

**Alumni Board of Directors**

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**AND MORE!!!**

## Alex Savakis, Troop 101 Alumni Association

### Keep Scouting Alive on the Southeast Side!

Many of us, over the course of our Scout Leader careers, hold or have held multiple positions in the Scouting movement, but Troop 101 Committee Member Alex Savakis has set the bar incredibly high. A Silver Beaver, District Merit Award recipient, Woodbadger and the father of Troop 101's 101st Eagle Scout, Michael Savakis, Alex devotes untold hours to Scouting.

One of his major, and proudest, accomplishments to date is saving from oblivion Cub Pack 6, long chartered to Warren's Devon School, and later, Eastland Baptist Church. For Alex, there are deep roots in the storied variations of Pack 6, which has had its shares of ups and downs over the years, but thanks to Alex's dedication and the Troop 101 Alumni Association, the Pack manages to survive.

I joined Cubs in the spring of 1961 as a result of a roundup at Devon School on Central Parkway. Back then we would meet at parent's homes for the den meetings, once a week. The highest Cub Scout rank at that time was Lion. I still have my patch!

My mother relates that my Blue and Gold Banquets were at the Baptist Church on Eastland Avenue SE, and for lack of another connection, I assume they were our chartered partner. I do have a picture of me participating in a flag ceremony at Devon School, but you can't read the Pack number on the Scout flag! When I hooked-up with Pack 6 in 2003, it was chartered by the First Baptist Church on Eastland Avenue.

**Q** – When you took over as Cubmaster of Pack 6, it was a rather small Pack, and still is, with some very unique challenges?

**A** – Indeed we are small. The joke is that we are a six-Pack, literally six Scouts and a few extra for good measure! We meet as a Pack and the Tiger Cubs participate in the same program as the Webelos. Keeping all age groups happy is not easy, but if you look carefully at the Scout books for this age group, the only difference is the depth you go into the topics. For example, we can take a Bear program and make it a bit more challenging for the 4th and 5th graders, and let the Wolves and Tigers get a taste of it, too. For teaching First Aid, we use the Webelos book. It is amazing how it interests the younger boys, even if it is a bit above their level. They reach up to learn it.

**Q** – You are quite the veteran Cubmaster!



*Devon School, Cub Scout Alex Savakis (right) holding Old Glory*

Alex relates the continuing saga of what once was one of the premier Cub Packs in Warren and how it has managed to remain intact and provide the Scouting program to boys in need.

**Q** – Alex, is this the same Pack 6 you were in as a Cub Scout?

**A** – Yes, in my opinion it is, but no direct evidence that it is the one and the same. Pack 6 has had at least one disruption in its charter and tenure. The Pack 6 official flag has banners going back to 1980.

There were a number of Cub Scout units on the southeast side back in the 1950s and 1960s.

...continued page 2

**A** – Oh my! I was Pack 122 (Howland United Methodist Church) Cubmaster from 1999 to 2000. I was supposed to be the senior Webelos Leader at Pack 122 in the spring of 1999, but the person who was supposed to take the Cubmaster position received a job transfer to Missouri. So I moved up to Cubmaster rather unexpectedly. In the spring of 2000, my son and I joined Troop 101. I thought my Cub Scouting days were over. In fact, they were just beginning.

**Q** – So, how did Pack 6 happen for you all over again?

**A** – In 2003 I was working my Woodbadge ticket. My advisor was Diana Gatz. I joined her at the Baptist Church On Eastland to go over some things and she got me interested in this small Pack that was on life support. In 2004 I was its Cubmaster and she helped me. I have been Cubmaster ever since. So, I am guessing that I have been Cubmaster for Pack 122 and Pack 6 for about nine years at the end of this recharter year. Time goes by so fast. It is hard to believe I have spent more time with Pack 6 than with my son at 122, or my own years as a Cub.

**Q** – The Church eventually relinquished its Charter with the Pack – why?

**A** – Unfortunately the Baptist Church could no longer host us. To open the church at night for our meeting, it required one of their adults to join us. It was a burden, especially since none of our boys were members of the church. What a shame it would be to lose young men living in the southeast area of town for lack of a Scouting home! The Pack had to be saved, but how?

**Q** – The Troop 101 Alumni Association came to the rescue?

Yes. Before we could start the 2006 fall opening of Scouting, the church's Pastor called me and explained that the church could no longer sponsor us. I remember going back to Jim Potjunas and asking him about my options. He offered me only one option - he cheerfully offered the corner of the basement that we now occupy! The rest happened very quickly, but it was seamless. Since October 2006, we have been under the 101 umbrella.

I must say it was sad when the Baptist Church surrendered their control over the Pack. They graciously let us take all the Pack equipment. One afternoon I picked up the equipment in my truck and that night, it was delivered to the basement of the Elks. The Boy Scouts brought the equipment into the Elks. We have been there ever since.

**Q** – What is your biggest challenge in keeping the Pack going?



*Pack 6 Cubs having Pinewood Derby fun!*

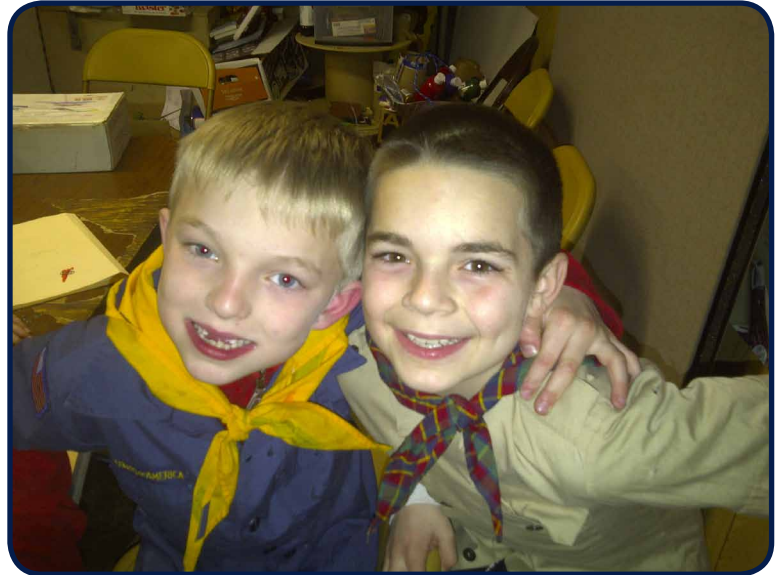
**A** – It is easy to get Scouts. The hardest problem is getting adult participation and commitment. I don't allow "drive-by parents." They need to stay. It has kept the membership down, but one of the purposes in Cub Scouting is to get the boy and adult leader to interact. You can't do that by dropping off and leaving. Even still, I needed experienced adult Scouters to help.

**Q** – We hear that your oldest crossover is now 17 and has a chance of getting his Eagle?

**A** – Yes, and he can do it! He is a fine young man, and loves the outdoors. He has learned a great deal from Scouting about taking care of ones self, service in the community, as well as leadership. Both he and Scouting are better for his participation.

**Q** – Who is assisting you?

**A** – I am fortunate to have two Troop 101 alumni, Kevin Dickson who is the Assistant Cubmaster, and who has agreed to take over as Cubmaster in 2013 and Ken McPherson who is Den Leader. They do as much on Monday nights as I do. Kevin is our money raiser (Popcorn Colonel and Candy Bar organizer) and Ken does half of the evening programs.

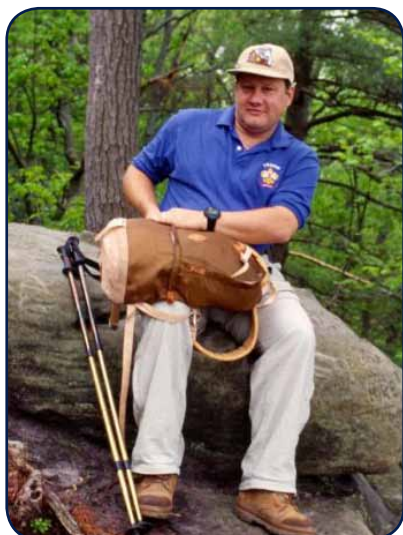


*Pack 6 Cubs Joryan and Alijah*

Ken had two grandsons in the pack, with one just crossing over. His youngest grandson Joryan was still in diapers when he came along with his brother Alijah to the first Cub Scout meeting. I kid Joryan that when he has completed Cub Scouting, he will have done it twice - once with his older brother - and once on his own!

I also have to say that Pack 101 has been a tremendous assistance, as well as the Troop. For example, with six Scouts, it is hard to have a Pinewood Derby, but thanks to Doctor Ken LaPolla and Paul Kuszmaul, we have been invited to attend the 101 Pinewood Derby, race as a Pack, and join them in the open competition as well. Barbara Rosenblum has offered assistance in providing material for first aid. The boys at the Troop have been very understanding when we need resources for a project. And everyone has been pretty good about not complaining when the Cubs get noisy or in the way! It's a hoot when they make coffee can shoes and walk on the basement cement floor going "CLOP! CLOP! BANG!" I can go on and on about the help we have received and the patience offered because that is what Scouting is all about!





**Tim Ross**  
**President**

**April 2012**

In this column in our previous issue, I asked you to consider a tax deductible contribution to the Troop. I am thrilled to report that a number of you really stepped up to the plate.

## From the President

### “Making a Difference - A Dollar at a Time”

ever go without a camping experience just because the family cannot afford it. This is especially true with Summer Camp, which will be coming up before we know it. Over the years, your donations have helped send a number of our economically challenged Scouts to camp. You can only imagine the “return on your investment” when you see the look on a young Scout’s face after having experienced the first-time fun and excitement of Summer Camp, thanks to your generosity!

Now, come on out and join us at Family Camp on June 15th and let us gladly show you how your money is working wonders!

-Tim

I cannot thank you enough for heeding the call and putting your dollars into a program that does so much for so many boys. As we all know, running a quality program takes money and you can be assured, as always, that your money is being stretched to the max! Let’s explore that statement a bit further and take a closer look at where your donations go.

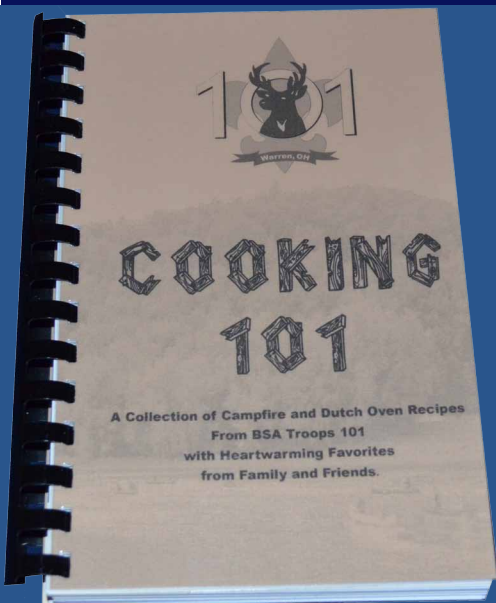
For quite some time, we have been trying to replace all of the old voyageur canvas tents. There are 32 such tents that needed replaced at a cost of about \$250.00 each. Doing some quick math, you can see just how expensive it is. So far, thanks to you, we have been able to purchase 24 new tents, but eight more are needed. The donations over the past year have also gone toward keeping essential things like canoes and trailers in good working order.

One of the first things new Scouts and their families are told upon joining the Troop is our policy that no Scout shall



*The Eureka Timberline Outfitter SQ*

## The First Ever Troop 101 Cookbook is Here!



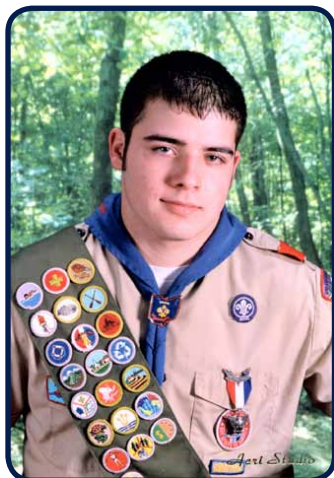
### “Cooking 101” - Do you have your copy?

Everyone in the Troop 101 Alumni Association knows that one of the Troop’s passions is cooking and one of the requirements for becoming a Troop 101 Eagle Scout is to earn the cooking merit badge. So, it is no surprise that one of the hottest items at the Troop’s Spaghetti Dinner was the Eagle’s Wings new cookbook Cooking 101.

This is the Troop’s very first cookbook and features all of the camping recipes that the boys use every month, surrounded by recipes submitted by our family and friends. At first glance, you’ll agree, it’s two cookbooks in one!

Cooking 101 costs only \$12.00 and will make great gift for your family and friends! You can place your order right now on the Troop website:

<http://www.troop101.net/eagleorderform.asp>



Those who know Eagle Scout Doug Hawley really well are not at all surprised that he is living in Los Angeles and pursuing a film career.

Doug was the mastermind of one of the most enduring Troop 101 Patrol videos of all time; "SkunkBusters," patterned after the hit movie "Ghostbusters," which made light of the fabled rivalry between the Senior Troop Leadership Great Horned Owl Patrol and the Adult-Leader Skunk Patrol.

In this issue, we catch up with Doug at his home in Los Angeles to find out more about those thrilling days of yesteryear and what life is really like in Tinseltown.

**Q** – Hollywood - When and how did you make the decision to make the big move?

**A** - I think the idea initially came to me as a young lad during a particularly frigid Winter Event at Camp Chickagami, while I was trying to pitch a tent in three feet of snow. However, I knew for certain, I would be west coast bound once I started college at The University of Toledo. The weather was awful in Toledo too, but also my college major was in Film and Video studies, so eventually moving to California seemed like a logical decision.

**Q** -You have written for some shows and acted in a movie?

## Alumni Spotlight

### Doug Hawley

Hollywood, California

Troop 101 Eagle Scout #80 - March 16, 2000



**A** - I have done some "punching up" on scripts for writers I have worked for in the past. My "big acting job" wasn't a movie, but rather a History Channel show about the USS Thresher, a submarine that sank in the early 1960s. I'm not an actor, so really I did this as a favor to a friend who was on the crew and was scrambling to find a replacement for an actor that fell through. I was paid a few hundred dollars to get blasted with a pressure washer spewing cold water while I pretended to fix a leak using a very large wrench. My parents own a copy of this episode and periodically watch it to have a good laugh at my expense.

**Q** -Fill us in, have you met or worked with any name celebs?

**A** - I once worked for a day on a "Grade-Z" direct-to-video movie called "Pirate Camp" starring Corbin Bernsen. Most of the older readers will remember him from "LA Law" and "Major League," while younger readers are probably scratching their heads wondering who he is. There are other celebrities I have met and worked with, but Mr. Bernsen sticks out because, during a filming one day, I watched him scream and berate the entire crew and then attempt to make a dramatic exit off the set in disgust. Unfortunately, he was standing in sand and couldn't get good footing and fell flat on his face. This all happened while he was dressed as a pirate.

*[Editors note: Bernsen recently produced and starred in "25 Hill" a movie about the All-American Soap Box Derby filmed in Akron]*

**Q** -Have you had any help breaking into the business out there? How does one get his foot in the door in such a competitive field?

**A** - I was fortunate enough to have some friends to point me in the right direction, but really it's like going for any other job. A good resume, education and so on are what really pay off.

**Q** - We always hear it said that hardly anybody who makes it in show business out there is actually from Southern California – they are all from places like Ohio, Indiana, Pennsylvania, Illinois. Do you see a lot of that?

***"I was fortunate enough to have some friends to point me in the right direction, but really it's like going for any other job. A good resume, education and so on are what really pay off."***

**A** - I do, I think the reason is that Southern California, particularly Los Angeles, is really a transient area. I have been fortunate enough to have made a wealth of Ohio friends out here, none of whom I knew when I lived there.

**Q** - There's this guy named Spielberg who allegedly credits a cinematography merit badge for his interest in making movies while a Boy Scout, just as you got your start with patrol movies – specifically "SkunkBusters." The episodes are up in the Troop website for all to see and they appear to have stood the test of

time. Today's Scouts love them. How do you feel looking back on making them?

**A** - Thinking back makes me extremely happy because we had so much fun making them. You really can't beat acting silly with your best friends and videotaping it with your mom's camera. The fun did, however take a nosedive when we realized we had taped over my first communion!

**Q** - "SkunkBusters" certainly paved the way for much more creative patrol videos. Whose idea was "SkunkBusters?"

**A** - Well, that really depends. If you enjoyed them, then it was all my idea. If not, then I am going to go ahead and blame one of the Palcich twins. In fact, I'll blame both and throw Corky Manofsky under the bus while I'm at it.

**Q** - Who made up the cast and crew?

**A** - We made three videos, so there were people who were in one or two and not the others. Corky Manofsky, Adam Palcich, Dave Palcich and myself were the only ones who participated in all three. The four of us wrote them together while I acted as the director and editor, the brothers Palcich built the props, and Corky was "the face man" as he was the best actor and the most animated. A lot of others worked on the videos as well, including Adam Ramos, Chris Whitehead, Mike Babyak, Adam Palm, Steve Wisniewski, Josh France and Eric Fortsch. There were more, but this just off the top of my head.

**Q** -Any chances for a reunion and a fourth "SkunkBusters" episode?

**A** - Never say never!

**Q** - Do you still keep in touch with the guys from Howland and the old Patrol?

**A** - I do keep in touch and I try to see

those who are still around when I make it back to Ohio on occasion.

**Q** - Having progressed through the ranks of Scouting, obviously you have a lot of memories of stuff that happened on campouts. What comes to mind?

**A** - I can't remember exactly where we were camping, but the weather was cold and awful, as usual. A group of us had found a small river that ran not far from where we had set up camp. After a series of escalating dares, someone (who shall remain nameless, though I swear it was not me) thought it would be a good idea to swing out over the river from a vine that was hanging from a large tree. The person, who shall remain nameless, decided to test the strength of the vine by hanging onto it with his full body weight. After several loud snapping sounds from above, and many loose branches hitting the ground, this person decided, against the consensus of the group, that the vine was now quite secure. Needless to say, the grin of satisfaction changing to certain fear on the person's face, just as the vine snapped and said person was completely submerged in water, was nothing short of epic and will forever be burned into my memory. To add insult to injury, Mr. P. later informed us that the river was contaminated. To this day, none of us are sure if he was kidding or not.

**Q** - Any profound "Words of Wisdom" from Mr. P. come to mind?



*"Dapper" Doug Hawley, Tinseltown. 2012*

**A** - It was never the words as much as the look in his eye, particularly when he arched one eyebrow.

**Q** - Looking back, what would you say was the most important thing you got out of Scouting?

**A** - You really learn how to act, not just as an adult but also how to act and work with other people. You learn to collaborate and solve problems together, often in less than stellar conditions (as noted earlier, the weather). I have found that aspect paramount in the field I have chosen.

**Q** - Advice you may be able to offer to younger Scouts today?

**A** - Learn as much as you can, have as much fun as you can and enjoy the time you have.

## Jim Potjunas

### On "SkunkBusters"

"SkunkBusters was easily one of the most creative videos done by a patrol. If you re-watch them, you will see that the first one was creative, but short. The second one was probably their best and the third was done quite creatively with their 'years later' approach. While these may not be available on Blu-ray, they are all out on the Troop website in the video gallery. As for razzing the Skunk Patrol – yes, some traditions must be respected, but make no mistake – the Owls have taken a few shots over the years as well.

Ultimately we win because every Owl eventually ages into a Skunk – or as they would phrase it – "Crosses over to the Dark Side."

**FIND SKUNKBUSTERS,  
AND MORE AT  
<http://movies.troop101.net>**



## Trivia

1. How many dinners did Troop 101 serve in 2011?
2. This year represents the 100th anniversary of the Eagle Scout Rank. What other scouting organization is 100 this year?
3. What new merit badge was just released February 2012?
4. What is the goal of Boy Scouting?
5. What does the knot symbolize on the Boy Scout emblem?

## Fun Facts

Eagles Wings has sold about 100 copies of Cooking 101. It's not to late to get your copy though. Order online at [Troop101.net](http://Troop101.net)

More than 300 Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Webelos became engineers for a day during the 18th annual Engineering, Science, and Technology Day at Bechtel's Houston office.

1. 828
2. The Girl Scouts
3. Welding
4. Build character, citizenship, and fitness
5. To remember to do a good turn daily

## Answers

# Scoutmaster's Column

## Crossing Paths



**Jim Potjunas**  
Scoutmaster

We just finished our 34th Spaghetti Dinner yesterday and as always, Scouts were out in force serving, cleaning and doing what needed done to help out their program for the coming year.

But the special thing about this event is Alumni were out in force as well. We fed 1000 meals yesterday and I sure knew a lot of the people who came to eat! Of our 119 Eagle Scouts, we had 49 represented personally or by family members eating at the dinner. That's over 40%! Many took a minute to chat and reminisce and some even shared a story or two with today's Scouts. A few are even parents of today's Scouts!

A couple more months will go by and we will hold our annual Family Campout in June at Pymatuning. The invitation is extended to Alumni, as always, to drop in for a visit or come camp for the whole weekend. It's an off year, no big anniversaries or anything, so we won't see many. But there's a chance that one or two will have that opening in their busy schedule to stop out and hearken back to a before time of canoes and campfires, even if just for a little bit. And if they do, there will be stories exchanged and a few Scouts may be lucky enough to hear first-hand about how it was 'back in the day'.

This year's big trip is the bike trip. It will be the seventh time we have done it (every four years, starting back in 1988) and the only major change is that we no longer tour Washington D.C. Starting last time, we packed up in Georgetown and headed to Gettysburg for our final weekend. We like that much better. Back then, Tom Nypaver contacted us and rode along for the week. When we got to Gettysburg we were joined by Jeff Koncki and his wife, who planned to camp at the same park we did. Will anyone from the past join us this year? One recent Troop alum, Kenny Young, has already signed up. We will just have to wait and see.

But this much I do know. Each time that the paths cross with today's Scouts and yesterday's Scouts, leaders, or parents, everyone seems to be the richer for it. The Scouts pick up a bit of history and perspective that they really can't get anywhere else. And the Alumni get a chance to step away from whatever is going on in today's world and spend a bit of time back in a simpler time. They always come away with a feeling of satisfaction that they helped or supported on one way or another. And in every case, they did. Even if it was just a few fleeting minutes around a campfire telling this generation what it was like, it helps.

During spring break, a bunch of wild and crazy college Alumni descended on a Troop meeting. It was great. We leave the welcome mat out for any and all Alumni to visit a meeting, a campout, whatever. It's what makes me look forward to the 35th Spaghetti Dinner next year and for the now 70 boys who run around each week with a 101 on their shoulder, yes, it helps.

## 34TH TROOP 101 SPAGHETTI DINNER

This year's spaghetti dinner was a huge success. Overall we served 1,000 dinners, 628 dined in with us and 372 received take out. Eagle's Wings basket raffle sold over 2,000 tickets! Eagles Wings also revealed their first cookbook, Cooking 101, selling almost 100 copies. Leading up to the event this year Dr. Ken LaPolla and Troop 101's Josh McFall made an appearance on Channel 33, WYTV, for the evening news. If you missed it, be sure to check it out on our website <http://movies.troop101.net/>



Lorenzo and Josh Collect Tickets



Trenton and Dylan



Ben, Brad, and Max Serving Pasta

## Greater Cleveland Councils Sells Tinnerman Canoe Base for \$415,000

As we reported in the previous issue of The Troop 101 Alumni Quarterly, the executive board of Greater Cleveland Council, Boy Scouts of America made it official in February, voting unanimously to accept a cash offer of \$415,000 for the 10 acre property on the French River in Ontario, Canada that was the Tinnerman Wilderness Canoe Base. The purchase offer has no contingencies and is expected to be completed in early May 2012.

According to a statement on the Greater Cleveland Council's website, the canoe base began operations in 1962 after the Tinnerman family donated the property to the council. The base remained in operation for nearly 50 years. The Council cites declining attendance, increasing Canadian government regulations and other issues, as compelling reasons to cease Tinnerman's operations. The canoe base has not operated since the summer of 2010 and the property was listed for sale in fall of 2011.

How the net proceeds from the sale will be used to support and enhance the Scouting program in the Greater Cleveland Council, according to the website, has not yet been determined by its board.



*Tinnerman Canoe Base*

## Calling All Alumni! Register Now for Troop 101's Annual Family Camp at Pymatuning Coming up in mid-June

**We would love to see you again! Check with Jim to register.**

Circle your calendars and come join us June 15 - 17, at Pymatuning State Park for our annual Troop 101 Family Camp.

All Troop 101 Alumni, family members and Pack 101 are invited to attend.

The cost is only 10 dollars for the entire weekend and if you have never participated, you will not believe what a ten dollar bill will get you.

We provide the food and the fun. You provide the tent and your personal gear. Don't have a tent, or forgot how to set

it up? No worries, we have loaner tents for Troop families as well as a "loaner Scout" who knows how to set it up!

Come eat, swim, fish, canoe, sail, play volleyball, or just relax beside the lake.

Not good with maps? – Just plug these coordinates into your GPS and we will see you there:

|                   |            |            |
|-------------------|------------|------------|
| <b>Pymatuning</b> | Latitude:  | 41.520085  |
| Group Site        | Longitude: | -80.482948 |



*Cole and Max take Mrs. Hoover Canoeing*



*Brad, Luke, Thomas, Andrew, Ben & Connell Play Volleyball*



## History in Photos

The Troop Historian is now looking through a ton of old photographs that have never been scanned. Over the next several weeks he will be scanning them in and posting them in the Photo Gallery. Be sure to check out the photo gallery and tag as many photos as you can!





<http://troopphoto.troop101.net>

The Troop 101 photo gallery now contains over **47,000** photos from 1975 to the present.



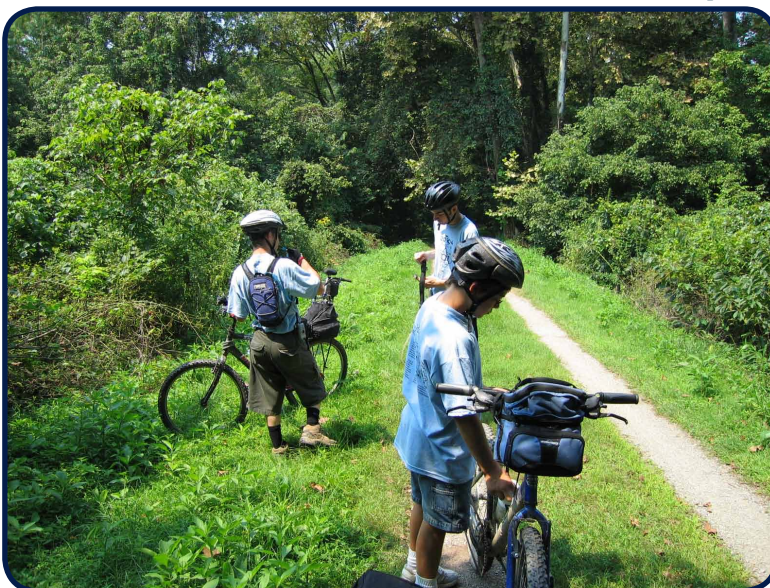
*Bike Trip 2000*



*Bike Trip 2000*



*Don, Dan, and Don - Bike Trip 2004*



*Charles, Brandon and Don - Bike Trip 2004*



*Gettysburg - Bike Trip 2008*



*Zach, Ben, Ken, Alex, Alex, and Mr. McClearn - Bike Trip 2008*



## UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

### • April

**April 27-29, 2012** - Camp Butler Bike Prep Trip. Time to kick off our bicycle year with a bike ride along the Cuyahoga Valley Towpath.

### • May

**May 7, 2012** - Court of Honor at the Elks Lodge

**May 12, 2012** - Andrew Baker will be presented the rank of Eagle Scout in a special Court of Honor at Blessed Sacrament at 3:00 PM.

**May 19-20, 2012** - Campout - Canoeing on the Mahoning River

**May 26, 2012** - Our annual service project decorating the veterans' graves in downtown Warren. Oakwood Cemetary - 9:00am - 11:00am.

### • June

**June 15-17, 2012** - Our annual family camp weekend at Pymatuning. All family and alumni are invited to swim, fish, canoe, sail, play volleyball, or just relax by the lake.

**FOR MORE EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES BE SURE TO CHECK OUT THE TROOP CALENDAR AT**  
**<http://troop101.net/calendar.asp>**

## G.W.R.C. HONORS JIM POTJUNAS



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA  
GREATER WESTERN RESERVE COUNCIL

This June, the Greater Western Reserve Council will be honoring our Scoutmaster for his years of dedication to scouting. As some might remember, we recently honored Jim with his own canoe, "Dedication" in August 2010 for his 30 years as Scoutmaster of Troop 101.

His service and leadership, however, span even more years.

Prepared. For Life.™

## ★ MONDAY JUNE 4TH, 2012 7TH ANNUAL FRIENDS OF SCOUTING BREAKFAST ★

Breakfast 7:00am / Program 7:30am

Leo's Ristorante  
7042 East Market St.  
Warren, OH 44484

Keynote Speaker: Ray "Boom Boom" Mancini  
Local boxing legend and former WBA lightweight champion

Meet and greet opportunity for all guests after the program concludes

R.S.V.P by May 31st, 2012 to Patrick McFall 330.898.8474  
[patrick.mcfall@scouting.org](mailto:patrick.mcfall@scouting.org)

Proudly sponsored by:  
David Rider - Chair  
Ned Gold  
David Kostolansky  
Kevin Lamar  
Jim Vosmik

Honoring Troop 101 Scoutmaster Jim Potjunas  
For his years of exceptional leadership service to youth and dedication to Scouting

Please reserve the date on your calendar