

Sea Scout Ship #542

Crew Charter Organization: Lake Manawa Sailing Association

District: Trailblazer

Meeting location: Lake Manawa Sailing Club
812 Comanche St., Council Bluffs, IA

Meeting time and date: Second and fourth Saturday each month, 10 am to 2 pm

Cost: \$50 annual dues

Crew program: Ship 542 is a sailing unit. Crew members learn to sail and how to maintain their boats. The Ship has a Laser and 7 Sunfish single handed sailboats, and a 25 foot MacGregor cruiser that the crew uses to learn basic sailing techniques. Leadership skills development is a primary objective of all activities, which encourage crew members to work toward advancement and pursue special Sea Scout awards. All crew members complete the Coast Guard Boater Safety course, and must complete BSA Youth Protection, Safe Swim Defense, Safety Afloat and Weather courses.

Special Activities:

1. The Ship hosts a Small Boat Sailing Merit Badge program each summer.
2. It hosts a Sea Scout Regatta in July that has included participants from Minnesota, Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska.
3. Crew members participate in the Sailing Club dock days to put in and take out the docks at the beginning and end of the sailing season.
4. The Ship has an annual long cruise each summer, which is a week-long sailing adventure.
5. One weekend during the summer the Ship goes on a sail-away to a lake within driving distance of Lake Manawa.
6. The Ship participates in International Koch Cup qualifying events and has had a team compete in the Koch Cup Regatta.
7. Each year the Ship conducts a youth leadership training session where it develops program goals for the coming year.
8. In the off-season the crew have parties and social events with other crews.

How to join:

1. Contact the Skipper to receive information about the Ship and arrange to visit the Sailing Club to meet the crew.
2. Fill out a BSA Youth Application.
3. Pay your \$18 BSA membership fee and your \$50 annual Ship's dues.

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