



STC Chronicles

South Texas Council Scouting Updates

Quick Highlights

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- Oct 6-7 - [Venturing/Exploring Weekend @K](#)
- Oct 7 - [Work Day @ Huisache](#)
- Oct 13-14 - [BALOO/IOLS at Karankawa](#)
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- Oct 14 - Annular Solar Eclipse!
- Oct 14-15 - OA Ordeal at Huisache
- Oct 20-21 - [Cub Family Camp @ Huisache](#)
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- Dec 27-30 - [Winter Camp at Karankawa](#)



Are You Ready?

Recruiting new members is not just for Cub Scouts. The BSA has resources and time tested methods for recruiting older scouts as well.



Sharing the benefits of Scouting for the entire family is easy.

- Cub Packs can simply follow the [Sign Up for Scouting Playbook](#).
- Troops can use the resources available at the BSA [recruitment resource page](#).

Call your district service executive to learn more about free recruitment materials including flyer printing and yard signs.

For more membership resources [click here](#).

Our Commitment to Youth Safety

The South Texas Council (STC) Boy Scouts of America (BSA) firmly believes that being an adult leader in the BSA is a privilege, not a right. Every BSA adult leader must undergo an extensive, multilayered selection process to ensure they will uphold the BSA's proud commitment to youth safety. All STC adult volunteers must be registered with the BSA and trained in youth protection to ensure that all adults know how to recognize and correctly report behaviors suspicious for grooming and abuse. Additionally, registered volunteers are required to complete Youth Protection Training (YPT) annually and adhere to all BSA safety policies and procedures.



EXPLANATION FOR THE REVISED POLICY: On April 20, 2023, the STC Executive Board adopted a YPT policy to reinforce our awareness of youth safety. STC now requires all registered adults to maintain YPT compliance for their entire registration period. As it is currently possible for YPT to expire during that period, the Board's new policy may require retaking YPT training even though a registered adult's current YPT Completion Certificate may not expire for several weeks or months but will expire before the next recharter registration. Although YPT is valid for two years, the STC requires all volunteer leaders to have a valid YPT Certificate for their entire registration period/year. In other words, the expiration date of each leader's training must be later than the expiration date of their registration. The STC will suspend volunteers' BSA membership, and they will be unable to participate in Scouting activities if their YPT certification is expired or will not be current for the entire registration period/year. My Scouting sends reminders 90, 60, and 30 days before YPT expiration; however, the STC policy may require individual leaders and units to monitor YPT and registration expiration dates to maintain compliance.

For more on youth safety, look at the [Youth Protection page](#) on the national BSA website.

The BSA has also 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.

Finally, as a reminder and opportunity to update your training immediately if your YPT expires before the next recharter of your unit or your adult registration expires, use the following instructions:

How to Complete Online Youth Protection Training

First-time users: Visit the [My.Scouting website](#) and create an account. From the [My.Scouting](#) portal, Youth Protection Training is available through the BSA Learn Center. The course has three learning modules and a certification test. You must complete all four parts. Upon completion, print the training certificate. Training certificates must accompany all adult applications.

Returning users: Log in to the [My.Scouting website](#). Click on "Menu," then "My Dashboard." On the Youth Protection Training listing, choose "Retake Course." Complete the training and print out the completion certificate. Records sync with the national and council databases within 24-48 hours of completion.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Walker Perkins, Council Training Chair, or Marty Sepulveda, Council Scout Executive.

Walker Perkins: wdperkins@icloud.com

Marty Sepulveda: martin.sepulveda@scouting.org

Popcorn



The 2023 Popcorn season is here!

If you sell through your inventory, additional popcorn is available via the council office. [Click here](#) or Contact James Rangel at james.rangel@scouting.org for more information.

September is National Preparedness Month!

National Preparedness Month is a time when we emphasize the significance of being ready for any unexpected events that might come our way. In our Scouting journey, we learn the value of being prepared. Whether we're out in the wilderness or in our communities, knowing how to handle unexpected situations can be a life-saving skill. Being prepared means having a plan, knowing your resources, and practicing how to respond effectively.



Here are a few safety moments to share that support National Preparedness

Month: [Emergency Action Plan](#), [First Aid Kits](#), [Generators](#) and [Weather-Related Safety](#).

What is a Roundtable?

Roundtables are a 1-hour monthly gathering of local scout leaders designed to support the pack and troop leadership in our area. It is open to all BSA registered adults, not just cubmasters or scoutmasters.

Each Roundtable focuses on a different topic depending on what is most applicable to local scouting units. (recruitment, popcorn, etc.)

If you have never been to a Roundtable, you should definitely give it a try! They are a great way to make friends, ask questions, and learn from seasoned scouters.

To learn more about your district roundtable schedule and location contact your district service executive.

Events

Council Fishing Derby

Specifics are being fine-tuned. More details coming soon!

September 22 - Toughest Scout Challenge

Toughest Scout Challenge is an outdoor camp experience for organizations and groups to compete against each other and older Scouts to raise funds to support the South Texas Council's efforts to serve the youth of South Texas.

Participating teams will engage in team building, problem solving, outdoor adventure, and personal challenges. Teams will encounter something that can't be duplicated by a seminar or other corporate training. Teams will compete in shooting sports (archery, rifle and shotgun), canoe relay, fire building, problem solving, rope course challenges, and a few other camp activities.

For more information [click here](#).

September 22-24 - Pushcart Derby at Karankawa

Build a car with your Troop and race it against other units across the South Texas Council! Explorers, Venturers, and Scout BSA members are welcome to participate.

[Click here](#) to reserve your spot!

October 6-7 - Venturing/Exploring Weekend at Camp Karankawa

A fun filled weekend full of activities for Venturers, Explorers & Sea Scouts! Experience team building, C.O.P.E., shooting sports, aquatics and more! Click [here](#) to register.

October 14 - Work Day at Camp Huisache

Come ready to trim trees, pick up trash, and clean trails! The workday runs from around 8-11am. Bring your sunscreen and water! [Click here to participate](#).

Oct 13-14 - BALOO and IOLS training at Karankawa

BALOO stands for Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation and covers everything Pack leaders need to know to run a safe and fun camping event. All packs must have at least one BALOO-trained leader on every campout, but it is recommended to have more.

IOLS (Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills) covers all skills from Tenderfoot to First Class and is a required course for all Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters. It is also highly recommended for all adult leaders regardless of skill level, to help prepare them to teach and supervise youth.

\$30/Participant. [Click here](#) to register.

October 14 - Work Day at Camp Karankawa

Help us make Karankawa ready for fall and winter camping programs. After a hot scorching summer, the camp maintenance committee has a long "To Do List" from repairs and cleaning, to beautification projects. A special service patch will be given to all participants. For more information and to register, [click here](#).

October 14 - Annular Solar Eclipse!

Camp Karankawa has the unique opportunity of being directly in line of the 2023 North American Eclipse! There are a lot of great activities going on around Corpus Christi and at Karankawa that weekend. Mark your calendars now, come out early and help with the work day projects and participate in the eclipse activities, because you won't want to miss this rare solar event!

October 20-21 - Cub Family Camp at Camp Huisache

Cub Scouts and their families are invited to join us for a one-night adventure under the stars! Camp Friday night and enjoy Saturday activities. Your day at camp will be filled with fun activities for your Scout and the entire family. Take advantage of this opportunity to create new memories and enjoy some quality family time!

[Click here](#) to register!

October 20-21, and 21-22 - Cub Family Camp at Camp Karankawa

Whether you are an experienced camper or just getting started, this weekend is for you. Come spend one glorious night under the stars at beautiful Camp Karankawa located on Lake Corpus Christi.

Click [here](#) to register for October 20-21.

Click [here](#) to register for October 21-22.

October 28 - Scouting for Food

The Boy Scouts of America, South Texas Council will be holding its annual Scouting for Food drive to support local Food Banks in their mission to serve the needs of the community.

As Scouts, we know how fortunate we are to have a warm meal every night whether around the campfire or at the kitchen table. And we know that not everyone is so lucky.

That's the genesis of Scouting for Food, the annual food-collection drive where every youth can give back. It's another reminder to our local communities that Scouts are here, doing good turns.

Scouts BSA Troops, Cub Scout Packs, Venture Crews, Sea Scout Ships, and Explorer Posts traditionally place door hangers or flyers on homes starting the week prior to the pick up date asking the community to place non-perishable food outside of their door for pick up on the morning of October 28th. The Scouts will start picking up donations as early at 8:00am from the neighborhoods where they have placed flyers.

The donations will go to help local food banks, pantries and agencies in their efforts to feed the hungry.

October 28 - Scoutreach Trunk or Treat

The Corpus Christi Metro Scoutreach program will be hosting a trunk or treat on the morning of October 28th for Cub Scouts enrolled in the Scoutreach program. All Troops and BSA members are welcome to dress up, decorate a vehicle trunk, and hand out candy! For more information on how you can help out, please contact Carlos Sepulveda at carlos.sepulveda@scouting.org.

December 27-30 Scouts BSA Winter Camp

Join the festivities at Camp Karankawa during the most wonderful time of the year! Drink hot cocoa, earn merit badges, and make friends around a bonfire. This is one event no scout will want to miss! Pre-registration is now open. [Click here to learn more!](#)



Order of the Arrow News

The Order of the Arrow will be having an ordeal at Camp Huisache on October 14-15, and a Haunted Trail at Camp Karankawa on October 21st. For more information contact Sharon Swize at ssswize@gmail.com.

Annular Eclipse - October 14

On October 14th, there will be an Annular Solar Eclipse, and Karankawa will be directly in its path!

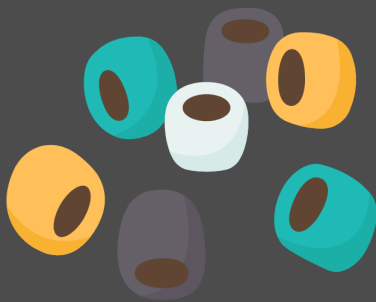
Timeline of Events as seen from Camp Karankawa:

- 10:25 am - Partial Eclipse begins
- 11:54 am - Full Eclipse begins
- 11:57 am - Maximum Eclipse
- 11:59 am - Full Eclipse ends
- 1:36 pm - Partial Eclipse ends



Never look directly at the sun, even during an eclipse! The sun's rays can burn your retinas and permanently damage your eyes. Always wear special eclipse glasses that are made to block all harmful rays -- regular sun glasses won't work!

Eclipse Activity #1



Did you know there are beads that change color in the sun? These UV-reactive beads can be found online and in craft stores for around the same price as the non-reactive kind.

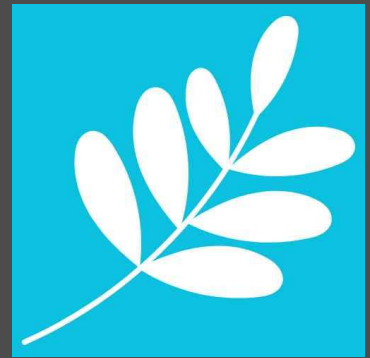
Use string to make bracelets, or lace beads on pipe cleaners to make unique creations. Let scouts experiment with the beads, observing the effects of UV radiation. What happens if you coat them in sunscreen or drop them in ice water?

Eclipse Activity #2

Solar paper (also known as Cyanotype paper) is a special paper coated in a light sensitive solution. When exposed to the sun, the compound reacts with the ultraviolet rays to create a deep blue pigment.

Have scouts arrange flower or leaf pieces to make unique designs on the paper. Place in the sun for about five minutes, or until the paper turns bright blue. Rinse thoroughly with water to remove any remaining solution and set the image. Place paper in the sun to dry.

Discuss how the sun's radiation can have an effect on objects even though they can't physically see the rays!



Council Program Calendar

Click [here](#) for the latest council and district event calendar updates.
Be informed!

Stay Connected!

