



Jayhawk eBugler

DECEMBER
2025 ISSUE

SCOUTING NEWS FOR THE MONTH PRESENTED BY THE JAYHAWK AREA COUNCIL, BSA www.jayhawkcouncil.org



COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING

The Jayhawk Area Council will hold its Annual Business Meeting on February 7, 2026 at Bishop Professional Development Center in conjunction with the Annual Recognition Dinner. Key topics include passing of required annual resolutions and election of the new slate of officers, board members, members at large and advisory board members for the 2026-27 term.

Voting members include Chartering Organization Representatives of Jayhawk Area Council units, current Jayhawk Area Council Members at Large and Executive Board members, and any national council board members residing in the Jayhawk Area Council. [Register Now!](#)

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Do you have an Eagle Scout that has not turned 19 years old yet? There is an opportunity for a scholarship that you should know about. Please take a look at this information [here](#).

There is also an opportunity for your Eagle Scout to become the American Legion Eagle Scout of the Year. This opportunity opens November 1 - March 1, annually. More Information [here](#).

Does your Eagle Scout have a NESAs (National Eagle Scout Association) Membership? If so the scholarship portal opens December 1, 2025 - January 31, 2026. More information [here](#).

GET YOUR BLUE & GOLD PLACEMATS TODAY

Its time to explore dinosaurs with Jayhawk Area Council Cub Scout Camp. In 2026, the theme is Dinotopia. This year we are going with the same theme to get our Scouts excited about camp for 2026. Blue & Gold Placemats are now available. We can get them printed for you by putting in a order with [Tara](#).

HOLIDAY HOURS

Offices and Scout Shop will be CLOSED from November 25 - 29 for Inventory and Thanksgiving celebrations. We will resume regular hours on Monday, December 1.

Additionally, the Offices and Scout Shop will be closed for the Christmas Holiday from December 24 - 27. Thank you for your understanding!

RECOGNIZE A HERO BEHIND THE SCENE

Recognize and nominate dedicated Scout leaders who impact scouting. Each year, exceptional volunteers are honored at the Council Recognition Dinner, including the prestigious Silver Beaver Award.

Don't miss the chance to acknowledge a deserving leader! Click the link for award details and submission instructions. Let's celebrate our leaders and enhance their Scouting journey! For more information please click [here](#).

Nominations are due December 15.

WOOD BADGE AND NYLT AUCTION DINNER

The Wood Badge and National Youth Leadership Training Auction Dinner will take place Saturday, March 7, 2026, 5:00 PM, Town & Country Church in Topeka. All alumni of both programs are encouraged to participate in this gathering.

The proceeds raised from this event will serve as a beacon of support, lighting the path for scholarships for future courses. We now graciously welcome donations for our silent auction.

If you wish to donate an auction item, please reach out to Joe Blasko via email or by calling 785-276-3346.



2025 EAGLE SCOUTS



Congratulations to all the Scouts that have recently earned the rank of Eagle. We are all very proud of you!! It is not to late to earn this prestigious rank!!

Troop	District	Scout
46	Bison	L. Franklin
46	Bison	S. Hammes
249	Bison	W. Carey
11	Bison	B. Hanson
11	Bison	R. Kramer
18	Bison	P. Vincent
18	Bison	A. Eisenbarth
157	Sojadi	S. Dengler
157	Sojadi	H. Smith
165	Sojadi	C. Thomas
138	Pony Express	S. Johl

COUNCIL RECOGNITION DINNER

Council Recognition Dinner is just around the corner on Saturday, February 7, 2026, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM. The dinner will be held at Bishop Professional Development Center located at 3601 SW 31st Street, Topeka, KS 66614. Dinner attendees are encouraged to park in the South Parking Lot and enter the building at the South Doors directly in front of them. We will have greeters available to welcome you and guide you towards the Registration area.

During our Recognition Dinner, we will celebrate our achievements throughout the past year as well as look forward to the future of Scouting. We invite you to come and recognize our Eagle Scout Class of 2025 as well as their class honoree. In addition to celebrating our two Silver Beaver Recipients, we will also be presenting some other awards and highlighting our accomplishments from 2025.

[Register Now!](#)

Calling All 2025 Eagle Scouts!

We're creating a special slideshow for the Council Dinner and need your help. Please send a photo of your Eagle Scout in uniform and a few of your Eagle project. Let's celebrate your achievement together! Email photos to [Tara](#) by December 31, 2025. Thank you for representing Scouting excellence!

GET READY FOR PINEWOOD DERBY SEASON

Getting ready for Pinewood Derby season goes a lot smoother when you plan ahead. The Jayhawk Scout Shop is offering simple pre-ordering for all your derby essentials. Reserve car kits, weights, decals, tools, and tuning accessories before the rush hits, which saves time and avoids the usual last-minute scramble.

Pre-ordering lets pack leaders secure bulk quantities so every Scout has what they need on race day. Orders are prepared for quick pickup, giving you more time to focus on building, testing, and having fun. If you want a stress-free start to derby season, [pre-order option](#) is the smartest way to get ahead.

SUCCESSFUL RENEWAL INFORMATION

Keys to a successful Renewal is:

- Start early - Be prepared!
- Maintain accurate records.
- Review the roster - Ensure all roles are filled!
- Check SYT Aging Report.
- Create a plan to collect fees.
- Establish a point of contact.

Avoid the common mistakes....

1. Missing Signature on Criminal Background Check Authorization Form. (Last Page Adult Application)
2. Missing/Expired Safeguarding Youth Training (SYT). Required for all over 18
3. Missing Key 3 Approval.
4. Missing Adult Applications or incorrect fees collected. ([See Fee Structure here.](#))

Remember..

Youth that has turned 18, will need SYT and Adult Application with Background Check Authorization.

SAFETY MOMENT

Staying warm during cold-weather camping is crucial, and the “C-O-L-D” method helps:

- C = Clean: Keep insulating layers clean to maintain warmth.
- O = Overheating: Avoid overheating by adjusting layers and staying hydrated; limit energy drinks.
- L = Loose layers: Wear multiple loose layers to ensure proper circulation and insulation; opt for bright colors for visibility.
- D = Dry: Keep clothes dry to prevent rapid cooling; brush off snow and keep neck areas loose for heat escape.

Proper nutrition is also vital:

- Consume sugars (fire starters), carbohydrates, proteins (kindling), and fats (energy).
- Stay hydrated with water or sports drinks; avoid energy drinks.

CALLING ALL KLONDIKE MUSHERS!

I am very excited to invite you to the Klondike Derby, This year we will be utilizing the beautiful Pomona State Park. The Klondike Derby is an annual event held by some Scouting America councils and Scouts Canada councils during the winter months. This established on the heritage of the klondike gold rush.

The Klondike gold rush was a migration by an estimated 100,000 prospectors to the Klondike region of the Yukon in northwestern Canada, between 1896 and 1899. Local miners discovered gold there on August 16, 1896. When news reached Seattle and San Francisco the following year, it triggered a stampede of prospectors. Scouting America units have been running klondike derbies since 1949.

The Klondike Derby consists of several stations where patrols/units must test their scoutcraft skills and their leadership abilities, earning points towards a total score. Often, one or more races are included while the Scouts navigate between stations. The unit must transport their gear on a homemade sled pulled by the Scouts.

So get your sleds packed and your winter gear on. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Sincerely,
Paul Riley
Klondike Czar

SPREAD OUT YOUR MEMBERSHIP FEES WITH KLARNA!

The Jayhawk Area Council has joined an expanded pilot program with Scouting America that will allow you to pay your annual registration fees over multiple payments rather than all at once.

Now, you can choose to pay for your membership in Scouting America with a Credit Card or select Klarna and pay in 4 equal installments over six weeks at no extra charge. This is for new or renewal families.

Once you complete the application, go to the payment screen, review the fees and verify the Scout Life Magazine setting is correct. The Klarna option will be there for you to select and complete the steps to set up your payments. Once you click on “Pay with Klarna,” you will return to the Scouting America Receipt, which will show you have paid in full. You are all paid up with Scouting but will still owe Klarna for the remaining 3 payments. Klarna will pull the funds from your account based on the payment schedule you set.

So far, from the initial pilot councils, they have seen about 33% of all registrations being set up on a payment schedule. We look forward to offering this option to our families.



SHOW WHAT YOU GOT!

The Bison District is happy to invite all Packs, Troops, Crews and Posts in Jayhawk Area Council to come to our Scout Show at West Ridge Mall on Saturday February 21st for a fun full day of Scouting!

Have your unit share some Scouting knowledge, run a game or simply just promote the fun that you have. Help us engage with the general public and give your Scouts a fun indoor event this Winter! Registration will be opening soon so make sure to get in to claim your table for the event!

Cub Scouts get your cars ready! Cub Scouts bring your cars and join in our Council Wide Pinewood Derby Race! See if you can take home the Trophy. Do you got a car that is maybe a little bit...Crazy? Join our Outlaw division which is open to all participants Adults and Scouts alike.

2026 SAVE THE DATES

As we anticipate the exciting possibilities that next year will bring, numerous activities and opportunities await in the world of scouting. There will be training options available for both leaders and Scouts, along with enjoyable events designed for Scouts of all ages! Keep an eye out for all the upcoming events scheduled for 2026.

Order of the Arrow Winter Banquet
January 10

Council Klondike
January 23 - 25

Washburn Merit Badge Day
February 7

Council Annual Recognition Dinner
February 7

Pinewood Derby Scout Show
February 21

Wood Badge/NYLT Dinner
March 7



DZIE-HAUK TONGA LODGE

ORDER OF THE ARROW

» LEARN MORE

The Order of the Arrow (OA) is Scouting America's national honor society, recognizing Scouts who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives. Founded in 1915, the OA promotes camping, responsible outdoor adventure, and cheerful service to others. Members, known as Arrowmen, are chosen by their peers for their dedication, leadership, and commitment to helping others. Mark your calendar for these upcoming events:

OA LEC Lodge Executive Committee
December 7 at 2pm. Online or in person

OA LLD Lodge Leadership Development and LEC
January 10 starting at 10am

For more information or any questions: Dzie-Hauk Tonga Lodge Adviser; [Paul Rossillon](#) 785-760-2682



Please keep in mind to pay your annual dues of ****\$20**** or purchase the ****2026 Arrow Pass**** for ****\$100****, which includes access to the Winter Banquet, as well as the Spring and Fall Fellowships. Additionally, the OA will host a silent auction during the banquet and welcomes any donations.

COUNCIL NOMINATING COMMITTEE 26' - 27'

The Nominating Committee will present candidates for officers and board members at the council's annual meeting on February 7, 2026. The Executive Board, which governs the Jayhawk Area Council and serves youth, consists of elected members from diverse backgrounds for one-year terms. Recommendations for board candidates should be sent to [Wayne Pancoast](#) by January 15, 2026, including the nominee's background and your contact information. Do not inform the nominee in advance, as there are limits on board membership and multiple factors are considered in candidate selection. Late nominations will be reviewed at a later meeting.



Scout Shop Corner

For up to date information on
Scout Shop Follow us:



The Jayhawk Area Council Scout Shop located at 1020 SE Monroe in downtown Topeka invites you to stop in and make a purchase or two for your Scout. Lots of new items coming in weekly!! We carry uniforms, t-shirts, accessories, camping equipment, and much more for the new Scout all the way to the Eagle Scout.

Open M-F 9 - 5:30 Saturdays 9 - 1. You can also call in an order to have shipped to you. Call (785) 354-0291.



Upcoming Dates - for latest information - www.jayhawkcouncil.org

DECEMBER 1

FINAL POPCORN PAYMENT DUE

DECEMBER 5-6

BISON PLANNING CONFERENCE

DECEMBER 13

CAMP STAFF INTERVIEW

DECEMBER 24-26

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY OFFICES CLOSED

DECEMBER 27

SCOUT SHOP CLOSED

JANUARY 1

HAPPY NEW YEAR OFFICES CLOSED