



Vol. 24 Dedicated to Preserving the Memories of T.M.R. Campers No. 3

The Newsletter of the Ten Mile River Scout Museum - March 2024

In this issue of Smoke Signals there is an invitation to the OA Section 18 Conclave and news about two workshops that will be given by Gene Berman on Patch Trading. There is Museum news about an award we received and TMR Trail news, including an OA work weekend, a web-based way to note trail conditions, and an update to the Avenza Maps App for the TMR Trail Map. Lastly, there is a look back at camping at Spruce Pond (the coldest winter camping spot I ever camped at).

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

Saturday, March 16-The Ten Mile River Scout Museum attended the 43rd Annual Northeast Trade-O-Ree. Ralph Daddi, Trustee and Classic Car Show Coordinator, Museum Director Ira Nagel, and Secretary Anthony Zalak joined me at our table. Founding Chairman Emeritus Dr. Gene Berman, Facilities Manager Mikey Herbert, Memorabilia Chairman Bill Mulrenin, Frank Mullane, and Frank Rickebaugh assisted us with patch pricing and questions. All had a great time. We saw many old friends and made a few new ones.

Our "Smoke Signals" newsletter is a team effort. I want to thank Chairman Emeritus Curatorial Chairman Michael Dillinger for putting together the new format. We have added excellent copy in many newsletters written by Section 18 Chief Vincent Mirabella, Section Secretary Alex Halligan, Kintecoying Lodge #4 Chief Jake Harmon, and now I am pleased to say Aquehonga Chapter Member Fiona Greaney, who chaired our recent Fellowship Weekend, has written her first piece. Thanks, Fiona. That being said, if you want to write copy and create this document, let me know.





At the Trade-O-Ree and from front to back left: Mitchell Slepian, Bill Mulrenin, Johannes Knoops, Ralph Daddi, Steven Benin. From back to front right: Mike Herbert, Frank Rickenbaugh, Frank Mullane, and Gene Berman.



At the Trade-O-Ree, Museum Board members Ralph Daddi (left) and Anthony Zalac (right) and Museum Chair Mitchell Slepian.



Ten Mile River Scout Camps

March 2 at 5:17 AM · 🌐

The TMR Scout Museum has won in the “Day Trip, Local” category in the “Best of 2023 for 2024” supplement just published by the River Reporter newspaper. In this contest, River Reporter readers voted for their favorite local day trip and the Museum won!

As the winner, the Museum received the listing in the supplement, a certificate and lots of bragging rights. Last year’s winner was the Woodstock Museum at Bethel Woods.

DAY TRIP, LOCAL
Ten Mile River Museum

See ad on this page
 1481 Crystal Lake Road
 Narrowsburg, NY 12764
 845/252-2063
tmrmuseum.org
[TMRMuseum](https://www.facebook.com/TMRMuseum)
[tenmileriverscoutmuseum](https://www.instagram.com/tenmileriverscoutmuseum)
 X- @TMRMuseum

The TMR Scout Museum offers the general public and scouts an amazing assortment of local and scout history. We are an interest to everyone.



For more information and registration click [HERE](#)

SO YOU WANNA TRADE PATCHES

Dr. Gene Berman, TMR Scout Museum Chairman Emeritus, will present two classes on patch trading at the upcoming Section E18 Conclave. See the notice above.

The first will be an introductory class on patch collecting and patch trading as a hobby, mostly for fun and sometimes for profit. We will discuss patch trading history in the BSA, types of patches such as material, shape; purposes of patches such as rank insignia, position in scouting; areas of collecting, etc. Also, where to buy patches, ways to trade patches will be included.

A second session is planned for more advanced collectors to cover the hobby in general, valuing patches, where to sell and where to buy, identifying rare items and how rarity is determined. Designing patches and manufacturers.



TMR Fellowship Weekend

Report by Fiona Greaney

The TMR fellowship consisted of trail maintenance and visit to a trampoline park. Working together as brothers to clear paths and ensure that the trails were accessible provided a sense of fulfillment and fellowship. Spending time bouncing, racing, and playing dodgeball at the trampoline park was how we celebrated our hard work. We finished off the day by making pizzas and having a Super Smash tournament. The weekend was marked by accomplishment and camaraderie between the participating brothers.



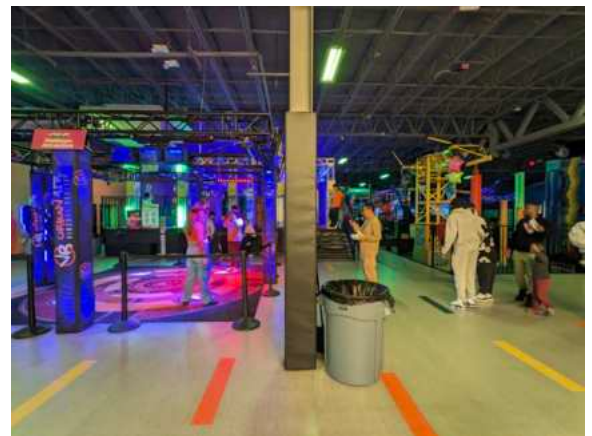
Thomas Dono nailing in a trail marker, This was somewhere between CR 23 and Split Rock.



Austin Morales and Jake Harmon crossing a stream. This stream was on the way to Mahl's Pond Road, which we came to off of CR 23



From left to right: Austin Morales (Man-A-Hattin chapter chief), Jesani Dono, Fiona Greaney, Thomas Dono (Vice Chief of Inductions), Jake Harmon (Lodge Chief), Mark Karley



This was at the trampoline park that we went to, which was our relaxing reward for a hard day's work! After the trail service, we changed and drove to the trampoline park where we played gaga ball, basketball, did obstacle courses, and jumped around.



Climb the Night Away Spring 2024

Join us for an exhilarating adventure under the stars at “Climb the Night Away” in the Activity Center at Alpine Scout Camp. Embark on an epic nocturnal climbing challenge, pushing your limits as you ascend the heights over and over again! We've got it all covered - from thrilling climbing experiences to mouthwatering pizza and delightful snacks. Plus, to illuminate your journey, each participant will receive a complimentary headlamp.

Scouts BSA Climb the Night Away (ages 11-17)
Alpine Scout Camp
Saturday 04-20-2024 9:00 PM ET to
Sunday 04-21-2024 7:00 AM ET



But the adventure doesn't stop there! After you've conquered the wall, nestle into your own cozy sleeping bag and tent. Get ready for an unforgettable night of adrenaline, camaraderie, and camping. Let's climb, eat, and sleep under the stars - “Climb the Night Away” awaits!

[Click Here for More Info](#)



Shooting Sports Weekends

Join us for the Ten Mile River Scout Camps Shooting Sports Weekends. Held on three weekends (April 20th, April 27th and May 4th) this event features a variety of disciplines including .22, skeet, Cowboy Action, archery and tomahawk competitions. Competitors of all levels, including beginners are welcome to attend. Slots are filling quick. Registration Deadline March 8th [Click here to learn more...](#)



Spring Raft-O-Ree

You are invited to join us on the Delaware River for the 2024 GNYC Spring Raft-O-Ree! Program includes a day of rafting on the Delaware as well as field sports upon return to camp included basketball, kickball, and capture the flag and an evening movie! Early bird deadline April 20th [Click here to learn more...](#)

TMR Trail News

There currently appears to be great interest in the TMR Trail. Scott Dellosso, Camp Keowa director, has been putting some major effort into obtaining information on trail conditions at TMR. This includes an amazing web-based app where hikers can circle the section of the TMR Trail that they hiked and identify the trail conditions they found

Posters are being placed in all TMR cabins with info on hiking at TMR:

- (1) A TMR trail map,
- (2) Avenza Maps info, and
- (3) TMR Historical Trails info.

Many out-of-council Troops use these cabins and this is one way to promote hiking at TMR.

To summarize, folks can help us in two ways:

- ask hikers to submit the survey
- ask trail maintenance volunteers to drop and share pins



TMR TRAIL CONDITIONS

Taking a hike?

After your adventure, please take a moment to tell us about the trails.
Current feedback on our trail system helps us keep them as maintained as possible.

tenmileriver.org/trails

SCAN ME

Trail Conditions Survey Poster



TMR GPS TRAIL APP

AVENZA MAPS®


Find your location anywhere on the TMR trails with Avenza Maps.

- Scan the QR code below to download Avenza, free on the app store
- Search Avenza's map store for "Ten Mile River"
- Download our free georeferenced TMR Maps before you hike

No phone service required after download!

Scan me

Avenza App Download Instructions



TMR Trail Maintenance with AVENZA MAPS

→ On your hike, use *Placemarks* on Avenza when you encounter downed trees, obstructions, needed trail markers, etc.

→ Your *Placemark* will note the exact location. Upload a picture and write a note.

Scan below for in-app instructions.

Or visit our website:

tenmileriver.org/avenza

SCAN ME

TMR Trail Conditions - Avenza Placemarks

New TMR Map added to Avenza Maps

The TMR Trails Map has been updated for 2024 and is available free of charge from the Ten Mile River Scout Museum's Avenza Maps Store. Avenza Maps is a free app for your cellphone or tablet that hosts georeferenced maps. No cellphone connection is required once the app and map have been downloaded to your cellphone or tablet. Avenza Maps shows your location within 20 feet anywhere on TMR property and is definitely useful when hiking or otherwise traveling at TMR.



The new map can be downloaded to cellphones and tablets from the following URL: [2024 Ten Mile River Scout Camps Trails Map - Tiff by Ten Mile River Scout Museum | Avenza Maps](#)

Brooklyn Council and Spruce Pond Scout Camp

By David M. Malatzky

Spruce Pond near Southfields, N.Y. was owned by the Palisades Interstate Park Commission and was leased for use by the N.Y.C. Scouts. It was the site of the Rock Oak Forestry Camp, established in 1923 as one of two Franklin D. Roosevelt Conservation Camps associated with the Kanohwahkee Scout Camps. In 1928, Brooklyn Council was permitted to develop a short-term lean-to camp on the property. Many Brooklyn Troops constructed their own lean-tos at Spruce Pond

During the 1930s, the camp was managed by Brooklyn Council's Spruce Pond Camping Committee, headed by Campmaster Frank Weidmann, later famed as Hal Rosenfeld's Scoutmaster.



Winter camping at Spruce Pond

By the late 1930s, Spruce Pond was open for both weekend and summer use and featured a waterfront. During the summer months, it was staffed by a full-time campmaster, activities director and waterfront director. Troops were responsible for their own feeding. More than 300 Brooklyn Scouts camped at Spruce Pond during the 1937 Memorial Day Weekend.

The Museum recently acquired thirteen issues of Council Ring, the Brooklyn Council newsletter, dating from Feb. 20 - Sept. 4, 1937. Spruce Pond was big news in Brooklyn Scouting in 1937 and was featured in multiple articles (see below). The 1937 Council Ring issues are directly accessible on the Museum's website: <https://www.tmr museum.org/brooklyn-arrowhead-1937>



On the Waterfront

Annual Camp Reunion Will See 2nd Awarding Of Spruce Pond Emblem

April 24, 1937

The Spruce Pond Emblem will be awarded to a Brooklyn Scout for the second time in the history of the borough's Scouting. This award will be conferred upon First Class Scout John McCafferty of Troop 165, Atlantic District. The presentation will be made at the Brooklyn Camp Reunion to be held at Manual Training High School on Saturday, April 24, at 8 p.m.

Spruce Pond Committee Will Interview Scouts

May 1, 1937

Applicants for the position of Campmaster at Spruce Pond from May 15 to Sept. 15 will be interviewed at Scout Headquarters, 114 Remsen Street, on Tuesday, May 4, at 5:30. J. Edward Robinson, chairman of the Spruce Pond Camp Committee, announced today. Applicants must be Senior Red Cross life savers.

Many Improvements To Feature Spruce Pond Camping Site

June 12, 1937

Scheduled rates for camping at Spruce Pond, official Brooklyn Council weekend camp site near Southfields, N.Y. were announced today by the Spruce Pond Camping Committee. Troops may use one lean-to over Saturday and Sunday during the Summer months for one dollar. The fee on weekdays, Monday to Friday is 25 cents per Scout each day, or one dollar per Scout for the five days, Monday to Friday inclusive. It was also announced that the Erie Railroad will transport Scouts, to Southfields at the round-trip price of \$1.25, in groups of ten or more.

A number of new improvements have been made at the camp, including an extension dock on the nearby lake for the sole use of Brooklyn Scouts and a crib for non-swimmers. The dock will be used to land boats and also as the foundation for a diving-board. In addition to the water-well at Cabin Headquarters, another is being dug on the other side of the lake, near lean-to No. 2. Also, a concrete tank is being constructed in the spring near lean-to No. 8. Previous tests have proven that the water in the spring is excellent for drinking and cooking purposes. An activities director will assist Frank Weidemann, campmaster, during the months of July and August.

Troop 53 Victorious In Spruce Pond Camp Improvement Project

June 12, 1937

Troop 53 of the Atlantic District won the Camp Improvement Project at Spruce Pond, Brooklyn Council weekend camp site, over the Decoration day weekend. Troop 164 of Flatbush Midwout District was a close second. The project was a general clean-up of the entire camp site and the committee was elated with the results of the five units which participated, consisting of Scouts from Troops 129 and 117 and members of the Sunset District Senior Degree. More than 300 Scouts camped at Spruce Pond over the weekend under the general direction of Frank Weidmann, campmaster.



Scouts in front of a lean-to



Boating on Spruce Pond

BROOKLYN COUNCIL RING ISSUES - 1937



David Malatzky recently posted to the Museum's website thirteen issues of the Brooklyn Council Ring newsletter, dating from Feb. 20, 1937 - Sept. 4, 1937. These are all new to the Museum and tells us a lot about what was happening in Brooklyn Scouting at the time.

This was a very exciting time in Brooklyn Scouting. Notable articles include: Brooklyn participation in the 1937 National Scout Jamboree, the death of longtime Council President Justice James Cropsey, and Brooklyn Troop use of Spruce Pond Scout Camp.

The thirteen issues are directly viewable on the Museum's website.

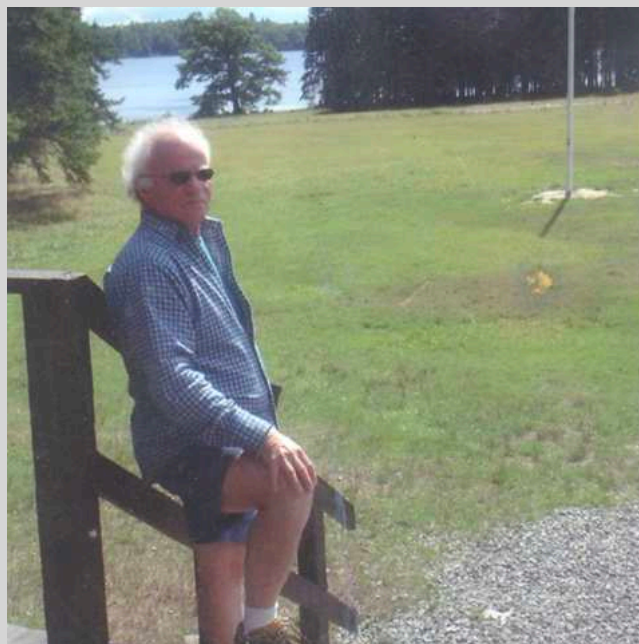
[Brooklyn Council Ring 1937 | tmmuseum](#)

GoFundMe for Morty's Bills

We have raised \$3,000 towards the goal of \$10,000. Your donation will us get there.

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.

To donate online click here: [Donate Here](#) Or - make a check payable to Michael Drillingner and mail to: 25 Plockmann Ln Woodstock, NY 12498. Put For Morty in the memo



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.tmr-museum.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>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>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](#)



Mitchell Slepian