



Central Region Area 2 Venturing January 2007



This month we have an emphasis on Sea Scouting. Page two has some basic information and reference tools to help you become more familiar with the program. With that in mind, we are pleased to welcome Richard Gash, our new Central Region Sea Scouts Commodore. We wish him much success in his new role.

Sara Fobare

Area 2 President

*Jeff Gerald*s

Area 2 Chairman

This Month's Q & A

Q. What kinds of collaboration can help the Venture Crews?

A. Many Venture Crews are small or lack adequate leadership and resources to have frequent activities. In some councils there is a "Venturing Day" or weekend experience that is open to all of the Venturing Crews in the council. Sometimes the invitation is extended to the council's Sea Scout Ships and Explorer Posts, as well. This is a great opportunity to meet with other advisors and officers to share success stories.

It can also build camaraderie where Crews eventually plan events together in order to get group rate discounts, such as a canoeing trek. The units can also work with each other to offer special opportunities, such as Venturers leading Sea Scouts on a white water rafting trip, and conversely, Sea Scouts taking Venturers sailing or diving. The potential for program enrichment is unlimited.

Another opportunity to help build a sense for the bigger family of Venturing is to host a council or district "Venturing Annual Dinner". This dinner can be for the conferring of special recognitions, such as the Venturing Leadership Award, Silver Award, Hornaday, Ranger, etc. Be sure to include family and friends, keep the cost manageable for teenage budgets, and provide entertainment afterwards. As you know, food and music are always a big plus for the Venturers!

News from the Field

The **Tall Pines Council** Venturing Leadership Association (Flint, MI) meets monthly to discuss items of interest to Venturing. Each meeting also features a special topic and guest speaker. Some of this year's subjects are "Recruitment and Enthusiasm", "Venturing Beyond the Council", "Skiing & Ice Wall Climbing", and "Crew By-Laws". They aren't bashful about inviting guest speakers from other councils, either. They seek out motivational and interesting people to energize their Crew Advisors and Officers.

Several Crews from the **Detroit Area Council** have teamed up to spend a weekend at **Gerald R. Ford Council's** Camp Gerber (Grand Rapids, MI). They will spend Saturday on a side trip to the luge track in Muskegon, MI.

Chris Szybisty (CR President) and Mr. Gerald were guests of the **Southwest Michigan Council** (Kalamazoo, MI) Annual Dinner. They enjoyed the warm hospitality of a great bunch of volunteers and professionals.

Send us a note to share your stories about your successful council and/or collaborative events.

Contact us at:

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Activities in the Area Scheduled for 2007

Powder Horn, May 18-20 & June 1-3, Detroit Area Council, D-A Scout Ranch

Area 2 Assemblage, June 20-24, Detroit Area Council, D-A Scout Ranch

Kodiak, June 24-29, Great Sauk Trail Council, ACE Adventure Center, WV

Venturing Camp, July 22-25, Crossroads of America Council, Camp Krietenstein

Makahiki, August 11-13, Anthony Wayne Area Council, Warsaw, IN

Powder Horn, August 24-26 & Sept. 14-16, Lake Huron Area Council, Camp Rotary

Be sure to post your activity notices on the Central Region Venturing Yahoo Groups site and Central Region Venturing web page at <http://www.crventuring.org>.



Resource Tip of the Month Seabadge Conference

The Simon Kenton Council (Columbus, OH) is **tentatively** planning to conduct a Seabadge Conference, September 21 - 23, 2007.

The conference is centered on:

Improving the understanding of leadership, management, and motivation among selected experienced Sea Scout adult volunteer leaders.

Providing management, leadership, and presentation skills and tools to these leaders so that they may use them and share them with others in their day-to-day activities and through leading a Seabadge conference.

And using this understanding and these skills and tools to improve and expand both the quality and quantity of the Sea Scout program as a way to reach the Aims of Scouting.

We will provide more details as they become available.

Consultant Tip of the Month

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary:

Indiana <http://a082.uscgaux.info/>

Michigan <http://a091.uscgaux.info/>



Sea Scouting

Sea Scouting is an integral part of the BSA's Venturing program. Its founding in the United States was in 1912. Sea Scouting focuses on fun, adventure, and leadership training for co-ed participants between the ages of 14 and 21. Sea Scouts love boats and the water. Their Ship activities can be conducted on a bay, a river, a lake, or the ocean. Extensive information about Sea Scouting can be found by visiting the web site at: <http://www.seascout.org/>. **Be sure to have someone at your council office prepared to respond to inquiries about Sea Scouting.**

We would like to know more about Sea Scouting in Area 2. Please send us a note about your overall program, such as the number of Ships in your council and any council-wide activities that they have. We would also like to have contact information (if available) for the key council professional advisor assigned to Sea Scouting, the council volunteer leader (Commodore), and the council's youth leader (Boatswain). This is particularly important if any of the contacts are different from your normal Venturing contacts.