



# Troop 23 – Hot News

## Sept 15, 2025

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### TROOP CALENDAR:

For the full calendar, visit <http://troop23wheaton.org/>

- 09/15- Monday, 7:00-8:30 pm Troop Meeting
  - 09/22- Monday, 7:00-8:30 pm Troop Meeting
  - 09/29- Monday, 7:00-8:30 pm Troop Meeting
  - 10/06- Monday, 7:00-8:30 pm Troop Meeting
  - 10/10 – 10/12, Fri – Sun Campout-Eagle Cave WI
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### WREATH SALES:

Our annual wreath fundraiser is off to a great start! Don't forget, turning in your order forms at each meeting gets you a ticket for our weekly raffle. Plus, let's keep that patrol competition going—the winning patrol gets to celebrate with a pizza party at the end of the sale! If you still need a packet or have any questions, please contact your patrol leader.

Remember if you accept wreath sales through Zelle, have the customer put the scout's name in the Memo line. A list of receive Zelle payments will be updated daily [here](#).

### SCOUT DUES:

Dues of \$185 per scout for the 2025-26 scout year are due on September 29. These dues pay to run the national and council scouting organizations. You can pay through the troop using 1) Zelle to [troop23camps@gmail.com](mailto:troop23camps@gmail.com), 2) check to BSA Troop 23, 3) cash, or 4) scout account. Mr. Smith will be accepting payments at troop meetings. These dues are the same as the email you may have received from the BSA about membership renewal. Please pay through the troop and not to Scouting America directly; we will take care of the membership renewal and you will not have to pay a credit card processing fee. We do not want anyone to miss out on the value of scouting because of the cost. If the dues are a financial difficulty for your family contact Ed Smith at [troop23camps@gmail.com](mailto:troop23camps@gmail.com) to confidentially get help.

### ADULT DUES:

Adult dues of \$77 are paid by the troop. To register for this scout year, your Youth Protection Training (YPT) must be valid until November 1, 2026. If your YPT expires before this, please take the training again before September 29 so we can process the membership renewals.

### MERIT BADGE COUNSELORS:

Troop 23 is recommending that all Merit Badge Counselors confirm that your status as counselor is current. If you are a Merit Badge Counselor, login to Scoutbook using your login for the Scouting website:

<https://scoutbook.scouting.org/mobile/dashboard/> and then go to **MY ACCOUNT**, then click on **MY POSITIONS** and then

**MERIT BADGE COUNSELOR**. This should list all badges you currently teach. If you see a status referring to “date ended”, “expired”, “lapsed” or the like, you must call the Council to correct this.

### CONSERVATION HOURS OPPORTUNITY:

Following is a link to the Great Western Trail Volunteer Days in Elmhurst: There are two weekends left that Scouts can participate and get conservation hours before the end of the year:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A054FAEA92AA3FE3-54372615-2025#/>

### SCOUTING AMERICA HAS A RECRUITER AWARD FOR SCOUTS:

The best way to build a unit is to invite a friend. There are three steps:

- 1) Talk about Scouting and why you enjoy it,
- 2) Invite a friend to a meeting and let their parents know they can speak with Mr. Yates if your friend is interested,
- 3) Your friend joins and is welcomed by the troop! The award is a “recruiter” strip worn on the uniform under your right shirt pocket. For more information, visit [www.scoutshop.org/blog/a-scouts-guide-to-earning-the-bsa-recruiter-patch](http://www.scoutshop.org/blog/a-scouts-guide-to-earning-the-bsa-recruiter-patch)

### HOT NEWS INFO:

Got some information for the weekly Hot News? Please forward the details of your news item to [ruthlange@yahoo.com](mailto:ruthlange@yahoo.com) by Noon on Sundays and it will be included in that week's issue.

### IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS AND/OR FEEDBACK, PLEASE CONTACT:

Steve Yates, Scoutmaster at [steve@srtware.com](mailto:steve@srtware.com)

Judith Zapf, Committee Chair at [judez21@sbcglobal.net](mailto:judez21@sbcglobal.net)