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12/12/2024 8:17 PM

Fw: The latest news for you

To dbalmer8 <dbalmer8@comcast.net> • Lois Caipen <locaipen@aol.com>

Mary Mazza-Andersen | District Director

Great Southwest-Yucca Council 412

Scouting  America

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From: Great Southwest - Yucca Council <mary.mazza-andersen-scouting.org@shared1.ccsend.com>

Sent: Thursday, December 12, 2024 3:08 PM

To: Mary Mazza-Andersen <Mary.Mazza-Andersen@scouting.org>

Subject: The latest news for you



**Scouting
America**TM

Great Southwest - Yucca Council

Happy Holidays!

December 2024

The ALBUQUERQUE office is open 9am-5pm on
Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

The High Desert Scout Shop in Albuquerque will be closed
Monday, Dec. 23, through Thursday, Jan. 2.

The EL PASO office is open 10am-2pm
Monday through Friday.

The Yucca Scout Shop in El Paso will be closed
Monday, Dec. 23, through Wednesday, Jan. 1.

BOTH OFFICES will be closed Monday through Friday,
Dec. 23-27, for the Holiday week and
Wednesday, Jan. 1 for New Year's Day.

Upcoming Events

2025, North Service Area (previously the Great Southwest Council)

1/25 Annual Awards Banquet
2/1-2/2 Scouting For Food
2/2 Scout Sunday
2/7-2/9 Klondike
2/8 Happy Birthday Scouting America
3/7 - 3/9 OA LLD
4/4 - 4/6 OA Section Conclave
4/12 Metro Area PWD
4/25-4/27 Camporee
5/3 Metro Spring Adventure Day
5/3 International Scouts Trash the Trash Day
5/10 International Jamboree on the Trail Day
5/16 - 5/18 OA Spring Conclave

2025, South Service Area (previously the Yucca Council)

1/4 State 47 Marathon
1/4 OA Lodge Awards Banquet
1/9 Eagle Banquet
1/18-19 Klondike
1/15 Pinewood Derby Build Day
2/8 Scouting for Food Donation Pick-up
2/8 Top Sellers Party
2/9 Scout Sunday
2/15 Annual Dinner
2/16 Scout Sunday at United Methodist Church
2/22 Pinewood Derby Build Day
3/1 Cub Klondike

2025, Gorham (<https://cas5-0-urlprotect.trendmicro.com:443/wis/clicktime/v1/query?url=https%3a%2f%2fwww.gorhamscoutranchbsa.org&umid=292043b2-c1ea-4a33-b403-1cf458670a71&auth=203ecf89f7cd4098d9eaa5656305d334dc98bd7e-fdec0fbe1559f5e18385774e392572cde59b7811>)

6/8-6/14 Brownsea and NYLT
6/15-6/21 Week One and Zia Scouts
6/22-6/28 Week Two
6/29-7/3 Webelos Week in the Woods
7/6-7/12 Week Three

All Scouts are invited to all activities in either Service Area!

Go to the website calendar for more information, www.gswcbsa.org and www.yuccabsa.org.

Albuquerque and El Paso Scouting America Councils Merge to serve more youth

The executive board of the Great Southwest Council and the executive board of the Yucca Council are pleased to announce that after thorough consideration and votes of approval by the voting members of both Councils, the two Councils will be merged into one Council. This will form a singular New Mexico based non-profit, which will house offices in both Albuquerque and El Paso. Today's announcement is the culmination of over two years of collaboration between the two Councils. Both Councils began doing business together including the sharing of staff, volunteers, and other resources over two years ago.

“We are excited to bring together two Councils with a rich Scouting history. Combining resources will streamline operations and offer greater opportunities to our members, while helping our Council grow. Our executive boards have been working together, cooperatively for over two years, so this merger should feel seamless to our current Scouts and volunteers,” said Mark Yarbrough, Great Southwest Council President.

“The merger of these two great Councils, both dating back to the 1920s and the earliest days of Scouting in America, is a new era that will ensure the survival of Scouting in the Upper Rio Grande area. Every Scout and every youth in Far West Texas and New Mexico will benefit from the opportunities this merger offers,” said Jim Libbin, Yucca Council Board President.

We wish to thank the numerous volunteers who have poured their time and their hearts into making this a successful merger. Every decision made regarding the merger began with the premise, “What is best for the Scouts we serve?” The interim name of the merged Council is the Great Southwest-Yucca Council. A naming contest is underway to determine a permanent Council name and will be announced in the

first quarter of next year. We look forward to welcoming new families into the adventure of Scouting. For more information, please visit our websites at www.gswcbsa.org or www.yuccabsa.org. To join Scouting, please visit www.BeAScout.org.

Great Southwest - Yucca Council Naming Poll

With the merger of the Great Southwest and Yucca Councils into a singular Council, we have an exciting opportunity to choose a new Council name. As you may recall, we had a contest open to our youth members to submit potential new names. The Council Key 3 have selected two finalists: High Desert Council and El Camino Real Council. We are opening the voting to every unit in the Council.

Each UNIT (Pack, Troop, Crew, or Post) will have one vote to choose our new name. Please discuss the two names at an upcoming unit meeting. Please have your unit select the one name they like the best. Then, any member from your Unit Key 3 (Committee Chair; Unit Leader, Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, Crew Advisor, Post Advisor; or the Charter Organization Representative) may submit their vote one time on the Google form. If we receive multiple entries from your unit, only the first received from a Unit Key 3 will be counted.

The deadline to vote is January 17, 2025. We look forward to sharing the new name with you soon after that!

Here is the link:

<https://forms.gle/ioxq8Lk5p3qw6aL36>

Dear Scouters, Volunteers and Families:

During the first six months of 2025, we will be working to consolidate the Great Southwest and Yucca Council IT resources to accommodate our merger. This will include:

1. Creating a single website for the new Council.
 - a. The two current websites will remain active until the new one is ready to go.
2. Moving event registrations and management of those events to Blackpug, the event management platform currently used by the Yucca Council.

- a. This change will go into effect 1-1-2025. Current registrations and payments already made in Tentaroo for events after this date will be moved for you. You will want to create a new user account in Blackpug, but it is not required. It would save you time later. Here is a link to do that: <https://scoutingevent.com/573/Login/>
 - b. All events, both North and South, will be open to everyone. Please make sure you check event locations before registering.
 3. Creating a single Facebook presence for the new Council.
 4. Exploring a new email/newsletter platform for the new Council.
- We are working hard to make this transition as painless and transparent as possible for you. If, at any time, you have questions or concerns, please reach out to one of us.
- Fred Youberg, Webmaster, lovedadfred@gmail.com
Sarah Davis, District Executive – South, sarah.davis@scouting.org
Mary Mazza-Andersen, District Director – North, mary.mazza-andersen@scouting.org!"

RECHARTERING UPDATE

With the calendar turning over to December, hopefully the thoughts of Unit Key 3s are not only on the impending Christmas holiday, but also the annual charter renewal process. While the Great Southwest and Yucca Councils have merged legally and financially, their my.scouting accounts won't be merged until next week. Since we can't provide any numbers on how recharter is going in the new Council, we'll focus on how to have a successful recharter.

With BSA disconnecting individual membership renewal from renewing the unit's charter, the old "recharter" process is now called "Unit Renewal." Unit Renewal has been available since Nov. 1, so we have some experience with how it works. Since it's been disconnected from the membership renewal process, think of the unit renewal process having two phases, Preparation and Renewal/Posting: The new should be quicker and easier, and it can be ... and here are some tips for getting thorough both phases. All directed towards helping us accomplish our goal of finishing the process for all units before the office staff start their holiday breaks later this month.

PREPARATION

- Ensure that Youth Protection Training (YPT) for all adults is current, and will remain current through the end of December 2024. Please note: If someone's YPT has expired and their membership has been Suspended, they won't appear on any rosters. So if someone is missing, or a position is showing as un-filled, check to see if it's due to expired YPT. (As a side note, if a person's membership has been Suspended, they will NOT receive reminders to renew their membership ... and about 90% of council members have their membership expiring in December 2024!)
- Ensure the positions for adult leaders are correct. If not, use the Position Manager function in Organization Manager to update the positions.
- Check to see if your BeAScout 'pin' data is correct. BeAScout pins can be updated via the Unit Pin link in Organization Manager.

RENEWAL/POSTING

When ready to begin the Unit Renewal process, unit Key 3s/Key 3 Delegates need to log into their my.scouting.org accounts, and click on the Organization Manager tool. Once that page loads, they'll see a Unit Renewal option on the left. Unit Renewal will be a short 6-Step process online, and an additional paper-based step:

Online Steps:

1. Log into my.scouting and click on Organization Manager.
2. Click on the Unit Renewal option.
3. Validate the information presented (and fix any issues it may identify such as adults needing YPT, positions that need to be changed, etc). Once all issues are fixed, you'll be taken to a page to validate the unit's Be A Scout "PIN" information.
4. Review all PIN-related information to ensure it's correct.
5. Person doing Unit Renewal enter their name in the Signature field.
6. Pay the annual Charter fee, and click Submit. The fee is \$100.00, and can be paid by ACH, credit card, or at the Council office. For ACH, there's a \$1.00 fee; for credit card, there's a 3% processing fee. There's no charge for any form of payment made at the Council office. Please note that for troops that are part of the "Combined" (i.e., co-ed) troop test, they must renew both the active and hold units. This is in case the unit wants to withdraw from the test, or Scouting America decides to not go forward with combined units. This will ensure there's a unit for them to go back to.

Paper Step

Unit leaders need to complete the annual charter agreement to finish the process. A copy of the form can be found at: https://www.scouting.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/BSA-Annual-Charter-Agreement-Charter-Orgs_2024-2025.pdf . Once a copy of the signed charter agreement form is received, the Council Registrar will post the charter, completing the process!

This is a lot of information to digest about a new process. Here's a couple of other resources that might help:

- BSA has provided this short (2min, 33 seconds) video that summarizes the process: <https://vimeo.com/1022144666>
- And here's the BSA website that has many other resources related to unit renewal, including a number of FAQs:

<https://www.scouting.org/resources/unit-and-membership-renewal/>

- If you have questions, or have run into obstacles, please reach out to the Council Commissioner, Dale Balmer, dbalmer8@comcast.net or the Council Registrar, Kathy Ferdig, kathy.ferdig@scouting.org, in the old Great Southwest Council, or Nate Jones, Council Commissioner in the old Yucca Council, nathanieljones1954@gmail.com

Ways to Support the Council

The Auction will run through Dec. 18. Here's a photo of an item that might interest you. We also have trips, photography sessions, art, patches, etc.! The link to the auction is

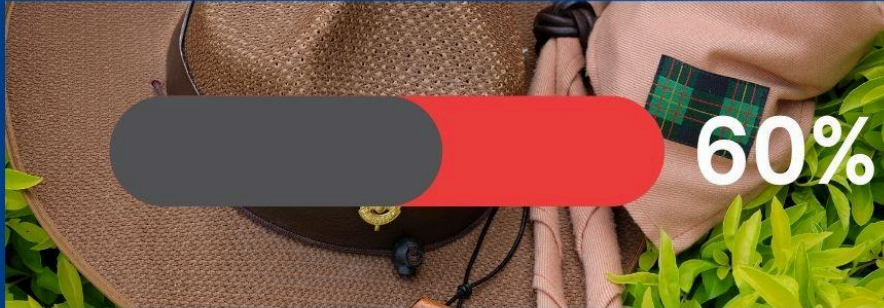
<https://new.biddingowl.com/GSWCAventureOnAuction>







End of Year Fundraising Challenge



This year, we're setting out to achieve a bold goal—raising \$6,000 by December 31st to support the life-changing adventures of Scouting.

We're challenging everyone who loves Scouting to be part of the change. Your support will help us provide unforgettable experiences, develop tomorrow's leaders, and ensure Scouting continues to thrive in our community.

Scan our QR Code to donate today!



COMMEMORATIVE NYLT CSP PATCH FUNDRAISER

2" x 5"



GHOSTED
ELEMENT
2024

\$10 for pick-up at Yucca Council Office or \$12 with shipping.



SCAN THIS QR CODE TO
PURCHASE. OR VISIT
scoutingevent.com/573-90372.
SUPPLIES ARE LIMITED.

All proceeds from this fundraiser go toward the
Conquistador, Great Southwest, and Yucca 2025 NYLT course.

New Council Committee!

The Council is in the process of organizing a Council Committee for Scouts with Special Needs. If you would like to join this committee, please email Mary at mary.mazza-andersen@scouting.org.

Upcoming Events!

Council Events





CONQUISTADOR - GREAT SOUTHWEST - YUCCA

NYLT

TODAY'S YOUTH. TOMORROW'S LEADERS!

JUNE 8TH - 14TH, 2025
AT GORHAM SCOUT RANCH
\$300 PER PARTICIPANT



TO REGISTER SCAN THIS QR CODE

SEND YOUR YOUTH TO AN EXCITING, ACTION-PACKED SIX-DAY COURSE DESIGNED TO PROVIDE SCOUTING YOUTH MEMBERS WITH LEADERSHIP SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE THEY CAN USE IN THEIR HOME UNITS AND IN OTHER SITUATIONS DEMANDING LEADERSHIP OF SELF AND OTHERS.

NATIONAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP TRAINING CENTERS AROUND THE CONCEPTS OF WHAT A LEADER MUST BE, WHAT A LEADER MUST KNOW, AND WHAT A LEADER MUST DO. THROUGH ACTIVITIES, PRESENTATIONS, CHALLENGES, DISCUSSIONS, AND AUDIO-VISUAL SUPPORT, NYLT PARTICIPANTS WILL BE ENGAGED IN A UNIFIED APPROACH TO LEADERSHIP THAT WILL GIVE THEM THE SKILLS AND CONFIDENCE TO LEAD WELL AND PUT INTO ACTION THE BEST SCOUTING HAS TO OFFER.

TO ATTEND A NYLT COURSE, A YOUTH MUST BE AT LEAST 13 YEARS OLD, HAVE COMPLETED THE FIRST CLASS RANK AND HAVE A RECOMMENDATION FROM THEIR UNIT LEADER.



2" x 5"



GHOSTED ELEMENT 2024

\$10
for pick-up at Yucca Council Office

\$12
with shipping

SCAN THIS QR CODE TO PURCHASE A COMMEMORATIVE 2024 NYLT CSP AND HELP RAISE FUNDS FOR THE 2025 COURSE! SUPPLIES ARE LIMITED.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT THE COURSE DIRECTOR, JASON RUBY, AT 915-203-3291 OR JTRUBY@SWILP.COM, OR VISIT WWW.SCOUTINGEVENT.COM/573-NYLT25



Southern Service Area



2025 Eagle Banquet

January **9TH** 6:30PM

hosted by

**SCOUTING AMERICA-YUCCA
COUNCIL**

GRACE GARDENS EVENT CENTER





Northern Service Area

Gorham Scout Ranch

KLONDIKE DERBY



FEBRUARY 7 - 9, 2025
Gorham Scout Ranch - Chimayo NM

Since 1949, BSA units have been conducting “Klondike Derbies” to give their Scouts a chance to test their Scoutcraft skills, strengthen their patrols and have fun with Scouts from other Troops. Get those sleds prepped, dig out your cold weather gear and bring your Patrol to Gorham Scout Ranch for a fun and frosty weekend!

SCOUT SKILLS | PATROL METHOD | TEAM BUILDING

FOR MORE INFORMATION <https://www.gswcbsa.org/content/121959/Klondike>



Scouting America
Great Southwest - Yucca Council



Thank You!



SCOUTING AMERICA- YUCCA COUNCIL

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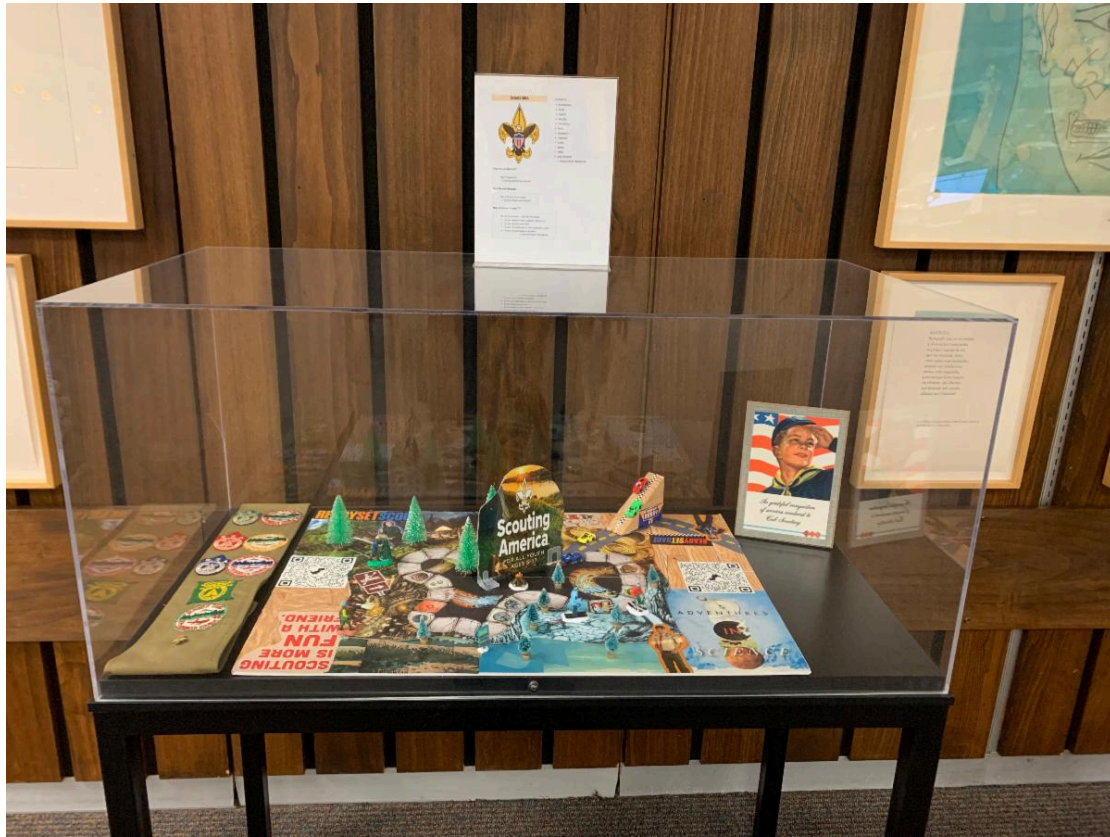
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WE EXTEND OUR HEARTFELT THANKS TO OUR TITLE SPONSOR, CASA AUTO GROUP, FOR THEIR INCREDIBLE SUPPORT. A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO ALL OUR PARTICIPANTS, VOLUNTEERS, AND GUESTS WHO JOINED US TO MAKE THIS EVENT A SUCCESS. YOUR DEDICATION AND ENTHUSIASM CONTINUE TO MAKE A MEANINGFUL IMPACT ON THE YUCCA COUNCIL. WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING EVERYONE AGAIN IN 2025!



Thank you, Lily, for creating this display, which is at the Main Library in Albuquerque!



High Desert Scout Shop

THE Scouting America STRIP HAS ARRIVED!

ORDER A UNIFORM SHIRT AND GET A FREE SCOUTING AMERICA STRIP TO SEW ON YOUR NEW SHIRT!

Available Online + In-Store

An advertisement for Scouting America uniform shirts. The top half has a yellow background with the text 'THE Scouting America STRIP HAS ARRIVED!'. Below this, on a dark green background, are two shirts: a white one and a blue one. To the right of the shirts is a plus sign, followed by two 'Scouting America' strips, an equals sign, and a photo of a girl and a boy in scout uniforms. The text 'ORDER A UNIFORM SHIRT AND GET A FREE SCOUTING AMERICA STRIP TO SEW ON YOUR NEW SHIRT!' is on the left, and 'Available Online + In-Store' is at the bottom.



STARTING AT \$ 13.50 /HR.

**NOW HIRING
SALES ASSOCIATE**

- Flexible part-time hours
- 25% employee discounts
- Work with fellow Scouters
- Be a part of the Scout Shop team

Apply now! Ask a Scout Shop Associate for details

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