



JOURNAL OF THE TEN MILE RIVER SCOUT MUSEUM — DEDICATED TO PRESERVING THE MEMORIES OF T.M.R. CAMPERS

Winter 2012

Volume 5, Whole Number 2

T.M.R. ALUMNI REUNION DAY AUGUST 3, 2013

Celebrating 86 Years of Ten Mile River

Save the date on your calendar now for the T.M.R. Alumni/Reunion Day, Saturday, August 3, 2013, at Headquarters Camp, T.M.R. Gathering is at 10:00 am with a welcome orientation and ceremony at 11:00 am followed by lunch. After lunch, feel free to visit the camps of yesterday and today. Visit Camp Keowa, where an "Open House" of Scouting at Ten Mile River will take place.

The Ten Mile River Scout Museum will be open for visits and video viewing of T.M.R. History. You can visit the Cayuga/Kotohke Cabin historical display and the Kunatah Trading Post at the Museum.

Special family events and activities will be taking place. Please plan on bringing your children and grandchildren. Our Ten Mile River Staff will be on hand to have many program opportunities available for you and your family members to enjoy.

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MUSEUM TO HOST C.C.C. DAY AUG. 4, 2013

By: David M. Malatzky
archivist@tmmuseum.org

The Museum is organizing a C.C.C. Day on Sunday, August 4, 2013 to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of the Civilian Conservation Corps and our very own C.C.C. Camp Ten Mile River (Camp P85 – Narrowsburg) at Headquarters Camp, T.M.R.



This is the day following the 2013 T.M.R. Alumni Day, so alumni can attend both events by staying over in or near camp Saturday night.

There will be walking tours of the C.C.C. camp site, lectures by C.C.C. historians, C.C.C. documentaries, an F.D.R. impersonator, a "midway" with C.C.C.-related and local

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AN INTERVIEW WITH KEN CRANDALL

By: Ed Winters

Editor's Note: This is the third edited interview based on interviews Museum Trustee Ed Winters made in 1975 with key individuals in T.M.R. history. This multi-part interview is with longtime T.M.R. Property Superintendent Ken Crandall, Sr.

Ed Winters: In 1944 to 1967, you were Superintendent? Who were some of the people in charge then (1944)?

Ken Crandall: Al Nichols, Jr. was the director of camping. Joe Brunton was the executive. Luke Cole was the controller.



Ken Crandall

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T.M.R. HALL OF FAME 2012

By: John X. Restrepo
jrestrepo@bsamail.org

The 2012 Ten Mile River Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony was truly an exciting affair. This year it was held on October 11, 2012, in other words, on 10/11/12. This year the ceremony also saw a new venue: The Villa Russo in South Richmond Hills, Queens.



G.N.Y.C. Scout Executive Charlie Rosser and G.N.Y.C. Director of Camping Sean Quinn receive the "big check" from Museum Chairman Gene Berman and Treasurer David Malatzky.

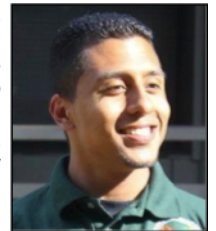
(posthumously). John Cleary was inducted as a Distinguished Alumnus for his hard work and

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Spotlight on T.M.R.: John X. Restrepo

By: John Pritchard
Tatanka49@gmail.com

John X. Restrepo, a long time camp staffer, was recently appointed to a position in the camping department and as such has become the staff adviser to the Museum. Always busy, John was able to give us a few minutes to get to know him better.



Smoke Signals: Tell us a little about yourself. Let's start with your scouting background as a youth and adult.

JXR: I currently live in Flushing, Queens and have lived in the same building since birth. My hobbies include singing karaoke and Scouting (about 90%!!!). Of course, Scouting includes camping, leadership, hiking, and all other facets of Scouting.

I was never a Cub Scout. My Scouting experience began in 1999 when I first joined Troop 253 in Flushing, Queens. I held positions such as Assistant Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader, Senior Patrol Leader, JASM, ASM. I was a venturer in Crew 815 in Queens Village, and later in Crew 1230 out of Electchester. I was the Treasurer in both crews and

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T.M.R. SMOKE SIGNALS

The Ten Mile River Scout Museum is a not-for-profit entity interested in collecting artifacts, documents, audio and video media illustrating the camping experiences of the Greater New York City's scouting heritage.

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Opinions expressed by the authors are their own and do not necessarily represent those of the Ten Mile River Scout Museum, publisher or editor.

POSTMASTER: Send change of address to TMR, 1481 Crystal Lake Road, County Road 26, Narrowsburg, NY 12764-4414.

from the chairman's desk



By: Dr. Gene Berman
geneberman@verizon.net

On a mild October day as I sit back and reflect on this past summer, I must say I am very proud of what our Museum Board and members have accomplished. Today, I actually am referring to "Our TMR Museum Compound" since we have rescued and reclaimed so much of historical value over the past few years.

This past year saw the arrival at HQ of what was formerly the Jerry Reimer-Kunatah Trading Post. This building had its birth in old Camp Nianque, the kosher Bronx division. Sometime after Nianque was closed after the 1969 season and before the start of the 1971 season this cabin was moved to Kunatah to take its place on what was the old Kunatah Parking Lot by the waterfront and Jewish Chapel trail. Ranger Ted Klepper and helpers built an addition in the back and it became the Kunatah Nature lodge. Sometime later the nature lodge moved to the old Kunatah-D3 office and the Trading Post moved into this building. Now in the process of being restored, it will serve as the TMR Scout Museum workshop and storage area. As of this writing we have not yet moved the back part but that is part of the grand plan. Many thanks to John Romanovich, Michael Herbert and other volunteers and a big thanks to Jim Loeffle and the Ranger staff without whose help this could not have been accomplished.

Hard work followed this move and Mike and John toiled day and night....well maybe not all night, but they worked very hard to install a perforated drainage pipe so the Kunatah Trading Post would not be surrounded by swamp.

Landscaping will soon follow.

Improvements continue to be made to the Cayuga/Kotohke Cabin rescued last year. Dave Malatzky, Karl Bernstein, Hal Rosenfeld and Curator Bernie Sussman are working hard to restore the inside and outer grounds so it will be a Museum exhibit as how Scouts of the 1930's-1950's lived at TMR "back in the day". Visitors will see how different some of the camping equipment and camping style was in those days and how some things never changed and some are just the same.

During this past summer our overall Outdoor Program started to come alive under the stewardship of Outdoor Curator, Deacon Paul Lumpkin. Among the outdoor exhibits and activities were Geocaching, a treasure hunt game using modern GPS units to located treasure hidden T.M.R. SMOKE SIGNALS | Winter 2012

around HQ camp, a historic walk around HQ camp learning where the original C.C.C. (Civilian Conservation Corps) Camp Ten Mile River was located, how it became the original TMR HQ and what is there now and how it relates to modern HQ camp, a solar energy display, the Kernochan Blockhouse which houses implements used during the 1750's when the TMR area was being settled, and the aforementioned Cayuga/Kotohke and Kunatah buildings. Some units also took advantage of Museum Matinee by cooking their lunch on our grills located in our picnic area.

Plans for next season include expanding the outdoor program to offer Archeology merit badge, introducing new exhibits indoors including, hopefully, one or two interactive exhibits and plans for us to finish the indoor program at the Cayuga/Kotohke cabin. I think our Museum Board is pumped, hyped and ready to "rock and roll" for 2013. What...."you say we have to wait till next July?"

"What, you say it's ten months (as of this writing) away?" Fooy.... we want to get started now. Plan to visit us next summer at camp and 24/7 on the web at www.tmrsmuseum.org.

Dr. Berman is founder of the Ten Mile River Scout Museum.



Wanted: Your Old Scout Memorabilia

Readers. . .We want you to donate ANY type of Scout Memorabilia for the Museum store...uniforms, mugs, patches, neckerchiefs, books, "anything Scouting" that you have laying around the attic or basement. Money raised from sales will go towards the upkeep of the Museum. We have had considerable success over the past three years selling memorabilia, from our humble tables to the Museum store at T.M.R. and patch sales at West Point. Anything and everything Scouting can be used to help us raise money to help offset our expenses.

Items that can be mailed should be sent to Frank Mullane, Memorabilia Chairman, at his address, below:

*Mr. Frank Mullane
217 Kell Ave.
Staten Island, NY 10314*

If you have something "bulky" that you would like picked up, we can arrange one of our members to visit. Call Frank at 718-698-2315 to arrange a pickup or send an email to TheTrader112@aol.com.

If you plan on visiting camp this summer, items may be dropped off at the Museum as well.



from the editor



By: Michael Drilling
Michael.drilling@gmail.com

As sure as NY Scouting and Ten Mile River are alive and well, the TMR Museum is bubbling and boiling with exciting new exhibits and events. This past summer saw a full weekend celebration of Ten Mile River's 85th anniversary and once again the Museum was the hub of the celebration; read David Malatzky's story on the festivities. Speaking of David and anniversaries, this coming summer will be the 80th anniversary of the Civilian Conservation Corps. TMR was the home of C.C.C. Camp Ten Mile River – the only C.C.C. camp located on privately owned land. David is planning a big celebration the day after Alumni Day this coming summer. You can read more about it in this issue of Smoke Signals.

Ed Winters and I are calling for all of the photographers out there to submit entries for our "Moods of TMR" photography exhibition. The museum will serve as a gallery the summer of 2013 and display the artful and emotional side of TMR in photos. Please read more about this exhibition in this issue and check your photo folders for possible entries.

Quite a number of you have responded to my challenge to send me your memories of TMR. We have two stories about member's first day ever at camp. We have two stories about memories of a TMR legend, and we have a follow-up rebuttal to last issue's story by Jake Pontillo.

I hope that the stories and memories you read in this issue of Smoke Signals motivates you to contribute your stories. Do you remember your very first day at TMR? Share it with us. Do you have a memory of something that happened at camp one summer that had a significant impact on your life? Write it down, send it to me and we will print it. Do you have a picture from camp? Send us the picture and the story behind it; we will all appreciate it and you will feel like you made a contribution.

Happy Holidays and a Peaceful New Year.

NEW MUSEUM HOURS

The Museum has altered its summer, 2013 weekly operating schedule to be consistent with the rest of T.M.R.:

Monday-Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon, 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Saturday: Museum is closed.

Sunday: 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Open by special appointment.

LESLIE T. HAND DONATION

By: David M. Malatzky
archivist@tmrmuseum.org

The Museum recently received a donation of patches, awards, photos and biographical documents related to early Brooklyn Scout and Scouter Leslie T. Hand. Included in the donation is a collection of early Boy Scout Handbooks, including a rare 1912 edition, and an even rarer 1935 B.S.A. 25th veterans award. Longtime Greenwich Council Scouter Richard G. Brion and his son Gordon met with me and Hal Rosenfeld at the G.N.Y.C. office on Wednesday, November 14, 2012, to accept the materials for the Museum. Mr. Brion knew Mr. Hand through Greenwich Council and acquired these materials after Mr. Hand died in 1987.



Gordon Brion and Richard G. Brion meeting with Hal Rosenfeld and David Malatzky.

According to the biographical documents, Mr. Hand was one of the first Brooklyn Scouts and was very much involved in Brooklyn Scouting as an adult before moving to Greenwich Council in 1949. Here are some highlights from his Brooklyn Scouting Career:

December 31, 1895 – Born, Brooklyn, N.Y.

October, 1909 – Joined a Boy Scout Troop in Jamaica, NY organized by Dr. Henry Curtis, physical science teacher, Boys High School, Brooklyn. **Note:** This was a pre-B.S.A. Troop, presumably organized based on Baden-Powell's Scouting for Boys book (1908).

March 10, 1910 – Mr. Hand's Troop registered with the Boy Scouts of America, just recently organized.

January 31, 1912 – Part of an honor patrol of seven Scouts that greeted Baden-Powell when he arrived in N.Y.C. on the steamship *Arcadian*.

February 10, 1912 – Attended the first citywide Scout Rally at the 71st St. Armory, Manhattan.

1922 – A small group of boys (some from his Sunday school class) called at Mr. Hand's home in the Bay Ridge section of Brooklyn and requested that he become their Scoutmaster. Troop 53, Brooklyn was organized with eight Scouts.

1923 – Mr. Hand led a fund-raising campaign to build a Scout cabin in Roslyn, Long Island.

1923 – Vice-President in charge of Scoutcraft and Training, Bay Ridge District, Brooklyn.

Summer, 1925 – The Troop 53 cabin was completed.

July 28, 1926 – Completed the requirements and received the Eagle Scout Badge as an adult.

July, 1927 – Inducted into Shu-Shu-Gah Lodge while a campmaster at Camp Cropsey, Brooklyn Scout Camps, Kanohwahke Scout Camps.

1928 – Campmaster, Camp Oseetah, Brooklyn Scout Camps, T.M.R.

1930 – Committeeman, Troop 53, Brooklyn.

1940 – Neighborhood Commissioner, Brooklyn Heights District, Brooklyn.

The T.M.R. Scout Museum thanks Mr. Richard G. Brion for his donation. We are organizing a display on the life of Mr. Leslie T. Hand at the Museum for the 2013 season.



Leslie T. Hand

2012 TMR HALL OF FAME

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dedication for the Ten Mile River Scout Camps. John Farrell and Jack Williams were inducted as Dedicated Scouters for the work they continue to do for Scouting and their selfless support of the Ten Mile River program. Phil Nelson, despite not being with us, left a huge legacy of what Scouters are and how they wholeheartedly support the place that truly made a difference in their lives: Ten Mile River. Phil was inducted as a TMR Legend and it is a very fitting honor. Phil's family from Florida flew up North to receive this prestigious honor on behalf of their late father, husband, and friend.

The TMR Scout Museum presented a 2 foot by 4 foot check for \$1,800 to Ten Mile River in support of the Camp. This was a very kind gesture on the Museum's part as they enter their 16th year of operation and continue to preserve TMR's vivid history.

Villa Russo featured a beautiful set-up and offered trimmings that added pizzazz to the event. The event had an open bar, a buffet, hors d'oeuvres, a cocktail hour and even offered dessert with coffee. Attendees at the event were pleased with the venue and were thrilled to have come out to honor the inductees for 2012.

2013 TMR ALUMNI DAY

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Do you miss sleeping in the canvas tents? We can help you! Arrangements can be made for an overnight stay on Saturday at Camp Keowa. We will supply the tent and cot; just bring your own bedding.

Register and Pay online by credit card: bsa-gnyc.org/alumniday.

Don't miss the reminiscing of TMR Scout Camps with your Scout friends of yesterday...

C.C.C. DAY AUG. 4, 2013

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organizations, C.C.C. memorabilia collections on display and a barbeque lunch.

In addition to being a Scouting event, this will be a big public event advertised nationally to C.C.C. enthusiasts through the C.C.C. Legacy organization and through local and regional media.



Entrance to C.C.C. Camp Ten Mile River

The Ten Mile River Scout Museum wants to contact former employees of C.C.C. Camp Ten Mile River. We are also seeking photos, paper, memorabilia and artifacts from the camp, which operated on Turnpike Lake from October 1933 - May 1936.

If you have information about C.C.C. Camp Ten Mile River please contact David M. Malatzky, Associate Curator, Ten Mile River Scout Museum, 2332 Holland Ave., Bronx, NY 10467. E-Mail: archivist@tmrmuseum.org.

MUSEUM ISSUES TWO NEW BROCHURES

The Museum has published two new color glossy 3-fold promotional brochures for the 2013 season. One entitled

"Visit the Ten Mile River Scout Museum in 2013," details all of the indoor and outdoor programs available for groups visiting the Museum, including the Kernochan Blockhouse, the Cayuga/Kotohke Cabin, the C.C.C. Camp Ten Mile River Walking Tour, and Geocaching.



The other brochure is entitled "Support the Ten Mile River Scout Museum" and describes all of the ways someone can support the Museum, including Museum membership, memorabilia and cash donations, and the T.M.R. Wall of Fame.

Both brochures can be downloaded from: tmrmuseum.org/buttons/Button4.html.



KUNATAH ROCK SHELTER FOUND!

By: David M. Malatzky
archivist@tmmuseum.org

This past September, I received a request from Mr. Alan Strauss for photographs and information relating to the Kunatah Rock Shelter. Mr. Strauss helped excavate the site in 1972 as a Camp Kunatah C.I.T. and heard that we had an exhibit on it. I informed Mr. Strauss that he was referring to the T.M.R. Rock Shelter exhibit, and that I never heard of the Kunatah Rock Shelter, but I certainly wanted to learn more about it.

Mr. Strauss informed me that the 1972 excavation was done by two N.Y.U. graduate students, Leroy E. Erdmann and Joseph L. Conrad, under the supervision of Bronx resident Junius Bird of the American Museum of Natural History. Mr. Bird, an expert in South American archaeology, was one of the individuals cited as the inspiration for the Indiana Jones movie character.

Unlike the T.M.R. Rock Shelter, which was

isolated, the Kunatah Rock Shelter was in the middle of Camp Kunatah, and was passed by dozens of Scouts each day on their way to the Camp Kunatah waterfront on Rock Lake. I was also informed that the Kunatah Rock Shelter excavation started as early as 1969 and was well known to some of the Museum board members, including Gene Berman, Karl Bernstein and John Romanovich.

Mr. Strauss suggested that I contact the American Museum of Natural History. The Museum had a file on the Kunatah Rock



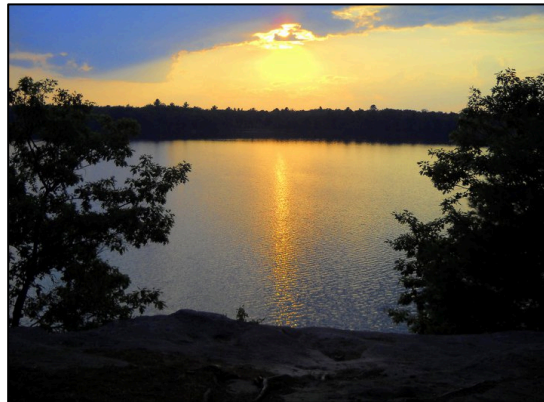
The Kunatah Rock Shelter in 1972
Shelter containing photos and correspondence, which I copied. Mr. Strauss also sent me a few color photos of the dig that he found at home.

A few weeks later, on a cold snowy morning, I put on my Indiana Jones hat and met John Romanovich at Camp Kunatah to examine the site. We compared the site to the 1972 photos. The excavation was obvious but it did not appear that the site was touched since 1972. This is very exciting because it means that the site might be worthwhile excavating again in the future.

I also had been trying to contact Mr. Leroy E. Erdmann to see if he had any documentation on the 1972 excavation. Just recently, I received an email from Mr. Erdmann, notifying me that he had some materials on the dig and that he would look for them. Hopefully, we can obtain sufficient information for an exhibit on the Kunatah Rock Shelter for the 2013 season. So this is getting interesting. Stay tuned!

If anyone has any additional information on the Kunatah Rock Shelter, please contact me at archivist@tmmuseum.org.

Photo Exhibit - Call for Photographers "The Moods of Ten Mile River"



We are seeking photos depicting artful images of the natural wonders of the Ten Mile River Scout Camps and the upper Delaware River Valley. Imagine capturing a photo of a bolt of lightning at Indian Cliffs, a shaft of sunlight through the dense forest after a rainstorm, a sunset on Crystal Lake or a bed of ferns waving on a sunny day or a snow-covered stream bank during the spring snow melt. We would like photos that capture moods within familiar scenes. We want photos that evoke emotions and memories. While we are always looking for historic photos or photos of campers; they are not for this show unless they evoke a mood of nature.

All photos will be considered for this 50 photo exhibit that will be unveiled in the summer of 2013. A companion book will also be compiled of these photos and the stories around them.

Submission of Exhibit - Submit all of your entries electronically in the specified format to the email address below:

Format: 5"x7" jpeg, 300dpi
Submit by: April 1, 2013
Email to: ed@eogroupsolutions.com

If accepted, we will ask for a 5"x7" print. While you will get credit for the photo, the Museum reserves all rights to the use of the images we accept.

NEW YORK CITY SCOUTERS WITH IMPORTANT ROLES IN NATIONAL SCOUTING

By: David M. Malatzky
archivist@tmmuseum.org

Throughout the first sixty years of the Boy Scouts of America, volunteer and professional Scouters from New York City held key positions on the National Council Executive Board and as Directors in the National Council.

It helped that the B.S.A. National Headquarters was in New York City from 1910-1954 and in New Brunswick, N.J. from 1954-1979. New York City was always a business and financial center and many businessmen first volunteered for leadership positions in the five Borough Councils, the Boy Scout Foundation of Greater New York or later the Greater New York Councils and subsequently joined the National Council as members-at-large, operating committee members, committee chairmen and some as national officers.

The position of Scout Executive of the Greater New York Councils was also a career path to Assistant Chief Scout Executive, Chief Scout Executive and other high National Council positions.

Notably, in 1967 three of the key National Council leadership had backgrounds in New York City Scouting: Chief Scout Executive Joseph A. Brunton, Jr. previously served as Scout Executive of the Greater New York Councils. Both National President Thomas J. Watson, Jr. and National Treasurer Gerald F. Beal previously served as President of the Greater New York Councils.

Here are some of the New York City volunteers and professionals that had major impacts on National Scouting:

Franklin D. Roosevelt

F.D.R. founded and was first President of the Boy Scout Foundation of Greater New York, later renamed the Greater New York Councils. As President of the United States, he was honorary President of the Boy Scouts of America, the first Scouting volunteer to hold this position. As U.S. President, he strongly supported National Scouting in various ways:



He invited hundreds of Scouts to march in his inaugural and act as an honor guard.

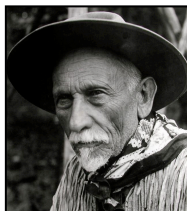
In 1934, through a radio address, he requested a National B.S.A. Good Turn whereby Scouts collected clothing, household furnishings and other articles for use by the needy.

He provided facilities in Washington, D.C. for both the 1935 National Scout Jamboree (which was canceled) and the 1937 National Scout Jamboree.

Over the radio, he addressed the Boy Scouts each year during Boy Scout Week and on other special occasions.

Daniel C. Beard

Daniel Carter Beard was a long-time resident of Flushing, Queens and a founder of Flushing District and Queens Council. "Uncle Dan" showed up at countless N.Y.C. Scouting rallies, Scout shows, camporees, and Scoutmaster Dinners. On the National level, Dan Beard was very active:



He was National Scout Commissioner, Honorary B.S.A. Vice-President and Chairman of the National Court of Honor.

From 1920-1940, he organized annual pilgrimages to the grave of President Theodore Roosevelt, at Oyster Bay, LI.

He was assistant Editor of Boy's Life Magazine and wrote a popular question-and-answer column.

He was on the committee that originated the Silver Buffalo award.

Barron Collier

Mr. Collier served as Acting President of the Boy Scout Foundation of Greater New York for 18 years, while Franklin D. Roosevelt was busy as New York State Governor and later President of the United States. Mr. Collier, a self-made multimillionaire, controlled a large part of streetcar advertising in the United States before the Great Depression.



As Chairman of the National Council Committee on Publicity and Promotion, Mr. Collier frequently put 50,000 advertising cards in streetcars throughout the U.S. to promote the Boy Scouts of America, in the day before widespread radio and television advertising.

Harvey A. Gordon

Mr. Gordon is best known to us as the man who built T.M.R., but he also served as Manhattan Council Scout Executive immediately before W.W.I.



During most of the 1920s Mr. Gordon was Chief Camp Director of the Kanohwahke Scout Camps in Harriman State Park, a regional multi-council summer camp organized by National Council, where the New York City Scouts camped before T.M.R. first opened in 1928.

Following the completion of T.M.R. in 1930, Mr. Gordon was hired by National Council as National Camp Engineer, and later Director of the National Engineering Service.

As National Camp Engineer, Mr. Gordon designed, constructed and demolished the Jamboree Cities for the 1935 (canceled) and 1937 National Scout Jamborees in Washington, D.C.

Mortimer L. Schiff

Mr. Schiff, scion of a famous banking family, was a member of the Boy Scout Foundation of Greater New York and notably donated \$50,000 (today, close to \$1 million) for the construction of the Ten Mile River Scout Camps in 1928.



Mr. Schiff generously supported National Council financially and served most notably as Chairman of the Committee on Organization and Field Work, International Commissioner, Vice-President, and President (for one month) until his unexpected death in 1931. Schiff Scout Reservation was named in his honor.

George D. Pratt

Mr. Pratt was the first President of Brooklyn Council and later served as Brooklyn Council Vice-President.



He was the first of several National Council Treasurers to come from New York City Scouting. He also served as Chairman of the National Camping Committee and was Vice-Chairman of the National Court of Honor.

Lewis B. Gawtry

Mr. Gawtry served as Manhattan Council President and succeeded George D. Pratt as National Council Treasurer. Mr. Gawtry was also Chairman of the National Finance and Personnel Committees.

Gerald F. Beal

Mr. Beal served as Treasurer, President and Chairman of the Board of the Greater New York Councils. He succeeded Lewis B. Gawtry as National Council Treasurer.

Several professionals (especially Scout Executives) of the Greater New York Councils ended their careers in top National Council positions:

Perry Lint

In 1938, Mr. Lint served as the first Scout Executive of the Boy Scout Foundation of Greater New York, and later as Deputy Chief Scout Executive for National Council.



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JOHN X. RESTREPO

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then became as associate advisor once I turned 21. Today, I am now the Scoutmaster of Troop 253 sponsored by St. Michael's Church. I earned the rank of Eagle in April of 2007. I received the District Award of Merit in June of 2012 in Founders District.

SS: Are you involved in the Order of the Arrow?

JXR: I became a member of the OA in 2002 and had my ordeal in the same year. I am in the Matinecock Chapter of Suanhacky Lodge #49. I received the brotherhood honor in 2004. While a youth in the OA, I held the position of resale chairman (where I was in charge of selling items in a suitcase. The suitcase was almost my size...)

SS: You might be best known for your work at TMR. Tell us about that.



A young John X. Restrepo with Deacon Paul Lumpkin and Jonah Triebwasser, 2003.

JXR: My first summer at Camp was in 2000 at Camp Kunatah. My troop went to camp for 2 weeks and I loved it so much that I came back for a third week later in the summer.

In 2001 and 2002, I attended Camp Keowa as a camper. In 2002, after spending a week as the provisional SPL, the Keowa Program Director stood me in front of the entire camp and publically asked me to be on staff. I accepted and finished my first summer as a staff person as the provo SPL. Since then, I have worked on staff for 11 consecutive summers serving in roles such as Ecology Staff person (2 years), Assistant Program Director (3 years), Senior Commissioner (1 year), and Program Director (4 years). In 2012, I will serve as the Camp Keowa Director, this being my 12th consecutive summer. Summer Camp is a true second home for me and it is my intention to continue delivering the promise there summer after summer.

SS: So you went from Summer camp staff to an executive position with the Council. How did that come about?

JXR: I am currently the Camping Executive for the Greater New York Councils, Boy Scouts of America. I started with the Council in January of 2012 and am on my 11th month soon to be 12th. Before working with the Council professionally, I worked for a year with the NYC Department of Education as a Spanish teacher. Before teaching, I worked in afterschool day-care programs such as the Boys' Club of New York and the Child Center of New York, as an academic tutor and program counselor. I attended Queens College and graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor's Degree in Spanish and a minor in Education. I am now enjoying my time serving Scouting both as a volunteer and as professional.

SS: What is it like to be in your new position?

JXR: Being in this new position is exciting. Professionally, I report directly to Sean Quinn (Director of Camping) in the Camping Services division of GNYC, BSA.

At first, I didn't really know what I would be doing, but now I am well-versed in the operation of Camping Services. I am responsible for running some of the events our division directs, I assist the Director of Camping in the administration of the division and the camps, and I work with the field to visit units and help with the camp promotions effort. Every day is still a great learning experience for me and I enjoy the opportunity to learn new things and rise to any challenges/tasks that come my way. Of course, now I feel like I have tons to do.

SS: What specifically are you responsible for?

JXR: With the Museum, I am responsible for maintaining contact between Sean Quinn (Director of Camping) and the Museum. I entertain requests from the Museum Board and represent their best interests when fulfilling all requests. I also represent the best interests of the Camping Division and work with Gene Berman (Chairman of the Museum Board) to make sure that all meetings and business of the Board is as smooth as possible.

With TMR, I serve as the Camp Keowa Camp Director. While this is only a small facet of my professional duty, I provide support to my colleagues in the Camping Division with respect to TMR. I update the TMR Leader's Guide along with the help of Tom Bain, I assist the Director of Ten Mile River (Sean Quinn) with any managerial tasks he entrusts me with, and I promote TMR to units in and out of council that don't visit our property.

With the TMR Alumni, I am responsible for all contact to the Alumni Association. I draft and send out the mailings that we put out to our members, and I produce the "Thank You" notes we send out in appreciation of what our Alumni do to support us. I work with Sean Quinn and Gene Berman (as has been the custom) to execute the yearly TMR Alumni Day.

SS: What was biggest challenge that you had in your position this year?

JXR: This year, I would say that my greatest challenge was running the TMR Hall of Fame Dinner. I was informed one month and one week prior to the event that it was my responsibility to make it run and come off smoothly. Well, the event was a complete success and I proved to myself that I can work quite well while facing a challenging learning curve and time constraint.

SS: How has TMR changed from the time you first went there and today?

JXR: TMR has definitely changed since I first attended Camp in 2000. The changes have been

positive in my eyes as we see the Scouting program evolve. First of all, the upgrades to the camps with the construction of new facilities are a definite plus for TMR. Also, there are a series of new and exciting merit badges offered in the camps' programs that were not offered during the start of the new millennium. You can see an increase in the size of each camp's staff as numbers in the 50's (50+ members per staff) become more prevalent. Merit badges and camp program have also become more career and research oriented and technology is a big part of our in-camp atmospheres.

SS: What challenges do you see for TMR in the future?

JXR: As Scouting continues to compete with other extra-curricular activities, membership continues to drop. I can see attendance at TMR dropping as a consequence. TMR used to operate several camps and is now down to 4 operational camps. The attendance does not warrant opening any more camps at present.

SS: Where would you like to see TMR in the future?

JXR: I would like to see TMR serving 400-500 boys per week; per camp (hopefully one more Scout Camp onto the list) and changing the lives of each boy that enters each camp. I would like our program to continue expanding such that we adopt new programs as they are sanctioned by the Guide to Safe Scouting.

SS: Do you have a good anecdote, story or adventure that you would like to share?

JXR: It was mentioned before, but I was called out in front of the entire camp in 2002 and publically asked to join staff. This was an experience I'll never forget. I have not stopped working at TMR since...

SS: Is there anyone in Scouting or TMR that you looked up to and why?

JXR: Scouting is filled with role models everywhere you turn. Nevertheless, there are few that you can truly attribute a lot of your success and style to. My role model in Scouting is Michael Beltran. He was my Scoutmaster from when I first joined Scouting in 1999. He taught me positive morals and taught me how to be a tough Boy Scout. He helped me to develop great leadership and become the man I am today. To this day, I implement his vision of what Scouting is and should be for young men. Of course, times have changed and I have begun to notice that the Scouts of today are not as "rough and tough" as they used to be and we cannot call ourselves all-weather campers like Mike Beltran would have wanted.

In TMR, Sean Quinn is my role model. He has years of knowledge serving on TMR Camp Staffs and is a great mentor. He is always there to support me and advise me as to "the good-ole-days" as I continue to serve and grow as one of the Camp Managers. His passion for TMR and passion for helping me makes the job truly exciting and simple for me, knowing that he "has my back".

Lastly, there is Joe Bradley. Nothing but greatness can be said about this man. Before I knew him more personally, I always thought Joe Bradley was one of the most helpful individuals one could ever know.

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JOIN THE TEN MILE RIVER SCOUT MUSEUM



Join the T.M.R. Scout Museum - Support the Ten Mile River Scout Museum by joining and keep informed about our latest acquisitions and special Museum activities. Give your time. The Museum needs enthusiastic, knowledgeable volunteers to help in many different ways.

Ten Mile River Smoke Signals - T.M.R. Smoke Signals is the official publication of the Ten Mile River Scout Museum. Published two times each year, it is filled with articles on T.M.R. camp history, camp stories, the latest Museum and T.M.R. Alumni news.

Levels-of-Giving - You can also support the Museum by donating to our "Levels-of-Giving" program. You will receive all of the benefits of Museum membership and be recognized with an engraved metal plate with your name and the year, mounted on a plaque, prominently displayed in the Museum.

Donations - 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.

Ten Mile River 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, located at the Ten Mile River Scout Museum, might be right for you. Once the tile is installed, a private or public recognition ceremony can be arranged, typically on T.M.R. Alumni Day in July or August. Tiles are available in a variety of sizes, colors and materials.

Prices range from \$125-\$1,000 per tile. Laser-engraved granite tiles can depict photos, line art and small lettering. Profits from tile sales supports the Ten Mile River Scout Camps and the Ten Mile River Scout Museum.

Become a member of the Ten Mile River Scout Museum and receive the following:

1. A membership card.
2. Two copies each year of the journal of the Ten Mile River Scout Museum: T.M.R. Smoke Signals.
3. A free ad of about 50 words in one issue of T.M.R. Smoke Signals.
4. A free lunch on T.M.R. Alumni Day.
5. 10% discount at the Museum shop (no mail order).
6. A special Member's patch.

WELCOME 2012 MEMBERS!

David Ames
Joseph P. Bohn
Robert Chiusano
Robert S. Eden
Larry Fine
Johnny R. Gonzalez

Dr. Reginald C. Grier
Steve Hagler
John R. Halpern
Stanley Kuperstein
Steven Lefland
Ronald Lewbel

Sam Lewbel
Deacon Paul Lumpkin
Thuy T. Nguyen
Peter A. Ornstein
Robert N. Panazzolo
Glen Schneider

Michael Selnick
Ronald W. Stingelin
John F. Venezia

Ten Mile River Scout Museum Membership Form

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Telephone No. _____ E-mail Address _____
TMR Camp _____ Years ____ to ____ Staff Position(s) _____

Museum Dues enclosed (check one):

☐ \$25 Membership

☐ Levels-of-Giving (includes Membership)

☐ \$50 Donor

☐ \$100 Friend

☐ \$250 Patron

☐ \$500 Benefactor

☐ \$1,000 Leadership

☐ \$_____ Money donation enclosed.

I can help out in the following ways:

☐ Audio-visual ☐ Computers ☐ Displays ☐ Other _____

☐ I want to donate T.M.R./Scouting Memorabilia.

Credit Card #: _____ - _____ - _____ Expiration _____

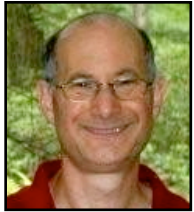
I authorize Greater New York Councils, Boy Scouts of America to debit my credit card account in the amount indicated above and credit the Greater New York Councils, B.S.A.

Signature _____

Make check or money order out to the "Greater New York Councils, B.S.A." Write account #1-2306-723-00 in the memo part of the check and mail to:
Ten Mile River Scout Museum c/o Greater New York Councils, Boy Scouts of America 350 Fifth Avenue, Suite 7820, New York, N.Y. 10118-0199.

VOLUNTEERING AT THE MUSEUM

By: Michael Drillinger
Michael.drillinger@gmail.com



It is no doubt hard for many of you to find a week in the summer to volunteer at the Museum. I have been on the Board of Trustees for over five years now and this past summer was the first time I found time to give a week to the Museum. It was one of the best weeks I have spent in a very long time.

First, and in all fairness, it was not really a week. The Museum was effectively closed from Sunday after scoutmaster meetings until Tuesday morning. I arrived Saturday morning and got my orientation from Bernie.

Now I know there are some out there who may not always see eye-to-eye with Bernie. I actually enjoy his company. I love his stories and truly think someone should record them or write them down. They would make a great movie or book. Did you know he was a jazz drummer while in the army and stationed outside of London? He played with many jazz greats of the era.

Bernie also has a good sense of humor, is a good sport about kidding and at times he can agree to disagree. He and I got along and that went a long way in my enjoyment of the time I spent at the Museum.

There were several small projects that I noticed needed to be done and Bernie was all for my taking them on. There were many photos coming off the wall and we worked together to tack them back on. There was a patch blanket I suggested could be hung on a wall and Bernie let me go and do it. There was another patch blanket lying around and he let me drape it inside an empty display case. I felt I could make contributions and that they were appreciated. That was very satisfying.

Hey, troops come by to visit the Museum. Did you know that? After hearing Bernie do his talk a couple of times I felt comfortable putting in my two cents and answering questions after the talk. Some

boys wanted to know more about the Indian artifacts, some about the logging artifacts; the donut farm display also elicited many questions. It was great to interact with the scouts and to watch them express their natural curiosity.

One day Ed Winters and I took the C.C.C. walk. We had a devil of a time finding the yellow markers. We tried to correlate the current landscape to the pictures in David Malatzky's book. I kept scratching my head wondering why David did not include a map. It would have been so much easier if there were a map that showed the location of all of the markers. Ed and I hunted each one down and read about the history at each location. Eventually we ended up where the original gate to C.C.C. Camp Ten Mile River met the main road. We tried to envision how it looked in the old picture in the book and we looked for evidence of the original entryway. We then made our way over the bridge at the outflow of Turnpike Lake and that is where Ed came up with the idea of a photography show of the moods of Ten Mile River.



As we talked I change the hands in which I was holding David Malatzky's C.C.C. tour book. That is when I first noticed the back cover of the book. There on the back cover was the map I should have noticed before we even left the Museum. I felt so silly and I knew that David would have included a map; I just didn't bother to look for it.

One day Bernie got to telling me about logging around Rock Lake in the 1800s. Back then it was called Canfield Pond. He said the logs were floated across the lake and there was a sluice down to the Delaware. At the bottom was the town of Ten Mile River where the logs were assembled into giant rafts and floated down to Camden and Philadelphia.

I had been a camper and staff man at Kunatah and I have hiked the Pig Trail to Landers and the

Donut Farm. I thought it curious that I never noticed a sluiceway and suggested to Bernie that we go explore for it. Since we had a big break after lunch and no troops scheduled in the afternoon Bernie agreed and we drove to the dam at Rock Lake. Son-of-a-gun we found evidence of the sluiceway. We followed its course all the way down to Route 97. It was always there and I did not recognize it before nor did I understand what it was used for until that day with Bernie. Bernie told me that a few years back a fellow scoured the area with his metal detector and found the musket balls and ox shoes now on display at the Museum.

Wednesday night's dinner is out at the camps. We went to Keowa where there was a barbeque dinner that night. Before dinner there was a troop assembly and troops had to report whether or not members were present or accounted for. Some gave a dry report, but others, in true scout spirit, had fun with the formalities. One troop carried the SPL in on a throne before he gave his report. Another troop had a group of junior leaders charge at the camp staff shouting their report. Other troops reported in the form of a group cheer. It was delightful to see scouting creativity and good-natured fun.

After dinner scouts headed out for their evening programs. Some activities like an evening nature hike or work in the scout skills area I recognized. Other activities like scouts heading up the Keowa road in pedal cars were new to me. I was glad that my week at the Museum included a visit to a camp.

The week included time to sit around a campfire at least one evening and to sneak away to swim in between official Museum hours. At the end of the week I felt I had truly given something to the Museum, TMR and the scouts who were there. I also felt a little guilty because for all I did, I definitely got back far more than I put in.



Michael Drillinger is Editor of T.M.R. Smoke Signals.

KEN CRANDALL

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Many of the field executives I knew the first year.

EW: How many camps were open your first year (1944)?

KC: We operated differently at that time. Each borough had its camp. Then they were divided into divisions. Manhattan and Brooklyn had two divisions, although actually they were numbered. Queens had three divisions. Ranachqua had two. Aquehonga only one.

EW: When did they come out with names like that?

KC: Lakeside and Central and Kernochan, they were just three, and they . . . as they were built they were called that.

EW: What year did they change Keowa?

KC: I would think about 1962. It might have been 1958, but between 1958 and 1962. It was always Manhattan to me. Of course, headquarters (was the) old C.C.C. Camp, built in 1934. The buildings now (used) were started in about 1960. Possibly 1962. We completely demolished the old C.C.C. Camp, which was located down where the family camp is now. Turned it into housing units.



Ken Crandall, 1936

EW: What did they use the cabins for after the C.C.C. and before they built headquarters. Did the staff have them?

KC: Yes, of course, the recreation hall the C.C.C. used, we turned into a general office. That was the main office. Then the dining hall was there. The main part of it was a carpenter shop. The officer's dining hall became living quarters for some of the staff and secretaries.

EW: Where the headquarters is now, there was nothing in that area?

KC: That was just an empty field, the warehouse and shop, and where the administration building is, there was nothing there at all, absolutely nothing in that area, except where the family camp is now. I built the road in there, and we cleared the parking lots, and built the shop and warehouse and all that stuff.

EW: How long did it take to build it?

KC: We did the Trading Post one year, and we

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MY FIRST DAY AT T.M.R.

By: Karl Bernstein
Louella558@aol.com

One hot Thursday evening in June 1946, my life changed forever when my dad told me, "C'mon... I'm taking you to join the Boy Scouts!" Now this was something that was NOT one of my priorities so I declined his offer. Obviously this was something that he and my mom had given a great deal of thought and felt strongly about so I had NO choice and off we went.

Our destination was the Avenue R Jewish Center on East 16th St. in Brooklyn where Troop 40 met. To my great relief, there was nobody around as the troop had suspended meetings for the summer. I heaved a great sigh of relief to myself and we started off homeward. Perhaps it was a kind act of fate but as we drove down Avenue P, there was a troop of Scouts engaged in an activity outside of the Jewish Center of Kings Highway on the corner of East 12th St. My dad quickly stopped and a very important part of my life began.

After a brief conversation that he had with the Scoutmaster, the fabulous Sig Levy, I was not only registered in Troop 442 but signed up for the ENTIRE 8 week summer season at TMR. At that time, camp consisted of 4 two-week periods. The first period that you attended cost \$24 and subsequent periods cost \$48 each; the rationale being that boys who could only afford to attend for one period got a cheaper rate. In those busy post WW2 times, few leaders could afford a 2-week vacation so the camp was practically 100% provisional.

A few short weeks later I had been packed up and my trunk sent off to camp via the Railway Express Agency and my dad took me to the bus depot somewhere in a schoolyard up in Washington Heights. Almost nobody was driven to camp then as few families had cars and the Thruway & Route 17 Quickway didn't yet exist. 1946 was the first year that buses were used as during the war years, Brooklyn Scouts went to camp on the Erie RR which left from Jersey City, NJ, got off the train at the Tusten station just over the bridge from PA, and hiked the rest of the way to camp over Tusten Mountain.

Our bus took us up the service road into camp and we were all let off on the Tahlequah lawn. Fortunately for me, I met a member of my troop, Stan Pauer, on the bus and he guided me through all of the day one craziness. I don't know if I'd have made it through that day without him. He was a lifesaver!

The first thing that you did on arrival was to line up at a table to get your "Welcome Scout Card". This card told you to which site you had been assigned. I had been assigned to "Mojave" in Division "A" which, to me, might as well have been on the moon. We then proceeded to line up at the door to the Camp Brooklyn infirmary, which, in later years, became the Kunatah Office. You were

briefly examined (cough cough) and then directed to proceed to your campsite. There was a good deal of confusion on opening day in 1946 as Division "C", which consisted of the leanto campsites up on the hill behind the brand new dining hall, was brand new. Even experienced returning campers were confused.



A young Karl Bernstein

Stan and I managed to find our way to our site, which was up on the hill behind the open, later D-2 Chappegat, dining hall on the service road. It was the last site way back behind the newly constructed Division "A" office and was located directly in front of the area later known as "Hidden Valley" which served as the campsite council ring. Mojave, like many provisional campsites in that area, consisted of 4 eight-boy tents on high platforms and a 2-man tent called a "budka" for the provisional SM and ASM. Our SM Al Ragazzo directed us to the QM which was located in the corrugated metal "Green House" that stood at the side of the service road just past "Slow Blow Horn" rock.

Directly across the road stood the Division "A" Crafts Lodge which in later years became the D-2 Chappegat Crafts Lodge. All of the trunks destined for Division "A" was piled up in the Crafts Lodge and you had to dig through the pile to find yours and somehow get it back to your site. Stan and I helped each other. We then had to go back to the QM where we were now each handed an empty tick bag which was about the size of the iron military cots that we were to sleep on, and fill it with straw from the huge straw pile in the QM shack. After returning to our site with our ticks, we were assigned beds. Stan and I were in tent #2 with four

other Scouts that we didn't know but soon became friends with, as each tent was a patrol.

We were told by Al, the SM, to put on bathing suits and proceed down to the waterfront where we were given dock tests. The results of this test were also entered on your "Welcome Scout" card and a buddy tag was made for you. Buddy tags are probably one of the only vestiges of 1946 TMR that exists today. You hung your buddy tag on the "out" board in the section reserved for your campsite. Every time that you participated in a waterfront activity, you had to hang your tag on the appropriate "in" board.

After returning to our campsite, we made up our beds and by now, it was almost time for dinner. We had to dress in full uniform. In those years, uniforms were only required for dinner. When the bugler blew "assembly", our troop marched to the then brand new dining hall, still white as it hadn't yet been stained, and lined up in the compound just off to the right side of the dining hall in front of the new Division "C" office, later a computer area. The area in front of the dining hall was not to be completely cleared for 2 to 3 years so the front porch entrance was not used. Clearing projects, such as this one, were done by several OA ordeals of the new Bischuwi Chapter.

After proceeding in to dinner, grace was recited. In this new dining hall, being one of the kosher facilities, grace was recited before AND after the meal in Hebrew. I can claim the experience of having eaten the first meal served to campers in later to be Kunatah dining hall. There was also no lighting in the dining hall as electricity didn't come to the Brooklyn Camps along with the names Kotohke, Chappegat and Kunatah until 1948.

After dinner, unless you were your table's waiter or dishwasher for that day, you proceeded back to your site. Mojave had an opening campfire in the beautiful spot that later became "Hidden Valley" site. We were taught our campsite cheers that were regularly used during mealtime... "muh he, muh hi, muh ho, etc. It was then time to prepare for bed. Taps was blown at 10 PM. All lights had to be out and silence reigned!

By this time, I was overwhelmed and already homesick but I stuck it out and made Scouting and TMR the very important parts of my life that they have been for the ensuing 62 years. Scouting was one of the great gifts of my life given to me by my dad and I thank him almost every day!



MEMORIES OF STUMPP CABIN

By: Sal Poidomani

When I was on staff in Headquarters in 1964, Family Camp was called Zumi Village. The Blockhouse stood in the present day Family Camp field. As you turned onto the Zumi Village Road from where the Ranachqua, Aquehonga (Schiff Trail) and the Saw Mill Road converged, you passed the Rifle Range, the Dan Beard Training Center and then the Nianque Dining Hall. In 1964 I believe TMR ran 10 camps simultaneously, with Kunatah and Nianque being the two kosher camps. When you arrived at the end of the road, the Blockhouse was on your left. The Nianque Rabbi's (similar to those in Kunatah and Keowa and the one that once stood in Kohtoke and were built by the Jewish Committee on Scouting) cabin was on your right (It is now the cabin used in place of Stumpp Cabin) and directly in front of you was Stumpp Cabin.



In 1964 Ben Wolfe and his wife (I'm trying to remember her name; Minnie? Margie?) were the Zumi Village Directors or hosts. The Wolfes lived in Stumpp Cabin. There was a front entrance on the left with three steps and a back exit to the left of the rear porch. Years later, circa 1985, Ranger Dan Mastro built a porch at that entrance on the left and a year later, Shooting Sports Director Ken Burns cut a door on the right in order for people to enter Stumpp without walking through the kitchen. When you entered the door on the left, you entered the

kitchen, but that was not the original design. The kitchen was added on by Rangers, but I do not know in what year. If you went through the kitchen and stood by the fireplace in the large room, you could see there were rooms at each corner. These were bedrooms. There was a back porch, which was screened in later on.



Stumpp was a residence for many years, but eventually it became a cabin used exclusively by the staff, seldom by campers, but when my wife and I took over the operation, we opened the Stumpp Cabin to campers and used it as a common room where meetings were held, bingo games were played, handicraft was taught, and fun and fellowship prevailed.

One of the old bedrooms became the Camp Office. Another became the Trading Post. The third bedroom had its walls torn down to make the kitchen bigger. In 1986 the wooden floor in the big room was flooded and it warped and had a huge bend in it. The joke was to never put a pool table on that floor.

My wife, Barbara, and I hosted many dinners and parties in Stumpp Cabin. Many hours of song and storytelling and entertainment took place there. The Stumpp walls resounded with the raucous ribald laughter of children and adults. Stumpp became a

hub where families met for hikes, day trips, and board games and community feasts. Families would bring all sorts of goodies from New York: Italian bread, assorted cold cuts and cheeses, pastries, fruits and vegetables, exotic desserts and foods representing many ethnicities. Pigs were roasted on spits outside Stumpp and Stumpp ovens baked hundreds of pounds of Turkey and Roast beef and dozens of pans of lasagna over the years. On Sundays a camper could smell the sauce cooking, wafting its aroma through the woods all the way to lakeside cabins. Movies were shown there. It was also the camp library and first aid station and also housed the Lost and Found.



During the years of my tenure as director and later under my wife's leadership, literally thousands of feet trudged through Stump Cabin. All that remains of Stumpp is the stone fireplace and chimney. That stone chimney housed several families of ring neck snakes. Every summer, toward the end of the camping season, the snake's new young would emerge in huge numbers. Although the building has been razed, I have no doubt that if one were to stand in front of the lone fireplace and listen, the sounds of song and cheer and laughter will be heard quite distinctly.

Sal Poidomani was Family Camp Director from 1984-2003.

A PART OF STUMPP CABIN SAVED!

By: David M. Malatzky
archivist@tmmuseum.org

When it was announced that Stumpp Cabin's days were numbered, I requested that any parts that looked significant be saved if possible. Stumpp Cabin was the original Camp Ranachqua Camp Director's Cabin, erected in 1929, and was probably the oldest building on T.M.R. property when it was torn down. "Chief" William A. Stumpp was Director of Camp Ranachqua from its opening in 1929 to 1946.

I found myself volunteering at the Museum in mid-summer and Curator Bernie Sussman suggested that we run over to Family Camp and see what was left of Stumpp Cabin.

At the site, we found a pile of burnt ruins and the

stone fireplace and chimney still intact. Off on the side, the two rear split-log doors had been saved, with their heavy iron hinges, lock and handle. Now, here was an artifact from the original Camp Ranachqua, of the same vintage as the famous Ranachqua Blockhouse!

The doors were very heavy, and it took us two trips, but Bernie and I were able to transport the two doors to the Museum in Bernie's car and they are temporarily residing in the Cayuga/Kotohke Cabin. Now, we have to figure out how to display them.



*The Split-Log
Doors*

JOHN X. RESTREPO

Continued from Page 7

Now, having him as my co-worker, I am able to witness first-hand the true man that Joe is, he works 10+ hour days, he has a passion for truly "helping other people AT ALL TIMES", his work ethic is one of a kind, as he is a wonderful friend. He is always there to offer advice and to brighten your day with a smile. His positive attitude towards life is one to emulate and is truly infectious. When I mature into my golden years, I want to be half the man that Joe Bradley is. I will try my hardest to do so.

SS: Any closing thoughts?

JXR: I want to serve at TMR until I die.

John X. Restrepo is Professional Advisor to the Ten Mile River Scout Museum

MY FIRST DAY IN CAMP

By: Mitchell Slepian, Chappegat Hill,
1983-1988 and forever

In July 1983, I was a 12-year-old First Class Scout when I was taken from my home in Staten Island to what would soon become to be the greatest place on Earth, Camp Chappegat, Ten Mile River Scout Camps. Yeah, I was excited and nervous in the car with my fadder (that's what a beloved Chappy camper used to and might still call his father), a former Shu-Shu-Gah Lodge Chief and Vigil Member, my mother and sister.

I had no idea what to expect. We drove along the NYS Thruway and arrived at Camp Kunatah. We stopped and dad said we are going up to Chappegat. We were waved on. We drove about a mile or so and parked by the former Chappy Dining Hall. May that precious building RIP. We walked up the steps of the infamous Hill and entered the Palace.

There we met my future Scoutmaster, Dave Lelonek and Assistant Scoutmaster, Larry Leshay. Little did I know that day would change my life forever. I met two people that 29 years later, I would have daily email conversations with about the amazing times we spent on our precious Hill, as well as other topics.



The Palace

My trunk was carried up the Hill. The Scouuuuts (Dave or Larry would yell out Scouuuut Mitchell Slepian during mail call and toss my mail to me) who carried the trunk were hoping to win the evening's leadership elections. One day, I was

famous for carrying many trunks up the Hill.

I opened my bank account with Larry. Of course, I had my own money. My best friend came to camp. We moved into our leanto and began setting up. He hated camp from the moment he knew he was going. I on the other hand, am still depressed that I am not there now.

I sat by the picnic table near the Terrarium. The table had a large snake in a fish tank. I started chatting with another Scouuuut who happened to be an Islander. He was there for his second summer. He was eating lots of candy. He offered me some. I made a friend. Keith Esbin, "Cousin Keety" was campaigning to be senior patrol leader.

The PA system blared that it was time for our camp tour. We met in front of the Palace. Dave took us on a tour of Kunatah. We marched down Chappy Hill and traveled the camp. We were told to bring a dollar or so for snacks in the trading post.

We stopped at the ball field. Little did I know that we would soon spend many summers there playing softball and even better, Ultimate Frisbee. We went to the Kunatah Dining Hall. Many famous moments would happen there. We would learn to discombobulate and to Rock-N-Roll.

We learned about being a waiter and an assistant waiter. Of course we found out about being "nuked". Those of us who didn't follow the rules, in other words, ate or acted like pigs were nuked. Nuked scouts stayed in the dining hall after meals and often "Swiss Navyed" the floor with a toothbrush or cleaned the Dumpster. One poor kid was nuked every day and spent much of his camp life cleaning the dining hall. That is when he wasn't sitting on his seat.

Dave took us to the trading post. We passed by

the Nature and Handicraft Lodges. He showed us where religious services were held. After all, we were in the Kosher Boy Scout Camp. We had to mix religion in there somehow.

We hiked down to Rock Lake. It rocks. There we met TJ the DJ, the waterfront director. We took our dock tests. I passed. I was a swimmer.



The Chappy Latrine

Eventually, I changed into my summer uniform and went to dinner. The Scout socks are so goofy. Dinner was awful. But TJ the DJ led us in songs and talked about how "lish" the food was. It was repulsive. As I grew up in camp, I stopped eating in the dining hall. I had tasty stuff from El Monaco's hidden away in Chappy's fridge. Ah, the red sauce.

We went back to Chappy and got ready for elections. Technically, I was not eligible to run. I met the rank requirement, but I did not meet the camp experience one. However, there were not enough people meeting both requirements to make it a fair election, so as long as you were First Class you were able to run. I ran and lost. Oh, Cousin Keety won the SPL election.

After the elections we went back to our leantos to go to bed. I went to a building that would soon become the building I revered the most, the Chappy Latrine. I took an ice cold shower. I tried that shower for a few days. It was so cold.

N.Y.C. SCOUTERS IN NATIONAL SCOUTING

Continued from Page 6

Charles M. Heistand

Mr. Heistand served as Queens Council Executive (1929 to 1937), and Director of Field Service and Training, Greater New York Councils (1937-1940). He was Region II Executive (1940-1951), Director of the National Council Program Division and Assistant Chief Scout Executive.



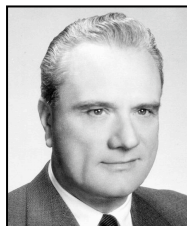
Robert L. Billington

Mr. Billington served as Scout Executive of the Greater New York Councils from 1957-1962 and as Assistant Chief Scout Executive.



Joseph A. Brunton, Jr.

Mr. Brunton served as Scout Executive of the Greater New York Councils from 1944-1952 and as National Chief of the Order of the Arrow, Assistant Chief Scout Executive and Chief Scout Executive, from 1960-1966.



Thomas J. Watson, Jr.

Mr. Watson was President of I.B.M., Council Commissioner and President of the Greater New York Councils. He also served as National Council Vice-



President and National Council President from 1964-1968, beating Mortimer L. Schiff's 1-month tenure 32 years before.

Many other New York City volunteer Scouters served National Council as members and chairmen of countless committees. Many other New York City professional Scouters served National Council as Directors and Assistant Directors in many key positions.



The 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 TMR Wall of Fame might be right for you.

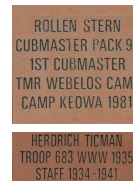
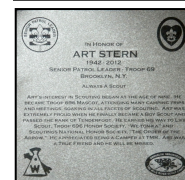
The TMR Wall of Fame is located at the Ten Mile River Scout Museum, Headquarters Camp, Ten Mile River Scout Camps. It consists of two parts:

The T.M.R. Monument - A monument to all 20 T.M.R. camps that operated since 1928. Each tile includes the camp name, Unit and Division names, years of operation and traditional camp logo. On the reverse side is an engraved T.M.R. Map, depicting all of the T.M.R. Camps, trails and local landmarks.

The Memorial Wall - Personalized tiles recognizing some individual, group or organization for their contributions to the Ten Mile River Scout Camps and/or New York City Scouting.

Once the tile is installed a private or public recognition ceremony can be arranged, typically on T.M.R. Alumni Day each July or August. Tiles are available in a variety of sizes, colors and materials. Prices range from \$125-\$1,000 per tile. Laser-engraved granite tiles can depict photos, line art and even small lettering.

Profits from tile sales support the Ten Mile River Scout Camps and the Ten Mile River Scout Museum. For complete tile order info mail in the query form below.



Please send me custom-engraved tile order information for the TMR Wall of Fame.

Name _____
 Street _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Telephone _____ E-Mail Address _____

Mail to: TMR Wall of Fame, c/o David M. Malatzky, 2332 Holland Ave., Bronx, N.Y. 10467.

FROM THE LETTERS TO THE EDITOR DEPARTMENT GREEN GARTER TABS REVISITED

Editor's Note: Mr. Cook is referring to the article by Jake Pontillo in the last issue of T.M.R. Smoke Signals.

I beg to take issue with your statement, in the subject article in the 2012 Summer issue of TMR Smoke Signals, that, "I guess the only people who regularly wear long socks with garters and tabs during the summer seasons at TMR are Bernie Sussman and I." (I finally got around to reading this issue.)

I have always worn long socks with shorts, since I became an adult Scouter in 1992, and before that, as a Scout in the late 50's. When I was a Scout, we wore garters with green tabs, and I was disappointed, upon becoming an adult Scouter, to find that the garter-tab combination was no longer available. Then I went to London on a family vacation in 2000, and found a Scout Shop where I could buy the garters with green tabs. I attended summer camp with my Troop at TMR every summer from 1994 to 2007, first at Aquehonga, then Keowa, and also JLTC and NYLT even after 2007, wearing my shorts with long socks, and after

my London trip, green garter tabs. Once in a while I managed to make it to TMR Headquarters and the Museum, wearing the same. I guess you weren't around when I was there. I also wear the long socks with green garter tabs at Scout activities while in the City, as evidenced by the picture. (Our Troop had a booth at the Stuyvesant Town Flea Market.) So you and Bernie will have company whenever I'm at TMR in the summer.



David Cook making change for the policeman's purchase

The garters I bought in London in 2000 were white elastic bands with the woolen tabs sewn over the band. When the elastic wore out, I took them to my local dry cleaner who took the tabs off the old bands and put them on new elastic bands. I wish I had had the foresight to buy replacement long socks, when you and Bernie did. I am hoping you two didn't corner the market and there might be a few pairs left for me.

While in London I also bought a green cockade for my campaign hat, which had been another part of my uniform as a Scout, and which I also wear whenever I wear my uniform, including summer camp. Shortly after I became an adult Scouter in 1992, and bought my uniform, I expressed to my wife my disappointment at not having a campaign hat like the one I had as a Scout. That Christmas, she gave me one that she bought at the old Scout shop on Hudson Street. It was the older-style, which had a peaked point at the top of the crown. The peak wore out from handling and developed a hole; it's also visible in the linked photo. She bought me a new campaign hat from the Empire Scout Shop about four years ago. It has a flat-topped crown, which I think is not as "authentic" (whatever that means in this context), but I wear it because it looks more presentable. I still wear the old one on camping trips. I might add, that, like the garter tabs, my campaign hat evokes immediate recognition on the street as a Scout accoutrement.

I should add, parenthetically, and in case some people are wondering which Troops were still wearing campaign hats with cockades in the late 50's, that, at that time I was not wearing a BSA uniform. I was living in Maracaibo, Venezuela, where my father was an international insurance executive. The Scouting set-up in Maracaibo was unusual. Our Troop met at the local expatriate American school, our program was 100% BSA in

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2012 T.M.R. ALUMNI DAY

By: David M. Malatzky
archivist@tmmuseum.org

On Saturday, July 21, 2012, alumni from near and far assembled at Headquarters Camp, T.M.R. to celebrate the 85th anniversary of the Ten Mile River Scout Camps.

As has been the custom since T.M.R.'s 70th anniversary in 1997, the ceremonies and recognitions took place in the T.M.R. Scout Museum's picnic area, which was partially covered with benches for this purpose. On the perimeter of the picnic area representatives from *Ranachqua Foundation*, *GNYC Shooting Sports*, and the *Friends of T.M.R.* manned tables and distributed literature about their organizations. Museum staff sold old-time sodas and the donut machine from the Donut Farm produced round donuts using the original recipe. It was a generally gala atmosphere with good weather.

The alumni began arriving at Headquarters Camp way before the 11:00 am start time and immediately reacquainted themselves with their old camp friends. They also visited the Museum, the Cayuga/Kotohke Cabin, the Camp Kernochan Blockhouse and the Camp Kunatah Trading Post, recently moved to the Museum site.



Flag raising Ceremony



Deacon Paul Lumpkin leading a Prayer

The organized program began with a prayer by Deacon Paul Lumpkin, former T.M.R. chaplain, followed by a flag-raising ceremony organized by John X. Restrepo and the Camp Keowa staff.

Next, David Gingras welcomed the alumni and spoke briefly about T.M.R.'s 85th anniversary. T.M.R. Alumni Association head Judge Arthur Schack then welcomed the participants.

T.M.R. Scout Museum Chairman Gene Berman followed with multiple recognitions. The first was a special gift for long-time Museum Curator Bernie Sussman. Frank Mullane, John X. Restrepo, Mike Drillinger and Eugene Gottesman were recognized by receiving large framed Museum patch sets. All of the Museum board members that were present were called up and received their Trustee patches.

The T.M.R. Wall of Fame inductions were next. While Gene Berman held up the commemorative tile, family and friends for each honoree were called up and reminisced about them. Veteran Scouters Gordon Bennett, Joel Vidars, Phil Nelson and the Panazolo family were honored this year with Wall of Fame tiles.



Chairman Gene Berman



Michael Herbert and John Romanovich

Gene then recognized John Romanovich and Michael Herbert for moving the Jerry Reimer-Camp Kunatah Trading Post to the Museum.

G.N.Y.C. Director of Camping and T.M.R. Reservation Director Sean Quinn then welcomed the alumni and talked about future plans for T.M.R. G.N.Y.C. Scout Executive Charlie Rosser followed with his remarks and the program ended with remarks by G.N.Y.C. President Alair Townsend.



Marty Poller, Bob Viggiano, Eric Hansen and others at lunch.

Following the program a delicious lunch was served in front of what the alumni recall as the T.M.R. Main Trading Post, just down the hill from the Museum.

For the remainder of the day, the Alumni visited their old camps and toured Camp Keowa, which is one of the modern operating T.M.R. camps. Alumni desiring to stay over Saturday night were given cots and tent space in Camp Keowa.

Over all, the 2012 TMR Alumni Day was a huge success with over 200 people in attendance. We are looking forward to an exciting 2013 TMR Alumni Day as we celebrate 86 years of delivering the promise. See you all on August 3rd, 2013.

REMEMBERING NICK DALE

By: Larry LeShay

In the summer of 1954 I was Office Manager of D-3. I was 18 and, except for an occasional beer at fraternity parties, I didn't know anything about the effects of alcohol. One night at Nick's someone gave me a bottle of a German beer and told me to drink as many bottles as I could. After the 4th bottle, I was practically passing out and Nick, rightfully, kicked me out of his place.

I walked back to D-3, without a flashlight, and went to bed. During the night, I woke up and barfed all over the floor. I must have still been drunk because instead of cleaning it up I pulled my trunk over the mess. (My roomie told me the next day that he couldn't believe I'd do something like that. Neither could I.)



Nick Dale

The next morning when I realized what had happened the previous night I wrote a letter of apology to Nick. Within 24 hours, I received a response from him, which was one of the kindest and most heartfelt letters I've ever gotten. (I saved the letter and gave it to Mae when Nick died.) Needless to say, I never again drank anything stronger than soda at Nick's. We kept in touch through the years and when the Brooklyn Arrowhead began to have weekends at the TMR sites, Nick, who would always come to the feed, would put his arms around me, say how great it was to see me, and we'd spend half-an-hour talking. Nick was a good listener.

To this day, I think of him as one of the most inspiring Scouters I've ever met. Nick Dale is my hero.

By: Sue Smith

Editor's Note: Sue is the daughter of Harvey Smith.

Nick Dale? I remember him very well. My dad sang that song: ...comes the revolution and we'll use him for a horse.

He did tell this funny story often.

My dad and Nick were talking to someone (don't know who) and they were out at our picnic table behind the Delaware Lodge. Nick had his foot up on the bench of the table, leaning forward absentmindedly playing with his penknife. During the conversation, which was proceeding naturally, he (also absentmindedly) plunged the knife into his prosthesis (must have been his calf? which he lost in a motorcycle accident when he was a trooper.) Neither my dad nor Nick blinked, but I guess the other person was quite upset.

Don't know if those stories are for the public, but I thought you'd appreciate them.

Editor's Note – Sue, stories like this are just the fare our readers want. Please keep them coming – Michael.

TALES FROM THE "IT WOULD NEVER FLY TODAY" ARCHIVES

By: Dr. Gene Berman
geneberman@verizon.net



The best thing about Scouting for most Scouts is the Camping Trips. And high on the list of the things that are most fun for most scouts on the trips are the campfires at night. And high on the list of things at a campfire that are most fun are roasting marshmallows and telling spooky stories.

In 1970 I was Scoutmaster of Troop 199. Our Kunatah site was on top of the hill behind the old Tecumseh Latrine. My Assistant Scoutmaster was Hal Rosenthal. Donald Pretto (Richie Pretto's brother) was my JASM.

Well anyway, one night at the end of the Campfire, as was our custom, I told one of my spooky stories. It was Tim Tyler and the "axe". We got Donald to get all dressed in black, gave him one of the troop 2-hand axes and told him to hide in the latrine and at the end of the story to play the role of Tim Tyler. Then we purposely emptied a couple of fire buckets (leaving enough for safety to be sure).

At the close of the campfire I sent the two scouts, John Dammer and Wayne Martin, who looked to be

the most scared to fill the empty buckets. We could hear them saying, "I don't want to go, I am scared." Of course I chimed in with "Don't worry, it's only a story." Well off they went, the other scouts put out the fire using the buckets at the site, Hal and I were in our Leader's castle when we heard this blood-curling scream coming from the latrine. As we headed to the latrine, John Dammer comes literally staggering up the hill into the site huffing and puffing and crying, "Wayne's dead. Wayne's dead, Mommy (for real, I can't forget that)".

Now while I never believed for a moment Wayne was dead I was convinced at that point Donald being 16 years old or such at the time and a bit wild had actually hit Wayne with the axe and now I was panicked not knowing what I would find when I got down there. Well halfway down the path I see Donald and Wayne walking back to the campsite, both perfectly fine. Apparently, John was focused on filling the bucket when Donald jumped out. Wayne being startled "hit the deck" and by the time John looked up he saw Wayne lying very still on the ground and Donald (Tim Tyler) standing over him with the axe; ergo the rest. So who got the most scared that night? I think it might have been me.

Dr. Berman is founder of the Ten Mile River Scout Museum.

GREEN GARTER TABS

Continued from Page 13

English, and our adult leaders were Americans; but for some reason, officially we were part of the Scouts de Venezuela, and so we wore Venezuelan Scout uniforms, including the campaign hats with cockades. I still don't understand why this was so, because I know that even then, BSA had an International Division that registered BSA units abroad. For example, I started my Scouting career as a Cub Scout in Beirut, Lebanon, wearing a BSA Cub Scout uniform (except the pants, which my mother didn't want to pay for, although I really wanted them because of the yellow piping on the pocket folds), and progressing from Bobcat to Lion to Webelos like any other BSA Cub Scout. Then, when we moved to Caracas, Venezuela I encountered a similar situation as I crossed over to a troop that wore BSA uniforms, including the then-current US Army "overseas" style cap, and followed the BSA program. I'm guessing that the Pack in Beirut and the Troop in Caracas were registered by the BSA International Division. However, when we moved to Maracaibo, the Troop was, as I said, officially a Scouts de Venezuela troop. One of these days I'll try to untangle this with some research, although I'm probably the only person in the world who is curious about this.

Yours in Scouting,
David Cook



KEN CRANDALL

Continued from Page 9

had it operating by the first of July, and we were still using the old C.C.C. units housing the staff, and the dining hall still operated. Then the following year in November started construction on the warehouse and carpenter shop.

EW: What year was this, 1961?

KC: I think it was 1962.

EW: How many rangers did you have and how large was your staff?

KC: When I first became superintendent, I had 15. Later there were 11. You see, the reason we had 15 rangers was because we only paid \$50 a month, and as the wages started going up, it decreased the work force. The reason for having a crew that size is that we cut 550 tons of ice and stored it in the wintertime, and we had a sawmill.

EW: Can you tell us about the sawmill and where it was?

KC: It's still there. It's on the crossroads from



Ken Crandall and Family, 1942

Ranachqua to Queens. You go in there, it's just off the road. We harvested as much as 200,000 square board feet of lumber. Did all our own cutting. Maintenance alone used 50,000 square feet. We didn't buy lumber. All the buildings are all native lumber, manufactured by us.

EW: Which one is this log cabin with a fireplace?

KC: I worked on the (Ranachqua) Blockhouse. All made of hemlock. We weren't allowed to build this building for (the) director to stay in summertime. Keowa was built by the director.

We started building the Blockhouse in 1929. Manhattan Cabin was built in 1935. The Blockhouse was only one of many buildings being built that time. We were building dining halls, latrines, etc. Probably involved with Blockhouse from April to June.

EW: Were you building dining halls at the time? Which dining halls?

KC: In 1929 we built Bronx Camp. In 1928 we built Brooklyn Camp and finished that and started Aquehonga. We worked on that in the fall of 1928, and then we were doing work in the shop in the wintertime, building tables, benches, and all that kind of things, preparing for the next summer, which would be 1929. We started to construct the Bronx Camp in the spring of 1929, which at that time, this was A, C, & E, these different divisions and Ranachqua. The reasons B was left out, figuring on in future expansion, and D would be

another division, but of course, they never materialized. So, we built the dining halls out of round poles and slabs.

EW: What they use now as a central commissary at Ranachqua, is that the original dining hall?

KC: Central Commissary, the central kitchen was built in 1950-51. Camp Rondack was built before 1950, about 1945. New Aquehonga was done in 1968. The old one was built in 1929.

EW: How many buildings did that consist of?

KC: Those old chimneys. They had two of them. They were log cabins, and we called them red jackets, because someone hung a red jacket and they were made of poplar logs. They were sort of a lean-to affair. They were shed-roof type. They were not triangular roofs. They were for winter camping. They held so many kids double deck bunks. They were dark, dirty and miserable.

EW: What about Davis Lake?

KC: There was one building put up called Waramaug. That was a troop camp. That building



Ken Crandall, circa 1950

Continued in next issue

Museum Web Site News



By: David M. Malatzky
archivist@tmmuseum.org

Welcome back to my column. We recently revised the T.M.R. history on the web site to correct numerous historical errors and bring it up-to-date. You can read the complete history at: tmmuseum.org/history/history-1924-1969.htm.

Here it is, in a multi-issue format.

ENTER THE NEW YORK CITY BOY SCOUTS

By the middle of the 1920s Scouting was growing at a tremendous pace. There were, at that time, living in the great city of New York men who were dreaming of vast unspoiled woodland acres as a solution to a problem, which weighed heavily on their minds and hearts. This group was the Boy Scout Foundation of Greater New York, which was headed by a man of great foresight as well as an



Roosevelt in 1920

abundance of Boy Scout training. His name was Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who, in 1929, became Governor of New York State and eventually guided the destiny of the United States as President throughout the Depression era and World War II.

When Roosevelt organized the Boy Scout Foundation in 1922 and became its President, the camps at Kanawauke Lakes in the Palisades Interstate Park were being leased by the Boy Scouts of New York City. At the time, Roosevelt set three objectives, one of which was a permanent camp for the N.Y.C. Boy Scouts, adequate for all time.

Year after year camp attendance had risen steadily until the possibilities for expansion were exhausted. The camp was simply too small and no more wild lands were available in the vicinity with which to enlarge the camping facilities. Underprivileged youth campers, mainly from New York City, filled other nearby lakes.

fifty-mile radius of New York City, but to no avail. It was deemed absolutely essential to acquire a very large parcel of land, since it was assumed that camp attendance would continue to grow at the rapid rate of the 1920s. The land also had to contain lakes, streams, swamps, timberland, and few main roads. Other requirements included relative isolation from settled communities, accessibility by rail, water and public highways and an adequate water supply. While multiple sites were considered, some seriously, no such campsite could be found within fifty miles of New York City.

After examination of many maps and another year of careful investigation, it was found that options could be placed on thirty-two small parcels of land and farms in the region of Ten Mile River, all of which adjoined to form an area of approximately ten thousand acres. Furthermore, this aggregation of land contained all of the several essential requirements desired.

THE LAND IS PURCHASED

The real estate firm of Gaul & Kampfer, in Yonkers, N.Y., was authorized to purchase the property from the landowners, but not to disclose the role of the Boy Scout Foundation. It was thought that the Foundation had access to substantial money and that there were many who would prey on that money if afforded the opportunity.

In April of 1927 the Foundation started a \$1 million fundraising campaign to pay for the purchase and development of the new camp, whose location was not publically disclosed at the time. The Monticello Republican Watchman first announced the massive land purchase in its August 12, 1927 issue.

As a testimony to the trustworthiness of those involved, no one except the purchasers knew where the new camps were to be established until all of the necessary land options were acquired. On October 7, 1927 the thirty-two proportionate landowners were invited to Monticello for the purpose of signing the deeds and receiving payment for their lands.



Judge Cropsey



Hermann Merkel

THE BOROUGH CAMPS ARE CONSTRUCTED

It took no time at all for the Boy Scouts to commence work on the first camp. Harvey A. Gordon was brought in from the Bear Mountain Camps as Chief of Construction. Also involved in designing and constructing T.M.R. were Hermann Merkel, Cyde R. Place and Grosvenor S. Wright.

A construction camp was erected on Turnpike Lake and sawmills were erected near Rock Lake, Wildcat Pond and Half Moon Lake. Sand, rock and gravel for roads and sewer systems were obtained right from the camp property. Gordon first constructed the Brooklyn Camp on the shores of Rock Lake and had it ready for the youthful campers by the summer of 1928.

For the 1929 summer camp season, Harvey Gordon then bent to the task of building a camp on Half Moon Lake for the Staten Island Council, which that group christened "Aquehonga." As he stated some time later, he was proud of his privilege to build these camps and wanted the boys who used them to view them with equal pride. Therefore, the buildings were ruggedly and handsomely built to withstand the elements for fifty years or more.



Harvey A. Gordon

On the shores of Wildcat Pond, known later as Lake Nianque, Gordon built a magnificent camp for the Bronx Council, which was named "Ranachqua."

In July of 1929 the Boy Scout Foundation purchased the 970-acre Crystal Lake tract. In August of 1929, Governor Roosevelt addressed about 1,200 Scouts at the Brooklyn Scout Camps council ring and toured the other camps. He was pleased with his reception and said he had as his goal 100,000 boys on the 11,000 acres within a period of years.

Harvey Gordon's report to the Foundation at the close of the camp's second season revealed an engineering and construction accomplishment of gigantic proportions covering all of the many types of buildings, sawmills, water systems, sewage systems, surveys, plans, roads and fencing.



T.M.R. in 1929

With the addition of the Crystal Lake tract, the new camp now consisted of more than 11,000 acres. Harvey Gordon continued his engineering work and built for the 1930 summer camp season two camps on the shores of Crystal Lake, one for Manhattan and called by that name, and the other one for Queens which was named "Camp Man" in honor of Queens Council President Alrick H. Man.

In August of 1930, Camp Man was the scene of a very festive occasion when Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt was awarded the Silver Buffalo by

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I am always looking for new T.M.R. and N.Y.C. Scouting paper and photos (especially staff photos) to add to the Museum's web site. Paper items can be scanned and the originals returned. If you want to make a digital donation, please E-mail the file attachment to me at archivist@tmmuseum.org.