



# The FORUM

A Venturing and Exploring Newsletter since 2003  
March 2014 Issue



## Central Region

0214 Central Point Highlights  
0214 Area 3 February Newsletter  
0414 Greater St Louis Council's Powder Horn Course  
0914 Chippewa Valley and Samoset Councils Powder Horn Course

## National Office and other Articles

0714 Law Enforcement Conference  
0714 Fire and Emergency Services Conference  
2014 Northern Tier  
2014 SEAL Training  
Websites and the FORUM Concept

## Northeast Region

Changes you can believe in  
Venturing Base Camp Bowman  
University of Scouting—ILSC Class  
0314 NER Area 5 Normandy Camporee  
0314 NER Bridge of Honor  
0314 Venturing Blathon Challenge  
0414 Area 1 Zenith  
0414 Area 6 Game Traveler Phenomenon 2014  
0514 Area 3 Hillbilly Hootenanny  
0814 Camp Nautical  
0814 National Youth Leadership Training  
0814-Seabadge Course  
1114 BSA Outdoor Ethics Conference  
2014 Area 5 Rendezvous  
2014 Area 5 Rendezvous "Dr. Who"

## Southern Region

0314 Central Florida Council Powder Horn

## Western Region

The Unknown Scout Ceremony

I  
n  
t  
h  
i  
s  
I  
s  
s  
u  
e

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

0214 CR Newsletter

0214 Area 3 February Newsletter

0414 CR Greater St Louis Council's Powder Horn Course Flyers

## National Office and other Articles

Peer to Peer Recruiting

0714 National Fire and Emergency Services Conference

0714 National Law Enforcement Conference

2014 SEAL Training Application

2014 SEAL Training Game Plan

## Northeast Region

0314 Area 5 Rendezvous

0514 Area 3 Hillbilly Hootenanny flyer

0814 Five Rivers Powder Horn Course

0814-Seabadge Booklet

## Southern Region

0314 Central Florida Council Powder Horn

1014 Area 4 Powder Horn

## Western Region

No Attachments this month.

F  
O  
R  
U  
M  
  
D  
O  
W  
N  
-  
L  
O  
A  
D

# The Central Point



Newsletter of Central Region Venturing | BSA

The February 2014 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\\_february\\_2014](http://issuu.com/crventuring/docs/central_point_february_2014) and in the FORUM Downloads

Articles this month include:

- ✦ History of Venturing
- ✦ New Venturing Award Names
- ✦ Chartering Organizations
  - ✦ NYLT

- ✦ Sea Scout Update
- ✦ Area 6 Fun Event
- ✦ Area 5 Conference
- ✦ Area 7 Conference

- ✦ President's Corner
  - ✦ Caption Contest
  - ✦ Name that Camp

Website highlight -Document Generators



Yours in Venturing,  
Emily Mausshardt  
Central Region Venturing Vice President - Communication  
Deb Keyes  
Central Region Venturing Associate Advisor - Communication  
<http://crventuring.org>

C  
e  
n  
t  
r  
a  
l  
  
R  
e  
g  
i  
o  
n



## Greetings from Central Region Area 3 Venturing Officers

Happy February Everyone! The next Central Region Area 3 Venturing Magazine is now available! The February 2014 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](#). The Newsletter is also in the FORUM attachments.

### **Powder Horn is coming to Area 3!**

The Greater St. Louis Area Council Powder Horn Course is happening April 25th-27th and May 9th-11th, 2014. Registration is opened and we are already almost 40% full! Get your registration forms turned in today!

Weekend 1 will be held at Beaumont Scout Reservation in High Ridge, Missouri, and will take place on April 25-27, 2014. Weekend 2 will take place at the S bar F Scout Ranch in Knob Lick, Missouri, and will take place on May 9-11, 2014.

If you are still interested in attending our 2014 Powder Horn course all you need to do is complete the registration form and submit it back to council with your deposit as soon as possible. The course still has slots available for youth and adults. The fee is \$250 for both weekends. I know that many of you have been waiting for this course and I hope that you all get a chance to attend. This is a first come registration, so get your registrations in so you can be guaranteed a slot. The Registration form is [HERE](#). Also, please pass this information on to others that you may know what to attend this course. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to ask.

Thank you and we look forward to hearing from you!

[Eric Mircsov](#) Course Director GSLAC Powder Horn 2014

More Information: <http://www.powderhornstl.org/>

### **Highlights of the Magazine**

Upcoming Events, Venturing Webinars, Powder Horn, Sea Scouts, and more.

## **Links to Activities and Events in Area 3**

**Area 3 ILSC, Crew Officer Orientation, and VLST** - St. Louis, MO

March 8, 2014

For more information: [click here](#)

**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

# Greater St. Louis Area Council's Powder Horn Course

The Greater St. Louis Area Council's Powder Horn Course for 2014 is Weekend 1 will be held at Beaumont Scout Reservation in High Ridge, Missouri, and will take place on **April 25-27, 2014**. Weekend 2 will take place at the S bar F Scout Ranch in Knob Lick, Missouri, and will take place on May 9-11, 2014.

We have received confirmation today that the registration is halfway filled for the Greater St. Louis Area Council Powder Horn Course for 2014. If you are interested in attending our 2014 Powder Horn course all you need to do is complete the registration form and submit it back to council with your deposit as soon as possible. The course is open to the first 48 slots (40 Adults and 8 Youth). The fee is \$250 for both weekends. I know that many of you have been waiting for this course and I hope that you all get a chance to attend. This is a first come registration, so get your registrations in so you can be guaranteed a slot.

Powder Horn Promo Flyer and the Powder Horn Registration Form are in the FORUM Downloads

Also, please pass this information on to others that you may know what to attend this course. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to ask.

Thank you and we look forward to hearing from you!

Eric Mircsov

Course Director GSLAC Powder Horn 2014

[powderhornstlouis@gmail.com](mailto:powderhornstlouis@gmail.com)



# 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

# Forest Corps enters its Second Season!

## Sign up today.



Forest Corps participants bravely join their two fearless Instructors venturing out into the [Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness \(BWCAW\)](#), embracing both the trials and triumphs of the trail. While enjoying a canoe trip in the Wilderness, participants challenge themselves mentally and physically by helping the US Forest Service perform vital trail and campsite repair and attending educational sessions to learn about the ecology of the area.

Designed to teach young adults about important concepts of responsible land management, practical conservation skills, and the ethics of [Leave No Trace](#), the [Forest Corps program](#) is an amazing co-educational offering Northern Tier provides for Scouts and Venturers ages 14 to 21. While focusing on environmental education components, leadership principles are infused throughout the program to aid the students in becoming young outdoor leaders. Specifically targeted to Venturers, the elements of this program allow for scouts to complete various components of their Ranger Award while on the trip.



With the education and guidance of their leaders, the students are placed in a unique learning environment where they are free to discover and make connections about how their actions can impact the greater world. Through the medium of experiential education, students are able to grasp the notion that wilderness areas, like the [BWCAW](#), would not exist if their generation did not care about protecting and managing these beautiful, natural places. One of the aims for the [Forest Corps program](#) is to create land stewards who have a positive connection with the land around them. The program teaches scouts to develop a passion for conservation and advocate for the protection of natural places so these spectacular recreation areas exist for the enjoyment of generations to come.

**Why participate?** This program is an incredible opportunity to learn about interesting topics such as forest fire ecology, geology, natural history, ecosystems and low impact wilderness travel in a fun and non-traditional way - through experiences outside in nature! You get to work and play outside for two weeks - rain or shine - working alongside some of the coolest people you will ever meet. You also will gain practical conservation and land management skills while working with the US Forest Service.

# Forest Corps enters its Second Season!

## Sign up today.



**Why send your Scout/Venturer?** Two trained, highly knowledgeable outdoor professionals will instruct participants on the different elements of the trip and train them in the proper handling and use of conservation tools. In addition to environmental education, both instructors have training in wilderness medicine, [Leave No Trace](#) and group management skills. These certifications are industry standards and provide instructors with the proper guidelines for effectively leading and developing the potential in participants.

This two-week co-educational experience has the capacity to educate today's youth about important environmental concepts and inspire the confidence to become an effective leader- not only in the outdoors but in every aspect of their life. Participants are encouraged to take what they learn home and educate their communities about these important environmental concerns explored during their time serving and playing in the [BWCAW](#). The elements of this program hope to inspire corps members to freely learn about their relationships with ecosystems, and what they can do to protect them. The [Forest Corps program](#) will most definitely deliver a wilderness experience that lasts a lifetime!

For more information visit [www.ntier.org](http://www.ntier.org), email [info@ntier.org](mailto:info@ntier.org) or call 218.365.4811.

See you Up North!



# Northern Tier National High Adventure Programs

## Ely, MN - Atikokan, ON - Bissett, MB

### Boy Scouts of America

Northern Tier is your launching point for high adventure treks into the wilderness waterways of the remote Northwoods. Northern Tier's three summer canoe bases offer a wide variety of wilderness adventures, fully-outfitting crews for 6 to 10 day wilderness treks. A trained staff member accompanies each group, teaching new skills and customizing the trip to suit the needs and desires of every participant.

#### Requirements to attend:

- Minimum of 14 years of age, or 13 and completed the 8th grade by the date of attendance
- Must be classified as a swimmer
- Must weigh less than 295 lbs. and strongly recommended each participant weigh at least 100 lbs.
- Minimum of 6 and maximum of 8 people for a crew (Ely Base)
- Minimum of 6 and maximum of 11 people for a crew (Atikokan and Bissett Bases)
- Minimum of 2 adult leaders - 1 trained in CPR and Wilderness First Aid

#### Cost:

Please see our website for updated fees. All fees include stoves, fuel, tents, rain fly, cook kits, packs, all food while on the trail and 2 nights on base. Also included are aluminum canoes (lightweight upgrades are available for additional fee), paddles, life jackets and emergency communications device.

[www.ntier.org](http://www.ntier.org)      218.365.4811



## 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) \_\_\_\_\_



## Fact Sheet

### 2016 NATIONAL FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES EXPLORING CONFERENCE

**BACKGROUND:** 2014 National Fire and Emergency Services Exploring Conference will be held at Indiana University in Bloomington, IN. We will come together for 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 this includes meals and housing, plus a non-refundable Post registration fee of \$100.

#### **CONFERENCE PROGRAM:**

All Fire and Emergency Services Exploring activities will take place at a local Fire Training Center in Bloomington, IN. The Explorers will be housed on the Indiana University campus in the dormitories and transported to the training center.

In addition, the Explorers will be invited to the dynamic opening and closing shows, entertainment night, rally demonstration, and the nightly jump club dances.

Team competitions will include: CPR & AED, Spinal Immobilization & movement, Haz-Mat Recognition & Identification, Personal protective clothing & SCBA Relay, FF Search & Rescue, Make & Break, Firefighter combat challenge, and Taking a Hydrant (Team relay)

Individual events will include: One-Person CPR, Candidate Physical Ability Test (Modified CPAT), Written Examination (Entry level), Incident Management on-line classes/Test (IMS 100 & 700), Wildland fire shelter deployment, PPE & SCBA time (2-min drill), Taking a Hydrant, and Knot Tying.

**REGISTRATION:** All Fire and Emergency Explorer Posts registered with Learning for Life are eligible to attend the conference. The 2014 National Fire and Emergency Exploring Conference Guidebook will be available this summer. The conference is usually a “sell-out” event and registration is on a first come, first served basis. Register your Post now! All housing is air conditioned!





# 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 \$495 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 will be available in the summer of 2013 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, where all dorm rooms are air conditioned, for another incredible conference!**

\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*

# 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).

N  
o  
r  
t  
h  
e  
a  
s  
t  
  
R  
e  
g  
i  
o  
n



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, Renascence, 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**

# Change You Can Believe In

By: Matthew Gromala

Changes are coming to the Venturing Program, effective end of this year. Now these changes have been under development and planning for a few years now, so nothing about this was rash or sudden. Everything has been studied by experts, and fellow Venturers and Venturing advisors.

First off, the award system. Here's what's staying: The Ranger, TRUST, and QUEST Awards, as well as the Venturing Shooting Awards and VLA's (Venturing Leadership Awards). What is changing, is the main award structure. Gone will be the Bronze Awards, the Gold Award and even the Silver Award. In its place will be a four-tiered award system, that reflect other changes to the Venturing program, and the BSA as a whole.

The First award on the ladder is the Venturing Award, basically a joining award. It is akin to the rank of Scout, or the Tiger Cub. It is in place o make the new Venturer feel invested in the program, to introduce to them to the award system as early one as possible.

The next Award is the Discovery Award, which takes place a little bit down the line for the Venturer from the Venturing Award. So the new Venturer has attended a few meetings and begun to find their place in the program, to Discover what Venturing is.

A bit on past Discovery is the third award, the Pathfinder Award. This is the award for the Venturer with a little more experience under his or her belt. They have gotten a better sense of where they fit, what parts of the program they really enjoy, they've begun to take on leadership roles in their crews, and maybe even council or higher.

Finally, the fourth tier is the Summit Award. This is the final award to achieve in Venturing. The goal of this message is to send the message that this is the highest award in Scouting. This award says, "Even if you have Eagle, you are not done. THIS is the final challenge." In a video game sense, this is the final boss battle on a video game. This award even involves a capstone project (grad students will find this familiar), that is the culmination of everything else.

Until December 31<sup>st</sup>, Venturers can continue to work on the current awards as they stand, as well as begin work on the new Award system.

Also changing is the uniform, with the pants, and shirt being updated. The handbook is being updated.

JTE (Journey to Excellence) also will now have a component that requires all gold-level councils to have a growing and profitable Venturing program in their council.

Also of interest is the changes to the national officers and governing rules. The position of National Venturing was created.

These changes have been made to strengthen and grow Venturing as a viable program in the BSA.

# Venturing Base Camp Bowman

By Anastasia 'Spot' Illinger, Crew 27, NCAC



Being one of the first girls to attend a Boy Scout camp is a daunting endeavor. People tend to stare when I say I'm part of BSA and tend to point out the obvious that I am, in fact, a female. Sometimes, I feel like an abnormality, a divergence from the normal and society's expectations.

But sometimes, I feel strong, like when I finished my first element in COPE. Like when I spent the night in the middle of the woods in a lean-to I built. Like when I stood before the Crew as they presented me with my Outdoor Bronze Award. I felt independent and confident. Going to Goshen helped me realize what I could do.

As one of the guinea pigs for the Venturing Program at Goshen, it was a bit of an adventure for us all.

## C.O.P.E.

Every morning for a week, we would all go to Camp Post to undergo this fun requirement. The Challenging Outdoor Personal Experience (aka C.O.P.E.) lives up to its name. By employing a series of games, low and high ropes elements, the C.O.P.E. experience requires teamwork, and an exploration of each individual's skill sets in order to complete the challenge. No two C.O.P.E. sessions are the same as each new set of people will have something new to offer. After each challenge, the group meets to talk about what was good, what was wrong, and how they could improve. The whole experience seeks to challenge you personally with the support of your team.

On the first few days, you start with team-building games to help get you accustomed with the people in your C.O.P.E. session. Also, some of the puzzles you are faced with are to start you thinking outside the box, as it will be used later on in the Low Ropes courses.

## Cooking

For the record, this was one of my favorites. While Goshen provides scouts with the opportunity to cook their own meals, using a Dutch oven is a bit more challenging task. I've made several undercooked meals as well as burned a couple dishes, but, after some practice, the outcome is very satisfactory. Unlike some of the other requirements, this one is unique in that you are able to clearly see (and taste) your accomplishments. The three Dutch oven dishes, a bread, a dinner, and a dessert, are all delicious. Another requirement has us cooking without utensils, requires a bit more creativity (and also has varying levels of success). By making four dishes, you directly reap from the fruits of your labor. Even after I've gotten my Outdoor Bronze Award, I'm still enjoying the benefits of this requirement when my friends work on these requirements.



# Venturing Base Camp Bowman



## **Orienteering**

I will be the first to admit that I am a hopeless navigator. But, with the help of this requirement, at least I won't be reading the map upside-down. In addition to taking orienteering merit badge classes, we had several other (Venturing Unique) tasks set before us. We participated in the Bowman orienteering scavenger hunt, and also worked on navigating with a GPS. The catch? You have to find your location at night, making it far more disorienting. Even though I had to redo my night navigation, I am now fairly more confident that I won't get lost on a hike any time soon.

## **Wilderness Survival**

Out of all the requirements, this one I found the most interesting. Throughout the week of taking the merit badge class, we learned wilderness first aid, how to build shelters, and ways to signal for help. The highlight of this requirement is the wilderness overnights, where you spend two nights (nonconsecutive) in a shelter you build yourself completely out of natural materials. On the overnight with the camp, we hike into the woods to a place called Chamber's Hollow. Yes, it is as ominous as it sounds. But we had a fun time listening to ghost stories and building shelters. Another boost to my confidence level, because I was terrified of being in the woods at night, and spending two nights away from camp was a real achievement for me.



# Venturing Base Camp Bowman

## Tot'n Chip & Fireman Chit

Even if you decide not to pursue your Bronze, I would strongly encourage any Scout to get these recognitions. Knowing how to properly handle knives, saws, and hatchets are essential to any scouting experience. Working with fire and knowing how to build and light one with varying resources is core knowledge for any Scouting Experience, and one that has also helped me outside of scouting. Both were very quick learns, but have helped me so much.

Our Crew goes to Bowman for two weeks every summer and I admit that I love it. Now that I have my basic camp skills down, I can enjoy activities like water skiing, the mile swim (in open water), archery and riflery. Just



the setting of the Goshen Scout Reservation is incredibly beautiful and it is an honor and a privilege to be able to enjoy the outdoors in the NCAC manifestation of God's great creation. I can't wait to go back this summer and I'm really looking forward to using my base-camp skills in Japan during the 2015 World Jamboree. I was in Sub Camp 'F' for the 2013 National Jamboree and the significant international presence (Over 30 countries represented) really whetted my appetite for Japan where 161 Nations will convene in just over a year. If you are a Venturer, I hope to see you at Bowman this summer and even more in Japan in 2015!

Anastasia 'Spot' Illinger is in her third year with Crew 27 of the National Capital Area Council. She is currently one of four Crew Leaders (Patrol Leader Equivalent). She has been to the Summit twice: in 2012 for the 'Shakedown' and in 2013 with Crew F508 for the 2013 National Jamboree as one of the first 1,000 young women to fully participate in the BSA National Jamboree. Spot is also a Girl Scout and has just about wrapped up her Girl Scout and Venturing GOLD Awards. She hopes to finish Venturing Silver by the end of the year. She'll be at Goshen for 2 weeks this summer at the Bowman Venturing Base Camp with the rest of her Crew and loves her Venturing!!!!

# University of Scouting- ILSC(Y)

By Arian Taginya

University of Scouting, held in Hayfield Secondary School, was a big hit this year! Lots of people turned up to improve their knowledge of Scouting, either to review something they had already learned or to learn something new. Most of the crowd were Cub Scout and Boy Scout leaders. Everyone there seemed to have a smile on their face as they had a blast learning new and different things.



I'm almost brand new to Venturing and I attended the University of Scouting to take advantage of the Introduction to Leadership Skills for Crews (ILSC) training it offered. I wasn't alone, we had nearly 30 Venturers in the room with nine from my crew alone! I was expecting ILSC to be was a little boring

and common knowledge. But, when I stepped into the classroom everybody was very welcoming and very kind. My Crew (Crew 27) took two vans to the event. After the training, only three of our 28 Venturers would be lacking ILSC training. The majority of the Crew had been trained over the preceding two years.

At the beginning, we all introduced ourselves. Then, we started to talk about different positions in our Crews, what responsibilities they have, and how they relate to the positions on the Committee. I learned that my Crew is a bit unusual because it is so large that it is divided into four 'mini-Crews' which are like Patrols in a Scout Troop. Each 'mini-Crew' has a Crew Leader and an Assistant who report to the Crew President.



# University of Scouting- ILSC(Y)

Next, we played a game where teams have to evenly balance a piece of wood with each person using only one finger. The game showed us how important cooperation was in accomplishing team tasks. What we mostly talked about was team building and listening. In another game, people had to draw something that one person was describing. Some of the drawings were pretty outlandish and did not resemble the drawings of other Venturers who had heard the same description.



My favorite part of the experience was doing a memorization game that involved picking a potato, memorizing its appearance and naming it. After describing it to the rest of the ILSC class, I put my potato in a bag with all the others. The facilitator then poured them on the ground and each player had to find their spud.

What I think will be useful in the future is knowing how to be a good leader and how to point people in the right direction. I would definitely recommend ILSC to new Venturers. If people want to learn more about Venturing they should check it out. Overall, it was a fun experience and I really enjoyed it, I'm glad I went!

## About the Author

Arian Taginya is a brand new Venturer in Crew 27 of Potomac District in the National Capital Area Council (NCAC). He really enjoys his Venturing and took the responsibility to organize the Crew's annual trip to the NCAC University of Scouting. He is looking forward to earning his Outdoor Bronze Award while attending The Venturing Program at Goshen Scout Reservation's Camp Bowman this summer when his Crew attends for 2 weeks.



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





VENTURING® BSA

# BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

## Northeast Region Area 5 Venturing Officers Association

ne5venturing.org

### Transatlantic Council Normandy Camporee

This year, the Transatlantic Council will be hosting the annual Camporee in Normandy! Our theme is Messengers of Peace, and we are gathering as many youth and leaders to share a message of peace, looking to the future while remembering those who sacrificed so much so we can stand together today as friends.

#### What makes this event so special?

1. Open to Scouts from all over the world, from all associations
2. Formal opening of the 70th Anniversary of D-Day and the Battle of Normandy
3. Recognized as a French National and Regional Event supporting youth and cultural heritage
4. The best opportunity for all of us to work together to petition UNESCO to preserve the beaches for the future
5. Largest gathering ever of American Scouting families in Europe
6. Recognition of World War II Veterans with the Legion of Honor
7. A Focus on common scouting values as Messengers of Peace
8. An opportunity to be recognized for personal accomplishments
9. An opportunity to experience a turning point in 20th century history and to remember those who sacrificed so much for freedom and liberty



#### Who Can Join in the Fun?

Any registered member of the Boy Scouts of America in any council and their family. Especially welcome are any family members who may have served in World War II. There is no wait list; everyone who would like to come will be welcomed. We are also welcoming Scouts and their families from any country. We look forward to the participation of French, British, German, Polish, Canadian Scouts. We also would like to welcome our Scouts and families participating in the United States Girl Scouts Overseas-North Atlantic. If you are involved in Scouting in any country and wish to participate you are welcome!

#### When?

The actual camporee dates are Friday the 25th to Sunday the 27th of April but the campground is open to participants before and after those dates. The formal program will begin on the evening of the 25th and end by 10:30 a.m. on Sunday the 27th.

#### Prices: Per Person (ages 5+)

Two nights camping (Friday/Saturday) includes all program costs	\$60
Each extra night camping	\$15
Registration fee for non-camping/or camping off-site	\$3
Unit Registration Fee includes wreath for Sunday ceremony and unit recognition items	\$100
Unit Fee (no wreath, no recognition items)	\$25

For more information please visit:  
<http://www.tac-bsa.org/program/normandy>

Ne5venturing.org

# 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)

# 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)



# PRESS START

# GAME TRAVELER

# PHENOMENON 2014

**Co-hosted by:**  
Northeast Region Area 6 Venturing Officers' Association  
Hawk Mountain Council Venturing Officers' Association

Come to Game Traveler, the 2014 Phenomenon! Be a character in a live action video game, play games through time, and become the hero of your own adventure! Get ready for friends, fun, and a PHENOMENAL weekend!



**For more information  
and to register go to:**

[www.ne6venturing.org](http://www.ne6venturing.org)



Participants are encouraged to bring a canned good to be donated to the Schuylkill County Salvation Army.

**April 4-6, 2014**

**Hawk Mountain  
Scout Reservation**  
402 Blue Mountain Road,  
Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972

**\$45 tent camping**  
**\$55 cabin camping**  
Cost includes food, lodging,  
flush toilets, showers, an  
event patch, and all  
entertainment/activities

**What to Expect:**

- Quidditch
- Egg Wrestling
- Tomahawks
- Ultimate Frisbee
- Caveman Golf
- Climbing
- Costume Contest
- Shooting
- And much more!

**QUESTIONS? CONTACT:**

Brenna Leary, NER Area 6  
VOA President at:

[area6@nerventuring-  
bsa.org](mailto:area6@nerventuring-bsa.org)

Catherine Pressler, NER  
Area 6 VOA Advisor at:

[advisor@ne6venturing.org](mailto:advisor@ne6venturing.org)



**The Northeast Region  
Area 3  
Venturing Officers Association  
Presents**

the 2014 eVENT  
**May 9 - 11, 2014**

# Hillbilly Hootenanny



# 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)

# National Youth Leadership Training

Northern New Jersey Council

## NNJC Prepares For Ambitious 2014

In August of 2013, a large group of scouts arrived at Camp Turrell in upstate New York for a week of training in leadership skills. While many arrived unsure of what the experience would hold for



them, most left wishing they could stay another week. From the very first night, the staff unveiled their most innovative and creative program to date. The entire camp had been decorated by the staff in the week before everyone arrived, and the enthusiasm was palpable.

The course rests on the foundations of leadership, teaching participants the essentials of what a leader ought to be, know, and do. Over the duration of the week, staff members taught their peers how to find visions, set goals, and lead themselves. The presentations, designed by the youth staff, were mixed in between activities designed to reinforce the skills being taught. The days were long and energetic, ending in camp-wide events like Songfest or Movie Night before participants headed off to sleep before the next day.

In 2014, the staff has reassembled bigger and stronger than ever. They've created a better

program, using feedback from previous participants and staff to tighten up every aspect of the week. They've meticulously evaluated each presentation and activity as a part of their vision for this year's course. They're introducing new initiatives to improve communication, increase on-course efficiency, and more accurately target personal growth.



Interested in joining us for NYLT 2014?

Register now at [nnjbsa.org/training](http://nnjbsa.org/training)

Date: August 17-23, 2014

Eligibility: Open to all Scouts and Venturers 14 and up (First Class for Scouts) by August 1.

Contact: Christian Emering, Course Director -- [caemering@gmail.com](mailto:caemering@gmail.com)



## SEABADGE 20-MD-2014

January 20, 2014

To: Scout Executives  
From: Noel E. Guzman, Commodore, Northeast Region Sea Scouts  
Brian Gray, Regional Director  
Subject: SEABADGE (SB-20-MD-2014)

The next Northeast Region Seabadge Conference (SB-20-MD-2014) is scheduled for Friday to Sunday, September 19-21, 2014. Due to the high demand for the limited number of participant openings, your immediate attention is requested. Please copy and share with all Scouting and Venturing professionals, your Commissioner's and Sea Scout volunteers. Thank you for your interest and support.

**APPLICATION DUE DATE AUGUST 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2014**

Dates-Times and Location

From: 5 pm (1700), Friday, September 19, 2014  
To: 1 pm (1300), Sunday, September 21, 2014  
On board the liberty ship SS JOHN W. BROWN  
2000 South Clinton Street, (Pier One) in Baltimore, Maryland.

**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**

**S  
o  
u  
t  
h  
e  
r  
n  
  
R  
e  
g  
i  
o  
n**

# The Unknown Scout Ceremony

"Fourth Annual Unknown Scout Ceremony at Sierra Madre Memorial Park, Sierra Madre, CA Feb. 9, 2014 conducted by Troop/Packs 373 Lucky Baldwin District and Venturing Crew 561 Honor Corps, Rose Bowl District of the San Gabriel Valley BSA Council.

Ceremony was to remember those Scouts who served during WWII. Monument was built on Feb. 13, 1948 by three Scoutmasters in Sierra Madre, CA. Participants also included Bugles Across America volunteer, Boy Scout from Troop 1 Rose Bowl District, American Legion Post 280, E. Pasadena, CA and VFW Post in Sierra Madre, CA. Since Scout Sunday is superseded by a LARGER event, we have reserved the ceremony for the Second Sunday in February."



Bugling is Alive!!!  
Bugle BEAR  
**MARK G. RIEBS**  
Venturing Crew 561 Honor Corps Advisor  
Bugling Merit Badge Counselor  
Rose Bowl District  
San Gabriel Valley Council California  
Bugles Across America Volunteer  
Chartered by American Legion Post 280  
179 N. Vinedo St. Pasadena CA 91107  
[www.venturingcrew561.com](http://www.venturingcrew561.com)

W  
e  
s  
t  
e  
r  
n  
  
R  
e  
g  
i  
o  
n

# 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.**