



# VENTURING Report

Cluster Councils. B.S.A.

February 2008

## Kodiak Courses

### Occoneechee Council , TN

Camp Durant, NC and Nolichucky

Gorge Camp, TN



The activities are climbing, rappelling, C.O.P.E., basic kayaking

and swim test for weekend 1 and whitewater rafting, caving and a half day hike on the Appalachian Trail.

June 6-8 & June 13-15, 2008

Cost- \$200 by 4/30 \$250 after

Contact Doug Branson at

[ockodiak@windstream.net](mailto:ockodiak@windstream.net)

See Attachments Cluster0208-Kodiak0408Application and Flyer

### Camp Napowan, WI

River canoeing with overnight camping; rock climbing and rappelling; geo-caching and horseback riding.

\$250 by 4/15 \$300 after

June 14-20, 2008

Contact George Zogaib at

[venturing4fun@hotmail.com](mailto:venturing4fun@hotmail.com)

### Flathead River, MT

Whitewater rafting

Cost \$400

July 5-12, 2008

Contact Joe Garrett or Craig Murphy at

[snojo@verizon.net](mailto:snojo@verizon.net)

### Patriots Path Council

This rugged 50 mile AT trek through the [AMC's celebrated hut system](#) in the presidential range of the White Mountains of New Hampshire is in its 6th year.

Cost \$800.

July 8-15-2008

Contact Scott Anderson at

[scottanderson@att.net](mailto:scottanderson@att.net)

### Blue Ridge Mountains Scout Reservation, VA

This course is a Northeast Region Kodiak course which will be conducted at a BSA facility in Southern Region. The course will be led by Crew 292 with trainers and participants from crews 292 and 1420 of the Baltimore Area Council. A course flyer is forthcoming.

July 20-26, 2008

Cost \$300

Contact Bob Gallo at [snojo@verizon.net](mailto:snojo@verizon.net)

Visit the Kodiak website at:

<http://www.kodiak-bsa.org/>

Attached find the Kodiak and Kodiak X order forms

## Powder Horn Course Information



The courses and host councils scheduled for 2008 are:

### Daniel Webster Council

July 11-13; July 18-20

Hidden Valley; Camp Bell

Cost \$225

Contact Gary Dolan at [daddolan@comcast.net](mailto:daddolan@comcast.net)

### Pennsylvania Dutch Council

Aug. 15-17; Sept. 5-7

Camp Bashore

Cost \$225

Contact Bob Ander at

[bighomeybob1@juno.com](mailto:bighomeybob1@juno.com)

Website

[http://www.cccbsa.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=542&Itemid=66](http://www.cccbsa.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=542&Itemid=66)

### Green Mountain Council

Aug 22-24; Sept 5-7

Mt. Norris Scout Reservation

Cost \$TVD

No Contact info

### Northeastern PA Council

Aug 22-24; Sept 5-7

Goose Pond; Camp Aachela



# VENTURING Report

Cluster Councils. B.S.A.

February 2008

Cost \$230

Contact Walt Godshall at  
[rosewalt68@msn.com](mailto:rosewalt68@msn.com)

## Finger Lakes Council

Aug 22-24; Sept 12-14

Camp Gorton; Camp Babcock Hovey

Cost \$225

Contact Steve Wheeler at [bafamz1@linkny.com](mailto:bafamz1@linkny.com)

## Connecticut Yankee Council

Aug. 22-24; Sept. 26-28

Deer Lake Scout Reservation; Sequassen

Scout Reservation

Cost TBD

No Contact Information

## Colonial VA Council

April 18-20, May 2-4, 2008

Cost \$240

Contact Bill Monroe at [wcmunroe@cox.net](mailto:wcmunroe@cox.net)

For course information and application to all Regional Approved Powder Horn courses or the Regional Powder Horn Course Directors Courses visit

[www.powderhorn-bsa.org](http://www.powderhorn-bsa.org)

Participant qualification:

- Must be a registered member of the Boy Scouts of America.
  - Have completed Venturing Leader Basic Training (for Venturing adults) or Scoutmaster Fundamentals (for Boy Scouting adults) prior to attending Powder Horn course or New Leader Essentials plus position specific training.
  - Be able to meet physical requirements of BSA Class III physical in a backcountry environment.
  - Must have their Scout Executive's approval.
- For more information about the 2008 courses, please contact the host council or visit the Powder Horn website [www.powderhorn-bsa.org](http://www.powderhorn-bsa.org).

## 2008 NE Region Area 4 Venturing Quest

The 2008 Area 4 Venturing Quest event will be held on April 11-13, 2008 at the Moraine Trails Council's beautiful Camp Bucoco

[http://www.doubleknot.com/openrosters/view\\_homepage.asp?orgkey=887](http://www.doubleknot.com/openrosters/view_homepage.asp?orgkey=887)

**Camp Bucoco** is located along the Slippery Rock Creek in Butler County, Pennsylvania -- about 2 miles from Slippery Rock University.

The camp offers an excellent site for the Quest and the volunteers and staff of Moraine Trails council are enthusiastic about this opportunity and are looking forward to hosting the Area 4 Venturers.

The AVOA is planning to offer a variety of activities that will appeal to Venturers.

Please stay tuned for details about the theme and program activities. You will want to register early as we only have room for 400 people!

This event is open to all Venturers and Sea Scouts. Come as a crew or organize a council VOA/TLC contingent!

Watch the Area 4 AVOA web site for updates and to view the fun experienced at the first two Quest events. [www.ne4avoa.org](http://www.ne4avoa.org)

For more information or to become part of the planning process email [info@ne4avoa.org](mailto:info@ne4avoa.org)

## Website Links:

National Venturing Youth Cabinet  
<http://www.nationalventuringyouthcabinet.org/N>  
NER Venturing  
<http://nerventuring-bsa.org/>  
NER-Area 4  
<http://www.ne4avoa.org/>  
Kodiak  
<http://www.kodiak-bsa.org/>  
Powder Horn  
[www.powderhorn-bsa.org](http://www.powderhorn-bsa.org)  
Southern Region  
[www.srbsa.org](http://www.srbsa.org)  
Southern Region-Venturing  
<http://srventuring-bsa.org/newsite/>



# VENTURING Report

Cluster Councils. B.S.A.

February 2008

## Presidents Day Sea Scout Training Weekend



The Delaware Valley Flotilla, in conjunction with the Burlington County Council, BSA is sponsoring its 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Presidents Day, Sea Scout Training Event.

**When:** Boarding: from 1600 – Friday - 15 February 2008. Departing: approximately 1400 - Sunday - 18 February 2008.

**Location:** Burlington County Council's - Pine Tree Education & Environmental Center, Tabernacle, New Jersey.

A \$10 per person, non-refundable deposit is requested to reserve your spot by Jan. 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008. The balance can be paid on arrival. This event is expected to fill up. Failure to send a timely deposit may result in your placement on a waiting list.

**See Flyer attached –Cluster-0208-DelawareValley**

## VENTURING scOUT Area 5 Southern Region News Events & Training

The Southern Region Area 5 issues a great newsletter and communication piece for the councils in Area 5

### *Highlights reposted are:*

- Area 5 Officers
- Venturing Council Policy Changes
- Venturing and Woodbadge Staff  
National and Council websites

See attached Southern Region Report  
**Cluster-0208-SR-Area 5**

## Baltimore Area Council Kodiak



The Baltimore Area Council is conducting its first Kodiak Course July 20-26, 2008 at the Blue Ridge Mountain Scout Reservation (BRMSR) near Hiwassee, VA. Bob Gallo (Advisor, Crew 292) is the course director. The BRMSR's New River Adventure (whitewater rafting, whitewater canoeing, climbing & rappelling, caving and high and low COPE) will serve as the Kodiak Trek. Although this course is using a high adventure program conducted at a Southern Region Scout reservation, it is a Northeast Region-affiliated Kodiak Course. This course is currently listed on the Kodiak web page. The Kodiak course staff and all participants will be from the Baltimore Area Council.

**BOB GALLO**

Kodiak Course Director

Baltimore Area Council, BSA

Phone: 410-569-8059

## Minsi Trails Venturing Forum



Minsi Trails Council is pleased to announce Multi-District Venturing Forums (formally known as Roundtables). The southern tier will consist of Trexler, South Mountain and Forks of the Delaware Districts. These meetings will be held on the Third Thursday of the month. The initial meeting will be on February 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 PM at the Council Office. The agenda will consist of meeting each other, discussing what needs the Venturing Crews have and how best to meet them. Future agenda's will be influenced heavily by this discussion. Those interested may contact John Arno at [JAXRAY@AOL.COM](mailto:JAXRAY@AOL.COM) or by phone at 610.866.1810.

If any Council has run a successful Forum, please email us agenda, success stories, etc. at [rmonto@aol.com](mailto:rmonto@aol.com)



# VENTURING Report

Cluster Councils. B.S.A.

February 2008

## Northwest Suburban Council

### Proudly offers the new Kodiak Leadership Training Course

June 14, 2008 – June 20, 2008 at Camp Napowan- Wild Rose, Wisconsin

Leadership and service to others are two key tenets of Venturing, the Boy Scouts of America's fast-growing teen program. Combine these two elements and you get the concept of **"The Servant Leader."** Servant leadership as a philosophy teaches that the leader works with and through a team to accomplish the mission.

Rather than just talking about leadership, Venturing through the new Kodiak course teaches useable and relevant leadership skills that every teen can use.

VLSC is highly recommended for the Kodiak course. THIS course is open to Venturers and Boy Scouts ONLY.

See Flyer attached Cluster-0208-Kodiak Training

Lauren L. Brandt Venturing/Exploring Staff  
Advisor at (315)789-1166

lbrandt@fingerlakescouncil.

See Flyer attached Cluster0208-NER-Area1

## Southern Region Georgia Council Venturing and Explorer Event



Some of the

### events include:

- Advanced Emergency Medical Competition
- Volleyball Tournament
- Talent Show Contest
- Firearms Competition
- Basic First Aid
- Tabletop Display Contest
- MOCK TRIAL
- EXPLORING and VENTURING
- High Adventure Climbing
- Sea Scout Block Reeving
- Sea Scout Heaving Line

Event website: <http://www.nega-lfl.org/winterfest08/winterfest08.html>

## Northeast Region Area 1 Rendezvous



Come help us celebrate the **10 year anniversary of Venturing.**

We, the Finger Lakes Council of the Boy Scouts of America, will be hosting this event at **Camp Babcock- Hovey, in Ovid, New York.**

Any **Crew, Ship, or Post** is welcome to join us the weekend of **July 25th through July 27th, 2008** for this celebration. There will be a cost of **\$20 per person** for this event.

Look for registration packets in January!

Rendezvous 2008

Kathy Sinack,

Rendezvous Coordinator

at: [nysrendevous@yahoo.com](mailto:nysrendevous@yahoo.com)

OR For program related questions and information, please contact:

Friday July 25, 2008 Until Sunday July 27, 2008

## National Shooting Sports

Shooting sports programs are popular activities for Scouts of all ages. For many young people, the Boy Scouts of America provides the best access to safe, instructional shooting sports programs. Learning proper skills and safety techniques at an early age often results in a lifetime interest in shooting sports and the outdoors.

The National Shooting Sports Foundation is sponsoring a special grant program for BSA local councils. Grants are available for a variety of purposes, but innovative programs that will attract new members and entice current members to continue on the Scouting trail are most desirable. Projects to improve camp shooting ranges and upgrade equipment also meet the



# VENTURING Report

Cluster Councils. B.S.A.

February 2008

criteria for consideration. The minimum award is \$2,500, and the maximum award is \$10,000.

Check with your Council for current applications when they are available from National.

Bill Evans reports "it is available again this year with a new hundred thousand dollars. Councils need to think beyond just requesting new equipment. They need to think creatively-what will make our request stand out from the others. Last year's winner talked about using shooting as a recruiting tool, or to teach life skills, or to strengthen their programs, etc. The purpose of the gift (\$) by the NSSF was to expand shooting-think in those terms."

The 2008 applications are not available yet, if a council wished to submit early, Bill Evans suggested using the 2007 form and change the dates,

*my ability. I will be able to attend the BSA National Annual Meeting, May 21-23, 2008, to be held in San Diego, CA, and the national Venturing cabinet orientation July 10-13, 2008, to be held in Dallas, TX,*

**For the official application and qualifications see attached Regional Youth President Application.**

## Chester County Council

### V-Week @ Ware



What's V-Week @ Ware? The first ever week of summer camp at Camp Ware (Horseshoe Boy Scout Reservation, Peach Bottom, Pa.) specifically designed to meet the needs and interests of our high school youth. V-Week at Ware runs from July 6-12 with 3, 4, and 7-day programs. Expanding opportunities for high school youth to explore all Venturing has to offer is at the core of V-Week. A detailed flier about the camp is attached.

A week where the days are filled with opportunities to explore the following

- SCUBA Certification
- Caving
- Shooting Sports: Rifle, Shotgun, Black Powder, and Pistol
- Archery
- Plants and Wildlife
- Ecology
- Mountain Biking
- Mountaineering/Rock Climbing
- COPE (Challenging Outdoor Personal Experience)—high and low ropes
- Ultimate Frisbee
- Equestrian
- Land Navigation
- Kayaking
- Volleyball
- Fishing
- Outdoor Cooking
- Living History
- Photography and

## Venturing Around the Country

Venturing Division would like to feature news from crews around the country. Please submit article to the Cluster to forward to National and to share with Venturing Crews, Councils around the country.

## Regional Venturing Youth President

### 2008-2009 REGIONAL

### VENTURING PRESIDENT



**QUALIFICATIONS:** To run for regional Venturing president, a Venturer must: complete the attached Regional Youth President application, obtain all required approvals and submit to your Regional Headquarters prior to March 1, 2008

The nominee must also be able to:

**NOMINEE'S AGREEMENT:** *I am able and willing to run for regional Venturing president. I meet the qualifications listed. If selected by my region, I will serve as its regional Venturing president. If selected as national Venturing president following my term as regional Venturing president, I will serve to the best of*



# VENTURING Report

Cluster Councils. B.S.A.

February 2008

## Graphic Design

- Pottery
- Basic First Aid and CPR
- Wilderness First Aid
- Physical Training
- Conservation
- Outdoor Cooking
- Wilderness Survival

Click on the V-Week link from the Horseshoe Reservation website to learn more: [www.hsr-bsa.org](http://www.hsr-bsa.org). The Master Schedule and program descriptions will be posted around February 1 with registration opening on February 15.

**Full details in attached flyer-Cluster-0208-V-Week**

### **Minsi Trails Forms Religious Life Crew 307**

During the summer of 2007, a few members of St Stephen's Lutheran Church in Bethlehem worked to start a youth group to address a hole in the programs we deliver to the congregation. The church has a well respected preschool along with strong Sunday School and Confirmation program, lacked anything addressing youth once they became confirmed members of the church, typically around age 14. With an aging and declining member base, these youth represent the next generation members and leadership for our congregation. The youth group, it seemed, would be the way to engage these young people in activities, fellowship, and outreach to others, translating values and beliefs into actions. By capturing their interest during their high school and early college years, the hope is that their connection and involvement with the church will become stronger and will help grow the base of new younger members.

As the group struggled to get organized, our family of scouters saw many challenges of delivering program already addressed by the Venturing program, and proposed organizing the group as a BSA Venturing religious life crew to provide the underlying structure (training, youth and adult leadership development, and yes, policies) while

addressing our congregation's Christian education goals...using the BSA program to advance our goals in serving youth.

The first step in the process was to 'socialize' the concept with the other parents already involved as leaders in the youth group. Being thoughtful in showing how our group could use the Venturing program to support us without taking over our program, those leaders welcomed the program as they already recognized that some structure was needed and didn't know how to develop it themselves. With the group's leaders in agreement, we presented the concept to our Christian Education committee for their agreement. Next step was our Church Council, where broader questions on autonomy, finance and insurance all needed to be addressed. With the help of our District Executive in answering questions, our council granted approval.

With church leadership in agreement, we began to discuss the Venturing program with the youth for the first time. We were mindful of the social and political views that can arise with both parents and youth when Scouting is discussed, so we focused on three key topics. First, Venturing would be a program that would supply the underlying support for our goals, not take over our program. Second, as a crew we continue to plan and run our activities focusing on the youth as the leaders, not run by the adults (which the youth loved). Finally, the logo'd t-shirts they were already developing as a uniform was exactly how the crew could run...no need for a formal BSA uniform if they choose. With that, we had 'buy-in' from the youth. Crew number? They voted to become Crew 307 in South Mountain district, drawing on the history of the former Troop 7 at St Stephens in the 50's/60's/70's

The next step was to hold an open house for all the eligible youth in the church and any of their friends. From that night, the initial group of 5 youth became 9, with 2-3 more expected this week...with only one of these youth already involved in Scouting at the troop level. Other



# VENTURING Report

Cluster Councils. B.S.A.

February 2008

new members will come in June when the next group of youth become confirmed members of the congregation, and we work to transition them directly into the youth group.

Next steps? We just completed the 'Activity Interest Survey' with the youth, and will complete the 'Program Capability Inventory' for adult consultants within the next two weeks. With a good group of members, establishing youth officers is on track over the next month. With the groundwork done, we can begin youth leadership training and program planning. The steps are somewhat out of order from the established Venturing new crew methods, but necessary given that there is no established Scouting program at St Stephens on which to draw.

Crew 307 is at beginning of a journey, and the best part of any adventure is 'getting there'. I'll be sure to keep you posted on how the adventure unfolds.

Thanks.

Gary Brueningsen

Crew Advisor, Crew 307

South Mountain District, Minsi Trails Council

The Cluster is looking for additional articles on New Crews, Member retention and Crew Activities, Please submit your success stories to the Cluster.

## Old Colony Council

Just a news update on a recent Venturing Activity in Old Colony Council

On Friday January 18, 2008 the Council Venturing Youth organized an evening at Monster Golf. Golfing in the dark with fluorescent golf balls. Three Venture Crews attended totaling 37 in attendance. Of course a pizza party ended the evening. Lot of socialization and an attempt to be skilled at golf! Many other activities are in this years calendar including a pizza and pool party indoors of course, March 7th. Fun to swim inside while it is so frigid outside!

Editor Bob Monto at [rmonto@aol.com](mailto:rmonto@aol.com)

The youth are very busy planning multi crew events! The adults even have fun hanging out at the events!

Submitted by Bonnie Showstack Council Venturing Chair

## Venturing Cluster

The cluster council concept is a friendly way to help our Venturing program and exchange ideas and programs among the Crews and councils. Our cluster includes councils and Crews from across the Country that support venturing, exchange ideas, Best Practices and activities for the Venturing Program. Our Cluster councils include many councils and Crews in the NE Region and Venturers in Central, Southern and Western regions. The Cluster newsletter is not an official publication of any Region. It is the Venturers newsletter. We have been growing thanks to your efforts.

To help with the distribution of this newsletter can you email me the following: Your Region, Your Area in the Region or Council? This will help to create multiple groupings to distribute your newsletter to Areas instead of larger distributions. This will also allow the addition of new Venturers to the list.

Thank your for your contributions and support in this effort to better support you. If you would like to be added to the list let Bob Monto know at [rmonto@aol.com](mailto:rmonto@aol.com)



Yours in Scouting

**Bob "the BEAR" Monto**