

# Central Region Area 3 Venturing Update July 2009



VENTURING • BSA

Bob Vogt, CR Area 3 Venturing Chair/ Update Editor  
Eric Mircsov, CR Area 3 Communication Coordinator  
Sarah Ward, CR Area 3 Venturing President

## What is Kodiak?

By Sarah Ward, CR Area 3 Venturing President

Kodiak is a leadership training course designed for Venturers and older Boy Scouts. It's composed of five basic leadership concepts: effective team; values and vision; communication; decision making; and planning. These leadership concepts are turned into the five commissions taught throughout the course. The course is designed to be taught during a weeklong high adventure trek. Courses have been taught across the nation from Philmont, to high adventure Colorado treks, to local event in your own hometown.



Sarah Ward having fun on a Kodiak Trek

Kodiak expands the participant's knowledge of leadership as it applies to their Crew and other groups outside of Scouting.

Kodiak is definitely not your sit down and learn training course.

The participants learn the five commissions along with fun exercises throughout the week.

Kodiak treks aren't just for the youth. The adults in the Crew can join in and grow their understanding of their leadership roles in the Crew. All together, the course helps grow future leaders in the community as



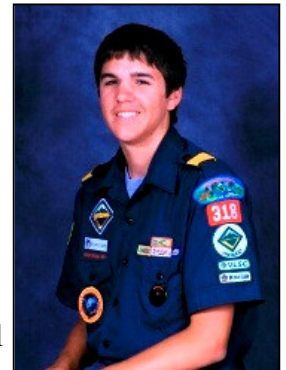
Sarah Ward (left), Area 3 Venturing President, and Amanda Vogt, Area 3 Venturing Vice President teaching a Kodiak commission at Swift Base.

it helps them strengthen their roles in Scouts, school, and beyond.

*(Sarah's Kodiak Trek in 2007 was a 2 3-day weekends "A Winter Tour of Our Town". She has also completed Kodiak X. She has completed the Kodiak/Kodiak X Course Director Course. She has staffed 2 Kodiaks in just the past month (One at Philmont and the other at Swift Base in southern Missouri).*

## Central Region Venturing Newsletter

Attached to this emailed Venturing Update is the June issue of the Central Region Venturing Newsletter designed and written by Ben Hayes, the Central Region Venturing President. We need your help in sending the newsletters out across our Area 3. Please forward it to all of your Venturing contacts (youth & adult) and professionals that work with Venturing. Increasing our communications amongst Venturers can only help to increase our membership.



## Facebook – Communicating with Venturers

**Are you on Facebook?? Our Venturers are!** The youth use this social network to communicate with each other everyday. Many Venturing Crews have found it to be an important part of their communication mix. Some councils are building their Venturing communication around Facebook Groups. Our Central Region Venturing has its own group with nearly 3,000 members. Even the BSA National Office has a Facebook Group (with thousands of members).

Did you know that your council has a Venturing Facebook Group? Many of our councils have developed their own Facebook Groups. Those that have not have had one established by the Central Region Venturing Communication Committee. They will be serving as the group administrator until a local youth or adult steps forwards to administer the group. The following are the links to each of our council's Venturing Facebook Groups:

**Lewis & Clark Venturing Facebook Group:**

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=129355675712>

## **Illowa Venturing Facebook Group:**

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=51644697397>

## **W. D. Boyce Venturing Facebook Group:**

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=8316386849>

## **Mississippi Valley Venturing Facebook Group:**

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=119055695511>

## **Abraham Lincoln Venturing Facebook Group:**

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=44059028761>

## **Hawkeye Area Venturing Facebook Group:**

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2246395863>

## **Northeast Iowa Venturing Facebook Group:**

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=60552383208>

## **Greater St. Louis Area Venturing Facebook Group:**

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=4896422380>

## **Glacier's Edge Venturing Facebook Group:**

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=24369249032>

## **Milwaukee County Venturing Facebook Group:**

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=52890419845>

## **Southeast Wisconsin Venturing Facebook Group:**

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=54250448845>

## **Potawatomi Area Venturing Facebook Group:**

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=59070017342>

## **Area 3 Venturing Facebook Group:**

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=17279505847>

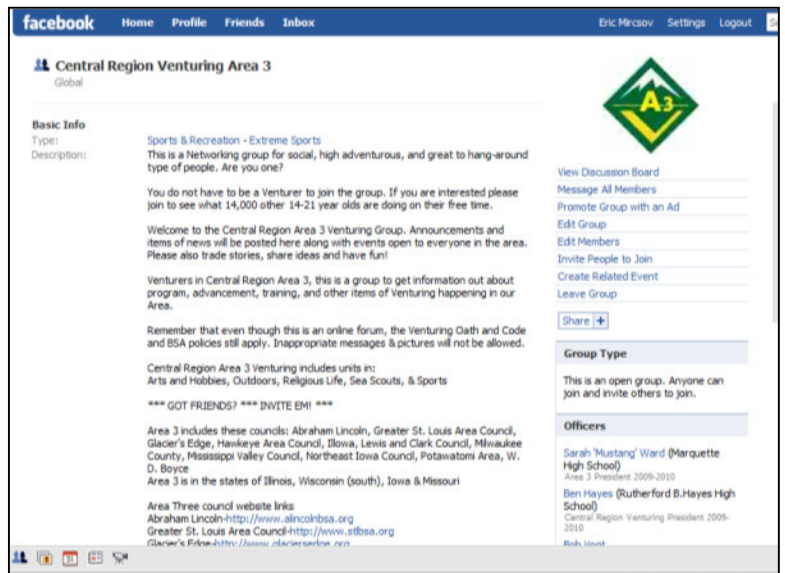
Why Facebook? Simply, because that is where you will find much of the youth that we serve in Venturing. To ignore their internet social network is to lose a most valuable communication tool. For more information on using Facebook with Venturing, I urge you to check out this link to the National Venturing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

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

## **Area 3 Venturing Facebook Group**

We need to thank Eric Mircsov, the Area 3 Venturing Communications Coordinator, for all of his efforts to promote this group. The Area 3 Facebook Group has information about Venturing Summer Camps, Kodiak Courses, activities and events from Council across Area 3 and updates from Central Region Venturing. If you take a look at this Group you will see how the youth are communicating from Southern Illinois to Wisconsin and beyond. Area 3 is helping to spread the word about Venturing. Area 3 has the largest Area Venturing Facebook Group in the nation.

The Area 3 President, Sarah Ward, is planning on using Facebook to help spread the message of how great Venturing is and about Venturing & Sea Scouting events that Area 3 Councils are planning. She also plans to keep increasing the membership. She wants to use Facebook to reach the Venturing youth in Area 3 to keep them informed of all the amazing things happening in Venturing. The Facebook Group is updated monthly and soon will have some new content that will be on Facebook only. So if you have not yet joined Facebook and want to see what the youth of Venturing are talking about, join at [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com).



Our Area 3 Venturing Facebook Group is moderated. Photos, video, information, articles and much more can be shared between our Venturing youth and adults.



## **Area 3 Venturing Facebook Group:**

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=17279505847>

## Announcing Area 3 Venturing Conference

Save the Date:  
January 30, 2010 in  
Normal, IL



The Area 3 Venturing Conference will be one of the first Area level Venturing conferences held in the nation. It is designed to provide your council the building blocks to build success for your Council's Venturing Program. This one-day conference is designed to help you get Venturing "Out of the Box, and Over the Top" in your council. Whether you are just starting to build a Council Venturing structure, you are already on the path to success, or you just want to learn more information about how other councils have succeeded, then this conference is for you.

This conference is happening for the 12 councils in Area 3 of the Central Region. Guess what...that is your council! It will be held on January 30, 2010. Just in time for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Scouting. Let's make that year all the more memorable for the youth in your council's Venturing Program by giving them the opportunity to grow in leadership skills, and have a great time doing it.

The conference will be starting with the basics of Venturing, and moving through the steps councils in our Area and across the country have taken to reach success. Here are just some of the things the conference will be covering:

- Recruitment (how to find the right youth to lead your council's Venturing Officer Association)
- Venturing Officer Association Job Descriptions and Bylaws
- How to hold successful multi-crew events
- VOA elections
- VLSC/Kodiak/Kodiak X – It is all about developing leaders!
- Powder Horn – Why it will grow Venturing
- Venturing Awards and Recognition
- How to make Venturing communications in your council work



- A mock Venturing roundtable and much more

The cost for all of this knowledge is estimated at just \$15 if you reserve your seat by January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010. The conference will be held at Calvary United Methodist Church in Normal, Illinois. The church is located right off I-55 and is within 3.5 hours of each of our council's offices. Check-in starts at 7:45am and we expect to be finished by 4:30pm. This is one day you don't want to miss. Our Area 3 Venturing President, Sarah Ward, and the 2008-09 National Venturing President, Amanda Vogt will be spearheading the conference's staff. A flyer is attached and a registration form will be included in the next Area 3 Venturing Update. For now just save the date on your calendar.

If you have any questions feel free to contact Bob Vogt, the Central Region Area 3 Venturing Chair at (636) 394-6809

## 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)

## Venturing Crew in the News

Do you have a wonderful adventure your Crew has recently done that you would like to share with other Crews across our Area 3? Then please let me know about it and we will highlight your Crew in our Area 3 Venturing Update. Just write up a short article and be sure to include some pictures. Submit the articles to [revogt1@gmail.com](mailto:revogt1@gmail.com)

## Venturing Leadership Awards

Red = National VLA

Green = Regional/Area VLA

Blue = Council VLA



**For both Youth & Adults.**

Does your council have Venturers that are outstanding leaders? Do you have adult leaders that go above and beyond? Have you recognized them with the Venturing Leadership Award? If you don't take the time to complete the application, then who will?

## Nation's Largest Venturing Event ... The Fall Fun Rally ... Here in Area 3

Yes, the largest Venturing event in the nation is held right here in Area 3 and all Venturers are invited. Last year over 700 Venturers from 10 councils were in attendance. Venturers from Kansas, Illinois, Michigan, Ohio and many other places all showed up. Even the National Venturing President and the Central Region Venturing President came to the event. Did you? Well don't miss the 2009 Fall Fun Rally from September 11-13.



So what is the Fall Fun Rally? Over 40 events are available and all are organized and staffed by Venturers. This premier Venturing event is held annually at Beaumont Scout Reservation just outside St. Louis, MO. All for the cost of \$12 (including an event t-shirt), the FFR is a definite value. The Venturing Officer's Association puts on the FFR in the Greater St. Louis Area Council. Each District VOA is in charge of part of the activities. Here's what they have got



up their sleeves right now:  
Rife Shooting; Model Rockets; Blacksmithing;  
Rendezvous Encampment; Volleyball Tournament;  
Land Navigation Competition; Climbing Tower;  
Tabletop Display Contest; Obstacle Course; Frisbee  
Tournament; Sea  
Scouting Activities;  
Drunk Driving  
Simulation; Caving;  
Crafts; Horseback  
Riding; Shotgun  
Shooting; A Dance;  
Mini-golf; Eagle meet  
and greet; Fencing; Search and Rescue; Armed  
Forces Demo; Crazy Building Competition; Cast Iron  
Chef; Dunking Booth; Venturing Skills Challenges;  
and much more.



The big question is ... are you going to be there with a contingent from your council? This year they hope to break 1,000 Venturers. Mark your calendars now to join Venturers from around the Central Region at the Fall Fun Rally. A promotional video of the event can be found at [www.fallfunrally.org](http://www.fallfunrally.org). Please see the event's website for more details. A flyer for the Fall Fun Rally is attached.

## Promote Your Council's Venturing Events

If your council has Venturing events, camps, or activities that you want to promote across our Area 3, just send to me the information and I will include it in the next Area 3 Venturing Update. Send to Bob Vogt, Area 3 Venturing Chair at [revogt1@gmail.com](mailto:revogt1@gmail.com).

## 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 a required course for the new National Youth Leadership Society!



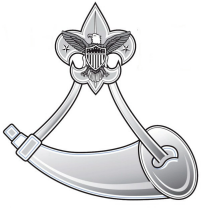
## Do You Have a Venturing Story to Tell?



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If you have a great Venturing story to tell, please send it to [revogt1@gmail.com](mailto:revogt1@gmail.com)

## What is Powder Horn?



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. It does this in several ways. First it helps Venturing Leaders and Scouters to safely conduct outdoor activities of a fun and challenging nature. It provides an introduction to the resources necessary to successfully lead Venturers and older Boy Scouts through a program of high adventure. And it familiarizes the Advisor with the Ranger program so that he or she can help the Venturer to meet the requirements of the Ranger Award. This course is based on the Venturing Ranger requirements giving participants an exposure to outdoor/high adventure activities. Scout leaders will also benefit from this course when your unit participates in unit high adventure.

## Glacier Edge Council Powder Horn

Area 3's 2010 Powder Horn is being conducted by Glacier Edge Council lead by Luann Rece (Area 3's Powder Horn Coordinator). You do not have to be from Glacier Edge to attend this Powder Horn. Luann has recruited an outstanding staff from top volunteer leaders from many of our Area 3 council's. **Details for the Powder Horn are attached to this Update.** All Powder Horns are limited in participant size. Space is starting to fill. Be sure to get your reservations in as soon as possible.

### **Powder Horn High Adventure Skills Resources Management Course**

*For Venturing and Boy Scout Leaders*

**May 14-16, 2010**

Glacier's Edge Council- Camp Indian Trails

**June 4-6, 2010**

Bay Lakes Council- Gardner Dam Scout Camp

*(Both weekends required. Course starts on Friday morning and runs through Sunday afternoon each weekend.)*

**Course Director: Luann Rece**

[orchidscout@gmail.com](mailto:orchidscout@gmail.com) (608) 873-1821



## Do a Kodiak Trek in 2009-2010



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

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

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

**Area 3 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

Kodiak is a required course for the new National Youth Leadership Society.

## Where are the Area 3 BSA Camps?

Did you know that our 12 councils in Area 3 support 21 BSA camps and ranches? That is a lot of acreage, but more important that is ground that has seen a lot of Scouting over the years. But just where are they located? Attached to this Venturing Update is a pdf file that contains a map with all of the camp's and ranch's locations. It also highlights the location of each of our council's headquarters. Take a look at it and maybe you just might see a future Scouting trip awaiting you.



## Your CR Area 3 Venturing Committee

We are looking for more Venturing adult leaders to fill committee needs to serve our entire geographical Area which stretches from southern Illinois & Missouri, up the Mississippi River, to the shores of Lake Michigan in Wisconsin. We request the Area 3 Scout Executives to recommend to Fred Wallace and myself (Bob Vogt) individuals that want to help make Venturing grow.



Sarah Ward, our Area 3 Venturing President, really wants to grow youth leaders in our Area. She wants to see active Venturing Officer Associations (VOA) in each council. The CR Area 3 Venturing Committee will support her in this endeavor. Sarah looks to develop an Area 3 Area level VOA from amongst the council's VOA Presidents and Area Vice-Presidents.

### The Area 3 Councils are:

Lewis & Clark Council – Belleville, IL  
Illowa Council – Davenport, IA  
W.D. Boyce Council – Peoria, IL  
Mississippi Valley Council – Quincy, IL  
Abraham Lincoln Council – Springfield, IL  
Hawkeye Area Council – Cedar Rapids, IA  
Northeast Iowa Council – Dubuque, IA  
Greater St. Louis Area Council – St. Louis, MO  
Glacier's Edge Council – Madison, WI  
Milwaukee County Council – Milwaukee, WI  
Southeast Wisconsin Council – Racine, WI  
Potawatomi Area Council – Waukesha, WI

## CR Area 3 Venturing Committee

### Area 3 Venturing President

**Sarah Ward**, Greater St. Louis Area Council  
Email: [sarahward982@yahoo.com](mailto:sarahward982@yahoo.com)

### Area 3 Venturing Vice-President

**Amanda Vogt**, Greater St. Louis Area Council  
Email: [venturingpresident@yahoo.com](mailto:venturingpresident@yahoo.com)

### Area 3 Sea Scout Boatswain

Open

### Area 3 Venturing Advisor/Chair

**Bob Vogt**, Greater St. Louis Area Council  
Email: [revogt1@gmail.com](mailto:revogt1@gmail.com)  
Work Phone: 636-391-2121  
Home Phone: 636-394-6809  
Cell Phone: 314-570-2674

### Area 3 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 3 Powder Horn Coordinator

**Luann Rece**, Glacier's Edge Council  
Email: [orchidscout@gmail.com](mailto:orchidscout@gmail.com)  
Home Phone: 608-873-1821  
Cell Phone: 608-719-9063

### Area 3 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 3 Communication Coordinator

**Eric Mircsov**, Greater St. Louis Area Council  
Email: [eaglescout939@hotmail.com](mailto:eaglescout939@hotmail.com)  
Home Phone: 314-921-6064

### Area 3 Associate Advisor – Illowa Council

**Dave Eyman**, Illowa Council  
Email: [dave.eyman@gmail.com](mailto:dave.eyman@gmail.com)  
Home Phone: 563-344-0088  
Cell Phone: 563-340-8891

### Area 3 Associate Advisor – Lewis & Clark

**Dennis Gunderson**, Lewis & Clark Council  
Email: [dennis28hh@juno.com](mailto:dennis28hh@juno.com)  
Home Phone: 618-288-7198

### Area 3 Associate Advisor

Open

### Area 3 Associate Advisor

Open

## Kodiak X Leadership Course Offered in CR Area 3

If you have completed Kodiak leadership course, your next step in leadership development is Kodiak X. Kodiak X is a weekend leadership challenge course that builds on the 5 leadership commissions learned in Kodiak. During the weekend, participants will review what they learned at Kodiak, and learn two additional commissions. These commissions are:

1. Evaluating Performance
2. Mentoring

Each participant will have an opportunity to practice their leadership skills while serving as a leader of their team as they face challenging scenarios.

The New Horizon District of the Greater St. Louis Area Council is sponsoring Kodiak X. The course's Co-Directors are Amanda Vogt, the 2008-2009 National Venturing President, and Bob Vogt, Central Region Area 3 Venturing Chair. Course will be held on September 25-26, 2009 at Salem in Ballwin United Methodist Church (14825 Manchester Rd, Ballwin, MO 63021) starting at 6:00pm. It will conclude on Saturday at 5:00pm. Participants will be staying at the church overnight. Co-ed adult leadership will be provided. Showers are available. Cost is \$25 and includes 2 meals, snacks, and course supplies. Course is limited to the first 48 paid participants. Course is open to Venturers from outside the council. Venturers, older Boy Scouts (15 & older) and adult leaders that have completed Kodiak can take Kodiak X. **See attached flyer & reservation form for more details.**

Kodiak X is a requirement for the new National Youth Leadership Society.

For more information contact Bob Vogt (636-394-6809) or by email at [revogt1@gmail.com](mailto:revogt1@gmail.com)



## Venturepalooza 2009 Presented by Northeast Iowa Council

Every year young men and women ages 14 to 21 gather at Camp C.S. Klaus (Colesburg, IA) for a weekend of adventure. This year is no exception. You'll experience canoeing, kayaking, swimming, a beach party, a pistol range, climbing, rappelling, GPS navigation, and the list goes on ... This is guaranteed to be an event you won't want to miss!

**Date:** August 14-16, 2009

**Location:** Camp C.S. Klaus (near Colesburg, IA)

**Who:** Venturers

**Cost:** \$15 to participate. \$10 for t-shirt (optional)

**For more information see attached flyer, registration form, and Information sheet.**

For additional details contact Justin Wilson at 563-556-4343 or [justin.wilson@scouting.org](mailto:justin.wilson@scouting.org)

## Five Kodiak Treks Done in 18 Months by One Crew

Venturing Crew 2783 from Ballwin, MO has completed 5 Kodiak treks in the past 18 months. Over 50 Venturers and adults have completed the leadership training on these treks. The Crew has 4 members that have completed the Kodiak Course Director Course. The first trek was in January 2008 and was "A Winter Tour our Town" trek. Held over 2 weekends, the participants' activities ranged from downhill skiing to winter hikes.

Trek two was in June 2008 and was to Colorado. Activities ranged from mountain biking Pikes Peak, whitewater rafting the Royal Gorge, climbing Mt. Yale (14000' +), to horseback riding through the Rocky's.

Trek three and four were in June 2009 as they had 2 crews at Philmont doing Kodiak along the trail. And trek five was done just 2 weeks ago at the high adventure base for Venturing in southern Missouri called Swift Base.

Crew 2783 coordinated for the Greater St. Louis Area Council its first Kodiak X in April 2008 and is coordinating the council's 2<sup>nd</sup> Kodiak X this September. **Details on this Kodiak X are attached to this Venturing Update.**