



STC Chronicles

South Texas Council Scouting Updates

Quick Highlights

- Jan 12-14 - Webelos Scouting Adventures
- Jan 25 - Camp Card Kickoff
- Jan 27 - RSO Training @ Service Center
- Jan 27 - Council Awards Reception
- Feb 8 - BSA's 115th Anniversary - Happy Birthday!
- Feb 17 - Council Coordinated Meeting
- Feb 17 - Merit Badge College @ Del Mar
- Feb 23-24 - OA Fellowship @ Karankawa
- March 2 - Eagle Scout Reception
- March 16 - Workday at Camp Karankawa
- March 22-24 - Cub Family Campout @K
- April 12-14 - Council Camporee!
- April 19-20 - Cub Family Campout @ H
- April 27-28 - Exploring, Sea, Venturing @ K
- June 9-15 and June 16-22 - Karankawa's 80th Birthday Summer Camp!
- June 23-29 - NYLT @ Camp Karankawa



Do you know someone who does not receive the newsletter but wants to? Have them email their District Executive and ask to be added!

Scouting Forward

At the end of December, the council held its 29th annual Scouts BSA Winter Camp with over 150 youth and more than 60 adult leaders attending. Seeing all the campers and feeling the positive energy at the opening campfire was moving. The Scouting Spirit has returned to South Texas!

Camping is the foundation of the Scouting program. It's in the outdoors that our youth can experience freedom or a release from the stressors of their daily lives. It is a time to relax, be with friends or meet new ones. Camping builds confidence in accomplishing tasks and new skills. Sitting around a campfire, especially during this season, can be special. Memories are made that last for a lifetime.

So go camping, take your pack, troop, crew, ship or post out to Camp Karankawa or Camp Huisache or a state park and enjoy the outdoors and see our youth growth!

May the Great Scoutmaster of all times be with us until we meet again!

Marty Sepulveda
Eagle Scout
Scout Executive & CEO



Council Awards Reception

Recognizing our amazing volunteers for the work and dedication in providing exceptional experiences for our youth is important to the South Texas Council. Everyone should make plans to attend this annual event celebrating the great work of our volunteers and friends.

The annual Council Awards Ceremony and Reception recognizes volunteers from across the council with the prestigious Silver Beaver Award, Vale La Pena Award, Whitney Young Award, Spurgeon Award, and the new Duty to God Award. The council Extra Miler Award for exceptional service to local council programs and services will also be presented. The reception will be held January 27th at 3pm at the First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall in Corpus Christi.



Don't forget to wear your Scout uniform and past award honorees should wear their appropriate award ribbons identifying their past recognition.

This is a free event open to all Scouts, Scouters, and family members. Click here to RSVP for the reception.

Important Reminder: Safety Guidelines for Scout Events

As a reminder, when planning a day camp, short-term camp, long-term camp or unit activity, all programs must comply with the current Guide to Safe Scouting. This serves as our guide in organizing events and ensures that all activities align with age-appropriate guidelines and do not fall under the prohibited list. The Guide to Safe Scouting is updated from time to time, so it is important to refer to it prior to and during the planning process of any event. Over the last several years, there have been updates to the prohibited list, including the prohibition of caber tosses and other "Highland game" type activities. The prohibited list states:

Shooting or throwing sports outside of BSA program literature and guidance. Examples of prohibited activities (with exceptions in italics) include:

- a. Anvil shooting, flintlocks, exploding targets, and devices regulated by the National Firearms Act
- b. Blow guns, boomerangs, and ballistae
- c. Homemade firearms and air cannons, potato cannons, and tennis ball cannons
- d. Throwing of shovels, torpedoes, spikes, stars, shotput, logs, hammers, and cabers
- e. Inappropriate ammunition such as pumpkins, hard slingshot ammo, and tracers
- f. Cannons
- g. Crossbows (*except at the Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve*)
- h. Reloading ammunition, and using reloaded ammunition (*except at Philmont Scout Ranch*)
- i. Spears, including atlatls, pole spears, and spear guns (*except at Philmont Scout Ranch*)



As outlined above, any shooting or throwing sport that is not part of the BSA program literature or guidance is prohibited.

For questions about the Guide to Safe Scouting reach out to heath.safety@scouting.org. For questions about outdoor programs or program planning reach out to outdoorprograms@scouting.org.

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 50% 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.

On Thursday, January 25th at the Council Service Center we will have a special Corpus Christi Area Camp Card Kickoff at 6:30PM. Representatives from several camp card vendors will be in attendance to share with us why they are partnering with Scouting. Door prizes will be given away and you can pick up your Camp Cards! Scout leaders and parents are welcomed to attend. [RSVP here!](#)

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

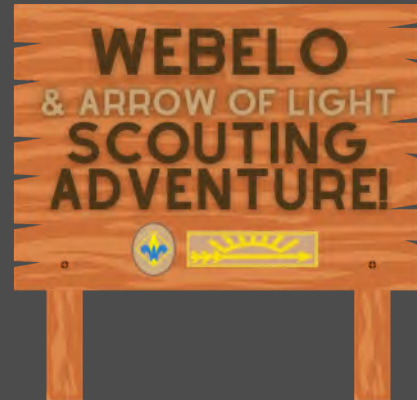
[For more information click here.](#)



Webelos & AOL Scouting Adventure

Deadlines Extended, no Late Fees!

Webelos & Arrow of Light (AOL) Scouting Adventure is a weekend filled with fun events at our great Camp Karankawa. Activity Awards and Scout Skills galore. Come interact with BSA Scout Troops to get a feel for the adventures available at a Troop level. We will offer a rotation style event, where Cub groups will travel to program areas and complete their Adventure. Campfire program, and yummy cooked meals, what other way to transition into our program for young leaders?



While scouts are busy having fun, Families and leaders can learn about the fundamentals of the Scout BSA program and what their role is in a Scout BSA unit. Get all your questions answered in these small group parent and leader sessions.

The Webelos and AOL is January 12-14, 2024 at Camp Karankawa

*Registration Deadline is January 8th.

[Click here for more information.](#)

Contact Robert Mealer at robertmealer37@gmail.com or Francisco.orozco@scouting.org

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 – Corpus Christi, TX

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

January Safety Moment

Carbon Monoxide Poisoning—at Home or Camp

Carbon monoxide (CO) causes upward of 400 deaths and results in the hospitalization of more than 4,000 people each year in the United States, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Many of those falling ill don't know they have CO poisoning because it is a colorless, odorless, and tasteless gas. With proper inspection and housekeeping, Scouts and community members alike can prevent CO poisoning.



Causes of CO Release and Exposure

CO is a byproduct of many of your day-to-day activities. It is found in the fumes from gas stoves and lanterns, fireplaces, and the burning of charcoal, as well as from motor vehicles such as cars and boats. Additionally, CO poisoning most often occurs when the fumes are released within the confines of a small or closed-off room.

Sources of CO

Car left running
Portable generators
Portable kerosene or gas heaters/lanterns
Loose or broken ventilation pipes
Improperly installed kitchen range or vent
Operating a grill indoors or in garage
Gas or wood-burning fireplace

(Possible) Symptoms of Poisoning

Headache
Weakness
Dizziness
Nausea
Confusion
Disorientation
Sleepiness

[More information on Carbon Monoxide safety can be found here.](#)

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.

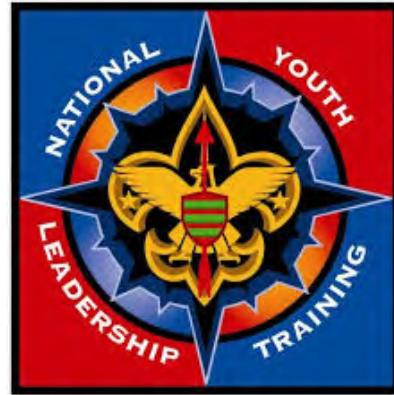
NYLT is a six-day course. Content is delivered in a troop and patrol outdoor setting with an emphasis on immediate application of learning in a fun environment. Interconnecting concepts and work processes are introduced early, built upon, and assisted by the use of memory aids, which allow participants to understand and employ the leadership skills much faster.

In order to attend a NYLT course, a youth must have the following qualifications by the beginning of the course:

- Must be a registered member of a Scouting unit.
- Must have a current BSA Health and Medical Record form parts A, B, and C.
- As of March 1, 2019, Scouts BSA members (male and female) must be at least 13. They must have completed Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops. Scouts are required to earn the First Class rank before attending NYLT.
- Venturers and Sea Scouts (male and female) must be at least 14, or 13, have completed the eighth grade, and fall within the maximum age allowance for their program. They must have completed Introduction to Leadership Skills for Crews or Ships. It is recommended that they have had at least one year of camping experience. While NYLT is not an outdoor skills course, it is important that each participant have basic camping and outdoor cooking experience.
- Have a unit leader recommendation.

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



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!](#)



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:

- 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.](#)

Events

January 12-14 - Webelos & AOL Scouting Adventure

The weekend is geared towards introducing Webelos/ AOL scouts and families to the Scout BSA program. Scouts will be able to earn some AOL advancement and learn about the Scout BSA program. Families and leaders will be taught about the fundamentals of the Scout BSA program and what their role is in a Scout BSA unit. We will answer any questions any parents and leaders may have.

[Click here for more information.](#)

Contact Robert Mealer at robertmealer37@gmail.com or Francisco.oroazco@scouting.org

January 25 - Camp Card Kickoff

At 6:30 PM at the Council Service Center we will have a special Corpus Christi Area Camp Card Kickoff. All units are encouraged to attend! [RSVP Here](#).

January 27 - Council Awards Reception

The reception will be held at 3pm at the First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall in Corpus Christi. This is a free event open to all Scouts and family members. Come support your local scouters! Click here to RSVP for the reception.

January 27 - Range Safety Officer Training

Join us for a National Rifle Association (NRA) Range Safety Officer (RSO) Certification class from 8am-12pm at the Council Service Center. Participants must be at least 21 years old. At least one person with an RSO certification in addition to an NRA certified instructor in the discipline of the planned activity is required at all unit level shooting sports events, including pistol and muzzleloading classes at all levels as well as all catapult, paintball, chalk ball, and cowboy action events. [For more information click here.](#) [To register for the class click Here!](#)

February 17 - Council Coordinated Meeting

This quarter's focus is a District Committee workshop with a emphasis on the impact District Teams play in the success of units.

The next Council Coordinated Meeting will be held at Del Mar College Windward Campus on Old Brownsville Road. Gathering begins at 9:30 and the meeting will start at 10AM.

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 - Eagle Scout 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.



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

January 9 - District Meeting
January 27 - Council Awards Reception
February 13 - District Meeting
February 15 - WBCA Youth Parade
February 17 - Council Coordinated Meeting

Sea Breeze District

January 4 - Round Table for all leaders.
January 9 - Commissioners Meeting.
January 31 - District Committee Meeting
February 8 - Round Table for all leaders.
February 17 - Council Coordinated Meeting
February 24 - District Pinewood Derby
February 28 - District Committee Meeting

La Salle District

January 11 - District Committee Meeting
February 8 - District Committee Meeting
February 17 - Council Coordinated Meeting
February 24 - District Pinewood Derby

Phoenix District

January 11 - District Meeting
February 8 - District Meeting
February 17 - Council Coordinated Meeting
February 17 - Merit Badge College @ Del Mar College

Venado District

January 11 - District Roundtable Meeting 6-9PM
January 22 - Venado District Banquet 6-7:30PM
February 8 - District Roundtable Meeting 6-9PM
February 17 - Council Coordinated Meeting

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.

Individuals who serve as camp director, program director or staff adviser must be nationally certified by taking the National Camping School Day Camp Administration training.

Does your District have a Day Camp?

It's time to start planning for the 2024 camping year!

Theme: Outdoor Adventures!

We need day camp certified leaders in each district for next year's day camps.

If you are interested in getting trained, please contact Alexandra Manrique at alexandra.manrique@scouting.org



Cub Scout Day Camp Training Dates:

March 2-3, 2024 at Camp Strake – Sam Houston Area Council

March 23-24, 2024 at Camp James Ray – Circle Ten Council

Have you filled out your Unit Money-Earning Application?

The Money-Earning Application is a helpful guide for Units as they plan customized fundraising projects. All units must submit their application at least two weeks before committing to their money-earning projects.

Click [here](#) to download the Unit Money-Earning Application

More information on Money-Earning Guidelines can be found [here](#).

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!](#)

Council Program Calendar

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