

Scouting Today

FEBRUARY 2026

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE CORNHUSKER COUNCIL, SCOUTING AMERICA

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CONGRATULATIONS! 2025 END OF YEAR RECRUITMENT CHALLENGE!

Congratulations to Pack 55, Salt Valley District, for leading the way and recruiting six new Cub Scouts into their unit during the end-of-year recruitment challenge! Pack 55 earned:

- Free Climbing Wall session at the OEC
- \$500 discount for the unit to attend a resident camp at Camp Cornhusker 2026.
- Cake and ice cream party for a unit function.

Pack 55 is chartered by the Willard Community Center in Lincoln.

WATCH FOR AN EMAIL! ANNUAL SPIN TO WIN EVENT, MAR 22ND

Congratulations to the first 100 Scouts that qualified for the Spin to Win. You get to participate in our 11th Annual Spin to Win Event! Come out for great prizes (Lego's nerf, Camping Equipment, and more!!), food and fellowship - and enjoy the fun as we celebrate your sales and leadership to the 2025 Council Popcorn Sale.

This event is for the qualifying Scout and one adult, as seating is limited to this number of guests.

The event is on Sunday, Mar 22nd, 2pm, at the OEC in the amphitheater!

Qualifying Scouts will receive an email with the code to register.



REGISTER NOW! GAME RETREAT, FEB 21ST



Come on out to the OEC for Game Retreat! Bring your own games or join another game. Games allowed:

- Board Games
- Card Games
- Dice Games
- Role Playing Games
- NO ELECTRONIC GAMES, SYTEMS, OR DEVICES

When: Saturday February 21st, 2026. 9:00 am to 10:pm

Who: Youth and Adults - **Invite a friend to join Scouting!** Come as an individual. Come as a patrol, Come as a unit.

Where: Cornhusker Council Outdoor Education Center. 800 South 120th Street, Walton NE

Register here: [Cornhusker Council - Cornhusker Council OEC Cabin Fever Gamefest 2026](#)

SCOUT ANNIVERSARY DAY - SCOUT SUNDAY, FEB 8TH

Chartered organizations can celebrate Scout Sunday on any day in February that best serves the chartering partner. Some organizations choose the Sunday that falls before February 8 (Scouting Anniversary Day) as the date to recognize the contributions of young people and adults to Scouting. This year, Scout Anniversary Day falls on Sunday, Feb 8th. For others, Scout Sunday is celebrated on the second Sunday in February. It is permissible for a local church to celebrate on the day most acceptable to the pastor and congregation.



Ideas - wear your uniforms and sit together, serve as ushers, lead a prayer and serves as a liturgist, set up a Scouting display in the foyer, ask members of the congregation who were Scouts to stand up, hold your troop's Court of Honor or Pack's award ceremony immediately following the service, or formally present your unit's charter to your place of worship. These activities not only honor the faith of Scouts but also provide an opportunity for community engagement and service.

NEW SUMMER CAMP OPPORTUNITY! DISCOVER THE ADVENTURE OF CAMP CORNHUSKER BROWNSEA WILDERNESS CAMP! JUNE 21-27, 2026

Step into the heart of Scouting at **Camp Cornhusker Brownsea Wilderness Camp**, where new Scouts begin their journey and experienced Scouts sharpen their skills—all in an unforgettable outdoor setting. *Where Scouts Begin Their Journey—and Discover Who They Can Become.*



What Makes Brownsea Wilderness Camp Special

- A true **wilderness-style camp** focused on outdoor living and Scout skills
- Hands-on learning in camping, pioneering, orienteering, American Indian Cultures, Scouting Heritage, nature, wilderness survival, first aid, and teamwork
- Patrol-based program that builds confidence, leadership, and independence
- Experienced, enthusiastic staff dedicated to helping Scouts succeed

Built for New Scouts. Perfect for All.

Brownsea Wilderness Camp is the ideal introduction to Scouts BSA, helping new Scouts advance while learning the fundamentals of Scouting the way it was meant to be—outside, active, and fun. Returning Scouts will enjoy challenges that strengthen leadership and outdoor mastery.

More Than a Camp

At Camp Cornhusker Brownsea, Scouts don't just earn requirements—they build friendships, self-reliance, and a love for the outdoors that lasts a lifetime.

Join the Adventure

Spaces are limited, so don't miss the chance to experience Scouting at its best.

Special pricing for Scouts who will attend Scouts BSA Resident Camp with their Troop!

CORNHUSKER COUNCIL - CAMP CORNHUSKER BROWNSEA WILDERNESS CAMP

IN MEMORIAM - ANNA RUTH MILLER (JULY 28, 1924 - JANUARY 10, 2026)

We were saddened to hear of the loss of long-time Scouter, Anna Ruth Miller. She was born in Espyville, PA and grew up on a dairy farm with her four brothers and one sister. Growing up on a Pennsylvania dairy farm with a variety of livestock, she learned to love animals, especially horses, which she trained and rode. The farm had large gardens and crop fields where she learned about plants and became an expert gardener. The love of gardening stayed with her all her life. She helped in tapping maple trees on the farm and making maple syrup and candy was a fall activity. They sold and shipped maple syrup to many places, including Nebraska. She met her husband, Melvin Miller, who was in the US Air Force. They moved to Lincoln when he was stationed at the old Lincoln AFB. During this time she became a Den Leader for her son's Cub Scout Pack. Ruth always preferred outside work to inside work and Scouts lovingly knew her as "Mother Nature" as she taught them to forage for edible plants, roots and berries to survive the outdoors. Ruth was active in Scouting for over 55 years, where she served in numerous Unit, District, and Council positions. Ruth was a District Award of Merit recipient and was awarded the Silver Beaver Award in 1992.

Ruth was a woman of deep faith and an active member of Christ Temple Mission Church in Lincoln, NE for over 70 years, where she served many roles in the church. Ruth dedicated her life to Jesus and began a life of service. From helping with services at the City Mission, picking up children and elderly for church, to choir member, Communion Steward, playing the piano or organ, to playing her harmonica for special music. She grew a church garden for all to partake.

Ruth was very musical. She played the piano, violin, mandolin and harmonicas and of course she whistled. At home on rare occasions, they would gather around the piano to sing hymns.

Ruth worked many jobs to help support her family. She worked for a paint company that had a whistling choir of which she was a part. She could whistle just about anything including many varieties of birds. She worked for a time as a night detective for a small firm. But her heart was in nursing. Ruth worked in many nursing homes and eventually became a geriatric nurse doing private duty nursing in homes and nursing homes.

Ruth understood Jesus' command to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, visit the prisoners, and the sick. It was not unusual for Ruth to take in whole families in need who had been burned out or down on their luck. It was not unusual for her to feed a homeless person on her back porch. She helped countless people by sharing whatever she had. When her teenage children asked her why she helped people who would never help her in return, she always said, "What would Jesus do?" This was long before the WWJD slogan became popular. She was involved in Prison Ministry at the State Penitentiary for over 60 years. Ruth was involved in Legal Aid Society where she eventually became president. Ruth and Velma Jones started a ministry called Food Net to help feed those in need.



CAMP CORNHUSKER NEWS

Camp Cornhusker is your camp!

Camp Director: Sammi Lowery (campcornhuskerbsa@gmail.com)

Staff Advisor: Will Cover (william.cover@scouting.org)

Overview : Camp Cornhusker : Camping & Activities : Cornhusker Council, BSA



SPRING 2026 BEAVER DAY DATES ARE SET!

Come out and help Camp Cornhusker set up for the upcoming camping season. Everyone is welcome to come help. We do need a head count, so please sign up (and your unit if will be camping). Spring 2026 dates are:

- March 28-29
- April 11-12
- April 18-29
- April 25-26



One of the main projects this spring is to sandblast and paint the pool during the March 28-29 and April 11-12 dates. Come on down for this, or a host of other important projects, to get camp ready for its 70th anniversary this summer! Troops can use a Beaver Days work weekends as a credit for Honor Troop next year at Camp Cornhusker. Scouts can also log non-Eagle service hours.

GET YOUR TROOP PLAQUE READY FOR 2026!




SCOUTS BSA RESIDENT CAMP REGISTRATION IS OFFICIALLY OPEN FOR SUMMER AT CAMP CORNHUSKER! Secure your spot for one of the most memorable weeks of your Scouting year. Merit badge sign-ups are now available, so Scouts can start planning which badges they want to work on during camp!

Week 1: June 7th- June 13th, 2026

Week 2: June 14th- June 20th, 2026

Register & choose your merit badges here:

<https://scoutingevent.com/324-101501>

Campsite Sign Ups Camp Cornhusker 2026			
	Week 1		Week 2
	June		June
	Session 1		Session 2
CAMP SITE			
Bear			
Beaver	56		
Bobwhite			
Cheyenne			
Commanche	296		377
Crow			
Eagle	8		54
Fox			
Kiowa			40
Mandan	22		
Missouri	78		
Omaha	220		
Osage			
Otoe			
Ponca			30
Wichita	223		142
Winnebago			49
Lakota			
Ft. Atkinson			

Use this video to help promote camp in your unit: [CAMP CORNHUSKER PROMO](#)

SAFEGUARDING YOUTH

VP Administration-Enterprise Risk Management Committee: Joy Citta

VP Risk Management: Mark Collins

Assistant Council Commissioner: Mitchell Locken

Council Training Chairman: Mike McCullough



ANNUAL HEALTH AND MEDICAL RECORD

The Scouting adventure, camping trips, high-adventure excursions, and having fun are important to everyone in Scouting—and so is your safety and well-being. Completing the Annual Health and Medical Record is the first step in making sure you have a great Scouting experience.



Scouting America's Annual Health and Medical Record (AMHR; often known as the "medical form" or "annual physical") is designed to help ensure that all participants in the Scouting program are healthy enough for the adventure of Scouting. It is not intended to limit participation but to inform and protect.

To keep up with possible changes in health status, the form needs to be updated annually or when a participant's health information changes. The record expires in one year.

The four-part form serves as a single place to document a participant's medical history and recent medical examination. It also provides consent for treatment in the event a participant needs emergency care while traveling away from a parent or guardian.

Parts A and B should be completed for all participants and Scouting leaders. Part C should be completed by a licensed health care provider (M.D., D.O., N.P., or P.A.) before the participant attends any Scouting event that is longer than 72 hours, such as a summer camp, trek, or multiday excursion.

The optional "High Adventure Risk Advisory" (formerly known as Part D) needs to be shared with the examining medical provider during the pre-participation examination to explain known health risks for each of Scouting America's four high-adventure bases. Additionally, your council may develop a risk advisory specific to your council camps or other properties or events.

The forms should be maintained by a designated leader. To assure privacy, the forms should be carefully stored and used only as needed to provide for planning and rendering care. The AHMR should not be scanned, stored, or sent electronically except as specifically directed for a Scouting America national event such as the national jamboree or NOAC.

Neither Scouting America nor the Annual Health and Medical Record are subject to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). A Scout is Trustworthy: Records and sensitive information should be maintained in a private manner.

For more information: [Annual Health and Medical Record | Scouting America](#)

YPT EXPIRES, MAY 31ST 2026

As a reminder, the "old" youth protection training expires May 31, 2026. Ensure you complete the new Safeguarding Youth Training prior to that. This is critical for timely completion of your unit's renewal in July.

SUPPORT YOUR COUNCIL

(info@cornhuskercouncil.org)

FRIENDS OF SCOUTING 2026 CAMPAIGN & 2026 GOLD STAR UNIT

For 116 years, Scouting has immersed young people in the lives of their communities - teaching them practical skills to have fun in the outdoors, encouraging them to serve others and developing their leadership skills so they continue to make a difference as they grow. The 2,000 plus Scouts of the Cornhusker Council are tomorrow's leaders. Our communities are better places because of the effects of the Scouting program, but we all know that Scouting doesn't just happen on its own. It takes the dedication of our adult volunteers, who share their time, talent, and energy with our Scouts, and it takes financial support from families, supporters and the community.



2026 FOS Campaign

This funding comes first and foremost from the Friends of Scouting charitable giving campaign and the Council membership fee (new in 2026). Those two programs total less than one quarter of the delivery cost. Additionally, the Council relies on other sources of income to provide our annual operating budget. Popcorn sales provide about 25% of the Council's annual revenue. Camping/Activities add another 24%, while foundations and other miscellaneous revenue account for another 20%. That leaves about 31% of the Council's financial needs to be provided through direct fundraising - our annual Friends of Scouting campaign and other special fundraising events.

Become a Gold Star Unit

Units qualify for this program from the date they complete their Unit Family FOS Goal, and the other qualifiers as listed below, if the presentation is held, the unit goal is met, and paperwork is turned in and processed between November 1st, 2025, and April 25th, 2026. They are eligible to receive the incentives until March 31st of the next calendar year. Of note, Resident Camp discounts must be used in the year earned calendar.

How do you qualify for the Gold Star Unit Finance /performance Incentive Program?

Currently our unit FOS goal is based on your December 31st, 2025, youth membership multiplied by \$100. It is critical that every family participates to the best of their ability and that each unit strives to grow.

To achieve Gold Star unit status in 2026 you will need to do the following:

- Have completed an in-person detailed coaching meeting with your Unit or District Commissioner in the first quarter of the year (By April 1)
- Achieve a 90% or higher Full trained leader status for the unit by April 25
- Complete Unit online commitment form for the 2026 Council Fundraising: Packs must commit to 2026 Fall popcorn Sale - Troops and Crews commit to either 2026 Fall Popcorn Sale or 2026 Spring online sale.
- You can commit to Popcorn and the Spring online sale here: [Sign up to sell Popcorn](#)
- Meet or exceed your Unit Family FOS goal in 2026 before April 25,

Gold Star Unit Incentives

- Cub Scout Pack Incentives - Awarded a Gold Star unit ribbon to display from unit flag
 - Free Rank Advancement Patches (This does not include belt loops; rank patches only)
 - 10% discount on a single unit order from the shop in May or June (any merchandise)
 - Free (one weekend) single campsite rental at the Outdoor Education Center (this applies to site rental only. All other fees still apply)
 - Free (one weekend) rental of a single campsite at Camp Cornhusker
 - 5% Discounted youth fees for Cub Resident, Webelos Resident Camp must register as unit
 - 5% Discounted adult fees for Cub Resident, Webelos Resident Camp must register as unit
 - One Free Adult for Cub Resident or Webelos Resident Camp at Camp Cornhusker must register as a unit
- Scout Troop and Crew Incentives Awarded a Gold Star unit ribbon to display from unit flag
 - Free Rank Advancement Patches (This does not include Merit badges, rank patches only)
 - 10% discount on a single unit order from the shop in May or June.
 - Free Eagle Recognition Kits
 - One Free Adult at Scouts BSA Resident Camp (Camp Cornhusker)
 - 5% Discounted Youth and Adult Fees at Scouts BSA Resident Camp (Camp Cornhusker)
 - Free (one weekend) single campsite rental at the Outdoor Education Center (this applies to site rental only. All other fees still apply)
 - Free (one weekend) rental of single campsite at Camp Cornhusker

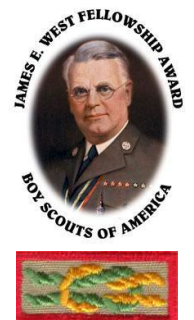
*The Gold Star discount for Resident Camps can only be applied to the camp fee prior to final payment. The Gold Star Discount cannot be applied to the early bird rate. It may only be used to reduce the regular or late fee rates.

*** Double your FOS goal and receive a Free Wall Climb for the Unit at the OEC, and free unlimited Campsite Rental at the OEC and Camp Cornhusker (subject to availability and scheduling)

JAMES E. WEST FELLOWSHIP AWARD

A James E. West Fellowship gift will help ensure the future of Scouting's outstanding character-building programs. Gifts made to the endowment fund will last in perpetuity. The interest from this special fund will be used to support the Cornhusker Council's values-based programs. The award includes a personalized certificate, a lapel pin, and an embroidered square knot.

[James E. West Fellowship : Ways to Support : Support Scouting : Cornhusker Council, BSA](#)



EXPLORING, VENTURING, SEA SCOUTS

Exploring: Jason Hellmuth (info@cornhuskercouncil.org)

Venturing: Tom Rolfes (trolfes_77@yahoo.com)

Sea Scouts: Tom Rolfes (trolfes_77@yahoo.com)



JOIN EXPLORER POST 575

Explorer Post 575 is in full swing and there is room to join! The program is FREE and open to those 14-20 years old interested in learning more about law enforcement. Contact Jason Hellmuth or the Council Office at info@cornhuskercouncil.org



Exploring exists to teach important life and career skills to young people from all backgrounds through immersive career experiences and mentorship provided by community and business leaders like you. Together, we equip young people with character, leadership and life skills that can be used both today and in their future career. Scouts can be dual enrolled in a Scout Troop and an Explorer Post. If there are other career areas outside of the Law Enforcement career that your Scouts may be interested in and would like to help start an Explorer Post, contact info@cornhuskercouncil.org.

SEA SCOUTS IN NEBRASKA? AYE AYE, CAPTAIN!

Sea Scout units- called ships- are established across the country on oceans, bays, rivers, and lakes. They provide limitless opportunities and exciting challenges that you won't find anywhere else. Sea Scouting is an inclusive program through Scouting America for all youth aged 14-21 (co-ed) (or 13 and completed the 8th grade). Youth can be dual registered in a Troop and a Ship. Cadets can still earn their Eagle Scout and the Quartermaster Award.

We have a sailboat, we have adult leaders, we need you! If you are interested, contact Tom Rolfes or the Scout Office (info@cornhuskercouncil.org).



VENTURING IN THE CORNHUSKER COUNCIL

Venturing is an inclusive (co-ed) youth-led program (ages 14-20) all about building adventures with your friends. Choose to do activities that matter to you and develop essential skills like leadership, event-planning, organization, communication, and responsibility while having a blast! Everyone has that moment that opens their eyes to a bigger world than they ever imagined. It might happen while paddling a quiet lake, bonding with new friends around a beach bonfire, or rising to the challenge of leading an exhausted crew to the edges of adventure. Venturing empowers you to create your own experiences while bringing Scouting values to life through high adventure outdoor activities and challenging real-world projects. We continue to grow our Venturing program. Interested? Contact us!



SALT VALLEY DISTRICT

Committee Chair: Jim Buehler (svdistcommchair@gmail.com)

Commissioner: Bill Lang (wlang50@gmail.com)

Executive: Drew Wicks (andrew.wicks@scouting.org)

<https://www.cornhuskercouncil.org/aboutus/cornhusker-council-districts/salt-valley-district.html>



SALT VALLEY DISTRICT RECOGNITION DINNER, FEB 28TH

We are excited to invite you to a special celebration honoring the remarkable achievements of our Eagle Scouts and the dedication of our Scout leaders in the Salt Valley District.

This is a wonderful opportunity to come together and recognize the hard work, commitment, and perseverance that our Scouts have shown in earning the prestigious Eagle Scout rank, as well as the incredible guidance and support our leaders provide to help shape the future of these young men and women.

Come share in the pride and joy of our Scouts' accomplishments and thank the leaders who help make these achievements possible. We look forward to seeing you there!

Sign up here to attend: [Cornhusker Council - Salt Valley District Dinner](#)

SALT VALLEY MERIT BADGE CLINIC HELD JAN 17TH

The Salt Valley Merit Badge Clinic was held Jan 17th at Grace Lutheran Church in Lincoln. Over 120 Scouts were in attendance to work on several Merit Badges with their MB Counselor. Many thanks to Faye Oakes and her team for putting on this spectacular event! Also, thanks to Curt Mann and Grace Lutheran Church for hosting this event!



SALT VALLEY PINEWOOD DERBY, MAR 28TH

Register up to 12 cars from your Pack for the race division and 12 car for the show car division. Council rules will apply.

When: Saturday March 28th, 2026

Where: St. Mark's United Methodist Church -- Family Life Center, 8550 Pioneers

What Time: Racers Grand Entrance at 9:00 a.m.

Mandatory Check-in: Friday, March 27th, 2026, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Races Begin: Immediately following Grand Entrance and National Anthem (approximately 9 15 a.m.).

Trophy Presentation: Approximately 2:30 p.m.



For more information: [Cornhusker Council - Salt Valley District Pinewood Derby](#)

PRAIRIE WINDS DISTRICT

Committee Chair: Russ Ebke (pwdistrictchair@gmail.com)

Commissioner: Lonnie Pohlman (lpohlman@gmail.com)

Director: Will Cover (william.cover@scouting.org)

<https://www.cornhuskercouncil.org/aboutus/cornhusker-council-districts/prairie-winds-district.html>



PINEWOOD DERBY, MAR 22ND

Mark your calendar NOW for the annual running of the Prairie Winds District Pinewood Derby! Gymnasium at St Joseph School York NE.



Race schedule:

- 1:30pm-2:30pm: Check In & Inspection of race and show class cars
- 2:45 pm-3:00 pm: Opening & Flag Ceremony
- 3:00pm: Race Begins
- 4:30pm (or at completion of the races) Awards Ceremony for Cub Scouts)
-

Fee 15.00 per participant/car

Continue to check here for more details: [Cornhusker Council - Prairie Winds District Pinewood Derby](#)

PRAIRIE WINDS DISTRICT DINNER, APRIL 26TH



Mark your calendar NOW for the annual Prairie Winds District Recognition dinner and annual business meeting

Help us celebrate the 2025 Class of Eagle Scouts from the district, the recipient of this year's District Award of Merit and other special recognitions.

Backroom at the Pizza Kitchen in Milford NE

Doors open at 5:00pm to mix and mingle, Dinner at 6:00 program to follow.

\$20.00m per person

SEVEN FEATHERS DISTRICT

Committee Chair: Peggy Nietfeld (Scouting@nietfeldfarms.com)

Commissioner: Richard White (rwhite4576@gmail.com)

Director: Will Cover (william.cover@scouting.org)

<https://www.cornhuskercouncil.org/aboutus/cornhusker-council-districts/seven-feathers-district.html>



MERIT BADGE UNIVERSITY, MAR 7TH

Classes are already open for next year's Seven Feathers District Merit Badge University at Southeast Community College in Beatrice.

Get signed up before the classes fill up! Sign up here: [Cornhusker Council - Seven Feathers Merit Badge University](#)



SEVEN FEATHERS DISTRICT DINNER MARCH 15TH

Mark your calendar NOW for the annual Seven Feathers District Recognition Dinner and annual business meeting Sunday March 15.



Help us celebrate the 2025 Class of Eagle Scouts from the district, the recipient of this year's District Award of Merit and other special recognitions.

Nebraska City Valentinos Private Dining Room.

Doors open at 5:00pm to gather mix and mingle, Buffett at 5:30pm. Program to follow.

Cost 25.00 per person.

Eagle Scout class of 2025 free with invitation code.

District Award of merit recipient and one guest free with invitation code.

Invitations coming via USPS ASAP.

DISTRICT PINEWOOD DERBY, MAR 28TH

We are pleased to announce that the 25th annual running of the Seven Feathers District Pinewood Derby will take place on March 28, 2026. At the Beatrice Municipal Auditorium, the District has been planning for both a Race and a Car Show, allowing 12 entries in each category from each pack- for a total of 24 entries from each pack.

Please be sure to bring at least one adult for every 3 Scouts (minimum of 2 Adults). Fee is \$15. Check here for updates: [Cornhusker Council - Seven Feathers District Pinewood Derby](#)



COUNCIL ACTIVITIES AND NEWS

ONLINE UNIT FUNDRAISER, SPRING 2026

You may have seen the digital, on-line sales campaigns we held over the Holidays (fudge, wreaths, and Stuckey's pecan candy) and for Valentines Day (See's Candy). We plan on offering this opportunity for units to hold a Spring on-line sale using this new digital product sales platform. This is a great opportunity for Scouts to earn money for camp! The specific product or vendor has not been selected; however, we are working on adding a local Nebraska vendor to the approved list.

What are the benefits in participating in an on-line sale? Your unit nor your Scouts don't handle any inventory! Your unit and your Scouts build their online storefront and simply share the link out and invite people to support Scouts. Once the order is made, the product is shipped directly to them from the vendor to the buyer. No product to handle! Timeline:

- Now through March: Unit sign up
- April: Training and set up Unit and Scout storefronts
- May: Sale dates

If your unit would like to participate in the digital, on-line sale, fill out the on-line form at the following link: [page : Digital Commit : Cornhusker Council, BSA](#)

ADULT LEADER TRAINING

Adult leader training is a cornerstone of our Council's ability to deliver a safe, meaningful, and values-driven program for youth. Well-trained leaders are better equipped to understand the aims and methods of Scouting, creating environments where young people can grow in character, citizenship, leadership, and personal fitness. Training ensures that volunteers, many of whom come from diverse backgrounds and experiences, share a common foundation in program delivery, youth development, and the mission of Scouting.



Equally important, adult leader training promotes safety, consistency, and quality across all units. Through structured education in youth protection, outdoor skills, and effective leadership practices, trained adults can confidently guide activities, manage risk, and respond appropriately to challenges. By investing in adult leader training, Scouting America strengthens its programs, supports its volunteers, and ultimately provides youth with the positive, life-shaping experiences that define Scouting.

Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO) training - almost 31% of our Packs (14 out of 46) do not have a BALOO trained leader according to the latest training report. BALOO is required to take your Cub Scout Pack on overnight camping trips. Kudos to Pack 223, Pack 25, and Pack 36 for leading the Council in BALOO training!

Adult Leader Training (all leaders, all positions) - Kudos to Troop 36 for having 92% of its leaders trained! Troop 36 leads the Council! 51 Units have 0-49% of its leaders trained; 34 units have 50-74% of its leaders trained; and 9 units have 75-89% of its leaders trained.

Direct Contact Leader Training - only 41.7% of our Direct Contact Leaders are trained. We need your help in improving these numbers. Direct Contact Leader positions include:

- Assistant Cubmaster
- Assistant Scoutmaster
- Assistant Den Leader

- Cubmaster
- Den Leader
- Explorer Post Advisor
- Explorer Post Associate Advisor
- Scoutmaster
- Venturing Crew Advisor
- Venturing Crew Associate Advisor

Safeguarding Youth Training - we have made significant gains in the SYT and are now in compliance with National standards! Thank you, leaders! 98.24% of our adult leaders have completed SYT, a significant improvement from three months ago! Of note, the "old" YPT training expires for everyone on May 31, 2026.

Several adult leader training courses are offered over the next few months and are included in this newsletter. If you have any questions, contact your District Executive or the Council Training Chair, Mike McCollough (scoutermike14@gmail.com)

NRA SHOTGUN BASIC TRAINING, FEB 28TH - MAR 1ST

This training is the first step in becoming a certified instructor/MB counselor for rifle, shotgun and pistol safety courses. This is the NRA Basic Shotgun course and teaches the basic knowledge, skills, and attitude for the safe and proper use of a shotgun in shooting a moving target. This course is at least 10 hours long and includes classroom and range time learning how to shoot shotguns at moving targets.



Cost of this standalone course is \$90.00

You will need to bring a sack lunch, pen and paper. Any personal firearms that are brought will be inspected by the instructors. DO NOT bring ammunition.

MUST have a minimum of 4 registrants to hold course.

Please also register online with the NRA for this course at: <https://nrainstructors.org/search.aspx>

ROHVA TRAINING AT THE OEC, MARCH 14TH

Working at Camp Cornhusker or the OEC and want to drive a Utility Terrain Vehicle (UTV)? RSVP now to attend the Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association's safety course on March 14th at the OEC. Participants must be 18 years or older. There is no fee to take this course, but a donation of \$20 is suggested to the Council to offset costs, such as fuel.



Participants must have:

- Jeans
- Closed toe shoes
- Long sleeve shirt

****You must have this certification in order to drive any UTV's on Scouting property.*****

Register here: [Cornhusker Council - ROHVA Training](#)

OUTDOOR PREPAREDNESS TRAINING, MAR 20TH - 21ST

Ready to elevate the experience for the Scouts in your unit beyond the weekly meeting? Your adventure starts with the Council's Outdoor Preparedness program.

By completing the Outdoor Preparedness program, you will earn your Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO) and Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS) certifications.

BALOO and IOLS aren't just training courses, they are your all-access pass to unforgettable outdoor adventures. These hands-on programs are designed to build your skills and confidence, ensuring you can lead your unit safely in the outdoors.



Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO)

For Cub Scout leaders ready to take their pack on an overnight camping trip, BALOO is an essential, hands-on training that includes an overnight campout.

What you'll get out of it:

- **Gain confidence:** If you're a new leader or have limited outdoor experience, BALOO will equip you with the knowledge to make your pack's first campout a safe and comfortable experience.
- **Create core memories:** Learn how to plan and lead successful, age-appropriate overnight adventures that Cub Scouts and their families will remember for a lifetime.
- **Master the essentials:** Go beyond the basics to master campsite selection, safe cooking techniques, and campfire programs that will spark every Scout's imagination.
- **Get connected:** Collaborate and share ideas with other leaders, building a network that will support your journey long after the course is over.

Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS)

For Scouts BSA, Venturing, and Sea Scouting leaders, IOLS is a critical training course that unlocks the secrets of delivering a top-tier outdoor program.

What you'll get out of it:

- **Unlock advancement:** Gain the practical outdoor skills needed to teach Scouts everything they need for their First Class rank, including:
 - Map and compass navigation
 - Fire-building and cooking
 - Using woods tools safely
 - First aid
 - Rope work, knots, and lashings
- **Level up your teaching:** Discover new and engaging ways to teach outdoor skills that will keep your Scouts excited and engaged.
- **Connect and learn:** Learn alongside other leaders in a dynamic, overnight camping environment, sharing best practices and forming lasting connections.

Lead your Scouts on an adventure they'll never forget. BALOO and IOLS are your foundations for delivering the promise of Scouting and creating a world of exploration for your unit.

Ready for the next step? After taking Outdoor Preparedness stay with us for one more day and take Outdoor Adventures. For more information and to sign up for Outdoor Adventures find the separate event on the Council Calendar.

**** If you have special dietary restrictions, please reach out to us ahead of time to discuss cooking and meal options.**

***All participants must take the BALOO Prerequisite Training online through my.scouting.org in order to get credit for both BALOO and IOLS, there is not a separate online prerequisite course for IOLS.

**** The courses require overnight camping, tents are required. Please see the attachment section for items you will need.

If there are any questions, please let us know!

Register here: [Cornhusker Council - Outdoor Preparedness](#)

OUTDOOR ADVENTURES TRAINING, MAR 21-22

Already completed the Council's Outdoor Preparedness and want to know more about putting on a successful and engaging outdoor program for the Scouts in your unit?

The Council's Outdoor Adventures program takes your learning to the next level by enabling you to understand some basic aspects of adventure planning, advanced camping, and next-level programming. This course is taught by scouters that have experience with all of Scouting America's high adventure bases and with planning their own high adventure trips within their unit. During the course we cover various topics building on the skills and knowledge learned in the Outdoor Preparedness program. During the course we will cover a number of subjects related to gear, planning, and additional considerations when your unit wants to participate in high adventure or simply wants to take their camping experience to the next level.

Topics:

Gear selection- Things to consider when choosing gear for your next adventure, including

Backpacks Tents Hammocks

Clothing and footwear Camping stoves/burners

How to do business in the woods and much more!

Food selection, preparation and cooking in the outdoors

Meals on the trail, with various cooking stoves and methods:

Dutch Oven Meals

Hammock camping

Considerations for the different genders when in the outdoors

How to plan a high adventure trip for your unit and considerations that need to be made whether you are going to an established high adventure base, or you are planning your own trip hiking, canoeing, climbing and so on.

Servant leadership

Ongoing Service in Scouts (Wisdom and Practice)

An example of Scouts Worship Service

This course is meant to be an informal learning space where we can answer any questions you have regarding equipment and planning. Please bring your questions, and be prepared to share your experiences, and gather knowledge from other Scouters.

Register here: [Cornhusker Council - Outdoor Adventures](#)

NRA BASIC INSTRUCTOR TRAINING, MAR 21-22

This training is the first step in becoming a certified instructor/MB counselor for rifle, shotgun and pistol safety courses. Cost of this standalone course is TBD. Check the link for updates.

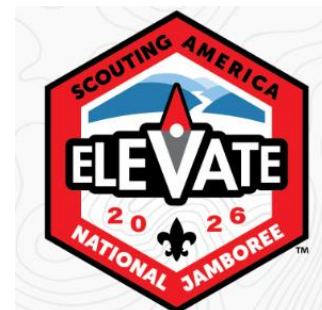
Participants will need to bring a sack lunch.

For more information and to register: [Cornhusker Council - NRA \(BIT\) Basic Instructor Training](#)



2026 JAMBOREE - REGISTER NOW!

The 2026 National Jamboree will be held at Summit Bechtel Reserve, WV from July 22-31, 2026. The National Jamboree is a gathering of thousands of members of Scouting America, usually held every four years and organized by the National Council of Scouting America. ***We only have a couple of spots left in our Council Contingent!*** Sign up soon! For more information, contact Will Cover (william.cover@scouting.org).



For more information-

Cornhusker Council Jamboree Link: [2026 National Jamboree](#)

National 2026 Jamboree Link: [Home - National Jamboree](#)

Council Contingent Guide: [2026 National Jamboree Council Contingent Guide Fall 2024-Master](#)

WOODBADGE 2026! APR 10-12 AND APR 25-26, 2026

Welcome to Cornhusker Council Wood Badge Course 5-324-26-1!

Wood Badge is the premier adult training in Scouting America. In Wood Badge you experience the scouting program, learn leadership skills, and practice teamwork in the patrol method, all while living the values of scouting.

Created by Lord Baden-Powell at Gilwell Park in England, today Wood Badge is offered around the world. Across the two weekends of Wood Badge, you begin your experience as a Cub Scout and cross over to a Scouts BSA Troop, gaining the perspective of a youth and deepening your understanding of the Scouting America program. While portions of the course take place camping, the focus is not outdoor skills and scoutcraft, but rather on leadership and team building. You learn both the theory of leadership and the tools of leadership in ways that not only strengthen your contribution to scouting, but also to your personal and professional life. Don't be surprised if you find yourself applying lessons learned in Wood Badge to improve the communication and team effectiveness in your day-job as well!

Past participants explain why you should take Wood Badge: <https://youtu.be/MEPvnpMLBA0>

Objectives of Wood Badge

- Enable you to view Scouting globally, as a family of interrelated, values-based programs that provide age-appropriate activities.
- Help you recognize contemporary leadership concepts that map to the scouting movement.



- Apply the skills learned as a member of a successful working team, both in and out of scouting. Revitalize your commitment to and recharge your enthusiasm for Scouting by participating in a shared, inspirational experience.

Practical Phase

The practical phase consists of five days of instruction across two weekends. During these two weekends you will become a member of a group, participate in presentations, learn skills, become an effective team, and have a great time doing it. The course is accessible to adults across the full range of ages, experience, and abilities. The following themes are covered in the practical phase:

- Living the Values—personifying the values; setting the example
- Growing—knowing and growing yourself first with a commitment to continuous improvement and lifelong learning
- Connecting—with other people
- Guiding—focusing on enabling and developing others
- Empowering—ultimately helping other people to become healthier, wiser, freer, more autonomous, and more likely, themselves, “to serve and to lead.”

Example session topics include vision, values, listening, managing conversations, leading change, the stages of team development, coaching & mentoring, servant leadership, and project planning.

Application Phase

After completion of the two weekends, you will work on your “ticket”, which are five goals you develop for yourself during the course. You have 18 months to complete your ticket, during which you put into practice the leadership skills you have just learned. Upon completion of the Wood Badge ticket, as certified by a ticket counselor and the Scout Executive, you will be presented with the Wood Badge neckerchief, woggle, and beads.

Participation Requirements

- Registered as an adult member of Scouting America, including current Safeguarding Youth Training
- Scouting America’s Annual Health and Medical Record parts A, B, and C (which requires a physical)
- A complete official Scouting America uniform appropriate to Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, or Venturing consisting of all of the following parts
 - uniform shirt
 - uniform pants, shorts, or skirt
 - uniform belt
 - uniform socks

Sign up here: [Cornhusker Council - Wood Badge](#)

WORLD SCOUT JAMBOREE, JULY 30-AUG 8, 2027, GDANSK, POLAND

Registration is now open for the 2027 World Jamboree! The World Scout Jamboree is held every four years at locations all around the world. The next World Jamboree will be held in Gdansk, Poland in the summer of 2027 and will have approximately 45,000 Scouts and leaders from over 140 countries in attendance. Participants must be between age 14-17 at the start of the Jamboree on July 30, 2027. Anyone older than that can apply to be a unit leader or on staff. Anyone younger than that will have to wait for the 2031 Jamboree in Denmark.

Here are two key websites:

The World Scout Jamboree website: <https://www.jamboree2027.org>

The US Contingent website: <https://wsj2027.us>



Registration

Registration is open. You can **register** as either a:

- Participant
- International Service Team (IST) member

Visit the contingent website to register: wsj2027.us

FAQ:

Event Dates:
July 30, 2027 - August 8, 2027
(there will be 4-5 day pre-tour)

Who can attend?
Scouts- born between July 30, 2009 and July 30, 2013
Adults (troop leaders, IST and CMT)
Born after July 30, 2013

The **estimated cost** for each role is:

Role	Estimated Cost
Participants and Unit Leaders	\$6,200 - \$6,700
International Service Team	\$2,900 - \$3,100



EARN YOUR RECRUITER STRIP! IT'S FREE!

The Arrow of Light badge of rank marks a major milestone in a Cub Scout's growth. The senior patrol leader badge represents one of the most important positions of responsibility in a Scouts BSA troop. And the Eagle Scout award symbolizes an incredible journey of perseverance.

But when considering the array of Scouting awards and recognitions available to young people, you can make the argument that one of them stand above all the others.

If you think about its ability to grow Scouting and introduce this life-changing program to new people, the Recruiter Strip might be the most important patch in Scouting.

It's also one of the easiest to earn.

How to earn the Recruiter Strip

The Recruiter Strip has just one requirement: recruit a friend into Scouting.

Any youth member – in Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing or Sea Scouts – who gets a friend, classmate or relative to sign up for Scouting can receive the red, white and blue patch.

Each Scout unit comes up with its own procedure for awarding the strip. In most packs, troops, crews and ships, the young person receives the strip the first time he or she successfully recruits someone into the unit.

Submit the completed form to the Scout Shop to receive the recruiter strip:
[250646 4x6 BoxStuffer UniformOffer+RecruiterStrip v2](#)

How to wear the Recruiter Strip

The embroidered cloth strip is worn on the uniform, below the right pocket.



REMINDER - UPDATE YOUR "PIN!"

Unit and District Leadership - please continue efforts to keep your Unit's "pin" updated in beascout.scouting.org. The ongoing National Marketing Campaign uses this website exclusively to link up potential new members ("leads") with local units. Nationally, 50% of all leads go unanswered! Our Council does not have that problem, but we need to maintain our current level of excellence by keeping our information on this site updated. **Unit leaders, be sure to follow up on ALL leads!**

HOW IS YOUR TROOP DOING?

Scouts BSA has an online self-assessment tool for troops. Previously, this was a PDF form, but it is now available in an online format. The program is not a patch or recognition initiative but a resource to help leaders identify their unit's strengths and challenges, providing real-time resources and relevant information to address concerns. The self-assessment should complement the Commissioners of Scouting America connection guides and serve as an effective discussion point. More information can be found here:

[Troop Self-Assessments - Troop Leader Resources](#)



GROW THE UNIT, GROW THE MOVEMENT

Thank you, for your continued efforts thus far to grow the Scouting movement in southeast Nebraska! Our membership goal is to serve 2,500 youth by December 31st. A few suggestions to build and keep the flow of scouts into your unit:

- * **Continue to invite prospective Scouts to troop activities.** Look for "Normal Friend Activities" - "Bring a Friend" events in your Unit's program. You never know what event will peak someone's interest.
- * **Update your online presence.** Make sure your contact info, meeting time, and location are current on your unit pin. Keep unit websites and social media pages up to date. Keep up with your invitation manager in my.scouting.org. Contact prospective recruits in a timely manner.
- * **Engage the parents as well as the Scouts.** We're recruiting them, too. Make sure you have a 'welcoming committee' for new parents who visit your Unit.
- * **Work together!** If your unit isn't the right fit for your recruit, invite them to visit a neighboring unit. Everyone's contact info is on beascout.org.
- * **Be a presence in your neighborhood.** If no one knows you're around, they can't join you.
- * ***Always be recruiting.*** Potential new Scouts are everywhere.

FOLLOW US!



(73) CORNHUSKER COUNCIL, BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA - YOUTUBE

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/CORNHUSKERCOUNCIL

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/CAMPCORNHUSKER

[CORNHUSKER COUNCIL, BSA \(@CORNHUSKERCOUNCIL\) • INSTAGRAM PHOTOS AND VIDEOS](#)

REGISTRAR'S UPDATE

* "How-to" guide for taking safeguarding youth training: [HOW TO TAKE SAFE GUARDING YOUTH TRAINING.PDF](#)

* STEPS FOR UNIT RENEWALS

1. Unit Key 3 Member Log on to my.Scouting.org, navigate to Organization Manager>Unit Renewal.
 2. Validate Information.
 3. Check your leadership positions and make sure you have the correct names in the correct positions.
 - a. The Chartered Organization Representative or delegate can use "Position Manager" also found in Organization Manager to edit and then wait overnight for the data jobs to run, then you can revalidate.
 4. E-Sign the Page.
 5. Unit Pin Review.
 6. Continue to Unit Renewal.
 7. Select payment method.
 - a. Pay online by Credit Card or ACH.
 - b. Follow prompts to use a saved credit card or add a new one.
 - c. Follow prompts to print summary sheet and pay at council.
 8. The annual charter agreement is mandatory and must be obtained outside of the electronic process. After completing the updated charter agreement, please file it in the unit's records at the council office. The unit renewal process is now complete- no further action is needed.
- Unit Renewal Job Aids and Videos can be found at scouting.org/renewals. These tools will walk you through the process step by step.

* STEPS FOR UNIT RENEWING THEIR MEMBERS

1. Unit Key 3 Member Log on to my.Scouting.org, navigate to Organization Manager>Roster.
2. Select the members you want to renew.
3. Create renewal orders. Review/select the positions to renew for each person. Create renewal orders.
4. Select payment method: Pay online by Credit Card or ACH. Follow prompts to use a saved credit card or add a new one.

* STEPS FOR PARENT RENEWING THEIR YOUTH'S MEMBERSHIP

1. Log on to my.Scouting.org.
 - a. If the parent/guardian does not have a my.Scouting.org account, an account must be created in the parent/guardian name. Visit <https://my.scouting.org/> to create an account. You will need the scout's member ID number to link to the parent/guardian account. The member ID number can be provided by the Unit leader, Committee chairperson or unit membership chair (or from the membership renewal emails you should have already received).
 - I. Only the parent/guardian that is linked to the scout will be able to renew them when it is time for the annual renewal.
2. Click on the notification icon (should have a "red" notification symbol).
 - a. You can only renew one youth member at a time.
 - b. Follow prompts through renewal process and e-sign for renewal.
3. Select payment option.
 - a. Pay online - Follow prompts to pay by credit card. You have now completed the process for this youth member.
 - b. Pay at the office - Follow the prompts to print the document and submit it with payment to the local council office.
4. Repeat the process for each youth family member.

* STEPS FOR ADULTS RENEWING THEIR MEMBERSHIP

1. Log on to my.Scouting.org.
 - a. If you've never logged on before you will need your member ID number and create a login username and password. You can get the member ID number from your unit leader, committee chairperson, unit membership chair (or from the membership renewal emails you should have already received).
2. Click on the notification icon (should have a "red" notification symbol). Follow prompts to e-sign for renewal.
3. Select payment option Pay online - follow prompts to pay by credit card. You have now completed the process.

Additional Resources:

➤ Job Aids and Videos can be found at scouting.org/renewals. These tools will walk you through the process step by step.

* SCOUTBOOK+ PERMISSIONS MANAGER

Permissions Manager is a tool within Scoutbook+ that will allow you to move leaders from one registered/functional position to another. Changes will be reflected within 24 hours.

The following can move registered leaders in ALL positions:

- Chartered Organization Representative
- COR/CUR Delegate
- Council Unit Representative

The following can move registered leaders into MOST positions (EXCEPT Chartered Organization Representative, Council Unit Representative, COR, Committee Chair, Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, Venturing Crew Advisor, Skipper, COR Delegate, Exploring Post Advisor):

- Committee Chair
- Cubmaster
- Scoutmaster
- Venturing Crew Advisor
- Skipper
- Exploring Post Advisor
- Key 3 Delegate

SCOUT SHOP NEWS

CORNHUSKER COUNCIL SCOUT SHOP

1. Order Online with the Cornhusker Council Scout Shop! Buy local! We are set up with our new online ordering system that goes directly into the Cornhusker Council Trading Post email. A unit can upload their advancement form for rank advancements and browse for other advancements and items needed. Uniform etc. Units will click Cornhusker Council to place their order and we try to fill it within 24 hours. [Internal Forms - Customer Online Order Request Tool](#)

2. BACK IN STOCK! Sioux City Sarsaparilla in the Scout Store! Stop by the OEC later this summer and get one of your camp favorites!



3. We offer free shipping on orders over \$125. (Handbooks do not apply).

4. Can't make it into the shop before 5pm? That's okay! Email your order to the Scout Shop (Cornhusker.tradingpost@scouting.org), let us know you will be picking up after hours, once the order is filled, we will contact you for payment options, and set your items in the pick-up box outside the Scout Shop. You are then able to come by and pick up at your convenience.

5. Didn't you get your Camp Cornhusker swag? Stop on by the Scout Shop where we have several specialty items from camp available!



6. Leuenberger Lavender for sale in the scout shop! Support one of our own local farmers!



7. OWN A PIECE OF CAMP CORNHUSKER HISTORY!

The latest batch of hiking sticks are in the OEC Trading Post. The one on the right is cedar, the one in the middle is locust and the rest are ash. After the extensive tree trimming work at camp this fall (we were especially sad to see the Ash trees die...doggone ash borer!), Kevin Potter decided to make some limited-edition Camp Cornhusker walking sticks.



8. Do you have any Cub Scout uniform shirts tucked away in a closet or drawer, no longer in use?

We're collecting gently used uniform shirts to help Scouts in need who may not have the resources to get one of their own. Your donation can make a big difference for a Scout who's just starting their journey! If you have a shirt to donate (any size!), please bring it to the Scout Shop.

Let's help every Scout feel proud and included in uniform! If you have a new Scout that needs a uniform, stop on by the Scout Shop and ask! We also have a lot of camping equipment available to help 'fit out' a new Scout.

COUNCIL & DISTRICT CALENDAR OF EVENTS (LINK: [Cornhusker Council](#))

February 2026

- 4 (C) Properties Committee Meeting
- 5 (PWD, SVD) District Roundtables
- 8 (All) Scouting Anniversary Day and Scout Sunday
- 12 (SFD) Roundtable
- 13-14 (C) Woodbadge Staff Development
- 16 (C) President's Day (office & Scout shop closed)
- 19 (7FD) District Committee Meeting
- 21 (C) Cabin Fever Gamefest 2026
- 24 (SVD) District Committee Meeting
- 26 (SVD) Eagle Board of Review
- 28 (C) NRA Shotgun Basic
- 28 (SVD) District Dinner

March 2026

Feb 28 - Mar 1 (C) NRA Shotgun Basic
4 (C) Properties Committee
5 (SV/PW) Roundtable
7 (SFD) Merit Badge University
12(SFD) Roundtable
14 (C) ROHVA Training
14 (C) Woodbadge Staff Development
14 (C) Life to Eagle Seminar
15 (SFD) District Dinner
19 (C) Woodbadge Orientation
19 (SFD) Committee Meeting
20 (C) Wildfire management MB Test Lab
20-23 (C) Outdoor Preparedness & Outdoor Adventures
21-22 (C) NRA Basic Instructor Training
21 (PWD) Pinewood Derby
22 (C) Popcorn Spin to Win
24 (SVD) Committee Meeting
26 (SVD) Eagle Board of Review
28 (C) Beaver Day/Pool Sandblast at Camp Cornhusker
27-29 (C) NYLT Staff Development
28 (SVD) Pinewood Derby
28 (SFD) Pinewood Derby

April 2026

1 (C) Properties Committee Meeting
3 (C) Good Friday (OEC Closed)
5 (A) Easter
9 (SFD) (PWD) (SVD) Roundtable
10-11 (C) Woodbadge
11 (C) Cornhusker-MAC College of Commissioner Science
11 (C) Beaver Day/Pool Painting at Camp Cornhusker
16 (SFD) District Committee Meeting
17-19 (PWD, 7FD) District Camporee
17-19 (C) NYLT Staff Development
18-19 (C) NRA Shotgun Instructor
18 (C) Beaver Day/ "Big Mow" at Camp Cornhusker
23 (SVD) Eagle Board of Review
25-26 (C) Woodbadge
25 (C) Beaver Day/Pool Work at Camp Cornhusker
26 (PWD) District Dinner
28 (SVD) Committee Meeting



CORNHUSKER COUNCIL'S 250TH ANNIVERSARY AWARD AND COMMEMORATIVE PATCH

IMPACT 365 AND AMERICA 250

Impact365 - Scouting's New National Service Initiative. Scouting has always believed that service is not just what we do—it's who we are. That legacy continues with Impact365, Scouting America's new multi-year national service initiative designed to inspire Scouts, families, and volunteers to make meaningful contributions to their communities every day of the year.

What Is Impact365? Impact365 is a unifying platform that shines a spotlight on the service woven into every part of Scouting. Its mission is simple: Encourage Scouts to make a positive impact 365 days a year through local, flexible, community-driven service projects.

America250 - in celebration of our nation's 250th anniversary, every unit is encouraged to complete 250 hours of community service during 2026. Whether through council projects, rank-requirement activities, family service, or simple acts of good turns, every hour counts—and every effort strengthens our communities. Start planning service projects as a council, district, unit, or family and strive for those 250 hours per unit throughout the year!



NEBRASKA CELEBRATIONS

Nebraska Game and Parks' Outdoor Nebraska 250-Mile Challenge. Honor the occasion and show your appreciation for America's natural spaces by participating in our Outdoor Nebraska 250-Mile Challenge! [Outdoor Nebraska 250-Mile Challenge | Nebraska Game & Parks Commission](#)

Humanities Nebraska has a number of celebrations planned: [America 250 - Humanities Nebraska](#)

Nebraska Arts Council: [America250 Nebraska Celebrations - Nebraska Arts Council](#)

Nebraska Department of Education: [America 250 Resources - Nebraska Department of Education](#) A new resource that features more than 30 low-cost program ideas specifically geared towards smaller organizations to provide them with practical program suggestions. [Online Flipbook](#)

COMMEMORATIVE EAGLE SCOUT CERTIFICATE

To commemorate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence and in recognition of our partnership with America250, Scouting America will present all Eagle Scouts who earn the rank in 2026 with a special commemorative Eagle Scout certificate. This limited-edition certificate will be available only to Scouts who achieve the Eagle rank during the 2026 calendar year. The special certificate will be issued automatically beginning February 1, 2026. No special request is required; it will replace the standard Eagle certificate for all 2026 recipients. Scouts who earned the Eagle rank in January 2026 may request a reprint through their local council.

ALUMNI NEWS

Cornhusker Council Scouting Alumni: Dennis Wagner
(dwags5550@gmail.com)

Eagles Nest: Dennis Wagner

Woodbadge Alumni: Karren Griffin Sieber

Long Tooth Circle: TBD

Camp Cornhusker Camp Staff Alumni: Jeff Johnson



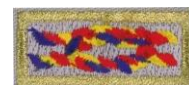
The spirit of Scouting doesn't end when a young person earns their final badge or ages out of their unit—and across the Cornhusker Council, Scouting America, alumni are proving just that. Former Scouts, leaders, and families are reconnecting through a renewed network of Scouting alumni groups, all committed to supporting today's youth, strengthening local units, and preserving the traditions that shaped their own lives. From community service to mentorship to celebrating Scouting's lasting impact, these alumni are stepping forward in growing numbers, demonstrating that once you're part of Scouting, you're always part of the family!

 <p>Cornhusker Council Scouter Alumni Join the Cornhusker Council Scouter Alumni Network! Once a Scout, always a Scout! The Cornhusker Council Scouter Alumni program is open to anyone who has ever been part of the Scouting family!</p>	 <p>Eagles Nest The Eagles Nest is the official Eagle Scout alumni group of the Cornhusker Council. Open to all Eagle Scouts</p>	 <p>Long Tooth Circle Scouters from across the Council join the Long Tooth Circle to support Camp Cornhusker through volunteer time and donations to foster a sense of ownership.</p>	 <p>Wood Badge Alumni Join the Cornhusker Council Wood Badge Alumni! If you've completed Wood Badge in the Cornhusker Council, you're part of a special group of Scouters.</p>	 <p>Camp Cornhusker Camp Staff Alumni Join us for the Camp Cornhusker Council Staff Alumni Group. We will share upcoming staff events and celebrate the annual success of staff and camp.</p>
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The Cornhusker Council Scouting Alumni group is the Council's overarching alumni group and open to any Scout or Scouter. The Eagles Nest is for Eagle Scouts residing in the Cornhusker Council. The one-time dues go to support the Eagle Scout banquet. The Long Tooth Circle is Camp Cornhusker's alumni group. Annual dues go to support projects and program at Camp Cornhusker. Wood Badge Alumni is for those Scouters who completed Wood Badge in the Cornhusker Council; one-time dues go towards Woodbadge scholarships. Finally, the C3SA is an alumni group for Scouts and Scouters who served on camp staff at Camp Cornhusker.

For more information: [Cornhusker Council Scouting Alumni](#) Do you know a Scouter? Share the link!

EARN SCOUTING AMERICA'S ALUMNI AWARD



The Alumni Award encourages participation and work in council alumni relations programs, including NESA activities; areas of work include alumni identification/promotion, alumni engagement, personal participation, and education. Presented to Scouting alumni who promote continued engagement with Scouting America.

Eligibility - Registered adult Scouters may submit a completed application for approval by the local council alumni committee. Approved applications are forwarded to the National **Scouting Alumni** Relations Committee. Those approved will be sent a certificate that can be used to purchase a square knot and/or lapel pin from the Scout shop.

[Alumni-Award-Requirements-3 2025.pdf](#)

ORDER OF THE ARROW NEWS

Lodge Chief: Jake Manning

Lodge Advisor: Brooks Rushman professionalpower@yahoo.com

Staff Advisor: Will Cover (William.cover@scouting.org)

Website: www.goldensunlodge.org



CROSSOVER AND ELECTIONS

Starting this month, the Golden Sun Lodge will begin performing crossover ceremonies for Cub Scout Packs. This is a great opportunity to welcome our Arrow of Lights into Scouts BSA! Contact your Chapter Chief or one of the Lodge Key 3, listed above, to arrange for a Crossover team to assist in your ceremony! OA election season also begins this month! Scoutmasters can contact their Chapter Chief or Lodge Key 3 to schedule an OA election for their Troop.

YOUR DUES ARE DUE!

Retain your membership in the Golden Sun Lodge and the OA by paying your annual dues. You can pay either online by clicking on the "Pay Dues Online" button to the right or by paying at the Outdoor Education Center. There are many, many eligibility benefits the Lodge receives that are based on our registered membership numbers. You can register here: [Golden Sun Lodge | Dues](#)

VIGIL HONOR NOMINATIONS ARE OPEN



Vigil Honor is a high mark of distinction and recognition reserved for those Arrowmen who, by reason of exceptional service, personal effort, and unselfish interest, have made distinguished contributions beyond the immediate responsibilities of their position office to one or more of the following: Golden Sun Lodge, OA, Scouting community, and Camp Cornhusker

The nomination form can be found here [Golden Sun Lodge #492 - Vigil Honor Nomination](#)

WINTER EVENT WRAP UP

The Golden Sun Lodge hosted their Annual Winter Event at the First United Methodist Church in Lincoln. This year we had 45 people attend the event. During the event we had great food provided by our cook, Bryan Welty. Three training sessions were provided during our event. First, the Ceremonies committee provided training and a demonstration on how a crossover ceremony works. Then, a mock OA election was held to help show how we utilize the script provided and proceed through a well-done election. Involved in this demonstration were our three-chapter chiefs and a couple of ceremonies members. Finally, our Inductions Committee explained the Elangomat position works during our Ordeal weekends, followed by the Membership committee explaining how the Nimat position works during the Brotherhood ceremony. There was plenty of fun at the event. Many thanks to the Section G-5 Leadership team for taking time out of their weekend to come join us at the event and thanks to all who attended Winter Event.



CONGRATULATIONS TO CORNHUSKER COUNCIL'S NEWEST EAGLE SCOUTS

Samuel Hesser, Troop 212
 Nolan Gartner, Troop 337
 Brendan Butler, Troop 28
 Jacie Robinson, Troop 64
 Tyler Florell, Troop 8



[Scholarships - The National Eagle Scout Association](#)



Purchase a Brick for the Path at the Outdoor Education Center.

[Buy a Brick : Ways to Support : Support Scouting : Cornhusker Council, BSA](#)

In addition to the National Eagle Scout Association's Scholarship, there are a number of other scholarship opportunities for our Eagle Scouts. Find them here on the Cornhusker Council Alumni page:

[Eagles Nest](#)

There may be other opportunities, as well. If you find one, let us know and we'll add it to the Alumni page!



American Legion - Nebraska Eagle Scout of the Year! To honor the hard work of those scouts who have attained the level of Eagle Scout, The American Legion Department of Nebraska annually chooses one Eagle Scout to be the Department Eagle Scout of the Year (typically in March). Nominations are due by Mar 1st, 2026.

[The American Legion - Department of Nebraska - Scouting and Eagle Scout of the Year](#)

Eagle Scout Project Request! The Wyuka Cemetery Board of Trustees approached us with an Eagle Scout Project idea to document and map the 1-2000 Veteran gravestones that are in the cemetery. Currently, there is no documentation where Veterans are buried at Wyuka and the Board is seeking assistance so they can better honor the Veterans interred there (Memorial Day, Veterans Day, Wreathes Across America). If your Eagle candidate is interested, contact the Scout Executive (Jeffrey.johnson@scouting.org)

SCOUT EXECUTIVE MINUTE

I want to take a moment to celebrate the spirit, service, and milestones that define Scouting at its best. The determination and teamwork of Troops who braved bitter cold to take on the challenges of the Klondike Derby is a testament to the resilience and preparedness that Scouting instills. We also pause to recognize the lasting contributions of a devoted, long-time volunteer whose impact continues beyond their passing and we celebrate a meaningful milestone as one of our former Scout Executives marks 40 years of service to the Scouting movement. Together, these stories reflect the strength of the Cornhusker Council's past, present, and future!



Klondike Derby Held at Camp Cornhusker, Jan 30th - Feb 1st

This year's Klondike Derby challenged Scouts to put their skills—and their resilience—to the test as they camped outdoors through a cold winter weekend. Despite frigid temperatures, Scouts embraced the conditions, demonstrating teamwork, leadership, and strong outdoor skills across a variety of events. From setting up winter camps to navigating cold-weather challenges, Scouts showed confidence and determination throughout the weekend. Their perseverance was a true testament to their training and their commitment to the Scout Motto, "**Be Prepared.**" The Klondike Derby proved once again that Scouting builds capable, prepared youth ready to meet challenges head-on—no matter the weather! *Photos courtesy of Troop 64, Hickman, NE*



Anna Ruth Miller - Trailblazer, Hero, Legend

Anna Ruth Miller's more than 55 years of service to Scouting stand as a remarkable legacy of dedication, leadership, and quiet determination. At a time when women volunteers were still carving out their place in the movement, Anna Ruth was a true trailblazer—showing by example what commitment and capability look like. From her early years as a Den Mother, where she nurtured young Scouts and supported families, to her leadership on the District Committee, and later as a trusted Unit Commissioner, she served at every level with integrity and heart. Anna Ruth's influence reached far beyond titles; she mentored leaders, impacted 1000s of youth, strengthened units, and helped shape Scouting into a more inclusive and welcoming program. Her lifetime of service has left an enduring impact on countless youth and volunteers, and her example continues to inspire all who follow in her footsteps.



Congratulations, Mike Hale!

Finally, this month marks Mike Hale's 40th anniversary as a professional Scouter. Mike started his Scouting career in the Cornhusker Council as a District Executive in the Three Rivers and, later, Cottonwood Districts. He returned to our Council twenty years later as our Scout Executive. Mike currently serves as the Scout Executive for the Golden Gate Area Council in Pleasanton, CA.

