

HIGH DESERT NEWS

October 2026



Kirtland Camporee



Another GREAT Camporee Event on Kirtland Air Force Base is complete!! This “Survivor”-themed event gave everyone the chance to work on the Wilderness Survival Merit Badge as well as various rank requirements. 10 troops and 3 packs from 4 districts participated in a Survivor Themed Camporee at Kirtland AFB with elements of the popular television show to include 6 challenges, unknown tribe mates, immunity idols, and tribal councils. (Continued on Page 4)



Important Info

Website:

<https://www.scoutingamericahighdesertcouncil.org/>

Newsletter Signup:

Go to our website (above) - and click "join our email list" in the upper right corner to ensure you get this newsletter directly each month!

Social Media:

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for the latest news and updates!



Roundtable - Council Wide

1st Thursday of every month starting at 7:00pm

Info here - Each session starts with general info and then breaks into separate "rooms" to discuss Pack/Troop/Crew/Commissioner/Special Interest Topics



Zoom Meeting ID: 881 9890 3974

Passcode: 540846

(Meeting Code is good for next 3 years)

Scan or Click to
enter Meeting



ABQ Metro Area Hybrid Roundtable for October is at

St. Mark's Episcopal Church - 431 Richmond Pl NE,

El Paso/Las Cruces Area Hybrid Roundtable

South Area Council Office

7601 Lockheed Dr - El Paso

**Questions: contact Ruben Berumen r.b.berumen@gmail.com or
Kym Maldonado kym_maldonado@hotmail.com**

Upcoming Events

Check <https://scoutingevent.com/573> for up-to-date Info

Date	Event	Location
Oct 3 rd	BALOO/IOLS Training	Ft Bliss Scout Hut
Oct 10 th	Western Tech MBU/Univ. of Scouting	El Paso, TX
Oct 10 th	Cub Scout Leader Training	El Paso, TX
Oct 16-18	CPR/AED/WFA Course	ABQ, NM
Oct 17 th	Scout Night with the Miners - UTEP Game	El Paso, TX
Oct 24 th	Cuboree	Las Cruces, NM
Oct 24 th	Massing of the Colors	El Paso, TX
Nov 7 th	Health MBU	ABQ, NM
Nov 9 th	2026 Eagle Golf Tournament	El Paso, TX
Nov 11 th	Council Offices Closed - Veteran's Day	All
Nov 13-15	OA Fall Fellowship	Peralta, NM
Nov 21 st	Cub Scout Range Day	Albuquerque, NM
Nov 21 st	Scout Night at NMSU	Las Cruces, NM
Nov 21 st	Scout Expo	El Paso, TX
Nov 26 th	Sun Bowl Thanksgiving Parade	El Paso, TX
Nov 26 th	Scout Offices Closed - Thanksgiving	All

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In the News

(Camporee Continued)

Tribes competed in challenges and won points for their individual troops. Troop awards were based upon a system of average points per scout with a final tribal council twist when the individual immunity idols came into play.

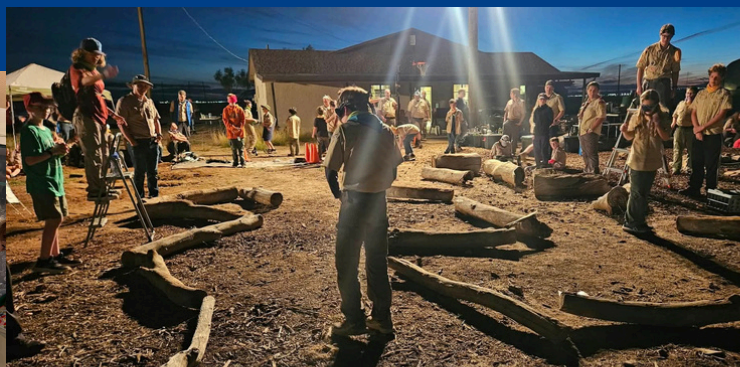
- First place - Troop 85
- Second place - Troop 174
- Third Place - Troop 17

Additional awards were given for camp craft, survivor spirit, and both youth and adult cooking challenges where a secret survival ingredient assigned at the event was to be showcased in the dish.

- Camp Craft - Troop 220
- Survivor Spirit - Troop 934
- Youth Cooking Challenge - Troop 17
- Adult Cooking Challenge - Troop 934

Scouts also earned the majority of the requirements for the Wilderness Survival Merit Badge, participated in a night land navigation course, experimented with night vision apparatus and robots with the KAFB EOD unit, and worked on a conservation project. More than 30 scouts built survival shelters and spent Saturday night in holes with the prairie dogs!

Do you have pictures to share from this event? Upload them here!! <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1tirXozPvW3zFXE9a1s39eY3OVS0MYUme?>



In the News

The View from the Top

We have TWO blog posts for you this month!!!



**“Why Do We Do Service” -
Chris Sandberg**

[Click here to read](#)

“Taming Email” - Fred Youberg

[Click here to read](#)

Commemorative Patches!

Orders for these special commemorative patches will close on Thur, Oct 3rd. They are only available if pre-ordered - click image for more details and to place your order...!

Celebrate 100 Years of Route 66!

Neon Blue

Neon Green

Neon Yellow

\$8 EACH
\$21 FULL SET

ORDERS CLOSE OCTOBER 3RD!!

In the News

Scouts at the State Fair!

Special Thanks to Pack 174 for use of their track and all their help as we showed the community just how much fun they could be having in Scouting!!



Training Trail

BALOO/IOLS TRAINING OCT 3-4, 2026

LOCATION: Ft. Bliss, TX

BALOO (Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation) is the required outdoor training for Cub Scout Packs that wish to conduct overnight camping. This hands-on course equips leaders with the knowledge and skills needed to safely plan, organize, and lead Pack camping experiences. All units must have at least one BALOO Trained leader on every campout.

Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS) is a hands-on training course designed to give Scouts BSA leaders the practical outdoor skills needed to confidently lead Scouts in the outdoors. The course focuses on learning by doing, giving leaders the opportunity to experience the skills they can then teach and use with their Scouts. All participants should come prepared to spend time outdoors and participate in hands-on activities throughout the training.



The poster features a green background with a yellow wavy shape on the left. At the top left is a line drawing of a campsite with tents, trees, a fire, and a crescent moon. Below this, the text 'BALOO/IOLS TRAINING' is written in bold green letters, followed by 'SATURDAY 10/3 - SUNDAY 10/4', 'LOCATION: 452 GREGG RD. FORT BLISS, TEXAS', and 'MUST CAMP OVERNIGHT'. At the bottom left is the Scouts BSA logo. On the right side, there are three circular images: a hand showing the 'Scout' sign, a red and white tent in a forest, and marshmallows being roasted over a campfire.

**BALOO/IOLS
TRAINING**

SATURDAY 10/3 - SUNDAY 10/4

LOCATION: 452 GREGG RD.
FORT BLISS, TEXAS

MUST CAMP OVERNIGHT



Training Trail

TROOP LEADER TRAINING OCTOBER 10, 2026

LOCATION: El Paso, TX

This training provides Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters with the knowledge and tools needed to effectively lead a Scouts BSA Troop. Topics include troop operations, advancement, youth leadership, the patrol method, and delivering a quality Scouting program.



SAVE THE DATE! **TROOP LEADER**
SPECIFIC TRAINING
LEAD * TRAIN * INSPIRE

TRAINING FOR SCOUTMASTERS,
ASSISTANT SCOUTMASTERS,
AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND CHAIRS.

THIS TRAINING WILL HELP YOU:

- Strengthen your leadership skills
- Understand your role and responsibilities
- Support your Scouts and your unit
- Build a strong, successful program

Save the Date!
OCTOBER 10, 2026

**BETTER LEADERS.
STRONGER UNITS.**

LOCATION: WESTERN TECH ON PLAZA
9624 Plaza Cir
El Paso, TX 79927

**REGISTRATION
OPENING SOON!**

Thank you for leading the adventure!

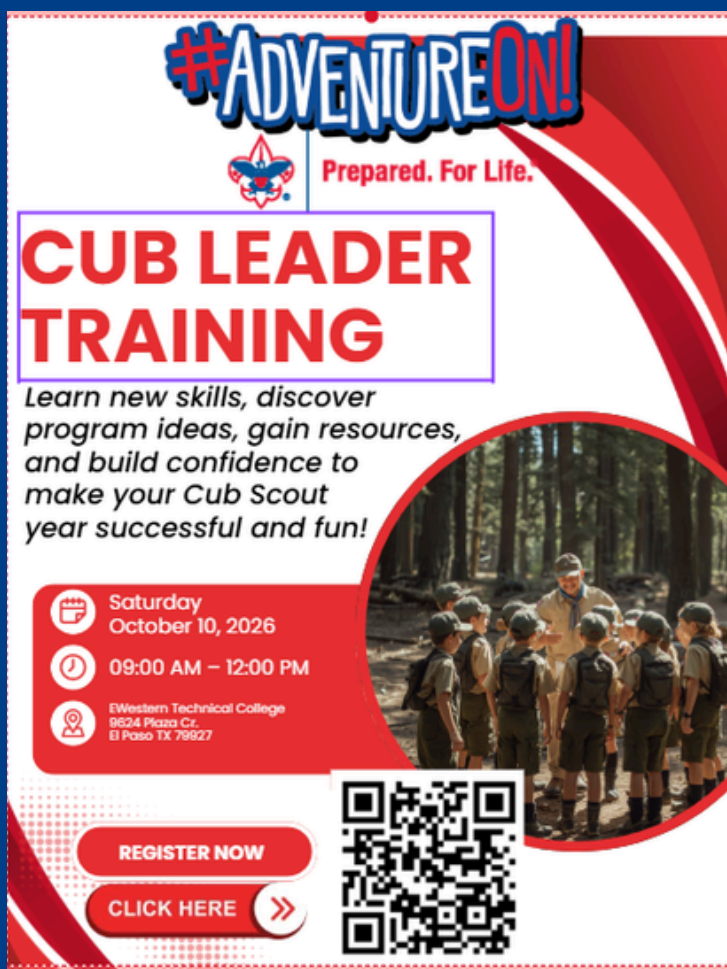
SCOUTING AMERICA
PREPARED. FOR LIFE.

CUB LEADER TRAINING OCTOBER 10, 2026

LOCATION: El Paso, TX

Join us for Cub Leader Training Day and get ready for an exciting day of learning, ideas, and hands-on fun! Whether you are brand new or a seasoned leader, this training will help you build confidence, gain resources, and bring even more adventure to your pack program. Come connect with other leaders and leave inspired for the Scouting year ahead

Who: Cubmasters/ Assistant Cubmasters, COR training, Den Leaders and Committee members!!



#ADVENTUREON!
Prepared. For Life.

CUB LEADER TRAINING

Learn new skills, discover program ideas, gain resources, and build confidence to make your Cub Scout year successful and fun!

**Saturday
October 10, 2026**

09:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Western Technical College
9624 Plaza Cir.
El Paso TX 79927

REGISTER NOW

CLICK HERE >>

QR Code

Advancement

September 2026

Cubmasters, Scoutmasters and Committee Leaders

Advancement

Follow up with families who attended recruiting events but have not yet registered. Hold a parent orientation covering the calendar, communication methods, uniforms, handbooks, dues, volunteering, and required forms. Make sure adults have completed Youth Protection and position-specific training.

Review the budget, registration status, fundraising plans, and winter reservations. Begin planning November and December events before the holiday season becomes busy. Encourage leaders to attend the Oct 1 roundtable to learn about the new Recharter process. Be sure you have a registered adult prepared to do the Recharter. Must be Key 3 or a delegate. Check the Guide for Safe Scouting for your events! Your Leader Training helps you know what to look for.

Cub Packs

Complete the rank-specific Bobcat Adventure early, especially with newly joined Scouts. Select the next required Adventures and use the official Adventure pages to review requirements, supplies, and Safety Moments. Give parents manageable roles—snacks, supplies, games, or hosting an Adventure. Record completed requirements promptly in Scoutbook+. Contact families after an absence so new members do not quietly drift away. Hold an energetic October pack meeting with recognition, games, songs, and den participation. Plan a fall outdoor activity such as a hike, nature program, service project, council event, or properly organized pack campout. If camping, verify current training and supervision requirements, including having a BALOO-trained registered leader present for a pack overnighter. Use Halloween or harvest themes only as a setting for an age-appropriate activity; keep costumes, games, food, and decorations safe and welcoming for all families. Recognize Scouts quickly with earned Adventure loops, pins, or other awards.

Advancement

Scout Troops

One suggestion: A strong October theme would be “Fall Camping and Navigation,” with three skill-based meetings, JOTA-JOTI participation, and a youth-led weekend event as the month’s main event. Let the Scouts plan an event and how the weekly meetings will prepare everyone.

1. A well-prepared fall outing. Plan a campout, hike, or orienteering weekend. Use meetings beforehand to practice packing, campsite setup, cooking, sanitation, knots, outdoor ethics, and patrol duty assignments. Scouting America encourages troops to provide regular outdoor adventures, ideally a main outing each month.

2. Youth-led patrol planning

Have the senior patrol leader and patrol leaders’ council set the month’s goals and assign meeting responsibilities. Advancement through the program—not as a separate class. Build natural opportunities into activities for camping, cooking, navigation, first aid, fitness, and leadership requirements. Schedule Scoutmaster conferences and boards of review where needed.

3. Encourage the Scouts to look up Jamboree-on-the-Air or Jamboree-on-the-Internet to see if they would like to participate. These events are held during the third full weekend of October. In 2026, that falls on October 16–18. It offers an accessible international Scouting experience involving amateur radio and online communication. Scouts can also investigate the Scouting America National Day of Service November 14th . What service would they like to complete for their community?

Advancement Questions?

Reach out to Lois Caipen via email at Locaipen@aol.com
(put Scouts in the Subject line)

Events

(Click graphic for more information)



Western Tech MBU Oct 10, 2026

Location: El Paso, TX

Scouts are offered a diverse set of Merit Badges that will be either partially earned or completed on the day of the event (contingent upon the completion of pre-requisites prior to Merit Badge College). For more details visit <https://scoutingevent.com/573-115977>

Scout Night with the Miners

Location: El Paso, TX

Calling all scouts and families! Mark your calendars for an exciting evening at the UTEP Miners football game. Game starts at 7 PM, Gates open 6 PM

REGISTER AS A UNIT!
\$15 each with patch

For Tickets contact Sean Huereque 915-747-6785 or email sjhureque@utep.edu



Events

(Click graphic for more information)

Cub-o-ree Oct 23-25, 2026

Location: Las Cruces, NM

Get ready for Cuboree – a weekend packed with adventure, outdoor fun, games, activities, and unforgettable memories for Cub Scouts and their families! Scouts will explore, learn, and have a blast while building friendships and Scouting spirit. Don't miss one of the most exciting Cub Scout events of the year! Registration is now open and closes on Oct 14th.

<https://scoutingevent.com/573-115974>



Massing of the Colors

Location: El Paso, TX

Massing of the Colors is an event where multiple color guards from multiple organizations, come together to honor the flag of the United States of America. Cubs and Scouts BSA are welcome to attend this event to honor the flag. Parking is limited so it is recommended to come early or park down the street and walk. Bring unit flag and American flag and water.



Events

(Click graphic for more information)



Health MBU Nov 7th, 2026

Location: Albuquerque

Health Merit Badge University is hosted by the Presbyterian Healthcare Advanced Learning Lab. Merit Badges Offered will include Disabilities Awareness, Health Care Professions, First Aid (2 classes offered) and Public Health. For More information and to register - visit <https://scoutingevent.com/573-100970>

We are looking for volunteers in classrooms, as well as adults who work in health care professions to be interviewed by Scouts for the Health Care Professionals Merit Badge. Please let Jessie Brown know your interest at 505-710-3277 or jessie.k.brown@icloud.com.

Eagle Golf Tournament Nov 9th, 2026

Location: El Paso, TX

Enjoy a fantastic day at Coronado Country Club featuring golf, lunch, dinner, exciting raffle prizes, and on-course contests, including Closest to the Pin and a Hole-in-One Challenge. Every dollar raised directly supports Scouting programs that provide young people with opportunities to develop leadership skills, build character, serve their communities, and experience the outdoors!



Visit <https://givebutter.com/2026-eagle-golf-tourn-fdg9xz> for information about tickets or sponsorships!

Events

(Click graphic for more information)



OA Fall Fellowship 13-15 November

Location: Location Peralta United Methodist Church

Please join us for Fall Fellowship. There will be fun and games along with a special activity planned! More to be announced as we get closer to the event.



Scout Expo Nov 21, 2026

Location: Location Peralta United Methodist Church

Please join us for Fall Fellowship. There will be fun and games along with a special activity planned! More to be announced as we get closer to the event.

Cub Scout Range Day November 21, 2026

Location: Albuquerque

Cubs will be able to earn their Archery and/or BB Gun Adventure! (Note - Per Scouting America Policy - Lions are not permitted to do BB Guns) More information coming soon!!



Events

(Click graphic for more information)



Scout Night at NMSU Nov 21, 2026

Location: Las Cruces, NM

Bring your Scouts, families, and fellow Scouters for a fun-filled evening of Scouting fellowship and Aggie spirit. Scout Night at NMSU is a great opportunity for units to enjoy a memorable outing together while connecting with other Scouts from across the council.

Sun Bowl Thanksgiving Parade Nov 26, 2026

Location: El Paso, TX

Come show your Scout spirit by marching alongside fellow Scouts and Scouters as we celebrate this community tradition. Wear your full Scout uniform, bring your enthusiasm, and help represent Scouting America with pride!

The parade travels along Montana Avenue, beginning at Ochoa Street and ending at Copia Street in El Paso, TX.

More Info Coming Soon!

A poster for the Sun Bowl Parade. At the top, it says "Scouting America" and "High Desert Council". Below that, it says "JOIN US! SUN BOWL PARADE" in large, bold letters. To the right, there is a banner for "GLASHEEN, VALLES INDERMAN, LLP INJURY LAWYERS". Below the main title, it says "THANKSGIVING DAY". There are three stars. Below that, there are three icons with text: a calendar icon for "DATE THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2026", a clock icon for "TIME 10:00 AM", and a location pin icon for "LOCATION The parade travels down Montana Avenue, starting at Ochoa Street and ending at Copia Street." At the bottom, it says "Celebrate. Honor. Give Thanks. BE PART OF A TIMELESS TRADITION!" with stars on either side. The background of the poster shows a Scout in uniform marching in a parade with mountains in the background.

Long Term Planning!

CUB SCOUT KLONDIKE!

SAVE THE DATE

FEBRUARY 27, 2027



WHITE SANDS NATIONAL PARK

AOLS: BRING YOUR SLED TO RACE!

19955 US Highway 70, Alamogordo, NM 88310

BSA KLONDIKE DERBY

JANUARY 16-18, 2027



CAMP DALE RESLER
1077 COLUMBINE BLVD
CLOUDCROFT, NM 88317

CHALLENGE YOUR PATROL IN A WEEKEND OF
WINTER COMPETITIONS, TEAMWORK,
AND SCOUT SKILLS!

+ CAMPING IS OPTIONAL. +

COMING SOON

SAVE THE DATE!

**ABQ METRO AREA
SCOUTING FOR FOOD 2027**

**SATURDAY FEB 6TH
SATURDAY FEB 13TH**

LOCATIONS TBD



Popcorn Info

HIGH DESERT COUNCIL MISSION POPCORN LAUNCHING LEADERS. BUILDING TOMORROW.

OCTOBER		
	OCTOBER 1	Unit Budget Submitted to HDC Popcorn Google Form
	OCTOBER 1	Unit Membership Data Captured for Commission
	OCTOBER 8	Replenishment Order Delivery / Mid Season Delivery
	OCTOBER 31, 2026	New Unit Free Product Cases Must Be Sold By
NOVEMBER		
	NOVEMBER 1 – 8	Take Order (Unit) Unit open November 1st – Submit by November 8th, 11:59 PM
	NOVEMBER 8	Show-and-Sell / Storefront Sale Window Ends November 8th, 11:59 PM
	NOVEMBER 19	Final Order Delivery
	NOVEMBER 30	Council Incentives End November 30th, 11:59 PM



We're a few weeks into our popcorn sale, and we want to give a HUGE shout-out to all our Scouts for their hard work so far! Keep reaching for the stars, sharing your Scouting story, and making every customer interaction count.

Need help, have questions, or running into a challenge? Don't hesitate to reach out. We're here to support you every step of the way! Keep up the amazing work, Scouts. The sky isn't the limit when you're reaching for the stars!

For more information - visit our [Mission Popcorn Website](#)