

The FORUM

Venturing, Sea Scouting and Exploring Newsletter since 2003
December 2016 Issue

Central

1116 Central Point Newsletter Highlights
0217-43th Winter Amidships (WAM)

National and Other

New Sea Scout Manual available
New Exploring Activity Library
0117 Florida Sea Base
Go Nomad 2017 Asia/Pacific Regional Jamboree
Sea Scout Promise
Sea Scout Emblem

Northeast

Large Crews A series of articles on Large Crews
See the entire Large Crew in FORUM Downloads

Southern

Western



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The Current FORUM Newsletter:

http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletters/current_forum.php

The Current FORUM Attachments

http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletters/~forum_attach.php

The FORUM Back Issues

http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/venturing_archive.htm

This issue's attachments include:

Central

Central Point Newsletter 1116

National and Other

Exploring Info:

Law Enforcement Exploring Pistol Championships

International

31st Asia Pacific Regional Jamboree 0717

Sea Scouting Info:

Sea Scout Log Fall 2016 First Issue

Sea Scout -Advancement Requirements

Sea Scout—Commodores Corner 2016-11-18

Sea Scout - Eligibility for Venturing Awards and Information
On other Awards

Sea Scout - Strategic Plan-SMART

Venturing Info:

Venturing - Awards and Recognitions

Venturing - Board of Review Guide

Venturing - Ethical Controversies

Venturing—FAQ 2015

Venturing - Goal Setting Time Management for
Venturing Crews

Venturing - Mentoring for Venturing Crews Facilitator Guide

Venturing - Standard Operating Procedures (Current_

Venturing - Terms Lets get it Right

Northeast

NEPA-1216 VOA Newsletter

Crew 27 Large Crews (Articles on Large Crew Operations)

Southern

No Attachments

Western

No Attachments

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The November 2016 edition of the Central Point, the Central Region Venturing newsletter, written by the Central Region's Venturing Officers is now available on our website at <http://crventuring.org/Home/Newsletters/>. And in the FORUM attachments

Articles this month include:

**Thanks for Venturing
November's featured camp
CR VP Advice
Upcoming Activities
Advisor's Minute
President's Corner**

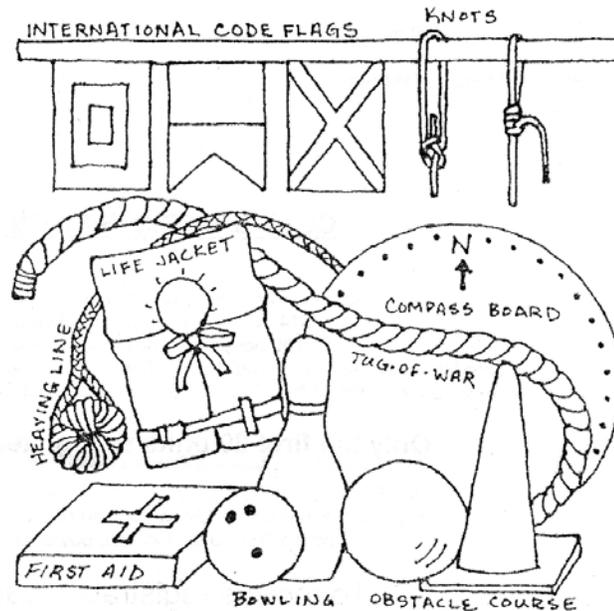


**Yours in Venturing,
Ariana Herman
Central Region Venturing Vice President - Communication
vp-communications@crventuring.org
Deb Keyes
Central Region Venturing Associate Advisor - Communication
<http://crventuring.org>**

43rd WINTER AMIDSHIPS (WAM)

Saturday, February 25th, 2017

- ✓ Register online
- ✓ Co-ed Event
- ✓ Dinner & Dance
- ✓ Indoor and Outdoor Events
- ✓ Team Building
- ✓ Ribbons, Trophies & Patches
- ✓ 43 Years of Experience



Dear Unit Leaders and Members,

Bay-Lakes Council of the Boy Scouts of America and alumni of Fond du Lac/Oshkosh Scout units are proud to invite you to Winter Amidships (WAM) co-ed Scout event to be held

Saturday, February 25th, 2017, at the National Guard Armory Fond du Lac, WI.

This 1-day event is open to units of Venture Crews, Sea Scouts, Career Explorers, Boy Scouts, Varsity Teams, Girl Scouts, and American Heritage Girls.

Events: Knots, Compass Board Relay, Life-Jacket Relay, First Aid, International Code Flags, Obstacle Course, & Scooter Race events all have 4 members each; Heaving Line & Bowling have 3 members each; Battleship Tournament-2 members. Tug-of-war teams have an 800 lb. weight limit.

The day also includes dinner, awards presentation, dance, and event patch. Pre-registration is required online on the Bay Lakes Council web site. We will accept up to 20 units OR 200 participants, whichever comes first. On-time registration AND payment is due Feb 10, 2017 (late fee applied after).

AGE REQUIREMENTS**: Venturers*, Varsity Team Members*, Sea Scouts, Girl Scouts/Mariners, Boy Scouts and American Heritage Girls must be at least 14 years of age **OR** 13 years **AND** have completed the 8th grade. Explorers must be at least 14 years of age **AND** have completed the 8th grade. All Venturers, Sea Scouts and Explorers may compete up to their 21st birthday. Girl Scouts/Mariners and American Heritage Girls may compete through their senior year of High School. Boy Scouts and Varsity Team Members may compete up to their 18th birthday. All units must be accompanied by 2 adult leaders (**one must be at least 21 years of age**). *Venturers and Varsity Team Members who are part of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints must be 14 **AND** have completed the 8th grade.

**[Effective May 1, 2010 by BSA's National Executive Board]

FOR A COMPLETE EVENT FLYER AND MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT US AT:

Winter Amidships
(WAM) Chairman:
Ann Gratton, Oshkosh WI
920-231-3015
wamgratton@gmail.com

Winter Amidships
(WAM) Staff Advisor:
Jon Martin
920-638-3432
Jon.Martin@scouting.org

Bay-Lakes Council, BSA
Appleton WI
800-372-6887
www.baylakesbsa.org

**The new Sea Scout Manual
is available at ScoutStuff.org.**

That's right!

The Sea Scout Manual has been reissued with lots of new content; including new rank advancement requirements and electives, paddle sports, the New Century Universal Uniform, a new appendix on insignia, and much more.

Get your copy through your local Scout Shop or order online at ScoutStuff.org; be sure to use the new SKU No. 620543 2016 Printing.



NEW CENTURY UNIFORMS

HAVE YOU SEEN THE NEW EXPLORING ACTIVITY LIBRARY?



For years, the field has been asking for more “meat” in the Exploring program, and now it’s here! The National Exploring team has worked with a variety of subject matter experts to develop new content for the Exploring Activity Library – a web-based resource for new and seasoned Exploring leaders available at www.exploring.org. Each activity lists learning objectives, required materials and step by step instructions for the facilitator.

Currently the activity library has 105 activities and is growing every month. The National Exploring Career committees will assist in securing new content on a regular basis in all career fields. In addition to the 12 career-specific Exploring categories, there is also a Life Skills category with activities relevant to all career fields. Topics like resume writing, online presence, email etiquette and more can be found in the Life Skills section.

Check it out and tell us what you think! Leaders who use the activities can vote “yes” or “no” for each activity (scroll to the very bottom of each activity to vote) so we can monitor not only the relevance but also the effectiveness of each activity. Questions or suggestions? Email us at exploring@flmail.org.



Go Nomad! (This is not a cheer for your local sports team)

Go Nomad is the theme for the 2017 Asia/Pacific Region (APR) Jamboree being hosted by the Mongolian Scout Association in late July, early August 2017. Nomads wander and roam the countryside and this is still the habit for about one half of the population of Mongolia.

Mongolia is about one quarter the size of the USA but we have 100 times the population so that going around in Mongolia it seems very large and empty. About one half of their three million population live in the capital city of Ulaan Baatar (there are many acceptable spellings of this name in English).



The Jamboree is going to be held just outside the city limits of the capital city in the national children's center, a facility built by the Soviets in the late 1970s. The theme of Jamboree will celebrate Mongolian culture which includes horse riding, camel riding, archery and other cultural activities and exchanges including a visit to the dinosaur museum. Did you know that more dinosaur remains have been found in Mongolia than anywhere else?

It is expected that about 10,000 Scouts from APR Scouting organizations and other countries will be in attendance.

The weather in Mongolia has two extremes, very hot and very cold. July and August is the hot part and temperatures are usually in the high 90s and dry.

Although the Jamboree is short in duration, the BSA contingent will be gone roughly three weeks. Here's the plan: We will travel in a group, probably leaving from Salt Lake City to Beijing, China. A three day stop in Beijing to visit the Forbidden City, the Great Wall and other sites then board the train for an exciting overnight ride to Ulaan Baatar. Arrive in Mongolia and move directly to the Jamboree site.

Since Mongolia is so spread out the post Jamboree stay is planned for five days. This will offer the opportunity for home stay, sight seeing in UB (even the Mongolians shorten it) and side trips to various points of interest around the country. There will be an opportunity to develop a menu of options for visiting coming in future updates.

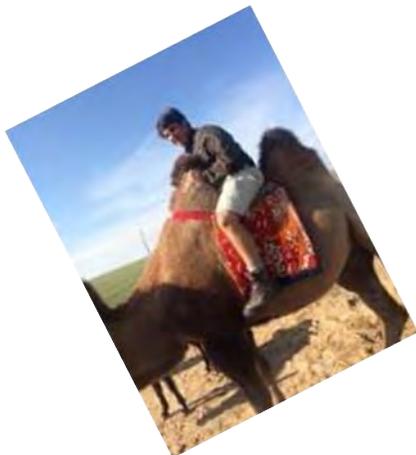
One must see is the giant (80 meter high) statue of Gengis Khan built on the site where he got his vision to spread conquer the world.

UB is a modern city in the midst of rapid growth. A special Scouting connection is that the lead architect for the design team on both the new international airport and the largest building in the country is a Scout and served as an International Camp Staff member in Camp Daniel Boone, NC in 2009.

After the Jamboree and visiting afterwards, we will fly directly from UB back through Beijing to Salt Lake City and then to your home towns. This travel will require both a valid US passport with at least six months remaining before the expiration date and a Chinese visa. Mongolia does not require a visa for short stays.

Head of contingent for this trip is Pete Armstrong, [828-654-9920](tel:828-654-9920), peteberet@aol.com. This event is a Daniel Boone Council event not a BSA national event.

Since this is the bottom line I will tell you what I believe will be the bottom line, \$3000 all inclusive. Unfortunately this is an estimate because it is still too early to make the travel plans.



I'd like to work on the staff at the Florida Sea Base. How can I find out about that opportunity?



A number of Sea Scouts have served on staff at the Florida Sea Base. What a job; what an adventure! Sea Scout applicants have a leg up because of their combined nautical and Scouting knowledge. You can learn more and find an application at <http://www.bsaseabase.org/Seabase/Resources/Employment.aspx>

What are our plans for Sea Scout membership growth?

The national BSA goal is to grow at least 2% per year. We'd like to lead the way with even better results in Sea Scouts. If we gained just one net new member for every Ship we'd easily beat that goal. Plus the Ship Growth and Retention Group at the National Sea Scout Committee is developing a kit of materials to help new units get started and a mentoring system to make that easier

**For the Complete edition of the -Commodores Corner 2016-11-18,
see attachments**



January
Week 1: 8-14
Week 2: 15-21

2017 Florida Sea Base Volunteer Training Conferences

Join us in the beautiful Florida Keys to learn with experienced and informed Scouters with ample time to enjoy the climate and beauty of the Keys!

January 8th-14th

- ◆ The Council/District Training Committee
- ◆ Key Concepts of Commissioner Service in Scouting's Second Century
- ◆ The Mechanics of Training



January 16th-21st

All Program...All the Time

- ◆ Cub Scouting
- ◆ Boy Scouting
- ◆ Venturing
- ◆ Disabilities Awareness
- ◆ Advancement

(Sign up for *one* of the conferences listed.)

Don't miss the boat!

Registration for the 2017 training conferences is now open. Click here <http://BSA.kintera.org/2017FSBC> to register.

Registration fees: \$495 per conference participant

\$300 per non-conference attending spouse

All registrations must be received **no later than December 31, 2016**. A welcome letter with additional conference information will be sent with your registration.

Please note that due to the conference and Sea Base schedule, early arrival and/or late departure might require you to find off-site housing.

Questions?

Conference-related: 817-430-5303
Facilities-related: 305-393-7374

Conference housing:

Although the Florida Sea Base has a vast program facility (the Atlantic and the Gulf of Mexico!), it has a limited land base. Therefore, housing for ALL participants will be in the SCUBA dorms. The dorms consist of separate male and female bunk-style beds with common bathroom/shower facilities. The dorms are quite comfortable, but they were built with the occasional summer or fall tropical storm in mind which means they are on the second story and do not have elevator access.



Available Spouse Opportunities

Sunset Cruise
Stand-Up Paddle Board
Kayaking
Dolphin Research Center
Snorkeling
Gallery Tours
Everglades
The Turtle Hospital

Conference fees include:

- ◆ Housing
- ◆ Meals
- ◆ Snacks
- ◆ Bedding and Towels
- ◆ Meeting Facilities and Course Materials
- ◆ Sunset Cruise (weather permitting)

The Council/District Training Committee

For members of the district training committee and council training committee and trainers, this conference features the latest tools, techniques, and best practices to help you increase the number of trained leaders while building a successful and sustainable training program. Additional topics include creative ways to reach the untrained leader; how to utilize unit trainers; and methods to recruit, train, and strengthen the district training team. Participants will also learn where to find, interpret, and act on council training data. The most current information on new and/or revised syllabi for volunteer training courses will be shared.

(Jan. 8-14)

Key Concepts of Commissioner Service in Scouting's Second Century

Unit service is all about impact. This conference will focus on the impact that commissioners have on units. Whether you directly serve a unit or serve as a roundtable or an administrative commissioner, this conference is for you. The conference will enable participants to strengthen the relationship between unit service and district operations while strengthening unit key 3 relationships. The conference will also provide ways for commissioners to extract data from Commissioner Tools and turn it into actionable information which will be the basis of the unit service plan. You will gain a better understanding of the methods commissioners use to help units better serve more youth through Scouting.

(Jan. 8-14)

The Mechanics of Training

Designed for unit-, district-, and council-level volunteers and professional Scouters, this conference will cover the mechanics of training including the latest training tools, techniques, and best practices. Participants will be instructed in how to use My.Scouting Tools, the Learning Management System (LMS), training reports, and basic training requirements for leaders. Also discussed are meeting the JTE goal for training, monitoring and promoting volunteer training awards, and how to plan, organize, and implement a unit/district/council training plan.

(Jan. 8-14)

All Program...All the Time

We know you have a passion for the Scouting program. The question is, what can we do to deliver a more robust program and get more youth involved? Come and spend a week with members of the National Program Development Team where we will focus on every aspect of program execution and delivery as well as how to make it so much fun that you can't help but grow. You can spend your week focused totally on your favorite program or mix it up a bit. You'll have over **FIFTY** different topics to choose from, covering Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, Venturing, Disabilities Awareness, and Advancement. Whether you choose to focus your learning or just sample around, you'll have the opportunity to spend some time with experts in each of these program areas. You don't need to become as knowledgeable as they are, but knowing how your program can benefit and be benefitted by the full family of Scouting will move you to the next level. No matter what your current Scouting position is, if you're into delivering or supporting an awesome Scouting experience, this week is for you. Just to give us an idea of your interest, register for the conference specific to your passion, but come prepared to take home a broader view of all that Scouting has to offer.

(Jan. 15-21)



SEA SCOUT EMBLEM

In 1920, a young man had to be a First Class Scout to join Sea Scouts. As a result, the First Class anchor has been used in the Sea Scouting program for more than 90 years. The key component of the First Class anchor is the Scout universal emblem, a fleur-de-lis. The three points signify the three points of the Scout Oath, duty to God and country, duty to others, and duty to self. Like a compass, the center point always points north symbolizing a true course in life. The eagle with the shield is the national emblem of the United States of America, and it represents freedom. The scroll with the Scout Motto represents a Scout's smile and reminds us to "Be Prepared." The knot attached to the bottom of the scroll is to remind you that, as a Sea Scout, you have promised to do a Good Turn daily. The stars beneath the eagle's wings symbolize the ideals of truth and knowledge as guides in the night sky for finding our way. They reflect our nautical life and suggest a Scout's outdoor adventures. The anchor symbolizes Sea Scouts' maritime heritage.

THE SCOUT OATH

On my honor I will do my best
To do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law;
To help other people at all times; and
To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and
morally straight.

THE SCOUT LAW

A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind,
obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent



THE SEA PROMISE

As a Sea Scout I promise to do my best:

- To guard against water accidents
- To know the location and proper use of the lifesaving devices on every boat I board
- To be prepared to render aid to those in need
- To seek to preserve the motto of the sea:
Women and Children First

Large Crews

A series of articles

By Pete Mapes, NCAC Crew 27 Associate Advisor



Northeast Region Crew 8 World Scout Jamboree 2015
Crew Advisor Dr Pete Mapes and a group from Crew 27

Program is the most important element of a strong Senior Division Unit (Venturing, Sea Scouting and Exploring). Without program that is interesting and fun for the Venturers, Explorers and Sea Scouts, any Unit will flounder and fail. For this reason, Dr. Pete Mapes leads off a series of articles this month on Large Crews with a discussion of Program. Over the next several months he will follow up with articles on Large Unit Operations, Recruiting and Youth Leadership. Stay tuned for a peek at what turned into the largest Venturing Crew in the fourth largest Council in BSA!



Large Crews

Adult Support, the view from the Committee

By Nona I. Mapes, Crew 27 Committee Secretary

Crew 27 (of the Potomac District in the National Capital Area Council/082) started with only 5 Venturers and grew to over 60 registered Youth members in six years. Behind those initial 5 Venturers were 8 parents and 2 adult volunteers. The Crew now boasts nearly 70 registered Venturers and over 100 involved parents, including 30 registered adult members and several Youth Protection trained parents who are considering BSA membership as well.



Crew 27 on the porch of The Pack House in 2014 during their summer adventure trip to MI - "looking for Paul Bunyan"

A critical part of any Crew's success is that they must have their own dedicated adult support. If you try to economize by using one committee for two units or only adults who already strongly support another unit, there will be conflicting needs. Inevitably, one unit will become the loser unit and no-one wants to be in that Troop/Crew. Also, the Committee to a Crew is much more hands off than a Troop Committee and being patient and supportive while the Crew takes time to figure out their plans is a major skill the Crew Committee needs to learn as the Crew grows.

Large Crews

Adult Support, the view from the Committee

By Nona I. Mapes, Crew 27 Committee Secretary



Crew 27 at their 'Hangar Party' summer adventure campout in southwestern Ohio in 2013 -
"Native Americans"

Crews can become large when the adults support the Venturers and the program the Crew members create. Program is the key, if the Crew is doing things that appeal to youth in the area, they will want to become a part of it. It all starts with a Chartering Organization (CO) that does not restrict membership. Crew 27 went through two Chartering Organizations before they settled with a local Volunteer Fire Department that supported our version of "leave no Youth behind." The Crew shouldn't restrict membership either, anyone meeting age criteria and willing to try to follow the Scout Oath and Law should be welcome.

The original Key Three (Chartered Organizational Representative-COR, Advisor and Committee Chair) started with a few basic assumptions about how the Crew would function. Everyone was welcome to come learn how to have a great time while practicing living the Scout Oath and Law. If anyone finds that they don't want to try to follow the Scout Oath and Law on any given day, we remind them that they are volunteers and suggest that they can take some time off. They are also welcome to do an 'attitude adjustment' by taking some personal time to eat, rest or rehydrate. They can always connect with their parents and relocate to a place where they can do what they want. They are just as welcome to come back to the group any time they are happy to practice Venturing Ideals. Practicing choosing what you really want is a new skill for some.

Large Crews

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Crew 27 paddles Squam Lake, NH during their 2015 summer adventure to Vermont and New Hampshire

The Key three also wanted to make sure the youth understood they were valuable. All the parents are encouraged to take Youth Protection Training (Y-2) and adults are only allowed on outings as part of the Crew if they can show us they have taken it. The Crew allows Venturers to be driven by their parents but parents can only transport other Venturers if they are registered as adult leaders with the Crew who have completed Venturing YPT training. If not riding with their parents, Venturers may travel with registered and trained adult leaders who are either Advisors or Committee Members. Parents who are adult leaders and BSA members in other Scouting units are viewed the same way as our own Crew adult leadership once they demonstrate that they have completed Venturing YPT. This is because BSA Adult Leaders have agreed to allow BSA to do background checks just like those done on our Venturing adults so they meet our Crew standard for youth protection.

Large Crews

Adult Support, the view from the Committee

By Nona I. Mapes, Crew 27 Committee Secretary



The Green Bank Radio Telescope during the Crew 27 2016 summer adventure to West Virginia - "Listening to the Stars"

In Crew 27, all the guardians/parents that may be involved in Crew activities are put on our contact roster. The Crew has quarterly parent meetings where they are invited to assist at scheduled activities. Adults who wish to join the Crew start out as Committee members. They take Venturing Youth Protection Training when they apply to be BSA members and we try to help them get completely trained in the first 6 months after they join. For adults planning to stay on the Committee, this includes the Crew Committee Challenge. For those adults who want to move into operations as Associate Advisors, Advisor Training and Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills (IOLS) as well as the on line safety trainings: Weather Awareness, Climb Safely, Paddle Safely and Safe Swim Defense are in their futures. The Crew also invites adults seeking designation as Associate Advisors to complete American Red Cross Adult and Child CPR/AED and Community First Aid Training which is taught in the Crew by Crew adults who are also American Red Cross Instructors.

Large Crews

Adult Support, the view from the Committee

By Nona I. Mapes, Crew 27 Committee Secretary



Whitewater at the 2013 National Scout Jamboree on the New River - First time Venturers at the NSJ!

For the monthly outings, we ask the Venturers to file a Tour Plan for every overnight trip. This ensures the committee meets its responsibility for making sure that the Venturers plan has enough adult resources including transportation, first aid, specialized safety training, and funding or contracts.

Especially in a Large Crew, you want to train the youth to keep themselves and each other safe. The Scout Oath and Law is a good start. The Crew has Red Cross Instructors in the crew who teach and certify all the youth and some of the adult members. You can also make sure every Venturer gets to review the Personal Safety Awareness for Venturers video at least once each year. This is particularly important if they are going to a large event like Scout camp or a Jamboree.

Large Crews

Adult Support, the view from the Committee

By Nona I. Mapes, Crew 27 Committee Secretary



First Crew 27 Advisor - Pete; Second Crew 27 Advisor - Lisa

If your crew is inclusive you will find that not all the members can fund their own way without some type of support. Fundraising helps make sure funding is not a reason to stay home. With a large Crew there may be business or personal sponsors who help out. Popcorn and product sales can also help Venturers earn their own way or work as a team to meet the Crew needs. A little extra organization like scheduling a few well timed sales events at high volume traffic areas can make the effort well worth the time. Selling Scout approved products like popcorn can also support Council programs that the Crew relies on.

Large Crews

Adult Support, the view from the Committee

By Nona I. Mapes, Crew 27 Committee Secretary



Crew 27 at the Antietam National Battlefield for the Luminaries in 2015 - We'll be back in 2016!

Committee service to a large Crew can be particularly rewarding. You can see the youth grow into caring, competent adults as they progress on their Venturing journey. To quote the Public Broadcasting Corporation, your time with the Venturers becomes "time well spent!"

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/>

Northeast Region Sea Scouting

<http://www.nerseascout.org/>

Southern Region-Venturing

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

Southern Region Sea Scout

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

Western Region Sea Scouts

<https://wrseascouts.wordpress.com/>

Western Region Venturing

<http://wrventuring.org/>

USA Scouting Service-Venturing

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

UniformingFAQ.asp

www.venturingmag.org

Venturing Magazine

www.venturingmag.org

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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rmonto47@gmail.com

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