. Be ready to offer Scouting as a great program the entire family can enjoy!

1. Have your leadership in place for the upcoming school year. Need more adult help? Check out these [resources from the Atlanta Area Council](#). The [Den Leader recruiting script](#) may be particularly relevant for Packs. Remember, with BSA's implementation of [Family Dens](#) in grades K-4, it's perfectly OK to have co-ed dens and multi-age/rank dens.
2. Have a Welcome Packet ready for distribution. See our helpful tips below.
3. Make sure your BeAScout.org listing (aka "pin") stands out! The [BSA Online Registration Page](#) has a great tutorial on the mechanics of building a pin. Click [HERE](#) for sample unit descriptions.
4. [Order your recruiting materials](#) early! Council can provide a wonderful variety of flyers, yard signs, give-aways and more.
5. [Request geofences](#) to help publicize your recruiting events.

Remember, you can accept online applications until the recharter "blackout" occurs, usually around September 25th. New members will show as "prepaid" on your renewal roster, so don't be afraid to recruit new members and renew continuing members simultaneously. As a reminder, National/Council membership fees are NONREFUNDABLE, so please make sure prospective families are ready to commit to a full 12 months of adventure when they sign up.

CUBS SOON CAN CAMP TWO CONSECUTIVE NIGHTS The BSA is putting out updated guidance for Cub Scout camping. [HERE](#) is a link to an article from Aaron on Scouting that talks about the coming update which allows units to plan events with two consecutive nights of camping. The updated policy also applies to Webelos and Arrow of Light dens, who can now conduct campouts for up to two consecutive nights.

WEBELOS WOODS OPEN TO ALL 4th & 5th GRADERS Webelos Woods [registration](#) is open! Please encourage all of your Webelos and their parents to attend! This two-night event (Oct 6-8 at Cabrillo Beach) is a great opportunity to meet local BSA units, hone new scouting skills and spark excitement to transition to a BSA Troop. You can find a flyer suitable for posting [HERE](#).

SIGN UP TO SELL POPCORN Our [popcorn campaign](#) is more than a fundraiser! Scouts who participate learn teamwork, public speaking & math skills, salesmanship & perseverance, money management, and the value of hard work. Learn more at our [webinar August 21st at 7pm](#). Don't miss out on this invaluable opportunity to gather all the information you need to make this campaign a success for your youth, your unit, and our District!

EARN A FREE WEEKEND AT FIRESTONE: Troops, our Boo Fest team is deep into planning another great event for Cub families Oct 20-22. They're now at the staffing stage--the event cannot move forward without sufficient volunteers. If your Troop provides this service as a unit, you can earn a **FREE** weekend (Fri-Sun) of camping at Firestone (programming not included) as a token of thanks. Please reach out to [Starlight](#) and let her know how many of your Scouts can help bring the fun and festivities envisioned to life.

ESSENTIAL CAMPING GEAR GRANTS In support of the ideals set forth by the Worldwide Scouting Movement and in order to promote wilderness camping experiences, The Memorial Scout Camp has established the [MSC Camping Essentials Program](#). This program makes essential camping equipment available to any scout in need upon the recommendation of their scout group leader. Items include boots, backpacks and sleeping bags; a scout may receive one item per year based on need and recommendation from their leader.

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

Aug 11-13 [OA Summer Induction](#) (Scouts BSA) @Trask
Aug 12 [Pacifica Chartered Org Summit](#) (CORs) @Cabrillo
Aug 17 [2023 National Fall Membership Kickoff](#) (Scouters) @Zoom
Aug 19 [Salesmanship MB](#) (Scouts BSA youth) @Zoom
Aug 20 [Water Balloon Shoot](#) (Scouts BSA, Venturers & Sea Scouts) @Firestone
Aug 20 [Archery/BB Gun Rangemaster Training](#) (adults) @ Trask
Aug 21 [Popcorn Campaign Webinar](#) (all interested units) @Zoom
Aug 26 [ILST](#) (Scouts BSA) @ Trask
Aug 26 [Scout Night with LA Galaxy](#)
Aug 27 Den Leader Training @ Cabrillo LINK WILL BE SENT TO CUBMASTERS & PACK CHAIRS
Sep 10 [Troop 718 Merit Badge Day](#) (BSA) @American Legion Post 184, Redondo Beach
Sep 15-17 [Golden Nugget Weekend](#) (Webelos) @ Cherry Valley
Sep 16 [Operation On Target](#) (Older Scouts BSA)
Sep 16-17 [IOLS](#) (Scouters) @Trask
Sep 22-24 [Golden Nugget Weekend](#) (Webelos) @ Cherry Valley
Sep 23 [Cars & Careers](#) Show(Scouts & Scouters) @Santa Anita Park
Sep 29 – Oct 1 [Harvest Family Camp](#) (Family) @Trask
Sec 30 [Rifle MB](#) (Scouts BSA) @ Firestone
Oct 6-8 [Webelos Woods](#) (Webelos & their parents) @Cabrillo
Oct 20-22 [BooFest](#) (Cubs) @Firestone
Nov 12 [Scout Night with the Chargers](#) (Scouts, families, and friends) @ SoFi Stadium
Nov 17 [Graphic Arts/Pulp & Paper MB](#) (Scouts BSA) @ International Printing Museum in Carson

RECHARTER TASKS THIS MONTH Re-registration will be here before you know it. Here is a [handy graphic of the timeline](#) that we're shooting for. Key tasks for units this month include:

- Keep working on YPT and position training.
- Make sure you can log into the Online Recharter Tool in Internet Advancement 2.0
- Collect payment from returning youth and adult members. If unit families need financial assistance beyond what the unit can provide, have them apply for Financial Aid from GLAAC [HERE](#).
- Get your Annual Charter Agreement signed
- Reserve a date & time to submit your renewal as soon as appointments are released at the end of August.

Contact your [servicing Commissioner](#) if you have any questions

GET READY FOR A NEW SCOUTING YEAR! This is a great time to plan adventures for the upcoming year!

1. Review your roster in My.Scouting (not Scoutbook). Do all your members appear on it? If not, have them [apply online](#) using your unit's unique code in Invitation Manager. 2. Create your annual plan and budget. ([Journey to Excellence guidebooks](#) include resources for Packs, Troops, Ships and Crews)
3. Draft your recruiting plan using the Membership Growth plans posted with [June's Roundtable materials](#). Freshen
4. Update your [Annual Health and Medical records](#). Part A serves as a talent release form. Make sure you have one on file for ALL participants (parents, siblings, etc.) As a reminder, BSA policy prohibits email transmission and/or electronic storage of health forms--keep paper copies in a confidential medical file for quick access.

MEMBERSHIP KICKOFF 2023 WEBINAR You play a critical role in asking new families to join. To help you do that, experts from across the BSA will share a few best practices and some tips to take your joining events to the next level at the National Fall Membership Kick-Off! Thursday, 17 Aug at 5 PM PDT on Zoom. Register [HERE](#).

WHAT'S IN YOUR WELCOME PACKET? Suggested items include:

- A simple calendar for the next 3–6 months (or for the year if the unit is well organized). (Click [HERE](#) for samples from Atlanta Area Council.)

- Contact information for unit leaders.
- A letter that includes basic (and brief) information about uniforms, camping, general leadership structure, the role of the parent, youth protection policies and a link to the unit's webpage or social media platform. (Check out [BSA's guide for new Cub families](#))
- A list of anticipated costs for the next year along with fundraising opportunities to address those costs. (BSA's budget templates for [Packs](#) and [Troops](#) may be helpful)
- Flyer from the Scout Shop for 10% off new member uniforms (flyer is included in [July RTM](#))

EAGLE ADVANCEMENT Eagle candidates please review the “[2023 Path to Eagle](#)” (Rev. 4/2023). See these [great tips from Scouting Magazine](#) on helping Scouts, especially those who are neurodivergent, on their path to Eagle. Prior to contacting Pacifica District for approval, please review Eagle application and Eagle book with your troop advancement chair to confirm records agree with troop records and Eagle book is complete. Scout profile and join date will be requested from Council and Scout will be assigned a book check person. Please do not contact Council directly for profile or join date. Please call Mrs. Christensen at (310) 283-7197 for the Pacifica verification and review once the Eagle book and application are ready.

ATTENTION MERIT BADGE COUNSELORS It is nearly time to acknowledge that you wish to continue as a Merit Badge Counselor for the 2024 calendar year. Watch your email for a message asking you for your response and make sure to respond “YES” when you receive it if you wish to continue to volunteer. Meanwhile, make sure your YPT is current through the entire 2024 calendar year. All Merit Badge Counselor registrations expire at the end of 2023, so please respond before that date so you can be re-registered. I want to thank all the current merit badge counselors for their commitment to our program and our youth.

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 virtual Meeting invitations via the LodgeMaster application. National OA guidance on counting virtual camping for OA membership eligibility was updated in December 2021 and may be found [here](#).

The next Monthly Lakota Chapter Meeting is scheduled on the fourth Tuesday of August (22nd) and is planned to be held at the Torrance Scout Center. Chapter members will be sent an email with the details as soon as they're finalized. Other Chapter activities will be planned for different weeknights and/or weekends to enable maximum by our members.

Arrowmen should have received notification to pay their 2023 Lodge dues. Payment may be made on the Lodge's website [here](#).

A Summer Induction Weekend was added to the Lodge's calendar for August 11-13, 2023, at Camp Trask. Lodge members and Candidates who haven't yet completed an Induction Weekend will be contacted directly by the Lodge with details.

The Annual Lodge Leadership Development seminar and Banquet will be held on Saturday, August 26th. Registration for the events may be completed [here](#).

The Section G18 Conclave is scheduled for September 22-24, 2023, at Camp Josepho in Pacific Palisades. Arrowmen will be sent registration details later this Summer.

The Fall Induction Weekend is planned for November 3-5, 2023, at Camp Trask in Monrovia, CA. Registration links for Candidates and staff will be sent in the early Fall. Each newly elected Candidate has a year to complete an Induction Weekend. Candidates and Lodge members should receive emails about the events; additional info may be found at the Lodge website, www.tukuut.org

To request a Unit Visit, Unit Election, or Camp Promotion visit please contact the Lakota Chapter Chief at lakotachchief@gmail.com and the Chapter Adviser, Bob Hodgkiss, at oachapteradviser@pacificabsa.org.

CHECK US OUT!

Virtually all info is available online: Events, Dates, Fliers, Contacts, Training, Etc.

Pacifica District Website: www.pacificabsa.org

GLAAC Website: www.GLAACBSA.org

CALL FOR SCOUTS TO OPEN ROUNDTABLE Do you have scouts in your pack, troop or crew who are interested in performing the opening ceremony for Roundtable? We're open to real-time or recorded events. Contact roundtable@pacificabsa.org to get on the schedule!

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.