

membership

California Sea Scouts sail to victory



Sea Scouts between the ages of 14 and 20 years old from the United States, Ireland, New Zealand, Norway, England and Australia came to Buzzards Bay, Mass., for the William I. Koch International Sea Scout Cup competition from 20 to 26 June 2004. The scouts competed for two awards: the Kiwi Cup, for younger and less experienced sailors, and the Koch Cup, for more advanced sailors.

My husband, R/C Tom Dougherty, SN, and I represented USPS during the competition. Bill Koch, the event's sponsor, is the founder and president of The Oxbow Group, a diversified holding company. Winning skipper of the 1992 America's Cup, Koch demonstrated that success in competitive sailing isn't limited to professional



sailors. In 1995, he sponsored the first all-women America's Cup team.

A loyal Sea Scouts supporter, Koch reinitiated the National Sea Scout Sailing Championship. Called the International Sea Scout Cup, the first of these championships took place in Chicago in 2002. Koch designed the sterling silver cup to be similar to the America's Cup and commissioned it from Garrard, the same silversmiths who created the America's Cup. Koch

presented the cup to Trevor Gurley and Corey Kemp of Del Mar Sea Scout Ship 711 in Newport Beach, Calif. Winners received small replicas of the cup. Gurley also crewed on the team that won the first Koch Cup in 2002.

New awards, the Richard Schwartz BoatU.S. Sailing Cup and the Dawn Riley Team Spirit Awards, were presented this year. The BoatU.S. Cup went to Gurley and Kemp for their outstanding sailing ability. The Dawn Riley Team Spirit Awards went to Sea Scout Ship *Sea Devil* of Bowie, Md., in the Kiwi fleet and Sea Scout Ship *Challenger* of Redwood City, Calif., in the Koch fleet.

Stf/C Roberta L. Dougherty, AP
Membership Committee