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**AUGUST / SEPTEMBER
2012 EDITION**

HAPPY 14TH BIRTHDAY VENTURING!

Area 7 Venturing Newsletter

The Extravaganza is Under The Big Top for 2012!

Last October, Area 7 hosted its first ever fun event: the Area 7 Extravaganza at Rainbow Scout Reservation in Morris, IL. Despite the cool weather, over 120 participants attended. Many were bundled up in more than three layers of clothing, but still managed to have fun in the spirit of Venturing.



Activities at the Extravaganza ranged from team building games to shooting hand guns and shotguns, as well as archery, slack lining and the high ropes C.O.P.E course. Members from Calumet Council's Venturing Crew 422 won the Dutch oven Cook-off with their delicious Dutch oven dish.

This year the Extravaganza is returning to Rainbow Scout Reservation and is bringing the carnival with it! Many of your favorite activities will be coming back along with some new ones with a twist. How good is your best shot? Are you brave enough to walk on cables suspended twenty-five feet up in the air? Do you have the skills to master all of the carnival games?



Activities to look forward to...

Shooting Sports: Pistol, Rifle, Shotgun, & Archery
Climbing Tower/High COPE
Team Building/Initiative Games
Carnival Games
Advisor Dutch oven Cook-off
Carnival Foods and Snacks
Evening Campfire
Lunch & Dinner
... And much more!

Come Live the Adventure... Under the Big Top on **Saturday, October 6, 2012!**

Camping will be available both Friday and Saturday nights.

Early-bird registration fee is \$30 on or before September 21, 2012.
After September 22, 2012, cost increases to \$35.

Register for the Extravaganza at:

<http://threefirescouncil.org/component/jevents/icalrepeat.detail/2012/05/25/3201/>

Stay tuned for Extravaganza Updates and other Area 7 events on Facebook!

2012 Extravaganza Facebook Event Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/325239280824215/>



Meet Our 2012 - 2013 Officers & Advisors

New Youth Officers

Grayson Wolcott, President

Grayson is from Rainbow Council and is a resident of Frankfort, Illinois. He is 16 years old and entering his junior year at Lincoln Way North High School. After graduation, he is planning on attending Joliet Junior College and then transferring to a University, seeking a degree in Business Administration or Entrepreneurial Studies.

Before being named the Area President, Grayson served as his Crew's founding President and Treasurer. He has gone through the Scouting program beginning with Tiger Cubs, earned his Arrow of Light in Cub Scouting, and finally earned the rank of Eagle Scout in Boy Scouting. He has served as his Troop's Senior Patrol Leader, Guide, and Order of the Arrow Representative. He is also involved in the Order of the Arrow as a Brotherhood member and currently serving as Lodge Treasurer. Grayson has also been a member of Rainbow Council's summer camp staff for the past three years.



Beyond his Crew and Council, Grayson has attended the 2010 National Scout Jamboree in Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia, and will be attending the National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC) this summer at Michigan State University.

Outside of Scouting, Grayson is very active in his studies, as he is enrolled in all honors and AP courses. With a GPA of 3.7, he has been listed on the Honor Roll for 3 consecutive semesters. He also participates in the JROTC, where he is currently the Drill Team Commander. He has been inducted into the JROTC Kitty Hawk National Honor Society.

Katlin Adams, Vice President of Administration

Katlin is from Calumet Council and is a resident of Markham, Illinois. She is a recent graduate of Tinley Park High School and will be turning 18 in September. In the fall, Katlin will start college at Saint Xavier University, where she will major in Elementary Education with a minor in Photography. She has been involved in the Venturing program since the age of 14 as part of Crew 422, since the very beginning. Katlin has held the positions of Secretary and continued on to be Vice President of Administration for the past two years. She is the recipient of the Venturing Outdoor Bronze Award.



Her advisors and fellow crew members inspired her to further her scouting journey and was introduced to Venturing at the Area level when two of her fellow crew members got involved. She feels honored to be chosen as this term's Vice President of Administration and can't wait to get started.

Alexis Yakich, Vice President of Program

Alexis is from Rainbow Council and is a resident of Channahon, Illinois. She graduated from Minooka Community High School and was a member of the French National Honor Society, Athletic Training Student Aide program, and her school's track and field team. She also participated in the 2012 Rube Goldberg Machine Competition, where her team finished 2nd in the nation! She is 18 years old and will be a freshman at Joliet Junior College. After a year there, she plans to transfer to a four-year university to pursue degrees in athletic training and physical therapy.



In the Venturing program, Alexis has served as her Crew's President and has completed the Kodiak X leadership training. She has earned the Pope Pius XII religious award and the Venturing Leadership Award through her council. She is working on the requirements for the Silver Award and is working with her council's VOA to strengthen Venturing in their council.

Amanda Field, Vice President of Communications

Amanda is from Three Harbors Council and Crew #2449 and is a resident of Pleasant Prairie, Wisconsin. She is 17 years old and will be a senior at Lake View Technology Academy. A participant in many clubs through school, such as F.I.R.S.T. Robotics and yearbook. She also plays on the Kenosha Raptors Lacrosse Team and she is also taking many A.P. and college classes. She plans to attend an engineering college in Wisconsin after high school.



Amanda has been a part of Venturing since her freshman year, holding the positions of Vice President of Communications and Administration consecutively. This is her first appointment to a leadership position outside of her crew, and she looks forward to a new and exciting year!

Alex Zoiopoulos, Boatswain

Alex is from the Chicago Area Council and is a resident of Chicago, Illinois. He has been a member of Sea Scout Ship Challenge #5111 for the past five years, and is currently serving as the Ship's Boatswain. He is a Miami SEAL graduate and has also completed NYLT, VLSC, Kodiak and Kodiak-X. Last summer he sailed on the USCG Eagle.



Alex is an Eagle scout and the recipient of the Venturing Silver Award, Quartermaster and Council Venturing Leadership awards. He is a senior at the Ogden International School of Chicago. He is also a member of the Merit Symphony Orchestra where he plays the violin. After high school he plans to pursue a career in medicine.

New Adult Associate Advisors

Bob Gross, Associate Advisor of Administration

Bob is from the new Three Harbors Council, a Council formed through the mergers of Milwaukee County Council and Southeastern Wisconsin Council. In addition to his role on our Area Venturing Committee, he serves his local Pack, Troop, Crew, District, and Council in various roles.

He has been recognized with the WD Boyce New Unit Leadership Award for starting Crew 1538. Additional knots include the Leader Training Recognition for both Boy Scouts and Venturing, the Distinguished Scoutmaster Award, the Scoutmaster Award of Merit, the District Award of Merit, the Venturing Leadership Award, the Unit Commissioner's Arrowhead Award and the Unit Commissioner's Key.



As the proud father of an adult Eagle Scout (with 4 Palms) and a former Venturing Crew President, Bob has been involved in Scouting for coming up on 15 years. Additionally, Bob has attended Boy Scout Woodbadge, Venturing Powderhorn, and has staffed the 2010 National Jamboree in the Central Region Action Center for Shooting Sports. He has already been accepted as staff for the 2013 Jamboree and looks forward to participating there.

Outside of Scouting, Bob is an instrument rated pilot, pianist, owner of a small business and an active member in both the Kiwanis and the Lions. He is the current president of the Lions Club of Wauwatosa for 2012-2013.

Luann Rece, Associate Advisor of Program

Luann is from Glacier's Edge Council and is a resident of Stoughton, Wisconsin. There she lives with her husband of 26 years and is adjusting to the "empty nest". She has two sons which are both Eagle Scouts and a daughter who has earned the Venturing Silver Award.

Luann has been active at all levels of scouting. Among the various positions she has held, she served as den leader, troop committee chair and in 2005 started a Venturing Crew. She still serves as the advisor for Crew 559. Luann has been the council training chair since 2002 and considers all level of training important to deliver a quality program to the youth. Luann has been awarded the Silver Beaver and the Venturing Leadership Award by her council.



After getting hooked on Powder Horn in 2007, she was recruited by her council to be a course director and attended the 2007 CDC for Powder Horn. In 2008, Luann served on Powder Horn staff as a Crew Guide in Gerald Ford Council and as ACD Administration in 2009 for the Blackhawk Area Council Powder Horn course. She was the 2010 course director for a cluster course with Glacier's Edge and Bay Lakes Councils. She has been selected as the Wood Badge course director for 2012. Most recently, Luann served as the Area 3 Powder Horn Coordinator.

When Luann is not Scouting, she enjoys gardening, fishing, water sports and various handicrafts.

Rachel Oldakowski, Associate Advisor of Communication

Rachel is from Des Plaines Valley Council and is a resident of Willowbrook, Illinois. She lives with her Fiancé and their 1-1/2-year-old Labrador Retriever named, "Hawkeye."

Rachel brings years of proven leadership and communication skills to the Area-level of Venturing. Combining her past in Girl Scouts with extensive experience in newsletters and social media, Rachel brings a wealth of knowledge to this position.

Rachel was also very much involved and held numerous leadership roles as a member of Sigma Kappa Sorority.



There, she was involved in many philanthropic activities and was on the executive board and held cabinet positions as well.

Away from Scouting, Rachel attends Lewis University, completing her degree in Sports Management with a Business Administration minor.

In her free time, Rachel enjoys traveling, haunted houses, shopping, reading, playing sports, planning her wedding and watching sports, especially her beloved Chicago Blackhawks.

Presidential Thoughts



Hello Everyone!

I would like to start off by stating what a privilege it is to be in charge of the greatest Area in the Central Region!

We are traveling into a whole new year with a whole new mindset. As we continue forward, I want to remind us all of the things that are in our favor moving into this year of Venturing. We still hold the national record for Area Venturing Conference attendance, our Area 7 Extravaganza is traveling into its second year of existence, and we have a whole new team of enthusiastic and energetic Venturing Officers! My team and I have many new ideas that we will be putting into effect this year. Some of those ideas include: new program events at the Extravaganza, an Area-wide ILSC training, and many others! Even with all these new ideas, we are still looking to always improve along our journey together. With that in mind, my whole team and I are open to any and all ideas or critiques.

I have many intentions as the Area 7 Venturing President this year, starting with enhancing the quality of our Area. One of the greatest tools we have at our disposal to accomplish this is the Council Venturing Officers' Association. For those of you that do not know what that is, is a gathering of representatives from all the crews in a Council to caucus and share ideas. They also may plan activities or involve other crews in one crew's activity. Currently, Area 7 is split where about half the Councils have VOA's and half do not. My main goal this year is to strengthen all of the Councils' Venturing programs, whether it is through the creation of Council VOA's or the further development of existing Council VOA's. With that in mind, if you would like to start your Council's VOA, get involved with it, or just have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at area7president@crventuring.org.

Take this time and start communicating with crews in your immediate area and start forming bonds with them. Make new friends! This is where the strength of Venturing originates: the crews and their involvement with other crews.

I would like to thank you all for reading my team's first Area 7 Venturing Newsletter. I encourage you to give us feedback on what you would like to see in the next issue, or any comments you have in general.

In closing, remember to stay as involved as possible in your respective Council's Venturing program and invite your friends to join! If you have any questions, suggestions, comments, or critiques about anything, contact me at area7president@crventuring.org.

Yours in Venturing,

Grayson Wolcott
2012-2013 Central Region
Area 7 Venturing President

Contact Information

- Want to contact your Area Venturing Youth Officers and Adult Advisors?
- Want to request information?
- Want us to feature your council or event in our next issue?
- Want to submit a recipe to be featured in the next issue?

For all these questions and more, contact Area 7 Venturing at:

http://www.crventuring.org/Area_Pages/Area_7/

or

Email: Area7Venturing@gmail.com



Featured Councils In This Issue

Each newsletter, we will be featuring two councils that are a part of Area 7. If you have any information you would like to have included in your councils article, please send it to us! We would love to hear from you and hear what your council is up to! Let's show everyone just how great the councils that make up Area 7 truly are!

Rainbow Council

Rainbow Council is comprised of over 120 Charter partners serving Grundy, Kankakee and Will Counties in Illinois. Established in 1929, Rainbow Council serves over 5,000 and growing young people through it's programs, camps and activities.



After hitting a bump in the road, Venturing in Rainbow Council is starting to get back on track. When Area 7 hosted its first ever fun event, the Area 7 Extravaganza at Rainbow Scout Reservation last year, Venturing started blooming in the Council.

Many new crews have formed. Along with those crews, the Rainbow Council Venturing Officers Association is reforming to accommodate the positive growth and help strengthen existing crews. The new RCVOA had its kick-off meeting back in January with representatives from five different crews, all eager to help venturing in any way they can.

To help promote Venturing in the Council, the RCVOA had their own table at the Council Roundtable held at Rainbow Council Scout Reservation, handing out numerous fliers and answering many questions on Venturing.

Rainbow Council Venturing Officers Association's next meeting is scheduled for August 26, 2012.

Three Fires Council



Three Fires Council serves over 37,508 youth in the Scouting programs in Kane, DuPage, Kendall, DeKalb Counties with parts of Will & Cook Counties in Illinois.

Origin of the Three Fires Council Name:

In the early 1800's, Shabbona was a principal chief of the Ottawa, Potawatomi, and Chippewa group of tribes which banded together to form "The Three Fires." Shabbona camped briefly in a large grove one-half mile south of Shabbona, IL. He fought with the British in the War of 1812 and later helped the settlers of northern Illinois by warning of Indian uprisings during the Winnebago outbreak. In the Black Hawk War, Shabbona alerted pioneers to impending Indian raids and offered to lead an attack against the Sauk and Fox Tribes.

The name Three Fires Council pays tribute to the Native Americans who once populated this area, as well as taking inspiration from the idea of working together as a new council, drawing strength from the foundations created by the former DuPage and Two Rivers councils, and looking ahead to the future as the Three Fires Council.

The name was suggested by a Webelos Cub Scout in 1992. The council strip was designed by Rick House.

Area 7 Venturing Conference Summary

What's the best way to make a Venturing event "Greener"? To host it on St. Patrick's Day, of course!

On Saturday, March 17, 2012, Area 7 played host to 95 members of the Venturing program during the annual Area 7 Venturing Conference. Filled with experience level-based breakout sessions, specialized topic presentations, networking, and CyberSport, the day was an adventure for both youth and adults.

Not only were there sessions for those newer to the program as well as those with more experience, but we also had some insight into the 2013 National Jamboree, other higher adventure activities, and advanced leadership opportunities.

We were extremely honored to have 2011-2012 Central Region Venturing President and the new 2012-2013 National Venturing President, Dustin Readenour in attendance. Sarah Mittrucker, the 2011-2012 Central Region Vice-President of Administration and 2012-2013 National Venturing Vice-President was in attendance as well!



After a great lunch, Venturers and Advisors buckled in for an afternoon of competition on the CyberSport courts. Described as a fusion of lacrosse, basketball, and hockey in a bumper car, the game provided many smiles and laughs. (Please visit our Facebook page for all the pictures!)



To close the day, an Area Court of Honor was held to present the Area Venturing Leadership Award to the following youth leaders of our Area:

- Aaron Beatty 2011-2012 Area 7 Venturing President
- Terres Gacek 2011-2012 Area 7 Venturing Vice-President of Administration
- Connor Parker 2011-2012 Area 7 Venturing Vice-President of Communication
- Aileen Dalton 2010-2011 Area 7 Venturing President
2011-2012 Area 7 Venturing Vice-President of Program

Please join us in congratulating these youth on a fine achievement and a job well-done!

Make sure you keep your calendars clear for the 2013 Area 7 Venturing Conference which will be held in late February to early March of 2013! Details coming soon!



Upcoming Venturing Events



August 10-12, 2012

Crewlympics

Indian Mound Scout Reservation in Oconomowoc, WI
Three Harbors Council



<http://www.threeharborsscouting.org/registration/calendardetail.asp?orgkey=2586&activitykey=1122526>

August 11, 2012

Venturing & Sea Scout Sailing Day

North Point Marina in Winthrop Harbor, IL
Northeast Illinois Council

<http://www.neic.org/openrosters/ViewOrgPageLink.aspx?LinkKey=15200&orgkey=947>

September 15, 2012

Venturing Gathering

Des Plaines Valley Council

<http://www.bsa-dpvc.org/>

September 15-16, 2012

Stealth & Evasion Weekend

Camp Sol-R-Crown in Wilmot, WI
Northeast Illinois Council

<http://www.neic.org/openrosters/ViewOrgPageLink.aspx?LinkKey=15200&orgkey=947>

September 28-30

Devil's Lake Hike & Jamboree

Devil's Lake State Park in Baraboo, WI
Glacier's Edge Council

http://www.badgertrails.org/Devils_Lake.htm



October 12-14, 2012

Operation Rising Tide

Hampton, IL

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ORT_Venture_Sea_Scout_CR/

Saturday, November 3, 2012

University of Scouting

Chicago Area Council

<http://www.chicagobsa.org/registration/calendardetail.asp?ActivityKey=1062511>



December 2012

Christmas Tree Ship

Chicago, IL

Chicago Area Council

<http://www.christmasship.org/>

All dates subject to change. Please check websites for up-to-date information.

Upcoming Area Wood Badge Courses



| Course Number | Course Director | Course Dates | Course Location |
|---|---|--|--|
| C3-620-12-1 Glaciers Edge Council Madison, WI | Luann Rece 1612 Tower Drive Stoughton, WI 53589 608 873-1821 orchidscout@gmail.com | Aug 13, 2012 - Aug 18, 2012 | Ed Bryant Scout Reservation Mauston, WI |
| C7-751-12 Northwest Suburban Mt. Prospect, IL | Jim Scanlan 748 Hastings Court Wheeling, IL 60090 847-465-9566 j.scanlan@comcast.net | Aug 17, 2012 - Aug 19, 2012 Sep 15, 2012 - Sep 17, 2012 | Camp Lakota Woodstock, IL Camp Lakota Woodstock, IL |
| C7-660-12-1 Blackhawk Area Council Rockford, Illinois, IL | Nichole Wiest P.O. Box 185 Lancaster, WI 53813 608-778-9124 Ahscouting@tds.net | Aug 24, 2012 - Aug 26, 2012 Sep 21, 2012 - Sep 23, 2012 | Camp Lowden Oregon, IL Camp Lowden Oregon, IL |
| C7-129-12 Northeast Illinois Highland Park, IL | Chip Smith 39 Keswick Court Lincolnshire, IL 60069 847-948-7314 chip310@comcast.net | Aug 24, 2012 - Aug 26, 2012 Sep 21, 2012 - Sep 23, 2012 | Camp Sol R. Crown Trevor, WI Camp Sol R. Crown Trevor, WI |
| C7-127-12 Three Firest Council St. Charles, IL | Daniel J. Zedan 804 Pottawatomie Trail Batavia, IL 60510-8336 847-436-1812 630-377-2628(f) dzedan@aol.com | Aug 24, 2012 - Aug 26, 2012 Sep 21, 2012 - Sep 23, 2012 | Camp Big Timber Elgin, IL Camp Big Timber Elgin, IL |
| C7-702-12 Rainbow Council Morris, IL | Bob Shroba 401 Maole Lane Shorewood, IL 60404 815-474-7989 815-744-6995(f) wbc7.702.12@gmail.com | Aug 24, 2012 - Aug 26, 2012 Sep 28, 2012 - Sep 30, 2012 | Rainbow Scout Reservation Morris, IL Rainbow Scout Reservation Morris, IL |
| C7-118-13 Chicago Area Council Chicago, IL | James Sullivan 3237 West 97th Street Evergreen Park, IL 60805 708-422-8951 chicagowoodbadge2013@gmail.com | Aug 16, 2013 - Aug 18, 2013 Sep 20, 2013 - Sep 22, 2013 | Camp Frank S. Betz Berren Springs, MI Camp Frank S. Betz Berren Springs, MI |
| C7-636-13 Three Harbors Council SE Wisconsin, WI | Tim Hush 4730 N Main St Racine, WI 53402 262-930-3160 timhush@gmail.com | Aug 23, 2013 - Aug 25, 2013 Sep 21, 2013 - Sep 23, 2013 | Indian Mound Scout Oconomowoc, WI OhDaKoTa Burlington, WI |
| C7-147-13 Des Plaines Valley Council LaGrange, IL | Ken Wiese 815 S Kenilworth Oak Park, IL 60304-1133 708-386-1297 708-354-3615(f) woodbadge14713@yahoo.com | Sep 13, 2013 - Sep 15, 2013 Oct 5, 2013 - Oct 7, 2013 | Camp Oh-Da-Ko-Ta Burlington, WI Camp Oh-Da-Ko-Ta Burlington, WI |





For the first time in 2013, Venturers will be allowed to participate in the National Jamboree as participants, as well as staff. The jamboree will be held at the Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia. This will serve as the grand opening for the new high adventure base.

It will be a 10 day adventure from July 15 - July 24, 2013 where participants will be able to shoot several types of guns including pistols, rifles, and shotguns. In addition, participants will be able to zip line across one of the longest zip lines in North America, which consists of 3,000 feet of thrilling adventure.

Another activity that will be included is biking through 27 miles of magnificent trail. There will also be many exhibits, stadium shows with entertainment, SCUBA, technology quest, and much, much more!

For more information on this amazing adventure please visit:

<http://summit.scouting.org/en/Jamboree2013/Pages/default.aspx>

Also visit the Facebook page at:

<http://www.facebook.com/TheBechtelSummit>



This fall the Greater St. Louis Area Council is hosting the 39th annual Fall Fun Rally at Beaumont Scout Reservation on September 28-30, 2012. The theme for this year is Harry Potter and will bring much fun for Harry Potter fans and novices alike. It will be a weekend of fun and excitement for all Venturing Crews, Explorer Posts, Sea Scout Ships, Older Boy Scouts, youth groups, and adults. You may choose to sleep in tents for the weekend or participate only on Saturday as a day event. This a great event for those new to Venturing to be able to experience what Venturing has to offer. It will be a great action-packed adventure that includes astronomy, blind navigation course, bottle rockets, climbing tower, dunking booth, fencing, “hippogriff riding”, mud cave, night hike, an owlery, potions making, pumpkin catapulting, slip-n-sliding, squeeze box, tricycle jousting, Venturing idol, and much, much more. You really do not want to miss out on this exciting event!

To get more information or to register online please go to:

<http://www.fallfunrally.org/>

Early registration is August 3rd! The cost is \$14 if paid by August 3rd, and \$19 if you want a meal ticket.

Final Thoughts

Final 2011-2012 Report from President Emeritus Aaron Beatty

Last year was a wonderful year for Area 7! Not only was my team able to pull off our very first Extravaganza at Rainbow Scout Camp in Morris, IL. But, we were also able to run a truly fantastic Conference in the spring. During the beginning of the term, my team made it a goal to reach 100 participants for each event. I am honored to say that my team met their goal! Record numbers at our Conference came in at 90 participants, which is actually more than the National record to date! At the Extravaganza, nearly 150 Venturing Youth and Adults joined together for an amazing weekend of activities!

Unfortunately, my team's term is now over, and Area 7 I assure you; our work will only be a stepping stone for this year's team. I am truly confident in the leadership of the chosen President, Grayson Wolcott. Having worked with Grayson hand-in-hand on most of the pre-instatement work, I am confident in his choices for Vice Presidents. I firmly believe he has selected a very strong VOA for his term. I have also been asked to stay on the Committee this year, and I am looking forward to what Grayson and his team have in store for Area 7!

-Aaron Beatty
Area 7 Venturing President (2011-2012), President Emeritus

A Few Words From the Area 7 Venturing Advisor Kris Zahrobsky

As many of you know, I don't typically write an article for our regular newsletter. It isn't that I don't want to reach out to all of you, but rather than I want it to come from the youth. We have an amazing group of Venturers in our Area, and I want them to have as much room as possible to spread the word on upcoming events, activities, and happenings that make our program so incredible!

But, since this is the ending of one term, and the beginning of another, I wanted a chance to write a small piece.

This past Venturing year has easily been the best yet. For the first time, our Area had a full youth and adult Committee. This not only led to amazing accomplishments, but to our first complete team. Because of teamwork, we were able to plan and execute the "Extravaganza", our Area's first outdoor fun event in October of 2011. And then in March 2012, produced the highest-attended Venturing conference in the nation!

With a list of other accomplishments that this year has brought, it is very easy to attribute all the success to the amazing people I have had the honor of advising and working with.

To our youth staff: Aaron, Terres, Connor, and Aileen, you are truly an amazing group! Your individual characteristics have helped push this Area off in a great direction. Without each and every one of your numerous efforts, we would not be where we are today. Congratulations on a job very-well done! (And I hope you don't go anywhere, we still need your help!)

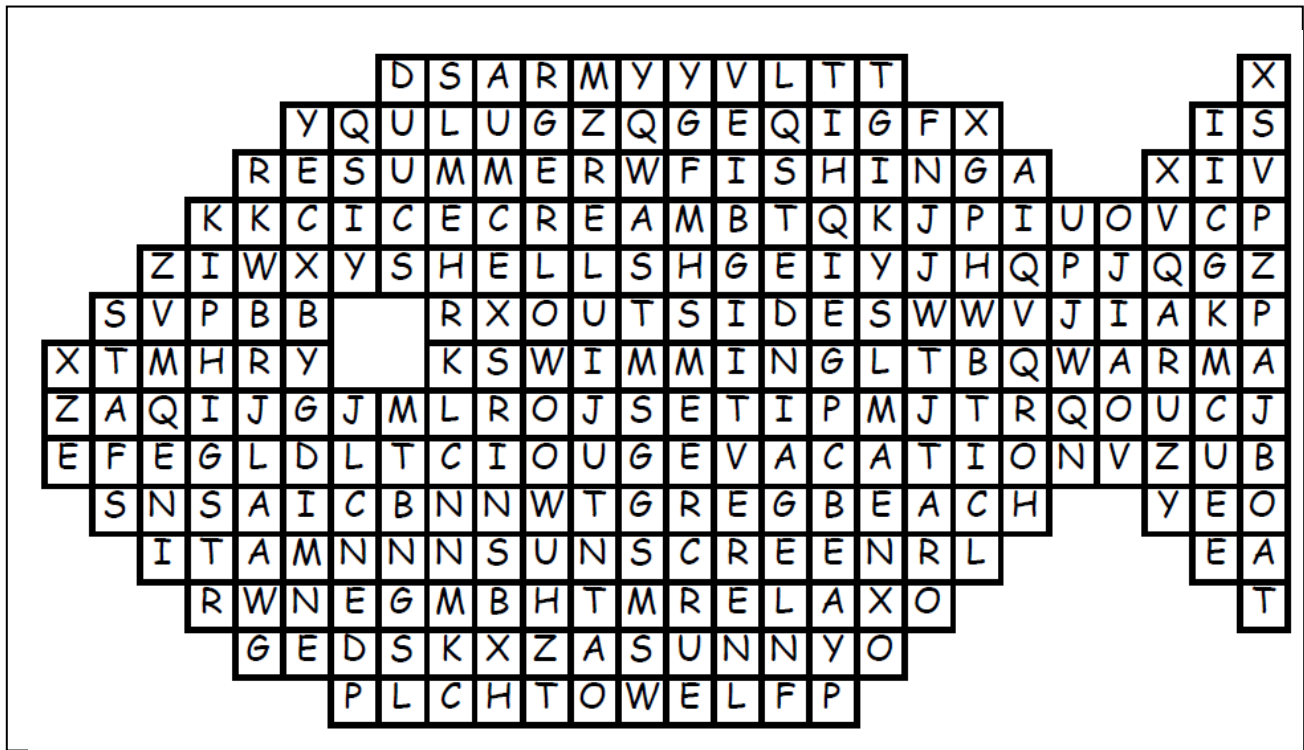
To our adult staff: Dave, Tamara, and Nathan, there really aren't enough words to describe how thankful I am to have had each of you on the Committee. Over the past years (and prior ones), you have each been my rock and support system. Your ability to guide youth is remarkable, and I am beyond grateful for all your efforts. It is very easy to say that without each of you, we would never have a fraction of the success we have had. From the bottom of my heart, thank you for everything.

To our incoming youth and adult members: The bar has definitely been set high! But, each of you were picked for extremely good reasons. So, we know that you will not just handle the job, but help take us to the next level. I look forward to working with each of you!

To all the Venturing members of Area 7: Thank you for your support! If you enjoyed what we brought you last year, just wait until you see what this year's team has in store!

Yours in Venturing,
Kris

Gone Fishin'



SUMMER
SHELLS
VACATION

WARM
POOL
OUTSIDE

SUNNY
TOWEL
SMILING

SWIMMING
SUNSCREEN
FISHING

BEACH
RELAX
BOAT

SAND
GAMES
ICE CREAM

Recipe of the Month

If you have a recipe you would like to have featured in the newsletter, please contact us and let us know! It doesn't have to be for a Dutch Oven, it can be for anything!

Also, if you try the recipe, give us some feedback and let us know how it turned out! Any feedback received will be put in the next newsletter.

Happy Cooking!



Mountain Dew Chicken in Dutch Oven

Serves: 6 - 8

Ingredients:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1/2 lb. bacon | 1 gallon zip-loc bag with 1 cup flour |
| 5 chicken breasts | 5 potatoes |
| 10 carrots | 1 large onion |
| 1 can Mountain Dew soda | 1/2 cup shredded cheddar cheese |

Instructions:

- Preheat Dutch Oven by setting on bed of coals.
- Chop bacon into 1-inch pieces.
- Dice vegetables.
- Cut chicken breasts in half lengthwise.

- Fry bacon in Dutch Oven until crispy.
- Remove bacon from Dutch Oven but leave grease.

- Shake chicken breasts in baggie of flour to coat.
- Cook in bacon grease to brown, about 5 minutes, turning a couple times.

- Pour vegetables, bacon, and Mountain Dew on top of chicken.
- Cover with lid and cook at 350° for 45 minutes with 3/4 of coals on lid.
- Lift chicken breasts so they are resting on top of vegetables.
- Sprinkle cheese over chicken.
- Cook an additional 10-15 minutes.

