



On The Horizon – November 2024



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

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IMPORTANT DATES AT A GLANCE:

<u>EVENT:</u>	<u>DATE:</u>
OA Vigil Nominations/Founders Award Nominations deadline:	November 1
University of Scouting:	November 2
November Roundtables:	November 5
Units Pick up Scouting For Food bags for distribution:	November 5
November Eagle Boards of Review:	November 6, 13 (No Week 4!)
Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills Challenge Course:	November 9
November OA Chapter Meeting:	November 14
Scouting For Food Bag Distribution:	November 16
Life to Eagle Advancement Seminar:	November 20
Einstein Recognition Dinner:	November 22
Scouting For Food Bag Collection:	November 23
Virtual Youth Protection Training:	November 23
Archery Instructor Training:	December 1
December Roundtables:	December 3
District Award of Merit and Spark Plug Nominations due:	December 3
Deadline to submit a nomination for District Awards:	December 3
December Eagle Boards of Review:	December 4, 11 (No Week 4!)
STEM University – UMSL:	December 7
Virtual Youth Protection Training:	December 12
NYLT Staff Interviews:	December 17 - 18
Shawnee Lodge Winter Fellowship Banquet:	December 22
STEM University – SEMO:	January 4
January Roundtables:	January 7
January Eagle Boards of Review:	January 8, 15, 29
STL After Dark VSOA event:	January 17 - 18
District Recognition Dinner:	January 23
STEM University – SIUE:	January 25
New Horizons Order of the Arrow Chapter Banquet:	February 2
February Roundtables:	February 4
February Eagle Boards of Review:	February 5, 12, 26
Scout Sabbath:	February 7
Scout Sunday:	February 9
CPR and Wilderness First Aid Training:	February 14 – 16
STEM University – SIUC:	February 22
Wood Badge Informational Dinner:	February 24
College of Commissioner Science:	March 1
New Horizons District Pinewood Derby:	March 1? - TBD
March Roundtables:	March 4
March Eagle Boards of Review:	March 5, 12, 26
STEM College – Lake Land College:	March 22
Taste of Venturing:	March 28 – 29
April Roundtables:	April 1
April Eagle Boards of Review:	April 2, 9, 23
Adventure Summit 25 (Council-wide event):	April 25 - 27

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 5th, gathering at 6:30 pm, and the program at 7:00 pm. The theme for the Cub Scout Roundtable will be "Summer Camp" and the Den Moments will be "Attendance Encouragement". The theme for the Scouts BSA Roundtable is "Volunteer Appreciation". **Scouting For Food bags will be available for pick-up before the November Roundtable for units who were unable to pick them up in October.**

December ROUNDTABLES:

December Roundtable will be at **United Hebrew Congregation**, 13788 Conway Rd, St. Louis, MO 63141, on December 3rd, gathering at 6:30 pm and the program starts at 7:00 pm. The theme for the combined Roundtable will be "Scouting Family Feud: An Educational & Entertaining Session". NOTE: Enter from the main entrance across from the tiered parking lot – the doors will be locked but manned if you need to go out and back in; **please be respectful and do not bring food containing shellfish or pork, and please keep all food in the auditorium.**

2024-25 Program Guides:

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

2024-25 Cub Scout Program Guide:

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

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

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

2024-25 Venturing Program Guide:

<https://tinyurl.com/bdfarukj>

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

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

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

Updates to the Cub Scout Program & Advancement for the 2024-25 Program Year became effective June 1, 2024, and are listed under Advancement below. ➔ NEW CUB SCOUT HANDBOOKS are now available at the Scout Shop.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Further Information:

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

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

For any questions, email outdoorprograms@scouting.org.

Council Service Territory 5 (CST 5):

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

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

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

2. 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,

As we enter November, it's time to kick off rechartering season. Just a heads up, membership renewal (national dues) and the actual unit renewal (recharter) process are separate. Most of our SBSA Troops and Venture Crews will still have members whose national dues need to be paid by December 31, 2024. But for a few Cub Scouts and some SBSA and Venture members, their membership renewal will happen throughout the year. So, individual members can handle their own renewal through my.scouting.org, or units can just pay like they always have.

We know this might be a bit confusing at first, so I recommend checking out

<https://www.scouting.org/resources/online-registration/>

for step-by-step instructions. Your Unit Commissioner is also a great resource to help you out during this time. In November, we'll try to have some online training sessions available to guide you through the system. And guess what? We'll also have Unit Commissioners available at the December Roundtable for any questions or support you might need.

Yours in Scouting,

Joseph P. "Joe" Bradley, MD

New Horizons District Commissioner

joseph.bradley@icloud.com 314-809-1068

ACTIVITIES:

Scouting For Food:

Scouting For Food is the Greater St. Louis Area Council's one-of-a-kind day of service for all units, Scouts, and Scouters. On average, we collect almost 2 million food items each year. It is a huge effort, and we need everyone's participation.

Bag distribution areas and/or collection centers will be assigned to **all** units. SFF bags will be distributed at the November Roundtables so please be sure to have someone from your unit pick them up if you didn't pick them up in October!

Collection center locations **and** unit area maps can be found at <https://bit.ly/NH-SFF-2024>. Anyone can drop off food at any collection center.

Please note that area map assignments have changed from last year. Please do not use old maps.

District Award of Merit and Unit Special Achiever Award:

These awards are presented at the Annual District Recognition Dinner in January (date & location TBD).

Nominations for these awards are live, and they both close on Friday, December 6.

The Unit Special Achiever Award (aka “Spark Plug Award”) can be bestowed to one adult with each unit and one member of each district operating committee. It is an award for those who might not otherwise be recognized at the district level for their contributions to their units. Nominate a worthy Scouter here: <https://forms.gle/ivdrsRearznxLnYY6>

The District Award of Merit is a council award presented by districts in the same manner that the Silver Beaver is a national award presented by councils. The award is available to Scouters who render service of an outstanding nature at the district level. Nominate a worthy Scouter here: <https://forms.gle/gpcl6rYXMPeAWQDG6>

New Horizons District Recognition Dinner:

Every year, New Horizons Scouters gather to celebrate the previous year’s accomplishments and to recognize adult leaders from units with the Unit Special Achiever Award and recognize adult leaders who have rendered service of an outstanding nature at the district level with the District Award of Merit. (See above for descriptions of these awards.)

When: January 23, 2025 – Doors open at 5:30 pm. Dinner at 6:00 pm. The program ends at about 9:00 pm

Where: St. Louis Elks Lodge #9, 12481 Ladue Rd, Creve Coeur, MO 63141

Cost: TBD

Registration coming soon!

NOTE: Registration will close on January 13, 2025, to provide accurate counts (no exceptions!)

ADVANCEMENT:

******IMPORTANT******

The Cub Scout Advancement program HAS changed!! New Cub Scout Handbooks are now available at the Scout Shops! Updates to Cub Scout Advancement for the 2024-25 program year were posted here:

<https://www.scouting.org/program-updates/cub-scout-program-updates-announced/#:~:text=Cub%20Scouts%20Awards%20will%20be,officially%20on%20June%201%2C%202024>

with more information here:

https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2023/11/16/three-things-from-the-cub-scout-program-update/?utm_source=scoutingwire&utm_campaign=DM85064&utm_medium=email&utm_content=

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 records are recorded correctly and timely. PLEASE BE SURE TO RECORD ADVANCEMENT FOR YOUR YOUTH AS IT OCCURS:

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

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

Logging “Service Hours”:

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

Conservation Good Turn Award:

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

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

Updates to Cub Scout Advancement for the 2024-25 program year were recently posted here:

<https://www.scouting.org/topics/program-updates/program-updates-cub-scouts/> and additional information is here: <https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2023/11/16/three-things-from-the-cub-scout-program-update>

Cub Scout Resources:

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

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

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

Cub Scout Advancement Workshops:

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

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

SCOUTS BSA REQUIREMENTS UPDATES:

There are updates to the Scouts BSA Advancement program that become 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/>

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

All of 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>

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!** Please contact John Klos at klos41@msn.com or (636) 227-0075 to be a reviewer. 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 & microphones).

To schedule an Eagle Board of Review, please 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.

November 6, 13 (no Week 4)

December 4, 11 (no Week 4)

January 8, 15, 29

February 5, 12, 26

March 5, 12, 26

April 2, 9, 23

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 (*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/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 (*please do not search the Internet or you will likely find an out-of-date version*): 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!

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:

September LTE Advancement Seminar:

When: November 20, 2024, 7 pm **IN PERSON!**

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

Registration required: Please register by November 15th here: <https://forms.gle/W8ACGR4N5YyGrVqN8>

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 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 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):

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.

Save the dates for the following STEM Universities listed below!

STEM U – UMSL:	December 7, 2024
STEM U – SEMO:	January 4, 2025
STEM U – SIUE:	January 25, 2025
STEM U – SIUC:	February 22, 2025
STEM COLLEGE – LAKE LAND COLLEGE:	March 22, 2025

Registration for the above events coming soon to <https://stlbsa.org/stem/> -> "STEM UNIVERSITIES..."

Who is working on that **Supernova** award or better yet is on the trail to earn **all** of them? **Applications are due November 1 for recognition at THIS year's Einstein Recognition Dinner** on Friday night, November 22nd. It will take place at the Ameren Corporation headquarters. You can expect fun, food, and celebrations of how **STEM** has impacted our Council.

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.

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/>

Friends of Scouting:

The 2024 Friends of Scouting campaign is coming to a close, but if you haven't made your 2024 donation, please consider doing so! Thanks to everyone for your hard work and donations raising nearly \$125,000 to support Scouting! We are at 90% of our goal for the year – every little bit helps move the needle.

Please work with your unit committee to schedule a date for the 2025 presentation. The Family Friends of Scouting team will be collecting dates in a few weeks. All units are asked to have a presentation to support Scouting; this is part of the annual charter agreement with Scouting and FOS helps the council develop quality programs.

For questions regarding Friends of Scouting, contact Ted Slap at tedslap@yahoo.com or Nick Prainito at nicholas.prainito@scouting.org.

Product sales are coming to an end.

- Last return dates.
 - October 25th to end the sale. This will be the last day to turn in your inventory unless other arrangements have been approved by John Rouse
- Trails End will continue to set up store front hours
- We will have replenishment orders
- All sales through the extension will count towards Trails End prizes and Council incentives
- Show and sell payment is due between October 13th – December 13th.
 - Online payment to Council instructions will come out with the return instructions
 - You can always pay your popcorn balance with a check at any of our service centers
- Prize order date remains the same: November 1st
- Final Take order pickup remains the same November 5th – 7th

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:

Happy fall New Horizon leaders. What a great time of year to have all the Scouting fun and adventure that we can help lead. Please help your Scouts, families, and other leaders by taking training for the position and activities you are doing. I was working with some adults at BALOO (Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation) for Cub Leaders over the last couple of weekends. This is a required training for any Cub Leader taking Scouts and families out on an outdoor activity. We were discussing what Leaders like most about being a part of Scouting. For some it was getting outside, for others it was having fun with the kids. For many it was the opportunity to do something with their own child. Something they could do together. Scouting offers something to adults that other programs don't, and that is a chance to get off the sidelines and engage with your child in activities that help them grow, build confidence, and make them smile. And YOU get to do this WITH them not just watch. To get the most out of this opportunity, to offer the ultimate experience to your child and so many more, go to training. The University of Scouting offers so many great opportunities in addition to the basic required training. I challenge you to try something new and create a great new opportunity for your unit. Thank you!

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 and Hazardous Weather Training:

All new and currently registered leaders must complete the updated YPT training which is required for all BSA programs for an adult to register with your unit. It is available online 24/7 at <https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/>.

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

Virtual Youth Protection Training:

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

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

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

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

Saturday, November 23rd, 9 am -11 am
<https://bit.ly/ypt2024-nov23-zoom>

Thursday, December 12th, 7 pm -9 pm
<https://bit.ly/ypt2024-dec12-zoom>

Save the Dates:

Cub Scout Position-Specific Training:

- **Cub Scout Basic Leader Training (In Person):**

When: Saturday, March 8, 2025

Where: Green Tree Community Church, 100 Kirkwood Place, Kirkwood, MO 63122

Cost: \$20

Registration Info for both of these: <https://stlbsa.org/training/cub-scout-leader> -> UP COMING TRAINING

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

Spring Courses coming soon!

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

Scouts BSA Position-Specific Training:

- **Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills Challenge:** Saturday, November 9, 2024.

The course is designed for Scouts BSA leaders who have been involved in Scouting at least (2) years and who have both observed and practiced the Patrol Method. Participants in the course will be tested on a slate of skills needed to successfully take your youth into the outdoors. Each participant will have two chances to pass each skill center, with no remedial training available. The intent of this course is to allow the participant to bypass the weekend-long IOLS course, so it is imperative that the participant demonstrate proficiency in all of the areas.

Registration & information: <https://stlbsa.org/training/outdoor-leadership-skills/>

- **Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills:** Friday, May 9-11, 2025. More information and sign-up will be available here: <https://stlbsa.org/training/outdoor-leadership-skills/>

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:

Range & Target Activities Training:

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

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

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

NYLT Courses for 2025:

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

2025 Course dates:

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

Registration for NYLT courses opens in December 2024

Staffing NYLT 2025 courses:

Staffing NYLT will take 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.

Go to <https://stlbsa.org/training/nylt/> and click on NYLT STAFF. Download the application, complete and submit. Registration for Interviews is now open, and the link to sign up for a date/time is in the link above.

Wood Badge Courses for 2025:

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

Wood Badge Spring Course:

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

Where: S-F Scout Ranch

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

For more information, contact Course Director Ellen Mercante | sm.spring2025@gmail.com

Wood Badge Fall 2025 Course:

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

Where: Camp Warren Levis

Sign up coming Spring **2025**

For more information, contact Keith Mueller | sm-fall2025@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP:

Where We're At: 3,515 youth registered

The Goal: 3,613 for growth over 2023!

The Projection: 3,667 youth by 12/31 for 1.5% growth

If you haven't already, please send a pack meeting date to Nick or Don (see below) that your pack is designating as a second-chance opportunity for prospective youth to join Scouting. There's no need to do a fancy joining night or activity or anything, we're just giving youth one more opportunity to learn more about Scouting and your packs.

The district has several independent and private schools where we're seeking inroads. If you have a connection to one of these schools and are willing to do so, please contact Nick or Don and make an introduction!

- Andrews Academy
- Rossman Elementary
- Kirk Day School
- St. Clement of Rome
- Covenant Christian School
- Montessori
- Waldorf School
- St. Austin School
- Rohan Woods Elementary
- Saul Mirowitz Jewish Community School
- Al-Salam School
- Al-Manara School

Need inspiration or ideas? Your district professionals are here to help:

Rockwood, Kirkwood, Valley Park school districts: Don LaChance, don.lachance@scouting.org

Parkway, Brentwood, Webster Groves school districts: Nick Prainito, nick.prainito@scouting.org

Annual Membership Fee Structure Information may be found here (this is the fee for Membership – units may also have separate fees to operate): <https://stlbsa.org/resources/membership-fees-faq/>

CAMPING:

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

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

UPCOMING DISTRICT CAMPOREES & CAMPING EVENTS:

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

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

2025 New Horizons Spring Camporee - Adventure Summit 25 Council-wide event:

The 2025 New Horizons Spring Camporee will be hosted and organized by the Greater St. Louis Area Council.

Join us for Adventure Summit 25, a council-wide weekend camping event happening April 25-27, 2025, at all six Greater St. Louis Area Council properties! This exciting event is open to all ages of Scouts, families, and volunteers, featuring over 30 activities, including target sports, nature exploration, Scout skills, games, and STEM experiments. Each location will also host unique programs, culminating in a memorable Saturday night campfire show with live entertainment. Don't miss this first-of-its-kind Scouting experience where fun and adventure await everyone!

Adventure Summit 25 is designed for flexibility, allowing participants to attend for the full weekend or just for Saturday. Whether you're camping overnight or visiting for the day, everyone enjoys full access to all activities and a commemorative event patch. While food isn't provided, you can easily plan meals with your unit or family. The event is rain or shine, with each camp offering tailored schedules and specialized activities that highlight the unique features of their location. With nearly 11,000 Scouts and volunteers expected, this event promises a milestone experience for everyone involved!

When: April 25 – 27, 2025

Where: Beaumont Scout Reservation, Camp Lewallen, Camp Warren Levis, Pine Ridge Scout Reservation, Rhodes France Scout Reservation, S-F Scout Ranch

Event Manual: <https://stlbsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Adventure-Summit-25-Manual-ver-09272024.pdf>

Event Information & Registration (for all locations): <https://stlbsa.org/adventure-summit-25/> -> "Register Now"

2025 Fall Camporee:

October 17 - 19, 2025

Beaumont Scout Reservation

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

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

Contact Mike Hulsizer at Hulsizer@webster.edu

ORDER OF THE ARROW:

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

Chapter Chief	1st Vice Chief	2nd 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 Dues:

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

Save the Dates:

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

<https://shawneelodge.org/>

Vigil Nominations and Founders Award Nominations are due November 1, 2024. Information may be found at

<https://shawneelodge.org/vigil/>

New Horizons November Chapter Meeting:

When: November 14, 2024, 6 pm – 8 pm

Where: SkyZone in Shrewsbury. More information will be available soon!

Shawnee Lodge Winter Fellowship Banquet:

The highlight of our Shawnee Lodge Winter Fellowship Banquet is the 2024 Vigil Callout ceremony.

When: December 22, 2024

More information will be available at <https://shawneelodge.org/winter-fellowship-banquet/>

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 Hennessey at Declan.Hennessey@shawneelodge.org.

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

Thank you to the 2023-2024 New Horizons Venturing Officers for their service over the last year: President – Drake Kelley; VP of Administration – Sofie Strupp; VP of Program – Jake Edler; and VP of Communications – Zoey Schultz.

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

Save the dates:

STL After Dark:

- January 17 - 18, 2025
- Part lock-in, part Behind the Scenes Tours! Join in the fun for a night (and early morning) of exciting fun as we tour sites and then end at a lock-in site. This event has a bit of something for everyone. More information coming soon!

Taste of Venturing:

- March 28th -29th, 2025
- A weekend of fellowship and activities including: leathercrafting, Crate Stacking, Skeet Shooting, Rifle, 3-D Archery, boating, and more. It's a great weekend for new/prospective members, so bring a friend to try out Venturing and Sea Scouting! Watch here for more information!

Follow us on [Facebook](#) at “New Horizons District Venturing” and [Instagram](#) at “NH_Venturing”

DISTRICT CONTACTS/CALENDAR:

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

New Horizons District Executive:

Your district professionals are here to help!

District Director:

Don LaChance, don.lachance@scouting.org

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

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 Calendar for 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”