

# Scouting Today

JANUARY 2026

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE CORNHUSKER COUNCIL, SCOUTING AMERICA

## Contents:

Pages 1-2: Upcoming Council Events  
 Pages 3: Camp Cornhusker News  
 Pages 4: Safeguarding Youth  
 Page 5: Support your Council  
 Pages 6 Exploring, Venturing, Sea Scouts  
 Page 7-9 District Updates  
 Page 10-22: Council News & Events  
 Page 23: America 250  
 Page 24: Alumni News  
 Page 24: Golden Sun Lodge/OA News  
 Page 25: Newest Eagle Scouts & Scholarship Updates  
 Page 26: Scout Executive Minute



## REGISTER NOW!

**KLONDIKE DERBY, JAN 30<sup>TH</sup> - FEB 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2026**

No one knows adventure like our favorite Life Scout, Dr. Henry "Indiana" Jones Jr. In fact, he may well have crossed paths with the Yeti on more than one occasion while searching out artifacts in the Himalayas.

Join Indy and his team as we take a winter tour of the entire film franchise as this year's Klondike Derby theme: **Raiders of the Lost Yeti**



Participants can dress in character (no weaponry). Additionally, all character clothing must be worn over appropriate clothing for typical Jan-Feb outdoor weather. More details will be available here:

[Cornhusker Council - Klondike Derby](#)

## REGISTER NOW!

**SALT VALLEY MERIT BADGE CLINIC, JAN 17<sup>TH</sup>**

The Salt Valley Merit Badge Clinic is an advancement opportunity open to Scouts in Troops or Crews age 11-17. All Council Troops are invited to attend. Scouts will be introduced to a variety of subjects geared to help them, not only advance along the trail to Eagle, but also learn more about career opportunities and experiences that may interest them. Each Scout is expected to fulfill all the merit badge requirements by reading through the merit badge book, doing prerequisites, and participating in class.

**When:** Saturday, January 17th, 9 AM - 3:30 PM (Doors open at 8:00am/check in starts at 8:30am)

**Lunch:** 12noon-12:30 pm - Bring your own sack lunch (Microwave is available)

**Where:** Grace Lutheran Church 2225 Washington St Lincoln, NE

## REGISTER NOW!

**GAME RETREAT, FEB 21<sup>ST</sup>**



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

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

## FUNDAMENTALS OF TRAINING, JAN 17<sup>TH</sup>

Are you an adult or youth in scouting that trains other adults or youth? Whether or not you hold a formal position in your unit, if you are involved in Scouting America, then most likely at some point you have and will help with training.

Sign up for the Fundamentals of Training: <https://scoutingevent.com/324-104981>



## SCOUT ANNIVERSARY DAY - SCOUT SUNDAY, FEB 8<sup>TH</sup>

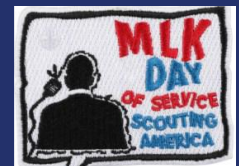
Chartered organizations can celebrate Scout Sunday on any day in February that best serves the chartering partner. Some organizations choose the Sunday that falls before February 8 (Scouting Anniversary Day) as the date to recognize the contributions of young people and adults to Scouting. This year, 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.



## MLK NATIONAL DAY OF SERVICE, JAN 19<sup>TH</sup>

Join Scouts across the country as they participate in the Martin Luther King Jr. National Day of Service. This day invites every American to step forward and strengthen their communities through meaningful volunteer work, and Scouts will be ready to lead by example.



Across Scouting America, units are planning service projects that reflect the values Dr. King championed. Scouts will take part in community clean-ups, support local shelters and food programs, assist service organizations, and look for thoughtful ways to lift up neighbors who need a hand. It will be a "Day On, Not a Day Off," and a chance for young people to show what service in action looks like.

Dr. King's connection to Scouting began in his youth when he was a member of Troop 151 in Atlanta. His time in Scouting helped nurture a spirit of leadership and community responsibility that would later define his work for justice and equality. By serving with purpose, Scouts will honor his message and continue the work of building stronger and more caring communities.

## THERE'S STILL ROOM IN OUR NATIONAL JAMBOREE CONTINGENT!

It is not too late to sign up for this year's National Jamboree! One of the once-in-a-lifetime events in a Scout's journey! Concerned about the cost? We have plenty of fundraising opportunities to assist! See the below Jamboree article or contact Will Cover ([William.cover@scouting.org](mailto:William.cover@scouting.org)).

## ONLINE UNIT FUNDRAISERS

We plan to hold a Spring on-line sale using the new digital product sales platform. Your unit doesn't handle any inventory. Just build your online storefront, share the link out and invite people to support Scouts. Product is shipped directly to them from the vendor. If your unit would like to participate, contact us at [info@cornhuskercouncil.org](mailto:info@cornhuskercouncil.org).

## CAMP CORNHUSKER NEWS

*Camp Cornhusker is your camp!*

Camp Director: Sammi Lowry ([campcornhuskerbsa@gmail.com](mailto:campcornhuskerbsa@gmail.com))

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

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



## CAMP CORNHUSKER HISTORY

By March of 1956, the Council hired Kuper Construction of Humboldt to build many of the buildings that would be needed at the Camp. Volunteers worked alongside the company and by the opening day of summer camp they had already put in most of the roads, planted grass on the road shoulders, laid water lines and constructed the rifle range. The "new" Scout Reservation began its life as an official Boy Scout Camp on June 10, 1956. There were 622 scouts that attended the Reservation during that first summer. After a successful summer camp, the camp was dedicated on Oct 28, 1956, the last day of a Council-wide Camporee held at the camp.



A Humboldt native and owner of Kuper Construction, Vern Kuper was a Chief Radioman in the U.S. Navy during World War II and earned the Silver Star and two Bronze Stars for his service through eight campaigns in both the Atlantic and Pacific.

## DIDN'T GET YOUR TROOP PLAQUE UPDATED OR HUNG? NO WORRIES!

This is an old, but recently forgotten, Camp Cornhusker tradition where Troops make and hang their Troop plaque in the Dining Hall. What are the requirements? Simple - attend summer camp and hang your plaque! Every year, you get a camp patch to add to your plaque



### Campsite Sign Ups Camp Cornhusker 2026



	Week 1 June	Week 2 June
	Session 1	Session 2
CAMPSITE		
Bear		
Beaver	56	
Bobwhite		
Cheyenne		377
Commanche	296	
Crow		
Eagle	8	54
Fox		
Kiowa	22	
Mandan	220	
Missouri		
Omaha		
Osage		
Otoe		
Ponca		30
Wichita		142
Winnebago	223	49
Lakota		
Ft. Atkinson		

## 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



## PROTECT AGAINST AI AND DEEPFAKES

Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology is rapidly evolving – and with it, there are new threats to online safety. For example, online predators use generative AI (GAI) to create morphed or fake child sexual abuse material (CSAM) and then sometimes engage in blackmail schemes targeting kids. This technology is also being used by kids and teens to target their peers. GAI child sexual abuse imagery is still CSAM. It is illegal, emotionally, and psychologically harmful and deeply traumatic. Understanding this evolving threat is the first step in protecting kids and teens.

**NEW GAI TECHNOLOGIES AND ASSOCIATED RISKS.** Understanding the latest technologies and their associated risks is crucial to prevent, protect and empower victims and survivors. AI technology allows a user to create new images, videos, audio and text based on user requests or prompts. This could include any visual depiction, such as computer-generated images, that appear to depict a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct. Deepfake technology uses AI to create realistic images or videos of people doing or saying things they never did. The term “deepfake” combines “deep learning” – a type of AI used to generate the content – and “fake.” Nudifying Services allow an individual to upload an innocent clothed image of a person to create a virtual depiction of that person unclothed. Reports show these services are promoted as tools on nudifying websites and forums – sometimes even disguised as “pedophile guides” – that coach predators on how to exploit children using AI. Online predators use nudifying services to upload a fully clothed image of a child or teen and use AI to generate a fake, sexualized version of that image. These fake images are then used for blackmail or other forms of exploitation.

### HOW TO AVOID GAI CSAM

- Ensure your and your child's profiles are set to private and that all images are for friends-only and not publicly accessible.
- Use parental control settings. View Connect2Protect: Parental Controls for more information.
- Maintain open lines of communication with children about their online activities.
- Encourage them to come to you with any concerns or questions they may have about AI, deepfakes and online safety.

**HOW TO RESPOND** Take immediate action if you know or suspect a child or teen in your care is a victim of online CSEA.

- Remain calm.
- Consider putting the device in airplane mode and ensure Bluetooth and Wi-Fi are turned off so evidence cannot be remotely erased, deleted or altered by the offender.
- Save all communication – do not delete.
- Contact law enforcement and ensure they can access the device.
- Do not send images from your child's device to any other device. It is illegal to disseminate CSAM. • Report the incident to law enforcement.

**HOW TO REPORT** You can submit a report in one of the following ways:

- Call the Department of Homeland Security's Know2Protect Tipline at 833-591-KNOW (5669). All information received via the Tipline will be reviewed by appropriate personnel and referred to Homeland Security Investigations field offices for potential investigation.
- Contact your local, state or tribal law enforcement officials directly. In an emergency, call 911.
- Submit a CyberTipline report with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children at [report.cybertip.org](https://report.cybertip.org).

For more information, see DHS' Know2Protect website ([Tips2Protect Against AI and Deepfakes for Parents and Trusted Adults | Homeland Security](#)) and the National Cybersecurity Alliance's website ([How to Protect Yourself Against Deepfakes - National Cybersecurity Alliance](#))



## SUPPORT YOUR COUNCIL

([info@cornhuskercouncil.org](mailto:info@cornhuskercouncil.org))

### SEND A SCOUT TO CAMP

Summer camp is often the highlight of a young person's Scouting journey—where they gain independence, build lifelong friendships, and discover their own strength. In 2025 alone, the Cornhusker Council approved more than \$1,500 in scholarships to ensure every Scout had the chance to attend camp.

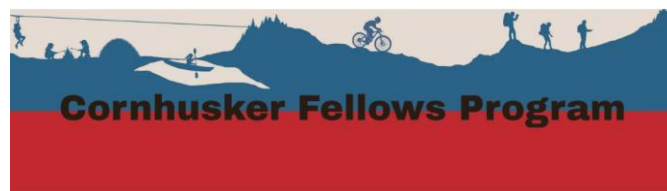


DONATE NOW

As we look toward summer 2026, we need your help to make sure even more youth can experience this life-changing tradition. With a gift of \$250, you can help send a Scout to Camp Cornhusker for a week of adventure, leadership, and growth. Together, we can make sure no Scout misses out on the opportunity to thrive at camp.

### CORNHUSKER FELLOWS PROGRAM

The Cornhusker Fellows Program is a bold, long-term commitment to sustain and grow Scouting across southeast Nebraska, ensuring every child has the opportunity to develop into a confident, capable, and caring leader.



By becoming a Fellow, each donor commits to giving \$1,000, \$5,000, or \$10,000 annually for a period of 5 or 10 years. Flexible payment options are available, including monthly, yearly, or a single lump-sum contribution. Your support helps invest in leadership development, character building, and transformative outdoor experiences for youth in our community—empowering them to face life's challenges and make a positive impact for years to come.

Become a Cornhusker Fellow today - [CornhuskerFellowsProgram](#)

### 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.



### PLANNED GIVING

Unlike cash donations, planned gifts are typically made from assets in your estate rather than from disposable income, and may come to fruition after your lifetime. Loyal supporters like you have made a lasting difference in the lives of young people by including Cornhusker Council in their will or estate plan. Like you, at **Cornhusker Council** we are dedicated to empowering young people to make ethical and moral choices throughout their lifetimes. When you include a gift to Cornhusker Council in your will or estate plan, you become a champion for America's future leaders. For more information, see our Planned Giving website: [Charitable Giving | Cornhusker Council](#)

## EXPLORING, VENTURING, SEA SCOUTS

Exploring: Jason Hellmuth ([info@cornhuskercouncil.org](mailto:info@cornhuskercouncil.org))

Venturing: Tom Rolfes ([trolfes\\_77@yahoo.com](mailto:trolfes_77@yahoo.com))

Sea Scouts: Tom Rolfes ([trolfes\\_77@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:info@cornhuskercouncil.org).

### SEA SCOUTS IN NEBRASKA? AYE AYE, CAPTAIN!

Sea Scout units- called ships- are established all 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](mailto: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](mailto:svdistcommchair@gmail.com))

Commissioner: Bill Lang ([wlang50@gmail.com](mailto:wlang50@gmail.com))

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

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



## SALT VALLEY DISTRICT EVENTS [\(CLICK HERE FOR ALL EVENTS CALENDAR\)](#)

### SALT VALLEY MERIT BADGE CLINIC, JAN 17<sup>TH</sup>

The Salt Valley Merit Badge Clinic is an advancement opportunity open to Scouts in Troops or Crews age 11-17. Scouts will be introduced to a variety of subjects geared to help them, not only advance along the trail to Eagle, but also learn more about career opportunities and experiences that may interest them. Each Scout is expected to fulfill all the merit badge requirements by reading through the merit badge book, doing prerequisites, and participating in class.

When: Saturday, January 17th, 9 AM - 3:30 PM (Doors open at 8:00am/check in starts at 8:30am)

Lunch: 12noon-12:30 pm - Bring your own sack lunch (Microwave is available)

Where: Grace Lutheran Church 2225 Washington St Lincoln, NE. Register here: [Cornhusker Council - Salt Valley Merit Badge Clinic](#)

### CHRISTMAS TREE PICK UP 2025-2026

Congratulations to Troop 8 for their 11<sup>th</sup> year of collecting and recycling old and un-sold Christmas trees! These efforts keep trees out of the landfill and provide mulch for the community and local parks. If you still have your tree, consider reaching out at [www.Scouting4Trees.org](http://www.Scouting4Trees.org).



### SALT VALLEY DISTRICT RECOGNITION DINNER, FEB 28<sup>TH</sup>

The Salt Valley District Recognition Dinner will be held on Saturday, February 28 at 6 pm. This year's dinner will be held at Morrow Collision Center, 1241 Aries Dr. in Lincoln. Catering for the event is still being arranged, however, you can nominate your unit and district leaders for awards now. Nominate your Unit leaders, Den Leaders, Fundraisers, Commissioners, and all those District Scouters who stood out in 2025. And be sure to suggest someone as our second ever Olsen Mentorship Award recipient. This will be a great night to honor our fellow Scouters and fellowship with each other.

Nominations are due by January 20 through the link is below:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfoKZGyqdLFZ55YOKiTpDOOaS0RNSm145uQ6ONZ7zjgBxyCfQ/viewform?usp=dialog>

## SALT VALLEY PINWOOD 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](mailto:pwdistrictchair@gmail.com))

Commissioner: Lonnie Pohlman ([lpohlman@gmail.com](mailto:lpohlman@gmail.com))

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

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



## PINEWOOD DERBY, MAR 21<sup>ST</sup>

Mark your calendar NOW for the annual running of the Prairie Winds District Pinewood Derby! Check here for more details: [Cornhusker Council - Prairie Winds District Pinewood Derby](#)

## IN MEMORIAM DONALD A. VOTOVA

We were saddened to learn of the passing of long-time Scouter Don Votova. Don spent 45 years working for Nebraska Public Power District as a lead instrument technician, working with metering, and testing power generators across the state. He proudly served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War stationed in Japan. Don enjoyed researching genealogy and was a talented accordion player. He was a dedicated leader and longtime supporter of Boy Scout Troop 174 in York, NE. Don could be found on Husker football Saturdays serving as an usher with Troop 174, on the 40 yard line in west Memorial Stadium for many years. Our condolences go out to the Votova family.





## 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 7<sup>TH</sup>

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](#)



## DISTRICT PINWOOD DERBY, MAR 28<sup>TH</sup>

We are pleased to announce that the 24th annual running of the Seven Feathers District Pinewood Derby will take place at the on March 28, 2026. 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 \$TBT

Schedule:

9:30am - 11:00am Check in & inspection of race and show class cars

11:15am - 11:30am Opening & Flag ceremony and simulcast to begin

11:30am Races begin

Awards Ceremony for Cub Scouts



For more information: [Cornhusker Council - Seven Feathers District Pinewood Derby](#)

## COUNCIL ACTIVITIES AND NEWS

### FUNDAMENTALS OF TRAINING, JAN 17<sup>TH</sup>

Are you an adult or youth in scouting that trains other adults or youth? Whether or not you hold a formal position in your unit, if you are involved in Scouting America, then most likely at some point you have and will help with training. "Fundamentals of Training" will be held on Jan 17<sup>th</sup> from 8:30am to 4pm at Grace Lutheran Church, 22<sup>nd</sup> and Washington Street, in Lincoln.



If you are a Den Leader, you are training the Cub Scouts in your Den. If you are a Senior Patrol Leader, you are training Scouts in your Troop in skills and leadership. If you are a Merit Badge Counselor, you are training scouts in the skills you are presenting. This is why all adults, and youth over the age of 14, are encouraged to complete Scouting America's Fundamentals of Training courses.

Fundamentals Part 1 - Science of Training is designed to help Scouts and Scouters, regardless of their training experience, identify effective training methods. It will help freshen up the skills of current Scouting America trainers, as well. The skills and strategies presented have been shown to improve teaching and learning. The value of these skills are not limited to a role in Scouting but can be applied in personal and professional settings as well.

Fundamentals Part 2- Craft of Training is the second part of the train-the-trainer continuum. As trainers develop their training skills, this course provides an opportunity for trainers to practice and refine their abilities through experiential learning, paired with feedback from faculty members and peers.

If you want to be a better teacher, trainer and Scouter join us for the combined Fundamentals of Training parts 1 and 2. We will take breaks during the course, including a break for lunch so bring a lunch! Register here: [Cornhusker Council - Fundamentals of Training](#)

### CABIN FEVER GAMEFEST 2026, FEB 21<sup>ST</sup> AT THE OEC

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

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

## NRA SHOTGUN BASIC TRAINING, FEB 28<sup>TH</sup> - MAR 1<sup>ST</sup>

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>

## OUTDOOR PREPAREDNESS TRAINING, MAR 20<sup>TH</sup> - 21<sup>ST</sup>

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 foundation 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 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 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.

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](#)



**Spots are limited.** A \$350 deposit holds a spot (+current amount due per schedule). Paula Rezek can help set up a payment plan during registration.

**Further Details:** [2026 National Jamboree](#)

**Adult Leaders Still Needed!** We are accepting applications for adults to lead our contingent. You must be currently registered, current on trainings, and completed Wilderness 1<sup>st</sup> Aid. Previous experience in leading contingents to a previous Jamboree or a National High Adventure base is desired. For more information, contact Will Cover ([william.cover@scouting.org](mailto:william.cover@scouting.org)).

## 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](https://wsj2027.us)

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

Participants and Unit Leaders  
**\$6,200 - \$6,700**

International Service Team  
**\$2,900 - \$3,100**

### 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)



## 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 stands 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](http://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!**

## FAMILY TROOP OPTION APPROVED

The National Executive Board approved the "Family Troop" option for Scouts BSA, following a successful pilot.

This option provides chartered organizations with more flexibility in delivering Scouting to families in communities where there are not enough youth to have a boy-only or girl-only troop. While the vast majority of troops will continue to specifically serve boys or girls in the years ahead, this option gives chartered organizations the ability to meet the unique needs of their communities and families who want to do Scouting together in a unit. There are several things to consider before deciding on whether to become a "Family Troop." In any situation, the decision should involve all stakeholders:

- **Chartered Organization** – The chartered organization(s) **MUST** be a part of the discussion and **MUST** approve the decision to change the model.
- **Adult Volunteers** – All Scouts BSA troops depend upon our adult volunteers to operate successfully. Adult volunteers, including the Scoutmaster(s), committee chair(s), and committee members, should broadly support a change.
- **Parents** – The parents of the Scouts also should broadly support a change.
- **Scouts** – Scouts BSA is youth-led, and the Scouts should also be a part of the decision-making process.

For more information, questions, or assistance, contact your District Executive or Commissioner staff.



## 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](#)



## NEW UNIFIED SCOUTS BSA HANDBOOK

Based on significant feedback from youth and volunteers, Scouting America has announced the release of a unified Scouts BSA Handbook designed for all youth who are part of the Scouts BSA program. This handbook does not replace the current 14th Edition of the Scouts BSA Handbook, and this unified version has no major program changes. It is simply a single, unified version of the handbook that can be used by boys or girls in Scouts BSA. The text remains the same, but photos now reflect all youth in Scouts BSA. Leaders, youth, and units spoke about their desire for this unified version, and we listened. The handbook will be available for purchase at Scout Shops nationwide in January 2026.

## 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 31<sup>st</sup>. 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. 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](https://www.facebook.com/cornhuskerCouncil)

[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/CAMPCORNHUSKER](https://www.facebook.com/campcornhusker)

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

# 01/01/2026 Cornhusker Council

## Annual Membership Fees

<p>NATIONAL <b>\$85</b>/YR</p> <hr/> <p>COUNCIL <b>\$60</b> + YR</p>	<p>Participants in kindergarten through age 20.</p> 
<p>NATIONAL <b>\$50</b>/YR</p> <hr/> <p>COUNCIL \$ /YR</p>	 <p>For all Exploring youth and adults.</p>
<p>NATIONAL <b>\$65</b>/YR</p> <hr/> <p>COUNCIL <b>\$30</b>/YR</p>	 <p>All registered adult volunteers in unit and non-unit positions. (Volunteers with multiple registrations will continue to pay for only one position).</p>
<p>NATIONAL <b>\$30</b>/YR</p> <hr/> <p>COUNCIL \$ /YR</p>	<p>Scoutreach participants in kindergarten through age 20.</p> 
<p>NATIONAL <b>\$25</b>/YR</p> <hr/> <p>COUNCIL \$ /YR</p>	 <p>This fee is for Merit Badge Counselors <b>who are not already registered volunteers.</b> Merit badge counselors who are not also registered in a unit position are not allowed to attend overnight Scouting activities/events.</p>

Additional fees might be charged by local councils and units.

## UNIT RENEWAL FEE

**\$100**/YR

For all new and existing units.

## SCOUT LIFE MAGAZINE FEE



**\$15**/YR



## 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](https://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 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](https://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!**

##### [Internal Forms - Customer Online Order Request Tool](#)

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.

#### **2. THE NEWEST TOOL TO HELP DEN LEADERS IS AT THE SCOUT STORE!**

The Den Meeting Deck makes planning a den meeting fun, simple, and easy. There is a deck for each badge of rank and contains all the activities needed to earn all six required Adventures and four or five elective Adventures.

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



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

**5. Can't make it into the shop before 5pm?** That's okay! Email your order to the Scout Shop ([Cornhusker.tradingpost@scouting.org](mailto: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.



**6. Didn't get your Camp Cornhusker swag? Stop on by the Scout Shop where we have a number of specialty items from camp available!**



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



**8. 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.



**9. 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](#))

### January 2026

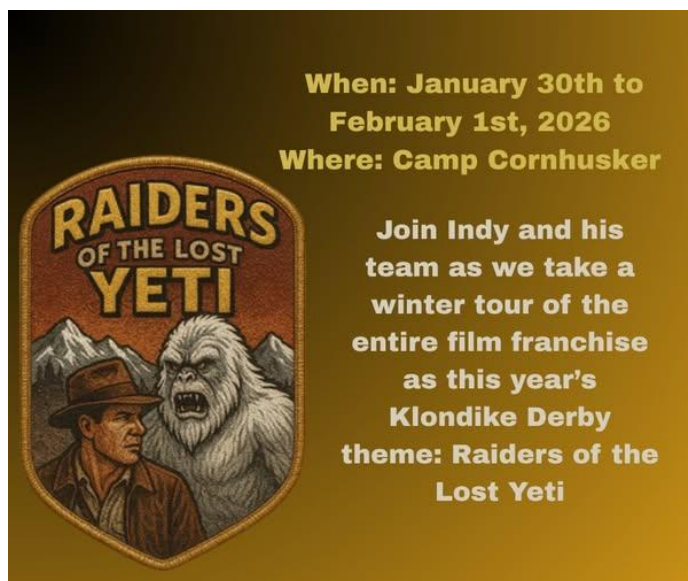
1 (C) New Year's Day (office closed)  
 7 (C) Properties Committee Meeting  
 8 (All) District Roundtables  
 15 (7FD) Seven Feathers District Committee Meeting  
 17 (SVD) Merit Badge Clinic  
 17 (C) Fundamentals of Training  
 19 (C) MLK Jr. Day  
 22 (SVD) Eagle Board of Review  
 24 (C) NYLT Staff Development  
 27 (SVD) District Committee Meeting  
 30-1 Feb (C) Klondike Derby

### February 2026

4 (C) Properties Committee Meeting  
 5 (All) District Roundtables  
 8 (All) Scouting Anniversary Day and Scout Sunday  
 13-14 (C) Woodbadge Staff Development  
 16 (C) Washington's Birthday  
 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 (All) Roundtable  
 7 (SFD) Merit Badge University  
 14 (C) Woodbadge Staff Development  
 15 (SFD) District Dinner  
 19 (C) Woodbadge Orientation  
 19 (SFD) Committee Meeting  
 20-23 (C) Outdoor Preparedness & Outdoor Adventures  
 21-22 (C) NRA Basic Instructor Training  
 21 (PWD) Pinewood Derby  
 24 (SVD) Committee Meeting  
 26 (SVD) Eagle Board of Review  
 27-29 (C) NYLT Staff Development  
 28 (SVD) Pinewood Derby  
 28 (SFD) Pinewood Derby





## CORNHUSKER COUNCIL'S 250<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY AWARD

Congratulations to the first group of Scouts and Scouters that earned the Cornhusker Council 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Award! All are from Troop 54 in Lincoln. Job well done!

Kyle Schmitter	Riley Batek	Thu Nguyen
Laurel Grimm	Jessica Kuhn	John Schuff
Roger Westcamp	Shelley Knudsen	Matt Kuhn



## ADDITIONALLY, WE ARE OFFERING A PATCH TO COMMEMORATE THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY!

The patch design is based off the Council's Bicentennial patch offered in 1976. The only requirement to wear this patch is to be a registered Scout or Scouter! The patch is now available in the Scout Store.



## COUNTDOWN TO AMERICA'S 250TH ANNIVERSARY STARTS NOW!

Scouting America is proud to announce a national partnership with @America250 to inspire Scouts everywhere to celebrate this historic milestone. From learning about our nation's history to participating in community service projects, this partnership is all about action, learning, and leadership. By working together, we'll empower Scouts to reflect on our past and lead our future.

*There are several programs throughout the state to help your Pack or Troop make this once-in-a-generation even special for your Scouts.*

## 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](#)

## AMERICA250 IS DONATING \$1,000,000 IN 2026!

Log your volunteer hours for a chance to be one of 250 winners who will choose where the donations go: [America Gives - America250](#) Contact Will Cover for more details ([William.cover@scouting.org](mailto:William.cover@scouting.org))



## 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



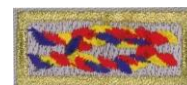
The spirit of Scouting doesn't end when a young person earns their final badge or ages out of their unit—and across the Cornhusker Council, Scouting America, alumni are proving just that. Former Scouts, leaders, and families are reconnecting through a renewed network of Scouting alumni groups, all committed 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><b>Cornhusker Council Scouter Alumni</b> 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><b>Eagles Nest</b> The Eagles Nest is the official Eagle Scout alumni group of the Cornhusker Council. Open to all Eagle Scouts</p>	 <p><b>Long Tooth Circle</b> 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><b>Wood Badge Alumni</b> 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><b>Camp Cornhusker Camp Staff Alumni</b> 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 goes 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 the 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](mailto:professionalpower@yahoo.com)

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

Website: [www.goldensunlodge.org](http://www.goldensunlodge.org)



## LODGE WINTER EVENT, JAN 23-25, 2026

The Lodge's next big event is the Winter Event!! Which will take place January 23-25 at 1<sup>st</sup> United Methodist Church, 2723 N. 50<sup>th</sup> Street in Lincoln. Registration is open now through Jan 23<sup>rd</sup>. Mark that weekend off on your calendar and join us for a great weekend of food, games, fun and fellowship! Feel free to contact us at any time by utilizing the Let's Chat button on our website or by using the Contact Us tab in LodgeMaster. We love hearing from our members.

## 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.

**LINK TO THE DEC 2025 EDITION OF THE "SUNDIAL" [SUNDIAL LINK](#)**

## 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 (such as Vigil Honor quotas) the Lodge receives that are based on our registered membership numbers. You can register here: [Golden Sun Lodge | Dues](#)



## CONGRATULATIONS TO CORNHUSKER COUNCIL'S NEWEST EAGLE SCOUTS

Benjamin Campbell, T. 8



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

The NESA Scholarship portal is OPEN through Jan 31, 2026! For more information, see the NESA website: [Scholarships - The National Eagle Scout Association](#)



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 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026.

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



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

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

**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)



Our latest additions to the Walk of Honor at the OEC were installed this week. Congratulations and thank you to Tyler Hickenbottom, Phillip Bade, Isabel Cressler, Cole Cressler, Matt Lagerstrom, Oliver Brassil, Alexander Wilke, Mary Lee & Stewart Olson, Cael Morris, Harrison Bishop, Andrew Wood, and Jeff Johnson.

## SCOUT EXECUTIVE MINUTE

### Staying True to Scouting America's Apolitical Mission

Scouting has thrived for more than a century because families from every background trust that our movement is about youth—never politics. Our Rules and Regulations are clear: 'The Boy Scouts of America must not... involve Scouting in political matters.' That applies to national, councils, units, volunteers, and youth—at meetings, activities, online, and in the wider community.



To preserve that trust—especially in today's highly charged political environment—we are asking every unit to recommit to the following:

1. No political activity in uniform or under the Scouting brand. Do not attend or participate in rallies, marches, fundraisers, or public events that carry political messages while in uniform or using the Scouting name, marks, or channels.
2. Uniform integrity. Keep the official uniform exactly as specified; no additions or alterations that signal political viewpoints or causes.
3. Brand stewardship. Councils and units must use approved marks only and must not combine Scouting branding with political imagery or themes.
4. A Scout is Courteous. We welcome every family committed to the Scout Oath and Law. We prohibit bullying, harassment, and unlawful discrimination—online and in person—and we expect leaders to ensure a respectful environment for all youth.

Personal civic engagement is important and your right—but do it as a private individual, off-duty, out of uniform, and without Scouting marks. When we keep Scouting apolitical, we protect our mission and the trust that families place in us. Thank you for your leadership.

Yours in Scouting,  
JJ

**Always be recruiting! Be Prepared!**