



**Girl Scouts of Connecticut**

**Amistad FriendShip  
Patch Program Sails Again**



**Leaders Guide**

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The Amistad FriendShip Patch Program Sails Again continues the collaboration between Girl Scouts of Connecticut, GSUSA, Amistad America and Mystic Seaport Museum. The intentions of continuing the patch program is to give girls a chance to share the information they learned in the first part with others and to continue to learn more about the Amistad Freedom Schooner and understand how it relates to their present day lives.

This project was chosen to be spotlighted because of its importance in the history of Connecticut, our country and the world. The Freedom Schooner Amistad was built at Mystic Seaport and made its maiden voyage to several ports in Connecticut.

### **Directions**

To earn the patch each girl must complete **three requirements**, which include the **one starred**. The requirements are the same for all levels, Girl Scout Brownie through Ambassador. Each girl should complete the requirements in a manner that is appropriate to her age level. As your troop works on the Amistad FriendShip Patch Program Sails Again, please remind girls how it relates to the Girl Scout Law and Promise. The patch may be obtained through the Girl Scouts of Connecticut Shop. You may shop online at [www.gsofct.org](http://www.gsofct.org) > Shop. You may also contact the Council Shop at 203-234-6253 or [shop@gsofct.org](mailto:shop@gsofct.org)

Please contact the Girl Scouts of Connecticut Program Department for further information at 203-239-2922 or 800-922-2770 or [program@gsofct.org](mailto:program@gsofct.org) .

## **Amistad FriendShip Patch Program Sails Again Girl Scouts of Connecticut**

1. \*\*\* Review the Amistad story. Explain the story in your own words. Do you feel different about the story than the first time you explored it? What does the story mean to you as a Girl Scout?
2. Read one, two, or all three of the following Dr. Seuss books: Yertle the Turtle, The Sneetches, and Horton Hears a Who and discuss the books' meanings with others.
3. Explore three (3) maritime careers related to the Freedom Schooner Amistad and the type of education needed for those careers.
4. Explore and taste an historical food from the Amistad Period.
5. Visit the Tapping Reeve House and Law School located in Litchfield, CT and hold a mock trial about the Amistad.
6. Learn more about the parts of the Schooner Amistad. Have the girls label where the different items are on a copy of the Amistad. Consider the challenges of the Amistad captives, as they did not know how to sail. What aspects of sailing would they find most difficult?
7. Have girls in your troop take a section of the Girl Scout Law and discuss how it relates to the Amistad Story. Have them discuss what it means to them. Remember there are no right or wrong answers.

## **Patch Requirement #1**

### **The Amistad Case**

On June 28, 1839, the Spanish ship Amistad left a port in Havana, Cuba, with 53 Africans who had been kidnapped from their homeland. They were being sent to another part of Cuba for a lifetime of slavery. Before the ship reached its destination, the Africans seized control and forced the Spanish owners to sail towards Africa, using the sun as a guide. However, at night the owners sailed northward, hoping to come ashore in a Southern slave state in America. Instead, the ship entered the waters of Long Island Sound where the U. S. Navy took it into custody.

The Africans were eventually placed in jail in New Haven, CT while their fate became a major legal case that took two years to resolve. Although the primary issue was whether these Africans were to be considered slaves or free, the long process led the public's attention to focus on the rights of African Americans in the United States, and on moral, social, religious, diplomatic, and political questions. Former President John Quincy Adams successfully defended the Africans before the U. S. Supreme Court, and in February 1841 they were declared free.

In March 1841 the Africans of the Amistad were sent to Farmington, CT to live while funds were raised privately for their return to an area that is now Sierra Leone in Africa. In November the 37 surviving Africans sailed towards their homeland as free individuals. Along with them were five missionaries who were sent under the auspices of the newly formed Union Missionary Society, a forerunner of the American Missionary Association. The group reached Sierra Leone in January 1842.

## Patch Requirement #2

**Read one, two, or all three of the following Dr. Seuss books: Yertle the Turtle, The Sneetches, and Horton Hears a Who and discuss the books' meanings with others.**

Books can be obtained through your local library.

- ⇒ Read all three or choose just one.
- ⇒ Reading books is lots of fun!
- ⇒ And as you read the book
- ⇒ Take a closer look.
- ⇒ It's about values and freedom, doing what's right
- ⇒ Respect and helping to keep our future bright.

Here are some discussion questions:

- What is freedom?
- What happens when you push people around too much?
- Can one person make a difference?
- If someone tries to take something away from you, what would you do to stop him or her? How hard would you try?
- Do you think Margru would have liked Horton? Why?
- Does a star on your body make you a better person?

## Patch Requirement #3

### Maritime careers related to the Freedom Schooner Amistad

#### Captain

A Captain is responsible for all operations of the ship. This includes the general handling, loading, unloading of cargo and running of the ship apart from anything to do with the engine room. This includes the responsibility for everything from navigation, berthing, handling the cargo and responsibility for crewmembers. Captains must also handle many of the administrative aspects of ship operations. Merchant marine officers will typically work for months at sea, essentially working seven days a week. The schedule often involves equal time both at sea and on leave.

**EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE:** Bachelor degree from one of the Merchant Marine Academies is the easiest way to gain employment. By the time one reaches the level of captain, he/she will have moved up through ranks of 3rd mate, 2nd mate and 1st mate. Jobs at sea require traditional educational skills and specialized training such as navigation and load handling. Continuous training and time at sea are essential for career advancement.

**SCHOOL SKILLS:** Math, engineering, management and leadership skills are essential. Knowledge of computers is a must.

#### First Mate

The First Mate reports to the Captain, is head of the Deck Department, and assumes responsibility and command of the ship in the absence or disability of the Captain. He/She is also responsible for personnel and the proper operation, maintenance, and safety of equipment and spaces under Deck Department jurisdiction. A First Mate is also responsible for supervising the general handling, loading and unloading of cargo. Deck officers are usually designated as 3rd mate, 2nd mate, 1st mate and captain. The level of responsibility increases with each level of grade. Merchant marine officers will typically work for months at sea, essentially working seven days a week. The schedule often involves equal time both at sea and on leave.

**EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE:** Bachelor degree from one of the Merchant Marine Academies is the easiest way to gain employment. A First Mate must be in possession of a Coast Guard License. Jobs at sea require traditional educational skills and specialized training such as navigation and load handling. Continuous training and time at sea are essential for career advancement.

**SCHOOL SKILLS:** Engineering, management and leadership skills are essential. Knowledge of computers is a must.

#### Quartermaster

Responsible for supervising deck staff on daily duties, maintenance, cleaning, rope deck duties and tender operations as directed by the deck officers. A Quartermaster will stand watch as an officer of the deck, serve as an assistant to the officer of the deck and to the navigator; serve as helmsmen during times when precise ship control is required; perform communications, navigation, and bridge watch duties. Merchant marine personnel will typically work for months at sea, essentially working seven days a week. The schedule often involves equal time both at sea and on leave.

**EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE:** Experience with a minimum one to two years in subordinate positions on board ships. Graduate of accredited maritime training school or facility is preferable.

**SCHOOL SKILLS:** Technical skills are useful for performing repairs and maintaining the ship. Math and computer skills also provide a basis for learning high tech navigational equipment.

### **Bosun**

As a Bosun, you'll be a master of seamanship...capable of performing almost any task in connection with deck maintenance, small boat operations, navigation, and handling all personnel assigned to a ship's deck force. A Bosun is responsible for supervising general maintenance of assigned stations and assists in tender operations as directed by deck officers. Merchant marine personnel will typically work for months at sea, essentially working seven days a week. The schedule often involves equal time both at sea and on leave.

**EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE:** Experience with a minimum one to two years in subordinate positions on board ships. Graduate of accredited maritime training school or facility is preferable. A Bosun must also be a licensed tender captain.

**SCHOOL SKILLS:** Technical skills are useful for performing repairs and maintaining the ship. Math and computer skills also provide a basis for learning high tech navigational equipment.

### **Able Bodied Seaman**

Sailors and Deckhands perform much of the manual labor aboard a ship and are classified according to their skill level and the type of vessel on which they serve. Duties of Able Bodied Seaman may include splicing wire ropes, rigging, overhauling, stowing cargo-handling gear, overhauling lifeboats and gear and lowering or raising boats, handling mooring lines during docking or departure, steering the vessel according to the mate's direction and standing watch to look for obstructions in the vessel's path. Working conditions vary with the vessel. Able Bodied Seaman work both indoors and outdoors in all types of weather conditions. Seamen are exposed to such hazards as falls on wet decks; injury from moving machinery; and the danger of fire, collision, or sinking. The work can be adventurous; often with the bigger shipping companies, one can travel the world.

**EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE:** High School. Time at sea and additional Coast Guard licensing may lead to a mate's job. Previous shipboard experience is generally required. Those wishing to get a job as an Able Bodied Seaman must have an AB license from the Coast Guard.

**SCHOOL SKILLS:** Technical skills are useful for performing repairs and maintaining the ship. Math and computer skills also provide a basis for learning high tech navigational equipment.

### **Radio Officer**

A Radio Officer maintains radio communications between ship and shore. He/she will also handle operations of satellite hook-ups, faxes, and satellite phone communications as directed by the Chief Officer/First Mate. A Radio Officer is also skilled at electronics and telegraph repairs. He/she will report directly to the Captain.

**EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE:** Graduate of accredited maritime training school or facility. Typically requires extensive experience with minimum one to two years in subordinate positions on board ships. Also need solid experience in all navigational electronic and computerized equipment. Radio license and certification is required.

**SCHOOL SKILLS:** Typing, data processing, computer and amateur radio experience are all helpful. Shop, general math and computer skills provide a good foundation.

### **Steward**

A steward is responsible for preparing all the meals on a ship. Typically, on a larger commercial ship, there will be more than one steward on board. A steward must have good personnel management and organizational skills, and proficiency in the use of computers for word-processing and inventory management. This person must be able to prepare a variety of quality meals under potentially adverse weather conditions, and demonstrate the ability to plan ahead. A steward must understand the relationship of all galley functions to the overall morale of the vessel. In the merchant marines, a steward will typically spend equal time at sea and on shore leave. One must be willing to spend extended time away from family and friends.

**EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE:** Degree from an accredited culinary school and time at sea. Absence of a formal degree may be substituted with equivalent work experience. Requires a U.S. Coast Guard Merchant Mariner's Document endorsed as a Food Handler.

**SCHOOL SKILLS:** General subjects.

### **Chief Engineer**

A chief engineer is responsible for all mechanical aspects of the ship. In fact, the engineering department is one of the most important aspects of the ship and is responsible for providing the power to move the ship whenever directed from the bridge. In addition to engine duties, engineers are responsible for generation of electrical power and maintenance of plumbing, electronic and navigational equipment. Engine rooms on today's ships can be highly automated and the work can be quite technical. Engineering officers are usually very highly trained and obtain skills which can later be applied to another industry away from sea.

**EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE:** Bachelor degree from one of the Merchant Marine Academies is the easiest way to gain employment. Jobs at sea require traditional educational skills and specialized training. Continuous training and time at sea are essential for career advancement.

**SCHOOL SKILLS:** Math, engineering, management and leadership skills are essential. Knowledge of computers is a must.

### **Chief Electrician**

Responsible for the entire electrical system on board the vessel and supervises staff under his command. This includes responsibility for electrical power systems, lighting, control systems, power for propulsion, A/C and D/C power, switchgear and other areas related to electrical power generation, distribution and control. He/She will report directly to the Chief Engineer. Merchant marine personnel will typically work for months at sea, essentially working seven days a week. The schedule often involves equal time both at sea and on leave.

**EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE:** Certified and licensed by a recognized government body. Requires extensive experience with a minimum of two to five years in subordinate positions on board ships. Must be a graduate of an accredited maritime training school or facility with several years experience in the electrical area of maritime shipping.

**SCHOOL SKILLS:** Math and computer skills are essential. Strength in sciences and the ability to communicate well, both verbally and in writing is very important.

### **Harbor Master**

As a Harbor Master, you are responsible for supervisory and administrative work in the control of the use of harbor facilities and in the coordination of vessel movements at a port. Work involves responsibility for vessel berth assignments and for supervising the arrival, departure and dock location of all vessels. Work is performed with considerable independent judgment in the assignment of available berths. Supervision is exercised over a staff of professional and technical subordinates engaged in carrying out assigned responsibilities. A Harbor Master also supervises the maintenance of harbormaster's logs and vessel records and confers with vessel agents, harbor pilots, departmental employees and other maritime officials through radio or direct telephone contact to insure proper and timely vessel arrivals and departures from berths. He/she will also oversee the training of subordinate staff; maintain work schedules for a 24-hour operation; maintain current charts and soundings of the harbor; and maintain and compile monthly reports.

**EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE:** Graduation from an accredited four-year college or university with major course work in transportation or closely related field. It is necessary to have previous experience for this type of job, so one must begin with entry level jobs in port operations and move up from there. Supervisory and administrative experience is helpful.

**SCHOOL SKILLS:** Math and English skills. Good writing and communication skills are probably the more important requirements for this job.

### **Maritime Lawyer**

Maritime (Admiralty) law is among the oldest branches of law. In every country in which maritime law exists, it is treated as a separate and distinct area of the law. In general terms, maritime law concerns events and transactions that occur on navigable waters, whether they are the vast oceans, gulfs, or inland waterways. Although initially concerned with maritime commerce, the body of law has expanded to address contemporary issues such as those involving the environment and the widespread use of recreational vessels. Maritime law also has an important component of tort law, arising out of incidents involving collisions and personal injury. In the personal injury area, for example, there is a separate body of law that deals with injury and death of seamen and maritime workers. In the United States, the bulk of maritime law is federal, and therefore, maritime practitioners must have a thorough understanding of the rules of jurisdiction and procedure in those courts. Because large vessels are often involved, and the stakes of the cases tend to be high, maritime cases can be quite complex. The complexity of the area has resulted in specialties within maritime law, for example, cargo, collision, maritime liens, and bankruptcy.

**EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE:** Degree in maritime law. Previous interest in maritime issues such as international trade, salvage, coastal issues and pollution.

**SCHOOL SKILLS:** Strong writing, reading, communication and research skills.

## **Ship Broker**

The origins of Ship Brokering probably date back to times of the earliest maritime trade. In those days however an individual ship brokering company's network of contacts probably extended only across the local harbor. Today, with modern telephone, fax and email communications, it is possible for a ship broker's network to extend worldwide. Brokerage in ships works in much the same way as in insurance, travel, real estate and a host of other fields. In ship brokering, as in the other fields, professional specialists have their fingers on the relevant market at all times, thereby helping a prospective buyer or charter to find the product that best suits his/her needs. Similarly, a ship owner who wants to sell his/her vessel will normally work through a broker to ensure that his boat is offered to the widest possible range of prospective buyers.

**EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE:** High School -- typically a university degree and merchant marine background is required. Knowledge of ships and ship systems is essential.

**SCHOOL SKILLS:** General subjects. Math and technical skills will be required for merchant marine opportunities and good writing and communication skills are required for the ship brokerage business.

Information taken from: <http://sailorjob.com/career.htm>

## **Patch Requirement #4**

### **Historical Foods of the Amistad Period**

Provide the girls with an opportunity to taste commonly used spices of that historical time.

What you will need: Jars of nutmeg, cinnamon, allspice and ginger.

These spices were a major import from the West Indies. Many Connecticut sea captains sailed these spices back to Connecticut as part of their cargo. Connecticut households readily used these spices in their cooking.

Procedure: Speak to the girls about what people of the 1830's might have had for food. Discuss differences of today's kitchen compared to yesteryear's kitchen (i.e. no microwave, stove etc.).

Girls can contact their local historical societies to find recipes common to their locale.

Prepare the following recipe or one of the girl's recipes.

#### Cinnamon Drops

- 1 cup molasses
- 1 cup sugar
- ½ cup lard or butter
- 1 cup water
- 5 cups flour
- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 tablespoon cinnamon

Stir, and drop far apart. If too thin, add a little flour, or if too thick, add a little more water. Bake at 350 degrees for 8 to 10 minutes on ungreased cookie sheets. Makes about 10 dozen.

This recipe is an updated version from the mid 1800's.

## **Patch Requirement #5**

### **Tapping Reeve House and Law School Litchfield, Connecticut**

From the time that the Africans from the Amistad were detained to the time they regained their freedom, Singbe-pieh and his companions were the focus of several court cases. Many of the lawyers and judges involved in the Amistad cases had connections to the Litchfield Law School, America's first law school. Both Roger Sherman Baldwin, the primary lawyer for the Africans and William Holabird, the District Attorney for the State of Connecticut and prosecutor in the cases against the Africans, attended the Litchfield Law School. William Ellsworth, the lawyer for Henry Green, a sea captain who claimed salvage rights to the ship, also studied at the school. Theodore Sedgwick, another of the Africans' lawyers, was the brother of a Litchfield Law School graduate.

Students at the Litchfield Law School practiced their lessons by holding mock trials called "moot courts." Students played the roles of defense lawyers, prosecutors, and judges; and they argued the most controversial cases of the day.

The Amistad was found in Long Island Sound in 1839, six years after the Litchfield Law School closed. Had the school still been open, its students would have been fascinated by the story, caught up in the intense interest in the plight of the Africans, the complicated legal questions involved, and the connections between the lawyers and the Litchfield Law School.

Girl Scouts who choose to do this requirement will imagine that the school was still open in 1839 and that they are students there. They will visit the Litchfield Law School where they will learn about some of the legal issues in the Amistad cases and then hold a mock trial. Some of the girls will play defense lawyers, some prosecutors, some will be judges, and others will provide information as witnesses. (As girls participate in the mock trial, they will learn that in 1839 only men could be lawyers.)

There is a fee per girl to participate in the mock trial program at the Tapping Reeve House & Law School, the site of the Litchfield Law School. Call 860-567-4501 for further information or to register.

## Patch Requirement #6

### Parts of the Freedom Schooner Amistad

On the sketch of the Amistad label the following:

λ Bow

λ Hull

λ Boom

λ Rudder

λ Stern

λ Foremast

λ Jib-boom

λ Foresail

λ Jib

λ Fore staysail

λ Gaff (2)

λ Jib topsail

Bow: Front end of a vessel

Hull: main body of a vessel

Boom: Spar that runs along the foot of a fore-and-aft sail

Fore Staysail: The sail carried inside and below both the jib topsail and jib and set on a wire cable that runs from the bowsprit to the foremast

Jib: The sail carried inside and below the jib topsail and set on a wire cable that runs from the jib boom to the foremast

Gaff: Spar that runs along the top of a fore-and-aft sail in a traditional schooner rig

Stern: Back of a vessel

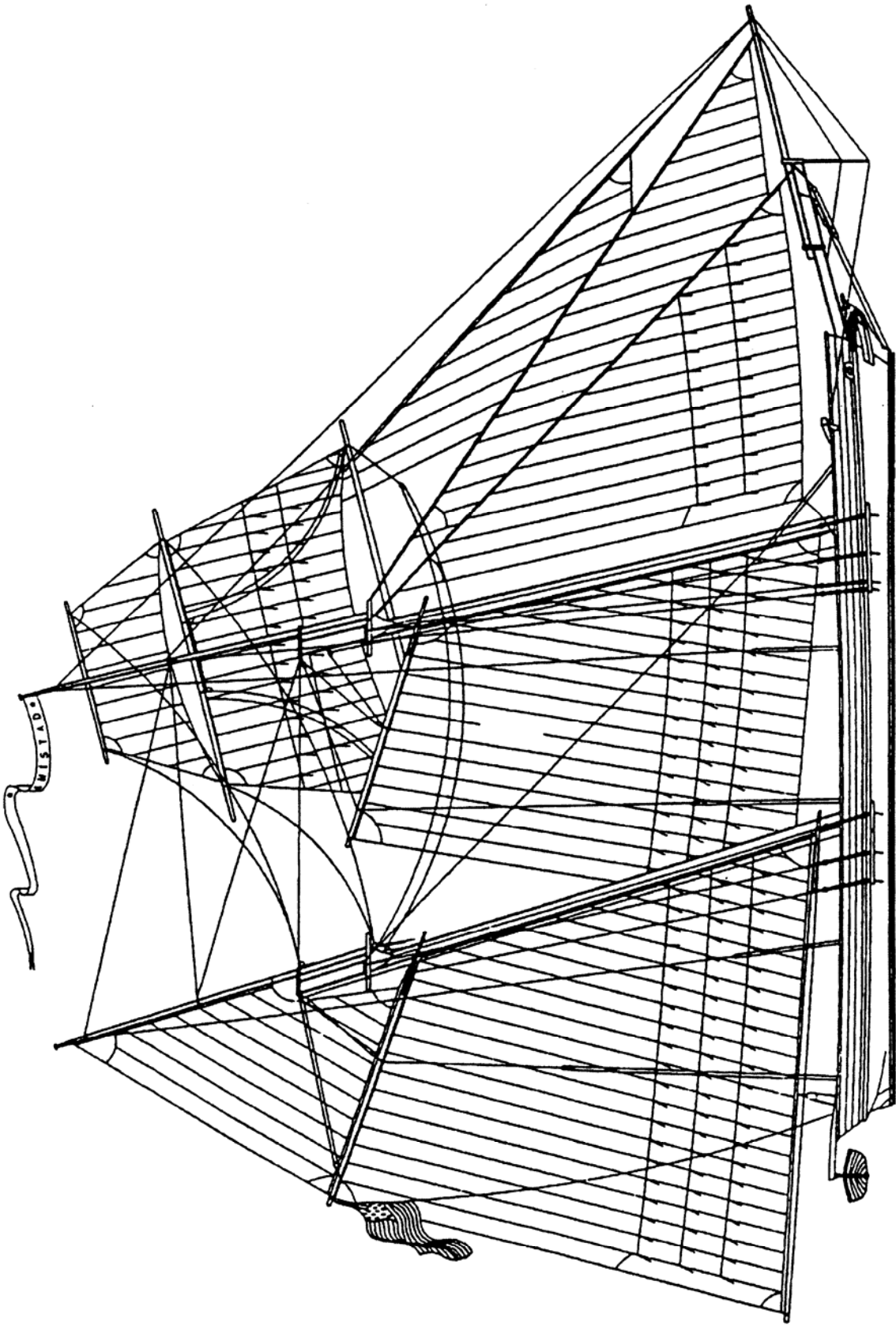
Foremast: The shorter mast further forward on a schooner rig

Jib boom: The extension of the bowsprit on the bow of a vessel

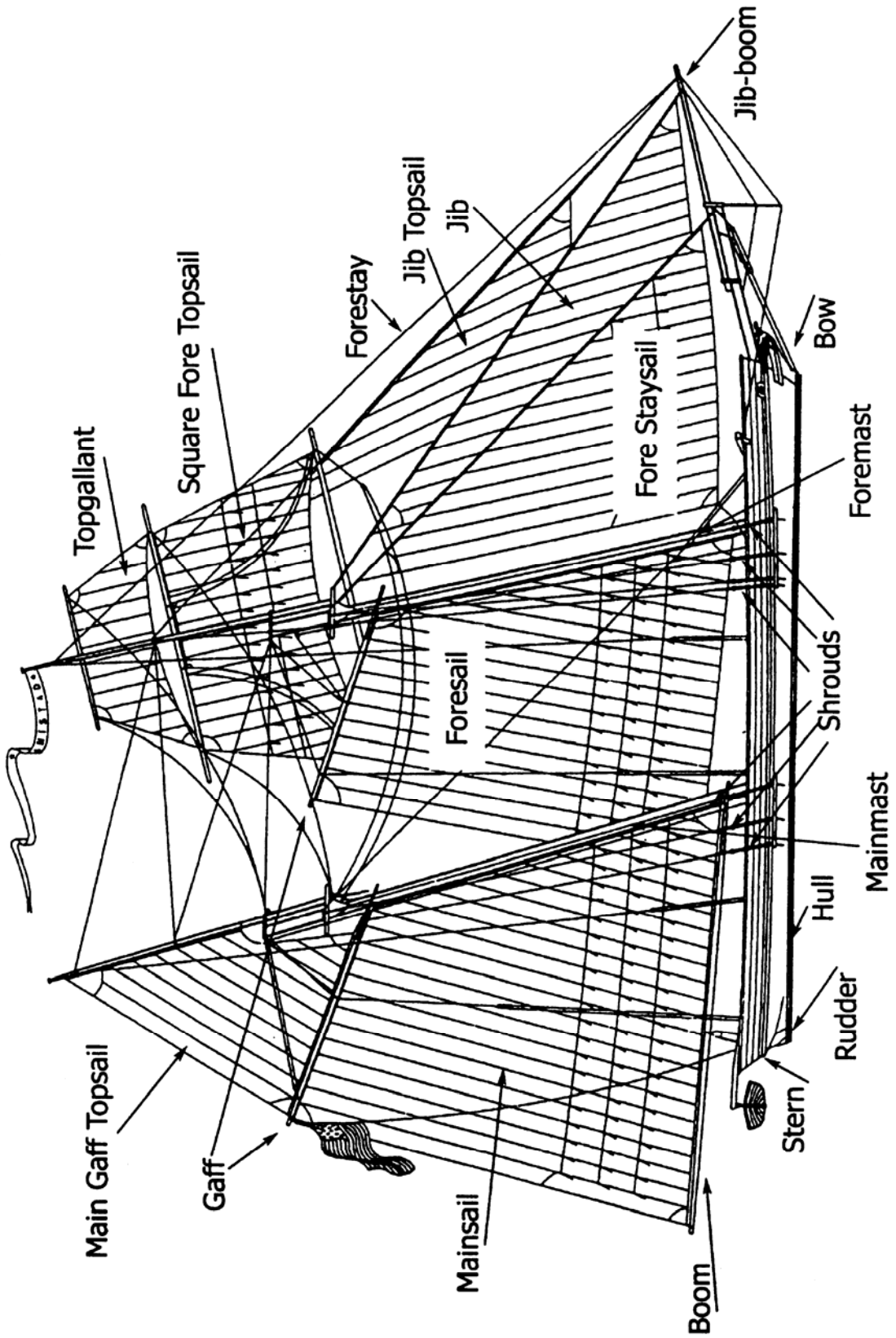
Rudder: Vertical piece of wood attached to the stern of a vessel, which allows it to be steered

Foresail: The sail carried on the foremast on a schooner rig

Jib Topsail: The sail carried furthest forward in front of the foremast. It is set on a wire cable that (turn) runs from the end of the jib boom to the top of the foremast



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## **Patch Requirement #7**

### ***The Girl Scout Law***

*I will do my best to be  
Honest and fair,  
Friendly and helpful,  
Considerate and caring,  
Courageous and strong, and responsible for what I say and do.  
And to  
Respect myself and others,  
Respect authority,  
Use resources wisely,  
Make the world a better place,  
and be a sister to every Girl Scout.*