

Great Trail Council Venturing



Leading the Adventure

GTCVenturing.org



May 2018 Programming Binder

Updated July 14, 2018 – All registration and updated info is at

GTCVenturing.org/events

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GREAT TRAIL COUNCIL

VENTURING OFFICER ASSOCIATION

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The Great Trail Council Venturing Officers Association

Represents Venturing at the council level and with crew input, plans and conducts program and training to advance the Venturing movement in the council.

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-  www.GTCVenturing.org
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-  gtcventuring
-  @GTCVenturing
-  GTCVenturing



Venturing Luau 20th Birthday Bash and Splash with a blast

The VOA's Annual Luau will be held August 10-12 at Camp Manatoc. Join us for a weekend of fun and participate in climbing or shooting sports. After your day of climbing and shooting, the fun continues in the pool! Be sure to put this on your crew calendar. Presidents, join our monthly conference call to offer your ideas for themes and activities as we organize this

awesome event.



Venturing Fun Weekend

This year's VOA Fun Weekend is November 2-4 at Camp Butler. Planning is underway to try and top last year's Harry Potter Triwizard Tournament!



Theme announced:
Super Hero Weekend
 Nov 2-4, 2018

VenturingFest 2018



VenturingFest will take place on July 1-6, 2018 at the Summit Bechtel Reserve. This event will feature the 20 year celebration of Venturing. Come join the adventure! This six-day high-adventure festival invites participants to explore the best the SBR has to offer. We're

talking rock climbing, skateboarding, BMX biking, water sports, shooting sports, zip lines, challenge courses, and so much more!



Worldfest 2018: Venturing Fiesta!

Area 4's Annual fun event will be held at Seven Ranges in Kensington, Ohio, from May 4-6. The deadline to register is April 16.

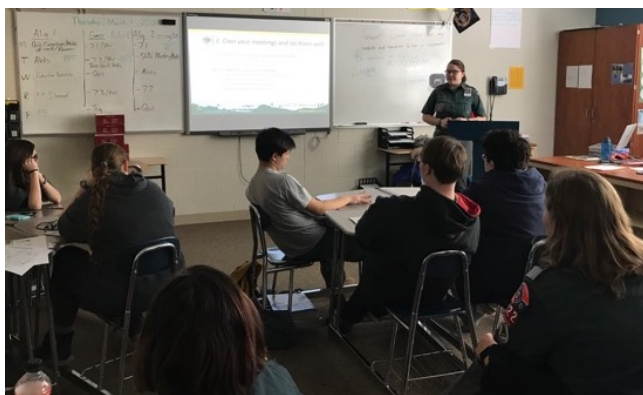
For more information and to register, visit: www.buskskin.org/Events/Worldfest-2018



Thanks to all who attended the 2018 Venturing Youth College at the University of Scouting. The day was a success in all courses, which included:



- Goal Setting and Time Management
- Project Management
- Introduction to Leadership Skills for Crews
- How to Leave Your Crew Better Than You Found It



Be sure to join us next year!



Thank you to everyone who attended our Game Night! Everyone had lots of fun playing board games and enjoying pizza.

Make sure to join us next year!



Upcoming Events at a Glance

WorldFest	May 4-6
VenturingFest	July 1-6
Summer Luau	August 10-12
Fall Fun Weekend	November 2-4

Reminders

- Tune in to our monthly conference call for information about upcoming events! Conference calls are the second Wednesday of each month at 9:00 p.m.
- VOA Officer Applications due May 1

Great Trail Council Venturing



Leading the Adventure

GTCVenturing.org



May 2018 Venturing Update

The Great Trail Council Venturing Officers Association is the youth-led, adult-supported organization with the mission to promote and support the Venturing program, grow membership and advancing leadership opportunities through communication, program, and administration. The VOA is here to serve your crews, but we cannot do as well without all crews participating through their Crew President and Advisor. For all questions, ask Kimberly Myers, Advisor@GTCVenturing.org, and Jake Thoman, President@GTCVenturing.org and Dennis Vargo, Staff Advisor, Dennis.Vargo@scouting.org.

Apply to be a VOA Officer

<http://GTCVenturing.org/VOA>.

Term: July 1, 2018 to May 31, 2018

VOA Conference Calls

The VOA meets monthly, mostly by conference calls. Crew Presidents and Crew Advisors join the Officers and their Advisors conference call if we have your contact information. Go to GTCVenturing.org/crewpresident to make sure we include you.

Calendar and Deadlines

All registration for Council Venturing events will be listed at GTCVenturing.org/events. Please ask your questions on our Facebook space or email questions to events@GTCVenturing.org.

May 6, 2018 Council Recognition Celebration Dinner, Camp Manatoc dining Hall, 12:00 noon.

Aug. 10-12, 2018 Great Trail Venturing's 20th Birthday Bash and Splash or Blast, Bash and Splash if you add shooting during the day/

September 2018, date to be announced, likely Camp Stambaugh. VOA and Crew Officer Retreat. VOA Officers Friday to Sunday, Crew Officers from lunch Saturday to Sunday.

Nov. 2-5, 2018 Great Trail Venturing' Super Hero Weekend, Camp Butler.

July 1-6, 2018 VenturingFest, Summit Bechtel Reserve, WV

Venturing Leadership Awards

We will be presenting the Venturing Leadership Awards at the Council Recognition Celebration Dinner, Sunday May 6, 2018. Past recipients can be seen at <http://GTCVenturing.org/recognition>.

Great Trail Council Venturing is Silver



For the third year in a row, Great Trail Council has achieved Silver on the national Council Standards of Venturing Excellence. The CSVE is designed to measure the quality of a council's Venturing program. Last year GTC was one of the 8 councils so honored in the Central Region.

Venturing Crew Journey to Excellence

Having awesome Venturing Crews leads to the best experience for everyone. Your JTE form is your guide to a highly successful crew. If you have not completed your JTE form with your renewal of your charter, please do so now and send it in. Going forward use the resources on the National website to plan to be gold next years. Turn in the completed form to Dennis Vargo unless you have completed with your recharter.

National Website - Venturing.org

The National VOA has created a comprehensive and fantastic website at <http://Venturing.org>. Check it out, it is amazingly complete with crew resources, training info, all about VOAs, all about awards, and suggestions on how to connect.

Start a Crew, Join a Crew

If you are interested in starting a crew contact Dennis.Vargo@scouting.org or check out our page <http://GTCVenturing.org/join>.

Are you recruiting?

If you do not have any 14 year olds, that is a sign that you need to start. Ask us for ideas and check this <http://www.venturing.org/recruiting.html>

Plan an open house



Crews in venturing are small. The average size of our traditional crews are less than 10 Venturers under 21. The loss of only a few members to work or other pursuits means the whole crew may have a struggle to get anything done. You need new members, especially those new high school freshmen.

We need a lot of new 14 year olds to be invited to join in the fun. So go get them!

Pick an Open House date for a fun activity, tell your DE when it is and get the word out to as many as you can including your crew members' friends, the local troop, school, anywhere. Invite them to your open house planned around your fun activity. Your crew can hold this at a bowling alley, that trampoline place up the road, or plan a game night at your regular meeting location, that is, meet anywhere you can have fun. Let your new friends enjoy the fun and invite them back for more. Oh yeah and spend some time sharing your plans and hopes for the coming year and showing them about Venturing.

Fun fact: The words 'Open House' appear in the Guidebook for Advisors only 4 times, but appear 42 times in the Handbook for Venturers. Who do you think should be running the open house? Detailed plans are in the handbook you can get at the scout shop.

Crew Elections and Officer Training

Elect, Train, Plan

Five steps to an excellent year! [The VOA is planning a Crew Officer Seminar for September 2018]

1. **Crew elections** for a one-year term begin your crew's program year. Most crews hold this election in the summer or early fall to follow the school year. This has the advantage of putting summer high-adventure plans far enough off for adequate preparation. You elect a President and Vice President(s). All other positions are appointed by the president, such as Secretary and Treasurer. Two models are most common: a president, a Vice President and Secretary and Treasurer (especially in small crews) or a President with Vice Presidents of Administration, Program and Communication (in larger crews and all VOAs).
2. **Crew Officer Briefing** is held by the Crew Advisor immediately after your crew elections. The Crew Advisor meets with the new Crew President and officers only to (a) cover the history of the crew and its program, (b) review the agenda and date of the upcoming Crew Officer Seminar including tasks that need to be completed before the seminar, and (c) discuss the crew's code of conduct and operating procedures.
3. **Crew Officer Orientation** is completed by each officer online as soon as possible and before the Crew Officer Seminar. This could follow the Crew Officer Briefing and

make it a one night event. The online video course is at <https://www.scouting.org/training/youth/>

4. The **Crew Officer Seminar** is then scheduled to cover (1) the roles and responsibilities of all officers and advisors and how to (2) plan activities, (3) schedule a year's plan, (4) plan a typical crew meeting, and (5) create standard operating procedures and a crew code of conduct.



The **Crew Officer Seminar** is led by a trained Crew Officer

Seminar facilitator. Crew Advisors can contact Kimberly Myers, Advisor@GTCVenturing.org, to arrange for a crew officer seminar. Try to give plenty of notice so the earlier you make contact the better. A member of the VOA will meet with the Crew Advisor and Crew President before the day of the seminar to help you understand and be ready. This seminar should be held in a place you choose in a relaxed setting mixing in fun with the work. The seminar can be held in a few as 2 hours, but longer stretches will allow for more hands on participation and in depth activities.

5. **Annual Planning Conference**, otherwise known as the Annual Crew Officer Seminar is conducted by the officers with the crew members. This can follow the Crew Officer Seminar if convenient or be scheduled for another day not too distant in the future. (pp. 121-125)

(From Chapter 3 of **Handbook for Venturers**, especially pp 86-93)

Our Training: We can come present these at your crew meeting or roundtable.

For Scoutmasters: Older Boy Scouts and your Mission: Why your troop, why your older scouts need a crew

You will learn that:

- Venturing is as beneficial to a Boy Scout Troop as is a Cub Pack.
- Boy Scouts and Venturing are really different.
- Troop - Crew partnerships can help young adults flourish.

See: <http://gtcventuring.org/news/2017/08/troops-need-crews/>

This presentation for Scoutmasters was prepared for the Old Portage Roundtable, Great Trail Council, on 8/10/2017. The actual presentation is slide 1 to 19. Slides 20-31 are bonus material which have to do with age specific issues of older scouts and their needs including a discussion of rites of passage. Much of this came from the Troop Leader's Guidebook, Volume 2

For Advisors: Seven Habits for Highly Effective Crews

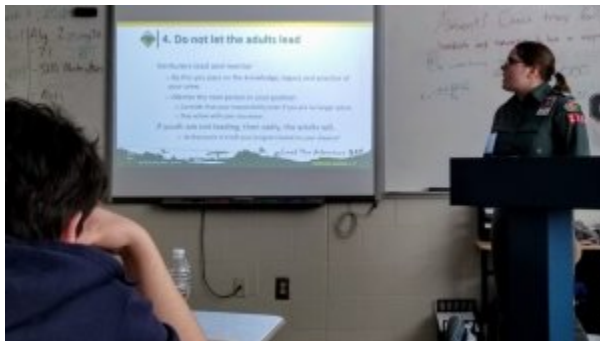
Check out <http://gtcventuring.org/news/2017/01/7habits/> and start improving your crew.

1. The Advisor follows Good Crew Sustainability Practices
2. Appoint an Advisor for Every Officer
3. Empower Your Officers
4. Encourage Mentoring
5. Embrace Service
6. Adopt a "Meet Less, Do More" Philosophy
7. Provide Social Opportunities and Plenty of Fun

For Venturers: Ten Insights to help Venturers in a youth-led, adults guided program

1. Own your crew
2. Own your meetings and do them well
3. Create a group identity for your crew
4. Do not let the adults lead
5. Use the support of the council VOA
6. Realize that Crew Presidents are a big deal
7. Embrace and use ALPS
8. Know how your crew is measured and strive for Gold
9. Sustain your crew
10. Provide social opportunities, adventures and plenty of fun.

From: *How to leave your crew better than you found it: Ten insights to help Venturers in a youth-led, adult-guided program.* Course delivered at University of Scouting by VP-Administration Izzy Zager, VP-Administration@GTCVenturing.org. March 3, 2018. A copy will appear at GTCVenturing.org/news



GTC VOA VP-Administration Izzy Zager teaches "10 Insights..." at the 2018 University of Scouting, Ravenna HS.

Join the VOA and make a difference:

The VOA serves the crews of the Great Trail Council. If you need assistance in training or program development we can help you out, just ask. Don't miss our fun events. Email Advisor@GTCVenturing.org.



GREAT TRAIL VENTURING'S 20TH BIRTHDAY BASH AND SPLASH

August 10-12, 2018 at Camp Manatoc

\$12

LUAU dinner
Games
Music
Pool Party
Birthday cake
Dive-in Movie

All at Manatoc Pool



Plus \$25

Shooting sports and
lunch on Saturday.
Rifle, Shotgun, Black
Powder, Archery and
Tomahawks.
Pistols
for Venturers
at Manatoc Ranges

TWENTY YEARS OF
VENTURING® • BSA



happy
birthday



**VENTURING BEGAN IN 1998 AND
YOU DESERVE A PARTY! (for \$12)**

Join us at Camp Manatoc August 10-12, 2018 to
celebrate Venturing's 20th Birthday with the
Great Trail VOA's Annual Venturing Luau and
pool party. Includes free camping.

Since Venturing celebrates its birthday,
expect birthday cake and presents!

**Information and registration at:
GTCVenturing.org/events**

Questions: Advisor@GTCVenturing.org

**ADD A BLAST FOR \$25
TO YOUR BASH AND SPLASH**

Come camp for the weekend and on Saturday
participate in shooting sports.



Are you a good shot? Put your skills to the test
with the new Venturing Top Shot Tournament!

Shooting Sports include Rifle, Shotgun, Black
Powder, Archery and Tomahawks! (Pistols for
Venturers) with ammunition, and targets provided.
Includes free tent camping, and lunch on Saturday.
(Shooting program offered by Manatoc and an add-
on for this Venturing Program.



Crew Officers Training

All Crews Welcomed

September 29-30, 2018¹
Saturday 1:00 pm to Sunday morning

Sponsored by the Great Trail Venturing Officer Association.

Location: Camp Stambaugh

Who is eligible: All Crew Officers and their Advisors

Crew Officers will learn in a fun environment



(1) the roles and responsibilities of all officers and advisors plus

how to

(2) plan activities

(3) schedule a year's plan,

(4) plan and run a typical crew meeting, and

(5) create standard operating procedures and a

crew code of conduct. Officers will learn about ALPS and learn to reference all Venturing Resources.

Officers will also get a chance to shoot pistols.

Separate session for Advisors.

Special session for Presidents.

The **Crew Officer Seminar** is led by trained Crew Officer Seminar facilitators. You can learn more in chapter 3 of **Handbook for Venturers**, especially pp 86-93.

After this seminar your officers will be able to take charge of their program and conduct the annual planning conference (known as the Annual Crew Officer Seminar), and help you bring Venturing Excellence to your crew.

¹ Flyer updated on 7/11/2018



Super Hero Weekend

Great Trail Venturing Fun
Weekend

November 2-5, 2018

Camp Butler

In the last 4 years we have had super fun weekends such as

The Halloween Monster Mash (2014);

Star Wars: The Venturers Awaken (2015);

Peace, Love and Venturing (2016); and

The Triwizard Tournament (2017).

This year **Save the Date** and plan to join us for more super fun with Super Hero Weekend that will top them all!



The ALPS Model

Getting the most from your adventure is not always easy. To help you succeed, Venturing uses four areas of emphasis to help the crew plan and carry out its program. Venturing's areas of emphasis are the four pillars around which the crew will construct a fun and rewarding program.

What is ALPS?

The Venturing acronym for the areas of emphasis is **A-L-P-S: Adventure, Leadership, Personal Growth, Service**. The Venturing ALPS model is a guide to getting the most out of your adventures as you prepare for your future, regardless of if that may be in college, the workforce, or elsewhere.



Adventure 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.

Leadership 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

observing crew officers and more experienced members of the crew as they lead the adventure.

Personal 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.

Service 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!



Training

- ALPS Youth Training
- Advanced Youth Training
- Adult Trainings
- Training Toolbox

Venturing Officers' Association (VOA)

- Learn More

Awards

- Core Awards
- Specialty Awards
- Leadership Awards
- Awards FAQ

Connect

- Events
- Social Media

Grant Planning
Jobs

Request a National Officer
Apply to be a VOA Officer
VOA Insignia
Journey to Excellence

THE OFFICIAL VENTURING WEBSITE

7 habits of a highly successful Venturing crew

Insights to help Advisors in a
youth-led, adult-guided program

Kimberly Myers
Great Trail Council Venturing Officer Association
Advisor@GTCVenturing.org



“The Mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.”



1. The Advisor follows Good Crew-Sustainability Practices



Appoint your successor



Never ever stop recruiting



Follow the program as designed



Lead The Adventure



2. Appoint an Advisor for Every Officer



Ensures Continuity



Ensures their officer is prepared



Compensates for lack of ability



Shield officer when necessary



3. Empower Your Officers



Set Expectations



Provide for their Training



Crew Bylaws



Let them Lead



Lead The Adventure



4. Encourage Mentoring



Mentoring keeps the experienced youth engaged



New leaders learning from experienced and trained peers



5. Embrace Service



School Service Requirements



Recruiting Tool



6. Adopt a “Meet Less, Do More” Philosophy



Officer Only Meetings



Conference Calls



Activity “committee” meetings



Lead The Adventure



7. Provide Social Opportunities and Plenty of Fun



Troop/Crew Joint Activities



Council Venturing Activities

Luau, Camp Manatoc – August 12, 2017

Fall Event, Camp Butler – November 3-4, 2017



Area Venturing Event

WorldFest, Seven Ranges – April 28-30, 2017



National Venturing Event

VenturingFest, Summit Bechtel Reserve - July 1–6, 2018





Bonus step ... get to gold



Journey to Excellence for Venturing Crews

Steps on the scorecard include standards in

- A Adventure**
- L Leadership**
- P Personal Growth**
- S Service**

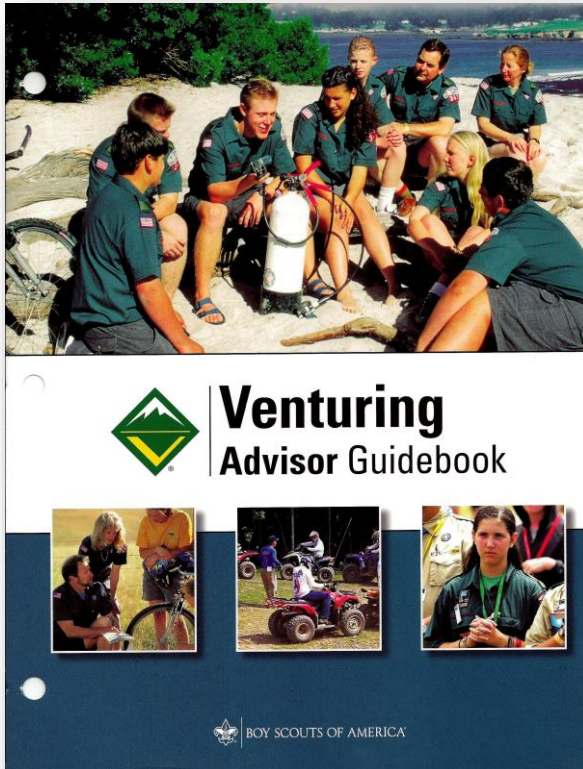
<http://www.scouting.org/Home/Awards/JourneyToExcellence.aspx>

Due to your unit commissioner on December 31 of each year.





Further help: read the Advisor Guidebook and take the training



At your scout shop, scoutstuff.org
or Amazon.com



<http://www.scouting.org/Training/Adult.aspx>
Or online at my.scouting.org



Resources



Great Trail Council Venturing Officer Association

Report your Crew President GTCVenturing.org/crewpresident
Council Venturing President president@GTCVenturing.org
Council VOA Advisor advisor@GTCVenturing.org



Great Trail Council

GTC Venturing Website GTCVenturing.org
GTC Venturing News site GTCVenturing.org/news
Facebook Group facebook.com/groups/GTCVenturing
Facebook Page facebook.com/GTCVenturing



Area/Region Venturing

Area 4 Webpage Area4.crventuring.org
Central Region Venturing crventuring.org



National Venturing

scouting.org/venturing



SEVEN HABITS OF HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL CREWS

Kimberly Myers, VOA Advisor, Great Trail Council

"The Mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law."

The Advisor follows Good Crew-Sustainability Practices

- Appoint your successor
- Never ever stop recruiting
- Follow the program as designed

Appoint an Advisor for Every Officer

- Ensures Continuity
- Ensures their officer is prepared
- Compensates for lack of ability
- Shield officer when necessary

Empower Your Officers

- Set Expectations
- Provide for their Training
- Crew Bylaws
- Let them Lead

Encourage Mentoring

- Mentoring keeps the experienced youth engaged
- New leaders learning from experienced and trained peers

Embrace Service

- School Service Requirements
- Recruiting Tool

Adopt a "Meet Less, Do More"

Philosophy

- Officer Only Meetings
- Conference Calls
- Activity "committee" meetings

Provide Social Opportunities and Plenty of Fun

- Troop/Crew Joint Activities
- Council Venturing Activities
 - Luau, Camp Manatoc – August 12, 2017
 - Fall Event, Camp Butler – November 3-4, 2017
- Area Venturing Event
 - WorldFest, Seven Ranges – April 28-30, 2017
- National Venturing Event
 - VenturingFest, Summit Bechtel Reserve - July 1-6, 2018

BONUS

Focus on achieving Gold on your Venturing Crew JTE form

- http://www.scouting.org/filestore/mission/pdf/2016_JTE_Crew_Scorecard.pdf

Buy and read the Venturing Advisor Guidebook and take the Venturing Advisor Position-Specific Training

- <http://amzn.to/2iKdQIT>
- <http://my.scouting.org>

Ten Insights for Venturers in a youth-led, adult-guided program

How to leave your crew better than you found it

Izzy Zager, VP Administration
Great Trail Council Venturing Officer Association





1. Own your crew

- Venturing does *not* follow *a Boy Scout Troop* model.
- There is no typical Venturing Crew, *all Crews are equally valued*.
- Venturing is stronger if crews *Meet Less and Do More!*
- The youth *Lead their Adventures* with youth officers, mentors and adult advisors.
- The *Crew President* is kind of a big deal
- All youth members jointly *take responsibility* for their crew.





1. Own your crew

1. Get 4 officers elected and get training
2. Immediately after election: conduct 2 hour Crew Officer Briefing
3. Soon after election: conduct the Crew Officer Seminar where the annual plan is put together

Result: Trained officers knowing what to do, ready to lead, with a plan for the future.





1. Own your crew



Crew President
Responsible for leading in the Crew



Crew Vice President
Responsible to assist the President in assigned tasks. Typically, roles of Administration and Program



Crew Secretary
Responsible to assist the President in more organizational tasks. Such as attendance and record keeping



Crew Treasurer
Responsible by assisting the President by managing the Crew's finances





2. Own your meetings and do them well

Have a traditional opening:

- Scout Oath, Scout Law, Pledge, Motto
- Scout sign and salute
- Use the opening to create a formal beginning
- Use a similar and formal closing to end the meeting

Why?

- It reminds us of our duty to our faith, to others and to ourselves
- It reminds us we are not just a club, scouting is so much more
- It is what is required by the mission of the BSA





2. Own your meetings and do them well

Use crew officer meetings to plan crew meetings

- These are business meetings
- Plan to never waste anyone's time

Have an agenda for regular crew meetings

- Have youth responsible for each part of the agenda
- Minimize the business (10-20 min)
- Focus on learning by doing (45 minutes)
- Build in fellowship and refreshments





3. Create a group identity for your Crew

Group identity is one of the methods of Venturing.

Distinguish yourselves as a Scouting group

- ❖ T-shirts
- ❖ Hats
- ❖ Something else

Decide when and where you want the green uniform used.

- ❖ The group identity at council, area, region and national levels is the green uniform.





4. Do not let the adults lead

You and your peers are the leaders of your Venturing Crew.

- You design the program to meet your interests
- You plan all elements of the crew's program
 - That is, all meetings, activities, operating procedures or bylaws, recognition (awards), finances, and training.

Your Advisors help facilitate by mentoring and supporting, not leading.





4. Do not let the adults lead

Venturers lead and mentor

- By this you pass on the knowledge, legacy and practice of your crew.
- Mentor the next person in your position
 - Consider that your responsibility even if you are no longer active
 - Stay active with your successor.

If youth are not leading, then sadly, the adults will.

- At that point is it still your program based on your dreams?





5. Use the support of the Council VOA

All Crew Presidents are members of the Council VOA

What the VOA does:

- The VOA can sponsor fun events your crew can enjoy
- The VOA can provide training to your members
- The VOA officers can consult with you and help you succeed
- The VOA is waiting to hear what you need

The VOA has a Council Venturing President, and VPs of Administration, Program, and Communication.

Each VOA officer has an advisor who can also help.





5. Use the support of the Council VOA

The four VOA officers and all crew presidents make up the VOA

- Great Trail has a monthly conference call and occasionally meets at camp, the time commitment is not high
- Be prepared to tell what your crew is doing and
- Tell what your crew needs.
- Get the VOA to help with your needs, and
- Get your crew to participate with the VOA plans

The VOA does not know who is your crew president unless you tell them. In GTC report at <http://GTCVenturing.org/crewpresident>





6. Realize that Crew Presidents are a big deal

- The Crew President is honored and has privilege, but the job requires hard work, responsibility and dedication.
- Crew Presidents and Crew Advisors are members of the Council VOA.
- Council Presidents are members of the Area VOA
- The report of your president can make it all the way to National for results.





7. Embrace and use ALPS

Adventure

Leadership and Mentoring

Personal Growth

Service

To have a successful Venturing program:

- 1. A crew should incorporate into its annual plan all 4 areas of program emphasis*
- 2. Using ALPS is also how youth can advance in the Award system and*
- 3. Is the way Crews are Judged by the Journey To Excellence campaign*





7. Embrace and use ALPS

ALPS Annual Planning Process

Planning Elements Months	Adventure	Leadership	Personal Growth	Service
January 2016				
February 2016				
March 2016				
April 2016				
May 2016				
June 2016				

To plan a successful Venturing program, a crew should incorporate into its annual plan all 4 areas of program emphasis





7. Embrace and use ALPS

ALPS
Recognition
and
Award
Process

	Planning Elements	Adventure	Leadership	Personal Growth	Service
Awards					
SUMMIT		3 more adventures	Mentoring	personal code + 2 Goals	Summit Service Project
PATHFINDER		2 more adventures	Leading	Achieve 2 more goals	36 hours and lead
DISCOVERY		2 adventures	Participating	Achieve 1 Goal	24 hours
VENTURING		None	Learning	None	none





8. Know how your crew is measured and strive for Gold

Journey to Excellence for Venturing Crews

Bronze level, Silver level and Gold level

Steps on the scorecard include standards in

- A Adventure**
- L Leadership**
- P Personal Growth**
- S Service**

<http://www.scouting.org/Home/Awards/JourneyToExcellence.aspx>

Due to your unit commissioner on December 31 or at re-charter time of each year.



Lead The Adventure





9. Sustain your crew

Nationally crews are small on average (about 6-8 members)

- Recruit constantly (and get them registered)
- Hold Open Houses
- Allow each Tier I event to be open to bringing in friends
- Do Crew Sustainability Service Projects

Danger signs

- ❖ All members are the same age, no 14 year olds, a parent of a graduating senior is the advisor, the crew went to Philmont and now have nothing to look forward too, and the number one danger – the youth do not care to lead.





9. Sustain your crew

“Don’t kill members by endless meetings”

Meet Less and Do More

When you must meet:

- Open Houses
- Officer meetings
- For training
- For the Crew Officers’ Seminar (Annual Plan)

Otherwise meet while DOing stuff!





9. Sustain your crew *“Use the Awards System”*

As youth officers, make it your responsibility that everyone in the crew qualifies for and receives the Venturing Award

Requirements are simple:

1. Go on an activity with your crew
2. Interview (talk to) the President and Advisor about the crew and what you want to get out of Venturing
3. Take Personal Safety Awareness training (taught in crew or by VOA)
4. Receive your award at a induction ceremony (like during the opening ceremony we mentioned before)





10. Provide Social Opportunities, Adventures and Plenty of Fun

Invite another Crew to a game night or other Tier I activity

Do Joint Activities with the Troop (if you have a troop)

Join in Council Venturing Activities

Game Night, Feb 25, 2018

University of Scouting Youth College, March 3, 2018

Luau, Climbing and Shooting, Camp Manatoc – August 10-12, 2018

Fall Event, Camp Butler – November 2-4, 2018

Area Venturing Event: WorldFest, Seven Ranges – May, 2018

National Venturing Event: VenturingFest, Summit Bechtel Reserve - July 1–6, 2018





Where did all of these great ideas come from?



Best recommendation on how to leave your crew better than you found it.

Run your crew by the book.



Handbook
for Venturers



 BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Buy this handbook, own it and use it.

- \$15.99 at Scout Shop
- \$ 9.99 Kindle



VENTURING · BSA®



Lead The Adventure





There is one for your Advisors also.

If they do not have it and use it are they really able to support you in running the crew?

Or are just doing what they think is best such as trying to run the crew like a Scoutmaster might a Boy Scout Troop?



Venturing Advisor Guidebook



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA



VENTURING · BSA®



Lead The Adventure



Questions and Comments?



Use the following slides if there
is a question about the award
program





ALPS planning and recognition process

	Adventure	Leadership	Personal Growth	Service
Planning Elements				
Awards				
SUMMIT	3 more adventures	Mentoring	personal code + 2 Goals	Summit Service Project
PATHFINDER	2 more adventures	Leading	Achieve 2 more goals	36 hours and lead
DISCOVERY	2 adventures	Participating	Achieve 1 Goal	24 hours
VENTURING	None	Learning	None	none









ALPS planning and recognition process

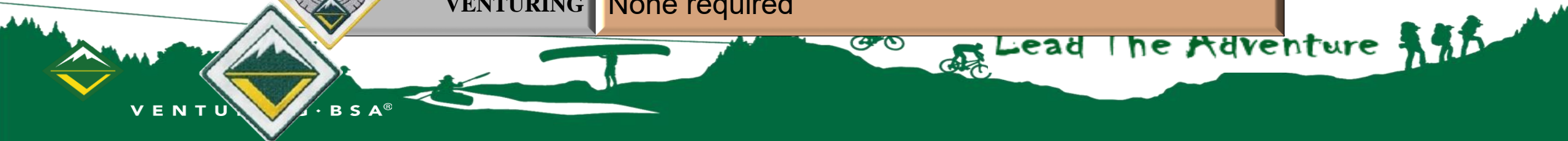
Planning Elements	Adventure	
Awards		
SUMMIT		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participate in 3 or more Tier II or Tier III adventures
PATHFINDER		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participate in 2 more Tier II or Tier III adventures• Serve as the leader on one of the adventures
DISCOVERY		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participate in 2 Tier II or Tier III adventures• Complete CPR / First Aid
VENTURING		None required








ALPS planning and recognition process

Planning Elements	Leadership	
Awards		
 SUMMIT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mentoring Training• Participate in a different training from list below – or – serve as an elected Crew Officer.• Lead Leadership Skills for Crews	
 PATHFINDER	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project Management Training;• Plan and lead a Tier II or III Adventure; Take NYLT; NAYLE, OA NLS, SEAL, Kodiak, or Wood Badge – or – serve as an elected Crew Officer	
 DISCOVERY	Training: Leadership Skills for Crews; Goal Setting and Time Management Training; and Crew Officer Orientation	
 VENTURING	None required	









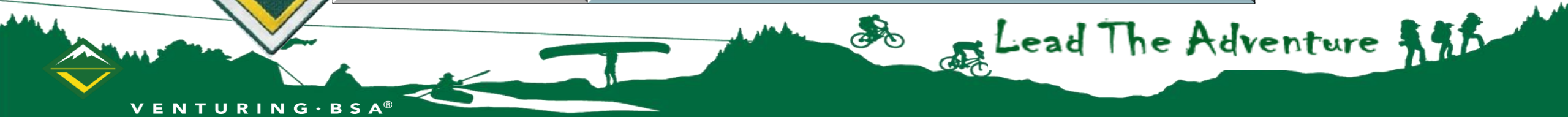
ALPS planning and recognition process

Planning Elements	Awards	Personal Growth
	 SUMMIT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Do 2 more in any of the three areas• Set 2 goals and achieve them.• Create a personal code of conduct
	 PATHFINDER	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discover the two other areas not done at Discovery, prepare structured personal reflections for each• Set two goals in these areas and achieve them• Participate in an ethical controversy activity
	DISCOVERY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• One structured personal reflection in either development of faith, development of others or development of self• Set personal goal in that area and achieve it
	 VENTURING	None required



ALPS planning and recognition process

Planning Elements	Service
Awards	
 SUMMIT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plan, develop and give leadership to others in a service project helpful to a religious institution, school or community
 PATHFINDER	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plan, organize and give leadership to a Crew Sustainability Service Project• Participate in 36 additional service hours
 DISCOVERY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participate in 24 hours of service, at least half may be individual
 VENTURING	None required



Why your Troop Needs a Crew

Steven Myers
Central Region Venturing Committee
GTC Venturing Officers Association Associate Advisor
Former Scoutmaster (25 yrs)







Objectives

At the end of this session you will

- Understand the differences and similarities between Boy Scouts and Venturing
- Understand how Venturing changed in 2014
- Understand how Venturing is beneficial to a troop
- How Troop - Crew partnerships can help young adults flourish





3 BSA Programs

CUB SCOUTS



Do your best
Ages 7-10
Adult Leaders

BOY SCOUTS



Be Prepared
11-17
Adult Leaders

VENTURING



Lead the Adventure
13 & 14-21 coed
Adult Advisors





What is common

- One Oath, One Law, separate mottos
- One Mission and Aims

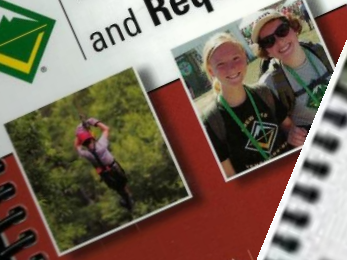
“The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law”



Venturing Changed
in 2014



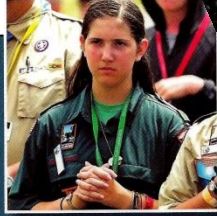
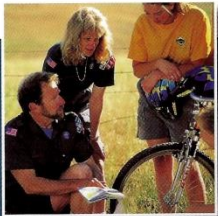
**Venturing Awards
and Requirements**



**Handbook
for Venturers**



Venturing Advisor Guidebook



 BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA



VENTURING · BSA®



Lead The Adventure



Different Methods

Boy Scouts

1. Ideals
2. Patrols
3. Outdoor Program
4. Advancement
5. Adult Association
6. Personal Growth
7. Leadership Development
8. Uniform

Venturing

1. Leadership and **Mentoring**
2. Group activities and adventure
3. Recognition
4. Adult association
5. Ideals
- 6. Group Identity**
- 7. Service**





Methods of Venturing 1998 vs 2014

- Leadership
 - Group Activities
 - Adult Association
 - Recognition
 - The Ideals
 - High Adventure
 - Teaching Others
- Leadership and **Mentoring**
 - Group Activities and Adventure
 - Adult Association
 - Recognition
 - Ideals
 - **Group Identity**
 - **Service**
- Two green arrows point from the 1998 list to the 2014 list: one from 'Teaching Others' to 'Mentoring', and another from 'High Adventure' to 'Group Identity'.





New Areas of Program Emphasis

ALPS

Adventure
Leadership and Mentoring
Personal Growth
Service

To plan a successful Venturing program a crew should incorporate into its annual plan all 4 areas of program emphasis



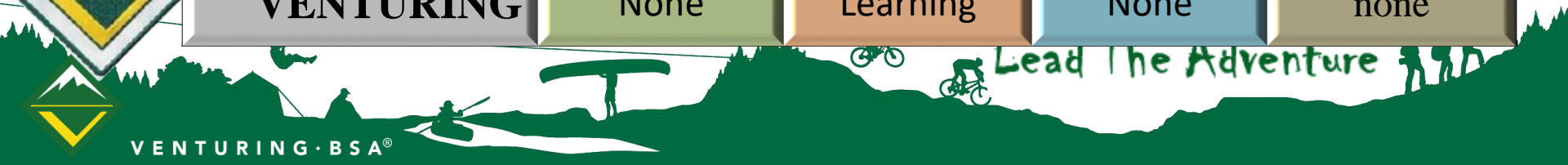
ALPS 6 + month planning process

Planning Elements Months	Adventure	Leadership	Personal Growth	Service
January 2016				
February 2016				
March 2016				
April 2016				
May 2016				
June 2016				



ALPS planning and recognition process

Planning Elements	Adventure	Leadership	Personal Growth	Service
Awards				
SUMMIT	3 more adventures	Mentoring	personal code + 2 Goals	Summit Service Project
PATHFINDER	2 more adventures	Leading	Achieve 2 more goals	36 hours and lead
DISCOVERY	2 adventures	Participating	Achieve 1 Goal	24 hours
VENTURING	None	Learning	None	none





Venturing is not Boy Scouts

- Venturing does not follow a Boy Scout Troop model. Venturing is stronger if crews ***Meet Less and Do More!***
- The youth ***Lead their Adventures*** with youth mentors and adult advisors.
- Every youth officer from President to Activity Chair has a partner who is his Advisor





Adult Roles



Crew Advisor
Responsible to
“advise” youth Crew
members



Crew Associate Advisor
Responsible to assist
Crew Advisor



**Crew Committee and
Chairman**
Responsible for behind
the scenes work and to
assist the Crew Advisor

Lead The Adventure





Youth Leadership roles



Crew President
Responsible for leading the youth in the Crew with functions and on adventures.



Crew Vice President
Responsible to assist the President in assigned tasks. Typically, roles of Administration and Program



Crew Secretary
Responsible to assist the President in more organizational tasks. Such as attendance and record keeping



Crew Treasurer
Responsible by assisting the President by managing the Crew's finances





Venturing is

- Designed for the young adult 14-20 years of age
- Designed to emphasize things that young adults enjoy
- Focused on the things High School students care about (ALPS) while getting ready for major transitions in their life
 - Example think of the newest trainings (Goal Setting, Time Management, Project Management and Mentoring)





Reaching the Boy Scout Troops

- Tell *why every troop needs a crew*.
 1. Assists older boy retention in scouting. Your troop will grow and retain members
 2. Gives opportunity for joint activities.
 3. Gives opportunities for age-appropriate meetings and activities for senior scouts.
 4. Because older scouts need to flourish
- A Boy Scout may register in one or more crews and still be registered in their Boy Scout troop.





Your troop will grow and retain members

- Your Boy Scouts will have broader and more adult-like opportunities that will keep them in the program and help us achieve the mission of the BSA.
- Some 14-17 year olds are going to leave your troop anyway, how much better if they remain in the BSA?
- 18-20 year olds are more likely to register as ASMs with your troop if they are active in a “sister”-crew
- Your troop will have more Eagles and the average age of your SPL will increase





Your Older Scout will Flourish

- A scout that had done it all may lose interest especially if their “older-boy” program is mostly helping the younger scouts.
- A crew will offer an adventurous program designed for young adults that will expand beyond what a troop can do and thus meet their needs.





Scouts may be in a Troop and a Crew

- The scout that joins your crew will likely stay on your charter.
- Your troop gains all of their Venturing friends to help out your troop from time to time.
- All youth benefit when your sponsor adopts a “Family of Scouting” concept that serves “all youth” from first grade until age 21.





Reaching the Boy Scout Troops

Emphasize the message: *Scouting is a single youth development program, extending from age 7 to age 21, all guided by the same mission, oath and law.*

- Age cohorts in Scouting provide age appropriate programming.
- Older youth in Boy Scout troops are well served in extending their activities to beyond the troop activities such as lodge activities with the OA and adventures with older youth in a Venturing Crew.
- Boys that age out at 18 are still “youth” in a crew.





Final Points

- Keeps Boy Scouts active in a scouting program
- Gives your scouts more experiences
- Adds more leadership practice for scouts
- Provide more challenging/difficult adventures that younger boy scouts may not handle as well
- The crew does not have to be directly associated with your chartered organization





Final Points

- **Den Chiefs assist Cub Packs just as Scouts involved with Crews assist Boy Scout Troops**
- **They are**
 - Older
 - More experienced
 - Other scouts look up to them as role models and may imitate their example.
- **Thus, making your troop build more character and stronger leaders through example.**





One final thing –

- Unlike Boy Scout troops, all Venturers practice citizenship through a representative democracy that starts as the crew and rises all the way to the National Venturing President and his cabinet.
- Every voice gets heard
- The mechanism of this governance is called the Venturing Officer Association





Council VOA

- Council Venturing President (youth)
- Council VPs (youth)
- VOA Advisor and Associate Advisors
- Crew Presidents and their Advisors





Importance of Crew Presidents

- Crew Venturing Presidents and the Crew Advisors are members of the Council VOA.
- They represent their crew to the Council VOA and in turn receive support from the Council VOA officers.
- Opportunities for leadership at each tier are available.





Questions

myers@uakron.edu



WHY YOUR TROOP NEEDS A CREW

YOUR TROOP WILL GROW AND RETAIN MEMBERS.

- Your troop will grow and have increased opportunities with a companion crew. Giving scouts broader opportunities is the way to keep them in the program and help us achieve the mission of the BSA. Venturing is designed to meet the needs of young adults 14-20.
- Some 14-17 year old boys are going to leave your troop anyway, isn't it better that they are "lost" to another unit in your chartered organization?
- 18 to 20 year olds are more likely to register as ASMs with your troop if they are active in their crew."
- Your troop will have more Eagles who earn it at a higher age and the average age of your SPL will increase.

VENTURING IS A WAY FOR YOUR OLDER SCOUTS TO FLOURISH AND RENEW.

- Some scouts by age 14 have done it before and lose interest in going to the same places and doing the same things again and always helping with the younger scouts. Let them renew and refresh with young adult experiences.
- Scouting is meant to meet the unique wants and needs of boys. What we have to offer an 11 - 13 year old (knots, pioneering, merit badges, etc.), doesn't work for a 14 - 17 year old...no more than field trips, crafts, and pinewood derbies work well for a 7 -10 year old, but not an 11 - 13 year old. So it's our job as a Scoutmaster to find ways to meet those needs and wants. Offering an adventurous program designed for teens is their best bet to make this happen.

A SCOUT CAN BE IN YOUR TROOP AND A CREW (OR MULTIPLE CREWS).

- You do not lose the scout from your charter if they join the crew. You gain all of their venturing friends to help out your troop from time to time.
- All of your units benefit when you adopt a family of scouting concept. Your "Sponsor's name Family of Scouting" concept leverages good will from your organization and encourages Pack, Troop and Crew to be considered as one scouting program from first grade through 21.

Venturing is new with the 2014 Program Updates including the ALPS Program Model and Requirements. ALPS stands for Adventure, Leadership, Personal Growth and Service. (<http://www.venturing.org/the-alps-model.html>) and the requirements are here: <http://www.venturing.org/core.html>)

Central Region Area 4 VOA is maintaining a list of all the new Venturing changes at (<https://sites.google.com/a/crventuring.org/c4voa/resources-for-councils>) and has developed a membership plan which can be seen at (<https://sites.google.com/a/crventuring.org/c4voa/venturing-membership-resources>).

A TESTIMONIAL FROM A SCOUTMASTER OF A LARGE TROOP:

“A Venturing crew tied closely to the troop can actually strengthen the troop. Venturing will keep their Scouts and parents/leaders active longer. I was a Scoutmaster for a large troop from 1995 to 2007. From 1995 to 2000 (when we started our crew), most of our older boys moved on from Scouts around age 14 - 15. Most were motivated to get Eagle as fast as possible before or very shortly after they got to high school. No matter how much we implored them during the Eagle Charge at their Eagle court of honor that it was their turn to give back...most didn't in any meaningful way. The small minority that did stick around were poorly behaved - because we didn't give them anything to do that interested them! The attendance of our older Scouts averaged about 10% at meetings and campouts. Shortly after we started the crew, that all changed. Attendance by our Venturers increased to about 90%. The average age of our Eagles increased to about 17.5 years old. The Venturers were better behaved because we were meeting their needs and they wanted to be there. The average age (and maturity) of our SPL increased, as well. And because our older boys were sticking around longer, so did some of their parents. And finally, once we went co-ed, that also kept some of our most active parents involved when they would have otherwise moved on when their son aged out. A Scoutmaster can think all they want that they provide enough high adventure (and some rare cases they do). But for the vast majority, the boys will vote with their feet. If a Scoutmaster was honest with themselves and didn't let their ego get in the way, they would realize it too.”



Sponsored by Area 4 Venturing Officers Association

Grace Prorok, 2016-2017 Central Region Area 4 Venturing President,

Area4President@crventuring.org

Steve Myers, Area 4 Venturing Associate Advisor, Area4aa-communications@crventuring.org

See <http://Area4.CRVenturing.org> and join us on Facebook at

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/CRV.Area4/> and follow us on

Twitter at @area4venturing.

If you are interested in starting a Venturing Crew, talk to your unit commissioner, district executive or call your local council office and ask for the staff member responsible for Venturing (And see here <http://www.venturing.org/start-a-crew.html>). To find a crew go to <http://Beascout.org>.



I WANT YOU

TO WEAR THIS

PATCH

apply at

GTCVenturing.org/VOA





Great Trail Council Venturing Officer Association

Application for VOA Officer
Due April 5, 2018, accepted until the position is filled



The following Venturer is seeking the position(s) selected below and agrees they can and will faithfully participate in that position for the term beginning June 1, 2018 and ending May 31, 2019.

Select all that apply (you may apply for more than one office)

- Council Venturing President
- Council Venturing Vice President-Administration
- Council Venturing Vice President-Program
- Council Venturing Vice President-Communications

Full Name _____

Home Address _____

City _____ State OH _____ zip code _____

Phone number _____ (check if mobile)

Email address _____

Birthday _____ Current Age _____ Age on May 30, 2016 _____

Current Registration Crew _____ Unit Number _____

Chartered Organization _____

Highest Position held in your Crew _____ Check if Crew President

Other youth leadership positions _____

Advisor's name _____

Advisor's email _____ phone _____

Applicant's agreement: I meet the requirements for the position or positions selected and can serve as a member of the GTC VOA and will endeavor to participate in all of the meetings, conference calls, and functions to the best of my ability. I agree to represent the best of scouting at all times and acknowledge that my participation is not for my benefit only, but to serve Venturers in my council and to represent them to the council . I will always be mindful of being the best representative of youth leadership in my council.

Applicants Signature _____ date _____

We the undersigned support the applicant in this application and will assist him or her in all ways to help them fulfil their responsibilities of office.

Parent(s) Signature _____ date _____

Crew Advisor's Signature _____ date _____



Great Trail Council Venturing Officer Association

Application for President, Vice President, and Member



Check all that apply. These are not required to be selected, but are recommended.

- I have read the job descriptions for President and Vice Presidents in this application.
- I have read the National Venturing Standard Operating Procedures and understand the relationship between Council, Area, Regional VOAs and the National Cabinet. (look under FAQ on <http://scouting.org/venturing>)
- I have joined the Great Trail Council Venturing Facebook Group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/46360538405/>
- I currently hold or have held office at the crew level.

The applicant may attach a statement of their qualifications of no more than two pages. Alternatively, you may include all of your comments in the text box below. This statement should include

1. A statement of why you want to serve and what you hope to accomplish in the position(s).
2. Experience as a Venturing Officer indicating positions held and what you learned
3. Leadership experience, honors, awards, training and other activities related to Venturing, Scouting in general, Church or other organizations.
4. School awards, clubs, sports, scholarships, and leadership positions
5. A statement on present school status, college or career plans including issues with time that you see in the next year.

Your statement

Email application to Kimberly Myers, at Advisor@GTCVenturing.org, or drop off the application in care of Dennis Vargo, VOA Staff Advisor, 1601 S. Main Street, Akron, OH 44309. If you submit the application by email and without signatures you must have all required signatures scanned or you must bring or mail in the copy with signatures before you can be considered for selection.



Great Trail Council Venturing Officer Association

Application for VOA Officer



Meeting and Events

The VOA meets at Camp Manatoc at 6:00 pm (before the Venturing Congress at 7:00 PM) during the months of January, March, May, September and November, and by conference calls in each other month. Other meetings are an Officer Orientation (TBA), and our scheduled events: the Luau (August 20, 2016), Fun Weekend (Nov 4-6, 2016) and Venturing Banquet (Feb 25, 2017). Other times may be agreed upon by the VOA, such as one or more training events or a service project. Communication among the members of the VOA occurs regularly by Facebook messenger.

President

The president is selected by a prescribed process to serve for a specific term of office (June 1 to May 31). The president:

1. Works with the volunteer VOA Advisor and the Venturing Staff Advisor of the Council VOA and with all Venturing presidents at the crew level.
2. Is a member of the Area 4 VOA and represents the council at their meetings, reports council activity to the Area and reports Area information to the Council VOA.
3. Appoints and supervises vice presidents, VOA liaisons, and additional optional VOA youth positions.
4. Represents the VOA and all Venturers to the Council.
5. Motivates and coordinates the vice presidents and any other appointed VOA members in assigned tasks and conducting meetings with them as needed.
6. Helps train and mentor presidents at the crew level.
7. Plans and leads regular meetings of the VOA.
8. Assists VOA members with the selection of subsidiary youth members.
9. Assists the volunteer advisor with selection of subsidiary advisors.
10. Tracks all goals for the VOA and provides quarterly progress reports to the Council Venturing Committee and Council key 3.
11. Provides an annual report to the Council Executive Board in person if possible.

Vice President of Administration

The vice president of Administration is appointed by the president-elect (for a term concurrent with that of the president's), and serves at the president's pleasure. The vice president of Administration:

1. Works with an associate volunteer advisor of the VOA.
2. In consultation with the president, appoints and supervises subsidiary youth positions needed to perform the administrative functions of the VOA.
3. Develops and implements strategies to increase Venturing membership within the territory of the VOA.
4. Actively pursues positive relationships with representatives of BSA chartered organizations, religious groups, businesses, community organizations, and other groups of interest to the VOA and Venturing.
5. Maintains a record of all Crews and Ships and contact information including the name and contact information of the Advisor and President.
6. Plans and organizes youth officer selections for the council VOA.
7. Promotes and facilitates the selection and presentation of the Venturing Leadership Award and other appropriate Venturing awards.
8. Maintains records of recognitions, membership, officer selections, and VOA leadership alumni.
9. Keeps contact with VOA alumni for possible future mentor or advisor roles when needed.
10. Takes minutes at VOA meetings.
11. Performs any other duties as assigned by the president.



Great Trail Council Venturing Officer Association

Application for President, Vice President, and Member



Vice President of Program

The vice president of Program is appointed by the president-elect (for a term concurrent with that of the president) and serves at the president's pleasure. The vice president of Program:

1. In consultation with the president, appoints and supervises subsidiary youth positions needed to perform the program functions of the VOA.
2. Works with an associate volunteer advisor of the VOA.
3. Supervises activity chairs and the planning of activities (conferences, outings, summits, and other events).
4. Facilitates internal training events of the VOA.
5. Promotes external training events and maintains a knowledge base of all training opportunities available for youth and adult members in Venturing.
6. Manages VOA finances, if required.
7. Coordinates and implements innovative ideas for development.
8. Performs any other duties as assigned by the president.

Selection Process

All applications will be reviewed and the top applications will be selected for interview for Council Venturing President.

An interview will be conducted with each candidate for Council Venturing President by the Council Venturing President Selection board.

This interview will likely include current or past Area or Region officers.

Ideally, the Council Venturing President is selected by April 30.

The new Council Venturing President will then participate in the selection of Council Venturing Vice Presidents.

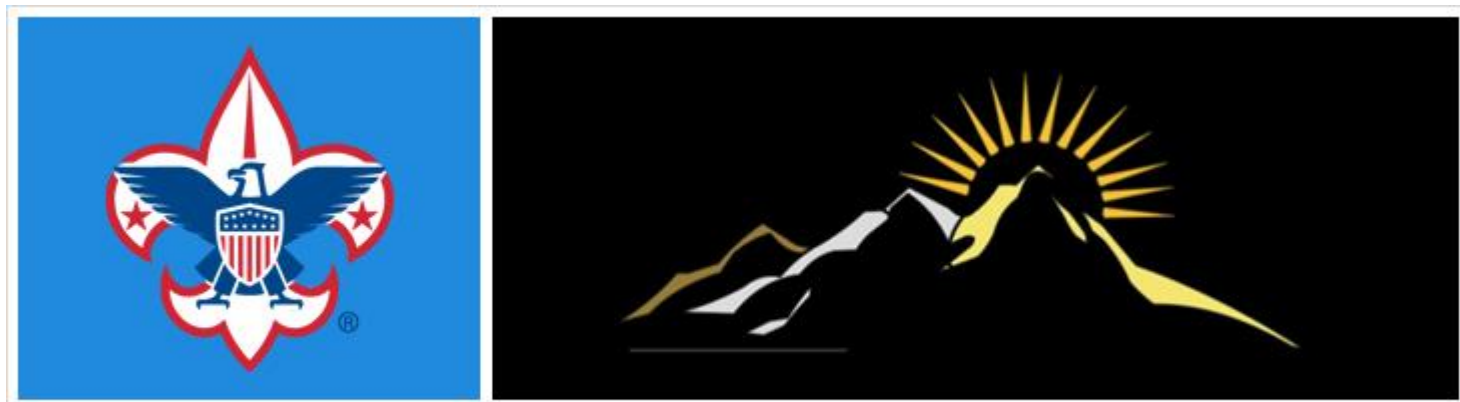
All terms (Council, Area, Region and National) begin June 1 and run to May 31.

Vice President of Communication

The vice president of Communication is appointed by the president-elect (for a term concurrent with that of the president) and serves at the president's pleasure. The vice president of Communication:

1. In consultation with the president, appoints and supervises subsidiary youth positions needed to perform the communication functions of the VOA.
2. Works with an associate volunteer Advisor of the VOA.
3. Actively studies and remains aware of the best way to communicate to Venturers on the VOA and in its jurisdiction, understanding that several methods of delivery must be utilized for maximum effectiveness.
4. Ensures that the VOA's web presence is being maintained, updated, and scaled appropriately for effective publication of information and collection of feedback.
5. Periodically publishes a newsletter of past, current, and future events, including articles of noteworthy events and other items of interest to Venturers.
6. Submits articles about the VOA's activities to Great Trail's Scouting News and other Scouting media (e.g., council or region newsletter and websites).
7. Actively pursues opportunities to increase VOA exposure by submitting articles, comments, photos, upcoming event announcements, and reports to external publications such as local newspapers and other appropriate venues.
8. Maintains groups, pages, blogs, calendars, message boards, etc., on the most relevant social media and social networking sites. This included Great Trail Council Venturing Facebook group as maintained by the Central Region of the BSA.
9. Maintains rosters of VOA members and frequently involved persons, including as many forms of readily available communication paths as possible, and identifies preferred methods, making it available to the VOA as needed and appropriate.
10. Performs any other duties as assigned by the president.

Journey to Excellence



JTE Guidebook for Venturing Crews A Tool to Help Your Crew and You Thrive

2018 Program Year

This guidebook was prepared as an assist to Venturing crew leaders and others in using Journey to Excellence tools to plan and deliver excellent Scouting through their crews. More material is available on the National Council JTE Resources webpage.

Strategic Development Office-National Council-Boy Scouts of America
Questions? Call Member Care Contact Center-972-580-2489
JTE@Scouting.org

Revised 12-4-2017

JTE Guidebook for Venturing Crews-A Tool to Help your Crew and You Thrive

How to use this Guidebook

This guidebook was created with busy crew leadership in mind. It is intended to help the crew key 3, the committee chair, the advisor and the chartered organization representative in using the **Journey to Excellence (JTE)** concept as a unit planning tool and year-round checklist of meaningful activities for the scouts. This guidebook was made from various publications and documents available from the National Council website and then instructions on how to use them. Journey to Excellence uses and blends many existing BSA programs, some of which the unit leadership may not be familiar with. The material in this guidebook should answer what these programs are. The information in the guidebook should enable the crew committee to conduct a crew planning session that prepares the pack for a very successful year of fun.

This Guidebook consists of (in order)

- A summary sheet used to show responsible adults for each of the 9 JTE objectives
- The 2018 JTE Scorecard that show JTE measures and levels
- The 2018 JTE Spreadsheet to use as a planning checklist
- Text describing a suggested order of objectives to follow in building your crew calendar
 - Planning and budget-planning component
 - Adventure
 - Leadership recruitment
 - Leadership (youth)
 - Personal development
 - Service
 - Trained leadership
- Venture Crew Adult Leadership Position Trained Requirements Chart
 - Building Venturing
 - Planning and budget-budget component
 - Retention
- Progress Record Sheets for:
 - Advisor's Key-latest revision
 - Venturing Training Award-latest revision
- Instruction sheet for Unit Leader Award of Merit
- Crew budgeting information

Leader Training

Leader training and recognition is extensively discussed in this guidebook and mentioned here. Providing leadership for Journey to Excellence objectives is an important part of earning adult recognitions. Please use the following summary sheet as a tool to guide the crew adults in helping the crew be the best crew it can be.

Crew Journey to Excellence Planning 2018-Summary Sheet

Crew _____

District _____

JTE Overall Goal

- Bronze
- Silver
- Gold

This table lists all 9 JTE objectives in the order presented in the guidebook. For each objective list the responsible adult/mentor, the date they started working on their Venturing Training Award and circle the JTE goal the Scouter is helping the crew achieve

Crew Scoresheet Objective	#	Responsible Adult/Mentor	Venturing Training Award -Start date	Goal
Planning and budget (*planning)	1			B S G
Adventure	4			B S G
Leadership recruitment	8			B S G
Leadership (youth)	5			
Personal growth	6			B S G
Service	7			B S G
Trained leadership	9			B S G
Building Venturing	2			B S G
Planning and budget (*budget)	1			B S G
Retention	3			B S G

Reviewed by the Crew Committee on _____

Committee Chair

Journey to Excellence

A Tool to Help Your Crew and You Thrive!

What is *Journey to Excellence*?

Would you like a tool to help you figure out what activities your crew, your crew committee and you can do to give the best scouting experience to your registered youth?

If so, then reviewing and then using BSA's **Journey to Excellence** is just the tool for you! Journey to Excellence, abbreviated as **JTE**, is a roadmap or a guide or benchmark to show and indicate what a Crew should and can do to have a strong scouting program. JTE can help answer questions like how many and what type of meetings should the crew have? How trained should the adults be? What outdoor activities should the crew do? How does a crew budget?

Read on and discover how JTE can HELP!

First of all, any scout unit should have a regular **planning process**. There must be a way for your crew to make future plans for meetings, activities and fundraisers. There are many ways to do this. You can use a big calendar that you provide or download one from the National Council Scouting.org Website. You can use a big sheet of paper showing the entire program year or a single sheet per month. It is up to you. The important crew leadership adults must be involved, certainly the crew leadership key 3, the Venturing crew advisor, the crew committee chair and the chartered organization representative. Also involved should be the crew treasurer as well as the parents responsible for advancement, membership, popcorn sales, summer camp, service projects and the others that provide time and resources for the crew. The youth leaders should be involved. It is up to you how to make the yearly plan, however, every unit needs a way to do so. National Council BSA provides suggestions which can be found at the Venturing.org website, once there select *Crew Resources* and then *Annual Program Planning*.

You should also involve your **unit commissioner**, an experienced Scouter dedicated to helping your crew succeed. Let the unit commissioner know when you are going to have your planning session and invite him or her to participate. Helping is their job! Every commissioner should be in contact with unit leadership and ask what they can do to help. Ask at the next roundtable (a district-wide monthly adult leader meeting) if you do not know who your unit commissioner is and get the correct contact information on where to send an invitation to attend the crew's annual planning session.

You will need a **MyScouting account** to have full access to the information available to you as a crew leader and resource. Gaining access is simple. Most importantly you need your official National Scouting ID number. It can be found on your annual membership card or from your unit roster provided with your charter kit. Most information is available without an account however there are additional planning benefits if you do.

Some Scouters might have ended up with two or more ID numbers over time. Your District Executive can help you combine your IDs if that is the case. Take a few moments, write down the numbers, if you know them, and provide them to your district executive or unit commissioner.

Crew _____ of _____ District
 2018 Scouting's Journey to Excellence
 "The BSA method for annual planning and continuous improvement"

Item	Objective	Bronze Level	Silver Level	Gold Level	Bronze Points	Silver Points	Gold Points
Planning and Budget					Total Points: 200		
#1	Planning and budget: Have a program plan and budget that is regularly reviewed by the committee, and it follows BSA policies relating to fundraising.	Have an annual program plan and budget adopted by the crew committee.	Achieve Bronze, plus crew committee meets at least six times during the year to review program plans and finances.	Achieve Silver, plus crew conducts a planning meeting involving youth leaders for the following program year.	50	100	200
Membership					Total Points: 500		
#2	Building Venturing: Recruit new youth into the crew in order to grow membership.	Have a membership growth plan that includes a recruitment activity and register new members in the crew.	Achieve Bronze, and either increase youth members by 5% or have at least 10 members.	Achieve Silver, and either increase youth members by 10% or have at least 15 members with an increase over last year.	100	200	300
#3	Retention: Retain a significant percentage of youth members.	Reregister 50% of eligible members.	Reregister 60% of eligible members.	Reregister 75% of eligible members.	50	100	200
Program					Total Points: 800		
#4	Adventure: Conduct regular activities including a Tier II or Tier III adventure.	Conduct at least four activities including a Tier II or Tier III adventure.	Conduct at least five activities and at least 50% of youth participate in a Tier II or Tier III adventure.	Conduct at least six activities and at least 50% of youth participate in a Tier II or Tier III adventure.	50	100	200
#5	Leadership: Develop youth who will provide leadership to crew meetings and activities.	Have a president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer leading the crew.	Achieve Bronze, plus officers meet at least six times. The crew conducts officer training.	Achieve Silver level, plus each crew activity has a youth leader.	50	100	200
#6	Personal growth: Provide opportunities for achievement and self-actualization.	Crew members earn the Venturing award.	Achieve Bronze, plus crew program includes at least three experiential training sessions.	Achieve Silver level, plus the crew has members earning the Discovery, Pathfinder or Summit awards.	50	100	200
#7	Service: Participate in service projects, with at least one benefiting the chartered organization.	Participate in two service projects and enter the hours on the JTE website.	Participate in three service projects and enter the hours on the JTE website.	Participate in four service projects and enter the hours on the JTE website.	50	100	200
Adult Volunteer Leadership					Total Points: 500		
#8	Leadership recruitment: Have a proactive approach in recruiting sufficient leaders and communicating with parents.	Have a registered associate advisor.	Achieve Bronze, plus the crew holds a meeting where plans are reviewed with parents.	Achieve Silver, plus adult leadership is identified prior to the start of the next program year.	50	100	200
#9	Trained leadership: Have trained and engaged leaders at all levels. All leaders are required to have youth protection training.	Advisor or an associate Advisor has completed position-specific training.	Achieve Bronze, plus the advisor and all associates have completed position-specific training or, if new, will complete within three months of joining.	Achieve Silver, plus at least two committee members have completed crew committee training.	100	200	300

- Bronze:** Earn at least 550 points by earning points in at least 6 objectives.
- Silver:** Earn at least 800 points by earning points in at least 7 objectives.
- Gold:** Earn at least 1,100 points by earning points in at least 7 objectives.

Total points earned: _____

No. of objectives with points: _____

Our crew has completed online rechartering by the deadline in order to maintain continuity of our program.

We certify that these requirements have been completed:

Advisor _____ Date _____

Crew President _____ Date _____

Commissioner _____ Date _____

This form should be submitted to the Scout service center or your unit commissioner, as directed by your council.

Scouting's Journey to Excellence

2018 Crew Planning, Performance, and Recognition

Journey to Excellence uses a balanced approach to measure performance. It guides program planning before the year begins, monitors activities for continuous improvement during the year, and recognizes performance at the end of the year. In planning your strategy, use actual numbers from the previous year to guide your performance improvement goal planning. The period for measuring performance will be the calendar year.

Planning and Budget Measures	
1	The crew has a program plan and budget that is reviewed at all crew committee meetings, and the crew follows BSA policies relating to fundraising and fiscal management as found on the Unit Money-Earning Application form and any other publication that the council has developed for fundraising and fiscal management. A meeting is held with youth leaders where they are involved in developing the plan for the next program year. The crew's program plan should be shared with the unit commissioner.
Membership Measures	
2	The crew has a growth plan, and conducts a formal recruiting event. On December 31, 2018, the crew has an increase in the number of youth members as compared to the number registered on December 31, 2017. A membership growth plan template can be found at www.scouting.org/membership .
3	Number of youth members on the most recent charter renewal (A) divided by the number of youth registered at the end of the prior charter year (B) minus any age-outs (C). Total = (A) / (B-C). Age-outs are youth who are too old to reregister as Venturers. If the crew has a December charter, use the one expiring on December 31, 2017; otherwise use the one expiring during 2018.
Program Measures	
4	The crew conducts regular activities outside of meetings. At least one is a Tier II activity (may be less than four days, but requires planning and skill development) or a Tier III activity (at least 4 days and is mentally and physically challenging.)
5	The crew has youth leaders serving as president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer who are leading the activities of the crew. Crew officers hold regular meetings and receive training. Each crew activity has a youth leader.
6	Crew members complete the Venturing award shortly after joining. Experiential training at meetings allows crew members to learn from hands-on experiences. The crew encourages achievement through the advanced Venturing awards.
7	The crew participates in service projects during the year and enters them on the Service Hours website or through Scoutbook. The projects may be completed as joint projects with other organizations. At least one project must benefit the chartered organization.
Volunteer Leadership Measures	
8	The crew has an Advisor, an associate, and a committee of at least three members. Ideally, the chartered organization representative should not be dual registered as one of the committee members. The crew holds a meeting where program plans are shared with parents. Volunteer leaders are selected prior to the next program year.
9	All volunteer leaders have current youth protection training. Advisor and associates have completed position-specific training or, if new, will complete within three months of joining. Two committee members have completed Crew Committee Training.

Scoring the crew's performance: To determine the crew's performance level, you will use the above information to determine the points earned for each of the 9 criteria and then add those individual point scores to determine a composite score. Count only the highest point total achieved in any one criterion. Bronze level requires earning at least 550 points in at least 6 criteria, Silver level requires earning points in at least 7 criteria and 800 points, and Gold level requires earning points in at least 7 criteria and 1,100 points.

For more resources including workbooks and planning guides: www.Scouting.org/jte



2018 Journey to Excellence - Crew - District

Item No.	Objective	Parameter	User Input	Calculated Values	Bronze Points	Silver Points	Gold Points
Planning and Budget							
1	Planning and budget: Have a program plan and budget that is regularly reviewed by the committee, and it follows BSA policies relating to fundraising.	<i>Date:</i> Crew committee adopted annual program plan & budget <i>Date:</i> Planning meeting involving youth leaders <i>Date:</i> Committee meeting #1 <i>Date:</i> Committee meeting #2 <i>Date:</i> Committee meeting #3 <i>Date:</i> Committee meeting #4 <i>Date:</i> Committee meeting #5 <i>Date:</i> Committee meeting #6 <i>Count:</i> Total number of committee meetings	_____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____	0			
Membership							
2	Building Venturing: Recruit new youth into the crew in order to grow membership.	<i>Date:</i> Crew recruitment activity <i>Count:</i> Number of Venturers registered on December 31, 2017 <i>Less:</i> Youth dropped at recharter <i>Plus:</i> Transfers to other units during the year <i>Plus:</i> New members joining during the year <i>Plus:</i> Transfers from other units during the year <i>Count:</i> Current membership <i>Percent:</i> Growth over end of prior year	_____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____	0 0.0%			
3	Retention: Retain a significant percentage of youth members.	<i>Count:</i> Number of youth registered at end of charter (12/31/2017) <i>Less:</i> Youth 21 years or older by end of charter year (age-outs) <i>Count:</i> Youth eligible to reregister <i>Count:</i> Number of youth actually reregistered for next year <i>Percent:</i> Retention rate	_____ _____ _____ _____	0 0.0%			
Program							
4	Adventure: Conduct regular activities including a Tier II or Tier III adventure.	<i>Yes/No:</i> Crew has conducted a Tier II or Tier III adventure <i>Count:</i> Current membership <i>Count:</i> Number of youth participating in a Tier II or III adventure <i>Percent:</i> Tier II/ Tier III adventure participation rate <i>Date:</i> Activity #1 <i>Date:</i> Activity #2 <i>Date:</i> Activity #3 <i>Date:</i> Activity #4 <i>Date:</i> Activity #5 <i>Date:</i> Activity #6 <i>Count:</i> Total number of crew activities	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____	0 0.0% 0			
5	Leadership: Develop youth who will provide leadership to crew meetings and activities.	<i>Yes/No:</i> Crew has a president <i>Yes/No:</i> Crew has a vice president <i>Yes/No:</i> Crew has a secretary <i>Yes/No:</i> Crew has a treasurer <i>Date:</i> Officer training <i>Date:</i> Officer meeting #1 <i>Date:</i> Officer meeting #2 <i>Date:</i> Officer meeting #3 <i>Date:</i> Officer meeting #4 <i>Date:</i> Officer meeting #5 <i>Date:</i> Officer meeting #6 <i>Count:</i> Total number of officer meetings <i>Count:</i> Number of crew activities <i>Count:</i> Number of activities with youth leadership	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Yes _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____	0 0			

2018 Journey to Excellence - Crew - District

Item No.	Objective	Parameter	User Input	Calculated Values	Bronze Points	Silver Points	Gold Points
6	Personal growth: Provide opportunities for achievement and self-actualization.	<i>Count:</i> Number of members earning Venturing Award <i>Count:</i> Number earning Discovery, Pathfinder, or Summit Award <i>Date:</i> Experiential training session #1 <i>Date:</i> Experiential training session #2 <i>Date:</i> Experiential training session #3 <i>Count:</i> Total number of experiential training sessions	_____ _____ _____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____ _____ 0			
7	Service projects: Participate in service projects, with at least one benefiting the chartered organization.	<i>Yes/No:</i> Crew records service projects and hours on JTE website <i>Yes/No:</i> At least one project benefits the chartered organization <i>Date:</i> Service project #1 <i>Date:</i> Service project #2 <i>Date:</i> Service project #3 <i>Date:</i> Service project #4 <i>Count:</i> Total number of service projects	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Yes _____ _____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____ _____ 0			
Volunteer Leadership							
8	Leadership recruitment: Have a proactive approach in recruiting sufficient leaders and communicating with parents.	<i>Yes/No:</i> Registered advisor <i>Yes/No:</i> Adult leadership identified for next year <i>Count:</i> Number of associate advisors <i>Count:</i> Number of committee members <i>Date:</i> Meeting with parents	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Yes _____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____ _____			
9	Trained leadership: Have trained and engaged leaders at all levels. All leaders are required to have youth protection training.	<i>Yes/No:</i> Advisor has completed position-specific training <i>Count:</i> Number of associate advisors <i>Count:</i> Number with position-specific training <i>Percent:</i> Associate advisers completing training <i>Count:</i> Number of committee members <i>Count:</i> Number with position-specific training <i>Percent:</i> Committee members completing training	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes _____ _____ _____ _____	0 _____ 0.0% _____ 0 _____ 0.0%			

Bronze: Earn at least 550 points by earning points in at least 6 objectives.

Silver: Earn at least 800 points by earning points in at least 7 objectives.

Gold: Earn at least 1,100 points by earning points in at least 7 objectives.

Total points earned: 0

No. of objectives with points: 0

Use this spreadsheet, found on the JTE Resources webpage under workbooks, to assist in yearly planning. Fill in the spreadsheet cells or mark off the events and the spreadsheet will automatically calculate the JTE measure and number of points. Once you enter the events planned for the year the spreadsheet will indicate the expected measure at the end of the year.

Not Gold? Then plan additional events to have the scouting program to be a Gold JTE Unit.

Planning Guidance from JTE

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**, Boy Scout **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 (*Menu-Legacy Web Tools-Journey to Excellence Resources*). On this webpage is a section titled “**Scorecards**” and then several years listed. Selected the appropriate year, **2018** 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. One is pages 3 and 4 of this guidebook. 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. The crew will need one long before recharter time if it is going to be used to help create the crew annual plan.

To begin preparing for the crew planning session review the **JTE Crew Scorecard** included in the guidebook. It is two sided and page one lists 9 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 9 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. There is also a minimum standard a crew must meet to be **Bronze**. The fixed **Bronze**, **Silver** and **Gold** criteria are known as **Determined Standards**. Additionally, yearly improvement of a fixed percentage (generally 2%) of an objective not yet Gold and being above the **Bronze** or **Silver** measure qualifies the crew at the next level, the **Silver** or **Gold** measure. This improvement method establishes the **Performance Standard**. None of these 9 objectives will surprise any Scouter with any experience. All the objectives are woven into the operation and program of a Venture crew.

Before the Planning Session Starts

There are a few items to know, collect or do before the crew planning session. Know where the crew is going to meet, obtain school vacation schedules, know the federal and state holiday schedule, find the council and district schedules, discuss with the crew key 3 who to invite, peruse the various National Council web pages for useful documents (some listed in this guidebook), determine how the crew schedule is going to be shown while it is being planned and have a room big enough for the session itself.

Where to Start? With a Yearly Plan of course—Objective # 1

A written plan is an excellent tool to create to have an active and fun crew. **Objective # 1, Planning and budget: Have a program plan and budget that is regularly reviewed by the committee, and it follows BSA policies relating to fundraising** provides a road map on what to do. Let's do the program plan first and then the budget once the full plan is put together.

Many planning resources exist on ScoutSource and should be reviewed as suggested above. These tools are well thought out and will greatly assist the program plan. Having an annual program plan (and budget) adopted by the crew committee is required for the **Bronze** measure. If the crew committee meets at least six times during the year and reviews program plans (and the budget) the crew qualifies as **Silver**. Start filling in the crew planning calendar by scheduling and showing these six committee meetings. **Gold** is the measure if the crew committee involves youth leaders in the yearly planning meeting. Put the date of the planning meeting(s) on the planning calendar.

This guidebook also contains a paper printout of a fill-in-the-blanks spreadsheet style workbook that automatically calculates JTE objective levels and points to help the pack planner determine what activities the pack needs to do to achieve the desired medal level. Download the actual spreadsheet from the Journey to Excellence Resources webpage.

Adventure—Objective # 4

An important crew planning calendar need is to consider **Objective # 4, Adventure: Conduct regular activities including a Tier II and Tier III adventures**. There are many possibilities to consider for an adventure activity. However, let us have some definitions first. A Tier II activity may be less than four days but requires planning and skill development and a Tier III activity must be at least four days and is mentally and physically challenging. If the crew participates in four activities where one is a Tier II or Tier III it qualifies as **Bronze** level. If the crew does five activities and 50% of the youth participate in the Tier II or Tier III activity the crew qualifies at the **Silver** level. If the crew does six activities and 50% of the youth participate in the Tier II or Tier III activity the crew qualifies as **Gold**. Obtain information about Venturing activities from the Scout office, at roundtable, council training events, the district outdoor program chair or other leaders.

Place the date(s) of these activities on the planning calendar and have a Venturing crew associate advisor or crew committee member be responsible for the crew's adventure program and encourage that Scouter to earn the **Venturing Training Award** for accepting responsibility for this important JTE objective.

Leadership Recruitment—Objective # 8

A crew must have adult leadership and the unit should look to the parents or guardians of youth members for those leaders. Look at **Objective # 8, Leadership recruitment: Have a proactive approach in recruiting sufficient leaders and communicating with parents**. A crew having an associate advisor is the **Bronze** level. It is recommended that committee members be trained as shown in the chart in the next section. Having a crew meeting where crew plans (objective # 1) are reviewed with parents is **Silver** and if adult leadership for next year is identified by May 31 (the next program year) qualifies as **Gold**.

Place the dates for the parents meeting and May 31 (leaders for next year identified) on the planning calendar.

Get the Crew Adult Leaders Trained-Objective # 9 - Trained Leadership

The crew needs what **Objective # 9, Trained leadership: Have trained and engaged leaders at all levels** describes. What is the crew committee and what do they do? The answer lies in training. A significant amount of crew leader and crew committee training can be accomplished on-line using courses found on My.Scouting.org. However, first and extremely important is that all adults interacting with the youth of your crew must have **Venturing Youth Protection training or YPT, code Y02**. This is a must and a rock-solid requirement and **non-negotiable**. This can be done on My.Scouting.org and must be the first training done by any adult registered and associated with the crew.

Having the crew advisor **or** an associate advisor complete leader position-specific training and mandatory youth protection is required for the **Bronze level**. Having the crew advisor **and all** of the crew associate advisors complete leader position-specific training or, if new, within three months of joining qualifies as the **Silver level**. Having at least two crew unit committee members complete crew committee training is the **Gold level**.

The following is a table of crew leader position-specific training required to be considered **TRAINED** to the basic level and JTE qualified. Crew Committee Challenge (**WS12**) and the initial position specific training (**P21**) are the course numbers if taken as a classroom style course conducted by district or council Trainers. Equivalent training is available on-line at Scouting U.

Crew Adult Leader Position and Code	Leader Position-Specific Training Course Title and Number
(VC) – Venturing Crew Advisor	Leader Position-Specific-Venturing Leader- For Bronze or Silver (P21 or equivalent on-line courses at Scouting U)
(VA) – Venturing Crew Associate Advisor	Leader Position-Specific-Venturing Leader - For Bronze or Silver (P21 or equivalent on-line courses at Scouting U)
(CC) – Crew Chairman	Crew Committee Challenge– For Gold (WS12 or equivalent on-line courses at Scouting U)
(MC) – Crew Committee Member	Crew Committee Challenge– For Gold (WS12 or equivalent on-line courses at Scouting U)

Put the dates on the planning calendar when any new leaders need to complete their training. All new leaders registered in September must complete their training by the end of December. Find the dates of training events and place them on the crew calendar.

Crew adult leadership, Crew Advisor and Associate Advisor or Crew Chairman and Committee Member, choosing to use the on-line training method, will have to access **Scouting U** through My.Scouting.org. Go to *My Dashboard*, then *My Training*, then *Training Center* and select *Venturing* and then the appropriate course registered position. This gives access to Scouting U and carefully follow the instructions provided to establish a set of on-line modules to create a “*My Learning*” plan. Note there are **three** sets of modules for each position, titled “*Before the First Meeting*”, “*First 30 Days*” and “*Positioned Trained*”. Once all three sets are completed for the position and YPT is current the adult is considered position trained.

See the attached *Venturing Crew Adult Leader Position Trained Requirements* table for more information.



VENTURING CREW ADULT LEADER POSITION TRAINED REQUIREMENTS

CREW ADVISOR & ASSOCIATE ADVISOR

BEFORE 1ST MEETING

SCO_101	GETTING STARTED	8:41
SCO_108	ADVISING VS. LEADING	10:46
SCO_109	POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT	10:37
		TOTAL TIME: 31 MIN

FIRST 30 DAYS

SCO_102	OFFICER SELECTION	4:56
SCO_103	CREW STRUCTURE	8:52
SCO_107	EVENT PLANNING	16:56
SCO_110	AWARDS PROGRAM	12:00
SCO_111	OFFICER TRAINING	6:43
		TOTAL TIME: 50 MIN

POSITION TRAINED

SCO_104	MEMBERSHIP RECRUITING	6:16
SCO_105	FUNDRAISING & BUDGETING	9:29
SCO_112	ANNUAL PROGRAM PLANNING	14:19
SCO_113	SELECTING ADVISORS	8:50
SCO_114	INTERACTING WITH YOUNG ADULTS	17:10
		TOTAL TIME: 56 MIN

Classroom equivalent is course P21

COMMITTEE CHAIR & COMMITTEE MEMBER

BEFORE 1ST MEETING

SCO_101	GETTING STARTED	8:41
SCO_103	CREW STRUCTURE	8:52
SCO_108	ADVISING VS. LEADING	10:46
		TOTAL TIME: 29 MIN

FIRST 30 DAYS

SCO_105	FUNDRAISING & BUDGETING	9:29
SCO_107	EVENT PLANNING	16:56
SCO_109	POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT	10:37
SCO_113	SELECTING ADVISORS	8:50
		TOTAL TIME: 46 MIN

POSITION TRAINED

SCO_102	OFFICER SELECTION	4:56
SCO_104	MEMBERSHIP RECRUITING	6:16
SCO_110	AWARDS PROGRAM	12:00
SCO_111	OFFICER TRAINING	6:43
SCO_112	ANNUAL PROGRAM PLANNING	14:19
SCO_114	INTERACTING WITH YOUNG ADULTS	17:10
SCO_530	JOURNEY TO EXCELLENCE	12:46
		TOTAL TIME: 1 HOUR 14 MIN

Classroom equivalent is course WS12

BOARD OF REVIEW

BEFORE 1ST MEETING

SCO_101	GETTING STARTED	8:41
SCO_106	BOARD OF REVIEW	17:11
		TOTAL TIME: 26 MIN

*In addition to the learning plans above, Youth Protection training is required for all BSA registered volunteers.

Continued Training-Adult Recognitions

Encourage the crew leadership, those in the positions in the chart above, to continue their individual training. Recruit an adult to be the crew training coordinator. Schedule the dates of the monthly district roundtable on the crew planning calendar. Find the dates for district and council training events and place them on the schedule as well. University of Scouting, a source of excellent advanced training usually occurs in January. Other advanced leader position-specific training occurs year-round. Encourage the crew trainer to get involved with the district training team.

Encourage the advisor, associate advisor, the committee chair, crew Trainer and all committee members to work on and earn their **Venturing Training Award** (green square knot on tan background). This award (511-058_WB) requires, among other items, participation in the crew planning session and giving primary leadership in meeting one crew JTE objective area. The JTE objective goals are established in the crew planning session and the adult provides the leadership to achieve the goal. Assign these objectives to crew committee members and ask them to work towards training awards. These objectives are further explained further in this guidebook and the information will help those providing leadership for advancement, membership, service projects, outdoor activities, a crew budget and the recharter process. Put on the planning calendar any training dates that apply and show their assigned responsibilities on the calendar next to the items.

The Venturing Advisor can continue in service and training and be recognized. At 18 months of service there is the **Unit Leader Award of Merit - Advisor** (512-003_WB) and at 3 years of service there is the **Advisor's Key** (green and white square knot on tan). This award (511-54_WB) requires, among other things, three years of tenure, conducting a crew planning session for each year and having the crew qualify as a JTE Silver crew for 2 of the 3 years of tenure.

Be sure and have a crew plan that will have the crew earn at least the JTE Silver JTE Award.

Progress records for each of these awards are attached at the back of this unit guide.

Woodbadge continues the Scouting Program leader training. It is generally offered by the council once if not twice per year over two Thursday to Saturday or Friday to Sunday training sessions. Place the dates of the next Woodbadge course on the crew calendar.

You now have a plan for fun crew activities and for getting the adult crew leaders trained. What next? Consider the growth opportunities for the youth crew members, the Venturers.

Leadership-Youth—Objective # 5

Learning leadership skills while having fun is the Scouting way. **Objective # 5, Leadership: Develop youth who will provide leadership to crew meetings and activities** helps a crew achieve this goal. Having a president, vice president, secretary and treasurer lead the crew qualifies as **Bronze**. Have six officer meetings a year and conduct crew officer training qualifies as **Silver** and having a youth leader for each crew activity is the **Gold** measure.

Place the dates of the six officer meetings and the crew officer training session on the planning calendar and recruit an adult leader to facilitate this objective while working on their **Venturing Training Award**.

Personal Growth—Objective #6

Developing life skills is a central aim of Scouting. **Objective # 6—Personal growth: Provide opportunities for achievement and self actualization** is the guide to use. Achievement is measured by crew member advancements. Having crew members earn the Venturing award qualifies as **Bronze**. Having at least three experiential training sessions is **Silver** and **Gold** is achieved by having youth earn the Discovery, Pathfinder or Summit Awards.

Place known dates of experiential training sessions on the schedule. Recruit a crew committee member to lead the sessions and work towards the **Venturing Training Award**.

Service--Objective # 7

Then look at **Objective # 7, Service: Participate in service projects with at least one benefitting your chartered organization**. Plan the dates for service projects during the planning session. Participate in Scouting for food, a Veteran's Day parade or a flag ceremony. The possibilities are nearly endless. Before the planning meeting contact your chartered organization and ask about service projects. If that is not possible, plan the date when a crew committee member will contact the chartered organization and coordinate the project. All projects must be entered into the service hour reporting web site accessible from My.Scouting.org (Menu-Legacy Web Tools-Service Hour Reporting). The crew needs to create a service hour account with password. Just 3 service projects qualifies as **Bronze**, 4 as **Silver** and 5 as **Gold**.

Appoint a crew committee member to coordinate crew service projects. That person should have the responsibility to enter the project data into the JTE service hour webpage and that adult can be working on their **Venturing Training Award** while achieving this crew JTE objective.

Service projects can be any activity that benefits another individual, the crew's chartered organization, scouting or any cause of choice. Suggestions include:

Scouting for food

Book and magazine Drives

Assist with council and district activities

Assist the elderly

Remember others during the holidays

Pet shelters

Litter cleanup and beautification

Serving food

Safety related projects

Assist (not participation) local youth sports groups

Repair and maintenance of homes, buildings and offices of worthy causes including Scouting

Assisting medical information distribution and drives (such as blood donations)

Recruiting new Scouts—Objective # 2

What other dates need to be on the planning calendar? Some very important dates are associated with recruiting new youth. Your crew should have a series of recruiting events, activities like School nights, a signup table at events at your chartered organization's location (if applicable) or a community recruiting roundup. Place these dates on your planning calendar. One of the crew committee members should be the crew membership chair and, while working on their **Training Award** provides leadership for membership. Look at **Objective # 2, Building Venturing: Have an increase in Venturing membership or maintain a larger than average crew size** provides membership goals to consider. Preparing a membership plan that includes a recruiting activity and gaining new members qualifies as **Bronze level**. Having a membership increase of 5% or a crew size of 10 members is the **Silver level** and a gain of 10% or a crew size of 15 members and an increase over last year is **Gold**. Your unit membership plan should list where and how recruiting is to be done and who is responsible. The membership plan needs to address the number of new Scouts expected so the unit is prepared.

An important crew committee position is the membership chair. That person leads the recruiting activities for the crew while working on their **Venturing Training Award**.

The Crew Budget—Objective # 1

Objective # 1, Planning and budget: Have a program plan and budget that is regularly reviewed by the committee and it follows BSA policies relating to fundraising. Information about how to prepare a crew budget and a sample budget are attached at the end of this guidebook.

Having a written budget that follows BSA policies and is adopted by the committee is **Bronze level**, Having the crew committee meet 6 times to review (program plans) and budget is **Silver level** and having a planning meeting involving youth leaders for the following year is **Gold level**. Put the committee meetings and planning session dates on the crew calendar.

The schedule you have prepared will help determine your budget. How much money will you spend per scout? Read and fill in the crew budget material based on your expenses and fund raising activities.

A Measure of How Well the Unit is Doing—Objective # 3

The best measure of how well the crew is doing how many Venturing Scouts come back for another year. This is shown by **Objective # 3, Retention: Retain a significant percentage of youth members**. This item measures the percentage of youth who were age eligible and reregistered for the next year. Retention does not count youth who age out. If 50 % of the youth reregister the unit is at the **Bronze Level**, 60 % it is at the **Silver level** and at 75 % it is at the **Gold level**. Retention is a measure of many things, the fun of crew activities and excitement of learning leadership skills. A solid year long schedule with well planned and put on events will build strong units and the scouts will keep coming back because it is fun.

Resources Found on the Venturing section of the ScoutSource webpage

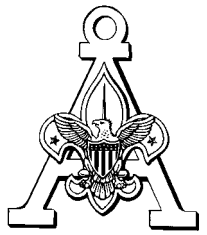
Activity Planner 510-022

Unit Programming tools, many resources including monthly theme program features

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Venturing Training Award

Progress Record



Candidate's Personal Information

Name: _____
Address: _____
City State Zip
Email: _____
Crew No. _____ District: _____
Council Name: _____

Tenure

Complete at least two years of tenure as a registered adult leader in a Venturing crew.

From _____ to _____
From _____ to _____

Training

- Complete basic training for any Venturing leader position.
- Attend a university of Scouting (or equivalent), or attend at least four roundtables/teen leaders' council meetings/ Venturing officers association meetings (or equivalent) during each year of the tenure used for this award.

Approved by:

Crew Committee Chair Date

Performance

Do the following during the tenure used for this award:

- Participate in an annual crew planning meeting in each year.
- Give primary leadership in meeting at least one crew Journey to Excellence objective in each year.
- Serve as an adult leader in a crew that achieves at least the Bronze level of Journey to Excellence in each year. The Quality Unit Award is acceptable if the tenure used is prior to 2011.
- Participate in at least one additional supplemental or advanced training event at the council, area, region, or national level during the two years.

Approved by:

Crew Committee Chair Date

Training Committee Action

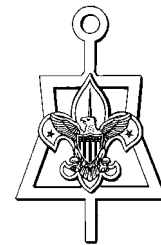
The leadership training committee has reviewed this application and accepts the certification that the candidate meets the required standards. The Venturing Training Award is approved.

Approved by:

District or Council Training Committee Chair Date



Advisor's Key Progress Record



Candidate's Personal Information

Name: _____

Address: _____
City State Zip

Email: _____

Crew No. _____ District: _____

Council Name: _____

Tenure

Complete at least three years of registered tenure as a Venturing crew Advisor within a five-year period. (This can include the tenure used to earn the Venturing Training Award.)

From _____ to _____

From _____ to _____

From _____ to _____

Training

Complete basic training for Advisors.

Attend a university of Scouting (or equivalent), or attend at least four roundtables/teen leaders' councils/Venturing officers association meetings (or equivalent) during each year of the tenure used for this award.

Approved by:

Crew Committee Chair

Date

Performance

Do the following during the tenure used for this award:

Achieve at least the Silver level of Journey to Excellence for at least two years. The Quality Unit Award is acceptable if the tenure used is prior to 2011.

Participate in at least one additional supplemental or advanced training event at the council, area, region, or national level.

Have an annual crew planning session and have a published crew meeting/activity schedule for the crew in each year.

Approved by:

Crew Committee Chair

Date

Training Committee Action

The leadership training committee has reviewed this application and accepts the certification that the candidate meets the required standards. The Advisor's Key is approved.

Approved by:

District or Council Training Committee Chair

Date



Unit Leader Award of Merit

Background

Quality unit leadership is the key to a quality unit program—and it leads to better Scout retention. Statistics show that if young people stay engaged in the program for at least five years, the BSA's influence likely will stay with them for the rest of their lives. A quality Scouting experience will help keep Scouts in the program, and the Boy Scouts of America created the Unit Leader Award of Merit to recognize the quality unit leaders who make that happen.

The Unit Leader Award of Merit replaces the Scoutmaster, Varsity Team Coach, and Venturing Crew Advisor award of merit programs. This new recognition has revised requirements, and Cubmasters and Skippers are also eligible for this recognition.

Requirements

The nominee must

1. Be a currently registered Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, Coach, Advisor, or Skipper who has served in that position at least 18 continuous months.
2. Meet the training requirements for the registered position.
3. Distribute a printed or electronic annual unit program plan and calendar to each family in the unit.
4. Have a leader succession plan in place.
5. Effectively use the advancement method so that at least 60 percent of the unit's youth have advanced at least once during the last 12 months.
6. Cultivate a positive relationship with the chartered organization.
7. Project a positive image of Scouting in the community.

Nomination Procedure

1. The unit committee chair completes the Unit Leader Award of Merit Nomination Form on behalf of the unit committee. For Boy Scout troops, Varsity Scout teams, Venturing crews, and Sea Scout ships, the nomination must include endorsement by the senior patrol leader, team captain, crew president, or ship's boatswain, respectively.
2. The unit or district commissioner certifies that the form is complete.
3. The unit submits the nomination form to the council for approval by the Scout executive and council commissioner or president. **The council is responsible for processing the award.**

The Award

Upon receipt of the approved nomination form, the council may present the Unit Leader Award of Merit, which includes a certificate, square knot with the appropriate device, and a special unit leader emblem. Recognition of this achievement may be presented at appropriate district or council events, such as district or council leader recognition dinners, training events, and board meetings.

The award may be presented to youth for each program, Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Varsity Scouts, Venturers, and Sea Scouts, if the individual meets the requirements in each program. Only one knot is worn with the devices of each program that the award was earned in.

Unit Leader Award of Merit certificate, No. 512004

Scoutmaster emblem, No. 610093

Unit Leader Award of Merit square knot, No. 610091

Cubmaster emblem, No. 610094

Varsity coach emblem, No. 610092

Venturing Advisor emblem, No. 610095

Skipper emblem, No. 635892



Unit Leader Award of Merit Nomination Form

Submit to your local council service center.

Nominee's name as it is to appear on the certificate: _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Select one:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cubmaster | Pack No. _____ | Chartered organization _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scoutmaster | Troop No. _____ | Chartered organization _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coach | Team No. _____ | Chartered organization _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Advisor | Crew No. _____ | Chartered organization _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Skipper | Ship No. _____ | Chartered organization _____ |

Service

Inclusive dates for the service in the above-selected position (include month and year; must be at least 18 continuous months of service in this position).

From _____ to _____ Number months of service _____

Training

Date nominee completed training requirements for this position (month and year) _____

Unit Program Plan

- Yes, this nominee's unit has an annual unit program plan and calendar, and it is shared with all families in the unit.
Unit committee chair initial _____

Succession Plan

- Yes, the unit has a replacement recruited and committed to take over the nominee's position as unit leader if necessary.
Replacement's name _____ Unit committee chair initial _____

Advancement

- Yes, at least 60 percent of the members of the nominee's unit have advanced at least once during the past 12 months.
Unit committee chair initial _____

Chartered Organization Relationship

- Yes, this nominee has a good relationship with the chartered organization.
Unit committee chair initial _____

Community Image

- Yes, this nominee has a positive image in our community.
Unit committee chair initial _____

Please attach a statement by the unit committee chair on behalf of the unit committee attesting to the nominee's performance as unit leader. For Scoutmaster nominations, also attach a statement by the troop's senior patrol leader. For Varsity Scout Coach nominations, also attach a statement by the team captain. For crew Advisor nominations, also attach a statement by the crew president. For Skipper nominations, also attach a statement by the ship's boatswain.

Nominated by _____ Certified by _____
Unit committee chair Unit or district commissioner

Date of nomination _____

Approved by _____ Date _____ and _____ Date _____
Scout executive Council commissioner or president



Note: Yearly Fee is now \$33.00 per year

Planning Your Crew's Annual Program Budget

What is the unit budget plan? First of all, it is a part of the annual program planning process that will lead to a successful year and increased tenure of your members. Just like in any family, planning and managing your income and expenses is very important.

The key to having a great year is to have a great annual program plan, and that plan should also contain an annual budget plan. What follows are some suggestions for how to build that unit budget.

Having an annual program plan and budget leads to a well-managed, well-financed unit.

Recognizing this, the BSA recommends the following recipe:

1. Plan your crew's complete annual program. (This is a MUST.)
2. Develop a budget that includes enough income to achieve the program.
3. Identify the amount of product (popcorn, for example) that will need to be sold per youth member to reach the income goal.
4. Identify service and/or work projects that the crew can participate in to bring income to the unit.
5. Get commitments from parents and youth.
6. Make fundraising fun!

BASIC EXPENSES

1] Registration. When a youth joins, the crew normally asks him or her to pay the full \$24 national registration fee*, regardless of the number of months remaining in the unit's charter year. The unit sends to the council the prorated amount for those remaining months.

Note that fees are figured on a monthly basis: 1 month, \$2.00; 2 months, \$4.00; 3 months, \$6.00; 4 months, \$8.00; 5 months, \$10.00; 6 months, \$12.00; 7 months, \$14.00; 8 months, \$16.00; 9 months, \$18.00; 10 months, \$20.00; 11 months, \$22.00; 12 months, \$24.00.

The balance of the youth's fee is kept in the unit treasury to supplement his or her dues in paying the next full year's fee. This procedure ensures prompt registration at charter renewal.

2] Unit Liability Insurance Fee. Crews are required to pay an annual unit liability insurance fee of \$40. This fee is submitted with the crew's annual charter application and helps to defray the expenses for their general liability insurance.

3] Boys' Life. *Boys' Life* magazine, the official publication of the Boy Scouts of America, is available to all members at \$12, which is half the newsstand rate. (Prorated fees are available for youth who join a unit during the year.) Every youth is encouraged to subscribe to *Boys' Life*.

4] Unit Accident and Liability Insurance. Protecting the leadership and parents from financial hardship due to high medical bills from an unfortunate accident is a must for all involved in Scouting. Specific details on insurance programs are available from the local council.

5] Awards and Recognition. Every youth member is encouraged to achieve advancement and awards each year. The Venturing Awards and Advancement program has a number of options that will help your Venturers grow and enjoy your program.

6] Activities. Well-conceived and well-planned activities are critical to a successful annual program plan. A complete program should include an annual Open House to welcome new members into the crew and monthly activities such as camping, hiking, service projects, bicycling, climbing, and trips. It is suggested that the complete cost of these outings be built into the unit's budget.

7] Summer Camp/Activity/Trip. Central to a complete Venturing experience is a BIG summer activity, whether it is a trip to camp or to Europe. Local and national opportunities abound for Venturers to have an exciting, program-rich summer experience. Consider one of the national high-adventure bases.

8] Program Materials. Each unit needs to provide a certain amount of program materials. Depending on the type of program, these could include craft tools and supplies, Kodiak supplies, camping equipment, videos and books, or ceremonial props. (Note: Units may not hold title to property; only chartered organizations or the local council legally can own property.)

9] Training Expenses. Trained leaders are key to delivering a quality and safe program. Both adult and youth leader training should be considered an integral annual crew expense. It also supports the element of leadership development, one of the methods of Venturing.

* The same rate applies for registered adult Scouters.



10] Uniforms. Each crew determines its own uniform; however, it is recommended that Venturers wear the green Venturing shirt. The Venturing uniform gives Venturers a place to display the awards and advancements they have earned and provides a sense of belonging.

11] Reserve Fund. The reserve fund might be established by a gift or loan from the chartered organization, by members of the committee, or by a unit money-earning project. The reserve fund should meet unexpected expenses.

12] Other Expenses. These could include a gift to the World Friendship Fund, meeting refreshments, service project costs, and/or contingency funds.

SOURCES OF INCOME (AND A WARNING!)

The total cost for the complete year should be figured during your budget building process. Ideally, all income would come from one fundraising event at the beginning of the program year; however, a spring fundraiser could be planned as well. Some crews plan monthly fundraisers like a carwash or book sale, but be aware that you could wear out your members with too much fundraising.

Some Important Points:

Paying your own way. This is a fundamental principle of the Boy Scouts of America. It is one of the reasons no solicitations (requests for contributions from individuals or the community) are permitted by units. Young people in Scouting are taught early on that if they want something in life, they need to earn it. This principle is among the reasons that adults who were Scouts are found to have higher incomes. The unit's entire budget must be provided for by the families, through either fundraising or other means such as dues or fees.

Except for council-sponsored fundraisers, all other fundraising projects require the submission of the Unit Money-Earning Application, No. 34427, to the local council. To ensure conformity with all Scouting standards on earning money, leaders should be familiar with the eight guides listed on the back of the application and in the financial record books. This policy also protects you from doing a fundraising project that might have just been done by another unit.

OTHER RESOURCES

Additional information concerning unit budget plans, the treasurer's responsibilities, camp savings, forms, and records can be found in the *Venturing Leader Manual*, No. 34655.

The Crew Operating Budget Worksheet

To develop your crew's budget, complete the worksheet and then share it with the crew members and their parents. The crew president and vice president of finance should review the budget and put it in final form prior to presenting it to the entire crew. Be sure to keep parents involved and informed. Program calendar and budget information needs to be communicated regularly to families, especially at the start of the program year.



UNIT MONEY-EARNING APPLICATION

Applications are not required for council-coordinated money-earning projects such as popcorn sales or Scout show ticket sales.

Please submit this application to your council service center at least two weeks in advance of the proposed date of your money-earning project. Read the 10 guides on the other side of this form. They will help you in answering the questions below.

Pack
 Troop No. _____ Chartered Organization _____

Team
 Crew
Community _____ District _____

Submits the following plans for its money-earning project and requests permission to carry them out.

What is your unit's money-earning plan? _____

About how much does your unit expect to earn from this project? _____ How will this money be used? _____

Does your chartered organization give full approval for this plan? _____

What are the proposed dates? _____

Are tickets or a product to be sold? Please specify. _____

Will your members be in uniform while carrying out this project? (See items 3-6 on other side.) _____

Have you checked with neighboring units to avoid any overlapping of territory while working? _____

Is your product or service in direct conflict with that offered by local merchants? _____

Are any contracts to be signed? _____ If so, by whom? _____

Give details. _____

Is your unit on the budget plan? _____ How much are the dues? _____

How much does your unit have in its treasury? _____

Signed _____ Signed _____
(Chartered Organization Representative) (Unit Leader)

Signed _____ Signed _____
(Chairman, Unit Committee) (Address of Chairman)

FOR USE OF DISTRICT OR COUNCIL FINANCE COMMITTEE: Telephone _____

Approved by _____ Date _____

Approved subject to the following conditions _____

GUIDES TO UNIT MONEY-EARNING PROJECTS

A unit's money-earning methods should reflect Scouting's basic values. Whenever your unit is planning a money-earning project, this checklist can serve as your guide. If your answer is "Yes" to all the questions that follow, it is likely the project conforms to Scouting's standards and will be approved.

1. *Do you really need a fund-raising project?*

There should be a real need for raising money based on your unit's program. Units should not engage in money-earning projects merely because someone has offered an attractive plan. Remember that individual youth members are expected to earn their own way. The need should be beyond normal budget items covered by dues.

2. *If any contracts are to be signed, will they be signed by an individual, without reference to the Boy Scouts of America and without binding the local council, the Boy Scouts of America, or the chartered organization?*

Before any person in your unit signs a contract, he must make sure the venture is legitimate and worthy. If a contract is signed, he is personally responsible. He may not sign on behalf of the local council or the Boy Scouts of America, nor may he bind the chartered organization without its written authorization. If you are not sure, check with your district executive for help.

3. *Will your fund-raiser prevent promoters from trading on the name and goodwill of the Boy Scouts of America?*

Because of Scouting's good reputation, customers rarely question the quality or price of a product. The nationwide network of Scouting units must not become a beehive of commercial interest.

4. *Will the fund-raising activity uphold the good name of the BSA? Does it avoid games of chance, gambling, etc.?*

Selling raffle tickets or other games of chance is a direct violation of the BSA Rules and Regulations, which forbid gambling. The product must not detract from the ideals and principles of the BSA.

5. *If a commercial product is to be sold, will it be sold on its own merits and without reference to the needs of Scouting?*

All commercial products must sell on their own merits, not the benefit received by the Boy Scouts. The principle of value received is critical in choosing what to sell.

6. *If a commercial product is to be sold, will the fund-raising activity comply with BSA policy on wearing the uniform?*

The official uniform is intended to be worn primarily for use in connection with Scouting activities. However, council executive boards may approve use of the uniform for any fund-raising activity. Typically, council popcorn sales or Scout show ticket sales are approved uniform fund-raisers.

7. *Will the fund-raising project avoid soliciting money or gifts?*

The BSA Rules and Regulations state, "Youth members shall not be permitted to serve as solicitors of money for their chartered organizations, for the local council, or in support of other organizations. Adult and youth members shall not be permitted to serve as solicitors of money in support of personal or unit participation in local, national, or international events."

For example: Boy Scouts/Cub Scouts and leaders should not identify themselves as Boy Scouts/Cub Scouts or as a troop/pack participate in The Salvation Army's Christmas Bell Ringing program. This would be raising money for another organization. **At no time are units permitted to solicit contributions for unit programs.**

8. *Does the fund-raising activity avoid competition with other units, your chartered organization, your local council, and the United Way?*

Check with your chartered organization representative and your district executive to make certain that your chartered organization and the council agree on the dates and type of fund-raiser.

The local council is responsible for upholding the Charter and By-laws and the Rules and Regulations of the BSA. To ensure compliance, all unit fund-raisers MUST OBTAIN WRITTEN APPROVAL from the local council NO LESS THAN 14 DAYS before the fund-raising activity.

#34427





VENTURING ACTIVITY INTEREST SURVEY

Complete the following. Your responses will be used to help develop the program of activities throughout the year, so it is very important that you provide complete responses.

Name _____

Date _____

1. What specific interests do you have that you would like our crew to pursue this year?

2. Do you have any ideas or suggestions for activities that would address those interests?

3. Consider for a moment the six experience areas (citizenship, service, leadership, social, outdoor, fitness). How would your interests fit into any of these areas?

VENTURING ACTIVITY INTEREST SURVEY—ALPHA LIST

Please check those activities, tours, projects, and seminars that you would like the crew to plan as part of its program for the year.

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Airport tour | <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Project COPE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Auto maintenance | <input type="checkbox"/> Geocaching | <input type="checkbox"/> Public speaking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Automobile plant/dealership | <input type="checkbox"/> Gourmet cooking | <input type="checkbox"/> Recognition dinner |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Backpacking | <input type="checkbox"/> Government official | <input type="checkbox"/> Recycling center |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Barbecue party | <input type="checkbox"/> Halloween party | <input type="checkbox"/> Shooting sports meet |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beach party | <input type="checkbox"/> Ham radio | <input type="checkbox"/> River rafting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bike hike | <input type="checkbox"/> Hiking trail cleanup | <input type="checkbox"/> Road rally |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Block party | <input type="checkbox"/> History, study the town's | <input type="checkbox"/> Sailing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bowling | <input type="checkbox"/> History, trace family | <input type="checkbox"/> Saving money |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Buy a car, how to | <input type="checkbox"/> Hobby smorgasbord | <input type="checkbox"/> Scholarships |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Camping trip | <input type="checkbox"/> Holiday party | <input type="checkbox"/> Scuba diving |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Canoeing | <input type="checkbox"/> Horseback riding | <input type="checkbox"/> Senior citizens, assistance to |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Car wash | <input type="checkbox"/> Hunter education | <input type="checkbox"/> Skating |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Career clinic | <input type="checkbox"/> Ice-skating party | <input type="checkbox"/> Slide show, plan a |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cave exploring | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry, local | <input type="checkbox"/> Snow sports weekend |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child care | <input type="checkbox"/> Intercrew activities | <input type="checkbox"/> Spaghetti dinner |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Civil defense | <input type="checkbox"/> Job interviewing skills | <input type="checkbox"/> Sports medicine |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Climbing/rappelling | <input type="checkbox"/> Leadership skills | <input type="checkbox"/> Sports safety |
| <input type="checkbox"/> College or university visit | <input type="checkbox"/> Lifesaving, swimming | <input type="checkbox"/> Sports tournament |
| <input type="checkbox"/> College panel discussion | <input type="checkbox"/> Military base trip | <input type="checkbox"/> State capitol, visit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Morality, ethics | <input type="checkbox"/> Summer jobs clinic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community cleanup activity | <input type="checkbox"/> Mountaineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Swim meet |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation project | <input type="checkbox"/> Movies | <input type="checkbox"/> Swim party |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cooking | <input type="checkbox"/> Music listening | <input type="checkbox"/> Television station |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Court session | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter writing | <input type="checkbox"/> Tennis clinic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cruise, sailing | <input type="checkbox"/> Orientation flight | <input type="checkbox"/> Train trip |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cycling/mountainbiking | <input type="checkbox"/> Orienteering | <input type="checkbox"/> United Way, support the |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dance | <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor living history | <input type="checkbox"/> Watercraft |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diet and nutrition | <input type="checkbox"/> Pancake breakfast/supper | <input type="checkbox"/> Water sports |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disabled citizens, assistance to | <input type="checkbox"/> Parents' night | <input type="checkbox"/> Weather bureau |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drug abuse/alcoholism | <input type="checkbox"/> Part-time jobs clinic | <input type="checkbox"/> Wilderness survival |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Egg hunt for children | <input type="checkbox"/> Photography | <input type="checkbox"/> Winter camping trip |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency preparedness | <input type="checkbox"/> Physical fitness | <input type="checkbox"/> Winter sports |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family picnic | <input type="checkbox"/> Planetarium | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family sports day | <input type="checkbox"/> Plants and wildlife | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fashion show | <input type="checkbox"/> Play, produce a | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fire safety | <input type="checkbox"/> Power station | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> First-aid training | <input type="checkbox"/> Progressive dinner | _____ |