

# VENTURING MAGAZINE

## Duct Tape and Cardboard: To the Finish Line by Holly Watson March 2013

As the first race begins, the crowd goes wild cheering for their own teams at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Soggy Bottom Boat Race. For the past week three Crews, two Ships, and a



Ship 16  
Most likely to improve

Troop have been working hard on making their man-made boats. With great creativity and determination, these six groups have made six unique themed boats out of just cardboard, duct tape, and some paint, to add a little color. This event, which is hosted by the Colonial Trail VOA, is an unusual occasion that brought over fifty people out to cheer their friends and family on.



Crew 25 best dressed team winners and their USS Recycle boat



Crew 247 team spirit winners and their 'Mooving' boat



Troop 1928 Vogue award with their Time Bandit boat

Each group has their boat painted with a theme. Crew 247 has a Chick-Fil-A theme. Their boat is painted like a cow; they even have a tail on the



Ship 1610 Titanic award

back. Crew 595 has a Scottish theme. Everyone in 595 wears a kilt to show their support for their boat. Crew 25 honors the Navy with a boat painted as a battleship called U.S.S. Recycle. Along with their battleship they are dressed in naval uniforms. Ship 1610 shows their patriotic side by painting their boat as an American flag. Ship 16 goes classic and paints their boat as a red rowboat. Troop 1929 designs their boat as a boat from "Deadliest Catch." Troop 1929 also all dressed as fishermen. All of these teenagers have worked hard to look good for the Soggy Bottom Boat Race.

The Soggy Bottom Boat Race starts off with two races, each with three teams. These two races decide who goes to the championship race. The championship race consists of the first and second place winners from first two races. The winners from the first two races are Crew 247, Crew 25, Crew 595, and Ship 1610. When this race begins the crowd is louder than before, screaming out the names of the teenagers rowing to gain a victory. At first crew 595 and crew 25 are duct tape to duct tape as they race to the first turn. As they reach the first turn 25 started to fall back while 595 zooms ahead.



Crew 25 and Crew 595 battle it out

Behind 25, Crew 247 starts too caught up. With four rowers they put their heads together and row simultaneously with all their might. Half way through the race they pass 25, cheering and encouraging each other that they can pass 595 too. With 595 approaching the finish line 247 starts to come up behind them. 595 starts to paddle as fast as they can, determined to win. In the end, 595 receives 1<sup>st</sup> place. Not far behind, 247 wins 2<sup>nd</sup> place. Soon after 247 finishes, Crew 25 gains 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Ship 1610 is left in last place, due to their boat nearly sinking. With all the tension gone, everyone breaths for a race well done. After the exciting race, everyone sits down for a relaxing cookout and later awards are handed out.



Crew 595, pride of the regatta award with their Nessy boat

Mr. Rick, the VOA advisor, wanted everyone to have the chance to win an award. So not only were there awards for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, there were awards for other aspects. Mr. Rick and VOA President, Holly Watson, presents the first award of voted most likely to improve next year to Ship 16. Then, Crew 247, with their great team work, is presented with the team spirit award. Troop 1928 was given the vogue award for their creative boat. The next award makes many people smile. With the best sinking, the titanic award is awarded to Ship 1610. Crew 25, with their naval uniforms on, receives best dressed. Last, but not least, Crew 595 is presented with pride of the regatta award. All participants are grinning from ear to ear. With great sportsmanship and hard work everyone left with an award and a soggy bottom boat.