

The FORUM

Venturing, Sea Scouting and Exploring Newsletter since 2003

October 2017 Issue

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

The FORUM Back Issues

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

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http://minsi-southmountain.com/newsletters/documents/FORUM-Crew_27-Large_Crews_articles.pdf

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

The FORUM Attachments Central Region

<http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletters/regions/CR-1017.zip>

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The Central Point



Newsletter of the Central Region | Boy Scouts of America

The September 2017 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 FORUM attachments

Articles this month include:

Back to School and Recruitment

20 Stories to Celebrate 20 Years

Activity Planning Tool

Venturing at PTC

All About Online Registration

Venturing Scholarships

The Central ConnectionCaption Contest

CR Area Spotlights

Upcoming Activities

Advisor's Minute

President's Corner



Central
Region



The Pierson Cup Regatta
Race HQ – Island Bay Yacht Club
October 7th, 2017
Lake Springfield, Springfield, Illinois
NOTICE OF RACE (NoR)

The “The Pierson Cup Regatta” is a co-ed competition between B.S.A. registered Sea Scouts from any Central Region Sea Scout Ship, with Scouts racing to earn an invitation to the “William I. Koch International Sea Scout Cup” to be held in 2018.

This 2017 racing event will begin and conclude on Saturday, October 7th, 2017. There will be a limited practice session available prior to the race.

The hosts for this year’s event will be the Island Bay Yacht Club and Sea Scout Area 3.

Venturers and older scouts are invited to Join but they must Multiple as Sea Scouts to participate in the race. (we can help with that)

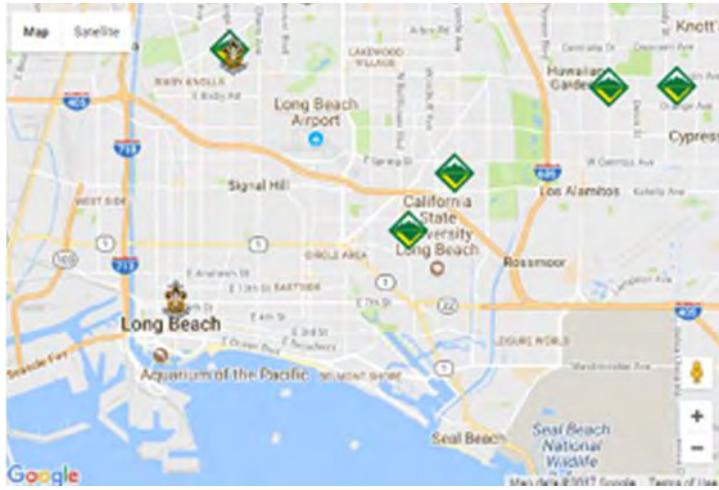
Camping will be available at BSA Camp Illek

For more information about the William I. Koch International Sea Scout Cup

<https://seascoutcup.org/>

Update your Unit's BeAScout Pin

By Sea Scouts, BSA



BeAScout.org is the application that puts your unit on the map! Prospective Scouts and their families can visit **BeAScout.org** to find a Scouting program in their neighborhood. If your unit's pin is up to date they'll find you!

- Raise your unit's profile in the community.

Recruit more youth and volunteers and help grow Scouting.

Customize your 'pin' with contact information, name of your ship, a photo, special message, and your unit's website. *It's important to make sure your unit's pin is updated, especially before fall recruitment is in full swing.*

Its live here- <https://seascout.org/news/update-units-beascout-pin/>



**The Fall 2017 edition of the *Sea Scout Log* is now available!
See National Attachments Download**

In this Edition:

- Put your Ship on the Map with BeAScout
- The National Sea Scout Support Committee Looks to the Future of Sea Scouts
- The Importance of Leadership to the Sea Scout Program
- National Boatswain's Report
- Alumni Association Update
- Changes at National Supply
- New Ship Growth & Retention Report
- Online Resources for New Ships and Leader Regional Reports



Keith Christopher Capt. Kathy Weydig

WE ARE PRESENTING

Join Keith Christopher and Capt. Kathy Weydig
as they discuss the next generation of divers.

AT DEMA

The Next Generation of Scuba Divers using Sea Scouts to bring in Youth Divers

What: Seminar Presentation

Date: Wednesday 11/1/17

Time: 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Where: S320A

Who: Keith Christopher Capt. and Kathy Weydig

Presentation Description: coming soon

Northeast Region Venturing President



Amy Clark
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Fall Quarterly Report

1. To continue my course through the Nature of Leadership series by completing Kodiak.
2. To assist councils and areas in the formation of Venturing Officers Associations, or other Venturer (youth) led leadership structures appropriate to each area or council.
3. Meet with the youth officers and advisors of each of the Northeast Region's seven areas.
4. Plan and conduct area officers training for the region.
5. Provide ongoing support to the Area Venturing Presidents, and to Council Venturing Presidents as requested.
6. Serve as a central point of contact for Venturing, providing resources and information to council, area, and regional Venturers, Advisors, Scouters, and BSA Professionals.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. Completed Kodiak during my crew's summer trip to the Grand Canyon.
2. Planned and conducted the first annual area officers training in the Northeast Region.
3. Spoke about Venturing programs and opportunities available to youth at Baltimore Area Council's 2009 Powder Horn course.
4. Two more Northeast Region areas formed a Venturing Officers Association.

EVENTS ATTENDED

- May 15 Attended Baltimore Area Council's Powder Horn course
- May 20-23 Attended the National BSA Annual Meeting in Orlando, Florida
- June 26 - July 5 Traveled to the Grand Canyon where I completed Kodiak
- July 8-12 Attended the National Venturing Cabinet Orientation in Dallas, Texas
- August 15 Attended Minsi Trails Council Cardboard Boat Regatta in Pocono Summit, Pennsylvania
- October 10 Conducted the first annual Northeast Region Venturing Leadership Conference in Jamesburg, New Jersey
- October 15-17 Attended Bridge Day and the 2013 National Jamboree site in Fayetteville, West Virginia

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!



See the full series in FORUM attachments NER-Crew 27

Large Crews

Boy Scout Advancement in Venturing

By Pete Mapes, NCAC/082, Crew 27, Associate Advisor & Potomac District Venturing Volunteer



One of the sources of Venturers is from Boy Scout Troops and many young men come to Venturing without going as far as they can with their Boy Scout advancement. While both RANGER and Summit are arguably more challenging and significantly rarer than Eagle Scout, Eagle Scout has a cachet in North America that makes it one of the most important things a young man can put in his biography, school application or job application.

The United States Military Services have long recognized the value of the Eagle Scout <Award> Rank. A young man who is an Eagle Scout is automatically promoted to the grade of E-3 when he finishes basic training. This means that he makes grade up to 18 months ahead of his contemporaries and starts out with a pay advantage of \$285.90/month not to mention being accelerated to higher grades because of his head start. As I pointed out to one high school junior who decided to earn Eagle before enlisting, that is a car payment.

It doesn't stop with higher enlisted military grade and pay from the start. The Eagle Scout Rank is also one of only three positive predictors of graduation from the Air Force Academy (USAFA). Academy admissions cares about the Eagle Scout Rank and all else being equal, the Eagle Scout will be admitted before the non-Eagle every time.

I could go on, but the point is that there is significant incentive for a young man to earn the rank of Eagle Scout. We've had over half a dozen young men earn Eagle Scout as Venturers in our Crew over the years. If you refer to the current Venturing handbook, on page 166, it addresses "Venturers Earning Boy Scout Advancement."

"Venturers who earned First Class rank as registered Boy Scouts or Varsity Scouts are qualified until their 18th birthday to continue with Boy Scout advancement. Any work done while a Venturer can count toward both Boy Scout advancement and Venturing recognition at the same time. For instance, a conservation project required for Boy Scouting can also count in Venturing."

There is one exception to this and it is found in the Summit Requirements on page 179. I quote from requirement 8:

"Since earning the Pathfinder award, plan and conduct a service project as described in the Venturing Summit Award Service Project Workbook. Before you start, have the project proposal form from the workbook completed and approved by those benefitting from the effort, your Advisor, and another Venturer designated by your Crew leadership. **This project must be a different service project than the one carried out for the Eagle Scout <Rank> Award, the Sea Scout Quartermaster <Rank> Award, or the Girl Scout Gold Award."**

Large Crews **Boy Scout Advancement in Venturing**

By Pete Mapes, NCAC/082, Crew 27, Associate Advisor & Potomac District Venturing Volunteer

Who are the Venturers who work on Scout advancement? In a couple of cases, they were young men who had earned First Class rank or above in Scouting, dropped out of Scouting and found their way to Venturing. In another case, a Troop was giving one of our Venturers a "rash" about his Eagle project. They didn't specify what their objections to his project were, they just would not sign off on it. He was dejected for nine months before sharing the details of his proposal with me. I didn't see a problem with his project proposal so he presented it to the Crew, the Crew approved it and he went ahead through the Crew instead of the Troop. The project was a huge success by the way and very demanding! His team logged over 600 hours in the process of completing the work, it was a 'whopper.'

Those of you intimately familiar with Boy Scout advancement can probably stop here. Boy Scout Advancement in the Crew is identical to Boy Scout Advancement in a Troop. Advisors conduct "Advisor <Scoutmaster> conferences" to ensure that all requirements have been met and refer Scouts to a Board of Review. For Star and Life Ranks, Boards of Review are composed of adult committee members from the Crew, Advisors are not allowed to participate. Neither are Venturing Youth! Just like Boy Scouts, Boards of Review for Boy Scout Ranks are strictly adult activities where the Crew Committee evaluates the progress of the Venturer toward Boy Scout Advancement goals and uses feedback from the young man to ensure that the Crew is adequately meeting the goals set for it by the Chartering Organization.



Byron Lord (1945-2017), District Eagle Advisor for Potomac District in NCAC/082, oversaw the promotion of over 3,000 Eagles in over 30 years of service in this role, some of them were Venturers!

Large Crews **Boy Scout Advancement in Venturing**

By Pete Mapes, NCAC/082, Crew 27, Associate Advisor & Potomac District Venturing Volunteer

A couple of fine points. The Advisor <Scoutmaster> conference must occur BEFORE the Scout's 18th birthday, so must the awarding of credit for the project and all of the other Eagle requirements. The Advisor <Scoutmaster> conference DOES NOT have to be the last thing that happens before the Board of Review is conducted, in fact, it can occur before the project, before all of the merit badges are earned or at any time after the applicant completes the Board of Review for Life Rank. The Board of Review may occur up to 90 days after the Scout's 18th birthday and this may be extended for another 90 days if there are extenuating circumstances.

If, for any reason, the Advisor refuses to hold a conference with an aspiring Star or Life Scout in Venturing, the Scout may request a Board of Review from the Crew Committee without an Advisor conference. In the case of an Eagle applicant, the District Committee would be advised that this Eagle candidate did not have the approval of the Advisor. If the Crew Committee chooses to disagree with either the Advisor or the District/Council Advancement Volunteer, they can write a letter referring the Eagle Applicant to the District/Council Board of Review for an advancement decision. If an Eagle applicant, sitting before a Council/District Board of Review, does not receive a unanimous endorsement for Eagle Scout, the Board outcome can be adjudicated by the Council Committee or their designee to award the rank over the objection of the dissenting member of the Board of Review. Suffice it to say that there are lots of protections written in to the system for Scouts seeking to advance. Despite this, only 6% of Boy Scouts earn Eagle Rank, even fewer of them are Venturers.

I hope this article helps you to understand some of the concepts surrounding completion of Boy Scout requirements to advance in rank while registered as a Venturer. Before the historical development of Exploring and Venturing specific awards and ranks, Explorers advanced by achieving the common Boy Scout Ranks. That is still possible for Venturers today.



A proud Crew 27 family recognizes their son with the Eagle Scout Rank

Large Crews **Boy Scout Advancement in Venturing**

By Pete Mapes, NCAC/082, Crew 27, Associate Advisor & Potomac District Venturing Volunteer

Young men working on Eagle need to fulfill all of the specified requirements. For leadership credit, they must hold leadership positions for at least six months after earning Life Scout Rank before earning Eagle. In the Crew, these can include the positions of President, Vice President, Guide, Secretary, Treasurer, Quartermaster, Historian, Den Chief, Webmaster or Leave No Trace Trainer. They may also receive leadership credit for specified positions they held in Boy Scouts or Sea Scouts after achieving Life Scout Rank in Boy Scouts. Not all leadership positions in Boy Scouts or Sea Scouts count for advancement to Eagle so please refer carefully to current Boy Scout requirements. As always, the Boy Scouts of America do not permit anyone to add or subtract from award and rank requirements. If a Venturer is handicapped, he can have the National Council substitute requirements for him based upon his disability. This cannot be accomplished locally. Handicapped Venturers may also have the 18 year age cap extended. This is also done by the National Council through your local Council Disabilities Committee. There are developmentally delayed or handicapped Scouts and Venturers in their thirties still working on Eagle!

Advancement to the Eagle Rank in a Crew is identical to the way it is done in the Troop. An Eagle aspirant develops a project concept with a mentor and contracts with a non-Boy Scout organization in the community to deliver it. Once the Life Scout has completed the Eagle Project Proposal, had it signed by the benefiting organization, the Advisor and a member of the Crew Committee; he makes an appointment with a member of the District or Council Advancement Committee for approval to go ahead. Having received the approval from the District/Council Advancement Committee Member, the Venturer is cleared to continue. Once the project is complete and written up in the Eagle Project Workbook, the Scout gets a completion signature and completes his Eagle Application. The Eagle application is checked for accuracy by the Advancement Committee (or a designated person) and then the Scout returns to the District or Council Advancement Representative to receive project credit. After that, with endorsements on the Eagle application from the Advisor, Crew Committee Chair, Crew Advancement Committee Member (Optional), and the District/Council Advancement Committee Rep., the Scout can proceed to a Board of Review at the District or Council level. The Eagle Project Workbook must also be completed with the same signatures plus the signature of the benefiting or-



A Crew 27 Venturer awaits his Eagle Scout Board of Review at the District BOR

2017 Crew 27 Adventure Trip to Ohio

By Zune

Last month, from the 19th thru the 26th of August, I went to Ohio with my Venturing Crew (NCAC/082 Crew 27). We visited historical sites, educational facilities, and museums located primarily in the Miami River Valley in southwestern Ohio. During the trip, we went to the Newark Earthworks, the Boonshoft museum, the Octagon Earthworks, the Miamisburg Mound, Sun Watch and Fort Ancient historical sites. We also attended the outdoor theater production 'Tecumseh' and spent a day at the National Museum of the Air Force. I had so much fun and a good time learning a lot about science, arts, crafts, aviation, and the rich historical heritage of the cultures that inhabited Midwestern North America long before Columbus, or even the Vikings set foot in the 'New World.'

When we arrived in Ohio, we camped in the backyard of a Venturer's family who I met at the 2017 National Scout Jamboree. Nina's family let us use their basement bathroom and set up our tents and tarps in their backyard. By the standards I was used to, living in an apartment, the area was spacious. Their house is situated on a two acre lot just outside of verdant Wilmington, Ohio. I am so glad to have made friends with Nina at the National Jamboree. Both Nina and her brother Alex joined us for some of our adventures in Ohio. Not having to rent a campground really helped us keep the costs of the trip to a minimum.



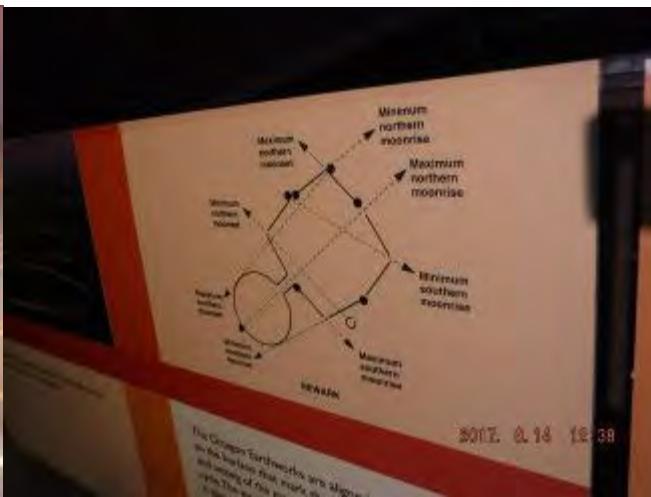
Camping in Nina's backyard in Wilmington, OH

On the first day, we paid a visit to the Newark Earthworks and the Ohio Center For History, Arts, and Technology, located in downtown Newark, Ohio. It is Ohio's best destination for hands-on discovery with local history, science, arts with glassblowing workshop. The center was originally The Scheidler Machine Works built in 1822. In the 1990's, Mr. Howard LeFevre assembled a group of local citizens interested in preserving Licking County industrial heritage and bought the property to save it from demolition. In 1996, 'The Works' reopened as a museum. After years of growth, the Works became a Smithsonian Affiliate Institution. The Works is not only a museum, but also an education center with programs such as glassblowing, hands-on activities, artifacts, and a repository of industrial artifacts from America's 19th and 20th centuries.

Before going to The Works, we spent a good portion of the day at the Great Circle Earthworks. The Earthworks are a national historic landmark that exist in and around the town of Newark, Ohio. They are a well preserved architectural wonder of ancient America and the largest existent geometric enclosures in the world covering over 3,000 acres - that is 60% of the Scout owned land at Goshen scout Camps. It is huge! The exhibit includes a museum with a time line of Ohio Ancient cultures and the details on how the earthworks align with the rising and setting of the moon, the sun and the stars. The alignment with the moon is fascinating because lunar cycles cover an 18.7 year period before they repeat. We have no record of written language from the Hopewell Culture that produced the Newark Earthworks between 100 AD and 500 AD, yet the huge rectangle they built is extremely precise and aligns exactly with the lunar cycles. More impressively, the Newark Earthworks are scaled up versions of other earthworks found throughout Ohio and are built to scale within inches of the smaller constructions.

2017 Crew 27 Adventure Trip to Ohio

By Zune



Painting of the moon at the Newark Earthworks Octagon and graphic of lunar alignments built by the Hopewell Culture 1,500 to 2,000 years ago

In the morning, we visited the Great Circle portion of the Newark Earthworks. This massive structure is now a park in suburban Newark. It is 1,054 feet in diameter and surrounded by 8 foot high walls. Just inside the walls was a deep moat. Now overgrown, the walls are constructed of a golden colored clay. The Circle is open to the east and in its center is the 'Eagle Mound.' Excavations of the Eagle Mound reveal it to be a buried ceremonial structure that contained a large clay fireplace. The structure was screened from view towards the opening of the Great Circle Mound by wooden fences. No one knows the purpose of the structure in the Eagle Mound (The buried screening walls looked like wings - thus the name 'Eagle Mound.')



Bronze Plaque of The Newark Earthworks, Gateway to the Great Circle

2017 Crew 27 Adventure Trip to Ohio

By Zune

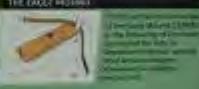


An Eagle at the Center

Early Excavations reveal a Timber Structure beneath the Eagle Mound



THE EAGLE MOUND



2017. 8. 14. 13:52

Zune and Keegan at the Eagle Mound in the Great Circle

In the afternoon, we visited the Octagon Earthworks at Newark. The Octagon earthworks are a very precise lunar calendar. They are now preserved as part of a golf course. This is very clever because the golf course pays rent, makes money and helps to preserve the Octagon Earthworks for the Ohio historical Society. The golf course limits access to a degree but the view of the earthwork from the periphery is stunning. The Octagon Earthworks are composed of eight walls, each 550 ft. long and five to six feet in height. It is joined by parallel walls to a circular embankment enclosing about 20 acres. It is very interesting that the exact dimensions of the 1,054 foot diameter Great Circle Earthwork we visited first would fit precisely within the borders of the Octagon Earthwork! Both the Octagon and Great Circle earthworks were built by people of the ancient Hopewell culture at about the same time. On our first day, I learned a lot about pre-Columbian history, culture and architecture.



Midwestern Ohio Sunset From Nina's Backyard

On the second day of our trip, we went to Boonshoft Museum of Discovery in Dayton, Ohio. Dayton is about an hour drive east of Newark. At the museum, we watched how airplane construction changed from when they were first invented to the present day. The museum is a children's museum, science and technology center, and a zoo. They have exhibits such as Science on a Sphere (Earth Science), The Hall of Universe (Astronomy), the Tidal Pool (Littoral life), and the Explorer's Crossing. We learned about astronomy, our universe, space, and the solar system. After that, we went upstairs to the Zoo which consists of more than one hundred animals and insects. They have many kind of animals, including otters, porcupines, meerkats, frogs, snakes (including 16-foot-long Burmese Python), and bat-eared foxes. At the Zoo, we also watched how zookeepers and crew prepare food, how they keep animals happy and healthy and how they let them engage in activities.

2017 Crew 27 Adventure Trip to Ohio

By Zune

After completing our visit to the Boonshoft Museum, we went to the Miamisburg Mound Park. The Miamisburg Mound is the largest conical mound in Ohio and was built by the Adena people long before the Newark Earthworks were created. There is a Mound and Energy Museum nearby but it was closed for renovation. The Adena people, known to be the first Native American tribes and also the first in Ohio to build Earthworks, occupied Ohio between 800 BC and 100 AD. The Miamisburg Mound is one of the two largest mounds in North America and rises nearly 70 feet above the ground. It is highly visible since it sits atop a ridge that rises a hundred feet above the surrounding terrain. Like all Ohio mounds, it is located close to water. The rivers of Ohio were the superhighways of the pre-Columbian tribes and they traded and traveled extensively on them. The River close to the Miamisburg Mound is the Great Miami River. The mound has steps ascending to an observation platform atop it and the view is lovely. Excavations of the mound over the years revealed that the Adena people built the mound in several stages. Deep inside the mound, excavators found a layer of large flat stones overlapping like shingles 24 feet beneath the surface. At one point, the mound may have had a stone facing. Unlike the Hopewell people, the Adena used their mounds as cemeteries where people of substantial status were buried. The mounds may have also marked the boundaries of tribal territories. Archeologists estimate that Ohio once contained over 10,000 earthworks and mounds, less than a thousand remain.

Few of the Mounds have been fully investigated, but those that have were created between 2,000 and 2,800 years ago. Around 400 AD, the Adena culture transformed into the Hopewell Culture and the earthen constructions became much more carefully engineered and precise. Ancient art crafts such as pots, slate ornaments, rings, bracelets, and necklaces were found in their burial sites of the Miamisburg Mound.



Miamisburg Ohio Mound built by the Adena Culture 2,000 to 2,800 years ago

On the third day, we paid a visit to National Museum of the Air Force located just east of Dayton at the old Wright Army Airfield that is now part of Wright-Patterson AFB. It is interesting that this museum is located just a few miles from Huffman Prairie where the Wright brothers conducted their flying school from 1905 until 1917 when the Army Signal Corps purchased the property. Upon entering the Museum, the very first thing we did was to ride the flight simulators. Then we watched a video about the museum. The museum has the largest collection of military aircraft in the world and is roughly twice the size of the Air and Space Museum and the Udvar-Hazy Center at Dulles Airport combined. It contains over 360 airplanes and missiles used by the military. The museum also houses Presidential aircraft and experimental air craft. The museum began in 1923 when it was created by the Engineering Division at Wright Field. In 1932, it was renamed the Army Aeronautical Museum and it kept that name through World War II. The museum became public in 1954 and in 1971 the current facility opened. The museum continues to expand every decade as it acquires more military aircraft and continues to document and preserve the history of military aviation. The museum has more than tripled in square footage since 1971 with the addition of second hanger in 1988, a third in 2003, and a fourth in 2016. There is no way to see it all in a day, you would have to spend at least three days to take it all in! On Wednesday, I learned a lot about the history of aviation and the United States Air Force. After a full day at the National Museum of the Air Force, we went bowling at Wright-Patterson AFB Bowling Center and had dinner there (One of our adults is retired military and got us in).

2017 Crew 27 Adventure Trip to Ohio

By Zune



The Theater at the National Museum of the Air Force & 'Bock's Car' the B-29 that dropped the atomic bomb on Nagasaki, Japan in World War II

On Thursday, the fourth day of the trip, we paid a visit to Sun Watch and Fort Ancient. Sun Watch is a reconstructed pre-Columbian, native American village on the banks of the Little Miami river just south of Dayton, Ohio. The people who lived there are referred to as the 'Fort Ancient' people. This is actually a misnomer because Fort Ancient is a massive earthwork built about 2,000 years ago. Much later, about 800 years ago, a tribe of Native Americans set up a town along the Little Miami River at the foot of Fort Ancient. Before archeologists could figure out that the people in the village were not related to the people who built the 'Fort', the eponym had stuck. So Sun Watch was originally lived in by the Fort Ancient people who are not culturally related to the people who actually built Fort Ancient!

Sun Watch is fascinating! The pre-Columbian native American village is located in an Archaeological Park next to Little Miami river. It is also an open-air museum with a site plan of 3-acres sponsored by the Dayton Society of Natural History. The name Sun Watch came from a complex of posts used for astronomical measurements of the Sun that formed the center of the village. Native Americans, whose society was based on agriculture, would have planned their lives around the solar calendar. The seasons, as indicated by the position of the Sun with respect to the Earth told them when to plant, when to harvest and marked their rituals. The shadows of the posts fell across the doorways of different lodges at each solstice and at the equinox. The ability to measure the position of the sun set the timing for the lives of these people. Sun Watch Native American Village was designated as a National Historical Landmark in 1990. Artifacts, such as pottery, stone tools, bones, food and textile fragments have been found all over the site in pits. The Fort Ancient people made their houses from wood, burned the ends of the poles to prevent decay, and buried the burned pole ends in the ground to anchor the site in pits. The Fort Ancient people made their houses from wood, burned the ends of the poles to prevent decay, and buried the burned pole ends in the ground to anchor them. Burning used up oxygen and the ground became discolored as the wood decayed. The discoloration marked the exact size and position of the structure allowing its faithful reproduction. The ground Sun Watch was built on flooded and became covered in silt. The silt was deep enough that the plows of the European settlers did not disturb the record of the village. The site was not discovered until the City of Dayton decided to expand its water treatment plant. As the preparation began for the plant, the remnants of the village were uncovered and Sun Watch is now the best window we have on the daily lives of the Fort Ancient Civilization 800 years ago!

2017 Crew 27 Adventure Trip to Ohio

By Zune



Sun Watch Native American Pre-Columbian Village Site
south of Dayton, Oh

After Sun Watch, we went to Fort Ancient itself! Fort Ancient was built by the Hopewell people who lived from the 1st century BC to the 6th century AD. Fort Ancient has earthworks including 18,000 ft. of earthen walls enclosing about 100 acres. It is a two thousand years old Hopewell ceremonial earthwork located in Warren County above the muddy banks of Little Miami river. The Hopewell people lived in small villages and raised crops including sunflower, squash, beans, maize, goose foot and May grass. They also gathered wild plants, hunted deer, and fished. They made tools from stone, bone, horn, shells, and antlers. They ate maize, squash, and beans. They hunted black bears, turkey, white tailed deer, and elk. They had domesticated dogs. Fort Ancient is incredible. It is built on a plateau that rises 200 feet above the Little Miami River. The site is the North American equivalent of Stonehenge in Britain. It is a

complicated calendar and ceremonial area that allows prediction of the movements of the Sun, the Moon and the stars with regard to the lunar cycle and the seasons. There is a fjord across the Little Miami River at the base of Fort Ancient. The road west for settlers went right through the 'Fort.' As Europeans traveled the road and passed through the gaps in the massive 40 foot high walls of the Fort, they evaluated the structure in purely European terms and could imagine no purpose for it other than military defense - they knew it was very old - thus the name 'Fort Ancient.' They were correct about the 'ancient' part, just not the 'Fort' part.



Map of the Fort Ancient Site

2017 Crew 27 Adventure Trip to Ohio

By Zune



Fort Ancient

This painting depicts a Native American Ceremony at Fort Ancient looking east along the ceremonial way that would become the road west for the European settlers that traversed this Native American site in the late 1700's and the early 1800's.

The settlers mistook the high earthen walls for fortifications and mistakenly named the place 'Fort Ancient.' At least they were correct about the 'Ancient' part. It was never a fort.

On the fifth day, we went to Mound City, The Adena Mansion and Gardens, and watched the outdoor theater 'Tecumseh.' First, we went to Mound City. Mound City is part of the Hopewell Culture National Park preserving six major earthworks along the Scioto river in south central Ohio. Mound City is one of the six and unlike the other Hopewell sites we had visited earlier in the week, it is a cemetery of the Hopewell people. It consists of twenty three mounds of various sizes and configurations enclosed in a large area by an earthen wall about four feet high. The mounds represent four cultural clans within the culture. The land was first granted in 1798 but fortunately, the mounds were not destroyed by farming. Mound City is actually part of a much larger ceremonial complex that spans the Scioto River but the eastern portion of the complex was destroyed by farming and is almost invisible today.

Mound City sits on the western bank of the Scioto River. In 1846, Mound City was excluded from potential farmland and preserved. In 1917, it was bought by the Federal Government and became WWI training camp. During that time almost all of the mounds except Central Mound were shaved away to build military barracks. In 1923, the site became a National Monument and three years later, the Ohio Historical Society restored the mounds. We had planned to take a tour the day we arrived but the Park Service was short handed so the tour was canceled. Instead, we took the literature and gave ourselves a self-guided tour.

Our next stop on Friday was The Adena Mansion and Gardens. It was built by architect Benjamin Latrobe for Ohio Governor Thomas Worthington in 1807. The mansion features interactive exhibits which represent a picture of life in the early 1800's. We looked around the mansion itself including the bedrooms, parlor, meeting room, servants quarters and a rental space. The outside garden was made of three beautiful terraces of flowers and vegetables adding the beauty of the mansion. The mansion is beautifully preserved and the adjacent museum provides a lot of insight. There was a mound on the grounds of the mansion at the foot of the road leading up to it and the name of the Mansion - Adena - was used as the name of the native American people who built the mound located near it. The word 'Adena' is from Greek and means lovely place. The Adena had built the mound we saw at Miamisburg, Ohio.



Plaque overlooking the Mound City Complex near Chillicothe, Ohio

2017 Crew 27 Adventure Trip to Ohio

By Zune



Adena Mansion and view of the Great Seal Mountains from the Adena Mansion

Friday evening, we went to watched the outdoor theater 'Tecumseh' on a stage at the Ross County Performing Arts Center located across the Scioto River from the Adena Mansion in The Great Seal Mountains. The mountains got their name because they grace the Great Seal of the State of Ohio and they can be clearly seen from the Adena mansion. The town between the Adena Mansion and the Great Seal Mountains is known as Chillicothe. Chillicothe was the first capital of Ohio and the last capital of the Eastern Shawnee Nation. The entire area is now part of Ross County. It is an outdoor theatre with a museum, on-site dinning, behind the scenes tours, and a gift shop. The play 'Tecumseh' was amazing! Tecumseh was a legendary Shawnee Native American leader who struggled to defend his sacred homeland from the colonial people at the very beginning of the 19th century. The outdoor play 'Tecumseh' has been called 'the most mesmerizing drama in the nation. The show has set the standard for innovative production technique with over 100 performers each summer bringing the exciting drama to life. It is also one-of-a-kind theatrical experience with natural elements of sight and sound. I thought it was a great show. I have never seen anything like it before in my life. The show taught me about the cultures of the Eastern Shawnee Nation and the early European settlers in northern Kentucky and southern Ohio. From the show, I learned their cultures, their conflicts and struggles, the battles, and best of all, their daily lives. The performance by of all actors was really incredible.

On the sixth and the last day, we went to see Serpent Mound. Serpent mound is built on the rim of a crater believed to have been formed by an asteroid millions of years ago. The mound itself is an effigy mound about 900 years old. It is a gigantic earthen sculpture and a place of Native American ceremonies dedicated to a powerful serpent spirit. It became the first privately funded archeological preserve in the United States. At Serpent Mound, I learned that the Native American culture which built the mound attributed supernatural power to snakes and reptiles as their spiritual practice. The next thing I had learned is that the serpent is aligned with the lunar cycle and is actually a predictive calendar.

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Serpent Mound and an example of the markers demonstrating the astronomical alignments of the mound.

The day we visited the Serpent Mound, there was an exposition at the Mound with vendors, historical societies, private collectors and craftsmen. We got to watch flint knappers make knives and arrow points. We saw how deer antlers were used as handles. There were walking tours of the mounds and thousands of arrowheads, knives and Native American relics on display. It was a great event to finish our trip with because it put all of the cultures we had seen - Adena, Hopewell, Fort Ancient and Shawnee together in one place at one time and allowed us to compare them.

We left the Serpent Mound and began our drive home. Unfortunately, in Parkersburg, West Virginia, the computer in our van fried itself and we came to a halt on the interstate in the middle of town. Our adults got us towed to a car dealership for repairs and we walked to a motel for the night. The next day two pilots who are friends of one of our adults, were flying west from the Washington DC area to Wilmington, Ohio to deliver an aircraft for maintenance so they picked up one of our drivers and took him to Wilmington where he got the 'airport van' and drove us home in it. We ended our trip safe and sound on Sunday afternoon. I would like to say thanks to Keegan who organized our adventure and to Pete and Nona who drove and made it possible for us to accomplish it! We had a great adventure!

Zune

Zune is well into her second year of Venturing with Crew 27. She is also the veteran of two summers of camp and two consecutive summer adventure trips. Zune attended the 2017 National Scout Jamboree at The Summit this summer as a member of National Capital Area Council Jamboree Crew 5107 - all 36 youth in Crew 5107 were from Crew 27. Zune is a junior in high school and wants to be a physician. Specifically she has her sights set on Radiology. Zune has many gifts, one of them is that she is fluent in both English and Burmese. She thoroughly enjoys her Venturing and is very happy to be able to bring you an account of her summer adventure.



Keith Christopher Capt. Kathy Weydig



WE ARE PRESENTING

Join Keith Christopher and Capt. Kathy Weydig
as they discuss the next generation of divers.

AT DEMA

The Next Generation of SCUBA Divers using Sea Scouts to bring in Youth Divers

What: Seminar Presentation
Date: Wednesday 11/1/17
Time: 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM
Where: S320A
Orange County Convention Center,
Orlando, Florida
Who: Keith Christopher Capt. Kathy Weydig

Presentation Description: coming soon

Upcoming Seabadge Opportunities

By Southern Region Commodore



We have two upcoming opportunities to attend Seabadge in Southern Region. We have a class coming up at the Camp Wisdom Conference Center (near Dallas) on November 2-4, 2017, and another at the Florida Seabase Conference Center on January 26-28, 2018. Unfortunately the planned course at Pamlico Seabase in October has been postponed and will be rescheduled for next year.

Seabadge is aimed at both current and prospective Sea Scout leaders. The emphasis is on working with older youth (Sea Scout age) on planning and goal setting, communication, risk management, etc. but there are also Sea Scout program specific modules, like how to decide whether or not a boat donation will work for your ship, how to most effectively work with the Coast Guard Auxiliary and the US Power Squadron, how to deal with youth protection on boats, how landship ceremonies work, and how to plan a long cruise. Plus the best part is spending a weekend with lots of creative people with great ideas about Sea Scouts. There is no requirement to be a Sea Scout leader to attend – we welcome attendees from other branches of Scouting. If you are thinking about starting a ship, this is a great place to come to learn more.

Registration is open for the Texas course and some space remains, but the course is filling fast. You can get more information and the registration form by going to <http://texas.seabadge.info> – the Florida course registration will be open soon, but you can join our mailing list to be notified about it by visiting <http://florida.seabadge.info>.



Sea Scout presentation at DEMA

by Southern Region Commodore



Diving. Explore The Rest Of Your World.

If any of you are planning to attend the DEMA show in Orlando, be sure to attend the talk about Sea Scouts.

The Next Generation of Scuba Divers Using Sea Scouts to Bring in Youth Divers

What: Seminar Presentation

Date: Wednesday 11/1/17

Time: 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Where: S320A

Who: Keith Christopher and Capt. Kathy Weydig

Presentation Description:

The Next Generation of Scuba Divers using Sea Scouts to bring in Youth Divers

As the diving population has aged, Sea Scouts BSA, a co-ed program for youth, are in the unique position to create a new generation of divers. Interacting with these young and adventurous scouts helps encourage a lifetime love of diving and promotes conservation of the seas under the tutelage of enthusiastic and experienced adult divers. Let us give you the road map.

Capt. Kathy Weydig – Board of Director – Divers Alert Network, Co-Founder of Women Divers Hall of Fame, SDI/TDI Instructor Trainer #014

Keith Christopher – National Director of Sea Scouts & Outdoor Programs/Properties Department Manager, Boy Scouts of America

Learn more about the show at <http://www.demashow.com>

Pensacola Sea Scouts

by Southern Region Commodore |



Check out this nice news article from the Pensacola News Journal about Ship 609.

<http://www.pnj.com/story/news/2017/09/07/pensacola-sea-scouts-learn-science-art-sailing/632659001/>



You can learn more about Ship 609 [here](#).

Why Drill and Ceremony is Still Important for Sea Scouts

by Southern Region Commodore



“Helmsman, 10 degrees right rudder, make our course 87 degrees magnetic, get us out of this channel.” “Why, that’s a dumb course to make I’m not going to do that.” These are the kind of exchanges you don’t want to have and the kind of the responses you don’t want to hear as a Boatswain. When you are on the water, it is of critical importance that everyone does their job in an effective and efficient manner and that the crew as a whole works as a team. It is unfortunate though, that there are always those people who question every decision that’s made because they believe they know better in every situation. These people and situations can make outings hard for the crew and even harder for the Boatswain and Skipper. The answer to this problem is drill and ceremony.

Now what is drill and ceremony? Everybody has seen in the military movies with the recruits in basic training marching around and doing all the different facing movements that seem kinda funny. This is what is called close order drill and it is used to make formations neater and to instill discipline in the ones executing the drill. It is done through ‘facing movements’ such as left face, right face and about face. Then there is marching drill which is used to move units from one place to another in a formal manner, usually used in parades or color guard events. Examples of this are forward march, mark time march and ship halt. The father of scouting, Sir Lord Robert Baden Powell, a high-ranking officer in the British Army saw the value of drill and how it could be applied to scouting. He developed what is called “Scout Drill” for the Boy Scouts which used many of the same elements of military drill but it was not the same at all. While the Boy Scouts have lost some aspects of the discipline they once had, the Sea Scouts have executed and used drill for the past 105 years for a variety of things. There are several key reasons why drill is important why your Ship should practice and learn drill.

Firstly, it builds unit cohesiveness. When you conduct drill, you are doing it as a Ship. Your Ship and its crews are learning to work together and be a team. They are learning how to smartly and correctly execute commands as a crew. When you are on the water, this is something you definitely want to have. When the Boatswain, Skipper or OOD gives a command you want the crew to work together to execute. This will make your trips much more effective, safe and fun!

The second key reason is that it teaches scouts to execute commands when given to them. In the situation at the beginning of this article, the helmsman refused to follow an order from the Boatswain because he thought he knew better. This can lead to arguing, tension and internal fighting among crew members that can endanger the ship and its crew. This is why it is important that when a senior crew member or officer of the Ship gives an order while on the water, it should be executed when given. Drill teaches this perfectly! Learning to execute commands like left face, right face and about face may seem silly except when you know that it builds a habit in your crew members that has a very, very practical application on the water.



Why Drill and Ceremony is Still Important for Sea Scouts

by Southern Region Commodore

Thirdly, drill and ceremony builds discipline. What is the purpose of Sea Scouts? We are trying to build the leaders of tomorrow by teaching seamanship, citizenship, leadership and a variety of nautical skills. The fact of the matter is that the sea or really water in general has a lot of risks and is a very dangerous place. One small mistake, like forgetting the plug on the back of the boat, or horseplay gone too far, can result in serious damage to life or property. That is something no one wants because it reflects poorly on the Sea Scout program and scouting as a whole. How can drill solve this issue? It teaches your crews discipline! When you're standing at attention, you are looking forward, hands made into fists by your side, standing straight, you are practicing discipline. This level of discipline is called 'bearing'. This bearing is maintained all while you are executing facing movements or while you are marching. This teaches your crews the discipline they need to perform effectively while on the water. Without discipline, serious accidents can happen and that is something nobody wants.

Drill is also a very effective recruiting technique. My unit (Ship 24, The Jolly Roger, hailing from Houston, Texas), performs flag ceremonies that are considered to be absolutely top of the line. We have performed in front of crowds as small as 15 people at churches we stayed overnight at on summer cruises, to our districts annual District Dinner with 150 people, to our councils Silver Beaver ceremony with 1000 people, to performing in front of local, county, state and national leaders and dignitaries, all the way to performing a color guard for the Houston Astros on the day after opening day in front of thousands of people on national television. Smart looking, well-disciplined flag ceremonies like these get people talking and wondering about Sea Scouts. This is nothing but helpful to the growth of the Sea Scout program.



Drill and ceremony is a tradition we as Sea Scouts have been practicing for more than a century. These traditions make us who we are and if we throw them out the window, then we aren't Sea Scouts any longer. Ceremonies like land ships, Bridges of Honor, Bridges of Review, Piping the Sides, Side boys, saluting the flag and drill are all ceremonies that tie the us, the Sea Scouts of the present with the Sea Scouts of the past. As stated above, things like drill have very practical applications that can be used to better your Ships experience on the water as whole.

Good references for drill and ceremony are the following:

[Sea Scout Drill Manual](#)

[Sea Scout Drill Manual Extension](#) This version has much more and lots of details)

Searching "Sea Scout Drill Manual" will return both of the above results in Google.

By: Nick Kramer, Sam Houston Area Council Boatswain

Related News

Recruiting in Your Community with Nextdoor

Nextdoor is a popular social media application where community members can share news of activities in their neighborhood. Joining is free and based upon your zip code. One Sea Scout Ship recently reported they recruited four new members by posting to Nextdoor.

Here are tips if you want to try recruiting with Nextdoor: Have a parent post a Sea Scout photo to Nextdoor with a short announcement inviting interested youth to an open house, cruise, or recruiting activity.

Here is a sample message:



We're having a Sea Scout Kayaking Day on September 30th at 1000am. Interested youth who are 13 and a graduate of the 8th grade and parents can join us at the Any Town Community Dock. Scouting is an excellent program to help young men and women develop self-confidence, leadership skills, citizenship skills and an appreciation for the outdoors. We hope to see you on September 30th.

Keep messages short and informative. Below are sample images that can be posted to Nextdoor:



Sea Scout Ships can use their own photos of their Sea Scouts in action. Photos can also be used from the [Sea Scout Marketing Toolbox](#) to be customized with local information.

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EAGLE COURT OF HONOR FOR BAILEY SHEN, TROOP 125, LUCKY BALDWIN DISTRICT



Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Bailey Shen from Troop 125 and Venturing Crew 561 Honor Corps, Rose Bowl District, held on September 16, 2017 at Arcadia High School, Arcadia, CA.



Fellow Arcadia High School Band members From left to right: Alex from Troop 379, Eran, and Matthew of Troop 104, Greater Los Angeles Area Council performing the opening ceremony playing "Assembly", "To the Colors" and National Anthem.



Bailey with Mark Riebs, Venturing Crew 561 Honor Corps Advisor, Rose Bowl District, Greater Los Angeles Area.

WR Sea Scout Leadership Award Honorees

The Sea Scout Leadership Award is presented by councils, areas, regions, and the BSA National Council to Sea Scouts and Sea Scouters who have made exceptional contributions to Sea Scouting and who exemplify the Scout Oath and Scout Law.

The first Sea Scout Leadership Awards for the Western Region have been awarded to the following individuals for their outstanding service to Sea Scouts:

Kris Leverich,

Alameda Council Commodore, for his tireless efforts working with the United States Coast Guard for both the Old Salts Regatta and Safety at Sea, continued leadership within the Alameda Council, and support of Western Region activities.

Joey Kasper,

SSS Heatwave, Las Vegas Area Council, for her positive energy, hard work, and determination, during her service as the Western Region Boatswain from 2016-2017. Joey is now attending the Great Lakes Maritime Academy and finishing her requirements for the rank of Quartermaster.



Western Region Area Honorees

The first Sea Scout Leadership Awards for the Western Region Areas have been awarded to the following individuals for their outstanding service to Sea Scouts:

WR Area 1 Neal Smith, Sea Scout Ship Déjà vu, Cascade Pacific Council, for his years of service helping with SEAL onboard the SSS Propeller in Seattle, serving as a Seabadge Course Director in Portland, and leadership in helping plan the WR Area 1 Annual Regatta in Astoria, Oregon.

WR Area 3 Dan Kroman, Sea Scout Ship Challenger, Pacific Skyline Council, for his years of service as Chairman of the Old Salt's Regatta. Under Dan's leadership, the OSR moved from Redwood City to Coast Guard Island in Alameda. (For 2017)

Max Rosenberg, Skipper, Sea Scout Ship Intrepid, Pacific Skyline Council, for his years of service as Chairman of the Ancient Mariner Regatta. Max has been a steadfast leader with the AMR, being instrumental with the regatta at the USS Hornet and as chairman moving the AMR to California Maritime Academy. (For 2016)

WR Area 4 Michael Miracle, Long Beach Council, for his years of service as the Chairman of the Long Beach Invitational Regatta.

WR Area 6 Kathy Weydig, Sea Scout Ship Heatwave, Las Vegas Area Council, for representing Sea Scouts at multiple safe boating and scuba associations. Thanks to Skipper Weydig's efforts, we have memorandums of understanding with both PADI and SDI today. Kathy is also a dedicated New Ship Mentor.

Websites

National Venturing

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

National Sea Scout

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

Central Region Venturing

<http://www.crventing.org>

Northeast Region Venturing

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

Northeast Region Sea Scouting

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

Southern Region-Venturing

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

Southern Region Sea Scout

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

Western Region Sea Scouts

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

Western Region Venturing

<http://wrventing.org/>

USA Scouting Service-Venturing

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

[UniformingFAQ.asp](#)

Venturing Magazine

www.ventingmag.org

National Exploring

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

Yahoo Groups

Central Region

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

Northeast Region

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

Southern Region

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

Western Region

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

National

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

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:

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