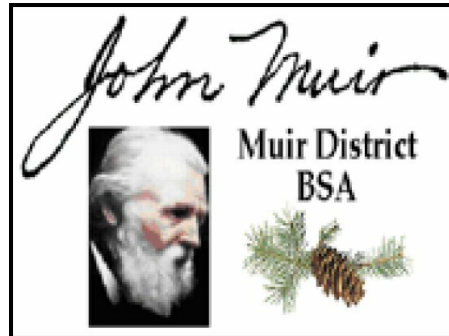


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Welcome to the Muir Newsletter for February 2021!



February 4, 2021 District Roundtable via Zoom

The February 2021 Roundtable is scheduled for Thursday, February 4 at 7:00 PM, via Zoom.

Topic: Muir Roundtable

Time: Feb 4, 2021 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/93269387328?pwd=cW5QTFZOCmYlbnBnaXhQMElTWm13dz09>

Meeting ID: 932 6938 7328

Passcode: 805390

One tap mobile

[+16699006833](tel:+16699006833),93269387328# US (San Jose)

[+12532158782](tel:+12532158782),93269387328# US (Tacoma)

Every month on the First Thursday, until Dec 2, 2021, 11 occurrence(s)

Feb 4, 2021 07:00 PM

Mar 4, 2021 07:00 PM

Apr 1, 2021 07:00 PM

May 6, 2021 07:00 PM

Jun 3, 2021 07:00 PM

Jul 1, 2021 07:00 PM

Aug 5, 2021 07:00 PM

Sep 2, 2021 07:00 PM

Oct 7, 2021 07:00 PM

Nov 4, 2021 07:00 PM

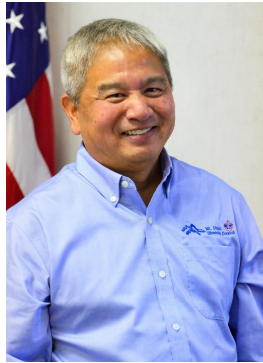
Dec 2, 2021 07:00 PM

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Monthly: https://zoom.us/meeting/tJcvceCrpjpGnwwz--VJezYotoHwex0_BSJ/ics?

If you have any questions, please contact Sheila Rowntree - District
Chair, rowntreesheila53@gmail.com

This was announced on 12/22/2020.



Muir District Director's Message on behalf of the Council

Please review the COVID-19 update from the
Golden Gate Area Council.

Yours in Scouting,

Alan Young

*Muir District Director
Golden Gate Area Council, BSA*

800 Ellinwood Way
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523
P 925.674.6102
C 408.564.3385
alan.young@scouting.org
www.ggacbsa.org



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
GOLDEN GATE AREA COUNCIL

COVID-19 Update

Please visit [News & Briefings - GGAC \(ggacbsa.org\)](http://News & Briefings - GGAC (ggacbsa.org)) and note the December 4, 2020 section. In particular, using the [COVID-19 Pre-Event Questionnaire](#) and working with your Chartered Organization so they know about your activities (usually providing your Chartered Organization Representative a calendar of activities, especially the ones that involve some face-to-face interaction and having him or her signing off on the calendar to approve the activities.

If someone ends up testing positive for COVID-19 after an activity, the information on the questionnaire will be sought to determine if enough precaution was used in holding the event and for possible contact tracing.



A Message from our Chair

Greetings Muir District,

Welcome to the new year. With a New Year we have a new beginning. It appears that steps are being taken To begin to eradicate this virus thing has wrecked such havoc in our nation And around the world. With these events but in modern science we also can look forward in our scheduling program to being outdoors again and being with other people. It will not be immediately, But sooner than later we will be able to get together again.

Well restrictions will probably be in order at least through the summer there will be things that we can do is our units so let's start to put our heads together and come up with some of those great ideas. Looking forward to a wonderful things in the new year.

Yours in Scouting,

Sheila Rowntree
Muir District Chair
Golden Gate Area Council, BSA

rowntreesheila53@gmail.com
<https://ggacbsa.org>



District Commissioner's Corner

Welcome to 2021. There is much promise ahead of us for 2021 and I know we're all looking forward to the opportunity to eventually return to more normal unit activities. Once this return starts, the desire for activity and adventure is likely to bring much growth to our units and the need for new units to start. The role of the Unit Commissioner is crucial to help advise units, suggest program enhancements, and connect the unit with information about District and Council resources and events. I want to thank all our current Commissioners for their efforts, as well as encourage anyone who might be interested in becoming a Commissioner to contact me.

An important training opportunity for Commissioners (or those interested in learning about the Commissioner role) is coming up on **Feb 27, 2021**. Commissioner College is the primary annual training event and this year will be 100% virtual and a collaboration of 11 councils. Yes, 11!

More information on Commissioner College as well as registration for this event is available at <https://www.norcalcommissioner.org/>. I hope to (virtually) see you there!

Yours in Scouting,

Steve Loyd
Muir District Commissioner
Golden Gate Area Council, BSA

muircommissioner@gmail.com
<https://ggacbsa.org>

Muir District Website (subdomain of Council Website)

We now have a [website for our District](#)! Please go and check it out! Currently, the Zoom information for both the District Roundtable and the Commissioner & Committee Meetings are posted on the Home page. Advancement information such as the Life to Eagle Process, Guide to

Advancement, and COVID-19 Advancement is available. There is also District contacts (coming soon) and Unit contacts which redirects to beascout.org.

If you have any feedback on what we should have on our website, please let Patrick Jaime, District Communications Chair know at: patrickj0208@yahoo.com!

<https://muir.ggacbsa.org>

This was announced on 01/20/2021.



National Statement on COVID-19

As always, the safety of our Scouts, volunteers, employees and communities is our top priority.

Our response to the COVID-19 pandemic continues to be informed by expertise from agencies, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

We expect that everyone in Scouting will follow the guidelines listed below, which are based on the CDC's guidance. In addition, we have instructed local councils to consult with their local and state health departments, as well as local chartered partners, in order to implement appropriate protocols to help keep members, volunteers, and employees safe.

- Isolate if you are sick, and do not attend any activity/meeting/event if you, anyone you live with, or anyone you have recently been around feels unwell.
- Stay at least 6 feet apart from people who do not live with you. (properly executed Scouting cohorts at council camps may be an exception).
- Avoid crowds.
- Avoid poorly ventilated indoor spaces.
- Meet outside if you can.
- Wear a face covering or mask that covers your nose and mouth to help protect yourself and others.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water. Use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid international travel if possible.
- Do not attend any activity/meeting/event if you or anyone you live with has been tested for COVID-19 or another illness and do not have the results back yet.

Units should look to their council regarding whether/how to conduct in-person meetings and activities. If in-person gatherings are permitted, be sure to follow all applicable guidelines and use your council's version of the Pre-Event Medical Screening Checklist before attending.

We are taking similar steps as a national organization as we continue to evaluate and adapt to the current environment with the best interests of our members, volunteers, and employees in mind.

Thank you for doing your part to ensure that young people continue to benefit from Scouting while protecting the health and safety of our families, friends, and communities.

Resources:

- [Restart Scouting Checklist](#)
- [Pre-Event Medical Screening Checklist](#)

- [BSA COVID-19 FAQ](#)
 - [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
 - [World Health Organization](#)
-

This was announced on 12/04/2020.



**GOLDEN GATE AREA COUNCIL
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA**

COVID-19 CALIFORNIA REGIONAL STAY HOME ORDER

Updated December 4, 2020

(Still in effect until CA Region's ICU availability is 15% or more.)

In accordance with the December 3, 2020 California Regional Stay Home Order (Order), the Golden Gate Area Council (GGAC) will cease all in-person Council and District Scouting meetings, events, activities and camping trips when the Order is triggered. The Order will be triggered when your region enters the 15% and under ICU threshold.

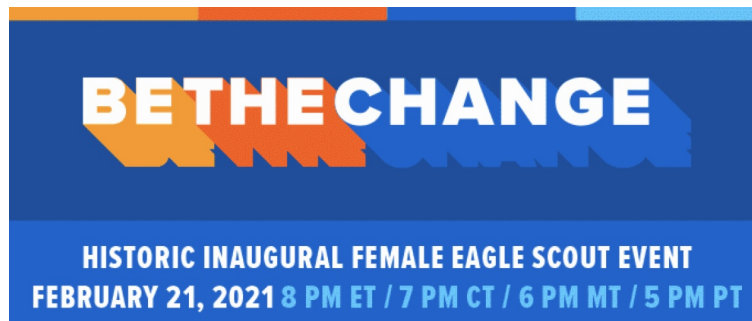
Effective immediately, all Council camps and service centers are closed to visitors.

Considering the current increase of COVID cases and the imminent triggering of the Order, GGAC recommends no in-person unit meetings or activities. If in-person meetings or activities are needed and permitted by the Order and local authority (city or county), units should work with Chartered Organizations and utilize the [COVID-19 Pre-Event Questionnaire](#). Examples of activities that can occur are previously approved outdoor fundraising efforts as it falls under the retail exemption.

Scout Shops will remain open.

For more information regarding the stay at home order please visit the state website:

[About COVID-19 restrictions - Coronavirus COVID-19 Response \(ca.gov\)](#)



Mark Your Calendar for This Special Eagle Scout Event on February 21, 2021!

The "Be the Change" event will celebrate service, leadership, and the historic Inaugural Class of

Eagle Scouts have been leading positive change in their communities for more than a century. That tradition continues with the historic inaugural class of Female Eagle Scouts. Help celebrate the leadership accomplishments of the inaugural class as we highlight the positive impact Scouts make in communities every day.

https://www.scouting.org/bethechange/?utm_source=scoutingwire&utm_campaign=swalumi12021&utm_medium=email&utm_content&fbclid=IwAR3-vevvbNX3zfL81MlaqwXzG4glSnZUGXzuKKxbbmyEAicHarUtwlm3Pk



General Support

Need support at 2AM? The Golden Gate Area Council User Support Page came about through your questions [User Support - GGAC \(ggacbsa.org\)](https://www.ggacbsa.org). There is a lot of FAQ-format information as well as a way to route questions to more efficient responses. (Leaving a voicemail on the general line will lead to a wait before that voicemail box gets cleared out during our current Stay-At-Home period.)

Another contact through the service center is calling Alan at 925-674-6102 or through email at alan.young@scouting.org.



Commissioners Wanted

If you are a Scouter or parent interested in helping units grow and prosper, consider becoming a Commissioner. The overall vision of the Commissioner Service is for every member of the BSA to have a great Scouting experience.

If you are interested, please contact: muircommissioner@gmail.com

District Committee Positions

Calling all adults over 21 years of age. If you would like to know how you can help Scouting in our area, contact our District Chair Sheila Rowntree at rowntreesheila53@gmail.com.

Muir District News

If you or other members of your unit would like to receive the latest information regarding Scouting in our community, please check out our Muir District – GGAC Facebook group page by following the link below:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/325497627480390/>

Friends of Scouting 2021

GGAC's Friends of Scouting Campaign for 2021 is

This was updated on 01/24/2021.



Golden Gate Area Council Founder Patch

Golden Gate Area Council Founder patches are still available! Click below at this link: <https://ggacbsa.org/donate/#FoundersCampaign> to donate to the GGAC Founders Campaign.

A \$100 donation or higher levels will help keep Scouting going in Muir District and will net you a Founder version of the Golden Gate Area Council shoulder patch!

Scouter Recognition (still accepting nominations)

It has been a different year in Scouting in 2020. Despite the frequent rule changes and challenges imposed on public and group gatherings, I want to thank our volunteers for continuing to persevere and provide the Scouting program while safeguarding the safety of our youth. With that, I am soliciting nominations for 2020 Unit Scouter of the Year, and District Award of Merit in preparation for our recognition event in this year.

Below is a link for the Unit Scouter of the Year Nomination form and a link for the District Award of Merit Nomination form.

[Unit Scouter of the Year Nomination Form](https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33720.pdf)
<https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33720.pdf>

We do not have a location or date yet due to the current gathering restrictions, but I can start collecting the information for our program.

Arnel Jaime
Associate Development Director
Golden Gate Area Council, BSA

800 Ellinwood Way
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523
925.674.6105
arnel.jaime@scouting.org
www.ggacbsa.org



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
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Eagle Rank Extensions

If you have any Life Scouts who are nearing age 18, please have him or her visit the links here:

[Eagle Rank Extension - Guide](#) & [Eagle Rank Extension - Form](#).

This was updated on 01/01/2021.



2021 Registration Assistance Program

The generosity of donors contributing to our Friends of Scouting campaign paired with our Council Program Fee has made it possible for the Golden Gate Area Council to create a Scout registration assistance fund. The purpose of the fund is to ensure that every youth has the opportunity to participate in our program by offsetting registration fees.

Registration assistance requests are available to families based on need, and are submitted through a member of the unit key 3. While assistance can be requested up the full amount of the council CPF and national registration costs, we encourage units to determine if the families or units can contribute any portion of the cost. This will make it possible for us to extend the funding to as many Scouts as possible.

The Golden Gate Area Council is committed to ensuring that every youth has an opportunity to be a Scout, so please speak with your district staff members if the BSA registration cost is a barrier for any family. Thank you for delivering the promise of Scouting to youth of the GGAC!

Please [click here](#) to visit our CPF page where you can find the Registration Assistance Request Form.



Scout Shop Pocket Knives Promo

Save **20%** on our most popular knives for Cubs Scout to Eagle Scouts. Also, many of our Victorinox Swiss Army Knives are on sale. Save through Saturday, January 23, 2021.



Pleasant Hill Scout Shop Updated Hours of Operation (as of January 1, 2021)

The Scout Shop is open as a retail entity (similarly your unit's Christmas tree pick up, mistletoe sales, etc. could be too). Please visit [GGAC Scout Shop \(ggacbsa.org\)](http://ggacbsa.org) for information before you go. Store hours (including lunch break), available items, how to order ahead, and other useful tips are there.

For the time being, we are open from 10:00 am – 5:00 pm on Tuesday – Friday & 10:30 am – 3:00 pm on Saturday (store will close for lunch break from 1:30 pm – 2:00 pm everyday) and we are closed Sunday and Monday.

Ordering Advancement items through Scout Shops (Two options):

1. Email PleasantHillScoutShop@scouting.org and attach your Purchase Order with the Advancement Report. Please indicate what you would like to add to your order such as rank cards and parent pins. Also, please specify when you would like to pick up your order(s).

2. Click this link to place advancement orders with local Scout Shops that have reopened: <https://www.jotform.com/gpetza/advancement-order-form>. Please attach the relevant Advancement Report(s) to the online form.

There is a shipping option and a "pick-up at store" option currently available.



Powerful Cub Scout leader resources

A lot of useful content is being posted on Scoutingwire at: <https://scoutingwire.org>.

From giving your new Den Leader instant meeting plans: <https://scoutingwire.org/this-new-video-series-delivers-the-ultimate-den-leader-experience/>.

To a host of other ideas like leading Zoom meeting for Cub Scouts, Virtual fall recruiting (including the use of digital applications and payment), and BeAScout tips, <https://scoutingwire.org/marketing-and-membership-hub/>.

Save the Dates . . .

April 9-11 & 16-18, 2021 at Camp Herms
36 Scouts max and MUST attend both weekend sessions.



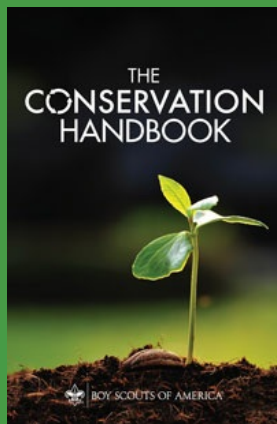
June 7-12, 2021 at Camp Herms - 78 Scouts max

June 13-19, 2021 at Rancho Los Mochos - 196 Scouts max
Registration will be made available by mid-January - check the Council website [Youth Training](#) page. Updated regulations associated with COVID may result in changes. We will keep you posted, and make a final decision on each course no later than 30 days before the scheduled course date.

Please direct Scouts & Crew interested in taking NYLT to register as soon as possible after Unit Leader approval. Slots fill up quickly. If you have a Scout in your Unit who has completed NYLT and is interested in serving on Staff, please have them contact us at: [GGAC - NYLT](#).

Check out our [FLYER](#) for more information about NYLT.

This was announced on 10/13/2020.



Conservation awards program changes

The Hornaday Award will be replaced by the BSA Distinguished Conservation Service Award.

More information available at: <https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/conservation-and-environment/>.

Scout Sunday 2021

Each year on Feb. 8, the Boy Scouts of America celebrates its birthday. It's a date officially known as Scouting Anniversary Day. But this is more than an excuse to eat an extra s'more and commemorate another year of Scouting adventures. It's also when packs, troops, crews and ships honor a Scout's "duty to God."



Through a trio of faith-based celebrations known as Scout Sunday, Scout Sabbath and Scout Jumuah, young people give back to the chartered organizations that give them so much. The exact dates vary (see below), but each one is an opportunity for Scouts to publicly demonstrate the 12th point of the Scout Law: A Scout is Reverent.

Check with your Unit leadership for any activities that may be planned.

This was last updated on 4/22/2020.

Youth Protection During COVID-19: Digital Safety and Online Scouting Activities

"As Scouting moves to virtual and online platforms, we offer the following reminders to help keep kids safe. The below guidelines applies to all online Scouting activities and meetings."

This was updated on 1/14/2021.

Cub Scouting/Scouts BSA/Venturing/Sea Scouting Rank Advancement and the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Questions and Answers

The following questions regarding advancement have arisen as we deal with closures, cancellations, or other issues caused by the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19). Although there are difficulties and constraints, advancement can continue. Youth, parents, and leaders should work together to implement creative, common sense ways to facilitate advancement while adhering to the Guide to Safe Scouting and following the rules of Youth Protection training.

Please follow this link to the [Guide to Advancement \(GTA\)](#), which remains the primary source for information related to Scouts BSA advancement. It is referenced throughout the answers provided here.

Please send additional questions to advancement.team@scouting.org.

Link below: <https://www.scouting.org/coronavirus/covid-19-faq/#advancement>

This was announced on 12/22/2020.



Adventures in Cub Scouts

This guide [Adventures in Cub Scouts - GGAC \(ggacbsa.org\)](#) builds on the National BSA video presentations for Cub Scout Core and Elective Adventures. If you are feeling lost on how to guide the Cub Scouts in your den, these resources will lead you out of the woods. If you have kids who want to know how things work, you might visit the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) Activities & Awards section at the bottom of the page.

The Golden Gate Area Council STEM Committee will be adding videos that may be used to check off STEM-related requirements. One of our favorites is making a Cartesian Diver-
- <https://youtu.be/0lqbaWj8QUs>.



Congratulations to the Newest Muir Eagle Scouts!

- Steven Michael Fingerut, T1994, 01/07/2021.
 - Project Name: "Palms for Palm Sunday".
 - Project Description: Planting 3 palm trees, 4-5 feet apart, so the church can use their fronds for Palm Sunday, and to add beauty to the church's property. This project included researching palm trees, presenting the project to the church for approval, fundraising, calling 811, having all utility companies check for lines before digging, soaking the area, digging three holes 3 foot deep x 3 foot across, purchasing palm trees, building a soil barrier around the circumference of each hole to form a dam that will hold water, mixing miracle gro and soil 1/2 and 1/2 for planting the trees, adding 3" of brown mulch around the base of each tree. Due to COVID-19, the scout taped off a 6' x 6' square by each tree, so that each family group worked in a square. The scout also prepared a video, and a tri-board with directions for workers to review. He added a watering system when he saw it was needed.
- Juliano Canari, T1351, 01/14/2021.
 - Project Name: "VFW Concrete Sidewalk Project".
 - Project Description: construction of a 22.25' long x 2.21' wide x 4" thick concrete sidewalk, replacing a weedy area where the ground was not level, but was covered by boards. The sidewalk will solve the problems of garbage cans tipping over, weeds needing to be pulled, and also creates a more sanitary area as it can be hosed down. The project included planning, clearing and leveling the area, construction of frames, preparation for concrete support, mixing and pouring concrete, smoothing concrete, allowing it to cure, and returning to remove frames. The project required 50 sixty pound bags of concrete. The scout funded this project with his own money, making use of supplies and materials he and his grandparents had on hand.
- John Lorin Simmons, T484, 01/21/2021.
 - Project Name: "Protein Trackers for Newly Diagnosed PKU Families".
 - Project Description: GoFundMe fundraising, construction of 10 protein trackers, shaped like koalas, a teaching tool for use by preschool children to regulate their protein intake. PKU is diagnosed at birth, and children need to learn to eat the correct amount of protein, so once they are in kindergarten they can keep track of their protein. PKU is a rare metabolic disorder that prevents the liver from breaking down the amino acid phenylalanine. The koalas were cut, sanded, painted, and wire with beads were added for counting. The protein trackers improve the parents' confidence and the children's competence as the child is educated, in a fun way, to get used to PKU.

ALL BSA TRAINING IS ONLINE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE



Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters. To be registered as TRAINED in your role you need to complete the following courses

- Scoutmaster/ Assistant Scoutmaster Position Training

- Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills
- Hazardous Weather
- YPT Youth Protections

HAZARDOUS WEATHER TRAINING

Please take or update your training before your first outdoor or camping activity.

Since April 2018 BSA has required adult volunteer direct-contact leaders in all outdoor programs to take the most up-to-date (April 2018) *Hazardous Weather Training* (SCO_800). This training is [available online](#).

This change affects [basic position-specific leader training](#) for:

- Cub Scouting (Cubmaster, Assistant Cubmaster, Den Leader, Assistant Den Leader)
- Scouts BSA (Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster)
- Venturing (Crew Advisor and Associate Advisor)
- Sea Scouts BSA (all Adult Leaders)
- Exploring (Advisor and Associate Advisor)

Working on Eagle? Here are your contacts:

District Advancement Chair: Bill Spalding: 925-586-9136, spaldingwilliam62@gmail.com

District Eagle Project Approval: Carl Bodin: 415-816-7307, carl.bodin@gmail.com

District Eagle Board of Review: Karen Hansen: 925-825-9132, eaglechairkarenhansen@gmail.com

District Committee Leadership

Alan Young - District Director, alan.young@scouting.org

Sheila Rowntree - District Chair, rowntreesheila53@gmail.com

Steve Loyd - District Commissioner, muircommissioner@gmail.com

Quick Links

Muir District subdomain (website)
<https://muir.ggacbsa.org>

Muir District Facebook Group



Like us on Facebook

Council Facebook Page



Like us on Facebook