



# On The Horizon – November 2023



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

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## Important Dates at a Glance:

### EVENT:

**NH Fall Camporee:**  
**Beaumont Climbing Tower Orientation:**  
**November Eagle Boards of Review:**  
**Shawnee Lodge OA Vigil Nominations due:**  
**CPR/AED & Wilderness Survival First Aid:**  
**University of Scouting – Webster University:**  
**USA Archery Level 1 Training:**  
**November Roundtables:**  
**STEM NOVA Counselor Q & A:**  
**New Horizons OA Chapter Meeting:**  
**Scouting For Food – Bag Distribution:**  
**Life to Eagle Advancement Seminar:**  
**Einstein Recognition Dinner:**  
**Scouting For Food – Collection Day:**  
**VSOA Cabinet Meeting:**  
**December Roundtables:**  
**District Award of Merit & Spark Plug Award Deadline:**  
**December Eagle Boards of Review:**  
**STEM U – UMSL:**  
**OKPIK Cold Weather Camping Training – Meeting 1:**  
**Commissioners’ Laurel Award Nominations Deadline:**  
**Shawnee Lodge Winter Fellowship Banquet:**  
**January Roundtables:**  
**STEM Nova Counselor Training:**  
**January Eagle Boards of Review:**  
**STEM U – SEMO:**  
**OKPIK Cold Weather Camping – Meeting 2:**  
**NRA Rifle Instructor Weekend:**  
**CPR/AED & Wilderness First Aid:**  
**STL AFTER DARK – VSOA Lock-in:**  
**New Horizons District Recognition Dinner:**  
**Scouts BSA Leader Training – In Person:**  
**OKPIK Cold Weather Camping – Meeting 3:**  
**VSOA Cabinet Meeting:**  
**New Horizons Klondike Derby:**  
**STEM U – SIUE:**  
**Scout Sabbath:**  
**New Horizons OA Chapter Meeting and Banquet:**  
**February Roundtables:**  
**February Eagle Boards of Review:**  
**NRA Shotgun Instructor Training Weekend:**  
**Scout Sunday:**  
**Commissioner Conference:**  
**Life to Eagle Advancement Seminar:**  
**New Horizons Engineers’ Day:**  
**STEM U:**  
**New Horizons District Pinewood Derby:**  
**Scouts BSA Leader Training – Part 1 of 2 -must attend both):**  
**College of Commissioner Science:**

### DATE:

October 27 – 29 (Beaumont)  
 October 29  
 November 1 & 8 (NO WEEK 4)  
 November 1  
 November 3 – 4  
 November 4  
 November 5  
 November 7  
 November 7  
 November 9  
 November 11  
 November 15  
 November 17  
 November 18  
 November 27  
 December 5  
 December 5  
 December 6, 13 (NO WEEK 4)  
 December 9  
 December 9  
 December 12  
 December 17  
 January 2  
 January 2 (Before Roundtable)  
 January 3, 10, 24  
 January 6  
 January 6  
 January 6 -7  
 January 12 (Beaumont)  
 January 13-14  
 January 18  
 January 20  
 January 20-21  
 January 22 (Beaumont)  
 January 26 – 28  
 January 27  
 February 2  
 February 4  
 February 6  
 February 7, 14, 28  
 February 10 - 11  
 February 11  
 February 13  
 February 21  
 February 24  
 February 24 (SIUC)  
 February 24 or 25 (TBD)  
 February 29 (Virtual)  
 March 2

## On The Horizon – November 2023

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<b>In-Person Cub Scout Leader Training:</b>	March 2
<b>Council-wide Pinewood Derby:</b>	March 2
<b>March Roundtables:</b>	March 5
<b>March Eagle Boards of Review:</b>	March 6, 13, 27
<b>Scouts BSA Leader Training – Part 2 of 2 -must attend both):</b>	March 7 (Virtual)
<b>Den Chief Training – Virtual:</b>	March 16 (Virtual)
<b>STEM College – Lake Land College:</b>	March 16
<b>Taste of Venturing:</b>	March 22 - 24
<b>April Roundtables:</b>	April 7
<b>April Eagle Boards of Review:</b>	April 3, 10, 24
<b>Spring Camporee – Solar Eclipse 2024:</b>	April 5 – 8
<b>Shawnee Lodge OA Spring Conclave:</b>	April 12 – 14
<b>Venturing/Sea Scouting Awards Deadline:</b>	April 15
<b>CPR/AED &amp; Wilderness First Aid Training:</b>	April 19 – 21
<b>Cub Scout BALOO:</b>	April 20 – 21 (S – F)
<b>Scouts BSA Voyageur Program:</b>	April 27
<b>Scoutbotics:</b>	April 27 (SLU)
<b>Den Chief Training:</b>	April 27 (Camp Warren Levis)

===== > 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>**

**November ROUNDTABLES:**

November Roundtable will be at Manchester United Methodist Church, 129 Woods Mill Rd, Manchester, MO 63011, on November 7<sup>th</sup>, gathering at 6:30 pm, and program at 7:00 pm. The Cub Scout Roundtable theme will be “Avoid Burnout” and new to Cub Roundtable, “Den Moments”: for November “Care & Feeding of Assistant Den Leaders”. The Scouts BSA Roundtable theme will be “Winter Camping”.

**December ROUNDTABLES:**

December Roundtable will be a joint meeting of Cub, Scouts BSA, and Venturing leaders, and will be held at **Congregation Shaare Emeth**, on December 5<sup>th</sup>, gathering at 6:30 pm, and program at 7:00 pm. The theme will be “A Scout’s Journey”. At our December Roundtable, people bring snacks before the Roundtable, but please do not bring any items that contain pork or shellfish – thanks!

**2023-24 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.

**Cub Scout Program Guide:**

<https://tinyurl.com/4729a25s>

**Scouts BSA Program Guide:**

<https://tinyurl.com/mrtdyudc>

**Venturing Program Guide:**

<https://tinyurl.com/4dphb3ff>

**IMPORTANT ➔**

Changes to membership fees began August 1<sup>st</sup> – for more information, read below under MEMBERSHIP.

**IMPORTANT ➔** Changes to the “Guide to Safe Scouting” were made in February 2023 covering “Scouting’s Barriers to Abuse”, “Cub Scout Coordinated Camping Section”, and some additional examples of “prohibited activities”. These changes may impact unit operations and may be found 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/>

The Greater St. Louis Area Council, B.S.A. is part of **National Service Territory 5**. NST-5’s Facebook **Home** page contains a myriad of Scouting resources that many of you might not ordinarily find, so if you are on Facebook, we encourage you to “Like” and “Follow” this important resource: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/924855562032311>

Likewise, the National Service Territory 5’s Facebook **Program** Group contains program resources that may be found here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/270021481844869>

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===== > COMMISSIONER'S CORNER < =====

Hello, New Horizons! It's time to dive into charter renewal!

I encourage the Key 3 of your Scouting unit, which includes your chartered organization representative, committee chair, and top unit leader (or their delegate), to kickstart the charter renewal process if you haven't already.

Remember, the unit charter isn't just about paperwork; it's the key that unlocks your chartered organization's ability to run Scouting units. This enables dedicated, incredible adult volunteers like you to embrace the Aims of Scouting on their behalf.

Keep these in mind as you go: The Aims of Scouting are character development, leadership development, citizenship training, and personal fitness.

- <https://bit.ly/nhdcs-scoutingsvalues>

When it comes to charter renewal resources, [Scouting.org](https://www.scouting.org) is a treasure trove of support, offering videos, demos, FAQs, guidebooks, user guides, and more.

- <https://bit.ly/nhdcs-recharter2023-resources>

If you've reviewed those resources and still find yourself stuck, don't worry. My staff is here to assist. Join us on Zoom for our upcoming collaborative workshops. Advance registration is required.

- 2023-10-26, Time: 7-8:30 PM <https://bit.ly/nhdcs-recharter2023-cws01>
- 2023-10-29, Time: 7-8:30 PM <https://bit.ly/nhdcs-recharter2023-cws02>

There's also your unit commissioner. They're a goldmine of knowledge on charter renewal and all things Scouting. They're also experts at clearing any roadblocks you encounter on your journey. If you haven't met them yet, drop me a line, and I'll connect you.

Best of luck and Godspeed on your charter renewal!

Yours in Scouting,

Timothy J. "Tim" Trace  
New Horizons District Commissioner  
314-283-3420 [tjtrace.bsa@gmail.com](mailto:tjtrace.bsa@gmail.com)

===== > ACTIVITIES < =====

## Scouting For Food:

Scouting For Food is the Greater St. Louis Area Council's one-of-a-kind day of service. Thousands of Scouts, parents, and leaders will hit the streets on Saturday, November 11 to distribute blue bags to the homes in their area to be filled with non-perishable food items. The Scouts return one week later to retrieve the filled bags and distribute them to local food banks and pantries. On average, we collect almost 2 million food items each year.

### Important Scouting For Food information!

1. Scouting for Food unit area maps can be found at <https://bit.ly/2023-NH-SFF-Info>
2. Units can pick up their SFF bags at the November Roundtables
3. Food Collection Centers have not changed from last year.

They can be found at <https://bit.ly/2023-NH-SFF-Info>

If you have any questions, please contact the New Horizons District Scouting for Food Chair: Mark Balbes, [newhorizonsscoutingforfood@gmail.com](mailto:newhorizonsscoutingforfood@gmail.com)

## Save The Date!

The New Horizons District Dinner will be held on January 18, 2024 at Manchester United Methodist Church, 129 Woods Mill Rd, Manchester, MO 63011.

**Memorabilia Display:** 5:45 pm  
**Doors Open:** 6:15 pm  
**Dinner:** 6:30 pm  
**Cost:** \$25 early-bird price through December 31, 2023

\$33 after December 31, 2023  
Ticket sales close January 12, 2024

**Award Presentations:** Immediately following dinner.

**Register Here:** <https://tinyurl.com/25csu649> => "Volunteer Recognition Dinner"

### **Adult Awards:**

Now is the time to start thinking about nominating deserving Scouters for the Award of Merit (the highest award presented at the district level) and Special Achiever Award (aka "Spark Plug" Award) given to an adult at the unit level. These awards are presented at the New Horizons District Dinner. ***Nominations are due at the December Roundtable.***

**District Award of Merit Nomination form:** <https://tinyurl.com/ye299dvy>

**Spark Plug Award Nomination form:** <https://tinyurl.com/ykkra9by>

### **Trivia Night:**

The New Horizons Trivia Night benefits Friends of Scouting and we're looking forward to resuming this fun night for 2024. Volunteers are needed to join the Trivia Night committee - please contact Christine Berg Thomas at [CBerg1771@aol.com](mailto:CBerg1771@aol.com) if you're interested in joining the planning committee.

===== > **ADVANCEMENT** <=====

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

**The Council office has moved to accept only Scoutbook or Internet Advancement Forms. This will help ensure records are recorded correctly and timely:**

An electronic or paper copy of the Advancement Report from Scoutbook or Internet Advancement must be presented to the Scout Shops when purchasing Rank Awards and Merit Badges as these are restricted items. The Advancement Report should have the wording "SCOUTBOOK Advancement Sync with BSA National Database" at the end if it is a paper copy.

### **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/>

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

\*NEW\* Cub Scout Advancement Workshops!

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

<https://stlbsa.org/advancement-awards/> -> Cub Advancement Workshops

### **For information on Merit Badges visit:**

<https://stlbsa.org/advancement-awards/> and click on **Merit Badge Skill Centers**

### **MERIT BADGE COUNSELORS:**

**Did you know that less than 30% of all Merit Badge Counselors are trained???** See below under TRAINING for more information on Merit Badge Counselor Training that will take place next fall.

Each merit badge counselor is required to complete the following online training (in addition to Youth Protection Training):

- SCO\_471 Advancement
- SCO\_472 Aims and Methods of Scouting
- SCO\_474 Introduction to Merit Badges
- SCO\_486 What is a Merit Badge Counselor

The courses can be found at <https://my.scouting.org/>

### **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 continues to need additional reviewers!** John Klos is also looking for some Weekly Coordinators. Please contact John Klos at [klos41@msn.com](mailto:klos41@msn.com) or (636) 227-0075. In the unlikely event that we need to return to virtual reviews or need to do a remote review for someone in college, we need a few more reviewers with computers (sound, video and microphones).

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.

**November 1, 15 (only 2 due to Thanksgiving)**

**December 6, 13 (only 2 due to Winter Break)**

**January 3, 10, 24**

**February 7, 14, 28**

**March 6, 13, 27**

**April 3, 10, 24**

**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/programs/scouts-bsa/advancement-and-awards/eagle-scout-workbook/>

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: [https://www.scouting.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/512-72822c-Eagle-Scout-Application\\_WEB.pdf](https://www.scouting.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/512-72822c-Eagle-Scout-Application_WEB.pdf).

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!**

### **Life to Eagle – Advancement Seminars:**

**November LTE Advancement Seminar:**

**When:** November 15, 2023, 7 pm **IN PERSON!**

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

**Registration required:** Please register by November 8<sup>th</sup> here: <https://forms.gle/FTBNYirq5vZvvHzSA>

### **Winter Break Eagle Trail Workshop:**

Jumpstart the journey along the trail to Eagle with these workshops! The workshop is a unique experience where Scouts work with counselors on three Eagle-required badges and the Life-to-Eagle process over winter break!

**When:** December 27<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Where:** Online Zoom sessions

**More information and registration:** <https://www.scoutingevent.com/312-wintereagleworkshop2023>

## **Eagle Projects – at Babler Park:**

The Parkway-Rockwood Babler Outdoor Education Center has a number of projects that would make great Eagle Scout Service Projects. Interested Life Scouts should contact Heather May, Babler Outdoor Education Center Supervisor at 636.458.3048 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 News**, visit: <https://www.scouting.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/May-June-2023-Advancement-News.pdf>.

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

## =====> STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) <=====

### Ask the Expert!

STEM Nova/Supernova experts will be available from 6:30pm to 7pm, before the Roundtable, to answer your questions about all things STEM. Training, activities, awards, bling - no question too big or too small.

### Upcoming 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:

- STEM U UMSL - December 9, 2023 - Registration Open Now!
- STEM U SEMO - January 6, 2024
- STEM U SIUE - January 27, 2024
- STEM U SIUC - February 24, 2024
- STEM College - Lake Land College - March 16, 2024

For more information visit: <https://stlbsa.org/stem/upcoming-stem-events/>

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, 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/>

### Friends of Scouting:

Thank you to the more than 1,700 families in our District who gave so generously and helped us exceed our 2023 Family Friends of Scouting goal! Together we raised \$130,000 to support Scouting.

We have started to plan the 2024 FOS campaign and are looking for a couple of Crew Chiefs to join the staff. Crew Chiefs work behind the scenes and help schedule FOS presentations. Crew Chief is a District level volunteer position and makes a great Wood Badge ticket if you happen to need one.

To join the staff or for questions regarding Friends of Scouting, contact Ted Slap at [tedslap@yahoo.com](mailto:tedslap@yahoo.com) or Guy Harrington at [guy.harrington@scouting.org](mailto:guy.harrington@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 Malcolm Bliss at [malcolmbloss@prodigy.net](mailto:malcolmbloss@prodigy.net)

### 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.



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## 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 – Malcolm Bliss – [malcolmbilss@prodigy.net](mailto:malcolmbilss@prodigy.net)

## Training Tip:

- Can't find Basic Leader Training (Cub Scout and Scouts BSA) that works for your Schedule?
- Contact your Training Team! **We can come to your location on your Schedule!**
- For more information and details, please contact Malcolm Bliss at [malcolmbilss@prodigy.net](mailto:malcolmbilss@prodigy.net).
- Remember, every youth deserves a Trained Leader!

Common sense tells us that training is important, and research shows the importance of trained leaders. A trained leader is knowledgeable and more confident in the role being performed. The knowledge and confidence of a trained leader are quickly sensed by others. Trained leaders impact the quality of programs, leader tenure, youth tenure, and a whole lot more. Trained leaders provide the best possible experience for our Scouts!

**Address any additional questions regarding Training to Malcolm Bliss, New Horizons Training Chair, [malcolmbilss@prodigy.net](mailto:malcolmbilss@prodigy.net).** 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 [www.scouting.org/youthprotection](http://www.scouting.org/youthprotection). 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:

Our council continues to offer Youth Protection training on Zoom. It's the same content as the video course on [my.scouting.com](http://my.scouting.com), but it is presented in a virtual classroom with a live instructor. This is a great option for participants who prefer more interaction or have trouble with the website.

You may register for this course at <https://stlbsa.org/training/youth-protection>

### 1. DATES TBD

Adult volunteers and youth required to train for staff positions may attend any of these sessions. Non-members may also attend. Have them email Tim Trace at [nhdistrictcommissionerstaff@gmail.com](mailto:nhdistrictcommissionerstaff@gmail.com) for info.

## Save the Dates:

### University of Scouting:

**When: November 4, 2023**

**Where: Webster University**

**More information & sign up:** <https://stlbsa.org/training/university-of-scouting/>

University of Scouting is a training event that offers the widest variety of training opportunities in all program areas, all in one place! You will find just about anything to do with Scouting at University of Scouting, whether you are a Scout, leader, commissioner, or parent! Courses will include some of your favorites from years past, merit badges, and some fantastic new content.

Here is just a sample of classes you will find at the University of Scouting:

- **Merit Badges** — Over 40 different merit badges are available!
- **Hazardous Weather Training** — This course teaches you how to manage weather outdoors. All Unit Leaders are required to complete this training every two years. Get caught up at UofS.
- **Position-Specific Training** — Are you a Den Leader, Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, Committee Chair? We have training for your position!

- **BSA High Adventure** – Philmont, Northern Tier, and others. Learn about these great programs, registration procedures, and preparation for participation, as well as other incredible high-adventure opportunities!
- **Special Needs Overview** — Every unit has at least one Scout with Special Needs, including autism, attention deficit disorder, Asperger’s Syndrome, asthma, diabetes, hearing or visual impairment, and many others. Learn about the tools available to you when dealing with these challenges.

**Cub Scout Position-Specific Training:**

- **Cub Leader Training:**
  - When:** Saturday, November 4, 2023, in person at University of Scouting (**see above**)
  - When:** Saturday, March 2, 2024, 8am-Noon- In-Person
  - Where:** Electric Controls Company - 13633 Lakefront Drive, Earth City, MO 63045
  - Register here:** <https://scoutingevent.com/312-71135>

**Scouts BSA Position-Specific Training:**

- Saturday, November 4, 2023, in person at University of Scouting (**see above**)
- Saturday, January 20, 2024, 8 am-Noon - In-Person - Parkway United Church of Christ - 2841 N Ballas Rd, St. Louis, MO 63131 <https://scoutingevent.com/312-scoutsbsaleadertraining>
- Thursdays, February 29 and March 7, 2024, 7 pm-9 pm - Virtual (Must Attend Both Sessions to Receive Credit) <https://scoutingevent.com/312-ScoutsBSA>

**Den Chief Training:**

- Saturday 03/16/2024, 9 am-Noon Virtual
- Saturday 04/27/2024, 9 am-Noon (Staff 7 am-12:30 pm) - In-Person Camp Warren Levis - Swaim Lodge)

**OKPIK Cold Weather Camping Training (Beaumont Scout Reservation):**

The purpose of the nationally acclaimed OKPIK program made famous at Northern Tier, is to teach Scouts and Scout leaders how to be comfortable and safe while camping in cold weather. This training enables Scout units to extend their camping season to a full 12 months. These unique skills are delivered in a safe environment and culminate in a 24-hour outdoor overnight session that tests your new-found skills while enjoying some Scout fellowship and competition. This is NOT a survival skills session – it is an opportunity to learn about how winter camping can be fun and exciting, and still be enjoyable! The program is delivered in a troop setting, where each participant is assigned to a unique cold-weather patrol. There are three troop meetings that are mandatory for graduation. The third final meeting is our outdoor overnight adventure!

- **First Troop Meeting: December 9, 2023, 7:00 am – 6:00 pm**
- **Second Troop Meeting: January 6, 2024, 7:00 am – 6:00 pm**
- **Third Troop Meeting (Overnight): Saturday, January 20, 2024, 8:00 am to Sunday, January 21, 2024, noon**

**Cost:** \$60

More information and Sign up: <https://stlbsa.org/training/okpik/>

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

**NYLT 2024 Courses:**

National Youth Leader Training 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.

**NYLT Week-Long Course Dates:**

- Session 1:** June 9 – 15, 2024 (S-F Scout Ranch)
- Session 2:** July 7 – 13, 2024 (S-F Scout Ranch)
- Session 3:** July 21 – 27, 2024 (Camp Warren Levis)

**NYLT Weekend Course Dates (Both weekends required):**

August 9 - 11, 2024 and August 16 – 27, 2024 (Beaumont Scout Reservation)

Information and registration for all the courses coming soon: <https://stlbsa.org/training/nylt/>

**If your Scout has previously attended NYLT, then please read on for a fantastic opportunity.**

**Attending** NYLT prepares Scouts for Leadership in the Troop and beyond.

**Staffing** NYLT will take those Scouts to a new level... it is absolutely an incredible experience where they can hone their leadership skills, make new friends, and give invaluable service to others.

So whether your Scout attended this past Summer, the Summer before, or before that, consider applying to serve on NYLT Staff.

So what do they need to do?

- Complete the attached NYLT Youth Staff Application - <http://stlbsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/2024-youth-staff-application.pdf>. It must be signed by their Parent and their ScoutMaster. After signing, I would recommend scanning/copying.
- Once the application is completed, please schedule an interview by going to <https://scoutingevent.com/312-NYLT24> and selecting the appropriate date/location. Interviews are in person (12/19) and Virtual (12/20).

See <https://stlbsa.org/training/nylt/> >> NYLT STAFF for more details.

Start your journey now!

## Save the Dates:

### **Shooting Sports Training Opportunities**

Become a certified instructor and/or range safety officer for firearms and archery so you can bring your Scouts to the range and become a merit badge counselor for rifle, shotgun shooting, and archery. Several courses, dates and registrations are listed here: <https://stlbsa.org/training/shooting-sports/>:

- Cub Scout Range Master Training
  - Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 9 am to 5 pm (Pineridge)
  - Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 9am to 3 pm (Beaumont)
- NRA Basics of Rifle Shooting, NRA Basic Instructor Training & NRA Rifle Instructor Course
  - Saturday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 8 am to Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 7 pm (Beaumont)
- NRA Basics of Shotgun Shooting, Basic Instructor Training & NRA Shotgun Instructor Course
  - Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 8 am to Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 7 pm (S-F)
- NRA Pistol Instructor Training (TBD)
- Range Safety Officer Training
  - Saturday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, 8 am to 6 pm (Beaumont)
- Chief Range Safety Officer Training (TBD)
- USA Archery Level 1 Training (requires an online course to be completed in advance)
  - Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 9 am to 3 pm (Beaumont)
  - Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, 9 am to 3 pm (B-R)

### **Wood Badge Courses for 2024:**

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.

**When:** May 17-19, 2024, **AND** June 1-2, 2024 (Both weekends required)

**Where:** Beaumont Scout Reservation

Sign up coming soon – watch for information here: <https://stlbsa.org/training/wood-badge/>

### **Did you know that less than 30% of all Merit Badge Counselors are trained???**

There is no reason for this given how simple it is. So, if you are a registered Merit Badge Counselor and are untrained take some time to get trained.

Merit Badge Training FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions).

- Question. How do I know if I am trained as Merit Badge Counselor?
  - Answer. Login to [my.scouting.org](https://my.scouting.org). In the upper right-hand corner, you should see a silhouette. Click on that and then My Profile. On this page you should scroll down and see all positions you currently are registered for. It will also show your training status, marked with the miniature Trained Strip.
- Question. Where / How can I receive training?
  - Answer. There are multiple options:
    - Online - login to [my.scouting.org](https://my.scouting.org) >> Menu >> My Training >> Scouts BSA >> Merit Badge Counselor - less than 35 minutes
    - Still Other Options - contact your District Training Chair (Malcolm Bliss - [malcolmbloss@prodigy.net](mailto:malcolmbloss@prodigy.net)) or District Advancement Chair (Ruben Brill - [jrbrill@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jrbrill@sbcglobal.net)) to discuss.
- Question. Where can I get further assistance?
  - Answer. Contact your District Training Chair (Malcolm Bliss - [malcolmbloss@prodigy.net](mailto:malcolmbloss@prodigy.net)) or District Advancement Chair (Ruben Brill - [jrbrill@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jrbrill@sbcglobal.net)).

===== > MEMBERSHIP < =====

New Horizons Leaders,

Are you passionate about seeing new youth join Scouting? Do you know someone who is? The NH District Membership Committee is in search of a dedicated Scouter to lead the Membership Committee. Contact Chris Kallaos, Interim Membership Chair ([chrisk.bsa@outlook.com](mailto:chrisk.bsa@outlook.com)) for more information.

We are still finalizing details around second chance joining events for those of you who missed out on School Night to Join Scouting. More information will be distributed soon!

The Membership Committee continues to track each unit against several metrics to ensure a healthy and vibrant program. Please review the document linked below and update any information for your unit. District leadership will use this document to determine how best to partner with your unit going forward:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1KVcAk6tVR-XOvShglt3sRRGfo7iTL4WE/edit#gid=405586443>

**National Membership Fee Changes** – Membership fees imposed by the National office increased on August 1. All new youth and adult members who join Scouting will be enrolled in a 12-month membership cycle; BSA will no longer prorate fees. New youth and adult members will pay the full annual membership fee and will renew their membership on the anniversary date of joining Scouting. Each registered member of the BSA will receive an email notification with a registration renewal link beginning 60 days before the anniversary date they joined Scouting. Unit leaders will also receive a copy of the email and are encouraged to monitor the renewal process. Remind parents to reregister their youth and keep their email addresses up to date on <https://my.scouting.org>.

Effective August 1, 2023, the following national membership fees were implemented by BSA:

- **\$80** for Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouting participants (\$5 increase)
- **\$50** for youth and adult Exploring participants ( \$5 increase )
- **\$60** for all adult volunteers (\$15 increase to provide general liability insurance and enhanced background checks)
- **\$25** one-time joining fee for new program participants in Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouting (Not prorated and no change in fee)
- **\$25** for Merit Badge Counselors (Applies only to Merit Badge Counselors not otherwise registered as adult volunteers, MBCs not registered in a primary adult leader role are not allowed to attend overnight Scouting activities)
- **\$100** for a unit charter/affiliation fee (no change in fee)
- **\$15** for Scout Life magazine (no change)

Locally, the Greater St. Louis Area Council remains committed to making Scouting available to all youth members, and we will continue to provide financial assistance to families in need. This is possible due to the generosity of the many

donors who support our Friends of Scouting campaign, as well as our financial assistance program. Additionally, in an effort to keep Scouting affordable for all families, the Greater St. Louis Area Council does not charge a program fee.

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

- Your Unit Commissioner
- Tim Trace, District Commissioner ([tjtrace.bsa@gmail.com](mailto:tjtrace.bsa@gmail.com))
- Chris Kallaos, Interim District Membership Chair ([chrisk.bsa@outlook.com](mailto:chrisk.bsa@outlook.com))

===== > **CAMPING/ORDER OF THE ARROW** < =====

**\*\*\*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:**

**2024 Klondike Derby**

**January 26 - 28**

**Beaumont Scout Reservation**

Polar Vortex. Join other Scouts BSA in a day of fun winter/snow activities. Troops - start getting your sleds repaired for the District race. Do you need ideas or plans for a sled? Google "Klondike Derby Sled".

You can camp the entire weekend or just join us on Saturday. Troops- you can make this your cold weather campout. More details will be forthcoming.

**2024 Spring Camporee**

**Solar Eclipse – 2024**

**April 5 – 8 (Friday – Monday)**

**S-F Scout Ranch**

An amazing solar eclipse will be visible from near your home again. Join us at S-F Scout Ranch for a weekend of eclipse-related activities (including STEM activities) capped off by the Solar eclipse on Monday.

This event is being organized by the Council. I will post that link when it is available.

**2024 Fall Camporee**

**October 4 - 6, 2024**

**Beaumont Scout Reservation**

Save the date. More information will be coming.

**HORSES!**

Did you know Scouts BSA, Venturers, and Explorers can hit the trail and ride horses for 1.5, 3, or 6 hours or overnight at Beaumont Scout Reservation? Click on this link then click on "Horses":

<https://stlbsa.org/properties/all-properties/beauumont-scout-reservation/>

**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 Ken McGohan at [Kenmcgohan@msn.com](mailto:Kenmcgohan@msn.com)

**\*\*\*ORDER OF THE ARROW\*\*\***

**2023-2024 New Horizons Order of the Arrow Chapter Officers & Advisors:**

<b>Chapter Chief</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chief</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chief</b>	<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Chapter Advisor</b>	<b>Associate Advisor</b>
<b>NOAH HUTCHINSON</b>	<b>TEDDY GUIDRY</b>	<b>BRANDON FISHER</b>	<b>GUS GERSTENECKER</b>	<b>MIKE HULSIZER</b>	<b>MARVIN ALEXANDER</b>

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

On Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, we will have our chapter meeting at **Incredible Pizza** (5254 S Lindbergh Blvd, St. Louis, MO 63126). Registration will be from 6:00-6:30 pm and the meeting from 6:30-7 pm. The buffet is open 7-8 pm and activities are open till 8:30 pm. There will be a raffle during the meeting for some unique prizes. The cost is \$20 per member (buffet, \$15 game card, 1 attraction). The buffet only is \$10. Ceremonialists and 2023 Elangomats (Spring/Fall) will be \$19 each. **Payment must be CASH.** There is NOT an ATM on site. Attendees can purchase additional attractions & add funds to game cards. **Please use the following link to register by 10/31.** <https://forms.gle/YuzFmNy8dHZ9t8bN6>

On Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, the Council will help area food banks with the annual Scouting for Food. This service opportunity will count towards brotherhood provided members spend at least three hours collecting canned goods and/or working at collection sites. Chapter officers and chairmen will be present at collection sites to sign brotherhood cards.

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

## **Upcoming OA Events:**

### **New Horizons Order of the Arrow Chapter Meeting**

**When:** Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup>

**Time/Where:** Incredible Pizza (5254 S Lindbergh Blvd, St. Louis, MO 63126). 6:30-8:00 pm

**More Information:** See above for specific information. Please use the following link to register by 10/31.

<https://forms.gle/YuzFmNy8dHZ9t8bN6>

### **Scouting For Food**

**When:** November 18<sup>th</sup>

**More Information:** Chapter Officers and Chairmen will be available to sign Beyond Brotherhood cards for service completed on 11/18. You need to complete approximately 3 hours of service.

### **Shawnee Lodge Winter Fellowship Banquet**

**When:** Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>

**Time/Where:** TDB

**More Information:** Lodge Business Meeting. The Lodge Officers will share updates on exciting programs going on in the Shawnee Lodge. The evening will conclude with the callout of the 2024 Vigil Honor Class and Founder's Award Ceremony. Info at: <https://shawneelodge.org/winter-fellowship-banquet/>

## **Save the Date:**

Are you in the midst of planning your troop calendar? Don't forget to plan for the 2024 Spring Conclave (April 12-14) and the 2024 Fall Reunion (September 6-8).

## **Arrowmen Opportunities:**

The 2024 National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC) was just announced. We will be at the University of Colorado in Boulder July 29-August 3rd. We had a great time this summer at NOAC and the next one looks great. You can find more information about NOAC at: <https://oa-bsa.org/program/events/noac> Shawnee Lodge has started planning. You can sign up and pay your \$100 deposit at: <https://shawneelodge.org/2024-noac/>

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 sign up at <http://shawneelodge.org/ceremonysignup>



===== > VENTURING & SEA SCOUTING (over 14 or completed 8<sup>th</sup> grade to 21) <=====

**CONGRATULATIONS to the 2022-2023 New Horizons Venturing Officers:**

<b>President</b>	<b>VP of Administration</b>	<b>VP of Program</b>	<b>VP of Communication</b>	<b>VSOA Advisor</b>
<b>DRAKE KELLEY</b>	<b>SOFIE STRUPP</b>	<b>JAKE EDLER</b>	<b>ZÖE SCHULTZ</b>	<b>DENNIS DELANEY</b>
				<a href="mailto:djdelaney55@gmail.com">djdelaney55@gmail.com</a>

**Crew Advisors and youth:** Please attend the **Roundtable** on November 7<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm (gathering at 6:30 pm) and please encourage other youth in your Crew to attend. **See the information under “Special Announcements”.**

**Save the dates:**

**STL After Dark:**

- \* Half lock-in, half behind-the-scenes tours
- \* January 13th, 2024

**Taste of Venturing:**

- \* A weekend full of activities and great weekend for new/prospective members
- \* March 22-24, 2024
- \* <https://scoutingevent.com/312-tov2024>

**Venturing & Seas Scouting Celebration Dinner:**

- \* Annual dinner recognizing those who have achieved awards in Venturing and Sea Scouting
- \* May 19, 2024

**Swift's Big Kickoff:**

- \* Kick off the summer by prepping Swift Base
- \* June 1, 2024

**Swift Base Week:**

- \* Venturing Summer Camp
- \* June 23-29, 2024
- \* <http://swift.stlbsa.org>

**51<sup>st</sup> Annual Fall Fun Rally:**

- \* Shame on you if you missed the 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Fun Rally! Make plans to attend the 51<sup>st</sup> FFR!!
- \* September 20-22, 2024

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

**Why Venturing**

This excellent article by New Horizons' own Chris Ford has appeared in the blog, “On Scouting” recently!! Venturing and Sea Scouting are the older Scout programs of the BSA. This isn’t a new idea, Venturing turned 25 in August and Sea Scouting started in 1912. Only 2 years after the BSA started, they realized they needed something different to retain older Scouts. Over the years, there have been other older Scout programs, including Exploring, and Venturing has roots in Exploring. For those of you who think girls in the BSA is new, Exploring and Sea Scouts went coed about 1969, the first female Rangers worked at Philmont 50 years ago in 1972, and Venturing has always been coed. Read more at:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ccHxFdWJul1NFSD2ctZV1FHHrefBdpqa6Rp7r7Dzsy/edit?usp=sharing> and contact Chris Ford, GSLAC Venturing & Sea Scout Officer Association Advisor at [cfordmo@gmail.com](mailto:cfordmo@gmail.com)

===== > DISTRICT CONTACTS/CALENDAR <=====

**New Horizons District Committee contacts:** <http://stlbsa.org/newhorizons/> under “**HELPFUL INFORMATION**”

**New Horizons District Executive:**

**District Director:** Guy Harrington, [guy.harrington@scouting.org](mailto:guy.harrington@scouting.org)  
**District Executive:** Nick Prainito, [nicholas.prainito@scouting.org](mailto:nicholas.prainito@scouting.org)

**The New Horizons District Calendars for 2022-23 and 2023-24 are available here:**

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

Expand the blue box “**NEW HORIZONS DISTRICT CALENDARS**”