



A Word from the Southern Region Venturing President:

Well, it's that time again! With the warming weather, we can slough off the winter blues and get back to action. Spring is not only the perfect time to revive our dormant outdoor programs, but also to get training underway as well. I'm looking forward to what you can all dream up. I know that Chickasaw Council and Circle Ten Council Venturing are both on their way to a wonderful year of high adventure. I want to thank all of the volunteers in those councils for the genuine Southern hospitality that they have shown me. I would also like to thank each of you for your support over the past months, without you I nor the Region VOA could be doing what we enjoy doing.. Creating a better program for you. So don't let us down, hit the trail, the COPE course, the river, or whatever it is your Crew does and have fun!

I'm not only excited about everyone getting back to having fun, I'm ecstatic to let you all know that a new Area 4 Venturing President and a new Area 9 Venturing President have been elected. I know that Emily Copeland and "Dutchee" Arnett are both

ready and willing to serve you the best that they can. Emily is from the Greater Alabama Council and is a Freshman at Auburn University. She has hit the ground running and is trying her hardest to set up VOAs with in her Area. "Dutchee" lives in West Palm Beach and has been scouting since the first grade. Among other things, he REALLY likes to play dodge ball, especially at Winterfest.

Let's kick this year off right, and don't forget that without you, the Region officers (myself included) wouldn't have a job. Thank you for all that you do in the program. You all remind me each and every day, why I love Venturing.

Please remember that if you have ANY questions, concerns, comments, or cantankerous quibbles. I can be found at
sr_venturing_president@rocketmail.com

Yours in Venturing,

Kalla French

Southern Region Venturing President 2009-2010

AREA 1

VENTURERS HELP OUT - PRISCILLA EBY



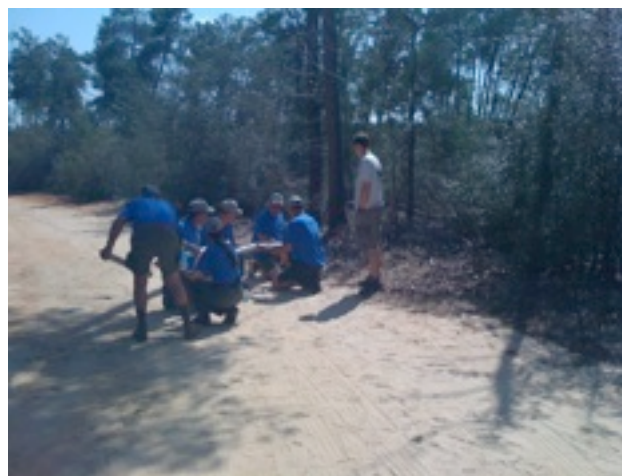
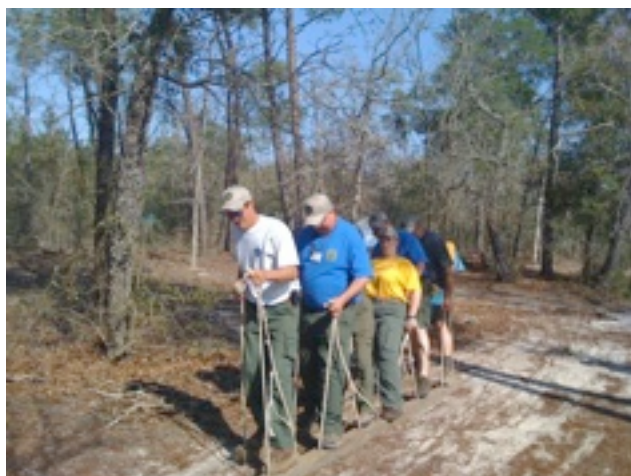
March 26, 2010 found ten venturers participating in a Woodbadge course SR1063 as youth trainers in the Gulf Coast Council. Eight patrols of adults moved round-robin style through eight team building games, each game run by venturing youth.

The adults enjoyed being taught by youth, and the youth enjoyed being able to give back to the scouting community.

Many of the adults were exposed to venturing for the first time that day. Because it was a positive experience for the adults, many went home eager to learn more about venturing, and determined to work towards providing the venturing program to the youth in their units. Many of the youth expressed the desire to go through the Woodbadge course as adults as well.



Thanks to Course Director, Betsy Werre, for inviting the youth to participate, and many thanks to the youth of crews 400, 106, and 689 for giving up part of their weekend in service to scouting. (Pictures continue on page 3)



Release Dates 2010

July 17th 2010

October 15th 2010

Deadlines for Articles

June 1st 2010

October 1st 2010

AREA 2/3

100 YEARS CELEBRATION--JOSH TRISTAN



Two days before the 100th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America, 20 youth and adult members of Venture Crew 6, South Texas Council, from Corpus Christi, TX descended upon Austin, Texas for the 61st Annual Report to State. We were just like any other contingent that day, honored to represent our Council and to be able to become a part of this tradition. We paraded twelve blocks down Congress Avenue to the State Capitol, met Governor Rick Perry, an Eagle Scout, before we all assembled in the House Chambers to give the state of the Council.

There was just one thing that made us stand out from all of the rest of the scouts and scouters there. Instead of wearing the traditional Venturing Uniform, we instead opted for wearing the uniform we are known for... The uniform of the US Cavalry from the post Civil War era. Since its charter as Post 6 in 1989, we have



been a living history unit that is primarily known in our area for portraying Cavalrymen and women in the 1870s and 1880s, setting up Cavalry camps and teaching others how the soldiers lived in those frontier days.

The highlight of the day was to be able to take a contingent picture with Governor Perry. He asked us about our uniforms and shared some of his experiences when he was a scout. Almost everyone in Austin was impressed by our uniforms and of our knowledge of its history. We even had everyday tourists stop us to have their chance at getting a picture taken with us. We were glad to be able to take part in this time honored tradition and hope to one day do it again.



SILVER BEAVER AWARDED - PICTURES BY DAVID HIBBARD



Captain Charles Doolin, with Ship 77 Dallas, TX received his Silver Beaver Award at the Circle Ten Council's Annual Meeting April 1st 2010.



AREA 4

SOUTH FLORIDA COUNCIL UPDATE--MICHAEL R. BROWN

Below are a few notes about happenings around Area 4:

- Scoutmasters Camporee is a major camporee in our council that brings together over 1000 Boy Scouts, Webelos Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Venturers, the Venturers again ran the Brown Sea Island exhibit. We also had a Venturing exhibit booth to promote the program.
- In March at Merit Badge College, we ran Venturing Leader Basic training for several adults. We had members of several new crews at our March VOA & Venturing Roundtable had members of 2 new crews in attendance.

- At the end of March, the BSA Adventure Base 100 was in our area at the Dade County Youth Fair and several crews were in attendance to help out. This was one of only 3 locations in Florida. Hopefully the video of this visit will also feature some of them.
- Our annual Venturing event, the Venturee is coming up the weekend of April 23-25. This will be our 10th one, and this year the theme is "A New Frontier", with a focus on western/frontier activities. It will be held at Camp Everglades, which is located within Everglades National Park. We welcome any Crew or Ship to come and participate.

-Michael R. Brown, Council Venturing Chair



FLAMING ARROW STRENGTH ADVENTURE

Every year Flaming Arrow Scout Reservation puts on an exciting and educational outdoor program for Boy Scouts and Venturers in Florida. Every year we try to come up with new ideas to keep the older scouts returning.

This year we are instituting SURVIVOR:FASR. It is directed toward Eagle Scouts and Venturing Outdoor Bronze recipients who

will be surviving Flaming Arrow's backwoods. We have a mile swim every morning, area challenges in outdoor skills, land navigation, ecology, midday SPLASHDOWN competitions and afternoon COPE (low elements and high ropes course). We are also taking participants off site for a canoe trek. We want this to become an experience to be sought after, similar to Army

Rangers and Navy Seals but for young adults 16-21 years of age. There will be rewards and awards for all participants.

Kim Jones
jonesboro@tampabay.rr.com
Program Director

Flaming Arrow Scout Reservation

AREA 8

SEA SCOUTS ARE PREPARING FOR SUMMER

The spring winds following the Arctic blasts have kept the Sea Scouts in Oklahoma City off the lake. We have been doing boat maintenance in the meantime. The photos below and to the right show a few Sea Scouts repairing the mast boot inside a sunfish. The repairs are coming along nicely and we should have this boat on the water this summer with the other sunfish and dolphins.

Kenna Green
 Skipper, Ship 131
 Oklahoma City



VENTURE EXTREME WEEKEND – MIKE BONESS DISTRICT DIRECTOR WESTARK AREA COUNCIL

Venture Extreme Weekend
 Westark Area Council
 Fort Smith, Arkansas
 March 26-28, 2010

The 3rd annual Venture Extreme Weekend took place at Spring Lake on the Ozark-St. Francis National Forests near Dardanelle, Arkansas. 12 teams of 4 people from Venture Crews in the Westark Area Council were challenged to a full day of outdoor activities.

Each team spent Friday evening plotting their UTM coordinates on USGS maps to prepare for Saturday's challenging

cross-country course. Each team could choose to either hike a 5 mile course with 12 check points or the course for those that chose to ride bikes included 11 miles biking and 3 miles hiking that had 19 checkpoints. All teams participated in a ½ mile canoe course with 2 additional check points on Spring Lake. Each check point had a password that had to be written down on the teams score sheet. Only a map and compass could be used; no GPS, cell phones or e-compasses were allowed.

The course was extremely challenging due to the hilly terrain and wet creek crossing but the

weather was perfect. Along the way, the teams had the opportunity to rappel down a 40 foot cliff after they had hiked around to the top!

Along the way for extra points, each team picked up trash to bring back to the main campground where they each completed a conservation/clean up of the campsites and program areas.

At 6pm a small thunderstorm moved through but only dropped a little rain and some wind. The day ended with an awards campfire recognizing the days accomplishments by all.

AREA 9

WELCOME TO AREA 9 - EMILY COPELAND

As the newly elected President of Area 9, I am very excited about the upcoming year and would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to all of you in the Southern Region. Until I was elected as Area 9 President, I served as the Vice President of Administration for my area. During that time, I gained experience and I was able to develop a vision of where I want Area 9 to go within the next year. I am confidently expecting a year filled with both new experiences

and chances to reconnect with our roots in Venturing.

One of my main goals for the Area 9 VOA is for us to serve as a connection point for the individual crews in our councils so that we can help them take advantage of any and all experiences available to them on the council, Area, Regional, and National levels. Already, Area 9 is off to a good start doing just that. On May 1st, we will be holding an Area VOA meeting at the Greater Alabama Council's High

Adventure Race. There we will be able to meet individual crews, strengthen relationships with councils in our area, and help them become more active at the area and regional levels.

I am looking forward to many other such opportunities to make connections and expand Venturing within Area 9. I know this is going to be a great year and I am looking forward to working with all of you and getting to know you better.

Emily Copeland,
Area 9 VOA President

AREA 9 VOA MEETING -- DAVID FROLANDER AREA 9 VOA VICE-PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATIONS

The Greater Alabama Council is holding it's annual High Adventure Race at Camp Comer in Mentone, AL on April 30th through May 2nd. The Area 9 VOA will hold a meeting at 2pm (CST) on May 1st during the event. All Venturers in Area 9 are invited to come, specifically the Area 9 council VOAs. The new Area President, Emily Copeland, will be chairing the meeting. The agenda will include: inter-council communications, council VOA training, open spots on the area VOA, Area resource management and more.

The meeting is completely free for attendees that come to just the meeting. Meals are just \$5 a person for VOA attendees and those spending the night pay the full event price of \$50, due to size limitations of reserved housing. Anyone who plans on attending must contact Area President Emily Copeland at srarea9@gmail.com

The High Adventure Race is open to all registered Venturers and is a very exciting weekend of rappelling, climbing, boating, geo-caching, mountain biking, paintball target shooting, bouldering, hiking... and more! Registration information can be found on the Greater Alabama Council online calendar at www.ibsa.org on the date for the event, April 30th, 2010.

A Kodiak-X will be held at the event for those who have already attended a Kodiak. The price is \$50 and includes lodging, meals, course, certificate, and your choice of either a medal or patch. Additional medals and patches may be purchased. You must contact David Frolander by April 27th to participate. David.Frolander@gmail.com

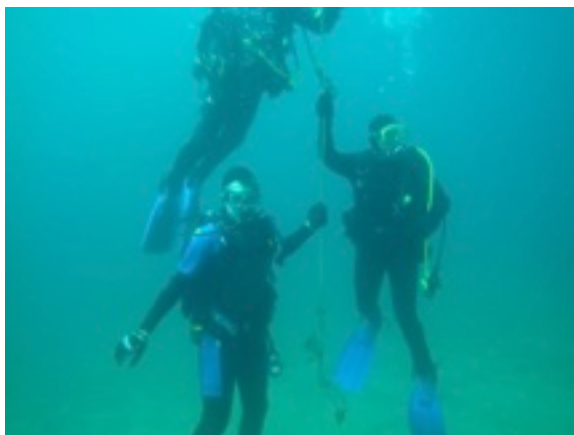
THE SOUTHERN REGION WELCOMES DAVID FROLANDER

The Southern Region would like to welcome our Region Youth President-Elect: David Frolander of

Area 9. He will be taking office in June 2010. Please check our summer issue for a biography from him.

Atlanta Area Council Update, by Mark Hess:

Crew 625 and Crew 994 from the Cherokee-Pickens District in the Atlanta Area Council are teaming up for a SCUBA adventure this summer. Twenty-nine participants will have their SSI SCUBA certification from a local SCUBA dive shop before heading to the Florida Keys for a week of dives.



All of the dives are being planned by the crew members so that

everyone has a say in the types of diving that will be done. The first dives will be in Key Largo, Florida and the last dive will be in Key West, Florida. You can see more information at the web site for the trip <http://www.cpds.org/ScubaDoobyCrew.htm>.



(pictures from our open water certification dive.)

The Atlanta Area Council VOA has added officers to their ranks. The following people are now planning events and working to build the Venturing program in Atlanta.

- Grant Wagner - VOA President
- Rachel Millins – Vice President of Programs
- Taylor Green – Vice President of Administration
- Chelsea Bahr – Vice President of Communications
- Chelsea Harris - Atlanta Area Council Venturing Advisor
- Mark Hess - Volunteer Advisor
- Skip Campbell - Associate Volunteer Advisor
- Charles Pineo - Associate Volunteer Advisor

To the Presses!

Don't forget to send The Venturer pictures of your Crew or Ship having fun at camp and summer events! We would love a story about your adventures with your crew or Ship. Send stories by the due date to Sarah Polan at venturernews@gmail.com.

Newsletter Staff

SARAH POLAN



Sarah is the Editor-in-Chief for the newsletter.

JEFF JUSTICE



Dr. Justice is the volunteer advisor to the newsletter.

EMILY POLAN



Emily provided her desktop publishing skills to this publication.