



TO HELP OTHER PEOPLE
2025 YEAR IN REVIEW

BY HELPING OUT WHENEVER YOU CAN, YOU ARE MAKING THE WORLD BETTER.



The Scouts BSA Handbook uses the words above to explain the Scout Oath's call "To help other people at all times." The Scout Oath and the 12 points of the Scout Law are not just words Scouts recite at the beginning of each gathering; they are a roadmap to a life lived in the service of others, whether they are neighbors or strangers.

The handbook continues, "At all times" is a reminder to help even when it is difficult and even if you haven't been asked." **2025 offered Scouts here in Central Texas opportunities to live this and all our program's values during times when service was planned and times when it wasn't.**



In 2025, Scouts in our council responded to community needs with a

77% INCREASE

in service hours over 2024 with projects helping schools, the disabled and elderly, disaster relief, conservation improvements, and more.





946
HOURS SERVED

**DISASTER
RELIEF**

On July 4, 2025, hours before dawn, water from torrential rains rushed downstream through the Guadalupe River. Within 45 minutes, water rose nearly 30 feet. Homes and parts of several youth camps were engulfed.

Nearly 24 hours later, Liberty Hill, Marble Falls, Cow Creek, Sandy Creek, Bear Creek in Hays County and the San Gabriel Riverfront in Georgetown sustained significant damage from additional flash flooding. Big Sandy Creek, where some of the most significant damage took place, rose from six feet at 1:00 a.m. to more than 21 feet by 4:00 a.m. at Jonestown.

Eagle Scouts Cooper and Will Tully were working as counselors at Camp La Junta along the Guadalupe River, near the town of Hunt. Around 4:00 a.m., Cooper, Will, and the dozens of first-time campers with them in adjoining cabins, awakened to flood water around their beds.

“One of my co-counselors left the cabin to raise the alarm and hopefully come back with help, however the water was rising so quickly that he could not safely return to the cabin. We also could not have safely evacuated 16 scared little kids at this point,” said Cooper.

Both Eagles began helping campers get on top of bunk beds, then as the water rose, to the cabin’s rafters.

“Half of the kids were unable to cross the water to be able to climb onto the rafters, so we have to carry them across the water to a bunk they can use to climb up. The other half were able to leap frog across bunks to the rafters. At this point the water is up to my chest,” said Will.

One of the exterior walls of the building housing the adjoining cabins collapsed, sending more flooding into the cabins. Water rose to ten feet high inside.

Thanks to counselors already having moved everyone to the rafters, all campers stayed safe and were eventually rescued.

“I can’t take credit for everything, but I do think that my experience as a Scout helped me in this dire situation. My leadership skills, communication skills, quick thinking and ability to stay calm under pressure were a part of my Scouting career and were indispensable that morning,” said Cooper.

“My Scouting experience helped me make quick decisions and stay calm under pressure. Being able to take control of the situation in front of the campers is what kept everybody safe. The campers looked to the oldest people in the cabin for guidance and to see how to react to what was happening. My experience in Scouting helped me stay calm and that in turn kept the kids from panicking,” said Will.





Scouts and Scouters from our North Shore District joined relief distribution efforts for flood victims in the Leander area.



A team of Scouts helped clean out, clean up, and restore the grounds of a Leander area preschool devastated by flooding.



Champion Kids

13h · 🌐

...

We are overwhelmed with gratitude for the incredible Scouts and leaders from Scouting America who showed up big for our preschool after the flood 🧡

A heartfelt THANK YOU to the amazing volunteers from:

Troop 97

Troop 125

Troop 421

Pack 233

[Troops 258 & 358](#)

Troop 2030

Troop 565

[Capitol Area Council](#)

[North Shore, BSA](#)

[Leander Chamber of Commerce](#)

Your hard work, kindness, and servant hearts helped us clean out, clean up, and move one big step closer to reopening our school. Thank you for giving your time, energy, and support during such a challenging time. We're so thankful for this amazing community!! 🧡





1137
HOURS SERVED

**FOOD/SHELTER
INSECURITY**



Cub Scout Pack 182 collected 148 pounds of food for the Community Cupboard in Elgin. Pack 182 is chartered by St. Peters Lutheran Church Elgin.

Members of Cub Scout Pack 222 were able to help Operation Liberty Hill with making 45 meals bags for the community. The organization meets immediate needs while empowering individuals and families in the Liberty Hill/Leander/Bertram/Briggs areas to achieve lasting stability and independence. Our council is proud to charter Pack 222.



Members of Scouts BSA Troop 4411 used part of their Thanksgiving break from school to volunteer at Central Texas Food Bank. Scouts helped sort and inspect donated produce to ensure the food was not spoiled and ready for clients to take home. Our council is proud to charter Troop 4411.





4682
HOURS SERVED

**ENVIRONMENTAL/
CONSERVATION**



Sea Scout Ship 1407 removed 35 bags of trash, nine anchors, and one metal pipe from Lake Travis. Ship 1407 is chartered by US Coast Guard Auxiliary Division 081-07.

Scouts in our council joined others around the world on May 3 for "Trash the Trash," a global service project to make our lands and waterways a little cleaner. Our local involvement was organized by Eagle Scout Addison Huff in cooperation with our council's International Scouting Committee.



Cadel Beasley of Scouts BSA Troop 280 built a 24-foot long, three bin, composting station at Dripping Springs Ranch Park as part of his Distinguished Conservation Service Award. The 130-acre park plans on using the station to turn horse manure into usable compost around the park. Cadel had previously built a Chimney Swift Tower as a habitat for the vulnerable species. Our council is proud to charter Troop 280.





63978
HOURS SERVED

**CHILDREN/
EDUCATION**

Nathan McCoy of Scouts BSA Troop 505 designed a custom lighting closet for Crockett Early College High School Theatre's lighting equipment, including two rolling light carts and 16 rolling, stacking storage cubes. Nathan is now pursuing a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre Design and Production in college, with a focus on lighting. Our council is proud to charter Troop 505.



Slayde Stewart of Scouts BSA Troop 182 led his fellow Scouts in transforming an outdoor space at Down Home Ranch into a full game area featuring a giant chessboard, horseshoe pits, benches, cornhole, and more. Down Home Ranch is a 410-acre Central Texas ranch, residential community, and camp that empowers people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to live meaningful, purpose-driven lives. Troop 182 is chartered by St. Peter's Lutheran Church Elgin.





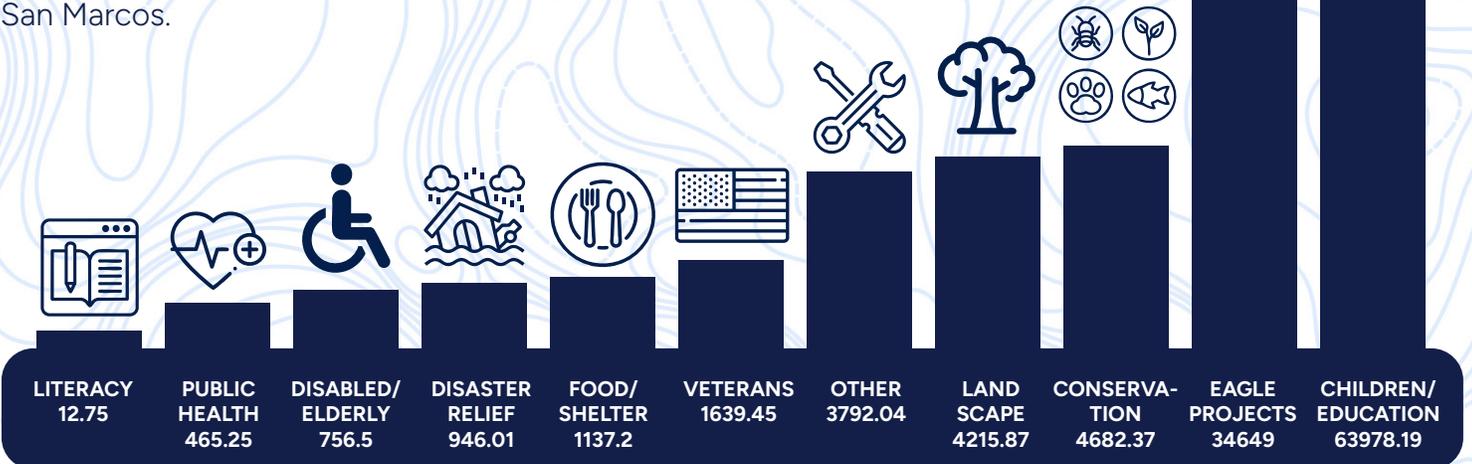
HOW WE SERVED IN 2025

Total community service hours provided by Scouting to Central Texas since 2020:

- 2020 - 56,687
- 2021 - 76,769
- 2022 - 65,176
- 2023 - 66,890
- 2024 - 65,687
- 2025 - 116,274 (+77%)**



Members of Medical Explorer Post 4077 supported Paramedics and EMS personnel working at Texas State University home football games. Explorers provided logistical and first aid help at UFCU Stadium. Post 4077 is chartered by Lions Club International San Marcos.



SCOUTING AROUND



Cub Scout Pack 9 visited Austin Fire Department Station 3 to learn how firefighters do their jobs. Pack 9 is chartered by Bryker Woods P.T.A.



Scouts BSA Troop 4443 traveled to Mustang Island State Park, where they tried surf fishing. The trip was featured in the June issue of Scout Life magazine! Troop 4443 is chartered by American Legion Post 4443.



Cub Scout Pack 912 used LEGOs for a new twist on the classic Pinewood Derby. Pack 912 is chartered by Hutto Lutheran Church.



A Lost Pines Summer Camp Staff member gives a hand to a young camper who was separated from their troop.



Scouts and members of the public turned out for Scouturday Speedfest, our council-wide membership celebration. Families enjoyed racing- and car-themed fun at Circuit of the Americas.



Members of Scouts BSA Troop 7414 traveled to Camp Karankawa in South Texas to take part in the International Camporee, hosted by South Texas Council. Scouts met and got to know about 800 Scouts, half from South Texas and half from Mexico. Everyone had fun at the pool, waterfront, and shooting ranges, as well as the evening campfire program. The Scouting Commissioner from Nuevo Leon invited our Scouts to attend a Founder's Day event in Monterey in February. Troop 7417 is chartered by Gus Garcia Young Men's Leadership Academy.

Stronger Together

The Lions Cub Scout Dens of Pack 12, Austin Tx

Our Cub Scouts, alongside their families, explored the meaning of community, family, and citizenship through their King of the Jungle Adventure — learning that we are always *stronger together* as a village.

Through this journey, each scout created a tactile art project representing their "job" or role within their family; how they help, support, and care for one another. These projects remind us that everyone has an important part to play in building a strong and caring home and community.

As part of their adventure, the scouts also learned about inclusion and empathy, discovering that a good citizen helps ensure everyone with various abilities has opportunities to enjoy life and express themselves.

We were honored to partner with Austin Lighthouse to learn how blindness affects members of our community and how accessible art allows everyone to share in its beauty.

We hope you enjoy our scouts' artwork as much as they enjoyed creating it! Each piece represents teamwork, kindness, and the belief that when we care for one another, we all shine brighter —

because we're truly *stronger together*.

Lions and Tigers from Cub Scout Pack 12 made art for the Austin Lighthouse For The Blind as part of the Austin Studio Art Tour. Scouts worked with their families to identify their "jobs" in their family and how their role fits into making our community stronger together. They then crafted tactile art to help show everyone can enjoy art. Pack 12 is chartered by Circle C Homeowner's Association.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

(TOTALS AS OF DECEMBER 3)



4,642

RANKS EARNED

(+30% YoY)



2,664

RANKS EARNED

(+1% YoY)



23

RANKS EARNED

(+35% YoY)



312

EARNED THE
EAGLE RANK

(+6% YoY)



SCOUTS EARNED

11,922

MERIT BADGES

(+2% YoY)

1,236

YOUTH/ADULTS
TRAINED

7,283

DAY/WEEKEND
PARTICIPANTS

(+18 % YoY)

2,175

SUMMER/WINTER
CAMPERS



Michael Files, an Eagle Scout from our council and current officer on our Executive Board, received the Silver Antelope Award. This national honor recognizes registered Scouters of exceptional character in their territory for distinguished service to youth.

Michael was one of just 31 Scouting volunteers across the country to receive the award in 2025. In his time as an adult member of Scouting, he has served in multiple councils – including while he was an active duty officer in the United States Navy. Michael's work as a Scouter has focused on growing our membership and expanding opportunities for more families to join our programs.

2025 AWARD RECIPIENTS

Elbert K. Fretwell Outstanding Educator

Jesse Adams
Tabatha Ann Darilek
Michael Faber
Eddie McNeil
Kirstie Osten
Corey Snyder

North Star Award

Amy Taulman
Archbishop Joe S. Vasquez

Sea Scout Leadership Award (council)

Peter Sargent
Trevor Young

Sea Scout Leadership Award (territory)

Dave Aronson

Sea Scout Leadership Award (national)

Gabi Furnans

Silver Beaver Award

Jay Kruemcke
Mollie O'Hara Leach
Robert Paver
Ryan Roberts
Anooj Thakrar
Thomas Trefny

Scouting ... Vale la Pena! Service Award

Felipe Leon
Martha Mendoza
Andres Ramirez

Whitney M. Young Jr. Service Award

Lynn Brooks
Jessie Dominic Vega

William H. Spurgeon III Award

Kyler Beaty
Dennis Eibe

Byron Lockhart Eagle Scout Scholarship

Emma Casper
Andrew Han
Keegan Farrell



Eagle Scout Trevor Suggs of Scouts BSA Troop 405 was named CST7 recipient of the Adams Eagle Scout Service Project of the Year Award.

Trevor Young became one of the few Scouts ever to earn the ranks of Eagle Scout (Scouts BSA), Summit (Venturing), and Quartermaster (Sea Scouts).



Eagle Scout Addison Huff became the first-ever recipient of our council's Young Philanthropist Award.

Eagle Scout Jaden Cassity of Scouts BSA Troop 550 earned the Scouting America National Outdoor Achievement Award.



Gabi Furnans of Sea Scout Ship 911 was recognized with the National Sea Scout Leadership Award. Gabi served the past year as Sea Scouting's National Boatswain - the program's highest youth leader.

GIVING GRATITUDE

Scouting doesn't happen without incredible people who volunteer their time to serve as leaders at the unit, district, and council levels. Our council was fortunate this year to have the time and talent of thousands of volunteers, including Amie King. Amie is not only a Scouting parent, but also served this year as Communication and Social Media Chair for our fall popcorn sale and volunteered at our Sporting Clays Classic event. We're grateful for Amie and all of our adult volunteers.



We appreciate everyone who supports our Scouts through the annual fall popcorn sale, especially civic leaders in the many communities here in our council. Mayors from Austin, Buda, Hutto, Pflugerville, Round Rock, and San Marcos all took part in "First Sale" events promoting the sale. At our Hutto event, Scouts were helpful and made sure the city's mascot, Henrietta the Hippo, got a mouthful of delicious popcorn!

The impact of giving can be felt for years to come. Edna Bradshaw and her family have been active members of Scouting for some time. Her son, John, daughter-in-law, Heather, and grandson, Jefferson, were members of Scouts BSA Troop 399. Heather still helps lead our council's conservation and environmental programs. In honor of this family legacy of Scouting, Edna endowed a \$1,000 annual scholarship for Scouts who have earned our council's Harrison McClure Conservation Award and been approved by our Conservation Committee. The funding will be applied to the Scout's postsecondary education.



IN MEMORIAM



Kent Babb



Franklin Barnum



Stephen Beckham



Eleanor Erchinger



Jonathan Gehm



Bill Koenig



Hayden Knox



Preston Kronkosky



Jack Martin



Bruce Maulding



Victor Mendoza



Dr. Thomas Muir



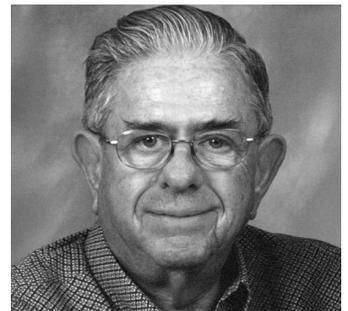
Mary Ruth Passarella



Capt. Austin Smith



Brad Smith



Albert "AG" Walker Jr.



Roy Wallace



SCOUTING AMERICA
**CAPITOL AREA
COUNCIL** ♣