

Central Region Program Area 5 Venturing Update August 2008

Bob Vogt, Area 5 Venturing Chair/Editor



FALL FUN RALLY is Venturing's 10th Anniversary Event for Central Region

The Central Region's Venturing 10th Anniversary Celebration will be held here in Area 5 at The Greater St. Louis Area Council's **Fall Fun Rally** the weekend of September 19th – 21st, 2008. The cost is just \$12 and includes an event t-shirt if you register by 9/5. **The reservation form is attached to this email.**



The National Venturing President, Amanda Vogt; Central Region's Venturing President, Katelyn Childs; Central Region's Sea Scout Boatswain, Tim Stanfill will be attending the event along with Sarah Ward the Area 5 Venturing President. Venturing Professionals from the Central Region Office and the National Office will also be attending. Most of the Area 5 Venturing Committee will be there. The event advisor has received notification from Crews across the Central Region that they plan to be at the Fall Fun Rally.

The big question is ... are you going to be there with a contingent from your council? The Fall Fun Rally is the largest Venturing event in the United States. Last year over 700 Venturers and leaders attended the event. This year they hope to break 1,000 Venturers. Mark your calendars now to join Venturers from around the Central Region at the 10th Anniversary Celebration. A promotional video of the event can be found at www.fallfunrally.org. **A great flyer about the event is attached.** Please see the event's website for more details.

Kodiak & Powder Horn Course Director Conference



The Central Region is hosting a Kodiak & Powder Horn Course Director Conference here in Area 5. This is a must attend conference for anyone that has ever thought about conducting a Kodiak Trek & Kodiak X course for your Crew, District, or Council. This is a required conference for a person to run a Powder Horn course in your Council.

The conference will be held at Lindenwood University in St. Charles, MO. It will be the weekend of October 24-26, 2008. **Complete information including registration forms are attached.**

Your Council is encouraged to take advantage of this common location and training weekend so that transportation costs can be shared.

Whether the Venturing specialty you choose is Kodiak/Kodiak X or Powder Horn, this is the opportunity for you to learn the intricacies of conducting a successful course. We've recruited a great staff of experienced Kodiak and Powder Horn course directors and staff members to cover a wide variety of course planning topics. If your council, district, or crew is interested in learning more about what either Kodiak/Kodiak X or Powder Horn are and what it takes to plan a successful course, you need to join us!



Councils planning for Powder Horn in 2009, definitely need to have the intended Course Director at this CDC if they have not attended CDC in 2007 or 2008 since PH CDC attendance by the Course Director within the previous two years is a course approval prerequisite. For Powder Horn, besides the intended Course Director, attendance by the Assistant Course Directors and Staff Advisor, or other council supporters is also encouraged.

If you believe in the "X" factor of the Venturing program (or older Boy Scouts), we need you to get this information to people that should attend the conferences (key Venturing volunteers and staff advisors from your Council, as well as Venturing folks you know from other Councils).

Council Standards of Venturing Excellence

Is your Council's Venturing Program at the top of its game? Is your Council meeting the "Standards of Venturing Excellence."



Introduced in 2007, the Council Standard of Venturing Excellence Award is designed to give a council the road map to follow in developing an excellent Venturing program for our youth. In 2007, 6 councils were recognized for their outstanding Venturing programs. The 2 councils from Area 5 that received the CSVE Award were Heart of America Council and Greater St. Louis Area Council.

Did your Council qualify? Did it submit the application? Will it qualify for the 2008 CSVE Award? Attached to this email is a copy of the 2008 application for the CSVE Award. Take time now to review this 1 page application and set into motion the steps for your Council to be recognized for Venturing excellence.

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 2008 criteria by December 31, 2008.

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 2008, you should complete and mail the form no later than February 15, 2009).

Recognition items will include a plaque, recognition in the Central Region newsletter, listing in the Central Region luncheon program at the Annual BSA Meeting in Orlando, and listing on www.crventuring.org

To apply for the award, 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 the Central Region Venturing office.

Area 5 Venturing Facebook Group

The Area 5 Venturing Facebook Group continues to grow. We now surpass in membership three of the Regional Venturing Facebook Groups. The Area 5 Facebook Group has information about Venturing Summer Camps, Kodiak Courses, activities and events from Council across Area 5 and updates from Central Region Venturing. If you take a look at this Group you will see how the youth are communicating from Kansas to Nebraska to Illinois and beyond. Area 5 is spreading the word about Venturing.

The Facebook Group is updated monthly and soon will have some new content that will be on Facebook only. So if you have not yet joined Facebook and want to see what the youth of Venturing are talking about, join at www.facebook.com.

Why Facebook? Simply, because that is where you will find much of the youth that we serve in Venturing. To ignore their internet social network is to lose a most valuable communication tool. For more information on using Facebook with Venturing, I urge you to check out this link to the National Venturing Youth Cabinet and its discussion about Facebook:

<http://www.nationalventuringyouthcabinet.org/files/FacebookFAQ.pdf>

A screenshot of the Facebook page for the Central Region Venturing: Area 5 (BSA) group. The page title is "Central Region Venturing: Area 5 (BSA)" with a "Global" indicator. The page content includes:

- Information** section with an "edit" link.
- Group Info** section:
 - Type: Organizations - Non-Profit Organizations
 - Description: This is a Networking group for social, high adventurous, and great to hang-around type of people. Are you one?
 - Additional text: "You do not have to be a Venturer to join the group. If you are interested please join to see what 14,000 other 14-21 year olds are doing on their free time."
 - Welcome message: "Welcome to the Central Region Area 5 Venturing Group. Announcements and items of news will be posted here along with events open to everyone in the area. Please also trade stories, share ideas and have fun!"
 - Invitation: "*** GOT FRIENDS? *** INVITE EM! ***"
 - Disclaimer: "Remember that even though this is an online forum, the Venturing Oath and Code and BSA policies still apply. Inappropriate messages & pictures will not be allowed."
 - Units list: "Central Region Area 5 Venturing includes units in: Arts and Hobbies, Outdoors, Religious Life, Sea Scouts, & Sports"
 - Council list: "CR Area 5 consists of the following 15 Councils: Cornhusker Council <http://www.cornhuskerCouncil.org/>, Coronado Council <http://www.coronadoscout.org/>, Great Rivers Council <http://www.bsa-grc.org/>, Greater St. Louis Area Council <http://www.stlbsa.com>, Heart of America Council <http://hoac-bsa.org/index.cfm>, Jayhawk Council <http://www.jayhawkCouncil.org/>, Mid-America Council <http://www.mac-bsa.org>, Mississippi Valley Council <http://www.mississippivalleybsa.org/>, Okaw Valley Council <http://www.okawbsa.com>

- Navigation links: "View Discussion Board", "Invite People to Join", "Edit Group", "Edit Group Officers", "Edit Members", "Create Related Event", "Message All Members", "Leave Group".
- "Share" button with a plus sign.
- Officers** section with an "edit" link:
- Amanda Vogt (Marquette High School) National Venturing President 2008-2009
- Katelyn Childs (Ohio State) Central Region Venturing President 2008-2009
- Sarah 'Mustang' Ward (Marquette High School) CR Area 5 President 08-09
- Bob Vogt CR Area 5 Chairman
- Related Groups** section.

Our Area 5 Venturing Facebook Group is moderated. Photos, video, information, articles and much more can be shared between our Venturing youth and adults.

Central Region Venturing Newsletter

Attached to this emailed Venturing Update is the August 2008 issue of the Central Region Venturing Newsletter designed and written by Katelyn Childs, the CR Venturing President. As always, we need your help in sending this newsletter out across our Area 5. Please forward it to all of your Venturing contacts (youth & adult) and professionals that work with Venturing. Increasing communications amongst Venturers can only help to increase our membership.

Promote Your Council's Venturing Events

If your council has Venturing events, camps, or activities that you want to promote across our Area 5, just send to me the information and I will include it in the next Area 5 Venturing Update. Send to Bob Vogt, Area 5 Venturing Advisor at revogt1@gmail.com.

Venturing Leadership Awards

Red = National VLA
Green = Regional/Area VLA
Blue = Council VLA

For both Youth & Adults.

Do you have Venturers in your council that are outstanding leaders? Do you have adult leaders that go above and beyond? Have you recognized them with the Venturing Leadership Award? If you don't take the time to complete the application, then who will?



Why take the Venturing Leadership Skills Course?

The Venturing Leadership Skills Course (VLSC) is



designed to help teach youth adults the attitudes and skills that good leaders demonstrate. Practicing and mastering these skills will help enable Venturers to have positive leadership experiences in every facet of Scouting and life. It does not matter the type of

activities a particular Crew has chosen, this is a leadership skills building course that all potential youth leaders should take to help shape their leadership styles. VLSC is a requirement for the youth to earn the Venturing Silver Award, it is a suggested course for any Venturer interested in participating on a Kodiak Trek, and is a requirement for the Advisor to earn the Advisors Award of Merit. VLSC is the first course of three offered through the Nature of Leadership Program!

What is Powder Horn?



Powder Horn is a training opportunity designed to expose the Venturing or Boy Scout leader to activities and resources necessary to operate a successful Venturing Ranger Award or Troop High

Adventure program. It does this in several ways. First it helps Venturing Leaders and Scouters to safely conduct outdoor activities of a fun and challenging nature. It provides an introduction to the resources necessary to successfully lead Venturers and older Boy Scouts through a program of high adventure. And it familiarizes the Advisor with the Ranger program so that he or she can help the Venturer to meet the requirements of the Ranger Award. This course is based on the Venturing Ranger requirements giving participants an exposure to outdoor/high adventure activities. Scout leaders will also benefit from this course when your unit participates in unit high adventure.

2009 Powder Horn Course Offered

The Mid-America Council welcomes you to its Powder Horn Course. The course is being offered over 2 weekends. The 2 weekends are March 12-15th, 2009 and March 26-29th. Brochure is attached.

Many people ask what they will learn at Powder Horn ... you will say "many things" after attending the course. The older youth of America are looking for the next step, high adventure. They want to raise the bar. To help them accomplish these goals, you will learn how to supply safe resources and information vital to a great high adventure unit program. That is what Powder Horn is all about! You will learn what is needed to put on unit high

adventures, how to plan the trip, who may come and present information to your youth members. You will learn about the safety requirements needed for many Scouting events. You will be taking part in many of these high adventure activities yourself at Powder Horn. This will give you some first-hand experience with many different activities a troop or crew would build into a full high adventure activity.

Learn more about how your council can conduct a Powder Horn Course contact:

Area 5 Powder Horn Coordinator

Julie Dalton, Quivira Council

Email: buffalogall@cox.net

Home Phone: 316-943-6202

Do a Kodiak Trek in 2008



The Five Commissions of Kodiak:
Effective Team / Values and Vision /
Communication / Decision Making /
Planning

Learn how to conduct a Kodiak Trek in your Crew, District, or Council contact:

Area 5 Kodiak Coordinator

Rick McIlvoy, Greater St. Louis Area Council

Email: rmcilvoy@sbcglobal.net;

Home Phone: 636-394-5728

Cell Phone: 314-609-8001

Great Venturing Sites:

National Venturing Cabinet Officers:

www.nationalventuringouthcabinet.org

Central Region Venturing: www.crventuring.org

Central Region Sea Scouting:

www.seascouting.crventuring.org



Your CR Area 5 Venturing Committee

We are here as a resource for your council.

Area 5 Venturing Youth President

Sarah Ward, Greater St. Louis Area Council

Email: sarahward982@yahoo.com

Area 5 Sea Scout Boatswain

Erin Espy, Greater St. Louis Area Council

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Area 5 Venturing Advisor/Chair

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Area 5 Sea Scout Commodore:

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Area 5 Powder Horn Coordinator

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Area 5 Communication Coordinator

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Home Phone: 314-921-6064

Area 5 Associate Advisor

Mike Insko, Pony Express Council

Email: minsco@law-matters.com

Work Phone: 816-279-3900

Home Phone: 816-279-2219

Area 5 Associate Advisor

Thomas Burke, Great Rivers Council

Email: crew57@sbcglobal.net

Home Phone: 573-581-1232

Quivira Council Kodiak Trek

The Quivira Council Kodiak trek crew of 4 exited young men (Ricardo, Tyler, Chris and Devon) and 3 tiered leaders (Woody, Diana and Luis) returned on Saturday the 19th of July from 9 glorious days of learning and adventures in the Colorado Rockies. Here is their story...

On Friday, July 11, the crew departed for La Junta, CO, where they explored historic Bent's Old Fort. After an overnight stay at the Kiva it was on to the Great Sand Dunes National Monument. There, conquering the highest point of the dunes and re-appearing thru the wind-swept sands tired and worn out they went on to visit Zapata Falls.

The overnight de-sanding stay at the Super 8 Motel in nearby Alamosa, CO was most welcome. Sunday afternoon was check-in at the Rocky Mountain High Adventure Base, elevation 9100 ft, near Poncha Springs, CO. There we tried to get acclimated to the altitude, every place you went at the base was up.

We all agreed that Monday morning did not come too soon. After the bus trip to the drop off point on the Arkansas River, the crew met their rafting guide and received instructions on how to handle the yellow "boat". The 12-mile trip from Fisherman's Bridge through Browns Canyon to Stone Bridge was exiting. Little did they know what was in store for them the following day.

Tuesday morning, same routine just a longer bus ride ... a 40 mile bus ride to Texas Creek on the Arkansas River. 16 miles, class 3 and 4 rapids and some anxious moments later, it was over all too soon.



On Wednesday we hitched a ride to Monarch Pass. The ride in the gondola to the top of Monarch Mountain was exiting. Our final destination, Pecks Mountain, we were told, was about a mile away.

What a mile... no one told us that it was as the crow flies. After 4 miles or so of switch backs and elevation changes of over 1500 feet (one way) the crew stood on top of Pecks Mountain at about 12000 feet. The return wasn't any easier, first down and then up and then down again to catch our ride back to RMHAB.

Thursday morning and a 50 mile car ride later we visited the Royal Gorge Bridge. What a sight! After arriving back in Salida in late afternoon... Pizza Party!

Friday another 30 mile bus ride... Did a lot of rock climbing and rappelling on a 70-foot cliff. All too soon it was Saturday and a long, quiet ride back home!

So where does Kodiak fit into all of this... While the crew was having fun, they somehow found time to be instructed in the 5 Commissions of Kodiak culminating with the graduation ceremony on Friday night.

As each commission (Effective Team, Values/Vision, Communication, Decision Making and Planning) was presented and reinforced, the lessons learned began to reveal themselves their daily adventures.

Do You Have a Venturing Story to Tell?

If you have a great Venturing story to tell, please send it to revogt1@gmail.com

You're Invited to a New York Powder Horn

Course Dates:

May 15, 16 & 17, 2009

May 29, 30 & 31, 2009

Course Location: Dow Drukker

Scout Reservation; Camp Turrell/Camp Kluge, Cuddebackville, NY, 12927

Course Cost: \$235.00

For future information on the course please **E-mail** Bob Monto at rmonto@aol.com An informational flyer is attached to this Venturing Update.



**Leave No Trace
BSA Master Educator Course
Buffalo Trace Council**

Course Dates:

October 3-5, 2008
October 17-20, 2008



Course Location:

Old Ben Scout Reservation, Winslow, IN (10/3-5)
Old Ben & Two Lakes Loop Trail in Hoosier National Forest (10/14-20)

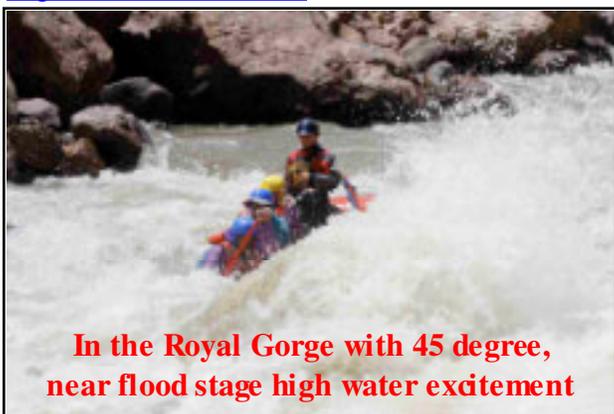
Course Cost: \$250.00

The purpose of this course is to teach advanced levels of Leave No Trace practices, ethics, and teaching skills to individuals interested in conducting Leave No Trace training within their local Districts and Councils. This valuable training is recognized throughout the world by the outdoor industry, land management agencies and the outdoor recreation community. Successful graduates of the Leave No Trace Master Educator Course have the ability to train others in Leave No Trace skills through a variety of formal courses and workshops and informally in outdoor settings. Councils are encouraged to send several representatives who are ready to support the Boy Scouts of America's Leave No Trace Outdoor Ethics program.

A Leave No Trace Master Educator course description of the can be found at:
<http://www.lnt.org/trainin/g/mastereducator.php> The BSA version of this course incorporates the full Master's curriculum found on the above website plus several hours of supplemental materials that directly relate to LNT in Scouting.

An informational flyer is attached to this Venturing Update.

If you have any questions, please contact Course Director Keith Gehlhausen at (812) 459-4778
kegehlhausen@aol.com



In the Royal Gorge with 45 degree, near flood stage high water excitement

**St. Louis Venturing Crew 2783
Rocky Mountain Kodiak**

Lead by Amanda Vogt, National Venturing President, as Course Director, 19 Venturers and leaders of Crew 2783 had a high adventure trip of a lifetime. Using Colorado as its backdrop to the Kodiak leadership trek, the Crew mountain biked Pike's Peak, whitewater rafted Brown Canyon and The Royal Gorge, horseback rode the Sangre De Cristo Mountains, and climbed 14,196' Mt. Yale.

Pictures are worth a thousand words ...



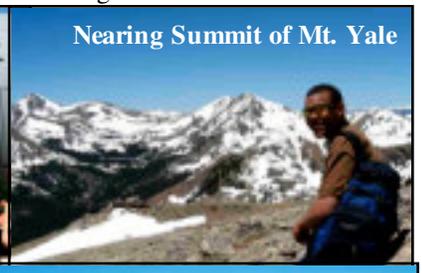
Crew 2783 Ready for Royal Gorge



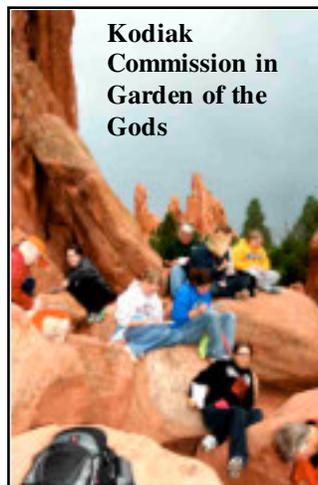
Amanda Vogt, National Venturing President, leads Kodiak Commission by lantern light & horsebacks the Sangre De Cristo Mountains



Touring Petersen AFB



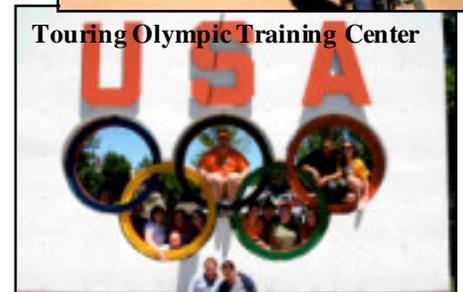
Nearing Summit of Mt. Yale



Kodiak Commission in Garden of the Gods



Mountain Biking Pike's Peak



Touring Olympic Training Center