

# SCOUT TROOP # 231 NEWSLETTER

**CONGRATULATIONS SCOUTS** for your new rank and/or new Merit Badges!



Here are also the outcomes of the **Potluck Challenge:**

🏆 **Best Chili - 7 points** 🏆

Pumpkin Soup - 6 points

Sausage, Potato & Kale Soup 6 points

Texas Wild Hog Sow - 4 points;

Mac & Cheese - 4 points

Gumbo - 2 points

Vegan chili - 2 points

#2 - 2 points

Lentil Chili - 1 point

Pork Green Chili - 1 point

Rice Bowl - 1 point

Shantal - 1 point

White bean chicken chili - 1 point

#3 - 1 point

#4 - 1 point

Unfortunately we weren't able to identify the ones numbered (#) because the pots have already been taken by the owner at the end of the day. That said: *the contest was a success and we should definitely have a re-do!!! Who's up for the challenge???* 🤔

## **Scout Interview:**

### **Jax Draper**

*What's your name and how old are you?*

My name is Jax. I am 11 years old and I have two siblings.

*When did you join the Scouts and which troop?*

I joined Cub Scouts Pack 229 when I was in first grade and participated every year since, except in fourth grade when we were traveling.

I joined Boy Scouts early this year with the Troop 231.

*What did you like most about being a scout?*

I like seeing all my friends and getting to be in the outdoors, camping and hiking.

*What didn't you enjoy as much?*

I don't enjoy that troop meetings are on Monday because I have a lot of school work to do.

*Your best memory from your Scouting time?*

My best memory was when the Troop went up on a Backpacking trip and we played Capture the Flag with everyone.

*What would you like more from your Scouting Troop now?*

I would like more hikes and camping trips, also food!

*What would you suggest to a younger scout?*

I would encourage younger scouts to keep showing up and participate in as many activities as they can so they can experience all the different things that the scouts teach us.

## **HOLIDAY BREAK**

**(12/16/24 - 01/05/25)**

**No meetings till 2025!**

**Enjoy your Family Time,  
the outdoors & keep in touch  
with your fellow Scouts. :)**

## **NEXT MEETINGS:**

\*Monday, **01/06/25** @ 5:30 PM

Troop Committee meeting

\*Monday, **01/06/25** @ 6:30 PM

Troop meeting

## **NEXT EVENTS:**

\*Monday, **12/30/24** by 12 pm

**Official Summer Camp 2025**

**Sign up**

\*Saturday, **01/18/25 Hike**

(tentative)

## **A Scout is Helpful & Thrifty:**

*Reach out to your  
Quartermasters & Mrs. Lamb to  
donate your overgrown  
uniforms. Thanks!  
(Washed, and gently used.)*



*"The real way to gain happiness  
is to give it to others."*

– Lord Robert Baden-Powell

**TIPS for OUR SCOUTS:**

- \* **Scout Spirit:** we started our Holiday Break (12/16/24 - 01/05/25)! Don't forget to get together with your buddies and Patrol(s). Anyone interested in a snowshoe day, bowling game, ski day, snowball fight (just don't tell Scoutmaster!), or time at the pool with your fellow scouts? Post it on our Troop text thread and/or send your Patrol Leader a message, so we can all join!
  - \* *Let your Scoutmaster know ahead of time if you need to get credit for anything such get together might bring.*
- \* **New Merit Badge opportunities:**
  - \* Communications - going on via zoom every Monday night with *Scoutmaster Nate* (during this Holiday Break)
  - \* Ice Skating - coming up with *Mr. Barrie* (January)
 Scouts should reach out to *Scoutmaster Nate* to talk to him and get the Blue Card(s) prior to directly contacting the Counsellor(s), if interested.
- \* **Official Summer Camp 2025 Sign-up (by 12/30th!):** please, get back to Chad for him to be able to register our Troop asap and get a campsite. [With the sign-up you commit to the payment of \$100 deposit.] If you're not able to commit right now, you may be able to sign up later on, if the camp has room.
- \* **Court of Honor: what a great evening with you all!!! And what a success for our Scouts!**
  - \* We awarded **37 Merit Badges** to 11 Scouts. Ian and Ryan joined the **Scout rank**. Grayson earned his **Tenderfoot**, Indy his **Second Class**, Emet & Lucas their **First Class**, and Ben his **Star rank**. Congrats!
  - \* Scoutmaster Nathan surprised us with some **Special Recognition Awards** too:
    - \* Indy was awarded the **Scout Spirit** Award for being always ready to help out and give great tips for meetings and event activities.
    - \* Ben was recognized for the most improvement with the **Trailblazer** Award.
    - \* Logan Velasquez was praised for his leadership & attendance, and received the **Guide** Award.
    - \* Shantal and Sarah were delighted with their unexpected awards: Shantal with the **Lion** (did you know her astrological sign is actually "Lion", which is also her favorite animal?), while Sarah with the **Tiger** (her favorite animal and her Chinese Zodiac animal as well!). They both symbolize strength, courage, and power.

I guess our Scoutmaster knows his Big Cats pretty well. Yep. He's a good... RINGMASTER! 😊

**TIPS for OUR PARENTS:**

**"The joy of Christmas is in the little moments shared with loved ones."**

- **Start a new tradition** - our family enjoys talking to each other at dinner time or before bed about our day. We like to tell:
  - **our Roses, Thorns & Buds** - Roses (what we're grateful for), Thorns (what we didn't enjoy during our day), and Buds (what we're looking forward to in the near and/or far future)
  - or **our G.L.A.D.s** - Gratitude (what we are thankful for), Learning (what we learned during our day), Achievement (what we achieved during our day), and Delights (what made us smile during our day).
 Maybe you can do so too, or think of a way your family can recognize the goodness in your lives.
- Scouting reminds us to **be kind**, to **ourselves too**, even and especially as **adults!** 😊
- **Enjoy your time with your family** because **"Family is where life begins, and love never ends(!)."**

**May your home be filled with love, peace, laughter, and great outdoors fun!**

We're looking forward to seeing you all soon to keep enjoying with you another year full of adventures, fun, and great learning times!

**Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and a Joyful 2025 to You and Yours!**

**THE SCOUT LAW**

A Scout is:

TRUSTWORTHY, LOYAL, HELPFUL, FRIENDLY, COURTEOUS, **KIND**,  
OBEDIENT, CHEERFUL, THRIFTY, BRAVE, CLEAN, REVERENT.

What does this mean to you?

Treat others as you want to be treated. Never harm or kill any living thing without good reason.

**"The most worthwhile thing is to try to put happiness into the lives of others."**

— Robert Baden Powell