



VENTURING FORUM

Cluster Councils. B.S.A.

November 2009

Northeast Region Venturing News

Patriot's Path Council Venturing Crew 17

January 15-17, 2010.

Open to any Venturer in the NE region to join our Patriot's Path Council Venturing Crew 17 sponsored Snowshoe Adventure in the Catskills, this coming January 15-17, 2010. Working out of Camp Tri-mount as a base camp, we will climb a Catskill 3500 foot peak. This trip is open to beginner snowshoers and more seasoned scouts. We select hikes and divide groups based on skill level. This trip also teaches winter camping skills, as all participants are encouraged to sleep outside -- using the warm cabin for dining and gear. We are inviting any Venturing Crew Advisors and Crew (male or female) Venturers to join the fun with a mid winter mountain snowshoe adventure. Cost is \$15 & \$5 for snowshoes. Food not included. Bring your own and cook it up in the cabin. For more information, contact BigK at rosencra@gmail.com



if you link to our crew website, <http://crew17dcc.vze.com/> you can see photos of past snowshoe trips in the Catskills, since we run this every year. 4 different times are posted 2003-2006

Karen (BigK) Rosencrans
Crew 17 Advisor
Council Venturing Committee Chair

Area 5 Leadership Forum

November 14, 2009

Who should attend?

- ✦ Council & District Key 3
- ✦ Council & District Program Volunteers & Staff
- ✦ Council & District Finance Volunteers & Staff
- ✦ Interested Scouters

Contact your Scout Executive or Charles Spitz for Registration forms at WLBJayhawk@aol.com

Minsi Trails Council Southern Tier Venturing Forum October 19, 2009



At this meeting 15 Venturing Leaders and Venturers were in attendance

CD's containing pictures from the Cardboard Boat Regatta held in August were distributed; copies are

available, contact [John Arno@LordbadenPowell@AOL.COM](mailto:JohnArno@LordbadenPowell@AOL.COM)

The following Training Updates were given:

The Group in attendance thinks the Council should present a Powder Horn in 2011

The Group also thinks that Council should do a Kodiak Program in 2011

A tentative time of March/April 2010 was decided as a target for a VLSC, to be held in Trexler open to all Council Venturing youth

Venturing Leader Specific Training Dates

November 7, 2009 at Trexler

December 12, 2009 at the Scout Office.

Fees to be determined.

Steve Mehl discussed his plans for offering Leave No Trace Training in 2010. Steve is a Master trainer and hopes to hold monthly training sessions in 2010 starting in April. The sessions will last a week end and should cost \$20-\$25



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Amy Frantz (Venturing staff advisor) gave a Venturing Officers Association (VOA). The group has met twice and has a meeting coming up November 12, 2009 at the Council office at 7pm. All Venturers are invited to attend as the VOA forms and develops a Council Program

Minsi Trails Jambo 2010 will be held May 14-15-16 at Kutztown University. Plans are being formed now to offer an exciting program to the Venturing Crews in attendance. Planned is a Friday Movie night "In" the pool and an all night movie marathon on Saturday Night as well as other activities. Interested adults and Venturers who want to help should contact either Amy Frantz, at ufrantz@minsitrails.com or Jason Capone (Venturing Jambo Chairman) at jacapone@gmail.com

A discussion of Crew Calendars took place as well as other information sharing. Alex Stirton mentioned the formation of a council shooting sports committee, of which Todd Heyn is the chairperson. They will be working to expand shooting sports into a year round program, including Venturer specific handgun and centerfire rifle activities. Physical upgrades of shooting ranges at Camp Minsi and Settler's Camp are also in the planning stages

The next meeting of the Forum will be November 16th at 7pm at the Council Office.

Area 5 Training Report

NEPA Council

VLST Jan 10, 2010 NEPA Svc Ctr Moosic Pa

VLST Apr 24, 2010 Camp Acahela during Rendezvous

Burlington County

VLST November 12th and 19th – Thursday Evenings

Wilderness First Aide

May 1st and May 8th – Both Saturdays

Pre-weekend meeting April 19th – Monday Evening

Kodiak July 6-13,2010. Location and price TBD

VLSC November 6th, 7th, and 8th – Weekend

Minsi Trails

VLST December 12, 2009 Council Office Register on line

Key:

VLSC Venturing Leadership Skills Course

VLST Venturing Leader Specific Training

Any Area that has activities, training dates etc send us the information and we will post them in the FORUM.



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Southern Region Venturing News

Venturing Crews in Sweden for 2011 Jambo

There is an active, ongoing effort to recruit multiple Venturing Crews for the 2011 World Jamboree. There is also great interest in sending at least one FULLY UNIFORMED Sea Scout Ship. A great show would be a Ship per region but at least one BSA Ship.

Interested Sea Scouts and Ventures MUST go on line www.scouting.org and create an account under MyScouting. There is an initial \$10 NONREFUNDABLE fee to register, if accepted this fee is applied to the overall cost. Go to the 2011 Jamboree tab and submit your application of interest. THIS IS THE ONLY TO DO IT!!! The Jamboree will be held late July to early August 2011 in the SW corner of Sweden, near Kristenstad, approximately an hour and half by rail from the Copenhagen, Denmark, International Airport.

Circle 10 Council Fall Adventure Camp

Nov 20-22, 2009

Circle 10 - Fall Adventure Camp Wisdom Pirate Ad-Venturing Weekend

Camp Wisdom, Dallas, TX

Events: Orienteering, Black Powder Shooting, Pirate Games, Movie Night

Check in begins at 9am Saturday. Events will continue past midnight All campers must depart by 10am Sunday Cost: \$25

Includes Lunch and Dinner Saturday. Breakfast Sunday, T-shirt, Fun, Bad Pirate accents and an excuse to dress like a pirate!!

Questions: Rebel Rowlette rebel422@... 817-296-4662

Special Friday night event: NRA Basic Pistol Course will be presented. Class starts at 7pm Nov 20th. This course is required for Venturers to shoot any handgun at any BSA event.

Longhorn Councils Venturing Summit has been rescheduled for March 6, 2010 at Worth Ranch.

Nov 14, 2009

Highland Games - at Camp Tahuaya Longhorn
Council

Dec 26-31, 2009

US Cavalry Living History Winter Camp - Sid
Richardson Scout Ranch - Longhorn Council

Nov 14, 2009

Highland Games - at Camp Tahuaya

Dec 26-31, 2009

US Cavalry Living History Winter Camp - SR2

Jan 16-18, 2010

Sea Scout Academy on Martin Luther King day
weekend NASA - Houston.

Feb 26-28, 2010

Crew Bash '10 - Bay Area Council - Camp
Karankawa Get ready as we head out for a
weekend activity smorgasbord.

April 9-11, 2010

Venturing Rendezvous - Camp Wisdom
Council: Circle Ten Dallas

April 24, 2010

Spring Canoe Race - Worth Ranch.

Feb 19-21, 2010

Capitol Area Council trip to Monterrey, Mexico to celebrate Lord Baden Powell's birthday with Scouts from Latin America. Male and female Sea Scouts are explicitly invited and in fact since Scouting in Mexico is fully co-ed, the council is reserving some slots for female Scouts and leaders. Details are on the web site at

bsacac.org/CampingEvents/2010Monterrey.php

Submitted by David Hibbard Phone 469-939-4875



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Western Region Venturing News



Contact:
Cal Hiebsch
Camping Director
Great Alaska Council
Boy Scouts of America
907-337-9547
907-338-6273 fax

chiebsch@bsamail.org
www.scoutingalaska.org

The Denali High Adventure Scout Base announces construction delay and Grand Opening Plans

Due to ongoing road construction on the site of the Denali High Adventure Scout Base, the Great Alaska Council, Boy Scouts of America has been forced to delay the opening of the base until the 2011 season. The new road into the facility is the fruition of ten years labor by BSA volunteers and staff.

For 2011, three weeks of Grand Opening program are planned. All scouting groups meeting the age and physical requirements are invited to come to Alaska and participate in a truly backcountry high adventure experience. Alpine backpacking and whitewater rafting will be the central focus of the wilderness adventure experiences.

In April of this year, the Mat-Su borough approved the road access plan for the property and final approvals were gained from local landowners in late August. This marks the completion of one goal, getting scout onto the 2,200 acres owned by the Boy Scouts near Talkeetna, Alaska, and the beginning of a much wider set of plans culminating in an internationally recognized backcountry adventure base for scouting groups.

The Denali Scout Base is operated out of a base camp near Talkeetna on the Parks Highway. From this location Boy Scout Troops and coed Venturing Crews can participate in backpacking trips along Curry and Kesugi Ridges, backcountry service projects in Denali National Park in cooperation with the National Parks Service and

rafting and other whitewater activities on the Chulitna River. The Denali Scout Base has a 14 year age minimum to best ensure a youth's positive experience in the strenuous backcountry High Adventure Program.

The Great Alaska Council of the Boy Scouts of America is based in Anchorage, Alaska and serves 16,000 youth in much of the state. For more information or to schedule a high adventure trip, please contact Cal Hiebsch at 907-337-9547 or visit www.soutingalaska.org



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Central Region Venturing News

Central Region
Area 3
Venturing Conference
January 30th, 2010

See CR-Area 3 Venturing Conference Flyer
at http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletters/cluster_attach/forum1009.zip

Why Should You Come?

Does your Council want to increase Venturing membership in your Council?

Do you want to have an active group of youth officers for your Council?

Does your council qualify for the Central Region's Council Standards of Venturing Excellence? Do you even know what that is?

Then this is the event for you. Experts in Venturing success at multiple levels of the Venturing program will be the facilitators for this conference.

These experts include a past National Venturing President, a two time Area Venturing President, Council Officers, and more. This is one opportunity you don't want to miss.

Who is Invited?

- ◆ Any Council Professional involved in Venturing
- ◆ Your Council Scout Executive
- ◆ Any Council Venturing Officer, or District Venturing President
- ◆ Any key youth in your Council if you don't have a set of officer
- ◆ Council Volunteer Advisors, and Associate Advisors

Topics of Discussion

- ◆ Recruitment of Dedicated Youth
- ◆ Officer Descriptions and Bylaws
- ◆ How to start a Venturing Officers' Association
- ◆ How to run multi-crew events

- ◆ Venturing Leadership Skills Course/Kodiak/Kodiak X
- ◆ Venturing Awards and Recognitions
- ◆ Effective Communication within your Council
- ◆ Mock Venturing Roundtable
- ◆ Much More

Conference Details

Date: January 30th, 2010

Location: Calvary UMC

1700 N Towanda Ave, Normal, IL 61761

Times: 7:45am (Check-in)-4:30pm

Cost: \$15 per person (includes breakfast and lunch, event materials, and knowledge gained)

Staff for the Course



Sarah Ward
Central Region Area 3
Venturing President

Amanda Vogt
Central Region Area 3
Venturing Vice President
2008-2009 National
Venturing President



Bob Vogt
Central Region Area 3
Venturing Chair



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CREW 131

In June 2009, Venturing Crew 131 headed to the Great Smoky Mountains for their annual Super Event adventure. Their 1st day of trip included a hike to the scenic views of Abrams Falls in Cades Cove. What started out as an overcast day turned into a torrential downpour! They were prepared with raingear, but that did little to help them stay dry. It was as though they were hiking in a tropical rainforest! Rain was not going to stop the Crew members from enjoying the beauty of the park. The trail quickly turned into a creek but the crew headed on towards Abrams Falls. Crew president Gina McGauley described the experience, "Hiking in the pouring rain was so much fun. No one really complained; everyone made the best of it. It was a different side of the natural beauty of the Smoky Mountains." By the time the students returned to the trailhead, they were soaked from head to toe. Following their hike, they toured parts of the park, only to encounter deer, turkey and bear.

Part of their trip, included an early morning bike ride of the Cades Cove loop. Crew member Joey Broerman describes the beautiful sites on the ride of Cades Cove. Saying, "...the best images that come to mind are from brilliant blue morning sky and Smoky Mountains really took my breath away." Bicycling is known as a favorite activity around the Cades Cove area and it is apparent that the Crew agrees. Next on the itinerary was a float on the Littler River. The previous day's rain made the river ideal for a tubing adventure. Following a review of the safety procedures, Crew members jumped into the swiftly flowing river. The river went from calming and relaxing to a river full of fast-moving water. The students took three tube trips before they decided to move on to the next activity. McGauley describes her experience, "Tubing down the river was a lot of fun and relaxing silliness. It's not really something you get to do often, or really something you think about trying. We beat the late afternoon rush

which was great!" Next on the itinerary was white water rafting. The students rafted down class 3 and 4 rapids on the Upper Pigeon River in Tennessee under the watchful eyes of rafting guides. Once done with the rafting the students drove to North Carolina and visit a section of a mountain along the Appalachian Trail. The section is called Max Patch. At about 3600 feet above sea level the Crew hiked to the top of the mountain and surrounded by 360 degree view of mountains as far as the eye could see. Crew member Meghan Reidy chronicles her favorite part of the trip, "My favorite part was Max Patch. To hike on the Appalachian Trail and reach the zenith and see no traces of human habitation anywhere in the vast valley below was absolutely incredible." Another member remembers wanting to paint a picture of the incredible views of Max Patch, "I remember wanting to paint the landscape when we were standing upon Max Patch. I could just see all the shades of blue and grey and what a picture that would make. A photograph just does not due justice. And I can't paint!" It is obvious that Max Patch is a view the Crew members will never forget. It was getting late and even though the students wanted to stay at Max Patch they had to get back to their campground.

The last day of the trip included one last adventure and what some felt was the highlight of the trip, where they did Zorbing.



The Zorb was developed in New Zealand and the Pigeon Forge area is the only location in the US where this can be enjoyed. People get in a large ball and roll down a hill. In reality, they are in a ball within a ball. They are driven to the top of a hill and roll down through a prescribed course. It is as though they are in a large Hamster ball! For some students, Zorbing was something they always wanted to do and now



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could check it off on their bucket list. Member Amanda Finin says, “Zorbing is something you defiantly have to do before you die. It was one of my favorite things I did on the trip.” The students had boat loads of fun on the trip but it was time to head home. The trip was crazy and fun. It was a great way to wrap up the final weeks of summer and is something the students will always remember

Crew 131 (crew131.org) is from Carmel Indiana. The Crew’s mission is to develop leadership skills among its members, provide service to others and engage in activities that are fun and challenging. The planning, organization, preparation and leadership of this trip were all done by Crew members. Previous Crew Super events include a trip to Washington DC, backpack of the Grand Canyon and trips to the Gulf Coast to help in Hurricane Katrina home rebuilding.

This article submitted by Crew member Amanda Finin.



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 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.

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





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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/>



Venturing Crew
NOT
Venture Crew
Venture is a Boy Scout Patrol

ATTACHMENTS



Starting with the October Venturing FORUM Newsletter we have placed all attachments on the website. Anyone wanting the attachments can go to the website and open them or download them.

http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletters/cluster_attach/f/forum1009.zip

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/>

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>

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/>

November FORUM Attachments

[http://www.minsi-](http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletters/cluster_attach/f)

[southmountain.com/newsletters/cluster_attach/forum1109.zip](http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletters/cluster_attach/forum1109.zip)