

The FORUM

Venturing, Sea Scouting and Exploring Newsletter since 2003
October 2019 Issue

Central

Local Scouts and Venturers build an airplane.....
Scoutings Religious Retreat 1019

National and Other

No Articles

Northeast

Jersey Jam 2019
Venturing Jacket Patch

Southern

2019 Frightfest Hollywood
Advanced on the water Leadership Skills Training Released.
SR5- Legacy 1019
Ascension on the Rise Two month old Sea Scout Ship
Places forth in regional competition/

Western

No articles



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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

Large Crews

http://minsi-southmountain.com/newsletters/documents/FORUM-Crew_27-Large_Crews_articles.pdf

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

The FORUM Attachments National

<http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletters/regions/NAT-1019.zip>

Commissioner

[Commissioner Tools Troubleshooting Guide](#)

[Commissioner-Service-to-Exploring-FAQs](#)

Sea Scouting Info:

Sea Scout Advancement Requirements

Sea Scout Application for Area, Regional and National Boat-swain

Sea Scout Eligibility for Venturing Awards and Information On other Awards

Sea Scout Liability Insurance for Watercraft

Sea Scout New Century Universal Uniform

Sea Scout Power Point—State of Sea Scouts Oct 2017

Sea Scout Standard Operating Procedures 2019 **REVISED**

Sea Scout Strategic Plan-SMART

Sea Scout The Value of Sea Scouts

Venturing Info:

Venturing Awards and Recognitions

Venturing Board of Review Guide

Venturing Ethical Controversies

Venturing Goal Setting Time Management for Venturing Crews

Venturing Introduction to Leadership Skills Crews

Venturing Mentoring for Venturing Crews Facilitator Guide

Venturing Standard Operating Procedures (Current

Venturing Terms Lets get it Right

Venturing Venturing FAQ

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Where:

Maumee Scout Reservation ,
12975 West County Road 925
North
Norman, Indiana 47264

Food: provided in the registration
fee. (\$34 if paid by Sept 11)

Activities: Class sessions for
Youth and adults, religious award
information, patrol activities, &
more.

**Scouting Religious
Retreat**

**October 4-6,
2019**

Purpose:

To provide a spiritual weekend
with personal meditation, fun
and fellowship for all youth and
adults.

Provide an opportunity to work
on select Scouting Religious
Awards.

Who can attend:

ALL members of Scouts BSA

See Central Region
attachments for flyers,
booklet and more.

Hosted by:

Catholic Committee on Scouting –
Archdiocese of Indianapolis



Supported by:

Indiana United Methodist
Pathfinder Association



See REGISTRATION PACKET @

www.ccsindy.net

Local Scouts and Venturers Build Airplane At Oscoda-Wurtsmith Community Airport this Summer

When the teacher asks, ‘What did you do this summer?’ four local Boy Scouts from Troop 7 and Venturers from Crew 7 can say: ‘I built a real airplane!’ Three of them are young women.

The program they were accepted to was advertised in local papers in Iosco and Alcona Counties from September of 2018 thru March of 2019 when applications were due. All the applicants completed Young Eagle Flights through the Experimental Aircraft Association prior to applying. Six youth were accepted to the program: Paige Gower from National City was the only Scouts BSA member – Paige is a member of Troop 7 here in Oscoda. The other five are Venturers from Crew 7: Nickoli D’Agrella, Rhea Gereau and Jenya Torsch hail from Alpena, MI; Dillon Mochty and Edward Klenow were accepted from East Tawas and Tawas City respectively. Dillon was unable to participate because he was selected to attend the United States Air Force Academy Prep School in Colorado Springs, CO. Eddie declined to participate once accepted because he had other priorities come up.

The program value to each of the four participants was approximately \$3,000.

The program started on 17 June. The first week was learning about fasteners, standards, sheet metal and composite repair. Scouts learned how to read Cessna service and parts manuals. They constructed a cradle to hold the 1962 Cessna 150B so that the landing gear and engine mount could be removed and sent out for nondestructive inspection and powder coating. John Veld, a retired USAF sheet metal technician from Kalamazoo, MI was the supervising mechanic teaching the Scouts.



Local Scouts and Venturers Build Airplane At Oscoda-Wurtsmith Community Airport this Summer

During the week starting the 24th of June, the Scouts worked on wiring the avionics for the aircraft. Mark Evans joined the Scouts from Traverse City, MI where he is the proprietor of Evan's Avionics. Mark supervised the Scouts as they measured wire, read schematics, soldered and squeezed pins onto wires. The Scouts learned about modern digital avionics and built most of the aircraft wiring harness. Mark was recognized by the Federal Aviation Administration as Avionics Technician of the Year in 2008 and has over forty years' experience working in avionics. He supervised the installation of over \$67,000 worth of high-tech electronics equipment into the aircraft.



Everyone took the week of the 4th of July off.

During week four, Gary Pietroski of Tawas City, MI taught the Scouts how to make an aircraft interior. The Scouts formed foam seats, cut Kevlar fabric and used it to cover seats, panels and make a headliner using a commercial sewing machine. Gary and his wife Penny are the proprietors at Tawas Auto and Boat Upholstery.

Local Scouts and Venturers Build Airplane At Oscoda-Wurtsmith Community Airport this Summer



In week five, starting 15 July, Rollin Tomlin supervised general aviation maintenance and repair. Mr. Tomlin hails from Clinton County, Ohio where he has taught at the Laurel Oaks Aviation Maintenance School and serves as a Designated Maintenance Examiner (DME) for the Federal Aviation Administration. In his role as a DME, Mr. Tomlin administers the practical tests that form the last hurdle prospective mechanics need to master before becoming certified aircraft mechanics. Scouts continued to complete repairs and build systems while also doing nondestructive inspections of various components.

Week six saw a real change of pace for the Scouts. Program focus switched from the airframe to the Continental O-200 aircraft engine. The engine is a four cylinder, horizontally opposed, air cooled engine capable of developing 100 horsepower at sea level. It is a direct drive engine so the crankshaft is connected directly to the propeller and can turn as rapidly as 2,750 revolutions per minute. Marv Poland, the Airport

Local Scouts and Venturers Build Airplane At Oscoda-Wurtsmith Community Airport this Summer

Manager at the Iosco County Airport, a retired Air Force Master Sergeant and a licensed FAA Airframe and Powerplant Mechanic taught the Scouts how to disassemble and inspect the engine. Marv is also a FAA Certified Flight Instructor. Fortunately, the crankshaft was standard and the camshaft required minimal grinding. At the end of the week the engine components were shipped to Kline Aviation in Brooklyn, MI for further inspection and servicing.

Week 7 saw the Scouts return to general airframe maintenance under the supervision of Mr. Dave Young from Tawas City. Dave is a retired USAF Chief Master Sergeant with extensive aircraft maintenance experience in the Air Force. Dave also used to teach aircraft maintenance at Kalitta Air in Oscoda.

The week of 5 August, Mr. Veld was back from Kalamazoo. He continued to show the Scouts how to make metal repairs on the aircraft.



Week 9 was supervised by Sasha Lazic from Wilmington, OH. Sasha is a maintenance supervisor at Cincinnati-Northern Kentucky International Airport where he works on aircraft like the Boeing 777, 767 and 737. He runs a busy general aviation repair business when not at work at Cincinnati. The wings and tail section finally went on the Cessna and the installation of all new, stainless steel control cables began. The airplane landing gear was reinstalled and the plane came back to the ground off the cradle.

Local Scouts and Venturers Build Airplane At Oscoda-Wurtsmith Community Airport this Summer



The week of 19 August, Paul Kline of Kline Aviation in Brooklyn, MI came up to teach the Scouts engine assembly. Paul recently retired after spending over forty years in the business of assembling aircraft engines. He is widely considered one of the most experienced general aviation powerplant mechanics in the State of Michigan. He brought the exchanged case, the inspected crank, the freshly ground camshaft, the engine accessory case and numerous other components. Four new cylinders were waiting at the hangar. Paul taught the four Scouts how to assemble the engine. Each Scout was able to install a cylinder and all worked together on the rest of the engine. At the end of the week, the engine was attached to the aircraft!

Local Scouts and Venturers Build Airplane At Oscoda-Wurtsmith Community Airport this Summer



In the final week of the program, Sasha Lazic returned from Wilmington and led the Scouts in much of the remaining assembly. Since school began during this week, the Scouts could only be present on Friday and Saturday of the Labor Day Weekend. Each Scout had the opportunity to log nearly 400 hours of certified aviation maintenance experience. This is over 20% of the experience generally considered necessary to gain certification as an FAA Certified Airframe and Powerplant Mechanic.

Local Scouts and Venturers Build Airplane At Oscoda-Wurtsmith Community Airport this Summer



Troop 7 and Crew 7 are chartered to Oscoda Post 274 of the American Legion.

Troop 7 is for young women aged 11 thru 17. Girls may join when they complete 5th grade or turn 11, whichever comes first. The Troop meets at Hope-St. John's Church at Mill Street on the beach in AuSable every Wednesday from 5:15 to 6:45 PM.

Crew 7 is for young men and women who are 14 thru 20. Interested youth may join when they turn 14 or finish 8th grade. The Crew meets every other Sunday evening at Hope-St. John's Church from 6:30 to 8:15 PM. The next meeting is the 22nd of September.

Young men interested in Scouts can join Troop 959 at Oscoda Methodist Church. Troop 959 meets Wednesdays from 5 to 6 PM. Troop 959 is for young men aged 11 thru 17. Boys may join when they complete 5th grade or turn 11, whichever comes first.

Oscoda also has a Cub Scout Pack that also meets at Oscoda Methodist Church. Cub Scout Pack 1300 is currently open to boys aged 6 thru 10 ½ and meets Tuesdays from 6 to 7 PM.

Local Scouts and Venturers Build Airplane At Oscoda-Wurtsmith Community Airport this Summer

The 'Air Scouts' of Oscoda for 2019

Rhea Gereau – is a sophomore at Alpena High School in Alpena, MI where she is an honor student. The daughter of a United States Air Force family, Rhea wants to go to college at the United States Air Force Academy. Rhea is a Venturer of Crew 7 in Oscoda, MI and attended National Youth Leadership Training at the Cole Canoe Base this summer, near Alger, MI, when she wasn't working on the airplane. She thinks the experience was valuable and eye opening.

Paige Gower – is a sophomore at Tawas Area High School in Tawas, MI. Paige wants to be a pilot and is still looking at college choices. Paige is a member of Troop 7 in Oscoda, MI. Paige really enjoyed the experience and completed her electronics merit badge by doing a lot of the avionics wiring. She has nearly completed her woodworking merit badge but hasn't had time to do Totin' Chip because she has been so busy in the hangar. Paige was just elected Patrol Leader in her Troop and finished National Youth Leadership Training this summer at the Cole Canoe Base in Water & Woods Field Service Council of the Michigan Crossroads Council.

Nickoli D'Agrella – is a senior at Alpena High School. Nickoli would like to be a scientist and signed up for the Scout Aviation Maintenance Experience so he could learn about aerospace construction. He was really glad he did. Some day he would like to design and operate spacecraft. Nickoli is a Venturer of Crew 7 in Oscoda, MI and he attended National Youth Leadership Training at the Cole Canoe Base near Alger, MI. Nickoli is the Cadet Commander of the Alpena Cadet Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol and thinks that the techniques he learned at NYLT will help him be a better leader. He really enjoyed the Aviation Experience!

Jenya Torsch – is a senior at Alpena High School. Jenya has wanted to be an aviation maintenance technician since she was three years old. She really enjoyed the Scout Aviation Maintenance Experience and plans to apply to Kalitta Aviation in Oscoda, MI next year for entrance into their three-year aviation maintenance technician apprentice program leading to certification as an FAA certified Airframe and Powerplant mechanic. Jenya's favorite area of interest are aircraft engines. Jenya is a member of Oscoda Venturing Crew 7 chartered to American Legion Post 274 in Oscoda, MI.

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Advanced on-the-Water Leadership Skills Training Released

by Sea Scouts BSA



Following nearly two years of development, Advanced On-the-Water Leader Skills Training (AOWLS) is now available to Sea Scout leaders. This program models how adult leaders can step back from the helm, set performance expectations for the youth in their unit, and safely conduct an effective Sea Scout program underway. The course models the methods and objectives of delivering the Sea Scout program while underway (long cruise), and to teach adult leaders how to support youth as they advance in rank, prepare for SEAL, and conduct quartermaster cruises. It is taught at the council level. Multiple councils can host a “cluster” course if a qualified instructor is not available. Contact your Regional Commodore if you need help finding a qualified instructor.

AOWLS Instructor Guide

The AOWLS course is meant to follow IOWLS, Introduction On-the-Water Leader Skills, which provides leaders the resources and on-the-water skills necessary to assist Sea Scouts in achieving Ordinary rank.

[The Instructor Guide and Course materials are available online.](#)

Collectively, IOWLS and AOWLS replace Seabadge Underway.

ASCENSION ON THE RISE

Two-month-old Sea Scout ship places fourth in regional competition

Sea Scout Ship 405 was named the fourth-best unit in Texas two months after being chartered – we repeat, the ship won a major award in only two months of activity. You could stretch your imagination and try to think of it as 60 days or even 1,440 hours. That sort of thing has happened before, but it was in 1912 when Sea Scouts was founded.

The ship, SSS Ascension, was chartered this summer at Georgetown, Texas, near Austin, and met for the first time on July 7, 2019. Yet they won fourth place at the Minto Rendezvous Skills Competition on Sept. 6-8, 2019. An annual, regional competition, Minto this year was run by the Sam Houston Area Council and was at Bovay Scout Ranch near Navasota, Texas. The competition will be in Austin in 2020.

There are ships in Texas that are more than 50 years old -- one is in its 95th year -- and Ship 405 sailed past them in the annual state-wide competition. So what gives? How in the name of the Dred Pirate Roberts did this happen?



Ship 405 skipper Michael McAlister said the ship had some help from a troop. The youths in the new ship were somewhat familiar with Sea Scouts, as the core group already was in Scouts BSA Troop 405. The troop and the ship share the same chartering organization, Christ Lutheran Church. Eventually, youth from four troops made up the new ship; There are 15 active youth.

“When I think about that, it reminds me of a saying my dad had: ‘You can’t sell anything out of an empty wagon,’ ” McAlister said, who doubles as Skipper of Ship 405 and Scoutmaster of Troop 405. “What helped us was to have a good foundation and not the ‘empty wagon,’ ” as troop members already had studied sailing, first aid, swimming, knot-tying, life-saving and other skills that apply to Sea Scouts during their normal Scouts BSA advancement work. The BSA rule is that youths can be members of both a troop and a ship at the same time; all aboard the SSS Ascension are also members of troops.

ASCENSION ON THE RISE

Two-month-old Sea Scout ship places fourth in regional competition

When asked, the youths said the most fun of starting a new ship was the actual process. They chose the name of the ship – Ascension, the act or process of moving or rising up -- a logo, a T-shirt design and the other things that come with building a fixer-upper.

"I like that we have the freedom to create the rules and start from scratch. I like to fix the boats up, and it is satisfying to watch them go from a beat-up donor boat to something we can sail," said boatswain (pronounced bow-sun) Conor McAlister.

Added crew member Noah Bollinger, "When I joined the ship, I wasn't too interested. But gaining the ability to approach stuff head-on in Sea Scouts changed my perspective on how setting up the new ship was completely different from a troop. And that it was one of the greatest things I've taken part in in Scouts."



The core group of the ship are Scouts who have been around each other for several years, and ranged from First Class to Eagle. And in each of the past three summers, troop members have done an event with Sea Scouts. Austin has a series of lakes and rivers surrounding the city that the Ship 405 uses, as opposed to driving to the Gulf of Mexico. When the opportunity came to start a new ship, the youth already had some sailing experience. And Michael McAlister sees similarities in program between troops and ships.

ASCENSION ON THE RISE

Two-month-old Sea Scout ship places fourth in regional competition



“Personally, I believe that Sea Scouts is the best compliment for a district to enhance the scouting experience for the community,” the skipper said. “This program takes so many skills learned in (traditional) Scouting and carries them further into more advanced uses and methods. It is the perfect outlet for an Eagle or a Life Scout to learn more and take that advanced learning back to their troop to be better teachers to the young Scouts of that unit. I know my son takes tidbits he sees as boatswain back to his PLC meetings and incorporates some of it into the troop. It has worked well, and all of our Sea Scouts remain active with the troop.”

Those tidbits assisted at Minto, which had 24 areas of competition, including heaving line, Rules of the Road, paddle-less canoe rowing, nomenclature, knot-tying, putting together a small sailboat while blindfolded, first aid and a skit. But the best competition was Flotsam Flotilla, where participants before the competition put together “boats” that were made of cardboard, glue, bailing twine and a plastic cover. Some “boats” negotiated the water with the deft touch of a mariner, and others took on copious amounts of water and fell into Davey Jones’ locker at the Bovay pool. Ship 405 was able to complete the course and finished fourth in the Flotsam Flotilla. They ship also received the Innovation in Design Award from race officials.

“Minto was a fun experience for us and as skipper I am very proud of how well they performed,” Michael McAlister said. “When pressed about what the leaders have done to make it fun, it was the boats. We had boats from the start.”

Even one boat that was equal parts work and fun in the Flotsam Flotilla.

SR5 LEGACY OCTOBER 4-6

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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/>

Southern Region Sea Scout

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

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

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