

SHAC SEA SCOUT FLEET MEETING MINUTES 7/15/2015

PRESENT: Wilson, Welch, Valdes, Noser, Hunn, Lipham, Knapp, Leavitt, Start, Sunker, Mulcahey, Gower, Sexton, Sunker, Plante, Bennett.

SAFETY: Bart is still available for VSE's and there are still some to do.

TRAINING: Cassie could not make it, but the Power Squadron Fall Training schedule is out and the District Conference in October has some opportunities. Chris handed out a flyer with a list of courses. Basic information on these courses from Bob Stevenson is pasted below.

Seven fall courses have been identified. To sign up and pay for the tuition plus mandatory materials, go to our squadron website [Educational Store](#). The courses we are offering are:

Seamanship (Al Meyer, AP, with P/Lt/C Rick Fisher, SN, assisting)

Piloting 1 (weekly classes at Home Port) (Lt George Crowl, AP)

Piloting 2 (monthly classes at a TBD location, probably in the northwest) (Lt George Crowl, AP)

Advanced Piloting (Lt/C Bob Stevenson, JN)

Sail (Lt/C Larry Behrmann, SN)

Marine Electrical Systems (James Pavlovsky, AP)

Weather (Ed Roland, SN)

For next spring, we are considering offering Junior Navigation and Navigation in addition to the usual courses. We are also considering once again offering Seamanship in the Lake Conroe area. If you would be interested in taking JN or N, or in taking S up north, to help our planning please let me know. No commitments are necessary at this time - we just need an indication of the level of interest in those courses.

MARKETING AND PUBLICITY: No news this month.

BOATS AND GEAR: Marcus reminded us that a former Eagle Scout up in Onalaska was ready to donate a Gulf Coast 23, a 20 and an 18; all with trailers and motors. Ship 1836 was in communication with the gentleman.

PROGRAM

FALL REGATTA: October 17 at Alexander Duessen Park on Lake Houston. Ships should bring their own lunch. Kevin Plante will bring a cake and balloons to claim a pavilion on behalf of someone's birthday.

MINTO RENDEZVOUS: The boarding manual is out folks were asked what part they would like to play. A fair number volunteered for various tasks and those names have been forwarded to TW.

OTHER BUSINESS

DOLPHIN TRACKING: Reporting dolphin sightings is an on-going project and the Environmental Institute of Houston would love to keep on getting sightings from Sea Scouts out on the upper bay. The reporting form is attached.

http://prtl.uhcl.edu/portal/page/portal/EIH/research/bottlenose_dolphin

FIVE YEAR PLAN REFINEMENT AND VETTING: The training subcommittee submitted a detailed written recommendation for the committee to review

FLEET BOSUN: The application is attached again. I have no applicants yet but skippers indicated there were three who might take it on. The Fleet Boatswain's responsibilities include A. Organizing and conducting bimonthly quarterdeck meetings with other boatswains or their ship's representatives. B. Getting youth input and consensus on program changes and enhancements and conveying those ideas to the Sea Scout committee. C. Presiding at event assemblies such as Minto or SSA. D. Networking with bosuns and scouts from different councils.

VENTURING EXTRAVAGANZA: Bovay, August 14-16. Ship 208 offered to take on the canoeing event.

SMALL BOAT SAILING AND MOTOR BOATING MERIT BADGES: Troop 1000 from down in Richmond asked for help and/or resources in teaching the subject merit badges so I put it as a topic which brought on a good discussion and some good thoughts. The best was to incorporate it into SSA as a track. Motor boating is doable. Sailing could be introduced but would take more time than is available at SSA. Chris Leavitt went and thought this out and has some good ideas on it.

ROUNDTABLE: Skipper Barton Bennett thanked Ship 88 and others for helping in getting 1836 started. Skipper Lipham said that Ship 846 had a great long cruise with Ship 1996 including an educational tour of Bank Sail company. Ship 208 is busy getting ready for an ambitious long cruise, SCUBA camp and just got through with a successful blood drive honoring their departed committee chair. Ship 77 has had some good sailing with a new boat and took part in a July 4 parade. Gordon Start announced that Ship 1701 cleared over \$3000 with a recent brisket sale (622 briskets) and also took part in a July 4 parade. He also let us know that there are about six slots open for a Philmont tour June 21-27, 2016. Ship 93 has been on frequent sails lately.

EXECUTIVE'S MINUTE: Mary reiterated that shortly after Venturing Extravaganza, the fleet would be assigned new professionals. She said this with a big smile which stayed until we adjourned the meeting and (I suspect) persisted for quite a while after. Steven DeLeon will be coming on next.

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS: I was encouraged with the discussion on putting on the small boat sailing and motor boating merit badges.

MEETING ADJOURNED: At 2103 until 1930, August 19 at the council office. I will be at my 50th high school reunion and will see you at Minto.

“It's not hard to make decisions when you know what your values are.” Roy Disney

“Choices are the hinges of destiny.” - Edwin Markham