

Alameda Area District

Golden Gate Area Council Scouting & America

June 2025 newsletter.
For parents, Scouters, and professionals of Alameda Area District.

Upcoming Events

Visit the <u>Upcoming Events</u> page on our district website for events in the extended future.

- Jun 20-22, 2025, Wolf & Bear Adventure Camp, Rancho Los Mochos
- Jun 23-27,2025, <u>Alameda District Cub Scout Day Camp</u>, Marina Park in San Leandro
- Jun 29 Jul 5, 2025, Ocean to the Redwoods Adventure, Camp Royaneh
- Jul 2, 2025, GGAC Good Scout Award dinner, Marina Community Center, San Leandro.
- Jul 11-13, 2025, Family Vacation Camp, Camp Wolfeboro
- Jul 29 Aug 2, 2025, Webelos and Arrow of Light Adventure Camp, Camp Royaneh
- Aug 13, Roundtable Scouts BSA, Zoom
- Aug 15-17, 2025, OA End of Summer Induction, Camp Royaneh
- Aug 22-24, 2025, <u>Muslim Camporee</u>, Wente Scout Reservation
- Aug 28, 2025, District Gathering/ Fall Program Kick Off and Meet and Greet, Location to be determined
- Aug 29 Sep 1, 2025, <u>Family Vacation Camp Labor Day</u>, Wente Scout Reservation
- Aug 29 Sep 1, 2025, Family Vacation Camp Labor Day, Camp Royaneh
- Sep 6-7, BALOO Training, Camp Herms
- Sep 12-14, 2025, Wood Badge Fall 2025 Part I, Camp Herms
- Sep 20-21, 2025, Wilderness First Aid, Camp Herms
- Oct 3-5, 2025 OA Fall Induction, Rancho Los Mochos
- Oct 4-5, 2025 Web-O-Ree, Camp Herms
- Oct 11-12, 2025, Wood Badge Fall 2025 Part II, Camp Royaneh
- Oct 11-12, 2025, New Cub Scout Boo Camp Camping Connection, Rancho Los Mochos
- Oct 18-19, BALOO Training, Camp Herms
- Oct 18-19, Cub Scout Boo Camp, Rancho Los Mochos
- Oct 25-26, AOL-O-Ree, Camp Herms

District Operations Committee Meeting Highlights



Finance

- Friends of Scouting
 - Previous Year Doner contact helpers needed to call those who have not re-donated. Contact our <u>District Executive</u> if you can help
 - Family FOS
 - Chris Dempsey is chair and has been visiting most of the units.
 - Over \$44,000 raised so far of our \$65,000 goal
 - Community FOS
 - So far has been below expectations
 - Fund Raising dinner: Alameda Area District Good Scout Award Honoring William McDonald Alameda County Fire Chief, July 2, 2025, 5:00 - 8:00pm Marina Community Center San Leandro GGAC - Good Scout Award
- Popcorn
 - For more information and resources visit the GGAC Popcorn Page
 - Rick Wong of pack 765 is our district chair
 - 40 of our district units have started selling this year, 82 units council wide.
 - 35% of Sales stays with the Scout or Unit
 - Prices on popcorn are mostly \$20, with one offering at \$30.
 - Some youth who have sold \$3500 of product have paid for their Summer Camp / Day Camp fees.
 - Looking to have <u>training sessions</u> on the 9th, 10th, and 11th of July on selling popcorn.

Membership

- Unit and Charter Organization updates
 - Pack 73 Alameda started with 5 cubs and is now at 50 and feels they are at their limit.
 - Four potential chartered organizations have expressed interest in starting Packs in Hayward, Alameda, and Oakland.
 - Pack 612 San Leandro is awaiting the COR/Executive signature to start recruiting.
 - Two potential organizations in Oakland have been identified to restart Packs that they once chartered.

Nominating

• The prospective District Commissioner has had to remove his name from consideration due to personal reasons. A new candidate has been identified and the committee has started talking with the candidate.

Unit Service

- Rose is asking units to self identify their needs so the commissioner staff can best serve the units in need.
 - Perception is that May and June are hard on unit leaders, and they need a break.
- Upcoming community events for recruiting opportunities

Oakland Octoberfest

Alameda Art and Wine Festival

San Leandro Cherry Festival

Farmers Markets in various locations

Castro Valley Rodeo Parade

Alameda 4th of July Parade

Advancement

- Last month our district had 5 new Eagle Scouts, and 1 new Quartermaster
- The Trail to Eagle guidelines have been updated
 - BSA Guide to Advancement The Eagle Rank
 - GGAC Life to Eagle Trail
 - o GGAC Eagle Extension Guidelines

- Eagle and Quartermaster certificates are being held up waiting for the president's signature.
- Scoutbook will show the date of earning these awards, and can be used to get the regalia from the Scout store.
- The Council office free Eagle Hardware on hand, one per Eagle, that they will give out ahead of the certificates if needed for an Eagle Court.

Training

- GGAC Training Page
- Safeguarding Youth Training is replacing Youth Protection Training.
 - Prior certificate is still valid until it expires.
 - https://goldengatescouting.org/youth-protection/
- Wood Badge -
 - GGAC Wood Badge Fall 2025

Camp Herms, Friday 09-12-2025 7 am to Sunday 09-14-2025 5 pm and

Camp Royaneh, Saturday 10-11-2025 7 am to Sunday 10-12-2025 5 pm

- Philmont Course in September
 - Hosted by other councils, but you can apply to join their course
- <u>Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation</u> BALOO (Cub Scouts)
 - Choose from two courses scheduled at this time.
 - Camp Herms: Saturday 09-06-2025 8:30 am to Sunday 09-07-2025 1:30 pm
 - Camp Herms: Saturday 10-18-2025 7:30 am to Sunday 10-19-2025 12:30 pm

Day Camp

• Our day camp has 15 youth signed up of a goal of 20 youth.

Camping

- We need a Camporee Chair and a Youth Chair
 - Camporee is May 1-3, 2026
 - Jamboree is October 2-5, 2026
 - Will work with OA Village(s) to help staff and plan the event.
- Request all unit leaders to send their Summer Camp, Long Cruise, or High Adventure plans to Alex Garcia. The location, and expected participant count is needed.

Activities

- Units are requested to enter Camping and Activities, and participants into Scoutbook Plus.
- Eleven Canoes, twelve Kayaks, personal floatation devices, and trailers are available for Scouting units of the GGAC at the Alameda Program Office. A deposit is required.

Service Hours

• Units are doing good, but are encouraged to report the service hours in Scoutbook Plus.

Special Needs Scouting

- Pomeroy Recreation & Rehabilitation Center in San Francisco is starting up a special needs unit that will include both Pack and Troop activities for participants.
 - This is still a work in progress.
 - These will be mostly 13-18 years old, but this can vary according to the needs of the participants.

 Socializing and making friends is the focus, not the traditional Scouting America aims.

Program Highlights

Safeguarding Youth Training





Scouting America has updated its essential safety training, changing the name from Youth Protection Training (YPT) to Safeguarding Youth Training (SYT).

This refreshed training offers a stronger focus on the SAFE initiative, includes updated guidance on technology and online threats, and features real volunteers in authentic Scouting scenarios.

SYT is now available on <u>my.Scouting</u>, and all leaders, parents, and volunteers, are encouraged to complete it to help maintain a safe and supportive environment for every Scout.

Your prior YPT training certificate is still valid until it normally expires.

New Aquatics Supervision Manual



Scouting America has released an updated version of the Aquatics Supervision Manual, providing the latest safety guidelines, training standards, and best practices for aquatic activities, including swimming, canoeing, paddleboarding, and snorkeling.

This resource is designed to support unit leaders, camp staff, and volunteers in delivering safe and effective aquatics programming. The revised manual is now available online: <u>Aquatics Supervision Manual</u>.

Pack Meeting Resources



Whether you're a new or experienced Cub Scout Leader or somewhere in between, whether you have a giant pack or a tiny pack, Scouting America has created a new <u>Cub Scout pack meeting resource page</u> for you.

Some topic provided include:

- The 4 types of Pack Meetings
- Parts of a Pack Meeting
- Pack Meeting Plans
- Cub Scout Fun and Games
- Cub Scout Presentations and Ceremonies

Resource Links



Scouting America has created a <u>Commissioner Resource Links PDF</u> to make it easier to find important online documents and other resource.

These links also include resources that are useful for all Leaders and Committee Members.

It includes:

- General Tools For Commissioners
- General Resources for Unit Leaders.
- Resource links for Cub Scouts
- Resource links for Scouts BSA
- Resource links for Venturing
- Resource links for Sea Scouting
- Resource links for Exploring

CUB SCOUT CAMPING

Check out the GGAC Cub Scout Camping page



 This Cub Camp is open to all Boys and Girls (Cub Scouts) entering the 1st – 5th Grade.

Marina Park San Leandro Monday 06-23-2025 8:30 AM PT to Friday 06-27-2025 4:30 PM PT

Remember, Day Camp enrollment is based on their rank and grade your scout WILL BE enrolled in Sept of 2025.

Please note that Tigers (Scouts in 1st grade in Sept) must be accompanied full time by their parent/guardian (as a volunteer) if they wish to attend.

Twin Valley Day Camp

June 23-27
 Dublin - Fallon Sports Park

Herms Day Camp

• July 8-11 El Cerrito - Camp Herms

Camp Yunakin

June 16-20
 San Francisco - Golden Gate Park



July 29 - August 2, 2025

Adventure Camp. Our one and only opportunity for **Webelos and Arrow of Light Cub Scouts** to experience 4 full days of resident camp in the great outdoors! Come to our beautiful redwood forest at Camp Royaneh to experience where Cub Scouts understand the importance of Scouting.



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 $^{\circledR}$ Google Outlook Yahoo! AOL

INTERNATIONAL SCOUTING



Upcoming International Scouting Events with BSA Contingents

For more information visit the **GGAC International Scouting** page.



• Norway Jamboree 2025 - Gjøvik, Norway

5th of July - 12th of July 2025

The Norwegian National jamboree, "Speidernes landsleir", is held at Gjøvik from July 5th to July 12th, 2025. The camp is located near Norway's largest lake; Mjøsa, with a view towards Gjøvik city.

All guides and scouts in the age 10-15 and rovers in the 16-25 are invited to the camp as participants. Adults (age 25+) are welcome to join as IST (International Service Team). Jamboree registration is \$350 per person



• Portugal Moot 2025 - Portugal

25th of July - 3rd of August 2025

Join us at this moot events, where the spirit of scouting transcends borders and cultures.

Immerse yourself in a vibrant tapestry of diversity as you connect with fellow scouts from around the globe, forging lifelong friendships and memories.

You need to be at least 18 years old to participate.

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



Briones District hosted

Camp Herms Saturday 10-18-2025 7:30 AM to Sunday 10-19-2025 12:30 PM

Alameda Area District hosted

Details to be announced in the future.

Summer Camp

Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS) will be offered each week at GGAC long-term camps (Wente, Royaneh, Wolfeboro). Check with the camp upon arrival to see if it is being offered for your week.

Completion of Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills requires participation in an overnight hike & campout. Please bring a copy of your membership card or number for record keeping purposes. (not required but highly recommended)

District Volunteers Needed

Our District needs key volunteers to develop and guide the programs used by units and Scouters to provide the program for our youth. You may not see there effect everyday, but without them, the unit programs will be diminished.

If you know someone who has the interest to help, or are interested yourself, please contact our District Executive Alex Garcia.

District Chair

The district chair is the top volunteer Scouting leader of the district, whose job is to motivate a talented team of people. District chairs preside at district committee meetings and represent the district on the council executive board. They are responsible for the membership, program, and fund development functions of the district.

District Membership Chair

This committee gathers information on prospective chartered organizations, helps organize new units, reorganizes dropped units and units not meeting, and recruits new members. It establishes and maintains mutually beneficial relationships with major community organizations and strategic alliances, both those with and without Scouting units.

District Activities and Program Chair

This committee oversees program visibility and a well-balanced schedule of activities for all Scouting units that are provided at the district level. It can provide assistance and coordination with other committees who provide specific activities, events, and training.

Unit Commissioners

As friends, coaches, and counselors of unit leaders, unit commissioners generally operate in the background. They are effective communicators who provide the resources of the district and council to the units they serve.

District Meetings

Roundtable

<u>Cub Scout and Scouts BSA roundtables</u> 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 advise 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.

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 will meet on the first Thursday of each month.

It currently meets at the Alameda Program Office, <u>714 Everett Street</u>, <u>Alameda, CA 94501</u>.

Starting in September, the DOC location will be moved to the Joaquin Miller Community Center 3594 Sanborn Dr, Oakland, CA 94602

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 Executive who is always looking for volunteers to aid in the various <u>District Committees</u>.

Add or update these events to your calendar Prior meetings may be need manual deletion. Multiple date ICS file $^{\textcircled{1}}$

Training

Trained Leaders

Every Scout deserves a trained leader.

Overall only 45.4% of district Scouters are trained for their positions. While this is improving we have a long way to go . Committee Members and Assistant Scoutmasters are the least trained. Check out the <u>Training Status dashboard</u> below for unit and individual training status for each registered position.

The Golden Gate Area Council is very concerned about the number of untrained leaders in our districts and units. It is hoped that the units can reach out to their volunteers to encourage them to get their position specific training, so as to avoid the need to suspend untrained volunteers.

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

The current training requirements for all positions can be found on the Scouting America <u>Position Trained Requirements</u> page.

The training courses are here:

<u>Cub Scouting</u> online training <u>Scouts BSA</u> online training <u>Venturing</u> online training <u>Sea Scouting</u> 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 self or your unit using our <u>Training</u> 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
- The <u>Abilities Digest.</u>
- 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 <u>District Webmaster</u>.

BeAScout

<u>BeAScout</u> is the primary way for interested parents to find a local unit, and contact you. Please check your entry for accuracy and completeness. The

<u>BeAScout dashboard</u> 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 <u>membership tool</u> 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 <u>District</u> <u>Webmaster</u>, as we can host a simple webpage to give your prospective recruits information about your unit. Checkout the <u>samples</u> to see what we can do for you. Currently we are posting only a limited number of images, of small size, for each unit.

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 <u>Alex Garcia</u>, the District Director, for more information.

District Information

Social Media

- Our <u>District Website</u>. where you can find information on upcoming events, training, and activities.
- Our <u>District Facebook page</u>. for discussions about district activities, and to get ideas and help from experienced volunteers and professionals.

Our District Key 3

District Commissioner Rose Godfrey

District Executive Alex Garcia

Golden Gate Area Council - Scouting America, 6601 Owens Drive #100, Pleasanton, CA 94588

<u>Manage Preferences</u>