

NEWSLETTER



Cub Scout Winter Line-Up

Cub Scout Programs don't end when it starts getting cold...in fact, there are some who might think that the program gets even more fun when the temperature drops below freezing! We have so many events centered around getting our Cub Scout families outside this winter! Take a look through these pages to see what interests you and your family.

Scout Office Closed on
Tuesday , November 11th.
In honor of Veterans Day!

VETERANS DAY

★★★
Remember and Honor



Religious Emblems Program

Forty-two different religious organizations have developed Religious Emblems programs and are recognized as partners with Scouting America. Currently the National Religious Relationships Committee provides an updated Duty to God brochure to use in identification and connection with faith agencies or church bodies that fortify a young person's Scouting Experience. Knowing your resources will help you pursue these unique opportunities - Please visit the [Scouting America Religious Emblems program](#) for more information on an emblem that might apply to you. Also, the [Pray.Org Site](#) for information on religious Emblems Coordinator.



Council Fireside Chat - December 4th

Please join the council Key-4 on Thursday, December 4 from 6:30-7:15 pm for the Gamehaven Council Fireside Chat. Topics to include Broers Adventure Camp information, Gamehaven Scout Camp updates, 2025 year in review and 2026 Gamehaven aspirational goals. We'll also have an opportunity for questions and answers. Following the fireside chat, districts will have their scheduled Roundtables.

Questions? -Let us know ahead of time.

We invite everyone to attend: [Fireside Chat Zoom](#)

It's Time to Order Pinewood Derby Cars & Patches

It's hard to believe, but Pinewood Derby season is fast approaching. To all our Cub Scout leaders we need to know how many pinewood derby cars your pack needs. I would like to place one order for all packs on Wednesday, November 12th.

Please send me the following Info:

- Pack number
- How many kits you need
- How many PWD patches do you want this year?
- Date of PWD event & location
- Pack contact person's name, email and phone number

You can respond to [my email](#) with the above information. I will then call you when the kits come in and you can pick them up. If there are dollars in your Sellwise unit account, I will ring up the order, and get it ready for pickup.

Also, if you would like to order the latest Patch for the Derby just let me know how many. This year it is called "On-Fire" for Pinewood derby season and the cost is \$2.49 each and measures about 3.5" X 2.24".



Get Ready to Read!

NEW PROGRAM ALERT! The outdoor Book Club is a new program offering at Gamehaven Scout Camp for any family that like books, getting outside, and trying hands-on activities. Each month we'll meet to talk about the book, eat a book-themed snack, try hands-on-activities, and participate in an outdoor activity centered on the book. Months alternate between young reader selections for early elementary school, and chapter reader selections for late elementary school and middle school readers.



All book clubs start and end inside. All families are welcome and accommodated for!

NOVEMBER (Chapter Book) - HATCHET (Paulsen) - Sunday, Nov. 16th (1-3pm)

Brian is on his way to Canada to visit his estranged father when the pilot of his small prop plane suffers a heart attack. Brian is forced to crash-land the plan in a lake, and finds himself stranded in the remote Canadian wilderness with only his clothing and the hatchet his Mom gave him as a present before his departure.

DECEMBER (Young Reader) - BEAR SNORES ON (Wilson) -Sunday Dec. 21st (1-3pm)

One by one, a whole host of different animals and birds find their way out of the cold and into Bear's cave to warm up. But even after the tea has been brewed and the corn has been popped, Bear just snores on! See what happens when he finally wakes up and finds his cave full of uninvited guests. All of them having a party without him!

[Book Club Registration](#)

Annual Council Kick-Off Event- Save the Date

Please join us for the 2026 Program Kick-off Event on **Tuesday, February 24th** at Hosanna Lutheran Church – 2815 57th St. NW Rochester. The event will begin at 6:30 pm and will be in-person. Dinner will be provided for 2 people per unit. We will be handing out program information and supplies for the remainder of the calendar year and winter months of 2027. More information in the coming months.



Operation Icicle - Cub Scouts - Jan. 2-4, 2026



- **WHAT:** Operation Icicle, a weekend-long winter camp extravaganza at Gamehaven Scout Camp. Come bunk in our lodges, participate in lots of fun and games, and compete for prizes and awards. Operation Icicle is open to the whole family!
- **WHEN:** January 2nd – 4th, 2026.
- **WHERE:** Gamehaven Scout Camp
- **WHO:** Families with children in grades K-5
- **HOW:** Registration opens soon at [Operation Icicle -Cub Scouts](#). Until then save the date on your calendar.

Polar Cubs- Biggest Winter Event of the Year!

This traditional program dates back more than 25 years at Gamehaven Scout Camp. This one day celebration of winter is perfect for new families and returning families alike. Highlights include cardboard sled race, crafts, games & more.

- **WHEN:** January 24th, 2026
- **WHERE:** Gamehaven Scout Camp
- **WHO:** Families with children in grades K-5
- **HOW:** Registration opens soon at <https://scoutingevent.com/299-polarcubs26>



Ultimate Sledding Night



Join us on the disco-lit sledding hill for a night of ultimate sledding! We'll be sending tubes, sleds and more down the hill under the bright lights and blaring music. When you are tuckered out, come into the nearby warming shack for hot chocolate and an assortment of treats for sale.

When: February 7, 2026 (Saturday)

Where: Gamehaven Scout Camp

HOW: Registration opens soon at....

[Ultimate Sledding Registration](#)

Ice Fishing Derby - Compete for the Biggest Fish

Whether you are a newbie or an expert, there is something for you on the ice at Gamehaven Lake. Join us and our panel of experts as we compete for the biggest fish, smallest fish, the most fish caught, and other fun contests. The competition is open to families and individuals.

When: February 7, 2026 (Saturday)

Where: Gamehaven Scout Camp reservoir

Who: Open to all!

How: Registration opens soon! Until then mark your calendar! [Ice Fishing Derby](#)



Help Us Re-Envision Gamehaven Scout Camp

We are excited to share that the Gamehaven Master Planning Committee is actively working to re-build camp for renewed use- focusing on revitalizing programming, infrastructure, and engagement to better serve our community.

The Committee is dedicated to:

- Re-imagining camp spaces and systems to meet current needs
- Centering user experience and accessibility
- Align camp activities with strategic outcomes
- Exploring innovating model for sustainability and impact

As part of this effort, we're gathering input from people who care about outcomes to help shape a shared wish list. Your voice matters, and we would love to hear from you!

Please take 3-5 minutes to complete this short survey: [Help Us Revision Gamehaven!](#)

Your ideas will help guide the committee's work and ensure camp is rebuilt with purpose, inclusion and creativity.

Thank you for being a part of this vision! Be on the lookout- A separate email will be going out soon with information on some public comment sessions with out committee.

Snowshoeing with The Scout Executive

I would like to invite registered adult leaders to join me for some snowshoeing at Gamehaven Scout Camp for a couple of hours of comradery, idea sharing, winter scenery, and of course, physical fitness and fresh air.

When: Sunday, January 11th, February 8th, and March 1st

Who: Up to 12 registered adult leaders per session.

Where: Gamehaven Scout Camp – 5015 Simpson Rd. SE – Rochester

Time: 12:45 check-in - 1:00-3:00 pm - Activity

What to bring: Your favorite snowshoes or hiking boots, trekking poles, cameras, binoculars, and winter weather gear.

Info: We'll check in at the Admin Building (bathrooms available) and head out for the course. Please park in the main lot near the gateway.

- January 11: [Snowshoeing Signup](#)
- February 8: [Snowshoeing Signup](#)
- March 1: [Snowshoeing Signup](#)



Family Friends of Scouting

Family Friends of Scouting is our council's stand alone fundraiser for the entire year. 100% of contributions received remain in our council to fund our programs, camp, and operations. Our staff will be reaching out to you in the coming weeks to secure a date at a Pack Blue & Gold or Troop Court of Honor. Should you have that date set and would like to share it, please email tony.debusk@scouting.org or arne.landsverk@scouting.org

Your support is critical and much appreciated. Thank you for enabling our council to provide Scouting to southeast Minnesota youth.

