

Periodically, our Scouts have themed dinners at their meetings. Usually, they have a dinner every 4-6 weeks, but Scouts can choose to have a dinner anytime they want to.

Family Participation Dinner

Parents, siblings, multiple generations and extended families participate. Our Scouts and their families spend time together naturally in a comfortable way because everyone comes to the dinner. Everyone has to eat – we help bring balance to families by combining activities and allowing families to spend to time together and with other families. Shared experiences allow families to communicate easily; since everyone



is taking part in the dinner, everyone will have something in common to contribute to the discussion. If a Scout has a family who cannot attend, that Scout is included in the circle of another family who comes regularly.

Theme Dinners

Dinners are usually theme dinners. The Scouts choose a nation or theme and they decide on the menu, the decorations, and each aspect of the dinner. If the team meets in a building with a kitchen, food can be prepared on site. If not, Scouts can each bring a dish from home or they can meet elsewhere.

Acquired Skills

It is important, no matter where the food is prepared, that the Scouts do the cooking. We want our Scouts to learn by doing. Our Scouts learn to cook, serve meals, set the table, read a recipe, follow a budget, and learn how to organize the creation of a meal. It does not matter if the dish comes out perfect; it matters that our Scouts are having FUN, learning, and building life long memories.

Our Scouts acquire skills by learning to cook, and also from the camaraderie, the successes and failures, and the process which is part of preparing the meal.

Suggestions

The Scouts choose which theme they want, below are suggestions:

Fiesta Night
- Foods that can be served include Mexican dishes
- Everyone can dress can dress up as senoritas and Mexican Charros
- Everyone can learn some vocabulary in Spanish
- Activities include making a piñata
- Decorations can include sombreros

Medieval Night
- Foods that can served include giant turkey legs and corn on the corb
- Everyone can dress up as knights
- Everyone can learn some medieval phrases
- Everyone can eat with a knife only, no forks, they had not been invented!
- Activities include jousting competitions with pool noodles

Cowboy Night
- Foods that can served include chili, steaks, hamburgers, and baked beans
- Everyone can dress up as a cowboy or cowgirl
- Everyone can use cowboy slang
- Decorations can include tents, plastic six-shooters, rope, camp lanterns, and bandanas as place mats

Hawaiian Night

- Hawaiian foods can be served, such as poi.

· Everyone can dress up in grass skirts and Hawaiian shirts

· Decorations can include plastic palm fronds, tropical printed dinnerware and leis

Let's Go Island Hopping
- Foods that can be served include island food, such as jerk chicken
- Everyone can dress up as an islander
- Activities can include Hula dance contests

A Taste of the Sea
- Foods that be served include fish and seafood
- Everyone can dress as fishermen or sea creatures
- Activities include a contest for the best song about the sea

50's Night
- Foods that can served include traditional diner meals like hamburgers, meatloaf and mashed potatoes
- Everyone can dress in 50's clothes
- Activities include having a soda fountain and hold a Best "Twister" dance contest

America Coast to Coast
- Foods that can be served include apple pie, new England calm chowder, BBQ ribs, turkey sausage jambalaya, Alaskan salmon, Chinese chicken salad
- Everyone can dress as their favorite American historical figure or hero

Sports night
- Foods that can be served include hotdogs, hamburgers, and peanuts
- Everyone can dress as an athlete

- Decorations include baseballs and bats, footballs, basketballs, soccer balls, etc.

It’s a Small World

- Foods that can be served include dishes from every country
- Everyone can dress up in the clothing of any country they wish, including each person’s ancestral nations. If Scouts and families have authentic garments, they can wear it.