



FORUM Newsletter

Since 2003



Southern Region News

College of Venturing- Circle Ten Council 2012

Session I 8:30-9:30	Session II 9:40-10:40	Session III 10:50-11:50	Session IV 12:40-1:40	Session V 1:50-2:50	Session VI 3:00-4:00
		VN701 Sessions I-VI	Venturing Leaders Specific Training (VLST)		
VN702 When Eve Hits the Trail	VN703 Overview of ILSC	VN704 American Heritage Girls and BSA	VN706 Sea Scout Adult Basic Training pt1	VN706 SSABT pt2	VN706 SSABT Pt3
VN707 SCUBA for your Crew and Troop	VN708 Canoes and Kayaks for Venturers	V710 Venturing Shooting Sports	V709 The AMC Guide to Outdoor Leadership pt1	V709 Outdoor Lead- ership pt2	V709 Outdoor Lead- ership pt3
V711 Principles of Servant Leader- ship for Crews	V712 Issues facing Coed Crews	V713 Venturing for Troops- Crew Troop relations	V714 Starting New Venturing Crews	V715 Successful New Venturing Offi- cers Seminar	V716 Venturing Leave No Trace Camping
VN717 Land Navigation for Ven- turers	VN718 Facebook and Scout- ing pt1	VN718 Facebook and Scouting pt2	VN719 Caving for Crews and Troops pt1	VN719 Caving for Crews and Troops pt2	VN705 What is Pow- derhorn?



VENTURING - BSA

Flag Disposal

**Pictures from Flag Disposal at American Legion Post 280 E. Pasadena, Ca
(our charter organization) Buglers Nathaniel Yuan, Mark G. Riebs.**



This is an annual ceremonial event Post 280 sponsors for Memorial Day and Veteran's Day with Venturing Crew 561 providing LIVE buglers for the rendering of TAPS which has been presented for the last 6 years.



**Bugling is Alive!!!
Mark G. Riebs
Venturing Crew 561 Honor Corps Advisor**



Circle Ten Council University of Scouting
Southern Methodist University
January 7, 2012 8:00am-4:30pm
<http://www.c10univ.org>
\$25.00 Early Registration
\$40.00 after December 12, 2011



New for 2012 is the introduction of the College of Venturing! Venturing advisors can spend the entire day on Venturing-specific topics.

Who should attend University of Scouting?

YOU should attend for sure, along with hundreds of your fellow Scout leaders from Circle Ten Council. All registered leaders, potential leaders and parents that are looking for the very best program for their Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Venturers will find a variety of class sessions relevant to their position in Scouting.

How do I register and where will it be held?

Registration flyers will be available online and distributed at Roundtables and District meetings beginning in October. Online registration will be available in November. Both the course catalog and registration will be online at <http://www.c10univ.org>. This year we have expanded the number of available classrooms which will be in the Cox School of Business and the Bobby Lyle School of Engineering at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas.

What's included in my registration fee?

In addition to receiving a full day of fun, filled with interesting class sessions, handouts, and fellowship with hundreds of fellow Scouters, everyone will receive a special patch, drinks and a delicious lunch. We will also host a University Midway for you to meet with and learn more about our local, scout-friendly retail and charitable organizations. After the event, notes from many of the sessions will be available online.

Please be sure to visit <http://www.c10univ.org> for updates and information regarding class registration and information.

Central Region News



The November 2011 Central Region Venturing newsletter written by the region's 2011-2012 Venturing officers is now available on our website newsletter page at <http://crventuring.org/Home/Newsletters/> or directly at <http://crventuring.org/document2.php?s=1&id=549>

Highlights this month include:

Then and Now: Past Officers
National Youth Leadership Society
Upcoming Deadlines
Venturing Leadership Awards changes
Area 3 Conference
President's Corner
CRVenturing.org highlight



Please forward this email to all your Venturing and Scouting contacts (youth and adult). Increasing our communications among Venturers and other Scouts and Scouters can only help to increase our membership.

You can opt-in to this distribution via <http://oi.vresp.com/?fid=b0f0b0acfa> Note too that this email has an opt-out feature. If you no longer wish to receive the monthly Venturing newsletter announcement, you may opt-out.

We also encourage you to sign up for our Yahoo group at <http://cr.venturinglist.com>

and our Facebook group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/crventuring/>
and our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Central-Region-Venturing/5584419563>

and our Twitter feed at <http://twitter.com/CRVenturing>

Yours in Venturing,

Thomas Spargo

Central Region Venturing Vice President - Communication

Deb Keyes

Central Region Venturing Associate Advisor - Communication

<http://crventuring.org>

Northeast Region News

Monmouth Council Venturing

Monmouth Council Venturing Leader Specific Training

December 10, 201, 9:00am – 4:00pm,

Monmouth Council Service Center

705 Ginesi Drive

Morganville, NJ 07751

732) 536-2347

Contact Stacy Ehling

Monmouth Council Venturing Update

The Monmouth Council Venturing Program has experience some tremendous activity and growth so far this year.

In August, we hosted a Venturing Kickoff event at Quail Hill. Over 30 Venturers representing five of our Crews attended the event, as well as almost 20 youth who were looking for information on Venturing or interested in joining. Each Crew had its own presentation table with exciting information about its focus as well as past and upcoming activities. Everyone enjoyed the food, fun and swimming. Considering it's the first such event we've hosted, it was a rousing success and notable start to the year.

Several of our Crews have launched their programs for the year with a number of activities, including deep sea fishing, camping and backpacking. A number have hosted their own open houses to formidable recruiting success.

For the last few years, we have encouraged all our Crews to communicate and open their events to Venturers from other Crews. This cooperation will afford Venturers broader opportunity to enjoy different things but also allow the Crews to benefit from greater participation. Our "Monmouth Venture Crews" Facebook page (Yes, the term Venture Crew is wrong) , which now boasts over 50 members, was created to facilitate their communication.

In addition to new Crews starting in Wall and Tinton Falls, Monmouth Council has a new Sea Scout Ship (SSS 5) that has launched in Red Bank, sponsored by the Navesink Maritime Heritage Association. The Ship has two trips already planned, which are likewise open to all Monmouth Venturing Crews.

Also exciting is the increased participation we are seeing at our monthly Venturing Forum, which is held the third Wednesday of each month at the Service Center at 7:30.

Ed Millington

Venturing Committee Chair

Monmouth Council BSA

SHARK FEEDING- THE ENCOUNTER

By Joseph A. Mandara Sea Scout of Ship 26, Hempstead, NY

Sculptured by the eons of time into a masterpiece of nature, sharks have traversed the vast corridors of our oceans for four hundred million years. Unfortunately, with the help of Hollywood's horrific anecdotes, we have engrained in our minds a corrupted vision of this aquatic marvel as a ferocious, blood-thirsty predator intent on devouring human flesh. As is often the case, artistic license and anecdotal evidence not always reflect, and often distort, reality.



Throughout the many dives I have taken, ranging from the murky waters of Long Island, to the crystal-clear waters of the Caribbean, to the undulating and shadowy kelp forests of the Pacific Ocean, I have not—except for the occasional docile nurse shark—met face to face with this legendary predator.

As a passionate scuba diver and biologist, I have often wondered if all the fears inculcated in me by the continuous bombardment of media falsehoods would cause me to panic during my first shark encounter at Stuart's Cove in the Bahamas. I knew the evasiveness of this animal had finally come to an end when, suddenly, I was surrounded by at least fifty Caribbean reef sharks.

The sharks swiftly appeared and disappeared from all directions, while I stood motionless, gripping a rock on the ocean floor. Caught in a vortex of these formidable animals, I became hypnotized by their elegance as they effortlessly glided toward their meal. My body was pushed side to side as their massive frames displaced pulsating torrents of water towards me. A few even bumped into me as they sought to plunder the remains of their feed! As I looked closer, I noticed that some of their bodies were marked with scars, and that one was missing its lower jaw—signs of an embattled existence in a world of merciless competition and survival of the fittest.



Their needle-like, triangular serrated teeth, so clearly visible in the unclouded waters, attested to their status as dominant predators. The foraging lasted for several minutes. Soon the sharks dissipated and vanished into the cerulean waters of the Caribbean. The state of excitement and adrenaline rush soon abated and the serenity of the underwater world returned. I found myself exploring the ocean floor collecting shark teeth that were shed during the feeding frenzy.



This thrilling episode takes place every day at Stuart's Cove in the Bahamas. Shark bate is released on the ocean floor and suddenly a pack of Caribbean sharks surround you. It is an experience and spectacle I will never forget

Introduction to Leadership Skills for Crews

~ Open to all Districts ~

- WHEN:** Sunday, January 8, 2012
WHERE: NEPA Scout Service & Training Center, Montage Mt. Rd., Moosic
COST: \$5.00 Includes light refreshments, materials & recognition
TIME: 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

You are cordially invited to the Introduction to Leadership Skills for Crews. A Venturing Crew is led by elected crew officers. The Introduction to Leadership Skills for Crews is designed for all Venturers and helps teach, in an active way, to effectively lead. All Venturers may attend, not just elected officers.

This training is being offered to introduce Venturing Crew Members basic leadership skills needed to operate a Crew. The training is divided into three topics:

- Unit Organization**
- Tools of the trade**
- Leadership and Teamwork**

Venturing Leader Specific Training

Sunday Jan. 8, 2012

COST: \$3.00

Includes light refreshments, recognition and training materials

TIME:

Check-in: 12:45 PM 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM

WHERE:

Northeastern Pennsylvania Council Service Center

This Session is for all Crew Charter Organization personnel, Venturing Crew Advisors, Associate Advisors, Crew Committee, Commissioners, Staff and all adults interested in Venturing. Ships are also included in this training. Prerequisites: Venturing Fast Start & This Is Scouting (both found online at www.scouting.org).

Sessions covered are Venturing Mission, Methods and Understanding and Protecting Youth, Leadership and Organization, Awards & Recognition & Crew Program Planning

National News



The National Sea Scout Committee has open SEAL Training - Sea Experience Advanced Leadership Training for Boy Scouts and Venturing Crew members that have the qualifications.

In Sea Scouts this training is for the Boatswain and or Boatswain's mate. Youth Leaders that run the Ship

Unlike NYLT and NAYLT, the youth member must come with prerequisites as noted

Each person that applies must meet the Sea Scout Ordinary requirements as well as having strong Navigation and Seamanship skills

The age for each candidate is 14 and it is a Coed training venue.

Candidates must have the adult leaders recommendation and approval

There is also a preliminary testing give by the Course Director before entering the course

All applications are due March 1st, 2012

The courses will be located as noted on the following page and applications may be downloaded from this link

http://www.newseascout.org/index.php?option=com_edocman&task=document.viewdoc&id=6&Itemid=183

Also note that 2012 is the 100th centennial anniversary of the Sea Scout program

If you wish further information you may contact

Jim Elroy

National SEAL Coordinator

SEAWOLF410@aol.com



Upcoming Seal Courses 2012

Southern Region SL-53-FL-2012 *Date: June 16-24, 2012 Location: Miami, Florida Vessel/type:* SSTV *Trident* (45' Viking Sportfish Convertible) motor vessel *Cost:* \$250 *Contact:* Skipper Lee Popham (NEW EMAIL) Popham@earthlink.net

Northeast Region SL-54-MD-2012 *Date: June 23-July 1, 2012 Location: Chesapeake Bay, Maryland Vessel/type:* SSTV *Der PeLiKan* (44' Morgan ketch) *Cost:* \$250 *Contact:* Skipper Doug Yeckley email douglas.yeckley@comcast.net

Northeast Region SL-55-NY-2012 *Date: June 23-July 1, 2012 Location: Long Island Sound, New York Vessel/type:* SSTV *Resolution* (Hinckley 40 Bermuda yawl) *Cost:* \$250 *Contact:* Skipper Noel E. Guzman email sss441Vigilant@nyc.rr.com

Southern Region SL-56-TX-2012 *Date: June 30-July 8, 2012 Location: Galveston Bay, Texas Vessel/type:* SSTV *Gremlin* (38' Little Harbor) *Cost:* \$250 *Contact:* Skipper Rob Freas email rbfreas@utmb.edu

Western Region SL-57-CA-2012 *Date: July 6-15, 2012 Location: Newport Beach, California Vessel/type:* SSTV (41' Formosa ketch) *Cost:* \$225 *Contact:* Skipper Philip McNamee email psmcnamee@earthlink.net



Ask Andy



Hi Andy,

The church that sponsors our troop also sponsors a Venturing crew. Some of the boys are members of both. An issue about uniforms has come up. The boys want to wear their Venturing uniforms to troop meetings, even though they're registered Boy Scouts. The crew's meetings take place on different evenings from troop meetings, so it's not like they're moving from one activity to another. What is proper? Can these two uniforms be worn interchangeably by those who are members of both a troop and a crew? (Melody Harrelson, Venturing MC, Coastal Carolina Council, SC)

This is an interesting situation! First, a little history... There was a time in Scouting when it was standard procedure in many troops that, when a Scout hit age 14, he became an Explorer and joined an Explorer post that was intimately linked to the Boy Scout troop (same sponsor, often same meeting night, just met for a bit more after the troop meeting ended). Of course, as Explorers, we got to wear our forest green shirts and pants, with spankin' white web belts and brown neckties, and I can tell you from personal experience that this was totally aspirational —There wasn't a Scout in the troop who wasn't counting the days, if not minutes, to his 14th birthday, so he could wear "the greens" like the big guys! It was, I must tell you, *powerful!* (And it was one of the things that kept us in the program!)

So now you're in a situation not too far away from mine of several decades ago... And I'll bet dollars to donuts that the same aspirational elements are operating. So, understanding that you're hearing this from a volunteer Scouter whose boots are on the ground and who wants to keep young men in the program as long as possible, here's how I'd call it...

If you're double-registered in the troop and in the crew and you're under 18 and male, you can wear your Venturing uniform to troop meetings and outings *but* it must be *complete*, with Venturing shirt, "legal" belt, Venturing pants or shorts, and Venturing socks—*no exceptions*.

If you don't want to wear the whole Venturing uniform, then you wear your complete Boy Scout uniform, and no "mix-and-match."

In either case, if the troop wears neckerchiefs, all youth—Scouts and Venturers both—wear neckerchiefs. Again, no exceptions.

Talk over with the Scoutmaster the idea of first presenting this to the officers of the Venturing crew and see what they have to say. Then, if they buy in, tell them that it's not a done deal yet—Not until the troop's Patrol Leaders Council (the Senior Patrol Leader and the Patrol Leaders) agree, which the Scoutmaster will coordinate. If both groups agree, you've got a deal. If one says yes but the other says no, then it's no deal till the two groups work it out between themselves and then come to both the crew's Advisor and the troop's Scoutmaster with their own proposal.

If you adults create an "edict," no matter how fair it seems to you it'll still be perceived as unfair and will set up an "us-and-them" situation, which you definitely don't want. But if the youth members find a way to agree amongst themselves, buy-in won't be an issue at all!

What's new with Kodiak in 2011

- **Course is not radically changed** – Kodiak is still an experiential learning course. Now has increased emphasis on tying the Leadership Skill with the trek.
- **Terminology**- In order to align with all leadership courses the language between all BSA courses needs to be consistent. “Commission” becomes “Leadership Skill” and other terms and models are now the same in all courses.
- **Leadership Skills Taught**- 7 Core skills from the Intro to Leadership courses are practiced and internalized.
These are: Planning; Vision; Communication; Team Development; Inclusiveness; Values; Servant leadership
Decision Making Now a part of Problem Solving in NYLT. New skills include Inclusiveness and Servant Leadership (from Kodiak X.)
Planning and Vision which were commissions in the old Kodiak are still there but they are now taught before the trek itself.. Some of the Kodiak X games have been brought over into Kodiak to reinforce some of the current leadership skills
- **Kodiak X** has been discontinued since Servant Leadership was added to Kodiak and Mentoring is now a stand alone program in BSA
- **Intro to Leadership Skills is now required** prior to doing a Kodiak trek. This course was formerly called VLSC (Venturing Leadership Skills Course) in Venturing and TLT (Troop Leadership Training in Boy Scouts).
Trekks will be stronger after NYLT and even better after NAYLE.
- **Course flow** - Intro to leadership skills is the new basic training for youth, NYLT is the next level of learning and then finally NAYLE is the contained outdoor experience normally done on a camp property for youth.
Kodiak takes the experience into a challenging outdoor 4 to 6 day trek. If your youth takes the first three courses and then takes Kodiak they are better prepared to reinforce their leadership skills that they have learned previously. However Kodiak can be taken anytime after the Intro to Leadership skills course.
- Kodiak is open to unit, cluster, council or joint council treks.
- The **reinforcement items** such as the acorn, and feather are an optional choice of the hosting. Recognition items such as bear claws, Kodiak patches and medal are strongly encouraged.
- Conferences for Trek leaders (youth and adult) will be offered and highly encouraged. The conferences are focused on helping units and councils succeed in their efforts for successful youth experiences on Kodiak treks.
- For more information on the new Kodiak contact leadershipbsa@gmail.com



Websites:

National Venturing Site

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

Central Region Venturing

<http://www.crventuring.org>

Southern Region-Venturing

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

Southern Region Sea Scout

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

Western Region

www.wrventuring-bsa.org

Northeast Region SeaScout Net

<http://seascout.net/>

USA Scouting Service-Venturing

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

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/>

FORUM Newsletter

<http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletters/FORUM-1211.pdf>

FORUM Attachments

http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletters/cluster_attach/forum1211.zip

FORUM Back issues

http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/venturing_archive.htm is for old newsletters

Bernie Suess

FORUM Webmaster

bjssuess@troop362.com



FORUM Newsletter

The FORUM is a National cluster concept and a friendly way to help Scouting Leaders exchange ideas and programs among our troops, crews, Posts, Ships, councils, areas and regions.

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

The newsletter "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 us your Crew, Ship and Post Newsletters. By-Laws, Articles, 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. We are seeking support from anyone interested in working on the newsletter or future website.

Thanks for all you do!

Bob "the BEAR" Monto—Editor in Chief

Charles A. Spitz Northeast Region Editor

Sarah Polan Southern Region Editor

Ken Bower Western Region Editor

Open –Central Region Editor

Ask Andy Column By Andy

