

The FORUM

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

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1115 Central Point Newsletter

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The Current FORUM Newsletter:

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

The Current FORUM Attachments

http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletters/~forum_attach.php

The FORUM Back Issues

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

This issue's attachments include:

Central

1115 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 Leadership Award Application
2015 Venturing Program FAQ Update 012715
2016 SEAL Application
2016 Seal Flyer
0717 31st Asia Pacific Regional Jamboree
Council Standards on Venturing Excellence Award
Venturing Awards and Recognitions –2015
Venturing Terms Lets get it Right

Northeast

0416 Baltimore Area Council Powder Horn

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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 November 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 is included in FORUM downloads

Articles this month include:

#ThankfulforVenturing

College Crews

Area 5 Update

Seabadge

Advisor's Minute

President's Corner

Area Pages



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

National Program Updates



Exploring

See list of new and updated resources in FORUM Attachments



Sea Scouting

Sea Scouting is updating the Sea Scout manual in early 2016 and adding a paddle sports program. The revised advancement requirements will be loaded on the web site at www.seascout.org this fall.



Venturing

**Venturing Leadership Award. once again, can be awarded to adult Leaders on a Council, Area, Regional and National level.
This new Application is in FORUM Downloads**



COURSE INFORMATION FOR SEAL 2016

	<p>Northeast Region SL-71-MD-2016 <i>Date:</i> June 25 - July 3, 2016 <i>Location:</i> Chesapeake Bay, Maryland <i>Vessel/type:</i> SSTV <i>Der PeLiKan</i> (44' Morgan ketch) <i>Cost:</i> \$280</p>
	<p>Southern Region SL-72-TX-2016 <i>Date:</i> July 1 - 9, 2016 <i>Location:</i> Galveston Bay, Texas <i>Vessel/type:</i> SSTV <i>Gremlin</i> (38' Little Harbor) <i>Cost:</i> \$250</p>
	<p>Western Region SL-73-WA-2016 <i>Date:</i> July 6 - 15, 2016 <i>Location:</i> San Juan Islands-Seattle, Washington <i>Vessel/type:</i> SSTV <i>Argo</i> (40' Mark 4 Shore Launch motor) <i>Cost:</i> \$280</p>
	<p>Northeast Region SL-74-NY-2016 <i>Date:</i> July 7 - 17, 2016 <i>Location:</i> Long Island Sound, New York <i>Vessel/type:</i> SSTV <i>Resolution</i> (Hinckley 40 Bermuda yawl) <i>Cost:</i> \$280</p>
	<p>Northeast Region SL-75-MD-2016 <i>Date:</i> July 23 - 31, 2016 <i>Location:</i> Chesapeake Bay, Maryland <i>Vessel/type:</i> SSTV <i>Der PeLiKan</i> (44' Morgan ketch) <i>Cost:</i> \$280</p>



October 21, 2015

FROM: National Venturing Program Development Task-Force

Subject: Council Standards of Venturing Excellence Award

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:

In May 2015, changes were made to the Council Standards of Venturing Excellence Award. The award has a new format, different requirements, and a new scoring method. ALL Council Venturing Officers' Associations are asked to fill out the award and send it in, regardless if they earn the award or not. This award is used as a way to measure the success of the Venturing program nationwide and also see what improvements are needed. The award form also has an accompanying FAQ form to explain certain requirements in more detail.

Councils who earn the award will be recognized at the National Annual Meeting in May of 2016.

The due date is February 15th and completed forms should be sent to venturing.nationalofficers@scouting.org.

Please find the new award nomination sheet at <http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/Venturing/Awards/Excellence.aspx>

If you have any questions, please email venturing.nationalofficers@scouting.org



A Venturer Reports: Maryland Girls' State

By Grace

Girl's state was an interesting experience for me that I do not regret going to, even though I was reluctant to go there in the first place. My Crew's advisor, Dr. Mapes urged me to try the experience and so I trusted his judgment.

Maryland Girl's State is conducted by the Maryland Department of the American Legion Auxiliary and is held each year, right after school lets out, at Salisbury State University on Maryland's Eastern Shore. The program is pretty selective, there are roughly 240 public high schools in the State of Maryland and heaven only knows how many private ones. The only students allowed to attend are young women completing their Junior Years of High School. Applications are managed through local branches of the American Legion Auxiliary. Young women selected pay an application fee but after that, their costs are picked up by donors. Attendees are responsible for getting themselves to and from Salisbury State University for the program which lasts six days right after school lets out for the summer. Forty Nine States conduct Girl's State Programs.

The dorms were nice and the other girls friendly even though my roommate came a day late. We started the day with a healthy breakfast and had our first session in the lecture hall. All the girls were separated into five cities. I was part of "Charm City" and I came up with the idea for our chant, "Charm City chicks! Charm, Charm, City Chicks!" with the help of my floor mates. The program had three distinct parts: An exposure to the Legislative, Judicial, and Executive branches of government at the statewide level. Our first few days revolved around bills that had been written by girls in attendance before coming to girl's state. We debated on, amended, and rejected or accepted bills in our respective groups. Along with being assigned a city on arrival we were also assigned to one of two parties, the Nationalists or the Federalists; I was one of the latter. I was elected Majority Leader in the Senate, which made me very happy. We went over five bills, including the controversial Midwife Bill, and I was surprised at how much talking we did. We never seemed to be making progress and we were the smaller body, the senate, of the two houses!

We elected Mayors and comptrollers (tax collectors) within our respective cities, and those people who were elected had to actually perform jobs, such as lead group activities and collect the actual food donation tax and 50 cents for every pair of shoes we brought, to help veterans in need. As a group, all of the girls formed one of the two party's, followed by general elections for the top positions such as Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Senator, and Attorney General. I was elected Attorney General, which I was very proud of, and my roommate became the running mate of the elected Governor and became Lieutenant Governor.



Grace at at Girls' State

A Venturer Reports: Maryland Girls' State

By Grace

Our girl's state senator went to Girl's nation later on and met President Barack Obama. Girl's Nation is held every July in Washington D.C. and two elected representatives from each of the forty-nine Girl's State Sessions attend. Being elected to be a Girl's Nation Senator is a great honor.

We also had a small judicial part of the program where I was the Bailiff in a mock civil case. I kept the peace and escorted the jurors to and from the seminar hall.

Finally, there was fun at Girl's state with relay races and a talent show at the end where I played songs on the ukulele and was voted the funniest girl. My advisor agrees with this position. I am happy that I went to girl's state and even though I don't believe I will go into government, local or otherwise, I learned a lot about teamwork and public speaking that will no doubt serve me well later in life. Additionally, I am now more informed about the workings of our government at the state level. If I had it to do all over again, I would definitely make the decision to go!



Grace at at Girls' State



Grace

Grace is the serving Vice President for Program of Crew 27 in the National Capital Area Council. She notes that mentoring activity chairs has honed her activity planning skills. Her Venturing Awards include both the Venturer and Outdoor Bronze Awards. She is a graduate of ILSC and NYLT. She has attended the Venturing program at Goshen Scout Reservation's Camp Bowman for two years and was a member of the Blue Heron MiniCrew in the Northeast Region 's Provisional Crew 8 at the 23rd World Scout Jamboree in Kirarahama, Japan. Grace is interested in science, math and art and is a senior at Walter Johnson High School in Bethesda, Maryland. Her Crew uses both Boy's State and Girl's State as part of there leadership development and training program.

A Venturer Reports: Kings Gap Park

By Johana, NCAC Crew 27, NER



Crew 27 at the Cameron-Maisland Mansion King's Gap



Appalachian Trail Museum Pine Grove Furnace Park



6 at the swing King's Gap

Kings Gap State Park near Carlisle, Pennsylvania was an incredible amount of fun! We arrived at our campsite on Friday October 18, 2015, after dark. Once our tents were up, we set up the propane stove on a table in the gazebo, sat down and had hot chocolate, because it sure was cold! We had a hilarious conversation and got an introduction to Lila, our newest member, which I hope she will remember forever. We then changed into our jammies and scooted to our nice warm sleeping bags grateful that we had brought jackets for tomorrow.

The next morning we were awakened at 0622 by vehicles arriving and loud, inconsiderate voices. The hunters had arrived! As the crescendo of voices continued to escalate, our Advisor's patience wore a bit thin and he bellowed from his tent, "Hey, can you hold it down to a dull roar? We are trying to finish off our good night's sleep." The reply was a bit condescending, "Sorry Boss." But at least they quieted down and departed the scene soon after.

After arising in the daylight and looking around, we found the real campsite about 50 feet up the trail. After a quick breakfast we moved our tents to their rightful places. We then sat down for a run through of the day's plan. Next on the agenda was assembling our lunches and a quick review lesson on orienteering. All prepared, we strode off on our six mile hike to the historic Iron Master's museum at neighboring Pine Grove Furnace State Park. The walk was fun; we had interesting conversations, tripped over a rock or two and took in the glorious colors of the mountains of Pennsylvania dressed in their full fall colors - Wow! Our destination was having its annual celebration known as 'Furnace Fest' and it was in full swing this weekend.

A Venturer Reports: Kings Gap Park

By Johana, NCAC Crew 27, NER



Distant mansion Porch King's Gap



Checking out a mansion bedroom on tour



Iron Master's Mansion in sunlight Furnace Fest

As we approached the festival, a host of aromas assaulted our noses – and they all smelled great! There was a huge selection of food vendors, lots of crafty people selling their wares and live music! It was really sort of overwhelming to pop out of a six mile hike through the glorious fall forest right into the middle of a major celebration.

Furnace Fest was a bit surreal, at one end of the celebration was this immense stone structure – the furnace. The famous Laurel Forge that was used to manufacture wrought iron from Pine Grove Furnace pig iron in the 1830s. Above the furnace was a mansion where the Forge Master lived. His work was obviously profitable. Just across the road from the Laurel Forge is the Appalachian Trail Museum. Pine Grove Furnace State Park is bisected by the Appalachian Trail and is roughly at the midpoint, halfway between Mount Katahdin in Maine and Stone Mountain in Georgia. The museum was great, it covers the history of the AT by decades and clearly shows the continued popularity of the trail. It also celebrates some of the personalities that helped to make it the famous hiking trail that it is. Furnace Fest had two areas with vendors selling crafts, a huge area with food for sale and a makeshift performance area for the live performers. The Crew arrived about 1 PM and stayed until just before 5 PM.

We snacked on lots of reasonably priced food items that supplemented the generous lunches we had made for ourselves and purchased some clever but inexpensive crafts – like a hand knitted wool cap for \$6.25. The band performing while we were there was a really good folk band named “The Wild Hymns.” Our Advisor bought one of their CDs and we listened to it on the way home – very mellow, good voices, very clever lyrics!

A Venturer Reports: Kings Gap Park

By Johana, NCAC Crew 27, NER



Trail Break enroute to Pine Grove Furnace



Johana, Brooke, Lila and David at King's Gap



St Patrick's Catholic Church Carlisle PA -
Nicholas Straus 1786

There was a rock band scheduled to follow The Wild Hymns but it was cooling off fast as the sun set so we headed back to King's Gap State Park and our campground. We were unanimous in the opinion that warm was better than rock and roll.

Our trip back to King's Gap was by car since, once again, we had worn ourselves out and it was getting dark. Our dinner consisted of slightly well done Dutch oven pizzas and warm Cup O' Noodles. We went to sleep with smiles on our faces knowing we had had a great day!

The next morning we woke up to sausages and coffee, an essential to some of us. Our Advisor, Pete, took some people to church and the rest of us stayed back to pack and get ready to leave to see the mansion at the summit of the mountain we were camped on. We waited until everyone got back from church and then drove up the mountain to the mansion. The Cameron – Masland Mansion is a gorgeous home overlooking the King's Gap Hollow beneath it and providing a stunning view of the valley that Carlisle, Pennsylvania sits in. With unlimited visibility we could see snow showers twelve miles away in the valley and the brilliant oranges, reds and browns of a superb fall day with just a hint of residual green. The mansion was built from 1903 to 1908 out of reinforced concrete and faced with native Antietam Quartzite, it is absolutely breathtaking. For the present, the mansion is used as an environmental education center but it can be rented by groups for events. There are 15 bedrooms and ten bathrooms upstairs and the building is 200 feet long. All in all, the mansion contains thirty-two rooms. Italian immigrants cut the quartzite and faced the structure, the stonework is a real attention getter and has stood the tests of time very well.

A Venturer Reports: Kings Gap Park

By Johana, NCAC Crew 27, NER



Johana not sitting in the Mansion Sitting Room



The Wild Hymns in concert Furnace Fest



View from the mansion over the King's Gap Hollow

We were given a great tour of the mansion and told of everything it was used for then and now. The mansion was beautifully decorated and was an experience we would never forget.

Unluckily we had to go home and went on our way after a big happy group photo. The adventure was not over yet. While at church, our pious contingent had located a tombstone in the graveyard of the Catholic Church different from all the others. First of all, it is red sandstone when everything else is marble or granite, and secondly, the inscription is in German. The grave belongs to one Nicholas Straus. Nicholas was a Hessian soldier serving with Colonel Rawl at Trenton in New Jersey during the winter of 1776 when Washington's remnant Army crossed the Delaware and took him unawares on the morning of Christmas Day. Fortunately he was captured, not killed, along with 600 other Hessians and taken to Philadelphia under guard. While we do not have the particulars, he must have been paroled and eventually found his way to Carlisle where he died in 1786. After taking in this incredible find of American History, we loaded up the vans, stopped at Mickey D's for an early lunch and headed south through Gettysburg for the Washington Suburbs and home. It was a great trip!

Johana

Johana joined Crew 27 this year and has been very active! A ninth grader at Albert Einstein High School she is in the International Baccalaureate program there. Fluent in both Spanish and English her favorite subjects are English and History. Her favorite things about Venturing are the outdoor activities and her favorite activity so far was spending two weeks at Goshen Scout Reservation's Camp Bowman in the Venturing Program last summer. She is looking forward to attending the 2017 National Scout Jamboree and has signed up with the National Capital Area Council.



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, (973) 670-6998
Bill SanFilippo, bill.sanfilippo@scouting.org, (862) 777-2524

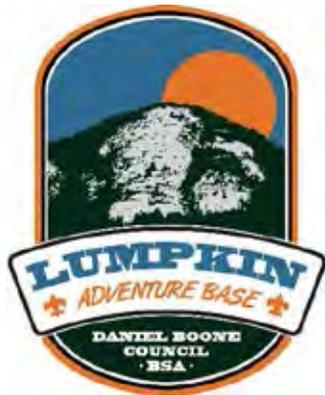
Not interested in earning awards? No problem! All the sessions have been designed to be incredibly fun and interesting! Sign up for whatever sessions appeal to you, and you'll have a blast!!

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

[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 (828) 254-6189.

Websites

National Exploring

<http://www.learningforlife.org/news-events/news-exploring/>

National Venturing

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

National Sea Scout

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

Central Region Venturing

<http://www.crventuring.org>

Northeast Region Venturing

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

Northeast Region Sea Scout Net

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

Southern Region-Venturing

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

Southern Region Sea Scout

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

Western Region Venturing

www.wrventuring-bsa.org

USA Scouting Service-Venturing

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

UniformingFAQ.asp

Venturing Magazine

www.venturingmag.org

Yahoo Groups

Central Region

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

Northeast Region

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

Southern Region

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

Western Region

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

National

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



the FORUM

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

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

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

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

Thanks for all you do!

Bob the BEAR Monto—Editor in Chief

Pete Mapes—Associate Editor

Bernie Suess - Webmaster

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