

Area 2 Newsletter



Everything new in Area Two!

Area 2 is comprised of the lower peninsula of Michigan, also known as the Michigan Crossroads Council. It serves the four Field Service Councils: President Gerald R. Ford, Water and Woods, Great Lakes, and Southern Shores.

Look Who is New in Area 2!

The Area 2 VOA is proud to present Joseph Jenkins as the 2014-2015 Central Region Venturing Area 2 President!

Joseph is a member of Crew 1589, in the Great Lakes FSC, and has been involved in Scouting his entire life, having started as a tiger cub in the first grade. Joe has been a member of Troop 1589 out of Madison Hts, MI for the past 8 years, and is now the Assistant Scoutmaster over new Scouts and recruitment. He is an Eagle Scout who has participated in NYLT and has staffed for one year as well. Joe has also enjoyed a Philmont Cavalcade. Joseph enjoys helping out in the community, in particular with his church doing various forms of ministry.

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Joey likes to get involved going on mission trips, and frequently travels with his troop and crew. Joseph lives in Madison Hts. Michigan, and attends Wayne State University full time pursuing a degree in Civil Engineering. In this term, Joe looks forward to standardizing the area's calendar, and promoting VOAs and recruitment throughout Area 2.

Some excerpts from Joe's interview for Area 2 President:

When asked why supporting council VOAs is the most important job of the area VOA, Joe replied that being a part of the VOA helps to teach youth to network, and to communicate with people in higher positions. He also says that if VOAs are weak, crews are more likely to be weak because there is nothing there to support them. When a council has a VOA, crews will have more options for fun events, and a support system to look up to.

Joe says Venturing has changed his life most by helping him learn to juggle work, school, and Scouting. He says watching his fellow area VOA officers has helped him gain time management skills?

When asked for his greatest strength in this position, Joseph said without a doubt, his love for Scouting! Scouting has always been there for him, and now he's happy to do something for it.

Joe cannot wait to get started with his terms as the president of both his crew and of Area 2!



Like Area 2's Page on Facebook!

Area 2:

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/CRV.Area2/?fref=ts>

Water and Woods:

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/44602549603/?fref=ts>

President Ford:

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/58006254760/?fref=ts>

Southern Shores:

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/45491999635/?fref=ts>

Great Lakes:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/81835021000/>

Sea Scouting

<https://www.facebook.com/crss2>

Also follow Area 2 on Pinterest!

<http://www.pinterest.com/venturingarea2/>



Have a Scouting comic or one-liner? Send it in to be in our next newsletter!

CRVenturingArea2@gmail.com

Campfire Onion Bombs

Materials:

Large onions

Ground meat

Meatloaf/meatball seasonings to taste

Tin foil



Directions:

1. Peel your onions and cut them in half as equally as possible.
2. Prepare your meatballs how you want them—for example, Italian seasoning, oregano, chili powder, minced garlic, ketchup, Worcestershire sauce and some breadcrumbs.
3. Size your meatballs so that they can be squished between two pieces of onions. Some meat will push out the ends and that is okay; just make them as compact as possible
4. Wrap each onion bomb in tinfoil—might want to double them since they'll be tossed in the fire! Make sure not to poke holes in the foil.
5. Toss in the fire and try to get them in the coals.
6. Cook for about 10 minutes, flip them around, and cook another 10 minutes or so.

For great recipes like this one, meeting ideas, Court of Honor decoration ideas, knot tutorials, and much, much more, visit our Area 2 Pinterest page at <http://www.pinterest.com/venturingarea2/>

We Want Your Events!

We are interested in what your crew and field service council are doing! If your event is open to other crews, councils, or even areas, please add it to our Central Region Calendar via http://www.crventuring.org/event_submission.php

This calendar is a great resource if your crew is looking for something fun to do. Check out all events on the calendar here: http://crventuring.org/Activities/Events_Calendar/



Message from the Area 2 Advisor Jeff Gerald

The Area 2 Venturing committee has been represented on the Michigan Crossroads Council's Program Impact Committee for three years, and now has been invited to be a part of the new MCC Camping and Outdoor Program Committee. Here is what the Outdoor Program Committee does: "The COPC is all about camping, specifically camping outside of resident camp, Cub Scout camping, Boy Scout camping, Venture camping, Sea Scout camping - we camp! We are all about program, lots of program; we are all about helping our Field Service Councils be successful, providing quality camps and camping experiences in support of their FSC activities." We are pleased to be a part of this new committee and look forward to increasing opportunities for adventures in Michigan.

The Area 2 Outdoor Program Conference will be September 12-14 at D-A Scout Ranch this fall. The Purpose is to increase the capacity of units to offer exciting and challenging outdoor programs. It is for Scoutmasters, Venturing Advisors, Sea Scout Advisors, committee members and anyone interested in outdoor program.

It will be a weekend full of seminars, exhibits, presentations and networking designed especially to prepare units leaders to offer new and exciting programs, trips and outings.

Highlights – representatives from the BSA's National Office, including high adventure, health and safety, NESA/Alumni and a host of MCC and local experts in aquatics, shooting sports, conservation, outdoor ethics, camping and other important programs. We will have an important message from Assistant Chief Scout Executive, Tom Fitzgibbon on how to leverage Journey to Excellence. We will also hear from Bill Steele who will share some of his thrilling caving trips from all over the globe.

Saturday will be a day of breakout sessions and hands-on activities full of information about outdoor program opportunities in Michigan and beyond. An Exhibitors Fair will include National High Adventure Bases, NESA, Health and Safety, MCC camps and many local vendors. We will also have fun activities and competitions to test your outdoor skills!

Events Looking Ahead

- August 21-23 and 28-30, 2015 Powder Horn at Gerber Scout Reservation
- 2015 World Jamboree in July/August at Yamaguchi, Japan
- 2017 National Jamboree at the Bechtel Summit Reserve, WV

Letter From the Editor

Happy Summer Venturers, What do you think about when you think June/July/August. Do you think no school, summer job, flip-flops, bad tans, or the beach? If you're like me, and thousands of others, you think SUMMER CAMP! and VENTURING!

I want to take this opportunity to share with my summer experiences from the summer after my senior year of high school when I had the pleasure of working at camp staffing COPE and the climbing tower. Every morning, the staff and I led COPE, and then taught the climbing merit badge in the afternoon. I developed close relationships with the other staff, and I learned new knots and COPE/climbing skills. I got to splash around on waterfront night, participate in crazy skits and songs for the kids, and serve camp food 5 times a week. I spent my days outside in the woods, and my nights on starlit walks or at campfires. This job was by far the most fun, memorable, and meaningful job I have ever held.



While working at camp, I gained huge amounts of confidence. Especially in areas like COPE and climbing, where safety is crucial and fears are high, confidence is priceless. If the staff doesn't appear confident in their abilities, the kids won't be confident either. The encouragement I received, and the success I worked for in this position, has helped me to move past fear and timid tendencies in all of life's aspects. Similarly, I learned to not

allow fear to control me. I ignored my fears of heights and climbed up walls, poles, and ladders to help hundreds of boys do the same thing. I rappelled and zip-lined to prove to frightened boys (and some adults too) that it was okay. I pushed my fears of being left out aside, and found a family. I have never felt more community than when I received 30 hugs each night from staff of all different backgrounds, interests, and ages. I now know I can shove my fears aside and accomplish anything.

Over the course of seven weeks of hundreds of kids each week, there were many that were scared or thought they couldn't do it. Some teams spent 45 minutes trying to figure out a usually 15-minute COPE challenge. Others took 20 minutes to climb a wall, or 10 to learn a new knot. In the end, these kids succeeded with more pride and self-confidence than any team that wasn't afraid or did the 15-minute challenge in 10. These kids learned to work through their problems, to communicate, and use teamwork. Campers got past their fears, and gained confidence as leaders and as team members. They learned to trust each other and themselves. Being able to do this—to help these adolescents—gave me a purpose far greater than myself. I helped teach these life lessons to every camper that came through my area, and every camper helped to teach me the exact same lessons!

I share this experience not to just cheer for summer camps. I share this experience to encourage you to take your life to the next level. Seek out something you enjoy this summer—something that gives you purpose and teaches you lessons. If this is summer camp, great! If not, that's fine too. Try a different summer job, day camp, volunteering, learning or teaching an instrument. Whatever you do, do something you love! Venture out, and you will reap the benefits.

Yours always in Venturing,

Elizabeth Wisman
Central Region, Area 2
VP Communications 2014





Program Features of the Season: Sailing On the Retriever

Would you like a blue water adventure of a lifetime? Check out the new sailing program in Area 2. The *Retriever* will be setting sail this summer for week-long and weekend excursions on the Great Lakes. This 52' ketch sleeps 16 - enough for a small crew of hearty souls to have fun and learn all about sailing.

Based in its home port of Mackinaw City, MI, the *Retriever* will embark on excursions to various destinations in the northern Great Lakes. Planned packages include day cruises, weekend cruises, and week-long cruises. The *Retriever* is designed to accommodate co-ed crews (2 staff & 14 participants); Charter Packages will be available for any BSA unit or other youth organization. The Great Lakes Sailing Adventure is designed for Sea Scouts, older Boy Scouts, Varsity Scouts or Venturers. Plenty of trips are still available, but hurry! More information can be found at <http://www.michiganscouting.org/Events/GreatLakesSailing2014>.



Please Welcome Kris Zahrobksy as the new Central Region Venturing Advisor!

Kris Zahrobksy is from Des Plaines Valley Council in LaGrange, IL. A lifetime member of the BSA, Kris started as a youth Tiger Cub and completed his youth tenure serving as the Central Region Venturing President from 2000-2001.

For the past twelve years, Kris has served as the Area 7 Venturing Advisor. He has received the Silver Antelope. Kris is an Eagle Scout, Vigil Order of the Arrow, and has earned the Exploring Gold Award, the Council, Regional, and National Venturing Leadership Award, and Venturing Silver Award. As a youth, Kris was the Central Region Venturing President (2000-2001) and served on the National Venturing

Kris enjoys traveling, cooking, playing softball, and haunted houses.

Interested in having the time of your life and gaining invaluable leadership experience? Get involved in Area 2! E-mail us at crventuringarea2@gmail.com.