



Sea Scouts Have More Fun!

31st Annual Northeast Region BSA Bridge of Honor and Sea Scout Ball

On April 6, 2013, the Holiday Inn Select in Bridgeport, NJ, saw a sold-out crowd of 247 Sea Scouts from 32 Ships, out of 9 States, as far away as Idaho, some attending for the first time.



Presenting the Recipients of the Northeast Region 2013 Sea Scout of the Year Award

The event kicked off with an afternoon Skippers Information Meeting facilitated by Regional Commodore Noel Guzman, and a separate Quarterdeck Meeting with the Regional Boatswain Ryan Mock and Regional Boatswain's Mate Brenda Renninger, where the youth discussed key topics of concern among the region and obtained feedback on how to improve communication among the groups.

This year we hosted a special fellowship activity where youth were encouraged to complete a Scavenger Hunt to find participants who met various clues in a booklet provided by Regional Boatswain Brenda Renninger. The extra credit question was "This person is an Eagle Scout, raises seal pups, and is the skipper of the boat NER" and the answer is our very own Regional Commodore Noel Guzman. Those who turned in their completed booklets first were allowed access to the dinner buffet first and the second booklet turned in got released to the desserts first. Yummy. Off in the Swedesboro Room, we also offered the chance to play Sea Scout Bingo which used nautical terms instead of numbers. Donated prizes were handed out by organizer Beth Parks and Ruth Owens to the glee of many Sea Scouts. After Bingo concluded, rounds of Apple to Apple and Pirate Uno were played until scouts needed to make their escape to get ready for the dinner.

During the evening's Bridge of Honor ceremonies, a combined crew from Pennsylvania Sea Scout Ships 178 and 484 performed the Land Ship Ceremony, and they did a great job. Onboard we had Skipper Ann Newman, OOD John Grauvogel, Boatswain Zack Meeink, Boatswain's Mate Amanda Duprey, Allyson Leopold piped the ceremony, and the Color Guard was Sean McGinley and Michael Robinson. Bravo Zulu!

Our Keynote Speaker was Captain John Eginton of the Schooner Mystic Whaler. He confirmed that Sea Scouts have more fun but that they are also better prepared. He shared how he has witnessed how well trained and ready Sea Scouts are when they are on the water which increases their fun level as their stress levels decrease. He also shared the humorous but harrowing tale of his first day as a licensed captain in the fog covered waters off the northern coast of the Long Island Sound and how he almost ran aground and into a gentlemen's back porch. Disaster was averted, the skipper lived to have fun another day, and the story resonated with the audience.



Keynote Speaker



Land Ship Crew



Ship's Company Ready for Banquet



Commodore's Presentation



High Five for Ship's SSOY



At the conclusion of the Regional Bridge of Honor, attendees each brought home a red & blue confetti Frisbee and a red & blue logo Water Bottle.

During the Bridge of Honor we recognize our Sea Scouts, adult and youth alike. Here is a listing of those honors:

Sea Scout of the Year:

Phoebe Louise Costello - SSS Skeleton Crew - Ship 1 CT
 Amada Guapisaca - SSS Barracuda - Ship 12 NY
 Christopher Sorensen - SSS Adam Hyler - Ship 24 NY
 Callie Kaplan-Wright - SSS Spear - Ship 25 NY
 Patrick Reagan Clemens - SSS Yorkshire - Ship 25 PA
 Madelaine Sansone - SSS Integrity – Ship 30 NY
 Matthew Trzcinski - SSS Nobska - Ship 40 MA
 Allison Wendt - SSS Not By Bread Alone - Ship 110 CT
 Eli St. Amour - SSS Polaris - Ship 178 PA
 Joshua David Goldsmith - SSS Eagle - Ship 198 DE
 Robin Gabage - SSS Slayer - Ship 201 PA

Andrew Berkowitz - SSS Vigilant - Ship 441 NY
 Anna Drewitz - SSS Water Music - Ship 460 NY
 Amanda Duprey - SSS Philenape - Ship 484 PA
 Zachary Stauffer - SSS Sea Eagle - Ship 548 MD
 Shayna Levine - SSS Dragon - Ship 584 CT
 Zachary Nelson - SSS Resolute - Ship 747 VA
 Nicholas S. Lieberman - SSS Constellation - Ship 1115 VA
 Olivia Calabro - SSS Stars and Stripes - Ship 1784 CT
 Myles Gallagher - SSS Dragon Lady - Ship 1942 VA
 Skye Elizabeth Miller - Ship 2037 NY

Regional Commodore Award of Excellence:

SSS Not by Bread Alone - Ship 110, Bridgeport, CT
 SSS Eagle - Ship 198, Lewes, DE
 SSS Slayer - Ship 201, Jenkintown, PA
 SSS Vigilant - Ship 441, Queens, NY
 SSS Water Music - Ship 460, Northport, NY

SSS Sea Eagle - Ship 548, Avenue, MD
 SSS Dragon - Ship 584, Groton, CT
 SSS Resolute - Ship 747, Norfolk, VA
 SSS Constellation - Ship 1115, Springfield, VA
 SSS Dragon Lady - Ship 1942, Arlington, VA



Presenting Regional Commodore Noel Guzman, Regional Boatswain's Mate Eugene DeNezza, Regional Boatswain Brenda Renninger, Outgoing Regional Boatswain Ryan Mock, and Keynote Speaker Captain John Eginton.

We also recognized Sea Scouts who had achieved an advance rank in the program over the past year, as shared by their Ships. We acknowledged 5 new Quartermasters, 17 new Eagles, 2 new Venturing Silver recipients, and 7 SEALS from the Northeast Region.

Another highlight is the semi-formal Sea Scout Ball. Over 100 Sea 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 youth. For this year’s Ball, we crowned:

2013 Sea Scout Ball’s Royal Court:

King: Chris Sorenson, Ship 24 NY
Queen: Anna Drewitz, Ship 460 NY
Prince: Vince Milburn, Ship 201, PA
Princess: Ariel Hansen, Ship 1784, CT
Jester: Drew Schneider, Ship 1009, MD

And Doug Jones was crowned “Youngest Coolest Dude”. He is Ship 548, MD Skipper Yeckley’s Great Grandson.



We also had several sea scouts watching some videos in one breakout room as well as enjoying some quiet conversation in the lobby seating area.

On Sunday, we hosted a Catholic Mass at 0800 hours led by Father Paul, Ship 484-PA. This was followed at 0900 hours by a youth-led devotion on “King Midas” and learning what really matters and what doesn’t. Thanks to Sue Rieve, Ship 110-CT, for coordinating the timely message, and for Sea Scout volunteers Nick Wokanovicz, Noah Turner, Jordan Kovacs, and Allison Wendt from Ship 110-CT; Will Wheaton, Jr. from Ship 584-CT; Rachel Reichner, Conor Russo, and Jake Kurzhals from Ship 2037-NY; and Matt Trzcinski from Ship 40-MA. We appreciate their help with the entertaining skit, readings and songs. Thanks also to Will Kommritz, Ship 110-CT who provided the music again this year.

Looking Ahead

Mark your calendars now. The 32nd Northeast Region Bridge of Honor and Sea Scout Ball will be held on **Saturday, March 29, 2014** at the Holiday Inn Select, Bridgeport, New Jersey. Watch for more details!

Lastly, thanks for the photos provided by Sue Nelson, Ship 747-VA, Jim Graney, Ship 25-NY, and Eugene DeNezza Sr, Ship 1115-VA.

Deidre Buchner
RBOH Committee Chair

Beth Parks
RBOH Registrar



Getting ready for some fun in the sun on a famous Southern California beach.

The William I. Koch International Sea Scout Cup will be held at the Long Beach Yacht Club in California on June 22-28, 2014. Sea Scouts from all over the world will sign up for the Koch Cup and participate in a week of sailing competition on Flying Junior (FJ's) sailboats crewed by two person teams.



All U.S. Sea Scout crews must qualify in their official 2013 Regional/Area Qualifier event(s) in order to be assured of a spot to attend the William I. Koch International Sea Scout Cup. Only thirty-two U.S. Sea Scout crews will receive invitations to the Koch Cup. Qualifying competitions follow the race format outlined in the WIK Sailing Instructions, the WIK Official Notice of Race, the Racing Rules of Sailing, the BSA Guide to Safe Boating Standards, and the BSA Guide to Safe Scouting.

We will have two events in the **Northeast Region:**

Date: **August 16-17-18, 2013**

New England Sail Off Koch Cup Qualifier

Location: Brewers Pilots Point Marina in Westbrook, CT

Address: 63 Pilots Point Drive, Westbrook, CT

Point of contact: Noel E. Guzman

email: Commodore-NER@nyc.rr.com

Phone: 718-507-0910

Date: **September 6-7-8, 2013**

Chesapeake Sail Off Koch Cup Qualifier

Location: Tall Timbers Marina in Solomon Islands, MD

Address: 18521 Herring Creek Road, Tall Timbers, MD

Point of contact: Noel E. Guzman

email: Commodore-NER@nyc.rr.com

Phone: 718-507-0910

NER Sail-off Boarding Manuals will be available shortly.... watch for more information!



Sea Scout Ship 90, NORTH STAR, named to National Flagship Fleet 2013

Submitted by Ron Hall, Council Commodore, Baden-Power Council #368

Keith Christopher, the National Director of Sea Scouting, has announced that Sea Scout Ship 90, NORTH STAR, New Milford, PA, has been selected as one of only four sea scout ships named to the Flagship Fleet in 2013 for outstanding programming. Ship 90 also earned this high national honor in 2011. Chuck Jaget serves as skipper, with Judy Dennis as first mate, Helen Reed as second mate, and Joe Stude as committee chairman.

Ship 90 was organized in 1943 and has sailed on the Delaware Bay, Chesapeake Bay, Lake Huron, Lake Erie, and the Atlantic Ocean, and canoed the white water of the upper Delaware River for 32 years. Twenty-four Sea Scouts from Ship 90 have earned the Quartermaster Award and ten have earned lifesaving awards for saving a life. The ship took First Place in the Memorial Day Parade in Montrose, PA, for best uniforms and marching skills, and carried out two service projects performing repairs for the Gibson Cemetery.

48th Nygard Regatta 2013

By Brenda Renninger, NER Boatswain

Every year Memorial Day rolls around and people start thinking about seeing family, barbeques, and most importantly the men and women who have fallen serving our country. Sea Scouts in the lower part of the region have one other thing on their mind, the Northeast Region Nygard Regatta.

This year the Nygard Regatta was held May 24th to 27th at Camp Maria in Leonardtown, Maryland. During the weekend, every ship has to compete in six mandatory events - Berthing Inspection, Mariner's Quiz, First Aid Quiz, Knot Tying, Drill, and Uniform Inspection. In addition to these six events, every registered ship also has a choice of competing in 12 of the 15 optional events - Boatswain Chairlift, Canoe Slalom, Crew Swim, Compass & Relative Bearing, Heaving Line, Life Ring Toss, Marine Radio Communications, Marlinspike Seamanship, Navigation Problem, Powder Monkey Race, Pulling Boat, Rowing, Hoisting the Scuttlebutt, Signaling, and Boatswain's Pipe. When you compete in these events you get a certain amount of points depending on what place you come in compared to everyone else.

Monday morning everyone got into their dress uniforms for the closing ceremony. We started out the ceremony with my Ship 548 and I having to do a dance in front of everyone because I left my jacket in the recreation hall overnight and then got to the awards. For every event there is a first place plaque, and then there are awards for an overall 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place for the Regatta. For 2013, Ship 1942 VA took 1st, Ship 1115 VA took 2nd, and Ship 548 MD took 3rd.

To conclude the weekend, Ships 759 MD and 361 MD laid a memorial wreath in the water to remember and thank all of our Veterans and people currently serving in the Military.



Opening Ceremonies



Boatswain Chairlift



Rowing



Team Huddle



Ship 548 Team Tees



Life Ring Toss

Basic Knots

submitted by Glenn Peake

Anyone familiar with *Gulliver's Travels* will recall the scene in which the Lilliputians tie the sleeping giant to the ground. Strong rope and the right knots can indeed secure just about anything.

Throughout history, people have employed knots for everything from snaring supper to tying down a hut. But knotting proved most useful at sea. The square riggers of the nineteenth century were outfitted with thousands of feet of rope, known as rigging or lines, and to keep it secure, sailors invented a multitude of knots, each for a specific use.



The art of tying knots still has a place, not only on sailboats, but also around the house and garden. The ordinary household knot we all use daily is called a square knot. But how can other traditional knots be adapted to everyday purposes? To carry firewood, you need a simple stable knot called the Bundle S. For securing the cord to a window blind, try the Belay to Cleat. And to hang a garden hose, use two Slipped Knots at both ends of a rope. To decorate a holiday package with ribbon, you might use a Carrick Bend, an ancient knot often seen in heraldic emblems.

“A knot is a unique tool” says Brion Toss, the author of *Chapman's Guide to Knots*. “You don't go out and buy a Carrick Bend. It exists in your head, and you then use your hands to make the rope into a tool.”

Knots are divided into families: Binding Knots are used for bundling, and Bends join two ropes end to end, for example. Don't feel as though you must learn dozens of knots before you can begin using them. Four or five are all you need to tackle most household tasks.

But before you can tie a knot, you need a piece of rope or cord. For general outdoor use, Toss recommends 1/8 inch thick single-braid rope made of nylon or polyester, which will outlast natural fibers. Twine is fine for temporary use in the garden, but it will be most useful indoors, as will cotton or jute. And remember, if a knot is tied incorrectly, or if it is wrong for the situation, it can capsize, or come undone. To commit a knot to memory, practice typing it from the left and right sides, suggests Toss.

To learn more, head to the wharves to consult the resident old salt. Or just ask one of our Sea Scout SEALs; they can actually tie the 15 knots found under the Ordinary Rank Advancements in 3 minutes or less! Or perhaps check out this website <http://www.artworkbygerry.com/KnotsWebpage/knots.pdf>.



With many Sea Scouts graduating this year, here is some sage advice for your future: "Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover." - Mark Twain

MARK YOUR CALENDAR !!!



The Northeast Region will be hosting the Seabadge Conference on the weekend of October 11-13, 2013 at Camp Round Meadow in Catoctin Mountain Park, Maryland.

The Seabadge SB-17-MD-2013 course fee is \$195.00. This includes all materials, meals and berthing.

Seabadge is intense leadership and management training focused on the “how-to” aspects of managing a successful youth led Sea Scout program.

While Seabadge was developed as an advanced leadership training program for experienced Sea Scout adult leaders, the driving theme for the training is “Focus on Youth” which makes the course especially valuable for any Scout leader dealing with older youth. Seabadge does not cover topics like boating, knots, or other program-related materials found in the Sea Scout Manual. The curriculum includes twenty sessions with established objectives that are presented in a motivating, interactive, and informative forum. All registered Scouters are invited to attend this awesome training opportunity.

Applications must be postmarked no later than midnight Sunday, September 1, 2013. Due to the high demand for the limited number of participant openings, your immediate attention is requested.

For more information contact Seabadge SB-17-MD-2013 Course Director Skipper Steve Nichols at [703-408-8247](tel:703-408-8247) or by e-mail at sainichols@hotmail.com. You can get copies of the 2013 Application from Skipper Nichols or your Flotilla Commodore.

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**Just for fun . . .**

You could have fooled me!

You may think you know who’s buried in Grant’s Tomb, but can you answer these questions?



1. What country does India ink come from?
2. What kind of creature was Frankenstein?
3. The Baby Ruth candy bar was named for what person?
4. In what country did Great Danes originate?
5. Jordan almonds come from what country?

Courtesy Louis Phillips, Games Magazine, Readers Digest, Dec.2002



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**Watch for our next issue: Summer 2013, Vol.17 No.3, to be released in the third quarter of the year!  
Thank you for your ongoing support of our great Sea Scout e-newsletter!**