



Venturing Voice Area 5 Venturing Newsletter



Area 5 Venturing Safari

Hey Area 5! I know you have all anxiously been awaiting the announcement of our Fun Event! Well that time has finally come! The event will be called Venturing Safari.

The event will be held on April 10-12 in Omaha, NE, however, no need to worry since we will be offering bussing to Omaha from Kansas City for all of you who would like to take advantage of that! It will only cost \$8/person for a ride! Make sure to indicate it on your registration. Busses will be leaving at 6pm and 8pm. We will accommodate the transportation of all crew gear.

We will be staying at Camp Wa-kon-da at 12401 West Maple Road, Omaha, NE 68164. Check-in will start at 5pm and run until 11pm, please let us know if you plan on arriving later so we can have someone there to check you in. Friday night we will have a cracker barrel for everyone, but you are on your own for dinner until then.

Saturday, after breakfast, we will head to the downtown, visiting some sights and ending at the Old Market where we will have lunch. If you didn't purchase the meal plan (mentioned below), there are plenty of great restaurants of all price ranges at the Old Market to choose from. After lunch, we will pack back into the busses and head to Omaha's renowned Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium. Afterwards, we will head back to camp for dinner. After dinner we will have a mixer and then the 2014-2015 Area 5 award ceremony where we will be giving out awards and recognizing some outstanding volunteers. Sunday we will pack up camp and depart after breakfast.

Registration will be \$30 and will include camping, Friday night cracker barrel, zoo admission, and a t-shirt. We will offer a meal plan option for those of you who would like to take advantage of that. It will include Saturday breakfast, lunch and dinner and Sunday breakfast. The meal plan will be \$10 extra. If not, you are welcome to cook your own meals.

Event registration will be up soon. If you have any questions about the event, please feel free to contact Dani Stilwell, Area 5 VP of Program, at Area5VP-Program@crventuring.org.

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Would you like to have an Article featured in the Venturing Voice? Let Venturers know how you are leading the adventure. Please email article submissions and/or picture submissions to:

area5vp-communications@crventuring.org

Social Media



Click on these links to find the Area 5 Facebook page, website, You Tube channel, and pinterest. Make sure you are on all of our social media sites!

Age Change Update!

As you may have heard, Venturing will be undergoing several changes in regards to age requirements this year. These changes will take place beginning March 1st and will undergo a 3 year phase-out.

Why is this happening? Currently, all Venturers 14-21 years old are counted as youth. This means that a 20 year old and a 14 year old can share a tent on a camping trip since they are both youth in the program. However, this means that a legal adult in society can tent with a youth. Additionally, suppose you have two good friends (both male) – one is 17 and one is 19 years old. In Venturing, they can tent together, but as Boy Scouts, they cannot.

The goal of these changes is to ensure consistency across all programs of the Boy Scouts of America and to abide by societal regulations dealing with age.

How will this change work?

Starting March 1st, 18-21 year old Venturers will be “adult participants.” This means that they will register as Venturers using an adult application, will take Youth Protection Training, will undergo a background check, and must follow adult membership standards. However, they will still participate in Venturing as youth, meaning that they can still earn awards, hold leadership positions, etc. Additionally, tenting, showering, restrooms, etc. will slightly change. Instead of having 4 zones with a cutoff at 21, there will be 4 zones with a cutoff at 18. This means that the 4 zones for tenting, showering, etc. will be under 18 male, under 18 female, over 18 male, over 18 female.

So, now I have to register all of my adult participants as adults? That's a lot of work! Don't worry! This change will happen over 3 years. All currently registered adult

participants on March 1st, will NOT have to submit an adult application until they turn 21. The exception is if the adult participant attends a high adventure base or serves on a staff such as camp staff. Any new adult participants after March 1st will go ahead and register using an adult application. Youth Protection Training and the background check will be completed at the time the adult application is submitted. Please see the matrix below for a better understanding of who needs to do what and

I'm still confused. Who can I contact for more information?

More information can be found at <http://www.crventuring.org/document2.php?s=1&id=887>. If you have further questions, please contact Emily Mausshardt at president@crventuring.org with any questions you may have. Additionally, your Scout Executive should have received the official communication on these changes. You may wish to work with your Scout Executive for more information, as well.



VOA Snow Creek Adventure

Laughing, smiling, and over all tons of falling. On January 9th, 2015 many of us joined together to ski or even snowboard.

Meeting up on a chilly Friday night made for a great time and great memories. With the hope of doing this annually, this year we had 11 adults and 23 youth, and the goal of more for next year. 5 Venturing Crews were shown tumbling down the hills at Snow Creek. Once all done on the hills we all joined back together in the warmth of the lobby just in time to go home.



CENTRAL REGION Venturing • BSA



Venturing President and VP Applications

Applications are now being accepted for the position of National, Regional and Area Venturing Presidents and Vice-Presidents for the 2015-2016 term of office.

All submissions are due by **February 15, 2015** for National Venturing President and Vice-President positions, **February 28, 2015** for Region Venturing President and Vice-President positions, and **March 15, 2015** for Area Venturing President and Vice-President positions.

The complete submission package and must be received by the deadline listed and should be mailed to:

National Venturing Officers Association
Advisors, S426
C/O Boy Scouts of America
1325 West Walnut Hill Lane

Irving, Texas 75038

Email:

Venturing.NationalOfficers@scouting.org

For more information about these positions and minimum qualifications, please refer to the Venturing Standard Operating Procedures available at:

<http://www.scouting.org/Venturing>

please note:

For those of you who may be interested (or know someone who is interested) in submitting an application to be on the 2015-2016 Central Region VOA, there is a very important meeting you/they need to be aware of!

If an individual is selected to serve in this capacity, they will be expected to attend the Central Region Venturing VOA June 19-21. This meeting is vital and will provide them with the knowledge of infrastructure and key individuals in Venturing throughout the region. This knowledge will be their greatest asset as they prepare themselves to fill this role.

European Holiday



On December 19th, 12 Venturing youth and leaders from my Venture crew, Crew 2003, were on our way to Europe. We would be there for ten days touring, exploring a new culture, and meeting fellow scouters in Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia. One day we went to the US Embassy to meet up with some Lithuanian scouts. We were greeted by strict security and turning in all of our electronics. Luckily they had a camera so we have pictures. After that we walked to a library and spoke with a US Ambassador while we waited for all the scouts to arrive.

Once everyone was there we each made presentations and asked questions about each scout organization. We were amazed to hear that they do not have established camp, but just go out in the forest and build everything they need, including their shelters. Scouting in Lithuania is for boys and girls throughout the entire program. It was interesting to see and hear about what they did in their scouting program, which is completely youth led. Their program includes people all the way to age 26. The oldest participants are in charge of the younger ones, kind of like an adult leader except they too are youth in the program.

After the presentations we then moved to patch trading and story sharing time. We talked and traded as well as exchanged contact information to stay in touch. This was a particularly fun part of our visit. It was really cool to get to know the other scouts and compare the programs and activities. We learned that most of them are just like us, they want to go out with their friends and have a fun time while learning life skills through scouting.

Once the chatting time was over we then started playing games. We learned scout games, including an extremely difficult hand clapping game, and we also shared some of our favorite scouting activities, such as ninja and scout vespers, with them. It was sad when we had to leave but we had already made friends and will stay in touch for a long time. This great experience helped me realize how many great opportunities can be experienced through Venturing, and how lucky I was to be a part of the Venturing Program.

By Isabelle Brown



Save the Date

Date	City	State	Host	Event
April 10-12, 2015	Omaha	NE	Area 5 (Central Region)	Area 5 Fun Event
April 18, 2015	Loves Park	IL	--Non- Council Event--	Rock River Regatta
April 24-26, 2015	Marshfield	MO	Ozarks Trails Council	Wood Badge C5-306-15
May 31 - June 5, 2015	Oskaloosa	KS	Jayhawk Area Council	NYLT - JC
July 5-11, 2015	Falley Scout Reservation Camp Jayhawk	KS	Jayhawk Area Council	Venturing Summer Camp
July 5-11, 2015	Camp Jayhawk Falley Scout Reservation	KS	Jayhawk Area Council	Powder Horn - JAC
July 26-31, 2015	Eureka Springs Beaver Lake	AR	Pony Express Council	Venture Quest 2015
August 9-15, 2015	Cimarron	NM	--Non- Council Event--	Venturing Training @ PTC
September 11-13, 2015	Bonner Springs	KS	Heart of America Council	Wood Badge C5-307-15-2
September 18-20, 2015	Camp Mitigwa	IA	Mid-Iowa Council	http://midiowacouncilbsa.org/Council/CouncilTrainingEvents/WoodBadge.aspx
September 25-27, 2015	Cedar Bluffs	NE	Mid- America Council	Powder Horn 2015 - MAC
October 2-4, 2015	Camp Mitigwa	IA	Mid-Iowa Council	Wood BAdge C5-177-15