

LOS PADRES PRESS

News You Can Use

For members of Los Padres Council, BSA
Santa Barbara & San Luis Obispo Counties
February 2020 Edition



BOY SCOUTS
OF AMERICA
LOS PADRES COUNCIL

EXPLORING™
DISCOVER YOUR FUTURE

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Council Executive Message

Dear Scouting Families,

We wanted to reach out to provide some information on a few things that have recently been in the news about the Boy Scouts of America and explain what it all means for Scouting in Los Padres Council. As you may have heard, the national organization is exploring a potential Chapter 11 bankruptcy filing. The national organization is keeping local councils apprised of the direction it is considering and has invited volunteers at the local level to consider participating in the planning.

The national organization has two key objectives: to equitably compensate victims who were harmed during their time in Scouting and to continue to carry out Scouting's mission for years to come.

It is important to know that nothing is changing at the local level. It is also important to know no decisions have been made at the National level regarding a potential filing. The national organization, as well as your local council, remain as

committed as ever to delivering the Scouting program in our area, and to supporting the dedicated volunteers and Scouting families in our communities.

Our Council's regular unit meetings and activities, district and council events, and all other Scouting adventures will continue as usual.

Please be assured that all options under consideration by the national organization, including a potential Chapter 11 filing, are designed to ensure that Scouting continues at all levels.

Our Council President and Scout Executive have been briefed on the situation and have designated an attorney who will work with the newly created Ad Hoc Committee to represent our Council in future discussions.

Our participation in the Ad Hoc Committee does not obligate our Council in any way. Our Council remains an independent nonprofit organization separate from the national organization. The decision of whether our Council will contribute in any way, whether to a potential fund, serve on the Ad Hoc Committee, or provide information, will be made by our local Council Board. Any decision will be made by our local Council board only after careful consideration.

Regardless of any decision, please be assured that your Friends of Scouting (FOS) and other annual donations to the Council will continue to be used to pay for necessary day-to-day expenses that are critical to our ability to provide quality Scouting programs in our communities. Additionally, any restricted donation you have made or plan to make to the council can and will be used only for its designated purpose.

You may also be wondering why the Boy Scout of America is considering these financial options now. The national organization is facing mounting financial strain from a significant increase in litigation related to past instances of abuse. One instance of abuse is one too many, and we are heartbroken that any child was ever harmed during their time in Scouting. It is important to note that the vast majority of these cases date back decades ago, some as far back as the 1940s, but they are surfacing now due to recent changes in numerous states' statute of limitations laws.

As members of the Scouting family, you know that the safety of children in our programs is our absolute top priority. Over many years, we have developed some of the strongest expert-informed youth protection policies found in any youth-serving organization. From mandatory youth protection training to policies like two-deep leadership, no one-on-one interaction between youth and adults, and mandatory reporting of any suspected abuse, our volunteers and employees take youth protection policies and procedures extremely seriously and do their part to help keep kids safe.

In addition to our council staff, the 24/7 Scouts First Helpline (1-844-SCOUTS1) and email address (scouts1st@scouting.org) are also available to assist you in reporting suspected abuse or inappropriate behavior. You can view all our safeguards and watch the youth protection training course that is mandatory for all volunteers and employees at www.scouting.org/youth-safety. In fact, this is a resource that you can share with friends and family who are interested in understanding what the BSA is doing to keep kids safe.

We know you may have additional questions about these issues and stories you see in the news. We created the attached FAQ to address as many of those questions as possible. If your question has not been answered in this letter or in the attached document, please feel free to reach out to us at Los Padres Council. We will do everything we can to provide helpful, transparent responses and ensure your Scouting experience continues to be a great one.

Thank you for your ongoing support and participation in our Scouting programs.

Carlos Cortez

Scout Executive/CEO

Council President Views



Well, January 2020 is the start of a new decade, and the start of my 2nd year as the Los Padres Council President. I think the dawning of a new decade is a little more

momentous than finishing my first year as council president, but it is a big deal for me to be a part of both. My first year was filled with a great deal of scouting activities and council governance. Rancho Alegre obtained permits and saw the construction of the first new buildings since the devastating Whittier Fire in 2017. The council began to thrive under the reorganized two district structure. Both district chairmen and district committees also thrived as they took on the challenge of this new council structure. Thank you to all who helped make this change a positive impact on our scouting families.

We also saw the purchase of a new scout service center in San Luis Obispo. We look forward to the benefits of this addition to the council as we handle the large geographic area of our council. Thanks to all that helped with the move and preparing this new facility to serve our scouting families.

This past year also saw a very big change for scouting with the addition of girl troops as part of the Scouts BSA program. I want to thank and congratulate all those who have assisted with this very important new initiative in scouting. I know this is a big change, but I am confident we will look back on this moment and know this was the right thing to do. Our goal is simple. To make our community better and our youth better citizens and leaders. Thanks for being a part of this special year.

Thank you to all who assisted me in my role as council president. I am ready, and looking forward to my 2nd year...

Trey Pinner

Council President

Rancho Alegre Update

The rebuilding of Rancho Alegre



teaching respect, inspiring wonder

Building at Rancho Alegre continues at a steady pace. All concrete has been poured and all building slabs are in place. The Resident Staff two and three bedroom houses have all walls and roof up with interior framing. The windows have been installed and the electrical and plumbing are nearing completion. Siding has been attached to all the houses. Trenching for Gas and Electricity to these buildings was completed, exterior painting, dry walling and aluminum roofing are next to be completed.

The Outdoor School Dorm buildings are going up! The first dorm has the walls and roof in place and now has the interior framing work being completed. A Second Dorm has begun with the walls being assembled and the roof is expected to be in place by end of January.

Environmental Studies were completed for Tequepis Creek Spring Water Line and the U.S. Forest Service has given permission for the water line to be constructed with environmental provisions. This is approximately 1.5 miles of water line to be reinstalled due to destruction from the mud slides of winter 2018 and 2019. The lines, once rebuilt, will go directly to the water treatment plant and then into the camp water tank. Watch for future updates and pictures.

The Anacapa/Anapamu Dorm is being renovated. New plumbing has been installed in the bathrooms and showers. New electrical lines have been installed and a new ceiling is now in place. Interior painting will begin at end of January early February.

A big thank you to the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians Foundation for their generous gift of \$100,000 toward the Rancho Alegre rebuild. This is from the proceeds of their annual Chumash Charity Golf Classic.



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Council Commissioner Update

Happy 2020 Scouts and Scouters!

We had a good year, in 2019, thanks to all of you! Despite many changes in our membership, looming issues with National BSA over the pending lawsuits, and still being in the process of rebuilding Rancho Alegre, there is much to be thankful for. We witnessed great growth in our Scouts BSA Troops with more young women joining our ranks as Scouts. As is usual for our Council we also saw many of our Scouts attain the rank of Eagle Scout, a wide path that becomes very narrow, that many Scouts enter and not all make it to attain that rank. We did not do as well recruiting new Cub Scouts, both male and female to our Packs. Let's work together to make that happen in 2020!

Our Council as of today has attained Silver Journey To Excellence for 2019 and is right on the cusp of attaining Gold. Each of you can help us and your Unit attain a JTE award by entering your end-of-year JTE scores on the scoresheet and have your Unit Chair and Unit Commissioner sign them. It is also important for you to let your Unit Commissioner know where you went to summer camp, how many youth and leaders went on the outing and the dates of the event(s). This also counts for multiple day summer hiking/backpacking trips, Troop ran summer camp events and other multi-day adventures. For Cub Scouts, Cub Scout Day Camp, Family Camp and Cub Scout Resident Camp and other District or Council sponsored Scouting events attendance also count for JTE for Cub Packs.

There are some minor changes to the JTE scoresheets for the 2020 Scouting year. The most significant changes are to the District and Council JTE Scoresheets. You can see the new JTE scoresheets by entering: <https://www.scouting.org/awards/journey-to-excellence/unit/2020-scorecards-english/>. The 2020 JTE Scoresheets in Spanish are not yet available but should be out soon.

I assumed this office when Dave Penn, our previous Council Commissioner had to step aside for personal reasons. I plan to serve all of you in our Council, following the path that Dave created and adding my own flair and style. I want to thank Dave for his service and mentorship of myself and numerous other Commissioners in our Council.

Let's start planning to go outside and enjoy this beautiful time of year. I hope to see many of you attending your local Church in uniform in honor of BSA's 110th birthday on February 8th and re-affirming our Scout Oath and Law. Remember this year National BSA has said that any day that works best with your Church during the month of February is acceptable.

I look forward to our adventure together!

Bob Putney

Council Commissioner



Order of the Arrow

Chumash Lodge is off to a great start to 2020.

Our Lodge Executive Committee met in January to look ahead at the coming year. The next Lodge-wide event will be a Lodge Fellowship weekend in mid-March (Saturday-Sunday overnight) at Larsen's Meadow, so stay tuned for more information. We also plan to perform some service to the camp that morning, so be prepared to help.

Membership renewal is going strong. We are just a few renewals from achieving the threshold for a Thriving Lodge (under the new performance metrics), so if you haven't yet paid your dues please go to www.chumashlodge90.net to find the link for dues.

Unit Elections are starting in February, and need to be completed before our April District Camporees where those who are elected will be announced. If you are a unit leader of a Troop, Crew or Ship in the Council and have not heard from your local Chapter, contact elections@chumashlodge90.net to arrange a time for your unit election. Scouts need to be Scouts BSA First Class, Venturing Discovery Award, or Sea Scout Ordinary Rank, and have 15 nights camping within the last two years (one being a 5-night camping trip and the others three or fewer nights) to be eligible for election. Our Induction weekends are set for May 1-3 and August 21-23 for those Scouts who are elected.

In National OA news, our Section W-4N Chief Gavin Cho was elected to serve as Western Region Chief at December's National meeting. Our Section leadership will be reviewing and addressing the open position at their upcoming meeting in early February.

We're looking forward to a great year!

[submitted by Len Kamlet, Associate Lodge Adviser]

The 2021 National Scout Jamboree is Coming!!

It's A Big Deal – And It's Coming Soon!

The Scouting event of a lifetime is coming – July 21st - 30th 2021, and it's time to sign up and get ready! Join over 40,000 Scouts and Venturers from around the world for a mind-blasting and fun experience. The 2021 theme, “*Face the Challenge,*” speaks to the fact that nothing is impossible for our prepared Scouts! Jamboree adventures await at this Jamboree like you have never seen!



This Jamboree will be held at the Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve in West Virginia's adventure sports region known as the New River Gorge. Located on a sprawling 10,600 acres, the property includes more than 5 miles of zip line and challenge courses, 36 miles of mountain bike trails, and 13 acres of shooting sports ranges, as well as venues for kayaking, rock climbing, standup paddle boarding, bouldering, skateboarding, BMX, and many other activities. Want to know more about Jamboree? Check out the Jamboree Overview on the Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve website.

There is so much to do to get ready! Los Padres Council will be sending 1 Troop for boys and 1 Troop for girls. With a limited number of spots that fill up fast, you want to make sure that you can attend with all your friends from your home Troop! There is lots of planning, preparation for this trip, which includes four or more days of touring historic locations in the Washington D.C. area in addition to the ten days of Jamboree.

Requirements to attend:

Scouts must be at least First Class by the start of the Jamboree. They must be at least twelve years of age by July 1st, 2021 or completed the 6th grade, but not have reached their 18th birthday by July 30th, 2021. Additionally we have room for one Junior Assistant Scoutmaster that is over 18 years old, but under 21 years old by July 30th, 2021.

A National Jamboree is a rewarding and lifetime experience that takes place in the outdoors. It includes walking/hiking many miles a day with activities in the humid summer climate of West Virginia. Youth and adults must be in good physical health and pass a BSA physical. The cost of this event is being determined, but you can expect it to be approximately \$3,900 per Scout. This includes all meals, lodging, activities and transportation for the entire Jamboree and tour. Extensive fundraising activity is planned in order to assist all Scouts to cover the costs. Scholarship support will be available on an individual situation basis.

How Do I Sign Up?

For Jamboree Staff, please see the National Jamboree website at <https://jamboree.scouting.org/>

To be a Scout in the Los Padres Council contingent, please visit <https://jamboree.scouting.org/>

In order to register, all applicants must have a my.Scouting.org account. If the applicant does not have one, please click on “Create Account” and complete that process first. Then return to <https://jamboree.scouting.org/> to complete the application.

To attend as a Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster in the Los Padres Council contingent – please contact April Wright Litchfield at April.Wright@scouting.org or by phone at (805) 478-9375.

SLO Service Center Open! *Los Padres Council's San Luis Obispo Service Center and Trading Post is open!*



Los Padres Council combined the Santa Maria and Atascadero's locations to create our brand-new San Luis Obispo Trading Post and Service Center. The location is a big beautiful space able to fully serve our fellow scouts. We are located off **Broad Street at 712 Fiero Lane, #29** in San Luis Obispo.

The Trading Post carries the expected items from uniforms, handbooks, Cub Scout and Scouting BSA awards to patches. Plus has an array of camping equipment. The Trading Post staff are ready to help you create your Pine Wood Derby dream car or get the right fit for a new uniform.

"I love the new Service Center and Trading Post! There's so much more room. It is a real scouting adventure visiting this new location," says April Wright-Litchfield, Program Executive for Los Padres Council, BSA.

The Trading Post is currently open. Our hours are:
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 10 to 5 PM
Thursday 10 to 6 PM

The second and fourth Saturdays of each month 10 to 4 PM

Please come by and pay us a visit, we look forward to seeing you soon. If you have any questions or need to order merchandise, please give us a call at 805-439-2885.

Pacific Coast District Highlights *Our 2020 Vision for the Pacific Coast District*

This year we celebrate the Centennial anniversary of Scouting on the Central Coast. It is our year to shine and reflect on the foundation of the many leaders before us. Names like Don Stillman, Stan Bartlett, Slim Larson, Huguett Clark, Frank Family, Joseph Drake, Louise Davis, Richard Berti, Mabel French and many more who have had a hand in weaving the local Scouting fabric.

The point is we are here today because of them, and the future of the Scouting movement is because of today's Scouting leadership just like you. What it looks like the next 100 years will be a result of the efforts we all put in now and the legacy we wish to leave. For this reason, we should step up to the challenge and put forth our best and live the Scout Law and Oath. Be proud of being part of the leadership and Scouting Legacy and tradition we want to leave to the next generation of Scouts.

Our Pacific Coast District will have its annual awards dinner on March 14th at Ranch Alegre. Look for the sign up on the Council website for details. Accordingly, please know that nominations for District Award of Merit, Veterans award for tenure in Scouts, Spark Plug awards for units to acknowledge the Spark Plug in that unit.

Our District Camporee is scheduled for April 3-5 at Larson Meadows. Contact Joseph Knapp with your suggestions and assistance with this Scouting tradition.

District Pinewood Derby is seeking a event chair for the big race where all Packs compete for the top car and the perpetual trophy. Please contact me if you can assist with this traditional annual event.

We still have a need for some additional District volunteers. If you would like to become part of our District team, please contact me by phone or email.

Giving credit. If you have not yet purchased Greg Ogletree's book, "Scouting on California's Central Coast", it is a great history of our Scouting history and the Mission and Las Padres Council. The above names of leaders past and present come from his book.

Yours in Scouting,

David Brown

Pacific Coast District Chairman

Alumni Award

There is a Scouter recognition knot that many Scouters may earn that you might not have heard, but it has been around a number of years. This knot is called the *Alumni Award*. This award has not been promoted in our council, up until now. In fact, no one has earned this award in the Los Padres Council. This recognition is to encourage Scouters to reach out to Scouting alumni to get them re-connect with Scouting at the local, regional, and national levels. The award recognizes registered Scouters who help unregistered alumni rejoin the program. This task breaks down into four categories of requirements:

- **Alumni identification and promotion**, such as contacting former members, planning alumni activities, and/or presenting to non-Scout groups.
- **Alumni engagement**, including helping two former members become registered Scouters or recruiting alumni to volunteer at Scouting events.
- **Personal participation**, which could mean serving on an alumni committee or sharing your experiences at the BSA Alumni Web site.
- **Personal education**, such as completing the online alumni training or taking an alumni course at the Philmont training Center.

How to get the award

- Applicants must be currently registered adult Scouters of the Boy Scouts of America.
- All applicants must receive the approval of their local council's alumni committee chair and Scout executive.

Approved applications are forwarded to the **Scouting Alumni and Friends Committee**. Those approved will be sent a certificate that can be used to purchase a square knot and/or lapel pin from the Scout Shop.

The application can be uploaded from this website: <http://scoutingalumni.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Alumni-Award-Requirements-9.21.18-Fillable.pdf>

If you have any questions, please contact Bill Crewe at wscrewe@comcasst.net or call him at 847-344-0540. You could be one of the few people in our council to earn this very special recognition.

Program Proclamations and Reflections

In other parts of this newsletter you'll read all about OA, about National Jamboree, about your District's Camporee dates and other information. We're going to spend this column talking about the Council Annual Recognition Dinner. This year it will be held on **Saturday, February 8**. We will be at the Santa Maria Masonic Hall, on 700 Lakeview Road, in Santa Maria. Things start at 6:00 PM, and as always it'll be a fun event. You need to register for this before February 6 and it will cost \$45.

We will be honoring two of our outstanding members of our Commissioner Corp with Distinguished Commissioner Awards. We will also recognize two very dedicated and helpful adult volunteers with our Council's Silver Beaver Award. I hope you can all plan on making this event.

There are lots of good things going on, there's not a better time to be involved in Scouting. It's exciting to see how we are going to meet and overcome the challenges we face. The only way that is going to happen is if we all pull together and continue to make this wonderful program work for the youth of Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties. I hope to see you soon.

Lynn Johnson

Council VP - Program & District Ops

Los Padres Council Staff

*From all of us at Los Padres Council,
Thanks for reading and for all of your
support!*

