

# 2026 LEADER'S GUIDE

# Nondike

BY INI-TO LODGE

TM

BY SCOUTS. FOR SCOUTS.





## Hello Scouter,

For my third year as adult adviser for the Klondike I am honored and privileged to again be the first to say to you, **“Welcome to Klondike!”** We are so glad to have you join us.

The Klondike is a very special event to myself and all of us at Ini-to lodge because it is the embodiment of Scouting’s principles of youth leadership. This event is almost entirely planned and executed **By Scouts, For Scouts**. Klondike is an opportunity for the youth members of our lodge to demonstrate and sharpen their leadership skills on a massive stage and helps build the foundation of core critical experiences needed to become successful leaders.

**THANK YOU** for being a part of this with us. It is our goal that you and your scouts simply HAVE FUN! Rest assured; we will make every effort to achieve that goal. I can’t wait to see you there!

**Yours in scouting,**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tanner B. Gibson".

Tanner Gibson | Klondike Adviser

## ABOUT THE ORDER OF THE ARROW

For over 100 years, the Order of the Arrow (OA) has recognized Scouts and Scouters who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives. This recognition provides encouragement for others to live these ideals as well.

Arrowmen are known for maintaining camping traditions and spirit, promoting year-round and long-term resident camping, developing leaders, and providing cheerful service to others.

OA service, activities, adventures, and training for youth and adults are models of quality leadership development and programming that enrich, support, and help to extend Scouting to America's youth.

**Mission of the OA:**

The mission of the Order of the Arrow is to fulfill its purpose as an integral part of Scouting America through positive youth leadership under the guidance of selected capable adults.

**Purpose of the Order:**

As Scouting's National Honor Society, our purpose is to:

- Recognize those who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives and through that recognition cause others to conduct themselves in a way that warrants similar recognition.
- Promote camping, responsible outdoor adventure, and environmental stewardship as essential components of every Scout's experience, in the unit, year-round and summer camp.
- Develop leaders with the willingness, character, spirit and ability to advance the activities of their units, our Brotherhood, Scouting, and ultimately our nation.
- Crystallize the Scout habit of helpfulness into a life purpose of leadership in cheerful service to others.

**INI-TO LODGE #324, YOUR SPONSOR**

Ini-To Lodge #324 of the Flint River Council and the Order of the Arrow sponsors this event in order to promote camping and teach camping skills. Having fun is highly important, and having fun on a cold weather campout depends a lot on learning to be safe and warm in cold weather.

There will be opportunities to meet your lodge officers, get to know them and get to know more about what the OA lodge does. Lodge flaps and other items will also be available for purchase, and it's a great time to pay your **\$15 annual dues** if you haven't done so already.

**CURRENT AND PERSPECTIVE LODGE MEMBERSHIP****SATURDAY EVENING CALL OUT CEREMONY**

There will be a Call Out ceremony at the Saturday evening awards ceremony. Please have your unit election forms ready to turn in on Friday evening check-in. If needed, we can arrange a unit election for your troop. Please see the Lodge Chief or Lodge Secretary at the SPL meeting or during check-in for additional details.

**BROTHERHOOD MEMBERSHIP**

After 6 months of service as an Ordeal member and after fulfilling certain requirements, a member may take part in the Brotherhood ceremony, which places further emphasis on the ideals of Scouting and the Order. Completion of this ceremony signifies full membership in the Order. Meet with our Lodge Secretary at the Dining Hall to learn more about Brotherhood membership.



## KLONDIKE OVERVIEW

- WHO:** All Scout Troops and Venture Crews from the Flint River Council and beyond are invited. Webelos and AOLs are invited with a sponsoring troop or guardian and follow guidelines.
- WHAT:** The annual Klondike. Show off your winter skills, play games, and compete in the Sled Race!
- WHEN:** January 23-25, 2026
- WHERE:** Lawhorn Scout Base at the Flint River Adventure Area. Initial Check-in begins at 9:00 p.m. on Friday night at Flint River Dining Hall conference room with an additional Check-in at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday morning. **Please do not camp in the roped off area on the corner of Joanne Lake.**
- WHY:** Just for FUN! The joy of winter camping and having a great time at camp!
- HOW:** Registration opens **November 21st** at: [www.flintrivercouncil.org](http://www.flintrivercouncil.org)
- COST:** **\$10.00 per person** through January 11, 2026. Event fee includes Klondike patch, program, awards and operating costs. *(Patches distributed to Unit Leader at check-in.)* **\$12.00 per person event fee for registrations after January 12, 2026.**

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

Klondike Chief (youth):	Mckayla Albright	Contact Klondike Adviser
Klondike Adviser:	Tanner Gibson	706-975-6390 ( <a href="mailto:tannergib99@gmail.com">tannergib99@gmail.com</a> )
Lodge Chief (youth):	Mackenzie Sookhoo	470-686-1991 ( <a href="mailto:mackenziesookhoo@gmail.com">mackenziesookhoo@gmail.com</a> )
Lodge Adviser:	Jim Williams	770-328-5562 ( <a href="mailto:theraildog@gmail.com">theraildog@gmail.com</a> )
Lodge Assoc. Adviser:	Tricia Sookhoo	404-886-9624 ( <a href="mailto:tricia.bethelsookhoo@gmail.com">tricia.bethelsookhoo@gmail.com</a> )
Council Scout Executive:	Terry Whitaker	770-227-4556 ( <a href="mailto:terry.whitaker@scouting.org">terry.whitaker@scouting.org</a> )



## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

*(tentative)*

### Friday, January 23, 2026

4:00-8:30 p.m.	Arrival – Units Camping as directed by FRC beforehand
8:00 p.m.	OA Staff Meeting @ Flint River Dining Hall
9:00 p.m.	SPL Meeting and SM Check-In @ Flint River Dining Hall
11:00 p.m.	Lights Out

### Saturday, January 24, 2026

7:30 AM	Gates Open; Staff report to Flint River Dining Hall and prepare for events
8:00 – 9:00 AM	Additional Check-In (One Adult Leader) (Dining Hall conference room)
<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>Opening Ceremony</b> – CLASS B activity uniform. Troop formations on foot of Flint River Dining Hall Field - Flag raising, announcements, etc.
9:15 a.m.	Klondike Events begin (Each patrol/unit issued a schedule rotation- See schedule for events)
9:00-12:00 noon	Archery & Shooting (pick your Unit's best shooter for accuracy)
9:00-4:00 p.m.	Camp Wide Game (must be turned in by 4:00 pm; add'l info TBA)
12:00 noon	Lunch Break (Bring tickets to Dining Hall to receive prepaid meals)
1:00-3:00 p.m.	Klondike Sled Race (some missed Klondike Events also will be available)
3:00-5:00 p.m.	Free time
<b>4:45 p.m.</b>	<b>Flag Lowering Ceremony – Class A uniform (Dining Hall field)</b>
5:00 p.m.	Dinner at Campsites
6:30 p.m.	<b>Ini-Social! Campfire, Awards, OA Call-Out</b> (Grand Pavilion) (add'l info TBA)
8:30 p.m.	Brotherhood Ceremony (additional details and instructions TBA)
11:00 p.m.	Lights Out

### Sunday, January 25, 2026

9:00 a.m.	Sunday Vespers Service (Grand Pavilion Flagpole)
	<b>Check out:</b> OA representative will be available out after Sunday Service on the Flint River Dining Hall porch for any questions.



## KLONDIKE PROGRAM GUIDE

This Leader's Guide will be joined with an accompanying Program Guide that will be released closer to the Klondike. The Program Guide will contain the finer points of information regarding our camp wide game, Klondike Competitions, Ini-So(cial) plans, and more. Be on the lookout for its publication.





## EVENT GUIDELINES & IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### **REGISTRATION:**

Generally, registration will be by troop, however, individual registrations will be accepted. *Patches will be distributed at Check-In.*

**Troops should pre-register** at the Flint River Council website: <http://www.flintrivercouncil.org>

### **\*\*LUNCH IS BACK ON THE TABLE FOR 2026\*\***

**The popular Saturday lunches are returning at \$8 per ticket! Choose from 1 hamburger or 2 hot dogs. All meals come with a bag of chips and a drink. Tickets for each meal will be distributed during Check-In or at the point of purchase.**

### **CHECK-IN:**

Initial Check-in begins at 9:00 p.m. on Friday night at Flint River Dining Hall conference room with an additional Check-in at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday morning.

### **CAMPING:**

**Campsites are first come, first served.** All-girl troops will camp on both sides of the Climbing Tower Pavilion, and will have use of the Climbing Tower Pavilion.

There is ample camping space available, however, expect your neighbors to be close! You can camp anywhere on FRAA reservation property **except the designated event areas near the dining hall, grass parking areas, and roped off areas of Joanne Field.** We will also have a limited number of platform tents available for an additional \$5.00 per person. Please contact the Camping Department beginning on December 1st reserve your platform tent at [charles.goldman@scouting.org](mailto:charles.goldman@scouting.org).

### **CAMPSITE ACCESS AND PARKING:**

Troops are limited to one trailer or pickup truck in the campsite. You may drop off gear, but please remove extra vehicles **immediately**. Passenger vehicles will not be allowed, temporary access to the campsites will be for gear drop off only, and you will be allowed only one vehicle at a time into the camp area. A scout is courteous, let others have the space. **Park:** Vehicles will park in the parking lot across from the front of the River Experience Center. The entrance is directly across from the River Experience Center driveway. DO NOT enter the field any other way... *(once someone drove over the water line and we had NO WATER all weekend).*

***ABSOLUTELY NO CAMPING in the parking lots OR in the roped off area of Joanne Field.***

**WEATHER:**

This is a rain or shine event. BE PREPARED! It can also be cold, so please prepare your scouts.

**FIRES/FIREWOOD:**

Ground fires are permitted only in the permanent fire pits. All other fires must be in a fire barrel or fire pit that you bring. Also, bring your own firewood and charcoal. Winter camping is also a great time to pull out the Coleman and Dutch ovens.

**WATER:**

Freeze proof water spigots are at the metal building behind the River Experience Center. Ask the staff to show you. Expect to carry water containers 200 yards. A wagon or cart comes in handy. Water is also available at the bathhouses for water needs.

**HEALTH AND SAFETY:**

Troops will generally be responsible for the health and safety of their own scouts. Please have a full first aid kit, with triangle bandages and splinting material for each patrol. Staff will assure that events are planned and run in a safe manner. This is a youth run event. All staff members will be wearing their OA sash or OA T-shirt. They all have assigned jobs. Please comply with all requests. Watch the weather forecast, have your Scouts be prepared... and things will be FUN!

**TRADING POST:**

We will be offering a trading post with Klondike t-shirts and beanies, patches, snacks and other items to buy. Look for more details upon arrival.

**AWARDS:**

There will be a first-place prize for each activity and first-place prize overall.



**RULES AND REGULATIONS:**

- The SCOUT OATH and SCOUT LAW will guide all activities and individual behavior. Observe the OUTDOOR CODE at all times.
- Minimize Site Impact
- Clean up after yourself, especially at the port-o-potties.
- Observe the “Guide to Safe Scouting”
- Scouts are not allowed in the Parking Area unless accompanied by 2 adults. Violators will be asked to leave the Klondike.
- Scouts are not allowed on the playground unless accompanied by 2 adults.
- The Scout Uniform is appropriate attire for all activities. Class A uniform should be worn for the SPL/SM Meeting, Flag Lowering Ceremony, Campfire Program, and Worship Service. Class B uniform may be worn at all other activities.
- At least one adult leader per 10 scouts camping (minimum of 2 adults per troop).
- Senior Patrol Leaders and your Troop OA Representative will be responsible for communications between the OA staff and your troop. The SPL and his/her assistants are responsible for getting patrols to activities on schedule.
- At least one adult leader per 10 scouts camping (minimum of 2 adults per troop).
- ***Units are required to remove their trash.*** Leave your site better than you found it!
- The OA Lodge may ask your troop to perform some service function, such as flag ceremonies, etc. We encourage troop OA members to step forward and assist the troop OA rep with these assignments.
- This is a Scouts BSA event with few provisions made for Cub Scouts. Webelos & AOLs are encouraged to attend as troop guests as part of their troop visitation/campout requirement. Please follow all Cub Scout guidelines – Troops are to plan Cub event/activities, separate from the primary Klondike events.
- No boom boxes or radios. Respect quiet time.

**NEED TO BRING:**

- A good attitude.
- Bring everything you need to start and build a real fire.
- Proper clothing, bedding and tenting for the weather, and the 10 Scout essentials.
- Sled for the sled race.

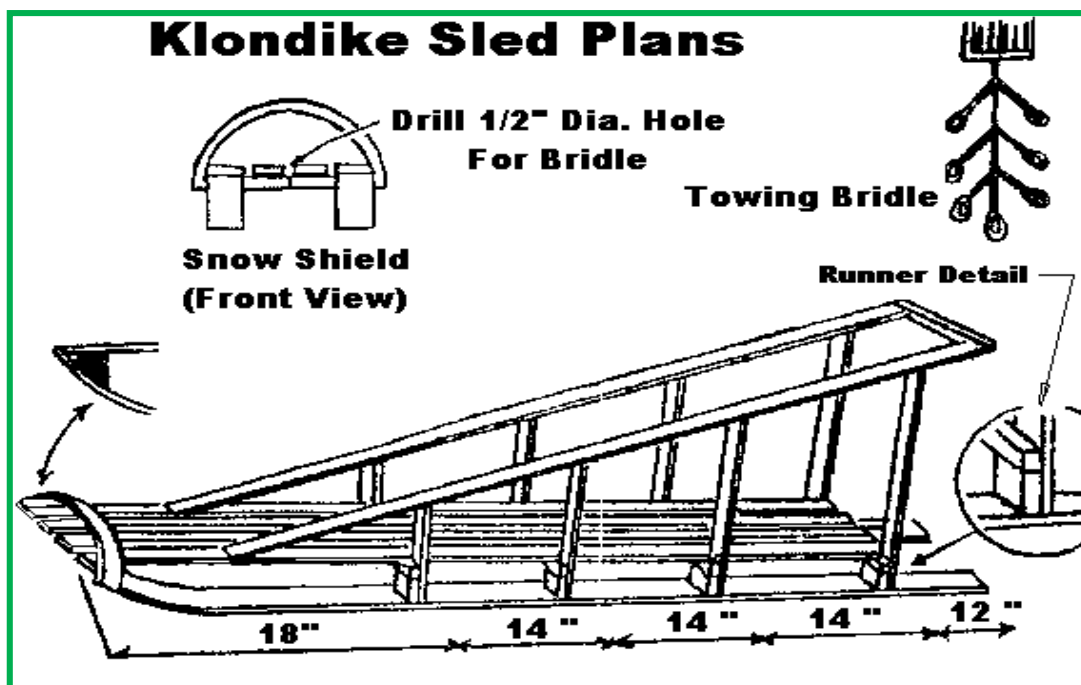


## ANNUAL KLONDIKE SLED RACE

Heat race line up by 1:00 p.m. to start three sleds at a time. Should take 10 minutes for three sleds new heat every ten minute for multiple sleds in each heat.

This is a timed race, starting at 1p.m. with a new heat every ten minute for multiple sleds in each heat. ANY SLED DESIGN WILL BE ACCEPTABLE, as long as one scout is on board and no more than five are pulling. No wheels or propulsion systems other than Scouts will be allowed.

BE PREPARED! Some troops have extra sleds, so do not be afraid to borrow one. The event will be on dirt, snow, ice, mud or grass depending on weather conditions. Any asphalt touched will be by mistake of the musher.



*The above is for demonstrative purposes- your results may vary.*