



THE ORDEAL

50th Anniversary

Camp Russell, Boy Scouts of America

Woodgate, New York

Saturday, July 20, 1968

1918	Samuel T. Russell of Ilion formed Camp Russell, Inc. to receive a gift of land on White Lake for the use of the Boy Scouts of America. His interest stemmed from a "Good Turn" done by a Boy Scout.	1945-May 7	Camp Russell, Inc. purchased 10 acres for \$300.
1918-Oct. 8	Samuel T. Russell Built a Mess Hall, Headquarters, Storehouse, and garage and deeded 15 acres to Camp Russell, Inc.	1946-Jun. 7	Mosquito Island purchased for \$700.
1919-July	First Summer Camp for Scouts from Utica, Rome and Herkimer.	1947-Sept.	20 acres of reforested white pine purchased for \$600., making a total of 50 acres.
1920	Herkimer County Council disbanded. Upper Mohawk Council used Camp Russell alone for 7 years. Rome bought Camp Kingsley.	1947-Nov.	Charles McHarg Cottage and land purchased for \$1500. for use as the Health Lodge.
1927-Mar. 11	General Herkimer Council, Inc. formed with 150 Scouts under the leadership of David Snyder, First President and prominent Herkimer Attorney. Mr. Snyder was legal counsel for all of Camp Russell, Inc. for 45 years and was largely responsible for its growth and development.	1949-Mar.	Long Range Development plan drawn up by Nat'l. Engineering Div. of Nat'l. Council and Camp Development Comm. Under Leadership of W. A. Best of Ilion
1929	Samuel T. Russell passed away, leaving 4 children.	1956	Freak wind storm destroyed dining hall and all equipment.
1931-Sept. 15	The Russell Heirs gave more land on the Lake to Camp Russell.	1957	150 acres south of Route 28 deeded to Camp Russell, Inc. by Russell Heirs. Camp Russell becomes cooperator under State of New York Forest Practice Act.
1932	Additional land received from the Russell Family.	1959	Long Range Plan for soil, game, fish and forests developed by N. Y. S. Conservation Dept. under District Forester S. E. Coutant.
1939	Utica Scout Council withdrew from Camp Russell and bought Camp Ballou, leaving Camp Russell solely for the use of Herkimer County Scouts.	1960-Apr. 26	Camp Russell cited by Eastern Loggers Assoc. for best use of forest products.
		1960-Nov.	Kamargo Lodge, Order of the Arrow, built 3 patrol shelters, Herkimer Rotary Club completed lean-to and new boat house.
		1961	Camp Dev. plan brought up to date by Camp Comm. Under Chmn. Robert Wheeler of West Winfield.

1961

The Hoard Memorial Fund of the Nellie H. Weaver Estate of Frankfort, N. Y. donated \$25,000. for the construction of a new dining hall, under the leadership of Webster C. Rich, Executor of the Estate. Myron Jordan, AIA, Architect from Richfield Springs, designed the building. U. S. Navy Seabees Division 3-31 contributed 2 weekends a year for its construction. 480 scouts, friends, contractors, and builders contributed time, energy, and money to complete this building.

1961-Oct. 14

Camp Russell received the 1962 Award for "Outstanding Conservation Achievements" from the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture. The Award was made at the Hotel Astor.

1961-Dec.

Operation "Lumber Jack". Scouts and Scouters selectively thinned 10,000 feet of white pine and black cherry to complete the construction of this Lodge. Herbert Engert, McLaughlin and Millard, North Hudson and Helterline Lumber Co. trimmed, sawed and turned the logs into boards.

1962-Jun. 16

This Central Lodge was dedicated at the 35th Annual General Herkimer Council Recognition Dinner. 278 in attendance.

1965

10 acre swamp property deeded to Camp Russell by Bro-Day, Inc. Scout masters of Little Falls and other areas donated many pieces of program equipment.

1966 Program Center with modern Trading Post,
Equipment Storage and Scoutmasters
Program Room completed by volunteers.
Electrical work under the direction of
Tom Nelson of Ilion.

1968-July 20 50th Anniversary of the founding of Camp
Russell. Dedication of John Hannah's
Memorial Chapel by Kamargo Lodge
Order of the Arrow.

50th ANNIVERSARY PROGRAM

July 20, 1968

- 4:00 p.m. Tour of Camp.
Campcraft area
Waterfront-chapel-family camp
Scoutcraft - Parade Field
Program Center
Central Lodge
Range - Field Sports
Campsites
Conservation area.
- 5:30 p.m. Retreat Ceremony and time capsule
- 6:00 p.m. Outdoor Supper
- 7:30 p.m. Dedication of Hannahs Memorial Chapel
- 7:45 p.m. Plaque honoring gift to Control Lodge from
Hoard Memorial Fund
- 8:00 p.m. Plaque honoring gift of Camp from Mr. and
Mrs. Samuel T. Russell
- 8:30 p.m. 50th Anniversary Memorial Campfire

COUNCIL OFFICERS

President
Camp Chairman
Finance Chairman
50th Anniversary
Chairman
Scout Executive

William De Laney
Robert Wheeler
Edmund P. Rich

George Sehring
Ted Russell