



Vol. 23 Dedicated to Preserving the Memories of T.M.R. Campers No. 8

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

This issue of Smokes Signals looks in the rear view mirror and then straight ahead. In the mirror are images of an amazing Alumni Weekend. Looking ahead, the 2023 Steakout will feature some amazing programs and special guests.

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

[Join the TMR Scout Museum](#)

From the Chairman - Mitchell Slepian

Saturday, August 5, was a special day for me. It was the first Ten Mile River Scout Camps Alumni Day I attended as chair of the Ten Mile River Scout Museum. I am thankful I went up a few days early to help set up and spend time on the hallowed grounds many of us called home for many summers. So many people chipped in to make it a fantastic weekend.

Ralph Daddi coordinated our third classic car show. Mikey Herbert, Frank Rickenbaugh, Nick Norwood, and Daddi always went above and beyond the call to ensure our camp and museum were ready for the weekend. Many others pitched in to help set things up and run the show, including members of the TMR (Brooklyn) Arrowhead, the Golden Greeks, a few Staten Islanders, and Anthony Zalak. A special thanks goes to Ira Nagel for running the museum solo on that day and for the last few weeks. I would also like to thank our ranger staff, who have always been a great help.



The opening ceremony started with the color guard from Camp Aquehonga led by Zalak and everyone's favorite bugler John Restrepo. Father Mark Amatrucola led our invocation. Chairman Emeritus Dr. Gene Berman presented

patches to the museum's founders. We heard great words about our program from GNYC CEO & President, Scout Executive Saroya Friedman-Gonzalez. I presented the 2023 Trustee patches and honored Daddi and Rickenbaugh for their work. Michael Herbert was also named. Unfortunately, he was unable to attend.

Wall of Fame tiles were presented to Berman, Kenneth L. Briggs, Chairman Emeritus Michael Drillinger, Morty Fink, a museum founder (he was not present. Hal Rosenfeld, another founder and dear friend of Morty's, and all of us spoke about him), Michael Mann, Sal Poidomani and Robert Stracquadaine.

I look forward to seeing everyone on Sept. 9 at Alpine Scout Camp for the Steakout.



Many thanks for all who joined the 2023 Reunion

It was great to have the TMR Arrowhead join in with all the TMR Alumni! I hope we can do this again.

You are each invited to see some additional photos of the festivities:

<https://scout201.smugmug.com/GNYC/TMR-Alumni-2023/n-mF6jxt/>

Until we meet again, god bless -- Johannes

Ernest Thompson Seton's Granddaughter to Lecture to NYC Scouts on Scouting Heritage Merit Badge

By David M. Malatzky

The Greater New York Councils has announced that Julie Seton, granddaughter of B.S.A. co-founder Ernest Thompson Seton, will present a talk to NYC Scouts on Scouting Heritage Merit Badge at the GNYC Steakout, September 9, 2023, 9:00 am - lunch.

Individual Scouts can register for Ms. Seton's lecture by clicking on the link below:

<https://form.jotform.com/232144661777158>

As head of the Ernest Thompson Seton Institute, Ms. Seton literally travels the world, visiting camps and groups that follow the teachings of her famous grandfather. She also lectures widely, perpetuating her grandfather's memory and his ideals.



Julie Seton

Julie Seton is the product of Ernest Thompson Seton's second family, which came to be after he relocated from Greenwich, CT to Santa Fe, NM, in the early 1930's. Julie now makes her home in Las Cruces, NM, 280 miles south of Santa Fe, but she grew up in the Seton compound of Seton Castle and Seton Village, and is named after Seton's second wife, Julia Moss Buttree.

In 2015 she republished her grandfather's autobiography, "Trail of an Artist-Naturalist," in a reader-friendly version with a foreword written by all three granddaughters, and added family photographs, including one of Ernest and his nine brothers. "That is one of the reasons he escaped to the woods," says Julie. The index is rich with references to his correspondences with his friends Rudyard Kipling and Teddy Roosevelt.

Seton's Woodcraft Indians was organized in 1902 in Cos Cob, CT, as one of this country's earliest youth organizations. It would grow internationally to become the Woodcraft Movement, advocating for appreciation and preservation of wilderness and wild animals. In 2014 Julie took herself to the Woodcraft League of the Czech Republic for an international Woodcraft gathering. "They hold them every three years. They jump back and forth between the Czech Republic and the Order of Woodcraft Chivalry in England.

Ms. Seton is a long-time volunteer Scouter and O.A. Brotherhood Member in Las Cruces, New Mexico.

She most recently loaned the Ten Mile River Scout Museum artifacts from the Seton estate for our exhibit this summer on the life of Ernest Thompson Seton.

Scouts attending Ms. Seton's talk in September will receive from her a special personalized and signed certificate, indicating which requirements they completed for the Scouting Heritage Merit Badge.

Some content reprinted from:

Julie Seton Reclaims the Heritage of Her Famous Grandfather, Greenwich Sentinel, June 3, 2017.

Steakout Program Launch



This event is a great time for Scout leaders and parents to get together to plan for an outstanding year of Scouting programs.

This year's Steakout will take place at Alpine Scout Camp and will utilize a mix of indoor and outdoor meeting spaces including the Cub World pavilion, Reeves Lodge, and the Whitehead Dining Hall.

September 9th, 2023 - 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM - Alpine Scout Camp.

New parents and leaders are invited and encouraged to attend for a welcoming Scouting orientation and tour of Alpine Scout Camp and of course the dining hall midway.

This year will feature several first time courses with expert speakers for Scout Leaders and parents, including insight from education professionals including: fostering a welcoming and inviting unit environment, understanding youth mental health, and rebuilding scouting community post-COVID-19.

Also new for 2023 – expanded program for Scouts including a morning Scouting Heritage Merit Badge session with Julie Seton (Author and Granddaughter of Ernest Thompson Seton) and STEM activities curated by the STEM Subcommittee (Donnie Collins and Shawn Spencer). Afternoon program will include camp program areas like Climbing, Archery, BBs, and more.

Register at: [Steakout](#)

Ernest Thompson Seton's Granddaughter to Present Talk on "Ernest Thompson and N.Y.C. Scouting" at GNYC Steakout

By David M. Malatzky



Ernest Thompson Seton, Baden-Powell and Daniel Beard.

Julie Seton, granddaughter of B.S.A. co-founder Ernest Thompson Seton, will present a talk on "Ernest Thompson Seton and N.Y.C. Scouting," Saturday afternoon at the GNYC Steakout, Sept. 9, 2023.

Ms. Seton's talk will be open to all adults attending the Steakout.

In 1902, Mr. Seton organized his "Woodcraft Indians," a youth-based organization that taught Native American culture and skills, initially to boys in Cos Cob, Connecticut, and then nationwide. This was in reaction to Seton's concerns (widespread at the time) that America's youth were developing deficient in moral character.

In 1910, seeing the popularity of the Boy Scouts, multiple Scouting organizations quickly formed in the U.S. One was the "Boy Scouts of America," organized by William D. Boyce, a newspaper publisher. Boyce quickly lost interest, but the YMCA continued the organization process.

Mr. Seton saw the opportunity to steer the new organization in the direction of his Woodcraft Indians. He joined the B.S.A. and headed its Organization Committee. Daniel Beard, who had his own "Boy Pioneers of America," then joined the organization.

Mr. Seton was made "Chief Scout," the highest volunteer position while Dan Beard was one of three National Scout Commissioners.

In August, 1910 Mr. Seton organized an experimental Boy Scout camp at Silver Bay, a YMCA camp on Lake George. He taught the Scouts many of the skills from his "Birchbark Roll."

It was felt that having a Boy Scout Handbook was essential to success. Mr. Seton quickly combined sections of Baden-Powell's "Scouting for Boys" and his own "Birchbark Roll" and published the first official B.S.A. Handbook in 1910.

In May 1914, Mr. Seton and Dan Beard were announced on the cover of Boys' Life Magazine as Associate Editors.

The B.S.A. was one of several Boy Scout organizations in the U.S. This led to multiple court cases to determine which organization would eventually survive. The B.S.A. eventually obtained a national charter from the U.S. Government, giving it control over the Boy Scout movement in the United States. This was a problem for Mr. Seton, who was Canadian and could not lead the B.S.A. under a national charter.

In 1915, Mr. Seton was not reappointed to the B.S.A. National Council due to his citizenship problem and his leadership role in the B.S.A. ended. He became a U.S. citizen in 1931.

Highlights of the Alumni Weekend 2023



Father Mark Amatracola Gives Opening Prayer.



Chairman Mitchell Slepian is the Master of Ceremonies. Here he presents Co-Director Glenn Pontier with a plaque honoring him for his service.



CEO and President of Greater New York Councils, Saroya Friedman-Gonzalez, addresses attendees at the opening of Alumni Day 2023.



Former chairmen and now chairman emeritus Dr. Gene Berman and Michael Drillinger each receive Wall of Fame tiles.



Presentation of Wall of Fame tile for Kenneth L. Briggs.



Presentation of Wall of Fame tile for Morty Fink. From left to right is Phil Gittelman, Donald Dorfman, Hal Rosenfeld, and Ron Pollock.



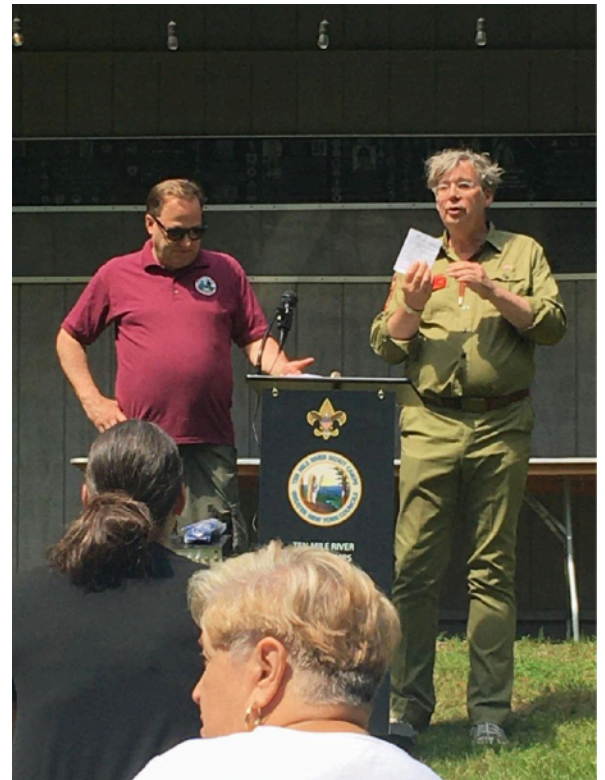
Museum Trustee Ed Winters speaks at the presentation of a Wall of Fame tile for Michael G. Mann.



Donald Miserandino makes presentation of Wall of Fame tile dedicated to Robert Stracquadaine.



Friends and family of Sal Poidomani showing the Wall of Fame tile to be mounted in his memory and honor.



TMR Alumni Association co-chairs Steven Benini and Johannes Knoops welcoming people to Alumni Day 2023.



Ralph Daddi

Car Show 2023

This year was our third car show and it was the biggest ever with 23 cars. There was music and car trivia as well as food and fun. The show is growing in popularity and Ralph hopes to do it again next year. Many people helped but special thanks go to Frank Rickenbaugh, Nick Norwood and Bob Abbott.



Mitchell Slepian



Mitchell Slepian

Bob Abbott's TMR '78 Ford Ranger XLT 4x4. Bob is the original owner.



Mitchell Slepian

Nick Norwood's '53 Chevy Deluxe sedan.



Mitchell Slepian

Frank Rickenbaugh's 1924 Willis Knight 4-door touring sedan, with an unusual sleeve-valve engine.



Mitchell Slepian

Ralph with 2nd Place trophy winners, whose Grateful Dead-themed VW bus is shown above.

Alumni Day Closing Banquet



Anthony Zalak and Johannes Knoops retiring the colors at Keowa just before the closing banquet.



Johannes Knoops introducing the banquet master of ceremonies, Mark Kleinberg.



The TMR Arrowhead table at the Alumni banquet.



David Malatzky cutting one of the two Alumni Banquet cakes. The cake he is cutting is on behalf of the Ranachqua Foundation.

SAVE THE DATE



AUGUST 9-11

HONORING THE TMR SCOUT MUSEUM CHARTER MEMBER TRUSTEES

by: Dr. Gene Berman
Founder and Chairman Emeritus
Ten Mile River Scout Museum



In order to have Charter Members, one must have an organization for them to be Charter Members of. While I and a group of about 12 friends started the ball rolling in 1997 by decorating the Main trading post, and while one could consider this the foundation of what would become the TMR Scout Museum, one could hardly call it an organization. When we grew to perhaps 15-20 members the next year as a part of the Alumni Association, which we became part of, it was just that we were part of an organization but hardly charter members. By 1999, however, we were truly an organization, certainly part of the Camping Committee of GNYC and therefore a part of GNYC. But we had our own building. True it had been a latrine before but with great effort from the Ranger Crew and TMR Director Bob Madsen it became our little Museum. I had solicited people with certain skills and others who heard about us volunteered.

We had a treasury and were raising money to double our size by adding a wing; we were meeting regularly at the Empire State Building, we established rules and regulations (which we humbly called by-laws), we had Officers, we had a Curatorial Committee, a Memorabilia Committee, a committee to establish links with other scout camps to share ideas using a "new fangled thing" called the Internet. We bought more showcases for our exhibits and a couple of Computers. We received donations to bolster our Museum collection from many sources. Now we were an ORGANIZATION and we had about 25 Charter Members of that organization.

While it is true we began this in 1997 we really became an organization in 1999. Therefore, as an ORGANIZATION this is our SILVER ANNIVERSARY, our 25th year. To celebrate this I wanted to do something to honor those who were charter members then and still are today. My socks were blown off when I found going through records that 16 of the original 25 charter members were still Trustees today over 25 years later. Sadly, 6 passed away or no doubt they would still be members today. And it did not matter whether we started in 1997 or 1999 as it was the same people from 1997 that were with us in 1999. And the same 16 people remain the core members of our board although a couple now only serve as consultants and in an advisory capacity due to their age or geographical location.

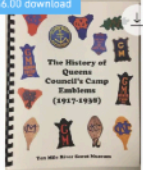




So, to honor them I donated the cost to procure 25 patches with SILVER MYLAR borders for our FOUNDING CHARTER MEMBERS, with the design of our other 2023 patches but saying at the bottom CHARTER TRUSTEE. Our Museum has grown from a little acorn to a monster OAK. Many new trustees have come on board that I hope I can recognize and so too the whole Museum down the road including our amazing Staten Island Good Guys who built much of the new stuff, the Heavy Lift Crew who moved buildings that we were told could never successfully be moved, our website and this Smoke Signals newsletter plus all the yearly new exhibits created by our curatorial committee, our connections to other Museums and other Civic organizations and Chambers of Commerce, social media and the modernizations implemented by my successors as Chairman of the Board, Michael Drillinger and Mitchell Slepian.

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.tmmuseum.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.

SPECIAL DEAL: For a limited time only, you can purchase the Boy Scout Foundation 100th Anniversary Backpatch with a FREE TMR 95th Dangle. Only \$14 for the two patches.

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



TMR Wall of Fame

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

Wall of Fame - [Learn More](#)

Donate Scouting Memorabilia

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

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

[Learn More](#)

