

Scouts BSA Newsletter



Quick Access to Event and Training Information

January - May 2025 Scout BSA Activities, Trainings, Council Events & Meetings

SCOUTS BSA EVENTS COMING UP:

- January 24-26 (Fri-Sun) - [Winter Camporee 2025](#)
- January 31 (Fri) - [Worlds Toughest Rodeo](#)
- February 1 (Sat) - [Ice Fishing Derby](#)
- April 15 (Tues) - [MN Wild Scout Night Game](#)
- April 24 (Thurs) - [Gamehaven Council Dinner](#)
- May 2-4 (Fri-Sun.) - [OA Spring Mawenemen](#)

UNIT LEADER MEETINGS:

- **February 6th** (Thurs) Wakpaota District Roundtable - 7pm
- **March 4th** (Tues) - Sugarloaf District Roundtable - 6pm
- **March 6th** (Thurs) - Wakpaota District Roundtable - 7pm

To get complete information on an event, you can click on the attached links above. For upcoming meetings refer to the [Events Calendar](#) for updates, locations, etc.

[Need to Pay your OA Dues or Oxcass Pass for 2025?](#) Click on the Link and pay with Credit Card - Easy Peasy!

Gamehaven Office Closed - Monday, January 20th in Observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day!

Recognizing the Heroes of Gamehaven Council

Volunteerism is the heart of Scouting in the Gamehaven Council and throughout the country. Dedicated volunteers provide their leadership to ensure that Scouts have better futures, and we would like for you to recognize these exemplary individuals by submitting an award nomination form on their behalf.

Volunteer Recognition Awards include:

- **District Award of Merit:** This is the highest honor a local district can bestow upon a volunteer. It is presented to Scouters who render outstanding service at the district level.
- **Silver Beaver:** The highest honor a council can bestow on a volunteer is the Silver Beaver. Recipients of this award are registered Scouters who have impacted the lives of youth through service given at the council level.
- **Veteran Award:** To recognize BSA individual members for their tenure in Scouting of 5, 10, 15, & 20 year milestones.
- **Scouter of the Year Award:** This is a district-level award recognizing adult leaders in Packs, Troops, Crews, Ships, and district volunteer roles who have provided exemplary service in support of Scouting.
- **Elbert K. Fretwell Outstanding Educator Award:** recognizes educators who promote Scouting values in their students. The award is given to teachers, administrators, and educational support staff in public, private, religious, and charter schools.

ALL NOMINATIONS ARE DUE BY FEBRUARY 14TH AT MIDNIGHT!

Learn more and fill out nominations (many can be submitted completely online) by going to <https://gamehavenbsa.org/resources/for-leaders/adult-recognitions/>

Council Awards Dinner is scheduled for Thursday, April 24th– Registration will open February 14th

WHAT: Annual Gamehaven Council Awards Dinner

WHEN: April 24th, 2024. Dinner begins at 5:30pm, awards begin at 7:00pm

COST: \$30 per attendee.

WHERE: Location to be announced soon

Note From Registrar About Renewal Process

I am pleased to say that nearly all of our Unit Renewals have been posted and I'm presently working on member renewals that leaders assigned me to do manually from funds in custodial accounts at the office. If National keeps to their notification schedule when this new process was rolled out in August, then Adult Scouters and parents of youth members who had a 12/31/2024 registration expiry date have received their last 7 days past expiry notification to renew membership.

If you were notified by Unit leaders to process your own renewal (or in the case of a youth renewal-the parent) , then you want to move on it now. I am concerned the link may not be functional the further away we get from 12/31/2024. The renewals are done from a my.scouting account:

After logging in to our account, click on Menu in the upper left corner.

Select My Application.

There are 4 tabs in this section, click on the far right one-My Renewals. I have been told it is not easy to find this tab when using a mobile device.

Click on Start Renewal.

If you do not see the individual to be renewed in this tab, please reach out to me via email, Pamela.Legried@scouting.org, or call my direct line, 507-361-5341.

Key 3 Leaders: I encourage you to get in a regular schedule of logging in to your my.scouting account>Menu>Roster to check from the expandable Members Renewal Orders at the bottom for any Submitted orders that are not finished. There is a Report section in the Roster tool and I recommend running the Members Due to Renew report at least once a month to manage members with upcoming expiration dates. You will also see from this report the email address associated with youth members. This is the email address for the parent that is getting the renewal notifications from National.

Thank you all for your patience and understanding during this new renewal process. It has been a journey but we can reach our destination with the help of each other! Wishing you a blessed and adventurous new year of Scouting!



Pam Legried - Gamehaven Council Registrar

Winter Camporee Registration – Sign Up Today!



Winter Camporee is fast approaching! Join us for our annual winter Scouts BSA camp at Phillippo Scout Camp in Cannon Falls for an "Emergency Response" themed weekend of skills, presentations, and games. We're being joined by emergency responders from all over the council who will show us their techniques to keep people safe in the winter. A special demonstration of a real-life ice rescue will take place on the lake in the afternoon.

TROOPS: Please sign your Scouts up (even just best estimates) so that we can plan for food and capacity. Day and Weekend options are available.

January 24-26, 2025 at Phillippo Scout Camp in Cannon Falls.

Sign up at <https://scoutingevent.com/299-wintercamporee25>

Deadline for Sign-up Is - Thursday, January 23 by Midnight

ATTENTION SCOUTS & LEADERS

A quick reminder to everyone that the **Black Pug event and training software** the council uses has a lot of benefits in helping with keeping track of where things are with signups, as well as a follow up to who attended the event or training, etc. If you set up an account in Black Pug you will have the added benefits of being able to see your history of who has registered & attended. Also, if a parent registers and uses the youth's correct Unit number, this information shows on the Unit account that the Cubmaster or Scoutmaster oversees for their unit, etc.

As the seasons change and new leaders come on board it is important that new leaders have access to their Black Pug unit account. I can help you with that process and show you some pointers on how easy this application is to use.

To get started or to learn more I encourage you to call or email me with what you need or how to use the Black Pug App. Thank you,

Barbara
507-361-5341 or
Barbara.Swan@scouting.org

Save The Date! Spring Merit Badge Rally.



Our Spring Merit Badge rally will be held at **Rochester Community and Technical College on March 22nd!** The Council Advancement Committee is working hard to make this an exciting event filled

- Disability Awareness
- First Aid
- Animation
- Dentistry
- Surveying
- Home Repair
- Plumbing
- Journalism
- Robotics
- Textiles
- Pulp and Paper
- AND MORE!



with new and fan-favorite badges, including: So make sure to block off Saturday, March 22nd on your calendar now and be ready for a registration announcement coming soon!

Keep up to date at:

<https://gamehavenbsa.org/mbrally>

Scouts Camp-o-rama

Every Scout should go to camp. Since Gamehaven Council does not offer a week-long summer camp experience for our Scouts BSA members, we're proud to promote the week programs of camps both near and far at our annual **Camp-O-Rama**. Originated by the Order of the Arrow, Blue Ox Lodge, the Camp-O-Rama is a gathering of camps from all over the upper Midwest during a council event. Camps that can't attend in person can send physical or electronic promotions to be displayed as well.

Saturday-March 22nd, from Noon – 2pm

