



Alameda Area District

Golden Gate Area Council
Scouting America

December 2024 newsletter.
For parents, Scouters, and professionals of Alameda Area District.

Upcoming Events

- *No December Roundtable.*
- Dec 12 - [Cub Scout Leader Specific Training - Session B](#)
- Thu Jan 2 - [District Operations Committee](#) Meeting
- Wed Jan 8 - [Roundtable](#)
- Sat Jan 11 - [Winter Camp Awareness Training \(WCA\)](#)
- Sat Jan 25 - [LEAD \(Leader Education And Discovery\) 2024](#)
- Sat Jan 25 - Sun Jan 26 - [Baloo Winter Training](#)
- Wed Feb 5 - [District Operations Committee](#) Meeting
- Wed Feb 5 - [HAT Okpik Basic Snow Camping Awareness Indoor Session](#)
- Wed Feb 12 - [Roundtable](#)
- Sat Feb 15 - Mon Feb 17 [Klondike Derby- Units](#)
- Sat Feb 15 - Mon Feb 17 - [National Youth Leadership Training Session 1](#)
- Sat Feb 22 - [Peralta Cup Pinewood Derby](#)
- Sat Feb 21 - Mon Feb 23 - [National Youth Leadership Training Session 2](#)
- Sat Feb 22 - Sun Feb 23 [HAT Okpik Basic Snow Camping Awareness Outdoor Session](#)
- Thu Mar 7 - [District Operations Committee](#) Meeting
- Wed Mar 12 - [Roundtable](#)
- Fri Mar 20 - Sun Mar 22 [Wood Badge - Spring 2026 - Weekend 1](#)
- Wed Apr 2 - [District Operations Committee](#) Meeting
- Fri Apr 4 - Sun Apr 6 - Camporee - Rancho Los Mochos
- Wed Apr 9 - [Roundtable](#)
- Sat Apr 18 - Sun Apr 19 [Wood Badge - Spring 2026 - Weekend 2](#)
- Sat Apr 26 - Sun Apr 27 [Tiger Cub Safari - Session 1](#)
- Thu May 1 - [District Operations Committee](#) Meeting
- Fri May 2 - Sun May 4 - Camporee - Camp Tamarancho
- Sat May 3 - Sun May 4 - [Tiger Cub Safari - Session 2](#)
- Fri May 2 - Sun May 4 - [Mom & Cub Camp - Session 1](#)
- Wed May 14 - [Roundtable](#)
- Fri May 16 - Sun May 18 - [Mom & Cub Camp - Session 2](#)

District Operations Committee Meeting Highlights



Camping Committee

- 2025 May Camporee at Camp Tamarancho has been booked.
- 2026 Spring Camporee will be booked for Rancho Los Mochos on May 1st-3rd.
- 2026 Fall event will be a Jamboree where troops will have a normal campout, and Cub Scout family camp will be held at the same time. October 2nd-4th.

Order of the Arrow (OA)

- April Camporee planning is ongoing. The theme is "Mario". Wekemnayon village is developing the program, the budget has been submitted.
- May Camporee planning is ongoing. The theme is "Medieval". Kaweah village is developing the program.
- Winter Camp Awareness preparation and training is ongoing in both villages.
- Klondike Derby is scheduled for Feb 15th-17th at Tahoe Valley Campground
- The two villages will be holding a joint bowling event and fellowship on Dec 12th

Friends of Scouting

- Giving Tuesday raised mostly through small donations.
- GGAC is at 75% of the FOS goal.
- Doners can designate donations to a specific District, Program, Camp, Event, or any other item that has its own budget item.

Training

- Council wide we only have 76% of leaders trained. Our district is at 31.73%.
- YPT is 99.4% trained, missing are only those whose certificate recently expired.
- Cub Scout Leader Specific training 12/5 and 12/12
- Troop Leader Specific in February
- [LEAD registration](#) is open and will be offering various Leader Specific training.
- The new Council Training Chair will be Linda Ransom.

Nominating

- Our District Chair will be stepping down at the end of the year.
- We need a chair for the Nominating Committee to replace our District Chair and help identify prospective candidates for other district committees.

Special Needs

- Some new volunteers are also interested in the [Council Special Needs Committee](#) (SNDC) .
- Active team building:
 - Physical Disabilities – Ed Barnes & We Truex
 - Advancement and practical application – Linda Owczarz
 - Mental Emotional Social Health (MESH) – Graham Weisner
- The district committee is working with the council SNDC to present eight courses at LEAD 2025. This includes two courses from the National SNDC, including MESH for special needs youth.

Special Events

- Planning for the [Peralta Cup](#) Pinewood Derby is ongoing. The committee has confirmed the site for the racing, but has not completed acquiring the site for the workshop.

- WCA and Klondike Derby are scheduled. Our district OA youth are part of the presentation teams and helping run the event.
- Advancement Day. May 10th, the Saturday before Mother's Day. Currently recruiting Merit Badge Counselors for any merit badge. The event will provide Two 3-hour sessions, or one 6-hour session, and allow a self-guided tour of the USS Hornet.
- The District Recognition Event on May 14th is looking for a Committee and Volunteers to put on the event.

Communications

- A [membership tool](#) is now available to give Unit Leaders and Commissioners a quick overview of the status of current invitations and applications to join Scouting.

Program Highlights

RECRUITING RECOGNITION



Our council has a patch program for recruiters.

- If a scout recruits 3 youth to join, they can earn a special silver patch.
- 5 youth recruited earns a gold patch.
- Submit a request for the patch on Black Pug (link forthcoming)

Our council also has a limited number of gifts for brand new Scout Youth.

- A SF Giants camp with a special GGAC patch embedded.
- Contact [Mari Obledo](#), the District Director, for more information.

CUB SCOUTING - SHOOTING SPORTS DAYS



Saturday, April 5 - Camp Herms

The last Shooting Sports day had 80+ participants, but we had many last-minute cancellations. These also included wait list registrations which prevented those wanting to attend from registering.

Fall Shooting Sports Day - Rancho Los Mochos

The next fall event will be in conjunction with Family Camp at Rancho Los Mochos.

Details for both events to be announced in the future.

Add this event to your calendar
[Apple/ICS](#) [®] [Google](#) [Outlook](#) [Yahoo!](#) [AOL](#)

CUB SCOUTING - BALOO TRAINING

Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation



BALOO is the Cub Scout leader training required for any Cub Scout den or pack outdoor event, including pack camping overnights and Webelos den overnights.

Winter Session

Diablo Valley College & Camp Herms
Saturday January 25, 2025 | 8:00am to
Sunday, January 26, 2025 | 2:00pm

Add this event to your calendar
[Apple/ICS](#) [®] [Google](#) [Outlook](#) [Yahoo!](#) [AOL](#)

PERALTA CUP - PINEWOOD DERBY



Peralta Cup

Saturday, February 22, 2025.
Impound opens at 8:30 a.m.
Race commences at 10 a.m.
[KaiserAir, Inc. - Oakland Jet Center](#)
8735 Earhart Rd. Oakland CA, 94621

Build Your Car Nights

January 22 and 23, 2025.
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
[Montera Middle School](#) woodshop classroom
5555 Ascot Dr, Oakland, CA 94611

Add this event to your calendar
[Apple/ICS](#) [®] [Google](#) [Outlook](#) [Yahoo!](#) [AOL](#)

SCOUTS BSA - WINTER CAMP AWARENESS



[Saturday, January 11 2025, USS Hornet](#)

This council wide event is put on by experienced members of the Order of the Arrow and is a great way for new Scouts to Be Prepared for cold weather camping.

Training sessions include [Sleeping Warm, Stoves and Fuel, First Aid, Tents and Terrain, Winter Foods, and Winter Clothing](#). Camping in 15-degree weather is not for the unprepared. Attending this session will give your troop everything they need to plan a successful and safe event in frigid conditions. There is the added plus that all sessions will be on the U.S.S. Hornet which served in WWII, Korea, Vietnam, and the Apollo space program. After the training, attendees may continue to tour the Hornet (at no additional cost) for the rest of the afternoon.

Add this event to your calendar

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SCOUTS BSA - KLONDIKE DERBY



February 14-17, 2025

Tahoe Valley Campground in South Lake Tahoe
Details to be announced in the future.

Add this event to your calendar

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SCOUTS BSA - CAMPOREES



April 4 - 6, 2025

Rancho Los Mochos
Details to be announced in the future.

Add this event to your calendar

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May 2 - 4, 2025

Location and details to be announced in the future.

Add this event to your calendar
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DISTRICT RECOGNITION GATHERING



May 14, 2025

At the May Roundtable
Details and Nomination forms to to be provided
in the future.

Add this event to your calendar
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CUB SCOUTING - POSITION SPECIFIC TRAINING



Spring 2025

Details to be announced in the future.

CUB SCOUTING - DAY CAMP



June 2025

Details to be announced in the future.
Staff volunteers welcome.

SCOUTS BSA - PERALTA EAGLE RECOGNITION 2025



June 2025

Traditional event to recognize Eagle Scouts in Oakland.
Details to be announced in the future.

CUB SCOUTING - FALL RECRUITMENT 2025



This will be held in the August / September timeframe.
Details to be announced in the future.

SCOUTS BSA - ADULT TRAINING

Scoutmaster Specific Training Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills



October 2025

Details to be announced in the future.

District Meetings

Roundtable

[Cub Scout and Scouts BSA roundtables](#) are a time to share ideas and information on making the unit programs excel in serving the youth of the units. They are also a time to get advice from experienced Scouters on being a leader or committee member.

Roundtables will be held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month starting in September, starting at 7:00 p.m. at the Joaquin Miller Community Center
[3594 Sanborn Dr, Oakland, CA 94602](#)

All Unit Leaders and Committee Chairs are encouraged to attend, but it is open to anyone interested.

Add these events to your calendar

[Multiple date ICS file](#) [Ⓢ]

NOTE: There will be no roundtable gathering in December.

District Operations Committee (DOC)

The DOC meets to coordinate the many activities, teams, and events of the district which allow us to provide program opportunities and aid to the units and to the various Scouting programs.

The DOC meetings will alternate between the first Wednesday and first Thursday of each month to accommodate those volunteers and committee chairs who have existing commitments.

The DOC will meet on the first Thursday of the month for odd months: (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov)

The DOC will meet on the first Wednesday of the month for even months: (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec)

DOC meetings will be at the:

Alameda Program Office,
[714 Everett Street, Alameda, CA 94501.](#)

The **District Commissioner's meeting** will be held prior to the DOC meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the same location.

Interested Scouters are encouraged contact our District Chair who is always looking for volunteers to aid in the various [District Committees](#).

Add these events to your calendar

[Multiple date ICS file](#) [Ⓢ]

Training

Trained Leaders

Overall only 31.73% of district Scouters are trained for their positions Committee Members and Assistant Scoutmasters are the least trained.

We encourage you to take advantage of the training opportunities described below. Most training can also be done online.

The Position Specific Requirements can be found [here](#).

The training courses are here:

[Cub Scouting](#) online training

[Scouts BSA](#) online training

[Venturing](#) online training

[Sea Scouting](#) online training

[Exploring](#) online training

You are encouraged to set a goal of doing the initial "Before the First Meeting" online courses, for your position, within the next 30 days. The total time commitment should be 20-70 minutes depending on your position.

Training Status Dashboard

You can check the training status of your unit using our [Training Status dashboard](#).

If a Scouter's record is incorrect, please contact your Unit Commissioner, or the District Training Chair to have it corrected.

Resources



Unit Leaders

Are you able to connect with every Scout in your unit?
Do you notice any who struggle with some aspect of scouting, but you don't have a solution in sight?
(And who doesn't sometimes?)

Never fear, resources are here! Two in fact that are one click away:

- The [Special Needs Committee of GGAC](#) page.

- The [Inclusion Toolbox from ABLESCOUTS](#)

- Your friendly Alameda Area district Special Needs Committee

Recruiting

Social Media

The Golden Gate Area Council can help promote your community recruiting event. They can target ads on Meta platforms (Facebook, etc.) to your local area. For more information contact the [District Webmaster](#).

BeAScout

[BeAScout](#) is the primary way for interested parents to find a local unit, and contact you. Please check your entry for accuracy and completeness. The [BeAScout dashboard](#) on our District Web Page can help you. We will be contacting Unit Leaders and Committee Chairs to work with you to ensure your entry will help recruit new members.

Invitations and Applications

A [membership tool](#) is available to give Unit Leaders and Commissioners a quick overview of the status of current invitations and applications to join Scouting.

Unit Websites

If your unit does not have a website, please contact the [District Webmaster](#), as we can host a simple webpage to give your prospective recruits information about your unit. Checkout the [samples](#) to see what we can do for you. Currently we are posting only a limited number of images, of small size, for each unit.

District Information

Social Media

- Our [District Website](#), where you can find information on upcoming events, training, and activities.
- Our [District Facebook page](#), for discussions about district activities, and to get ideas and help from experienced volunteers and professionals.

Our District Key 3

District Chair
Suzanne Martin

District Commissioner
Rose Godfrey

District Director
Maria Obledo