



On The Horizon – September 2025



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IMPORTANT DATES AT A GLANCE:

EVENT:

DATE:

School Nite to Join Scouting (Kirkwood, Webster, Brentwood)	August 28
September Roundtables	September 2
Challenge Course Orientation Meeting	September 3
School Nite to Join Scouting (Parkway)	September 4
Shawnee Lodge Fall Reunion	September 5 – 7
September Eagle Boards of Review	September 10, 24
School Nite to Join Scouting (Rockwood & Private schools)	September 11
Challenge Course Training	September 13 – 14
2025 Annual Sea Scout Luau Ball	September 13
District Scouts BSA Adult Leader Training	September 14
District Life To Eagle Seminar	September 17
Venturing Fall Fun Rally	September 19 – 21
Cub Scout Mom & Me	September 19 – 21
Order of the Arrow Section G7 Conclave	September 26 - 28
Fall Wood Badge – Session 1	September 26 – 28
Cub Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO)	September 27 – 28
Climbing Tower Training	October 4
Cub Launch	October 4
Challenge Course & Climbing Recertification	October 5
October Roundtables	October 7
Scouting For Food Unit Bag Pick up <u>before</u> Roundtable	October 7
October Eagle Boards of Review	October 8, 22
Spookoree	October 10 – 12
Fall Wood Badge – Session 2	October 11 – 12
District Fall Camporee	October 17 – 19
Fall Fright Night	October 17 – 19
Scoutbiotics at SLU	October 18
Haunted Hayrides	October 24 – 26
Chemistry Merit Badge Clinic	October 25
E&E Day at Ameren	October 25
Council Map & Compass Adult Leader Training	October 25
UMSL Game On! Athletics Merit Badge Field Day	October 25
Challenge Course Orientation Training	October 26
University of Scouting	November 1
November Roundtables	November 4
Skilled Trades Day at STLCC	November 8
November Eagle Boards of Review	November 12
Scouting For Food Bag Distribution	November 15
District Life to Eagle Seminar	November 19
Scouting For Food Bag Collection	November 22
November Order of the Arrow Chapter Meeting	TBD
December Roundtables	December 2
STEM University – UMSL	December 6
December Eagle Boards of Review	December 10
Shawnee Lodge Winter Fellowship Banquet	December 21
January Roundtables	January 6
January Eagle Boards of Review	January 14, 28
New Horizons District Volunteer Recognition Dinner	January 15

Venturing/Sea Scout Lock-In (STL After Dark)	January 17 – 18
District Klondike Derby	January 31
Scout Sunday	February 1
February Roundtables	February 3
Scout Sabbath	February 6
February Eagle Boards of Review	February 11, 25
District Life to Eagle Seminar	February 18
Wood Badge Informational Dinner	February 23
Council Map and Compass Training	February 28
District Pinewood Derby	TBD
February Order of the Arrow Chapter Meeting	TBD

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>**

September ROUNDTABLES:

September Roundtable will be at **Manchester United Methodist Church**, 129 Woods Mill Rd, Manchester, MO 63011, on August 5th, gathering at 6:30 pm, and the program at 7:00 pm. The theme for the Cub Scout Roundtable will be “Crowd Sourcing Cub Scouts”. The theme for the Scouts BSA Roundtable is TBD.

October ROUNDTABLES:

October Roundtable will be at **Manchester United Methodist Church**, 129 Woods Mill Rd, Manchester, MO 63011, on October 7th, gathering at 6:30 pm, and the program at 7:00 pm. Roundtable will have a focus on STEM and the new improved “STEM Nova Program” presented by Ron Colletti.

2025-26 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.

2025-2026 Cub Scout Program Guide:

<https://tinyurl.com/5n7xt4p3>

Program Note: “Den Meeting Deck for Leaders” activity cards are now available at the Scout Shop.

The activity cards help den leaders create fun, focused, and age-appropriate meetings.

2025-2026 Scouts BSA Program Guide (the flyer for Program Preview had an incorrect short URL:

<https://tinyurl.com/bdea8pws>

2025-2026 Venturing Program Guide:

<https://tinyurl.com/39p7ra9k>

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

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

Youth Protection Training is now “S.A.F.E. Guarding Youth Training (SYT)”: See details under Training!

Scouting America Council Service Territory 5 (CST 5):

As a member District within the Greater St Louis Area Scouting, we are 1 of 13 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/>

COMMISSIONER'S CORNER:

Dear Fellow Scouters,

Have you thought about succession planning? As our new program year starts, and especially as we welcome new parents into our Units, we should always be thinking about to whom we pass the torch. Sometimes there's not an easy answer and sometimes parents aren't stepping up to volunteer. Your Unit Commissioner would love to help you navigate this process! We want our Units to remain strong so that we continue to have the best District in the Council.

Yours in Scouting,

Joseph P. "Joe" Bradley, MD
New Horizons District Commissioner
Greater St. Louis Area Scouting
joseph.bradley@icloud.com

ACTIVITIES:

Save the dates!

Cub Launch:

Spend a day at Beaumont Scout Reservation with the whole family doing all things Cub Scouts love to do: BB gun shooting, Archery, Hike the Bobcat Trail (do Bobcat requirements!), and STEM demonstrations & activities are just a few of the exciting things available – more than 20 different activities.

When: October 4, 2025, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm
Where: Cub World at Beaumont Scout Reservation
Who: Geared toward new Cubs, but all are welcome
Register: <https://stlbsa.org/cub-scouts-calendar/cub-launch/>

Haunted Hayrides:

Haunted Hayrides are a spooky good time for children of all ages with dates over 2 weekends at nearby Camp Warren Levis. These are open to all Scout units, Scout families and the general public. Each hayride is about 20 minutes, showing the spookier, scarier side of Camp Warren Levis. Keep an eye out for goblins and ghouls, and be careful about that noise in the woods... Come early or stay after your ride for time around the bonfire, and enjoy some chili and hot chocolate from the concession stand.

When: October 17, 18, 24 or 25, 2025
Where: Camp Warren Levis, 500 Boy Scout Lane, Godfrey, IL
Who: Bring the whole family!

Registration recommended, but you can pay with cash at the event.

Registration coming soon – visit: <https://stlbsa.org/cub-scouts-calendar/>

Fall Fright Night:

Fall Fright Fest is a fun Halloween event for Cub Scouts. Attend just the Saturday event or camp overnight with us and enjoy the entire weekend! Sign up for sessions from 3PM to 7PM Saturday evening! Each session is under 2 hours. Start by listening to a classic Halloween story, then hike the spooky trail, get a goody bag, play on the playgrounds, make slime and get into the Halloween spirit.

Optional camp overnight with us! The classic Fall Fright Fest event is Saturday evening, but now you can join us Friday night and Saturday for a family or pack campout. Friday night we will have a Council hosted campfire program with songs and skits! Families or packs will be responsible for their own meals. Camping space will be provided and campfire program Friday night.

Bring your costume! A fun, age-appropriate, but scary activity to add to the Halloween Spirit! Costumes are welcomed but not a requirement. Wear trail appropriate footwear, you will be going through a wooded trail.

When: October 25, 2025 (optional – stay overnight to October 26, 2025)
Where: Beaumont Scout Reservation, Cub World
Cost: \$10 per attendee (optional overnight additional \$5 per person)

Registration coming soon – visit: <https://stlbsa.org/cub-scouts-calendar/>

Scouting For Food:

Scouting For Food started in 1985 and is the Greater St. Louis Area Scouting's one-of-a-kind day of service for Scouts of all ages. Thousands of Scouts, parents, and leaders hit the streets on a Saturday in November to distribute bags to the homes in their assigned area. Community members fill up those bags with non-perishable food items, and the Scouts return one week later to pick up those bags and distribute them to local food banks and pantries. Last year we collected nearly 2 million items.

Once again, Mark Balbes has volunteered to be our Scouting For Food Chairperson

When: Units pick up bags for distribution at October Roundtable, October 7, 2025

Bag Distribution – November 15, 2025

Bag Collection – November 22, 2025 **after** 9:00 am (please don't start earlier!)

Where: Each unit will be assigned a specific area

ADVANCEMENT:

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.

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/>

SCOUTS BSA REQUIREMENTS UPDATES:

Ranks:

There are updates to the Scouts BSA Advancement program that became effective on January 1st, 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:

ALL MERIT BADGE PAMPLETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE HERE AND CONTAIN THE LATEST REQUIREMENTS: <https://www.scouting.org/skills/merit-badges/>

Many 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 2nd and 4th 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 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.

September 10, 14

October 8, 22

November 12

December 10

January 14, 28

February 11, 25

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.* While not expressly required, reviewers greatly appreciate workbooks that are filled in using the PDF vs. handwritten workbooks.

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 or 314-532-1003
- UMSL Game On! Athletics Merit Badge Field Day Sponsored by UMSL. Only 50 spots available (there will be a waiting list) so register early!

When: October 25, 2025, 8:30 am to 12:30 pm with optional activities in the afternoon

Cost: \$10 (bring a lunch or \$13 - \$20 for cafeteria)

Scouts need to be in the care of a responsible adult while on campus

More information and registration (limited spots available - registration REQUIRED):

<https://scoutingevent.com/312-UMSLGameOn>

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 12th <https://forms.gle/SBgEpGPbMyXgZrNm7>

November LTE Advancement Seminar:

When: November 19, 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 November 14th <https://forms.gle/Wmfm59fV12BgVNTG7>

February LTE Advancement Seminar:

When: February 18, 2026, 7 pm ***sharp* IN PERSON!**

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

Registration required: Registration available in December

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

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math):

Chemistry Merit Badge Clinic:

Do you think all chemists do is blow things up? Would you like to conduct some experiments yourself – and take a tour of a working excipient manufacturer? Do you want to know what an excipient is? Then attend our Chemistry Merit Badge Workshop!

When: October 25, 2025 – Registration opens at 8 am

The opening session begins at 8:30 am

Pick up at 1:30 pm

Where: Jost Chemical, 8110 Lackland Rd., St. Louis, MO 63114

Registration Link: <https://forms.gle/MdMm9Ds1ftphFKuH6>

Cost: \$10 – includes lunch

- **PayPal:** <https://paypal.me/stlacstreas> or stlacstreas@gmail.com
- **Checks:** Payable to “St. Louis Section ACS” may be sent c/o Lisa Balbes, 648 Simmons Ave, Kirkwood, MO 63122

Questions: Lisa Balbes – lisa@balbes.com

What to bring:

- Merit Badge Application Card (blue card) signed by your scoutmaster indicating that you are eligible to work on this badge, or proof of conversation
- Safety Glasses, if you have them – if not, they will be provided
- **Closed-toed shoes, pants that extend to the ankle, and shirt sleeves that extend to the wrist are required.** Due to the nature of the activities, Scouts not properly attired will be sent home – **NO EXCEPTIONS!**

Prework: Read the entire Chemistry merit badge pamphlet. Requirement 3a (Maillard reaction, such as cooking an onion) must be completed at home, prior to the workshop. Please bring documentation (photos and/or notes) and be prepared to discuss. **The Chemistry Merit Badge has undergone some important changes**, and the merit badge pamphlet may be found here: <https://www.scouting.org/merit-badges/chemistry/>

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. **NOTE: Starting June 1, 2025, all Nova and Supernova requirements were hosted at <https://stlbsa.org/STEM/> - They will no longer be hosted on <https://www.scouting.org/>.**

The October Roundtable will have a focus on STEM and the new improved “STEM Nova Program”.

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) or Teresa Colletti (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, Joe Neary at nearyjp@gmail.com, or Nick Prainito at 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

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
- Cub Scouts – Ed Wilhelm - edwilhelm@yahoo.com
- Scouts BSA – Sophie Craft - sophiecraft@hotmail.com
- New Horizons District Training Chair – Mike Edler – pk310cm@gmail.com

Training Tip:

Greetings to all new and returning Scouts and Leaders. This time of year seems so busy. School starting, Scouting activities going on all the time. Sports and band activities. And still trying to make time for family dinner and homework. So, when someone says you need to take training for your Scouting position it probably seems a little overwhelming. I get it. I have been in your shoes. Training can be done multiple ways to fit your schedule.

With in person, online, or hybrid opportunities there are many ways to learn the methods, aims, and techniques of being an effective leader to your Scouts. Test show that Units with trained Leaders are more likely to active, fun, and well run and organized. Let me help you make your Unit a high performing and fun Unit for the benefits of the Scouts.

Thank you, Mike Edler

Address any additional questions regarding Training to **Mike Edler, New Horizons Training Chair**, at 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 is now "S.A.F.E. Guarding Youth Training (SYT)":

Youth protection is at the heart of everything we do. Announced at the Scouting America National Annual Meeting in Orlando, the new Safeguarding Youth training is now live and mandatory for all registered adult volunteers. It is also a joining requirement for new adult members.

Course Details:

Duration: ~90 minutes

Available in English and Spanish

Access it through my.scouting.org

Requirements: Complete all lessons + score 80% or higher on the final test

Annual Refresher:

After completing the full course once, a 15-minute refresher and retest is required each year to stay current.

Transition from Previous YPT:

If you've already completed Youth Protection Training (YPT), your certification remains valid.

If you took the prior YPT training, expiration is "One year from when the new training launched - at the latest. However - there is new material in the SYT which could genuinely save the life of a youth - inside or outside of Scouting."

Why This Matters:

Youth protection is at the heart of everything we do. This updated training reinforces a culture of active supervision, situational awareness, and safety, ensuring we're all equipped to help keep our Scouts safe.

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. 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, September 27, 2025, 7:00 am to Sunday, September 28, 2025, 11:00 am
Beaumont Scout Reservation

Cost: \$40

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

Scouts BSA Position-Specific Training:

- **Fall Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills:**

When: October 10, 2025, 5:30 pm to October 12, 2025, 12:00 pm
Virtual Orientation via Zoom (required): September 29, 2025, 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Where: Beaumont Scout Reservation

Cost: \$40

Registration and more information: <https://scoutingevent.com/312-IOLSFALL2025>

- **Spring Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills:**

When: May 1 – 3, 2026
Where: Beaumont Scout Reservation
Cost: \$40

More information coming soon.

Challenge Course, Rock Climbing & Rappelling Training:

All information for the Challenge Course, Rock Climbing, and Rappelling Training is available here:

<https://stlbsa.org/training/challenge-course-climbing/>

- Challenge Course Training
Evening Orientation Meeting: September 3, 2025, 7:00 pm, Beaumont Emerson Center Theatre
2-Day Training Session: September 13 – 14, 2025 at Beaumont
OR
1-Day Orientation: October 26, 2025 at Beaumont (Tentative)
- Climbing Tower Training
1-Day session: October 4, 2025 at Beaumont

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:

National Youth Leader Training (NYLT) Courses for 2026:

Attending NYLT gives youth an edge. Not just Scouting, but in school, work, sports and life. 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.

2026 Course dates:

- June 7 – 13, 2026 – Camp Sakima, S-F Scout Ranch
- June 21 – 27, 2026 – Camp Sakima, S-F Scout Ranch
- July 12 – 18, 2026 – Camp Sakima, S-F Scout Ranch
- August 7 – 9 **and** August 15 – 16 – Beaumont Scout Reservation
(weekend course, both weekends required)

Registration for 2026 NYLT courses coming in early December: <https://stlbsa.org/training/nylt/>

Wood Badge Courses for 2026:

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.

2026 Course information coming soon – visit <https://stlbsa.org/training/wood-badge/>

MEMBERSHIP:

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.

School Nights to Join Scouting:

Below are the dates for the different areas withing the New Horizons District (If you unit uses a different date, let Nick know):

- **Kirkwood / Webster Groves / Brentwood School Districts:** August 28, 2025
- **Parkway School District:** September 4, 2025
- **Rockwood School District / Private Schools:** September 11, 2025

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)
- Nick Prainito, District Executive (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:

2025 New Horizons District Fall Scout Camporee and Cuboree:

When: October 17, 2025, 5:00 pm to October 19, 2025, 11:00 am

Where: Beaumont Scout Reservation

Theme: Trailblazers of The Frontier

Details: The New Horizons District 2025 Fall Camporee will take place October 17–19 at Beaumont Scout Reservation, featuring a full weekend of training, advancement, hands-on activities, and frontier-themed competitions. Scouts will participate in Merit Badge workshops and a wide variety of engaging challenges all centered around our theme: Trailblazers of the Frontier. Whether you're building pioneering structures, navigating through the woods, or cooking up old-time meals, there will be something for everyone.

Running parallel to the Camporee, we will also be hosting Cuboree, a special weekend event for Cub Scout packs. While many of the main program areas and activity themes will be shared across both events, the Cub-O-Ree will also include unique Cub Scout-specific activities tailored for younger participants.

Our youth-led staff have worked hard to create an event that is fun, challenging, and enriching for every age level. All Scouts will find adventure, advancement, and camaraderie on the trail.

Registration information (including pricing): <https://scoutingevent.com/312-97994>

Event Staff:

The New Horizons Fall Camporee/Cuboree is a youth-led event. Our Scout staff are the driving force behind this weekend and will be guiding activities, competitions, and logistics throughout camp. We need youth and adult staff to make this a weekend to remember. It's fun, you learn invaluable leadership skills, and you don't have to cook your meals or clean up! If you're interested in volunteering for this event or helping plan future camporees, please contact Michael Hulsizer at (michael.hulsizer@shawneelodge.org).

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.

Save the dates for Future New Horizons District Camping Events:

- Klondike Derby – January 31, 2026 – Beaumont Scout Reservation
- 2026 Spring Camporee – April 24 – 26, 2026 – Camp Warran Levis
- 2026 Fall Camporee – October 16 – 18, 2026 – Beaumont Scout Reservation

Contact Mike Hulsizer at Hulsizer@webster.edu

ORDER OF THE ARROW

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

Chapter Chief	1 st Vice Chief	2 nd Vice Chief	Secretary	Chapter Advisor	Associate Advisors:
SYDNEY	LEO	RYAN	AJ	GREG CALDWELL	Elaine Caldwell – 1 st Vice
THURMOND	BYRNE	THIEN	STEWART		Declan Hennessy – 2 nd 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 Membership Hub – HUB51:

The **HUB51 Portal** was born out of a desire to serve our members better by making it easier to stay involved in Shawnee Lodge including:

- New Flexible Payment Options
- Improved Communications
- Mobile Friendly Experience

Members should have received an email invitation to create an account. Once you have logged in to the HUB51 Portal, you can access information from the “Upcoming Events” tab. Season & Thunderbird pass members’ Discount codes are available on the Portal when you sign up for events. ***If you did not receive your email information***, email Shawnee Lodge at help@shawneelodge.org

Save the Dates:

Shawnee Lodge Fall Reunion:

When: Friday, September 5, 2025, 5:00 pm to Sunday, September 7, 2025, 10:00 am
Where: S-F Scout Ranch
Cost: TBD
Register: Watch for details on the Shawnee Lodge Website, <https://shawneelodge.org/> or Logon to your HUB51 Portal account

Section G7 Conclave:

When: September 26, 2025, 5:00 pm to Sunday, September 28, 2025, 12:00 pm
Where: Beaumont Scout Reservation
Cost: Youth & Adults: \$50 thru September 21st at midnight, \$60 regular price
Register: <https://scoutingevent.com/312-91340-216309>

Shawnee Lodge Winter Fellowship Banquet:

When: December 21, 2025
Where: Moolah Shrine Center
 More details to be announced as we get closer to the date.

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.

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	VP of Administration	VP of Program	VP of Communication	VSOA Advisor
DRAKE KELLEY	JAKE EDLER	MILO KARLEN	(TBD)	DENNIS DELANEY
				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:

SAVE THE DATES:

2025 Annual Sea Scout Luau Ball:

- September 13, 2025, 5:00 pm opening ceremony, 6:00 pm dinner, 7:00 pm dancing
- Hawaii Luau Theme
- Boulder Marina, Carlyle, IL
- For more information, contact ship9ranger@gmail.com

52nd Annual Fall Fun Rally:

- September 19th, 2025 – September 21st, 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 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 and registration, including pricing: <https://www.fallfunrally.org/>

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!

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 and 314.256.3092.

District Director:

Vacant - contact Ben Brennecke, Ben.Brennecke@scouting.org

For units in the boundaries of Rockwood, Kirkwood, and Valley Park school districts

Senior District Executive:

Nick Prainito, nicholas.prainito@scouting.org

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”