

THE NORTH STAR NUGGET

VOLUME 10, ISSUE 10
DECEMBER 2024

GSLAC – NORTH STAR ROUNDTABLE NEWS





MARK YOUR CALENDARS

December 2024/January 2025

Dec 7, 2024	STEM University - UMSL
Dec 15, 2024	Eagle Review Board
Dec 22, 2024	OA Winter Banquet – Moolah Shrine
Jan 4, 2024	STEM – U @ SEMO
Jan 17-18 '25	Venturing STL After Dark
Jan 19, 2025	Eagle Board Review
Jan 25, 2025	STEM – U @ SIUE

Looking Ahead Beyond January 2025

Feb 8 , 2025	Pathfinder Klondike
Feb 22, 2025	STEM – U @ SIUC
Mar 29, 2025	STEM – U @ Lake Land College

Duty to God Moment

2024-2025 Calendar of Religious Holy Days and Observances

Let's look again at the multi-faith calendar for December 2024 and January, February, and March of 2025. In it we see the diversity of occasions where scouts can fulfill their duty to God that is called for in the Scout Oath and Law. The calendar also reminds us of the connection that we have with other Scouts across the globe. I found an interesting article entitled "Scouts: A colonial-age movement formed by Christians, cherished by millions of Muslims worldwide". It provides an example of the kind of impact the Scouting movement can have. Please use the link below to read the article. It is a bit lengthy, but well worth your time.

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/1379526/saudi-arabia>

December 2024

1	Advent Season	Christian	Meaningful
8	Feast of the Immaculate Conception	Christian/Catholic	Special Worship
25	Christmas	Christian	Special Worship
25	Hanukkah Begins	Jewish	Special Worship
26-Jan. 1	Kwanzaa	Ethnic	Meaningful
January 2025			
1	Feast of Mary Mother of God	Christian/Catholic	Special Worship
6	Epiphany	Christian/Catholic	Meaningful
6	Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh Sahib	Sikh	Special Worship
7	Christmas - Eastern Orthodox	Eastern Orthodox/Christian	Special Worship
7	Bodhi Day	Buddhist	Special Worship
February			
26	Maha Shivaratri	Hindu	Work-restricted
28	Ramadan begins	Islam	Work-restricted (Friday Afternoon)
March			
5	Ash Wednesday	Christian/Catholic	Special Worship
13-14	Purim	Jewish	Special Worship
15	Shri Ramakrishna Jayanti	Hindu	Work-restricted
19-20	Naw-Rúz	Bahá'í	Work-restricted
20-21	Nowruz	Persian	Work-restricted
25	Feast of the Annunciation	Christian/Catholic	Meaningful
29-30	Eid al-Fitr	Islam	Work-restricted
30	Ramadan ends	Islam	Work-restricted (Sunday Afternoon)

See <https://www.xavier.edu/jesuitresource/online-resources/calendar-religious-holidays-and-observances/>

District Chairman News

To everyone in the North Star District,

As my tenure as District Chairman comes to a close at the end of the month, let me say how much I've re-learned about Scouting over the last 4 years. Seeing what goes on from a bird's eye view is amazing. The clockwork that occurs monthly and yearly is stunning and the ability for adults, young leaders and young Scouting leaders to work through a problem only to see it succeed is equally as stunning. Each of you should be proud of the work you did through COVID, not to mention the work that is being done now.

To Fred Schaljo, thank you for being a patient mentor and friend during this time as my co-chair. To Dave Kedge for showing me what it means to be fired up for Scouting and that the future is bright. To Kauai for also being patient, kind and willing to deal with a guy who is somewhat of a rebel when it comes to the upper circles of Scouting in St. Louis. You do your job well. To the committee who changed a little over 4 years - you all are dedicated and willing to go the extra mile to be sure that each month and every year the district does what it needs to do to be successful. My hat is off to all of you.

And to the next District Chairman, I hope I left the district like a campsite - a little better than when I arrived. You will have a great group of people who only need you to sit back and relax, and let them do the job that they are so good at doing. Basically, don't get in their way, just be at the finish line to applaud.

God's blessings on all of you, and on the future of Scouting.

Kevin McClain, DC

PS: Rick Dorsey, thank you for talking to my parents before talking to me...I really enjoyed my time.

The Camping Corner



The Camping Corner

100%

North star is the only district in the council to have 100% of its troops signed up for summer camp. Way to go North Star. Almost all of our troops, except one will be going to Rhodes Francis, check with North Star scouts to see who will be there when your troop will be there.

Pathfinder District has invited us to come to their Klondike Saturday February 8. This is a one day only event. More information will be forth coming in January.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

HAPPY NEW YEARS

FRED SCHALJO NS CAMPING CHAIRMAN

North Star Annual Giving Campaign

Planning for the 2025 Campaign

The Friends of Scouting campaign is being renamed the Annual Giving Campaign with a revised purpose and revised incentives. Our 2025 North Star giving goal is \$65,000.

New unit incentives to earn free rank advancement are:

Packs: 25% of youth attend a summer camp experience

Troops and Crews: 75% of youth create an online account

Kaua'i and I are holding a kick-off for the campaign with prior trailblazers and unit commissioners at Ferguson Brewing on December 12 at 6 pm. Here we will discuss the 2025 plan for the new campaign. If you are a prior trailblazer or a unit commissioner and you did not receive an email invitation, please contact either me (jmf41862@yahoo.com, 314-435-9007) or Kaua'i (kauai.johnson@scouting.org).

Thank you North Star.

Jerome Flynn, North Star Annual Giving Campaign Chairperson

Eagle Board Information

Here are the dates for the upcoming Eagle Boards of Review:

- Sunday, December 15th
- Sunday, January 19th
- Sunday, February 16th
- Sunday, March 16th
- Sunday, April 27th - The only month that is not the 3rd Sunday is in April, as the third Sunday is Easter.

Location: All Eagle Boards of Review are all held at the Florissant Valley Library Branch

Address: 195 S. New Florissant Rd. Florissant, MO 63031

Time: All Boards of Review start at 1:00pm

All Eagle Scout candidates must reach out to Debbie at least 7 days in advance of the Board Meeting date.

Any questions or to schedule a Board please call Debbie Huber at 314-960-4842.

Debbie Huber

Eagle Scout Review Board Coordinator

North Star Venturing Officers Association (VOA) News

North Star VOA officers:

President – Amelia Bazzell (Crew 2749)

VP Administration – Aiden Ham (Crew 2921)

VP Program – Charlie Saunders (Crew 2749)

VP Communication – Gabe Blamey (Crew 2921)

The Venturing year is well underway. The District officers are planning District level activities for Venturing and all units within North Star. The Greater St. Louis Area Council committees and North Star Officers are also planning the following Council activities and events:

stlbsa.org/venturing-calendar

VSOA Training

- 25-26 October
- Sverdrup Lodge
- Begin planning 2024-2025 events

STL After Dark

- 17-18 January
- Theme is "Night at the Museum"
- Food Bank, Boeing and More
- Open to anyone 14 and older
- Registration is open

Taste of Venturing

- 28-30 March

Venturing Celebration Dinner

- 18 May

Swift's Big Kickoff

- 30 May - 1 June

Swift Venture Week

- 15-21 June

Swift Sea Scout Week

- 29 June - 6 July

Fall Fun Rally

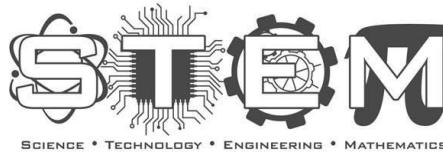
- 19-21 September

District Venturing events/activities will be announced at the next roundtable in January.

Alan Kreppert

North Star VSOA Advisor

alan.kreppert@sbcglobal.net



Upcoming Events: <https://stlbsa.org/stem/upcoming-stem-events/>

7 December – STEM-U UMSL – Registration is CLOSED

4 January 2025 – STEM-U SEMO

25 January 2025 – STEM-U SIUE – I plan on having a Venturing Nova available

22 February 2025 – STEM-U SIUC

29 March 2025 – STEM-U Lake Land College

From Council:

- November starts the new STEM program year
- North Star was one of several districts awarded Gold for the District STEM Challenge
- Alan is now the Council Venturing STEM Chair
- **Nova and Supernova awards are not just for Cub Scouts. All STEM awards are available for all levels of scouting including Scout BSA and Venturing**

STEM STAR Patches:

- Available for all levels of scouting
- By earning a Nova Award AND Cub Adventures/Merit Badges/STEM Explorations scouts can earn an scout level appropriate STAR Patch
- I am not aware of any way to track these in scoutbook. Please let me know if you award any of your kids these so we can take credit on the District STEM Challenge.



<https://stlbsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/STEM-STAR-Patch-2022.pdf>

If you need any assistance implementing STEM into your program, please let me know.

Alan Kreppert – North Star District STEM Chair
314-616-4592 / alan.kreppert@sbcglobal.net