



STC Chronicles

South Texas Council Scouting Updates

Happy 114th Birthday BSA!

Quick Highlights

Feb 3-4 - Wilderness First Aid @ Service Center
Feb 8 - BSA's 114th Anniversary - Happy Birthday!
 Cake & Roundtable at the Service Center @6PM!
Feb 10 - Holloway Scout Shop BSA Birthday Party.
Feb 17 - Council Coordinated Meeting
Feb 17 - Merit Badge College @ Del Mar College
Feb 17 - Camp Staff Interviews @ Del Mar College
Feb 23-24 - OA Fellowship @ Karankawa
Feb 24 - Camp Staff Interviews @ Karankawa
March 2 - Eagle Scout Reception
March 8-10 - MB Weekend @ Camp Huisache
March 9-10 - Wilderness 1st Aid @ Service Center
March 16 - Workday at Camp Karankawa
March 22-24 - Cub Family Campout @ Karankawa
April 6 - Camp Huisache Workday.
April 12-14 - Council Camporee!
April 19-20 - Cub Family Campout @ Huisache
April 27-28 - Crew, Ship & Post Wknd @ Karankawa
May 4 - Council Coordinated Meeting
May 17-18 - OA Fellowship and Workday
May 18 - Workday at Camp Karankawa
June 9-15 - Karankawa's 80th Bday Summer Camp!
June 16-22 - Karankawa's 80th Bday Summer Camp!
June 17-21 - Seabreeze Cub Day Camp
June 23-29 - NYLT @ Camp Karankawa
June 26-28 - Webelos Summer Camp
June 29-30 - Cub Family Campout @ Karankawa
July 20-21 - Cub Family Campout @ Karankawa
July 26-28 - Scouts BSA MB Camp @ Karankawa



[Download a PDF of
the Newsletter Here](#)

Scouting Forward

February is Scouting Anniversary month and February eighth is the 114th birthday of Boy Scouts of America (BSA). Not many organizations can claim to be in the century club, and we should be proud of this accomplishment.

The mission of the BSA remains the same today as it was over 100 years ago, 'to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of

the Scout Oath and Law'. Camping, merit badges, awards, and adventures are the hook to keep our youth engaged in Scouting just long enough to realize the leadership skills they are learning.

Becoming an Eagle Scout is a great achievement and Scouts who join this prestigious status should be rightfully recognized, however, the impact of Scouting is not about how many youths can achieve the rank of Eagle -- it is about those young people who join our organization and do not become Eagle Scouts, but are impacted by the great volunteers who provide wonderful life-changing experiences.

Let's work together to provide many more life changing experiences for as many youth as possible in South Texas. I encourage you to work with your district volunteers and staff to grow your unit this spring so more youth can go camping this summer and start their Scouting adventures that will impact them for a lifetime!

Adventure On!

Marty Sepulveda

Eagle Scout

Scout Executive & CEO



Del Mar Merit Badge College!

On February 17, 2024 Scout BSA members will get the opportunity to visit Del Mar College and take Merit Badge Classes.

All sessions will be taught by Del Mar Professors!

Scouts can choose to take Welding, Movie Making, Electricity, and Dentistry, as well as a long list of other exciting and hard-to-find badges.

[Click here to register now!](#)

[Check out the full Merit Badge List here!](#)



Important Reminder: Unit Incident Reports

In Scouting, we will not compromise the safety of our youth, volunteers, and employees. Safety is a value that must be taught and reinforced at every opportunity. We are all responsible and must hold each other accountable to provide a safe environment for all participants.

When incidents do occur, we expect a timely, clear, and complete incident report. We are committed to learning from the data and modifying program guidance for the prevention of future occurrences.

What to do if an incident has occurred:

1. Take care of the injured/find a safe place.
2. Preserve and document the evidence/take photos if appropriate.
3. Complete an incident report and notify your local council.

Timely, clear, concise, and complete incident reports allow for an appropriate response and an opportunity for analysis while promoting continuous improvement of our programs. You can report incidents, near misses, and youth protection / membership infraction incidents to your local council or enter them yourself.

So, how do I report an incident?



Gather the facts using the tools below.

Incident Information Reporting Tool

Use this tool to report all injuries, illnesses, and incidents during Scouting activities or on council-owned properties that require the intervention of a medical provider beyond basic Scout-rendered first aid. [Download](#)

Youth Protection/Membership Infraction Information Reporting Tool

Use this tool to report all allegations of abuse, violations of BSA guidelines or policies, inappropriate behavior by a Scout/Scout leader/parent/other. [Download](#)

Near Miss Incident Information Reporting Tool

Use this tool to report near misses in programs such as COPE and climbing activities. A near miss is an incident that did not result in injury, illness, or damage by definition but that had the potential to have done so. Near misses with clear lessons learned can bring to light opportunities to improve safety performance or program practices. [Download](#)

Then report the incident to your local council. [Council Locator](#)

OR

In an emergency if timely council contact cannot be made, you can also enter an incident yourself by following [this link](#).

Council Coordinated Meetings!

The next meeting is February 17th at the Del Mar College Windward Campus. Gathering begins at 9:30 and the meeting will start at 10AM. All BSA registered adults are welcome!

Every three months the council hosts a coordinated meeting of all BSA registered adults in the South Texas Council. The meeting usually lasts between one-and-a-half to two hours and focuses on council health, finances, membership growth, and upcoming program events. Guest speakers are also part of the meeting program. There is an attendance (Burro) award given to the district with the most representation at the meeting.

All registered BSA leaders at all levels are encouraged to attend. It is a great opportunity to meet new people, ask questions, and stay updated on the growth and future of the South Texas Council.

This quarter's focus is a District Committee workshop with an emphasis on the impact District Teams play in the success of units. Come learn more about the various functions of the district level committees such as camping, advancement, unit service and finance.

Camp Cards

An Easy Way to Earn Funds!

Is your unit looking for an easy fundraiser? Why not try the 2024 Camp Card Sale? Your unit can earn up to a 55% commission on every card sold. No upfront deposit or cost to sell, simply sign up and check out the number of cards your unit wants to sell.

If you missed the January 25th Kick-Off, you can always pick up cards at the Council Service Center.

The sale begins February 1, 2024. These are special community cards for the Coastal Bend Area.

[For more information click here.](#)



Roy and Glenda Griffin Eagle Scout Class Reception

Honoring All 2023 Eagle Scouts

March 2, 2024 3:00pm Program – Reception to Follow

Del Mar College Oso Creek Campus
Culinary Arts Building – Multipurpose Room
7002 Yorktown Blvd., Corpus Christi, TX 78414

All 2023 Eagle Scouts from across the council are invited to attend and join in the celebration and the recognition of the top 10 Eagle Scout Service Projects. The highlight of the ceremony is the awarding of the South Texas Council's Glenn A. and Melinda W. Adams Service Project of the Year Award.

This is a Free Event – all are welcomed. [RSVP Here.](#)

For more information contact Marty Sepulveda at
martin.sepulveda@scouting.org



February Safety Moment

Campout Safety Checklist

Camping is a long-honored tradition for many families, including the BSA family. Timing, supplies, and location should be determined ahead of time so you can make the most of your camping experience. There might be some instances where you overthink or underestimate a camping trip, but there are also many ways to enjoy the adventure, fun, discovery, and teamwork involved. A campout safety checklist will help to ensure these aspects of camping are accomplished while keeping you safe.



GENERAL INFORMATION

Camping can be enjoyable in almost any area—from the backcountry to summer camp, as well as national high-adventure bases, to name a few. When you decide on a camping trip, you need to consider who, what, where, when, how, and why.

Here are a few items to check off on your Campout Safety Checklist:

- Documentation Needed—This includes medical records, guidebooks, and permission slips. A Scout leader can ensure your safety as well as his or her own when you are both better informed of any limitations, hazards, or permissions.
- Training—General training, such as Youth Protection training, CPR/first aid, and Hazardous Weather, or specific training, such as Trek Safety or Wilderness First Aid, gives you the confidence to know what to do in the event of an emergency.
- Planning—Planning is important. Become familiar with your campsite location and do some research about the weather, licensing/permit requirements, and project or activity guidelines so you can be prepared.
- Equipment—Plan for vehicles involved or tools necessary for your camping experience. Also consider trailer requirements and first-aid or emergency kits.
- Emergency Planning—A prepared Scout is a confident Scout. Keep a cellphone handy as well as a list of local authorities (fire department, police, hospitals, etc.) in case an emergency occurs, such as inclement weather or a lost Scout. If you are in the backcountry, canyons, or a remote location, coverage may be one to two hours away. A GPS tracking/messaging device is helpful in these locations.
- Program—Know your program. There should be age-appropriate activities, safety equipment, proper supervision, and a discussion on potential hazards.

[More information on Campout Safety can be found here.](#)

Council Camporee at McGloin Ranch!

April 12-14, 2024

Come join us for a special Council Camporee full of adventure for Troops, Crews, Ships and Posts! The main day consists of 13 different Stations with exciting and challenging games for Patrols to compete in, but the weekend is filled to capacity with activities and events from start to finish! Here is a sample of some of the highlights:

- Living history exhibits and museum tours.
- Order of the Arrow events
- Campsite element contests
- Raft and running relay races
- Dutch oven exhibit and free samples!
- Leader tournaments and competitions
- Cracker barrel and music by the Nueces River
- Hay Rides!

Many more activities are planned, check out the leaders guide for a full list of events. [Click here to register today!](#)



National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)

June 23-29, 2024
Camp Karankawa

* We are still looking for staff members, if you are a former NYLT graduate, are a team player, and looking for some extra adventure, we want you!

National Youth Leadership Training is an exciting, action-packed program designed for councils to provide youth members with leadership skills and experience they can use in their home units and in other situations demanding leadership of self and others.

The NYLT course centers around the concepts of what a leader must BE, what they must KNOW, and what they must DO. The key elements are then taught with a clear focus on HOW TO. The skills come alive during the week as the patrol goes on a Quest for the Meaning of Leadership.

Fee: \$325 per participant. [Click here to register online.](#)

For more information about NYLT contact Francisco Orozco, staff advisor, at 361-816-3868 or francisco.orozco@scouting.org.



Be A Part of the 80th Anniversary Karankawa Summer Camp Staff!

All areas wanted. Contact James Rangel at James.Rangel@scouting.org or Francisco Orozco at Francisco.Orozco@scouting.org to schedule an interview.

[Click Here to Apply Now!](#)



Plan for Spring Recruitment!

It is never too early to think about expanding your unit! Now is the time to start thinking about recruiting those families that might have missed joining during the fall season.

Here are some items your unit can take advantage of:

- Den Open Houses can help grow your den size. Strive for a goal of 8 youth minimum per den.
- Troops can visit with fifth graders and invite them to the Scout BSA program in March, possibly even creating a brand-new patrol for scouts. Do not forget about Arrow of Light scouts that will need a troop!
- Crews, Ships, and Posts can visit eighth graders and invite them to join after their fourteenth birthday or after completing the eighth grade.
- All units can host an 'invite-a-friend' event and invite families around the community to a bowling party, barbecue, or other fun community gathering.

School recruitments are a great way to bring in extra scouts from the area. If you already did a recruitment in the fall, don't hesitate to do another one in the spring -- it is a great opportunity to get more people involved in scouting.

Remember, membership fees cover 12 months, so don't hesitate to recruit no matter what time of year it is.

Contact your district executive to set up Spring Recruitment now! [Click here for membership recruitment ideas and resources.](#)

Commissioner's Corner

Journey to Excellence is the Boy Scouts of America program to help Packs, Troops, Crews, Ships and Posts to plan, monitor and evaluate their performance and their ability to serve youth. There are specific criteria for the unit to plan and accomplish.

Journey to Excellence is a number of performance measurements that are known to make for a successful Scouting program. It is designed as a planning tool. The Pack, Troop, Crew, Ship, or Post leadership reviews the performance measurements and makes plans to achieve as many objectives as possible.

There are four major areas that Journey to Excellence focuses on, planning and budgeting, membership, program, and volunteer leadership. Each of the four major areas has specific and measurable objectives. These standards are reviewed each year and if needed, revised.

Each objective has a point value and uses a balanced scorecard approach. This allows for excellence in some areas and effective in others and still have an excellent program. Each of the performance standards has three levels of achievement, Bronze, Silver, and Gold. Achieving gold gets you maximum points. Adding up all the points for the performance standards gives you overall total points that equal Bronze, Silver, or Gold.

Achieving bronze is delivering an effective program and should be celebrated. Silver is considered to have an excellent program. Gold is exceptional and is difficult to achieve year after year.

[Click here for more information and to download a JTE scorecard for your unit!](#)



Events

February 17 - Del Mar Merit Badge College

Scout BSA members and families, we are pleased to announce that the Merit Badge College @ Del Mar College Windward Campus is happening on February 17, 2024. You will get the opportunity to be taught by professors from Del Mar College. [Click here to register now!](#)

February 23-24 - American Indian Activities at Karankawa

Hosted by Order of the Arrow at the February Lodge Fellowship. This is a Native American cultural awareness program. Come find out more about American Indian Activities and the roll of Order of the Arrow in Scouting. All BSA members are invited including Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouts members! Special Cub activities planned.

March 2 - 2023 Eagle Scout Class Reception

All 2023 Eagle Scouts from across the council are invited to attend and join in the celebration and the recognition of the top 10 Eagle Scout Service Projects. The highlight of the ceremony is the awarding of the South Texas Council's Glenn A. and Melinda W. Adams Service Project of the Year Award.

The reception will be at 3pm at Del Mar College. This is a free event, and all are welcomed. Registration is required for program planning. [RSVP Here](#).

March 16 - Workday at Karankawa

The day will run from 8am-5pm and is coordinated by the Camp Karankawa maintenance committee. Bring your water, sunscreen, work gloves, and great attitude! All volunteers will receive a camp service patch for participating. For more information contact the Camp Maintenance Committee Chairmen, Doug Manheimer at ManheimerD@bayltd.com

March 22-24 - Cub Family Campout at Karankawa

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 adventures 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!](#)

April 6th - Workday at Camp Huisache

Come ready to trim trees, pick up trash, and clean trails! The workday runs from around 8-11:30am. Bring your sunscreen and water! For more information and to RSVP [click here!](#)

April 12-14 - Council Camporee @ McGloin Ranch

The 2024 Council Camporee will be held at the McGloin Ranch near Old San Patricio on April 12-14 and will have an Irish theme. Troops, Crews, Ships, and Posts - we hope everyone will be able to attend! [Click here to register!](#)

April 19-20 - Cub Family Campout at Camp Huisache

Cub Scouts of all ages are invited to join the *Mystery Team* during our Cub Scout Investigator themed Spring Family Campout! Along with tons of Scouting fun, we will also work on advancement from the Cub Scout program.
[Click here to register now!](#)

June - Scouts BSA Summer Camp

Join us for an extra-special 80th anniversary summer camp at Karankawa! Check out the leader's guide [here](#), and [Click here for early registration](#).

June 23-29, 2024 - NYLT Camp Karankawa

Fee: \$325 per participant. [Click here to register](#).

For more information about NYLT contact Francisco Orozco, staff advisor, at 361-816-3868 or francisco.orozco@scouting.org.

Karankawa Karankawa Karankawa

80 Years Old

September 20-22, 2024

Council wide celebration. A weekend full of activities for all ages and programs. More details in the coming months.

Camp Karankawa turns 80 years old in 2024!

Join us for an extra-special fun-filled summer at camp as we celebrate Karankawa's 80th Birthday!

A place above the hill is turning 80 years in 2024, preparation has already started. A celebration event is being planned and summer camp will be celebrating the 80yrs of Camp Karankawa. You do not want to miss out, keep your eye out for more information regarding
Camp Karankawa's 80th birthday!



District Events

Aztec District

- February 3** - Catholic Committee on Scouting Mini Retreat
- February 13** - District Meeting at 6:30pm followed by Parade Meeting at 7:30pm
- February 15** - WBCA Youth Parade 5PM
- February 17** - Council Coordinated Meeting
- March 8-10** - Merit Badge Weekend @ Camp Huisache
- March 9** - Pinewood Derby Workshop 10am-12pm
- March 12** - District Meeting 6:30PM
- March 16** - District Pinewood Derby 1PM
- March 21** - FOS Dinner 6:30PM
- April 6** - Camp Cleanup 9AM
- April 9** - District Meeting
- April 19-20** - Cub Family Campout 6PM @ Camp Huisache

Sea Breeze District

- February 8** - Round Table for all leaders and BSA Birthday Party! - Topics are: Activity Planning & Risk Management, and Planning High Adventure Treks @6PM Council Flourney Service Center
- February 17** - Council Coordinated Meeting
- February 24** - District Pinewood Derby
- February 28** - District Committee Meeting
- March 7** - Roundtable for all leaders - Topic: Year-round Planning @6PM Council Service Center
- March 12** - Commissioners Meeting
- March 27** - District Committee Meeting
- April 4** - Roundtable for all leaders - Topic: Changes to the Cub Scout Program @6PM Council Flourney Service Center
- April 31** - District Committee Meeting

May 2 - Roundtable for all leaders - Topic: Summer of Scouting @6PM Council Flournoy Service Center

La Salle District

February 8 - District Committee Meeting

February 17 - Council Coordinated Meeting

February 24 - District Pinewood Derby

March 14 - District Committee Meeting - Fireside Chat with Council Key Three

April 11 - District Committee Meeting

Phoenix District

February 8 - District Meeting

February 17 - Council Coordinated Meeting

February 17 - Merit Badge College @ Del Mar College

March 21 - District Meeting

April 18 - District meeting

Venado District

February 8 - District Roundtable Meeting 6-7PM

February 17 - Council Coordinated Meeting

March 2 - Venado District Pinewood Derby

April 11 - District Roundtable Meeting 6-7PM

Order of the Arrow News



February 22-23 Order of the Arrow Fellowship.

This is a Native American Cultural Program. Come participate in American Indian Activities. All BSA members are invited - Cubs, Scouts, and all Registered members! Special Cub activities planned. There will be a Lodge Annual Banquet Saturday evening. Guest Speaker is Augie Rivera, past council president and Vigil Honor Member.

For more information contact Sharon Swize Ssswize@hotmail.com or David Hebert at David.Hebert@Scouting.org.

Cub Scout Day Camps!

Summer Will Be Here Before You Know It!

Cub Scout Day Camps are facilitated by local councils. They are offered as a three or five day event and provide opportunities to make new friends, earn new adventures, and participate in special activities.

District Day Camp Summer Schedule:

Seabreeze - June 17-21. For more information contact Pauline at ppaycheck82@gmail.com.

Venado - TBD

Phoenix - TBD

Aztec - TBD

La Salle - TBD



Adventure Awaits!

Registration for 2025 high adventure treks opened in January. Do not miss the opportunity for you and your Scouts to experience the trip of lifetime! BSA has 4 unique high adventure base destinations that provide world class experiences.



Northern Tier

Sea Base

Philmont Scout Ranch

Summit Bechtel Reserve

Woodbadge

October 4-6, 2024
November 2-3, 2024
Camp Karankawa

Wood Badge is an advanced national leadership course open only to Scouting volunteers and professionals. Scouters from Cub Scouting, Scouts BSA, Venturing, Sea Scouts, Explorers, and district & council Scouters -- all are encouraged to attend.

The training focuses on enhancing listening skills, conflict resolution, leadership styles, team development, coaching & mentoring, project planning, and more! This multi-day course is taught through a series of presentations, games, discussions, activities, and other engaging learning methods.

The course will help you better understand how all the Scouting programs tie together. It will provide you with many useful leadership tools to help enable our youth to have the best possible Scouting experience. There is no better time to attend a Wood Badge course and make a difference in your unit than right now!

Fee: \$325 Before August 31, \$350 After August 31.

For more information, please contact:

David Hebert at David.Hebert@scouting.org or Jennifer Swan at jswan0529@gmail.com



[Click Here to Register!](#)

Exciting News About the Cub Scout Program!

By Michele Gaines

Cub Scouts are getting a major upgrade!

5 years of hard work and research, coupled with a close look at how the Cub Scout program is actually used by the, 'boots on the ground' has lead to a revamp of the curriculum. The new program is fun, simple, and easy for leaders (seasoned or new) to deliver Scouting in a meaningful way to Cubs.

The program hasn't lost anything. In fact, just the opposite is true. The underutilized parts of the program, (like awards) have been redesigned into elective adventures where they will be closer at hand for leaders, and be offered to Cubs more regularly.

A few key highlights:

- The required adventures have been realigned to create an organized and systematic path from rank to rank.
- Tons of elective adventures have been added to keep challenging Scouts throughout the year.
- Many of the traditional Scout activities like camping, fishing, biking and swimming have been added as elective adventures at each rank to encourage Scouts to keep doing the things Scouting is known for.
- The program has been realigned so each grade level has their own rank.

These exciting renovations are only a sampling of the great things to come. Your Scouts may not notice the upgrades, but volunteer Scout leaders will definitely notice how much easier it is to run a den meeting, and new parents will be able to understand the program with ease.

Look for new Scout handbooks to hit the Scout Shop soon.

The program upgrades go live June 1, ensuring the 2024-2025 Cub Scout year will be amazing!

[Click here for more information on the new Cub Scout Program Updates.](#)

Council Program Calendar

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

Stay Connected!

