

## Scout Drill Becomes a Real Rescue

The Sea Promise that every Sea Scout knows by heart includes the phrase, "Be prepared to render aid to those in need." And scuba diver Dan Carlock is alive today because California Sea Scout Zack Mayberry took that promise seriously.

Mayberry and the crew aboard the Sea Scout topsail ketch *Argus* rescued Carlock as he drifted in the Pacific Ocean several miles off Newport Beach April 24 after the Santa Monica diver had become separated from his diving team.

On watch during a return cruise from Santa Catalina Island aboard the 100-year-old schooner, Mayberry, 15, spotted something in the water. His binoculars confirmed the sight.



After his ordeal, diver Dan Carlock, above left, is able to smile with one of his rescuers, Zack Mayberry, above right. The Sea Scouts were sailing the *Argus*, right, when they spotted Carlock adrift in the Pacific Ocean.

"You see trash on the surface all the time but this looked like a stick floating upright and it turned out to be a guy in the water," said Mayberry.

Mayberry handed the binoculars to a crewmate, just to be sure his eyes weren't playing tricks on him. His buddy saw the same thing — about 200 yards away at the time — and together they yelled, "Man overboard!"

As the crew prepared to heave to, Mayberry, true to his training, kept his eyes locked on the figure in the water so as not to lose sight of him in the swell, which he estimated was running three to four feet.

"Everybody knew what to do; it was pretty cool," says Mayberry who only joined the Sea Scouts this year. "The adult First Mate, Al Sorkin, called out 'This is not a drill,' and he ordered the crew to drop the

inner and outer jibs."

In minutes, the Sea Scout crew had launched the *Argus'* small boat and Sorkin ordered the remaining crew to start the ship's generator in order to prepare some warm food for the diver in distress.

Once aboard *Argus*, Carlock began asking, "Who saw me? I want to meet the guy who saw me."

"He just thanked me a lot," Mayberry says. "He was really tired and really grateful."

According to press reports, Carlock had been on a diving charter with a small group from Marina del Rey. About 15 minutes into his first dive, off Newport Beach, Carlock said pressure built up in his ears and he had to surface.

Coming up about 400 feet from the dive boat, Carlock told the *San Diego Union*, he began blowing his whistle to attract the attention of the crew. But then the unthinkable happened; the boat sailed off without him.

Carlock said he drifted in the ocean current, praying for rescue and according to the paper, he was 11 miles from the spot where the dive boat had reported him missing when

rescued by the Sea Scouts. Carlock had been drifting for more than five hours and could have been pulled by currents into the busy shipping lanes to Long Beach Harbor. Only minutes before spotting Carlock, the *Argus* had left the shipping lanes and a pea-soup fog.

Kelley Sewell, a former Navy Corpsman and father of one of the Sea Scouts checked Carlock for injuries and to ensure that he didn't have decompression sickness. The crew fed the diver and gave him warm clothes before a Coast Guard rescue boat picked him up.

The highlight of this high seas adventure came three weeks later though, when Mayberry and Carlock were reunited in Chicago on the "*Oprah Winfrey Show*." "Dan just said, 'I'm really glad your Mom fed you carrots'," Mayberry recalls. "Well, I was just doing my job — but it was pretty cool to hear him say that on television."



## Great Lakes Water Levels Up

After years of extremely low water levels, Great Lakes waters are on the rise again, thanks to a very wet spring. And when they hit their peak seasonal levels, Lakes Huron, Michigan, St. Clair and Erie should be substantially higher than four years ago when conditions left many boaters high and dry and marinas scrambling for permits to dredge their slips.

While still below their long-term averages, the lakes are filling up at a faster rate than expected due to increased precipitation, according to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers which tracks the fluctuations. In May, the four lakes were from 5 to 9 inches above last year while Lakes Superior and Ontario were up 2 inches over 2003. Lakes Huron and Michigan rose 7 inches during one 30-day late spring period.

That's in marked contrast to the dry years, 2000 and 2001, when lake levels dropped a foot and a half or more below the average, leaving many marinas with more mud than water around their docks. Boaters who could get out and enjoy some of the season were faced with the prospect of running aground in their favorite waters.

## Law of the Sea Treaty Surfaces

After floating around in U.N. circles for 30 years, the international Law of the Sea Treaty bobbed up in Washington, DC, late last year and some in the boating industry think it's time for the U.S. to get on board.

The U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy and the National Marine Manufacturers Association is calling on the U.S. to sign the treaty, ratified in 1982 and in force since 1994. Today 143 countries are signatories to the treaty.

The treaty provides the framework to govern the world's oceans beyond national boundaries and has "great potential to advance U.S. interests related to navigation of the seas, productive use of their resources and protection of the marine environment," according to Sen. Richard Lugar (R-IN), chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

The Bush Administration is backing the U.S. Navy and the Coast Guard, who are in favor of the treaty. The full Senate must ratify it, however, and a vote could come later this year.