



Jan, 2009

## *Important dates and upcoming events*

Jan 3<sup>rd</sup> Crew 007 – RI News Years Dance

Jan 3<sup>rd</sup> VLSC Training

Jan 10<sup>th</sup> – Artic Camping Expo

Jan 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> Road to Ranger

April 18th - Spring Scout-O at Hale

Orienteering Event, <http://www.ktc-bsa.org/scouto.htm>

May 1st -3rd Venture Quest 2009

May 15th – 17th V Games @ Camp Norse

May – June – Powder Horn

August 9<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> Camp Nautical

### *Crews Helping Crews*

This newsletter has been formed with the specific purpose to advertise Crew activities that are taking place in New England.

**Email us @ [thevhc@verizon.net](mailto:thevhc@verizon.net) with your news and events....**

### *Cataloging crews*

We are now undertaking one of the most ambitious, most extensive, most minded bogging efforts to catalog every crew we can find. You may be asking how we plan to do this. It's a very simple, yet ingenious, system. You tell us. I know, it's brilliant! So just walk over to your computer, go to [www.thevhc.com](http://www.thevhc.com), and fill out our survey.



## *Getting Back to the Basics*

**What is fire?** Science tells us it's just a chemical reaction which results in heat and light, but isn't fire so much more? It holds so much power; since man first lifted the burning branch we have begun to reach for the heavens. Almost every culture tells stories of fire being a divine gift from the gods to man, and it might be. But more than all that, and most important of all, it brings us together. For thousands of years, we have crowded around the bon fire, which is maybe why it holds so much fascination for us. Have you ever been alone in a dark forest? It's scary; but it's not the dark that scares us. We fear what we don't understand, what we can't see coming. And it is this fear which has allowed us to thrive in the merciless world. People crowded together around fires to banish the darkness, and the ignorance. People began to share thoughts and ideas, in an effort to understand the world, and what lies within the darkness. We banded together in tribes and bands, and developed culture and music and begun to unravel the mysteries of the world. And that is true today; despite all our fancy gizmos and games, most people are content to sit around the campfire and just talk. Why? We feel safe. Safe from the forest, the dark, the world, and ourselves. The most enlightening discussions I've ever heard took place around the campfire, and it's a rare opportunity now a days. So when the sun goes down, light a fire and scare the forest away.



.....MKS

web site [www.thevhc.com](http://www.thevhc.com)

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Mark Chutjian email: [the.scoutmaster@comcast.net](mailto:the.scoutmaster@comcast.net) or (774)254-5326

Do you have a Dutch oven, foil dinner, or one pot meal recipe that you would like to share? Send us an email and we will post your recipe for everyone to enjoy.



## Rescue Chicken

Serves 6-8

### Ingredients:

- 5 lbs mixed chicken pieces
- 1 small [5 oz] bottle Worcestershire Sauce
- 1 Tbsp. garlic powder
- 4 medium to large onions
- 8-oz bottle french dressing
- 16-oz [approx.] jar apple jelly [apricot tastes good too]
- 3 cups of 5-minute rice
- 1 tsp. salt, 1/2 tsp. pepper
- 1 cup of water
- cooking oil or margarine

### Directions:

Break up chicken into small pieces. Brown it in an oiled fry pan. Peel and cut onions, then sauté in oiled fry pan. Pack chicken into bottom of dutch oven that has been greased with oil or margarine. Mix all the remaining ingredients together and pour over chicken. Apply hot briquettes to the oven in the standard manner (five under, about 25 on top). Check oven in about 20 minutes. If the chicken on the bottom is burning or looks like it might, take oven off of the bottom briquettes. The meal is ready to serve when chicken sort of falls apart. Add salt and pepper to taste.

## Arctic Camping Expo

Saturday, January 10, 2009

10:30 am – 3:30 pm

Sayre Scout Reservation  
411 Unquity Road, Milton, MA



New and Improved!!! This year's event will feature some outdoor demos – so dress warm!!!

The Arctic Camping Exposition (ACE) is a fun opportunity to learn more about how to enjoy the outdoors in the winter – whether in New England or the Arctic Circle. At ACE, you will gain skills needed for winter camping, snowshoeing, and skiing. Learn how to build igloos and snow caves, find wildlife, use a GPS....and many other ways to have lots of winter fun!

Participants will choose their own route through ACE's exhibits and hands-on activities, learning more about how to be prepared in the cold weather. Participants may arrive at any time during the exposition to begin their "Arctic Trek" -- but they should allow at least an hour and a half to complete their journey through the exposition (and earn their *way cool* ACE patch!). **All treks will start at Hayden Lodge.** If you will be attending over lunchtime, please bring your own provisions.

ACE is designed for all scouts and adult leaders interested in winter outdoor fun.

All units are strongly encouraged to send at least their key adult and youth leaders to ACE – but any and all interested scouts from all units are encouraged to attend this exciting Expo.

**Register online first / pay online or at the door.** A \$5/person entrance fee includes admission, handouts, and materials ... plus a special commemorative ACE patch! Register online (click on the "Register >>" button below) in advance. You can then pay online or pay at the door (if you wish to pay at the door, then select your "Payment Type" as "Mail/Offline" and just pay at the day of the event).!

Any questions about this event? If so, please email [rlogan109@gmail.com](mailto:rlogan109@gmail.com)

web site [www.thevhc.com](http://www.thevhc.com)

Bob Smith email: [rsmith01@verizon.net](mailto:rsmith01@verizon.net) or (508)813-6571

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## The Road to Ranger Weekend January 16th – 18th

**Please help us save the Road to Ranger Event.** To date few have registered. If you are not ready to commit with payment, but want to go, please email us @ [thevhc@verizon.net](mailto:thevhc@verizon.net) to let us know that you are coming. We need to have a minimum number of participants to run this event.



This weekend is similar to a Scouting University, but for Venturing Crews and lone Venturing Scouts interested in working towards their Bronze and Ranger awards. The weekend will be a mix of training and instruction in First Aid, Emergency Preparedness, Cooking, Land Navigation and Orienteering, and Leave No Trace. After a hard day in classes the crews will be able to unwind at socials and movies "Annawon style". The cost for the weekend event is \$50.00. Your admission will include a bunk in a warm cabin and all your meals at the Camp Norse Dining Hall, and a "Road to Ranger" tee shirt.

Road to Ranger is designed to help Venturers and Crew Advisors facilitate advancement to the Ranger Award. Crews can attend as a unit or Individual Venturers can attend

The following courses are being offered this year's Road to Ranger.

**Cooking** – This course is being taught by the Camp Norse's own chef ..Bruce Oldmixon

**First aid** – This course is being taught by EMT Jason Foote and his team of Instructors.hands on instruction

**Emergency Preparedness** – This course is being taught by the Norton CERT team and members of the Norton Emergency management [NEMA]

**Land Navigation** – By Bruce Wester of The New England Orienteering Club

**Leave No Trace** – By Ken Nagy a Leave No Trace trainer from the Application Mountain Club

## V Games at Norse..

The date has been set for the next V Games Challenge to be held at Camp Norse on the weekend of May 15th 17th, 2009 Please mark it on your crew calendars



and come compete for the cup. This weekend is a great recruiting tool to build your crews. Have your crewites bring along friends to show them how much Venturing can be.

**if you have questions or want more information please email us @ [v\\_games@verizon.net](mailto:v_games@verizon.net)**

## Powder Horn

This is a two weekend course

May 29<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>  
June 12<sup>th</sup> – 14th



Powder Horn is a high adventure resource-management course. It's designed to motivate and prepare adult Venturing leaders as they plan and do high adventure activities as part of the crew program.

<http://www.ktc-bsa.org/pdf/PowderHorn09Flver.pdf>

## We need your information for this newsletter....

**So if you have an upcoming fund raising activity, advertise it here**

**If you have something to sell that another Scouter, Troop, Pack, or Crew could use, advertise it here**

**If you have something to give away, give it a way here**

**If you have an event that is just plan cool, tell us about it here**

**If your council has a special event coming up, tell us about it here.**

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# Sea Scouts



All,  
This is a call going out for  
instructors needed for Sea  
Scout Summer Camp-  
Camp Nautical.

When: Sunday AM, August 9

through Saturday PM, August 15, 2009

**Where:** June Norcross Webster Scout  
Reservation Ashford, Connecticut

Details: Camp Nautical is an opportunity for any  
Sea Scout attending to gain skills and  
experience.

I am looking for adults from the Community,  
Power Squadron, SUBVETS and Sub base  
Sailors who are knowledgeable to teach a  
nautical subject. The needed instructors are  
broken down by subject and each subject to  
take about one hour. I expect there to be a  
small demand on time for the actual course  
plus planning time.

The courses are planned for the morning and  
evening time periods. My thought was to find  
instructors who could have the morning or  
evening available on the day of the course and  
join us for a meal (i.e. Breakfast or Lunch or  
Dinner).

Attached you will find the summer camp flier,  
course requirements and preliminary schedule.  
The schedule of courses can be moved around  
to meet your availability.

Please respond to me if you are interested.  
Thanks for your support of Scouting.

**Marshall Parsons**

**Skipper of the Sea Scout Ship Dragon**

**- Ship 584**

[twinpars@earthlink.net](mailto:twinpars@earthlink.net)

<http://subvetsgroton.org/seascout/default.asp>

<http://www.seascout.org/index.html>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mebVB4QtGml>

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**Camp Norse has a new  
hand gun range &  
program for Venturing  
crews**

Venturing Crews are invited to come on down  
to Camp Norse and rent a cabin and have a  
“food, fire, and fun weekend” to chase away the  
winter blues. Camp Norse has very affordable  
cabin rentals complete with wood stoves to  
keep you warm. We have an outdoor pistol  
range where all the shooting is down under a  
roof, so you can comfortably shoot in any  
weather. Camp Norse is located in Kingston,  
MA and is striving to be the place to “V”



If your Crew is interested in shooting handguns  
or handgun instruction. Please contact Rick  
Sitte @ [scouter-rick@comcast.net](mailto:scouter-rick@comcast.net) to make  
plans to bring your crew down to Camp Norse  
for a weekend of camping and our handgun  
program. We have the handguns and the  
instructors on staff ready to go.

For Cabin rental information please go to  
[www.annawonbsa.org](http://www.annawonbsa.org) and follow the link on the  
right to Camp Norse information.





**Congratulations** to Mitchell Kennedy- Smith, and David Chutjian of Crew 007 Attleboro Falls, MA. for obtaining the rank of Eagle. Both young men are still very active in their Venturing Crew. This summer they went on a Philmont Trek and both are looking forward to going back and hiking a section of the A.T Trail next spring.

**Congratulations** to Gianmarco Bucky and his brother Stefano Bucky for obtaining the rank of Eagle Scout. Both brothers are members of Sea Scout Ship 584. This is an occasion for pride and joy as well as a time for reflection. The Eagle award is the highest rank that Scouting offers. It is earned through the scout advancement program. Marco and Stefano Bucky have distinguished themselves through their continued, active service in Scouting. They are trained and practiced in leadership abilities, and are marked by character and actions, as an example to those who will follow them.

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## ***Thorns & Roses [and Buds] on 2008***

With 2009 starting just the other day, I find that now is a good time to reflect on 2008 on-top of looking forward to the coming year. I learned a great game while hiking through the many acres of Philmont Scout Ranch in Cimarron New Mexico; Thorns and Roses. We played this game every night out on the trail and used it to reflect on the day and look forward to the next day. The thorns were what was difficult about the day or what we didn't like, the roses what we loved, and the buds were what we looked forward to in the coming days.

In 2008 my roses were plentiful in both my scouting life and regular life. For scouting: In February and March we went leap year camping at Massasoit Campground and froze but warmed up with the best fried chicken and rice pilaf I've ever had! In May my crew and I had not only the privilege but the pleasure to partake in the first ever V-

Games and win! [I also got out of school early to help set up!!!] In June we went to Provincetown down on the tip of Cape Cod. Here we all went shopping on the main road and then at night danced in the streets to the tunes of Portuguese singers. This was great; I never knew how good the crewites were at dancing! In August I had the time of my life on a vacation to Philmont Scout Ranch and I have full intentions on returning someday. In October we threw an amazing Halloween Bash that didn't end until really late at night. Also in October we all made appearances at Mass Jam and I learned how to make a candle stick holder with my eyes closed and the others learned how to make logs into bridges that held small children if not larger and older ones. In November we had an awards night along with Thanksgiving dinner. I got my chance to play Master of Ceremonies and embarrassed myself immensely. There's really nothing better than embarrassing yourself and others at the same time.

For thorns... there weren't that many. But depending on how you look at them, some were also roses. For instance, at Massasoit I was freezing cold, well yeah, that is a thorn all around. But the tall mountains in New Mexico that strained my lungs could be seen as a victory of self. Or the fact that I got severely sunburned on our Cape trip, along with many others. Well that also wasn't good all around. But overall, the good made up for the bad every time.

Buds.... These are hard to think of. But I have a few. For instance, I'm psyched for Road to Ranger in January and the New Year's dance we were invited to. V-Games is shaping up quickly into something even more spectacular than last year. Let's just see if my crew can take it home again! Also, we've decided to hike a section of the Appalachian Trail this year which I'm really looking forward too.

Many take a new year as an opportunity to look forward to what they are going to do in the next year. Whether it's to loose weight or to fall in love or whatever. But me, I find that while living in the past is bad, forgetting the past is even worse. I enjoy being nostalgic occasionally, especially in January. So reminisce, smile, even cry tears of joy and go forward into the New Year with those unforgettable memories close to your heart.

...Rosie

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# "Camp Nautical" Seamanship Skills Training

*Did you recently just join a Ship and want to meet other youth with your interest?*

When: Sunday AM, August 9 through Saturday PM, August 15, 2009

Where: June Norcross Webster Scout Reservation Ashford, Connecticut

Cost: \$350.00 per Sea Scout (includes meals, 2 person tents w/cots)

Details: Camp Nautical is an opportunity for any Sea Scout attending to gain skills and experience. Advancement can be a source of pride and measure of your success in Scouting. Advancement in Sea Scouting is a measure of your nautical knowledge and your performance as a leader.

The Seamanship Program will allow you experience most of the requirements needed for the Rank of Ordinary. With structured courses in the morning and evening you will learn about boats, marlinespike seamanship, ground tackle, piloting, communications, time, swimming, cruising, safety, galley, sailing, drill, compass, signaling, quarterdeck leadership training and ornamental rope work. You will find fun in the in the afternoons devoted to free time. You will graduate with a report of your accomplishments, new friends and memories to last a lifetime.

**Sea Scouting is an adventure on sea and land - for you, young men and women between the ages of 14 and 21.**

If you are in search of a variety then consider the Aquatics Program. This includes opportunities for fun and advancement in a wide variety of aquatic programs and interests.

- ✓ Lifeguard BSA
  - ✓ Mile Swim
  - ✓ Snorkeling BSA
  - ✓ Kayak BSA
  - ✓ SCUBA
  - ✓ Kayak Instruction
  - ✓ Whitewater Merit Badge
  - ✓ River
- Kayak Trip
- ✓ Motor Boating Merit Badge
  - ✓ Rowing Merit Badge
  - ✓ Small-Boat Sailing Merit Badge
  - ✓ Swimming Merit Badge
  - ✓ Water Sports Merit Badge
  - ✓ Small Boat Handler

More Information: See Registration and Program Guide <http://www.jnwebster.org/venturing.html>

Contact with your interest:

Marshall Parsons  
 (860) 448-1215  
 Commodore of CT Rivers Squadron  
 Skipper of the Sea Scout Ship Dragon - Ship 584  
[seascout1@subvetsgroton.org](mailto:seascout1@subvetsgroton.org)  
<http://subvetsgroton.org/seascout/default.aspx>  
<http://www.seascout.org/index.html>  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mebVB4QtGml>

Patrick S. Boyd  
 Director, June Norcross Webster Scout Reservation  
 Connecticut Rivers Council, BSA  
 231 Ashford Center Road  
 Ashford, Connecticut 06278  
 860-429-9918  
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Connecticut Yankee Council

Boy Scouts of America



The youth leaders of Connecticut Yankee Council are proud to present



### Venturing Leadership Skills Course



The VLSC was created to help teach young adults the attitudes and skills that good leaders demonstrate. The course is designed for all crew members to participate with their unit. Completion of this course is a requirement for the Venturing Silver Award.

**Saturday, January 3, 2009 - 8:00AM - 5:30PM**

Trumbull LDS Church, 30 Bonnie View Dr, Trumbull, CT

Cost **\$15.00** - includes training materials, VLSC certificate and patch, lunch and snacks.

For more information, please contact:

Jen Amidon - 203-261-8528 - [jennettie@earthlink.net](mailto:jennettie@earthlink.net)

Jonathan Glassman - 203-876-6868 ext. 238 - [jonathan.glassman@scouting.org](mailto:jonathan.glassman@scouting.org)

**Venturing Leadership Skills Course - January 3, 2009**

**(Account # 1-2629-599-00)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, ST Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Course Fee: **\$15.00**


Payment Method (circle one):    Cash                      Check                      Credit Card

Credit Card (circle one):    Visa                      MasterCard                      American Express

Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Send to:    Connecticut Yankee Council BSA, PO Box 32, Milford, CT 06460  
Attn: Jonathan Glassman



Celebrate the New Year  
Vegas Style!

Venture Crew Dance!

Hosted by Crew 007  
Slatersville, RI

Scouter's Hall (3 Main  
Street, Slatersville, RI)

January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009 at 7:00!

Bring food/drink or \$5!

All are welcome to sleep  
over