



Jillian Infusino
*Western Region
President, 2013-14*

President's Message:

Hello Western Region! I hope you all had a fun time at the Western Region Venturing Youth Conference in Seattle this year! I know I had a great time! I want to send a big THANK YOU to our friends in the Chief Seattle Council who were amazing hosts!

I had a really great time at the Philmont Training Center with

the rest of the National Venturing Cabinet preparing for this year. I can't wait to share all of our exciting ideas for this year with you all. We will be continuing our Peer to Peer Recruitment Program. Have you ordered your packets yet? Make sure you order up because these packets are completely FREE from the National Office. You can find the order form here: <http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/Marketing/Recruiting2/VenturingToolBox.aspx>

I am sure that many of you have heard about the new Venturing Program that will be starting May 2014. If you haven't heard about it yet, I invite you to check out the Roadmap to Venturing page: <http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/Venturing/NewProgAnnouncement.aspx> If you have any questions regarding the new program, please do not hesitate to email me with your questions.

We have a great group of officers who are ready and willing to serve you, so please do not ever hesitate to email any of us! We love hearing from you guys! Let's all work together to make sure the other three Regions know that WEST IS BEST!



GO BIG. GET WILD.

Region Committees

Are you interested in helping plan the next regional Venturing Youth Conference, building a new page on the website, or helping with local VOAs? With this new term, there are many opportunities to get involved with these things and many others!

We are looking for youth and adult Venturers who are interested in helping with jobs, big and small, around the Western Region.

There are tons of things to do! You could help out and serve on the website or newsletter committee, and work with Zachary Frost, our VOA Vice President of Communications. All committees need extra people to help, and you don't need any prior experience or training to learn. You could be a reporter, helping to write articles about events in your council, area, or even about region or national events in Venturing. If writing is not your strong suit, you could always volunteer to help with the formatting of the website or newsletter. The easiest way to help out with Communications is to send the pictures you take at scouting events, along with a brief description, to vpcomms@wrventuring-bsa.org

You could also be a member of the conference committee and work with our VOA VP Program, Jeremy Felty. He needs help with logistics, activity and session ideas, as well as promotions for the conference. Or, you could help plan the most amazing new Superactivity for the Region.

In addition, we have a committee that works with the Region VP Admin, Amanda Clark. Members of this committee help keep the region organized, and ensure that communication is possible across the huge area covered by the Western Region.

Serving on a committee is an opportunity to give your own direct input into what should happen at the region level. If you want something to happen and don't see it mentioned already, this is your opportunity to introduce it.

The Western Region has a large number of Venturers, more than any other region, but our VOA needs more people in order to fully utilize all of our resources.

If you're interested in an opportunity to serve at the regional level, please email any of the region officers.

- Jillian Infusino president@wrventuring-bsa.org
- Zachary Frost..... vpcomms@wrventuring-bsa.org
- Jeremy Felty vpgrgm@wrventuring-bsa.org
- Amanda Clark vpadmin@wrventuring-bsa.org

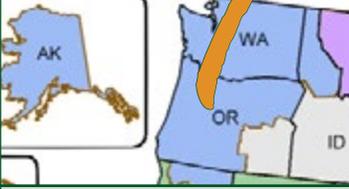
2013 Jamboree Preview

Many members of the Western Region VOA Cabinet will be attending the Jamboree later this month, both as participants and as staff.

We will be taking TONS of pictures, and we want you to as well! Remember to send your pictures and stories to vpcomms@wrventuring-bsa.org, and you could be on the website, or in the next newsletter! Remember your West Is Best sunglasses and handsign, and HAVE FUN!

Meet the Areas, Read their Goals

AREA 1



President.....Andre Giacalone
Advisor.....Ben DeRemer

Pacific Northwest

Area 1 has begun preparation for the next year. June 1 marked the beginning of the new officers' term. My VPs and I are excited to have the opportunity to serve the people of Area 1.

Some of the goals I have planned for the next year are to improve the area's support to VOAs, to help them grow stronger, and to establish VOAs in those councils that currently do not have them. The way I plan on accomplishing this is by providing materials and resources to the councils to promote Venturing.

We also will strive to create a quarterly newsletter to keep the Venturers in Area 1 informed, and plan to utilize social networking sites to help us reach out and achieve our goals. By doing all of this, we hope to keep every council and Venturer informed and up to date on all area news. The area also plans on putting

on a great Conference this fall that will demonstrate why Area 1 is the best.

Finally the last big thing is to focus on ways of recognizing those who earn awards and to provide trainings for adult leaders. If you would like to get involved and assist Area 1 this next year, please don't hesitate to email me at area1-president@wrventuring-bsa.org.



Andre Giacalone
Area 1 VOA
President - 2013-14

Salt Lake Baisin

Some of my goals as Area 2 President for 2013-2014 are to gain better support and communication with the youth in Area 2. Not just between each other, but also between the council VOAs and my cabinet. I know it can be rough when we aren't communicating with one another, but we are going to change that.

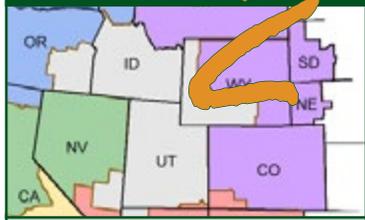


Bailey Peterson
Area 2 VOA
President - 2013-14

One of my other goals is to become unified as an area--get everyone on the same page! Let's get representatives from every council in Area 2 to work with me and my cabinet. Get your council involved TODAY! We are going to work closer. I want to be there for you, and you are already working so hard and trying your best. Why not let us help you achieve bigger and better things as a council!? Feel free to contact us! Area 2 is here for you!

I'm also really looking forward to getting to know more Venturing youth in my area. Everyone from Area 2 is AWESOME! I guess that's just a given if you live in Area 2. I'm really looking forward to making this year the best term I'm able to. I'm excited for all the new changes that will be happening during my term, plus I'm really excited to work with all the new area presidents. Let's make this year the best one yet. GO AREA 2!!

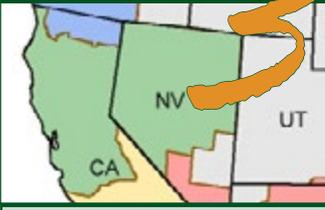
AREA 2



President..... Bailey Peterson
Advisor.....Michael Chaffin

Northern California and Northern Nevada

AREA 3



President..... Edward Abraham
Advisor..... Mary Mach

In the upcoming year, we believe that Networking and Communication will be key to our success. We want to effectively network with our twelve councils and have 75 percent of them end the year with an active and stable VOA. We'll communicate to our area by posting bi-monthly newsletters and frequent videos to all of our councils in order to promote events and meetings!

As the President, I believe that in order to achieve the goal of effective networking, one must be able to work with people face to face, rather than through communicating through the phone or email. I plan on visiting all twelve of our councils by attending meetings and super events so that I can meet and work with both youth Venturers and adult Advisors in order to improve their VOAs.



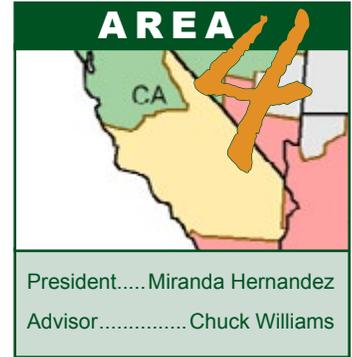
Edward Abraham
Area 3 VOA
President 2013-14



Southern California

During my term I want to visit each of the councils in my area and encourage more people to call in to our monthly conference calls. Also each area should have a VOA.

I will try and help start VOAs where none exist. We need to make sure the VOAs are stable and active. Calling in on conference calls is great but there is nothing like meeting in person.



President.....Miranda Hernandez
 Advisor..... Chuck Williams



Great Southwest

I am very excited to get my term started! Area 6 is the largest area in the Western Region and I'm committed to building on the hard work and successes Malia was able to accomplish! In the 2013-2014 term, I am determined to build up our area.

First, Communicate. We need to rededicate ourselves to reestablishing communication to distant councils. I'd like to ensure that we identify any existing Ventures in our Hawaii and Far East Council. We will accomplish this by creating a communications committee headed by our VP focused on reaching out to our youth and adults there.

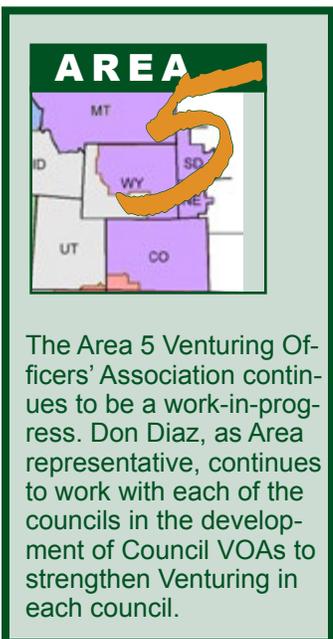
Our second goal, I'd like to see us commit to getting at least one additional and active VOA in our Area. This will be accomplished by promoting both the Venturing Leadership Award, and what Venturing as a whole can do for councils.

Lastly, I would like to ensure that we have our second area-wide event headed by our VP Program. We need to actively support this event until it is mature enough to be an established annual event. We will also promote council-wide events as well, with the help of newsletter and our Area 6 Facebook page. I am really looking forward to this upcoming term with my amazing cabinet!



Shannon Mulligan
 Area 6 VOA
 President - 2013-14

VP Comms Query of the Month



In honor of our new region VOA President Jillian Infusino's love for everything Disney, this month's VP Comms Query of the Month is:

“Who is your favorite Disney princess and why?”

President: “Princess Aurora- she is Sleeping Beauty and I like to sleep a lot”

VP Comms: “Mulan- she is an awesome singer, and saves her entire country.”

VP Program: “Princess Leia- cause Star Wars, Duh!”

VP Admin: “Belle- causes she's in love with a beast”

Area 2 President: “Rapunzel, because her hair is amazing. Plus she fights with frying pans!”

Area 3 President: Tiana- she gets to listen to the best jazz all of the time!

Area 6 President: Rapunzel- Her hair is raging, my hair is raging. Enough said.

The Area 5 Venturing Officers' Association continues to be a work-in-progress. Don Diaz, as Area representative, continues to work with each of the councils in the development of Council VOAs to strengthen Venturing in each council.

Old Salts Regatta in Area 3

In the first weekend of May, Sea Scout Ships from all around the San Francisco Bay Area and Northern California competed against other ships at the Old Salts Regatta. The event took place at the Port of Redwood City from May 3rd-5th. Of course the Sea Scouts didn't drive to the competition, Sea Scout Ships cruised from all over on Friday night to Redwood City.

On Saturday, Sea Scouts competed in various different events that challenged their maritime skills. Some of the events that took place

were knot tying, compass and relative bearings, hoisting the scuttlebutt, the Boatswain's chair, the breeches buoy, and many others. After events ended on Saturday, all of the scouts attended a dance after their hard work.

The weekend finished off with an awards ceremony in which ships were able to see how well they did in events, and whether or not they placed in the

highest category, the clipper!

Coming to the end of the regatta season, the Sea Scouts had a successful regatta and are ready for the ultimate and final regatta that they have been training for all year, the Ancient Mariner Regatta.

*-Submitted by Edward Abraham,
Area 3 VOA President, 2013-14*

Crews attending the Old Salts Regatta are judged on multiple Sea Scout skills.



Sea Scouts from Area 3 compete in the Scuttlebutt event



San Diego Imperial Council Spring Extravaganza, Area 6

This super fun event was held at San Diego Imperial Council Mataguay Scout Reservation from Friday May 10 to Sunday May 12, 2013, with over 75 participants. A highlight for us was the nighttime zipline activity. During the day we really enjoyed the High Cope Course where one of our youth, Monica, overcame her fear of heights.

Another highlight was the shooting sports. Several of our youth had never handled a firearm prior to this event, but the Spring Extravaganza gave them the perfect opportunity. There were also many team building games and competitive games. The games were very creative and it was fun to see each team competing with others. Another favorite part of the Spring Extravaganza was the Saturday night dinner. The dinner was well prepared and the food good, and we really enjoyed having the opportunity to socialize with everyone. We are looking forward to going again next year!

*By Gwyn Curry, Sea Scout Ship 1886 Boatswain and
Hannah Olson, Venturing Crew 500 President*



Venturing
SEA SCOUTING



BSA National President Headlines 5th Annual Venturing Youth Conference at Camp Pigott

This past April, we had the 5th Annual Western Region Venturing Youth Conference at Camp Pigott, hosted by the Chief Seattle Council. With record attendance of 215 people, and we had more opportunities and events for people than they could attend!

It was a spectacular event with dozens of different program activities – including shooting sports (a 50-caliber!) – 20+ classes about different aspects in Venturing, and an exciting awards dinner. We concluded an awesome weekend with a rock show, jeopardy game and a movie. It was definitely an event to attend!

This year, our keynote speaker at the awards dinner was Wayne Perry, the National President of the Boy Scouts of America, who did a phenomenal job of capturing the attention of the audience, while he talked about the upcoming Jamboree, the membership standards policy, and why Venturing is important to today's program of the Boy Scouts of America.

*Submitted by Annaliese Parker,
2012-2013 Western Region VOA President*



Participants from all six Areas participated at the Western Region Venturing Youth Conference this past April in Chief Seattle Council. Wayne Perry, BSA's National President, was keynote speaker.



Region Cabinet Visions



Zachary Frost
Communications

Communications

Hey Western Region! As this year's VP Comms, I plan on creating successful communication throughout the Western Region through effective use of the newsletters, website, and Facebook page. In my term, I want to draw the focus on to the councils, and the crews putting on activities, and to build a greater connection between the councils, their areas, and the region as a whole.

In order to facilitate communication, I plan to make four committees, one each for the website, newsletter, Facebook page, and presidential requests, such as creating flyers and other help as needed. Please contact me at vpcomms@wrventuring-bsa.org if you would like to help!

My goal for these committees is that they can work to create content for their form of media, and over the year, include articles which feature at least two thirds of councils with active VOA in them.

I'm super excited for my term, and I hope you are too!

Administration

I am the incoming Vice President of Administration for the Western Region. I am so excited for this term. A few of things that I want to accomplish are that I want to make sure I have constant connection with the area VPs of Administration. I want to make sure that they are all prepared for their position and help where it is needed. There are a lot of people in the many layers of the Western Region, and I want to have an up to date list of who is in those positions, and I want to have at all the area positions and some of the councils filled in by the beginning of August.

There is just so much information and things to discuss, and we want everyone to know about it. We encourage you all to stay up to date, and please, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me. I'm so excited for this term!

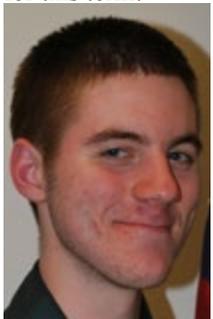


Amanda Clark
Administration

Program

Dear Western Region Venturers! Are you excited for the 2013-2014 Term?!?! CAUSE I KNOW I AM!!! This years Regional VOA Team is gearing up to be one of the best in the History of all VOA's! I'm Jeremy Felty and I will be your Vice-President of Programs for this term! And this year the Programs team is going to be super effective, on the ball, communicative, and Absolutely Outstanding! We've got new ideas lining up! We're working on cementing in the Programs Committee Members and planning some awesome regional events! We're also building our Training Committee, so all of y'all can know about all the Venturing Trainings available to you throughout the region!

If you are interested in being on any of the Region Committees or you have amazing ideas for Programs this year, shoot me an email, Facebook me, tweet me, or write me! We would love to hear your ideas! I'm Jeremy Felty! Signing off!



Jeremy Felty
Program

It has been an absolute pleasure serving as your 2012-2013 Western Region Venturing President. I am excited to see the region flourish in the future with the guidance of the next generation of region officers and cabinet members. During my term, there were several people who helped make this term a success. First, I want to thank my region and area officers for being an exceptional bunch this year and for supporting the Venturing program in every way. There is no way we could have accomplished everything without working as a team and I am eternally grateful for their service. I could not have asked for a more dedicated and enthusiastic group. I also want to thank the region and area Advisors for supporting their officers by making sure they had the necessary support to have a successful term. Each and every member of the region cabinet made this year prosperous and entertaining.

I would like to review some of the memorable things we have accomplished as a region over the past term. Starting last April, the Western Region had positive growth in membership for 10 months and we were the only growing region at the time! This is something every Venturer in the region took a part in and should celebrate. This most recent April, we had the 5th Annual Western Region Venturing Youth Conference where we attained record attendance with 215 people. It was the most successful conference to date! Our keynote speaker Wayne Perry, the President of the Boy Scouts of America, was a fantastic addition to the already exciting weekend. Last but not least, last February a few members of the leadership team decided to have a fundraiser for the Western Region VOA. We started selling the West is Best sunglasses in early February, and before March, we sold out of the first 100 pairs!

In closing, I want to thank all of the great people who have helped the region in any capacity and look forward to an even more successful term next year. I wish Jillian Infusino and the incoming region cabinet the best of luck and to take full advantage of the opportunities their positions will bring them.

Thank you all for an outstanding and amusing year. As always WEST IS BEST!

Yours in Venturing,

Annaliese Parker, 2012-13 Western Region Venturing President. 2013-14 National Venturing President



A Final Farewell from Annaliese