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101 ALUMNI QUARTERLY

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From the President "Happy Fourth of July"

Tim Ross
President

July 2010

Let us all take time to say 'thank you' to those who are serving to keep this great nation free, including two of our very own featured in this issue.

You are going to read about two fine Troop 101 alumni, Joe Sabat Jr. and Steve Wisniewski, Eagle Scouts #92 and #83. Both Joe and Mike are not only serving their country proudly, but also serving as excellent role models for all of our younger Scouts. As you read their stories, let's keep them and our Troops everywhere in our thoughts and prayers as we celebrate our country's freedom. To Joe, Mike and all other Troop 101 Eagles serving their country, thank you!

Aside from July 4th, this truly is a summer of celebration for Troop 101. This year marks our 35th anniversary and we have a great reunion planned for August. It is a chance for you to enjoy some great food, campfire fun, see some old familiar faces and have a chance to re-live your Scouting past with us.

We are going all out for this special August weekend, so you will not want to miss this.

Every year we hold our annual Family Campout where parents and relatives are invited to come camp or visit for the day and see how your scout does on a typical campout. This year is no exception, but we are adding to the fun since it is our 35th!

We are planning a huge BBQ for Saturday, August 14th and we are inviting all former Scouts, leaders and family members to come out. You can join us for dinner, or the day, or for the entire weekend, which begins Friday evening August 13th and ends Sunday morning the 15th. This is going to be fun for everyone and a great way to meet the different generations that have passed through Troop 101.

I urge you to sign up now, simply by clicking on the 35th reunion banner at the bottom of this page. Or Just go to the Troop 101 Alumni section, http://www.troop101.net/alumni/ and click on the RSVP link. While you're there sign up in the secure Alumni section if you haven't already

Adults can stay the entire weekend for $15, but if you are planning on attending just the Saturday night bash, it is only 10 dollars for adults (Yes, I will be cooking for you!) children 14 and under can join you for only $5 each.

You cannot beat a great time like this! Go to the Web site and register now! We need to have an idea how many are attending so we can provide an adequate amount of food for everyone to enjoy.

You can bet we'll have a lot of fun! I am looking forward to seeing a lot of familiar faces. I'll be easy to find. I'll be the guy wearing that Chef's hat.

-Tim

Second Lieutenant Joe Sabat:

a 2004 graduate of Howland High School and 2008 graduate of the US Air Force Academy, graduated from the Air Force Institute of Technology in Dayton, OH with a Master of Science in Aeronautical Engineering. During the 18 month program at AFIT, Joe completed studies in computational fluid dynamics and advanced structural analysis. Joe has reported for a duty assignment as a developmental engineer at the Air Force Research Laboratories on Eglin AFB in Fort Walton Beach, FL. He will be assigned to the flight vehicles integration branch there and will help in the development of new micro air vehicles for the Air Force.

Joe is the son of Joseph and Debbie Sabat.

Alumni Spotlight

Joe Sabat

Eglin AFB, Fort Walton, Florida

Troop 101 Eagle Scout #92 October 16, 2003

"I am always thinking to myself that I should write you an email and keep in touch more often, so I finally sat down and did it."

– Joe Sabat Jr. to Jim Potjunas, April 2010

It had been quite a while since Jim Potjunas had heard from Joe Sabat Jr. (Eagle Scout #92, 2003) a U.S. Air Force Academy graduate stationed at Elgin AFB, Florida. Having just completed his Master's degree, Joe is on a fast track with the USAF and enjoying life.

"***So I am now living in Florida. It's not such a bad gig. I was always a sucker for the colder weather, but it has been upper 70s and sunny here for the last month. I can definitely get used to that, but I am not excited for the summers down here. I will be cranking the air conditioning or floating in the gulf when I am not at work, ha-ha. My job seems really cool so far… I feel really lucky to have landed here.***"

All it took for Joe to sit down and fire off his email to Jim was spending an evening watching the Troop videos and movies that Matt McCracken recently added to the Troop's Website.

"It is amazing how fast you forget things from not even ten years ago and it was great to see the old Skunk-Buster videos and all," said Joe. ***"Matt has really done a great job with setting up the site!"***

The videos provided Joe perspective.

"It got me to thinking that, although I have a lot of cool things that I am doing right now, being with Troop 101 was seriously one of the most exciting and rewarding things I have ever done," said Joe. ***"It still makes me feel so glad that I did it even though scouting was not the 'cool' thing to do or whatever."***

Joe admits he came very close to quitting many times.

"Especially when I had to do First Class Camp by myself, but I've always been able to take myself to a happy place and just take a step back and take a deep breath of the fresh night air. It really takes you back to the roots of why you love camping and that was my overall motivation," said Joe.

"I'm glad I had enough sense to do what made me happy and I really think that it helped to shape me into who I am and where I have gotten."

"I vividly recall those long hikes around the base, but I would have run the entire 13 mile loop"

The Troop campouts at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base near Dayton were always Joe's favorite.

"I loved seeing the jets fly over, even though I think I was born with a love for aviation and powerful technology, so it was one of those things I would always look forward to when the trip to Wright-Patt was planned two years in advance," said Joe.

"I vividly recall those long hikes around the base, but I would have run the entire 13 mile loop around the flight-line if I had to!"

How does Scouting tie-in with what Joe is doing today?

"It is amazing all the skills I still use from Scouting," said Joe.

"I just finished basic officer training in Alabama where they taught us how to use a map and compass and evade capture if behind enemy lines."

He said some of the same stuff they teach in official military classes he had already learned 10 years ago as a Scout!

"The lessons of service and integrity were also great starts for my military career," Joe said.

Was there any particular Scout skill that gave him an edge over his classmates at the Air Force Academy?

"The Academy is a training lab for Air Force leaders. There is no better primer for peer leadership than Boy Scouts. Period," said Joe.

"Learning to delegate tasks, lead by motivation and communicate effectively were just a few tasks I had a huge head start on. Every kid does these things in their lives, but Scouts taught me to think about why I was doing certain things and to make a plan before I spoke or acted which put me miles above most peers."

Joe said these were skills learned on campouts and summer camps at places such as Custalogatown, Nelson Ledges, Cook Forest and Algonquin Provincial Park, Canada.

"I still think the Algonquin

Summer Camp - July 2001

high-adventure canoe trip ranks up there with any other vacation I have ever done. Seeing the fog over that glass-still lake in the morning was really cool."

He also remembers a role as Patrol prankster. Joe and fellow Great-Horned Owl Patrol member Jeff Copp were always armed with bottles of hot sauce. The hotter – the better! Unbeknownst to the fellow Patrol members, Joe and Jeff would find a way to adding a pungent spark to almost every meal they cooked – even breakfast – and other Patrol member's milk (when they weren't looking).

"On one particular campout at Beaumont, I remember Jeff had this bottle of really spicy hotsauce, something ridiculous like 'Satan's Revenge,'" said Joe.

"We would put it all over those dutch-oven creations because you had to eat that stuff and the hot sauce would make your mouth numb enough that the charred food would always taste better. It was a staple for the Owl Patrol!"

It seems the hot sauce, somehow, always found its way into fellow Owl Patrol member Joey Rosenblum's drinks.

"After a while we started to feel badly for him, but it was like stealing candy from a baby. No matter how many times we did it, he never saw it coming. He always took a giant swig just before jumping up and down, dancing all around, and cursing from the burn."

"When I tell them I slept in a tent in minus 7 degrees, with a wind-chill factor of minus 20, they shut up really fast!"

You have to wonder if Florida's steamy climate will ever make Joe homesick for that brutally cold Voyager tent on those bone-chilling Chickagami Boy Scout Winter Events?

"I'll tell you what," laughs Joe, ***"I tell those stories to people who complain about the 'wet cold' when its 45 degrees here Florida in the winters. When I tell them I slept in a tent in minus 7 degrees, with a wind-chill factor of minus 20, they shut up really fast!"***

WWII Camping Trip - March 2002

Joe said the weather extremes he encountered in Scouting taught him mental-toughness vital to his Air Force job.

"When its 95 degrees and I am sweating on the test ranges, the thought of me and my patrol sitting around a snowy campfire or crunching through the snowy woods at Chickagami always makes me feel at home," said Joe, ***"And that particular feeling of comfort and home goes along with my whole experience of Scouting and I would never trade it for anything."***

For Joe, life is good. He is excited about the possibility of buying his first house and getting started in his first Air Force tour of duty in Florida.

"I think I will really enjoy my time down here. Now, I just need to find a way to save up for a jet-ski so I can still be a boy at heart!"

Bike Trip - August 2000

Troop 101's Flag Flies in Combat Over the Skies of Iraq

23 April 2010

Captain Steve Wisniewski (Eagle Scout #83) is flying Longbow Attack helicopters in Iraq.

While home on leave last Christmas, Steve took the Troop 101 flag and returning to Iraq, took it into combat. The flag was flown during a combat mission on April 23, 2010 in the skies over Iraq's Ninewah Province with Steve at the controls of a Longbow Attack Helicopter.

Steve, on the right, poses with fellow Troops and the flags in photos embedded in certificates commemorating this historic event for Troop 101.

According to Scoutmaster Jim Potjunas, "This is the first trip for our Flag to a war zone, if you don't count a few of those early troop meetings."

You will be reading more about Steve in an upcoming issue of the 101 Alumni Quarterly.

Certificate Presented to the Troop - June 2010

Skunkbusters III

Click image to play video

Find More Patrol Movies in the Troop Gallery:

http://troopphoto.troop101.net

Troop 101 Memories Kept Alive in Photo and Video Archive

Matt McCracken (Eagle Scout #93 - October, 2003) does a terrific job of laying out each and every edition of the Troop Alumni Quarterly and has recently done an equally terrific job of posting Troop videos to the Troop photo gallery site. Once you land on the site, be prepared to spend a lot of time because there is so much to see. Matt recently took a few moments to discuss his ambitious project with The Alumni Quarterly.

It is quite apparent the new addition of Troop videos to the gallery is very popular. Have you been getting a lot of feedback – and if so what are you hearing from people about this?

The current gallery features more than 34,420 video and image files. All together these files have been viewed more than 187,689 times. Users are free to comment on the photos and videos, but to reduce Spam posts they must register for an account.

Ever since I added the videos to the photo gallery, I have been trying to inform people about the new section. Although a good number of people have found the videos, I haven't personally received much feedback. A couple of people have mentioned how much they enjoyed seeing the new videos on Facebook though.

What seems to be the most-viewed or most popular Troop videos?

The most viewed videos are the ones made with JibJab for both the 2007 and 2010 Patrol Movies. Most of the Scouts who are currently in the Troop have been watching their movies online again and again, so it shows the 2010 videos being the most viewed. Some of the classics such as, "Skunkbusters III" and the Beaver Patrols video from 2002, nicknamed "Doritos" are both also highly viewed.

This must have taken hours of your time and a lot of work to get all of these videos up on the site?

Several years ago, Jim Potjunas and I got together and converted all the VHS tapes that he had and burned them to DVD. These tapes included a lot of the patrol movies. Using these DVD's I was able to extract the videos back to my computer to put them online.

I cannot remember just how many hours that I put into this project, but I know after two or three days of work, the code was successful and the videos played. Converting all of the videos took about seven hours.

Are there any videos you do not have that you are still looking for?

I'm sure there are many videos that I do not have. Although I would like to proactively find the remaining videos, I do not even know if they still exist. If these videos do exist out there I would love to get them and convert them to work on the troop site.

Same with the photos. What would you say are the hard to find pictures?

I would love to get some more photos from 2000 to 2004. There aren't many photos from back then, and it would be great to get some more online.

If someone has something, which they think you would like, how do they get a hold of you?

They could e-mail me for more information, mrmatt2@gmail.com. I can convert DVD's and VHS files to work on the site, and photos can be e-mailed or sent to me for scanning. If there are 35 mm slides we would need to keep a record to see how many we can find. If we get enough we could rent a scanner for this, or buy one if needed.

Trivia

1. How Many Eagle Scouts from Troop 101 attended the last Reunion?

2. What celebration occured during the 30th Reunion?

3. Who was the feature of the last Newsletter?

4. Where was the World War II Campout Held?

5. When did our Feature from the last Newsletter serve as SPL?

Fun Facts

The 35th Reunion will be held at Family Camp in August.

There have been 15 Committee chairmen since 1975.

Answers

1. 34
2. Eagle Scout 101 Court
3. Dr. James Villareal
4. McKinley
5. 9/1/1979 - 9/30/1980

Scoutmaster's Column

Jim Potjunas
Scoutmaster

April, May and more….

The Council's Expo was held in April to celebrate Scouting's 100th anniversary and it threatened to rain the whole time. The event was grander than most anything the Council has ever done, fireworks and all. The rain held off until Sunday morning.

Our May campout included a 10-mile hike in Mill Creek Park. It poured down rain all day Saturday both on the hike and back at camp. I don't think the kids even remember when we did the trail a few years back and the weather was perfect, but they sure talk about the storms and the mud on this one.

We just bought a couple of used aluminum canoes and another is being donated. We salvaged the old Catamaran Trailer and a few of the guys are turning it into a combo bike and canoe trailer. June's campout was a trip to Ohiopyle with that new trailer. We biked, whitewater canoed, and whitewater rafted.

July finds most, if not all, of our Scouts arriving at summer camp. With school out, and in between sports practices, vacations, and summer jobs, kids will go into "Scout mode".

Thoughts of Winter Camping have been left behind and now it's all about sunscreen and poison ivy. There are three Eagle Projects going on this summer and a fourth about to start. Yet one other Scout lost track of time and now he can't make it before that magic age of 18.

Meanwhile, we try to tell the boys how significant it is to be a Scout during the 100th anniversary of the BSA, but they don't really get it. Some are working on the historic merit badges that were brought back just for this year. Many will receive a rank patch with the special centennial designation and our Troop Instructor is trying diligently to interest Scouts into earning the special BSA Centennial Award. Yet, it looks like only a few will. I guess that's why it will become such a collectible in the years to come.

Just one of our Scouts will attend the National Jamboree this summer. Most of the boys will show up in August at the Family Campout / reunion, not because it's a milestone or anything, just because it's fun. So I guess it's ok that they don't really get it when it comes to the historical significance of this year.

They will, however, come back from these trips a little older, a bit more confident, a bit more enthused and prepared. They will have had fun and a great summer. Maybe they "get it" a whole lot more than I do.

- Jim

Two of our Whitewater Rafts at Ohiopyle - June 2010

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?
New to the gallery, check out some old Patrol Movies and Slideshows!

Reunion Fun - May 2005

Reunion Scrapbooks - May 2005

Reunion Eagle Scouts - May 2005

101 ALUMNI QUARTERLY

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 weekend. Stay in a tent, or bring your camper.

Anniversary Reunion Picnic / BBQ

August 13-15, 2010 Weekend cost is $10 for Scouts & family members
14 & under Adult cost is $15

Picnic / BBQ Only
Adults $10, Children 14 & under $5

Please Send Money in when you RSVP, Send Checks to
Tim Ross, 9618 Cain Dr NE, Warren, Ohio 44484

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