

Alumni Association

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From the President "It's time to Celebrate"

Troop 101's 35th Anniversary Event



Tim Ross
President
April 2010

It's not often in today's quickly changing world that very many traditions have the chance to survive; BSA Troop 101 is one of those exceptions. This summer, Troop 101 will celebrate its 35th birthday in grand style. Everyone is invited to join the party and share the memories that make this Troop so special.

Mark your calendars NOW and save the date, Saturday August 14, 2010 at Pymatuning State Park Group Camping Area. This will be in conjunction with the Troop's Family Camp Weekend, so you can come out and camp for the weekend or over night or just join us for Saturday's events and Dinner.

Saturday's events will include a Dutch oven desert bake-off and everyone is welcome to enter. Keep your eyes on the web site for more details. Dinner will be a professional BBQ event. There will be ABT's for appetizers (Don't ask and don't tell) Pulled Pork, Chirico Chickens on the spit, Memphis Style Spare Ribs and all the side-fixings to fill up the hungriest scouts.

Everyone is invited, so bring your whole family!

I am sure you remember your time with the Troop, whether you were a supporting parent or grandparent, a scout or one of the many volunteers. Show the next generation what you did as a youth and have fun together. We will have swimming, canoeing, sailing and fishing

off the pontoon boat on Saturday. We will be taking group photos just before Saturday's 6 PM dinner. Make sure to plan on staying for campfire and vespers.

Please mark this date on your calendar and plan on joining us to make this the best reunion ever. You will need to RSVP by August 1, 2010 at the Troop 101 Alumni web site.

<http://troop101.net/alumni/>

Event cost: Camping for the weekend including food, youth under 14 and registered scouts and leaders: \$10.00, non-registered 14 and up: \$15.00, Saturday Dinner Only: 14 and under \$10.00, over 14: \$15.00.

For additional information see the alumni Web site or contact: Tim Ross, 330.856.6901 or Tross4@neo.rr.com

We hope to see you there and, if you see a fellow scout, spread the word.



Tim and Son Chris Bake Pie at 30th Reunion

Trivia

1. What year did Camp Chickagami open?
2. This Natural Phenomenon caused much damage to the C.O.P.E. Course at Chickagami om 1994?
3. How old is the Troop This year?
4. Which Eagle Scout Made the Maps we use for Oakwood Cemetery?
5. What year did the Scouts participate in a Scouting Event at the Eastwood Mall?

Fun Facts

The Troop Website has been visited over 79,500 times since.

Troop 101 will be running 3 events at the 2010 Expo celebrating 100 years of Scouting.

1. 1941
 2. Tomado
 3. 35
 4. Jim Villareal
 5. 1979
- Answers**



Alumni Spotlight

Dr. James Villareal

Salt Lake City, Utah

Troop 101 Eagle Scout #2 March 3, 1980



It's a long way from Warren, Ohio to Salt Lake City, Utah. Tell us what you've been up to. You obviously have done quite well for yourself.

After leaving Warren I attended The University of Notre Dame and The Ohio State University for college and medical school. I specialized in Emergency Medicine. I have been in practice here since 1994.

I am blessed with an incredible wife, Catherine, who I met at Notre Dame. We have 3 kids, 2 girls and a boy, and a dog. My kids each have chosen a different activity on which to focus-volleyball, ballet, and dangerous experiments. They definitely keep Catherine and me on the go.

You left the Warren area for college and didn't look back, plowing head-on and pursuing a very successful medical career. How did Scouting and becoming an Eagle Scout prepare you for education and career?

Scouting definitely helped me prepare for a medical career. I was very proud to earn my Eagle Scout and to be a member of Troop 101. It was not all easy or fun, but there were goals throughout my years with Troop 101 that I wanted to achieve. Emergency Medicine is not always easy or fun, either. But, I do enjoy the challenge of caring for everyone who presents to our doors. Medical emergencies, trauma, psychiatric issues...we deal with it all. Scouting taught me to adapt, to be flexible, and to lead with a caring heart.

You are spoken of very highly by veteran Scouters and described as an awesome Scout in your day with Troop 101. Sounds as though you made quite a name for yourself.

I was very lucky to join such an active troop. I had incredible fun and met some great people. When I look back, I realize how important it was for the adult leaders, like Jim Potjunas, to foster an environment where I could learn, explore, and make mistakes. I remember one Algonquin trip where everything seemed to go wrong. It rained, the fire died, the meat was raw. I broke down. The rest of the week could have been disastrous. Jim Potjunas was a great support and leader. He didn't let me wallow. I remember feeling bad

about failing in that situation. But, I also knew that I would be given many more opportunities to succeed.

I don't know if being named "Mr. Clean" is something to be proud of, but I definitely earned that title when I made an iron out of my mess kit and some hot rocks. I think I claimed to be the only one to have a freshly pressed uniform during our Canadian canoe trip. I got the idea from an episode of "Gilligan's Island". How embarrassing!

Your Eagle Project has certainly stood the test of time and lives on in the Troop to this day, having researched and documented veterans' gravesites in Pioneer Cemetery and the old section of Oakwood Cemetery. You made the maps and listings of all veterans so that flags could be placed on the graves on Memorial Day. How did you come up with the idea and carry it out?

I'll never forget walking the cemetery with Mr. Brown. I thought it was cool to be able to touch a memorial that dated back to the Civil War and earlier. He impressed me with his passion for preserving the cemetery. But, I also remember working with fresh ink at a drafting table and smearing a section of the map I had just finished. Or, typing on an ol' fashioned typewriter and making a mistake at the end of the page of veterans' names and having to retype the whole page. It was before the age of computers! The best part was seeing my map and list of veterans' names being used to locate gravesites on Memorial Day.



Jim, right. Catherine, left and children

You also aspired to be the top Scout in the

nation to give the annual report to then President Carter? How did that all come about?

Honestly, I don't remember. I remember the weekend I spent in Chicago with the 5 other Scouts who were competing for the honor. It was a whirlwind of activity and interviews. It's funny. This past fall, my sister sent me President Carter's itinerary from when he visited Youngstown (1976?). My name is listed as having shook his hand and welcoming him at the airport. As an adult, I wish I could go back and bookmark the times in my life growing up that were something special and never to be forgotten.

Looking back, what are your earliest and fondest Troop 101 memories? The Troop was fairly young then.

There is no doubt that my fondest memories center around camping and being outdoors. I remember my first camping trip...November, frozen ground and mud, cold food, the smell of campfire smoke in everything. My parents thought I would at least hate camping if not die from it. Camping remains one of my greatest pleasures. As adults, we often try to hang onto some of our child-like behaviors. Camping definitely brings out the kid in me. Ask my kids about that!

Philmont was an incredible experience for you, right?

Definitely. My most powerful memories come from my "high country adventures" I suffered as a camper at Philmont in New Mexico. Jim Potjunas will tell you how he almost had to make the difficult decision of pulling me off the trail when I was suffering from heat exhaustion. But my most sublime time was going back to Philmont as a ranger and watching sunrise from the top of Baldy Mtn.

I also cherish my memories of working as a counselor at old Camp Chickagami. That summer's staff was incredibly fun to



work with. Ken LaPolla and I would serve up meals in the kitchen threatening to call kids parents if they didn't take a scoop of vegetables on their plate.

Surely there were guys in the Troop and Leaders who made an impact on your life as a Scout? Who inspired you?

I'll never forget some of the friendships that I made in Scouting. Henry Crouse talked me into coming to my first meeting. The LaPolla's were a great group of brothers to be around. Hillman, Carney, Grubb, Kostolanski. All these names seem so familiar still. A year ago we were visiting my parents for Christmas and I ran into Ken LaPolla. We only talked for a minute, but it was great seeing him and remembering.

The adult leaders were incredible. Jim Potjunas always had his home open to us. He was a friend during good and bad times. He pushed me to reach my potential. Mr. Brown was great. His knowledge of trees and birds amazed me. I admired his desire to camp with us even as his health waned. I still remember his camper van. I felt special when he would let me sit under his awning and work with him on a merit badge.

If you could, please tell us how you feel about the Scouting program and what it gave you.

I learned so much from being a Scout. I learned about myself. I learned about the outdoors. I learned so many skills that I still use to this day. I am sure I could have learned a lot of life's lessons even if I were never a Scout, but Scouting put it all in the context of the outdoors. Scouting is what made me realize how much I wanted to be in the mountains. Utah is a great place to live. I am glad my kids can grow up in this beauty. We camp. We ski. We hike.

My 11-year-old son joined Scouts this year. I don't know what his experience will be in the big picture. But it sure is a hoot for me to watch him and remember my years as a Scout!



ELKS 295 BOY SCOUT IS TOP 6 IN U.S.

JIM VILLAREAL — AGE 16

In April Jim's name was submitted as the Council Applicant for Top Scout in the Country. Notification came in September that Jim was selected by East-Central Region over 72 other Councils. As one in 6,000, Jim was one of 6 boys in the country to compete for Top Scout in the Country. The winner, a boy from Texas, will meet the President in February and address Congress as required for renewal of the B.S.A. National Charter.

Jim's History: Eagle Scout, over 150 days and nights of camping, including 3 ten-day canoe trips in Canada and a trip to the National Scout Ranch in New Mexico. Jim has over 150 hours of service projects (several hours for the Elks), he holds the Vigil Honor in the Order of the Arrow — Scouting's highest position in its Society of Honor Campers. He has earned the Ad Altare Dei and Pope Pius XII Catholic Youth Religious Awards, and has served as Librarian, Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Senior Patrol Leader, and is currently a Junior Assistant Scoutmaster with the Elk's Troop 101.

Congratulations, Jim, and Warren Lodge 295 is very proud of you and Troop 101.



Clips taken from Troop 101 Scrapbook 1975 - 1982



Troop 101 Spaghetti Dinner

Troop 101's Thirty-second Spaghetti Dinner - March 28, 2010

By Bob Staab

Troop 101 held its 32nd annual Spaghetti Dinner on Palm Sunday, March 29. As you may recall, this is the Troop's primary fund-raiser, which allows scouts to avoid paying an annual fee by selling dinner tickets. The proceeds from the dinner, as well as personal donations, are the monies that support the Troop's monthly camping, vehicles and gear.

This year's dinner planning was again led by Amy Lamer, who was supported by the Eagles Wings team including Loretta Puet, Dr. Amy Young and Rose Fenstermaker. Having led this dinner for three years, I have a true appreciation of Amy's efforts and contribution of her time. It is a true planning challenge. Many, many thanks to Amy for orchestrating this fund-raiser.

All of the Troop 101 family donated time and baked goods to make the dinner a great success. The kitchen crew was particularly challenged by the large number of dinners, and had to supplement the Elks stove with two of the Troop's propane rocket stoves. We would also like to thank the Nicholson Center for allowing us to use the space that they are leasing at the Elks.

The boys sold a total of 897 tickets this year including door sales, only five short of our record. We served 639 dine-in meals and 258 takeout dinners.

A dozen raffle baskets were also prepared for the dinner. Barb Rosenblum donated a handmade Troop 101 quilt for a raffle basket and a TV set was another popular raffle item. Eagles

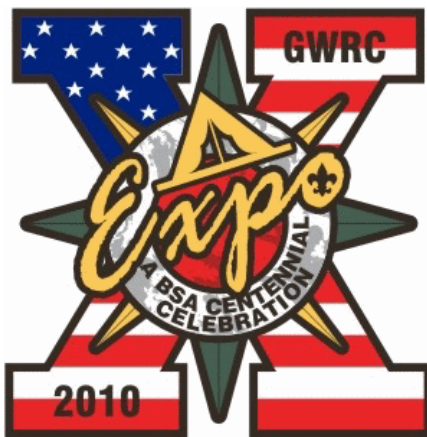
Wings sold over \$2000 worth of tickets during the dinner.

Eagles Wings uses the proceeds from the basket raffle to fund our refreshments for Courts of Honor, Summer Camp dinner for the families, the Halloween party and supporting the troop with replacing worn-out equipment.

The troop appreciates the support of the Alumni for the dinner, and we look forward to bigger and better in the future.



Tina Hanson, Brian Stirling, Paul Kuszmaul, Alex Savakis



EXPO 2010

*Troop 101 and The Greater Western Reserve Council
Are Ready to Celebrate 100 Years of Scouting
April 30 – May 2, 2010*

Troop 101 is getting set to join in EXPOX, a weekend celebration of The Boy Scouts of America and a showcase of Scouting ideals, traditions and values on Friday, April 30 through Sunday, May 2, 2010.

An Exposition Showcase will consist of several theme areas for scouts and the public to test their skills, learn about new things, challenge a friend, be entertained and gather valuable community information.

The Adventure Action Area will include a climbing wall, obstacle course, and archery.

The Midway Walk will host several areas along one stretch of the fairgrounds, including the 'Our Town' area. Based on many of the BSA's merit badges and advancement programs, this area will incorporate many of the everyday skills that all scouts (and families) can learn from. Some exciting demonstrations include Life Flight, Firefighting, Hot air balloon flight, skydiver jump, and more.

The Scouting Showcase in Action area will consist of booths upon booths of fun and surprises.

The Lets Go Racin' Track area is designed for anyone to race an old or new pinewood derby car. Open races will be held during the day... for fun and for prizes. For a minimal fee, anyone wishing to build a car and race that day can do it in our pit area.

The Sports Action Area will provide more exercise for guests. The area will conduct basketball free-throw tournaments, a three-on-three hoop-it-up tournament, soccer challenges, baseball speed tests, a golf chipping contest and a 3K Run/Walk. Keep an eye out for a celebrity or two! Being a good sport will be the message!

Scouting EXPOX will be held at the Geauga County Fairgrounds in Burton, Ohio. There will be plenty of parking, electricity, water, secure camping area, covered facilities, staff building, stage and grandstands.

Troop 101 will join Scouts from across the Greater Western Reserve Council and other councils from Ohio, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and possibly other states for a weekend of camping and activities. There will be something for the whole family to enjoy.

Thousands of people are expected to participate one way or another throughout the course of the weekend.

All scouts, leaders, parents, family and friends in Trumbull, Mahoning, Cuyahoga, Lorain, Summit, Portage, Lake, Geauga and Ashtabula counties, as well as council neighbors, will be invited.

A Look at the Pack

Pack 101's "Rockcreek 2010" Olympics at Camp Beaumont in February. The Cub Scouts had a great time along with Medal presentations. As you can see - Pack 101 is alive and well – and having fun!



Mike McClearn - Eagle Scout #112

Another Troop 101 Eagle Scout

Troop 101 celebrated yet another Eagle Scout January 30th at Blessed Sacrament Church in Warren, Ohio. This time the celebration was for Michael McClearn, Troop 101 Eagle Scout #112. The traditional ceremony was held in the gathering space at Blessed Sacrament Church. This was a new location for a Troop 101 Eagle Court, and it worked out well. The Eagle Court was well attended by Michael's family, friends, Troop 101 families and fellow Howland football players. The color guard was led by soon to be Eagle Scout younger brother Christopher, and Eagle Scouts Greg Staab and Kenny Young. Escort was Ben Gump, Troop 101 Eagle Scout #108.

Blessed Sacrament's Father Donald King led the invocation and benediction. Bob Staab served as Master of Ceremonies, as we heard readings from a cast of characters, which included Dave "Mugless" Young, Alex "Can't do enough dutch-oven baking" Savakis, Andy "I Love abusing Len" McCracken, and Jason "No tears" Paisley. After we survived the readings, Scoutmaster Jim Potjunas presented the awards with the support of Senior Patrol Leader Michael Fenstermaker. Michael then addressed the audience and expressed his appreciation of all the support he had been provided over the years to achieve the distinction of Eagle Scout. The court was followed by a nice slideshow of Michael's childhood and Scouting years, and then refreshments that were provided by the fine folks at Eagle Wings.

**Former Committee Chairman
Bob Staab**



Scoutmaster's Column



Jim Potjunas
Scoutmaster

Last fall on the way to Cleveland, Sandy and I stopped by what is now Chickagami Park. Pack 101 was camping there for the weekend. It was a beautiful weekend and there was a parade field full of kids having fun.

Camp Chickagami officially closed in 2007 as the Geauga Parks District took it over and converted it into a park. The troop will hold its March campout there with an old favorite program of starting out at Nelson Ledges, backpacking in and camping, then walking into Parkman on Sunday morning for pancakes.

It is amazing to see the difference a few years make. I left Chickagami that fall day remembering all the camps and kids and fun we had. When I announced the March campout, some troop members asked if it was a new camping place and I will have to post a map so they can find it. I was watching a lot of history slip away right in front of me.

So over the Christmas holidays I got with our own very talented Matt McCracken and we are thrilled to announce a new "Virtual Museum" at www.chickagami.net. This is supposed to be a living growing project that everyone can participate in.

Much of the history that is already up there came from the work Bill Marton did during his final years as Council Historian. Gregg Hillman continues to help us by scanning and photographing documents, patches, and all sorts of stuff we can add to the collection. We are about 20% through just the stuff I have from Mr. Brown, Bill Marton, myself, etc.

Many of you camped there, many worked on staff, many of you helped maintain the camp through your service in the Order of the Arrow. So we invite you all to take a tour through the new 'museum', send us pictures, help us fill in the summer camp staff roster, and by all means, sign the guest book and leave a comment about your favorite memory of the camp. While you are there take a look at the pictures we posted of Chickagami Today. We will add to that in the coming months as we visit. We have also added a link on the Troop Alumni site. We hope to build some new memories as we camp there and preserve more than half a century of old ones.



<http://www.chickagami.net>



Have you seen all those photos!!!

www.troopphoto.troop101.net

The Troop 101 photo gallery now contains over **33,500** photos from 1975 to the present. As well as a new video section with Patrol Movies and Slideshows. Have you seen them?



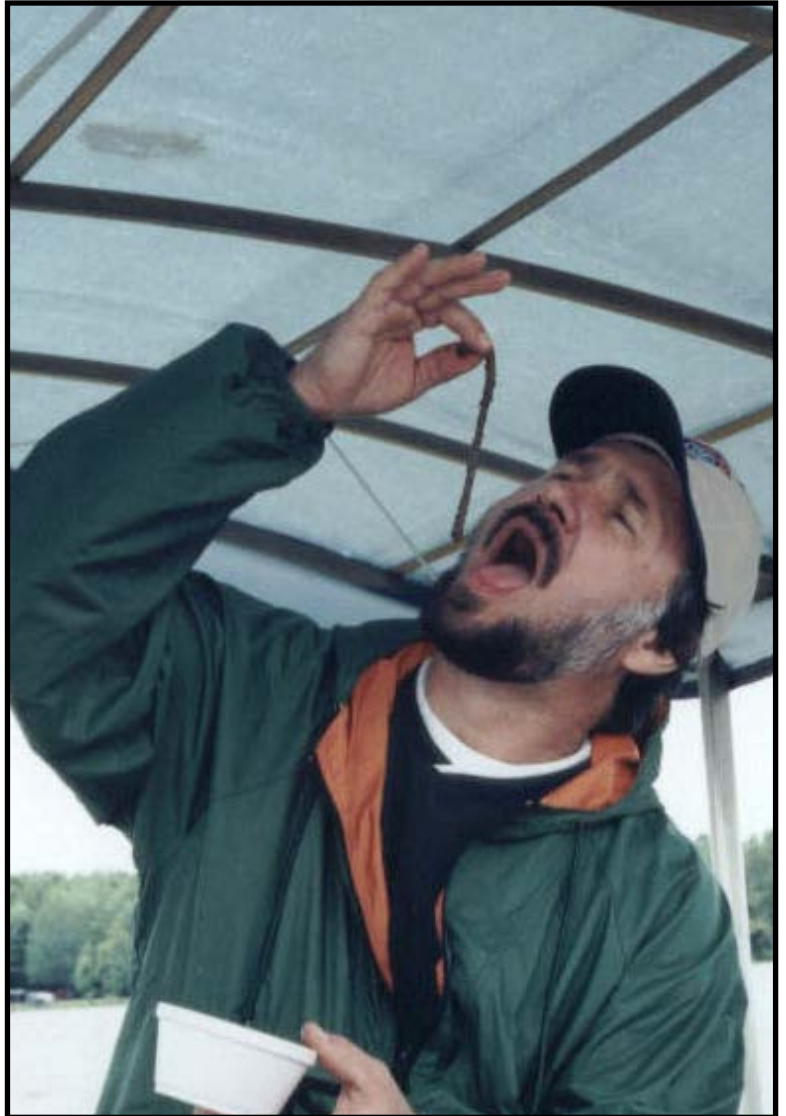
Moraine - June 1998



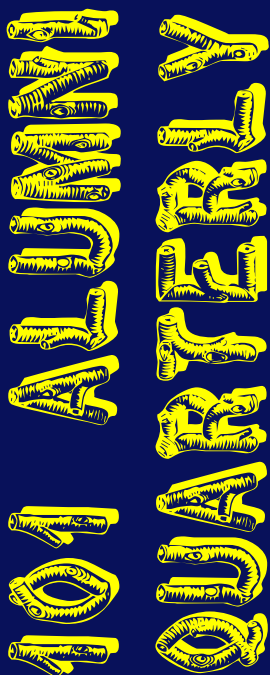
Seven Ranges - November 1992



Beaumont - November 2004



Family Camp - Pymatuning - June 2002



Upcoming Events

• 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 week-end. Stay in a tent, or bring your camper. We are just starting to plan this event. Check the Alumni Website for further details.

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

