

The FORUM

Venturing, Sea Scouting and Exploring Newsletter since 2003
March 2017 Issue

Central

No articles this month

National and Other

Northern Tier
Go Nomad 2017 Asia/Pacific Regional Jamboree
Community Policing is Changing Lives in Las Vegas
2017 National Law Enforcement Exploring Leadership Academies
2018 Exploring Conference Save the Date

Northeast

2017 SEAL Courses
Large Crew Service-Teaching Other Venturers
Faith-Con
Patriots' Path AdVenturee

Southern

Texas Sea Scout Academy
Swampbase

Western

2017 Annual Greater Los Angeles Area Council Dinner
Rose Bowl District Recognition Dinner

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The Current FORUM Newsletter:

http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletters/current_forum.php

The FORUM Back Issues

http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/venturing_archive.htm

The FORUM Attachments Central Region

No Attachments this month

The FORUM Attachments National

<http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletters/regions/NAT-0317.zip>

Exploring Info:

Exploring Guide Book

Law Enforcement Exploring National Pistol Championships

International

31st Asia Pacific Regional Jamboree 0717

Sea Scouting Info:

Sea Scout Advancement Requirements

Sea Scout Eligibility for Venturing Awards and Information On other Awards

Sea Scout Strategic Plan-SMART

Venturing Info:

Venturing Awards and Recognitions

Venturing Board of Review Guide

Venturing Ethical Controversies

Venturing Goal Setting Time Management for Venturing Crews

Venturing Mentoring for Venturing Crews Facilitator Guide

Venturing Standard Operating Procedures (Current_

Venturing Terms Lets get it Right

Venturing Venturing FAQ

The FORUM Attachments Northeast Region

<http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletters/regions/NER-0317.zip>

Faith-Con

Crew 27 Large Crew Series (Articles on Large Crew Operations)

The FORUM Attachments Southern Region

No Attachments this month

The FORUM Attachments Western Region

No Attachments this month

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WATCH: COMMUNITY POLICING IS CHANGING LIVES IN LAS VEGAS

Meet Keith, an Explorer from Post 725 of the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department.

Keith loves the city of Las Vegas; after all, it's his home. So when he began to think about his future, he wanted to find a way to improve his community.

"I didn't want to be one of those guys that stood on the corner all day and didn't do anything with my life... I kind of want to be on the other side of that—being a police officer, cleaning up the streets that I live in," he explained.

Law enforcement Exploring offered him a chance not only to help better his community, but also to take his future into his own hands as he pursues a career in law enforcement.

Keith's mother, Denise, couldn't be more thrilled with her son's decision to discover the opportunities in the field of law enforcement. When a child in their previous neighborhood was shot and killed, Denise witnessed the entire event unfold from her kitchen window. She knew she needed to help her son find a path to a positive future.



According to Denise, Exploring provides Keith with a real-world understanding of the values she has always wanted to teach him, such as responsibility to community, family, and self.

"It teaches you about community service, it teaches you about civics, and it also teaches you your responsibility to your community."

From the officers in Keith's Exploring post, to the city of Las Vegas, Denise says, "I have a lot of people to thank because everyone helped to put my son where he is right now."

Keith even says since the time he began Exploring, he's noticed a big difference in his confidence, from the smile on his face to the sound of his voice. Watch the video below to hear Keith's story for yourself and see how the Exploring program impacted his life—and his community—in a big way For full articles see:

<http://www.exploring.org/blog/watch-community-policing-changing-lives-las-vegas/>



2017 NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT EXPLORING LEADERSHIP ACADEMIES

During the summer of 2017, select Law Enforcement Explorers will have the unique experience of participating in the National Law Enforcement Exploring Leadership Academies. The National Law Enforcement Exploring Academy Committee will select thirty Explorers for each academy. Explorers will list their top academy choices and the Academy Committee will make the academy assignments for the selected Explorers.

The academies will feature programs on the dynamics of leadership, physical training, and law enforcement practices. The academies will begin with a group meeting on the arrival date. All Explorers will be assigned a roommate and will be housed at a University, Military Base or FLETC.

SELECTION PROCESS

Each application will be reviewed by a selection committee comprised of law enforcement representatives from the host agencies.

Thirty Explorers will be selected to attend each Leadership Academy.

Acceptance letters will be mailed to selected Explorers no later than March 31, 2017.

DATES & LOCATIONS

U.S. Marshals Service, July 9th – 15th. Washington, DC or Camp Beauregard, Alexandria, LA. Cost is \$295.00

U.S. Army Military Police, July 16th – 22nd. Fort Leonard Wood, MO. Cost is \$175.00

U.S. Customs and Border Protection, July 23rd – 29th. Washington, DC. Cost is \$295.00

Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC)/U.S. Border Patrol, July 23rd – 29th. Artesia, NM. Cost is \$175.00

Drug Enforcement Administration, Preliminary Date TBD. Quantico Marine Base. Cost is \$TBD

ONLINE REGISTRATION

Open February 1st – March 15th

Online registration will be open Wednesday February 1st at 12:00 PM Central Standard Time. Applications received after this time will not be considered for selection.

All recommendation letters and certification forms must be uploaded to your online registration account during that time. You will have the ability to log back in to edit information and upload documents at a later time. Mailed letters and forms will not be accepted.

1. You will need to submit three (3) letters of recommendation electronically through the online application. Have your letters saved as Word or PDF documents before you begin the online registration process.

2. You will need to submit your signed certification form electronically as well. Have this document signed, scanned and saved as a PDF before you begin the online registration process. [Click here to Download the Certification Form.](#)

After you have completed steps 1 and 2, you may begin the online registration process by [clicking here.](#)

For more information use this link:

<http://www.exploring.org/blog/2017-national-law-enforcement-exploring-leadership-academies/>

**2018 EXPLORING CONFERENCE – SAVE THE DATE
JULY 29 – AUGUST 1, 2018**

SAVE THE DATE

**EXPLORING™
2018 CONFERENCE**

**PROFESSIONALS
& VOLUNTEERS**

July 29 - Aug 1, 2018

**EXPLORING
YOUTH
OFFICERS**

Aug 1- 4, 2018

www.exploring.org

Summit 
BECHTEL RESERVE™

Volunteers, Explorers and professionals are invited to Save the Date for the 2018 Exploring Conference – the first in over a decade! The conference is divided into two parts and will be held in the mountains of West Virginia.

Sun July 29 – Wed Aug 1

Open to Exploring and BSA volunteers and professionals in any position. An opportunity to network, plan and get the latest Exploring updates! This part of the conference will be hosted at a high adventure resort just 15 minutes from The Summit Bechtel Reserve. Those who attend will have the opportunity (not required) to stay for the second half the Exploring Conference to serve at staff for the Exploring Youth Officers conference.

Wed Aug 1 – Sat Aug 4

Explorers who serve in any leadership position within their post or club (in any career field) are encouraged to be a part of the nationwide Exploring Officers Association kickoff at The Summit Bechtel Reserve in Glen Jean, WV. Explorers will be asked to carry the vision of the Exploring Officers Association forward into the next year by coordinating the next Exploring Youth Officers Conference. Explorers must be 13 years old to attend.

Like us on [facebook](#) for more information coming soon!

For more information use this link:

<http://www.exploring.org/blog/2018-exploring-conference-save-date-july-29-august-1-2018/>

Go Nomad! (This is not a cheer for your local sports team)

Go Nomad is the theme for the 2017 Asia/Pacific Region (APR) Jamboree being hosted by the Mongolian Scout Association in late July, early August 2017. Nomads wander and roam the countryside and this is still the habit for about one half of the population of Mongolia.

Mongolia is about one quarter the size of the USA but we have 100 times the population so that going around in Mongolia it seems very large and empty. About one half of their three million population live in the capital city of Ulaan Baatar (there are many acceptable spellings of this name in English).



The Jamboree is going to be held just outside the city limits of the capital city in the national children's center, a facility built by the Soviets in the late 1970s. The theme of Jamboree will celebrate Mongolian culture which includes horse riding, camel riding, archery and other cultural activities and exchanges including a visit to the dinosaur museum. Did you know that more dinosaur remains have been found in Mongolia than anywhere else?

It is expected that about 10,000 Scouts from APR Scouting organizations and other countries will be in attendance.

The weather in Mongolia has two extremes, very hot and very cold. July and August is the hot part and temperatures are usually in the high 90s and dry.

Although the Jamboree is short in duration, the BSA contingent will be gone roughly three weeks. Here's the plan: We will travel in a group, probably leaving from Salt Lake City to Beijing, China. A three day stop in Beijing to visit the Forbidden City, the Great Wall and other sites then board the train for an exciting overnight ride to Ulaan Baatar. Arrive in Mongolia and move directly to the Jamboree site.

Since Mongolia is so spread out the post Jamboree stay is planned for five days. This will offer the opportunity for home stay, sight seeing in UB (even the Mongolians shorten it) and side trips to various points of interest around the country. There will be an opportunity to develop a menu of options for visiting coming in future updates.

One must see is the giant (80 meter high) statue of Gengis Khan built on the site where he got his vision to spread conquer the world.

UB is a modern city in the midst of rapid growth. A special Scouting connection is that the lead architect for the design team on both the new international airport and the largest building in the country is a Scout and served as an International Camp Staff member in Camp Daniel Boone, NC in 2009.

After the Jamboree and visiting afterwards, we will fly directly from UB back through Beijing to Salt Lake City and then to your home towns. This travel will require both a valid US passport with at least six months remaining before the expiration date and a Chinese visa. Mongolia does not require a visa for short stays.

Head of contingent for this trip is Pete Armstrong, [28-654-9920](tel:28-654-9920), peteberet@aol.com. This event is a Daniel Boone Council event not a BSA national event.

Since this is the bottom line I will tell you what I believe will be the bottom line, \$3000 all inclusive. Unfortunately this is an estimate because it is still too early to make the travel plans.



WE ARE GETTING REALLY CLOSE.

Registration for participants must be in by 31 March 2017. We are traveling by "patrols" from around the country. Pete Armstrong is departing Atlanta on 24 July at 9:05 in the morning.



Northern Tier

Meet Vijay



“Hi! I’m Vijay Narayanan and I LOVE TO BAKE!”

NAYLE

Vijay’s job is to ensure the success of Northern Tier’s NAYLE training

NAYLE participants and staff are Venture and Boy Scout leaders who choose to take this advanced training. Vijay likes the balance of conference and trail knowledge that separates this course from a normal voyage at Northern Tier.

Interested in NAYLE at Northern Tier?

www.ntier.org/NTNAYLE



STAFF

Vijay is an Eagle Scout and Triple Crown Award recipient from the Atlanta Area Council.



In his free time, Vijay enjoys playing the mellophone and baking delicious desserts!

Vijay is a second year Aerospace Engineering student at Georgia Tech University.

“I can’t believe I get paid for this experience!”



If you want to be a staff member like Vijay, download an application at www.ntier.org/jobs or email jobs@ntier.org.



SEAL 2017

Sea Scout Experience Advanced Leadership (SEAL) training teaches leadership skills while underway. It is designed to “jump start” the junior leaders of new Ships and to “fine tune” leaders of experienced Ships. It is a physically and mentally demanding and a remarkably rewarding hands-on leadership experience.

Qualifications to Attend

This course is open to any Sea Scout or Scout or Venturer at least 14 years of age on the first day of the course and not yet 21 on the last day of the course. To attend a participant must be at least Ordinary for Sea Scouts, Pathfinder for Venturers and 1st Class for Boy Scouts by June 1st prior to this course.

Skills Taught

Evaluation	Managing, Supervising & Commanding
Team Building	Motivating
Leadership	Counseling
Training	Problem Solving
Communicating	Planning & Preparing
Goal Setting	Implementing & Re-Implementing

2017 Course Locations and Dates

Additional course locations and dates might be added if required.

- Chesapeake Bay, MD June 23 – July 2, 2017
- Galveston Bay, TX June 30 – July 9, 2017
- Newport Beach, CA July 6 – 16, 2017
- Seattle, WA July 6 – 15, 2017
- Long Island Sound, NY August 5 – 13, 2017

Cost

Costs are from \$250 to \$290 not including transportation to and from the course.

Additional Information and Application

<http://seascout.org/youth-training-and-education/seal/>

National Sea Scout
Support Committee
1325 West Walnut Hill Lane
P.O. Box 152079
Irving, TX 75015-2079
972-580-7810
972-580-2430 fax
www.seascout.org

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Large Crews

A series of articles

By Pete Mapes, NCAC Crew 27 Associate Advisor



Northeast Region Crew 8 World Scout Jamboree 2015
Crew Advisor Dr Pete Mapes and a group from Crew 27

Program is the most important element of a strong Senior Division Unit (Venturing, Sea Scouting and Exploring). Without program that is interesting and fun for the Venturers, Explorers and Sea Scouts, any Unit will flounder and fail. For this reason, Dr. Pete Mapes leads off a series of articles this month on Large Crews with a discussion of Program. Over the next several months he will follow up with articles on Large Unit Operations, Recruiting and Youth Leadership. Stay tuned for a peek at what turned into the largest Venturing Crew in the fourth largest Council in BSA!



Large Crews

Large Crew Service - Teaching Other Venturers

By Pete Mapes, NCAC Crew 27 Associate Advisor



Liam teaches Mentoring at the 2017 NCAC University of Scouting

It was Liam's fault! Back in September or October, he suggested that the Crew take on the responsibility for teaching Venturing advancement courses at the Council's annual University of Scouting. Liam isn't a Crew Officer this year but when he mentioned it to our Crew President, Elisabeth, it was a 'face palm' moment. She loved the idea and took it to Lola and Lisa (incoming and outgoing Advisors - well actually they are both very outgoing). Since it would happen on Lola's watch, she contacted Adair and offered to teach Goal Setting/Time Management & Mentoring. Adair is the Dean of the College of Adventure Scouting and he put the courses on the schedule.



Elisabeth - Crew 27 President



Johana - Instructor at Goal Setting

Elisabeth and Johana volunteered to teach Goal Setting/Time Management and their class size was set at 21 students. Liam and Bilal volunteered to teach Mentoring and their class size was set at 15 students.

In the mean time, yours truly was concerned that ILS(C) would fill up so I called Adair to see if we could split some older (over 18) Venturers into the adult ILS(C) class to make room for more youth in the youth ILS(C) class. Adair, it turns out was a tad ruffled because his lead instructor for teaching youth ILS(C) was no longer available to teach. He was weighing his options.

Large Crews

Large Crew Service - Teaching Other Venturers

By Pete Mapes, NCAC Crew 27 Associate Advisor

I suggested he just ask Crew 27 to take it on. We've had to run several ILS(C) classes this year in the Crew and are getting pretty good at it. He said that sounded like a good idea so I called Lola and she had two Venturers volunteering within a day. A third volunteered two weeks later. Time had flown and we were just two weeks out by the time the Venturers could get together to practice. One of them was brand new at this but the other two were old hands and very experienced. They hadn't taught 50 Venturers before but they were pretty sure they could.



Adair Petty - Dean of NCAC's College of Adventure Scouting



Lilly, Grace & Katie - Crew 27's ILS© Instructors for the 2017 NCAC University of Scouting

The ILS(C) instructors (Katie, Grace & Lilly) went through Forming, Norming, Storming and Performing in one meeting and a bunch of emails. Nona went out to pick up supplies for the larger class size. She is 'retired' following a 30 year career in the Air Force and has time during the day. I did an outline from the Instructor Guide to boil down the breakdown of the parts of the course. The instructors assigned themselves to parts of the course and figured out where and how to split the group when it was necessary.

Back at the ranch, Bilal had to drop as a mentoring instructor for sibling care issues. Liam was now on his own, but if anyone could handle it, Liam could. Back in 2013/4, when no one in our Council knew what the Venturing advancement courses even looked like, Liam took them in other Councils and brought them back to our Crew where he taught them. Liam was the first Venturer to earn Summit in our Council and in Area-6 of the BSA's Northeast Region. As of 2017 he is one of only two Summit Awardees in our Council, the third largest Council in BSA! He also holds RANGER and Eagle with 136 merit badges!

Large Crews

Large Crew Service - Teaching Other Venturers

By Pete Mapes, NCAC Crew 27 Associate Advisor

The appointed day arose - 18 Feb 2017! We all headed out to Hayfield Middle School in Arlington, VA where a thousand or so Scouts and Scouters would converge for their annual dose of BSA education. The place was over run. The parking lots were full! There were lines of people who didn't register in advance and people scurrying everywhere with the ubiquitous brown manila folders containing the individual schedule, obligatory patch, pink paper lunch ticket, school map and event evaluation sheet. Some of the historians had set up displays of historic Scouting uniforms and patches and the hallways were lined with vendors hawking camps, experiences and equipment. Everyone was more or less in uniform with a few noncomplying pairs of jeans and an incredible assortment of programs represented.

Sign up for ILS(C) was light this year, we usually turn people away. Twenty-five registered in advance, one couldn't make it because he was sick and three registered on site for a grand total of 27 students.

Mentoring filled 15 of 15 slots. Goal Setting/Time Management filled 20 of 21 slots. Surprisingly, some of the students were adults who wanted to take the course so they could teach it to their Crews. Makes me wonder why a Venturer wasn't doing that?



**Adult Mentoring Students at the 2017
NCAC University of Scouting**



**NCAC 2017 University of Scouting ILS(C)
Participants and Instructors**

At any rate, Crew 27 ended up teaching eleven hours of Venturing Specific classes at the 2017 NCAC University of Scouting and taught courses required for specific advancement for the first time ever. Reviews were good and people seemed to be pretty happy. The University of Scouting gave us a great opportunity to shine and thanks to Liam's contagious idea, we were able to render significant service to other Venturers and Venturing Leaders in our Council!



Registration is now open FAITH-CON, The 62nd Annual Diocese of Trenton Catholic Committee on Scouting (DOTCCS) which is planned and staffed by Venturing Crew 500 chartered DOTCCS as a Youth Ministry Crew.

The Retreat this year is being held on the weekend of March 10-12 and, as usual, is not what you would expect. This year we take our theme from Comic-Con - those annual events when science fiction or comic book fans gather to meet their heroes, hear them speak and learn more about them. If you have been to our retreats the past few years, you know you can expect mental and physical challenges - AND FUN. There will be team competitions, and much more. It is open to Troops, Crews and Girl Scout members in the 6th Grade or older.

For the event this year we return to Pine Tree Camp in Tabernacle, NJ. If you have been there, you'll remember the great cabins they have, with bathrooms and cooking facilities - but you won't have to worry about cooking. As usual, we will take care of all the work for you. The fee includes Saturday breakfast, lunch and dinner and Sunday breakfast. Your job is to come there with an open mind, competitive scout spirit, and a thirst for fun. In return, we hope to give you that fun, and perhaps a better understanding of your faith, and some of the heroes that made (and make) it great.

The \$35.00 fee includes cabin camping for the weekend, your food for the weekend, and a great patch designed by one of our Crew Members! To register or for additional information contact Fr. Mike Santangelo 615 Thiele Rd, Brick, NJ 08724; or frmikedt@gmail.com, or fax to 732-458-0855. He'll need your Unit type (Troop or Crew) and number, and the number of youth and adults attending. A check for \$35 per participant (Youth and Adult) should be sent to arrive at Fr. Mike's no later than March 3. After March 3rd, call Fr. Mike and check on availability. We will also consider Parish Youth Groups.

So please sign up early so we can get our count and reservation in and reserve a great cabin. See the attached booklet for a sign up flyer and directions to the camp.

See attachments for additional information. NER-Faith-Con



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®
PATRIOTS' PATH COUNCIL



AdVenturee 2017!

When: April 7 - 9, 2017

Where: Camp Somers, Mount Allamuchy Scout Reservation, 750 Waterloo Road, Stanhope

Who: Any registered Venturer, Adult leader or Venturing aged Boy Scout (14+)

What: The AdVenturee is a get together for Venturers held April 7th - 9th at Mount Allamuchy Scout Reservation (Camp Somers). Scouts from both within Patriots' Path Council and outside councils are welcome. The weekend will be full of fun activities, meeting other Venturers, and even completing requirements for the Ranger Award and Discovery, Pathfinder, and Summit Venturing awards.

Activities: ATV, Pistol Shooting, High COPE, Low COPE, Archery, Shotgun, Mountain Biking, CPR certification, Night-time Rock Wall Climbing, Movies, Star Gazing, Rocket Building / Launching, HAM radio and more.

Theme: Star Wars! Scouting appropriate costumes are welcome!

Cost: \$45 per person - includes Friday cracker barrel, Saturday breakfast & dinner and Sunday breakfast. Fee also includes a tent site and most activities. Saturday lunch can be purchased from the camp snack bar or made in site by your unit. ATV activity is an additional \$15 per participant fee. Cabin space is available at an additional \$5 per person. CPR certification \$25 (for materials and card).

Questions? Katelyn Berehako - krbear804@gmail.com
Robert Corcoran - bcorcoran191@optonline.net

Registration: <https://ppcbsa.org/> (click on the Council Calendar link and navigate to the date)





THE TELEGRAPH

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A Newsletter published by
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Boy Scouts of America.

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If you wish to comment or
have something related to
Sea Scouts, we'd like to hear
from you. Send us news of
events or story ideas to the
editor at deidre57@verizon.net



Hello,

We are pleased to announce that the Winter 2017, Volume 21, Issue 1, edition of THE TELEGRAPH "The Voice of Sea Scouts in the Northeast Region" has been posted on our Northeast Region Sea Scout Website at <http://www.nerseascout.org/> for your review, distribution, and reading pleasure.

Please share this information with your Flotilla's Sea Scouts.

This issue includes:

Year End Message from the Commodore

A View from the Fo'c'sle by the Regional Boatswain's Mate

Seabadge 28-CT-2016 held in Mystic Seaport

Honoring the Military at America's Parade

Attending the Navy Memorial Lone Sailor Award Dinner

Visiting the Charlotte Hall Veteran's Home

A Week at Sea on the 2016 USCGC Barque Eagle Cruise

And lots of other great articles submitted by our Ships!

Check out the issue!!

Would love your feedback.

Thank you.

Deidre Buchner
Editor, The Telegraph

Texas Sea Scout Academy

By Southern Region Commodore Feb 7, 2017

The 2017 Sea Scout Academy was the best ever in so many ways. Imagine a gathering of 300 Sea Scouts, perhaps the largest ever in Texas. Many of these are old friends whose acquaintance you renew at events like this. Seeing them again is always fun. Others are new and ready to be friends. All share a love of Sea Scouts. Everything at Sea Scout Academy is about relationships and doing things together.



During unstructured times, relationships grew through a variety of activities. Some enjoyed music, others gathered to play volleyball or touch football, others played wild games of cards and spoons, while still others worked on splicing and marlin spike skills. Everywhere you looked, people were laughing, and enjoying the fellowship.

That enjoyment continued into the structured times. No matter what your level of skill or knowledge, there were opportunities to improve. No matter if you just joined Sea Scouts or have been in the program for five years like me, there were fun activities to share with others the experience of learning.

For the older scouts there were special tracks. One track was SEAL prep. This track was for those planning to apply for the Sea Scout Advanced Leadership program this summer. They spent the weekend aboard ship honing skills and building team spirit.



The next track for more experienced scouts, for the first time, gave twenty of them the chance to experience the *Elissa*, a three masted barque. It has seventeen sails and all the lines that control them, and this group got to learn about the history of the ship and get some experience working the rigging. The final track for older scouts had them teaching various skills to the younger scouts. This youth led instruction allows the older scouts to be role models to the younger ones, and ensures that the tradition of Sea Scouting is passed on.

Finally, all of this happened at one of the most amazing places in the world, Sea Star Base Galveston. If you haven't been to SSBG, find a reason to get there. You can do anything on the water that you can imagine. Want to row a boat? You can do that. Want to sail a small boat, or a medium sized boat, or a big boat? You can do that. Interested in taking the helm of an 82-foot retired Coast Guard cutter through the Intracoastal Waterway? Also available to you. There is even a 110-foot vessel that is capable of marine science. There is no place like it.

See you at Sea Scout Academy 2018 or whatever floats your boat! Monica Attaway, Area 2 Yeoman
Photos by Skipper Richard Lipham



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CONQUER the country's most intimidating wilderness—the Louisiana swamps! Swamp Base is a high adventure base offering Scouting's premier high adventure canoe treks. At 1.4 million acres the Atchafalaya is the nation's largest swamp. This vast and ever-changing environment offers challenges to face and wonders to behold. Its size and diversity make it the most dynamic paddling environment in the country. Swamp Base works to educate the next generation about the importance of the Atchafalaya as a natural resource and fascinating culture through high adventure and environmental stewardship.

Swamp Base has staked its claim to being one of the coolest high adventure bases in the country. Since 2013 they have operated a 5-day, 61.6-mile paddling trail that has been completed by over 2,500 Scout participants. This trail, called Trek 1, is known for its cultural influences, engaging program, and infinite uniqueness. During the trek Scouts ride airboats, fish, compete on stand-up paddle boards, witness the wildlife, learn about Louisiana's culture, and even get to sleep on houseboats. Swamp Base's Trek 1 has been proven an incredible experience for young and old Scouters alike. It balances the challenges necessary to brag about high adventure as well as affording time and energy to participate in an exciting, engaging program.



In the summer of 2016 Swamp Base prepared to enter a new realm in high adventure. They opened the highly anticipated Trek. Trek 2 offers Scouts the opportunity to test themselves in an environment unlike any other. This trail totals 75-miles over 5-days, twisting and turning into the deepest, un-touched corners of the swamp. No houseboats, airboats, or paddleboards to be found. This trail caters to those who are knowledgeable, capable, and confident in their Scout skills. Every trek day offers a new swamp terrain as Trek 2 showcases the sheer diversity of the area. Complete with Hennessey jungle hammocks and Sawyer water filters participants truly get the full swamp experience on this primitive high adventure trek.



Only a few spots remain for 2017! Swamp Base has also opened registration for the summer of 2018 for Treks 1 and 2. If you are interested, you must reserve your trek as soon as possible. Please call or refer to the Swamp Base website for any questions about registration or to learn more about the treks!

LOUISIANA SWAMP BASE
2266 South College Rd. Ext., Suite E
Lafayette, LA 70508
info@bsaswampbase.org
bsaswampbase.org
337-235-8552

2017 ANNUAL GREATER LOS ANGELES AREA COUNCIL DINNER

Annual Greater Los Angeles Area Council Dinner held on February 1, 2017 at Quiet Cannon in Montebello, CA. Event to honor the Class of 2016 Silver Beavers awards.



Venturing Crew 561 Honor Corps, Rose Bowl District, Greater Los Angeles Area Council performing the opening ceremony playing "Assembly". Calling attention to the start of the event. From left to right: Bryan, Bailey, and Julianne. City of Pasadena Chief of Police Phillip L. Sanchez in the background.



Venturing Crew 561 Honor Corps playing "To the Colors". From left to right: Bryan, Bailey, and Julianne. City of Pasadena Chief of Police Phillip L. Sanchez and Explorer Post 19 of Pasadena in the background.

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2017 ANNUAL GREATER LOS ANGELES AREA COUNCIL DINNER



Venturing Crew 561 Honor Corp standing at attention. From left to right: Bryan, Bailey, and Julianne for presentation of the colors. . City of Pasadena Chief of Police Phillip L. Sanchez and Explorer Post 19 of Pasadena.

Opening ceremony group photo Venturing Crew 561 Honor Corps with Explorers of Post 19 of Pasadena.



Venturing Crew 561 Honor Corps with Officer from Pasadena Police Department.

ROSE BOWL DISTRICT RECOGNITION DINNER



Annual Rose Bowl Recognition District Dinner held on February 3, 2017 at Latter Day Saints Pasadena Stake Center, Pasadena, CA. Event to recognize unit and district stars for their outstanding achievements and service to Scout and their families throughout the Rose Bowl District.



Venturing Crew 561 Honor Corps, Rose Bowl District, Greater Los Angeles Area Council performing the opening ceremony playing "To the Colors".

From left to right: Bryan, Julianne, Brandon, Bailey, and Steve Rose adult leader.

Websites

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 Scouting

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

Southern Region-Venturing

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

Southern Region Sea Scout

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

Western Region Sea Scouts

<https://wrseascouts.wordpress.com/>

Western Region Venturing

<http://wrventuring.org/>

USA Scouting Service-Venturing

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

UniformingFAQ.asp

Venturing Magazine

www.venturingmag.org

National Exploring

<http://www.exploring.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, Ships, Posts, 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 the FORUM your 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

Pete Mapes—Associate Editor

Bernie Suess - Webmaster

TO SUBSCRIBE to the FORUM:

Email Bob the BEAR at

rmonto47@gmail.com

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