



# The Beagle Speaks

## Jack Kohler-Suanhacky Campership



Association

**Spring 2014**

*"HELPING MAKE EVERY SCOUT A CAMPER" Since 1986*

### **2014 CAMPERSHIPS AWARDED: OUR 28<sup>TH</sup> YEAR OF CAMPERSHIPS**

The primary purpose of our organization is to provide financial assistance for Queens Scouts, those who need some monetary help, so that they may afford to attend at least one week at Ten Mile River Scout Camps, or Cub World. This coming camp season, our Association has committed to award \$3,500 in assistance (which accounts for approximately 10% of campership aid awarded to Queens). We work along with the Queens Campership



Committee to help select which young men are deserving to get assistance and for how much assistance they will get. We were happy to be able to continue offering financial assistance for these Scouts. This will be our 28th season of helping Scouts get to enjoy the 'Outing of Scouting'. Overall, our roster of those we have awarded the camping opportunity is now over 1000 Scouts & Cubs and counting.

### **CELEBRATION OF LIFE FOR CHARLIE ROSSER**

A very dignified and warm service, to celebrate the life of former GNYC Scout Executive Charlie Rosser was held on May 5<sup>th</sup> in Manhattan. Charlie passed away suddenly, in February, just a few months after retiring from BSA at the age of 59. In his tenure he was very supportive of our Association, being instrumental in the Alpine Cabin being named in Honor of Jack Kohler and also being a guest speaker at one of our luncheons. The service was well attended by Queens, including our Board members Bruce Cobern, Anthony Zalak and Denis Sackett. GNYC is in a much better place, financially, with program and membership wise, due to the efforts of Charlie. We are grateful to have known him.



### **UNITED WAY CONTRIBUTIONS**

At this time of year, many employees have opportunity to put in designated organizations for United Way contributions. If you contribute to the United Way,

please consider designating the Jack Kohler-Suanhacky Campership Association (United Way code # 012596).

### **REMEMBERING THE DAY I FIRST WENT TO TEN MILE RIVER: Fond Memories**

by Denis Sackett

I had never gone to summer camp before. Of course I had been on a lot of overnight campouts. My troop would go on one every single month, rain or shine, hot or cold. This would be different though. Those weekend campouts were often one night, sometimes two, this however, was to be two solid weeks, 14 days! I had been a Scout for a few years, in fact I was a Star scout the first time I went to Ten Mile River, but I was still nervous and anxious. Our troop was all working class families and none of the Dads were able to get a week or two off to take us to TMR as a 'home Troop' so I went as a provisional. Guys from my troop only went provisional. Who knew from 'Home Troop'? There was one other kid from my troop who was already at camp. He was there for the entire summer and had been going for a few years by this time.



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### **TROOP 17 GOING STRONG AT 100!**

There are many legendary troops in Queens Council. One such Troop is 17 of Pathfinder District which will be celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. A troop with a long history and some well know Scouts who went thru its ranks, including Supreme Court Justice Atonin Scalia. The troop has been one of the most active in the borough over the years, attending camp every summer and often doing trips around the country. Known for their school bus, Big Blue and legendary Scoutmaster, Ralph DeFalco. We wish them well as they reach this



remarkable milestone and look forward to recognizing more troops in the future who attain this mark of 100 years. Best of luck on the next 100 to Troop 17 and all its members and alumni.

## **FIRST DAY** (continued from page1)

My dad took me to the Port Authority bus terminal in Manhattan where he dropped me off with my duffle bag. I found the area for the TMR buses. There I saw a lot of other Scouts, all in uniform, saying goodbye to family. There were smiles, tears, hugs, frowns and waves as we got onto the



buses. I had a bag lunch my dad had made for me. I started eating it before the bus even got out of the terminal. I knew no one else on the bus, but we were all Scouts and some were living up to the parts of

the Scout Law that said a Scout is Courteous, Friendly, Kind and Cheerful. These guys were doing skits, coming up with games to play while on the trip, teaching us songs and basically trying to make the rest of us feel comfortable.

On the way up, we took a little detour to the Red Apple Rest where we were able to get out, stretch our legs, get something to eat and drink, and then get back on the bus for the next half of the trip to Ten Mile River.

When we finally got to camp, we pulled into headquarters area. Here it felt to me, what Ellis Island may have felt to my grandparents. They had us get off the busses, grab our gear and then they shuffled us around to make sure we put together with fellows going to the same camp. They put the guys for my Camp, which was to be Kunatah, with guys from Davis Lake. We loaded back onto different busses now, for the last leg of the journey.

As I looked out of the bus window I was completely amazed at the pristine, clean, great outdoors I was now in. Never had I ever been in such vast forest and woods. I saw lakes, streams, my goodness there was a deer on the side of the bus as we went towards Davis Lake.



Finally I arrived at Camp Kunatah. As I got off the bus, a young Scout came over to me and told me he was also a provisional and came down to help me get to our campsite. He was a kid from the Bronx. This was his second year at camp and he knew everything one needed to do to get by. He knew everyone's nickname, and everyone had a nickname. He knew the staff member and other provisional scout. He took me to our provisional Scoutmaster who took my medical and then asked my tour guide to find a lean-to

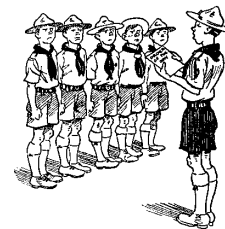
for me and show me the things in the campsite. Luckily there was an empty bunk in the Lean-to of the guy from my own troop. Bobby Klein, or Rosie as we called him due to his rosie red cheeks relieved my guide and said he'd take it from here. Rosie showed me all the things one needed to know to survive at Kunatah. Where the willies (latrines) were, how to clean them, where the dish washery was, how to clean the utensils as a dishwasher, or clean the table if you were a waiter, so you wouldn't get extra KP duties. Then he took me on what seemed like a long walk down the trail to the waterfront. Along the way we saw the Jewish Synagogue in the Woods. I was in amazement. I had never seen anything like it. Little did I know that Provisional's were often drafted to attend 6am services to assure people saying prayers for the dead had a minion (quorum) for such prayers to be said.



hall.

One good thing is if you got morning minion duty, you got a great breakfast with extra snacks. Anyway we continued down to the waterfront. What a beautiful lake! I had to take my dock test. As beautiful as the lake was, it was just as cold. I took my dock test as fast as I could so I could get out of the lake and warm up. I was a good swimmer so I passed with flying colors. Then to the boat docks. Took my rowing test, followed by my canoeing test. By the time we got back to the campsite it was time to wash up and get ready for dinner in the dining

We all got into full uniform, marched down to the dining hall, singing marching songs and calls. These Provisionals were quite the group. We had a solemn flag lowering ceremony and then the games began as who got into the dining hall first.....or last. In the dining hall, some big guy got on a podium in the center and everyone got very quiet. This was the steward and he was boss. He ran the show. No one moved or made a sound as he scanned the room to be sure everyone was standing at their table. Once the steward was satisfied all was well, he had us do the evening grace. Being my first time at TMR, I faked it. By the third or 4<sup>th</sup> day, I had all three meal graces down pat though. After dinner, our troop stopped by the canteen, got some snacks and then back to the campsite to get ready for a new week campfire. I saw skits that were hysterical and was taught songs that were memorable (Mountain Dew, Sunday School Song, Kumbya....). We did Scout vespers and taps, which was a first time experience for me.



Went back to the bunk with Rosie and the other two guys in our lean-to. We spent the next hour or so talking while in our sleeping bags. As I started to fall asleep, I couldn't believe how pumped I was for what was to come in the next few days, yet alone years of my Ten Mile River experience.

That was my first day at Ten Mile River and I've been going back ever since. In the next issue, I hope to share some more of those first year camp experiences. Feel free to share some of yours with us as well.



## **GOOD & WELFARE**

- Happy (special, big) birthday, Board Member: **Bruce Cobern**.
- Get well, Board Member; **Tom Evans**.
- Happy Anniversary: 100 years of **Troop 17-Queens**. Scoutmaster Ralph DeFalco is planning a great celebration.
- All the best, Board Member; **John Pritchard** on his retirement. Enjoy all your free time☺
- They said it couldn't be done, Member; **Max Sackett** graduates High School.
- We salute Member; **Andrea Smith Dacres** on her receiving the Silver Beaver.
- Better late than never, as we also give a high five to Board Member; **Robert Petrillo**, on his receiving the Silver Beaver.
- Congratulations to member **Henry Zalak** on being selected for the Vigil Honor.
- Member **Michelle Bergsohn** will be in St.Louis for her son Sam's wedding.
- Get well soon, **Sean Quinn**.

**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

## **HERITAGE SOCIETY- MEMBERSHIP IS THE PERFECT GIFT**

With the end of the current Scouting season approaching, if you are looking for the perfect gift for a relative, friend, sibling, scoutmaster, cubmaster, teacher...why not consider buying them a membership in the Kohler Heritage Society? For as little as **\$150** you can have their name enshrined on our plaque that is on display at Camp Alpine, (and a replica plaque at the TMR Museum). Get together with others and all can chip in a little to make it happen! It is a gift that will last forever.



You can also make the donation in your own name to commemorate your own achievements and appreciation for the Scouting program at the same time help us raise money to send a deserving young man to camp.

Applications and instructions are on our web site

**Remember:** We are now the...



## **JACK KOHLER-SUANHACKY CAMBERSHIP ASSOCIATION**



Our Association's name officially changed in May 2013 to include **SUANHACKY** in our name to honor the legacy, history and our close bounds with the Queens OA Lodge of 1930-2013.



We remember with reverence our members and friends who have recently passed:

- **Ed Kruzik**- Long time association member, Vigil Brother, veteran Scouter
- **Frank Henry Petrillo**- Father of Rob Petrillo and Scouting parent.
- **Charles Rosser**- GNYC Chief Scout Executive (ret).

## **ED KRUZIK, A FRIEND AND GENTLEMAN**

We were saddened when we learned of the passing of long time member from Pathfinder District, Ed Kruzik this winter at the age of 91.



Ed served scouting in many roles, including being a longtime Scoutmaster. His family was great supporters of scouting. Ed was awarded many honors over his tenure, including Order of the Arrow Vigil Honor and the Silver Beaver. A longtime member of the **No Names** cooking crew, over the years, he made hundreds of sandwiches for his OA brothers and lord knows how many hard boiled eggs. Both Ed and his late wife Mae are members of our Heritage Society.

Even as years were catching up with Ed, he still wanted so much to be at the Suanhacky Memorial Day weekends, to help out where he could. He made every Vigil breakfast, and would greet all with a warm smile and handshake. Ed will be missed by many, may he rest in peace.

## **KOHLER CABIN UPDATE**

The Board of Directors recently approved an increase in the amount of funding we give towards the

maintenance of the Jack Kohler Cabin at Camp Alpine.

The cabin, as all





structures, is always in need of some form of maintenance work, or updating inside and out. On the current agenda is a new refrigerator along with other upgrades. We are happy to continue our support of the cabin and hope that it allows for enjoyable camping experiences for many Scouts for years to come.

### JOHN WILLIAMSON NOAC SCHOLARSHIP

Dating back to the early 1990's, the Jack Kohler-Suanhacky Campership Association (JK-SCA) has offered a scholarship to an OA youth brother from Queens to attend the National Order of the Arrow (NOAC) conference. The next conference, which will be the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the OA, will be held in the summer of 2015 at Michigan State University. Our Association has increased the scholarship to **\$250**. One OA youth brother from Queens will be selected for this award based on the application submitted and the judging committee from our organization. Previously it was for Suanhacky youth brothers, we have adjusted that to be for Queens OA youth. A recipient is not required to have any affiliation with the JK-SCA to apply or receive the scholarship.



The scholarship is a memorial to member John Williamson, who was a New York City police officer, killed in the line of duty in October 1993.



### KOHLER-SUANHACKY ASSIST IN HONORING OUR HEROES

This spring marks the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-Day and the liberation of Europe from the tyranny of the Nazi's. Many of our members served in that War, including our namesake, Jack Kohler who was involved with the D-Day invasion while in the Army. The Transatlantic Council BSA held a camporee in Normandy to commemorate this historical event and invited Scouts from across the world. Queens Council had a contingent, led by our Association Member Kathy Geraci.

The cost per Scout to attend was quite high. To help out a bit, in order to help commemorate the heroics of our armed forces, especially those with Scouting backgrounds from Queens, our Association made a contribution to help with the cost of the contingent. Those who were fortunate to go helped honor our heroes and we are happy to have helped in a small way to make that happen.



### TEN MILE RIVER ALUMNI DAY

The annual TMR Alumni Day will be held on Saturday August 2, 2014. The program will begin at

11am at the Reservation Headquarters area. Please visit the GNYC web site for details.



### PLEASE CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK

### PAUL LUMPKIN TO RETURN AS TMR MUSEUM CURATOR

Our very own association Board Member, Deacon Paul Lumpkin, will be returning once again to the TMR Museum this summer as the curator. This is



Paul's second year in this position. Paul would love to have you visit the museum if you're in the TMR vicinity this summer. Why not plan a trip to stop by and relive some of your own TMR memories while looking at some of the many museum exhibits.



### KINTEYCOYING LODGE CONDUCTS ITS FIRST VIGIL HONOR CALL OUT

On Saturday, April 5, 2014, the new GNYC Order of the Arrow Lodge, Kintecoying, conducted its first Vigil call out. It was part of the Saturday evening program of an ordeal induction weekend at Alpine. Our association was well represented for this event with at least a dozen members.

The ceremony was quite impressive, with all Vigil brothers in attendance participating in the proceedings. The brothers of the lodge sat in the dining hall as a description of what the Vigil Honor signifies was read. Then there was a procession of Vigil Brothers, each carrying a candle that walked down the aisle and stood in front of the lodge. The lodge has selected 7 brothers to take Vigil, 3 of which were in attendance at this event. There was a different guide for each candidate. Then, a guide went thru those brothers seated to find a person selected to take the Vigil. Once found, a necklace was placed over their head. This was a red triangle with the number 4 carved out of it. Now all 3 candidates were brought forward to stand with the Vigil brothers. At this time, all those Vigil brothers gave their name, and Vigil name. With that the ceremony ended.



***GREAT ITEMS FOR SALE!!!***

Visit our web site: [www.jackkohlercampership.org](http://www.jackkohlercampership.org)

And check out our items for sale. We have patches, pins, cub stuff, Vigil Wear clothing and more. They make great gifts!

You can also email us at [JKohlerASN@aol.com](mailto:JKohlerASN@aol.com).