



# Central Region Area 7 Venturing Newsletter

Fall/Winter 2015 Edition

Area 7 Venturing on Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/CRV.Area7>

Area 7 Venturing Website:

[http://www.crv venturing.org/Area\\_Pages/Area\\_7/](http://www.crv venturing.org/Area_Pages/Area_7/)



## Event Recap: 2015 Area 7 Venturing Extravaganza

The Area 7 2015 Venturing Extravaganza was hosted on Saturday, October 3, 2015 at Rainbow Scout Reservation in Morris, IL. The theme for this year was Superheroes! While many villains “invaded” camp overnight, it was up to the participants to help the superheroes out with each of their daily tasks. It was an absolutely super day filled with many things to do! Both Venturers and advisors in attendance had an absolute blast at the various activities that were presented throughout the day.

Some of the activities included: pistol shooting, shotgun shooting, high COPE, climbing, archery, an inflatable jousting ring, an inflatable obstacle course, and some very passionate games of Gaga ball. Of course, we also had some dutch oven demonstrations and delicious food served for lunch and dinner for the staff & participants!

We were honored to have many special guests in attendance, including National Venturing President Edward Abraham; Central Region Venturing President Brian Parro; Central Region Venturing Vice-President of Communication Jennifer Bullock; and Central Region Venturing Vice-President of Program Katie Bruton.



As always, we ended our event with a bonfire, where we presented the “Top Shotgun” Award to Ben Walneck, and the coveted Frankenstein Trophy to our pistol “Top Shot” winner, Kiah Cornforth. Congratulations to these winners on a great job!

Last but not least, we could not have put on the event without our Area 7 VOA, our Area 7 Advisors and of course, all of our participants! Thank you to everyone that assisted in the planning and execution of this event! We look forward to seeing you at our Spring Conference in March 2016!



Pictured Above: Participants sitting during the Shooting Safety orientation.

Pictured Left: The finalists for the pistol “Top Shot” competition.



## The Area 7 Venturing Conference is coming!

**When:** Saturday, March 5, 2016

Check-In begins at 8am

Program 9am-4pm

**Where:** Key Lime Cove Indoor Waterpark & Resort

1700 Nations Drive

Gurnee, IL 60031

**Cost:** Includes Lunch, Patch & Waterpark access for 4 hours!

**Early-Bird** - \$30 till 1/22

**Regular** - \$35 1/23 - 2/23

**Late** - \$40 2/24 - 3/2

\*Stay tuned for social media postings with registration link\*

## Follow Us On Social Media:



<http://www.instagram.com/crvarea7>



<http://www.twitter.com/crvarea7>



<http://www.facebook.com/groups/CRV.Area7>

## HASHTAG

#CRVArea7 to get your Scouting photos featured on any of our social media sites, or even included in the next newsletter!

## 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.crv venturing.org/Area\\_Pages/Area\\_7/](http://www.crv venturing.org/Area_Pages/Area_7/)

or

Email: [Area7Venturing@gmail.com](mailto:Area7Venturing@gmail.com)





## CSVE: Our Journey to 100%

What does CSVE stand for?

The Council Standards of Venturing Excellence Award (CSVE Award) is presented by the BSA National Council to councils that complete the requirements during the calendar year. The 2015 CSVE Award is determined by successfully achieving the 2015 criteria between January 1, 2015, and December 31, 2015. Councils that earn the award are recognized at the National Annual Meeting in May, which will be held in San Diego, CA this year.

In order for the Central Region VOA to better serve both the Areas and Councils, we need your feedback! With this being stated, CSVE has been overhauled this year! At a National level, we believe the new form will be a better tool to measure the success of Venturing in each Council. Please don't hesitate to contact our Regional Vice-President of Administration if you have any questions! Make sure to help us out and get the forms turned in on time! The final deadline is: **February 15th**. Get those forms turned in and, of course, don't forget to keep Leading the Adventure!

\*Article courtesy of Nate Steele, Central Region Venturing, Vice-President of Administration (The Central Point Newsletter, January 2016)

Find the form here: [http://www.scouting.org/filestore/Venturing/pdf/512-500\\_WEB.pdf](http://www.scouting.org/filestore/Venturing/pdf/512-500_WEB.pdf)

## Upcoming Events:

**January 23, 2016** – Venturing Bi-Athlon at Camp Munhacker, Gregory MI

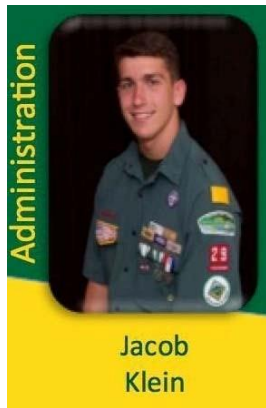
**March 5, 2016** – Area 7 Venturing Conference at Key Lime Cove Waterpark & Resort, Gurnee, IL

**April 22-24, 2016 & May 13-15, 2016** – Wood Badge c8-11-16 – Camp Betz, Berrien Springs, MI <http://pathwaytoadventure.doubleknot.com/event/1805384>

**April 15-17, 2016** – BSA Certified Angling Instructor Training for Venturing, Adventure Camp, Rochelle, IL [www.pathwaytoadventure.org](http://www.pathwaytoadventure.org)



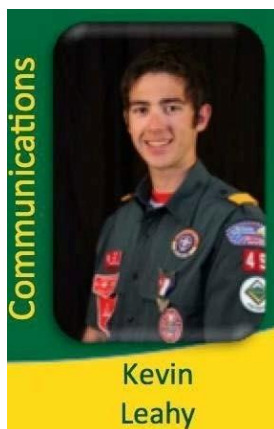
## Meet the 2015-2016 Area 7 Venturing Officers' Association



Returning for a second year in the role of Vice-President of Administration, is Jacob Klein. Jacob is from Pathway to Adventure Council (legacy council of Chicago Area) and is a resident of Chicago, IL. He is a recent graduate from Ogden International School and is currently a freshman at DePaul University, where he is double majoring in Physics and Education.

Jacob was a member of his high school's swimming and water polo teams, as well as a student ambassador. He is a member of the National Honor Society, and has participated in the City of Chicago and State of Illinois Science Fair Competitions. As a contributing member of his community, he is very proud to have earned the Presidential Volunteer Service Award for three consecutive years.

Jacob is an Eagle Scout with 18 palms and has earned every merit badge that is currently offered by the Boy Scouts of America. He is currently the President of Crew 29 and OA Chief for the Owasippe Lodge. Jacob has earned the Venturing Bronze, Gold, and Silver Awards, as well as his Venturing Award. In addition, he has earned the Ranger Award, Arrow of Light, Religious Award, James E. West, Venturing Super Nova Awards, and is a recipient of the Council & Area Venturing Leadership Awards.



In the role of Vice-President of Communication, we are proud to introduce Kevin Leahy. Kevin is from Pathway to Adventure Council (legacy council of Des Plaines Valley) and is a resident of Lemont, IL. He currently attends Lemont High School where he is a Senior and is on the High Honor Roll.

Kevin has taken NYLT, NLS and has staffed legacy council Des Plaines Valley day camp and Lodge Leadership Development Conferences.

Kevin is an Eagle Scout and has earned 65 merit badges offered by the Boy Scouts of America. He is currently serving as Chief for Pachsegink Lodge. He has also been a PL, SPL at the Jamboree for his Troop, and a crew leader at Philmont and Seabase. Kevin is an OA Vigil member, has earned the Founders Award, 4 NOVA awards, 1 SuperNova Award, the Conservation Award and the Venturing Award. Kevin hopes to earn his Venturing Summit Award as well.

Outside of Venturing, Kevin is on the bowling team at his school, a member of Project Infinite Green, Special Olympics peer coach, MATE robotics and a theatre tech. Kevin Attended Northern Tier this past summer and received the Triple Crown award.



In the role of Vice-President of Program, we are proud to introduce Emilio Cerda. Emilio is from Pathway to Adventure Council (legacy council of Northwest Suburban) and is a resident of Hoffman Estates, IL. He is currently attending Elgin High School where he is a Senior. He is on the Honor Roll and has earned the Good Citizenship Award.

Emilio has taken BSA Climbing Instructor Training, First Aid & CPR, Climb On Safely, Junior Leadership Training and has staffed BSA Climbing Instructor Training for legacy council Northwest Suburban.

He is an Eagle Scout and an OA Vigil member. He has earned the Venturing Award as well. Emilio has served in many roles throughout his scouting tenure, which include: Crew 808 Vice-President, Den Chief, and Chaplain's Aide.

Outside of Venturing, Emilio played soccer, basketball and baseball. He was also a member of the Drama Club and Tech Club, as well as being in Choir and Band.



From all of us on the Central Region Area 7 Venturing Officers' Association. We want to wish you all a very Happy New Year! We look forward to seeing you throughout 2016!

Kaia Ball – Area 7 Venturing President  
Emilio Cerda – Area 7 Venturing Vice-President of Program  
Jacob Klein – Area 7 Venturing Vice-President of Administration  
Kevin Leahy – Area 7 Venturing Vice-President of Communication  
  
Rachel Zahrobsky – Area 7 Venturing Chair/Advisor  
Aaron Beatty – Area 7 Venturing Associate Advisor of Communication  
Bob Gross – Area 7 Venturing Associate Advisor At-Large  
Luann Rece – Area 7 Venturing Associate Advisor of Program  
Andrew Swibes – Area 7 Venturing Associate Advisor of Administration





I dare you to move.

I don't care how you move. You can run, you can dance, you can play. You can sing, you can write, you can build or create. You can explore new heights or treacherous depths. You can do anything, anywhere, at anytime. Just move.

That's the thing I love about Venturers; they are constantly in motion. To pursue adventure means to incessantly push boundaries, to exceed expectations and excel beyond the limits of their past selves. Sometimes it means rappelling down a cliff face with only a thin cord separating life and

death. Sometimes it means leaving your home behind and following a youth leader, perhaps not much older than you, into unknown territory. Sometimes it's swallowing your fear and speaking in front of strangers. Sometimes it's writing an article about yourself for your Area's newsletter when you absolutely hate talking about yourself.

I am in love with motion. I've chosen to study biology and to have a career in the life sciences because nothing fascinates me more than the fluid, blooming ecosystem we are privileged to be a part of. I teach at trainings, Cub Scout camps, and church meetings because nothing delights me more than helping people set plans into motion, helping them find their potential and all the different paths they can take. I serve in Venturing because I believe that it is a program that provides amazing opportunities for youth to grow as leaders and individuals.

During my term, I promise that my team and I will do our best to provide you with the tools and resources to pursue adventure in our world, in whatever form it takes. It's your job to take the chances, your choice to accept the challenge. We'll do everything we can to make the Extravaganza the best day of your life, the Conference the single most inspiring meeting you've ever attended, and every newsletter, post, email, or training in-between to be better than the one it preceded.

I ask but one thing in return. I dare you to move.

Yours in Venturing,

***Kaia Ball***

2015-2016 Central Region Area 7 Venturing President

## A Farewell from the 2014-2015 Venturing Officers' Association



Goodbye and thank you to everyone that has seen me grow throughout Area 7 as the Vice-President of Program. Being in the Area was not just a position, but it was my life. I have made many close friends through the Area and I am thankful for them. I'm also thankful for my Advisors for showing me the way when I felt lost. The Area has been a huge support system in my life, it has given me amazing skills and opportunities beyond my wildest dreams. I am very sad to say goodbye to all the officers and advisors as well as each event Area 7 holds. In the coming year, I hope to see the Area thrive with different youth and a lot more crews and Venturer's. Thank you for the wonderful memories.

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While serving on the Area team I had the great opportunity to work with some really amazing people that I can call some of the greatest friends a person can ask for. During my time as the 2014-2015 Vice-President of Administration I really developed and furthered my understanding for the Venturing program which I hope I'll be able to offer what I've learned to other Venturers and the entire Scouting program. Some great advice to pass on to others is: make sure you keep up to date with each Council's contact information, make sure to set deadlines to keep yourself on track, and most important of all make sure to have fun. You won't regret a single second of your time in office.



During my time as the 2014-2015 Vice-President of Communications, I have had the great opportunity to work with some amazing individuals. I have created friendships during my term that will last me a lifetime! The most important thing I learned while serving as VP is that no matter what I am going through, my fellow scouts will always have my back. My time management skills, and organization skills have grown throughout my term, and I have also learned the importance of good communication skills to reach goals. To the 2015-2016 VP of Communications, my advice to you is to have fun with the position! Don't wait until the last minute to write anything - especially a newsletter, and NEVER be afraid to ask for help from the people you work with. I hope for the best to my successor and am always here if you have any questions!



Hey Area 7!

For those of you that don't know me, my name is Katlin Adams and I am the outgoing Area 7 Venturing President. I have had the honor of working on the area team for the past four years. I can't explain to you how much I have learned and grown from this experience. Coming in as a committee member I simply wanted to give back to this amazing program. Then when I decided to take on a Vice-President position I was hesitant and unsure, but I learned so much in that year that I had to come back and run for President.

I have had the rare and humbling opportunity to have served as your Area 7 Venturing President for the past two years and I could not be more grateful. You know I could sit here and talk about all the skills I have been able to craft and all the amazing opportunities that I have been blessed with through this position, but ultimately my favorite part is the people.

Through this position I have been blessed with some amazing people in my life. First off I have been honored with not only one, but two of the most amazing teams! My teams these past two years have truly become like my family. They have all been there anytime I had doubts and always supported me through anything. I truly am so incredibly proud of every single one of them. I have been able to watch them grow, flourish, and grab hold of so many amazing opportunities.

Second my advisors, during my terms as area president I have been blessed with two amazing advisors. They both have been there for me through the highest of highs and the lowest of lows. They both have helped make me the person I am today.

Now lastly, but definitely not least is all of you! My favorite part of this position is being able to meet all of you; you guys make Area 7 what it is! Without you my position would mean nothing and my job would be extremely boring. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of your world and letting me be a part of your scouting lives.

Goodbyes are something that I am not good at, so instead I will say see you around! I can never express how much this time has meant to me, but I can say thank you; thanks to each and every one of you for the amazing times and for truly changing my life for the better.

Yours in Venturing,

*Katlin Adams*

2013-2015 Central Region Area 7 Venturing President





## Advisor's Minute

Happy New Year Area 7!

Hard to believe that 2016 is already upon us! As we all are slowly unwinding from the busy holiday season, let us take this time to reflect on 2015 and everything it had to offer.

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!

Reflecting back on 2015, this past Venturing year was definitely an amazing one! I want to first thank each and every one of you for accepting me as the new Area 7 Venturing Advisor. I know I have some very big shoes to fill, but thank you for giving me the opportunity to help the Venturing program grow within Area 7.

During my first term as Area Advisor, I had the opportunity to visit with and meet so many new people and have some wonderful adventures along the way, with others who enjoy this program as much as I do! Some of these included: attending Council VOA meetings, attending other Area events within the Central Region, as well as attend the Western Region "Beach Blowout" in April of 2015 in sunny San Diego, CA, and lastly, the BSA National Annual Meeting in Atlanta, GA in May of 2015.

Within our Area, we were able to execute our annual spring conference in March of 2015, where we decided to move more north to the other side of the border, hosting it at Grand Geneva Resort in Lake Geneva, WI. Here, we had a wonderful day of training, networking and some fun activities with 90 participants in attendance! This past October was our annual fall event, the Area Venturing Extravaganza, which had in attendance 90 participants. It was a fun-filled superhero themed day!

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 the 2014-2015 youth staff: Katlin, Elise, Jacob and Madie, 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 thank you for making my first year as an advisor one I will truly never forget!

To the 2014-2015 adult staff: Andrew, Bob and Luann, there really aren't enough words to describe how thankful I am to have had each of you on the Committee. Your ability to guide youth is remarkable, and I am beyond grateful for all your efforts.

To the current youth and adult staff: Thank you for being so wonderful! In just the first 6 months of your term, we have been able to accomplish some great things! I look forward to seeing what else we can accomplish together as a team this year and how to make Area 7 even stronger!

To all the Venturing members of Area 7: Thank you for your support! We wouldn't be here without any of you! Thank you for letting us be a part of it together.

Yours in Venturing,  
*Rachel Zahrobky*

# Winter Fun

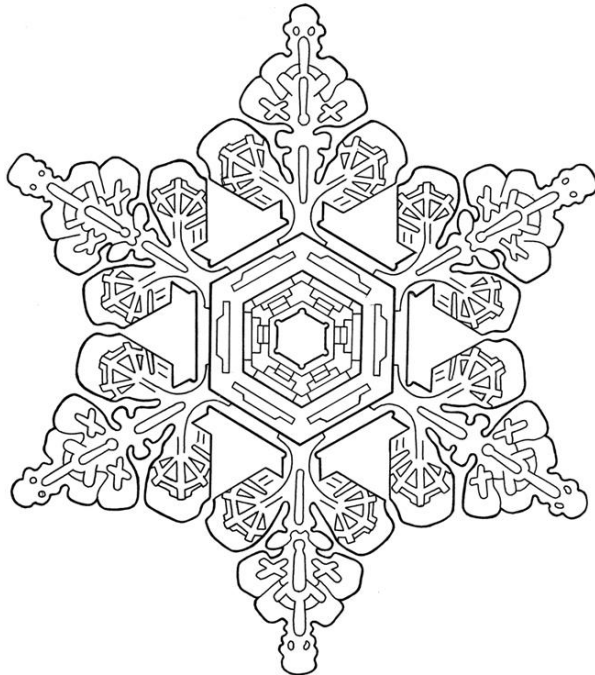
## Fun Facts:

1. The coldest temperature ever recorded was -128 in Antarctica in 1983.
2. The tallest snowman ever built was in Bethel, Maine in 2008 and measured 122 feet and 1 inch!
3. Average snowflakes fall at 3.1 MPH.
4. Ten inches of snow melts down to only one inch of water.
5. The largest snowflake recorded was 15 inches wide and 8 inches thick.
6. "Chionophobia" is a fear of snow.

## Winter Word Search Puzzle

F S K A T I N G H O C K E Y V  
V U S B J T M P W O L P T D W  
P T N P B O O T S F Y S A L T  
S N O W M A N Y C C S T O R M  
E F W T Z L S E I R R U L F S  
S F M L E E L Y E O Y Y D N E  
E O O M E M I A U M A V O I R  
K G B S W O P S B L F W G H U  
A N I H V B P A P W B M N S T  
L I L O B B E N N L O L I K P  
F D E V D U R D O Q U N H I L  
X I N E D B Y W W X J P S I U  
Z L K L N I E L D T L D I N C  
F S V V L R K T F I R D F G S  
T S C R A P E R J W W H I T E

BOOTS SKATING  
DRIFT SKIING  
FISHING SLIDING  
FLAKES SLIPPERY  
FLURRIES SNOWBALL  
FUN SNOWBLOWER  
HOCKEY SNOWMAN  
ICY SNOWMOBILE  
PLAY STORM  
PLOW WHITE  
SALT  
SAND  
SCRAPER  
SCULPTURE  
SHOVEL



**Color Me!**