

JULY 12, 2026

www.gamehavenbsa.org

GAMEHAVEN SCOUTS BSA

NEWSLETTER



Get the latest news on what is happening for our Scouts BSA troops this summer, helpful information for our leaders and parents to know, and getting ready for the fall membership and popcorn season.



Scout Night with the Minnesota Vikings

- *Playing the Baltimore Ravens*
- *Saturday, August 22nd*
- *Kickoff - Noon*
- *Location- US Bank Stadium, Minneapolis, MN*
- *Cost- \$22.50/ticket*
- *Register online at Vikings website -*
<https://am.ticketmaster.com/vikings/promotional-page?id=MTY4Mw==>
- *use code: **GAMEHAVEN26***



Fall Merit Badge Rally - Sat. October 24th

Save The Date For Fall's Merit Badge Rally.

- October 24th - 7am-4:30pm
- Location: MN State College SE, in Winona
- Currently working with the committee to get the line up of merit badges for this event.
- Registration should open by September 14th.
- Newsletters and website will be updated as we move forward.



ATTENTION MERIT BADGE COUNSELORS.

We have finalized the location, dates, and times for the Merit Badge Rally. Currently, we are in the process of recruiting merit badge counselors to lead classes on October 24th. It is essential to provide a diverse range of classes for our Scouts, including Eagle pre-requisite courses. Scouts look forward to these rallies to help them achieve their goals, advance in ranks, and explore new interests. In the coming weeks, we will reach out to counselors to see if you can support this event. Additionally, feel free to contact [Tony Debusk](#) or [Barbara Swan](#) regarding your commitment or any questions you may have. Thank you!

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.



Fall Popcorn Sales is Right Around the Corner

Please join us at your district's training. To earn the bonus commission having your popcorn chair attend the training is one of the requirements. **Click on the button to sign up for the meetings.**

Training Information:

- **Sugar Loaf District:** Tuesday, July 21st – 6:30 pm – Saint Charles City Hall, 830 Whitewater Ave. – **New Location**
- **Wakpaota District:** Wednesday, July 22nd – 6:30 pm – Wanamingo Community Center 401 Main St. – Wanamingo
- **Hiawatha District:** Thursday, July 23rd – 6:30 pm – Our Saviors Lutheran Church 2124 Viola Rd. NE – Rochester

If you have questions - Please e-mail Paulette Rostad at rostadp@gmail.com

REGISTER NOW



Notes From the Registrar

Renewal Tidbit

My thanks to the Unit Leaders that are keeping on top of their members that are due to renew! Following is some important information about who receives Scouting America email notifications and some changes about the process.

- **The Key 3 Leaders**, which are the Unit Leader (Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, Skipper, or Explorer Post Advisor), the Committee Chair, and the Chartered Org Rep, receive Scouting America notification emails about members due to renew, but not those assigned to the Key 3 Delegate role in my.scouting.org > Position Manager > Functional Roles or in Scoutbook Plus > Permissions Manager > Assign Position.
- The same goes for people assigned the Registration Inquiry role. They will not receive Scouting America email notifications about **leads** in Invitation Manager or applications in **Application Manager**. However, the delegated role does give them access to these tools once they login to their my.scouting.org account, so I recommend that the Key 3 Leaders forward these notifications to their delegated people.

How members are renewed remains the same process in 2026, but the ability to renew members after registration has expired is changing:

National is transitioning away from the 60-day lapse period for renewals beginning November 1, 2026.

- Registrations with expiry dates on or before 10/31/26 have the 60-day grace period.
- Members renewing in November have a 30-day grace period, until 12/30/2026.
- Those renewing in December must renew by December 30, 2026, to avoid being dropped. Eligible to renew, unit only, opens at 90 days before registration expiry. For members renewing themselves, or youth, it opens 60 days before.
- **PLEASE share this information with your registrants if they are expected to renew themselves, or their youth.** Unit leaders wanting me to renew their members by year end are to submit the list of members to renew using the Unit payment of Membership report, along with the renewal fees, to Gamehaven Council by Monday, December 14, 2026, so I have time to process the renewals. As the bulk of our members have the 12/31/2026 registration expiry dates this year, start thinking about managing this process before November 1, 2026.
- Expect communications from me in the upcoming months about the change to the Unit Renewal process. The reason for this change? By February 2028, Scouting America is transitioning to a plan that all units and members have a single, common renewal month of February. Yay! The upcoming unit renewal will involve the standard Unit Renewal fee plus a monthly pro-rata fee through February 2028. Once we receive the details of that information from Scouting America, I will forward it to Key 3 Leaders. **(Article continues on next page)**

Notes From the Registrar (cont.)

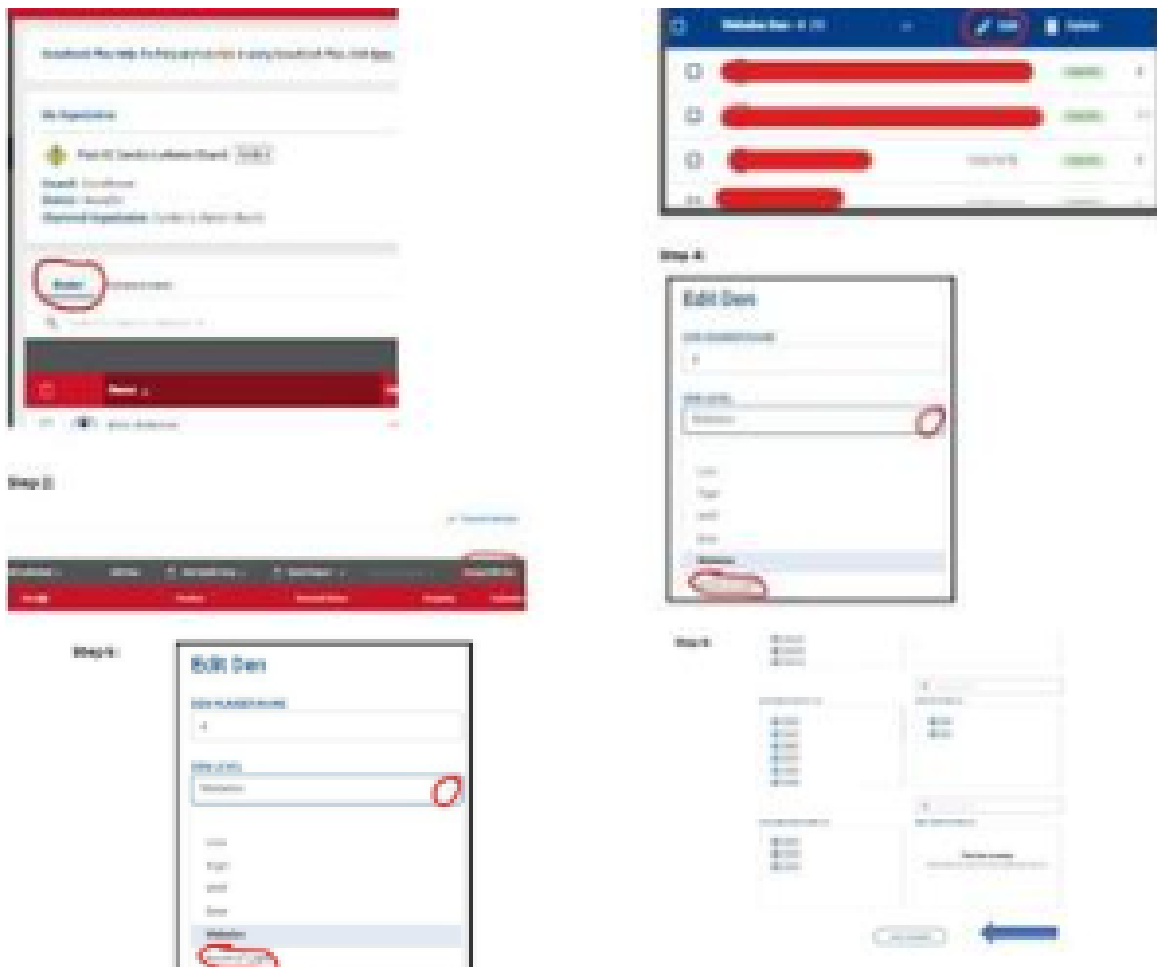
Safeguarding Youth Protection Training and Suspensions Tidbit

Have you recently noticed that adult members are missing from your roster in Scoutbook Plus and in my.scouting.org? There's a good chance that is due to youth protection training expiring. Gamehaven Council Board's policy dictates suspension of adult members' registrations who are not current with Safeguarding Youth Training (SYT). There were about 50 adult members who received an email notice of suspension this past week from me for their 5/31/26 expiration of youth protection training.

Recruitment Tidbit

Final tidbit for Key leaders as we head into recruitment season: When using the **Copy URL button in the Invitation Manager tool** of my.scouting.org for applying to your Unit, please **send the link in an email to your new prospects and not in a text message (SMS)**. I'm seeing issues with online applications submitted from links in SMS.

Have questions? Contact me at Pamela.Legried@scouting.org or call my direct line, 507-361-5341.



HIAWATHA & SUGARLOAF FALL CAMPOREE

SAVE THE DATES

- **WHO:** All ScoutsBSA youth/adults
- **THEME:** Scouts are invited to partake in our America250 celebration camporee. They will have opportunities to complete requirements towards the America250 award. Program will be based around USA history and the AM250 award including: black powder demos, hard tack cooking, Civic/Volunteer service, colonial games and a special American themed campfire and huge flag retirement ceremony.
- **DATE:** September 18th-20th (Friday-Sunday)
- **LOCATION:** Gamehaven Scout Camp

We should have sign-up and more detailed information soon.



WAKPAOTA FALL CAMPOREE

SAVE THE DATES

WHO: All ScoutsBSA youth/adults

THEME: Scouts are invited to Lazy D campground for the Wakpaota Fall Camporee. Scouts will have the opportunity to explore White Water state park, free time for troops to work on rank requirements, and partake and special Dutch oven cooking programs.

DATE: September 25-27th (Friday-Sunday)

LOCATION: Lazy D Campground

We should have sign-up and more detailed information soon.

LEAVE NO TRACE ARTICLE #4

LEAVE NO TRACE Leave What You Find



Scouts love to explore the outdoors. Principle 4, Leave What You Find, reminds us to enjoy discoveries without taking them home or damaging them. Rocks, flowers, feathers, animal signs, and historic objects are part of the story of a place.

A picked flower, carved name, or moved rock may seem small, but many small changes add up. Plants provide food and shelter for wildlife, and natural objects help keep soil, streams, and habitats healthy.

This principle also applies to cultural and historic resources. Old foundations, artifacts, tools, markers, and structures should be observed, photographed, and left in place for others to learn from.

Scouts can still be curious. Take photos, sketch what you see, ask questions, and record observations in a notebook. The goal is to learn from nature while leaving the outdoor experience intact for the next visitor.



WANT TO LEARN MORE?

- [Leave No Trace Website](#)
- [Conservation Good Turn Award](#)
- [Outdoor Ethics Award](#)

WAYS TO PRACTICE LEAVE WHAT YOU FIND

- Leave rocks, plants, feathers, antlers, and artifacts where they are found.
- Do not carve, scratch, or write on trees, benches, shelters, or rocks.
- Take pictures or make drawings instead of collecting outdoor items.
- Avoid picking flowers or pulling up plants.
- Look at historic structures and cultural objects with respect and leave them undisturbed.