

Jayhawk eBugler

FEBRUARY 2026 ISSUE

SCOUTING NEWS FOR THE MONTH PRESENTED BY SCOUTING AMERICA JAYHAWK AREA COUNCIL

www.jayhawkcouncil.org

WOOD BADGE/NYLT

REUNION & AUCTION DINNER

Wood Badge/NYLT Reunion & Auction Dinner will be held Saturday, March 7 @ 6:00 PM at the Town & Country Church in Topeka. Alumni of both programs are encouraged to attend. Proceeds from the event will fund scholarships for both of our leadership programs that will help cover the cost of course fees.

Do you own a business or have a product, service or gift certificate you would like to donate to a good cause? The committee is seeking items to be used as part of the Silent Auction.

Any questions or donations please contact Chaz Havens at (785)608-9417 or email: chaz_2171@yahoo.com.

We sincerely appreciate your support and generosity.

[Register Here!](#)



WILDERNESS FIRST AID

Jayhawk Area Council will be hosting a Wilderness First Aid training course Friday, April 24 - Sunday, April 26 at Falley Scout Reservation. This training is open to youth, 14 years old and older, as well as any adult volunteer.

Scouting America requires that any contingent attending a BSA High Adventure Base have at least two adults with current Wilderness First Aid Training and CPR Training. Wilderness First Aid Training is good for two years. Due to the in-depth nature of the course, it will take place over three days.

Registration will open February 4, and will fill up fast, so reserve your space by clicking [here](#).



The Jayhawk Area Council would like to congratulate Dr. Charles "Chaz" Havens and Matt Woodward as our newest recipients of the Silver Beaver Award. The Silver Beaver Award is the council's highest volunteer honor, and we invite you to come to the dinner and celebrate our 2025 Eagle Scout Class along with these two deserving individuals.

The Council Annual Recognition Dinner will take place from 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm on Saturday, February 7, at Bishop Professional Development Center, 3601 SW 31st St., Topeka, KS 66614. [Register Here for dinner.](#)

For more details information about our Silver Beaver recipients go [here](#).

TRAINING WORKSHOP

The Disability Awareness Task Force will be hosting an all-day training workshop to learn more about interacting with Scouts that may require special attention. There will be interactive class work, hands-on simulations, general discussion Q&A and a new Mental Health First-Aid course. This training is for Parents/Guardians, Adults or youth leadership. An optional lunch will be provided for \$7 or bring your own.

When: February 28, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Where: First Christian Church, 125 S Pleasant St., Independence, Mo.

[Register Here](#)

RECHARTER TIME

The time is here to get your unit rechartered. As you are preparing to get those done, you may run into some obstacles and need some help. Well don't hesitate to reach out to:

Cheryl Collins
(785)276-3351 or
cheryl.collins@scouting.org

Get an appointment scheduled. Cheryl is available Monday - Friday 9:30 - 11:30 and 12:30 - 5:00. Appointments are recommended.



SCOUTING GIVES

There are many ways to support Scouting in your area! [Check out](#) how you can help!

MERIT BADGE TIME!

Bison District will be hosting a Merit Badge University on February 7 at Washburn University. This event is open to all Scouts BSA members that are looking to complete merit badges.

Scouts BSA members will have the opportunity to choose from 25 merit badges including:

Merit Badges new this year include:

- Artificial Intelligence
- Cyber Security
- Entrepreneurship
- Game Design
- Salesmanship
- Theater

Eagle Required:

- Citizenship in the Community
- Citizenship in the Nation
- Citizenship in the World
- Sustainability
- Swimming

[Get Registered Now!](#)

NRA BASIC RANGE SAFETY OFFICER COURSE

Jayhawk Area Council seeks to develop new certified range safety officers who possess knowledge, skills and attributes essential to organizing, conducting, supervising and safely operating target and range activities. This course is designed to prepare experienced shooters to perform the basic duties of a Range Safety Officer (RSO). RSO's ensure that the users of a range follow range regulations in order to reduce property damage and personal injury.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, February 21, from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, and head over to Falley Scout Reservation! This course is your golden ticket to mastering the art of being an RSO, ensuring everyone plays by the rules and keeps things safe. **You must be 21 Years or older to be a RSO.** The adventure costs just \$60, so don't miss your shot—[sign up today!](#)

Questions? Please Contact John Gray: bufsr374@gmail.com or (402)852-6854

SCOUT NIGHT KC MAVERICKS

Scout night for the KC Mavericks VS Wichita Thunder @ Intrust Bank Arena is Friday March 20. Get your unit together and have a chance for a post game photo on the ice. [More Info here.](#)



SAFETY MOMENT: STAYING SAFE ONLINE FOR SCOUTS



In today's digital world, Scouts use the internet for learning, communication, and fun—but online activities come with responsibilities. A strong safety mindset helps Scouts live the values of Scouting both on and offline.

Protect personal information: Scouts should never share full names, home addresses, school details, passwords, or locations online. What seems harmless can quickly become unsafe if it reaches the wrong audience. Using strong, unique passwords and keeping them private is an important first step in online safety.

Practice respectful communication: The Scout Law applies online just as it does in person. Be kind, courteous, and respectful in messages, comments, and posts. Cyberbullying, teasing, or sharing hurtful content is never acceptable—and Scouts should speak up to a trusted adult if they see it happening.

Think before you click or post: Not everything online is true or safe. Scouts should avoid clicking unknown links, downloading suspicious files, or responding to messages from people they don't know. Once something is posted online, it can be difficult—or impossible—to take it back.

Follow Scouting guidelines and involve adults: Online Scouting activities should follow the safety standards of Scouting America, including appropriate supervision and approved platforms. If something feels uncomfortable or confusing online, Scouts should pause and ask a parent, guardian, or Scout leader for help.

By staying alert, respectful, and cautious, Scouts can enjoy online activities while protecting themselves and others—building good digital citizenship that lasts a lifetime.



SCOUT SHOW & PINEWOOD DERBY

Calling all Scouts! It's time to rally the packs & troops for the Jayhawk Area Council Scout Show and Pinewood Derby on Saturday, February 21 at West Ridge Mall! This marks our debut council event in the America250 celebration, so don your stars and stripes for a patriotic-themed extravaganza!

Wondering what a Scout Show is? It's a mega meet-up where Scouts from all over the council converge for a community bash! Snag a table for just \$5 and set the stage with games, Scout Skill demos, recruitment drives, or simply showcase the awesomeness of Scouting to the world!

Are you ready for the Pinewood Derby Race? We have two exhilarating categories! Cub Scouts, rev your engines for the classic race (\$10). For those who dare to be different, the Outlaw Class race awaits (\$10)! Let your creativity run wild! Compete for shiny awards, including the Traditional Cub Scout Racer 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places, Outlaw Champion, Turtle Racer (for the slowest entry), Best in Show, and the People's Choice award.

Start your engines and zoom in for check-in at 10 am; the race flag waves at 11 am! Teams, prepare to roll in early (time TBD). Lock in your team table pronto and let us know how many racers you're bringing. Dive into the fun and friendship from 10 am- 3 pm, though the races might just keep on cruising past that! Let's make it a Scout-tacular extravaganza!

[Register Today!](#)

AMERICA'S FIELD TRIP: SCOUTS EXPLORING 250 YEARS OF FREEDOM

As the United States prepares to celebrate 250 years of independence, Scouting America is proud to encourage Scouts to take part in America's Field Trip, a national contest connected to the America250 celebration. This unique opportunity invites young people grades 3 - 12 to explore the places, stories, and values that shaped our nation—both past and present.

Through essays, artwork, or creative projects, Scouts are challenged to reflect on, "What America means to you?". Think about how historic sites, national parks, and community landmarks connect to the ideals of citizenship, service, and leadership. America's Field Trip aligns closely with the Scouting mission by inspiring curiosity, civic responsibility, and respect for history.

250 Selected winners will earn the chance to win a special behind-the-scenes field trip experience this summer or a cash prize. This is more than a contest, America's Field Trip empowers Scouts to see themselves as active participants in America's ongoing story. The deadline is 7:00 pm on March 30.

By participating, Scouts honor the past, engage with the present, and prepare to lead the future—living out the Scout Oath and Law while helping tell America's story at this historic milestone. To participate please go [here](#).



SCOUT SHOP CORNER



The Jayhawk Area Council Scout Shop is located at 1020 SE Monroe in downtown Topeka. We invite you to stop in and make a purchase or two for your Scout. Lots of new items coming soon! With Pinewood Derby time here, you can visit the online Scout Shop to put in your order for all things pinewood. Check out the [online shop](#) now!

Open M-F 9 am-5:30 pm and on Saturdays from 9 am-1 pm. We also ship orders. If interested in having an order shipped or ready for pickup please call (785) 354-0291 or email [Larry](#).



DISTRICT NEWS

SOJADI DISTRICT DINNER

The Sojadi District Dinner will be February 12 at 6:00 pm at the First United Methodist Church in Emporia, 823 Merchant Street. The evening will be filled with fun and camaraderie as well as recognition of leaders, Eagle Scouts and units for their successes in Sojadi District. Two of the main awards are the Myron Tweety Award and the Frank Holliday Award.

The Myron Tweety Award is presented annually by the Sojadi District in honor of veteran Scouter Myron Tweety whose Scouting influenced packs in Sojadi District. A pack may earn this award through quality programming including participation in district activities, leadership training and membership growth. The award was first presented in 1986.

The Frank Holliday Award is presented annually by the Sojadi District in honor of veteran Scouter Frank Holliday whose Scouting influenced troops in Sojadi District. A troop may earn this award through quality programming including participation in district activities, leadership training and membership growth. The award was first presented in 1988.

The District Award of Merit is awarded to one leader who has gone above and beyond contributing to Scouting in Sojadi District. This recognition also includes contributions to community, church and other noteworthy organizations in Sojadi District.

On a lighter note we also have the Pinhead Award! This award is given to the Scouter who has been found to have done something wacky! Only 25 percent of the story has to be true so some crazy stories come out from our units.

Dinner this year is being provided by Ken Roemer, Scott Farmer, John Young and Don Bailey. The planned menu is Pulled Pork, Smoked Turkey Breast, Smoked Brisket, Baked Beans, Green Beans, Corn, Cheesy Taters, Roll and Cobbler for Dessert!

Since this is to honor our leaders accomplishments and the meal is provided, we have set the cost at only \$10!! If anyone has any Scout related memorabilia to donate there will be a silent auction. All proceeds from the auction will go to offset the food costs at IOLS (Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills) training planned for later this year in Sojadi District.

[Register Today!](#)

SUNFLOWER DISTRICT

Stay tuned for all of the fun things to come for 2026 in the Sunflower District. Mark your calendar and save the date for our annual Camporee that is open to all Scouts BSA members. We will be geocaching and a little space exploration. Mark your calendar to join us March 27 - 29 at Falley Scout Reservation.

Don't forget that we have a Pinewood Derby event that will take place March 21 at Falley Scout Reservation. More details [here](#).

SCOUT DAY AT THE K

Scout Day at the K returns on Sunday, Sunday, April 26 as the Kansas City Royals take on the Houston Astros in a pivotal early season series. For more information or to order individual tickets, please contact the Heart of America Council or [Click Here!](#)

CELEBRATE SCOUTING'S BIRTHDAY

Scouting America turns another year older in 2026, and your unit is invited to celebrate in style with the official 2026 Scout Sunday Patch, now available at your local Scout Shop! Scout Anniversary Week runs from Sunday, February 1 through Saturday, February 7, with the highlight of the celebration, Scout Sunday on February 8, the historic date Scouting America was officially incorporated.

This special alignment makes 2026 an extra-meaningful year to honor our movement's deep roots in service, faith, leadership, and character.

✋ Stop by the Scout Shop today to pick up your unit's patches while supplies last. Let's celebrate Scouting's birthday together — because moments like these deserve to be remembered!



BISON DISTRICT DINNER

Join the Bison District Committee for our yearly District Dinner to show our appreciation to our local volunteers and all their hard work. Many nominations have been turned in for our fantastic Scouters, and we will soon be revealing the award recipients from our 2025 Scouting Year. Join us on Thursday, March 12 at 7:00 pm.

[Register Today!](#)



SOJADI DISTRICT RECRUITMENT

On December 18, the Sojadi District hosted a bowling recruitment night at Flint Hills Lanes in Emporia. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all the volunteers who represented the Sojadi District. This relaxed and enjoyable event aimed to attract new youth participants.

DID YOU KNOW?

Have you ever heard of the North Star Award? The North Star Award is for nonregistered volunteers who have made a significant contribution to Scouting, it is the equivalent of the Silver Beaver Award which is for registered volunteers.



Upcoming Dates- jayhawkcouncil.org for more details

Feb 1 - 7	Scout Anniversary Week
Feb 7	Washburn Merit Badge Day
Feb 7	Council Recognition Dinner
Feb 8	Scout Sunday/Scouting America Birthday
Feb 11	Topeka Distinguished Citizen Dinner
Feb 12	Sojadi District Dinner
Feb 21	Range Safety Officer Training
March 4	Emporia Friends of Scouting Breakfast
March 7	Wood Badge/NYLT Dinner Auction
March 27-29	Sunflower District Camporee