



VENTURING FORUM

Cluster Councils. B.S.A.

February 2010

Northeast Region Venturing News

Crew News of New England

2010 Event Dates

Jan 23 – 24th - New England Scout Show
March 19th – 21st – Road to Ranger
Wilderness Survival Course

Articles include:



- ◆ The ROAD TO RANGER, 2010
- ◆ Wilderness Survival Course

See Attachments on the website a

http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletters/cluster_attachment0210.zip

Boots and Paddles.



Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation has a local High Adventure program called boots and paddles.

It consists of a Fifty miler with a mix of hiking on the Appalachian Trail as well as kayaking on the Schuylkill River

Week 3 of their summer camp program is set aside for Crews, which is July 4th to the 11th, however Crews are welcome on any of the seven weeks of operation to complete this program or COPE if they so choose

Boots and Paddles is a very intense program all participants must meet the BMI physical for High Adventure programs. I serve as the

program director for this program, it was specifically tailored for teenagers, it will challenge them physically, I have had quite a few past participants compare it to Philmont, and the usual response is the food is better, the miles are shorter, but the terrain is tougher.

Our goal is to make sure each participant walks away with lasting memories, hopefully a few more outdoor skills, and a few sore muscles from use during the week.

The following is a typical schedule for the program,

We run this program using the crew method, 1 trek guide for 8 participants we will have 2 crew on trail and 2 crews on the water for a total participants for the week being 32 maximum for the 2010 season.

We stress LNT during the entire trek, we perform service projects at different areas based on land managers needs.

The youngest participant allowed is 14 and we encourage all participants to physically prepare for this trek prior to arriving.

We provide all equipment for participants with the exceptions of a pocket knife, a headlamp and clothes everything else is included

The cost is \$370.00 per person.

Hawk Mountain also encourages the Crew leaders to attend our camp at no cost this is a limited number of slots of course per unit.

It follows the following schedule:

Sunday arrive at camp 1pm registration, dinner opening campfire taps at 23:00

Monday start program at 08:00 on the water with instructional kayaking break for lunch all backpacking equipment issued in afternoon, break for dinner report back to program area at 19:00 Monday evening is a brief shakedown hike and outposts camping to ensure all participants are familiar with equipment. total miles traveled today eleven total.

Tuesday awake at 06:30 break camp, breakfast, rally at main gate at 0800 depart camp via motor



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coach to river launch where all river equipment is waiting travel 16.8 miles on river with one portage arriving at outpost campsite at approximately 18:30, set up camp, dinner, local evening program that consist of Schuylkill canal museum private tour, trip to an old fashioned candy store return to camp, campfire taps by 23:00

Wednesday awake 06:30 breakfast, safety briefing on river by 0800, at final destination by 16:30 with one portage and lunch break, total river miles 13 for the day, board motor coach and return to Scout Reservation for showers, dinner chapel and O/A ceremony free time until 23:00.

Thursday awake 0630, breakfast and distribution of trail food, breakfast rally at main gate at 0800 for transport to trail head, hike 12.8 miles stopping for lunch arriving at campsite at 17:30 to 18:30 set up camp dinner taps at 23:00

Friday awake at 0400, break camp be on trail to overlook no later than 0430, breakfast at overlook of valley at sunrise, depart overlook usually around 05:30 to 05:45 hike until 0900 stop for brunch, continue hike back to scout camp arriving at 12:30 for lunch. Friday afternoon until 17:45 is free time. Dinner is at 18:00 followed by closing fire and free time until 23:00

Saturday morning Awake at 06:30 breakfast break camp and dismissed to leave at 0900.

Scott Russell
Advisor
Crew 615

Area 5 Venturing Officers Association

In early January, the Area 5 Venturing Officers Association (VOA) teleconferenced to discuss plans for the Area for the upcoming year. The key point of discussion was the Area 5 Super-activity, which was to be held at Fort Dix in New Jersey sometime in the fall. Following discussion with the Area Activities Chairman, it was proposed that the use of Fort Dix as a location for the event be pushed off until 2011, with a suitable camp in one of the Councils in Area 5 being chosen as a replacement. This was presented due to the fact that no meeting between base command and the Area Activities Chairman has occurred as of the writing of this article. This measure was agreed upon. Currently the AVOA is putting together a list of activities/events that can be run at the Super-activity. Once the list is finalized, camp visitations will occur and a suitable site will be selected.

The AVOA also talked about the Area Venturing website, which is currently being built by Area Venturing President Matthew McGovern, with assistance from Dominick DiGioia. The site will contain resources and links for Venturing Awards, program help, and other events and resources around the country.

The final matter brought up for discussion was the news that the National Venturing President, Matthew McGroarty, will be visiting Area 5, and specifically the Cradle of Liberty Council, on April 14th, 2010. AVP Matthew McGovern, along with Cradle of Liberty Council Venturing President Anne Coglianesse, is planning an evening program for Matthew, which will most likely include a dinner and Q&A session. More details will follow as they are available.



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Southern Region Venturing News

Southern Region "Venturer News" can be found on the website.

Articles include reports on:

- ◆ Kalla French 2009-2010 Southern Region President
- ◆ AREA 1 -- VENTURING YOUTH EARNS TOP HONOR
- ◆ AREA 1 -- SOUTH FLORIDA COUNCIL NEWS
- ◆ AREA 2-3 -- PIRATE WEEKEND CIRCLE 10 AT CAMP WISDOM
- ◆ AREA 7 -- FORMER AREA PRESIDENT RECEIVES HIGH AWARDS
- ◆ AREA 8 -- WELCOME TO OUR NEW AREA PRESIDENT
- ◆ AREA 8 -- VENTURE X-TREME ANNOUNCEMENT
- ◆ AREA 9 -- OFFICER ANNOUNCEMENT
- ◆ SUMMER CAMP OPPORTUNITIES - SARAH POLAN
- ◆ AREA 9 -- WINTERFEST, FEBRUARY 5 - 7, 2010 - GATLINBURG, TN
- ◆ AREA 9 -- WINTERFEST, CHANGES AND ADDITIONS FOR 2010
- ◆ SEA SCOUTING IN THE SOUTHERN REGION!
- ◆ THE WILLIAM T. HORNADAY AWARDS FOR SEA SCOUTS
- ◆ INLAND WATER QUALITY MONITORING

See Full Venturer News on the website a

http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletters/cluster_attach/forum0210.zip



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



For the Latest information on all approved Kodiak and Kodiak X courses visit the Kodiak website at <http://www.kodiak-bsa.org/>

Eagle Scout Leadership Positions

I have asked National to review the leadership positions and to add the following positions.

Current Eagle Scout leadership Positions are:

Boy Scout troop. Patrol leader, Venture patrol leader, assistant senior patrol leader, senior patrol leader, troop guide, Order of the Arrow troop representative, den chief, scribe, librarian, historian, quartermaster, junior assistant Scoutmaster, chaplain aide, instructor

Varsity Scout team. Captain, co-captain, program manager, squad leader, team secretary, Order of the Arrow team representative, librarian, historian, quartermaster, chaplain aide, instructor, den chief

Venturing crew/ship. President, vice president, secretary, treasurer, den chief, quartermaster, historian, guide, boatswain, boatswain's mate, yeoman, purser, storekeeper.

Lone Scout: Leadership responsibility in his school, religious organization, club, or elsewhere in his community

I would like for the National Advancement Committee to consider adding to the Leadership Positions the following: **District Venturing President, Council Venturing President, Area Venturing President, Regional Venturing President and National Venturing President.**

Will keep you informed.



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Central Region Venturing News

Greater St. Louis Area Council Fall Fun Rally

The Venturing Officers' Association of the Greater St. Louis Area Council is proud to announce that the Fall Fun Rally has been designated as the first National Venturing Event. The Greater St. Louis Area Council is proud to sponsor this event and to open it up to Venturers from across the country to attend.

The Fall Fun Rally is the largest gathering of Venturers held each year in the country, now in its 37th year. We have the facilities, the staff, and the experience to host a couple thousand Venturers for this 3-day event. In 2008 it was the Central Region's 10th Anniversary event for Venturing. Venturers from throughout the Central Region attended. This event is centrally located in the USA.

The Fall Fun Rally is a youth lead event. The Council's V.O.A., the 9 District VOAs and hundreds of other Venturers staff the event each year. Venturing is many things, but of uppermost importance is youth leadership development. Planning for the 2010 event started at last year's event. This is the first time that a National Venturing event is being done and it is the youth of the Venturing program that are doing it. We are honored to take on this endeavor. We thank our council and the National Office for the trust they have placed in us to accomplish this unique opportunity. We hope that this will be the start of more and bigger future National Venturing Events, but today's good news is that the first one is on the way. So let's get excited about it!

Date: September 24-26, 2010

Location: Beaumont Scout Reservation, High Ridge, MO (Just 45 minutes SW of downtown St. Louis)

Who can attend: Venturers, Explorers, & Sea Scouts along with their adult leadership

Events:

Volleyball Tournament, Tug-of-War Competitions, Rifle Range, Shotgun Range, Archery, Climbing Tower, Slacklining, Wild Caving, Mountain Men Village, Blacksmithing, , Helicopters, , Kickball, Crab Soccer, Wiffleball, Dodgeball, Hillbilly Golf & Washers, National Venturing Fencing Competition, Pool Noodle Jousting, Police & Military Demonstrations, Table Top Competitions, Dutch-oven Cooking Competitions, Skit/Talent Competition, Fear Factor Event, Horseback Riding, Adult Venturing Training, Venturing Officer Association Elections, Game/Trivia Night, Movie Night, Twister for 50, Karaoke Night, Award Show, Dance, Model Rockets, Backyard Games, Obstacle Course, Frisbee Golf, Sea Scouting Activities, Drunk Driving Simulator, All Star Sports Challenge, Crazy Building Competitions, Dunking Booth, and much more. (These events are events from the previous years. We anticipate some change as the youth of the VOA decide on the final events in the coming months). Rest assured, no matter how much change, we'll have more than 60 events throughout the weekend.

Details:

In the coming weeks we'll be posting on the Fall Fun Rally Website including location specifics, schedule, as well as things to do in St. Louis. We'll also be looking for new program ideas that you might be able to suggest or put on at the Fall Fun Rally. As with any Scouting event, we're definitely open to any help. Check out our websites now and down the road as more details are announced.

Websites: www.nationalventuringevent.org
www.fallfunrally.org

Join our *National Venturing Event Facebook Group* to keep yourself informed

Facebook Group:
<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=207652002378>

Mark your Crew's calendar now to attend the first National Venturing Event. Registration and leader's information will be posted and updated



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through the website. Cost will be approximately \$15 for the weekend and will include an event t-shirt. We look forward to welcoming you to St. Louis and the Fall Fun Rally.

Andrea Lane

Greater St. Louis Area Council V.O.A. Vice-President of Program

Youth Chair for the Fall Fun Rally

Amanda Vogt

Greater St. Louis Area Council V.O.A. President

2008-2009 National Venturing President

Matthew McGroarty

2009-2010 National Venturing President

As of today the correct terms are:

Venturing Crew

NOT

Venture Crew

Venture is currently a Boy Scout Patrol



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.

The FORUM is shared by Volunteers and Professionals in Crews, Districts, Councils, Regions and National.

The Cluster newsletter "Venturing FORUM" is not an official publication of any Council, Area, Region or National. It is the Venturing Leaders and Professionals newsletter. Venturing has been growing thanks to your efforts.

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



Great Missouri Valley Challenge Regatta

Sea Scout Ship 542 will again host the Great Missouri Valley Challenge Regatta in 2010. Attached is a flyer with the preliminary



information on the event.

Last year we had 23 competitors from 3 states. This is a great weekend event for any Ship. Ship 542 provides the boats. Your crew will be fed and watered. If they sail well they may win a trophy. We will also have the team trophy, won by the host Ship the past 2 years. Last year the teams from both Minnesota and Kansas made a serious run to capture this prestigious award. This is what the challenge is all about. Good sailing, competition and team work.

Put this on your Ship's summer calendar and join us for some serious fun.



Rod Phipps, Skipper, Ship 542
7523 North 54 Plaza, Omaha, NE 68152
402/350-1970



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Twins Earn Rare Honors

Earning the rank of Eagle Scout is hard; only about 4% of Scouts earn the rank. Earning Eagle and the Venturing Silver award is harder still. But, earning Eagle, Silver and Quartermaster in Sea Scouts? That's a rare feat-so rare, in fact, that the National Office of the Boy Scouts of America doesn't know if it's ever been done-until now.



*Picture
d from left
- Peter
Lahti, Jake
Olsen,
Ross
Olsen,
David
Knights*

Twins Jake and Ross Olsen, of Sea Scout Ship 542, chartered to the Lake Manawa Sailing Association, Learning for Life District, received their Quartermaster rank on Saturday, December 20, 2009. Along the way, Jake and Ross also earned their Eagle rank, Venturing Silver and Venturing Ranger awards. In addition, each has earned 99 merit badges and received the Vigil Honor in the Order of the Arrow. Jake has also received the Venturing Leadership Award.

Precious few statistics are kept nationally about the Quartermaster award; suffice to say that annually less than 125 are awarded. Jake and Ross Olsen bring the total number of known Quartermasters in the Mid-America Council to four, including David Knights, who earned his as a Sea Scout in England, and Peter Lahti, who earned his in the early 1960s as a Sea Scout in Buffalo, NY.

Jake and Ross are seniors at the University of Nebraska-Omaha, and plan to graduate in May, 2010. They are sons of David and Susannah Olsen of Omaha.

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

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>

Venturing Magazine

<http://www.venturingmag.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/>

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<http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletters/FORUM-0210.pdf>

February FORUM Attachments

http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletters/cluster_attach/forum0210.zip

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