



Ahoy, Skippers and Fellow Shipmates!

The sun has set on the 25th Annual Northeast Region BSA Bridge of Honor and Sea Scout Ball. Wow, what a fantastic time! We thought you might like to hear some of the highlights from the March 31, 2007 event promoting "Sea Scouting: An Ocean of Opportunity".

The Holiday Inn Select in Bridgeport, NJ, saw 233 Sea Scouts from 29 Ships out of 9 States in full uniform at the Bridge of Honor ceremonies this year. A combined crew from the New England Flotilla (Ships 40, 45 and 76) performed the Land Ship... and they did a great job. Bravo Zulu! During the dinner portion of the evening, we heard remarks from Northeast Region Scouting Executive Gene Stone and our Keynote Speaker Captain Benjamin G.M. Feril (Medical Service Corps, U.S. Navy). One of the highlights of the Bridge of Honor is the recognition bestowed on the Sea Scouts, adult and youth alike. Here is a listing of those honors:

Sea Scout of the Year:

Alexi Barnada - Ship 5 "Jubilee" PA
Brian Jonathan Kurzik - Ship 25 "Yorkshire" PA
Patrick O'Connor - Ship 45 "Kahagon" MA
Cindy Martinez - Ship 132 "Lightning" NJ
Raymond Drollinger III - Ship 441 "Vigilant" NY
Joanna Robinson - Ship 759 "Longrider" MD
Julia von Baumgarten - Ship 1942 "Dragon Lady" VA

Sharon M. Burke - Ship 12 "Barracuda" NY
Rachaelle E. Read - Ship 40 "Nobska" MA
Joshua Braman - Ship 76 "Spirit of '76" MA
Bryan M. Daudt - Ship 198 "Eagle" DE
Kean Zimmerman - Ship 548 "Sea Eagle" MD
Alexander Whitaker - Ship 1009 "Sea Devil" MD
(pictured below with Commodore Bob Sirhal)



Regional Venturing Leadership Awards: Angela LeChevalier - Ship 1942, VA; Stephen D. Alexander - Ship 759, MD

Regional Commodore Award of Excellence:

SSS Barracuda - Ship 12 - Glen Cove, NY
SSS North Star - Ship 90 - Susquehanna, PA
SSS Dragonlady - Ship 1942 - Arlington, VA
SSS Resolution - Ship 84 - Southport, CT
SSS Vigilant - Ship 441 - Jackson Heights, NY

Catherine A Mullikin Sea Scout Volunteer of the Year Award: Joanna Robinson - Ship 759 MD

Commander Thomas J Keane Award: Stephen A. Nichols - Ship 1942 VA

We also announced the new regional youth officers:

2007-2008 Regional Boatswain: Arlen McCorkle - Ship 1942, VA

2007-2008 Regional Boatswain's Mate: Connor Rieve - Ship 110, CT

Another highlight is the Sea Scout Ball. Almost 150 Scouts joined in the fun on the dance floor, enjoying the non-stop tunes from "Rock Your Body" with DJ Alex Robles. The sound of laughter and stomping feet from the ballroom was a good indication of the fun and playfulness of our Sea Scouts. For this year's Ball, we crowned:

2007 Sea Scout Ball's Royal Court:

King: Matt Wagner - Ship 25, PA
Queen: Amanda Kolesco - Ship 25, PA
Prince: Jesse Kolb - Ship 759, MD
Princess: Sharon Burke - Ship 12, NY
Jester: Megan Morton - Ship 5, PA



Left to right: Arlen McCorkle, Connor Rieve and Aaron Stockwell
NER Boatswain, NER Boatswain's Mate, NER Venturing President

Looking Ahead

Please mark your calendars now. The 26th Northeast Region Bridge of Honor and Sea Scout Ball will be held on **Saturday, March 29, 2008** at the Holiday Inn Select, Bridgeport, New Jersey.

Thank you once again for a wonderful weekend. Have a great year! As one attendee enthusiastically stated: **NER BOH Rocks!!**



2007 Land Ship Crew from the New England Flotilla

The RBOH Committee also wishes to thank everyone who returned the 2007 Feedback Survey and forwarded other comments to us via email about ways to make the event even better next year. We hear your opinions and can promise to implement a couple of them in 2008:

- Look for some new entrée and beverage choices.
- The "Sea Chest" will return providing a place where ships can bring items to trade or sell as well as set up photo displays of activities their units have done or will be doing (like long cruises, community projects, etc.) More details to follow.
- In the afternoon, after the Skipper's Meeting and the Boatswain's Meeting, we will be showing some educational films on "The Savage Seas". Come by to watch for a while and take home some knowledge to share with your crewmates!

- We will be communicating and enforcing the semi-formal attire for the Sea Scout Ball. Those not properly dressed will be restricted from attending. Additionally, we will not allow non-registered guests of the RBOH to attend the Ball.

Watch for the 2008 RBOH Boarding Manual to be posted in October.

Be sure to also send in your Ship's choice for the "Mug Motto".

And if you have any other ideas about the RBOH or wish to offer your services to help out the Committee, send them on to Deidre Buchner at deidre.buchner@prudential.com.



Recently we learned about two youth among our NER Ships who applied their scout learning in a valuable way . . . and both received the BSA Heroism Award - 2007

Nicholas Kulak, Ship 76, Cape Cod and Islands Council - During a family vacation, rescued his brother, Patrick Donnelly, age 9, from drowning in the deep end of the pool onboard a cruise ship. Without hesitation, Nick dove to the bottom of the pool and with

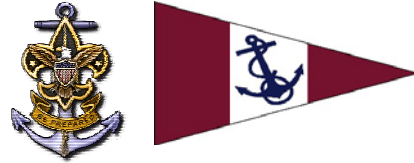
difficulty pulled Patrick to the surface and then to the side of the pool. Nicholas' quick reaction, based in part on his Scout training, prevented a tragic outcome to his brother's emergency.

John Fronzaglia, Ship 1942, National Capital Area Council - During the summer, rescued a 13 year old boy who, while working on his moored boat, slipped off the deck and got entangled in the lines, dangling just above the water level. The victim, Patrick Haurie, had almost severed his leg. John's quick action and immediate application of first aid and shock prevention tactics saved the youth's life, kept him stable until trained EMT Personnel could relieve him, and ultimately, after many surgeries and therapy, Patrick regained the use of his limb.

BRAVO ZULU !



Liberty Flotilla/Maritime College Sea Scout Sailing Clinic



The Liberty Flotilla has partnered with SUNY Maritime College to offer **Learn To Sail and Racing Clinics** during the weekend of July 6-8, 2007. This unique opportunity is open to any Sea Scouting unit in the Northeast Region.

Discover your potential at this sailing clinic located at New York Maritime College's beautiful waterfront facility. Emphasizing on the water drills in the college's fleet of club 420s and FJs, beginning students will learn the fundamentals such as terminology, points of sail, how to rig, and tacking and jibing, under the supervision of SUNY Maritime's collegiate sailing coaches.

Advanced racing sailors learn how to tune properly, trim sails and other tricks to obtain maximum boat speed, tactics to be in the best position off the line and first round the marks, understand local conditions such as reading the wind and current, and how to mentally prepare for competition. On the water drills are supported by "chalk talks" and debriefings including videotape analysis by SUNY Maritime's collegiate coaches.

The \$200 fee for Sea Scout Youth includes instruction, boats, safety equipment, meals and accommodations in the Maritime College dormitories at SUNY's Fort Schuyler campus, Bronx, NY. We will be limiting registrations to 4 per Unit/Ship so we can allow a greater participation by all our members.

There will be 2 youth per training vessel, 2 youth per racing team. We have a maximum of 40 youth spaces available.

This is an amazing opportunity for our youth to learn sailing techniques at a premier collegiate venue. If your Ship has any interest, do not hesitate; send in your deposit today to secure your spot(s). Spaces are filling up!!

For additional info contact Coordinator Noel Guzman at (718) 507-0910 or via email sss441vigilant@nyc.rr.com.

Registration Forms are available from the Liberty Flotilla Website - - http://www.seascout.net/liberty/pdf/sea_scout_suny_sail_clinic_flyer.pdf

WHAT IS THIS ???



And what does it have to do with sailors Cale Jurin and Alex Whittaker from Ship 1009 – MD? (Hint: Kings Point, NY, August 26-27, 2006)



On the Horizon - -

2007 United States Coast Guard and Sea Scout **Safety at Sea** Events :

- September 7-9 at USCG Station Annapolis, Maryland – sponsored by the Chesapeake Flotilla, Contact Steve Nichols at sainichols@hotmail.com
- September 22 at USCG Station Sandy Hook, New Jersey – sponsored by the Liberty Flotilla, Contact Brian Beck at bbeck@broadspancommerce.com

Watch for future emails providing details on skill demonstration stations, training and event logistics as well as registration forms and fees. (Photos and highlights from last year's events were posted in the TELEGRAPH's Fall 2006 issue.)

ATTENTION ALL SHIPS . . .

The Northeast Region BSA 2007 Sea Scout Sailing Championships will be held at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, New York over the weekend of August 24-26. Cost will be \$40 per participant. Registration Forms and course info will soon be released by Event Chair Garth Wells (and posted on the NER website). It would be great if your Ship could submit sailing teams to this event. Come for the experience, even if you do not think your crew will "place" and qualify for Koch Cup trials. Come, it's a great way to meet the other units in the Region and get a real good taste of the challenges of racing. We can use some adult helpers with regatta staff duties; no special talents are needed for these positions. And if you are in the neighborhood, come out and watch the races and cheer on the scouts!

The William I. Koch International Sea Scout Cup coming to Annapolis in '08

Sea Scouts from around the world will be heading to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, the host for the Fourth Annual William I. Koch International Sea Scout Cup, July 13-19, 2008. This youth sailing regatta is open to registered Sea Scouts who have qualified by placing in various sail-offs. Teams from the United States and twenty Countries can test their seamanship and leadership skills as they sail Vanguard 420's. For more information and photos from other races, check out the website at www.seascoutcup.org.

Aquatics Specialty Camp

For the fifth year, the BSA Greater New York Council will sponsor an Aquatics Specialty Camp to provide intensive training and advancement program for Sea Scouts. This year it will be held August 12-18, 2007 at Camp Kiowa, Ten Mile River Scout Reservation, in Narrowsburg, New York. Sea Scouts will be housed at sub-camp Rondack.

The program is "Sea Scout Friendly" under the direction of our very own Aquatics Coordinator Noel Guzman from Ship 441-NY. The staff also includes Sea Scout youth members and adult leaders trained in BSA Aquatics and Red Cross certifications. The program also provides training in the use of sextants and associated star gazing by the program's environmentalist Ragnar Buchner from Ship 228-NJ.

The weeklong event provides all of the Scouting aquatic merit badges as well as Motorboating and Waterskiing. The program also includes BSA Snorkeling, Mile Swim, Kayaking BSA, Boardsailing and both BSA and Red Cross Lifeguard Training. The program also provides CPR and First Aid certifications.

Flyer and camp form is located on the GNYC website http://www.tenmileriver.org/gen/forms/aquatics_registration.pdf

The Northeast Region will be offering **Seabadge XVII** at the United States Coast Guard Training Center, Cape May, New Jersey. It will be held the weekend of Friday, October 5 through Sunday, October 7, 2007. The Skipper of the course will be Ben Feril, Ship 1-MD. Cost for Seabadge NE-17 is only \$150 per adult student. This covers the course materials as well as your housing and meals. For more information access <http://neregion.seascout.org/training/seabadge.html> or contact the Course Director via email at bengmferil@msn.com. The learning at this course plus the comraderie among participants is priceless!!





FLASH TO THE REGION

The United States Power Squadron has extended their Apprentice membership fee of \$12.00 for Sea Scouts to Age 24. This should help in encouraging Sea Scouts to become active members in the USPS. Also, they will be eligible for merit marks for service to the Squadron as any full member. Any questions about this announcement can be forwarded to Bob Owens at remo5@localnet.com.



The boating season will be beginning soon in many parts of the country and now is a good time to get a Vessel Safety Check (VSC). A Vessel Safety Check is a courtesy examination of your boat (Vessel) to verify the presence and condition of certain Safety Equipment required by State and the Federal regulations. The Vessel Examiner is a trained specialist and is a member of the United States Power Squadrons or the US Coast Guard Auxiliary. They will also make recommendations and discuss certain safety issues that will make you a safer boater.

Every Sea Scout vessel should receive a VSC once a year. Information about VSCs can be found on the web at <http://www.safetyseal.net/>. You can find the vessel examiners closest to you by filling out the form at <http://www.safetyseal.net/GetVSC/>.

The Delaware Valley Flotilla is pleased to host for the third year the **Philadelphia Waterfront Extravaganza**, the weekend of October 20-21, 2007.

What do the Gulf Stream, Swim Fins, Anchoring in High Seas, and Sail Placement have in common? They were named, designed or studied by a Philadelphian!

Come visit the Battleship New Jersey, the Submarine Becuna, the Cruiser Olympia, and find clues in Historic Philadelphia to discover a long lost secret, hidden for decades "in plain view". Take home a medal for successful completion or a patch for a valiant attempt. Lodging will be provided by the Bank Street Hostel, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and scouts will feast at a dinner dance on Saturday.

For information contact Gene Foley at eafoley@eden.rutgers.edu.

Chesapeake Flotilla Sea Scout Winter Training Weekend

The Friends of Sea Scouts of Maryland, Inc. will be sponsoring their Annual Sea Scout Winter Training Weekend from 1900 hours on Friday, January 4 to 1400 hours on Sunday afternoon, January 6, 2008, at Camp Round Meadow, Catoctin Mountain Park, Maryland.

We would like to invite any Sea Scout Ship to join us for a weekend of learning and fellowship. The cost is only \$35 which will cover your registration, lodging, three meals on Saturday, and two meals on Sunday. In addition to the proposed classroom sessions, we plan to have a game-board social Friday evening in the dining hall and a sock-hop on Saturday evening.

Info on the courses to be offered can be viewed online at <http://neregion.seascout.org/training/winter.html>.

Questions regarding this training can be directed to Steve Nichols at sailnichols@hotmail.com.

What is the value of training?

by LCDR Charles A. Spitz, USCGR (Ret.)
Commodore, Monmouth Sea Scout Squadron, NJ

It is priceless!

From the time that we are born, we are being trained to do something. During our infant years we are trained to suck on a bottle, crawl, walk, and use utensils to eat. The training process continues as we are taught to tie our shoes, brush our teeth, comb our hair, and even take a bath. As we grow older we often take for granted that there was a training process for our activities of daily living. As we look back on that training, how do we establish a value? Was that training worth \$100, or \$1000, or even more? In reality, all of that training is priceless!

At the age of five we typically start school, and our educational process commences. Education, learning, and training are synonymous. During our educational process that lasts twelve years, we receive training in subjects like mathematics, English, history, geography, chemistry, and many more. While each of us has a different level of comprehension, and each of us has a different skill level with each subject, we received training that we will rely on for the rest of our lives. While there is a cost that can be computed to educate or train each person through the twelfth grade, the value of the training that we receive throughout our lives is priceless.

While there is a cost associated with attending college, the value of that education and training throughout our lives is also priceless.

Throughout the Scouting program, whether it is as a Cub Scout, Boy Scout, Explorer, Venturer, Sea Scout, or as an adult leader, there are training experiences that are available for everyone in Scouting. Those training opportunities include first aid, swimming, knot tying, life saving, and emergency preparedness, just to name a few. In Sea Scouting, the training opportunities include quarterdeck training, seamanship, navigation, piloting, and rules of the road. No matter what the cost of any one of these activities, once you have mastered the skill of the training, the value of that training is priceless!

As you are reading this article, you may be asking: “How can you continue to say that training is priceless?”

By using an example, the answer is simple. You and other members of your sea scout ship are sailing on a 42 foot sailboat on a moonless night ten miles off the coast of the United States, with seas that are five feet. Your radio is intermittent and you are having difficulty calling for help. Chances are that you would not have gotten underway unless you had received the nautical training necessary for the trip that you were taking. Given the conditions that you and your vessel are experiencing, the time is now appropriate for you to rely on the training that you have received. Based upon the conditions described, your life, as well as the lives of your shipmates are at risk. You cannot assign a value to a human life, but because you and your shipmates can rely on the Sea Scout training that you received, all of you arrive home safe and sound. What is the value of the training that you received? The answer is simple, it is priceless!

Think about the consequences of what could have happened in the scenario above, and then think about the value of the training that you received.

As adult leaders, training is also an important activity. We cannot expect the youth members of our Scouting programs to be trained while some of the adult leaders are slow to become fully trained. At a minimum, every adult Sea Scout leader should complete Sea Scout Officers Training, Venturer Leader Training, and youth protection. Once you have completed the basic training for adult leaders you are considered “trained”, but you cannot sit back and say that “I am trained”, therefore I do not need any additional education.

There is a saying that “you learn something new every day!” Whether that actually happens depends upon the individual, but the point is that we never stop learning, therefore we are constantly being trained.

We all need to take advantage of the training that is made available to us through the Sea Scouting program, you never know when that training will be used to save a life, or get you through a difficult situation. What is the value of the training that you received when you save a life, perhaps even your own?

It is PRICELESS!

