101 ALUMNI QUARTERLY

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ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
19 WARREN, OH 75
TROOP 101

This past summer has been bitter sweet.

The Scoutmaster's Corner - Dr. Ken LaPolla

I was happy to see the Troop return to Summer Camp (with some minor changes due to COVID). The Scouts had a great time and accomplished many of the badges the Scouts have accomplished in the past. I was proud to see 5 of our Alumni return as staff members, the largest representation to the staff from the Troop in years. Ask them if they'll return, and I think they will all say yes. I fondly remember my staff years at Chickagami. I wouldn't trade them for anything. As a matter of fact, I used my entire final summer's paycheck as Program Director to pay for my future wife's engagement ring (a great investment!).

This Summer was also a first for me. I've never been caving/spelunking and this August I was able to check this off my list. I wasn't sure how it would go. I remember feeling a bit claustrophobic in the catacombs in Rome years ago while stationed overseas. I panicked a little when I couldn't go back out the tight crevasse and my "pig" Italian was lost on those behind me, so I pushed on and made it through. I fortunately never experienced the same feeling this last time and was proud of myself and of the Scouts who pushed through their struggles as well (bravo Mason!).

We also decided to stop by the Flight 93 memorial on the way to Ohiopyle. I wasn't sure how it would be received by the Troop, but I was pleasantly surprised at how engaged and attentive they were. I'm sure this year's 911 Remembrance was a little more meaningful for them than were others. I know it was for me.

And finally, I lost my father this past August. Although he wasn't the most experienced camper nor the handiest with any type of tool, he tried and he camped because he knew it was important to us. But he had other talents that I admired. He was a great leader and knew the importance of volunteering and giving back. He served as board president and was instrumental in the region, helping the struggling Great Trail Council rebuild for which he was dully recognized and we are now grateful. I'll miss him, but I know where to find him when I look in the mirror or search my heart to decide what to do.

So, to a bittersweet Summer, thank you for new experiences and thanks for the reflections for who I am and for whom to credit.

-Ken

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FEATURE STORY

Staffing a Summer Camp

Manatoc Camp Staff - 2021

Every year the Troop takes a week in the summer to attend a Summer Camp program. Since 2000 the Troop has attended Manatoc Scout Reservation, located within the Cuyahoga Valley National Park in Peninsula, Ohio.

In the past there have been both Troop and Alumni members from 101 that have served on Camp Staff during these summer programs. Since 2000 there haven't been many. In 2014 Dan Young worked staff at Manatoc, becoming the first from the Troop to do so. But that started to change in 2019.

Marty, Colin, Christopher, Zach

In 2019, we started off with 2 of our Troop senior leaders joining Camp Staff. They liked it so much, they attempted to return in 2020 only to be thwarted by COVID. But in 2021, not only did they return for a summer at Manatoc, but they convinced 2 other Alumni to join them. In addition, the younger brother of one would sign on to work 2 weeks in a CIT position. CIT stands for "Counselor in Training". It's a title given to participants that help Camp Staff, but legally cannot work as members of staff yet due to their age.

On Staff this year we had Christopher McMahan, Eagle Scout #153. This was his third year working Camp Staff, 2018 (Seven Ranges), 2019 and 2021 (Manatoc). Returning for his second year at Manatoc (2019/2021) was Colin Price, Eagle Scout #161. First time on Staff we had Marty Nelder, Eagle #154 and Zach Hudson, Eagle #155. Joining them as a CIT was James Price, currently Star Rank and recently elected Patrol Leader.

AQ: Why did you decide to work at Manatoc this Summer?

Christopher: I decided to work camp staff for the 2021 summer season for several reasons, the first being that this would have now been my third year on Staff, I knew that several of my fellow Troop members would also be working this summer, and I was given the position of Scoutcraft Director!

Zach: I had always wanted to work staff, but the timing was never right. This year just worked out perfectly. I also wanted to spend an entire summer at camp because I've said for years that one week just wasn't enough.

Colin: It took a bit of convincing, mostly from Christopher, but I decided that working staff had been fun in 2019, and wanted to go again.

Marty: Both Christopher and Colin approached me and said Manatoc was looking for staff members. They had a big need for them after not having a camp program in 2020. After thinking about it for a while I thought it would be a cool experience and so I applied. I'm really glad I did!

James: I decided to work as a CIT because I was always hearing stories from my brother about working at camp, and how much fun it was. The thought of working at camp, and getting to go really helped push me forward.

James Price, Harley H, Marty Nelder

AQ: At what areas did you work in? Was it your first choice?

Christopher: I worked in the Scoutcraft area as the Scoutcraft Director. It was where I wanted to be, and I got to work directly under the Potjunas Shelter.

Zach: I worked at the pool as a Lifeguard and Lifesaving Instructor. I was actually hired on to work at Nature, and then moved to Scoutcraft to teach Emergency Preparedness and Search And Rescue. After doing my staff swim test, the Aquatics Director approached me and asked if I was interested in working in Aquatics. I told him sure, so I did my 550-guard check and was officially on the Aquatics staff.

Colin: I was the Archery Director, which was not actually the area that I was originally hired for. We needed a person to be the Archery Director who was over 18, and my name came up in their discussions. So, I got moved from a pool Aquatics Assistant to Archery Director.

Marty: I got hired to help in the Scoutcraft area, and that's where I got to work. Actually, Christopher was pretty much my boss for the Summer.

James: I got to move around and work in different areas. It was a lot of fun!

AQ: Having been on both sides of Summer Camp, did your opinion on the experience change?

Christopher: Through working on staff, and being a camper, I have learned that personally camp staff is a thousand times more fun. I've made so many friends through staff and through learning about how the camp actually works, I feel I understand how the camp works, as well as how the budget is handled.

Zach: There were a lot of things that I was surprised how unorganized they were, but at the same time there were things that did not seem like they needed to be organized that took days of planning. Meal time program (song, Gizmo, etc.) was an in the moment decision. There were times that my boss would walk up to me and say "Zach, you have song" and I would have to figure out what song I would sing in about 5 minutes. The more super organized stuff was Sunday. Between check in, guiding, and swim checks, everything was so crazy but it was very organized on paper.

Colin: After 2 years of working staff, I can wholeheartedly say that my view of the camp has changed. There are so many things happening behind the scenes that you rarely think of as a camper.

Colin plays dead

Marty: I want to give the staff members a lot of credit for what they do, having all of the Troops and stuff there for multiple weeks on end is quite the challenge both mentally and physically. I never realized there was so much going on in the background.

Christopher and Marty making beans

James: My opinion of summer camp changed a lot. I learned a new respect for everyone working there. How much work and effort everyone puts into everything they do makes me respect everyone there.

AQ: What can you tell us about Staff Life?

Christopher: Well, when it comes to Staff Life, depending on your position and title you either live in the nicest cabin on property or in the tent city of Staff Row, but overall, the community that is formed between all of the staff is amazing. All staff members have similar work loads and everything is quite laid back, then along with our normal daily routine we also have lots of staff exclusive fun such as being a part of a staff prank such as dumping over 400 rubber duckllings into the pool. Staff also has cracker barrels which can be anything from a lake luau to glow climb nights, almost everything we do while on staff is pure fun.

Zach: It is pretty much exactly what you would expect. It is working in your area from 9-5 every day, sleeping in a tent, and having tons of fun. The hours were pretty long, since we would have to be at the dining hall at 7-ish and then had activities until about 10 or 11 most nights. But it was camping 24/7, and I loved it!

Colin: Staff life is organized chaos, which you can expect when you stick a group of high schoolers and college kids in the middle of the woods, tell them that they are basically in charge, and trust them to be smart. And we are smart, most of the time. There are pranks, fights, and so much drama. But it's all enjoyable.

Marty: It's definitely a once in a lifetime experience where you will meet many types of Scouts and co-workers. If you have the opportunity to do it, absolutely give it a shot, you won't regret it.

AQ: James, you were a CIT this Summer. Can you explain that?

Marty bidding all his money while Zach laughs

James: As a CIT you work 2 weeks instead of 7. The first week you work you go to every area that badges are taught and see how they are run and help teach a badge for a morning class and afternoon class. The second week you work you pick an area and if you get approved you work there the entire week, helping teach there all day for classes. I was there for week 3 and week 5. The Troop went for Week 4, so I was there 3 weeks in a row.

Being a CIT was amazing. You get to work at a camp for 2 weeks which just by itself is amazing, but then you get to help teach merit badges to other scouts and get to eat delicious food every week.

AQ: What week was your favorite week to work?

Christopher: My favorite week to work this year would probably be week 1 due to the amazing weather we had which allowed our area to peek to the point of even earning the Most Improved Area when compared to the 2019 reviews.

Zach: I really enjoyed staff week. Yeah, it was all set up and training, but there were no scouts so we spent our time as staff getting to know each other and hanging out a lot. A lot of the staffers would have nightly basketball games after we were done with our stuff, and that was a great opportunity to get to know them.

Colin: My personal favorite week was either week 2 or 3, since it was full of thunderstorms that shut down the range, and gave me a break. The Range was a lot tougher to handle than I thought, and getting that break really helped me continue to enjoy being on Staff.

Marty: Definitely Staff week, getting to know the staff more and having those fun moments were awesome.

AQ: Our Troop camps during week 4. What was it like working with our Troop?

Christopher: The biggest thing that I had to do while working with 101 Scouts was to treat them the same as every other scout attending. So even though I'm an Alumni of the Troop and I knew many of the Scouts they are still just that Scouts… Now 101 adults on the other hand, I made sure to have fun with teasing them and sending them off into the woods to find Cairns and making shenanigans during ceremonies.

Zach: Since they knew me and I knew them, they at times thought they could get away with stuff around me. I put a stop to this real quick because I was still a counselor and should receive the same respect as the other staffers. On the bright side, I knew I could mess with the 101 guys so I spent all of week 4 doing that.

Colin: I didn't actually get to work directly with any 101 Scouts. Everyone avoided my range like the plague for the most part. No one even during open shoots. Pretty sure they were just taking other badges this summer. Aidan did throw some beef jerky at me, though...

Marty: Honestly it felt the same as teaching the younger Scouts in camp, nothing really much different.

AQ: What was it like having 4 Eagle Scout friends working Camp Staff this year?

Christopher: It was a nice change, especially over my first year when I went to staff at Seven Ranges by myself. But then in 2019 when I worked at Manatoc with Colin, that summer was even more fun! Now this last year with Colin, Marty, and Zach... This last summer was definitely one that has made it into the books as a summer to remember.

Christopher & the "Quaken" releasing rubber ducks

Zach: Knowing I would be working with some of my best friends was what really cemented my choice to work at camp. I knew that it would be a weird adjustment at first, so having my buddies right there was a huge relief. It also was great because the four of us made sure the rest of staff and the campers got to see how awesome Troop 101 is.

Colin: Oh, us 101 alum all had fun together throughout

Marty and Bob chilling at Cracker Barrel

the season, whether it was filling the pool with rubber ducks, or Saturday meals in Eagle Lodge. Hoping to be able to do this again with them sometime.

Marty: It was definitely awesome because we were basically the biggest group of friends at the camp from the get go.

AQ: James, what was it like working with some 101 Alumni?

James: It was really refreshing to work with other 101 scouts, having a familiar face that you already know in a crowd of new people is a very nice thing to have.

AQ: Favorite moments or activities?

Christopher: This year was one to truly remember, over the summer so much happened but here's a few things that really made me smile:

- Hearing over the radio "I love watching all my directors run towards a giant lightning rod during a thunderstorm".
- When I filled the pool with over 400 rubber ducks and swam with them.
- Helping out with both the OA's Brotherhood ceremony and being the Sachem for the camp's Fourth year ceremony.
- Running the camp flag retirement ceremonies where I would end each one the same way by saying, "Here lie the ashes of what were once great trees, may our lives be like those of service, goodnight scouts".

Zach, Harley, and Colin

Zach: During Staff Week, we had a staff Cracker Barrel where we had some snacks and drinks. Marty sat down with his carton of milk and tried to open it. He messed with it for like 5 minutes until he yelled at his milk in the middle of the dining hall, pulled out his knife, and started stabbing his milk to get it open (he was doing all of this while sitting right next to the safety officer). After he finally pried his carton open, he looked at the rest of us at the table, who were either in shock or laughing hysterically, and said "The milk was too smart". The next morning at breakfast, half of staff grabbed their milk, walked up to Marty, and asked him to open their milk. He had to open about 20 milk cartons that morning. He laughed, and so did the rest of us.

Colin and Jim at the Canon

Colin: My Favorite overall moment of staffing would have to have been one of the Saturdays that a lot of us were staying over that weekend, and I was working on making dinner. I spent all day making Curry, all from scratch. Anytime anyone walked in, they'd take in a deep whiff of the slowly stewing mixture bubbling away on the stove. Yes, it was delicious.

Marty: Finally getting the opportunity to kiss the animal of meal, not only once but TWICE during webelos week. Long time dream finally came true.

James: One of my favorite moments being on staff was getting to know the people who work on staff. When you go there you learn a bit about the other staff but never learn as much as you do when you work with them.

AQ: I hear every staff member ends up kissing one of the dining hall animals. Which did you have to kiss?

Christopher: Over the summer I did have to kiss an animal, actually two, the goat and the boar.

Zach: I had two kiss two animals this summer. I kissed Robo-Deer during staff week for getting the Gizmo Gameshow question of the meal wrong and I kissed the Big Moose on my birthday.

Marty and Jackson "Beard War"

Colin: I, like all the staff, had to kiss JaJa the Boar during a dinner where the Director of Camping, our boss's boss, got a question right and called all of the staff. Almost made it this year.

Marty: The Caribou and the deer.

James: I unfortunately did not get to kiss an animal. It's on my list of things to get to do next year.

AQ: How was it teaching merit badges this year? What did you teach?

Christopher: Now that I've had four years of experience teaching badges, I am now used to teaching badges to scouts. I've now taught in total over 15 different badges over my past years on staff.

This summer I taught Communications Merit Badge and Orienteering Merit badge.

Zach: It was super rewarding, but it did have its challenges. The Scouts were so eager to learn, but they are also kids so they messed around and got easily distracted, which was pretty frustrating at times. I did feel that I got better and better at teach each week and overall, the scouts really seemed to enjoy my lifesaving class.

I taught Lifesaving, and I also helped out with Swimming.

Colin: I enjoy teaching merit badges for the most part. The only real issue I had was the occasion where someone from a previous week came back with a parent to work on a badge. 9/10 times, this worked out to be me dealing with a helicopter parent, instead of actually helping the young Scout.

I taught Archery and only Archery. I came in staff week with little to no idea what I was doing, and left with a functioning range of knowledge.

Marty: It was great because some of the scouts really look up to you and really appreciate the merit badge that you're teaching. That feeling is awesome.

I mostly taught Camping, but also E-Prep, Wilderness Survival.

AQ: Most consider working camp staff a rewarding experience. What are your thoughts?

Christopher: As cheesy as it sounds, there are two rewarding factors I get from working Staff, the first being the joy the Scouts give off after they put in the effort to earn a merit badge and it all pays off when I can shake their hand and congratulate them during the Friday class. The second is the friendships and memories I've made within the staff.

Zach: I learned so many new skills that I never would have learned if it weren't for camp. I became a certified lifeguard, and was trained in CPR and first aid for professional rescuers, which I never would have thought to do.

Most of all, I made some great friends over the summer. The Staff was so close and we were always around each other, so it was like a family. I even met four staffers that I attend the University of Akron with (two of them being in the marching band with me).

Colin at the Archery Range

Colin: The most rewarding moment I had was in week 4, when I had a young scout who couldn't shoot at all when he showed up that first Monday. He spent the whole time trying and trying, and I instructed him all the way until Friday. He sadly did not get the badge by only a few points, but he was still happy with his growth. That afternoon, one of his Scoutmasters came up to me to thank me for helping him as long

Staff hanging out in Eagle Lodge

as I did. The Scout had a mild learning disability, and most people couldn't connect with him at all. That had to be my proudest moment.

Marty: Can I say all of it? Like truly just from meeting the staff to teaching the Scouts, it was all a once in a lifetime experience.

James: The most rewarding experience was getting to connect with so many people, scouts and staff members. And getting more experience and confidence in talking to crowds of people.

AQ: Was there a specific Challenge you had to overcome? How did you handle it?

Christopher: We had some water backing up at the Potjunas Shelter. After a little digging, we managed to uncover a drain that wasn't working properly and get it fixed.

Colin giving the Gizmo Gameshow Question

Zach: Before mid-June, I had not been in a pool in two years. This being said, I was a lifeguard so I was in the pool the entire summer. This came with its challenges. I was a very rusty swimmer, so during the Aquatics Staff workouts when we swam laps, I struggled a lot at first. But, after a lot of practice and repetition, I am now a much better swimmer.

Colin: I hadn't worked the Range before. It was a real change for me, and while I was happy to help out when they needed a Range Director, I'm looking forward to returning to the pool for 2022.

Marty: The always changing teaching merit badge schedule, some weeks I would get 1 merit badge up to 3 but after around week 2 it got pretty easy to adjust.

AQ: What could have made this summer even better?

Christopher: It would be really great having more Troop members join Camp Staff.

Marty with the cling wrap helmet

Zach: I feel like it would be great if we had a week off in the middle of the summer. All of the staffers were getting pretty burnt out around week 4, so if we had a week to rest, relax, and get away from camp, we would come back even more energized and ready to work. We had at most 24 hours off between noon on Saturday and noon on Sunday. I did not go home most weekends because the drive was just not worth it so I spent my time off doing laundry and napping. By the time I was done with these things, it would be time to start the next week.

Colin: There are few things that could improve camp life for me, but first and foremost would be restoring the internet that the staff had back in 2018 and 2019. It's hard to do college prep stuff when your only internet source is your phone's hotspot.

Staff marching to retreat

Marty: The amount of food that we got. It wasn't all that bad this year, there just needed to be more of it.

AQ: Will you return to Camp Staff again?

Christopher: YES! YES! YES! I have loved and enjoyed all my time spent working on staff and I wouldn't trade it for the world. I am currently planning to join the staff again for the 2022 summer session. This would be my fourth year on Camp Staff, and third at Manatoc. I plan to take the position as either Scoutcraft Director again or as the Outdoor Skill Director.

Scoutcraft with Christopher and Marty

Zach: Of course! This past summer was the best summer of my life, and it's not even close. I got to meet so many great people, and learn so many skills that I never would have if it weren't for camp. Working on staff gives you a real sense of purpose and belonging in the Manatoc family.

Colin: I am returning next year, as the Camp's Pool Director. Really looking forward to being back at the pool.

Marty: Oh, without a doubt in a heartbeat because it was so much fun and an experience like no other 10/10

AQ: James, would you go back as a CIT again?

James: I would work as a CIT again if I already weren't planning to work there as an actual staff member next year! To any 101 Scout looking to work camp staff, or even being a CIT I would say, if it's what you really want to do go for it! The experience and just being at camp for so long is amazing!

AQ: What advice would you give to an aspiring 101 Scout considering working Staff?

Christopher: Do it, give Staff a shot and if you don't like it then you're lying because everyone loves working camp staff, but seriously just give Staff a chance. I know I've loved all my time on staff.

Zach bugling at Retreat

Zach: DO IT!!! You will have the time of your life.

Colin: If anyone wants to one day be a Staff member, I say go for it. Back when I was a first year, I can still remember Dan Young working on staff, and just thinking "Yeah, I want to do that!" ask us anything, too. We Manatoc guys aren't shy.

Marty: Don't be scared to join Staff, if you even have the slightest thought to join don't be hesitant, go for it. You'll be just fine.

Colin, Christopher, Hallie, Peter, Luke
Webelos 2 Ceremony

From the Committee

By Brian Burkey, Troop Committee Chair

Thank you for an amazing year

My first year as the Committee Chairman has been a challenge. We couldn't operate normally, as we were used to operating, but we have an amazing group of Committee members. Together they helped work through all the challenges thrown at us during the pandemic.

The Committee has gone above and beyond to make sure we stayed fully functional, and I couldn't be more grateful and proud.

We are now operating with minimal restrictions. We've held a few camping adventures this summer, and I'm looking forward to my second year as Committee Chairman.

I would like to thank all of the Committee members, Assistant Scoutmasters, and especially Ken LaPolla. Without them, none of this would have been possible during the pandemic.

-Brian

An Alumni Connection

Last issue we announced that we'd start covering some Alumni focused information. This month, we would like to draw your attention to Chickagami.net.

This website was created to honor and remember the former Boy Scout Camp in Parkman, Ohio.

With information and photos provided by Jim Potjunas and other 101 Alumni, this site is a living museum of the former camp. As Alumni, you can leave a story by sigining the Guest Register.

Have information we don't? Have an idea for the site? Just send us a quick email and we'll make sure to get the site updated with the new information.

It's Popcorn Time!

Troop 101 is selling Popcorn, and we are ready to take your order! If you live local, please email scoutmaster@troop101.net, and a scout will contact you with a catalog of gourmet popcorn flavors.

If you live out of town, or would like to customize a 2 gallon or 3 gallon tin, order online at www.prpopcornstore.com. At checkout, enter Seller ID: **L2QDOR**. If you would like to credit a specific scout, forward your order confirmation to scoutmaster@troop101.net with the scout's name.

Nuts are also available from Whitely's. You can order online at www.whitleysfundraising.com

At checkout you will be prompted to enter the following:

- Region – Select Ohio
- Organization/Council name - Select Great Trail Council
- Unit/Other – Select Arrowhead Troop 4101
- Participant's Name – Enter the Scout's name you would like to support or blank for the Troop in general

Thank you for supporting Troop 101!

SPL Exit Interview - Aidan McManus

Summer Term 2021

The summer term is coming to a close. October 1 starts the winter term, and we have newly-elected Max taking over the running of the Troop as SPL. With that, the Troop Alumni Quarterly has taken the opportunity to sit down with Aidan, our outgoing SPL, to see how he feels his term went.

AQ: Aidan, what motivated you to become Senior Patrol Leader?

Aidan: Coming off a Quarantine break, I noticed there were a lot of Scout skills and traditions that seemed to be lacking in our current members. A lot of good leaders aged out, and there wasn't enough time in Christopher's term to reinstate all those. I saw a need to help teach those skills, and bring back some of that missing knowledge. When Dr. LaPolla mentioned the possibility of me becoming SPL, I decided I wanted to step up and do my part.

AQ: What was it like stepping into the role for the first time?

Aidan: Honestly it felt like I was going in blind. Without some of the older Scouts that aged out during COVID months, I didn't have other Owls that had been SPL to talk to.

Dr. LaPolla was a great guide. He had a lot of documents and information in binders to help understand the roles and responsibilities of an SPL. I was able to look at those and understand the position more. There is so much more to being SPL than I realized! I'm really grateful that there were adults there to help guide me, and with Max as my assistant I was able to take on the challenge.

AQ: What would you consider the greatest challenge during your term?

Aidan: The traditions weren't as solid in the minds of Scouts. When I joined it always seemed like everyone knew how the Troop worked. With such a long period off because of COVID I came in with a staff full of "Quarantine Patrol leaders" that hadn't been camping much. The lack of experience was definitely a hurdle to overcome.
I also didn't realize how difficult it would be keeping track of everyone. At first, I tried to manage everything personally, but eventually learned to rely on my fellow Patrol Leaders to handle things when I couldn't be there. It was still a challenge, and things just seemed more hectic after such a long time without camping.

AQ: How did you handle the challenges?

Aidan: At the beginning, it was tough. I wanted to get back to normal quickly and it was a slow process. Eventually most things started to naturally fall back into place as we got back into the fun activities and programs I remembered. I probably could have done better, but I think we managed to balance what needed done and have fun as well.

AQ: Was there a demo or program you were excited for?

Aidan: During planning, I wasn't too excited for any specific demo. I thought of the demos more as Patrol responsibilities and looked forward to how the Patrol Leaders came up with ideas and ran with them. Dr. LaPolla helped come up with worksheets they could use to format the program, and those were a lot of help.

One of my Patrol Leaders, Mason, had a lot of good programs planned. One of those was a Wilderness Survival demo. He had a lot of information prepared and outlined for the demo. It ended up being one of the better demos I'd seen in a long time.

AQ: What camping trips did you look forward to?

Aidan: I was really excited for Summer Camp. As an older Scout, I didn't need as many of the Merit Badges offered at Manatoc. I got to explore more of the camp and non-merit badge programs. Having that free time really helped me appreciate more of the camp, and it was a really good time.
My favorite campout was the Currents and Caverns trip to Ohiopyle. I had been looking forward to the program I planned, and I was really excited to go Whitewater rafting and go through the Caverns. By the time we got back to camp, we ended up not having enough time to run the program I planned, but the other activities were so much fun! In September I got to run my program at Camp McKinley, so it all worked out.

AQ: How do you feel past SPL terms affected yours?

Aidan: I did go through some of the old programs to recall the ones I had a lot of fun during... I really wanted to do those fun programs, because if I recalled them being fun… hopefully the new Scouts would have fun as well. I also wanted the skills I had learned to be passed on.

AQ: What was it like, working with Dr. LaPolla?

Aidan: I was worried at first. Most people talk about how strict Doc can be, and how disagreeable he can get. But once I got into the position and started working with him, I saw why he did things like he did. Things started making sense, and now I understand how they work. He's a lot easier to work with than people think.

AQ: What advice would you give to those thinking about becoming SPL?

Aidan: It's a lot of hard work and responsibility, but don't let that dissuade you from running. I had a lot of fun. You don't know how great the feeling can be, being in a position respected by others, until you're actually there. I really enjoyed the experience.

I would also recommend that they form a good bond with their fellow PLC members. The SPL may be in charge of the Troop, but it's those connections that help make the Troop strong and have a really good program.

AQ: Was there anything that surprised you?

Aidan: There are so many resources you don't hear about. We have so much that we can use to make an awesome program. I'd love to go through everything and help utilize those resources going forward.

AQ: Do you feel your term as SPL will help prepare you for anything in the future?

Aidan: It has really changed me. I hated being the center of attention and talking to crowds. But now, after doing it, it's not bad, it's a great thing. I learned a lot about working with and negotiating with people. I became more confident talking to large groups, and I learned a lot of ways to help solve problems. It has really helped prepare me for the future and helped provide guidance.

I would say my biggest regret was not getting my Eagle sooner. I would have had more time and might have been able to have more than one SPL term. Not having my Eagle yet split my focus, and while I handled it well, it would have been great to be able to focus on just the Troop Program.

AQ: What's next?

Aidan: I'm currently working to finish my Eagle project and earn my Eagle. I'm also going to help support Max during his term as SPL.

One thing I'd really like to do is help push recruiting. I'd like to run an "Open House" experience at the Church or Scout Building. It would be an open activity day at the Scout building and have people stop by and check out the program.

I really want to see the program succeed, and I definitely want to make sure the Scout skills and traditions I found in Troop 101 are getting passed on to the next generation.

Need a 2021 Donation? Let us help YOU help US!

While Troop 101 has been very fortunate in running a quality program, it is always a challenge keeping up with the ever-increasing costs associated with the program and it takes a strong financial-support network!

We would like you to consider a charitable donation, which will benefit you at tax time and the Troop in the long run!

There are several different ways you can make a charitable donation in the name of Troop 101:
Cash Gift, Giving Appreciated Property, Giving and Retaining Income for Life, Giving unneeded life insurance, Memorial Gifts, Wise Tax Planning.

Remember: Unlike many other organizations, 100% of your donation goes directly to Troop 101. Your tax-deductible donation should be made payable to: Troop 101 Alumni Association, Inc. and sent to Troop 101 Alumni Association, c/o Tim Ross, 3002 Reeves Rd NE, Warren, Ohio 44483. For automatic payroll deductions, electronic transfers or direct deposit, arrangements can be made by calling Tim 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.

Thank you for your consideration and help!

From the Council - Stambaugh Gets a Face Lift

Thanks to local employer Dearing Compressor and Pump Co., Scouts BSA Camp Stambaugh, located on Leffingwell Rd in Canfield, welcomes a team of skilled tradesmen to help out with property improvement needs. The renovations will improve the outdoor experience for scouts of all ages in the Mahoning valley.

The recent oil and gas industry slowdown and reduction in production orders provided an opportunity for Dearing Compressor to support their core value of supporting the area with charitable work by donating their skilled labor for camp repair. Since it is always their intention to retain their valued employees, the idea to donate labor to charity became an amazing opportunity to provide the production team with meaningful work. The family and its employees have deep roots in scouting and it made sense to align with the Great Trail Council, a part of the Boy Scouts of America to provide a variety of skills to upgrade this local treasure for our youth.

The Dearing team members were really receptive of the idea and began working on projects from replacing cabin floors, restoring fences, reconstructing an obstacle course, doing trail work, restoring council fire ring seating, painting the exterior of the camp museum, to general maintenance around camp. The employees answered the call and Dearing's administrative team delivered a project hazard assessment, proper PPE, and the right tools for the job to make this a rewarding experience

Also dedicated to continuous improvement projects at camp is Stambaugh Property Trustee David Diebel of Boardman Steel. Holly and David Diebel are longtime supporters of Camp Stambaugh, stated Kurt Hilderbrand, Stambaugh Property Chair. Their son-in law Jared Fink is head engineer at Boardman Steel and designed, built and erected the new gates at the camp and we are grateful for their assistance over the years. This local business has provided the design, materials and labor to provide meaningful structures at camp. Examples of their past work include bridges over Indian Creek, the All-Denominations Chapel, the new camp entrance gates to celebrate the 100th Anniversary Celebration of Stambaugh, a new hammock site in 2019, donation of trail bikes and now the design and supply of a new gate at Akela Camp Entrance and Fencing designed to match existing entrance gates.

Saying Goodbye to Family and Friends

Dr. James LaPolla Sr. (1934 - 2021)

"He was a great role model for me and I'm definitely a better person because of him."

Those are the words of Scoutmaster Dr. Ken LaPolla on the passing of his father, Dr. James J. LaPolla Sr. who left us August 5 at the age of 87.

The long and storied LaPolla family Scouting tradition began with Dr. LaPolla Sr.'s association with Troop 101, which goes back to the Troop's earliest days.

Supporting his four Troop 101 Eagle Scout sons, Ken, James Jr., Mike and Vince, Dr. LaPolla served the Scouting movement in various positions, including Troop 101 Committee Member, President of the BSA's Western Reserve Council and medical advisor for the East Central Region National Boy Scout Jamboree staff, which earned him the District Award of Merit, the Council's Silver Beaver Award, and in 1999, the Silver Antelope Award, a national BSA honor!

"I knew Dr. Jim for nearly 50 years," said Troop 101 Alumnus, Attorney Ned Gold, "What a great father and husband, Scouter, physician and community servant!" Ned said Dr. LaPolla Sr.'s life revolved around his family; his four sons and wife Gen.

"Dr. Jim had a strong sense of family and character and that led to his leadership of our Council, then known first as The Western Reserve Council and then The Greater Western Reserve Council," observed Ned, "he served two-years as President of the Council and was invited to serve as a member of the Executive Board of the BSA's 13-state Central Region."

He also served as vice president of Area 5 of the BSA's Central Region. For his service at the region and area levels, he was presented with the Silver Antelope award, the highest award a volunteer can receive at the region level. He and Ned are the only Troop 101 Alumnus who hold the honor and there are only five others in the Council who have received the Silver Antelope award.

"Scouting was just one facet of his community service," said Ned. "Not only was Dr. Jim a thoroughly committed Scouter, he was committed to the community."

While a member of the Warren Jaycees, in 1969, he worked with the Joseph P. Kennedy Foundation in bringing the Special Olympics to Trumbull County. It is here that he began a long-term friendship with John Glenn, Eagle Scout, Astronaut, and U.S. Senator.

Dr. LaPolla served more than 43 years on various educational boards, including the Trumbull County Board of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities, 14 years on the Trumbull County School Board and 25 years on the Howland Board of Education.

Establishing The Rotary Club of Howland, he served as its president before being elected District Governor of Rotary District 665 in 1987. He was awarded the Paul Harris Award for his service.

Dr. LaPolla also enjoyed being active in the Trumbull New Theatre, where he served on its board. He also acted and directed while earning various drama awards.

He enjoyed playing golf with his wife and family at Trumbull Country Club and was a member of the Buckeye Club. When he retired to Fripp Island, South Carolina he served on the directors board (POA) and was a member of the golf association.

Raised in Niles, Dr. LaPolla graduated from Niles McKinley High School as class valedictorian in 1952. He attended Duke University and earned a bachelor's degree before attending Duke Medical School and earning his medical degree in 1960.

His professional involvement was exemplary.

He was on the staff of Tod Children's Hospital, Youngstown Developmental Center, St. Joseph's Riverside Hospital and Trumbull Memorial Hospital, where he served as chief of pediatrics several years and was a teaching faculty member of NEOUCOM.

He went on to Cleveland Children's Hospital (now Rainbow Babies and Childrens Hospital) and completed his residency in pediatrics under the guidance of Dr. Benjamin Spock, a pioneer in Pediatric medicine and child-rearing. While a resident, he met Genevieve Beverly Jacobson, a registered nurse, whom he married Oct. 21, 1962.

Serving his country as a Naval medical officer, he reached the rank of Lt. Commander during the Vietnam War, was then honorably discharged and returned to Ohio, opening his pediatric practice in Howland until his retirement in 2005.

He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Genevieve and children, Dr. James J. LaPolla Jr. and wife Elizabeth of Howland, Dr. Kenneth LaPolla and wife Judi of Warren, Dr. Valerie LaPolla of Lewisburg, W.Va., and Mr. Michael LaPolla and wife Jackie of Scranton, Pa. and son Vince of West Virginia. He also leaves behind nine grandchildren, Gillian (Kyle) Barry, Genna, James Ross, Daniel, Andrew, Madeline, Jonathan, Jack and Sam LaPolla.

In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting donations in his honor to either Compassus Hospice of Ridgeland S.C., 10911 N. Jacob Smart Blvd. #B, Ridgeland, SC 29936, or Great Trail Council Boy Scouts, 4500 Hudson Drive, Stow, OH 44224.

101 ALUMNI QUARTERLY
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Share Your Story!

We're always on the lookout for the next Alumni story to share with you, our readers. If you, or an Alumni you know is doing something interesting, send us a quick email so we can feature that story in the Alumni Quarterly.

Just looking to share a memory, or a funny story? We'll take those too!
Just email us at newsletter@troop101.net

Recent Troop Activities

What has the Troop been up to recently

July 17, 2021

Summer Camp

Another excellent week at Camp Manatoc! The Troop returned from Summer Camp this morning after a week of learning and adventure.

Rank requirements, Merit Badges, Hiking Trails, and more!

While the weather was a bit wet, our scouts once again showed they were prepared and capable of handling the challenge.

Special thanks to all of Camp Staff, including 4 of our own Eagle Scouts Christopher, Colin, Zach, and Marty. They worked hard making camp as awesome as possible and keeping us all entertained.

August 8, 2021

Currents and Caverns

The Troop returns from a new trip down to Ohiopyle. It was an extended weekend trip with Whitewater rafting, Spalunking and more. Photos from the trip can be found online. It was an excellent trip, and we hope to do it again.

September 19, 2021

Camp McKinley

Back from another fun campout at McKinley. The group did some rapelling while at the camp, and the group had a wonderful time.

UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

October

9 - 10 - Kennerdell Backpacking

November

12 - 13 - Camp Agawam

22 - Colin Price Eagle Court

December

19 - Christmas Party & Court of Honor