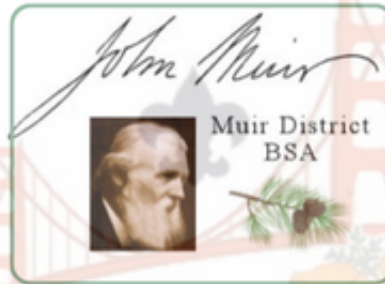


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Muir Newsletter September 2024

8/24/2024



September 2024 District Roundtable & Commissioners Meeting

Do you have some Scouting items that needs a new home like uniforms, patches, or other things that would benefit other Scouts or Scouters? Then bring them to our September Roundtable meeting. This coming month's meeting is on Thursday, September 5, at Morello Hills Christian Church, 1000 Morello Hills Dr, Martinez, CA 94553.

As an added bonus, I am inviting people to attend the Commissioner's meeting that starts at 7 pm that same evening. Following the Commissioner meeting, the Roundtable topic is Renewal/Recharter Basics. Please email me at arnel.scouting@gmail.com if you have additional questions.

If you have any questions for Roundtable, please contact Arnel Jaime - District Commissioner, arnel.scouting@gmail.com and Mark Hall - Roundtable Commissioner, scouts@halls.net.

This was updated on 8/24/2024.



UPDATED: Mandated Reporter Training & Live Scan background check information on the Council website (click button or web link below).

If you have completed the *January 2023 or later version of the mandated*

reporter training, you no longer need to take it again ("one and done"; does not expire). Also, we no longer need to use the California Scouting website to upload the certificate as the Council receives the certificates from the new [website](https://ggacbsa.org/youth%20protection/).

<https://ggacbsa.org/youth%20protection/>

AB 506 & Live Scan Information

This was updated on 8/24/2024.

MANY Scouting America TRAININGS ARE MOSTLY ONLINE



Hazardous Weather Training (online)

Reminder: all “direct contact” leaders are required to take Scouting America's Hazardous Weather Training to be considered fully trained in their position. Here’s who is a “direct contact” leader:

- Cub Scouts – Cubmaster, Assistant Cubmaster, Den Leader, Assistant Den Leader, Tiger Den Leader, Webelos Den Leader, and Assistant Webelos Den Leader
- Scouts BSA – Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmaster
- Venturing – Advisor and Associate Advisor
- Sea Scouting – Skipper, Mate
- Exploring – Advisor and Associate Advisor

Dates

Hazardous Weather Training is available at any time online as part of the Training section of [My.Scouting.org](https://www.myscouting.org). If you've never visited this site before, you'll need to click the "create account" button and then follow the instructions; have your BSA membership ID number handy.

Location

There is no physical location as the course is only offered online through the Training section of [My.Scouting.org](https://www.myscouting.org).

Cost

There is no fee to complete Hazardous Weather Training.

Registration

You do not have to pre-register for Hazardous Weather Training. Simply log in to [My.Scouting.org](https://www.myscouting.org) and visit the Training section to take the course.

Renewal

All direct contact leaders must renew this training every two years.

Scout leaders. To be registered as TRAINED in your role, you need to complete the following courses:

- Basic Position-Specific Training
- Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills
- Hazardous Weather
- Youth Protection Training

[Basic position-specific leader training](#) is for:

- Cub Scouting (Cubmaster, Assistant Cubmaster, Den Leader, Assistant Den Leader)
 - Scouts BSA (Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster)
 - Venturing (Crew Advisor and Associate Advisor)
 - Sea Scouts BSA (all Adult Leaders)
 - Exploring (Advisor and Associate Advisor)
-



Scouting America™

Youth Protection Buddy System Update – Effective September 1, 2024

Please share to all your Packs, Troops, units, and fellow volunteers.

[Youth Protection 2024 Update](#)

Accommodation

The older youth Scouting America programs (Scouts BSA, Venturing, Sea Scouting, and Exploring) encourage leadership development, growth, and independence by recommending that youth share accommodations with other youth (must be the same gender per Barriers to Abuse). However, we also recognize that exceptional circumstances may warrant a parent or legal guardian sharing accommodation with their same-gender child if the parent/legal guardian meets all leader registration requirements.

Youth siblings of the same gender may share sleeping accommodations regardless of age with permission from their parents or legal guardians. Campsites **must** be

arranged to separate genders adequately. This separation could be achieved through natural barriers, physical distance, or by the campsite being divided, so long as the separation achieves privacy for both adults and youth, **as well as by gender**. Adult leaders are responsible for establishing the barriers and reminding Scouts that members of one gender must not enter the tent/housing of another.

The Buddy System

The buddy system is designed to provide an additional layer of safeguarding by ensuring no youth member/participant is alone and that a buddy can get help in an emergency. The buddy system is used whenever members/participants are outside the line of sight of qualified adult leadership and specific activities where the buddy system is required for participation. Of note:

- The adult unit leadership oversees and approves buddies.
- Buddies are two and can also be three to prevent members or participants from being alone.
- If the original pair for a buddy group is mixed gender, a third youth/participant must be added (for a buddy group of 3).
- Youth siblings of the same gender may serve as buddies regardless of age with permission from their parents or legal guardians.
- Except for siblings, the age gap between buddies must be at most three years for all non-sleeping activities and no more than two years for all sleeping accommodations.
- When exceptional circumstances warrant, a parent or legal guardian may serve as a buddy of their own child for both Scouting activities and sleeping arrangements, but youth buddies meeting the above criteria, if available, are always preferred.

Participation by Parents and Legal Guardians

Parents and legal guardians are encouraged to participate in Scouting activities with their children. However, to meet youth protection policies, some participation—including all overnight activities—requires the parent or legal guardian to be a registered adult in their child's unit.

*See and note the Cub Scout Exception

Cub Scout Programs – Overnight Exception: Cub Scout parents or legal

guardians taking part in an overnight Cub Scout program with their own child or legal ward are not required to register as leaders. All adults must review the “[How to Protect your Children from Child Abuse: A Parent’s Guide](#)” that can be found in the front of each Cub Scout Handbook. In addition, the parent or legal guardian must be accompanied by a registered leader at any time they are with youth members other than their own child/ward. All other overnight adults must be currently registered in an adult fee required position.

Scouting Recruitment Postcard

Please share this recruitment postcard with QR code to all Packs & Troops; courtesy of our District Executive Natalie Hannum.

A recruitment postcard for Scouting America. The top half features a group photo of diverse youth members in various Scouting uniforms (Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Cub Scouts) smiling. To the left of the photo is the text "JOIN SCOUTING" in large red letters, followed by the Scouting America logo. Below the photo is a graphic of a hand holding a smartphone with a QR code and the text "SCAN ME!". The bottom half of the postcard is a red banner with white text that reads: "You can also text 'JOIN' to 855.912.1408 OR YOU CAN GO TO GOLDENGATESCOUTING.ORG".

**JOIN
SCOUTING**

Scouting
America

**SCAN
ME!**

You can also text "JOIN" to 855.912.1408
OR YOU CAN GO TO GOLDENGATESCOUTING.ORG

This was updated on 6/22/2024.



Muir Packs and Troops Photo Submissions

Greetings all Muir Packs & Troops! The Muir District wants to recognize and promote you and the activities you do via this FB group. If you are a member of this FB group, please post photos of your Pack/Troop participating in Scouting activities and include a brief article. I will limit these posts to once a week with exceptions for special events (Blue & Gold, Scout Sunday, Summer Camp, etc.).

As always, please adhere to Scouting America's YPT policies including not tagging/writing the names of Scouts under age 18, make sure to get consent from the parents/guardians of Scouts before posting photos, and ensure the photos are Scouting appropriate.

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Muir Scouts in Action or Scouting Activities Submissions

At the same time, if you have any pictures or videos of Muir District Scouts in Action (service projects, heroism, etc.) or Scouting Activities (Scouting America derbies, training, blue and gold, court of honor, etc.) please email them to patrickj0208@yahoo.com and include a copy of the Medical Record ([Part A](#)) release for each Scout so that they can be recognized/featured in the District Newsletters!

We also accept any submissions of notable Scouting-related recognitions, awards, or news of Scouts/Scouters.

This was updated on 2/22/2024.



[Calling all Muir Eagle Scouts to join the GGAC Eagles Nest!](#)

The GGAC Eagles Nest is an Eagle Scout community that launched on June 4, 2023 and since then, we are already 580+ members strong. This network of Eagle Scouts provides an opportunity for you to connect, learn, and grow alongside like-minded individuals who share your passion for Scouting. Now is the perfect time to join *and it's free*.

Earning the Eagle Scout award is a significant accomplishment that demonstrates exceptional leadership, character, and service to others. If you have earned this prestigious rank and are looking for ways to connect with other Eagle Scouts, consider joining the Golden Gate Area Council's Eagle's Nest. This group is open to all Eagle Scouts who reside, work, are registered, or were once members of the [GGAC or any of its legacy councils](#). Celebrate your achievement by joining the Eagle's Nest today and connecting with a community of fellow Eagle Scouts.

As a member of the Eagle's Nest, you'll gain access to various benefits and perks designed exclusively for Eagle Scouts. Here are a few highlights:

- **Stay Informed:** Receive timely emails with Eagle Scout-specific updates, news, and events.
- **Connections:** Connect with fellow Eagle Scouts through gatherings and events created for networking and fellowship.
- **Get Eagle Gear:** Enjoy early access to GGAC Eagle Scout & Eagle's Nest gear to display your achievement proudly.
- **Showcase Your Success:** Add your photo to our [Digital Eagle Scout Wall](#) and place a marker on our [Eagle Scout Project Map](#).

[Click Here to Join the Eagles Nest Today!](#)

Feel free to contact me for any Eagles Nest-related inquiries!

Once an Eagle, Always an Eagle

Patrick Jaime

*Council NESAs Committee | Muir District Eagles Nest Ambassador
Golden Gate Area Council, Scouting America*

(925) 451-6944 | patrickj0208@yahoo.com

<https://eagles.ggacbsa.org>



This was announced on 5/24/2023.



Scouts BSA Troop social media content & resources

Not sure if you are aware but National does have an active Scouts BSA Facebook page with all sort of content and resources for Troops. These posts cover content from camping, advancement, program, training, and more based on real time updates. For example, there will be several posts about camping and merit badges during Summer Camp season.

Check it out below and like/follow if you are not already!

<https://www.facebook.com/officialscoutsbsa>.



GGAC Eagle Rank Process

Attention Muir Eagle Coaches and Scouts working on Eagle Scout: Eagle Scout Rank applications are sent to Golden Gate Area Council for approval signature by Nicole Ruvalcabo. Nicole's email is nicole.ruvalcabo@scouting.org.

If you have any Life Scouts who are nearing age 18, please have him or her visit the links here: [Eagle Rank Extension - Guide](#) & [Eagle Rank Extension - Form](#).

Muir District Website (subdomain of Council Website)

Reminder: we have a [website for our District!](#) Please go and check it out! Currently, the Zoom information for both the District Roundtable and the Commissioner & Committee Meetings are posted on the Home page. Advancement information such as the Life to Eagle Process, Guide to Advancement, and Virtual Advancement is available. There are Unit contacts which redirects to beascout.org.

<https://muir.ggacbsa.org>

Wek-Wek Village, Order of the Arrow web page

We also have a web page linked to the Muir website for the Wek-Wek Village, Order of the Arrow! It is located under the "OA tab at top in the Menu bar or you may go to: <https://muir.ggacbsa.org/wek-wek-village/>. That web page will have recent announcements, upcoming meetings/events, Village leadership roster, and a link to their Facebook page.

If you have any feedback on what we should have on our District website or OA web page, please let Patrick Jaime, District Communications Chair know at: patrickj0208@yahoo.com!



WEK-WEK VILLAGE

YERBA BUENA LODGE

Next Wek-Wek Village Meeting will be in-person on September 11, 2024 at 7:00 pm!

On September 11th, we will have a chapter meeting at 7:00 pm. The meeting will be at the Salvation Army Church in Concord, in the Troop 370 Scoutshack in the back parking lot. An address will be below.

We will be going over upcoming events, as well as discussing elections. Attending meetings is essential to keeping our chapter alive and active, so please attend.

And don't forget to wear your uniform! (Sash included)

Wek-Wek Village Merchandise for sale!

Purchase orders for Wek-Wek Village Merchandise are open for the upcoming holiday season! Show some Arrowman pride! Don't have to be an active OA member to purchase. Click the picture or on this link to order today: <https://forms.gle/F2488vuefBt6Y5oX9>



**SALE
SALE
SALE
SALE**

WEK-WEK VILLAGE
YERBA BUENA LODGE

WEK-WEK VILLAGE
YERBA BUENA LODGE

**WEK - WEK
VILLAGE
MERCHANDISE**

LIMITED EDITION

Order yours today at
<https://forms.gle/F2488vuefBt6Y5oX9>

Questions, comments, concerns
email us at
wekwek.yerbabuena.aa@gmail.com.

District Committee Positions

Calling all adults over 21 years of age! If you are interested in or would like to learn more on how you can help Scouting in our area, contact our District Commissioner Arnel Jaime at arnel.scouting@gmail.com.



Muir District News

Want to get some late breaking Scouting news or post an event? Then join our Muir District Facebook Group page. Follow the link below, answer a quick question regarding your Scouting experience, and you will gain access to the group page. Don't forget to share this with members of your Pack or Troop!
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/325497627480390/>

Council News

Check out the Council website for the latest Council news, and updates:
<https://ggacbsa.org>.

If you are not receiving the Council eNews, you may subscribe here:
<https://share.hsforms.com/1SAx-4jdpRreiwThejz8U7Qcwum3>



SCOUT SHOP
Official Retailer of the BSA

Pleasant Hill Scout Shop Information

The Scout Shop in Pleasant Hill is open and waiting for you to come purchase all your supplies! 508 Contra Costa Blvd. Suite K2, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523. Please visit [GGAC Scout Shop \(ggacbsa.org\)](http://GGAC Scout Shop (ggacbsa.org)) for information before you go. Store hours (including lunch break), available items, how to order ahead, and other useful tips are there.



SCOUTINGWIRE

Powerful Cub Scout leader resources

A lot of useful content is being posted on Scoutingwire at: <https://scoutingwire.org>.

From giving your new Den Leader instant meeting plans: <https://scoutingwire.org/this-new-video-series-delivers-the-ultimate-den->

[leader-experience/](#).

To a host of other ideas like leading Zoom meeting for Cub Scouts, Virtual fall recruiting (including the use of digital applications and payment), and BeAScout tips, <https://scoutingwire.org/marketing-and-membership-hub/>.

GGAC Leave No Trace Courses 2024

Registration for the Fall 2024 Leave No Trace Courses will be available on-line after June 2024. Email GGAC Outdoor Ethics Advocate Lillian Remer for any questions or for more information at: remer@astound.net

Note: please disregard the flyer for the Spring 2024 Course for May 18-19, 2024. The date for that event has already passed.



**Leave No Trace Level 1 Instructor
or
NEW Leave No Trace Skills Course
May 18-19, 2024
Camp Herms, El Cerrito, Ca**

We are offering a dual track hybrid course in order to comply with changes from Leave No Trace.

1. Registered Scouters (age 18 and over) may take the Level 1 (formerly Trainer) course leading to certification as a Level 1 Leave No Trace Instructor.
2. Registered Scouts (First Class and at least age 12) and Scouters may take the Leave No Trace Skills course (Certificate of Completion by Leave no Trace)

Level 1 Instructor certification will require 2 hours of on-line training and preparation of a 10-15 minute presentation prior to the weekend of outdoor training at Camp Herms.

Participants should already be familiar with the seven principles of Leave No Trace. The Skills course is highly recommended for Scouts who wish to hold the *Outdoor Ethics Guide* position of responsibility and will replace req. 6 for the National Medal for Outdoor Achievement.

Questions regarding the course may be directed to Lillian Remer at remer@astound.net

Registration will be available on line in January 2024 at <https://www.scoutingevent.com/023-LNTTSpring2024>. Cost \$40 until 2 weeks prior to class; \$45 after May 4.



**Leave No Trace Level 1 Instructor
or
NEW Leave No Trace Skills Course
October 12-13, 2024
Rancho Los Mochos, Livermore, CA**

We are offering a dual track hybrid course in order to comply with changes from Leave No Trace.

1. Registered Scouts or Scouters (age 18 and over) may take the Level 1 (formerly Trainer) course leading to certification as a Level 1 Leave No Trace Instructor
2. Registered Scouts (First Class and at least age 12) and Scouters may take the Leave No Trace Skills course (also certified by LNT.org)

Level 1 Instructor certification will require 2 hours of on line training and preparation of a presentation prior to the weekend of outdoor training at Rancho Los Mochos.

Participants should already be familiar with the seven principles of Leave No Trace. The Skills course is highly recommended for Scouts who wish to hold the *Outdoor Ethics Guide* position of responsibility and will replace req. 6 for the National Medal for Outdoor Achievement.

Questions regarding the course may be directed to Lillian Remer at remer@astound.net

Registration will be available on line after May, 2024 at <https://www.scoutingevent.com/023-LNTTFall2024>.

This was updated on 09/20/2022.



GGAC Process for the Citizenship in Society Merit Badge

Updated information here: <https://ggacbsa.org/citizenship%20in%20society/>

All Scoutmasters and Committee Chairs received an email from May or June 2022 from the Council Advancement Committee with information about the Citizenship in Society Merit Badge.

The Scoutmaster should:

- Review the Citizenship in Society requirements.
- Review the Scout's record of completed merit badges.
- Discuss cohort participation with Scout and parent. Determine readiness.
- Complete the on-line form to submit a virtual blue card: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSca_YGcCVSBSxU-XIKSNhcmrZjr12UkrajEIWcAcy2CSuRKcw/viewform
- Ensure the parent is connected to Scout in Scoutbook as all communication and Merit Badge sign-offs will occur through Scoutbook.

Working on Eagle? Here are your contacts:

District Advancement Chair: Carolyn Paulson: 925-586-4358, cdpaul1@hotmail.com

District Eagle Project Approval: Carl Bodin: 415-816-7307, carl.bodin@gmail.com

District Eagle Board of Review: Sherri Ruhl: 925-681-9566, muirdistricteaglechair@gmail.com

Muir District Key 3 Leadership

Carl Bodin - District Chair, carl.bodin@gmail.com

Arnel Jaime - District Commissioner, arnel.scouting@gmail.com

Natalie Hannum - District Executive, natalie.hannum@scouting.org

Quick Links

Muir District subdomain (website)

<https://muir.ggacbsa.org>

Muir District Facebook Group

Council Facebook Page



Muir District Instagram

[@muirdistrictbsa](https://www.instagram.com/muirdistrictbsa)



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

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