

Sea Scout Ship 681 - Old Ironsides

February 2019

This was likely the warmest annual Report to State Parade we have ever participated in. February 2nd saw our ship marching up Congress Avenue from Cesar Chavez to the Capitol with Cub Packs, Scout Troops, Venture Crews, Explorer Posts and sister Sea Scout Ships. The annual parade culminates in a rally at the Capitol steps.

Boy Scouts of America was founded on February 8, 1910. In the United States, Scouting has been used by churches, temples, synagogues, and many other religious organizations as part of their youth ministries. Approximately 50 percent of all Scouting units are chartered to religious groups. The Sunday preceding February 8th is recognized as Scout Sunday. This year our Ship, along with Pack and Troop 198 participated in worship services at Rolling Hills Community Church (our charter organization) in Lago Vista. This highlights the Scout programs Duty to God as part of our citizenship training.

Our Ship is helping a new sister Ship in the process of getting started. As such we took two boats of Scouts and Scouters sailing on February 16th. Hamberger cook-out before the sail and ice cream social afterwards were the highlights of the day.

Two of our adult leaders participated in the Racing Rules training this past weekend. Mate Dunlevy who raced J boats in his younger days was interested to learn the changes in rules over the past few years. Skipper Schuttger also attended.

Late last year a Nacra 5.2 was donated to our Ship. We have had a couple of maintenance days to get it ready to splash this year. All new lines have been installed and we plan to step the mast and splash the hulls after the March 3rd Opening Day ceremonies. We've got some Scouts that are looking forward to going FAST !

Lastly, thanks to Bill Records and the Membership Committee for reviewing our Ships membership contract and bringing it to the Board for consideration tonight. We look forward to growing Sea Scouts at Austin Yacht Club.

- Chris Schuttger - Skipper - SSS 681 - Old Ironsides