



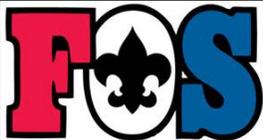
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Great Southwest Council, Boy Scouts of America | [Council Website](#)

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Support Scouting



Text Your 2017 Gift to Scouting Today

You can make your 2017 Friends of Scouting contribution via text message!

Text your name, unit type & number, and gift amount to (505) 404-1995. Example: John Smith P123 \$145

After sending your text, you will receive a web link to complete your

February 8, 2017

Great Southwest Council Holiday Schedule

February 20 - Office Closed for Presidents Day*

**Please contact the Scout Shop for its separate holiday schedule.*

Scout Shop Fax

The High Desert Scout Shop's Fax Machine is back up and running. To fax advancement orders and other items for the High Desert Scout Shop, please use 505-503-6511

Cub Scout Day Camp Is Buggin' Out

As the school year winds down, it's time to get excited about Cub Scout Day Camp. There are Day Camps happening in June and July throughout the Albuquerque Metro area and in Los Lunas, Farmington, Durango, Los Alamos, Gallup, and Santa Fe. Cub Scouts are invited to attend Day Camp with their Packs and enjoy all of the exciting activities and programs in store. This summer's theme is Bug Hunters. For more information, dates, and locations of Day Camps, visit www.gswcbsa.org/daycamp. Cub Scouts can attend any Day Camp and as many Day Camps as they wish.



Scouting Partnership Plan

Hopefully you were able to review the Scouting Partnership Plan that was sent out via email last week.

If you have not yet had an opportunity to review the letter from the Great Southwest Council Executive Board, we encourage you to do so by [clicking here](#).



Quick Links

- [Council Website](#)
- [Gorham Scout Ranch](#)
- [My \[dot\] Scouting Site](#)
- [National BSA Website](#)
- [Be A Scout Site](#)
- [Boys' Life Official Site](#)
- [Scout Shop Website](#)

Calendar

Click the links below for more details.

FEBRUARY

- 8
 - [Program Committee Meeting](#)
 - 5:30 - 6:30 PM
 - Great Southwest Council Service Center

- 8
 - [Venturing Officers Association Meeting](#)
 - 7:30 - 9 PM
 - Great Southwest Council Service Center

- 11
 - [Wood Badge Association Business Dinner](#)
 - 5:30 - 8 PM
 - The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
 - 12701 Indian School Rd NE, Albuquerque, NM

- 15

gift secure online.

2017 Friends of Scouting

Friends of Scouting is the largest fundraising effort conducted by the Great Southwest Council each year. As you may be aware, the Great Southwest Council is an independent, 501(c)(3) charity and is entirely self-funded. All registration fees paid annually for your membership is transferred to the National, BSA.

Friends of Scouting funds the Great Southwest Council's Service Center, the district executives and other Council staff, membership growth resources, and much, much more. Contributions made to the annual Friends of Scouting campaign are fully tax-deductible.

We are currently kicking off the 2017 Friends of Scouting campaign, and would love to chat with you about renewing your annual gift for 2017. We need your help!



Schedule Your Unit Friends of Scouting Presentation Today

Your District staff will be contacting you over the next few weeks to schedule your unit's Friends of Scouting presentation. These presentations are 10 minutes or less, and allow a member of your district's volunteer leadership to share their Scouting story and ask families to support the movement. Please visit with your fellow leaders and be ready with your unit's date and time for the presentation.

What's In It For Us?

By supporting Friends of Scouting in your unit/ward and achieving your goal, you will receive 10% off Gorham Scout Ranch/Day Camp fees, or free card and cloth rank advancements at the High Desert Scout Shop.

Your unit's goal is based on your total number of Scouts x \$145 x 90%.

If you have any questions, please take a moment to contact your [district executive](#).

Use Your Smith's Rewards Card to Give Back to Scouting

Give back to Scouting with the gas and groceries you already purchase every week! Follow these simple instructions to enroll your Smith's Rewards Card and begin earning

Wood Badge Association Business Dinner

Saturday, Feb 11, 2017, 5:30 pm
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
12701 Indian School Rd NE,
Albuquerque

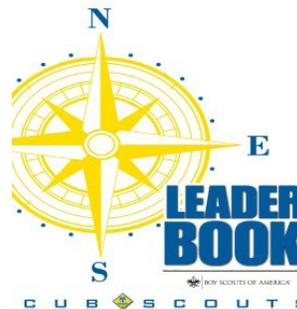


Register NOW by clicking [here](#).

Cost
\$12.50 per person (13 and older)
\$5.00 for children (6 - 12 years old)
5 and under free!

Menu
Chicken with Swiss Cheese
Salad
Dessert

Purchase Your Cub Handbooks and Leader Guides Through the Great Southwest Council and SAVE!



We are now offering all Cub Scout Packs the opportunity to save money on purchasing Cub Scout handbooks and Leader books!

Hurry, supplies are limited!

All Cub Scout handbooks are available for \$11.00 each, Den Leader guides for \$7.50, and Cub Scout Leader Guides for \$8.50.

This special pricing is not available at the High Desert Scout Shop. Order can be placed in person at the Great Southwest Council Service Center or by calling 505-345-8603

BSA Adult Applications - When are They Required?

The biggest delay your unit will likely face in getting new members registered is because of issues with adult applications. We wanted to share some of the common issues we face, as well as answer some frequently asked questions related to adult registrations and applications.

Adult application requirements:

The best thing you can do to ensure smooth processing of a new adult (or one who is changing position) is to review each application for the following:

- Background Check Authorization/Disclosure form - this form is located on the page facing the full adult application. It informs the applicant about the criminal background checks conducted by the Boy Scouts of America, and requires the applicant's signature and date.
- Applicant Social Security number and date of birth - these two key pieces of data are used to conduct the criminal background check and are mandatory.
- Applicant initials and signature - the newest adult



Gorham Summer Camp \$50 Deadline

15
[Camping Committee Meeting](#)
5:30 - 6:30 PM
Great Southwest Council Service Center

24
[2017 Eagle Banquet](#)
11:30 AM - 1 PM
Sheraton Hotel
Uptown, 2600
Louisiana Blvd NE,
Albuquerque, NM

25
[CPR/AED/First Aid Training](#)
8 AM - 1 PM
Great Southwest Council Service Center

27
[Training Committee Meeting](#)
6 - 7 PM
Great Southwest Council Service Center

28
[FOS Benchmark - 60%](#)

University of Scouting



Saturday, March 25

The University of Scouting is one of the premier training opportunities available for Scouters. In conjunction with the Yucca & Conquistador Councils, the Great Southwest Council helps to put on this awesome training in

Scouting to help Scouters in the Great Southwest Council. Enrollment in the Smith's Community Rewards program will not affect the fuel points you earn while shopping. Don't have a Smith's card? No problem! You can register a digital rewards card when you enroll at www.smithscommunityrewards.com.

Scoutingwire News



The Official Blog of the Scouting Movement

Visit the Scoutingwire site any time for the latest news from around the United States by visiting www.scoutingwire.org

7 Ways Scouting Has Made The World A Better Place For 107 Years

Today, February 8, 2017 marks the 107th birthday of the Boy Scouts of America. As the nation's top youth-serving organization, the BSA continues to educate on the principles of Scouting while creating value for thousands of people across the country.

Troops, teams, packs and crews alike will celebrate this momentous occasion in a variety of ways this month. From fashioning Scouting uniforms to serving in religious ceremonies, Scouts have the opportunity to reflect on their experiences in Scouting in a memorable way.

- Read more by clicking [here](#).

What It's Like to Attend a Unique Eagle Scout Court of Honor

Story contributed by Kevin V. Hunt, a Scouting historian, author, camp director, blogger and speaker I have been to a hundred or more Eagle courts of honor in my day, but I've never seen a parade of flags at the entry of a ceremony until I arrived at one unique court of honor in Mesa, Arizona.

I had been invited to the court of honor by Eagle Scout Christian, a member of Venturing Crew 538. The Scout asked me to present the Mormon Battalion neckerchief slide during the event. This award was a historic trails award given to him after hiking and camping on the Mormon Battalion Trail, learning the history of the trail and becoming an Eagle Scout.

Read more by clicking [here](#).

Take a Sneak Peek at the 2017 National Jamboree Program

applications provided by the Boy Scouts of America have places for four initials and a signature by the applicant. All MUST be initialed and the application MUST be signed by the applicant in order for us to process the application.

- Approval signatures by Committee Chair and Chartered Organization Representative (or Institutional Head) - all adults, whether new or changing position, must submit an adult application and the application must be approved by the unit Committee Chair and the unit's chartered organization.
- Background information (right column of the application) - this area of the application is often left incomplete or blank. Without this information provided, the application will have to be rejected.

When is an adult application required:

*New adult applications must be submitted any time you have a new leader serving in your unit, or a currently registered BSA leader being added to your unit. **Additionally, an adult application must be submitted for any leader changing positions within your unit.** PLEASE NOTE - this is Boy Scouts of America policy. The staff of the Great Southwest Council are not authorized to adjust or make exceptions to a National, BSA policy.*

When don't you need a new adult application to be submitted:

The following three positions never require an adult application

1. Tiger Adult Partners
2. Lion Adult Partners
3. Institutional Heads

Additionally, a leader who is remaining in the same position in the same unit does not need to submit a new application to continue in the same role.

Wood Badge 2017

It's time to sign up for the 2017 Wood Badge Course!

September 8-10, 2017 AND
September 15-17, 2017
Gorham Scout Ranch

What is Wood Badge?

Wood Badge is advanced leadership training provided by experienced Scouters from throughout the Great Southwest Council. This amazing six day experience will challenge you but more importantly inspire you. Please [click here](#) to learn more about the benefits of Wood Badge.

For more information about this year's course and to sign up, please [click here](#).

For questions about this year's course, please contact Course Director [Jeremy Conlin](#).



What is Journey to Excellence, and Why Should You Care?

You think you're making all the right moves for your Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts or Venturers, but do you really know?

With the BSA's Journey to Excellence scorecards in hand, you can answer that question with a satisfying yes. Journey to Excellence, often shortened to JTE, is a self-evaluation tool that lets unit leaders see, quantitatively, how well their unit is meeting the goals of Scouting. Think of it as a progress report. You can check in regularly to make sure you're

Ruidoso, NM.

For more information and to sign up, [click here](#).

2017 Eagle Banquet



Friday, February 24

RSVP [here](#) for the 2017 Eagle Banquet! Come celebrate those Eagle Scouts awarded this prestigious rank in 2016. Special guests will include Mayor Berry, UNM Hospital CEO Steve McKernan, and Philmont General Manager Kevin Dowling. It will be an event to remember!

Internet Advancement

Thank you for using Internet Advancement from the Boy Scouts of America. **As you are likely aware, utilizing the internet advancement system to report ranks and achievements in your unit is MANDATORY. Paper forms not from internet advancement will not be accepted.**

Internet Advancement allows you to enter youth advancements, awards, and merit badges and perform the following actions:

- Select members from your existing roster
- Review, update, or add ranks, merit badges, and/or awards
- Access an online Review Unit Roster feature and the Unit Advancement Summary
- Print an Advancement Report with a Unit Awards Summary

Are you heading to the 2017 National Jamboree at the Summit Bechtel Reserve? If so, you'll get a chance to experience some of the most extensive, engaging programming available in one location.

The Summit Program Leadership Action Team, known affectionately as SPLAT, has devised a slate of programs in five distinct areas that will ensure all attendees at Scouting's premier event have a choice of activities to pursue: Adventure Area, Jamboree Trek, Messengers of Peace Day of Service, AT&T Summit Stadium, and Scott Summit Center.

To find out what each has to offer - and to start your jambo day-dreaming in earnest - check out a day-by-day schedule in the [2017 National Jamboree Program Preview](#) on the Summit Bechtel Reserve's blog.

Scoutbook - Online Record Keeping for your Unit



Tracking the Scouting Experience from Tiger to Eagle Scout

From the first knot tied to final hours of service performed, the Scouting experience is a journey like no other. Scoutbook ensures not a moment is missed - tracking advancement, milestone achievements and all the fun along the way.

[Click here](#) to watch a video of how Scoutbook can improve your Scouting experience.

For more details, visit www.scoutbook.com

delivering the best possible program for our Scouts and Venturers.

The process is simple, and the benefits are tangible. Here's a quick guide.

1. Learn why JTE is worth your time.

JTE scorecards offer these benefits:

1. A framework for planning the year with standards based on what successful units do to continually improve.
2. A method for evaluating your unit in tangible ways (number of campouts, number of youth advancing, etc.)
3. Guidance in areas where you might do better and early warning of potential problems.
4. Specific guidelines and standards of what is considered good performance.
5. Recognition for good Scouting: bronze, silver or gold.
6. Benchmarking to get ideas and tips from other good units.

2. Download the JTE scorecard.

At the beginning of each calendar year, print out the latest JTE scorecard from this website. There are scorecards for the following Scouting entities:

- Cub Scout packs
- Boy Scout troops
- Venturing crews
- Varsity teams
- Sea Scout ships
- Exploring posts
- Districts
- Exploring districts
- Councils

3. Introduce the scorecard to your unit committee.

Ask them to fill in the sections corresponding to their function in the unit: finance, membership, program, leadership.

This is where tracking workbooks, available here, come in handy. The JTE scorecards work best when several Scouters participate in tracking.

4. Review your progress on this year's scorecard.

At the end of the year and at regular intervals throughout the year, monitor your progress as you go for gold in JTE.

You can try a "thorns, roses and buds" approach or look at things you want to "start, stop and continue."

Either way, learn where you aren't maximizing your JTE points and find specific improvements. Appoint a volunteer to hold the unit accountable for those changes.

5. Look at next year's scorecard.

The BSA releases scorecards early, meaning you have time to plan ahead so you can meet your goals. Always best to Be Prepared.

6. Complete your scorecard and turn it in.

On Dec. 31 of each year, JTE scorecards are due to your unit commissioner, district executive or council representative.

Units that plan ahead aren't surprised by their score; they're expecting it.

Like a marathon runner checking his watch after each mile, a unit should check its scorecard regularly to aim for gold.

Find all the Journey to Excellence information you need at this site.

Join the Gorham Scout Ranch Staff Today

Looking for a way to earn money this summer while having fun? Is one week of summer camp not enough? Let Gorham Scout Ranch be your home this summer! A camp staff position at Gorham Scout Ranch is an experience that you will always remember.

For more information about being on the Gorham Scout Ranch staff and available positions, [click here](#).

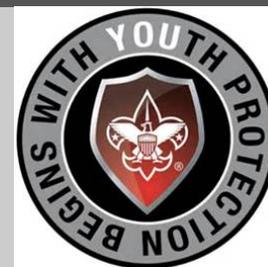
to assist in purchasing

Before beginning Internet Advancement, collect all member information, including advancement records, award records, and merit badge applications with the appropriate signatures. To complete Internet Advancement, you must be connected to a printer to print the final report.

Each unit selects one person who will have the log in information and be authorized to do advancement reporting for the unit. To request your Unit ID number and password to access Internet Advancement, please contact the Great Southwest Council Service Center at 505-345-8603 ext. 100.

You can find out more information regarding internet advancement, including detailed instructions, by [clicking here](#).

Youth Protection



Cyber Safety

Today's youth are spending more time than ever using digital media for education, research, socializing, and fun. To help families and volunteers keep youth safe while online, the Boy Scouts of America introduced the **Cyber Chip**. In developing this tool, the BSA teamed up with content expert NetSmartz(r), part of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (r) and training expert for many law enforcement agencies.

NetSmartz (r) has created a Scouting portal showcasing Cyber Chip resources, including grade-specific videos, for each level. [Check it out here](#).

Topics include

To download this year's staff application, [click here](#).



Send in Your Ideas for Future Newsletters

We want this monthly e-newsletter to be valuable for you! If you have article ideas, or items you believe would be helpful to you and your Scouter colleagues, please contact [Amy Cliser via email](#).

PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT TO **FORWARD THIS EMAIL TO LEADERS AND PARENTS IN YOUR UNIT BY CLICKING THE Forward this email LINK BELOW.**

If you wish to be removed from this mailing list, please click "SafeUnsubscribe" below.



Prepared. For Life.®

cyberbullying, cell phone use, texting, blogging, gaming, and identity theft.

Bullying Awareness

The idea that a Scout should treat others as he or she wants to be treated - a Scout is kind - is woven throughout the programs and literature of the Boy Scouts of America. When a Scout follows the principles of the Scout Oath and Law, bullying and hazing situations should never occur.

The fact sheets below will help with bullying awareness and direct you to resources provided by the BSA and other entities we work with to protect children.

[A Scout is Kind Newsletter](#)

[Bullying - What is Bullying?](#)

[Bullying Prevention Guide](#)

[Creating a Bullying-Free Culture in Scouting](#)

[What to Do if Your Child is Being Bullied](#)

[Prevention of Cyberbullying in Scouting](#)

[Reporting Suspected or Observed Bullying](#)

[Providing Support to Scouts Who are Bullied](#)

[The Bully](#)

[Prevention of Bullying in Scouting - Unit Discussions](#)

[Myths About Bullying](#)

| 505-345-8603 | kevin.mcdlelland@scouting.org | <http://www.gswcbsa.org>

5841 Office Blvd NE
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Thank you for your service to the youth of our community!