

HIGH DESERT NEWS

July 2026



2026 Eagle Scout Recognition Luncheon

On June 5, 2026, the High Desert Council proudly celebrated our Eagle Scouts who earned Eagle between June of 2025 and May of 2026 with two special recognition luncheons held on the same day in Albuquerque, NM and El Paso, TX. Both events brought together Scouts, families, sponsors, and community leaders to honor the achievements of this year's Eagle Scout class.

Albuquerque Luncheon

We were honored to welcome Phil Shipley, sitting Scout Executive and National Service Territory 8 Director, as our guest speaker. Thank you, Phil, for sharing your insight and inspiring our Scouts.

Congratulations to Jared T. of Troop 22 in Santa Fe, NM, the proud recipient of this year's Anderson Family Scholar Award. We also extend our sincere gratitude to the Anderson Family for their generous scholarship supporting our Eagle Scouts.

We would like to recognize and thank our generous sponsors:

- **Distinguished Eagle Sponsor:** Group 1 Toyota
- **Silver Palm Sponsors:** Skip Brown and George Greenlee
- **Gold Palm Sponsors:** BAE Systems, the Campbell Family, Lois Caipen, and US Bank

A special thank you to Skip Brown and the entire Eagle Banquet team for their hard work in making this event such a success.

El Paso Luncheon

Thank you to everyone who attended our El Paso luncheon. We were honored to hear from James Montoya, El Paso District Attorney, who delivered an outstanding and memorable speech.

We were also delighted to welcome special guest Lily Limon, who presented our Eagle Scouts with the Official Starlighter Certificate, marking the lighting of the star on the Franklin Mountains in their honor. A big thank you as well to guest speaker Andrew Stokes for a fantastic speech and for his valuable contribution to the program.

Congratulations to Morris Brown and his team for their dedication and leadership in making this event a wonderful success.

Congratulations to all of our 2026 Eagle Scouts and thank you to everyone who helped make these two celebrations possible. Your continued support strengthens our Scouting community and helps us recognize the achievements of our young leaders.

Congratulations!

North Area Eagle Scouts

Troop 1 - Aden N.
Troop 1 - Ryan O.
Troop 1010 - Adelaide B.
Troop 1010 - Paola F.
Troop 11 - Aurora A.
Troop 126 - Jonas C.
Troop 126 - David C.
Troop 126 - Peter C.
Troop 126 - Dillon C.
Troop 126 - Michael R.
Troop 1395 - Elena B.
Troop 16 - Braylon M.
Troop 16 - Cameron S.
Troop 17 - Raphael N.
Troop 1919 - Emily H.
Troop 1919 - Celida S.
Troop 1919 - Naia T.
Troop 1974 - Ryan S.
Troop 2 - James L.
Troop 2 - Emmeline W.
Troop 22 - Jared T.
Troop 220 - Austin L.
Troop 220 - Nathaniel P.
Troop 220 - Caden R.
Troop 220 - Aaron S.
Troop 220 - Kaiden S.
Troop 280 - Alicia E.
Troop 285 - Tristan N.
Troop 285 - Nathan S.
Troop 29 - Soo L.
Troop 3 - Liam B.
Troop 3 - Corinne C.
Troop 325 - Colby S.
Troop 360 - Mark C.
Troop 395 - Ryan D.
Troop 417 - Daniel B.
Troop 417 - William C.
Troop 417 - Caleb S.
Troop 459 - Jamal W.
Troop 459 - Tanner D.
Troop 501 - Elias F.
Troop 57 - Xavier A.
Troop 57 - Eddie B.
Troop 57 - Rhys G.
Troop 57 - Ansley K.
Troop 57 - Dominick H.
Troop 57 - Alexander P.
Troop 640 - Shane B.
Troop 68 - Lenniray S.
Troop 714 - Sevil F.
Troop 714 - Tyler O.
Troop 714 - Tristan Z.
Troop 9 - William W.



South Area Eagle Scouts

Troop 123 - Dario B.
Troop 164 - Michael B.
Troop 164 - Andrew M.
Troop 164 - Donovan T.
Troop 173 - Bret B.
Troop 173 - Jayden H.
Troop 173 - Wyatt G.
Troop 2 - Peter A.
Troop 2 - David L.
Troop 210 - Dimitri M.
Troop 210 - Giovanni R.
Troop 219 - Rheanne D.
Troop 220 - Zoey K.
Troop 248 - Maryn L.
Troop 59 - Johnathan D.
Troop 64 - Liam G.
Troop 64 - Ryan S.
Troop 8044 - Eva U.
Troop 8219 - Landon D.
Troop 8219 - Rheanne D.
Troop 8219 - Aiden K.
Troop 8219 - Geoffrey S.
Troop 85 - Nathanael T.
Troop 85 - Adrian V.



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!



Adventure Guide:

Check out this great new resource with info about all the fun you can have in our council! [LINK HERE](#)

Roundtable - Council Wide

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

Info: Each session starts with general info and

then breaks into separate "rooms" to discuss

Participation Commissioner/Special Interest

Topics 45 1346

Passcode (Meeting Code)

ABQ Metro Area Hybrid

Prince of Peace Catholic Church - 11

El Paso/Las Cruces

South Area Council

7601 Lockheed Dr - El



Scan or Click to
enter Meeting



NO ROUNDTABLE IN JULY

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
July 8th	Popcorn Kickoff	Online
July 11-12	OA Vigil Weekend	Camp Dale Resler
July 11-12	ATV Weekend	Gorham Scout Ranch
July 11-12	High Desert Council Fun Shoot Weekend	Gorham Scout Ranch
July 17 th	COPE Weekend	Gorham Scout Ranch
July 17-18	Cub Scout Fishing Derby	El Paso, TX
July 25 th	Popsicles in the Park	Council Wide
Aug 1st	Cub Leader Specific Training Day	El Paso, TX
Aug 4th	Scout Night Out on the Plaza	Las Cruces, NM
Aug 28-30	Wood Badge Weekend #1	Gorham Scout Ranch
Aug 29 th	Adventure Day	ABQ, NM
Sept 12-13	Wood Badge Weekend #2	Gorham Scout Ranch
Sept 19 th	Life to Eagle Class	Online/ABQ Office
Sept 19 th	2026 Sporting Clays Fundraiser	Bosque, NM
Sept 25 th	2026 Fall Camporee - Kirtland AFB	ABQ, NM
Oct 10 th	Western Tech MBU/Univ. of Scouting	El Paso, TX

3 **Important Info**

4 **Calendar**

5 **In the News**

6 **Commissioners**

7 **Training Trail**

8

10

15

17

Advancement

Events

Long Term Planning

Popcorn Planning

In the News



MILITARY FAMILY FEE WAIVER

Scouting America is committed to expanding access to Scouting for military-connected youth.

OVERVIEW

Scouting America is waiving the **\$85 national youth registration fee** for eligible military families through a verification and code process during online registration.

- Youth members only
- New and renewing online registrations
- Funded nationally through philanthropic efforts

ELIGIBILITY

Youth in families with current service in:

- **Active Duty**
- **Reserve**
- **National Guard**

FEE COVERAGE

- **\$85 National Registration Fee — Waived**

Reduced to \$0 after verification and code application. Applies only to the national fee.

HOW IT WORKS

1. National fee reduced to \$0
2. Select **"Get Military Discount Code"**
3. Complete verification process
4. Receive code
5. Enter code at checkout
6. **National fee reduced to \$0**

ADDITIONAL COSTS

Local council, unit, optional add-on (e.g., *Scout Life* magazine), and processing fees may still apply.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHO QUALIFIES?

Eligible youth in Active Duty, Reserve, or National Guard families.

WHY DOES THE \$85 FEE APPEAR?

The national fee appears at checkout and is removed after the verification code is applied.

WHAT FEES DOES THE WAIVER COVER?

The waiver applies only to the national youth registration fee. Other local, unit, optional, and processing fees may still apply.

IS THIS AVAILABLE FOR ALL REGISTRATIONS?

No—this waiver is available for online registrations only.



Effective June 1, 2026

From the Commissioners

- Had a great time at Cub Day Camp or Scout Camp or an awesome Venturing High Adventure????
- Don't forget to record your unit's participation on the Unit Dashboard!
- How? One of the Key Three or a Key Three Delegate should log into their my.scouting.org account, and select the Organization Manager function for your unit
- Once in Org Manager, click on the Unit Data Metric Entry on the left side of the page, and then enter the date the unit completed the activity. The criteria for what type of activity you can enter a date for is provided on the data entry page
- Don't forget to click SAVE!
- Questions? Reach out to Assistant Council Commissioner Dale Balmer, dbalmer8@comcast.net

Training Trail

Training Priorities and Needs for HDC

PRIORITIES

- Leader Specific Training
- Unit Key 3 Training
- Specific Training Needs
 - BALOO
 - IOLS
 - Hazardous Weather Training
 - ILST
 - Rangemaster
 - Wilderness First Aid
- National Youth Leadership Training
- Wood Badge
- Continuing Education
 - Roundtable
 - University of Scouting

NEEDS

- Trainers
- Organizers
- Training Committee Members
- Piggyback on Other Events? Standalone Events?
 - Locations
 - Timing

How often and where we offer training will depend entirely on how we match our needs with our priorities!

Would you like to help? Organize? Train?

**Call or email:
Jim Libbin (575) 640-7042
jlibbin@nmsu.edu**

1



Cub Leader Training August 1st

LOCATION: El Paso, TX

Join us for Cub Leader Specific Training and gain the tools, resources, and confidence to lead a successful Cub Scout program!

Registration closes 7/28 - For more info visit <https://scoutingevent.com/573-116196>

Prepared. For Life.®

#ADVENTUREON!

CUB LEADER TRAINING

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

Saturday August 1, 2026
09:00 AM – 12:00 PM
El Paso Community College Northwest Campus
6701 Desert Blvd S, El Paso, TX 7993.

REGISTER NOW

CLICK HERE >>

Advancement

Summer Planning for Units, Scouts & Families

Cub Scouts:

School is out and it is time for summer fun with your old and new Cub friends! Go do it! Invite a friend to join your pack for their July/August activities - Maybe they will join your pack! Your leaders have training to help everyone do activities safely. The Guide to Safe Scouting is a wonderful reference. Take photos and get it to our Unit Buzz to share your great ideas with other Packs!

Troops, Crews and Ships:

You probably already have plans for something special this summer. Remember to work together to bring it to fruition. You have learned how to plan, prepare, and perform. Have a great summer! It could be a fairly small outing or an awesome trip! Some of you will attend the National Jamboree in July. There are a lot of options at Jambo, so check the schedule and see what you want to be sure to catch. Take Photos of your adventures and share them with Unit Buzz!

Advancement Questions?

- For information on how to contact an Advancement Committee Member for your area - Click [HERE](#) for more information. You will find a list of all our committee members and their contact information!

Advancement



*Take the Next Step on Your
Scouting Journey!*

LIFE TO EAGLE

★ CLASS ★

EVERY EAGLE SCOUT STARTED WITH A SINGLE STEP.
LET US HELP YOU TAKE YOURS.

Join us for an informative and
engaging class designed for Life
Scouts who are ready to navigate
the path to Eagle.



Saturday, September 19th 2026



10:00AM- 12:00PM
Join online via Zoom



Meeting ID: 811 3609 8796
Passcode: 916317



Or join in person
Albuquerque Scout Office
5841 Office Blvd. NE Albuquerque, NM 87109



WE'LL COVER:

- ✓ The Eagle Scout Rank Requirements
- ✓ The Eagle Project Process
- ✓ Tips for a Successful Scoutmaster Conference
- ✓ Resources and Next Steps
- ✓ Q&A and Open Discussion

PREPARE • LEAD • ACHIEVE

PREPARED. FOR LIFE.®

Events

(Click graphic for more information)

ATV Adventure Weekends

June 27/28
or
July 11/12

**Dirt and
horsepower —
what's not to love?**

ATV Adventure Weekend
June 27/28
or
July 11/12

Gorham Scout Ranch

Limited to 6 Youth 14 and
older each weekend
\$50 per participant

Bring your troop to camp
with a great program for
your older scouts

[Link](#) for more information
and registration



High Desert Council Fun Shoot at Gorham

- July 11 Gorham Scout Ranch
- Register as a unit or individually and join the Council Range and Target Activity team to shoot rifle, shotgun, and archery for \$30.
- Register for a group and you will cycle through each activity, spending approximately 45 minutes at each range to gain exposure and have safe fun.
- More information at this [LINK](#) or scan the QR code.



C.O.P.E. at Camp

Gorham Scout Ranch
July 17-19

COPE builds
Leadership through:

- Teamwork,
- Trust,
- Self confidence,
- Communication,
- Problem-solving,
- and
- Decision-making.

Bring your troop for a weekend of
adventure they won't soon forget! \$30
per Participant

[Link](#) for more information and
registration



Events

(Click graphic for more information)



Scout Fishing Derby July 17-18

LOCATION: El Paso, TX

Get ready to cast your lines and reel in some fun—our Scout Fishing Derby Weekend is coming up! This two-day adventure is filled with learning, outdoor fun, and friendly competition. Must Attend Both Days

Registration closes 7/15 - For more information visit <https://scoutingevent.com/573-114258>

Popsicles in the Park July 25th

LOCATION: Council Wide

As you are planning your unit's summertime activities - put this on your calendar!! Locations planned around the council and all are welcome to participate! This will be a great "Bring a Friend" event to showcase how much fun they could be having in Scouts! For more info on locations - visit <https://scoutingevent.com/573-113344>



Events

(Click graphic for more information)



YOU'RE INVITED!

SCOUT *Night Out* ON THE PLAZA

A COMMUNITY EVENT FOR EVERYONE!

AUGUST 4TH

EVENT: 6:00 – 8:30 PM

*Come out, explore,
and be part of
something amazing!*

**NOT ABLE TO MAKE IT
BUT INTERESTED?**

Please scan!

BEASCOUT.COM

FAMILY FRIENDLY FUN
Activities for all ages!

COMMUNITY CONNECTION
Meet local Scouts and learn more about what we do.

KID ZONE
Games, activities and hands-on fun!

ADVENTURE AWAITS
Discover Scouting and how your family can get involved!

**100 N. MAIN ST
LAS CRUCES, NM 88001**

**FUN. COMMUNITY.
FUTURE LEADERS.**
All are welcome!

**WE CAN'T WAIT
TO SEE YOU!**

★ ★ THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR LOCAL SCOUTS! ★ ★

**SUPPORTING
-SCOUTS.
BUILDING
TOMORROW'S
LEADERS.**

Las Cruces Area Units!

Events

(Click graphic for more information)



SCOUTING ADVENTURE DAY

**SATURDAY AUGUST
29TH, 2026**
9AM - 1PM

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FROM BOTH
PACKS AND TROOPS TO SHOW
PROSPECTIVE AND NEW SCOUT
FAMILIES HOW MUCH FUN THEY
CAN BE HAVING WITH SCOUTING
AMERICA!!**

CONFIRMED AS OF 6/7:

- CABQ Climbing Wall
- Archery
- Camp Cooking

DESIRED STATIONS:

Pioneering	Pinewood Derby
First Aid	Summer Camp Options
STEM Activities	Wildlife/Track Identification
Handicrafts	???? Open to other ideas

**CONTACT RANDY REED AT
RANDOLPH.REED@GMAIL.COM IF INTERESTED
IN HELPING!**



Albuquerque Area Units!

Events

(Click graphic for more information)

(Sharing for our friends with the YMCA - These are not High Desert Council Activities)



the Y YMCA

AGES 4-12

**JUNE 1-JULY 31
MONDAY-FRIDAY
7AM-6PM**

NORTHEAST SUMMER CAMP

AT HARMONY

Address
5210 Fairbanks
El Paso, TX, 79924

Contact Us
915-590-9622

Weekly Rate
Y-Member: \$95
Non-member: \$185

- Arts and Crafts
- Field Trips
- Outdoor Adventures
- Fun Games
- STEM

and so much more!

Breakfast, lunch, and a light afternoon snack provided

Scholarships available
please email Senior Childcare Director
giuliana.gutierrez@elpasoyymca.org

HARMONY
School of Innovation
El Paso - Elementary



YMCA SUMMER CAMP

the Y YMCA

AGES 4-12

2026

Program Starts
JUNE 1-JULY 31

Camp Schedule
Mon - Fri
7AM-6PM

- Arts & Crafts
- Swimming
- Field Trips
- Outdoor Adventures
- Fun Games
- STEM

and so much more!

Weekly Rates:
Y-Member: \$95
Non-Member: \$185

Breakfast, lunch and a light afternoon snack provided

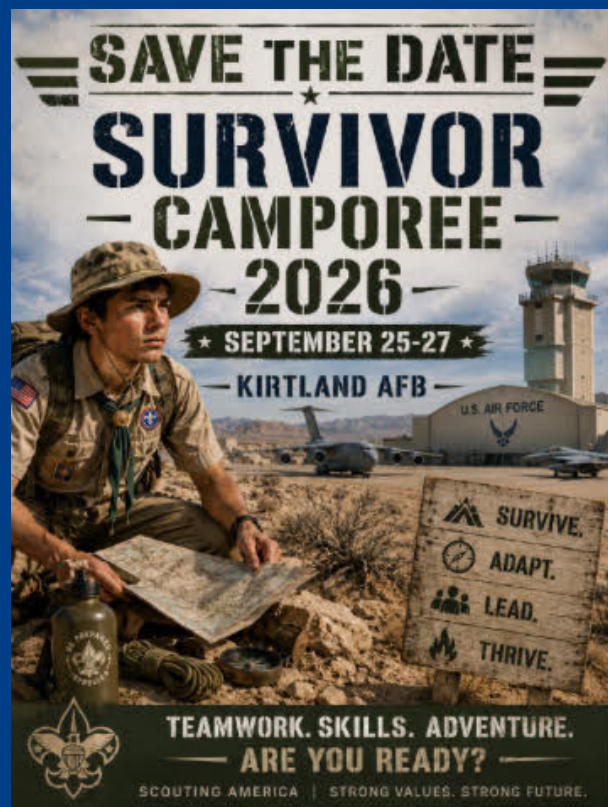
Scholarships available!
Email Senior Childcare Director
giuliana.gutierrez@elpasoyymca.org

Long Term Planning!



- When: August 28-30 AND Sept 12-13 (MUST ATTEND BOTH WEEKENDS)
- Where: Gorham Scout Ranch
- Staff and Participants Needed
- Registration is open - <https://scoutingevent.com/573-108087>
- For more info - reach out to Luke Arnold, 505-999-9733 laarnold@hotmail.com

Fall Camporee Sept 25-27



Long Term Planning!



- The World Scout Jamboree is held every four years around the world. The next Jamboree will be held in Gdansk, Poland in the summer of 2027 and will have approximately 45,000 Scouts and leaders from over 140 countries in attendance. Participants must be between age 14-17 at the start of the Jamboree on July 30, 2027. Anyone older than that can apply to be a unit leader or on staff. Anyone younger than that will have to wait for the 2031 Jamboree in Denmark. Here are two key websites:
- The World Scout Jamboree website: <https://www.jamboree2027.org>
- The US Contingent website: <https://wsj2027.us>

Popcorn Info



HIGH DESERT COUNCIL MISSION POPCORN

— LAUNCHING LEADERS. BUILDING TOMORROW. —

★ IMPORTANT MISSION DATES ★

JULY



JULY 8

COUNCIL WIDE KICKOFF – ZOOM

Mission briefing begins! Join us online as we launch the 2026 popcorn season.

AUGUST



AUGUST 3

STOREFRONT AUTO ASSIGNMENT

Automatic storefront assignments will be released.



AUGUST 7

MANUAL STOREFRONT SELECTION

Choose and customize your storefront opportunities.



AUGUST 21

FIRST ORDER DUE

Submit your first popcorn order and prepare for launch.