



Vol. 24 Dedicated to Preserving the Memories of T.M.R. Campers No. 1

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

In this issue of Smokes Signals there is an invitation to an OA winter fellowship at TMR and an article about some of our Lodge members who are also Venturing Scouts and who held a panel discussion at the recent TREX event. You will also read about exciting upcoming GNYC events at Alpine and TMR. The Museum has some news about a great collection of digitized issues of the Brooklyn Council Ring newsletter that is now accessible on our website. Lastly, there is a reminiscence of a winter TMR Trail trek from 50 years ago.

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

We have had a busy month. We are creating our new CSPs featuring historic TMR personalities, i.e. Nick Dale, William "Chief" Stump, FDR and others. Thanks, Jennifer Daddi, for stepping up to the plate with her graphics skills to help us design them. On March 17, we will be at the 43rd Annual Northeast Trade-O-Ree, Allendale, NJ. We will have a great selection of patches for sale. Again, if anyone wants to volunteer to work with the museum, please get in touch with me. We are particularly looking for people with web design and newsletter skills. We will help you every step of the way.





Winter Fellowship Weekend

We're reaching out to let you know that registration will be open soon for our March 1st - March 3rd Winter Fellowship Weekend!

This year's event is hosted by the Man-A-Hattin Chapter and will be held at the TMR Headquarters Camp. The cost to attend will be only \$35, and there is no charge for Brothers with [FalconPass](#).

We have a lot of fun planned, including...

- maintenance and other camp service which will earn youth \$75 toward the cost of NOAC or another national event,
- pizza-making competition,
- Super Smash Brothers tournament, and
- option for Snow Tubing at [Holiday Mountain](#) (bring additional \$25 in cash if interested).

We will be staying in the Hearst Cabin at the TMR Headquarters Camp and will be preparing meals in the cabin kitchens.

We are looking forward to an awesome time and hope you will consider joining us.



Click [HERE](#) to register



TREX 2024 - by Vincent Mirabella

The Venturing Officers Association made a strong impact at the Trex training extravaganza, proudly donning our green shirts. Our two Q&A sessions proved to be enlightening opportunities, as we shared valuable insights with Scouts and Scouters, effectively showcasing the wealth of opportunities within venturing. Notably, we successfully recruited new members, and the Jeopardy game show on venturing in GNYC added an engaging and entertaining dimension to our outreach efforts. Overall, a remarkable display of dedication to advancing venturing in our community.





Fiona CVOA Annual Meeting event chair, and Finn VOA Trex event Facilitator



President Vincent, Annual Meeting event chair Fiona, Vice President of Communications Lora, and Trex Facilitator Finn on the venturing Panel at Trex



Climb the Night Away Spring 2024

Join us for an exhilarating adventure under the stars at "Climb the Night Away" in the Orbach Arena 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.

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 Shooting Sports Weekends Ten Mile River Scout Camps. 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..](#)

BROOKLYN COUNCIL RING ISSUES - 1937



David Malatzky recently won on eBay and 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 includes: 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.

David said "This is a notable acquisition and I think that it would be possible to write up an article for TMRSS about Brooklyn".

[Brooklyn Arrowhead 1937 | tmrmuseum](#)

A Winter Hike Around TMR

by Ed Winters and Michael Drillinger

It has been 50 years! Over the Presidents Weekend in February 1974, Ed Winters and Michael Drillinger hiked the northern section of TMR Trail. It's hard to believe it, but this is the 50th anniversary of that 5-day, 4-night adventure. There were actually three of us. Ed and Michael were accompanied by Michael's high school friend, Kevin Powell, a non-scout. Ed picked us up in Brooklyn in his 1962 red VW bug, and we drove to TMR.



Buckhorn Trail Lean-to



Michael Drillinger chops a hole in the ice at Davis Lake. Photo by Ed Winters



Ed Winters harvests rock tripe. Somewhere the TMR Trail crosses the old heaterstack road near the site of Camp Hayden. Photo by Michael Drillinger with Ed's camera

We started at Headquarters. We checked in with head ranger Will Wilson and business manager Marie Hensel. Will told us to be careful and have a good time. We crossed Crystal Lake Road and took the TMR Trail south to 23, then crossed over and hiked into Davis Lake. From there we picked up a spoke trail in Davis Lake by old Site 1 and followed it to the Buckhorn trail site. The three lean-tos were in good shape. There was also water and a latrine at the trail site.

One of the most memorable features of that first day was crunch snow. There was a thin coating of ice on top of the snow. Every step felt like you would be walking on top of the ice, but as soon as you put weight on your foot, your foot would crunch through into the snow. The snow underneath was about six inches deep, but in some places, it was up to our calves. This made breaking trail very difficult and the going slow.

The Buckhorn trail site was beautiful. It was on a hill above Davis Lake. We stayed at Buckhorn / Davis Lake for that night and the next. Ed took a photo of Michael using a long knife (actually a bayonet from WWII) to chop a hole in the ice on the lake. The ice was pretty thick but the knife was very effective in making a hole. We then tried to fish using a dental floss for a line, but we had no luck. Not only was Davis Lake frozen over, every other lake and pond, including Crystal and Trout, were completely frozen. Nevertheless, the temperatures over the entire weekend were very mild for the middle of February.



Michael Drilling and Kevin Powell take a break at the remains of the old Schiff Trail site.
Photo by Ed Winters



Michael Drilling on top of Eagle Rock and Kevin Powell below - photo by Ed Winters

The next morning we worked our way around Davis Lake to the site of Camp Hayden. Where the old heaterstack road intersects with the TMR Trail we found a wonderful rock outcrop on which was growing lots of rock tripe. We harvested some to cook later.

We continued up the west side of the property to Ranachqua and Family Camp, stopping to check out the Schiff Trail and Renowip trail sites. The lean-tos at Schiff Trail were completely deteriorated with just some rotted walls remaining. The Renowip were in bad shape, too, with the roofs collapsing.

The going this day was much easier as temperatures had moderated and much of the snow was melting. After a cold night in a lean-to and a long and wet day on the trail, we wanted someplace out of the cold to spend the night. The Stumpp Lodge seemed to fit the bill. Being resourceful scouts, we availed ourselves of the opportunity. Our dinner that night included rock tripe. If you have never tried it, it's sort of like rubbery eggs. It is amazing how good something tastes if you are really hungry and have enough butter to fry it in.

Stumpp Lodge was so cozy we stayed for one or two nights. Our clothes and sleeping bags had gotten wet the first night. Staying at the cabin gave us a chance to dry out. On the fourth day we hiked past the Frontier Village, Smith Mills and Pine Hill sites. Then it was on to Keowa, over Eagle Rock and down to Trout Pond. On the way we passed the trail site known as Connelly and basically there was nothing left of the site. We spent our last night at the Trout Pond lean-tos which were in very good shape and had reflector fireplaces.

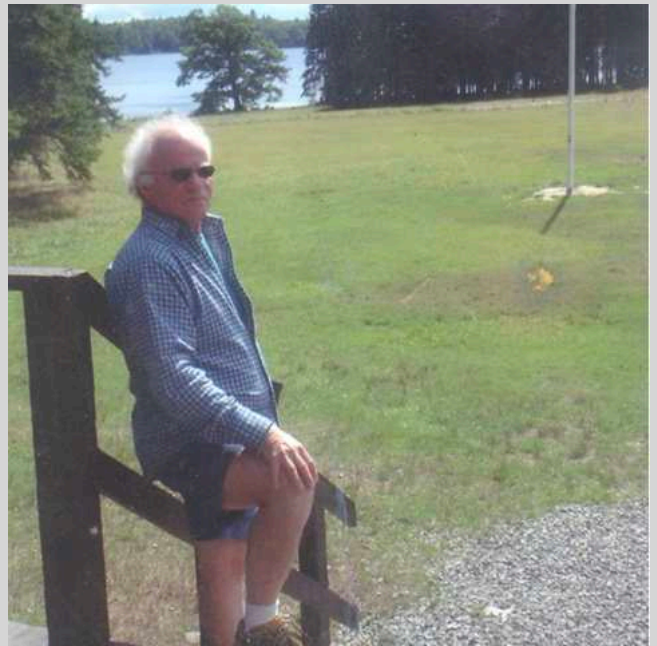
Leaving Trout Pond we crossed CR26 and passed the Trailside site. All that was left there was the Trailside latrine. From Trout Pond we made the last leg of our trek and ended the hike on the fifth day back at TMR Headquarters. Checking in with Will Wilson he had to remark that "You guys smell like smoke!" And surly we did. We found Will at the garage and we hung out there with Marie Hensel and Ed Gettel before we packed up and went home. Basically we did the entire trail in the north half of the reservation, above County Route 23 and a small section south of CR 23 down to Buckhorn.

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



<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>



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.

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](#)



Ten Mile River Scout Museum | [Website](#)

