



Central Region Venturing Monthly Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 7
December 2007



Welcome to the seventh edition of the 2007-2008 monthly Central Region Venturing Newsletter. Each edition will feature information that you will find useful for your council's Venturing program. We will highlight items that support the development of your Teen Leadership Councils, Roundtables, chairmanships, commissioners, professional staff, council-wide activities and the Central Region Venturing Areas. We look forward to being of service to you in Venturing.

Amanda Vogt

Central Region Venturing President/Newsletter Editor

Keith Gehlhausen

Central Region Venturing Chair

Debbie Keyes

Central Region Communication Coordinator

Joe Vollmer

Central Region Professional

The Areas of Central Region

Area 1: South Dakota, U.P. of Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Minnesota

Area 2: Indiana and Michigan

Area 3: Northern Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, and Wisconsin

Area 4: Ohio and West Virginia

Area 5: Southern Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, and Nebraska

Applications for Area and Regional Positions Coming Soon

We need your help in discovering outstanding Venturers that would serve well in a position of leadership beyond your own council. Applications for Central Region President, and Area Presidents should be coming out soon.

One never knows what youth are capable of until you ask them. Please submit your council's best candidate for Regional President, and several to serve at your Area level.

Contact us at:

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president@crventuring.org

Keith Gehlhausen

venturing-chair@crventuring.org

Joe Vollmer

staff-advisor@crventuring.org

Debbie Keyes

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To contact the entire Central Region Venturing Comm. email Debbie Keyes and she will pass it on.

What is Going on Around the Central Region

As the 10th Anniversary of Venturing is approaching we wanted to tell you about some of the awesome events happening around the region.

Central Region Anniversary Event:

September 19th-21st St. Louis Council is sponsoring the Fall Fun Rally. With activities ranging from climbing to dancing the night away, this is an event you don't want to miss. More information soon to come.



St. Louis:

Swift Base Venturing Weeks: This year St. Louis has 4 weeks devoted just to Venturers with many different high adventure activities to keep everyone busy. Dates include: June 15-21, June 22-28, June 29-July 5 and July 6-12. More information on www.stlbsa.org

Bay-Lakes Council:

Bay Jammer 2008: "America's Oldest Scouting Event" July 18h, 19th, and 20th Great Lakes Memorial Marina Park Menominee, Michigan. For the past sixty consecutive years, the Bay-Lakes Council, BSA and its Venturing Program have sponsored an event known nation-wide as *Bay Jammer* on the shores of Green Bay in historic downtown Menominee, Michigan. This year will be no different as the tradition continues the weekend of July 18, 19, and 20, 2008. This year Bay Jammer will celebrate its 60th anniversary, so plans are being made to make the celebration bigger and better than ever before.

More information on:
www.bayjammer.htmlplanet.com



Consulting Tip of the Month

Every month we will feature a resource that could be beneficial to your council or crew. This month we are featuring the resources available on the National Venturing Youth Cabinet website.

National Venturing Youth Cabinet

The website features bios and reports from the six members of the National Venturing Cabinet. It also features links to example bylaws, and many other useful pieces of information.

Please check this site out:
<http://www.nationalventuringyouthcabinet.org>

Venturing Awards and Recognition Program

Encourage your Venturing crew members to work towards the completion of one of the Venturing awards. The process of working towards the awards will help keep youth interested in Venturing.

Silver Award

Venturers must be proficient in emergency preparedness (including standard first aid, CPR, and Safe Swim Defense), participate in Ethics in Action, complete the Venturing Leadership Skills Course, earn the Venturing Gold Award, and earn at least one of the five Venturing Bronze awards.



The requirements for this award can be found in the Venturing Handbook.

Venturer You Should Know

Each month we will feature a Venturer or an Advisor that you should know. If you know a Venturer or an Advisor you would like to nominate, please send Amanda Vogt a short bio on them and a photo. This month we are featuring the Area 3 President Nicole Gates.

Nicole comes to us from Des Plaines Valley Council and is a resident of Brookfield, Illinois. She graduated from Riverside-Brookfield High School in Brookfield, Illinois. She currently attends Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, seeking degrees in Broadcast/ Electronic Communication and Politics, with the intent of working in the news media upon graduation.

In high school, Nicole was active in her local church youth group and participated in several national youth conferences. She also was active in the school's television station. She produced, directed, wrote, and edited many segments for the station as well as serving as an anchor. Her work was awarded the Chicago Land High School Video Festival Bronze Award. In addition to her achievements with the school's television station, Nicole is a member of the National Honor Society. In 2005, she was named Riverside-Brookfield High School's Citizen of the Year. She also received the Presidential Award for Excellence and Departmental Honors for Library and Instructional Technology.

Nicole began her Scouting career as a Girl Scout. After becoming a Venturer, Nicole served as secretary and vice-president to her own crew, as well as vice-president and president of the Des Plaines Valley Council's Venturing Leadership Council. Due to her dedication and leadership qualities, she was awarded the Venturing Leadership Award in 2004.



A Venturing Summary of the Simon Kenton Council Recognition Dinner/Overnight November 3rd-4th, 2007 Columbus, Ohio



Starting at 6pm on Saturday night, the Simon Kenton Council started their annual Recognition Dinner and Overnight.

This year they had the Central Region Venturing President, the Area 4 Venturing President, and the Area 4 Vice President in attendance along with many Venturers and Sea Scouts from their council.

After a very good dinner, we moved into the other room where there were over 40 BSA uniforms from around the world that Venturers tried to identify as part of a celebration for the 100th year of scouting.

We then presented a silver award and recognized those who had earned many of the other Venturing awards. We ended the recognition ceremony with a Woodbadge ceremony, and the presentation of 6 Council Venturing Leadership Awards.

Also presented was the Central Region's first Council Standards of Venturing Excellence certificate to the Simon Kenton council's Scout Executive.

The youth and some adults then headed to an all night lock in at the local fitness center in Easton, Ohio. There they enjoyed a swimming pool, rock walls, and many other fun activities.

How to Elect Crew Officers

Elections for crew officers can happen anytime the crew determines is the right time to do so. This is usually specified in the crew by-laws. Many crews follow the calendar year, holding elections in January. Many others follow the school year with elections in the fall.

Certain election procedures must be followed when your crew holds its regular election.

1. Your Advisor informs the crew of the responsibilities and job description of each office and stresses the need for commitment to the goals of the crew and attendance at all meetings. This is a great time to review your mission statement.

2. Your current President explains the procedures and the date of the election, and appoints a nominating committee. The nominating committee should be 3 or more crew members and an associate advisor. The nominating committee is important because the committee takes the time to be sure that the nominees are willing and able to serve. Those nominated should understand and commit to the responsibilities and time involved.

3. The nominating committee interviews those crew members interested in running for office and contacts others they think should be considered for the positions.

4. On election day:

- The president asks the nominating committee for the slate of candidates.
- Crew members are invited to make additional nominations.
- If the nominations are seconded and the nominees agree to serve, their names are added to the ballot.
- Nominations are closed by a majority vote
- Each nominee is invited to give a short talk; crew members may ask questions.
- Voting takes place.

- If only one nominee for an office, the president requests a motion to approve the nominee by acclamation.
- If two or more nominees per office, voting is done by secret ballot. The nominee receiving the most votes is elected. If a tie, the two with the most votes are voted on again.
- The newly elected officers are congratulated and an installation ceremony may be conducted.
- Right after the election, the Advisor and the new officers schedule a crew officers briefing & orientation.

Things to consider:

- How long do your crew officers serve?
- What kind of training will you provide for your crew officers?
- How are responsibilities divided among the officers?
- When is the best time of year for your crew to hold elections?



Also,

- Set expectations for officers to take their responsibilities seriously
- Have the crew officers help teach the Venturing Leadership Skills Course
- For many youth this is their first real "hands on" leadership opportunity.
- Small crews should follow these procedures as well.

Central Region Area Pages

Area 1

Upcoming Events

Jan. 5th: Okpik
Jan. 25th-27th: Okpik- Outdoor Session
Feb. 16th: Winter Amidships
Feb. 28th: Buck Hill Lock-in

Councils of Area 1

Area 1 includes the following councils:
Bay Lakes, Central Minnesota, Chippewa Valley, Gamehaven, Gateway Area, Hawkeye Area, Hiawathaland, Mid-Iowa, Northeast Iowa, Northern Lights, Samoset, Sioux, Twin Valley, Voyageurs Area, Winnebago, and Northern Star

Information on these events and links to these councils can be found on www.crventuring.org

Contact them at:

Area President area1president@crventuring.org Area Chair area1chair@crventuring.org
Felicity Smith *Chris Sandberg*

Area 2

Upcoming Events

Jan. 25th-27th: Super Ski Weekend
Feb. 15th-17th: Venturing Kick-Back Weekend 08
April 25th-27th: Powder Horn MI

Councils of Area 2

Area 2 includes the following councils:
Anthony Wayne Area, Blue Water, Buffalo Trace, Chief Okemos, Clinton Valley, Crossroads of America, Detroit Area, Gerald R. Ford, Great Sauk Trail, Hoosier Trails, Lake Huron Area, LaSalle, Sagamore, Scenic Trails, Southwest Michigan, and Tall Pine

Information on these events and links to these councils can be found on www.crventuring.org

Contact them at:

Area President area2president@crventuring.org Area Chair area2chair@crventuring.org
Katherine Maxim *Jeff Gerald*

Central Region Area Pages

Area 3

Upcoming Events

Dec.26th-Jan. 1st: Winter Escape
Dec. 31st-Jan.1st: New Year's Eve Party
Jan. 19th: Snowstorm
Feb. 17th: Arctic Blast
March 11th: Wilderness First aid

Councils of Area 3

Area 3 includes the following councils:
Abraham Lincoln, Blackhawk Area, Calumet,
Chicago Area, Des Plaines Valley, Glaciers
Edge, Illowa, Lincoln Trails, Milwaukee County,
Northeast Illinois, Northwest Suburban,
Potawatomi Area, Prairielands, Rainbow,
Southeast Wisconsin, Three Fires, and W.D.
Boyce

Information on these events and links to these councils can be found on www.crventuring.org

Contact them at:

Area President area3president@crventuring.org Area Chair area3chair@crventuring.org
Nicole Gates *Kris Zahrobsky*

Area 4

Upcoming Events

Jan. 18th-20th: Sea Scout Winter
Training Weekend
Feb. 8th-10th: Wilderness First Aid
Feb. 16th-17th: Mad River Mountain Ski
Weekend

Councils of Area 4

Area 4 includes the following councils:
Allohak, Black Swamp Area, Buckeye,
Buckskin, Dan Beard, Erie Shores, Great Trail,
Greater Cleveland, Greater Western Reserve,
Heart of Ohio, Miami Valley, Mountaineer Area,
Muskingum Valley, Ohio River Valley, Simon
Kenton, Tecumseh, and Tri-State Area

Information on these events and links to these councils can be found on www.crventuring.org

Contact them at:

Area President area4president@crventuring.org Area Chair area4chair@crventuring.org
Katelyn Childs *Len Roberts*

Central Region Area Pages

Area 5

Upcoming Events

Dec. 28th-30th: Winter Adventure
Jan. 12th: Ski Night at Hidden Valley
Jan. 12th-13th: Cave Camping/
Wilderness Survival
Feb. 15th-18th: Kanik

Councils of Area 5

Area 5 includes the following councils:
Cornhusker, Coronado Area, Great Rivers,
Greater St. Louis Area, Heart of America,
Jayhawk Area, Mid-America, Mississippi
Valley, Okaw Valley, Overland Trails, Ozark
Trails, Pony Express, Quivira, Santa Fe Trail,
and Trails West

Information on these events and links to these councils can be found on www.crventuring.org

Contact them at:

Area President area5president@crventuring.org Area Chair area5chair@crventuring.org
Dan Bedell *Bob Vogt*

Venturing & Sea Scouting Discussion Lists

Please sign up for the many Yahoo Groups and Discussion Lists dedicated to Venturing and Sea Scouting. Information on these groups can be found by searching Yahoo Groups for Venturing, clicking on "Discussion Groups" at seascout.org, or by clicking on the links below.



Venturing Yahoo Group: this group shares information with Venturers and Advisors from across the nation: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/venturinglist/>



Central Region Venturing Yahoo Group: this group is used to share resources and ideas, and to ask questions about Venturing in Central Region: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/crventuring/>



Sea Scouting Discussion List: this group shares information with Sea Scouts and Sea Scout leaders across the nation: <http://listserv.seascout.org/cgi-bin/wa?A0=SEASCOUT-NET>



Central Region Sea Scouting Discussion List: this group is used to share resources and ideas, and to ask questions about Sea Scouting in Central Region: <http://listserv.seascout.org/cgi-bin/wa?A0=SEASCOUT-CREGION-NET>