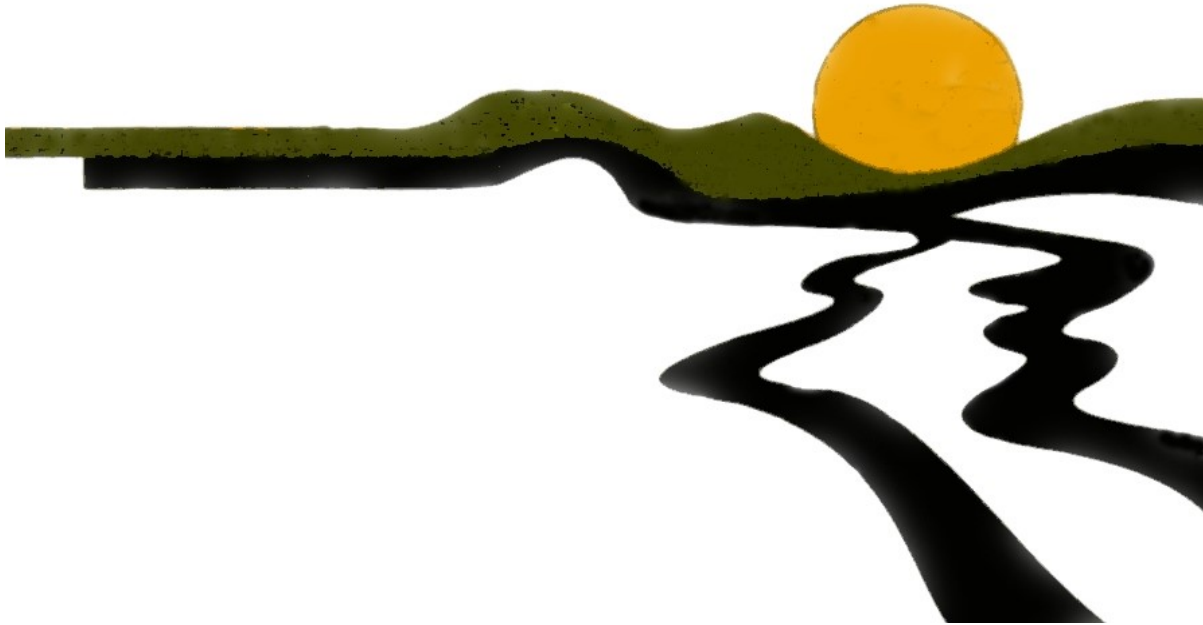


**ARKANSAS RIVER COALITION NEWSLETTER**  
**VOLUME 28, ISSUE II November-December, 2024**



## **President's Message**

### **Environmentalists Wanted**

The ARC Board of Directors wishes to expand the BOD with individuals who are interested in monitoring and improving the Arkansas River and its watershed. The mission of the Arkansas River Coalition is to protect, restore and improve the entire watershed and enhance the well-being of all life it sustains. Expanding the BOD with environmentalists should allow more progress in the mission. Please contact any board member if you are interested

### **Coalition Website To Be Upgraded**

The Coalition's website will be updated and refreshed in the coming weeks. Coalition board member Tom Kneil developed and maintained the existing website for decades. Two years ago John Marr joined Tom in running the website. However in recent months they have each experienced problems with our current website provider. This has resulted in our inability to change, add activities, delete old links etc. to the current website. As a result, we will be changing the website provider. Jon and Tom will make every effort to have this be a seamless transition. In addition they will establish an email address: [info@arkrivercoalition.org](mailto:info@arkrivercoalition.org).

## **Coalition News Board Meeting**

Monday, January 13, 2025  
WATER Center  
Monday, March 10, 2025  
WATER Center

## **WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS**

## **CONTRIBUTIONS**

**\$100 and over level:**

**Under \$100 level:**

## **ARC Mini-Float Schedule**

To find the schedule for Mini-Floats go to our website at [www.arkrivercoalition.org](http://www.arkrivercoalition.org) or email at [info@arkrivercoalition.org](mailto:info@arkrivercoalition.org)

**Next Newsletter Deadline**  
**January 20, 2025**

## **ARKANSAS RIVER COALITION, INC. NEWSLETTER**

Editor: Jane Icke  
Email: [2fe2o3y@gmail.com](mailto:2fe2o3y@gmail.com)  
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Board Members: Kay Drennen, Brian Bohnsack, Curt Demuth, Hoyt Hillman, Russ Icke, Tom Kneil, Jon Marr, Royce Taylor

Address: PO Box 3056, Wichita, KS 67201  
Website: [www.arkrivercoalition.org](http://www.arkrivercoalition.org)  
Facebook: Arkansas River Coalition

## **Website**

Our website is:

<http://www.arkrivercoalition.org>

Our email is:

[info@arkrivercoalition.org](mailto:info@arkrivercoalition.org)

# Bridge of Honor Ceremony;

By Jonathan Marr



On November 6, 2024, our Sea Scout ship the SSS Convergence had its first bridge of honor ceremony. This bridge of honor ceremony was held as the ship was promoting three of its members. These are the first three Sea Scouts promoted within our ship: Christian Z., Alex T. and Elizabeth T. All received their rank advancement patches during the ceremony. Ark River Coalition Vice President Brian Bohnsack and Board Member Tom Kneil were in attendance. The Skipper and Board Member Jonathan Marr read the following speech.

Good evening, Sea Scouts, family, and friends.

It's an honor to be here tonight, as Skipper of the Sea Scout Ship Convergence, celebrating your achievements and rank advancements. The Sea Scouts program has a long and storied history, dating back over a century. Since 1912, Sea Scouts have braved the waters and mastered the skills of the sea—sailing, navigation, and stewardship. What started as a way to train young mariners during uncertain times has grown into a movement that brings together young men and women with a passion for the water and adventure.

Here we are today, carrying on that proud tradition. Our own ship, the Convergence, was born out of a unique set of challenges—the global pandemic and a historic drought. We've faced down storms that tested our resolve, both on the water and within ourselves. But instead of stopping us, those trials have strengthened our bonds and taught us resilience, just as Sea Scouts before us learned from the seas.

And now, we add a modern twist to the tradition. Take kayaking, for example—a pursuit that demands focus, balance, and agility. Kayaking might not have been part of Sea Scouting back in 1912, but today it reflects our adaptability and dedication to exploring every current and wave. In those moments on the water, feeling the rhythm of each paddle stroke, we honor the same principles our founders held dear: commitment, courage, and respect for the natural world around us.

To all advancing tonight, remember that each rank is not just a milestone, but a call to uphold the values that make us Sea Scouts. Let's keep pushing forward together, ready to navigate new waters and to find the hidden strengths that lie within each of us. Here's to you, the future of Sea Scouts—and to the next adventure on the horizon

**Congratulations!**

**Arkansas River Coalition**  
**Box 3056**  
**Wichita, KS 67201**

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- Upcoming events..... p.4**

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**www.arkrivercoalition.org**

**Facebook-Ark River Coalition Group**

**YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE ARKANSAS RIVER COALITION**

I believe in the Mission Statement: The Arkansas River Coalition’s mission is to protect, restore and improve the entire watershed and enhance the well-being of all life it sustains. A Family consists of any number of people who live in one household. A Partner can be an organization, business, individual or informal group who wants to give extra support to our mission. Please give us the name that you want listed for these categories...

Your name/joint names/Partner name: \_\_\_\_\_

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**If your employer has a matching contribution program we will get you the details needed to apply.  
Extra donations to help with our work are always welcome.**

Donations are deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. The Arkansas River Coalition, Inc. is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization. Thank you for all you do for the Arkansas River and its tributaries.

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership levels:

Senior/Student/Other@\$15 \_\_\_ Individual@\$20 \_\_\_ Joint@\$30 \_\_\_ Family@\$40 \_\_\_ Partner@\$50 \_\_\_

Extra Contribution \_\_\_\_\_ I want to volunteer with \_\_\_\_\_

This membership is a gift for \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Make check out to the Arkansas River Coalition, Inc., P.O. Box 3056, Wichita, KS 67201

I wish to receive newsletters by \_\_\_\_\_ mail or by \_\_\_\_\_ Email when available.

**Upcoming Events:**

Board Meeting Monday, January 13, 2025 WATER Center

Board Meeting Monday, March 10, 2025 WATER Center

Spring river clean up Saturday, May 3 , 9:00 A.M. until noon