The FORUM

Venturing, Sea Scouting and Exploring Newsletter since 2003

APRIL 2015 Issue

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The Current FORUM newsletter:
http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletters/current_forum.php
The Current FORUM Attachments
http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletters/~forum_attach.php
The FORUM Back Issues
http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/venturing_archive.htm

This issue's attachments include:

FORUM Downloads

Central

0315 Central Point Newsletter
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National and Other

0715-International Rover Week
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2015 Venturing Board of Review Guide
2015 Venturing FAQ-Update 0115
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Sea Scout Application to join the Crew of the Coast Guard Academy
Sea Scout Recruiting Flyers
Historic Trails Specifications

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2015 Delaware Valley Flotilla Training Weekend Manual
2015 Sea Scout Boarding Manual
Sea Scout Open House Documents

Southern

0615 SR5 Venturing Summit adVENTURE Flyer

Western

Western Colorado Council Young Adult Program Guide

The Central Point

Newsletter of Central Region Venturing | BSA

Central Region

The March edition of the Central Point, the Central Region Venturing newsletter, written by the Central Region's Venturing Officers is now available on our website at http://crventuring.org/Home/Newsletters/ and is also in the FORUM downloads.

Yours in Venturing,
Brian Parro
Central Region Venturing Vice President - Communication
vp-communications@crventuring.org
Deb Keyes
Central Region Venturing Associate Advisor - Communication
http://crventuring.org

Northwoods High Adventure Base is the ultimate Scouting experience. As youth get older they want greater freedom, increased responsibility, and added adventure from their summer camp experience. These adventures offer young people a way to safely explore some incredible wilderness and develop the skills for a lifetime of adventure and leadership. The Northwoods High Adventure Base is located in Northern Wisconsin based out of two Scout Reservations, L. E. Phillips and Crystal Lake. We provide programming in:

Backpacking
Canoeing
Northwoods Experience
Scuba
Sea Kayaking

The goal of the Northwoods High Adventure Base is to provide High Adventure programming to the youth of Northern Wisconsin so that they can build their confidence and self-reliance.

Sign-up today at **Northwoodshighadventure.com**

PHILMONT 2015

Creating Exciting Exploring and Learning for Life Programs: Best Practices and Strategies

District and Council Key 3s, commissioners at all levels and district and council committee members with Exploring and Learning for Life responsibilities are invited to attend this conference. Participants will learn how to identify and fill the needs of local schools and businesses by using the total package of in-school and Exploring programs. You'll learn how to fund and sustain these programs to achieve the maximum benefit to both the youth and the organizations who serve youth. Faculty will include National Learning for Life volunteers and professionals who will share best practices and strategies. (Week 3: June 21-27) *PTC Key 3 Scholarship is applicable to this conference.* For more information click here or contact Brooke.Parkinson@lflmail.org.

[http://www.philmontscoutranch.org/PTC.aspx]

National and other Articles

VENTURING Board of Review Guide

The latest revision of the VENTURING Board of Review Guide is included in FORUM Downloads.

NATIONAL OUTDOOR AWARDS PROGRAM
UPDATED January 2015

Do you enjoy camping under the stars, rafting a whitewater river, or hitting the trail afoot, on a bike, or even on a horse? Can you pitch a tent, find your way, and bandage an ankle using only materials in your pack? Are you prepared to do any of these in rain, snow, sleet, or heat? If so, the National Outdoor Awards are for you. There is nothing virtual about these awards—you can earn them only by demonstrating knowledge and experience in the outdoors. So, if you are a Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, Sea Scout, or Venturer and think you are tough and disciplined enough to hike or ride the miles, camp the nights, run the rivers or lakes or do the work to conserve the land, then read on and see if the National Outdoor badges or possibly the National Medal for Outdoor Achievement could be for you!

National Outdoor Awards for Camping, Aquatics, Conservation, Hiking, Riding, and Adventure

When a youth excels in outdoor participation, there are awards to show for it! This program, conceived by the National Camping Task Force of the BSA®, includes a series of six badges designed to recognize a Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, Sea Scout, or Venturer who has exemplary knowledge and experience in performing high-level outdoor activities.

The award consists of up to six emblem segments positioned around the perimeter of a beautiful center emblem. All are embroidered in full color. The segments represent six areas of emphasis: Camping, Aquatics, Conservation, Hiking, Riding, and Adventure, with rigorous requirements to earn each segment. The center emblem features an outdoor scene with fleur-de-lis and the words "National Outdoor Awards."

National Outdoor Riding Segment	**Item 610682**
National Outdoor Hiking Segment	**Item 610683**
National Outdoor Camping Segment	**Item 610684**
National Outdoor Conservation Segment	**Item 620707**
National Outdoor Aquatics Segment	**Item 610685**
National Outdoor Adventure Segment	**Item 610686**
National Outdoor Award Center Emblem	**Item 610687**

The six National Outdoor Awards badges recognize a Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, Sea Scout or Venturer who demonstrates knowledge and experience in camping, hiking, aquatics, riding, conservation or adventure. Youth earning the National Outdoor Awards badges have demonstrated that they are knowledgeable, safe, and comfortable in the outdoor activity covered by the badge.

NATIONAL OUTDOOR AWARDS PROGRAM
UPDATED January 2015

National Outdoor Awards badges may be earned in the following areas:

Camping. A Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, Sea Scout or Venturer may earn the National Outdoor Badge for Camping upon successfully completing the following requirements:

1. Earn the Boy Scout First Class rank, Sea Scout Apprentice rank, *or* complete Venturing Ranger Award requirements 1-6.
2. Complete the Camping merit badge requirements.
3. Complete the requirements for two of the following three: Cooking merit badge *or* Ranger Cooking core; First Aid merit badge *or* Ranger First Aid core; Pioneering merit badge.
4. Complete 25 days and nights of camping—including six consecutive days (five nights) of camping (Sea Scouts may be on a boat), approved and under the auspices and standards of the Boy Scouts of America—including nights camped as part of requirements 1 through 3 above. Boy Scouts and Varsity Scouts must complete six consecutive days (five nights) of the 25 nights at a BSA accredited resident camp.

A gold device may be earned for each additional 25 nights of camping. A silver device is earned for each additional 100 nights of camping. The youth may wear any combination of devices totaling his or her current number of nights camping.

Hiking. A Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, Sea Scout or Venturer may earn the National Outdoor Badge for Hiking upon successfully completing the following requirements:

1. Earn the Boy Scout First Class rank, Sea Scout Apprentice rank, *or* complete Venturing Ranger Award requirements 1-6.
2. Complete the requirements for one of the following: Hiking merit badge, Backpacking merit badge *or* Venturing Ranger Backpacking elective.
3. Complete the requirements for one of the following: Orienteering merit badge, Geocaching merit badge, *Pathfinding merit badge or Venturing Ranger Land Navigation core requirement.
4. Complete 100 miles of hiking, backpacking, snowshoeing, or cross country skiing under the auspices of the Boy Scouts of America, including miles hiked as part of requirements 2 and 3.

Note: *Only the Scouts who have already earned the Pathfinding merit badge during Scouting's Centennial Celebration during 2010 and first quarter of 2011 can receive credit for this requirement. This badge has been discontinued since, and can no longer be earned.

NATIONAL OUTDOOR AWARDS PROGRAM
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A gold device may be earned for each additional 50 miles hiked, backpacked, snowshoed or skied as outlined in Requirements 2 and 3. A silver device is earned for each additional 200 miles of hiking. The youth may wear any combination of devices totaling his or her current number of miles hiking.

Aquatics. A Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, Sea Scout or Venturer may earn the National Outdoor Badge for Aquatics upon successfully completing the following requirements:

1. Earn the Boy Scout First Class rank, Sea Scout Apprentice rank, *or* complete Venturing Ranger Award requirements 1-6.
2. Complete the requirements for the Swimming merit badge and either Lifesaving merit badge *o*r Venturing Ranger Lifesaver elective. (For Sea Scouts, swimming merit badge requirements are an Ordinary rank requirement and lifesaving merit badge requirements are an Able rank requirement).
3. Complete the requirements for the Mile Swim BSA Award.
4. Complete the requirements for at least one of the following: Canoeing, Fishing, Fly Fishing, Kayaking, Rowing, Scuba Diving, Small-Boat Sailing, Water Sports, or Whitewater merit badges or Ranger Award Fishing, SCUBA or Watercraft electives. Complete at least 25 hours of on-the-water time, applying the skills that you learned in the merit badge or Ranger elective.
5. Complete at least 50 hours of any combination of swimming, canoeing, fishing, fly fishing, kayaking, rowing, scuba, small-boat sailing, stand up paddleboarding, water sports or whitewater activity under the auspices of the Boy Scouts of America, including time spent in requirements 2 through 4.

A gold device may be earned for each additional 25 hours of aquatic activity listed in Requirement 5. A silver device is earned for each additional 100 hours of aquatic activity. The youth may wear any combination of devices totaling his or her current number of hours of aquatic activity.

Conservation. A Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, Sea Scout or Venturer may earn the National Outdoor Badge for Conservation upon successfully completing the following requirements:

1. Earn the Boy Scout First Class rank, Sea Scout Apprentice rank, *or* complete Venturing Ranger Award requirements 1-6.
2. Demonstrate the safe use of five the following conservation tools: pick or pick axe; shovel or spade; axe; bow saw; cross cut saw; prybar; sledge hammer; loppers or shears; fire rake or McLeod; and/or Pulaski. Discuss the ethical use of the tools you chose.

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3 Complete the requirements for the following:

A. Environmental Science merit badge *or* Sustainability merit badge *o*r both Venturing Ranger Conservation core and Ecology elective;

B. Soil and Water Conservation merit badge; and

C. One of the following merit badges: Fish and Wildlife Management, Forestry or Mammals.

4. Complete 25 hours of conservation work under the auspices and standards of the Boy Scouts of America, including hours worked as part of requirements #1 through #3.

A gold device may be earned for each additional 25 hours of conservation work. A silver device is earned for each additional 100 hours of conservation work (for example, the first silver device is earned at 125 hours total conservation work). The youth may wear any combination of devices totaling his or her current number of hours of conservation work.

Riding. A Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, Sea Scout or Venturer may earn the National Outdoor Badge for Riding upon successfully completing the following requirements:

1.Earn the Boy Scout First Class rank, Sea Scout Apprentice rank, *or* complete Venturing Ranger Award requirements 1-6.

2.Complete the requirements for at least one of the following:

A. Cycling merit badge or Ranger Cycling/Mountain Biking elective and 100 miles of cycling; or

B. Horsemanship merit badge or Ranger Equestrian elective and 20 miles of horseback riding; or

C. Motor boating merit badge or Ranger Watercraft elective and 100 miles of motor boating; or

D. Skating merit badge or Ranger Winter Sports elective and 20 miles of skating.

3 Complete 200 miles of riding activities, including cycling, stock riding, skating, motor boating, mountain boarding, snowmobiling, (including ATV or PWC riding at an approved council program), under the auspices of the Boy Scouts of America, including the miles in requirement 2.

A gold device may be earned for each additional 100 miles of riding set forth in Requirement 3. A silver device is earned for each additional 400 miles of riding. The youth may wear any combination of devices totaling his or her current number of miles of riding.

NATIONAL OUTDOOR AWARDS PROGRAM
UPDATED January 2015

Adventure. A Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, Sea Scout or Venturer may earn the National Outdoor Badge for Adventure upon successfully completing the following requirements:

1. Earn the Boy Scout First Class rank, Sea Scout Apprentice rank, *or* complete Venturing Ranger Award requirements 1-6.
2. Complete the requirements for one of the following: Wilderness Survival, Search and Rescue, or Emergency Preparedness merit badges or Ranger Wilderness Survival core, Ranger Emergency Preparedness core or Ranger First Aid elective.
3. Complete 10 of any combination or repetition of the following adventure activities under the auspices of the Boy Scouts of America:

a. A backpacking trip lasting three or more days and covering more than 20 miles without food resupply
b. A canoeing, rowing, or sailing trip lasting three or more days and covering more than 50 miles without food resupply
c. A whitewater trip lasting two or more days and covering more than 20 miles without food resupply
d. A climbing activity on open rock, following Climb On Safely principles, that includes camping overnight
e. Earn the National Historic Trails Award.
f. Earn the 50-Miler Award.
g. Attend any national high-adventure base or any nationally recognized local high-adventure or specialty-adventure program.

Items 3a-g may be repeated as desired. A single activity that satisfies multiple items in 3a-g may be counted as separate activities at the discretion of the unit leader. Similarly, a single activity that doubles an item in 3a-d may be counted as two activities at the discretion of the unit leader. A gold device may be earned for each additional five activities. A silver device is earned for each additional 20 activities. The youth may wear any combination of devices totaling his or her current number of activities.

National Outdoor Awards Devices

As defined in the requirements for the National Outdoor Awards Program, additional achievements in any of the six areas can be recognized by placing a gold- or silver-finish device on the appropriate activity segment.

Gold	Item 610643
Silver	Item 610644

Handbook for Venturers

The *Handbook for Venturers*, No. 33494, was released in mid-September. Completely re-written, the new handbook is divided into five chapters.

Chapter 1, "Venturing Essentials," describes where Venturing fits in the BSA organization and provides an overview of the program. It also covers leader-ship in Venturing, Venturing officers associations, and the new Venturing awards.

Chapter 2 explores what Venturers do. It describes the ALPS model—the four areas of program emphasis: Adventure, Leadership, Personal Growth, and Service—and how the model guides the program that the Venturers develop. It also covers topics such as, the three tiers of Venturing adventures, crafting the crew's visions, setting goals, facing ethical controversies, and the benefits of service.

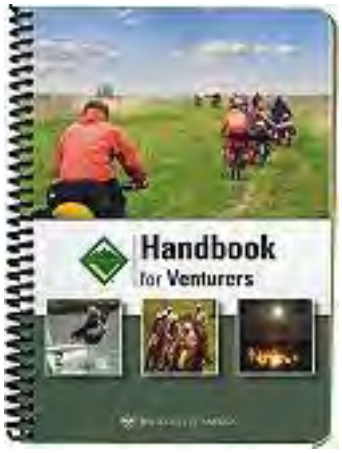
Chapter 3, for more experienced Venturers, focuses on how to plan and lead the crew's adventures. It includes detailed information on planning activities, which not only serves to organize exciting adventures and significant service projects, but also provides a laboratory for developing essential life skills.

Chapter 4 is a resource section. It includes information on planning, leadership, and adventure, and also program resources such as the BSA's high adventure bases and the specialty awards.

The book closes with **Chapter 5**, "My Venturing Trail," which helps members record adventure and service experiences and track progress on award requirements.

Two companion volumes are also available. *Venturing Awards and Requirements*, No. 34784; presents specific detailed requirements for Venturing's awards; details the requirements for the TRUST, Quest, and Ranger awards; and describes other opportunities for Venturers. The *Venturing Advisor Guidebook,* No. 34655, presents practical advice on everything from how to set up a crew, to how to support Venturers in their next great adventures.

Article from the Advancement News



2015 NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT EXPLORING LEADERSHIP ACADEMIES

DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION	**June 20 — June 27; Washington, DC**
U.S. MARSHALS SERVICE	**July 5 — July 11; Washington, DC**
U.S. ARMY MILITARY POLICE	**July 11 — July 18; Fort Leonard Wood, MO**
U.S. SECRET SERVICE	**July 12 — July 18; Washington, DC**

PREVIEW

During the summer of 2015, Law Enforcement Explorers will have the unique experience of participating in the National Law Enforcement Exploring Leadership Academies. The Leadership Academy Selection Committee will choose thirty Explorers for each Academy. Explorers will list their top five Academy choices and the Committee will make the Academy assignments for the selected Explorers.

APPLICATION

Each Explorer must complete the application (see note below) and submit a statement of "What Law Enforcement Exploring Has Meant to Me". The applicant must be a current participant of Law Enforcement Exploring for no fewer than 12 months. "*NOTE: Applicants who previously participated in a National Law Enforcement Exploring Leadership Academy will be only given secondary consideration to allow for as many qualified Explorers as possible to attend their first academy.*"

PROGRAMS

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 in the Marriott Crystal City, the DEA Academy, area colleges, universities, or Fort Leonard Wood.

FEES

For the DEA, US Marshals Service, and Secret Service Academy, participants will personally pay for transportation to and from Washington, D.C. (Ronald Reagan National Airport). In addition, the participants will pay an administration fee of $295.00 to the National Law Enforcement Exploring Office. For the U.S. Military Police Academy, participants will personally pay for transportation to and from (Lambert-St. Louis International Airport) and the participants will pay an administration fee of $175 to the National Law Enforcement Exploring Office. Explorers attending the academies in Washington, DC will be expected to cover costs for some of the meals. Explorers arriving early or staying late will be responsible for early/late costs and chaperones. Also, spending money and uniform costs are the participant's responsibility.

UNIFORM

Each Explorer **must** bring one and preferably two post dress uniforms.

DEADLINE

The completed nomination form with the appropriate certifications must be **RECEIVED**, not postmarked, in the national office no later than **February 2, 2015.** Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.

SELECTION PROCESS

Each application will be reviewed through a selection process conducted by law enforcement executives drawn from the sponsoring Agencies. Selections and alternates will be determined and notified of their appointment.

Note: Applications will be available on November 3, 2014 at www.learningforlife.org/exploring/lawenforcement

the workbook is in FORUM downloads

Quartermaster Leadership Service Project Workbook

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

Advising the Northeast Region World Scout Jamboree Crew

My name is Pete Mapes and I really enjoy Scouting. I've seen it change lives for the better and it is a lot of fun. I was a Scout and an Explorer in my youth and I had the privilege of representing Region 3 of the BSA at the 13th World Scout Jamboree at Asigri Heights, near the base of Mount Fugi in 1971. I was a Patrol Leader in Troop 314 for that Jamboree. The next year I was in the Air Force where I served for nearly 38 years. This summer, the BSA is joining 161 other countries of the World Organization of the Scouting Movement (WOSM) at Kirara-Hama in Japan for the 23rd World Scout Jamboree. The Japanese were superlative hosts the first time in 1971 and I am not getting any younger so I had to go back. We are going to have a great time!

I have advised a Crew in Montgomery County, Maryland since 2009. Crew 27 is active, big (41 registered Venturers), and like a family. When Northeast Region put out the call for leaders for the 23rd World Scout Jamboree, I drove up to the Philadelphia area with one of my old Scouting buddies and we interviewed in March of 2014. I took articles the Venturers from Crew 27 had written about their experiences to explain to the interviewers what our Venturing Program looked like. The Venturers had written about how 19 youth from our Crew made up 19 of the 36 youth in Crew F508 at the 2013 National Jamboree and how we had taken 16 youth to the Shakedown at the Summit in 2012. They wrote about 50+ mile backpacks during weeks in the summer in the Allegheny Mountains of Virginia and Science trips to the Green Bank National Radio Astronomy Observatory. They talked about two weeks each summer in the marvelous Venturing Program at Goshen Scout Reservation and working through the Outdoor Bronze Award toward RANGER. The talked about sorting food for the needy in our communities and awesome service projects. They told a better story than I ever could!

After the interview, I was advised that I was selected contingent on recruiting at least nine participants for the World Scout Jamboree. There were 16 Venturers in our Crew from age 14 to 17 who wanted to sign up, and 14 finally did. Four of our 18 to 21 year olds and three of our leaders also signed up to be International Service Team (IST) members. Several of the Venturers had been working on the money for a year before I interviewed. The selling of Trail's End Popcorn by the Venturers had amassed $30K+ in sales for each of the last several years. The price for the Jamboree was steep, at $5,750, but when I plugged the $900 I paid in 1970 for the 1971 WSJ, it turned out that its present day value is $5,499 – within 5% of what was being charged for the 2015 WSJ. Not a bad deal, I decided – of course the tour of Japan was 6 days shorter in 2015. Back in 1971 we toured Tokyo, Nara, Nikko, and Kyoto for a week and a half and had a superb time.

Advising the Northeast Region World Scout Jamboree Crew

No Explorers went from the US in 1971 so the contingent was all male. I was also able to recruit a couple of Boy Scouts so I ended up with credit for about 18 youth, twice what was asked. The next thing that happened, in August of 2014, was that I got a call on my cell phone, while I was touring Greenfield Village in Detroit, MI during our annual Crew 27 adventure trip. A.J. Block wanted to know if I would be willing to advise the NER Crew. I have to tell you I was elated!

Now the work began. I absolutely believe in Unit Democracies and Youth Leadership. I was completely committed to electing the President and the Crew Leaders (Patrol Leader Equivalents). I'd been a Scoutmaster to the 2010 National Jamboree and an Advisor to the 2013 National Jamboree and in each case, adults insisted on picking the Senior youth leadership. I was convinced that this was not the right way to do it. Crew 70008 was going to have elections for all major offices! Once the youth were elected, they were going to take over and run the Crew and I was going to do what Advisors do best – advise! The Crew filled quickly to 36. We lost a few but quickly replaced them. The final demographics for our 36 youth included nine from New England and twenty-seven from Maryland, Virginia, New Jersey & Pennsylvania. Crew 27 had the strongest representation making up 14 of the 36. Most of the remainder of the southern NER contingent came from the National Capital Area Council. The natural geographic division of the Crew gave us one MiniCrew from New England and three MiniCrews from the southern part of Northeast Region. I sent out a questionnaire asking people about their interests, experience and training and surfaced eight Venturers interested in senior leadership positions and six interested in Crew Leader Positions. Things were looking very good. The gender demographics were also evenly balanced with eighteen young women and eighteen young men. A lot of the youth had completed NYLT, we had a Silver Awardee, a RANGER who is also an Eagle, many Outdoor Bronzes, and a few NAYLE grads. Lots of talent!

We needed everyone to get acquainted with each other so I set up a couple of face to face meetings among the Venturers divided between North and South so no one had to travel too far. Gary Pan (1st AA) and I flew up to New England to get to meet our Northern Mini-Crew. Our three Associate Advisors were very well prepared and Gary had a teleconferencing account he let us use for several Crew meetings. It was extraordinarily useful. Our Second (Elena) and Third (Sofia) AAs hail from the Boston suburbs and are very motivated!

From Left t Right: Sofia Von Fedak (3rd AA), Elena Raffensperger (2nd AA), Pete Mapes (Advisor), Gary Pan (1st AA)

Advising the Northeast Region World Scout Jamboree Crew

Once people got to know each other and the MiniCrews were formed, we held elections for Crew President. Three people ended up running and no one had a clear majority on the first ballot. On the second ballot, with two left in the race, the vote was almost a perfect split of the Crew. We had lost one participant so thirty-five Venturers voted and Amanda won with a one vote majority, whew. It was now November of 2014.

Next step was for Amanda to appoint the Vice Presidents. We needed three – Admin, Program & Quartermaster. Valeria was picked for Admin, Liam for Program and Wes for Quartermaster.

With the Senior Crew Leadership in place, we were now free to elect the Crew Leaders for the MiniCrews. Each MiniCrew held an election and we ended up with four motivated and well qualified Crew Leaders. The MiniCrews (Patrols if you will) are critical for the life of the Crew as a whole because they form the four families or clans that make up the larger Crew. If the MiniCrews work, communication is a breeze and everything else works, if they don't, it is hard on the President. Josh, Elisabeth, Anastasia (Spot) and Miguel were elected MiniCrew leaders. They went right to work and appointed Katie, TeeTee, Kurt and Taylor as the Assistant MiniCrew Leaders. The miniCrews were formed and meeting with leadership in place by early December of 2014.

We needed a shakedown location and we needed more than a weekend to get everything sorted, get the relationships working and gel the Crew. By November we had picked the Venturing Program at Goshen Scout Reservation's Camp Bowman as our Shakedown venue for the second week of camp next summer. Only two people were not excited about it, one of our Venturers was headed to Philmont that week and another one's father had to reschedule a family trip to the West coast to make it work. Not bad all things considered. Our Philmont bound Venturer will need to shakedown with another Unit. Not ideal, but she's been to a National Jamboree as a participant and has a huge clue – it will be fine! The Venturing Program at Camp Bowman is awesome and the Crew is really looking forward to it. They'll get 15 hours of COPE together, do patrol cooking in their campsites just like the Jamboree and be smack dab in the middle of some of the most stunning country in the United States! The 'Wow' factor is incredible, not to mention a 480+ Acre lake that is 2.5 miles long and a half mile wide for amazing water sports! The whole camp is ringed by mountains with just three passes. Google photos of it if you want to see some amazingly lovely terrain!

At present we are collecting shakedown payments and medicals. Nearly all of the passports have arrived and everything is coming together nicely. All of the payments are up to date and we did really well on getting financial help for some of our kids, without deep pockets, thanks to BSA HQ and some private donors. The Crew is absolutely superb and everyone is pulling in the same direction. We are working on Crew patches, t-shirts and neckerchiefs. Amanda is doing a great job as President and her VPs are shouldering the load to get everything done. The MiniCrew Leaders are building their families and the MiniCrews are bonding well. Communication is still our biggest issue and we are working on it.

Advising the Northeast Region World Scout Jamboree Crew

We depart on the 24th of July and return on the 9th of August. We will have a spectacular time and the youth will lead the Adventure!!! Spots are still available for Venturers in the Southern and Central Region Crews, it isn't too late to sign up as long as there are some empty places and you don't need to be from those regions to go although you will likely get assigned to those Crews.

Crew A

Crew B

Crew C

Crew D

Pete Mapes is a retired Air Force Pilot and Medical Doctor who is very happy to be advising a really awesome group of Venturers on their way to the 23rd World Scout Jamboree at Kirara-Hama in Yamaguchi Prefecture, Japan. An Eagle Scout, he holds Scouting's Distinguished Eagle Scout Award and the Silver Beaver. In 2001 he received the Outstanding Girl Scout Leader Award from the ROS Service Unit of the Girl Scouts of the San Antonio Area. He was the Scoutmaster for National Capital Area Council's Troop 515 to the 2010 National Scout Jamboree at Fort AP Hill and an Advisor for NCAC Crew F508C during the 2013 National Jamboree at The Summit. He served as a physician on the International Service Team to the 2007 World Scout Jamboree at Chelmsford, England. He has served as a warranted Scout Leader for Scouts UK in the United Kingdom as well as a Scoutmaster and Advisor for US Units. He is completely committed to youth leadership and advises NCAC Crew 27 in Montgomery County, Maryland.

Leading a World Scout Jamboree Crew

By Amanda Hobgood

All of my previous Venturing positions helped to prepare me for this moment -- the election. Throughout my scouting career, I have served on the District, Council and Area Venturing Officers Associations (VOAs). I also founded the Old Bay service area VOA and served as a mini crew leader for the 2013 National Jamboree. After I learned that my World Jamboree crew was electing a President, it was no surprise to those who knew me that I was eager to run for the office. All my life I wanted to make a difference and I discovered that Venturing was my best opportunity to do so. Not only have I been able to improve my own leadership skills but also help others benefit as well. I yearned to assist my crew members in reaching their "summit" moment. Therefore, being president of the 2015 World Jamboree Crew 70008, the only world jamboree crew in the entire Northeast Region, was a once in a lifetime opportunity that I could not refuse.

Elections were nerve-wrecking. Pete Mapes, the Advisor, collected a survey on each member's leadership experience, trainings and interest in positions, there were three people who were qualified and interested to run for Crew President: Liam, Wesley, and me. The competition was tough since both are able leaders and one of them is an Eagle Scout with all 136 merit badges. Before the call with the entire crew where each candidate would present a speech and answer questions, campaigning was crucial. Now within Venturing, I find that normal campaigning isn't very effective. My goal was to honestly get to know each individual crew member. I stayed active on the Crew's Facebook page asking personality questions and emailed individuals to find out how they were doing. I didn't want to ask Crew members to vote for me if they didn't get to know me first. After the first call and the initial election, there was no clear majority vote, so the second round consisted of Liam and me; who had the two highest amount of votes. I continued to post on Facebook my goals of being President, mainly focusing on networking within the crew and communication. The election was close but I managed to win by a single vote.

The next step was to choose VPs. I needed to select a VP of Administration, a VP of Program and a VP Quartermaster. There were about eight people who expressed interest so I called each one individually and asked a few simple questions such as why they were interested and what their goals were. I narrowed it down to four candidates but it was a struggle to only choose three. I already decided that Valeria would be the VP of Administration since she was qualified, administration was her expertise and she was the only person interested from the New England area. Then I decided that Liam would be the VP of Program not just because he was an Eagle Scout and nearly won the President election, but also because of his experience in leading Program within Crew 27 and his insight about Goshen. Both would be immensely beneficial in regard to our Crew shakedown there. Lastly I needed to decide on a Quartermaster. I narrowed it down between two people who both served as the top Quartermaster for their Crews as well as a Quartermaster for the 2013 National Jamboree. Despite the difficult decision, I finally decided upon Wesley because he was the best fit for the position.

Now since the crew as a whole is split into four separate mini-crews, each one had to elect their own Mini-Crew Leader (MCL), Assistant MCL, Quartermaster, Correspondent and Chaplain's Aid. I attended each meeting to oversee the elections in person except for the one based in New England (the others were based around the DC area). Each mini-crew has been holding monthly meetings, and are working on making their own shirts and flags. It can be a challenge to communicate to every single mini-crew but I've managed to attend most meetings and Facebook and email are useful resources. My VPs have also been an enormous help in creating a monthly newsletter and communicating to members to submit their medical and passport information. Now we are focusing on planning the shakedown so it will resemble the actual Jamboree as closely as possible. Every single leader is needed, one VP to help plan activities, one to make sure everyone has the correct supplies and another to help me to communicate with the MCLs as each will have to relay the information to their Mini-Crew.

Leading a World Scout Jamboree Crew

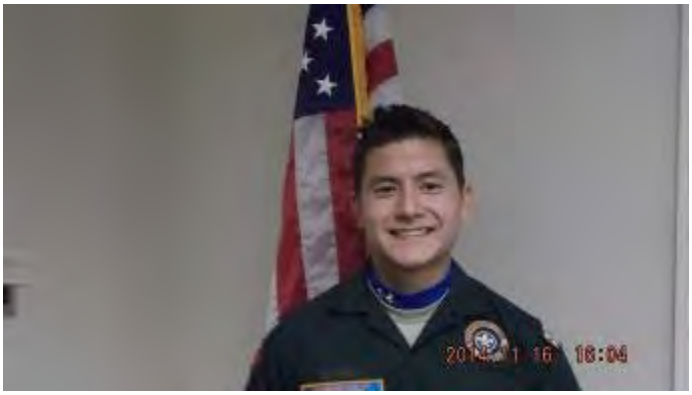
Overall, being president is taxing but worth it. There seem to be multiple emails every single day with a new obligation. I even attend a monthly World Jamboree Northeast Region Leader's Conference call where I am the only youth in attendance. However, I wouldn't trade the stress of running a crew covering the entire Northeast Region for anything because the benefits outweigh any cons. I've acquired priceless leadership experience and forged relationships that could never have been made possible otherwise. I love being able to help the other members have an incredible experience and enable them to become better leaders.

I am so thankful that I was able to be elected by my astounding peers. In fact I'm the only Jamboree crew president in the country to have been elected instead of being appointed. Through the election I have gotten to know my crew members more; I feel like I truly earned the position and the entire crew feels more connected because each person better realizes that they are a crucial part of the whole.

Amanda

Liam

Valeria



Wesley

Amanda Hobgood hails from National Capital Area Council's Zekiah District and is a 17-year-old Junior at Henry E. Lackey High School in Indian Head, MD. She has earned her Venturing Silver Award, two Venturing Leadership Awards (at the Council and Area levels) and her Girl Scout Gold award. Outside of scouting, she is active in student council as a liaison to the Board of Education, a leading member of the drama club, a member of the Symphonic Band as the First Chair clarinet, as well as MESA, Key Club and It's Academic. She is also currently taking five AP classes and is enrolled in her high school's engineering program. She aspires to be an architectural engineer.

Crew 276 Skills Instruction Event for Pack 180

On February 13th, Venturing Crew 276 of Byram NJ hosted a skills instruction event for the Cub Scouts of Pack 180 of Branchville NJ. The Crew members taught the Cub Scouts skills that helped the younger scouts in their rank advancements. It was the second event that the Venturing Crew had done for Pack 180.

The event was split into stations which were run by teams of Crew members. Each team taught a specific skill to the Cub Scouts. At each station, the Crew members demonstrated the skills to the Cub Scouts. Then it was the younger Scouts' turn to demonstrate their newfound knowledge for the Crew members. The skills taught were first aid for cold-weather related conditions, orienteering skills with map and compass, cold weather safety, and first aid carries and splints.

This event also allowed the Crew members to fulfill their own award requirements by allowing them to teach and mentor the Cub Scouts, which are key points of the Venturing program.

Written by Carson Monks

Crew Secretary Carson Monks teaches splints to

Crew President Chris Rozek and Crew member Bradford Van Orden teach Cub Scouts various knots

Crew Vice President of Public Relations Stephen Rozek, Crew members Marcus Hobson and Sam Brothman teach many different First Aid skills

Byram Venturing Crew 276 Cleans Up Liberty State Park
by Christopher Rozek, Crew President

On October 2nd to the 4th, Patriot's Path Council, Boy Scouts of America will host a jamboree at Liberty State Park. This jamboree will be an event where thousands of Scouts and scouters will gather together and participate in fun-filled activities. This will be the first overnight event since the 9-11 tragedy. In preparation for this epic event, Liberty State park will be having many clean up days where scouting groups will be preparing the park for the Liberty Jamboree.

On March 14th, Venturing Crew 276 attended one of these clean-up days. Lori, the park ranger, gathered everybody together to explain what needed to be done. Our primary responsibility was to remove the foreign debris from the riprap at the edge of the Hudson River. The temperature was just above freezing with rain steadily falling down on us. It was surprising to us how much garbage there was in one area. Even with the cold weather, rain and huge amount of garbage, our crew, along with other scouts, had fun while making a huge impact in the park.

My favorite part of this trip was spending time with likeminded people who wanted to help make a difference by cleaning up the park so that other people can enjoy its beauty.

After the clean-up, Crew 276 decided to pay a visit to a nearby special area. We took a trip to the Teardrop Monument, a monument given to us by Russia in remembrance of the people who died in 9-11. The monument is a beautiful tribute to the men and women who died and I encourage all to visit.

Group photo at the Tear Drop Monument

Group photo with collected trash

Information about the Jamboree, the Teardrop Monument and our Venturing Crew can be found at the websites listed below.

Liberty Jamboree Info
http://signs-up.ppbsa.org/2014/02/18/save-the-date-2015-liberty-jamboree
Liberty Jamboree Facebook Page
https://www.facebook.com/2015libertyjambo
Teardrop Monument Info
http://www.911monument.com
Venturing Crew 276 Website
http://venturecrew276.com

Sea Scout Recruiting

Bosn and Bosnmate,

This "OPEN HOUSE" plan has been used successfully by many Ships during the past years. We have carefully reviewed each detail and guaranty that if your Ship follows each step, you should recruit more than enough new members.

Occasionally, Ships try their own scheme to recruit new members. In almost every case they failed and the Ship reverted to the tried and proven methods described in this booklet.

It is important to keep the following objectives I mind when planning your Open House:

1. To constantly revitalize the Ship with new membership.
2. To make the personal invite to a friend, co-worker, relative, and younger school student.
3. To expose the sponsoring institution to the public.
4. To introduce the new members and parents to the Ships Officers and Crew and to inform them about the program of your Ship and the entire Sea Scout Program.
5. We urge you to follow this tried and proven method.

Need help? Call your Mates, Skipper, Flotilla Leader or the BSA District Executive.

Respectfully,

Commodore Marshall Parsons
Sea Scout New England Flotilla
mailto:twinpars@earthlink.net

Attachments:
See the Many Sea Scouting Recruiting Flyers in FORUM Downloads

NER Area 5 Presents

Willow Wonka's Rendezvous

The oompa loompas are coming! The 2015 NER Area 5 Rendezvous is an adventure with Willow Wonka and her oompa loompas! We have dozens of events and activities for you to enjoy at the event, including:

-Fencing with Candy Canes
-Climbing Candy Mountain
-Talking with Oompa Loompas
-3D Printing
-Chemistry
-Sumo Suit Wrestling
-Find the Golden Egg
-Candy Making
-Invinting Room
-Radio Broadcasting
-Action Archery, Archery, Pistol & Semi Automatic Rifle

And SO MUCH MORE!

Pricing:

May 1st- $40 per person (early bird special)

May 2nd to May 19th - $45 per person - Regular fee

May 20th - $50 per person

For More Information go to www.ne5venturing.org

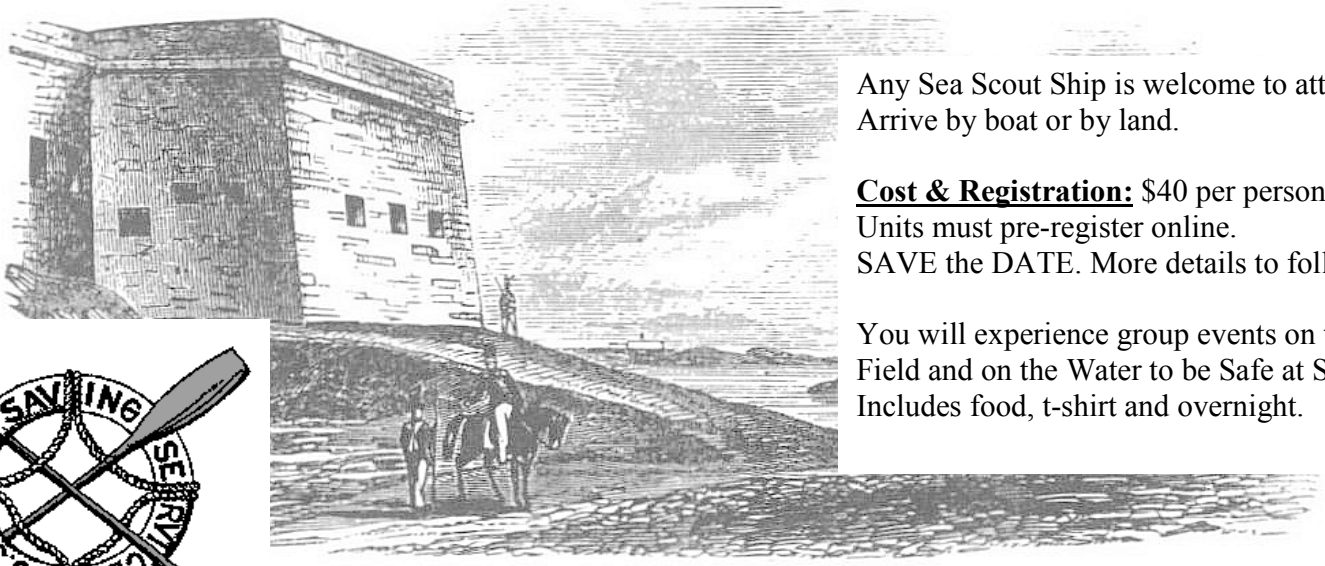
nerarea5@gmail.com

May 22nd, 2015- May 24th, 2015 Camp Acahela, Blakeslee, PA

The New England Flotilla hosts
The New London
Sea Scout Rendezvous

SAFETY AT SEA

June 5 - 7, 2015



Any Sea Scout Ship is welcome to attend.
Arrive by boat or by land.

Cost & Registration: $40 per person.
Units must pre-register online.
SAVE the DATE. More details to follow.

You will experience group events on the Field and on the Water to be Safe at Sea.
Includes food, t-shirt and overnight.

Located at Fort Trumbull State Park
&
United States Coast Guard Station
New London, CT

Marshall Parsons
New England Flotilla
Commodore
twinpars@earthlink.net
860-938-7681

Venturing, BSA

LEAD THE ADVENTURE

NORTHEAST REGION SPRING LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

SAVE THE DATE!

JUNE 5-7, 2015

CAMP LEWIS
ROCKAWAY, NJ

Camp hosted by Northern New Jersey Council and run by the Northeast Region Venturing Officers' Association. Price and registration soon to come!

Are you currently, or soon taking office for, a Venturing Officer position in a Council, Area or Regional Venturing Officers' Association (VOA)? Do you feel you could use some training, information, resources and/or tips for your incoming term? Maybe you would like to share your tips with the incoming officers in nearby VOAs! If you answered yes to the above questions, this event is for you. This year's Leadership Conference will feature many useful sessions, including, but not limited to, the ones below.

Working with Adult Leadership (volunteers and Scouting Professionals)

Recruitment and Membership Retention

Event Planning and Proper Marketing

Venturing Updates and Resources

Area and Council Relationships

Area VOA teambuilding

VENTURING, BSA

Primary Contacts:
Chris Soundis
CSoundis0224@gmail.com
(781) 475-4392

Michelle Holmes
mdhmd@aol.com

VENTURING · BSA®

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
PATRIOTS' PATH COUNCIL

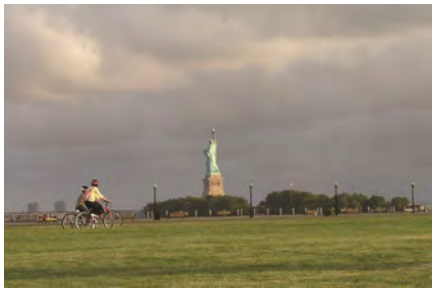
2015 Liberty Jamboree

You're Invited To The Venturing Village!*

When you attend the Jamboree as a Venturing, Sea, or Exploring Scout you will have special programs just for you!

Patriots' Path Council announced that extensive preparations have already begun for its 2015 Liberty Jamboree, scheduled for October 2 – 4 in Jersey City's Liberty State Park, overlooking the Statue of Liberty and New York City. More than 5,000 Boy Scouts, Venturers, Sea Scouts and Explorers from the tri-state region will participate in a hands-on, multi-faceted program that also serves as Scouting's first overnight camping experience in Liberty State Park since 2001.

Program will include outdoor challenges involving kayaking, a monkey bridge, buckskin games and backwoods survival; high adventure activities such as climbing walls, a slack rope obstacle course, zip line and target paintball; a STEM-related (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) program including robotics and skill trades; and an arena show that will feature live entertainment and appearances by local and national dignitaries. Additionally, a number of respected educational institutions – including Rutgers University, the New Jersey Institute of Technology, Kean University, New Jersey City University, Stevens Institute of Technology and Montclair State University – have already agreed to provide displays, demonstrations and hands-on activities.



*Venturing, Exploring, and Sea Scouts will have their own sub camp called Venturing Village which will be separate from the Boy Scout Sub Camps.

Don't Miss Out!

For more information, contact Bill SanFilippo, Jamboree Staff Advisor, at 973-765-9322 x227 or bill.sanfilippo@scouting.org or Vicki Kallok, Administrative Assistant at 973-765-9322 x225 or vicki.kallok@scouting.org.

www.libertyjamboree.ppbsa.org

SOUTHERN REGION 5

Who should I contact with questions? The Legacy email: CNCCVOA@gmail.com

Please check our website: http://www.sr5venturing.org/

or our Facebook Group https://www.facebook.com/groups/120255005555/

Southern Region

Daniel Boone Council to open Venturing High Adventure Base

The Daniel Boone Council located in Western North Carolina and home of Camp Daniel Boone Boy Scout Camp will expand their outstanding High Adventure Program in 2016 with the opening of the Lumpkin High Adventure Base (LAB). The Lumpkin base has 117 acres of property surrounded by the Nantahala National Forest in Macon County, North Carolina. The base will be dedicated to Venturing High Adventure programs each summer.

Reservations for the base will begin in June 2015 for the inaugural 2016 season. Your input is needed to help us develop the program aspect to include the activities you want.

Please Take the Survey

There is a short survey located on the home page of the camp website www.lumpkinadventurebase.org

Please take a few moments to visit and learn about Lumpkin, and tell us what you and your crew want in a Venturing High Adventure Base. Please check back often as updates are posted regularly. We will also continue to provide news through the FORUM!

Yours in Scouting,
Daniel Rogers
Assistant Scout Executive
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
Daniel Boone Council
darogers@bsamail.org

SR5 adVENTURE to The Summit

PAUL R. CHRISTEN NATIONAL HIGH ADVENTURE BASE

SR5 VENTURING

Venturing in Southern Region 5, BSA

NEW FOR 2015

To provide the greatest flexibility to crew and contingents, The Summit allows members to individually select their program experiences.

This means that a crew can choose for all members to participate together in the same program experience or each crew member can choose his or her individual program.

This allows you crew the flexibility to accommodate a wide range of interests and experiences.

TRAVEL & COSTS

Transportation to and from
The Summit Bechtel Reserve
will be determined by each crew.

$859 cost includes special SR5
ONLY events at The Summit.

DATES & CONTACT

June 14 – 20, 2015

StanHaines@gmail.com
SR5 Summit Ambassador

Summit BECHTEL RESERVE

YOUR VENTURING CREW, SEA SCOUT SHIP, EXPLORER POST AND SOAR =

A GREAT SUMMER ADVENTURE

WESTERN COLORADO COUNCIL'S STEVE FOSSETT SPIRIT OF ADVENTURE RANCH

SOAR OFFERS SPECTACULAR HIGH ADVENTURE ACTIVITIES IN THE WESTERN COLORADO ROCKIES, SECOND TO NONE!

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ARE YOU GAME FOR:

- ROCK CLIMBING AND RAPPELLING
- HORSEBACK RIDING
- MOUNTAIN BIKING
- RAFTING ON THE COLORADO RIVER
- AQUATICS ON SWEETWATER LAKE
- SWIMMING
- CAVING AT GLENWOOD ADVENTURE PARK
- 14,000 FT. PEAK CLIMBS
- BACKPACKING IN THE SPECTACULAR FLAT TOPS WILDERNESS AREA OF THE WHITE RIVER NATIONAL FOREST
- CAMP IN AUTHENTIC NATIVE AMERICAN STYLE TIPIS
- BUBBLE BALL SOCCER
- GEOCACHING, NIGHT X-GAMES
- SHOOTING SPORTS [RIFLE, SHOTGUN, PISTOL]
- ARCHERY
- AND MUCH MORE....

DESIGN YOUR OWN CUSTOM HIGH ADVENTURE FROM OUR VERSATILE MENU

- SEE NORTHWEST COLORADO HERITAGE CULTURE TOURISM OPPORTUNITIES
  HTTP://NWCOLORADOHERITAGETRAVEL.ORG/
  HTTP://WWW.COLORADO.COM/

WANT TO BE ON SOAR STAFF? APPLY NOW!

HTTP://WWW.WCCBSA.ORG/FS/PAGE/001885/2015CAMPSTAFFAPPLICATION.PDF

QUESTIONS? CONTACT CAMP DIRECTOR CLAY CAMPBELL MUDSOUP@MSN.COM

Western Region

STEVE FOSSETT

SOAR

SPIRIT of ADVENTURE RANCH

SUMMER CAMP

COLORADO

Check out our Ad in Scouting Magazine – Jan. '15

Visit our new website online at bsasoar.com

For immediate release: ***Spirit of Adventure Ranch 2015***

> ***"SOAR*** offers the best of River Rafting on the Colorado River, Peak Climbing "Fourteeners" (14,000' Peaks), Backpacking, Biking. Venturers, Sea Scouts, and Explorers can experience the Colorado Rockies."

For those that are looking for a new adventure. We will offer a Team Based approach to this Adventure week. You **choose your Adventure** - Rafting, 14,000' Mountain Hike, Biking, Backpacking, or Custom Adventure. When you are not out on your 3-Day Adventure, enjoy your other two days at camp while staying in one of our **Tipi Villages**, full service **family style dining** provided by Colorado Mountain College Culinary and the Culinary Institute of America Students, and COPE type Team Building. While you are on the Adventure we will offer instruction and **Advanced Training**. This certification will be on par with Wilderness First Aid Certification. Merit Badge completion should not be the objective for this Tier. This **Tier is ideal for Venturing Crews, Explorer Posts, and Sea Scout Ships** looking for a High Adventure component to enhance their program. Some of our Adventures may require specific pre-qualifications.

Adventure Tier Pricing:

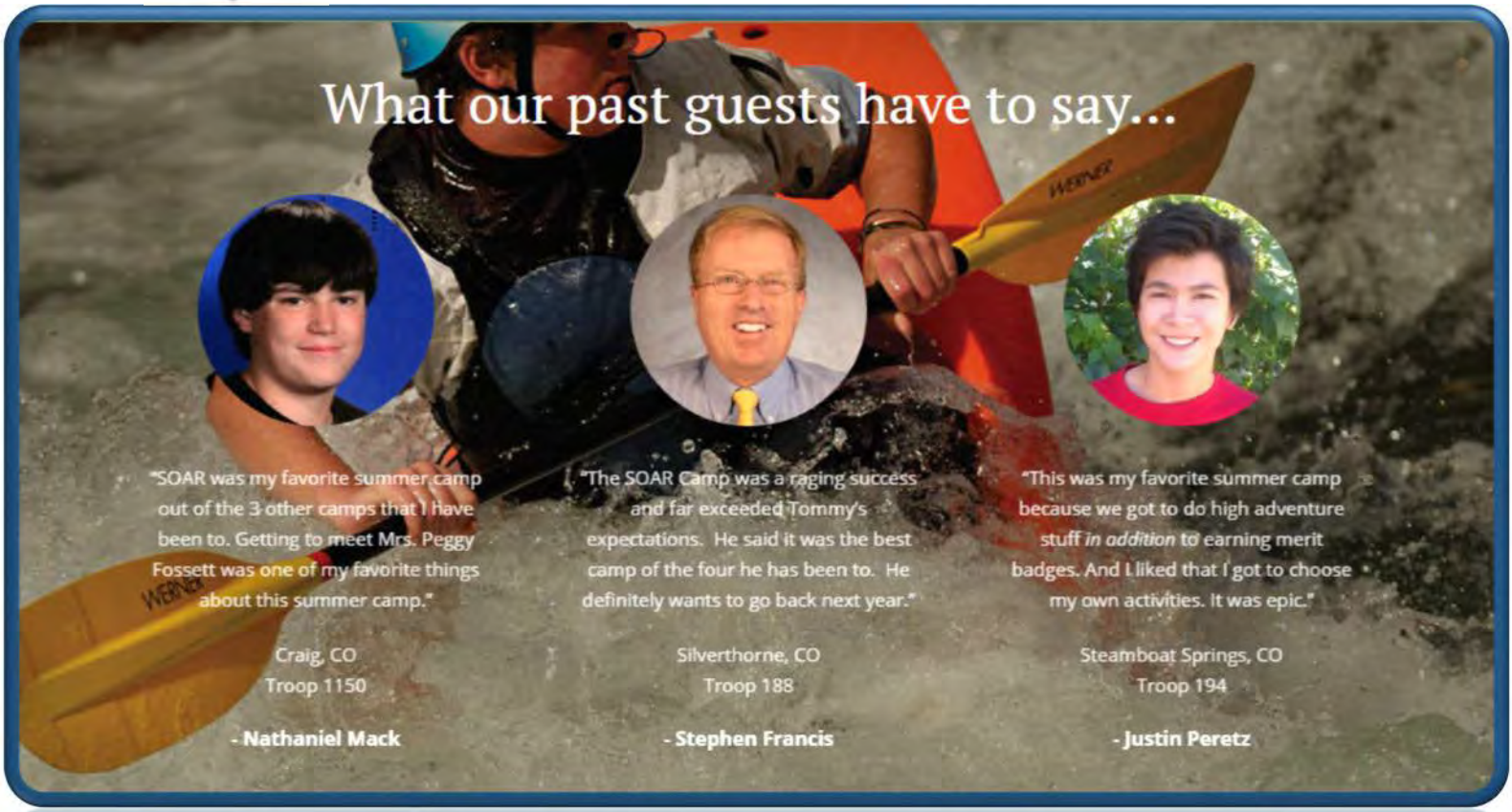
- Youth: $450
- Adult: $450
- Adult Stay at SOAR: $125 (not taking Adventure)
- Unit Deposit: $250 (refundable upon arrival at SOAR)

Fully Customized Adventure:

- Call for pricing
- Customize everything from your High Adventure activities, food service, Transportation, and housing.

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
WESTERN COLORADO COUNCIL

Western Colorado Council, BSA wccbsa.org 970.243.0346



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://www.nerseascout.org/
Southern Region-Venturing
http://srventuring-bsa.org/wordpress/
Southern Region Sea Scout
http://sregion.seascout.org/
Western Region Venturing
www.wrventuring-bsa.org
USA Scouting Service-Venturing
http://www.usscouts.org/usscouts/venturing/UniformingFAQ.asp
Venturing Magazine
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, 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

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