

Preparing Today's Commissioner for Tomorrow's Venturing Success.



Commissioner Doctorate Project

BCS-121 / BCS-124 / BCS-127 / BCS-128

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PREFACE

The Reason for Writing this Thesis

The most practical application to better serve Venturing Crews is to understand the needs of the Crews, and to understand the inexperienced positions of our Commissioner staff. The best way to understand the Venturing program is to be involved with it. This program is so diverse and time consuming that Commissioners are self-conscious with being involved. Thus, creating a training program for Commissioners, to better understand and to learn more of the methods and goals of the Venturing program was the conclusion of my project.

As Commissioners we need to continue to educate ourselves about all of the Scouting programs, to include Venturing, and how we can best use that knowledge in service to units. Many BSA Councils currently do not offer a Commissioner college, and most do not offer any Venturing training.

The hope is that this project will provide incentive for the Administrative Commissioner and staff to take an active role in education towards the Venturing program. The project will lay down the best approach and fill in missing, inadequate, misconceived, and unguided information pertaining to the Venturing program that is not available, even in the “continuing education manual.”

Commissioners who understand the Venturing program will provide paramount unit service. A unit that receives good service from the Unit Commissioner will follow the methods and goals of Venturing more completely and consequently will offer a better program to the youth. A good program will result in increased retention of its members and more youth recognition.

The knowledge and confidence of a trained leader is quickly sensed by the youth you work with. The resources you need to become a better trained leader are here.

Introduction

Purpose

One of the principle responsibilities of a Unit Commissioner is to help a unit succeed with a good program that attracts and retains youth members. A District Commissioner may appoint an Assistant District Commissioner with special skills, knowledge, and experience to oversee specific Units and where most needed.

This project is intended to assist Administrative Commissioners who are responsible for servicing the Venturing Crews and for those who wish to learn more about the Venturing program. The purpose is to train Commissioners at Commissioner Colleges at the Bachelors level. The “Continuing Education for Commissioners” manual does not have any training devoted to Venturing and only one class at the Masters level. These training outlines provide only an overview of the Venturing program and lists support materials and references to better understand the program.

Objectives

Everyone needs training for a new job. The objective of the project is to ensure that a quality training program is available to Commissioners so that Commissioners can perform their primary function which is to make every unit successful. To that end, this project will address the following topics:

BCS 121 - INTRODUCTION OF VENTURING TO COMMISSIONER SERVICE

From BCS-101, this outline gives the Commissioner a ground level introduction of the diversity, dynamics, methods, and goals of Venturing. This class includes a brief history of the Venturing program.

BCS 124 - UNIT VISITATION (VENTURING CREWS)

This outline will take a closer look at Unit Visitation and be patterned after BCS 104. This class will highlight the differences in Commissioner Service to Venturing Crews as compared to Commissioner Service for Boy Scout Troops or Cub Scout Packs.

BCS 127- SAFETY AWARENESS TRAINING

This class was patterned after BCS 107 – Youth Protection. It will help the Commissioner understand the different age appropriate and gender differences of Safety Awareness Training as compared to Youth Protection. There are four topics in Safety Awareness that are discussed within that are not covered in Youth Protection under the Cub Scout and Boy Scout programs.

BCS 128 – THE VENTURING MONTHLY FORUM (Roundtable)

This outline parallels BCS 108 – Effective Roundtables I. It is targeted at the Venturing FORUM (Roundtable) Commissioner and staff to assist the District in determining “themes,” finding consultants, and how it affects the Venturing Officer’s Association (VOA), to successfully conduct a high quality Venturing FORUM, (Roundtable).