

# The Central Point



Newsletter of Central Region Venturing | BSA

December Newsletter 2011

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## Take The SCOUTStrong PALA Challenge!

In 2011, the Boy Scouts of America joined forces with the President's Council on Fitness, Sports, and Nutrition (PCFSN) to create SCOUTStrong Pala, an award that promotes an active lifestyle and is available to anyone associated with the BSA program.

To earn the award, adults over 18 need to participate in physical activities for 30 minutes daily, and youth are required to spend 60 minutes five days a week. The program lasts six weeks, but participants have eight weeks to earn their award.

Over 100 activities can be used as credit for the program. Once an activity or series of activities are chosen, they must be logged in a journal available online, or on paper. Goals should be realistic and attainable. This program can put you on the fast track to health requirements for Philmont, the National Jamboree, and even Scout camp. It is also recommended to anyone wanting to become more active, or those that need to get every award possible.

To learn more about this program, go to:

<http://www.scouting.org/scoutstrongpala.aspx>.

Welcome to the 2011-2012 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 council VOA, Venturing Forums, professional staff, and the Central Region Venturing Areas. We look forward to being of service to you in Venturing.

## Follow us on:



## Area 7 Extravaganza Review

By Aileen Dalton, Area 7 VP of Program

I would like to start off by thanking each and every one of you that participated in our first Area 7 Extravaganza on October 29. Thank you, Dan Carriveau, National President and Dustin Readenour, Central Region President, for also attending and lending your support at our first Area Venturing fun event!



Now down to the event itself, we had a great turnout, far beyond any of our expectations, with representatives from each of the eight councils in Area 7. The Extravaganza was chosen by the Vice President of Communications, Connor Parker, to be at the Rainbow Scout Reservation in Morris, IL.

We started with announcements and the schedule for the day, as well as an opening flag ceremony. "Round robins" gave the participants a variety of activities to choose from. NRA representative, Dawson Wallace from Blackhawk Area Council, as well as outstanding Rainbow Council NRA trained representatives, worked at the shooting range. We were so grateful to have them there to facilitate the range and work with the participants. Besides shooting, high and low C.O.P.E. and team building activities were offered. Tamara Christensen, Area 7 Advisor of Administration, also orchestrated a Dutch oven competition for several crews in the area.

After lunch, there was an epic game of ultimate Frisbee. I was able to run several games of Cat on Mat for team building as well as porcupine ninja.

We finished with a closing flag ceremony and awards handed out for those who helped in the kitchen. There were also awards handed out for the Dutch oven competitions and those volunteers who helped out during the day. No words can express how grateful we all are to have had all of those who came out to participate but all of those who volunteered.

One thing I wanted to leave many of you with this holiday season is much like what the high C.O.P.E. instructor told me, "Get to the top!" Reach for your goals and while you are on your way there reach for those hands across from you, whether they are your family members, crew or advisors, their support is the only way you can reach your goals and get to the top.

We are already looking forward to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Area 7 Extravaganza. Come join us on October 6, 2012 for all the events and activities you loved from 2011, plus a TON more!

## Where To Go Venturing Update

[Where to Go Venturing](#) (WTGV) is a searchable database that includes thousands of places your crew or troop can go for high adventure activities at every BSA-owned camp, National Park, National Forest Service, State DNR property, etc. within the 13 states in Central Region. The database allows you to see what features a camp offers such as: COPE course, climbing, shooting sports, potable water, and

much more. We are pleased to announce that WTGV has been expanded to include states in other regions. Recently, every BSA-owned camp in twenty non-Central Region states was added to WTGV. More additions to the database are in the works. If you have any additions you would like to contribute, please send the information to:

[communicationscoordinator@cventuring.org](mailto:communicationscoordinator@cventuring.org)



**Area 1** Upcoming events:

Feb 4<sup>th</sup>, Winter Amidships, Fon Du Lac, WI

Aug 1st-5<sup>th</sup>, Powder Horn, St. Paul, MN

President: [Jennifer Wells](#)

Advisor: [Chris Sandberg](#)

**Area 3** Upcoming events:

Jan 7<sup>th</sup>. Venturing Ski Night, Wildwood, MO

**January 13<sup>th</sup>-14, Area 3 Conference, Normal, IL**

Jan 14<sup>th</sup>, Snowstorm, Poplar Grove, IL

Jan 21<sup>st</sup>, U of Scouting, High Ridge, MO

April 20<sup>th</sup> -22<sup>nd</sup>, 2012, Powder Horn, High Ridge, MO

President: [Christina Vogt](#)

Advisor: [Bob Vogt](#)

**Area 5** Upcoming Events:

Jan 8<sup>th</sup>, Area Five Conference Call, see event online

**Feb 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>, Area 5 Conference, Kansas City**

**Area**

**Apr 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>. Area 5 Fun Event, Kansas City, KS**

May 28<sup>th</sup> – June 2<sup>nd</sup>, NYLT, near Wichita

President: [Sarah Griffey](#)

Advisor: [Julie Dalton](#)

**Area 2**

Upcoming Events:

**Jan 28<sup>th</sup>, Area 2 Conference, Lansing MI**

Feb 11<sup>th</sup>, Kodiak CDC, Grand Rapids, MI

Feb 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>, Area 2 Venturing Kickback Weekend, Twin Lake, MI

May 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>, Leave No Trace Trainer Course, Toledo, OH

July 22<sup>nd</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>, MI International Camporee, Lupton, MI

President: [Nick Huyser](#)

Advisor: [Jeff Gerald](#)

**Area 4**

Upcoming Events:

Aug 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>, Wood Badge, Ray, OH

Aug 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>, Wood Badge, Kensington, OH

Aug 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>, Powder Horn, Peninsula, OH

President: [Blaine Lott](#)

Advisor: [Ms. Ann Rose](#)



## Area 6 Upcoming Events:



Jan 21<sup>st</sup>, U of S/ Kodiak Challenge CDC, Indianapolis, IN

Apr 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>, Spring Icebreaker, Indiana

Apr 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>, Sea Badge 2012, Lake James Assembly, IN

President: [Sarah McMurphy](#)

Advisor: [Len Roberts](#)



## President's Corner

By Dustin Readenour

As the year comes to a close we need to take a look back on the year we have had in Venturing. I will briefly review some of the changes from this past year and highlight some things still to come. First, remember that in order for a council adult to be presented with the Venturing Leadership Award they must be decided on by December 31, 2011. The new changes to the Venturing Leadership Award, including the addition of the Area VLA, take effect on January 1, 2012. Also, as the membership numbers start to come in after the first of the year remember to send in your council's application for the Council Standards of Venturing Excellence Award.



Now let's look ahead to what's coming up. Keep in mind the application deadlines for National, Regional, or Area President are coming up soon. You can download the application [here](#).

Think about what you can contribute to the Venturing program and consider taking the extra step and applying for a position. If you're a volunteer or professional, find that youth with the special spark and encourage them to apply. It is crucial that strong, inspired youth step into these positions and keep the Venturing program strong.

Well, until January, I hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable holiday season and new year!

## Area 7

Upcoming Events:



Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>, Venturing Blast, Oregon, IL

Feb 19<sup>th</sup>, Arctic Blast, Wilmot, IL

Mar 17<sup>th</sup>, Area 7 Conference, Addison, IL

Submit your council or area event by going to the CRV website!

President: [Aaron Beatty](#)

Advisor: [Kris Zahrobsky](#)



## 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!



## Contact Us

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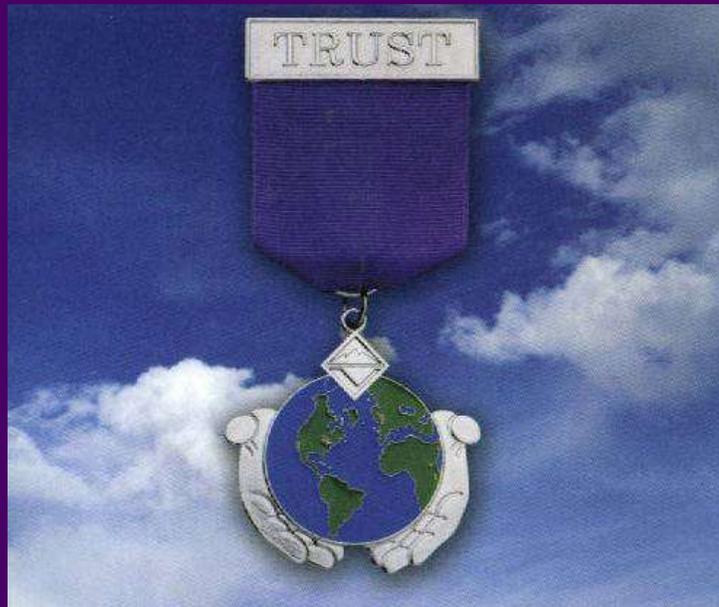
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Newsletter designed and  
compiled by  
Thomas Spargo

## CRVenturing.org Highlight



This month we are highlighting the Central Region Venturing website resource page for the Trust Award (Religious and Community Life Award). It can all be found under the Resources tab on our site at <http://crventuring.org/Resources/Links/> or directly by clicking [here](#). Included in the list are links for Community Life and Religious Life as well as National Religious Scouting Organizations. If you find a link that needs to change, please let us know via email to [communications-coordinator@crventuring.org](mailto:communications-coordinator@crventuring.org)

Please also contact us if you have information not listed that you would like to share via a website link.

## 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.