



The National SEA SCOUT LOG



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The National Sea Scout Log

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Sea Scouting
National Committee
Venturing Division
Boy Scouts of America

Jimmie S. Homburg
Commodore

Charles Holmes
National Venturing Director

William R. James
Editor-in-Chief



If you have a question or comment about what you read in this newsletter or something related to Sea Scouting, we'd like to hear from you. Please cast us a line at the address listed below.

Deadline

September 1999 issue
August 31, 1999
Send news of events,
people, or story ideas to:

NSSL
c/o Bill James
425 Wayne Avenue
Pitman, NJ 08071
Tel. 609-589-3088

The Seventeenth Annual Delaware Valley Sea Scout Ball and Bridge of Honor was held in Southern New Jersey. Several hundred Sea Scouts from all over the area checked-in during the morning and afternoon and by 1800 the Bridge of Honor got underway and was crewed by S.S.S. *Sea Eagle* from Southern Maryland. Numerous awards were given in recognition for those active in the Sea Scout program. Commodore Johnson of the NE Region, advanced S.S.S. *Columbia Ranger's* **Cyrus J. Lawyer III** to Regional Bos'n's Mate, and **Blake Leedy** of S.S.S. *Chasseur* to Regional Boatswain for 1999-2000. After the ceremonies were concluded, the scouts hurried back to their quarters to dress for the Ball. The Ball was very successful. Leaders and Scouts went to bed that night with a tune. Sunday morning the scouts packed up, said good-bye to their friends and made sail for home.



S.S.S. *Columbia Ranger's* Meredith Holmes enjoying the Bridge of Honor

by Gary Cutler Jr., &
Amanda Cross, crewmen of SSS 548



Blindfolded Pulling Team

LONG BEACH INVITATIONAL REGATTA

The 15th Annual Long Beach Invitational Regatta was held on Saturday, March 13, 1999. 81 youth and 21 adults from 8 ships attended the Regatta at the Long Beach Sea Scout Base, Long Beach, California.

In keeping with the Regatta's idea of fun with practical knowledge and skills, some of the events included blindfolded drill and canoeing without paddles. Crews were required to rig and sail a boat, tie knots without looking and know and use international code flags. Knowledge of nomenclature was demonstrated by playing a game similar to "Pictionary" and general knowledge used the game "Jeopardy".

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Every Scout Troop Needs A Sea Scout Ship

By

Jimmie Homburg
National Commodore

Exceptional scout programs are driven by exceptional youth leaders. A motivated and charismatic senior patrol leader and other older, experienced scouts create great Boy Scout programs. The challenge is that these young leaders are not receiving the things they need and want from the program.

Sea Scout age young adults want to be done with the "kid stuff" they have mastered and taught a dozen times. They want to be involved in really BIG adventures. They want to be involved in Scouting but they also want to continue to learn, grow and have age-appropriate fun.

The three things youth leaders in high school want most from Scouting are:

1. more activities with their own age group,
2. More challenging "High Adventure" activities, and
3. a chance to finish their Eagle.

The Sea Scout program was created in 1912. The first program designed for older scouts. It challenges high school youth today as it did then. It creates BIG adventures and BIG opportunities.

This summer's "Top Gun Navy Experience" and "SEAL" courses along with the many regattas, rendezvous, and long cruises planned by Sea Scout Ships are good examples of BIG adventure opportunities offered through Sea Scouting.

Activities mean action. More activities that can involve their friends who may have been scouts at one time or may not have a scout background an activities that include girls. They want their young adult friends involved—friends that they would otherwise never invite to the troop because of all those twelve year olds!

Everyone loves to invite a friend to go sailing and

have a cookout. Everyone loves to be invited to go sailing and have a cookout. Sea Scouting provides water fun during the spring and summer when young people actually have the time to have fun. Sea Scouting carries scouting ideals to a fresh, new, and higher level during the fall and winter. Sea Scouts plan their calendar with one or two monthly events that are relevant or fun. They create events, not just sitting around and talking. It is a program that young men and women, their families and friends find attractive and age appropriate.

Eagle candidates become more special as the Sea Scout Ship becomes a kind of "finishing school". Sea Scouts & Eagles have high standards of achievement in common and help one another reach Eagle and Quartermaster. A destination for

older scouts to aspire, Sea Scouting opens troop leadership for the 7th & 8th grade scouts.

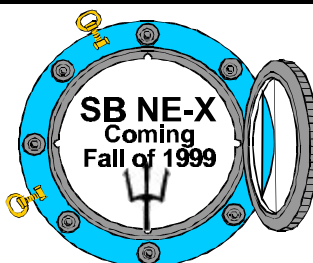
*The Sea Scout program
was created in 1912. ...
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and BIG opportunities.*

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The winner this year was the "Mystic Yankee" from Winnetka, California. The "Del Mar" from Costa Mesa and the "Morning Star" from North Hollywood tied for second place and the "Conquest" from Long Beach finished third.

After the events, a "Hell Drill" style drill-off was held which was won by crewman **Kelly Murkey** of the S.S.S. *Mystic Yankee*.

All hands reported having a good time and we're all looking forward to next year. By the way, we already have some great ideas for new events next year and we are always looking for new events. We want to keep this Regatta fresh, new, interesting and fun!



Autumn 1999

New Jersey-Pennsylvania
SB NE-X will get underway!

For more information write
Robin Ouellette, CWO4 USCG
NE Region Information Officer
rouellette@comdt.uscg.mil
<http://www.seascout.org/reregion/training/seabadge-ne10.html>



Christopher Sokolov

Christopher Sokolov Appointed National Youth Representative

National Commodore Jimmie Homburg has asked that an appointment to the National Sea Scouting Committee be announced. Effective immediately, Seaman Quartermaster **Christopher K. Sokolov** of San Francisco, California will be serving on the National Sea Scouting Committee as the youth representative.

"Youth leadership is an important aspect of the Sea Scouting program," Christopher said. "Ships are successful when the youth work in close cooperation with the skipper and other adult officers." Christopher sees a parallel between the ship structure and working on other levels such as the National Committee. "My first skipper taught us that while he might have the experience and knowledge to make an activity work, he always appreciated talking to crews because it helped keep him in tune with current thought among the Sea Scouts."

Christopher is a student at the University of California, San Diego, where he has been serving as the Council Boatswain of Desert Pacific Council. Back at home in San Francisco, he has been serving as Western Region Area 3 (W-3) Boatswain, as well as the webmaster of the National Sea Scouting Web Site. "Sea Scouting is a big part of my life," Christopher notes. "It is hard to believe that I almost had to be forced to go to my first recruiting sail," he reminisces. "But after that, I was hooked. Even though the wind died down and we had to row back across San Francisco Bay in the ancient sailing whaleboat, *Corsair*, I knew this is what I wanted to learn and do."

Now Christopher realizes that sailing was not the only thing that Sea Scouting was teaching him. "In retrospect, Sea Scouts helped me grow from an adolescent to an adult. The leadership training that occurs when you do not even realize it is amazing. Experiences such as sailing on the USCGB EAGLE were very for-

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34th Nygard Regatta

The Henry I. Nygard Regatta held at Greenwell State Park in Maryland Memorial Day weekend. I believe it is one of the best events held by Sea Scouts in the nation. The competition was tough but we squeaked out with our second 1st Place overall finish in a row. We thank Skipper Yeckley for this weekend and we encourage everyone to take part in this event next year. This event exemplifies the best of what Sea Scouting has to offer, ie. leadership, competitiveness, nautical knowledge, fellowship, and most of all fun!

—Robert Gonzalez, QM S.S.S. 10 Miami

Western

Ship 110 *Charles N. Curtis* of Tacoma, Washington is celebrating its 70th anniversary of serving youth from surrounding Pierce and King Counties on October 16, 1999. Originally chartered in 1929 as the *Flying Cloud*, we later acquired the vessel for which the unit is named now. We received the vessel on July 18, 1946, from the Coast Guard. It was built in Newport News, Virginia for the Coast Guard in 1931

—Tarin Todd, a senior crew member



Bob Sirhal (center) Vice Commodore (Sales) NER was awarded the Silver Antelope Award by the Northeast Region in San Diego, California May 28.

Feel free to copy & distribute this newsletter to anyone in your Council, Area or Region. —ISSN Pending

From the National Sea Scout Log - 57 Years Ago

The Editor's Sea Bag

Change in Sea Scout Officers' Sleeve Insignia

SHIP OFFICERS

COUNCIL OFFICERS

REGIONAL OFFICERS

NATIONAL OFFICERS

Blue Jacket!
By Fred J. Bussola

SKIPPER MERVYN R. LONG-ANECKER of Palo Alto, California, announced that Sea Scout Leaders and Sea Scouts read the book entitled "Blue Jacket" by Fred J. Bussola.

THE NATIONAL SEA SCOUT LOG
ONE NEW RECRUIT PER UNIT PER MONTH

War! In September 1942 the United States and her allies were in the grip of war with the Axis forces. Combat in the Pacific was vicious while in the Atlantic German U-boats were sinking thousands of tons of U.S. Merchant Marine vessels & warships. Sea Scouts were right there. SECNAV Knox had that month called on Dr. West for likely candidates for Navy, Marine and Coast Guard Officers from the Sea Scout Fleet. Hundreds of Sea Scouts had already enlisted. The Chief Scout Exec submitted the names of 619 Sea Scouts and 90 Sea Scout leaders. Because of the possibility of confusion with of the men of the armed forces, the *National Committee of Senior and Sea Scouting*, and the *Committee of Badges, Awards, Scout Requirements and Uniform Design* recommended to the National Executive Board to adopt the insignia seen to the left. The previous insignia, that had been used for about a dozen years before the war, appeared very much like that used by U.S. military officers. The Exec Board unanimously approved the changes. With minor deviations, we have been using the design approved & depicted in the *NSSL* for the past 57 years!

WRJ

(Sokolov - Continued from page 3)

mative." Christopher Sokolov is a recipient of the Quartermaster Award, the Medal of Merit, National Exploring Leadership Award, Alpha Omega Award, Venturing Gold Award, and Venturing Silver Award. "I welcome comment from all members of our program." Christopher reminds us that he can be reached by electronic mail at csokolov@seascout.org or at 4323 Caminito Del Zafiro, San Diego, CA 92121, (619) 658-0956.

Obituary HARRY GRAVES of

Long Beach passed away April 1st, after a lingering illness. Harry's career in Sea Scouts spanned over 50 years. In the time he spent with the young people of Long Beach, California, Harry touched countless lives. To his dying day, he gave his best. He will be sorely missed. Clear skies and calm seas, our friend.

— Michael Maricle,
S.S.S. Conquest, <http://www.ship564.org>

—Puget Sound— Site of Rendezvous

The Puget Sound **Mert Wells Rendezvous** was held at Submarine Base Bangor. The **S.S.S. Kelcema**, of Edmonds, Washington, came in first overall with a rating of Clipper. The **S.S.S. Orca**, of La Conner, WA, came in second with a rating of Clipper. Top Ship in the Mariners Tradition Competition was the S.S.S. Orca. Top Ship in the Old Salts Competition was the S.S.S. Kelcema. In the Master Mariner Competition, there were three qualifying participants Master Mariner **Josh Foley**, S.S.S. Propeller. Master Mariner **Caitlin Shrigley**, S.S.S. Orca Chief Master Mariner **Isaac Borkowski**, S.S.S. Yankee Clipper. Good job all hands!

Gordon Wickward

