

The FORUM

Venturing, Sea Scouting and Exploring Newsletter since 2003
January 2017 Issue

Central

**December Central Point Newsletter
0217-43th Winter Amidships (WAM)**

**National
and Other**

**0117 Florida Sea Base
Go Nomad 2017 Asia/Pacific Regional Jamboree
Nomination Information for Sea Scout Leadership Awards**

Northeast

**Students Participating in Alcoa Howmet STEM Program
Large Crew Series—Large Crews Basic
A Venturer Reports –Boys State
Telegraph #4 2016 Newsletter**

Southern

Swampbase

Western

2016 Greater Los Angeles Council University of Scouting



**I
n
t
h
i
s

I
s
s
u
e**

The Current FORUM Newsletter:

http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletters/current_forum.php

The FORUM Back Issues

http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/venturing_archive.htm

The FORUM Attachments Central Region

<http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletters/regions/CR-0117.zip>

December Central Point Newsletter

The FORUM Attachments National

<http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletters/regions/NAT-0117.zip>

Exploring Info:

Law Enforcement Exploring Pistol Championships

International

31st Asia Pacific Regional Jamboree 0717

Sea Scouting Info:

Sea Scout Log Fall 2016 First Issue

Sea Scout -Advancement Requirements

Sea Scout - Eligibility for Venturing Awards and Information On other Awards

Sea Scout - Strategic Plan-SMART

Venturing Info:

Venturing - Awards and Recognitions

Venturing - Board of Review Guide

Venturing - Ethical Controversies

Venturing - Goal Setting Time Management for Venturing Crews

Venturing - Mentoring for Venturing Crews Facilitator Guide

Venturing - Standard Operating Procedures (Current_

Venturing - Terms Lets get it Right

The FORUM Attachments Northeast Region

<http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletters/regions/NER-0117.zip>

Telegraph #4 2016 Newsletter

Crew 27 Large Crew Series (Articles on Large Crew Operations)

The FORUM Attachments Southern Region

No Attachments

The FORUM Attachments Western Region

No Attachments

**F
O
R
U
M

D
O
W
N
L
O
A
D
S**



The December 2016 edition of the Central Point, the Central Region Venturing newsletter, written by the Central Region's Venturing Officers is now available on our website at <http://crventuring.org/Home/Newsletters/>. The December Central Point is included in FORUM attachments.

Articles this month include:

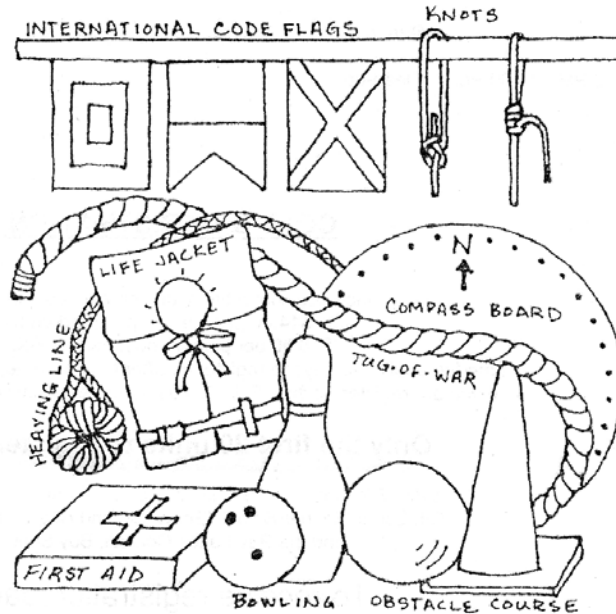
- ♦ Growing Venturing
- ♦ December's featured camp
 - ♦ Area 4 event
 - ♦ CR VP Advice
- ♦ Upcoming Activities
 - ♦ Advisor's Minute
 - ♦ President's Corner



43rd WINTER AMIDSHIPS (WAM)

Saturday, February 25th, 2017

- ✓ Register online
- ✓ Co-ed Event
- ✓ Dinner & Dance
- ✓ Indoor and Outdoor Events
- ✓ Team Building
- ✓ Ribbons, Trophies & Patches
- ✓ 43 Years of Experience



Dear Unit Leaders and Members,

Bay-Lakes Council of the Boy Scouts of America and alumni of Fond du Lac/Oshkosh Scout units are proud to invite you to Winter Amidships (WAM) co-ed Scout event to be held

Saturday, February 25th, 2017, at the National Guard Armory Fond du Lac, WI.

This 1-day event is open to units of Venture Crews, Sea Scouts, Career Explorers, Boy Scouts, Varsity Teams, Girl Scouts, and American Heritage Girls.

Events: Knots, Compass Board Relay, Life-Jacket Relay, First Aid, International Code Flags, Obstacle Course, & Scooter Race events all have 4 members each; Heaving Line & Bowling have 3 members each; Battleship Tournament-2 members. Tug-of-war teams have an 800 lb. weight limit.

The day also includes dinner, awards presentation, dance, and event patch. Pre-registration is required online on the Bay Lakes Council web site. We will accept up to 20 units OR 200 participants, whichever comes first. On-time registration AND payment is due Feb 10, 2017 (late fee applied after).

AGE REQUIREMENTS**: Venturers*, Varsity Team Members*, Sea Scouts, Girl Scouts/Mariners, Boy Scouts and American Heritage Girls must be at least 14 years of age **OR** 13 years **AND** have completed the 8th grade. Explorers must be at least 14 years of age **AND** have completed the 8th grade. All Venturers, Sea Scouts and Explorers may compete up to their 21st birthday. Girl Scouts/Mariners and American Heritage Girls may compete through their senior year of High School. Boy Scouts and Varsity Team Members may compete up to their 18th birthday. All units must be accompanied by 2 adult leaders (**one must be at least 21 years of age**). *Venturers and Varsity Team Members who are part of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints must be 14 **AND** have completed the 8th grade.

**[Effective May 1, 2010 by BSA's National Executive Board]

FOR A COMPLETE EVENT FLYER AND MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT US AT:

Winter Amidships
(WAM) Chairman:
Ann Gratton, Oshkosh WI
920-231-3015
wamgratton@gmail.com

Winter Amidships
(WAM) Staff Advisor:
Jon Martin
920-638-3432
Jon.Martin@scouting.org

Bay-Lakes Council, BSA
Appleton WI
800-372-6887
www.baylakesbsa.org

Nomination Information for the Sea Scout Leadership Award

As announced in the Fall 2016 Edition of the Sea Scout Log, a team of dedicated volunteers has been hard at work for over two years developing and advocating for the approval of the Sea Scout Leadership Award.

Beginning in 2017, we will now have the opportunity to recognize the efforts of the youth and adult leaders who make Sea Scouting happen everyday. If you have a deserving Sea Scout or adult volunteer in mind, you can now access the nomination form and associated information at seascout.org/leadership-award.

To be eligible for the SSLA, one must:

- Be registered and involved as a Sea Scout or Sea Scouter for at least one year,
- Hold a leadership position or an office at the unit, district, council, area, region, or national level.
- Show exceptional dedication and give outstanding leadership and service to Sea Scouting and to Sea Scouts (at the level appropriate for the award).

The nomination process largely resemble the process used for the Venturing Leadership Award.

Nomination deadlines are as follows:

- Council – Dates are set by the local council; turn forms in to the local council.
- Area – April 1 to the national service center, Office of the Sea Scout Director
- Region – March 1 to the national service center, Office of the Sea Scout Director
- National – March 1 to the national service center, Office of the Sea Scout Director

The current annual quotas are as follows:

- Council – 1 per council with up to 5 ships, 1 for each additional 5 ships or fraction thereof. (For example, if your Council has two ships, you can present one award annually. If you have six ships, you can present two awards annually, and so on.)
- Area – Up to 2
- Regional – Up to 2
- National – Up to 2

There will be a balance of awards; if more than one award is presented, at least 50% of the awards will be presented to youth. For example, if 2 awards are presented at least one must be awarded to a youth; and so on.

If you have any questions, you can submit a question to the [Commodore's Corner](#), or contact our [Program Support Group](#)



Go Nomad! (This is not a cheer for your local sports team)

Go Nomad is the theme for the 2017 Asia/Pacific Region (APR) Jamboree being hosted by the Mongolian Scout Association in late July, early August 2017. Nomads wander and roam the countryside and this is still the habit for about one half of the population of Mongolia.

Mongolia is about one quarter the size of the USA but we have 100 times the population so that going around in Mongolia it seems very large and empty. About one half of their three million population live in the capital city of Ulaan Baatar (there are many acceptable spellings of this name in English).



The Jamboree is going to be held just outside the city limits of the capital city in the national children's center, a facility built by the Soviets in the late 1970s. The theme of Jamboree will celebrate Mongolian culture which includes horse riding, camel riding, archery and other cultural activities and exchanges including a visit to the dinosaur museum. Did you know that more dinosaur remains have been found in Mongolia than anywhere else?

It is expected that about 10,000 Scouts from APR Scouting organizations and other countries will be in attendance.

The weather in Mongolia has two extremes, very hot and very cold. July and August is the hot part and temperatures are usually in the high 90s and dry.

Although the Jamboree is short in duration, the BSA contingent will be gone roughly three weeks. Here's the plan: We will travel in a group, probably leaving from Salt Lake City to Beijing, China. A three day stop in Beijing to visit the Forbidden City, the Great Wall and other sites then board the train for an exciting overnight ride to Ulaan Baatar. Arrive in Mongolia and move directly to the Jamboree site.

Since Mongolia is so spread out the post Jamboree stay is planned for five days. This will offer the opportunity for home stay, sight seeing in UB (even the Mongolians shorten it) and side trips to various points of interest around the country. There will be an opportunity to develop a menu of options for visiting coming in future updates.

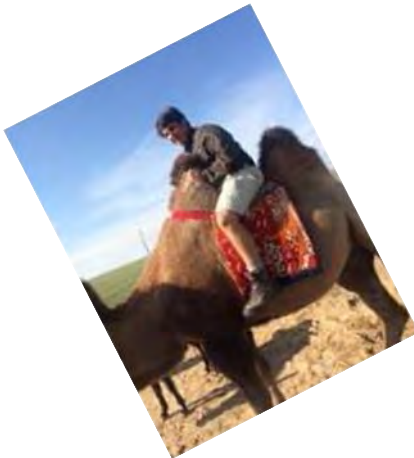
One must see is the giant (80 meter high) statue of Gengis Khan built on the site where he got his vision to spread conquer the world.

UB is a modern city in the midst of rapid growth. A special Scouting connection is that the lead architect for the design team on both the new international airport and the largest building in the country is a Scout and served as an International Camp Staff member in Camp Daniel Boone, NC in 2009.

After the Jamboree and visiting afterwards, we will fly directly from UB back through Beijing to Salt Lake City and then to your home towns. This travel will require both a valid US passport with at least six months remaining before the expiration date and a Chinese visa. Mongolia does not require a visa for short stays.

Head of contingent for this trip is Pete Armstrong, [28-654-9920](tel:28-654-9920), peteberet@aol.com. This event is a Daniel Boone Council event not a BSA national event.

Since this is the bottom line I will tell you what I believe will be the bottom line, \$3000 all inclusive. Unfortunately this is an estimate because it is still too early to make the travel plans.



January
Week 1: 8-14
Week 2: 15-21

2017 Florida Sea Base Volunteer Training Conferences

Join us in the beautiful Florida Keys to learn with experienced and informed Scouters with ample time to enjoy the climate and beauty of the Keys!

January 8th-14th

- ◆ The Council/District Training Committee
- ◆ Key Concepts of Commissioner Service in Scouting's Second Century
- ◆ The Mechanics of Training



January 16th-21st

All Program...All the Time

- ◆ Cub Scouting
- ◆ Boy Scouting
- ◆ Venturing
- ◆ Disabilities Awareness
- ◆ Advancement

(Sign up for *one* of the conferences listed.)

Don't miss the boat!

Registration for the 2017 training conferences is now open. Click here <http://BSA.kintera.org/2017FSBC> to register.

Registration fees: \$495 per conference participant

\$300 per non-conference attending spouse

All registrations must be received ***no later than December 31, 2016***. A welcome letter with additional conference information will be sent with your registration.

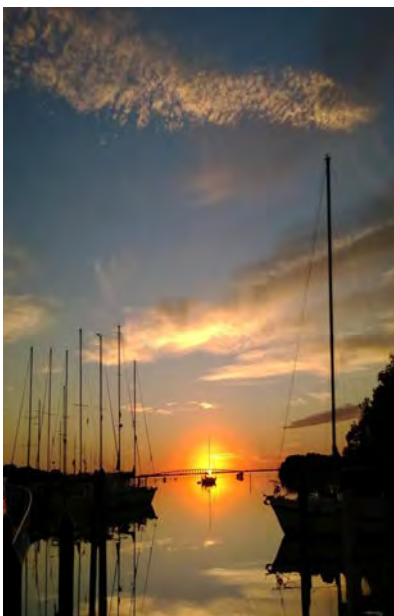
Please note that due to the conference and Sea Base schedule, early arrival and/or late departure might require you to find off-site housing.

Questions?

Conference-related: 817-430-5303
Facilities-related: 305-393-7374

Conference housing:

Although the Florida Sea Base has a vast program facility (the Atlantic and the Gulf of Mexico!), it has a limited land base. Therefore, housing for ALL participants will be in the SCUBA dorms. The dorms consist of separate male and female bunk-style beds with common bathroom/shower facilities. The dorms are quite comfortable, but they were built with the occasional summer or fall tropical storm in mind which means they are on the second story and do not have elevator access.



Available Spouse Opportunities

Sunset Cruise
Stand-Up Paddle Board
Kayaking
Dolphin Research Center
Snorkeling
Gallery Tours
Everglades
The Turtle Hospital

Conference fees include:

- ◆ Housing
- ◆ Meals
- ◆ Snacks
- ◆ Bedding and Towels
- ◆ Meeting Facilities and Course Materials
- ◆ Sunset Cruise (weather permitting)

The Council/District Training Committee

For members of the district training committee and council training committee and trainers, this conference features the latest tools, techniques, and best practices to help you increase the number of trained leaders while building a successful and sustainable training program. Additional topics include creative ways to reach the untrained leader; how to utilize unit trainers; and methods to recruit, train, and strengthen the district training team. Participants will also learn where to find, interpret, and act on council training data. The most current information on new and/or revised syllabi for volunteer training courses will be shared.

(Jan. 8-14)

Key Concepts of Commissioner Service in Scouting's Second Century

Unit service is all about impact. This conference will focus on the impact that commissioners have on units. Whether you directly serve a unit or serve as a roundtable or an administrative commissioner, this conference is for you. The conference will enable participants to strengthen the relationship between unit service and district operations while strengthening unit key 3 relationships. The conference will also provide ways for commissioners to extract data from Commissioner Tools and turn it into actionable information which will be the basis of the unit service plan. You will gain a better understanding of the methods commissioners use to help units better serve more youth through Scouting.

(Jan. 8-14)

The Mechanics of Training

Designed for unit-, district-, and council-level volunteers and professional Scouters, this conference will cover the mechanics of training including the latest training tools, techniques, and best practices. Participants will be instructed in how to use My.Scouting Tools, the Learning Management System (LMS), training reports, and basic training requirements for leaders. Also discussed are meeting the JTE goal for training, monitoring and promoting volunteer training awards, and how to plan, organize, and implement a unit/district/council training plan.

(Jan. 8-14)

All Program...All the Time

We know you have a passion for the Scouting program. The question is, what can we do to deliver a more robust program and get more youth involved? Come and spend a week with members of the National Program Development Team where we will focus on every aspect of program execution and delivery as well as how to make it so much fun that you can't help but grow. You can spend your week focused totally on your favorite program or mix it up a bit. You'll have over **FIFTY** different topics to choose from, covering Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, Venturing, Disabilities Awareness, and Advancement. Whether you choose to focus your learning or just sample around, you'll have the opportunity to spend some time with experts in each of these program areas. You don't need to become as knowledgeable as they are, but knowing how your program can benefit and be benefitted by the full family of Scouting will move you to the next level. No matter what your current Scouting position is, if you're into delivering or supporting an awesome Scouting experience, this week is for you. Just to give us an idea of your interest, register for the conference specific to your passion, but come prepared to take home a broader view of all that Scouting has to offer.

(Jan. 15-21)



Northern Tier

Meet Vijay



“Hi! I’m Vijay Narayanan and I LOVE TO BAKE!”

NAYLE

Vijay’s job is to ensure the success of Northern Tier’s NAYLE training

NAYLE participants and staff are Venture and Boy Scout leaders who choose to take this advanced training. Vijay likes the balance of conference and trail knowledge that separates this course from a normal voyage at Northern Tier.

Interested in NAYLE at Northern Tier?

www.ntier.org/NTNAYLE



STAFF

Vijay is an Eagle Scout and Triple Crown Award recipient from the Atlanta Area Council.



In his free time, Vijay enjoys playing the mellophone and baking delicious desserts!

Vijay is a second year Aerospace Engineering student at Georgia Tech University.

“I can’t believe I get paid for this experience!”



If you want to be a staff member like Vijay, download an application at www.ntier.org/jobs or email jobs@ntier.org.



SEA SCOUT EMBLEM

In 1920, a young man had to be a First Class Scout to join Sea Scouts. As a result, the First Class anchor has been used in the Sea Scouting program for more than 90 years. The key component of the First Class anchor is the Scout universal emblem, a fleur-de-lis. The three points signify the three points of the Scout Oath, duty to God and country, duty to others, and duty to self. Like a compass, the center point always points north symbolizing a true course in life. The eagle with the shield is the national emblem of the United States of America, and it represents freedom. The scroll with the Scout Motto represents a Scout's smile and reminds us to "Be Prepared." The knot attached to the bottom of the scroll is to remind you that, as a Sea Scout, you have promised to do a Good Turn daily. The stars beneath the eagle's wings symbolize the ideals of truth and knowledge as guides in the night sky for finding our way. They reflect our nautical life and suggest a Scout's outdoor adventures. The anchor symbolizes Sea Scouts' maritime heritage.

THE SCOUT OATH

On my honor I will do my best
To do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law;
To help other people at all times; and
To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and
morally straight.

THE SCOUT LAW

A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind,
obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent



THE SEA PROMISE

As a Sea Scout I promise to do my best:

- To guard against water accidents
- To know the location and proper use of the lifesaving devices on every boat I board
- To be prepared to render aid to those in need
- To seek to preserve the motto of the sea:
Women and Children First



TELEGRAPH

THE TELEGRAPH

A Newsletter published by
the Northeast Region Sea
Scout Committee,
Boy Scouts of America.

Noel E. Guzman
Executive Editor
Commodore
Commodore-NER @nye.rr.com

Brian Gray
Regional Staff Advisor
brian.gray@scouting.org

Deidre Buchner
Editor-in-Chief
deidre57@verizon.net

If you wish to comment or
have something related to
Sea Scouts, we'd like to hear
from you. Send us news of
events or story ideas to the
editor at deidre57@verizon.net



Hello,

We are pleased to announce that the Autumn 2016, Volume 20, Issue 4, edition of THE TELEGRAPH "The Voice of Sea Scouts in the Northeast Region" has been posted on our Northeast Region Sea Scout Website at <http://www.nerseascout.org/> for your review, distribution, and reading pleasure.

Please share this information with your Flotilla's Sea Scouts.

This issue includes:

Recent SEAL Courses

Northeast Regional Chesapeake Sailing Championship

Erie Canal Flotilla Regatta

Camp Nautical

Sea Scouts Cardboard Boat Race

Merit Badges Afloat

US Coast Guard Safety Alerts

And lots of other great articles submitted by our Ships!

Check out the issue!!

Would love your feedback.

Thank you.

Deidre Buchner
Editor, The Telegraph

N
o
r
t
h
e
a
s
t

R
e
g
i
o
n

Students Participating in Alcoa Howmet STEM Exploring Program Gain More Than Just an Experience

In the spring of 2016 more than 40 local students gathered for the first open house of the brand new Alcoa Howmet STEM Exploring post located in Dover, New Jersey in partnership with the Boy Scouts of America. Alcoa Howmet is a global leader in lightweight metals engineering and manufacturing, innovating multi-material solutions that advance our world. Engineering & Technology Career Exploring is a hands-on program organized in partnership with the Boy Scouts of America that's open to young men and women from the 8th grade to 20 years old with an interest in learning more about careers in the fields of engineering & technology. The students heard from company interns, executives, engineers, and plant workers to learn just a small portion of what a career in the STEM fields is like. From there, 23 students eagerly filled out their applications to join this new exciting program.

"The Alcoa Howmet Exploring program is a very fun activity and a social environment for me to explore different fields of STEM," says Explorer Jake Diamint, a 12th grade student at Randolph High School. "I have enjoyed getting to work with other members of the post as well as Alcoa Howmet engineers to learn basic programming, how to build a robot, and refine the program of a robot as well." Alcoa Howmet's STEM Exploring post is designed to give area high school students a behind-the-scenes, first-hand experience with engineering and technology projects.

The first meeting of the post was a tour of Alcoa Howmet's castings operations. The plant tour brought Explorers through the world-class complex where they learned how cast turbine airfoils for the aircraft engine and industrial gas turbine industries are developed. The plant tour also allowed students to learn about the "non-traditional castings" components normally fabricated from many parts, which are available as single castings with all internal passages and holes cast.

"Perhaps the most exciting part of the Exploring program is watching the Explorers grow and develop from the open house until now," says Bill Miley, Plant Operations Manager for Alcoa Howmet's Dover location and post executive officer. "We treat the Explorers like they are our employees because its important they receive the full workforce experience so they have a competitive edge above their peers."

Students in the program receive personalized ID badges, special security keys to allow them access to different parts of the plant, and sign in as if they worked at the plant on a regularly bases. The Explorers are welcomed by employees as if they are an everyday part of the Alcoa operations.

Beyond learning how to program and build a robot, students also began working with 3D printers. The Post challenged students to think of a project that integrates computer aided design (CAD), computer aided manufacturing (CAM), and additive manufacturing (3D printing) to create something aligned with their interest. Three teams formed, elected leaders for their group, and identified design goals to build: a trebuchet, a quadcopter capable of carrying a payload, and a mobility assist device for physically handicapped. In addition to collaborating on the CAD design, students have the opportunity to upload files and have them 3D printed in different materials. Students will gain experience in a variety of printing aspects including: filament types, calibration, in-fill design, and product assembly.



EXPLORING™
DISCOVER YOUR FUTURE

Students Participating in Alcoa Howmet STEM Exploring Program Gain More Than Just an Experience



STEM Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics

The post is also hitting the road this fall. In November, Post 7 will visit the Alcoa Howmet Technology Center in Pittsburgh, PA. This coming winter the post will partner with Picatinny Arsenal's engineering team to learn more about robotics. Picatinny Arsenal is the Joint Center of Excellence for Guns and Ammunition, providing products and services to all branches of the U.S. military. For their major spring trip, the Explorers plan to visit Boston Dynamics in Waltham, MA to explore their high-tech robotics lab.



According to the National Science Foundation, "In the 21st century, scientific and technological innovations have become increasingly important as we face the benefits and challenges of both globalization and a knowledge-based economy. To succeed in this new information-based and highly technological society, students need to develop their capabilities in STEM to levels much beyond what was considered acceptable in the past." This partnership between the Boy Scouts of America Exploring Program and Alcoa Howmet hopes to do just that. They hope this program will allow students to not only learn and develop their skills, but lead them into a STEM career.

"The program has exposed me to so many different STEM professions and it allowed me to further explore my interests," says Bailey Speight, a 12th grade student at Randolph High School. "My favorite activity was programing and building the Sumobot!"

EXPLORING™
DISCOVER YOUR FUTURE

Large Crews

A series of articles

By Pete Mapes, NCAC Crew 27 Associate Advisor



Northeast Region Crew 8 World Scout Jamboree 2015
Crew Advisor Dr Pete Mapes and a group from Crew 27

Program is the most important element of a strong Senior Division Unit (Venturing, Sea Scouting and Exploring). Without program that is interesting and fun for the Venturers, Explorers and Sea Scouts, any Unit will flounder and fail. For this reason, Dr. Pete Mapes leads off a series of articles this month on Large Crews with a discussion of Program. Over the next several months he will follow up with articles on Large Unit Operations, Recruiting and Youth Leadership. Stay tuned for a peek at what turned into the largest Venturing Crew in the fourth largest Council in BSA!



Large Crews

Large Crew Basics

By Pete Mapes, NCAC Crew 27 Associate Advisor

Last month I had the privilege of meeting with the top three (AKA: Key Three – Chairman, Commissioner and Executive) in our Service Area. We have three districts in our Service Area and the top three wanted to talk about Venturing recruiting. Our Crew is in the Potomac District and our membership roster accounts for 67 of the 117 registered Venturers in the District. The other 11 Crews have the other 50 Venturers. It is currently the largest Venturing Crew in the Council. What the top three wanted to know was how to increase Venturing recruiting.

We had a great session and I thought it might be worth sharing in The Forum.

I suggested to the top three that they might be putting the cart before the horse. The reason our Crew has undergone expansion, when the others don't, is two-fold. First and most importantly, we offer an extensive program. Program is what recruits people. Second - we don't follow the model put forth by BSA for a Venturing Crew. I'm going to start by exploring (no pun intended) the current national model for a Crew.

The national model imagines a patrol sized unit. This is obvious because when you go to the Scout Shop to buy Venturing Youth Leadership Insignia, you cannot purchase insignia for a patrol leader equivalent in Venturing. Following Baden-Powell's dictum of one boy <youth> leading 4 to 8 other boys <youths>, The National model obviously intends Crews to be roughly the size of a patrol. This concept is duplicated at the National Jamboree where Boy Scout Troops have 32 boys in 4 patrols and four senior leaders but Venturing Units are clustered as four Crews of ten people each (1 or 2) Advisors and 8 or 9 youth with no senior leadership team.



A Crew 27 MiniCrew Meeting During a Crew Meeting

Large Crews

Large Crew Basics

By Pete Mapes, NCAC Crew 27 Associate Advisor

The National model doesn't work well when Crews expand because it has no middle management layer for the Venturers. In the past, when Venturing was still Exploring, before 1958, the Unit was a Post, led by a Senior Crew Leader, and the patrol equivalent was called a Crew, led by a Crew Leader. In 1958, the structure became essentially what it is now with an elected President, a Post/Crew Staff, but no middle management. In short, the patrol method was removed from the program with the publication of the 1958 book, Exploring.



The 1958 Exploring Program Book that removed the Patrol Method from Exploring!

The current concept of a Venturing Crew is an appendage to a Troop and they seem to be formed for one of two reasons. Either the Crew is created to allow the sisters to camp with the Troop or it is created to allow senior Scouts to develop their own program with more high adventure, away from the 11 and 12-year-olds. While these are both laudable intentions, they fail for predictable reasons.

Let's talk about 'sister' Crews first. Girls have to be 14 or have completed 8th grade to be Venturers. In most Troops, the bulk of the boys are 10 1/2 thru 14 and the camping program is targeted at 12-year-olds. Girls are generally ahead of boys in development at these ages so on the whole; you are bringing a bunch of girls who are the equivalent of 16-year-old boys into a program designed for 12 year olds. This explains why these Crews usually last about a year. At that point,

the novelty has worn off and the girls are ready to move on. Few sister Crews make it to the 4-year point.

Next up are Senior Scout Crews (Not Venture Patrols - real Crews). These are formed with the best of intents. It is a great idea to give the Senior Scouts an opportunity to take on advanced forays into high adventure activities where they don't have to worry about the younger Scouts. It stretches them and gives them activities with their peer group. So what is the problem? The problem is that the reservoir of Senior Scouts is limited by the depth and interests of the Senior Scouts IN THE TROOP! These Crews are self limited. It is really hard to capture the interests of senior Scouts who are in band, sports and a ton of other activities already. The Senior Scout Crews tend to be very limited in their activities and small in size because the people in them only come from the Troop. Since they have a tendency to stay small, and not recruit, they fold in four years only to reappear in a few years and then fold again.

Large Crews

Large Crew Basics

By Pete Mapes, NCAC Crew 27 Associate Advisor

Both the Senior Scout Crews and the Sister Crews usually end up sharing a committee and frequently – Adult leadership with the Troop. Most committees and adult leaders will naturally focus preferentially on the Troop because both units are participating in the Troop program. If a committee and scoutmaster corps have two Units, which one has priority? Would you want to be in a Unit that the committee and adult leadership viewed as a second priority? These are two more reasons why the Senior Scout Crews and the Sister Crews don't work well or last long - shared resources and less than top priority.

Note that I am explaining why most Crews fail to expand and have short lives. There are exceptions and they usually occur due to remarkably effective leadership on someone's part. The exceptions do not occur because the current model is good.

From 1939 thru 1958, Exploring sustained solid growth as a program. It was following Baden-Powell's organizational constructs pretty directly. The reorganization in 1959 changed the organizational construct to what we have today in Venturing. Picking up a few dated handbooks from before 1958 and after 1958 can be very educational. The question is: how to design a Crew that will sustain growth as it expands beyond 10 to 15 Venturers?

Our solution was to revert to the pre-1958 Post model. Since Exploring headed over to 'Learning-for-life' and took the 'Post' with them, we couldn't have that Unit name so the Venturers came up with 'Crew' for the Unit and 'Mini-Crew' for the patrol equivalent Unit. We have five Mini-Crews and each one is larger than the other Crews in our District. We have Venturers who are away at college, in hospital, or just too busy to be part of a Mini-Crew. For those Venturers, we have an 'inactive list.' This relieves the Mini-Crew Guides (Leaders) from having to contact people who can't or won't play anyway but who still want to attend some activities. The Mini-Crews are asked to try to meet the requirements for the National Honor Patrol listed in the Patrol Leader's Handbook and to do it largely outside of the Crew meetings.

As an aside, to get Youth Leadership Insignia that matches our structure, we went back to the pre-1958 Exploring program, coordinated with the Supply Division of BSA HQ and had the old insignia reproduced. They are quite a conversation piece, the Venturers love them and the Supply Division even led us to Lion Brothers of Owings Mills, MD who manufactured the original insignia for Exploring. Can't do any better than that!



President

Vice President

MiniCrew Guide

Asst. MiniCrew Guide

Pre-1958 Exploring Youth Leadership Insignia Modified For Crew 27's use.

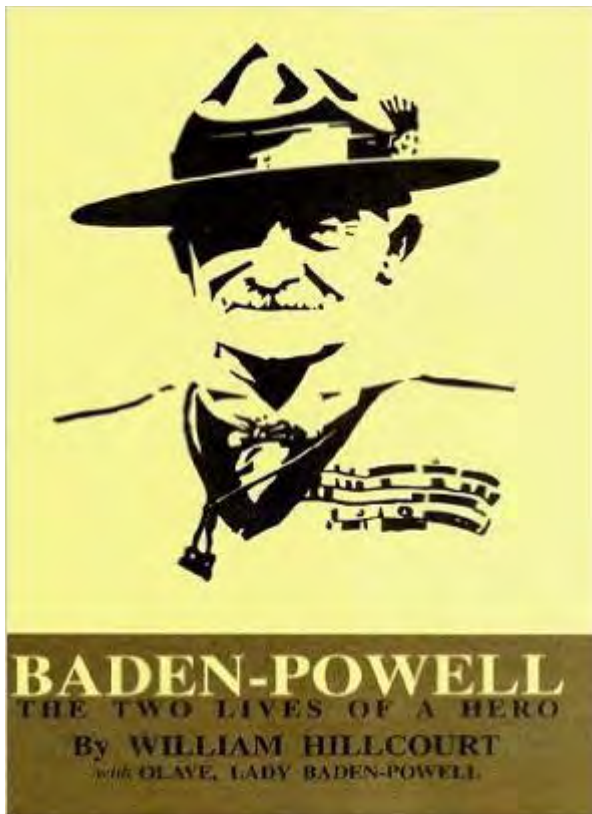
Large Crews

Large Crew Basics

By Pete Mapes, NCAC Crew 27 Associate Advisor

I've written extensively about large Crew Program before in The Forum so here is a quick reprise: Our Crew has program ending in August of each year and a robust summer program with NYLT, two weeks of Venturing Summer Camp, a Jamboree or a high adventure, and a week-long summer adventure trip at the end of each summer. During the year, we have at least one activity each month and meet as a Crew every other Sunday evening. New officers are elected at the end of January each year and they still have published program in place thru the end of August. The new officers are responsible to have a new program through the end of the following August to the committee for support approval by the end of March each year. Each set of officers executes 7 months of the preceding officers program and 5 months of their own program leaving 7 months on the books for the next team.

This was my message to the Area Key Three. Venturing recruiting is done by offering a high-quality program directed at a median age of about 16 in Crews that are organized to sustain growth beyond the level conceived by the current national model. If the Crews and program are not in place, any recruiting drive will fail because there will not be any reason for the recruited Venturers to stay in the program.



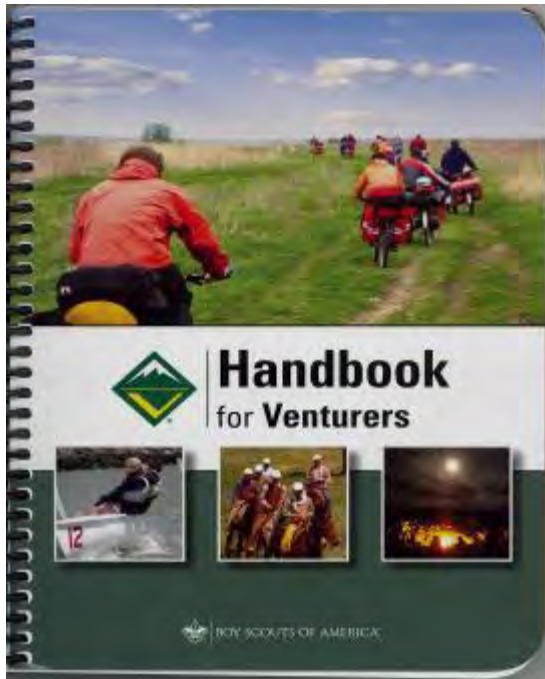
What does it take to make this happen. Current training for adults in Venturing is not adequate. It doesn't cover advancement adequately and it continues to be light and, in my opinion, doomed, on the model for Crew organization. Baden-Powell's famous quote considering the patrol method was forgotten by Exploring in 1958 and never returned to the program: "The patrol method is not a way of doing Scouting, it is THE way of doing Scouting." We need to recover that to be effective. Even in business, the direct supervision of more than ten subordinates is problematic. Humans are designed to function in family units of 5 to 9 and Baden-Powell knew this and capitalized on it. His mother basically ran the family as a patrol after his father died. Read *Baden-Powell: two lives of a hero* by Bill Harcourt and Olive Baden-Powell. It is the best book about our founder available!

As you read this, you may wonder – ‘who gave Crew 27 the authority to experiment?’ The answer is at the bottom of page 45 of the *‘Handbook For Venturers.’* ‘... crew leadership is encouraged to modify the crew’s organizational approach ...’

Large Crews

Large Crew Basics

By Pete Mapes, NCAC Crew 27 Associate Advisor



I've done the new online training for Venturing Leaders and I did the old in-person training before the program change in 2014. Neither was adequate in my view. The training needs to be expanded and must be conducted with the Handbook For Venturers issued to every participant and open for reference. I think it would take at least four hours to conduct adequate intro training for Advisors, maybe more. Committee Training should be done in two phases, general training and position specific training. This would prevent the angst experienced by so many new Treasurers, Secretaries, Chairpersons, etc. the first time they dig into their jobs.

I don't think there are any real problems with the new advancement program. It took a little while to roll out the required trainings and BSA finally went to the Project Management Institute for the project management training, but the trainings are now solid syllabuses. I'm

so glad they kept RANGER because the new ALPS model doesn't provide the skills necessary for outdoor adventures except for first aid and CPR training. All of the outdoor expertise now resides in RANGER. One challenge we face as an outdoor-focused Crew is the lack of a structured curriculum for teaching outdoor skills. Boy Scouts have a very detailed curriculum through their advancement program but the Venturing RANGER Award is a very large challenge served up as a single entity. They should have instituted an Outdoor Bronze equivalent so there would be some recognition halfway to RANGER, they could have just kept Outdoor Bronze. Our Crew still awards 'Outdoor Bronze'; it just isn't a nationally recognized rank anymore. The new ALPS model awards in Venturing are Awards, not Ranks. RANGER is still a rank. You can verify this by looking in internet advancement to see how it is listed. The ALPS awards are over in the 'Awards' section with Tot'in Chip and Mile Swim while RANGER is in the Ranks section with Eagle. Moreover, if a Venturer earns Summit and RANGER, RANGER will be listed as the highest priority Rank. Same thing with Venturers holding Eagle and RANGER, it is RANGER that is listed in that case.



The Pre-1958 Universal Insignia for Exploring has been adopted by Crew 27 as the Insignia for the Crew's Award of the Outdoor Bronze Award. This provides youth with recognition halfway to RANGER. This level of recognition is important because RANGER is hard and takes two years to earn. Also, many Venturers who try for RANGER never get there and this provides recognition of their effort.

Large Crews

Large Crew Basics

By Pete Mapes, NCAC Crew 27 Associate Advisor

Now we finally get to what the key three wanted to know about - Venturing recruiting! In my view, we should make a significant push every year to educate 8th graders about Venturing and get them excited about the prospect. To do this, we need:

- 1) Crews for them to register in that have active program
- 2) Crews that have an organizational construct that allows expansion to accommodate the new Venturers
- 3) Summer Camp Programs designed for Venturers and available all summer long. Scouting has long known that if you get a youth to camp you tend to keep them in the program – this is true of Venturers as well!

The Venturing program at Goshen Scout Reservation is a good example of what is needed throughout the nation to support an expansion of Venturing membership. Take a peek at:

<http://www.ncacbsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/2017-Goshen-Venturing-Advancement-Leaders-Guide-VENTURERS-ONLY.pdf>

- 4) Local high adventure options that can be utilized at minimal expense to ensure everyone can attend – In our case, we use the Lenhok'sin program at Goshen Scout Reservation.
- 5) Regular availability of:
 - A) Introduction to Leadership Skills (for Crews) - ILS(C)*
 - B) Goal Setting & Time Management Training*
 - C) Project Management Training*
 - D) Mentoring Training*

* Even though these courses are supposed to be taught in the Crews. Small Crews of five to ten Venturers rarely have the resources, motivation or mass to carry them off effectively. As a result, progress toward venturing awards stagnates. These courses should be regularly taught at Universities of Scouting and District/Council Venturing Trainings for youth so that they can be brought back to the Crews and instituted by people who have taken them. Venturers from our Crew are teaching them at our University of Scouting in February.

E) National Youth Leadership Training

- 6) A Council level committee on Venturing (may include Sea Scouts and Explorers too). If only a VOA is present, there is no capability to raise and hold an account for funds in the Council budget. Funded committees can get things done that VOAs can't do.



Large Crews

Large Crew Basics

By Pete Mapes, NCAC Crew 27 Associate Advisor

Baden-Powell conducted the Brownsea Island experiment from 1 to 8 August 1907 with 21 boys. This number was prophetic because BSA has long taught that the youth led organization requires 22 active youth to make it work. Once again, the current national model falls short. Crews have to be organized and supported to sustain numbers of 22 members or more. To do this, they need:

1) At least five well trained adult advisors with a 2/3 gender split who like to camp or do whatever it is that the Crew likes to do. Increase by one for every additional six Venturers and alternate genders.

A) These advisors need to be very familiar with the Handbook for Venturers

B) They also need to fully understand RANGER requirements or other awards

C) They need to be graduates of Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills

D) They should be working on Wood badge or already beaded.

2) A Crew Committee with a Chair and a large enough Crew Committee to fully support transportation needs and fulfill all Committee duties (treasury, secretary, web support, advancement, activities, fund raising, membership & adult training). In our Crew the advancement role is undertaken by the Advisor Staff.

3) A Crew organization with patrol equivalent Units (Mini-Crews) within it.

4) Access to first aid and CPR instruction.

5) A published schedule of activities at least a year in advance.

6) Access to required Venturing Advancement Trainings or the ability to sustain it within the Crew.

7) Access to Venturing Leadership Training (ILS(C) & NYLT)

8) Financial support.

9) Presence on 'BeAScout.org'

10) A Crew web site.

11) No membership barriers.

12) Active presence at District Roundtables, Council VOA and the Council Venturing Committee.

Some of our goals in Crew 27 are:

to get everyone first aid & CPR trained within 2 months of joining;

to get everyone Safety trained & through Crew Officer Orientation in 2 months;

to get every new Venturer to 2 weeks of camp & through NYLT in their first year.

Large Crews

Large Crew Basics

By Pete Mapes, NCAC Crew 27 Associate Advisor

If they do that they tend to stay all the way through high school and longer if they go to college locally. Our advancement program is solid and we find that just over half of our Venturers actively pursue advancement. The rest are with us for the adventure and the great opportunities the Crew has to offer. Even if they aren't advancing, they still do all of the leadership training through NYLT. We'd like to bottle this and help other Crews grow as well. Our Area Key Three seems to agree so we are all waiting to see what resources they want to bring to the task. Unfortunately, it isn't as simple as just recruiting. The good news is that there are a ton of young people who would be thrilled to be part of an active Venturing program. We just need to let them know about it and provide a place for them to do it! If you want more info on Crew 27's adventures, go to:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/0B0yUclfLkpRvRXhHMU51c1dIR2s>

Note – the lack of a well formed outdoor curriculum in Venturing should be fixed. We are lucky that we can make up for it by using an excellent Venturing Summer Camp Program at Goshen Scout Reservation's Camp Bowman. This could be partially addressed by opening Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills (IOLS) to venturing youth in outdoor focused Crews.

FYI – Northeast Region Crew 8 used the pre-1958 leadership organization at the 23rd World Scout Jamboree and it worked exceptionally well.



The Authors

The idea for this article grew from a meeting held by the Montgomery Service Area Key Three (Ben Overby (Commissioner), John Hanson (Council Vice-President for the Montgomery Service Area) & Don Kilgore (Field Director)) with Pete Mapes in November of 2016. Since the Service Area Key Three (Top Three) expressed interest in the organization of a very successful Crew, Pete decided to get down on paper some of the thoughts and areas of interest that arose in the meeting. Pete was the founding Advisor of Crew 27 and served in that position from 2009 through early 2016. The Crew's second Advisor (2016), Capt Lisa Pearse, MC, USN, reviewed the article and provided substantive comments to improve it. Nona Mapes, the Crew's first committee chair (2009-2016), did the same.

A VENTURER REPORTS

NCAC Crew 27 Goes to Maryland Boy's State 2016

By Liam

Along with seven other Venturers from Venturing Crew 27, it was my honor to attend the Maryland Boys State program, hosted by the Maryland Department of the American Legion. Maryland Boys State is an interactive youth program designed to educate rising high school seniors about the benefits of democratic government and the rights and responsibilities of a citizen therein. The Boy's State program is sponsored by each state's respective American Legion organization. As participants in this program, we learned by playing the role of a government official in several political climates. During the week that we spent at McDaniel College in Westminster, MD, the instructors slowly lessened the amount of influence that they had in our decisions, marking the shift from dictatorship in the beginning of the week to democracy at the end. The program's design is predicated on the idea that being immersed in a firsthand political experience yields a higher educational value than traditional classroom teaching methods.



Boy's Staters marching to morning flags

The program was laid out in an orderly fashion that has clearly been fine-tuned over time; the precision with which it operates can be attributed to its military influence. Upon arrival, we were divided into cities where we had our first interactions with the instructors. Once divided, we walked as a city to the dorms where we would sleep throughout the week. We were greeted with an authoritarian welcome and quickly informed of the rules that we were to follow that week. The dictatorial mindset that the program begins with was clearly apparent as we tucked our uniform white shirts into our khaki pants and prepared to learn to march. Everything that we did was regulated by the instructors. This total dictatorship lasted until the end of the second day, when we were informed that we were to make a city charter. This was the first sign of democracy that the program offered. We organized ourselves into groups which would write different parts of the charter. My group wrote the preamble, which one could say was slightly more than inspired by the preamble to the U.S. Constitution. I did, however, find myself enjoying the task of summarizing my opinion of what our representative republic should look like in a real-world context. This task would last until the end of the week.

A VENTURER REPORTS

NCAC Crew 27 Goes to Maryland Boy's State 2016

By Liam

As the days went by, we slowly assumed more responsibility, working our way up to a functional state legislature, consisting of all the cities. One key aspect of the program was leadership; as the need for elected officials got greater, we began to vote to determine who would take on positions of responsibility. Several candidates would do their best to persuade the Boy's Staters of their qualifications in hopes of being elected. Throughout the whole week, we listened to presentations from prominent state officials on their areas of expertise. The climax of the program's political simulations



Boy's Staters discussing a city charter

came when the Boys State legislature voted on real bills that were presented to the actual state legislature. Using Robert's Rules of Order, we managed to vote on all the legislative initiatives presented in the allotted time, a seemingly insurmountable task. Shortly after, we held the debate and subsequent election for the final positions: the delegates that were to attend Boy's Nation. Boy's Nation is an event where two boys from each state are sent to form a federal legislature and repeat the simulation on a national level. On the final day of the program, we loaded up onto busses and drove to Annapolis, where we visited the Maryland General Assembly.



Carroll County Commissioner Richard Rothschild speaks on the impact of State laws & budgets

I found that the program's claim was accurate; by being engaged in the political process, I gained an appreciation for our system of government that could neither have been conveyed through a traditional classroom setting nor the media. One phrase that the program has taken on as its motto is "A week that shapes a lifetime." It is my belief that through their culture of integrity and responsibility, the American Legion has substantiated that claim.

The following are accounts from other Crew 27 Venturers who were in attendance:

A VENTURER REPORTS
NCAC Crew 27 Goes to Maryland Boy's State 2016
By Liam

"At Boy's State I was able to meet other boys my age who shared similar aspirations of becoming future leaders of America. Together we learned more about our country's democracy as well as our local city and state governments. My favorite part of the whole experience was my election as City Mayor. It was my honor to serve as the Goldstein City Mayor. I later became responsible for delegating positions, organizing and leading marches to and from activities, keeping up general order and morale. One promise I made to my fellow citizens in the beginning of the week was that I would ensure that we would achieve the coveted title as "Color City" the distinct honor presented to the best city. I was successful in my promise as we were deemed Color City on the last night of the week. Throughout the week I learned a lot of what it takes to be a good leader and was able to work on my weaknesses especially in organization. I was grateful for the experience to be a part of Maryland's Boys State and the lessons it has taught me will stay with me for the rest of my life." -Chris

"Maryland Boy's State was entertaining. As participants, we were able to hear the true perspectives of various politicians...I remember playing a game called grudge ball (essentially dodge ball), and when I managed to get a ball for myself I was almost always able to either dodge or block the opponents balls save for when I was laughing too hard. I sucked at throwing them though." Patrick



Chris keeping his men in step

A VENTURER REPORTS

NCAC Crew 27 Goes to Maryland Boy's State 2016

By Liam



Patrick meeting Lt. Governor Boyd Rutherford at the Maryland General assembly

“When I went to Boy's State I thought it was going to be a lot different....When we got to the dorms, there were names on the doors, my door was on the bottom level of the dorm rooms. When I went into my dorm room, they said “Change your clothing into the pair that are on the bed, make your bed when you are done.” Luckily we had all day. The whole first day we just practiced marching on and on and on... Finally, after that, we went to an auditorium where everyone came to give speeches. After a while the adults (They were all veterans volunteering for this) started calling it 'the master bedroom' because everyone kept on falling asleep in it. Sometimes the speeches would be so interesting, and everyone would be awake listening to them. After the speeches, it was dinner time. The staff told us to sit with our cities but no one really did. Most of us got up and ate with our friends. Before we could go to bed, we had to remove all these paper's they put on our beds. They do dorm inspections seeing if everyone's dorm was cleaned up. If a dorm was messed

up, they tore the blankets off the beds and made more work for the Boy's Staters. The staff were saying how they threw the mattresses out the windows which cracked me up on the inside. FINALLY we were able to sleep (except the people that were doing the inspections. Originally, I thought the first day was hard. Nope. The third day, same things happened (lining up, marching to the mess hall, etc.) except we had elections. My name was on the ballot and I wished no one would vote for me. Luckily no one did. Same stuff 'til night time...after all that, we had this party in my city, not sure what happened in the rest of the city's. 6th day (Clean up) we packed up and left for Goshen Scout Reservation.” Nathan

A VENTURER REPORTS
NCAC Crew 27 Goes to Maryland Boy's State 2016
By Liam



Nathan with his city

Liam

Liam has been a Venturer for over three years and has held multiple leadership positions. A distinguished Venturer, he remains the only Venturer in the National Capital Area Council to have earned the Summit Award since the award's inception. Liam also holds the highest rank in Scouting - The Venturing Ranger Rank; and is an Eagle Scout with 136 Merit Badges. Liam is a licensed Emergency Medical Technician and a High School Senior in Olney, MD. His goal is to become a physician. Liam has completed ILS(C), NYLT, NAYLE and Maryland Boy's State. One of his favorite Venturing activities was serving as the Vice President for Program of Northeast Region Crew 8 at the 23rd World Scout Jamboree in Kirarahama, Japan. He is registered to go to the 19th National Scout Jamboree at The Summit this summer as a participant with an NCAC Crew. Liam made the most of his Venturing experience & we are all happy to have this article from him.

NCAC Crew 27

Views both the Boy's and Girl's State programs as critical steps in leadership development. The Crew sends all those who want to go and are qualified as part of their Venturing Leadership Development program.



CONQUER the country's most intimidating wilderness—the Louisiana swamps! Swamp Base is a high adventure base offering Scouting's premier high adventure canoe treks. At 1.4 million acres the Atchafalaya is the nation's largest swamp. This vast and ever-changing environment offers challenges to face and wonders to behold. Its size and diversity make it the most dynamic paddling environment in the country. Swamp Base works to educate the next generation about the importance of the Atchafalaya as a natural resource and fascinating culture through high adventure and environmental stewardship.

Swamp Base has staked its claim to being one of the coolest high adventure bases in the country. Since 2013 they have operated a 5-day, 61.6-mile paddling trail that has been completed by over 2,500 Scout participants. This trail, called Trek 1, is known for its cultural influences, engaging program, and infinite uniqueness. During the trek Scouts ride airboats, fish, compete on stand-up paddle boards, witness the wildlife, learn about Louisiana's culture, and even get to sleep on houseboats. Swamp Base's Trek 1 has been proven an incredible experience for young and old Scouters alike. It balances the challenges necessary to brag about high adventure as well as affording time and energy to participate in an exciting, engaging program.



In the summer of 2016 Swamp Base prepared to enter a new realm in high adventure. They opened the highly anticipated Trek. Trek 2 offers Scouts the opportunity to test themselves in an environment unlike any other. This trail totals 75-miles over 5-days, twisting and turning into the deepest, un-touched corners of the swamp. No houseboats, airboats, or paddleboards to be found. This trail caters to those who are knowledgeable, capable, and confident in their Scout skills. Every trek day offers a new swamp terrain as Trek 2 showcases the sheer diversity of the area. Complete with Hennessey jungle hammocks and Sawyer water filters participants truly get the full swamp experience on this primitive high adventure trek.



Only a few spots remain for 2017! Swamp Base has also opened registration for the summer of 2018 for Treks 1 and 2. If you are interested, you must reserve your trek as soon as possible. Please call or refer to the Swamp Base website for any questions about registration or to learn more about the treks!

LOUISIANA SWAMP BASE
2266 South College Rd. Ext., Suite E
Lafayette, LA 70508
info@bsaswampbase.org
bsaswampbase.org
337-235-8552

S
o
u
t
h
e
r
n

R
e
g
i
o
n

2016 BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA GREATER LOS ANGELES AREA COUNCIL'S UNIVERSITY OF SCOUTING



Annual
University of
Scouting Event
held on
December 3,
2016 at St Paul
High School in
Santa Fe Springs,

CA. Classes for Boy Scout Leaders & Youths, Cub Scout Leaders, Venturing Adults, High Adventure and General Studies for Adults. Ten Districts United to create a great Scouting program.



Venturing Crew 561 Honor Corps playing "Assembly". Calling attention to the start of the event. From left to right: Bryan, Larry Ballenger Bugles Across America & Los Angeles Police Band, Julianne and Bailey.

Venturing Crew 561 Honor Corp saluting to the flag of the United States of America.



W
e
s
t
e
r
n

R
e
g
i
o
n



Venturing Crew 561 Honor Corp standing at attention. From left to right: Steve Rose, Bryan, Larry Ballenger, Julianne and Bailey.

Websites

National Venturing

<http://www.scouting.org/venturing.aspx>

National Sea Scout

<http://www.seascout.org/>

Central Region Venturing

<http://www.crventuring.org>

Northeast Region Venturing

<http://nerventuring-bsa.org/>

Northeast Region Sea Scouting

<http://www.nerseascout.org/>

Southern Region-Venturing

<http://srventuring-bsa.org/wordpress/>

Southern Region Sea Scout

<http://sregion.seascout.org/>

Western Region Sea Scouts

<https://wrseascouts.wordpress.com/>

Western Region Venturing

<http://wrventuring.org/>

USA Scouting Service-Venturing

<http://www.usscouts.org/usscouts/venturing/>

UniformingFAQ.asp

Venturing Magazine

www.venturingmag.org

National Exploring

<http://www.exploring.org/>

Yahoo Groups

Central Region

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/crventuring/>

Northeast Region

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/nerventuring/>

Southern Region

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/srventuring/>

Western Region

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wrventuring/>

National

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/venturinglist/>



the FORUM

The FORUM is a National cluster concept and a friendly way to help Scouting Leaders exchange ideas and programs among our Troops, Crews, Ships, Posts, Councils, Areas, Regions and National..

The FORUM is shared by Volunteers and Professionals across the country.

“The **FORUM**” has been published monthly since 2003 and is not an official publication of any Council, Area, Region or National. It is the Leaders and Professionals newsletter. Help support our teenage program by sending the FORUM your stories, Newsletters. Council articles, By-Laws, Questions and Best Practices to share with others.

As always, articles, questions and comments are welcome. Promote Venturing, Sea Scouting and Exploring by promoting your Unit and Council. We are seeking support from anyone interested in working on the newsletter .

Thanks for all you do!

Bob the BEAR Monto—Editor in Chief

Pete Mapes—Associate Editor

Bernie Suess - Webmaster

TO SUBSCRIBE to the FORUM:

Email Bob the BEAR at

rmonto47@gmail.com

Use the email account you want to receive the FORUM and give Full name and Council to place you in the right email list.