



# ROUNDTABLE MATTERS

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

December 9, 2020  
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## GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

**REOPENING PROTOCOLS UNITS MAY NOT MEET IN PERSON UNDER VOLUNTEER SUPERVISION.** This prohibition includes meetings of adults and any meeting in the outdoors. The County's recent [surge response update](#) has temporarily suspended the *one* exception provided by County Health orders for youth sports activities.

**UNIT USE OF CABRILLO** In compliance with the County's current orders, units will not be able to reserve space at Cabrillo (or any other Council property) until after December 20<sup>th</sup> or later. When we're able to safely open to you, we'll send a link to the sign-up site.

**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](mailto:scoutercasey@gmail.com) and save the date of January 9<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:scoutercasey@gmail.com) with your availability so we can select course dates that work for the team.

**IOLS COURSES IN JANUARY** Working as patrols, this hands-on course provides adult leaders the practical skills they need to lead Scouts in the out-of-doors. Upon completion, leaders should feel comfortable teaching Scouts the basic skills required to obtain the First-Class rank. Along with Scoutmaster Specifics this course is required of all direct contact leaders registered in Scouts BSA Troops in order to be considered "trained." This is a one-day course to comply with National, BSA, and County Health guidelines. Please watch the [Pacifica District Website](#) for sign ups. Any Questions? Contact Casey Jones at [Scoutercasey@gmail.com](mailto:Scoutercasey@gmail.com)

### **SAVE THE DATE! UPCOMING TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES (County Health Orders Permitting)**

January 9	Day Camp Director Training (via Zoom)
January 30	Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills (IOLS) for Scouts BSA leaders, Cabrillo
January 31	IOLS for Scouts BSA leaders, Cabrillo
February 6	Trainers EDGE
March 20	Southern California Commissioner College

**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 15<sup>th</sup>, and 2020 [Journey to Excellence scorecards](#) will be due to your servicing commissioner no later than January 30<sup>th</sup>.

**2020 AWARDS DINNER – MARK YOUR CALENDARS** The annual Pacifica District Awards Dinner will become COVID-19 friendly in 2021! On Thursday, FEBRUARY 25, 2021 at 7:00pm, ZOOM in to see your units recognized for JTE and applaud our 2020 [Award of Merit](#) recipients! Now is the time to nominate a Scouter you believe is most worthy of the Award of Merit! Please forward all applications to Sheryl Ruskin at [shusue@rocketmail.com](mailto:shusue@rocketmail.com) by January 15, 2021.

**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** If you will be continuing as a Counselor in 2021, please complete the renewal "paperwork" that was emailed to you if you haven't done so already.

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/pacificadvancement> or simply contact Alison Crompton for the details.

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](mailto:meritbadge@pacificabsa.org) ASAP.

The next Cabrillo Merit Badge Day Camp will be held on Jan 30-31. Signups will be available at <https://www.glaacbsa.org/Cabrillo>

**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](mailto:lakotachchief@gmail.com) or the Chapter Adviser, Bob Hodgkiss, at [oachapteradviser@pacificabsa.org](mailto: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](mailto:lakotachchief@gmail.com)) and Chapter Adviser, Bob Hodgkiss ([oachapteradviser@pacificabsa.org](mailto:oachapteradviser@pacificabsa.org)) for more information.

**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](#).

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### CHECK US OUT!

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

Pacifica District Website: [www.pacificabsa.org](http://www.pacificabsa.org)

GLAAC Website: [www.GLAACBSA.org](http://www.GLAACBSA.org)

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**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](mailto:jeffsorbello@att.net) two weeks before Roundtable to get started.