

VENTURING

FALL 2019 ISSUE

Newsletter



WHERE TO CAMP WITH YOUR CREW

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A FEMALE CHIEF



VENTURING Newsletter

VOLUME ONE | ISSUE TWO

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Editor's Note

NICOLE STEELE

Hello Venturers, Advisors, friends, and families,

I am excited to present to you our second edition of The Venturing Newsletter! Just recently, I got the chance to be inducted as the first female youth in my chapter for Order of the Arrow. With the opening up of Scouts, BSA to youth females, girls have also been allowed the opportunity to join the BSA's service-based honors society. Already, we have seen female Venturers step up as leaders in the program. Highlighted in this issue is OA's C-3B Chief, Andrea Penrose.

Another great opportunity coming to Scouts 14 years of age and older is the 2020 VenturingFest. In 2018 I joined the fun and would most certainly recommend this experience to any scouts looking for a week away, adventure, or new friendships.

As college app and scholarship season is in full swing for my fellow seniors, clubs and sports are picking up, and time in general seems to be just running out, I have found that the one thing to keep me sane is getting out of the house for breaks. It may seem impossible at times, but with breaks, I am able to have a few hours of fun before I return to my activities, more revived and focused. Because of this, we have included several suggestions for fun things to do with your local Crews or Venturing Officers' Associations.

You spoke up, and we heard you. In this edition, we have also incorporated a number of aspects you suggested, including great Scouting camps and incorporating the ALPS model. If you have any more ideas, please let us know by emailing nationalventuringcommunication@gmail.com or messaging us on facebook!

Yours in Scouting,

Nicole Steele

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V E N T U R I N G

ALPS

ADVENTURE, LEADERSHIP, PERSONAL GROWTH, AND SERVICE: the aspects of the Venturing program

A**DVENTURE** is the key to Venturing, and developing outings with a sense of adventure is the key to the crew having fun and learning something new about themselves. As a Venturer, not only will you participate in outings and adventures, but you will also lead them. As your leadership skills develop, you will become a mentor to other Venturers as they take on the role of leading an adventure or activity. What the adventure looks like is up to you and the crew.

L**EADERSHIP** is the tool you will use as you help the crew plan its adventures. As a Venturer, you will learn to lead the crew through the adventures of their choice. Leadership in Venturing is not just a position— it is an action, captured in the Venturing motto, “Lead the Adventure”. Even as you begin your Venturing experience, you learn leadership skills by observing crew officers and more experienced members of the crew as they lead the adventure.

P**ERSONAL GROWTH** comes when you learn from your experiences as a Venturer. Conversations with crew members and your Advisor will help you appreciate what you have learned. Personal growth helps you identify and develop your talents and abilities so you can be prepared for life’s challenges and opportunities.

S**ERVICE** is the gift we give to others. It allows us to sustain our communities by identifying needs and targeting them. Venturing’s commitment to community service will allow your crew to develop a program full of opportunities to serve others— and to have fun while doing so!



WHAT TO LOOK FORWARD TO WITH VENTURINGFEST 2020

Page 5



UNIQUE EVENT IDEAS TO TRY THIS YEAR

Page 7



WHERE TO GO CAMPING WITH YOUR CREW

Page 9



VENTURINGFEST™

2020 SUMMIT
BECHTEL
RESERVE

JUN 28-JUL 3
2020

SUMMIT BECHTEL RESERVE

GET CONNECTED

SUMMITBSA.ORG/VENTURINGFEST

FACEBOOK.COM/VENTURINGFEST

YOUTH REGISTRATION FEES

\$525 EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT*

\$625 REGULAR FEE

ADULT REGISTRATION FEES

\$425 EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT*

\$525 REGULAR FEE

***EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION ENDS 4/30/20**



ARE YOU READY TO LEAD THE ADVENTURE?

VenturingFest is about friendship, fun, and adventure. If you like to challenge yourself, learn, make new friends, and experience new things, this is the place for you! Join thousands of other Venturers from all over the world living side-by-side. Don't miss what will be the largest Venturing celebration in the world!



VENTURING · BSA®

BY RYAN DAVIS | VF 2020 CHAIRMAN

VENTURINGFEST

is the world's premier Venturing event and this year is going to be the largest one yet! We have invited over 350,000 Scouts from around the world to take part in this action-packed week at the Summit Bechtel Reserve in Glenn Jean, WV and you're one of them. VenturingFest is open for any registered scouts 14 years and older.

Being a nation-wide event, scouts who attend VenturingFest are presented with the opportunity to meet others in different regions and even countries. These friendships last years and provide Scouts with great learning opportunities about each other and ways to bring the fun back home with them. While this is also the case for Scouting Jamborees, VenturingFest tends to have a smaller crowd, making it a more personal experience and allowing one to get more familiar with the Summit Bechtel Reserve without waiting in such long lines.

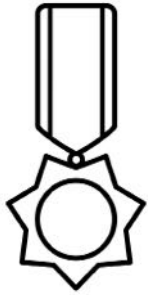
For those not familiar with the Summit Bechtel Reserve, it is the BSA's most versatile national high adventure base that offers BMX riding, one of the United States' largest skate parks and zip lines, white water rafting, and shooting sports. Those are just some of the items the Summit Bechtel Reserve offers and all of these will be available during VenturingFest 2020.

We can't wait to see you there!

REGISTER NOW!



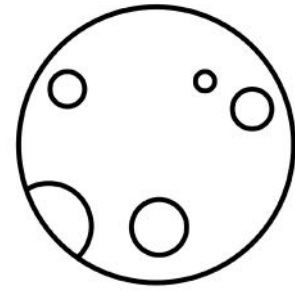
THE EDITOR IN CHIEF'S
EVENT IDEAS
 FOR YOUR CREW BY NICOLE STEELE



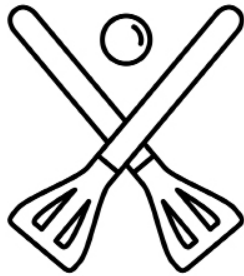
CHOOSE AN AWARD OR PROGRAM TO COMPLETE OR FOCUS ON OVER THE WEEKEND.



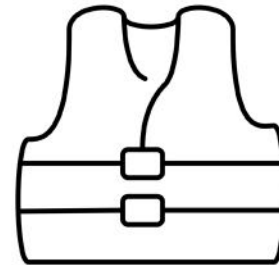
GO UP TO THE MOUNTAINS IN A CABIN DURING THE WINTER AND SNOWBOARD, SKI, OR JUST HANG OUT IN A DIFFERENT ATMOSPHERE.



TRY CAMPING ON A BEACH OR UNDER THE STARS INSTEAD OF YOUR NORMAL VENUE.



FIND AN ICE SKATING RINK TO HOST A GAME OF BROOMBALL FOR A FUN LATE NIGHT ACTIVITY. ADDITIONALLY, BREAKFAST AT THE MOST UNCONVENTIONAL HOURS ALWAYS BRINGS BETTER CONVERSATIONS.



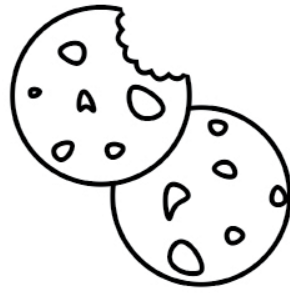
WHITE WATER RAFTING TENDS TO TAKE UP A LOT OF ENERGY AND TIME. MY CREW HAS FOUND IT MOST ENJOYABLE WHEN INCORPORATED INTO A WEEKEND TRIP.



TO CHECK OUT WHAT CAMPS ARE NEAR YOU, WE HAVE PUT TOGETHER A LIST OF SOME FAN FAVORITES ON PAGE 9.



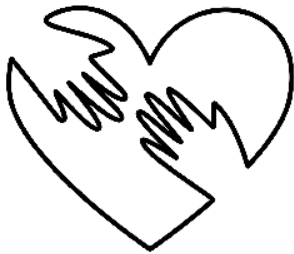
HAVE A GAME NIGHT FILLED WITH EITHER MINUTE TO WIN IT STYLED GAMES OR BOARD/CARD GAMES. SEE WHERE CONVERSATIONS AND LAUGHTER TAKE YOU!



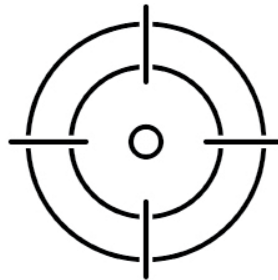
TEACH LIFE-PRACTICAL SKILLS SUCH AS HOW TO CHANGE A TIRE, PRACTICING GOOD HANDSHAKES, OR PUTTING THOSE KNOTS TO EVERY-DAY USE WITH HOW TO TIE A TIE.



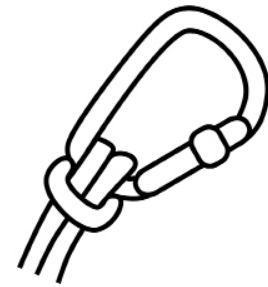
CREATE SCAVENGER HUNTS AROUND ENTIRE CITIES, THIS WILL TEACH YOUTH TO NAVIGATE AROUND THE REAL WORLD IN A FUN WAY.



VOLUNTEER SOMEWHERE TOGETHER. THERE'S NO GREATER FEELING THAN GETTING CLOSER TO YOUR FRIENDS AS YOU DO SOMETHING TO HELP OTHERS.



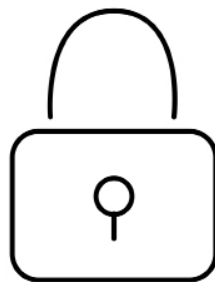
VENTURERS HAVE LESS AGE-RELATED RESTRICTIONS FOR EVENTS THAN OTHER BRANCHES OF SCOUTING. TRY UTILIZING THIS BY TAKING YOUR CREW ATVING OR TO SHOOT HANDGUNS!



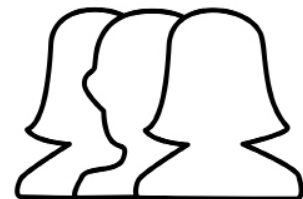
GO ROCK CLIMBING! EVEN IF YOU CAN'T GET OUTSIDE, THERE ARE PLENTY OF INDOOR GYMS THAT CAN BE A BLAST.



FIND A COMMON INTEREST. I HAVE MET SEVERAL CREWS WHO ENJOY PLAYING A SPORT TOGETHER OR EVEN PLAY DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS!



FIND AN ESCAPE THE ROOM PUZZLE TO WORK THROUGH FOR NOT ONLY TONS OF FUN, BUT TO STRENGTHEN YOUR TEAM AND PRACTICE COMMUNICATION SKILLS.



INVITE YOUR NON-VENTURING FRIENDS TO GET A TASTE OF VENTURING AND ADD A NEW FACE AND DYNAMIC IN THE GROUP.

WHERE TO GO CAMPING

FINDING NEW CAMPS FOR YOUR CREW CAN BE TOUGH.
HERE ARE SOME PICKS FOR THE BEST WEEKEND TRIPS.

NER A6 – Lenhok’sin High Adventure (Goshen Scout Reservation)

Lenhok’sin is a 6 day backpacking and canoeing trek program, where troops and crews are able to design their own trek route. Activities include black powder rifles, tomahawk throwing, archery, dagger throwing, blacksmithing, caving, search and rescue, paddle boarding, kayaking, canoeing, mountain biking, and COPE. Lenhok’sin is an incredible opportunity for personal and group growth, enabling scouts to apply all knowledge that they have gained during their Scouting experience on the trail.



WR A3 – Rocky Mountain High Adventure Base

The Rocky Mountain High Adventure Base has white water rafting, mountain biking, spelunking, scaling a 14,000 foot Mountain, and more, all at an incredibly affordable price. Since you create your adventure, it is different every time.



SR A6 – Camp Cherokee

From orienteering and geocaching to welding to sailing, Camp Cherokee has just about every program a Scout could think of. The hands-on workshops from STEM and beyond are phenomenal, including metal work, fingerprinting, robotics, forensic biology, and more.



CR A6 – Camp Hugh Taylor Birch

In addition to offering some really cool programs like the Mad River trace, Camp Hugh Taylor Birch teaches a number of primitive survival skills and the history of Ohio. Two cool programs include Spook-O-Ree and the Klondike. The Klondike is an event where troops and crews make a sled and use it to haul gear to different destinations where they do some awesome challenges and team building exercises.





WHERE TO GO CAMPING

CONTINUED

NER A2 – Curtis Read Scout Reservation

The variety of activities and access to treks into the Adirondacks at Curtis Read Scout Reservation are quite intriguing. They offer hiking treks, canoeing treks, horseback riding, and have the tallest climbing tower in the Northeast. Their new STEM area now includes chances to learn about welding, electricity, and home repair. The Adirondack trek program is definitely one that should be checked out as they customize and provide guides and gear based on skills and itinerary chosen by Crews.



WR A4 – Lost Valley Schoepe Scout Reservation

Apart from the typical horseback riding, COPE Course, archery, and shooting sports, Lost Valley also offers STEM programs and the motorized version of snowboarding on dirt known as mountainboarding. It is a large camp with two handicraft centers, shower houses, and pools, so can host many events. Some of the special programs the camp puts on include a five hour ATV skills training and a weekend where you try to survive the zombie apocalypse.





CR A5 – Lake of the Ozarks Scout Reservation

Lake of the Ozarks Scout Reservation's numerous activities include blacksmith forge/welding shop, wakeboarding, woodworking shop, Jet Skis, scuba, outback backpacking trail, and NOVA Camps. The technology in their Invention Lab includes 3D printers, laser engravers, CNC routers, embroidery machines, Scan-n-Cut machines, and more. This hands-on experience will stem imagination, creativity, and problem-solving skills in a group environment.



SR A2 – Camp Wisdom

Some remarkable programs and aspects of Camp Wisdom include their water sports, shooting sports, COPE, Cub World, indoor classrooms and dorms, dining hall, and OA fire ring. It is also the site of the Southern Region Area 2 event, Rendezvous. This weekend has all activities the camp has to offer, including welding, trebuchet building, and orienteering. It is open to Venturers, Explorers, and Sea Scouts.



While these are just a few amazing camps, any BSA camp you attend will be a blast!

[VIEW THE FULL LIST](#)





**KNOW YOUR VENTURING
NATIONAL COMMITTEE**

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**VENTURING LEADERSHIP
AWARD NOMINATIONS**

Page 18



GETTING TO KNOW YOUR VENTURING NATIONAL COMMITTEE



JENN HANCOCK

WHAT DO YOU DO FOR NATIONAL VENTURING?

I guide the Venturing Committee in various projects and provide support to the VOA, Council, Program Development Committee, and other various national committees. I also serve on the National Executive Board.

HOW DID YOU GET INVOLVED IN VENTURING?

I got involved in Venturing through International Scouting. After attending several International events, I was astounded and inspired by the leadership of the Venturers that I had the privilege of being around. My daughter, Katie, really wanted to get involved, so the day she turned 13 we started a new crew in our council.

WHAT ARE THREE FUN FACTS ABOUT YOU?

First, I love to explore old churches. My family and friends roll their eyes if we pass a church, because they know that I will want to go in and see what is going on. Second, I still love to study the law and would love to entertain anyone with ancient case law if given the opportunity. Third, I am absolutely terrified of mice, but I think spiders are really cool.



BOB SIRHAL

WHAT DO YOU DO FOR NATIONAL VENTURING?

As the Venturing Training Chair, I coordinate the reviews of the adult and youth training courses with the help of the new Regional Training Chairs plus at large members of the subcommittee. In addition, I reach out to other national courses to offer a member(s) to represent the Venturing perspective and to ensure when examples are used in the syllabus we are among the programs used, i.e. NYLT and NAYLE. I also recruit qualified youth members from the program and assign them to quality projects.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PASTIME OTHER THAN SCOUTING?

Hiking, golf, reading, visiting with our grandchildren and volunteering.

WHAT ARE THREE FUN FACTS ABOUT YOU?

First, for 24 years my unit registration was with a Sea Scout Ship. Second, I am a Cubmaster for the second time, many years after I was the CM in the same pack my sons were members. We needed to re-start the pack which had been run out of existence. In 2 years we have 35 Cubs. Third, 2019 is 30 years from my first Philmont Trek with my oldest son.

CONTINUED >



ERIK SADERHOLM

WHAT DO YOU DO FOR NATIONAL VENTURING?

I assist the Strategy and Pilots Subcommittee, focusing specifically on Council Venturing JTE. This role allows me to develop the Council Venturing JTE each year to refine our data collection and provide Councils with tools to improve their programs, bringing a data driven approach to Council level Venturing Programs.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE SCOUTING MEMORY?

It's a tie between my Philmont trek as a youth and the Northeast Region Board Meeting in 2017 in Normandy, France. Both were amazing opportunities that have made a huge impact on who I am today.

WHAT IS THE FUNNIEST THING YOU HAVE WITNESSED ON A SCOUTING EVENT?

Too many things! But if I had to choose one, it would be singing the "Pudding Song" while on NYLT Senior Staff and as an Area VOA President. Definitely not funny at the beginning, but once you're covered in pudding it's hilarious.



DAVID BUSH

WHAT DO YOU DO FOR NATIONAL VENTURING?

I work with Jim Lynch and Tom McDonald on the Venturing Programs and Projects Team: Skunkworks. I can't say too much about our work due to non-disclosure obligations and such, but I also help with the Southern Region Area 2 VOA; the four officers are Amy Hermann, Jessica O'Neal, Brandon Moll and Kacey Ganz. They are exceptional Area VOA officers, and despite the fact that I slow them down and hold them back, they continue to shine.

WHAT IS THE FUNNIEST THING YOU HAVE WITNESSED ON A SCOUTING EVENT?

At the 2017 National Jamboree, I witnessed about 30 of the Foxtrot Staff dressed as Elvis one evening. They paraded around the Foxtrot Base Camp singing Elvis songs. Some of the staffers, especially two from the Northeast Region, Mark and Bob, were phenomenal singers. That show of Scout Spirit is probably one of the reasons why Foxtrot was the only Platinum Five Star Base Camp at the 2017 National Jamboree. I think John "Dude" Mosby arranged for the Elvises to appear. If we had known we were going to have that much fun volunteering at a National Scout Jamboree, I am certain all of the Foxtrot Staffers would have paid more money to be on the Foxtrot Staff. I know I would have!

WHAT ARE THREE FUN FACTS ABOUT YOU?

First, I married a girl way out of my league, and my sweet wife Debbie and I have been married for more than 30 years. Second, if you want to meet the most blessed man in the world, please come and introduce yourself to me. Third, Tom McDonald and I are the only two National Chief Morale Officers for Venturing, and we have the credentials to prove it.



ANDREW MILLER

WHAT DO YOU DO FOR NATIONAL VENTURING?

I coordinate Strategic Planning and Pilots, primarily focusing on JTE for Council Venturing, and use that and other data (such as the Voice of the Scout surveys -- we really benefit from your input) to identify ways that we can better grow and deliver Venturing.

HOW DID YOU GET INVOLVED IN VENTURING?

I became involved in Venturing rather unexpectedly -- I have a consulting background and was asked to help refine a proposal for a college-aged Scouting program. I had a blast and was excited to do more with Venturing after that, including working with JTE for Council Venturing.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE SCOUTING MEMORY?

So many memories from which to choose! My favorite by far is the Philmont trek I took with my brother and father in 2000 -- we had a great time and it was wonderful to spend 10 days with them in such a beautiful place.

WHAT IS THE FUNNIEST THING YOU HAVE WITNESSED ON A SCOUTING EVENT?

My first summer camp as a Boy Scout was at Camp Parsons, and throughout the week the staff put on a running skit at mealtimes that culminated at the closing campfire -- hilarious and memorable (though a challenge to summarize!).



AARON STOCKWELL

WHAT DO YOU DO FOR NATIONAL VENTURING?

I have two different roles. I serve as the liaison between the National Religious Relationships Committee of the BSA and the National Venturing Committee. I see this role as making sure that the Venturing Committee considers how Venturers can do their duty to god, and I bring the Venturing voice to the Religious Relationships committee side of things. It's challenging, because our age group is constantly wrestling with what Duty to God is. I also am the vice-chair of the Venturing Training Committee. Our job there is to revise and promote the many amazing trainings that Venturing has to offer.

HOW DID YOU GET INVOLVED IN VENTURING?

I think it was in the Board of Review for my Bronze or Gold Eagle Palm, a member of the board asked me "so, what are we going to do for older scouts like you?" My troop had an older scout patrol, the now-obsolete Venturing Patrol. We decided to further differentiate ourselves from the troop and chartered our own Venturing Crew. I was the founding Crew President.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PASTIME OTHER THAN SCOUTING?

I guess after running in 5 5k races, I'm a reluctant runner. I also love the art form of Letterpress, it's an old form of printing the written word with tiny lead or wooden letters.

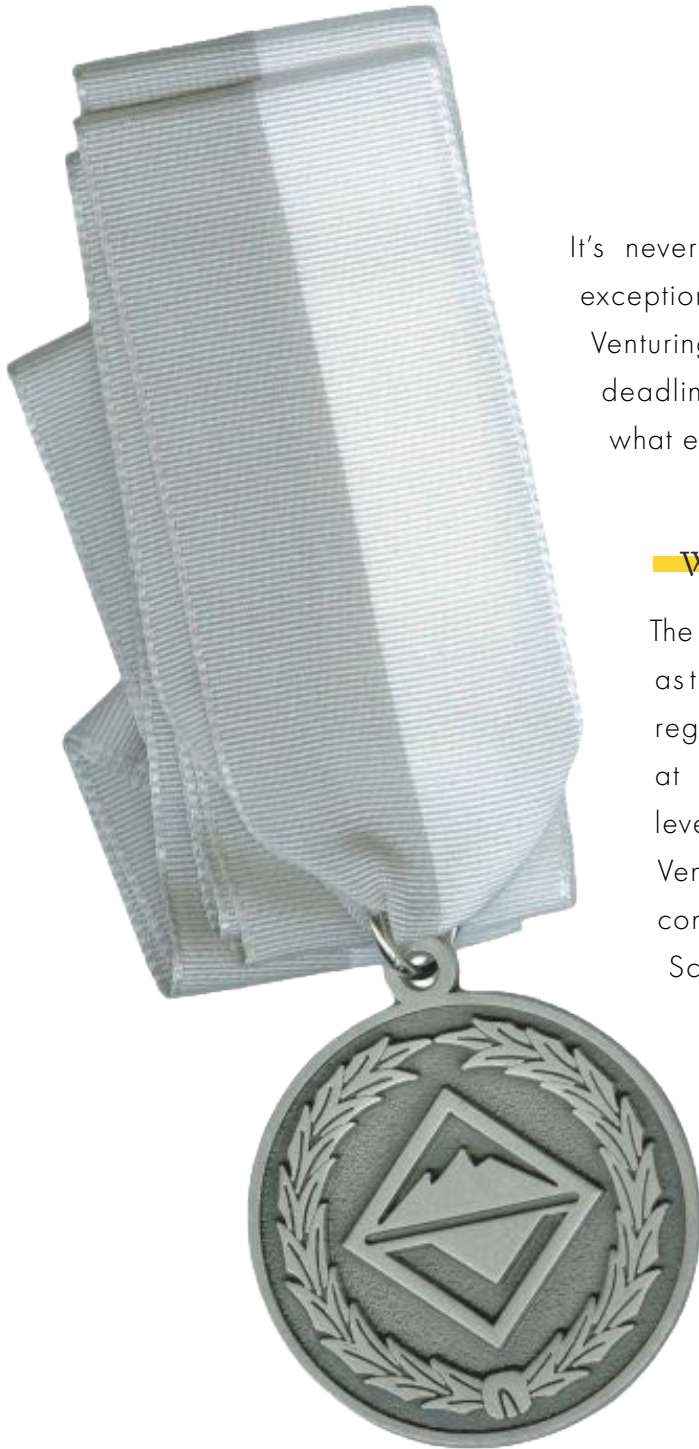
WHAT ARE THREE FUN FACTS ABOUT YOU?

First, I've been to Canada, Iceland, and the Faroe Islands. Second, I've been involved at the district level in three of the four regions of the BSA (Western region remains). Third, I know the right way to cook brussel sprouts.

V E N T U R I N G

LEADERSHIP

A W A R D



It's never too early or too late to nominate some exceptional leaders you have witnessed for the Venturing Leadership Award! With some of the deadlines approaching, we thought we would clarify what exactly is the Venturing Leadership Award.

WHAT IS THE VLA?

The Venturing Leadership Award, otherwise known as the VLA, is the highest level of recognition person registered with Venturing can receive. It is offered at the Council, Area, Regional, and National levels. This award recognizes Venturers and Venturing Advisors who have made exceptional contributions to Venturing and who exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their correlated level in the program. Recipients must be nominated by another person in the program, at which point they will be selected from a pool of other nominees. Areas, Regions, and the BSA National Council may present twelve VLA's in one year, while Councils may choose however many to distribute as they would like as long as it is within only one selection process per year.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR A VLA?

- Anyone involved as a Venturer or Venturing advisor for at least one year.
- A Venturer or Venturing advisor who has held a leadership position or office that is relevant for the level of Venturing Leadership Award that they are being nominated for. Positions may be with their unit, district, area, region, or national level.
- One must show exceptional dedication and give outstanding leadership and service to Venturing and to Venturers on the level appropriate for the award.

HOW DO I NOMINATE SOMEONE?

Fill out this form to help us know who the Venturer or Venturing advisor is, what they have done, and how to contact them. Letters of recommendation are encouraged, but not required for nominations. Each nomination should be for the corresponding level of Venturing they are in. For example, if a Venturer has done work to help out their council, they should be nominated for the Council Venturing Leadership Award, not the Area, Regional, or National VLA. Regional and National VLA nominations should be emailed to venturing.nationalofficers@scouting.org. If nominating someone for the Council or Area VLA, contact your Venturing Officers' Association for more information on who to send it to and when they are due. Be sure to check out the deadlines for each level, you don't want to miss them!

DEADLINES

Region: January 31
National: January 15
Council & Area vary

ADDITIONAL
VLA INFORMATION

UNIVERSAL VLA
NOMINATION FORM





NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS FOR YOUR CREW

Page 21



2021

NATIONAL JAMBOREE

July 21-30, 2021

PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN


Experience the best of Scouting in one place. From stadium shows to merit badges, patch trading to adventure sports, you'll want to be at the Summit Bechtel Reserve in 2021.

[JAMBOREE.Scouting.org](https://jamboree.scouting.org)




NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

FOR YOUR CREW
BY SOHAM PATEL




The new year is here and you know what comes along with that, right? New Year's Resolutions! While it may be fun to think of ways to make yourself a better person, did you know you can also do the same for your Venturing Crew? This is where the Journey to Excellence (JTE) steps in to help. The Journey to Excellence is a series of goals that are created to help guide all units, including Venturing Crews, in delivering a successful program. It addresses areas such as planning, membership, program, and adult volunteer leadership.

Now I'm sure we are not afraid to admit that we may not be the best at keeping up with our aspirations for the next year. Five minutes of mindfulness in the morning may get replaced with five minutes of rushing to get ready or risk being late. That is why we are here to delve deeper into the JTE and share resources that exist to help you do the best you can.



These goals may seem like a lot to process in the beginning, but the National Office has published a Guidebook that you can access that helps you break them down and tackle them one by one. With just a few minutes of reading, you can learn about the planning assistance JTE can provide. However, first you need the appropriate JTE Scorecard. There is one for every program, Cub Scout packs, Scout, BSA, troops, Varsity Scout teams, Venturing crews and Sea Scout ships. You will find all the scorecards on the Journey to Excellence Resources web page, which you can access from [My.Scouting.org](https://my.scouting.org) (Menu-Legacy Web Tools-Journey to Excellence Resources). On this webpage is a section titled "Scorecards" and then several years listed. Select the appropriate year, 2020 or beyond, and a list of available scorecards will appear. Select the one you want, the Crew Scorecard. The scorecard will appear and can be downloaded as a PDF. You should be able to get additional copies from your unit commissioner, pick one up at roundtable, at the council office or from



your district executive. One is included in the unit recharter package.

To begin preparing for the crew planning session, review the JTE Crew Scorecard. It is two sided and page one lists nine areas, called objectives, where three measurement levels, Bronze, Silver and Gold, are identified. These three levels can assist you and the crew in determining the importance of each individual objective to the crew. Your crew might find that the activities associated with a particular objective are more important than others to you, your sponsoring partner, and your crew's youth and so you will make plans accordingly. Ultimately, as the unit grows, you will be able to make plans to accomplish a level in all nine objectives. Points are assigned for each level obtained and unit point totals provide an overall unit measure of Bronze, Silver or Gold. Every crew should strive to be Gold.

Each objective is explained in a short summary on the first page and further information is on the back side or second page. There are objectives for youth membership, advancement, outdoor activities, adult leaders, number of meetings, service projects and unit activities and are further explained in this guidebook. Read through all the objectives and get a feel for the intent and the difference between the three levels where Bronze means a unit is effective, Silver means excellent and Gold is the standard for an exceptional unit. Please note that each objective has a high-end ceiling or target instead of a more traditional yearly goal consisting of a percentage improvement regardless of the measure. This allows for being at the top, Gold, and not needing to improve every year to stay Gold. This way you can focus on working on other objectives. None of these 9 objectives will surprise any Scouter with any experience. All the objectives are woven into the operation and program of a Venturing Crew.

So go on forth! Use Journey to Excellence to help you and your crew develop an exciting program. All resources can be found at the link below.

WWW.Scouting.org/Awards/Journey-to-Excellence



**ANDREA PENROSE:
A FEMALE CHIEF**

Page 24



**THE NEXT STEP IN
YOUR SUMMIT JOURNEY**

Page 25



ANDREA PENROSE:

A FEMALE CHIEF

I'm currently the Central Region Vice President of Communication and the first female to be a Section Chief in the Order of the Arrow. I decided to join Venturing at age 14, and it has single-handedly been the most life changing decision I've ever made. Venturing has given me opportunities in the last 3 years that very few other people get to experience in their entire lifetime. I've been able to learn about what it means to be a servant leader because of Venturing, I've been able to see the impact one person can have on another because of Venturing, and I've learned where my passion in life lies: helping people.

Most recently, I was given the opportunity to run for the position of Section Chief of C-3B. I had decided to run at 3 am that morning and the election was at 9. I decided so late because I wanted to make sure I'd be able to handle both the VOA and the Section; at some point I realized that they could help each other. I had a rare opportunity to bring ideas from one organization to the other. I ran because I knew that I could make a difference, one that no one else could. At the time of the election, I had been in the OA for 3 months, and the Conclave was my first real event. I don't have years of experience in the OA, and I use

that to my advantage. I try to incorporate ideas from my experience in Venturing in many of the things we do. I remember what it means to be a Venturer: to share ideas and work as a team. I always try to get a group to work as a team because that's the most efficient (and fun) way.

At the beginning of the term, our team had some obstacles. My election to the position was very controversial and many people I don't know were against it and weren't afraid to say so. For about a week or so following the election I second guessed myself in every decision and started to believe what a very small group of people were saying. At the end of that week, I came to a realization: I was put in my position to do good, and I wasn't going to get any done if I couldn't expel the fear from myself. With some time, that's what I did. It wasn't easy. I found a group of people who I knew would support me through anything, and I still use that group almost daily. When I found those people who are willing to stand with me through anything, I realized I could do anything.

I ran for Section Chief because Venturing gave me the confidence and experience while the OA gave me the opportunity. I didn't run to make history. The only aspect that crossed my mind about being the first to do this was that I'd have more people watching me. My purpose is to help the OA succeed. I seized upon the opportunity presented to me, and I have not regretted it. There's been many tribulations in the months following the election, but I understand that this is where I'm meant to be.

If I have any advice for you, it's this: don't pass on the opportunities given to you, they're given for a reason. When you put your heart in something you love, your passion will show through; and don't lose who you are in the process, staying who you are is important.

TAKE THE NEXT STEP IN YOUR SUMMIT JOURNEY

ALONG WITH COMPLETING THE SUMMIT AWARD PROJECT, THESE REQUIREMENTS MUST ALSO BE FULFILLED:

RECEIVE THE VENTURING, DISCOVERY, AND PATHFINDER AWARDS

PARTICIPATE IN AT LEAST THREE ADDITIONAL **TIER II OR TIER III ADVENTURES** (AT LEAST ONE MUST BE TIER III AND YOU MUST SERVE AS A LEADER FOR AT LEAST ONE)

COMPLETE **BSA MENTORING TRAINING**

MENTOR ANOTHER VENTURER IN THE PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTING OF AN EVENT

COMPLETE TWO OF THE FOLLOWING:
SINCE EARNING THE PATHFINDER AWARD, SERVE ACTIVELY IN A CREW POSITION FOR A PERIOD OF AT LEAST SIX MONTHS.

PARTICIPATE IN OR SERVE ON STAFF FOR AN ADDITIONAL **LEADERSHIP TRAINING**.

LEAD THE DELIVERY OF **INTRODUCTION TO LEADERSHIP SKILLS FOR CREWS**

COMPLETE A **STRUCTURED PERSONAL REFLECTION**. EXPLORE TWO OF THE FOLLOWING REALMS: "ADVENTURES OF FAITH", "ADVENTURES OF SELF", OR "ADVENTURES OF OTHERS".

CREATE A PERSONAL CODE OF CONDUCT GUIDED BY YOUR EXPLORATIONS IN THE REALMS OF FAITH, SELF, AND OTHERS.

LEAD AN ETHICAL CONTROVERSY AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION SCENARIO WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR VENTURING CREW. (**EXAMPLE VIGNETTE**)

PARTICIPATE IN AN ADVISOR CONFERENCE, IN WHICH YOU WILL DISCUSS THE ABOVE REQUIREMENTS.

SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE A **CREW BOARD OF REVIEW**.



THE SUMMIT PROJECT IN SIX EASY STEPS:

- 1** COMPLETE THE PROJECT PROPOSAL
- 2** PLAN AND CARRY OUT YOUR PROJECT SERVICING A NON-BSA ORGANIZATION
- 3** INCORPORATE COMPLEXITY, LEADERSHIP, AND A PERSONAL GOAL CONNECTION
- 4** COMPLETE THE PROJECT REPORT
- 5** COMPLETE A BOARD OF REVIEW
- 6** SUBMIT THE SUMMIT APPLICATION

VENTURING SUMMIT PROJECT WORKBOOK

VENTURING SUMMIT AWARD APPLICATION

LIST OF UPCOMING

EVENTS

JAN 2020 - MAR 2020

January 11 NER A2 Ignite

January 11-12 NER A1 Ex3

January 19 WR A4 Shooting Sports

January 24-25 CR A1 Leadership Conference

February 7-9 SR Winterfest

February 16 WR A4 Shooting Sports

February 21-23 CR A2 Venturing Kickback Weekend

February 21-23 SR A3 Venturing Challenge

March 15 WR A4 Shooting Sports

March 20-22 SR A2 Rendezvou

March 20-22 SR A4 WOAHA

March 27-29 SR A6 SOAR

[VIEW MORE AT VENTURING.ORG](https://www.venturing.org)