MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

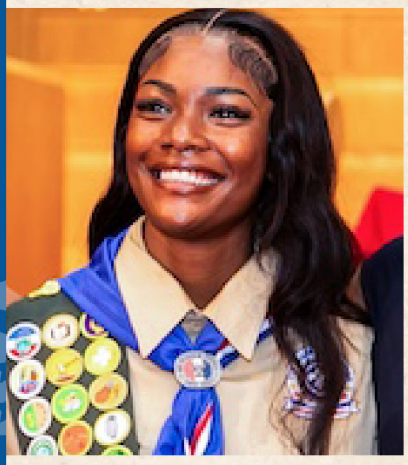
Scouting America
Pathway to Adventure Council

2026

AUGUST









IN THIS ISSUE:

2 BeAScout Update

3 Bigfoot Bash Cuboree

4 Popcorn

5 Scout Stories

6 Events & Activities
- Council Camporee 2027
- Thunderbolts Scout Night
- Medical Learning Series
- Fly Fishing Merit Badge
- Railroading Merit Badge
- Broadway in Chicago
- Bud Billiken Parade
- Chicago Labor Day Parade
- Mexican Independence Day Parade
- National Night Out

9 Training
- Leader Field School
- IOLS
- BALOO
- 2027 Wood Badge
- Wood Badge Reunion Dinner

10 Recruitment Readiness & Materials

12 Special Events
- Silent Auction
- Transportation & Logistics
- Whitney M. Young Jr.

13 Council Committees
- Faith Relations
- Special Needs Scouting

15 Award Nominations
- NESA
- Alumnus of the Year
- Silver Beaver
- Venturing Leadership Award

16 Order of the Arrow
- Recently Elected
- Vigil Weekend
- Summer Fellowship
- Fall Fellowship
- 2027 NOAC

17 Scout Shop

Scouting America
Pathway to Adventure Council

BeAScout Updates

Unit Leaders: Make Changes Before August 3!

On August 3, 2026, BeAScout will introduce an updated look and feel designed to better support prospective families. The enhanced experience will provide answers to common questions before families contact a unit, including:

- Estimated cost to join
- Unit meeting days and times
- Whether the unit charges additional dues

Unit Pin Changes

To support these improvements, several new fields have been added to the Unit Pin page in Organization Manager:

- Fundraising Helps Cover Costs
- Trial Visit Encouraged
- Unit Fee
- Meeting Schedule
  - Meeting Frequency
  - Meeting Day
  - Start Time
  - End Time

Please update your Unit Pin page before BeAScout updates on August 3!

Contact your local District Executive for more information

MORE INFO HERE

BIGFOOT BASH - CUB-O-REE



CATCH ME IF YOU CAN!

THE JACKALOPE HAS BEEN SPOTTED RACING THROUGH CAMP BETZ!

SIGN UP AND JOIN US FOR GAMES, CHALLENGES, AND NONSTOP FUN AT THE 2026 BIGFOOT BASH CUB-O-REE.

CAMP FRANK S. BETZ
BERRIEN SPRINGS, MI

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 as a day visitor on Saturday only!

	GENERAL ADMISSION	NEW SCOUTS (AS OF 7/1/26) & ADULTS	UNDER 4 YEARS
WEEKEND	$45	$30	FREE
SATURDAY	$35	$20	FREE

Add-Ons & Meal Deals:

- *$5 Friday Early Arrival Camping*
- *$5 Saturday Breakfast*
- *$15 Saturday Lunch, Dinner, & Sunday Breakfast Grab-Go*

WHAT TO EXPECT

RANGE & TARGET ACTIVITIES

SPORTS & GAMES

ARTS & CRAFTS

CAMPING

& MORE!

POPCORN



How to Register Your Unit to Participate

1. Go to **PRPopcorn.com**
2. Click **"Scout Boss"** from the **"Account Login"** drop down in the top right corner of the page
3. Click on **"Create Unit Profile"**
4. Enter your Council Key **(118PTAC)**
5. Choose your District
6. Choose your unit type
7. Choose your unit number
8. Enter a username for the account
9. Enter a Password for the account
10. Fill out the remaining profile info. The email used will receive all account notifications.
11. Click **"Submit"**

Important Upcoming Dates!

- Saturday, August 1 Online Store opens
- Saturday, August 8 at 8am Storefronts shifts go live through Kernel Tracker
- Monday, August 10 Show N' Sell Due By Noon
- Friday, August 21 Show N' Sell Warehouse Sort
- Saturday, August 22 Show N' Sell Unit Pickup
- Friday, August 28 Online Challenge Due

PTAC POPCORN PAGE

Register Your Unit to Participate

Every unit planning to participate in the 2026 Popcorn Sale must complete the annual Unit Registration Form. **Instructions on how to register are on the left-hand side of this page.**

REGISTER HERE

New to Popcorn? Start with Kernel 101

Whether you're a first-time Popcorn Kernel or just looking for a refresher, the Kernel 101 guide provides everything you need to get started.

Inside you'll find:

- Selling method explanations
- Key dates and deadlines
- Tips for running a successful unit kickoff
- Frequently asked questions

KERNEL 101

SCOUT STORIES









PTAC Scouts at Jamboree

The 2026 National Scout Jamboree brought together thousands of Scouts and Scouters from across the country for 10 unforgettable days of adventure, leadership, and fellowship at the Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia. From world-class outdoor activities and STEM experiences to patch trading and lifelong friendships, participants experienced Scouting at its very best.

We are incredibly proud of the Pathway to Adventure Council contingent, who represented our council with enthusiasm, Scout spirit, and leadership throughout the Jamboree. Thank you to our youth participants, adult leaders, volunteers, and families who made this once-in-a-lifetime experience possible. Welcome home, and thank you for representing PTAC so well!



One of our own was recently featured by the National Scout Jamboree for his inspiring story of perseverance and adventure. Read how Jake — PTAC Eagle Scout, Order of the Arrow Takone Lodge 7, NYLT staff member, Venture Scout and so much more — of the Pathway to Adventure Council contingent continues to push boundaries, embrace new challenges, and demonstrate that Scouting is truly for everyone. It's a story we're incredibly proud to share. Read the full article and celebrate his remarkable journey.

READ ARTICLE HERE

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES



Who 'Dun It? Council Camporee

Save the Date! Who 'Dun It? 2027 Council Camporee
September 24-26, 2027 — Sandwich Fairgrounds, IL

A mystery is unfolding... Join us for Who 'Dun It 2027 Council Camporee! Get ready for a weekend of mystery, teamwork, and adventure. Scouts, family, and friends of all ages are invited!

Mark your calendars - more details are coming soon!

SAVE THE DATE





Scout Night! Baseball: Thunderbolts

Friday, August 14 — 6:30pm — Ozinga Field

- Opportunity to complete some requirements for the Sport Merit Badge ***- Details Coming***
- <- Bolts Hat and Scout Night Patch
- Postgame Fireworks Show
- Overnight camping on the field after the game with breakfast in the morning!

Contact Charles Butler to reserve your spot today 708.489.2255 or cbutler@wcthunderbolts.com

Use Code: ADVENTURE

TICKETS HERE



New! Medical Learning Series

Paging Dr. Scout! Paging Dr. Scout!

This learning series will be presented by a roster of renowned and honored Chicago physicians. These experts will address your technical, educational and career questions about the medical field. Doctors from a variety of specialties will answer your questions about their education, practices, career paths and what it took to get there live online during monthly sessions.

Start thinking about your questions. Registration will open soon. These sessions will fill up fast!

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES



Fly Fishing Merit Badge

August 8, and September 12 - 8:30am-4pm - Camp Sagawau Environmental Education Center & Maple Lake (Cook County Forest Preserves)

Scouts, are you ready to cast your way into an exciting new skill? Oak Brook Trout Unlimited is hosting free, one-day introductory fly-fishing classes for youth ages 11 and up! This program is designed to meet all the requirements for the Fly-Fishing Merit Badge, with certified merit badge counselors on staff to guide you.

To register, contact Mike Lesiak at 630-300-4997 or mdlesiak100@gmail.com

CONTACT HERE

MORE INFO HERE



Railroading Merit Badge

Illinois Railway Museum – September 12

All Scouts and their families are invited to enjoy a full day of railroad history at the Illinois Railway Museum in Union, IL! Ride historic steam, diesel, and electric trains, tour museum exhibits, and participate in special Scout activities throughout the day. Scouts working on the Railroading Merit Badge can complete requirements through a guided challenge course led by experienced counselors and railroad professionals. Discounted admission is available with advance registration, so don't wait to reserve your spot!

REGISTER HERE

Broadway in Chicago Special Scout Discount Tickets!



Mrs. Doughtfire
November 25, 2026 at 7:00PM
James M. Nederlander Theatre
24 W. Randolph St | Chicago, IL 60603
Ticket price: $33

Age Recommendations: The show is suitable for ages 10 and up.

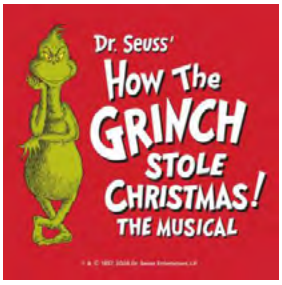
REGISTER HERE



Sound of Music
December 22, 2026 at 7:00PM
Cadillac Palace Theatre
24 W. Randolph St | Chicago, IL 60603
Ticket price: $33

Age Recommendations: The show is suitable for ages 10 and up.

REGISTER HERE



How the Grinch Stole Christmas
December 23, 2026 at 7:00PM
James M. Nederlander Theatre
24 W. Randolph St | Chicago, IL 60603
Ticket price: $58

Age Recommendations: The show is suitable for ages 10 and up.

REGISTER HERE

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES



Bud Billiken Parade

Saturday, August 8 - step off 10:00 A.M. - Step off on S Martin Luther King Jr. Drive and E 40th Street

Join the Chicago Federation of Labor and the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists as we march in the 97th Annual Bud Billiken Parade on Saturday, August 8. The "Bud" is sponsored by the Chicago Defender and brings together Black Chicagoans and their allies in a celebration of music, dance, food and culture.

REGISTER HERE



Eddie Fest & Labor Day Parade

Saturday, September 5, 2026. - step off 11:00 a.m. - The parade route will tentatively begin on E 112th Street and S Ewing Avenue

The 2026 Chicago Labor Day Parade and Eddie Fest, presented by the Chicago Federation of Labor and Alderman Peter Chicago, will be held on the Southeast side of Chicago on Saturday, September 5, 2026.

REGISTER HERE



Mexican Independence Day Parade

Sunday, September 13 at 12 p.m. - Step off at 26th and Kedzie in Little Village

Join the Chicago Federation of Labor and the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement (LCLAA) as we march in the 26th Street Mexican Independence Day Parade to celebrate Mexican music, dance, food and culture. The parade is the largest of its kind in the Midwest and annually attracts over 500,000 participants, residents, and visitors.

REGISTER HERE

National Night Out

This year, the 2026 National Night Out will be on Tuesday, August 4th.

This is an excellent opportunity to use this event as a "springboard" for your Fall Recruitment since there will be at least 44 Illinois cities and 8 NW Indiana cites participating within PTAC. Please go to the NNO website (https://natw.org) if you have any questions or to see if your city is participating as new cities register on a regular basis. Please work with your District Membership Chair and DE to get materials for this community event.

LEARN MORE

TRAINING



Leader Field School

Re-introducing Leader Field School! This patrol-style training weekend on October 17-18 is the perfect opportunity to take the next step into 5 essential 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



Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS)

Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS) helps Scouts BSA leaders confidently provide a well-rounded, safe experience for their troop. If you are heading to Owasippe this summer, leaders will have the opportunity to take IOLS over the week. If not, join us on October 17-18 at Camp Palos for a fun and interactive weekend, and complete your position-specific training in the process!

REGISTER HERE



Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation Training (BALOO)

Our next BALOO course will be October 17-18 at Camp Palos. At least one adult on all Cub Scout overnight events is required to be BALOO-trained, but the more the merrier! Join us in October for an immersive and engaging weekend and take back the knowledge and hands-on skills to confidently lead safe, fun, and meaningful outdoor experiences.

REGISTER HERE



2027 Wood Badge

Orientation: 6:30 - 9:00 PM | March 11, 2027
St. Michael's Church in La Grange Park, IL
Weekend 1: April 9 - April 11, 2027. Camp Betz
Weekend 2: May 1 - May 2, 2027. Camp Betz

SAVE THE DATE

Wood Badge Reunion Dinner

Sunday October 4, 2026: 4 - 8:00 PM
St. Louise De Marillac Church
1125 Harrison Ave, La Grange Park

REGISTER HERE

RECRUITMENT READINESS

Welcome to your August monthly Membership newsletter article. We hope you are enjoying your summer while preparing for the new school year. Hopefully, your unit has been participating and showing what Scouting has to offer to our youth during festivals and parades in your community or neighborhood. Your unit should attend your Roundtable Kick-off so you can learn about the new materials that will be available to support your school's open house or back to school event. Please remember the goal of your summer events was to create the awareness and interest in Scouting so families will want their child to join your unit in the Fall.

Roundtable Kick-off / Fall Recruitment: This year's recruitment theme is **"Adventure is Calling! – We're Ready, Are You?."** The purpose of your Roundtable Kick-off is to help your unit prepare for your upcoming Fall Recruitment activities. During your Roundtable Kick-off, you will have the opportunity to address your questions and concerns with your District Membership Chair and obtain the collateral materials to support your recruitment events. Your District Membership Chair will verify with you that your BeAScout Pin is current, handout your Fall Recruitment Collateral Materials, which includes your Leader Recruitment Guide, and gather the dates for your Fall Recruitment events so we can support your needs for success.

During the next couple of months, your unit's plan should include hosting a table at your school's open house along with events in your communities and neighborhoods this Fall. All your recruitment events should be advertised by using the multiple tools available, which could include Flyers, Yard Signs, Geo-Fencing, and Customized Videos, to name a few. Another successful form of recruitment is Peer-to-Peer Recruitment, which has a youth recruiting a youth and / or a parent recruiting a parent. All recruitment materials and tools can be found on our PTAC Membership website (https://pathwaytoadventure.org/unit-resources/recruitment-materials/). Your New Member Coordinator can help spearhead these activities and events.

We offer multiple incentives for our new and existing youth, along with our Packs. The Pack incentive, "Drive For 5", is when a unit Recruits 5 new Scouts, throughout the year, over their 3-Yr Rolling Average, has a Registered & Trained New Member Coordinator, holds a Recruitment Event + provide your recruitment date to your District Membership Chair & DE and all new Scouts complete their Bobcat requirements within 60 days. Meet these incentives and our Pack receives Pinewood Derby Cars for all Scouts in the Pack! The 2026 Drive For 5 Incentive runs through December 15th. Starting in early September, all new families who join will receive a Welcome Kit from Council by the end of the month they have joined. This includes those families who joined in July and August.

For our Packs and Troops, we offer Peer-to-Peer incentives (one per youth) for those existing Scouts who recruit a new Scout. In a Troop, a new Scout cannot be a Cub Scout who crosses over to a Troop. For Cub Scouts, a Scout in Kindergarten – 2nd Grade can receive Sunglasses, while those Scouts in 3rd – 5th Grade can either receive an Engraved Pocket Knife or Sunglasses. For Scouts BSA, an existing Scout can receive either an Engraved Pocket Knife or a Gift Certificate to the Scout Shop. Please see your Membership Recruitment Guide for additional details behind these incentives.

Please continue to monitor your online leads and applications on a weekly basis as parents will be reaching out to request more information or apply online. Remember, you cannot make a second first impression.

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

RECRUITMENT READINESS

FLYERS



POSTCARDS



STICKERS



BOOKMARKS & PEER CARDS



PLANES



YARD SIGNS



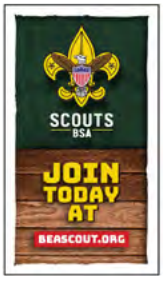
SCOUTS BSA

FLYERS



POSTCARDS & PEER CARDS





YARD SIGNS



CUB SCOUTS

SCOUTS BSA

FLYERS



POSTCARDS





WRISTBANDS

RECRUITMENT MATERIALS

Be prepared for this recruitment season!

Recruitment season is here, and we've got the tools to help your unit succeed! From flyers and postcards to yard signs, stickers, and more. We have materials for Cub Scout packs, Scouts BSA troops, and joint pack/troop recruiting efforts.

Work with your District Executive to place an order, or download resources anytime from our Recruitment webpage.

DOWNLOAD HERE

SPECIAL FUNDRAISING EVENTS



Silent Auction

We're seeking donations of gift certificates, experiences, event tickets, travel packages, dining opportunities, and other unique items for our upcoming silent auction. Your tax-deductible donation helps fund life-changing Scouting programs for youth across Chicagoland and Northwest Indiana while showcasing your business to community leaders and supporters. Every contribution makes a difference.

FORM HERE



Transportation & Logistics Dinner

Thursday, October 8 — The Burlington Room at Union Station

Join us as we honor Kirk Dillard, Chairman of the Regional Transportation Authority Board of Directors at our Transportation & Logistics Industry Award. This event unites industry leaders around a shared commitment to developing the next generation of ethical, resilient, and service-oriented leaders through Scouting. This event recognizes the professionals whose work keeps our communities connected and moving through air, sea, and road.

REGISTER HERE



Whitney M. Young Jr., Service Awards

Wednesday, October 21 — The Ivy Room at Tree Studios

The Whitney M. Young, Jr. Service Award is presented to individuals or organizations in recognition of outstanding community service in the development and implementation of opportunities for youth from disadvantaged rural or urban communities.

REGISTER HERE

FAITH RELATIONS

COMING SOON

The Faith Relations Committee will be on the PTAC website! Check in to see what events are coming up, how to sign up for Religious Emblems, who to contact, etc.

Upcoming Holidays

Choose a faith that isn't yours and learn more about the religious holidays your fellow Scouts celebrate. Please note that the red note at the beginning of each month only applies if you have Scouts of those faiths in your unit.

2026 HOLIDAYS

Religious Activities

If your Scouts are participating in local Religious Activities, please send a short write up to ptacfaithrelations@gmail.com. We will try to include it in the newsletter.

EMAIL US HERE

Religious Emblems Coordinators

The committee is looking for a few more people to cover the following districts:

Checaugau
Iron Horse
Thunderbird
Tri-Star
Trailblazer

For more information, please contact Donna at ptacfaithrelations@gmail.com.

EMAIL US HERE

Upcoming Events

St. Paul's Parish (the Episcopal church in Riverside, Illinois) is offering classes to complete the God and Church emblem this fall. This program is for Scouts grades 6-8 who attend Protestant and Independent Christian churches. *You do not need to be a member of St. Paul's or any other church to complete the program.* All that is required is a desire to grow closer to Christ. The class will meet from 12:00 to 1:30 pm at St. Paul's Parish (60 Akenside Rd, Riverside): 8/2, 8/16, 8/30, 9/13, 10/18, & 11/1.
Please contact Natalie Wetzel (owensnf@gmail.com) to participate.

CONTACT HERE

P.R.A.Y. is offering online sessions to earn Religious Emblems this fall. National virtual religious emblem programs return October 11, offering Protestant, Non-Denominational, and Independent Christian youth in grades K–12 an opportunity to participate in faith-based programs virtually. This is beneficial in making religious emblems available to youth, especially those having difficulty finding in-person class or congregational support near them. **Registration is free and open through September 30. Space is limited to 2,000 participants.**

MORE INFO HERE



100th Anniversary Jewish Jamboree
Aug 9-12 2026, Ten Mile Scout Camp, NY

- 100th anniversary patches & epaulets at www.jewishscouting.org/shop/page/2

MORE INFO HERE



100th Anniversary of the Catholic Ad Altare Dei Religious Emblem.

- All year long, any Scout who has earned their Ad Altare Dei award may order the anniversary patch and neckerchief.

MORE INFO HERE



Fishers of Men - Sign up now for the October 3rd Fishers of Men at the Mundelein Seminary. Come tour the grounds, talk with seminarians and a nun to learn about vocations, have lunch, and of course, FISH!

MORE INFO HERE

SPECIAL NEEDS IN SCOUTING

August is Special Needs Parents Appreciation Month

Every August, we recognize Special Needs Parents Appreciation Month, a time to honor the parents, guardians, and caregivers whose dedication, patience, and advocacy help their children thrive each day.

For families of youth with special needs, Scouting is often more than a program - it is a community where young people can build confidence, develop friendships, learn new skills, and experience adventure. None of that happens without the commitment of parents who invest countless hours supporting their children, communicating their needs, and partnering with volunteers to create meaningful experiences.

At Pathway to Adventure Council, we have seen firsthand that the most successful Scouting experiences are built on collaboration. Parents know their children best. By sharing insights about strengths, challenges, communication styles, and accommodations, they help unit leaders create an environment where every Scout has the opportunity to succeed. Likewise, leaders who listen, ask questions, and work alongside families build trusting relationships that benefit the individual Scouts and the unit.

When parents and volunteers work together, Scouts with special needs gain opportunities to:

- Develop independence and self-confidence
- Build lasting friendships
- Learn leadership and outdoor skills at their own pace
- Experience the sense of belonging that is at the heart of Scouting

The Pathway to Adventure Council Special Needs Committee is grateful for the partnership of the many parents and caregivers who volunteer their time, share their expertise, and advocate for making Scouting accessible to all youth.

This month, we encourage every unit to take a moment to thank the parents and caregivers who support their Scouts behind the scenes. A simple expression of appreciation can go a long way in recognizing the commitment they make every day.

To all the parents and caregivers of Scouts with special needs: thank you for your trust, your partnership, and your unwavering dedication. Your efforts make a lasting difference in the lives of your children and in the future of Scouting.

If your family is looking for resources, guidance, or support to help your Scout succeed, the Pathway to Adventure Council Special Needs Committee is here to help. We provide information, training, and practical resources to assist families and unit leaders in creating positive Scouting experiences for youth with diverse abilities and needs.

For more information about Special Needs Scouting resources and programs, please visit the council's Special Needs Scouting webpage

Or contact the Pathway to Adventure Council Special Needs Committee at sns@pathwaytoadventure.org.

PTAC SPECIAL NEEDS IN SCOUTING WEBPAGE

pathwaytoadventure.org/special-needs-in-scouting/

NATIONAL SPECIAL NEEDS IN SCOUTING WEBPAGE

scouting.org/resources/disabilities-awareness/



AWARD NOMINATIONS

NESA Outstanding Eagle Scout Award

The NOESA recognizes those Eagle Scouts who have inspired others through their actions and have devoted a lifetime to their profession, avocation, community, and beliefs at great sacrifice to themselves and their families. The award recognizes notable Eagle Scouts who have either performed distinguished service who were known nationally for their achievements.

Nominations are due by 11:59 PM on November 23, 2026. The award will be presented as part of the Youth Recognition Dinner.

FORM HERE

Council Alumnus of the Year Award

The award recognizes an individual who reminds Scouting alumni to maintain a lifetime relationship with Scouting. Potential recipients may be nominated based career or avocation, community service, contributions to Scouting, Scouting promotion, and/or advancement of the Scouting alumni program.

Nominations are due by November 23, 2026. The award will be presented as part of the Council Recognition Dinner.

Direct submissions to: ptac.nesa@gmail.com

FORM HERE

Silver Beaver



The Silver Beaver Award is intended to acknowledge noteworthy service of exceptional character to youth by registered Scouters within the territory under the jurisdiction of Pathway to Adventure. It is the highest award a Scouting America Council can bestow upon a volunteer Scouter.

Spencer Long, Silver Beaver Chairman at spencer.long@gmail.com
or Wes Weems, Silver Beaver Staff Advisor at wesley.weems@scouting.org

Nominations are due by Monday, November 23, 2026. This award will be presented at the Annual Council Recognition Dinner.

FORM HERE

Venturing Leadership Award

In order to recognize Venturers and Venturing Advisors who have made exceptional contributions and who exemplify the Scout Oath and Law, councils, territories, and the BSA National Council may present individuals with the Venturing Leadership Award.

Nominations are due by November 23, 2026. This award will be presented at the Youth & Council Recognition Dinner

Submit To: ptac.advancement@gmail.com

FORM 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 induction weekend, so we have put together some resources and information for you on our website.

MORE INFO

Vigil Weekend

Congratulations to all of our Arrowmen who were selected for the Vigil Honor this year! If you are a Vigil member and wish to join us in celebrating these members, please join us for our Vigil weekend from August 29th - 30th at Camp Betz.

MORE INFO



Summer Fellowship

The Summer Fellowship will take place on August 14-16, 2026 at Camp Betz. Both new and old arrowmen can join in with the fun throughout the weekend! New Arrowmen will also have the opportunity to complete their Induction Experience at camp during the day and then participate in fun activities in the evening.

REGISTER HERE

Fall Fellowship

The Fall Fellowship will take place on September 11-13 at Camp Betz. New Arrowmen will have the opportunity to complete their Induction Experience at camp during the day and then participate in fun activities in the evening. Stay tuned for information with all the exciting details!

REGISTER HERE

NOAC 2027 Application & Fundraiser

The National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC) is July 26 - 31, 2027! Held every two years at a major university campus, NOAC brings together up to 8,000 Arrowmen from across the country for an unforgettable experience. As the second-largest event in Scouting, surpassed only by the National Scout Jamboree, featuring high-energy nightly arena shows, training workshops, competitions, and much more.

Additionally, Takhone Lodge is offering a way for our members to lower their out-of-pocket costs by selling Albanese Gummi Bears.

Interested in attending as a Participant? If you would like to attend NOAC as a participant (and possibly participate in the Albanese fundraiser), please fill out the interest form! If you're interested in raising money by selling gummies, please email gummi@oa7.org

REGISTER HERE

SCOUT SHOP

August NEWSWIRE

YOUR DIRECT LINE TO THE LATEST ARRIVALS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

START THE NEW SCOUTING YEAR STRONG WITH NEW UNIFORMS, RANK ACCESSORIES, AND MORE TO SUPPORT THE SCOUTING YEAR AHEAD!

From uniforms and handbooks to apparel, accessories, and more, our team can help your Scouts gear up with confidence. And with patch sewing and pants hemming available in store, you'll walk out ready for the adventure ahead.



SAVE

$10 ON ANY PURCHASE $50+

USE CODE: **SSNEWSWIRE8**

Valid 8/1/26 – 8/31/26 Online & in-store only. Excludes gift cards, shipping, and advancement. Limit 1 per customer. Cannot be combined with other offers. Customer must present coupon and be present at checkout. No cash value. Void where prohibited.

TIP OF THE Month

Small invitations make a big impact. A personal invite from a Scouting family is often the best recruitment tool, so encourage your Cub Scouts to ask a friend, share what they like about the program, and help welcome new families into the fun!

IMPORTANT Reminders!

FREE RECRUITER STRIP

Scouting is better with friends! Scouts who invite a friend to join the adventure can earn a free Recruiter Strip once their friend signs up. Stop by your local Scout Shop to learn more and help Scouts share the adventure with their friends.

MULTILINGUAL PRINT-ON-DEMAND HANDBOOKS

Language should never be a barrier in Scouting. Ask your local Scout Shop team about multilingual handbooks to support new Scouts and their parents on every step of the journey.

IN-STORE MONTHLY OFFERS STOP IN & SAVE!

2 WAYS TO SAVE ON UNIFORMS

SAVE 10%
ON UNIFORM BOTTOMS WHEN YOU PURCHASE ANY MATCHING UNIFORM TOP.*
OFFER VALID 7/27/26 - 12/31/26

OR

SAVE 20%
WHEN YOU PURCHASE A FULL UNIFORM.*
OFFER VALID 7/27/26 - 10/31/26

*RESTRICTIONS APPLY. QUALIFYING ITEMS AND FULL UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS VARY BY OFFER. SEE ASSOCIATE FOR DETAILS. VALID FOR CUB SCOUTS, SCOUTS BSA, AND VENTURING.

NEW ARRIVALS THE RIGHT GEAR FOR EVERY ADVENTURE



CUB SCOUT RANK TEES

SKU: 665996, 666000, 666005, 666010, 666015, 666019

Fresh rank-inspired styles that let Cub Scouts show their pride beyond the uniform.



CUB SCOUT STRING BAGS

SKU: 665902, 665903, 665904, 665905, 665906

New glow-in-the-dark string bags—crafted for every Cub Scout rank—are the perfect travel buddies for your Cub Scout! Easy to grab and fun to carry, these polyester drawstring bags are made for meetings, activities, and everyday adventures.



2026 COLLECTOR'S BUCKLE

SKU: 665924

A collectible keepsake made to celebrate the year in Scouting style.



SCOUTING AMERICA HATS & TEES

SKU: 665932, 665889, 665956

New everyday styles made for Scouts, leaders, and families on the go. Ask Associate about the full assortment!



STAY CONNECTED

with Scout Shop by **signing up for text alerts** and following **@ScoutShopBSA** to be the first to hear about new arrivals, limited-time deals, upcoming events, seasonal highlights, and important updates.
**Restrictions apply.*

SCAN HERE TO SIGN UP FOR TEXT ALERTS



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!

Scouting America
Pathway to Adventure Council

Follow Us

@PathwayToAdventure

@PathwayToAdventure

Pathway To Adventure Council

Pathway To Adventure Council

Contact Us

(312) 421-8800

PathwayTo.Adventure@Scouting.org

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