

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Scouting  America.
Pathway to Adventure Council

2026

JUNE



IN THIS ISSUE:

2 Day Camp

3 Popcorn

4 Commissioner's Corner

5 Camp

- Betz Cub Scout Family Camp
- Volunteer at Betz
- Cub Scout Resident Camp
- Reneker at Owasippe
- Scouts BSA Camp
- Owasippe MAXED

7 Events & Activities

- Declaration of Independence
- Chicagoland Speedway
- Medical Learning Series
- Fly Fishing
- National Youth Leadership
- Plumbers Merit Badge

- Bud Billiken Parade
- Chicago Labor Day Parade
- Mexican Independence Day Parade

10 Scout Games

- Baseball - Dogs
- Baseball - Thunderbolts

11 Training

- Leader Field School
- IOLS
- BALOO

12 Special Events

- Silent Auction
- Transportation & Logistics
- Whitney M. Young Jr.

13 Council Committees

- Faith Relations
- Special Needs Scouting

15 Recruitment Readiness

16 Invest in Character

17 Award Nominations

- NESA
- Alumnus of the Year
- Silver Beaver

18 Order of the Arrow

- Recently Elected
- New Induction Experience
- Owasippe Fellowship
- OA at Owasippe
- NOAC 2027

19 Scout Shop



ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Calling all Cub Scouts, family, and friends! Looking for a family-friendly Saturday to spend with your Scout and their friends? Join us at Cub Scout Day Camp this summer to investigate the great outdoors at a location near you! Participate in themed events, crafting, STEM projects, range & target activities, games and more! Every participant will take home a commemorative Day Camp item.

2026 SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, JUNE 6 9AM - 3PM

Orland Park
Christ Lutheran Church

SATURDAY, JUNE 13 9AM - 3PM

Munster, IN
Robert J. Welsh Center for Scouting

SATURDAY, JUNE 20 9AM - 3PM

Burr Ridge
St. Helena Episcopal Church

SATURDAY, JUNE 27 9AM - 3PM

Oak Lawn
Columbus Manor Park

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1 9AM - 3PM

Schaumburg
Our Saviour's United Methodist Church

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8 9AM - 3PM

Park Ridge
Catherine Chevalier Woods Picnic Grove #3

FUN ACTIVITIES!

- Nature Exploration
- Curious Experiments
- Outdoor Skills
- Arts & Crafts
- Range & Target Activities
- Friends & Family Fun

2026 FEES

Scouts	\$35
Siblings & Friends	\$35
Adults	FREE




SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT
PATHWAYTOADVENTURE.ORG/DAYCAMP/
Questions? Contact PTACdaycamp@gmail.com



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"**

1. 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

2. 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
- Ordering and inventory basics
- Frequently asked questions

KERNEL 101

3. Register for a Popcorn Training

Popcorn Trainings provide important updates, program information, sales strategies, opportunities to ask questions before the season begins, and the chance to collect all your selling materials.

2026 Training Dates:

- July 11 – New Leader Training (Zoom)
- July 25 – Munster Service Center
- July 26 – Arlington Heights Service Center
- July 29 – Berwyn Moose Lodge

KERNEL TRAINING

COMMISSIONER'S CORNER

Simpler Unit Renewal

Scouting America announced an important change at the recent National Annual Meeting to simplify the membership and unit renewal process. By February 2028, all members and all units will have a single, common renewal month of February. This change is in response to feedback from unit leaders and other Scouters who asked for a simpler, more consistent renewal experience.

Key updates include:

- Beginning September 2026, all units due for renewal will renew to February 2028.
- All memberships and unit charters will have a common renewal month of February by February 2028.

To simplify the process and in response to unit leaders' requests, Scouting America is returning to unit control of member renewals. If the unit does not renew a member, that member may renew themselves after the unit-only period closes.

To support the transition during 2026 and 2027:

- Beginning in September 2026, new and renewing units will use the standard charter fee plus pro rata fees through February 2028.
- There will be no changes for new and renewing members through 2026.

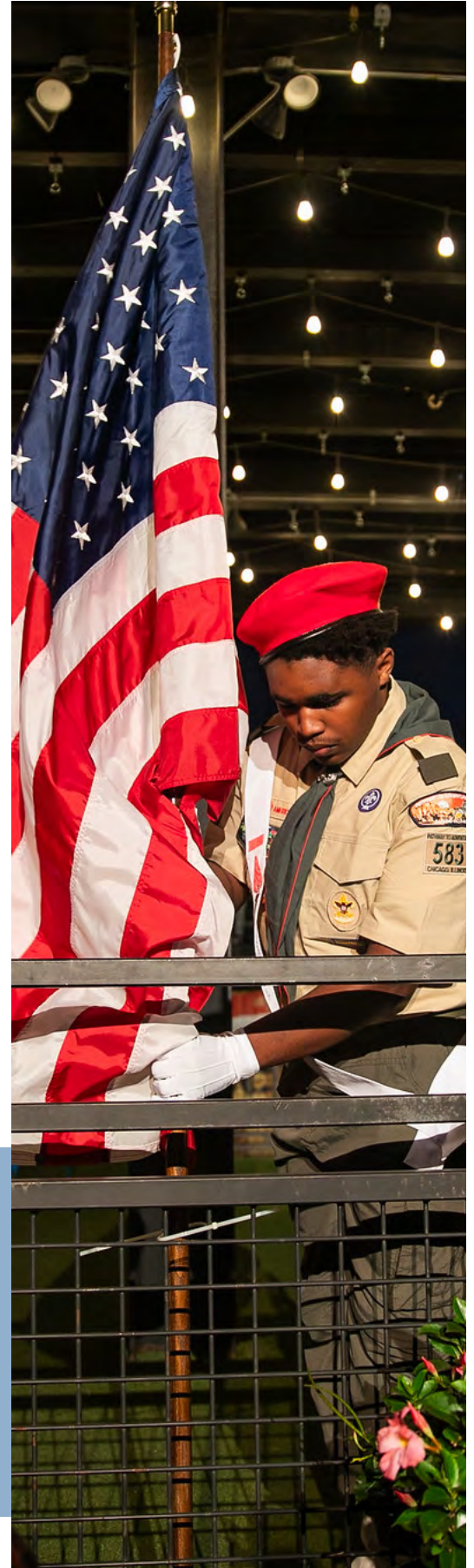
This is great news so please look for additional guidance and implementation details during the transition period. This is a significant operational change designed to reduce complexity and create a more streamlined experience for volunteers, families, and our council.

**Yours in Scouting,
Jim Honan – Council Commissioner**



We are thrilled to welcome Jim Honan as our new Council Commissioner. Jim has an extensive Scouting background — having served as President of the Des Plaines Valley Council and Central Region Area 7 Vice President of Membership, and earning the Silver Beaver, Wood Badge, and District Award of Merit.

We look forward to his leadership and welcome him warmly to this new role!



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

Volunteer at Betz!

We are seeking Youth (14+) and Adult (18+) volunteers to join our Family Camp staff. The best part? You can staff for just one weekend or all six – the choice is yours.

Available staff roles include:

Waterfront, Archery, Range, Dining Hall, Handicraft, Singers, Program Directors, Group Guides, Firebuilders, Color Guard, Memory Makers, and more!

This is also a wonderful opportunity to make it a Troop event! We encourage units to volunteer together and share in the experience.

Staff Benefits:

- Exclusive staff T-shirt and patch
- Community service hours
- Air-conditioned cabin accommodations
- Meals Included
- The opportunity to be a positive role model and lasting influence for Scouts

Questions? Contact PTAC.Betz.FamilyCamp@gmail.com
— we'd love to hear from you!

REGISTER HERE



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](#)



EVENTS & ACTIVITIES



Declaration of Independence

Saturday June 6, there will be an all-day celebration of the signing of the Declaration of Independence in Washington Square Park (901 N Clark St)

A hand sewn replica of George Washington's Revolutionary War tent will be pitched at 9:00 AM and remain open for visitors until 4:00 PM. Throughout the day, guests can explore exhibits, interact with hands-on displays, meet costumed interpreters, and attend presentations by historians from the Museum of the American Revolution.

Schedule:

9:00 AM – Tent raising (children and families are welcome to participate)

10:00 AM–4:00 PM – Exhibits, displays, and presentations

10:00–11:00 AM – Scott Stephenson and Emily Sneff discuss George Washington's tent and the Declaration's journey

2:00–3:00 PM – Danielle Allen and Scott Stephenson discuss Dr. Allen's new book, *Radical Duke*, and the Declaration's journey



Scouts Camp Weekend at Chicagoland Speedway

July 3-5, Chicagoland Speedway in Joliet

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

To register contact Lauren Russo at lerusso@chicagolandspeedway.com or call 815-722-9709.

REGISTER 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 in July and the series will begin in the Fall. These sessions will fill up fast!

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES



Fly Fishing Merit Badge

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.

Five sessions are available, all sessions are 8:30am-4pm at Camp Sagawau Environmental Education Center & Maple Lake (Cook County Forest Preserves) Space is limited—register early!

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

CONTACT HERE

MORE INFO HERE



National Youth Leadership Training

Ready to grow as a leader? National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) is an engaging, 6-day experience where Scouts develop real-world leadership skills through hands-on activities, teamwork, and challenges, all while having a great time! Work alongside fellow Scouts, tackle leadership scenarios, guide projects, and build the confidence to lead with purpose.

NYLT goes beyond Scouting. The skills you gain, such as communication, collaboration, and problem-solving, will carry into school, work, and everyday life. You'll leave with new perspectives, meaningful connections, and memories that last well beyond the course.

REGISTER HERE



Merit Badge Clinic: Plumbers Local 130

Saturday, June 6 — 9am-4pm — 1340 W Washington Blvd

Scouts age 13+ are invited to a unique, hands-on Merit Badge Clinic hosted by Plumbers Local 130 in Chicago on Saturday, June 6. Participants will complete prerequisites ahead of time and finish the day with both the American Labor and Plumbing Merit Badges.

Scouts will complete: American Labor and Plumbing.

REGISTER HERE

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES



Bud Billiken Parade

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](#)



Chicago Labor Day Parade

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.

Parade step off time is scheduled for 11:00 a.m.

The parade route will tentatively begin on E 112th Street and S Ewing Avenue, heading north on Ewing. More information about the route will be provided closer to the parade date. Eddie Fest will follow the parade at Steelworkers Park.

[REGISTER HERE](#)



Little Village 16th Street Mexican Independence Day Parade

When: Sunday, September 13 at 12 p.m.

Where: 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](#)

SCOUT GAMES



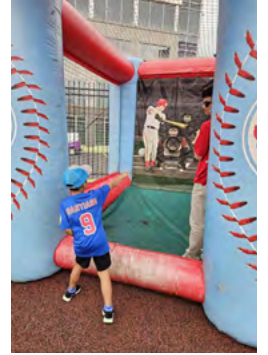
Baseball Chicago Dogs

Saturday, June 13 – 6pm – Impact Field

- Chicago Dogs Hat and Scout Night Patch
- Raingutter Regatta and parade on the field before the game and
- Postgame fireworks show

Questions, contact shaunv@thechicagodogs.com or call 224-781-1808

TICKETS HERE

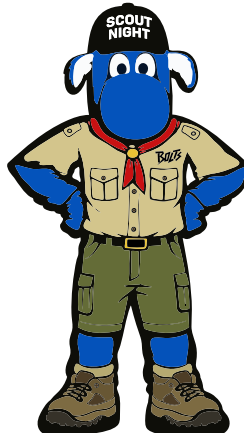


Baseball Thunderbolts

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



TICKETS HERE

Use Code: ADVENTURE



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 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](#)



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](#)

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*

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

EMAIL US HERE

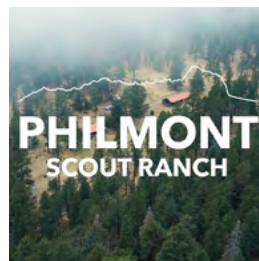


Pathway to Adventure Council ranked 6th as a top council with 246 Scouts registering for the event. **If you participated but didn't register, you can still do so through until June 30, 2026.**

Over 14,700 Scouts registered. [See https://www.scoutsreadsacredtextsworldwide.org/](https://www.scoutsreadsacredtextsworldwide.org/) for more statistics and information. Kudos to the individuals and units that participated.

REGISTER HERE

Upcoming Events



Philmont Summer Adult Trainings

- Adult Trainings are available at Philmont Scout Ranch this summer.

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](http://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



2026 Jamboree! Summit, July 22-31, 2026

- Faith in Scouting will be represented at National Jamboree in the Faith and Beliefs Area. Visit your faith's tent to see what activities they have planned for you.

MORE INFO HERE

SPECIAL NEEDS IN SCOUTING

June is National Migraine and Headache Awareness Month.

For Scouting America, it is a crucial time to review safety protocols, educate troops on symptom recognition, and promote hydration to ensure that outdoor adventures remain safe and enjoyable.

The Facts: Migraines vs. Headaches

Migraines are not just “bad headaches”—they are complex neurological diseases that can last for days, causing throbbing pain, nausea, and severe sensitivity to light and sound.

Common Trail Triggers

On summer campouts, head pain is often triggered by preventable trail factors:

- **Dehydration:** Insufficient water intake.
- **Overexertion:** Pushing without proper pacing or rest.
- **Sun Exposure:** Lack of head or eye protection.
- **Skipped Meals:** Low blood sugar leading to head pain.

Prevention & Action: The SAFE Checklist

Use the following action steps to integrate headache safety into troop planning:

- **The Buddy System:** Encourage buddies to rest and hydrate if they report dizziness or mild pain.
- **Nutrition First:** Keep healthy snacks on hand and plan meals for steady energy.
- **First Aid Prep:** Pack sunglasses, broad-brimmed hats, and approved over-the-counter pain relievers.
- **Track Health:** Keep the Annual Health and Medical Record (AHMR) updated regarding recurring conditions.

For more information on recognizing and managing neurological pain, [visit the American Migraine Foundation](#).

CONTACT US

sns@pathwaytoadventure.org

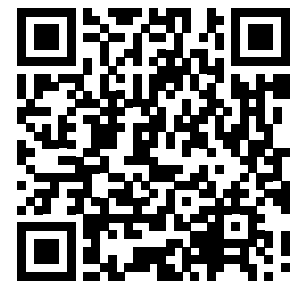
Troop Leaders or parents are welcome to contact the SNS Committee for further information

PTAC SPECIAL NEEDS IN SCOUTING WEBPAGE



[pathwaytoadventure.org/
special-needs-in-scouting/](https://pathwaytoadventure.org/special-needs-in-scouting/)

NATIONAL SPECIAL NEEDS IN SCOUTING WEBPAGE



[scouting.org/resources/
disabilities-awareness/](https://scouting.org/resources/disabilities-awareness/)



RECRUITMENT READINESS

Welcome to your June monthly Membership newsletter article. As we welcome summer's arrival, this month's article will touch on promoting Scouting America through Summer Activities and National Night Out along starting to prepare for your Fall Recruitment Readiness. There will be additional information shared on our Membership Website, July & August PTAC Newsletters and at our July and August Roundtable Kick-offs.

Summer Activities: During the Summer, we need to have a Scouting presence in our communities by participating in parades, festivals, and other local events. At our Service Centers, we have postcards, gliders, silicon wrist bands, book markers and other recruitment materials to support your participation in your community events. We have a limited supply of Canopies, Feather Banners, Polycore cutouts, Sandwich Boards, Tables, and Tablecloths available at our service center if you decide to have a Scouting Booth. Please work with your District Executive to pick-up all supplies that you would need when you are out in your communities. Please remember, these events should be focused on increasing the awareness and interest of our Scouting Program. These events are to "plant the seed", which will lead to a successful Fall Recruitment.

National Night Out (NNO): 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 cities participating within PTAC. [Please go to the NNO website \(https://natw.org\)](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.

Fall Recruitment Readiness: Last month, you should have reached out to your school's principal to learn when they plan to have their Welcome Back to School, Sign-up Nights and Open House so your unit can have a table at these events.

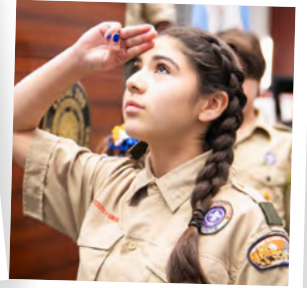
At our July and August Roundtable Kick-offs and in the PTAC July Newsletter, we will discuss how to prepare for Fall Recruitment. The first step any unit should take is to ensure that your BeAScout Pin is active and current, which includes all pertinent contact information. Most important, your Pin Mode should be set to "Allow Units to Update Pin information" so you can make the necessary updates. If your pin is set to "Council Mode", [please reach out to your District Membership Chair, your District Executive, or myself \(arrek1@hotmail.com\)](mailto:arrek1@hotmail.com) so we can change this designation to allow your unit to make all updates to your unit's pin. All remaining toggles have their own unique significance, but each unit can decide which toggles should be turned on. A rule of thumb, a unit should have all these buttons turned on, so a new family has multiple options to contact you and to see your additional unit information. If the "Appear on BeAScout" toggle is off, then your unit will not appear on BeAScout.org and you will be invisible to all families searching your community for a Scouting unit.

Online Leads and Applications: Please monitor your online leads and applications on a weekly basis as parents will be reaching out to request more information or apply to your unit after they see you at any of the events mentioned earlier in this newsletter article. Please ensure that your BeAScout Pin is active and contains events where you plan to be within your neighborhoods and communities. **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**

INVEST IN CHARACTER



IIC - Fueling the Adventure!

We continue to make great progress on our Invest In Character campaign for 2026. We are coming to a close on presentations to units and are moving forward with mailings to families in all units who have not had a chance to participate as of the end of May.

Did you know Pathway to Adventure Council operates as a self-funded, non-profit organization supported entirely by local families and the community? All of your support allows Scouting to continue to operate locally in a way that is welcoming, inclusive, and accessible for all families and youth.

Below is an update as to where we stand on our campaign. Thank you to all of our presenters and our donors who have been most generous so far this year!

Community Gifts: 79%
Family Gifts: 72%
Leadership Gifts: 101%
76% to our 250,000 Goal!

GOAL:

\$250,000



2026 Exclusive IIC Gifts!



Gifts \$1,000 or more will receive all gifts plus a PTAC Picnic Blanket!



AWARD NOMINATIONS



NESAs Outstanding Eagle Scout Award

The NESAs 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 at the local, state, or regional level or who were known nationally for their professional and scouting 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, who enable Scouting to remain healthy for future generations. Potential recipients may be nominated based:

- Career or avocation, such as achieving high honor or distinction in their profession.
- Community service, including contributions to Scouting or other community efforts.
- Scouting promotion, contributing significantly to the promotion, and/or advancement of the Scouting America alumni program and activities at a council level over a sustained period of time through word and/or deed.

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

Direct any questions and submissions to: ptac.nesa@gmail.com

FORM HERE



Silver Beaver

Do you know a Scouter who has distinguished themselves in Scouting and the community? The Silver Beaver Award is intended to acknowledge noteworthy service of exceptional character to youth by registered Scouters including but not limited to Cub Scouters, Scouts BSA, Venturing, Sea Scouts and Exploring leaders 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

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



OA At Owassippe

Brotherhood will be offered this year at Owassippe along with weekly arrowmen gatherings and callouts! For more information check out your unit leader guide to camping at Owassippe.

New Induction Experience

At the Spring Fellowship on May 1-3 Takhone Lodge will be running one of the first across the nation conducting the new induction experiences for new members elected into the OA. Some of the changes include the induction experience focusing on retention and creating connections between scouts, along with an increased focus on OA history rather than Native American culture. All inductions from now on will follow this new model including the OSR Fellowship. Any current OA members have the opportunity at fellowships to go through the new induction experience if they are interested, and can indicate such in their registration.

Owassippe Fellowship

OSR fellowship will take place on May 22-25 at Owassippe. Newly elected arrowmen can also complete their induction experience during this weekend and then join in with the fun afterwards! New Arrowmen will help set up OSR for summer camp during the day and participate in fun activities in the afternoon and evening.

REGISTER HERE

NOAC 2027 Application & Fundraiser

The National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC) is coming! 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 aren't sure if you have already submitted the form, please email me at vcfinance@oa7.org.

REGISTER HERE

SCOUT

SHOP

June

NEWSWIRE

YOUR DIRECT LINE TO THE LATEST ARRIVALS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

STEP INSIDE YOUR LOCAL SCOUT SHOP

and you can feel the spark of adventure. Whether you're planning a celebration or your next campout, our experts will help you gear up for whatever's next.



STORE ASSOCIATE GUIDANCE & EXPERTISE

UNIFORM SIZING & FITTING

SEWING SERVICES

SCOUT ESSENTIALS & BRANDED GEAR

SAVE \$10
ON ANY PURCHASE \$50+

USE CODE:
SSNEWSWIRE6

Valid 6/1/26 – 6/30/26 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.

CURRENT & UPCOMING

Events!



SIGN UP FOR TEXT ALERTS

Be the first to hear what's new at Scout Shop. Get new arrivals, limited-time deals and important updates sent straight to your phone. Sign up today and stay in the know!

*Restrictions apply.

GIFTS FOR FATHER'S DAY

Celebrate the dads and mentors who make every adventure better with thoughtful gifts from your local Scout Shop—apparel, keepsakes, accessories, and everyday favorites he can enjoy on the trail and beyond.

JAMBOREE PRE-SALE ENDS 6/20

Time is running out to grab limited-edition Jamboree merch before the big event! The NJ26 pre-sale store closes June 20. Shop now to lock in exclusive souvenirs, patches, accessories, and more before you go. Miss the pre-sale? Even more event-only exclusives will be waiting for you at the NJ26 Trading Post!



SUMMER MUST-HAVES

Whether you're packing for camp, relaxing outdoors, or looking for fun ways to fill those quiet moments between adventures, your local Scout Shop has the essentials for an epic summer.

CELEBRATE AMERICA'S 250TH BIRTHDAY THIS SUMMER

Gear up for a summer of red, white, and Scouting pride with patriotic apparel made to mark this once-in-a-generation milestone. Visit your local Scout Shop for keepsakes that honor America's 250th and learn how your Scout can earn the Liberty in Action: 250th Anniversary Challenge patch!

IN-STORE MONTHLY OFFERS **STOP IN & SAVE!**



25% OFF*
**THORLO
SOCKS**
WHEN YOU BUY 2+
May 3 – June 27



25% OFF*
**GSI
OUTDOORS**
June 26 – July 6

* Offers valid while supplies last.

NEW ARRIVALS **THE RIGHT GEAR FOR EVERY ADVENTURE**



**ADD-A-PATCH BINDER BAG
+ HOOK & LOOP STICKERS**
SKU: 665851, 665163

Designed like a laptop-case— with a hook & loop felt panel made to show off your patches wherever you go. Pair it with the Hook & Loop Sticker Set to display patches of any shape or size.



PACK MEETING DECK
SKU: 665916

Compliments the Den Leader Packs—shop the whole collection and make meeting plans simple, easy and FUN!



**SCOUTING AMERICA
PONYTAIL CAP FOR GIRLS**
SKU: 665668

Designed for girls who want comfort, shade, and easy ponytail-wearing options on every Scouting adventure. The larger back opening lets hair sit comfortably while keeping the cap secure and adventure-ready on the trail.

STAY CONNECTED **DON'T MISS A THING**



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

Outdoor **TIP OF THE MONTH**

SUMMER CAMP CHECKLIST

A great campout starts before you leave home. Review your packing list early, check your uniform and gear, label personal items, and make sure Scouts have the essentials for sun, rain, hydration, and a full summer of adventure.



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