



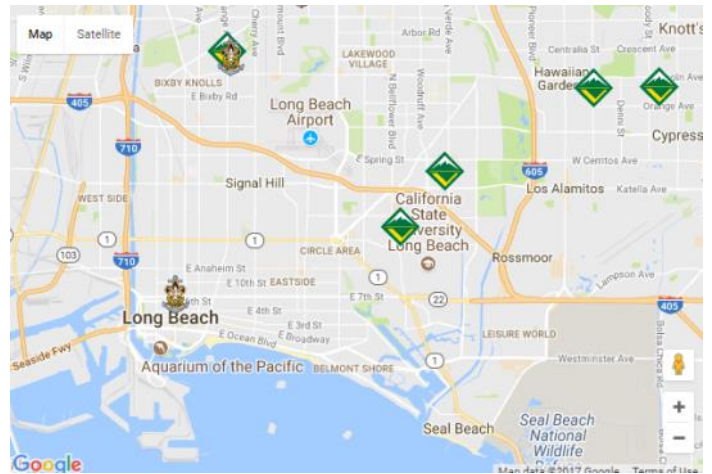
Put your Ship on the Map!

BeAScout.org is the application that puts your unit on the map! Prospective Scouts and their families can visit BeAScout.org to find a Scouting program in their neighborhood. An accurate pin is now more important than ever, because Scouts can now fill out an application and register to join your unit online. If your unit's pin is up to date they'll find you!

- Raise your unit's profile in the community.
- Recruit more youth and volunteers and help grow Scouting.

Customize your 'pin' with contact information, a photo, special message, and your unit's website. It's important to make sure your unit's pin is updated, especially before fall recruitment is in full swing.

Step by step instructions to update your pin are available online at <https://seascout.org/news/update-units-beascout-pin>.



In This Issue

[The National Sea Scout Support Committee Looks to the Future of Sea Scouts](#)
[National Director's Update](#)
[National Boatswain's Report](#)
[Alumni Association Update](#)

[Changes at National Supply](#)
[New Ship Growth & Retention Report](#)
[Resources for New Ships and Leader](#)
[Regional Reports](#)





The National Sea Scout Support Committee

Looks to the Future of Sea Scouts

Your national committee is continuing the efforts to improve Sea Scouts now and into the future. We are moving forward on our effort to align fully with the BSA organization as a whole. This October we have integrated the National Sea Scout Support Committee (NSSSC) meeting into the series of BSA national committee meetings. As a result, the Sea Scout program will be more visible, have the opportunity to partner with the other national committees, and be able to interact with other national-level staff and volunteers.

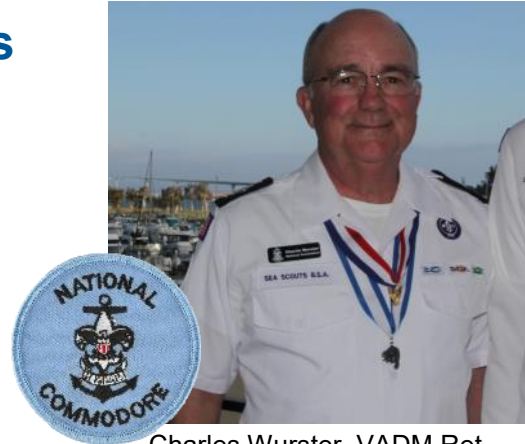
At the October meeting, we will be setting the NSSSC "areas of emphasis" for 2018 based upon the Strategy Map we have followed over the past two years. If you have ideas for this effort please contact your Regional Commodore or one of our action Group leaders, who are listed on the last page of this edition of the Sea Scout Log.

One of the big initiatives for 2018 is to place more volunteer and staff emphasis on marketing. Marketing inside and outside BSA. Marketing materials, printed and electronic. Making it easier for new Ships to get started, or for existing Ships to recruit new youth members and adult volunteers. Marketing information to engage Council executive staffs. We want to show off Scouting's best program--Sea Scouts. If you've got the interest and skills to help, please contact John Taylor at membership@seascout.org.

Your national NSSSC leadership is also engaged with partners in the scuba diving industry to make it easier and less expensive for Sea Scouts to become involved in the sport. Take a look at the new program information sheets for [Scuba Diving](#); and [Paddlesports](#).

The 2019 World Jamboree--hosted by Canada, Mexico, and the United States--is on the horizon. We're beginning the planning for a Sea Scout contingent, a program tent/booth, and a waterfront activity staffed by Sea Scouts.

While the NSSSC is planning for the future, your Ship should be planning, too. This is a good time to plan your annual cycle of meetings, activities, and adventures. Each month should feature at least one weekend activity in addition to regular meetings; be sure to include next summer's long cruise. If your unit doesn't have ready access to a ves-



Charles Wurster, VADM Ret.
National Commodore

sel suitable for a long cruise, consider a cooperative arrangement with a unit that does, or a bareboat charter, or a commercial operation like the S/V Odyssey in Puget Sound, WA sssodyssey.org/charter-info.html, or check out the list of similar opportunities at seascout.org/news/summer-cruise-opportunities. Or, go on an adventure paddling kayaks for a weeklong adventure.

Your unit annual plan should include a solid connection to your local Council--like Scouting for Food, service projects, or teaching Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts boating skills. Maybe you'll want to try a demonstration of Sea Scout skills at a Camporee, Scout-o-Rama, or Scout Fair--could be a great recruiting opportunity for your Ship, too!

If the weather in your locale shuts down boating during the winter, you can be creative with scheduling fun activities that will fit in the calendar while you are temporary landlubbers. Maybe a visit to a maritime industry factory or facility; or a trip to a shooting range to earn Sea Scout Marksmanship Awards seascout.org/news/sea-scout-marksmanship-program/; or study up on the nautical rules of the road, or develop your skills signaling with semaphore flags, and get signed off on some advancement requirements.

Charlie Wurster

Chairman, National Sea Scout Support Committee
Commodore, Sea Scouts, BSA





Importance of Leadership to the Sea Scout Program

The Sea Scout program is a coed young adult program providing opportunities for youth to get in, on, under, or around the water. We encourage youth and their adult advisors to engage in sailing, powerboating, paddlesports, and scuba-diving. There are three tracks to the program—recreational boating, military careers, and maritime careers.

We instill the values in our members through these activities. We engage them in character development, citizenship training, and personal fitness. Boats are what we are all about. The Scout Oath and Scout Law are words we live by. These tools allow us to work with youth on development of their leadership abilities.

The uniform gives our members a common identity. The boats give them a way of getting around and showing their skills. Their leadership gives them opportunities to guide others in the direction for a great program. The skills they learn can provide them opportunities for a future career in the maritime industry or in the military. Their skills also help provide them a hobby for their lifetime in recreational boating. The experiences we have with the Sea Scout program will last a lifetime. The program will provide any youth who has an interest in boating the best hands-on experiences they can participate in. The Sea Scout program is designed for a variety of individuals and groups--youth who are old enough to join and participate in the program, adults who serve as advi-



Keith Christopher
National Director

sors or support youth in their learning and participation, and community-minded adults and boating organizations who share their love of boating with our members. We need members on a local unit, council, area/flotilla, region, and national level to support the program.

Join us in participating in the Sea Scout program! Volunteer to share your talents and treasures. Go to www.seascout.org for more information.

Keith Christopher
National Sea Scout Director





National Boatswain's Report

Sea Scouting is an amazing program. As Sea Scouts, we have many opportunities for unique adventures, training and life-changing experiences which are not offered in other BSA programs. To encourage youth to join our program, we need to share our experiences and get the message of sea scouting to a wider audience. My primary goal as National Boatswain for 2017-2018 is to expand and enhance outreach and recruitment to grow the program.

This summer, I had the opportunity to present the National Flagship award to Ship 100 from Manassas, Virginia. Ship 100 is an excellent example of a ship with an outstanding program that expands the learning experiences of scouting youth. I also attended the National Jamboree at the Summit National Scout Reserve and spoke to many scouts from across the country and around the world. The Sea Scouts I met at the Jamboree shared their amazing adventures and perspectives on the program. However, I learned many scouts attending the Jamboree had never heard of Sea Scouts. I had the opportunity to expose many of those scouts to the Sea Scout program and its unique opportunities and activities. It felt great to spread the word and get more scouts interested in Sea Scouting.



Mercedes Matlock
National Boatswain

I know Sea Scouting changes lives and develops young people into astounding citizens and leaders. We must continue that tradition and spread the word. I welcome you to reach out to youth both inside and outside of scouting. Share our experiences. We have the opportunity to make it a better program and make Sea Scouting flourish. If you ever have any thoughts, feel free to reach out to me at nationalboatswain@seascout.org to and share your experiences and suggestions with me.

Mercedes Matlock
National Sea Scout Boatswain





Alumni Association Update

As everyone in the “loop” can agree, Sea Scouts is the best youth program there is out there. But it doesn't just stop there – it's the best family program out there too (sorry, we may be biased!). The National Organization of Sea Scout Alumni wants your help in making sure the world to know this as well.

First step: if you had any experience, time, or service with Sea Scouting, go to the [Scouting Alumni Network 1.0](#) and create a profile. Already have a profile? Fantastic! Add your Sea Scout experience. Have you already included in your profile? You rock! Don't forget to order one of the [NOS-SA Lapel Pins](#) to show your support. Want to do more? Send us your stories! We want to hear the amazing things you and your Ship have been able to accomplish. Or, if you've been estranged, you could volunteer with a local Ship or on a committee!

Let's continue to keep the traditions and values alive in Sea Scouts. Let's continue to honor those alumni (this is you!) who have taken the skills they learned through Sea Scouting (as ei-



ther an adult or as a youth) and applied it in their daily lives. Let's continue to foster youth, and help them achieve success through alumni support. Let's continue the journey to make Sea Scouts one of the best-known programs of the Boy Scouts of America.

Changes at National Supply

National Supply may occasionally change the stock number on some items, including Sea Scout patches and insignia. For example, the stock number for the black "Sea Scouts, BSA" strip, which is worn over the right pocket, recently

changed to No. 641602. The stock number for the white version is unchanged, No. 4126. You can order either at your Scout Shop or through ScoutStuff.org





Ship Growth & Retention Report

Sea Scouting is on the move. At least 42 new Sea Scout ships were organized in 2016, which is the largest number this decade. While most new ships are traditional sailing or powerboating units, a number are focused on paddling and scuba diving. Robin Pope has developed quite a lot of paddling-related program support that should help new paddling ships, or traditional ships that would just like to incorporate paddling into their activities and advancement. Remember, we now have paddling electives that appeal to the millions of new paddlers joining the boating community. Skipper Pope organized Ship 957, a new paddling ship in Sylva, North Carolina. Check out Sea Scout paddling on the Sea Scouts, BSA website or Facebook page.

A number of new ships focus on scuba diving. These efforts are coordinated by Kathy Weydig, Skipper of the Lake Havasu City, Arizona Sea Scout ship. Skipper Weydig is a professional dive photographer, instructor, and member of the Women Divers Hall of Fame. This past fall she delivered

a presentation (with Keith Christopher) on Scuba in Sea Scouting at the DEMA convention in Las Vegas. She is also working on support materials that will be appearing on the Sea Scouts, BSA website in the coming months.

The Sea Scout Ship Growth & Retention Group is here to help new ship organizers get the help they need to turn their interest in Sea Scouting into success. With the help of the regions we have lined up new ship mentors in most states, and lots of support for new ships and new leaders now appear on the Sea Scouts BSA website, thanks to Peter Schmidt's efforts.

Please let us know if you would like to help with growing Sea Scouts. We can be reached at newships@seascout.org. The time for Sea Scouting is now. Can we count on you?

Bruce Johnson
Ship Growth & Retention Group Leader
newships@seascout.org

Resources for New Ships and Leaders

One of the primary considerations in developing the new seascout.org has been making it easy for each of our constituents; members, prospective members, community members, and partners, to get what they need without any extra steps. To accomplish this, the communications group's goal is to keep all the content within three clicks of the homepage, without duplicating any materials.

The New Unit Organization Kit and the New Leader

Resources Page bring that goal one step closer to a reality. These pages serve as launchpad into the various resources spread across our site, and other BSA sites, that new leaders will need to familiarize themselves to start a ship or to familiarize themselves with the program. Check the pages out here: <https://seascout.org/new-leader-resources> and here: <https://seascout.org/new-ship-organization-kit>. The pages will continue to be updated as more resources are developed.





Central Region Update

Hope your summer was as busy as mine. Congrats to all our participants in the 4 Central Region Koch Cup Qualifier regattas and especially the winners. They will go on to represent us in 2018 at the Bi-annual Koch regatta.

As fall approaches and you begin to "winterize" your vessels in the central USA, remember that the fall and winter are excellent times to work on the indoor and classroom requirements to earn your next rank. We encourage our adult sea scouts to make sure your training is up to date by participating in the Sea Scout Modules on my.Scouting. Training your youth officers is also important to the health of your ship.

Fall is also an important time for every ship to hold recruiting drives in conjunction with the beginning of the school year. While recruiting new members to your ship should be a year round goal, this is a particularly good time to get new prospective members involved in your ships. Remember, we all need to talk up Sea Scouting to encourage others to be part of the fun.

John Paproki
Central Region Commodore
crcommodore@seascout.org
central.seascout.org





Northeast Region Update

Provisional Long Cruising

In its third year, 23 Sea Scouts took advantage of the Provisional Cruising program, linking Scouts with Ships that have cruises planned. The program utilizes the same concept that allows Scouts to attend summer camps without their troop. Through the Provisional Cruising program, Sea Scouts have the opportunity to accomplish their advancement goals and attain the Quartermaster rank. Sea Scouts and ships also expand their networks to allow for future activities between the ships. Two Ships also acquired the use of *der Pelikan*, the legendary vessel of the Chesapeake, for their ten day long cruise. In all, 52 Sea Scouts have participated in the program this year, steady increase over years one and two.

SEAL in the Region

The Region held two SEAL courses with full compliments of participants. Texas had the lead in overall course participant among the five courses nationwide. The NER sent six candidates. Info on the NER courses will be published in the Telegraph in the coming months.

Seabadge in the Region

(SB-34-NY-2017) was a planned experimental course to determine if Seabadge can go deep into the region and still attract participants. Past courses were at well named locations, nautical museums and military bases, an easy way to attract participants. The course is now full at 32 participants. It will be held at Camp Gorton at the Finger Lakes Sea Base from 1500 Friday, October 6, 2017 to 1300, Sunday, October 8, 2017. On grounds of the Camp Gorton-Finger Lakes Sea Base 4241 County Rd. 25, Dundee, NY 14837. Elmira, NY is just to the north. This NER Boatswain and Boatswain elect attend the course; no course had



ever achieved this milestone.

Koch Cup Regional Qualifiers

Our Koch Cup Regional Sailing Qualifiers are underway. The Northern, New England, race was held in August with 8 crews competing. The Southern, Chesapeake, qualifier will be held on September 30, 2017. Our top five crews and additional alternates, TBA, will represent the Northeast Region at the Koch Cup at the Galveston Sea Base on July 8th to the 13th 2018. Registration will be completed by qualifying crews before December 31.

Over the last year, the NER added its sixth flotilla and merged the Flotillas with the BSA's organizational Areas. We will be assessing the merger and determine its impact. Regardless of the merger, all flotillas still will have the ability to cross borders/boundary lines for programming and activities. Sea Scouts are a migratory lot and love the adventure.

Noel E. Guzman
Northeast Region Commodore
nercommodore@seascout.org
nerseascout.org





Southern Region Update

Southern Region is getting ready for fall events such as Minto Rendezvous in Texas and Davy Jones Rendezvous in North Carolina. We are also looking forward to four Koch Cup qualifiers in North Carolina, Texas, Georgia and Florida. We have Seabadge coming up in October at Pamlico Sea Base in North Carolina, in November at Camp Wisdom Conference Center in Texas, and in January at the Florida Sea Base Conference Center.

Our regional quarterdeck has decided to designate a Sea Scout of the Month for each Area across the region - you can check out the August Sea Scouts of the month at <http://southern.seascout.org>. To nominate someone for September, contact your Area Boatswain or use the contact form on the site.

This year has seen a great deal of new ship formation activity across Southern Region - thirteen new ships have been chartered so far this year, and several more are in process. We are especially excited that at least three councils with no Sea Scouts at all have started ships this year. Our prayers go out to our Sea Scouts and their families affected by Hurricane Harvey.

TW Cook

Southern Region Commodore

twcook@southern.seascout.org

southern.seascout.org





Western Region Update

Helping Our Shipmates in Texas

Many Sea Scouts and volunteers in Texas have lost their homes from Hurricane Harvey. The Boy Scout Councils impacted by flooding include Sam Houston Area Council, Three Rivers Council, Bay Area Council, South Texas Council, Alamo Area, and Capitol Area. There are many people who need help.

If any Sea Scout Ship would like to help a sister Ship recover in Texas, please contact me. We will work with Southern Region Commodore TW Cook to connect interested Ships with those in Texas who need help recovering.

Yours in Scouting,

Josh Gilliland

Western Region Commodore
wrc commodore@seascout.org
western.seascout.org

Seabadge 2018

The Nevada Area Council is hosting a Seabadge Course at the Kimball Scout Reservation, Mt. Potosi, Las Vegas, Nevada, on August 24-26, 2018. This will be a great course for Sea Scout volunteers in the American Southwest. Join us for SB-36-NV-2018. For more, email Skipper Kathy Weydig at lakehavasuseascouts@gmail.com

WR Grants

Sea Scout Ships in California, Colorado, and Hawaii have all been awarded WR Sea Scout Grants. We are accepting applications for the end of 2017. Please apply now for funds to help Sea Scouts go on cruises, vessel repairs, or support Sea Scout events. Grant applications are available at <https://seascout.org/download/western-region-sea-scout-grants/>





National Sea Scout Support Committee

[Mercedes Matlock](#)

National Boatswain

[Charles Wurster VADM, USCG \(Ret.\)](#)

National Commodore & Chairman

[Keith Christopher](#)

National Director

[Peter Schmidt](#)

Communications & Technology

[Bruce Johnson](#)

New Ship Growth & Retention

[John R. Taylor III](#)

Marketing

[Hugh H. Riley](#)

Operations & Administration

[Cassie Johnson](#)

Program Support

[Kip Peterson](#)

Relationships

[Noel E. Guzman](#)

Northeast Region Commodore

[TW Cook](#)

Southern Region Commodore

[John T. Paprocki](#)

Central Region Commodore

[Josh Gilliland](#)

Western Region Commodore

Raymond Derk

Robert French

Richard Gash

[Eva Hogan](#), NOSSA

Jimmie Homburg

Katie Jacobson

Eric L. Kiesel, MD, PhD

Capt. Luke Knuttel

Michael Philbrook

Wm Lee Popham

William Reisa

Bruce Rodgers, P.G., P.A.

Bob Sirhal

LCDR Wayne A. Stacey, USCG Ret.

Dr. Arthur Henry Sulzer, Ed D

Ronald Sunker

Nick G. Tarlson

Adam Tunks

Rachel West

John-Michael Zimmerle

