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- Tom Hunter (845) 582-0882
- Peter Oberdorf (518) 260-8974
- Denis Pisanello (914) 737-7485

**Founding Father**

Joseph R. Cooke



Summit's Climbing Wall



**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Dear Friends of Camp Read,

I hope that everyone is healthy and staying safe in these challenging times. I know this pandemic has affected every aspect of society, including Scouting and our Association. In this letter I have outlined what is currently happening and how we are responding to the crisis.

The Westchester-Putnam Council was struggling economically prior to the Pandemic reaching our area. The impact has been great as they are not receiving many of their regular income sources (camping fees, etc.) and fund-raising has slowed down to a crawl. The Scout Executive, Rich Stockton sent out message stating that the Council will not be able to open Summer Camp in 2020. Except of the message below:

*"This is a very hard decision and I am heartbroken like I know many of you are. Camp Read is about adventure and excitement, where a young person can live the Scout Oath and Law for a week in the outdoors. But, with the health and safety of our campers in mind, and the unprecedented nature of this virus, we believe it is in everyone's best interest that we not open camp."*

The Camp Read Association has had its challenges as well. We had to cancel our Spring Potluck dinner and the Eager Beaver worker's weekend. The "Friends of Read" campaign has had many less donation than usual (which is understandable in these uncertain times). We have adapted to have our meetings via teleconference and will do so until it is safe to meet in person. Now more than ever we are committed to supporting the Council and the Curtis S. Read Scout Reservation. If you can, please consider contributing to the Association. Any money raised will go directly to supporting the Camp in this difficult time.

We are also planning to have our annual hike weekend currently scheduled for September 24<sup>th</sup> through the 27<sup>th</sup> at Read. Hopefully by then we will have much of this behind us and can enjoy a fun-filled weekend with our friends, in a place we all know and love. More information to follow as we get closer to the dates.

The health, safety, and well-being of every one of us is what is most important. While our members would like nothing more than to gather and socialize, we need to do it safely and responsibly. If we do decide to run an event, please do not believe that you are obligated to participate if it would jeopardize your safety or that of a loved-one.

As a final note, I want to express my appreciation to all the Association members for their support and dedication. Many hands make light work, even if we cannot shake them right now.

Best wishes to all the Friends of Read and hopes for a better tomorrow.

Yours in Scouting,

Bill Daley, CRA President

**Upcoming Dates: Eager Beaver Work Weekend Cancelled! Annual Fall Hike Weekend scheduled for September 24th - 27th. Note: as events solidify specifics will be sent out and posted on our website [campread.org](http://campread.org)**

## Friends of Read 2020

One of the primary missions of the Camp Read Association, as stated in our Charter, is to assist with camp promotion, staff development, program and financial support, and facility maintenance/development. In order to live up to this commitment your financial support is greatly needed.

Because of the generosity of many of our members, the Association was able to make contributions towards a variety of projects and ongoing programs that have and continue to benefit the Curtis S. Read Scout Reservation in the areas of infrastructure, program, and staff support. The following are examples of how the Association provided this much needed support over the years: replacement of the roof on the Pearlman Building, major renovations of Boland Lodge (thanks to Peter Oberdorf for his most generous contribution), construction of the two lentos (in memory of Ken Hadermann and Chris Fearon), construction/renovation of the many camp signs throughout the Reservation, much needed program equipment, the annual Staff appreciation dinner, and Staff recognition awards.

To continue our commitment of service to the camp, the Association's assistance will be needed for the following upcoming projects: rebuilding the stone wall at the camp entrance, a new Summit Activities Center, construction of a lean-to for use by the Buckskin Camp Director, financial support towards the renovation Camp Waubeeka Office and program support for new activities such as mountain biking.

If you haven't joined this elite group of dedicated Scouters please give some thought to making a contribution. If you have donated in the past, our sincerest thanks and please consider renewing your support for 2020. Contributions to the Camp Read Association can be considered as a tax deduction. Another way to support camp is to send in a one-time donation either as a tribute to, or in memory of, an individual you would like to recognize.

Forms for donating to the Memorials & Tributes Fund or for The Friends of Read donations can be found in this Newsletter and on our website at [CampRead.org](http://CampRead.org).

*The Camp Read Association wishes to extend a sincere thanks to the following members who have made a contribution to the Association for 2020. Your financial support is greatly appreciated by all the scouts and leaders who attend Camp Read and benefit from your generosity.*

Russ Borner  
**Matt Brauner**  
**Bill Brucker**  
**Ralph Colotti**  
 Kent Cooper  
 Ed D'Apice  
 Tom Dietz  
 John J. Doyle  
 Dr. William Flank  
 Jose Fuentes

Doug Gamble  
**Frank Graessle**  
**Ron & Kathy Green**  
**Tim Haag**  
**Ben Haag**  
 Tom Hunter  
**Richard Lutomski**  
**Albert Massimi**  
**Peter Oberdorf**  
**Richard Okrasinski**

**Christopher Simone**  
 William Simone  
 James Smith  
**Matt Terribile**  
**David Terribile**  
**John Tripodi**  
**Michael Tripodi**  
**Michael Venuti**  
**Gary Wiesendanger**

*Shown in bold above are those who have given most generously*

**THANK YOU!**

All donations to the Camp Read Association are tax-deductible

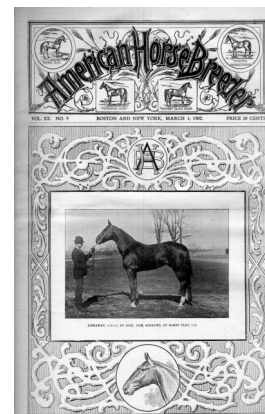
# LOOKAWAY- (PART 2)



By Bill Langham



Clarence Lyman Collins.



I began to delve into late 19th century history, horse racing and the gilded age before income taxes. Having answered the question of Lookaway's monument at the racetrack at CSR, my next questions might be, given that a horse named Lookaway was owned and bred by a man who's personal fortune was based on "King Cotton." Might Colonel Collins have had the song Dixie's Land in mind when he named his horse?

Oh, I wish I was in the land of cotton  
Old times there are not forgotten  
Look away! Look away!  
Look away! Dixie Land

In Dixie land where I was born in  
Early on one frosty mornin'  
Look away! Look away!  
Look away! Dixie Land

The other thought that comes to mind, and perhaps some of the old timers can answer this one, but my research uncovered the Clarence Lyman (1848 - 1922) was the second brother of three, Charles Terry (1845- 1883) and Arthur Morris (1851 -1861). Were the Three Brothers at Read named for them? Another mystery (I'm a little rusty on the Tale of the Three Brothers) is that I seem to recall that there was a murder of a baby associated with the story. It turns out that CL and his wife had a second daughter by the name of Maude. She died when she was 9 months old.

## Notes on Clarence Lyman Collins

These notes on CL Collins, who owned the original land that became the Curtis S. Read Reservation were derived from various Internet-based sources, including genealogy sites and the National Museum of Harness Racing at Goshen, NY for Lookaway's picture.

Clarence Lyman, second son of three brothers, of Charles and Mary Terry Collins, was born February 22nd, 1848 in Hartford Connecticut. He was educated in public and private schools of that City and attended the College Hill Military School in Poughkeepsie, New York from which he graduated in 1867, the youngest of his class.

Mr. Collins was the son of Charles Collins, a member of the dry goods firm Collins, Atwater & Whitin and Co. The firm's name was subsequently changed to Whitin Co., and in 1916 to Clarence L Collins & Co. These various firms were representatives of cotton mills in eastern and southern states.

An active member of New York Society, Collins was a member of the New York City Chamber of Commerce, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, National Sculpture Society, Trade and Transportation Society, Society for the Preservation of Scenic and Historic Places and Objects, Circle of Friends of the Madeleine, the New England Society of New York, the Society of Colonial Wars and a descendant of Governor William Bradford of *Mayflower* fame.

He was also a member of the Founders and the Patriots Society, the Sons of the American Revolution, the New York Yacht Club, Larchmont Yacht Club, a life member of the Lambs Club, a member of the American Trotting Horse Association the Morgan Horse Club, and Sleepy Hollow Golf Club.

Politically Mr. Collins was an independent. He maintains a summer home, The Hermitage, in the Adirondacks in Horicon (Warren County), New York. Mr. Collins married Louise (born August 1853) Vanderbilt Clark in 1870. Their eldest daughter, Edith Lyman Collins, married Rechid Bey, Count Czaykowski, Councilor of State of the Turkish Embassy at Rome, Italy. A second daughter, Maude, was born October 14, 1872 and died August 4, 1873, aged 9 months. Collins married a second time to Rosalba Mathilde Beecher. This union produced no children.

## **BITS AND PIECES**

*This issue was sent to anyone who gave to the Friends of Read. If you want to continue to receive copies of the Newsletter, please send in your contribution!*

### ➤ UPCOMING EVENTS

- Eager Beaver Workers Weekend: Cancelled due to COVID-19
- Annual Fall Hike Weekend: September 24th - 27th, check back for more information.
- Anyone wishing to contribute Newsletter articles, anecdotes, pictures, event postings, or general Camp or Scouting info should please send any correspondence to: Tom Hunter - [hunteto@gmail.com](mailto:hunteto@gmail.com)

➤ The Association web site is [campread.org](http://campread.org). Please visit our site for the latest information..



## *Summer's End — A Canoe Story*

### *By Tom Hanley*

John Harmon and I (Tom Hanley) were Scoutmasters of two Buckskin provisional troops in 1961. His was Woodsman and mine was Wilderness. Both were double troops of sixty-odd campers: two platoons of four patrols each. The Third Period had begun. The summer was coming to an end. He would be starting Harvard in a few weeks and I would be off to Notre Dame. We wanted to do something interesting to end the summer.

A day paddling on Lake George earlier in the summer had whetted our appetites for more extensive canoeing. We took a day off and begged a ride for ourselves and a canoe to the near end of Brant Lake. From there we paddled to the small hotel, Sunset Mountain Lodge, where we hung out, drank some beer, and ate. Our plan was to paddle back to where we had put into the lake and then portage back to camp, with luck finding a ride the final stretch of the way. A little too much beer, a late start back, fog on the lake and twilight had us in the middle of Brant Lake on a dark night looking for cabin lights to guide us to shore.

Surprisingly, we made landfall not too far from the camp road. It was dark and late, and I believe we walked the whole way back. Punchy by the time we approached Buckskin, we started talking about practical jokes and Fourth Period games. For some reason we thought that painting "Neal Lay is a Nork" on the bottom of the canoe and putting it in the dining hall rafters would be incredibly funny. Neal was the Assistant Director of Buckskin, Dave Armstrong the Director.

Memory fails, but we made up a story about spacemen, I think, and that became the basis of the fourth period games. Pretty nearly everyone survived the fourth period, but our interest in canoes remained dangerously alive. We knew that one of the camp canoes had to be brought back to White Plains to be used by the Council for merit badge training during the winter. John and I offered to paddle it back for them. Thus began one of the great events of my life.



Is it possible to have a great experience and not be able to remember more than snap shots? For some reason, the Powers-that-be as well as our parents consented to this trip. After helping dismantle camp, John and I sent some of our duffel back to Council by truck and put what we needed in the canoe. Someone, maybe Art Boland, dropped us off upstream from the Fort Edward lock at the southern end of the Lake Champlain barge canal. This was our first challenge, how to convince the lock keeper that he should let us pass through in our canoe. Fortunately, a buoy tender came by and we went through with him. I cannot remember how many locks we passed through with other vessels. The one that sticks in my mind is the last lock at Troy. This is a big lock and big boats use it. We went in just barely fitting near the stern of a large tug. The water fell quickly after the gates closed behind us. We kept up with the drop by grabbing successively lower rungs on a ladder built into the side of the lock. When the gates opened onto the Lower Hudson, the water beneath us erupted with froth and boil as our large lock mate powered ahead.

We knew the River below Troy would be difficult paddling because of the effect of the tides. To counter this, John suggested we paddle with the tides day or night. One of us could doze while the other kept us going. This was a good plan. We had a Coleman lantern (which I still have and use - in case Dave Armstrong reads this - with the original generator) that we rigged in the bow and shielded so it would not blind us. Once while John was leaning back on the duffel, nose in the air, I noticed a string of lights ahead of us. I continued to paddle until they were right ahead of us. It was a pipe that connected 3 dredges to the shore. We might just make it beneath it but maybe not. I was afraid to warn John fearing he might bolt upright and really get clobbered. His nose cleared by inches, and he awoke as we passed beneath it. He did not sleep again.

The wakes produced by big cargo ships were another tricky aspect of the Lower Hudson. At first we thought it would be smart to keep our distance, not wanting to be capsized in the middle of the river. The first time we skirted the shoreline, though, we saw that the water pulled away from the shore as they approached, returning in huge waves as they passed. We decided to take our chances in deeper water.

After several days on the river, we decided to take a break, call home, and maybe drink some good water. We left our canoe at the dock of a small cozy town. After a short time talking to the locals we found that a ring of local thieves had recently been found stripping slow-moving freight trains of anything not tied down. Hurrying back to our canoe, we were grateful to find it in one piece and we left immediately.

Other memories include trying to sleep on rip-rap boulders while critters scampered in the nearby leaves and trying to eat young feed corn which we had liberated from a field near the water. I especially remember with gratitude John's Father picking us up in Poughkeepsie at the end of the journey.

I don't remember the river being particularly dirty, though we must have been there at about its worst just before Pete Seeger and others started their crusade. This was before Styrofoam, plastic bottles, disposable diapers and six-pack straps.

John went on to become an M.D., I a Geologist. Both of us have retold the story more times, probably, than our families, friends and acquaintances would care to remember.



Camp Read Staff Appreciation Dinner held at the Durland Reservation in Putnam Valley on 12/27/2019. This event is sponsored annually by the Association and had approximately 50 staff members attending. Great time and a chance for friends to catch up and start to make plans and commitments for next summer.



## Bruce Fusillo - 12/25/2019

It is with much sadness that the Association wishes to communicate the passing of Bruce Fusillo, Secretary to the Association and past Read Staff member, on Dec. 25th, 2019. Bruce was a retired Social Studies teacher and is survived by his Wife Eileen, two daughters and four grand children. He will be missed by all who knew him.



## Memorials And Tributes

If you would like to make a donation to the Camp Read Association or to the Camp Read Improvement Fund for a memorial or tribute to an individual please fill out the form below. The tribute or honor can be for recognition of birthdays, anniversaries, holidays, awards, or in memory of a departed relative or friend. Acknowledgement letters will be sent to you and to the person being recognized or to the family (if the donation is in memoriam).

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_ [  ] I would like to remain anonymous.

Your Address \_\_\_\_\_

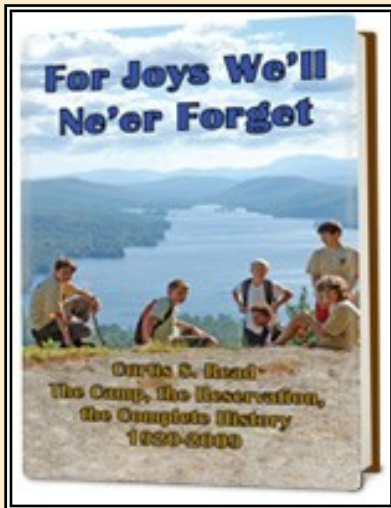
Your telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Your email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of individual or group being remembered or recognizes: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason: \_\_\_\_\_ Donation amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name and Address acknowledgement should be sent to: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please make your check payable to Camp Read Assoc. Westchester-Putnam Council, BSA.  
Mail it to Bill Daley, 3220 Mohegan Ave., Mohegan Lake, NY 10547.*



“For Joys We’ll Ne’er Forget”, relates the story of the Curtis S. Read Scout Reservation from its opening day in 1920 to the present. For the most part, “For Joys....” was written by staff who were in camp. Chapters features two legendary Camp Rangers, the launching of Camp Waubeeka, the impact of Read on professional Scouting, profiles of outstanding camp leaders, the story of the Ode of the Arrow in camp, history of the Camp Read Association, and much more.

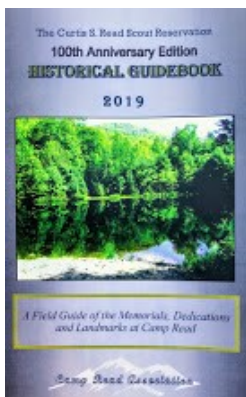
Travel through time as this nearly one hundred year old camp grew from its beginnings on 33 acres and 20 campers on Long Pond, in Mahopac, New York to a 1000 acre scout reservation in the Adirondack Mountains. Today the Curtis S. Read Scout Reservation is made up of three camps, one traditional scout camp, one patrol cooking camp, and a High Adventure Base.

“For Joys We’ll Ne’er Forget” was commissioned by the Camp Read Association to preserve the history of this very special place. If you were ever a camper or staff member at a Scout camp, you’ll find yourself right at home in the pages of this book. It is a story worth telling and one worth reading!

**To Order: Go to [www.xlibris.com/bookstore](http://www.xlibris.com/bookstore)**

*Copies also available in the Camp Trading Post*

**All proceeds from “For Joys We’ll Ne’er Forget” will go to the betterment of the Curtis S. Read Scout Reservation, Westchester-Putnam Council, BSA**



## Historical Guidebook 2019 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition

The Curtis S. Read Reservation Field Guide contains eighty-eight pages of Memorials, Dedications and Landmarks found at Camp Read. The 2019 edition of the Guidebook celebrates the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Curtis S. Read Scout Reservation. Now in its seventh printing the Guidebook includes all the latest updates. This unique Field Guide, published by the Camp Read Association, can be purchased for \$29.00 which includes postage and handling. All proceeds from the sale of the Guidebook will go to benefit Camp Read.

**To purchase a copy please contact:**

**Ed D’Apice**

**Phone: (845) 612-3151 or**

**E-mail: [pvfellow@gmail.com](mailto:pvfellow@gmail.com)**

## Reminiscing About Camp in the Early Days by Butch Smith\*

**M**y years at CSR are some of the best in my memory. I was fortunate to be selected as a free-board nature assistant at age 13. I was lucky enough to serve under some good nature directors. The best of whom was Carol Ross who taught me plant life among other things. From others, I learned rocks and minerals, astronomy, and insects. I already had a fair knowledge of trees, birds, and mammals. Snakes were my specialty.

All of the above qualified me to become the youngest of the camp director department heads. Of all the Camp Directors, including Fred, I felt that Joe Cooke had the best philosophy. In the mornings, he had teaching available for the individual - from second and first class on up to merit badges. The group method worked out very well for the numbers we had to handle. It put quite a strain on my department as we had 10 or more fields to cover.

Thank God for my assistant, Rusty Borner. What we did not know, we learned ahead of the Scouts we were teaching. The afternoons were devoted to various activities the Scout patrols voted on from day to day. Each department came up with afternoon activities available within their field of expertise. Our most popular was a cave trip.

The Scouts came fully dressed with a change of clothing and a towel. They had to walk over a mile to the turn off into the woods that brought them to a stream bed. To enter the cave, they had to walk along a narrow (5 to 6 inches wide) ledge to some boulders they could climb down into a large room with calcite walls speckled with graphite. We would sit them in that room and discuss rocks and minerals with them. Then we crawled on hands and knees through a foot of freezing (or close to it) water until we came to a few tall rooms. The first few through were able to see blind fish. It soon became too murky for the rest of the groups.

After passing through a narrow passage, we came to the exit. You could fit your head through the exit but had to submerge the rest of the body to where the shoulders could fit through an underground opening. Our nature lead man remained shivering at the exit to make sure nobody panicked. Our other nature man remained in the rear to make sure everyone was out safe. When the group got as large as 9 patrols, we put a third man in the middle. When they got out, they changed into dry clothes and toweled off and then walked over a mile back. What fun!

It turned out that the Scouts wrote home with the fun they had had complete with who knows what embellishments. It did not take long before the council office was deluged with concerned (to say the least) letters and phone calls concerned about the safety of their sons. Fred solved this by ordering the 300 lb. waterfront director to take the trip and pronounce its suitability. He went out the exit on his back without putting either his nose or mouth under water. It was pronounced safe.

I went through the cave with Carolee at the last camp reunion we attended. I could no longer fit through the narrow part and the blind fish had disappeared. The second lake had changed the underground considerably. I would no longer recommend it.

Another event I remember was an all-day bird hike. We observed well over the 40 species required for bird study merit badge in that one day. The camp was a nature's paradise.

\* **Editor's note - Butch was the son of Fred Smith, who was the Scouting Professional originally responsible for obtaining the Read property in the Adirondacks (excerpt from a letter originally sent to John Farley)**



c/o Westchester Putnam Council, BSA  
41 Saw Mill River Road  
Hawthorne, NY 10532



**Dues Policy:**

Annual dues are requested by the end of March each year (We will however gladly accept dues anytime throughout the year). **For those who supported the Association in past years, our most sincere thanks. Members who enjoy this publication, and wish to continue to hear from us, your financial support is needed.** The Board of Directors feels strongly that membership in the Association NOT be tied to dues payment. However, those not making an annual contribution will only receive major mailings for reunions etc. The only qualification for membership is your dedicated interest in Camp Read. As such, dues may be considered a tax-deductible contribution.

**Dues 2020 Change of Address Form**

**Name:**

**E-Mail:**

**Address:**

**Phone:**

**City:**

**Contribution:**  
\$100  \$50  \$25  \$15   
Other \$

**State:**

**Zip:**

check here for change of address

Make Checks payable to: Camp Read Association, Westchester-Putnam Council, BSA  
Send To: Bill Daley, 3220 Mohegan Ave., Mohegan Lake, NY 10547