



# On The Horizon – May 2025

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<https://www.facebook.com/newhorizonsdistrictgslac>

## Table of Contents

<b>IMPORTANT DATES AT A GLANCE:</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>COMMISSIONER'S CORNER:</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>ACTIVITIES:</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>ADVANCEMENT:</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math):</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>DEVELOPMENT/ENDOWMENT:</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>TRAINING:</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>MEMBERSHIP:</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>CAMPING:</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>ORDER OF THE ARROW:</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>VENTURING &amp; SEA SCOUTING:</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>DISTRICT CONTACTS/CALENDAR:</b>	<b>17</b>

## IMPORTANT DATES AT A GLANCE:

### EVENT:

Scouts Read Sacred Texts Worldwide  
 Camp Card Sales end  
 Spring Wood Badge – Session 1  
 Shawnee Lodge Order of the Arrow One Day of Service  
 Climbing Tower Training  
 May Roundtables  
 Challenge Course Orientation Meeting  
 May Eagle Boards of Review  
 Cub Scout Camp-In at The Magic House:  
 Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS – Scouts BSA)  
 New Horizons Order of the Arrow Chapter Meeting  
 Spring Wood Badge – Session 2  
 Spring Challenge Course Training  
 VSOA Celebration Dinner  
 Rock Climbing/Rappelling Orientation Meeting  
 Swift's Big Kick Off  
 STEM on CAMPus – SE MO State University  
 June Roundtables  
 STEM on CAMPus – UMSL  
 Rock Climbing/Rappelling Training  
 Youth Aviation Day  
 Council Annual Volunteer Recognition Night  
 June Eagle Boards of Review  
 STEM on CAMPus – Eastern IL University  
 National Youth Leader Training – Course 1  
 National Youth Leader Training – Course 2  
 July Eagle Boards of Review  
 National Youth Leader Training – Course 3  
 STEM and Skilled Trades Camp  
 Camp NOVA Day Camp  
 Sea Scout Ball  
 August Roundtables  
 August Eagle Boards of Review  
 National Youth Leader Training – Course 4, Weekend 1  
 National Youth Leader Training – Course 4, Weekend 2  
 September Roundtables  
 Shawnee Lodge Fall Reunion  
 September Eagle Boards of Review  
 District Life To Eagle Seminar  
 Venturing Fall Fun Rally  
 Order of the Arrow Sectoin G7 Conclave  
 Fall Wood Badge – Session 1  
 Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO)  
 Climbing Tower Training  
 Cub Launch  
 Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO)  
 October Roundtables  
 October Eagle Boards of Review

### DATE:

May 1  
 May 1  
 May 2 – 4  
 May 3  
 May 3  
 May 6  
 May 7  
 May 14, 28  
 May 9 – 10  
 May 9 – 11  
 May 15  
 May 17 – 18  
 May 17 – 18  
 May 18  
 May 28  
 May 30 – June 1  
 June 1 - 4  
 June 3  
 June 4 – 7  
 June 7 – 8  
 June 7  
 June 9  
 June 11, 25  
 June 8 – 10  
 June 15 – 21  
 June 22 - 28  
 July 9, 23  
 July 13 – 19  
 July 20 – 26  
 July 21 – 26  
 August 2  
 August 5  
 August 13, 27  
 August 8 – 10 (Both weekends required)  
 August 15 – 17 (Both weekends required)  
 September 2  
 September 5 – 7  
 September 10, 24  
 September 17  
 September 19 – 21  
 September 26 - 28  
 September 26 – 28  
 September 27 – 28  
 October 4  
 October 4  
 October 4 – 5  
 October 7  
 October 8, 22

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<b>Spookoree</b>	October 10 – 12
<b>Fall Wood Badge – Session 2</b>	October 11 – 12
<b>District Fall Camporee</b>	October 17 – 19
<b>Fall Fright Night</b>	October 17 – 19
<b>Haunted Hayrides</b>	October 24 – 26
<b>Chemistry Merit Badge Clinic</b>	October 25
<b>Council Map &amp; Compass Adult Leader Training</b>	October 25

## **SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

➔ **PLEASE SHARE THIS NEWSLETTER WITH ALL OF YOUR LEADERS AND PARENTS IN YOUR UNIT, AND HAVE THEM ALL SIGN UP TO RECEIVE THEIR OWN COPY HERE: <http://eepurl.com/Z-9Vr>**

### **May ROUNDTABLES:**

May Roundtable will be at **Manchester United Methodist Church**, 129 Woods Mill Rd, Manchester, MO 63011, on May 6<sup>th</sup>, gathering at 6:00pm, and the program at 6:30 pm on the west parking lot (pivot to inside in case of inclement weather). This important Roundtable is **PROGRAM PREVIEW**, and materials for the 2025/26 Program will be available! Additionally, there will be a great deal of information on STEM, Cub Scout summer activities, special need scouts, and camping opportunities.

### **June ROUNDTABLES:**

June Roundtable will be at **Manchester United Methodist Church**, 129 Woods Mill Rd, Manchester, MO 63011, on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, gathering at 6:30 pm, and the program at 7:00 pm. The theme for the Cub Scout Roundtable will be “Write Your Pack’s Success Story”. The theme for Scouts BSA Roundtable TBD.

### **2024-25 Program Guides:**

These guides take you through recommendations on how to best manage Den and Pack meetings, Troop meetings, and Crew meetings for the coming Scouting year—loaded with information on having a fun Scouting program.

#### **2024-25 Cub Scout Program Guide:**

<https://tinyurl.com/2zyfjse9>

#### **2024-25 Scouts BSA Program Guide (the flyer for Program Preview had an incorrect short URL:**

<http://stlbsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/2024-2025-Scouts-BSA-Program-Guide-final.pdf>

#### **2024-25 Venturing Program Guide:**

<https://tinyurl.com/bdfarukj>

**IMPORTANT** ➔ Keep up to date with the “Guide to Safe Scouting” here:

<https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/toc/>

Additional changes are in effect as of September. Important information may be found in the table of contents in the “Guide to Safe Scouting” here: <https://nycscouting.org/yptstandards/>

### **Cub Scout Summer Camp Promotion:**

To promote Cub Scout Summer Camps, the council has created marketing placemats for Cub Scout Packs. These are perfect for Blue and Gold Banquets and other unit events. There are 6 different placemats, separated by region that list the day camps closest to them. (These placemats are free for units to order and can be picked up at any council office. When ordering, please make sure to give a 2 week notice for these to be printed. To order Placemats, go to <https://247scouting.com/forms/312-placemat25>. To view all the Placemats, go to <https://stlbsa.org/camps/cub-scout-camping-marketing-resources/>.

### **Effective 09/01/2024: Range & Target Activities Replaces Shooting Sports Program:**

Effective September 1, 2024, Scouting’s Shooting Sports programs within all programs including Cub Scouting, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouting will be referred to as Range & Target Activities.

The following program adjustments aim to simplify range and target activities focusing on safe and quality program, thus enhancing the overall experience for Scouts and Scouters alike.

Q: Why is Scouting updating its range and target activities (shooting sports programs) effective 9/1/2024?

A: With a focus on safety and delivery of a quality program, these program adjustments aim to simplify and further standardize range and target activities, thus enhancing the overall experience for Scouts and Scouters alike.

Q: Why is the name of shooting sports programs changing to Range & Target Activities?

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A: This new name reflects both where these activities take place (on established ranges) and what these activities are.

Further Information:

Range and Target Activities: <https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/range-activities/>

Range & Target Activities FAQs: <https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/range-activities/range-activities-faq/>

For any questions, email [outdoorprograms@scouting.org](mailto:outdoorprograms@scouting.org).

**Scouting America Council Service Territory 5 (CST 5):**

As a member District within the Greater St Louis Area Scouting, we are 1 of 14 Councils that comprise **Council Service Territory 5 (CST 5)**, 1 of 14 Territories across the US. **CST 5** covers the states of Missouri, Kansas, and Nebraska as well as southern Illinois, and western Iowa, and nearly all of Colorado & Wyoming.

For much more information please follow and share the following two CST 5 Facebook Group Pages:

1. Scouting America Council Service Territory 5 (CST 5) with close to 400 members. For general information about accomplishments and accolades across CST 5, from the individual to units, to districts, councils, and programs please join Scouting America Council Service Territory 5 (NST 5) Homepage: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/924855562032311>

2. Scouting America Council Service Territory 5 Program with 500+ members

For Program specific information please join the Council Service Territory 5 Program:

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/270021481844869/>

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## **COMMISSIONER'S CORNER:**

Dear Fellow Scouters,

Summer camp season is almost here, and I can't wait! Have you made plans for your camp? Whether it's residential, day, or twilight camp, we'd love to come and visit. We love seeing our Units have a blast.

Your Unit Commissioner should also be chatting with you more. As your big brother/sister, we want to help you succeed. We might have some suggestions for you, not because we want to tell you how to run your program, but because we often think of things you might not have considered. If you don't know who your Unit Commissioner is, just reach out to me personally.

Yours in Scouting,

Joseph P. "Joe" Bradley, MD  
New Horizons District Commissioner  
Greater St. Louis Area Scouting  
[joseph.bradley@icloud.com](mailto:joseph.bradley@icloud.com)

## **ACTIVITIES:**

### **Scouts Read Sacred Texts Worldwide:**

Our **First Scouts Read Sacred Texts Worldwide** event greatly exceeded expectations. On May 2, 2024, the National Day of Prayer, we had over 3600 youth read their sacred texts for over 800 hours. Most read at home with their families. In addition to the United States, we had youth from Kenya, Nigeria, Puerto Rico, Belgium, Bangladesh, Chile, Singapore, Okinawa, and the Philippines.

This year our event will be held on the National Day of Prayer, May 1, 2025. We invite all youth of all faith groups to join us on May 1<sup>st</sup> or any time that week that is convenient. We suggest that youth, their families or faith leaders decide texts to be read.

There are patches and stickers available to celebrate this event. The patch is 3" x 3" with a button loop and may be purchased individually or in a larger cost saving quantity at <https://tinyurl.com/Patch-Orders>

For more information visit <https://stlbsa.org/Scouts-read-sacred-texts-worldwide/> or contact Jim Marchbank at [ScoutsReadSacredTexts@gmail.com](mailto:ScoutsReadSacredTexts@gmail.com)

### **Youth Aviation Day:**

The Gateway Youth Aeronautical Foundation's Youth Aviation Day STEM Event & Career Fair will be held on Saturday, June 7, 2025 from 10:00 am – 4:00pm at the Creve Coeur Airport (14301 Creve Coeur Airport Road). The event will showcase the many career paths available in the aviation industry. There will be Aviation STEM Activities, guest speakers on Aviation Topics, Static Aircraft Displays, VR Flight Simulators, F-4 Phantom II Cockpit exhibit, and much more.

For information, contact [info@youthareofoundation.org](mailto:info@youthareofoundation.org) or call 314.399.9208

### **Council Annual Volunteer Recognition Night:**

Save the date for the Council Annual Volunteer Recognition Night, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025, where the 2025 Silver Beaver Class will be recognized (location/time TBD). Of the 24 recipients, our New Horizons recipients are **Terry Flynn, John Murphy, and Edward Samuels**. For the full list of recipients and more information, visit:

<https://stlbsa.org/advancement-awards/silver-beaver-award/>

## **ADVANCEMENT:**

### **\*\*\*\*IMPORTANT\*\*\*\***

The new edition of the Guide To Advancement (GTA) is out and available now. Almost every section of the GTA received some minor or major revisions since the last edition. Click on the following link for the updated GTA. **Please note that the section pertaining to special needs has been completely reorganized and rewritten.**

[https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33088.pdf?\\_gl=1\\*1dxgp\\*\\_gcl\\_au\\*NDI2NDg2NDEzLjE3MzQzNjA5MTY.\\*\\_ga\\*OTk2Mzg3NTY4LjE3MzQzNjA5MTc.\\*\\_ga\\_20G0JHESG4\\*MTczNDM2MDkxNi4xLjEuMTczNDM2MDkxNi42MC4wLjA.\\*\\_ga\\_61ZEHCVHHS\\*MTczNDM2MDkxNi4xLjAuMTczNDM2MDkxNi42MC4wLjA.&\\_ga=2.153025983.743099118.1734360917-996387568.1734360917](https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33088.pdf?_gl=1*1dxgp*_gcl_au*NDI2NDg2NDEzLjE3MzQzNjA5MTY.*_ga*OTk2Mzg3NTY4LjE3MzQzNjA5MTc.*_ga_20G0JHESG4*MTczNDM2MDkxNi4xLjEuMTczNDM2MDkxNi42MC4wLjA.*_ga_61ZEHCVHHS*MTczNDM2MDkxNi4xLjAuMTczNDM2MDkxNi42MC4wLjA.&_ga=2.153025983.743099118.1734360917-996387568.1734360917).

**The new Cub Scout Advancement program is in full swing!! New Cub Scout Handbooks are now available at the Scout Shops! Updates to Cub Scout Advancement for the 2024-25 program year were posted here:**

<https://www.scouting.org/program-updates/cub-scout-program-updates-announced/>

with more information here:

<https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2023/11/16/three-things-from-the-cub-scout-program-update/>

Scouting America (BSA) has a monthly live chat on Fridays that may be helpful:

<https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/cubchatlive/>

**The Council office has moved to using Scoutbook to log Advancement. This will help ensure advancement is recorded correctly and timely. PLEASE BE SURE TO RECORD ADVANCEMENT FOR YOUR YOUTH AS IT OCCURS.**

- Regularly input advancement into Scoutbook
- Have the Unit Leader “approve” that advancement within Scoutbook
- Have the Unit Leader “award” that advancement within Scoutbook

Approving and awarding can be easily done within Scoutbook by regularly running a “Needs Approval” or “Needs Awarding” report where you can quickly approve it all. We’d really appreciate your Units staying up to date with this!

### **Logging “Service Hours”:**

When your youth and adults do community service, please be sure to log those hours using Scoutbook so that they may be rolled into the Council total – all service hours are totaled for the Council and then at the national level and are reported to Congress during the Scouting America’s Report to The Nation every spring. Each hour of Volunteer Time is currently valued at \$31.80 Per Hour!

### **Conservation Good Turn Award:**

Another of the awards our Scouts (all programs) and Scouters (yes, scouters) can earn is the Conservation Good Turn Award which is described here: <https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/conservation-and-environment/conservation-good-turn/>

This award is eligible for Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing Crew Members, Sea Scouts, and Explorers, and the adult leaders of these programs. The [Certificate Application](#) may be found on the page referenced above.

### **Updates to Cub Scout Advancement for the 2024-25 program year are posted here:**

<https://www.scouting.org/topics/program-updates/program-updates-cub-scouts/> and additional information is here:

<https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2023/11/16/three-things-from-the-cub-scout-program-update>

### **Cub Scout Resources:**

Are you looking for some great resources for advancement for all levels of Cub Scouts? Check out the Cub Scout Toolbox for ideas for dens and individuals working on Cub Scout ranks and achievements.

<https://stlbsa.org/resources/resources-toolbox/cub-scouts-toolbox/>

While you are checking out resources, updates to Cub Scout Advancement for the 2024-25 program year were recently posted here: <https://www.scouting.org/topics/program-updates/program-updates-cub-scouts/>

### **Cub Scout Advancement Workshops:**

We will be offering Cub Scout Advancement Workshops to help supplement dens to achieve their rank advancement.

All future workshops will be listed here: <https://stlbsa.org/advancement-awards/> -> Cub Advancement Workshops

## **SCOUTS BSA REQUIREMENTS UPDATES:**

### **Ranks:**

There are updates to the Scouts BSA Advancement program that became effective on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024. There are minor changes to the Scout and Star ranks (#6). Note that the Cyberchip has been phased out and Scouts should use the Personal Safety Awareness training at:

<https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/scouts-bsa/>

### **Palms:**

Scouts BSA no longer have to wait 3 months between Eagle Palms – they have to earn 5 additional merit badges and live by the Scout Oath and Law.

**All the changes are detailed below**, including information on major and minor changes to merit badge requirements:

<https://www.scouting.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Advancement-Program-Updates-2024.pdf>

### **Merit Badges:**

Updates to Merit Badges took effect on January 1, 2025. These updates have been reflected in Scoutbook and on the online Merit Badge Hub (<https://www.scouting.org/skills/merit-badges/>).

21 merit badges have updates to their requirements. See the following link:

<https://www.scouting.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/Merit-Badge-Requirement-Updates-Effective-January-1-2025-Updated-12-12-24.pdf>

### **BSA Test Labs:**

Scouting America has implemented something new – The *Scouts BSA Test Lab* is an exciting way to help in the development of fun and interesting new topics unique to the Scouts BSA program. The requirements for each badge have the look and feel of merit badges, but instead of a printed pamphlet, you will find links to digital resources to help you complete the requirements. If enough surveys show Scouts enjoyed these potential new badges and a badge becomes an official merit badge, Scouts will be credited with having earned that badge! For more information, visit

<https://www.scouting.org/skills/merit-badges/test-lab/>

## **EAGLE SCOUTS**

**The Eagle Scout rank process is described in detail at:**

<https://stlbsa.org/find-your-district/new-horizons-district/new-horizons-information/> and click on the blue box “NEW HORIZONS EAGLE SCOUT CANDIDATES”

**Eagle Boards of Review:**

**The Eagle Boards of Review continue to need additional reviewers!** Starting in May, Eagle Boards will only be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month. In order to resume 3 times a month, we need an additional Weekly Coordinator! If interested, please contact John Klos at [klos41@msn.com](mailto:klos41@msn.com) or (314) 640-1905 to *be a reviewer or coordinator*. Virtual boards of Review will be considered on an individual basis based on need and individual circumstance. **Watch for updates here regarding the Eagle Board Schedule:**

**To schedule an Eagle Board of Review, a Scout needs to call the Eagle Board Hotline at 314.384.2486.** Eagle Boards of Review will be held ***IN-PERSON*** continuing at Parkway United Church of Christ! Masks *may* be required by Parkway UCC based on current COVID infection rates. NOTE – CALL WEEKLY COORDINATOR’S CELL TO GAIN ADMITTANCE as the door to the church is locked.

**May 14, 28**

**June 11, 25**

**July 9, 23**

**August 13, 27**

**September 10, 14**

**October 8, 22**



**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Scouts will still be required to submit their paperwork *in advance* which helps the reviewers to better help our Scouts. *Please use the Eagle Project Workbook fillable PDF below and email it when requested to the appropriate weekly coordinator.*

Links to the most current Eagle Scout Project Workbook can be found at this link:

➔ <https://www.scouting.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/EagleProjectWorkbook2023a.pdf>

The most current **Eagle Scout Application** can be auto-populated from Scout Book by clicking on “Eagle Scout Application”. The latest version of the fillable PDF may also be found here (***please do not search the Internet or you will likely find an out-of-date version***): <https://www.scouting.org/programs/scouts-bsa/advancement-and-awards/resources/> & click the link “Eagle Scout Application...”

**Eagle Scout Letters of Recommendation:** Reference letter requirements for Eagle scouts have been updated. See Section 9.0.1.3 of the updated Guide to Advancement:

**References:** Must list names and contact information for four people who are willing to serve as references for the Eagle candidate. These may be Scout leaders, teachers, employers, coaches, other Scouts, etc. References do not need to be 21 or older. **Parents and other relatives are strongly discouraged from serving as references. The current unit leader and committee chair are not eligible to serve as references; their signature on the application is their endorsement.**

Helpful **Life to Eagle Resources:** The PDFs of the “Eagle Boards of Review – Roundtable Overview PPT” and “Life to Eagle PPT” may be found here under “Life to Eagle Resources”: <https://stlbsa.org/find-your-district/new-horizons-district/new-horizons-information/>

## Save the dates!

### Scouts BSA Merit Badge Skill Centers

**Merit Badge Skill Centers:** <https://stlbsa.org/advancement-awards/> -> MERIT BADGE SKILL CENTERS

- Personal Management Merit Badge Clinics are being offered by Emily Worthmore. Emily is available to set up clinics at troop meetings or other small groups. If interested, please contact Emily @ [worthmore2040@gmail.com](mailto:worthmore2040@gmail.com) or 314-532-1003

### Life to Eagle – Advancement Seminars:

#### **September LTE Advancement Seminar:**

**When:** September 17, 2025, 7 pm **sharp IN PERSON!**

**Where:** Parkway United Church of Christ, 2841 N Ballas Rd, St. Louis, MO 63131

**Registration required:** Please register by September 12<sup>th</sup> (Registration will be available in August)

## Eagle Projects – at Babler Park:

The Parkway-Rockwood Babler Outdoor Education Center has several projects that would make great Eagle Scout Service Projects. Interested Life Scouts should contact Mike Dowell, Babler Outdoor Education Center Supervisor at 636.891.6681 to make an appointment to review potential projects. (Scouts need to have an adult with them on the phone or when visiting Babler for Youth Protection compliance.)

## John F. Bild Eagle Scout Project Grants:

The **Eagle Scout Association of Greater St. Louis, Inc.** (St. Louis Eagle Scout Association) may grant Life Scouts working on an Eagle Scout Service Project money to fund their project. Applicants must have received project approval from the District Eagle Scout Board of Review. Grants typically range from \$50 to \$200. The application process, application form, and directions for applying for a grant may be found here:

<http://www.stlesa.org/Eagle-Project-Grants>

For other **Advancement** questions see the “**Guide to Advancement**”: <https://www.scouting.org/advancement>.

For the latest **Advancement Update**, visit: <https://www.scouting.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/SBSA-Advancement-Updates-2024-v2.pdf>. New information will be posted here when it becomes available.

Ruben Brill, New Horizons Advancement Chair, [jrb179@gmail.com](mailto:jrb179@gmail.com)

## STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math):

### It's never too early to plan for summer!

#### **STEM and Skilled Trade Camp:**

This camp is an extraordinary experience for Scouts BSA, full of many STEM based merit badges, new Skilled Trades merit badges track, and over the top activities!

**Where:** Camp May at Beaumont Scout Reservation

**When:** July 20 – 26, 2025

Registration coming soon! (Qualifies for Second Week Discount of \$100!)

For more information, visit <https://stlbsa.org/stem/>

#### **STEM on CAMPus (3 to choose from!):**

This is a unique “camp” experience where Scouts BSA get a taste of college life! Sleep in dorms, eat in the dining halls, and have fun each evening! Scouts may earn up to 6 merit badges! Sign up for 2 “camps” and save!

**Where:** Southeast MO State – Cape Girardeau, MO

**When:** June 1 – 4, 2025

**Where:** University of MO – St. Louis

**When:** June 4 – 7, 2025

**Where:** Eastern IL University – Charleston, IL

**When:** June 8 – 10, 2025

Registration coming soon! For more information, visit <https://stlbsa.org/stem/>

#### **Camp NOVA Day Camp:**

Formerly known as “STEM Twilight Camp”, this is an evening camp program for Wolves, Bears, Webelos and AOL Scouts featuring 4 nights of STEM for Cub Scouts to enjoy at Cub World!

**Where:** Cub World at Beaumont Scout Reservation

**When:** July 21 – 24, 2025

Registration coming soon! For more information, visit <https://stlbsa.org/stem/>

### Cub Scout Camp-In at The Magic House:

This special event is for ALL ages of Cub Scouts! Cubs can experience the great indoors like never before. The Magic House becomes your private camping ground! Scouts can explore the museum after dark, take part in fun badge activities, and enjoy an evening of adventure – followed by a night’s sleep right inside the exhibits! There are 2 opportunities to experience the event!

#### **Notes:**

- A minimum of 1 adult chaperone per five scouts is required for the events (for Cub Scouts in 1<sup>st</sup> grade and above).
- All kindergarten participants must have a 1:1 adult-to-scout ration.

**Where:** The Magic House, 516 S Kirkwood Rd, St. Louis, MO 63122

**Cost:** \$35 per person (Youth & adult Chaperones)  
Includes pizza snack on Friday night, breakfast on Saturday morning

**When:** Check-in: Friday, May 9, 2025 at 7:30 pm; Check-out: Saturday, May 10, 2025 at 8:00 am

Registration & more information: <https://stlbsa.org/stem/> -> “WORKSHOPS & ACTIVITIES”

Other than **Supernova medals** which are only available at West Pine, all **Nova patches and pins** can be purchased at any local Scout store or through Gateway Traders [gatewaytraders.org](http://gatewaytraders.org).

The New Horizons STEM Committee is seeking STEM coordinators in each pack, troop, and crew. If you are one, or would like to be one, please let us know. If your unit doesn’t have one, let us know how we can help you identify one. For all your STEM questions, contact Lisa Balbes ([lisa@balbes.com](mailto:lisa@balbes.com)) or Teresa Colletti ([tacolletti@att.net](mailto:tacolletti@att.net)).

## **DEVELOPMENT/ENDOWMENT:**

Check out **endowment opportunities** at: <https://stlbsa.org/give-now/>

### **Pro-Scouting Campaign:**

The Pro-Scouting Campaign is designed to promote opportunities which will directly benefit your unit and Scouts while also driving revenue for the District and Council. For Packs, the focus will be on Cub Camping - which builds memories and drives membership retention. For Troops and Crews, the focus will be on popcorn sales - which enhances unit finances and helps make Scouting affordable for your Scouts.

Scheduling a Pro-Scouting presentation and achieving goals related to these opportunities will earn your unit **free rank advancement** (rank patches) for a year. Pro-Scouting presentations can be delivered to your Unit (the Scouts) or to your Unit Committee. If to your Unit Committee, the presentation will be designed to give your adult leaders the key information and leave you with promotional materials for you to distribute to your Scouts and families. If to your Scouts, the presentation will be age appropriate and designed to promote the opportunities with your Scouts. Scout presentations are designed for regular unit meetings, and **NOT** Pack Blue & Gold dinners or Troop Courts of Honor. Both delivery formats should take not more than 5 or 10 minutes.

For Packs, the goal is for 25% of registered Scouts to attend a District or Council sponsored day camp or resident camp during the summer of 2025. For Troops and Crews, the goal is for 75% of registered Scouts to have an active account on the Trail's End popcorn selling app.

Signup for a Pro-Scouting Presentation <https://forms.gle/mkudDgBm6xzu9vcV9>

We have raised \$100,000 toward our 2025 Annual Giving Goal. Thank you to everyone who has contributed. Please consider sharing this link to our donation page with the rest of the families in your unit:

<https://fundraise.givesmart.com/vf/SCOUTS2025/NewHorizons>

For questions regarding the Annual Giving Campaign, contact Ted Slap at [tedslap@yahoo.com](mailto:tedslap@yahoo.com), Joe Neary at [nearyjp@gmail.com](mailto:nearyjp@gmail.com), or Nick Prainito at [nicholas.prainito@scouting.org](mailto:nicholas.prainito@scouting.org).

## **TRAINING:**

### **Training Awards:**

Training Awards have been updated with revised requirements. We should all start using these immediately.

Awards Central: <https://www.scouting.org/awards/awards-central/> - Describes ALL Awards

Revised Forms: <https://www.scouting.org/training/adult/> - scroll to the bottom (Training Awards)

For more information or questions, contact Mike Edler at [pk310cm@gmail.com](mailto:pk310cm@gmail.com)

### **On-Line Training:**

Position-specific training is available at <https://my.scouting.org> as well as a myriad of skill-based virtual offerings (watch for Digital Duffle Bag emails). Take advantage of this time to review and complete your position-specific training. Remember, the Scout Motto is "Be Prepared" and trained adult leaders are prepared and ready to support our programs now and in the future.

### **Your District Training staff is available to answer any questions you might have:**

- Venturing – Chris Ford - [cfordmo@gmail.com](mailto:cfordmo@gmail.com)
- Cub Scouts – Ed Wilhelm - [edwilhelm@yahoo.com](mailto:edwilhelm@yahoo.com)
- Scouts BSA – Sophie Craft - [sophiecraft@hotmail.com](mailto:sophiecraft@hotmail.com)
- New Horizons District Training Chair – Mike Edler – [pk310cm@gmail.com](mailto:pk310cm@gmail.com)

### **Training Tip:**

All units have a committee. The committee's job is to help the Unit be successful by aiding the Scoutmasters, Cub Masters, and Youth Leadership. Who belongs on the committee? How exactly does the committee help? What is the role of the Key 3 to the committee? These are all questions that new parents, and experienced adults and Leaders probably ask themselves all the time. Two great resources for answering these questions are

Round Table and Committee Training. Attending Round Table is an excellent way to network with other Leaders and gain knowledge and experience. Training helps you to understand your role and the role of others. With knowledge, experience and a good network, you will have everything you need to help that Unit be successful. If the Unit is successful, the Scouts will be successful and get the most out of the program. Help your Scout. Go to Training.

Thank you, Mike Edler

Address any additional questions regarding Training to **Mike Edler, New Horizons Training Chair**, at [pk310cm@gmail.com](mailto:pk310cm@gmail.com). For further Training information and resources, please see <https://stlbsa.org/find-your-district/new-horizons-district/new-horizons-information/> and click the blue bar “New Horizons District Training”.

## **Youth Protection Training: and Hazardous Weather Training:**

**All new and currently registered leaders must complete the updated YPT training which is required for all BSA programs for an adult to register with your unit. It is available online 24/7 at**

**<https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/>.** While YPT certification is good for 2 years, please encourage all leaders & parents to take YPT yearly, as there are periodic updates and additions to the training and unit re-charters require all registered leaders to have up-to-date Youth Protection to be on the charter! Likewise, Hazardous Weather Training is also required.

### **Virtual Youth Protection Training:**

True youth protection can be achieved only through everyone's dedicated commitment to Scouting. Youth protection volunteers and professionals must work within the Boy Scouts of America to maintain a culture of youth protection awareness and safety.

Scouting America's youth protection training is required for all registered volunteers. It's a joining requirement, and continued membership requires that it be retaken every two years.

The Greater St. Louis Area Scouting offers youth protection training in live, virtual sessions using the Zoom online meeting service (see below), and in classrooms by special arrangement. Email youth protection trainer Tim Trace - [tjtrace.bsa@gmail.com](mailto:tjtrace.bsa@gmail.com) or visit <https://stlbsa.org/training/youth-protection/>.

**Dates, Times, and sign-up links for Virtual YPT:**

TBD

## **Hazardous Weather Training:**

Hazardous Weather is now a required training, and all adults should renew or take this training as soon as they are able. It is available online 24/7 in [my.scouting.org](https://my.scouting.org). In an effort to provide as safe of a program as possible, please take or renew your training.

## **Save the Dates:**

### **Cub Scout Position-Specific Training:**

- **LOE/BALOO – Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation**

**Spring Courses:**

**Next Session:** Saturday, May 3, 2025, 7:00 am to Sunday, May 4, 2025, 11:00 am  
Camp Lewallen, Silva, MO

**Cost:** \$40

**Information & sign up:** <https://stlbsa.org/training/> -> SUPPLEMENTAL & OUTDOOR SKILLS -> BALOO

### **Scouts BSA Position-Specific Training:**

- **Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills:**

**When:** Friday, May 9-11, 2025

**Where:** Beaumont Scout Reservation

**Cost:** \$40

More information and sign-up here: <https://scoutingevent.com/312-SPRINGIOLS25>

Fall IOLS date TBD

**If your schedule does not let you attend training, LET US KNOW. We can schedule training on dates that work for YOU!!**

### **Save the Dates:**

#### **Challenge Course and Climbing Program Training:**

The Greater St. Louis Area Council has an abundance of Challenge Course and Climbing opportunities for Cubs, Scouts BSA, and Venturers. But, your unit must send someone to training to take advantage of these great activities!

#### **Tower Training – Saturday, May 3 8AM -5PM @ Beaumont**

Learn to lead a Climbing experience at all of the Council's three climbing towers at a **ONE DAY** training. You will learn how to run the tower in the morning and be certified in the afternoon. You don't need to be a good climber to be successfully certified in this class. The Towers are open to **Cubs**, Scouts BSA, and Venturers.

More info and sign-up: <https://scoutingevent.com/312-climbingtoweronly>

#### **Challenge Course Training - Wed. May 7 7PM @ Beaumont & Sat.-Sun. May 17-18 @S-F**

Learn how to instill teamwork, communication, leadership, and confidence in an unforgettably fun way! Many of the skills learned in this course can be used in other areas of Scouting. This does take some physical ability, but the average mom or dad can successfully complete this course. The Challenge Course is open to Scouts BSA and Venturers.

More info and sign-up: <https://scoutingevent.com/312-challengecourseinstructor>

#### **Climbing Training – Wed. May 28 7PM @ Beaumont & Sat.-Sun. June 7-8 @ S-F**

Learn how to lead natural rock climbing, rappelling, and all of the Council towers. This course is a lot of fun and you don't need to be a great climber to be successful. Natural rock climbing and rappelling are open to Scouts BSA and Venturers.

More info and sign-up: <https://scoutingevent.com/312-rockclimbingandrappellinginstructor>

Questions? Bob Backer [rcbacker@att.net](mailto:rcbacker@att.net) or 314-852-0682

#### **Range & Target Activities Training:**

As noted above under **Special Announcements**, "Shooting Sports" is now "Range & Target Activities". Follow the links under **Special Announcements** for details. The Council website lists the following trainings at the link below – note that some of these might be subject to change as we pivot to the new program:

- Cub Scout Range-Master Training
- NRA Rifle Instructor Training
- NRA Shotgun Instructor Training
- NRA Pistol Instructor Training
- Range Safety Officer Training
- Chief Range Safety Officer Training
- USA Archery Level 1 Training
- NRA-NMLRA Muzzle Loading Instructor Training

<https://stlbsa.org/training/shooting-sports/>

#### **NYLT Courses for 2025:**

Attending NYLT gives youth an edge. Not just Scouting, but in school, work, sports and life. Can you meet the challenge? Want to understand how NYLT can help your youth and your units? Questions about NYLT? Sign Up for one of the free sessions we are offering, "Why Wood Badge? Why National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)? Two Sides of Same Leadership Coin" at <https://scoutingevent.com/312-trainingwoodbadgenylt>.

NYLT is a six-day course that delivers training in a troop and patrol outdoor setting with an emphasis on the immediate application of learning in a fun environment. Interconnecting concepts and work processes are introduced early, built upon, and aided by the use of memory aids, which allows participants to understand and employ leadership skills much faster. Attending NYLT prepares Scouts for Leadership in the Troop and beyond.

**2025 Course dates:**

- June 15-21 – Camp Sakima, S-F Scout Ranch
- June 22-28– Camp Sakima, S-F Scout Ranch
- July 13-19– Camp Sakima, S-F Scout Ranch
- August 8-10 and August 15-17 – Camp Warren Levis (weekend course, both weekends required)

**Sign up NOW! Early Bird Pricing Ends April 15, 2025!**

**Registration for NYLT courses are now open:** <https://stlbsa.org/training/nylt/>

## **Wood Badge Courses for 2025:**

Wood Badge is advanced training for adult leaders in Scouting designed to enhance contemporary leadership skills and develop more effective Scouters. The Wood Badge program gives participants a greater understanding of Scouting aims and methods while developing true Scout Spirit. It is anticipated that all people who complete Wood Badge training will continue to work actively in the Scouting program to further the aims and methods of Scouting.

Want to understand how Wood Badge can help you, your youth and your units? Questions about Wood Badge? Sign Up for one of the free sessions we are offering, "Why Wood Badge? Why National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)? Two Sides of Same Leadership Coin" at <https://scoutingevent.com/312-trainingwoodbadgenylt>.

### **Wood Badge Spring Course:**

**When:** May 2 -4, 2025 AND May 17 – 18, 2025 (Both weekends required)

**Where:** S-F Scout Ranch

Sign up here: <https://stlbsa.org/training/wood-badge/> (Registration coming soon)

For more information, contact Course Director Ellen Mercante | [sm.spring2025@gmail.com](mailto:sm.spring2025@gmail.com)

### **Wood Badge Fall 2025 Course:**

**When:** September 26-28, 2025 AND October 11-12, 2025

**Where:** Camp Warren Levis

Sign up coming Spring **2025**

For more information, contact Course Director Keith Mueller | [sm-fall2025@gmail.com](mailto:sm-fall2025@gmail.com)

## **MEMBERSHIP:**

Welcome to our new District Membership Chair, Chris Kadel. Chris may be reached at [cbkadel@outlook.com](mailto:cbkadel@outlook.com) or text 314.800.7039

Our council is again sponsoring a peer-to-peer Scouts BSA Recruitment Campaign, with incentives for youth who recruit friends and new youth who join. Incentives include:

- 1 free 2025 summer camp. Random drawing – all new scouts recruited are entered into the drawing to win.
- All newly recruited scouts receive \$50 trading post credit when they sign up for camp. The scout who recruited them receives a \$25 credit.
- 1 parent of all newly recruited scouts bsa youth may attend summer camp for free
- Please note, these are only for new Scouts BSA youth – these do not apply to AOL crossovers

To earn credit for incentives, please fill out this form: <https://247scouting.com/forms/312-scoutsBSA>

All troops are encouraged to host a recruiting event this spring, such as a Webelos/AOL welcome, open house, bring a friend event, etc. Our district professionals can help provide resources to promote these events.

### **Membership fees**

- \$85/yr. for Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouting participants (\$5 increase)
- \$65/yr. for all adult volunteers (\$5 increase)
- \$30/yr. for Scoutreach (No change in fee)
- \$25/yr. for Merit Badge Counselors (No change in fee - applies only to MB Counselors not already registered as leaders)
- \$50/yr. for Exploring participants Youth & Adults (No change in fee)



- \$100/yr. unit renewal/affiliation fee (No change in fee)
- \$15/yr. for Scout Life magazine (No change in fee)
- Excludes Council Program Fees

For further information or clarification, please contact any of the following:

- Your Unit Commissioner
- Joe Bradley, District Commissioner ([joseph.bradley@icloud.com](mailto:joseph.bradley@icloud.com))
- Nick Prainito, District Executive ([Nicholas.Prainito@scouting.org](mailto:Nicholas.Prainito@scouting.org))

## CAMPING:

All the information about District Camping, Order of the Arrow Camping, Venturing Camping, Cub Scout Day Camps, and Summer Camp is in one spot on the New Horizons Website:

<https://stlbsa.org/find-your-district/new-horizons-district/new-horizons-camping/?654651>

### **UPCOMING DISTRICT CAMPOREES & CAMPING EVENTS:**

#### **Why should a Pack, Troop, Crew, or Ship go to a District Camporee?**

- Makes the outing easier for Units Leaders. The activities are already planned and run by the Camporee Committee.
- Participants can see other Units. They can discuss ideas and see how others run an outing.
- Provides Leadership opportunities for Scouts. Either on Camporee staff or providing leadership in their own Unit at Camporee.
- Promotes Scouts BSA (Troops) to Cub Scouts (Packs) by the Cub Scouts being involved in a camporee with Troops.
- Provides activities that many Units could not provide for their Scouts on their own.

### **2025 Fall Camporee:**

**October 17 - 19, 2025**

**Beaumont Scout Reservation**

Details will be posted as we get closer to this event.

**Scouts** - want to have some fun and go camping? Help organize the District Camporees. These outings are planned and run by Scouts throughout the District. It's fun, you learn invaluable leadership skills, and you don't have to cook your meals or clean up.

Contact Mike Hulsizer at [Hulsizer@webster.edu](mailto:Hulsizer@webster.edu)

## ORDER OF THE ARROW

### **2024-2025 New Horizons Order of the Arrow Chapter Officers & Advisors:**

Chapter Chief	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Chief	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Chief	Secretary	Chapter Advisor	Associate Advisors:
SYDNEY	LEO	RYAN	AJ	GREG CALDWELL	Elaine Caldwell – 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice
THURMOND	BYRNE	THIEN	STEWART		Declan Hennessy – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice
					Joe Attea - Secretary

### **New Horizons Order of the Arrow Chapter News:**

You can also follow us on social media. You can follow us on **Twitter:** @NewHorizonsOA, **Instagram:** nhchapteroa, **Facebook:** New Horizons Order of the Arrow.

### **2025 Shawnee Lodge Dues:**

As of now, the cost of dues, set by the Lodge Executive Committee, will be \$12 for 2025. This price must be paid by every member that would like to stay active. **Please pay your dues here:** <https://shawneelodge.org/register/>

### **Save the Dates:**

Are you tweaking your troop calendar? Don't forget watch for Order of the Arrow Events here:

<https://shawneelodge.org/>

**Shawnee Lodge One Day of Service:**

The 2025 Shawnee Lodge One Day of Service will be May 3, 2025, 9:00 am – 3:00pm at S-F Scout Ranch to help prepare the Ranch for National Camp School. Lunch will be provided. Unit Leaders, opportunities to camp the night before will be provided – reach out to [help@shawneelodge.org](mailto:help@shawneelodge.org) to make camping arrangements. Register here for the event: <https://shawneelodge.org/lodge-one-day-of-service/>

## New Horizons Chapter Meeting:

Mark your calendars for May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025 for our “Chopped Chapter Meeting” at Des Peres Park (12325 Manchester Rd, Des Peres, MO 63131). Make sure to be prepared for a friendly cooking competition between fellow Brothers! **RSVP here to let us know if you’re joining us (Yes/No/Maybe):**

<https://forms.gle/aQnBNjxSs7tcirpbA>

## Arrowmen Opportunities:

The Chapter is also looking for ceremonialists. This is a great way to become more comfortable with public speaking and an excellent way to better understand the traditions of the Order of the Arrow. Interested scouts can reach out to Declan Hennessy at [declanhennessy@gmail.com](mailto:declanhennessy@gmail.com).

Shawnee Lodge will be hosting the **2025 G7 Section Conclave** September 27-29, 2025 at Beaumont. We will need all hands-on deck to make this a great event, so save the date!

## VENTURING & SEA SCOUTING:

### 2024-2025 New Horizons Venturing Officers:

President  
DRAKE KELLEY

VP of Administration  
JAKE EDLER

VP of Program  
MILO KARLEN

VP of Communication  
(TBD)

VSOA Advisor  
DENNIS DELANEY

[djdelaney55@gmail.com](mailto:djdelaney55@gmail.com)

**Crew Advisors and youth:** Please attend the **Roundtable** (see above under “SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS”) and please encourage other youth in your Crew to attend.

## EVENTS:

### Venturing/Sea Scouting Celebration Dinner:

- May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025
- The annual event recognizing those who have achieved awards in Venturing and Sea Scouting. Venturing and Sea Scouting Leadership Awards will also be awarded. Award nominations and advancement reports are due April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Watch here for more information: <https://stlbsa.org/venturing-calendar/>

### Swift’s Big Kickoff:

- May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025 – June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025
- Join in the fun as we kick off the summer at Swift! The day kicks off with improving our favorite summer camp. After some meaningful projects we’ll enjoy some of the fun of Swift Base and have a party all our own. Best yet, this is a free event. Watch here for more information: <https://stlbsa.org/venturing-calendar/>

### Swift Base:

Swift is full of adventure every week: Rock Climbing, High/Low Ropes Challenge Course, Water Skiing, Mountain Biking, STEM Activities, Mountain Boarding, Tubing and Rappelling. Join other Venturers, Sea Scouts, and older Scouts for a week of High Adventure fun and exciting evening programs.

- June 15<sup>th</sup> – June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025 – Venturing Focus
- June 29<sup>th</sup> – July 3<sup>rd</sup> or July 6<sup>th</sup> – Sea Scout Focus

Each week has a different focus, but all are welcome. Individual sign ups, too!

For more information, visit <https://stlbsa.org/camps/venturing-summer-camp/>

## SAVE THE DATE:

- 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Fall Fun Rally:
- September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025 – September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025 at Beaumont Scout Reservation
- Join several hundred Venturers, Explorers, Sea Scouts and Older Scouts and advisors for an event filled weekend with more than 100 activities, training, demonstrations, and competitions. This event, put on by



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the Greater St. Louis Scouting's VSOA is a unique event drawing participants from many Scouting America Councils in more than a dozen states!

- This year's activities include some of your favorites such as Mud Cave, Mountain Man Village, Climbing Activities, Crate Stacking, and the STEM Village, and many many more great activities planned by our Venturing and Sea Scout Officer's Association. More information: <https://stlbsa.org/venturing-calendar>

Follow us on **Facebook** at "New Horizons District Venturing" and **Instagram** at "NH\_Venturing"

## **DISTRICT CONTACTS/CALENDAR:**

### **New Horizons District Executives:**

Your district professionals are here to help!

Thanks to **Laura Enge** Field Director for stepping in while our District Director position is vacant. **Ben Brennecke**, Field Director will be serving New Horizons, and will be filling in while the New Horizons District Director role is vacant. He can be reached at [Ben.Brennecke@scouting.org](mailto:Ben.Brennecke@scouting.org) and 314.256.3092.

<b>District Director:</b>	Vacant - contact Ben Brennecke, <a href="mailto:Ben.Brennecke@scouting.org">Ben.Brennecke@scouting.org</a> For units in the boundaries of Rockwood, Kirkwood, and Valley Park school districts
<b>District Executive:</b>	Nick Prainito, <a href="mailto:nicholas.prainito@scouting.org">nicholas.prainito@scouting.org</a> For packs in the boundaries of Parkway, Webster Groves, and Brentwood school districts

### **The New Horizons District Calendars are available here:**

<https://stlbsa.org/find-your-district/new-horizons-district/new-horizons-information/>

Expand the blue box "NEW HORIZONS DISTRICT CALENDARS"