

Scouts is a great experience. Powder Horn is one of the reasons why.

"First time ever in a kayak; to shoot a shotgun; scuba dive were part of my Powder Horn experience. Those first time experiences, and their excitement are as real today as they were twelve years ago when I took the last Powder Horn Course offered here. The excitement is one of the reasons I am a volunteer on this year's staff with Powder Horn." To quote Nick Heille, writer of this story, as he describes his wish for this year's Powder Horn.

Youth constantly challenge adults with new ideas and concepts. Powder Horn does that as well. Motivational speakers do it with words. Powder Horn does it by actions. You will find out that your comfort zone is a lot bigger than you thought. With support from experts on how to kayak, shot a shotgun, scuba dive I found out I enjoyed them all. While I never became an expert, I experienced challenges, had fun for myself, and saw their value for others, and came to know what to do next.

The Northern Star Council's 2012 Powder Horn staff and participants will come from all programs and ages within Boy Scouts. Cubs, Scouts, Venturers. Adults and youth. Adults that are new to Boy Scouts and veterans with decades of experience. I have 35 years experience with Scouts and Powder Horn is the one course I recommend. Youth, if they are at least 15 years old, and hold a Scout leadership position, or are 16 years old, are welcome. Everyone works together. You share provided meals. The demand is that you show up and participate. Share the same experiences. The course helps you look at what you can do, and how you have learned with others.

After Powder Horn, I noticed the difference in the way I responded to new ideas and concepts. What it means to "think-outside-the-box". That "out-side-the-box" is an A-OK place to be. That when they "move-my-cheese" I can still find it and enjoy the experience. At the Powder Horn course I attended, when they awarded the Powder Horn device to us, they reminded us, that the Powder Horn is symbol of the early frontiersman. Frontiersman, who with limited resources, often just a gun and powder horn, were able to survive, and thrive, and that the Powder Horn Award we were awarded is a reminder that we too have that capacity within us.

Register now either on-line or by mail at Venturing.nsbsa.org. Powder Horn 2012 runs August 1- 5 2012. Costs \$250, includes meals.

