



PREPARED BY
THE AREA 3
VENTURING OFFICERS'
ASSOCIATION

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Central Region Area 3 Venturing Newsletter

October/November 2014

Area 3 Program Conference

The Area 3 Program Conference will be at the Normal High School 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 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 Advisor – Position Specific Training, a Venturing Crew Committee – Position Specific Training, an Introduction to Leadership Skills Course for Crews and Ships, Venturing Goal Setting and Time Management Training and a game night. More details in future newsletters



New Venturing Materials Are Now Available!

As you may have heard, the new Venturing handbooks are available for purchase! These handbooks include the Venturing handbook, the Advisor Guidebook, and the Awards and Requirements Book. They are available for purchase via the links below:

Venturing Handbook: <http://www.scoutstuff.org/bsa/new-items/handbook-vt-youth.html#.VCnN9vldWmg>

Advisor Guidebook: http://www.scoutstuff.org/bsa/new-items/handbook-vt-adt.html#.VCnON_lidWmg

Awards and Requirements Book: <http://www.scoutstuff.org/bsa/new-items/handbook-vt-rgr-qst-trst.html#.VCnOUvldWmg>

http://www.amazon.com/dp/B00NU50NUE/ref=tsm_1_fb_lk

Along with the handbooks being released, the new award patches are also available for purchase! You can purchase them via the links below:

Venturing: <http://www.scoutstuff.org/bsa/new-items/emb-rank-vt.html#.VCnNhPldWmg>

Discovery: <http://www.scoutstuff.org/bsa/new-items/emb-rank-vt-pathfinder.html#.VCnNhvldWmg>

Pathfinder: <http://www.scoutstuff.org/bsa/new-items/emb-rank-vt-discovery.html#.VCnNefldWmg>

Summit: http://www.scoutstuff.org/bsa/new-items/emb-rank-vt-sbr.html#.VCnNf_lidWmg

One of the significant changes in the Awards and Requirements Book has to do with the Venturing Leadership Award, which can now be presented to adults again. The Venturing Leadership Award is presented by BSA local councils, areas, regions, and the National Council to Venturers, Advisors, committee members, and other adult leaders who have made exceptional contributions to Venturing and who exemplify the Scout Oath and Scout Law. The VLA is a way to acknowledge exceptional dedication and service and dedication to Scouting. The selection process remains youth-led. You can read about the full explanation of the change in the Awards and Requirement Book.

Brian on Scouting also has an article explaining some of the changes:

<http://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2014/09/30/venturing-updates-get-explained-october-2014-scoutcast/>.

Submitted by Katie Bruton

Upcoming Events for Area 3

"Make Sure To Mark Your Calendar! It's an **Eventful** Year!"

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

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

Got An Event?

We'll give you a hand promoting it!

You can email event information to zigscoouter@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



~¼ Quotes~

People often say that motivation doesn't last. Well, neither does bathing - that's why we recommend it daily.

-Zig Ziglar

"We are all born with a purpose and a passion. It is up to you to seek out that purpose and find your passion."

-Billy Cox

What's New with the Awards Program?

We are all excited about so many of the changes happening in Venturing right now. Most recently the Handbook for Venturers have arrived in Scout Shops and Scoutstuff.org.

The Handbook for Venturers is broken into three sections:

- Venturing Essentials
- What do Venturers do: Areas of program emphasis (Adventure, Leadership, Service, and Personal Development)
- Planning and leading adventure and your Crew.

The Venturing Awards and Requirements Book has also been released. In it you will find support for TRUST, Quest, Ranger Awards (requirements and resource materials) as well as a variety of additional programs of interest to Venturers

Don't forget, the old awards will be completely phased out as of December 31st so make sure you are finishing those up!

Also the new awards are available for purchase at your local scout shop! Remember all youth who were registered in Venturing before June 1st have earned the Venturing Award. The new requirements went into effect on June 1st.

Because there are tons of changes and questions, national has created a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) web-page. Check it out by clicking here. This page is updated as needed, so check back often to see the latest. If you have any questions that you want answered feel free to contact the Area 3 officers; they might even end up in the FAQs!

Submitted by: Emma O'Donnell



Event Spotlight!

Area 3 Program Conference

**Normal High School, Normal Illinois
November 15th, 2014**

Do you want the chance to learn more information about your Scouting program?

Then come to the Area 3 Program Conference on November 15, 2014, and join others from all across the area in doing so.

The Program Conference will be held at Normal High School in Normal, IL, and will cover topics ranging from Venturing to STEM to High Adventure, and from Membership to the World Jamboree to Sea Scouting, and much more!

This conference is put on by Area 3, and the Area 3 Venturing Officers Association (yes, the youth of OUR program) will be presenting some of the sessions – that means this conference is tailored just for you! You can choose one portion of the program to focus on throughout the day, or mix and match different aspects that will benefit you the most.

From personal experience, the Area 3 Program Conference allows one to enhance their knowledge about the program, but most importantly, gain insight into what makes it great for everyone. The opportunity to meet other people in the Scouting program is one that can't be matched – it's even more exciting to see the reason others participate in the program and how that is similar or different to your own reasons.

You will even get to hear from the Central Region President, Brian Williams, as the keynote speaker at the event. So come and take part in the conference that can enhance the program for all of us, and hang out with some awesome Area 3 Venturers. Find more information at http://www.crventuring.org/cal_popup.php?ID=1136.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Yours in Venturing,

Elizabeth Schneider

Vice President of Administration, Central Region Venturing

Area 3 Venturing President's Corner



October marked a time for haunted houses, costumes, and Halloween. How did your crew embrace the spirit of Halloween in October activities? Did you have a costume party at a meeting? Or maybe you visited a super spooky haunted house? Think about some of the things that you and your crew could do to make your Venturing program pop. Something special could be making a haunted house for the community. Although it takes some work, this is a great way for everyone to get involved and have a great time! Organizing an event like this may be put towards some of your requirements for the new awards. So consider doing something in the future! The possibilities are endless with a little creativity!

Another thing that comes with fall are the pumpkins, turkeys, and Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving is a great time to think about all of your blessings and how you can give back. It's a great time to think about how you can help others and be a servant leader. Consider some of the things you can do that would benefit others.



The 2014 Fall Fun Rally-Were you there?

The Fall Fun Rally (FFR) took place the last weekend in September and is already scheduled to be September 25-27, 2015 next year, so mark your calendars! At this past FFR, there were Scouts and Scouters in attendance from over 14 different states from three of the four regions in the nation totaling to over 1,300 people! Some of these Scouts included Peter Schmidt, the National Sea Scout Boatswain; Maddie Culwell, the National Venturing President; Emily Mausshardt, the Central Region Venturing President; Edward Abraham, the Western Region Venturing President. There were over 90 events throughout the weekend including crate stacking, one of the most popular events, L.A.R.P.ing, shaving cream pie throwing, a dunking booth and so much more! There were also many training courses offered during the weekend including some of the new trainings required for the new Venturing awards. If you would like to get an idea of what might happen at next year's FFR and view some photos, check out this website: <http://us4.campaign-archive1.com/?u=99d4e1f9e12d244ed87435a30&id=56a383cb2f> and like the Fall Fun Rally-GSLAC on Facebook- <https://www.facebook.com/FallFunRally>

Remember to stay connected by liking us on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/CRV.Area3/>, and following us on Twitter at: <https://twitter.com/CRVArea3>

-Katie Bruton
2014-2015 Central Region Area 3 Venturing President



Personal Highlights

Want to be featured in the next edition? Send us an article about an amazing Scouting experience with pictures!

Please email articles to zigscouter@gmail.com

My Rayado Experience

Philmont Scout Ranch in Cimarron, New Mexico is one incredible place. There are so many opportunities for Scouts at Philmont, more than most people know about. One of the many opportunities is an individual special trek. Individual special treks give you the opportunity to go on a trek at Philmont without having to organize a crew from home. You'll be put in a crew with other youth of the same sex. You'll also have two rangers for the whole duration of the trek. Each special trek has its own unique focus and each trek is different which makes it so neat. There are a few different ones offered including: Trail Crew Trek(14 days), Mountain Trek(6 days), Roving Outdoor Conservation School (ROCS)(21 days), and Rayado(20 days).

I would like to tell you about the most amazing 20 days of my life: Rayado. Rayado is the second longest trek one can go on at Philmont behind ROCS. It's 20-days of non-stop adventures both challenging and fun that are meant to test your mind, body, and spirit.

I had the opportunity to be selected for session 1 of Rayado this past summer. The first big thing was that there were two women crews during session 1 instead of the usual one crew. I was placed in the second crew with 8 other girls from all over the U.S. ranging from California to Maryland. We were "620-RW2." I knew that my crew would be my family for the next three weeks but what I didn't realize was that we really would become sisters.

Throughout the three weeks, we trekked nearly 200 miles through North Country, South Country, and even spent a few days outside of Philmont property. We did everything from moving a 700 pound rail for a railroad in construction at Metcalf Station to Spar-poling at Crater Lake to summiting Philmont's four most iconic peaks: the Tooth of Time, Baldy, Phillips, and Black Mountain. We became so close having the times of our lives. The really hard thing is realizing you can only do Rayado once. Once you do, you'll not want to leave Philmont ever again.

Katie Bruton
2014 Session 1 Rayado Participant
September 2014



Tips On Advising

“Advice from Council Advisors to Advisors”

Submitted By: Ina Pearsall-Illowa Council Advisor

Patience - -

Patience is a virtue I can't claim this as a phrase that I wrote, but it comes to mind quite often when I work with my crew or the council VOA. This coming year, new VOA officers and goals, and the changes in the Venturing program, will present us with many issues and reasons to practice patience, some will be met with success, some not.

The new Venturing “Vision” has met with criticisms and accolades, many of which have mellowed as we now get to see and understand the full dimensions of the program. Several of the older Venturers that I know were reluctant to acknowledge the need for changes, didn't want the program to change, or the “Silver” award to go away, especially those that had worked hard to complete it. “Be patient” they were told – wait until you see the new program before you pass judgment. We have all been patient as the new program has unfolded and several of those young adults who resisted change are now looking forward to teachings classes to other youth and adults so that they too will better understand the benefits that the changes in the Venturing program will bring us. Understanding and implementing these changes will test the patience of all of us in the coming months but I think it will be worth it.

But how does this all benefit the crew and council VOA's that we encourage and support. Self-reflection and goal setting, 2 new requirements, are a necessity for growing as an individual and as a group. If we have no idea where we are heading, we have no direction to follow or in which to lead others. Self-reflection can be a very difficult thing to do – it is hard to look at ourselves and develop plans to change and grow or the patience to allow those changes to occur. As young adults, leaders in our crews and VOA's, or as Advisors it can be hard to be patient with each other as we learn to be good, servant leaders.

When we first began to discuss a VOA in Illowa Council, I asked other VOA Advisors for advice, they told me to be patient and to let it develop and grow as each VOA President began to mold it in their own way. We have had quite a variety of officers, with different personalities and abilities. Sometimes it has been difficult to be patient, sometimes the officers themselves had problems maintaining that decorum or sense of direction, but patience continues to be the virtue we must keep at the top of our lists.

Patience and understanding, encouragement and guidance will eventually help to develop officers who have similar goals and a sense of direction. Allow them enough room to find their way, provide them the skills to develop their roadmap and give them the support and strength so that they can have patience with us as Advisors. If we are fortunate our guidance pays off and the youth ask for a chance to continue to lead and to finish the goals they set out to complete. It's not always an easy process.

I close with a quote that is very fitting;

“Patience is a virtue, and I’m learning patience. It’s a tough lesson.” Elon Musk

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, you 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



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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/scoutsource/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/>

