

# The FORUM

Venturing, Sea Scouting and Exploring Newsletter since 2003  
November 2015 Issue

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The Current FORUM Newsletter:

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

The Current FORUM Attachments

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

The FORUM Back Issues

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

This issue's attachments include:

**Central**

1015 Central Point Newsletter

**National  
and Other**

2013 Venturing Standard Operating Procedures Current  
2015 Goal Setting Time Management for Venturing Crews  
2015 Mentoring for Venturing Crews Facilitator Guide  
2015 National Outdoor Awards Program  
2015 National Youth Leadership Society  
2015 New Sea Scout Badges  
2015 Philmont Flyer 2017 Registration  
2015 Registration Age Requirements  
2015 Venturing Board of Review Guide  
2015 Venturing Ethical Controversies  
2015 Venturing Program FAQ Update 012715  
0717 31st Asia Pacific Regional Jamboree  
Venturing Awards and Recognitions -2015  
Venturing Terms Lets get it Right

**Northeast**

**Southern**

2016 Lumpking High Adventure Base Program Guide

**Western**

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# The Central Point



Newsletter of the Central Region | Boy Scouts of America

The October 2015 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 included in the FORUM download

## Articles this month include:

Area 7 Fun Event  
Mark your Calendars!  
Area 1 Update  
Results from #SummerofVenturing  
Fall Fun Rally 2015 recap  
Advisor's Minute  
President's Corner  
Area Pages



## CENTRAL REGION SEABADGE SB-22-MI-2015

Seabadge is an advanced leadership development experience for Sea Scout adult leaders (21 years and older) and other adult Scouters at the Unit, District, Council, Area, Regional or National levels who support or are interest in the Sea Scout program. Seabadge is a participatory experience. There will be intense involvement of participants and faculty in seminars, workshops, role-playing, discussions and activities. The program includes sessions on Sea Scouting aims and methods, managing the program, Ship (unit) operations, leadership development, team building and motivation. Additional topics include instructional techniques, communications, goal setting, planning, and recruiting both youth and adults.

More than half of the 31 Participants were from Michigan. They were joined by Participants from WV, OH, IL, WI and MO. Staff members included representation from MI as well as OH, IN, IL, WI and MO and included three former Course Directors. This was truly a Central Region Seabadge. The Participants and Staff meshed unbelievable well. The atmosphere was electric during the entire weekend. The Course evaluation was filled with positive comments. Many indicated that this was the most fun they ever had at a training course. While most Participants were Sea Scouts, we were joined by Venturing Leaders, Council and District representatives, a few Scouters and even a Cub Scout Leader. This afforded us a great opportunity to exchange ideas across Programs.



Participants assembled for the opening ceremony on the landship



Seabadge Boatswain call group to order for the Opening ceremony on the landship



## CENTRAL REGION SEABADGE SB-22-MI-2015

During Seabadge, we conducted a Change of Watch ceremony (a transfer of authority) between our outgoing Central Region Commodore Dr. George H. McNeal and our incoming Central Region Commodore John T. Paprocki. Mac was honored by a gift and citations presented by National Boatswain Edward Campbell of behalf of National Sea Scout Director Keith Christopher and National Sea Scout Commodore Charles Wurster.

Jay Montgomery, Course Director SB-22-MI-2015  
Central Region Vice Commodore for Training



SeaBadge SB-22-MI-2015  
Camp Rotary October 2 - 4, 2015

Course photo all participants and staff



Outgoing Central Region Commodore Dr. George H. McNeal and wife Joanne being presented with a certificate of appreciation by National Boatswain Edward Campbell on behalf of National Sea Scout Commodore and National Sea Scout Director.



SEA SCOUTS BSA



# PLANS FOR THE WILLIAM I. KOCH INTERNATIONAL SEA SCOUT CUP ARE UNDERWAY

William I. Koch International Sea Scout Cup is scheduled for July 30 - August 6, 2016 in Long Beach, California. Region qualifiers for teams are being conducted between now and late fall 2015.

If you have Sea Scouts who would like to compete in the 2016 international event, they must compete in one of their region's regatta qualifiers to be considered. We also need adults and youth to serve on the staff for the event. For more details about competing or serving on staff

For more details go to <http://seascoutcup.org/>



SEA SCOUTS BSA

# 2016 NATIONAL FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES EXPLORING CONFERENCE



**BACKGROUND:** 2016 National Fire and Emergency Services Exploring Conference will be held at Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ. We will come together for a week of team and individual competitions, seminars, demonstrations, exhibits, recreation and fun.

**DATES:** July 18-22, 2016

**LOCATION:** Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ

**COST:** The conference fee is \$375.00 per Explorer or adult this includes meals and housing, plus a non-refundable Post registration fee of \$150.00.

**REGISTRATION:** All Fire and Emergency Explorer Posts registered with Learning for Life are eligible to attend the conference. The 2016 National Fire and Emergency Services

Exploring Conference registration forms and Guidebook will be available in the summer of 2015 on [www.learningforlife.org](http://www.learningforlife.org). The Guidebook contains detailed information about the Conference along with the Advisor Checklist to assist with the registration process. The Conference is usually a “sell-out” event and registration is on a first come, first served basis. Make plans to join us at Flagstaff, AZ for another incredible Conference!

## William D. Boyce New-Unit Organizer Award includes Exploring!



Volunteers organizing Exploring Posts and Clubs have been approved by the New Unit Organization and Retention Cabinet to be eligible to receive the William D. Boyce New-Unit Organizer Award. This change has been added to the award guidelines located in the updated version of the Unit

Performance Guide and also online in BSA Awards Central (applicable page attached).

## ANNOUNCING THE CREATION OF THE NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT EXPLORING PISTOL CHAMPIONSHIP



**SEE FORUM Downloads for full information**

## Forest Corps- A new kind of adventure at Northern Tier

Forest Corps is a two week leadership training course for outdoor enthusiasts. The course consists of ten days of canoeing and camping in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW) and includes training in conservation, Leave No Trace (LNT), field science and outdoor education. The crew will prepare and design a unique itinerary based on the goals and experience of each member. Participants can expect to achieve skills and certifications leading to rank advancement and award requirement completion in topics like ecology, US Forest Service management and achieve LNT Trainer status.



Abigail Chambers was a Forest Corps participant in 2014, and returned in 2015 to lead a session of Forest Corps. She is pictured left at Basswood Falls.

**Portage & Paddle**

**Learn & Teach**

**Volunteer & Grow**

“I don’t think there was anything I didn’t like”-  
Brianna M (Oklahoma)

“I enjoyed the exploration and sense of adventure most”  
Morgan P (Texas)

“We learned a lot of new LNT techniques to use”  
Joseph O (Virginia)

Two Forest Corps sessions will be offered during the 2016 summer: Session 1 is July 13 - July 27 and Session 2 is August 3 - August 17. Scouts 14 and older can participate. The cost is \$650/participant for each session. A round-trip shuttle from the Minneapolis/St. Paul airport is included in your fee. Call 218.365.4811 for more info.

Older venture scouts and/or sea scouts should also consider joining the Northern Tier team for the greatest summer of their lives. Visit <http://ntier.org/Jobs> or email [Jobs@NTier.org](mailto:Jobs@NTier.org)

## Staff opportunities at the World Scout Centre!

### The place B.P. dreamt of...

In 1922, Baden-Powell visited Switzerland and fell in love with Kandersteg. It was the place he was looking to build his dream: a Permanent Mini Jamboree, where Scouts from all nations could meet all year round. Every year over 12,000 scouts from all around the world visit the Centre and take part in over 140 programme activities on offer, most of them guided by enthusiastic scouts and guides from all the corners of the globe.

Baden Powell's dream was not only for this Permanent Mini Jamboree to exist, it was for scouts to come here and live their dream - whether it be climbing a mountain, making new international friendships, helping as a work party or learning and experiencing new things - they could come to Kandersteg and do it.

Since 1923, Kandersteg International Scout Centre has been that special place where thousands of Scouts can live their dreams... and this is thanks to the work of our team of international volunteers.

Every 3 months, a group of Scout and Guides arrive in Kandersteg as strangers. Every 3 months, the same group of Scout and Guides leave as friends. Working as a member of Staff at the World Scout Centre is a unique experience; sharing, learning and having fun! Interested in having the time of your life? Keep reading...

### The Pinkies

Our staff is easily recognized by pink t-shirts; a reason to be known worldwide as "Pinkies". Our Centre is an amazing place and this is thanks to the work of our team of international volunteers that keep B.P.'s dream alive. Running the World Scout Centre, the staff is renowned as a happy team of hard workers – always ready to help and have fun.

### Short Term Staff

**The Short Term staff is the "spirit" of a season! They are Scouts and Guides who come to work in Kandersteg for one season of 3 months** (Summer, Winter, Autumn or Spring). A new team of Short Term staff arrives every December, March, June and September.



### How to join

The basic requirements for being a member of the Short Term Staff Team (Staff who stays for 3 months) are very simple:

- **To be a Scout or Guide member of a National Scout Organisation recognised by WOSM or WAGGGS.**
  - **To be at least 18 years old on the day you arrive here.**
- To be able to communicate in English.**

In Summer, there are about 33 Short Term Staff divided into three departments: Camp-site, Programme and Chalet Services... how-ever, all staff interact and get to work in all

the areas of the Centre. In Winter, Spring and Autumn, we have about 9-12 Short Term Staff. The organisation is also different: we do not work by departments, which means that all Short Term Staff will work in a wide variety of jobs: cooking, running activities, cutting the grass, etc.

Short Term Staff receive full training at the beginning of their season. During the season they receive accommodation in the Chalet, food and all the basics needed to stay at the Centre. There is no pocket money but some travel support may be available. The Staff system aims to give you the best possible experience at the World Scout Centre. -

Here you can find application deadlines for next seasons.

## Staff opportunities at the World Scout Centre!

Season	Start Date	End Date	Deadline for Applications
Summer 2016	04 June 2016	03 September 2016	15 December 2015
Autumn 2016	04 September 2016	02 December 2016	15 March 2016
Winter 2017	03 December 2016	04 March 2017	15 June 2016



Each season differs from each other, not just in weather conditions but in jobs and spirit as well. Depending on the season, we do look for specific skills. For example, in Winter we need people who can ski or snowboard and in Summer we need people who can climb.

The Staff are from all over the world, from different cultures and life-styles, but they have two things in common: **they are all Scouts or Guides, and they are all volunteers.** The Staff team is responsible for running the whole Centre and everyone is expected to help in any area, if needed!

When you choose the right season for you, fill the [application](#) and attach supporting documents like confirmation from the International Commissioner, your personal profile, [medical certificate](#), reference letter, curriculum vitae and picture. Please be aware that we will need to secure permission to work in Switzerland with the relevant authorities.

You can find all the information also on our website [www.kisc.ch](http://www.kisc.ch).

If you become a Pinkie, you will get three months of colourful experiences in the heart of the Swiss Alps, meeting many new international friends and developing new skills in a multi-cultural environment.

Come to Kandersteg and live your dream!



**kandersteg**  
international scout centre

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# LEARNING FOR LIFE & EXPLORING NEWSLETTER

September 2015 Edition

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**A mission driven, nationwide Exploring growth campaign that engages more volunteers and professionals, advances local programs and ultimately improves the Journey to Excellence scores for local councils.**

**Interested in learning more?** Please visit the Exploring Explosion website at [www.exploringexplosion.org](http://www.exploringexplosion.org) for more information including: promo video featuring Chief Scout Executive Mike Surbaugh, training, downloadable PDF playbook to share with staff and volunteers, plus MORE resources. If you have additional questions on when to get started, please email us at [exploring@lflmail.org](mailto:exploring@lflmail.org)

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## LFL STEM Scouts Day Camp Pilot a Success

**Thanks to our participating councils, staff, and especially the STEM coordinators!**

It began as an idea generated by Gary Butler: to see if LFL could organize and execute the concept of a STEM day camp for boys and girls in grades 3-5 during the summer of 2015. The results are in, and eight councils offered 18 sessions serving almost 650 kids!

The **success** was directly related to some new concepts offered to the pilot councils:

- Using our national STEM directors, Trent Nichols and April McMillian, supported by April Neudenberger, to compose a curriculum of fun, educational, and age-appropriate activities in an easy-to-use format. Thanks to that team we offered set lesson plans for local day camps to use.
- Offering marketing service through Design Sensory. These included a central website, local council sub sites, registration and social media, and other communications to assist in promotions.
- Having Supply create "STEM Day Camp in a Box" with the materials and equipment needed to carry out the curriculum activities. Boxes were delivered right to the council and each box served 50 participants.
- Holding STEM Day Camp National Camping School. Council leadership was invited to the Irvine Outdoor Education Center in the Orange County Council in Santa Ana, California, for a weeklong certification program. Not only did the participants learn about day camp administration, but also Trent and the two Aprils served as STEM instructors, demonstrating the activities.

Does this sound like something for your council in 2016? If so, send an email to [marty.walsh@lflmail.org](mailto:marty.walsh@lflmail.org) by October 1, 2015, to get on the list of interested councils. Information on the 2016 program and applications will be sent out in October with full details!

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## 2015-2016 LFL License Agreement

The 2015-2016 Learning for Life License Agreement Renewal Form is now available!

The fees schedule did not change from 2014-2015.

The deadline to return the form to the LFL National Service Center is

**September 30, 2015**

To access the license agreement Renewal Form:

**MyBSA> Learning for Life> LFL> Forms> Annual License Agreement**

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📧 Please send all questions and comments to: [exploring@lflmail.org](mailto:exploring@lflmail.org)

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# LEARNING FOR LIFE & EXPLORING NEWSLETTER

September 2015 Edition

## Training and Webinars

### Need professional training for Exploring or LFL Curriculum Based Programs?



The last professional certification course of the year is scheduled for Monday October 26 – Wednesday October 28 in Irving, TX at the National Scouting Museum. This course is open to both professionals and volunteers. Participants will learn from each other as we address how to “sell” the programs, how to start the programs, how to generate income from the programs and how to serve the programs. Participants can choose to attend either or both courses. \$120 Registration fee. Click [here](#) to register.

### \*TRAINING webinars

For anyone looking for an update and review of the processes of Exploring and Learning for Life programs, these webinars will meet your needs. To accommodate busy schedules the webinars will be held twice. Both professionals and volunteers are invited to participate.

### September LFL webinar series will include:

- How to get through the RENEWAL process
- How to SELL LFL Curriculum- based programs
- How to use LFL Digital Curriculum

### Please click on the link for times and dates during this month!

Register online at <http://bit.ly/1yL3p9u> .For more information contact: [Kristen.Falatko@lflmail.org](mailto:Kristen.Falatko@lflmail.org) or 972-580-7858.

### \*ENGINEERING webinar

Engineering is second only to the health science industry in growth. Most programs in engineering and the sciences draw a lot attention from youth, parents and funders. STEM/STEAM camps are extremely popular and can be an income generator for your council.

Get the scoop on the longest standing SAME Engineering Camp, the Atlanta Exploring Engineering Academy STEM Camp! The Camp held by the Atlanta post in conjunction with the Boy Scouts of America, Private Industry and local schools just celebrated its 16th summer. Learn how your Post can replicate this program in your area. Organizers will share lessons learned and the successes of this outstanding camp.

**WHEN: Wednesday September 16, 2015**

**How to start a regional STEM Camp: The Exploring Engineering Academy**

**12:00 p.m.-1:00p.m., EDT**

Click here to register:

[https://membership.same.org/cgi-bin/eventsdll.dll/EventInfo?sessionaltcd=15\\_581\\_eea](https://membership.same.org/cgi-bin/eventsdll.dll/EventInfo?sessionaltcd=15_581_eea)

## Exploring Scholarships

### \*MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS FOUNDATION scholarship

It's not too late to have your Explorers who are participants in Law Enforcement, Fire/EMS, Health, Aviation, or Law & Government Posts apply for the Motorola Solutions Foundation Scholarship.

The scholarship application can be found on:

<http://exploring.learningforlife.org/services/resources/scholarships/>



Please send all questions and comments to: [exploring@lflmail.org](mailto:exploring@lflmail.org)

# A Venturer's view of Seneca Waterways Powder Horn

Katie is a sophomore in high school, and is treasurer of Crew 313 in Macedon NY. This is her experience and reflections on Seneca Waterways Council's Powder Horn course. Held September 10-14<sup>th</sup> 2015.

For me Powder Horn was a great experience. I got to try a bunch of new things and activities, even things I was unsure of, and never heard of before. I learned a bunch of useful things to bring back to my *High Adventure Crew*.

While we were there, we learned about how to take care of some emergencies (wilderness First Aid & civil air patrol), but we also got to do a lot of fun activities. For example there was tomahawk throwing, shooting all sorts of guns from pistols to black powder rifles. With the guns, I am pretty sure there was any gun possible (revolvers, semi-auto pistols, lever action rifles, M1 Garand, M1 carbine, AR-15, a Pennsylvania long rifle, and a Brown Bess musket), which was awesome. Personally I had never shot a gun, but to see the variety that was out there and learn about each type was really cool.

Then you got to do a bunch of different Aquatic activities in the water with the waterfront activities there was anything you could think of. There was kayaks, sail boats, paddle boats and paddle boards, which I was pretty good at. Several of us did paddle board yoga. Along with that you could go out on a motor boat to just ride or you could have gone tubing. Both were fun. There was a trampoline on water, even though it could have been more bouncy it was just awesome to jump off of.

With this Powder Horn course it just wasn't kids doing it there were also a bunch of adults just having fun with everything thing there, it was like they were kids again too. And even if you weren't big into to guns or water there were other activities you could do.

Different people came in with remote control helicopters and some people did civil war reenactment.



Sara on 357 pellet gun



Katie Paddle board

# A Venturer's view of Seneca Waterways Powder Horn



Cooking Session

Saturday night there was a session where you learned how to cook different things. From foil dinners to deep fried Oreos... and we got to taste all of it. After we finished learning how to cook we had an iron chef competition where each group got a bunch of random ingredients and you have to make your dinner and dessert from what you had. That was really fun because the ideas different people had were amazing. There was everything from a Sheppard's pie to Mac n Cheese, and everything tasted delicious.

With that I had fun making what is now called the Powder Horn Walk Away Sundae aka. PHWAS. This was where you have a cone and you put marshmallows in the base. Then on top is bananas and over that you can put peanut butter, chocolate chips practically anything you want on top. You then wrap it in tin foil, stick it in some coals and let it cook. In my opinion they were delicious, but that's probably because I made them.

In the end, the whole event was awesome. I benefited & learned a lot even though I wasn't even there the whole time (dang school thing). I missed a bunch of cool activities, but I will bring everything I learned and experienced back to my venturing crew. It will make my crew more awesome.



Powder Horn-397-15

Eric Falkman, Course Director  
Seneca Waterways Council

Course Photo



atlatl



# A Venturer Reports: A Week at NAYLE

By Kurt and Liam

National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience (NAYLE) is an advanced leadership course open to Scouts and Venturers who have completed National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT). It is offered at all the major high adventure bases: Philmont; Sea Base; Bechtel Summit Reserve; and Northern Tier. The two of us are both concurrently registered as Scouts and Venturers. Our Crew stands alone and is not associated with our Troop.

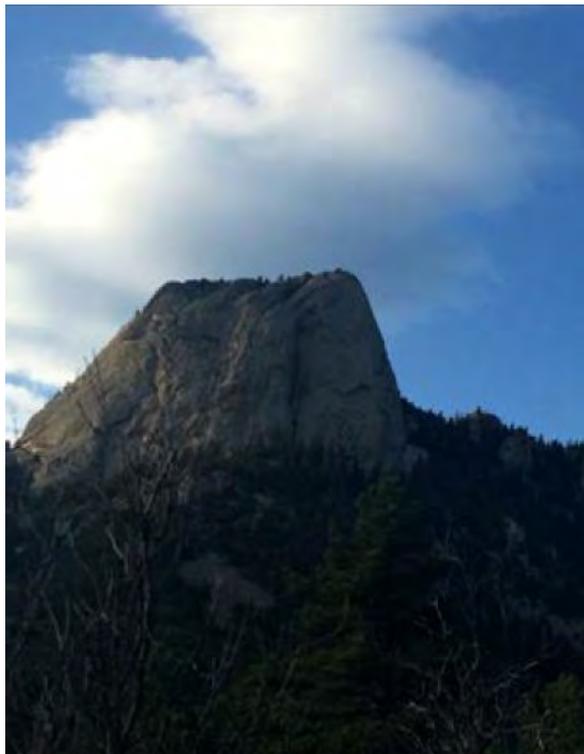
We left Washington, DC on a humid July morning, in our field uniforms, for a full day trip to Philmont in northern New Mexico. Before we had even exited the Albuquerque airport, two separate adults stopped us, wondering where we were headed and what we would be doing. We gave them big Venturing smiles and an underwhelming response since we had no idea what to tell them except that we were headed to Philmont for NAYLE.

Once in the shuttle, it was a four-hour ride north through the high New Mexico desert into the Philmont Scout Ranch, which covers over 137,000 acres. I remember thinking: "wow Philmont is really GREEN!" The NAYLE course started the next day, so we had a chance to check out Philmont Headquarters, the trading post, and especially the dining hall, where we were surprised when they served us some of the best camp food we've ever eaten.

The next morning, all of the NAYLE participants (50 youth and approximately 20 staff), headed to Rayado Ridge, the Philmont base camp where the NAYLE course is held. From this point forward, we (Kurt & Liam) separated into our respective Crews and each had very different experiences.

After a fifteen-minute bus ride and a fifteen-minute hike up the ridge, with full packs, everyone filled into the dining hall/classroom at Rayado Ridge to have lunch. All of the meals were the same type of meals a regular Philmont trek would have. After lunch, all the Crews went to their campsites to get situated, change, and write in their journals.

Throughout the week, the simulations and learning sessions were educational and entertaining. Kurt's Crew, The Cimmaron Citos, were able to accomplish all of their objectives, and a lot of fun doing the activities. One day they were trying to get over and through the challenge course elements; another night they set up camp in the backcountry with the stars shining brightly overhead; and the last day, they hiked up the Tooth of Time (A mountain topping out at over 9000 feet elevation). The value of teamwork was strongly emphasized throughout the week. The participants were always laughing and joking with each other while they grew closer and more cohesive each day. In the evenings, everyone would meet in the dining hall to have a snack and sing Scout songs from the songbook. The spirit with which the participants and staff conducted themselves made for several enjoyable evenings.



Tooth of Time

# A Venturer Reports: A Week at NAYLE

By Kurt and Liam

Liams Crew , the Urracas were extremely successful as well. They were aced the Challenging Outdoor Personal Experience (COPE) course elements. They were the first to complete the objective in more than one element and were friendly and cooperative with each other the whole time. The course is designed to use outdoor activities to show the value of teamwork and leadership. This approach promotes fun in a highly educational environment. Values learned in action can be far superior to those learned in the classroom. Although the

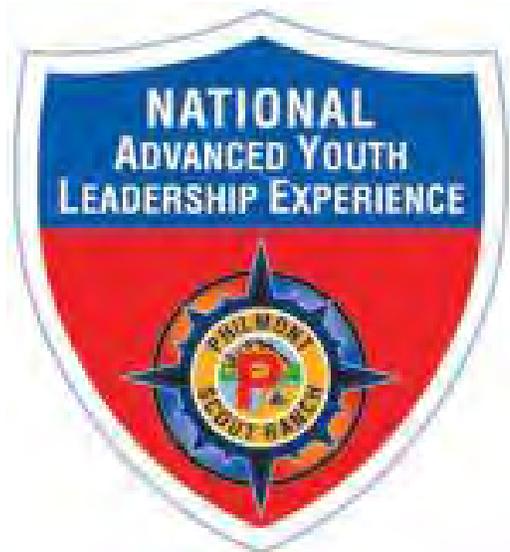


NAYLE Looking Down From Tooth

value of these activities, in the context of leadership, may not have been apparent at the time, the immense educational value never ceased to amaze us as we reflected on it. This course not only helped to foster our concept of leadership but taught us the true value of teamwork as well. It helped that Liam had completed the COPE elective for his RANGER award previously, that experience gave him a little bit better concept of what to expect.



NAYLE Up Hill Hike



# A Venturer Reports: A Week at NAYLE

By Kurt and Liam



Philmont NAYLE Crew

In true Venturing form, all of the Crews turned activities into mini-competitions: for instance, seeing which patrol could finish the geocaching course first. Each Crew teamed up with another Crew to help find “missing” staffers in a search and rescue exercise. All of these activities, the great staff, the amazing scenery, and the awesome Scouts & Venturers in each Crew, made for great NAYLE memories and one of the best weeks of our scouting lives.

For more information on NAYLE  
Visit

[http://www.scouting.org/  
scoutsource/BoyScouts/Resources/  
NAYLE.aspx](http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/BoyScouts/Resources/NAYLE.aspx)

**NAYLE - National  
Advanced Youth  
Leadership Experience**



NAYLE Staff

Kurt and Liam are members of Venturing Crew 27 from the National Capital Area Council in the Washington DC metropolitan area. Kurt has completed his Eagle Project and has had his Eagle Scoutmaster Conference. Liam holds the Eagle Scout Rank with four palms, The RANG-ER Award and the Summit Award. Liam is one of a handful of Scouts who earned every available merit badge in the Scouting program. Both have just returned from the 23<sup>rd</sup> World Scout Jamboree in Japan where they were members of the Northeast Region’s Provisional Crew 8. Kurt was the Crew’s Trumpeter and Liam served as the Vice President for Program. Both attended Goshen Scout Reservation’s Venturing Program at Camp Bowman this summer and are looking forward to the 2017 National Jamboree at the Summit.

# Conquering Challenges: Reaching the Summit

Working as Camp Staff at the Summit Betchel Reserve

By Clare

Let me get this out right away, working at the Summit (Summit Betchel National Reserve, or SBR) is not a fun and easy ride, so if that's what you want in a summer job, don't apply because not only do you reject worldly comforts of a house for about three months, decent food and night life, you commit yourself to a job that stretches you in emotional, physical, and psychological ways. But, if you like a challenge in austere circumstances, then it is totally worth it. I had a fun time and while it was hard, I made solid friendships and learned more about myself, and more about professionalism than I would have working in an office or for a food chain or some other, normal job.



My mom actually was the one who got me into this mess. It all started with my first experience as camp staff. That was when I was about fourteen, and I worked (well volunteered, but it still felt like a job) at a Cub Scout Day Camp in my local District. They needed people to work it, and I volunteered. My mom was as the one who suggested that I work in the archery section, since she knew that I had always had an interest in archery and bows and shooting, so I agreed.

That was four years of working with kids all under the age of twelve down to the age of six, and I learned as I went. Eventually I took a seminar in archery to get more technique because I grew to like it. There's a certain satisfaction in teaching when your student who has been struggling, hits a bull's eye for the first time: you rejoice a little with them, and that smile on their face is priceless. This is what makes it worthwhile.

After getting four years of Day Camp Archery experience, and after a year of college, I decided to look for a real job and challenge myself by dealing with a different age group than Cub Scouts. I had attended both the National Scout Jamboree in 2013 and the Shakedown at the Summit in 2012 as a participant and had a fun time, and that's how I found the Summit.

I first heard about the Summit and Venturing when I was working Day Camp. I heard about Venturing because of the contingent my Council was sending to the Shakedown at The Summit in 2012. They had room for an extra person. I signed up to go because it sounded like fun. That was how I met Pete Mapes and Crew 27, we all went to West Virginia together. The next year, I joined Crew 27 we went to the 2013 National Jamboree as most of the contingent from the National Capital Area Council. I enjoyed both trips to West Virginia. It had a certain charm even though it rained for the second half of the 2013 National Jamboree and the whole Summit grounds were muddy and smelled of wet hay. My two previous trips led me to apply for Summit Staff in 2015. At the Jamboree I placed my name down on a list for staff in the 2014 season for them to contact me when they needed staff, but they didn't contact me until the 2015 season.

I answered the invitation to apply and later I was hired as an Archery Instructor in the Shooting Sports division. Applying involved a lot of paperwork but once I got there it was more fun and a bigger challenge than I could have imagined

On a typical workday, I was up 5:55 AM and on the bus to the mess hall at 6:15 AM. I'd eat breakfast, head up to the range and set up for the day with my fellow staff. By 8:30, I'd greet our morning session of campers and go through all the "boring safety stuff" as we called it.



Summit Office

# Conquering Challenges: Reaching the Summit

Working as Camp Staff at the Summit Betchel Reserve

By Clare

The first actual shooting activity was at our static range where we could assess their technique. From the static range, we'd lead them around the range complex and they'd shoot all our courses. At



Summit Chow Hall

the Summit, participants had the option of doing a Marksmanship program where they could sign up to do archery and shoot guns. In the program they did two days of shooting at The Barrels (the gun ranges), doing everything from pistols to shotguns to rifles. Then they had a day at Bows doing crossbow (a new pilot program The Summit was testing out) and all our archery ranges: static archery at 10 and 15 meters, static archery at 40 and 60 meters, Laporte –which is described as something like trap shooting with a bow—and 3D archery—where the shooter aims at foam animal targets set up at different distances. We also had competitions where the participants had opportunity to learn about guns and their mechanisms and about how to be better shooters. I helped kids with technique, helped them get the arm guards and finger tabs on correctly and led them around the ranges and acted as

RSO (range safety officer) with another instructor or by myself.

My job was tough, there were times I had to just walk away because kids didn't want to listen. I would have to stop everything and threaten to close the range until they decided they wanted to act like Scouts and follow instructions. Many times we shot in the rain and had to adapt quickly to the ever-changing and fast-moving storms of West Virginia. Sometimes I had to deal with uncooperative Scoutmasters or adult leaders who didn't know the SOP (Standard Operating Procedure), and sometimes I had to deal with coworkers who were having rough days. The ever-present storms at the Summit were a big annoyance, because we often had to do "storm clean up." The storms would roll through and blow down tents and equipment. Since there was not a dedicated crew to maintain the facilities in the face of the weather damage, we all had to stop what we were doing and work overtime to set everything to rights. This involved much more than just fixing our own program area. We also had to clean up the campsites for the participants that were destroyed because their tents blew away in the storms. This happened several times in a row and we had to close down morning program because our campsites for the participants were basically obliterated from the wind and rains.



Summit Archery Range

# Conquering Challenges: Reaching the Summit

Working as Camp Staff at the Summit Betchel Reserve

By Clare



Staff Home

This job just taught me how to deal with people, how to maintain professionalism, about growing up and being more of an adult. Sometimes it rained all day and we had to come up with ways to entertain Scouts. There was a week once when our manager and an instructor were doing NRA classes all week and couldn't be on the range. At the same time, another instructor was sick and a fourth instructor was gone. We had to work very hard to cover 45-12 person sessions. We had two sessions: one in the morning and another in the afternoon. It was tough and it stretched me, but it also helped me grow in ways I didn't expect and it left me much more capable to deal with the unexpected. You must be asking, did you have any time for fun or free time? Most people ask me that, some are simply being sympathetic toward me. Maybe you'll appreciate camp staff duties more after reading this.



Archery Staff

What did I do for fun? West Virginia is beautiful and I made friends from all over. Most of the time we went into town to get decent food to eat, because we had been eating camp food and were sick of it by week three. Often we went to Fayetteville, a quaint small tourist town just north of The Summit right next to the New River Bridge and National Park Visitor Center. Sometimes we went to the New River Gorge to hike, swim, white water raft, and take in the beauty of West Virginia. I tried hard to go to other program areas at the Summit. I rode the Big Zip a lot, and did some mountain biking, kayaking, paddle boarding, and shooting. I learned more about the other stations and took advantage of The Summit. Most of the time though, I was too tired from working to do anything in the evenings besides sitting in my hammock or camping chair reading a book. I also took pictures of the gorgeous sunsets that we had the

privilege of watching and went stargazing once. You can see the outlines of the Milky Way if you go to the right spot. Some times I hung out playing cards and talking with my fellow staff members. Other times I just slept.

Looking back on all the ups and downs, I realized that this experience of just taking things the way they were was really simple and living in a tent made me better appreciate a house. I do love the simple life of a tent though. This job would not have been possible if I had not volunteered at Cub Scout Day Camp all those years, so don't discount any volunteer work that you do, it may pay off for you later. This job was the best. I made good friends. I learned about people, about working with people and how to deal with all the issues that come up in a job. I became a better shooter and shooting changed me into a more disciplined person. The job was hard, but it was also satisfying because it taught me not to give up and not to doubt myself. I learned to have faith in myself and my coworkers and to 'roll with the punches.' Being The Summit and how it's just starting out, there were lots of little bumps and annoyances.

# Conquering Challenges: Reaching the Summit

Working as Camp Staff at the Summit Betchel Reserve

By Clare



New River Bridge

Lack of communication was an issue that I had to deal with and it kept recurring. But that's life, you've just got to learn how to deal with all the craziness it throws at you. I miss a lot of things about The Summit and strangely there is a West Virginia and Summit charm that grows on you and pulls you back. Somehow it became a home to me even though there was point when it rained 35 days in a row at least once a day. Our campsite became full of standing water and we had to do a lot clean up from bad storms and work extra to repair damaged campsites. We were always dealing with the unexpected



Clare and Emma

Working camp staff is not easy, I must make this clear, because I thought this at first. I thought it would be like Cub Scout Day Camp which was easy compared to the long hours I had had to pull at The Summit. All of the unexpected things that happened were things we had to deal with that really were not in our job descriptions, but they had to be done and we were the only manpower around to do them. But it was *fun* and I made friendships I hope to keep. Summit Camp Staff is a hard job that makes you a stronger person because you didn't give up. Summit Camp Staff is a bonding experience unlike any other because we all had to deal with the same crazy unpredictable stuff and share the same hardships. Summit Camp Staff is a simple life that makes you appreciate what you have at home. Summit Camp Staff is better than a job or an internship because it teaches you about life in a way that is fun and engaging. More importantly, it teaches you how to think on your feet and adapt, and it much more exciting than an ordinary summer job. Summit Camp Staff is a challenge, and The Summit is all about conquering challenges which is what I did this summer. I conquered challenges and I came out a better, more mature person than I was before I came in

Clare is in her fifth year as a Venturer in the National Capital Area Council after two years with Crew 877 and three years with Crew 27. She is currently attending college in eastern Ohio and is an excellent archery instructor. While she has never pursued Venturing advancement or leadership training, she has thoroughly enjoyed the fellowship of her Crew and a multitude of Venturing activities. She notes that her Crew feels like family and she has thoroughly enjoyed camping with them regularly and at the Venturing Program at Goshen Scout Reservation's Camp Bowman.

## Venturing Crew 276 Attends Harry Potter Themed Insomniac's Revenge by Crew Vice President of Public Relations Melissa S.

The weekend of September 18-21, Byram Township's Venturing Crew 276 attended the 2015 Harry Potter themed Insomniac's Revenge at Goosepond Scout Reservation. What is Insomniac's Revenge? This insane camping experience gives each scout the opportunity to stay up from Friday night to Sunday morning with nonstop activities and games.

Round the clock Harry Potter themed activities were being conducted such as make your own wand, potion making and even geocaching. Campers were also given the opportunity to participate in camp-wide tug-of-war, quidditch, wizard chess, and the infamous Tri-Wizard tournament! Like in the world of Harry Potter, there were four houses that scouts could be a member of: Krackenblood, Bearclaw, Falconcrest, and Fisher Fang. The four houses competed in a race to the finish line during the Tri-Wizard tournament.

It wouldn't be a weekend without candy though! Goosepond Scout Reservation didn't just provide any ordinary candy, however. They provided some yummy Harry Potter inspired treats like Chocolate Frogs, Butter Beer, and even Bertie Botts Every Flavor Beans. Watch out though! Those beans include some nasty flavors, like bacon.



**Crew President Stephen and Crew VP of Program Katie with the National Venturing President Edward Abraham**

While site guides led their magical activities, the race to find the most disgusting bean in camp was underway. Normally people would avoid trying to find this gross bean, but the prize was the camp's sorting hat! Eating a nasty bean for that prize is completely worth it. In fact, a member of Crew 276, Jennifer S., found the bean herself and won the sorting hat! In response to the flavor of the bean she said, "I could feel it in my nose. If I think about it hard enough I can still taste it." She then proceeded to gag. Obviously this is not a flavor people want to try.

Visiting the camp that weekend were the National Venturing President Edward Abraham, Central Region Advisor Kris Zahrobsky and past North East Region President Christine Lynne Capen.

Overall, the weekend was spectacular, mischievous, and magical. It only makes sense that crazy Venturers would host and attend such a crazy weekend. We can't wait for next year!

Venturing is a youth development program of the Boy Scouts of America for young men and women who are 14 through 20 years of age. Venturing Crew 276 meets monthly in Byram Township at the Lakeland Emergency Squad building. More information on the crew can be found at [venturecrew276.com](http://venturecrew276.com)



**Crew 276**

## A First for Crew 310

By: Curt Kamichoff, Crew 310, Patriots' Path Council

(Titusville, NJ) — On a crisp and sunny autumn morning, Venturing Crew 310, sponsored by American Legion Post #263, Carteret, New Jersey, joined hundreds of other Scouts, Venturers, and Junior ROTC cadets in the 19th Annual New Jersey Scout/JROTC Orienteering Championship, held at historic Washington Crossing State Park, the spot where George Washington led a column of Continental Army troops across the icy Delaware River on the night of December 25–26, 1776, during the American Revolutionary War. It was the first move in a surprise attack organized by George Washington against the Hessian forces in Trenton, New Jersey on the morning of December 26.

This was the first-ever orienteering competition Crew 310 participated in, although the participating Crew members ranged from veterans of many other orienteering competitions as members of other units, to newbies on an orienteering course for the first time. Regardless of their experience level everyone had a fantastic time, hiking through the brightly colored foliage on a beautiful, crystal clear day, and finding all eleven control points on the yellow-long course in a time of 1:07:57!

Our first competition as a Crew was so much fun that we are planning to participate in another competition next month at the Rutgers Environmental Preserve in Highland Park, New Jersey, on Sunday, November 8. Come and join us for a GREAT daytrip!



## **Introduction to Leadership Skills for Crews** **– November 7, 2015**

What is the Introduction to Leadership Skills for Crews?

The purpose of the Introduction to Leadership Skills for Crews is to teach crew members with leadership positions about their new roles and how to most effectively reach success in that role. It is intended to help Venturers in leadership positions within their crew understand their responsibilities and to equip them with organizational and leadership skills to fulfill those responsibilities. Introduction to Leadership Skills for Crews is the first course in the series of leadership training offered to Venturers.



Completion of Introduction to Leadership Skills for Crews is a prerequisite for Venturers to participate in the more advanced leadership courses National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) and the National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience (NAYLE). It is also required for Kodiak.

Participants will have the chance to participate in team building activities and games; learn about the Venturing program; learn how a crew functions; learn leadership skills; learn the EDGE method; complete prerequisites for NYLT,

NAYLE, and Kodiak; and get to know other Venturers and Crews; all while having a great time.

When: Saturday, November 7, 2015

Where: Patriots' Path Council Service Center (1 Saddle Road, Cedar Knolls, NJ 07927)

Check In: 8:30 am – 9:00 am

Training: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Who: Any registered Venturing youth

Cost: \$10 Includes: Lunch, Program Supplies, and Materials

Registration: Go to [www.ppbsa.org](http://www.ppbsa.org). Click on Council Calendar. Go to November 7, 2015. Click on Event to Register.

Event Chair: Katie Rozek at (973) 670-6998 or [kt.rozek@gmail.com](mailto:kt.rozek@gmail.com)

Event Advisor: Meghan Fortus at [mesukovich@yahoo.com](mailto:mesukovich@yahoo.com)



# THE TELEGRAPH

## **THE TELEGRAPH**

*A Newsletter published  
by the Northeast Region  
Sea Scout Council for  
Boy Scouts of America.*

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Hello,

We are pleased to announce that the Summer 2015 Volume 19, Issue 3, edition of THE TELEGRAPH "The Voice of Sea Scouts in the Northeast Region" has been posted on our Northeast Region Sea Scout Website at <http://www.nerseascout.org/> for your review, distribution, and reading pleasure.

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

This issue covers:

**Sea Scouts at NOAC** by Noel Guzman, Regional Commodore

**Behind the Scenes with our Regional Boatswain** by Sam Goodman

**Sea Scouts Recognized Across the Country** by Skipper Vigilant

**Northeast Region SEAL 2015**

**Camp Nautical** by Program Director Barbara White

**Attending Fleet Week in NYC** by David Tarantino, Ship 39 NJ

**USCG Boating Safety App**

And a lot more entries... check out the issue!

Would love your feedback.

Thank you.

Deidre Buchner  
Editor, The Telegraph



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA  
PATRIOTS' PATH COUNCIL

# 2016 AdVenturee Save the date!



## Activities will include:

- Shooting Sports
- COPE
- Rock Climbing
- ATV's
- Mountain Biking
- Venturing Ranger Award Core and Elective Requirements
- STEM
- Candy/Dessert making
- Many More

**When:** April 8-10, 2016

**Where:** Camp Somers, Mount Allamuchy Scout Reservation, located at 750 Waterloo Road, Stanhope, NJ 07874

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

**What:** The AdVenturee is a council wide get together for Venturers! Venturers from out of Patriots' Path Council and Boy Scouts of Venturing age are also welcome! The weekend will be full of super fun activities, meeting other Venturers, and even completing requirements for the Ranger Award and the new (Venturing, Discovery, Pathfinder, and Summit) Venturing awards!

**Theme:** Superheroes! Scouting appropriate costumes are welcome!

**Questions? Contact:** Katie Rozek, [kt.rozek@gmail.com](mailto:kt.rozek@gmail.com), (973) 670-6998  
Bill SanFilippo, [bill.sanfilippo@scouting.org](mailto:bill.sanfilippo@scouting.org), (862) 777-2524

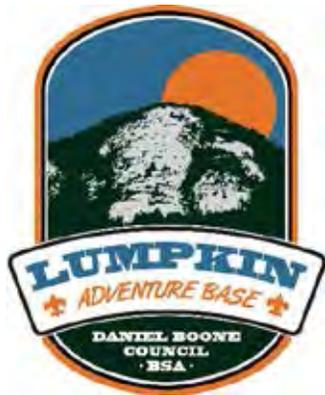
Not interested in earning awards? No problem! All the sessions have been designed to be incredibly fun and interesting! Sign up for whatever sessions appeal to you, and you'll have a blast!!

If you are interested in completing award requirements, simply check the session information document that will be available once we get registration up to see which sessions correspond to which award requirements.



**Prepared. For Life.™**

# Lumpkin Adventure Base Announces 2016 Venturing High Adventure Base Program



Beginning in June 2016 the Lumpkin Adventure Base will begin operation as America's first Venturing High Adventure Base. Open exclusively to Venturers, the High Adventure Base will offer a variety of programs including climbing, shooting sports, backpacking, rafting, zip-line canopy trips, COPE, horsemanship and a great camp atmosphere.

Located in Macon County North Carolina, the base is in the heart of Western North Carolina and close to a wide variety of National Forest and Wilderness areas. As the only Venturing Exclusive camp in the country, the base is dedicated to the promotion and growth of Venturing ... Your Crew, and Your Scouts!

The base will operate for four weeks in 2016 and offer 7 Treks to choose from: Adventure, Afoot, Rivers, Ropes, Sports, Trekasaurus and Custom. To learn more about the specifics of the treks and the camp visit [www.lumpkinadventurebase.org](http://www.lumpkinadventurebase.org)

[The Camp Brochure can be found here.](#)

[The 2016 Camp Reservation Form can be found here.](#)

The 2016 Leaders Guide will be released soon, as well as the 2016 Staff Application.

This is a GREAT Opportunity for your Crew to see if they are **Lumpkin Ready** ... ready for the challenge of exciting high adventure in the Western NC Mountains!

Contact Dan Rogers for more information. [Dan.rogers@scouting.org](mailto:Dan.rogers@scouting.org) (828) 254-6189.

## Introduction

Powder Horn is a resource course designed to introduce Scouting's adult leaders and youth to the exciting program possibilities for their unit. After completing this course, the participants should have sufficient introductory information to:

- Provide a robust outdoor program using a variety of resources
- Identify local resources & consultants for high-adventure activities
- Apply the health & safety requirements of the BSA to outdoor programs
- Apply the rules & regulations of the BSA as they apply to outdoor programs

Participants will be exposed to resources & programming in the following areas:

*Archery, Shooting Sports, Leave No Trace, Water Sports, Canoeing, Fishing, Orienteering, Geocaching, COPE, Climbing, Caving and much more!*

*(No participant has to participate in any activity in which they feel uncomfortable.)*

## Central Florida Council Invites YOU to attend:



## BSA High Adventure Resource Management Course

3 Full Days – November 13 – 15, 2015

Camp La-No-Che  
Paisley, FL

### Contacts:

**Ed Calish, Course Director**  
Email: [ecalish@hotmail.com](mailto:ecalish@hotmail.com)

**Matt Ragan, Staff Advisor**  
Email: [Matt.Ragan@CFScouting.org](mailto:Matt.Ragan@CFScouting.org)

All necessary forms and additional information will be sent to you after the receipt of your application.

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

## USA Scouting Service-Venturing

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

## UniformingFAQ.asp

## Venturing Magazine

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

## Yahoo Groups

### Central Region

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

### Northeast Region

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

### Southern Region

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

### Western Region

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

### National

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



# the FORUM

The FORUM is a National cluster concept and a friendly way to help Scouting Leaders exchange ideas and programs among our Troops, Crews, Ships, Posts, Councils, Areas, Regions and National.

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

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

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

Thanks for all you do!

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

**Pete Mapes—Associate Editor**

**Bernie Suess - Webmaster**

## TO SUBSCRIBE to the FORUM:

Email Bob the BEAR at

[rmonto47@gmail.com](mailto:rmonto47@gmail.com)

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