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From the President "To These Things, You Must Return"



Tim Ross
President

July 2011

When I see Troop Alumni, the talk always turns to something funny that happened when they were a Scout. It seems as though whatever it was, humorous or serious, it either happened at Winter Event or Summer Camp.

This got me to thinking about the upcoming Troop 101 Summer Camp at Camp Manatoc in the Cuyahoga Valley National Park, located between Akron and Cleveland. It is hard to believe, but this will be our 11th year at Manatoc!

Having served on staff, it also reminds me of how Jim and his staff have committed a tremendous amount of time and resources to the Troop Summer Camp program. Jim is there all week, as are many adult leaders, and we simply cannot thank them enough.

You can ask any Scout who has ever been there and they'll tell you how much fun it is. However, Summer Camp is so much more than just a place to have fun. It offers Troop 101 Scouts the opportunity to participate in physically and intellectually challenging activities, and introduces them to new and rewarding experiences.

For the first year Scout, a week away from home can seem like an eternity, and some Scouts get homesick. Rarely are they 'always' homesick at camp. So, we try to keep them busy with all the fun things going on. Plus, it helps if they have a friend to hang out with. Friends make it a lot better. There are also so many times we see a Scout who is having a GREAT time all week

until he sees his parents on Wednesday at Troop Parents Night and then all of a sudden he wants to leave.

If we are able to talk with the parents and let them know that it is so much better to let him stay, then we usually have a sad Scout for a couple hours that evening, but typically he is back to having fun for the balance of the week. It's hard for most parents to let go a bit and let the boy grow up. But the results can be so wonderful.

Sure, it goes without saying that Troop 101 Scouts who attend are always glad to get back home to their computers and video games, but many a Troop 101 parent say they have noticed a positive difference in their son upon his return from Summer Camp.

As for parents new to the Troop who attend the Wednesday night Family Night and Courts of Honor, they are impressed with the way in which the Camp and our first-year Scout program are conducted. They always speak highly of, and are very impressed with the Troop's Summer Camp program. After hearing their son's first-hand account, most say their son's Summer Camp experience exceeded their expectations.

Having been there and witnessed it all for a number of years, there is no doubt in my mind that that Summer Camp is a wonderful place where all of the components that build self-confidence come together and help launch a boy on the path to a successful life.

As you leave Camp Manatoc, there is a huge overhead sign on the majestic Camp gateway, which reads, "To These Things, You Must Return." On July 10, we will return. If history repeats itself, when we break camp, we will be leaving with a new Scout or two, who won't be homesick anymore.

-Tim



Damien Guarnieri, is Troop 101's Eagle #42, awarded the rank on September 15, 1990.

Today, Damien is an industrial photographer at Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company in Marietta, Georgia.

He departed Warren soon after graduation from Harding for The Ohio State University, earning his bachelor's degree in journalism in '94. While at OSU he was bitten by the "shutterbug" while working on the university newspaper photography staff. After graduation, Damien was a photo stringer for the Columbus Dispatch.

Damien moved to Georgia in the autumn of '95, enrolling in the Savannah College of Art and Design to focus further on photography.

In 1997, Damien moved to Marietta, Georgia to work for the Marietta Daily Journal, where he spent 10 years, the last seven as Chief Photographer. During his stint at the Daily Journal, he earned numerous awards, among them the Associated Press, for his photojournalism, including Photo-of-the-Year honors twice. In '07, he joined the Corporate Communication department at Lockheed Martin in Marietta Georgia where he remains today.

His award-winning images have appeared in U.S. News and World Report, The New York Times, The Washington Post, USA Today, as well as other publications in the United States and Europe. One of his photos is on display in the First Amendment Gallery at the Newseum in Washington, D.C.

Damien, lives with his wife Lisa and little boy, Luke, in Kennesaw, Georgia where The Alumni Quarterly caught up with him recently.

Alumni Spotlight

Damien Guarnieri

Kennesaw, Georgia

Troop 101 Eagle Scout #42 September 15, 1990



AQ: Nice photos! We must assume the inspiration for your award-winning photo career was the result of your attaining the Photography Merit Badge with Troop 101, right?

Damien: No. (laughs) Actually, I don't have Photography Merit Badge and if you had told the young Damien Guarnieri that he would take the photography career path that he did, he would have laughed at you. I really wanted to be a news reporter, or teacher, or astronomer, or musician. I never even gave photography a second thought until I took a photojournalism class at OSU. I wasn't hooked until I got to photograph my first OSU football game and couldn't believe that people actually got paid to do photojournalism for a living!

So, I got my degree in print journalism, took a year off and did a little stringing at the Columbus Dispatch, and then moved to Savannah, Georgia to go to art school. After a couple years learning the photographic craft, I got a job at the Marietta Daily Journal newspaper. After 10 years in the news biz, I left and now work for Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company as the photo coordinator for the Marietta, Georgia plant. I've been there for four years in July.

AQ: You have accomplished so much

and won so many awards in your career, what or who is your inspiration? What motivates you?

Damien: I am truly blessed with my life. I've honestly never really thought about what my motivation is. Between Jim Potjunas and my Dad, I've had some really positive influences telling me that I can do anything I put my mind to. Conversely, I've had negative influences in my life that have expressed doubt in my abilities, but I think that I'm motivated by wanting to prove the doubters wrong.

After having won Georgia Photo of the Year honors twice, having co-authored two books, winning other photographic awards and having been published in newspapers and magazines nationally and internationally, as well as being represented by a local art gallery, I think I've done a pretty good job of proving them wrong.

"if you had told the young Damien Guarnieri that he would take the photography career path that he did, he would have laughed at you"

AQ: Like so many others, you had to leave the Warren area to find success. Do you miss it and do you ever make it back?

Damien: Yes, it is unfortunate, but I just didn't have the job opportunities up there in northeast Ohio that I did here, down south. I make it back to Warren about once a year if that, usually only for a long weekend. I do miss my friends and family in the area, but the only time I really get homesick is during football season when I have to watch Ohio State football on TV. I also miss The Hot Dog Shoppe and Sunrise Pizza.

AQ: How about those early days in Warren? You were into Scouting for a long time.

Damien: Yes, I was a Cub Scout and Webelo in Pack 16 at St. James Church. I earned my Arrow of Light too. I remember being so proud to wear my Cub uniform to Devon Elementary School. Another memory of Cub Scouting was getting seven stitches in my



"The Family" Damien, Lisa, and Luke Guarnieri (late 2010)

eyelid because I ran into a shopping cart playing dodge ball. As a Scout with Troop 101, I remember my first camping trip to Cook's Forest and it being very wet and cold. I also remember wanting to be an Eagle Scout because my Uncle Tom is one as well.

AQ: Any particular Summer Camp or Winter Event memories that stick out?

Damien: I remember some incredibly cold Winter Events at Chickagami, where when we washed dishes after dinner, the hot water was only hot for a few minutes, then having to wash dishes with our wet hands freezing. The events themselves were lots of fun. During summer camp, I loved the COPE course, especially the zip line. Chanting "O-N-E-O O-N-E" in front of Troop 15 was fun too. Playing D&D at Beaumont was another good memory. I loved the fellowship with all the guys in the troop.

AQ: Everybody has a worst campout story. Anything standout in your memory?

Damien: Yes, that's easy – falling into the river during a canoe trip to Cook's Forest in March of 1989. I was ASPL and in the back of the canoe steering. I had a new scout in the front. The water got a little rough and we had to do a tight right turn so we wouldn't get swept under a fallen tree at a bend in the river. We couldn't paddle fast enough and got caught on a tree – and over we went! That water was COLD!! Fortunately we didn't get hypothermia.

On the other hand, there are many lasting memories of great



"Snow on Kennesaw Mountain" is one of my all-time favorite art photos. I'm proud of this one.

experiences with 101 and I can rattle off a bunch of them: camping on Assateague Island, touring Toronto, Greg Joseph's Flaming Yellow Football, any canoe trip I ever took, attending a Camporee at Wright-Patterson AFB, hobo pies, and putting out flags on Veterans' graves on Memorial Day. I was really involved in the Order of the Arrow, and enjoyed setting up the luminaires on the Square in downtown Warren every Christmas Eve, and I had a blast participating in OA ceremonies, especially getting to compete in the Vigil ceremony competition at NOAC.

AQ: What is the reaction when people learn you are an Eagle Scout?

Damien: I think people are usually impressed and not surprised. I think being an Eagle has helped me with getting positions in management. I currently manage a staff of four photographers. When I was at the newspaper I had from five to 11 people to manage. I enjoy leading people, helping them to improve their own skills and working as a team, as well as learning from my team members too, so that I can improve my own skills.

Getting my Eagle is in the top three best things I've done in my life and when I run in to young men who I learn are trying to get their Eagle, I encourage them to get it and not give up.

AQ: Is there any one thing you learned on the trail to Eagle that has stuck with you over the years?

Damien: Yes. Hard work pays off, especially with patience. If you can get your Eagle, you can do anything.

AQ: Being a father, are you looking at returning to Scouting?

Damien: Yes, I'm looking forward to putting my little boy, Luke, in Scouting and hopefully will be active again as a Leader. I've gotten to do a little work on the local BSA council level here in Atlanta, photographing summer camp and different events to help with promotions.



"Free at Last" is a photo of a gentleman who was released from prison after decades of incarceration for a rape he didn't commit. This was my second Photo of the Year.

Recently, I was in Fort Worth, Texas for a business trip and during some down time, I went to the National Scouting Museum. Walking around the museum, seeing all those famous Norman Rockwell original paintings, seeing the first Eagle medal - I have to admit that I got really choked up remembering my time in Scouts.

I just feel really fortunate to have been a member of Troop 101 and to have Jim as my scoutmaster. Without Jim's advice and encouragement and my parents' support, I know I would not be an Eagle. I'm really grateful to Jim. I can remember clearly having doubts about whether I'd be able to finish my Eagle before I turned 18, and a talk with Jim really empowered me and gave me self-confidence. I'll never forget that talk. Never.



"GI Goodbye" was taken in 2003 when troops were deploying to Iraq. This soldier was saying good-bye to his 4-year old. This photo was my first Georgia Photo of the Year Award



Gary Erlinger Retires

GWRC Scouting Executive 1996-2011

Gary Erlinger retired from Scouting and as Scout Executive of the Greater Western Council on June 1 after 15 years at the GWRC. Gary sat down with the Alumni Quarterly, reflecting on his career here.

AQ: You arrived at GWRC, coming here from Eau Claire, Wisconsin in July 1996. What was your mission?

Erlinger: The Council had been created by a merger in 1993, which was poorly implemented; the council had significant debt from two of the three constituent councils that comprised the merger and there was open hostility and self-serving parochialism amongst the board and volunteers. I had received a charge from the then Central Region Director of the Boy Scouts of America to ascertain the council's viability and to determine if the council should be maintained or divided. My personal Mission was to make this thing work.

AQ: Your first impressions of the newly formed/merged Council?

Erlinger: To be honest, it was a mess and I was wondering what I had gotten myself into. There was a demoralized staff that was trying hard, but was caught in the power struggle between opposing geographic factions. There was an enormous debt that no one was paying attention to. Our budgeting method resembled the fed; you know, spend the budget, not what you actually have. As time went by, together the board, volunteers and staff began to find a way to heal the merger wars and to create an entity with its own identity and a purpose.

AQ: You maintained a staff with a relatively low turnover rate throughout the years.

Erlinger: Staff (professional) retention in the Boy Scouts is difficult. I believe our

retention in the first three years is less than 30%. Admittedly some of our low turnover was luck. I would like to believe that my philosophy towards staff had an effect. I firmly believe that by keeping staff informed and involved in decision making along with defined delegation gives employees a sense of value and belief in the organization that goes beyond a paycheck. If you are fair and loyal to your staff they will be loyal to you.

AQ: What will you miss the most?

Erlinger. The people

AQ: The least?

Erlinger. The BSA Bureaucracy and United Way allocation processes.

AQ: Your biggest accomplishment?

Erlinger. The building of the Coleman Miller Service Center.

AQ: A lofty goal that was perhaps simply unattainable?

Erlinger. An endowment fund that provided a significant portion of the council's operating income. We have obtained over 7.5 million dollars in future commitments and someday those commitments will be realized, which bodes well for the future. I only wish I could have done more in the here and now.

AQ: Since this article will not be published until long after your departure, is there anything you'd like to get off your chest?

Erlinger. This program has been and shall always be about the kids. We who work in Scouting have different roles in serving those kids; however we cannot lose sight of the ultimate objective. Those who are charged with ensuring the viability and long term preservation of this movement are sometimes charged with making difficult impossible decision that are unpopular. More difficult decisions will need to be made sooner than later. The Scouting program cannot continue as a 1960's paradigm, it must adapt to survive. Those who must make those tough decisions need support not enmity. Enough said.

AQ: Your successor is Jason Wolf who comes here from Des Moines Iowa What is the best advice you can offer him?

Erlinger. Trust your gut.

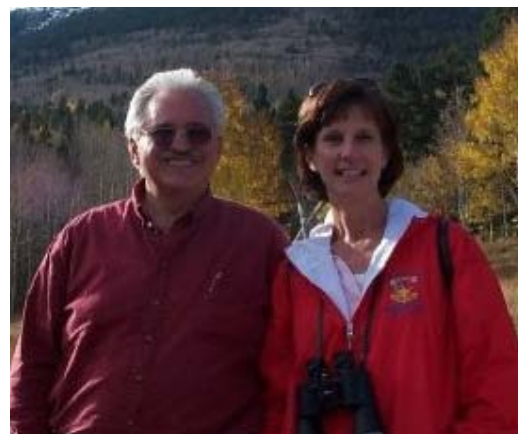
AQ: What will Gary Erlinger do now?

Erlinger. Spending time with my wonderful wife Carole and our grandchildren is priority one, then we have a fairly heavy travel schedule planned for the first 18 months, do a little fly fishing and perhaps do some consulting work for other not for profits.

AQ: One last question. Is there a special Gary Erlinger "Scouting moment" we may not know about?

Erlinger. When I was a Field Director working for the Crossroads of America Council in Indianapolis my first wife Angie was in the end phases of ovarian cancer. She was hospitalized repeatedly and I had a nine year old daughter who required care and comfort. One Sunday afternoon in late October my Daughter Kami and I had spent a long day at the hospital with Angie. Upon our return home we were amazed to find all of the leaves in our yard had been raked and bagged and there were about 150 bags of leaves stacked neatly in the front yard. The house had been freshly painted, the drive power washed and the house completely cleaned. My neighbors told me it was the most amazing sight. At least a hundred Scouters from across the council had come to our home to lend a helping hand. From that day until Angie's death in early January they provided meals, helped with child care and emotionally kept me going. To this day I still think about those wonderful people and my eyes fill with tears.

I have been fortunate to witness that wonderful spirit in Scouting wherever I have served. Of anything I will remember about my professional career with the Boy Scouts it shall be that enduring generous spirit that Scouting engenders.



Gary Erlinger and Wife, Carole

Spaghetti Dinner 2011, New Location, Same Great Turnout!

For the first time in over three decades, the dinner was not held at the Elks.

Questions abounded. Would people know to come to the new location, Blessed Sacrament? Would they see the signs that had been battered by wind and rain? Would alumni check the newsletter or at least see it on Facebook? How many people would show up from the church after Mass? Do we make more spaghetti or less? And to add to all of that, most of our team in charge of the dinner was new. This was going to be a fun year.

The facility was bigger and nicer than the Elks. This was a plus. Plenty of tables and chairs. We even had the big stoves from the troop going outside in case we needed to boil extra water really fast. We walked in on Sunday morning and there was already a miscommunication. We were to use the outside door and not have people come through the church. So we had to rearrange all the tables. On the other hand, the rain quit. It was cool and breezy, so maybe a good day after all.

It turns out that people just loved the new facility. There was plenty of room and they tended to linger and chat longer. What did this mean? Well, we ran out of coffee and had to make a quick run, but also they spent more time visiting the basket tables so Eagle's Wings had a record year. The numbers turned out to be pretty typical of two years ago. We were actually a little down in pre-sales, but a bit up in walk-ins. So we made about the same as usual.

The ultimate benefit? We had a formal wrap up meeting a few weeks later that included a list of ideas to make it even better next year! We have even reserved the hall again at Blessed Sacrament next year for Sunday, April 1st – uh oh, we hope that is just a coincidence!



More Eagles Take Flight....

The troop will conduct the first double Eagle Court of Honor in many years this summer when Keith Stirling and Chris McClearn celebrate together at Blessed Sacrament Church. Tentatively the program will be late in July.

Details were not finalized in time for this printing, but they will appear on the website calendar as soon as they are. Meanwhile anywhere from 3-5 Eagle service projects will begin this summer and that usually means more Eagle Courts of Honor to follow.

New Eagles Wings Cook Book Needs ***Your*** Favorite Recipe!

In Support of "The 13th Point" of the Scout Law - A Scout is Hungry

If you go out to the Troop 101 website and click on the Eagle's Wings tab at the top of the page you will see their latest project to compile a cook-book by this fall that can be sold in time for Christmas and the Holiday Season.

Upload early and often! Just go to the Eagles Wings page and follow the directions to upload your favorite recipes - or download the form for printing. It only takes a couple of minutes. You can

Eagles Wings are asking us to reach out to all of our alumni for both recipe submissions and to let them know if you would like to purchase one. More on pricing and orders will be included in the Alumni Quarterly the First of October.

In the meantime – get your favorite recipes in NOW on the Troop website.

C'mon! Take that prized Dutch oven recipe and share with some folks who remember what a cobbler SHOULD taste like!

Quotes and Facts

"For these things your heart will yearn. And to these things you must return....."

-Camp Manatoc

"Be Prepared... the meaning of the motto is that a scout must prepare himself by previous thinking out and practicing how to act on any accident or emergency so that he is never taken by surprise."

-Sir Robert Baden-Powell

Fun Facts

Although the Troop has camped at Manatoc for Summer Camp 11 years, the first trip to Manatoc was in September of 1977.

For the first several years of it's life, Troop 101 met on Tuesday Night. (Currently Monday)



Jim Potjunas
Scoutmaster

Family Camp 2011

As we turned into Pymatuning Park, the PLC was joking about having been there 2, 3, or even 4 times and how familiar it looked. I lost count somewhere past 30. It was a beautiful June weekend with perfect weather. We have had that now for the past few family campouts. An anomaly, or an answer to the prayers of the two First Class Campers?

We rolled into the usual site right as you first get there because it has the best area to dock canoes and other watercraft. 4 patrols scattered to the adjacent areas, the canoe trailer pulled up in front of me, families busily headed to the open areas, and like ants, we scrambled until 90 minutes later everything was up and we were starting to load English Muffin Pizzas into a couple Dutch ovens for the families.

Several times I heard the comment that the crowd seemed smaller this year. Actually this was pretty normal. 4 patrols and some 60 family members at the supper high point of the weekend. This was definitely not the nearly 200 from last year's reunion. But it was a picture perfect family camp weekend. There were folks sitting around the campfire each evening, a mad rush for the canoes Saturday morning only to see half of them upside down intentionally within 10 minutes of hitting the water. The sailboat made regular

excursions throughout the day. As usual we wished for a bit more wind and a bit less need for the motor.

There was a mass exodus after lunch as parents shuttled Scouts, siblings and themselves over to the beach for a couple hours of swimming and a couple days of sunburn. There was of course, Breakfast Casserole on Saturday morning and steak, corn on the cob, potatoes, and coleslaw, followed by 7 Dutch ovens full of cherry, peach, apple, and blueberry cobblers.

As in the past few years, as we went to leave on Sunday morning the weather went from ideal to even more perfect with just the right breeze coming off the lake where you just wanted to get out a nice lounge chair, cold drink, and fishing pole and spend Sunday the way they were meant to be spent. But instead we all loaded in the cars and headed back to town and laundry, and yards that needed tending, and all those other things that contrast so much with the peacefulness of 40 kids in the woods.

Then again, there's always next June . . .

- Jim



Family Camp - June 2011

Then... and now...

If you were to pick up a newsletter and read about the troop taking a weeklong high adventure canoe trip in Algonquin then follow that up with a week of base camp on the shores of Whitefish Lake . . . then turn the page and read about a muzzle loading program, Ken Hall helping out the troop, archery, bullet molding, Dutch Oven Cooking . . .

You might think it was another nostalgic article in the Alumni Newsletter, but actually, it's the troop program for later this summer. Two weeks of Canada in August followed by a September campout that mixes history

with hands-on shooting and more. A new generation will get to experience the wonders of the Canadian wilderness and even step it up a notch as they can go further and do more thanks to newer better canoes, stoves, and trail food technology. Conversely molding a musket ball and firing a weapon much like they did a century and a half ago can provide a balanced perspective and appreciation for how it used to be.

Sounds like a fun summer...

Have you seen all those photos!!!

www.troopphoto.troop101.net

The Troop 101 photo gallery now contains over **39,400** photos from 1975 to the present. Have you seen them?



July 1990



Chickagami OA Lodge Dedication - May 1985



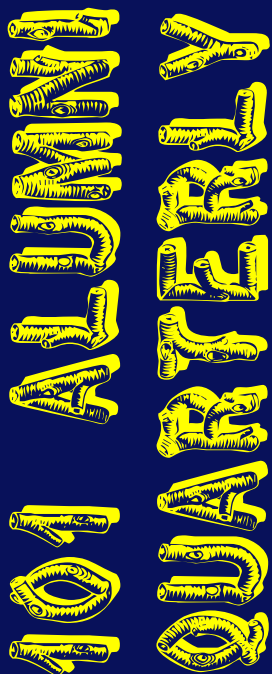
February 1990



Algonquin Canada - August 2003



Pymatuning - First Class Camp - June 2002



Upcoming Events

- **Chris McClearn and Keith Stirling Eagle court**

This upcoming Eagle Court will be a double. It will be the Last Saturday in July, (July 30th). The time will be posted online. Keep a look out on the website for more details.

- **Nut Sale**

The Season will soon be upon us, keep an eye out in the next Alumni Newsletter, or the Troop Website, for information on this year's Fall Fundraiser.

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