



Central Region Venturing Monthly Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 1
June 2007



Welcome to the first edition of the 2007-2008 monthly Central Region Venturing Newsletter. Each edition will feature information that you will find useful for your council's Venturing program. We will highlight items that support the development of your Teen Leadership Councils, Roundtables, chairmanships, commissioners, professional staff, council-wide activities and the Central Region Venturing Areas. We look forward to being of service to you in Venturing.

Amanda Vogt

Central Region Venturing President/Newsletter Editor

Keith Gehlhausen

Central Region Venturing Chair

Debbie Keyes

Central Region Communication Coordinator

Joe Vollmer

Central Region Professional

The Areas of Central Region

Area 1: South Dakota, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Minnesota

Area 2: Indiana and Michigan

Area 3: Northern Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, and Wisconsin

Area 4: Ohio and West Virginia

Area 5: Southern Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, and Nebraska

A New Year in Venturing Brings in a New Central Region President

As we move into the 9th year of Venturing, the Central Region would like to thank Chris Szybisty, the 2006-2007 Central Region President, for his year of service to Venturing.

The Central Region would also like to welcome their 9th Central Region President. Please help us welcome our new Central Region President for 2007-2008, Amanda Vogt, by using her as a resource for Venturing, as we continue to help support Venturing within the [Central Region of the United States](#).

Contact us at:

Amanda Vogt president@crventuring.org
Keith Gehlhausen venturing-chair@crventuring.org
Joe Vollmer staff-advisor@crventuring.org
Debbie Keyes communication-coordinator@crventuring.org

To contact the entire Central Region Venturing Comm. email Debbie Keyes and she will pass it on.

This Month's Q & A

Every month, we will answer questions frequently asked by Venturers, Advisors, or Professionals. If you have any questions you would like answered please email them to president@crventuring.org

What is a VOA?

VOA stands for Venturing Officer's Association. This is a group of youth officers at the District, Council, Regional, or National level. This group also can be known as the Teen Leaders Council (TLC).

What is the purpose and importance of a VOA?

VOA's help council Venturing advisors and professionals to get the perspective of the youth in the council. It allows the youth to develop leadership skills, and gives council professionals a resource to build the council's Venturing program.

Who make up the VOA Key Three?

The key three consist of the professional in charge of Venturing in your council, the volunteer advisor for your council's Venturing program, and the council VOA President.

What are the different officer positions in a VOA?

VOA's generally consist of four or five officer positions depending on how Venturing is set up in your council. The typical four positions are President, Vice President of Administration, Vice President of Program, and Vice President of Communication (Secretary). The optional office depends on if the VOA has control of a budget to work with, if so then you could have a Vice President of Finance (Treasurer).

Venturer You Should Know

Each month we will feature a Venturer or an Advisor that you should know. If you know a Venturer or an Advisor you would like to nominate, please send Amanda Vogt a short bio on them and a photo. This month our Venturer of the month is our new Central Region President.



Amanda Vogt will be starting her freshman year at Lindenwood University this fall. She has served in crew, district, council, area, and now regional and national officer positions throughout her 4 years as a Venturer.

She has earned the Outdoor and Religious Life Bronze Awards, the Gold Award, and the Silver Award. She has also been a Girl Scout for 13 years and has earned the Girl Scout Gold Award. She has also received the council level Venturing Leadership Award.

In high school, she was involved in choir, orchestra, theatre, NHS, Tri-M (music honor society), Renaissance, and many honor level classes.

She looks forward to the opportunity to work with everyone of you this year, and to help you in any way she can. Her email address is president@crventuring.org

For more information on the [Key Three](#) of Central Region please visit our website.

Consulting Tip of the Month

Every month we will feature a resource that could be beneficial to your council or crew. This month we are featuring the official Venturing Websites for National and Regional Venturing.

National Youth Cabinet:

www.nationalyouthcabinet.org

Central Region: www.crventuring.org

Western Region: www.wrventuring-bsa.org

Southern Region: www.srventuring-bsa.org

Northeast Region: currently under construction

Venturing Awards and Recognition Program

Encourage your Venturing crew members to work towards the completion of one of the Venturing awards. The process of working towards the awards will help keep youth interested in Venturing.

Bronze Awards

Venturing has 5 different Bronze Awards. A Venturer may earn anywhere from 1 to 5 of the Bronze Awards. All five Bronze Awards contain the common elements of experience, learning a skill, and sharing your experiences and skills with others.

Earning at least one Bronze Award is required for the Venturing Gold Award. The Bronze Award is designed as the entry-level award for a Venturer so that they can acquire usable skills that will carry them along the trail to the Venturing Silver Award.

This month we will focus on the Outdoor Bronze Award.

Continued on the next column...

Outdoor Bronze Award

To earn the Outdoor Bronze Award you must complete at least four core requirements and at least two electives.

Do four of the following core requirements:

Standard First Aid, Wilderness Survival, Communications, Leave No Trace, Cooking, Land Navigation, Emergency Preparedness, or Conservation

Do two of the following elective requirements:

Backpacking, Cave Exploring, Cycling/Mountain Biking, Ecology, Equestrian, First Aid, Fishing, Hunting, Lifesaver, Mountaineering, Outdoor Living History, Physical Fitness, Plants and Wildlife, Project COPE, Scuba Certification, Shooting Sports, Watercraft, or Winter Sports.

For more information on these [requirements](#) please click on the link.

OUTDOOR



Scholarship Opportunities

Lindenwood University, located just outside St. Louis, MO, guarantees a \$6,000.00 scholarship for all Eagle Scout recipients, and all Girl Scout Gold Awardees, as a part of their Million-Dollar Scholarship Program. Also part of that program is every year Lindenwood selects one "Boy Scout of the Year" and one "Girl Scout of the Year". These two youth receive a four-year full-ride scholarship to attend Lindenwood University full time. For more information visit their website at www.lindenwood.edu

Seven Ways to Recruit and Retain Top Leaders

(from the Venturing Roundtable Guide #34342)

1. Positive Attitude
 - expect people to volunteer
 - everyone does something
 - create jobs for everyone
2. Don't Say No for People
 - the busiest people make the best leaders
 - ask, ask, ask
3. Be Specific
4. Atmosphere
 - create a positive atmosphere for new parents
 - does your unit look like a sinking ship or is it sailing along smoothly
 - insist on two-deep leadership in every position
5. Training
 - use the Fast Start videotapes for all new leaders (also available online)
 - use Start-Up Orientation and other literature
 - encourage attendance at the district formal training
6. Meetings
 - keep meetings short
 - keep minutes – follow up on assignments
 - fun - food
 - recognize volunteers publicly



Seven Ways to Recruit and Retain Top Leaders Continued...

7. Recruiting Techniques
 - shotgun approach at recruiting nights
 - hand out parent orientation guide
 - write the current positions filled on a poster or marker board
 - after specific descriptions of each job, ask for volunteers
 - be willing to "shut up" after your presentation and let "silence" do the recruiting
 - write new volunteers names on the board next to their position
 - rifle approach
 - develop list of prospects
 - rank them
 - get the right recruiter
 - pledge support and help and be specific
 - subliminal (doesn't work) - poster, general appeals

Most people will agree to volunteer when the recruiter is specific, meets with them face-to-face and asks for a yes/no response

Commissioner's Corner

New to the Central Region Website, thanks to 2006-2007 Central Region Venturing President Chris Szybisty, we are proud to announce the Commissioner's Corner. Please check it out. Thanks to our webmaster Robert Rescot, also a past Central Region Venturing President, you can find this page in the site map on the left-hand side of the home page. Please feel free to visit and pass this information along to others.

A Venturing Summary of the National Boy Scout Meetings in Atlanta, GA

The National Boy Scout Meetings were held in Atlanta, GA this year from May 30th-June 1st, 2007. All 10 incoming and outgoing Regional Venturing Presidents and Outgoing National Venturing President, Maggie Belli, were present at the meetings.

As the saying goes "Scouting only takes one hour a month". Most Scouting volunteers and professionals then add "per Scout" to the end of the above statement. The officers definitely gave their hour and then some to Venturing during the meetings. A good portion of the officers' time was spent manning the Venturing Booth.

In the picture to the right, you can see the crowd that generally caused a roadblock in front of our booth, as the youth officers spent their time teaching and answering questions about Venturing to over 2,000 volunteers and professionals over the 3 day period.



During the Central Region luncheon, the 2006-2007 Central Region Venturing President had the opportunity to lead the incoming Regional Board members in their oath of office.

On Friday evening Roy Williams, the Chief Scout Executive came by to thank the outgoing National Venturing Youth Cabinet for their service to Scouting. Each member of the cabinet was honored with the National Venturing Leadership Award. The picture to the right shows Mr. Williams thanking Chris for his service to the Central Region this past year.



Shortly afterwards, the 2007-2008 National Venturing President was selected. David George, the 2006-2007 National Boatswain, is now serving Venturing as the 2007-2008 National Venturing President.



He is pictured here with Mr. Williams, and the 2006-2007 National Venturing President, Maggie Belli.



The incoming officers were sworn into office on Friday June 1st. In the picture to the left you will see Chris Szybisty changing the shoulder loops to gold, signifying regional or national position, onto Amanda Vogt's shoulders. The outgoing officers changed all incoming officers shoulder loops.

Shown below is a picture of the 2007-2008 National Venturing Cabinet with Charles Holmes the Director, Venturing Division, and Bill Evans and Keith Walton, the Associate Directors, Venturing Division.



From left to right: Keith Walton (Associate Director, Venturing Division), Amanda Vogt (Central Region), Thomas Joyce (Southern Region), David George (National Venturing President), Charles Holmes (Director, Venturing Division), Alexandria Neff (Northeast Region), Doug Bowman (National Boatswain), Dana Friede (Western Region), and Bill Evans (Associate Director, Venturing Division)

Central Region Area Pages

Area 1

Upcoming Events

Click on name of event for more information about each event.

June 16th, 23rd, and 30th: [Let's Paddle](#)
July 13th-15th: [Bay Jammer](#)
July 15th-21st: [Venturing Rocks](#)
Sept: 21st-23rd: [Wood Badge C-09-07](#)

Councils of Area 1

Area 1 includes the following councils: [Bay Lakes](#), [Central Minnesota](#), [Chippewa Valley](#), [Gamehaven](#), [Gateway Area](#), [Hawkeye Area](#), [Hiawathaland](#), [Mid-Iowa](#), [Northeast Iowa](#), [Northern Lights](#), [Samoset](#), [Sioux](#), [Twin Valley](#), [Voyageurs Area](#), [Winnebago](#), [Northern Star](#)

Contact them at:

Area President area1president@crventuring.org Area Chair area1chair@crventuring.org
To be determined... Dan Knuth

Area 2

Upcoming Events

Click on name of event for more information about each event.

June 24th-29th: [Kodiak](#)
July 21st-25th: [Venturing Summer Camp](#)
July 22nd-27th: [AdVenturing Week at CCLT](#)
August 10th-12th: [Makahiki](#)

Councils of Area 2

Area 2 includes these councils: [Anthony Wayne Area](#), [Blue Water](#), [Buffalo Trace](#), [Chief Okemos](#), [Clinton Valley](#), [Crossroads of America](#), [Detroit Area](#), [Gerald R. Ford](#), [Great Sauk Trail](#), [Hoosier Trails](#), [Lake Huron Area](#), [LaSalle](#), [Sagamore](#), [Scenic Trails](#), [Southwest Michigan](#), [Tall Pine](#)

Contact them at:

Area President area2president@crventuring.org Area Chair area2chair@crventuring.org
Katherine Maxim Jeff Gerald

Central Region Area Pages

Area 3

Upcoming Events

Click on name of event for more information about each event.

June 7th-10th: [Venturing Summerblast](#)
June 17th: [Wilderness Factor](#)
June 22nd-23rd: [Badger Bash](#)
July 27th-29th: [Napowan Venturing Weekend](#)
July 28th-29th: [Blackhawk Regatta](#)
July 1st-7th, 15th-21st, and 29th-4th:
[Carlen Venture Base Sessions](#)

Councils of Area 3

Area 3 includes these councils:
[Abraham Lincoln](#), [Blackhawk Area](#), [Calumet](#),
[Chicago Area](#), [Des Plaines Valley](#), [Glaciers](#)
[Edge](#), [Illowa](#), [Lincoln Trails](#), [Milwaukee County](#),
[Northeast Illinois](#), [Northwest Suburban](#),
[Potawatomi Area](#), [Prairielands](#), [Rainbow](#),
[Southeast Wisconsin](#), [Three Fires](#), [W.D. Boyce](#)

Contact them at:

Area President area3president@crventuring.org Area Chair area3chair@crventuring.org
Nicole Gates Kris Zahrobsky

Area 4

Upcoming Events

Click on name of event for more information about each event.

August 17th-19th: [Powder Horn](#)
September 7th-9th: [Powder Horn](#)
September 15th-17th: [Wood Badge](#)

Councils of Area 4

Area 4 councils include: [Allohak](#), [Black](#)
[Swamp Area](#), [Buckeye](#), [Buckskin](#), [Dan Beard](#),
[Erie Shores](#), [Great Trail](#), [Greater Cleveland](#),
[Greater Western Reserve](#), [Heart of Ohio](#),
[Miami Valley](#), [Mountaineer Area](#), [Muskingum](#)
[Valley](#), [Ohio River Valley](#), [Simon Kenton](#),
[Tecumseh](#), [Tri-State Area](#)

Contact them at:

Area President area4president@crventuring.org Area Chair area4chair@crventuring.org
To be determined... Len Roberts

Central Region Area Pages

Area 5

Upcoming Events

Click on name of event for more information about each event.

July 1st-8th: [Venturing Week at Hohn SR](#)

July 15th-21st: [Kodiak](#)

August 8th-13th: [HOAC Venturing Week](#)

September 7th-9th: [Wood Badge](#)

September 14th-16th: [Fall Fun Rally](#)

June 17th-23rd, July 8th-14th, and 15th-21st:

[Swift Explorer Base Sessions](#)

Councils of Area 5

Area 5 includes these councils: [Cornhusker](#), [Coronado Area](#), [Great Rivers](#), [Greater St. Louis Area](#), [Heart of America](#), [Jayhawk Area](#), [Mid-America](#), [Mississippi Valley](#), [Okaw Valley](#), [Overland Trails](#), [Ozark Trails](#), [Pony Express](#), [Quivira](#), [Santa Fe Trail](#), [Trails West](#)

Contact them at:

Area President area5president@crventuring.org Area Chair area5chair@crventuring.org
Dan Bedell Bob Vogt

Venturing Yahoo Groups

Please sign up for the many Yahoo Groups dedicated to Venturing. Information on these groups can be found by searching Yahoo Groups for Venturing, or by clicking on the links below.

[Central Region Yahoo Group](#): this group is used to share resources and ideas, and to ask questions about Venturing in the Central Region

[Venturing List](#): this group is the National Groups to share the above information with Venturers and Advisors from across the nation.

Central Region Sea Scout Yahoo Group: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/central_flotilla/

New Positions Available

The Central Region Venturing Communications/Website team is looking for some team members (youth or adult). We are asking you to send us the name, email and phone number of candidates that could fill the following:

Website Tech: Work with the Central Region Venturing Webmaster. Be proficient and experienced in writing custom web applications using both PHP scripting and MySQL databases. Be able to provide a portfolio or work samples.

Social Network Tech: Work with the Central Region Venturing Communications Coordinator. Be knowledgeable in MySpace, YouTube, and Facebook to manage external content in such proposed accounts. Ability to produce videos & podcasts a plus.