



Central Region Area 3 Venturing Newsletter

August 2014

PREPARED BY
THE AREA 3
VENTURING OFFICERS'
ASSOCIATION

Venturing Program Update

As of May 2014, Venturing is starting out fresh with some new awards. The Bronze, Gold, and Silver Awards have been replaced by four new awards. These awards are called the Venturing Award, the Discovery Award, the Pathfinder Award, and finally the Summit Award. For Venturers that have already been actively involved in their crew, congratulations you have already earned the Venturing Award! Continue to climb your way to the Summit Award. This is Venturing's new equivalent to the Eagle Award. Venturers have been able to work on earning these new awards since May. Though you are still able to earn the Bronze, Gold, and Silver awards till December 31st, 2014. The Ranger, Trust, and Quest Awards are still available for all Venturers to earn alongside the new award structure.

For more details please visit:

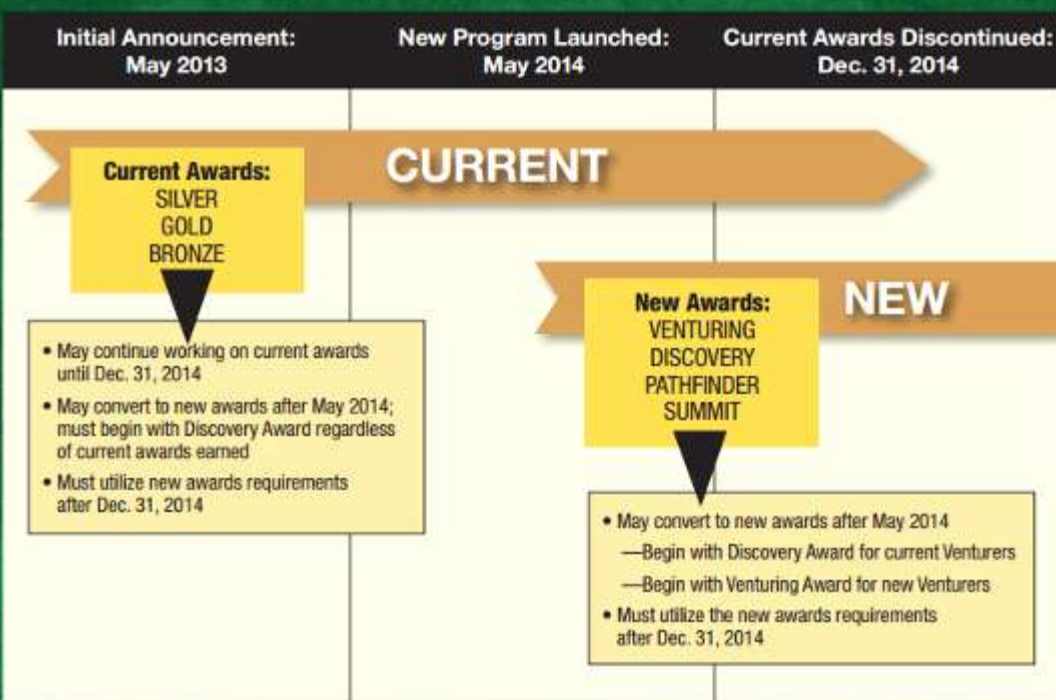
http://www.scouting.org/filestore/program_update/pdf/220-855_LowRes2.pdf

Submitted by: Amanda Sander

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AWARDS TRANSITION PLAN



Venturing Awards and Outcomes

VENTURING AWARD

Award Focus: Joining

- Commitment to a new experience
- BSA training on personal safety

DISCOVERY AWARD

Award Focus: Participation

- Small-group management skills training
- Earn first-aid and CPR certifications
- Goal-setting training
- Time-management training
- Minimum of 24 hours of service
- Establish and achieve at least one personal goal, including peer and advisor review

PATHFINDER AWARD

Award Focus: Leadership

- Project management training
- Plan and lead at least one crew activity of one day or longer
- Serve in elected leadership position for six months or more
- Experiential training in conflict resolution, communications, group dynamics, cooperation, and ethical controversies
- Plan and lead activity to enhance crew sustainability
- Plan and participate in service of 36 hours or more
- Establish and achieve two personal goals

SUMMIT AWARD

Award Focus: Mentoring

- Mentoring and coaching skills training
- Mentor a crew member in planning and leadership of crew activity
- Serve in elected leadership position for six months
- Lead the delivery of small-group management skills and training
- Complete advanced leadership training
- Plan, develop, and give leadership to community service project
- Complete goal development and planning for all realms of personal growth
- Create personal code of conduct for review by peers and adult advisors
- Lead and guide ethical controversy and conflict resolution discussion with crew



Upcoming Events for Area 3

“Make Sure To Mark Your Calendar! It’s an **Eventful** Year!”

Fall Fun Rally, St. Louis, MO - September 26th – 28th

Area 3 Program Conference, Normal, IL – November 15th, 2014

Area 3 Venturing Conference, Normal, IL – January 9th & 10th, 2015

2015-2016 Area 3 Applications Due – March 1st, 2015



~¼ Quotes~

“Great hearts steadily send forth the secret forces that incessantly draw great events.”

Ralph Waldo Emerson

“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much”

Helen Keller

Area 3 Program Conference

The Area 3 Program Conference will be in Normal, IL on November 15th. Information about registering for the conference and location details can be found on the Area 3 Venturing Facebook Group in the near future. The four sessions on Venturing and Sea Scouting will be as follows:

- Sea Scouts
- The New Venturing Awards
- The New Venturing Trainings
- “Wow” Program Ideas

Area 3 Venturing Conference

The Area 3 Venturing Conference will take place on January 10th featuring multiple sessions on the new program features along with a Kodiak CDC and a Powder Horn CDC on Saturday. Friday night (January 9th) will feature a Venturing Leader Specific Training, a Crew Committee Challenge, an Introduction to Leadership Skills Course for Crews and Ships, and a game night. More details in future newsletters and online.

Got An Event?

We’ll give you a hand promoting it!

You can email event information to zigscouter@gmail.com to have it promoted in the next newsletter!

You can also submit information to the central region event calendar at http://www.crventuring.org/event_submission.php



Event Spotlight!

Fall Fun Rally

Beaumont Scout Reservation
September 26 - 28, 2014



Fall Fun Rally is an amazing event that happens every year! 1,300 Scouters descend on Saint Louis for a weekend of fun, food, and activities. It all starts from the moment you move into your tent for the weekend!

Themed activities (Doctor Who and the History of STL), games of all kinds, talent shows, contests, trainings, and so much more! Fall Fun Rally has a little bit of everything and something for everyone! I encourage everyone to come take part in the largest annual Venturing event, to meet new friends, grow closer to old ones, and to make memories that will last a lifetime!

Registration is now open online at fallfunrally.org, along with all kinds of information for this amazing event; **also like the event on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/FallFunRally>**.

Please register early to avoid price increases! Have your crew make their plans and be prepared for an event that you will never forget!

I look forward to seeing you at the event and hope that you all will come and make this another Fall Fun Rally to remember!

Yours in Venturing,
Chance Ziegler
Vice President of Communications, Area 3



Area 3 Venturing President's Corner

Greetings!



Area 3 is very excited for all of the upcoming events this year including the Fall Fun Rally, the January Venturing Conference and all of the wonderful council events that will take place over the next year. We hope that all of you had a wonderful summer that kept you busy. There were so many things for Scouts to do this summer all over the country and we hope you all went out there and had a great time. The Area 3 Officers sure were busy this summer with many Scouting activities.

We encourage you, with all of the great activities you are doing, to also go out there and start working on the new Venturing awards. Area 3 has bimonthly webinars that will go into depth about some of the new changes and the awards. The Central Connection, the Central Region YouTube channel, has posted videos explaining some of the new aspects also so that we all have a better understanding of everything that is changing. There will also be different trainings about the new Venturing program throughout the year including some at the Fall Fun Rally and January Venturing Conference.

Like how Venturing is introducing new trainings and program, some of the high adventure bases are doing the same thing. National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience (NAYLE) has been held at Philmont Scout Ranch for several years now and they decided to expand it to two other high adventure bases. This past summer, Sea Base and Northern Tier adapted NAYLE into their programs. With all of the courses now complete, 24 Scouts got to go through NAYLE at Sea Base, 48 at Northern Tier, and over 300 at Philmont. Expanding also meant that Scouts had more options of what activity they wanted their experience to be based on. At NAYLE, Scouts learn how to develop and expand on all of the skills they learned at National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) and how to become better servant leaders and give back to Scouting. There will be a total of 11 sessions of NAYLE next summer between the three high adventure bases but there is also talk of the Summit adding NAYLE to their program also! NAYLE is an amazing program that Scouts should seek to attend.

Adventure is out there,
Yours in Venturing,

Katie Bruton

Katie Bruton
2014-2015 Central Region Area 3 Venturing President

Tips On Advising

“Advice from Council Advisors to Advisors”

Submitted By: Jeff Abernathy-GSLAC Advisor

One question that often confronts council and district VOAs, as well as units, is how to get youth to take ownership of the programs that we all strive to be youth led. We espouse this ideal throughout our programs. We encourage youth to be activity chairs, to run for office at unit levels, to in short ‘lead the adventure’ of Venturing. But one of the more common perception for adults I have seen with VOAs is that youth can’t be trusted to be in charge of these events because they may fail, they aren’t reliable, they won’t engage, they...insert excuse here. Well, perhaps it’s because we are framing it incorrectly. Perhaps the youth aren’t taking charge, aren’t being reliable, and aren’t engaging because we aren’t letting them.

Let me talk about an example that I have been a part of recently. The Fall Fun Rally in Saint Louis is an event that has been held for 40 years. This event, aimed at Exploring, and later Venturing, is one of the largest annual gatherings of Scouting youth this age (and the largest Venturing annual event). Last year, nearly 1500 were in attendance from 22 councils and 13 states. It’s clearly a pretty big event, and perhaps one of the coolest parts of it, it is largely youth run. It’s a weekend, perfect for Venturing Youth, because it put on by the youth of the Greater Saint Louis Area Council VOA. Youth are involved or in charge of every step of the way, planning events, delegating them to units to put on, developing the theme for the event, you name it, they are there. It is truly a youth run activity. Side note: with more than 100 activities over the course of the weekend, the event is truly an event your unit should think about attending. For more information www.fallfunrally.org.

But it hasn’t always been this way. In fact, it’s only been over the last seven or eight years it has been so. In the early 2000s, this event had sort of lost its way. This event had lost the youth planning for the event. Fall Fun Rally would be put together by a few council executives, maybe with some adult involvement, and the youth of the VOA would be told to show up and help put it on. 500 or less or so people would show up, pretty much all from Saint Louis. The youth of the VOA were there, and they might even contribute some, but in reality they weren’t in charge, and certainly weren’t vested in running it. When it came time to have elections for the VOA, also held at that weekend, almost no one would run. If they did run, they disappeared often within a month of elections. The system of youth led program had broken down. Youth weren’t in charge, youth weren’t wanting to attend, and the adults saw no way to get the youth involved because none of them seem interested in taking charge. Does this start to sound familiar to you?

So how did this get turned around? Well, I'll admit it was a bit of luck, and perhaps a bit of 'voluntelling'. After a couple years of trying we got every district to select a VOA Advisor for their district. This took a lot of convincing. Once they were on board, they did what they could to get youth to run for office, and maybe that was only getting a District President to step up. But by the end of elections that year, nearly every district had at least a president if not a full slate of officers. But after a year of the VOA, hardly any of them were left to staff the Fall Fun Rally. Most of them disappeared just a month or two into their year long term. So what happened next was critical though. Being in office wasn't merely enough, they had to be charged with something. The next year, after getting officers again in most of the districts, we tried something radically different. At our officer training weeks after their election, we charged them to be in charge with the Fall Fun Rally. Each of them were given a part of the program to plan and execute. These district officers became the organizers for the Fall Fun Rally and recruited crews to run events at the Rally. They came up with ideas, they created the program, and they were in charge of it. They now OWNED the Rally, good or bad.

I'll tell you, that first year there was a lot of worry as to whether this would work. But it did. In fact it succeeded better than we could have imagined. When the Fall Fun Rally came around that year, not only were most of the officers still around, they delivered on a great program for the event. That first year with the VOA being in charge of the program, really being in charge, was a turning point. This was the year that the VOA took off in Saint Louis, the year that we really got to a youth led program. After a couple years, the VOA asked to have the Fall Fun Rally designated a Regional event that year, and a couple years later, for the 2010 Anniversary Year, it was designated a National Event. Since 2010, it has continued to grow, last year with the nearly 1500 people in attendance.

So, my suggestion, if you're going to have youth in leadership roles, you better make sure they are doing something. The surest way to make sure a group does nothing is to ask them to do just that. We as advisors, we advise and let the youth lead, provide that moment of wisdom, ask the youth the right detail questions, yes. But perhaps the biggest thing we as advisors need to do is challenge the youth to take leadership, and then let them do it (all be it with some small course corrections at time). So, if you are having problems getting youth to take ownership, maybe it's because you are taking it back from them. Youth have more choices where to spend their time than ever before. If they are feel that their time is being wasted, they'll react as if it is. Support them. Inspire them. Challenge them. And then let them lead.

Task Force Area 3 Sea Scout Boatswain's Corner

SEA SCOUTS AND VENTURERS

Are you looking for something different to do this year? Well we have just the events for you. Want to learn about Sea Scouts? What to learn how to sail a sail boat? You can contact us at:

Central Region Task Force Area 3 Boatswain - John Schmidt smitykid5@yahoo.com

Central Region Task Force Area 3 Boatswain Mate - Courtney Palm gandtpalm@yahoo.com

Central Region Flotilla Boatswain - Katie Bruton ktsail11@earthlink.net

Central Region Flotilla Boatswain Mate - Peter Schmidt smitykid4@yahoo.com

Central Region Flotilla Boatswain Mate - Lucas Shapland l.shapland774@gmail.com

A Note From The National Boatswain!

Central Region,

The National Sea Scout Boatswain is looking for your input, along with the input from all your shipmates! We need your voice in order to set a course for the future of Sea Scouting. In order for your voice to be heard, your need to fill out the "Voice of the Sea Scout" Survey and encourage your entire ship to do the same. From programs, to technology, advancement and more, we want to know what you think! The survey should take you less than 30 minutes to complete but could bring a lasting impact to our program.

Take the Survey Here! <http://goo.gl/S6oRJK>

Fairwinds,

Peter Schmidt

National Boatswain

MARK YOUR CALENDARS for these events coming soon 2014 -- (Got Wind? - Let's Sail!)

October 10th - 12th, 2014 Central Region Operation Rising Tide

Location: Illowa Council

Contact: [ORT Sea Scout CR@yahoo.com](mailto:ORT_Sea_Scout_CR@yahoo.com)

This has a lot of activities for the Youth. Sending an e-mail to the contact adds you to its listserv.

~John Schmidt

Task Force Area 3 Boatswain



Vacation with Your Family at Philmont (and get trained along the way)

Philmont Training Center 2015 Venturing Courses

Philmont Training Center (PTC) the premier training facility for the Boy Scouts of America. It is also an out of the box, over the top, family camping adventure. So come spend a week with your family at Philmont and at the same time get trained in Scouting topics. During the summer of 2015 Philmont is offering the following Venturing related training courses:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Week 1: June 7-13 | "All About Venturing" |
| Week 2: June 14-20 | "NAYLE" (ages 14-20) |
| Week 3: June 21-27 | "#Awesome- STEM Explorations in Philmont's Backcountry" (ages 14-20)
"STEM-tastic Scouting- inspiration, imagination, and innovation" (adults)
"NAYLE" (ages 14-20) |
| Week 5: July 4-10 | "NAYLE" (ages 14-20) |
| Week 6: July 12-18 | "NAYLE" (ages 14-20) |
| Week 7: July 19-25 | "All About Venturing"
"NAYLE" (ages 14-20) |
| Week 8: July 26-Aug 1 | "NAYLE" (ages 14-20) |
| Week 9: August 2-8 | "All About Venturing"
"Training Your Venturing Crew Leaders"
"NAYLE" (ages 14-20) |
| Week 10: August 9-15 | "All About Venturing" |
| Week 11: Sept 13-19 | "STEM-tastic Scouting" |

Pricing: Participant cost by 12/31/14: \$515 (participant), \$365 (non-conference adult), \$395 (mountain trek); After 1/1/15: \$530 (participant), \$375 (non-conference adult), \$415 (mountain trek)

Area 3 Venturing Committee

Area 3 Venturing President

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Venturing Recruitment Tool-Kit

The National Venturing Cabinet has put together a customizable recruitment kit for units and councils to use when recruiting new youth members. Check out the fliers and recruitment materials on the national website.

Peer to Peer Link: <http://www.scouting.org/scoutsources/Marketing/Recruiting2/>

WHERE TO GO VENTURING

Your Crew or Ship has some great activity ideas but they just don't know where they can do them? Check out "Where to Go Venturing" on the Central Region website! Enter your location and what you want to do into the database and it will give you a list of various places in your area where you can fulfill your activity dreams.

To try it out, go to

<http://www.crventuring.org/>

Other/Where_To_Go_Venturing



Make this Fall the most exciting one yet for your Crew or Ship!

Area 3 Venturing Facebook Groups

Did you know that your council has a Venturing Facebook Group? Many of our councils have developed their own Facebook Groups. Those that did not have one had one established by the Central Region Venturing Communication Committee. They will be serving as the group administrator until a local youth or adult steps forwards to administer the group. The following are the links to each of our council's Venturing Facebook Groups:

Area 3 Venturing Facebook Group:

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=17279505847>

Abraham Lincoln Venturing Facebook Group:

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=44059028761>

Greater St. Louis Area Venturing Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=48964223809>

Hawkeye Area Venturing Facebook Group:

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2246395863>

Illowa Venturing Facebook Group:

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=51644697397>

Lewis & Clark Venturing Facebook Group:

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=129355675712>

Lincoln Trails Venturing Facebook Group:

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/55168864010/>

Mississippi Valley Venturing Facebook Group:

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=119055695511>

Northeast Iowa Venturing Facebook Group:

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=60552383208>

Prairielands Venturing Facebook Group:

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/55303044593/>

W. D. Boyce Venturing Facebook Group:

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=8316386849>

Winnebago Venturing Facebook Group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/61890416839/>

