

101 ALUMNI QUARTERLY

April 2016
ISSUE

26



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AND MORE!!!

Generations

Ken and John LaPolla, A Troop 101 Family Legacy Continues

On January 28th, John LaPolla became Troop 101's 144th Eagle Scout. He is the latest in a long line of Troop 101 LaPolla Eagle Scouts, beginning with Uncle Jimmy (Eagle #1) followed by Dad (Ken #3) and Uncles Vince and Mike Lapolla, Eagles #11 and #20, respectively. The Alumni Quarterly checked in with Ken and John about the long LaPolla legacy of family Eagle Scouts.

AQ: Ken and John, congratulations, you just made Troop 101 history as a father-son Eagle combo.

Ken: What a wonderful feeling. I'm so proud of John and the efforts and sacrifices he made to reach this lofty goal. He doesn't fully understand it yet, but the fraternity that binds Eagles Scouts is strong.

John: It's a great feeling. I can't believe I accomplished this wonderful achievement.

AQ: John, this must be really special for you in making Troop history with your Dad. Tell us about his influence.

He has taught me to work to the top and to not give up. It was really neat to have my dad as #3 on the Eagle Wall and now I can join him. It's a family tradition to be an Eagle Scout. I'm proud to say I'm the 5th in the LaPolla family.

AQ: John, we also need to mention your grandfather who has deep roots with the Troop – what have you learned from him?

He has taught me to get involved with the council. I decided to join the Order of the Arrow in which I was the Chief of Membership for two terms. It was a great way to meet other Scouts and also keep in touch with Scouts from Jamboree Troop.

AQ: Ken, as a Scout parent, at some point we have all found ourselves nudging and pushing our Scouts along the trail to Eagle. How motivated was John?

He had his ups and downs. Overall, I probably grew just as much as he did from this experience. As much as we think our children are just like we are, life proves otherwise. I had to learn to meet him half way and to honor his other interests.



Ken (Left) - John (Right)

Alumni Board of Directors

Tim Ross	President
Jim Potjunas	Scoutmaster
Kris Kuszmaul	Committee Chair
Stacey Hoover	Director at Large
Alan Copp	Director at Large

Alumni Committee

Ed Byers	Newsletter
Matt McCracken	Webmaster

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Generations (continued from page 1)

Ken and John LaPolla, A Troop 101 Family Legacy Continues



Ken & John at Family Camp

as he understood that he truly was learning leadership. He applied those leadership skills when he entered high school and started a business club the "Wolves of Warren," where, as the president, he formed a board that organized tours and speakers with local businesses. He was also instrumental with forming his high school's Student Athletic Council, which provides direct input to the Athletic Director from student athletes for Kennedy High School's athletic programs. He currently serves as the president of that council and as the captain of his tennis team. In the end, I would say he honored Scouting with his interests in ways that were John and not dad.

AQ: John, what kept you motivated, and how do you pass that motivation on to the younger Scouts?

Basically, the fact that I made it this close, why not go all the way and become Eagle? It's like doing a set at the gym, you don't just do two reps and call it done; you complete the third rep to complete the set. Plus, you're more than halfway done so why not complete it?

AQ: John, There is school, (college on the horizon), sports, Scouts, a family life, a social life (maybe even a part-time job)? How do you keep it all in sync?

I typically set Monday-Thursday as school/tennis days and Friday and Saturday for social life. However, I'm typically not doing anything in the early afternoon so I'll work on homework or study. Sunday is set for spending time with family and completing homework. I'm typically very good at planning out my schedule and always looking ahead.

AQ: Ken, as a parent what advice did you offer John when it comes to a Scout-School-Life balance seems to work best?

Stay committed and remember what activities are truly important to your goals. Scouting may not always take the front seat, but let's discuss it and let's evaluate how you are prioritizing your activities. Many times we would come to camp on Saturday mornings so that he could fulfill commitments on Fridays that were of greater importance.

When he would lose interest in Scouting, we would tell him to look for another activity that also gave him the same leadership experiences as Scouting. Look first, then consider moving on, not quit first, then maybe find an alternative. In the end, he stayed with Scouting

AQ: Ken, you have a lot of history with the Troop and successfully dealing with our Scouts from Scout to Eagle Rank. How do you keep them focused? Is there a trick to it?

I try and help them break down the commitment which can be overwhelming at times. I challenge them to give a half hour each weekend to advancement. Spend that 25 minute half-time break during a TV football game to knock out a requirement or two. This doesn't seem like much, but it's enough get motivated. I also now have, through John, concrete proof that Scouting does get you into college as well as scholarships. John's acceptance letter to John Carroll University devoted an entire paragraph to his Scouting career, stating, "that because of your Scouting experiences, you exemplify the characteristics we value here at our university." School activities will only take you so far as will sports, but Scouting shows you have drive and ambition that goes above and beyond. So motivating Scouts to invest in their futures helps, as well.

AQ: Ken, with your longevity with the Troop, you certainly have a unique perspective of the Scouting program and how it has evolved over the years. What strikes you the most about Scouting from the days when you were a young man, to present day and having just watching John move along the Trail to Eagle?

Ken: It's harder to impress boys today. A great example are Hamm radios. Growing up it was thrilling to talk to someone across the globe. Often scratchy, and never substantial. Now my son can play Xbox live with his friends in Bolivia after sending them a text to get it started. "Leave No Trace" also presents a challenge. It's difficult to justify pioneering projects after lecturing the Scouts on minimalist camping. But, High Adventure is still a thrill. So I have a job with the troop for a while!

AQ: John, you must be proud of your accomplishment and your family's legacy in Troop 101? Observations, thoughts? Perhaps your most enduring Troop 101 memory?

John: I always knew that I needed to continue the tradition. So I worked my way to become the 5th Eagle Scout of the family. My most enduring memory would be my second trip to Canada for the High Adventure campout. The weather was perfect and the scenery was beautiful. However, the mosquitos didn't appreciate us being there as they would bite us through multiple layers of clothing.



Dr. James LaPolla Sr. - 1978

AQ: Ken – same question.

I'm very proud to be a part of Troop 101 and now that I share that legacy with my son, I'm even prouder. I look forward to our new building and the program it will support. As for fond memories: Jamboree 2013; Canoe trips 2012 and 2014; and both Whitewater trips. Jamboree brought John and me together in Scouting, for which I credit Scoutmaster Larry Elswick. The canoe trips were always my dream for us, and whitewater is John's favorite outdoor adventure.

A final thought, and one I truly would regret if not mentioned, is the support Jim Potjunas has given me/us over the years. I didn't hesitate to ask him for advice as we tackled the challenges that raising a son in Scouting can present. He knew the years that would be challenges and the solutions that would work. And I can say he was very helpful and very correct. He has brought Scouting to me and now my family for which I will always be grateful. Thanks Jim!

Jason Wolf

We hate to say goodbye!

But we all wish the best of luck to Troop 101 Assistant Scoutmaster and Greater Western Reserve Council Scout Executive Jason Wolf who just received a huge promotion as Council Executive in the Bay-Lakes Council, Appleton, Wisconsin effective April 1, 2016.

Jason began his Scouting career as a district executive at the Hawkeye Area Council in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He moved on to become a senior district executive in the same location. Jason then served as the youth development director and district director with the Mid-Iowa Council in Des Moines, Iowa. He then had the pleasure to serve as the director of field service, also in the Mid-Iowa Council.

Jason expressed his thanks to his Troop 101 friends and GWRC Scouting family with the following note:

Dear Scouting Family,

Holy Buckets! Beginning April 1, 2016, Scouting will take my family forward so that I may serve as the Scout Executive for the Bay-Lakes Council, Boy Scouts of America, in Appleton, Wisconsin.

My almost 5 years here has been priceless, fulfilling and rewarding. Thank you!

I am thankful to have worked with a professional office team, professional field team, and Fantastic Executive Board, while performing my duties as the Scout Executive.

I have had thousands of opportunities to hear your stories about the love and passion for Scouting through our fireside chats, attending meetings and events and/or personally touring thousands of you through your Scout Service Center. Thank you for inspiring me to always strive to do more, better.

It has been my honor to serve our youth. It has been my pleasure to work alongside the thousands of adults who serve as our leaders and parents to deliver Scouting to the families of the Greater Western Reserve Council.

You will be missed.

Make it a Great Day for Scouting!
Jason Wolf



Trivia

1. As a bugler, what call is sounded as a warning that personnel will prepare to assemble for a formation?
2. When did the Troop Flag make a trip overseas to fly in a combat mission?
3. How many youth achievements can be worn as knots on an Adult uniform?
4. What is the only award earned in Cub Scouting that is allowed to be worn on a Boy Scout uniform?
5. What constellation is shaped like a "W"?

Fun Facts

There is a map in the Alumni Section of the Troop Website that shows the location of all the campsites the Troop has camped at.

The Invention merit badge (1911–1918) required the candidate to obtain a patent.

1. First Call
2. Twice in 2010 and 2013
3. 5
4. Arrow of Light
5. Cassiopeia

Answers

We Were Ready with Spaghetti!

38th Annual Dinner

Everybody knows that Trumbull County's annual rite of Spring is the Troop 101 Spaghetti Dinner and another in a long string of successful fundraisers was this year's event.

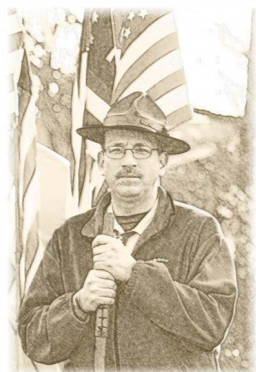
There was a Troop slideshow, Eagles Wings raffle baskets, lots of good-looking deserts and, of course, the best Spaghetti in the county.

We served 750 dinners this year. A total of 401 adults and 65 youth kept us busy throughout the day, Palm Sunday in Regan Hall. Plus, we filled a nice number of take-out orders, totaling 284!

A very special 'thank you' to Matt Kasos of Premium Meats and Stacey Hoover of Cockeye BBQ for their generous donations to the cause this year! – and thanks to all of you who helped make this year's Troop 101 Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser another tremendous success.



Scoutmaster Corner



Jim Potjunas
Scoutmaster

In the Blessed Sacrament Church parking lot right behind the sign that says "Future Site of the Troop 101 Equipment Building," trees have been removed and dirt is being hauled away. We hope to break ground sometime this month, weather permitting. For reference, we will

camp on the weekend of April 23rd, so that should be the last blizzard of the season. (I am writing this looking out at 5 inches of April snow.)

As our Spaghetti Dinner was being planned, folks had discussions like "I have the plates and some cups in my basement, what did you say was in your garage?" Before each campout, the conversation goes "I think the one dining fly is in the trailer, the other one is either in Jim's barn or still downstairs at the Elks." PLC Training this spring was actually held in the waiting room at Ken LaPolla's office. As I pack for camp each month, I have to maneuver around the Court of Honor stuff out in my garage.

The point is that the program is still going on. So let's take a look at how we see the year unfolding. Since last October we have had seven Eagles and there are two more in the pipeline. We have only had one Eagle Court of Honor and another is about to happen. So, there will be a bunch of those coming up. The hall where we now hold Troop meetings at the Church is a very nice place for those. We are seeing more on Monday nights again. You can always check the calendar on the troop website and stop in!

We have been camping with a minimum of tents this year. Winter Event was oddly enough at Perkins Park with an overnight at the Trumbull Fitness Center. February and

March were cabins at CustalogaTown and Tuscazoar. April will be adirondacks at Butler. In May, we will have the challenge of drying tents again. Also this month, one of our Troop dads is donating the use of a semi-trailer to store what is down at the former Elks. We will have access to it from his business and when the new building is ready, he will pull it over there to unload.

At a Monday night meeting later this spring or early summer when the weather gets better, we plan to refurbish the many Eagle Service Projects on the Church grounds. We also plan to work some of them into our summer meeting programs, like the volleyball court and the campfire circle. We will be able to do fire building at Troop meetings! I start to get excited when I imagine this going on while a building is also going up. One of the things we have included in the new building is a conference room where we will be able to hold Troop Committee Meetings, Alumni Board Meetings, Assistant Scoutmaster Meetings, PLC Training, etc. The back wall of that room will be the new home for our Eagle Wall. We will also set up the 3-D scanner and printer that were so generously donated to us by Troop alumnus, George Burin III. There is also a lot of work to do with the Cubs and their program and equipment.

We have raised enough so far in the capital campaign to make the building itself a reality. But whether we have enough for those things that go inside, like shelving, table, chairs for the conference room, etc. is still unknown. So if you haven't donated to the project, we can still use your help. We will have ongoing expenses with the building as well, and if any funds remain they will be earmarked for that. We will keep you posted both here and on the Alumni Facebook page throughout this exciting summer of change. But right now, I have to go see if I can find some things for Monday's program – they are in one of three or four places . . .

-Jim



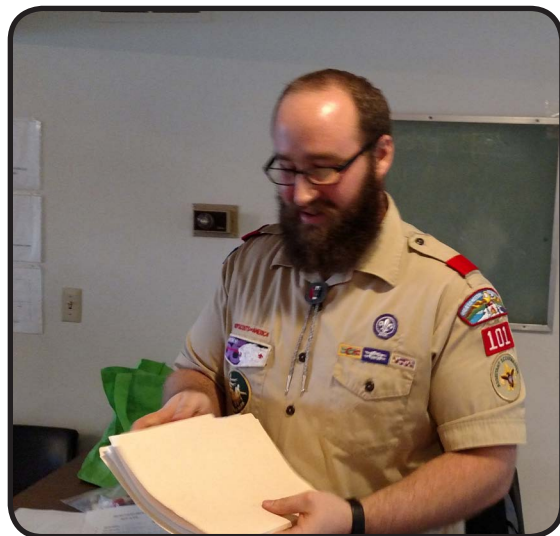
CPR & First Aid Training

Alumni Member returns to train our leaders

A few weeks ago, one of our Eagle Scouts, Zach Talstein #107, took some time out of his busy schedule to help out his Troop by training adults in CPR & First Aid Training.

As a graduate of The Ohio State University, Zach is now a Safety Program Coordinator at OSU. He is a certified instructor of the American Red Cross, and he agreed to drive back to Warren for a day of training.

Assistant Scoutmasters and Committee members attended the training not far from where our new building will be. The training lasted a couple hours, but the Adults that attended are now fully trained and certified. We appreciate Zach taking time out of his schedule to be our instructor.



**American
Red Cross**

A Night at the Movies - Movie Night 2016

Movie night has a long standing tradition in Troop 101. Started years ago, it served the troop as a means to an Anti-Drug program scouts could participate in. Not many get the requirement from movie night anymore, given School programs like DARE, but movie night still brings laughter and fun to the Scouts of Troop 101.

This year, the theme was Anti-Drug once again, and we had several really cool movies turned in. As a bonus, since all patrols participated, there was a pizza party during Movie night.

You can check them out in the Troop Gallery, or on our YouTube page!

While you're there, be sure to check out some of the older Patrol Movies. We have movies from 1990!



<http://Troopphoto.Troop101.net>

The Troop 101 gallery now contains over **72,000** photos and videos from 1975 to the present.



April 2005



March 2008



August 2015



September 1998

UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

• April

- April 16 - Elks Lodge Cleanout
- April 22 - 24 - Butler Camping Trip
- April 29 - May 1 - Wilderness Survival Trip

• June

- June 6 - Eagle Court of Honor - Stavan Shah
- June 9 - 11 - Whitewater Rafting
- June 17 - 19 - Family Camp at Pymatuning

• May

- May 9 - Eagle Court of Honor - Donovan Ray
- May 13 - Eagle Court of Honor - John LaPolla
- May 20 - 22 - Cook Forrest
- May 28 - Decorate Veteran's Graves

• July

- July 10 - 16 - Summer Camp
- July 21 - 24 - Pine Creek Backpacking

FOR MORE EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES BE SURE TO CHECK
OUT THE TROOP CALENDAR AT
<http://Troop101.net/calendar.asp>



What the Troop has been up to since our last issue



Winter Event

January 27, 2016

This year they changed it up, with Winter Event being held at Perkins Park. Scouts spent the day running around the park, competing in several challenges. After the events ended for the day, they went over to the former YMCA building to swim, play games in the gym, and eat pizza.



Peak N Peak Ski Trip

February 6, 2016

Some of our guys traveled to the slopes for a Ski Trip with Dr. LaPolla. One of the many High Adventure trips in 2016. Check out the Calendar for more trips coming up, and be sure to check the photo gallery for some photos.



Cabins at CustalogaTown

February 21, 2016

Friday night was an event in itself, with snow reaching the tops of boots, and tires spinning on the slopes.

Saturday, the inches of snow turned into snow creations, then melted away to reveal the mud below. The rockets fizzed, the catapults caused snowballs to soar, and the sun shone high in the sky, warming our February trip to Custalogatown.



Tuscazoar

March 6, 2016

The cold didn't stop the troop from having a good time this weekend. Sounds like everyone enjoyed the Star Wars themed events, and photos do the trip more justice than words.