

# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Scouting  America.  
Pathway to Adventure Council

2026

MARCH



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# PTAC PINewood DERBY



## PTAC'S ANNUAL PINewood DERBY

*Hosted by Trailblazer District*

### Event Highlights

- Build Your Own Lego Car
- Tips and Tricks Table
- Open Division Race  
(Open to all participants)

## SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 2026

WOODFIELD MALL | REGISTRATION CLOSES  
SCHAUMBURG, ILLINOIS | APRIL 10

FOR QUESTIONS AND TO VOLUNTEER, CONTACT:  
DAVID TAFUR AT [DAVID.TAFUR@SCOUTING.ORG](mailto:DAVID.TAFUR@SCOUTING.ORG)



Registration is open online but closes April 10, 2026. [Pinewood Derby Race and Design Rules](#) are available online.

There is no cost for participation or to watch the racing and design competition. Adult volunteers are sought for setup, track operations and judging.

# SCOUT GAMES



## Chicago Stars

**Sunday, March 22 – 1:00pm –  
Northwestern Medicine Field  
at Martin Stadium**

Ticket includes exclusive Scout Night patch, collectible pin, and post game talk with Chicago Stars defender, Sam Cart Angel. Portion of the proceeds will go back to PTAC to support local Scouting programs. **For +10 group tickets, contact Megan Graham at (773)-880-2453 or [mgraham@chicagostars.com](mailto:mgraham@chicagostars.com)**

**TICKETS HERE**



## Chicago Bulls

**Sunday, April 5 – 2:30pm –  
United Center**

Join Pathway to Adventure Council for a legendary group outing with the Chicago Bulls. Share the excitement of Bulls basketball and the NBA's leading entertainment experience as the team takes on the Phoenix Suns. Get your tickets now through the link below! **For +15 group tickets, contact Joe Hunt at [jhunt@bulls.com](mailto:jhunt@bulls.com) or 312-455-4173**

**TICKETS HERE**



## Chicago Cubs

**Sunday, April 19 – 1:20pm –  
Wrigley Field**

Ticket includes exclusive Scout Night patch! Portion of the proceeds will go back to PTAC to support local Scouting programs. **For +15 group tickets, contact Spencer Motley at [smotley@cubs.com](mailto:smotley@cubs.com) or 773-404-4081**

**TICKETS HERE**



## Chicago Fire

**Saturday, May 9 – 1:30pm –  
Soldier Field**

Ticket includes exclusive Scout Night patch and pregame parade on the field at 12:15pm! Portion of the proceeds will go back to PTAC to support local Scouting programs. **For +10 group tickets, contact Mason Clynes at 872-710-0548 or [mclynes@chicagofirefc.com](mailto:mclynes@chicagofirefc.com)**

**TICKETS HERE**



## White Sox

**Saturday, May 9 – 6:10pm –  
Gauranteed Rate Field**

Ticket Includes exclusive Scout Night patch, pregame parade on the field, Pack/Troop shoutout on videoboard, Scouting activities in the Kids Zone throughout the game! Portion of the proceeds will go back to PTAC to support local Scouting programs. **For group tickets, contact Ryan Smith at [rsmith@chisox.com](mailto:rsmith@chisox.com) or call 312-674-5459**

**TICKETS HERE**



## Chicago Dogs

**Saturday, June 13 – 6pm –  
Impact Field**

Ticket Includes Chicago Dogs Hat, exclusive Scout Night patch, pregame Raingutter Regatta, pregame parade on the field, postgame fireworks show! Optional meal addon available. Portion of the proceeds will go back to PTAC to support local Scouting programs. **Questions, contact [shaunv@thechicagodogs.com](mailto:shaunv@thechicagodogs.com) or call 224-781-1808**

**TICKETS HERE**

# COMMISSIONER'S CORNER

## What Makes a Thriving Unit? Lessons from Successful Packs, Troops, Crews, and Ships in PTAC

Across the Pathway to Adventure Council, we see it every year: some units simply thrive. They grow. They retain youth. They develop strong leaders. They deliver exciting programs. So what makes the difference? Thriving units don't succeed by accident. They succeed by design. Here are proven best practices drawn from successful packs, troops, crews, and ships throughout our council.

### 1. A Strong, Engaged Leadership Team

Every thriving unit has one thing in common: committed, trained leaders.

#### Successful units:

- Recruit leaders intentionally, not last-minute desperation.
- Ensure leaders complete position-specific training.
- Share responsibilities vs relying on one "super volunteer."
- Meet regularly as a committee to plan and evaluate.

When leaders work as a team, burnout decreases and program quality increases.

### 2. Youth-Led, Age-Appropriate Program

Thriving units empower youth to lead. Whether it's a denner in a pack, a Patrol Leaders' Council in a troop, officers in a crew, or youth quartermasters in a ship — young people thrive when given real responsibility.

#### Strong units:

- Hold regular youth planning meetings.
- Allow youth to make decisions (and learn from mistakes).
- Deliver consistent outdoor experiences.

Focus on advancement as a byproduct of great program — not the only goal.

When youth own the program, engagement skyrockets.

### 3. Clear Communication with Families

Families support what they understand.

#### Thriving units:

- Publish calendars well in advance.
- Communicate regularly through email, apps, or newsletters.
- Clearly explain expectations for uniforms, camping, and advancement.
- Invite parents to participate in meaningful ways.

Transparency builds trust. Trust builds stability.

### 4. A Culture of Belonging and High Standards

Successful units create environments where:

#### Every youth feels welcomed.

- The Scout Oath and Law are lived — not just recited.
- Service is visible and consistent.

- Adults model respect, integrity, and positivity. Units that balance warmth with high expectations develop confident youth and loyal families.

### 5. Consistent Recruitment and Retention

Thriving units never stop recruiting.

#### They:

- Participate in fall and spring recruitment.
- Encourage youth to invite friends.
- Follow up quickly with interested families.
- Pair new families with experienced mentors.

Retention improves when new members feel connected from day one.

### 6. Strong Partnership with the Chartered Orgs

Every successful unit values its relationship with its chartered partner — whether that is a faith-based organization, civic group, school, or community association.

#### Thriving units:

- Communicate regularly with chartered org representative.
- Participate in charter partner events.
- Demonstrate gratitude and service.
- Ensure alignment of mission and expectations.

Strong partnerships provide stability and longevity.

### 7. A Spirit of Fun and Adventure

At the heart of every thriving unit is joy. Campfires. Pinewood Derbies. High-adventure treks. Service projects. Regattas. Camporees. Youth stay where they are having fun, building friendships, and feeling challenged.

## Final Thought

Thriving units are not perfect units. They face challenges like every other pack, troop, crew, and ship. The difference is intentional leadership, consistent communication, youth empowerment, and a shared commitment to delivering the promise of Scouting.

As members of the Scouting America within the Pathway to Adventure Council, we each have the opportunity to strengthen our units — one meeting, one campout, one Scout at a time. When we focus on people, purpose, and program, thriving becomes contagious.

***What best practices have made your unit thrive? Share your story with the council — your success may inspire another unit to grow stronger.***

**Yours In Scouting,  
Bertha Guzman — Council Commissioner**

# RECRUITMENT READINESS

Welcome to the March Membership article. While Membership & Unit Renewal, Arrow of Light-to-Scout Transition and Spring Recruitment will be discussed at Roundtables over the next couple of months, I would like to use this article to briefly nurture that seed of “proactive planning” for these topics within this newsletter. Please continue addressing your Online Applications and Leads. Remember an Online Lead is a family recruiting your unit for their child. A “Rule of Thumb” is you should respond to the questions in that Lead within 24-72 hours. A New Member Coordinator can assist your unit with each of these topics.

## Crossover of our AOLS Scouts into our Troops:

- Your goal should be to have our AOL Scouts cross over to a troop by early March, so they have the opportunity to participate in activities with their new unit, which includes weekend camping, prior to attending Summer Camp
- How is your Pack tracking towards this goal?
  - Please reach out to a Troop, your District Membership Chair or your DE if you need assistance preparing your AOL Scouts for Crossover
  - Arrow of Light-to-Scouts Transition at: <https://www.scouting.org/programs/scouts-bsa/resources/recruitment-marketing/webelos-to-scouts-transition/>

## Family Troop Option:

- All existing troops, boy and girl, are eligible to adopt the family troop option at any time and not only at unit renewal
  - Please note: Troops are not required to become a Family Troop as this is a third option type for our troops
  - If your unit’s decision is to form a family troop, please follow the instructions contained within the guides found on the PTAC Website as follows: Resources -> Unit Resources -> Family Troop Option
- Please direct all Family Troop questions to Rick Romani ([arrek1@hotmail.com](mailto:arrek1@hotmail.com))

## Spring Recruitment:

- Units should only recruit in the Spring if they plan to be active during the summer
- Include Geofencing and Social Media to help advertise your recruitment events
- Suggestions for a couple of Peer-to-Peer Recruitment opportunities to invite new families to join your unit
  - Participate in PTAC’s Day & Family Camp, Pinewood Derby or Scouting For Food
  - Have Day Camp Flyers at your school’s “End-of-School” events
- Consider including Day Care Centers as recruitment opportunities and use Geofencing
- Recruitment materials can be found under <https://pathwaytoadventure.org/unit-resources/recruitment-materials/>
- Any youth who join in April and May should participate in the unit events, but do not start any advancement until June 1st

## Ongoing Membership and Unit Renewal Support:

- If your unit has any Membership Renewals in their “Lapse Period” or if your Unit Renewal is outstanding, your District or Unit Commissioner, District Membership Chair, District Chair and / or your DE will be reaching out to you asking, “How Can We Help”
- A unit that is in their “Lapse Period” with a Renewal Status of “Renewal not Started” and “Pending Approval” do not have access to Scoutbook +, which impacts rank advancement entries & Eagle Applications
- Please use the mindset of **LEAVE NO SCOUT BEHIND!!!!**

In closing, we need to remember that all our new and existing Families, Scouts and Leaders need to be “Seen, Heard and Included”. I would like to thank everyone for all your hard work and dedication to ensure our youth and their families can experience a Quality Scouting program. A successful recruitment program, for both youth and adults, should be 24/7 as it could take multiple contacts to recruit a new family to join Scouting. Please read future newsletters, visit our Membership Website, and attend your District Roundtables for additional information. If you have any questions, please work with your District Membership Chair, District Executive, and your Unit Commissioner.

**Yours In Scouting,  
Rick Romani – PTAC Membership VP**

# INVEST IN CHARACTER



## IIC - Fueling the Adventure!

Each year, Pathway to Adventure Council invites families and friends to Invest in Character (IIC) - our annual campaign that strengthens and sustains Scouting locally. Invest in Character supports the behind-the-scenes services that make Scouting possible across our entire council.

### Your support helps fund:

- Safeguarding Youth & Youth Protection training
- Camp Owasippe & Betz operations
- Program equipment and supplies
- New Scout enrollment and recruitment efforts
- Merit Badge & career exploration programs
- Scout and adult leadership development
- Financial assistance for Scouts
- Professional Service Center support

***It costs approximately \$365 per Scout per year (about \$30 per month) to provide these essential services through our council!***

Every gift, at every level, helps ensure that Scouting remains strong, accessible, and impactful for the 12,000+ youth we serve.

## GOAL:

# \$250,000



## 2026 Exclusive IIC Gifts!



## LEARN MORE HERE

### Unit Leaders:

Now is the time to schedule your unit's IIC presentation. Please connect with your District Executive to receive materials, pledge cards, and support for a successful presentation. **Together, we can continue fueling the adventure and investing in the future of Scouting.**

# EVENTS & ACTIVITIES



## NATIONAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP TRAINING SUMMER 2026



### Take your leadership to the next level!

NYLT is an exciting, hands-on training where Scouts build real-world leadership skills they can bring back to their home units and beyond. Participants will learn, practice, and model leadership through fun challenges, team adventures, games and outdoor activities, all within a setting that mirrors the best of Scouting.

### Why Attend?

- Gain confidence and practical leadership skills
- Experience the power of teamwork and communication
- Learn how to lead, not just follow

### Who Can Attend

- Scouts BSA, Venturers, and Sea Scouts
- Must be at least 13 years old

### Important Details

- Transportation to and from camp is not provided
- Scholarships are available!



For more info, registration, and scholarships:  
Scan the QR code or visit  
[www.pathwaytoadventure.org/nylt/](http://www.pathwaytoadventure.org/nylt/)

### Sessions

#### Session 1

June 7 @1pm - June 12 @8pm

#### Session 2

June 14 @1pm - June 19 @8pm

### Pricing

**\$325 per Scout**

- \$150 is required at registration
- \$50 late fee applied if not paid in full a month before scheduled session

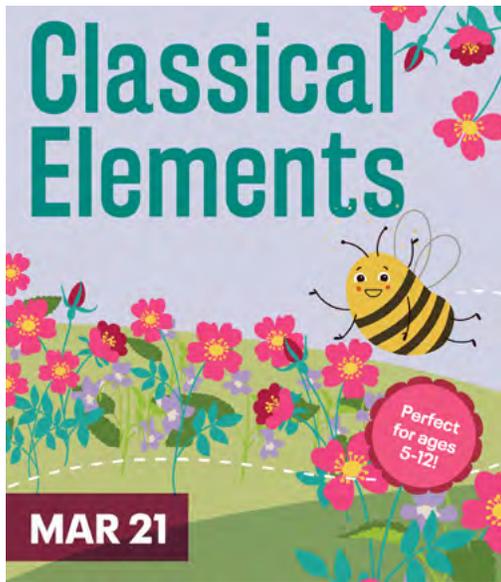
### Location

**Camp Frank S. Betz**  
3858 E. Snow Rd.  
Berrien Springs, MI 49103

**Questions? Contact:**  
[nylptac@gmail.com](mailto:nylptac@gmail.com)



# EVENTS & ACTIVITIES



## Free Event! – Cub Scouts at Chicago Symphony Orchestra

**March 21 - 9:45am-1pm - Ages 5-12**

Chicago Symphony Orchestra is providing Cub Scout families with 4 free tickets to the Classical Elements show and free access to the Orchestra Explorer activities before and after the show. This is an incredible opportunity to expose Scouts to world-class music at no cost to your family.

**Orchestra Explorers: 9:45-1pm**

Different activities on floors 1-5

**Classical Elements: 11am-12pm**

Music of air, fire, and water.

**How to redeem tickets:**

1. [Go to the Classical Elements event page, here](#)
2. Select the 11:00 AM performance
3. Enter promo code **CSOSCOUTS**
4. Choose your seats & Checkout!

**MORE INFO HERE**

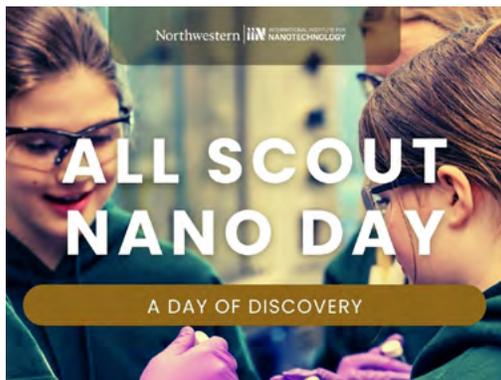


## STEM Merit Badge College

**March 28 - 8am-4pm - Purdue University**

Scouts can join us on March 28th at Purdue University Northwest for a suite of STEM-focused merit badges. Choose from classes like Chemistry, Cybersecurity, Robotics, Space Exploration, Artificial Intelligence, and more!

**REGISTER HERE**



## All Scout Nano Day

The International Institute for Nanotechnology at Northwestern University invites Scouts to experience All Scout Nano Day on April 11, 2026—a hands-on science event that's inspired over 1,600 Scouts during its 20-year history. Participants will explore what nanotechnology is, see real laboratory demonstrations, take part in interactive activities, and showcase troop posters for awards. A special session for parents will highlight pathways in science and engineering.

**RSVP required. Tickets are needed for all Scouts and adults.**

**Registration closes March 20, 2026.**

**REGISTER HERE**

# EVENTS & ACTIVITIES



## St. Patrick's Day Parade

Join us for St. Patrick's Day fun on Saturday, March 14, 2026!

Scouts, families, and friends are invited to march with the Chicago Federation of Labor in one of two St. Patrick's Day parades:

Archer Avenue St. Patrick's Day Parade – 12PM – Byrne Elementary School

Downtown St. Patrick's Day Parade – 12:15PM – Columbus & Balbo Drive

Participants will enjoy corned beef and turkey sandwiches, St. Patrick's Day swag, and help hand out candy and stickers. More details to come—dress for the weather and come celebrate this Chicago tradition with us!

[REGISTER HERE](#)



## Scouting for Food

April is one of the greatest times of need for supplies at food pantries, and hundreds of Scouts from units across our council have already signed up to help! Is your unit one of them? Visit the Scouting for Food website to learn how easy it is to get involved with this critical service opportunity and register today!

[MORE INFO HERE](#)



## Scouts Weekend at Chicagoland Speedway



**Save the Date! July 3-5, Chicagoland Speedway in Joliet**

Get ready for an unforgettable weekend of racing, camping, and exclusive Scout activities at Chicagoland Speedway's Scouts Weekend - America's Weekend!

Scouts and families can enjoy discounted race tickets for all three days, group seating, FREE lakeside tent camping with ticket purchase, and special Scout-only experiences like a Racing 101 & STEM Q&A with a NASCAR driver, track walk, scavenger hunt, and commemorative Scout patch

Mark your calendars now – more details and registration info coming soon!

# CAMP



## Betz Cub Scout Family Camp

Start your engines for Camp Betz Cub Scout Family Camp 2026!

At Cub Scout Family Camp, Cub Scouts and their families will enjoy all the best parts of summer camp together: paddling across Lake Chapin, hitting the range with slingshots and archery, exploring hands-on crafts, building awesome projects, splashing at the waterfront, and taking on exciting themed activities, all in a family-friendly camping environment.

Spots fill quickly—Sessions 4 and 5 are already full, so don't miss your chance to join this adventure!

[REGISTER HERE](#)

## Cub Scout Day Camp

Cub Scout Day Camp: Nature Investigators is Here!

Calling all Cub Scouts, family, and friends! Looking for a fun, family-friendly Saturday this summer? Join us for Cub Scout Day Camp: Nature Investigators, where Scouts will explore the great outdoors at a location near you.

This one-day camp experience packs a full day of adventure into a single event. Scouts will rotate through five interactive program stations, investigating nature, building skills, and making memories along the way. Every participant will also take home a commemorative Day Camp item!

[REGISTER HERE](#)

## Bigfoot Bash Cub-o-Ree

**Save the date - Camp Betz - September 25 - 27, 2026**

Explore Camp Betz with your fellow Cub Scout adventurers! The Betz Thunderbird has invited its cryptid friends—legends of lore and mystery from around the world—to the biggest Cub Scout event of the year! PTAC's 2026 Cub-o-Ree will be a weekend of Camping, Crafts, Games, Food, STEM, Range and Target Activities and more, all topped off with our Bigfoot Bash campfire program. Camp as a unit or family September 25th-27th, or stop by for the festivities on Saturday.

More details coming soon!

[SAVE THE DATE](#)



# CAMP



## Cub Scout Resident Camp - At Owasippe

Tigers, Wolves, Bears, and Webelos, are all invited to experience Owasippe's Camp Wolverine! Our program will be centered around a variety of age-appropriate adventures and provide Scouts with plenty of time to explore!

Arrow of Light Scouts will partake in advanced programs while exploring into the horizons of Owasippe's 4800 acres.

**Session 1 - Both programs - July 26 - July 29**

**Session 2 - Both programs - July 29 - August 1**

[REGISTER HERE](#)



## Reneker Family Camp - At Owasippe

Camp Reneker offers affordable week-long cabin camping for both Scout and non-Scouting families. Each cabin includes a full kitchen and two bedrooms, and a central shower house with washroom, shower, and laundry facilities. Staff-led programs feature age-group activities like hiking, crafting, sports, science experiments, swim instruction, skill development, and service projects.

**Have a Scout already attending Owasippe?** Families can reserve a cabin at Owasippe's Camp Reneker for the week your Scout is at camp and have them join you before or after their session.

[REGISTER HERE](#)



## Owasippe & Owasippe MAXED

Get ready for a summer full of adventure, friendship, and unforgettable memories at Owasippe. With more than 110 years of tradition, Owasippe delivers the ultimate Scouting experience—from ziplining, tubing, and horseback riding to merit badges, high-adventure challenges, and campfires under the stars. Whether you're attending with your troop at a Scouts BSA camp or staying with family at Reneker, you're sure to make memories that last a lifetime.

**New this year — Owasippe MAXED (June 28–July 4 ONLY):**

An exclusive week packed with specialty merit badges, high-adventure overnights, night ziplining, blacklight range events, and more!

[BLACKHAWK](#)

[WOLVERINE](#)

# TRAINING

2026

# WOOD BADGE



## ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Wood Badge is advanced leadership training for Cub Scout, Scouts BSA and Venturing adult leaders at the unit, district, council, and professional levels. It is taught by living the experience of a Scouts BSA Troop, utilizing the patrol method, over two weekends.

Wood Badge teaches leadership skills by focusing on five key areas: **Living the Values, Growing, Connecting, Guiding and Empowering.** By using a variety of learning techniques, participants will learn contemporary leadership skills and tools needed to provide the youth members of their units with the highest scouting experience.

## WHAT TO EXPECT

- **INSTRUCTION & MENTORSHIP BY SKILLED STAFFERS**
- **TEAM-BASED LEARNING IN THE PATROL METHOD**
- **IMMERSIVE, OUTDOOR EXPERIENCES**
- **REAL-TIME LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**
- **PRACTICAL GOAL DEVELOPMENT**
- **LIFELONG CONNECTIONS**

## WEEKEND 1

April 10 @7am - April 12 @5pm

## WEEKEND 2

April 25 @7am - April 26 @5pm

## PRICING:

Early Bird - \$300

By Dec. 17, 2025

Regular - \$325

Starting Dec. 18, 2025

## LOCATION:

Camp Frank S. Betz

3858 E. Snow Rd.

Berrien Springs, MI 49103

**Questions? Contact:**

[PathwayWoodbadge@gmail.com](mailto:PathwayWoodbadge@gmail.com)

For more info, registration, and scholarships:

Scan the QR code or visit

[www.ScoutingEvent.com/456-WoodBadge26](http://www.ScoutingEvent.com/456-WoodBadge26)



# TRAINING



## Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmaster Training

March 21, 9am-3:30pm at St. Michael's Lutheran Church, La Grange Park

Calling all Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters! Maybe you're new; maybe you've been in the role for a while but want to refresh your skills? Position-specific training for your role will give you the boost to lead your Scouts in a safe, engaging, and effective program!

[REGISTER HERE](#)



## Cub Scout Leader Position Specific Training

April 18 – 9-2:30PM – St. Michael's Lutheran Church, La Grange Park

Are you a new or returning Cub Scout leader? Whether you're a Cubmaster, Den Leader, or Pack Committee Member, this in-person training is the perfect opportunity to build confidence, learn key skills, and connect with others like you!

[REGISTER HERE](#)



## Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation Training (BALOO)

May 2, 8am-12pm at Camp Palos - Lemont, IL

Looking forward to a summer campout with your Cub Scouts? BALOO is required training for at least one adult on all Cub Scout overnight events. This course provides the knowledge and hands-on skills to confidently lead safe, fun, and meaningful outdoor experiences!

[REGISTER HERE](#)



## Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS)

May 2 8am to May 3 12pm at Camp Palos - Lemont, IL

Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS) is here to help Scouts BSA leaders confidently provide a well-rounded, safe Scouting experience. This overnight, immersive training covers the outdoor skills that Scouts must master through First Class rank, ensuring leaders like you can guide them along the way.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

# TRAINING

## Advancement and Recognition Webinar

Advancement and Recognition Committee presents our monthly webinar informational series! On the 3rd Thursday of each month, our team will bring you news, information, and training about all aspects of advancement and recognition from across Scouting America.

[MORE INFO HERE](#)



## Cub Scout Rangemaster Training

**March 8, 14, & 28, 9am-1pm at Arlington Heights & Munster Service Centers**

Sign up today for a FREE rangemaster training! We'll cover range setup, equipment handling, and safety protocols, qualifying you for two years to run Cub Scout ranges at Council and District events. No previous range experience is required!

Archery, BBs and slingshot are consistently the top-rated activities for our Cub Scouts and their families. Certified Rangemasters are vital for delivering a safe and enjoyable environment to learn and practice these skills.

[REGISTER HERE](#)



## Wilderness First Aid Training

**Wilderness First Aid training April 17-18 at the Pleasantview Fire Department**

Wilderness First Aid is essential for leaders planning to attend the 2026 National Jamboree and other high-adventure events. This 16-hour course meets Scouting America's requirements and covers the critical skills needed to respond to emergencies in the backcountry.

[REGISTER HERE](#)



## Leader Field School: Enhanced Scoutcraft Skills Training

**May 2 8am to May 3 5pm at Camp Palos - Lemont, IL**

Introducing Leader Field School! This patrol-style training weekend on May 2-3 is the perfect opportunity to take the next step into 5 essential scoutcraft skill areas: Nature, Orienteering, Dutch Oven Cooking, Pioneering, and Wilderness Survival.

Participants will receive hands-on, practical experience and will leave with resources for future reference. This program is open to adult leaders only, and participants are encouraged to have taken IOLS.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

# ORDER OF THE ARROW

## Recently Elected

Congratulations on your election to the Order of the Arrow! We hope you are happy as we are that you are about to join our lodge! We know it can be difficult to navigate your ordeal weekend, so we have put together some resources and information for you on our website.

[MORE INFO](#)

## Elections & Visitations

Every year Order of the Arrow representatives visit units in order to elect eligible Order of the Arrow members, share information about OA and council programming, and help get scouts excited about summer camp. If you haven't scheduled your election yet, get it scheduled today!

[MORE INFO](#)



## Pay your Dues!

Pay your 2026 dues, only \$20 and renew your membership with Takhone Lodge to get access to all Takhone events.

[PAY HERE](#)

## Potawatomi Hike

Potawatomi hike will be on March 21st at Indiana Dunes State Park. This is a great opportunity for troops to get rank requirements done including the five mile hike.

[REGISTER HERE](#)



## Brotherhood Bash

Join us for our first Brotherhood Bash of 2026 to take your Order of the Arrow membership to the next level! It will be held at Greene Valley Forest Preserve, Naperville, IL Sunday March 22nd - 1-5pm.

[REGISTER HERE](#)



## 2026 Spring Conclave

Join OA Section G9 for an exciting time at Camp Long Lake in Campbellsport, WI. Hundreds of Arrowmen will gather for a Best of the Midwest themed Conclave from April 10-12, 2026. Those who attend can expect outstanding training tracks, fun activities, and unique special events. Register before April 3rd

[REGISTER HERE](#)

# NEWSWIRE

OUR DIRECT LINE TO THE LATEST ARRIVALS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

## STEP INSIDE YOUR LOCAL SCOUT SHOP

and you can feel the spark of adventure. Every visit helps you gear up for what's next—whether that's a celebration, a race day, or getting ready for camp season.



**SAVE \$10**  
ON ANY ORDER \$50+

USE CODE:  
**SSNEWSWIRE**

Valid online or in store. Offer excludes gift cards, uniforms, insignia, program literature, sewing services and shipping fees. One use per customer and cannot be combined with other offers.

## CURRENT & UPCOMING

*Events!*

### COMING SOON: TWO LIMITED-EDITION COLLECTIBLE PATCHES YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS

We're dropping two exclusive patches that won't last long. The Artemis II Patch celebrates humanity's first trip around the moon in 50 years, and the Liberty in Action Patch honors 250 years of American history. These rare collectibles are limited-time only. Once they're gone, they're gone for good. Keep your eyes peeled!

### PINEWOOD DERBY: LAST-MINUTE GEAR

Shop pre-shaped blocks, accessories, and themed kits to inspire your Scout's creativity. Bring their vision to life and get race-day ready fast.

### BLUE & GOLD BANQUETS & CUB SCOUT CROSSOVER CEREMONIES

Celebrate a milestone moment. Stop by for ceremony essentials, gifts, and uniform needs to help Scouts look their best.

# MONTHLY OFFER

SHOP NOW AND SAVE!

## 20% OFF SCOUTS BSA SPRING GEAR

Save on select Scouts BSA spring apparel and gear from *March 30 through June 12*. Available online and in participating Scout Shops. Offer valid while supplies last.

# NEW ARRIVALS

## THE RIGHT GEAR FOR EVERY ADVENTURE



### SCOUT FAVORITE! MOSQUITOASIS

SKU: 665162, XL: 646301

A proven summer-camp favorite with instant pop-up setup and fully enclosed, bug-free sleep.



### 2/4 BOXED KNIVES WITH ACCESSORY

SKU: 664831, 66832

New Knife Box Sets pair a durable folding knife with an essential accessory, packaged in a keepsake tin that's ready to gift!

### 2/25 EAGLE SCOUT SWISS ARMY KNIFE

SKU: 665168

An official Eagle Scout Swiss Army Knife featuring trusted Swiss-made quality and everyday tools built to be used.

### 3/2 SPRING GEAR

Fresh spring gear arrives with warm-weather apparel and accessories designed for outdoor comfort and everyday wear. Explore sun-protecting hats, caps, and graphic tees that show your Scouting pride.

### 3/4 NEW EAGLE SCOUT PARTY GOODS

New party supplies designed for Eagle Scout celebrations, courts of honor, and milestone moments.



### 3/9 NEW EAGLE SCOUT TABLET PADFOLIO

SKU: 665555

A meaningful gift for Eagle Scouts, leaders, and mentors—ideal for meetings, interviews, and internships.

# Outdoor

## TIP OF THE MONTH

## GET READY FOR CAMP SEASON!

February and March are the perfect time to check hydration, warm-weather gear, and sleep essentials so you're ready before the first big outing.

## STAY CONNECTED

### DON'T MISS A THING

Follow us @ScoutShopBSA for the latest arrivals, upcoming events, and seasonal highlights!





## Follow Us

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## Contact Us

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### **Arlington Heights Center for Scouting**

617 E. Golf Rd., Suite 101 | Arlington Heights, IL 60005

### **Chicago Center for Scouting**

106 N. Aberdeen St., Suite 200 | Chicago, IL 60607

### **La Grange Center for Scouting**

27 Calendar Ave., 2nd Floor | La Grange, IL 60525

### **Robert J. Welsh Center for Scouting**

8751 Calumet Ave. | Munster, IN 46321

## Do You Have A Scout Story To Share?

Don't keep the good work your Scouts do a secret. Tell us what they did and send a couple pictures. We might put your story on our social media or perhaps your Scout will be the feature in our next story.

Help get Scouts the recognition they deserve!

**SHARE HERE!**

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Pathway to Adventure Council