



# On The Horizon – April 2026

---



Sign up to have On The Horizon emailed to you at <http://eepurl.com/Z-9Vr>



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

## Table of Contents

**IMPORTANT DATES AT A GLANCE:.....2**

**SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS: .....3**

**COMMISSIONER’S CORNER: .....5**

**MEMBERSHIP: .....5**

**ACTIVITIES: .....5**

**ADVANCEMENT: .....7**

**STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math): .....10**

**DEVELOPMENT/ENDOWMENT:.....10**

**TRAINING: .....10**

**CAMPING: .....13**

**ORDER OF THE ARROW .....14**

**VENTURING & SEA SCOUTING: .....15**

**DISTRICT CONTACTS/CALENDAR: .....16**

**IMPORTANT DATES AT A GLANCE:**

**EVENT:**

April Eagle Boards of Review  
 April Roundtables  
 NH Order of the Arrow Journey to Brotherhood Meeting  
 Shawnee Lodge Spring Conclave  
 Joint OA Chapter Bonfire Social  
 New Horizons Spring Camporee  
 Cub Scout Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation  
 Scouts BSA Adult Leader Training (Indoor)  
 District Life to Eagle Seminar  
 Spring Wood Badge – Session 1  
 Scouts BSA Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills  
 In-Person Cub Scout Position-Specific Adult Leader Training  
 Cub Scout Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation  
 Shawnee Lodge One Day of Service/Fellowship  
 May Roundtables – 2026/2027 Program Preview  
 Scouts Read Sacred Texts  
 May Eagle Boards of Review  
 NH Order of the Arrow Chapter Meeting  
 Spring Wood Badge – Session 2  
 Venturing/Sea Scouts Celebration Dinner  
 NH Order of the Arrow Ceremonial Social & Development  
 Memorial Day Good Turns  
 Swift’s Big Kickoff  
 June Roundtables  
 June Eagle Boards of Review  
 Camp Kick-Off - Order of the Arrow Service Project  
 National Youth Leader Training – First Session  
 Cub Day Camp – Larson Park  
 National Youth Leader Training – Second Session  
 (No July Roundtable)  
 July Eagle Boards of Review  
 National Youth Leader Training – Third Session  
 National Scout Jamboree  
 Millenium Park Cub Evening Camp  
 In-Person Cub Scout Position-Specific Adult Leader Training  
 August Roundtables  
 August Eagle Boards of Review  
 National Youth Leader Training – 4<sup>th</sup> Session, Weekend 1  
 National Youth Leader Training – 4<sup>th</sup> Session, Weekend 2  
 August New Horizons OA Chapter Meeting  
 September Roundtables  
 Council Challenge Course Intro Training  
 September Eagle Boards of Review  
 Council Challenge Course Training  
 District Life to Eagle Seminar  
 Shawnee Lodge Fall Reunion  
 Fall Wood Badge Course – Weekend 1  
 Venturing Fall Fun Rally

**DATE:**

April 1, 8, 22  
 April 7  
 April 8 (Virtual)  
 April 10 – 12  
 April 18  
 April 24 – 26  
 April 25 – 26  
 April 26  
 April 29  
 May 1 - 3  
 May 1 – 3  
 May 2  
 May 2 – 3  
 May 2  
 May 5  
 May 7  
 May 5, 13, 27  
 May 13  
 May 16 – 17  
 May 17  
 May 23  
 May 24  
 May 30  
 June 2  
 June 3, 10, 24  
 June 6  
 June 7 – 13  
 June 8 – 12  
 June 21 – 27 (Male only)  
 July 1, 8, 22  
 July 12 – 18  
 July 22 – 31  
 July 27 – 31  
 August 1  
 August 4  
 August 5, 12, 26  
 August 7 – 9  
 August 14 – 16  
 TBD  
 September 1  
 September 2  
 September 2, 9, 23  
 September 12 – 13  
 September 16  
 September 18 – 20  
 September 25 – 27  
 September 25 – 27

**SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

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

**ROUNDTABLES:**

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

**April ROUNDTABLES:**

April Roundtable will be at **Manchester United Methodist Church**, 129 Woods Mill Rd, St. Louis, MO 63011, on April 7<sup>th</sup>, gathering at 6:30 pm, and the program at 7:00 pm. The Cub Roundtable program will be “Be Prepared... For Everyone” and the Scouts BSA Roundtable program is “Eagle Scout Requirement changes / Life to Eagle Process”.

**May ROUNDTABLES:**

May Roundtable will be at **Manchester United Methodist Church**, 129 Woods Mill Rd, St. Louis, MO 63011, on May 5<sup>th</sup>, gathering at 6:30 pm, and the program at 7:00 pm. **This is one of the most important Roundtables of the year – PROGRAM PREVIEW.** The doors will open at 6PM on the second Tuesday of each month. Gather in the large room for fellowship and meeting other scout leaders in the district. At 7PM go directly to your scouting program room.

**2025-2026 Program Guides:**

These guides, released in May 2025, take you through recommendations on how to best manage Den and Pack meetings, Troop meetings, and Crew meetings for the coming Scouting year—loaded with information on having a fun Scouting program.

**2025-2026 Cub Scout Program Guide:**

<https://tinyurl.com/5n7xt4p3>

**Program Note:** “Den Meeting Deck for Leaders” activity cards are now available at the Scout Shop.

The activity cards help den leaders create fun, focused, and age-appropriate meetings.

**2025-2026 Scouts BSA Program Guide (the flyer for Program Preview had an incorrect short URL:**

<https://tinyurl.com/bdea8pws>

**2025-2026 Venturing Program Guide:**

<https://tinyurl.com/39p7ra9k>

**IMPORTANT NOTES ➔**

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

====>Keep up to date with the “Guide to Safe Scouting” here:

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

**Youth Protection Training is now “S.A.F.E. Guarding Youth Training (SYT)”:** See details under Training!

**Scouting America Council Service Territory 5 (CST 5):**

As a member District within the Greater St Louis Area Scouting, we are 1 of 13 Councils that comprise **Council Service Territory 5 (CST 5)**, 1 of 14 Territories across the US. **CST 5** covers the states of Missouri, Kansas, and Nebraska as well as southern Illinois, and western Iowa, and nearly all of Colorado & Wyoming.

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

1. Scouting America Council Service Territory 5 (CST 5) with close to 400 members. For general information about accomplishments and accolades across CST 5, from the individual to units, to districts, councils, and programs please join Scouting America Council Service Territory 5 (CST 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,

Spring is go-time for Scouting. As your unit ramps up campouts, crossovers, and summer camp prep, take a few minutes to make sure the fundamentals are in place: your Scouts are registered for camp, your leadership is set, and all adults are current on Safeguarding Youth Training. A little attention now prevents a lot of stress later.

If something feels off—or you just need a second set of eyes—reach out to your Unit Commissioner. We're here to support you, connect you with resources, and help your unit succeed. Strong programs don't happen by accident—they're built by leaders like you. Thank you for what you do.

Yours in Scouting,

Joseph P. "Joe" Bradley, MD  
New Horizons District Commissioner  
Greater St. Louis Area Scouting  
[joseph.bradley@icloud.com](mailto:joseph.bradley@icloud.com)

## MEMBERSHIP:

### **Year Round Recruiting Tip for April**

Warm weather recruiting works best when it feels like play, not a pitch. Families are coming out of winter routines and looking for low-pressure, outdoor activities their kids can try immediately. For small Cub Scout packs, visibility and simplicity matter more than scale. Keep events short, active, and easy to join on the spot. Make sure every activity answers their "quiet" question: "Will my kid enjoy this, and is this manageable for our schedule?"

First, host a **"Bring-a-Friend Adventure Night"** at your regular meeting--simple stations like knot tying, paper rockets, or a short nature scavenger hunt. Second, set up a **"Park Pop-up"**--set up at a busy local park with a few visible activities (Frisbee, chalk games, quick challenges) and a sign; invite kids to jump in rather than wait for formal sign-ups. Third, schedule a **"Service-Based Event"**, like a quick park cleanup or trail walk with gloves and bags--families see Scouts in action, and it builds credibility without spending anything.

### **Powerful Sign-Up Nights in the Fall - Get Trained!**

Every pack deserves a Sign-Up Night closer -- get certified in world-class training that converts nearly every prospect into a new Scout. Reach out to Chris Kadel at 314.800.7039 or [chris@signalhost.me](mailto:chris@signalhost.me) and get your pack's seat today.

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

- Your Unit Commissioner
- Joe Bradley, District Commissioner ([joseph.bradley@icloud.com](mailto:joseph.bradley@icloud.com))
- Nick Prainito, Senior District Executive ([Nicholas.Prainito@scouting.org](mailto:Nicholas.Prainito@scouting.org))
- Chris Kadel, Membership Committee Chair ([Chris@signalhost.me](mailto:Chris@signalhost.me)) / 314.800.7039

## ACTIVITIES:

### **Save the dates!**

#### **Memorial Day Good Turns:**

Every year on the Sunday before Memorial Day (Sunday, May 24, 2026) Scouts gather to place flags on graves of veterans. There are two Good Turns for Scouts of all ages to participate:

#### **Memorial Day Good Turn for Jewish War Veterans:**

The Council Jewish Committee on Scouting's Annual Memorial Day Good Turn will begin on Sunday, May 24, 2026 at 9:00 am. Scouts of all ages are needed to assist in flag placement at over 8,000 graves of Jewish War Veterans located at 8 Jewish cemeteries. More information and a sign-up PDF may be found here:

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

---

## **77<sup>th</sup> Annual Memorial Day Good Turn at Jefferson Barracks:**

Scouts of all ages are invited to participate in the 77<sup>th</sup> Annual Memorial Day Good Turn on Sunday, May 24, 2026 hosted by Gravois Trail District. A flag will be placed on each of the approximately 280,000 graves. Registration is between 10:30 am – 11:30 am followed by a procession and flag ceremony prior to flag placement. For more information and registration, visit <https://www.scoutingevent.com/312-2026JBmdgt>

## **2026 National Annual Meeting:**

The 2026 National Annual Meeting will take place on May 11 – 15, 2026 in Dallas, Texas.

### **Silver Buffalo Award:**

Created in 1925, the Silver Buffalo Award for distinguished service to youth is awarded to those persons who give noteworthy and extraordinary service to youth and is Scouting America's highest commendation to the invaluable contributions that outstanding Americans make to youth presented by the National Court of Honor. Among the 14 recipients for 2026, New Horizons Scouter **Jane Grossman** will be receiving this award on May 14, 2026! Congratulations, Jane!

### **Silver Antelope Award:**

Created in 1942, the Silver Antelope Award is the Council Service Territory level distinguished service award presented by the National Court of Honor. It recognizes Scouts of exceptional character whose outstanding service has made a lasting impact on youth across their territory. Among the 32 recipients, including 2 from Council Service Territory 5, New Horizons Scouter **Bruce A. Levitt** will be receiving this award on May 13, 2026! Congratulations, Bruce!

## **2026 Council Annual Volunteer Recognition Night:**

The Silver Beaver Award is the highest recognition a Scout Council can bestow on an adult volunteer leader. While the date, time, and location are to be determined for this event, congratulations go out to New Horizons Scouters who will be recognized with the Silver Beaver Award: Christine Berg, Greg Caldwell, Tim Gamma, Kim Montgomery, and John Ziegler.

## **2026 National Scout Jamboree:**

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

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

**Youth Participant cost:** \$2,400

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

**Non-contingent Jamboree Service Team information may be found here:** [jamboree.scouting.org](http://jamboree.scouting.org)

## **2027 World Scout Jamboree in Poland:**

Gdańsk, here we come!

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

Projected cost for youth participants is estimated in the range of \$6,200 - \$6,700 (airfare will affect the cost)

More information may be found in "Aaron On Scouting"'s article here:

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

---

## **Help Wanted!**

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

### **Positions needed:**

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

The hourly wage is \$17! If interested, please contact Jesse Engle, Director at 314.954. 5565 or [jesse.engle@scouting.org](mailto:jesse.engle@scouting.org)

## **ADVANCEMENT:**

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

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

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

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

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

### **Logging "Service Hours":**

When your youth and adults do community service, please be sure to log those hours using Scoutbook so that they may be rolled into the Council total – all service hours are totaled for the Council and then at the national level and are reported to Congress during the Scouting America's Report to The Nation every spring. Each hour of Volunteer Time is currently valued at over \$31 Per Hour!

### **Conservation Good Turn Award:**

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

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

### **Cub Scout Resources:**

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

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

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

## **SCOUTS BSA REQUIREMENTS UPDATES:**

### **Ranks:**

There are updates to the Scouts BSA Advancement program that became effective on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024. There are minor changes to the Scout and Star ranks (#6). Note that the Cyberchip has been phased out and Scouts should use the Personal Safety Awareness training at:

<https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/scouts-bsa/>

**Palms:**

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

**All the changes are detailed below**, including information on major and minor changes to merit badge requirements:

<https://www.scouting.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Advancement-Program-Updates-2024.pdf>

**Merit Badges:**

**ALL MERIT BADGE PAMPHLETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE HERE AND CONTAIN THE LATEST 2026 REQUIREMENTS & UPDATES:** <https://www.scouting.org/skills/merit-badges/>

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

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

**New Cybersecurity and Artificial Intelligence Merit Badges!**

Scouts BSA has recently released two NEW Merit Badges: Cybersecurity and Artificial Intelligence.

For details on these merit badges, read the “Aaron On Scouting” article:

<https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2025/10/15/scouting-america-launches-merit-badges-in-cybersecurity-and-artificial-intelligence/>

**Citizenship in Society discontinued:**

Citizenship in Society has been discontinued effective February 27, 2026. Scouts who started this merit badge prior to that date may continue to work on it until December 31, 2026, though it is no longer an Eagle Required merit badge – see below for more information on Eagle Scout requirements.

**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****Important - Eagle Scout Rank Requirements Change/Eagle Scout Application Change:**

Effective February 27, 2026, the “Citizenship in Society” has been discontinued, though Scouts who began this merit badge *before* that date may continue to complete it before December 31, 2026. There are now 13 Eagle Required merit badges with a total of 21 merit badges needed to earn the rank of Eagle Scout. The Eagle Scout Application has been changed to reflect this (see below for the link). An additional line for parents’ contact information has also been added in the “Letters of Recommendation” section. Here is an article that clarifies the Eagle Scout Application changes:

[https://www.scouting.org/program-updates/clarification-on-the-eagle-scout-rank-application/?utm\\_source=scoutingwire&utm\\_campaign=dm110126&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=](https://www.scouting.org/program-updates/clarification-on-the-eagle-scout-rank-application/?utm_source=scoutingwire&utm_campaign=dm110126&utm_medium=email&utm_content=)

**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!** Eagle Boards are held on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month. Contact Mike Buhr at [mjbuhr64@gmail.com](mailto:mjbuhr64@gmail.com) or (314) 386-5055 to be a reviewer or coordinator. Virtual boards of Review will be considered on an individual basis based on need and individual circumstance. **Watch for updates here regarding the Eagle Board Schedule.**

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

**Our Weekly Coordinators are:**

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

**Review dates:**

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

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Scouts will still be required to submit their paperwork ***in advance*** which helps the reviewers to better help our Scouts. *Please use the Eagle Project Workbook fillable PDF below and email it* when requested to the appropriate weekly coordinator. While not expressly required, reviewers greatly appreciate workbooks that are filled in using the PDF vs. handwritten workbooks.

Links to the ***most current*** Eagle Scout Project Workbook can be found at this link:

➔ <https://www.scouting.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/EagleProjectWorkbook2023a.pdf>

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

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

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

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

## **Save the dates!**

### **Scouts BSA Merit Badge Skill Centers**

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

- Personal Management Merit Badge Clinics are being offered by Emily Worthmore. Emily is available to set up clinics at troop meetings or other small groups. If interested, please contact Emily @ [worthmore2040@gmail.com](mailto:worthmore2040@gmail.com) or 314-532-1003

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

**April LTE Advancement Seminar:**

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

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

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

---

**Eagle Projects – at Babler Park:**

The Parkway-Rockwood Babler Outdoor Education Center has several projects that would make great Eagle Scout Service Projects. Interested Life Scouts should contact Mike Dowell, Babler Outdoor Education Center Supervisor at 636.891.6681 to make an appointment to review potential projects. (Scouts need to have an adult with them on the phone or when visiting Babler for Youth Protection compliance.)

**John F. Bild Eagle Scout Project Grants:**

The ***Eagle Scout Association of Greater St. Louis, Inc.*** (St. Louis Eagle Scout Association) may grant Life Scouts working on an Eagle Scout Service Project money to fund their project. Applicants must have received project approval from the District Eagle Scout Board of Review. Grants typically range from \$50 to \$200. The application process, application form, and directions for applying for a grant may be found here:

<http://www.stlesa.org/Eagle-Project-Grants>

For other **Advancement** questions see the “**Guide to Advancement**”: <https://www.scouting.org/advancement>.

For the latest **Advancement Update**, visit: <https://www.scouting.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/SBSA-Advancement-Updates-2024-v2.pdf>. New information will be posted here when it becomes available.

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

**STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math):**

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

**New STEM NOVA's:**

NEW – Motorsport NOVA's are now available to earn! Race to the STEM page to see the requirements. New for this NOVA award, Lions & Tigers can cross the finish line and earn the Motorsport NOVA, too!

<https://stlbsa.org/stem/nova/>

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](mailto:lisa@balbes.com)) or Teresa Colletti ([tacolletti@att.net](mailto:tacolletti@att.net))

**DEVELOPMENT/ENDOWMENT:**

Check out **endowment opportunities** at: <https://stlbsa.org/give-now/>

**Heart of Scouting:**

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

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

**New Horizons Annual Giving Link – Make a Gift:**

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

For questions regarding the Annual Giving Campaign, contact Nick Prainito at [nicholas.prainito@scouting.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:cfordmo@gmail.com)
- Cub Scouts – Ed Wilhelm - [edwilhelm@yahoo.com](mailto:edwilhelm@yahoo.com)
- Scouts BSA – Mike Edler – [pk310cm@gmail.com](mailto:pk310cm@gmail.com)
- New Horizons District Training Chair – Mike Edler – [pk310cm@gmail.com](mailto:pk310cm@gmail.com)

## **Training Tip:**

Spring. So many things happen in spring. Baseball returns. Religious holidays and events. Camping trips. People start working in the yard again after a long winter.

To me spring means growth. In Scouting growth means new youth and adults joining the program. It could also mean growth opportunities for both youth and adults.

Both of these meanings can be opportunities to take training. Train to make your unit more successful and active. This can have a direct and noticeable impact on new membership and retention.

Embrace the opportunities this spring to help yourself grow. Spring into action.

Thank you, Mike Edler

Address any additional questions regarding Training to **Mike Edler, New Horizons Training Chair, at [pk310cm@gmail.com](mailto:pk310cm@gmail.com)**. For further Training information and resources, please see <https://stlbsa.org/find-your-district/new-horizons-district/new-horizons-information/> and click the blue bar "New Horizons District Training".

## **Youth Protection Training is now "S.A.F.E. Guarding Youth Training (SYT)":**

Youth protection is at the heart of everything we do. Announced at the Scouting America National Annual Meeting in Orlando, the new Safeguarding Youth training is now live and mandatory for all registered adult volunteers. It is also a joining requirement for new adult members.

### **Course Details:**

Duration: ~90 minutes

Available in English and Spanish

Access it through [my.scouting.org](https://my.scouting.org)

Requirements: Complete all lessons + score 80% or higher on the final test

### **Annual Refresher:**

After completing the full course once, a 15-minute refresher and retest is required each year to stay current.

### **Transition from Previous YPT:**

If you've already completed Youth Protection Training (YPT), your certification remains valid until May 2026. However - there is new material in the SYT which could genuinely save the life of a youth - inside or outside of Scouting."

### **Why This Matters:**

Youth protection is at the heart of everything we do. This updated training reinforces a culture of active supervision, situational awareness, and safety, ensuring we're all equipped to help keep our Scouts safe.

### **In-Person SYT availability:**

If your unit is interested in an in-person training session, it is now available via our Council Youth Protection Champion, Tim Trace. Contact him at [titrace.bsa@gmail.com](mailto:titrace.bsa@gmail.com)

## Hazardous Weather Training:

Hazardous Weather is now a required training, and all adults should renew or take this training as soon as they are able. It is available online 24/7 in [my.scouting.org](https://my.scouting.org). To provide as safe of a program as possible, please take or renew your training!

## Save the Dates:

### Cub Scout Position-Specific Training:

- **LOE/BALOO – Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation**  
**Spring Course:**  
**Next Sessions:** Saturday, April 25, 7:00 am to Sunday, April 26, 2026, 11:00 am  
 Beaumont Scout Reservation  
**OR** Saturday, May 2, 7:00 am to Sunday, May 3, 2026, 11:00 am  
 Pine Ridge Scout Reservation  
**Cost:** \$40  
**Information & sign up:** <https://scoutingevent.com/312-108836>
- **In-Person Cub Scout Position-Specific Adult Leader Training**  
**When:** Saturday, May 2, 2026, 8:30 am – 12:30 pm  
**OR** Saturday, August 1, 2026, 8:30 am – 12:30 pm  
**Where:** Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 327 Woods Mill Rd., Manchester, MO 63011  
**Cost:** None  
**Contact Ed Wilhelm if you are interested in attending:** [edwilhelm@yahoo.com](mailto:edwilhelm@yahoo.com)

### Scouts BSA Position-Specific Training:

- **Scouts BSA Adult Leader Training (Indoor):**  
 This 4-hour, in-person, session is for Scoutmasters, Assistant Scoutmasters, and Committee Members. Uniforms are not required, but highly recommended.  
**When:** April 26, 2026, from noon to 4 pm  
**Where:** Weldon Springs Interpretive Center, 7295 MO-94, St. Charles, MO 63304  
**Cost:** None  
**Complete this form if you are interested in attending:** <https://forms.gle/atVTex6tTgoyBJNx7>
- **Spring Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills:**  
**When:** May 1 – 3, 2026  
**Where:** Beaumont Scout Reservation  
**Cost:** \$40  
**Information & sign up:** <https://scoutingevent.com/312-2026springIOLS>

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

## Save the Dates:

### National Youth Leader Training (NYLT) Courses for 2026:

Attending NYLT gives youth an edge. Not just Scouting, but in school, work, sports and life. NYLT is a six-day course that delivers training in a troop and patrol outdoor setting with an emphasis on the immediate application of learning in a fun environment. Interconnecting concepts and work processes are introduced early, built upon, and aided by the use of memory aids, which allows participants to understand and employ leadership skills much faster. Attending NYLT prepares Scouts for Leadership in the Troop and beyond.

#### **2026 Course dates:**

- June 7 – 13, 2026 – Camp Sakima, S-F Scout Ranch
- June 21 – 27, 2026 – Camp Sakima, S-F Scout Ranch
- July 12 – 18, 2026 – Camp Sakima, S-F Scout Ranch
- August 7 – 9 **and** August 15 – 16, 2026 – Beaumont Scout Reservation (weekend course, both weekends required)

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

### **Wood Badge Courses for 2026:**

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

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

**Where:** Beaumont Scout Reservation

**OR**

**When:** September 25 – 27, 2026 AND October 17 – 18, 2026 (both weekends required)

**Where:** Beaumont Scout Reservation

More information and sign-up: <https://stlbsa.org/training/wood-badge/>

## **CAMPING:**

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

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

### **UPCOMING DISTRICT CAMPOREES & CAMPING EVENTS:**

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

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

**When:** April 24 – 26, 2026

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

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

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

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

Staff - \$15 & \$15 for meals

Registration closes April 17<sup>th</sup> at midnight

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Cub Scout Summer Camping Opportunities:

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

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

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

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

- **Cub Scout Advancement Camps:**

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

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

### **Plan ahead:**

- 2026 Fall Cub-o-ree & Camporee – October 16 – 18, 2026 – Beaumont Scout Reservation
- 2027 Klondike Derby – January 30, 2027 – Beaumont Scout Reservation
- 2027 Spring Camporee – April 16 – 18, 2027 – Camp Warren Levis
- 2027 Fall Cub-o-ree & Camporee – October 15 – 17, 2027 – Beaumont Scout Reservation

**Questions?** Contact Camping Chair Mike Hulsizer at [michael.hulsizer@shawneelodge.org](mailto:michael.hulsizer@shawneelodge.org)

## ORDER OF THE ARROW

### 2025-2026 Shawnee Lodge Officers:

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

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

Chapter Chief	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Chief	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Chief	Secretary	Chapter Advisor	Associate Advisors:
ISAIAH	DEVON	SYDNEY	LEO	GREG CALDWELL	Elaine Caldwell – 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice
MEESE	OSBORNE	THURMOND	BYRNE		Chris Byrne – Logistics
					Craig Dahlgren – Bro. Adv.
					Joe Attea - Secretary

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

You can also follow us on social media. You can follow us on **Twitter:** @NewHorizonsOA, **Instagram:** nhchapteroa, **Facebook:** New Horizons Order of the Arrow, or the new Lodge portal **HUB51**. Coming soon: New Horizons Chapter “**GroupMe**” communications tool.

### 2025 Shawnee Lodge Membership Hub – HUB51:

The **HUB51 Portal** was born out of a desire to serve our members better by making it easier to stay involved in Shawnee Lodge, including:

- New Flexible Payment Options
- Improved Communications
- Mobile Friendly Experience

Members should have received an email invitation to create an account. Once you have logged in to the HUB51 Portal, you can access information from the “Upcoming Events” tab. Season & Thunderbird pass members’ Discount codes are available on the Portal when you sign up for events. **If you did not receive your email information**, email Shawnee Lodge at [help@shawneelodge.org](mailto:help@shawneelodge.org)

**Save the Dates:**

**New Horizons Order of the Arrow 2025-2026 Calendar:**

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

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1qw46J7gRoVdM\\_dikbkNLrINJLkyv5SU4D\\_x\\_9aFkLII/edit?tab=t.0](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1qw46J7gRoVdM_dikbkNLrINJLkyv5SU4D_x_9aFkLII/edit?tab=t.0)

**Journey to Brotherhood Virtual Q&A**

Get any last-minute questions/studying to be ready for Brotherhood at the Spring Conclave.

Reach out to Chapter Chief Isaiah Meese at [isaiah.meese@shawneelodge.org](mailto:isaiah.meese@shawneelodge.org) and copy Chapter Advisor

Greg Caldwell at [gregory.caldwell@shawneelodge.org](mailto:gregory.caldwell@shawneelodge.org)

**Shawnee Lodge Spring Conclave:**

April 10 – 12, 2026 – Beaumont Scout Reservation, more information is available at

<https://shawneelodge.org/> with sign-up on HUB51

**Joint OA Chapter Bonfire Social:**

April 18, 2026 – Beaumont Scout Reservation, time TBD (watch your email)

Come join us for a night of fun and fellowship with the Chapter to further celebrate the Spring Conclave.

**Shawnee Lodge One Day of Service:**

May 2, 2026 – more information to follow

**New Horizons Chapter Meeting:**

May 13, 2026 – more information to follow

**OA & Ceremonial Social/Informational:**

May 23, 2026 – more information to follow

**Summer Camp Kickoff Service Project:**

June 6, 2026 – more information to follow

**Arrowmen Opportunities:**

The Chapter is also looking for ceremonialists. This is a great way to become more comfortable with public speaking and an excellent way to better understand the traditions of the Order of the Arrow. Interested scouts can reach out to Greg Caldwell at [gregory.caldwell@shawneelodge.org](mailto:gregory.caldwell@shawneelodge.org).

## **VENTURING & SEA SCOUTING:**

**2025-2026 New Horizons Venturing Officers:**

President	VP of Administration	VP of Program	VP of Communication	VSOA Advisor
JOSH	ANDI	NATHAN	(TBD)	DENNIS DELANEY
WYCKHOUSE	FADLOVICH	WYCKHOUSE		<a href="mailto:djdelaney55@gmail.com">djdelaney55@gmail.com</a>

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

**EVENTS:**

**SAVE THE DATES:**

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

**Follow us here:**

- <https://stlbsa.org/venturing-calendar/>
- **Facebook** at “New Horizons District Venturing”
- **Instagram** at “NH\_Venturing”

---

## **DISTRICT CONTACTS/CALENDAR:**

### **New Horizons District Executives:**

Your district professionals are here to help!

**Ben Brennecke**, Field Director is serving New Horizons District, and will be filling in while the New Horizons District Director role is vacant. He can be reached at [Ben.Brennecke@scouting.org](mailto:Ben.Brennecke@scouting.org) and 314.256.3092.

<b>District Director:</b>	Vacant - contact Ben Brennecke, <a href="mailto:Ben.Brennecke@scouting.org">Ben.Brennecke@scouting.org</a> For units in the boundaries of Rockwood, Kirkwood, and Valley Park school districts
<b>Senior District Executive:</b>	Nick Prainito, <a href="mailto:nicholas.prainito@scouting.org">nicholas.prainito@scouting.org</a> For packs in the boundaries of Parkway, Webster Groves, and Brentwood school districts

### **The New Horizons District Calendars are available here:**

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

Expand the blue box “NEW HORIZONS DISTRICT CALENDARS”