

# CATHIE SEEBAUER



## Overview

- From Crew 1 in Prairielands Council (Central Region Area 3; Champaign, Illinois)
- Involved in Venturing for over 5 years
- Current Region Venturing Vice President of Administration
- National Venturing Website Task Force Member
- Summit and Silver Award Recipient
- University of Illinois student, majoring in Civil Engineering with a specialization in Societal Risk Management

## Venturing Leadership, Awards, & Vision

### Venturing Leadership

- Region VOA Vice President (2016-17)
- Region CSVE Chair (2015-16, 2016-17)
- Area VOA Vice President (2015-16)
- Council VOA President (2014-15, 2015-16)
- Council VOA Vice President (2013-14)
- Council Exec. Board Member (2014-16)
- Council Program Committee (2015-17)
- Crew President (2013-14)
- Crew Treasurer (2012-13)

### Venturing Awards

- Outdoor Bronze, Sports Bronze, Arts & Hobbies Bronze
- Gold Award, Silver Award
- Discovery, Pathfinder, Summit Awards
- NOVA Math, NOVA Science
- Council VLA, Area VLA



### A Vision for the Future: Venturing's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year

- **Revitalize communication** through social media, the national website, and national updates that keep Venturers informed and excited about the program, and gives them tools to recruit others.
- **Modernize training** by continuing to develop new assets for the "Training Toolbox" that areas and councils nationwide can use for their conferences.
- **Further integrate the ALPS model** through expanding resources for adventure, like the "Where to Go Venturing" database and VenturingFest.
- **Develop the leaders of tomorrow** by sparking collaboration between regions, and building up strong youth committees at all levels to get youth better involved, motivated, and prepared to take on future leadership challenges.
- **Improve Venturing's prominence in and outside of Scouting** through internally creating new and sustainable VOAs in councils, and externally increasing the visibility of the Summit Award for opportunities like scholarships.



## High Adventure Experience

- Jamboree Staff (2017)
- Summit Canopy Guide (2017)
- Philmont Backcountry Staff (2016)
- Philmont Rayado (2015)
- Philmont Trek Leader (2014)
- Apostle Islands Trek Leader (2013)



## Training Experience

- Instructor for region/area courses: Implementing the Awards Program into Your Crew, Starting a VOA, Team Building, CSVE, Leading Boards of Review, Putting the "Wow" into Your Events
- Lead coordinator for council: ILSC, Wilderness First Aid, NOVA science, Goal Setting & Time Management, Mentoring for Venturers, Project Management, Youth Recognition Dinner
- Served on Staff for: Area 3 Conference, Area 7 Extravaganza, Fall Fun Rally, Area 3 Training College, Central Region Officer Orientation, Philmont Training Center

## Non-Scouting Experience

### Non-Scouting Awards

- High School Academic: National Merit Scholar Commendation, Illinois State Scholar, American Legion Medal Award, Academic Letter of Achievement, AP Scholar with Honors, Math Department Award, National Honor Society, Student Athlete Award
- High School Extra-Curricular: Money Smart Kid of Champaign County (1<sup>st</sup> place), State Math Competition (1<sup>st</sup> place), Scholastic Bowl All-Tournament Team, Most Improved Track Athlete, Most Dedicated Athlete
- College Academic: Chancellors Scholar and James Scholar honors designations, Civil Engineering Cup Champion
- Merit Scholarships earned: Civil and Environmental Engineering Excellence Scholarship, Illinois Engineering Achievement Scholarship, Engineering Visionary Scholarship

### College Activities

- Engineering Freshman Council
- Engineering Leadership Committee
- Society of Women Engineers
- Outdoor Adventure Club

### High School Activities

- Cross-Country (varsity captain)
- Track (varsity captain)
- Math Team (president)
- Scholastic Bowl (varsity captain)
- Peer Tutoring
- Ambassadors
- National Honor Society
- Art Club



# Past Venturing Terms

## Council Officer

- **CSVE Results:** As a two-term council VOA president, I led my council to be 1 of only 3 councils in the Central Region to receive the CSVE Award in 2014. When the new structure was released, we then earned Silver Level in both 2015 and 2016.
- **Membership:** We had positive growth in membership for 2 years in a row while I was president. To continue this trend, I still remain active in my council, working directly with our Scout Executive and Program Committee to plan a council-wide Venturing recruitment campaign.
- **Program Acknowledgement:** Gained recognition for Venturing by advocating for the Eagle Scout recognition dinner to include our program. This year, we formally changed the name of the event to "Youth Achievement Dinner", and presented Summit Awards and VLAs. For my efforts in making the event possible, I was asked to serve as our council's first even youth to be Master of Ceremonies.

## Area Officer

- **Area Conference:** Successfully promoted our most diverse Area 3 Conference ever, with 9 out of 11 councils sending contingents. I created a promotional video and coordinated the recruitment of staff, with a final count of around 100 participants.
- **CSVE:** Collected CSVE forms from 10 out of our area's 11 councils, regardless of qualification status. Served as a region CSVE coordinator simultaneously. These opened lines of communication with the councils, and sparked conversations about starting VOAs in two new councils.
- **PIVOT:** Helped develop a region-wide training curriculum (called PIVOT) aimed specifically at starting sustainable VOAs in councils that were struggling. I helped to develop content for the course, as well as test pilot the training, and shared it with several other region's areas.
- **Region Operating Procedures:** Helped edit a completely revised set of operating procedures for the region, to be approved by the region cabinet. These were aimed to be a practical roadmap for future officers to use as a resource when planning their terms.

## Region Officer

- **CSVE:** Led the nation in number of CSVE forms collected, with roughly 70% of Central Region councils submitting a form, compared to the national average of less than 40% submitted. These forms will allow us to focus efforts in councils that do not have VOAs but are interested in starting.
- **Website Development:** Recognizing that the internet is one of our primary forms of communication with Venturers, I helped lead a complete redesign on the national Venturing website, and I am currently working to redesign the Central Region website as well.
- **Training Toolbox, Area Status Reports:** (More on next page).

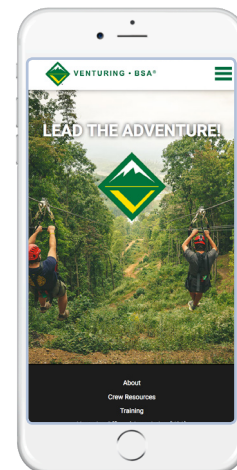




# Major Projects

## National Website

- I served as one of the main contributors on the National “Venturing.org” Website redesign taskforce. From assessing the old site, to new content development, to designing the current layout from scratch, I worked on every stage of the project.
- New features include things like a centrally located Venturing calendar, all council VOA social media links, ready access to award requirements, VOA tips and tricks, lists of possible scholarships, and many more resources.
- Even now after publishing, I continue to add new features that will enhance the experience of Venturers and Advisors using the site, giving them easier access to the primer source of Venturing information.



## Training Developments

- I developed and compiled a database of nearly 30 unique Venturing-specific trainings, giving Venturers nationwide access to professionally themed PowerPoints to use at their region, area, and council conferences.
- The trainings cover topics such as Marketing and Recruiting, the ALPS Program Model, Putting the “Wow” into Your Events, Starting a VOA, Venturing Terminology and Uniforms, and dozens more.
- Currently, I am leading a collaborative taskforce between Central Region and Western Region; we are looking into expanding this current project to include completely revamping Personal Safety Awareness training, as well as creating new resources to accompany Crew Officer Orientation, ILSC, and Project Management trainings.



## Area Status Reports

- As a resource for our region Officer Orientation, I organized the data from all the 2015 CSVE forms from the Central Region and compiled it with recent membership trends.
- This was then distributed to all our areas, so they could see the categories with growth potential for our region, as well as categories that need improvement, and target them specifically.
- I presented on the importance on building relationships with councils, and how these status reports can give us vital information that will assist us in starting sustainable VOAs.



# National Goals

## Communication

- Grow social media presence by creating Facebook hashtag campaigns and events throughout the year, encouraging youth to share pictures/stories with their friends of Venturing's opportunities.
- More fully utilize our other media platforms, such as Twitter, Instagram, and Snapchat. Work with region VPs of Com. to create a coordinated inter-region communication team that manages the various sites.
- Add features to the national website marketing toolbox, such as a social media banner template, that Venturers can use as their cover photos.
- Publish quarterly updates of national/regional Venturing endeavors, so Venturers/Advisors stay informed and feel connected. Publicize methods for people to give feedback and suggestions on the program.

## Adventure

- Expand the current Central Region "Where to Go Venturing" database of Venturing-specific summer camps to encompass the other regions.
- Increase awareness of VenturingFest and Venturing Blast as affordable ways to experience high adventure bases while learning/interacting with Venturers from across the nation.

## Sustainability

- Publish more examples of recruitment events and feature them on social media platforms for crews to utilize. Discuss both traditional crews, as well as niche ones, such as college crews.
- Increase online database of scholarships available to Venturers, to show that they can be recognized for their successes.



## Training

- Create more supplemental trainings to publish in the "Training Toolbox" so crews/councils/areas have easy access to any training resources they may need.
- Work to improve current ALPS trainings by modernizing Personal Safety Awareness Training, adding new ethical controversy examples, and more.

## Leadership

- Encourage regions/areas to build up their committees; this allows for more delegation of tasks, as well as gets new youth involved, motivated, and comfortable with running for positions the next year.
- Spark inter-region collaboration, such as communication, admin, and program teams to work together on projects and ideas.
- Support council VOAs through giving areas CSVE results in a useable format. Support the start of district VOAs in large councils, and create a full complement of patches for their officers.

## Awards

- Produce more resources that promote the ALPS awards and make it more visibly an equal to the Eagle Scout, such as example courts of honor, a Summit Award pocket card, mentor pins, certificate frames, coins, etc.
- Add a "Certificate Creator" to the website, similar to what Central Region has, that lets you customize certificates to give out to recognize achievements.
- Create an interactive "Summit Map" for the website that shows pins on locations of various Summit projects across the nation and a description of the impact they had on their communities.

