



On The Horizon – March 2026



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

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IMPORTANT DATES AT A GLANCE:

EVENT:

DATE:

New Horizons District Pinewood Derby	February 28
Council Map and Compass Training	February 28
STEM University – SIUC	February 28
March Roundtables	March 3
March Eagle Boards of Review	March 4, 11, 25
NH Order of the Arrow Service Project	March 14
NH Order of the Arrow Journey to Brotherhood Meeting	March 24
Taste of Venturing	March 27 – 28
STEM College – Lakeland College	March 28
April Eagle Boards of Review	April 1, 8, 22
April Roundtables	April 7
NH Order of the Arrow Journey to Brotherhood Meeting	April 8 (Virtual)
Shawnee Lodge Spring Conclave	April 10 – 12
New Horizons Spring Camporee	April 24 – 26
Cub Scout Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation	April 25 – 26
District Life to Eagle Seminar	April 29
Spring Wood Badge – Session 1	May 1 - 3
Scouts BSA Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills	May 1 – 3
Cub Scout Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation	May 2 – 3
Shawnee Lodge One Day of Service	May 2
May Roundtables – 2026/2027 Program Preview	May 5
Scouts Read Sacred Texts	May 7
May Eagle Boards of Review	May 5, 13, 27
NH Order of the Arrow Chapter Meeting	May 13
Spring Wood Badge – Session 2	May 16 – 17
Venturing/Sea Scouts Celebration Dinner	May 17
NH Order of the Arrow Ceremonial Social & Development	May 23
Memorial Day Good Turns	May 24
Swift’s Big Kickoff	May 30
June Roundtables	June 2
June Eagle Boards of Review	June 3, 10, 24
National Youth Leader Training – First Session	June 7 – 13
Cub Day Camp – Larson Park	June 8 – 12
National Youth Leader Training – Second Session (No July Roundtable)	June 21 – 27 (Male only)
July Eagle Boards of Review	July 1, 8, 22
National Youth Leader Training – Third Session	July 12 – 18
National Scout Jamboree	July 22 – 31
Millenium Park Cub Evening Camp	July 27 – 31
August Roundtables	August 4
August Eagle Boards of Review	August 5, 12, 26
National Youth Leader Training – 4 th Session, Weekend 1	August 7 – 9
National Youth Leader Training – 4 th Session, Weekend 2	August 14 – 16

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>**

ROUNDTABLES:

Beginning in March Roundtables will use a new program format that will deliver programs more efficiently and better use our precious time. The doors will open at 6PM on the second Tuesday of each month. Gather in the large room for fellowship and meeting other scout leaders in the district. At 7PM go directly to your scouting program room. **No more joint meeting for announcements.** The opening and program specific announcements will be done in your scouting program room.

March ROUNDTABLES:

March Roundtable will be at **Manchester United Methodist Church**, 129 Woods Mill Rd, St, Louis, MO 63011, on February 3rd, gathering at 6:30 pm, and the program at 7:00 pm. The Cub Roundtable program will be “Cub Scout ‘How-To Fair’” and the Scouts BSA Roundtable program is **TBD**. The doors will open at 6PM on the second Tuesday of each month. Gather in the large room for fellowship and meeting other scout leaders in the district. At 7PM go directly to your scouting program room.

April ROUNDTABLES:

April Roundtable will be at **Manchester United Methodist Church**, 129 Woods Mill Rd, St, Louis, MO 63011, on April 7th, gathering at 6:30 pm, and the program at 7:00 pm. The Cub Roundtable program will be “Pluck and Good Souls: Women, Gender, and the Future of Scouting” and the Scouts BSA Roundtable program is **TBD**.

2025-2026 Program Guides:

These guides, released in May 2025, 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 NOTES ➔

====> **The Council Office on West Pine has moved!** The new office is located at 1122 Town and Country Commons Drive, Suite 200, Chesterfield, MO 63017 (off Woods Mill Rd. which parallels 141). The new **Scouting Outfitters** is now open at that location (West Pine & Des Peres are now closed).

====>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,

March is when Scouting really picks up momentum. As you look ahead, this is a great moment to check in on a few basics: Is your youth leadership engaged? Is your program active and outdoor-focused? Are your adults feeling supported? If any of those feel uncertain, please remember that your commissioner team is here to help. Our role is to support and coach — not to inspect — and often a quick conversation can make a big difference.

I also want to encourage leaders to take advantage of upcoming training opportunities this spring. Whether it's position-specific training, Cub Scout's Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO), Scouts BSA's Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS), or Roundtable participation, these experiences strengthen both confidence and community. Many leaders find that training not only helps them serve Scouts better but also makes the role more enjoyable.

Thank you for all you do for your Scouts and families. Your commitment matters, and your district team is proud to support you as we head into an exciting spring.

Yours in Scouting,

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

MEMBERSHIP:

Blue and Gold Banquets are the annual Cub Scout celebration honoring the founding of Scouting in America, making it a natural time for Arrow of Light Scouts to cross over into Scouts BSA. The colors symbolize loyalty and good cheer — fitting themes for a milestone that celebrates both accomplishment and new beginnings. Crossover Ceremonies mark a milestone in a Cub Scout's journey. It usually centers around a small bridge (real or decorative) with Cub leaders on one side, Troop leaders on the other. Each Scout is called up, crosses the bridge, and is welcomed by their new Troop. Often there's a neckerchief 'swap', badge pinning by parents, and a few words of encouragement. If you haven't attended a Crossover Ceremony before, you're in for a fun time.

Be inspired and creative, but remember that Scout ceremonies should be welcoming, inclusive, and Scout-focused. We'd like to share some simple do's, don'ts, and ideas to help you put your friendliest foot forward:

- Don't overcomplicate things, some Packs make this 'dinner and a show', some keep it 'cake and punch'. For many extended family members, this is their first time seeing a Scouting ceremony, so remember to include brief explanations if you're a Cubmaster who likes their 'acronyms'.
- It's time to retire dated practices such as headdresses or tribal-inspired face paint.
- Keep ceremonies age-appropriate, respectful, and centered on each Scout's accomplishments.
- Encourage your Scouts to choose the theme, menu, and take an active part in planning the event.

Be generous with your awards, thank-you cards, and recognition on this day with your Pack, and don't be afraid to be silly!

...and hey, we like parties! Reach out to your friends on the Membership Committee, maybe one of us can attend. Don't forget to send us photos!

The **Scout Shop** (located at 1122 Town & Country Commons Drive, Suite 200, Chesterfield, MO 63017) is your **One Stop Blue and Gold Shop**. They have more than just badges — they are your local spot for ceremony supplies, party decorations, and gifts! Stop in, stock up, and say "hello".

Let's keep saying "Welcome!" and growing Scouting this fall. For further information or clarification, please contact any of the following:

- Your Unit Commissioner
- Joe Bradley, District Commissioner (joseph.bradley@icloud.com)

- Nick Prainito, Senior District Executive (Nicholas.Prainito@scouting.org)
- Chris Kadel, Membership Committee Chair (Chris@signalhost.me) / 314.800.7039

ACTIVITIES:

Save the dates!

2026 New Horizons District Pinewood Derby:

The Pinewood Derby is one of the highlights of a Cub Scout's year. This event brings Cub Scouts from across the district to have some fun as they race their cars to see who has the fastest car in West County. **The event is open to ALL Cub Scouts in the New Horizons District**, regardless of a Scout's placement at their home pack's race. The race rules and design rules will be available when the registration link goes live.

When: February 28, 2026

Where: Beaumont Scout Reservation (Emerson Center)

Race rules, time, pricing and registration: <https://scoutingevent.com/312-pinewood>

2026 National Scout Jamboree:

Face the Challenge! The 2026 National Jamboree will be here soon! Scouting's flagship event is one-of-a-kind. Join 40,000 Scouts, leaders, and staff at the Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia to experience everything from one of the longest zip lines in North America (about 3,200' long with a 165' drop from top to bottom!), a world class skate park, ATVs, treetop canopy tours, rock climbing, patch trading, stadium shows, and much more!

If you are interested in serving as a leader for the Greater St. Louis Area Scouting's Jamboree contingent, email staff advisor, Matt Kaufman at matt.kaufmann@scouting.org

Youth Participant cost: \$2,400

Youth Participant registration: <https://scoutingevent.com/312-2026Jamboree>

Non-contingent Jamboree Service Team information may be found here: jamboree.scouting.org

2027 World Scout Jamboree in Poland:

Gdańsk, here we come!

Registration is open now for the 26th World Scout Jamboree, set for July 30 to August 8, 2027, in the historic city of Gdańsk, Poland. This massive global party brings together tens of thousands of Scouts from more than 170 countries, all uniting for 10 days of fun.

Projected cost for youth participants is estimated in the range of \$6,200 - \$6,700 (airfare will affect the cost) More information may be found in "Aaron On Scouting"'s article here:

<https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2025/11/17/register-now-to-join-the-usa-contingent-at-the-2027-world-scout-jamboree-in-poland/>

Help Wanted!

Do you love spending time outdoors, working with youth and have time Monday-Friday weekday hours (school day hours) to fill? Come join Discovery Base at Beaumont staff to help make a difference in young people's lives!

Positions needed:

- Belayers
- Rangemasters
- Archery & BB Guns
- Initiative Games Leader
- High & Low Ropes Crew
- Outdoor Skills Leaders
- STEM Coordinator

The hourly wage is \$17! If interested, please contact Jesse Engle, Director at 314.954. 5565 or jesse.engele@scouting.org

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 over \$31 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 PAMPHLETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE HERE AND CONTAIN THE LATEST 2026 REQUIREMENTS & UPDATES: <https://www.scouting.org/skills/merit-badges/>

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

<https://www.scouting.org/program-updates/scouts-bsa-advancement-updates-effective-january-1-2026/>

New Cybersecurity and Artificial Intelligence Merit Badges!

Scouts BSA has recently released two NEW Merit Badges: Cybersecurity and Artificial Intelligence. For details on these merit badges, read the “Aaron On Scouting” article: <https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2025/10/15/scouting-america-launches-merit-badges-in-cybersecurity-and-artificial-intelligence/>

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! As of now, Eagle Boards will only be held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month. Beginning in February 2026, we will resume 3 times a month! Contact Mike Buhr at mjbuhr64@gmail.com or (314) 386-5055 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! NOTE – CALL WEEKLY COORDINATOR’S CELL TO GAIN ADMITTANCE as the door to the church is locked.

Our Weekly Coordinators are:

Craig Biehle - week 1
Matt Smith - week 2
Laura Hernke – week 4

Review dates:

March 4, 11, 25
April 1, 8, 22
May 6, 13, 27
June 3, 10, 24
July 1, 8, 22
August 5, 12, 26

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 Scoutbook 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

Life to Eagle – Advancement Seminars:

April LTE Advancement Seminar:

When: April 29, 2026, 7 pm **sharp IN PERSON!**

Where: GSLAS Council HQ, 1122 Town and Country Commons Drive, Suite 200, Chesterfield, MO 63017

Registration required: <https://forms.gle/FV9yARFEF3A4fqrK7>

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):

Other than **Supernova medals** which are only available at the Council Office, all **Nova patches and pins** can be purchased at any local Scout store or through Gateway Traders gatewaytraders.org. **NOTE: ALL Nova and Supernova requirements are now hosted at** <https://stlbsa.org/STEM/>.

Save the dates for STEM Universities:

STEM University is a full day event for Cub Scouts (Wolf, Bear, Webelos, & AOL) and Scouts BSA, focused on earning STEM-based advancements and NOVA awards. Scouts will get to visit a University, work with STEM experts, and participate in fun, hands-on educational activities. See below for locations and dates.

Registration coming soon. Visit <https://stlbsa.org/stem/> -> STEM Universities

- **SIUC** February 28, 2026
- **Lake Land College** March 28, 2026

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/>

Updates:

Our “**Friends of Scouting**” has been renamed “**Heart of Scouting**”. Each unit is asked to host a Heart of Scouting presentation in 2026. All money raised benefits the council and supports all its operations, including but not limited to camp improvements, programs and trainings, service projects, financial aid, and more.

Sign up here for a Friends of Scouting presentation: <https://forms.gle/cJp2oScSQXGzZAhR8>

New Horizons Annual Giving Link – Make a Gift:

<https://fundraise.givesmart.com/vf/SCOUTS2026/NewHorizons>

For questions regarding the Annual Giving Campaign, contact 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 – Mike Edler – pk310cm@gmail.com
- New Horizons District Training Chair – Mike Edler – pk310cm@gmail.com

Training Tip:

Failing to train is training... It's just training for the wrong outcome. Every time a leader says: “We’ll get to it later.” “I am too busy.” “People already know what to do.”

They are training — just not intentionally. They’re training people to:

- Not deliver age-appropriate program
- Wait for someone else to act
- Rely on luck instead of skill
- Panic when things get chaotic Because under pressure, people don’t rise to the occasion...
- They fall to the level of their training.

Every Scout deserves a trained Leader. Trained Leaders deliver a better program because they understand the program. Prepared people do. If you don’t train your people to act — you are training them not to.

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 until May 2026. 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.

In-Person SYT availability:

If your unit is interested in an in-person training session, it is now available via our Council Youth Protection Champion, Tim Trace. Contact him at tjtrace.bsa@gmail.com

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. To provide as safe of a program as possible, please take or renew your training!

Save the Dates:

Outdoor Training Courses:

Cub Scout Position-Specific Training:

- **LOE/BALOO – Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation**
 Spring Course:
 Next Sessions: Saturday, April 25, 7:00 am to Sunday, April 26, 2026, 11:00 am
 Beaumont Scout Reservation
 OR
 Saturday, May 2, 7:00 am to Sunday, May 3, 2026, 11:00 am
 Pine Ridge Scout Reservation
 Cost: \$40

Information & sign up: <https://scoutingevent.com/312-108836>

Scouts BSA Position-Specific Training:

- **Spring Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills:**
 When: May 1 – 3, 2026
 Where: Beaumont Scout Reservation
 Cost: \$40
 Information & sign up: <https://scoutingevent.com/312-2026springIOLS>

If your schedule does not let you attend a classroom training, LET US KNOW. While we cannot schedule special sessions of the outdoor trainings, we can schedule a “classroom” training on dates that work for YOU and your unit!!

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, 2026 – Beaumont Scout Reservation (weekend course, both weekends required)

Registration for 2026 NYLT courses is now open: <https://stlbsa.org/training/nylt/> -> 2026 DATES

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.

More information – visit <https://stlbsa.org/training/wood-badge/>

When: May 1 -3, 2026 AND May 16 – 17, 2026 (both weekends required)

Where: Beaumont Scout Reservation

Registration: <https://stlbsa.org/training/wood-badge/>

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:**Save the dates for Future New Horizons District Camping Events:**

- **2026 Spring Camporee – Scouts Xccelerate 2026**

When: April 24 – 26, 2026

Who: Venturing, Scouts BSA, and AOL Cub Dens (camping with troops)

Where: World Wide Technology Raceway, 700 Raceway Blvd., Madison, IL 62060

Cost: Overnight Camping - early bird (before April 3rd) - \$15, late registration - \$20

Day Pass - early bird (before April 3rd) - \$15, late registration - \$20

Staff - \$15 & \$15 for meals

Registration closes April 17th at midnight

Registration and more information: <https://scoutingevent.com/312-ScoutsXccelerate2026>

Start your engines—the **Spring Camporee** is racing toward an unforgettable weekend! This year, units will have the **rare, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity** to camp right in the **infield of a racetrack**, with day passes available for those joining us just for the action. The camporee is open to Venturing Units, Scouts BSA Troops, and AOL Dens (w/troops).

Action-packed activities will be happening throughout the day including a merit badge midway, pit crew challenge, race flag training, orienteering/geocaching, building Lego mini-cars, and hands-on STEM activities.

And that’s just the beginning. Scouts will get up close with an **incredible lineup of racing machines**, including **Stock Cars, Drag Cars, Cornwell Tool Trucks, Off-Road Racing Trucks, Racing Motorcycles—and even a MONSTER TRUCK.**

On Saturday, the spotlight shifts to the **Council Pinewood Derby**, taking center stage at the track and adding even more horsepower to the weekend. This is open to all Cub units!

When the sun goes down, the excitement keeps rolling. Special evening activities are in development, including the **possibility of attending live drag races**. Final details are still coming together, but one thing is already clear: **this will be a Camporee people will be talking about for years.**

With **approximately 11 districts** expected to attend, this event is **on track to sell out quickly.**

- **Plan ahead - 2026 Fall Camporee – October 16 – 18, 2026 – Beaumont Scout Reservation**

Cub Scout Summer Camping Opportunities:

In 2026, Cub Scout summer camp is offered in two categories, giving families clear options based on what they’re looking for.

- **2026 New Horizons Cub Scout Day Camps:**

Day Camps deliver 5 days of fun, safe, outdoor adventure for Scouts entering Tiger through Arrow of Light. With no overnights, flexible schedules, and locations at camps or close to home, it’s a week of friendship, discovery, and summer excitement.

- Larson Park Cub Day Camp – June 8 – 12, 2026
- Millenium Park Cub Evening Camp – July 27 – 31, 2026
- *A list of ALL 2026 Cub Scout Day Camps:* <https://stlbsa.org/camps/cub-scout-day-camps/>

- **Cub Scout Advancement Camps:**

Advancement Camps are new, rank-specific experiences that help Scouts build skills and confidence while getting a head start on advancement. With age-appropriate formats and classic camp fun like archery, STEM, swimming, and games, these camps prepare Scouts for a great year ahead.

A list of ALL 2026 Cub Scout Advancement Camps: <https://stlbsa.org/camps/cub-scout-overnight-camps/>

- **Plan ahead - 2026 Fall Camporee – October 16 – 18, 2026 – Beaumont Scout Reservation**

Questions? Contact Camping Chair Mike Hulsizer at michael.hulsizer@shawneelodge.org

ORDER OF THE ARROW

2025-2026 Shawnee Lodge Officers:

Lodge Chief – Max Cramer	Lodge 1 st Vice Chief – Nathan King	Lodge 2 nd Vice Chief – Carson Lee
Recording Secretary – David Miller	Corresponding Secretary – Kyle Floyd	Treasurer – Noah Hutchinson

2025-2026 New Horizons Order of the Arrow Chapter Officers & Advisors:

Chapter Chief	1 st Vice Chief	2 nd Vice Chief	Secretary	Chapter Advisor	Associate Advisors:
ISAIAH	DEVON	SYDNEY	LEO	GREG CALDWELL	Elaine Caldwell – 1 st Vice
MEESE	OSBORNE	THURMOND	BYRNE		Chris Byrne – Logistics
					Craig Dahlgren – Bro. Adv.
					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, or the new Lodge portal **HUB51**. Coming soon: New Horizons Chapter “**GroupMe**” communications tool.

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:

New Horizons Order of the Arrow 2025-2026 Calendar:

Our calendar of events is listed here, with some details in the sections below.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1qw46J7gRoVdM_dikbkNLrINJLkyv5SU4D_x_9aFkLII/edit?usp=sharing

District Pinewood Derby Service Project:

Come help run the New Horizons District Pinewood Derby by busing the cars and working with Cub Scouts to make a fun event for all participants. (See information under “Activities” above.)

When: Saturday, February 28, 2026, 8:00 am – 1:00 pm

Contact: Bryan Brush, brbrush@att.net

Journey to Brotherhood Meeting:

March 24, 2026, 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm, Kirkwood North Middle School Library

Chapter Service Project:

March 28, 2026, more information TBD

Shawnee Lodge Spring Conclave:

April 10 – 12, 2026 – Beaumont Scout Reservation, more information TBD

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 Greg Caldwell at gregory.caldwell@shawneelodge.org.

VENTURING & SEA SCOUTING:

2025-2026 New Horizons Venturing Officers:

President	VP of Administration	VP of Program	VP of Communication	VSOA Advisor
JOSH	ANDI	NATHAN	(TBD)	DENNIS DELANEY
WYCKHOUSE	FADLOVICH	WYCKHOUSE		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:

Taste of Venturing:

Join in the annual fun at the Taste of Venturing, **March 27 – 29, 2026 at Camp Warren Levis!**

Taste of Venturing will be a day event with camping both on Friday and Saturday nights as part of your registration. Food for the weekend will be provided by your individual units. Whether your unit comes for the weekend or just for the day, it’s going to be an action-packed weekend of fun at Warren Levis! Camping check-in as early as 5pm on Friday night and check out is by 11am on Sunday. Saturday programming starts at 9am. This is not a drop-off event. Each youth attending MUST be with a unit. (if your unit is not attending please contact Jenn Barton, Bartondanandjenn@gmail.com so she can connect you with a provisional unit.)

Event is open to youth 14 years and older or 13 and in the 8th grade (start your recruiting now!)

Saturday will be packed with activities including:

- Target sports - rifles, shotguns, and archery
- Climbing Tower, crate stacking & slacklines (Training to be certified to run a Climbing Tower for your unit will be offered to those 21 years of age or older. A separate Training registration/fee will be required.) <https://scoutingevent.com/312-climbingtowerinstructortraining>

- Lake Activities --fishing and canoeing (if weather permits)
- For those camping the weekend: Friday night movies and Saturday evening Bingo and Dance.

We will have a large potluck dinner together on Saturday night. Please plan for your unit to bring a side dish (enough for your crew plus 2) for the dinner. Please also bring a written copy of the ingredients (for allergy purposes). Main course will be provided (Hamburgers, Brats & Chicken Breasts)

NOTE: Due to this being Palm Sunday Weekend there will be no programming planned for Sunday morning this year. Nor will there be church services during the weekend. Christians are encouraged to attend their home religious facility for Palm Sunday events.

Cost: \$20 per person before March 27, 2026 (late fee TBD)

Registration: <https://scoutingevent.com/312-tov2026>

SAVE THE DATES:

- **Venturing/Sea Scout Celebration Dinner:** May 17, 2026
- **Swift's Big Kickoff:** May 30, 2026
- **Swift Base Camping Dates:** June 14 – 20, 2026 and June 28 – July 2, 2026

Follow us here:

- <https://stlbsa.org/venturing-calendar/>
- **Facebook** at "New Horizons District Venturing"
- **Instagram** at "NH_Venturing"

DISTRICT CONTACTS/CALENDAR:

New Horizons District Executives:

Your district professionals are here to help!

Ben Brennecke, Field Director is serving New Horizons District, 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"