

101 ALUMNI QUARTERLY

April 2022 • ISSUE 50



Spring Returns

Scoutmaster Corner - Dr. Ken LaPolla



Spring is here again and we almost made it through a quarter without COVID hindering our program. Regardless, our Scouting Spirit is strong and we again, persevered.

It's also a time for change. We honored Tim Ross, Alan Copp and Ed Byers for their service to our Alumni at our most recent Court of Honor. Shelley Taylor will take over the helm and I look forward to her vision and guidance

as we move on and into the future. Thank you to Tim, Alan and Ed for being outstanding examples of servant leaders and examples of Scouting at its best. They have dedicated endless hours to our Scouts and it is because of them, we have made it through some very trying times.

And April begins a new term. I'm proud to announce that James Price will be our next SPL. He has hit the ground running, having completed PLC training at the end of March. The spirit and enthusiasm are high and I can't wait to see his vision in action.

I'm always grateful to our Alumni who come and visit and even camp with us. Thank you, Brad Puet, for bringing your awesome geology program to Custalogatown. Brad camped with us in March and shared his professional knowledge and ENTHUSIASM for fossils, rocks and everything below our feet. I'm proud of you SON! (Oh, and Happy Birthday, on the best birth date ever)

As the Troop moves on, one of my goals has been to make sure our Scouts round out their

Scouting experience by getting involved in areas of Scouting beyond the Troop. One of our Scouts, Ben James, will be on staff for NYLT. Last year we had 5 of our Scouts work on Manatoc staff and this year we have 5 already committed. We are also seeing a larger number of our Scouts becoming involved in the Order of the Arrow, taking on positions of responsibility to the lodge and section. And we have another one amongst us who will soon keep the vigil.

As we all know, the past two years has taken its toll. Membership is down, but quality and participation are up. Many of our Scouts are sharing the Scouting spirit with their friends, neighbors and relatives and we will see 9 new Scouts by the end of May. I have continued the approach of focusing primarily on our program, then numbers. I think the former will lend itself to the latter and we are seeing results.

And finally, I hope to see many of you soon as we bring back our Spaghetti dinner after a 2-year hiatus. Let's keep the momentum going!

-Ken



Alumni Board of Directors

Shelley Taylor	President
Ken LaPolla	Scoutmaster
Brian Burkey	Committee Chair
Alex Stirling	Director at Large
Alan Copp	Director at Large

Alumni Committee

Matt McCracken	Web & Newsletter
Ed Byers	Newsletter Emeritus
Tim Ross	President Emeritus

From the President Shelley Taylor



It was a privilege to attend the Spring Court of Honor. I got to meet many people who I have only been in contact with via email and also was reacquainted with many old friends. We were able to honor 3 fine gentlemen who have retired from their long service with the Troop and Alumni Association. There are not enough thanks for

what Ed Byers, Tim Ross and Al Copp have done for Scouting, but we all benefited from their generosity.

Normally, I would not cut so quickly to the chase – but we have a short time frame for a project that needs completed at the Scout Center. Blessed Sacrament

has asked we create a driveway adjacent to our building in order to store the trailers. With the spring thaw upon us (hopefully), we have been asked to have the project completed by June. Concrete is deemed to be the solution as it will be best for our trailers and not lead to premature aging. And – nothing is getting cheaper these days. We are working on finalizing the quotes with current costs. We have had \$6,500 donated by 2 donors and this should get us about halfway there. If you have been thinking about a project to support the Troop - we hope you will consider this. We are able to accept stock if you have any with appreciation.

Thanks to all who are helping me learn this new role and I couldn't be prouder to work on behalf of these fine young men.

-Shelley

Visit from the National Chairman

An eagle-eyed reader noticed we missed something in our last issue. Back in November, a special guest came to Northeast Ohio.

The National Chairman of the BSA, Dan Ownby, and his wife Allison came to check out the Norman Rockwell and Scouting art collection.

Dan talked with the Scouting families in attendance for the event, and took a moment to see the entire collection, which is on display in its entirety for the first, and most likely last time ever.

After signing some patches for the Scouts in attendance, we took Dan over to the Jim Potjunas Troop 101 Scout Center. He was very impressed with both our Scout building and the collection.

If you're in Northeast Ohio, make sure to head over to the Medici Museum and check out the collection while it's still on display



Recognizing Alumni Leaders

Troop Court of Honor - March 2022



But that's not all the recognitions made this year. In attendance were three pillars of the Troop Alumni.

Tim Ross has been the Alumni President since 2006, a position he took over from Scoutmaster Jim Potjunas who held the role since the founding in July of 1998. Alan Copp has acted as a Director at Large, largely serving as Treasurer for the organization. Ed Byers, not only helped start Pack 101, but was instrumental in reviving the Alumni Newsletter.

On March 28th, the Troop held our first Court of Honor for the year. In the court we celebrated and awarded Rank and Merits to those diligent youth in the program today.

Shelley Taylor, Alumni President, and Matt McCracken, ASM, took time during the court to recognize these three and wish them well in retirement.

42nd Annual Spaghetti Dinner - April 10



It's been 3 years since we've been able to hold our Annual Spaghetti Dinner... But in 2022 **WE'RE BACK!**

Come enjoy a great meal at the 42nd annual Troop 101 Spaghetti Dinner, Palm Sunday, April 10th at Blessed Sacrament Church's Reagan Hall, 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.!



Enjoy our delicious Spaghetti Dinner with all the trimmings. \$10 each age 6+; Donation requested for 5 and under.

You can buy a ticket from a Scout, get one at the door, or even stop in for carry-out! Pre-order 12 or more dinners and get free delivery! That's right, we'll deliver to your door.

But if you show up, you can bid on some really awesome gift baskets! Eagle's Wings holds their Basket Sale at the same time! Don't miss out!

This is one of only two fundraisers the Troop holds each year, and we once again, are counting on you for support!

You can also take a moment to look at the Jim Potjunas Troop 101 Scout Center and Eagle Wall. Just ask for a Tour.



Rocks and History

Alumni supporting the program at Custaloga Town Scout Reservation

One of the many great things about Troop 101 is the continued involvement and support from our Alumni. This was recently highlighted when the Troop went camping at Custaloga Town Scout Reservation in PA.

One of our Eagle Scouts, Brad Puet (Eagle #129), and his Father Terry (Former Committee Chairman), joined us on the camping trip. Terry also invited his brother Joe to visit and speak to the Troop.

Mr. Joe Puet is an Eagle Scout, and former Scoutmaster for a PA Troop. He does reenacting, and is an avid lover of History. This wasn't the first time he joined the Troop camping, but he was eager to join again... and for good reason. Custaloga Town rests in an area with a rich history. Custaloga was a chief of the Lenni Lenape tribe, also known as the Delaware. Joe spoke about the French and Indian War, George Washington, the Native tribes, and more. All stories of historic events that occurred in the area. Then, he

showed the Troop how to load his rifle, and fired a blank, as he would in a reenactment.

Brad also agreed to help with the program. Currently a Field Geologist, Brad brought his expertise in the field of geology to the Scouting program. Scouts agree, he was the perfect guest speaker. Brad is currently an aspiring teacher, and this was a great test for his teaching skills. Brad was able to not only interest the Scouts, but engage them. Standing near a large rock in camp, the group laughed and discussed several topics including tectonic plates, natural formations, and volcanic activities. They even talked about fossilization and how we can see traces of history in the world around us. Brad also borrowed a collection of fossils to show the Scouts examples.

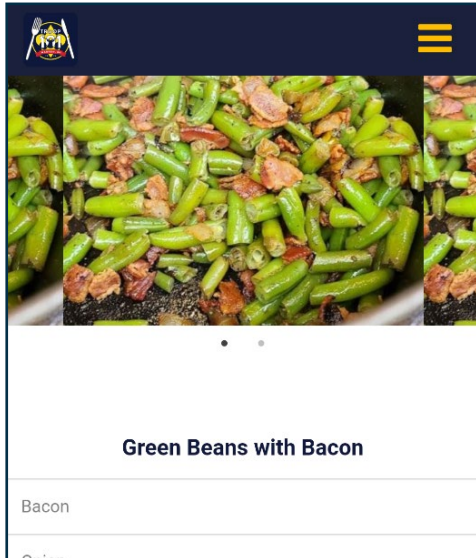
It was a great addition to the camp program, and the Scouts really enjoyed it.



Cooking it Up!

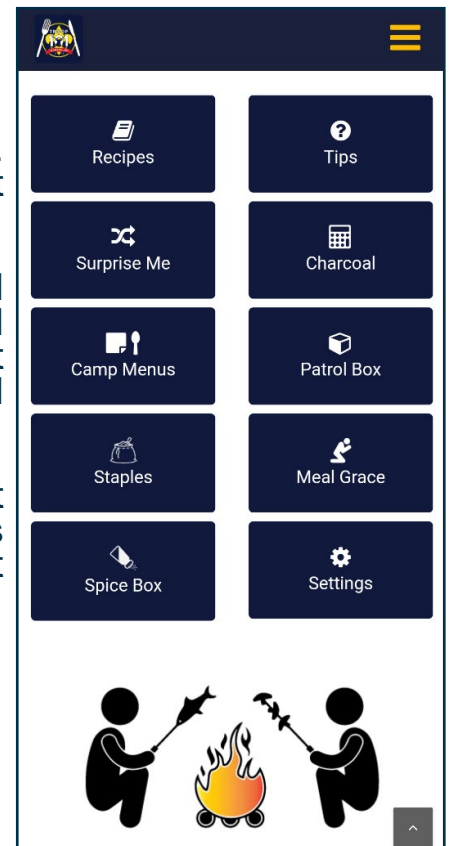
Troop releases new Cookbook Mobile App

It's been a few years since the Troop released a Cookbook app. Over the last few weeks, Mr. Matt's been at it again. We've just launched the latest edition of the Troop Cookbook App.



The App is available for both Android and iOS devices and can be found linked on the Troop Website. Just visit the online cookbook to find links to our helpful cooking App.

Let us know what you think about our new App, and submit photos for recipes missing photos at newsletter@troop101.net



Scouting For Food

In what we hope will become an annual service project for the Troop, The Great Trail Council ran a "Scouting for Food" drive that culminated in food collection on April 2.

One of the drop points this year was the Jim Potjunas Scout Center in Warren!

Members of the Troop were present during the 2 hour drop time to collect items brought for the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank and Second Harvest Food Bank in the Mahoning Valley.





From the Order

Updates on the Troop involvement in the OA

The Order of the Arrow is finding more involvement from Troop 101. In December we reported how Colin and Chris have taken up positions within

the Marnoc Lodge Executive Committee, or LEC. Assistant Scoutmaster Matt McCracken has also started helping as Communication Advisor within the lodge.

In March, Troop OA Rep James Price, alongside Chris and Colin, attended the Winter Fellowship at Camp Stambaugh. James had a blast! He got

to take the training to run a unit election, which would come in handy recently. In addition, the lodge got to experience Camp Stambaugh, and tour the Scouting Museum.

Only a few weeks ago, James then ran the Unit Election for Troop 101. The election went well, and the Troop elected three of their peers into the Order. Now Ethan, Ethan, and Ean prepare to attend their Ordeal and become full members of the OA.

We look forward to reporting on more OA activities in the future, so stay tuned!

Council News - GTCTV

The Great Trail Council has started a weekly update show called "GTCTV". This weekly broadcast airs Mondays on the Council Facebook page, as well as on the Great Trail Council website gtcbsa.org.

The goal of this weekly show is to outline what's happening in the council, week by week. Hosts for the show include Nate Watson (Director of Camping Programs), and Richard Fallon (Stambaugh District Director).

Recent highlights from the show include information on the Scouting for Food drive, where our Scout Building was a drop point, Order of the Arrow Activities presented by one of our Eagle Scouts, The Medici Museum of Art, upcoming "Over the Edge" fundraiser, NYLT, and more!

If you're interested in seeing what's going on in the council, be sure to check them out!



Great Trail Council

1 hour ago · 🌐

Episode 4 of GTCTV is live! now on mondays! This week has a great update from OA, the reveal of the new Scouting for Food trophy, and a very important update on Cub Scout Shooting Sports. all the links can be found on www.gtcbsa.org/gtctv



Staffing Manatoc



Summer Camp is only a few months away. To promote Camp this year, as well as encourage 101 Scouts to consider working camp staff, staff members from the 2021 program stopped by to share why they worked staff and what keeps bringing them back.

Scouts listened in and excitedly asked about the program for 2022. Though many won't work this year, or become CIT (Counselors in Training), many are considering it for future summers.

Recruiting Future Leaders

Troop aims to host an Open House event

"What made you join Scouting?" "Why did you pick Troop 101?" These are two of the questions Assistant Scoutmaster, and recent Eagle Scout Aidan McManus has been asking at Troop Meetings. His goal? He wants to bring more people into the program.

Aidan noticed the number of registered Scouts in the Troop have been down lately. Between COVID, and a generation aging out, the Troop is smaller than it's been for some time. Aidan saw an opportunity to help change that. His goal: recruit and engage the next generation.

Aidan started asking the tough questions, he needed to know what would bring new members into our Troop, and into Scouting. Together with the PLC and Troop leaders, Aidan is planning a Troop Open House. The goal will be to actively bring people to the Scout Center and show them what Scouting could mean for them. Early plans include fire building, camp cooking, 3D printing and laser cutting, Lashing a Tower and/or Monkey bridge, Catapults, and more.

You can tell he is excited about the opportunity. Not only will it help promote a program he enjoyed immensely, but it's a great opportunity for our scouts to show what makes 101 the best Troop around. Aidan even put a team together, and a patch was designed to give out to visiting guests

during the open house. They look really cool!

Initially set for the end of April, a final date hasn't been set. But we're looking to host the event this spring, in hopes of getting as many new Scouts involved with the Troop by Summer Camp.

We look forward to reporting on how the event goes in the next issue of the Alumni Quarterly!



The Alumni Quarterly Needs You



The Alumni Quarterly relies on reader feedback... your feedback. Are we delivering content you find relevant? Could we be including more information about the program or upcoming activities? Please send us your feedback to newsletter@troop101.net.

You can also engage with us on Facebook or in person at fundraisers and reunion events.

Like to write? Consider joining the Newsletter team and submitting articles for upcoming issues. We're looking for people to help find and write content for our Newsletter. If you have a story to share, we're eager to hear it! Not ready to write up a story, but have one? We'll do the heavy lifting, so just send us the information you have and we'll work on pulling it together.

The Troop has a 50th Anniversary coming up. What ideas do you have for the celebration?

As always, **THANK YOU** for reading. See you next Issue!

SPL Exit Interview

Max Moriarty passes the torch to James Price



On March 26th, Patrol Leader Training took place at the Jim Potjunas Scout Center. James Price is taking over from Max Moriarty as SPL. While we look forward to James running the Troop in this pivotal role, we wanted to take a moment and talk with Max, who just recently

passed his Eagle Board of review, becoming Eagle #165, and see what he thought of being SPL.

AQ: Max, what was it like taking over from the previous SPL, Aidan?

Max: Me and the last SPL are pretty close, so it was really easy to work with Aidan and have a smooth transition from his term into mine.

AQ: What made you want to be SPL?

Max: I wanted to make my mark on the Troop, and help contribute to its history. I saw a chance to put some of my style and thought process into the program and decided to take it.

AQ: What programs were you looking forward to running? How did you decide what to do during your term?

Max: I am a big fan of first aid and environmental stuff, so any demos that were those two subjects had me intrigued. I looked through previous SPL terms and tried to find things that hadn't been done in a while. Many of my close friends in scouting were also SPL, so I took many lessons from them and used them as help.

AQ: What were your favorite trips?

I was really happy with the October backpacking trip. Backpacking trips are my favorite campouts and I was happy that I had one in my term. Not much to plan, but a lot of fun to participate in.

The most exciting thing I got to plan, though, was Winter Event. Dr. LaPolla and I had some

good ideas and ended up combining them to make a fun filled program in February.

AQ: How was it working with Scoutmaster LaPolla and the other Assistant Scoutmasters?

Max: Dr. LaPolla and I have a very good relationship, so working with him was very easy. Whenever I needed anything, he would always get back to me ASAP and made everything so much easier. 10/10, I'd work with him again.

ASM assistance was also very good. The ASM's have always been helpful all the way through my Scouting career but they really stepped up for me if I needed anything during my term.

AQ: How was your Patrol Leader Council?

Max: I had an amazing PLC group who did more than I could ask for. We had some struggles but overall, my PLC was great!

AQ: Any challenges during your term?

Max: Overall, I think my term went well. I definitely could have done a bit better with planning, and getting things done on time. I struggle with time management and over-planning things, but with the help of friends and fellow Scouts I tend to get back on track.

My greatest challenge was navigating my Eagle Project alongside my SPL duties. Then, I got involved with the Drama program at my School and was very busy with the spring musical.

AQ: Sounds like you were busy. Is there a lesson there for those considering becoming SPL?

Max: YES! DO NOT PROCRASTINATE!

AQ: So, what's next?

Max: Well, I've turned 18. I'm planning on continuing to help the Troop, now as an Assistant Scoutmaster. I've passed the torch to James, and I hope I've given him the tools and resources he needs to succeed.

Being SPL was a great experience, and one I would definitely recommend. It taught me how to plan, lead, and be creative with program planning.





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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



Troop 101 Winter Event

February 20, 2022



The Troop returns from a weekend of wintery competition over at Camp Manatoc.

This past weekend, three of our Patrols competed in a Troop 101 Winter Klondike over at Camp Manatoc. From sled building, knot relays, first aid, and sledding. Our scouts enjoyed some fun in the cold winds.



Custaloga Town - Rocks and History

March 20, 2022

The Troop returned from Custalogatown. It was a learning experience for our group as they got to see and question a reenactor talking about the French and Indian war. They also got to talk about rocks with Eagle Scout Brad Puet. The geology went over well and was a big success.

In addition Brad showed them a few fossils he brought with him, played some Ga-Ga-Ball, learned some orienteering, and tried some new food.



UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

May

9 - Nick Jaros Eagle Court of Honor
20 - 22 - Pymatuning
28 - Oakwood Service Project

June

17 - 19 - Family Camp at Stambaugh

July

10 - 16 - Summer Camp at Manatoc

August

4 - 7 - Summer High Adventure