

## BY THE NUMBERS

**32**

Active  
Scouts

Boys Ages

**11-18**

**21**

Adult  
Leaders

**10**

Troop 23 Scouts that are currently members of the Order of the Arrow, Souting's National Honor Society

**248**

Total Eagle Scouts in Troop 23 since 1955

**19/65/138**

19 Merit Badge Counselors affiliated with Troop 23 representing 65 of the 138 Merit Badges available

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## COURTS OF HONOR

Special occasions where Scouts are recognized for their achievements. Here are the achievements presented at the more recent Courts of Honor:

In October 2024, Scouts received:

- 12 Rank Advancements
- 81 Merit Badges
- 1 Silver Palm Award
- 3 National Outdoor Achievement Awards (1 Camping, 1 Adventure and 1 Hiking)

In March 2024, Scouts received:

- 11 Rank Advancements
- 48 Merit Badges
- 2 Palm Awards (1 Bronze, 1 Gold)

## ABOUT US

Troop 23 provides an active and engaging program of character and leadership development. This boy-led group has a strong affinity toward camping and service. No previous scouting experience is necessary. Here are comments from several members of Troop 23:

I joined Troop 23 for socializing and fun, but Troop 23 has provided me with more than that and so much more, teaching me life skills.

-MD, Life Scout

My favorite part about scouting is summer camp. I joined scouts to have fun and go camping more.

-TB, Second Class Scout

It's a great group of guys and a big group of guys. So you can always find someone who wants to do what you want to do!

-PZ, Star Scout

Scouts is not just camping and hiking. It teaches youth valuable leadership skills that can benefit them throughout school, college and the rest of their life.

-MH, Life Scout

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## THANK YOU!

Troop 23 is extremely grateful to First Presbyterian Church and its members who have supported the Troop and its Scouts since 1955.

Chartering Organization:  
First Presbyterian Church of Wheaton  
715 West Carlton Avenue  
Wheaton, Illinois 60187



# BSA TROOP 23

Founded 1955



[www.troop23wheaton.org](http://www.troop23wheaton.org)

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## HIGHLIGHTS

Troop 23 maintains a robust schedule of programming through a schedule developed by older Scouts at the Troop's Annual Planning Meeting in April. In 2023-2024, our planned events and activities included the following:

- Fall Kickoff at Blackwell Forest Preserve (August)
- Campout at Kettle Moraine State Forest, Eagle, WI (September)
- Campout at Shabbona Lake State Park, Shabbona, IL (October)
- Halloween Party (October)
- Survival Campout at Johnson's Mound, Elburn, IL (November)
- Christmas Party (December)
- Lock-In/Overnight at First Presbyterian Church (December)
- Winter Indoor Overnight Event (January)
- Snow Activity Day Event at Blackwell Forest Preserve (January)
- Klondike Derby (February)
- Scout Sunday (February)
- Skiing Day Trip to Alpine Valley, Elkhorn, WI (February)
- Milwaukee Day Trip (March)
- Family Potluck Dinner (March)
- Campout at Devil's Lake State Park, Baraboo, WI (April)
- 1st Year Scout Skills Campout (May)
- Campout at Warren Dunes, Sawyer, MI (May)
- Memorial Day Parade & Picnic (May)
- Shooting Sports Day Trip, St Charles Sportsmen's Club, St. Charles, IL (June)
- Summer Camp at Tomahawk Scout Reservation, Birchwood, WI (June)
- Troop Meetings (August - June)

## A SCOUT IS HELPFUL

### Service Projects

Troop 23 has ongoing service initiatives. These include both work in the community and conservation efforts. Recent efforts have included staffing the American Legion Pancake Breakfasts at Cantigny; removing trash and invasive species at DuPage County Forest Preserves and the Elmhurst Great Western Prairie; hours spent at Feed My Starving Children and more.

## A SCOUT IS THRIFTY

### Wreath Sales

The primary fundraiser for Troop 23 is selling Christmas wreaths and holiday greenery. All Scouts are expected to participate in the wreath fundraiser and encouraged to set sales goals to fund their camping trips, summer camp, and other scouting experiences.

Since 2019, Troop 23 has been including a Fallen Hero wreath option as part of our wreath program. This created a new tradition for the Scouts to place greens purchased through this offering on the graves of veterans buried at Wheaton Cemetery in a ceremony held each year on or near December 7.



## A SCOUT IS REVERENT

### Scout Sunday

Each year, in early February, Troop 23 celebrates Scout Sunday by participating in worship services at First Presbyterian Church and by serving scout-made donuts to its congregation.



## EAGLE SCOUTS

Eagle Scout is the highest rank attainable in the Boy Scouts of America. To achieve the rank of Eagle, eligible Scouts must complete an Eagle Project. In its history, Troop 23 has helped 248 young men earn the rank of Eagle Scout. We are proud that of the nine Troop 23 Scouts graduating high school in 2025, six will reach Eagle Scout. Recent Eagle Projects have included:

- Significant improvements (paint, flooring, shelving and more) to the Sensory Room at Washington Elementary School
- Constructing collapsible gallery walls for the annual art shows at an economically disadvantaged Chicago Elementary School
- Creating a Dog Sensory Garden at the Naperville Humane Society
- Constructing heavy duty shelving and reorganizing stored items at Happy Hooves Therapeutic Farm
- Constructing a bridge at Happy Hooves Therapeutic Farm
- Building a weather station at Longfellow Elementary School
- Coordinating a pet supply drive for Starfish Animal Rescue

## HIGH ADVENTURE

Troop 23 strives to offer older Scouts a BSA High Adventure Experience each year. In March 2022, Troop 23 Scouts completed the Sea Base scuba adventure. In July 2023, Scouts competed a 15-day adventure at Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico. A Boundary Waters Canoe Trip was the high adventure in 2024. Plans are currently in development for another Philmont Scout Ranch experience in summer 2025.