

Commodore Jimmie Homburg

In a world of Venturing where adults and youth are on a first name basis, my first communication to Jimmie Homburg, National Commodore for Sea Scouts, was addressed "Dear Jimmie". The return message was signed, "Commodore Homburg".



Immediately embarrassed, I reflected upon my faux pas. Yes, Sea Scouts are part of Venturing, but as our older sibling, have traditions and history unfamiliar to those of us who are wild about outdoor adventure, sports and community service on terra firma. Part of the proud tradition of Sea Scouts mandates that the National Venturing Youth President address the National Commodore by her proper title, and I respect that tradition. Upon my retirement as NVP, I hope to pursue my two remaining Venturing goals: first, to complete TRUST; and, second, to become involved in Sea Scouts (a feat quite challenging without a ship available in over 200 miles in any direction). Someday, I hope to fully understanding the history and tradition of which Commodore Homburg is so proud.

Jimmie Smith Homburg, the first female National Commodore for Sea Scouts B.S.A., has been involved in the Sea Scout program for more years than I have been alive. Since 1985, she has served as a skipper of a Sea Scout Ship, chairwoman of Regional Rendezvous and a member of Seabadge training staffs. Commodore Homburg was a staff member of the Sea Scout exhibit at the BSA National Jamboree and serves as a National Sea Scout Committee member. In February of 2000, Jimmie attended the Americas Cup races with two Sea Scouts from the United States. She did a carrier landing and take-off on the aircraft carrier Abraham Lincoln.

Contributing to Sea Scouts in many ways, Commodore Homburg has used her respected graphic-design skills to enhance the look of the Sea Scout literature.

When I requested information from Commodore Homburg regarding her involvement in Sea Scouts, her reply was brief, humble and lacking mention of the many national meetings she has attended, the numerous times she has taught at Philmont, or the role she plays in our annual meetings. I wish I had more opportunity to know Commodore Homburg – for I fear this is not an adequate narrative of her 20+ years of service to Scouting. I can close by stating that Commodore Jimmie Homburg is a greatly respected force within Venturing. Thank you, Commodore Homburg!