

Marine Careers

The youth officers of every Sea Scout ship must give serious consideration to widening the horizon of Sea Scouts for all ship members by unfolding, through specialized program activities, the multiple and fascinating opportunities for marine career exploration.

Thousands of men and women have selected jobs in this area. The Sea Scouts of your ship who show an enthusiastic interest in the sea should have every chance to explore different phases of marine career work.

These opportunities vary from full-time service in the Navy or Coast Guard to an exciting future in what we now refer to as “inner space,” the relatively unknown area between the surface of the sea and the outer crust of the earth. It is a frontier as new and challenging as outer space.

During program planning, the youth officers need to find and record the career interests of the present ship membership. They will probably fall into two areas. Some of your group will likely be very interested in some vocational phase, such as piloting, marine biology, boat maintenance, or a career in the Coast Guard. Others may indicate interests in fields unrelated to marine careers, such as forestry, electronics, or medicine.

Your goal with the latter group can be to help them establish an aquatic hobby that will serve them throughout their lives. After determining the career interests of ship members, the youth officers of the ship should plan Sea Scout programs related to those interests. Recruit a group of experts (consultants) in marine-related fields and schedule a series of programs.

Sea Scout ships can make a significant contribution to the marine interests of their community and nation by planning and conducting marine career activities. Some of the more common career opportunities that merit consideration are:

OCEANOGRAPHY. The science that deals with the ocean and its phenomena.

MARINE BIOLOGY. The science of life in the ocean.

ICHTHYOLOGY. The branch of zoology that deals with fish.

OCEAN TRANSPORT. An activity that deals with the movement of goods, etc., on the water.

MARINE ENGINEERING. A branch of engineering that deals with the construction and operation of the power plant and other mechanical equipment of seagoing craft, docks, and harbor installations.

COASTAL FISHERIES. The technology of catching fish or taking other sea products for commercial reasons.

NAVAL ARCHITECTURE. The field of designing ships.

ADMIRALTY LAW. The field of law that has jurisdiction over maritime questions, and civil and criminal maritime offenses.

YACHTING AS A BUSINESS. The business related to pleasure boats.

MARINE INSURANCE. The field of insurance that guards against loss by damage or destruction of cargo, freight, merchandise, or the means or instruments of transportation and communication.

THE UNITED STATES NAVY. The military organization for sea warfare.

THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD. The armed service that guards the coasts and is responsible for the safety, order, and effective operation of maritime traffic in neighboring waters.

THE MERCHANT MARINE. Privately- and publicly-owned commercial vessels of our nation as distinguished from those of the Navy.

BOAT MAINTENANCE. The work involved in keeping seagoing craft in safe working order and fit for sea travel.