



## Venture Crew 94

### Overview

- A Venture Crews is a Boys Scouts of America (BSA) organization so we follow BSA guidelines, training, and practices. This keeps everyone safe and legal.
- Venture Crews are coed and consist of young adults ages 14-20 who have completed the 8<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Chartered with BSA June 2004 – Messiah Lutheran Church is Charter Organization
- Meetings – Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8:00 PM at Messiah Lutheran Church
- Adults and Crew Members Have Many Years Experience in BSA and other Youth Organizations
- Focused on Leadership Development and High Adventure Activities
- Full Year Calendar with Week Long Summer High Adventure Trip
- High Adventure Activities: Backpacking, Rock Climbing, Archery, Shooting Sports, Canoeing, Caving, and many more
- High Adventure Skills: Leadership, Pioneering, Knots, Fire Building, Wilderness Survival, First Aid, Land Navigation, ...
- Past Summer High Adventure Activities
  - 2002 Philmont Scout Ranch, New Mexico – 10 day Backpack Trip
  - 2003 Boundary Waters Canoe Area, Minnesota – 7 day Wilderness Canoeing
  - 2004 Climbing, Backpacking, Kayaking, and Caving – 7 days in North Carolina Pisgah National Forest
  - 2005 Canoeing on French Broad River and Lake Fontana
  - 2006 Backpacking the Cranberry Wilderness in West Virginia
  - 2007 Backpacking the Sawtooth Wilderness in Idaho
  - 2008 No this year
  - 2009 You help decide...
- Five Certified BSA Climbing Instructor
- Certified BSA Shooting Sports Instructors – Andris Ikstrums and Annette Ikstrums
- Girl/Boy Scout Troop Members – Crew Members Stay Active in Respective Troops!
  - Crew Offers High Adventure Training to Troops
  - Local Scouts Remain Dual Registered with Troop and Crew
  - Scouts Earn Rank Advancements Through Troop (not Crew)
- We Understand and Accommodate Crew Member Busy Lives – Band, Sports, College, etc.
- Annual Meetings: Officers Briefing, Leadership Skills Course, Youth Protection, Year In Review (Family)
- Family Nights: Periodically – Awards, Achievements, and Pictures
- Need Adult Advisors/Consultants - Always
- Communication is by email
- Number one focus is to have a SAFE High Adventure Experience while promoting quality leadership skills

### Meetings

- Generally: 10 – 15 Minutes of Business then Skill or Planning Activity
- Members Teach Skills – First Aid, Backpacking, Land Navigation, Pioneering, Climbing, Canoe/Kayak, etc.
- End Promptly at 8 PM

### General Activity Rules

- Advisors and Committee Members are 21 and older
- Must Be 21 to Drive Someone Else
- Under 18 Requires Parents Permission to Drive



- Under 18 Requires Signed Permission Slip
- Two Deep Leadership At All Times – Female Advisor When Female Crew Member Participates Overnight
- Adhere to Guide to Safe Scouting!! Safety Absolutely Comes First!!
- All Leaders BSA Trained – Youth Protection Video to be Shown to Everyone

## Costs

- \$25 Initial Membership – BSA Registration Through December 31, 2008
- \$12 per T-Shirt – you need to have at least one t-shirt (recommend two)
- Dues: \$20 in November for Rechartering (Except New Members) and \$20 in May for Crew Expenses
- Events/Activities – Typical Campout \$10. Summer event usual most expensive. Skiing will be another more expensive event in February/March timeframe.
- Fundraisers are up to the Crew.

## High Adventure Gear

- Venture Crew 94 is all about HIGH ADVENTURE!!
- Crew Members Backpack so you will need to invest in backpacking gear.
- See New Member Packet for suggested backpacking gear list – great Christmas gear stuff.
- Alps Mountaineering [www.alpsmountaineering.com](http://www.alpsmountaineering.com) has great discounted prices and quality gear for Crew members. Their scouting sale page is at [www.scoutdirect.com](http://www.scoutdirect.com). The 2007 discounted price list is located at <http://www.scoutdirect.com/04pricelist.pdf>. Great stuff at a fantastic price.
- Other websites include: [www.campmor.com](http://www.campmor.com), [www.rei.com](http://www.rei.com), [www.reioutlet.com](http://www.reioutlet.com), [www.sierratradingpost.com](http://www.sierratradingpost.com), [www.mountainsports.com](http://www.mountainsports.com), [www.cheaperthandirt.com](http://www.cheaperthandirt.com), – you can usually narrow down to what you want then do a Google search for the best prices. There are many more options.
- Local places that sell gear include Dicks Sporting Goods, Wyles, and Alabama Outdoors. Alabama Outdoors gives a 10% discount at the register for BSA groups.
- Most members have enough gear so that those that want to try backpacking first can borrow at rather than purchase just to see if they like it. The crew will conduct training and give detailed information – we call it Backpacking 101.
- Remember – An ounce in the morning is like a pound by the end of the day!! Keep everything light. Ask members which gear to get.