

APRIL 12, 2026

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GAMEHAVEN CUB SCOUTS

NEWSLETTER



Page thru our newsletter to see all the great things planned for this spring and summer. Plus, check out how you can get the special 250th Liberty Patch !

Register for Annual Dinner Happening April 22!

Deadline to make your reservation is this Sunday, April 12th

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.

Dinner cost is \$40. Your choice of entree is grilled New York strip steak with rosemary pan sauce or wild rice and Gouda Chicken Roulade.

Sign up at <https://scoutingevent.com/299-annualdinner26>.

Deadline is this Sunday, April 12th.

Update on Sugar Loaf Scouting For Food

On Saturday, March 28, the Sugar Loaf District had their 39th annual Scouting for food campaign. I have been overseeing this event for the past five years, and wanted to thank all of our Gamehaven Scouts and volunteers, and the students from the National Honor Society of Winona High School, for taking the time to collect 2,795 pounds of food that day.

I also wanted to share some history of how many pounds of food has been collected each year.

- 2026: 2,795 pounds
- 2025: 2,547 pounds
- 2024: 3,321 pounds
- 2023: 1,702 pounds
- 2022: 3,110 pounds



A BIG THANK YOU TO EVERYONE!

Without your help this event would not be possible.

Matt. St Onge

Still Time to Compete in the Council Grand Prix!

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>

Note Time Updates: 8am-10am - Volunteers set up track.

10am-10:45am - Scouts register and check-in.

11am - Races begin. When all have raced awards will be handed out.

Deadline to Register: Thursday, April 16th



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

Broer's Adventure Camp Groundbreaking



The Gamehaven Council is excited to invite you to the Broers Adventure Camp Groundbreaking Event. This special day marks the beginning of better futures for Scouts, their units, and community groups using this property. The Gamehaven Council was chosen as the beneficiary by John Broers for our desire to introduce youth to outdoor and recreational programming, environmental education, and as a place to experience the wonder of the natural world. In turn, as a tribute to John and his family, we named the property Broers Adventure Camp.

Please join us as we embark on a new journey, a journey that will shape the lives of new generations and our communities!

Event Information:

When: Friday, June 5th

Where: Broers Adventure Camp – 31400 Cone Dale Dr. Houston, MN

Time: Social - 5:00 pm, Groundbreaking – 6:00 pm, BBQ/Tours – 6:30-7:30 pm

Who: Scouts, Leaders, Alumni, and Friends

Deadline: Please RSVP by Friday, May 29th using this link: <https://scoutingevent.com/299-broersgroundbreaking26>

Cost: There is no cost - but a denotations to offset event costs would be accepted (at the event)

Maximum Participants: 150



Sale on Summer Cub Scout Tee Shirts

These colorful & cute T's from last summer are now on sale!

Both adult & youth Sizes

Youth T-Shirts - **\$6.25**

reg.\$12.95

Adult T-Shirts - **\$11.50**

Reg \$23.00



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 Mateys! Our Winona Cub Adventure Day is sailing into port on **Saturday, July 11th** 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 themes around 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 8th 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!

Summer Camp Registrations and Information:

<https://scoutingevent.com/299-summercubs26>



Safeguarding Youth Training Updates

The Safeguarding Youth Training (SYT) that replaced the YPT training in May 2025 was designed as a full course running approximately 90 minutes long, with a 15–20-minute refresher course and retest required each year thereafter.

This month Scouting America is set to launch this refresher training course. Following is important information to keep in mind about the refresher course and retest for **SYT**:

- If you have completed the full Safeguarding Youth Training (SYT) course and it is currently active or has expired within the last 7 days, you are eligible to take the Refresher Training.
- If your full SYT training has been expired for 7 days or more, you will need to complete the full Safeguarding Youth Course again before receiving credit.
- Participants taking the Refresher Training must successfully pass the exam on the first attempt to receive credit for the Y01 training code. If the exam is not passed, the system will automatically route you to the full Safeguarding Youth Course to ensure a complete review of the material. Once the refresher exam has failed, the refresher course cannot be relaunched, and the full course must be completed.
- The Safeguarding Youth Refresher Training will be available in English and Spanish in the Volunteer Learn Center of your **my.scouting.org** account under the following course titles:
 - Safeguarding Youth Refresher
 - Curso de actualización SYT

Thank you for your continued commitment to safeguarding youth and helping ensure a safe environment for all.

Pamela Legried - Registrar 507-361-5341



Gamehaven Summer Office Hours

**Starting Friday June 5 - September 4 ,
Gamehaven Scout Office will be closing
at 2pm each Friday.**

Our office will be open from 8am-2pm on Fridays . Our Monday-Thursday hours will continue as they are: 8am-5pm, with office closed from 1pm-2pm for lunch.

Any questions, please call our office at 507-287- 1410



Liberty in Action- 250th Challenge Patch

In honor of America's 250th Semiquincentennial, all Scouts can now earn the Liberty in Action 250th 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 250th birthday, with a fun, hands-on party that brings history, citizenship, and service to life.

Liberty Patch is now available at the Council Retail Store

[Pack Leaders Guide](#)

OPEN CAMP - June 13th & July 25th

Gamehaven Scout Camp is offering something new for Scout units this Summer!

Looking for something to do with your Cub Scouts this summer? How about a weekend at Gamehaven Scout Camp

This year we are offering two weekends for units to come out with their Scouts to camp and do various activities. PLUS - units may choose to supplement their program with additional staffed stations open for the weekend.



Get Details & Register:

<https://scoutingevent.com/299-opencamp26>



On Saturday's we are planning schedule of fun things units can do with their Scouts:

- 9am-noon- open challenge course time
- 1pm-5pm - Open ranges (Archery & BB Gun)
- 5pm-8pm - Camp Trading Post Open
- 6pm-8pm - Shotgun range open (Scouts BSA units only)
- 8pm-10pm - Open Campfire.

Cost is only \$25/unit

BALOO Training 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>

Deadline to register for Training: Thursday, April 23rd

Highlighting Scouting in Our Communities

Scouting is an amazing thing – and America needs to be reminded of those great experiences!

Our narrative should focus on the successes our Scouts have achieved in the Gamehaven Council. Successes are highlighted by their fun and safe experiences, their growth as individuals, and the positive outcomes our programs have provided to each of our communities, our state, and our country.

I routinely get asked whether Scouting is safe, worthwhile, open to anyone, and available where I live. Truthfully, these questions frustrate me because I know the answers, but when I think about those questions from their perspective, they make sense. Our positive narrative is not routinely being shared in our communities, by our media, in our schools, or even amongst ourselves. We need to "Brag Up" Scouting – let people know that what we do matters.

Nationally and locally, membership continues to decrease in large part due to visibility and understanding. Traditional approaches, such as sending out recruitment flyers, setting up school booths at "meet the teacher events", marching in parades, or petitioning legislators or school boards to change access, are not enough by themselves. This alone will not change the narrative. However, when a community sees Scouting as a value, because of its current positive impact, the narrative quickly changes. Please consider engaging in community-based service projects and share action-based pictures or videos of your Scouts engaged in other meaningful programs, celebrations, or adventures with us for our social media platforms, as well as our media outlets, businesses, and schools.

Our staff is going to be visiting local businesses, day care centers, doctor and dentist offices, and libraries in the upcoming months, and would love to "Brag Up" your unit to businesses, but we need material; of course, we'd appreciate your participation in bragging up Scouting to your circle as well.

Our current and future Scouts matter; we have the solution to the problem, but we need to work together to deliver those outcomes.

Arne Landsverk
Scout Executive

