

# Central Region Program Area 5 Venturing Update May 2008



*Bob Vogt, Area 5 Venturing Chair/Editor*

## Announcing Our New Area 5 Boatswain for 2008-2009

Bill Hamilton, Area 5 Sea Scouting Commodore, is proud to announce the 2008-2009 Area 5 Boatswain is Erin Espy.



Erin is from the Greater St. Louis Area Council and is a member of Ship 362. Erin serves as her Ship's Boatswain (President). On May 15<sup>th</sup>, Amanda Vogt, Central Region Venturing President formally installed Erin into her position, at her Ship's Bridge of Honor. Erin's term runs till May 31, 2009.

Erin will serve on the Area 5 Teen Leader Council under the direction of our New Area 5 Venturing President, Sarah Ward. Erin & Sarah will be working to form the Teen Leader Council this summer. Each Venturing President of the 15 Council's Venturing Officer Associations (or equivalent) in Area 5 will be members of the Area 5 Teen Leader Council. Together they will share information on Council, Area, and Regional Venturing & Sea Scouting events, camps, training, etc. Working together we will strengthen Venturing across Area 5.

## Announcing New Area 5 Venturing Communication Coordinator

We are proud to announce that Eric Mircsov, has agreed to serve as the first Area 5 Venturing Communication Coordinator. This is a big job. His job description is over a page long ... he is here to make communications in Venturing happen across Area 5. We urge you to support him in his efforts to gather information about Venturing within Area 5.



Eric is a graduate student at Lindenwood University. He is an Eagle Scout. As a youth in Venturing he earned the Venturing Silver Award & Ranger Award. He currently serves as an Associate Advisor of Crew 2783 of the Greater St. Louis Area Council. He has served as a Co-course Director for both Kodiak & Kodiak X. He is a member of the Central Region's Venturing Communication Team.

## Announcing New Area 5 Venturing Facebook Group

Our new Area 5 Communication Coordinator, Eric Mircsov, has already been busy. He has established an Area 5 Venturing Facebook Group. Already it has grown to be larger than two of the Regional Venturing Facebook Groups and is closing in on another Regional Venturing Group.

Why Facebook? Simply, because that is where you will find much of the youth that we serve in Venturing. To ignore their internet social network is to lose a most valuable communication tool. For more information on using Facebook with Venturing, I urge you to check out this link to the National Venturing Youth Cabinet and its discussion about Facebook:

<http://www.nationalventuringyouthcabinet.org/files/FacebookFAQ.pdf>

Our Area 5 Venturing Facebook Group is moderated. Photos, video, information, articles and much more can be shared between our Venturing youth and adults.

## Central Region Venturing Newsletter

Attached to this emailed Venturing Update is the May 2008 issue of the Central Region Venturing Newsletter. As always, we need your help in sending this newsletter out across our Area 5. Please forward it to all of your Venturing contacts (youth & adult) and professionals that work with Venturing. Increasing communications amongst Venturers can only help to increase our membership.

## Venturing Leadership Awards

Red = National VLA  
Green = Regional/Area VLA  
Blue = Council VLA



## Parting Message from the 2007-2008 Central Region Venturing President, Amanda Vogt

As we move into May, I would like to take the time to say how much I appreciate everything that each one of you has done for this program, and how much each of you will continue to do. I will truly miss serving you as the 2007-2008 Central Region Venturing President.



This has been a year I will remember for the rest of my life. The Central Region has accomplished many great things this year, but it would not be possible without each one of you. To all of the Executives, I thank you for your support of the Venturing Program in your councils. To all of the Regional, Area, Council and District Volunteers, without you the individual units would have no one to turn to in times of need. To the Crew Advisors and Committee Members, without you the youth of this program would have no one to look up to for support and the mentoring they need to grow into the people they can and will become. Most of all, to the Venturers, without you we would have no program, thank you and good luck with your future.

I am leaving you in great hands. Katelyn Childs, your 2008-2009 Central Region Venturing President, is an exceptional young woman. She will take the Central Region and the Venturing program as a whole to a brand new level. I had the opportunity to spend the weekend of May 10<sup>th</sup>, and her goals for this coming year are extremely worthy and will grow the Venturing Program to a new level. Please give her the support that you have given me this past year.

I look forward to seeing you at future Scouting events across this nation in the years to come.

Yours in Venturing,  
Amanda Vogt  
2007-2008 Central Region  
Venturing President

## VENTURING MANPOWER Regional Venturing Growth Plan for 2008

### Plan

The National Venturing Committee, guided by the 2006-2010 BSA Strategic Plan, is committed to supporting the growth and delivery of the Venturing program in the United States. A key aspect of the National Strategic Plan Pillar 2 states the following goal, **“The number of engaged, accountable volunteers is dramatically increased at all levels of Scouting.”**



In accord with the National Strategic Plan, the National Venturing Council Support Committee is challenging each region to dramatically increase the number of Venturing volunteers who are delivering the Venturing program throughout America. **Each region is challenged to put into place in every council a Venturing Key 3.**

### Council Requirements

Each council is required to recruit key Venturing leadership. Each council must identify a youth president or similar position, a Venturing volunteer chair or equivalent, and a professional responsible for Venturing. (The councils in Area 5 that had the Venturing Key 3 in place in 2007 grow Venturing on an average of over 13% last year. The councils in Area 5 that had only 1 key Venturing position or less in place on the average dropped 3% in Venturing membership in 2007.)

Having Venturing Key 3 in place in our Area 5 councils will significantly contribute to this national focus. The Area 5 Venturing Committee will be working with each council that does not have all 3 Key Venturing positions filled to help identify and train those people for your positions.

### Timeline

Our goal is to have the Venturing Key 3 in place in all councils completed by summer, 2008.



## Mid-America Council

### Venturing Resident Camp 2008

Finally, Venturers can get together and hang out with other Venturers! The 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Venturing Resident Camp hosted by the Mid-America Council; will be held at Camp Cedars from July 20-26<sup>th</sup>. All Councils are welcome and invited to attend! Activity

Highlights include:

- Aquatics and Scuba
- Equestrian
- Shooting Sports
- Ecology
- Project C.O.P.E./Climbing
- Venturing Ranger
- Karaoke, Pool Party and other cool activities in the evenings

Cost: \$235.00; \$275.00 after June 27, 2008.

This camp is for Registered Venturers only and registration as a Crew is preferred. For more information log onto [www.mac-bsa.org](http://www.mac-bsa.org) or email [campdirector@mac-bsa.org](mailto:campdirector@mac-bsa.org). Flyer is attached.

### Swift Base – 4 Venturing Weeks in 2008 - Greater St. Louis Area Council

Swift Base first opened the summer of 1966 at S bar F Scout Ranch. From the beginning, it was designed to be a totally different experience for high school and college-age members. It is one of only two bases of its type in our country. And we are lucky to have it here in Area 5!

S bar F Scout Ranch is 5,200 acres of woods, trails, streams, Nims Lake and fun. Our 270-acre Nims Lake serves as the focal point for water skiing, sailing, fishing, canoeing, swimming, water tubing, sun bathing, kayaking and water sliding. The Base's herd of horses will allow you to saddle-up and explore the wilderness trails. If heights and challenges are your thing, the Base offers rock climbing, rappelling and a high and low ropes course. Mountain bikes are available every day for rides that see no pavement. You may want to try your hand at firing a .22 rifle or bow and arrow. At Swift, you choose what you want to do.

Evening programs include campfires and dances, volleyball and crazy competitions. An outdoor movie night (drive-in style), a game night or bonfire may be in the offing. If your crew wants to take an overnight canoe float down the lake, that can be arranged.

Some crews like to hike to Castle Rock to check out

the stars. All meals are served in Swift Lodge -- dining-hall style.

You camp on a campsite with your crew and your leaders. Tents are set up for you on wooden frames. Each of our five campsites are scattered in the woods, so that you have shade and some privacy.

If you have questions, please contact Director of Camping Patrick Martchink at [pmartchink@stlbsa.org](mailto:pmartchink@stlbsa.org). Venturers and Explorers should start making plans for the 2008 summer camp program at Swift Base. There is still space available for your Crew, but sign up soon, as space is limited. Reservation fees are \$25 per youth member.

Start promoting Swift to your crew or post now.

Don't let the time slip by! For Info: [www.stlbsa.org](http://www.stlbsa.org)

#### 2008 INFORMATION:

- **Swift Base Dates for Venturers and Older Boy Scouts**  
June 15-21, June 22-28, June 29-July 5 and July 6-12

### Venturing 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event for Central Region to be Held Here in Area 5!

The Central Region's Venturing 10th Anniversary Celebration will be held here in Area 5 at The Greater St. Louis Area Council's **Fall Fun Rally** the weekend of September 19th – 21st, 2008 has been chosen as the 10<sup>th</sup>

Anniversary event for

Central Region Venturing. The Fall Fun Rally is the largest Venturing event in the Central Region. Last year over 700 Venturers and leaders attended the event. Mark your calendars now to join Venturers from around the Central Region at the 10th Anniversary Celebration. A promotional video of the event can be found at

[www.fallfunrally.org](http://www.fallfunrally.org). A great flyer about the event is attached. The event's details will be available soon.



## 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Venturing Photo Contest

Venturing has also created a 10th Anniversary Photo Contest. What images do you think best reflect the essence of Venturing? Capture them with your camera and then enter your favorite photographs in the "Venturing 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary" photo contest.

The contest is open to all registered youth members of the Venturing program. Photos will be judged in four categories:

1. Wildlife
2. People
3. The Spirit of Venturing
4. Spirit of Patriotism



The judges will be looking for the photographs that best exhibit creativity, originality and visual beauty. A winning photograph will be selected for each of the four categories. From the four winners, one photograph will be selected as the Grand Prize Winner. See attached file for contest details.

**Ahoy Skippers.  
Great Missouri Valley  
Challenge Regatta  
Council Bluff, Iowa  
July 11-13, 2008**



Mark this weekend on your calendar and have your crew put it on their summer program. This is an event you don't want to miss.

Sea Scout Ship 542 and our sponsor, the Lake Manawa Sailing Club, will be hosting a Ship's challenge regatta. We will provide Sunfish sailboats for a round robin qualifying series and a championship round. Just bring your PFD and sailing gear. We will be sending out more information in the next couple of months. To get more information about the Sailing Club and our Ship, check out at <http://www.sailmanawa.com/>. See attached flyer.

## Promote Your Council's Venturing Events

If your council has Venturing events, camps, or activities that you want to promote across our Area 5, just send to me the information and I will include it in the next Area 5 Venturing Update. Send to Bob Vogt, Area 5 Venturing Advisor at [rvogt1@charter.net](mailto:rvogt1@charter.net).

## Your CR Area 5 Venturing Committee

We are here to be a resource for Venturing in your council.

### Area 5 Venturing Youth President

**Sarah Ward**, Greater St. Louis Area Council

Email: [sarahward982@yahoo.com](mailto:sarahward982@yahoo.com)

### Area 5 Sea Scout Boatswain

**Erin Espy**, Greater St. Louis Area Council

Email: [eeemr6@slu.edu](mailto:eeemr6@slu.edu)

### Area 5 Venturing Advisor/Chair

**Bob Vogt**, Greater St. Louis Area Council

Email: [rvogt1@charter.net](mailto:rvogt1@charter.net)

Work Phone: 636-391-2121

**Home Phone: 636-394-6809**

Cell Phone: 314-570-2674

### Area 5 Sea Scout Commodore:

**Bill Hamilton**, Greater St. Louis Area Council

Email: [WHami9@aol.com](mailto:WHami9@aol.com)

**Work Phone: 636-827-2063**

Home Phone: 314-832-4248

Cell Phone: 314-971-1188

### Area 5 Powder Horn Coordinator

**Julie Dalton**, Quivira Council

Email: [buffalogall@cox.net](mailto:buffalogall@cox.net)

Home Phone: 316-943-6202

### Area 5 Kodiak Coordinator

**Rick McIlvoy**, Greater St. Louis Area Council

Email: [rmcilvoy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rmcilvoy@sbcglobal.net)

Home Phone: 636-394-5728

Cell Phone: 314-609-8001

### Area 5 Associate Advisor:

**Mike Insko**, Pony Express Council

Email: [minsco@law-matters.com](mailto:minsco@law-matters.com)

Work Phone: 816-279-3900

Home Phone: 816-279-2219

### Area 5 Associate Advisor

**Thomas Burke**, Great Rivers Council

Email: [crew57@sbcglobal.net](mailto:crew57@sbcglobal.net)

Home Phone: 573-581-1232

### Area 5 Communication Coordinator

**Eric Mircsov**, Greater St. Louis Area Council

Email: [eaglescout939@hotmail.com](mailto:eaglescout939@hotmail.com)

Home Phone: 314-921-6064

## **Kodiak & VLSC 2008 Mid-America Council**

### **Venturing Leadership Skills Course**

**Where:** June 13-15 at Camp Cedars

**Costs:** \$25 per participant and \$10 for adult leaders

**Who:** This is a coed course for all Crew members, Troop youth Leaders, community youth (that are 14 year old and have completed the 8th grade). Adult leaders (21 years and older) are invited to come out to participate and learn about the Nature of Leadership (NOL) program. Find out what this course has to offer your youth.

*All registrations must be received by May 16<sup>th</sup> through the Scout Office.*

### **Why take the Venturing Leadership Skills Course?**

The Venturing Leadership Skills Course (VLSC) is designed to help teach youth adults the attitudes and skills that good leaders demonstrate. Practicing and mastering these skills will help enable Venturers to have positive leadership experiences in every facet of Scouting and life. It does not matter the type of activities a particular Crew has chosen, this is a leadership skills building course that all potential youth leaders should take to help shape their leadership styles. VLSC is a requirement for the youth to earn the Venturing Silver Award, it is a suggested course for any Venturer interested in participating on a Kodiak Trek, and is a requirement for the Advisor to earn the Advisors Award of Merit. VLSC is the first course of three offered through the Nature of Leadership Program! We have also incorporated a brief introduction to Roberts Rules, running an effective meeting, and some high C.O.P.E activities.

**Contact information for both courses** - If you have interest in these courses & need more info please contact:

The Nature of Leadership Course  
Director Rich Hawes (H) 402-455-6595 or Email  
[rdhawes26@msn.com](mailto:rdhawes26@msn.com)

Assistant Director Mike Collings (C) 402-981-6150  
or Email [venturing@cox.net](mailto:venturing@cox.net).



## **Kodiak Trek 2008**

**Where:** Little Sioux Scout Ranch and Loess Hills State Forest of Iowa



**When:** June 15-21 (starts at 6:30pm on the 15<sup>th</sup> and finishes up on the morning of the 21<sup>st</sup>)

**Costs:** \$150 per youth participant and \$100 for adults.

**Who:** This is a coed course for all Crew members, Troop youth Leaders, community youth (that are 14 year old and have completed the 8th grade). Adult leaders (21 years and older) are invited to come out to participate and learn about the Nature of Leadership (NOL) program. Find out what this course has to offer your youth.

*All registrations must be received by May 16<sup>th</sup> through the Scout Office.*

**Why:** This Trek has a lot of fun activities included: backpacking, camping, canoeing, sailing, fishing, shooting sports, Geo-caching, introduction to wilderness first aid, Leave no Trace, map and compass, GPS, volleyball, and much more. We will be finishing it all off with a beach party and BBQ for participants, their families and Advisors. The participants will be on a challenging new and unique course filled with loads of fun and created to leave those participants with a better understanding of leadership skills and attitudes that will help them achieve greater success in living. Practicing and mastering these skills will help enable Venturers to have positive leadership experiences in every facet of Scouting and life.

### **The Five Commissions of Kodiak:**

**Effective Team / Values and Vision /  
Communication / Decision Making / Planning**

See attached flyer for more details on MAC's VLSC & Kodiak

### **Learn how to conduct a Kodiak Trek in your Crew, District, or Council contact:**

**Area 5 Kodiak Coordinator**

**Rick McIlvoy**, Greater St. Louis Area Council

Email: [rmcilvoy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rmcilvoy@sbcglobal.net);

Home Phone: 636-394-5728

Cell Phone: 314-609-8001

## **Adventure Camp @ Quivira Scout Ranch June 29<sup>th</sup> – July 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Looking for something to do this summer? Quivira Scout Reservation will be hosting a week of camp specifically designed to fit the needs of our older Scouts and Venturing youth. We have it all: Horseback Riding, Pistol Shooting, Sailing, Water Skiing, Shotgun Shooting, Geocaching, Rock-Climbing, COPE Course, Mountain Biking, and much more. **Please see the attached flyer for more details.**

### **Powder Horn Course:**



The Heart of America Council is hosting a Powder Horn course. Powder Horn is a training opportunity designed to expose the Venturing or Boy Scout leader to activities and resources necessary to operate a successful Venturing Ranger Award or

Troop High Adventure program. The course is being held at the Theodore Naish Scout Reservation in Bonner Springs, KS over 2 weekends (Aug 15-17 & Sept. 5-7). A brochure is attached.

### **Learn more about how your council can conduct a Powder Horn Course contact:**

**Area 5 Powder Horn Coordinator**

**Julie Dalton**, Quivira Council

Email: [buffalogall@cox.net](mailto:buffalogall@cox.net)

Home Phone: 316-943-6202

### **Heart of America Council Camp for Venturing/Exploring “Can You Dig It?”**

Our camping program is now six years old and has grown bigger each year. It is a program designed to meet the needs of Venturing/Exploring age youth. We have a camp that has many new facilities and a staff with a strong focus on the Venturing/Exploring programs. With the large number of choices there will be something of interest for every one. We hope this will be a week of new experiences, making of new friends, and most of all, lots of FUN.

Each year we have a camp theme that gives our program some direction, this year it's "Can You Dig It?" Check out the program list and you'll see where this is going. "Man... this will be groovy".

**Who:** to Contact Professional Staff Advisor, Josh Morales, 816-569-4961 or 800-776-1110 or e-mail – [jmorales@bsamail.org](mailto:jmorales@bsamail.org).

Administrative – Christina Crandall - 816-569-4930 or 800-776-1110 or e-mail - [ccrandal@bsamail.org](mailto:ccrandal@bsamail.org).

**Dates:** Sunday, June 1st 2008, beginning at 2:00 pm to Saturday morning, June 7, 2008. Camp must be cleaned and cleared by 10:00 on Saturday.

**Where:** Theodore Naish Scout Reservation, 1100 Martinek Lane, Kansas City, Kansas, 66111 Close to Bonner Springs, Kansas. Map and directions will be posted with Program Directory. More Information at [http://hoac-bsa.org/ae\\_links/CMP\\_Venture\\_Blast\\_Ldrs\\_Guide\\_2008.pdf](http://hoac-bsa.org/ae_links/CMP_Venture_Blast_Ldrs_Guide_2008.pdf)

### **Coronado Council Venturing Weekend Camp Hansen, Scout Camp Kirwin, Kansas July 11 -13, 2008**

Come and join us for a weekend of fun and activities at Camp Hansen. This is our first summer event at Camp Hansen that is designed with a program just for our Co-ed Venture Crews. If you love the outdoors and want to do all or some of the following this might be the event for you. Activities will include Camping, Cooking, Mountain Biking, Handicrafts, Climbing Tower, Project C.O.P.E., Mountain Boards, Swimming, Kayaking/Canoeing, Fishing, Shooting Sports, and Archery. You can sign up with your crew or individually as we will be providing Adult Leadership. The cost of the event is \$75 per person or \$50 if you were a participant of the May Venturing Canoe Trip. \$50 for Adult Advisors.

For More Information contact: Nikki Chamberlain [Nikki.Chamberlain@usd305.com](mailto:Nikki.Chamberlain@usd305.com) (785)565-4019 or Gary Shoemaker (785)-827-4461 Deadline in June 6, 2008

**Great Rivers Council  
Hohn Scout Reservation  
June 29 -July 3, 2008**

What are you doing this summer? Calling all Venturers and Explorers. Join the fun at Venturing/Exploring Camp 2008!

Camp will begin with arrival at Hohn Scout Reservation on June 29, 2008 and a relaxing afternoon of games and miscellaneous fun! Sunday evening's activity involves deciding what activities to do the rest of the week. Choices include: climbing & rappelling (which we did till after midnight last year), COPE, sailing, water skiing & tubing, rifle, shotgun, pistols, archery, swimming, canoeing, caving, movies, volleyball, music ... the list goes on. The week will end after breakfast Thursday morning July 3rd so everyone can be home for the 4th. Join us for Venturing/Exploring Camp Summer 2008 for a week you will never forget! Phone: (573) 449-2561 or 1-800-SCOUTLAW Email: [bsa-grc@bsamail.org](mailto:bsa-grc@bsamail.org)

**\$1,000,000**

**(Did That Get Your Attention?)**

**Outstanding Scholarship Offer for  
Venturing Silver Award Recipients  
& Eagle Scouts from  
Lindenwood University**



Lindenwood University and the Boy Scouts of America are pleased to offer an exciting opportunity to Boy Scouts of America members. Lindenwood University announces that it will

award over \$1,000,000 per year for four years in scholarship assistance to reward youth leaders who have volunteered with, been members of, or worked for certain area youth-serving agencies. The Boy Scouts of America is one of those prestigious agencies participating in the scholarship program. Lindenwood has awarded the Boy Scouts of America over \$250,000 in scholarships for the upcoming school year to recognize outstanding youth. The three levels of scholarships range from \$5,000 to \$12,000 per year, or \$20,000 to \$48,000 (excluding an allotted \$2,400 earned in the work and learn program) over a four-year period. Please find the attached scholarship

information sheet that explains the criteria and application process for each scholarship.

With its main campus in St. Charles, Missouri, Lindenwood is a four-year co-educational, liberal arts university. Much like the Boy Scouts of America, Lindenwood promotes the importance of a value-oriented culture and education for all of its students. Lindenwood houses more than 3,500 residential students and educates nearly 15,000 total students each academic year; Lindenwood University is the fastest growing institution of higher learning in Missouri.



While Lindenwood offers more than 64 undergraduate and graduate degrees, we would encourage you to explore the Non-Profit Administration (NPA) degree program. NPA is a program that prepares nonprofit professionals to work with America's youth and families in agencies such as the YMCA, the YWCA, and, of course, the Boy Scouts of America. Each year, these agencies need more than 50,000 new professionals to fill entry-level youth and human service positions.

Regardless of your intended major at Lindenwood, these scholarships are available to you because of your service with your Boy Scouts of America. Please take advantage of this wonderful opportunity and apply promptly; applications received early will receive first consideration.

Good luck in your college search!  
Sincerely,  
James D. Evans,  
President - Lindenwood University

**Great Venturing Sites:**

National Venturing Cabinet Officers:

[www.nationalventuringyouthcabinet.org](http://www.nationalventuringyouthcabinet.org)

Central Region Venturing: [www.crventuring.org](http://www.crventuring.org)

Central Region Sea Scouting:

[www.seascouting.crventuring.org](http://www.seascouting.crventuring.org)