



# Central Region Venturing Monthly Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 3  
August 2007



Welcome to the third 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, U.P. of 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

## Announcing new Central Region Sea Scout Boatswain and Commodore

It is our pleasure to announce the Central Region has selected Brandon Bonner as the 2007-2008 Central Region Sea Scout Boatswain. More information on Brandon can be found on page 2 of this newsletter.

We are also pleased to announce that Nancy Peto has been selected as the Central Region Sea Scout Commodore. More information on Nancy can be found on page 4 of this newsletter.

## Contact us at:

Amanda Vogt

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Debbie Keyes

[communication-coordinator@crventuring.org](mailto: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](mailto:president@crventuring.org)

This month our questions come from frequently asked questions of the National Venturing Youth Cabinet at Venturing Week at Philmont Training Center.

### ***Can a Venturing Crew be designed as a group that focuses on activities other than high adventure?***

Yes, there are many crews that are designed around theatre, sports, religious activities, or pure social activities. These crews allow Venturing to reach the youth in this nation who may not be interested in high adventure activities.

### ***Can Venturing Crews be chartered through Religious organizations or other not-for profit organizations?***

Yes. Many crews are formed out of church youth groups, Red Cross chapters, Salvation Army organizations and many other not-for profit organizations and groups.



## 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 2007-2008 Central Region Boatswain, Brandon Bonner.



Brandon comes from Ship 54, chartered by the Illinois Yacht Club, in W.D. Boyce Council.

Brandon was very active as a Cub Scout and Boy Scout, including National Jamboree, Philmont Rayado trek, and National Youth Leadership Training staff. He has been a Sea Scout for the last two years, having served as Boatswain's Mate for his ship. Brandon is Ordinary Rank and plans to complete his requirements for Able by the end of the year. Brandon has earned his Small Boat Handler Bar and completed the U.S. Power Squadrons Boat Smart course. He recently returned from the Chesapeake Bay where he successfully completed SEAL.

As the Regional Boatswain, Brandon will serve as a member of the Central Region Teen Leader Council where he will work with Central Region Venturing President Amanda Vogt and Area Venturing Presidents to serve the Venturing and Sea Scout youth in the Central Region. Brandon will also work closely with Nancy Peto, the Central Region Commodore on a number of goals over the next year, which will include establishing an Area Boatswain for each of the 5 program areas in Central Region.

He looks forward to the opportunity to work with every one of you this year, and to help you in any way he can.

## 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 conservation department website for each state in Areas 2 & 3.

Indiana: <http://www.in.nrcs.usda.gov/>

Michigan: <http://www.mi.nrcs.usda.gov/>

Illinois: <http://www.il.nrcs.usda.gov/>

Iowa: <http://www.ia.nrcs.usda.gov/>

Wisconsin: <http://www.wi.nrcs.usda.gov/>

Last month we featured Area 1. In the next few months we will feature the conservation departments for the other 2 Areas. These are useful to find parks, or to help plan conservation projects as requirements for several Venturing Awards.

## 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 Sea Scout Bronze Award.

To complete the Sea Scout Bronze Award complete the following activities:

1. Ideals
  - Give explanation
  - History of flag
2. Active Membership
  - Seventy-five percent attendance
  - Complete quarterdeck training
  - Recruit new member
3. Special Skills
  - Boats
  - Marlinspike seamanship
  - Ground tackle
  - Piloting
  - Communications
  - Time
  - Swimming
  - Cruising
  - Safety
  - Galley
  - Sailing
  - Work
4. Electives (Do any three)
  - Drill
  - Signaling
  - Compass
  - Yacht racing
  - Sailing
  - Ornamental ropework
  - Engines

Details on these requirements can be found in the Sea Scout Manual.



## Nancy Peto Selected as New Central Region Commodore

We are pleased to announce that Nancy Peto has been selected as the Central Region Sea Scout Commodore. Nancy brings seven years of successful Sea Scouting experience to this position. Nancy is Seabadge trained and previously served as Mate, Skipper, and Council Vice-Commodore. As Skipper, she has guided six Sea Scouts to Quartermaster and qualified teams for the last two Koch Cups. As Council Vice-Commodore, she was responsible for starting five new ships in her council.



Nancy and her committee will be announcing their plans shortly for training, programs, and membership initiatives to support Sea Scouting in Central Region.

## Seabadge Conference Opportunity

The Central Region Sea Scouting Committee is pleased to announce it will host a Seabadge course in 2008. Seabadge C-5 will be held on March 7-9 at the Geneva Conference Center in Rochester, Indiana. The participant fee will be \$170 with a \$35 deposit due with the application submission.

The application can be downloaded from the Central Region Venturing website at <http://crventuring.org> and the National Sea Scout website <http://seascout.org>.

## Introducing the New Council Standards of Venturing Excellence

Hey everyone check out this new recognition program. The form with the requirements can be found at [www.crventuring.org](http://www.crventuring.org)

*Who completes the Council Standards of Venturing Excellence Award form and when?*

The Council and TLC leadership completes the form. It is completed shortly after the end of the calendar year for which you are submitting for the award (example, for 2007, you should complete and mail the form no later than February 15, 2008).

*When will Councils earn the award?*

When all of the requirements are completed, a council will be eligible to earn the award. The Council Standard of Venturing Excellence Award is determined based on successfully achieving the 2007 criteria by December 31, 2007.

*How will Councils be recognized and when will the recognition items be available?*

Recognition items will include a plaque, recognition in the Central Region newsletter, listing in the Central Region luncheon program at the Annual BSA Meeting, and listing on [crventuring.org](http://crventuring.org). Recognition items will be available starting in March 2007.

*What is the submission process?*

Fill in the council information at the top of the form, mark the requirements that have been completed, and get the requested signatures. Mail or fax the completed form to:

Joe Vollmer, Venturing Staff Advisor  
Central Region, BSA  
230 West Diehl Road  
P.O. Box 3085  
Naperville, IL 60566-7085  
Fax : (630) 983-7703

## How to Market Your Crew

Marketing your Crew is simply promoting it to people you know as well as those you do not in your community.

Most of us wouldn't think of taking a long trip without proper planning. Every trip plan should have some basic parts, as should every marketing plan.

First, we need to know where we are now; second, where we are going; and third, how we are going to get there. Develop your Venturing marketing plan the same way.

The process can be part of your regular meetings, done during a weekend retreat or as a special activity. Involve the whole crew, bring in consultants and make it fun!

Be sure to identify

- 1) who you will be marketing to (others in your council, schools, businesses, clubs, parents, students, etc.)
- 2) what image you want to portray (review your vision statement, look through event photos, etc.)
- 3) when you want to do the marketing (when school starts, all year, etc.)
- 4) where you will deliver your message (at club meetings, in the school cafeteria, at Roundtables, etc.)
- 5) how you want to send the message (presentations, flyers, brochures, posters, websites, newsgroups, social networks)

Then get to work creating your marketing materials and implement your plan!

You can read more about how create a marketing plan in the *Venturing Marketing Guide* - available online at:  
<http://www.scouting.org/venturing/support/resources/pdf/25-309.pdf>

A variety of books, pamphlets, and videos are available to assist with your marketing efforts.

These materials are available through your local council and some items may be downloaded from the Resource for the Crew page at  
<http://www.scouting.org/venturing/support/resources/index.html>

You can also browse through the Merits of Marketing site at  
<http://marketing.scouting.org/>

The Tips and Techniques, and Council Sharing pages are full of examples that may spark ideas for your Crew.

If you have a Marketing success story to share, please send it to [communications-coordinator@crventuring.org](mailto:communications-coordinator@crventuring.org)

## A Venturing Summary of Venturing Week at Philmont Training Center

July 22<sup>nd</sup> -27<sup>th</sup>

Venturing Week at Philmont Training Center (PTC) was held from July 22<sup>nd</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> this year. Staff for the week arrived on Sunday to set up for a week of exciting events and great training and learning opportunities.



National Venturing Youth Cabinet out to dinner

This year the entire National Venturing Youth cabinet was present for at least part of the week. Our time was spent answering participants questions about Venturing, and helping teach some training sessions for some classes.

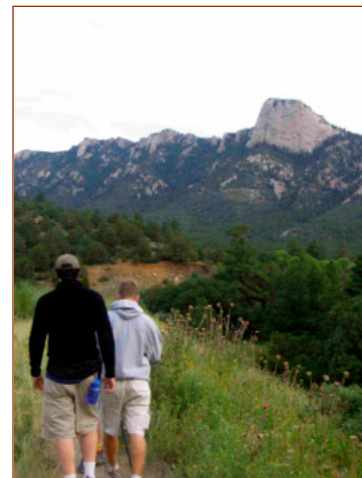
Classes offered this year including Venturing Training, Kodiak and Kodiak X, Incorporating Venturing into your District and Council, Crews that Thrive, Seabadge, High Adventure, and more. Also there were several training programs for professionals.



Central Region Venturing President, Amanda Vogt and Central Region Kodiak Advisor, Connie Elliot

On Wednesday the participants and staff had the day off to experience Philmont with their families. The National Venturing Youth Cabinet used this time to visit several Backcountry staffed camps, and talk about Venturing with some Philmont Staff Members.

On Thursday several Cabinet members hiked up to Lover's Leap to watch the sunrise, before continuing to promote Venturing back at PTC. Also on Thursday they had the opportunity to go to Ponil, another backcountry camp, where Philmont originally had its headquarters, to visit with staff members, and answer questions about Venturing with another conference group.



National Venturing Youth Cabinet on hike to Lover's Leap



National Venturing President, David George, salutes National Boatswain

Friday marked the last day of classes and their closing moments. The Sea Scouts put together a land ship to present their awards and certification. I had the privilege to watch and take pictures of this unique experience.

Overall Venturing Week was extremely educational for all participants and staff members.

If you are interested in coming next year your council office will have information on this event for next year sometime in the future.

## Central Region Area Pages

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### Area 1

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#### Upcoming Events

Aug. 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>: Kodiak- Bay Lakes  
Aug. 24<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>: Wood Badge C-07-07  
Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>: Whitewater Kayaking  
Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>: Wood Badge C-09-07  
Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>: Whitewater Kayaking  
Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>: Wood Badge C-10-07

#### 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, and Northern Star

Information on these events and links to these councils can be found on [www.crventuring.org](http://www.crventuring.org)

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#### Contact them at:

Area President [area1president@crventuring.org](mailto:area1president@crventuring.org) Area Chair [area1chair@crventuring.org](mailto:area1chair@crventuring.org)  
*Felicity Smith* *To be determined...*

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### Area 2

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#### Upcoming Events

August 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>:Makahiki  
Aug. 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>: Powder Horn MI W/E 1  
Aug. 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>: Wood Badge C-16-07  
Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>: Powder Horn MI W/E 2  
Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>: Wood Badge C-15-07  
Oct. 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>: Lead the Race

#### Councils of Area 2

Area 2 includes the following 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, and Tall Pine

Information on these events and links to these councils can be found on [www.crventuring.org](http://www.crventuring.org)

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#### Contact them at:

Area President [area2president@crventuring.org](mailto:area2president@crventuring.org) Area Chair [area2chair@crventuring.org](mailto:area2chair@crventuring.org)  
*Katherine Maxim* *Jeff Gerald*

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## Central Region Area Pages

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### Area 3

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#### Upcoming Events

Aug. 5<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>: Venturing Camp at  
Ed Bryant SR  
Aug. 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>: NEIC Venturee  
Aug. 13<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>: Louis and Clark  
Commemorative Experience  
Aug. 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>: VLSC-NWSC  
Aug. 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>, and 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>:  
Wood Badge Courses

#### Councils of Area 3

Area 3 includes the following 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, and W.D.  
Boyce

Information on these events and links to these councils can be found on [www.crventuring.org](http://www.crventuring.org)

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#### Contact them at:

Area President [area3president@crventuring.org](mailto:area3president@crventuring.org) Area Chair [area3chair@crventuring.org](mailto:area3chair@crventuring.org)  
*Nicole Gates* *Kris Zahrobsky*

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### Area 4

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#### Upcoming Events

Aug. 13<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>: Wood Badge C-30-07  
Aug. 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>: Annual Sea Scout  
Regatta  
Aug. 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>: Wood Badge Courses  
Aug. 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>: Wood Badge C-33-07  
Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>: Powder Horn OH W/E 2  
Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>: Wood Badge C-34-07  
Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>: Wood Badge C-35-07

#### Councils of Area 4

Area 4 includes the following councils:  
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, and Tri-State Area

Information on these events and links to these councils can be found on [www.crventuring.org](http://www.crventuring.org)

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#### Contact them at:

Area President [area4president@crventuring.org](mailto:area4president@crventuring.org) Area Chair [area4chair@crventuring.org](mailto:area4chair@crventuring.org)  
*Katelyn Childs* *Len Roberts*

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## Central Region Area Pages

### Area 5

#### Upcoming Events

Aug. 8<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>: Bartle Summer Blast  
Aug. 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>: Wood Badge C-40-07  
Aug. 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>: Wood Badge C-44-07  
Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>: Wood Badge C-47-07  
Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>: Greater St. Louis Area  
Fall Fun Rally

#### Councils of Area 5

Area 5 includes the following 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,  
and Trails West

Information on these events and links to these councils can be found on [www.crventuring.org](http://www.crventuring.org)

#### Contact them at:

Area President [area5president@crventuring.org](mailto:area5president@crventuring.org) Area Chair [area5chair@crventuring.org](mailto:area5chair@crventuring.org)  
*Dan Bedell* *Bob Vogt*

### Venturing & Sea Scouting Discussion Lists

Please sign up for the many Yahoo Groups and Discussion Lists dedicated to Venturing and Sea Scouting. Information on these groups can be found by searching Yahoo Groups for Venturing, clicking on "Discussion Groups" at [seascout.org](http://seascout.org), or by clicking on the links below.



**Venturing Yahoo Group:** this group shares information with Venturers and Advisors from across the nation: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/venturinglist/>



**Central Region Venturing Yahoo Group:** this group is used to share resources and ideas, and to ask questions about Venturing in Central Region: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/crventuring/>



**Sea Scouting Discussion List:** this group shares information with Sea Scouts and Sea Scout leaders across the nation: <http://listserv.seascout.org/cgi-bin/wa?A0=SEASCOUT-NET>



**Central Region Sea Scouting Discussion List:** this group is used to share resources and ideas, and to ask questions about Sea Scouting in Central Region: <http://listserv.seascout.org/cgi-bin/wa?A0=SEASCOUT-CREGION-NET>