



The Beagle Barks

Jack Kohler-Suanhacky Campership Association

SPRING 2016

“HELPING MAKE EVERY SCOUT A CAMPER” Since 1986
A BSA WHITNEY M. YOUNG Jr. SERVICE AWARD Recognized Organization



CAMPERSHIP REPORT

Our key mission is raising campership funds so that we can give financial assistance to Scouts from Queens to go to TMR, who may otherwise not be able to afford a week at camp.

Our motto: **“Helping Make Every Scout A Camper”**, has been one of our key goals since our inception and as we enter our 30th summer season, we have held true to that goal. More than 1100 Scouts have received Camperships from the Jack Kohler-Suanhacky Campership Association, starting in the summer of 1986. Over the past number of years, we expanded what we do, to include Cubs looking for assistance to attend Cub World.

Almost every Troop in Queens has Scouts that have been able to go to TMR in part due to our efforts and help. Each and every member of our organization should take pride in knowing, we are giving back, to the place that helped make many of us, in part, the person we have become, Ten Mile River Scout Camp.

We are happy to announce that this summer, in addition, to the \$3,000 for Scouts going to TMR and \$500 for Cubs for Cub World, we are this year offering \$500 in Camperships to Venture Scouts to attend Venture Camp at TMR.

For the 2016 season we have committed to \$4,000 in camperships which will allow many Scouts to get to camp. Just remember to bring your bug spray!



THE STORY OF THE SUANHACKY LODGE HOUSE

By Guenther ‘Gunner’ Hecht

(with additional notes from archives of Anthony Joseponis & Denis Sackett)

This past summer marked the 65th Anniversary of the start of construction of the Suanhacky Lodge House that still stands upon Stag Hill in Camp Kernochan (of what was Camp Man originally). This was the area of TMR that was for Queens Scouts back in the day.

What is the story and the history behind this structure and how did it come about? I recall some folks who were intimately involved with the inception of the idea, the creation of the plans, raising the money and getting it built. I hope this background to this structure that many take pride in will be enjoyed by you.



During the Second World War, brothers of Suanhacky started kicking around the idea of having a place to gather, a Lodge House at camp. By the end of the war, whispers to do something and small amounts of funds started to be collected for building the Lodge House, but not much beyond that was happening.

In 1949, while I was lodge Chief of Suanhacky Lodge, I felt it was about time to ‘fish or cut bait in terms of the House. Suanhacky Lodge needed a home at its birthplace, Camp Man TMR. Where should it be, how would it come about? We envisioned a little cabin, a Lodge House on top of Stag Hill, but we didn’t have the means to build it ourselves. We enlisted the facilities of Greater New York Councils to help out. Mr. Al Nichols, the Director of camp, from Council granted us the land where the house was to be built. Jack Kohler actually held that deed for many years. The Council gave us their blessing to move forward. We were able to have a Council architect assigned to draw up the plans to our specifications, which were quite simple. The blue prints were drafted, and in fact are now at the TMR Museum if you would care to see them.



We must depend upon the Boy Scout Movement to produce the MEN of the future.

(Daniel Carter Beard)

izquotes.com

(Lodge House con't)

The process now was to raise money to build the place. This is where Jack Kohler and Anthony Joseponis (who served as Suanhacky Chief a few years earlier) came into play. They were assigned to raise the funding needed. At a meeting of the Lodge at the Jamaica Y, the plans were overwhelmingly accepted by the Lodge Brothers to build the house and raise money to get it done.

The doors to the Y were locked while Kohler and Joseponis now raised money, by singing old camp songs, ('Swimming in the Swimming Hole', 'Camp Man Song', 'Alouette'...). They threatened to continue singing until everyone coughed up money for the Lodge House fund. Before long, everyone's pockets were empty of loose change and then even some folding money came their way. Anything to get them to stop singing! That was the formation of our Lodge House fund.

That summer we spent some of the money to build the foundation of the house. We then laid a flat floor on the foundation. Through the efforts of master builder and future Lodge Chief, Walter Engel, and then Lodge Advisor Jack Kohler, the house was completed over the next couple of years. Legend has it that the foundation is indestructible, due in fact, not from strong concrete used, but according to legends about Walter and Jack, the amount of *EMPTY* beer cans used to re-enforce the concrete foundation. How those cans got empty is left to ones imagination.

The Lodge House was used for many purposes. We stored the Indian costumes there for our various ceremonies conducted during the summer camp season. We would have fellowship gatherings during the summer as well. If Lodge Brothers came up to help at camp, they had a place to stay for a few nights if they needed a shelter.

When in the mid 1960's, Council then changed the way they had the camps set up, being used by Borough. The Kernochan section was no longer exclusively for Queens Scouts. There were fewer OA functions taking place during summer camp and eventually that area of camp was not used much at all, so the use of the Lodge House seemed to wane.

Over the years, there have been others that have done improvements and updates to the Lodge House. In the early 70's **Norm Wieder, Roy Kramer and Eric Hertenstein** replaced the beams and repaired the roof. If you could picture a Three Stooges routine, that's what

you had with these knuckleheads. Hitting each other with the wood beams, hammers falling on their feet, nyuk, nyuk, nyuk.

In the 80's & 90's **Henry Joerz, Gordon Bennett** and others made further improvements to the Lodge House.

When Council decided to make an outpost at Stag Hill, "The Village", more upgrades were made, including

installing electricity. Later on, the Kohler Association helped to finance new windows for the Lodge House, when Suanhacky saw a need to replace what was in there.

The OA Lodge eventually abdicated the upkeep and maintenance of the Lodge House to TMR a number of years back. It still stands, it is still a destination for those who want to see it and remember days gone by. On your next visit to camp, why not stop by and share some of your memories of the Lodge House, with others that might be there.



Walter Engel, Dennis Gaynor & Henry Joerz outside the Lodge House

Members Honored

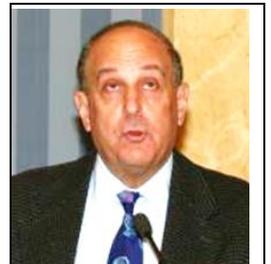


Kelvin Willis presented award by Robert Maeurer Sr.

We congratulate one of our members, **Kelvin Willis**, on being recognized with the **SCOUTER OF THE YEAR AWARD**, from the Queens Federation of Churches. Kelvin wins this award for his continued and dedicated service to Scouts of Queens and helping them live up to the 12th point of the Scout Law, 'A Scout is Reverent'. Kelvin joins

pervious award recipients from our Association, Mitch Morgenstern and John Pritchard.

We also want to congratulate **Dr. Gene Berman** on his being recognized with the **Order of the Arrow's Centurion Award** as part of the OA's 100th Anniversary. In case you were wondering, it is not for his reaching his 100th birthday, (yet) or collecting his 100th very rare patch.



Dr. Gene Berman

Gone Home: Tom Evans



Sometimes we meet someone who leaves a lasting impression on you. That is how many will remember Member **Tom Evans**, who passed away on New Year's Eve day. Tom was a fellow who didn't hold punches. Tom was also a worker for Scouting and especially the Kohler Association. He was a comic book enthusiast and saw

how popular Comic-Con was and he created one for Scouting, that he named Kohler-Kon. It was a flea market for comic books, toys as well as Scout memorabilia. Tom and his wife Monica organized and ran many of these after the turn of the century and raised hundreds of dollars for the association thru these events. After serving in the Army, yes the U.S. Army, Tom went to work for the NYC Board of Education where he was in maintenance at Bryant High School. A memorial was held for Tom at the Queens County Cork Assoc on Saturday February 20th with many Kohler members in attendance to honor our friend and Chairman **Mitch Morgenstern** doing one of the eulogies.

Gone Home: Arthur Lorentz

We found out months after the fact that our friend and longtime member Art Lorentz had passed away. Art died on February 9th 2015 in Modesto, CA.

Art graduated with an AA degree Community College in June of 1942. He put off the rest of his education, and joined the US [Army](#) Air Force in September 1942. In his four years of active duty, he became a Captain of a B-17 Bomber and led his crew to 35 combat missions over Germany. He remained in the Air Force reserves until 1958. After WWII, Art completed his college with a degree from San Jose State. From 1951 to 1981, Art enjoy a successful career as a pilot for TWA stationed in New York, where he became good friends with Jack Kohler and was part of the Camping Committee. After retiring, he drove a school bus for a few years in Connecticut before moving back out to California to be near his brother and family.

Artie lived a great life and he always wanted to do one thing: fly airplanes. He would be full of stories as he dropped in on friends and relatives around the country on his many TWA layovers. He was typically just in from Bombay, Cairo, Hong Kong or London. He loved telling the story of when he flew the **Beatles** from London to New York for their second visit to the US in the summer of 1965.

Art Lorentz has taken his final flight and we wish him a peaceful landing.



ART BRACE REMEMBERED

The Crazy Camper, Art Brace was a longtime member of the Camp Alpine Campmaster Corp. He would be out at Camp Alpine, often many weekends a month to help check in units, inspect their sites, offer them program assistance, training, check them out at the end of their stay and of course, give them a healthy helping of his madness. He would often be accompanied as a Campmaster by his daughter and fellow campmaster, Elizabeth, grandson Joey, Granddaughter Theresa and his invisible dog, Ralph.



Artie left us all too soon a few years ago. To honor his service to Alpine and all the units he came in contact with, a plaque was recently put up by his family & friends in his memory at the Slater Campmaster Cabin.

The plaque reads, "*In Memory of ARTHUR H. BRACE, Queens Suanhacky Campers, truly here stands his second home*'.

If you would like to also honor Art, nothing would have made him happier than for Alpine to be full of Scouts each weekend, and having fun. So you can do your part as well, just get out to Alpine and have fun!

OUR APOLOGIES

We owe an apology to many of our members. Our Fall-Winter newsletter that went out in Late November had a gift for everyone, an association pen. It was meant as a thank you for your support (and a reminder you can always feel free to write us a donation check ☺).

When we checked with our local post office about the postage, we were told that if it fit in a regular #10 envelope, if it was less than 1 ounce, then normal 1st class postage would be sufficient.



Many of you received it, no problem, but some of the newsletters were delivered to our members, with pens broken. Others were returned to the association for additional postage, (or delivered postage due) to be added on. Either way, we thought we were doing a nice thing and it turned out to be more aggravating to many of our members and ourselves.

Just know that our hearts and thoughts were in the right place. Go figure, we had post office issues!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Welcome to our newest members to the Jack Kohler-Suanhacky Suanhacky Campership Association:

- Dick Cordes,
- Patrick Mendola
- Emanuel 'Manny' Esteban
- Johannes Knoops



MEMORIAL DAY OA WEEKEND.... ANOTHER TRADITION FADES AWAY?

In the Broadway show, Fiddler on the Roof, they pose the question to the village Rabbi; why people of the small village do what they do, under some very difficult circumstances. The obvious answer the Rabbi gives, in one word, of course is **TRADITION!**

For the Order of the Arrow in Queens (formerly Suanhacky Lodge), a long standing tradition, dating back more than half a century had been to hold its annual spring induction on Memorial Day weekend.



That long standing tradition for Queens OA Brothers has come to an end, with the Spring OA weekend moving this year to May 13-15. Many of us from Queens, would automatically at the beginning of the year, go in and pencil OA Ordeal over the Memorial Weekend Friday thru Sunday. Friends and relatives knew that if a wedding, graduation party, or a barbecue was planned on that weekend, that you may not be there because of your commitment to Scouting and the OA. While, Memorial Day was significant to those of Queens OA, it may not have been so for some of the other Boroughs that now comprise the New York City Lodge, Kinteycoying.

While there are pros and cons for having it on Memorial Day weekend, what we certainly all hope for is a meaningful induction for new OA members, needed and warranted service projects for the camp, inspiring ceremonies, true comradery and a weekend packed with a lifetime memories.



GOOD & WELFARE

- Welcome to Grand Fatherhood, member **Greg Hofer**, who has a granddaughter, **Eliza Glory Maldonado**, born on January 30th, bouncing in at 7lb 11oz & 20.5 inches tall. Word has it granddad Greg's feet haven't touched the ground yet.
- A hearty salute to **Deacon Paul Lumpkin** on his 60th year in Scouting. Also Paul received his Councils 'Presidents Dozen' Award.
- We congratulate **Faith Lumpkin** on her 30th year in Scouting
- Happy February birthday to member **Kevin Dolce**.
- Our sympathy to member **Kelvin Willis**, mourning the loss of his mother, Virginia.
- Happy April birthday to member **Michele Bergsohn**.
- Get well soon member **Mabel Brace**.
- Welcome our youngest member, **Cooper Maverick Schulte**, born January 26. Proud papa **Mike Schulte** can't wait to get him to camp.
- Best of luck member **Joe Schiltz** on the promotion to Council Assistant Director of Field Services.
- Good thoughts and wishes for member **John Pritchard** as he continues recovering from his prolonged illness. John is taking his first steps in months.
- Happy wedding anniversary: **Rob & Laurie Petrillo** and also **Denis & Sara Sackett**.

Ed Note: We ask our members, if they have events such as birthdays, anniversaries, births, wedding; Bar Mitzvah's...share them with us. Email to jkohlerasn@aol.com

Remember: We are now the...



**JACK KOHLER-SUANHACKY
CAMPERSHIP ASSOCIATION**



The Association's name officially changed in May 2013 to include **SUANHACKY** in our name. This is to honor the legacy of the Queens OA Lodge of 1930-2013.

HELP WANTED

If you have visited our web site over the past few months, you will notice that it needs some major updates and upgrades. Our webmaster, **Paul Romain** tries hard, but doesn't always have the time needed to do all that needs to be done on a timely basis. We are in desperate need of someone to help us get our web site up to speed. If you, or your friend, or maybe one of your Scouts is able to work on web sites, we'd love the help. It does not need to be state of the art, but that wouldn't hurt. Please contact us via email or call Chairman Mitch Morgenstern @ 718-275-0378.



TMR ALUMNI DAY

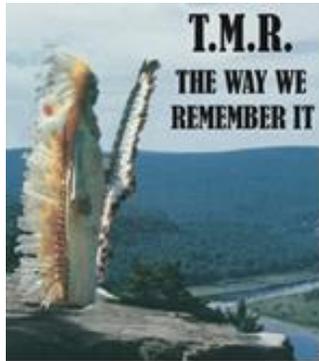
The annual TMR Alumni day is now planned for Saturday July 23rd 2016.

We do not have any other details at this time from the camp. If you are going, you should plan that the festivities begin around 11 am by the TMR Museum / Headquarters area.

If you have not been to Alumni day, it is a very good opportunity to reacquaint yourself (and your family) with TMR. Visit your old camp sites, the places of your memorable campfires, the mess hall, Indian Cliffs, Father Meyer's swimming hole and more.

The museum, which is again this summer directed by our member and friend, **Deacon Paul Lumpkin** will be open for tours and chock full of items to spark your memory of times gone by. Lunch is served for a nominal fee and there should be tour vans to visit various parts of the reservation.

You may also want to start making plans to attend next year, when Ten Mile River celebrates its 90th anniversary.



HERITAGE SOCIETY

We welcome the newest members to our Association's **HERITAGE SOCIETY**,

- **Steve Benini**
- **Hedy DeBonet**
- **Jack & Leona Knoops**
- **Jose Carlos Rosado**
- **Shirley B, Weinstein**

These honorees will have a formal induction at our next luncheon in fall of 2017. However, they will have their nameplates enshrined on the plaque at Camp Alpine immediately.

Heritage Society is open for any and all people, groups and organizations to become members of. Your troop, parents, children, Scoutmaster, even your self can become a member and be honored with a brass nameplate on a walnut plaque hanging in Camp Alpine office. In addition, there is a replica poster in the TMR Museum. All it takes is a minimum donation to the Heritage Society of \$150. What a great gift this can make.

Visit our website for a complete listing of all the honorees in our Heritage Society.

HEALTH UPDATE & THANKS

A NOTE FROM OUR FRIEND, JOHN PRITCHARD:

I really want to thank the friends and members of the Kohler Association who took time to write me notes and to visit me while I was at North Shore Hospital. Being there for almost 3 month really wears you down and unfortunately I was in la-la land when many of you came, but do remember the visits fondly. I haven't seen Kirk Henin or Franco Sagliocca in over 20 years, but they were there to support me, as were many current members.

I am now at Sands Point Rehabilitation Center in Port Washington (1440 Port Washington Blvd) and would love to see friends both old and not so old. If you plan on stopping by, best time is after 3 pm until 8 pm. Drop me an email or call before you come (718 877-3300) to make sure it's a good day.

I am feeling great and almost back to my old self. By the time you see this, I expect to be have been fitted for prosthesis and awaiting their delivery. After a few more months of rehab I should be good to go and will be visiting scouting events again.



V.J. DAY & A TMR MEMORY

By Pete Hermann

It is known in my family of my deep support for the Boy Scouts of America and Ten Mile River. In 1945 the return home day just happened to fall on VJ Day.(victory against Japan).Those of us on the bus home had no way of knowing of the event as we had been in the woods at TMR for the previous two weeks.

As we traveled toward the last weeks of summer vacation we left rural upstate NY and the roads began to fill with traffic. To a 12 year old going home for the first time the increase in traffic seemed quite normal. What seemed strange were the people lining the highways towards NYC. They were banging on tin cans, the tops of trash cans, blowing horns and waving flags. Some were dancing.

I think at the time I thought this might be the way Boy Scouts were always welcomed back home.

Our bus driver seemed to be ignorant of the cause of the celebration. Perhaps we found out



Scouts stop at the Red Apple Rest on way to and from TMR in 1940's

about the cause of the celebrating at the stop at the **RED Apple Rest** on Route 17. In any case I for one will always remember the last day of my first summer camp at TMR in 1945.

As an aside, did you know that our very own Jack Kohler attended the 1st International Boy Scout Jamboree held in the States in the 1930's?

PETER HERMANN
TROOP #188 QUEENS COUNCIL BSA

'LET THERE BE LIGHT!'



We are proud of our ongoing partnership with Camp Alpine and the

Jack Kohler Cabin. The cabin is in need of a new lighting system and council did not have the funding budgeted to get it done anytime



soon. Our organization, underwrote the total cost of the parts and fixtures by saving specific air marked monies over a 2 year period to pay for it. With funding now complete, the rangers will soon complete the job and our cabin will be one of the ***brightest spots in camp.***

SWEET MEMORIES OF TMR

By John Pritchard

I remember my first year at Camp Kernochan as a staff member in 1972. When I got there I found the trading posts selling Crystal Club soda. They had the usual grape and orange and cola but then they had these 'magical' flavors in artfully decorated cans.

My favorite was Birch-o-la. I just remember the flavor but not the can except it was brown. There was 'vanilla creme' in the blue can with the mountain stream, "sarsaparilla with the gun slinger and of course who can forget the infamous "Cherokee Red" in the blue can with the Indian head on it. It was the



sweetest, nastiest strawberry soda I ever had, but still we loved it.

In 1972, the program was not as sophisticated as it is today and with small staffs, commissioners like myself regularly ran activities. One long gone activity was Action Archery where you would go through the woods following a trail and shoot rubber tipped arrows at targets. It started with printed deer and bear targets but as the summer moved on, it turned into paper plates and dangling soda cans. We also had shotgun that was instructed by commissioners as well.

I was teaching it on the Kernochan field (across from the blockhouse) and using the Cherokee Red cans as how not to shoot the rifle. It was 'fun' to shoot off the chief's head and then warn the kids what they would look like if they used it wrong. It was very politically incorrect but again, this was 1972.



Crystal Club was eventually replaced by Coke and Pepsi and it was getting harder and harder to find. Turned out that the distributor of CC was a battery company which I thought to be odd. You could still find it occasionally at Pecks or the mall in Honesdale in the soda machines for 25 cents.

One of the best locations though was the **Slide Farm** where **Roland Flora** and his wife always had cold sodas available. (I sort of remember in an ice cooler but not sure on that) It made for a nice day hike from Kunatah to pick this year's neckerchief slide, to see all the patches (especially those on the ceiling) and to get a cold drink before heading back to camp. Supposedly a Pennsylvania company bought Crystal Club out and for a while the TMR Museum was carrying it but they were quickly sold out and too long a trip to go get more. Great, sweet memories.