

Alumni Association

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"An Alumni Association Milestone – and More"



Tim Ross
President

October 2010

Happy Birthday to us. The Troop 101 Alumni Association is 20 years young this year. Thanks to everyone who helps make it happen.

We had a great 35th reunion at Family Camp this year. The look on Jim's face was priceless as we presented him that new canoe to celebrate his 30th year as our Scoutmaster. The gift, of course, was made possible through your generosity and I want to personally say 'thank you' to everyone who contributed.

Speaking of your generosity, here is something to ponder as we enter the last quarter of 2010. Perhaps you are looking for that charitable tax deduction? Let us, help you, help us.

There are a number of ways you can make a charitable donation in the name of Troop 101. There are cash gifts, gifts of appreciated property, giving and retaining income for life, unneeded life insurance, or simply donations as memorial gifts. All of these suggestions can help you make wise tax planning decisions at year's end. Remember: Unlike many other organizations, 100 percent of your donation goes directly to Troop 101.

How do you do this? Making a charitable tax deductible donation to the Troop is very simple. 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. Just call me

at 330-856-6901 or e-mail tross4@neo.rr.com).

The Troop 101 Alumni Association Inc. is a 501C (3) public charity and is registered with the IRS under ID# 34-1880579.

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.

I want to thank you for considering a donation. For those of you who have had an active role in running this troop for the past 35 years, you certainly know what it takes to make this program tick.

If a donation is out of the question this year, may I suggest you support the Troop as we hold our second fundraiser of the year – the annual Troop 101 Peterson Nut Sale. There are details on how you can place your orders online in this edition.

Thanks for all you do for our boys!

-Tim

20th
ANNIVERSARY
1990 - 2010

The Jerry Stephens File:

Jerome Kenneth Stephens

Born: March 1, 1931, Warren Ohio to Verona Olive and Franklin Edward (Hank) Stephens.

Moved to Parma, Ohio in 1939.

Education: Parma Henry J. Schaaf High School. '49.

College: Miami University, Oxford, Ohio. '55.

Moved back to Warren in 1957.

Western Reserve University Graduate School of Library Science, '63. University of Akron Graduate School of Geography and Planning. Graduated in December, '06. Married: Lois Mae Schultheis of West View (Pittsburgh) Pa., November 2, 1957.

Widowed July 19, 1997.

Children. Michael Kenneth (Mike) Stephens and Donald Edwin Stephens.

Favorite quote: "The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched. They must be felt with the heart." - Helen Keller



By Ed Byers Sr., ASM.

I tried not to stare at him. At least, I tried not to let him know I was staring at him. But I couldn't help it.

He seemed out of place here. With horn-rimmed glasses, rounded shoulders and knobby knees, the elderly man slowly strapped on his backpack as the Troop gathered at the trailhead of the rugged Rimrock-Morrison Trail in northwest Pennsylvania's Allegheny National Forest.

As I watched him fidgeting with the pockets of his backpack, I wondered at what point along the trail we would be stopping to physically carry him to our Kinzua Reservoir waterfront destination.

It was time to head out. The Patrols lined up. At this point, the elderly man slowly rose to his feet. Giving a final tug on his sternum strap, he clutched his hiking staff and turned toward the narrow path leading through the beautiful Pennsylvania fall foliage. With a single step, he was off like a rocket! "Holy smoke," I thought, "look at him go!" Less than 60 seconds later, he was completely out of sight.

As a matter of fact, we never did catch up with him that day. Not until we got to the end of the trail at the waterfront. The man could move. He obviously had done this before.

Being new to the Troop at the time, I wasn't certain exactly who he was, even though I thought I had seen him at a Troop Meeting. It suddenly dawned on me that I had seen him working in the reference department during my frequent visits to the Warren Public Library.

Alumni Spotlight

Jerry Stephens

Warren, Ohio

Founding Member - Troop 101



This is Jerry Stephens, a close friend of founding 101 Scoutmaster Bill Brown. He is a former Troop 101 Unit Commissioner, long time Troop Committee member, Woodbadger, father, singer, writer and voracious reader. Truly a man for all seasons, he has been with the Troop for decades. He has been hiking even longer.

Jerry will turn 80 years young in March of next year. The Troop 101 Alumni Quarterly had a chance to fire off some questions at Jerry, one of the Troop's most prolific alumnus.

101 Quarterly: Many of us in the Troop feel as though we have known you forever. But there are some who may feel as though they really don't know you at all. Who is Jerry Stephens?

Jerry: Who am I?

I am a blue eyed, shy, and as you mentioned, somewhat round shouldered, very light framed bloke of Welsh decent with the bushy eyebrows of the Welsh and an occasionally unpredictable temper. I also have the Welsh addiction to choral singing, having sung in various choruses and the choirs of churches of several different denominations. Currently I am in the Stambaugh Chorus in Youngstown and the choir of the First United Church of Christ in Warren. I also have sung in the local Messiah chorus and in that of the Western Reserve Opera Company. I have to a great extent overcome my shyness. Singing solos at church helped, as did doing presentations in college classes.

Quarterly: Like most of us, you got involved in Scouting

through your sons.

Jerry: Yes. Actually, it was in a roundabout way. We started out by experimenting with the YMCA Indian Guide program. My all too variable schedule at the Warren Public Library made that not feasible. So when Pack 11 solicited members at Garfield School, I took my son Mike down to enroll him. My son Donald

followed a year later. My memory is fuzzy about those days. I do remember the campouts when they were Webelos. We already had the Coleman stove and the sleeping bags purchased when the boys were in Indian Guides, and guess who did the cooking?

Quarterly: In those early days, you became a Unit Commissioner in the old Western Reserve Council?

Jerry: Yes. I was responsible for 3 Troops, 15, 126, and 101. I gave up on it after trying to salvage Troop 126 by trying to arrange the training they never had. Nobody showed up. It was then I connected with Troop 101.

Quarterly: What attracted you to Troop 101?

Jerry: It was Bill Brown who attracted me to 101. I had been observing the Troop during my days as the Troop Commissioner, so when I resigned from that job, Bill Brown recruited me to eventually take his place.

Quarterly: As we noted early in this article, your love for hiking, backpacking and the outdoors is legendary. Were you always a hiker, or did you develop this affinity through Scouting?

Jerry: I was always a walker, or more to the point, a runner. I had run cross country and the two milerunatMiamiUniversityofOhio,earning5 letters. Then, when I started taking the boys to Algonquin Park regularly in 1975, we became interested in backpacking.

Quarterly: *What is your favorite hiking trail?*

Jerry: The closest to an all time favorite is the Western Uplands Trail in Algonquin Park. As a whole, the Western Uplands trial is quite rugged and challenging.

Quarterly: *You have a deep affection for Algonquin.*

Jerry: Yes. It is where I spent some of my happiest days with the boys. I also wrote a graduate paper on the logging industry in the 19th Century in the Ottawa Valley, including Algonquin Park for Dr. Linda Barret's ecology seminar.

Quarterly: *You are well aware that you are given exclusive credit for the naming of Troop 101's "Great Horned Owl Patrol?"*

Jerry: Yes. The troop leaders had formed what was known as the Skunk Patrol. Some of the senior boy leaders came to

me asking if skunks had a natural enemy. I told them it was the Great Horned Owl, a fact I had found out in my researches as a Reference Librarian at the Warren Public Library.

Quarterly: *In your observation how has Scouting changed since you first became involved?*



Jerry: For the better. The travesty that were the rank requirements in 1974, when Mike entered Troop 11 were changed and it became more rigorous, approaching the rigor of the requirements of when I was a Boy Scout back in the 1940s.

Quarterly: *With your vast experience and this may be a difficult question, but is there any one particular Scouting memory (humorous, good, bad) that sticks out in your mind to this day?*

Jerry: There are several. One that gives me more pleasure now than when I first experienced is the day I worked on the mapping requirement that was a part of becoming a First Class Scout way back when. I passed the requirement, but when I drew the map I discovered I had done so well in precisely pacing-out the boundaries that there was no margin for

error. I knew they wouldn't believe that I had been so accurate, so I cheated a little bit and created some errors on my final map.

Fast forward to 2002. I had entered Akron's Graduate School of Geography and Planning, and was taking the required field methods course. The assignment that day was drawing a rough map of a given area. I trotted out my old scout manual, and used that with the group I was assigned to. We finished with the highest score in the class.

Quarterly: *What has Scouting given you?*

Jerry: A sense of integrity. The will to pick myself up and keep going when I had failed at something. A sense of that I was my brother's keeper. I found I was happiest in a job that involved service to others – a Reference Librarian.

By the way, under the encouragement of my son Mike's girl friend, Sheila Storms, I am in the process of writing out a narrative of what I remember of my life, both good and bad. Right now I am writing about my experiences backpacking in Algonquin Park. Would you possibly be interested in those when I finish?

Quarterly: *For an upcoming edition? Absolutely!*

Jerry Stephens - Father of the Great Horned Owl Patrol

As told by Jim Potjunas



The Great Horned owl Patrol is my all-time favorite Jerry Stephens story.

The Skunk Patrol was around since the beginning of the troop and we were always trying to use it to promote spirit and patrol competition among the boys. Back in the day, the older Scouts were part of what the BSA called the Leadership Corps.

It was the March 1993 blizzard campout and George Burin was making doughnuts for snack while Jerry was helping wash dishes. Scout Rob Sloan opened his handbook to the nature section and went up, ever so innocently, asking Jerry – a lifelong reference librarian – what was the natural predator of a skunk?

Jerry began with, "Well, the Great Horned Owl is probably the number one natural predator..." Rob immediately snapped his book shut, blurted out a quick thank-you and disappeared. Jerry was just getting warmed up for what would likely have been a 20 minute dissertation on the subject when he noticed his audience had fled.

George looked up from his Dutch oven and said "Jerry, you have no idea what you just did."

That following Monday I found a note in my mailbox with a skunk and a red circle and slash. Down at the meeting an hour later those logos were everywhere and a new Great Horned Owl flag with hash marks at the bottom, supposedly representing skunk kills was unveiled.

Today's Owl Patrol has very little clue of the legacy and its origins.



New Troop 101 Dining Hall Totem Unveiled at Camp Manatoc

Totem's frame is fashioned from the remains of Camp Chickagami's Dining Hall

by Paul Kuszmaul



Editor's note: ASM Paul Kuszmaul and wife Kristine designed, constructed, painted and gilded an impressive Troop 101 Dining Hall Totem. It was dedicated at Camp Manatoc on July 14, 2010 on the 10th anniversary of the Troop's summer camp week at the Peninsula, Ohio Boy Scout Camp. The Totem is prominently displayed in the newly remodeled dining hall.

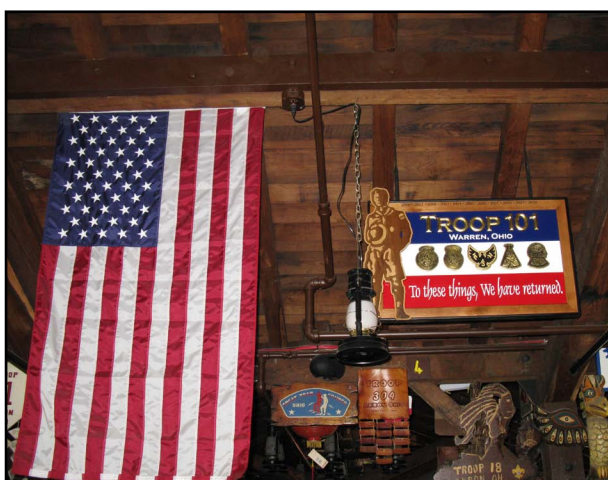
The inspiration for our Dining Hall Totem came from a statue created nearly a century ago. In 1914, Dr. Robert Tate McKenzie was asked to create a statue to represent the Boy Scouts of America. The statuette would be an image that would stand as a symbol of what Scouting stood for, in fact, an image of "The Ideal Boy Scout."

What Dr. McKenzie created could not have been a better representation of a boy who exemplified obedience to proper authority and the well-ordered discipline that comes from a boy living out the Scout Oath and Law. The image used as the subject on our Totem is a likeness of this statue.

As we attempt to sculpt "ideal scouts" from our boys, as Leaders, Parents, and Alumni of our Troop, the image reminds us of this ultimate goal. For our Totem, this image was laser cut from a rare wide solid maple board that was harvested in 1968, around the same time that Mr. Potjunas discovered Boy Scouts.

The Red White & Blue Background came from a patch that I first saw on Bill Brown's Uniform. Mr. Brown, a friend of my grandfather, attended my Eagle Court of Honor and I had my picture taken with him. The image on his patch from Schiff Scout Reservation (a major Boy Scout training facility for almost 50 years) looked very impressive and I wanted to somehow work

this into our totem. After hours of moving all of the elements needed to complete our totem on to the shield shaped image of the patch, I was not satisfied with the outcome. I then rotated the Patriotic Colors ninety degrees, and the final layout fell into place in a matter of minutes.



The images on the White panel are the five symbols for the years spent at Camp Manatoc. They are in chronological order and each has a specific significance to the individual ceremony that camper's attend that year. Both The Troop Name and the Camp Totems are gilded with 23 carat patent Gold imported from Germany. On the Red Panel is the phrase "To these things, We have returned" - our response to the Camp's motto- "To these things, you must return".

The Frame for the Totem was hand milled with re-claimed lumber salvaged from the remains of the Camp Chickagami Dining Hall, Parkman, Ohio, which was razed in September of 2007. Camp Chickagami (built in 1941) was the summer camp home to most of our local units

including Troop 101 for many years. Ironically, one of the original "Ideal Scout" statues was placed on a wood platform crafted from salvaged wood from Independence Hall.

Looking for the ideal location for our totem proved to be a challenge. The original spot promised us prior to the dining halls' renovation had been taken by a large clock, so we were forced to relocate it. After scanning the hall for the optimal location, several Assistant Scoutmasters agreed that it would look best beside the American Flag, right on the "50 Yard Line" of the dining hall. Following a trip to the camp Blacksmith who graciously crafted us the brackets necessary to put us there, our Totem proudly found its home for what we hope is years to come.

"...hand milled with re-claimed lumber salvaged from the remains of the Camp Chickagami Dining Hall"



Troop 101 Scouts Help Make It a Great Scout Day in 2010

Unveil Historic Scout Postage Stamp at Warren Post Office

July 27 marked the nationwide release of the Scouting Centennial Postage Stamp. Its opening ceremony was at Fort AP Hill in Virginia, during the National Scout Jamboree.

The local Warren Post Office with assistance from the Warren Area Stamp Club and Troop 101, under the direction of Alex Savakis, held a local celebration that day as well as the main post office in downtown Warren.

The morning of July 27, Troop 101 scouts posted ten historic flags at the front of the post office, and assisted the members of the Warren Area Stamp Club to move and operate the Club's International Model HD2 machine cancel for first day cancelling of the new Scout Stamp. The hand powered HD2 places a postmark and a cancel featuring either an American Flag or Ohio State Flag on the mail piece.

Once common in the early twentieth century, only the Warren Post Office has available a US Flag cancel applied by machine. The other cancel, featuring only an outline of the Ohio State Flag is unique to Warren.

The Scouts also served free ice tea, lemonade, and cracker jacks to the general public. They were later treated to a pizza lunch for their hard work, and a tour of the Trumbull County Court House followed by a meeting with Common Pleas Judge Wyatt McKay.

Scouts participating were Gabriel Beadle, John Eustace, Matt Eustace, Brad Puet, Patrick Patchen, Zane Smith, Cole Weston, and Ben Witt, led by crew chiefs Alex Stirling and Kyle Jones.

As part of their citizenship merit badge, which they earned that day, each of the ten scouts performed eight hours of community service which included the presentation of a scouting poster board to decorate the post office lobby for the stamp celebration. The Scouts received their citizenship merit badges on September 27 at the Troop's court of honor.

The Scouts wish to thank the postmaster, officer-in-charge, and employees of the Warren Post Office and the members of the Warren Area Stamp Club for a fine day and an opportunity to serve.



Back row: Brad Puet, Crew Chief Kyle Jones, Ben Witt, Crew Chief Alex Stirling, Cole Weston, Patrick Patchen, and committee member Alex Savakis.
Front Row: Zane Smith, Matt Eustace, Gabriel Beadle, and John Eustace



Display boards made by the Scouts

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. Has there been an SPL who has served 2 consecutive terms?
2. Who is the Current Alumni President?
3. Where was the Troop's first Family Camp held?
4. When was the last Paddle and Saddle camping Adventure?
5. What year did the Troop spend Summer Camp at Manatoc for the first time?

Fun Facts

The online Nut Sale fundraiser has accounted for \$429 since we began using it.

West Virginia, Texas, Arizona... these are just a few places people have left messages on the Chickagami.net site from.

1. Yes
2. Tim Ross
3. Beaver Creek
4. August 2001
5. 2000

Answers

Scoutmaster's Column



Jim Potjunas
Scoutmaster

It's Fall and the leaves are starting to turn. There is not much left of this Centennial year for the BSA. The Council Camporall back in April was pretty cool. The boys had good things to say about it. A bunch of our kids earned the Carpentry Merit Badge, thanks to Paul Kuzmaul. A couple even earned Pathfinding. Alas, none did Signaling or Tracking and in three months, none ever will. One of our Scouts attended the Centennial Jamboree and a couple families visited. That will be the last one at Fort A.P. Hill in Virginia. Sandy and I sat out on the deck with my laptop the night of the Jamboree closing show and watched it steamed live over the internet. Is it a confession of getting too old if I say we enjoyed it much more than if we had been there? During that show they announced the new Bechtel Summit Reservation that is being built in West Virginia just six hours from here. It will be home for the National Jamboree in 2013 and all Jamborees going forward. It opens as a year-round high adventure base thereafter.

Alex Savakis coordinated that local dedication of the Scout postage stamp. Be sure to read the article in here. That was a really cool program and is also being featured

in the stamp collector's national publication. Then came our own reunion. By the time the BBQ settled there were 46 Scouts, 17 leaders, 12 committee members, 37 Alumni, and another 69 guests. That makes 181 total folks who showed up for part or all of the weekend. By 7:00 Saturday night you could not find a rib or piece of pulled pork in the entire campsite. Around campfire time Ken LaPolta and Gregg Hillman were dragging me up front to present a picture of a canoe that is still on its way along with a very sizable check to be used on future programs. I am not quite sure what's going to happen to that just yet, so it's sitting in trust with the Alumni Association in the meantime.

Those folks who attended the reunion and looked through the displays got to see all these newsletters preserved in plastic and placed in a binder. After the weekend, I was motivated enough to dig out the original newsletters and do the same thing with them. It was an interesting trip down memory lane and here's a few things that I had forgotten. This Alumni Association was originally founded in 1990 as part of the troop's 15th anniversary. So this organization also hits a milestone of 20 years! The original newsletters ran from 1990 quarterly through 1997. Over the next several issues, we will share with you some excerpts from "back in the day"! But for now, I have PLC Training tomorrow and next Saturday they are doing the official dedication of Chickagami Park and asked us to put on a display. After that? Backpacking of course! Like I said, it's Fall!



Family Camp/Reunion - August 2010

Have you seen all those photos!!!

www.troopphoto.troop101.net

The Troop 101 photo gallery now contains over **36,000** photos from 1975 to the present. New to the gallery, check out some old Patrol Movies and Slideshows!



Beaver Creek - November 2004



Assateague Island - August 1986



Summer Camp - July 2000



Moraine - September 1998



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OH-4101-BK

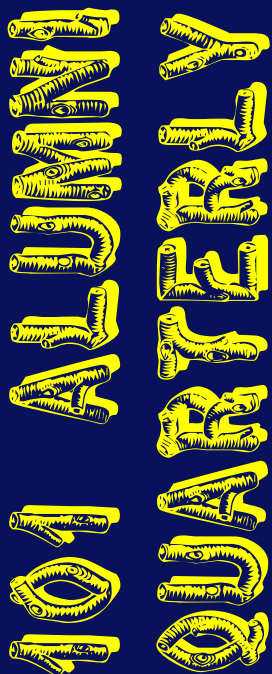
Scoutmaster - 30 Years Later

As most of you are aware, this is Jim's 30th year as Scoutmaster of Troop 101 and to celebrate this milestone, we secretly collected money to buy Jim his very own canoe.

The extra money was donated to the Troop in Jim's Name for the Jim Potjunas Watercraft fund. A total of \$3,600 was presented him at the Family Camp/30th reunion by Gregg Hillman and Ken LaPolla on behalf of all Troop 101 Alumni.

The above Canoe is a rendered image.





Upcoming Events

• Alumni Christmas Gathering

Our Fourth Annual Alumni Holiday Gathering will be Sunday, December 26, 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 101 Nut Sale

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.

• Annual Troop Christmas Party

The Annual Troop Christmas Part will be at the Ali Babba Grotto on December 5.

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