

## Court of Honor

Venturing Crew 192  
Snake River Council  
Sun Valley, Idaho

### VICE PRESIDENT:

Good evening. At this time, Crew 192 will present the colors.

- Will the audience please stand.
- Color guard advance.
- Color guard post the colors.
- Venturers, honor your flag.
- Will the audience please join **REPRESENTATIVE OF DAVID KETCHUM AMERICAN LEGION POST (CHARTERING ORGANIZATION)** in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Two
- Venturers, please join me in the Venturing Oath.
- Two
- Color guard, dismissed.
- Will everyone remain standing while \_\_\_\_\_ delivers the invocation.
- Thank you, **DELIVERER OF INVOCATION & AMERICAN LEGION REPRESENTATIVE.** Will the audience please be seated.

I would like to present tonight's Mistress of Ceremonies, \_\_\_\_\_ of Troop 192 and Crew 192.

### EMCEE:

Thank you, Andrew. My name is \_\_\_\_\_. It is my honor to be your emcee for this Venturing Court of Honor.

Before we begin the ceremony, I would like to introduce and welcome a few dignitaries who have joined us tonight: *(Look around room and identify those who should be introduced, including Council/District Scouting Guests, Elected Officials, Principal(s) of Schools, members of 192 Committee, etc.).*

Following this ceremony, Venturing Crew #192 invites you to join us in a reception honoring the award recipients.

By the power vested in me by the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America, I declare this Court of Honor to be duly convened.

This evening Venturing Crew 192 is honoring five of its members who have completed the requirements for recognition in various programs offered in Venturing. The five members are Amy \_\_\_\_\_, Andrew \_\_\_\_\_, Tyner \_\_\_\_\_, Ben \_\_\_\_\_ and Connor \_\_\_\_\_. This Court of Honor is unusual in its scope. Forgoing the opportunity to have individual ceremonies, the Crew unanimously decided to receive all honors together tonight, acknowledging the importance of the support they received from fellow members, while meeting their own individual goals and requirements.

BSA will celebrate its 100<sup>th</sup> birthday in the United States in 2010. At the very first executive national board meeting, an agenda item was a discussion concerning retention of older Scouts. In 1935, the BSA created Senior Scouting, offering several options including Explorers, Sea Scouts and Air Scouts. In 1949 the BSA consolidated the senior programs, with the exception of Sea Scouts, into Exploring. The Explorer advancement program included the Bronze, Gold and Silver Awards. The last Silver awards were presented in 1966, as the focus of Exploring moved to a career emphasis. For over 30 years, no Silver awards were presented. When Venturing was created by the Boy Scouts of America's executive board in 1998, the current Silver Award was re-introduced. BSA history repeated itself – and yet grew with the times.

The role of adults in Venturing is not that of a leader, for the youth are to lead themselves. Unlike in the traditional Scouting program, during the Board of Review, the youth, along with adults, review and pass off requirements of their colleagues. As adults, we are advisors. One might think the program would be diluted by this, for is not an adult required to set the bar and monitor it? No. To the contrary, while working with this Crew, I have learned again and again that there are youth who will set the bar far higher for themselves than we, as adults, would have set on their behalf. What these youth have accomplished far exceeds the expectations of the drafters of these awards. As a Venturing Crew, we rarely have “ordinary” meetings. The emphasis of this Venturing Crew is doing service. And they do it well. The **ASSOCIATE ADVISOR** of Crew 192 will provide a history of service since the Crew's formation.

### **ASSOCIATE ADVISOR:**

The Crew, and/or its members have:

- Delivered the 2004 BSA Report to the Governor;
- Met with State Senator Clint Stennett and State Rep. Wendy Jacquet;
- Been photographed by Boys Life for a feature on winter fly fishing;
- Been elected Western Region BSA Venturing President
- Cooked and served several dinners at our local soup kitchen;
- Hosted two “College Quest” seminars in which older Crew members shared with local 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students tips about the college application process;
- Served dinner to over 120 veterans at the American Legion Hall each November 11<sup>th</sup>;
- Volunteered nearly 100 total hours to the Community School Garage Sale, the largest recycling event in the Wood River Valley;
- Transcribed the history of visitors to Lookout Mountain Fire Tower and established a new system for recording thoughts of future visitors;
- Hiked to Lookout Mountain Fire Tower and performed maintenance;
- Camped out;
- Had a bowling party to recruit new members;
- Played pool at the American Legion;
- Participated in Philmont's Cavalcades;
- Completed Introduction to Red Cross Disaster Training, CPR, First Aid and Family Service;
- Completed the Venturing Leadership Skills Course;
- Participated in Ethical Controversies and Ethical Forum;

- Delivered the invocation for the 2004 National Endowment Art Tour in Pocatello;
- Organized the VLA for the Snake River Council;
- Attended the BSA Annual Meeting in Chicago

**EMCEE:**

Amy, Andrew, Ben, Connor and Tyner, please come forward. At our board of review, one of these awardees commented how amazing it was they were fully able to meet the extensive requirements for these awards. They did not get to this point alone. Parents, would you please pass your cameras to another photographer, then join your Venturer, standing one on each side of your child. Throughout the evening, the mothers will have the honor of pinning the awards on the recipients, while the fathers will receive the certificates. This journey has been a team effort. Each family has played a role in the accomplishments recognized tonight.

Many people in this room contributed to the process -- coaches, advisors, teachers, theater directors, and friends, we appreciate your wide base of support.

Tonight you will see two different types of awards presented: bars and knots or medals. One style is for the field uniform and the other for the dress uniform. Each individual selects the style that is appropriate for him or her. For the field uniform, the bronze and gold are mounted on the same bar, while the dress uniform requires two separate medals. Both types have the same significance.

When a member of Crew 192 has achieved an award, he or she has earned the right to present it at a future Court of Honor. While past award recipients are now attending West Point and Harvey Mudd, they send their congratulations to Crew members being honored tonight. Amy \_\_\_\_\_, Crew President and recipient of the VLSC, Religious Life Bronze, Venturing Gold and Venturing Silver, will represent not only herself, but also Joe and Ryan as she presents awards.

**CREW PRESIDENT; VLSC RECIPIENT:**

The first step in the Nature of Leadership program trilogy for Venturers is the Venturing Leadership Skills Course. As stated in the VLSC manual, "Leadership is one of the most challenging institutions in our society today." To earn this award, Venturers attended a three day program learning of Vision, Communication, Organization and Synergism.

Let me ask you what is wrong with this picture. Our Crew is coed. When the girls earned the VLSC, they snowshoed into a yurt, stoked a fire, melted snow for water and studied leadership for three days. When the boys underwent the training, they went to a beautiful ranch that looked like Martha Stewart had decorated it, slept on beds and made cookies!

Andrew, Ben, Connor and Tyner, I congratulate you as you receive this award. Wear the VLSC patch proudly on the right sleeve of your uniform.

**ASSOCIATE ADVISOR:** (Presents Awards)

**EMCEE:**

To address the wide variety of interests, Venturing developed the Bronze Award. The Venturer can earn a medal in one or more of the five categories: Sports, Religious Life, Arts and Hobbies, Outdoor, and Sea Scouts. The requirements for each of the Awards varies from developing a set of training rules for a sport in the Sports Award, to planning and leading a service project such as helping build a home for the poor in the Youth Ministries Award, or becoming proficient in areas such as first aid, wilderness survival, land navigation, for the Outdoors Award.

I congratulate Amy, Andrew, Tyner, Ben and Connor as they receive the Venturing Sports Bronze Award.

**ASSOCIATE ADVISOR:** (Presents Awards)

**EMCEE:**

Additionally, Amy tonight receives the Outdoor Sports Award. This represents her half way mark to the Ranger, the highest outdoor award given by BSA. Congratulations, Amy.

**ASSOCIATE ADVISOR:** (Presents Award)

**CREW PRESIDENT; GOLD AWARD RECIPIENT:**

The next step in the Venturing Awards Program is the Gold Award, with the highest level, the Silver Award, as the ultimate goal. The order seems somewhat reversed today, first gold, then silver. But when the program was established, silver was more precious than gold.

To earn the Gold Award,

- The Venturers have earned one or more Bronze Awards.
- They have served in a leadership role within the Crew or outside the Crew.
- The candidates have participated in district, council, and/or national Venturing events.
- They have set and accomplished six goals, one in each of the following areas:
  - Citizenship
  - Leadership
  - Service to others
  - Community/family
  - Outdoors
  - Total Fitness
- They have planned, prepared for and led to completion at least two crew activity projects.
- They have recited the Venturing Oath, received recommendations, and passed a review by peers, committee members, parents and advisors.

The work performed to earn this award was not all done as a group. Instead, it involved individual projects led by the individual Venturer.

Andrew, Ben, Connor and Tyner, I commend you for your work on the Venturing Gold.

**ASSOCIATE ADVISOR:** (Presents Awards)

**CREW PRESIDENT; SILVER AWARD RECIPIENT:**

To receive the highest award given in Venturing, the Silver, the candidates completed the above requirements, as well as:

- Completed an Emergency Preparedness program, including Red Cross Introduction to Disaster Training, CPR/First Aid, Disaster Family Services, and BSA Safe Swim and Safety Afloat.
- Completed the Venturing Leadership Skills Course and served in an additional leadership position.
- Completed the Ethics in Action, including Ethical Controversies and an Ethical Forum.
- Have undergone a Silver Award Review by peers, parents, committee members and advisors.

Andrew, Ben, Connor & Tyner, only two Scouts in the Wood River District have received Venturing's highest award before you. I know you have truly earned this and I congratulate you.

**ASSOCIATE ADVISOR:** (Presents the Silver Award)

**EMCEE:**

Kodiak is the second step in the Nature of Leadership Trilogy. This six-day leadership course focuses on five basic qualities of leadership while expanding on the VLSC. The five leadership "commissions" in which the Venturer receives hands-on training are Effective Teamwork, Values/Vision, Communications, Decision Making, and Planning. Crew 192's Kodiak experience was unique: camping out in the middle of our town, providing service for the largest annual event in our community, while learning and immediately applying leadership skills.

Kodiak X is the final step in the Trilogy. This two-day leadership course provides those who have completed the Kodiak course with the opportunity to put into practice the skills they have learned. Additionally, two new commissions are presented, Evaluating Performance and Mentoring. Amy, Andrew, Ben, Connor and Tyner, you, along with Anneka, are the first youth in the United States to have completed the Kodiak X program. As such, you know you might have the opportunity to travel around the US instructing youth in leadership.

The accomplishments of Crew 192 during Kodiak went far beyond earning the award. In their final evaluation of Wagon Days, each offered 15 suggestions to improve the event. I am pleased to report that each Venturer had at least one suggestion that will be implemented by the Wagon Days Committee and Cities of Ketchum and Sun Valley.

The Community School received a letter thanking these youth for service performed in conjunction with Kodiak. I would like to ask our **ASSOCIATE ADVISOR** to read the letter of commendation.

**ASSOCIATE ADVISOR:**

“The Wagon Days Committee would like to commend Amy \_\_\_\_\_, Andrew \_\_\_\_\_, Tyner \_\_\_\_\_, Ben \_\_\_\_\_ and Connor \_\_\_\_\_ for their enthusiasm and service during Wagon Days 2004. Many volunteers work to produce this successful event; however, their commitment was exceptional.

The students were assigned to both the new Rendezvous and the Red Barn Camp Ivan registration. Six youth volunteered and were selected for this demanding service. During the event, these TCS students provided over 415 hours of service, as they worked during the days and remained “on call” for late registrants while camping with the staff in Camp Ivan. The youth team was selected for maturity and dedication. Responsibilities included monitoring completion of liability, tax and registration forms; safety; greeting participants; directing parking of large rigs; providing information; distributing packets; serving breakfast to the parade participants; and conflict resolution.”

The letter goes on to specifically thank each youth for additional individual service they provided.

**EMCEE:**

With help from family and friends during Wagon Days, the Crew received a Starbucks Make your Mark grant. These funds will be used to purchase audiovisual equipment for the Snake River Council.

You completed Kodiak with style – and insight. You are all excellent, proven leaders. Rick and I have spent 11 days working with you as you earned the three leadership awards. It was a pleasure and we are so proud of you. Wear this bear claw on the button of your right pocket. Congratulations.

**ASSOCIATE ADVISOR:** (Present the Awards)

**EMCEE:**

The final Award for which the Venturers will receive recognition this evening is the Quest: Venturing’s Ultimate Sports and Fitness Award. The Quest requires Venturers to research and understand good nutritional habits, participate in athletic activities, and design a personal exercise plan based upon their lifestyle.

The Venturers were required to complete five core requirements in the Sports Bronze Award, First Aid, Fitness for Life, Fitness Assessment and Sports Disciplines, and complete one elective, which they did together, History and Heritage of Sports. ...

Amy, Andrew, Ben, Connor and Tyner, congratulations on earning this challenging medal.

**ASSOCIATE ADVISOR:** (Presents the Awards)

**EMCEE:**

This concludes the Crew's ceremony honoring those Venturers who have exemplified the meaning of Venturing: "*Venturing is a catalyst. Venturing is a guided discovery. Venturing is an empowering experience.*" I declare this Court of Honor closed and turn the program over to Crew Vice President, Andrew \_\_\_\_\_.

**VICE PRESIDENT:**

- Will the audience please stand.
- Color guard, advance.
- Venturers, honor your flag.
- Color guard, retire the colors.
- Two.

Please join us in celebrating these awards at the reception which will begin momentarily. Thank you for your support, for attending tonight's ceremony and marking this special night.