

THE NORTH STAR NUGGET

VOLUME 9, ISSUE 10
DECEMBER 2023

GSLAC – NORTH STAR ROUNDTABLE NEWS





MARK YOUR CALENDARS

December 2023/January 2024

Dec 9	STEM University - UMSL
Dec 17	Shawnee OA Winter Banquet – Moolah Shrine Center
Jan 6, 2024	Swimming Skills Center Starts – See Flyer for Details
Jan 9, 2024	STEM University - SEMO
Jan 13, 2024	Venturing – STL After Dark
Jan 27, 2024	STEM University – SIU-E

**Looking Ahead Beyond
January 2024**

Feb 24, 2024	STEM University – SIU-C
Feb 24, 2024	Pathfinder Klondike - Beaumont
Mar 16, 2024	STEM University – Lincoln Land College

December 2023 Duty to God Moment

Robert Baden-Powell once said, “development of outlook naturally begins with a respect for God... Reverence to God and reverence for one's neighbor and reverence for oneself as a servant of God.”

Each of these points is included in the Scout Oath and can be associated with the three raised fingers of the Scout sign.

When Scouts say their Oath, they are promising to do their best to do their Duty to God and country. We see Scouts fulfill this pledge when they participate in religious and patriotic services, as well as in living by the Scout Law.

The second finger of the Scout sign symbolizes respect for one's neighbor. “A Scout is Helpful” is also included in the Scout Law with a pledge to help other people at all times. Friendly, courteous, and kind service are all hallmarks of the Scouting movement.

The third finger of the Scout sign reminds us of a Scout's duty to self: that is, to keep himself or herself “physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.”

When Scouts are encouraged to be attentive to the three aspects of the Scout Oath: Duty to God and Country, Duty to Others, and Duty to Self, they are fulfilling the vision of the Scouting movement, which is to prepare young citizens to live according to the values of Scouting.

Put another way: The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

Commissioner Corner

Merry Christmas North Star!

Nothing long and boring this time, just a note to say thank you to each and every one of you that makes North Star what it is, here's to a great 2023 and an even better 2024! Please take the time to relax, enjoy the season with your friends and loved ones and really enjoy yourselves. And then let's come back ready and raring to go in 2024 and help put on the best run youth program in the world for the young people we serve!

Thanks again, and blessings to all of you and your families in 2024.

YIS

Dave Kedge
SM, C3-312-20-2

Camping Corner

I hope you and your families had a good Thanksgiving. As we wind down 2023 Here are some notes from your camping Chairman.

By now I hope your unit is registered for a summer camp. It is a proven fact that if a scout attends summer camp they will stay in scouting longer and hopefully earn their Eagle rank.

Have you thought about booking one of our council cabins for a winter indoor campout. Good time to work on merit badges or scout skills. Knot tying maybe or Dutch oven cooking. Give it a try.

Klondike

- North Star has been invited by the Pathfinder district to attend their Klondike.
- Scout Trek-Deep Freeze 9
- One day only Saturday February 24, 2024
- Beaumont - Lane Area
- Cost to be determined - last year it was \$10 to cover the cost of patches and a hot lunch.
- Manuals hopefully ready in January. Registration will be online -- not set up yet.
- AOL scouts welcome to attend.

Pathfinder is looking for NorthStar scouts to help staff. Star and 14 years up
Contact Camping Chairman – joel.schwartz@schawneelodge.org

Fred Schaljo
314-402-0095

Spring camporee @ Warren Levis March 8, 9, & 10

Activities

BSA Swim Skills 2024



When: January 6-February 10, 2024 (Saturdays)

Where: Hazelwood West High School Pool
1 Wildcat Ln St Louis, MO 63042

Cost: \$10 per participant

Sessions: 9-10:30 Lifesaving & Swimming Merit Badges

10:45-11:30 Learning to Swim

11:45-12:30 Learning to Swim

Register online @ <https://scoutingevent.com/312-74268>

by Jan 5 at midnight

Walk-ins welcome

We are looking for staff to help in the pool area. Any Scouts that have the swimming merit badge and lifesaving badge.

Please call Sarah Scott at 314-650-8690 for details.



JOIN. ENGAGE. LEAD.
CLICK HERE TO CONTINUE YOUR ADVENTURE!

Council and District Up Coming Activity Dates

Scouting for Food – I would like to thank all the Fire House Coordinators for a job well done in boxing up the food that came to your firehouse. Also, a big thank you to Rachel Tran for an outstanding job as being the District SFF Chairman. As she departs in this position for 3 years, we have a replacement for please welcome Michelle Robinson as the new Scouting for Food Chairman.

District Dinner – I would like to announce that we are looking for staff to help plan the district dinner. If you are interested in being on staff, please contact Jane Lindstrom.

Polaris Award – Please see attached the Polaris Award nomination form. We would need at least 6 nominations. Please have them by March Roundtable.

Pinewood Derby – We are also looking for volunteers to help with the pinewood derby. If are interested, please contact Jane Lindstrom at jflindstrom@yahoo.com.

Swimming Skills Center – There might be a change in the place for the skill center TBA.



North Star Chapter and lodge updates

Chapter News

Chapter winter banquet will be coming up in the next couple of months, news on that coming soon

Rechartering fees are now \$12 dollars

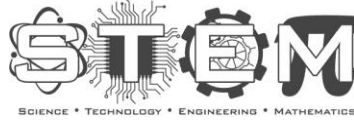
Lodge News

Lodge winter banquet registration is \$25 before Nov. 20th.

Afterwards it would be \$32 and then to \$40 past Dec. 5th, **NO TICKETS TO BE SOLD AT DOOR!**

Banquet is on Dec. 17, doors open at 4pm, program starts 5pm
Address is 12545 Fee Fee Rd

Season passes for the upcoming year will be \$60



Upcoming Events: <https://stlbsa.org/stem/upcoming-stem-events/>

STEM Universities

- UMSL – 9 December 2023
 - This weekend. Registration is closed.
 - Thanks to those who are helping or attending
- SEMO – 6 January 2024
 - Registration is open.
 - Cub Scouts only
 - Science Everywhere and 1-2-3 Go Nova Awards
- SIUE – 27 January 2024
- SIUC – 24 February 2024
- Lincoln Land College – 16 March 2024

Advanced Planning:

8 April 2024 – The next total solar eclipse will pass through Missouri and Illinois.

- <https://www.eclipse-bsa-2024.com/>
- [2024 Pine Ridge Eclipse Fest registration in open](#) - \$25 per camper or staff
- Start planning now as spots may fill up quickly
- The events are all weekend starting on the April 5th
- Activities are being planned for the weekend at Pine Ridge and S-F, and maybe Lewallen

Social Media:

Facebook -> <https://www.facebook.com/GSLACSTEM>

Instagram -> <https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/stemandscouting/>

YouTube -> <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLomHx8lnOFuXLb8zBDxHDQ>

If you need any assistance implementing STEM into your program, please let me know.

Alan Kreppert – North Star District STEM Chair

314-616-4592

alan.kreppert@sbcglobal.net

North Star Venturing Officers Association (VOA) News

Our North Star VOA officers are:

President - Precious Bolade (Crew 2749)
Vice President Administration - Gabe Blamey (Crew 2921)
Vice President Program - Amelia Bazzell (Crew 2749)
Vice President Communication - Kip MacDonald (Crew 2749)

Now that the Venturing year is underway, Greater St. Louis Area Council committees have started planning for the following activities and events:

STL After Dark, January 13-14, 2024 – 8pm – 6am – Half Lock-In, Half Behind the Scenes Tours

Emerson YMCA, 3390 Pershall Rd, Ferguson, MO
Multiple St. Louis-area visits are in work.
Approximately \$30
scoutingevent.com/312-dark24

Taste of Venturing, March 22-24, 2024 - Weekend of fellowship and activities

scoutingevent.com/312-tov2024

Celebration Dinner, May 19, 2024 - Annual recognition dinner

scoutingevent.com/312-cele24

Swift's Big Kickoff, May 31-June 2, 2024 - Improve our favorite summer camp and have fun

scoutingevent.com/312-swiftko24

Sea Scout Ball, August 3, 2024 - Evening of food, dance, and water sailing

scoutingevent.com/312-ball24

Fall Fun Rally, September 20-22, 2024 - Huge weekend of fun

fallrunrally.org

Jerome Flynn
North Star VOA Advisor
jmf41862@yahoo.com



NOMINATION FOR THE DISTRICT AWARD OF MERIT



NOTE: The nomination is confidential.
To avoid possible disappointment,
please do not advise nominee in any
way of your action in his or her behalf.

_____ Council
_____ District
_____ Unit

TO THE DISTRICT AWARD OF MERIT COMMITTEE:

It is a pleasure to present for your consideration for the DISTRICT AWARD OF MERIT:

Name _____
Address _____
City or Town _____ Zip _____

Currently registered in Scouting as _____

The nominee has earned the following (provide dates):

_____ Den Leader's Training Award or Den Leader Award	_____ Scouter's Religious Award	_____ Other (specify) _____
_____ Den Leader Coach's Training Award or Den Leader Coach Award	_____ Silver Beaver	_____
_____ Cubmaster Award	_____ Order of the Arrow	_____
_____ Cub Scouter Award	_____ Wood Badge	_____
_____ Webelos Den Leader Award	_____ Venturing Awards	_____
_____ Scouter's Training Award	_____ Distinguished Commis- sioner Service Award	_____
_____ Scouter's Key		

The noteworthy service upon which this nomination is based follows:

(Furnish as much information as possible. For example: president, Rotary Club; vestryman, St. Paul's Church; chairman, Red Cross campaign; vice-president, PTA; medical director, hospital; Cubmaster, 3 years; Scoutmaster, 4 years; Venturing Advisor, 3 years; commissioner, etc. Use additional paper, if necessary.)

_____ Date of nomination
_____ Name of person making nomination
_____ Position in Scouting
_____ Contact number

GENERAL INFORMATION

The District Award of Merit is a council award presented by districts in the same manner that the Silver Beaver is a national award presented by councils.

The award is available to Scouters who render service of an outstanding nature at the district level.

The award is made available annually on the basis of 1 for each 25 traditional units or fraction thereof. The district need not present all the awards to which it is entitled each year.

It is not appropriate to nominate a Scouter who has already received this award.

A professional Scouter or other council employee may not receive this award based on employment service. However, a professional Scouter or employee who also serves as a volunteer Scouter may be eligible, based on *volunteer* service.

REQUIREMENTS

1. A nominee must be a registered Scouter.
2. A nominee must have rendered noteworthy service to youth in Scouting, outside Scouting, or both.
Note: The nature and value of "noteworthy service to youth" may consist of a single plan or decisions that contributed vitally to the lives of large numbers of youth or it may have been given to a small group over an extended period of time.
3. Consideration must be given to the nominee's Scouting position and the corresponding opportunity to render outstanding service beyond the expectations of that Scouting position.
4. The nominee's attitude toward and cooperation with the district and/or council is to be taken into consideration.
5. Nominations cannot be considered for posthumous awards.

PROCEDURE

1. Annually, district chairmen will appoint a temporary special District Award of Merit committee of not more than five persons who will consider all candidates and make recommendations of those to receive the award to the council through the Scout executive.
2. The Scout executive will inform the district chairman of those nominations approved by the council committee.
3. The following procedure is suggested for such presentation ceremonies:
 - a. The recipient and spouse should be in attendance at the annual meeting or recognition dinner.
 - b. A district and/or council officer should explain the award and its significance.
 - c. Eagle Scouts or Silver Award Venturers should be asked to escort the recipients to a place of honor at the head table or on stage.
 - d. A suitable citation for each recipient should be read indicating what each has done in Scouting.
 - e. The award (certificate, No. 33719; plaque, No. 17565; and lapel pin, No. 17551) may be presented at this time with appropriate congratulations.
 - f. The only uniform insignia which accompanies this award is an embroidered overhand knot, No. 05013.
 - g. A group picture may be taken for use in neighborhood or community newspapers (district responsibility).

District approval

Council approval



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