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Bill Daley (914) 703-7028

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Vacant

VP Membership

Vacant

VP Historian

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- Frank Graessle (845) 651-2838
- Ron Green (614) 846-0749
- Dave Miller (847) 234-2739
- 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) 582-0882
- Peter Oberdorf (518) 494-3366
- Denis Pisanello (914) 737-7485

Founding Father

Joseph R. Cooke



Pharaoh Mt. reflected in Pharaoh Lake



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends of Camp Read,

This should have been my last letter as President since my five-year term is coming to an end this June. That thought was short lived as I was asked by the nominating committee to serve for another five years. I graciously accepted, as it is an honor and a privilege to serve as President for such a wonderful organization. I want to express my thanks and gratitude to everyone who have helped and supported me, without which our growth and successes during my tenure would not have been possible. The Association's motto of "many hands make light work" was certainly true over the past five years and I hope it will continue for my next (and hopefully last) term.

As a reminder, the reunion is going to be on June 28th, 29th and 30th 2019 and is the 100th Anniversary of the Curtis S. Read Scout Reservation. By the time you receive this newsletter, the official registration will be underway. Check out page 5 of this newsletter, in your email and on our web site, CampRead.org, for more information. Thanks to everyone who have "pre-registered" and to the many who have reached out to their fellow members to join us in this momentous occasion. I also want to personally thank Tom Dietz and Tim Haag for doing an outstanding job in Chairing the event.

I encourage our membership to participate in the "Eager Beaver" work weekend on June 7th through 9th. It's especially important that we support the Camp and the Staff this year with the extra work required in preparing for the Reunion. The registration form for the event is on page 3 of this newsletter and the website campread.org/events, or you can e-mail me at billskiny@aol.com to register.

The Board of Directors have voted to contribute to James E. West "100 for 100" promoted by the Westchester-Putnam Council. This campaign is an endowment in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the Curtis S. Read Scout Reservation whose goal is to raise \$100,000 that will directly support the camp. Endowment Gifts of \$1000 each; the first in the name of the Camp Read Association, the second in honor of Peter Oberdorf and the third in honor of Jim Smith were pledged by us. The Board chose Peter and Jim for their long-time dedication and service to the Association, the Camp and Scouting.

Our annual Fall Hike Weekend is scheduled for October 4th through the 6th. Come join us for a fun filled weekend exploring the beautiful Adirondacks in the Fall with your friends. Although we're calling it a "Hike Weekend," hiking is not required as some come up to just relax and enjoy the scenery. Save the date and look on our web site and in your e-mail for more information as it gets closer to the event.

If you have contributed this year to the "Friends of Read" campaign, thank you very much! Your contributions are much needed and appreciated by the many Scouts and Leaders that benefit from our support. If you have not contributed, please consider giving what you can so we can continue to support our Camp. Rest assured, every dollar we collect goes directly to helping Camp Read.

I hope to see you at this year's Eager Beaver weekend, the 9th Camp Read Association Reunion/Platinum Jubilee and the Fall Hike weekend.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy summer.

Yours in Scouting,
Bill Daley, CRA President

Congratulations to our President, Bill Daley, for receiving the Silver Beaver Award on 5/6/19 and agreeing to continue as the Association's President for the next five years. Thanks Bill for all you do!!

Friends of Read 2019

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 Summit Staff Area (in memory of Ken Hadderman, Chris Fearon and Bob Johnson), construction/renovation of the many camp signs throughout the

Reservation, much needed program equipment, the annual Staff appreciation dinner, and Staff recognition awards.

Thanks to your generosity the Association donated funds to help complete the much need farmhouse roof last Fall. This year we have contributed \$3000.00 for the James E. West 100 for 100 endowment fund, help to ensure the vitality of Camp for years to come.

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 2019. 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 2019. 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

Ed D'Apice

Tom Dietz

Dr. William Flank

Bruce Fusillo

Doug Gamble

Ron & Kathy Green

Tim Haag

John Hradsky

Tom Hunter

Russell Kinaman

Most Reverend Dominick Lagonegro

Albert Massimi

Warren Messner

David Morris

Ray Naldini

Peter Oberdorf

Mark Sikora

Christopher Simone

James Smith

Michael Venuti

Ron Yaskovic

Shown in bold above are those who have given most generously

THANK YOU!

All donations to the Camp Read Association are tax-deductible

EAGER BEAVER WORK WEEKEND



**Friday June 7 through
Sunday June 9, 2019**
Curtis S. Read Scout
Reservation, Brant Lake, NY



Support the Westchester-Putnam Council and Camp Read by helping them get ready for the Summer 2019!

Join your fellow "Friends of Camp Read" for fun, fellowship and yes- work for this annual event. Lodging and meals for the weekend are offered at no cost. Please send in the registration form below by **May 20, 2019** so that meals, lodging and projects can be properly planned. *For safety reasons, we ask all participants be at least 18 years of age.*

Eager Beaver Work Weekend 2019 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 Mechanics
 ___ Equipment Operator ___ Just Plain Old Work ___ Other _____
 Please send this form to: Bill Daley
 3220 Mohegan Ave.
 Mohegan Lake, NY 10547

Please visit wpcbsa.org or campread.org for more information

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

- Register Now! Worker's Weekend - 6/7/19 - 6/9/19
- Registration now open for the 9th Camp Read Association Reunion - June 28th - 30th, 2019
- Annual Fall Hike Weekend 2019 - Oct. 4th - 6th at Camp Read. Always a great time!
- 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 Scout Reservation Narrative – Part 1

by Drew Douglass

Last year, in the summer of 2018, I needed a job, and I didn't want to spend hours upon hours boring myself with any average summer job, so I took a different approach. Making the decision to work on the Curtis S. Read reservation was quite dependent on my friend's decision to work there. I wouldn't have felt comfortable finding my way back to camp as a counselor after many years as a scout without a friend. I was a counselor at Camp Waubeeka where my job was to teach three different merit badges: Forestry, Space Exploration, and Mammal Study.

Now, this is my job description, but it's a fraction of the description of how I spent my summer. Sure, I woke up early every morning to teach the scouts their classes within the scheduled day, but that is the worst way to describe my experience as a staff member. It's all about the little things in between, the fun traditions, and the wonderful friendships that manifest over the summer. Working at camp is not a chore, it's a nearly indescribable gift given to you by yourself and the people around you.

Waking up in a tent every morning is not something that sounds appealing to most, but when it comes to our tents, people usually get the wrong idea. Our tents are all gathered around a central campfire in a small clearing in the woods. There are several trees scattered throughout the clearing; some big enough to make the ground uneven, but the tents always rest on their cinder blocks, sinking into the soft bed of pine needles, perfectly even. The tents themselves were quite large and even have electricity. Each tent can fit two cots and still have room for two large suitcases, a garbage bag, and many additional comforts and conveniences. One of my favorite things to do on breaks was to take naps but napping at noon on a hot summer day inside of a tent can be sticky to say the least.

Fortunately, I didn't have to worry about that thanks to my hammock. To hang in between two trees and look up through the bright green leaves at the sky while being embraced by a warm breeze is heavenly. On warm nights, I slept in the hammock and sometimes I dared to read with a headlamp despite the moths and other insects, but nothing was quite like laying in that hammock to quietly admire the dappled sunlight upon the leaves. To say that I was so fascinated by such a small part of the camp shows that there is always beautiful scenery surrounding you. In the early mornings, if you get up early and want to go swimming in the lake, you get to see the sun shine over the silent, misty water. Peaceful doesn't even begin to describe it, and if you're lucky you might hear a loon echo across the surface.

Camp time seems to slip by faster than normal, but there are some parts of the day that you can never forget. Unfortunately, I can't effectively describe them if you don't quite understand how staff works yet. Your camp-family consists of just about everyone that works on the reservation, but the reservation is split into three major camps. The people that work with you at your camp are the ones that you know best, and they are the ones that become your best friends. Each year, the reservation also hires a few foreign scouts, and it's a great opportunity to learn about different cultures. They are a great addition to the camp, and during my weeks at camp I had the honor of becoming good friends with a really cool guy named Matyas Hruska from the Czech Republic. It was so fun to hear stories about where he is from, and probably even more fun to see him learn and react to American culture. We got to experience camp staff for the first time together.

Each camp is divided up into campsites and program areas. The six campsites are mainly dedicated to the scouts, but the five or six main program areas are where we spend a lot of our time. They include Waterfront, Scoutcraft, Handicraft, ECon, Shooting Ranges, and the Horse Barn/Garage. I worked at ECon (Ecological Conservation). All the program areas are within walking distance, and the ECon shack is nestled into the woods where we do our best work. Some of the other program areas are self-explanatory, but Scoutcraft deals with the ins and outs of rope, camping, and sharp objects to sum it up. Handicraft has to do with more creative tasks like woodcarving, leatherworking, or basketry. Most of camp revolves around the different groups that we work in. For example, the mornings are like no other; every day, one of the program areas is responsible for making breakfast or cleaning, and we rotate the responsibilities every day. If you haven't already woken up by 6:30, the camp director will BLAST some kind of music until you leave your tent, because damn, it is unbearable. We all gather around a few tables for a warm meal and talk about whatever crazy thing is going on in camp that day. To wake up with this group of amazing, friendly people is always a great way to start the day. After breakfast we leave the main building and get ready to go to our separate program areas.

I love nature. I love to observe and be a part of nature. I think that this is why I fit in so well at ECon. There wasn't a single day where I didn't leave breakfast and look into the woods or up at the trees to see if anything had changed or if there were any animals quietly stepping through the leaves. Everywhere I went, I was always aware of my surroundings and I relied on my hearing rather than my eyesight more often than not. Most people can walk through the woods and they would be lucky to see anything interesting, but I spent every day in the woods while working at ECon. It takes a trained eye... and a trained ear. It's very easy to miss something because whatever you're looking for, it's probably well camouflaged. The only hint of its presence that you may have is the sound of rustling leaves. You must listen very closely to be able to tell where the sound is coming from, and if you're lucky, you'll be able to see it.

I loved to catch these animals, no matter how dangerous they were, but as long as I knew what they were. It gives such an amazing adrenaline rush to be able to do something like that, but it doesn't always go over too well when you remember that you are at a boy scout camp, and they could get hurt. I learned my lesson after a moment of bad judgment. We usually are allowed to catch things like snakes, frogs, small fish, and small turtles, but one day, when I wasn't teaching a class, I was alerted by one of the scouts that there was a large snapping turtle in the swamp just off of the one of the main paths going through the camp.

I had been there before, and I knew my way around, so I sprinted to the part they were talking about and I stopped in my tracks when I got there. I told the scouts to stay back and be careful while I looked for it. I could see where it had been laying in the mud and where it had dragged its body into the small pool of



.... Continued on page 7

9th Summer Reunion & 100th Anniversary Platinum Jubilee



Dear Friend of Camp Read,

We have completed our preliminary planning and pre-registration stages and are kicking off the formal registration and sign up for the:

**9th Summer Reunion &
100th Anniversary Platinum Jubilee Celebration
of the
Curtis S. Read Scout Reservation, B.S.A.
Brant Lake, NY
June 28th, 29th & 30th, 2019**

We plan to hold our traditional reunion at camp with many of the usual activities: Cracker-barrels, Hiking, Fishing, Swimming, Boating, Field Sports and Saturday night Campfire, just to name a few. We are also planning some special events and surprises to commemorate our camp's 100th Year, 70 years in the Adirondacks, and to celebrate 30 Years for the Camp Read Association.

What do you have to do?

1. Please go out to our web-site **CampRead.org** and click on the 2019 Reunion button. There you will find information about the event. Please pay particular attention to the pricing page. This outlines various pricing levels and what Souvenirs you will receive at each level.
2. When you're ready to register, click on the "Register Now" button. That will link you to the registration form on the Westchester-Putnam Council, B.S.A. web page (**WPCBSA.org**). Please enter in the information requested. Payment in full is required at registration.

If you Pre-registered over the past few months, Thank You! You were a big help in letting us know how many people were interested in coming, and you allowed us to update our Membership Database. If You were thinking; "**do I have to register if I already pre-registered**"? The answer is **Yes**; you still need to register (and pay) even if you pre-registered.

Registration will stay open **until June 20th, 2019**. We need to provide head count info at that point to Camp and the Caterer for ordering food. Don't delay; sign-up today!

Check-in at Camp will be **Friday Evening**, from **4PM till 10PM**. There will be a "**Cash Food Truck**" by the Buckskin Dining Hall **from 5PM till 9PM**. If you plan to eat at the truck that night, PLEASE sign-up with the number of adults / children when you register for the reunion. The Caterer needs a head count to insure there is enough food.

Tom Dietz, (dietztom@aol.com; 845 598-2072) and Tim Haag, (tjhaag@msn.com; 203 645-3121) are the co-chairs for the reunion. They would be happy to hear from you if you have any questions, want to volunteer or have any suggestions for the event. Also, check back periodically on our website **CampRead.org** for the most current information and keep a look out for updates in your e-mail.

Hope to see everyone at this most special event!

Bill Daley,

President, Camp Read Association

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 \$ _____

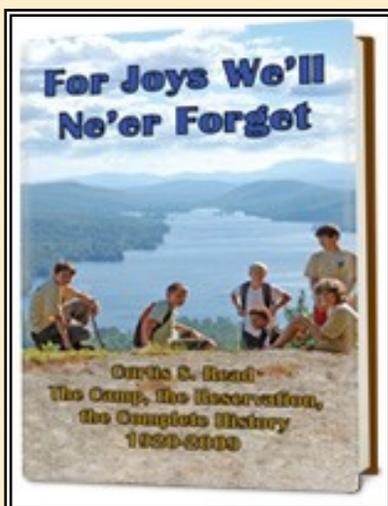
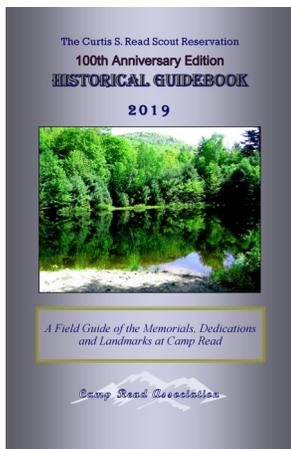
Name and Address acknowledgement should be sent to: _____

*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.*

HISTORICAL GUIDEBOOK

The Curtis S. Read Scout Reservation Field Guide contains eight-eight pages of Memorials, Dedications and Landmarks found at Camp Read. The 2019 special 100th Anniversary edition of the Guidebook is now in its seventh printing and has all the recent additions. This unique Field Guide, Published by the Camp Read Association, can be purchased for \$28.00 which includes postage and handling. All proceeds from the sale of the Guidebook will go to the benefit of Camp Read. If you would like one or more copies please visit our website at campread.org or contact :

Ed D'Apice
Phone: (845) 612-3151 or
E-mail: pvfellow@gmail.com



“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 Order 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

Copies will be available at the Reunion (reserve when you register)

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

.... Continued from page 4

water. I peered over the edge, scanning the water carefully and trying to find the iconic pattern of a snapping turtle's shell. It may look like a rock at first, but it is impossible to mistake after you see the rectangles and hexagons of an American Snapping Turtle lined up and placed next to each other like puzzle pieces.

Then I saw it, and before the turtle knew it, I was in the water fitting my hands around the sides of the shell and hoisting it up out of the water, into the air. It was huge, more than a foot long and over 30 pounds. I carried it all the way back to ECon, adrenaline coursing through my veins. Then I realized that I had just put a 30-pound turtle in a pit meant for small reptiles and amphibians that weigh less than 3. The program director and his assistant came down and looked at my catch with wide eyes.

He pulled me aside and helped me realize that I had made an obvious mistake. When he had finished speaking to me, he went back to the pit and was dreading the fact that he had to move this beast (and he wouldn't let me do it, I'm "a minor under his supervision"). I told him that I could've done it for him easily, but he insisted that he take care of it with a garbage can. At this point, I realized my role as a counselor. Me and everyone else who worked at the camp needed to be responsible adults, always keeping camp safe, as much as we needed to make the camp as fun as possible.

Look for more excerpts in upcoming Newsletters

Camp Read 2018 Staff Appreciation Dinner



Some scenes from the Annual Camp Staff reunion/appreciation dinner hosted by the Read Association and conducted on Dec. 27th 2018 at Durland. Over 40 of last Summer's Camp Read staff were in attendance.

Top right: Tom Dietz talking up the upcoming Read Reunion and 100th Anniversary Jubilee Celebration

Bottom left: Bill Daley, the Association's President, giving introductions and explaining our mission





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 that 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.

2019 Friends of Read/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, Westchester-Putnam Council, BSA
Send To: Bill Daley, 3220 Mohegan Ave., Mohegan Lake, NY 10547