

A “How To” Guide for New Parents and Crew Members

This is a brief summary sheet to introduce you to Venture Crew 2017. We’d like to let you know what’s involved in being a member of our Crew.

Meetings: Every other Sunday from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Lutheran Messiah Church house at 303 Rt 101, Amherst. During meetings, Crew members work on outdoor skills, plan for upcoming outings, etc. The schedule is occasionally adjusted for holidays, the summer break and other events.. Changes in schedule are communicated to members of the crew in advance through email and at meetings. Members of the crew are encouraged to come to as many crew meetings and outings as possible and are expected to hold up the commitments they make to the crew. However it is also recognized that Venturers will not be able to attend every single crew event.

Dress Code: All Venturers will be provided with Venture Crew 2017 t-shirts. While crew t-shirts may be required for certain crew events, other clothing is also acceptable almost every crew outing or meeting. However all clothing worn at meetings and outings must be appropriate. Appropriate clothing is defined as clothing that demonstrates respect for all members of the crew by allowing them to go about their activities without interference. Should clothing be considered inappropriate, Venturers may be asked to remove or cover what is considered inappropriate.

When going swimming Venturers are expected to continue wearing appropriate clothing that continues to demonstrate respect and modesty. Specifically the crew does not allow excessively revealing swimwear like speedos or bikinis. However swim trunks, one piece or tankini suits, as well as sports bras along with shorts are all acceptable forms of swimwear.

Crew Website: <https://www.amherstventurecrew2017.com/>

Check the Crew website regularly for information, calendars, gear lists, photos, videos, rosters, forms and other great info. Photos can be accessed on through the crew’s Flickr page: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/147761542@N07/> and through the crew’s instagram page @venturecrew2017.

When posting crew photos or using photos, credit should always be given the crew (example: “PC: Venture Crew 2017”) and names of individual members of the crew should not be included if the photo is published publicly.

Registration: When a Venturer joins the Crew, a BSA registration form, medical form, and a \$80 membership fee are collected. Returning Venturers pay \$80 per year. Registration fees for boys who are registered members of a Boy Scout troop are \$55/year since dual registration is provided through BSA at no additional cost. The Crew requires at least one adult per scout family to be a BSA registered adult. The adult annual registration fee is \$25.

Outings: “*We are High Adventure*” Outings are an essential part of the scouting experience and scouts are expected to participate. Venture Crew 2017 places an emphasis on “High Adventure” backpacking and water activities. We offer day activities, weekend trips, annual summer camp and extended multi-day treks to help develop confidence, leadership and mental and physical skills in our members. Multiple beginning and intermediate outings are a part of our schedule to help Venturers prepare for more adventurous events and pre-requisite participation in outings are typically required of the more

adventurous events to ensure that participants are fully trained and capable. Please work with your son or daughter to prepare for these fun events. To sign up and get more information, use the outings folders at the front desk every meeting. Adults are encouraged to participate. Costs associated with outings and camp are paid by the participants.

Gear: The Crew has access to a variety of equipment and members should not be discouraged from participating in events due to a lack of gear. Furthermore, Crew members are encouraged to participate in a number of events prior to purchasing gear to make sure that the gear is money well spent! Basic equipment such as a sleeping bag, personal clothes, rain gear, boots, and mess kit, as well as 10 Essentials are required to be provided by crew members.

Service Projects: The Crew performs several community service projects throughout the year. Venturers are expected to participate in these events. The community service officer is in charge of coordinating service activities within the crew, though any crew member may lead a community service trip.

Youth Leadership Council: Venture Crew 2017 is a youth-led Crew. Adult leaders support, guide and mentor the Crew members. The Youth Leadership Council (YLC) is made up of a committee of experienced Venturers elected by their peers every six months. YLC positions include crew president, vice president of outings, vice president of program, secretary, treasurer, webmaster and other officers that are introduced and which crew members can be either elected or appointed into as the CLC sees fit. The Crew Advisor and Associate Advisors mentor the CLC and ensure appropriate safety and good sense are a part of the program but .

Fundraising: The treasurer (a youth held position as part of YLC) works to ensure that crew members have opportunities to fundraise for crew trips and gear. Half of money earned at a fundraising opportunity is earmarked for the individual to be used towards the cost of an individual's trips while the second half of any money earned goes into the larger crew to purchase necessary gear and fulfill other related expenses. All crew members are welcome to suggest and lead a fundraising opportunity. Past fundraising opportunities include working at events like Ribfest or the Loudon speedway, among other fundraisers. Visit us at www.AmherstVentureCrew2017.org.

VENTURE CREW 2017
AMHERST, NEW HAMPSHIRE
YOUTH MEMBER & PARENT/GUARDIAN
GUIDE

Welcome to Venture Crew 2017

You, your son or daughter is registered in the world's largest youth organization - Venturing, as a Division of Boy Scouts of America. Here are some facts you will want to know:

Venture Crew 2017 emphasizes Fun, Leadership, and Teamwork. We have Fun at great outings. We generally have at least one per month and they range from advanced backpacking trips such as "The Pemi Loop" and trips out West, to day hikes, bike rides, climbing trips, canoe trips, white water rafting, kayaking and backpacking in local mountains. We emphasize Leadership through intensive training followed by broad responsibility. Our mission is to have Crew Members manage all Crew functions autonomously. The adult leadership is the mentoring staff, offering guidance, encouragement, and security. Teamwork is developed through team building and as a necessary adjunct to encouraging all ability and age ranges on most of our high adventure outings.

Our Crew is part of the Daniel Webster Council which covers the state of New Hampshire. It is actually a corporation made up of representatives of Unit sponsors, plus members-at-large. The council is run by elected officers and an Executive Board. It employs a small professional and clerical staff who run the Council Service Center and who train Council and District officers, help organize new Units, and help them succeed. Our Council is one of over 500 Councils in America.

Our Crew is part of the Arrowhead District. The Council is divided into districts and there are many district and council officers who work with the Crew. These people are "behind the Scenes" as far as your son or daughter is concerned, but without their work and effort, our Crew probably would not exist. The Daniel Webster Council is chartered by the National Council. Local Councils are coordinated by the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America. All badges, books, uniforms and training materials, etc., are prepared by the National Council. Staff members of the National Council make regular visits to our Council and help our local leaders.

1.0 AIMS AND METHODS OF THE SCOUTING PROGRAM

As our own organization, Venture Crew 2017 has its own mission to guide our work and mentality:

Venture Crew 2017 aims to engage its members in fun high adventure activities that allow youth to learn and grow by pushing their comfortable limits, while inspiring them to give back through service and by leading the adventure.

The aims of the Boy Scouts of America are to build character, develop citizenship, and foster personal fitness. The Venturing methods listed below have been carefully designed to achieve the aims of the Boy Scouts of America and meet the needs of young adults.

The methods by which the aims are achieved are listed below in random order to emphasize the equal importance of each.

- **Leadership.** All Venturers are given opportunities to learn and apply proven leadership skills. A Venturing crew is led by elected crew officers. The Venturing Leadership Skills Course is designed for all Venturers and helps teach them in an active way to lead effectively.
- **Group Activities.** Venturing activities are interdependent group experiences in which success is dependent on the cooperation of all. Learning by "doing" in a group setting provides opportunities for developing new skills.
- **Adult Association.** The youth officers lead the crew. The officers and activity chairs work closely with adult Advisors and other adult leaders in a spirit of partnership. The adults serve in a "shadow" or "mentor" leader capacity.
- **Recognition.** Recognition comes through the Venturing awards program and through the acknowledgement of a youth's competence and ability by peers and adults, and youth can choose to pursue awards through the Venture Crew.
- **The Ideals.** Venturers are expected to know and live by the Scout Oath and Law. They promise to be faithful in religious duties, treasure their American heritage, help others, and seek truth and fairness.
- **High Adventure.** Venturing's emphasis on high adventure helps provide team-building opportunities, new meaningful experiences, practical leadership application, and lifelong memories to young adults.
- **Teaching Others.** All of the Venturing awards require Venturers to teach what they have learned to others. When they teach others often, Venturers are better able to retain the skill or knowledge taught, they gain confidence in their ability to speak and relate to others, and they acquire skills that can benefit them for the rest of their lives as a hobby or occupation. Teaching happens formally and informally among members of the crew, whether as a designated presentation during a meeting or when a member of the crew asks another crew member for help or advice with a particular chore on a trip.

2.0 CORE VALUES

Our Core values follow the **Scout Oath**:

On my honor I will do my best
to do my duty to God and my Country
and to obey the Scout Law;
to help other people at all times,
to keep myself physically strong,
mentally awake and morally straight.

And the **Scout Law**:

A Scout is:
Trustworthy
Loyal
Helpful
Friendly
Courteous
Kind
Obedient
Cheerful
Thrifty

Brave
Clean
Reverent

3.0 ORGANIZATION

3.1 Venturer: The Venturer is the basic unit of the Venture Crew. A member typically registers with a Crew or Troop, but may change Crews or Troops at any time and carries all their rank, recognition, service hours, and income with them when they transfer.

3.2 Crew: The Crew is a group made up of boys and girls, between the ages of 14 and 21. The Crew leadership is entirely made up of youth members, and employs a corporate-style leadership organization, led by a Crew President, with Vice Presidents and others below the President in the leadership hierarchy. The Crew President runs the Crew meetings. Elected and appointed positions include the following:

Elected Position	Responsibility
President	Leader of the crew and implements the crew program in cooperation with officers and members
Vice President of Program	Arranges the program planning process and manages the meeting and activity programs
Vice President of Outings	Manages outings and helps/facilitates crew members in planning outings
Treasurer	Maintains financial records and the crew budget; facilitates and leads fundraising efforts
Secretary	Takes notes and accounts of meetings
Appointed Position	Responsibility
Webmaster	Maintains and updating the crew website
Community Service officer	Serves as individual mentor for new Venturers
Historian	Collects and preserves memorabilia

Crew leadership is elected twice a year, in June and December, and takes over in January and July, respectively.

3.3 Crew Advisors: XXXXX

3.4 Crew Committee: The Crew Committee functions as an administration and support organization for the Crew. The Crew Committee takes care of non-program issues surrounding the Crew, working in a mentoring role with their associated Youth Leaders. For example: newsletters, Crew funds, fund raising activities, membership drives and Crew coordination, tour permits and trip coordination,

advancement records, procurement and maintenance of Crew equipment. Crew 2017's Committee Chairman is Gary Sainsbury. The Crew Committee meets monthly and the Crew President is present.

3.5 Crew Parents: The role of parents within Crew 2017 is to be supportive of the Crew's efforts and to provide the atmosphere Venturers need to learn and excel. Parents should:

1. Read their Venturer's handbook and understand the purpose and methods of Venturing.
2. Actively follow their Venturer's progress and offer encouragement and a push when needed.
3. Show support to both the individual Venturer and the Crew by attending all Crew Courts of Honor.
4. Assist in Crew fundraisers and other such activities.
5. Be aware of the Crew Events Calendar.
6. Consider serving as Consultant in areas in which they have specialized knowledge and skills.
7. Consider volunteering as an adult lead at various Crew outings or activities.

At least one parent or guardian must register with BSA with the registration of a youth and take the Youth Protection Guidelines training. The purpose of this requirement is to ensure that the Crew has registered adults that are able to participate in outings and meet BSA requirements.

3.6 Chartered Organization (Sponsor): Every BSA Crew belongs to an organization. The Chartered Organization for Crew 2017 is 'Scouting in Amherst', Amherst, NH. The Chartered Organization shares our objectives for the boys and insures that there is adequate, trained leadership. A Chartered Organization Representative acts a liaison between Crew 2017 and the Charter Organization. Crew 2017's Chartered Organization Representative is Gary Sainsbury.

4.0 CREW COMMUNICATIONS

The Crew's adult and youth leaders attempt to keep everyone informed but it is the personal responsibility of everyone associated with the Crew to keep *themselves* informed. The best way to stay informed is to attend the Crew meetings. The Crew uses the following methods of communication:

- Email (through the email list located at vc2017@googlegroups.com)
- Crew Website (<https://www.amherstventurecrew2017.com/>)
- Calendar posted on the Crew's website
- Announcements at the end of each meeting
- Crew Instagram @venturecrew2017

5.0 ACTIVITIES

5.1 Meetings: Crew meetings are an integral part of Venturing, so Venturers are expected to attend. Crew Meetings are held from 7:00 to 8:30 PM biweekly on Sunday evenings at Lutheran Messiah Church, 303 Route 101, Amherst. They will generally last about 1 hour and 30 minutes

5.2 Outdoor Activities: Outdoor adventure is the fundamental purpose of Scouting. Making Eagle, achieving the Gold Award or earning the Summit Award is the apotheosis, but each of these achievements requires substantial participation in an outdoor program. As Baden-Powell said "A week of camp life is worth six months of theoretical teaching in the meeting room". Venture Crew 2017 has

an extensive outdoor program that differentiates itself from other Crews or Troops as being “High Adventure.” What this means, from a practical standpoint, is that we rarely, if ever, car-camp. We are always moving, whether it’s by foot, bike, or vessel. Our outings nearly always involve travel. Since high-adventure is the norm, we are able to interweave truly adventurous outings without much additional effort. Our Crew members have backpacked all over the White Mountains, canoed and rafted in Maine, gone to Alaska, hiked extensively throughout the Sierra, thru-hiked the John Muir Trail, hiked the Grand Canyon rim-to-rim-to-rim, ice climbed, attended Philmont Scout Camp in New Mexico, rafted the Colorado River, climbed in Joshua Tree National Park, and participated in many other high adventures.

Typical Types of outings include

- Day hikes
- Backpacking & trekking
- Snow camping
- Skiing
- “Technical” climbing
- Day bike rides
- Overnight bike rides or “treks”
- Day canoe trips
- Overnight canoe trips or “treks”
- Summer Camps
- Camporees
- Family camps
- Service outings
- Fundraisers
- Rafting Trips
- Anything else anybody’s willing to lead.

5.3 Attending an Outing: At every meeting colored paper folders faced by sign-up sheets for all outings in their planning stages will be laid out on the front table. It’s very important for the Crew Member to peruse the folders and review outings to sign up. Crew Members sign up for outings voluntarily, though we certainly encourage everyone to attend every outing. Once signed up the Crew Member will be placed on the email list for that event and will receive information. The folders sometimes contain handouts with pertinent information, cost, including maps, directions, and most importantly, permission slips. The permission slips should be completed and returned to the folder as soon as the Venturer knows they want to attend. Information is typically transmitted electronically. If you do not wish to receive electronic communications you must tell the outing leader so they can accommodate you. Participants attending outings pay the allocated cost for permits, transportation, and food plus any individual expenses they may incur.

Typically there will be at least one or more outing specific meetings and new Crew Members should plan on having their gear ready at least two weeks prior to departure so they can do a gear check with the Vice President of outings.

Outings typically debark from the Messiah Lutheran Church, where Crew Members, Advisors, adults, and their transportation assemble prior to departure. Crew members must have provided a signed

permission slip. All participants are organized in a circle, briefed, and counted. (Generally everybody gets counted before entering any transportation at any stop.) If not organized already, Members and adults are allocated to vehicles and the vehicles are packed. (Usually vehicles are individually packed to keep equipment with Crew Members and their adults. The Crew doesn't have a trailer or any other "mass transit".) Vehicles seldom car-pool, rather making use of provided directions and other technology for getting to the day's destination. (Many make use of Internet map resources such as Mapquest or Google for directions and maps.)

Upon arrival at the destination equipment gets distributed, checked; packed; and loaded. Everybody is counted; the day's plan is rehearsed; organization is rehearsed; and all disembark. The youth designated as trip lead will lead the outing and a male and female adult lead are present to help. Attending adults continue their role as leadership mentors, guiding to the Crew leaders as seems profitable, and otherwise interfering minimally. Adults participate as members, and not supervisors. The adults are ultimately responsible for safety, but direct interference should only happen in the most egregious cases. Otherwise, a quiet word to the Crew leadership should suffice.

Upon return everyone is accounted for and Crew Members and adults form a circle for "Thorns and Roses". Each participant voices their least favorite experience, (a "thorn"), their favorite experience, (the "rose"), and a "bud", which is something they hope to improve upon. Equipment is then packed and vehicles loaded. Crew Members generally return in the vehicle they traveled in, unless extra, non-participating drivers are used. On return the members are generally taken to their house, unless other arrangements have been made.

5.4 Service Projects: In addition to meetings and outdoor activities, Crew 2017 Venturers develop a sense of citizenship and strengthen their community by participating in special Service Projects throughout the year. These are coordinated and facilitated by the Community Service Officer.

5.5 Summer Activities: Crew meetings continue throughout the summer on the same biweekly schedule as the rest of the year. Each summer is typically marked by longer backpacking or canoe trips, crew trips to summer camp, trips to Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico, whitewater rafting trips on the Colorado River and other activities that are planned by the Crew.

5.6 Annual Planning: An annual planning meeting is held in June where the program for October through the following September is planned. As Crew Members plan the schedule for the year, it is essential for members to participate in this annual meeting to ensure that members have a say in the schedule.

6.0 Equipment & Preparation

The Crew conducts educational meetings for Venturers and adults to discuss recommended gear. We suggest waiting to buy gear until you attend this meeting. Our website has gear lists for weekend hikes, treks, canoeing, summer camp, and cycling, though first time venturers are never advised to go out and purchase tons of new gear before a trip. Talk to members of the crew to help find pieces of gear that might be missing.

The crew also owns a number of its own tents and water filters and is acquiring more gear more money is raised within the crew.

7.0 TRAINING

7.1 Youth: Advisors, Consultants, and youth leaders provide training to Venturers in cooking, camping, backpacking, swimming, canoeing, climbing and any other activities. Advisors and Consultants also provide the youth leadership with training throughout the terms of their positions to ensure they have the background needed to excel in their roles. Shortly after each election, the Advisors will gather the youth leadership for a weekend of leadership training also known as Introduction to Leadership Skills for Crews (ILSC). All youth leadership are expected to participate in this training and lack of participation may mean forfeiting the leadership position.

Opportunities for leadership training are also available through BSA and other organizations. Youth are strongly encouraged to participate. One example is National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT), a week long leadership camp held at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation in Gilman Ironworks, NH. The Crew tries to have 2-3 youth attend this leadership camp each summer.

7.2 Adults: We strongly encourage adults involved with the crew to take advantage of the training opportunities that BSA offers. A BSA requirement for all registered adults is to complete Youth Protection training, which describes the requirements to protect both youth and adults in their interaction in the Crew, as well as youth-to-youth interaction. Other training requirements include Safe Swim, Safety Afloat, Trek Safely, and Climb On Safely, depending on the activity being conducted. There are Crew Advisor and Committee member training courses as well. Many of these courses can be taken online at www.my.scouting.org.

Per BSA requirements, at least one adult must have current CPR and First Aid training and on high adventure trips, at least one adult on the trip must be certified in Wilderness First Aid. We highly encourage adults to become trained to allow maximum flexibility in supporting Crew trips.

Any adults trained in any of the BSA courses or certified by Red Cross should forward a copy of your most recent certificate to Karinb2671@gmail.com.

8.0 RANKS AND ADVANCEMENT

There are numerous opportunities available for Crew 2017 members to advance in rank in their Scouting careers. Advisors and Consultants in the Crew are available to mentor and support members as requested by the youth.

8.1 Venturer Awards: Venturing offers four awards that are progressively more challenging to achieve.

1. Venturing Award: earned when a new crew member makes his or her commitment to join and move forward into the experience of Venturing.
2. Discovery Award: allows recipients to develop new skills and competencies.
3. Pathfinder Award: earned as Venturers' capabilities and skills expand, with increased responsibility for defining their own way forward in life, service to others, and formal planning and leadership of the crew toward its goals. Summit Award: earned by Venturers who have

matured in their personal direction, skills, and life competencies and who have accepted the responsibility to mentor others and serve their communities; the highest venturing award

8.2 Boy Scout Awards: If a Venturer has achieved the rank of First Class in a Boy Scout Troop, the Venturer may continue on to the rank of Eagle Scout in Venture Crew 2017. Advisors in the Crew are available to mentor Scouts on the path to Eagle, including advising on Eagle Scout proposals and projects, however the responsibility lies with the Scout/Venturer to engage mentors and Advisors in their endeavors.

8.3 Girl Scout Awards: Similarly to earning the rank of Eagle Scout, girls may earn the Gold Award through Venture Crew 2017 and Advisors are available to support girls in their quests. Gold Award candidates are expected to engage Advisors and Consultants for support as needed rather than adults engaging the Venturer.

8.4 Special Awards: Once a year special awards are presented for participation and achievement. These run along the lines of most nights camped, miles hiked, etc., plus categories elected by the Committee.

8.5 Courts of Honor: Crew 2017 will conduct a Court of Honor twice a year to recognize Venturing awards. The Court of Honor is a public ceremony, and is a chance for the Venturers to be recognized for their achievements. Families and all other interested individuals are encouraged to attend.

9.0 FEES

9.1 Registration: When a Venturer joins the Crew, a BSA registration form, medical form, and a \$80 membership fee are collected. Returning Venturers pay \$80 per year. Registration fees for youth who are registered members of a Boy Scout troop are \$55/year since dual registration is provided through BSA at no additional cost. These membership fees offset the cost of operating the Crew. The Crew requires at least one adult per scout family to be a BSA registered adult. The adult annual registration fee is \$25.

9.2: Fees for Outings / Activities: Campouts and other activities may have fees associated with them. Costs for food, supplies, and transportation are determined on a trip-by-trip basis.

9.3 Fundraising: Additional funds are raised by the boys and girls through various fundraising activities. The Crew plans to do two to three major fundraising projects a year which are coordinated by the treasurer

10.0 SAFETY - ADULT AND SCOUT

10.1 Yearly Physical Examination / Annual Medical Form: In order to safeguard the health and safety of Venture Crew Members on all outings, each member will be required to provide the official BSA Annual Medical Forms A and B to the Crew. Form C is required for any trip longer than 72 hours. The information requested includes your insurance carrier and policy number, physician's name and contact information, any, and all, allergies or pre-existing medical conditions, inoculations with date of last inoculation and any, and all, prescribed medications, including inhalers and epi-pens. This is for the youth and adults' protection and is extremely important! Each member will also be required to bring a

signed permission slip on each outing. Medical forms and permission slips will be carried by a Crew Advisor on Outings.

10.2 Two-Deep Leadership: Two registered adult leaders, or one adult and a parent of a participating Scout, one of whom must be at least 21 years of age or older, are required for all trips or outings. There are a few instances, such as patrol activities, when no adult leadership is required. Coed overnight activities require male and female adult leaders, both of whom must be 21 years of age or older.

10.3 Safety Rule of Four: No fewer than four individuals (always with the minimum of two adults) go on any backcountry expedition or campout. If an accident occurs, one person stays with the injured, and two go for help. Additional adult leadership requirements must reflect an awareness of such factors as size and skill level of the group, anticipated environmental conditions, and overall degree of challenge.

10.4 Transportation – Automobiles: It is essential that adequate, safe, and responsible transportation be used for all Crew activities. Because most accidents occur within a short distance from home, safety precautions are necessary, even on short trips. BSA regulations are as follows:

- 1) Seat belts are required for all occupants.
- 2) All drivers must have a valid driver's license that has not been suspended or revoked for any reason. If the vehicle to be used is designed to carry more than 15 persons, including the driver (more than 10 persons, including the driver, in California), the driver must have a commercial driver's license (CDL).
- 3) An adult leader (at least 21 years of age) must be in charge and accompany the group. The driver must be currently licensed and at least 18 years of age.
- 4) Passenger cars or station wagons may be used for transporting passengers, but passengers should not ride on the rear deck of station wagons.
- 5) Trucks may not be used for transporting passengers except in the cab.
- 6) All driving, except short trips, should be done in daylight.
- 7) All vehicles must be covered by automobile liability insurance with limits that meet or exceed requirements of the state in which the vehicle is licensed. It is recommended that coverage limits are at least \$50,000/\$100,000/\$50,000. Any vehicle designed to carry 10 or more passengers is required to have limits of \$100,000/\$500,000/\$100,000.
- 8) Do not exceed the speed limit.
- 9) Do not travel in convoy.
- 10) Driving time is limited to a maximum of 10 hours and must be interrupted by frequent rest, food, and recreation stops. If there is only one driver, the driving time should be reduced and stops should be made more frequently.

10.5 Sleeping Accommodations

- Male and female leaders require separate sleeping facilities. Married couples may share the same quarters if appropriate facilities are available.
- Male and female youth participants will not share the same sleeping facility.
- When staying in tents, no youth will stay in the tent of an adult other than his or her parent or guardian.
- If separate shower and latrine facilities are not available, separate times for male and female use of showers should be scheduled. The buddy system should be used for latrines by having one person wait outside the entrance, or provide Occupied and Unoccupied signs and/or inside door latches.

10.6 Knives: A sharp pocket knife with a can opener on it is an invaluable backcountry tool. Avoid large sheath knives. They are heavy and awkward to carry, and unnecessary for most camp chores except for cleaning fish. Youth members will not be allowed to carry large sheath knives.

We believe we have a duty to instill the knowledge of how to use, handle, and store legally owned knives with the highest concern for safety and responsibility in our youth and adult members. Butterfly knives are not allowed in the crew.

10.7 Guns and Firearms: Except for law enforcement officers required to carry firearms within their jurisdiction, firearms shall not be brought on Crew outings except if specifically announced by the troop and planned for target shooting under the supervision of a certified BSA or National Rifle Association firearms instructor. If the Crew does not officially notify you that you can bring your own firearms, you must keep them at home.

10.8 Restricted Activities: Some activities are restricted to Crew Members as well as adults and siblings that have met prerequisite activities which will be established and announced well in advance of the activity. The purpose of prerequisite activities are to ensure that participants are prepared for the outing. The Crew Advisor has the discretion to make decisions regarding this matter.

10.9 Unauthorized Activities: There are a number of activities that are not authorized in Scouting. They include, but are not limited to the following so before planning any activity, please consult with the Crew Advisor.

- All terrain vehicles (ATVs)
- Boxing, karate, and related martial arts – except judo, Aikido, and Tai Chi
- Exploration of abandoned mines
- Flying in hang gliders, experimental class aircraft, ultralights, hot-air balloons, parachuting
- All motorized speed events, including, but not limited to, motorcycles, boats, and cars
- Parasailing, or any activity in which a person is carried aloft by a parachute, kite, or parasail
- Paintball and similar gun-based games
- Motorized personal watercraft like jet-skis
- All activities related to bungee cord jumping or shock cord jumping
- Participation in amateur or professional rodeo events.

11.0 BEHAVIOR - ADULT AND SCOUT

Venturers live by a strict moral code. It is outlined in the Scout Oath and Law. Every Venturer and adult participant is expected to live by this code at all times. Failure to do so may result in being asked to leave the activity (no matter how late at night), having a parent pick up the Venturer, and a restriction on future activities until the behavior changes.

11.1 Swearing and Jokes: At every meeting, Venturers promise to keep themselves "morally straight" and "clean." The Handbook advises boys that being "clean" goes beyond washing off dirt - it means getting in with a "clean crowd," having a "clean outlook on life" and staying away from "swearing and telling dirty stories." Adults and Scouts are asked not to participate in swearing, lewd behavior or telling dirty stories and to refrain from spreading malicious gossip or rumors, or any actions which might be taken as hazing or some type of exclusion of any member.

Part of the Scout Law is that a "Scout is Reverent". This is also defined as defending another person's right to beliefs. No jokes or skits related to a person's faith, handicap, orientation, race, sex, or creed will be tolerated in the Crew.

11.2 Hazing, Initiations, Snipe Hunts, Harassment: All forms of hazing, initiations, ridicule, or inappropriate teasing are prohibited and will not be allowed. Snipe hunts are a form of hazing and are not allowed in the Crew.

11.3 Dating in the Crew: As the crew is a mix of teenage boys and girls, we need to be realistic about the fact that relationships may develop between youth. However, we expect youth to handle their relationships with maturity and respect for all around them as Crew 2017 is not a dating venue. There shall be no PDA (Public Displays of Affection) during Crew events or activities. PDA is defined by Crew 2017 as one-on-one massages, holding hands, "long hugs" and kissing. "Greeting hugs" are permissible. Furthermore, girls are not permitted in boys tents or cabins and boys are not permitted in girls tents or cabins without adults present.

11.4 Drugs & Alcohol: No drugs or alcohol is permitted at any scout function. Any offense of this item will result in immediate expulsion from the Crew and the Boy Scouts of America.

12.0 CLOSING

Venturing is a year-round, home-centered program involving boys, girls and their parents, adult leaders and friends. The Crew can only function successfully with parent participation. Parents are expected to contribute time, energy and talent as needs arise within the Crew. (Scouting Training Programs are available to benefit adult members.)