

Central Region Area 3 Venturing Update May 2009



VENTURING • BSA

*Bob Vogt, CR Area 3 Venturing Chair/ Update Editor
Eric Mirsovs, CR Area 3 Communication Coordinator
Sarah Ward, CR Area 3 Venturing President*

Announcing Our New Central Region Area 3 Venturing President

The Central Region Area 3 Venturing Committee and Fred Wallace, Area 3 Professional, are proud to announce that the 2009-2010 Central Region Area 3 Venturing President is Sarah Ward.



Sarah is completing her Junior year at Marquette High School in Chesterfield, MO. She serves as Crew President of Crew 2982 out of Ballwin, MO. Sarah is entering her 4th year in Venturing. This past year, she served as the Central Region Area 5 Venturing President over a 4-state region consisting of over 14,000 Venturers. With the Central Region re-alignment, her Greater St. Louis Area Council has moved into the new Area 3.

For the past 2 years, she has served as a member of her Council's Venturing Officer Association and as Vice-President of Communication of the New Horizon District's Venturing Officer Association. She is a member of the Central Region Venturing Youth Cabinet.

Sarah has earned her religious God & Country Award and the Venturing Religious & Community Life Bronze Award. She is awaiting her Board of Review for the Venturing Gold Award while she is working on the Venturing Silver Award. She has completed the Venturing Leadership Skills Course, Kodiak, & Kodiak X. She has completed the adult Course Directors Course for both Kodiak & Kodiak X. This summer she will be an instructor for 2 Kodiak treks (Philmont and Swift Base) under the trek direction of Amanda Vogt, current National Venturing President. This fall she will staff her council's 2nd Kodiak X

Course. In addition, she is also nearing completion of her Girl Scout Gold Award (highest award in GSUSA). She is dual registered as a member of Crew 2783. She has received her council's Venturing Leadership Award.

This past summer Sarah attended the Central Region's Venturing Planning Conference in Evansville, IN. There she participated in the training and orientation of the Central Region Venturing Youth Cabinet. She also has twice attended the Winterfest event held each year by the Southern Region in Gatlinburg, TN. She has 3 times attended the largest Venturing event in the Nation, The Fall Fun Rally, outside of St. Louis, MO. This past year she helped to staff the event. She also served as a presenter at the Area 5 Scouting Conference in Kansas City, MO last October for Scout Executives, Council Commissioners, and Council Presidents. She presented for over an hour about the importance of council's having VOA's and "What is Kodiak".

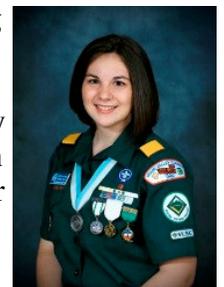
Sarah brings a lot of experience to the position of Area 3 Venturing President. She looks forward to the challenge of helping council's develop VOA's where they don't yet exist and in supporting the existing VOA's. She looks to develop an Area 3 Venturing Officers Association that will consist of each Council's VOA President and two Area Venturing Vice-Presidents.

Please join in welcoming Sarah Ward as our new Central Region Area 3 Venturing President. Her term of office starts June 1st. Until her terms starts she will continue to serve as the Area 5 Venturing President. Sarah can be contacted by email at sarahward982@yahoo.com



Central Region Venturing Newsletter

Attached to this emailed Venturing Update is the May issue of the Central Region Venturing Newsletter designed and written by Katelyn Childs, the Central Region Venturing President. We need your help in sending the newsletters out across our Area 3. Please forward it to all of your Venturing contacts (youth & adult) and professionals that work with Venturing. Increasing our communications amongst Venturers can only help to increase our membership.



What is a VOA?

By Amanda Vogt,
National Venturing
President

A Venturing Officers Association is vital to all levels of Venturing. It is in the VOA that youth learn: decision making; planning; communication; team building; evaluating; mentoring; financing; and become servant leaders.



A VOA has different names in different levels of Venturing. At the Crew level it is the Crew Officers. At the District and Council levels it is elected officers that lead the events and activities that bring multiple Crews together. At the Area level it is a selected Area Venturing President that works with the Council VOA Presidents to support, train, and promote Venturing across a multi council area. At the Regional level it is a Regional Venturing President that forms a Regional Venturing Youth Cabinet consisting of the Area Venturing Presidents to support, train and promote Venturing over many states. At the National level, it is the National Venturing President that support, directs and trains the Regional Venturing Presidents through the National Venturing Youth Cabinet. The National Venturing President works with the National BSA Office in setting the tone and direction of Venturing.

It is through the VOA's and their supporting by-laws that Venturers can take ownership and responsibility for their program. The by-laws provide the structure and rules for the youth, volunteer adults, and professional scouters to operate under whether it is at the Crew, Council, Area, Regional or National levels. I have been part of developing by-laws at all the levels. I have seen youth take the reins of Venturing and grow it.

If your Council is seeking to grow Venturing, then take the effort to develop your Council's VOA. You are giving the youth the opportunity to be servant leaders. Four years ago, my District Venturing Roundtable Advisor gave me the opportunity to develop my District's VOA. Little did he know then that that decision would lead to structure being

developed at all levels of Venturing. You never know when you give a youth the opportunity to lead just how far they will go.

Attached to this Venturing Update is an article I wrote when I served as the old CR Area 5 Venturing President. It is titled "Frequently Asked Questions on VOA's". I hope you find it informative as you further the development of your Council's VOA. Also attached is a copy of my council's VOA by-laws that have served as a model for many other councils. Thank you for your service to Venturing.

Great Venturing Sites:

National Venturing Cabinet Officers:

www.nationalventuringyouthcabinet.org

Central Region Venturing: www.crventuring.org

Central Region Sea Scouting:

www.seascouting.crventuring.org

Venturing Crew in the News

Do you have a wonderful adventure your Crew has recently done that you would like to share with other Crews across our Area 3? Then please let me know about it and we will highlight your Crew in our Area 3 Venturing Update. Just write up a short article and be sure to include some pictures. Submit the articles to revogt1@gmail.com

Venturing Leadership Awards

Red = National VLA

Green = Regional/Area VLA

Blue = Council VLA



For both Youth & Adults.

Does your council have Venturers 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?

Nation's Largest Venturing Event ... The Fall Fun Rally ... Here in Area 3

Yes, the largest Venturing event in the nation is held right here in Area 3 and all Venturers are invited. Last year over 700 Venturers from 10 councils were in attendance. Venturers from Kansas, Illinois, Michigan, Ohio and many other places all showed up. Even the National Venturing President and the Central Region Venturing President came to event. Did you? Well don't miss the 2009 Fall Fun Rally from September 11-13.



So what is the Fall Fun Rally? Over 40 events are available and all are organized and staffed by Venturers. This premier Venturing event is held annually at Beaumont Scout Reservation just outside St. Louis, MO. All for the cost of \$12 (including an event t-shirt), the FFR is a definite value. The



Venturing Officer's Association puts on the FFR in the Greater St. Louis Area Council. Each District VOA is in charge of part of the activities. Here's what they have got

up their sleeves right now:

Rife Shooting; Model Rockets; Blacksmithing; Rendezvous Encampment; Volleyball Tournament; Land Navigation Competition; Climbing Tower; Tabletop Display Contest; Obstacle Course; Frisbee Tournament; Sea Scouting Activities; Drunk Driving Simulation; Caving; Crafts; Horseback Riding; Shotgun Shooting; A Dance; Mini-golf; Eagle meet and greet; Fencing; Search and Rescue; Armed Forces Demo; Crazy Building Competition; Cast Iron Chef; Dunking Booth; Venturing Skills Challenges; and much more.



The big question is ... are you going to be there with a contingent from your council? This year they hope to break 1,000 Venturers. Mark your calendars now to join Venturers from around the Central Region at the Fall Fun Rally. A promotional video of the event can be found at www.fallfunrally.org. Please see the event's website for more details.

Promote Your Council's Venturing Events

If your council has Venturing events, camps, or activities that you want to promote across our Area 3, just send to me the information and I will include it in the next Area 3 Venturing Update. Send to Bob Vogt, Area 3 Venturing Chair at revogt1@gmail.com.

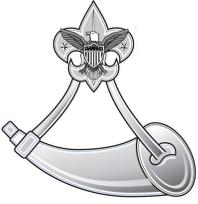
Why take the Venturing Leadership Skills Course?

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.

Do a Kodiak Trek in 2009



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 3 Kodiak Coordinator

Rick McIlvoy, Greater St. Louis Area Council

Email: rmcilvoy@sbcglobal.net;

Home Phone: 636-394-5728

Cell Phone: 314-609-8001

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA ★ 100 YEARS OF SCOUTING



CELEBRATING THE ADVENTURE ★ CONTINUING THE JOURNEY

Central Region's Sea Scouting Koch Cup

Your sails fill with air and you are ready to race! Information about this great event for Sea Scouting is attached to this email.

Great Missouri Valley Challenge Regatta



Ahoy - Skippers

Attached to this Area 3 Venturing Update is the formal Notice of Race for the 2009 Great Missouri Valley Challenge Regatta to be held on July 11-12, 2009 at Lake Manawa in Council Bluffs, IA.

2008 was our inaugural event. The participants had a great time and some really competitive racing. We had a wide range of skill levels competing from novices to active racers. In the 10 qualifying races on Saturday, we had 7 different sailor's take a first place. To make this a true challenge event, the scores of the top 5 racers from each Ship were combined to determine a team score. Ship 542 won the Challenge Cup. Like the America's Cup, this notice opens the door for the 2009 challenge.

This is the only inter-Ship sailing event in CR Area 5.

Rod Phipps, Skipper, Ship 542
7523 North 54 Plaza, Omaha, NE 68152
402/350-1970

Do You Have a Venturing Story to Tell?

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



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Your CR Area 3 Venturing Committee is Growing

We have had three more Venturing leaders raise their hand and say they want to help grow and support Venturing across CR Area 3. We are proud to welcome to the CR Area 3 Venturing Committee Dave Eyman from Bettendorf, IA (Illowa Council), Dennis Gunderson from Glen Carbon, IL (Lewis & Clark Council), and Luann Rece from Stoughton, WI (Glacier's Edge Council). We are looking for more Venturing adult leaders to fill committee needs to serve our entire geographical Area which stretches from southern Illinois & Missouri, up the Mississippi River, to the shores of Lake Michigan in Wisconsin. We request the Area 3 Scout Executives to recommend to Fred Wallace and myself (Bob Vogt) individuals that want to help make Venturing grow.

Sarah Ward, our new Area 3 Venturing President, really wants to grow youth leaders in our Area. She wants to see active Venturing Officer Associations (VOA) in each council. The CR Area 3 Venturing Committee will support her in this endeavor. Sarah looks to develop an Area 3 Area level VOA from amongst the council's VOA Presidents and Area Vice-Presidents.

The Area 3 Councils are:

Lewis & Clark Council – Belleville, IL
Illowa Council – Davenport, IA
W.D. Boyce Council – Peoria, IL
Mississippi Valley Council – Quincy, IL
Abraham Lincoln Council – Springfield, IL
Hawkeye Area Council – Cedar Rapids, IA
Northeast Iowa Council – Dubuque, IA
Greater St. Louis Area Council – St. Louis, MO
Glacier's Edge Council – Madison, WI
Milwaukee County Council – Milwaukee, WI
Southeast Wisconsin Council – Racine, WI
Potawatomi Area Council – Waukesha, WI

CR Area 3 Venturing Committee

Area 3 Venturing President

Sarah Ward, Greater St. Louis Area Council
Email: sarahward982@yahoo.com

Area 3 Venturing Vice-President

Amanda Vogt, Greater St. Louis Area Council
Email: venturingpresident@yahoo.com

Area 3 Sea Scout Boatswain

Open

Area 3 Venturing Advisor/Chair

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Area 3 Sea Scout Commodore:

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Cell Phone: 314-971-1188

Area 3 Powder Horn Coordinator

Open

Area 3 Kodiak Coordinator

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Cell Phone: 314-609-8001

Area 3 Communication Coordinator

Eric Mircsov, Greater St. Louis Area Council
Email: eaglescout939@hotmail.com
Home Phone: 314-921-6064

Area 3 Associate Advisor – Illowa Council

Dave Eyman, Illowa Council
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Cell Phone: 563-340-8891

Area 3 Associate Advisor – Lewis & Clark

Dennis Gunderson, Lewis & Clark Council
Email: dennis28hh@juno.com
Home Phone: 618-288-7198

Area 3 Associate Advisor

Open

Area 3 Associate Advisor

Open

Kodiak X Leadership Course Offered in CR Area 3

If you have completed Kodiak leadership course, your next step in leadership development is Kodiak X. Kodiak X is a weekend leadership challenge course that builds on the 5 leadership commissions learned in Kodiak. During the weekend, participants will review what they learned at Kodiak, and learn two additional commissions. These commissions are:

1. Evaluating Performance
2. Mentoring

Each participant will have an opportunity to practice their leadership skills while serving as a leader of their team as they face challenging scenarios.

The New Horizon District is sponsoring Kodiak X for the Greater St. Louis Area Council. The course's Co-Directors are Amanda Vogt, the 2008-2009 National Venturing President, and Bob Vogt, Central Region Area 3 Venturing Chair. Course will be held on September 25-26, 2009 at Salem in Ballwin United Methodist Church (14825 Manchester Rd, Ballwin, MO 63021) starting at 6:00pm. It will conclude on Saturday at 8:00pm. Participants will be staying at the church overnight. Co-ed adult leadership will be provided. Showers are available. Cost is estimated at \$30 and includes 3 meals, snacks, and course supplies. Course is limited in participation size. Venturers, older Boy Scouts (16 & older) and adult leaders that have completed Kodiak can take Kodiak X.

For more information contact Bob Vogt (636-394-6809) or by email at revogt1@gmail.com



Venturing Terminology

~ Let's Get It Right!

Venture Patrol — a patrol of older boys in a Boy Scout troop. The patrol participates in high adventure activities.

Venture Scout — is not valid for any program of the BSA. Members of a Venture Patrol are "Boy Scouts". Members of a Venturing Crew are "Venturers".

Venture — high-adventure activities for a patrol (**Venture patrol**) of Boy Scouts age 13 and older in a troop.

Venturing — the young adult program of the Boy Scouts of America for men and women 14 (who have completed the eighth grade) through 20 years of age. "Venturing" is both a noun and a modifier. The forms: "Venturing is a program for young adults." "Young women and men take part in Venturing activities." "Good Venturing Advisors are crucial to successful Venturing crews."

Venturer — a registered youth member of a BSA

Venturing Crew. The word "Venturer" should be used only as a noun referring to a youth member.

Use "**Venturing**" when a modifier is needed. The forms: "One Venturer built a kayak." "One member of the Venturing crew built a kayak."

Venturing Crew — BSA program for youth (either young men and/or women that are age 14 up to their 21st birthday) and their adult leaders. Youth members are called Venturers or Sea Scouts.



Philmont Training Center

By Connie Elliot

PTC Conference Chair – Week 8

I would like to take this opportunity to personally invite you to attend Philmont Training Center this summer and not only experience the wonders of Philmont, but to also take advantage of the excellent training opportunities that are offered. If you have never been to Philmont, I can guarantee you that your breath will be taken away by the beauty of the area. Not only that, but you will see the excitement in the faces of the youth as they get ready to leave for the adventure of their lives and return with smiles that will last a lifetime.

The Philmont Training Center is located across the road from the starting point for the Philmont Treks. Participants of the conferences are housed in platform walled tents that do have electricity, bedding, and a breathtaking view. You can fall asleep listening to elk bulging in the background, watch deer as they walk

by your tent nibbling on apples, and enjoy fellowship with other Scouters from across the country. Not only that, but families are welcome to attend and Philmont offers a week of exciting adventures for your spouses as well as children to do while you are in a session.

And your classroom? Weather permitting, most instructors move their classes outside so you will not have to sit in a room all day. All meals are included and I have never seen anyone walk away hungry. Lunch hours are 2 hours long and during this time you will have the opportunity to visit with others and learn about what they have to offer. The National Rifle Association will have a knowledgeable representative available to answer your questions about shooting sports programs and many other presentations will be available. It is your choice if you want to learn more about these programs. You may choose to spend this time with your family as they will enjoy all meals with you. In the evenings there is entertainment in the tent cities - from campfires, to bands, and more.

I have attached the pdf version of the Conference Schedule to this Area 3 Venturing Update. **If you will notice, week 8 - July 26-August 1st is when most of the Venturing Sessions are being offered, and yes, I will be there.** I am hoping that you, too, would like to join us for a memorable way to spend a vacation. You won't regret it!

