



## *The Dulaney District Advancement Committee Venturing News*

18 February 2016

### Venture Crew Leaders of Dulaney District:

The following is excerpted from the National Advancement News, Jan-Feb 2016 issue:

#### 1. Venturing Summit Award: Meet the First Recipient!

The first generation of Venturing Summit Award recipients has been recognized over the last few months. **Jeremy Felty** of Chief Seattle Council has the distinction of being the first recipient of the Venturing Summit Award, earned on February 16, 2015. Let's take the opportunity for Jeremy to describe, in his own words, his advancement highlights along the Summit trail:



**Pathfinder Award:** The adventure that I led for my Pathfinder Award was the National Jamboree at the Bechtel Summit in 2013. As President for my council contingent crew, my responsibilities included juggling trips home from Oregon to Washington to meet with my crew, recruiting new members, preparing to fly to West Virginia, as well as leading the crew while at the Jamboree. I also had to coordinate with the council that we partnered with, assist with fundraising, help people coordinate their program activities, and coordinate our tour.

**Mentoring another Venturer as they led an adventure:** I participated as a member of my crew's trek to Philmont in 2014. I mentored the trek leader before and throughout the trek. It was great to impart some of the knowledge I had learned from when I had served as trek leader in 2011 and to share what I learned about in my time in Venturing. I shared advice about motivating others, teamwork, and responsibility. We had a very successful trek and our group bonded.

**Summit Award service project:** I organized and led a trail building project. The primary focus of the project was building a trail turnpike, which is a trail device used to manage run-off and prevent silt pollution. The entire project took a full day of work, with about 20-25 volunteers. All of the materials were donated by the Newberry Hill Heritage Group, which was a great help to my project. Much like the Eagle Scout service project, I was responsible for organizing, securing resources, and leading the project to completion.

**Summit Award lessons:** Earning the Summit Award taught me to work hard for my goals, because anything can be accomplished with the right amount of effort and dedication. I had to manage my schoolwork, job, and

social life along with my Venturing commitments, which taught me good time management and balancing skills.

### **What advice would you give to a new Venturer in the program as he/she strives to work their way through the Venturing Advancement structure?**

Time management is a huge aspect of Venturing, because you have so many things going on at this age, but you want to make sure that you devote enough attention to each. Make sure that you plan accordingly and you can achieve all of your goals, both inside and outside of Venturing.

Jeremy remains busy as a member of two Venturing Crews: Crew 1552 (Chief Seattle Council) and Crew 141 (Oregon Trails Council).

## **2. District Advancement Committee Needs:**

With the advent of the new Summit Award, the Dulaney District Advancement Committee will require the addition of at least one, and possibly two new members concerned specifically with Venturer Advancement. The Summit Award will require a final review process similar to what is now used for the Eagle Scout Award. Thus, we will need someone specifically knowledgeable with the Venturing program and the requirements of the Summit Award to organize and conduct the final advancement review process. Volunteers are requested to contact Rick Shaw, information below.



## **3. Serving ADHD Youth —Scouting Provides Structure and Focus:**

The mission of the Boy Scouts of America—“to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law”—has provided a structure, challenge, and an outdoor physical focus that have helped many of these boys succeed. For that reason, Scouting has long been a great program for youth who have Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, or ADHD, and for many, their successes have not just been while they are Scouts, but have continued throughout their lives.

### **Why is Scouting a great program for youth who have ADHD?**

First of all, Scouting is a well-thought-out, highly structured program that provides a step-by-step sequence of skills for Scouts to master. It promises fun, friendship, and adventure. Scouting offers frequent *positive* recognition and develops social skills and leadership skills. Scouting employs a leadership and training model, EDGE—Explain, Demonstrate, Guide, and Enable—which, through systematic Explanation, interactive Demonstration, and Guided practice, Enables Scouts with ADHD to discover and develop their unique strengths and interests.

### **As a Scout leader, what if my unit does not have any ADHD youth?**

In 2007, an American Medical Association (AMA) study showed that the cumulative incidence of definite ADHD based on DSM-IV criteria was 7.4% by age 19 years. Therefore, at some point virtually every Scout unit is likely to experience having a youth who has ADHD. For example, in a survey conducted in the Three Fires Council, headquartered in St. Charles, Illinois, in early 2014, the percentage of Scouts reported by units as having ADHD turned out, not surprisingly, to be 7%! It is important for leaders to be aware of this incidence and strategies they can use that will help facilitate a successful Scouting experience for these youth, their fellow Scouts, and the adult leadership.

### **As a Scout with ADHD, what if my unit does not have any other ADHD youth?**

From any youth’s perspective, the choice of Scouting unit will make a difference. The youth and his parents should look at several units in their vicinity and select one that best fits the youth’s particular strengths and

interests. A unit where the volunteers understand disabilities and are comfortable working with youth who have them is often the best fit for youth who have ADHD.

### **What training is available?**

A training course for working with Scouts who have ADHD is currently provided to commissioners. This course can also assist unit leaders in planning a Scouting program that provides youth who have ADHD with opportunities to succeed. It is structured to provide practical tips to parents and to leaders, but the tips being given are not just beneficial for youth who have ADHD, but also for every youth in the program.

### **A Successful ADHD Strategy Outcome**

Scout Johnny was a youth who had ADHD. He was often disruptive during training activities. Often leaders would employ the “time-out” approach when disruption occurred, but with minimal effectiveness in the small meeting room. On one such occurrence, when the boys were learning about map reading, Johnny was disrupting the class. The Scoutmaster casually took Johnny aside and explained that his behavior was making it hard for his fellow Scouts to learn the skill. As an alternative, the Scoutmaster assigned Johnny to teach the map reading course the following week.

The following week, Johnny taught the class with such a degree of preparation and knowledge that everyone was spellbound—the Scoutmaster had accidentally found one of Johnny’s strengths, in so doing, had hit up-on a strategy for troop success, as well!

P.S. Johnny went on to earn his Eagle Scout rank two years later.

Yours in Scouting;

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