

## Venturers in Pittsburgh Monkey Around VOA Combines Training with Fun!

Greater Pittsburgh Council VOA

By M. Robert Marks



Members of the Amish Monkeys Improv Group pose with Venturers after the show.



**Course Director**

It all started with the need to run a council-wide Venturing Leadership Skills Course (VLSC).

Anyone who has attended a VLSC knows it is a series of fun activities strung together to learn about the leadership in four modules: Vision, Communication, Organization and Synergism. I wondered out loud "why would anyone come to a VLSC if it was only a training? Why can't we make the entire event FUN!" After



**Participants try their hand at "Blind Triangle"**

some brainstorming we arrived at a win-win-win: leadership training, with food, and a comedy show.

A staff luncheon assured everything was set-up and ready to go. Participants started arriving at 1:00. The VLSC went smoothly and quickly. Before we knew it there were 15 newly trained leaders being given their VLSC patch.

After a short hike through camp, the Venturers returned to find three HUGE 4 foot diameter pizzas waiting for them – which they devoured with ease.

We headed to McDonalds for McFlurries for dessert then over to the comedy club for a night of laughter and fun with the Amish Monkeys. The Monkeys provided G rated comedy that was perfect for our group. As it turned out, the Venturers and parents were more than half the audience and we participated in the entire show!



**Go ahead – "Interrupt me!"**