



STC Chronicles

South Texas Council Scouting Updates



Quick Highlights

October 3 - Toughest Scout Challenge

October 4 - Scouting For Food Kickoff

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 -Scouts BSA Winter Camp Session #1

January 2-5 -Scouts BSA Winter Camp Session #2

March 13-15, and April 11-12, 2026 - Woodbadge Adult Leadership Training

March 27-29 -Order of the Arrow Section 2 Conclave

July 5-11 -National Youth Leadership Training

July 22-31, 2026 - National Jamboree

Scouting Forward

Next month we celebrate the presentation of the 39th Annual Distinguished Citizen Award. 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 Distinguished Citizen Award to Gabe Guerra, Troop 6 Alumni, whose leadership and service have touched countless lives. As president and CEO of Kleberg Bank, Gabe has guided one of our region's most trusted institutions. His impact extends far beyond business. From serving as commissioner of the Port of Corpus Christi Authority to chairing the Christus Spohn Health System, Gabe has continually invested his time and talent into building a stronger South Texas. His leadership at the San Antonio Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, his service on the Dallas Fed's Community Depository Institutions Advisory Council, and his roles on numerous state and national boards are a testament to his vision and influence.

Equally important, Gabe has never lost sight of community. His work with the Corpus Christi Regional Economic Development Corp., the Chamber of Commerce, the Del Mar College Foundation, United Way of the Coastal Bend, and his service as past president of our very own Executive Board reflect a lifetime of commitment to improving education, opportunity, and quality of life in our community. 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.

It is our time to create opportunities for the next generation of community leaders who might someday be recognized as a Distinguished Citizen Award Honoree. Is your unit growing? Did you recruit new youth and families this fall? Let's not lose the opportunity to shape and influence our communities; Youth need Scouting and Scouting needs you!

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



Scouting America Safeguarding Youth



Scouting America Youth Protection Mission Statement

True youth protection can be achieved only through the focused commitment of everyone in Scouting. It is the mission of Youth Protection volunteers and professionals to work within Scouting America to maintain a culture of Youth Protection awareness and safety at the national, territory, council, district, and unit levels.

Leadership Selection

Scouting America takes great pride in the quality of our adult leadership. Being a leader in Scouting America is a privilege, not a right. The quality of the program and the safety of our youth members call for high-quality adult leaders. The adult application requests background information that should be checked by the unit committee or the chartered organization before accepting an applicant for unit leadership. While no current screening techniques exist that can identify every potential child abuser, we can reduce the risk of accepting a child abuser by learning all we can about an applicant for a leadership position—his or her experience with children, why he or she wants to be a Scout leader, and what discipline techniques he or she would use. Scouting America has a multilayered adult leader selection process that includes criminal background checks administered by a nationally recognized third party and other screening efforts. [Click here for information on the selection process.](#)

Required Training

- Safeguarding Youth training is required for all Scouting America registered volunteers and is a joining requirement. Safeguarding Youth training must be taken every year. If a volunteer's Safeguarding Youth training is not current at the time of annual registration renewal, the volunteer will not be re-registered.

New District Map!

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.

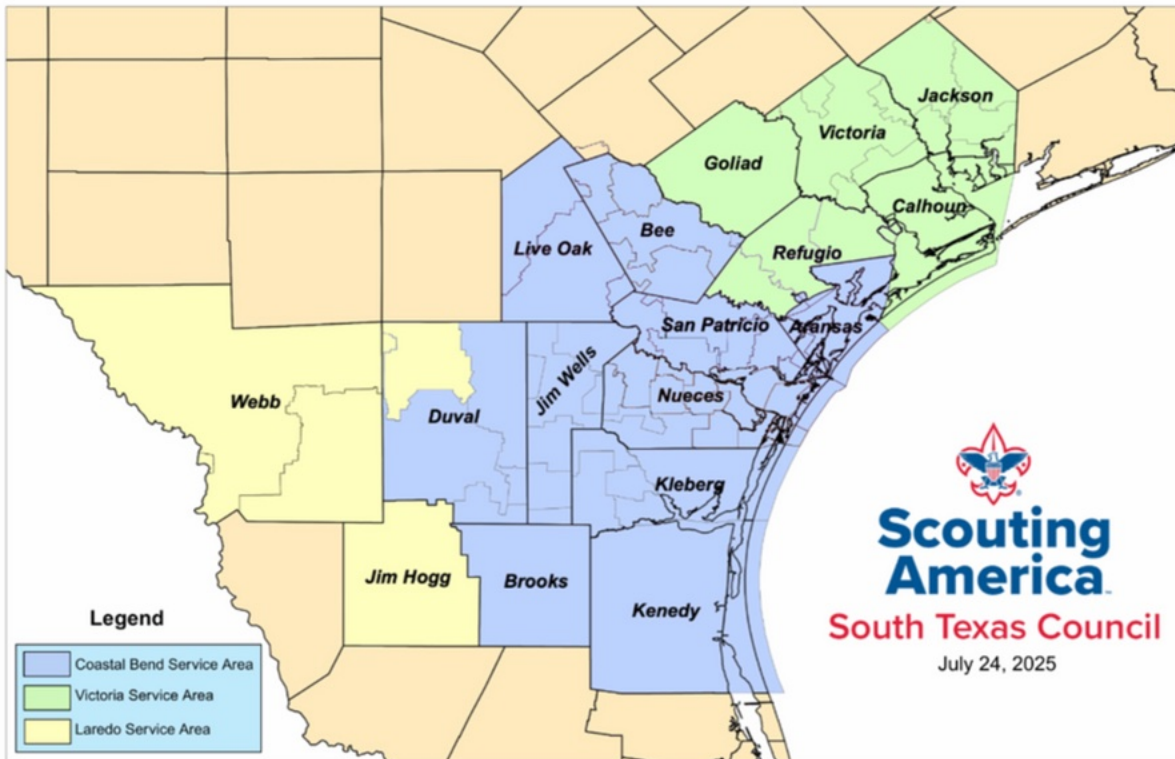
This is more than just a structural update, it's a strategic move designed to enhance how we serve our units. By consolidating our resources and uniting our dedicated volunteers, we're creating a service model that is efficient, responsive, and tailored to the unique needs of our communities. Our new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

For questions about the Coastal Bend Service Area please contact James Rangel, Assistant Scout Executive - james.rangel@scouting.org | 361-816-3843

For questions about the Victoria Service Area please contact Francisco Orozco, Senior District Executive - francisco.orozco@scouting.org | 361-816-3868

For questions about the Laredo Service Area please contact Alexandra "Ali" Manrique, District Director - alexandra.manrique@scouting.org | 956-286-6173



Popcorn Season is Here!



Payment for the First Show and Sell balance was due October 6, please call me to make arrangements if you have an outstanding balance.

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

Pack 259 - \$36,915
Pack 65B - \$23,411
Pack 226 - \$21,604
Troop 183 - \$16,170
Troop 226 - \$14,024
Troop 3 - \$13,640

Popcorn Key Dates

OCT 6 Payment 1 Popcorn Money Due Online by Midnight
OCT 24 Popcorn Restock Orders Due Online by Midnight
NOV 6 Popcorn Restock Orders Delivered to Units
NOV 21 Final Popcorn Payment Due to Council Office by 5PM
DEC 31 Last Day to Claim Prizes Due Online

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](#)

November 4 - Coastal Bend Day of Giving



SOUTH TEXAS COUNCIL is proud to be participating in Coastal Bend Day of Giving, a 24-hour online matching fundraising event administered by Coastal Bend Community Foundation. The event will be held Tuesday, November 4 (12:00AM –11:59PM). Mark your calendars because we will need your help!

We will be joining more than 60 local nonprofits to raise money together. For the 2025 Day of Giving, 24 matching funders have come together to provide a matching fund of \$1.6 million, enabling each of the participating nonprofits to raise at least \$50,800 in just 24 hours if they make the match in individual online donations!

How can you help Scouting during Coastal Bend Day of Giving?

Save the date – Tuesday, November 4th, 2025, will be a great day of generosity in the Coastal Bend. Get excited and ready to share your enthusiasm for the South Texas Council throughout the day.

Make your gift early – Early Giving is available on October 27-November 3 and will be matched. We encourage you to donate early if you cannot participate on November 4.

Donate to us on November 4th!

Spread the word! Tell your friends that you will be giving to Scouting America, South Texas Council during Coastal Bend Day of Giving on November 4th and that you need their help.

Post about Coastal Bend Day of Giving on your social media pages. Let your friends and followers know how they can give and how their donations can help us meet the match.

Cheer us on! On November 4th, watch the live ticker on www.coastalbenddayofgiving.org

Develop Youth Leaders, Support Families, Create Great Communities - right here in the Coastal Bend.

Questions contact Marty Sepulveda at martin.sepulveda@scouting.org.

Scouting for Food



Do A Good Turn! A Scout is Helpful!

As Scouts, our slogan is "do a good turn daily" As we approach the holiday season one of our largest giving campaigns is the annual Scouting for Food drive. As Scouts we collect food and donate it to the local food pantry.

This year's Scouting for Food week is October 4th-11th. Food will be collected at your unit's convenience. Scouts from all across the council will combine to collect and donate as much food as possible to those in need.

DOOR HANGERS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP at the council office. Please make sure you fill out the information on the card, date you will be by, unit and contact information. Contact James.Rangel@scouting.org to request your door hangers and let him know which areas you will be canvassing.

The Coastal Bend area drop off date for this year's event will be Saturday, October 11th at the Coastal Bend Food Bank 5442 Bear Lane CC TX 78405 from 10am-noon.

ANY SCOUTS THAT NEED SERVICE HOURS CAN ASSIST WITH THE UNLOADING AT THE FOOD BANK.

If you drop off Food at your local pantry, please email the amount you deliver. Each piece is a pound.
James.Rangel@scouting.org

Laredo Area Contact - Ali Manrique 956.286.6173 Alexandra.Manrique@Scouting.org for drop off and doorhangers

Victoria Area Contact - Francisco Orozco 361.816.3868 Francisco.Orozco@Scouting.org for drop off and doorhangers

November 8 - Javelina Campout

Join us for a night of Scouting fun, friendship, and Javelina football!

Scouting America Packs, Troops, and Crews are invited to experience an unforgettable campout at the Javelina Football Game on November 8, 2025, at Texas A&M University-Kingsville.

Enjoy a Night of:

Football Game: Cheer on the Javelinas as they take the field in an exciting game.

Camping: Spend the night under the Texas stars at a designated camping area near Javelina "Pepsi" Stadium

Scout Activities: Participate in fun and engaging activities designed for Cub Scouts, Scouts of All Ages.

Movie Night: Scouts can watch a movie on the field on the Jumbotron after the game.

Date: November 8, 2025

Location: Texas A&M University-Kingsville - Javelina Stadium

Cost: Free

Youth Protection Training: Updated Certificate Required

Annual Health and Medical Record: <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/ahmr/>

Updated AB Forms: Applies to ALL participants in basic Scouting activities such as local tours and weekend camping trips that are less than 72 hours in duration.

Volunteers Needed! Email bonnie.rene.ak@gmail.com

**JAVELINA
CAMPOUT!**
NOVEMBER 8, 2025



Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity for your Scouts to have a memorable experience!

[Click HERE for More Information](#)

November 13 - 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!



[Click HERE to Register!](#)

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 @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

Program Director – Chelise.Hyatt@scouting.org

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

International Camporee - Recap



Three years ago, a conversation started with our Council Executive, Marty Sepulveda, about having an International Camporee at Camp Karankawa. You see, it had been well over 20 years since Gulf Coast Council held an International Camporee with Scouts from Mexico. It was a partnership we had with Mexico, and the conversation was to once again start. Mr. Sepulveda said, "Let's do it," and the planning process began.

We gained guidance from Rio Grande Council since they had started hosting International Camporees with Mexico after COVID. We attended their event and gained support from Tony Garza and Cris Torres. We were introduced to Mari Pacheco of Scouts Mexico and began planning. A lot happened behind the scenes over the two years leading up to the weekend. Many people within and outside of the Council sat on our committee.

As the weekend of September 12–14, 2025, arrived, **we had over 800 Scouts and Scouters registered.**

Friday morning, the first troop from Mexico showed up. Steadily, more and more troops from both the United States and Mexico arrived at camp. Staff were working on parking and directing units to the check-in tables. Our Scouters worked hard processing the campsites, health forms, and registrations.

We had over 180 Scouts from Mexico and units from seven councils attending our 2025 International Camporee. This was certainly the largest event in a very long time at Camp Karankawa.

Saturday morning started with morning flags and breakfast. We then began the games, which had over 20 stations led by both U.S. and Mexican Scout leaders. During the day, we also had living history exhibits with Dutch oven cooking and axe throwing. Scouts were also able to visit the Camp Karankawa Museum—certainly one of the best Scouting history collections in Texas.

As the day ended, we gathered for campfire and had a packed house. Songs and skits were given in English and Spanish. Lots of laughs and fun were had by all. But that was only the beginning. Afterwards, we met at the dining hall for the Fiesta—music, dancing, and more socializing. As a treat, our amigos from Mexico had set up tables and handed out candies straight from Mexico. Everyone had a blast. Lots of friendships were made, all through the fellowship of Scouting.

A lot of hard work was done behind the scenes, and we'd like to thank our Camp Ranger for getting Karankawa ready. We'd also like to thank our medical staff for taking care of the situations that came up. Finally, we want to thank everyone who made it out to our International Camporee. We hope you had a blast and made memories you can share about Scouting. Yours in Scouting, Gilbert Ramon International Camporee Chair Council International Representative

Toughest Scout Challenge - Recap



This year's Toughest Scout Challenge was a tremendous success! Camp Karankawa proudly welcomed 18 teams who competed in a wide variety of events, including shooting sports, a canoe race, a first aid stretcher relay, a log hoist, and paddle boarding, to name just a few. The weather was beautiful, the food was fantastic, and the spirit of friendly competition filled the air.

A huge thank you goes out to all of our corporate partners and volunteers whose support made this event possible! Special thanks to H-E-B and Onyx Engineering for generously providing a delicious breakfast and lunch for everyone.

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 BoyTroop(36youth)and half of a GirlTroop(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. 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-o 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 further than you ever thought possible. You'll reach deeper and lift yourself higher to become the best version of yourself.

Scouting News



Order of the Arrow

Karankawa Lodge will be having a December Fellowship, December 5-6, 2025. Registration will open up soon.

We are also inviting all members of the scouting communities to help for Winter Camp.

Pack your tent, bring your work clothes and bring your best camp spirit - you're invited to the Camp Karankawa Winter Work Day. Help get Camp Karankawa ready for winter camp, help with special projects and make a difference.

From trail clearing to cabin touch-ups, every task brings us closer to creating unforgettable experiences for our Scouts.

Scouts and Leaders coming out get a discount for Scouts BSA Winter Camp! You must RSVP and check in with Francisco at the Work Day

March 27-30, 2026 OA Conclave @ Camp Karankawa! [Click Here to Learn More.](#)



**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.

Woodbadge - Register Now!



Friday, March 13, 2026
Sunday, April 12, 2026
Camp Karankawa

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

Contact your District Executive, Ali Manrique, at alexandra.manrique@scouting.org



Coastal Bend Service Area

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

Contact James Rangel at James.Rangel@Scouting.org for more information.



LaSalle District

October 9 - La Salle District Meeting

November 6- La Salle Roundtable

November 13- La Salle District Meeting

Contact your District Executive, Francisco Orozco at Francisco.Oroz@Scouting.org for more information.

Nominate a Deserving Volunteer

The Silver Beaver is a national award presented by the local council. It is the highest honor the South Texas Council may bestow upon a volunteer. Nominations should be submitted to martin.sepulveda@scouting.org by December 1, 2025. Nominations for the Silver Beaver awards consist of three parts:

- Noteworthy service of exceptional character to non-Scouting youth
- Exceptional service to Scouting America (unit, district, council)
- Service or standing within the community or community organization.
- Nominations cannot be made for posthumous awards.
- Additionally, the award is limited to adults 21 years of age or older.
- [Click here for Silver Beaver Nomination Form.](#)

Vale La Pena Award

Outstanding Service to Hispanic Youth.
[Click here for the nomination form](#)

Whitney Young Award

Outstanding Service to Rural or Urban Youth.
[Click here for the nomination form](#)

Spurgeon Award

Outstanding Service to the Exploring Program (individual or Organization).
[Click here for the nomination form](#)

Council Duty to God Award -The Council Duty to God Award was created to recognize registered Scouters who have demonstrated an exemplary history of transformational leadership in supporting and promoting the spiritual foundation of Scouting at the local Council level. [Click here for the nomination form.](#)

District Award of Merit

[Click here for the nomination form.](#)

Exploring Leadership Award

[Click here for the nomination form.](#)

Scouting America Council Alumnus of the Year Award.

[Click here for the nomination form.](#)

Elbert K. Fretwell Outstanding Educator Award

[Click here for more information on the award.](#) [Click here for the nomination form.](#)

Award nominations should be emailed to Marty Sepulveda at martin.sepulveda@scouting.org or mailed to the South Texas Council, 700 Everhart Rd., Building A, Corpus Christi, TX 78411.



Nominate a Deserving Eagle Scout

Glenn A. & Melinda W. Adams Service Project of the Year Award

Nominations for the South Texas Council Adams Eagle Scout Service Project of the Year Award are now being accepted. All Eagle Scout Service Projects completed in 2025 will automatically be considered and reviewed by the Council Adams Award Selection Committee. However, if you would like to ensure a particular service project is given serious consideration, please submit the South Texas Council Glen A. & Melinda W. Adams Award nominations by December 1, 2025, to:

Attn: David Russell
South Texas Council Scouting America
700 Everhart Rd., Building A,
Corpus Christi, TX 78411
Email: dhruell0717@gmail.com



National Eagle Scout Association Outstanding Eagle Scout Award (NOESA)

The South Texas Council Eagle Scout Association is accepting nominations for the National Eagle Scout Association Outstanding Eagle Scout Award (NOESA).

The Outstanding Eagle Scout Award is a distinguished service award of Scouting America. It is awarded to an Eagle Scout by the National Eagle Scout Association for distinguished service in their profession and community upon the recommendation of the local council NESA committee, scout executive and council president.

Nominations should be submitted to martin.sepulveda@scouting.org by December 1, 2025.

**Two awards will be presented at the Eagle Scout Class Reception on
Saturday, February 28, 2026.**



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



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.