

Area 3 October Newsletter!

Fall is finally here! September was a great month for Area 3 and we're rolling right into October full speed ahead. We have some really cool events coming up, so stay tuned.

October Event

The October Event is just around the corner! On October 28 at Beaumont Scout Reservation from 10 AM to 3 PM, Area 3 is calling all Venturers who are looking to have a fun time this fall season! If you're a crew that needs help recruiting or a Venturer looking for a way to get your friends into Venturing or even someone who just wants to find more about the program, this is the place to be. We have a bunch of fun games planned including Humans vs. Zombies for kids. There will also be an information meeting for parents to learn more about the Venturing Program. Be sure to bring a lunch and dress up in a costume. For more information, check out the [Area 3 Facebook Page](#) or sign up [here](#):

Don't forget about your CVSE!!

Attention all councils and districts! Don't forget to fill out your Council Standards of Venturing Excellence (CSVE) form. It's designed to measure a council's Venturing program by looking at things like membership, training, events, and awards. The

award level is determined through this point system:

Bronze: 465–1056 points

Silver: 1057–1649 points

Gold: 1650 points

You can find out more on the Venturing website [here](#) or you can get the form [here](#).

Be sure to email it to Venturing.NationalOfficers@scouting.org by February 15!

Council Spotlight

This month we're talking about GSLAC. If you want your council to be the next in the spotlight you can contact us on Facebook. Without further ado here is all you need to know about GSLAC.

The Greater St. Louis Area Council (GSLAC), based out of St. Louis, Missouri, is one of the ten Councils in Central Region Area 3. Stretching from Missouri's Bootheel on the south to Troy, MO on the north, and from Washington, MO on the west to Mount Vernon, Illinois on the east, it is geographically one of the largest Councils in the BSA. It also has one of the strongest Scouting programs in the nation, especially in Venturing. GSLAC not only has a complete Council Venturing and Sea Scouting Officers' Association (VSOA) but has a full or partial set of District VSOA officers in 14 of its districts. As a group, the combined Council and District VSOA Cabinet plan two fun/recruiting council events (Explore Venturing in April and Fall Fun Rally in September), a service event (Swift Service Weekend in May), and a Venturing Celebration Dinner in August. Districts are also encouraged to hold events that can be opened up to Venturers around the council and beyond. In addition, the council holds two weeks of Venturing-specific summer camp and a Venturing-specific NYLT.

Council Applications!

For some council and districts, VOA elections are coming up quickly. If that's your council/district, you should take a run at one of those positions. Not only are VOA positions a great way to work on your leadership skills, but it's also a great way to learn more about the world of Venturing and get more involved in your crew on a larger scale. If you're already on your Council VOA, you can also look into Area, Regional, or even National positions. To get more information on all things VOA, visit [this](#) website, and if you want to find out your council/district's application deadlines, get in contact with your VOA officers.

Here are some words from Area 3's very own Jackson Timblin about VOA's:
"A VOA (Venturing Officers' Association) is the leadership at the unit, district, council, area, region, or national level in Venturing. They supplement the Venturing program by planning activities, coordinating trainings, communicating information, and performing a variety of other leadership related tasks in Venturing for their respective levels. In a VOA, there is generally four youth officers--a President, VP of Administration, VP of Program, and VP of Communication-- that perform tasks inherited from the title they hold. The VOA is extremely beneficial to both the youth directly involved in it and the overall Venturing program. As the Central Region Area 3 Venturing VP of Administration, I personally have been on the giving and receiving ends of many benefits of my position. Most notably, holding a position in a VOA at some level for 2 years has lead to me develop skills which will help me in my future that I would never have had in any program outside of Venturing."

Award of the Month

The Pathfinder Award is the third level in the Venturing Program core awards.

The requirements are

Adventure:

1. Participate in 2 tier 2 or 3 events and be a leader for 1 of the two

Leadership:

1. Complete Project Management Training
2. Plan and give leadership to a tier 2 or 3 event
3. Serve actively in officer position and set goals for your position for six months or participate or staff a leadership training

Personal Growth:

1. Set at least two goals based on development of self, faith, or others(a category you didn't do for Discovery) with your advisor
2. Create a personal reflection for each of these goals and review them with your advisors
3. Participate in an ethical controversy discussion activity that includes an

extension into conflict resolution

Service:

1. Complete 24 service hours
2. Plan, organize and give leadership to a project designed to sustain and grow your crew. Submit the plan to your crew president (or Advisor, if you are president), and explain how you think it will encourage more young people to join Venturing.

For more info on each of these steps, you can check out your Venturing Handbook!

President's Corner

Last month, I wrote about making a plan with your crews and how spending a weekend planning ahead can make the year run so much smoother. Now that you've planned, get excited! Start promoting those events your crew is pumped up about - and don't be afraid to try a new event!

Area 3 has several exciting events coming up, like our October Event this weekend. We're going to pull in community members and recruit! Then, on February 16-18th, we're having our annual conference and tagging on an Amazing Race through Springfield! Sometimes those new events make things way more memorable and add a challenge.. and even if it doesn't go well, your crew or VOA will inevitably learn something. What are you going to challenge yourself to try this year?

Advisor's Minute

The Fall is a wonderful time to start to look ahead. As we start the session, we must start planning for the future. Just like a high schooler is starting to plan for college and looking at the next semester of classes, Venturers need to start to plan for their next adventures. Spring will be here soon and your unit should be looking for a summer adventure to participate in. The spring will be here soon and will be too late to start to plan and get organized.

Venturers and Advisors, this is the time to start to plan for the next adventure with your unit. For this upcoming summer, there are Venturing Summer Camps, Leadership courses, and Venturingfest that a Venturer can participate in by themselves or with their unit. But to participate, you need to start making those decisions now with your unit so you can start to plan for an amazing adventure.

Venturers, lead the Adventure! Be prepared for an amazing adventure and don't forget to share your experience

Calling all Councils

On October 18th at 7:30 PM, Area 3 is hosting another bi-monthly meeting with all our council and district presidents and advisors. You should be getting an email from Maddie soon.