



Troop 23 – Hot News

Sept 22, 2025

TROOP CALENDAR:

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

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| • 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-Shabbona Lake State Park |
| • 10/13- Monday, 7:00-8:30 pm | Troop Meeting |
| • 10/18- Saturday, 7 am – 1 pm | American Legion Pancake Breakfast, Cantigny |
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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](#).

OCTOBER CAMPOUT CHANGE:

The October campout has moved from Eagle Cave to Shabbona Lake State Park. You may attend this camp out even if you did not sign up for the Eagle Cave event

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, 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 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. A note on YPT, ALL adults with valid YPT reverted to a 5/31/26 expiration unless they took the SYT after that date. However, for it to be valid until 11/1/26 it would need to be taken after 11/1/26.

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.

UPCOMING GENERAL SERVICE HOURS:

Scouts will support the annual American Legion pancake breakfast at Cantigny on October 18, 2025. This is a class A event. Scouts can sign up for one or both of the following shifts: 7AM-10AM and/or 10AM-1PM. Sign up will be available at the scout meetings on the dry erase board and on the troop Facebook page. It is important to remember our scout slogan "Do a good turn daily". Even if you do not need the hours for advancement, we should support our local American Legion to show appreciation for all that the members have done for us.

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. Some Troop 23 scouts have signed up for the November 15th option. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A054FAEA92AA3FE3-54372615-2025#/>

HOT NEWS INFO:

Got some information for the weekly Hot News? Please forward the details of your news item to 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
Judith Zapf, Committee Chair at judez21@sbcglobal.net