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**If you have any articles or news to share, send it to Becky Elzas at [becky@elzas.net](mailto:becky@elzas.net)**

## The Venturing Times

The Venturing Times will be available quarterly, and can be viewed on the [Venturing Home Page](#) and are available at all Round Tables. Please share the information provided in this newsletter with others in your crew, ship or troop.

### The Western Region Venturing Youth Extravaganza and X-Games

**Presented by the Venturing Committee of the DAC & the Western Region VOA**

This year, our council will be hosting the Western Region Venturing Leadership Conference.

Mark your calendar... The WRVYE and DAC X-Games will be held August 29 – 31, 2014, at Peaceful Valley Scout Ranch.

X-Games is a late night event (Friday, August 29) where the youth split into 4 – 6 person teams and use their orienteering skills to go from station to station. Each station is a fun, scored event, and at the end of the evening the scores are totaled and the Crew with the highest score wins the coveted 'Traveling Trophy'.

This is a great place to meet other Venturers and put your skills to the test. Learn more about the Venturing Program. There will be a banquet and lots of open activities, tentatively including: climbing, repelling, scuba, mountain biking, rifle, pistol, shotgun, muzzle loading, archery and disc golf – as well as the Venturing X-Games Friday evening.

**Dates:** August 29, 30 & 31, 2014

**Place:** Peaceful Valley Scout Ranch – Elbert, CO

**Cost:** \$60.00 per person (includes X-Game fees, camping, food and most of the open activities costs)

You can contact Scott Elzas at [scott@elzas.net](mailto:scott@elzas.net) or 303-868-2774 or Dave Whitner at [Dave.Whitner@scouting.org](mailto:Dave.Whitner@scouting.org) or 720-266-2101 for more Information.

Updates will be posted on our Venturing Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/VenturingDAC>, so click on 'like' or 'join'.



# WEST IS BEST!



## Want to keep up with DAC Venturing? Here are a few ways to stay in touch with updates in between newsletters:

- Venturing Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/VenturingDAC>
- Venturing Twitter: <http://twitter.com/VenturingDAC>
- [Join Venturing E-List](#)



### The 2014 Venturing Program Schedule is now available!

The Venturing Program Committee has scheduled many fun activities for 2014. Please pass these dates on to your fellow crew members:

<i>Event</i>	<i>2014 Date</i>
Snow Snake Rendezvous (Registration is now open!)	January 3, 4 & 5
Venturing Recognition Dinner	February 7
Snow Sports Day @ Eldora	February 22
1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter Venturing @ Large Roundtable	March 12
Venturing Spring Shooting Sports Day	May 18
2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter Venturing @ Large Roundtable	June 11
Equestrian Day at Peaceful Valley	June 21
Powderhorn Training (Registration is now open!)	August 15, 16 & 17 (Peaceful Valley) and August 22, 23 & 24 (Tahosa)
Venturing Leadership Conference and Venturing X-Games at Peaceful Valley	August 30, 31 & September 1
3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter Venturing @ Large Roundtable	September 10
Venturing Fall Shooting Sports Weekend	October 10, 11 & 12
4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter Venturing @ Large Roundtable	December 10
Venturing Committee Meeting/Potluck & Award Selection	December 17

We are working to get these events on the calendar and the registration available – check the calendar in the next few weeks for registration opportunities. View the next page for descriptions of these events.

## **Here are brief descriptions of our 2014 schedule:**

### **Venturing Snow Snake Rendezvous – January 3, 4 & 5, 2014**

The Snow Snake Rendezvous is the annual Venturing winter campout. Snow Snake is planned and programmed by youth members so you know the program will be fun and exciting. The event will take place at Peaceful Valley Scout Ranch. Come participate in activities that may include: Muzzleloading Rifle Shooting, an Iron Chef Dessert competition and an Awards Ceremony. **REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!!**

### **Venturing Recognition Dinner – Friday, February 7, 2014**

From 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. (Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m.)  
The Island Event Center, 2233 S. Geneva Street, Denver, CO 80247

This year, the Venturing Recognition Dinner will be held at The Island Events Center in Denver. Activities may include: Volleyball, Ping Pong Tables, Foos Ball Tables, 1 Pool Table, Beach Balls, Footballs, Hula Hoops, Limbo, Tug O War, and with advanced set up request: Badminton, Bocce Ball, Corn Hole and Ladder Ball. Registration will be available soon. Price is TBD.

### **Snow Sports Day @ Eldora Ski Resort – Saturday, February 22, 2014**

The Venturing Committee is once again working with Eldora Ski Resort to offer reduced lift tickets for our scouting family and friends. The price is \$30.00 per ticket, and that includes a lunch ticket for \$9.00. (Please note: this does NOT include a group rental rate – if you need to rent equipment, you will need to pay the normal rental price.) Tickets will be available on the Eldora Website soon.

### **Venturing Spring Shooting Sports Day – Sunday, May 18, 2014**

This is one of Venturing's most popular events! We are working on the place and times, but pencil this date on your calendar. Shotgun, Rifle, Muzzle loading, Pistols and others will be available. Price, times and place TBD.

### **Equestrian Day at Peaceful Valley – Saturday, June 21, 2014**

Do you like horses? This is the day for you!!! You will complete the Equestrian Requirement, and learn more about horses than you thought you would. There will be class time, as well as riding and cleaning time. Price and time TBD.

### **Venturing Fall Shooting Sports Weekend – October 10, 11 & 12, 2014**

This weekend event will be held at Peaceful Valley Scout Ranch and will encompass the whole weekend. Again, Venturers will enjoy a weekend of shooting activities. Price and times TBD.

### **Venturing Awards Due – Friday, December 12, 2014**

The Venturing Leadership Award (youth award) and the Venturing Exemplary Volunteer Award (adult award) are due to Scout Headquarters on Friday, December 12, 2014. Elections will be held the following Wednesday at the Committee Meeting/Holiday Potluck.

### **Venturing Committee Meeting/Holiday Potluck – Wednesday, December 17, 2014**

Break out those Potluck Recipes and join us at the Venturing Committee Meeting/Holiday Potluck! You can learn more about Venturing, enjoy the food and company, and help select the 2014 winners! The cost is only one item for the potluck! This is the ONLY Committee Meeting that will start at 6:00 p.m.

## Venturing Program Subcommittee and Commissioners Meetings Schedule

The Venturing Subcommittee meets once a month to discuss how to provide leadership and service to the Venturing Program by supporting and providing program for youth. All Venturing Adults and youth are welcome to attend.

Here is the Venturing Program Meeting Schedule for 2014 (all meetings start at 6:30, with the exception of the December Meeting):

- April 16
- May 21
- June 18
- July 16
- August 20
- September 17
- October 15
- November 19
- December 17 – Holiday Potluck and Award Selection – starts at 6:00 p.m.

All meetings will be held at the District One Police Station (Community Room)  
1311 W. 46<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

Pizzas are usually ordered - let Becky Elzas know if you want pizza when you arrive. Cost is \$5.00 per person



## Training Dates

There are several dates scheduled for the Adult Venturing Leader Specific Training (VLST):

- May 3, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Greenwich Village
- September 13, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Greenwich Village
- October 11, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Greenwich Village
- November 8, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Greenwich Village

This training is designed to introduce adult Venturing Crew Leaders to the basic information needed to operate a crew. The training is divided into five sessions:

1. Here's Venturing
2. Understanding the Protecting Youth (Venturing Youth Protection)
3. Leadership and Organization
4. Awards and Recognitions
5. Program Planning

You can register for any of these classes by going to the DAC Website and clicking on the calendar.

## Sea Scout Base – Galveston Update

For those Troops, Crews, Teams and Ships - Are you looking for new places to go? Sea Scout Base - Galveston opens this May. Here is the latest video of the progress they are making with the five-story dorm facility that will house the youth while they are in residence. This Sea Scout Base will offer many options in which all youth can learn and experience. I urge you to visit their Facebook page to find out more information. Here is the link to the video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jmNEJFc36kY&feature=youtu.be>

Amy McNeil  
Denver Area Council Aquatics Committee

## ***To all DAC Senior Patrol Leaders, Venturing Crew Presidents and Sea Scout Ship Boatswains:***

There are two Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotillas in the Denver Metro Area. They have released the 2014 Boater Education Courses for the coming year. These courses are fantastic opportunities for you and your unit to take advantage of acquiring knowledge and skills that will set you up for success on your next adventure ... as well as your life AFTER Scouting.

Are your Scouts interested in learning more about Paddlesports?

Does your unit want to know more about recreational safe boating?

Do you have Scouts working on advancement and wanting more knowledge about reading charts, navigation with GPS or need a basic boating class for the State of Colorado?

Participants receive some of the best boating safety instruction from knowledgeable and experienced Auxiliarists who have much expertise on the water. **AND ... these classes are offered to Denver Area Council Scouts, parents and leaders at half the regular registration fee.**

### **2014 BOATER EDUCATION COURSE OFFERINGS**

**On Water Training** - A safety-focused, on-water course. Contact instructor, Carl Koonsman

**About Boating Safety** - a beginner boating class taught in Colorado Springs, Instructor Dorene Wendland

Saturday, 1 February 2014, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturday, 1 March 2014, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturday, 29 March 2014, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**How to Read a Nautical Chart** - Instructor, Ted Lones

Thursday, 7 February 2014, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Thursday, 11 September 2014, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

**Boating Skills & Seamanship** - A comprehensive course covering Equipment, Knots, Navigation, Weather, Rules of the Road, Boat Handling, Trailering and Safety. Instructor, Carl Koonsman

Thursdays, 20, 22, 27 February 2014, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. and

Saturdays, 1, 6, 8 March 2014, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Sailing Skills & Seamanship** - A comprehensive course covering Equipment, Knots, Navigation, Weather, Rules of the Road, Boat Handling, Trailering and Safety. Instructor, Thom Larson

Thursdays, 20, 22, 27 February 2014, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. and

Saturdays, 1, 6, 8 March 2014, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Navigating with GPS** - Hands-on instruction. Instructor, Ted Lones

Saturday, 15 March 2014, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Saturday, 11 October 2014, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Thom Larson** 303-979-4348

**Ted Lones** 303-697-1469 h; 303-961-3377 c

**Dorene Wendland** - 719-632-8129

**Carl Koonsman** 303-985-3715 h; 303-478-9415 c

or visit Flotilla 1-2 at <http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit+085-01-02>

and Flotilla 1-4 at <http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit+085-01-04>

**Amy McNeil**

Aquatics Committee

Denver Area Council, BSA

(303) 973-6207 h (303) 829-4343 c



Splash into the fun with our group! Ages 14-21 CO-ED

Scuba Diving (trips to the Bahamas), Aquatics, boating, camping, flying, shooting sports and more.

***Scuba Sailing Live aboard Jun 6th-13th, 2015 sign up now!!***

collecting \$100 deposit first come has the fun!!

Scuba Treasure Hunt 4th of July coming up soon..



***Scuba Sailing Live aboard Jun 6th-13th, 2015 sign up now!!!***

<http://www.photoshow.com/watch/RH8pk8mW> <http://www.photoshow.com/watch/EI2Tj4wp>

contact [ship324@scouts324.com](mailto:ship324@scouts324.com) or JT Thomas 720-313-5369 <http://scouts324.com>

**Cost per person is \$1,900 per person, +/- \$100 due to air fare pricing**

## **WANTED:**

### **A Troop, Crew or Ship to conduct a Flag Retirement Ceremony**

**Date:** Saturday, June 14, 2014

**Time:** TBD between Senior Patrol Leader (Crew President; Boatswain/Boatswain's Mate) and Mr. Adelman

**Place:** Light of the World Roman Catholic Church

10316 West Bowles Avenue

Littleton, CO 80127

(Timberline District)

The 4th Degree Knights of Columbus Council 12567 at Light of the World Roman Catholic Church would like to conduct a flag retirement ceremony on June 14th and is hereby inviting a unit from Denver Area Council to participate. Such a unit should have some experience with flag retirement ceremonies or be willing to make adequate preparations for the event. The unit does not have to be in Timberline District.

If you think your unit would be interested in participating would you kindly give this information to your Senior Patrol Leader, Crew President or Boatswain so that he/she can consider this opportunity for their unit and discuss it at their next meeting?

Because the Boy Scouts of America is one organization that can conduct an official flag retirement ceremony this will be an excellent opportunity for your scouts to be of service to the Country and in their community.

**To volunteer your unit for service or for additional information and details, contact:  
Orlando Adelman at (303) 972-9381.**

On behalf of the Knights, thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours in Scouting,  
Amy McNeil  
Timberline District

**What has your crew or ship been up to? Have you done something fun and exciting, and want to share it? Does your crew or ship have a fun event planned, and want to invite others?**



**If you have any articles to submit or any news to share, you can send it to Becky Elzas, Venturing Communications Chair at [becky@elzas.net](mailto:becky@elzas.net)**