



# The Central Point



Newsletter of the Central Region | Boy Scouts of America

June 2017

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# THANK YOU, 2016-2017 CENTRAL REGION OFFICERS!

May 31, 2017 marks the end of the 2016-2017 Central Region and Area officers' terms in office. Thank you for your hard work! Here are some final remarks from the Central Region VOA.

### Central Region President: Chris Mausshardt

The Central Region Venturing VOA accomplished a lot during the past term! We created a data base of Venturing specific summer camp opportunities, updated the PowerPoint Data base, and began work on a new website. It is because of the hard work of all the Area VOAs and Region VOA that the Central Region was so successful!

### Central Region Vice President of Administration: Cathie Seebauer

The CR Admin Team had an exciting term! Once again, the Central Region led the nation in number of CSVE (Council Standards of Venturing Excellence) forms submitted. We also developed a brand-new Training Toolbox, which can be found at [www.venturing.org/training-toolbox.html](http://www.venturing.org/training-toolbox.html), and includes tons of supplemental resources you can use at your next Venturing conference or roundtable!

### Central Region Vice President of Program: Emilio Cerda

The 2016-2017 term was a very successful year and each area did a great job of planning and executing their events. Thanks everyone who made this term run very smoothly.

### Central Region Vice President of Communication: Ariana Herman

Overall, the term went well! We sent out the Central Point newsletter. I learned a lot of new things, and had fun as well!



President: [Dominic Wolters](#)

VP of Administration: [Kevin Leahy](#)

VP of Program: [Catherine Colletti](#)

VP of Communications: [Pamela Petterchak](#)

# 2017-18 CENTRAL REGION VOA

We are pleased to announce the 2017-18 Central Region President and Vice Presidents! Read about them below!

## CENTRAL REGION PRESIDENT: DOMINIC WOLTERS

Dominic is from the Northern Star Council in Minneapolis, MN and is a senior at Como Park High School.



**Top Goal for the Year:** Continue to grow the Venturing program across the Central Region through fun programs that engage all participants

**Favorite Color:** Green, like a pine tree

**Most Exciting Place that Venturing has taken Dominic:** With my crew, I was able to teach first aid at a Webelos activity day; the setting wasn't the most exciting, but the people who were there and the ability to share in the Cub Scouts' enthusiasm made it memorable

**Favorite Quote:** "It is better to light a candle than curse the darkness." -Eleanor Roosevelt

Read more about Dominic here: <http://www.crv venturing.org/Home/Fulltext/s=1&id=378>

## CENTRAL REGION VICE PRESIDENT OF ADMINISTRATION: KEVIN LEAHY

Kevin is from Pathway to Adventure Council in Chicago, IL and is a sophomore at the University of Iowa studying Mechanical Engineering.



**Top Goal for the Year:** To promote and support areas in strengthening their relationships with council VOA's through outreach and frequent communication to improve the Venturing program.

**Favorite Color:** Red

**Most Exciting Place that Venturing has taken Kevin:** Venturing Blast at Philmont

**Favorite Quote:** "A person becomes old when they have more regrets than dreams." -John Barrymore

Read more about Kevin here: <http://www.crv venturing.org/Home/Fulltext/s=1&id=382>

## CENTRAL REGION VICE PRESIDENT OF PROGRAM: CATHERINE COLLETTI

Catherine is from the Greater St. Louis Area Council in St. Louis, MO and is a senior at Eureka High School.



**Top Goal for the Year:** Encourage membership growth through top-notch program and recruiting programs.

**Favorite Color:** Purple

**Most Exciting Place that Venturing has taken Catherine:** KT Boundary at Philmont

**Favorite Quote:** "Nothing worthwhile was ever accomplished without the will to start, the enthusiasm to continue, and, regardless of temporary obstacles, the persistence to complete." -Waite Phillips

Read more about Catherine here: <http://www.crv venturing.org/Home/Fulltext/s=1&id=382>

## CENTRAL REGION VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATION: PAMELA PETERCHAK

Pamela is from the Greater St. Louis Area Council in St. Louis, MO and is a senior at Affton High School.



**Top Goal for the Year:** To create engaging content on social media to promote the Venturing program by creating content that engages the Venturing community.

**Favorite Color:** Orange

**Most Exciting Place that Venturing has taken Pamela:** Last summer, I had the life-changing opportunity to participate in Kodiak Challenge at Florida Sea Base! I grew as a leader and made life-long friendships in one action-packed week!

**Favorite Quote:** "Courage cannot erase our fear; courage is when we face our fear." -Disney's *Newsies*

Read more about Pamela here: <http://www.crv venturing.org/Home/Fulltext/s=1&id=382>

# 2017-18 AREA PRESIDENTS

Congratulations to the newly selected 2017-2018 Area Presidents! Read more about them below.

## AREA 1 PRESIDENT: DEANNA ANDERSON

Deanna is from Sioux Council in Sioux, SD and is a sophomore at Black Hills State University studying Business Administration.



**Top Goal for the Year:** To establish a stronger community, online and in person, between the different councils by awarding recognition where it is due and creating a sense of Venturing awareness.

**Favorite Color:** Officially, my favorite color is purple, though I do love various shades of blue and green.

**Most Exciting Place that Venturing has Taken Deanna:** The first day of Venturing, I made relationships with people that changed my life. One of those relationships invited me to embark on a European adventure to Spain. I will never forget how that experience has impacted my life since. I believe it was

that relationship formed through Venturing that led me to the most exciting weeks of my life.

**Favorite Quote:** "Be yourself; everyone else is already taken." -Oscar Wilde

Read more about Deanna here: <http://www.crv venturing.org/Home/Fulltext/s=2&id=98>

## AREA 2 PRESIDENT: GORDON MEIER

Gordon is from Water and Woods FS Council in Lansing, MI and is a senior at Grand Blanc High School.



**Top Goal for the Year:** Hold a Council VOA specific training to get to know the other officers and share our thoughts, insights, and solutions to struggles we have faced in the past. And finally, have a great time!

**Favorite Color:** Neon Orange

**Most Exciting Place that Venturing has Taken Gordon:** Colorado: this crew summer trip was a blast! It was filled with tubing, bouldering in Castlewood Canyon, and snowball fights in the Rocky Mountains. At 14, this really made me realize what Venturing was all about!

**Favorite Quote:** "No matter what people tell you, words and ideas can change the world." -Robin Williams

Read more about Gordon here: <http://www.crv venturing.org/Home/Fulltext/s=2&id=101>

## AREA 3 PRESIDENT: MADDY AGERS

Maddy is from Greater St. Louis Area Council in St. Louis, MO and is a homeschooled senior.



**Top Goal for the Year:** Have the most productive and fun year possible!

**Favorite Color:** Gray (I know it sounds weird, but it's all I like to wear!)

**Most Exciting Place that Venturing has Taken Maddy:** I went to Washington D.C. and visited with a Crew and a Boy Scout Troop. I got to experience it with my friend, Kristina, and my family, which made it even more special.

**Favorite Quote:** "A man can change his stars. And I won't spend the rest of my life as nothing." -William Thatcher

Read more about Maddy here: <http://www.crventuring.org/Home/Fulltext/s=2&id=100>

## AREA 4 PRESIDENT: GRACE PROROK

Grace is from the Greater Cleveland Council in Cleveland, OH and is a freshman at Kent State University studying Digital Media Production.



**Top Goal for the Year:** Form at least one new council VOA.

**Favorite Color:** Pink

**Most Exciting Place that Venturing has taken Grace:** Kayaking with alligators at Saint Joseph's Peninsula in Florida

**Favorite Quote:** "A journey of one thousand miles begins with one step." -Lao Tzu

Read more about Grace here: <http://www.crventuring.org/Home/Fulltext/s=2&id=102>

## AREA 6 PRESIDENT: SYDNEY ROSCOE

Sydney is from Erie Shores Council in Toledo, OH and is a senior at Whiteford Agricultural High School.



**Top Goal for the Year:** To reach out to the Venturing crews in Area 6 and let them know that the Area 6 VOA is there for support and to spread my love for the Venturing program!

**Favorite Color:** Lilac Purple

**Most Exciting Place that Venturing has taken Sydney:** VenturingFest 2016 is my overall favorite experience!

**Favorite Quote:** "A smile is the key that unlocks the lock on everyone's heart." - Unknown

Read more about Sydney here: <http://www.crventuring.org/Home/Fulltext/s=2&id=105>

## AREA 7 PRESIDENT: KEVIN TROY

Kevin is from Pathway to Adventure Council in Chicago, IL and is a sophomore at University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign studying Stage Management for theater.



**Top Goal for the Year:** Add a third event in the late summer to train and empower our Council VOA's.

**Favorite Color:** 2015 Jeep Blue

**Most Exciting Place that Venturing has taken Kevin:** Room Escapes. While I've been many places around the USA with Venturing, I love doing local Room Escapes with the Area team as a bonding experience.

**Favorite Quote:** "Oh yes, the past can hurt. But the way I see it, you can either run from it or learn from it."  
- Rafiki (*The Lion King*)

Read more about Kevin here: <http://www.crventuring.org/Home/Fulltext/s=2&id=99>

# RECAP OF THE 2017 NATIONAL ANNUAL MEETING

By Chris Mausshardt

The Boy Scouts of America National Annual Meeting was held in Orlando Florida. This year Many topics were discussed to make the Scouting program the best it can be. Mike Surbaugh, the Chief Scouting Executive, announced that the National Council was looking at creating a program for both boys and girls. While nothing was specifically decided, it has been promised that further research will be done to find how the Boy Scouts of America can further help the youth of America.



Specific to Venturing, we discussed the impacts of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints deciding to cease the use of the Venturing and Varsity program. While the number of Venturers will decline, the Venturing program is excited as we know that they are developing a program that is better for their needs and will work better for their youth.

At the annual meeting, National Venturing Leadership Awards were presented to youth who had significant impact and leadership for the National Venturing Program. The recipients from the Central Region were Nate Steele, Cathie Seebauer, and Chris Mausshardt. More Information and a list of all recipients can be found here.

<https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2017/05/12/big-hand-8-recipients-2017-national-venturing-leadership-award/>



The Boy Scouts Annual Meeting was an incredible time for leaders of the Scouting program to meet and discuss ways to make the Boy Scouts of America the best program possible. Everyone in attendance is very excited about the future of Scouting.

# VENTURING OPPORTUNITIES

By Cathie Seebauer and Catherine Colletti

## PHILMONT TRAINING CENTER: GROWING A VENTURING PROGRAM AND VENTURING BLAST!

We have two amazing Venturing courses coming up this summer at the beautiful Philmont Training Center!

### Growing a Venturing Program

- July 8-15, 2017
- Intended for crew-level officers, advisors, and committee members
- This conference will show how to use the Venturing ALPS program model as a framework for supporting your individual crew's program and how to establish council support for crews!

### Venturing Blast!

- August 6-12, 2017
- Intended for VOA-level officers, advisors, and staff advisors (district, council, area, region, national VOAs)
- Join with other leaders from across the nation to network, build friendships, and develop skills to help VOAs support an explosive Venturing program!
- This isn't your typical classroom course. Ditch the projector and immerse yourself in the beauty of PTC while enjoying some exciting adventures at Philmont.

Cost for either conference is \$540. There are also scholarship opportunities available! Send your bio and a brief reason why you want to attend to [venturing@scouting.org](mailto:venturing@scouting.org) for your chance.

To learn more about these courses and to register go to: <http://www.philmontscoutranch.org/PTC/conferencesO.aspx>

## NATIONAL JAMBOREE 2017

Where can you go kayaking, climbing, mountain biking, BMX biking, zip-lining, shooting, experience water sports, nightly concerts and speakers, whitewater rafting and more, all in the course of ten jam-packed days? The National Jamboree, of course! This year's Jamboree will include even more program than the last and many improvements have been made since the 2013 Jamboree to make it run even more smoothly.

- The 2017 Jamboree lasts from July 19<sup>th</sup> to July 28<sup>th</sup> for participants, and will be held at the Summit Bechtel Reserve.
- To sign up as a participant, talk to your council; prices will vary depending on the council contingent plans.
- For participants, Venturers and international scouts will be in the same base camp.
- There is still room for staff members, but prospective staff should sign up ASAP. Staff members must be at least 16 and currently registered in the BSA. Staff can attend several sessions: July 15<sup>th</sup>-July 22<sup>nd</sup>, July 22<sup>nd</sup>-July 29<sup>th</sup>, or both weeks. For those under 26, the price is \$425 regardless of whether you staff one or two weeks. For over 26 staff, the price is \$850 for two weeks or \$425 for one week.

To find out more, visit the Jamboree website at <http://www.summitbsa.org/events/jamboree/overview/>. Hope to see you there!

# UPCOMING EVENTS

Event Date (s)	Registration Deadline	City	State	Host	Event
06/02/2017-06/04/2017	05/18/2017	Milwaukee County Zoo	WI	Three Harbors Council	Scouting the Zoo
06/03/2017	05/24/2017	Bridgeview	IL	Pathway to Adventure Council	Wilderness First Aid Certification
06/08/2017	05/24/2017	Springfield	MO	Ozarks Trails Council	Venturing/Exploring Banquet
06/11/2017	06/05/2017	Bonfield	IL	Pathway to Adventure Council	Shooting Sports Event
06/11/2017-06/17/2017	06/01/2017	Omaha	NE	Mid-America Council	Tri-State High Adventure Base
06/18/2017-06/24/2017	06/01/2017	Omaha	NE	Mid-America Council	Tri-State High Adventure Base
06/25/2017-07/01/2017	06/01/2017	Omaha	NE	Mid-America Council	Tri-State High Adventure Base
07/02/2017-07/08/2017	05/15/2017	Oregon	IL	Blackhawk Area Council	Venturing Week at Camp Lowden
07/02/2017-07/04/2017	05/24/2017	Camp Freeland Leslie	WI	Three Fires Council	Three Fires VOA Fun Event
07/09/2017-07/15/2017	07/01/2017	Omaha	NE	Mid-America Council	Tri-State High Adventure Base
07/16/2017-07/22/2017	07/01/2017	Omaha	NE	Mid-America Council	Tri-State High Adventure Base
07/23/2017-07/29/2017	07/01/2017	Omaha	NE	Mid-America Council	Tri-State High Adventure Base
07/23/2017-07/29/2017	04/15/2017	Twin Lake	MI	Pathway to Adventure Council	Venturing at Owasippe
07/25/2017-08/02/2017	04/19/2017	Reykjavik, Iceland		World Scout Bureau	World Scout Moot 2017
07/30/2017-08/04/2017	06/06/2017	Saint Joseph	MO	Pony Express Council	Adventure Quest 2017
08/04/2017-08/06/2017	07/30/2017	Warsaw	IN	Anthony Wayne Area Council	Makahiki
08/25/2017-08/27/2017	08/01/2017	Kansas City	KS	Heart of America Council	Scouting 500
09/16/2017	09/11/2017	Bonfield	IL	Pathway to Adventure Council	Shooting Sports Event
09/22/2017-09/24/2017	09/01/2017	Little Sioux Scout Ranch	IA	Area 5 (Central Region)	Mid-America Council/Mid Iowa Council Powder Horn 2017
09/22/2017-09/24/2017	09/08/2017	Owasippe Scout Reservation	MI	Pathway to Adventure Council	Free Camping Weekend
10/13/2017-10/15/2017	10/01/2017	Rhineland	WI	Samoset Council	Smileys Fall Venturing Event

Find out more about these events at [http://crventuring.org/Activities/Events\\_Listing/](http://crventuring.org/Activities/Events_Listing/)

Submit events to the calendar at [http://www.crventuring.org/event\\_submission.php](http://www.crventuring.org/event_submission.php)

# ADVISOR'S MINUTE



As my first term as the Central Region Venturing Advisor comes to a close, I want to thank the youth Officers and their Advisors for the truly memorable experience. I am amazed at the enthusiasm and energy that they committed to Venturing during the past year. I am also looking forward to working with the new officers as they begin their journey through the 2017-18 term.

I attended the BSA's National Annual Meeting in May. It was exciting to see three Central Region Venturers receive the National VLA award - congratulations to Cathie Seebauer, Chris Mausshardt and Nate Steele! And also a big salute to Cathie on her selection to National Venturing Vice President.

The National Annual Meeting featured lots of interesting discussion about the proposal to research the inclusion of more females into the BSA programs. That doesn't affect us, since Venturing solved that puzzle nearly 20 years ago. There was additional discussion about the impact of the LDS church leaving Venturing next year. That will have a minimal impact in the Central Region, and actually gives us the impetus to support those Venturers in program and membership growth as they seek out new chartering partners to sponsor them. The national Venturing Committee met to discuss marketing, supply, membership and training items to enhance Venturing nationwide. I'll share more about those topics in the weeks to come.

And finally, I want to congratulate the Region, Area and Council VLA winners for their recognition. Those recipients are truly deserving for all of the dedicated efforts and sacrifices they have made to support our program. Bravo to all of you!

Best wishes for a great summer leading the adventure!

-Jeff Gerald

# PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Happy June Central Region!

Summer is almost upon us- as schools let out for the summer, it is crucial that crews remain active during the summer months. Whether these activities include camping, fishing, swimming, hiking, biking, or any number of other adventures, remember that growing Venturing membership is everyone's responsibility.

When I first wanted to join a Venturing crew, I struggled to find one; there was a crew with a specialty that I enjoyed, but I was too afraid to ask to join because I didn't really know too many people in that unit.

Don't let these opportunities pass you by; invite a friend to come to a crew meeting, ask someone to go on a hike or a bike ride. As the summer months approach, we should all strive to remain committed to sharing the program that we love.

I challenge you to invite one new person, whether that be a friend you've known for years or a friend you haven't met yet, to come to an activity. Together, we can build a community of Scouting that will change the world.

I am humbled to be serving as the 2017-18 Central Region Venturing President, and I am looking forward to working with the phenomenal team of Area VOAs that were selected this year. With this transition, I would like to thank all of the officers, adults, and volunteers from around the Region that have made this last year a success- without their tireless efforts, the Central Region wouldn't be where it is today.

-Dominic Wolters



## FOLLOW CENTRAL REGION VENTURING AT:

Website: [crventuring.org](http://crventuring.org)

Facebook: [Central Region Venturing](https://www.facebook.com/CentralRegionVenturing)



Instagram: [CRVenturing](https://www.instagram.com/CRVenturing)

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