



Troop 23 – Hot News

April 27, 2026

TROOP CALENDAR:

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

• 04/27	Monday, 7:00-8:30pm	Troop Meeting
• 05/02	Saturday	Merit Badge University – Camp Big Timber
• 05/03	Sunday, 2:00-3:30pm	Eagle Court of Honor – William Gochee
• 05/04	Monday, 7:00-8:30pm	Troop Meeting
• 05/07	Thursday, 7:00-8:30pm	TLC – Troop Leadership Council
• 05/11	Monday, 7:00-8:30pm	Troop Meeting
• 05/16	Saturday - Sunday	Scouting Excellence Campout
• 05/18	Monday, 7:00-8:30pm	Troop Meeting
• 05/19	Tuesday, 7:00-9:00pm	Committee Meeting, Adult leaders and parents
• 05/25	Monday, 7:30am	Wheaton Memorial Day Parade

HEALTH FORMS NEEDED FOR SUMMER CAMP

All Scouts and adults attending Camp Tomahawk must submit current health forms and copies of both sides of their health insurance card to the Troop. Forms must be dated after June 1, 2025. Access the forms here: [\[link\]](#) Everyone needs parts, A, B1, and B1. Anyone staying three or more nights must complete Part C, which requires a physician's signature—please schedule appointments early. We ask that you submit three single-sided copies of the completed forms and three copies of both sides of the insurance card at a Monday night Troop Meeting as soon as possible. If you are unsure of the status of your Scout's forms or yours, please reach out to Ashley Young at AshleyYoung.T23@troopmaster.email.

EAGLE COURT OF HONOR FOR WILLIAM GOCHEE:

Please join us in celebrating William Gochee at his Eagle Court of Honor on Sunday, May 3rd at the First Presbyterian Church Sanctuary. Scouts are requested to arrive at 1:00 PM to assist with setup, and the Court of Honor ceremony will begin at 2:00 PM. A reception will follow in Stewart Hall (Rooms 104 and 105).

**Scouts are encouraged to attend, as this ceremony recognizes the highest achievement in Scouting and provides a meaningful experience for both new and seasoned Scouts.

SAFEGUARDING YOUTH TRAINING FOR ADULT VOLUNTEERS:

All adults volunteering/participating in any Scouting activities must complete the Safeguarding Youth Training (formerly known as Youth Protection Training), or SYT. Most adults training certification expires May 31st (after National shortened the applicable period to shift to the new, improved SYT). SYT must be completed and current in order to participate in any Scouting activities. Subsequent annual recertification should be shorter in following years. See <https://my.scouting.org/tools/my-training/requirements>.

MERIT BADGE RESOURCES:

Registration is open for Merit Badge University 2026. This MBU will be on Saturday, May 2nd at Camp Big Timber in Elgin, Illinois. Details on the schedule, cost, etc. can be found here: <https://scoutingevent.com/127-MBUCBT>. Scouts should contact Mr. Yates for badge approval. Scouting America offers great online resources for merit badges and is available for free to all Scouts. You can find merit badge pages and PDFs for all badges, as well as digital resource guides for many badges. You can find all these resources here: <https://www.scouting.org/skills/merit-badges/> (scroll down to bottom of page merit badge resources).

MAY CAMPOUT:

We're looking for 1) new (2026-27) AOL or Webelos dens to join us at our May campout, and 2) any level den interested in having one of our Scouts serve as a den chief.

MOM SQUAD MEET UP:

Join "veteran" scout moms on Saturday, May 16th after drop-off at the Scouting Excellence Campout around 9:15 AM to chat about everything Troop23! Have all of your questions answered. We will meet at the camping location until about 10:00 AM. Bring a chair and a list of questions 😊

Please contact Nicole MacKinnon at 630-745-1169 if you have any questions.

WHEATON MEMORIAL DAY PARADE - MAY 25TH:

Scouts will meet at the church at 7:30 AM to prepare for the morning parade, which will conclude at Wheaton Cemetery and be followed by a ceremony. A family picnic at the church will take place immediately afterward. An RSVP and sign-up for the picnic will be distributed at a later date.

All Scouts are expected to participate in the parade unless they have a conflicting commitment, such as participation in a marching band. Nearby parking is available, including at Edison Middle School, for those who plan to drive or arrange carpools for return transportation.

SERVICE UPDATE - CAMDEN MACKINNON EAGLE PROJECT:

I am currently working on my Eagle Project and partnering with DuPage Pads and their Interim Housing Center (IHC). I am working with them to create a multipurpose family room where IHC volunteers can facilitate art activities and game and movie nights with the many children that DuPage Pads serves. My project is twofold. I am facilitating a drive for games and art supplies and building shelving units to store and organize the supplies for the multipurpose room. I am completing the project in two phases and would appreciate scout support. You will earn service hours toward your scouting ranks and learn about the Eagle Project process! Please contact me directly if you are able to help at a Monday meeting or on my cell phone at 630-520-2028.

- May 31, 2026 at 10:00 AM at my home (26W490 Churchill Road, Winfield). We will be sanding and staining the shelving pieces and sorting donations.
- June 2, 2026 time TBD (most likely late afternoon, early evening) at the IHC located at 1113 Butterfield Frontage Road, Downers Grove (repurposed Red Roof Inn). We will be assembling the shelving units and organizing the art supplies and games on them.

I will be collecting gently used games, Legos, and puzzles at our monthly meetings beginning Monday, April 27th. Please make sure the items have all of the pieces and are in good condition. You can also donate items using this [Amazon Wish List Link](#) .

Please reach out if you have any questions. Thank you for your support.

SERVICE UPDATE - ON YOUR OWN SERVICE:

With the weather getting nicer, now is the perfect time to earn some volunteer hours at our many DuPage County forest preserves! See below for locations and dates. You can register using this link: [DuPage Forest Preserve Calendar](#)

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| • May 2, 2026 | Churchill Woods | 8:30 AM - 11:00 AM |
| | Wayne Grove | 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM |
| • May 3, 2026 | Churchill Woods | 8:30 AM - 11:00 AM |
| • May 9, 2026 | Blackwell and Wayne Grove | 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM |
| • May 23, 2026 | Churchill Woods | 8:30 AM - 11:00 AM |
| | Churchill Glacial Ridge | 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM |
| | Maple Grove | 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM |
| • May 24, 2026 | Churchill Woods | 8:30 AM - 11:00 AM |
| • May 30, 2026 | Churchill Glacial Ridge | 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM |

2026 NATIONAL JAMBOREE:

There are two openings available for Scouts interested in attending the 2026 National Jamboree. Scouts who are interested should contact Marty Broderick at 224-339-0562 for more information.

ADULT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

Troop 23 has the Adult Leader opportunities open for all looking to get more involved in Troop 23.

WREATH SALES COORDINATOR - We need a volunteer to be our Wreath Sales 2026 Coordinator. This is a fun, and festive, opportunity to help the Troop manage its biggest annual fundraising project. Tasks include updating and printing the sales flyer and order forms, collecting orders, ordering wreaths from the suppliers, and distributing the wreaths to Scouts. Our prior coordinator, Carrie Olsen, will be available to help get you started and outline all that's required.

HOT NEWS INFO:

Have some information for the weekly Hot News? Please forward the details of your news item to camthai@gmail.com by Noon on Saturdays 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

Jeff Jeffers, Committee Chair at frankejeffers@yahoo.com 630-456-5043