



Greater Yosemite Council, BSA

eNews!

June, 2008

www.yosemitescouting.org



TRUSTWORTHY LOYAL HELPFUL FRIENDLY COURTEOUS KIND

words to live by

OBEDIENT CHEERFUL THRIFTY BRAVE CLEAN REVERENT

Helpful:

Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can.

John Wesley



100 YEARS OF SCOUTING

Celebrating the Adventure Continuing the Journey

In February 2010, the Boy Scouts of America will celebrate 100 years as an organization. Founded as an outlet to prepare every eligible youth in America to become a participating citizen and leader, BSA has more than fulfilled its mission.

[View promotions and activities BSA is planning.](#)

SCOUTS LEND A HAND TO THE CHILDREN OF AFGHANISTAN



What started with care packages for U.S. troops in 2004 turned into ongoing humanitarian aid for the children of Afghanistan.

[View story.](#)

Greater Yosemite Council, BSA

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El Capitan

District Executive: [Matt Warner](#)

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Forty-Niner

Senior District Executive: [Stephen Olson](#)

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[District News](#)

PLAN TO ATTEND CAMP MENSINGER IN 2008



As your troop schedules its long-term summer camp experience this summer, we encourage you to support your council's camp. Our "new" Camp Mensinger offers many new physical improvements and a superb staff. Mike Rich is continuing as Camp Director and is planning an expanded program. Donald Sonnefeld has completed a camp video which is being distributed by Order of the Arrow chapters and your District Executives. Contact the Council Service Center for more information and to place your reservation. **Week 4 is full. Weeks 5 and 6 have limited availability.**

New High Adventure Program Planned for 2008

Camp Mensinger will offer a brand new High Adventure program for Varsity and Venture Scouts this summer. Crews will spend four days and three nights on the trail, camping in a different location each night. Activities include canoeing, backpacking and mountain biking. [\[Read more\]](#)



**Be one of the first to scale
our new 32 foot high climbing tower**

View our new camp promotion video on the council web site!

CUB SCOUT DAY CAMPS ARE FILLING UP



Cub Scout Day Camps will be "Scouting the Seven Seas" this summer. We are offering 10 day camps this year, including a new addition in Atwater. [Registration forms](#) are available on the council web site.

CUB RESIDENT CAMP OFFERS SEVEN SESSIONS

Cub Scouts, their parents and leaders have an opportunity to experience our 3-day and 4-day camping programs at Camp Akela. Three Wolf/Bear sessions are offered at Camp McConnell. Webelos may choose either Camp McConnell or Camp Mensinger for their Camp Akela experience. [\[More\]](#)

FILE BSA TOUR PERMITS BEFORE TRIPS

Be sure to file a [BSA Tour Permit](#) prior to campouts and tours. It is a valuable tool for trip planning. An approved Tour Permit qualifies your unit for BSA's insurance coverage. Here's a form you may complete and submit to the council listing approved drivers for your unit's trips. **Tour permits may now be filled out online**, then print, obtain the required signatures and submit to the Council Service Center. Note: secondary accident/injury insurance is provided by Greater Yosemite Council for all currently chartered units and registered youth. [2008 Authorized Drivers Form](#)

BALOO GUIDELINES FOR PACK OVERNIGHT CAMPING

These are pack-organized overnight events involving more than one family from a single pack, focused on age-appropriate Cub Scout activities and conducted at council-approved locations.



At least one adult on a pack overnighter must have completed Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO, No. 34162) to properly understand the importance of program intent, youth protection guidelines, health and safety, site selection, age-appropriate activities, and sufficient adult participation. Permits for campouts shall be issued locally. Packs use Local Tour Permit Application, No. 34426.

Source: Guide to Safe Scouting

View our list of [BALOO approved campground locations](#) on the council web site.

GUIDE TO SAFE SCOUTING FIREWORKS RULES

"The Boy Scouts of America prohibits the securing, use, and display of fireworks in conjunction with programs and activities except where the fireworks display is conducted under the auspices of a certified or licensed fireworks control expert.

Local councils may not authorize any group or chartered unit activity for or on behalf of its members, units, or district to sell fireworks as a fund-raising or money-earning activity."

COUNCIL ANNOUNCES CHANGE IN ADVANCEMENT REPORT PROCEDURES

Greater Yosemite Council has implemented new procedures to help units provide awards and rank advancements to youth. Advancement Reports are now being reviewed by a member of the council staff before the Scout Shop issues awards. [Read more.](#)

We encourage units to submit advancements online using BSA's Internet Advancement web site. If you have misplaced your Unit ID Number, contact Barbara at the Modesto Service Center.

THE DRIVER'S PLEDGE

- I will not drive when I feel fatigued. I realize that when I am fatigued, I process information more slowly and less accurately and this impairs my ability to react in time to avoid accidents.
- I will arrange my schedule so that several days before a Boy Scout "driving trip," I will get a good night's sleep every night to avoid the cumulative effect of not getting enough sleep.
- I will make trip preparations far enough in advance so that last-minute preparations don't interfere with my rest.
- I will make travel plans that take into account my personal biological clock and only drive during the part of the day when I know I will be alert.
- I will be smart about engaging in physical activities during Scouting outings and will make sure that I will be ready to drive alertly.



COUNCIL PARTNERS WITH CHIVAS TO HOLD EXHIBITION GAME



The Greater Yosemite Council, BSA is excited to announce the rapid growth of our Soccer and Scouting program. We have been serving low income families, primarily Hispanic, since 2005 in the cities of Merced, Turlock, Modesto, Salida, Manteca, Thornton, and Stockton. This year we have spread to Winton, and Oakdale. Our Soccer and Scouting membership at 2007 year-end approached 2000 youth.

This year the Greater Yosemite Council will be holding its first annual professional soccer exhibition game. The council has partnered up Chivas USA U19 to play a soccer exhibition game against the Central Valley All Stars on August 10th and use this game as a fundraiser to keep our Soccer and Scouting program growing. Tickets will be available soon. Prices will be \$10 pre-sale or \$12 at the door. On that day Chivas USA will also hold a soccer clinic at Johansen High School stadium in Modesto for approximately 100 youth at a \$45 fee. This clinic is open to the public until tickets are gone. For more details on the game or soccer clinic please contact Adan Barajas, Luis Jimenez, Memo Ramirez or the council office.

ORDER OF THE ARROW WILL CONDUCT NATIONAL SERVICE PROJECT



The order of the Arrow, BSA's national honor society, will conduct its largest national service project since World War II. The service project will be conducted at five U.S. Forest Service sites across the country over a five-week period this summer. Shasta-Trinity National Forest is on the project schedule. [Read more.](#)

BSA CREATES COMMISSIONER UNIT VISIT TRACKING SYSTEM



The national office has created a Unit Visit Tracking System to help provide a way for unit commissioners to report on their monthly unit visits. Some of the features that the system will provide include:

- Councils and district will be able to track unit data, including unit commissioner assignments
- Councils and districts will be able to set priorities for their commissioners to focus on regularly.
- Email alerts will be available to district leadership for units needing immediate help.

SAN LUIS RESERVOIR OFFERS SERVICE PROJECTS

San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area is making their facilities and protected areas available to Scouting units. They are offering use of their recreational opportunities in return for service. [\[More\]](#)



PACHECO STATE PARK'S SEVENTH KITE DAY

The Seventh Annual Family Kite Day will be held at Pacheco State Park on Saturday, June 21st. Everyone who flies a kite will receive a souvenir Kite Day button. Other activities will be offered. \$5.00 state park Day Use Fee per car.

[Flyer](#)

[News Release](#)

OVER 300 TONS OF POPCORN SHIPPED TO MILITARY DURING "OPERATION POPCORN"

Thanks to the efforts of thousands of Scouts and their families across the Country over 300 tons of Trail's End Popcorn has been shipped to the men and women serving their country and their families. These shipments include:

20 tons of Trail's End Popcorn shipped to Sailors and Marines in Pacific Fleet
157,000 popcorn servings sent to Air Force personnel in combat areas
20,000 cases of popcorn treats sent to the Atlantic Fleet, the Middle East and around the world
18,000 USO Care Packages of popcorn to troops around the world
11,000 boxes of popcorn to men and women serving in Southeast Asia
45,000 servings of popcorn to National Guard personnel and families
8,000 tins of Gourmet Caramel Corn to National Guard personnel and families

Greater Yosemite Council supported this program in 2007 and will offer this opportunity during our Fall 2008 popcorn sale.

2008-2009 PLANNING CALENDARS AVAILABLE SOON

Greater Yosemite Council's 2008-2009 planning calendars are currently being printed. The calendar is also available on the council web site. The web site calendar is currently updated through August, 2009.

LIPIZZANER STALLIONS AT SAVE MART CENTER

The Save Mart Center is offering a \$5.00 discount off ticket prices to groups of 15 or more. The discount applies to performances on Saturday, June 21st.

[Flyer/Order Form](#)

P.R.A.Y PUBLISHING PATCH EXPIRES SOON

The FISH segment of the Duty to God Puzzle Patch is due to go off rotation at the end of July 2008 and won't reappear until 2010. Be sure to make a presentation on the religious emblems so that your Scouts and Scouters qualify for this patch. Making a presentation is easy. Patches may be ordered online. Plan to present your patches before the end of the Scouting year!

<http://www.praypub.org/dutytogod.htm>

PHILMONT DOUBLE H RANCH BACKPACKING TREK IN 2009

Greater Yosemite Council is hosting a backpacking trek at the Double H High Adventure Base run by Philmont Scout Ranch. The council has secured a slot from June 20 to June 26, 2009. Twenty-four youth or adults participants can reserve on a first-come first-served basis. Additional information is available on the council [web site](#).

2010 NATIONAL JAMBOREE & TOUR



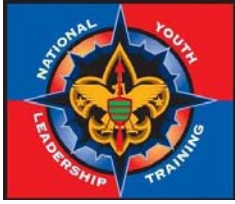
The 2010 National Scout Jamboree will mark the 100th anniversary of Boy Scouts in America. It will be held July 26th to August 4th, 2010 in Caroline County, Virginia.

Greater Yosemite Council plans to send a contingent of six troops to the National Jamboree. This will allow 216 boys and 24 adult leaders the opportunity to experience the event of a lifetime!

Jamboree participants will tour many historic sites before and after the Jamboree. Scouts will leave Modesto July 20th and return August 7th, 2010. (Dates approximate pending final tour plans.) Jamboree contingent reservations are now being accepted by the Council office. [\[More\]](#)

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

NATIONAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP TRAINING (NYLT)



Brownsea - National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) is an intense weeklong youth oriented leadership training experience. The training is conducted by highly qualified youth staff under the supervision of adult advisors using the National Youth Leadership Training Course syllabus, as published by the National Council, Boy Scouts of America.

[Flyer](#) [Registration Form](#)

BSA's Online Learning Center Offers New Courses

Recently added modules: Venturing Youth Protection and Staffing the District committee. The Online Learning Center offers Youth Protection Training, Cub Scout Leader Fast Start, Boy Scout Leader Fast Start, Venturing Advisor Fast Start, Troop Committee Challenge, Safe Swim Defense, Safety Afloat and Venture Crew Orientation.

Visit the council web site www.yosemitescouting.org for more information on these training courses.

GOLD DUST SCOUT STORE

"The other day I packed one of my 6 new backpacks and went out there

I packed my new bright gold rain suit, a new 15 degree sleeping bag filled with down and plenty of my new deet-free bug repellent. I thought maybe I'd see a bear out there.

I wore my new moisture management tee-shirt, my fleece vest and my switchbacks in the cool air.

Later I took off my switchback legs to stay cool on the trail. When I got to the lake I changed into my new swim trunks with 5 pockets and drain holes.

Then I wondered if the bear was enjoying his day as much as I did. Too bad for him he didn't shop at the Gold Dust Scout Shop."

Watch for
In-Store

WACKY WEDNESDAY SPECIALS!

STARTED JANUARY 16!



GOING 20% OFF	GOING 40% OFF	GONE 60% OFF
New Markdowns Every Third Wednesday of the Month	Our Best Deals are Scattered Throughout the Store Look for the in-store shelf tags.	Catch Them Before They're Gone...Gone...Gone...
Only at participating Scout Shops. Not available on Scoutstuff.org.		

News!

DISTRICT AND UNIT NEWS WANTED

Send us articles and photos (.jpg format) about your district events, unit service projects and other special activities. We'll include as many as possible in upcoming issues of *eNews!* Email to RSchell@bsamail.org



Thirty-one (31) young people were recently presented their God & Country religious awards at the First United Methodist Church in Turlock. Pastor David Thompson conducted a special service of recognition as Joann Quinley, God & Country Counselor, presented the medallions and certificates to Boy Scouts from Troop 451, Cubs from Pack 451 and Brownies from Troop 408.



In preparation for Memorial Day, Troop 148 in Stockton placed hundreds of small American flags to mark the graves of veterans interred at the Rural Cemetery. Tiger Cub Alexander from Pack 3 lends a hand.



Pack 58 and their sponsor, Los Banos Elks Club, joined several service groups and community organizations and held a service and tribute to commemorate Memorial Day 2008 in Los Banos.



LaGrange Pack and Troop 17 collected litter, placed flags on veterans' graves and held a flag retirement ceremony at LaGrange Cemetery.