

MARCH 15, 2026

www.gamehavenbsa.org

GAMEHAVEN CUB SCOUTS

# NEWSLETTER



## Baloo Training Weekend for Cub Leaders-May 2-3rd

**BALOO (Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation)** is comprised of an online prerequisite course to cover BSA national Cub Scout camping program guidelines and goals, followed by in person training. The in person training is an overnight camping trip with Baloo staff where Scouters will get a chance to play games, learn what gear to take when camping with Cubs, and build their traditional Scouting skills like knots, map and compass, first aid, hiking, campfires and more. The course is taught by instructors who have a passion for their subjects. Along the way you will connect with other Cub Scout leaders and share wisdom, and laughter while enjoying a beautiful weekend in the Minnesota woods.

**Sign up Today:** <https://scoutingevent.com/299-baloo26>

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## Safeguarding Youth Training Concerns

**There is a date looming that is making Registrar Pam Legried nervous:** 60% of our adult volunteers in Gamehaven Council have a SYT (Safeguarding Youth Training) expiration date of 5/31/2026.



**PLEASE** do not wait until the last minute to retake this important training in your my.scouting.org account as the platform gets famously bogged down with large volume activity. I am the Council support person for resetting the password if you run into trouble with accessing your my.scouting.org. I'm also the person that will have to suspend registrations for people that allow their SYT to expire. Please don't let that be you!

**Note about adult paper applications that are submitted to Gamehaven Council for processing:** Please make sure the SYT completion certificate is included with the application. We can no longer accept paper applications without the assurance that SYT is done.

Thank you,  
Pam Legried

[Pamela.Legried@scouting.org](mailto:Pamela.Legried@scouting.org)

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## Spring Work Saturday at GSC!- April 11th

April 11th is the Spring Work Saturday at Gamehaven Scout Camp! Enjoy food and fellowship while getting our camp ready for a busy spring and summer season! We will welcome anyone who can make it out and devote some time to sprucing up our camp . There will be a mix of labor-intensive and non-intensive projects, including painting, trimming, hauling, and cleaning.

**Saturday's work weekend will run from 8am - 3pm.**

Sign up is open today at <https://scoutingevent.com/299-workweekends>.

## Gamehaven Council Grand Prix Event

The Gamehaven Council Grand Prix is happening on April 18th at the Apache Mall in Rochester! Get ready for a high-octane time as you and your fellow Cub Scouts across the Gamehaven Council race pinewood derby cars and cheer on the winners! Winners will receive best-in-class awards for 2026 and be featured on the council social media. Every Cub Scout Pack in Gamehaven Council receives four free entries to the race – claim yours today at

<https://scoutingevent.com/299-grandprix26>

**Not one of the pack's top 4 racers?** You can enter our Open-Class race! Open-class is available to parents, siblings, former cubs, and more, and only costs \$10/car.



### Grand Prix Race Team Needed

*Do you dream of the smell of pinewood? Do you buy sets of plastic wheels to match mold numbers? Did your high school drama teacher call you 'too loud'?*

**We're looking for Scout, Parent, and Leader volunteers for the grand prix event on April 18th.**

You can sign up for volunteer positions by going to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E45A9AD22A6F5C70-62902175-council>

## Spring Family Adventures - Saturday, May 9th

Our Emerging Camp Leader team has been hard at work planning and organizing an amazing Spring Family Adventure for all of our Cub Scouts in Gamehaven and beyond! This team of young adults is planning a slate of fun games, activities, food, and more. Cubs attending will search out the Dragon Eggs in order to drive the dragon from the Castle Gamehaven.



**WHO:** Families with youth in grades K-5

**WHEN:** May 9th, 2026. 8am - 4pm

**WHERE:** Gamehaven Scout Camp

**Sign Up At:** [Spring Cub Scout Adventure Day](#)

**Deadline to register is May 5th**

## 250th Anniversary Committee

### Hello Scouts and Scouters,

The Gamehaven Council Activities and Civic Service committee is in need of dedicated and excited volunteers to help us run amazing service projects recognizing the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of our nation. If you are willing to give us ideas and help find meaningful work to do, please reach out to committee chair Karl Kruger at [karl.kruger@gmail.com](mailto:karl.kruger@gmail.com)

**UNITS:** Gamehaven Council, in partnership with the National Council of Scouting America, is excited to be facilitating and encouraging the Service 365 initiative this year. Units that perform 250 hours of community service between all of their members (including adults) between February 8<sup>th</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup> will receive a special recognition from Gamehaven Council. More information coming soon!



## Volunteer Recognition Dinner

You are invited to celebrate our dedicated volunteers and another successful year of Scouting!

The Annual Volunteer Recognition Dinner is an opportunity to celebrate the outstanding people that have made Scouting in Gamehaven Council successful this year. Whether you're being recognized or not, you're invited to join us in an evening of recognition and thankfulness, food and drink, and pleasant company. The dinner will be hosted at the beautiful Mayowood Stone Barn in Rochester, MN. Sign up at <https://scoutingevent.com/299-annualdinner26>

### We will be honoring the following Volunteers:

- **Scouters of the Year**
  - Guy Heinz (SL)
  - Jena Schulte (SL)
  - Stacy Beyer-Groth (HW)
  - Blake Clermont (HW)
  - John Lechner (HW)
  - James McLaughlin (HW)
  - Emily McLaughlin (HW)
  - Roger Jirele (WK)
  - Lindsay Ranschau (WK)
  - Len Rollins (WK)
- **President's Award -**
  - Tom Wright
- **District Award of Merit-**
  - Chad Coudron
  - Brent Ferguson
- **Silver Beaver will be awarded to -**
  - Byron Clark
  - Chris Bursch

Please join us in recognizing these volunteers and others for their commitment to Scouting.

## Summer Cub Adventures

*There are FOUR amazing summer program opportunities for Cub Scouts this summer, including some brand-new Travelling Day Programs!!!*

- **Weekend 1 | Don't Stop Me Now!** Our first CUB ADVENTURE CAMP this summer is June 26th - 28th, 2026 at Gamehaven Scout Camp! The theme for the first weekend is "Move It!" - we'll be doing STEM activities and games all themed around motion and physics
- **Weekend 2 | Yo Ho Ho and a Bottle of Bug Juice!** ARRRR Matesys! Our Winona Cub Adventure Day is sailing into port on **Saturday, July 11<sup>th</sup>** at Camp We-No-Nah in Winona! Yes, ye landlubbers, we're doing a PIRATE theme for our 2026 Cub Adventure day! That means STEM crafts, activities, games, and more themed around our nautical sailors.
- **Weekend 3 | That Belongs in a Museum!** Our second CUB ADVENTURE CAMP at Gamehaven this summer is July 17th - 19th, 2026! The theme for the second weekend is "Explorers" - so grab your fedora and canteen, because we will be hitting the trails as we learn how wilderness adventurers use STEM skills in their daily lives.
- **Weekend 4 | Quick! To the Time Machine!** On Saturday, August 8<sup>th</sup> we are offering a one day Cub event at Lands Luthern Church in Zumbrota. The theme for this Cub Adventure is prehistoric themed! Get ready for fun and games based around the ancient history of the world. Learn about dinosaurs, fossils, and more with our expert team of volunteer staff from across Gamehaven Council!



## Program Catalog for leaders

Attention leaders - If you missed the program kickoff that we held on February 24<sup>th</sup>, you can still get a copy of the program for 2026-2027. The comprehensive resource includes an editable planning calendar with council events already added, fliers for almost all upcoming events, news, resources, and so much more. Your unit-serving professional should have a print copy for the unit, but additional pdf. copies can be downloaded as well. The virtual catalog will continue to update as events and information changes.

<https://gamehavenbsa.org/catalog26/>

## Staff On the Move

The Gamehaven Council thanks our program director, Emily Geary, for her four years of leadership to our council youth, volunteers, and programs. We wish her the best in her life journeys and her new role at True Friends Minnesota as Camp Courage's onsite Program Manager. Emily's last day with Gamehaven will be on Friday, March 27th.

Should anyone have program questions after the 27th, please call the office at 507-287-1410 and speak to either Barbara or Pam to be directed to the appropriate staff member.

*All the Best to Emily!*



## Sugarloaf District Scouting For Food

On Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, Packs and Troops will be collecting food for their annual Food Drive in the Winona, Goodview, Minnesota City and Rollingstone Communities. Food will be collected from 10:00am – Noon. The food drive will restock food shelves at Winona Volunteer Services. Matt St Onge (Scout organizer) is still in need of Scouts and volunteers to help with the Food drive.



**SIGN UP →**

Please take a moment to sign up to collect food in an area of Winona or Rollingstone.

Your help is needed and very appreciated.

Thank you,

*Matt St. Onge*

## Liberty in Action- 250<sup>th</sup> Challenge Patch

In honor of America's 250<sup>th</sup> Semiquincentennial, all Scouts can now earn the Liberty in Action 250<sup>th</sup> Challenge Patch. They can earn the patch by participating in activities that highlight patriotism, community service, responsible citizenship, and an understanding of the principles that share our democracy. The program empowers Scouts to connect with their communities, learn about the responsibilities of citizenship, and take meaningful action that reflects the ideals of liberty, leadership and service. More details can be found by clicking on this link <https://www.scoutshop.org/blog/liberty-in-action-250th-anniversary-challenge.html?srltid=AfmBOorYDKOwX8N4Zaf3JrhBiSPqMUIWx2fBzLLAD57LmiKSt6pkCS00>

**Earning the liberty in Action patch** - the patch can be earned by completing a set of pre-appropriate activities such as:

- Participating in a community service project
- Learning about local, state or national government.
- Exploring historical landmarks or events connected to American Liberty.
- Demonstrating good citizenship within their unit, school or neighborhoods.



Below is a meeting resource guide that was originally on the Aaron on Scouting magazine. Cub Scouts leaders can use this guide to plan their pack meetings celebrating America's 250<sup>th</sup> birthday, with a fun, hands-on party that brings history, citizenship, and service to life.

***Gamehaven Council will have the Liberty Patch available in April!***

[Pack Leaders Guide](#)