

MAY

# Cornhusker Council Commissioner Corner

## Make MAY Unit Leader Appreciation Month!

I challenge every commissioner and/or district committee member to visit as many units as possible during May to say THANK YOU to all the unit leaders — committee chairs, scoutmasters/cubmasters, den leaders, committee members and parents!

We ask a lot from our unit leaders — recruitment, advancement, monitor BeAScout pins, plan program, recharter, monitor membership renewal and training status. It's time to thank them!

Please share that the council and district appreciate the time and efforts they give to Scouting America! I have attached a "modified" charter presentation script that can be used if needed.



## May 2025 Priorities for Commissioners



### Unit Recharter:

Remind unit leaders that this annual process is just around the corner. More details/information will be coming soon!

### Summer Camp Plans:

Let's make sure "outing" stays in "SCOUTING" by encouraging every scout to attend camp this summer — day camp, residence camp, or even unit campouts!

### Pack Annual Planning:

Encourage packs to set the date for this important meeting soon so that it is on every leader's summer calendar!

## Unit Connections

Thank you to the following for recording a "Connection" within Commissioner Tools: Peggy Nietfeld, Lonnie Pohlman, David Shoff, Bryan Welty, Richard White and Karen Griffin Sieber.

The list of Connections show that 20 units have been visited by a commissioner within the last several months.

### Unit Connections



Unit Metrics



Unit Conversations



Unit Goals



Unit Support

Connecting with units through better conversations



However, I am confident that more visits/connections have been made by other commissioners. Please log any visits ASAP so that I can show other councils in our Service Territory that Cornhusker has the best team of commissioners!!!

**On behalf of the Cornhusker Council, I would like to thank all volunteers from across the districts for all they do to provide the scouting program to our youth! Scouting America would not exist in southeast Nebraska without all of us working together!**

Scoutmasters

THANK YOU!

District Committee  
Members

Unit Committee  
Chairs

Den Leaders

Cubmasters

Commissioners

Unit Committee Members

APRIL IS  
**National Child  
Abuse Prevention  
Month**



## When It Comes to Safeguarding Youth, We Are All Mandatory Reporters

Adult leaders and youth Scouting America members have a responsibility to **recognize, respond to and report.** It's not up to us to render judgment on whether a child has been abused. It is not up to us to conduct an investigation.

<https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2025/04/14/when-it-comes-to-child-protection-we-are-all-mandatory-reporters/>

Save the Date:

**Saturday, July 12**

8:00 am—2:00 pm

Commissioner Conference &  
Joint District  
Committee Meeting

Outdoor Education Center

More details to come!

Contact Karen if you have  
suggestions for topics  
and/or trainings

#### Commissioner Staff Contact Info

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### Dates to Remember

May 1: Roundtables

May 10: Sporting Clays Classic

May 17: Cub Scout Spring Event—  
"Hooked on Fishing"

May 19: Program Cabinet Meeting

May 21: Council Dinner

May 31: Youth Mental Health First  
Aid

June 6: Twilight Camp

June 8: Scouts BSA Resident Camps  
begin for two weeks

June 9: Cub Scout Day Camp begins

### Great Ideas for Unit Leaders

#### Cub Scout Resources

Check out the latest CubChat-Live video as **Science Elective Adventures Across Ranks** is discussed. It has some creative ways to use the science-focused elective Adventures to plan fun, exciting, hands-on activities for the whole pack. Upcoming "Chat" schedule:

**May 2:** STEM Series: Math Elective Adventures Across Ranks

**May 9:** STEM Series: Engineering Elective Adventures Across Ranks

**May 15:** New Den Meeting Resources Card Deck

<https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/cubchatlive/>

#### Troop Resources



#### Scouting for Clean Waterways

gives Scout BSA members an impactful way to perform a conservation-related service project.

Check out this #TroopTalkLive to see how the program fits into the Scouts BSA curriculum and how troops can use it to protect and conserve our rivers, ponds and lakes:

<https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/trooptalklive/>

#### Need more information about the Scouts BSA Clothing Guidelines?

Find out why the guidelines focus on safety, respect and the Scout values of courtesy and kindness, as well as the role troops play in developing their own clothing policies.

<https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/trooptalklive/>

<https://www.scouting.org/program-updates/scouting-activity-clothing-guideline/>

Our troop's clothing policy makes sure  
we all feel **welcome, safe, and  
respected.**



### Safety Moment — Aquatics Safety



Since the inception of Scouting, learning to swim and engaging in aquatics activities have been core to the program. More than 1.5 million aquatics-related merit badges have been earned since 2009.

Take Scouts near any body of water—whether it's a pool, lake, river, or ocean—and they have a natural desire to go swimming. There are plenty of age-appropriate aquatics activities.

But before that swim or row, we want everyone to have a plan and be on the same page when it comes to aquatics safety in the Scouting America program. The two key training prerequisites are **Safe Swim Defense** and **Safety Afloat**.

Both courses can be found on [my.scouting.org](https://my.scouting.org) and taken online anytime. All leaders are encouraged to take the training and **at least one adult needs the training when unit aquatics activities are conducted.** Upon course completion, leaders should be able to understand the key points of each program.

- Qualified supervision, personal health review, safe area, response personnel, lookout, ability groups, buddy system, and discipline make up the eight points of the Scouting America's Safe Swim Defense.
- Qualified supervision, personal health review, swimming ability, life jackets, buddy system, skill proficiency, planning, equipment, and discipline make up the nine points of the Scouting America's Safety Afloat.

#### Resources:

- \* *Guide to Safe Scouting*
- \* *Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat Training: MyScouting.org*

Source: <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/safety-moments/aquatics-safety/>

**MEMORIAL DAY**  
REMEMBER & HONOR