

SHAC SEA SCOUT FLEET MEETING MINUTES/ 9/18/13

PRESENT: Wilson, Sharp, Sunker, Plante, Johnson, Walker, Knapp, Vaughn, Valdes, Mowad, Upchurch, Crowl, Leavitt, Lipham, Mulcahey,

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING: I missed new Skipper Peter Cushman of Ship 208.

WELCOME: To all as Cassie had an assortment of homemade cupcakes on hand.

MARKETING AND PUBLICITY: Cassie had a chance to review the soon-to-be-released Sea Scout Fast Start, the new BSA introductory video on Sea Scouting. SHAC Sea Scouts are prominently featured.

SAFETY: Nothing new since Bart's S2 got its' CME sticker. A few folks would like to take Crisis Afloat. Just email me and we'll start looking for a date.

BOATS AND GEAR: Marcus had a conflict but emailed in his report. The Cal 25 that was offered in the spring has been turned back to the owner: No takers. There is a Cape Dory 25 at Seabrook which has been offered. Dave Gower has the details and there was some interest as Cape Dory is a high quality boat. Ship 1332 still has some pier cleaning to do down at South Shore. All other Ships at South Shore seem to be up to date on their service. Ship 1659 is still looking for the title for DaCapo.

AGGIE CUP: Was held on the 28th down at the Texas A&M Teichman Road location and using TAMUG 420's. Ship 809 from Ft. Worth took first place again but Bay Area Council Ship 45 came in a close second. Once again, a youth was whacked on the head by a boom. Helmets may become required wear in the future. Skipper Ed Carrette of BAC Ship 45 officiated in my absence.

BEACH CLEAN-UP: Also on the 28th of September. Ship 502 went back to Bolivar mile one. Prizes were given for the most trash, weirdest, grossest and most distant point of origin. There was a free lunch and more freebies for folks collecting on Bolivar. Kids can earn service hours for school and rank advancement. 502 is using this as a recruiting tool.

FALL REGATTA: October 26 at Duessen Park on Lake Houston. Skipper Kevin Plante said he'd pick up the ball on this one. Check in around noon, \$5 a head for lunch and stuff.

FLEET BRIDGE OF HONOR: Canceled for this year. It turned out that neither November 2 nor November 6 had been reserved by the council and that a cost, yet to be determined would be involved. Given all the unknowns at this late date and already looking at a full autumn schedule, I think this should be deferred and discussed at the planning meeting.

ADULT SAIL AND PLANNING MEETING: November 9. HYC cannot accommodate us as there is an evening wedding reception in the clubhouse. I reserved the chart room at Lakewood Yacht club and propose a Saturday circumnavigation of the mid-bay depository (aka "Seal Island" before returning to marinas and gathering at LYC for dinner at 7:00.

SEA SCOUT ACADEMY: We have Camp Mohawk reserved for the MLK weekend. George had a good suggestion of running one of the tracks completely out of the Galveston Boat Club including berthing and meals. Cooking was discussed. I offered to pre-cook some of the meals. I thought I had on site kitchen staff nailed down when Adam Tunks offered to help with the SSA kitchen at Minto. Then I learned his wife is due with their first child in November and figured he might have promised too much. He may not know how much your life changes.

TRAINING: Seabadge, Strake Conference Center, November 15-17. It is a full course now.

SEA SCHOOL: October 12, 13, 14. The first USPS training weekend structured for adult Sea Scouters can be accessed at uspshouston.org/home/joint-sea-scout-hsps-activities/usps-sea-school-2013/

Check out the link; there is something for everyone. Early registration ended September 20.

MINTO REVIEW: A smoothly run event that seemed to be enjoyed by everyone. There were 17 ships from five councils present. Cassie put over seven hundred pictures up on Picassa and there are videos of the boat race out there too. Ship 24 was second to Ship 502 by only 1/3 point and Skipper Houghton said that had it not stormed when it did, Ship 24 would have gotten first.

ROUNDTABLE: Some good comments were heard for Minto and Cassie and Debbie were thanked for their hard work. Skipper Plante and Ship went to Gatorfest, handed out many fleetmaps and generally promoted the program.

VENTURING EXECUTIVE'S MINUTE: Have had some praise and a pan or two of Doubleknot, the online registration tool. It does let the organizers know who is coming and better plan. Tony passed around samples of new uniform accessories for the new Sea Scout uniform now carried by the Scout Shop.

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS: Let all know that according to the Chronicle, the second highest paying degree for new graduates in Houston is Marine Transportation. It was also reported that degrees from the maritime academies have the highest rate of return of any college in the country. Thanked everyone for their contribution to Minto.

MEETING ADJOURNED: At 2103 until September 18 at the Scout office.

"Democracy is the art and science of running the circus from the monkey cage."
H.L. Mencken

"If a man will begin with certainties, he shall end in doubts; but if he will be content to begin with doubts, he shall end in certainties." Sir Francis Bacon