



THE OCTORARO LOOP

The Horseshoe Scout Reservation Alumni Association (HSRAA) News
Issue No. 1 - Volume 6 - May 2005 On Line - WWW.HSRAA.ORG

The purpose and mission of the Horseshoe Scout Reservation Alumni Association

"To preserve and promote the spirit and heritage of Horseshoe Scout Reservation and its camps (Camp Horseshoe and Camp John H. Ware, III), to be a benefactor to the Reservation and to promote the brotherhood of Scouting among the alumni of the Reservation."



– HAB Butler earns Silver Buffalo

"SILVER BUFFALO" AWARD FOR HSRAA MEMBER - "HAB" BUTLER

In May, a contingent of Chester Co. Council leaders, many of whom are HSRAA members, will travel to the Annual Meeting of the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America in Dallas, Texas.

A special recognition is being made there by the National Council organization for only the third time in our Chester County Council's 86-year history – the presentation of Scouting's highest honor for service to youth, the Silver Buffalo Award. Annually, only a few such recognitions are made. Chester County Council's Harriss A. "Hab" Butler, III will be one of the people so honored in 2005.

The criteria for the Silver Buffalo include exceptional service to youth on a

national basis. The award was created in 1925 and its first recipient was Lord Robert Baden-Powell, 1950, Scouting's founder. Among other people so honored over the years have been Charles A. Lindbergh, Secretary of State Colin Powell, Walt Disney, Henry "Hank" Aaron and Astronaut James Lovell. The Council's previous two Silver Buffalo awardees were the Hon. Owen J. Roberts and J. Frederic Wiese.

In the March 2003 issue of the Octoraro Loop, there was an extensive article about Hab's service to Scouting on the Council, the Pennsylvania Area and the National level. Hab has served in many areas of the Council – Executive Board, Commissioner, President, Wood Badge Course Director, and a Unit Leader. On a National basis he has made an impact. He is a friend and devoted Scouter.

Congratulations Hab!

HSRAA 6TH REUNION PLANS COMEBACK OF "SUMP PUMPS"

July 16, 2005 is the date for the Sixth Annual Reunion of the Horseshoe Scout Reservation Alumni Association at the Goodman Pavilion at Camp Horseshoe. This fun affair brings together campers and staff members of Camp Horseshoe and Camp John H. Ware 3rd from the past years earlier generations. On a number of occasions, there are those from every decade who come back to re-connect with their camp and fellow members. The Reunion begins at 1PM and goes to 8PM.

George Tzanakis and Chris Minshall are the Reunion leaders and have promised a great time for all. Special HSRAA reunion T-Shirts will be available. There will be song and food – great barbecue for attendees – opportunities to tour both Horseshoe and Ware camps, trade patches, view memorabilia of the "olden" days, videos, slides, etc. fun for all!

The reunion's theme is the return of an all-time camp favorite – The Sump Pumps. Please contact Mark Hammond at mark.hammond@dbr.com or (215) 988-2994 if you are a former Sump Pumper interested in participating.



Neil Chippendale whips up a song at Reunion

HSRAA PROJECT AND BEYOND

Come see the construction of the second of three phases in the Parade Field upgrade that began this spring under Dick Bensing's watchful eye. This is an exciting project that we believe truly improves the quality of the Reservation.

We are pleased to announce that Joe Bradley has joined the Octoraro Loop editorial team this spring. Our goals for our website, database and virtual museum continue to stretch our resources, but we maintain our commitment to full implementation in the near future.

Hope you can join us at the Reunion!

Chairman, Mark Hammond '79



Work progresses on new wall steps

BELONGING TO HSRAA

New members for HSRAA are being sought. Membership is open for any Cub Scout, Boy Scout, Venturing Scout, youth or adult, who has spent one or more nights camping in Camp Horseshoe, Camp Jubilee or Camp John H. Ware 3rd at any time, summer or winter.

Membership fees are set at different levels, shown on the HSRAA website – www.hsraa.org.



Enjoying Reunion BBQ!

WHY SHOULD I JOIN THE HSRAA?

If you're reading this, you've probably spent some time at Camp Horseshoe or Camp Ware. Whether you've gone to summer camp, winter camp, or perhaps for training, somehow, some way, you got the "dust in your moccasins". You know that these camps provide an invaluable service to the youth of Chester County Council and its many out-of-council youth partners. I can speak from personal experience that working on the staff at Camp Horseshoe has introduced me to an incredible array of people, many who have become lifelong friends. I have learned leadership, responsibility, and many of the skills I now use as a working adult.

Like me, you may feel like you want to give back in some way. Perhaps you already give back by volunteering with a local troop or working with the Order of the Arrow. The Horseshoe Scout Reservation Alumni Association (HSRAA) offers a different way to give back. However, you may be thinking what I was thinking when I heard about the Alumni Association years ago. I was expecting another organization that would be

"competing" with the Order of the Arrow (OA) for my money and time. We all know the great work that the Order of the Arrow does for the camps. There is no camp that I know that gets more maintenance from its lodge than the Horseshoe Scout Reservation. The Lodge is owed a debt of gratitude for the work they do for the camp to make sure that it is there for a long time to be shared with future generations.

So, if maintenance of camp is not the goal of the Alumni Association, what is the goal? To put it simply, the goal of the Alumni Association is to improve the aesthetics of camp, make it more visually appealing and "user friendly". The gateways into the camps are an example of this goal in action. The parade field improvement project at Camp Horseshoe is the Alumni Association's current project with many more opportunities for improvements to come in the near future.

Finally, the other goal of the Alumni Association is to connect those people who have spent time on the Reservation. You share a common bond with these people: a love for a camp that has meant so much to you and to boys all around this area. Through membership mailings like the "Octoraro Loop" we hope to not only inform you of the happenings in the camp, but also what is happening with its people. It is, after all, the people that have made camp what it is today.

So, please consider membership in the HSRAA. For a modest membership fee, members will receive the tri-annual newsletter, "The Octoraro Loop". Thank you for your consideration of the HSRAA and we'll see you at the reunion!

By – Joe Bradley



HSRAA's Ware Gateway greets Scouts

NEW HSRAA PROJECT SHAPES UP

Following the completion of the Parade Field headwall at Camp Horseshoe by the HSRAA, the next phase of the Parade Field project is nearing completion.

Thanks to the Chester County Council's on-going Capital Campaign, work will begin on an expansion of the Camp Horseshoe headquarters building after the summer camp season. In line with this expansion, HSRAA is tying in with that project by constructing a wall corresponding to that at the head of the Parade Field and paralleling the camp's loop road.

The headquarters wall is a field stone construction similar to the headwall with steps leading from the loop road to the headquarters area.



Wall project nears completion for camp

HSRAA NOW ON COUNCIL WEBSITE: www.cccbsa.org

See the HSRAA on the Web! Check the Council's portal page cccbsa.org. for Reunion updates while the HSRAA site is under re-construction. The HSRAA link still brings viewers to the site that includes back issues of The Octoraro Loop, along with registration, membership data, etc.

COMING COUNCIL EVENTS

Two major Council events are shaping up for the fall – the 5K Run/Walk and the "Evening Under the Stars" Gala and Auction.

5K RUN/WALK

October 2 is the date of the Council's second annual 5K Run/Walk at East Goshen Twp. Park. This is a fun event for Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Venturers and families

and friends. There are individual and unit competitions being announced this summer. Bruce Baker is the event Chairman.

The Council's website, www.cccbsa.org, will have full information and enable participants to sign up on line.



5K race preps are part of camp MB program

GALA AND AUCTION

November 5 is the date for the Council's "Evening Under the Stars" Gala and Auction. This is a fun event, enjoyed by leaders and friends of Scouting, and in its 17th year. HSRAA's JB and Ellie Rettew are Co-chairs. This event is being held at the Great Hall of Immaculata University. For information contact the Council Service Center (610-696-2900) or check the Council's website for details at www.cccbsa.org.

WHERE ARE THEY TODAY?... ANDY COE

In an earlier issue (November 2002) there was an extensive article about Andy, former Horseshoe Staff member, being off to Tanzania, Africa with the Peace Corps.

Andy returned from this exciting and interesting experience in that country to speak at the March Banquet of the Order of the Arrow. Complemented by a slide presentation, he talked of the challenging opportunities he had in Africa. He held everyone spellbound as he related stories of the people he met and the interaction he had with them.

In all, he felt that his service was an out-growth of his Scouting experiences and the involvement he had as a Staff member at Camp Horseshoe.



- 1945 Flagpole Hill hoisting the Flag

"ERNIE SAYS"

Ernie Heegard, Camp Director Emeritus
In this issue— *talks of the Retreat Ceremonies and...*

...OLD GLORY

Duty to our country and the national flag has always been a part of Scouting and was an intriguing part of the Horseshoe program in the 1920's. The earliest Retreat ceremonies were held on the athletic field. A small camp marching band led the parade as the scouts and leaders saluted the central camp flag, atop Flagpole Hill.

During those early years, Flagpole Hill was almost devoid of trees, and the pole, flag, and small canon were easily visible from the lower field. Dinner was a welcome sight each evening after hiking down and back for the nightly retreat.



1928 Flagpole Hill bare of trees for Retreat

By the mid-thirties, the Retreat ceremony had been moved to its present location and was refined by a former military officer and staffer, "Dutch" Kerwin. It seems each

summer questions arise about the Retreat ceremony's origins and some observers with military experience know that something is a-miss, but just can't put their finger on it. In fact they are correct and this is attributed to Mother Nature who isn't always right as her placement of the hill, valley, and slope of the field caused us to have a parade field in reverse.

It was understandable for the first campers to place the first flagpole on the highest spot in camp where it could be seen from all points in camp. When the ceremony was moved to the parade field just above the dining hall, the Flagpole Hill flag was still saluted and continued to dominate Retreats throughout the fifties. The trees surrounding the parade field and Flagpole Hill had not grown tall enough to block the view of the pole from the parade field. It was not until Don Simpson, Scout Executive from 1957-1966, was approached by a young Scout asking, "What are we saluting?" that he immediately had a new flagpole placed on the parade field. The leaders and staff from their side of the field were not aware that the Scouts could no longer see the flag as the trees had long since obscured their view.

The ceremony has always been with the Scouts entering the field from the road by the dining hall and facing the flagpole and staff on the right side as the flag is lowered. The council flag and the American flag lead the parade and come to rest at the top of the field. The first problem arises when the Adjutant / Program Director dresses the line with the command, "Dress left, Dress," from the head of the field. In military parlance, there is no "Dress left", only "Dress right." If we used "Dress right," it would cause us to straighten the line to the last man on the field instead of to the first Adjutant at the head of the field. As our field is reversed we invented the "Dress left, Dress". While incorrect, it accomplishes what is required.

After the colors are lowered, the order is given to, "Pass in review", and the Scouts march in a clock-wise direction, passing the reviewing line on their left. This, of course,

is a complete reversal of a normal parade field. As the troops pass in review, their senior patrol leader gives them a command of, "Eyes left", and again in military lingo, only "Eyes right," is correct.

Another serious problem occurs when the color guard is not properly instructed on how to carry the flags. It seems to make sense to have the American flag on the left, exposing it to the reviewing line, which is on their left. However, this is incorrect flag etiquette, as the American flag is always carried on the right. The remedy for this is easily accomplished by carrying the American flag in the correct position on the right, and dipping the council flag while passing in review, thus exposing the American flag to the salutes of the reviewing line as the color guard passes in review. It is also proper to dip the American flag that is carried by the color guard while the main flag is lowered.

We all should keep in mind that Horseshoe is not a military camp, rather we are a group of Scouts, learning proper flag respect while having fun building troop spirit, scout cooperation, and troop unity. This is best expressed in one of the verses in the song, "In the Loop of the Octoraro Bend":

*"The sun comes up over Flagpole Hill,
Where Old Glory flew and is
flying proudly still, And we'll hike
and camp in the old scout way,
In the Loop of the Octoraro Bend".*



Roberts' Day Retreat on Parade Field

We want to hear from you! Please let us know what your are doing for our new "Class News" Section debuting in the July Reunion Issue. Send information via e-mail to jbrettew@comcast.net or by mail to "HSRAA Class News" c/o Chester County Council, 504 S. Concord Road, West Chester, PA 19382.

SUMMER 2005 RESERVATION CAMPING SEASON PREVIEW

This summer Camp Horseshoe and Camp John H. Ware, 3rd will feature two well-accomplished staffs to provide the great programs that we have grown fond of over the seventy-eight year history of the Horseshoe Scout Reservation. Both camps have prided themselves on retaining many of their directors as well as developing talented junior staff members – from counselors to CIT's.

Camp Horseshoe Ready To Go

Mike Berkeihiser will return for his eighth year as Camp Director at Camp Horseshoe. He brings aboard two new members into the "big three": Noah Austin will be the Program Director and Craig Cohen will be the Commissioner. Noah has been a staff member for seven years as members of the Handicraft, Aquatics, and most recently served as the Camp's Commissioner. Craig has also been a staff member for seven years, all in the Ecology/Conservation department, serving the last three years as the director.

Other key returnees include Joe Bradley as the Aquatics Director (sixth year as director), Matt McLaughlin as the Field Sports Director (second year as director), Bill Hohl as the Trailblazer Director (second year as director), Clayton Lottes returns for his third year as Handicraft director, and Matt "Frog" Lewis will again be the Business Manager. "Old Hacks", Mark Graham and Dr. Dave Mellinger will again be running the Health Lodge.

Some familiar faces have moved up the ladder to replace some spots relinquished by directors who have moved on. Filling Craig's position in Nature, long time Nature staffer Josh Hughes steps in as Director. In the Food Service department, longtime Director Mark Herman's big shoes will be filled by his protégée, Devon "Greatness" Roper. He will be joining forces with Evan Ellwanger (former nature staffer), serving as Head Cook. Brett DiAntonio will be leading the Camp craft department, with longtime Director "Spud" Truitt joining the

Business Department to run the Trading Post. Rounding off the directorships will be former C.O.P.E. assistant and Trailblazer Director Pete Demyanovich, who will be heading up the C.O.P.E. Department.



Ware Pool ready for Cub and Troop campers

Camp John H. Ware, 3rd is Prepared

At Camp John H. Ware, 3rd, Camp Director "Mayor" Jim Montich looks forward to his third season as director and another busy and diverse summer.

Many of the Staff is returning. TJ Nicholaides returning as Program Director, Will Warram returns to fill his role as Aquatics Director and Meredith Barrett as Shooting Sports Director. Sue Fisher and Linda Gallagher are at the Health Lodge; Bob Fisher is Handicraft Director; Lexi Byers is Blazing Trails Director; John Klein at Nature; Dave Peterson at Camp craft; and, Nick Witle.

Jonathan Burton is at Riflery and John Riley is back at Archery.

Camp John H. Ware, III challenges the versatility of its Staff by providing different types of programs throughout the summer. Kicking off the summer is the Special Needs Camporee directed by Sue and Bob Fisher along with Betty and George Quay. Following this is the Science-Radio Camp.

Part of the summer is devoted to the Webelos and Cub Scout Camping programs. Then "Parent and Scout" Cubbing programs are conducted with all the Wolf and Bear Cub Scout programs in Cubtown

having a "Native American" theme. Webelos theme for 2005 is "Mason-Dixon Trek".

Interspersed between these programs are the Boy Scout Troop programs with traditional Boy Scout camping involving "C.O.P.E." programs, aquatics, etc. This year there will be seven troops at Ware using the regular sites and the newly renovated Jubilee, Hawkeye and Mohican campsites.

All in all, this promises to be a great summer experience for Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts alike.



OACall-Out at Retreat

LODGE 22 HOLDS OA LODGE BANQUET!

The Kimberton Fire Hall was again filled to capacity with Octoraro Lodge 22 members and their guests in March. They were greeted by Lodge Chief Andy Arthur and other Lodge dignitaries.

The Vigil Honor provided door prizes to the delight of the attendees. It was announced that Scott Salvatore would be taking over for Jim Montich as Advisor. Jim was called to serve as Vice President Of Camping for the Council. Tom Murphy is the new Vigil Honor Advisor.

Andy Coe, returning from the Peace Corps, delivered a fine message on his activities in Africa as they related to his Scouting experiences.

Many awards were presented. The James H. Gawthrop, Jr. Allouhsit Allogagan Awards were presented to: Claude Boddy, Hab Butler, Harold Griffith, Bob Matje, Sr., David Mellinger, Maureen Milman and Tom Savoy.

The prestigious Founders Award was

presented to Earl Dering and John Salmons.

Highlighting the evening was the Vigil Honor Call-out ceremony announcing candidates for the Vigil. Recognized were - Chris Alberts, Cory Brun, Raymond Fredericks, Chris Grover, Jason Johnson, Marc Mitchell, Tervor Miller, Chris Grover Sr., Leslie John, Dave Koepke, Justin Quay, William Taylor, Brian White, and Christopher Wilder.

The Annual silent Patch Auction was renamed: "The Silent Auction In Memoriam to William L. Jackson, III". Bill had passed away earlier in the year. It was fitting to name the event in his honor because of his Scouting involvement and devotion to the Lodge.



Hon. Owen J. Roberts dedicates Horseshoe pool in 1930

BUDDY UP! ... IN 1930

As part of the "Living History" project of the Chester County Council JB Rettew has been working on, were some movies taken in the early days of the Council. One was taken in the summer of 1930 at the Horseshoe swimming pool.

It actually was a movie taken of the prestigious dedication of the pool. To set the stage, the Camp began in 1927. Scouts journeying those "long" distances to sunny camp Horseshoe in those days looked forward to cooling off! Where? In the Octoraro Creek, of course!



AI Weeks Life Saving Class at pool in '40's

There was no pool then. The leaders of our Council realized that something had to be done. They set out to raise money to build a pool. Not just any pool but the largest on the East Coast. Thanks to people such as Chief Justice Owen J. Roberts, Council President Bob Wolcott, "Chief" Executive Charles Heistand and many others, they were successful.

Pool construction was begun so that it would open in time for the 1930 summer camping season. And...what a pool it was complete with an elaborate filtration system, fountains that jettisoned water into the shallow end, etc. No other Scout camp could boast of a better pool!

The dedication of the pool was in the summer of 1930. It was a big, big event that even attracted the Chief Scout Executive from the National Boy Scouts of America, James E. West, as well as dignitaries from Chester County and Maryland. People came in Model "T" Fords and other auto makes of the day. They picnicked, hiked Horseshoe paths, enjoyed a great day in the out of doors before journeying to the pool. Campers were there in 1930's bathing attire

of that day (not the 'birthday' suits of the non-visitor days), newscasters were there with movie crews and you name it, this was a big event. This was a big deal!

As the ceremonies began, a Scout dived to the bottom of the pool to retrieve a package. He returned to the surface with the cheers of the crowd. Climbing off the ladder, he presented a package to the dignitaries. The package was opened and announced the pool's opening.

Following the traditional speeches, it was then the Scouts' turn. It was "Buddy Up!" and then "Swim".

What a fine day 75 years ago that has had an impact on the camping experiences of thousands of Scouts and leaders over the years!

OFFICERS

Officers elected for a term ending July, 2005:

Chairman.....Mark Hammond
Vice Chairman.....Richard T. Bensing
Secretary..... Donald Tyson
Treasurer.....Eric R. Lorgus
Editors.....JB Rettew and
Joe Bradley
Proofreader..... Ellie Rettew

THE OCTORARO LOOP HORSESHOE SCOUT RESERVATION ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

c/o Chester County Council, BSA
504 South Concord Road
West Chester, PA 19382
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NON-PROFIT ORG
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PERMIT # 93
WEST CHESTER, PA

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