



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®  
PATHWAY TO ADVENTURE COUNCIL



# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

## APRIL

# COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## NEW CHICAGO SERVICE CENTER

The new Chicago Service Center is now in operation and is located on the corner of Washington Boulevard and Aberdeen Street at:

**106 N Aberdeen Street, Suite 200  
Chicago, IL 60607**

Please be patient as we are still working out some kinks (i.e. buzzing into the building and access to the suite). If you need to meet with any of the staff, please make sure you make an appointment so that someone from the staff can meet you.

## SHARE YOUR SCOUT STORIES

Our Scouts are doing amazing things every day and we want to hear about them! Did your troop have an incredible campout? Do you have an amazing Eagle Project to share? Or simply want to share a memory or experience?

Click the link to share your story!

[Click Here](#)





# SPOTLIGHT



Congratulations to Xavier Ntamere for being named the National Service Territory 6 recipient of the Glenn A. and Melinda W. Adams Eagle Scout Service Project of the Year Award for 2023. The NST winners will now be reviewed and a national winner selected in early May.



## SCOUTING FOR FOOD

This new year, start out by putting the **Scouting for Food** dates in your unit calendar - **April 15 & 22!** Last year, we were able to collect over 130,000 pounds of donated food for our local food pantries! Please join us again this year to make an even bigger impact!

**April 15, 2023 - Scouts will canvas their neighborhoods**

**April 22, 2023 - Scouts will collect donations**

[Sign Up Here](#)

# REGISTRATION FOR CAMP AND SUMMER ACTIVITIES ARE OPEN!

**MORE INFO ON PAGE 8**

## REQUEST A CAMP PROMOTION PRESENTATION

We want to visit your unit and share the exciting summer opportunities available to you and your Scouts! Let us know when you are meeting, hosting an event, or enjoying an adventure and we will join you to promote the fun you all could be having this summer in Scouting!

[Sign Up Here](#)

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**By the time you receive this, you will have heard the good news: the BSA's bankruptcy reorganization plan has been approved on appeal. It is good to have that almost behind us. Time to refocus and rebuild.**

Every strong structure has a cornerstone. Sometimes the cornerstone needs to be reinforced to ensure sustainability of the edifice. Pathway's cornerstone needs reinforcement. **Today I am pleased to share with you the broad contours of Pathway's 5 year strategic plan, Reinforcing the Cornerstone.**

The plan is based on the work of three task forces, each chaired by members of our Executive Board:

**Marketing:** Goals include developing innovative consistent core messaging for each of our target audiences (Scouts, families and benefactors), efficient and effective distribution through mainstream and social media, empowering districts and units to amplify the message, and operating on a test and learn basis.

**Fund Development:** Near (18 mo.) and longer term (5 year) mission-focused goals include re-engaging our closest friends, connecting with new benefactors (individuals, foundations, government agencies), assigning accountable champions for every initiative, and measuring progress.

**Strategic Plan:** In addition to the foregoing, the plan is designed to achieve growth in membership recruitment and retention, financial stability (realigning our relationships with key financial institutions, appointing an Investment Committee of the Executive Board, creating an investment policy, and rethinking FOS, all with a better than break even mentality), world class programming and unique events, strong chartering relationships, and Council leadership succession.

Our staff are developing metrics for tracking our progress toward attaining each of these goals and will be assigning responsibilities for their accomplishment. Each of you - our leadership groups, districts, units, volunteers and Scouts - will have a role in achieving these goals and Reinforcing Pathway's Cornerstone.

Throughout this process, we will continue growing together and remain open to all.

**Stephen Schwab**  
Council President





# COMMISSIONER'S CORNER

## Youth Protection Training Policy

The Youth Protection Training policy that took effect on 01/01/2023 has been a success. PTAC was 89% YPT compliant in January 2023 and ranked 194 out of 248 councils. Thanks to former Council Commissioner, Diane Kloepper, and Director of Field Service, Mike Hornung, who purged the list, **PTAC reached 100% YPT compliance by March 1st and ranked #1 out of 248 councils who reached 100% YPT compliance.**

## Safety in Scouting

There is an emphasis on Safety Moments. Safety Moments are brief discussions or training sessions on a particular subject for safety preparation or review usually provided in the beginning of a meeting. It is not only for Roundtable Commissioners to teach on safety, but the Unit Leaders should also focus on safety moments in their meetings before camping or participating in an activity.

The Guide to Safe Scouting provides an overview of Scouting policies and procedures gleaned from a variety of sources. Unit Leaders are expected to review the Guide to Safe Scouting reference material prior to conducting Scouting activities. Please review Guide to Safe Scouting at the link below.

[Guide to Safe Scouting](#)

## Bringing our Program to Underserved Areas

Did you know that we have a new Cub Scout Pack that started in Maywood this past January, 2023? This new Pack is important because there are no units in Maywood or Packs in the Maywood, Melrose Park, Broadview, Bellwood, or Northlake area! Pack 4078 has already participated in the Forest Park St. Patrick's Parade. Thanks to Cubmaster Jessica Jones and Committee Chair Shekila Paxton who are running the Maywood Pack which is sponsored by the Maywood School District 89.

## Bertha Guzman

Council Commissioner



# ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

## PHILMONT 2024

Pathway to Adventure Council is sponsoring a 2024 Council Contingent Trek to Philmont Scout Ranch in Cimarron, New Mexico. The contingent will depart Chicago on July 6 and return on July 20. The per person fee, estimated to be \$2,500.00, will include the Philmont registration fee, all trip transportation, Shakedown Weekend, Taste of Philmont, 10 mile Shakedown Hike, Philmont belt & buckle, trail tee shirts, a laundry bag for transporting a backpack, and more. **Registration closes on April 27, 2024.**

[More Info Here](#)



## CUB SCOUT PINWOOD DERBY!

Calling all Cub Scout Pinewood Derby Racers from across the Pathway to Adventure Council! Join us on Sunday, April 16th, 2023 at the Woodfield Mall in Schaumburg, IL for an enormous Pinewood Derby competition in speed and design. Up to 36 Cub Scouts per Pack may be entered. Click link for design rules and more information.

[More Info Here](#)





## YOUR FAMILY'S FINANCIAL FUTURE: A SEMINAR BY WINTRUST

Scouts and their families are invited to participate and learn about two important financial topics, fraud prevention and college savings, as taught by our partners at Wintrust. This seminar session will take place on April 29th from 10am to noon at Wintrust Corp Headquarters (9700 W. Higgins Rd., Rosemont, IL 60018). Register now for this free learning opportunity, no walk-ins will be allowed.

[More Info Here](#)

## ADVANCEMENT WEBINAR ON AUTISM

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a neurological condition that affects how the brain operates and impacts many aspects of life. In general terms, autism affects communication and social skills, the perception of risk, the ability to self-organize, and how sensory input is managed.

It has been estimated that somewhere between 1 in 15 and 1 in 20 Scouts are on the spectrum. This means most Scout units have one or more Scouts on the spectrum. Join us on April 20 at the PTAC Advancement Webinar where we will discuss the characteristics of autism and the strategies for making the Scouting program work for these youth.

[More Info Here](#)



## RECYCLE WITH UNITED SCRAP METAL & HELP RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES OF CHICAGOLAND AND NW INDIANA

Do a good turn. Save the date and start saving your aluminum cans NOW for Saturday, October 7th. United Scrap Metal will open its doors to our Scouts and their friends and family to tour a real recycling center. Some Sustainability MB requirements get met by attending this event. Proceeds from the cans are donated to Ronald McDonald House Charities of Chicagoland and NW Indiana.

[More Info Here](#)



# CAMPING



## RENEKER FAMILY CAMP

Did you know your family could have an adventure at Owasippe Scout Reservation while your Scout is enjoying their time with the troop? Reneker Family Camp offers family sized cabins and fun for the entire family. Enjoy horseback riding, hikes, pool time, campfires, themed activities for kids of all ages and MORE!! Don't just let your Scout have all the fun; join in! See you this summer at Reneker Family Camp!

[More Info Here](#)



## CUB SCOUT DAY CAMP

Calling all Cub Scouts, family, and friends! Make the most of your summer with Cub Scout Day Camp! We are offering multiple Saturday opportunities to enjoy the outdoors with us at a location near you. Expect many exciting themed activities, crafts, shooting sports, and games!

[More Info Here](#)



## BETZ CUB SCOUT FAMILY CAMP

Join us this summer for a remarkable safari adventure at Camp Betz Family Camp! Cub Scouts will get to experience all the joys of camping and exciting new activities with the comfort of their pack. Parents, guardians, and siblings are invited to join in on the fun as well! Register today to participate in this exhilarating camping opportunity sure to form long-lasting memories for you and your Scouting family.

[More Info Here](#)



## CUB SCOUT RESIDENT CAMP AT OWASIPPE

Attention Cub Scouts and families! You are invited to join the fun this summer at Owasippe Scout Reservation! Enjoy an action-paced adventure catered specifically for Cub Scouts that includes, boating, swimming, shooting sports, themed games and more!

[More Info Here](#)



# VOLUNTEER



## CUB SCOUT DAY CAMP

We are committed to offering several Saturday Day Camp experiences in 2023 at several locations across PTAC. To make this the best year for Day Camp yet, we need your help. Please complete the form to either express your interest in volunteering at one (or more) of the camps. Camps are held on Saturdays throughout the summer.

[Sign Up Here](#)



## OWASIPPE

This application is for anyone who is interested in serving in a volunteer capacity for a portion of the summer. This can include those wishing to serve for a week long period as a Volunteer Commissioner OR those wishing to serve for a specific number of days. Former staff wishing to serve or assist for a period of time must also use this application.

[Sign Up Here](#)



## BETZ CUB SCOUT FAMILY CAMP

This application is for anyone who is interested in serving in a volunteer capacity for a portion of the summer. Family Camp at Betz is a 100% volunteer staffed Camp. We are looking for Adults and Youth to staff one or more weekends of Family Camp. Youth 14 & older can staff without an Adult, but 11-13 year olds must be accompanied by a parent or Unit Leader.

[Sign Up Here](#)



## NATIONAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP TRAINING (NYLT)

Interested in putting your skills to use to deliver a fantastic NYLT program this summer? Youth and adults can still join us as staff! Youth must be registered with a unit, at least 14, and have completed an NYLT course. Adults must be registered, over 21, and Wood Badge is preferred but not required.

[Sign Up Here](#)

# TRAINING

## WOOD BADGE

Be Prepared. We all know what that means for the Scouts. For volunteer Adult Leaders, it means being prepared to lead our Scouts on their adventures in Scouting and life. Being prepared as a volunteer Leader requires Leaders to be fully trained. Wood Badge is the premier leadership training available in Scouting. Come join us for an action-packed and fun-filled course in the Fall of 2023! Leaders from Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing, Exploring and Sea Scouts are encouraged to attend. Registration is open and the staff looks forward to enhancing your knowledge and skills to become a GREAT LEADER. Imagine the difference that you can make in the lives of our Scouts with the best training available.

[More Info Here](#)



## Wood Badge

The ultimate adult training for Scouters! Rivals any corporate leadership course available.

**Sign up Now**

**Be a Great Leader !**

**September 22-24 and  
October 21-22, 2023**





## NATIONAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP TRAINING (NYLT)

Youth members can participate in an exciting, action-packed program designed to impart valuable leadership skills and experiences they can use in their home units and many other situations! Two courses will be offered at the beautiful Camp Frank Betz in Berrien Springs, Michigan during the weeks of June 11 and June 18.

[More Info Here](#)



## BASIC ADULT LEADER OUTDOOR ORIENTATION TRAINING (BALOO)

BALOO is the Cub Scout leader training required for any den or pack outdoor event. This practical portion of the two-part training is an overnight camping experience and will cover GPS, aquatics, gear selection, nature & hiking, outdoor ethics, cooking & sanitation, first aid, cub scout knife safety and more! Join us on either March 18th at Camp Oakarro or April 22nd at Rainbow Scout Reservation.

[April 22 Session](#)

## CHAINSAW SAFETY TRAINING & CERTIFICATION

Pathway to Adventure Council is looking to increase the number of dedicated volunteers and professional that help us maintain the tree work at our two camps.

[More Info Here](#)



# SPECIAL EVENTS



## CEREMONY SCOUTS WANTED - METALS MAY 11TH & SEPTEMBER 21ST

Don't miss these opportunities to display your unit's civic pride. In addition, to the lovely pictures you will capture of your Scouts, the evening is a gastronomical treat for leaders and Scouts alike. RSVP to [Myriam.Herrera@Scouting.org](mailto:Myriam.Herrera@Scouting.org)!

[More Info Here](#)[Email Form Here](#)

## 2023 SPORTING CLAYS CLASSIC

Experienced and novice shooters alike are encouraged to attend on Friday, August 18, 2023 at Palos Sportsman's Club. This Sporting Clays Event proudly supports the mission and services we provide for over 13,600 youth in Chicagoland and Northwest Indiana. All shooters will receive a gift, breakfast, and a tail gate lunch. Adults only!

[More Info Here](#)

## 2023 GOLF CLASSIC

Mark your calendars for Monday, June 5, 2023 to participate in our Council Golf Classic! Don't miss this opportunity to golf at an exclusive and prestigious Chicago area private golf and country club! All friends & family of the Boy Scouts of America are welcome!

[More Info Here](#)

## 2023 GEORGE MEANY AWARD CELEBRATION

Join us on Tuesday, June 20th for the 2023 George Meany Award Celebration! We are honoring Bill Niesman, Business Manager of IBEW Local 9 for his impact in the community. Reception begins at 6 PM at Premier Catering in Countryside, IL.

[More Info Here](#)



# ORDER OF THE ARROW



## CONCLAVE

Mark your calendars for the Section G9 Conclave! This section-wide event will take place at Camp Big Timber from April 21st-23rd and include inter-lodge competitions, log splitting, tomahawk throwing, pioneering, branding, and more! There will also be informative trainings on inductions and specialized trainings for lodge leaders, adults, and new arrowmen. Registration is open—use promo code "EVf42k" to get \$7 off the registration.

[Register Here](#)



## OFFICER ELECTIONS

Elections for the Key 7 officers will be held at the Spring Fellowship at Camp Betz on May 5-7. All who are interested in running should complete the officer candidacy form and hand it in to the Lodge Adviser, Patrick Wilson, or your chapter adviser (if you're running for a chapter key 3 position).

[Form Here](#)



## SPRING FELLOWSHIP AT BETZ

Are you ready to blast your groove into space? Then sign up for the first Fellowship of the year at Camp Betz from May 5th to May 7th! The Spring Fellowship committee is hard at work planning a space-disco themed event. Highlights will include astronaut and 70's themed food, a star party, lodge elections, and more!

[Register Here](#)



## OWASIPPE FELLOWSHIP

Registration is live for the Owaspippe Fellowship! Come on out to OSR on Memorial Day weekend (05/26-05/29) to help set up Camp Blackhawk and Camp Wolverine and enjoy some fun and fellowship

[Register Here](#)

# CAREER CORNER



## SCOUT SCHOLARSHIP

The Construction Industry Memorial Scholarship is accepting applications from any graduating senior in the Pathway to Adventure Council. Previously reserved for Eagle Scouts only, the \$1,000 award is renewable for the Scout's four years of college.

Applications are due June 31, 2023.

[More Info Here](#)





## DO YOU HAVE A SCOUT STORY YOU WOULD LIKE 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!**

[Submit Story Here!](#)



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## CONTACT US



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[PathwayTo.Adventure@Scouting.org](mailto:PathwayTo.Adventure@Scouting.org)



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617 E. Golf Road Suite 101  
Arlington Heights, IL 60005

### **Chicago Center for Scouting**

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

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

811 W. Hillgrove Avenue  
La Grange, IL 60525

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

8751 Calumet Avenue  
Munster, IN 46321