



The Central Point



Newsletter of the Central Region | Boy Scouts of America

February 2018

IN THIS ISSUE...

20 Years of Venturing	1
12 Days of Venturing	2
VenturingFest 2018	3
Back to Basics: Training	4
Turn in Your CSVE Form	5
Apply for a VOA Position	5
Area 5 Spotlight	6
CR Area Highlights	7
Upcoming Events	8
Venturer Highlight	8
Advisor's Minute	9
President's Corner	10

20 YEARS OF VENTURING

This month, we celebrate the 20th Anniversary of Venturing. Twenty years ago, on February 9, 1998, the Venturing program was officially created by the BSA executive board. All outdoor-oriented Exploring posts were converted into the very first Venturing crews, and the first National Venturing Cabinet was elected in 1998.

On February 9, 2018, the Venturing program officially turns twenty! This means twenty years of adventure, twenty years of memories, twenty years of growth, and twenty years of meaningful experiences for youth across the region. Remember to reflect on how Venturing has impacted you and your community. Consider how you can personally impact Venturing as well. This month's newsletters features articles that can help you get more involved in Venturing and start making your own impact!

Thank you, Central Region Venturers and Advisors, for all you do to make our program vibrant and special! Here's to twenty more years!



President: [Dominic Wolters](#)

VP of Administration: [Kevin Leahy](#)

VP of Program: [Catherine Colletti](#)

VP of Communications: [Pamela Pettechak](#)



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 in across the nation. Join us and show your pride in Venturing and in the values presented by the Scout Law by presenting 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!

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 COURTEOUS	FEB 2 KIND	FEB 3 OBEDIENT	FEB 4 CHEERFUL
FEB 5 THRIFTY	FEB 6 BRAVE	FEB 7 CLEAN	FEB 8 REVERENT

VenturingFest 2018

Mackenzie Martin – CR Area 6 Vice President of Communications

Are you looking for something fun to do this July? Something adrenaline-pumping and memory making? Come to Venturing Fest 2018 this year, July 1st through July 6th. You will get to experience the full Venturing experience, some activities include kayaking, rappelling, wilderness survival, mountain biking, and static archery. You will also get to choose three of these activities at registration for the half-day programs: The Barrels, The Rocks, The Ropes, The Park, The Trax, Low Gear, and Whitewater Rafting (\$75 fee).

Youth registration is \$500 before April 30, and \$600 anytime after. To be a qualifying youth you must be:

- A Registered Venturer
- Registered Varsity Scout
- Registered Sea Scout
- Registered Boy Scout age 14 (or 13, as long as you have completed eighth grade)

Adult Registration is \$400 before April 30, and \$500 anytime after

For more info on participation and activity requirements, please visit:

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



BACK TO BASICS: TRAINING

By Catherine Tutt – CR Area 2 Vice President of Communications

My crew recently had about six new girls join. When I first told them about the “Back to Basics” series and asked them what about Venturing confused them, one of the first things they said was the trainings. We have ILSC, the Kodiak Challenge, Mentoring, Goal Setting and Time Management, Project Management, Personal Safety Awareness, Venturing Officer Orientation, and NYLT. It can be pretty overwhelming, but this piece will break down the top three trainings most Venturers take, hopefully providing clarity. All of them are open to any crews, but some are online, some develop team-building skills, some develop crews, and some develop Venturers personally.



ILSC stands for “Introduction to Leadership Skills for Crews. ILSC helps Venturers develop leadership skills that they can use inside and outside of the crew. The course is divided into three modules that go through leading yourself, leading others, and leading crews. At the end of the course, Venturers will have learned and practiced leadership skills and attitudes.

Let’s move on to Mentoring. Mentoring is a two-hour and 20 minute course that helps a crew learn what a mentor is, how they can be one, and why having one is important. Your crew will come out of this training with the skills to lead less experienced crew members on an amazing adventure of your choice!

Lastly, we have The Kodiak Challenge. The Kodiak Challenge has underlying similarities to ILSC and is usually taught over a series of five or more days. Kodiak will challenge Venturers to get out



of their element and try new things. Kodiak will also help crews to learn how to understand each other and work with each other better.

Catch the next edition of our “Back to Basics” series in the next Central Region newsletter! Send in any questions you have about Venturing to vp-communications@crventuring.org, and we will be happy to cover them!

TURN IN YOUR CSVE FORM

Dominic Wolters – CR Venturing President

Each year, councils around the country create and run exciting Venturing programs. These councils all have different strengths, and the Central Region wants to know what your council excels at!

The Council Standards of Venturing Excellence (CSVE) are a national award program to recognize councils that have grown and promoted Venturing in the last year. Each council has an opportunity to share what their successes have been, as well as some possible areas of growth in the next year. This information helps your council to improve the experience of all Venturers and crews by connecting them with resources at the Area, Region, and National levels.

The Central Region VOA would like to invite your council submit a CSVE form by February 15. These forms can be found at venturing.org/csve.html and take only minutes to complete. This year's goal is to have 100% of Central Region councils submit a CSVE form, even if they won't qualify for an award.

We know that your council has an awesome program and we want to share your successes with others. Fill out a CSVE form today!

APPLY FOR A VOA POSITION

Catherine Colletti – CR Vice President of Program

Are you someone who "can't get enough Venturing"? Are you always trying to do more with Venturing? Do you enjoy planning events? Do you like to meet new people? Do you want to improve your leadership skills? Do you frequently find yourself explaining why you're wearing a "green shirt"?

If you answered "yes!" to ANY of these questions, you should consider applying to become an Area, Region, or National Venturing officer. Becoming an officer is an incredible opportunity. It is a great way to serve the Venturing program we all love and to meet other Venturers who love the program just as much; it is also a wonderful learning opportunity. If you or someone you know has questions, be sure to reach out to a current or past officer.

The deadlines for each application this year are: February 28th for National, March 15th for Regional, and April 1st for Area. Remember, you must get approval from your Council Scout Executive, so be sure to start your application well in advance. Each position also has certain eligibilities. The application for the 2018-2019 term is new this year and can be found on the National Venturing webpage at <http://www.venturing.org/apply-to-be-a-voa-officer.html>. The webpage also gives advice on applications and interviews. The entire officer selection process, including eligibilities, is detailed in the National Officers' Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) which can also be found on the webpage. Again, if you have any questions, be sure to reach out to a current officer!

CR AREA 5 SPOTLIGHT

By Bonnie Miller and Emily Jackson – CR Area 5 President and Vice President of Communications

From Missouri to Kansas to Iowa to Nebraska, Area 5 has had a year filled with great Venturing experiences!

Area 5 Leadership Conference: In early November, Venturers from all over the Area came together in Kansas City for fun, fellowship, and lots of leadership training. There was a lock-in the evening before the event for Venturers to relax, play games, and get to know each other, then the next day was full of courses of all levels. These included leadership classes,



VOA focused sessions, and discussions that targeted common problems Venturers face at the crew level such as recruitment and building an engaging, active, program that also fulfills advancement requirements. There was also time for networking and team building games throughout the day. Overall it was a great time with many valuable learning and connecting opportunities.

Upcoming Events: Area 5 is looking forward to its fun event in late spring. More details and registration will be posted on our Facebook page and website in the upcoming weeks. This summer we will also be partnering with Area 3 to create a VenturingFest contingent. Transportation to and from the Summit will be provided along with some fun additional activities. For more information and details on how to register, please visit the Area 3 website.

Council updates: Area 5's councils have also been quite active this year. Jayhawk Area Council planned a canoe trip, Heart of America held a rock climbing event, and Pony Express put on Winter Quest in January, just to name a few.

Contact us: For the latest information about Area 5, head over to our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/CRV.Area5/>. Please feel free to contact Area 5 officers with any Venturing questions or concerns you may have. We love hearing from you!



CR AREA HIGHLIGHTS

<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 finished up their Area Leadership Conference by hosting an overnight event. The conference was catered towards Venturers who are not in a council or area VOA. Two VLAs were presented to Brooke Werner and Gordon Meier. Area 2 is working on their winter newsletter and President Ford Field Service Council in Area 2 is hosting their annual winter event, "Kickback."</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 been busy planning the Area 3 Venturing Conference and Game Show, which is being hosted in Mt. Zion, IL from Feb. 16-18. It's not too late to sign up if you're interested in a weekend of fun! Several classes will be put on, from dancing to learning how to pack a backpack for a week-long trip! Additionally, Area 3 is working with Area 5 to form a VenturingFest contingent. The contingent will be stopping in Charleston, WV on the way up, and we have numerous fun activities planned. Please visit the Area 3 website for more details about both of these awesome events. Have a great Venturing February!</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>Area 4's 4th annual WorldFest weekend will take place May 4-6th at Seven Ranges Scout Reservation in Kensington, Ohio. WorldFest is an event held for all Venturers, Sea Scouts, and their guests to give you a fun packed weekend you'll never forget! WorldFest offers two lodging options, a cabin or platform tent with a cot for \$55, and bring your own tent for \$45. This fee includes all activities, food, and event swag. The registration deadline in March 1st!</p> <p>Website: www.area4crv.org Facebook Group: Central Region Venturing Area 4</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">AREA 5</p> <p>Check out the Area 5 Spotlight article on page 6 for more information about activities in 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>This month, we are working on our Area 7 Conference. It's going to be March 3rd at the Sokol Spirit in Brookfield, IL.</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
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
03/03/2018	03/01/2018	Broofield	IL	Area 7 (Central Region)	Area 7 Venturing Conference
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
04/26/2018-04/29/2018	04/20/2018	High Ridge	MO	Greater St. Louis Area Council	Powder Horn
05/04/2018-05/06/2018	04/27/2018	Kensington	OH	Area 4 (Central Region)	WorldFest
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

VENTURER HIGHLIGHT

Pamela Petterchak – CR Vice President of Communications

Miciah Thacker, a Venturer from Crew 5257 in Cincinnati, will be joining National Geographic's Paul Salopek on his 21,000 mile Out of Eden walk around the world! Learn more about this amazing accomplishment at <https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2018/01/19/boy-scout-venturer-selected-to-join-mans-out-of-eden-walk-around-the-world/>. On behalf on the Central Region VOA, congratulations Miciah!

Do you know a Central Region Venturer who is doing something noteworthy in your community? Nominate them to be highlighted in the Central Point by emailing their information to vp-communications@crventuring.org!

ADVISOR'S MINUTE



Central Region,

Picture in your mind the exhilaration of cresting a mountain top, scoring well on a test at school, being the first to get a large task completed, or winning a tough competition. You pump your fist in the air and say “yes!”.

Can you envision that? Can you feel the joy of achieving and exceeding a goal? That’s what I wish for you as we head down the final stretch of our term in Venturing.

Picture those moments of happiness, and carry that “yes!” attitude with you as we encourage membership growth, seek new officer positions, put on great Area events, support VOAs, complete the CSVE tasks, and recruit hundreds of Venturers to VenturingFest. Work hard and have fun with your Venturing experience. I have confidence in you – have confidence in yourself and get to “yes!”.

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 February, Central Region!

This month marks an important milestone: Venturing was founded on February 9, 1998. Twenty years may not seem like a lot of time, and some might be wondering why we're all so excited about it. I wanted to take some time to lay out a few reasons why this anniversary is so special, which is why I channeled my inner third grader and made an acrostic poem. Enjoy!



Tens of thousands of youth have participated in Venturing, sharing experiences and forming friends for life.

Where can Venturing take you: the Summit, National Parks, Museums, and the White House, just to name a few!

Empowering youth leadership through VOAs and putting youth at the center of everything we do.

Nobody wants to feel left out; that's why Venturing is adaptable and crews often change their focus to adapt to the interests of their members.

Teaching life skills, showing Venturers how to manage their time, resolve conflicts, and lead ethical and productive lives.

You make the difference. Venturing has lasted for twenty years because of people like you—youth and adults who are passionate and engaged and service-minded.

There are a number of ways to celebrate Venturing's twentieth anniversary; perhaps the biggest way is at VenturingFest 2018. Come join us at the Summit Bechtel Reserve from July 1-6, 2018 for a week of adventure and celebration! VenturingFest is open to all registered members of the BSA over the age of 14, so use this as an opportunity to bring a friend along and invite someone new to Venturing this year!

Have an amazing month, Central Region!

-Dominic Wolters
CR Venturing President