



ROUNDTABLE MATTERS

Pacifica District, Greater Los Angeles Area Council, BSA
Jeff Sorbello, Roundtable Commissioner

November 11, 2020
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GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS HAPPY VETERANS DAY!

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR TEACHERS! In this season of giving thanks, we want to take a moment to appreciate teachers and other education professionals who support the youth of our community, especially in these remarkable times. The BSA's Elbert K. Fretwell Outstanding Educator Award recognizes community members who instill Scouting's values in K-12 students. This can be a classroom teacher, administrator, custodian, cafeteria worker, or any number of others. Pacifica District will present our first-ever Fretwell Awards in May. We'll get a nomination form posted to our website soon, but for more information on this honor, see BSA's [implementation guidebook](#).

REOPENING PROTOCOLS **UNITS MAY NOT MEET IN PERSON UNDER VOLUNTEER SUPERVISION.** **This prohibition includes meetings of adults and any meeting in the outdoors.** The *one* exception provided by County Health orders is for [youth sports](#) activities. Please plan to attend our COVID Update Town Hall Sunday, November 15th at 7pm to discuss guidance for forming cohorts to conduct youth sports activities. Feel free to share the Town Hall link with your unit families: <https://bluejeans.com/894548404/9363>.

NEW MEMBER REGISTRATION A recent software upgrade to online registration is charging applicants for 14 months. While this will work beautifully when our Council has reset our charter year, it's created challenges for our current recharter cycle. Therefore, we've disabled online registration for the rest of this year. See [this tip sheet](#) on how to process "digital paper" applications to add new members prior to January 2021.

DAY CAMP DIRECTORS NEEDED District volunteers would love to host more day camps at Cabrillo to provide Troops, Packs, Ships and Crews opportunities for in-person programs, but to do that within County guidelines, we need more adults willing to be staff members. If you'd like to join in the fun of Day Camp any time in 2021, please email District Training Chair Casey Jones at scoutercasey@gmail.com and save the date of January 9th for Day Camp Director School, which will take place virtually.

CALLING ALL LEADERS WITH A PASSION FOR THE OUTDOORS! We are building the District's winter/spring 2021 calendar and want to be able to offer Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO) to Cub Scout leaders and Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills (IOLS) to Scouts BSA leaders. If you'd love to share your knowledge of camping and Scout skills with others, be a part of our Training Team! Contact District Training Chair Casey Jones at scoutercasey@gmail.com with your availability so we can select course dates that work for the team.

ATTENTION PINEWOOD DERBY ENTHUSIASTS! "Get Ready to Race" day camp at Cabrillo is scheduled for December 5th & 6th. The registration link will be posted to the [Pacifica webpage](#) shortly, as will our video of tonight's Cub Scout breakout. For any questions, contact Derby Chairs Gary Thompson and thompsgg@gmail.com and Rolf Strutzenberg rstrutzenberg@yahoo.com.

IT'S ALMOST AWARDS SEASON! As the year draws to a close, please take this opportunity to recognize excellence at the unit and individual levels. Nominations for the [District Award of Merit](#), which recognizes noteworthy service to youth by a Scouter will be due January 15th, and 2020 [Journey to Excellence scorecards](#) will be due to your servicing commissioner no later than January 30th.

SCOUTING FOR FOOD Two Pacifica units are participating in the Council-wide Scouting for Food Drive this Saturday (11/14). Please support these efforts by dropping off [non-perishable food and personal items](#). Pack 860 is hosting a drive-by site 9am-12noon at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, 340 Massey St in Hermosa Beach. For questions, contact Tessa George at (310) 930-8398 or Pack860hb@gmail.com. At the same time (9-noon), Troop 218 will be collecting at First Lutheran Church, 2900 W. Carson St in Torrance. The Troop's point of contact is Kyong Hwang, kyong29@gmail.com. Please contact Liz Weissmann-Padilla if you have general questions or ideas for Scouting For Food. If you are aware of Scouting families in need please feel free to reach Liz for resources. lizbsapack851@gmail.com

WHO ARE THE PILLARS OF YOUR COMMUNITY? Please nominate community members to serve as observers for our Eagle Character boards. This is a great opportunity to show off the results of BSA's program to non-Scouters: youth who embody the values of the Scout Oath and Law. Use [this form](#) to make a nomination, and think broadly. We are looking for diverse individuals of exemplary character who care about youth leadership development and serve an important role, whether large or small, in the community.

MERIT BADGE COUNSELORS – The next Cabrillo Merit Badge Day Camp will be held on Nov 13-15. Signups are available at <https://www.glaacbsa.org/Cabrillo>

If you would be willing to run a merit badge class, either online or in person at Cabrillo, please contact Pacifica's MB Counselor Dean, Alison Crompton, at (310) 991-8172 or meritbadge@pacificabsa.org ASAP.

Instructions for how to renew your merit badge counselor status for 2021 will be sent out SOON! Get ready by making sure your Youth Protection Training is current. If your YPT expires before the end of 2021, please retake the training NOW at <https://my.scouting.org/>!

To sign up as a new counselor for merit badges or NOVA awards, or to change your existing offerings or information, check out the instructions at <https://www.glaacbsa.org/pacificaadvancement> or simply contact Alison Crompton for the details.

ORDER OF THE ARROW ORDER OF THE ARROW (OA) The OA is Scouting's Honor Society for Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouts. Members ("Arrowmen") provide service their home Units, the Pacifica District, our Council, and BSA nationally. OA provides Youth members additional service and leadership opportunities that help them grow and build experience. The Lakota Chapter meets at the same time as the District Roundtable Meeting. Members are sent virtual Meeting invitations via the LodgeMaster application.

National OA guidance on counting virtual camping for OA membership eligibility may be found [here](#).

Unit Elections may now be conducted by virtual meeting. To request a Unit Visit, Unit Election, or Camp Promotion visit please contact the Lakota Chapter Chief at lakotachchief@gmail.com or the Chapter Adviser, Bob Hodgkiss, at oachapteradviser@pacificabsa.org.

There are still open positions in the Chapter Executive Committee. All Youth members (= not yet 21) are eligible to serve in these offices. Please contact the Chapter Chief (lakotachchief@gmail.com) and Chapter Adviser, Bob Hodgkiss (oachapteradviser@pacificabsa.org) for more information.

BSA'S COMMITMENT TO SAFETY Given increased publicity regarding National's Chapter 11, you have a critical role in educating the public about how we keep kids safe. [This letter](#) from our Council Key 3 provides links to a [video](#) and [infographic](#) that will help answer questions you might get from prospective families about safety. In addition, it's critical that you educate every family on how to raise a concern, including

1. The "chain of command" within the unit for concerns
2. How to contact the Chartered Organization Representative and/or Institutional Head with concerns
3. How to submit an [incident report](#) for [youth protection and members standards infractions](#), [injury to people or property](#), [COVID incidents](#), and [near misses](#)
4. How to contact District Leadership if unit and Chartered Org processes aren't working
District Chair Tim Shank: tjshank@mac.com
District Commissioner Nancy Hodgkiss: nancy.hodgkiss@pacificabsa.org
Field Director Hannibol Sullivan: hannibol.sullivan@scouting.org

Please consider adding this information to your [unit Parent Guide](#).

CHECK US OUT!

Virtually all info is available online: Events, Dates, Fliers, Contacts, Training, Etc.

Pacifica District Website: www.pacificabsa.org

GLAAC Website: www.GLAACBSA.org

AT ROUNDTABLE Have an event you'd like to promote at Roundtable or flyer you'd like to include with "Roundtable Matters"? We welcome all [appropriate additions](#) to our Roundtable program. Send an email proposal to jeffsorbello@att.net two weeks before Roundtable to get started.