



The Telegraph

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Fall 1996

The Telegraph

A regional newsletter
published by
the Northeast Region
Boy Scouts of America

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Executive



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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

**Fall 1996 issue
Feb 1, 1997**

Send news of events, people, or story ideas to:

The Telegraph
c/o Bill James
425 Wayne Ave.,
Pitman, NJ 08071
Tel. 609-589-3088
wrjames@jersey.net

Regional Commodore's Report ★ ★ ★ Bruce Chr. Johnson



National Sea Exploring Committee Meeting

This issue of "The Telegraph" is coming to you at the conclusion of cruising and regatta seasons. I hope your Ship had a great time, and that everyone is learning and having fun. A poster on the entranceway to my office reads, "You'll never forget the Summer you joined Sea Explorers!" I think that about sums it up for all of us.

My sitting down to write this was delayed by working on corrections to the "Sea Explorer Manual." Boy, did I get quite a

few! They're now in the hands of the National office. We should be seeing them in a new printing early next year. Some of the changes are pretty subtle; others either provide more information about changing technology (like G.P.S.) or fix long-standing errors (for example, pulling boats, relative bearings). Look for a new set of advancement requirements with the new printing. You can implement them as soon as you have the handbook. (If you want an early copy to look at now, send me a self-addressed, stamped (2 ounces) envelope (6148 Llanfair Drive, Columbia, MD 21044).) Thanks to everyone for submitting their suggestions. Several people are working with me to develop a new edition of the "Handbook for Skippers." We've made a lot of progress,

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SEABADGE

NE8

March 14-16, 1997
Maritime Institute
of Technology
Linthicum,
Maryland



Cost: \$155.

Includes the *Rendezvous!*

...
If you have completed basic sea exploring training and desire to increase your management skills and earn your trident pin, now is the time. Enroll in an engaging curriculum and tie up next to some great skippers and support personnel. This is not nautical skills training such as Ship 1009's January weekend at Mr. Catoctin. This course is designed to help you complete a Rutter that you write to advance your program of scouting and personal development.

Our Skipper is Rafi Sharif with George Vinet, 1st Mate and Jeff Murray (QM) as Boatswain. National Committeemen and Guest Presenters, Skipper Jim Elroy and Bill Sills will join Ship's company.

Crew membership is guaranteed to qualified applicants until November 22, 1996



Send now for an application and fact sheet.

Robin Ouellette
9613 Muirfield Drive
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

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Amanda Kellaher, Regional Boatswain
Marc Scimonelli, Reg. Boatswain's Mate
Baltimore Area Council 220

Commodore...

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but there's still lots to do. If you have any suggestions, please feel free to send them along (in print).

Elsewhere in this issue, you'll send information about the Northeast Region Seabadge Conference NE8. I'd like to strongly encourage everyone who hasn't been Seabadge trained to take advantage of this terrific training opportunity. Course director, Rafi Sharif, has put together a great staff. Don't miss it!

This next comment is addressed to the Sea Scouts. As you know, we now have a Regional Boatswain and Regional Boatswain's Mate. They will only be as good as you help them to be. Get in touch with Amanda and Marc and let them know what's on your mind. If you can, please invite them to visit with you. They're here to help you.

A piece of news: The National office sent all councils a "Cruise Plan for Sea Explorer Ships and Explorer Posts" in April. While the cruise plan is not REQUIRED (only RECOMMENDED), every Skipper should get a copy and

become familiar with it. If your council can't lay its hands on the cruise plan, send me a self-addressed, stamped envelope and I'll send you a copy.

That's about it for now. Please let me know how you're doing or how we're doing. You can reach me daytimes at 202-707-1652, or if you prefer e-mail, bjoh@loc.gov. Let me know what you're up to by sending your Ship's newsletter (I get a few every month) our Squadron newsletter.

Recharter

All Ships are reminded that they should check to make sure that their unit specialty code is **1208**. It is very important that you get this right but Sea Exploring mailings are sent only to Exploring units with that code. Call your council registrar and ask what code your Ship is listed under. If it's not **1208** (or your Ship's national unit number doesn't start with 5000 (i.e. 5361) then you are being left out of Sea Exploring-related mailings from BSA.

Texas A & M Maritime School

Every Skipper should have received application materials for the scholarship program in maritime and oceanographic studies at Texas A & M Univer-

(Continued on page 3)

Rendezvous for Seabadgers I - 8

We're Hawaii bound! Now is the time to break out those wild Hawaiian shirts, grass skirts or whatever else you wish and join the great Rendezvous. Are you a graduate of Seabadge NE-I —VII? Come for an evening of fun fellowship in and around the pool at the Maritime



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sity. This program is open to all Seamen Ables and Quartermasters and is a full scholarship for a summer of study. A & M's cruise will include stops at Vera Cruz, Mexico, San Juan, Puerto Rico, and St. George's, Bermuda. Watch for information for the summer of '97.

DRMO Surplus

Bob French, Commodore of Western Region Area 3, is willing to help any Ship looking for specific surplus government equipment (i.e. boats). Give me (Bruce) a call and I'll give you his phone number and address in California.

I hope you will agree that there are some exciting developments and opportunities coming up. As always, if you have any issues that you feel should be addressed at the national or regional levels, please bring them to my attention via Internet e-mail at: bjoh@loc.gov; or the US mail at: 6148 Llanfair Drive, Columbia, MD 21044; or by telephone at: 202-707-1652, (days). ☼

SEAL TRAINING 1997

Sea Explorer Advanced Leadership Training

The Boy Scouts of America has a new Junior Training Course and award. It is called Sea Explorer Advanced Leadership Training (SEAL). This is a one week, hard core leadership course that is conducted at sea. If you successfully complete the course you will be awarded the SEAL Training Award, which is a silver pin with twin dolphins, to be worn on your uniform.

This course is a leadership course, not a seamanship course. To attend a SEAL class you must be Ordinary by July of 1997 and you must study and have a working knowledge of Chapter Five of the Sea Explorer Manual.

Class will be held in South Florida July 12-19, 1997. The cost of the course is \$70. Call Skipper Jim Elroy (305) 323-8278

EDITOR'S LOG



Since becoming editor of this Newsletter I have received a great deal of correspondence and phone calls. Every piece has been gratifying and enlightening. Some skippers have sent me stories and the histories of their various Ships. I have been intrigued. There are some amazing Ships and crews of the past. From Connecticut to Up State New York, from the Delaware Valley to Virginia I have heard stories, seen photos and felt a glorious history. Reflections of a "golden era" are good and wholesome. Building on the traditions of those who have come before us is in keeping with Maritime custom. In addition we see that new "old times" are coming up all around us. For example:

Rendezvous a Winner!

The *Delaware Valley Youth Boating Association* sponsored a Sea Explorer Rendezvous on June 21-23 at the Lakehurst Naval Air Station in New Jersey. Sea Exploring Ships from all over the NE Region attended with nearly 60 Explorers participating. Vice Commodore Charles Porter of the Association spoke enthusiastically about the Air Station's personnel and facilities. "The Sea Explorers have a great reputation on base for being polite and clean."

Competing and enjoying the rendezvous were, Ship 4 skippered by Joan Harrison out of Philadelphia, Ernst Below's Ship 5 S.S.S. Shield from Burlington County Council, Skipper Hall's Ship 90 S.E.S. North Star from Up State Pennsylvania, Ed Wright's Ship 600, Bruce Johnson's Ship 361 S.E.S. Columbia Ranger from Maryland, April Maska's Ship II S.E.S. Seagull of Verga, New Jersey and Ship 544 from the Bronx skippered by Dave Riter. Vice Commo. Porter reports that Ship 90 achieved 1st Place in the competition for the fifth year in a row! Ship II sailed in with second place

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Ship 25 S.E.S. Yankee Clipper Catch Our Drift!!!

After a long snowy winter and a late spring here in Milford, Connecticut, our patience has finally paid off. Our '96 season kicked off at the beginning of April with a weekend camping trip filled with volleyball, hiking and good times at Camp Sequassen in Winsted, Connecticut. A recruitment drive the end of the month at the Connecticut Post Mall proved to be a great success for all Explorers to show off their wooden boat workmanship on our 19 foot Lightning. In May, with the help of our Chartered Organization, Milford Boat Works and all of our ship's dedicated members, we were able to make our 1957 Nevin's 40' wooden sloop look prettier than last year. In June, all of our hard work was rewarded with our first sail to rendezvous at Captain's Cove and Fayerweather island. This was an event with 100 other Sea Explorers and included educational and competitive exploring events. Currently our weekends and weeknights are filled with sails around Long island Sound. This past winter all Explorers earned their State Boating License and each eagerly awaits their turn at the helm.

This summer holds big plans for us starting the beginning of July when we'll be in the Tall Ships Parade for the "Sail for the Sound" from New Haven to Greenwich. Our long cruise in August will include a regatta with Ship 1, Westerly on the waters of Fisher's island Sound and continue onto Block island, Rhode island with a few other stops in between.

Until next time, remember *"...there is nothing, absolutely nothing, half so much worth doing as simply messing about . . . with boats."* — Wind in the Willows

Editor's Note

The above article was written by Marlene Gawrich, one of the most enthusiastic skippers in the NE Region and a recent recipient of the Seabadge Trident!

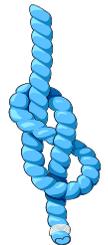
I encourage skippers, bo's'n's, Quartermasters, and all support personnel to follow Marlene and submit

3rd Annual Sea Explorer Training Weekend

**SEA EXPLORER TRAINING WEEKEND
17-19 JANUARY 1997**

Sea Explorer Ship 1009 is holding its Third Annual Sea Explorer training Weekend from 1900 on Friday, 17 January to 1400 on Sunday Afternoon, 19 January at Camp Round Meadow, Catoctin Mountain Park. We would like to invite any Sea Explorer Ship to join us for a weekend of learning and fellowship. The cost is \$25.00 which will cover your lodging, three meals on Saturday, and two meals on Sunday. In addition to the classroom sessions, we plan to have a game-board social Friday evening in the dining hall and a sock-hop on Saturday evening. We are again expecting more Ships than we can sleep at Camp Round Meadow so we will assign dormitory beds based on when a ship's registration and fees are received. The Super 8 motel in Thurmont, MD. (301-271-7888) housed several of our overflow units last year. The registration fee for units not staying at Camp Round Meadow will be \$17.00 per person.

We plan to offer the classes which expand on last years offering. Yes, we are counting on many of you to help teach these classes so, please let us know what classes your adults can help with. Doug Yeckley's Coast Guard Auxilliary Group has again volunteered to teach many of the classes.



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This additional training should help the BSA attract more youth to the exciting adventures in Sea Exploring. The Northeast Region will soon be asking local councils to nominate individuals who would be interested in serving as an instructor/trainer in their council. Those individuals would then offer skills training in their area for

(Continued on page 7)



U.S. Coast Guard Barque Eagle

Length: 295 feet

Maximum Speed: 11-16 knots (under full sail)

Maximum Range: 5450 miles

Training Complement: 12 Officers, 38 crew, 150 cadets (average)

Major Missions: Training vessel for CG

Academy Cadets. The Eagle is a three-masted sailing Barque with 21,350 square feet of sail.

She is home ported at the CG Academy, New London, Connecticut. She is the only active commissioned sailing vessel in the U.S.

maritime services. (One of five such Training Barques in world. Sister ships include: MIRLEA of Romania, SAGRES II of Portugal, GORCH FOCK of Germany, and TOVARICH (ТОВАРИЧ) of Russia.)

My Experience on the Coast Guard Barque Eagle

Amanda Kellaheer



Only three months ago, I was beginning a journey that would take me higher and farther than I had ever been! I was at the Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut, awaiting the bus that would take me and about eighty other young adults to one of two C-130 cargo planes taking off for Europe. I was on my way to meet the Coast Guard Barque Eagle and embark on the journey of a lifetime.

The trip was to last five weeks with port calls in Hamburg and Rostock, Germany, St. Petersburg, Russia, Helsinki, Finland, and London, England. What a better way to spend a

Summer, traveling through parts of Europe many Americans never visit.

When I arrived at the Coast Guard Academy, I was greeted with friendly, yet extremely confused faces upon Cadets, Midshipmen, and Explorers alike. The Cadets as a whole did not understand why I wanted to spend my

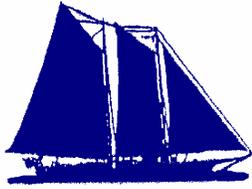
Summer on the Eagle. I was constantly asked,

"Now, why did you say you wanted to do this?" My reasons for spending my Summer this way were simple. I wanted to check out what life was like at a service academy, and I wanted to meet new people. Traveling Europe was nice, but I would have gone regardless of Eagle's destination.

Furthermore, the Cadets, Midshipmen, and other Explorers provided many new names and faces to learn, and friends to make.

The Eagle is an extension of the Coast Guard Academy and is used as a training vessel for their Cadets. Though I realize the strict and regimented lifestyle was somewhat slackened, the boat was definitely a floating academy. The lessons I learned ranged from how to cook breakfast for one hundred grouchy Cadets in thirty minutes, to how to shoot the moon (with a sextant and not a deck of cards). I realized that when carrying eight dozen eggs, two flights of stairs seem much harder to climb than usual. Then, I learned that it takes exactly forty-eight minutes to shine the captain's chair using paper towels and *Never-dull*.

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Ship 3 S.E.S. Triton of the Southern New Jersey Council is pleased to announce a new chartered partner — The

Delaware Bay Schooner Project, a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of the Delaware Bay, its river and estuaries. The Project recently re-christened the A.J. Meerwald, an oyster schooner whose keel was first laid in the late 1920's. The refurbished Meerwald is currently berthed in Bivalve, NJ. She sails with passengers dedicated to wise stewardship of the Bay.

Ship 3's Skipper, Bill James will act as liaison between the Project and any Ship wanting to sail with this dedicated crew of conservationists.

Explorers Receive Recognition

Ship II reports in that **Jennifer Mateo** a Freshman at Villanova along with **Amea Maska** a High School Senior received the Explorer Leadership Award. **Cynthia Hensel** also a high school senior received the Young American Award. **Heather and Tara Gibson** participated in the Gloucester County Police Academy Youth Week in preparation for a career in law enforcement.



National Sea Exploring Exhibit 1997 National Scout Jamboree Fort A.P. Hill Virginia

For the third time the National Sea Exploring Committee is sponsoring an exhibit. There is a need for 28 Sea Scouts and 14 adults. If you have any questions contact the Exhibit Co-Chair Bruce Johnson (h.410-740-7204)



WANDERING THE WORLD WIDE WEB...?

There's a whole great big world out there in cyberspace. You'll want to check out the Sea Exploring, BSA Home Page.

Our Internet address is:

http://

www.sea.scouters.com

This page can lead you to the official BSA Home Page, Sea Explorer uniform and supply stores, the Calendar for 1997, Adult Recognition, National

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 interested youth and adults.

Members of the Northeast Region Sea Exploring Committee will select the final participants from the list of nominated individuals. Through the grant from the USOC, the BSA will pick up the cost of the U.S. Sailing Association course as well as room and board for the individuals selected. Approximately six people will be selected to attend a course in 1997. Course dates are scattered throughout the spring and summer. Participants may select a course and location best suited to them.

Bob Legg

(RENDEZVOUS ... Continued from page 2)



Institute of Technology and Graduate Studies at Linthicum, MD. (Just 15 miles north of Baltimore-Washington Airport. Wives and husbands or significant others are welcome. Registration starts March 15th at 1600. The festivities begin at 1900 and will last until 2300. If you wish, you may arrive in time for dinner. MITAG is offering a variety of options if you choose to remain overnight and eat in their dining room.

Souvenir booklets of the history of Seabadge in the Northeast Region are included in the registration fee; however if you wish to get a Rendezvous T-shirt or mug, they must be pre-ordered and pre-paid. These will be limited edition items — only these orders received in advance will be filled. There will be a Ship Store set up during the Rendezvous, which will enable you to pick up those hard to find Sea Exploring and Seabadge insignia items.

Reserve now for this first time ever event. Renew friendships with other Seabadgers from your Seabadge Course — make new friends with Seabadgers from Course I-8, enjoy an evening in and around MITAGS' magnificent indoor pool, and then relax in their first class accommodations. **See you there!**

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Finally, I learned to put in a wake-up call, set more than one alarm, ask the people in the surrounding racks to make sure I am awake, and to be dressed and on time to every formation.

Ultimately, I learned that I would like to attend a service academy and that decision could not have been made by me without this trip. Sea Exploring offers so many opportunities to do so many interesting things. I recommend applying for this trip to any qualified Sea Explorer who is interested in a challenge and an incredible opportunity. This trip and Sea Exploring on a whole, have provided me with friends and fond memories, but most of all with knowledge that will help me throughout the rest of my life.

Amanda Kellaher

Sea Explorer Ship 1009
Regional Boatswain



Robert P. Martin, 18, of New Milford, PA has earned the rank of Quartermaster in Ship 90. Martin is a 1996 grad of Blue Ridge High School and has been a Sea Explorer for four years. He signed on with the US Navy in October of 1995 through the delayed entry program and recently departed for Great

The die that is used to strike the **Quartermaster Medal** has been re-cast. The new medal is made of sterling silver and displays sharp detail. Those who have already received this recognition have the right to purchase the new medal for a reasonable amount.

Editor's Note:

When a new Quartermaster Award is presented at a Bridge of Honor, please contact me with the details. In the next issue of the Telegraph, the young man or woman will receive further recognition.



If you are Able or Quartermaster and would like to experience life aboard the Barque Eagle, the first step is to drop a note to

Follow Up

SEA EXPLORING TRAINING WEEKEND 9-11 AUGUST 1996

With the morning mist lifting off Deep Creek Lake in Western Maryland and the odor of bacon, sausage, eggs and pancakes cooking permeating the air of 13 campsites, the first of what is hoped to be an annual, outdoor, hands-on Sea Explorer Training weekend got underway with 74 Sea Explorers and adult leaders. Two days of rowing, canoeing, mastering the Pulling Boat, small power boat handling, sailing and hands-on boat safety training by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources met with wonderful cooperation from the weather. Sea Explorers were provided the opportunity to learn new skills often not available in their own Ships, and work on advancement requirements.

Saturday evening was celebrated with a dance and pizza in the Maintenance shop of the Deep Creek State Park Rangers. All agreed it was a skill and fun filled weekend and will be looking forward to next August 1-3 for the second annual Hands-on Sea Explorer Training. If you would like to learn more about this training opportunity, contact Jerry Crabtree at 12409 Stirrup Lane, Bowie, MD 20715, Telephone (301)262-0394, or E-Mail him at jmcrabt@erols.com.

Editor's Note:

Jerry Crabtree will be conducting SEAL Training for the Northeast Region next summer.



ITS ALL SPARKS AND STEAM AS SEA EXPLORERS CONVERGE ON HISTORIC NORWALK LIGHTHOUSE

Sea Explorers from all over

Connecticut converged in the lee of the ancient Sheffield Lighthouse on Sheffield Island off Norwalk, CT on October 5 and 6, 1996 for the "Steam & Wireless Gam" '96". The site was provided courtesy of the Norwalk Seaport Association.

The event hosted by the SE Squadron of the Fairfield (CT) County Council, was to highlight the contributions of steam propulsion and radio communications in maritime history. The event's secondary purposes were to increase camaraderie among Ships, perform public service, and to conduct sail training. In attendance were Ships from Connecticut and New York. In keeping with the event's theme, the Ships competed in emergency radio procedures, morse code, international flags, marlinspike seamanship, lifesaving, and firefighting. Machinist, Silver Beaver recipient, and 1930's Sea Scout John Addicott demonstrated the principles of steam propulsion with a steam engine and boiler he built from scratch in his basement. The Growler from the Merchant Marine Academy at King's Point attended and its crew of midshipmen provided "command of a crew under oars" training using a vintage monomoy pulling lifeboat. The Greater Norwalk Amateur Radio Club set up a special ham voice and key radio station which communicated with radio operators in twelve different countries and

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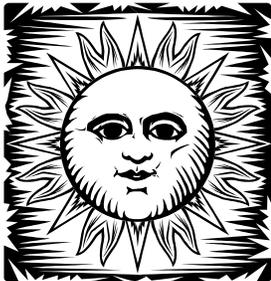
pulled in signals from former Sea Explorers from numerous states.

The overwhelming majority of the Ships attended in the 30 to 40 foot sailboats owned by their Ships. These vessels are sailed, crewed, and maintained by the Sea Explorers themselves. The day culminated with a clam and lobster bake and bonfire on the beach. On Sunday, as part of their public service mission, the Sea Explorers performed a clean-up of the Island which resulted in 90 garbage bags being lightered ashore by the Norwalk based Soundkeeper and being disposed of by Cove Marina and NRS Waste Management, both of Norwalk.

“In Sea Scouting, we’re interested in more than just sailing,” stated Fairfield County Council SE **Commodore Roger Crossland** to a Steam and Wireless visitor. “...we're interested in adventure. We’ve learned that the more you know, the better the prospect for adventure.”

The future promises technological advances. The *Telegraph* will be published in HTML format and have it’s own web site for electronic viewing and

Self-nominations for
Regional Boatswain are being
accepted for 1997
& 1998 by
Jeff Murray.



1-301-776-9033

SEA EXPLORERS RALLY FOR STAR, COMPASS & STEERING OAR RENDEZVOUS

The decks were cleared and it was all action. Sea Explorers from three states converged at Fayerweather Island in Black Rock Harbor on June 8 and 9 for the "Star, Compass & Steering Oar" Rendezvous. Boats were berthed at Captain's Cove Marina courtesy of former Sea Explorer, Kaye Williams, the marina's President.

The event hosted by the Fairfield County Council Sea Exploring Squadrom was for the purposes of heightening awareness of early navigational techniques and primitive vessels, and working on sea exploring skills not undertaken during normal cruise training. In attendance were 100 participants from the following units, the following Connecticut ships, Ship 6 Norwalk, Ships 19 & 25 of Milford, Ship 84 of Southport, Ship 101 of Stratford, Ship 480 Portland, Ship 54 of Hopatcong, NJ, Ship 228 of Elizabeth, NJ, and Ship 272 of Manhattan, NY.

On Saturday, all hands were lightered out to Fayerweather Island. There they encountered stations involving first aid for ancient seafaring ailments, navigational

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Trivia:

Ben Love, the recently retired Chief Scout Executive, was a participant in the Northeast Region Seabadge I.

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instruments, group problem solving, sextant work, Kon-tiki building, and bell time and bearings (for illiterates). All hands performed a clean-up of the island and helped to plant vegetation to impede the erosion of the island.. In the evening a merchant marine chaplain held divine services for all faiths on the deck of the SES Sea Dart in Captain's Cove.

Sunday started with a panckae breakfast and a special eating contest between trained competitors called landsharks. The landshark feeding frenzy was the inspiration and handiwork of Ship 84. The day secured after man overbaord training for all hands under the instruction of Skippers Austin and Curran.

REGIONAL COMMITTEE SEEKS ASSISTANCE FOR PROMOTIONAL VIDEO

The Northeast Regional Sea Exploring Committee is asking all ships in the Region to donate photos, video clips, and 35 mm slides of Ships in action. These action oriented pieces will be edited into a promotional video which will be made available to the ships in the Region for recruiting and any other purpose. All material should be forwarded to Regional Vice Commodore Dennis Clarke at . The video is expected to be completed by April 1997.

All material need to be in Dennis' hands by early January.

SHIP 1 CELEBRATES 75 YEARS WITH A GALA WEEKEND

On August 16 thru the 18th, the Sea Explorers, their leaders, parents, alumni and friends of Sea Explorer Ship H.O. Dunn joined together to celebrate the Ship's first 75 years as a Sea Scout unit. The festivities took place at the Westerly Yacht Club along the majestic Pawcatuck River in Westerly Rhode Island. Close to 200 people took part in the three day event, including 12 Sea Scouts and 3 adult leaders from Ship 25 Milford (CT) led by **Skipper Marlene Gawrych** and their boat "The Yankee Clipper". The weekend began Friday evening with a gathering and opening ceremony at the yacht club. The assembled group traveled together to the Westerly Cemetery for a memorial observance and wreath laying ceremony at the graves sites of Admiral H.O. Dunn, the retired Navy admiral from Westerly who developed the Navy or "Dunn" anchor, after whom the Ship was named in 1921, and **Charlie Clacharie**, who led the Ship for over 30 years as Ship Committee Chairman, and who passed away in 1979. The group returned to the club for an old fashion chicken barbecue and sharing of recollection, memorabilia, stories of the ship and it's members, past and present. Saturday featured the Anniversary Regatta on Little Narragansett Bay in which 14 boats took part. The division winners were presented with commemorative awards and patches, and all participants wore the specially designed Anniversary tee shirts. Upon returning to the yacht club a sumptuous New England clambake was enjoyed by all. **Ship 1** Westerly has been sponsored by the Westerly Yacht Club since 1921, and is lead by **Skipper Mike Palazzolo**.