

## **Ithaca's Sea Scout Ship Spear Named to 2025–2026 National Sea Scout Flagship Fleet**

**ITHACA, NY (April 22, 2025)** – Sea Scout Ship 25, SSS Spear, based in Ithaca, NY, has been selected as part of the **2025–2026 National Sea Scout Flagship Fleet**, one of the highest distinctions in Scouting America's Sea Scouting program.

Awarded annually by the National Sea Scout Committee, the Flagship Fleet distinction recognizes outstanding Sea Scout units across the United States for excellence in seamanship, leadership, advancement, community service, and youth development. Ship Spear's selection marks the first time it has earned this recognition since its reformation in 2010.

The nomination, led by **Boatswain Madison Deljoo** and **Ship's Officer Abby Lamphier**, showcased a year of dynamic on-the-water programming, meaningful service projects, and vibrant youth leadership. Sailing aboard their 33-foot vessel *Sensei*, the Scouts completed multiple overnight cruises, mentored younger Scouts through Camp Barton's "Helmsman" high-adventure program, and introduced dozens of youth to sailing and boating skills across New York.

Ship Spear's 2024 program included:

- Over **600 hours of community service**, including cemetery restorations, building beds for underserved children, and veterans' flag placements.
- **Four formal Bridges of Honor** recognizing advancement, awards, and Eagle Scout achievements—many held aboard their ceremonial Landship.
- Participation in major regional and national Scouting events including training weekends in New Jersey, SUNY Maritime College courses, and Council-wide University of Scouting sessions.

- Leadership in outdoor skills and certifications, including **6 youth lifeguards, 14 NASBLA boating safety graduates, and 5 CPR/First Aid-certified Scouts.**

“SSS Spear exemplifies the best of what Sea Scouting has to offer,” said **Matthew Bull**, Scout Executive of the Baden-Powell Council. “Their commitment to high adventure, servant leadership, and maritime excellence is an inspiration to the entire movement.”

SSS Spear will be honored nationally and have its name inscribed on the **National Sea Scout Flagship plaque** on permanent display at Scouting America’s headquarters in Irving, Texas.

For more information on Sea Scouting or to get involved with SSS Spear, visit <https://www.IthacaSeaScouts.org>

Click here to view their application video: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1G5xD74p4JDYUpPnJXNzOjoZI0yO5alr/view>

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