

Let's get Venturing in Old Portage District Going! March/April 2010



It's time to energize Venturing in the Old Portage District. We have a number of Crews in operation now and have been visible to Scoutmasters over the past year. Let's see what we can do to help one another with training, program, recruiting and whatever else we need to run a successful Venturing program. It doesn't matter whether you are a crew that is an extension of your Boy Scout troop, or if you have a core Venturing Crew that is independent of a boy scout troop. It doesn't matter if you have young men only, young women only, or are co-ed please take advantage of what we are starting. Here are some things that are already in the works: Youth and Adult Training, Monthly Leader

Discussions, and Unit Service. You are invited!

Training for Adults

The training necessary to be a fully trained Venturing Advisor or Associate Advisor includes both on-line and classroom training. Old Portage is offering the class-room component which is the Venturing Leader Specific Training course. For Venturing Committee Chairmen and Venturing Committee Members there is Venturing Committee Specific Training.

Prerequisite: You must log on to <http://olc.scouting.org/> the scouting online learning center and take three courses online before attending this training. You will need your number from your membership card to get credit, but anyone may take the courses. Bring your dates of completed training or your printed completion certificates if you can to the training. Take: (1) **Venturing Leader Fast Start** training online, (2) **Venturing Youth Protection** Training online, and (3) **This is Scouting** training online.

Venturing Leader Specific Training (you must attend both nights)

Venturing Committee Specific Training (you need attend only the first night. This is a draft course and not certified. Sessions 1 and 2 are the same as VLST and Session 3 is a special breakout.)

Location: First Baptist Church, 1670 Shatto Avenue, Akron, OH

First night: Wednesday April 14, 7:00 PM to 10:30 PM

Sessions: (1) Here's Venturing, (2) Understanding and Protecting Youth, (3) Leadership and Organization

Second Night: Wednesday April 28, 2010 7:00 PM to 9:30 PM

Sessions: (4) Awards and Recognitions, (5) Resources and Program Planning

Cost of Training: \$6.00. Leader Manuals will be available to preorder at \$8.00

Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (Council Level, not Old Portage District)

A hands-on program giving adult leaders the practical outdoor skills they need to lead Scouts in the out-of-doors. This is necessary to be fully trained if your Venturing Crew is an outdoor crew.

When: April 30-May 2, 2010

Cost of Training: \$20.00

Location: Camp Manatoc, Gilwell Lodge

Contact: Call John Kusmits 330-882-6495 or j_kusmits@sbcglobal.net

Training for Crew Leaders (Venturing Youth)

Crew Leadership Training (CLT)

Old Portage and Crew 2001 will offer the **Crew Leadership Training (CLT)** course this spring. Contact Steve Poorman, Crew Advisor 2001, to coordinate this training.

This course is for the youth in your Crew *with their Advisor*, and is expected to be a replacement for **Venturing Leadership Skills Course (VLSC)**. Youth who attend this course can be used later as instructors to deliver the course to your entire Crew. This CLS offering is a field-test or beta-test course offered at the request of the national training developers. Lessons learned from our experiences will be provided to national and may be used to modify the course material before rollout. (note: **Troop Leadership Training** is also being revised to match this course and both will be known under the umbrella of Unit Leadership Training.)

Who participates in Crew Leadership Training (from the draft syllabus)?

This course is for every Venturer in the crew holding a leadership position, including all elected positions and any appointed positions at the discretion of the crew. In some crews, this might mean that this course is for every youth member! In fact, it's desired that every member of the crew have some kind of leadership responsibility every year, even if it's just a minor responsibility. While there is content in CLT that will help adults to serve the crew effectively, this isn't the course for them. Venturing Leader Specific Training (VLST) and Wood Badge are the appropriate courses for adults to attend to receive crew operations and leadership training. Adults may participate peripherally in CLT as trainers or passive observers. The Advisor is part of the team being built, so it is imperative that he or she is actively involved in the training exercise. It is the Advisor's privilege and responsibility to organize and lead Crew Leadership Training. The Advisor may also want or need to involve other trained adult leaders – and of course the Advisor should involve previously trained Venturers.

National Youth Leadership Training (Camp Butler, June 13-18, 2010).

NYLT this year is designed to include Venturers. VLSC or CLT will be required for attendance. Be sure to send your Venturers (especially your non-troop crew members to this great training).

Conversations about Venturing

Starting in March 2010, we will have a Venturing breakout during the monthly Old Portage Roundtable. Adult Crew leaders should come, and your Crew officers and Senior Boy Scouts are welcome as well. Remember, this is youth led so we need to include the youth officers where we can. Topics will be tailored to the needs of those present, but here are some of the topics planned for upcoming Roundtables

- March 2010 – Meet/greet. Training (see above) Youth and Adult. Any program sharing opportunities that are needed or available.
- Future Roundtables – More program sharing opportunities, Participation in Boy Scout activities, a Venturing track in the OP Klondike for 2011, recruiting, Core and Elective advancement needs, Consultants, and whatever else we decide that we need to discuss.

We can either have one meeting, or split the adults and youth into separate discussions if that has more value to the participants. The Venturing breakout will be driven by unit needs and your input.

Roundtables are conducted monthly on the second Thursday (see the OP calendar) at Montrose Zion United Methodist Church, 565 North Cleveland Road at 7:00 PM.

Old Portage District Venturing Support & Unit Service

John Starret, District Executive, (330) 773-0415, executive@oldportage.org

Dena Fish, Venturing Unit Commissioner, (330) 576-6570, dfish@oldportage.org

Steve Myers, Venturing Training Chair, (330) 801-6034, smyers@oldportage.org

Steve Poorman, Venturing Roundtable Commissioner, (330)310-8918, spoorman@oldportage.org

Venturing Leader Training Registration Form

Courses:

Old Portage: **Venturing Leader Specific Training** (April 14 and April 28, cost \$6.00)

Old Portage: **Venturing Committee Specific Training** (April 14 only, cost \$3.00)

Council: **Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills** (April 30-May2, Cost \$20.00)

I would like to preorder a **Venturing Leader Manual** (#34655E, \$8.00)

Crew Leadership Training – contact your advisor or spoorman@oldportage.org.

National Youth Leadership Training, NYLT – see separate sign up form.

Please sign me up for the above trainings and (if checked) order me a Venturing Leader Manual.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Unit Number: _____

Position: _____

District: _____

Make Checks payable to Great Trail Council:

Return Form with Fee to:

Great Trail Council, BSA
PO Box 68
Akron, OH 44309-0068

(or pay at scout shop – bring your receipt to training with you)

Venturing Leader Manuals are reduced to \$8.00 and may signal that the manual is about to be replaced. You will receive your manual if they are still in stock at National. You will have to come to the Scout Shop to pick up your manual.