

Sea Scout Ship 681 - Old Ironsides March 2019

March saw our Ships activities picking up for the year.

The Nacra 5.2 we received as a donation last year had final maintenance, mast stepping and setup completed and a great 2 hour run to the dam and back. Skipper and Mate Allen sacrificed themselves for this inaugural run to protect the youth from any dangers that might arise from an old boat going out for the first time ☺ Our main concern was having to secure a hull drainplug assembly. A copious amount of silicon at least temporarily plugs the hole around the plug. During the test run we noticed no appreciable amount of water entering the hull.

On Saturday March 16th we performed a days service for our Charter organization - Rolling Hills Community Church. A Lago Vista city water main was just upgraded - tearing up the lawn at the edge of their property. Our Ship and other church members raked turned out to be a bit of slow month for our rocks and gravel and spread a couple of inches of soil over the area and planted grass to prevent erosion on the slope that runs from the road down to the church.

We have begun our detailed planning for providing the Governor's Cup Sunday afternoon lunch. We're looking forward to this event.

Last month the AYC Board approved an update to the AYC/Rolling Hills Community Church agreement. We are awaiting final review and signature from the church. We should have this back before next months AYC Board meeting.

At our last Ship meeting we planned out our sailing activities for the next few months. This will include our annual April Shoot-n-Splash at the Lost Pines Scout Reservation Bastrop, participation in the Turnback Canyon regatta as a replacement for our historical Sometimes Island Sail Days event. We will start the summer with a four day Long Cruise in late June where we plan to sail 3 or 4 keelboats on Lake Travis, performing safety drills, anchoring overnight, night sails, swimming, eating, picnicking, partying, etc. ! This event is equivalent to Boy Scouts summer camp week long outing.

- Chris Schuttger - Skipper - SSS 681 - Old Ironsides