



On The Horizon – January 2025



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

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IMPORTANT DATES AT A GLANCE:

EVENT:

DATE:

New Horizons OA Distinguished Arrowman Award Deadline:	January 1
STEM University – SEMO	January 4
New Horizons OA January Chapter Social	January 4 (tentative)
January Roundtables	January 7
January Eagle Boards of Review	January 8, 15, 29
STL After Dark VSOA event	January 17 – 18
Order of the Arrow - Journey to Brotherhood	January 22
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
Cub Scout Camp-In at The Magic House:	February 7 - 8
Scout Sunday	February 9
CPR and Wilderness First Aid Training	February 14 – 16
February Life To Eagle Workshop	February 19
Order of the Arrow - Journey to Brotherhood	February 19
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
Order of the Arrow - Journey to Brotherhood	March 11
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
Shawnee Lodge Spring Conclave	April 4 - 6
Adventure Summit 25 (Council-wide event)	April 25 – 27
Scouts Read Sacred Texts Worldwide	May 1
Spring Wood Badge – Session 1	May 2 – 4
Shawnee Lodge Order of the Arrow One Day of Service	May 3
May Roundtables	May 6
May Eagle Boards of Review	May 7, 14, 28
Cub Scout Camp-In at The Magic House:	May 9 - 10
New Horizons Order of the Arrow Chapter Meeting	May 14
Spring Wood Badge – Session 2	May 17 – 18
VSOA Celebration Dinner	May 18
Memorial Day Good Turns	May 25
Swift’s Big Kick Off	May 31
June Roundtables	June 3
June Eagle Boards of Review	June 4, 11, 25

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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

January ROUNDTABLES:

January Roundtable will be at **Manchester United Methodist Church**, 129 Woods Mill Rd, Manchester, MO 63011, on January 7th, gathering at 6:30 pm, and the program at 7:00 pm. The theme for the Cub Scout Roundtable will be "Appreciating Volunteers" and the Den Moments will be "Mixing Up Den Meeting Formats". The theme for the Scouts BSA Roundtable is "Leadership Training Opportunities for Youth and the Lasting Impact".

February ROUNDTABLES:

February Roundtable will be at **Manchester United Methodist Church**, 129 Woods Mill Rd, Manchester, MO 63011, on January 4th, gathering at 6:30 pm, and the program at 7:00 pm. The theme for the Cub Scout Roundtable will be "Our Heritage, Our Future: A Listening Session with Native Americans". The theme for the Scouts BSA Roundtable TBD.

2024-25 Program Guides:

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

2024-25 Cub Scout Program Guide:

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

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

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

2024-25 Venturing Program Guide:

<https://tinyurl.com/bdfarukj>

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

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

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

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 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.

Scouting America 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 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,

I hope that you and your loved ones had a wonderful holiday season. As we start a new calendar year and prepare for the second half of our program year, let's not lose steam! Your Units are doing tremendous work. If you have not already completed your Unit Recharter/Renewal process, please work on completing this soon. If you are struggling with it, don't hesitate to reach out to a member of the Commissioner Team.

Be ready to start thinking about summer camp, day camp, and all of the other awesome outdoor activities that will come up as the weather warms. Registrations start to open soon!

Yours in Scouting,

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

ACTIVITIES:

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 (aka "Spark Plug") and recognize adult leaders who have rendered service of an outstanding nature at the district level with the District Award of Merit.

New this year, we will show a video of *Scouts in Action* throughout 2024! Please upload any videos or photos of youth from your unit that you would like to have included to our Google Drive here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfW_EU7LaXtSl4gt8G28ODPxfWI2nHtDIJtLU_S_uhDIj9yA/viewform

When: January 23, 2025 – Doors open at 6:15 pm. Dinner at 7:00 pm. The program ends at about 9:00 pm

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

Cost: \$27 thru January 4th, 2025; \$30 thru January 12th, 2025

Registration: <https://stlbsa.org/find-your-district/new-horizons-district/new-horizons-district-calendar/>
(open the blue bar "VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION DINNER" for the link)

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

Scout Sunday and Scout Sabbath:

"A Scout is Reverent" is the 12th point of the Scout Law. Scouts are encouraged to attend Scout Sabbath or Scout Sunday. All youth are encouraged to complete the religious emblems of their faith.

Scout Shabbat:

When: Friday, February 7th, 2025, gathering 6:30 pm, service 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Where: Temple Emanuel, located on Conway Rd. just west of New Ballas Rd.
(12166 Conway Rd., St. Louis, MO 63141)

For more information, visit:

<https://stlbsa.org/advancement-awards/religious-emblems-program/jewish-scouting/>

Scout Sunday:

When: Sunday, February 9th, 2024 (note that the date might be different at your religious institution)

ADVANCEMENT:

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

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

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

with more information here:

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

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

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

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

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

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

Logging “Service Hours”:

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

Conservation Good Turn Award:

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

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

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

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

Cub Scout Resources:

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

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

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

Cub Scout Advancement Workshops:

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

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

SCOUTS BSA REQUIREMENTS UPDATES:

Ranks:

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

Updates to Merit Badges will take effect on January 1, 2025. These updates will be reflected in Scoutbook and on the online Merit Badge Hub (<https://www.scouting.org/skills/merit-badges/>) towards the end of December. These preliminary updates are subject to change before final implementation on January 1, 2025.

Find the updates here:

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

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! Please contact John Klos at klos41@msn.com or (314) 640-1905 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, a Scout needs to call the Eagle Board Hotline at 314.384.2486. Eagle Boards of Review will be held **IN-PERSON** continuing at Parkway United Church of Christ! Masks *may* be required by Parkway UCC based on current COVID infection rates.

January 8, 15, 29

February 5, 12, 26

March 5, 12, 26

April 2, 9, 23

May 7, 14, 28

June 4, 11, 25

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

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:

February LTE Advancement Seminar:

When: February 19, 2025, 7 pm *sharp* **IN PERSON!**

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

Registration required: Please register by February 12th here: <https://forms.gle/gQqw57iS7vNhuBo19>

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):

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 – SEMO:	January 4, 2025 (registration is live)
STEM U – SIUE:	January 25, 2025
STEM U – SIUC:	February 22, 2025
STEM COLLEGE – LAKE LAND COLLEGE:	March 22, 2025

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

Cub Scout Camp-In at The Magic House:

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

Notes:

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

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

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

When: Check-in: Friday, February 7, 2025 at 7:30 pm; Check-out: Saturday, February 8, 2025 at 8:00am
OR

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

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

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

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 becomes "Annual Giving Campaign":

In 2025, Friends of Scouting is becoming the ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN. Funding our council is as critical as ever, and the **Annual Giving Campaign** is a new approach. Unit asks and fundraising goals are no more; and you will not be asked to host a fundraising presentation at your Blue & Gold or Court of Honor. The Annual Giving Campaign will rely on direct mail, e-mail, and phone calls to raise funds.

Pro-Scouting Campaign:

Also new for 2025 is the Pro-Scouting Campaign, which is designed to promote opportunities which will directly benefit your unit and Scouts while also driving revenue for the District and Council. For Packs, the focus will be on Cub Camping - which builds memories and drives membership retention. For Troops and Crews, the focus will be on popcorn sales - which enhances unit finances and helps make Scouting affordable for your Scouts.

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

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

To signup for a Pro-Scouting Presentation, please follow this link: <https://bit.ly/ProScouting25>

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

TRAINING:

Training Awards:

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

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

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

For more information or questions, contact Mike Edler at pk310cm@gmail.com

On-Line Training:

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

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

- Venturing – Chris Ford - cfordmo@gmail.com
- Cub Scouts – Ed Wilhelm - edwilhelm@yahoo.com

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

Training Tip:

Happy New Year Scout Leaders. How are those new year resolutions working out so far? Here is an easy, fun one, and benefits others. **Training!** You thought I was going to say something else? Your units, the families, the Scouts you serve, and most importantly YOU, can have an immediate and profound impact from taking training. And the best part, you can do some of the web based training from your computer or phone while you are on the treadmill trying to keep your other resolutions.

In December, I had the pleasure of working with some other volunteers to do a Hybrid Training for a Cub Pack. The Leaders did their online web based training and then we met with them to do questions and answers and to guide them on best practices from experienced Leaders. This is a great opportunity for any program to do basic adult leader training. Do you have another idea of a hybrid learning for your unit? Please let me know how I can help bring training to your units. 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 and Hazardous Weather Training:

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

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

Virtual Youth Protection Training:

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

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

The Greater St. Louis Area 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:

TBD

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 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:

Attending NYLT gives youth an edge. Not just Scouting, but in school, work, sports and life. Can you meet the challenge?

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 are now open: <https://stlbsa.org/training/nylt/>

Wood Badge Courses for 2025:

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

Wood Badge Spring Course:

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

Where: S-F Scout Ranch

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

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

Wood Badge Fall 2025 Course:

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

Where: Camp Warren Levis

Sign up coming Spring **2025**

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

MEMBERSHIP:

Congratulations to the district on achieving year-end growth over 2023 membership! This is a big step. But recruiting and retaining youth is a nonstop process, and at the end of December hundreds of youth members will fall off rosters with the new registration system in place.

Members who expire will have a three-month lapse period to renew before falling off the books completely, at which point new paperwork, etc. will need to be filed.

Recharter / Unit Renewal:

Helpful recharter / unit renewal information is available here:

<https://www.scouting.org/resources/unit-and-membership-renewal/>

New Unit Prospects:

The district is aiming to make inroads at private schools in the region, including but not limited to: Rohan Woods, College School, Covenant Christian School, Andrews Academy, St. Clement, St. Genevieve du Bois, and local Montessori schools.

If you have a connection to any of these schools and would be willing to make an introduction to the district professionals, please reach out (contact info at end of newsletter).

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/>

Financial Aid:

Home State Health is no longer accepting vouchers for Scouting America (BSA) membership fees. If any unit leaders receive any going forward, they will need to ask the families to apply through the Financial Assistance portal on the council website: <https://stlbsa.org/resources/membership-fees-faq/financial-assistance/>

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

Shawnee Lodge Winter Fellowship Banquet:

The highlight of our Shawnee Lodge Winter Fellowship Banquet was the 2025 Vigil Callout ceremony held on December 22, 2024. Congratulations to the following Brothers from the New Horizons Chapter who were selected as Vigil Candidates and will keep their Vigil at the Shawnee Lodge Spring Conclave:

CRAIG DALHGREN CLAYTON EDELSON BRANDON FISHER TYLER THOMAS SYDNEY THURMOND

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.

New Horizons OA Distinguished Arrowman Award:

The New Horizons Chapter has an award given out to Arrowmen who have gone above and beyond in their service to the chapter. If there is someone you would like to nominate, please submit them by January 1, 2025 using this form:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdinY_h2jJGEHquog-ajhu9bjP9zZD5lycf4AhLj0vrCmF84w/viewform?usp=sf_link

If you have any questions, please contact *both*

Chapter Chief Sydney Thurmond, sydney.thurmond@shawneelodge.org

Chapter Advisor Greg Caldwell, gregorycaldwell@shawneelodge.org

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/>

Journey to Brotherhood:

Ordeal Members – come and have fun with your peers as you prepare yourself for Brotherhood! The meetings are not required for Brotherhood, but you are strongly encouraged to attend any meetings you can to assist you on your journey. Brotherhood/Vigil members, come join us for the fun, and to help our Ordeal members seal their membership. *Watch for an email from the Lodge for these events.*

- Wednesday, January 22, 2025, 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm
- Wednesday, February 19, 2025, 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm
- Tuesday, March 11, 2025, 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

New Horizons OA January Chapter Social:

Plans are in the making for a multi-chapter social with Osage, River Trails, and Gravois Trail Chapters on January 4, 2025. Tentative plans are for Hot Chocolate and a Movie at Emerson Center at Beaumont Scout Reservation. Watch your email for more information as we get closer to the event!

New Horizons Chapter Banquet:

The New Horizons Chapter Banquet information is now available. One of the highlights of the banquet is the announcement of the New Horizons Distinguished Arrowman Awards. Brand new Chapter T-shirts will be available for purchase.

Date: Sunday, February 2, 2025

Time: Doors open at 4:30 pm; Dinner begins at 5:00 pm

Location: Bonhomme Presbyterian Church, 14820 Conway Rd., Chesterfield, MO 63017

Cost: \$18

Registration opened December 15, 2024 and closes January 27, 2025 at 11:59 pm

Register here: <https://scoutingevent.com/312-nhoabanquet>

Shawnee Lodge Spring Conclave:

The Spring Conclave is a gathering of all Order of the Arrow members and is an opportunity for Ordeal members to seal their membership by achieving Brotherhood.

When: April 4 – 6, 2025

Where: Beaumont Scout Reservation

Watch your email for more information as we get closer to the event!

Shawnee Lodge One Day of Service:

The 2025 Shawnee Lodge One Day of Service will be May 3, 2025. Watch your email for more information as we get closer to the event!

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 declanfhennessy@gmail.com.

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

VENTURING & SEA SCOUTING:

2024-2025 New Horizons Venturing Officers:

President	VP of Administration	VP of Program	VP of Communication	VSOA Advisor
DRAKE KELLEY	JAKE EDLER	MILO KARLEN	(TBD)	DENNIS DELANEY
				djdelaney55@gmail.com

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

EVENTS:

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 and sign up is available at <https://stlbsa.org/venturing-calendar/> -> STL AFTER DARK

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: <https://stlbsa.org/venturing-calendar/>

Venturing/Sea Scouting Celebration Dinner:

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

Swift's Big Kickoff:

- May 31st, 2025
- Join in the fun as we kick off the summer at Swift! The day kicks off with improving our favorite summer camp. After some meaningful projects we'll enjoy some of the fun of Swift Base and have a party all our own. Best yet, this is a free event. Watch here for more information: <https://stlbsa.org/venturing-calendar/>

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 Executives:

Your district professionals are here to help!

Laura Enge is the Field Director serving New Horizons, Gravois Trail, and Osage Districts, and will be filling in while the New Horizons District Director role is vacant. She can be reached at laura.enge@scouting.org and 815-531-9659.

District Director: Vacant - contact Laura Enge, laura.enge@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 2024-25 are available here:

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

Expand the blue box “NEW HORIZONS DISTRICT CALENDARS”