

101 ALUMNI QUARTERLY

August 2022 • ISSUE 51



I Love Summer

Scoutmaster Corner - Dr. Ken LaPolla



I love Summer Camp, who doesn't. Maybe that child with separation anxiety, but they are few and far between. As the Troop prepared for camp, I find myself reflecting on many of the memories of Camp and Canada over the past several years.

It's hard to believe that five years ago we started what was to be a very exciting Summer. It was exciting, but far more so than any of us would imagine. We would have liked to have made this banner a year with a return to Canada, but the Scouts BSA just recently lifted their international travel ban in March which didn't allow us the time to plan for the Summer. Instead, we'll be back to Pennsylvania, hoping to finish the West Rim trail which we started 6 years ago but didn't finish due to the driest season in the history of the area. No water for the last half of the trip. Too risky for safe Scouting.

The last five years have also been rewarding. Each of the five scouts in the suburban, survived, thrived and earned the rank of Eagle Scout. The Troop grew, then shrank, and is now beginning to grow again. Two major events altered the history of the Troop for better or worse. And, fingers crossed, we are back on a trajectory of normalcy and the historic program of Scouting.

It has been an honor to serve as the Scoutmaster over the past 5 years. What a challenge, but God gives you only what you can handle. I've done my best to keep this ship on course and only time will tell if I was successful. When I accepted the position after the tragic event, I offered my services for a year

while we healed and returned to the course. That year was challenging and I need another just to feel comfortable mentoring my replacement. Then the third year was fun, so what the heck, let's enjoy the spoils of my efforts. Then BOOM! COVID. Another storm that needed experience leadership to navigate through. Not a good time at all to transition to new leadership.

So just like the story line of "Gilligan's Island," this "three hour tour" turned into something much longer. Now the skies are clearing and opportunities have arisen for new leadership for the troop. It has been an honor, but beginning October 1st, we will have a new Scoutmaster. He has been identified. He has accepted, and he is someone most of you know or familiar with. But we'll leave the big reveal for later.

Thank you. Thank you all for your support over the years. And as we say in the Navy as we wish someone going on to retirement: "Fair winds, and following seas." But I wish this more for the Troop than myself, because we are all family.

-Ken



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From the President Shelley Taylor



I remember right where I was standing in my house on that day 5 years ago. It was a such a tragedy and I will forever be grateful for the role that Jim Potjunas played in the life of me and my family. I am proud to be part of this great legacy and join all of you in thoughts of remembrance as we celebrate Jim and have gratitude for all who

I am still setting into this role and enjoying all the incredible people in the 101 family. I had the great fortune to visit Philmont last week and further embrace my scouting roots, but it all started here in Warren. Thanks for your support and let me know if you have any suggestions for our group on how get further support our scouts.

P.S. Please join me in welcoming Brandie Wagner as our new board member to take charge of our finances. It just keeps getting better!

-Shelley

have healed from this tough time.

Back to School Supply Drive



It is a great privilege continue working with this amazing Troop. Over the last few months, our Troop has started growing in membership, and our boys continue to advance along the trails to Eagle while having a positive and fun experience in Scouting.

The Troop is looking to hold an Open House on September 11th to promote the program, and continue our recruiting efforts. In addition, Troop 101 and the Howland Police Department have partnered to hold a Back to School supply drive.

If you are willing and able to donate school supplies, we will be taking donations at the Troop Building Mondays between 6:30 and 8pm. (3002 Reeves Rd. NE; Warren, Ohio 44483)

Supplies can also be dropped off at the Howland Police Department during Normal business hours.

During our Open House on September 11th, the Troop will also be handing out the School Supplies.

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to me at (330) 980-8604

Brian Burkey
Committee Chairman



BACK-TO-SCHOOL
SUPPLIES

Troop 101 is Family

Letter from Sandy Potjunas



To our Troop 101 Family:

A lot has changed in the past five years, I miss the simple days when going to a concert, a movie or a parade was a carefree decision.

I often wonder what Jim would say or do in these difficult times. Knowing him,

I'm certain he would be the pragmatic leader he had always been navigating the challenges of today in the same calm, steady way he approached most things.

Jim credited scouting as one of his greatest resources in the development of leadership skills. For him, the scout handbook was a reference guide to everyday life. He was committed to preserving the values of Scouting where all humans can share equal dignity, appreciate and respect nature and develop the leadership skills needed to face the world ahead. From the first day he put on a Scout Uniform on his 11th birthday, his brothers tell me he was forever changed.

Jim found Scouting to be the program that helped him grow and truly shine and he was determined to make that opportunity available to as many kids and adults as he could. He found that opportunity when he became Scoutmaster of Troop 101 and his passion for Scouting and the Troop never wavered.

When the new Scout building was dedicated in May 2017 Jim was incredibly proud and very humbled when the building was named. Getting the building up

was a dream come true and much more than we had ever imagined when we were trying to figure out a way to build a place for equipment.

Over the years Troop 101 has continued to grow. The membership might move up or down a bit but Troop 101 is much more than an ordinary Scout Troop. It became a family and continues to be a family of friends, neighbors, adults and youth.

It's exactly what it was meant to be - a warm friendly community where everyone can grow and learn, become a good leader, a good citizen, make lifelong friends and have a place to shine.

The fact that the troop has continued on, even after the loss of its scoutmaster, is a testament to the commitment of the members past and present. In the midst of a tragedy, many stepped up for the greater good and sacrificed their time and energy to ensure Troop 101 continued on. For some it meant continuing on in a position for several years beyond their initial commitment, for others it meant taking a new leadership role. It wasn't easy for anyone but because of the commitment we all share; Troop 101 continues to be a growing family.

I know Jim was very proud of all of the scouts and adults of our Troop 101 family and he would be extremely grateful as am I for the hard work and sacrifice everyone has given and will give in the future in an effort to ensure Troop 101 continues to grow and thrive.

With much appreciation - Sandy Potjunas

Cooking with 101

The Troop has a Cooking App! In case you missed it in our last edition, we wanted to remind everyone that the Troop 101 Cooking app is available for both Android and iOS. You can find links at Troop101.net on the Cookbook page.

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

5 Years - 5 Eagles

Our journey from tragedy - keeping the program moving

Some of our readers will laugh at me when I ask where the time has gone. Others may ask if it's really been that long. But it's been five years now. On the Morning of August 5th, 2017, we gathered at the new Scout Center, aptly named the Jim Potjunas Troop 101 Scout Center, to embark on a week of fun activities in Algonquin Park. Scouts were eagerly chatting about the trip, or slowly waking up. Adults were double checking the paperwork, making sure everything was in order for the border.

We laughed and talked of the things we planned to do while up north. The canoeing, the hiking, the museums, the art gallery... we were looking forward to this trip. Then we loaded up the vehicles and set off for adventure. Sadly, that adventure was not the one we planned. During the drive north on Route 11 the rear tire failed on the Troop Suburban, causing an accident that took the life of Scoutmaster Jim Potjunas.

Inside the Suburban was Sandy Potjunas, Jim's Wife, and 5 Scouts. If there was a silver lining at the time, I know Jim would be happy knowing that all six of them made it out. Each would have injuries and challenges that lay ahead... but they were alive, and I know Jim would have been happy knowing that.

I think we can also take pride in our response that morning. EMS teams that arrived on scene praised the actions taken to get the passengers away from the vehicle and ensure their safety, while also beginning First Aid. A Scout is prepared, and Troop 101 saw itself rise to the challenge that morning.

A lot can happen in 5 years. Ken LaPolla stepped into the role of Scoutmaster, and has done a remarkable job keeping the program moving and adapting. We've continued to move in and establish our presence here at Blessed Sacrament, developing the Tools and Resources Jim left us. A shelter was constructed at Camp Manatoc in Jim's memory, teaching some of his most treasured Scouting Skills. We've endured the challenges of COVID-19. Scouts have continued to camp, learn, and grow through Scouting. And I'm pleased to say that all five scouts in the Suburban that morning continued the program. In fact, all five have achieved the rank of Eagle Scout.

Five years, five young men, five Eagle Scouts. The Alumni Quarterly reached out to these young men, who are all now in College, to reflect on the past 5 years.

Niko Mastorides, Eagle 149, was the Senior Patrol Leader for Canada, and the oldest youth in the Suburban that morning. As SPL, Niko worked with Mr. P. a lot to plan and establish the program for the upcoming Canada trip. There were many of the traditional activities planned, Canoeing, Swimming, Hiking, etc. But Niko recalls they had discussed some other options that he was excited to try.

Niko: This was going to be my first time going to Canada so I was extremely excited. From an SPL standpoint, I was also a bit nervous. I had never

been to Canada before yet I was the one who was supposed to lead it. For me personally, I was most looking forward to our Pizza Cook-Off - mainly because I absolutely being able to create complex dishes while camping. Additionally, I was looking forward to being able to lead the Troop as SPL through this adventure.



Niko Mastorides #149

I'm not going to lie when I say that the accident tore me apart mentally. Watching a man that I've grown so close with disappear in an instant certainly took a toll on me. One of my favorite quotes is: "Happiness can be found even in the darkest of times if one only remembers to turn on the light." While the accident was a dark time for all of us, the entire Troop was able to pull together and turn on the light. Not only did we rebuild

the Troop, but we managed to build something that would continue Mr. P's legacy forever.

To this very day, I still have surgeries to remove glass from my head. Every day, I look in the mirror, the scars on my hand and my head remind me of what happened- which isn't always a bad thing. I'm grateful to still be alive and I constantly count my blessings. It took me a long time to get to this point. After the accident, I struggled mentally. At first, I pent up all my emotions and it spiraled into anxiety and depression. I suppressed everything for so long that I knew I needed help, but I just didn't know where to start. There was so much pressure having to lead the Troop through this transition as SPL, and it truly ate away at me. Two years later, I eventually I went to therapy

and it helped tremendously. I encourage anyone who feels like they are being swarmed by suppressed emotions to seek help. It was a life-changed for me, especially when I felt like I had nowhere left to turn.

I would be lying if I said I didn't think about quitting. As the SPL at the time, I knew I needed to push forward to guide the troop through this transition; likewise, I knew that's what Mr. P would have wanted. I had a Troop leaning on me, and I knew I had to step up to the plate.

To put it bluntly, Mr. P was essentially a second father figure in my life. I talked with him not only about scout-related problems, but 'real life' ones as well. He was a voice that was always there when I needed it. He was a leader, a mentor, and most importantly, a friend. He helped me realize my potential as a leader.

Anyone who knows me while camping knows that I absolutely love to cook. A lot of this passion sprang from Mr. P. He would express how impressed he was with my Greek meals I would spend over two hours preparing for my patrol by saying, "You're bringing back the creativity in camping menus." From that point forward, I would always put together crazy meals to try and impress him and everyone else. He would always be one of the first to try my dishes after they were done.

One of my all-time favorite memories with Mr. P was after another Troop had challenged us to ultimate frisbee back in 2017. In 2016, a Troop challenged us at Summer Camp and absolutely put us to shame. As an SPL the next year, I made sure we all practiced to make sure it would never happen again. As expected, the Troop challenged us again, and we beat them 7-2. After our 'victory sprint' back to camp, I turned on Greek music, and the team attempted to do a traditional dance called the Kalamatiano. I managed to drag Mr. P in the circle, and to my surprise, he tried dancing as well. Let's just say he was a much better Scoutmaster than traditional Greek dancer. Out of the 11 years I've been to Summer Camp so far, this still is one of my favorite memories.

One of the last memories I have with Mr. P was my last ever Scoutmaster Conference with him for Eagle. We were sitting at a picnic table on the shore of Pymatuning Lake. The sun was setting and he was explaining to me the true meaning of Scouting. He told me that the program disguises its actual purpose with fun events, activities, and camping. He explained that Scouting is a program that turns boys into men. It teaches them leadership, communication, and skills they will carry for the rest of their lives. What resonated with me most was when he called the program a "hoax" because you never realize how



Dutch Oven Cookoff

much you truly got out of it until everything is all said and done.

To anyone who has had the honor of wearing an Eagle medal, they will tell you that it's much more than a rank. By achieving Eagle, you now join everyone else who has earned it before you. You now hold a title that people believe to be synonymous with a leader. It is a lifetime achievement that you'll carry forever. It's not something to be treated lightly. Everyone who has achieved this rank faced a wide-variety of obstacles, but the drive to continue and persevere defines a true Eagle Scout.

AQ: How do you feel the Troop has been doing?

Niko: Aside from the pandemic, I think the Troop has had a phenomenal rebirth since the accident. While the older leadership is no longer here, the Troop continues to grow and remain innovative to accommodate for every Scout that enters the program. I believe Doc has done a fantastic job leading, and I can't wait to see where the Troop is 5 years from now.

AQ: Any lessons you'd like to share?

Niko: After the accident, this is a quote that really resonated with me: "Change is inevitable, but growth is optional." We can choose to adapt and overcome, or sink and drown. I've learned that there is no way to change the past, nor should we dwell on it for too long. I struggled a lot after the accident, but after years of letting everything build inside of me, I decided to redirect that energy into changing myself and moving on. In short, I would say that there is a right time and place to think about the past, but you can't let it swallow you. You need to keep pushing forward or you'll never grow as a person. No matter the circumstances, sometimes it's not a matter of being dealt good cards, rather, playing a poor hand well.

Mr. P's legacy will carry on for generations, of

that I am certain. Like myself and many others that he interacted with, I hold many of the lessons he had taught to heart. By continuing to camp, teaching the same lessons he did, and training young people to become sustainable leaders through the program, this legacy will continue on, and his influence will continue even though he is no longer here with us.

AQ: How do you choose to remember?

Niko: There are a few different ways that I remember Mr. P. First, I have a dog tag hanging on my rear-view mirror that has his memorial information as well as his famous line at the end of all the meetings: "May the great master of all scouts be with us and watch over us until we meet again. Goodnight Scouts." In my office at YSU, I also have my Eagle Certificate hanging right next to the newspaper that was released the day after he passed away. Likewise, every year at Summer Camp since the accident, I have competed in the adult Dutch oven cook-off. Mr. P had told me a funny story about a Scout winning the entire competition by using a couple of staples in the trailer to create a peach cobbler. I have prepared a peach cobbler three separate items, and it has won first on two separate occasions, and third this past year. It makes me smile every year because P was the one who always encouraged me to cook. If he were still at camp, I know he'd be laughing because the only reason I cook this cobbler is because of the stories he told.

AQ: Any Advice to younger Scouts?

Niko: The biggest tip of advice I can offer to younger Scouts is to just keep pushing forward. You'll inevitably face challenges and bumps in the road, but it's the will to keep driving forward that defines an Eagle Scout. Everyone on the Wall of Eagles faced the same obstacles, yet they persevered. If you need help, don't be afraid to ask for it. One of the true marks of a leader is the ability to seek assistance when they are struggling or approach a dead-end. Nobody said the trail to Eagle would be easy, but once you're done, you'll feel the effects for the rest of your life.

AQ: Niko is currently attending Youngstown State University. He was recently elected President of the YSU Student Government.

The second oldest in the Suburban that morning was Marty Nelder, Eagle #154.

Marty: It was my first year going to Canada. I was lowkey nervous, but excited at the same time. For me, personally, I was looking forward to two things. It was a split between canoeing and sightseeing. Both activities would have been beautiful to see, and I was eager to hangout with my friends.

I lost a lot of motivation after the accident. Scouting has been a part of my life since I was 5, though, and I couldn't imagine my life without it. I had a chance to keep going with the Troop. Not only that, but I had the opportunity to earn my Eagle Scout and keep making memories. I decided that would be a great way to honor Mr. P.

One of my favorite Scouting memories was when Niko created something called the "Riddler Seat". This seat basically meant that Niko could draw something on my arm, that I would then have to identify. Sometimes I would stare at the drawings and think "What in the world?". On a trip to Cook Forest, he drew a cupcake on my arm and kept saying the cupcake is irrelevant. After a while I started to get frustrated and started yelling "What does the cupcake have to do with anything?!" I still remember Mr. P looking back and smiling before saying "Marty, the cupcake is irrelevant, remember?"

In addition, my favorite activity would have to be Summer Camp with my Friends, getting the opportunity to work Camp Staff in 2021, and canoeing at Pymatuning. Swamping canoes and having a good old time.

I learned a lot from the accident. One thing I took above all else is to cherish the time you have with the people you care about most, whether you see them daily or not.

AQ: How do you feel the Troop has been doing?

Marty: I'm really proud of the Troop. Not only have we persevered after Mr. P. passed, but I see a lot of kids with great potential. I think the future looks bright, and I know Mr. P would be proud.

AQ: What about that Eagle Scout?

Marty: Literally the moment I finally finished my Swimming Merit Badge at age 17, all the dominos finally fell into place for my Eagle. It's the thing I'm most proud of. It shows the hard work you put in, and for me personally it's a shout out to the people that



Marty Nelder #154

helped me along the way. This has been a wonderful journey, and I feel like I can look at my Eagle, think of those that helped me and go "This one's for you".

AQ: How do you remember Jim, and plan on carrying the flame?

Marty: I plan on participating in Scouting events when able. I enjoy volunteering with the Troop, and like passing on the Scout skills I learned to the next generation. Sometimes when my friend group gets together, we randomly get on the topic of him and just go down memory lane with all of our individual stories. I also think back to some of those times and reminisce, just so I can remember him for as long as I can.

AQ: Any advice for the next generation?

Marty: Enjoy your scouting youth while it's here, and I also recommend two things. Firstly, don't procrastinate ranking up, get it done as soon as possible so you don't have to rush when you're almost 18. Secondly, you have a chance to do something big like Philmont, going to the Summit, or even working at a Summer Camp, don't hesitate. Do it now before you don't have the opportunity anymore.

AQ: Marty is currently attending classes at Lakeland Community College. He is working towards a business degree.

Our next Eagle Scout is Miles Wagner, Eagle #158.

Miles: I was really looking forward to the hiking and canoeing in Canada. This was not my first trip, and I was really looking forward to going back. The last trip I really enjoyed cliff jumping into the lake.

At the accident the EMTs were making fun of me because I had a bloody nose and as a hockey player, I was used to it. They kept insisting to me that I would be fine, and I was used to it.

After the accident I had a lot of nightmares and I was scared to get into cars. I saw a counselor for a while and talked to Niko a lot. I know how good of a Scoutmaster Mr. P was and it was important to him that we get Eagle.

I had just started the Cooking Merit Badge with him and we were talking about the path to Eagle.

AQ: How do you think the Troop has been doing?

Miles: I think the Troop has been doing well the past 5 years with Alumni stepping up like Dr. LaPolla and Mr. Matt. I think Mr. P. would be happy with how the Troop is going.

AQ: What is your favorite part about Scouting?

Miles: My favorite activities in Scouting were the high adventure trips. I really enjoyed my time at Philmont and I really liked going to Jamboree.

AQ: What does becoming Eagle mean to you?

Miles: Earning the Eagle rank means a lot to me because it is hard to earn and a small percentage achieve it. A challenge for me was finding the motivation to do it, but some adult leaders like Mr. McManus talked to me about their regrets not getting Eagle. That really helped me push to earn mine.

If I have children, I will get them involved in Scouting. I think of Mr. P whenever I enter the Scout building and when I show off my Eagle card. My advice for younger Scouts is: don't give up, it's worth it in the end.

AQ: Miles is currently working full time at Kraftmaid.

Next up we have Christopher McMahan, Eagle #153.

Christopher: This Canada trip was going to be a blast! It was my first time going on this trip, and while I didn't know, (and still don't know), all the activities that are part of this trip, I know I would have really enjoyed everything from relaxing on the beach, swimming in the lake, canoeing, and checking out the sights.

As Patrol leader for the Falcon Patrol, I was super excited to be a Patrol Leader. Everyone was talking about what an amazing trip this was going to be, and I was looking forward to having fun. It was one of those trips I heard about, and was really looking forward to going.

Today, if I close my eyes and think about the accident, I am able to replay the entire thing second by second in my head, sounds and all. It is one thing to live in the past, but for a time I was trapped in it, too. I discovered I have a trigger that can be linked to PTSD. Through therapy and the help of others I find that the physical, mental, and emotional



Miles Wagner #158

challenges have allowed me to grow stronger as a person in every way.

AQ: What helped motivate you to stick with the program?

Christopher: At the last Summer Camp before the accident, I had a Scoutmaster conference with Mr. P. for my Life Rank I would receive that Wednesday of Camp. During the conference, Mr. P. asked me to set a personal goal towards achieving my Eagle. I challenged myself to earn my Eagle by my 16th birthday. After 18 months of hard work, I successfully earned my Eagle just one Month after my 16th birthday. Since then, I have continued with the Scouting Program, and I've been enjoying every minute of it.

Throughout the last 5 years something that has helped me overcome challenges is to reflect back on the past. I like to look at what I've done and where I've come from. It helps me find perspective and look forward to where I will be going.

Also, as cheesy as this will sound, one thing I learned from this is that no matter what lows you find yourself in, you can always climb out and grow as both a person, and a leader.

AQ: Do you have a favorite memory?

Christopher: My favorite memories with Mr. P. are the Scoutmaster conferences I had with him. These times, and the memories from them are very special to me. They were a chance to just talk.

As both a youth, and now an adult, in Scouts BSA – I have been able to find fun in every corner of the program. I have worked at the Troop level as both a Scout and ASM, I became a part of the Lodge Executive Committee in the Order of the Arrow, I've started working as Secretary for the OA at the Section level, and I have worked Camp Staff 4 times for Summer Camp. Everything I've done has been a blast, and I can't wait to try out even more in the program. I might even try out Venturing before I turn 21.

AQ: How do you feel the Troop is doing?

Christopher: Over the past 5 years the Troop has had some ups and downs. I don't think any of us could have imagined what 2020 would hold, and it certainly didn't get me up to Canada like I

hoped. Today, it's still standing and growing strong. While our numbers have decreased, mostly due to COVID, overall, I see the Troop moving in a positive direction. I can't wait to see what the future holds.

AQ: What does earning your Eagle mean to you?

Christopher: Eagle is more than just a rank to me. To me, it is both a major achievement and a stepping stone on my path through Scouting. From the early rank of Scout to Eagle to whatever may come next, these achievements are what brought me to where I am today. It is helping me along on my next adventure.

AQ: How are you carrying the legacy forward?

Christopher: At this moment I am working to share the Scouting Skills I was taught, as well as share history and the passion for Scouting that was shared with me. I hope to leave this legacy for others as it was left for me. This could be through my actions as an Assistant Scoutmaster within the Troop, Teaching Merit Badges at Summer Camp, and Cheerful service with the Order of the Arrow. I plan on continuing in the Scouting program, helping others around me, and sharing the knowledge and leadership skills I have.

AQ: How do you choose to remember Jim?

Christopher: One way I remember Jim is to spend time at the Jim Potjunas Shelter at Camp Manatoc. I enjoy reflecting there and remembering our chats. In the evenings, at the end of a campfire program, vespers, or flag retirement ceremony, I always end it

as he did with "And now may the great master of all Scouts, be with us and watch over us, until we meet again, goodnight, Scouts."

AQ: Any advice for our young readers?

Christopher: I'll say one thing, if you think you've reached the top, you've only just begun. I got my Eagle at 16 and now at 19 I'm still finding ways to earn ranks and achievements within the Scouting program. I'm still growing each day as a Scout and a person. Each and every one of you has the same opportunities within the Scouting program. It's up to you to take those opportunities and experience them to the fullest.



Christopher McMahan #153

AQ: Christopher is currently attending Xavier University in Cincinnati, and is studying Computer Data Science.

The youngest in the vehicle was Max Moriarty, Eagle #165.

Max: I was looking forward to spending a week in an awesome place I have never been to. It would have been my first time out of the country and my first high adventure trip. I was also looking forward to all the unexpected things I would experience up there.

I was both nervous and excited. This was going to be one of the longest times away from my parents, and it wasn't like Summer Camp where I'd see them Wednesday night.

For about 3 months after the accident, I did not like going anywhere or doing anything that involved me being in a car. Honestly, 5 years later and I now have bought my own car and have had my license for two years and I'm still terrified of driving. The biggest challenge that I faced was that I contemplated leaving the program all together. I went 4-5 months without going to meetings and not doing any activities.

The biggest thing that motivated me to continue with the program was when I realized that Mr. P. would have wanted me to persevere through the struggle and continue with the program. I had dedicated so much of my life to Scouts already and even though I had a tough time getting through it I know that he would have wanted me to stay involved.

I learned that I am not invincible. Before the accident, I genuinely thought that nothing like that would ever happen to me. After going through the accident, it taught me that anything like that can happen to anyone at any time, and to just be cautious and to always be prepared.

When I got promoted and was able to go to Owl Weekends and hang out with all the guys, it made it so much easier to deal with the challenges of the accident. I was able to hang out with my friends at a scouting event but not even think about the accident or anything because it provided a good distraction.

AQ: What are your favorite moments in Scouting? With Mr. P?

Max: My favorite scouting activity is backpacking. I love just throwing everything I need to bring with me and then just hiking for miles and miles with it on my back. The trails we choose for backpacking and the campsites we find are some of the most beautiful places I have been to in scouting.

My all-time favorite memories with Mr. P. were whenever I got a talk that involved him coming up to me and doing the patented shoulder squeeze. It always came out of nowhere and you knew exactly who it was when it happened and that it was going to be followed up by a long talk. Another good memory is when someone leaked that it was his birthday while we were at Summer Camp and he had to kiss the Moose.

AQ: How do you think the Troop has doing these last 5 years?



Max Moriarty #165

Max: The Troop has been doing as good as it could. A man like Mr. P. is irreplaceable. He dedicated so much time to the program. Over 30 some years, he hardly ever missed a campout. The Troop recovered though. Dr LaPolla stepped up and did an amazing job taking over. I could not have asked for a better mentor these last five years than Dr LaPolla. He did so much to keep the Troop afloat and keep the program going that way so many kids can experience the program that all of us enjoy so much.

AQ: What does the rank of Eagle mean to you?

Max: Earning my Eagle rank means that the 12 years of dedication I gave to the program paid off. It means I

completed what I thought I was not going to complete after the accident. I was the youngest in the accident, so I am the last one from the accident to earn my Eagle, meaning that all of us earned it. Earning my eagle means being up on the wall with some of the closest people in my life.

AQ: How do you choose to remember?

Max: I plan on carrying on the legacy by leading by Mr. P.'s example in every aspect of my life. He taught me so many things and set me down the right path, and I would like to be able to do the same thing for other people.

I tell everyone I can about him. I am a part of one of the last generation of scouts who knew

who he was personally, and these younger kids need to know just how impactful he was to this program.

AQ: Any advice for the young readers?

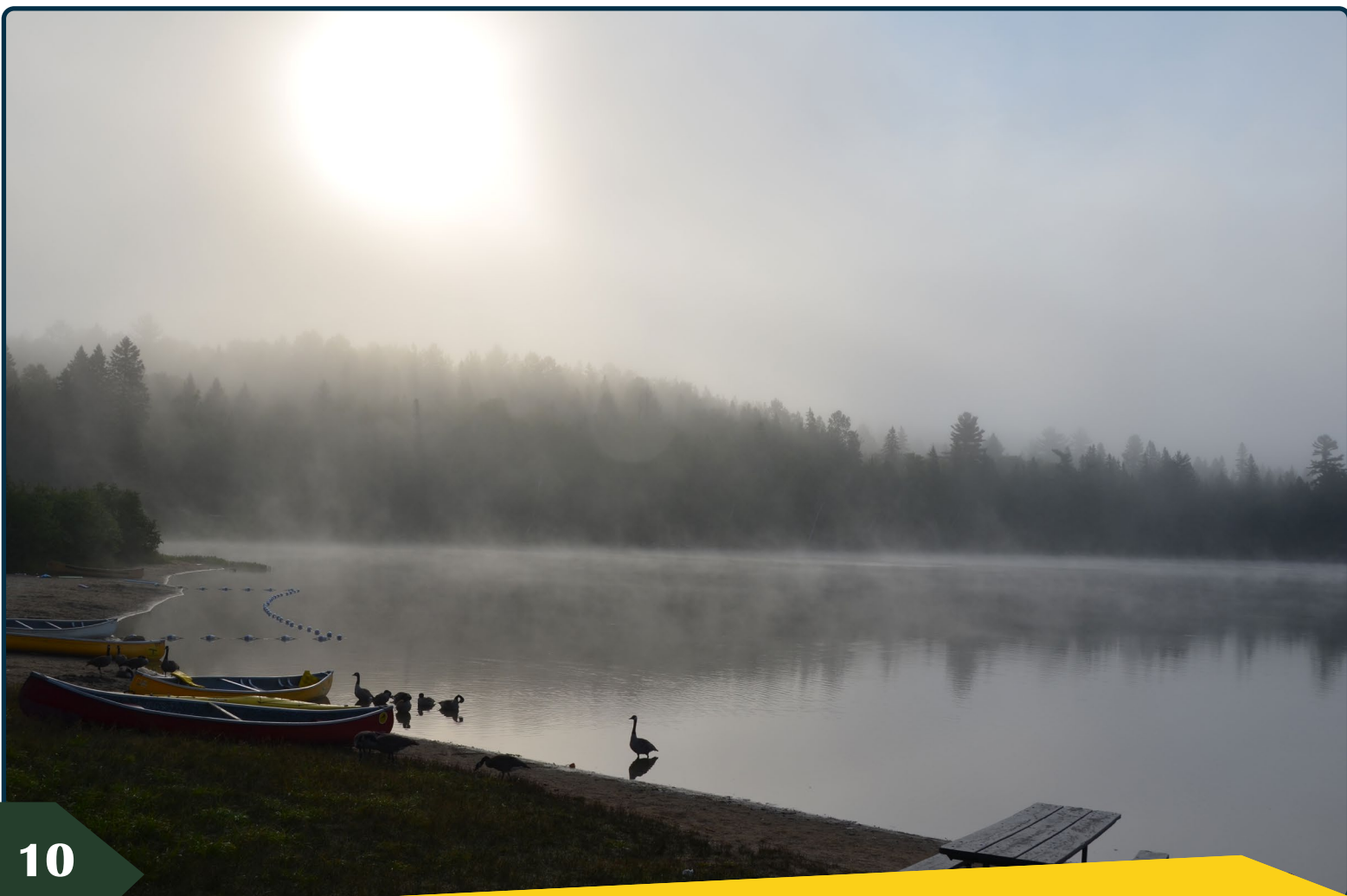
Max: Do not quit. Even when it gets hard, do not quit, especially when going for your Eagle. Do not wait and get it last minute like many of us have, it creates so much extra stress. And when you finish, think about all the people on that wall before you and all the people who came before you who would be so proud of you for joining the ranks of Eagle Scouts.

AQ: Max has just graduated High School and will be starting at Kent State in the Fall. He is planning on perusing a degree in Environmental Studies and Theater.

The accident took much from us. But as Scouts we continue marching forward. Mr. P. would have wanted it. At the dedication of the Jim Potjunas Scout Center, he stood before everyone and noted how he hoped to bring Scouting into the lives of as many young people

as possible. We choose to honor that dream, to bring Scouting into the lives of others and show what this program means for us, meant for Jim, and can mean to all of them.

So, let's end this article as Jim always ended each meeting: "And now, may the great master of all Scouts be with us, and watch over us. Until we meet again goodnight, Scouts"





A lot has been happening this summer with the Order.

First, for those that don't know, the Order of the Arrow is comprised of 2 Regions.

The Eastern Region and the Gateway Region. Within the Region there are sections. Our Lodge is part of the Eastern Region, Section 13. Section E13 is dedicated to serving the Arrowmen of eastern Ohio and West Virginia.

In May, over the weekend of the 20-22, OA Members gathered for Section E13 Conclave at Fort Steuben Scout Reservation in Tippecanoe, Ohio. For those not familiar, Conclave is the largest gathering of lodges throughout Section E-13, Order of the Arrow. All 8 of our lodges engaged in interactive shows, fun program, cheerful service and other activities.

Our Lodge, Marnoc Lodge #151, sent 32 Arrowmen to Conclave. Troop 101 also loaned one of our Laser Cutter/Engravers to the Conclave to great success. Badges and other engraved items were created and handed out during the event.

From the Order

Updates on the Troop involvement in the OA

The Theme for this year was "Wild Wild West" with a hint of "Rubber Duckies". The host lodge was Onondaga Lodge. Trader patches in the shape of Rubber Ducks were distributed and traded over the weekend.

As a thank you for loaning the Laser Cutter, Troop 101 was presented a complete set of Trader and Event patches. The frame they were presented in was laser cut to hold them. (Pictured below)



The Vigil Honor



Within the Order of the Arrow are three tiers of recognition. From induction after completing what is known as an Ordeal, members are considered to be "Ordeal" members. While an Ordeal member, having completed 6 months of service, members can take part in the Brotherhood ceremony, making them "Brotherhood" members.

The final recognition is one you cannot earn through conscious effort. It is an honor of distinction, and the highest honor the Order of the Arrow can bestow upon its members. It is a recognition of service to the lodge, council, and Scouting.

During Summer Camp, on July 16th he completed the ceremony and officially became a Vigil.

As a Vigil honor member, he was granted a name within the Order chosen by his peers. The Vigil name given is Anchachis Pitaptonen, interpreted as Person Who Blunders in Speaking.

Looking back through available records, the last person from Troop 101 to be recognized as a Vigil Honor member was Dan Drummond in 2000. Dan was recognized by his peers and given the name Nimenees Winhattakuwagan, interpreted as Fish Hawk Dancer.

Troop 101, and the Alumni Association would like to extend congratulations to Christopher and the other members of Marnoc Lodge that held the Vigil this Summer.

Back in our Q1 issue, we mentioned that Eagle Scout #153, Christopher McMahan, was nominated to become a Vigil member.



National Order of the Arrow Conference

NOAC - huge success July 2022

At the end of July, from the 25th through the 30th, the Order of the Arrow held an event at the university of Tennessee in Knoxville. This weeklong event, the National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC), is held every 2-3 years at a college Campus and brings Arrowmen together from across the Nation.

In addition to the thousands that attended in person, there were hundreds that were able to attend virtually through a Remote Delegate portal.

Arrowmen throughout the week got to meet fellow Arrowmen from across the Nation, trade patches, participate in training, compete in a campus-wide game called NOAC Quest and more. NOAC Quest as a sponsored game by Alps Mountaineering that had delegates scanning QR codes at events, activities, and also fellow delegates. On Friday, the winner from the game won a \$1,000 prize from Alps.

Delegates had the opportunity to attend several training sessions on Career Development, Mental Wellness, Making Events count, Being Inclusive, and recent ceremony changes to the Order. Some recognition ceremonies were also held to honor Distinguished Arrowmen and National Leadership.

Arrowmen did livestreams throughout the week to talk about the cool stuff going on and give those without the opportunity to travel the chance of experiencing NOAC.

Monday night held the opening show. It was a great introduction to the events that concluded with a local celebrity and Guest singer from Americas Got Talent, Christina Ray.

The Tuesday night show had several competitions between the Eastern and Gateway region Chiefs throughout the night. Who's the best region? East, or Gateway? (It's East, obviously!) During the show guest entertainment was provided by Jon Wee and Owen Morse from "The Passing Zone", an American comedy-juggling duo from Minnesota. In the end, it was determined that the Region competition was a tie! So, up on stage both Region Chiefs were slimed. In fact, the Eastern Region chief was slimed by one of

our newest Assistant Scoutmasters, Harley Hoff, that was working on staff for NOAC.

On Wednesday, the show had a more solemn tone as it discussed history, and how the OA has changed over the years while maintaining our legacy. It was a wonderful show that tied into remembering those that helped shape the organization, and the people that inspired us to keep going. Candles were placed on a memorial to remember those that are no longer with us, but whom we remember and keep their spirit burning brightly within our souls.

Thursday, the Regions gathered outside to celebrate and play games. While there wasn't an arena show, there were several Arrowmen performing songs, skits, and having a great time showing Lodge, Section, and Region pride.

Friday was the last full day of NOAC. The entire day was full of activities, games, and even a "NOAC's Got Talent" show. The day of activities culminated in a themed show to celebrate the bonds of brotherhood and recognizing what truly matters.

It would be difficult to describe the energy and excitement displayed during NOAC. Everyone that went had a blast, and are eagerly awaiting the next one in 2 years.





101 ALUMNI QUARTERLY

August 2022 • ISSUE 51

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



Parish Service Day

April 9, 2022

The Troop spent Saturday morning in the rain helping the Church with multiple small service projects. It was cool and wet, but we managed to accomplish more than we planned on getting done. It was a great show of Scouts helping through service.



Pymatuning Weekend

May 22, 2022

The Troop took a trip over to Pymatuning to get in some canoeing and fishing this weekend. It was a lot of fun. Even when the storm blew in Saturday night, the Troop's spirits were not dampened. They could be heard singing under the fly's as the storm raged around them.



Oakwood Cemetery

May 28, 2022

The Troop was out at Oakwood Cemetery to place flags at Veteran graves. It's a great service project we continue to perform.



Summer Camp at Manatoc

July 16, 2022

The Troop spent a wonderful week out at Camp Manatoc. This year was the 99th anniversary for the camp as we ramp up for the 100th next year. Our Scouts had a great time exploring and experiencing this year's theme "Mythos of Manatoc". We had 3 of our own on Camp Staff this year. The weather was great with only a little rain on Wednesday.

UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

September

- 11 - Scout Me In Day
- 16 - 18 - Camp McKinley
- 24 - PLC Training

October

- 8 - 9 - Hickory Creek Backpacking

November

- 11 - 13 - Seven Ranges

December

- TBD - Christmas Party