



# The FORUM

A Venturing and Exploring Newsletter since 2003  
JANUARY 2014 Issue



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The Current FORUM newsletter:

[http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletters/current\\_forum.php](http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletters/current_forum.php)

The Current FORUM Attachments

[http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletters/~forum\\_attach.php](http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletters/~forum_attach.php)

The FORUM Back Issues

[http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/venturing\\_archive.htm](http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/venturing_archive.htm)

This issue's attachments include:

## Central Region

1213 CR Area 3 Newsletter

0114 CR Area 3 Conference Registration Form

0114 CE Area 3 Conference Booklet

## National Office and other Articles

0714 National Law Enforcement Conference

0714 National Fire and Emergency Services Conference

2014 SEAL Training Application

2013 Road Map to Venturing (Upcoming potential Changes)

2013 Road Map to Venturing (Power Point)

## Northeast Region

Fall 2013 Sea Scout Newsletter—Telegraph

0114 NEPA Lock-O-Lympics

0114 Underwater Robotics Team

0214 Presidents' Day Sea Scout Training Weekend Manual

0314 Venturing Blathon Challenge Guide

0314 Area 5 Rendezvous

0814 Five Rivers Powder Horn Course

## Southern Region

0214 Winterfest Leaders Guide

0314 Central Florida Council Powder Horn

## Western Region

No Attachments this month.

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# The Central Point



Newsletter of Central Region Venturing | BSA

The December 2013 Central Region Venturing newsletter written by the region's Venturing officers is now available on our website newsletter page at <http://crventuring.org/Home/Newsletters/> or at directly at [http://issuu.com/crventuring/docs/central\\_point\\_december\\_2013](http://issuu.com/crventuring/docs/central_point_december_2013)

Highlights this month include:

Fundraising for your crew  
Recruitment ideas

Sea Scout Update  
Area 2 Planning Conference  
Area 3 Conference

President's Corner - Officer nominations

Caption Contest  
Name that Camp  
Website highlight - Resources

Note: if you would like to download the newsletter as a pdf to read off-line, you will need to become a member of ISSUU. Once you are a member, click on 'Share', then 'Download'.

As a member, you'll also be able to create 'stacks' of your favorite publications, including the Central Point and all of the Area newsletters.

Want to view it online full-screen? Click on the full screen icon! You'll be able to scroll through the pages like a pdf.

Yours in Venturing,  
Emily Mausshardt  
Central Region Venturing Vice President - Communication  
Deb Keyes  
Central Region Venturing Associate Advisor - Communication

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# 40th WINTER AMIDSHIPS (WAM)

Saturday, February 15th, 2014

Register online  
Co-ed Event  
Dinner & Dance  
Indoor and Outdoor Events  
Team Building  
Ribbons, Trophies & Patches  
40 Years of Experience

Dear Unit Leader and Members,

Bay-Lakes Council of the Boy Scouts of America and alumni of Fond du Lac Scout units are proud to invite you to Winter Amidships (WAM) co-ed Scout event to be held

**Saturday, February 15th, 2014, at the UW-Fond du Lac, WI.**

This 1-day event is open to units of Venture Crews, Sea Scouts, Career Explorers, Boy Scouts, Varsity Teams, Girl Scouts, and American Heritage Girls.

AGE REQUIREMENTS\*\*: Venturers\*, Varsity Team Members\*, Sea Scouts, Girl Scouts/Mariners, Boy Scouts and American Heritage Girls must be at least 14 years of age **OR** 13 years AND have completed the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Explorers must be at least 14 years of age AND have completed the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. All Venturers, Sea Scouts and Explorers may compete up to their 21<sup>st</sup> birthday. Girl Scouts/Mariners and American Heritage Girls may compete through their senior year of High School. Boy Scouts and Varsity Team Members may compete up to their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. All units must be accompanied by 2 adult leaders (**both** must be at least 21 years of age).

\*Venturers and Varsity Team Members who are part of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints must be 14 AND have completed the 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

\*\*[Effective May 1, 2010 by BSA's National Executive Board]

Each unit may submit 1 team in each of 11 events: Knots, Compass Board Relay, Life-Jacket Relay, First Aid, International Code Flags, Obstacle Course, & Scooter Race have 4 members each; Heaving Line & Bowling have 3 members each; Battleship Tournament-2 members. Tug-of-war teams have an 800 lb. weight limit.

The day also includes dinner, awards presentation, dance, and event patch. Pre-registration is required. [Click Here](#) to register online. We will accept up to 20 units OR 200 participants, whichever comes first.

FOR A COMPLETE EVENT FLYER AND MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT US AT:

Winter Amidships  
(WAM) Chairman:  
Ann Gratton, Oshkosh WI  
920-231-3015

Winter Amidships  
Staff Advisor:  
Sarah Graper  
715-460-3090

Bay-Lakes Council, BSA  
Appleton WI  
800-372-6887  
[www.baylakesbsa.org](http://www.baylakesbsa.org)



## Greetings from Central Region Area 3 Venturing Officers

Happy December Everyone! The next Central Region Area 3 Venturing Magazine is now available! The December 2013 edition of the *Central Region Area 3 Venturing Magazine* that is written by the Area's 2013-2014 Venturing officers is available on our website newsletter page at [http://crventuring.org/Area\\_Pages/Area\\_3/](http://crventuring.org/Area_Pages/Area_3/) or directly by clicking [HERE](#). It is also included in the FORUM Downloads. Central Region Area 3 Venturing Conference is just a little more than a month away! Are you attending?

The Fifth Annual Central Region Area 3 Venturing Conference is coming up on January 10-11, 2014. We are a little more than a month away and classes are filling up, so get those registrations in now so you don't miss it. Space is limited! Please share this with others that you know are in Venturing and others that would be beneficial to attend the Venturing Conference.

Conference Brochure: [click here](#)

Registration Form: [click here](#)

Highlights of the Magazine

**Upcoming Events, Venturing Webinars, T-Shirts, Area 3 Venturing Conference, and more.**

**Powder Horn** - hosted by Greater St. Louis Area Council

April 25-27 & May 9-11, 2014

For more information: [click here](#)

**Sea Scouting Central Region Rendezvous** - hosted by the Task Force Area 3

May 16-18, 2014

Location: Abraham Lincoln Council – Sailing Center

More information coming soon

# Powder Horn Course Sept 2014

Chippewa Valley Council and Samoset Council, in Wisconsin, invite Scouters to their 2014 Powder Horn Course. Outdoor and high adventure experiences provided participants, and the resources they'll be put in touch with, can be applied to every level of Scouting, from Webelos on up.

September 5-7 Scouters will be housed at Samoset Council's Crystal Lake Scout Reservation. They can expect tips on physical fitness, opportunities for C.O.P.E., climbing and scuba diving, as well as presentations on bicycling, backpacking, communications, winter sports, first aid, trip planning, fishing, land navigation and watercraft activities.

During the second three days, September 26-28, there will be a road trip in the Chippewa Valley Council. It starts with a presentation on caving, moves on to equestrian, settles in for a LNT overnight with an outdoor cooking presentation, then moves out the next day for a presentation on ecology and a sample of river canoeing before rolling into Phillips Scout Reservation for the night. The final day will be on the shooting ranges.

More information is available at the Chippewa Valley Council's website, <http://www.bsa-cvc.org>; at the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/607016162675639/>; by emailing Jim Nosker, course director, at [cvc\\_2014\\_powderhorn@yahoo.com](mailto:cvc_2014_powderhorn@yahoo.com), or telephoning him at 715-962-4237.





# Fact Sheet 2014 National Law Enforcement Exploring Conference



**BACKGROUND:** The National Law Enforcement Exploring Conference is conducted every other year and is attended by thousands of Law Enforcement Explorers and their adult leaders from throughout the country. The conference program provides a week of team and individual competitions, seminars, demonstrations, exhibits, recreation and fun.

**DATES:** July 14-19, 2014

**LOCATION:** Indiana University – Bloomington, IN

**COST:** The conference fee is \$475 per Explorer or adult, plus a non-refundable Post registration fee of \$100.

**CONFERENCE PROGRAM:**

**Team Competitions:** **Law Enforcement Response Team Events:** Arrest and Search, Bomb Threat Response, Burglary in Progress, Crime Prevention, Crime Scene Search, Crisis Negotiation, Domestic Crisis Intervention, Judgment Pistol Shooting: Shoot/Don't Shoot, Officer Down: Emergency Field First Aid, Traffic Accident Investigation, Traffic Stop, White Collar Crime. **Special Team Events:** Drill Team, Non-Emergency Vehicle Operations Course (NEVOC).

**Individual Competitions:** Police Physical Fitness Test, Air Pistol Competition, Pistol (.40 caliber) Competition, Sample Police Written Exam, Bike Policing Competition.

**Seminars:** Bomb Investigations, Combating Terrorism in America, Executive Protection, Leadership Development, Fugitive Investigations, Gang Recognition and Identification, Hate Crimes, Narcotics Trafficking and Interdiction, Protecting our National Borders, Protect Yourself: Self-Defense, Psychological Profiling, Surveillance Methods and Technology, Advisor Seminars, and other presentations

**Conference Features:** Dynamic opening and closing shows, exciting entertainment night, Career Fair, Exploring U.S.A., Rally Demonstration, nightly Jump Club dance, election of National Youth Representatives and retail Cop Shop.

**REGISTRATION:** All Law Enforcement Explorer Posts registered with Learning for Life are eligible to attend the conference. The 2014 National Law Enforcement Exploring Conference registration forms and Guidebook are available on the Learning for Life website at: [www.learningforlife.org/exploring/lawenforcement](http://www.learningforlife.org/exploring/lawenforcement). The guidebook contains detailed information about the conference along with an Advisor Checklist to assist with the registration process. The conference is usually a "sell-out" event and registration is on a first come, first served basis. Make plans to join us at Indiana University for another incredible conference!

We are excited and ready to have another great conference in 2014! You are now able to register for the 2014 National Law Enforcement Exploring Conference to be held at Indiana University, Bloomington, IN at <http://exploring.learningforlife.org/services/career-exploring/law-enforcement/2014-conference/>. All rooms are air-conditioned!!!!!!

LEARNING FOR LIFE

## Northern Tier National High Adventure Programs 4 Seasons - 3 Bases - 2 Countries....Endless Opportunities

Since 1923 Scouts have been going to Ely, MN to paddle in North America's Canoe Country. 90 years later, Northern Tier National High Adventure Programs are still offering wilderness adventures with top notch staff and state of the art equipment.

Northern Tier now offers wilderness canoeing expeditions in Northern Minnesota, Northwestern Ontario and Northeastern Manitoba through three canoe bases. Northern Tier is also the Boy Scouts of America's National Cold Weather Camping Development Center. All trips (summer, autumn and winter) are fully outfitted and provisioned. A highly trained staff member, called an Interpreter, accompanies all crews on their trek.

*When I think of the Boundary Waters of northern Minnesota, I think pure, pristine and untouched. This is where I had the good fortune to spend two weeks during my summer. I signed up for a trip to Northern Tier on a chance. A chance that I will never regret for the rest of my life; a chance that has forever changed the way I live. When I first began the program, I was not an avid paddler. I had only paddled a small 10 mile canoe trip with my Boy Scout Troop prior to participating in the program but by the end of the trip, my paddle would just glide through the water effortlessly and in sync with the other person in the canoe.*



*Would I go back for this same experience again? Absolutely! My trip to Northern Tier taught me a lot about myself and even helped me to understand who I am just a little bit better. I am forever a changed young man for participating and I strongly encourage anyone that has the opportunity, to take advantage of this opportunity!*

### ***--Past Participant - Northern Tier National High Adventure Programs***



Come be a part of Northern Tier and see why so many have embarked on "Wilderness Adventures that Last a Lifetime". Reservations are open for Northern Tier's 2014 season visit [www.ntier.org](http://www.ntier.org) for more information and to register. We look forward to seeing you in the North Country!

Northern Tier National High Adventure Programs  
PO Box 509  
Ely, MN 55731  
218-365-4811  
[www.ntier.org](http://www.ntier.org)



# Northern Tier - Bissett, Manitoba - Canada

## An Unsurpassed Wilderness



Northern Tier provides epic wilderness canoeing trips in remote Manitoba Canada. Trips feature a float plane ride, unsurpassed freshwater fishing and hundreds of thousands of acres of virgin wilderness to explore. This is one trip that will change your life

Every summer, hundreds of Scouts head to the most remote Boy Scout High Adventure base for a once in a lifetime wilderness canoeing expedition. Trips begin by meeting your “Interpreter” who is a trained Northern Tier staff member that will accompany you on your trip. Northern Tier provides full outfitting for your trek. A float plane ride to the canoe cache begins your trip. After that, you can decide which of the less traveled trails you want to follow. Crews typically paddle a mixture of lakes and rivers. It is common for crews in Bissett not to see anyone other than their crew for their entire trip. There are also lots of fish to catch. After your trip, you will return by float plane to the base to enjoy a cleansing sauna.



*“Scouts experience a phenomenal wilderness area. I have seen loons, beavers, otters, deer, moose, bald eagles, and more. Brilliant starry nights, Northern Lights, thunderstorms, and picture perfect weather have their place on each voyage. The maturity and growth Scouts gain from pushing past their previously imagined limits is incredible. I can't speak highly enough of this program; it has changed my life.”*

Past Participant – Northern Tier



# International Scouting

How would you like to travel overseas, work for room and board, get a day off each week and live in a country where you can almost be understood?

That's what awaits you if you volunteer to work at Gilwell Park just north of London, England.

Gilwell Park is the home of Wood Badge training and has been a Scout Camp since 1919 but today it is the home of the UK Scout Association and operates as a youth Scout camp year round with the exception of one weekend a year when adults get to come back and celebrate the Wood Badge experience.

A normal volunteer tour lasts six months, and as the picture shows, during which you serve with other Scouts from around the world. Plus you get to meet and teach Scouts from all over Europe.

Applications should be made through your local council International Representative.



Back Row (left to right) Tommy Brown, **England**; Mariela Espino, **Mexico**; Carrie Deitz, **USA**; Jihea Woo, **South Korea**; Rodrigo Pineda, **Mexico**; Seoyoung Jeong, **South Korea**; Bon Ng, **Hong Kong**;  
Front Row (Left to right) Racheal Tosana, **Kenya**; Mai Ké, **Germany**; Sarah Samms, **USA**; Marcia Gutiérrez Rosete, **Mexico**; Dong Ryel Lee, **South Korea**; Nicola Cree, **England**

## 2014 SEAL TRAINING GAME PLAN

Who would like to go to SEAL 2014? Let your Skipper know now.

I, as Commodore, see the high importance of preparing as many crew members as possible to graduate from SEAL 2014. Most youth who complete SEAL had a fun time, met new friends, gained a high degree of personal skills and confidence, have gained world view of Sea Scouting, and come back to the Ship energized to be a leader.

That being said, how can you achieve this goal?

**Within one year of becoming a Sea Scout, you may be able to qualify for your set of Dolphins, the SEAL pin. Requirements are as follows.**



### Sea Scout Advanced Leadership Training

**Sea Scout Advanced Leadership (SEAL)** Training is a petty officer (youth) leadership training course offered by the National Sea Scouting Committee. This is a one week, hard core leadership course that is conducted at sea. If you successfully complete the course you will be awarded the **SEAL Training Award**, which is a silver pin with twin dolphins, to be worn on your uniform (*see above*).

This course is a leadership course, *not* a seamanship course. It covers such topics as preparing, goal setting, organizing, supervising, commanding, communicating, training, motivating, and other skills that will help you in functioning as a leader in your Ship and in life.

Potential SEAL Candidates please fill out attached 2014 application as a draft with your parents.. This is a small commitment; a starting point for 204 final application.

Pick your port of departure. Bring draft application, questions and parent to Sea Scout SEAL Program Kickoff Meeting at your next Ship meeting.

Newport Beach, CA June 13-22, 2014) \_\_\_\_\_  
2014) \_\_\_\_\_

(Chesapeake Bay, MD June 21-29,

(Galveston Bay, TX June 27- July 6, 2014) \_\_\_\_\_  
20, 2014) \_\_\_\_\_

(Long Island Sound, NY July 12-

(Seattle, WA July 24- August 1, 2014) \_\_\_\_\_



## Maine High Adventure, BSA

October 2013



**G**reetings from Matagamon Base! Currently, 2014 reservation information is available, and we are already responding to units ready to reserve space for the 2014 season! Whether your unit has a tradition of returning to Maine High Adventure, is just checking us out for the first time, or is trying to gauge interest in the unit for a 2014 trip, we can help! We're happy to send promotional materials, including brochures, promotional DVDs, participant manuals, reservation forms, and more to any and all who are interested – contact us today to begin planning the trip of a lifetime or to see if Maine High Adventure might be right for you and your unit. Additionally, please see [www.mainehighadventure.org](http://www.mainehighadventure.org) for more information on our program, including pricing, what we provide, unique opportunities, and much more! 2014 promises to be another great year in the history of Maine High Adventure, just like the past 40+ years, and we look forward to seeing **YOU** as a part of it!

Doug Farrell

Director, Maine High Adventure, BSA

C 207-951-4760

[MHAInfo@bsamail.org](mailto:MHAInfo@bsamail.org)

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



Maine High Adventure trek participants enjoying campfires, beautiful days on the water, cliff jumping, and whitewater.

# MARK YOUR CALENDAR !!!

## for the NE Region Bridge of Honor

We want your Ship to attend the 32<sup>nd</sup> Northeast Region, BSA, Bridge of Honor and Sea Scout Ball on Saturday, **March 29, 2014.**

We will rendezvous at the Holiday Inn Select in Bridgeport, New Jersey.

The theme this year is: "Traditions of the Past, Seamanship for the Future".

We will be giving out a coffee mug and a tote bag to all participants.

Prices are \$50 for banquet, \$90 for room. Check out the Boarding Manual posted on our new NER Website at <http://www.nerseascout.org/>

Questions? Contact Beth Parks, RBOH Registrar, at [elizabeth.parks@stryker.com](mailto:elizabeth.parks@stryker.com).

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SEA SCOUTS BSA



# 2014 NER Area 5 Rendezvous

Come travel through time and space at the 2014 NER Area 5 Rendezvous! The theme this year is Doctor Who. Whether you are a whovian or not, you will have a blast. You don't need to know anything about the show "Doctor Who" to have an amazing experience. The only thing you need to know is how to have a great time!

Now, just like the TARDIS, the Rendezvous is bigger on the inside. We will be taking you to different time periods for an unmatched experience of a life time. There will be shooting sports, sonic screwdrivers, games, judo, civil war, Renaissance, our future and so much more.

You might even be able to meet the doctor and some other species from the show! And who knows, you might just lose track of TIME when your there! So save the date, the Tentative dates are **May 16th, 17th and 18th 2014** Somewhere in the middle of Area 5!

Alones-y!

Don't Blink! The rendezvous will be here in Spring of 2014 -- Questions?, Contact Tyler Sepcoski at [tsepco@gmail.com](mailto:tsepco@gmail.com)

P.S. We spotted the TARDIS and the Dr.'s Hat and Scarf at the Summit during Jambo at the skate park.



**NER Area 5**  
**Venturing**



## The Northeastern Pennsylvania Council Venturing Officers Association Presents...

This year, the Northeastern Pennsylvania Venturing Officers' Association is hosting our traditional Annual Lock-In with a bit of a twist! The 2013 Lock-O-Lympics will feature all the fun and excitement of the Lock In AND another NEPA VOA traditional favorite, the Venturing Winter Olympics, in one monumental event! The event begins Friday evening with the fun and fellowship of the Lock In, and continues into Saturday with the high- adventure, high- energy Olympic games. This year, the NEPA VOA will usher in 2013, the year of the horse, with our theme "Chinese New Year." Things you can expect to see at this event include:

Giant Jenga  
Jeopardy  
Minute to win it  
Touch a Dragon  
Cake Decorations  
Chinese Lanterns  
Karaoke  
Chinese Masks with a Fashion Show!  
Human Scavenger Hunt  
Snowman Building  
Chinese Horoscopes  
Human Chinese Ceckers  
.... let's not forget a superior time!!

This year, the Lock-O-Lympics will be held on Friday **January 3rd to Saturday January 4th, 2014** at Queen of the Apostles Church Hall in Avoca, PA. Registration begins promptly at 6pm; you won't want to be late.

And what's the Lock-O-Lympics without a little friendly competition? On Saturday, crews will gather and compete in the 2013 Winter Olympics. This will include your crew through winter themed games and competitions.

The Lock-O-Lympics is open to any registered Venturers and anyone interested in the venturing program. We encourage all Venture's to bring a friend to the event that may be interested in joining. Provisional participants are welcome as well. Some basic information about the event and event registration can be found at our website ([voa.nepabsa.org](http://voa.nepabsa.org)). Be sure to download our registration forms, fill them out, and send them in to our council office with payment at 72 Montage Mountain Road, Moosic, PA 18507.

Cost to attend this one of a kind event is only \$15 for VOA members and \$20 for non VOA members. Also, for a special price of \$25, you can pay both the registration fee and your VOA dues! We'll see you at the 2014 Lock-O-Lympics!

2014 NEPA VOA "Lock-O-Lympics" --- Friday, January 3, 2014- Saturday, January 4, 2014  
Registration Begins at 6pm Friday, Queen of the Apostles Church 714 Hawthorne Street, Avoca, PA  
\$20 for NON- VOA members and \$15 for VOA members  
*Winter Special!!* \$25 to go to Lock-O-Lympics AND pay for 2014 VOA dues  
**Registration Due By:** Saturday, December 28, 2013

After December 28<sup>th</sup>, all registration fees increase \$5, so sign up today!

You can contact us at [venturing@nepabsa.org](mailto:venturing@nepabsa.org) This email address is being protected from spambots. You need JavaScript enabled to view it. with any questions. Thanks and we hope to see you and your crew at the 2014 Lock-O-Lympics!

NORTHEAST REGION AREA 5 VOA

NE5VENTURING.ORG



YOUR WORLD YOUR TIME  
YOUR VENTURING

## Doctor WHO?

Written By: Matt Gromala, Edited by Tyler Sepcoski

“Fantastic!” “Allonsy!” “Geronimo!”

The whole of time of Space will be colliding at one spot-The Area 5 Rendezvous at Camp Acahela, in Blakeslee, Pa., located in the Northeastern Pennsylvania Council.

Yes that’s right, the theme of this year’s Rendezvous is the dark, yet lovable cosmic hobo himself-The Doctor!

For the sake of the uninitiated, I’ll briefly explain what Doctor Who is. Doctor Who is a British science fiction show that will be celebrating its fiftieth anniversary. The Doctor is an alien from the planet Gallifrey, who travels through time in the TARDIS (**T**ime **A**nd **R**elative **D**imension **I**n **S**pace), basically a big blue police call box, with his companions, saving the universe quite frequently. The Doctor has this trick to cheat death, regeneration, the only catch is he completely changes, from his looks to his personality each time he regenerates.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Doctor, our president Tyler Sepcoski, is currently in search of his TARDIS but we are assured that once he finds it he will amass a collection of the best consultants throughout time and around the world at Camp Acahela for the best Rendezvous of all time. What if he can’t find his TARDIS in time you ask? Well it’s a time machine he will find it someday and when he does there will be no stopping him until the best of the best are all brought together just for you!

The Area 5 rendezvous will be held the weekend of **May 16<sup>th</sup> through the 18<sup>th</sup>**. Some of the activities to expect as you travel through time and space would be, building your own Sonic Screwdriver, Venusian Aikido (which is really judo) from the Third Doctor’s time, robotics, Archaeology, Shakespearian Theater, Painting with Van Gogh, movie makeup, and so much more! There will also be concrete statue making, so remember, Don’t Blink! The Area 5 rendezvous is the only place experts from the Civil War, WWII, the Renaissance period, several countries, and even outer space will be in the same place at the same time. So, you won’t want to miss this one.

Doctor Who episodes and even full serials will be screened over the weekend, including the two serials recently recovered from Nigeria, The Enemy of the World and The Web of Fear. Watch the Doctor at his best, and see as his hearts (yes plural) break at his worst. Also be on the lookout for audio adventures that you will only be able to listen to. A throwback to the days of radio shows.

The Rendezvous tradition of the great feast survives, and this year there will be no foods that the Doctor disapproves of. After the feast, the Doctor, our very own Tyler, has a concert planned to raise the roof as only the Doctor can.

Anyone who registers by April 30<sup>th</sup> will get the early bird special of \$40 per person. After that the cost goes to \$45 dollars if paid by May 1<sup>st</sup>, after that it goes to \$50 per person. So you want to register ASAP to take advantage of the early bird special.

So save the date, because the 2014 Area 5 Rendezvous (May 16<sup>th</sup> through 18<sup>th</sup>) will be an event you will NOT want to miss.

## BSA Outdoor Ethics Conference

Please "Save the Date" for a Super-Regional Outdoor Ethics Conference, scheduled for **November 6-9, 2014**, at Camp Alpine in northern New Jersey. Council Outdoor Ethics Advocates, and supporters of Leave No Trace and Tread Lightly! Programs are welcome and encouraged to attend. We will help to arrange carpools, and shuttle service from the New York City airports will be available. This conference is a great opportunity to learn about BSA's Outdoor Ethics awards and other programs, and how to most effectively implement programs in your council that will help to protect and restore your council camp properties and other natural places. Meet experts and peers from many different councils for idea sharing and fun. Please watch for more details, and please watch for and respond to our survey as we gather input regarding the program and scheduling. Contact David O'Leary ([daveol@earthlink.net](mailto:daveol@earthlink.net)) for more information.

=====

Thanks,  
David O'Leary  
Outdoor Ethics / Leave No Trace Coordinator  
Northeast Region, BSA



# 2014 CTEEA CONNECTICUT SEAPERCH CHAMPIONSHIP

January 29, 2014  
PLAINVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

TEAM CHECK IN 7:30 - 8:30AM

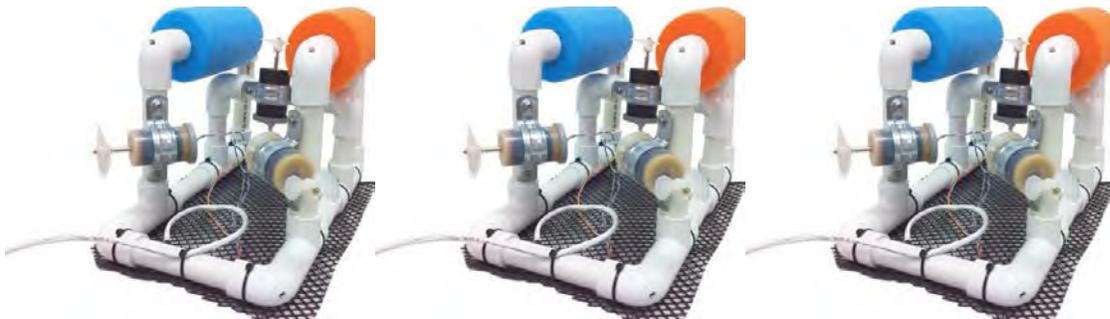
REGISTRATION FEE \$7.00 PER PERSON AND  
INCLUDES A BAG LUNCH

PRE REGISTRATION REQUIRES

REGISTER ONLINE AT;

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1iQj9E6s3AXUsHTUqD8LqHkF3Pu1X8twc5Sc76F4zk6g/viewform>

FOUR TEAMS WILL QUALIFY FOR THE NATIONAL SEAPERCH COMPETITION  
FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE CTEEA CHAMPIONSHIP CONTACT;  
[GKANE@AOL.COM](mailto:GKANE@AOL.COM), OR 860 989-1426





## Presidents' Day Sea Scout Training Weekend

The Delaware Valley Flotilla, in conjunction with the Garden State Council, BSA is sponsoring its 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Presidents' Day, Sea Scout Training Event.

**When:** Boarding from 1600 – Friday - 14 February 2014. Departing approximately 1400 - Sunday - 16 February 2014.

**Location:** Garden State Council's - Pine Tree Education & Environmental Center, Tabernacle, New Jersey.

You are invited to join us for a weekend of learning and fellowship. The cost is \$40.00 per person which will cover your registration, lodging, three meals on Saturday, and two meals on Sunday. We will have a crackerbarrel social Friday evening in the dining hall and a social event on Saturday evening. **Please let us know of any dietary concerns/restrictions.**

Courses will focus on Ordinary, Able, and Quartermaster ranks from the new Sea Scout Manual, and leadership training. Yes, we are counting on many of you to help teach these classes! So, please let us know what classes your adults or youth (Quartermaster candidates and others) are willing to teach or help teach with a senior instructor. Don't see a course you want/need, please let us know.

Contact Event Chair, John Grauvogel at [doghousepa@comcast.net](mailto:doghousepa@comcast.net), if you are willing to teach a course. The final schedule of classes is now available. Early registration is critical to the success of this event and will help us to staff the courses you want to take. .

**A \$20 per person, non-refundable deposit by February 1, 2014 will reserve your spot. The balance can be paid on arrival.**

For Additional Information contact: Ann Newman at [newskipper@aol.com](mailto:newskipper@aol.com); or Sue Smith at [sssjubilee@yahoo.com](mailto:sssjubilee@yahoo.com).

Send Registrations and Checks made out to:  
**Delaware Valley Youth Boating Assn.**  
c/o Ernst Below, Event Purser  
PO Box 611  
Hainesport, NJ 08036-0611

**There will be a flag retiring ceremony so bring your old flags.**

# Northeast Region Area 1 Zenith

[SAVE THE DATE!](#)

**DATE:** April 25-27, 2014

**LOCATION:** Camp Hinds Raymond Maine



**VENTURING · BSA**

To decide what activities people want to see, please fill out the online poll use the following link (There are underscores, no spaces):

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1t4qLht4Lc-RCYJwfAao\\_O-kxWuqxcccAeaf5yQSzGK8/viewform?usp=sharing&edit\\_requested=true](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1t4qLht4Lc-RCYJwfAao_O-kxWuqxcccAeaf5yQSzGK8/viewform?usp=sharing&edit_requested=true)

If you have any questions email the Area 1 VP of Program, Cody Gymiski: [csGymiski@aol.com](mailto:csGymiski@aol.com)

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# 2014 VENTURING BIATHLON CHALLENGE

*As Seen in the 2014 Jan./Feb. Edition of "Scouting Magazine"*

Friday Evening, Jan. 24<sup>th</sup> through Sunday Mid-Morning, Jan. 26<sup>th</sup>, at Camp Gorton

This Unique Individual Challenge Event is for ALL Registered Venturers

Saturday Morning - Shooting Competition Round Robin

Saturday Afternoon - Cross Country Skis, Snow Shoes or Hike Competition

Saturday Evening - Crew Cook-off Competition and Nighttime Geocaching Activity

**Individual Registration or Crew Registration - It Doesn't Matter!**

*Bring your own "XC-Skis or Snow Shoes! Very limited on extras!*

*Bring your own GPS units and Crew Cooking Equipment!*

\$30.00 per person - If Paid by Friday, Dec. 31<sup>th</sup>, 2013

\$40.00 per person - If Paid after Friday, Dec. 31<sup>th</sup>, 2013

**PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!**

NO registrations accepted **AFTER** Monday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014

*Come prepared to camp in a site OR, Call the Service Center to make reservations for one of the camp buildings at 607-796-0699.*

**Individual Gold, Silver & Bronze Awards for Everyone**

Cross Country Skis - Snow Shoes - Hiking

.22 Caliber Rifle & Shotgun

Cooking Competition - *Food for the Meal PROVIDED!*

Geocaching Competition

Venturers / Scouts will have a chance to shoot a variety of rifles including WWII rifles, 30-30 rifle, and semi-automatic rifles!

A Two Part Shooting Sports Orientation is **REQUIRED** and will be conducted on Friday Evening in the Dining Hall. Proof of prior training must be submitted with your registration form.

For Questions, Call:

Dan Jackson - VP of Venturing 607-936-3549 or [djackson12@stny.rr.com](mailto:djackson12@stny.rr.com)

Jim Griffin - Shooting Sports Cmte. 607-292-3227 or [jgriff1@roadrunner.com](mailto:jgriff1@roadrunner.com)



WWI Garand



20 Ga. Shotgun



22 Rifle - Semi-Auto



WWII Carbine



30-30 Rifle



22 Rifle - Single Shot

# WHAT DO I WANT FROM SEA SCOUTING?

It is at **CAMP NAUTICAL!!!**

Ordinary training Requirements    Able training requirements

Quartermaster teaching requirements



When: Sunday AM, August 4 through Saturday PM August 9, 2014

Where: June Norcross Webster Scout Reservation, Ashford, Connecticut

Cost: \$350.00 per Sea Scout (includes meals, 2 person tents w/cots)

Details: Camp Nautical is an opportunity for any Sea Scout attending to gain skills and experience. Advancement can be a source of pride and measure of your success in Scouting. Advancement in Sea Scouting is a measure of your nautical knowledge and your performance as a leader.

The Seamanship Program will allow you to experience most of the requirements needed for the Rank of Ordinary; Able and satisfy teaching requirements for rank of Quartermaster. With structured courses in the morning and evening, you will learn about boats, marlinespike seamanship, ground tackle, signaling, quarterdeck leadership training, ornamental rope work, and environmental concerns. You will find fun in the afternoons devoted to free time. You will graduate with a report of your accomplishments, new friends and memories to last a lifetime.



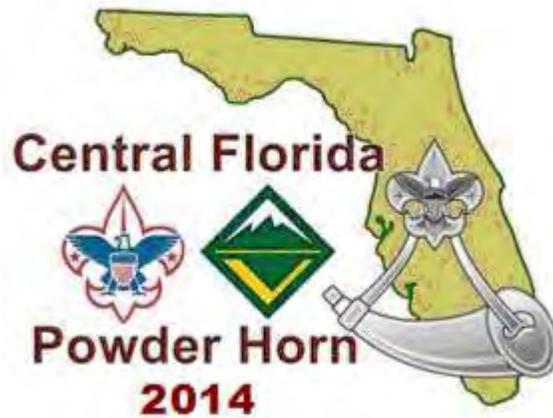
More Information & Registration Contact:

Allen Iott, Skipper Sea Scout Ship 584 "Dragon"

Cell: (860) 912-1417 or [aiott@tvconnect.net](mailto:aiott@tvconnect.net)

**Central  
Florida Council**

Invites YOU to attend:



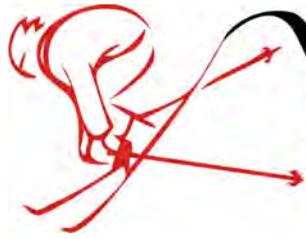
**BSA  
High Adventure Resource  
Management Course**

**3 Full Days – March 28 – 30, 2014**

**Camp La-No-Che  
Paisley, FL**

**See Application in FORUM DOWNLOADS**

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# Winterfest

## GATLINBURG ❄️



**February 7-9, 2014**

### What is Winterfest?

- Winterfest is the LARGEST Annual Exploring/Venturing competitive-event and leadership training event in the nation! It is held in Gatlinburg, Tennessee every year.
- Winterfest has occurred every year and the 2014 event will be our 40th year! In 2013, more than 3,600 participants converged on Gatlinburg for a great weekend of fun, events, and fellowship.
- Winterfest is open to all Venturers and Explorers and older Boy Scouts (age 14 and older). While the majority of participants are from the southeast, we have had participants from as far away as Las Vegas and Boston.

### What Can We Expect?

- Dances and other activities Friday and Saturday night
- Competitive Events\*:
  - Fire Fighter and EMS
  - Law Enforcement Events
  - Mock Trial
  - Talent Show
  - Volleyball & Basketball
  - Engineering Design
  - Basic First Aid & Advanced Emer. Medical
  - Prusik Rope Climbing
  - Snow Skiing
  - Bowling Tournament
  - Black Powder, Skeet, Rifle, and Handgun Shooting
  - High Adventure Competitions & Activities
  - And much much more!!!

### How Much Does it Cost?

- **Youth (14-21)**: The registration fee is only \$45 per youth for all youth fees paid by Friday, January 10, 2014. After January 10<sup>th</sup>, the fee rises to \$55.
- **All Others (adults and youth 5-13)**: The registration fee is only \$10 per adult/visitor for all fees paid by Friday, January 10, 2014. After January 10<sup>th</sup>, the fee rises to \$15.
- This registration fee covers all dances, program events, awards, and miscellaneous program expenses. Separate arrangements must be made for food and accommodations.

### What do you need to do now?

- Go to [www.bsawinterfest.org](http://www.bsawinterfest.org) and **printout your leader and hotel guide NOW**. The **Event guide will be posted by October 11th** with details of each event outlined.
- Email and share Winterfest website and information with your other leaders and youth.
- Put these deadlines in your calendar
  - **January 10th, 2014—First payment deadline**
  - **January 11th—February 6th late fee deadline**
- February 7 –9—**Winterfest**

**For more information, please download the LEADERS GUIDE and the HOTEL NOW. The HOTEL GUIDE will be posted by Oct. 11th at [www.bsawinterfest.org](http://www.bsawinterfest.org) to help with your planning.**

# Crew 561 Honor Corps

**Doug Mendelsohn, Eagle Scout and Venturing Crew 561 Honor Corps Bugler, Rose Bowl District, San Gabriel Valley Council, CA receiving Certificate from Congresswoman Chu along with the Mayor of Claremont, CA. for his participation as the Bugler at Claremont's Veteran's Day Ceremonies November 11, 2013.**



**Bugling is Alive!!!  
"Bugle BEAR" Mark**

# Websites

## National Exploring

<http://www.learningforlife.org/news-events/news-exploring/>

## National Venturing

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

## National Sea Scout

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

## Central Region Venturing

<http://www.crventuring.org>

## Northeast Region Venturing

<http://nerventuring-bsa.org/>

## Northeast Region Sea Scout Net

<http://seascout.net/>

## Southern Region-Venturing

<http://srventuring-bsa.org/wordpress/>

## Southern Region Sea Scout

<http://sregion.seascout.org/>

## Western Region Venturing

[www.wrventuring-bsa.org](http://www.wrventuring-bsa.org)

## USA Scouting Service-Venturing

<http://www.usscouts.org/usscouts/venturing/UniformingFAQ.asp>

## Maine High Adventure Base

[http://www.katahdinareabsa.org/content/4126/Maine\\_High\\_Adventure\\_Base/](http://www.katahdinareabsa.org/content/4126/Maine_High_Adventure_Base/)

## Venturing Magazine

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

## Yahoo Groups

### Central Region

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/crventuring/>

### Northeast Region

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/nerventuring/>

### Southern Region

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/srventuring/>

### Western Region

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wrventuring/>

### National

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/venturinglist/>



# the FORUM

The FORUM is a National cluster concept and a friendly way to help Scouting Leaders exchange ideas and programs among our Troops, Crews, Posts, Ships, councils, areas, regions and national..

The FORUM is shared by Volunteers and Professionals across the country.

“The **FORUM**” has been published monthly since 2003 and is not an official publication of any Council, Area, Region or National. It is the Leaders and Professionals newsletter. Help support our teenage program by sending us your Crew, Ship and Post stories, Newsletters. Council articles, By-Laws, Questions and Best Practices to share with others.

As always, articles, questions and comments are welcome. Promote Venturing, Sea Scouting and Exploring by promoting your Unit and Council. We are seeking support from anyone interested in working on the newsletter .

Thanks for all you do!

**Bob "the BEAR" Monto**—Editor in Chief

## **TO SUBSCRIBE to the FORUM:**

**Email Bob the BEAR at [rmonto@aol.com](mailto:rmonto@aol.com)**

**Use the email account you want to receive the FORUM and give Full name and Council to play you in the right email list.**