



VENTURING VIEWS



Volume 3, Issue 1

Venturing Crew 1100

September 2004

Crew Plans Calendar

At the Crew's August 5th meeting, crew members brainstormed ideas for the 2004-2005 Venturing year as the first step in developing the crew's annual plan. In a well-attended meeting, crew members put forth a wide variety of ideas for activities, service projects, and social outings. It is now up to the crew officers to put together the final plan with tentative dates for activities and outings. Once completed, the crew's annual calendar will be distributed to all members.

At the initial meeting, crew members established a number of goals for the upcoming year, to include increasing membership, earning the BSA Quality Unit, conducting more service projects, and having fun in all crew activities and events. The most popular outdoor activities at this meeting included winter sports (skiing, winter camping), aquatics (canoeing, kayaking, rafting, and SCUBA certification) and shooting sports (archery, rifle, and shotgun shooting). Other ideas put forth by the members included hiking, backpacking, mountaineering, caving and cycling. The crew also chose to work on Venturing core requirements of first aid, land navigation, and Leave No Trace during the upcoming year.

There was a lot of enthusiasm and excitement during the evening and it appears that this will be another outstanding year for Crew 1100, and we look forward to seeing everyone on the trail.



Current Leadership

Term: Sep 1, 2004 – Mar 1, 2005

President	Eric Eichelberger
Vice President – Program	Anna Sproull
Vice President – Admin	Chris Barnett
Secretary	Zach Siders
Treasurer	Open (YOUR name here)

Calendar

Sep 2	Meeting at 7:30
Sep 9	Meeting at 7:30
Sep 16	Meeting at 7:30
Sep 23	Crew Open House
Sep 30	Crew Officers' Seminar at 7:30
Oct 2-3	Dolly Sods Backpack outing
Oct 7	Meeting at 7:30
Oct 14	Meeting at 7:30
Oct 16	District Emergency Preparedness Exercise
Oct 21	Crew Parents' Meeting at 7:00
Oct 28	Meeting at 7:30
Nov 4	Meeting at 7:30
Nov 5-7	Venturing Hike-o-ree
Nov 11	Meeting at 7:30 – SFF Bag Distribution
Nov 13	Scouting for Food Bag Pick-up
Nov 18	Meeting at 7:30
Nov 25	NO MEETING
Dec 2	Meeting at 7:30
Dec 9	Meeting at 7:30
Dec 12	Soldiers' and Airmen's Home visit
Dec 16	Meeting at 7:30 – Christmas party
Dec 23	NO MEETING
Dec 30	NO MEETING

Crew Web Site, Email

Venturing Crew 1100 posts a website at www.crew1100.com. Please bookmark this site. The Crew roster is posted here, protected with a password. Newsletters, forms and flyers, and other information can be downloaded from this site. If you have any additions, changes, or suggestions for the website, please contact Mrs. Gray at 703-455-1425, crew1100@troop1100.com. Additionally, any help would also be appreciated. Thanks.

Most of the information about Crew 1100 activities is distributed via email. If you are not receiving these email messages, or if there is a problem with the email address used, please advise Mr. Melchior at MelchiorR@aol.com, or your current President, Eric Eichelberger, at UofM1587@aol.com.



Beach Trip – At Last

By Bryan DeRosa

On July 9-11 this summer, the crew had the opportunity to go to the beach at North Carolina's Outer Banks at Kitty Hawk. This opportunity was three years in the making, for it had been an idea since the crew began. This activity was planned to demonstrate that the youth could put on an activity by ourselves, with minimal advisor participation. We left at 5 am Friday morning and drove the five hours to Kitty Hawk. Once we arrived at the Adventure Bound campground, we set up camp and hit the beach. It was so hot we were reluctant to leave the beach for dinner at the campground.

On Saturday, after a hot and humid night, we were awakened early by peacocks that we all were ready to kill. After breakfast we drove a little farther south to see a lighthouse at Bodie Island, but weren't allowed to climb it because of its condition and lack of funds to renovate. We then went to Jockey's Ridge State Park, which has giant sand dunes. After Jockey's Ridge we hit the beach again. After we all had a chance to work on our tans (some red as a lobster), we went back to the campground and had dinner. After dinner the group split up and half decided to go play putt-putt golf and the other half went for a walk on the beach. All the guys decided to sleep in Mrs. Gray's large screen tent since it was so hot the night before.

On Sunday we were awakened the same way as the day before, by the extremely obnoxious peacocks. After breakfast we all packed up and went to church. After church some of the group went to the Wright brother's museum at Kitty Hawk and the others drove home. The participants were Youth: **Chris Barnett, Chris Colton, Bryan De Rosa, Devin Gray, Erin Gray and friend Aaron, Sam McKee and friend Kevin, and Will Zivich** and Adults: **Mr. Barnett, Mrs. Cass, Mrs. Gray, and Mr. and Mrs. Melchior.**

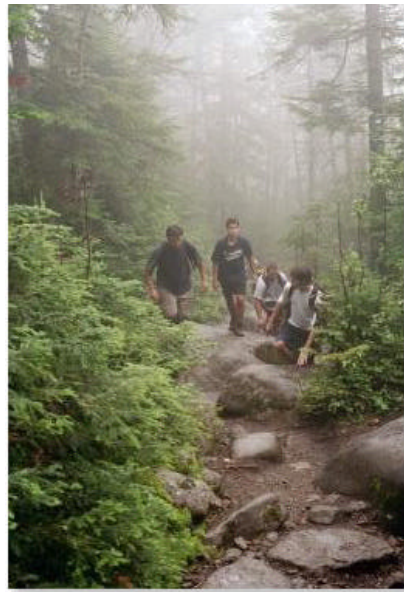
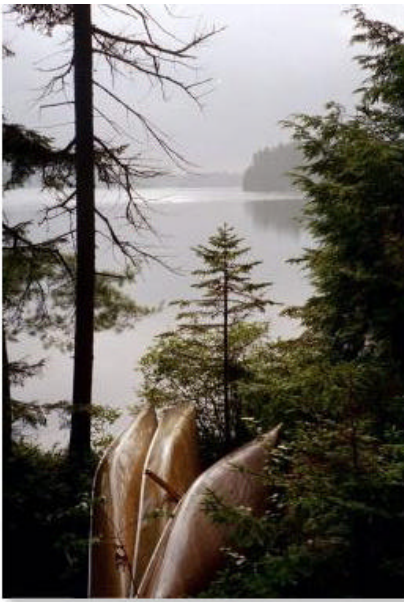


Dinners

Celebrating the Beginning and End of Summer

Crew 1100 enjoys good food and great times together, just socializing, so we met for dinner in July and then again in August. On July 17, about 20 of us met for barbecue in the Red, Hot and Blue in Fairfax. A lot of our college crew members were able to join us. Then, in August we gathered at the California Pizza Kitchen in Fairfax Town Center to celebrate (?) the end of summer and enjoy some gourmet pizza. Again, we had some college members join our newer gang for some great food and cheer before they headed back to campus.

Dinners are some of our most well-attended functions!



Adirondacks High Adventure 2004

By Matt Jackson

Summer 2004 found Crew 1100 trekking through the wilderness of New York's Adirondack Park. Comprised of nearly six million acres of premiere wilderness, the Adirondacks offer unrivaled opportunity for canoeing, backpacking, hiking and camping in a remote outdoor setting. This was a return to the Adirondacks as the crew had been there previously in 2002 for their first high adventure activity.

For this year's summer trek, however, crew participants elected to test their mettle by taking on the most difficult canoe routes through the remote and pristine St. Regis Canoe Area. While most treks do one of two routes through the area, each involving a significant number of canoe carries (portages), our crew combined and extended both routes. In the end, the crew trekked over 40 miles, traversing 36 lakes, ponds or rivers and making 28 canoe carries totaling nearly nine miles over a four day period. And on the fifth day, instead of resting, the crew climbed to the 5,344-foot summit of Mt. Marcy, New York's highest point.

Departing Burke on Saturday, 17 July, the crew drove to Lake Placid, NY and camped for the night. The next day, after mass and spending time touring, the crew met their outfitter at Lake Kushaqua, start of the canoe trek. The day started with a torrential rainstorm, which caused the crew to seek shelter on an island before continuing on and setting up camp for the evening. The next day, Monday, found the crew negotiating the "7 Carries" route of the St. Regis area paddling through many ponds and lakes and making eight carries before setting up camp for the night overlooking St. Regis Pond. The next day the crew began the "9 Carries" route and made their longest portage of nearly two miles to arrive at Fish Pond and the most remote section of the St. Regis Canoe Area. Wednesday the crew continued along the "9 Carries" route making four more carries and camping on an island on Floodwood Pond. The last day on the water saw the crew negotiating eight more ponds and carries before ending the canoe portion of our trek.

For the next two nights, the crew camped in the Adirondack's High Peaks Region and on Friday, 23 July, climbed to the summit of Mt. Marcy. Hiking in the rain, the crew reached the cloud-enshrouded summit in 4 ½ hours. Breaking camp on Saturday, the crew traveled to Cooperstown, NY and toured the Baseball Hall of Fame before returning to Burke later that evening.

Congratulations and well done to our 2004 High Adventure Crew – **Bryan DeRosa, Eric Eichelberger, Matt Jackson, Will Zivich, Mr. Cass and Mr. Melchior.**



Spirit of America

On Saturday, 18 September, fourteen adult/youth members and friends of Crew 1100 journeyed downtown to Washington to attend the U.S. Army's Spirit of America pageant. This multimedia production, depicting the history of the U.S. Army and the American soldier, is presented annually by the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) and the U.S. Army Band "Pershing's Own." Performed to a full house at Washington's MCI Center, the crew had a birds-eye view of this sound, light and music extravaganza.

Prior to attending Spirit of America, the crew enjoyed dinner and fellowship at a local eatery near the MCI Center. It was an enjoyable evening and a great way to get together as we begin our 2004-2005 Venturing year.

Crew Polo Shirt

Have you seen some of your crewmates sporting a new look? It may be that they are wearing the crew's latest fashion design, a handsomely embroidered double-pique cotton polo shirt. The high quality, cornflower-blue colored shirt sports the Venturing logo with the words "Crew 1100, Burke, VA." We have varied men's and women's sizes available for sale at a cost of \$25 each, and may be purchased at crew meetings or special activities, or by contacting Crew Advisor, Mr. Melchior.



Maria's Salem College Corner

I had an incredible summer in Europe and wish you all could have been there. I went to Barcelona with Crew 811 from Brussels and had a great time, but it wasn't quite the same. I also worked at a Boy Scout Camp (BPHAC) in England and had the most incredible time of my life. I gave a very successful 5-minute presentation on Leave No Trace, so don't underestimate the value and handiness of all the stuff you guys learn in the Crew! My job was working in the Trading Post so it was sometimes tedious, but I loved having the kids come in to shop and visit. The rest of the staff members were amazing, some of the best people I have ever met.

Well now I am back in the US and the past month of my life has gone by incredibly fast! School has been super-busy. My classes require a lot of work and I am an RA this year. One of my classmates and I are also trying to revive the Hispanic club on campus. But I am enjoying everything so I don't mind being busy. I miss you all and I miss the outdoors more than you'll ever know! I hope that you are all doing well and please send me a note to let me know what's going on – olivmal7@salem.edu. I love you!!! Maria :)

Where Are They?

Here is where our college-bound crew members can be found – looks like a road trip might be in our future!

Erin Benedict	NOVA, Annandale, VA
Kim Bertrand	NOVA, Annandale, VA
Bryan DeRosa	George Mason Univ, Fairfax, VA
Erin Gray	Ohio State Univ, Columbus, OH
Matt Jackson	George Mason Univ, Fairfax, VA
Sam McKee	Univ of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN
Maria Olivieri	Salem College, Winston-Salem, NC
Matt Robison	West Virginia Univ, Morgantown, WV
Jennifer Wolf	West Virginia Univ, Morgantown, WV
Will Zivich	West Virginia Univ, Morgantown, WV

Next Activity: Dolly Sods Backpacking

The crew's hike/backpack trip to Dolly Sods, WV, is set for Sat & Sun, 2-3 Oct. This is "Backpacking 101" and suitable for most crew members and/or adults. Enjoy an easy hike into a remote campsite on Saturday, establish trail camp, dine on delicious trailside cuisine, relax under the stars at night and hike back out Sunday morning. Dolly Sods is a unique wilderness environment for the eastern U.S. and a new area for the crew. Individuals need only a backpack (I have several if someone needs one), personal sleeping system, rain gear and change of warm clothing. Due to the high elevation of the Dolly Sods area, be prepared for possibly cool weather.

Wilderness use policy restricts the size of our group to no more than 10. So if you are interested, contact me as soon as you can. Mr. Melchior

President's Corner

By Eric Eichelberger

It's that time of year again... everything seems to be coming at us all at once. We might be wondering where all the time went from the summer, and where it is disappearing to now, as we get busy with school and other activities. It is also a hectic time for the crew. We have our open house which is one of our most important activities, because it keeps our crew growing and moving into the future. We also have the Emergency Preparedness activity with the district, Dolly Sods backpacking, and the Hike-o-ree. We have lots of great and fun activities coming up, that I know we will have great stories about. We also need to plan for the winter and spring months, so keep those ideas rolling in. Without you guys this crew doesn't keep going. Good luck with school and let's keep having fun with everything that we do.



This and That

By Mrs. Gray

The beach trip was a terrific way to kick off the summer...it was a long time coming, but worth the wait. All participants enjoyed the surf (but could have done with a little less heat!!), and the lighthouse and sand dunes were a nice side trip. What was with those peacocks and their early rising, though? Thanks to Bryan and Erin for pulling it all together.

Now, let's get a great program together for the coming year – I look forward to being able to go on activities again, and to get to know each of you better. What a great crew we have! All we need is that special touch to ensure that our next year is as terrific as our past years have been. Maria and Erin, we miss you!



Advisor's Minute

By Mr. Melchior

Looking Forward

As Venturing Crew 1100 begins its fourth year, it is easy to look back on the many and varied activities and accomplishments of the crew and to expect that the future will be just as successful. But as any student of history knows, you cannot rest on your laurels and every year presents new opportunities and challenges. Much of this newsletter is about the crew's future, from upcoming activities to the annual plan. It was exciting in August to watch crew members brainstorm ideas and desires and expectations for the coming year. But the overall success of the year will depend upon everyone's support and participation.

Based on the input provided, the crew officers are now putting together the crew's annual plan and calendar. It promises to be another fun year with the crew conducting some of the old favorite activities as well as some new ones. It is envisioned that every crew member will have the opportunity during the year to participate in some new and exciting activity, to serve their church/community, to lead, and to grow personally. The crew's Mission Statement says in part, " It [Crew 1100] is an organization where young adults have the opportunity to explore new areas of interest, develop and learn leadership, social and outdoor skills, and make new friends. Crew activities create an environment where everyone has fun, grows physically and socially, and contributes to the overall success of the crew."

I look forward to another outstanding year with the great young men and women of Venturing Crew 1100. See you on the trail.



Gotta rest sometime...