

SEPTEMBER 2025



# STC Chronicles

*South Texas Council Scouting Updates*



## Quick Highlights

Click on the events below for more information:

**September 6** -Camp Huisache Scouting Expo  
**September 12-14** - International Camporee at Karankawa  
**September 20** - Cub Scout Leader Specific Training/Laredo @ Camp Huisache  
**September 27** - Council Fishing Derby  
**September 27** - AOL Campout at Camp Huisache  
**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&18 - 18&19** - Cub Family Campout at Camp Karankawa  
**November 8** - Javelina Night at Texas A&M Kingsville  
**December 27-30** -Winter Camp Session #1  
**January 2-5** -Winter Camp Session #2  
**March 13-15, and April 11-12, 2026** - Woodbadge  
**July 22-31, 2026** - National Jamboree

## Scouting Forward

As the summer heat continues, our summer programs have come and gone, another season of summer camps and outdoor adventures to reminisce over a campfire. The stories of adventures will live in our memories and will be the stuff that makes Scouting so much fun. I hope you have a new story or two to tell your Scouts or families about the summer of 2025.

Fall is upon us, and if we are going to create more stories about Scouting adventures, then we need to share the love of Scouting with more youth and families this month. What is your pack, troop, crew, ship, or post planning to do to recruit more Scouts?

The council membership team shared with us the latest membership growth playbooks, and the playbooks outline the best practices to grow your unit. Take a minute and look through the playbooks—you might just learn something new. **Click here to view the membership resource page** that includes all of the program playbooks.

Finally, our council is hosting the International Camporee September 12–14 at Camp Karankawa. This exciting event brings together Scouts from the United States and Mexico for a weekend of camaraderie. The camporee will feature fun games, neckerchief and patch trading, delicious food, and unforgettable fellowship. Over 600 Scouts, Scouters, and staff are currently registered, and the final count could be closer to 700. Don't miss this unique opportunity to connect and create lasting memories!

Let's grow Scouting in South Texas!

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

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



## Scouting America Safeguarding Youth Pocket Guide



The Scouting America Safeguarding Youth Pocket Guide will be available through Scouting America Outfitters! What important information is included in the Pocket Guide? Every Scout leader is responsible for keeping youth safe—and the Scouting America Safeguarding Youth Pocket Guide puts the most critical Safeguarding Youth Protection policies in your hands, right when you need them.

Compact and easy to carry, the pocket guide contains the fundamentals of keeping Scouts and Scouters S.A.F.E. It breaks down the S.A.F.E. model (Supervision, Assessment, Fitness & Skill, Equipment & Environment) to help leaders plan safer, smarter activities. The Guide outlines Scouting's official Barriers to Abuse, including supervision requirements, discipline guidelines, accommodation standards, and program safety rules.

Clear reporting protocols ensure every adult knows what to do—and who to contact—if abuse is suspected or witnessed. Finally, it includes important information about MESH (mental, emotional, and social health) in Scouting.

Using the Scouting America USA Model (Understand, Speak/Support, Advocate/Act), the Guide also includes important MESH (mental, emotional, and social health) content to help start a conversation in the event you encounter someone with a mental health issue or crisis during a Scouting event.

From registration rules to crisis helplines, the Safeguarding Youth Pocket Guide is a quick-reference tool for leaders, volunteers, and council staff who want to do their part in creating a culture of Safeguarding Youth protection and accountability.

It also includes direct contact information for the Scouts First Helpline and the national Suicide & Crisis Lifeline, offering immediate resources in urgent situations. Whether you're at camp, on the trail, or leading a meeting, this pocket guide helps ensure that youth safety remains your top priority—anywhere, anytime.

Use this link to order the Safeguarding Youth Pocket Guide for your council. [Scouting America Safeguarding Youth Pocket Guide | Scout Shop Online Features and Benefits:](#)

- Covers Scouting's official Barriers to Abuse and prevention policies
- Includes clear reporting steps and emergency helpline info
- Outlines S.A.F.E. planning model for leader use
- Outlines responses to MESH concerns using the USA Model
- Pocket-sized for easy access at meetings, events, and campouts
- Ideal for leaders, volunteers, and council staff



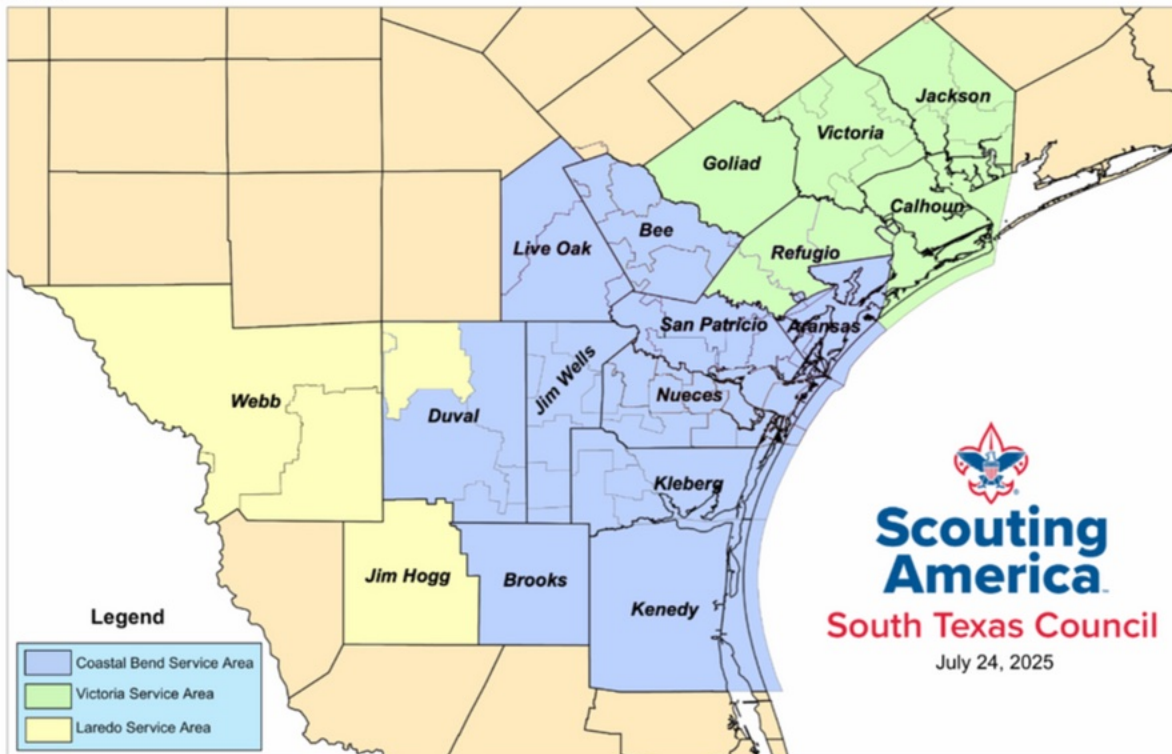
## New Service Area Update!

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.



## Popcorn Season is Here!



Congratulations to this month's top sellers, way to go, keep up the hard work!

**Pack 65B - \$6,867.00**

**Pack 52 - \$2,595**

**Troop 226 - \$2,440**

**Troop 183 - \$2,090**

## October 17-19, 2025 - JOTA / JOTI



**JOTA-JOTI is back on October 17-19, 2025. Mark your calendars!**

Jamboree On The Air /Jamboree On The Internet is back, October 17-19, 2025! Join us as Scouts gather from around the world to learn about other cultures and Scouting activities in other countries. These jamborees, which attract almost 2 million Scouts from more than 170 countries, require no travel and create an opportunity to have a valuable international Scouting experience. Haven't participated in the past? Want to learn more? Learn more here! If you participated last year, tell us all about your experience here: JOTA JOTI survey

## 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.



## October 30 - Distinguished Citizen Award Dinner



Each year, the South Texas Council, Scouting America, recognizes a citizen whose vision, leadership, and service have left a lasting mark on our community. This honor is reserved for those whose personal and professional achievements go beyond success; they embody the values of service, responsibility, and commitment that strengthen the very fabric of South Texas.

In 2025, we are proud to present the 39th annual Distinguished Citizen Award to Gabe Guerra, whose leadership and service have touched countless lives. As an Eagle Scout and recipient of the National Outstanding Eagle Scout Award, Gabe's story is also a shining example of how Scouting shapes leaders who give back.

## Cub Scout Fall Camping!



### October 17-19 – Cub Scout Family Campout at Karankawa

Join us for an amazing Cub Scout Family Campout at Karankawa! Bring the whole family for a weekend of fishing, swimming, games, crafts, and wholesome camping fun!

### October 18-19 – Cub Scout Family Campout at Camp Huisache

Join us for our annual Fall Cub Scout Family Campout! Enjoy a night under the stars and a day full of fun activities. Make memories with your Cub Scouting family.

## Winter Camp at Camp Karankawa!



# WINTER CAMP @KARANKAWA!

We are excited to announce that Winter Camp at Karankawa is expanding to TWO sessions this year!

**December 27–30 and January 2–5**

Winter Camp is the perfect time to enjoy the beautiful South Texas weather while experiencing all the fun, adventure, and camaraderie that Scouting has to offer.

Visit our website to check out the Leader's Guide, or head straight to our registration page and sign up today!

We are also looking for engaging, passionate merit badge instructors to join our team. If you'd like to share your skills, hobbies, or expertise with Scouts, please complete the Merit Badge Instructor Form to let us know what you'd like to teach and when you are available.

For questions, reach out to:

Camp Director – [Francisco.Orozco@scouting.org](mailto:Francisco.Orozco@scouting.org)

Program Director – [Chelise.Hyatt@scouting.org](mailto:Chelise.Hyatt@scouting.org)

Thank you for helping make this year's Winter Camp unforgettable, we look forward to seeing you at Camp K!

## Scout Shop News and Deals!

GET READY FOR A NEW YEAR OF

# SCOUTING ADVENTURES



## 2 EASY WAYS TO SAVE ON UNIFORMS

# SAVE 10%

ON UNIFORM BOTTOMS  
WHEN YOU PURCHASE ANY  
MATCHING UNIFORM TOP.

OR

# SAVE 20%

CUB SCOUTS FULL UNIFORM:  
TOP, BOTTOMS, BELT, NECKERCHIEF,  
NECKERCHIEF SLIDE, CAP, & SOCKS.

SCOUTS BSA & VENTURING  
FULL UNIFORM:  
TOP, BOTTOMS, BELT, CAP, & SOCKS.

RESTRICTIONS MAY APPLY. ASK SALES ASSOCIATE FOR DETAILS.  
OFFERS APPLY TO CUB SCOUTS, SCOUTS BSA, AND VENTURING.





## National Jamboree! July 22- 31, 2026 Spots are Limited! Sign up now!


The South Texas Council National Jamboree Contingent is now accepting youth applications. The council contingent will consist of a Boy Troop (36 youth) and half of a Girl Troop (18 youth). To attend the National Jamboree, a Scout must: Be a currently registered member of Scouting America be at least 12 years of age and no older than 17 years of age. If attending as a member of a Venturing Crew or Sea Scout Ship, a Scout must be at least 13 years old and have completed the 8th grade or is age 14 and not yet 21 years of age.

Tentative costs including jamboree fees, troop gear, travel and lodging is \$3,500-\$3,900, final cost will be announced as soon as it is confirmed. The South Texas Council contingent will be traveling with the Alamo Area Council Contingent as we did in 2023. Reserve your spot on the 2026 National Jamboree South Texas Council Contingent with a non-refundable \$150 deposit today.

There are limited adult leadership positions available for both troops, interested adults should contact Marty Sepulveda at [martin.sepulveda@scouting.org](mailto:martin.sepulveda@scouting.org). To attend the National Jamboree, an adult must be a currently registered member of Scouting America and be no less than 21 years of age.

**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



 SOUTH TEXAS COUNCIL

## EAGLE SCOUT ASSOCIATION

Once an Eagle Scout, Always an Eagle Scout



## Order of the Arrow

**Four Winds, Wulihan, and Yapewi Chapters will be holding a joint meeting on Sunday 9/23/25 @ 3:00 PM.**

Location to be determined.

## 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.

## Camp Karankawa Updates

The butterflies are thriving in the new butterfly garden at Camp Karankawa! Filled with colorful native flowering plants, the garden is flourishing and attracting plenty of winged visitors. You'll find it nestled between the parking lot and the dining hall. The next time you're at camp, stop by, take a look, and see how many butterflies you can count!

Thank you **Mark and Marrok Gonzales, Ranger Frank, Willie Kostka, and Bob McFarland** for all of the time and hard work you put in to building this amazing Butterfly Garden at Camp Karankawa!





## Woodbadge

Why should I take WoodBadge? I know all about scouting!!

While WoodBadge is the Scouting America premier Leadership Training, the lessons and skills can be applied to all areas of your life, not just your role in Scouting Leadership. WoodBadge skills can be used in your work life, family life or even school life.

Do you have problems talking with your co-workers or setting goals? WoodBadge can help! WoodBadge is not about scouting skills, but rather leadership skills like communication, listening and Conflict Management!

Don't miss out on this LIFE CHANGING training opportunity!



## Aztec District

**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)



## Coastal Bend Service Area

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

**Thursday September 4th at 6:00PM** - Charter Org Training at the Council Office

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



## LaSalle District

**September 6th 8am-12pm** - LaSalle Fishing Derby!

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



## Employment Opportunities

**Scouting America**  
South Texas Council

**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!

