

area one

the newsletter of Central Region Area One

part of the Boy Scouts of America



Pictured Above: MN Governor, Mark Dayton; (left Venturing shirt) Area 1 VP for Communication, Sarah Hopkins; (right Venturing shirt) Northern Star Council Venturing President, Grace Beck; and other Scouting representatives.

Scouting at the Capital

By Sarah Hopkins, Area 1 VP for Communication.

Governors, and Senators, and Chief Justices' Oh, My! It was an Official filled day for twelve Scouts at the annual Scouting Report to State of Minnesota.

The young, eager, Scouts gathered at the Northern Star Council's St. Paul office on April 4th for a short meeting where they were introduced to each other and rehearsed the presentations and day's events. The group included Scouts from all over Minnesota including two Venturers; Grace Beck of Northern Star Council and Sarah Hopkins of Voyageurs Area Council. Each... *Continue reading on page 3.*

Area 1 Assemblage Review

By Thomas Spargo, Area 1 President

During the Area 1 Conference last November, the youth unanimously approved the location and date for the Assemblage. 6 months later, and a lot of planning by the Area Venturing Officer's Association, the Area came together again to make new friendships and to have a great time.

On April 1st – 3rd, 65 youth and adults came together from 5 councils at the 2nd annual Area 1 Assemblage at the Wilderness Resort at the Wisconsin Dells where participants had access to 3 indoor water parks with dozens of waterslides and a wave pool.

On Saturday afternoon, the first of 5 competitions started with a water slide race. Sydney Nillis from Fargo won with a record time of 13:08 seconds down a 180 foot waterslide traveling at 9.5 MPH. Chris Lafountain from Chaska, MN came in at a close 13:11 seconds.

On Saturday night, youth participated in a giant marshmallow eating contest each containing 14 grams of sugar - 10 more grams than a regular sized marshmallow. Our two winners were...

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Pictured Above: Attendees eating giant marshmallows for the marshmallow eating contest at the Area 1 Assemblage.

Brian Van Bruggan from Fargo eating 11, and Austin Werner from Green Bay eating 10. Later that night, there was also a Video game contest with Alex Nillis from Fargo winning on Guitar Hero, and Jenny Wells winning from Green Bay on Dance Dance Revolution. Both then competed against each other on both games with Alex winning 1st place on a combined score.

Condo 200D with crew 453 in Northern Star council and crew 439 from Samoset council won the spaghetti sauce contest were each

tasting sauce with Thomas Spargo, the Area 1 President; Sarah Hopkins, the Area 1 VP of Communication; and Dan Carriveau, the Central Region President being the judges. Condo number 202D with crew 750 in Northern Star council and Crew 9063 from Bay Lakes council placed 2nd in the contest. The last contest during the weekend was a free-hand drawing contest and coloring contest. Applicants had Saturday night to draw their creation and had participants vote for their favorite.

drawings. Danielle Griffith from Wausau, WI won the freehand color contest, Mollie Clark from Eagan, MN won with freehand B&W, and Ryly Sann also from Wausau, WI won the coloring contest.

All first place winners were awarded with an Area Assemblage T-shirt, and 2nd place winners received a gift bag of candy. All participants received candy and an Assemblage keychain. Venturers had a great time and look forward to the 3rd Annual Area Assemblage next year.

Winter Amidships

By Dan Carriveau, Central Region President

February 5, 2011, I attended Winter Amidships. It was really cool being able to meet so many Venturers and Sea Scouts. I had a blast! What really made things cool for me was meeting some people who I had met at a recruiting Venturing event. These few people had asked me questions about Venturing contact info for a crew near them. It was cool to see them really getting active and leading their Venturing crew. I feel like I was apart of this all somehow.

While I was at Winter Amidships, I got to be one of the judges for the obstacle course. Let me tell you, that was a hard but fun course! The event had various competitions among all of the units who attended. In addition to the obstacle course, some of the other events that day were a first aid competition, snow tug-a-war, 32 point compass board, knots relay, international code flags, ice bowling, lifejacket relay, Scooby Doo race, and more! It was a blast! The night concluded with dinner, awards, and a dance.



"Venturers had a great time and look forward to the 3rd Annual Area Assemblage next year."

The next Winter Amidships is being planned for February 4, 2011. Mark your calendars to have a fun time!

The Winter Amidships is held in Fond Du Lac, WI. More information about next years event can be found on the Area 1 Page of the Central Region website by going to www.crva1.org.

Pictured Above: Group photo of youth participants at the Area 1 Assemblage.
Pictured Right: Participants playing Tug-of-war at the Winter Amidships.



Upcoming Events

Venturing Camporee - May 21-23rd

Come to Sterns camp for an exciting weekend of Climbing, High/low ropes course, Shooting, Frisbee, Volleyball, Night-time Navigation, a Chili Cook-off, and many more. This weekend is a great way for crews to have fun together, as well as meet other crews. To learn more about the event, be sure to check out our facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=10067532766>.

Arrow Power 2011 - June 21-26

Hosted by Area 1 OA Lodges, this week of service to the Superior National Forest will provide a great Crew experience in the woods, making improvements to the camping, hiking, and mountain biking features within and near the Superior Hiking Trail. See <http://arrowpower.sectionc1b.org> for details.

Bay Jammer 2011 - July 15-17

Bay Jammer, is the nation's oldest continuous Scouting event designed for Venturing aged Boy/Girl Scouts. It is held each summer in beautiful downtown Menominee, Michigan and utilizes the facilities of the Great Lakes Memorial Marina. Now in its 63rd consecutive year, Bay Jammer has played host to thousands of youth participating in Sea Scout Ships, Venturing Crews, Explorer Posts, Boy Scout Troops, and Senior Girl Scout Troops from all over the Midwest region. Events at Bay Jammer have changed and evolved over time, but still include the essence of what Scouting is all about.

To learn more about this event, watch the video on Facebook, or read the article inside the September area one newsletter at <http://crva1.org>

Powder Horn 2011 - Samoset Council

Sept 9-11, 2011
Sept 30-Oct 2, 2011
Learn more at <http://www.powderhorn-bsa.org/dates.html#region>

Smiley's Amazing Race - October 14-16

During the weekend there will be a chance to do Climbing, Zip Line, C.O.P.E. both low and high, Shooting Sports, Mountain Biking, we will also have a Self-Defense demo. All meals will be provided, there will be cabins available for sleeping or one can bring their own tent. Cost for the weekend is \$40.00 To get to know more about this event, read the November Issue of the area one newsletter available at <http://crva1.org>.

Don't forget to submit your event on the Central Region website!

Venturing at the Capital

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...of the participants was shown a copy of the report that they would give the State Officials. The Report noted several accomplishments Scouts received in 2010. An example of this is that over 922,000 hours of community service were reported by youth members. That a record number of Scouts, (1,135) achieved the rank of Eagle, and there were a total of 64,198 youth members registered, 5,626 of which were Ventures.

When the meet and greet concluded, the Scouts traveled the short distance by van to the State Capital, where they met with State Senator Ted Lillie for a quick tour of the State senate floor. Afterwards, they were introduced to Senate Majority Leader Amy Koch, to whom the first Report was given.

With the presentation concluded, the youth were then ushered to up to the observation deck to watch the inner workings of a State Senate session. Then it was time to meet the Governor Dayton in his office. There he received the second Report, talked with the Scouts and posed for a photo. Next was a quick lunch at the MN DOT Café, then a meeting with the Speaker of the House Kurt Zellers. He received the third report and gave the group a tour of his office after talking with them and getting a photo as well. Then the Scouts were off for an educational, guided tour of the Capitol. A quick trek over to the Judicial Center to meet with Chief Justice Lorie Skjerven Gildea. She let the Scouts onto the courtroom floor and answered many questions from the group after she was presented with the Report.

Hiking to the other side of the Capital grounds, the Scouts meet with Secretary of State Mark Ritchie. There the final report was given. Secretary Ritchie showed the Scouts how to press a seal and let them stamp a paper to take home.

After the final photo was taken the Scouts drove the short distance back to the Scout office where they had a debriefing and received a copy of the report that was given to all the State officials. With a final photo taken and good-byes said, the Scouts were dismissed, now the question is, who would be chosen next year to Report to State?

Sarah Hopkins is from Voyagers Area council in Northern Minnesota.

She is the current Area 1 VP for Communications

President's Corner

By Thomas Spargo

Over my term as Area President, I've been asked "How do you define success?" My response was "by accomplishing goals". It was a response of what you'd expect to hear, as if reading it from the dictionary. "Success: favorable accomplishment, attainment, issue or outcome; successful person or outcome" is how my dictionary describes it.

Recently, I was thinking about success, and how I was able to run 9 miles, and how that was a success for me, yet for a person in a career of running, it would be equal to them as a short walk around a park. Or even playing music; for instance when a music student gets up and plays their instrument for the first time in their life, they would consider that a rather large success after a year of practicing, and their parents would reward them with ice cream afterwards, yet an experienced musician playing one song in front of 30 people would just call it a day and get on with their life. There are many ways to measure and define your success. Have you done it before? Was it better than the last time? Did you have fun? And did you make others happy?

I have been trying to measure my success as an Area President. I completed goals, accomplished assignments; I breathed venturing during my term. But I couldn't help but wonder, "I completed my goals, and now where is the progress?" During the Area Conference and Assemblage is where I think I had my largest successes. Not because I increased the numbers of participants, but because I was able to bring people together and have a great time. Not because the youth and adults were able to learn a thing or two, but because I found new leaders that will actually get to use that information. And this is where success and successor meet. Jenny Wells will become the new Area President for the 2011-2012 year, as well as three new Vice presidents that will be announced in our special elections issue at the end of the month. Now those new friendships and knowledge will come into use for our new officers as they start to lead the Area. I have had a great year as Area president, and I feel I've done a lot for Venturing, yet it was one of the most exciting years and had a lot of fun doing it. I want to congratulate all of the new officers on their positions, and just remember: By loving what you do, and by doing it, that is how you define success.

Facebook Groups



For those of you that are on facebook, you may have noticed that facebook will be archiving some groups. The Central Region has been strategically planning how it would deal with this, and have been hard at work making groups more "active" by posting more events and information on all of the council, area, and region groups. We have now upgraded all of the Area 1 groups including the council groups. You may be wondering though "what's being upgraded?" Well some of the new features include the ability to just add members without waiting a long time for them to accept, but also the ability to group chat (depending on size), create and share documents, and a few other neat features. Of course nothings perfect, but it does not feature the "officers" section as well as some other features the old groups had. However I encourage you to take a look at the new groups, and if you have any questions, you can message any of the "admins" on the Area 1 group if you need more information. Just don't forget about your other groups you may have. If you haven't been posting in them lately, you will risk having it archived and have ALL of your membership lost.

Would you like to take a survey?

For those of you at the Area Assemblage in April that haven't taken the survey, feel free to take it by going to <http://crva1.org> and clicking on the survey link.

For those of you reading this newsletter, the Area and Region would be very appreciative if you would take the

survey about the newsletter as well. It will ask a few brief questions about your thoughts on the newsletter. We want to make things interesting for you, so make sure you give your opinion on the articles, layout, and more for the newsletter. You can also find it at <http://crva1.org>.

