



Welcome to the High Desert Council North Area August 2025 Roundtable





August 14th, 2025

High Desert Council NORTH Roundtable

Agenda

- Announcements – Kathy Ferdig
 - Welcome – Dale Balmer
- Opening Ceremony – Lucas Snyder
- Scouting “Fun Fact” – Terry Brown
- Safety Moment - Everett Heinonen
- North Area Merit Badge University – Mike Maurer
 - Training Update – Dale Balmer for Joe Balestri
- Four Corners/San Juan County Update – Beth Bregar
 - Los Alamos Update – James Kuropatwinski
- Recognition Update – Dale Balmer for Brian Tolson
 - Activities Update – Randy Reed
 - Advancement Update – Lois Caipen
 - Commissioner Update – Dale Balmer
- District Executive Update - Mary Mazza-Andersen





Welcome

Dale Balmer





Opening Ceremony

Lucas Snyder
Troop 714 SPL







Scouting “Fun Fact”

Terry Brown





Scouting Fun Fact #24

Did You Know?

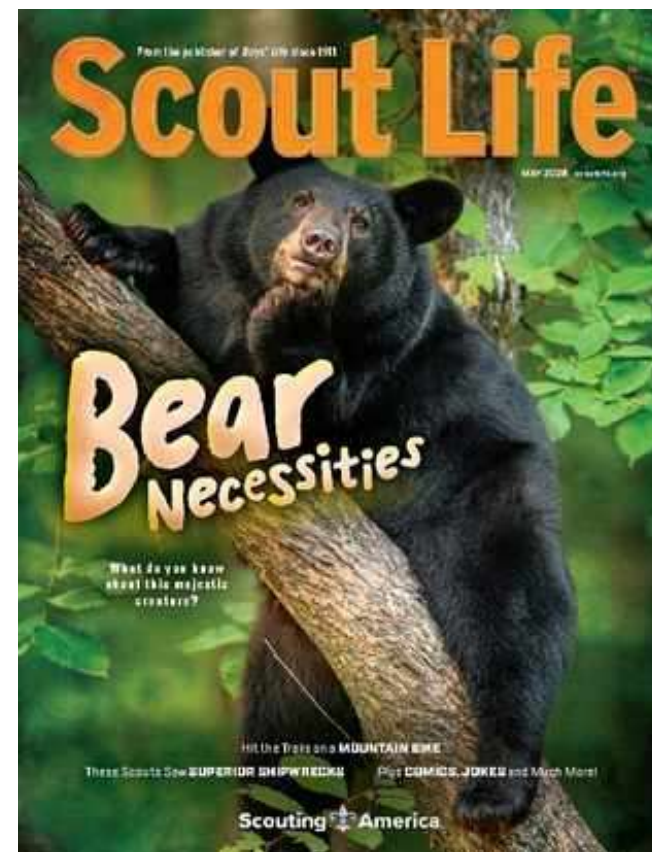
Real American Scouting Trivia

Scout Life magazine (originally called Boy's Life) goes out to over 1 million Scouts each month!

However, Scout Life comes from humble beginnings. It was actually started by an 18-year-old Scout, Joseph Lane, in 1911.

Just a year later, the Boy Scouts of America [bought the magazine](#) for \$6,100—about \$1 per subscriber.

Even fun-er fact: \$6,100 in 1911, with inflation taken into account, is over \$175,000 in today's money! Go Joseph!!





Safety Moment

Everett Heinonen





Diabetes



August 2025 Safety Minute





Summary

- Very likely, someone in your unit has diabetes
 - A medical condition that disrupts the body's ability to control blood sugar
 - Potentially life-threatening problems might occur if and when their blood sugar gets too high or too low
- You as leaders must know of Scouts and Adults with Diabetes and have plans in place





General Information

- Diabetes is categorized as either Type 1 or Type 2
 - Most people with Type 1 diabetes are diagnosed in childhood
 - Almost all need insulin shots to manage their blood sugar
- Type 2 diabetes is more commonly diagnosed in adults but is increasing in youth
 - In Type 2 diabetes, the loss of sensitivity to insulin causes a high blood sugar level
 - The condition is often controlled by oral medication and a monitored diet, although insulin shots are sometimes necessary





General Information

- People with diabetes check their blood sugar levels using a glucometer
 - They should always carry a glucometer and glucose tablets or food that can quickly treat low blood sugar
- Some people with diabetes might have an insulin pump
 - A small, typically pocket-sized computerized device that delivers insulin through a small tube placed under the skin
 - People with diabetes who have insulin pumps are typically well trained and should know how to manage both the device and their diabetes
- Scouts with diabetes should always be identified to adult unit leaders and to selected youth members who will act as a buddy
 - The buddy should know symptoms of low and high blood sugar and be willing to act promptly and notify an adult if these symptoms are observed





Hypoglycemia (Low Blood Sugar)

- Strenuous exercise can decrease blood sugar in all of us, especially true for people with diabetes
- Symptoms of low blood sugar might include
 - Sweating
 - Rapid heartbeat
 - Weakness
 - Confusion
 - Unconsciousness
 - Seizures
- The first aid for low blood sugar is sugar
 - Give some form of sugar orally if the person is conscious
 - Liquids—juices or gels— are often the easiest to obtain and administer
 - Remember that oral treatment should never be attempted if the victim is unconscious because choking could result
- If there is no improvement within 15 minutes, seek immediate medical care





Hyperglycemia (High Blood Sugar)

- Elevated blood sugar that stays too high for too long—**hyperglycemia**—can lead to diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA)
 - Can develop slowly but is a medical emergency requires immediate hospitalization
- Symptoms of high blood sugar might include
 - Sleepiness
 - Frequent urination
 - Lack of energy
 - Heavy breathing
 - Thirst
 - Loss of consciousness
- First aid for someone suffering from a high blood sugar level is to administer sugar-free fluids and to immediately transport them to medical care





Tips for Leaders

- Develop a diabetic action plan with the individual and their parents before a Scouting event occurs
- Know symptoms of low and high blood sugar levels, how to use a glucometer, and when to get medical help
- Make sure that the Annual Health and Medical Record includes the most current information
- Plan for each person with diabetes to be paired with a knowledgeable buddy to help if symptoms arise
- Encourage people with diabetes to check blood sugar as recommended by their doctor and if and when symptoms occur
- Make sure you have adequate medication and supplies for the entire event before leaving





Resources

- [American Diabetes Association—Diabetes Basics](#)
- [American Diabetes Association—Diabetes Medical Management Plan](#)
- [Mayo Clinic Diabetes](#)





North Area Merit Badge University

Mike Maurer





STEM Merit Badge University Albuquerque

Registration
opens
September 1,
2025



November 1, 2025



ENVIRONMENTAL
SCIENCE



ENGINEERING



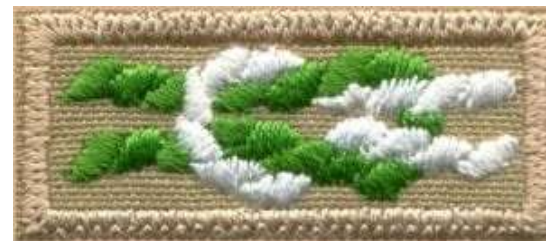
PROGRAMMING

NM SCHOOL OF
ENGINEERING





High Desert Training Reports



Joe Balestri





“If it doesn’t challenge you, it won’t change you.”

Fred DeVito – Author of Barre Fitness





High Desert Training Statistics

Council Wide Training Statistics + 1.4% since June



North Service Area Statistics +.9%

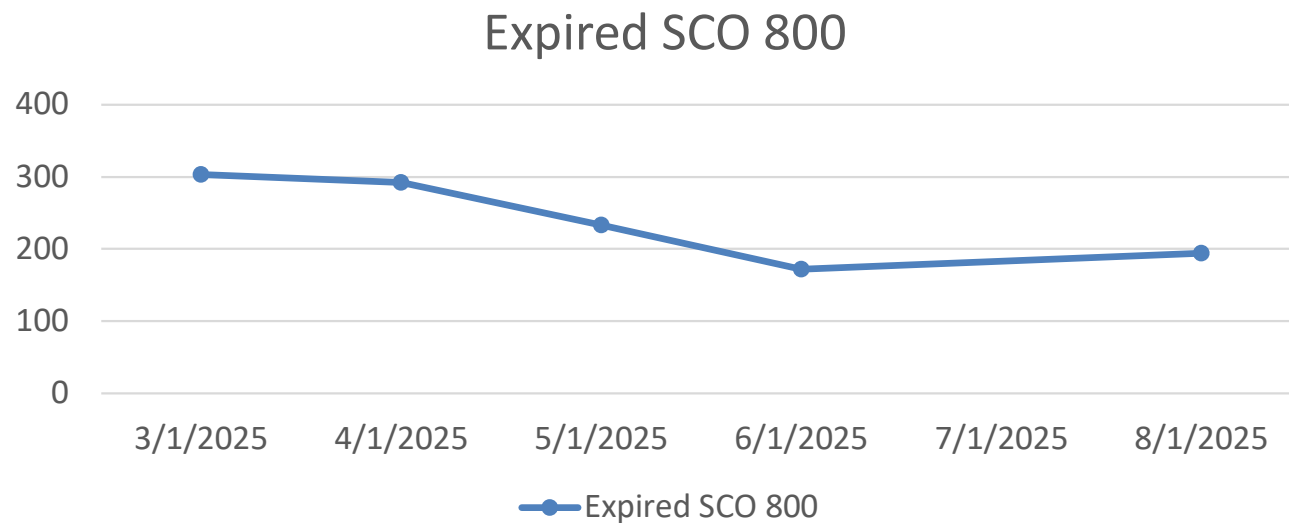
South Service Area Statistics +2.2%





Hazardous Weather

- Hazardous Weather SCO 800
 - Required every two years
 - If not current will show direct contact leaders as “Untrained”





Wood Badge 2025

- Aug 22-24, 2025 and Sept 6-7, 2025
- Gorham Scout Ranch
- Participant Count – 34





IOLS/BALOO

- IOLS in Four Corners
 - Cancelled evening of – Thanks to the Bregars and all involved, especially Brian Tolson who was informed as he arrived in the area from ABQ





Upcoming Training

- Check council website calendar at scoutingamericahighdesertcouncil.org





Training Contact Update

- New Email for Training Chair
 - council.412.training@gmail.com – should appear as “Council 412 Training” in inbox
- Unified point of contact for council training
- You can still reach out to Joe at jbalestri55@gmail.com, but training emails are coming from the new email address.





San Juan County Scouting

Beth Bregar





The San Juan County Area Round Table for Pack and Troop Leaders

Roundtable is changing its time!



For 2025 we will meet on the 3rd Saturday of September (20th), and December (20th), from 10 am to Noon. It is our goal to make this a supplemental training that will add to your knowledge base to help you provide a quality program for your youth.

September Topics:

Cubs & Scouts:

TBD

- **DATE:** September 20, 2025
- **TIME:** 10:00 am to Noon
- **LOCATION:** Tyckson Scout Hut, located at 1911 N. Dustin Ave. in Brookside Park.

Please share this outstanding opportunity with all your Leaders and Parents!

Ideas on topics you may want to cover, email johnnadowning@yahoo.com or ehbregar@gmail.com

Roundtable is an opportunity: To meet other Scouters from our area **FACE TO FACE!** To have current information presented where you can ask a question. To learn “the Tricks of the Trade” from experienced Scouters. To meet and greet new and experienced Scouters you have not seen for a while.

As experienced Scouters we understand the importance of meeting others and sharing information, ideas, the latest news from national, our council, and our area. Please join us.





Los Alamos Update

James Kuropatwinski





Recognition Program of the Month (August 2025)

Brian Tolson

Assistant Council Commissioner

Phone: 505-967-6139

Email: briantolson99@yahoo.com





2025 Awards Timeline

- Nominations to Council Office by January 5, 2026:
 - Silver Beaver
 - Venturing Leadership Award
 - District Award of Merit
 - Council Duty to God
 - Scouting Service Awards (Vale La Pena; Asian American Spirit of Scouting, Whitney M. Young, Jr.)
- Not too early to start writing nominations
- A full timeline document is posted here and Council's Newsletter and Facebook page.

<https://www.scoutingamericahighdesertcouncil.org/non-advancement-awards>





ARCHDIOCESE OF SANTA FE CATHOLIC COMMITTEE ON SCOUTING

Conferral Mass and Retreat

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 20, 2025

SCAN HERE
TO REGISTER



REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

This Mass will recognize scouts from Scouting America, Girl Scouts, and American Heritage Girls who earned a religious emblem or award in the previous year.

Retreat will be held following Mass with activities designed to jump start each scout's endeavors in working toward Catholic scouting emblems and awards including the 2025 Jubilee Activity Patch.

**OUR LADY OF THE ANNUNCIATION
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

**2621 VERMONT ST NE
ALBUQUERQUE, NM**

REGISTRATION: 8:30 AM

MASS: 9:00 AM

RETREAT: AFTER MASS - 3:00 PM

WWW.CATHOLICSCOUTSNM.ORG





Questions





Activities Update

Randy Reed

North Area Activities Chair





#ADVENTUREON!

**AUGUST 30, 2025
9AM – 1PM**



**COME SEE
HOW MUCH
FUN YOUR
FAMILY
COULD BE
HAVING IN
SCOUTS!**



5841 OFFICE BLVD NE

**BOYS & GIRLS FROM
KINDERGARTEN – AGE 18
ARE WELCOME!**

ARCHERY

**CLIMBING
WALL**

CAMP COOKING

PIONEERING

FIRST AID

**STEM
ACTIVITIES**

FISHING



SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 6TH

GATES OPEN AT 5:00PM - GAME AT 6:35PM

\$20 PER TICKET

**REGISTRATION
INFO:**



**First 2000
people through
the gate on game
day get a Bugs
Bunny Jersey!**



**TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED BY AUG 25TH AND PICKED UP
AT THE COUNCIL OFFICE DURING THE WEEK OF AUG 26TH**

IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE DUKE CITY HAM FEST

RADIO MERIT BADGE CLINIC



SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2025, FROM 9-3.

AT EMBASSY SUITES BY HILTON - 1000 WOODWARD PLACE NE, ALBUQUERQUE





ONE
ALBUQUE
RQUE
KEEP NEW MEXICO + TRUE



WEEK'S



Piasta FANATICS



Saturday, September 27, **2025**

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

9201 Balloon Museum Dr NE
(South Parking Lot)

To Register Visit:
CABQ.GOV/FIESTAFANATICS

Let's ignite the spark with our annual Balloon Fiesta
Litter Cleanup! Join us at the park or clean up in
your neighborhood.





Railroad Merit Badge Day



Come Join New Mexico Heritage Rail during New Mexico Railroad Days for a day of fun, learning all about railroading. Start the morning off with a pancake breakfast, then learn from professionals and hobbyists and tour the historic AT&SF 2926 steam locomotive. Scouts will complete the Railroading Merit Badge.

Register here:

<https://form.jotform.com/252II8I6I743I49>

Date: Sept 28, 2025

Time : 8am-1pm



Where: Albuquerque - South Rail Yards,

1300 2nd Street SW, 87102

Cost: \$10

(family members welcome to also register and pay for breakfast)



KIRTLAND CAMPOREE

OCTOBER 3-5, 2025

<https://scoutingevent.com/573-100355>



FRIDAY:

ARRIVE TO KIRTLAND AFB
AFTER 1600

SATURDAY:

MERIT BADGES
RELATED TO CRIMINAL
JUSTICE AND LAW, PLUS
DEMONSTRATIONS BY
BASE PERSONNEL
(POSSIBLY INCLUDING
BOMB TEAMS, FIRE,
POLICE, ETC)

SUNDAY:

MORNING
DEMONSTRATIONS
AND OPTIONAL
SUNDAY SERVICES
AT BASE CHAPEL

**REGISTRATION CLOSES SEPT 15TH -
NO EXCEPTIONS**

**MORE
INFO
COMING
SOON!**





VS



October 19th Gates open 1:30 PM





STEM Merit Badge University Albuquerque

Registration
opens
September 1,
2025



November 1, 2025



ENVIRONMENTAL
SCIENCE



ENGINEERING



PROGRAMMING

NM SCHOOL OF
ENGINEERING





ALBUQUERQUE METRO AREA 2026 SCOUTING FOR FOOD

FEBRUARY 7TH 2026 & FEBRUARY 14TH 2026
(BOTH SATURDAYS)

IF INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING: PLEASE EMAIL:

- TROOP #,
- GENERAL LOCATION (NE, NW, CENTRAL, ETC)
- CONTACT PERSON

ABQMETROSFF@GMAIL.COM

**STOREHOUSE NEEDS TO GET THE
ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF
LOCATIONS WORKED OUT BY THE
END OF SEPTEMBER**





Advancement Update

Lois Caipen

Council VP - Advancement





Advancement Questions

Who do you
contact?





IT DEPENDS, WHERE DO YOU LIVE?

FARMINGTON/AZTEC/BLOOMFIELD - CONTACT JOHNNA DOWNING –

JOHNNADOWNING@YAHOO.COM

DURANGO/BAYFIELD/IGNACIO/PAGOSA SPRINGS/CORTEZ – JULIE HARRIS

HARRISFAMILYDGO@GMAIL.COM

SANTA FE/LOS ALAMOS – TIM NEAL TIMRNEAL@GMAIL.COM

WEST ABQ/RR/CORRALES/LOS LUNAS/BELÉN/GALLUP - STEPHEN

BARTHOLOMEW LIFE2EAGLEHELP@YAHOO.COM

EAST ABQ/EAST MNTNS/TIJERES/EDGEWOOD - MIKE CUTTER

MICHAEL.CUTTER@MSN.COM

NOT SURE – LOIS CAIPEN LOCAIPEN@AOL.COM





DO YOU HAVE ADVANCEMENT QUESTIONS?

Check with the Advancement
Chair for your geographic area!





Merit Badge Counselors: How is that Training Going?

Well..... It's starting...





MORE MB COUNSELORS ARE TRAINED! YES, IT IS TRUE BUT WE COULD USE A FEW MORE TRAINED!

5-7-2024 311 Total, 92 Untrained, 219 Trained = **70.4%**
Trained (GSWC-only)

6-7-2024 311 Total, 83 Untrained, 228 Trained = **73.3%**
Trained (GSWC-only)

8-4-2025 359 Total, 68 Untrained, 291 Trained = **81.1%**
Trained (High Desert Council)

Target for 31 Dec 2025 is 100% Trained





MERIT BADGE COUNSELORS:

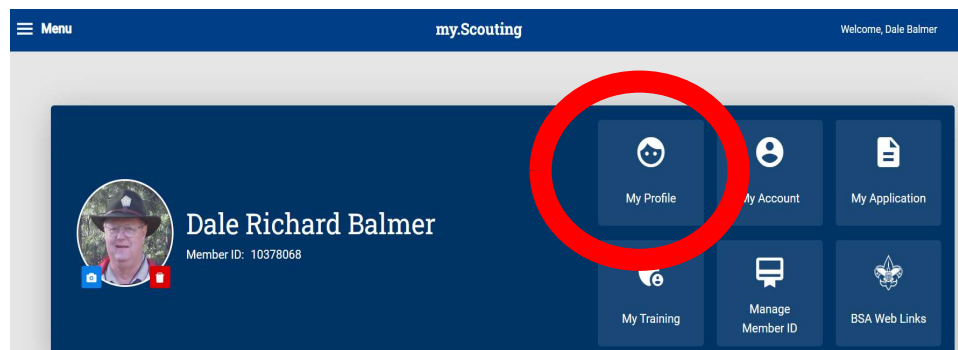
**BEFORE DECEMBER GO TO
MY.Scouting.org**





How to check if you're trained as a Merit Badge Counselor

- Log into your my.scouting.org account
- Click on the My Profile button:

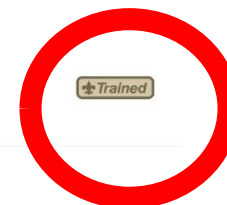


- Scroll down to see list of positions and training status for each position:

Registrations

Registered Positions [Download Membership Card](#)

Great Southwest Council 412 ✓ Council Commissioner Expire Date: 12/31/2023 Trained	Rio Grande 07 ✓ Merit Badge Counselor Expire Date: 12/31/2023 Trained
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The quickest training is online

via my.scouting.org (24 + 10 = 34 mins)

- Click on My Training, and then "Scouts BSA" box.
- If you see "Select your position" then you click "Merit Badge Counselor (34 minutes)"
 - If not, hit the word Catalog and type "Merit Badge Counselor"
- The classes noted on the next slide are the total required to be a TRAINED Merit Badge Counselor





These are the required courses for Merit Badge Counselors!

- **"MBC - Before the first meeting"** (3 courses, 24 mins)
 - SCO_472: Aims & Methods of Scouts BSA (8:30)
 - SCO_474: Introduction to Merit Badges (8:00)
 - SCO_486: What is a Merit Badge Counselor (7:00)

- **"MBC - Position Trained."** (1 course, 10 mins)
 - SCO_471: Advancement (10:00)

Please help us hit 100% before December 31st

Locaipen@aol.com 505-306-7694

Thank You!





Cub Advancement

Q: How can Advancement help grow our Cub Packs?

Q: Do Cub leaders know that the Advancement Committee exists to answer Cub questions?

Q: What Cub topics should we address at RT?

Send ideas and questions to

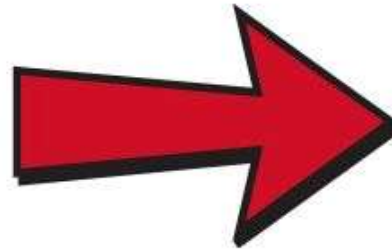
Locaipen@aol.com





Life to Eagle Class

**Saturday, Sept 13th
10am - 12pm**



**JOIN IN PERSON AT THE COUNCIL SERVICE CENTER IN
ALBUQUERQUE OR VIA ZOOM**



<https://scoutingevent.com/573-101302>



Commissioner Update

Dale Balmer





SYT Update

- New Safeguarding Youth Training (SYT) released 5/17/25
- ALL individuals need to complete by 5/31/26, regardless of when YPT expired
- Anyone who had not taken SYT, with a YPT expiration date after 5/31/26, had their SYT expiration date re-set to 5/31/2026
- 1318 individual registered adult leaders as of 8/14/25, 9am. Approx 119 individuals council-wide have taken SYT so far. Leaves 1199 to take; 839 will need to take in May 2026... so please take earlier to spread out the due dates and ensure you have the latest knowledge





Cub Chat Live

- Latest in Cub Scouting available via *Cub Chat Live* broadcasts, every Friday @ 2pm CDT, via Facebook
- <https://www.facebook.com/watch/scoutingmagazine/135558881488551/>
- Listen in for useful tips, tricks and ideas to help your den or pack
- Past Episodes archived at:
<https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/cubchatlive/>
- Aug 1st is on the new Den Decks





What's a Den Deck?

- **Cub Scout Den Meeting Card Deck for Leaders**
 - Cub Scout Den Meeting Activity Card Decks, developed to support unit-level program delivery and simplify Den meeting planning.
 - Each deck includes **116 cards**, customized by rank (Lion through Arrow of Light), and covers:
 - **All 6 Required Adventures** with activity cards for every requirement
 - **4-5 Elective Adventures** per rank
 - **5–10 Fun & Game Cards** to drive engagement
 - **Leader Resource Cards** covering onboarding, safeguarding, and training support
- Created with volunteer input and aligned with the latest Cub Scout program updates, these decks also integrate with new support tools available at [Scouting.org](https://www.scouting.org)—ideal for both new and experienced leaders.





Combined Troop Pilot Test

- Pilot Ends Aug 15th
- After end date, units currently serving as combined units can continue to do so until a National Decision is announced
- National Decision being considered at National Executive Board's October meeting; decision will be announced afterwards





Review of Unit Metrics & Unit Dashboard

- Key Leaders Trained
- Unit Size
- Membership Growth
- Advancement (pack, troop, ship)/ Youth Leaders trained (crews)
- Outdoor Activities
- Youth Retention (in development)





Review of Unit Metrics & Unit Dashboard

Focus tonight on two areas, in red

- Key Leaders Trained
- Unit Size
- Membership Growth
- Advancement (pack, troop, ship/
Youth Leaders trained (crews))
- **Outdoor Activities (all units)**
- Youth Retention (in development)





Data Entries in My.Scouting for

Tier III Adventure & Leadership for Crews & Posts

1. Key 3 log into my.scouting, go to Organization Manager
2. Select Unit Data Metric Entry
3. Enter Tier III and/or Training dates
- 4 Don't forget to click the "Submit Entry" button!

my.Scouting | Organization Manager

Unit Data Metric Entry

Please enter a completion date for the following metrics.

Tier III Adventure

01/03/2025

Last Updated: 01/22/2025: 02:53 PM
Last Updated By: 129906716

Participation in a Tier III Adventure. For further details, please go to [Tiers of Adventure](#)

Youth Leadership / Training

Enter the date when new youth officers were elected and completed their training

01/13/2025

Last Updated: 01/21/2025: 10:17 AM
Last Updated By: 129906716

Submit Entry

Per National, "trained" is on the honor system; no specific training requirement established, just 'when was it done?'





Data Entries in My.Scouting for Outdoor Activity for Packs, Troops, Ships

1. Key 3 log into my.scouting, go to Organization Manager
2. Select Unit Data Metric Entry
3. Enter Outdoor activity date
4. Don't forget to click the Submit Entry button! (Can enter more than one date, but dates must be entered in chronological order)

Menu my.Scouting | Organization Manager

Unit Data Metric Entry

Please type the date of completion for the outdoor activity below:

Outdoor Activity

01/10/2025

Last Updated: 01/21/2025: 10:20 AM
Last Updated By: 129906716

A Cub Scout outdoor activity could be any outdoor activity offered by the pack such as day camp, a day hike adventure, a picnic, a holiday parade, or activity at a local park, anytime within the past 12 months.

Submit Entry





Next North Area Roundtable

- **Thursday, Sept 11th**
- **7pm**
- **Via Zoom**
 - Meeting ID: 899 5815 6489
 - Passcode: 0g8qai
 - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89958156489?pwd=3YQunbbsoJ9frhUyPG9wVwU8PqNgkc.1>



**Be sure to attend so you can get details on the
October combined Council Roundtable!**





District Executive

Mary Mazza-Andersen





Notes/Announcements Distribution

- Email to North Area unit Key 3 & Commissioners (Dale)
- Posted to Council website (Fred)
 - <https://www.scoutingamericahighdesertcouncil.org/resources>
- Sent out by MailerLite/Trailmarker (Mary)
- Post to Council FaceBook page (Erica)

