



Vol. 23 Dedicated to Preserving the Memories of T.M.R. Campers No. 12

The Newsletter of the Ten Mile River Scout Museum - December 2023

This issue of Smokes Signals remembers Morty Fink. There are some events coming up in Florida that are noted in this issue as is the Kintecoying Banquet. Lastly, there is some TMR winter history for you.

If you have a TMR memory you would like to share please email it to us.

95% of our dues-paying members renew each year! Maybe they know something?

[Join the TMR Scout Museum](#)

From the Chairman - Mitchell Slepian

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. We have a lot of great things coming as we head into 2024. Before we get there, let's look back at what we accomplished in 2023. We had a wonderful summer. It was great to be back after the COVID summers. We saw a more significant number of visitors and had fuller programming. Moving ahead, the summer of 2024 looks even better. Our museum also participated in GNYC's Steakout and a few trade-o-rees, and our trustees regularly attended several Kintecoying Lodge # 4 events and plan to follow suit next year. As always, we are looking for more volunteers. Whether you become a full board member or help when available, that would be terrific. Please email me at chairmantmrmuseum@gmail.com if you are interested.



Not to end on a sad note, we are all deeply moved by the loss of one of our founders, Morty Fink. Morty was a scout's scout. There is nothing he didn't do in the program. On a personal note, when my dad went to the great campsite many years ago, Morty was one of the first to express condolences. Not only did he send messages of sympathy, but as the "historian" of Shu Shu Gah Lodge #24, he talked to me about my dad's time as lodge chief. Morty, we all love and miss you.



Smoke Signals and the TMR Scout Museum Wishes Everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year

Morty Fink - A Celebration



Morty Fink, a Scout since youth. In Troop 101 he found his truth.
Through the ranks he rose up high. To Eagle Scout, he did fly.
TMR was his summer home. A place where he loved to roam
As a soldier at Dix, the Jersey fort, a troop was organized by Sergeant Mort.
Leadership roles he held with care. Vigil Honor sash he does wear.
Out of doors Morty truly thrived. In RV camper, Troop 101 arrived.
Cross-country trips, with Scouts in tow. Hiking, kayaking, birding, a natural show.
As Scoutmaster. Bishuwi Chief, and more. Newsletter Editor, Program Creator galore.
NOAC Convention, OA induction rite, Brooklyn Arrowhead, a founding light.
Nature, photography, people as well. Native Tribal lore and crafts nonpareil.
Character shaped by the Scout Law and Oath. Cheerful service shaped Morty's growth.

Alan Yanofsky



GoFundMe for Morty's Bills

Morty fully gave of himself to others and exemplified cheerful service. He also got by on a very small fixed-income and the support of others. His funeral was only possible because some service providers were willing to defer being paid. To make them whole and support the organizations that supported Morty we have created a GoFundMe to raise \$10,000. For more info click here:

[Donate Here](#)

**BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
GREATER NEW YORK COUNCILS**

All former New York City Boy Scouts, our Scouting friends and supporters and their guest, are invited as our guests

**Ten Mile River
Snowbird Alumni Gathering**

**WE GATHER AGAIN FOR A BUFFET LUNCHEON
THE BALLENSLES COUNTRY CLUB
100 BallenIsles Circle • Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418**

Friday, January 26, 2024
11:30am - 2pm

Remember campouts at:





Ten Mile River Scout Camps William H. Pouch Scout Camp Alpine Scout Camp

Register at: <https://nycscouting.org/snowbird/>



Harvey Lefkowitz Memorial Birdwalk

From Neil Spielholtz, for the last Saturday in February, a bird walk, but not early in the morning. We've been told that there are more birds in the afternoon, so perhaps we can first meet for brunch (such as at Ruvens) and then go to the birds.

We have time to finalize those arrangements. The main thing now is to get your reservations in for the buffet luncheon on January 26th.

For more information, contact stevenbenini@gmail.com

Kintecoying Lodge Banquet

Time is running out to register for our annual lodge banquet on January 7, 2024!

There are only a few open seats remaining, and today is the LAST DAY to register! Registration will close late this evening or when we reach the facility's capacity limit - whichever comes first. If you do not register today, you will not be able to join us for the banquet as we can not accept walk-in attendees.

The banquet will take place at The John Hughes Club, 1305 86th Street in Brooklyn, NY, from 2pm to 6pm. All Brothers, their families, and friends are welcome. There will be great food, games, and awards, plus all Brothers in attendance will receive a limited edition commemorative event patch!

Register here for the Lodge Banquet: <http://nycscouting.org/oa-banquet>



ANNUAL WINTER CAMP AT TUSTEN

This article was originally printed in the Brooklyn Council newsletter, The Council Ring, Exposition Number, Vol. 6, 1931.

Over 175 boys and men journeyed to the Rock Lake Camps to spend the Christmas week in the snow and ice in the mountains. The popularity of Winter Camp has grown so much that it was necessary to open up Camp Iphetonga as an additional unit.

The evenings were devoted to story-telling around the big open fireplace, songs and stunts. The Costume Ball was the finest ever held in Winter Camp, with practically every boy in costume. The judges consisted of the officers and visiting Scoutmasters. One of the features of New Year's Eve was the burning of an immense frame worked with the letters "1930." This was a beautiful sight and left a distinct impression on all who witnessed it. The framework was constructed by Hy Jacobs and Abe Zurom. A barrel of cider heightened the festivities and the old year was brought to a close. A mock trial was enacted the last night of camp and provided many laughs and an evening full of entertainment.



An ingenious group of older boys built a bob-sled which provided many thrills down the many hills around camp. Skiing was one of the most popular sports in camp and it seems as if everybody went home feeling that he had mastered the art of skiing not, - however, - without taking a few spills.

Despite the fun and the many activities, time was found to work on tests and Winter Camp Emblems, with the result that 65 Winter Camp Emblems were received by Scouts, one Scout advanced to Second Class and two to First Class; 42 Merit Badges were earned, two Scouts advanced to Star, one to Life, and one to Bronze Palm. Fifteen different Districts and 74 different Troops were represented at camp.

Services were held for Scouts of the different faiths and a Catholic priest said Mass on Sunday and New Year's Day.

When the Scouts set foot at Tusten, they were agreeably surprised to find at least a foot of snow on the ground. Weather conditions were ideal in every way and provided plenty of skiing, sleigh-riding and ice skating.

Cornelius Denslow conducted a number of nature hikes to the Delaware and Davis Pond and exploration hikes for the study of tracks and other interesting things. Thirty-two Scouts camped in the lean-tos on the Delaware and made themselves comfortable despite the cold weather. Instructions in camping, cooking and fire-making were interspersed with the sports. Two games of ice hockey were played with the Bronx and the score resulted in 6 to 1 in our favor in the first game, and in the second game a tie of 2 - 2. Both games were. clean and hard fought.

The Museum's Website Store

Did you know that the Museum sells a variety of T.M.R. and Museum merchandise from our Website Store: <https://www.tmrmuseum.org/online-museum-store>?

This includes most every patch set issued by the Museum in recent years, the 2021 Guide to Memorabilia of the Ten Mile River Scout Camps, Indian Cliff puzzles, Scout Service Corps CSP's from 1996-2003, and the two new booklets on Brooklyn and Queens Council emblem histories.

<p>\$6.00 download</p>	<p>\$9 + \$3 shipping</p>	<p>\$6.00 download</p>	<p>\$9 + \$3 shipping</p>
<p>Download: The History of Queens Council's Camp Emblems (1917-1938) \$6.00</p>	<p>Printed: The History of Queens Council's Camp Emblems (1917-1938) \$12.00</p>	<p>Download: The History of Brooklyn Council's Camp Emblems (1913-1938) \$6.00</p>	<p>Printed: The History of Brooklyn Council's Camp Emblems (1913-1938) \$12.00</p>
<p>\$10 + \$4 Postage ea.</p>	<p>\$25 + \$4 postage</p>	<p>\$10 + \$3 Postage ea.</p>	<p>New - P&H Included</p>
<p>Boy Scout Foundation 100th Anniversary Backpatch with FREE TMR 95th Dangle \$14.00</p>	<p>Greater New York Councils/Boy Scout Foundation 100th Anniversary CSP Set \$29.00</p>	<p>Boy Scout Foundation 100th Anniversary Backpatch DELIVERED VIA MAIL \$13.00</p>	<p>Ten Mile River Scout Camps Trail Map \$10.00</p>

TMR Wall of Fame

Do you want to recognize some individual, group or organization for their contributions to the Ten Mile River Scout Camps and/or New York City Scouting? A custom-engraved tile on the T.M.R. Wall of Fame might be right for you.

[Wall of Fame - Learn More](#)



Donate Scouting Memorabilia

Donations of T.M.R. and other Scouting memorabilia to the Museum by individuals like you are the main way the Museum grows.

These include, but are not limited to: photos, color slides, 8-mm film, videos, patches, neckerchiefs, neckerchief slides, uniforms, banners, menus, paper items, etc. We can also photograph items and return them to you, or photograph notable items at your home.

[Learn More](#)

