



On The Horizon – March 2025



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

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IMPORTANT DATES AT A GLANCE:

EVENT:

DATE:

College of Commissioner Science	March 1
Camp Card Sales begin	March 1
New Horizons District Pinewood Derby	March 2
March Roundtables	March 4
March Eagle Boards of Review	March 5, 12, 26
2025 Council Service Territory 5 Program Symposium	March 8
Order of the Arrow - Journey to Brotherhood	March 11
Eagle Board Chair/Coordinator/Reviewer Training:	March 13 (Virtual)
STEM College – Lake Land College	March 22
Eagle Board Chair/Coordinator/Reviewer Training:	March 22 (Virtual)
Taste of Venturing	March 28 – 29
Climbing Tower Training	March 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
District Life To Eagle Seminar	April 30
Scouts Read Sacred Texts Worldwide	May 1
Camp Card Sales end	May 1
Spring Wood Badge – Session 1	May 2 – 4
Shawnee Lodge Order of the Arrow One Day of Service	May 3
Climbing Tower Training	May 3
May Roundtables	May 6
Challenge Course Orientation Meeting	May 7
May Eagle Boards of Review	May 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
Spring Challenge Course Training	May 17 – 18
VSOA Celebration Dinner	May 18
Rock Climbing/Rappelling Orientation Meeting	May 28
Swift's Big Kick Off	May 30 – June 1
STEM on CAMPus – SE MO State University	June 1 - 4
June Roundtables	June 3
STEM on CAMPus – UMSL	June 4 – 7
Rock Climbing/Rappelling Training	June 7 – 8
June Eagle Boards of Review	June 11, 25
STEM on CAMPus – Eastern IL University	June 8 – 10
National Youth Leader Training – Course 1	June 15 – 21
National Youth Leader Training – Course 2	June 22 - 28
July Eagle Boards of Review	July 9, 23
National Youth Leader Training – Course 3	July 13 – 19
STEM and Skilled Trades Camp	July 20 – 26
Camp NOVA Day Camp	July 21 – 26
Sea Scout Ball	August 2
August Roundtables	August 5
August Eagle Boards of Review	August 13, 27
National Youth Leader Training – Course 4, Weekend 1	August 8 – 10 (Both weekends required)

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>**

March ROUNDTABLES:

March Roundtable will be at **Manchester United Methodist Church**, 129 Woods Mill Rd, Manchester, MO 63011, on March 4th, gathering at 6:30 pm, and the program at 7:00 pm. The theme for the Cub Scout Roundtable will be "Safety is Not a Game" and the Den Moments will be "Implementing New Programs Collaborative Approach". The theme for the Scouts BSA Roundtable is "The Structure of the Scout Meeting".

April ROUNDTABLES:

April Roundtable will be at **Manchester United Methodist Church**, 129 Woods Mill Rd, Manchester, MO 63011, on April 1st, gathering at 6:30 pm, and the program at 7:00 pm. The theme for the Cub Scout Roundtable will be "Neurodiversity in Scouting" and Den Moments will be "Alternative Dens". The theme for Scouts BSA Roundtable is "Responsibilities of the Scout/Organization/Troop/Parents regarding Eagle Boards of Review".

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.

Cub Scout Summer Camp Promotion:

To promote Cub Scout Summer Camps, the council has created marketing placemats for Cub Scout Packs. These are perfect for Blue and Gold Banquets and other unit events. There are 6 different placemats, separated by region that list the day camps closest to them. (These placemats are free for units to order and can be picked up at any council office. When ordering, please make sure to give a 2 week notice for these to be printed. To order Placemats, go to <https://247scouting.com/forms/312-placemat25>. To view all the Placemats, go to <https://stlbsa.org/camps/cub-scout-camping-marketing-resources/>.

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 Scouting, 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/>

Join us on Zoom for the **2025 CST 5 Program Symposium** on Saturday, March 8, 2025, 8:00 am – 1:00 pm

Information and registration: <https://scoutingevent.com/312-95082-223181>

COMMISSIONER'S CORNER:

Hey fellow Scouters!

This year presents a unique, once every 10-year opportunity for Scouts of all ages! Please see the information regarding the Adventure Summit 25 Council-wide event under CAMPING below.

Also, keep in touch with your Unit Commissioner as they are here to help your unit! If you do not know who your Unit Commissioner is, please contact me!

Yours in Scouting,

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

ACTIVITIES:

New Horizons District Pinewood Derby:

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

When: March 2, 2025

Where: Beaumont Scout Reservation (Emerson Center)

Cost: Early discount price: \$15 per Scout if paid by 02-07-2025 11:59 pm
Regular price: \$25 per Scout

To register after February 23, 2025 after 11:59 pm, contact Bryan Brush at brbrush@att.net
Great race times are still available!

Race times will be published here the evening of February 25:

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

and

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

Registration: <https://scoutingevent.com/312-25derby>

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 Scouting.

Attention all Cubs, Scouts BSA and Venturers! This is the one of the biggest Council-wide events in a long time and will be held April 27 – 29, 2025. Look for details under **CAMPING!**

Scouts Read Sacred Texts Worldwide:

Our **First Scouts Read Sacred Texts Worldwide** event greatly exceeded expectations. On May 2, 2024, the National Day of Prayer, we had over 3600 youth read their sacred texts for over 800 hours. Most read at home with their families. In addition to the United States, we had youth from Kenya, Nigeria, Puerto Rico, Belgium, Bangladesh, Chile, Singapore, Okinawa, and the Philippines.

This year our event will be held on the National Day of Prayer, May 1, 2025. We invite all youth of all faith groups to join us on May 1st or any time that week that is convenient. We suggest that youth, their families or faith leaders decide texts to be read.

There are patches and stickers available to celebrate this event. The patch is 3" x 3" with a button loop and may be purchased individually or in a larger cost saving quantity at <https://tinyurl.com/Patch-Orders>

For more information visit <https://stlbsa.org/Scouts-read-sacred-texts-worldwide/> or contact Jim Marchbank at ScoutsReadSacredTexts@gmail.com

ADVANCEMENT:

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

The new edition of the Guide To Advancement (GTA) is out and available now. Almost every section of the GTA received some minor or major revisions since the last edition. Click on the following link for the updated GTA. **Please note that the section pertaining to special needs has been completely reorganized and rewritten.**

https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33088.pdf?_gl=1*1dxgp*_gcl_au*NDI2NDg2NDEzLjE3MzQzNjA5MTY.*_ga*OTk2Mzg3NTY4LjE3MzQzNjA5MTc.*_ga_20G0JHESG4*MTczNDM2MDkxNi4xLjEuMTczNDM2MDkxNi42MC4wLjA.*_ga_61ZEHCVHHS*MTczNDM2MDkxNi4xLjAuMTczNDM2MDkxNi42MC4wLjA.&_ga=2.153025983.743099118.1734360917-996387568.1734360917.

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 took effect on January 1, 2025. These updates have been reflected in Scoutbook and on the online Merit Badge Hub (<https://www.scouting.org/skills/merit-badges/>).

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

<https://www.scouting.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/Merit-Badge-Requirement-Updates-Effective-January-1-2025-Updated-12-12-24.pdf>

BSA Test Labs:

Scouting America has implemented something new – The *Scouts BSA Test Lab* is an exciting way to help in the development of fun and interesting new topics unique to the Scouts BSA program. The requirements for each badge have the look and feel of merit badges, but instead of a printed pamphlet, you will find links to digital resources to help you complete the requirements. If enough surveys show Scouts enjoyed these potential new badges and a badge becomes an official merit badge, Scouts will be credited with having earned that badge! For more information, visit

<https://www.scouting.org/skills/merit-badges/test-lab/>

EAGLE SCOUTS

Eagle Board of Review Board Chair/Coordinator/Reviewer Training (Virtual):

This training has been designed for all Eagle Board Chairmen, Eagle Coordinator, and Eagle Board Reviewers to help them conduct a successful Eagle Board of Review. This a 90-minute virtual session with a Q & A session.

When: March 13, 2025, 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

When: March 22, 2025, 9:00 am – 10:30 am

NO COST – to sign up, visit <https://scoutingevent.com/312-95852?draftmode=1>

The Eagle Scout rank process is described in detail at:

<https://stlbsa.org/find-your-district/new-horizons-district/new-horizons-information/> and click on the blue box “NEW HORIZONS EAGLE SCOUT CANDIDATES”

Eagle Boards of Review:

The Eagle Boards of Review continue to need additional reviewers! Starting in May, Eagle Boards will only be held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month. In order to resume 3 times a month, we need an additional Weekly Coordinator! If interested, please contact John Klos at klos41@msn.com or (314) 640-1905 to *be a reviewer or coordinator*. Virtual boards of Review will be considered on an individual basis based on need and individual circumstance. **Watch for updates here regarding the Eagle Board Schedule:**

To schedule an Eagle Board of Review, a Scout needs to call the Eagle Board Hotline at 314.384.2486. Eagle Boards of Review will be held ***IN-PERSON*** continuing at Parkway United Church of Christ! Masks *may* be required by Parkway UCC based on current COVID infection rates. NOTE – CALL WEEKLY COORDINATOR’S CELL TO GAIN ADMITTANCE as the door to the church is locked.

March 5, 12, 26

April 2, 9, 23

May 14, 28

June 11, 25

July 9, 23

August 13, 27

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/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/EagleProjectWorkbook2023a.pdf>

The most current **Eagle Scout Application** can be auto-populated from Scout Book by clicking on “Eagle Scout Application”. The latest version of the fillable PDF may also be found here (***please do not search the Internet or you will likely find an out-of-date version***): <https://www.scouting.org/programs/scouts-bsa/advancement-and-awards/resources/> & click the link “Eagle Scout Application...”

Eagle Scout Letters of Recommendation: Reference letter requirements for Eagle scouts have been updated. See Section **9.0.1.3** of the updated Guide to Advancement:

References: Must list names and contact information for four people who are willing to serve as references for the Eagle candidate. These may be Scout leaders, teachers, employers, coaches, other Scouts, etc. References do not need to be 21 or older. **Parents and other relatives are strongly discouraged** from serving as references. **The current unit leader and committee chair are not eligible to serve as references; their signature on the application is their endorsement.**

Helpful Life to Eagle Resources: The PDFs of the “Eagle Boards of Review – Roundtable Overview PPT” and “Life to Eagle PPT” may be found here under “Life to Eagle Resources”: <https://stlbsa.org/find-your-district/new-horizons-district/new-horizons-information/>

Save the dates!

Scouts BSA Merit Badge Skill Centers

Merit Badge Skill Centers: <https://stlbsa.org/advancement-awards/> -> MERIT BADGE SKILL CENTERS

- Personal Management Merit Badge Clinics are being offered by Emily Worthmore. Emily is available to set up clinics at troop meetings or other small groups. If interested, please contact Emily @ worthmore2040@gmail.com or 314-532-1003
- Woodworking Merit Badge Clinic is being offered by the Mid America Carpenter’s Regional Council (8300 Valcour, St. Louis MO 63123) on April 12, 2025, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm. While there is no cost, registration will close on April 5, 2025 or when the clinic is full. For more information visit <https://scoutingevent.com/312-96191#>

Life to Eagle – Advancement Seminars:

May LTE Advancement Seminar:

When: April 30, 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 May 14^h here: <https://forms.gle/xztjt3xqfoGuEYCU6>

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):**It's never too early to plan for summer!****STEM and Skilled Trade Camp:**

This camp is an extraordinary experience for Scouts BSA, full of many STEM based merit badges, new Skilled Trades merit badges track, and over the top activities!

Where: Camp May at Beaumont Scout Reservation

When: July 20 – 26, 2025

Registration coming soon! (Qualifies for Second Week Discount of \$100!)

For more information, visit <https://stlbsa.org/stem/>

STEM on CAMPus (3 to choose from!):

This is a unique “camp” experience where Scouts BSA get a taste of college life! Sleep in dorms, eat in the dining halls, and have fun each evening! Scouts may earn up to 6 merit badges! Sign up for 2 “camps” and save!

Where: Southeast MO State – Cape Girardeau, MO

When: June 1 – 4, 2025

Where: University of MO – St. Louis

When: June 4 – 7, 2025

Where: Eastern IL University – Charleston, IL

When: June 8 – 10, 2025

Registration coming soon! For more information, visit <https://stlbsa.org/stem/>

Camp NOVA Day Camp:

Formerly known as “STEM Twilight Camp”, this is an evening camp program for Wolves, Bears, Webelos and AOL Scouts featuring 4 nights of STEM for Cub Scouts to enjoy at Cub World!

Where: Cub World at Beaumont Scout Reservation

When: July 21 – 24, 2025

Registration coming soon! For more information, visit <https://stlbsa.org/stem/>

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 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, 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/>

Unit Fundraisers:

Camp Cards:

The spring camp card fundraiser will run from March 1, 2025 to May 1, 2025. Camp Cards are discount cards that Scouts sell to earn money for Scouting adventures. This is a “no risk” fundraiser, and Scouts earn 60% on each \$10 card sold! All new units that sign up for the sale will receive 20 cards at no cost (worth \$200!) to give the fundraiser a try. Sign up here:

<https://fundraise.givesmart.com/e/LRTZBQ?vid=1hucvt>

Spring Park Avenue Coffee Fundraiser:

There will be a coffee fundraiser available this year with online and take orders only (no “show and sell”). If your unit or a handful of scouts in your unit are looking for an alternative fundraiser to Camp Cards or otherwise, you can learn more and sign up here:

<https://fundraise.givesmart.com/e/Tq91Aw?vid=1hud08>

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.

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.

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 almost spring Leaders. As the weather improves our attention is drawn to the outdoors where we all long to be. And where many of the Scouting activities take place. How can you prepare for the best activity outside? Training of course. All contact leaders are required to take Hazardous Weather. This is an online training that takes less than 30 minutes. Hazardous Weather must be taken every 2 years currently.

In addition to training for the weather there is also training for the activities the units do. For Cub Leaders there is **BALOO** Training (**B**asic **A**dult **L**eaders **O**utdoor **O**rientation). This is not only required by National, it's incredibly helpful to Den Leaders and Cubmasters to put together the outdoor portion of the program. **BALOO** can help you create an organized, adventure earning, fun, campouts, den meetings, and Pack Meetings.

Scout BSA Leaders are more effective role models when they use **EDGE** with their Scouts. But first they need to learn what the Scouts need to learn. **IOLS** - **I**ntroduction to **O**utdoor **L**eadership **S**kills for Troops, teaches leaders how to teach their Scouts the outdoor skills they need for rank advancement, and to be more effective outdoors people.

Here is the best part, Leaders. All of these in person trainings are done by fellow volunteers that are a lot of fun to be around. It's a great way to increase your Scouting and personal networks. You benefit, your Scouts benefit, and the program benefits.

Spring into action and sign up for the next available session now.

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 Scouting 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

Hazardous Weather Training:

Hazardous Weather is now a required training, and all adults should renew or take this training as soon as they are able. It is available online 24/7 in my.scouting.org. In an effort to provide as safe of a program as possible, please take or renew your training.

Save the Dates:

Cub Scout Position-Specific Training:

- **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:

Session 1: Saturday, April 5, 2025, 7:00 am to Sunday, April 6, 2025, 11:00 am
Camp Warren Levis, Godfrey, IL

Session 2: Saturday, May 3, 2025, 7:00 am to Sunday, May 4, 2025, 11:00 am

Cost: \$40

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

Scouts BSA Position-Specific Training:

- **Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills:**

When: Friday, May 9-11, 2025

Where: Beaumont Scout Reservation

Cost: \$40

More information and sign-up here: <https://scoutingevent.com/312-SPRINGIOLS25>

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:

Challenge Course and Climbing Program Training:

The Greater St. Louis Area Council has an abundance of Challenge Course and Climbing opportunities for Cubs, Scouts BSA, and Venturers. But, your unit must send someone to training to take advantage of these great activities!

Tower Training –Saturday March 29 8AM -5PM @ Warren Levis or Saturday, May 3 8AM -5PM @ Beaumont

Learn to lead a Climbing experience at all of the Council's three climbing towers at a **ONE DAY** training. You will learn how to run the tower in the morning and be certified in the afternoon. You don't need to be a good climber to be successfully certified in this class. The Towers are open to **Cubs**, Scouts BSA, and Venturers.

More info and sign-up: <https://scoutingevent.com/312-climbingtoweronly>

Challenge Course Training - Wed. May 7 7PM @ Beaumont & Sat.-Sun. May 17-18 @S-F

Learn how to instill teamwork, communication, leadership, and confidence in an unforgettably fun way! Many of the skills learned in this course can be used in other areas of Scouting. This does take some physical ability, but the average mom or dad can successfully complete this course. The Challenge Course is open to Scouts BSA and Venturers.

More info and sign-up: <https://scoutingevent.com/312-challengecourseinstructor>

Climbing Training – Wed. May 28 7PM @ Beaumont & Sat.-Sun. June 7-8 @ S-F

Learn how to lead natural rock climbing, rappelling, and all of the Council towers. This course is a lot of fun and you don't need to be a great climber to be successful. Natural rock climbing and rappelling are open to Scouts BSA and Venturers.

More info and sign-up: <https://scoutingevent.com/312-rockclimbingandrappellinginstructor>

Questions? Bob Backer rcbacker@att.net or 314-852-0682

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? Want to understand how NYLT can help your youth and your units? Questions about NYLT? Sign Up for one of the free sessions we are offering, "Why Wood Badge? Why National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)? Two Sides of Same Leadership Coin" at <https://scoutingevent.com/312-trainingwoodbadgenylt>.

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)

Sign up NOW! Early Bird Pricing Ends April 15, 2025!

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.

Want to understand how Wood Badge can help you, your youth and your units? Questions about Wood Badge? Sign Up for one of the free sessions we are offering, "Why Wood Badge? Why National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)? Two Sides of Same Leadership Coin" at <https://scoutingevent.com/312-trainingwoodbadgenytl>.

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:

Our council is again sponsoring a peer-to-peer Scouts BSA Recruitment Campaign, with incentives for youth who recruit friends and new youth who join. Incentives include:

- 1 free 2025 summer camp. Random drawing – all new scouts recruited are entered into the drawing to win.
- All newly recruited scouts receive \$50 trading post credit when they sign up for camp. The scout who recruited them receives a \$25 credit.
- 1 parent of all newly recruited scouts bsa youth may attend summer camp for free
- Please note, these are only for new Scouts BSA youth – these do not apply to AOL crossovers

To earn credit for incentives, please fill out this form: <https://247scouting.com/forms/312-scoutsBSA>

All troops are encouraged to host a recruiting event this spring, such as a Webelos/AOL welcome, open house, bring a friend event, etc. Our district professionals can help provide resources to promote these events.

Membership fees

- \$85/yr. for Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouting participants (\$5 increase)
- \$65/yr. for all adult volunteers (\$5 increase)
- \$30/yr. for Scoutreach (No change in fee)
- \$25/yr. for Merit Badge Counselors (No change in fee - applies only to MB Counselors not already registered as leaders)
- \$50/yr. for Exploring participants Youth & Adults (No change in fee)
- \$100/yr. unit renewal/affiliation fee (No change in fee)
- \$15/yr. for Scout Life magazine (No change in fee)
- Excludes Council Program Fees

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

- Your Unit Commissioner
- Joe Bradley, District Commissioner (joseph.bradley@icloud.com)
- Nick Prainito, District Executive (Nicholas.Prainito@scouting.org)

CAMPING:

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

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

UPCOMING DISTRICT CAMPOREES & CAMPING EVENTS:

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 Scouting.

Join us for Adventure Summit 25, a council-wide weekend camping event happening April 25-27, 2025, at all six Greater St. Louis Area Scouting 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/2025/02/Adventure-Summit-25-Manual-Updated-Reduced.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. As of late January, only 40% of members have paid. **Please 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.*

- Tuesday, March 11, 2025, 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

New Horizons Chapter March Social:

Join New Horizons Order of the Arrow members for a multi-chapter MOVIE NIGHT.

Date: Saturday, March 1, 2025

Time: 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Location: Emerson Center at Beaumont Scout Reservation

Cost: FREE – Popcorn and Drinks provided!

New Horizons Service Project – help with District Pinewood Derby:

Volunteers are needed to help run the races for the New Horizons Pinewood Derby. This is a great chance to give back while having fun!

Date: Sunday, March 2, 2025

Time: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Location: Emerson Center at Beaumont Scout Reservation

New Horizons Service Project:

Join the Chapter for a Honeysuckle Hack service project!

Date: March 22, 2025

Time: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm (Elangomat Training to follow)

Location: Chesterfield Central Park

Cost: FREE – Lunch Provided!

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 Hennessy 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:

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 30th, 2025 – June 1st, 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/>

Swift Base:

Swift is full of adventure every week: Rock Climbing, High/Low Ropes Challenge Course, Water Skiing, Mountain Biking, STEM Activities, Mountain Boarding, Tubing and Rappelling. Join other Venturers, Sea Scouts, and older Scouts for a week of High Adventure fun and exciting evening programs.

- June 15th – June 21st, 2025 – Venturing Focus
- June 29th – July 3rd or July 6th – Sea Scout Focus

Each week has a different focus, but all are welcome. Individual sign ups, too!

For more information, visit <https://stlbsa.org/camps/venturing-summer-camp/>

Follow us on **Facebook** at “New Horizons District Venturing” and **Instagram** at “NH_Venturing”

DISTRICT CONTACTS/CALENDAR:

New Horizons District Executives:

Your district professionals are here to help!

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”