

DECEMBER 14, 2025

www.gamehavenbsa.org

GAMEHAVEN SCOUTS BSA

NEWSLETTER



Office Closings During the Holidays

- December 19, 2025 (Friday)- Office closed for Inventory
- December 24-26, 2025 (Wed, Thurs & Fri.)
- December 31, 2025 (Wed.) -Closing early at 3pm
- January 1, 2026 (Thurs.) - Office closed

Renewal News From the Registrar

Hello, Key 3 Leaders of Scouting and Exploring Units in Gamehaven Council!

A reminder that we are weeks away from the 12.30.2025 deadline to get your Unit renewed for 2026. **As of 12.12.2025, there are 43 Units with renewals not started.**

There are resource materials on our website: Click on the header FOR LEADERS and select in the drop down menu-Unit & Membership Renewal. Remember that Unit Renewal is a separate from member renewals and is a first priority but don't forget the member renewals for anyone with a registration expiry date of 10.31.2025.

Those individuals will drop off your roster after 12.31.2025 and lose the ability to renew themselves.

To assure success with your Unit Renewal, check that you have minimum positions covered and that your adults have Safeguarding Youth Training (SYT) effective through the Unit Renewal period of 11.01.2025 to 03.01.2026 or you will have validation errors for the renewal. For adults with expiring SYT that are not remaining with your Unit, you can apply the Opt Out status in the Roster tool or request for me to suspend their registration.

If a Unit Key 3 leader is opting to pay the \$100 Unit Renewal online, it's now recommended to use the credit card option vs the E-Check (ACH) option. The Unit Renew function is found in the left menu of Organization Manager of my.scouting. If you wish to pay at the Council, the payment and Unit roster must be submitted to the office the week of 12/15/25 to give me time to process it before the end of the month.

Same deadline if paying the member renewal fees at the Council Office for me to process. Along with the payment, I will need the Unit Payment of Membership Report, detailing the members (and any Scout Life subscriptions) to be renewed. Please contact me if unsure how to download this report from the Roster tool in my.scouting.

Time to take this off your volunteer plate so you can properly enjoy the Holiday Season!

Best Wishes,

Pam Legried

Gamehaven Council Registrar, Pamela.Legried@scouting.org

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 11 , 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](#)



Life To Eagle Process & Requirements

Because of the unique nature of the Eagle Rank, the District's Eagle Committee is particularly attentive to advancement from Life to Eagle rank and has specific responsibilities throughout the process.

You can find the needed resources and information by visiting this link: <https://gamehavenbsa.org/resources/for-scouts/life-to-eagle/>

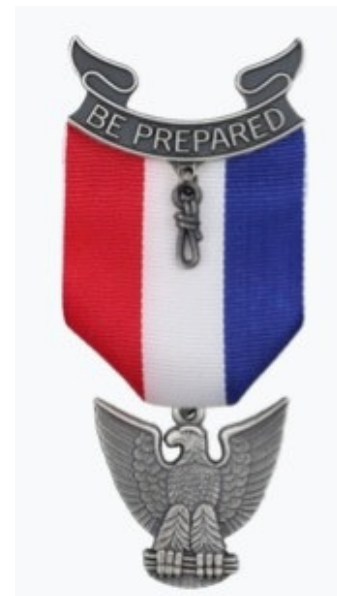
Should you have any Eagle related questions please reach out to your District's Eagle Contacts.

Hiawatha: Eric Goddard:

hiawathadistrictadvancement@gmail.com

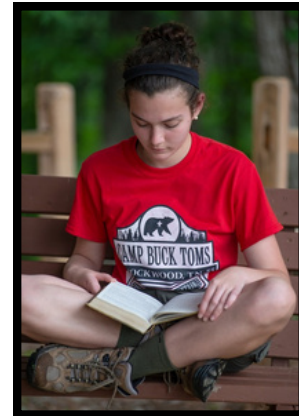
Sugar Loaf: Tom Butterfield: sgtom1@acegroup.cc

Wakpaota: Jason Kozisek: eaglewak@gmail.com



Get Ready to Read!

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 and have access to an indoor bathroom;
all families are welcome!

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!

PLUS- FIVE MORE BOOKS IN WINTER /SPRING 2026!

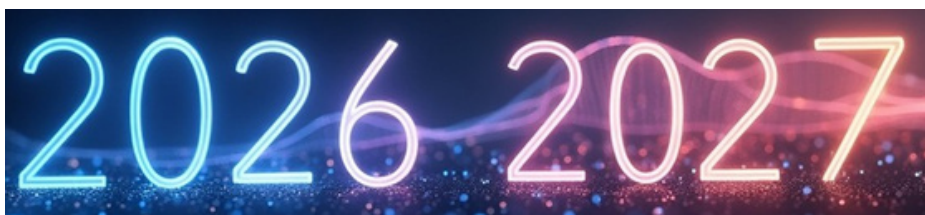
Learns more and take advantage of the book club bundles by going to

[Register for Book Club](#)

Annual Council Kick-Off Event- Save the Date

Please join us for the 2026 Program Kick-off Event on **Tuesday, February 24** at Hosanna Lutheran Church – 2815 57 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. You can now sign up for the program kickoff event. <https://scoutingevent.com/299-kickoff26>



Are You Ready for Winter Camping?

The temperature is dropping, and that can only mean one thing... break out the sleeping bags, stocking caps, and start repeating the following mantra to yourself at 10-minute intervals: "COTTON IS ROTTEN". That's right, it's Winter Camp time at Gamehaven Scout Camp! Check out these awesome events for your troop to participate in:

OPERATION ICICLE:

- **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. Scouts will have the opportunity to earn a merit badge as well.
- **WHEN:** January 9th – 11th, 2026.
- **WHERE:** Gamehaven Scout Camp
- **WHO:** Registered Scouts BSA members
- **HOW:** Registration opens soon at <https://scoutingevent.com/299-opicescouts26>

WINTER CAMPOREE:

- **WHAT:** Join all three districts for an "Amazing (Klondike) Race" across Gamehaven. This inter-troop competition will be like no other as your patrol races around camp solving riddles and clues to find your next destination.
- **WHEN:** January 30th – February 1st, 2026
- **WHERE:** Gamehaven Scout Camp
- **WHO:** Scouts BSA Troops
- **HOW:** Registration is now open! <https://scoutingevent.com/299-klondike26>

ICE FISHING DERBY

- **WHAT:** Whether you are a newbie or an expert, there is something for you on the ice at Gamehaven Reservoir. Join us and our panel of experts as we compete for the biggest fish, smallest fish, most fish, and other fun awards. The competition is open to families and individuals.
- **WHEN:** February 7th, 2026
- **WHERE:** Gamehaven Reservoir
- **WHO:** Open to all
- **HOW:** Registration opens soon at <https://scoutingevent.com/299-icefishing26>

ULTIMATE SLEDDING NIGHT

- **WHAT:** Join us on a 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're tuckered out, come into the nearby warming shack for hot chocolate and an assortment of treats for sale.
 - **WHEN:** February 7th, 2026
 - **WHERE:** Gamehaven Scout Camp
 - **WHO:** Open to all
 - **HOW:** Registration opens soon at <https://scoutingevent.com/299-sledding26>
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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 our committee.



2026 Camp Registrations Are Now Open!

Are you excited to get out to camp in 2026? We sure are! Registrations for (almost) every camp event in 2026 are now open. You can start signing up for Spring Family Adventure, Fall Camporees, Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops, and so much more! For all the up-to-date news and registration links, go to <https://gamehavenbsa.org/camp>.

Look forward to seeing everyone out at Gamehaven Camp in 2026!



On The Hunt For Gift Giving Ideas?

Whether you are looking for a gift for Christmas or a Birthday here are some ideas you might like.

Gamehaven Council is celebrating 90 years of operation in Southeastern Minnesota! In honor of the occasion, we partnered again with Nelson Ink to offer a made-to-order apparel shop for our members and friends to order from! We have NEW OPTIONS available this year!

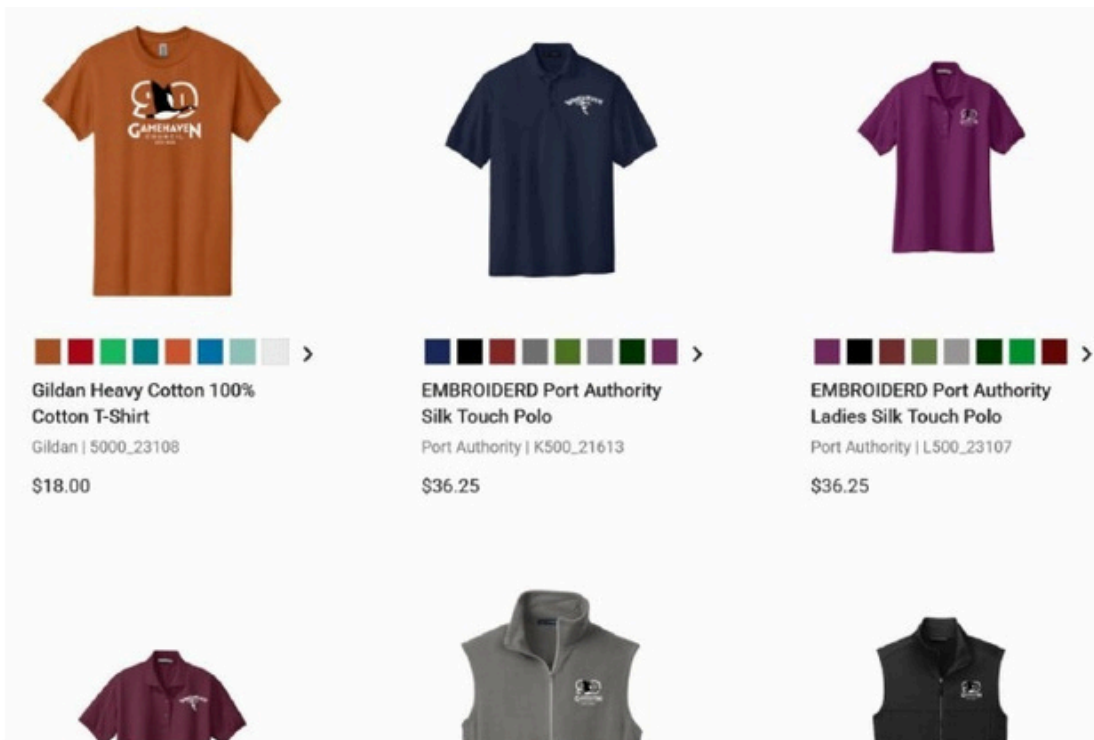
(NEW!) T-Shirt | 90th Anniversary Logo

Flannel | 90th Logo or Regular Logo | Men's and Women's sizing

Polo | 90th Logo or Regular Logo | Men's and Women's sizing, various brands

Full-Zip Sweater | 90th logo or regular logo

(NEW!) Vest | 90th logo or regular logo | Various styles including fleece, rain-resistant, and more



INFORMATION 