



The Central Point



Newsletter of Central Region Venturing | Boy Scouts of America

April Newsletter 2015



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Area 5 Safari!

Area 5's Venturing Safari will be held on April 10-12 in Omaha, NE, however, if you feel like that is too far, no need to worry since we will be offering busing from the scout shop in Kansas City! It will only cost \$8/person for a round-trip ride! Buses will be leaving at 6pm and 8pm. We will accommodate the transportation of all crew gear.

We will be camping at Camp Wa-kon-da in Omaha, NE. So make sure to pack all of you camping gear (including tents, sleeping bags, etc.). Friday night we will have a cracker barrel for everyone. 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 buses and head to Omaha's renowned Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium. Finally, 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. Awards to look out for will include awards for the farthest travelling crew and largest crew in attendance. Sunday we will pack up camp and depart after breakfast.

Registration is only \$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 can be found at <http://a5safari.kintera.org/>. If you have any questions about the event, check our website at Area5CRV.org or feel free to contact Dani Stilwell, Area 5 VP of Program, at Area5VP-Program@crventuring.org or Ramin Rostampour, Area 5 President, at Area5President@crventuring.org.

~Ramin Rostampour

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National Venturing President



Edward Abraham

Venturing is proud to announce that Edward Abraham has been selected as the 2015-2016 National Venturing President. Edward was selected by a group of 19 youth from across the nation, and his term begins on June 1st. We were able to ask Edward 5 questions!

1.) What is your Scouting/ Venturing background?

I became involved with scouting at the age of seven while living in Hong Kong. I attended an international school while living there, and Direct Service BSA chartered a Cub Scout Pack that I joined. As soon as I moved back to the United States, the first thing I did was find a Cub Scout Pack, from there I bridged into Boy Scouts and fell in love with the opportunities for outdoor adventure. When I was fifteen, I was asked to help reactivate a Venturing Crew, and from there everything just took off!

2.) What are you most looking forward to as National President?

I'm really looking forward to travelling to the different parts of the United States to meet with and work with Venturers to help create VOAs.

3.) What is your main goal you want to accomplish as National President?

The main goal that I want to accomplish as the National Venturing President is to have each area in the United States with an active and stable VOA. All of our councils need direct support from a body of youth, and with healthy and stable area VOAs across the board, all of our councils will have direct support.

4.) What is your favorite Venturing experience/ memory?

My favorite Venturing experience/memory was probably the first time I went snow camping with my crew. The experience, the views, and being with my crew made it one of those outings that I'll never forget.

5.) Something you'd like to say to all of the Venturers out there?

The one thing I want to say to all Venturers out there is to take advantage of the endless opportunities that the program has to offer. Try a new adventure, take the opportunity to help your council, and most importantly, strive to mentor others.

Central Region Venturing President



Brian Parro

The Central Region is proud to announce that Brian Parro has been selected as the 2015-2016 Central Region Venturing President. Brian was selected by a group of youth from the Central Region, and his term begins on June 1st. We posed the same 5 questions to Brian.

1.) What is your Scouting/ Venturing background?

I've been in the BSA for almost 13 years now, loving every minute of it. I started off in Cub Scouts, joined Boy Scouting, earned my Eagle, and then started Venturing Crew 75. Since then, I have served as an Area and Region Venturing Vice President

2.) What are you most looking forward to as Region President?

I'm really looking forward to meeting and working with so many amazing Venturers and Advisors throughout the Central Region and the nation.

3.) What is your main goal you want to accomplish as Region President?

I want to focus on developing stronger Venturing programs in Councils and Crews. No matter what stage your Council or Crew is at, we can improve it. We will be producing new resources that will help Councils both start a VOA and strengthen an existing VOA. Also, my goal is to produce similar resources for Crews.

4.) What is your favorite Venturing experience/ memory?

My favorite experience was white water rafting down the Snake River in Wyoming. The first time a rapid tipped over our raft is a feeling I'll never forget.

5.) Something you'd like to say to all of the Venturers out there?

I'm both honored and humbled to have the opportunity to serve you and help the Venturing program! I'm really looking forward to meeting as many of you as possible this year and hope that we all can work together to make this program the best it can be.

Sea Scout Update

As winter subsides (slowly as it may), many new events will start to surface throughout the region. Dive on into the exciting activities offered by the Central Region and get ready for an ocean of opportunities. You'll see what I mean. Water you waiting for? More puns. I'm shore the answer is no.

New Leadership

First of all, I'd like to congratulate Marc Caunian and Keaton Martin from Area 7. Marc is from Ship #5924 and has served as the Boatswain for the three years he has been a part of the program. He is now serving as the 2015 Area 7 Boatswain. Keaton, from Ship #5111, has served as the Boatswain's Mate in his ship for almost two years. He now holds the position of the 2015 Area 7 Boatswain's Mate of Administration. Bravo Zulu!

Sea Scouting needs people like those I mentioned above to maintain a strong and unified program. If your Area currently has vacant positions and you are interested in taking on a leadership role, apply and become a part of the team today.

Advancement Opportunities

You can accelerate your rank advancement by taking courses with the US Coast Guard Auxiliary or the US Power Squadrons. Many of the courses offered by the USPS satisfy rank requirements in all four ranks and will teach you new skills that can be applied in the real world. Check out this link for more detailed information: http://seascout.org/index.php?option=com_edocman&view=document&id=33

Upcoming Events

Be on the lookout for qualifying regattas for the next Koch regatta. You should be able to find this information on your council or area websites. May the odds be ever in your favor!

Additionally, NYLT will be hosted on various dates throughout the region. If you are interested in supplementing your leadership skills while having loads of fun, I strongly recommend you take this course. If you've "been there" and "done that," sign up for NAYLE and take your training to the next level!

In the coming months, there will be many other events within the Central Region to help you get your scouting fix. I will go over most of them in detail, but you can see a current list of all our events by going to the Central Region Venturing website: http://www.crventuring.org/Activities/Events_Listing/.

Other links:

National Sea Scout Facebook Group:

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

National Sea Scout Twitter:

<https://twitter.com/SeaScoutsBSA>

National Sea Scout Instagram: @seascoutbsa

~Alex Zoiopoulos

Central Region Boatswain

Tell Us About Your Crew!

What makes your crew the best crew out there? What have you done recently that was fun and exciting? Submit your story to and it will appear in the next edition of the Central Point!

Has your crew ever played a live version of Where's Waldo? How about dressed up like superheroes to go bowling?

Submit a short story or even a longer one about your crew's activities! If you have pictures, please include those, too your story.

[Click Here to send your story.](#)

Submit your Venturing event on the Central Region Website!

Go to <http://crventuring.org> and click on the "submit a calendar event" button on the lower left side of the page. Fill out the form, and now you will be able reach thousands of Venturers to come to your event!



Caption Contest

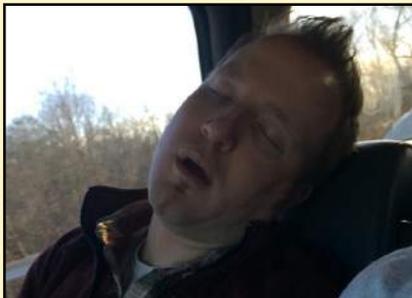
This Month's Photo:



"Take the leap and Lead the Adventure!"

~ Caption Submitted By: Chuck Coutteau

Last Month's Photo:



"Poor dinosaur can't handle all the fun"

~ Caption Submitted By: Katlin Adams

We know you can do better than this caption! Watch out for the next Caption Contest Photo on Facebook and comment on Facebook or send your caption to vp-communications@crventuring.org.

Central Connection!

Check out the most recent Central Connection episodes at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXbo0J-Q6Xn1QWFM0dr_geq! This summer has been full of educational Central Connections, all about the Changes to Venturing! Check back on March 10th and March 24th for brand new episodes of the Central Connection!

The New Venturing Handbook is HERE!!!

The new Venturing Youth Handbook is now available for purchase. Get yours today at a local Scout Shop or order them online at <http://www.scoutstuff.org/bsa/new-items/handbook-vt-youth.html#.VB7kecmul59>

Did You Know...

- Five Presidents of the United States in the past 60 years were involved with Scouting, but only one, Gerald Ford, was an Eagle Scout
- The Boy Scouts of America is the first organization that Babe Ruth, the homerun king, was a member of.
- Of the 12 men to walk on the Moon, 11 have been involved with the BSA as youth
- Every President of the United States serves as the honorary president of the Boy Scouts of America



Name That Camp!!

Each edition of the Central Point will feature a photo from a Boy Scout camp in the Central Region. Can you name that camp?

This Month:



Last Month:



Philmont Scout Ranch

Cimarron, NM

The National Training Center of the BSA

For more information regarding camps throughout the Central Region, go to Where to Go Venturing: [click here](#)

If you would like your photo to be a "Name that Camp?" clue, please email it to Brian Parro at

vp-communications@crventuring.org.



Advisor's Minute

Hello Central Region!

Welcome to Spring! (Well for some of us.) Sadly, even as I type this, Chicago was just hit with about 4 inches of snow a few days ago, and then melted 24 hours later. I got reports that Michigan is still getting hit! (No April Fools' Joke!)

Speaking of April Fools' Day, did you know this custom may have been started as early as 1392? Legend says that there was an error in translation in Chaucer's "Canterbury Tales," which may have pointed to April 1st being the day one of the characters is tricked.

Still others say that the custom started around 1582, when Pope Gregory XIII ordered the Gregorian calendar to replace the Julian calendar. This would switch New Year's Day from April 1st to January 1st. But, the word didn't spread and many still celebrated New Year's Day on April 1st. (Which were then referred by those "in the know" as fools.)

Regardless of which history is accurate, one thing seems common between the origins: lack of communication caused problems. Even with the multiple methods of instant communication we have today, we still find that making sure our message is delivered as intended is not always an easy task.

And while good communication is an absolute necessity for us to be able to help the Areas and Councils of our Region to facilitate and promote Venturing, it is also as equally important for all teams, groups, and relationships who want to succeed.

Our challenge for the month is to find a way to better communicate with those around us. Maybe this is just a small change, or something larger. Maybe it is sending an extra email or text to let your team know what is going on. OR maybe, it is making a phone call instead of electronic communication, in case something needs to be made clearer and tone and inflection could be important.

While April is a time of transition in our weather, it is also a transition for our leadership. Youth officers on all levels are being chosen for the upcoming term. Communication will be critical between outgoing and incoming officers to ensure that nothing is lost in translation.

At least have one Good Friday, a very happy Easter, and a great month!

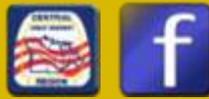
Yours in Venturing,

Kris

Kris Zahrobsky
Central Region Venturing Advisor/ Chairman



Area 1



Upcoming events:

August 9th-15th, 2015, Venturing Training, Philmont Training Center

August 27th-29th, 2015, Wood Badge, Kiel, WIL

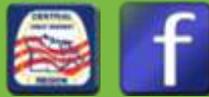
President: [Michael O'Hara](#)



Advisor: [Chris Sandberg](#)



Area 3



Upcoming events:

May 15th- 17th, 2015, Wood Badge, High Ridge, MO

August 9th- 15th, 2015, Venturing Training, Philmont Training Center

Also, check out Area 3's YouTube page!

<http://www.youtube.com/user/CRVenturingArea3>

President: [Katie Bruton](#)



Advisor: [Bob Vogt](#)



Area 5



Upcoming Events:

April 10th- 12th, 2015, Area 5 Fun Event, Omaha, NE

April 10th-12th, 2015, Wood Badge, Camp Kanza, KS

April 24th-26th, 2015, Wood Badge, Marshfield, MO

May 31st- June 5th, 2015, NYLT, Oskaloosa, KS

President: [Ramin Rostampour](#)



Advisor: [Julie Dalton](#)



Area 7

Upcoming Events:

April 18th, 2015, Rock River Regata, Loves Park, IL

May 1st- 3rd, 2015, Wood Badge, Camp Indian Trails, WI

May 1st- 3rd, 2015, Wilderness First Aid, Camp Betz, IN

President: [Katlin Adams](#)



Advisor: [Rachel Zahrobsky](#)



Area 2



Upcoming Events:

June 20th- 23rd, 2015, Area 2 Venturing White Water Rafting, Fayetteville, MI

August 9th- 15th, 2015, Venturing Training, Philmont Training Center

August 21st- 23rd, 2015, Powder Horn, Twin Lake, MI

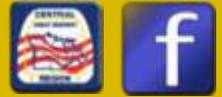
President: [Joey Jenkins](#)



Advisor: [Jeff Gerald](#)



Area 4



Upcoming Events:

April 17th- 19th, 2015, Wood Badge, Ashtabula, OH

April 24th- 26th, 2015, World Fest 2015, Kensington, OH

June 7th- 12th, 2015, NYLT, Lisbon, OH

March 21st, 2015, ILSC, Canton, OH

President: [Nate Steele](#)



Advisor: [Duane Zobrist](#)



Area 6



Upcoming Events:

May 15th- 17th, 2015, Venturing Camp, Yellow Spring, OH

July 31st- August 2nd, 2015, Makahiki Festival, Warsaw, IN

President: [Jennifer Bullock](#)



Advisor: [Carla Gargas](#)



President's Corner



Happy April, Central Region!

It's officially spring now and I hope you are enjoying everything that comes with the season, slightly warmer weather, longer days, and more time outdoors, as much as I am!

Spring is a great time for recruiting new Venturers to your crew. As students graduate from eighth grade, it is a great time to invite them to a crew activity. How can you do this? I heard a really neat recruitment idea recently called 'kidnapping.' Now, before you turn me in for violating the safety of other youth, let me explain. Prior to your crew's next event, pick your victim: this may be a close friend that has been hesitant to join Venturing or an eighth grader that you know from church or your

community. Call their parents and tell them that you are going to pick their son or daughter up on the date of your event at a specific time. Ask them not to tell their son or daughter, but to ensure that they will be home at that time. On the day of the event, you can safely 'kidnap' your Venturing-hopeful with their parents' permission and take them to your event. While this may seem like a crazy idea, I think it would be a lot more fun to 'kidnap' my friend and take them to an event than to beg for them to come along.

Once you arrive at your event, don't forget to introduce your friend to all of your fellow crew-mates. Remember that they may not know anyone but you. The more you make your friend feel welcome, the better chance that they will come back to another event. Before you take them back home, invite them to the next crew event. You never know, they may have fallen in love with Venturing, too! What is your favorite way of recruiting new Venturers to your crew?

I would also like to welcome Brian Parro as the 2015-2016 Central Region Venturing President. Brian currently serves as the Central Region Venturing Vice President of Communications. He has gone above and beyond in his role this year, creating 24 Central Connection videos and 12 newsletters. He is also responsible for the significant increase in activity with both the Central Region's Facebook page and Twitter account. To learn more about Brian and to view a glimpse of his vision for Venturing in the Central Region next year, you can view his bio at www.crventuring.org. Please join me in welcoming Brian as the 2015-2016 Central Region Venturing President!

Have a wonderful April, Central Region!

Yours in Venturing,

Emily

Emily Mausshardt
Central Region Venturing President



Central Region Venturing President:

Emily Mausshardt

president@crventuring.org

Central Region Venturing Advisor:

Kris Zahrobsky

venturing-chair@crventuring.org

Central Region Venturing Vice
President of Communications:

Brian Parro

vp-

communications@crventuring.org

Central Region Venturing Associate
Advisor for Communications:

Deb Keyes

communications-

coordinator@crventuring.org

About Our Organization...

Venturing is a Scouting program for male and female youth ages 13-21 that lets youth experience new activities, build leadership skills, earn awards, make new friends, and of course have fun.

The Central Region is one of four regions of the Boy Scouts of America. This region includes the states of: Minnesota, Wisconsin, North Dakota, South Dakota, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, and West Virginia.