

# Los Padres Press



**EXPLORING**  
DISCOVER YOUR FUTURE

*For Members of Los Padres Council, BSA*

*Santa Barbara & San Luis Obispo Counties*

## **A Season To Celebrate!**

Season’s greetings from Los Padres Council staff. As we get closer to the holidays, we hope you all have a peaceful and loving holiday season with your friends and family. As we prepare for 2024, we like to share a bit of our vision with you.

2024 will be bringing in a lot of exciting things for our council as we keep increasing the number of kids and families in our program. Camp Rancho Alegre will be fully active starting in March. Not only will The Outdoor School be back online but we will increase the amount of scout activities at camp. Activities like merit badge weekends, family campouts, shooting sports days, woodbadge, swimming activities, youth training, and much more. This has only been possible due to the support from many people who care about our youth and supported the rebuilding of the camp. While camp won’t be done, we will be operational as we aspire to have much more than will be done by March.

We also plan to have unique MB pow wows and opportunities in the local community for our scouts to take advantage of such as nuclear power, plumbing, electricity, and welding.

All this is only possible by getting support from the community and from you. We know that legacy is important and what better way to leave a lasting and impactful legacy than with a gift to camp capital or the council endowment. A gift to camp will assure us we keep working on completing the future vision for Rancho Alegre as a community resource. A gift to the endowment assures the council will be healthy for years to come to deliver on that vision. A donation to the endowment can be a portion of your estate plan. If you don’t have an estate plan, we can help. There are some great scout volunteers who can help you put one together to protect your assets and protect your family. If you like more information, please contact [carlos.cortez@scouting.org](mailto:carlos.cortez@scouting.org)

We look forward to seeing you on the trail, Adventure On!

**Carlos Cortez**

*Scout Executive & Unit Leader*

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# Calendar Updates

## October 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

## November 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

## December 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						



### Order of the Arrow Program

- Lodge Leadership Development and Banquet ..... Nov. 4th



### Scouter Trainings

- Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills (IOLS) .....Oct. 27th - Oct. 28th
- Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO)....Oct. 27th - Oct. 28th



### Popcorn

- Popcorn Returns ..... Oct. 26th - Oct. 28th
- Take Order Due ..... Oct. 29th
- Take Order Delivery and Distribution ..... Nov. 16th - Nov. 18th
- Popcorn Prizes Due ..... Dec. 3rd



### District and Council Events

- Salute to Scouting ..... Oct. 19th
- Los Padres Council Board Retreat ..... Nov. 11th
- Chartering Deadline ..... Dec. 1st



### Committee and Board Meetings

- Cuesta District ..... Oct. 19th, Nov. 16th, Dec. 21st
- Pacific Coast District ..... Nov. 7th, Dec. 5th
- Los Padres Council ..... Oct. 17th, Nov. 11th, Dec. 19th

*I hope you'll enjoy seeing pictures of our scouts having fun at some of the programs run over the summer.*

*If you would like to share any pictures of your unit's cool trips and experiences, feel free to reach out about getting it into the next edition of the Los Padres Press!*

**Joseph Kamlet**  
Los Padres Press Editor  
[jskamlet@gmail.com](mailto:jskamlet@gmail.com)

# Welcome New Los Padres Council Staff

*Outdoor School / Rancho Alegre Camp  
Director: Amanda Chick*



Please join the Los Padres Council in welcoming our new Outdoor School/Rancho Alegre Camp Director. Amanda has joined the staff to begin reorganizing the Outdoor School and Camp Programs. She joins us from Florida where she was organizing seminars including women's retreats. Amanda holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Environmental Science. Amanda's background includes Serving on various Summer Camp Staffs on the east coast, working for the Outdoor Education Center for Houston Independent School District and as Naturalist for the Outdoor School at Rancho Alegre from 2016 to 2017. Amanda's enthusiasm and commitment to Rancho Alegre will be an asset to the Council and the Scouting Program.

You can reach Amanda at [Amanda.chick@scouting.org](mailto:Amanda.chick@scouting.org) or (904) 703-0677.

*San Luis Obispo Customer Service  
Representative: Jeanne Gard.*



Please join us in welcoming our new Customer Service Representative, Jeanne Gard. She will be serving the Los Padres Council in the San Luis Obispo Service Center where she will manage the Scout Shop, and provide registration and administrative support to Scouts, volunteers, and prospective new families.

Jeanne has been an active Scouter in Los Padres Council for over 20 years. She has served in various unit positions and has also planned and coordinated Cub Scout Day Camp, Merit Badge Pow-Wow, Camporee, and Boots 'N Bling. She has also provided leadership at NYLT, council training events, and in the Order of the Arrow. Jeanne has earned numerous training awards, the District Award of Merit, and the Silver Beaver Award. She brings a wealth of knowledge with her in her new role at the SLO Service Center.

Jeanne can be reached at [Jeanne.Gard@scouting.org](mailto:Jeanne.Gard@scouting.org) or by phone at (805) 439-2885. Please feel free to reach out to her should you have any Scouting or related questions or concerns.

## *San Luis Obispo Service Center Hours*

Tuesdays & Thursdays: 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM

Wednesdays & Fridays: 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays of each month: 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Los Padres Council is proud to congratulate the following Scouts in achieving the highest rank in Scouting, The Eagle Rank. These young people committed to becoming the best versions of themselves and strive to be examples to others as they lead the path forward. In achieving this rank, they have just begun their journey of leading progress that will improve the life of many and change our world for the better.

A large, faded watermark of the Eagle Scout logo is centered on the page. It features an eagle with wings spread, perched on a shield with a blue top and white bottom. The shield is set against a background of a red and white striped field. The eagle is flanked by two white stars. Below the eagle is a banner with the words "BE PREPARED". The entire logo is enclosed in a circular border with the text "EAGLE SCOUT" at the top and "BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA" at the bottom.

**Justin Gultinan Troop 91**

**Graciela Rubalcava Troop 87G**

**Cole Nieman Troop 413**

**Chase Hadden Troop 450**

# Women of Character

## *Loralei "Skittles" Dawson Receives National Honor*



Earlier this year, Boy Scouts of America under the leadership of former National Commissioner Ellie Morrison, launched a nationwide search to identify 5 young women to gather 5 female Eagle Scouts (and other program equivalents) who had greatly and positively impacted their communities through their Eagle Scout Projects, their work in Scouting in general, and their work outside of Scouting.

It is with great pleasure to announce that our very own Loralei "Skittles" Dawson (Troop 414 – Arroyo Grande) was one of the 5 outstanding young women selected to receive this honor. "Skittles" was recognized at the "Women of Character" event on July 21 – 23, 2023 at the Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia, concurrent with the 2023 National Scout Jamboree. The "Women of Character" event was designed to foster thoughtful leadership, generate support for female-centric Scouting units across the United States, and ensure that young women have the opportunity to participate in the life-changing experiences that Scouting provides.

Below is a brief summary of "Skittles" Scouting journey taken from her nomination form as written by Troop 414 Scoutmaster, Jon McCoid.

On February 1, 2019, Troop 414 began its journey with the goal of providing girls with the same opportunities previously enjoyed only by boys in BSA. This moment was particularly significant to Loralei as her father is an Eagle Scout who shared his love of Scouting with all four of his children. As the oldest child (3 girls and 1 boy), she now had an opportunity to enjoy those same experiences and recognition and she leapt at it.

Her enthusiasm for breaking down barriers and encouraging others to be bold and adventuresome is contagious. She was 15 years old when she first had the opportunity to be a Scout and she hit the ground running! Accelerating rapidly through the leadership ranks, she led the other Scouts in our troop to pursue goals which may seem daunting to most people. She was unanimously elected to lead the Crew on our 12-day trek at Philmont and constantly shared her compassion and encouragement with everyone. She was fondly nicknamed "Skittles" because she is consistently a rainbow of joy and enthusiasm to those around her.

"Skittles" embodies the Values of Scouting in her everyday life and encourages those around her to be the best they can. She is forthright in her perseverance for taking on barriers created by discrimination and encouraging others to join her along the way. It should be noted that she was recognized by the Cuesta District of Los Padres Council as the "Scout of the Year" for her achievements in 2022.

She has an incredible toolbox filled with leadership skills, largely in teaching (EDGE Method), in support of her passions. Her love for the outdoors is on display as the optional merit badges she selected included Kayaking, Oceanography, Wilderness Survival, Geocaching and Backpacking. She also selected Music and Coin Collecting to share these hobbies with friends and family members. She is focused on her goals and Scouting clearly has given her opportunities to achieve anything to which she sets her mind.

# New Set of Brother and Sister Eagle Scouts

## *Congratulations to Austin and Ashley Slicton.*



In July of 2019, Austin Slicton earned the rank of Eagle Scout. In June of 2023, Ashley Slicton earned the rank of Eagle Scout. Los Padres Council would like to welcome a new set of brother and sister Eagles Scouts; both of them have had an amazing journey.

Austin started BSA as a Tiger in Cub Scout Pack 36 in Goleta, Ca. Austin later bridged to Troop 4 in Goleta, CA, becoming a very active Scout participating in almost every Troop meeting, event, outing and community service activities. Austin served several leadership roles including Senior Patrol Leader of Troop 4.

One of his favorite experiences on a Troop 4 outing was hiking across Catalina Island more than 50 miles on the Trans-Catalina Trail. Another favorite memory was when a bear came into Troop 4's Lake Lopez campsite in the middle of the night looking for the strawberries that were left in a container in a cooler on the table. Once the bear loudly opened the container and ate the strawberries he ran past Austin's tent into the forest. Austin's many adventures in scouting has taken him to all 4 of the BSA high adventure bases, which allowed him to earn the rare and coveted BSA Grand Slam award.

Ashley, had been tagging along with her brother on several Cub Scout Pack and Den activities and was wanting to do all of the cool and fun activities Austin was doing in Troop 4. In 2019, when females were able to join the BSA Program, Ashley was one of the founding members of Troop 10 in Goleta/Santa Barbara/Carpinteria/Montecito.

During Ashley's BSA journey, she has gone to several BSA summer camps, camporees, trainings, and most recently 2023 National Jamboree in West Virginia. Ashley enjoys scouting activities with her BSA Troop and helping the scouts with rank advancement so that one day they can also become an Eagle Scout. One of Ashley's favorite BSA memories has been attending 2023 National Jamboree and while there, riding the Big Zip, a half-mile long zip line soaring over the Summit Bechtal Reserve, white water rafting and patch trading.



*Austin at Philmont on top of the Tooth of Time*



*Ashley at National Jamboree scored in Patch Trading*

Both Austin and Ashley have grown up with the love and appreciation of nature, adventure, leadership and scouting ideals. Outside of scouting, their family trips are ones full of adventure and outdoors, including camping and visiting national parks. For both Austin and Ashley their BSA experience has been a fun, wonderful, amazing experience where they have learned life skills, leadership, served their community, made life-long friends and have been able to experience and appreciate outdoor beauty and great adventures.

# Salute to Scouting

## *Los Padres Council to Recognize Community Leaders Morrie Jurkowitz & James Frank*

At its upcoming annual *Salute to Scouting* event **Los Padres Council of Boy Scouts of America** will recognize local community leaders **Morrie Jurkowitz & James Frank** for their contributions to the health, education, and safety of youth in the central coast. The event will be held Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup> at the Santa Barbara Club in downtown Santa Barbara, with proceeds to benefit scouting and The Outdoor School at Camp Rancho Alegre. Entertainment, dinner, and beverages will be included in the celebration as we recognize these 2 great leaders.

“Morrie and Jim were selected because of their notable dedication on behalf of our Council to thousands of youths in need in the local community,” said Trey Pinner, Past President of Los Padres Council, BSA.

Jim Frank will receive the National Outstanding Eagle Scout Award for his efforts in promoting positive values in youth through scouting. Jim grew up locally and was active in scouting spending thousands of hours at Camp Rancho Alegre with his father. He eventually became an Eagle Scout through hard work and dedication to our local community. Jim is the founder of CMC and is very involved in local Search and Rescue, a basic skill he learned as a scout.

Morrie Jurkowitz is a long-time supporter of scouting and The Outdoor School. His efforts have helped get thousands of local impoverished youths to have an outdoor experience they could not otherwise afford. Morrie is a very active member of the Santa Barbara community having served on the boards for numerous nonprofit organizations. A real estate investor and developer, he has been a resident of Santa Barbara for more than 50 years.

Serving youth in Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties, Los Padres Council aims to help chartered BSA organizations effectively use the scouting program and expand the use of the program to other community groups. Los Padres Council operates outdoor experiences through Camp Rancho Alegre in Santa Barbara County. It also delivers education to youth in Southern California through the operation of **The Outdoor School**.

The Annual Salute to Scouting event begins at 6pm on Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup> at the Santa Barbara Club. Registration is now open on the council website at [www.lpcbsa.org](http://www.lpcbsa.org), using this direct link <https://lpcbsa.doubleknot.com/registration/calendardetail.aspx?activitykey=3006832&orgkey=1643&ReturnURL=//lpcbsa.doubleknot.com/app/calendar/month/1643/2023-10-01/1643/0/> or by calling 805-967-0105. Sponsorship and advertising opportunities are also available.

### *About Los Padres Council:*

Boy Scouts of America’s Los Padres Council annually serves over 7,000 boys and girls, ages 5 to 20, and their families within the counties of Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo. The Council was first chartered in 1919 and has promoted youth leadership, outdoor/conservation education, and family-based programs on the Central Coast through scouting and The Outdoor School Program. The Council’s varied youth developmental programs include The Outdoor School, Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing, and Exploring. All of Los Padres Council’s programs are inclusive and meant to develop young people into leaders and the best versions of themselves as they grow and thrive into adulthood.

### *Camp Rancho Alegre is Almost Ready*

Rancho Alegre is close to completion thanks to all our supporters. We invite you to book a tour and visit to see the progress and envision the future. Your support and dedication have gotten us this far. We are close to reaching our \$16m initial goal and you can help close the gap. A gift of any size will hike us closer to reaching the peak and getting kids back outdoors. Kids who otherwise will not have an outdoor experience will once again enjoy the benefits of nature. We invite you to invest in their future and visit for a tour. Here is a link with information. Thank you and see you soon.

<https://youtu.be/4V6rfg8MYwE>

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1lg3aKAL1nX8-qnnEjUmyjJMyHAI0-H0o/view?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1lg3aKAL1nX8-qnnEjUmyjJMyHAI0-H0o/view?usp=drive_link)

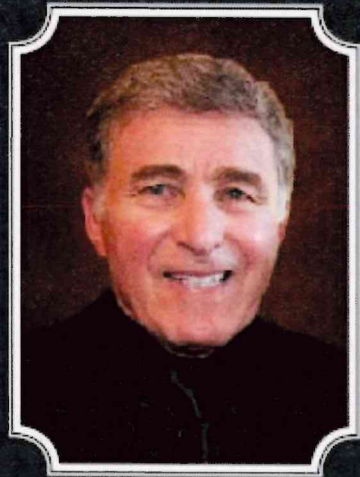
**Aaron Espinoza**

*Associate Development Director*

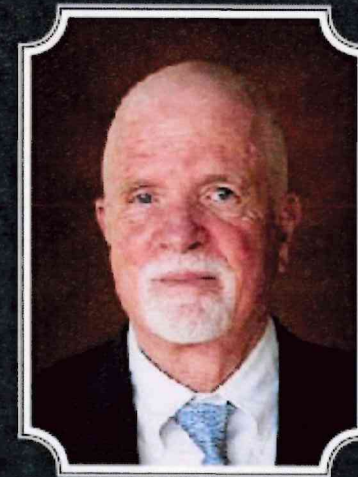
[Aaron.espinoza2@scouting.org](mailto:Aaron.espinoza2@scouting.org)

REPLY CARD

SALUTE TO SCOUTING  
A CELEBRATION OF YOUTH



MORRIE JURKOWITZ  
LOS PADRES COUNCIL LEGACY AWARD



JIM FRANK  
NATIONAL OUTSTANDING EAGLE SCOUT AWARD



LOS PADRES COUNCIL, BSA  
4000 MODOC ROAD #4  
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93110

YOUR RESPONSE IS REQUESTED BY OCTOBER 10<sup>TH</sup>



# SPONSORSHIP LEVELS:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF SCOUTING!

## **Platinum Sponsor - \$10,000**

- Recognition in event marketing material
- Platinum recognition in Tribute Journal
- Signage of family/company name and/or logo at event
- Two Premium Tables of 10
- Platinum sponsor credit on printed materials
- Recognition on Council website
- Recognition in Council quarterly e-newsletter

## **Gold Sponsor - \$5,000**

- Gold page in Tribute Journal
- Signage of family/company name and/or logo at event
- One premium table of 10
- Recognition on Council website
- Recognition in Council quarterly e-newsletter

## **Silver Sponsor - \$3,000**

- Silver page in Tribute Journal
- One table of 10
- Recognition on Council website
- Recognition in Council quarterly e-newsletter

## **Bronze Sponsor - \$2,000**

- Logo in Tribute Journal
- One table of 10
- Recognition on Council website
- Recognition in Council quarterly e-newsletter

## **Table Sponsor - \$1,500**

- One table of 10
- Recognition in Powerpoint Slideshow

## **Individual tickets - \$150**

## **Regretfully, I cannot attend, but wish to contribute \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

All logos and advertisements must be submitted by October 10, 2023.

Please contact Carlos Cortez at [Carlos.Cortez@scouting.org](mailto:Carlos.Cortez@scouting.org) for more information.

CHECK ENCLOSED (please make checks payable to Los Padres Council, BSA)

PLEASE INVOICE ME

CREDIT CARD

CARD # \_\_\_\_\_

EXP. DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ 3-DIGIT SECURITY CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

VISA  MASTERCARD

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Los Padres Council is a 501(c)3, non-profit organization, FEIN 95-1696725.

### Tribute Journal

\$1,500 Full page ad in Tribute Journal (5"W X 8"H)

\$1,000 Half page ad in Tribute Journal (5"W x 3.875"H)

\$750 Quarter page ad in Tribute Journal (2.375"W x 3.875"H)

# THANK YOU!

For More Information Contact:

Carlos Cortez at

[Carlos.Cortez@scouting.org](mailto:Carlos.Cortez@scouting.org)

or 805.967.0105

# Program Updates

Scouters:

Coming out of a summer with great camp experiences for Cub Scouts and Scouts BSA Scouts, OA Ordeals, a National Jamboree trip, and more, programs have resumed this fall within the Los Padres Council!

Within the last two months,

- The Order of the Arrow (OA) held its summer induction (Ordeal) weekend
- Cub Scout Adventure Weekend was a success at Larsen Meadow
- Webelos Woods was held at Larsen Meadow, with roughly 30% of all of the Council's Webelos and AOL scouts in attendance
- Our Order of the Arrow Lodge attended the G18N Section Conclave down at Camp Josepho

The next few months have more training and on deck:

- IOLS and BALOO training will be held October 28 starting at 8am, finishing October 29 at 11am, in Arroyo Grande
- BALOO (Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation) is required for Cub Scout Packs to go camping
- IOLS (Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills) is required for a Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster to be fully trained, and will assist them in leading campouts and other advancement tasks
- November 4: The Order of the Arrow will be hosting its Lodge Leadership Development (a leadership training course for youth) and then its annual banquet, both at Rancho Alegre.

If you have taken BALOO or IOLS, there is still time to volunteer to be on staff. Contact Len Kamlet or Sean Tashma.

For the upcoming year, I also wish to ask all of our leaders (for all program levels) and our Scouts BSA Troops to plan to attend BSA's advanced training courses:

- **Wood Badge**, an adult leader training course, will be held this coming April. The in-person portion of the course is held over 5 full days on two weekends, April 12-14 and April 27-28. The course begins at 8am on the 12th and resumes at 8am on the 27th. We encourage every leader to attend, and hope that every unit sends at least one leader to the training. As someone who has taken the course and served on staff (and will be serving as next year's Course Director), it's among the best experiences you'll have as a leader, and the training applies for more than just your role in Scouting. This is the first course for our council in over 5 years, and I hope you'll join us. Register for the course at <https://lpcbsa.doubleknot.com/registration/calendardetail.aspx?activitykey=3004210>
- **National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)** will be held next June 24-29. We had great attendance, with more units sending youth than in recent years. Our staff is already starting to form (a mix of new and returning youth and adult leaders). We again are setting our goal for every unit with an eligible scout to send at least one scout to this training course.

We are always looking for more volunteers to help with our program needs. If you have an interest in advancement, training, service, camping, awards, or other aspects of the program, please contact Len Kamlet to find out how you can help our council youth and your fellow scout leaders!

**Len Kamlet**  
*Council VP of Program*



## WOOD BADGE

### LOS PADRES COUNCIL • NST3-53-24

#### What is Wood Badge?

Reflecting the best of nearly a century of Scouting experience, Wood Badge draws upon the most current leadership models used by corporate America, academic circles and successful organizations throughout the country.

Wood Badge training was begun by Baden Powell in 1919 as a way to insure that the leaders of Scout troops were properly trained. Since then Wood Badge has been held worldwide, providing advanced leadership training to thousands of Scout leaders.

Wood Badge builds upon the best traditions and experiences of the Boy Scouts of America and also draws from a wide range of courses within and beyond the bounds of Scouting to present the latest in leadership theory and team development.

#### REGISTER TODAY

Register online at <https://lpcbsa.doubleknot.com/event/wood-badge-weekend-one-of-two/3004210>



**Weekend One**  
April 12-14, 2024  
**Weekend Two**  
April 27-28, 2024

Attendance for both weekends is required.

Each weekend starts at 8am on the first day (4/12 & 4/27) and ends around 5pm on the Sunday (4/14 & 4/28)

**Early Bird Discount**  
\$300 if registered by  
December 31, 2023  
**Registration: \$350**  
Before April 11, 2024

Scholarships may be available.



#### Who Should Attend?

Wood Badge is designed to meet the advanced leadership needs of all Scouters, particularly unit level Scouters, such as Den Leaders, Cubmasters and assistants, Scoutmasters and assistants, and Committee Chairs and members.

Additionally Scouters serving at the district and council levels can achieve greater effectiveness through Wood Badge.

#### Why Attend?

By taking Wood Badge, Scouters will acquire valuable tools such as listening, communicating, conflict management, project planning and leading change. Participants will better learn to understand and appreciate diversity and differences in our society.

They will learn skills that will make them a better Scout leader. Units with trained leaders are able to deliver an improved program and a more meaningful experience for the youth Scouting serves.

# **National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)**

**June 24 (Mon.) through June 29 (Sat.), 2024  
at Rancho Alegre**



## **What is NYLT?**

NYLT is an exciting, 5-day outdoor leadership course. It is taught by a youth staff of alumni and aims to instill into the scouts a set of skills and tools to help lead their troop, crew, or ship and take these skills on into their future careers. There will be presentations, games, challenges, problem-solving and tons of fun.

## **Already Been to NYLT?**

You can deepen your familiarity with the tools you were introduced to when you took the course by serving on staff. Just reach out to the Course Director, Joseph Kamlet.

## **For Questions Contact:**

**Mr. Joseph Kamlet — NYLT Course Director**  
(978) 866-7817  
jskamlet@gmail.com

# Camp Rancho Alegre Update



Student Dorm 2



Outdoor School Staff Housing

- Student Dorms Two and Three are Complete including a walkway.
- For both Outdoor School (6 Bedroom) Staff Housing the Painting, Electrical, Plumbing and Fire systems are complete. The dry wall for the interiors is next.
- The three staff houses (adjacent to Frank Lodge) now have electrical, plumbing and fire systems installed. Dry wall installation for the interior is next.
- Electrical Line was pulled to the new buildings and will be energized later.
- As a reminder when visiting camp, watch out for wildlife such as bears. (Including those on or near picknick tables)

## Order of the Arrow

Our Scouts have been busily enjoying fellowship and service over the last few weeks. In early August we had our summer induction weekend where the members (old and new) helped support our camp through service. Later in September, a contingent of our members went to Camp Josepho and enjoyed fellowship with arrowmen from our neighboring councils. Most recently, our scouts helped support Webelos Woods, the council-run program for Webelos and Arrow of Light Scouts. And following this event, some of our members attended the Chumash Intertribal Powwow to learn from our local tribe.

The main thing coming up in the next few weeks is our Lodge Leadership Development (LLD) and Banquet, both held at Camp Rancho Alegre on Saturday, November 4th. LLD is a fun event that polishes the skills of our members through trainings about subjects such as “10 Steps to Delegation” or “Patch Design”. The Registration link for this event should be shared via email in the next few days, so keep an eye out for it.

Lastly as a reminder, we are collecting interest for National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC) 2024. NOAC is an amazing week-long experience with an assortment of large scale activities, competitions, festivals, trainings, shows, and more. This year it is being held July 29th to August 3rd, 2024 at the University of Colorado, Boulder. If you are interest in learning more please complete this form: <https://forms.gle/PN7DcasxQQ3NPUC6A>

Keep the Spirit Alive,

**Joseph Kamlet**  
*Lodge Adviser*



## Knot of The Month: The Safety Knot

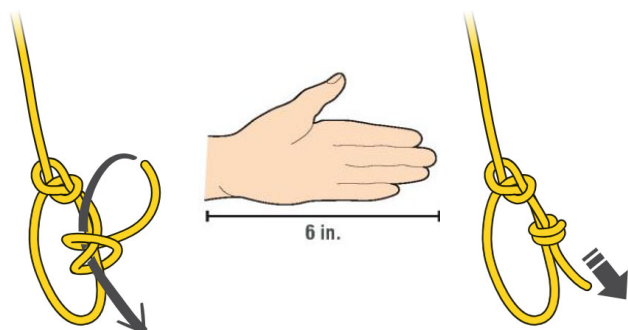


Because of the image above, some of you may believe that this month's article on "the safety knot" is about the bowline. Spoiler, the bowline on its own is not considered a safe knot by many rope access, rope rescue, and climbing organizations.

The bowline shown above has been made *safer* by the fact that the working end (short one near the loop) is tied off with a backup knot. There are a bunch of variations of backup knots, and in this article we will be looking at the double overhand as used as a back up knot. One benefit of the double overhand compared to other safety knots is that it can be used to make almost any knot safer.

To tie the double overhand as backup knot

1. Wrap the short end twice around the standing rope, working back toward the primary knot.
2. Feed about a hand's length of rope through the loops you just made heading away from the primary knot.
3. Pull free end to tighten backup knot down onto standing line.



As a simple rule of thumb, if you need to lift something value (like a person), always finish the knot with a backup knot AND leave at least a hands length of tail on the short end.

And to be more specific since it is a matter of safety, the bowline is not a safe knot without a backup knot. The sheet bend is also not safe without a backup knot. And the square knot should never be used to join two ropes together. If binding an important load, the square knot should also have a backup knot.

## Knot of the month: Den Leader Training Award



Adult leaders in the BSA have multiple opportunities to be recognized for their achievements and dedication to helping deliver outstanding programs to our youth. This recognition typically comes with a knot which may be worn on that leader's field uniform.

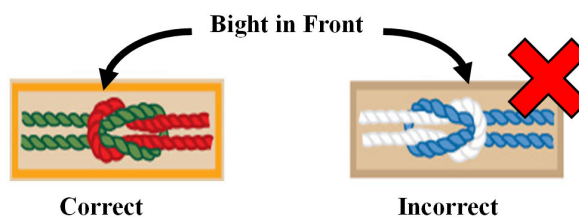
Trained leaders play a key role in being able to support our Cub Scout programs, and likely the most influential leader for our Cub Scouts is the Den Leader. Any Lion, Tiger, Cub (Wolf or Bear), or Webelos including Arrow of Light (AOL) den leader can earn after serving in their role and completing other requirements. A den leader training award can be earned multiple times, for each role held.

To earn this award, a leader must first take their position specific training for their position. In addition, they must serve as the den leader for one year. In addition, they must attend either a University of Scouting, or four Roundtables run by their district Roundtable Commissioner. Roundtables in the Los Padres Council are held the third Thursday of each month; a leader interested in earning this award should start now!

In addition, there is a list of 10 performance items, and a den leader must meet five of these. One is attending a Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO) course. For those interested, we are hosting one this coming October 28-29 in Arroyo Grande, and hope to host a second one in late March. Go to the calendar on the council website to register, and look for more information in this month's Los Padres Press.

Once the requirements are met, an application form can be downloaded by going to [https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/training/pdf/511-052\\_WB.pdf](https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/training/pdf/511-052_WB.pdf) and submitting it to the District or Council Training Chair.

Once earned, this knot – like any knot - is worn over the left pocket on the BSA field uniform, such that the bight in front of the standing part is to the wearer's right.



## *Not of the month: This is a Scouting Rule... NOT!*

In this month's Myth-busting article, we are focusing on another common myth of Boards of Review.

### *True or False:*

*Board of Review members should test (or re-test) Scouts to make sure that they truly mastered all of the items they needed to learn or accomplish for each rank.*

As the name of this article implies, this is NOT a BSA policy; the above statement is **False**.

Rules and guidance for Scouts BSA, Venturing, and Sea Scouts Boards of Review (BORs) are governed by the BSA Guide to Advancement (<https://www.scouting.org/resources/guide-to-advancement/>). The GtA is a useful tool for all aspects of advancement, including merit badges, the Eagle Scout Project, rank advancement for all programs, but for this article we are focusing on the BORs, primarily documented in section 8. [Section 4.4.2.3 documents the Sea Scouts BOR; Scouts BSA and Venturing BORs are covered within section 8.]

Within Section 8.0.1.0 ("Conducting the Board of Review"), Sub-section 8.0.1.1 is entitled "Not a Retest or "Examination". The title alone should make it clear that this is not the goal of a Board of Review. Within this section, it states "In most cases it should, instead, be a celebration of accomplishment. Remember, it is more about the journey. A badge recognizes what a Scout has done toward achieving the primary goal of personal growth. See "Personal Growth Is the Primary Goal," 2.0.0.3. It is thus more about the learning *experience* than it is about the specific skills learned."

So what can be asked about advancement and requirements, since one purpose (but just one of many) of the Board of Review (BOR) is to ensure the Scout met the requirements for rank? For starters, BOR board members can ask about the circumstances of some of the advancement: where did they earn a given merit badge? On which trip(s) did they cook for their patrol? What was their favorite knot or merit badge?

BOR members can and should also be asking about the program delivery as it relates to the achievements of the Scout. Did they feel they had a lot of opportunities for completing the requirements? Is the Troop holding enough campouts to let Scouts earn their camping nights, meals cooked, and other items? And, is there anything the Scout thinks the Troop can do better to help enable their fellow Scouts in their rank advancement?

Within the Guide to Advancement, there are a total of 12 references to the word "retest," and each reminds the reader that unit leader conferences and boards of review are NOT designed to retest the Scout.

If your fellow board members are attempting to retest your Scouts, gently remind them that their role is to help the Troop grow and serve to celebrate the accomplishments of the Scout and enable them to continue on their path in Scouting.

## *Not of The Month: Monthly Safety Moment*

Along with our Knots of the Month, we want to share a "NOT" of the month, to remind our leaders that safety plays a central role in enabling our youth to have FUN and memorable experiences.

Answers to many safety questions in Scouting can be found in the BSA's Guide to Safe Scouting, and companion SAFE guidelines. SAFE here is an acronym:

**S**upervision  
**A**ssessment  
**F**itness and Skill  
**E**quipment and Environment.

This month's NOT of the month focuses on the "E", and specifically the wearing of proper attire and proper equipment when participating in activities.

Whether it's a simple day hike, a cycling activity, or a water-based outing, ensuring proper attire and proper equipment should be at the top of any leader's list. Among the items to review, leaders should:

- Ensure safe and appropriately sized equipment in good condition for the activity. (e.g. helmets, personal flotation devices, boots)
- Check gear use for changing conditions that could affect safety.
- Confirm participants' clothing is appropriate for expected temperatures, sun exposure, weather events, and terrain.
- Ensure group safety equipment is available when applicable.

For the current definitive rules, you can go to the SAFE Checklists found here:

<https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/safe/>

# Safe Scouting Newsletter

## Outdoor Programs and Properties Upcoming Webinar

### NCAP 2024 Standards Review & Discussion

**When:** Thursday, November 9th at 7pm CT

**What:** The National Camp Accreditation Program Committee will review in detail the standards that will adjust for 2024. All camp directors, program directors, NCAP assessment team members and others assigned to assist should attend.

**Registration Link:** [https://scouting-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwvf--oqzwvH9P7O09VH1F\\_HE8BeyViCghc](https://scouting-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwvf--oqzwvH9P7O09VH1F_HE8BeyViCghc)

## Mental, Emotional, and Social Health Planning Template for Councils

Mental, Emotional and Social Health (MESH) Planning Template for Councils-This template was developed to assist Councils in developing a plan for MESH issues that may occur at Council camps or events. It provides an overview of the components to consider in developing the steps leadership should take in the event of a mental health concern. While these mental health issues have a wide range-anything from homesickness to a mental health crisis-the time to develop a strategy for the best outcome is well before the camp or event occurs. NCAP RP-551 recommends that Councils have a network in place to respond to staff and camper mental, emotional, and social health needs. This template will help you in developing your Council plan.

The template ([680-064](tel:680-064)) can be found on the Scouting Safely website under Policies, Guidelines and Model Plans. If you have any questions, contact [Bev.Singel@Scouting.org](mailto:Bev.Singel@Scouting.org)

## Arrow of Light Den Camping Reminders

As with all Scouting activities, this participation must follow the policies of the Boy Scouts of America as outlined in the Guide to Safe Scouting. Here are a few helpful tips:

- It is not required for the Scouts to camp overnight. The troop event could be a campout or other outdoor activity such as an age-appropriate hike or other outdoor event. That is a decision the Arrow of Light den, the den leadership, and the Scouts BSA troop they are working with should make in collaboration. If the troop and pack do not share the same charter partner, the troop and pack/AOL den must [receive permission from the council](#) to hold the joint activity.
- If the outdoor event is an overnight campout and the Arrow of Light Scouts are staying overnight, the Arrow of Light den must camp according to the specific camping guidance for Cub Scout found in the [Guide to Safe Scouting](#). This includes:
  1. The den must have a BALOO trained adult leader in attendance.
  2. Webelos and Arrow of Light Den Camping: Each Scout should attend with their parent(s) or guardian(s). A Webelos or Arrow of Light Scout whose parent or legal guardian cannot attend a den overnight camping trip may participate under the supervision of at least two registered leaders. The leaders and a parent or legal guardian must agree to the arrangement, and all Youth Protection policies apply. Reminder, a Scout cannot share a tent with any adult other than their parent or guardian.
  3. Cub Scout youth may tent with a parent or guardian as outlined in Scouting's Barriers to Abuse.
- [Scouting's Barriers to Abuse](#) outline registration requirements for adults. AOL dens must have registered two deep leadership in attendance at the overnight event. Additional parents/legal guardians who also attend with their own child/legal ward may qualify for the registration exception indicated in Scouting's Barriers to Abuse so please review to determine applicability.
- What does it mean to "use the patrol method while on the outing"? First, engage the youth leadership of the troop you are collaborating with to find ways they can help the Arrow of Light Scouts in attendance see and experience the patrol method. There are many wonderful ways to use and see the patrol method during this event! Examples could include:
  1. Assign a member of the Arrow of Light den to serve as the "patrol leader" of their "Arrow of Light" patrol during the event.
  2. Provide the Arrow of Light den the opportunity to divide up chores or other necessary tasks to enable them to work together as a group to meet their group's goals.
  3. Showcase the patrol method through the Scouts BSA patrols in attendance at the event/activity so the Arrow of Light Scouts can see the value and fun that comes from participating in a patrol.
- Regardless of the activity, verify that your planned Arrow of Light "Scouting Adventure" aligns with the policies in the Guide to Safe Scouting, including whether the planned activities are approved for an Arrow of Light Scout to participate in. Check out the [Age Appropriate Guidelines for Scouting Activities](#) for a reference.
- Finally the "[SAFE Checklist](#)" is a helpful tool for your Arrow of Light den leaders and Scouts BSA troop youth leaders and adults to review and use as they plan for a successful event.



## ***Resources on the BSA Youth Safety Site***

The [BSA Youth Safety site](#) has a variety of information and resources on BSA's ongoing commitment to keep kids safe, including an [infographic](#) and video, to help you and your volunteers answer questions and share details about the BSA's ongoing commitment to keeping kids safe. The site contains key facts about the parts of our multilayered approach and also shares common misconceptions some people may have about youth safety in the BSA. Be sure to share this site with all of your unit volunteers to help educate them on this important topic so they can in turn educate others.

## ***Scouting's Barriers to Abuse Updates & FAQ***

Scouting's Barriers to Abuse and the FAQs were recently updated to reflect adjustments effective 9/1/2023. Please review and share.

Barriers to Abuse: <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/gss01/#a>

FAQs: <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/yp-faqs/>

## ***2023 "Camping Attendance Report" and 2024 NCAP Intent to Operate***

It is time to submit your council's 2023 camping attendance information and 2024 NCAP Intent to Operate for your long-term camp(s) and all camp property(s) that your council operates. All councils, no matter if you operate a long-term camp or not, must complete the camping attendance information request form portion of the submission form.

The National Camp Accreditation Program (NCAP) requires all camp properties and long-term camps to submit an "Intent to Operate" each year. This required process (see NCAP Standard AO-802) is critical to planning for a successful camping operation. The 2023 "camping attendance report" and 2024 Intent to Operate(s) information must be submitted online no later than October 31, 2023.

For complete details on this process and data requested, please [click here](#).

Questions? Email [Brian.Gray@Scouting.org](mailto:Brian.Gray@Scouting.org).

## ***2024 NCAP Standards to be Released No Later Than 10/31/2023***

The 2024 National Camp Accreditation Program standards will be released no later than 10/31. 2024 updates include updated standards related to scuba programs, required training for pistol programs, latrine and shower house supervision to verify privacy expectations are met in existing facilities, and several other standard updates. In addition, please review [NCAP Circular No.18](#) for information regarding youth protection policies as well as a new standard requirement for 2025 for sleeping/changing areas related to privacy for changing as well as bunkbed safety.

Questions related to NCAP should be directed to [NCAP@Scouting.org](mailto:NCAP@Scouting.org).

## ***NCAP Circular No.18 Released: Critical Youth Protection Updates for 9/1/2023***

The National Camp Accreditation Program Committee (NCAP) is releasing [NCAP Circular No.18](#). This circular highlights updates to NCAP standard PD-109 that become effective 9/1/2023 due to the upcoming policy change for registration and screening for adults.

Please carefully [review NCAP Circular No. 18](#) and share with your key council and camp leadership to ensure that these changes are implemented immediately for all camp programs that occur on or after September 1, 2023. Questions?

Email [NCAP@scouting.org](mailto:NCAP@scouting.org).

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