



VENTURING FORUM

Cluster Councils. B.S.A.

February 2009

Venturing Website Links:

National Venturing Site

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

National Venturing Youth Cabinet

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

Central Region Venturing

<http://www.crventuring.org>

Northeast Region Venturing

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

Northeast Region Venturing-Area 4

<http://www.ne4avoa.org/>

Southern Region

www.srbsa.org

Southern Region-Venturing

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

Southern Region Sea Scout

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

Western Region

www.wrventuring-bsa.org

USA Scouting Service-Venturing

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

Where to go Venturing

<http://www.crventuring.org/Home/Welcome/>

Venturing Magazine

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



For all the Current approved Powder Horn Courses and Course Director Courses visit the Official Powder Horn site at www.powderhorn-bsa.org

Central Region Kodiak

See attached flyers on the Central Regions Kodiak and Kodiak CDC courses.

KODIAK KODIAK-X

For the Latest information on all approved Kodiak and Kodiak X courses visit the Kodiak website at.

<http://www.kodiak-bsa.org/>

2009 Venturing Administration Conference at Florida Sea Base

March 2-6, 2009



Two courses will be offered—one for volunteers and one for professionals. Both courses will deal with the administration of Venturing on both the district and council levels. Conference topics

will include how to conduct a crew open house, new crew training, Venturing leadership training, Venturing advancement, and how to plan and run an exciting program for teens.

National Events

Boy Scouts of America

1325 W. Walnut Hill Lane

P.O. Box 152079

Irving, Texas 75015-2079

Editors Wanted



The FORUM is looking for Volunteers to be reporters and editors for the newsletter. We are seeking to add editors from all 4 regions. If you are interested, please email Bob at rmonto@aol.com

Kodiak, Powder Horn and Venturing pictures and articles welcome.

Send us your articles and pictures for upcoming Venturing events in your Crew, council, Area and Region. Don't forget the follow up articles after the event with pictures of the event. Help us share Venturing with all our Venturing Crews.



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2009 Great Missouri Valley Challenge Regatta

July 11-12, 2009

Ahoy -Attached is the formal Notice of Race for the 2009 Great Missouri Valley Challenge Regatta to be held on July 11-12, 2009 at Lake Manawa in Council Bluffs, IA

2008 was our inaugural event. The participants had a great time and some really competitive racing. We had a wide range of skill levels competing from novices to active racers. In the 10 qualifying races on Saturday, we had 7 different sailor's take a first place. To make this a true challenge event, the scores of the top 5 racers from each Ship were combined to determine a team score. Ship 542 won the Challenge Cup. Like the America's Cup, this notice opens the door for the 2009 challenge.

This is the only inter-Ship sailing event in Area 5. Come join us on the water.

Rod Phipps Skipper, Ship 542
402-350-1970

VLSC

On Friday, January 9 and Saturday January 10th members of 7 Venturing Crews (25 in total) attended A Venturing Leadership Skills Course (VLSC) held at Good Sheppard Lutheran Church in Wilson Boro. The VLSC is the first step in Venturing's ladder of Leadership Skills for youth members. In succession the other components are Kodiak and Kodiak X.

Participants participated in sessions presenting Vision, Communications, Organization, and Synergistic Leadership Skills that were inter-active rather than lecture based. Presenting the VLSC were members of the Southern Tier Venturing Forum of Minsi Trails Council, Nola Skinner, Bryan Ritter, and John Arno Forum Commissioner.

One of the sessions in the Organization section deals with the Crews planning an event and the Crews spent some time planning a Cardboard Boat Regatta at Camp Minsi on

August 14-16th 2009. This event will be open to all Venturers.

Venturing Cardboard Boat Regatta

The Southern Tier Venturing Forum of Minsi Trails is pleased to announce the return of the Venturing Cardboard Boat Regatta to be held at Camp Minsi on



August 14th-16th. The general rules are each boat is to be constructed of corrugated cardboard, paint and silicone glue.

Each boat will have at least 4 people in them as they individually negotiate a course on Stillwater



Lake. Each boat's "run" will be timed with the fastest time the winner. Awards will also be presented for best themed boat and best sinking.

(The coveted "Titanic" Awards.) Saturday evening will feature a grand bon fire where all boats are burned to assure they are composed of the required components. Crews interested in participating should contact John Arno at LLordbadenpowell@AOL.com. Crews can search the internet for "Cardboard Boat Race" or Cardboard Boat Regatta for ideas.

Adult Venturing leaders Minsi and other councils will be needed to make the 2009 Regatta a reality.



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Jersey Shore Council

POWDERHORN

The Jersey Shore Council is pleased to announce that it will be running a Powder Horn Training Course this spring at Citta Scout Reservation.

Powder Horn is not just for Venturing Leaders, but for anyone interested in learning how to find and develop resources to run a high adventure program for their unit. Attached please find an application for the course, which takes place over 2 weekends (May 15-17 & 29-31, 2009). For more information contact Course Director Bob Krehely at bobkrehely@comcast.net.

We have Crew 400 Special Ed. More to follow from Charlie G.

New BSA Medical Forms FAQs

Q. Why do we need a new health form?

A. Based on input from individual Scouters, the Order of the Arrow, local councils, health and safety and risk management committees, and high adventure bases, there was confusion on when to use any of more than 20 different health forms in use across the nation. There was also an immediate need to update a medical form for the 2010 National Scout Jamboree. The Health and Safety Committee took on the challenge and the opportunity to establish one Annual Health and Medical Record for all ages and known risks. It is simple and yet comprehensive enough to be used for both health and wellness evaluations as well as emergency situations.

Q. What are the major changes?

A. A health history is still sufficient for typical activities lasting less than 72 hours (Parts A and C of the new form-similar to the old Class 1 form). For activities lasting longer than 72 hours, a medical evaluation by a healthcare provider is now required annually (Part B). For high-adventure activities for which medical care may be delayed, restrictions based on

standardized height/weight ratios are now mandatory.

Q. When does the Annual Health and Medical Record go into effect? I am used to the old form and would rather use it.

A. Transition and change can be exciting and easy, especially if it positions the BSA for the future. Everyone should begin using the Annual Health and Medical Record immediately. The existing stock of Class 1, 2, and 3 forms can continue to be used while supplies last in 2009. The only supported form effective January 1, 2010, is the Annual Health and Medical Record. Its use will be mandatory for the 2010 National Scout Jamboree.

Q. Where can I find the Annual Health and Medical Record?

A. It can be found at your council's Scout shop and is posted in a downloadable PDF format on Scouting Safely on Scouting.org.

Q. Can I keep a record of my Annual Health and Medical Record somewhere at my council's office or online?

A. Districts and councils are discouraged from keeping any medical records, whether digital or paper, unless required by local or state ordinances. However, the electronic version of the Annual Health and Medical Record is intended to be filled out and saved by individual Scouts and Scouters. The electronic Annual Health and Medical Record should not be transmitted via e-mail or stored by units, districts, or councils. Units are encouraged to keep paper copies of their participants' Annual Health and Medical Records in a confidential medical file for quick access in an emergency and to be prepared for all adventures.

Q. The old Class 1, 2, and 3 forms were based on age. What about the Annual Health and Medical Record?

A. There is no longer a difference in the exam interval based on age. The Annual Health and Medical Record is for everyone.

Q. There are three parts to the Annual Health and Medical Record, which part do I need to fill out?



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A. All participants should fill out Parts A and C for any event. Part B (the physical examination) should be completed if you are participating in an event that exceeds 72 consecutive hours, such as jamborees, summer camps, and Wood Badge training courses. Part B also is required for Page 18 of 20 1/9/2009 participation in a resident camp setting or when the nature of the activity is strenuous and demanding such as service projects, work weekends, or high-adventure treks. It is important to note that if the event will take your unit beyond a radius wherein emergency care is more than 30 minutes by ground transportation, the height/weight chart found at the bottom of Part B should be strictly followed. Please note that individual units, districts, or councils may have policies in place to exceed this standard based on their unique risks.

Q. How often will I need to renew/update my Annual Health and Medical Record?

A. This form will need to be updated annually, just as many schools or sporting leagues require an annual update. Many changes can happen throughout a year, including changes in disease processes, medication, address, and insurance.

Q. What is meant by "Annual" and "valid for 12 calendar months"?

A. If you complete your record on March 9, 2009, it will be valid through March 2010, but you must complete a new Annual Health and Medical Record by April 1, 2010. Please note that the 2010 National Scout Jamboree will have a specific window when the record must be submitted.

Q. I have several children in the program and a health care plan that does not provide cheap co-pays for physicals. What can be done to divert the increased cost of participation?

A. Many units, districts, and councils offer physical exams. Facilitating such an event could be a positive experience, as well as decreasing costs.

Several county clinics offer physicals at a very low price in order to assist children across the nation maintain a well and healthy life.

Q. I heard a physical for an adult can be very expensive. Is that true?

A. As participants age, physicians (MDs, DOs), NPs, and PAs may require extra testing in order to approve and/or clear their participation in events.

Participants who are on medications should already be checked annually.

Q. Do I really need to explain everything about myself or my child, such as learning disabilities or depression? I don't want myself or my child to be treated differently.

A. As hard as it may be to share these aspects about yourself or your child, this information is needed to structure safe activities and is imperative when giving emergency care. Please be thorough and honest. Our experience also indicates that a Scouting activity is not the place to experiment with or stop medications, especially those that address these issues.

Q. Why do I need to put my child's or my own social security number on the record?

A. It is your choice as to whether you fill in this number; however, in many states, medical care cannot be rendered without it.

Q. What does "grade completed" mean?

A. If your son has completed the 6th grade and is currently enrolled in 7th grade, you would enter 6th grade here. You may always update your information more frequently than annually.

Q. What if I don't want to have my child immunized for tetanus or other immunizations due to religious or philosophical reasons, do I have to sign a release?

A. Yes, the recommendations of the immunization task force were accepted by the Health and Safety Support Committee in October 2008 and are listed on Scouting.org under Scouting Safely. If you choose not have your child immunized, the release form can also be found there. Declining or inadequate immunizations will require verification by a certified and licensed physician (MD, DO), NPs, or PAs that a communicable disease is not



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present. Inadequately immunized participants will be identified so that they can be located in case of a necessity for isolation or quarantine as per local public health official directives

Q. Can I decline medical treatment?

A. Yes, but a release must be signed. The release can be found under \Scouting Safely on Scouting.org. This practice is highly discouraged because this choice can put the entire unit at risk, both mentally and physically. Declining medical treatment will require verification by a certified and licensed physician (MD or DO), NP, or PA that a communicable disease is not present.

Q. Can I use another medical exam, such as a school sports exam, and Page 19 of 20 1/9/2009 attach it to the Annual Health and Medical Record?

A. No. In an effort to maintain standards of preparedness and fitness for participation, and to make sure that the medical professional conducting the examination knows the various outdoor adventures than can occur in Scouting, the BSA requires completion of Part B. Part B also includes the height/weight chart for high adventure situation where emergency medical care is not readily available.

Q. Why can't I use the Annual Health and Medical Record for participation at the high-adventure bases?

A. The high-adventure bases have very specific activities that are unique to each of them. They each provided valuable input to position the Annual Health and Medical Record for use in the future. YOU are responsible to Be Prepared for your high-adventure trek and understand and follow all high adventure base rules, procedures, and guidelines.

Q. Why is there a talent release on the Annual Health and Medical Record? It doesn't really have anything to do with health.

A. In response to requests from several councils to eliminate paperwork, we have included the

talent release as part of the Annual Health and Medical Record.

See new Health and Medical form attached.

**Southern Region
2009 Area 2/3 Venturing & Sea Scout Events**



Feb 20-22 2009

Venturing Bash '09 -
Camp Karankawa Council:
Bay Area Camp location:
just NW of Sweeny, TX on

the internet: <http://www.campkarankawa.com/>

April 3-5, 2009

Venturing Rendezvous - Camp Wisdom
Council: Circle Ten Camp location: Dallas, TX on
the internet:

www.circle10.org/site/c.owL1KgN4LxH/b.1680583/k.857E/Camp_Wisdom.htm

April 17-19, 2009

Venturing Adventure Race - Camp Cherokee

April 17-19 Tonkawa Lodge Adventure
Race - Lost Pines SR (yes, same weekend)

April 25, 2009

Spring Canoe Race - Two races: a 6-mile
Fun Race from Worth Ranch to the Highway 4
Bridge and a 14 mile Race for experienced
canoeists from the Dam to camp. 100-yard War
Canoe Race in the afternoon. Lunch, boats,
equipment, awards, and supper provided. Open to
Boy Scouts, Venturers, Explorers, and adults.
Parent/Youth teams welcome. Be sure to get the
Early Registration Discount! At Worth Ranch.

April 25, 2009

CAPITOL AREA COUNCIL/ NRA
VENTURING SHOOTING SPORTS DAY

Come get involved and get a chance to shoot a lot
of different things. Guns and archery equipment,
instruction and all the ammunition you want to
shoot for only EIGHT BUCKS! When: April 25,
2009 starting at 8:30 a.m. and ending at 4:00 pm.
Lost Pines Scout Camp, Austin

May 16, 2009

Adventure Race- LHC - Adventure Race
for teams of 2, 3, or 4 racers, or for individuals.
Run, Canoe, Kayak, Mountain Bike, and Tower



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Climb. Two adventure courses: intermediate and advanced. Open to: Boy Scouts troops, Varsity Teams, Venturing Crews, Scouting adults, and to the Public.

July 5-11, 2009

Venturing Road to Ranger Camp -

Venturers will earn the Outdoor Bronze Award and complete most of the core requirements for the Ranger Award. Featuring wind surfing, horsemanship, rifle and shotgun shooting, wilderness survival, first aid, archery, COPE. Swimming, snorkeling, SCUBA, US Cavalry 1870's living history, Covert Ops, Area 51 (paintball vs. aliens), orienteering, GPS navigation, KODIAK teambuilding, and much more! Staffed by Longhorn Council Venturing volunteers and the Texas High Adventure Base staff.

Battle of the Mexia: Venturing Living History Weekend Venturing Living History Weekend: Battle of Mexia, Mexia, TX. Wear the uniform, learn the drill, eat the food, and live the life of a trooper in the 1860's. Open to: Boy Scouts, Varsity Teams, and Venturing; must be 14 to participate. Venturing Crew Members can work on their Outdoor Living History Elective for the Ranger Award. NOTE: 2009 dates may be changed by the parks that sponsor these events – check the web for updates!

http://208.101.27.2/camp/sid_richardson/index.htm

Aug 14-16, 2009

Venturing Summit - Bovay Scout Ranch/Waterpark. Council: Sam Houston Area (Houston) Camp location: just south of Navasota, TX on the internet

<http://www.samhoustonbsa.org/home/camping/camps4/bovay/>

Sept 18-20, 2009

Venturing is happening - Lost Pines Scout Ranch. Council: Capitol Area Council (Austin, TX) Camp location: just east of Bastrop, TX. on the internet:

http://www.bsacac.org/CampingEvents/Camps_LCRA.php (tentative date)

Sea Scout Specific Events:

September 5-7, 2009

MINTO RENDEZVOUS

Labor Day weekend is a time for Sea Scouts in the Southern Region to gather for the annual William M. Minto Rendezvous - sponsored this year by the Capitol Area Council Squadron and hosted at Lost Pines Scout Reservation on the shores of Lake Bastrop. The William M. Minto Invitational Rendezvous was started in 1991 as a venue for Sea Scout ships across the Southern Region to compete. The competition includes more than 20 events that test the ship's teamwork, training and preparation in a variety of nautical related events. The Minto Rendezvous follows a traditional format – most competitive events reflect skills youth must know for sailing and advancement; however, other events require more laughter, luck and perseverance than ability. True fun begins after the day's competition is over with fun evening events and fellowship with new and old friends. Lost Pines offers ample shady camping spaces, an air-conditioned dining hall, and a waterfront with a wide variety of watercraft to enjoy. Ships traveling from far away are welcome to arrive early and camp on Friday night. A boarding manual with registration details will be forthcoming as the event approaches. We hope that the Minto Rendezvous is an experience your youth will enjoy and want to repeat every year.

LOCATION: Lost Pines Scout Reservation on Lake Bastrop

**Blast off to a great Venturing program!
For Youth and Adults
Boston Minuteman Council Training**

March 21st, 2009



See Youth and Adult Training Flyer attached.



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Venturing FORUM

The Venturing FORUM is a cluster concept and a friendly way to help Venturing and Scouting Leaders exchange ideas and programs among our troops, crews, areas, councils, and regions. Our Cluster includes many councils and Crews in the Northeast, Central, Southern and Western regions that support venturing, exchange of ideas, Best Practices and activities for the Venturing Program. The Cluster newsletter “**Venturing Forum**” is not an official publication of any Council, Area, Region or National. It is the Venturing Leaders newsletter. Venturing has been growing thanks to your efforts.

We are starting out 6th year of publications. Thank you for your input and articles in this effort to better support the Venturing program. If you would like to add others to the email list, let Bob “the BEAR” Monto know at rmonto@aol.com. We need the Scouter or Venturing leader to email us with their name, Council, Area and Region so we can group the emails by sub groups.

As always, Venturing articles, questions and comments are welcome. We are seeking support from anyone interested in working on the newsletter or future website.

Thanks for all you do!

Bob "the BEAR" Monto

