



The Central Point



Newsletter of the Central Region | Boy Scouts of America

January 2018

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HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Welcome to 2018, Central Region!

This is Venturing's 20th year of changing lives. Since 1998, the Venturing program has brought together youth and adults to lead the adventure and give back to their communities. The Central Region VOA would like to welcome you to this anniversary year, and hopes that 2018 will bring you and your unit success, adventure, and excitement!

A highlight of this year will be VenturingFest 2018, the celebration of Venturing's birthday at the Summit Bechtel Reserve from July 1-6. We hope to see you there, as we celebrate the many ways that Venturing has helped thousands of youth across the country.

Here's to a grand future for Venturing!

-The Central Region VOA



President: [Dominic Wolters](#)

VP of Administration: [Kevin Leahy](#)

VP of Program: [Catherine Colletti](#)

VP of Communications: [Pamela Petterchak](#)



12 DAYS OF VENTURING

By Pamela Petterchak – CR Vice President of Communications

2018 marks a huge milestone for the Venturing program: 20 years of Venturing. This means 20 years of memories, 20 years of adventures, 20 years of skill-development, and, among the most important, 20 years of making a difference across the nation. We challenge you and your crew to join us and show your pride in Venturing and in the values presented by the Scout Law by participating in “12 Days of Venturing!”

We have assigned a point of the Scout Law everyday leading up to Venturing’s birthday on February 9, 2018. It’s easy to participate:

1. Each day, do a good turn representing the point of the day. Be *Courteous* by opening a door for a stranger. Be *Loyal* by spending quality time with your friends. The possibilities are endless!
2. Share your experience and pictures on social media using the tags #20Years and #CRVenturing
3. Show the world how Venturing makes an impact in our communities!

Cooperation with your crew is encouraged! Please spread the word using the graphics posted below. We hope that you’ll join us and share joy during the 12 Days of Venturing. Together, we can celebrate by making a difference!

12 Days of
VENTURING

Show the world how we live the Scout Law!
Every day leading up to Venturing's birthday is assigned a point of the Scout Law.

Do a good turn that relates to the assigned point, and share your experience on social media.

Use the hashtags #CRVenturing and #20 Years so we can follow your journey

| | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| JAN 28 TRUST- WORTHY | JAN 29 LOYAL | JAN 30 HELPFUL | JAN 31 FRIENDLY |
| FEB 1 COUR- TE- OUS | FEB 2 KIND | FEB 3 OBEDIENT | FEB 4 CHEER- FUL |
| FEB 5 THRIFTY | FEB 6 BRAVE | FEB 7 CLEAN | FEB 8 REV- ER- ENT |

VenturingFest 2018

Jeff Geraldts – CR Venturing Advisor



VenturingFest 2018, the second national gathering of Venturers at the Summit Bechtel Reserve – a Scouting experience unlike any other before – is coming your way again from July 1 to July 6!

WHY YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS IT

VenturingFest 2018 is a special Scouting event at SBR that's open to registered Venturers, Scouts, and adult leaders across the U.S. This six-day high-adventure festival invites participants to explore the best the SBR has to offer. We're talking rock climbing, skateboarding, BMX biking, water sports, shooting sports, zip lines, challenge courses, and so much more!

As if the adrenaline-pumping activities weren't enough, festival goers will also get to jam out to concerts and meet new friends in Venturing at the event. What more could a Venturer want?

WHAT YOU CAN DO AT VENTURINGFEST 2018

Come join us for the full Venturing experience, filled with climbing gear, skateboards, bikes, water sports, and nights filled with new friends, fun food, and great concerts. Most importantly, there will be memories to last a lifetime. More information is available at

<http://www.summitbsa.org/venturingfest/>



LOOKING FOR A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION?

By Catherine Tutt – CR Area 2 Vice President of Communications

The New Year usually is a time for new, but also sometimes old, resolutions. This year, add applying to become a VOA officer to your list of to-dos!

Before stress and angst hits you, take a breath! Applying to be a VOA officer is the perfect SMART goal. SMART is an acronym standing for

specific, measurable, achievable, reasonable, and timely. Applying to be a National, Region, Area, or Council officer is very specific. Becoming an officer is measured by the outcome of your application.

This brings us to achievable; whether one will be chosen for a position is a common concern running through the minds of applicants. Don't be discouraged by comparing oneself to others' resumes! Each Venturer has the potential to bring a unique perspective to the VOA team while leaving a mark on Venturing for future generation. Everyone is one team, working with their various skills, to make an amazing experience.

Another common worry is whether being a VOA officer is reasonable. My answer to that is, of course! Through time-management and organization, it's absolutely possible to find time to be a VOA officer. This finally brings us to timely. Applying to be an officer by the application deadlines is timely! Applications will be available within the next few weeks at

<http://www.venturing.org/apply-to-be-a-voa-officer.html> and are due on the following deadlines:

- National: February 28, 2018
- Regional: March 15, 2018
- Area: March 31, 2018
- Council: Determined by local VOA



CR AREA 4 SPOTLIGHT

By Grace Prorok and Cierra Beatty – CR Area 4 President and Vice President of Communications

From travel, to ATVs, to training, to escape rooms, the Area 4 VOA has had a wild year. We are looking forward to more adventures in the upcoming year.

WorldFest: It all started and ended right here at Area 4's annual fun event. Last April, more than 300 Venturers from five states across the Region came together for shooting sports, climbing, orienteering, search and rescue, and other fun adventures. Saturday night included everyone's favorite officer elections, not only for Area 4, but for our councils within Area 4.



WorldFest will be back at 7 Ranges *May 4-6th* for WorldFest 2018: Venturing Fiesta! The VOA is gearing up to make this year the best yet. Featuring old favorites, like C.O.P.E. and inflatables. This year's event will also include a revamped Friday night bon-fire, an expanded midway and other special events to help celebrate the 20th birthday of Venturing. Stay tuned on social media for more details as the event grows closer.



Philmont, Beaumont, (a different) Beaumont, and More: The Area 4 VOA has been on the move this year. Three officers and several council presidents travelled nearly four thousand miles to Philmont, for Venturing Blast, NAYLE, and Treks. One officer attended NYLT, two officers went to CRVOO, and one advisor staffed Jamboree at the Summit. Our adventures took us to Columbus for the Area 4 Venturing Officers Orientation and an escape room, Area 3 for Fall Fun Rally, and to the Great Trail Council to play Quidditch at the Tri-Wizard Tournament. Along the way, we taught classes

at the Area 4 Conference in Zanesville and to Beaumont to teach classes at the Lake Erie Council Venturing Weekend. We've got more planned for 2018, including Area 2 Kickback, Southern Region Winterfest, and more than half a dozen events in our councils, including Universities of Scouting, Whirly ball, and more.

Spark: A successful training conference with a weird name! In December, the first ever Area 4 Leadership Spark took place outside of Columbus, Ohio. This event was the largest training event ever hosted by the Area 4 VOA and more than doubled the attendance from last year's Leadership and Planning Conference. A variety of trainings focused on engaging and inspiring leaders at all levels. Some highlights of the weekend included a tie dye class with a twist of team building, Cast Iron Chef with Spam as a secret ingredient, and a Star Wars themed trash bag fashion contest, featuring Central Region's very own National Vice President, Cathie Seebauer, in a dinosaur costume! Stay tuned on social media for details about Spark 2018.



CR AREA HIGHLIGHTS

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| <p style="text-align: center;">AREA 1</p> <p>Check out the Area 1 social media and website listed below for more information about Area 1!</p> <p>Website: www.area1crv.org Facebook Group: Central Region Venturing Area 1</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">AREA 2</p> <p>Area 2 recently released their fall newsletter, and registration is now up for Venturing University! Check out the links below for more information.</p> <p>Website: www.area2crv.org Facebook Group: Central Region Venturing Area 2 Pinterest: Venturing Area 2 Central Region</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;">AREA 3</p> <p>Area 3 has had an awesome 2017, and we're aiming for an even better 2018! Coming up, we have the Area 3 Conference, and you can sign up for our contingent to VenturingFest 2018. Check out our website for more information regarding both of these events. You can also share your #VenturingNewYearsResolution on our Facebook group!</p> <p>Website: www.area3crv.org Facebook Group: Central Region Venturing Area 3 Twitter: @CRVArea3 YouTube: CRVenturingArea3</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">AREA 4</p> <p>Check out the Area 4 Spotlight article on page 5!</p> <p>Website: www.area4crv.org Facebook Group: Central Region Venturing Area 4</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;">AREA 5</p> <p>Refer to the Area 5 social media and website listed below for more information from Area 5!</p> <p>Website: www.area5crv.org Facebook Group: Central Region Venturing Area 5</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">AREA 6</p> <p>The Area 6 website and social media are a great place to start looking for information regarding Area 6. Check out the links below!</p> <p>Website: www.area6crv.org Facebook Group: Central Region Venturing Area 6</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;">AREA 7</p> <p>Want to know more about Area 7? Check out the links below for regular updates about Venturing in Area 7!</p> <p>Website: www.area7crv.org Facebook Group: Central Region Venturing Area 7 Twitter: @CRVArea7 Instagram: @crvarea7 Snapchat: @crvarea7</p> | |

UPCOMING EVENTS

| Event Date (s) | Registration Deadline | City | State | Host | Event |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-------|---------------------------------|--|
| 01/12/2018 | 01/07/2018 | Iatan | MO | Pony Express Council | Winter Quest 2018 |
| 01/19/2018-01/20/2018 | 01/05/17 | Lansing | MI | Area 2 (Central Region) | Area 2 Conference |
| 01/26/2018-01/28/2018 | 01/25/2018 | Menomonie | WI | Area 1 (Central Region) | Area 1 Venturing Leadership Conference |
| 01/27/2018 | 01/24/2018 | Madison Heights | MI | Area 2 (Central Region) | GLFSC University of Scouting |
| 02/16/2018-02/18/2018 | 01/31/2018 | Mt. Zion | IL | Area 3 (Central Region) | Area 3 Venturing Conference and Game Show |
| 02/21/2018 | 02/21/2018 | | MO | Area 3 (Central Region) | Area 3 VOA Council/District President Call |
| 02/23/2018-02/25/2018 | 01/28/2018 | Twin Lake | MI | President Gerald R Ford Council | Kickback |
| 02/24/2018 | 02/22/2018 | Fond du Lac | WI | Bay-Lakes Council | Winter Amidships |
| 04/18/2018 | 04/18/2018 | | | Area 3 (Central Region) | Area 3 VOA-Council/District President Call |
| 04/20/2018-04/22/2018 | 04/01/2018 | Howe | IN | Area 6 (Central Region) | Area 6 Spring Icebreaker |
| 05/04/2018-05/06/2018 | 04/27/2018 | Kensington | OH | Area 4 (Central Region) | WorldFest |
| 04/26/2018-04/29/2018 | 04/20/2018 | High Ridge | MO | Greater St. Louis Area Council | Powder Horn |
| 06/01/2018-06/03/2018 | 05/20/2017 | Alger | MI | Area 2 (Central Region) | GLFSC Rifle River Gauntlet |
| 06/10/2018-06/16/2018 | 06/09/2018 | Kensington | OH | Buckeye Council | Venturing Week at Seven Ranges |
| 06/20/2018 | 06/20/2018 | | | Area 3 (Central Region) | Area 3 VOA-Council/District President Call |
| 07/29/2018-08/03/2018 | 07/08/2018 | Eureka Springs | AR | Pony Express Council | Adventure Quest 2018 |
| 08/02/2018-08/04/2018 | 06/01/2017 | Pleasant Lake | IN | Anthony Wayne Area Council | Powderhorn |

Find out more about these events at http://crventuring.org/Activities/Events_Listing/

Submit events to the calendar at http://www.crventuring.org/event_submission.php

ADVISOR'S MINUTE



Central Region,

Welcome to the new year and to the 20th anniversary of Venturing!

I am looking forward to a great year for Venturing in 2018. The decline in membership has stalled and it looks as if we will be growing in the Central Region again; VenturingFest at the Summit is going to be great; and lots of exciting Area activities are scheduled for the next couple of months. Be sure to make certain your councils submit their Council Standards of Venturing Excellence form, and get those Area, Region,

and National Venturing Leadership Award nominations turned in soon.

We are half way through our program year, and I couldn't be prouder of the Venturers and Advisors in the Central Region. All of you are making this a dynamic and exciting time to be engaged with Venturing. Please feel welcome to contact your Area and Region officers if there is any way we can be of service to you.

Best wishes to all of you for continued success. I look forward to seeing you soon.

Yours in Venturing,
-Jeff Gerald
CR Venturing Advisor



FOLLOW CENTRAL REGION VENTURING AT:

Website: crventuring.org

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

Pinterest: [CRVenturing](https://www.pinterest.com/CRVenturing)

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

Twitter: [CRVenturing](https://twitter.com/CRVenturing)

YouTube: [Central Region Venturing](https://www.youtube.com/CentralRegionVenturing)



PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Happy New Year, Central Region!

How do you plan for a new year? It's full of potential, of unknown opportunities, and chances to get to know yourself and others better. The New Year is also an opportunity to think about your Venturing journey in depth.

Coming up this month are opportunities for leadership beyond your unit, with applications for VOA officer positions at the Area, Region, and National levels becoming available. These applications are the key to a future of service to others, of exciting adventures to promote the program beyond your council, and to leave a legacy within the Venturing program.

January is also a time to recognize the leadership of the past year; as you look back on the year, think of those Venturers and Advisors that have contributed to Venturing in a way that's meaningful to you. Consider nominating that person, youth or adult, for a Venturing Leadership Award. These awards help to showcase the best and brightest that our program has to offer, and more information about Venturing Leadership Awards can be found on www.venturing.org/vla.html.

The 28th President of the United States, Woodrow Wilson, once said that "the ear of the leader must ring with the voices of the people." Take a moment today, tomorrow, or sometime in this New Year, to let your voice be heard. Become a leader in Venturing, recognize those leaders that make a difference everyday for crews, units, and councils across the Region, and help us ring in Venturing's 20th year of changing lives in the Midwest.

Have a great month, Central Region!

-Dominic Wolters
CR Venturing President