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Tom Hunter (845) 745-5699
Peter Oberdorf (518) 260-8974
Denis Pisanello (914) 737-7485

Founding Father

Joseph R. Cooke



Mt. Stevens from Summit Parking Area



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends of Camp Read,

I am sure I speak for everyone by saying I'm glad 2020 is behind us and things are starting to open and return more towards normal. The effects of the pandemic are still being felt however, as we had to cancel the annual Spring potluck dinner again and are holding our Board meetings virtually. My hope is with vaccinations and with continued diligence, we can get together again sooner than later.

Read Summer Camp is planning on opening in 2021 and with that we are teaming up with the Order of the Arrow, Tamaque Lodge, for a combined work weekend in June. Mark your calendar for Friday, June 4 through Sunday June 6, 2021. Registration for the event is through the Council's website ghvbsa.org. Our website, campread.org has the sign-up form and links to the on-line registration. Your help is needed to get Camp ready for summer, especially this year, since much work was on hold due to the pandemic.

The merger of the Westchester-Putnam and Hudson Valley Councils is now complete, and the newly formed council had been named *the Greater Hudson Valley Council*. Richard Stockton, former Scout Executive of Westchester-Putnam has been selected to head this Council as well. The Camp Read Association extends our congratulations to Rich and we are looking forward to continuing our excellent relationship with him and his staff. **Please note that any checks written to the Camp Read Association must now include GHV, B.S.A. as the payee.**

On behalf of myself and Camp Read Association, I wish to congratulate Ron and Kathy Green on his retirement as a Professional Scouter. The Greater St. Louis Council held a virtual retirement party for Ron in March that many of us had attended. Tom Dietz and Jim Smith co-wrote an article on Ronnie's life and career, please check it out on pages 4 & 5 of this newsletter.

We are planning to have the annual fall hike weekend at Read on September 24th through September 26th. To me there is nothing better than being in the Adirondacks in the fall, so keep this date in mind for what is always an enjoyable event. Check the website and in your email for more information as we get closer to the event.

Thanks to everyone who have generously supported the Association in 2021! I know in these uncertain times it may be difficult for some to donate, but please consider donating what you can. The Camp and the Council could use our support now more than ever.

Hope to see everyone at Eager Beaver and in the Fall!

Best wishes for health and happiness in 2021.

Yours in Scouting,
Bill Daley, CRA President

Upcoming Dates: Eager Beaver work Weekend Friday June 4th through Sunday June 6th. Annual Fall Association Hike Sept. 24th – 26th More information to follow as hike date event approaches

Friends of Read 2021

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 three lentos (in memory of Ken Haddermann, Bob Johnson 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.

We continue to support the Camp and your contributions are the only way we are able to that. In these financially difficult times for Scouting, our support is needed now more than ever as the Association is able to fill needs that otherwise wouldn't be met. For example, in 2020 we provided the funding for a much needed leaf blower that wasn't in the Camp's budget.

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 2021. 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.

The Camp Read Association wishes to extend a sincere thanks to the following members who have made a contribution to the Association for 2021. 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
Ralph Colotti
Kent Cooper
Tom Dietz

John J. Doyle
Dr. William Flank
Doug Gamble
Albert Massimi
Mark Sikora

Peter Oberdorf
Jim Smith
Matt Terrible
Michael Venuti

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

THANK YOU!

All donations to the Camp Read Association are tax-deductible

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 Read Worker's Weekend June 4th – June 6th
- Annual Association Fall Hike Sept. 24th - 26th
- 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

➤ **The Camp Read Association is now part of the Greater Hudson Valley Council, BSA . Please use "Camp Read Association, GHV BSA" as the payee for all checks written to the Association.**

➤ **The Association web site is campread.org. Please visit our site for the latest information..**

EAGER BEAVER WORK WEEKEND



**Friday June 4 through
Sunday June 6, 2021**

**Curtis S. Read Scout
Reservation, Brant Lake, NY**

**Support the Greater Hudson Valley Council and Camp Read by
helping them get ready for the Summer 2021!**



Join the Camp Read Association and the Order of the Arrow, Ktemaque Lodge for fun, fellowship and yes – work for this annual event. Lodging and meals for the weekend are offered at no cost. Please register below by May 20 so that meals, lodging and projects can be properly planned. For safety reasons, we ask that ALL attendees be over the age of 14. Please go to the Council Website, ghvbsa.org for more information and to register for the event (preferred method) You may also mail in the form below to register.

Eager Beaver Work Weekend 2021 Registration Form

Name: _____ Scouting Position: _____
 Address: _____ City/State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____
 Time of Arrival: ___ Friday PM ___ Saturday AM
 Lodging at Camp: ___ Yes ___ No
 Meals Attending: ___ Sat Break ___ Sat Lunch ___ Sat Dinner ___ Sun Break ___ Sun
 Lunch
 Special Skills: ___ Carpentry ___ Electrical ___ Plumbing ___ Painting ___ Auto Me-
 chanics
 ___ Equipment Operator ___ Just Plain Old Work Other _____

Please send this form to: Greater Hudson Valley Council, B.S.A.
 PO Box 974
 Mohegan Lake, NY 10547

**Please visit ghvbsa.org or campread.org to
register or for more information**

A Great Camp Read Success Story!

Over the past hundred years, Camp Read has served the youth of the Westchester-Putnam County area in many ways including preparing thousands of young boys for life. The Camp Read Association is particularly proud of the alumni who went on to serve as professional scouts and continue that life preparedness process. This story is about one such alum whom we've watched grow from a cub scout in Yonkers Pack 56 through a very successful career in professional scouting.

It was July 15, 1968. Several buses carrying scouts from the Washington Irving Council rumbled up the Camp Read road stopping at roads end in what was then Camp Tomahawk. This was the day that changed a young scout's life forever. Ronald S. Green stepped off the bus and said to himself, "gee the air smells funny here" as he inhaled his first breath of the crisp pine air of the Adirondacks.

Ron, credits Camp Read, the professional scouts and dedicated volunteers who worked there as a major influence in his life. Lessons learned and guidance received from the professionals like Joe Cooke, Jim Smith, Dick Trier, Ken D'Apice and Bob Newton started him on his scouting journey.

They were joined by dedicated volunteers including: Doc Rile, Denis Pisanello, Peter Scott Oberdorf, Rich Lutomski, Don Walsh and Lou Agro just to name a few. His love for and support of Camp Read and scouting never stopped.

He joined the professional staff of the Washington Irving Council in 1980 and was given his "official" coffee mug inscribed "The Kid" at the Purdy's Scout Reservation in White Plains. He was part of the core group who started the reunions at Camp Read in 1979 for the Camp Staff Alumni and Friends of Camp Read. The reunions have continued every five years since then and after the 1989 reunion, Ron was a big part of the core group who formed the Camp Read Association. He has continued to be an active supporter of the Association even as his scouting career took him through various positions in NYC, NJ, Ohio and St. Louis. His help and guidance throughout the life of our organization is very much appreciated.



Ron enjoying himself at the 2019 Camp Read Association Reunion, standing near the Pearlman Building in Buckskin



Ron & Kathy

His path through life went from scouting to Camp Read to joining the scouting profession. This path not only led to a career but to meeting a lovely young lady from the Exploring staff, Kathy Fagan, who became his life partner, and a great partner she's been. They met in scouting and have lived their lives thru scouting guided by the Scout Oath and Law. They have demonstrated a never waning love for each other, their families, and thousands of Boy and Adult Scouts of America whose lives they've touched for the better. They even found time to raise two wonderful children, Kaitlin and Thomas. When we think of couples whom have

worked well together, we think of Bob and Gert Newton, and the old adage that behind every great man is an even better woman! Ron & Kathy, you are right up there with Bob & Gert! And kudos to Gert & Kathy for keeping your "boys" in line!

On March 23, 2021, the Greater St. Louis Council, where Ron has served as Scout Executive for the past 10 years, held a "Virtual" Retirement Recognition Celebration for Ron & Kathy. Many people spoke and paid tribute to their outstanding careers! Well done and well deserved!

On behalf of the Camp Read Association, we congratulate you on your retirement, and wish you and your family continued health, happiness and success as you begin walking your next trail on the hike of life. We were touched that you shared the story about "The Kid" coffee cup.

That cup witnessed, from start to completion, a very successful professional scouting career. Your dedication to Scouting, the Association, and Camp Read does not end with retirement but will continue on forever! So keep drinking from that cup!

In our eyes, and we're sure in the eyes of many others, you are the **Pride and Soul** of Scouting, the Camp Read Association and Camp Read! Thanks for all you do, your leadership and the fine example you set!

Yours in brotherhood,
Jim Smith & Tom Dietz



"The Four Amigos"
Ron—far left, with fall hike buddies:
From left to right, Tom Dietz, Rich
Lutowski and Bill Daley

Memorials And Tributes

In Memory of Catherine I. Dietz

Long Time Friend of Camp Read

Beloved Wife, Mother, Grandmother
and Great-Grandmother of a Scouting Family

Bill Daley & Denis Pisanello

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 _____

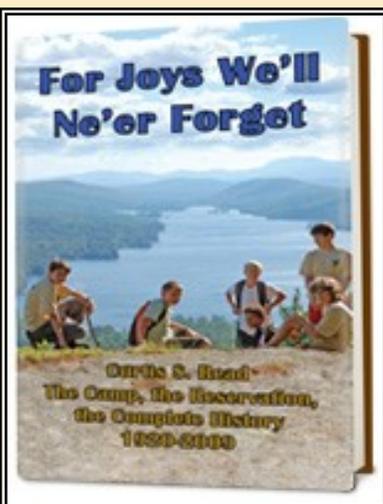
Your telephone: _____ Your email: _____

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. Greater Hudson Valley 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.CampRead-ForJoys.com

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

CAMP READ STORIES PROJECT

If there was any positive aspect to Covid's Summer of 2020, it was, for me, the Camp Read Stories Project. In my role as Editor, I was able to elicit and prepare for publication a series of meaningful memories from campers and staff of Curtis S. Read. These tales began with stories from the early days at camp and proceeded to recent days. All the stories reflected the love of Read - and those who hold the camp in highest esteem and count their time at camp among their fondest memories. If you would like to submit a memory (at least 200 words), send your story to webmaster@campread.org. **Bill Langham**

A story that reflects this love of place and it's fundamental effect on a lifetime that held scouting dear is the story of Greg Pitonza's recollection of his summers at camp changing his life :

Camp Waubeeka Characters

Ranger Bob Newton

At that time Camp Ranger Bob (who served as ranger for 27 years from 1967-1996) always had his dog, Pep, at his side.³ My daily wake-up call was the rattle of the snow plow lift on his truck. BTW, and contrary to rumors - Bob never had to wake me up with the sound of a shotgun blank. Time spent working alongside Ranger Bob has had a significant influence on my personal outlook and the life philosophies that have made me successful.

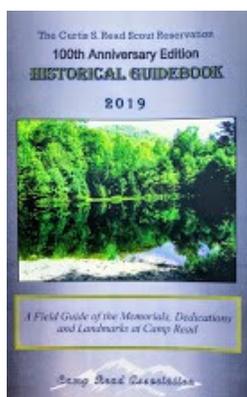
Ranger Bob's unique personality, colorful language and unstinting work ethic and his demand for outstanding performance from those around him were an inspiration. He certainly inspired me as the following story shows --

At a critical time during my college years, it was Ranger Bob who made arrangements with Bob Towne of Westchester-Putnam Council to send me to BSA National Camping School for Aquatics (although I was only 18) which led to a real life or death situation on the Sacandaga River. Part of my role during this summer, when the Summit and Waubeeka staffs were combined, was to instruct and certify a BSA Lifeguard to function as White Water Rafting Guide. My friend and tentmate at the time expected an easy-pass on the stringent requirements for this position and wasn't taking the instruction seriously. He eventually did take the lessons earnestly and qualified for the Guide spot. During a rafting run on the Sacandaga that summer, a scout caught his foot while swinging on a rope 20 feet from shore. This required a 'Go' rescue by my friend/tentmate/student that saved the panicked scout. With the intensity of the situation, it was a rescue where lifesaving maneuvers had to be performed correctly for the safety of both my friend and the scout. Following the rescue, the scout was taken to the hospital and treated for broken bones in his foot. When the group returned to camp later in the evening we heard the accounts of the accident. Later I received a profound comment from my friend: his statement was essentially that what I required him to do to get BSA Lifeguard certified made the difference of keeping him safe and successfully making the rescue. This was significant, real and meaningful feedback that led me to start thinking about teaching others as a career.

This was also a significant lesson for me - it turned me around and led me into teaching.

Greg Pitonza, Ph.D. presently teaches Middle School Technology in the Canajoharie Central School District. In 2019, he was selected as winner of the Regional Teacher of the Year Award. Coronavirus and Camp Read's subsequent closing prevented Dr. Pitonza from assuming the new role of STEM Ranch Director at camp this summer (2020). Greg earned Eagle Scout in 1982. He first went to Camp Read as a Waubeeka camper with his troop in 1979 and then joined the staff in 1982.

Editor's Note – This is an excerpt from a great piece submitted by Greg. Other influential characters described in his original piece include Denis Pisanello, Sean O'Donnell and Chris "The Colonel" Simone. To view this entire "Camp Read Story" or many other great submissions, go to the Camp Read Association website at <https://www.campread.org/stories> to read all the stories and send yours to webmaster@campread.org.



Historical Guidebook 2019 100th 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 100th 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



c/o Greater Hudson Valley Council, BSA
PO Box 974
Mohegan Lake, NY 10547



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 2021 Change of Address Form

Name:

E-Mail:

Address:

Phone:

City:

Contribution:

State:

Zip:

\$100 \$50 \$25 \$15

Other \$

check here for change of address

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