

Golden Empire Council has a variety of committees, with representatives from each district, responsible for planning and carrying out aspects of the Council program. We need your expertise and interest! Take a look at the brief descriptions of each committee below and join a group!

Advancement Committee members manage the awards paperwork, merit badge counselor lists, advancement process, and Eagle paperwork/Boards of Review to keep all districts moving forward along the same path with the same procedures. Contact Chair David Kimball, davidkimball65@yahoo.com.

The **Aquatics Committee** promotes swimming and boating activities and organizes the Day on the Water. Chairman Phil Allen (p.allen5040@sbcglobal.net) has details.

Our **Camping/Outdoor Program Committee** provides information about unit, district, council camping opportunities; promotes Council outdoor program events, and assists with collecting annual camping data. Touch bases with Chair Mike Chinn at mchinn@pacbell.net.

The Council is interested in re-establishing the **Climbing Committee**, to provide training for and interest in climbing activities both at resident camp and in the community. Kathy Neuburger, istahap@jps.net, will provide further details.

For those needing help with accommodating a Scout with **additional needs**, the **Committee for Accessibility** has the resources for unit leaders, youth and family. For more information, contact Chair Kimberli Allen (kimberliannallen@gmail.com).

NCAP (National Camping Accreditation Program) ensures that camps are conducted in accordance with national standards. Detailed training and support are available. Contact Kathy Neuburger, istahap@jps.net, if you want interesting visitation experiences.

The **Shooting Sports Committee** invites adults and youth to help us make shooting sports programs easily available to all scouts in the Council. Trainings to become NRA Instructors, Range Safety Officers (RSO), Jr. Instructors, BSA Rangemasters and Archery Instructors are available. We meet the 2nd Wed. of the month at the council office @ 6:30pm. <https://www.gec-bsa.org/programs/shooting-sports-program/62580> Contact Committee Chairman Dennis Weiss dennis-weiss@sbcglobal.net regarding questions, trainings and events.

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) is part of a BSA initiative to encourage the natural curiosity of youth members about these fields through existing programs. The **Nova** Awards program provides Scouts with recognition for their activities. Ben Heningburg (bheningburg@yahoo.com) heads up this effort.

The **Venturing Officers' Association** is designed to act much like a crew with members drawn from all of the crews in the council for programming adventures, leadership development, personal growth, and service. The VOA also acts as a representative body in that all crew presidents and their Advisors serve on the VOA. The **Council Venturing Committee** offers support to the VOA just as a unit committee supports a crew. We are looking for youth and adults who are committed to strengthening Venturers, Crews and/or supporting the Council's Venturing Program. We need your help! The Golden Empire Council Venturing Officers' Association and Venturing Committee is in the planning stages for a great year of Venturing Programming and Activities. Be on the lookout for an invitation to a Venturing Symposium in January and Venturing participation in the Council's Centennial Celebrations, as well as, Venturing gatherings of the crews in the council. For more information contact Mark Wong, ucdaggie@aol.com

We hope to see you adding your knowledge and enthusiasm to the Program group.