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Bill Daley (914) 703-7028

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VP Activities

Bill Brucker (908) 516-1683

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Bill Langham (914) 355-0329

VP Historian

Steve Sudak (914) 674-2055

VP Communications

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Members at Large

Rusty Borner (914) 960-9681

Ken D'Apice (407) 645-2950

Wayne Douchkoff (941) 755-3512

Frank Graessle (845) 651-2838

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Rich Okrasinski (914) 647-4425

Jim Smith (239) 257-4561

Matt Terribile (919) 785-0628

Mike Venuti (802) 288-9610

Past Presidents

Tom Dietz (845) 628-4369

Tom Hunter (845) 745-5699

Peter Oberdorf (518) 260-8974

Denis Pisanello (914) 737-7485

Founding Father

Joseph R. Cooke



An Adirondack Red ER



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends of Camp Read,

With Covid cases declining and many people in our area being vaccinated; I am happy to report that the Camp and the Association have been moving much closer to normal operation. Camp was able to open with some limitations and we were able to run our worker's weekends and fall hike weekend as planned.

Thanks to all those who took their valuable time to attend the work weekends, your efforts are much appreciated and are necessary for the Camp to continue to thrive. The first weekend was in May where a select group of 12 volunteers including some our Board members went up to Read to work on some specialized projects targeted by Camp Manager/Ranger Kris O'Conner. The second, held in June, was a joint effort between the Association and the Order of the Arrow, Ktemaque Lodge. The weekend was very successful with approximately 40 participants. I was glad to see a good number of volunteers from the former Hudson Valley Council join in and some of them seeing the Reservation for the first time were very impressed. Please go to **page 7** of this *Newsletter* and on our website, CampRead.org to see more about these events.

The annual fall hike weekend at Read was held on September 24th through September 26th with 16 of our fellow members attending. Good times, good friends, good food and good weather highlighted the event. A brief recap and some photos are on **pages 3&5** of this *Newsletter*. Check out the *Stories* section of the website for the full write-up and more photos. Special thanks to Bill Brucker and Tom Dietz for organizing the event.

I would like to thank the CRA Board members for their tireless efforts in keeping our Association running. "Many hand make light work" is our mantra and it especially true with the group we have now. I can count on each one of them to do their assigned tasks cheerfully and give me advice where needed. We held our first "hybrid" Board meeting in November with a mix of in-person and Zoom call attendees. One positive thing that came out of the pandemic was the use of technologies such as Zoom became commonplace. It had enabled our Board members that reside too far away to join in-person to easily participate in the meetings.

Our next event is going to be the annual Staff Appreciation Dinner, held on Monday December 27, 2021, at Durland Scout Reservation. The event is hosted by the Association as a way of showing our thanks to the current Staff members for their hard work over the summer. One highlight of the evening will be the formal presentation of the Staff awards for 2021, recognizing the recipients for their outstanding service to the Camp.

Please mark your calendars for Saturday March 26, 2022, for the Spring Potluck Dinner. This would be the first time we are able to hold this event since 2019, so keep an eye on your email and on the website for more information as the event gets closer.

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. Please note that any checks written to the Camp Read Association must now include GHV B.S.A. as the payee.

Best wishes for joyous holiday season and health and happiness in 2022.

Yours in Scouting,

Bill Daley, CRA President

Upcoming Dates: Staff Appreciation Dinner at Durland Scout Reservation, Monday December 27, 2021 and the Annual Spring Potluck Dinner, Saturday March 26, 2022

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.

Ed Beckley
Russ Borner
Matt Brauner
Bill Brucker
Ralph Colotti
Kent Cooper
Tom Dietz
John J. Doyle
Dr. William Flank
Doug Gamble
Ron & Kathy Green

Tim Haag
John Hradsky
Tom Hunter
Richard Lutomski
William Langham
Albert Massimi
Michael McCabe
David Morris
Peter Oberdorf
Ronald Phillips
Denis Pisanello

Simon Riker
Mark Sikora
James Smith
Matt Terribile
Richard Trier
John Tripodi
Michael Tripodi
Michael Venuti
Don Walsh

Shown in bold above are those who have given most generously

THANK YOU!

All donations to the Camp Read Association are tax-deductible

Fall 2021 Hike Weekend

The formal weekend was kicked off with a delicious dinner at O.P. Fredericks, formerly the Alp Horn. Thanks to Bill Brucker for reserving the “Rathskeller”. Although the peanut shells on the floor, and the Saint Bernard in the corner are gone, the memories of staff nights off remain.

The weekend participants broke into several groups after a delicious Saturday breakfast prepared by our President, Bill Daley. The stories of their adventures are recapped in the following pages:

First Brother Mountain & Treadway Trekkers - by Bill Daley
The Rye Patrol hike to Pharaoh via the road - by Bill Langham
Rogers Lake Fisherman – by Dick Trier and Bill Brucker
Mapping project in Waubeeka & Summit – by Liam Montgomery
Hike down Tomahawk Memory Lane – by Russ Borner

Liam’s project will produce an up-to-date electronic map of the Curtis S. Read Scout Reservation. This will be used to orient new visitors to camp and provides ease in keeping the map current via computer app as CSR grows. Thanks to Liam for doing this and for joining us on the weekend.

Bill Daley mentions a few hikes that were taken by the “early birds” in his story on First Brother Mountain and the Treadway Trekkers. A little more about these adventures to Pharaoh Lake and Crane Pond is provided below.

Overnight Backpack to Pharaoh Lake:

It had long been the desire of many of us to hike through Farley’s Gap, past “Apachedotte” and Whortleberry Pond, to Pharaoh Lake and camp out overnight. We recalled that John Farley and Bob Johnson did this after one of the five year reunions. Well thanks to retirement for some, and vacation time for others, the opportunity to live this adventure was realized.

After lunch on Tuesday September 21, 2021, Ron Green, Bill Daley, Tom Dietz and Tim Haag started out from the Buckskin Waterfront on their four-mile journey to Pharaoh Lake.

The Gap was as remembered and not too difficult for experienced Camp Read hikers. All went well to Apachedotte and we remembered that you have to go further left to cut around an expanding wetlands that has grown a bit since our first hikes forty and forty plus years ago.

The crossover by the left end of Whortleberry Pond is also further down. A stop at site C on the rocks is always worth the hike! We took a moment to enjoy the majestic beauty of the pond, Doc’s D prime site, the back of Stevens and Little Stevens, and the gap.

Now onto Pharaoh. We hiked to the second lean-to and decided that would be our shelter for the night. We shed our packs and walked down to the lake to take in the beauty (even in the clouds) that we came to see. Tom recalled the last time he camped at Pharaoh was in 1967 serving as a Tomahawk Staff Guide for his home Troop 30 from Tarrytown, NY.

Sleeping on the hard wooden lean-to floor was no joy and we had also forgotten how you can’t get up, exit and return from a nature break quietly in the middle of the night (two or three times for some) without disturbing all the occupants. No wildlife creatures would dare enter our encampment for the snoring symphony complete with four-part harmony projecting from the lean-to amphitheater and reverberation off Pharaoh and Treadway Mountains was too much for man or beast to handle.

Morning brought a haze and mist as only Pharaoh can produce. One had only to look up to freshen your face and clear the sleep from the eyes. A splash of ice cold lake water also helped. Hot Coffee and scrambled egg, potato & pepper dehydrated breakfast greatly enhanced the wake-up process. Thanks Bill!

As forecasted, the mist turned to light rain. Time to clean-up, pack-up, and start our trek down the road. But before we left, we put on our ponchos (for the first time in a long time for some of us) and took one last look at the Lake and what we could see of the mountains. The memories of this adventure will last forever.



Tom Dietz (L) and Bill Daley consulting their topo map

Continued on page 5

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

- Staff Appreciation Dinner: Monday December 27, 2021
- Annual Association Spring Potluck Dinner: Saturday March 26, 2022
- 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 Association web site is campread.org. Please visit our site for the latest information..

Curtis S. Read - Naval Aviator

by **Jonathan Hall**



Curt Read was one of the first Boy Scouts in the U.S., an Eagle Scout, an early U.S. naval aviator, and also one of the first U.S. officers to give his life in service to his country in World War One. The book "The Millionaires' Unit: The Aristocratic Flyboys Who Fought the Great War" by Marc Wortman, and the 2015 documentary film based on the book, provide more information, context and perspective on Curt Read's life and death.

A student at Yale, Curt joined the Yale Aero Club founded by a fellow student, Trubee Davison. The purpose of the club was to train pilots to be ready to serve their country should the United States join the war that was already raging in Europe. At first, the club trained on their own with funds provided by their families (Mrs. William A. Read, Curt's mother, donated \$10,000.) When the U.S. joined the war, the club became a naval reserve unit known as the First Yale Unit, and Curt became naval aviator #83, commissioned as an ensign in the navy. Curt's twin brother William, as well as his brothers Duncan and Russell (known as Bart) also became naval aviators.

After training in the U.S., Curt was posted to Dunkirk, France. Soon after his arrival, on February 26, 1918, while practicing in a Donnet-Denhaut flying patrol boat, Curtis Read, at the age of 22, died from injuries sustained when his plane crashed in the water. Reading from the collection of condolence letters members of his unit wrote to his mother in "The First Yale Unit: A Story of Naval Aviation 1916 – 1919" by Ralph D. Paine, one senses the high regard his comrades had of Curt and their shock at his death.

Marc Wortman, the author of The Millionaires' Unit, was kind enough to share the following additional information with us.

"Curt Read never became truly comfortable in the cockpit and lacked confidence in his piloting skills. Once in Europe, he foretold his own death, but never shied away from his desire to serve and did so with honor and made the greatest sacrifice. We honor his memory.

I consulted with the makers of the "Millionaires' Unit" documentary. I trust you're familiar with it: millionairesunit.org. If not, you can watch it on Amazon, Apple+, etc. You'll get a good sense of Curt. One of the filmmakers, Ron King, wrote: What comes to mind about Curt is his sense of a duty to serve, even though he harbored doubts about flying (which became more articulated in his own journaling and letters). Also, the fact that he had brothers who served in the air services, including Bartow who was with the unit (who subsequently served in Italy). Also, the fact that he had close friends in the unit including Erl Gould, who was said to be his best friend. Curt was also involved with baseball at Yale, hence, like many of his fellow Yalies was big on team sports.

Another of the filmmakers, Darroch Greer, sent me a letter that Gould wrote about Curt to Trubee Davison, founder of the First Yale Unit:



Curtis Seaman Read



Dear Trubee, Thank you for your telegram and letter. You know that Curt was the truest friend and noblest influence of my life so you can understand why I feel as though a knife were sticking in my heart. Curt loved you, Trubee, and admired you more than any young man I know. Because you reciprocated his feelings I understand what a blow it was to you and sympathize with you and all our Unit for the loss. With love and sympathy to you all – Erl

As you may know, Curt Read is buried in the Somme American Cemetery. It is beautiful, eternally maintained cemetery, a special resting place among his fallen fellow comrades-in-arms. There's a good little film on the ABMC website:

<https://www.abmc.gov/cemeteries-memorials/europe/somme-american-cemetery>

Here's Curt's page: <https://www.abmc.gov/decedent-search/read=curtis> – Marc Wortman.

Service to youth was important to Curtis Read's parents; his mother donated the land for the original Camp Read as a fitting memorial. To the thousands who as scouts and staff have benefited from their experiences at Camp Read, I encourage you to read "The Millionaires' Unit" and/or watch the documentary film. By service to youth, Camp Read continues to honor the life and sacrifice of Curtis S. Read

Curtis Seaman Read First of Yale Flying Unit to Die

Perished on French Front in Accident, Says Terns Navy Report.

Curtis Seaman Read, Yale, 1915, one of the first to volunteer for service in the Yale Hydro-Aeroplane Unit, has been the first to fly to death in actual service abroad. While the terse official message received by relatives here yesterday carries no details of his final exploit, his friends are convinced that the daring that won praise for him during his training days at Palm Beach was responsible for his death.

The communication from the Navy Department to the Read home, at No. 4 East Sixty-second street, sets forth the fact that he was "killed in a hydro-aeroplane accident in France." His training had been completed for months, however, and it is thought probable that he met his death during a quest for submarines in or near the English Channel.

Curtis Read, one of the most popular men in the class of '15, was sent to Palm Beach, Fla., immediately after he volunteered for service on a hydro-aeroplane. After his period of training in the South he was sent to Huntington, L. I., where he spent several weeks in training and attained the rank of ensign. He went to France last November.

He was assistant manager of the Yale football team last season, and but for the war would have been full manager of the team this season. He was a member of the Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity and was "tapped" for that most exclusive of organizations, Skull and Bones, at the last election.

He was twenty-one years old, the son of



CURTIS SEAMAN READ

the late William Augustus Read and Catherine H. Bolman Read. His father, for many years president in Wall Street financial circles, was senior member of the banking firm of William A. Read & Co., a director of the Bank of New York, the Interborough Rapid Transit Company, the Continental Fire Insurance Company and several railroads.

Relatives of young Read and his former associates at Yale Club immediately set every agency for the obtaining of news to the last of obtaining details of his last adventure, when the bare fact of his death became known here. At a late hour last night no further information had been obtained, however.

Continued from page 3

Crane Pond Area Hike:

Thursday September 23, 2021, Ron Green, Bill Daley & Tom Dietz set out to do a short hike of three miles or so in the Crane Pond Area. "We would just do a loop or two." Famous last words Mr. Bill. The loops turned into three, the miles grew to six plus and the area included Glidden Marsh, Oxshoe Pond and Crab Pond (the other one) in addition to Crane Pond. Beautiful scenery on a crisp sunny day and well worth the hike.

Saturday Evening September 25th:

BBQ dinner was prepared and served on the Buckskin Trading Post Porch. Thanks to Kris and crew for prepping the cooking equipment, and to all those who helped Bill with meal prep, cooking, and clean-up!

After dinner all pulled up a chair around the fire pit. Dick Trier brought along song sheets and started the singing. Each person took a turn at starting songs that they remembered. And in some cases it took all 16 or so of us to remember the words.

In the middle of the festivities, Peter Oberdorf called Jim Smith in Florida to plug him into the sing along. An attempt was made to get Jim to do "Lion Hunt" but to no avail. After a pleasant conversation with the group, Jim said good night. Scout Vespers, Taps

For those who attended the weekend, thanks for all of your enthusiastic participation. You helped make a great time and successful event.

For those who couldn't join us this year, we missed you and hope you can make it next time.

The Hike Committee: Brucker, Daley & Dietz

Editors note: The original expanded version of this excellent recap and the worker's week-ends piece are posted on "Camp Read Stories" on the Association website campread.org

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

*B.K. Annable, Leslie Blute,
Richard Carbone, Ronald Green,
Thomas Hunter, Emilie Lapelosa,
Virginia Moore, Peter Oberdorf
& Robert Rowton*

In Memory of Gordon Adsluf

Beloved Family Friend and
Troop 244 (Yonkers, NY) Committee
Chairman for 25+ Years

John Hradsky

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 _____

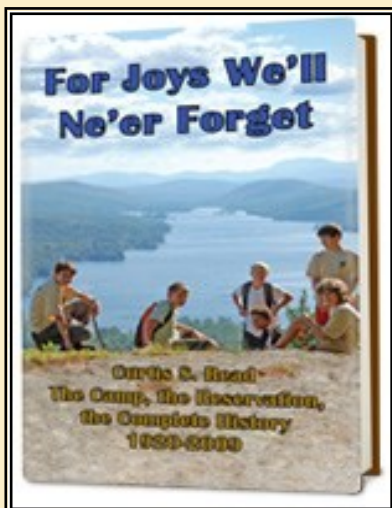
Your telephone: _____ Your email: _____

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 Oder 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

Copies also available at the Council Service Center

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

Eager Beaver Work Weekends 2021

The Camp doesn't run without a good Ranger. He's the one who must see that everything from the kitchen to the latrines are in good working order and can meet the needs of the scouts and scouters who come to live the great Camp Read experience.

Our Camp Read Ranger & Reservation Manager, Kris O'Connor, had the foresight to know that the Camp, being closed for 14 months due to the pandemic, needed extra help to get ready for the upcoming summer season. He organized and recruited personnel for a preliminary work weekend in May to set-up and get started on the major projects. This was followed by a second work weekend in early June that was coordinated with Kris by the Order of the Arrow Ktemaque Lodge, and the Camp Read Association (CRA).

Kris had an extensive laundry list of projects and asked the CRA if they could form a team with the skills he needed. Bill Brucker, VP Activities worked with Kris to help organize the teams and both weekends.

The main project was to convert the Newton Hall front porch from outside space to inside space. This meant building new exterior walls and moving the windows and doors to their new locations. This was quite a feat of engineering mastery and good olde Camp Read teamwork! The objective was to move the windows without anyone getting hurt and without breaking the glass.

The Team working on this project included: Bill Brucker, Bill Daley, Tim Haag, Tom Dietz, Dick Trier, Rich Lutomski, Ron Green, Bob Neely, Bill Langham, Keith Wiggers, Sandy Owens, John Courtney, Mark Costanza and Ryan Lyke. With great teamwork, our objective was met.

Other projects were done during the weekend as well. These included work in preparation for the tent set-up scheduled for the next weekend. Bob Neely was commissioned to use the new leaf blower to clear the tent platforms in Buckskin, and Ron Green and Rich Lutomski trimmed low hanging branches on paths and clear fallen branches from trails and campsites.

In addition to these two weekends being the first "official" events at Camp Read since 2019, the history making continued.

Approximately 40 plus helpers joined us for this second weekend. It was also the first joint event at Camp for the Order of the Arrow Ktemaque Lodge and the Camp Read Association. Lou Alagno, OA Adviser and Bill Daley, CRA President together with Bill Brucker, did an excellent job of coordinating the event!

This event also marked the first time that members of the former Hudson Valley Council came to Read to check out their new Camp. This group of adults and boys were part of the crew that set up all the tents in Camp Waubeeka and started on Camp Buckskin. If this is any indication of the work ethic and contribution from the GHV scouts and scouters, our Council will be stronger than ever!

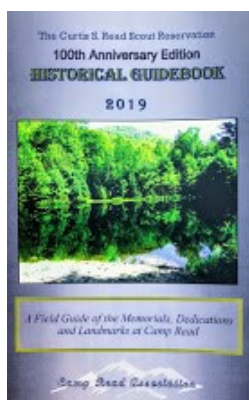
Many items were worked on during this weekend including continuation on The Newton Hall project with the help of Dave Morris, Bill Daley, Tom Dietz, Tim Haag, John Hradsky and Greg Pitonza.

Because of the two work weekends, history on many fronts was made, numerous projects were completed, and Ranger Kris was very happy! Most importantly, the Curtis S. Read Scout Reservation was closer to being ready to open for the 2021 summer season. Many thanks to all who participated! They not only helped get camp ready but had a lot of fun creating history.



Tim Haag, Bill Daley and Bill Brucker Working on the Newton Hall Front Porch

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 B.S.A.
P.O. 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/ 2022 Change of Address

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