

AUGUST 2025



# STC Chronicles

*South Texas Council Scouting Updates*



## Quick Highlights

Click on the events below for more information:

**August 2** -OAFellowship

**August 9** -Popcorn and Membership PEP-RALLY!

**August 15** -IOLS and BALOO Training

**August 16** -Cub Scout Leader Specific Training

**September 12-14** - International Camporee at Karankawa

**September 27** - Council Fishing Derby

**October 3** -Toughest Scout Challenge

**October 4** -Scouting For Food

**October 11** -Work Day at Camp Karankawa and Camp Huisache

**October 17-18** Cub Family Campout at Camp Huisache

**October 17-19** Cub Family Campout at Camp Karankawa

**November 8** -Javelina Night at Texas A&M Kingsville

**November 21-23** - Cub Family Campout at Camp Karankawa

## Scouting Forward

The Scouting journey or adventure doesn't stop at the Eagle Rank, especially if the Scout is young and still has several years before turning 18 or graduating from high school. Scouting's older youth programs, Venturing, Sea Scouts, and Exploring are wonderful opportunities for youth to continue learning new skills, experience high adventures, and be around other Scouts their age.

I believe the longer a young person remains in Scouting the higher the possibility they will reengage in Scouting as parents with their children. Scouting can set the stage for a lifetime of adventures for our young people. Let's encourage our Scouts to continue their journey as long as possible. As an organization we will only be stronger for it.

I encourage you to talk to your Scout(s) about our older youth programs and to learn more about these awesome adventures. <https://www.scouting.org/programs/>

Let's grow Scouting in South Texas!

May the Great Scoutmaster of all times be with us until we meet again!

**Marty Sepulveda**  
**Eagle Scout**  
**Scout Executive & CEO**



## Keep Your Campfire & Food Safe This Summer!



Summer is the perfect time to enjoy the great outdoors—whether it's camping, picnics, or backyard cookouts. But warmer temperatures increase the risk of food-borne illnesses, often caused by improper food handling. At the same time, campfires bring warmth and fun but also require careful attention to safety to prevent accidents. To ensure your outdoor adventures are both safe and enjoyable, it's essential to follow simple, important practices for handling food and managing campfires.

Scouting America's Keeping Your Food Safe safety moment makes it that much easier to prevent food-borne illness by remembering to:

***Maintain the Three Cs!***

### **Keep it COLD**

- Bacteria grow slowly when food is kept below 40°F or above 140°F. The temperature range in between, known as the "danger zone," is where bacteria multiply rapidly. Keeping food out of this zone is key to safety.

### **Keep it CLEAN**

- Always sanitize your hands with soap and water or disposable wipes before handling food. Wash fruits and vegetables thoroughly before cutting them on clean surfaces. Avoid cross-contamination by ensuring raw meat, poultry, or their juices never come into contact with fresh or prepared foods.

### **COOK it Thoroughly**

- Meat can harbor harmful bacteria, so use a digital instant-read thermometer to ensure it's cooked to the proper internal temperature. Remember to clean the thermometer between uses to avoid cross-contamination. For guidance on safe temperatures, refer to the USDA Grilling Food Safety page

### **Safe Food Storage**

Following Scouting America's Leave No Trace Seven Principles during camping helps promote respect for nature and safety for all participants.

#### **Principle Six – Respect Wildlife**

Store food securely and keep garbage and scraps away from animals to prevent them from developing harmful habits. Never feed wildlife—help keep wildlife wild.

In the backcountry, remember to:

- Keep food out of your tent
- Never leave food unattended
- Hang food properly to keep it safe from animals

### **Campfire Safety**

Campfires are central to the outdoor experience, offering a warm place for stories, reflection, and fellowship. But fire can be dangerous, so it's essential to follow safety practices while cooking and enjoying the campfire.



#### Smart Campfire Behaviors:

- Always respect fire—stay outside the fire ring and never touch any part of it once lit.
- Don't run, jump, or play around the campfire—fires can cause serious injuries.
- Follow the rule: "Once it's in, it stays in." Don't pull anything out of the fire.

#### Maintaining a Safe Campfire & Campsite:

- Ensure the campfire is set at a safe distance from seating areas and tents.
- Check local and federal regulations regarding fire bans and policies before lighting a fire.

#### Cooking or Roasting Over a Campfire:

- Never swing, flick, or throw hot or burning food. Stay calm if food burns or catches fire.
- Use a long skewer to keep a safe distance from the fire ring or containment area.
- Handle sharp skewers carefully—keep tips pointed safely to avoid injury, especially in the dark. Maintain space around you to keep others safe.

#### Aaron on Scouting Resources

- The three-pot method: This is how to wash dishes at a campsite
- How to Store Food Properly in the Backcountry
- The two questions that must be asked before you start a campfire

**Visit Scouting America's Safety Moment landing page here!**

## New Service Area Update!

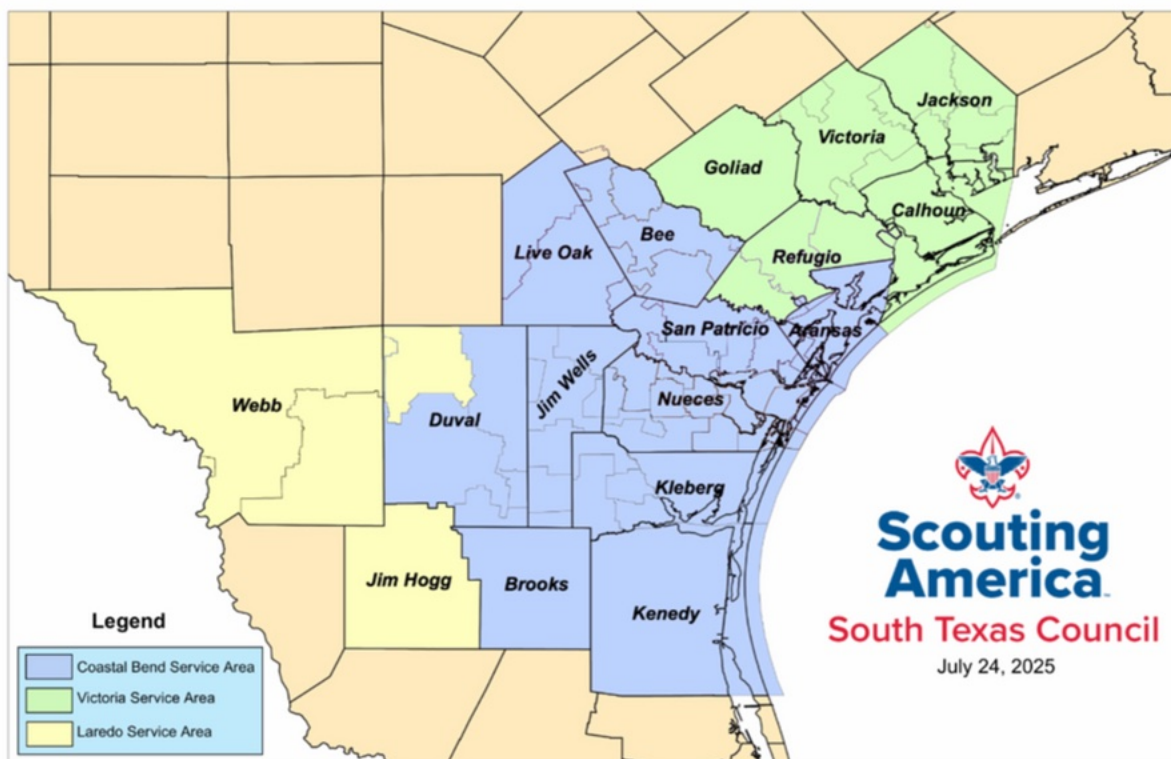
The South Texas Council is excited to share a positive step forward in our ongoing mission to provide the best possible Scouting experience for every youth and family we serve.

As part of our commitment to growth and excellence, on September 1st we are realigning our districts, from five to three, in order to strengthen support, increase collaboration, and focus our efforts where they are needed most.

This is more than just a structural update, it's a strategic move designed to enhance how we serve our units. By consolidating our resources and uniting our dedicated volunteers, we're creating a service model that is efficient, responsive, and tailored to the unique needs of our communities.

Our new district structure is built around the idea of serving where the need is greatest. It allows us to be more agile, more intentional, and more supportive—ensuring that every Scout, leader, and unit has access to the guidance and resources they need to thrive. Councils across the country are making similar realignments as a natural part of healthy, growing organizations—and we are proud to be moving forward with purpose and clarity.

With this transition, we look forward to deeper connections, stronger teams, and a renewed focus on what matters most: helping young people grow into leaders of character.



## Membership Rally - August 9th

### Get Ready for an Amazing Year of Scouting!

Join us on August 9th for the Council Membership Rally & Popcorn Pep Rally — an exciting and essential event for unit leaders, parents, and Scouts alike!

This all-in-one rally is your launchpad for a successful Scouting year. Whether you're looking to grow your unit, boost your fundraising, or energize your program, we've got you covered.

- **Membership Breakouts:** Learn how to host exciting Scout talks, plan impactful recruitment events, and run open houses that make kids want to join. Discover best practices that work—and what to avoid.
- **Popcorn Rally:** Explore the easiest and most effective way to fund your adventures. Get tips on goal setting, promotion, and sales strategies that drive success.



There will be food, snacks, door prizes, and a ton of energy—this is not your average meeting.

**Don't miss this chance to get inspired, informed, and ready for your best year yet. Every unit deserves success—and it starts August 9th!**

## Popcorn Season is Here!

### Why Should You Sell Popcorn in 2025?

- 
- ✓ **\$200 in Free Popcorn Just for Signing Up**  
Didn't sell last year? Trail's End will give your unit 2 FREE boxes of White Cheddar popcorn (a \$200 value) just for registering. No risk, no commitment. Try it out!
  - ✓ **NEW! Tap-to-Pay Integration**  
Say goodbye to clunky card readers. Just tap your customer's card to your phone using the Trail's End app — no extra devices or manual entry needed.
  - ✓ **Access to Premium Storefront Locations**  
Trail's End is partnering with us to secure hundreds of big-box storefront hours. Log in, pick the time and location that works for your unit, and start selling — no hassle.
  - ✓ **Higher Commissions = More Money for Your Scouts**  
This year's base commission is 35% (up from 30%)  
Earn +2% more by attending the Aug 7th Popcorn Pep Rally  
And earn another +1% by beating your unit's sales from last year  
👉 That's up to 38% commission back to your unit!



## Friends of Scouting



**Scouting changes lives.** It builds character, leadership, and resilience in our youth, equipping them with skills that last a lifetime. As a valued member of our Scouting community, we invite you to be part of something truly impactful—the 2025 Friends of Scouting campaign.

**Every dollar makes a difference!** Together, we can inspire and support the next generation of leaders. Thank you for your commitment to Scouting and for making a difference in the lives of young people.

## August 2 - Laredo Cub Scout Sumer Fun!



Laredo Cub Scout Summer Fun Series. [Register Here.](#)

Join us for one last chance to earn your Summertime Fun Adventure Beltloop!

Our Cub Scout Summertime Fun Series offers fun-filled adventures where Cub Scouts can enjoy outdoor activities, learn new skills, and make lasting memories—all while earning advancements and building friendships.

Bring a friend and invite them to join the Scouting Adventure.

Location: Camp Huisache

Time: 9 am

## September 12-14 - International Camporee



Join us for the South Texas Council Scouting America's International Camporee—a celebration of unity, adventure, and cross-border friendship! This one-of-a-kind event brings together Scouts from across the United States and Mexico for a weekend filled with meaningful connections and unforgettable experiences. Held at the scenic and historic Camp Karankawa, nestled in the heart of South Texas, the camporee promises a vibrant mix of outdoor adventure, cultural exchange, and Scouting spirit.

Throughout the weekend, participants will take part in team building challenges, traditional camp games, shooting sports, living history, and a COPE ropes course all designed to foster cooperation and highlight the shared values of Scouts from different nations. Scouts can enjoy patch and neckerchief trading and participate in campfire programs, music, and ceremonies that celebrate our diversity and unity.

Are you fluent in Spanish? Translators/Ambassadors needed to join the camporee support staff. Contact Gilbert Ramon, chair, at [gilbertramon1@hotmail.com](mailto:gilbertramon1@hotmail.com).

You don't have Scouts attending but would like to help ensure the camporee is a success? Join the camporee planning team. Contact Gilbert Ramon at [gilbertramon1@hotmail.com](mailto:gilbertramon1@hotmail.com)



## October 3 - Toughest Scout Challenge



Join the Toughest Scout Challenge—an outdoor experience like no other, where teams from businesses and organizations compete alongside Scouts in high-energy events to support youth programs across South Texas.

Test your teamwork, grit, and creativity in challenges like archery, rifle and shotgun shooting, canoe relays, fire building, team flag design, ropes courses, tomahawk throwing, and more!

This unforgettable event builds bonds, sharpens problem-solving skills, and delivers the kind of growth no seminar can replicate—all while supporting local Scouting.

## Visit the Newly Redesigned Scout Shop!



Discover the all-new, redesigned Scout Shop—built with you in mind! Whether you're picking up a uniform, advancement items, literature, or patches, our refreshed layout makes it easier than ever to find exactly what you need. Everything is thoughtfully organized to save you time and get you back to doing what you love—Scouting! Stop by and see how we've transformed the shop to create a faster, smoother, and more enjoyable shopping experience.

## Scouting News



### Order of the Arrow

#### Scouting's National Honor Society

For more than 100 years, the Order of the Arrow (OA) has recognized Scouts and Scouters who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives. This recognition provides encouragement for others to live these ideals as well. Arrowmen are known for maintaining camping traditions and spirit, promoting year-round and long term resident camping, and providing cheerful service to others.



## National Jamboree! July 22- 31, 2026

**What is Jamboree?** Jamboree is more than a destination. It's the adventure of a lifetime. And there is simply nothing else like it on the planet. What is Jamboree? It's not camp. National Jamboree is 360-degrees of fun, friends and fellowship with hands-on adventure that takes you places you never thought you'd go and challenge you to try things you never thought you could. It's the beginning of your own heroes' journey that will challenge you to go farther than you ever thought possible. You'll reach deeper and lift yourself higher to become the best version of yourself.



## EAGLE SCOUT ASSOCIATION

Once an Eagle Scout, Always an Eagle Scout



## Eagle Scout Association

The South Texas Council (STC) Eagle Scout Association (ESA) is a local affiliate group of the National Eagle Scout Association. The STC ESA serves as the National Eagle Scout Association (NESA) connection, though one need not be a member of NESA to be a member of the Council ESA.

Councils are where the heart of the Alumni Program is located. The purposes of STC ESA are to:

- To support the council's mission and vision
- To help the council achieve its strategic goals.
- To find and encourage each Eagle Scout to serve as an active resource for the council's leadership and programs.



## Aztec District

**August 2** - Cub Scout Summer Fun Series. [Click Here to Register.](#)

**August 10** - Bowling Tournament (12pm)

**September 6** - Scouting Open House (9am - 11am)

**September 20** - Cub Scout Leader Specific Training (9am) & AOL Campout Prerequisite (1pm)

**September 27-28** - AOL Campout at Camp Huisache

Contact your District Executive, Ali Manrique, at

[alexandra.manrique@scouting.org](mailto:alexandra.manrique@scouting.org)





## Phoenix District

Contact James Rangel at [James.Rangel@Scouting.org](mailto:James.Rangel@Scouting.org) for more information.



## Seabreeze District

**The first Thursday of every month** - Round Table at the Council Service Center.

Contact James Rangel at [James.Rangel@Scouting.org](mailto:James.Rangel@Scouting.org) for more information.



## LaSalle District

**LaSalleDistrictMeetings:** Join us for District Meetings the 1st Thursday of every month. We talk about the key events in the district, discuss how we can help our units and more!

Contact your District Executive, Francisco Orozco at [Francisco.Oroz@Scouting.org](mailto:Francisco.Oroz@Scouting.org) for more information.



## Venado District

Contact James Rangel at [James.Rangel@Scouting.org](mailto:James.Rangel@Scouting.org) for more information.



## Employment Opportunities



### WE ARE HIRING!

#### PART TIME MEMBERSHIP GROWTH EXECUTIVE

- \$18/hr | 20 hrs/week
- Recruit youth and start new Scout groups.
- Organize events to inspire kids & families to join.
- Build relationships with community partners.
- Flexible work schedule.
- No Scouting experience required – we'll train you!
- Make a difference, build your resume, & help youth thrive!

Send your resume to :  
[martin.sepulveda@scouting.org](mailto:martin.sepulveda@scouting.org)



### We are Hiring!

Earn \$18/hour working 20 hours a week to help grow Scouting in your community. You'll recruit youth, start new Scout groups, and organize fun events to inspire kids and families. No Scouting experience needed—we'll train you! Enjoy a flexible schedule while making a difference, building your resume, and helping young people thrive.

## Holloway Scout Shop

### NOW HIRING SALES ASSOCIATE

- Part-time hours
- 25% employee discount
- Work with fellow Scouts
- Be a part of the Scout Shop team

**Starting at \$13.50/Hour**

Apply now! Ask a Scout Shop Associate for details

### Join the Holloway Scout Shop Team!

We're now hiring part-time Sales Associates starting at \$13.50/hour! Enjoy a 25% employee discount, flexible hours, and the chance to work alongside fellow Scouts. Apply today and become a valued part of the Scout Shop team — ask a Scout Shop Associate for details!

## Council Program Calendar

[CLICK HERE](#) for the latest council and district event calendar updates. Be informed!

### Stay Connected!



Boy Scouts of America - South Texas Council | 700 Everhart Road, Bldg. A | Corpus Christi, TX  
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