

Here is your free copy of the March, 2023 issue of Ten Mile River Smoke Signals, newsletter of the Ten Mile River Scout Museum. To get future issues without the two-month delay, pay your Museum dues at <https://www.tmrmuseum.org/online-dues-payment>



Dedicated to Preserving the Memories of T.M.R. Campers

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

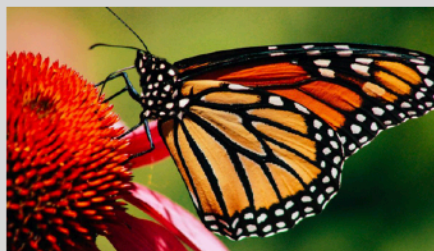
In this issue of Smoke Signals you will learn some TMR history as well as current events. A reader was moved by last month's issue and his email to us contains memories we want to share with you. If you have a TMR memory you would like to share please email it to us.

If you want a timely copy of Smoke Signals hot off the electronic press then become a Museum Member.

[Join the TMR Scout Museum](#)



OFF-SEASON OPEN DATES: The Museum is planning to be open the three Shooting Sports Weekends (Apr. 21-23, Apr. 28-30, May 5-7) and the Raft-O-Ree (June 9-11). Look to our website www.tmrmuseum.org in the future for confirmation of these dates and hours open.



Museum Webinars are returning in April with our Summer Co-Director Glenn Pontier. There will be a webinar on our upcoming Monarch Butterfly exhibit scheduled for this summer season and also a webinar on Narrowsburg. For more info visit: www.tmrmuseum.org/2023-webinars



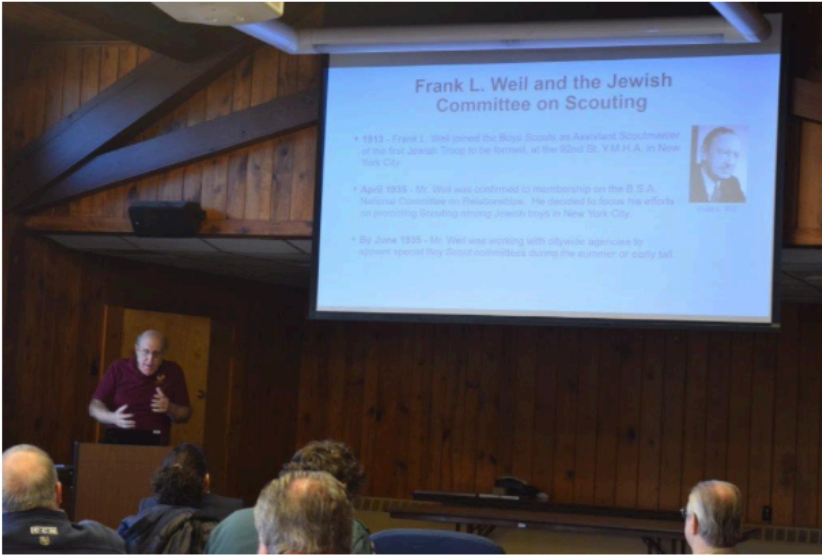


Allendale Trade-O-Ree

March 18 – The Ten Mile River Scout Museum attended the 42nd Annual Northeast Trade-o-Ree, New Jersey’s largest Boy Scout Memorabilia Show and Sale held at the Guardian Angel RC Church, Allendale, NJ. The museum’s table was staffed by Chairman Mitchell Slepian and Trustee Ralph Daddi. Trustees Bill Mulrenin packed up our wares, Mikey “The Birdman” Herbert transported them to and from the event and Founding Chairman Dr. Gene Berman and Frank Mullane and Bill consulted on pricing.

Trustees and TMR Alumni Association leaders Johannes Knoop, Steven Benini and Frank Rickenbaugh offered their support. Treasurer David Malatzky and Trustee Rich Miller hung with us and provided assistance. We all bought fun stuff from our table. We raised funds, had a lot of laughs, got a few donations of patches for our museum from an attendee, and got to catch up with folks we last saw a while ago.





2023 Northeast Region Jewish Committee on Scouting Conference

By David Malatzky

Fifty participants from nineteen B.S.A. Councils (including two from Florida) attended the 35th Northeast Region Jewish Committee on Scouting Conference, Sunday, March 19, 2023, Reeves Lodge, Alpine Scout Camp. The event was organized by NERJCOS Chairman and former Bronx Troop 77 Scout Phil Sternberg, 1962 Ranachqua Lodge Chief and a dues-paid Museum member.

These conferences are unique, because although regional, many participants (or their parents) were in N.Y.C. Scouting in the 1950s and 1960s and moved elsewhere decades ago. I saw people walking around wearing uniforms with 1960s N.Y.C. Scouting badges. Stan Weinstein, age 90, drove up from Tampa. Many of us know Stan, who attended the Brooklyn Camps in 1947, and is active in the T.M.R. Arrowhead.

Since many participants are T.M.R. alumni, the Museum quickly agreed when invited to attend by Mr. Sternberg. Board members Bill Mullrenin and Joe Varon manned a retail table, distributed Museum literature and answered questions about the Museum and today's T.M.R. We provided a small display of T.M.R. memorabilia.

This was a great opportunity for me. Back in 2015, I obtained copies of hundreds of pages from the Frank L. Weil papers (American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, OH). Mr. Weil founded the N.Y.C. Jewish Committee on Scouting in 1938 and his papers included detailed information from this era on Jewish Scouting in N.Y.C. and at T.M.R. This led to a 2016 Museum exhibit and three talks at the last NERJCOS Conference. For my keynote talk, I drilled down into how the N.Y.C. Jewish Committee was founded and operated, and how the five Borough Jewish Committees ran during the 1930s and 1940s.

GNYS CEO Saroya Friedman-Gonzalez welcomed the participants and said that one of her goals was that N.Y.C. Scouting be more representative of N.Y.C. in general, including more Jewish Scouts. Afterwards was my talk, which basically explained how the N.Y.C. Jewish Committee on Scouting did exactly that in the 1930s and 1940s.

The conference included two kosher meals and a varied program, including a Zoom meeting with Frank Youdelman, President of the National Jewish Committee on Scouting.

Congratulations to Phil Sternberg for a very successful NERJCOS Conference and thanks for the Museum Board support.



Building the Ten Mile River Trail

By David Malatzky

While TMR's history tells us that Morty Hyman and Nick Dale from Brooklyn first proposed the Ten Mile River Trail, who actually built the 40-mile trail and when?

By the summer of 1936, the trail was being built jointly by the five borough councils. Camp Man Director J. H. Brinton, was chairman of the trail committee. The trail was designed to connect the five borough camps operating at the time. Scouts were sent out by each camp to clear and mark the trail and build bridges when needed, thereby obtaining considerable pioneering experience. They cut through mountain laurel, underbrush, and all kinds of growth. Scouts for each Council working on Surveying Merit Badge made their own trail maps, which were later combined and checked.

The trail was designed for overnight hikes, with camp sites located at strategic points along the trail. Each borough council was assigned to construct one or two of the camp sites. Each of the eight trail sites included lean-tos, a stone fireplace, and tested and piped spring water. Some sites included facilities for swimming, under qualified leadership.

The Ten Mile River Trail officially opened on August 6, 1937. Each of the five borough camps sent out a party of sixteen chosen Scouts and leaders to hike the entire trail, camping overnight in lean-tos and tents. One of the most interesting parts of the hike was climbing Tusten Mountain, not part of today's trail.

On Monday, July 23, 1938 a select group of eighty Scouts and leaders, representing the five borough camps, set out on a five-day good-will tour of the Ten Mile River Trail. The hikers stopped at each camp long enough for a meal, a swim and a complete camp inspection. They then proceeded to their overnight trail site to cook their other meals and sleep overnight. The tour was intended to symbolize and strengthen the bonds which united Scouting in the five N.Y.C. boroughs. The good-will tour was repeated again in 1939.

An Email From a Reader

The following email was sent by Ken Heisler to David Malatzky following the last issue of Smoke Signals

Subject: Smoke Signals, etc.

Hello David,

I thoroughly enjoyed your piece on Villa Switzerland in the current issue of "Smoke Signals". I believe the building was still there, at least in the earlier years that I was at Keowa (1962-71).

The structure had been used as the summer-long residence of Fr. Anthony Paone, S.J., who, in those years, was the unofficial "dean" of TMR chaplains. Only now, upwards of sixty years later, do I learn that that building, indeed all Keowa, actually had a history before my arrival on the scene!

Ah, youthful conceits.

I also saw in the current issue your outline of the sessions at the upcoming Northeast Region, Jewish Committee on Scouting Conference. I hope that among the presentations mention is made of the namesake of the Jewish Chapel at Keowa, Captain Joseph Jacobs, USMC. He was killed in action on Guadalcanal in 1942. At the time of his death he had been the youngest captain in the Marine Corps.

Here is the Wiki entry of his great grandfather, a famed rabbi. Scroll down, and under "Descendants", is a discussion of the younger Jacobs' life which includes this entry:

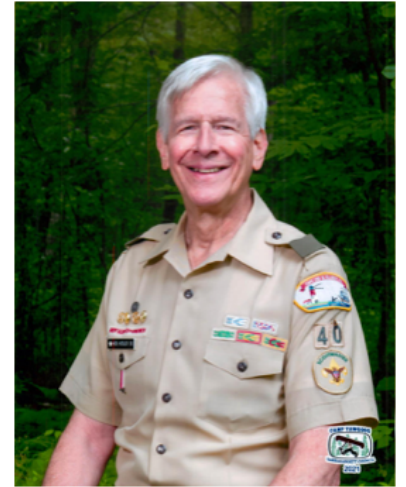
["There is a Captain Jacob Joseph Memorial Chapel at Camp Keowa, which is part of the Ten Mile River Boy Scout Camp in Sullivan County. The Chapel was restored by a group of veterans led by Scoutmaster Tom Maher. Each August a memorial service is held for Captain Joseph at the camp. The memorial includes an interfaith service during which a Kaddish is said for Captain Joseph, who is believed to have no descendants."]

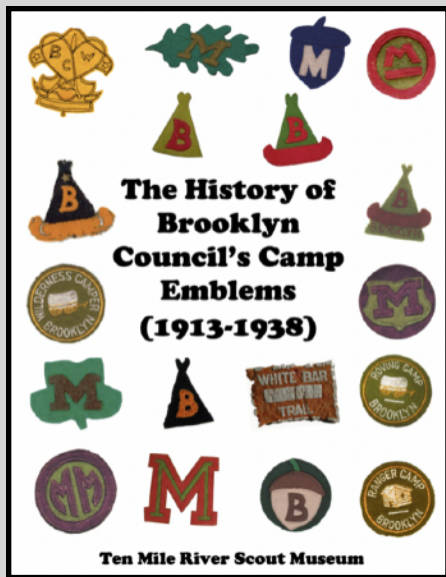
https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jacob_Joseph

BTW, If you happen on Jay Schnapp at the Conference say hello for me.

Best,
Ken

Kenneth Heisler has been with Troop 40 of Falmouth Massachusetts on Cape Cod since 1998. Last year he stepped down as Scoutmaster after a 19-year run. He is also on the Exec Board of the Cape Cod & Islands Council. Ken was a scout in Troop 444 Manhattan. He first attended TMR in 1962 where he was in Keowa for Period 1 and Ranachqua in Period 2. He was a CIT in 1966 and 67. He was on staff at Keowa from 1968-1971.





Coming Next Month: The History of Brooklyn Council's Camp Emblems

The 34-page publication includes detailed histories of all camp emblems issued by Brooklyn Council from 1913-1938, including the Kanohwahke Scout Camps and T.M.R.

[Check Here for Availability](#)



TMR Wall of Fame

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

[Wall of Fame - Learn More](#)

Donate Scouting Memorabilia

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

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

[Learn More](#)



Ten Mile River Scout Museum | <https://www.tmmuseum.org>