

Scouting Today

AUGUST 2025

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE CORNHUSKER COUNCIL, SCOUTING AMERICA

Contents:

Pages 1-2: Upcoming Council Events
 Pages 3: Camp Cornhusker News
 Pages 4-5: Safeguarding Youth
 Page 6: Special Events - Support your Council
 Pages 7 Exploring, Venturing, Sea Scouts
 Page 8-9: Salt Valley District Update
 Page x: Prairie Winds District Update
 Page x: Seven Feathers District Update
 Page 12-22: Council News
 Page 23-24: Golden Sun Lodge/OA News
 Page 25: Newest Eagle Scouts & Scholarship Updates
 Page 26: Scout Executive Minute -



EARN MONEY FOR YOUR UNIT!

POPCORN U, AUG 9!

Has your Unit signed up to sell popcorn yet? If not—HURRY! The Popcorn University will be on August 9th at the OEC—attending this training is the first step in earning your unit extra incentive money! Popcorn sales provides a HUGE profit return to Scouting—over 70%, some of this going back to the Council, but what a great way for your Unit to support your Council!

This is our 5th year in collaborating with Colby Ridge, who has been a fantastic partner to us! We provide all the sales tools for success. A popcorn app for selling, credit card sales, (fees paid by Colby Ridge), Scheels Rewards, Council Facebook Communities, and an online

POPCORN U (CONT.)

selling platform, plus GREAT incentives and bonus' for your Scouts.

The last few years the average sales per Scout selling has been well over \$700. This is a minimum of \$200 back to the unit (not counting prizes provided by the Council), that the unit can use towards providing the best program for our Scouts.

If your Unit has not signed up to sell, here's the link to sign up, and register for Popcorn U: <https://www.cornhuskercouncil.org/popcorn/kernels.html>

If your Unit did not sell last year, but you are interested in trying just an Online/Friends and Family Campaign with your Unit, please reach out to michelle.austin@scouting.org and let's talk about what that could look like!



WE WANT YOU! BECOME AN USHER!

Become part of a 75+ year tradition of Nebraska Scouts ushering at Nebraska home games!



You need to be at least 12 years old to usher, but 11 year old Scouts can sign up, with a registered parent/guardian accompanying.

A complete Scout Uniform (shirt, pants/shorts, belt, and socks) is required for admittance into the stadium. Ushers must be currently registered with Scouting America.

Sign up once and there is an option to mark which games you will not be able to attend, or mark that you can help with all games! If you can only make it to one game, just click on that one when signing up!

BE PART OF THE EXCITEMENT!

https://youtu.be/7rFntyM6B4g?si=CkLOZ_jxHwre9zy4

OUTDOOR PREPAREDNESS & OUTDOOR ADVENTURE TRAINING, AUG 22-24

- Are you interested in developing your skills in the outdoors, and learning from other Scouters who deliver significant outdoor program? **Then, this is the program for you!**

At the end of this course, you will receive completion of IOLS, and the outdoor portion of BALOO,

To fully complete BALOO, the subsequent BALOO online training needs to be completed, preferably bringing your certificates to the training so we can sign you off!



Of course, we're teaching an Outdoors course, so naturally it will take place in the outdoors, so personal preparation for the elements is necessary. It's also an overnight course, so we will be camping outdoors as part of our learning. Please see the attachments for a description of the things to bring. Also, please see the attachments for a proposed schedule, the necessary medical forms. We're looking forward to your participation!

***All participants need to take the BALOO online training in order to get credit for both IOLS and BALOO

**** This is an overnight campout course, tents are required.

Please see the attachment sections on these links for items you will need: [Cornhusker Council - Outdoor Preparedness](#) and [Cornhusker Council - Outdoor Adventures](#)

To take the prerequisite online training log into your training plan by going to:

My.scouting.org

Log into your account

Select menu in the top right-hand side.

Select my training.

Select Cub Scouting from the icon options.

Select Catalogue from the top center of the page.

Scroll down to the large BALOO icon and click on visit.

Click on enroll and complete the 4 modules approx. 35-40 minutes in length.

Print your completion certificate and bring it with you to the weekend!

We must have at least 5 participants and no more than 12.

Outdoor Preparedness BALOO/IOLS has a \$30.00 fee to cover the program materials and food

FILL UP ON TUESDAY'S! U-STOP "KICK IT BACK" TO SCOUTING IN AUGUST

Cornhusker Council and U-Stop partnered once again this year! Every **Tuesday** in August, U-Stop will donate 2 cents/gallon to the Cornhusker Council, Scouting America.

So, stop on by a U-Stop and "fill 'er up!"



CAMP CORNHUSKER NEWS

Camp Cornhusker is your camp!

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

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

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



CAMP CORNHUSKER 2026 STAFF MEMBER AND C.I.T. OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to Lucas Davis on his selection as the Eugene F. Hulbert Camp Staff Member of the year! Lucas is in Crew 324, works in Ecology and Conservation, and has been on staff since 2021.

Congratulations to Faith Davis on her selection as the Woodsmaster Counselor in Training member of the year! Faith is a member of Troop 222G. We're looking forward to both of them returning on staff in 2026!

RESERVE YOUR CAMPSITE NOW FOR A SPECIAL 70TH ANNIVERSARY SUMMER CAMP SEASON AT CAMP CORNHUSKER IN 2026!

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. Contact Will Cover (William.cover@scouting.org) to get your plaque updated or hung!



Campsite Sign Ups Camp Cornhusker 2026



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

CAMP CORNHUSKER 2026

70

YEARS

ESTABLISHED 1956

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



SAFEGUARDING FROM HIDDEN CAMERAS

In an increasingly connected world, the convenience of technology sometimes comes with the unsettling reality of privacy invasion. Hidden cameras, once the domain of spy thrillers, are now miniaturized, affordable, and unfortunately, accessible to those with malicious intent. From hotels and rental properties to public restrooms and changing rooms, the possibility of being unknowingly recorded is a growing concern.

But don't panic. There are proactive steps you can take to reduce the risk to your safety and security.

The Tell-Tale Signs: What to Look For

It's a good idea to familiarize yourself with common hiding spots and visual cues:

- **Air Vents & Air Fresheners:** These offer excellent camouflage for miniature lenses.
- **Smoke Detectors/Alarms:** These are classic hiding places. Check for anything that seems out of place, like a tiny lens, a small hole, or a power cord.
- **Clocks & Digital Devices:** Many modern hidden cameras are disguised as everyday electronics. Scrutinize charging ports, LED lights, and any unusual wiring.
- **Lighting Fixtures:** Carefully examine the light fixtures. Does any part of it seem unusual? Is there a small hole, a tiny lens, or a suspicious bulge that doesn't belong?
- **Power Outlets & USB Chargers:** Tiny cameras can be embedded in these, often with a small pinhole lens.
- **Mirrors & Wall Decor:** Be suspicious of two-way mirrors. Look for anything that seems slightly off-kilter or has a suspicious bulge.
- **Urinals and Toilets:** Hidden cameras often require only a tiny aperture. Look for power cables or anything that seems out of place.

Your Defensive Toolkit: Practical Strategies

Now that you know what to look for, here's how to actively search for hidden cameras:

The Visual Sweep: A Thorough Inspection

- **Start with the Obvious:** First, take time to methodically scan the room, paying close attention to the common hiding spots listed above.
- **Get Down Low and Up High:** Don't just scan at eye level. Get on your hands and knees to check under furniture and look up at ceilings and light fixtures.
- **Focus on Private Areas:** Prioritize bathrooms, bedrooms, and changing areas.

The Flashlight Test: Unmasking the Lens

- **Turn off the lights and use your phone's camera:** Many hidden cameras use infrared (IR) for night vision. Your smartphone camera can often detect these glowing IR lights, which are invisible to the naked eye.

- Most hidden cameras have a lens that will reflect light. Turn off the lights in the room and use your phone's flashlight to slowly scan every surface, particularly suspicious areas. Look for a tiny glint or reflection, like a small pinpoint of light. This could be a camera lens.

The Cell Phone Scan: There's an App for that

These apps use your phone's flashlight or infrared sensor to spot lenses from hidden cameras:

- Hidden Camera Detector (iOS & Android) - Uses magnetic sensor and infrared lens detection. Also detects potential devices on the network.
- Glint Finder (Android) - Uses the phone's flash to detect reflections from camera lenses. Best in dim lighting.
- Spy Camera Detector (iOS) - Uses a similar technique of light reflection. Can also scan for infrared lights.

Network Scanning Apps

These apps scan local Wi-Fi networks to identify IP cameras and other connected devices:

- Fing (iOS & Android) - Identifies all devices connected to a Wi-Fi network. Can help you spot unknown devices (e.g., hidden IP cameras).
- Network Scanner by First Row (Android) - Helps locate suspicious cameras.
- iNet (iOS) - Shows all devices on your network, including MAC addresses and vendor info.

RF and Magnetic Field Detection Apps

These apps detect electromagnetic fields that may indicate hidden electronics:

- Electromagnetic Detector EMF (Android) - Detects EMF radiation from hidden devices.
- ElectroSmart (Android) - Focuses on electromagnetic exposure, can alert to unusual activity.

What to Do If You Find a Hidden Camera:

Discovering a hidden camera can be deeply unsettling. Here's how to proceed:

- Do Not Touch or Disturb It: Preserve the scene as evidence.
- Contact Authorities: Call local law enforcement and follow their instructions.
- Inform Leadership: Unit Leader, Camp Director, and Scout Executive
- Document Everything: Make a report to ScoutsFirst.

While the thought of hidden cameras can be disturbing, staying informed and taking these proactive steps can empower you to protect our Scouts' privacy and security. Your vigilance is our best defense against unwanted intrusions.

What we Do in the Cornhusker Council

The Cornhusker Council has a hidden camera detector and routinely sweeps the buildings at Camp Cornhusker (pool house, cabins, latrines, bathrooms, etc.) before, during, and after camp, as well as the OEC (no, we've never found anything). There are several inexpensive detectors that are available on the market, some of which are small enough to fit in a suitcase or backpack. Do your research and consider procuring a device for your unit's use during outings, whether at a state park, hotel, etc.

SUPPORT YOUR COUNCIL

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS:

PREPARED FOR LIFE AUCTION

Join us on Thursday, October 9, 2025 at Robber's Cave in Lincoln, NE for our annual Prepared for Life Auction. This unforgettable evening of food, music, and fun supports the Scouting programs of the Cornhusker Council, helping build character, leadership, and life skills in young people throughout our community.

You can make a difference by purchasing tickets, becoming a sponsor, or donating auction items. For more information, contact Samantha Cressler at samantha.cressler@scouting.org.



CORN TO RUN TRAIL RACE, OCT 18

The first annual Corn to Run Trail Race is happening on Saturday, October 18, at Camp Cornhusker! This scenic trail run is open to all ages and experience levels, offering a fun and active way to support local Scouting programs. Choose from a 1-mile fun run, 5k or 10k to challenge yourself.



Sign-up today at <https://runsignup.com/Race/NE/DuBois/CornToRun>

Contact Samantha Cressler at samantha.cressler@scouting.org if you have any questions.

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES TO SUPPORT LOCAL SCOUTING:

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](#)

EXPLORING, VENTURING, SEA SCOUTS

Exploring: Jason Helmuth (info@cornhuskercouncil.org)

Venturing: Tom Rohlfes (trolfes_77@yahoo.com)

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



CONGRATULATIONS TO EXPLORER POST 575

Please help us congratulate the 2025 LPD Explorers Competition Team on their huge success at the Saint Louis Area Law Enforcement Exploring Association academy and competition this month.

They competed in 10 events against 13 other agencies and WON half of them:

- 1st: Active Shooter, Community Problem, Crime Scene Investigation, Hostage Negotiation, and Felony Car Stop
- 2nd: Officer Assist
- 3rd: Domestic Assault

In recent years, LPD Explorers have competed in Arizona, Kansas and Missouri. Where should they go next?

Do you have a kid that's 14-20 years old and interested in law enforcement? We want them to join Explorers! It's a FREE program run by LPD every school year. You can be dual-registered in Scouts BSA!



The Post's first meeting of 2025-2026 is Wednesday, August 20 from 6-8 PM at LPD HQ (575 S. 10th Street). Hope to see you there!

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 Rohlfes 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)

Director: Drew Wicks (Drew.Wicks@scouting.org)

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



TWILIGHT CAMP IS A SPIRITUAL ADVENTURE

Scouts from across the state attended our most recent Twilight Camp on Saturday, August 2. This month's camp covered the Family and Reverence adventures for each rank. Scouts learned the importance of the Scout Oath and Law in everyday life, made origami butterflies for Scouting's 'Messengers of Peace' campaign, and sat in on a non-denominational service with speakers from People's City Mission and Hope House.



GROW THE UNIT, GROW THE MOVEMENT

Fall recruitment is here! A few suggestions to build and keep the flow of scouts into your unit:

- *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.
- *Continue to invite prospective Scouts to troop activities. You never know what event will peak someone's interest.
- *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
- *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.

SALT VALLEY DISTRICT EVENTS [\(CLICK HERE FOR ALL EVENTS CALENDAR\)](#)**August 2025**

7 LPS Open house - Scout Booths

9 Popcorn University

16-17 OA Vigil Weekend

18 Program Cabinet Meeting

20 Commissioners Cabinet Meeting

22-23 Outdoor Preparedness Training at Camp Cornhusker [Cornhusker Council - Outdoor](#)

Preparedness

23 Cub Scout BB Gun/Archery Range Master Training

24-29 Invitation to Scouting Night (locations and times will vary)

26 SVD Committee Meeting

27 SNS Orders Due to Council (by Noon)

September 2025

1 Labor Day (office closed)

4 Roundtables

6 Ushering

10 Roundtable Planning Meeting

11 Popcorn Pickup 1

12 Popcorn Pickup 2

12 Popcorn Pickup Kickoff

13 Ushering

22 2nd Order Due to Council

23 Salt Valley District Committee

25 Salt Valley Eagle Board of Review

26-27 Fall Camporee (tent.)

October 2025

2 Roundtables

4 Ushering

9 Prepared for Life Auction

11 Cub Scout Day of Awesomeness

18 OA Fall Fellowship

18 Corn to Run 5K/ 10K/ Fun Run

18 Trail to Troops (former WEBELOS Woods)

20 End of Popcorn Sales

22 Final Popcorn Orders Due

24 Cub Scout Night at the Museum (tent.)

25 Youth Mental Health First Aid Training

28 Salt Valley District Committee

30-31 Final Popcorn Distribution

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>



PRAIRIE WINDS-SEVEN FEATHERS TAILGATE-OREE, SEP 19-21

PRAIRIE WINDS – SEVEN FEATHERS TAILGATE-OREE

CAMP ASHLAND, SEP 19-21



THE BEST TAILGATE IN NEBRASKA! WATCH THE GAME, COMPETE IN GAMES, HAVE FUN!

Register here! [CORNHUSKER COUNCIL - SEVEN FEATHERS/PRAIRIE WINDS DISTRICT FALL CAMPOREE](#)

UPCOMING PRAIRIE WINDS DISTRICT EVENTS/DEADLINES

August 2025

7 Roundtable

9 Popcorn University

16-17 OA Vigil Weekend

18 Program Cabinet Meeting

20 Commissioners Cabinet Meeting

22-23 Outdoor Preparedness Training at Camp Cornhusker [Cornhusker Council - Outdoor](#)

[Preparedness](#)

23 Cub Scout BB Gun/Archery Range Master Training

27 SNS Orders Due to Council (by Noon)

September 2025

1 Labor Day (office closed)

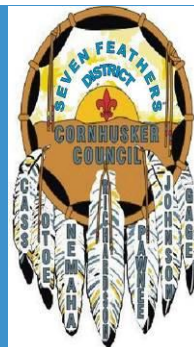
4 Roundtables

6 Ushering
10 Roundtable Planning Meeting
11 Popcorn Pickup 1
12 Popcorn Pickup 2
12 Popcorn Pickup Kickoff
13 Ushering
22 2nd Order Due to Council
19-21 PWD-7FD Fall Camporee at Camp Ashland

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>



PRAIRIE WINDS-SEVEN FEATHERS TAILGATE-OREE, SEP 19-21



Register here! [CORNHUSKER COUNCIL - SEVEN FEATHERS/PRAIRIE WINDS DISTRICT FALL CAMPOREE](#)

UPCOMING SEVEN FEATHERS DISTRICT EVENTS/DEADLINES

August 2025

7 Roundtable
9 Popcorn University
16-17 OA Vigil Weekend

18 Program Cabinet Meeting
20 Commissioners Cabinet Meeting
21 District Committee Meeting
22-23 Outdoor Preparedness Training at Camp Cornhusker [Cornhusker Council - Outdoor Preparedness](#)
23 Cub Scout BB Gun/Archery Range Master Training
27 SNS Orders Due to Council (by Noon)

September

3 Properties Committee Meeting
4 Roundtables
6 Ushering
11 Popcorn Pickup 1
12 Popcorn Pickup 2
12 Popcorn Pickup Kickoff
13 Ushering
18 District Committee Meeting
19-21 PWD-7FD Fall Camporee at Camp Ashland
22 2nd Order Due to Council

COUNCIL NEWS

HOW IS YOUR TROOP DOING?

Scouts BSA recently launched 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](#)



CUB SCOUT BB GUN/ARCHERY RANGE MASTER TRAINING, AUG 23RD

Would you like to learn how to set up the BB Gun and Archery Ranges for Cub Scouts? Join us for Range Training.

Check and see if you need to update your training. These are good for 2 years.

10:00am-2:00pm Classroom
2:00-5:00pm-Practical for Cub Scouts and Archery Make UP



LINCOLN ELKS LODGE #80 - SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS



LINCOLN ELKS NO. 80
5910 South 58th Street, Lincoln, NE 68516

Elks Care - Elks Share

Did you know that Lincoln Elks Lodge #80 has awarded thousands of dollars to High School Seniors in Lincoln and the surrounding area high schools every year? For more information, contact Lincon Elks #80 at (402) 421-6363 or visit: [Scholarships - Lincoln Elks Lodge #80 - Lincoln, NE](#)

2026 JAMBOREE - SIGN UP BELOW!

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](#)

Adult Leaders Needed! We are accepting applications for adults to lead our contingent. You must be currently registered, current on trainings, and completed Wilderness 1st 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).



TRAIL TO TROOPS

Trail to Troops will be held October 18th, at the Outdoor Education Center located at 800 South 120th Street, Walton, NE 68520.



Trail to Troops is an exciting event built for Arrow of Light Scouts. Statistics show that events like this are very successful in retaining AOL's in the Scouting program. AOL's get a chance to talk with older Scouts, find out how each Troop works, and discover the start to the best path to continue their Scouting adventures. Plus, they will complete an adventure or two to help complete your Arrow of Light. Register here: [Cornhusker Council - Trail to Troops](#)

EARN THE CORNHUSKER COUNCIL'S 250TH ANNIVERSARY AWARD!

In honor of the United States' 250th anniversary, Cornhusker Council invites all youth and adult members to commemorate this historic milestone by earning a special Nebraska 250th Anniversary Patch. This program encourages Scouts to explore our state's history, recognize important figures, contribute to their communities, and reflect on Nebraska's place in the story of America.



Historical Background:

The United States will mark its Semiquincentennial in 2026, celebrating 250 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776. Nebraska, while not one of the original thirteen colonies, played a critical role in the westward expansion of the U.S. and the shaping of the nation. From the Louisiana Purchase and the passage of the Homestead Act, to the legacy of leaders like Chief Standing Bear, Nebraska holds a unique place in America's journey toward liberty and justice for all.

To honor this milestone, this patch program combines historical learning with civic engagement, outdoor exploration, and service—true to the spirit of Scouting.

Program Details:

Eligibility:

Open to all registered youth and adult members of Cornhusker Council, Scouting America, including:

- Cub Scouts
- Scouts BSA
- Venturers
- Sea Scouts
- Adult Leaders

Timeframe:

All requirements must be completed and submitted by **December 31, 2026**.

Award Requirements:

To earn the **Nebraska 250th Anniversary Patch**, complete **all** of the following:

ALL PARTICIPANTS (Youth and Adults):

- **Chief Standing Bear Award**
Earn or have previously earned this meaningful Cornhusker Council recognition.
- **Visit a Historic Nebraska Site:**
Choose at least one of the following:
 - Your County Courthouse

- The Nebraska State Capitol
- The Nebraska State Historical Society
- Homestead National Historical Park
- **Community Service:**
Participate in a service project benefiting your community or chartered organization. Examples:
 - Help in a local parade
 - Assist with a grounds clean-up
 - Participate in a food drive or flag ceremony
- **U.S. Mint Coin Collection Activity:**
Collect or view the 1976 Bicentennial coins and the upcoming 2026 Semiquincentennial coins:
 - Quarter
 - Half-Dollar
 - Dollar

(Coin replicas, virtual collections, or family heirlooms are acceptable for display purposes.)

Cub Scouts:

- **Citizenship Requirement**
Complete the Citizenship Adventure/requirement in your current den level (per Cub Scout handbooks).
- **Revolutionary Hero Research**
Learn about a famous figure from the American Revolutionary War and tell your adult leader about them.

Scouts BSA & Venturers:

- **Merit Badge Completion**
Earn **at least one** of the following:
 - *Citizenship in the Nation*
 - *Citizenship in the Community*
 - *Scouting Heritage*
(Scouts who have already earned all three merit badges automatically fulfill this requirement.)
- **Revolutionary Hero Research**
Research and present to your Adult Leader about a key Revolutionary War figure.

Adult Leaders:

- **Support Youth Participation**
Actively assist your Scouts in completing the patch requirements.
- *(Optional Addition - for adult patch wear):* Share a brief written or verbal reflection about Nebraska's or your family's connection to American history or civic engagement.

Submission Instructions:

Once all requirements are completed, submit the **Nebraska 250th Anniversary Patch Completion Form** to:

Cornhusker Council Office

PO Box 269

800 S 120th St.

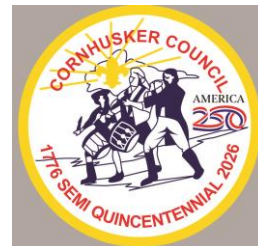
Walton, NE 68461

Patches can be awarded at an upcoming court of honor, pack meeting, or special ceremony.

Additionally, we are offering a second patch to commemorate the 250th Anniversary! The patch design is based off of 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 will be available in the Scout Store in September.

Questions?

Contact Cornhusker Council or visit cornhuskerCouncil.org

**APPLY FOR THE VFW SCOUT OF THE YEAR AWARD**

Annually, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States recognizes individuals who are: Eagle Scouts, Girl Scout Gold Award recipients, Venture Summit Award recipients and/or Sea Scout Quartermasters who have risen above their peers in exemplifying the qualities of that rank.

To be eligible for the award, the candidate must:

- Be the recipient of the Eagle Scout Award, Girl Scout Gold Award, Venture Summit Award or Sea Scout Quartermaster Award.
- Be a registered, active member of a Boy or Girl Scout Troop, Venturing Crew or Sea Scout Ship at the time the above reward was received.
- Have demonstrated exemplary citizenship in school, Scouting and community.



There is no minimum age requirement for applicants as long as all other eligibility criteria has been met. The maximum age requirement for applicants is 18 years old. If an applicant reaches their 18th birthday during the nomination year, they remain eligible as long as they are still in high school at the time of the submission deadline. A Scout may enter through only **one** VFW Post. A local Post can be identified by zip code at vfw.org/FindaPost.

For more information contact your local VFW Post or at their website: Scout of the Year - VFW

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

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>

"SCOUTLY" - AI CHATBOT

Scouting America announced the launch of Scoutly, a powerful new AI assistant designed to provide instant, reliable support to the entire Scouting community.

Scoutly is more than a search tool – it's an interactive chatbot trained on an extensive, contained knowledge base of official Scouting America resources. This ensures a safe, child-friendly experience without relying on external internet searches.



Scoutly is now available 24/7 on Scouting.org and BeAScout.org, providing answers to a variety of Scouting questions. You can interact with Scoutly by selecting the floating Scoutly icon on the lower right corner of each of these websites.

Scoutly's primary mission is to simplify the journey for new families. By providing a conversational and streamlined registration process, the assistant helps parents find a local Scout unit and complete the registration process.

Key Features of Scoutly Include:

- **Dedicated Knowledge Base:** Scoutly is trained on official Scouting America documents, including the Guide to Safe Scouting, program handbooks, and leader guides, ensuring all information is accurate and safe.
- **Merit Badge Expertise:** The assistant has a comprehensive understanding of all Scouts BSA merit badges, with detailed information from the official merit badge pamphlets. It will also be the primary source for the new Artificial Intelligence Merit Badge set to be released in mid-September.
- **Simplified Registration:** Scoutly offers a conversational approach to help new parents find and register their children in a local unit, streamlining the entire onboarding process.

- **Round-the-Clock Support:** Available on Scouting.org and BeAScout.org, Scoutly provides quick answers to a variety of Scouting questions.

By providing easy, instant access to critical information, Scoutly allows leaders and parents to focus on what truly matters: providing a life-changing experience for young people.

For any questions or concerns about Scoutly, please use the feedback link in the Scoutly chat box.

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!**

SAVE THE DATE!!! WOODBADGE 2026! APR 10-12 AND APR 26-28

Welcome to Cornhusker Council Wood Badge!

Wood Badge is an adult training where you work with others to learn and practice leadership skills (as a member of a successful working team) and live the values of scouting.



This course will help you understand the full values-based family of Scouting programs as well as discover ways to use the leadership skills to improve your personal and professional life.

Wood Badge gives leaders the skills they need to strengthen Scouting in meaningful ways and deliver a quality program to our youth.

Skills Useful Outside of Scouting

You will be able to use these lessons and experiences from Wood Badge outside of scouting to make every team a successful team, whether the team is at your work or is your family. Inspired in England by Lord Baden-Powell at Gilwell Camp, Wood Badge is today offered around the world. Upon completion, a Scouter receives a certificate, neckerchief, woggle, and beads, and becomes a permanent member of Troop 1, Gilwell.

Woodbadge Course Description

Wood Badge is advanced leadership training for adult leaders in all of Boy Scouting's program areas - Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, Varsity Scouting, and Venturing - as well Council and District leaders. It teaches skills that are useful in Scouting, work, family, and other community service activities. The focus is on leadership and team-building, not outdoor skills.

Objectives of Wood Badge

To enable you to view Scouting globally, as a family of interrelated, values-based programs that provide age-appropriate activities

To help you recognize contemporary leadership concepts that applies to our values-based movement.

To apply the skills learned as a member of a successful working team.

To revitalize your commitment to Scouting by sharing in an overall inspirational experience.

Course Organization

The Wood Badge experience is divided into two parts - a practical phase and an application phase.

Practical Phase

The practical phase consists of Five days of instruction.

During this time you will become a member of a group, share skills and knowledge, become an effective team and have a great experience while doing it.

Themes covered in the practical phase include:

- Living the Values (developing your personal mission and vision)
- Bringing the Vision to Life (communication skills, coaching and mentoring, leveraging diversity)
- Models for Success (how your style of leadership should relate to the skills of your team)
- Tools of the Trade (project planning, managing conflict, assessing team performance, managing change, celebrating team success)
- Leading to Make a Difference (leaving a legacy and secrets of leadership)

With the help of a staffer, you will be able to develop a "ticket" by the end of the practical phase of the course. This is a set of 5 personal goals designed to significantly strengthen the program in which you are involved. The ticket provides a structure for the practice of the new skills you will learn.

Application Phase

The application phase is also known as "working your ticket". You will have 18 months to complete your ticket, which will allow you to become proficient in the leadership and team-building 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 certificate, neckerchief, woggle, and beads at an appropriate public ceremony.

UNIFORM: A full, official uniform is required and consists of: official BSA uniform shirt; official BSA uniform pants, shorts or skirts- skirts or shorts are worn, official BSA socks are required; and official BSA web belt.

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

SHARE YOUR GO-TO IDEAS WITH THE CUB SCOUT COMMUNITY USING THIS NEW RESOURCE

Our favorite thing about Cub Scouting? The community it creates!

Yes, we love Pinewood Derby and all the classic Cub Scout events, but the real Scouting magic happens when leaders from around the world share creativity one mind alone could never muster.

That's why the Cub Scout team is excited to launch a new way to share your great Cub Scouting ideas: a crowdsourced hub for activities, games and ceremonies. Whether it's a rainy-day game that saved your sanity or a truly moving crossover ceremony idea, we need to know the activities that worked for you.

Want to learn more? Check out our recent #CubChatLive where the Cub Scout team announced this new concept and explained how to use it effectively. See the following blog for more information:

[Share your go-to ideas with the Cub Scout community using this new resource - Aaron On Scouting](#)

COUNCIL TRAINING UPDATE

As of August 5, 2025, 48.1% of the adult leaders in the Cornhusker Council are on record as having completed training for their specific position(s). 98.1% of the adults are current on their Youth Protection/Safeguarding Youth Training, but around 4% of those will expire in the next 90 days

All of our numbers are on an upward trend which is great to see! For the position specific training especially, we would like to see that number higher than 60%, and for Youth Protection/Safeguarding Youth Training that number should be 100%.

If you are part of the Key 3 for a unit, please make sure you are actively working with new and existing leaders in your unit to get them through the training for the positions they hold in the unit. Also, remember that direct contact leaders, which would be Den Leaders, Cubmasters, Assistant Scoutmasters and Scoutmasters need to keep their Hazardous Weather Training current to be considered trained. The Hazardous Weather Training currently needs to be renewed every two years.



If you ever need help reviewing the reports for your unit, or you have questions about position specific training or Safeguarding Youth Training please reach out to our District and Council Training Chairs.

Council Training Chair- Mike McCollough: scoutermike14@gmail.com

Salt Valley District Training Chair- John Schuff: john.schuff@gmail.com

Seven Feathers District Training Chair- Travis Hespen: Twillie_05@hotmail.com

Prairie Winds District Training Chair- Applications welcome, in the meantime reach out to Mike McCollough- scoutermike14@gmail.com

If you are a part of the Prairie Winds District, and are interested in training, we would love to have you volunteer to be a District Training Chair. If you have any questions about being a Training Chair please reach out to Mike McCollough, scoutermike14@gmail.com, he would love to hear from you.

FALL BEAVER DAYS - CAMP CORNHUSKER!

Fall Beaver Days at Camp Cornhusker are set!

Aug 23
Sept 6
Sept 20
Oct 11
Oct 25



Troops can camp over the weekend or come down to camp as individuals. Meaningful work for our camp and camaraderie! What a great way to spend a weekend! Scouts and Scouters will receive a Beaver Day patch and the work weekend serves as credit for honor troop next year at Camp Cornhusker and meets non-Eagle service hour requirement.

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](#)

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

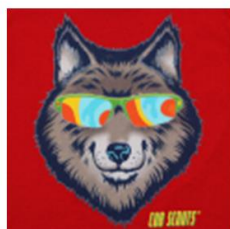
We are set up with our new online ordering system that goes directly into the Cornhusker Council Tradingpost email. A unit can upload their advancement form for rank advancements and browse for other advancements and items needed. Uniform etc.

Units will click Cornhusker Council to place their order and we try to fill it within 24 hours.

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. **GET YOUR NEW CUBSCOUT RANK SHIRTS!** These are the *Glow-in-the-Dark* Cub Scout shirts we carry on a limited basis and in select sizes. They make great first "Class B" shirts for new Cubs. With recruiting events kicking off next week, this is a great way to support recruitment and retention. Cool gear helps keep Scouting exciting! Contact the Scout Shop!



Camp



Cornhusker Gear at the OEC! Weren't able to get your Camp Cornhusker swag this summer? Stop on by the OEC and pick out your favorite hat, t-shirt, or hoodie!

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

7. 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.

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



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

August

- 9 Popcorn University
- 16-17 OA Vigil Weekend
- 18 Program Cabinet Meeting
- 20 Commissioners Cabinet Meeting
- 22-23 Outdoor Preparedness Training
- 23 Cub Scout BB Gun/Archery Range Master Training
- 23 Beaver Day at Camp Cornhusker
- 27 SNS Orders due to Council by NOON

September

- 3 Properties Committee Meeting
- 4 Roundtables
- 6 Ushering
- 6 Beaver Day at Camp Cornhusker
- 12 Popcorn Sales begin
- 13 Ushering
- 17 Life to Eagle Seminar
- 20 Beaver Day at Camp Cornhusker

October

- 1 Properties Committee Meeting
- 2 Roundtable
- 4 Ushering
- 9 Prepared for Life Auction

11 Cub Scout Day of Awesomeness
 11 Beaver Day at Camp Cornhusker
 13 Columbus Day (office closed)
 16 Seven Feathers District Committee Meeting
 18-19 Trail to Troops
 18 OA Fall Fellowship
 18 Corn to Run
 22 Final Popcorn Order Due from Units
 24 Cub Scout Night at the Museum
 25 Beaver Day at Camp Cornhusker
 25 Ushering
 25 Youth Mental Health First Aid

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



OA VIGIL WEEKEND, AUG 16-17

All Golden Sun Lodge Vigil Honor members are encouraged to attend to help induct and receive this year's class of Vigil Honor members. Register at: [Cornhusker Council - OA Vigil Weekend](#)

SECTION G5 CONCLAVE 2025, SEP 12-14

Something mysterious is brewing in Section G5... Arrowmen from across the section will convene for a weekend of fellowship, discovery, and adventure at Camp Cedars! This year's conclave embraces a mystery theme, offering engaging activities that challenge your mind and build camaraderie.

Throughout the weekend, participants can look forward to:

- Interactive escape rooms
- Mystery-themed games and challenges
- Access to the climbing tower
- Fun incentives and unique activities for all age groups
- Workshops and training sessions to develop leadership and lodge engagement

Whether you're piecing together clues with your lodge, scaling new heights, or making memories around the campfire, Section Conclave 2025 promises a weekend of adventure and fellowship which you'll never forget!

REGISTER HERE: registration.oa-scouting.org/Event/1289/?ai=5a33fdf7-9119-4ff4-81f9-5474fe1d3dbd&fbclid=IwY2xjawLZZQtleHRuA2FlbQlXMQBicmlkETF4cUM2UDZmdzAxR0V5R0I4AR5_DGzILSsm4tNlfgfw0Uro28fdfGrEh9leh3n30BKvd7axD6VpzoqfuYz0cw_aem_8PIG_kat5sObGgVRcDIkMw

GOLDEN SUN LODGE POW WOW HELD AUG 1-3

The Gold Sun Lodge held its annual Pow Wow at Camp Cornhusker, Aug 1-3. Thirty new members were inducted into the Order of the Arrow and three sealed their membership in the Order of the Arrow. Thousands of hours of work projects were completed by the Arrowmen over the weekend to. The Arrowmen built picnic tables, cleaned and organized the maintenance lay-down yard, removed debris from campsites caused by recent storm damage, upgraded several latrines, and many other projects. If you were elected into the OA this spring and were unable to attend the Pow Wow, you can still complete your membership at Spring Event 2026, typically held on the first weekend in May.

The Lodge also held elections for Lodge and Chapter Officers. Congratulations to the following slate of new officers. Some Committee Chairs were also selected. There is room for more volunteers! If interested, contact the Lodge Advisor and Lodge Chief.

Lodge Chief: Jake Manning
Lodge Vice-Chief: Nolan Caldwell
Lodge Secretary: Matthew Hoops
Lodge Treasurer: Jackson Rickers
7F Chapter Chief: JT Pruitt
PW Chapter Chief: Paul Dale
SV Chapter Chief: Peter Engelman
Immediate Past Lodge Chief - Isaac Hiser
Lodge Advisor - Brooks Rushmann

Lodge Committee Chairs:
Membership: Randall Spade
Inductions: Colton Brunkow
Ceremonies: Thomas Engelman
Service: Jacob Diedrichsen



Evening Ceremonies



Sunrise Ceremony



Hike to Inspiration Point



Brotherhood candidates

CONGRATULATIONS TO CORNHUSKER COUNCIL'S NEWEST EAGLE SCOUTS



Mike Risney, Troop 34

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)

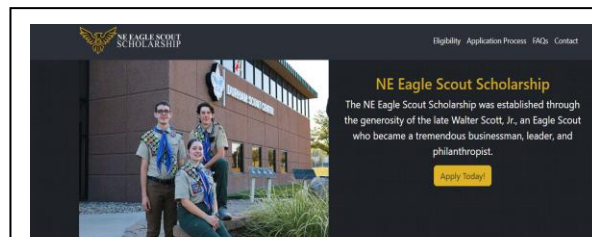


APO EAGLES
APO ALUMNI ASSOCIATION & NESA AFFILIATE GROUP
APOEagles.org | Founded 2015

APO Eagles the Eagle Scout Alumni Association of Alpha Phi Omega, National Service Fraternity (APO), and National Affiliate of the National Eagle Scout Association (NESA) is proud to sponsor a Scholarship for college-bound scouts. The program seeks to recognize Scouts who have demonstrated they are leaders, are friends with all, and are of service to the communities in which they live.

A scholarship between \$2,000 and \$5,000 will be awarded to an Eagle Scout who has shown active participation in school, Scouting activities, and community service. In addition, they will have demonstrated a commitment to Leadership Friendship & Service. Deadline is April 30, 2026.

SCHOLARSHIP - APO EAGLE SCOUT



Any Eagle Scout
From Nebraska or from Harrison, Mills, or Pottawattamie county in Iowa

Any Field of Study
Pursue your passion and further your education

Any Nebraska Institution
Choose from a list of over 30 colleges or universities

NEBRASKA EAGLE SCOUT SCHOLARSHIP!

The NE Eagle Scout Scholarship provides Eagle Scouts from Nebraska and from Harrison, Mills or Pottawattamie counties in Iowa scholarship funds to attend a post-secondary institution in the state of Nebraska. Students attending a two-year institution in Nebraska are eligible for up to \$6,000 (\$3,000 annually) and students attending a four-year institution in Nebraska are eligible for up to \$12,000 (\$3,000 annually). For more information, see their website:

[NE Eagle Scout Scholarship](#)



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

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



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

SCOUT EXECUTIVE MINUTE

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL—AND BACK TO SCOUTING!

As backpacks fill with school supplies and lunchboxes are packed once again, we want to welcome all our Scouting families back for an exciting new year! The return to school also means a return to the adventure, character-building, and lifelong memories that come with Scouting.

We're kicking off the season with one of our most anticipated traditions—**Popcorn Season!** Not only is it a fun and rewarding way for Scouts to practice their communication and entrepreneurial skills, but it also helps fund their adventures throughout the year. Kick off happens this Saturday, Aug 9th!



This fall, **Camporees** are back and bigger than ever. Whether your Scout is new to camping or a seasoned veteran, these events promise camaraderie, skill-building, and the spirit of friendly competition that brings Scouts together across the districts and council.

Football ushering is another exciting tradition returning this fall. Scouts and leaders will have the chance to serve their community and showcase Scouting to the public while enjoying the electric energy of game day.

Trail to Troops IS HAPPENING THIS YEAR! Arrow of Lights will come out to the OEC, earn requirements, and see what Scouts BSA is all about!

And this year, we have a truly special moment to celebrate: the **250th anniversary of the United States**. As Scouts, we are proud to live out the values of citizenship and patriotism every day, and this milestone gives us an opportunity to honor our nation's rich history while preparing future leaders to carry it forward. Check out the article in this newsletter on a couple special offerings we have for Scouts and Scouters to commemorate this special milestone.

With all this and more on the horizon, we're thrilled to begin another chapter of growth, service, and adventure. Whether you're a new family or a returning one, thank you for being a part of Scouting. We can't wait to see what we accomplish together this year!

Finally, **CONGRATULATIONS** to Jayden Butzky from Troop 180 in Utica! Jayden is an Eagle Scout and was recently awarded a scholarship from the Nebraska Eagle Scout Scholarship foundation.