

# Sea Scouts Off-season Filled with Fun

## SCUBA

Eight of our Sea Scouts, two adult leaders and four family members took advantage of a group training program including home readings, DVD, classroom and pool sessions, and are now ready for open water dives to become certified SCUBA divers. Our goal is to do some local diving this summer, and plan a dive and sailing trip to the Caribbean

over winter break. Thanks to Scuba Systems in Skokie for top-notch professional training.

## WINTER WORK PARTY

While their Skipper was recovering from hip replacement surgery, four of our Sea Scouts and four adult leaders pitched in for winter house projects aboard the Club Ship. Shoveling rust below decks, cleaning the classroom, and sanding in prep for painting on the rail deck help with our service hour requirement for advancement and allowed us to give back to our sponsor.

## WINTER CLUB EVENTS

Our annual Whirlyball outing had full Ship attendance, as did the booth at Strictly Sail. Marlinespike Seamanship demonstrations at the Chicago Maritime Festival gave us a chance to show off skill, and make new friends.

## CHOWDAFEST

Our third annual Ship fundraiser at Columbia in March was the most successful event yet, with nearly 250 attendees sampling chowder from a dozen local restaurants, wine from Lynfred Winery, Goose Island beer and Eli's Cheesecake. Thanks to our own Bruno Lago and his partner Jeff Reid at Imagine Festivals, and to Nick Philp and staff for a festive and lively party.

## BOATYARD WORK & COMMISSIONING

Work at the boatyard started as soon as the frost was gone, cleaning, polishing and getting *Nautilus* ready for a full season on the water. A splicing workshop with Phillip Pollard from Crowley's will get our newly donated halyards ready for reeving, and give our Scouts new skills. A harbor party will meet the delivery party, ready to load gear and finish fitting out before our shakedown sail.

## ON THE HORIZON

Our spring Bridge of Honor welcomed five new members, advanced several in rank, installed new officers, and recognized honorees. Then it's regular Monday



1 SPRING WORK PART ON THE NAUTILUS 2 SEA SCOUTS LEARNING SCUBA SKILLS 3 CELEBRATING AND RAISING FUNDS AT CHOWDAHFEEST, WALLY GORZEN, JARED GORZEN, FRAN BAUMGART, BRUNO LAGO, MARTY BERNSTEIN

BY MARTY BERNSTEIN  
SHIP #5111 SKIPPER



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evening training, Wednesday racing, long cruises and the Mac Race. Our sailing vessel, *Nautilus*, will again be hired for the race by Columbia members Russ Salzman and Neal Mehlman and their syndicate. They will hand pick a few motivated, enthusiastic Sea Scouts to round out the crew.

### THANK YOU

Our heartfelt thanks to the Columbia Yacht Club members, Flag Officers and Board, staff, and to the countless volunteers and supporters for this very worthy program. See you on the water. 🚩

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**4-5** CHRISTMAS SHIP PARTY FUN—AT THE CARD TABLE AND ON THE DANCE FLOOR  
**6** HOT DOG LUNCH AFTER TREE UNLOADING - LIAM, ALEX, JARED, NINA, KEATON, TIANA, GATES, AND DIOMIR FROM SHIP #5111 COLYC  
**7** JACKSON MARTIN ON CLEANUP CREW AFTER CHOWDAHFEST  
**8-9** CROWDS AND CHEFS AT CHOWDAHFEST