

SHAC SEA SCOUT FLEET MEETING MINUTES 2/18/2015

PRESENT: Wilson, Ready, Valdes, Cushman, Noser, Hunn, Crowl, Lipham, Johnson, Knapp, Mulcahey, Sunker, Plante, Walker, Leavitt, Gower, Maahs, Mowad, Reynolds, Alberts.

WELCOME: To Seth Alberts representing Ship 1701

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING: I forgot to even mention them or call for approval.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS: Congratulations and applause at the announcement that Cassie Johnson has been selected to receive the Silver Antelope award.

And a sad note: Ellis Hudgins, former Skipper of Ship 720, passed away on February 16.

SAFETY: Bart has already checked a number of boats on the 31 and will be available to check more on Saturday, February 21. He requests that any folks who get their vessels inspected by another VSE inspector to please send copies of the VSE checklist to him. He is still trying to assemble a list of current AVO's and the vessels they have qualified on.

After the meeting, George sent over the following link: <http://www.rei.com/learn/expert-advice/gps-receiver.html> which the Power Squadron has found useful for anyone about to acquire a GPS or chart plotter. It compares features, prices.

TRAINING: The next Seabadge will be at Sea Scout Base Galveston September 25-27. Should be an interesting conference with the Aggie Cup going on as well as a National leader's conference. Trainers from University of Scouting reported small but enthusiastic numbers.

BOATS AND GEAR: Marcus was out with the flu, but I heard from Matt Miller that C&C Sails had Hobie 16 and Hobie 18 masts available. For anyone who has a lot of money to burn, a Hatteras 42 is available. The Chrysler Mutineer that Marcus asked about apparently went to some Ship up in Flower Mound.

PROGRAM:

SCOUT FAIR: April 18. "Scouting Around the World" is the theme. We are in the same location as last year. Ships 208, 777, 502, 1996, 846, 93 and 1701 as well as the Power Squadron have committed and a few even have plans already.

SAIL DAZE: May 2 turned out to be a problematical date for a number of critical Ships so a choice was made to see if May 16 would work. I called the yacht club the next day and confirmed that it was OK. A coordinating committee was formed to prepare for the event.

OTHER BUSINESS:

VENTURING HIGHLAND GAMES CHALLENGE: 2/27/15-3/1/15 at Bovay. Saturday only from 10:00 a.m till finish, will feature traditional Scotch games per the guide to safe Scouting. Camping the night before or after is optional and participants need to bring their own food. The modest fee of \$10 includes a patch and the winning crew get kilts to take home.

TROOP 55 REQUEST. I got a request from Nathan to coordinate with troop 55, a 250 strong troop planning an aquatics weekend at the Texas Corinthian Yacht Club May 8-10. They are looking for an introduction to Sea Scouts and maybe some instructions.

POWDERHORN: to be offered April 10-12 and 24-26. \$275 included program, food and lodging. The first weekend will be at a KOA in Conroe and the second weekend at SSBG.

<http://www.samhoustonbsa.org/powder-horn> for the website and <http://samhoustonbsa.doubleknot.com/event/2015-powder-horn/1629852> for registration. Art Mowad is registering and hoping to find other Sea Scouters.

POWER SQUADRON SEAMANSHIP AND PILOTING COURSE: George Crowl had a proposal and a handout to offer the Power Squadron Piloting Course to Sea Scouts and adults. TW Cook has been doing this up in Capital Area devoting one Sunday a month for a total of five Sundays. George proposed starting at the end of August working up to December. Costs for membership and materials would run about \$100 for adults, \$75 for youth with reimbursement scholarships available for youth. Demand may determine location. Youth can satisfy elective requirements for Ordinary, Able and Quartermaster through joining USPS and taking these courses.

TRASH BASH: The Spring cleanup service opportunity is on March 28; various locations. Starts at 8:30 am and ends around 1:30. www.trashbash.org/scouting.html. Journey to Excellence unit event.

AGGIE CUP: This Southern Region Koch Cup qualifier is scheduled for September 26 with a backup date of October 10 at Sea Scout Base Galveston. There may be some nominal cost but we are still working this out.

ROUNDTABLE: Ship 208 now has 24 youth and was asked to be the color guard at the Baden Powell dinner. Congratulations or commiserations to Chris Leavitt who was elevated to Commodore of the Houston Power Squadron this past Sunday. Ship 93 will be up in Phlugerville for a battle reenactment come May 8. Art let us know that the training documentation website of www.myscouting.org will soon be transitioned to www.my.scouting.org but your records will not be and may have to be reentered. Unhappy grumblings ensued. March 8-14 will be the annual Ship 1996/846 long cruise. They have worked a deal with SSBG and the cost will remain \$100 per person for the week for the Sea Base stay.

EXECUTIVE'S MINUTE: Cassie filled in for Kevin who had to step out. If you have not signed up for the Venturing Challenge, time is running out, and invited all to come to the Venturing forums which have been revamped with an eye towards more fun.

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS: We rang eight bells in memory of Skipper Ellis Hudgins.

MEETING ADJOURNED: At 2055 until 1730, March 18 at the council office.

“I have never let my schooling interfere with my education.” Mark Twain

“The way I see it... if you need both hands for whatever it is you're doing, then your brain should probably be in on it too” Ellen Degeneres on using cell phones while driving.