

Troop Alumni

Alumni Association

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Presidents Column "A View from the Top"



Tim Ross
President

October 2009

It's been an amazing first couple of years as president of Troop 101 Alumni Association.

When we got started with the newly seated board of directors, we first wanted to access just what the Alumni Association should be doing and what it means to its members. As you can imagine, it was not as simple as it sounds, because the Alumni Association has been around for a long time and mostly assisted the Troop with financial matters. When needed, it had also served as a means to collect non-profit donations. I am happy to report there is a renewed focus.

Today, you are looking at an organization that has reinvented itself without forgetting its original purpose. As we move forward, the board has redefined the Alumni Association's mission statement. We pledge to not only continue to assist with financial matters, but also preserve the rich history of Troop 101. We want to ensure that the opportunities available to all the youth who participated in the past will continue to be available in the future.

You will see, as we move forward, that the Alumni Association will be working hard to

involve its members in events and activities that will bring many generations' together, not only for tutelage, but also for passing along the spirit and wonderful traditions of scouting. We hope to have multiple generations of past Troop members attending and sharing experiences.

I believe that one of our most exciting new undertakings is the re-launch of this Alumni Newsletter. Many interesting columns are planned and even a few surprises from time to time that should give us all a big grin. We invite your contributions and feedback.

Other events like our Holiday Party in December is growing in attendance each year and next year we are planning our 35 year reunion for Family Camp in August.

I would like to leave you with a thought to ponder. Whether you were a scout, a parent, a leader or Committee Member in Troop 101, you undoubtedly recall the impact that the program had on you. I am also sure you can clearly see the leadership and skills that the program brings to the youth. It's time to help pass that along to today's generation, your family, your friends or that boy next door who has no one to help him along. May our proud tradition continue!

Help us help you and please give a little time and support to the Troop 101 Alumni Association, we will be in touch.

Editor's Note:

In every alumni newsletter, we will feature an in-depth interview with a Troop 101 alumni member who helped make the Troop the premier youth organization that it is today. In this issue, we highlight 68 year old Ned Gold Jr., who at age 13, earned the Episcopal God and Country Award, later became a vigil member of the Order of the Arrow, and earned the Explorer Silver Award. As an adult, Ned is the recipient of the Silver Beaver Award and the Silver Antelope Award for outstanding service at the regional level. Ned has also logged six years of service on the Philmont Camp staff. He is founder of the 3,000 member Philmont Staff Association and served as its first president.



Ned, what are your earliest Scouting recollections?

Well, as of September 2009 – the Gold family Scouting tradition is 90 years old. My father joined Troop 10 in Kansas City, Missouri in September 1919. He spent over 60 years in Scouting. I just hit my own 60 year anniversary on September 1. So my Scouting memories go back even before I was a Scout.

But I remember my first den meeting in September 1949 when I became one of the first eight- year old Cub Scouts in America. I joined Pack 33 at Holy Faith Episcopal Church in Santa Fe, New Mexico (New Mexico being our family ancestral home). I walked into my church parish hall for my first meeting. Mrs. Kinsolving was our den mother. They were not called den leaders then. (Men did not act as den leaders, only females as den mothers.) She was the wife of our minister. Many of my friends were in the den with me including David Hall who is still one of my best friends. I remember we played a game called "Germans in the dark." It was a great game, I loved it. It was one of those games where you turned out the lights and played some sort of a war game. I don't even remember the rules but I remember it was great because we bumped into each other and knocked each other down and usually came out of it with a few injuries.

Some of the other members of the den and the pack (of which my father was Cub Master) were J.C. Von Helms who became a speech writer for the Vice President of the United States, Seth Montgomery who

Alumni Spotlight

Ned C. Gold Jr.

Warren, Ohio



Attorney/Partner in the Mahoning Valley Law Firm of Harrington, Hoppe & Mitchell

eventually became a New Mexico Supreme Court Justice, Charles and John Kinsolving whose mother was den mother – John became an Episcopalian priest and Charles was an engineer.

It seems as though you have been with Troop 101 since its very beginning?

No, but not long after it came into existence. My son Greg was a Cub Scout when the Troop was organized. I remember his picture was on the front page of the Tribune with 101's second Scoutmaster Gary Mansell shortly after the troop was organized; it was taken in the living room of our home for Scout Week. I was involved with 101's predecessor-of-sorts, Troop 11 at Christ Episcopal Church as Assistant Scoutmaster in 1966 just after graduating from law school and just before going into the Air Force; 101 was not yet in existence. When Greg joined 101, I became more active as a member of the Troop committee but I tried to stay mostly in the background (not easy for me to do) because I wanted Greg to have his own Scouting experience unfettered by my prejudices and presence. Hence, I didn't go on all that many outings.

I was quite proud when Greg became the 31st Eagle Scout in Troop 101. That meant every boy born into the Gold family since Scouting began had become an Eagle Scout. Greg was the only one in the third generation. Now we are starting on the fourth generation.

What are your favorite Troop memories?

There are so many great memories but I think my fondest was the Troop's trip to Algonquin Provincial Park in Canada in 1984. It was one of the best adventure trips I have ever had. I remember our rest day. It was a gorgeous beautiful blue summer day. The Scouts were just hanging around having a wonderful time playing in the sun and water. One of the not so pleasant experiences on the trip, but memorable none the less, occurred on a very wet day when we had a number of portages. Greg and I were canoe partners. In fact, I was quite surprised, but happy when

"I was quite proud when Greg became the 31st Eagle Scout in Troop 101"

Greg asked me if I would be his canoe partner. I thought it was because he really wanted to have a father-son bonding experience. As it turns out he knew we were going to have a lot of portages and he didn't want to be the one carrying the canoe (pretty smart!).

There was also one evening that we had a very difficult time finding a good place to camp. We were spread up and down a few hills along the lake. We set up the Troop kitchen on top of a cliff. The pots were on for the dinner. Greg came bounding up on top of the cliff. I was not there at the moment he managed to knock the pot of food over the cliff and into the water. Bingo! There went our supper. The Scouts took bets on the words I would use when I got to the top to find out what had happened. I surprised them all by saying "oh well, so it goes"

or something like that. Despite some of those little issues, that was a great trip.

But I would be remiss if I didn't mention the incredible memories I have of the terrific 101 Scouts I've known and watched progress up the line to become Eagle Scouts and some that didn't quite make it. So many of whom who have gone on to marvelous careers. I almost hate to mention names but a few that come to mind are Greg Martin, who is a professor at Kent State University; Paul Szablowski, an engineer in Mississippi; Joe Callahan who is my nephew and has a job that takes him all over the world serving as liaison between educational institutions and pharmaceutical companies; Greg Rossi, who is still involved with the Troop is in the insurance business; Bill Van Huffel, who lives in Columbus and has three children. There is Eagle Scout number 31, my son Greg, who is a highly successful trial lawyer in Denver and has three children, two girls and a boy; and the list could go on. I have also been tremendously impressed with all of the Eagle projects over the years.

And our Scoutmaster! Jim Potjunas is one of the most dedicated Scouters I have ever met. The Troop is very lucky to have had Jim for so many years. There are not many people in Scouting who have his tenure or his experience as a Scoutmaster. I know it is not always apparent to the Scouts, but the Scoutmaster's job is the most difficult job in Scouting, particularly when you do it the way Jim does. To produce such a consistently quality unit over the years takes incredible dedication. Now, I don't want to make this sound as if Jim and I have always seen eye to eye; he and I have not. We've had some real differences over the years but that can't take away from his excellent abilities as a Scoutmaster.

How has Scouting changed over the years?

Having served at all levels of Scouting, including the national level, I have had the opportunity to see the incredible evolution of Scouting. Some of which has been very good, some of which has not been so good. Most importantly, there have not been changes in the basic philosophies of Scouting. The emphasis on citizenship and morality has not changed one iota! But the pressures to change from outside of the organization have been tremendous. Scouting is forced to spend millions of dollars a year on legal fees defending against people who, frankly, would like to destroy the organi-

zation because of its moral stance.

I think the greatest change I ever saw in Scouting was when females were allowed to become Explorers. I am so pleased that occurred. In our own family, my daughter Marianne became an outstanding Explorer and went on a number of trips with Troop 101. Marianne spent two summers on the staff at Philmont, one summer on the staff of Kanderstag International Scout Camp in the Swiss Alps where there are only two American staff members each year, and then as assistant High Adventure director for a summer for the Western Alaska Council in Anchorage, Alaska where she used her Scouting skills, many of which were derived from Troop 101, to take kids into the rugged back country of Alaska. Marianne now lives in the mountains near Durango, Colorado where, as I write this, she is about to give birth to a little boy who will be in the fourth generation of Golds in Scouting along with Greg's son Warren who had his first Cub Scout meeting last week in Denver.

What are you most proud of in Scouting?

I am most proud of the fact that I have been able to serve for 60 years in the greatest youth organization in the world and I plan to keep on going until I die. To brag a little, I am very proud that I became an Eagle Scout at a very young age, 13 years old, that I earned the Episcopal God and Country Award, became a vigil member of the Order of the Arrow, and earned the Explorer Silver Award. As an adult, I am the recipient of the Silver Beaver Award for outstanding service in the council and the Silver Antelope Award for outstanding service at the regional level.

But I think the Scouting accomplishment of which I am most proud occurred because of my six years of service on the Philmont staff. One summer (46 years ago) I was sitting around a campfire at Philmont and suddenly it hit me that the staff camaraderie, energy and the quality of staff service needed to be harnessed in perpetuity and not simply end as staffers left Philmont. It took me 10 years but I was finally able to found the Philmont Staff Association and serve as its first president. The staff association is now nearly 3,000 strong with members all over the world. Some

of its more illustrious members include former Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld; World Explorer and Aviator, now deceased Steve Fossett; and Wally Berg, the man who has climbed Mount Everest more than any other human. Our service projects are not just at Philmont but even throughout Scouting in the country and they have made a huge difference. When Katrina hit, PSA members went to Mississippi and helped rebuild Scout camps.

Just last summer we dedicated the Silver Sage Staff Activity Center at Philmont, a multi million dollar building honoring those who have received the Silver Sage Award for outstanding service to Scouting and Philmont. I am proud to say that I was the fifth and, at the time, by far the youngest recipient of the award.

What do you do now in Scouting?

I wear many hats. I am on the Greater Western Reserve Executive Board and serve as Vice President and National Council Representative. I serve on the Central Region Committee and the Area Five Committee and am responsible for the Ohio "Report to the Governor Program" for Scouting. I am still quite active with the Philmont Staff Association. At the last National Jamboree (2005), I served as Aide-de-Campe to the Jamboree Director; I will have a similar job at next year's Jamboree, the 100th anniversary.

When people ask you why you are so involved in Scouting, what do you tell them?

It is the greatest youth organization in the world with the finest of ideals and the capability of building strong minds through a wonderful program and, especially, service opportunities.



Algonquin - Canada - 1984



A Troop 101 Tradition Stays Alive

*Jason Paisley
Eagle Scout #59
May 12, 1994*

One of the most significant milestones in Scouting's advancement program is the rank of First Class Scout. As any Troop 101 Scout will tell you, First Class Camp is the first reality-check of all scouting skills.

Back in the day, First Class Camp was a BSA national requirement. However, National dropped the requirement a number of years ago, but the Troop did not. After all, tomorrow's Patrol Leaders, those First Class Scouts, are expected to be proficient in all the basic camping skills. How else can they properly teach their younger patrol members how to camp, cook, build fires and tie knots?

The Camp objective for a team of two scouts is very simple: impress the Leaders with proficiency of camping skills. The hard part lies in executing those skills and passing a thorough inspection during a Troop campout. Planning and practice are the keys to a successful First Class Camp.

Enter the Coach: Jason Paisley. This is the guy the scouts must impress.

ASM Paisley (Eagle Scout #59, 1994) has been overseeing what is affectionately known as "The Dreaded First Class Camp" for more than 8 years.

"Jim (Potjunas) was doing it all by himself and was looking for someone to take over the duties of preparing the scouts,"

said Jason. "I came back as an Assistant Scoutmaster and was spending more and more time with the Troop and Jim asked me if I would like to take over First Class Camp, and I said 'yes,' because I knew it was a natural fit for me. It's a pride thing, a real Troop tradition," said Jason.

Scouts preparing for First Class Camp are instructed to contact Jason and set up appointments to practice fire building, knots and cooking, which they do at Jason's home in Warren. "I have a fire pit dug in the backyard and we do the whole nine yards at my place on Wednesday nights."

Which skill provides the toughest test for the scouts? "Fire building," said Jason, "especially when the weather is wet and they are allowed only two matches to start the fire. That's when it can get very interesting."

Jason said perhaps it's the tradition and grueling reputation of the First Class Camp, but there seems to be a high anxiety level with most of the scouts and a lot of them are on the verge of "crashing" on the first night.

"Whenever I encounter scouts having great difficulty in any given skill area, I try to get them to calm down, review the problem, re-think and repeat the skills they were taught and then they usually get it right," said Jason. "It's kind of like an open book test."

Jason got the nickname "No Tears" because he doesn't want anxiety leading to tears. "Beat back the anxiety and the kids will do well. We try to make them understand that there

is no way we want them to fail," he said. "My job is to coach them to success so they can make First Class."

Jason also gives a lot of credit for the success of the Troop's First Class Camp program to ASM Matt McCracken. "Matt is a huge help," said Jason. "I couldn't do it without Matt. He handles the administrative side of things and I handle program in the field, we make a great team, which serves the program and the boys well."

Recalling his scouting days with the Troop, Jason said he was inspired by Troop 101 Eagle Scout #35, Greg Joseph (6/1989). "I remember seeing Greg, as an adult, come back to the Troop to help out and it served as an inspiration to me. I wanted to do that some day."

"I try to get them to calm down, review the problem, re-think and repeat the skills they were taught"

Jason said his return to the Troop as an adult leader was a way of giving something back to an organization that meant so much to him as a youth.

"You never know," said Jason, "Just as Greg served as an inspiration to me, perhaps I will serve as an inspiration to the scouts I am coaching and one of them will take my place!"

Jason said there is an incredible sense of satisfaction upon seeing his Scouts pass

their First Class Camp. "It makes you feel really good that you are helping build maturity and responsibility in the scouts and teaching them skills that might last them a life time," he said. "Besides, I love backpacking, hiking and camping. So it's a win-win situation for me."



Family Camp - June 2008

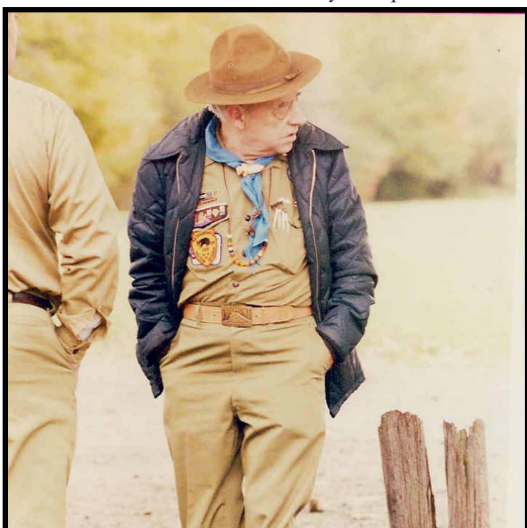
Have you seen all those photos!!!

www.troopphoto.troop101.net

The Troop 101 photo gallery now contains over **30,500** photos from 1975 to the present. Have you seen them?



Family Camp - June 2008



First Scoutmaster Mr. Brown - 1980



Family Camp - June 2008



Summer Camp - July 1993



Beaumont - March 1994



Cook Forrest - May 2000



Algonquin - August 2007

Troop 101 Goes Nuts!

In order to help meet our financial obligations, of which there are many, the Troop continues with two major fund-raisers each year because a good youth program takes money to make it go, more so today than ever before.

So, we are turning to our alumni members to help keep our finances looking good – and get something good in return!

The first fund-raiser of the year is the annual Troop 101 spaghetti dinner every Palm Sunday and then in autumn, our annual Peterson's nut sale.

And here we are!



The troop is ready to take your order for delicious Peterson nut products. If you live local, please e-mail scoutmaster@troop101.net and a scout will contact you with a catalog of this year's selection. Local orders will be taken thru October.

If you live outside the Warren Trumbull County area and would like to order, please go to the alumni site and click the link to order online. Online ordering will be available thru December.

Please help support the boys and the program.

Trivia

1. What Camp did the Troop use for Summer Camp in 1998?
2. When was the first time Troop 101 Camped at Pymatuning?
3. Who was the first Eagle Scout to have been a Senior Patrol Leader?
4. Who was the first Committee Chairman?
5. Who was the First Senior Patrol Leader from September 1975 to January 1977?

Fun Facts

- 1981 was the first August the Troop did not go to Algonquin Canada.
- The Troop currently has more than 50 youth involved in the program.

- Answers
1. Custaloga Town
 2. July 1975
 3. James M. Villareal
 4. Bill Marton
 5. Tom Carney

Scoutmaster's Column



It is early Sunday morning and I have just finished the next issue of the Troop Scoop. It is all online now. We don't mail them out anymore. This is just one of the many things that have changed over the years.

In fact, the last page of the troop newsletter is a list of the advancement requirement changes that will go in effect on January 1st. There will actually be a two new leadership positions – Troop Webmaster and Troop Leave no Trace Trainer.

While we still teach things like map & compass, right alongside it we are introducing the Scouts to GPS technology. You still need to light that First Class campfire with just two matches, but Ohio Blue Tip Strike Anywhere's are getting harder and harder to find.

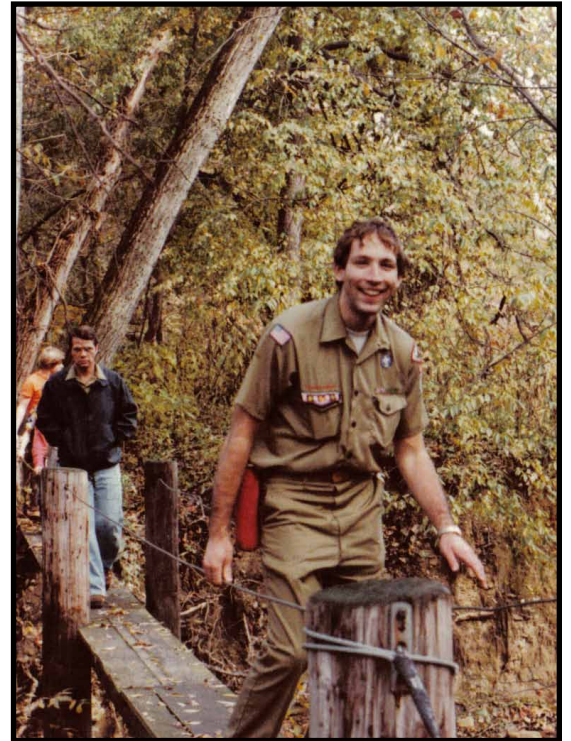
We are in the midst of switching to a new uniform as well. It seems red is out and all green is in. The BSA quit making Voyager Tents this past year and we are now exploring the nylon options. They will be lighter, dry faster, and take up less space. But they will tear easier, and there are more parts to lose.

Still, every year more boys walk through the door. They are wide-eyed with excitement when we put them in a canoe or rappel down a rock ledge. Come October we will backpack over in Western PA. We will trudge along trails in the crisp autumn air while the leaves turn. Our packs and sleeping bags will be hi-tech and the latest in freeze dried food will actually taste good and be so simple to prepare that an

eleven year old can do it. But the very core of what we do will be unchanged. The patrols, the leadership, the critters that will visit to make sure we cleaned up properly, and the kid with the blister will all be there.

The troop ranges between 50 and 60 boys right now. Our 112th Eagle just passed his Board of Review in the last month. We are solidly into our next generation of Scouts. Ken LaPolla and son John crossed over last spring from Pack 101.

Over the summer, and around the holidays, past members regularly drop in for a visit. Scouting turns 100 this next year. The troop turns 35. Life is good.



Manatoc - October 1980

Its Time to Name the Newsletter

Have any ideas? We are looking!

We need a very creative and original name for this alumni newsletter. (Sorry, "Troop Scoop" has already been taken.) Please send us your suggestions as soon as possible. We would like to have the new name in place for our January edition. Send your ideas to EdRByers@aol.com. Please put "Newsletter Name" in the subject line. Thank you and good luck!

“Help us keep the Program Alive for the next Generation” Think about it, YOU can make the difference.

As the year comes to a close, are you seriously looking for that charitable tax deduction? Running a quality organization not only takes a serious dedication of many men and women as leaders and committee members, but also a strong financial support network. Troop 101 has been very fortunate in the many resources that it has been able to assemble in order to run a quality program. It is, however, always a financial challenge to keep up with the ever increasing costs associated with the program.

Here are different ways you can
make a charitable donation in the
name of Troop 101:

Cash Gift

Giving Appreciated Property

Giving and retaining income for life

Giving unneeded life insurance

Memorial Gifts

Wise Tax Planning

Remember: Unlike many other organizations, 100% of your donation goes directly to Troop 101

To make a tax deductible donation, The Troop 101 Alumni Association Inc. is a 501C (3) public charity and is registered with the IRS under ID# 34-1880579. Contributions should be made payable to Troop 101 Alumni Association, Inc. and sent to Troop 101 Alumni Association, c/o Tim Ross, 9618 Cain Dr NE, Warren, Ohio 44484. For automatic payroll deductions, electronic transfers or direct deposit arrangements can be made by Tim Ross at 330.856.6901 or e-mail tross4@neo.rr.com.



Summer Camp - July 2009

Troop Alumni

Upcoming Events

- **Alumni Christmas Gathering**

Our Third Annual Alumni Holiday Gathering will be Sunday, December 27, from 7-10PM at the Clubhouse in the Woods. This adult gathering has been a great opportunity to gather and see what old friends are doing as well as what the troop is up to. Mark your calendars now.

- **Troop 35th Reunion**

The Troop will be celebrating it's 35th Anniversary on Saturday, August 14, 2010. The Celebration will take place during the Annual Family Campout at Pymatuning State Park. Come for Dinner, Come for the day, or camp for the weekend. Stay in a tent, or bring your camper. We are just starting to plan this event. Check the Alumni Website for further details.

Alumni News Issue 01 October 2009



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