

VENTURING MAGAZINE

Don't Give Up the Ship!

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On September 19, 2014, members of Sea Scout Ship 1767, Triton, chartered by the Newport Harbor Elks Lodge in Newport Beach, CA, participated in a once in a lifetime adventure for Sea Scouts. We were guests of the United States Navy for a cruise aboard the USS Lake Erie, an active duty Ticonderoga-class guided missile cruiser.

She is named for the decisive U.S. Navy victory

during the War of 1812 and her motto is, "Don't Give Up the Ship." The Lake Erie has been stationed in Pearl Harbor, HI for the past two years and was on her way to her new duty station when she docked at the Seal Beach Naval Weapons Station in Seal Beach, CA. This is where members of Triton boarded this sleek missile cruiser for the last leg of her journey to San Diego, CA.



Scouts and Scouters gathered in the early dawn hours for an escort onto the Naval base at Seal Beach and after colors, were invited on board the ship and led to the galley where sailors had breakfast waiting. We were then given a safety briefing and a personal tour of the ship including the bridge and CIC (Combat Information Center). We met sailors from all over this country who were proud to answer our questions and show off their "boat"; most of them still young enough to be Sea Scout!

We cruised past Catalina Island, saw dolphins, a whale and a hammerhead shark! At lunchtime we were surprised by a BBQ with all the fixings on the helicopter landing deck, prepared and served by servicemen and servicewomen, and to witness a presentation of the Surface Warfare Award to several crewmen by one of the commanders. As we neared San Diego late that afternoon we passed the Coronado Islands, the beautiful Point Loma and under the Coronado Bridge to reach our final dock. The United States Navy presented all Scouts and Scouters with a commemorative certificate as we disembarked. It was a fabulous day!





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