



VENTURING FORUM

Cluster Councils. B.S.A.

March 2010

Northeast Region Venturing News

Crew News of New England

2010 Event Dates

March 19th – 21st – Road to Ranger
Wilderness Survival Course

May 28th–30th V Games ..www.vgames2010.com

Articles include:



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

See Attachments on the website a

http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletters/cluster_attachment0310.zip

Boots and Paddles.



July 4-11, 2010

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.



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

V GAMES 2010CAMP NORSE

MAY 28TH - 30TH

Are you tired of camping? Are you looking for a way to test all the skills you've practiced, as well as challenge yourself and your crew? Well, the chance has come yet again; V Games 2010. More exciting than the Olympics and guaranteed to give you the challenge you've been searching for, the V games are a chance to compete against crews from all over New England in everything from shooting and axe throwing to texting and volleyball. Even if you're not the competitive type, you can still enjoy yourself as a spectator, or a participant in any of the other events we have to offer. If you are the competitive type, however, you will not be disappointed, because although there are many competitions and awards, there is only one of the coveted V-cup, the trophy awarded to the best crew, as well as the bragging rights that goes along with it.

Camp Norse ...This is where the fun starts with Chariot racing, Trebuchet contest, Saran wrap races, Road relay races, Soccer, Pie eating contest, Frisbee golf, Jousting, Geo Caching, Bulls-eye shooting contest, Skeet shooting, Volley Ball, Axe throwing, Two man sawing , Text competition, hole in one competition, and anything your crew can dream up and is willing to help run ! We are looking for crews to sign up early and help plan the events. The V Games aims to be a totally youth run event in 2010, so sign up early and help.

So come campout with few hundred of your closest friends and have some fun. We challenge you to find more to do for less money. *The cost for the event is only \$15.00 per person which includes a tent camping site for your unit.*

Please check out our web site @ www.vgames2010.com

*This event is open to Crews and Ships
Camp Norse - 112 Parting Ways
Road Kingston, MA 02364-2046*



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Eastern Massachusetts Commissioner College

Saturday, March 20, 2010

Endicott College in **Beverly, MA**. Please help us **spread the word**. See attached for our flyer.

Tuition: **\$20**- Includes light breakfast, lunch, degree certificate, and gift.

We are offering associates (basic leader training), bachelors, masters, and doctors degrees. See attached for our class offerings.

Scouters that are interested in serving as faculty should contact Nick Pirelli (scouting@nickpirelli.com).

We are inviting retailers, outdoor recreation facilities, environmental organizations, and service based organizations for promotional time during our lunch.

Registration Page:

<http://bsaboston.org/registration/calendardetail.asp?ActivityKey=721075>

Directions:

<http://www.endicott.edu/servlet/RetrievePage?site=endicott&page=Directions>

Yours in Scouting,

Nick Pirelli

Boston Minuteman Council, BSA

Mobile: 617.909.9983

scouting@nickpirelli.com

nick.pirelli@nesa.org

Classes can be found on the website on March Attachments.

Ahoy Member Ships and Friends of the Liberty Flotilla !



Great News!! We are again offering the Liberty Flotilla Sea Scout Training Day at SUNY Maritime College, Fort Schuyler, Bronx, New York, on Saturday, March 13, 2010.

For your action: Cost is only \$15 per person which includes a catered lunch and course materials. ((We need to provide a headcount to the catering service for lunch ahead of the day's event, so please be sure to get your enrollments to us as quickly as possible to ensure the right number of seats/meals.))

Lots of great training planned: Here is an overview of the curriculum to help you pick out your courses. If you have attended this one-day training activity in the past, you will notice that some of the courses this year are new, and some are back by popular demand from previous curriculums. There IS something for everyone!!

Sign Up Today: For your immediate use, here is the Registration Flyer. This will be a full day event beginning at 9:00am; registration table opens at 8:00am. Advance registration is required. Please send in your forms now. There is a March 5 registration deadline. Don't miss out on an excellent learning event and sea scout networking opportunity at a fabulous maritime venue!

Looking forward to seeing you all soon!

Deidre Buchner

Liberty Flotilla Commodore

Serving the Sea Ships of the Tri-State Area

A complete booklet is on the FORUM website as attachments



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Minsi Trails Council 2010 JAMBO

VENTURING PROGRAM:



Venturers get excited for JAMBO100. Every crew should bring something to share at Saturday evening's covered dish social, and we

also need adult Venturing Crew leaders to help chaperone this event. A brief leaders meeting to review chaperone responsibilities will be held Saturday afternoon. If you are interested in assisting with Venturing at JAMBO100 please contact Jason Capone, Venturing Coordinator (jacapone@gmail.com) or Amy Frantz, Staff Advisor (afrantz@minsitrails.com). We also need empty coffee cans, so please bring them to the Council Office c/o Amy Frantz. We also need additional lifeguards for the floating movie as well as other Jambo events, so if you are a certified lifeguard and willing to help, please contact Jason Capone.

Venturing Event Information:

Photography Show: Photos should highlight something from the past 100 years of scouting. All photos should be turned in by Friday Night prior to the start of the floating movie. Photos can also be submitted in advance to the Minsi Trails Council Office. Judging will be based upon a donation contest. 50% of donations collected for your photos will go to a predetermined charity of your choice. 50% of all monies collected will go to the charity of the winning photo.

Cake Contest: Preregistration is required. All participants will be required to supply their own cakes. The cake design should highlight the past 100 years of Scouting. Icing will be provided at the contest. Judging will be based upon a donation contest. 50% of donations collected for your cake will go to a predetermined charity of your choice. 50% of all monies collected will go to the charity of the winning cake.

COPE: Preregistration Recommended. There will be two sessions of COPE, one in the morning and one in the evening.

Homerun Derby: Rules will be published shortly

Egg Drop: Rules will be published shortly

Amazing Race: Participants will be required to have their own digital cameras.

Geocache: Participants should bring their own GPS Units.

Floating Movie: Attire is at the general discretion of the unit leader.

Rock Climbing: Must be 16 years of age to participate per university policy. A separate permission form is required.

Venturing Olympics

April 23-25

Resica Falls

ALL TEENS are welcome to attend this event!! That includes Venturers and Boy Scouts!

Group Activities

Teambuilding Games -
Great Music Video

Game Competitions - Wii - Rock band

High Adventure Activities

COPE Elements Climbing Rifle Shooting
Mountain Biking

Olympic Activities

Ultimate Frisbee Softball Capture the Flag Velcro Wall

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION IS

Friday, April 16.

A Late fee of \$5 per person is applied after that date

See Flyer on Website





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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

National Venturing News



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

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



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.



Pictured 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



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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.

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



National Venturing Changes

The National Executive Board recently approved a resolution to change the eligibility requirements for Venturing to ensure consistency among Venturing, high-adventure bases, and other core programs

The current age and grade eligibility requirement for participation in the Venturing program is 14 years of age and completion of the eighth grade.

Effective May 1, 2010, the minimum age requirement will be changed to 14 years of age, or 13 years of age and completion of the eighth grade. The maximum age for participation remains under 21 years of age.

In support of this change, is a list of frequently asked questions. This information is posted at www.scouting.org/venturing

FAQs

Venturing Age/Grade Eligibility Change

Q. When does the age/grade eligibility change take effect?

A. This change becomes effective May 1, 2010.

Q. Does this impact Sea Scouts?

A. Sea Scouts is part of the Venturing program. Therefore, the revised eligibility requirements apply to Sea Scouting.

Q. Does this impact Exploring?

A. No, this change only applies to the Venturing program.

Q. Does this change affect high-adventure bases?

A. No, the age grade requirements are now in alignment with the high-adventure bases. Specifically, regarding our sea bases, the PADI requirements are: Age-12- to 14-Year-Olds Depth-Maximum 8 meters/60feet for Junior Open Water Divers. Maximum 21 meters/70feet for continuing education After Certification-Must dive with an adult certified diver Responsibility and Risk-Parent/guardian and child sign administrative forms.

Q. What effect will this change have on the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints?



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A. This change to age grade legibility will have no effect on the LDS Church's current application of the Venturing program.

Q. Won't this change be detrimental to my Boy Scout numbers, and aren't we just "trading" numbers from a membership perspective?

A. This change to eligibility requirements for Venturing is to provide youth (boys and girls) with late birthdays (generally June-September) an opportunity to join a-crew with their peer group upon completion of the eighth grade. This adjustment is to provide consistency within our program and remove any unnecessary obstacles to increasing membership as these youth prepare to enter high school.

Q. Will this change have an effect on youth summer camp eligibility?

A. This change to the Venturing program will have no effect on eligibility for summer camp participation.

Q. Will this change affect eligibility for youth leadership training for Venturers (e.g., Kodiak Kodiak X, etc.)?

A. No, youth leadership training will continue to follow the recommended course outlines.

Q. Are there any Venturing advancement items that can't be completed if you are 13 years old?

A. This change will have no effect on award eligibility. As a registered Venturer, the youth may pursue the awards of their choosing.

Q. When will the national office update related literature that is used to support the programs?

A. All relevant program groups are auditing their literature resources to determine the necessary updates. This will be an ongoing process, and as literature is reprinted, these changes will be made.

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-0310.pdf>

March FORUM Attachments

http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletters/cluster_attach/forum0310.zip

Bernie Suess

FORUM Webmaster

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