



The Dulaney District Advancement Committee *Venturing News*

7 February 2019

Venture Crew Leaders of Dulaney District:

Most of the following is excerpted from the National Advancement News, Nov-Dec 2018 & Jan-Feb 2019 issue:

1. Venturing Summit Award Project Examples:

In order to earn the Venturing Summit Award, a Venturer must organize and provide leadership over the completion of a service project. The project is proposed, planned, and lead by the Venturer. As a guide, a Venturer must use the Venturing Summit Award Workbook found here: <http://www.venturing.org/assets/summit-project-workbook.pdf>

The hardest part is often coming up with a project. Here are several service project examples that might work for Venturers:

- Install a flag pole in an appropriate area
- Build bird houses
- Create a nature trail at a developing nature center
- Design and create a disc golf course
- Film a safety video
- Create a memorial
- Create care packages for kids in need or our armed forces
- Build a gazebo
- Install new equipment on a playground
- Host a toy drive

The ideas are endless! The important thing is to think of what the youth is passionate about and what they may be good at. Next, they can take that passion and apply it to a related project!

2. Eagle, Summit, Quartermaster Highlights: Eagle Scout Proposal Approval – What Is Expected?

After a Life Scout chooses an idea for an Eagle Scout service project the next important step is to prepare a project proposal, and have it approved. Approvals are required from the unit leader, a unit committee representative, the project beneficiary, and a council or district representative. The criteria that individuals approving project proposals must consider for determining if the project is acceptable are specified in topic 9.0.2.7 of the *Guide to Advancement*. Keep in mind that the proposal is an overview, but also the *beginning* of planning. It shows the approvers that the following five tests can be met.

1. The project provides sufficient opportunity to meet the requirement.

To meet this test there must be opportunity for planning and developing the project, for giving leadership to others, and determining the project will be "helpful" to the beneficiary. Planning and development require forethought

from the candidate to organize a successful project effort rather than just following directions prepared by someone else. The leadership component is met by organizing and directing others who help carry out the project. Finally, by having a project that is “helpful,” we show that we intend for the project to have a positive impact for the beneficiary, although that does not mean that the project must have lasting value.

3. The project appears to be feasible.

Is it a project the Scout is capable of planning and developing and also managing to a successful conclusion? Is it reasonable to believe that the Scout will be able to obtain the necessary resources (material, supplies, and people) to properly carry out the project? Note that the second test says, “*appears* to be feasible.”

4. Safety issues will be addressed.

The Scout is aware of potential safety issues and hazards and will address them in the project plan. The safety issues do not need to be addressed or solved in the proposal. Assurance needs to be given that the Scout is aware of the issues and that those issues will be addressed in the project plan. Since an Eagle Scout project is a unit activity, unit adult leadership has the same responsibility to assure safety while conducting a project as with any other unit activity.

5. Action steps for further detailed planning are included.

Does the proposal include some action steps for preparing the project plan? Those steps don't need to be very detailed, but they should provide a simple “road map” that the Scout can follow when developing the project plan. These action steps are critical to the final test.

6. The Scout is on the right track with a reasonable chance for a positive experience.

Does the Scout's proposal demonstrate a good understanding of what is to be accomplished? Is it reasonable to believe that the proposed project has a good chance of providing the Scout a successful outcome that will contribute to personal growth and development? It *doesn't* have to guarantee success.

The detail required for a proposal depends on the project's complexity. Details provided must be enough to provide a level of confidence for a council or district reviewer that the above five tests can be met, but not so much detail that—based on the possibility that a proposal can be rejected—it does not respect the time it takes to prepare the proposal.

For further information and insight see [Guide to Advancement topics 9.0.2.3 - 9.0.2.5 and 9.0.2.14.](#)

3. Reflecting on 20 Years of Venturing:

Venturing was started in February of 1998 – that is 20 years of growth and development for our youth! You may have noticed some of the special patches and celebrations throughout this past year. Venturing was able to celebrate together at Venturing Fest this past summer as the first-ever National Venturing Event at the Summit.

Over these 20 years, Venturing's awards and recognition, and advancement structure have undergone some significant revisions

- Change from the structure of a Bronze Award, Gold Award, Silver Award to the new structure of Venturing Award, Discovery Award, Pathfinder Award, and Summit Award. More than 240 Venturers have earned the Summit Award since it replaced the Silver Award in 2014.
- The program has changed to include the ALPS model (Adventure, Leadership, Personal Growth, and Service) which allows Venturers to strengthen their character development in these focus areas.
- Across the country, Venturing has created Venturing Officers Associations as entities to help grow and strengthen Venturing within their respective areas.
- The Council Standards of Venturing Excellence Award (CSVE) which has been used to strengthen councils for years, will take on a new name in 2019. This will be known as the Venturing Journey to Excellence Award (VJTE).

- Ninety six youth and 78 adults have been awarded the National Venturing Leadership Awards (National VLA) for outstanding contributions to the program which have helped to develop and improve the Venturing program as a whole.

Many memories have been created in the program. Take a moment to reflect on your favorite Venturing memory. Venturing will soon be turning 21 and many more great things will continue to come. Before you know it, we will be celebrating the next big milestone together!

Yours in Scouting;

Rick Shaw
Dulaney District Advancement Chairman
410-823-8522
ricncork@erols.com

