



VENTURING Report

Cluster Councils. B.S.A.

November 2007

Northeast Region Kodiak Courses

Southwestern PA

Jan 11-13 & 18-21 2008

Cape Code, MA

June 20-28, 2008



Powder Horn Course Information

The courses and host councils
scheduled for 2008 are:

Northeastern PA Council

Aug 22-24; Sept 5-7

Goose Pond; Camp Acahela

Finger Lakes Council

Aug 22-24; Sept 12-14

Camp Gorton; Camp Babcock

Hovey

Green Mountain Council

Aug 22-24; Sept 5-7

Mt. Norris Scout Reservation

Daniel Webster Council

July 11-13; July 18-20

Hidden Valley; Camp Bell

Pennsylvania Dutch Council

Aug. 15-17; Sept. 5-7

Camp Bashore

Connecticut Yankee Council

Aug. 22-24; Sept. 26-28

Deer Lake Scout Reservation;

Sequassen Scout Reservation

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.

Burlington County Council

ROCK CLIMBING ADVENTURE

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28TH

6:00P.M. – 9:00P.M.

AT VERTICAL REALITY

See Flyer attached



Venturing Bowling Lock-In

All Venturers, and Explorers
as well as new interested
young adults between the ages
of 14 and 21.



An all night experience that you should not miss. Bowling, music, food and much, much more. More information will be distributed in the early fall.

Saturday, February 2nd – Sunday, February 3rd.
Approximately 10:00 p.m. until 7:00 a.m. –
Please RSVP by Friday, January 25th.

Approximately \$15.00 per registered Venturer,
Sea Scout or Explorer – free to any new young
adult that fills out an application with
registration fees

See Flyer attached

Powder Horn and Kodiak Course Director's Conference



Staff and participants of the 2007 Kodiak
Powder Horn Course Directors Course held at
Camp Alpine September 28-30, 2007



VENTURING Report

Cluster Councils. B.S.A.

November 2007

Bucks County Council

ALL THE BASICS

November 3rd, 2007

8:30-12:00 Unit Commissioner
Training
8:30-12:00 Cub Leader Specific and
Essentials
8:30-4:00 Scoutmaster Specific
(includes lunch)
8:30-12:00 Venture Leader Specific
9:30-2:00 Den Chief Training
\$15.00 fee includes lunch and Den
Chief Handbook
Flyer Attached

Keystone Area Council



Crew 295 of Keystone Area Council planned and executed a 3 day high adventure in Aug 2007. Working with the Climbnasium of Mechanicsburg, PA, they covered the Mountaineering elective of the Ranger Award, learning climbing, belaying and rappelling at the indoor facility of the Climbnasium for two days and camped out evenings at Pine Grove Furnace State Park.

The third day was spent all day with Climbnasium staff and gear climbing and rappelling outdoors at Pole Steeple, a cliff near the state park. Pine Grove Furnace has a quarry within walking distance of the group camp area where everyone cooled off in the ice cold

water after a hot and strenuous day of exertion. The youth planned great menus using a variety of techniques, the highlight of which was cherry crisp in a Dutch oven.

Susan Cunningham, Committee Chairman, Crew 295

Chester County Council

Big V Day coming to Camp Horseshoe on November 3

The goal is to recruit 200 new Venturers into Chester County's Venturing Program by the end of 2007. It is now mid-October 2007. "How are they going to do that?" you may be asking. Hopefully the answer is Big-V Day!

It all began when the new Chester County Venturing Committee was formed in May 2007. The Committee first developed a strategic plan to expand Chester County Council's program. The Strategic Plan identified the following key areas: Recruitment, Program, Communications, Culture, Leadership, Training, Resources, Retention, and National. For each Key Area a committee was formed to address the concerns.

The first major initiative is Big-V Day, a FREE open house at Camp Horseshoe Scout Reservation open to any Venturing-age youth with an interest in the program. Current Venturers are invited to bring non-scouting friends, current Scouts are invited, and encouraged to bring their non-scouting friends for the day to learn more about this BSA program.

The 12-hour day will feature:

- Rappelling & climbing wall,
- Geocaching
- Shotgun & rifle shooting
- Themed party night with DJ
- Mardi Gras Bead collection competition
- Ultimate Frisbee or Frisbee golf,
- Mountain Biking
- Kayaking,
- Tomahawk Throwing
- Individual Crew Showcase and assorted

other activities



VENTURING Report

Cluster Councils. B.S.A.

November 2007

• Bring your lunch, and dinner will be provided

We'll report back after November 3 on the success of this recruiting effort.

See Flyer attached

Carla Lucas, Chester County Venturing Committee

Minsi Trails Council



Venture Crew 63 of Greenwich, NJ recently went rock climbing and rappelling at Allamuchy State Park with a certified rock climbing instructor. We received a safety briefing and overview at our bi-weekly meeting, then tried out our skills on the rocks. In all, 13 scouts and 5 adults participated - it was a great time and the crew is looking forward to the next rock climbing trip.

Becky Henley, Crew Historian

Daniel Webster Council Search and Rescue

We are looking to start up a search and rescue crew in NH. Can anyone give me some contact information on existing Crews that focus on search and rescue, or citizen corps?

Thanks . Joanne M Dickie, ADC Nutfield District and Assoc. Crew Advisor 266 Windham NH, DWC BSA

joanne.dickie@neps.com

Cape Cod Council



Are me Arty's.

Again the crew of the Black Pearl went along to good olde Cape Cod for their Caribbean Weekend.

Over 250 shipmates from Crews, Ships and Post from all over New England made the voyage to the shores of the Cape and Islands Council, for their annual calibration.

On the docket was Shooting, Archery, Blacksmithing, Mountain biking, Canoeing, Kayaking and Sailing.

With the winds blowing over 25 knots we had plenty of ships crews in the water.



As the sun went down over the

yardarm we all went along to thee water front on Greenough Pond for a Pirate party.

The grub was better than the tack and water we are used to on the Black Pearl.

After a weekend of fun, sun and grub we set sail for Davie Jones's locker, we will be returning next year.

Fair winds and seas

Captain Jack Sparrow



Crew advisor on the Black Pearl

Set the date aside for 2008

September 5,6,7 2008 on the shores of Cape Cod

Jeff Stranger, VP Cape Cod & Islands Council. 508-364-3172



VENTURING Report

Cluster Councils. B.S.A.

November 2007

Central New Jersey Council

Recently, four Venture Crew members and two leaders from Crew 51 in Elizabethtown backpacked a portion of the Appalachian Trail located in New Jersey. The Crew started their trek near Unionville New York on Monday July 23rd, and finished on Friday the 27th at the Delaware Water Gap for a total of 51.3 miles.

This section of the Appalachian Trail follows the Kittatinny mountain ridge through High Point State park, the Worthington State Forest and the Delaware Water Gap National Recreational Area. Some of the points of interest for the Crew Members included Rattlesnake Mountain, the New Jersey High Point Monument, Culvers Lake, and the Mohican Outdoor Center.

During their trip, the Crewmembers and leaders were prepared to complete a service project which included clearing dead falls and picking up and taking out trash. By completing a service project and hiking more than 50 miles, the Scouts fulfilled the requirements to earn the 50 Miler Awards, which is a special recognition of Boy Scouts of America. Crewmembers also completed the requirements for the Appalachian Trail Experience patch, given by the Central New Jersey Council, BSA and the Kodiak Leadership Course. The Kodiak course is the highest level of training available to Crewmembers. During the hike the Crew assisted two other hikers by providing them with extra food for their evening meal.

A co-ed Crew for young adults ages 14 to 21; BSA Venturing Crew 51 is chartered by St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Elizabethtown. For information on Venturing Crew 51,

contact Advisor Bob Ardner at 361-0964.



Pictured are Venture Crewmembers and leaders at the start of the trek. Back row left to right; Jonathan Lee, Crew Advisor Bob Ardner, Austin Nilsen, Elliott Clark, Crew Committee Member Joe DiPietro, and Crew President Michael DiPietro.

10th Anniversary Venturing Commemorative Rifles

In celebration of the 10th Anniversary of Venturing, Henry Repeating Arms Company has been issued a licence by the Boy Scouts of America to produce three special edition rifles. The three Special Edition Commemorative Venturing Rifles include a .22 caliber "Golden Boy" rifle, a Henry Lever Action .22 rifle, and a .44 caliber "Big Boy" rifle.

For more information, see the press release on the Henry Rifles Web site http://www.henry-guns.com/press_venturing.cfm

BSA Shooting Sports Grant Program

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.

Councils are encouraged to be creative when applying for grants. They can apply for grants to support weekly shooting leagues, the purchase of portable airgun ranges, supplies to start and



support Venturing crews that shoot and compete, get one or more staff or volunteers trained in multiple shooting sports disciplines as well as a USA Shooting (Olympic) coach, build their own shooting recognition plan (patches and trophies), and much more. There is nothing wrong with improving an existing camp range, but that can be done so much more to offer a convenient, year-round shooting program. For application visit <http://www.scouting.org/venturing/>

Youth and Adult Training

Youth Training

Nature of Leadership

The Venturing Leadership Skills Course is the first step a Venturer encounters on his or her journey toward leadership development. This course is designed to be used by Advisors to teach leadership skills to all Venturers in the crew. It has nine leadership modules that begin with an activity and follow with a reflection. Completion of this course is a requirement for the Venturing Silver Award, and conducting the course is a requirement for the Venturing Advisor Award of Merit.

Kodiak

The Kodiak course combines the elements of leadership and service to others as the two key tenants of Venturing. Servant leadership is a philosophy that teaches the leader to work with and through a team to accomplish the mission.

Kodiak's methods are the following: Challenging outdoor treks to use nature as a classroom (no indoor sessions). Five leadership skills, called "commissions," are taught. They can be offered over a week, or over two

weekends. It uses a hands-on teaching approach with very short presentations.

Kodiak X

This supplementary addition to the Kodiak course adds an additional two leadership commissions and completes the final leadership skills training.

Additional Venturing Youth Training

New Officers' Orientation

This new training offers a much-needed support to Venturing crews with their officers. The sections that it covers are:

- Crew Officers Roles and Responsibilities
- Resources Crew Officers Needs and Use
- Working With Advisors and Older Adults
- How to Plan Your Crew's Annual Program
- Planning Resources

Web-Based training at

<http://olc.scouting.org/info/vco.html>

Youth Protection: Personal Safety Awareness

This training deals with issues facing our young adults today. The vignette covers acquaintance rape, peer sexual harassment, stalking, and two new additions in 2007--suicide and Internet safety. This cutting-edge training addresses head-on the issues facing youth.

Adult Training

Fast Start Guide

This training comes with optional delivery formats. It illustrates how using the Venturing program planning process can get a Venturing crew up and running and off to a successful start. CD-ROM self training

Web-Based training at

<http://olc.scouting.org/info/vfs.html>

Venturing Leadership Skills Course

This syllabus is designed to be used by Advisors to teach leadership skills to all Venturers in the crew. Nine leadership modules each begin with an activity and follow with a reflection. Completion of this course is a requirement for the Venturing Silver Award, and conducting the course is a requirement for the Venturing Advisor Award of Merit.

Powder Horn



VENTURING Report

Cluster Councils. B.S.A.

November 2007

High-adventure resource training designed to introduce and expose Venturing and Boy Scout adult leaders to the activities and resources necessary to operate a successful outdoor/high-adventure unit-level program.

Youth Protection Guideline: Training for Adult Venturing Leaders

This training provides an overview of the developmental transition experienced by young people of Venturing age and how those transitions relate to the personal safety concerns of the Venturing program.

National Logo Contest

In honor of BSA's 100th Anniversary, we want to create a memorable logo that captures the true spirit of Scouting... and, we are calling on Scouts all across the country to help us in the effort! We have launched a national contest to inspire creative thinking and engage Scouts at every level. Every registered Scout is eligible. Entries are due by Nov. 30, 2007. Winners will be chosen in several categories. The overall winner will work with nationally-recognized graphic artist and Eagle Scout, [Kit Hinrichs](#), to format the design for broad use throughout our celebration.

RECOGNITION

Every participant will receive a patch and certificate from BSA. Winners, chosen from the following categories, will be recognized at a May 2008 BSA National Annual Meeting:

- Overall design
- Best Design by an Eagle Scout
- Best Design by a Venturer
- Best Design by a Boy Scout
- Best Design by a Cub Scout or Webelos Scout

The overall winner will receive an all-expense paid trip to San Francisco, CA to work hand-in-hand with Kit Hinrichs to finalize the 100th Anniversary Celebration logo design.

HOW TO ENTER

Sharpen your pencils. Get out your crayons. Warm up your computer mouse. Create a logo design that best captures what YOU believe to be the true spirit of Scouting.

For more information see attached flyer or go to the website

<http://ww2.scouting.org/100years/100years/content/NationalLogoContest.aspx>

Juniata Valley Council

Venture Crew 325 in State College PA had two members participate in the recent search and rescue of Jacob Allen, an 18 year old autistic teen lost for four days in West Virginia.



Eric Struble

Dan Phillips

Dan Phillips, Past Crew President and Eric Struble, Associate Advisor represented Crew 325's Charter Organization, Centre LifeLink EMS as members of the Central Region Emergency Strike Team search and rescue. Both are certified by the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources as Search and Rescue Field Team Leaders and as EMTs. While deployed to West Virginia on October 17 and 18, both Dan and Eric served as Field Team Leaders leading search parties on tasks. Jacob was found on Thursday in good condition by volunteer rescuers, dehydrated and hungry but otherwise OK. Several hundred volunteers participated in the search. Crew 325 is an EMS and Search and Rescue interest crew of Juniata



VENTURING Report

Cluster Councils. B.S.A.

November 2007

Valley Council. Mark Milliron. Venture Crew 325 Advisor

For more information or to become part of the planning process email info@ne4avoa.org

2008 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/openros/ters/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

Editor Bob Monto at rmonto@aol.com



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



Yours in Scouting
Bob "the BEAR" Monto