

## Venturing

Venturing is a youth-development program for young men and women who are 14 (and have completed the eighth grade) through 20 years of age. It is

- Designed to help meet the needs, wants, and problems of this young adult generation.
- A novel program that includes emphasis on outdoor, high-adventure activities while providing members with community service, fitness, and social activities under the guidance of experienced adults.
- A great way for young men and women to learn leadership and problem-solving skills that will help them mature into confident, successful adults.

**PURPOSE:** Venturing is an effective coed young-adult program designed to improve character, citizenship, and fitness through positive experiences and activities that prepare them to become responsible and caring adults.

**PROGRAM:** Venturing is based on a unique and dynamic relationship between youth and adult Advisors serving as resources and mentors. The resulting program is filled with exciting and meaningful activities that help youth pursue their special interests; to grow; to develop personal, social, and leadership skills; and to become good citizens.

**METHODS:** Venturing has been carefully designed to achieve the aims of the Boy Scouts of America and meet the needs of young adults. Included in the methods of Venturing are

- **Leadership.** Opportunities to apply proven leadership skills are provided to the Venturers.
- **Group Activities** are interdependent group experiences in which success is dependent on the cooperation of all.
- **Adult Association.** Working closely with adult Advisors and other adult leaders, the youth officers lead the crew. The adults serve in a “shadow” leader capacity.
- **Recognition** comes through the Venturing advancement program and through the acknowledgement of a youth’s competence and ability by peers and adults.
- **The Ideals.** Venturers are expected to know and live by the Venturing Oath and Code. They promise to be faithful in their religious duties, treasure their American heritage, to help others, and to seek truth and fairness.



Specifically, the BSA endeavors to develop American citizens who are physically, mentally, and emotionally fit, and have a high degree of self-reliance as evidenced in such qualities as initiative, courage, and resourcefulness.



- **High Adventure.** Venturing’s emphasis on high adventure helps provide team-building opportunities, new meaningful experiences, practical leadership application, and lifelong memories to young adults.
- **Teaching Others.** All of the Venturing awards require Venturers to teach what they have learned to others. In so doing, they strengthen their knowledge, gain confidence, and acquire skills that can benefit them for the rest of their lives.

## Organizing a Scouting Unit

- AMVETS post leadership is informed about Scouting.
- AMVETS post officially adopts Scouting and agrees to organize a unit or units.
- A chartered organization representative is appointed by the post.
- The chartered organization representative appoints an organizing committee of local parents and other interested adults.
- An orientation session is held with prospective Scouts and their parents.
- The organizing committee identifies and recruits unit leaders and committee members.
- The leaders are trained in program planning (Fast Start training).
- The program is planned for at least the first six months.
- Youth are registered.
- Unit meetings begin.
- Unit is installed and the charter is presented at a formal ceremony held at a meeting of the post.



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### How do you get started?

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Quality Programs = Membership

# AMVETS and the Boy Scouts of America



## SERVING AMERICA TOGETHER

Currently, 44 AMVETS posts charter Scout units that serve 1,158 youth and families.

Our potential is unlimited!



## Benefits to AMVETS

Your post is fulfilling its mission by providing a service to the community that offers a time-tested, high-quality youth program and strengthens your community outreach.

A leader since 1944 in preserving the freedoms secured by America's armed forces, AMVETS provides not only support for veterans and the active military in procuring their earned entitlements, *but also community services that enhance the quality of life* for this nation's citizens.

Scouting partnerships have the potential to help AMVETS accomplish one of its major membership objectives of reaching out to the National Guard and Reserves. Currently, only 24 percent of our membership is between the ages of 18 and 54. Guard and Reserve members typically have younger families and are looking to affiliate not only with organizations they have a personal interest in, but also with those that are "family friendly."

Chartering a Scout unit can create opportunities for post members to set patriotic examples for young Scouts and become even more active in their post by serving as Scout leaders. Scouts, their parents, and their leaders can also be a major source of manpower in accomplishing other community service projects.

**The Boy Scouts of America** is an educational resource. It charters community organizations such as AMVETS to use the Scouting program in the attainment of their own goals.

**Scouting offers family-oriented program capability and great membership potential.**



By making a commitment to operate a Scouting unit, you will help enrich the lives of the youth in your community. You will make a difference in the kind of adults they will become. Youth in Scouting develop into leaders who have integrity, are responsible, and show reverence to God and respect for their country.

Today's children are tomorrow's leaders, in and out of uniform. Show your community that your post is committed to building a better tomorrow through the youth of today.

### AMVETS Eagle Scout Recognition

(Available for all Scouts, regardless of your post's involvement with Scouting.)

National Eagle Scout certificates are available to all young men who achieve this honor. The Scout leader may send a request directly to the national programs department or make a request through your post or department. A congratulatory letter and certificate from the national commander are sent to your post designate for appropriate presentation. (This is a great AMVETS public relations opportunity and image builder if a presentation is possible.) Where no post exists, the letter and certificate are mailed directly to the Scout leader.

## Cub Scouting

Cub Scouting has distinct, age-appropriate program levels. Tiger Cubs is a one-year program for first-grade (or 7-year-old) boys and their adult partners. The Cub Scout program is for boys who are in the second through fifth grades (or 8, 9, and 10 years old). It is



- Home centered and family building.
- Filled with fun, action, and adventure to help build fitness, character, and good citizenship traits in boys through family emphasis.
- A boy's first experience in growing up as a member of a group.

**PURPOSE:** The Boy Scouts of America created Cub Scouting in 1930 to help advance the character development and spiritual growth of young boys. This central mission of Cub Scouting might be even more important to boys growing up in the 21st century than it was for the early Cub Scouts more than 70 years ago.

**PROGRAM:** Local Cub Scouting activities involve parents, adult leaders, and friends of Cub Scouts in home-centered programs that teach life skills, habits, values, and attitudes consistent with the interests of their faith and community. Millions of boys and their families participate in Cub Scouting, the largest of the three Boy Scouts of America membership divisions.

**METHODS:** Cub Scouting encourages each boy to strive for his personal best, a lesson that will help him achieve success as he enters Boy Scouting—and throughout his adult life. Cub Scout activities encourage character development, physical coordination, family unity, and enthusiasm for learning. Cub Scouting helps boys develop a sense of teamwork, achievement, self-confidence, and respect for others. Learning to master new skills helps the Cub Scout realize his own abilities and discover that his can-do attitude is the first sign of success in any endeavor. In fact, that's the Cub Scout motto: **DO YOUR BEST.**



## Boy Scouting

Boy Scouting is for boys who are at least 10½ years old and have completed the fifth grade or are 11 through 17 years old. It is

- Filled with troop and patrol activities designed to help build personal skills, teamwork, and leadership.
- An action-packed way to teach leadership, service, and respect for others.
- Adventure and fun outdoor experiences under the guidance of adult leaders.
- A program that provides plenty of opportunity for individual growth at a boy's own pace.



**PURPOSE:** Boy Scouting encourages boys to develop physical, mental, and emotional fitness and to adopt and live by meaningful personal standards as a cornerstone for success in life. These values include the basic principles found in the Scout Oath and Law.

**PROGRAM:** Boy Scouts learn to develop personal strengths by example and through hands-on experience. Activities include fitness and leadership training, wilderness adventures, and merit badge incentives for boys mastering hobby and career skills. Scouting encourages boys to expand and test their personal initiative, courage, and resourcefulness.

**METHODS:** Boy Scouts learn some of life's more serious lessons while having fun. Boys learn about important values, such as helping yourself by helping others, and honoring the basic rights of others. Boy Scouting's active learning experiences include hiking, camping, and other outdoor expeditions; competitive individual and team sports activities; and community or religious service projects. Many Boy Scouts first practice basic leadership, self-government, and citizenship skills during regular troop meetings and campouts.

