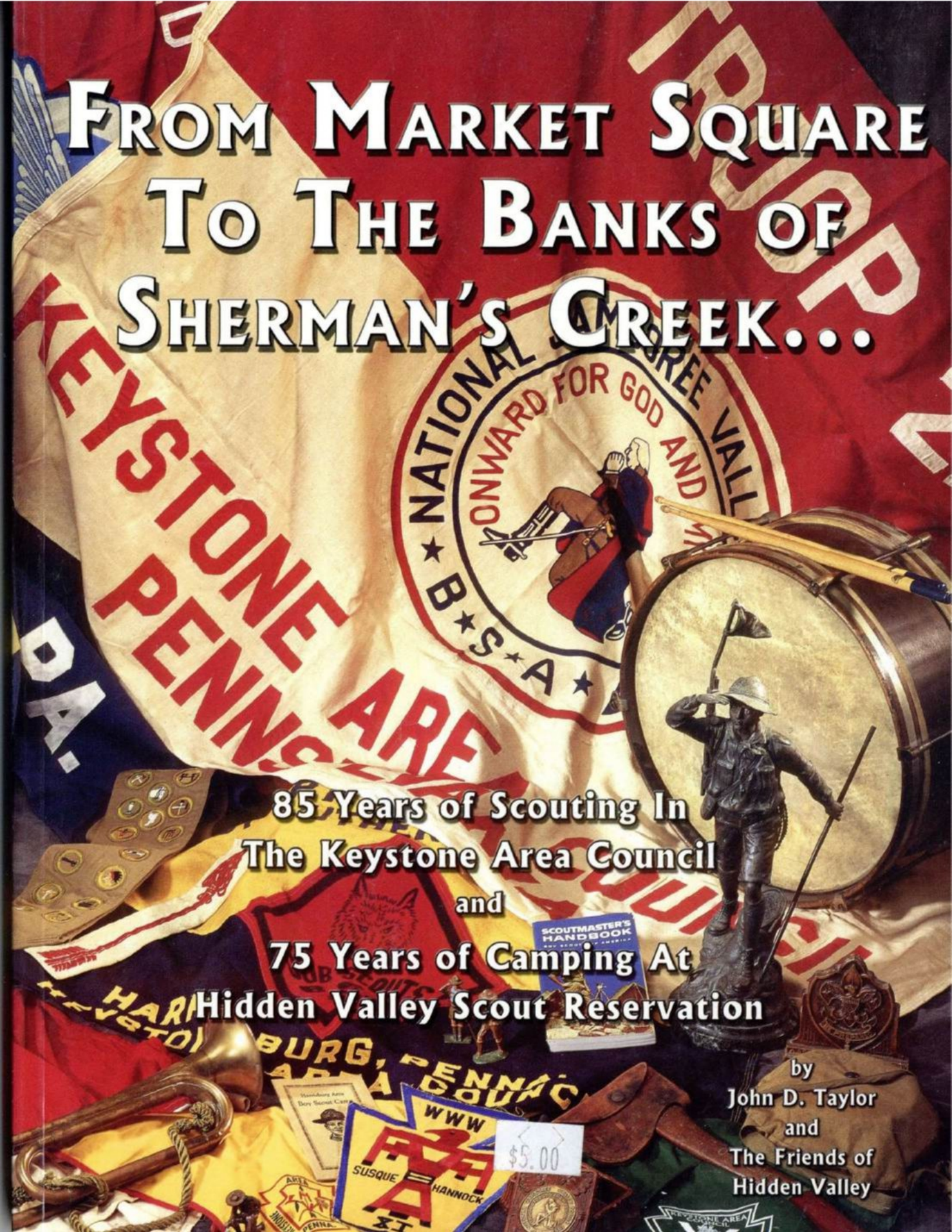


FROM MARKET SQUARE TO THE BANKS OF SHERMAN'S CREEK...

85 Years of Scouting In
The Keystone Area Council
and
75 Years of Camping At
Hidden Valley Scout Reservation

by
John D. Taylor
and
The Friends of
Hidden Valley



About the cover...



Cover photograph and other color photos by Bryson Leidich

KEYSTONE AREA COUNCIL AND HIDDEN VALLEY BOY SCOUT MEMORABILIA shown on the cover photo include the following:
 1. Penant, 2. Cap, 3. Scout uniform including a neckerchief, 4. Keystone Area Council plaque, 5. Flag, 6. Flag, 7. Flag, 8. Drum set, 9. Scout statue, 10. Scoutmasters handbook, 11. Cub scout flag, 12. OA sash, 13. Merit badge sash, 14. Statuette, 15. Award, 16. First aid kit, 17. Merit badge booklet, 18. OA patch, 19. Patch, 20. Box, 21. Cub Scout book, 22. Stick, 23. Scout flashlight, 24. Bugle, 25. Signal flag, 26. Statuette, 27. Booklet, 28. OA patch, 29. Award, 30. Scout axe, 31. Patch, 32. Scout cookset, 33. Statuettes, 34. Camp Forge book. All objects in the photo are part of the memorabilia collections of Donald Fry and Jason Ernst.



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THE BRIDGE BUILDER

An old man, going a lone highway
Came in the evening, cold and gray,
To a chasm vast, both deep and wide,
Through which was flowing a sullen tide.
The old man crossed in the twilight dim -
That swollen stream was as naught to him;
But he stopped when safe on the farther side,
And built a bridge to span the tide.

"Old man," said a fellow pilgrim near,
"You are wasting strength in building here.
Your journey will end with the ending day;
You never again must pass this way.
You have crossed the chasm, deep and wide,
Why build you the bridge, at the eventide?"

The builder lifted his old gray head.
"Good friend, in the path I have come," he said,
"There followeth after me today
A youth whose feet must pass this way.
This chasm that has been naught to me
To that fair-haired youth may a pitfall be.
He, too, must cross in the twilight dim;
Good friend, I am building the bridge for him."

Will Allen Dromgoole

Hidden Valley Song

On the banks of Sherman's Creek, Hidden Valley stands
For its youth and all its glory, Scouting for this land.
All our goals are to see Eagle through the Scouting ranks,
So to you dear Hidden Valley, we give all our thanks.

We who know the woods that grace thee, traced thy meadows o'er,
Learned the flowers that bloom upon thee, watched the birds that soar.
Boyhood passes into manhood through the summer days,
Scouts and Scouters raise your voices, in Hidden Valley's praise.

Linger yet around the fire, catch its last bright glow,
Let us learn its ready message, just before we go.
Let the warmth of Scout and brother be in our memory,
Hidden Valley last forever, true we'll always be.

Dedication

From its inception in 1910 the Scouting Program has required the effort of countless dedicated volunteers. They stepped forward from every walk of life, every level of wealth or poverty, from every race, ethnic background and color of skin. As it was then, this continues today. Without the unselfish contributions and dedication of volunteers to this important influence on the youth of our nation, the Scouting movement would never have achieved the resounding success it has seen over the last 92 years; nor could it continue to enjoy its successful record today.

Within the Keystone Area Council, there have always been certain dedicated men and women who stand out because of their special contributions to the local Scouting effort. Five very important figures include: Dr. John H. Fager, the "Father of Scouting," who brought the movement to Harrisburg; Dr. Philip David Bookstaber, the rabbi who added so much vital leadership in those early developmental years - and whose efforts won the trust and faith of Miss Mary Sachs to provide the funds for the original camp property; Charles W. Steele, Scout Executive, whose devotion to Hidden Valley resulted in more modernization and expansion of the camp facility than anyone before or since his tenure; and James B. Pannebaker, who initiated the crusade to restore this once proud camp to its former glory.

It is to all these leaders, these volunteers, each one of these very special people that this book is dedicated....

Friends of Hidden Valley Committee

Acknowledgments

WITHOUT THE HELP OF A SELECT COMMITTEE OF DEDICATED SCOUTERS—they call themselves the Friends of Hidden Valley—and they include Diane Bowen, Alan Boynton, Dr. Webb Hersperger, Dennis Hose, Mike Kelly, George Lance, Sharon Lance, Patrick McCormack, Ted Valcis and other committee members—this book would not have been possible. It is to their dedication to Scouting as a character builder of young people that this book is dedicated.

Among this group, one individual, George Lance, bears an enormous thank you for his individual efforts in gathering, assembling, organizing and continually recording the history of both Camp Hidden Valley and the Keystone Area Council. George spent many, many hours researching topics, gathering photos and recording his observations of the past, all of which made the task of writing, editing and coordinating the material in this book so much easier.

Keystone Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America and its sub-organizations must also bear a great deal of the credit for the creation and publication of this book. The council's support was essential. The Friends of Hidden Valley of the Keystone Area Council facilitated the creation of this project from the first committee meeting to the publication of this book. Council served as a resource center, coordinating the collections of the written and visual histories that were assembled for this book.

Individual Scouters—including one anonymous financial benefactor—who gave of their time and effort, especially those whose actions made history happen, like Don Conley, Dr. Wilson Everhart, Joe and Dick Goldsmith, Al Herbert, Dr. Webb Hersperger, Judge William Lipsitt, Attorney Jim Pannebaker, Sam Scharadin, Sr. Ernest Weirick, Milton Wolfe and others should also be acknowledged.

We must also acknowledge those whose words have gone unrecorded, yet whose actions and memories will long live in the history of the council, people who, although unrecognized, were critical in the small ways people often are.

Finally, the author would like to thank all who participated in this project, particularly the committee and Keystone Area Council for the opportunity to create this book. He must also express deep gratitude to his family and friends for their forbearance with long hours behind a desk and tolerating the frequently quirky creative process.

*John D. Taylor
December 2001*



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ROOTS... Scouting's Beginnings

The First Boy Scout: Baden-Powell

It's amazing how much difference a good attitude can make in life. One of the best examples is Robert Stephenson Smyth Baden-Powell, the Englishman who founded the Boy Scouts.

Baden-Powell was a British Army officer, commander of the garrison at Mafeking, a town in northern South Africa, during the Boer War (1899-1902). The Boer War was the result of a conflict between Britain's imperial interests and the self-determination interests of South Africa's Dutch-descended settlers known as Afrikaners.

As commander, Baden-Powell recognized that the men under his command were not battle-ready. He believed the recruits lacked character values and knew nothing of pioneering and the outdoors—things essential for their survival in South Africa. He also saw that ordinary military training would not equip them for the hardships ahead. So he created his own training program, group activities with an emphasis on outdoor skills. His goals for the men were to establish their own sense of self-reliance, resourcefulness and courage.

The program was initially successful, but a test was coming.

The build-up of the 12,000-man British army in South Africa to 500,000 troops brought a declaration of war from two Afrikaner republics in mid-October of 1899. Afrikaner forces quickly gained the upper hand, surrounding British garrisons at Ladysmith, Natal, Kimberley and Mafeking.

For 217 days (a month longer than a school year) Mafeking was surrounded and under siege, with Boer artillery pounding portions of the city into rubble. In the more gentlemanly style of war of that time, both sides took Sundays off. Some might have sat and moped, but not Baden-Powell. Relentlessly cheerful, Baden-Powell organized musicales, where he played the piano and sang Gilbert and Sullivan show tunes to keep the morale of his troops up.

Baden-Powell came back from the Boer War a major general and an enormously popular national hero. He was also invited to develop a program for boys based on the same principles he had taught his recruits. Assessing the boys as he had his recruits, Baden-Powell was appalled by Britain's liberal drift and by the caliber of the nation's youth, particularly the unruly lower-class youth, which Baden-Powell described as, "without individuality or strength of character, utterly without resourcefulness, initiative or guts for adventure."

The solution Baden-Powell envisioned was a youth organization that, using outdoor adventure as a lure, would turn the "pale, narrow-chested, hunched-up, miserable specimens" into sturdy, patriotic, self-disciplined young men.

In the summer of 1907, Baden-Powell gathered 20 boys on Brownsea Island for an experiment, what he called his Boy Scout "scheme." For more than a month, the boys and Baden-Powell successfully tested a training program.



Robert Stephenson Smyth Baden-Powell.

The experimental camp included training methods for everything from citizenship to woodcraft. The experience was the origin for Baden-Powell's formal program, described in his book, *Scouting for Boys*.

A year later, in Northumberland, Baden-Powell organized the first "official" Scout Camp. He and 30 boys put into practice the ideas in his book, and his Boy Scouts "scheme" became reality.

Baden-Powell received knighthood in 1909, and in 1910, at the express wish of King George V, he retired from the army to devote himself to furthering the Scout movement. In 1910, with the assistance of his sister, Agnes Baden-Powell, he founded the Girl Guides (in the United States, the Girl Scouts).

"Uncle Dan": A Pioneer

IN 1905, TWO YEARS BEFORE the Boy Scout movement was started in England, illustrator and naturalist Daniel Carter Beard—known by boys of several generations as Uncle Dan—organized the Boy Pioneers, Sons of Daniel Boone. The organization knew some success, but lacked the broader appeal of a different sort of organization.

Uncle Dan knew a good thing when he saw it, and became active in the new Boy Scout movement when it first came to the United States in 1910. He is considered one of the founders of the Boy Scouts of America. Beard served as National Scout Commissioner from 1910 until his death in 1941.

Beard was born in Cincinnati, Ohio. He

illustrated many books (among them the first edition of Mark Twain's *Connecticut Yankee at King Arthur's Court*) and taught animal drawing. He became interested in work for boys, and his best-known book, *The American Boy's Handy Book*, was published in 1882. In addition to many articles on woodcraft and nature study, Beard wrote *Boy Pioneers and Sons of Daniel Boone* (1909), *American Boy's Book of Wild Animals* (1921), and *Wisdom of the Woods* (1927).

Mt. Beard, adjoining Mt. McKinley, is named for him.

Beard helped give the Boy Scouts of America some of its distinctive lore, based on pioneer and American Indian life, rather than on Indian and African life as in the British Boy Scout movement.



"Uncle Dan"

- Daniel Carter Beard -

Scouting Comes To The United States

Scouting's arrival in the United States is legend: Lost in the midst of a dense fog, Chicago publisher William Boyce was becoming frantic, until a boy appeared and showed Boyce to his destination. When Boyce tried to offer the boy a monetary tip for his assistance, the boy refused, saying, "I'm a Scout, sir."

Intrigued by the incident, Boyce sought out Baden-Powell, head of England's Boy Scouts. Baden-Powell's book, and the ideas and values associated with Scouting came home with Boyce, a seed to be planted. The seed took root. In February of 1910, Boyce incorporated an organization called the National Council of Boy Scouts of America, chartered in Washington, D.C.

But other facts about Boyce's life aren't so well known.

Boyce was born on a farm, near Plum, Pennsylvania, east of Pittsburgh, just before the Civil War. Boyce decided early in life farming would not be his occupation, and worked in coal mines and taught school. By 1881, Boyce had moved to Chicago to sell advertising space for a monthly magazine. A good salesman, he rose rapidly in the publishing business: Within a few months, he co-published a weekly magazine in Winnipeg, Manitoba. He also worked briefly as a reporter for a Fargo, Dakota Territory newspaper before starting his own weekly newspaper, *The Dakota Clipper*.

Always the entrepreneur, Boyce sold

The Clipper in 1886 and returned to Chicago to operate a syndicated news story service for other newspapers for a year. In 1887, Boyce began publishing his *Saturday Blade* newspaper. (*The Blade*, much like today's *Globe or National Enquirer*, was often filled with sensational accounts of crime stories, wronged maidens, and accounts of expeditions—often led by Boyce.) In 1891, Boyce bought *The Chicago Ledger*. The combined circulation of *The Blade* and *The Ledger* totaled two million papers at the height of their popularity. The papers also employed 30,000 children as "paperboys."

By the time Boyce had his famous London encounter, he was a multimillionaire with an annual income of \$350,000, at a time when there were no income taxes. He lived in a mansion southwest of Chicago and worked in the 12-story Boyce building in the city. He also owned a penthouse apartment staffed by a chef.

When the Boy Scouts of America was incorporated in 1910, Boyce hired a clergyman to promote Scouting and organize troops, but this effort failed. Scouting's real growth was the result of Boyce's connection with Edgar M. Robinson, Secretary of the International Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA). Robinson and other YMCA men took over organizing the Boy Scouts of America and helped it grow.

Meanwhile, Boyce went on adventures to South America and elsewhere for five years.

In 1915, Boyce came across another form of scouting that struck his fancy: Lone Scouting.

Lone Scouting was based on John Hargrave's British book, *Lonecraft: The Handbook for Lone Scouts*.

Boyce incorporated Lone Scouts in the United States in 1915, hoping to appeal to his paperboys as well as rural boys. He was very successful in doing this, with some boys involved in both Lone Scouts and Boy Scouts at the same time. Lone Scouting has a Native American flavor. Its symbol, a lone Indian with arms upraised, appeared frequently in the weekly magazine that told Lone Scouts how to earn degrees and chronicled "Chief Totem's" (Boyce's) latest adventure. The magazine also served as a vehicle for young writers, poets and artists.

During the early 1900s, members of the Boy Scouts National Council traveled across the nation sparking interest among groups of men who were community-minded to give leadership to the organization. By 1916, Congress granted the Boy Scouts a federal charter, an honor enjoyed by only 100 other charitable, educational and patriotic groups.

Today, Boyce is still honored by Boy Scouts in his hometown of Ottawa, Illinois. The Ottawa Scouting Museum houses Lone Scouts of America memorabilia, connects to the 16-mile W.D. Boyce Hiking trail through Starved Rock State Park, and features a room recreated from Boyce's Ottawa home. Also, on the second weekend in June (Boyce's birthday) Scouts place a wreath on the publisher's grave.

Scouting Comes Home...

The Keystone Area Council's Roots in the Past

On the inside front wall of Messiah Lutheran Church, at 6th and Forster Streets, in Harrisburg, hangs a large bronze plaque. The plaque applauds the efforts of an "inspirer of youth, the founder of the Harrisburg Boys Club and other accomplishments. 'When I am dead and the story of my life is written,' the plaque reads, 'it will tell of my work with boys. They that turn many to righteousness shall shine as the stars forever and ever.'"

The plaque honors Dr. John H. Fager, the "Father of Scouting" for the Harrisburg community. Fager founded Troop 1, the first Boy Scout troop in Harrisburg, in January of 1910. The boys originally wore English uniforms. Dr. Fager was their scoutmaster and Robert Smith and F. L. Hessenberger were his assistants.

Fager had ideas about doing something good for boys in the Harrisburg community as early as 1900. Initially, this interest led him to form a Boy's Club in January 1900. However, when William Boyce brought the Boy Scout idea to the United States in 1910, Fager's focus shifted to Boy Scouts.

By 1917, the seed planted by Dr. Fager had blossomed. There were 14 additional Scout troops in the community, all operating independently of one another, yet linked to Scouting's National New York Headquarters. Seeing this growth, a year earlier more than 100 men in Harrisburg's Rotary Club took it upon themselves to raise \$10,000 to organize the community's Boy Scout movement. In 1917, the Harrisburg Area Council was organized.

William B. McCaleb of the Pennsylvania Railroad became its first President. Other officers included: George S. Reinold of Bell Telephone; David E. Tracy, David Kaufman, A. Carson Stamm, Howard C. Fry, Samuel P. Eby, Henderson Gilbert, E. S. Herman, Sr., and J. William Bowman, part of the Bowman Department Store family in Harrisburg. The council established a headquarters in the Board of Trade Building, long replaced by the Dauphin County Veterans Memorial at 112 Market Street.

Growth continued. In a short time, there were 16 troops with 250 Scouts. Harrisburg's Scouting headquarters was moved to the Calder Building. Local men were also becoming more involved in the national Scouting movement. In 1918, V. L. Huntsberger of New Cumberland was made temporary assistant to national Scout executive J. Frederick Virgin, an Episcopal clergyman of Brattleboro, Vermont. Virgin succeeded J. H. Stine, of Massachusetts, the first elected Scout executive.

Life in the United States was moving at a faster and faster pace, hurtling towards an un-

known future in 1918. For example, the first Chicago-New York Air Mail was delivered in 10 hours and five minutes in 1918 and daylight savings time was introduced in an effort to "save" time. Turmoil also characterized the period. While Abe "The Newsboy" Hollander retired from boxing after fighting more than 1,300 fights in his 14-year career, Jack Dempsey, American heavyweight champion, knocked-out contender Carl Morris in just 14 seconds. And despite Woodrow Wilson's espousal of the 14 points for world peace, in Europe, the Germans were making a major offensive on the Western Front, bombing Paris, and fighting the Allies in the second battle of the Marne.

International events—the United States' involvement in World War I in 1918—took the forefront for a time. Scouts helped distribute food conservation cards, assisted in the sale of Liberty Bonds totaling thousands of dollars, and helped to locate black walnut trees, used as rifle stocks for the military.

Almost as quickly as it started, the War to End All Wars was over, at a cost of 8.5 million lives and an average daily cost of more than \$200,000 million for each nation involved in the struggle.



Harrisburg's First Scout: Dr. John H. Fager

"When I am dead and the story of my life is written, it will tell of my work with boys. They that turn many to righteousness shall shine as the stars forever and ever."

Inscription on the plaque honoring Dr. John Fager's accomplishments with Boy Scouts in Messiah Lutheran Church in Harrisburg

Black Wolf Seton Brings Native American Ways To BSA

WILDLIFE ILLUSTRATOR, naturalist, spell-binding storyteller and lecturer, a best selling author of animal stories, expert with Native American sign language and early supporter of the political, cultural and spiritual rights of native peoples—these are just a few terms to describe Ernest Thompson Seton, one of Scouting's most influential founding fathers.

Seton, a Scott, was born in 1860, in England, but his family moved to Canada in the late 1800s, after his father lost his fortune as a ship-owner. Seton's education included a seven-year scholarship at England's Royal Academy of Art in England, but he could not complete this because poor food and living conditions were ruining his health. So he returned to the Manitoba homestead of two older brothers in 1881. In Manitoba, Seton's love of things wild blossomed. He wrote his first natural history article and began exchanging study skins with naturalists in Canada and the

United States, including Theodore Roosevelt. Within a few years, Seton was becoming an established wildlife artist, with many of his drawings at the American Museum of Natural History, and shuttling between Manitoba and New York to meet with naturalists, ornithologists and writers. He became life-long friends with Frank Chapman, William Hornaday and many other giants in American conservation.

In 1893, eye problems from the close work sent Seton on a six-month vacation to a New Mexico ranch. Here, he crossed trails with the extremely clever marauding wolf that would become the source of his "Lobo" story and illustrations, first published in *Scribner's Magazine*. The Lobo tale would join other animal stories in *Wild Animals I Have Known*. And the wolf's paw print became part of his signature. Seton went on to write 10,000 scientific and popular articles during his lifetime.

In 1902, Seton wrote the first

of a series of articles that began the Woodcraft movement, a forerunner of Boy Scouts. Woodcraft was originally a way for Seton—"the Chief," or Black Wolf—to "go native." The Woodcraft Indians were a "tribe" of 12 boys from a school near Seton's Connecticut home that met on weekends and for summer camps. Seton's focus was Native American ways and knowledge. He also began publishing *The Birch Bark Roll*, an annually updated manual for Woodcrafters.

Woodcraft had a significant impact on the Boy Scout movement, and major influence on the Girl Guides, Cub Scouts, the YMCA and the Canadian and American Camping Associations. In 1906, Seton met with Baden-Powell in England. They corresponded until Baden-Powell founded the Boy Scouts.

Many historians believe Baden-Powell borrowed material and concepts from Seton, especially *The Birch Bark Roll*, without cred-

iting him. A great part of *Scouting for Boys*, by Baden-Powell, was taken directly from Seton's book. Many games have great similarities, and Seton invented the merit badge system for his Woodcraft group. When Baden-Powell's version of Boy Scouting came to the United States, Seton wrote large sections of the 1911 manual.

In 1910, Seton served as chairman of the founding Boy Scouts of America committee, wrote the first handbook, and served as Chief Scout from 1910 until 1915. Seton did not like Scouting's military aspects, and Scouting did not like the Native American emphasis of Seton. With the coming of World War I, the military interest was considered more important and Seton resigned from Scouting. He revived Woodcraft in 1915 as a coeducational organization serving all ages. In 1926 Seton received the Silver Buffalo Award from Boy Scouts for his contributions. He died in 1946 at the age of 86.

The Roaring '20s

The War to End all Wars took a heavy psychological toll on the world. After the troops came home in 1919, most people just wanted to get on with life, have fun and try to forget about the troubles they had seen during the turmoil.

Distractions, like the recently developed radio and motion picture shows, and sports—particularly baseball—became a big focus. In 1919, Boston Red Sox Babe Ruth, the "Sultan of Swat," smacked a 587-yard homer against the New York Giants in Tampa, while ultimate athlete Jim Thorpe ended his 60-game baseball career with a .327 hitting average. Also that year, the first short-wave radio experiments began and the Radio Corporation of America (RCA) was formed. Mary Pickford starred in three films, including "The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari." New sports kept popping up, too. Water skiing was created in France and the American Professional Football Association came into being in 1919.

With the war over, interest in Scouting quickly resumed. In 1920, Frank C. Foote, Jr., and Theodore Selig, two Scouts from the area, attended the World Jamboree of Scouts at London, England.

The First Council Camp was conducted at Hunter's Run, near Pine Grove Furnace. More than 85 Scouts and six officers took part in the seven-week program. C. M. Heistand served as camp director. Also, assistant Scout executive Huntsberger conducted an historical hike into Winchester, Virginia. About 40 Scouts participated in this four-state, nine-day adventure that focused on the historical sights of the Shenandoah River Valley.

Continued - Page 4

Also, the Harrisburg Area Council was admitted as a member of the Welfare Federation, on which it still depended for existence in 1920.

Pennsylvania Scouts continued to rise to prominence in the national Scout organization during the 1920s.

In 1922, Major D. G. Van De Boe, formerly Williamsport's council executive, became the new national Scout Executive.

A summer camp was on the minds of many Scouts, even in the early days. The Reading Area Council's camp, at Indiandale, drew many area Scouts. However, Major Van De Boe opened a Scout Camp at Shermans Dale. In addition, in 1922, "The Governor's Own Troop" was organized with Governor Gifford Pinchot serving as honorary Scoutmaster and Lieutenant Governor David J. Davis as honorary Assistant Scoutmaster.

The height of the "Roaring 20s", 1926, was a watershed year. Thomas Sparrow became the council's Scout Executive. Under Sparrow's direction a new area camp at Loysville, along Sherman's Creek, was established. More than 200 Scouts attended camp that year.

The end of the decade saw the Sea Scout ship *Stephen Decatur* built and dedicated on Island Park (now City Island), and A. W. Drumbeiser, Don Passmore, Gerald Stein and J. Allen Harper represented the Harrisburg Area Council at the International Jamboree held at Arrow Park in England. Also, leadership training courses were begun, with 64 percent of the Scoutmasters in the area becoming trained leaders.

Camp Duffle Bag

IN THE 1920s A SCOUT HEADED FOR CAMP put the following in his duffle bag:

- **Clothing**—Scout uniform, shorts, extra shirt, extra underwear, extra pair of stockings, extra shoes, old trousers, six handkerchiefs, night shirt, bathing suit, sweater or wool shirt, raincoat or poncho.
- **Toilet Articles**—Tooth brush, tooth paste, soap (floating), two towels, comb, mirror (small).
- **Bedding**—At least two blankets (three pounds wool or equivalent), ticking to hold straw for mattress (six foot by two-foot-six inches) or extra heavy comforter to use as mattress. Scouts would get their straw at camp. No Scout was permitted to leave for camp without enough blankets.
- **Miscellaneous**—All the other "duffle" the Scout Master told them to take along.

Indiandale: The First Camp

The first organized Boy Scout Camp for the Harrisburg Council was at Indiandale. Indiandale was a 146-acre tract that had been a former resort owned by the Reading, Pennsylvania Boy Scouts. The resort had been erected in the late 1890's by Dr. Ephraim K. Blanck as a health resort. The lake in front of the buildings was known as Black Lake, and was stocked with a variety of fish. It was quite refreshing for swimming. The Reading Scout Council bought the property in 1919 and retained it until 1932. It contained a 57-bedroom brownstone mansion house, which no longer survives, and a 28-room annex that did exist in 2001. The first camp director was a schoolteacher named Charles Heston. Mr. Heston later became Chief Scout Executive.

The next camp, Camp Hacoboscum, was held at Pine Grove Furnace. This was state owned land and Mr. Vance McCormick interceded for the Boy Scouts to camp there. A few photos remain of Camp Hacoboscum, which is an acronym for "Harrisburg Council Boy Scouts of America".

Camp Hacoboscum was located at Laurel Lake, Cumberland County. This camp was situated in the heart of a 30,000-acre State Forestry reservation. Laurel Lake is on the Pine Grove Furnace Branch of the P. & R. (Reading Railroad). It is 33 miles from Harrisburg, and was easily reached by automobiles via Carlisle, Mt. Holly, Hunter's Run to Clay Rock. The road from Hunter's Run was posted with signs leading to the camp.

The campsite was on a hill overlooking the lake. Pictures from those early days show what Scouters had to enjoy in their day. The scenery was splendor itself. There were trails all over the mountains for hiking, the lake and streams were full of fish, and the woods contained wild game beyond measure. It was ideal Scouting country.

This was the location for the Council's summer camp in 1920. Camp began on June 22 and ran for six or seven weeks. They had capacity for 70 Scouts. Mr. J. Frederik Virgin was the Scout Executive, and Mr. V. L. Huntsberger was the Asst. Scout Executive. The brochure indicates there would be 15 hours per day of "real outdoor life."

The Scout Executive acted as Camp Director and chief of the commissary. His assistant handled the duties of Activities Director— which meant the games, scoutcraft, examinations, camp fires, etc. There were two other Scout men in charge of Scout instructions, swimming - (Oh yes, there was a fine gravel beach, a sheltering grove of trees, and any depth of water you wanted); and most important of all, two good cooks to fill up the space under their ribs. Everyday there were classes and examinations so that every camper could go home with higher rank, if he was ready and willing to do his share.

It was noted that the "H. C. of L." (high cost of living) had certainly boosted the cost of groceries and other things, but the cost of camping for that year (1920) had not gone up in the same proportion. The Council expected to save money by having more scouts in camp that year. So, the cost to take them to camp, bring them back safe and much browner, and give them the best "mess" in the state, would cost \$6.50 a week, or two weeks for \$12.00.

It was noted that these prices required the Scout to pay his own way home if he left at any other time than when the big trucks made their weekly trip to Harrisburg. Also, there would be no rebate given if the Scout registered for a week or more and then left before his time is up.



Indiandale—The Keystone Area Council's first organized summer camp, was a 146-acre former resort, built in the late 1890s by Dr. Ephraim K. Blanck. Dr. Blanck built the lodge as a health resort. Black Lake, in the foreground, was stocked with a variety of fish. Indiandale was purchased by the Reading, Pennsylvania Boy Scouts in 1919. The Reading Scouts kept the property until 1932. The 57-bedroom brownstone building no longer exists, but the 28-room annex still does. A school teacher, Charles Heston, was the camp director. Heston later became chief Scout Executive in the Harrisburg Council.

Hidden Valley Scout Reservation: Beginnings



This 1927 photograph shows some of the six permanent camp sites at the Loysville (Hidden Valley) Boy Scout Camp.



Camp Hidden Valley began as the hunting camp of Roswell Lyon, shown above.

A written history, dated August 8, 1951, entitled "Welcome to Hidden Valley," contains the following information:

"The land upon which the Hidden Valley Scout Reservation is located is rich in history and tradition, therefore ideal for a Boy Scout Camp. At a period in life when romance and adventure are supreme in the mind of a boy, he has the opportunity to enjoy it to the utmost at Hidden Valley.

"For instance: The by-ways by which you traveled to camp today have been in existence for almost two hundred years, when old Indian Trails crossed what is now Perry County. The Shawnees, Delaware and Tuscaroras were among the Indian tribes inhabiting the section and a large Indian village was located not too far away. In 1754 protection from the Indians necessitated the erection of a settler's Fort in the Valley, known as Fort Robinson, near Loysville. George Robinson was one of the early settlers as was Simon Girty, father of the notorious renegade. It does not require much imagination to visualize Indians riding bare-back; hardy pioneers in buckskin jackets; early settlers working in the iron furnaces and setting up tanneries.

"Hidden Valley originally contained twenty-eight acres of land; five acres were added several years ago and at the present moment we have more than 570 acres. The winding Sherman's Creek has offered us excellent water facilities for both swimming and boating.

"Hidden Valley's discovery, then known as the Loysville Boy Scout Camp, was made by Mr. Roswell H. Lyon, Sr., the location being a favorite hunting and fishing rendezvous. The original Committee which recommended the camp-

site to the Council included R. H. Appleby, P. G. Farquharson, Rabbi Philip David Bookstaber and Gus B. Larsen. These gentlemen signed a note having full confidence that the public would support their action in support of this new movement for the boys. The original site was purchased in 1926 and a dining-hall erected through the courtesy of a very substantial gift given by Miss Mary Sachs. During the twenty-five years since that time, six permanent campsites were established, using wooden shelters as sleeping buildings. All of this was accomplished through donations of work and money by many interested individuals and groups.

"One of these Campsites is known as Camp Kiwanis, which was a gift of the Harrisburg Kiwanis Club. The site is made up of Adirondack shelters of chestnut logs secured locally, with a separate kitchen and dining hall. The Camp at the present time provides sixteen permanent troop camping sites.

"The Health Lodge was the gift of Dr. Maurice I. Stein, a former member of the Harrisburg Hospital Staff. Dr. Stein selected the site for the lodge and donated funds for building and equipping it. He gave freely of his personal services while he lived, visiting camp and inspecting it for health and sanitation; gave physical examinations to Scouts entering and leaving Camp; arranged for a resident doctor to be in camp living in the Health Lodge during the Camp's operation each summer for many years.

"The Keystone Area Council Mothers' Club, which is composed of representatives of many Mothers' Clubs throughout the area, has contributed substantially to the general welfare of the average Scout in camp. Their gifts have ranged from the construction of a porch on the

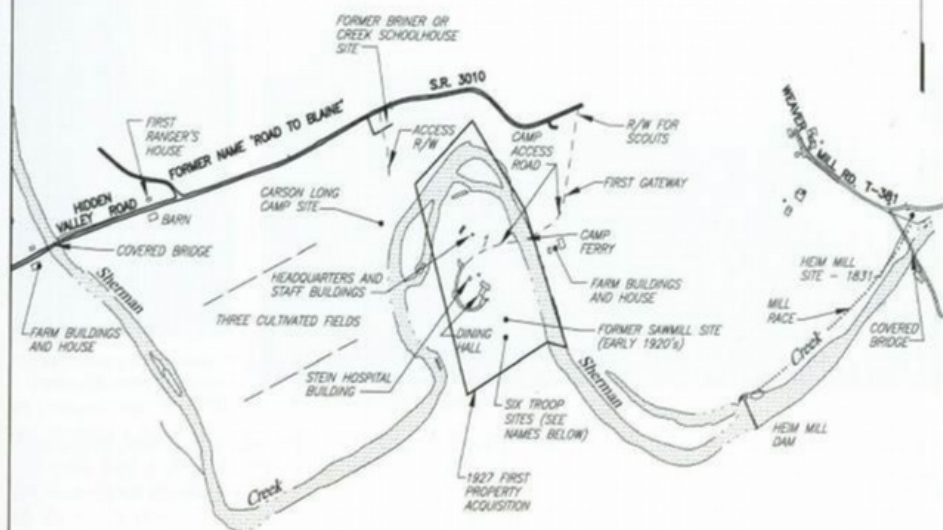
Crafts Lodge to the additional kitchen space in the Central Mess Hall, the public address system being used today, the spring house located near the parking lot, as well as a Tent site. All these and more have been bought and paid for with money raised by the Area Mothers' Club.

"The Rotary Lodge was constructed by the Harrisburg Rotary Club as the result of a meeting held February 10, 1942, at which time Messrs. Albert Schmidt, Albert Allen, Sr., Robert Smethers, John Stapf and Edwin M. Green agreed to under take the project. In addition to a contribution by the Rotary Club, Mr. Harvey L. Seltzer contributed \$500 personally and the present Rotary Lodge is the result of that project. A further contribution in connection with the present Camp Capital Campaign will permit the completion of this Lodge by the addition of a porch and boat storage facilities under the Lodge. In 1950, the Harrisburg Rotary Club, with a substantial gift, made it possible to create the present training center.

"The Mothers' Club of Troop 8, St. Mark's Methodist Church, Harrisburg, has made possible the flood lighting system used to light the bridge, steps and parking lot, on the east bank of Sherman's Creek.

"The Melting Pot Patrol, composed of about ten vitally interested Scouters, has through their efforts purchased materials and done all the work necessary to erect the Stockade located at the old entrance to the Camp. They have completed the job of completely furnishing and outfitting the interior of the Rotary Lodge.

Numerous other gifts have been made by the R. H. Lyon family, R. H. Appleby, Dr. Albert Gioho, Leon Lowengard, P. G. Farquharson (deceased) to improve the facilities we now have here at Hidden Valley Camp."

SOME OF THE
TROOP SITE NAMES

Kiwanis
Chipmunk
Beaver
Great Stag
Frontier
Red Cloud

Robert Rowland map

LOYSVILLE BOY SCOUT CAMP

1927-1930

28 ACRES

6 TROOP SITES

750 0 750 1500

SCALE: 1"=750'

HRG

The map above illustrates Camp Hidden Valley as it was from 1927 - 1930. Take note of the roads, the location of the six troop sites (Kiwanis, Chipmunk, Beaver, Great Stag, Frontier and Red Cloud), the covered bridge across Sherman's Creek, the ranger's house, the ferry, and the location of headquarters, illustrated below.

A SCOUT IS HELPFUL...



A troop colony poses for the camera at the Loysville Boy Scout Camp. This photo was taken by W. L. R. Drake on June 29, 1926.



This 1926 photo shows the headquarters building, the location of the trading post and camp offices.

- Hidden Valley in 1926 -

A Grand Find in The Attic:

by Theodore G. Valcis

The cliché, "1926 was a very good year" doesn't ring any bells for most people—except a select few, the very old, and those a little younger, called the Boy Scouts of the Keystone Area Council, of central Pennsylvania.

They do know what the date infers, but the true beginning...well, just read on.

After speaking to various people affiliated with Scouting and reviewing old records of the area, it was said the first summer of camping at Hidden Valley started just after the Fourth of July celebration in 1926, the apex of the Roaring 20's. The early records don't tell a clear story of Hidden Valley, but with six rolls of 16-millimeter movie film—a grand find in the attic—the picture of those early years becomes clearer.

Sadly, we can't credit a particular person for the films—the producer's name remains undiscovered—but we are deeply grateful to Mr. "X" for these valuable pieces of history. (At a later date they will be narrated.)

I also doubt that the Scouts of that time would know how much we would enjoy these films today. And I don't think Mr. "X" worked in Hollywood, the way the plot of the films jumps around, but he might have had Vaudeville and burlesque training.

The scene starts as the Scouts are already at Hidden Valley, the 4th of July is over, but the fireworks are just beginning. The Scouts met earlier in Harrisburg at Riverfront between John Harris's grave plot and the Market Street Bridge, crossed the Susquehanna early in the morning, hiked Route 944 (today's Enola Road) through Enola until they reached the base of Sterretts Gap, where they camped for the night. Next morning they climbed the first Blue Mountain to Route 850, ate a fast lunch at Lupfer's Grove, then hiked the rest of the way into Hidden Valley for a late supper. This trek earned them the first half of their hiking merit badge; the other half came on the hike home.

These early Scouts, called the Pioneer Squad, were very busy chopping and dragging trees, and clearing a large parcel of land, known as the "Great Stag Colony" when finished. Even a small bulldog helps drag small trees on film. Also, Scouts could learn a lot from the guy with the axe—especially axe safety, and how not to get blisters, or dent someone's head.

Washing for chow call—with an abundance of very cold water—gets some film footage. Shelter was five Army surplus bivouac tents, complete with flagpoles and rock-lined paths going everywhere.

Next, it's fun learning time. The boys are given requirements to meet. Those that don't make the grade go through a paddle line, something modern schools have forgotten. All is well, though, and later, neatness found, awards follow the troop flag up the pole.

The next scenes, sadly, shows what will never be again—camp water sports in Sherman's Creek: learning how to swim using various strokes, diving, sliding, life saving techniques. You'll also see boating, canoeing, canoe jousting contests, various races of canoes and swimmers, and a greased watermelon contest! Nautical skits with Christopher Columbus and the King and Queen of Spain, King Neptune and Davy Jones follow. Visiting parents, relatives and friends enjoy these antics, and show how the hand-pulled ferry was used. Boy, the cars are old! The films also have scenes demonstrating necessity of ropes, knots and lassos, and camp pets—birds, animals and snakes (all released).

Without a plot, the spontaneous coverage changes to the Penn Harris Airport, located at the beginning of Chambers Hill Road, land that is now motels and large car lots. Here, Scouts are given a small aircraft education with four-seat Piper Cub Chiefs and PT-13s (Stearman Biplanes) used as U. S. Army trainers beginning in 1928. Flying cost a penny a pound for Scouts.

Another segment features a Scout camporee at Natural Bridge, Virginia, with 110 Scout patrols from four states. Scouts even climb the wall to touch George Washington's initials carved into the stone.

Having spent two to four weeks at Hidden Valley, another segment shows the Scouts preparing to leave camp.

Roswell H. Lyon Sr., and his very select friends, are probably very happy with the evolution of their hunting camp into Hidden Valley.

Special thanks to Raymond Dalby for recapitulating the six reels on digital tape.

TROOPS SHOWN IN THE FILMS include 12, 14, 51, 52, 57, and 80. (Mr. X probably worked with Troop 14 or 52.)

Those named include the following: Governor John S. Fisher; Scott S. Burgoon, Camp Director; P. G. Farquharson, Executive Board Chairman, Pottery Instructor and Eagle Scout; Fred S. Davis, Chairman of the Court; C. T. Westman, Director of Campfire Programs, Merit Badge Examiner and Eagle Scout; Dr. S. B. Fluke, Camp Doctor; Carl R. Smith, Swimming Dir. and Red Cross Examiner; Miss Sarah A. Painter, Camp Dietitian and three assistants; Dr. George W. Wirt, Dept of Forestry and Waters, Head of Nature Studies; E. M. Israel and Capt. Young of the Red Cross, life saving; W. M. Weitzel, canoeing; Tim Douthett and Pomeroy's Dept Store served as official outfitters.

Scenes from the Videos



Scouts coming to Hidden Valley in the early days of the camp had to use a Scout-powered cart to tote their gear all the way from Harrisburg into camp. The trek called for a quick lunch at Lupfer's Grove and an overnight camp at the base of Sterretts Gap. It earned Scouts their hiking merit badge.



A Scout is clean...at least after a quick, cold water wash-up prior to chow call.



This isn't an OA initiation, or an early version of an Iroquois gauntlet. It's a "paddle line," performed by Scouts on other Scouts who didn't quite measure up in the early days of Hidden Valley.



Will Rogers Jr.? No, it's only a Scout at Hidden Valley doing some rope tricks. Getting the knots out after several hours of this kind of entertainment was probably the hardest part of the demonstration.

Al Herbert Remembers 1927...

Al Herbert was Keystone Area Council's only distinguished Eagle Scout. "I joined the Boy Scouts in May of 1927, when I was twelve and a half years old, and went to Hidden Valley two months later," he said. Herbert said he and his brothers joined because it seemed to be the thing to do.

Herbert was a member of Troop 19, sponsored by the Grace Methodist Church of the Allison Hill area of Harrisburg. The church was located across the street from the state Capitol on North Third Street. "I was born and raised there and was involved with Boy Scouting for a period of 60 years," Herbert said. (Herbert joined the council's board of directors in 1949.)

Herbert attended Hidden Valley as a Scout for six summers during the late 1920s and 1930s. Camp cost \$1-a-day and covered a two-week period.

What was Hidden Valley like in 1927?

Herbert raised his eyebrows and smiled. The camp started with 27 acres. No cars could get into camp, he said. The only access was a "hand ferry," located near the East Gate, a bit below the present wooden bridge. The ferry carried all the supplies and people across Sherman's Creek and into camp.

Ferry crossing completed, Herbert said, Scouts found four "colonies" (campsites), named Great Stag, Chipmunk, Beaver, and Red Cloud. That first year, half of his troop slept in surplus army field tents, the other half in what they called "camp shacks." These may have been the very first Adirondack shacks, which are still there today. In two more years the tents were gone.

The camp's programs were designed to advance Scouts from Tenderfoot through Second and First Class as quickly as they could learn, and to get all the merit badges they could.

Camping merit badge was a hard one for Herbert. The first time he tried for the badge, he ran out of time to build his lean-to and camp properly. Scout Council Executive Thomas "Chief" Sparrow's unusual "test" didn't help matters, Herbert noted. (Sparrow served as executive from 1926-1936.) Chief Sparrow snuck up behind Herbert's hemlock lean-to in the middle of the night, and heaved a big bucket of water on it to test for leaks. If it didn't leak, the merit badge was complete. Scouts weren't supposed to tell anyone about this test, either. Herbert's first effort leaked, but this didn't stop him. The following year, he and Wilson Everheart started building their camp much earlier, but Herbert became ill, and after a day and a half was taken to a hospital to have his appendix removed. Several weeks later, he came back to camp, finished his lean-to, and received camping merit badge from Chief Sparrow.

"I really earned that merit badge," Herbert

said.

Swimming merit badge required a mile swim, from the training area down to the dam and back again.

Life Saving was Herbert's toughest merit badge to earn his Eagle in 1930, he said. Three of his brothers also earned Eagle and two of his sons became Eagle Scouts.

Herbert remembered how certain boys were elected to build the camp's evening fires. For this, they had to wear a special necklace—made of eagle talons, bear claws and Indian beads—which was quite heavy all day. These fires were lit only with flint and steel or by friction. (Herbert wondered where the necklace is today?)

Ninety percent of the boys in camp learned to swim in Sherman's Creek because there were only two places to swim in Harrisburg and the YMCA was just being built. Learning to swim was very important, Herbert said, because many social activities of the time were conducted on the Susquehanna River. He talked about holiday Kipona events that included water stunts, boat races (sailboats, john-boats, canoes and powerboats), and all kinds of ethnic food. There were also canoe trips downstream from Williamsport, and the City Island Beach was a great attraction.

In order to have clean swimming at Hidden Valley, Scouts built floats and piers. Cleaning out the muck, leaves, and tree branches that accumulated along the creek banks during spring floods was a problem, Herbert said.

Herbert remembered water skis from the films, too—King Neptune and his followers, King Ferdinand, Queen Isabella and Christopher Columbus. He likened them to an "Abbott and Costello" movie.

Herbert also remembered other important sanitation devices from those days, both the wash stands and the latrines. The latrines were way up on top of the hill, difficult to get to at times. Early Scouts called them the "twelve hole depository." Close by was one of two washing stands, with lots of cold running water.

Kitchen Patrol—aka. KP—was a major chore in 1927, Herbert said. Every morning two pre-designated Scouts would get up at the crack of dawn, take a special two-wheeled wagon down the "back path" to the Ferry, cross over and meet the farmer who supplied the camp with milk, butter, eggs and other items. These boys had a great responsibility, because the back path was often very bumpy. Accidents happened. The ridicule of being responsible for an accident was long lasting—every time Scout stomachs growled. So being trustworthy and being physically capable went hand in hand, Herbert said.

The back path was used for more than breakfast, Herbert remembered. When the



Al Herbert, KAC's only distinguished Eagle Scout.

Scouts first arrived, they had to use the back path to reach another farmer who brought the straw that filled the large sacks used as mattresses, Herbert said.

As tents turned to Adirondack shacks, many trees and much underbrush had to be cleared. Brush piles accumulated, but were used for daily evening bonfires. However, another problem arose: The brush piles attracted lots of insects and with them toads, frogs, mice and "all kinds of snakes," Herbert said. A rapid snake identification course was set up so Scouts could tell "good" snakes from "bad" snakes. Yet a great number of black snakes became a pet for the summer. Copperheads, Herbert said, preferred the lower moist ground, and the few rattlesnakes liked the higher rocky ridges. Still, one morning, while Herbert was running down the back path, he thought he was stepping over a branch, but it turned out to be a copperhead. The coming of the Adirondack shacks didn't deter the snakes. Many snakes, especially black snakes, thought the camp shacks were very comfortable, he said.

In 1932, Herbert and Bob Mumma went to the Olympics. Herbert spent his last year at Camp Hidden Valley as part of the staff in 1933.

As an adult, Herbert served as executive vice president of Pennsylvania Independent Telephone Association (non-Bell companies) for 34 years. He spent four years in the U.S. Army during World War II, and earned a commission during that time. Herbert said he liked the mission of the Boy Scouts—why he supported them so faithfully over the years. "Scouting was one of the few organizations to demonstrate and educate the youth with high moral values," he said.

George Lance and Ted Valcis (with help from Charlie Steele) are responsible for Herbert's recollections here. Herbert passed away just four weeks after this interview was completed. His ashes are buried at Herbert Lodge at Hidden Valley.

August 24, 1926

The Board of Directors
Harrisburg Rotary Club
Harrisburg, Pa.

Gentlemen:

In accordance with your request I am putting in writing as nearly as possible verbal statements made at our meeting with you on Monday, August 23. To meet the need and demand for camping and properly take care of the requirements in this respect for the Boy Scouts of this city, several members of the Boy Scout Council guaranteed the financing and purchasing and thoroughly equipping of an up-to-date camp that not only would fill all requirements for the purpose intended, but would at the same time be a credit to the boys and to the city of Harrisburg.

A plot of ground of 23 1/2 acres was purchased on Sherman's Creek in Perry County about one and one-half miles from Loyville, which from every angle was and is ideal for a camp site and for the purpose intended.

Upon this plot were placed permanent buildings as follows: mess hall and completely equipped kitchen, headquarters building, cook's quarters, tool house, latrines, tent floors; and a 95 foot well with 4000 gallon concrete reservoir, trenches and pipe line; sewer system; electric light line; bathing and boating pier with boating and canoeing facilities; ferry line; all of which cost about \$7500.00. As the land cost was approximately \$375.00 we were, therefore, enabled, as you will note, to spend a larger part of the above amount in buildings and equipment for the comfort, safety, and convenience of the Boy Scouts of this Area.

For your further information, through gifts of material, time, and labor, the entire plant as it stands today could not be duplicated, at a very conservative estimate, for less than \$10,000.00, and served during the four weeks of its operation in its first season, 360 boys, a large percentage of whom are underprivileged boys, giving them a program of character building and citizenship training that returned them to their community better for the experience.

The above information is given you asking for your permission to place this matter before the Club with the thought of asking the Club to finance and support this very worthwhile project as a part of its boys' work organization, and one of three organizations, that bears a charter granted by Congress.

The objective of the Boy Scout movement is Character Building and Citizenship Training through a program supervised by men of character, and this being directly in line with the ethics of Rotary, it would seem that here is a big and real service that Rotary could perform with profit to the community itself, its members, and to the boys of this city.

Very truly yours,

Author unknown



This 1928 photo, taken from the old Carson Long Camp Road on the west side of Sherman's Creek. Part of the original Loyville Boy Scout Camp can be seen on the opposite shore. Making sign letters from saplings was a Scouting tradition.



Boy Scout and leader on the front porch in early days of Hidden Valley. This photo was originally entitled "Popose receiving instructions from the Chief, Bobby Hunter." Note the signs in the background.



This 1924 photo of the rear of the camp dining hall was taken at Lupfer's Grove. It was a favorite place for Scouts and visitors to gather.



A pine bough lean-to, Chief Sparrow "tested" Al Herbert's with a bucket of water. Earning camping merit badge was harder in 1927.



This is the stone fireplace in the original dining hall at Hidden Valley, built in 1927. This photo was taken prior to the installation of a mantle and andirons. The dining hall was replaced in the early 1960s with a modern building. The stone fireplace still stands, however, bearing a bronze marker as a reminder of Mary Sachs' \$10,000 donation to purchase the land for Hidden Valley, to honor her friend, Dr. Philip Bookstaber.



A ferry that crossed Sherman's Creek was the original transportation into Hidden Valley. A stout rope connected both sides of the creek, and the ferry was Scout-powered, pulled by the boys from side to side. The ferry was replaced by a pontoon bridge, and later a wooden-decked steel bridge. Photo by L. R. Drake, June 29, 1926.



This 1930 photo shows a group of Scouts presenting the hand salute at a flag ceremony.



Miss Mary Sachs

January 31, 1927

My Dear Rabbi Bookstaber:
On several occasions the Boy Scout Camp in which you are so deeply interested in has been suggested as a form of memorial to some one who has gone to his or her long rest. None of these suggestions have ever materialized.

I know that this is a matter which is close to your heart, and I believe that no greater inspiration can be given to the youth who engages in Boy Scout work than the living presence and helpfulness of man such as you. I believe that there are wonderful opportunities in such a Camp and the youth of Harrisburg are deserving of it. So with my confidence in you as a spiritual leader and guide to youth, and my confidence and interest in the youth of today, I would like to purchase this campsite now under consideration. My only two requests being that it be named the Rabbi Phillip Bookstaber Boy Scout Camp and that my name be withheld in the matter.

If you will be good enough to accept this offer, I shall be glad.

There is a great deal of selfishness in it, too, perhaps, for I shall be looking forward to the joy that is going to be mine in the years to come, as I keep in contact with this movement, and note the moulding of our youths towards honorable citizenship. Under your direction and supervision, I am confident this will be attained.

Hoping that my wishes in this matter may be fulfilled, I remain, believe me to be

Sincerely yours,
Mary Sachs

Epilogue

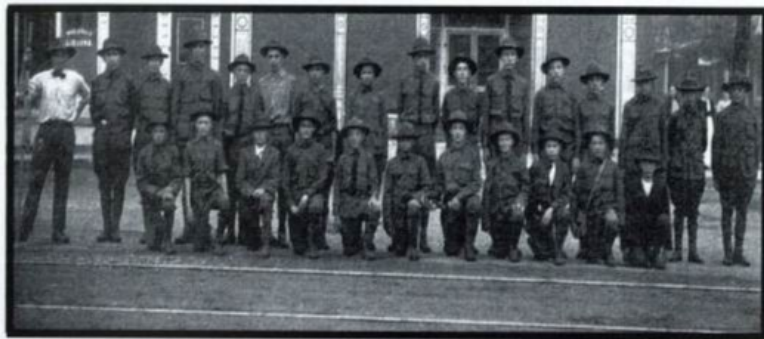
IN FEBRUARY OF 1927, BOOKSTABER FORWARDED THE LETTER from Miss Sachs to Mr. Lyon, asking that the council recognize it only as a "gift from a member of the Temple Obey Shalom in honor and appreciation of the activities and interest of its spiritual leader." Bookstaber didn't want the camp named after him, unless he or Miss Sachs left Harrisburg. He asked that the camp be called the "Boy Scout Camp of the Harrisburg Area." Miss Sachs, he asked, should be given the privilege of awarding six scholarships to the Scout camp, subject to the approval of the Scout executive. (She could approve sending six poor Scouts who did not have the money to attend camp.) Should the camp property or organization be disbanded at any time, Bookstaber requested that the donor's investments in the camp be protected. He also requested status reports of camp activities be given to Miss Sachs from time to time.

BSA Expo 1929

THE 6TH ANNUAL EXPOSITION of the Boy Scouts of the Harrisburg area was held in February, 1929. It was located at the Shaffer Garage Building, 50 South Cameron Street, Harrisburg and was open for two days. It featured 38 exhibit booths, each of which were filled with members of different troops from around the region. Troop 61 from Duncannon represented the Troop from the most distant point. A fire-by-friction contest, the singing of a number of negro spirituals, and music by a Scout orchestra were among the special features included in the first night's program. Harry Seitz, future Ranger of Camp Hidden Valley, won the fire-by-friction contest. The negro spirituals were sung by Troop 24, of the Second Baptist Church, and the orchestra was composed of boys from the West Fairview troop. All exhibits were judged for prizes.

LOOKING BACK...

A PHOTO ESSAY • 1910 - 1920s



Left - This is Boy Scout Troop No. 1 in the Harrisburg Council, chartered in 1914. Note the trolley tracks in the foreground of the photo.



Above - This photo, from the 1920 version of Handbook for Scoutmasters: A Manual of Leadership shows local Scouts "on the go," hiking. Note the road, typical for that time, all the campaign hats, and the leggings. They almost look like junior doughboys from World War I.

Below - This log cabin was built by Boy Scout Troop No. 79, of Hershey, in the late 1920s. The cabin was finished in November, prior to Thanksgiving, and it took a year's worth of work. It was located in the woods behind the old Derry Church. Now this is a serious Eagle building project.



Above - These two popular ladies served as camp cooks for early Scouting adventures, including Hidden Valley. On the left is Mrs. Danner. Miss Shakespere is on the right. The date is the late 1920s. Below - The drinking fountain outside the original dining hall. In later years the fountain was encased in a stone pillar with only the white bowl showing. Note the permanent wood campsite structures in the background, and how close they were to the old dining hall. The date is 1929.



CAMP HACOBOSCAM



This group of campers and the kitchen cook pose beside The "Duckum", a small canoe with what appears to be an outrigger. They seem mighty proud of their craft.



Camp Hacoboscam (an amalgamation of Harrisburg Council Boy Scouts of America) was situated in the heart of a 30,000-acre state forestry reservation, "way down in Cumberland County," according to a pamphlet (left) promoting the camp to Scouts in 1920. The camp site was located on a hill overlooking Laurel Lake, and the pamphlet boasted of mountain trails for hiking, lakes and streams full of fish, and a woods full of wild game. "It is ideal Scouting country," the pamphlet exclaimed. Frederik Virgin was the Scout Executive at the time, and V. L. Huntsberger was his assistant. Camp Hacoboscam cost Scouts \$6.50 per week and \$12 for two weeks.



Above - This photo was marked "The Company Street." The road may have served as a camp entrance. The camp was connected to Harrisburg by the Pine Grove Furnace branch of the P&R (Reading) Railroad.

Below - All these boys need is a Scoutmaster with a bucket to test their lean-to's water shedding ability.



Above - The tent area of Camp Hacoboscam. There is a permanent structure just beyond the tents to the left, an open pavilion that appears in other photos. Left - This happy angler caught a small pike or pickerel in weedy Laurel Lake, near Camp Hacoboscam. The rod and reel look like early spinning gear, unusual since the photo is from the early 1920s, when such gear wasn't too common. Below - The Scout didn't choose a poor tent site. It just rained hard enough to flood everything.



Above - These 1920 Scouts are ready to go camping. Note the camp sign in the upper left. This early council camp was located near Laurel Lake, in what is now Pine Grove Furnace State Park. Left - KP never ends. These young spud-peelers are making the best of it.



Left - Before you hear another Scout gripe about having to wear a goofy-looking uniform, show him this photo from the very, very early days of Scouting. This was an English uniform used by early Harrisburg Scouts. Where's the raccoon coat and a straw boater? **Above** - This is Sherman's Creek just above the camp. The photo was taken in 1926 and shows what the area and the creek looked like in those days. Recognize any changes? **Below** - This isn't Buster Keaton and a 1920s western. It's the old camp truck, and two guys goofing around. This photo was taken at Laffer's Grove, 1924.



Above - This old steam-powered sawmill operated just below the present day water tower at Camp and behind the Health Lodge built in 2000 at Hidden Valley. The photo was taken in 1926, prior to the coming of a Boy Scout camp on the land. Shown left to right are Leroy Jacobs, Aug Comp, Russell Mitten, Dick Ebbhart, Harry Stum and Josh Comp. Leroy Jacobs' mother, Elizabeth, was also the mother of Russell Mitten. Russell Mitten was 18 at the time this photo was taken. Josh Comp was the father of Aug Comp. (Photo courtesy of John Mitten, Russell's son.)



Above - These early Scouts had their picture taken on an old farm wagon in front of what was the John Swarner barn. The barn was located just north of the East Gate to Hidden Valley, a short distance north of the Heim Mill. The barn has been gone for many years, but the house on the Swarner farm still remains there today.

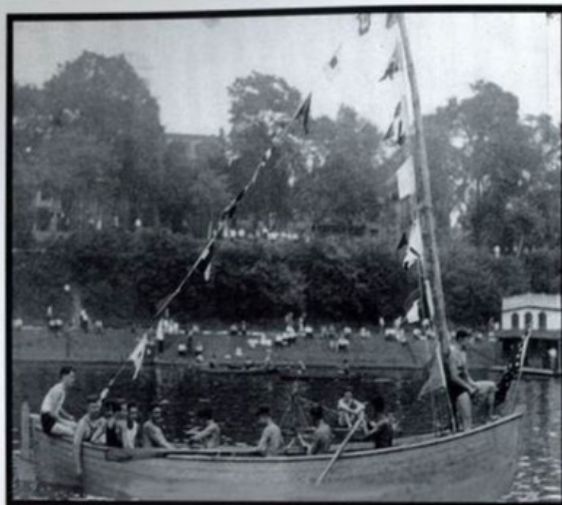


Above - These six Scouts are having fun and demonstrating their balancing skills. The scene is thought to be Mt. Holly Park, the photo taken while camping there.

TOTEM POLES...

Below and Right - Erecting the first totem pole at Camp Hidden Valley. A number of totem poles were erected over the course of years at the camp. One of the unique ways Scouts pulled the large logs from the woods was by using a specially rigged 1941 logging truck in later years, nicknamed "Big Bertha."





SEA SCOUTS

Left - This is the Harrisburg Sea Scouts in one of two boats received from the Philadelphia Navy Yard and launched on the Susquehanna by local Boy Scouts. The photo was taken during the Kipona river sports when the two craft made their first public appearance in the Susquehanna's waters in September of 1930. **Below** - A group of Harrisburg's Sea Scouts visited the Annapolis Naval Academy for sea lore. The Sea Scout Council was under the command of Commodore E. M. Israel, pictured standing, fifth from left.



Left - Although the photo was not marked, it's probable that this was the Sea Scout Ship Stephen Decatur, on Island Park (now City Island). Lumber used to construct the ship appeared to be used materials salvaged from other uses.

Right - Sea Scouts "on the bridge" at the Pennsylvania Farm Show in 1932.



Left - This is an old campfire circle with vented corners. **Above** - This was the powerhouse for the original camp at Hidden Valley in 1927. At that time, there was no electric throughout camp, so power was generated in this shed for use in the Sachs Dining Hall, which was just off to the left of this photo. In later years, electricity for the entire camp came from the general utility company. This building is still in use as a storage shed. (George Lance photo)



Above left - This is an early camping scene, before shelters were constructed. What they were doing with the doll (someone is holding it) is anybody's guess. The heat deflector in front of the fireplace is also neat. **Above** - Call this a primitive shelter, or a variation on a theme of lean-to. All these Scouts need is a sneaky Scout executive (like Chief Sparrow) or a Scoutmaster lurking in the puckerbrush with a bucket of water to "test" their roof. Made of bark, this one would likely repel some water.



Above - The original caption on this photo calls it "fire hole cooking fireplace." But many older Scouts recognize a "dangle stick" holding the pot in place when they see one. Actually, it's a good way to handle a hot pot, but you have to have green wood. **Right** - Although this photo might look like a chuckwagon scene out of an old cowboy movie, it's really just an early Scouting high efficiency cooking set-up. The woodstove kept the fire handy and in one spot, and provided constant hot water. All those cups and other cooking utensils in the background mark this as the cooking tent.





Left - This photo is not dated but it was taken in the center of Harrisburg about 1933 - during the depression. The NRA - National Recovery Act - was a big boon to the many people who found themselves without work, food or shelter. Below: The original Health Lodge at Hidden Valley in 1927 was donated by Dr. and Mrs. Maurice I. Stein. The building was eventually expanded, a large porch added. Still in use, it has seen service as a trading post and a craft lodge.



Above - This August 8, 1931 photo shows, L-R: George Johnson, Robert Markley, Jr., and Duce E. Unger unloading "grub for a hungry camp." Scotty Burgoon, Camp Director, is on the extreme left edge of the photo. The three boys were Eagle Scouts from the class of 1930. Right - The swimming instruction staff at Hidden Valley in 1928.



DO A GOOD TURN DAILY...



Left - Chow line in 1920 at Camp Hacoboscum. Hacoboscum, in Cumberland County, was one of the first campsites used by the Harrisburg council. Above - The Scouts are enjoying the water in Laurel Lake at P.O. Grove Furnace, near Camp Hacoboscum.

LUPFER'S GROVE



This 1924 photo, taken from a vantage point above the camp, shows the Lupfer's Grove camp in Shermans Dale. Note the tents and the old cars.



Above - The latest in fashion headwear was demonstrated by this Scout.



Above - This isn't early Tae-Kwan-Do practice, it's calisthenics at Lupfer's Grove in the 1920s.



Exercising in formation at Lupfer's Grove in the 1920s.



Above - Lupfer's Grove Camp Staff during the 1920s. Major Van De Boe is kneeling, second from right.

THE INDIANDALE CAMP



Left - Black Lake at the first organized camp for Harrisburg Scouts, Indiantale. Above - This is another scene from Indiantale, the camping tents area. (Indiantale photos from single collection)



Above - A winter scene on Sherman's Creek.

Below - A Scout admires the leatherwork on a leader's neckerchief slide during the 1920s. The photo was taken at Lupton's Grove. Note the tent in the background.



DO A GOOD TURN DAILY...



Above - This photo shows a group of interested leaders in 1926. Charles E. Hoerner, Camp Director and Scoutmaster of Troop 1 and assistant Scout executive for the Harrisburg Council is the third row, center. His son, Harry Hoerner, sits beside him (right) on the steps. (courtesy of Charles M. Hoerner)

Depression Era Scouting...

The roar of the 1920s was still strong in February of 1929, when machine gun fire and shell casings clinking to the concrete floor of a Chicago garage marked the St. Valentine's Day massacre, and gangsters ending the careers of six rival gangsters. The roar was also present in the hiss of wind flowing over the sleek fins of airship Graf Zeppelin, as it flew more than 21,000 miles around the world in 20 days, 4 hours and 14 minutes. But roaring became a sudden and distinct echo of good times gone sour on October 28, 1929, Black Friday.

That afternoon the United States Stock Exchange crashed—a fissure in a worldwide economic crisis that swallowed fortunes built during the high times of the 1920s. U.S. securities lost \$26 billion in a single afternoon, and Wall Street's stock brokers leapt from their high rises rather than face the realities of economic collapse. The Great Depression had begun.

The Depression limited resources as well as who had access to them, including budgets for Scout programs. Local Councils slashed budgets. Banks failed and involved council funds. Yet one of the things Scouts are best known for is being resourceful in hard times, and the Depression turned out to be a time of great growth for Scouting.

The Harrisburg Area Council, for example, grew to more than 65 troops that included more than 1,450 Scouts.

At the close of 1928, total United States Boy Scout registration showed more than 819,000 boys. Between 1929 and 1931, Scout registration increased: 842,540 in 1929; 864,341 in 1930; and 889,550 in 1931. In the midst of

the national emergency the Cub Program for boys younger than Scout age was formally launched, with 5,000 members enrolled at the end of 1930. Also that year more than 23,000 boys learned to swim at Scout camps, and a five percent increase in campers—400,000 boys—was reported. Sea Scouts increased by 50 percent. Scout circuses, Merit Badge exhibits, expositions and other shows awakened and maintained interest in Scouting. Over 165 colleges and universities conducted Scouting courses, and more than 50,000 adult leaders participated.

Bittersweet was a good description of the early years of the Depression for the Harrisburg council. Bitter news included fire destroying the Sea Scout Training base on Island Park (City Island) in 1931. It was rebuilt in 1932.

Sweet news were the Council's first Silver Beaver Awards presented in 1931 to Scoutmasters John German of Troop 13 and Oliver J. Dickey of Troop 57. District Commissioners were appointed for the first time, the Scouters Association was formed, and a Merit Badge Exposition was held at the new Farm Show Building in Harrisburg. In addition, Eagle Scouts conferred with Governor Pinchot and put on a statewide "Good Turn" in planting George Washington Memorial Trees. The tree planted in Capitol Park is still growing.

Also, in 1932 a Silver Book of Eagles was created to perpetuate the record of Eagle Scouts and was presented on behalf of the Executive Board by R. H. Lyon, Sr. at the Recognition Rally in the Forum.

In 1932, Mrs. Jacob Schiff presented the Boy Scouts of America with the Schiff Reservation in New Jersey, as a memorial to her son Mortimer L. Schiff, former President of the Boy Scouts of America. Its 500 acres provided a National Training Center and laboratory of camping.

Scout registration figures for 1933 passed the 900,000 mark for the first time. Camping interest increased also. But all was not play. In relief work, Scouts cooperated on a nation-wide scale likened to their World War I service.

Harrisburg area council Scouts moved onto the worldwide Scouting stage in 1932 when Rabbi Philip D. Bookstaber, Scoutmaster Kirby Fogarty, Scoutmaster Lewis Robinson, Morris Sachs, and ten Scouts attended the International Jamboree at Godollo, Hungary. Cub Scouting also began in the area with Pack 51 in Camp Hill.

At the height of the Depression, in 1934, over 500 Scouts in the Harrisburg council's area met to listen to President Franklin Roosevelt

Continued - Page 22



Troop 24, of Harrisburg, demonstrates their woodworking skills at a special demonstration about Boy Scouting at the State Farm Show. Lewis Robinson, shown on the far right by the cavel, was Harrisburg's first African-American scoutmaster and a winner of the Scoutmaster Key and the Silver Beaver award.



Chow's a cookin': During the early days of Hidden Valley, camp cooking was part of the routine. These Scouts look like experts. Smell the beans simmering!



Chow time was a happy time, say the faces here. The photo is from Hidden Valley in 1933.

"CHARACTER BUILDING and citizenship training have developed through its (Scouting's) recreational facilities. The movement suggests conservation of the nation's boyhood, or coming generations, and it answers the boy problem. Its success cannot be measured in dollars and cents, but more nearly in its numbers. Facing the 30th Anniversary of the movement are over one million Scouts and Cubs. Leading them are more than 300,000 Scoutmasters, Cubmasters, Skippers and Assistants, and other Scouters, serving in advisory capacities as Councilmen, Troop Committeemen and Counselors. None receive salaries. Although their service is gratis, they are selected carefully, trained and stimulated to promote still further the germ of Scouting launched in America by the Good Turn of an unknown English Scout."

From "Scouting Marches On" Local historical pamphlet, 1939

issue a radio message for all Boy Scouts to gather clothing, household articles and necessities for the needy. The Scouts ran hither and yon collecting furniture, clothing, etc. for distribution to many needy families. Many families in our area were grateful for their aid. In New Cumberland, the four Scout Troops gathered over 2,000 different articles that were turned over to proper authorities for distribution.

In August of 1935, Scouting's 25th Anniversary was to have been celebrated with a National Jamboree in Washington, D.C. Plans were developed to provide over 10,000 tents to house more than 31,000 Scouts and 2,800 Troop officers.

That many Scouters required lots of food—250 tons daily, including 15,000 pounds of meat for one meal, and 30,000 quarts of milk a day. Engineers planned the logistics, and weather observers rallied to aid the Scouts. More than 22,000 Scouts paid their \$25 shares for the adventure. Even the weather was cooperating. But tragedy was never far behind in the Depression, and when infantile paralysis (polio) appeared, the Jamboree was postponed. Boy Scout reaction was commendable. Two years later more than 27,232 Scouts, representing 536 Councils, participated in a greater Jamboree. This was followed by the World Jamboree in Vogelenzang, Holland, with more than 800 Americans attending.

Troop camping courses received more emphasis after polio. The gift of Philtrum Rocky Mountain Scout-Camp (what would become Philmont) on the eastern slope of the Continental Divide offered extraordinary adventures for Senior Scouts.

The formal organization of the Harrisburg area council into six districts to facilitate a more direct participation in Council management also took place in 1935, with each district having a chairman who served on the Executive Board.

Chief Sparrow, Scout Executive from 1926 through 1936, was given a leave of absence due to health problems. Scotty Burgoon took over as Scout Executive and O.J. Dickey was his Assistant on an interim basis. Unfortunately, Chief Sparrow passed away in January of 1937. During his period of active service he saw the Council grow from 679 boys to 1,654.

In 1936, Harry H. Hunter succeeded Chief Sparrow as Scout Executive. Hunter assumed his duties in April, with Burgoon as his Assistant. Also, a safe driving campaign was conducted by Scouts under the direction of Harrisburg Motor Club president R. H. Lyon.

More bitter with sweet returned in 1936. That spring a large flood on the Susquehanna caused much distress and loss of property. The Sea Scout Base on Island Park was ruined beyond repair by the flood.

Yet Scouts did a man size job helping in area rehabilitation work, performing rescue work, guard duty, messenger service and other duties.

The Catholic Diocesan Committee was organized in 1936 to provide opportunities for more Catholic boys to play the game of Scouting.

In 1937, local Scouts participated in Harrisburg's Beautification Plan, and 61 Scouts and leaders attended the National Jamboree in Washington, DC. After the national Jamboree, Rabbi Bookstaber and Scout George Kerchner of Troop 81, sailed to Holland to represent the Council at the International Jamboree. Also, the idea for a new Scout Head-

quarters was first proposed in November.

In 1938, Col. Samuel Fleming, Jr. became council president, and a new constitution was adopted as recommended by the National Office. At January's annual council meeting, Miss Mary Sachs, the previously anonymous donor of the \$10,000 gift to Camp Hidden Valley in 1927, was presented with a beautiful illuminated scroll for her splendid support of Scouting in the Harrisburg area. Two performances of the first annual Boy Scout Circus was held in the Farm Show Building, with Major Lynn G. Adams as the General Chairman.

In November assistant executive Scotty Burgoon left Harrisburg to become Lebanon County's Scout Executive and Paul Wemple assumed the assistant role.

Scouting won notable recognition at both the New York World's Fair and the Golden Gate Exposition in San Francisco in 1939. In New York 3,900 Scouts and Scouters participated in a service camp, and on Boy Scout Day, 63,000 Scouts watched Associate Justice Owen J. Roberts, of the United States Supreme Court, induct a group of 21-year-old Scouts and former Scouts into full voting citizenship in the Court of Peace.

As of 1939, more than nine million men and boys were involved in Scouting.

INTERNATIONAL BOY SCOUT JAMBOREE

GODOLLO, HUNGARY

August 1-16 1933

OFFICIAL TOUR

under the personal direction of
DR. PHILIP DAVID BOOKSTABER, M.A., Ph.D.
Author, Lecturer, Leader and Noted Boy's Worker



visiting MADEIRA, GIBRALTAR, RIVIERA, NAPLES, PALESTINE, EGYPT, ISTANBUL, BUDAPEST, VIENNA, VENICE, FLORENCE, ROME, etc.

This pamphlet was the promotion for Dr. Bookstaber's tour of the International Jamboree. It described Bookstaber as a veteran Scout and leader, a noted boy's worker, and experienced traveler, an accomplished author and a lecturer. The \$415 trip was a "unique opportunity." The fee included travel—including express train between Istanbul and Budapest; accommodations, entrance fees to all museums and meals; but not the \$5 war tax, or a \$10.50 Godollo Jamboree camping fee.

Memories from Scouts Who Lived History

Goldsmith Brothers Remember Rabbi Bookstaber and Hidden Valley's "Hinkerville"

Brothers Joe and Dick Goldsmith remember Depression Era scouting. They were in Troop 10, sponsored by Temple Ohav Shalom. About 30-35 boys under the tutelage of Scoutmaster Ed Schleisner, a clothing store proprietor, met at the temple every Monday evening. Earl Alexander, Sidney Felder and Richard "Dick" Simon also served as scoutmasters for the troop.

Troop 10 had more Eagle Scouts than any other troop in the Council when the Goldsmith brothers were Scouts. Sol Jacobsen was the troop's first Eagle. Both Goldsmith brothers became Eagle Scouts during the 1930s: Dick earned his Eagle in 1930, three months before his 14th birthday. Joe earned his in 1937.

Rabbi Philip David Bookstaber, a council founding father and the most highly decorated Scout in the Keystone Area Council, was largely responsible for the high number of Eagles in the troop, the Goldsmith brothers said. "Bookie" often visited the troop, urging Scouts to gain merit badges and rank, and confronting slackers, questioning why they had not achieved more since his last visit.

The Rabbi, the Goldsmiths said, wanted the Troop to be ecumenical in nature. Bookstaber insisted that Troop 10 was not a Jewish troop, but a Boy Scout Troop. Racial or ethnic background didn't matter. Boys of many races and religions participated in the troop.

Bookie's generosity and connections were legendary, the Goldsmiths said.

In 1931 Bookie took all the Eagle Scouts from Troop 10 to the Mayflower Hotel in Washington, DC, where the boys were invited to the White House, to meet President Herbert Hoover. Vice President Charles Curtis and Senator Davis in the Oval Office. Later they ate at the plush Occidental Restaurant, located near the Willard Hotel.

Also, Dick Goldsmith can look at photos of Scouts on a camel in front of the Pyramids and remember his International Jamboree adventure. In 1933, Rabbi Bookstaber arranged a two-week trip to the International Scout Jamboree in Hungary with 10 Eagle Scouts and two leaders. The Eagles included Dick Goldsmith, Bill Lipsitt, Joe Caplan, Wilson Dague, Freeman Fry, Milton "Twet" Litch, and others. Bookie and Morris "Adj." Sachs, the Adjutant of Troop 10 and younger brother of Mary Sachs, were the leaders. Bookie further planned for eight boys and two leaders to continue traveling through Europe for another ten weeks. From New York, the Scouts sailed to Gibraltar; Malaga, Spain; Genoa, Italy; Naples, Italy; Tetraemea, Sicily; Beirut, Syria; the Holy Lands, Jerusalem, Haifa, Tel Aviv; Cairo, Port Said; Isle of Rhodes; and

Istanbul. Then they traveled by rail express to Budapest; Sophia, Belgrade for two weeks; and then traveled on to Vienna, Austria; and Venice and Florence, Italy. From Italy, they took the *Conodesa Voya*—the 3rd largest sailing ship at the time—back home. The cost of the trip was \$415 per person—a small fortune during the Depression.

The Rabbi also had a big heart. He made a practice of preaching in churches of all denominations around Harrisburg, and arranged for the Jamboree expenses of "Robbie" Robinson, Scoutmaster of Troop 24, a predominantly black troop, to be paid along with Kirby Fogarty. Rabbi Bookstaber was the only person to get all the Beaver, Antelope and Silver awards that Scouting had to offer.

At a Scout Jamboree in New York City, Goldsmith remembered meeting Chief Scout Executive James West, Lord Baden Powell, and the Regent of Hungary, Admiral Horthy, who all came on horseback to their campsite for a visit. And on the *Conodesa Voya*, the Scouts sailed under 3rd class passage. However, Bookie cut a deal with the captain that after most of the 3rd class passengers disembarked at a port in Europe, the Scouts could go upstairs, in much nicer accommodations to eat. Then there was meeting Albert Einstein. Joe Goldsmith was one of the Eagle Scouts who accompanied Bookie to New York Jamboree. They stayed at the Victoria Hotel, visited Grant's Tomb, Coney Island, and Temple Emanuel and saw four movies. As they were getting out of a cab, Bookie spotted Dr. Albert Einstein and another fellow walking down the street toward them. Bookie, who always carried a cane, reached out and tapped Dr. Einstein on the arm and said, "Dr. Einstein, I want you to meet four Eagle Scouts from Harrisburg, Pennsylvania." Dr. Einstein stopped to shake each boy's hand and then continued along his way.

For Bookie, Dick Goldsmith said, the most important religious day in the year was not Christmas or Easter, but the Sabbath. Goldsmith said the Scouts observed Sabbath on Saturday or Sunday, regardless of where we were - and not always in the Jewish tradition. On the 12-week European trip, the Scouts had only one Jewish Sabbath, in Jerusalem. Others were celebrated with the khaki-shorted British soldiers in their Gibraltar garrison, and Mass in St. Peter's Basilica. Dick played his trumpet on the ship for hymns, when they had an Italian service.

The Goldsmiths also remember Hidden Valley, Chipmunk, Beaver, and Great Stag campsites, and "Hinkerville," what the boys called the latrines.

Camp food was a prominent memory: Back

then, "skid the grease" meant pass the butter. For dessert they often had Polar Pies (an ice cream sandwich wrapped in tin foil). Both men recalled how Dourich's Clothing Store in Harrisburg, the place to go for Scout uniforms and supplies, furnished baked deep-dish apple pies, one night per week for camp. One day at dinner, a bowl of liquid was set in front of Dick. When the prayer ended, he ate it, thinking it was soup. He later discovered it was the table's gravy. Joe said he never got sick at camp, but one day Mrs. Colestock, the camp cook, made Spanish Rice. Joe didn't know what she had in it, but the whole camp was up at 2 a.m., with a bellyache and running for "Hinkerville."

KP was also memorable. The brothers used a hand mop to wash the large, heavy white plates and bowls. Each boy took his turn at KP and serving his table for the day.

The Goldsmiths stayed in cabins that slept eight boys each. The cabins had no doors, just a doorway. Four hinged openings—no screens—pushed open and up, then held open with a stick, were for ventilation. Scouts slept well...almost. Mattresses were white muslin-ticking bags stuffed with straw, and itchy at best. Joe remembers lots of bugs. One boy wrote home and asked his mother for "Flit," a popular bug spray. She misunderstood and sent him flints.

When the Goldsmiths were Scouts at Hidden Valley, a boy was designated as bugler and played all the calls each day. Joe remembered Ray Culp as bugler. The bugler used a large swivel-mounted megaphone on a post to direct calls anywhere in camp. Joe remembered one boy who could burp on command, and how he belched "Boy Scouts of America" in one long burp. He didn't say how it sounded through the megaphone, though.

Like Al Herbert, Joe remembered the lean-to experience in camping and pioneering merit badges, and how leaders often came around at night with a bucket of water for the roof. He also remembered how, during a thunderstorm, he saw the Health Lodge's four red fire buckets, mounted to the porch corners, light up. Lightning flashed and the flame hit one bucket, then bounced around the porch from bucket to bucket. It gave him a very healthy respect for lightning!

Dick didn't see another potter's wheel like they had at Hidden Valley again until a recent trip to Nepal. P. G. Farquharson demonstrated the camp's wheel.

Dick also remembered the camp's ferry—a wooden platform floating on empty 50-gallon oil drums—and how it was Scout-powered by boys pulling on a line attached to the opposite shore. Camp in those days cost \$1 per day, \$7 per week, or \$56 for the full eight weeks.



Dr. Bookstaber and a group of Eagle Scouts. Front row, left to right: Jim Midner, Lewis "Robbie" Robinson, Dr. Philip Bookstaber, Kirby Fogarty, Ken Appleby, Milton "Twet" Litch. Back row: Morris "Adj." Sachs, Joe Caplan, Freeman Fry, William Lipsitt, Wilson Dague, Dick Goldsmith, and Scout executive Thomas Sparrow. The photo was taken in the Penn Harris Hotel, in June of 1933.

Scouts Who Lived It

Ernest Weirick Remembers Castor Oil



Troop 14 and their "horsepowered" cart hiking into Hidden Valley. Troop 14 washed clothes by hand and hiked from Marysville to Hidden Valley. Ernest Weirick was part of this group.

Castor oil, that staple of home remedies, is what Ernest C. Weirick, an Eagle Scout during the 1930s, remembers. Castor oil and washing clothes by hand, and Dr. Rissinger.

Weirick lived in Enola and belonged to 35-member Troop 14, sponsored by the Lutheran Church of Harrisburg in 1933. Scoutmaster Wolfe led Troop 14, and in 1933, about 20 Scouts from the troop made the long hike from Marysville to Camp Hidden Valley.

To tote their gear, they used "horse-power," provided by the four horsemen, older Scouts who were physically fit and able to push a two-wheeled cart for the three-day, two-night trek.

"The first night that we set up camp," Weirick said, "the Scoutmaster announced that if any of the Scouts became sick, they were to report to his tent and he would check and try to help them. Two Scouts reported to him and quickly ran out of the tent. They said to us 'Don't go in there because he gives you castor oil!'"

Hike all that way for castor oil?

Weirick earned the money to go to camp by doing odd jobs for his Enola neighbors. He remembers how the local newspaper used the camp trek for front-page news, and the black and white movie that was taken during the trip. He recognized himself walking behind the cart.

Dr. Rissinger was the camp's doctor. Weirick remembers getting treated for poison ivy, by Dr. Rissinger, and how Rissinger later became Enola's doctor, taking over Weirick's father's practice and residence.



Mail call, 1930s style. Scouts were required to mail a minimum of one letter home per week, or they couldn't eat the evening meal that particular day. Handwritten notes became known as "meal tickets." At the time, many Scouts spent the full eight weeks at camp.

Milton Wolfe Remembers 1937

In the spring of 1937, Milton Wolfe's 6th grade pal, George Cameron, insisted he join Scouting. Years later, Wolfe would be thankful for Cameron's suggestion.

Wolfe became a member of the Pine Tree Patrol, led by Jim Beatty, at Covenant Presbyterian Church's Troop 18, in Harrisburg. Alci Burns and his brother Wesley led the remainder of the 20-boy troop in the Flying Eagle patrol. Wolfe was also a yeoman Sea Scout under Elwood Danner, skipper of the Sea Scout ship *Stephen Decatur*, which was formed at the same church in 1942.

Wolfe went to Camp Hidden Valley for the first time in 1937, for \$7, which his parents "had a hard time to spare." Troop 18 never went to camp as a troop, because very few boys' parents could afford to send them. Families and friends helped Wolfe's parents. In 1937, uniforms were not required. But after he got a paper route, he bought a uniform and pack, and received a mess kit for Christmas in 1938.

Wolfe crossed Sherman's Creek on the pul rope ferry, and his first job was stuffing mattresses with straw. He bunked in the Red Cloud area, and remembers the craft lodge, swimming and having plenty to eat in the mess hall. Red Cloud's boy leader was Foster Fleagle from Troop 32 in Harrisburg, who later became a colonel in the Army.

Wolfe never started a campfire with flint and steel, but remembers it being done. "I was a two-match scout," he said.

Wolfe remembered troop leader winter camping at Hidden Valley in the early 1940s, because they learned how to build a combination bed and fire to keep from freezing to death in a blizzard.

World War II scattered the troop, Wolfe noted. Some went into service, including the Royal Canadian Air Force (Frank Yeager and Jim Beatty), and Bill Ryan was killed in action during the war. Wolfe, after leaving the Marines in 1946, went to university, rejoined the service during the Korean War, then returned to Scouting as a merit badge counselor, troop committee person for Troops 196 and 296 and as assistant scoutmaster with Troop 5. "Scouting was one of the most important chapters in my life. I treasure the memories of our patrol hikes, campouts and the good friends, most of whom have passed on."

Wolfe's Sea Scouting recollections are not connected to the earlier (City) Island Park Sea Scouts. Wolfe's Sea Scouts—mainly boys from Troops 18 and 35—were sponsored by a Harrisburg church which had a basketball court marked to form the pattern of a ship's deck and bridge on the floor. Wolfe said they would go through the commands of piping the skipper and others on board. Wolfe still has the "ship's" log and charter. —George Lance

Scouts Who Lived It

The Judge Remembers...

Judge William W. Lipsitt joined Scouting March 4, 1929. "One's memories of adolescence fade with age, but the happy experiences at the Hidden Valley Boy Scout Camp remain a lifetime," Lipsitt said. "The summer months of 1929-1931 were an eventful segment of my youth. In those days, the Harrisburg Area Council was comparatively small and the boys in the city seemed somewhat close-knit. A number of us looked forward to the excitement of the days at Hidden Valley. Hidden Valley was rustic."

"Originally, there were four colonies, each with four wooden frame structures (there were no tents), a central dining hall, a health clinic, headquarters, a trading post, and a circular campfire setting. And, for necessary purposes, there was a place called Hinkerville. Sherman's Creek, muddy as ever, served for swimming and canoeing activities.

Most troops came to camp for a one- or two-week period, Lipsitt said.

"I was in Troop 10, sponsored by the Ohev Shalom Temple, and several of us stayed the entire eight weeks. We occupied the Great Stag location, but other troops shared the colony with us. Troop 19, of Grace Methodist Church, also had Scouters who remained for the full summer. They occupied the Beaver Colony."

"The cost was \$10 per week, so our parents were happy to have the camp staff take care of us for most of the summer vacation," he said.

Lipsitt remembered Chief Sparrow as head of the camp—and his daughter.

"He lived at camp with his family. I remember that he had a good-looking daughter. Even as teenagers it was nice to see a pretty face, and I believe that she married our swimming instructor. The assistant chief was Scotty Burgoon, a popular character and real outdoorsman. Scotty was the examiner for several merit badges. We had to build our own Adirondack lean-to for the camping merit badge and Scotty required a Scout to eat his own cooked hunter's stew and dough twist to earn the cooking merit badge. I twinge a bit, even today, when I think of what went into my stomach. Every fellow I knew wanted to become an Eagle and camp was the place to earn your merit badges as the facilities for the outdoor badges were readily available," he said.

The staff included adults and older Scouts. Dr. Fluke took care of our medical problems, ordinarily a dose of castor oil for a variety of ailments. Among the Scouts was Elmer Myers, who played football for the William Penn 1928 state champions; Charley Baltimore, of the John Harris 1931 state champions; Ivan "Jack" Glace, center for the John Harris basketball team; Wilson Everhart, an area physician; and two of the Herbert brothers, Dick Herbert, who before his recent death, was a nationally recognized sports writer, and Albert Herbert, who was quite prominent in many community activities."

Since camping days, Dick Goldsmith was one of Lipsitt's long-time friends. And he remembers Goldsmith's fondness for gravy. "At camp, when we had meat, the gravy was put separately on the table in a bowl. Unfortunately, it was placed in front of Dick at one meal, and mistaking it for soup, he proceeded to eat all of the gravy."

One night a week, Douthett's Men's Store, which had the franchise for Scouting clothes and equipment, supplied pies and that was a gala evening.

The colonies (Red Cloud, Beaver, Chipmunk, and Great Stag) were also athletic rivals. When Troop 24, Second Baptist Church, was in camp, they would annually win the championship, most often representing Beaver.

"There was a bugler who awakened us, called us for meals, played daily for the retreat ceremony, and put us to sleep with 'Taps,' Lipsitt remembered. "Perhaps the most special occasions were around the campfire, singing old favorites and World War I tunes. And of course there were the macabre, weird, incredulous campfire stories."

"It has been said that no first rate council could exist without a good camp. I do believe this is true for without the camping adventure, Scouting is without lifeblood."



Judge William Lipsitt joined Troop 10 in 1929

Dr. Wilson Everhart



Dr. Wilson Everhart was involved in Sea Scouts.

Dr. WILSON EVERHART was born the day after Independence Day in 1914. His father was a physician in Lemoyne. Everhart followed his older brother's Scouting footsteps, joining Troop 19, based at Grace Methodist Church, when he was in junior high school. Everhart had been involved in Troop 1, but left at the suggestion of a friend because the group was not very active due to the loss of its Scoutmaster. Troop 19 had many Eagles—all were awarded their Eagle rank at the county courthouse in those days—including the Herbert brothers. Everhart eventually roomed with Al Herbert for two years at Duke, and said he still retains friendships with men with whom he camped.

HIDDEN VALLEY

Everhart remembers Chief Sparrow and Scotty Burgoon when Hidden Valley had four colonies, each with four shacks. Swimming was a highlight at camp, often to the dam and back, a distance of a mile. Staff members included Elmer Myers and Charlie Baltimore, and Dr. Fluke was camp doctor. Camping cost \$1 per day, but later rose to \$10 per week. The boys could get pie every Friday evening from Douthett's Store. Everhart was at Hidden Valley for four summers, including one as a staff member.

1932 WORLD JAMBOREE

The Jamboree was held in Budapest, and Everhart remembers Judge Lipsitt, and Dr. Bookstaber as their leader. One group went to Palestine, then took a train from Istanbul to the Jamboree, a cost of \$400.

SEA SCOUTS

The Sea Scouts, he said, were based at the lower end of City Island. Both Everhart and Lipsitt were members. Tom Faley earned both Eagle and Quartermaster, and was believed to have earned every available merit badge, Everhart said. Doug Myers also earned both Eagle and Quartermaster.

OTHER THINGS

Everhart founded the Explorer Post at Harrisburg Hospital, at Al Herbert's request. Bishop McDevitt was a great friend of Scouting. "Scouting is one of the greatest things in our country for young people," Everhart said.

Putting Out Fires the Boy Scout Way: Harrisburg Scouts as Forest Guides



Perry County's chief forester instructs Scouts on fighting forest fires in this 1930 photo. Scouts played a role in local forest fire prevention and fire fighting for many years. The Harrisburg council's 1921 efforts to fight the Ellendale Forge forest fire earned the council a commendation and the meritorious service medal from the Pennsylvania Department of Forestry. In April of 1922, two forest fires threatened 800 acres near Marysville and Linglestown. The Boy Scouts again stepped forward and made a big difference.

THE HARRISBURG COUNCIL was always dedicated to helping prevent and fight forest fires whenever possible. Boys from many local troops took part in this endeavor for a number of years.

In 1921, for example, council executive Frank Tabor received a letter of commendation and the meritorious service medal for the Harrisburg council's 1921 efforts to fight the Ellendale Forge forest fire from Pennsylvania Department of Forestry Deputy Commissioner R.Y. Stewart.

In April of 1922, two forest fires threatened to consume 800 acres: The largest was near Marysville, the other near Linglestown. The Boy Scouts again stepped forward and made a big difference in containing these fires to protect the wooded regions of the county.

On April 7, 1940, Troop 5, under the leadership of Scoutmaster Robert S. Dolbin and his assistant Robert Lingle, was credited with extinguishing a forest fire north of Rockville in Robinson Valley.

The following was taken from "Then and Now", a 1924 column by Marian Linglewood:

"Duty of Boy Scouts.

"The professional firefighting men get paid for fighting fire. But the Boy Scouts, who have been taught to 'do a good turn daily,' fight forest fires as the enemy of everybody for the mere honor and glory of it, and because it's their duty. They are taught to do that, and to protect forest trees and all the birds, and little animals, and wild flowers that are in the forests, as part of a good Scout's duty. They did that before the State of Pennsylvania took cognizance of their good

work. But about four years ago, the State Forestry Department came right out and said they 'recognized the Boy Scout movement as one of the most valuable agencies in the State for the elimination of forest fire.'

"With the approval of the National Boy Scout Headquarters, the Department adopted the Boy Scouts as some of their best aides and gave those boys who signed a pledge that they would do all they could to prevent forest fires, the official title of 'Forest Guide.' Each Pennsylvania Forest Guide is given a bronze button after he has signed the pledge. After that, for each year of service as a Guide, the Scout is given a bar bearing the numerals of the year, and this bar is attached to the button worn on his blouse.

Beginning with 1920, the Department offers 100 gold medals each year for special meritorious service in combating forest fires in Pennsylvania.

"'There are that many offered,' said Mr. N.R. Meek of the Department of Forestry, 'but there never have been that many awarded. Thousands of the boys fight fires, but there must be special distinguished service rendered before a Scout can win a medal.'

"It seems harder to win a meritorious service medal from the state Forestry Department than it was to win a Distinguished Service Medal in the World War. This year, Ellwood R. Schrank, assistant scoutmaster of Troop 6, Carlisle, was the only one within several miles of Harrisburg who was awarded a State Forestry Croix de Guerre. Troop 6, was commended highly for their splendid conduct in fighting forest fires in a special letter Major Stuart, State Forestry Commissioner, wrote to them.

"The first year awards were made—in 1921 for work in 1920—Troop 1 of Millersburg, C. W. Rubendell, scoutmaster, and Troop 1, New

Cumberland, V.L. Huntsberger, Scoutmaster, each received a gold medal.

In 1922, two medals came to Harrisburg Council, T. Frank Tabor, scout executive, and the other to Robert S. Dolbin, of Troop 29. A medal was awarded to Troop 1, Lemoyne, C. E. Hoerner, Scoutmaster, another to Stanley Deppen, assistant scoutmaster, Troop 4, York, and a third to Troop 1, Chambersburg, James H. Black, Scoutmaster. But after Harrisburg and vicinity succeeded in capturing five medals in one year they seemed to have slowed up a bit, and last year there wasn't any awarded to any one at all near here. And this year (1924) there was only one. So you can readily understand how much more difficult it is to pull down a meritorious service medal from the State Forestry Department than it was to get the Croix de Guerre during the World War."

The article further noted that there were about 20,000 forest guides registered, all who are members of the Boy Scouts. The Commonwealth had been divided into ten districts, with ten medals going to each district. The records of noteworthy forest protection work had to be written up and sent to the department by the district scout executives, and awards were made from these records.

To become a Forest Guide, the Scout had to sign the following pledge: "Believing as a Boy Scout that every citizen should endeavor to see that our forests, together with their wild life and plant life, should be protected and conserved for our common good, I do hereby pledge myself to do nothing willfully or carelessly to injure any forest tree, wild plant, wild bird, or harmless animal, to do all in my power to protect and conserve the same, and to prevent and extinguish forest fires."

Scouts Who Lived It

Sam Scharadin's Sharp 80-Year Memory

SAM SCHARADIN SAYS HE HAS A CLOUDY memory after 80 years of life, yet it seems pretty sharp for details.

Scharadin began scouting at the Paxtang Presbyterian Church. At the time Tenderfoots began at the age of 12, but because his Scoutmaster, named Turner, was more interested in increasing the size of the troop than age, he became a "rookie" at 11, in 1933. Scharadin remained in Scouting for the next 50 years, earning his Life Scout rank, and rising to leadership roles within the troop.

When World War II broke out, he was an assistant scoutmaster of Troop 19 under Scoutmaster Ted Lingle, at St. Steven's Episcopal Church on Front Street in Harrisburg. After the war, he joined the Commissioner's staff at Headquarters on Front and Washington Streets. He attended Schiff Scouting School at Menden, NJ, and worked for the Council as an Assistant District Commissioner. He served on various committees and camporees that were held at Hidden Valley, and other camps—Indiantown Gap, Muckelrat and Tuckahoe. He also helped organize several Cub and Scout Troops in the Harrisburg area. He also served as winter camp ranger at Hidden Valley and worked summers with Charlie Steele at Hidden Valley.

He organized a new unit, Troop 32, at the Second United Church at Broad and Green Streets in Harrisburg. The entire Troop was black, except for two assistant scoutmasters and himself. We were known as "Mr. Sam and his Head Hunters". At the beginning of the Korean War the troop disbanded due to lack of leadership.

After the Korean War, he joined Troop 8 at 6th and Rockville Streets (Linglestown Road) in Harrisburg as assistant scoutmaster under Paul Fox. This troop was very active. They used two school buses for transportation to their adventures, which included Canada camping, Rover Moots (camporees) near Niagara Falls, and two-week canoeing trips in Algonquin Provincial Park, where the troop portaged from lake to lake, camped, fished and "fed the mosquitoes." The number of Senior Scouts eventually required an Explorer Post. Sixteen Senior Scouts (at least Life Rank) and two leaders made a two-week trip to Switzerland, staying in a Chalet and making day-trips throughout Switzerland and Italy.

"Each summer we went to Hidden Valley for a week, camping at the Frontier Campsite since we had our own pyramidal tents and camping equipment," Scharadin said. "We ate in the mess hall and participated in all the camp activities and merit badge activities. We had as high as five assistant scoutmasters and seven or eight active committeemen who accompanied us

on our various camping activities."

Scharadin camped at Hidden Valley when the only bridge was the one at the Rotary parade ground and campsite.

"We entered the camp at the old road close to the Mill. We ate at the Mary Sach's Mess Hall, swam in the creek, which also served as a bathing area. I worked with Charlie Keller in the Nature Lodge and served as a rifle instructor at the shooting range. The Health Lodge was built when a nurse was hired for the summer. Prior to the lodge we went to a tent for First Aid and Elwood Danner was one of many volunteers who manned the Health Tent. They treated many cases of various practical jokes including scurvy, camper's ear lobe disease, red bug infections, poison ivy and swimmer's ear. We had Church Service at the OA ground until a chapel was built along the creek. We also had a small pontoon bridge across the creek made of planks and oil drums."

Summer camp food was very basic prior to World War II. When surplus items were available after the war, it improved considerably—canned meat and peanut butter or cheese sandwiches for lunch and a cooked meal in the evenings.

"Charlie Steele was a great scrounger," Scharadin said. "He did a lot to improve the menus. We ate a lot of chocolate pudding and drank Army lemonade that we called 'Battery Acid.' Wednesday was Visitor's Day and we always told visitors to 'bring food,' including pies, cakes, water melon, hot dogs and candy. One mother brought a can of fried grasshoppers. We ate them too!"

Scharadin said The Order of the Arrow was responsible for weekly campfires. Prior to their participation, a troop was assigned to build and light the ceremonial fire, held at the bridge at the Rotary side of the creek. Telephone poles facing the creek were seats, and the area was used for other OA ceremonies.

Two stockades graced the original Hidden Valley entrance. After World War II, the stockades came down, and during an OA work weekend, Scharadin and several OA candidates were to remove the stockades. "Charlie Steele told us to save the wood for future campfires," Scharadin said. "We soon abandoned this idea when both buildings caught fire at the same time. It got rid of a lot of wasps!"

Flag ceremonies were held at the swimming area field, and uniforms were required. Since everyone had only one uniform, it was saved for ceremonies and dinner. We marched to the ceremonies and tried to stay in step by counting cadence and singing. There was no need then for laundry facilities. "It wasn't necessary,"



Sam Scharadin remembers a lot of things about the past very sharply.

Scharadin said, "we all smelled alike." They wore old clothes during the day, and staff members had T-shirts for recognition.

Scharadin remembered camping in Adirondack shacks in the snow, before winter camping buildings. Prior to World War II, Hidden Valley's only permanent structures were the Mess Hall, a Trading Post, several storage buildings and the Rotary Building. After World War II, warm, permanent buildings with fireplaces were erected. Later a Camp Ranger supplied firewood, plowed roads and inspected cabins. Ice-skating was banned after several Scouts fell through the ice.

After World War II, the OA became very active at Hidden Valley. "They held up to four weekends each spring and fall for ceremonies," Scharadin said. "A great deal of work was performed for the camp at each of these weekends. The vigil members did a lot of fund-raising for the development of camp. They were mostly men too old to participate in the heavy work, but had a lot of local contacts in the commercial and construction communities, so were able to secure funds and materials. They were also responsible for the Army Reserves and the National Guard doing volunteer work at camp, building roads, laying pipe, building latrines and various other jobs requiring heavy equipment."

Scharadin said he was thankful for all the fellow Scouters who helped him over the years. "They gave up their time, money and expertise, and went out of their way to further Scouting for many underprivileged children in the Harrisburg area."

The Melting Pot Patrol...

The Melting Pot Patrol was formed during a Scout Leader's Specialization Training Course in Cooking, conducted by Major Van De Boe and Scott S. Burgoon at Loysville Camp in 1934. When members of the group were requested to form Patrols, there were eight men who had, without any particular design other than friendship, already grouped themselves into a composite patrol (a "natural gang").

This original patrol was composed of two Protestants - Fred Crump and Doug Myers; two Hebrew - Sidney Feldser and Morris Sachs; two Catholics - Kirby Fogarty and Richard Raush; and two "niggers" - John Mason and Louis Robinson.

The selection of an original name for the Patrol was difficult until it occurred to a member that the group consisted of various creeds, religious beliefs and colors, and suggested that they throw all these facts into a pot, stir well, and "cook up" a name: Result - Melting Pot Patrol. Before the expiration of the training course, the Patrol was so closely bound by friendship and good fellowship, it was agreed to continue meeting as a Patrol. Thus the Patrol was organized and held regular monthly social meetings.

Because of its solidarity, intense interest and enthusiasm in all phases of Scouting in the Council, the Patrol in 1936 was voted by the then active Scouters as a Board of Trustees to promote and administer the fund then being raised by subscription, for the purpose of building a Scouter's Lodge at Loysville Camp. This project had been the base objective of the Patrol for many years.

The aims and purposes of the Patrol changed somewhat with the several changes in

personnel. Membership in the Patrol was restricted to active Scouters in Council Area; limited to eight active Patrol members; selection of new members only by unanimous approval and invitation of active members of the Patrol. By reason of change in vocation or removal from Council Area, members were carried as Inactive or Honorary Members.

Since the formation of the Patrol, the complete roster of membership includes: Fred Crump, Scott S. Burgoon, Douglass Myers, Oliver J. Dickey, Sidney Feldser, Brentwood Shunk, Morris Sachs, Thomas Holston, Louis Robinson, Marlin O. Seipe, John Mason, John A. Miller, Kirby Fogarty, Malcom B. Finger, Jack Raush, John W. Eslinger, H. Grove Miller, Robert S. Dowhower, William D. Kelly, Frank C. Jones.

Three of the eight original members were still active members of the Patrol. Of the total membership five have, of their own volition, resigned from Scouting and the Patrol.

The purpose of the Melting Pot Patrol was to promote continued active participation in Scouting individually and collectively; to support and assist in promotion of all Council and District activities; to continually work on an adopted project for the improvement of Loysville Camp. In addition, the Patrol had, for a number of years, assumed the responsibility of planning and promoting two Council wide social activities each year, namely, the Scouter's Valentine Party and the Scouter's Week-end party at Loysville Camp. These two social functions for Scouters and their wives had become traditional in this Area since first promoted by the former Scouter's Association.

Special projects included block houses

erected on the former entrance site, completing construction of Rotary Lodge interior by wiring, furniture and furnishing a complete kitchen, including tile flooring. Fire extinguishers were purchased and properly installed in and around all buildings at the Camp.

A Gateway for a new camp entrance was first conceived by the Melting Pot Patrol when plans were publicly announced by the Council about 1947 to purchase additional ground and expand the Camp site. During the campaign, the Melting Pot Patrol subscribed sufficient funds to purchase approximately three acres for a new entrance Gateway. When plans for the Gateway were ultimately developed, the cost of construction was beyond the means of the Patrol without financial assistance. It was at this point that Patrol member Sachs requested an opportunity to present this project to a Fraternal Order well-known for their interest in youth movements. Within a relatively short time after plans were shown to the Harrisburg Lodge B.P.O.E., the officers of this lodge advised they would underwrite the financial assistance required for masonry work and material to construct the Gateway at the East Entrance to camp.

With assistance assured, construction was started late in 1954. After many, many hours of labor by the Patrol Members in hauling tons and tons of stone, excavating and grading, building cement forms and pouring foundations, the project was underway. The Patrol also did some landscaping.

This information was taken from a written history of the Patrol, and from the 30th Anniversary Celebration Program of 1964.



Above—The West Gate entrance built by the Melting Pot Patrol. Right—This pamphlet about the Melting Pot Patrol celebrated its 30th anniversary, 1934-1964.



Senior & Junior Staff Officers, 1926: standing L-R: John German, Jr., George Miley, A.C. Stanley, Ira Burrell, Norman Boone, Wellington Smith, Russell Trimmer, A.W. Drumheiser, R.E. Trimmer and Nixon Mumper. Kneeling, L-R: William Esterline, Ralph Hipple, "Chief" Sparrow, "Skipper" Hoerner, Arthur Walton, John Kelberg and Russel Hoerner.



A scene from the Sherman's Creek waterfront at Hidden Valley. The waterfront was one of the things Scouts most remembered about their days at camp. Scouts entered camp across the creek on the left side of this photo. In later years the land across the creek became part of camp. This photo dates to the late 1920s - early 1930s. Those aren't girls bathing suits, either. They were the style of the time.



Learning the ropes, 1930s style. W.S. Pike, an assistant Scoutmaster teaches some rope tricks to an interested group of campers in this August 1931 photo.



Todd Deeter of Troop 52, helped summon Scouts to chow with his mess call on the bagle. The big megaphone was a pre-electronics means of spreading the message through the woods and fields of camp.



The waterfront sliding board on Sherman's Creek was a popular spot during hot summer days. Photo by W. L. R. Drake.



Learning the ropes, 1930s style. W.S. Pike, an assistant Scoutmaster teaches some rope tricks to an interested group of campers in this August 1931 photo.

Founding Fathers...and Mothers

Rabbi Philip David Bookstaber

IT'S HARD TO IMAGINE A GUY, A SOCIALLY GREGARIOUS MAN WHO HOB-KNOBS WITH the President of the United States and taps Albert Einstein on the shoulder with his cane on a New York City street to introduce him to some Scouts, being a "bookworm." Yet Rabbi Philip David Bookstaber, B.S., M.A., Ph.D., one of the most important local founding fathers of Harrisburg Council Scouting, collected rare and ancient books for a hobby. And these are the sharp contrasts of personality prominent in the man.

Professionally, Dr. Bookstaber was rabbi of the congregation of Ohev Shalom Synagogue, located on Front and Seneca Streets in Harrisburg. But "Bookie," as his Scouts knew him, was more like a hero to boys. Bookstaber was the most highly decorated Scout in the Council, the only person to get all the Beaver and Silver Antelope awards that Scouting had to offer. He was also largely responsible for the high number of Eagle Scouts in Troop 10. Bookie often visited the troop, urging Scouts to gain merit badges and rank, confronting slackers.

Dr. Bookstaber "walked the talk" of Scouting's higher aims, seeing boys in terms of opportunities, not religions or ethnic backgrounds. Bookstaber insisted that Troop 10 was not a Jewish troop, but a Boy Scout Troop. Racial or ethnic background didn't matter. Boys of many races and religions participated in the troop.

Bookie's generosity and connections were legendary—from White House Oval Office meetings with Herbert Hoover, Vice President Charles Curtis, and Senator Davis, to a New York encounter with Albert Einstein, to first class dining on third class ocean liner tickets.

Bookstaber was born in New York City on Feb. 12, 1892, the son of David and Pearl (Mueller) Bookstaber.

His education began in New York elementary schools and went on to City College and Columbia University, where he earned Bachelor of Science and Master of Arts degrees with honors. He was a Fellow of the N. Y. School for Social Work, and studied at George Washington University, at Washington, D. C.

He began his professional life in 1913 as an efficiency expert for the United States government. From 1916-1919 he was engaged in social service work. But in 1919 he entered the Hebrew Union College at Cincinnati, Ohio, as an instructor in sociology. At the same time, he pursued studies for the ministry. He was ordained as a Rabbi and obtained a Doctor of Philosophy degree while at Cincinnati. He also taught economics in the University in that city, to which he went as a holder of the Taft Fellowship in philosophy. Ordained in 1924, he came directly to Temple Ohev Shalom.

As a 34-year old man, Bookstaber was called an outstanding figure in his profession, carrying on the work of his Temple, filling many public speaking engagements in Harrisburg and other cities, and working with Scouts.



Rabbi Philip Bookstaber, the most highly decorated Scout in the Harrisburg Council, was an important figure in council's early days.

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Miss Mary Sachs



Mary Sachs

FOR A quarter century, as Harrisburg's Boy Scout Council grew in both numbers and size, thousands of Scouts shuffled in and out of Camp Hidden Valley's dining hall three times a day for chow.

As youngsters do, most probably took for granted what a precious gift it was not to hunger for good, warm, filling food. Yet for some boys, especially during the Depression, eating three meals a day was a luxury, more than they got at home.

The tidy building and land surrounding it that served these boys their meals was the result of a mysterious \$10,000 gift from an anonymous Harrisburg area benefactor of Boy Scouting. No bronze plaque honored a captain of industry or a group of citizens who gathered to make sure the boys were fed—until 1952.

In 1952, the mystery solved itself. Mary Sachs, owner of a ladies clothing store in Harrisburg, revealed that she, largely at the suggestion of her friend Dr. Philip Bookstaber, donated the \$10,000 to the Scout council to buy land and build a dining hall.

In 1927, Council Leaders selected 27 acres of land along Sherman's Creek in Perry County to serve as a site for a permanent camp. The Council Officers signed a bank note for the purchase price, creating a large debt for our Council, and there was a great deal of speculation among the Council Officers as to how this debt was to be paid off.

Sachs, in 1927, was just getting on her feet as a businesswoman—uncommon in those days. She had her own business debt to worry about, yet borrowed the \$10,000 because she believed in creating a better future through Scouting. Her very generous gift literally put a roof over Scout facilities before she had a roof over her own head. This gift was a great sacrifice on her part, so it had to be given anonymously. It was also a

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Bookstaber - Continued

National I. O. B. B. State Committee on Youth award connected with the Sesquicentennial.

Bookstaber also had professional memberships in Central Conference of American Rabbis; the American Sociological Society; the American Economics Society; the American Philosophical Society; the National Conference of Social Workers and the New York School of Social Workers.

He was also on the board of advisors of the Harrisburg Hospital; board of directors of the Harrisburg associated charities, and was a 32nd degree (Scottish Rite, Chapter, and Council Shrine) Mason.

"Dr. Bookstaber is a brave and vigorous worker in any cause he undertakes to support. His sincere and conscientious labors in behalf of the younger residents of the city have won him a host of warm friends. Few men are praised by their fellow-men as highly as Dr. Philip David Bookstaber," read one biography.



A SCOUT IS OBEDIENT...



Left - A great many Scouts learned to swim at Hidden Valley during the camp's early years. In this late 1920s - early 1930s photo, Scouts take instruction from a leader on basic swimming strokes. Below - Swimming merit badge was one of the things that many early Hidden Valley campers remember most about their days at camp. Instructors were tough, and many used a rowboat to lead the boys on their distance swim in the creek, as shown here.



Sachs - Continued

tribute, a living memorial, to her friend, Dr. Bookstaber. (A bronze plaque commemorating this event can be found on the stone fireplace at the site of the original dining hall near Cub Village.)

Sachs was born in Russia and came to the United States with her parents at age 4. By her early teens, she became self-supporting, working in a Baltimore cigar factory. Sachs knew hard times, but she eventually moved to Harrisburg, where she held a \$5-a-week saleswoman's position. She hit further obstacles in Harrisburg, yet secured a position as a \$6-a-week stock-girl in a women's wear. Soon, Sachs was selling and advancing steadily in store responsibilities. Eight years later, when the proprietor of the store became ill, Sachs found herself in charge of the business. Shortly thereafter Sachs, backed by a capital loan of \$6,000, decided to start her own business.

On September 6, 1918, she opened The Woman's Specialty Shop on North 3rd Street in Harrisburg. Like its owner, it was a business that used unique methods to achieve national distinction. Harrisburg was startled to find, as someone expressed it, "a bit of Fifth Avenue set down in Harrisburg." The women of Harrisburg had never seen such complete sophistication displayed outside New York City. People shook their heads and predicted disaster. Her stock was a daring example of initiative; so were her methods. Her plan displaying frocks only in the actual fitting booths was novel. Her advertising never named a price or described an article of merchandise. It was thought impracticable and a waste of space.

Sachs' methods brought quick success. Three years later she opened her second shop in Lancaster, and three years after that a third store in Reading. Within a decade, she had established a yearly sales volume of more than \$600,000.

At Council's 50th Anniversary Celebration, in February of 1960, council presented Sachs with a special plaque, honoring her contribution. During the presentation, Council told Sachs, "In 1927, 216 Scouts and Leaders used the camp. This past summer over 2,100 camped there. Last year during the winter months the weekend facilities served 3,000 more. Miss Sachs, your faith in the future has been confirmed. Your inspiring gift that started the camp has challenged others. Today the camp is comprised of 570 acres and the land and buildings are valued at over \$250,000. In the next decade it is conceivable that considerably more money will be spent and twice as many Scouts will be using the camp. Miss Sachs, we are proud to present to you on our 50th Anniversary celebration this plaque."

Keystone Cub Scout History

Almost immediately after the start of the Scout movement in 1907, boys who were not old enough for admission into the Boy Scouts showed up at troop meetings and Scout rallies. They could see no reason why they should not be permitted to join in the fun their older brothers were having.

It was quickly realized that to lower the Boy Scout age and permit the younger boys to join would inevitably mean the loss of many of the boys for whom the program was designed. But the eagerness which the younger boys exhibited made it equally evident that something had to be done to serve them.

Nevertheless, Lord Baden-Powell, the founder of Scouting, hesitated. He encouraged a few qualified Scoutmasters to experiment with ways of working with boys below Boy Scout age. From these experiments came a knowledge of the kinds of activities that appealed to younger boys. It became obvious that "Junior Scouting" wouldn't do; a different program was needed and a different name.

A first attempt at a plan for younger boys in Scouting was published in the Headquarters Gazette of the British Boy Scouts Association in 1914, and the announcement was made of a handbook "shortly to be published."

Baden-Powell didn't like the name Junior Scouts, however. He continued groping for a gimmick for the younger boys program, then found it in a book written in America and first published in the American Saint Nicholas Magazine for American children—but penned by a man who was definitely British, Rudyard Kipling. Kipling, born in India and educated in England, married an American girl and came with her to the United States for their honeymoon. From 1892-1896, the couple lived on Mrs. Kipling's family estate in Vermont. Here Kipling wrote two *Jungle Books* and *Captains Courageous* titles that made him famous and eventually led to his Nobel Prize in literature.

In the nine magic chapters of Kipling's first *Jungle Book*, Baden-Powell found not only an adventure tale to hold the interest of the younger boys, but also suggestions for activities and ideals for guiding young boys toward good citizenship through play and make-believe. Kipling readily agreed to permit Baden-Powell to use his jungle tales and his jungle characters as the basis of a program for younger boys.

Baden-Powell's book setting forth his new scheme for a young branch of the Scout movement appeared in 1916 under the title *The Wolf Cub's Handbook*. The program was referred to as "The Wolf Cubs," and a boy who joined the program became Wolf Cub. An adult Cubmaster was in charge of a pack. The Wolf Cub pledged himself to a Promise and followed the Law of the Pack and the Wolf Cub Motto, "Do Your

Best." The young cubs were encouraged to strive toward the jungle virtues of vigilance, endurance, strength, and cooperation, as exemplified in *The Jungle Book*.

Although launched in England during World War I, Baden-Powell's new program for younger boys met with immediate success. With most able-bodied men at the front, many young women volunteered their services as highly efficient Cubmasters in Britain and other countries. For the first time, women became members of the Boy Scout movement—with telling effects.

In 1919, The Boy Scouts of America showed an early interest in transplanting Baden-Powell's Wolf Cub program to American soil, but wanted to study it first. In 1923, based on reports from Scout officers in England and France, Philadelphia attempted a Cubbing experiment. A special Cub Handbook was developed from the English book and a Cub registration card was printed. The experiment discovered many Cubs quit before they had reached Scout age. With thousands of boys who needed Scouting, it was felt that attention would best be devoted to the boys of Scout age. Yet demand for a younger boy program sponsored by the Boy Scouts of America grew.

Dr. H. W. Hurt, well-known educator, and BSA's executive board studied the younger boy problem in 1925. The Laura Spelman Rockefeller Memorial Foundation made available a substantial grant for an investigation of the nature, interests, and needs of younger boys, and for the development of a program that would appeal to them while serving the purposes of Scouting, of citizenship training, and of character development. Hurt's recommendation was that 9-11 year-old boys responded better to leadership and program efforts than older boys. (At that time, boys had to be 12 to enter Boy Scouting.)

America's Cub Scout program followed international programs whenever possible, but every effort was made to avoid the overlapping of Cubbing and Scouting.

One major innovation was the deliberate introduction of women leaders into Cubbing—in the beginning rather gingerly, but soon enthusiastically when the consequences of this step became evident in the added strength of the movement. The mother of a Cub was to take charge of the home-centered work unit of the pack—as Den Mother for a small group of Cub Scouts in a "den." The den was further to be served by a den chief—a Boy Scout from a nearby troop who would help the Den Mother plan the program and lead the activities.

The American version of the Wolf Cubs emerged slowly under the guidance of the committee of the Executive Board and a picked ad-



Cubs hard at play in Hidden Valley's Cub Village.

visory group of 22 outstanding specialists in the youth field. The proposals were further studied by a committee of 13,500 "corresponding censors and advisors"—educators, social workers, and Scouters from all over the United States. No other such complete pooling of judgment and experience had ever been made in the building of a youth program—but the results repaid the work involved. On August 1, 1929, the first official Cub packs were organized in a limited number of communities to test the new program. In 1930 the Cub Scout program was formally launched with 5,102 boys registered at the end of the year.

The first Cub Pack in the Philadelphia Council was organized in late 1930. The following announcement was printed in the Service Bulletin: "Congratulations to the Unitarian Church of Germantown, the home of Troop 188. The first official Cub Pack is being sponsored by this institution. Our very best wishes go to Mr. James Gillespie, a member of the Scout Troop Committee, who has consented to lead this Pack through the pioneer days of the newest branch of Scouting."

Based on the experience throughout the country, the Cub program was made generally available to all Scout Councils in 1933. In 1935 William C. Wessel was appointed the first Director of Cub Scouting. The new program was received with enthusiasm by boys and their parents. Its popularity has increased year after year, and Cub Scouting is now generally recognized as being of great value in the development and training of the younger boys.

From the booklet: 1910-1980: Seventy Years of Scouting and 50 Years of Cub Scouting In The Philadelphia Council.

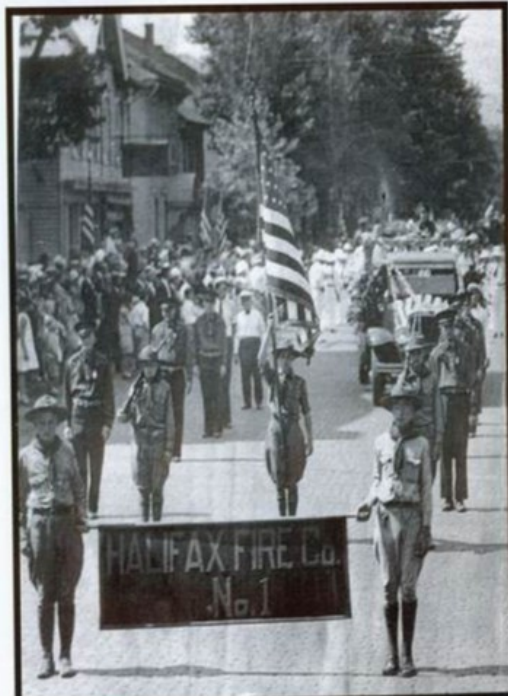
LOOKING BACK... A PHOTO ESSAY • THE 1930s

Left: When National Scout Chief James West came to town in April of 1932, it was an important event. West is the stocky man in the campaign hat in the center of the photo. Others shown in the photo include: Governor John S. Fisher, Gus E. Larson and Rabbi Philip David Bookstaber, both vice presidents of the Harrisburg Council, and R. H. Lyon, president of the Harrisburg Council.



Above - The Bugle Corps of 1930. This group of Scouts represented Harrisburg Council's bugle corps. At the extreme left is Dick Goldsmith, he looks devilish, and second from right is Milton "Twice" Luck, Jr. Others are unknown.

Below - This is one of the permanent camping structures constructed in Hidden Valley. Each building could house eight single cots, many used double bunks, as shown here. The sign above the door reads, "Materials for this shack furnished by R. H. Appleby. Construction by Scouts and Leaders."



Above - This 1930s photo shows Boy Scouts carrying the banner of the Halifax Fire Company No. 1, in a long forgotten parade. Take note of the uniforms of both the Scouts and the firemen behind them, and note the buildings in the background.



Above left - This teepee was pitched in the middle of Harrisburg Square in front of Caplan's drug store during a Scout Week demonstration in the 1930s.

Above Right - This photo comes from the Pennsylvania Folk Lore Festival at Bucknell University in 1937. Chief H. H. Hunter, Jack Kelberg, Howard Solly and Harry G. Hunter were all inducted into the Seneca tribe during the Festival. H. H. Hunter was given the title of Chief Two Half Moons. Above, Hunter shares a Scout handshake with the tribal chief while the tribal queen looks at the camera man.

Left - This poster celebrated the 25th Anniversary of Boy Scouts of America, with more than six million boys served by the organization since 1910. The faded wording under 1910 reads: "through Scouting in Patrols and Troops have enjoyed Adventure, Hiking, Camping, Swimming, Woodcraft, Handicraft, Fellowship, Health and Safety, Service to Others."



6,435,210
SINCE 1910
through Scouting
Patrols and Troops
Adventure, Hiking,
Camping, Swimming,
Woodcraft, Handicraft,
Fellowship
Health and Safety,
Service to Others

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
"Builds Character and Citizenship"

1910 TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY 1935



Above and right - Whether it was models or the real thing, airplanes interested Scouts during the days of flight. Above, Scouts in Troop 19 build a real airplane in a vacant upstairs garage. The busy workers are (left to right) A. Starr King, Jr., E. Howard Shaffner, Walter Reese, Jr., Robert Holsberg, John T. Harris, Jr., Robert Berolette, Marshall Brown, and John Miller. The date is February of 1937. To the right, Scouts from Troop 21 show how they are earning merit badges by building model airplanes. Robert Davis, John Clendenin and Donald Alsdeck are shown right to left. Below - This photo was unmarked, but the background suggests Sherman's Creek at camp Hidden Valley. The Scouts are constructing a footbridge across the water, and it was probably something for a pioneering merit badge.



Above - No one knows if this Scout soap box derby was held at Hidden Valley or at a location in the council. But it does look like the boys are having fun.
Right - The 1933 International Jamboree contingent that traveled to Hungary. Left to right in the front row are Keith Appleby, Kirby Fogarty and Milton Ulick. The back row includes Dick Goldsmith, Louis Robinson, Joseph Caplan, Wilson Day, Mr. Michener, William Lipsitt and Freeman Frey.





Above - The troop is unknown, but these Scouts are camping, probably at Hidden Valley. Note the old Army tent in the background. Left - This parade, on State Street, in Harrisburg, was held in honor of the Oct. 21 - the exact year is unknown - rededication of 1,000 Boy Scouts from the Catholic Diocese of Harrisburg to Christ in a public ceremony at St. Patrick's Cathedral. Special Diocesan awards were made to Scouts who had given distinctive service to the church by Bishop Georg Leach. An address was given by Rev. Paul Tarnas, assistant director of the National Catholic Youth Bureau in Washington.

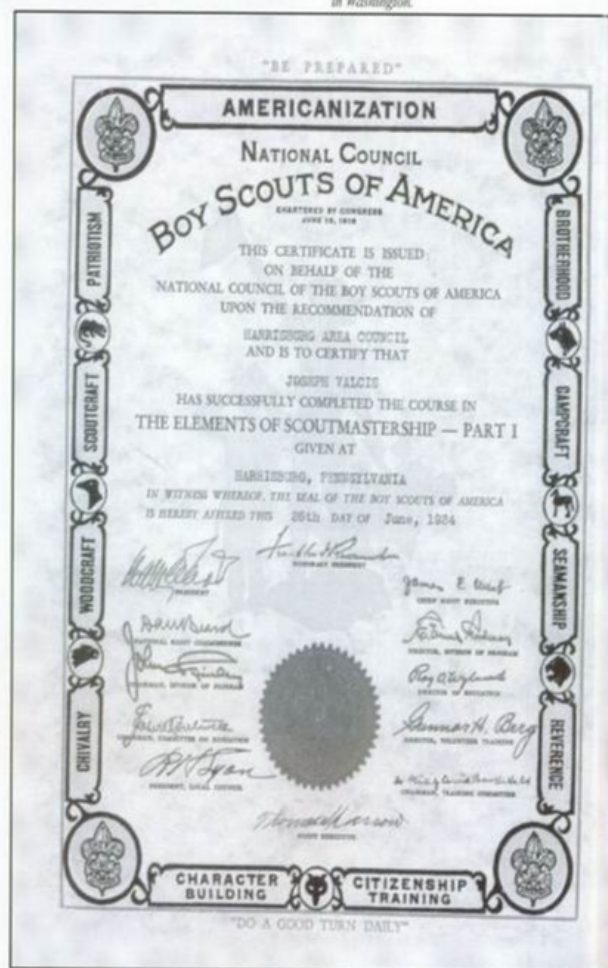
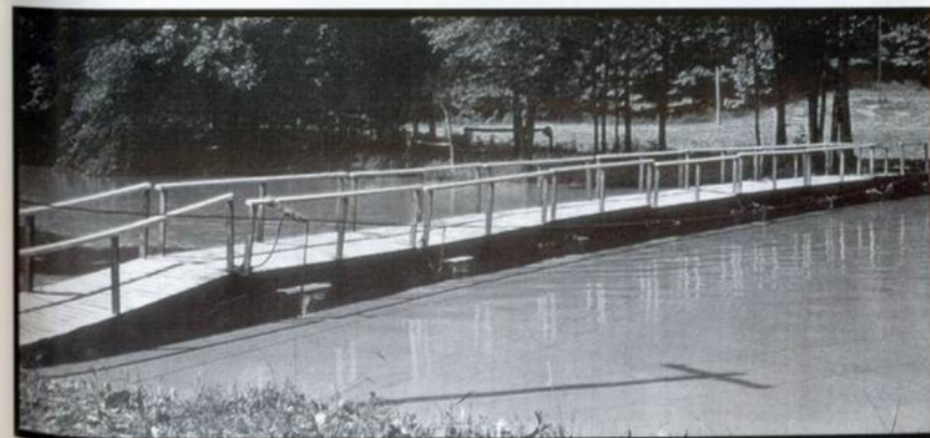


Above - This distant view of the original dining hall at Hidden Valley—seen from an adjoining farm looking west—shows many early camp features. Sherman's Creek is below and out of sight, between the farm buildings and the dining hall. The structure to the left of the dining hall was the shower house. The buildings to the left rear were the permanent camping structures in Great Stag campsite. One building on the right is the original Stein Health Lodge. The farm buildings in the foreground were demolished when this property became part of Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. (John Mitten photo)



Right - This is the 1939 Hidden Valley Camp staff.

Below - The oil drum pontoon bridge across Sherman's Creek. This was removed after each summer camping season.



HARRISBURG AREA COUNCIL BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA



CAMP SEASON
July 6 - August 17
1932



Above - These Scouts were building a log shelter in the woods when this photo was taken. Note the axes in the foreground. It appears they were the sole tools used for notching—a tough job. Also note the four boys manipulating that big log into place in the center of the photo. More tough work.

This pamphlet listed some facts and figures for the 1932 camping season. Note the average stay was a week and four days, and that they had 178 new campers.

ATTENDANCE STATISTICS

Different Scouts in Camp (22% of June Registration)	309
Officers, (including Senior and Junior Staffs)	50
Boy Weeks	566
Staff Weeks	126
Total Camper Weeks	692
New Campers	178
Average stay per boy	1 1/2 Weeks

Troops represented (60% of June 1 Registration) 37 as follows:

Troops 6-7-8-10-11-12-13-14-19-20-21-24-25-27-50, Harrisburg,
51-52-80, Camp Hill, 67, Middletown,
54, Enda, 55, Lemoyne, 57-58-82-88, New Cumberland,
59, Paxtang, 60, Shiremansstown, 61, West Fairview,
64, Duncannon, 66, Hummelstown, 73-76, Steelton,
68, Lindlestown, 71, Williamstown, 74, Newport,
85, Dauphin, 86, Elizabethtown.



Above - The rope yard was the place where Scouts learned their knots, an essential Scouting tool. Note the ropes and vertical and horizontal posts on which knots can be tied. The two taller guys in the foreground look like they're helping younger Scouts learn the ropes.

FARM SHOW 1930s ...

DURING THE 1930s, a number of Harrisburg Council Scouts participated in sharing what Scouting had to offer at the Pennsylvania State Farm Show. On the next two pages are a series of photographs—most are self-explanatory—from Scout exhibits at the Farm Show. They include insect collecting, basketry, riflery, horsemanship, firemanship, and bookbinding. Many photographs were available. However, these dozen photos showed the variety of interests of Scout troops of the time as well as a sampling of the images available.





To Do My Duty...



SCOUTS LOVE A PARADE...



Above - This was the Millersburg (Dauphin County) Boys Band. They were "tooting lustily" in front of the state capitol during a May 1930 Boy Scouts parade held in the city, according to the original photo caption. Below left - This is Troop 42 from St. Joseph's and Troop 17, marching down State Street in Harrisburg during the late 1930s. Note the parking meters, even in those days. Below - Another late 1930s photo showing Scouts parading down third and Walnut Streets with the long gone Penn Harris Hotel in the background.



The War Years

Scouts Find Growth During World War II

By 1938, the United States economy was beginning to recover from the Great Depression, largely the result of goods ordered for impending war in Europe. Europeans and Americans knew another war was coming, but didn't want to face this reality because they had fought the "War to End All Wars" just two decades before. Meanwhile, Lajos Biro, a Hungarian, invented the ballpoint pen, and by 1939, the first nylon stockings appeared.

The phantom of war came to life in September of 1939, when Hitler invaded Poland. Within days, Britain and France declared war on Germany, with Britain sending 158,000 troops to France.

In the United States, things remained pretty "normal." In 1940, Alfred Hitchcock's "Gaslight" filled American movie houses, "You Are My Sunshine" crackled on wooden home radios, and Ernest Hemingway's novel *For Whom the Bell Tolls*, about the Spanish Civil War, made its debut.

With Albert L. Allen serving as president of the Harrisburg council and Harry H. Hunter, as the local Scout Executive, 1940 found local Scouts looking for a new headquarters. The executive committee, which included Allen, Col. Samuel Fleming, Jr., and R. H. Lyons, found what they were looking for at 219-A South Front Street, in Harrisburg, and formally began the move there in 1942. Lester R. Thurston was the District Commissioner; Bernard Zuckerman was Special Field Commissioner of Emergency Services. Dr. Bookstaber was a council member, and Harold Stahl was Commissioner of Training.

One of the biggest Scout events of 1940 was the "Wa-Hi-Hi Outing," held on Island Park (now called City Island). Over 125 boys attended and took part in the mostly athletic events. Robert Heckert and Harvey Herbert also passed their Eagle Board of Review.

At a second event, the "Field Day Rally," Lemoine's troop took first honors with 25 points. Troop 8 came in second with 21 points. And Harrisburg's first Gold Eagle Scout, Frank C. Foote, took nine points in individual competitions.

Following a Moose Band-led parade with John S. Spicer, Deputy Scout Commissioner as chief marshal, the third gathering, another "Field Day Rally," attracted a large crowd.

Events that day included: a bicycle patrol drill; a first-aid bicycle race; Scoutcraft; a Scout pace relay; a water-boiling contest; a signal relay race; a wall scaling race; an equipment race; and junior and senior 100-yard dash, relays and other track events.

The events emphasized Scout skills. For example, in the first-aid bicycle race, competitors were required to bike around a track one time, find an arterial bleeding victim, and bring the patient back to the judge, using the firemen's lift and re-mounting the bicycle without assistance. The Scout-pace relay used a team of four runners to pass the baton from one to the other while alternating walking and running 50 steps over a quarter mile distance. (Scouts of the time could do this in 12 minutes.) In the water-boiling contest, a Scout from each troop was given a quart size kettle, a pint of water with a tablespoon of soap flakes, two matches, and equal amounts of wood which the Scout cut into firewood with a knife and axe. Spill water, or use more than two matches and you were out.) Start a fire and get the water to boil over and you won. Wall-scalers had to climb a 10-foot x 12-foot wall with a two-foot platform on top. In the equipment race, one Scout from each troop runs, and at 10-yard intervals removes his belt; hat; shirt; and shoes; then runs another ten yards across a line, swings around and replaces each piece of equipment at 10-yard intervals. The Scout must finish with his shirt completely buttoned and shoes completely laced at both start and finish.

Troop 4, representing the Emanuel Pres-

byterian Church, took first prize in these events. Still, individual efforts are noteworthy: Troop 24 won the equipment race in 1:15. (Practically getting ready for school no doubt helped.) Winning troops were awarded a handsome silver cup.

While the Scouts shed equipment, boiled water and ran for silver cups, things were not so rosy in Europe. On the beaches of Dunkirk in 1940 huddled 340,000 retreating British troops waiting to be evacuated. Japan, Germany and Italy joined military and economic forces as the Axis powers, and the Blitzkrieg seemed unstoppable, taking Paris in June.

By 1941, the war in Europe was expanding. Hitler breaking his treaties with Stalin invaded Russia. U-boat attacks increased, and war in the North African desert began with Rommel attacking Tobruk. In the United States, German assets in American banks were frozen, and John C. Grew, ambassador to Japan, told Pres. Franklin Roosevelt that an attack by the Japanese was eminent.

When the Harrisburg council summed up its activities for 1941 during a Boy Scout Week celebration, February 8-14, 1942, they noted that Albert Allen had succeeded Col. Fleming as Council President, Lawrence Hunt had come and

gone as Scout Field Executive, and that B. J. Hagedorn had become assistant Scout executive in August.

Another of the year's highlights was the second "Wa-Hi-Hi" at Fort Indiantown Gap where over 200 Scouts occupied several barracks, a mess hall, the chapel and other buildings for a grand weekend. An outstanding loss to Scouting in 1941 occurred in the death of Uncle Dan Beard, National Scout Commissioner.

However, the Dec. 7 surprise attack of the U.S. naval base at Pearl Harbor, what FDR called "a day that will live in infamy," and America's entry into World War II overshadowed nearly everything that year. American troops were now involved in the war in Europe and in the Pacific. America was fully engulfed in World War II.

On Thursday, Dec. 10, 1942, a year and three days after Pearl Harbor, Harrisburg Area Council celebrated its 25th Anniversary in the Chestnut Street Hall, in Harrisburg. A bugle call of "Assembly" summoned the hall to order. It was followed by "To the Colors," and the National Anthem, a prayer and the posting of the colors.

Albert Allen presided over that evening's program. First to speak, Allen recognized all the war effort demands being made on manpower and material resources nationally and globally. But he also noted the critical need to find replacements for present Scout Leaders that were being called away for military service, so that future Scout Troop development would not falter.

Allen also made a formal presentation of council's 25-year history using an early overhead

projector, a Balopticon, made by Bosch and Lomb. The presentation was so effective that Paul Love, Philadelphia's Regional Scout Executive, requested a copy of the history and information on how the program was assembled. (This work was invaluable to the preparation of this book.)

Other speakers included Love, paying recognition to veterans, Pennsylvania Governor Arthur H. James, National Scout Executive Dr. James E. West, and Scout Executive Harry Hunter, who closed the 25th anniversary meeting of the Harrisburg Area Council.

A 15-page printed program, chock full of statistics and names relating to the Harrisburg Council and Hidden Valley, joined the shining silverware by each plate in the hall that evening. It told readers how at the end of November of 1942, Harrisburg Council had established 94 Boy Scout troops and Cub packs, a total of 2,521 Scouts, 1,224 leaders and 127 senior Scouts. The total operating budget for 1941 was \$31,000. Assets including the Hidden Valley Camp property were \$19,000; with just over \$1,100 in cash-on-hand.

The program also told what those Scouts had accomplished. For example, right after Pearl Harbor, President Roosevelt presented a nationwide challenge to Scouting to help with the war effort.

"The Boy Scouts have made and will continue to make an important contribution to the welfare of America's young manhood," FDR said. "The Boy Scouts have always responded generously when called into action in the service of their communities and their fellow citizens. And so, the nation is confident that the Boy Scouts stand ready to contribute to the Na-

tional Welfare in these critical hours."

The Harrisburg Area Council responded. For example, the Scouts collected 50,000 pounds of aluminum scrap, enough to make 10 pursuit planes. Other efforts included the following:

- **Waste Paper** — 700 tons (sufficient quantity for 4,600,000 packing cases for shells for 14mm guns.

- **Dispatch Bearer Service** — The Council Area was divided into 33 Service Areas, covering 49,000 homes, with a volunteer Scouter Counselor in each area. One chore was distribution of the O.P.A. pamphlet "What You Should Know About War Price Control".

- **Rubber collection** — 35,000 pounds (sufficient quantity to replace rubber needed for gas tanks on 35 Flying Fortress airplanes.

- **Victory Book collection** — 5000 books.

- **Metal Salvage** — 300 tons.

- **Food for Victory** — 100 gardens.

- **Civilian Defense** — 500 messengers.

- **Pledge Against Waste** — 20,000 pieces.

- **Other projects** — Defense Bond Poster; Air Raid Posters; Air Raid Leaflets; U.S.O. Cooperation; A.R.C. Cooperation; Control Stations Cooperation; Defense Housing Cooperation; War Savings Pledge Cooperation; and Salvage Campaign Posters.

Troop 5 organized as a Service Corps Troop, and was fully equipped for First Aid, Feeding and General Emergency Service. Many other troops were training for Emergency Service.

In February of 1942, Scout Headquarters moved from its 25-year home in the Calder Building to 219-A South Front Street.

In 1942 the Trail to Citizenship and Merit Badge Exposition was held at the Chestnut Street Auditorium and Kenneth Oliver joined the staff as Field Executive.

By 1943, the Allied forces of the United States, Britain, France and other nations had turned the tide of aggression by the Axis powers of Germany, Italy and Japan. The battle of Midway in the Pacific theatre and the invasion of Italy, leading to the eventual fall of Germany marked those changes.

On the home front, shoes were rationed, wages and prices were frozen in an effort to forestall inflation, the zoot suit (with a reet pleat) became popular among hep cats and the jitter-bugging replaced the Lindy hop dance step.

In 1944, a month and a half after General Eisenhower orchestrated the 1944 D-Day landings along the French coast in Europe, on a hot, late-July afternoon Camp Hidden Valley got a formal inspection.

A printed program showed that during the 1943 Camping Season 867 boys and 65 leaders, representing 114 Troops used seven plans available for Scouts to camp over the summer. Evening Colors were struck during the inspection, and a meal was served in the dining hall and new Troop dining room, funded by the Kiwanis Club. After dinner, Health Lodge renovations, funded by the Mothers' Club, were dedi-



Scouts showed their patriotic fervor in this parade in the late 1930s, just before World War II began. Troops from Steelton can clearly be seen, as well as Troop 105 and the Catholic School of Harrisburg in the background. Old glory never looked better!



Scouts making pottery with the aid of wheel they constructed. Left to right are: Harold Kaplan, Alton Robinson, Leroy Borman, Guy Clay and John Farquharson—instructor and assistant Scoutmaster.

cated, and a tour of the new hot water plant, built by Cameron Ralston and Edward Oppenheim was available. Some of the additions to the camp that year included a new swimming pier, boat, rubber rafts, a remodeled Council Ring and a Ranger tent camp. Events closed that evening with the traditional campfire. Among those doing the inspection were Scout Executive Harry Hunter, assistant Scout executives Bernhard J. Hagedorn and Gilbert S. Turner, and general chairman John W. Kirkpatrick.

When four-term U.S. President Franklin Roosevelt died in office in the spring of 1945, the Allied victory over both Germany and Japan seemed imminent. Berlin, the German capital was captured on May 2, and five days later, the Germans capitulated, prompting "VE (Victory in Europe) Day" in the United States. In June, the League of Nations held its final meeting and turned over its assets to the newly formed United Nations. In early August, the first atomic bombs fell on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima (Aug. 6) and Nagasaki (Aug. 8), prompting the sur-

render of Japan on Aug. 14.

More than 45 million people died during the war, including 10 million in Nazi concentration camps. The societal changes wrought from the war spanned the next 50 years. Some of the larger issues that resulted from the war included:

Continued unrest in Asia and the Middle East, a higher level of prosperity for the Western world and women in the work force, the development of a world economy, the eventual fall of Communism, and the rise of the United States as the world's greatest "superpower."

Back in Harrisburg, things moved at a slower pace.

Anticipating growth after the war, in July of 1946 inquiries were made about lands adjoining Camp Hidden Valley. One property contained 157 acres and was owned by Florence Swarner. In 1947, plans to purchase additional ground and expand the Camp site were publicly announced by the Council.

In 1948, the Harrisburg Council ceased to

exist—due to a name change. Council changed its name to the Keystone Area Council, which is carried to this day.

The 1940s ended with an additional improvement for Camp Hidden Valley, a bridge across Sherman's Creek. The bridge, located about a quarter mile upstream from the P.P. & L. dam, replaced the old Scout-powered ferry, and was designed to provide year-round access to the camp. An April 1949 agreement between The Water and Power Resources Board of the state's Department of Forests and Waters and Keystone Area Council acknowledged that the ferry access was not safe or convenient about half the time people wanted to get into camp.

Walter B. Lang of Steelton's Bethlehem Steel Company designed the bridge. And the \$30 fee was waived because the Boy Scouts of America was considered a non-profit character building agency.

**A SCOUT IS
COURTEOUS...**



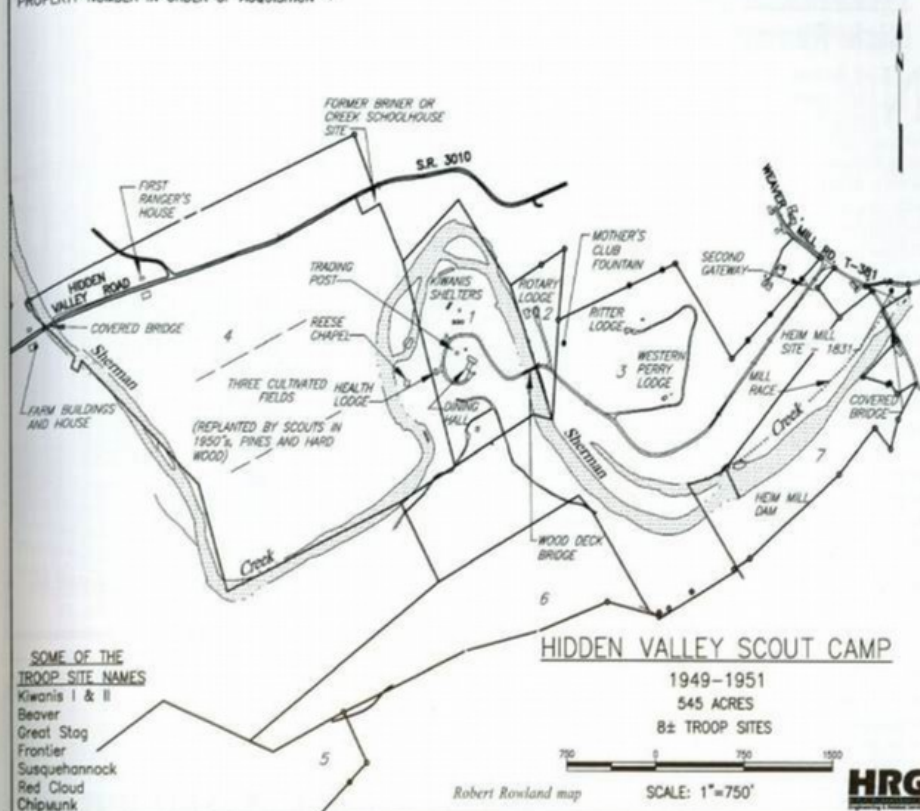
THE SCOUT OATH...

ON MY HONOR, I will do my best, to do my duty to God and my country, to obey the Scout law, to help other people at all times, to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight.



An evening retreat at Camp Hidden Valley during the 1930s.

PROPERTY NUMBER IN ORDER OF ACQUISITION 4



This map shows Hidden Valley acquisitions between the 1920s and 1951. Note the addition of a wooden deck bridge, winter camping lodges, the second gateway, and the Mothers' Club Fountain. Additional troop sites included Susquehannock and Kwanis I and II.



Winter camping came into vogue during the late 1940s. These scouts and leaders are spending some time in Rotary Lodge at Hidden Valley during cold weather in one of the lodges built during this era.



Nick Ramsey remembers Scouting in 1949. His story is on the next page.

Scouts Who Lived It Nick Ramsey Remembers 1949...

Nick Ramsey joined Boy Scouts in 1949, when he was 12 years old. Young boys in those days had few competing activities to take their time, and as a result all were eager to join Scouts, Ramsey said. He was a member of Troop 18, the oldest troop in the area, beginning in 1914 at the Presbyterian Church located at 5th and Peifer Streets in Harrisburg. Their meeting place was a half-house next to the church. The church intended to use the property to make a parking lot, but before it was done, the church used half the house for church business, the Scouts used the other half for meetings. Ramsey said they had a kitchen on the first floor, a shower and bathroom on the second, and then used all the other rooms for various meetings and work.

Ramsey and Sam Scharadin were buddies. They met camping, and both shared camping at camporees, the C&O Canal event, Shikellim, Indian Gap, the Hershey Air Strip (1960), and the Farm Bureau Grounds. Both traveled to events in old buses. If one troop's bus didn't work then the two troops got together and helped each other out.

Ramsey's first trip to Hidden Valley was in 1950, at a cost of \$12 per week. It was common, Ramsey said, for Scouts to send younger boys out to search for "elbadritches" and bring them back to camp. One night a gang went out and one boy got lost. When he didn't come back they sent out the older boys to search for him. Finally, after a long time, two boys found the "lost" one at Ritter Lodge. He was inside eating cherry pie and watching TV with the leaders. The joke was on them that night!

Ramsey remembered the cabins in Outpost, Stockade and Beaver campsites. These were five feet high and included four double bunks, with two more along the back. They held 10 boys each. The Beaver cabin was up on a hill and was screened in to keep insects out. Leaders usually used Beaver.

Lew Croll was the camp ranger during Ramsey's time, before the present Ranger House was built. Croll lived further down the road past the West Gate in an old shack that was on camp property (it is the site of the present day "dumpling"). Croll walked to the camp. When it was cold enough to freeze the creek, he crossed there and saved time.

Ramsey remembered Bill Rowe, and the fact that the hill going up from the creek to Rotary Lodge was called "Bill's Hill". Rowe brought Southern boys to camp; including one named Max Kennedy. When Max swam in Sherman's Creek, he called it "Jackson's Creek" because of his allegiance to Stonewall Jackson of Civil War fame.

Ramsey also remembered a four-foot concrete slab near the OA campgrounds. He was

told that there is a well under the slab that had been drilled for Thunderbird Lodge, but that Charlie Steele came up and stopped the work because this area was to be the "center of the new camp". Thunderbird Lodge was then relocated to the spot that it now occupies, and the well covered over with the concrete. (Charlie Steele later confirmed this story.) The idea was that when the new lodge building was built, it would include a large picture window facing the OA grounds below, so that the old timers could stay inside and watch the ceremony ground activities from there. This was about 1958 or 1959.

Ramsey also recalled Charles Keller designing and making patches that he sold for \$2. All of the proceeds went toward the Thunderbird Lodge expenses. Ramsey also remembered all the boys in the Troop selling small screwdriver sets to raise money for Scout projects.

Charlie Steele's "Chalet" is something Ramsey remembered. After new showers were added at the pool, Charlie Steele converted the old shower house, located beside the old Dining Hall, into his personal "Chalet". Steele loved the camp, and he and his wife Lucy used the chalet all summer. Ramsey also remembered one time Steele was inside his chalet getting ready for the evening meal, and Charlie Kind closed the hasp on the door and put a stick through it. Ramsey couldn't remember how Charlie Steele got out, but he did. After a new chalet was built the old building was burned down to clear the site. However, the foundation remains. It is very close to the new Schoffstall Chapel.

At the time the new chalet was being built, a rumor identified it as Charlie Steele's retirement home, Ramsey said. "Charlie was never afraid of work. He often wore khaki colored shorts in the summer. He had skinny, bony legs, and knobby knees. But he always got down in the trench when there was work to do. Charlie himself told a number of us that he was not welcome at Hidden Valley for 27 years after he resigned from BSA, and was so elated when he was asked to come back during the most recent renaissance of the camp. He said we had "made his day!"

Ramsey said it took many dedicated sponsors, like Chuck Ruth's father, who was in the steel fabrication business, and contributed a lot to Hidden Valley (Ruth campsite is named after this family), to make the camp what it is. There weren't any in the early days, Ramsey said. Most corporate sponsors seemed to come during Charlie Steele's time. Steele seemed to have an endless resource of names to draw from—the Ruth family, the Mumma family of Pennsy Supply, and many contributions from organizations like the Seabees, military depots, etc. Much of this seems lacking today, Ramsey said.



Above - Rotary Lodge. The hill going up from the creek to Rotary Lodge was called "Bill's Hill," according to Nick Ramsey. Below - Ramsey at the Outpost campsite. Photo courtesy of Nick Ramsey.



First Eagles Fly High

THE FIRST FOUR EAGLE SCOUTS in the Harrisburg Council included: Frank C. Foose, of Troop 16, who received his ranking in 1920; Ted Selig, of Troop 4; Harry Workman, of Troop 26; and Robert S. Dolbin, of Troop 29, at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, was the fourth.

Dolbin led a noteworthy life. Born July 23, 1904, he joined Scouts in 1916. His home was at 3007 North Third Street in Harrisburg. Dolbin received the first Meritorious Forest Service medal issued by Pennsylvania's Department of Forestry and later became a professional firefighter, graduating from the Harrisburg Fire School in February of 1933.

Dolbin was the Scoutmaster of Troop 5, sponsored by the Vestry of St. Paul's Episcopal Church. This Troop held their first anniversary celebration at The Little White Tea Room, 222 North Second Street, with Scout Executive Harry H. Hunter, and Gilbert Turner, Division Commissioner, presiding.

Dolbin and V. Grant Forrer received the Silver Beaver Award at the 25th Anniversary dinner of the Harrisburg Council. This event was held at the Chestnut Street Auditorium in Harrisburg. Dr. James E. West, national Boy Scouts of America Executive, was guest of honor. Governor Arthur H. James opened the program. Twenty-five year awards were presented to Dr. Philip D. Bookstaber, V. Grant Forrer and E. Fred Rowe.

First Headquarters



THE FIRST RECORDED RECORD we have is a letterhead that indicates they were located at Harrisburg, PA. Also noted is Thomas Sparrow, Scout Executive; C.E. Hoerner, Asst. Scout Executive; Helen E. Patterson, Office Secretary; A.S. Patterson, Treasurer; and Dr. M.V. Hazen, Scout Commissioner. Unfortunately, the name of the President was covered in the upper left corner, and the letter was just signed "Chief". We believe the letter was authored by Mr. Sparrow, but that is strictly speculation.

The original Council office location was temporarily at The Board of Trade Building, 112 Market Street. Later it was moved to 206-207 on the second floor of the Calder Building, where they remained for many years. Still later they moved to 219-A South Front Street in Harrisburg. In 1978 the Council



Top left - The Scout office in the Calder Building circa 1926. Above right - The Calder building, (right) home of Council's first official office on Market Square. (courtesy of Penna. State Archives-postcard collection)

cil moved to its present location at One Baden Powell Lane, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055. This ground was donated to the Council by the Albert Allen family, which was part of the original Allen family farm.

Early Access to Camp: Footbridge and Ferry



Access to camp meant crossing Sherman's Creek. A footbridge is shown above left. Canoes and other boats were also used to ferry gear across the creek. Later, a large ferryboat, propelled by "boy power" served the camp. Eventually, bridges were constructed across the creek to camp.

THE ORIGINAL ACCESS to the 27-acre Loysville Scout Camp property, which was land-locked from any roads, came via a right-of-way from Hidden Valley Road into what is now the land just below Rotary Lodge, along Sherman's Creek. Scouts had to cross the creek by walking, swimming, using a boat or canoe. The original right-of-way access lane remains valid—it is currently used as a driveway to the red brick house - the first along Hidden Valley Road when going toward Loysville out of the West Gate.

After the camp was established, a pontoon footbridge was built using 55-gallon steel drums. Wooden decking and a handrail were fastened to the top of the drums. Each section was connected to the next, but was allowed to float up or down with the current of the stream. It was a very precarious walkway, and many people who crossed did not appreciate the sway the bridge took under their feet. In later years a better more stable bridge was built.

A large ferryboat was also built at the same

Scouting and Harrisburg's Rotary: Natural Partners

THERE HAS ALWAYS BEEN A STRONG LINK between the Rotary Club and Scouts of the Keystone Area Council. For example, The president of the Rotary Club, Howard C. Fry, became the first treasurer of the Harrisburg Council.

Also, 11 of the 18 Council presidents have been Harrisburg Rotary members. They include: J. William Bowman, 1919-20; Arthur D. Baco, 1920-21; John S. Masser, 1921-22; Dr. M.V. Hazen, 1922-25; R. H. Lyon, Sr., 1925-37; Albert L. Allen, Sr., 1940-43; Col. Lynn G. Adams, 1943-45; Franklin Moore, 1945-47; Seth Gordon, 1947-48; U. A. Whitaker, 1956-57; John L. Tivney, 1957-59; Albert L. Allen, Jr., 1959-62; and Albert C. Herbert, 1965.

That link remained strong with Hidden Valley as well. The original property purchase was made through a bank note signed by R.H. Appleby, R. H. Lyon, Dr. M. V. Hazen, Andrew S. Patterson, Dr. Philip Bookstaber, and Gus E. Larson. Miss Mary Sachs made a contribution of \$10,000 which retired the note and paid for the erection of a dining hall as a living memorial to our good friend Dr. Bookstaber. During the next few years six permanent campsites were constructed, some of them by Rotarians. In 1942 a meeting was held by Albert Schmidt, Sr., Albert Allen, Sr., Robert Smether, John Stapf and Edwin M. Green where they agreed that the Harrisburg Rotary Club would take on the project of building a Rotary Lodge.



location to serve all that came to camp. It was powered back and forth across the creek with "boy power"—two boys pulling in the proper direction on a large rope that was anchored to each shore. All of this became unnecessary after direct access to Weaver Mill Road was gained with the purchase of two additional parcels of ground. The first wooden bridge was built from the east shore to the main camp area during the late 1940s.

(CITY) ISLAND PARK ...



Footnote: Written documents reveal that one "Wa-Hi-Hi" Outing was held on Island Park and a second one at Fort Indiantown Gap. There also were two Field Day Rally's held on the Island during the same period of time. It is evident that all the photos displayed on these pages were taken on the Island, but we could not discern which event may have been photographed.



BEFORE IT WAS CITY ISLAND, where the Senators play baseball, the island adjacent to the Capitol was Island Park, site of many Boy Scout activities. These are scenes from the Field Day Rally of the 1940s. Photo 1 - Scouts practice stretcher carrying. 2 - Footraces were part of the Outing. 3 - A Scout participates in the fire-building contest. 4 - One race involved a bicycle rescue. 5 - Other races included obstacle courses.



The Field Day Rally: 1940's Big Event...

Island Park (City Island), Harrisburg



Scenes From The Field Day Rally—One of the biggest Scout events of 1940 was the Field Day Rally, held on Island Park (now called City Island). Over 125 boys took part in the mostly athletics events. The events, which emphasized Scout skills, included: a bicycle patrol drill; a first-aid bicycle race; Scoutcraft; a Scout pace relay; a water-boiling contest; a signal relay race; a wall scaling race; an equipment race; and junior and senior 100-yard dash, relays and other track events.

• Photo 1—Scouts Marching across the Market Street Bridge from Island Park.

• Photo 2—Signal sending competition.

• Photo 3—Scouts assembled for the field day gathering.

• Photo 4—The water-boiling contest, a Scout from each troop was given a quart size kettle, a pint of water with a tablespoon of soap flakes, two matches, and equal amounts of wood which the Scout cut into firewood with a knife and axe. (Spill water, or use more than two matches and you were out.) Start a fire and get the water to boil over and you won.

• Photo 5—Wall-scalers had to climb a 10-foot x 12-foot wall with a two-foot platform on top.

• Photo 6—The first-aid bicycle race, competitors were required to bike around a track one time, find an arterial bleeding victim, and bring the patient back to the judge, using the firemen's lift and remounting the bicycle without assistance. In these events, Troop 4, from Emanuel Presbyterian Church, took first prize, a silver cup.



This was formal Retreat, held at the water front to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Scout Camp at Loysville. No date was given but it would have been the summer of 1951. Note the teepee along the right edge, the our house in the center, and Sherman's Creek in the background.



Two unidentified Scouts stand in front of the Order of the Arrow teepee at Hidden Valley in October of 1946.



Could this be a war party preparing for someone's Last Stand? A group of hunters beseeching Orenda, the Iroquois deity for good luck on a hunt? No, it's just an Order of the Arrow ceremony from the 1940s. Several Scouts, looking back on their experiences, remembered OA "tap-out" campfires as one of the highlights of their days at Hidden Valley.

\$1 Yields 184 More Acres

IN 1949, R. C. FOSSELMAN, a local landowner donated 184 acres to the Council for the sum of \$ 1. John Mitten explained that at that time no one wanted to own the land around the camp, so Mr. Fosselman decided to donate it to Hidden Valley. This was the fifth tract acquired of 13 total sites that make up the current 834 acres.

The Old Schoolhouse

A ONE-ROOM SCHOOLHOUSE WAS LOCATED on what is now the overflow parking area at Hidden Valley, along Hidden Valley Road, just before the West Gate entrance. This school was called the Briner School, later the Creek School. A gravel road turned in at the school and went back to Sherman's Creek, near the archery and rifle ranges. The Carson Long Military School, of New Bloomfield, used this land as a summer camp in the 1930s.

Sherman's Creek Fish Baskets

JOHN MITTEN DECLARES that steel fish baskets were established in Sherman's Creek many years ago. These are made up of steel to form a metal screen, with funnel shaped devices that allow the fish to enter but not to escape. These were used by the local residents to obtain fish from the creek without the bother of catching them on a line. Although no longer used, remnants of these baskets are still found in the creek.

Covered Bridges and Roads

IN 1927, WHEN THE CAMP WAS ORIGINALLY established, there were two covered wooden bridges nearby. One was just beyond the West Gate area on what was then known as the road to Blaine, but is now Hidden Valley Road. (Locals claim that the road derived its name from the "hidden valley" land that is part of the camp—rather than getting its name from the camp.) If the bridge had a name, we didn't discover anyone who remembers it. It was not used for many years and was removed about 1961. The second bridge was located on Weaver's Mill Road right next to the original Heim Mill (later known as Weaver's Mill). Both roads were gravel at that time, paved in later years. Both bridges were replaced with concrete bridges.

One day, Charlie Steele brought Pennsylvania Highways Secretary Bob Bartlett into camp on gravelled, dusty Hidden Valley Road. Bartlett suggested the road be paved. Steele, of course, agreed. The following week a road crew showed up from the state and the road was paved to the entrance of the Tree Farm, which is further out the road beyond the West Gate.

LOOKING BACK...

A PHOTO ESSAY • 1940s



Above - These unidentified Scouts, at Hidden Valley, are working on several merit badges, all at the same time. On the left, a first aid class is being taught. On the right, the boys are working on fire-building skills, knife and axe skills, and wood cutting. Some of those logs look pretty heavy.

Below - This permanent shelter is believed to have been part of the Daniel Boone campsite at Hidden Valley. The campsite was located near the present day swimming pool. It was removed to clear the site for the pool in the early 1950s. This photo is from the late 1940s.

Right - This display was part of the annual meeting held in January of 1940. The signs read: "Scouting: The American Way to Better Citizenship," and offer would-be Scouts a challenging range of program choices, service and exploration, all tuned to "teen" interests. They also promise parents, as well as Scouts, "An everyday programs of doing in and around the home with pals and neighborhood leaders."





Above - This is a primitive footbridge built over Sherman's Creek. It was used to cross from East to West shore. (O. J. Dickey photo)



Above - This is the boat dock at Camp Hidden Valley. Note the boys in water using the buddy system (two swimmers with hands clasped together and raised in the background).



Above - This fuzzy scene shows Scouts collecting scrap metal for recycling during World War II. The boys are loading all that scrap metal into the bed of the old camp truck. **Right** - This is the 1934 Ford stake body camp truck. The photo was taken at council headquarters when it was on Front Street in Harrisburg. The buildings were originally part of the stables for the John Harris Mansion and are still in tact. Like a friendly old ghost, the camp truck pops up in other pictures in and around Hidden Valley. **Below** - The boat dock on the East bank of Sherman's Creek was always a popular place at Hidden Valley. Note the parade grounds behind the boat dock. (O. J. Dickey photo)



GETTYSBURG PILGRIMAGE...1948

Below - As part of the 85th anniversary of the Gettysburg campaign and Gettysburg Address during the Civil War (the campaign took place in early July of 1863) Boy Scouts participated in a program honoring those who gave their lives in the struggle. Shown in this photo R-L are Clarence Erffler, Regional Scout Executive, an unknown naval officer, and Governor Duff. **Right** - Scouts from the Lower Dauphin District participate in a parade at the battlefield.



"FOUR SCORE AND SEVEN YEARS AGO OUR FATHERS BROUGHT FORTH ON THIS CONTINENT, A NEW NATION, CONCEIVED IN LIBERTY, AND DEDICATED TO THE PROPOSITION THAT ALL MEN ARE CREATED EQUAL."

Pres. Abraham Lincoln, dedication address, Gettysburg cemetery November 19, 1863

WEAVER/HEIM MILL



Left - This photo was taken from the high rock overlooking the covered Weaver Mill Bridge on Weavers Mill Road. The three-story Weavers Mill—originally named Heim Mill, after its first owner and builder, Rev. John William Heim—can be seen at the far end of the bridge. The mill was built in 1830 and passed through a number of owners before coming to the Harrisburg Scout council in the early 1950s. (courtesy of Ethyl Stahl) **Above** - The Weaver Mill covered bridge and Weavers Mill Road from another angle. The house in the foreground remains standing, but the road dead ends just beyond the buildings. (John Mitten photo)

BEFORE AND AFTER: WESTERN PERRY LODGE



Above Left - These workers are starting construction on Western Perry Lodge in 1948. That lumber looks serious, the kind you can't get any more. **Above Right** - This photo shows the finished product. The lodge was named Western Perry Memorial Winter Lodge. It was dedicated to the Perry County Scouts who had lost their lives in the service of their country during World War II.

BEFORE AND AFTER: THE SWIMMING HOLE



THESE TWO PHOTOS SHOW THE GROWTH OF CAMP HIDDEN VALLEY, especially in the swimming area.

Left - This is the swimming platform during the late 1920s or early 1930s. Note the bathing suits and how the platform is basically a big float.

Below - This is the diving area available to Scouts during the 1940s. Pay attention to how sturdy it is compared to the earlier swimming platform—55 gallon drums and a solid dock kept it afloat. Also note the changes in swim wear between the decades.



Saddle Shoes, Ike and Elvis

The 1950s: Council Merges, Hidden Valley Grows

THE POPULAR IMAGE of the 1950s is a Richie Cunningham-style state of domestic bliss. Yet the reality of the 1950s is that this was a period of sharply contrasting images, the beginning of a new era that peaked in the 1970s. People wanted to retain some sort of normalcy in their lives after living through World War II, yet the war's fallout kept stirring up internal and international brushfires.

One internal brushfire that characterized the decade was the Red Scare. In 1950, Senator Joseph McCarthy advised Pres. Truman that the State Department was riddled with Communists and Communist sympathizers, and set about on a "witch hunt" designed to route these people from the government. The Red Scare spread into many fields, where people who may have had some interest in Communism as a political ideology 20 years before lost jobs and were black-listed from working. It turned out that McCarthy's accusations were mostly ranting for personal gain.

Another internal brushfire—mostly economic and cultural—took place in American families. The 1950s was a time of questioning the "normal" order of things. During World War II, Mom got accustomed to a weekly paycheck and the independence it bought. When Dad came home from the War expecting things to go back to normal, he often found Mom liked to work

and intended to continue doing so. And because many more people were now in the work force, there were fewer jobs for Dad, until economic good times created more jobs for people from the mid-1950s through the 1970s.

Internationally, the brushfires of the 1950s would set the course for conflicts in the world for the next three decades. In 1950, for example, North Korean forces invaded South Korea capturing Seoul. The United Nations (UN) saw this as a threat to world peace, and Gen. Douglas MacArthur was appointed commander of the UN forces aiming to liberate Seoul from the North Koreans. MacArthur stormed the beaches, but suffered losses until UN troops were withdrawn. A state of emergency was declared in the United States, as Chinese troops crossed the 38° Parallel into South Korea. The conflict was on its way to being resolved in a year—at the cost of many lives.

Another war, a "Cold War" was also brewing between the Soviet Union and the United States during the 1950s. Soviet nuclear arms—they had developed "the bomb" shortly after Americans used it to end World War II—were perceived as a threat, as the two nations struggled for world leadership during the 1950s. By the end of the decade, Soviet nuclear arms were as close as Cuba. And a few years into the 1960s, the world would come as close to total annihilation as it has ever come.

Meanwhile, 1.5 million television sets found their way into American homes by 1950. J. D. Salinger's "Catcher in the Rye" was published amidst a storm of controversy. "The African Queen" with Katherine Hepburn and Humphrey Bogart, and "A Streetcar Named Desire" with Marlon Brando played on movie screens. In sports, "the Rock," Rocky Marciano wins the world heavyweight boxing championship from "Jersey Joe" Walcott.

The big changes of the middle decade of the 20th century found their way into Scouting, as well.

On June 12, 1950, an amendment to the Harrisburg council's Articles of Incorporation was filed in Dauphin County's Court of Common Pleas to change the name of the council to Keystone Area Council Boy Scouts of America. The change reflected the merger of three Boy Scout councils—Carlisle, Chambersburg, and Shippensburg—into a single unit. This represented 254 Scouting Units serving 6,390 boys.

The obligations of growth within the council created some strain on its facilities and personnel.

At council's November 1950 business meeting, Lester R. Thurston, council president, noted the extreme financial challenges the leaders faced in trying to fund operations to care for more and more boys, on less and less public support from many of the local Community Chests in the Council Area. The increased membership and camp attendance was good, Thurston said, but the funding for new facilities to accommodate these extra boys was lacking. Serious concerns included wells running dry due to additional use; additional troop sites; and a new swimming area.

The council's staff helped with Community Chest drives to make their own campaigns a success. Still, the council managed to raise approximately \$23,000 on their own through "Friends of Scouting" memberships. They registered 32 people at the National Council Meeting in Philadelphia in May, and had 38 enrolled for the highest registration of any council at the Regional Council Meeting in Bedford Springs in October.

Keystone Council was also becoming well represented in Scouting's hierarchy nationally and regionally: The council's Scout Executive was on the National staff, two members served on the Regional Executive Committee, and six leaders were on Sectional staffs. Yet with the Korean War taking place, a drain on adult leaders was showing up. New leaders were needed to match the growth of the Council, and to re-



Putting "quads" was one of the hazardous duties for Scouts at Camp Hidden Valley, regardless of the decade. Note the laundry drying and the milk can in the background. Still, they look like they are having fun.

place those lost through attrition and advancement.

A National Jamboree was held in Valley Forge in 1950, and 158 Keystone Council Scouts and 18 leaders attended.

Big changes were in store for Hidden Valley in the 1950s as well. Like the rest of the country, Hidden Valley experienced a postwar building boom.

In 1950, Hidden Valley grew from 39 acres to 540 acres. Inquiries about camp expansion made during the 1940s were more than ideas. Two acquisitions were the Swarner property and Heim Mill, an old stone gristmill converted to generate electricity in the 1920s, near the covered bridge. Rotarian John Davidson of the Pennsylvania Power and Light Company helped council with this.

The camp added a large wing to the Rotary Lodge building. This money was used to complete work in the Rotary Lodge so that it could be used as a Training Center and for winter use. A \$5,700 contribution from the Rotary Foundation paid for the construction, repairs to the well, and served as a contribution to the swimming pool fund.

A \$5,000 anonymous gift replaced and added equipment to the kitchen and Dining Hall in order to accommodate up to 1,500 boys at summer camp that year. It was noted that even with these additions, there were times when an Army mess tent set up outside the dining area was used to serve the boys during peak use. The dining-hall and kitchen were enlarged and modernized with gifts from the Keystone Area Mothers' Club, who made a contribution each year since their formation in 1930.

A growing winter camping effort at Hidden Valley also created a need for more weatherable facilities. U. A. Whitaker made possible the construction of the AMP Lodge and Troop site. The Herbert Lodge was built as a memorial to Granville S. Herbert, the father of Albert Herbert, with the financial help of Lester R. Thurston and the United Telephone Company.



A pretty girl in camp was cause for celebration, even in the "old days." Here Don Conley, Bob Conley, Warren "Fat" Crowl and Jim Heffellower mug for the camera. The young lady was not identified, but Heffellower certainly is scoping her out.

Ritter Lodge and campsite was developed for year-round camping as a memorial to the son of Russell Ritter. And Western Perry Lodge and campsite was erected as a memorial to five former Scouts from western Perry County, who like Russell Ritter, Jr., gave their lives in the services of their country during World War II.

A new roadway—Mumma Road—and entrance was built. Walter and Bob Mumma donated a substantial amount of the materials for these improvements. According to Charlie Steele the limestone for the construction of Mumma Road came from the quarry at Dromgold. The quarry, now abandoned, can still be seen on Route 850, west of Dromgold Corners. Steele said the rock was surplus, left over from state Department of Transportation road projects during the early 1950's. Penn Dot contributed the stone to the Scouts after Mumma made Steele aware of its existence and Steele contacted the state. Mumma made good on his promise to build the road through camp—hence the name.

The Mothers' Club of Carlisle built a Memorial Chapel in honor of Judge Fred S. Reese.

A modern Health Lodge was constructed with help from the Carlisle Tire and Rubber Company and Rotarian Jonas E. Warrell of the Carlisle Rotary Club. To keep Scouts clean, the Albert L. Allen family donated funds to construct the bathhouse as a permanent memorial to Albert Allen, Sr. A modern septic system, designed by Glace & Glace, was added to replace "Hinkerville."

On August 8, 1951, a special celebration of the 25th Anniversary of Hidden Valley Scout Camp took place. At 7 a.m., the first flag to fly over camp in 1926 went up the flagpole. This was followed by an inspection and visitation, waterfront Skills Carnival, and a buffet dinner on the Athletic Field which included a special reception for Miss Mary Sachs.

A special Silver Anniversary program began at the new Fred S. Reese Memorial Chapel that evening. Camp Chaplain Gerald Reidel offered the invocation and special tributes were offered to the original members who founded

Hidden Valley in 1926. Two speakers, John Gruber, a Scout, who talked about "What Hidden Valley Means to Me," and council president, L. R. Thurston talked about Hidden Valley's future growth and needs. The Rev. Father Leo Beierschmitt offered a benediction, and the evening concluded with a 25th Annual State Scout Campfire, featuring Indian Dances by the Tuscarora Indian Council.

In late 1951, Charlie Steele officially joined the Keystone Council, now representing 7,000 boys and 2,700 men and women. Steele, over time, would spark a tremendous following within the council and lead the group to great accomplishments. Steele's predecessor, Thomas W. Miller moved to the Chicago, Illinois Council.

Steele, of Philadelphia, was the Senior Deputy Executive of Region 3, comprising the states of Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia. He had been a member of the Boy Scouts of America for twenty-eight years and had served in a professional capacity for thirteen years. Previous assignments included Pittsburgh, Washington, DC and Philadelphia.

A Reedsville, Pennsylvania native, Steele received his education at Lewistown High School, Carnegie Institute of Technology, and the University of Pittsburgh. Steele was married, with a son and a daughter.

A May 1952 Camporee conducted by the Swatara District, under the direction of Gethin Kurtz, was a two-day affair. Summer Camp that year, the 26th season, began on June 29 and concluded on August 23. Fees ranged from \$5 per boy per week for troops that furnished their own camping equipment and cooked their own food to \$19 per boy per week for provisional campers (without a troop) and utilized all camp facilities including eating all meals in the Dining Hall.

On a late September Sunday afternoon in 1956, the Melting Pot Patrol's new stone gateway at the East Gate was dedicated. The Gateway was designed, built and landscaped by the Melting Pot Patrol. Financial assistance came from Harrisburg Elks Lodge 12. (Past Exalted Ruler, William Lipsitt; Exalted Ruler, Jack Hill and committee chairman, Morris Sachs, arranged the connection between the Elks and Scouts Council vice-president William Work, and Scout Executive Charlie Steele accepted the gateway keys. Bronze plaques were unveiled, revealing the donors' wishes to dedicate this edifice to Scouts past and present. Melting Pot Patrol members producing this much needed entrance were Sidney Felder, Patrol Leader; Frank Jones, Scribe; Brent Shunk, John Eslinger, Robert Dowhower, Morris Sachs, Fred Crump and Malcom Finger, treasurer.

The final construction addition of the 1950's was a swimming pool for camp. In 1957 Rotarian Ivan M. Glace, designed the pool in honor of his son, Jack, who spent many summers as a boy at Camp Hidden Valley.

Heim Mill: A Landmark Along the Banks of Sherman's Creek



Heim Mill as it looked in 1960.

In 1950 Camp Hidden Valley grew from 39 acres to 540 acres. A large chunk of this included the acquisition of the Heim Mill and dam property from Pennsylvania Power and Light Company.

According to a 1969 history of the Heim Mill, compiled by Reverend John William Heim's grandson, John William Heim was born in Northumberland County in 1782. Heim was a minister. He served congregations in Lewistown, Mifflintown and several other Mifflin County (the county included Juniata County at that time) towns until he was called to Perry County in 1828. Heim married Catherine Drenkel, who, as a child, had been "miraculously" saved from the Indians during the Penns Creek massacre. They purchased a home and farm a mile south of Loysville along Sherman's Creek.

In the early 19th century there were about thirty gristmills near Loysville. The oldest was the Roddy-Wagoner Mill, three miles upstream from Heim Mill, and the Rice Mill, three miles southeast; on what was Roddy-Bixler Run, later Montour Run. The Patterson Mill, a mile and a half up Laurel Run, in Sheaffer's Valley, was also close.

Heim was interested in everyday life as well as the souls of his broad parish. He saw the obvious value of a water-powered mill along Sherman's Creek—it was closer to Loysville than any existing mills. But construction of the mill, a dam across the powerful stream, and digging the long millrace was more than Heim could finance. Tradition holds that a neighboring stone mason offered to do the masonry work for less than \$100, and Heim agreed to construct the mill.

The mill was started in 1831 and completed in 1834. It was constructed of Doubling Mountain (in Sheaffer's Valley) stone. It stood two and

a half stories tall, measuring 44 x 60 feet, with an attic. Millers ground and chopped cornmeal and barreled flour at the mill.

The milling business did not pay during Heim's ownership. He died in 1849, and his executors sold the mill with sixteen acres of land separate from the farm. A neighbor, Anthony Fuhrman and young George Weaver, a miller who migrated from Lehigh County, bought the mill. Weaver made the industry pay and was soon sole owner of the mill, which also doubled as a sawmill. Weaver's property also included a home, barn for his cow and an orchard. Weaver and his son, Calvin, operated the mill until 1919, when Calvin sold it to Tressler Orphan's Home. (An interesting aside—Heim's great-grandson Rev. G. R. Heim, was superintendent of the Orphan Home.)

By that time, the milling business had faded away. Tressler, sole owner of the Sherman's Creek Valley Electric Company, used the mill to generate electricity.

In 1921, a large concrete dam was built and the old mill was turned into a modern combined mill and hydroelectric plant. Water from the dam traveled through a half-mile raceway, then discharged back into the stream, spinning a 75 KVA, 60 KW, 180 rpm, 2200-volt vertical shaft generator with direct connected exciter. S. Morgan Smith Company, of York, Pa., also installed a one-hundred-horsepower oil engine for times of low water. The generators supplied current to a two square-mile area that included Landisburg, Ellitsburg, Green Park and Loysville.

The electric plant was expanded with a diesel engine and large generator, and power distribution extended to Landisburg and Spring and Tyrone townships.

When Pennsylvania Power and Light Company (PP&L) expanded further into Perry

County, their officers approached the trustees of Tressler Orphan's Home with an offer to buy the Sherman's Valley Company, its property and rights. The offer was accepted, and the local plant was used for several years as a supplementary, then local emergency generating plant. The mill's power operation was abandoned shortly thereafter.

When the Keystone Council purchased the Swarner (former Heim) Farm as an eastern entrance to camp, the electric company deeded the mill and the property to the camp.

The mill stood quiet and empty for many years.

Sam Scharadin remembers the mill becoming a storage space for camp. Tent platforms, canoes, tents, cots, etc. were stored here during the winter. The OA Weekends usually moved the equipment in and out as required. Scharadin often supervised these efforts.

One year, Scharadin said, Charlie Steele obtained a large quantity of down sleeping bags from war surplus and stored them at the mill. "When we opened the mill in the spring we found we had wall to wall down feathers. Seems the mice had a warm winter."

The area around the dam was posted "Off Limits" after a child—not a Scout, but a neighborhood kid who was skating there—drowned during the winter, Scharadin said.

In the early 1980s, the mill was going to be torn down. The Heim-Weaver Mill Preservation Committee wanted to preserve the old mill, but sadly, their effort failed. The mill was torn down with council's permission about 1984. A local builder used the stone.

"Of course what we have a right to expect of the American boy is that he turn out to be a good American man. Now the chances are strong that he will not be much of a man unless he has been a good deal of a boy. He must not be a coward or a weakling, a bully, a shirk, or a prig. He must work hard and play hard and be able to hold his own against all comers and under all circumstances. Its only under these conditions that he can be the kind of an American man of whom America can be proud."

PRESIDENT THEODORE ROOSEVELT

Scouts Who Lived It

Richard Denison Brought Back What He Took from Scouting

In April of 1944, Richard E. Denison, Sr. was an 11-year-old Susquehanna Town ship farm boy when he was introduced to Scouting. More than 30 boys in Troop 79 met once a week at the Progress Church of God, in Progress, Pa. Walter H. Sheaffer was Scoutmaster. "This man, outside of my parents, had the greatest influence on my formative years," Denison said.

Denison's first trip to Hidden Valley was in 1945.

"I'll always remember the trip there," he said. "My parents drove fellow scouts and myself to camp. The entrance to camp was a road that entered at the Northeast corner of what is now Rotary parking lot. It was a one-lane dirt road. Staff stood signal towers and using white flags, waved us in. We carried our gear down the path beside Rotary to a pontoon bridge, once across we used a two-wheeled cart to move our gear to our campsite (Daniel Boone), located where the current swimming pool is." Denison and about 20 other boys camped in ten-man army squad tents with no floor. His camp box was an old ammunition box on which his father fashioned a lid.

Assistant scoutmaster "Pop" Parsons, was the cook. Breakfast and lunch took place in the all-purpose building in Kiwanis 1 and 2, and the Scouts marched for retreat in the field adjacent to the current boat dock. After lowering the flag, Scouts marched to the old dining hall for dinner. The Cub Village pavilion covers this site today.

"One rainy day my Scoutmaster helped me make a leather neckerchief slide. I guess he saw a little twelve-year-old getting homesick," Denison said. "I still have that neckerchief slide."



Left—Checking the buddy board—swimmers paired up and kept tabs on one another for safety—at Hidden Valley in 1946. Right—Hidden Valley's archery range in 1951. The three visible faces are (back to front) Joe Sherman, Lloyd Clegg and Jack Kissinger. Archery, as a sport and a means of hunting, steadily became more popular during the late 1940s and into the 1950s in part thanks to exhibitions by trick shooters. Hidden Valley hosted some of these exhibitions at the time. These incredible archers could split aspirin tablets at 20 paces, hit flying targets like a shotgunner.

Our swimming pool was Sherman's Creek. A wooden crib held the non-swimmers. A small adjacent area was for beginners. A vast portion of the creek toward Beaver Island was for swimmers. A floating dock and diving board was at the northern portion of the swimming area. South of the swimming area was for boating and canoeing. The campfire circle was in the southwest corner of what is now the boat dock field. It was encircled by sticks tied together to make an enclosed circle. Songs such as, "Where, oh where is Sweet Little Susie," and "I've Been Working on the Railroad" were popular. A softball field was in the Northeast corner of the boat dock field. The Southern terminus of camp back then was Eagle Rock.

Denison was a non-swimmer during his first year at camp. He eventually earned swimming merit badge in his third year, 1948. Driving to retrieve a weight from the bottom of Sherman's Creek was the most difficult part of the badge for me.

"Change started taking place at Hidden Valley in 1948. Thomas Miller came onboard as Council Scout Executive, and the council started to acquire more land. As a memorial to World War II veterans, new cabins were built—Ritter and Western Perry. In 1949 our troop's older boys—the senior patrol—was the only patrol to score 100 percent in the "Gold Rush 7" patrol contest. We had eight boys who had a myriad of specialty skills that we put to good use that day—Marvin Brown, William Brady, Homer Evitts, Richard LaVanture, Stuart Feeser and Donald Hoopegand."

"I went on to achieve Eagle the next year as was a patrol leader in the National Jamboree at Valley Forge.

That winter our Scoutmaster had a heart attack. In the spring of 1951 he called me one evening.

"The doctor won't allow me to go to summer camp this year," the Scoutmaster said. "You're it."

"I am only 19, I can't legally be the leader. You must be 21," Denison told him. Denison also questioned the response of parents to a 19-year-old troop leader. But the Scoutmaster was way ahead of him, and already cleared these hurdles with both the Scout Executive and the parents of the troop.

"You're it," the Scoutmaster said. (Charles Steele was the Scout Executive who gave approval, Denison noted.) Those 31 Frontier Campsite scouts with a 19-year-old Assistant Scoutmaster earned 82 merit badges that week.

From his troop, only Richard Lavanture and he continued in Scouting as adults. Both were awarded the Silver Beaver.

Achieving Eagle, the leadership role at the National Jamboree, and the Scout camp leadership responsibility were key factors in Denison's acceptance into Advanced Air Force ROTC while a student at Penn State. From that experience he was commissioned into the United States Air Force where he gained additional leadership training.

Scout training also assisted him with his career, agricultural consulting. He retired from the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau in 1994. Denison developed a nationally recognized farm financial management service, and launched a non-profit foundation for the organization, prior to retirement.

"Scouting as a youth and leadership skills learned from dedicated unit leaders at Hidden Valley and unit meetings paid well for this person. I only hope that I've paid back what I have received from the program," Denison said.



Deacon John Remembers...

When 11-year-old John Mowery joined the Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Parish troop in June of 1949 he was initially told that he had to be 12 years old. But a week later the National Council changed the age to 11 and he was in.

His Scoutmaster was P. J. Seitz, other adults were Robert Martin, Paul Funk, Ed MacAvoy, Rudy Hirsch, and John Kean. Rev. Mowery said the troop always had leadership problems and at age 18, although registered as an Assistant, he really became Scoutmaster.

Mowery's first year at Hidden Valley was also 1949. Camp cost \$12.50. Courtesy of a new bridge, the troop drove into Rotary parking lot. They stayed at Stockade campsite, for provisional troops, wooden buildings with half a side wall and roof. Stockade was located where the present chapel is located.

Mowery remembers several people, including one of the counselors, Ronnie Kite, from Virginia; the Scout Executive's son; "Weir the waiter whipper," who was in charge of the dining hall. He also remembered the old stockade camp entrances and planting trees at a council camporee in the west camp. A *Patriot News* keepsake photo from the time shows himself, Dr. Joe Gerdes (deceased) and Bernard Ryan, Esquire.

Between the dining hall (where the fireplace now stands) and Stockade was the building that served as our shower. Troops had assignments to tend to the fire during the day. This area is where straw to fill bed ticks came from, too.

Campsites were Red Cloud, Great Stag, Beaver, Frontier, and Susquehannock (for tent camping) by Sherman's Creek.

He remembered swimming in the creek, deep muck, and the buddy system.

Rev. Mowery suffered from asthma, and recalls being carried from the creek to the Health Lodge for a shot and then back to the creek to work on canoeing merit badge. He also remembers Lady Baden Powell dedicating the pool.

Rev. Mowery said "I believe I was the first 'under 21' Vigil Honor member. I was involved in all ceremonies and represented all of the Indian characters. I was the last person to confer the 'old' brotherhood induction. In the old ceremony there actually was an exchange of blood so as to become 'blood brothers'."

In 1970, Rev. Mowery served as Aquatic Director and in 1969 was the last camp director for Hidden Valley East.

Rev. Mowery was ordained as a Deacon in the Roman Catholic Church 25 years ago. He remained active in Scouting, including serving as a Scoutmaster, and in many aspects of the Order of the Arrow. Seven of his scouts are now ordained Catholic priests, two are doctors, three teachers, one Annapolis grad, one full time Navy Seal, several are self-employed and one is the mayor of Harrisburg. He is currently registered with the Adventure District, and in 2002 will serve at Hidden Valley as a Camp Commissioner and Chaplain.



Hidden Valley's rifle range has always been a popular place for Scouts.

Jim Pannebaker Recalls an OA campfire...



"I FIRST WENT TO HIDDEN VALLEY, right after the National Jamboree at Valley Forge, in the latter part of July of 1950," Pannebaker said. "At that time, the concrete bridge and the western part of the camp had not been built."

"I remember, during the summer of 1950 being tapped out for the Order of the Arrow at the weekly campfire. The campfire was started by an Indian shooting an arrow, which came down a long cable from the area back of the Rotary Lodge, across Sherman's Creek, to the campfire. Then the campfire would explode, in a profusion of fire, after the Order of the Arrow Chief had asked the Four Winds for fire. The tap-out ceremony for the Order of the Arrow was very impressive with everyone being lined up in a straight row, and an Indian walking down the row, grabbing you from behind, while the Chief in front then tapped you out with three taps and took you off for an orientation march.

"I particularly recall my rowing merit badge counselor that summer, Jim Klahr, who was a year older than I was, and also from the Middletown area. He worked my fanny off. I worked harder to obtain that merit badge than any other merit badge on my way to Eagle.

"A few years later at Hidden Valley's fall ordeal Order of the Arrow function, and being called upon at the dam on the east side of camp to attempt to rescue a local man in his 20s that had been playing softball in Loysville, and came out to swim at the bottom of the dam and had drowned. We used artificial respiration that we had been taught in Scouting to attempt to revive the gentleman.

"I had another opportunity to go back to Hidden Valley in the 1970s with my son Jeffery and now the west camp had been built. We ate in the new dining hall and stayed at the campsite, which now houses the Wagner Training Center. There was a lot more walking to get around the camp, but not much had changed during the years, as far as kids having a good time, and enjoying the camp."

Pannebaker said that after his 1965 Army service, he joined Keystone Area Council's executive board and witnessed the renaissance of the camp in the 1990s. "Hidden Valley has become one of the premiere Boy Scout camps in the country," he said.

Scouts Who Lived It

George Farley Remembers 1955

"I WAS A MEMBER OF TROOP 181 IN 1955 when our scoutmaster, Ken Beam, decided to take the troop to Hidden Valley for a week of summer camp. Our troop was sponsored by the Mt. Zion Lutheran Church located in Goodyear, PA, about five miles south of Mt. Holly Springs. In those days scouts did not wear a council patch on their uniforms but rather a "location strip" that had the name of the town or village in which the scout troop was located so our uniforms had "Goodyear, PA" on them.

Hidden Valley was in its 28th year in 1955 and the entire camp operation was held in what is now the East Camp. I remember walking over to the area that would eventually become the West Camp and noting all the small white pine trees that had been planted in the area where eventually the trading post and dining hall would be located. All the troops coming to summer camp were housed in the area around the east camp dining hall. This building no longer exists but it was at the approximate location where the pavilion at cub village is today. We lived for the week in screened-in cabins which accommodated, I believe, eight scouts in bunk beds.

I can't recall how many scouts from our troop went to Hidden Valley that summer but it probably was a rather substantial number since we had a fairly large troop. Since I was one of the older scouts I helped our leaders with keeping everything squared away in our cabins. Many of our scouts were quite young and being away from home for a week was a new experience for them and we did have some cases of homesickness throughout the week.

The meals were served in the dining hall and since this building also had at one end a nice large fireplace we had several indoor activities there in the evenings throughout the week. I don't recall anything about the quality of the food but I assume that it was regular generic camp food, much like what is served today at Hidden Valley.

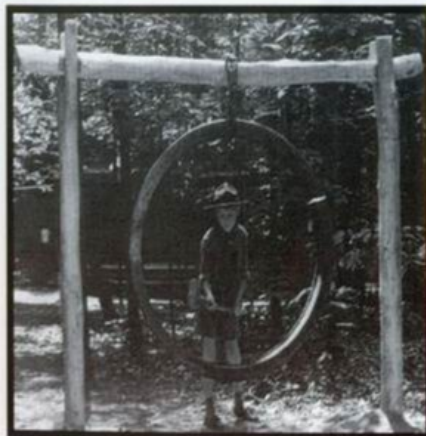
The one aspect of that week that I vividly remember is the waterfront. There was no swimming pools at camp in those days so all aquatic activities were held in Sherman's Creek. If pollution was a problem back then no one seemed to give it much thought since there were no restrictions regarding swimming, etc. Swimming tests were given, as is true today, the Sunday troops arrived at camp. Non-swimmers were relegated to the immediate boat dock area. Beginners had a roped-in area to swim in and swimmers were allowed to swim out to a raft that was anchored in the middle of the creek.

It was a fairly rainy summer that year so the creek was high and muddy. One of the merit badges that I worked on was Lifesaving and most of the requirements were met using that raft as a base. Our instructor was a young man named Chuck Houck. He was well liked by the Scouts and was a competent instructor. (Sadly, Chuck died several years later as the result of complications following some relatively minor surgery). One of the lifesaving requirements involved doing a surface dive in water at least ten feet deep and recovering a burlap bag filled with rocks. We did this, along with everything else, in the creek. Since the creek was so muddy it was virtually impossible to see anything under water. Meeting this requirement involved doing a surface dive to the bottom then blindly scroung-

ing around the muddy bottom trying to locate the burlap bag until you could no longer hold your breath and you had to surface. Finding the bag was a matter of some luck. Fortunately Chuck was a very patient and understanding merit badge counselor and was willing to keep throwing the bag in the creek for each candidate until everyone was able to come up with it eventually. (Chuck was also the camp bugler.) Of all the merit badges I earned in order to become an Eagle Scout I value the lifesaving merit badge the most since meeting the requirements that summer at Hidden Valley was a real challenge.

Camp inspections were a really major item that summer. The inspections were done by an adult Scouter whose military background resulted in his being a real stickler for neatness, etc. I remember that all the scouts, myself included, waited each morning with some sense of foreboding for the inspector's daily visit. Woe to any cabin crew that had not removed each small piece of paper, did not have bunks properly made or was guilty of a rather large number of other possible infractions."

Farley also remembered taking a short hike to Eagle Rock located on a bluff overlooking Sherman's Creek at the end of what is now the Great Stag campsite, and the end-of-the-week hurricane. It was heading for the East Coast and the camp officials decided that everyone should leave camp as soon as possible before the storm struck. Saturday morning activities were curtailed and we all packed up and left early in the day.



Above—A signalling device from Camp Hidden Valley in the 1950s.

A
SCOUT
IS
THRIFTY...

A
SCOUT
IS
CLEAN...



Right—Scouts work on building a campfire at Camp Hidden Valley in the 1950s.

Ranger "Duke" Croll remembers...

Lewis "Duke" Croll was the Ranger at Camp Hidden Valley from the mid-1950s until 1965. He and his wife originally lived in the old log house located along the main road, just beyond the west gate and just before crossing the old covered bridge.

The camp bought the farm on the other side of this bridge from Dewey Baughman and his wife, Thelma, in 1964 or 1965, but it was not planted with trees at that time.

The standing trees on the land across from the west gate had recently been harvested for lumber or pulp wood. Duke then replanted the land with new trees, using a rented planter that fit on the rear of the camp tractor. He also planted all the trees in and around the Ranger's house and the Compound Area. He and Mrs. Croll planted many multi-flowered roses in and around camp.

One of his many responsibilities was to check all troops in and out of camp. He also had to turn the water on or off at each campsite. The new Ranger's House was built at the end of their stay at Hidden Valley. They lived in this home two years. Herbert Lodge was also built during this time.

The Rotary, AMP, Ritter and Western Perry Lodges had all been completed prior to this time frame.

They recalled that Mark Foultsberg was the contractor from Berrysburg who built the swimming pool, and Jacob Henry did the fireplace in Herbert Lodge. The wooden bridge in camp and the dining hall were both built a few years after the Ranger's House.

In those days the store was located near the present dining hall, along with a hospital. Two doctors, Don Meyers and Dr. Amador (who was handicapped with an artificial leg) tended the summer camp medical needs of Scouters during this period of time.

Following in Dad's Footsteps: Jim and Bob Dolbin

JAMES DOLBIN

Jim Dolbin became a Boy Scout in February of 1951, when he joined Troop 5 in Harrisburg, sponsored by St. Paul's Episcopal Church at 2nd and Emerald Streets. Dolbin was following in the footsteps of his Scoutmaster father, Bob S. Dolbin.

"That very weekend," Dolbin remembered, "we took the bus to Rockville and hiked to my father's cabin. It seemed like 30 miles, but in truth it was about five miles." The boys set up two-man G. I. tents, and Dolbin's patrol leader took new Scouts aside for outdoor skills training. Dolbin called the weekend a big success, especially waking up with snow on the tents. "We were real Scouts, we slept in the snow," he said.

Dolbin's first summer camp was in 1951, a "super" year, when he learned to swim, row a boat, first aid, to make moccasins, and eat half-pints of ice cream. (He remembered a staff member cutting pints of ice cream in half and eating them on the trading post porch.)

"Things I remember most about the first year in camp," Dolbin said, "were the smell of pine, drinking water with far too much chlorine in it, the 'albatric' (snipe) hunt, walking through camp with only a towel wrapped around you, frogs and peepers, mess duty,

green eggs, singing songs all the time, Scout stories, argyle knee socks—they were big then, and most of all being a kid who belonged. I found my spot." To top things off, they had two campfires that week, during skit night on Wednesday, and during OA tap-out and awards night. "I was hooked, Scouting was for me, and Hidden Valley was the place to be," Dolbin said.

Between 1951 and 1959, Dolbin attended Hidden Valley annually as a staff member or a Scout. Troop 5 used a lot of G.I. surplus gear. "You name it, we had it. Our Scoutmaster must have been part-owner in the Army surplus store." He did whatever the camp had to offer. He remembered the craft lodge, run by Mr. Keller, a Harrisburg teacher; the waterfront, run by John "The Lid" Tellet (nicknamed for the wooden seat on "the head," Dolbin said); Dr. McGowan at the Health Lodge; camp director Mike David; and Mable, the camp cook, a "big, happy lady."

Dolbin went to church, next to the cement bridge, every Sunday morning. Everyone called home on an old crank phone next to the administration building just to use a crank phone—until 1958, when someone poured molasses in it.

Cleanliness was accomplished in a shower house overlooking the wooden bridge. Hot water came from a coal-fed heater. And a "Charlie

Rig" kept dust down, pouring oil from a 55-gallon drum on camp roads.

Dolbin also remembered cold winter camping at Hidden Valley, where the boys sang songs, cut wood with a bow saw and wet, wet hikes.

ROBERT E. DOLBIN

Bob Dolbin, Jim's older brother, was involved in Scouting from 1941-1954. He was also part of Troop 5, and achieved the Eagle rank. Bob Dolbin first went to Hidden Valley in 1941. For the sum of \$8, earned by selling Christmas cards, the boys camped up to two weeks, always in tents—even during a severe storm that blew a lot of tents down and soaked everyone. Bob recalled the waterfront, the rigid life-saving requirements, swim races, canoe battles and diving. He said the nature lodge was not well equipped, but recalls the camp food being good.

When it comes to revealing the natural Scout high jinks that went on at Hidden Valley, especially the funny stories about fellow Scouts, both Dolbins' memories grew very short. "I'll never tell..." they said. "Except burning the Cubs at Spring Camporee," Jim said. Burning Cubs?! For the rest of the story—ask Jim Dolbin....

Donald A. Conley — Scouts Who Lived It

"I BECAME A SCOUT ABOUT 1936 when I joined Troop 55 in Lemoyne," Donald Conley said. "Grace Evangelical Church sponsored us at 3rd and Herman Avenue in Lemoyne. Mr. Eddie Blessing was our Scoutmaster. Some of the fellows in the troop were Dutch and Francis Kinter, Cloyd Crowl, Warren Crowl, Jim Heffebower, and Ben Africa. We had meetings once a week on Monday night."

"Some of the ways we earned money was by paper drives and we stored them in a garage the church had available. When the price of paper seemed high enough we would load them up on a truck and take them to Harrisburg."

"Every summer we would go up to Hidden Valley for a week of camping. I remember we had to cross the creek on a raft made from 50-gallon drums. Then we had to pack straw into a bag for a mattress to sleep on. In camp we worked on merit badges, made things out of leather and also made things out of wood. Once a day we were allowed to go in swimming if the creek water wasn't too muddy."

"After World War II, Mr. Homer Bressler approached me from Grace Church and I became their Scoutmaster of Troop 55. Some of the fellows in the troop were Eddie Bason, Bill Martin, George Kirsch, Howard Neight and Dalton Hoffman."

"We had a very active Mother's Club and they raised most of the money to buy equipment and also a bus for us to use. We used it to go up to Hidden Valley as a troop in the winter for weekend camping. We cooked our meals on an old wood stove."

Turtle Shells and Frog Legs...

TOM JACKSON REMEMBERS HIDDEN VALLEY Scout Camp in 1948. His Mother saw an ad in the newspaper that a new troop was forming, and he joined Troop 120.

To go to camp, each boy bought a 10-cent stamp to paste in a folder each week. When the boys filled the book, \$12.50 worth of summer camp stamps, they were on their way. Jackson still has two stamp books among his Scouting memorabilia. Other items include: all his old uniforms; a banner from 1949 for 100 percent enrollment in *Boy's Life*; Order of the Arrow (OA) sashes made of felt; a large collection of handbooks, including "Scouting in the Lutheran Church"; a wooden arrow he had to carve to join the OA; and many neckerchief slides. (The boys in his troop got an extra one each time they brought a new boy into the troop.) A number of the neckerchief slides are made from turtle shells. The boys caught turtles, drowned them, then put the dead turtle on an antihill, so the ants would clean out the inside.

Jackson also recalls catching bullfrogs and keeping them in a wire cage in Sherman's Creek. When they had enough frogs to make a meal of the legs, Hidden Valley's cook would prepare them.

When Jackson found a staff photo from the early 1950s, he recognized himself—and one of his turtle neckerchief slides. Jackson recalled how he and another Scout were catching bullfrogs in a rowboat at night. They were not allowed to use flashlights. Their catch went into a wet burlap sack. When Jackson and his friend saw lights on the camp's dock, he thought they were in big trouble. They heaved the sack overboard, but forgot to untie it. The frogs inside made an awful thrashing sound in the water and of course the people on the dock knew what was going on. Jackson thought he and his friend were going to jail. The lights on the dock turned out to be other counselors who thought the whole thing was hilarious!

Jackson remembers his KP duty—heavy duty spud-peeling in the kitchen.

Jackson earned 35 merit badges. He remembered how he needed a 50 yard swim for the swimming merit badge, but had trouble achieving it. The leader used a rowboat and went in front of him, always keeping the stern a little out of Jackson's reach until Jackson met his goal.

Jackson became the second Eagle Scout in the Conodoguinet District in 1954. His Scoutmaster was John Tellei, from the Milton Hershey School.

Jackson was on the Hidden Valley Camp staff in 1950 and 1951. He has a large collection of patches, many from Camp Rock Endon, in north central Pennsylvania. He has original OA

patches before they were standardized, an original Harrisburg Boy Scout Council patch, a special OA patch that utilizes smaller special shaped pieces that sew in along the outer edge to form a larger patch, and a "scribe" patch.

He also spoke of "Green Bar Bill," who he met at a gathering of "Masonic Eagles."

Jackson was part of the Explorers in the Conodoguinet District, a Cub Scout leader, and later started Troop 253 at SKF Industries in Shippensburg. Most of Jackson's leadership activities were done on the district level.

Jackson met Gen. William Westmoreland at the Vietnam War Memorial in Washington, DC. He approached him and introduced himself as a "fellow Eagle Scout." They talked for awhile

and as they parted, Gen. Westmoreland called back to him and asked, "by the way, Jackson, what year?" Jackson replied, "1951," to which the general smiled and said, "1929," then walked away. Jackson was a friend of Walter (Wally) Alexander, Bob Hanson, the attorney, and Dr. Estep, a professor at Shippensburg University in Scouting.

Nothing, Jackson said, opened more doors for him than his Eagle Award. His first bank loan was secured because he was an Eagle Scout. The banker looked over his application and when he saw he was an Eagle Scout, he replied, "If you can't trust an Eagle Scout, who can you trust?" The loan was quickly approved.

A SCOUT IS TRUSTWORTHY...



Snakes—as well as frogs, turtles, and other critters—were always popular among the boys who camped at Hidden Valley. This unidentified Scout has a dozen eggs and a "blue racer" snake caught at camp. A number of Scouts remembered finding and catching snakes and keeping them as pets until they went home from camp, when the critters were released. Brash piles, created when land was cleared to make room for campsites, was responsible for the high number of snakes, as well as other critters, found at the camp. Several Scouts also remembered snakes hanging around campsites and later the lodges and Adirondack shelters. It's obvious from the smile on this Scout's face how the boys felt about the creatures that visited them, however.

LOOKING BACK...

A PHOTO ESSAY • 1950s



Top left - Thomas W. Jackson, from Troop 120 in Shippensburg, received his Eagle Scout award in 1951, in the Lutheran church that sponsored his troop. Scoutmaster John Tellei is on the left, Tom's father is on the right, and Rev. John F. Sammel is standing behind Jackson. (courtesy of Thomas W. Jackson)

Above - This was the Green Colony, a collection of tent campers at Hidden Valley in 1951. This photo proves Scouts today aren't all that much different from Scouts 60 years ago. Check the guy snoozing in tent to the right.

Top right - Scouts love to parade! This is the Memorial Day parade from 1955. The location was not identified. However, the troop numbers on the boys' sleeves say Troop 22.

Left - It's not Mom's home cooking, but it will fill a hungry Scout's belly. These boys are trying their hand at cooking vittles in the early 1950s.



Above and Right - These two photos were taken during a U. S. Air Force Demonstration in August of 1953 for the Scouts. Exactly what the Air Force was demonstrating is unclear, especially considering that this was the Cold War era. But it looks like serious stuff, given the faces on the boys. (Could it be tear gas in the right photo?) Looking at these, you're almost expecting Red Serling and some tin-foiled 1950 bogeyman from Mars to pop up over that far hill any moment. Serious stuff.



Left - Scouts did more in camp than work on merit badges, peel spuds and wash dishes, they also had some fun. Here's one example of how, pitching horseshoes. **Above** - On the rifle range, 1950. Shown shooting are Earl Book, Jr. and Charles Graham from Troop 92; Francis Richwine of Troop 51. Camp Hill is marking his with the (spotting?) scope. And Bruce Peeling is also taking a couple of cracks at the targets. Observing the shooters are Oliver J. Dickey, marksmanship instructor and assistant camp director; Hubert Schaues of Troop 12; and Kevin Peeling, Troop 52's assistant scoutmaster. (Evening News photo)



**A SCOUT IS
CHEERFUL...**



Above - 1962 Jamboree Staff: Left to right are: Frank Jones, Charlie Steele and Rubbi Philip Bookstaber.

Below - Jubilee Troop 33 at the International Jamboree, Sutton Park, England, August 1957. They sailed both ways on the Liner M.V. Fairsea.



JAMBOREES...



Above - The Gateway to the 1957 National Jamboree, held in Valley Forge, Pa. was large enough to be seen from the Pennsylvania Turnpike. Shown above is Troop 23 including: Row 1 - John Hard, Steve Schall, William Swager, Dale Nace, Walton Hoover, Brian Peters, John Stephenson, John Flickinger, Frank Morrow, Harold McNaughton; Row 2 - John Bowser, Ronald Derman, Lewis Mower, Lynn Wagner, Bruce Wallis, Emmett Noll, Jerry Bodorf, Bill Hoffman, Martin Gladsey, Gary Zimmerman; Row 3 - William Coher, James Lesh, C. Buffington, Robert McCann, Paul Murray, Sam Eby, Frank Rozman, Dallas Snyder, John Galsh; Row 4 - James Kincer, Pullin Rissinger, Jr., Richard Burd, Larry Ehrhart, Jim Thompson, Charles Bryan, Robert Habig, Doug Cornell, Rodger Magrivers, Paul Bashore, Leonard Beason.



Above - Hidden Valley's Camp Staff from 1950. Two Scouts have been identified: Thomas Jackson, Troop 120, is fourth from the left in the second row; David Pord is fourth from the right in the same row. **Below** - Camp staff from 1958. The girls are back!



Above - This is Mike David's neckerchief slide collection, showing the number of Scouts from each country in 1958.

**A SCOUT IS
TRUSTWORTHY...**

TED'S BOYS...



Above left - This fine young lad saluting is Ted Valcis, part of the Friends of Hidden Valley committee, as he appeared in 1953. Ted describes himself as "Just an old Boy Scout, trying to remember the best youthful days of his life, when most people have the hardest time to get through their early years."

Above right - Above their tent, named Cheyenne, are three members of Troop 95, from 1953, buddies of Ted Valcis. At Hidden Valley, Troop 95 did most of its own cooking at Frontier Camp. The mess hall supplied baked goods, especially pies and cakes. "The cook and baker gave first dibs on the cakes and pies to Scouts who could throw a tomahawk, axe or special belt knife at a target better than other Scouts did at camp. For some reason my troop did quite well at this."

Left - Another look at some of the Scouts in Troop 95. They look like a happy-go-lucky kind of a crew. "As I think back to those years I find what I learned as a Scout has stayed with me most of my life," Valcis wrote.



A SCOUT IS BRAVE...



Above - One of Hidden Valley's camp doctors during the 1950s was George Richie, from Richmond, Virginia. This photo was taken in 1951. Richie gave very freely of his time and interests for the Scouts and was remembered by many Scouts who attended camp in the 1950s.

Below - Ron "Buffalo Bill" Hoock, Scoutmaster of Troop 160, of Carlisle, got the bright idea to deck out like Buffalo Bill and come charging into camp on a horse one year. He followed through on this idea in 1950. Rumor has it he was stiff for a week—but yeehaw! What a way to enter camp!



Above - Prominent Scouters of the time included: left to right are Judge Shelly, Dick Stanford, Casimir Kriechbaum, John Shellenberger and Jonas E. Warrell.

Below - This photo shows Rabbi Bookstaber, Governor Fine, L. R. Thurston and Charlie Steele.



Above - A typical Scout uniform of the 1950s.



Left - This smiling fellow is Clarence Diefenderfer, better known as "Duff". **Above** - This is the Heim Mill dam on Sherman's Creek, at normal water level. The dam is located west of where the mill stood and fed the mill water through a raceway that ran parallel to the creek. (Joyce Crider photo)



Above - With the addition of more secure winter camp quarters, like Perry Lodge and other buildings, Hidden Valley's camping schedule expanded into the winter months. These Scouts show one of the reasons why. **Left** - This is Kermit "Mamma" Loyd, commissary director from 1951. Note the old typewriter, and Kermit's expression. He looks like a hard-bitten writer, struggling for inspiration.



Above - This photo of the East Gate was taken before Mamma Memorial Drive was paved.

Right - People—including Charlie Steele (back row, center) who attended the staff conference at Kings Gap Conference Center in May of 1956.



ON THE WATERFRONT...



Left - A boat race is under way on Sherman's Creek at Hidden Valley. Put your backs into it, lads...stroke, stroke! Where's that white whale at... (Nick Ramsey photo)

Below left - This is the our house at the waterfront in 1953. These boys seem to be in a hurry to get swimming. It must have been hot that afternoon. (Nick Ramsey photo)

Below - Another view of the waterfront area on Sherman's Creek in Hidden Valley Scout Camp. This photo shows several interesting things: The diving area is in the middle of the creek, floating on 55 gallon drums. The boat docks are behind it, and the parade grounds are on the right side of the creek, behind the boat docks. Exactly why everyone was grouped around the waterfront remains a mystery. No one is swimming, rowing or doing much. (O. J. Dickey photo)

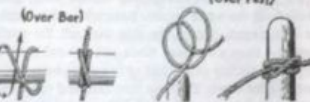


Left - Hidden Valley's Health Lodge in 1951, showing Jerry Riedel, Marguarite Richie, Kermit Loyd, Bill Ryall, Dutch Blair, and George "Doc" Richie.

Right - A knot page from the Explorer handbook of 1953.

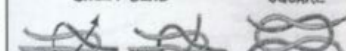
KNOTS, HITCHES AND BENDS

CLOVE HITCH (Over Post)



SHEET BEND

SQUARE



EXPLORERS



Above - Explorer Post 3 marches on to Hidden Valley's parade field. Explorers were older Scouts who formed special units, or posts, often to investigate certain career areas.

Below - This photo comes from a Middletown, Pa. Explorer Scout encampment. Some of these faces look none too happy, especially the guy on the far right, second row. What's he up to?



Top - These Scouts were Explorers from the Harrisburg Hospital Post. Shown are vice president Joseph Burger, treasurer Steven Adleson, President Rex Herbert, and secretary Timothy Leo. Above - These were the leaders at the 1953 Explorer Scout encampment. (Look at the program closely.) Below - This is the 1933 Explorer handbook, much like the Scout manual.



Charlie Steele and Growth:

The 1960s and 1970s

The dawn of the 1960s was more than the age of Aquarius, flower children and free love. It was a continuation of the unrest begun in the days after World War II, both in the United States and across the world. Things were changing, and change sometimes brings turmoil and contrasts in ideologies, as well as growth.

For the Keystone Area Council, the dawn of the 1960s was a time of celebration. In January of 1960, council held a 50th Anniversary Celebration, with a special presentation to Miss Mary Sachs. The program from that event records the following:

"In the year 1927 our Council Leaders selected 27 acres of land along Sherman's Creek in Perry County which was to serve as a site upon which to build a permanent camp. The Council Officers signed a bank note for the purchase price. This created a debt for our Council, and there was a great deal of speculation among the Council Officers as to how this debt was to be paid off.

"A young lady, who had serious business and debt problems of her own at the time, heard of our dilemma; and because of her faith in a better future, Miss Mary Sachs added to her other indebtedness by borrowing \$10,000 which she gave to our Council to purchase the land and to erect a much needed dining hall, which is still doing yeoman's service. Miss Sachs, through this very generous gift, literally put a roof over our facilities before she had a roof over her own. This gift was a great sacrifice on her part—so much so that it had to be given anonymously and remained anonymous for 25 years.

"An interesting facet of this gift was that it was used to honor a living rather than a deceased person. Fully realizing how much her Rabbi, Philip David Bookstaber of Temple Ohav Shalom was vitally interested in Scouting from the inception of Scouting in America, Miss Sachs' gift was made in honor of Rabbi Bookstaber, and a bronze plaque was placed on the dining hall fireplace describing this living tribute.

"Miss Sachs, we are proud to present to you on our 50th Anniversary celebration this plaque engraved:

"Miss Mary Sachs, A Great Lady and a Friend That believed in the Future of the Keystone Area Council.

"Boy Scouts of America...signed Charles W. Steele, Scout Executive, Albert L. Allen, Jr., Council President."

Later that year, America watched the presidential candidates debate on television. Richard Nixon's late afternoon beard growth, damp forehead and tense demeanor came across as decep-

tive, while young, clean-cut John F. Kennedy, a man definitely at ease with television cameras, appeared calm, more prepared. The debates brought to life a new means of campaigning for political office, and the hearts, minds and pocketbooks of Americans. The nation also discovered that Francis Gary Powers, pilot of a U2 high-altitude spy plane, was shot down over the Soviet Union, and how Lt. Don Walsh and Jacques Piccard, in the bathyscaphe (submarine) "Trieste" dove to record 35,800 feet off Guam, in 1960. The popular films of the year, "Psycho" and "Exodus," hinted at the contrasts coming with the new decade.

Television worked for Kennedy. He was inaugurated as the 35th President—the youngest man to hold the office—in January of 1961. Later that year, the Berlin Wall was constructed, and World War III was a heartbeat away from happening when the US discovered Soviet nuclear arms located in Cuba (the reason for the spy planes) and aimed at us. Soviet premier Nikita Khrushchev offered to withdraw the Cuban nukes if the US would remove its nuclear bases from the Soviets' back door in Turkey. Kennedy told him no deal and ordered a blockade of Cuba. For several days, the world teetered on the edge of global nuclear war. But the Soviets eventually backed down and withdrew their nuclear weaponry from Cuba.

In 1962, the year after "West Side Story" won its Academy Award and 17-year-old Bobby Fischer took the US chess championship for the fourth time, a military council was established in Vietnam, signifying America's escalating involvement in the conflict taking place there. A study that year also showed that 44 percent of the world's 1.62 billion people were illiterate.

In the Keystone Area Council, demographics showed another picture: Of more than 37,600 potential Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts and Explorers (13,000 possible Cubs, 12,500 Boy Scouts, and nearly 12,000 Explorers), 32 percent, 12,078, were registered in Scouting within the Council.

Turmoil continued to rise across America in the early 1960s. In 1963, unemployment reached 6.1 percent. Civil rights demonstrations in Birmingham, Alabama resulted in riots and beatings of blacks and civil rights marchers by whites and police. The Selma unrest culminated in the arrest of civil rights leader Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King. Pres. Kennedy sent 3,000 federal troops to Selma. Later, 200,000 Freedom Marchers entered Washington to demonstrate for the Civil Rights movement. In November, in Dallas, Texas, Lee Harvey Oswald assassinated Pres. Kennedy. The nation was shocked. A day later nightclub owner Jack Ruby shot Oswald in a jail

corridor, while television cameras captured the confusion of it all.

But all wasn't bad news.

The *Guns of August* by Barbara Tuchman won the Pulitzer Prize for non-fiction, Andy Warhol "Pop" art style soup cans and comic strip silk screens became popular. Jack Nicklaus won his first Masters Tournament, then the Tournament of Champions and the World Series of Golf. And Arnold Palmer was—for the fourth time—top golf money winner with a total of \$128,000. Scouting offered a lot of good news.

For example, veteran Scouter Charles F. Keller's 19-page manual on the Nature Trail at Camp Hidden Valley was published in 1963. The book was chock full of valuable and interesting information regarding the plant life found along the Nature Trail at Hidden Valley.

Even better, Camp Hidden Valley was undergoing a second round of expansion. The camp had grown far beyond the capacities of its facilities. Council boy membership was at an all-time high by 1963—13,338 Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Explorer Scouts, about one-third of the Scout-age boys in the Keystone Area Council. The council now covered Dauphin, Perry, Cumberland and most of Franklin counties. And in addition to summer camping, which was growing, winter camping had also expanded, serving up to 175 boys each weekend.

Council's Executive Board approved a campaign for \$255,000, primarily to add facilities to the West Camp area. The campaign was well received by the general public and collected more money than was needed to cover the new additions.

Part of the expansion program included land. Between 1964-65 council added two tracts: 19 acres in 1964, and 164 acres in 1965. The 164-acre tract, located west of camp, was to be planted with hard and softwood timber. Mountain water was to be controlled with diversion terraces. Both efforts were part of Council's long range plan, so the land for additional facilities would be conditioned and ready for development. The total acreage for camp was up to 758 acres.

Other new items for the camp included a pumping station, winter camping lodges and an archery range.

A description of Hidden Valley from that time is interesting.

Mumma Memorial Drive, the macadam road leading from the East Camp entrance to the West Camp entrance was a year-round road memorial to Walter S. Mumma.

"Entering at the West Gate the campers see the Rangers residence on the right and on the left the service compound made up of a mainte-

nance shop, garage, and storage building.

"On the right are parking lots, then the Administration Center provided by the Carlisle Tire and Rubber Company in honor of Jonas E. Warrell, a Carlisle Rotarian and Scout leader for many years.

"The next structure is the Trading Post, which is a memorial to H. B. Alexander, founder of H. B. Alexander and Sons, Inc. On a branch road is the new Hershey Dining Hall, provided by the management and friends of Hershey. To the left is the Rotary Cottage, provided by the Harrisburg Rotary Club through its foundation. The next building is a central shower building. Continuing along the hard road they come to the Nature Lodge, erected by the G. R. Kinney Shoe Company in honor of deceased Rotarian and Scout leader Earnest J. Simeone. The road then crosses a 165-foot, 15-ton capacity steel and concrete bridge that ties the East and West Camps together.

"In the East Camp a water pumping station has been constructed along with a half mile of water line connected to a new 30,000 gallon reservoir built on the side of the mountain to provide domestic water for the summer camp operation and for the swimming pool. A ladies washroom is nearly completed.

"Back in the West Camp, off Mamma Memorial Drive to the south, are located two winter lodges—Thunderbird Lodge, provided by the Order of the Arrow; and the AMP West Lodge, which has been renamed Whitaker Lodge in

honor of former Rotarian U.A. Whitaker, founder of AMP, Inc. A second campfire circle has been built in memory of Esra Hershey and six new tent sites.

"To the east of the Memorial Drive along the creek is the Ruth Camp Site in honor of Charles M. Ruth, Sr., founder of Dauphin Steel Company, and the Reese Camp Site in honor of H. B. Reese, founder of Reese Chocolate Company. The new Archery Range was provided by Hershey Rotarian John B. Sollenberger. Adjacent to this is the Mosquette Range and the Rifle Range. A second boating and canoeing area was established near the Rifle Range."

Another bit of good news during the turmoil of the 1960s was Albert Allen's Silver Antelope Award.

When Region Three, Boy Scouts of America, held their annual meeting at the Benjamin Franklin Hotel, in Philadelphia, on October 7, 1966, they presented Allen with the Silver Antelope Award.

The Silver Antelope Award is made for noteworthy service of exceptional character to boyhood by registered Scouters within the territory under the jurisdiction of the region. The Silver Antelope Award is not common. Allen was one of only four council members to receive this award.

The award for Allen read:
"From Tenderfoot Scout to council president, Albert Allen's Scouting trail has been continuous except for the years at school and in ser-

vice to country. He attended Harrisburg Academy, was graduated from Mercersburg Academy, and, upon graduation from the University of Virginia, was commissioned as ensign in the United States Navy. As gunnery officer aboard a destroyer in the central and south Pacific, he participated in nearly all of the campaigns between 1942 and 1946. He served again in the Korean War, emerging as a lieutenant commander.

"President of the Albert L. Allen Insurance Company, he also heads the Allen Registry Company and the Sentinel Insurance Company. He plays tennis, golf, and holds a private pilot license.

"One would like to think that Boy Scout training contributed to an admirable quality which Albert Allen has in abundance - when he undertakes a job, he works hard at it until the objective is achieved. His affiliations and community activities include: Trinity Lutheran Church of Camp Hill, Rotary, Masonic Order, Country Club, YMCA, United Fund, Hospital Board, Insurance Association, and the Harrisburg Academy Association.

"In Scouting, he has served on the unit, district, council, and regional levels. He was chairman of special gifts in the recent highly successful camp capital campaign of the Keystone Area Council and was president of that council from 1959 to 1961. Since joining the Region Three Executive Committee in 1961, he has coordinated the camp inspection program of his se-

vice area and given active support to the work of our Region.

"For distinguished service to boyhood, Region Three presents the Silver Antelope Award to Albert L. Allen."

A special 50th Anniversary Program in appreciation of the Scouters and Friends of the Keystone Area Council was held in Harrisburg's Zeno Mosque on January 30, 1967. Scouts now numbered 12,677, and there were 430 Packs, Troops and Posts. Dr. Gunnar H. Berg was the speaker for the evening. Mr. Albert C. Herbert, president of the Council, had some interesting comments.

"Fellow Scouters: Fifty years ago in 1917, as our country was at a critical place in history, and was entering the conflict of World War I, the first Boy Scout charter was presented to the Harrisburg Area Council. This was the forerunner of our present Keystone Area Council.

"This charter formalized the Scouting program which had begun in our area six or seven years before, and it followed the granting by Congress in 1916 of the first National Council Charter.

"Much history has been written in those 50 years. The maps of the world have been redrawn many times. Nations have died and others born. Some say that over 90 per cent of the total sci-

entific knowledge of today is less than 50 years old. It has also been said that only about two percent of our business and institutions exist for that long.

"Scouting was born because there was a need 50 years ago to preserve the privilege of young people to experience the wonders and strengths of the world of nature, to remember the hardness of their forebears, and for teaching boys and young men to put the same kind of sinew in their everyday lives.

"Scouting has survived and grown during these fifty years because these needs have continued throughout the years, and Scouting has measured up to meeting the need and has become a force for great good in our country.

"Henry Adams said, 'A teacher affects eternity, he can never tell where his influence stops.' I am certain that Scouting has had a similar impact on people and history for five decades of turbulence and change.

"No one could have foreseen what would happen in the past 50 years any more than we can look that far ahead now. But we always look forward and hope for better things. We know from the past that if our young citizens can be strengthened in body, heart, mind and soul, and educated under open skies, our country's history will be secure. Scouting is a major means toward this

end.
"We have seen many changes in the 50 years of our life, but there have been no new inventions in the fundamentals of Scouting. Duty to God and country, duty to others, and duty to one's self are still as valid, still as strong, still as essential as those values ever were. The validity of the Scout Oath and Law has not been affected by any new discoveries.

"These precepts have not changed, but Scouting and Scouting programs have changed and will continue to change as we meet the challenges of a changing world and a changing youth.

"As we begin the second half-century of this Scout Council let us never forget that we are not building statistics. We are building morale, strength, courage, and the will to do right.

"Let us build anew both in quality and quantity upon the solid base of these fifty years of successful Scouting.

"Locally, 1967 was important not only from the historic point of marking the 50th anniversary of our first charter, but from the standpoint of accomplishments. It was a year in which our professional staff was brought back to the level of four years ago, and saw the reversal of the drop in membership which we experienced for the first time in many years in 1966. We are pleased to report that we achieved a gain of 574

The Man of Steele:

In His Own Words and Those of Others

• **Work Ethic**—"Charlie's idea of vacation was to sign out of the office for a week's vacation, and then head to HV for the week. When he wasn't at Camp he would be at the Navy Depot scrounging materials. In some of the Program Shelters, you may notice unusually shaped beams called 'skegs' under the roof. These were surplus from the Navy and were used in the hulls of landing crafts." Bob Rowland, on Charlie Steele's hands-on management style in the early 1960s.

• **Yanking Charlie's Chain**—While pouring the concrete foundation for the shop in the Compound, Charlie stopped to look through the transit and found the footer was off by six inches. When he complained, the Navy made him aware that one of the workers had his foot under one leg of the transit, just to "rattle" Charlie's chain!

• **Getting it Done**—One day Charlie gave a tour of the camp to Pennsylvania's Secretary of Highways Bob Bartlett. Charlie brought him into camp on Hidden Valley Road which was gravel at the time. Bartlett suggested paving the dusty road. Charlie agreed. The following week a state road crew showed up and the road was paved to the entrance of the Tree

Farm, which is further out the road beyond the West Gate.

• **The Jeep**—World War II military surplus came to Charlie like flies to honey. Naturally, these items found their way to camp. One of the many oddities that showed up was an Army Jeep with a single red star on the hood. Steele used this as his personal transportation around camp, to keep his eye on things. One day an adult volunteer, who never showed much ambition, teased Steele saying he was surprised the jeep didn't have three stars on it. Charlie quickly replied, "It did have three, but I wore the other two off by working!"

• **Pranks**—Sending naive Tenderfoots on quests to find elderbritches, snipes, left-handed smoke-shifters, smokebenders or some other figment of the imagination is a Scouting tradition, plain ornerly fun. When Steele encountered a forlorn greenhorn, he explained to the boy that there was no such thing, then invited the Scout to have some ice cream. He would talk with the boy and delay his return for an hour or so, until the worried Scoutmaster came looking. When the tables were turned, everyone had a good laugh.

• **The Real Scout Canoe Trip**—Charlie talked about the three-week canoe trip into Canada in



Charlie Steele was one of the Keystone Area Council's most important leaders during the 1960s. As this photo shows, he was a hands-on leader.

the 1950s. The Troop began making their gear in January: tents, duffel bag, and special food boxes. They used a demonstration sewing machine from a friend of his to sew the sailcloth into tents. The tents were then coated with paraffin and turpentine, which was heated first to melt the paraffin. All gear was created over a period of months prior to the trip. The troop camped along the shores each night in a different location.



Left - Scouts busy at work at Hidden Valley's Nature Shop. Shown (left to right) are David Lee, Bill Pattison and Jack Shanh. Photo by Bob Krajcsik. Above - Charlie Steele served as Scout executive of the Keystone Area Council from 1951-1973. He was one of the most influential leaders the council has had in terms of developing Camp Hidden Valley.

boys, or 4.5 percent, and brought our total at year end to 13,250 boys. This is a far cry from the less than four hundred Scouts we had when the Council was organized in 1917.

"The following three pages of this program feature some of the many scout activities of the past year. These achievements were the result of much hard work and planning of the 5,000 dedicated Scout Leaders we honor at this annual dinner, concluding our Golden Anniversary year.

"With our heartfelt thanks for your dedicated service in the past and challenging you to reach higher goals in the future."

In February of 1968, Council continued its Golden Anniversary celebration with a 50th Anniversary Program presented at the Zemo Mosque as a tribute to the Golden Anniversary Year. Also, the XII World Jamboree, came to the United States in 1968. This was the first World Jamboree to be held in this country. In August of 1968, at Idaho's Farragut State Park, a delegation of 21 Scouts and Leaders from the Keystone Area joined 12,000 Scouts from 105 countries in this event.

Like mini-skirted discotheque go-go girls stepping up the beat to the Funky Chicken, the

turmoil of the 1960s continued, only at a faster pace beyond mid-decade.

America's involvement in Vietnam escalated after a US destroyer was allegedly attacked off the North Vietnam coast in 1964. Riots and violence tore into the fabric of the nation, when people on both sides of the Civil Rights movement reacted to conflicts over civil rights. The Ku Klux Klan reared its ugly head, shooting people in Selma, Alabama; and the Watts district of Los Angeles literally burned one night, resulting in 35 deaths, 4,000 arrests and \$40 million in property damage.

In 1967 world peace was jeopardized by the Six-Day Israeli War between Israel and its Arab neighbors. 1968 was a horrible year, with both Martin Luther King and Presidential candidate Robert F. Kennedy - being assassinated. Violent crimes—like the "Helter Skelter" murder of actress Sharon Tate and four others in Los Angeles by Charles Manson—were up 57 percent since 1960. Hundreds of thousands of people demonstrated against the Vietnam War in cities across America. Even *The Saturday Evening Post* magazine, the timeless Norman Rockwell chunk of Americana, quit publishing.

Still, hope existed. Richard Nixon's 1968 campaign promised a Vietnam "peace with honor," yet he was elected President by the narrowest margin since 1912. Education worked: Of 3.52 million 17-year-olds in the United States, 2.63 million were high school graduates, and the nation spent more than \$26.2 billion on education, about \$654 per student. People could always escape—to the movies to see "Funny Girl" or "2001 Space Odyssey"; or into music, where Aretha Franklin, representing "soul music" and Jimi Hendrix, representing hard rock were duking it out. Or, you could go fishing, and catch a 845 pound blue marlin, like E.J. Fishman did at St. Thomas, in the Virgin Islands in 1968.



**A SCOUT IS
FRIENDLY...**



Faces from the past—from August of 1960. Just about everyone looks happy in this photo, a rarity. Otherwise not much else is known about this group of Scouts and why the photo was taken. Charlie Steele is identifiable on the far left, and the Scoutmaster's shoulder patch says it might be Troop 175.



Philmont Scout Ranch, in Cimarron, New Mexico, has been a popular destination for Scouts from Keystone and other councils since the ranch was donated to the national Scouting organization. This group, composed of an assortment of Scouts from various Keystone Area Council troops, visited the ranch in 1970.

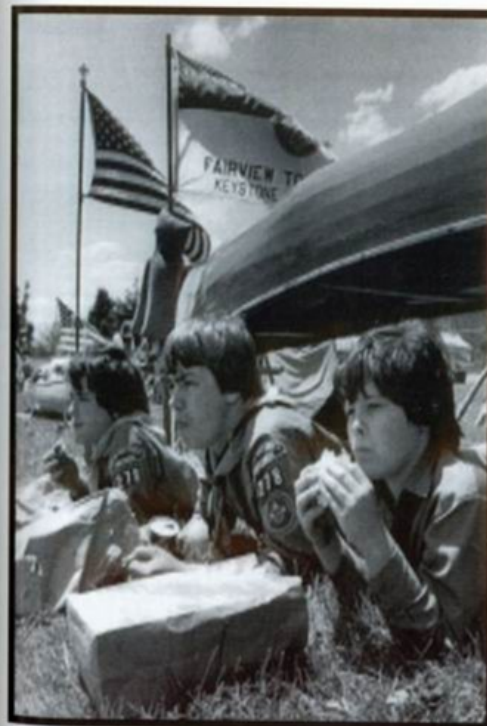
The 1970s

In the first year of the 1970s, the turmoil of the 1960s continued. Lt. William Calley, Jr. was found guilty of premeditated murder in the My Lai massacre of civilians in Vietnam. Pres. Nixon ordered a 90-day wage and price freeze to forestall rising domestic economic inflation. And, the 26th Amendment to the US Constitution was approved, allowing 18-year-olds to vote in time for the 1972 presidential election.

Fishing and baseball were good, though. Hank Aaron whacked his 600th homer. And a number of fishing records fell: In Canada's Great Bear Lake, L. Daunis caught a record 65-pound lake trout; D. R. White set a 42-pound, 2-ounce rainbow trout record at Bell Island in Alaska; J.B. Penwarden landed a 1,000 pound-plus mako shark at Mayor Island, New Zealand; and R. G. Gibson caught a record bluefin tuna of about the same weight off Cape Breton, Nova Scotia.

Tennis star Billie Jean King became the first female athlete to win more than \$100,000 in a single year. George C. Scott won an Academy Award for his portrayal of the World War II 3rd Army commander in "Patton," and "The French Connection," a movie about drug racketeering, was popular.

Also, American astronomers discover two galaxies adjacent to the Milky Way.



Scenes from the May 25, 1968, West Shore District "The Ponderosa" camporee. Left - Three Troop 278 Scouts—left to right, David Irvin, Craig Whitman and John Ward—enjoy a lunch break under a canoe. Right - Alan Chubb, of Troop 285 from East Pennsboro, participates in the rope climb.

The Keystone Area Council, in the early 1970s, continued celebrating.

A 53rd Anniversary Program was held at the Zemo Mosque in Harrisburg on February 9, 1971.

The United States Navy Band Sea Chanters, under the leadership of Commander Donald W. Stauffer, and directed by Warrant Officer John Bledsoe, provided musical entertainment. Cubs, Scouts, and Explorers had 382 Packs, Troops, and Posts and now numbered 12,192.

Council president William W. Lipsitt dedicated the dinner to the 5,000 volunteer leaders. He told a packed room that the council could now mark the completion of 60 years of service to the youth of this country.

Volunteer leaders, Lipsitt said, truly deserve the thanks, recognition and continued support of a community interested in its young people. He also thanked the many individuals and corporations who had made the growth of Hidden Valley possible. Lipsitt said there were few camps that could compare to Hidden Valley.

"Every boy in this Council who loves the outdoors has the opportunity to obtain a great summer experience," Lipsitt said.

Lipsitt also told Scouters that they must believe in the good of the Scouting movement, and keep in mind the goals of Boy Power '76.

"The progress made during the past 60 years will have little significance if our efforts fail during the next six years. Increases in membership by 1976 are imperative if our program is to meet the challenges of these times. As an officer of this Council, I have great confidence in the ability of our staff and volunteers to do the job necessary to keep Scouting in this Keystone Area a vital force in the development of our young boys into responsible citizens."

The council seemed bent on reaching the goals of the campaign. By 1972, 16,000 Scouts—of 45,214 available boys—were registered and a major Camp Development Fund campaign, to raise funds for improving and expanding Hidden Valley, was begun under Lester Thurston. Thurston created a well-designed booklet to make a strong case for the need for funding to the corporations and public at large. The campaign's goal was \$225,000.

That same year, Keystone Area Council and the Hemlock Council of Girl Scouts, in their 60th year, tried to join efforts to remain relevant to the needs of children of that time.

Some of the literature produced from this effort is interesting reading:

"A Scout, according to legend, was supposed to help little old ladies across the street, whether they wanted to cross the street or not.

Cartoonists delighted in depicting eager Scouts in wide-brimmed hats assaulting protesting little old ladies to assist them. W.C. Fields, who hated kids and most of the rest of the human race, wryly called himself "a good Scout."

"Six decades ago when America became urbanized, the Scouts were established to expose youngsters to practical matters like outdoor living, knot-tying and campfire building, which were being forgotten as the frontier and farm disappeared. The president of Harvard of that era called Scout camping "the most important step in education that America has given the world." Girl Scouts even were taught to truss up a burglar, like their tough old grandmothers could—a skill still pertinent today.

"Enter this age of the pill, drugs, TV, fast cars, the youth subculture and the demise of adult authority and respect, and Scouting has had to modify its mission. A fifth of the nation's families now are managed by single parents, up by almost 80 percent in the 1970s. The non-divorced family could be in the minority by the 1990s. The child household in which both parents don't work is almost in the minority now. And Scouting has had to react to such social changes.

"The new emphasis is to reach down to younger kids and to get their parents involved. The Girl Scouts have Brownies at ages 6 to 8. Now the Keystone Council is creating Tiger Cubs, aimed at the 7-year old and his parent. They'll gather in packs to learn such things as how a boy should budget his money. There might be as many as 500 of these Tiger Cubs, who then in a year's time at age 8 graduate into the Cub program.

"For older youngsters, the Scouts are stressing career orientation. The Girl Scouts have their CHOICE program. Explorer Scouting has been very successful in career programming, and now Keystone Council is adding Marketing Explorer, where its officials and experts speak in school classrooms.

"Thank goodness, however, that Scouting isn't all serious. Camping is more popular than ever. Hidden Valley in Perry County had its 56th season of summer camping, up by 150 Scouts. That magnificent camp is now used year-round. One of its great programs is for 10-year-olds to take their dads there for a week, away from mom and sisters. Hemlock Council, meanwhile, has come up with a neat idea in camping. Its girls, starting in January, will camp overnight in the Museum of Scientific Discovery at Strawberry Square.

"One last message: Don't mess with any Brownies or Tiger Cubs. If they want to help you cross the street, go quietly."

At the 55th Anniversary celebration in 1973, also held at the Zembo Mosque, council president John O. Hershey called 1973 a year of progress. Hershey said the council experienced an increase in the number of boys served in all levels of Scouting, especially in the Explorer program, where an increasing number of girls

were participating. Volunteer numbers were also on the rise, with more committee positions filled. More than 5,000 adult Scouters were involved in the council. But the number of boys involved had actually dropped. In 1972, council recorded 16,000 boys. In 1973, more than 13,000 boys were registered, a 3,000-boy decline. Hershey said two things were needed—more volunteer Scouters for new units, and more money for operational expenses.

Events that passed between the early 1970s and 1975 left a mark on the nation and the region. Hurricane Agnes devastated the Susquehanna River basin in 1972, causing \$1.7 million in damage, and putting portions of many river towns like Harrisburg under water.

Like Agnes, 1973's Watergate scandal, which included illegal use of election money, wiretapping, and a cover-up of illegal acts from the President and his staff, submerged the Nixon administration in a torrent of turmoil. It resulted in the loss of public trust for most politicians by Americans. Three articles of impeachment were filed against Nixon, but he resigned in disgrace in 1974.

A Vietnam cease-fire was signed in January of 1973, but fighting continued. The war had cost Americans dearly—46,000 combat deaths, 300,000 wounded, 10,000 non-combat deaths, and expenditures of nearly \$110 billion. In 1975, Communist forces overran South Vietnam and forced the evacuation of remaining US troops and personnel.

Meanwhile in the Keystone Area Council in 1975, a new Eagle Scout Recognition Banquet was begun to recognize those who had achieved Scouting's highest rank in the previous year. Each year's Eagles were feted and recognized with a small nameplate installed on the "Eagle Board" at Hidden Valley.

Journalist Paul B. Beers captured the influence of Eagle scouts in the community when he wrote about the new program for the *Patriot News* in November of 1978. That year, 60 new Eagles were honored at a dinner at the Sheraton Inn.

"The Eagle Scout badge is the first honor a young man usually strives to win in life," Beers wrote. "Only one percent of those in scouting ever achieve it—climbing from Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, and Life Scout through a minimum of 21 merit badges. Somewhere between ages 13 and 18, a boy will do it if he can. Only about 2,500 lads from Chambersburg to Gratz have made it in the last 58 years. So it is an honor that a fellow is likely to remember the rest of his life.

"The Eagle honor seems to run in families, and the Harrisburg Herberts must be among the national leaders. The begats of the late United Telephone president Granville S. Herbert include seven Eagle Scouts. Oldest son John, now a retired Erie telephone executive, was never an Eagle, but the four other brothers were. Dick, the retired Raleigh sports editor and now with



A scene from the West Shore District's May 1968 "The Ponderosa" camporee. William Lower and Dennis Weller, both from Troop 269 of New Cumberland, get a drink of water. Note how the water "bucket" is being held up.



The Memorial A-Frame building, shown above, was built as a common meeting place and dedicated to the memory of William "Bill" Dowling. Construction was under the direction of Charlie Steele, and in typical Steele style, the rafters were made from government surplus whale boat keels, donated by the Mechanicsburg Naval Supply Depot. While under construction, the workers affectionately called the building "Charlie's Car Wash."

"A hundred years from now it will not matter what my bank account was, the sort of house I lived in, or the kind of car I drove. But the WORLD may be DIFFERENT, because I was IMPORTANT in the LIFE of a BOY."

FOREST WITCRAFT



Archery instructor Mel Miller helps Cub Scout David McKee, of Fayetteville, during a Cub Scout Day Camp at Hidden Valley in 1977.



Above - This flag-lowering ceremony outside the mess hall before dinner was part of 1976's 55th anniversary celebration. (Photo by Paul Beers) Below - Charlie Ford of Troop 381 and Larry Hathaway of Troop 75 dig a solar still in June 1977.



the American Football Coaches Association; Al, president of the Pennsylvania Independent Telephone Association and past president of the Keystone Area Council; Harry, president of Herbert Associates engineers and a Keystone Council board member; and F. Harvey, another engineer who is manager of the world's largest phosphorus plant in Idaho. Al's two sons, Rex and Paul, are Eagles; Harvey's son David is one too.

"The late Rabbi Philip David Bookstaber was one of the biggest supporters of Scouting this town ever had. He commandeered talented Jewish boys to make Eagle Scout. Both Dick and Joe Goldsmith became Eagles, and so did their sons James and Joseph. Judge Lipsitt, brother Bob, and nephew Henry were Eagles.

"Frank C. Foose was this town's first Eagle on June 22, 1920. He graduated from Harrisburg Tech two years later, and eventually became a well-known realtor and civic leader. Discrimination never got a foothold in Boy Scouting, because of Bookie and others. Harrisburg's first black Eagle Scout was Charley Baltimore in 1929.

"Here's a partial list of Harrisburg Eagles of yesteryear. It is a rather remarkable assemblage:

Judge John C. Dowling, HACC's founding chairman Bruce E. Cooper, Middletown attorney Jim Pannebaker and his son Jeff. Dr. Wilson Everhart, the gynecologist. Ivan M. Glace, the engineer. Frank Haas, former city solicitor. Arnold A. Rogow, political scientist and author. Gil and Dick Reich, the Steelton football stars. John J. Shumaker, attorney and sportsman. Jimmie George, Carlisle florist. Harold S. Irwin, lawyer. David Benjamin, who became a San Francisco lawyer.

"Chick Siebert, the Camp Hill illuminatus. Bob Crist, historian. Jim Hagar, attorney and horseman. M. Leon Finger, ski pro. Jack Snively, insurance executive. Mike Greenwald of Channel 33 and brother Mark. Dr. John Bernier, community college president. Bill Alexander, West Pointer and construction firm president. Joe Caplan, merchant. Marlin A. Levin, Israeli jour-

nalist. Mickey Shapiro, tennis pro. Nachman Gerber, business man. Hershey's Fred Faber and his son, Dr. Sam Faber. Photographer Pete Rosenkrans."

After 23 years as Scout executive for the council, Charlie Steele retired in 1973. William J. Hawkins took his position.

At Hidden Valley, John Crider, 25, of Fayetteville, became the camp's resident ranger. His wife Joyce ran the trading post. The camp was now 833 acres, with 16 troop sites spread throughout the woods, and eight winter cabins. The camp had hosted at least 50,000 boys from Dauphin, Cumberland, Perry and parts of York and Franklin counties during its 50 years of service.

In 1976, Council consolidated nine districts into four: The Cumberland District came from the former Carlisle, Conococheague, and Conodoguinet districts. The Triangle District was created from the West Shore and Perry County districts. The Blue Mountain District came from the Paxton, Susquehanna and Upper Dauphin districts. And the Union Canal District included the former Swatara, Hershey and Paxton districts.

To better serve these districts, in 1978, the Council moved its headquarters to a more central location, One Baden-Powell Lane, in Mechanicsburg, where it remains today. The land for the new office was donated to the Council by the Albert Allen family, and was part of the original Allen family farm. Groundbreaking took place September 9, 1977. The building was erected free of debt. The new office opened in 1978. Richard F. Wehrle was the first council president in the new office.

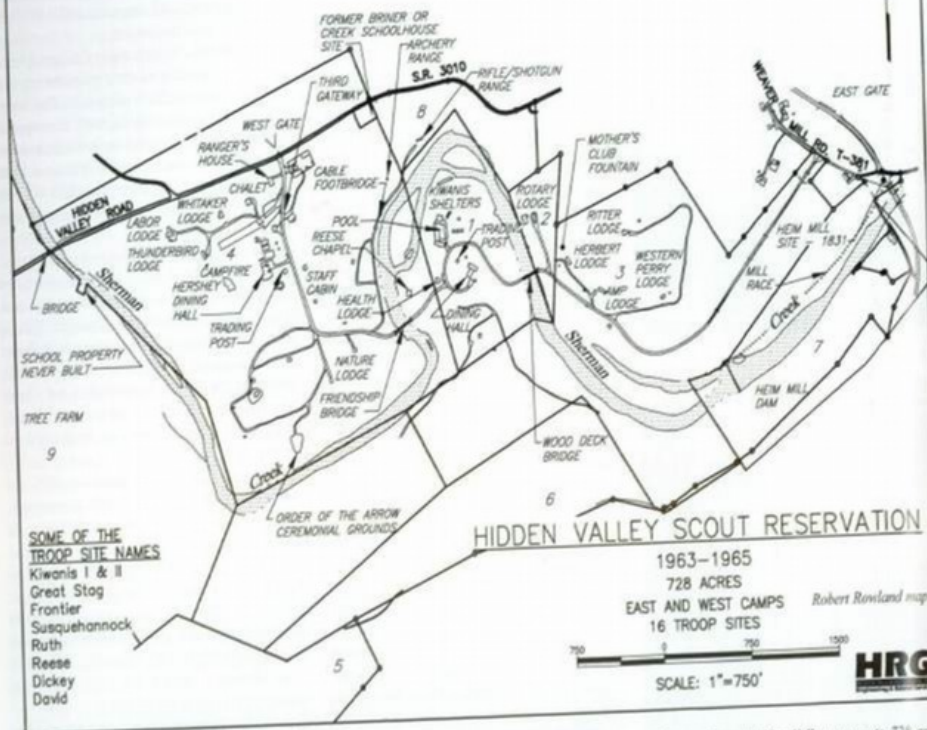
The 1978 cost of keeping one youth member in the Keystone Area Council for one year was about \$25. Council sought donations of this amount from each family to cover all Council expenses—less from some families and more from others.

Also that year, A Scout Show highlighting what Scouting had to offer boys, was held in early June at the Cumberland Valley High School Stadium from noon until 4 p.m.



The mess hall in 1976. One Scout at each table served as the waiter. (photo by Paul Beers)

PROPERTY NUMBER IN ORDER OF ACQUISITION 4



The swimming pool was built in 1957. To create space for the pool some of the Adirondack shelters were relocated to their current site. The contractor was Sam Moseman. The steel was donated by Charles Ruth of Dauphin Steel Company. The stone was donated by Bob Mumma of Penny Supply, who also furnished the concrete at cost. The council borrowed \$15,000 to cover the balance of the expense. The pool was filled that fall with a garden hose from the dining hall well. It ran 24 hours a day for 30 days. The blackout was completed in 1958 and the fence was done in 1963.

Above - Camp Hidden Valley, grown to 728 acres, during 1963-65. Campsites included Kiwanis I and II, Great Stag, Frontier, Susquehannock, Ruth, Reese, Dickey, David and 16 troop sites. Note the lodges, pool, rifle and shotgun range, OA ceremonial grounds and roadway improvements. Camp was slowly but surely becoming one of the premier Scout camps in the nation.



Charlie Steele showing a naval officer some of the filters in the swimming pool facility in August of 1965.

Bob Rowland Remembers Hidden Valley's 1960s Construction Boom

Bob Rowland came from a Wilkinsburg, Pennsylvania scouting family. His father was the Scoutmaster, and his older brother was an Eagle Scout with Troop 5 there. Rowland entered Cub Scouts as a 10-year-old in 1944 and with the exception of college and military years, he has been a registered Scouter for 50 years. Rowland settled in Harrisburg in 1960. In 1961 he was asked, as a civil engineer, to do the necessary surveying for the topographic mapping of Hidden Valley, part of a national Scout effort to develop a master plan.

"Shortly thereafter Eagle Scout Harry Herbert and I started our own consulting firm, Herbert Associates Inc., and Council President W. H. (Wally) Alexander and Scout Executive Charlie Steele asked us to design and manage the construction of the new facilities," Rowland said. "Work was started in 1963 and most of it was finished in 1966, but with Charlie Steele, construction work at HV was never finished."

In the early 1960s the camp was much like the original construction, except for the addition of several winter lodges and the acquisition of some of the adjacent property. The west camp area, which consisted of three cultivated fields, had been recently planted with pine seedlings and a mixture of hardwoods. Rowland remembers being able to see over the tops of the pine saplings during the first surveying. This also happened to be Nov. 22, 1963, and the Ranger's wife told the survey group that President Kennedy had been assassinated.

According to Rowland, the council first camped on the Carson Long site where the shotgun and rifle ranges are currently located. In July of 1926 the council acquired 26 acres from the Hamptons and Hidden Valley had its first official season. This was the finger of land now between the two bridges and surrounded by Sherman's Creek on three sides. The initial access to this site was a steep dirt road coming down from the Blain Road behind the Rotary Lodge to a raft that was pulled across the creek by ropes. This remained the access until Bethlehem Steel donated the material for the wood deck bridge in the mid-1940s. The focal point of the camp was the dining hall donated by Miss Mary Sachs. The fireplace from the dining hall still stands in the Cub Village area as a permanent reminder of her generosity. The first campers utilized Army squad tents on wooden platforms, but they were soon replaced by shelters similar to what the military used during World War I, 20-foot square wood shelters with five double bunks in each for sleeping. The sidewalls swung up to provide full ventilation. All of the old facilities were creosote-soaked wood, which was sticky and smelly. The aquatic programs were all conducted in Sherman's Creek. The Cub Village trading post is the only origi-

nal building still standing. The camp ranger used an old farmhouse on the south side of the Blain Road close to the bridge over Sherman's Creek.

Rowland not only designed the new facilities but also administered the bidding and construction contracts, and was at Hidden Valley nearly every day. Navy Seabees constructed the service compound and some of the other facilities. Rowland said his group would purchase the materials and rent equipment for the Seabees for their two-week summer encampments and work weekends.

"Charlie Steele loved to be working at Hidden Valley," Rowland said, "and he spent every weekend and many weekdays physically working at the camp with Seabees or volunteers. Charlie's idea of vacation was to sign out of the office for a week's vacation, and then head to Hidden Valley. When he wasn't at Camp he would be at the Navy Depot scrounging materials. In some of the Program Shelters, you may notice unusually shaped beams called 'skegs' under the roof. These were surplus from the Navy and were used in the hulls of landing crafts. Many other surplus items are incorporated in the buildings."

"The use of the beveled face concrete block was also Charlie's decision. The intent was to look like wooden buildings while being maintenance free. He also picked the paint which after mixing was redder than what he wanted but when about 50 five gallon cans of it were delivered, the donation was gladly accepted, whether it was too red or not. The old mill along the creek by the east gate was the storehouse for surplus equipment. A lot of the materials were given to other councils but always in exchange for something that Charlie needed. Before starting the design of another building, we would go down to the mill and determine what could be used. Most of the metal windows were surplus, as well as some of the doors, hardware and electrical equipment. The small stainless steel sink in the cook's cabin was originally to go in an airplane. Before bidding on a camp project, contractors were given a list of surplus material to be utilized."

"All of the new camp facilities were constructed during a three-year period to keep pace with the contributions schedule. The original plan was to operate two camps, East and West Camp. The old dining hall still served the East Camp but all the food was cooked in the West Camp's new dining hall and transported hot (hopefully) to the East Camp, where it was served to hungry campers. There were many problems with this: sending the wrong food, cold food when it arrived, or the truck broke down and never made it. At this time we were camping over 1,200 scouts in a season. As the baby boom subsided and camp attendance dropped,



Above - A crew of workers installs re-bars on Friendship Memorial Bridge in 1964. Below - The Seabees built the workshop within the compound during the 1960s. When the building was finished, they placed a propeller and a ship's wheel at the gable end to mark their accomplishment.



it was decided to restructure HV to a large single camp, with 14 sites and close the old dining hall for good. The Ruth and Reese Troop Sites along the road to the rifle range were later abandoned because of high water problems. The two-camp set up was the reason the name was changed to Hidden Valley Reservation."

As the construction ebbed, Rowland served on council's camping committee and the executive board. He was Council Commissioner from 1977-1978. Since 1979, he has done scouting photography preparing slide programs, informational or motivational for the executive board meeting, helped on several troop committees, as a cub pack chairman, and council's Philmont committee. He also participated in the National Camp Engineering Committee. In June 2001 he serves on the property committee and just completed surveying Hidden Valley for the first time. The camp, he said, has 833.09 acres.

LOOKING BACK...

A PHOTO ESSAY • 1960s



Above - This program from the friends of Scouting dinner in February of 1962 detailed some of the growth of the Keystone Area Council. Scout enrollment in 1961 was at more than 12,000 boys, up from 720 boys in 1920.

Left - Boys practice their whittling skills around the picnic table at Hidden Valley in the 1960s.



Top - Charlie Steele is inspecting Scout barracks at Hidden Valley in this photo. The photos on this page were part of Steele's efforts to convince people that the camp needed some improvements.



Above - Scouts at one of Hidden Valley's camping areas show how crowded conditions were at the time. Thanks to the postwar "baby boom" Scouting-age boy numbers swelled.

Below - This Scout is headed up, up, up.



Left - This is the 1960s dining hall, which Steele, in a pitch for money to improve the camp, described as crowded during both of the daily meals it served. **Above** - In the same fund-raising effort, Steele talked about how worn down the campsites were. This photo proves it.



Above - Another shot of the kitchen facilities in the 1960s.

Below - What Steele described as the caretaker's "hovel" in a building fund-raising effort from the 1960s.



Above-Right - "Our water reservoir leaves much to be desired."

Right - This is the "dam used to back up Sherman's Creek for boating" that Charlie Steele, in a fund-raising effort for camp building programs, described as falling apart.

Below - Steele also griped about having to store prized Scout equipment in this shed at Hidden Valley. It is easy to understand why.



SILVER ANTELOPE AWARD...

THESE WORDS from Albert L. Allen's Oct. 1966 Silver Antelope Award Program sum up his contribution to the Keystone Area Council:

"From Tenderfoot Scout to council president, Albert Allen's Scouting trail has been continuous except for the years at school and in service to country. He attended Harrisburg Academy, was graduated from Mercersburg Academy, and, upon graduation from the University of Virginia, was commissioned as ensign in the United States Navy. As gunnery officer aboard a destroyer in the central and south Pacific, he participated in nearly all of the campaigns between 1942 and 1946. He served again in the Korean War, emerging as a lieutenant commander.

"President of the Albert L. Allen Insurance Company, he also heads the Allen Registry Company and the Sentinel Insurance Company. He plays tennis, golf, and holds a private pilot license.

"One would like to think that Boy Scout training contributed to an admirable quality which Albert Allen has in abundance: when he undertakes a job, he works hard at it until the objective is achieved. His affiliations and community activities include: Trin-



ity Lutheran Church of Camp Hill, Rotary, Masonic Orders, Country Club, YMCA, United Fund, Hospital Board, Insurance Association, and the Harrisburg Academy Association.

"In Scouting, he has served on the unit, district, council, and regional levels. He was chairman of special gifts in the recent highly successful camp capital campaign of the Keystone Area Council and was president of that

council from 1959 to 1961. Since joining the Region Three Executive Committee in 1961, he has coordinated the camp inspection program of his service area and given active support to the work of our Region.

"For distinguished service to boyhood, Region Three presents the Silver Antelope Award to Albert L. Allen."

ON MY HONOR...



Three photos left - Charlie Steele's efforts to get more money for camp building programs resulted in the recognition of some of the things that were successes in camp, as well as those things that needed fixed. Steele pointed to the lodges (top - Herbert, middle - AMP, bottom - Ritter) as a major improvement to camp.

Right and above - Another thing Steele thought was good, was the good land right across the creek from the present camp that could be used for expansion. These two photos show views of this land.



Left - Distinguished Eagle Scout Governor Raymond P. Shafer (he earned his rank in 1931) stands with a group of other Scouts at the State Capital in 1965.

Below Left - Clyde Newkirk offers Ken Noetker, of Troop 128, some advice on making dinner. It looks like chicken. Noetker looks thrilled.

A SCOUT IS THRIFTY..



Above - This is Hershey Dining Hall as it looked in 1965. Check out the fresh piles of dirt from new construction.



Left - At the Susquehanna District's Scout Show, held at the State Farm Show Arena, in January of 1968, one troop set up a rope bridge as a demonstration of their pioneering skills. The Scouts look anxious to get their turn to cross it.





Above - KP chores never cease, even in winter. Here, Scouts take some time to clean up the dishes after a hearty meal. The idea of wearing shorts, even in winter, isn't new, as the Scout on the right demonstrates.



Above Right - This is the original wooden bridge over Sherman's Creek. There was no date or listing of what is going on in this scene, but it looks like canoe rolling practice for some of these Scouts. Fun on a hot summer day!



Above - TRW was a big industry in Harrisburg in the 1960s. Here, Eagle Scouts got a tour. Two Scouts are identified in this photo: Jay Kealy, of Troop 59, is third from the left in the front row, and Larry Conrad, also from Troop 59, is third from left in the second row.

RECEIVING AWARDS...



Above - Two unknown Naval officers and Wally Alexander and Charlie Steele admire a miniature of the Boy Scout Statue erected later at Council Headquarters near Mechanicsburg on the former Allen property. **Right** - Lt. Governor John Morgan Davis receives Pennsylvania Eagle Scouts for the annual governor's report. Walter Grossmay (center) was from Troop 10 in Harrisburg.



Far left - John Eisenthorn Sr. receives the Silver Beaver award from Brentwood Shunk.

Left - William "Bill" Dowling being invested with the Silver Beaver Award by Brentwood Shunk. Dowling is the man who is honored by the Memorial A-Frame building--a.k.a. "Charlie's Car Wash"--built with whale boat keels, near the West Gate.



Above - This scene from the Susquehanna Scout Show of 1965 portends quite the spread. You have to wonder if the Scouts got the honor of doing KP on all those dishes that night.

KLONDIKE DERBIES...



Left - Klondike Derbies became popular events during the 1960s. This is "Last Chance Station" where boys had to build a fire and do other Scouting chores. Shown are William Potteiger, Mayor of Last Chance, Christopher Gephart and Steven Baker, of Troop 80. (Weirich News photo)

Above - Scouts enjoy Hidden Valley in the snow and cold during a Klondike Derby.

Below - What Scout could resist a good snowball fight. It looks like these boys have gotten into a big one. They're covered with snow, head to toe.



Left - Some troops had all the luxuries of a warm cabin at some Klondike Derbies. Here a group of Scouts enjoys the fireside hearth after a cold day in the woods.

Below Right - The sign says Klondike Camping Station. This was part of a Klondike Derby at Big Springs State Park. Given how cold the scene looks, it's no wonder there isn't anyone around to pose for the camera. Brrrrr!



**DO A GOOD
TURN DAILY...**



Above - Scouts hiking along a winter trail during a Klondike Derby.



Bud Reisman Remembers Troop 7...

A 50-plus year Scouting veteran, Burton "Bud" Reisman, is probably best known as the wisecracking smile behind the counter in the trading post. His first year at Hidden Valley as a Scout was in 1953, with Troop 65. And he remembers the "Green Hornet" Army truck used at camp to cart supplies around. Yet Reisman has done much more for Harrisburg area Scouting than many people know.

Reisman, born a decade after Scouting began, in 1920, grew up in Scranton, where his family had a stationery store for 70 years. He earned a degree at the Newark College of Engineering and helped develop airplane engines before joining the Air Corps at the advent of World War II. Reisman flew B-17 bombers under Tooeey Spaatz, Jimmy Doolittle, and Col. Paul Tibbet, who dropped the atomic bomb on Hiroshima. His bomber was shot down twice, once over Naples, and once over Athens, where, for three months Greek partisans hid him from the Germans.

Reisman came to Harrisburg after marrying his childhood sweetheart, Leah Williams, whom he met while visiting her aunt in Scranton. Reisman took over his father-in-law's tavern, Moe's Bar and Grill on the Old Gettysburg Pike, sold it in 1967, then joined the Keystone Council as its first business manager. He also served in several leadership roles within the council.

In a late 1970s newspaper article by Paul Beers, Reisman talked about some of his efforts at Troop 7, in Camp Hill's Trinity

Lutheran Church. Reisman said he considered himself a friend, teacher and the luckiest guy in the world to be Scoutmaster of Troop 7, a special troop for mentally handicapped boys.

In 1970, Reisman and his wife Leah founded Troop 7 specifically for handicapped boys, after they learned about the Boy Scouts' programming for the mentally handicapped. Reisman, who had two sons of his own, pulled connections from his days as president of a Little League and got help from Dick Challenger, a nurse at Holy Spirit Hospital; Chub Lyter, of Camp Hill; and Nancy Cassell, a teacher of the mentally handicapped from Mechanicsburg. Maynard "Tink" Cassel, in the electronics business, also joined their team. It wasn't too long before Reisman developed a deep affection for his tenderfoots. He found the boys, usually ages 11 to 17, although some were as old as 22, responsive, devoted to anyone who pays attention, and relishing camaraderie. "There isn't a spoiled kid in the lot," said Reisman, "and no disciplinary problems."

Reisman said Troop 7 loved the winter snow camping, and were fascinated by foil cooking, especially for lunch. In 1972, the troop even got stuck in Ritter campsite and had to wait until Tuesday to get shoveled out.

Though called handicapped, such youngsters—as Reisman came to know them—were "real, genuine, no-airs, innocent-like and wonderfully friendly." Though it sometimes took six months to make a boy feel comfortable enough to talk, Reisman said his boys taught him as much as he taught them. Twice, when he was



Burton "Bud" Reisman

hospitalized, his Scouts sent cards and came visiting. "I looked up from the bed and asked how could I repay them," Reisman said.

In the late 1970s, Peter Thornburgh, former Gov. Dick Thornburgh's son, joined Reisman's troop.

Reisman is an Eagle Scout. In 1964, he was presented Scouting's highest honor, the Silver Beaver. "Scouting is the most wonderful program for boys, but you must believe in it," Reisman said.



Left - July 1967 at Hidden Valley. Things haven't changed all that much. Dig those socks—and the water cans for fire prevention. **Right** - A future Penn Dot crew? No, just boys helping out at camp during the construction boom of the 1960s.



DO A GOOD TURN DAILY...





Reptiles like this turtle retained their fascination for Scouts at Camp Hidden Valley across time. Here, Scouts from the 1960s examine what looks like an Eastern box turtle found at camp before releasing it.

Early Campsites at Hidden Valley

LITTLE SOLID HISTORY REMAINS OF THE ORIGINAL CAMPSITES AT HIDDEN VALLEY. Dick Goldsmith, who became Eagle in 1930, recalled that there were six campsites at that time. They were Great Stag, Red Cloud, Beaver, Chipmunk, Kiwanis and Frontier. In the 1960s, Great Stag had three permanent structures for Scouts and a smaller outfit for leaders. The leader's cabin was screened, while the others were open. Red Cloud and Beaver campsites each had three small wooden cabins, and these were located near the conversion ditch just below the water reservoir. It is not known how many structures were located in Frontier or Chipmunk.

Kiwanis has always been the campsite to utilize Adirondack shelters. John Mitten recalls hauling the large chestnut logs into camp from "Chestnut Flat," a location some distance away and at the top of the mountains, during the 1930s or 1940s. The logs were hand-dug out of the woods, loaded on a truck, then hauled to camp. Mitten also remembered a Chestnut Flat forest fire that burned for four days because there was no equipment or means to get in to fight the fire.

As late as 1962, the original frame structures in Great Stag campsite were still in use for summer camping. These had open sides and no screening. These were later removed and replaced with tents for summer camping. Frontier campsite was originally further up the hill from the old dining hall, and utilized tents for summer camping. In more recent years it has been relocated near Cub Village. In 2001 wooden frame Adirondack shelters, with screened windows and doors, were installed to replace the tents for summer camp.

Nature Lodge—The lodge was built by Kinney Shoe Corporation, in memory of one of their employees, Ernest Simeon, one of nine corporate officers who was killed in a plane crash while on company business. Simeon was a long time Scout in the Keystone Area Council, according to Charlie Steele.

East Camp Staff Cabins—Although little is known of them, ranger John Crider recalls the staff cabins in East Camp as being three rather large permanent structures set in a semi-circle around a single, smaller cabin that was the Headquarters building. These buildings were located in today's Kiwanis I and II area. Crider recalls all the buildings were screened in during the 1960s when he was a Boy Scout attending camp.

The Stein Health Hospital—This original building was made of frame timbers and located in what is now Cub Village. Dr. and Mrs. Maurice Stein donated the building. Dr. Stein gave freely of his time and talent. He served as the camp's resident doctor during the summer months. Stein Hospital was replaced by the newer Health Lodge at the top of the hill from Friendship Bridge. The old hospital building was then expanded and turned into a Trading Post. More recently, and after some modifications to restore the structure, a large porch was added to two sides of the building, and it has become the Handicrafts Lodge.

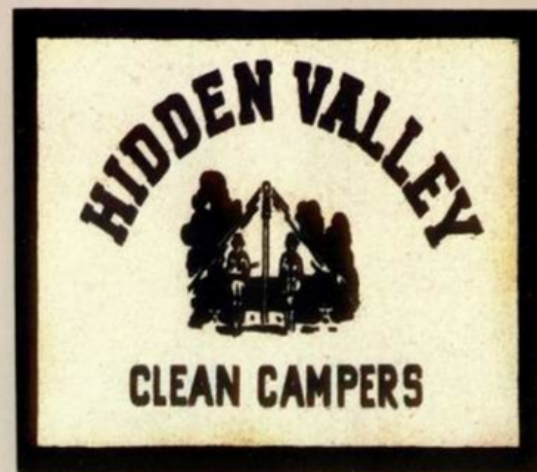


Above - These Scouts are getting instructions from what looks like a forest ranger at Camp Hidden Valley during the 1960s. Below - Learning the ropes—1960s-style. The Scoutmaster showing the boys how to tie half hitches and other knots is from Troop 78.



Salute! - This sharply dressed young Scout demonstrates his salute, one to be proud of.

**A SCOUT IS
LOYAL...**

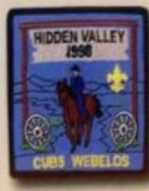
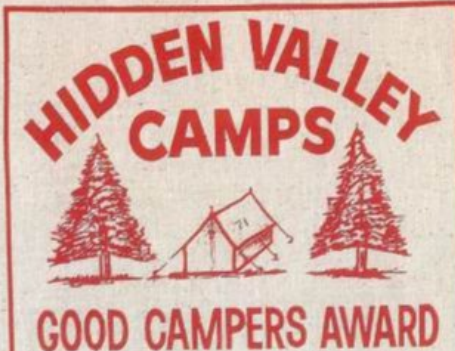


BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

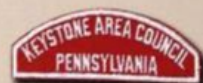


BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA





HIDDEN VALLEY CAMP
The word HIDDEN VALLEY CAMP was first used in the 1930s. The first Hidden Valley Camp was located in the Spring of 1931. The camp was located on the site of the old Indian village. The camp was located on the site of the old Indian village. The camp was located on the site of the old Indian village.



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UCHOWIG CHAPTER served the Susquehanna, Pottsville and Upper Dauphin Districts - 1952.



UNILATCHIGO CHAPTER served the Conowington and Conowington Districts - 1952.



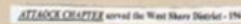
WESPECA CHAPTER served the Carlisle, Perry County and West Shore Districts - 1952.



MINGUS CHAPTER, originally part of Susquehanna and Pottsville Districts, served the new Susquehanna District - 1952.



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA





Crestal



Brotherhood



Vigil



1980 Chesile



1988 Chesile



1990



1983



1992



Elangomat Award 1991

1983 - WAPANEAG APANOGAN (East Shore) replaced the CEMOWE and ANHATTE CHAPTERS.
WINDCHENEE (West Shore) replaced the DUKALANT and BARNER CHAPTERS.



1993



1993



1993



1994 NOAC



1995



1995 CAMBERSHIP FUND RAISER



CAMP PARTICIPATION AWARD



Given out by the Northwest Region Chief - Joe Mariani



Given out by the Northwest Region Chief - Joe Mariani



Anniversary Participation



Day Patch



Night Patch - 3 per



Council Fundraiser

Susquehannock Lodge XI
Order of the Arrow
Keystone Area Council
Boy Scouts of America



Annual Lodge Banquet
January 10, 1998
Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania

A 75th Anniversary Event



1998



1998 Contingency



1998





Robert S. Dolbin: The first vigil member of Susquehannock Lodge XI, shown here in his full outfit for order of the arrow dances. Robert Dolbin was the Scoutmaster of Troop 5, Harrisburg. This undated photo was taken at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. Photo courtesy of Jim Dolbin



Joe Goldsmith (left) and his older brother, Dick, recall their memories of Hidden Valley. Photo was taken at Joe's home in Harrisburg, PA, 2001. Both brothers are Eagle Scouts, Dick in 1930 at age 13, and Joe followed in 1937. Photo courtesy of George Lance



The Older Scout Program includes "Caving." As can be seen from these boys, caving can be a dirty sport and especially hard on the clothing. None of the Scouts are known, but the event was held in 1999. Trek leader is Bill Snoke, 3rd from right, and his assistant was Cary McCallough, 2nd from right. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



The Ironman Boat Event, held each year at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation's summer camp. It is a big attraction for many Scouters who take part. Seen here on Sherman's Creek are a group of boys in row boats while their Ironman leader, Chaplain Bob Baldwin, gives directions at left from the boat dock. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



"Butch" Brubaker and Bruce Felo are seen checking out one of the course challenges on Old Timers Week End at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation, held September 10 - 11, 1999. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance

Bill Willard stands with his two character cut-outs, made by Paul Query, in front of the Hershey Dining Hall, September 22-24, 2000. Bill was there to lead the Troop for Old Timers' Week End at H.V.S.R. Old Timers was his baby! Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



Old Timers Week End was held September 10 - 12, 1999 at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. Seen here, left to right: Ray Cameron; Bill Willard; Fred Neumann; Nick Ramsey and Jim Pannebaker. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



Old Timers Week End was held September 22-24, 2000 at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. Shown here, taking a well deserved break, are Jack Carr, Scout Executive, and his wife, Pam. The photo was taken in the Hershey Dining Hall. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



Old Timers Week End was held September 22-24, 2000 at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. Serving the two hungry Scouters is Bill Fcinet, cook. Eagerly awaiting the food is Mike Chew. Chuck Essig is next in line in back of Mike. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



Old Timers Week End was held September 10 - 12, 1999 at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. Seen here, left to right: Bill Watson; Sharon Lance; and Rick Zellers. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



The "Good Turn" Pool has returned to its full glory in this summer, 1999, photo. The water level is back to normal and clear as can be. Safety markers are in place and the new hand-scapped railing is in place on each side of the ramp. Scouts can be seen enjoying the newly renovated facility at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



Mountain Biking is available to older Scouts at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation, and there are many trails to explore. Shown here are unidentified Scouts as they pedal over some of the rough terrain through the wooded sections of the camp. This photo was taken in summer, 1999. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



This activity was the "Catapult Challenge." None of the Scouts are identified, but the photo was taken in summer, 1999, at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. The location is on the new parade field east of the Dining Hall and Scout Pavilion. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



Three members of the Order of the Arrow are, left to right: Ben Lance, former Lodge Chief; Don Cunningham, National Chief in 2001; and Joe Marsicano, former Section Chief. This photo was taken on September 17, 2000, at the Eagle Ceremony for Don Cunningham. Location is his church in Mechanicsburg. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance

Hidden Valley Scout Reservation saw extensive renovations to the "Good Turn" Pool in May of 1999. In this scene workers are completing their final finish of the concrete work around the top of the pool. Water is already being pumped back into the pool for final testing. This photo was taken on May 22, 1999. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



The Chapel Committee is shown on April 17, 1999, at the groundbreaking site of the new Schoffstall Chapel at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. Shown left to right: Diane Bowen, Mike Kelly, Ralph "Butch" Brubaker, Jack Carr, Chaplain Bob Baldwin, Steve Schoffstall, Alan Boynton, Jr., Charlie Kind, Tom Porsch, and Harold Bowen. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



Another group of unidentified Scouts bike along a path near the banks of Sherman's Creek. There are mountainous and rocky trails as well as smooth lower level paths to be had at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. This photo was taken in summer, 1999. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



This unidentified Scout is part of the "Jousting Challenge" held as part of the camp wide games at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. This was taken in the summer of 1999 on the new parade field east of the Dining Hall and Scout Pavilion. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



These two bright faces, though unidentified, are a good example of the fun that Cub Scouts have when they are together. This photo was taken in summer of 1999. The location is unknown. Photo courtesy of Marna Holt



Taking part in the "Critter Crawl" activities are a number of unidentified Scouts and their leader. This event was held at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation in the summer of 1999. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



▲ The Schoffstall Chapel Dedication was held on September 23, 2000, at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. This was also the date of the Old Timers third reunion. The new Chapel has a location that is on high ground, overlooking Sherman's Creek to the east (at the rear in this photo). The Schoffstall family members and the Chapel Committee members all took part in the festivities. Chaplain Bob Baldwin took over the chapel as his first charge. *Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance*



▲ Shown here following the dedication of the new Schoffstall Chapel are, left to right: Jim Pannebaker, Council President; Mike Kelly, Keystone Area Council Facilities Director; and Alan Boynton, Jr., Chairman of the Chapel Committee. This photo was taken on September 23, 2000, at the chapel site. This date was also the Old Timers third reunion at Hidden Valley. *Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance*



▲ Cub Scouts try out their sleds on the new sledding hill at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation, created after removal of timber across from the West Gate in 1999. This is looking down the grade from Hidden Valley Road. The West Gate is in back of the camera. *Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance*



▲ As part of the renovations of the Hidden Valley Scout Reservation, the original wood/steel bridge over Sherman's Creek is having a new deck installed in this scene. The old wooden deck has already been removed and the crew is now installing new oak timbers beginning at the east end. Vehicles can be seen parked on the Rotary parking lot at the far left in back of the trees. The steel work was designed and supplied by Bethlehem Steel Company many years ago. This photo was taken in March, 2000. *Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance*

The newly decked and railed bridge leading to the east shore of camp at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation, as seen by the camera on May 20, 2000. This also happened to be the Spring Beaver Day in camp. Note the lush foliage compared to the previous picture of this same bridge. *Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance*



▲ The new Adult and Youth Shower and Bath House is dedicated on July 25, 2000. This facility was donated to Hidden Valley Scout Reservation by the Kline Foundation. The guest speaker seen in the center of this otherwise unidentified group of Scouts is Senator Jeffrey E. Piccola. Mr. Piccola is himself an Eagle Scout from the class of 1983, Keystone Area Council. *Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance*



▲ An unidentified Scout watches the action of various creatures in the Nature Lodge during summer camp, 2000. Hidden Valley Scout Reservation has many critters crawling and flying around for the boys to catch and examine. All are released back into the wild at the end of the summer. *Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance*



▲ Learning the skills of First Aid and CPR is one of a group of unidentified Scouts at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation in the summer of 2000. Each had a turn to breathe into the mannequin to practice their skill. Note the boy in the background trying to help the other Scout blow. *Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance*



▲ Swimming instruction also takes place at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation throughout summer camp. Instructor Walt Emory works with an unidentified Scout on his swimming merit badge, one on one. The photo was taken during summer camp, 2000. *Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance*



▲ We three kings? Actually it's Tom Jackson, an Eagle Scout from Troop 120, Shippensburg, standing between two chiefs from the African village of Nigua-Staff. Rank does have its reward.



▲ Troop 288 took a two week Troop/Family trip to Canada in July 1970. The 32 members camped at Lake Beverly in Ontario Province. Some family and troop members are shown here along the edge of Lower Beverly Lake. Paul Bowen was Scoutmaster. *Photo courtesy of Paul Bowen*



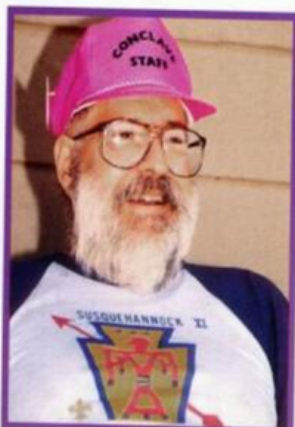
▲ Diane Bowen and Elmer Kline share a laugh together at the N.E. - 4C 1999 Section Conclave. This O.A. gathering of lodges from within the local area came together on June 11 - 13, 1999, to compete in various challenges and also have fun. *Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance*



▲ This large group of Order of the Arrow members pose for the camera at the NOAC event held in June 2000. Front row, L-R: Andrew Thumma; Ryan Worden; Mike Cross; Nate Harner; and Mike Stefaniec. Second row, L-R: Adam Carrasco; Brian Pomeroy; Eric Schott; Ryan Corder; Ben Smyser; and Mark Mackey. Third row, L-R: John Paden; Eric Tomalis; Mike Chew; Chaplain Bob Baldwin; Edith Marsicano; Jerry Marsicano; and Ken Barber. *Photo courtesy of Ryan Corder*



▲ Troop 288 at Kingston, Ontario, Canada. Front row L-R: Steve Edwards, John Williams, David Luck, unknown, Paul Bowen-Scoutmaster, Standing L-R: Charles Fritz, David Page, Dave Bowen, Bob Edwards, Carl Marshall, guard, Mike Lance, Jim Mumper, Dave Bauer, George Edwards and Norm Young. *Photo courtesy of Paul Bowen*



▲ Ralph "Butch" Brubaker shares a lighter moment at the N.E. - 4C 1999 Section Conclave. This O.A. gathering of lodges from within the local area came together on June 11 - 13, 1999, to compete in various challenges and also have fun. Butch was part of the staff for this affair. *Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance*



▲ This group of Susquehannock Lodge XI dancers are, L-R: Sam Meno, Jr.; Chris Chiricos; Spencer Powell; Adam Carrasco; Joe Lendaay; Ryan Worden; and Ben Smyser. Photo was taken at the 2001 Order of the Arrow Conclave, Sinoque Scout Camp. *Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance*



▲ An unknown Scout from Troop 288 assists in the clean up of an old barn structure on Hidden Valley property during Winter Camp, March 1970. This old building was a part of newly acquired camp property that was being cleared away for future camp use. Paul Bowen was Scoutmaster. *Photo courtesy of Paul Bowen*



▲ Ben Lance competes in his Native American regalia at the N.E. - 4C 1998 Section Conclave. This O.A. gathering of lodges from within the local area came together in May 1998 to compete in various challenges and also have fun. The dancer in the background is Nick Brunner. *Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance*



▲ Enjoying lunch at the Order of the Arrow Picnic in July 2001 at Cub Pavilion is the Gesford Family. L-R: Stephanie; Jake; Bill; and Jason. Bill is the Ranger at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation, and all of his children are old hands around the camp. *Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance*



◀ The Spring Camporee 2001 included Scouter "Robbie" Lucas from Troop 105 in Blaine. Robbie suffers from a skin disorder and is allergic to sunlight. His body does not filter out the rays of sunlight, so if he were exposed his body would literally "cook" from the heat. As a result Robbie must remain covered at all times when the sun is shining. The camp staff opened the pool in the evenings so that Robbie could take part in regular swimming activities. Scoutmaster of Troop 105 is Dean Naugle. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



▲ This Jewish Troop 1015 is from Harrisburg and Mike Schatz, left, is their Scoutmaster. Since 1015 is a Kosher Troop, they brought their own food along to summer camp, 2000, at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. The troop used the Wild Buffalo campsite for the week and did all their own cooking. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



▲ Seen here in the Hershey Dining Hall during the first Old Timers Day, October 10, 1998, is Edd Sellers, Jr. Edd was ceremony advisor to the O.A. Dance Team for many years, and had a large collection of Scout memorabilia - some of which is shown here. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



▲ Seen at the 1998 Order of the Arrow N.E. - 4C Section Conclave, is Ben Lance and Jerry Marsicano. Ben was a dance team member and Jerry was an advisor with the Lodge for many years. This photo was taken at Camp Tuckahoe in York County. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



▲ Enjoying a lighter moment in his Trading Post store is Burton "Bud" Reisman. Bud spends many hours caring for the customers of the Trading Post, and tends to like when the Dads come in with their sons, as they give in to buying what is requested much quicker than Mom. Photo taken on September 23, 2000, at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



▲ The first Old Timers Day was held at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation on October 10, 1998. Seen here are three generations of the Seitz family: Terry on left, Greg in center, and Harry on the right. Harry was the Ranger at Hidden Valley for many years. Terry is his son and Greg is Terry's son. The photo was taken in the Wagner Training Center. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



▲ Seen here on July 25, 2000, at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation are Executive Board members, Senator Harold "Hal" Mowery and Jerry Marsicano. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



▲ Checking out the retreat cannon with staff member, Ryan Worden, left, are L. Chad Swick and Kory Stock. Chad and Kory are members of Troop 82 in New Cumberland. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



▲ Spring Beaver Day, 2001, had Don Fry proudly displaying his large collection of Scout mugs. Bill Willard had recently built the display case shown, and both men permanently mounted it in the Hershey Dining Hall for all to enjoy. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



▲ Bill Willard, originator of the HV Old Timers Day event, imitates the caricature Scout image on the first Old Timers Day. This was held on October 10, 1998, at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. In subsequent years the event became a week end gathering. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



◀ Seen in these two photos are unidentified Scouts taking part in the Older Scout Program of Canoe Trek on the Susquehanna River. In one photo, the boys attempt to set up wind sails to help propel their craft along (1998). In the other, the Three Mile Island Nuclear Plant towers are easily seen in the background (1999). Photos courtesy of trek participants



▲ Parent-Pal week end at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation is always an exciting time in camp for young Scouters and their parents. Seen here during the 2000 summer program are young campers getting instruction from their volunteer leaders. Seated under a temporary sun shield are young campers getting instruction from Dennis Hose. In another, they all gather round to learn how to twist twine into rope. In the last, a young camper learns to tie knots from instructor, Bob Blatnick. Photos courtesy of Sharon Lance



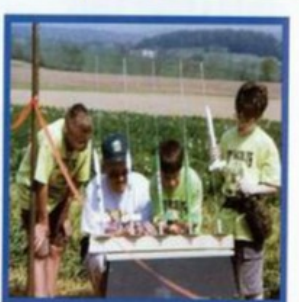
▲ Shown here in the Hershey Dining Hall at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation, instructing a group of eager space Scouts about rocket technology, is Dennis "Tiny" Haag. This photo was taken on September 11, 1999 - almost a year in advance of the Space Camporee that was planned for the spring of 2000. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



▲ Waiting their turn to set up their rockets on the launch pad are boys from Troop 185 from Honesdale, Cumberland County. Each boy had to make and paint his own rocket. When launched from the pad through a remote control panel, the rockets arched up high and then landed on the Brubaker farm in the background. Mr. Brubaker purposely removed the crop and tilled the soil so that the dirt would be soft for the rockets to land in. He also cut the grass where the boys are standing, so that the launching pad areas would be clear for walking. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



▲ The big day has arrived and Space Camporee 2000 is under way! Open space for launching the rockets was borrowed from the Brubaker farm, which is the adjoining farm that lies just west of the West Gate area of Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. Since HV did not have a field that was large enough and clear of trees and brush, the Scouts were permitted to use these two fields. Shown here setting up their rockets on the launching pad are members of Troop 8. The date is May 6, 2000, and the skies are clear and all is ready to go. This event drew over 2000 Scouters and friends for the day's festivities. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



▲ Boys from Troop 233, of Dauphin, prepare their rockets for launching at the pad base. The day was perfect weather, although there was a higher than normal breeze blowing - which tended to take the rockets off course. The soft dirt target field can be seen in the background. None of the boys are identified, but the photo was taken on May 6, 2000, at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



▲ This final shot of the Space Camporee shows an unidentified Troop firing their rockets into space. One can be seen mid-air as it streaks toward its target quite some distance away. Another cluster of launching pads can be seen in the distance, left of center. Far in the distance and to the right can be seen the many buildings of the Brubaker farm, the gracious host of the fields for this special program. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



▲ This final shot of the Space Camporee shows an unidentified Troop firing their rockets into space. One can be seen mid-air as it streaks toward its target quite some distance away. Another cluster of launching pads can be seen in the distance, left of center. Far in the distance and to the right can be seen the many buildings of the Brubaker farm, the gracious host of the fields for this special program. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



The Fall Camp Promotion Dinner was held at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation on October 28, 2000. This scene shows Fred Neumann sharing his gifted voice by singing for the enjoyment of all who were present. The event was held in the Hershey Dining Hall. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



Cub Scouts are a big and important part of any Scout Program. This 1998 photo shows an unidentified Cub Pack putting on a skit near the fire circle at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. Note the stone monument in the background, denoting that the fire circle area was given in loving memory of Ezra Hershey. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



Shown here are a group of unidentified Scouts who are taking part in the "Chilli Cookoff" at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation sometime in 1998. Although we do not know the names of the Troop, each Scout looks eager to try the results of their efforts. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



Another scene of the logging operations under way in March 1999. This area is across the road from the West Gate entrance to Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



Fall Beaver Day at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation, 1998, saw this land cleared of trees and brush. This view is from the end of the Hershey Dining Hall and is just east of the Scout Pavilion, which can be seen along the left edge of the photo. This work was done to make space for a new parade field. The date was October 17, 1998. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



This work detail of Scouts and Leaders was also taken on October 17, 1998, at the Fall Beaver Day at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. The Scouts are not identified, but their eager hands made short work of a large and tedious job. As this book is written at the end of 2001, the field is nicely covered with grass and has been fitted with three new flag poles. The field has been used for at least the last two summer camping seasons. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



Another view of the Cub Pack activities at the fire circle at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation in 1998. The large group of parents have the new bleacher seats pretty well covered as they watch another Cub Pack do their skit in front of the fire. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



This scene is of the logging operations across from the Hidden Valley Scout Reservation in March 1999. Hidden Valley Road is to the left, and this contour of the land demonstrates what is now the Sledding area across the road from the West Gate entrance. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



This bronze plaque is mounted on the original Dining Hall chimney that was built in 1926 at the Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. The donation of \$10,000 by Miss Mary Sachs of Harrisburg, in honor of her friend, Rabbi Philip David Bookstaber, made the purchase of the land and construction of the dining hall and surrounding camp buildings possible. This permanent marker is a fitting tribute to Miss Sachs for her generosity and foresight so many years ago. Photo taken in summer, 1999. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



Logging in March 1999 came to Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. Many trees, both pine and hardwoods, were harvested to assist the council to pay down a large amount of debt. This scene was taken in the field across from the West Gate, and the trucks are parked on what is now considered "over-flow" parking area. Hidden Valley Road is in the foreground at the lower left of the photo. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance

The Crider's Remember Hidden Valley as Home...

JOHN CRIDER REMEMBERS 20 YEARS AS CAMP RANGER

"My first trip to Hidden Valley was in 1962, as a Second Class Scout with Troop 137," said John Crider, Hidden Valley's ranger from 1975-1995. "My father and other parents transported the troop and gear from Chambersburg to Hidden Valley. I remember coming in the main (East) gate and waiting for the car in front to get far enough ahead to allow the dust to settle for the next car to see. We parked at the boat docks and our gear was hauled to Great Stag campsite. We stayed in the buildings, which were wood and half way open to the roof."

"Our troop stayed in Great Stag in 1962 and 1963. This was great because we were right beside the dining hall, trading post, staff cabins and health lodge."

"In 1964, we decided to move away from main camp and stay in tents at Frontier campsite. We walked a little more to get to the pool or swim the mile in Sherman's Creek, but our troop was at camp and we were having fun."

"In 1966, I decided a week at Hidden Valley was not enough, so when my Scoutmaster asked me if I would be interested in working at Hidden Valley on the staff, I jumped at the chance. That year was the first year the camp had two camps, East and West. I worked on the first West Camp staff. Each camp had its own headquarters, dining hall, trading post, nature and campercraft area, and boat docks. Both camps used the pool, archery and rifle ranges and health lodge." Crider taught pioneering that first year.

"Hidden Valley was in my blood, and my summers were set," he said. He returned to camp from 1967-1969, and remembers camp staff rivalries and friendships being formed.

In the summer of 1975, Crider returned to Hidden Valley to run the rifle range. The camp was one camp again, the old dining hall was gone and so were the staff cabins. In August of that year, Crider took the camp ranger job.

"Over the next 20 years, with the help of many volunteers and friends, Hidden Valley was home for me, my wife, Joyce, daughter Rachel, and son Ryan," he said. "In the late 1970s, I saw Cub village start up at the place where the East Camp staff used to have their cabins. The Cub pavilion went up in the early 1980s, where the old dining hall used to stand."

"We were there for the floods where the boat dock washed away, for the snows—we had one troop snowed in with us for three days. My family and I moved out of Hidden Valley in November of 1995. But we keep in touch."



Left - John Crider, Hidden Valley's former ranger.



Right - Two year-old Rachel Crider poses with everyone's buddy, Angus.

RYAN CRIDER REMEMBERS ANGUS, DANCES WITH SUSQUEHANNOCK OA LODGE

"I have a more unique bond with Hidden Valley than most, for it is the place where I grew up," said Ryan Crider. "My father, John Crider, was the ranger of Hidden Valley as I was growing up, and my sister, Rachael, and my mother, Joyce, and I, all lived in the ranger home on camp property. This offered the best place possible for my sister and I to be raised, since we had a back yard of over 900 acres."

"It is impossible for me to put all of my experiences at Hidden Valley into a brief paragraph, since it has been a part of my entire life, but I hope to add some of my strongest memories of Hidden Valley."

"Many Scouts who attended Hidden Valley as I was growing up will probably remember Angus. Angus was my family's black lab that resembled a bear more than a dog, but was as friendly as any dog you could ever know. He made himself known to Scouts by making a daily round to every campsite and finishing off any scraps of food that they might not have finished. Often times he would come up to the house covered in white ash, which he coated himself in by searching for food in the incinerator by the dining hall. Angus would make his appearance everywhere throughout a Scout's week at camp. He would walk across the parade field during flag lowering, lay down on the volleyball courts in the middle of a game, he even made his presence known at the sports complex dedication by chewing on the Popsicle's that people laid down while they were saying a prayer. He is as much a part of the camp as any of the buildings or land features."

"As I was growing up, I often would put on my coonskin cap and run out into the woods and build a fort, and pretend to be Davy Crockett. Every Friday, my Dad would take me to the closing campfire and we would watch the Susquehannock Lodge XI dance team perform. I enjoyed all the activities that I had to choose from at camporees, and I enjoyed when all the Scouts left and I had the entire camp to myself. I got to see all the totem poles transform from logs to works of art, I saw campsites like Reese disappear and buildings like the training center take their place. I saw pavilions go up, the pool house collapse under snow, and I can remember when you couldn't see from the parking lot to the dining hall because it was all trees. I can remember... and so the list goes on."

"I went from watching the Susquehannock Dance team at campfires, to actually dancing at campfires. I earned merit badges at Hidden Valley, and had my Eagle Scout presented at Hidden Valley. I took my Vigil Honor at Hidden Valley, and that is where I learned how strong my connection with the camp and the people who went there was. They helped to raise me in a way that I feel was extremely lucky to have been raised. That became apparent to me when I was given my Vigil name, Son of the Camp. Hidden Valley is the place that I love the most on this earth, and I am grateful to be so fortunate to know the land and the people that make Hidden Valley what it is."

What Is *She* Doing In Our World?...

By Diane Potts Bowen

Once upon a time, way back in 1945, there was a little girl that was too young to join the Brownies. Her Dad was a Boy Scout Explorer Post Advisor and this little girl was her Daddy's little boy. Oh, she was a very feminine little creature but just tagged along wherever Daddy went. It was not unusual for Dad to take his two girls for walks every night. Sometimes it would be two or three hours before returning home for a dish of ice cream. We stopped and talked to everybody. In those days everyone sat on their front porches and just loved to socialize with one another.

I was that little girl and loved my Daddy very much. He was a good, honest, hard working man who worked at the old Lebanon Steel Foundry. He enjoyed people and the out-of-doors. He never met a stranger and never missed an opportunity to help those in need.

Scouting was something I grew up with and can remember going to Scout meetings with my coloring book or something to do while Dad would work with the boys on their program, or equipment or play games. At least once a month they would go hiking or camping. Finally at six years old I had the chance to tag along. We hiked 15 miles from Lebanon to Mount Gretna. The boys were not happy sometimes because they wanted to take too many breaks.

Dad finally said when she is tired we can take a break. A six-year-old get tired? It wasn't long till I was the Post mascot and even now I see some of those guys and we enjoy talking about the "good ol' times."

Finally I was old enough to join the Brownies and Mom got involved. We did neat things with crafts and visited neat places like museums, or parks, or places that would have something for us to learn. We had a good program, but not enough of the outdoors for this gal. Girl Scouts gave me a little more of the outdoors. I could set up a tent, learned to cook on a real wood fire, and see the animals in their natural habitat. In those days, the highest rank for girls was the Curved Bar. (Now it is the Girl Gold Award.)

Brownies, Intermediate and Junior Girl Scouts, finally made it to Senior Girl Scouts. Was I lucky or what? Remember now, that



Above - Troop 138 at Hidden Valley. They are, left to right: Trevor Gotwalt, Willie Bart, Logan Elliot, Patrick Poney, Justin Salmon, Andrew Dice, Brian, and Devoy Unger (deceased), Assistant Scoutmaster Col. Billy Washington, is standing at rear. (Photo courtesy of Diane Bowen)

in the 1950s there was no such thing as equal opportunity and girls certainly did not have the opportunities as they do today. I loved Scouting and the ideals that the program stood for. As a Senior Scout, I was fortunate enough to have a leader that enjoyed doing different things. She was a schoolteacher and had a love for water. We ended up as a Mariner troop and actually built a 16-foot boat in the basement of the church where we met. Yes, we made sure that we could get it out before it was built. It was painted a pretty pink and christened "Strawberry Float." What a great time we had, using saws, hammers, screwdrivers and all those things that belonged in a man's world.

Finally made it to High School. Wow! What else could I experience? Then came word that there was to be a Girl Scout Roundup, the first one, near Dearborn, Michigan, in the summer of 1956. How do I learn about it? Again the adults were there to guide me. After filling out forms and with Mom and Dad encouraging me, I was selected to be one of two girls to represent Lebanon County. What an honor! This was the Girl Scout's answer to the Boy Scout Jamboree! How neat! After all, we did visit the Jamboree at Valley Forge and saw all those Scouts enjoying themselves.

There was lots of preparation and meetings with other girls from Lancaster, Adams, York, Dauphin and Franklin counties. We had to work together in patrols with girls we didn't know. What a great experience! My favorite song was "Make new friends and keep the old, one is silver but the other gold!" How true those words are. Finally the day came when we all climbed onto a special train that started out in Philadel-

phia and picked up girls all along the way. We boarded in Lancaster and added cars as we continued through Pittsburgh and on to Michigan. Sixteen hours of clackety-click, and we got to eat and sleep on the train. We met new friends as they joined us. Finally, we reached our destination! Army buses then took us from the train station in Detroit to the open fields near Dearborn where we created a tent city. Ours? Yep, you guessed it, right where a small den of snakes called home. Just a minor delay till they were relocated.

The greatest thrill was having Charleston Heston as our Guest Speaker for the 4th of July celebration. He told us all about the new movie, "The Ten Commandments," being made. The Blue Angels from the U.S. Navy flew over and tipped their wings to us. We also were taken on field trips to tour the Ford Plant and visit the Henry Ford Museum near Dearborn. We had shows at night and there was a sea of Girl Scouts sitting in a natural amphitheater carved into the hillside.

Graduation from High School and now too old to be a Girl Scout, my old leader reminded us all that she was there for us as someone was there for her. It is now our turn to put back into the program so it could continue for those young girls following in our footsteps. I went on to be a Senior Leader, and the Advisor for Lebanon and Lancaster Counties.

Life is what you make it and my Dad always said you could do anything you want

Continued - next page

What's *She* Doing In Our World - Continued

to, but do your best at what you do. I was still registered and doing special events with Girl Scouts, then came a career change. Then marriage and with the marriage came a beautiful little son. I was still a registered Girl Scout as we became a Cub Scout family. How proud I was when my son attended Camp Bashore for the first time. It brought back memories of my early days. The camp was a Girl Scout camp for three weeks, then a Boy Scout camp for three weeks. We became friends of Bashore when they tried to close it.

In 1984 my job brought me to Chambersburg at Letterkenny Army Depot and, before my son was allowed into the Troop, I had to join the Troop committee. It was fun and eventually we were asked to include the boys from Scotland School for Veterans' Children (SSVC). What a pleasure it was to work with boys that were happy to get the outdoor experience. They loved to camp and go to Hidden Valley. As the boys advanced, they were elected to the Order of the Arrow and I was their transportation. The Scoutmaster had left, and after a number of men all refused to take his position, I was asked to serve. The rules had just changed and the Commander of Letterkenny Army Depot asked if I would take the Scoutmaster job. The Depot was still the sponsor after we moved the meeting place to accommodate the SSVC boys.

The first thing I did was to take the Scoutmaster's Fundamental Course. That was my first encounter with Hidden Valley. The boys enjoyed their Spring Camporees each year and many of them would come as provisional Scouts as they went home during the summer. As they became older, some served on staff. It was the goal of each of them to become a member of the OA and do ceremonies or dance team. What fun we had!

Rain? Of course it would rain whenever we planned a trip to Hidden Valley. One year as we had the U.S. Army bus take us, it poured while we were unloading the equipment and we had more rain inside the tents than on the outside. It actually put down about three and a half inches of water in a couple of hours.

We had a guest with us that night as the Sergeant driving the U.S. Army bus got stuck in the mud! Tires were in to the axle and wrapped around a tree root. Those were the days before cell phones and the driver had lots of explaining to do!

Those memories of helping kids grow into responsible and decent citizens from SSVC certainly mean a lot. What a pleasure it is when you have grown men and their families stop to visit, an Email telling you what they are now doing, or an invitation to a wedding. It is like watching your own children grow up. My son graduated from High School and, living up to his Vigil name meaning "Free Spirit," left home to spread his Eagle's Wings in this world.

What a surprise when I was honored by the Youth in the Order of the Arrow with Vigil Honor. It came as quite a shock and that weekend I was put on the work crew to tear down the

old chapel down along Sherman's Creek. It had been flooded out many times before and now had become a hazard. We had a great bunch of guys and that is when I first met Jim Pannebaker and his dump-bed pickup truck. After the Chapel was down and all the bats flew out of the belfry, we hauled the remains to the dump. Jim later became the Council President and was instrumental in saving Hidden Valley. I always felt guilty for tearing down the chapel, which led me to later start the initial Chapel Fund to build our new chapel dedicated in October 2000.

How does one expect Scouts to do something if you haven't done it to help them? I was asked to hike with Sharon Swanger, who also made Vigil that year, when her husband's Troop was going to Philmont. What a wonderful experience. We hiked 84 miles of trails up and down the mountains carrying packs that started out light but sure became mighty heavy at the end of each of those 10 days on the trail. We started in the North Country and worked our way up to Old Baldy, down through the valley and up the next mountain. We rode horses, climbed poles, cut wood, climbed rocks, and finally came over the Tooth of Time! I'm glad I had the opportunity to do it. Now I settle for training courses they offer and have fond memories and stories to tell the boys.

In the fall of 1993, word came that the contract I was working under would end and I had to return to my job in Virginia, near Dulles Airport. Fortunately, I had a good Assistant Scoutmaster and he agreed to take over the Troop. I did weekend commutes for nearly three years, maintaining a position on the Troop committee. I missed the kids but did get to any weekend activities.

"What? Did I hear you right? Was that a joke or a proposal?" I said to a dear soul who stood by as my committee member while I was Scoutmaster. He was always there and saw to it we had food, equipment and anything else needed for our Troop outings. After seven years working with me in Scouting, he totally caught me off guard when he said, "You know, if you're free we could get married." I stuttered and hem-hawed around until I collected my thoughts and composure. Oh, my famous question about a joke or proposal came out of my mouth. I said I would have to think hard about that. A few days later I asked him if he was serious and we talked about the important things like not giving up Scouting. (After all, that was my only excuse to enjoy camping out.)

Our Council had divided the Districts and I found myself taking the District Camp Promo job at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation was having some problems. Here I was, pushing Troops to go to camp and me without a Troop. I guess the Good Lord knew how much I enjoy camp, so He helped me out when one of the Scoutmasters was unable to take his Troop to summer camp. I volunteered and met the boys and their parents a few times to get to know them. There were four older Scouts and four brand-new boys just crossed over from Webelos. The new Scouts

were in the Dan Beard program and the older boys helped them every evening to get their "homework" done. There was a very special young man with the Troop. I was told he can be a handful and I really didn't have to take him if I didn't want to be bothered. My answer was "I take them all or none." Devoy Unger of Troop 138 was that special boy that I grew to appreciate and respect. He took all the young boys and worked with them that special week at camp.

After camp, I saw him and another one of the boys, Andrew Dice, work with their cattle at the Shippensburg Fair winning prizes through the 4-H Clubs. My husband enjoyed going to the tractor shows in the area and was I surprised to see Devoy out there showing off on another of his interests—farm tractors.

It wasn't long until we heard that Hidden Valley was to be closed and some of the land would be sold to cover expenses. Well that was not the right solution and there were quite a few people upset with that idea. We gathered and formed what is now known as "Friends of Hidden Valley." We fought hard and it was a joint effort of many to keep the camp going. Jim Pannebaker became Council President and Dr. Webb Hersperger was the first president of FOHV. The next thing was to find a new Council Executive that would be helpful to build Hidden Valley into a first class camp. How lucky we were when our Executive Board hired Jack Carr to fill that spot. (Don't tell anybody, but we received a bonus. Jack's bride came to us having served as a district executive, a council commissioner, and a district chairperson prior to her arrival.) They also have three Eagle sons.

Hidden Valley is very special to me. I started my Scouting career at Camp Bashore as a Girl Scout; I hope to have many more years serving Boy Scouts at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation.

I would like to dedicate this article to the eight Eagle Scouts I had the pleasure of working with from Troop 24: Norman Waters, now a micro-biologist at Walter Reed Research Center; his brother Nelson Waters, a chimney sweep in Philadelphia; Kevin Tucker (he really belongs to Ken Barber but during the winter months he was at Scotland School for Veterans' Children and was in Troop 247); my son Jack Potts (honest I would not sign any of his work and was told I was too tough on him); Casey Cichovich; Shawn Hege; Calvin Rich; and John Sweger. Devoy Unger was special and he would have received his Eagle but was called to Heaven at an early age of 14. There must have been a need up there for a true Scout with so many talents.

My theory in life is that we never know when our time is up and we must live each day as if it could be our last. Live by the Scout laws and you can't go wrong. When a Scout grows up, it then becomes his or her duty to give back to the program so others may follow and keep Scouting alive. My favorite quote comes from Waite Phillips, the man who gave us Philmont: "The only things we keep permanently are those we give away."

Thanks for the memories.

Camp Slogan

"Take nothing but memories. Leave nothing but footprints"

Bob and Mark Reed Remember... From father, to son, to grandson

WHEN BOB REED, his wife and five—later six—children moved from Somerset to Shippensburg in 1965 to teach biology, he didn't know he would begin a more than 25-year acquaintance with Keystone Area Council and Hidden Valley.

Reed served as a Scoutmaster from 1954-1965 in Somerset, just as his father had done near Altoona.

But he couldn't see the future. He would be Scoutmaster of Troop 121, in Shippensburg, for 27 years, until 1993, when he dropped out of Scouting because he was getting "slower on his feet." Five years later, son Mark assumed the same Scoutmaster post of Troop 121, after spending some time in the Navy, traveling around the world.

Mark tagged along with his father to Scouting events from the time that he was a second grader.

Troop 121 was a big troop at that time. They went to Hidden Valley twice annually, for summer camp and the winter camporee. They also had their own camp, 300 acres of private land located near Amberson Valley. It was owned by Ed Hoyer, a friend and later Assistant Scoutmaster of the Troop.

Both Bob and Mark said they had many good memories of Hidden Valley—especially counselors, campsites, monkey bridges that spanned the creek behind the pool, and fun times along Sherman's Creek. Mark remembers a 17-inch pickerel caught near the archery range. Both Reeds remembered participating in camp races held every summer. Scouts could use any trail in camp, even cross the creek while taking part in the games. The events tested team skills and provided lots of fun for the boys. In later years, the water events were held on a separate day and became known as the Water Carnival. The Water Carnival included a greased watermelon event. To win, a team of two Scouts in the pool had to fight through a horde of other Scouts to pick up the Crisco-coated watermelon.

Troop 121 had a lot of swimmers, including Jim Peitnel, who completed his five-mile swim in Hidden Valley's pool.

Both Reeds have done some challenging things with Troop 121, including some exciting canoe trips down the West Branch of the Susquehanna; canoeing the entire Raystown Dam; and traveling the Pennsylvania Grand Canyon's Pine Creek Gorge. Both Reeds have been to Philmont Scout Ranch several times.

Bob Reed said some of his best Scouting events took place on the Amberson Valley land. The Troop used all adult counselors who traveled back and forth to the camp every day to help. They had a three-and-a-half-acre pond that they used for boating and swimming, and there were numerous hiking trails. Each patrol had its own campsite nestled back in the woods yet connected to the rest of the camp by trails. They did their own cooking and ran their own campfires.

He also talked about how he developed a neckerchief-carving hobby as a result of Scouting. His first slide was part of his father's Scotch pine Christmas tree. Other slides he carved included an Indian head, the Boy Scout hand sign, and a worm coming out of an apple.

Bob recounted the wedding of one of his former Scouts. At the reception, the groom came up to Bob and then called his new wife over, telling her he wanted her to hear what he had to say. The young man told Bob, "You did more for me than anyone through Boy Scouting."

Mark said Hidden Valley experiences were key learning experiences for the boys. When a Troop goes to camp, they have to learn to live together, work together, and do what is best for the betterment of the unit, not for themselves.

Mark also remembered "a doozie" of an obstacle course in the field by the creek. The course included a 15-foot high wire that went from one signal tower to another. Scouts had to do all kinds of events as they made their way through the course, and it was a lot of fun. He also remembered sledding down Water Tower Hill during winter camps, which Troop 121 spent in Rotary Lodge. The hill was steep, the sledding wild. On a good run, a Scout could go all the way from the top of the trail to the macadam road near the old dining hall site.

Bob and Mark agreed that the Boy Scout leader and group of boys provides a good, second family—an extended family—that many kids don't have today. Scouting is not a one-man job. A Scoutmaster and Troop need the support of the Troop Committee, parents, etc. to be successful. In Troop 121 the boy leaders that they had over the years were excellent. Scouting allows a boy an outlet to test his leadership skills, to mess up, and to try again to do a better job the next time. Each boy has a role to play in the Troop and does his best to fill that role.



Above - Three Scouts enjoying a warm afternoon by the pool. Shown are Keith Murry (seated) of Bonmatsdale, and Larry Ayala and Steve Pickel, both of New Cumberland.

Below - This gateway entrance was constructed by 35 Camp Hill Scouts from Troop 296 under Scoutmaster Robert Snyder and Dave Jones. The arch and its 46-foot timbers were part of the 50th anniversary celebration at Hidden Valley. The Scouts shown are top to bottom Ted and Jed Platt, twins from Enola, and Greg Franch from Hampden Township. (Photos by Paul Beers, Patriot News)



LOOKING BACK... A PHOTO ESSAY • 1970s

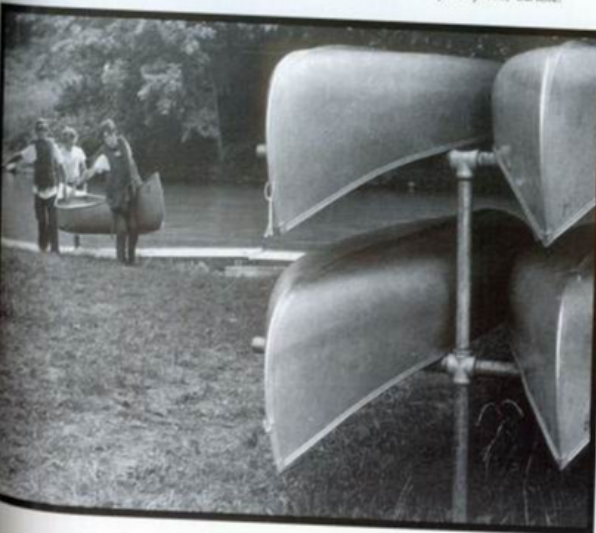


Above - Camp craft director Mike Anthony, holding the plant in the center of the photo, plays nature boy for a day as he instructs these students in plant identification.

Left - Mike Gent and a box turtle get friendly in 1977. The curiosity seems mutual.

Right - Boat dock director Dave Bedard caught this four and a half foot water snake also in 1977. The snake doesn't seem any too happy, though.

Below - Canoeing on Sherman's Creek: Larry Anderson, Corliss; Canoe instructor Greg Forsyth, of Harrisburg, and Tim Cornman, of Troop 188, Corliss.



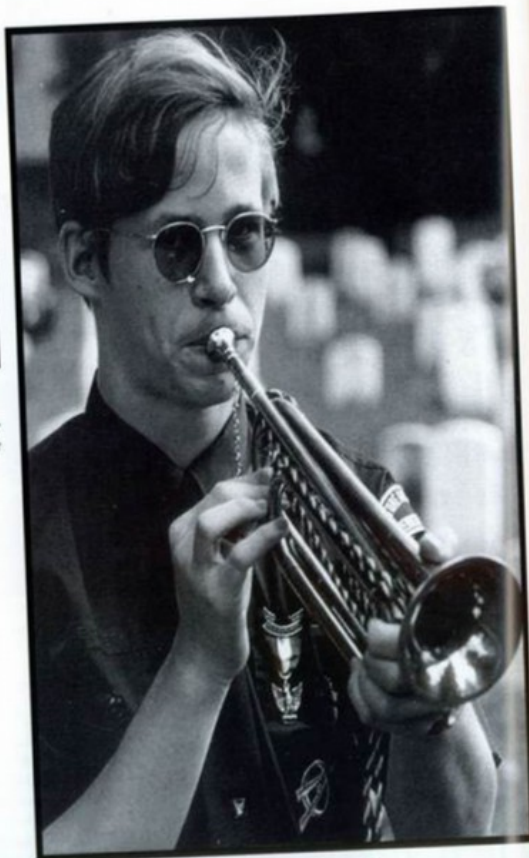


Above - This is Great Stag campsite in June of 1978.

Right - This unknown Eagle Scout and Explorer is blowing taps over the soldiers who gave their lives at the Gettysburg battlefield during the Gettysburg Pilgrimage in 1970, 107 years after the fighting stopped.



Left - Craft time: These Scouts are working in the craft lodge. One boy is pounding out a copper plate. Another is stringing leatherwork. Others are carving and decorating carved items.



Right - This is a view of Sherman's Creek from Friendship Bridge. The water is at an unusually low level which allows a good view of the deflector dams that jut out from both sides of the creek. These dams were constructed for focusing the main body of the stream between the ends of the dams, causing the water to move faster so it would not become stagnant. There were three sets of deflector dams upstream from the bridge (back of camera). The tiny mubbin of land downstream is not another dam, but a water trap, to catch water for camp use—treated for drinking and bathing, and for the swimming pool. These dams had to be rebuilt each spring before camp reopened, a chore often given to the Nature staff as a conservation project. The boys piled rocks up at each dam to restore its height. Floods necessitated frequent cleaning of debris, sometimes by a bulldozer. (Joyce Crider photo)



Above left - Scouts love a parade, and Troop 72 of Mechanicsburg was no different, especially on Memorial Day of 1970. The parade was sponsored by American Legion Post 109, on York Street, where they are marching. The original photo was in color and the hood of that car in the foreground was a bright pumpkin orange, straight out of the 1970s. (courtesy of Don Roseth)

Above - On target at the archery range at Hidden Valley are Duwayne Anthony, a Scout counselor from Harrisburg, and Jeff Eason, of New Cumberland. (Patriot News/Paul Beers photo)

Left - This photo was taken in 1972, at the first Woodbadge (a Scoutmaster and troop leader training event) ever held at Hidden Valley. Those identified in the photo include Bill Willard, Glen Lightner, Bud Reisman and Jim Robertson. (Bob Bell photo - courtesy of Bud Reisman)





Above - More than 225 Scouts lined up for this flag-lowering ceremony outside the mess hall in the summer of 1976. It was the 50th anniversary of Hidden Valley Scout Camp, and a time for celebration. (Patriot News/Paul Beers photo)

ORDER OF THE ARROW

Below - Conclave held at Camp Kramdenhaw (Mifflin County, PA), 1972. Front row, from right: Chris Peiper is second and Jim Porrett, Lodge Chief, is 4th. Second row, L-R: Dick Brumbach, Dave Kere, Russ Spangler, Bud Reisman, Ed Sellers, Jr., unknown, Harrison Renninger and Bill Shively. Back row, L-R: Don Stevens, unknown, John Palmer, unknown and unknown. (Photo courtesy of Bud Reisman)

Right - Susquehannock Lodge dancers and drummers. Glenn Dress is the drummer and Nick Spader is leading the dancers.



Pennsylvania OA History...

In 1915 was born the Wimachtendienk under the leadership of E. Urner Goodman and Carroll Edson, directors at Treasure Island, the summer camp of the Philadelphia Council. Investigations were made looking for an Indian background for a camp honor society, the purpose of which was to stimulate the interest of boys in the higher ideals of Scouting. Mr. Rolston was commissioned to visit the Pennsylvania Historical Society to get appropriate names. It was at the time of World War I abroad but before this country had entered it. He found in the historical library a Lenape Indian dictionary prepared by a German scholar. The appropriate Indian words that Mr. Rolston found had a decided German pronunciation, so that when an attempt was made to telegraph them to Treasure Island there was some hesitancy lest it be a spy's message being sent during war days in code. However, the name Wimachtendienk W. W. was selected.

A natural amphitheater on the lower part of Treasure Island became the scene of a weekly Friday night ceremonial. The camp honors and awards were presented to the assembled campers, their last night in camp. During the day the members of the Wimachtendienk who had been elected by all the boys in their several Troops

were undergoing an ordeal lead-up to their formal initiation with a specially prepared ritual. The group, which became known as a "lodge," selected the turtle as its totem and adopted the name "Unami Lodge." Hundreds of Scouts and Scoutmasters have been inducted into the First Degree at Treasure Island and in the Second Degree which has been conferred at various places. It was in 1915 that the charter members were anxious to recognize the founders and accordingly they established a Third Degree in which he who was to be honored had to maintain a vigil on the Devil's Tea Table, a cliff a mile below the camp. Urner Goodman received this honor that summer, and Carroll Edson during the winter that followed. These men then prepared a formal ritual for the Third Degree, following which manner other Philadelphia Scouts were given this honor.

When Camp Biddle was established as a summer camp a Wimachtendienk lodge was formed there. This was known as the Unalachtig or turkey lodge. With the discontinuance of Camp Biddle this group merged with the Unami Lodge and the present policy provides for having but one general lodge for the entire Council for all Philadelphia camps. In order to maintain interest, social programs were developed for the

winter and there has been for lodge members an interesting series of dances, shows, skating parties, banquets and entertainments as well as camping trips back to Treasure Island. Under the leadership of Harry A. Yoder, one of the early members who later was Chief of the Lodge, funds were raised and a building known as the Lodge House was constructed on Treasure Island. This has become the scene of the Lodge's social meetings and has also provided attractive housing for week-end winter camping trips to Treasure Island.

The success of the Wimachtendienk in Philadelphia caused other cities to adopt it, and eventually, to standardize its operation, a Grand Lodge was formed. All of the local lodges maintained the basic "arrow" emblem in combination with a suitable local totem. On the recommendation of several Councils the general name "Order of the Arrow" was adopted. Philadelphia regularly contributed its share of interest and assistance to the Grand Lodge. In 1933 the National Council indicated its interest in the program, which had been extended to so many Scout groups, and in conference with the Grand Lodge developed a plan by which the National Council formally recognized the Wimachtendienk as an official Scout program.

THE SUCCESS of the Wimachtendienk in Philadelphia caused other cities to adopt it, and eventually, to standardize its operation, a Grand Lodge was formed.



In this 1950s photo, Hidden Valley camp director Bill Ryall gives directions to Order of the Arrow members.

Susquehannock Lodge XI Circa 1975...

On August 15, 1975, a delegation of 40 members traveled to Seven Mountains Scout Reservation for the 1975 Section 5-B Conclave. Although the weather was damp (only a slight downpour) spirits were high. The fellowship was great as well as the food. It was a time to meet old and new friends. Susquehannock was always one Lodge with very high spirits but for some reason we weren't as high as in the past.

Saturday was filled with fellowship, training sessions, discussion groups, and of course, patch trading. In the evening, a dance competition was held where Susquehannock took third place. Tuckahoe Lodge got second and Wyona Lodge took first place in the dance competition. The winner of the display competition was Tuckahoe Lodge with one of the best displays seen in a long time. That night we saw a rededication ceremony at the

campfire. Then back in the dining hall there was another snack, and yes, another snack. We were also entertained with a story of John Wayne. I thought that Don Stevens was going to split the seam on that one. Everyone attended church services on Sunday, followed by a business meeting and election of section officers. Mark Pyles of Wyona Lodge is our new section 5-B chief. After lunch many delegates left for the National Conference.

From the newsletter

Order of the Arrow

Susquehannock Lodge XI



NATIONAL CHIEF

ORDER OF THE ARROW
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

DON CUNNINGHAM

Susquehannock Lodge XI
Keystone Area Council, BSA

October 25, 2001

My dear brothers,

In celebration of the 80th Anniversary of the Susquehannock Lodge, I rejoice in praise of the members who have made our success a reality in past and recent years. In the last seven years alone, we have emerged from a nearly disbanded lodge to a leader in the section, region, and nation. I look back over my days and happy memories among the friends, colleagues, and brothers whom I am proud to represent today, and one distinguishable factor remains omnipresent: our unity and recommitment to purpose.

In these challenging times, "People are starved for leadership, starved for leaders who have ethical and moral courage" (Mark Craig). It seems appropriate that the Order of the Arrow, Scouting's National Honor, represents the front of the Scouting movement. It is on this day and in this time that we must remain steadfast to our charge. It was the Order of the Arrow and the Susquehannock Lodge that taught me about diligence and perseverance. As Arrowmen, we hold a secret that men and women spend decades, even lifetimes striving to find: perhaps it's held within our leadership, maybe our unified purpose. In truth, I think we define this secret by whispering the admonition as we enter the lodge ceremonial grounds. I have always believed that life's biggest men dare to dream, beg to soar, and yet they have the compassion and the talent to reveal the riches of other men. We have dreamt among the stars, we have soared infinite miles, we now must inspire in others a success not found in common hours.

There was a day when I feared public scrutiny by my peers. There was a time when I did not openly express my involvement in the programs of the Boy Scouts of America. It was not a result of shame or embarrassment, but rather in my efforts to save face in a society that mocks our uniform, oath, and law. My friend, Ken Barber, lifted the blanket of ignorance one day when he insisted that I pay no mind to those who will never grasp a concept of what lies beneath our uniform and sash, deep within the hearts of our Arrowman. Leadership in service is not a phrase; rather it is a way of life.

It goes without saying that certain individuals in the lodge are attributed with the success of the program. From the first day I passed through the gates of Hidden Valley, one man played a distinct role in making me feel welcomed into my new home. He is perhaps one of the most colorful figures in our history: Edd Sellers, a man who devoted his love and his life to our principles. What's more, the efforts of the entire Marsicano family are unsurpassed. The love of Edd and Jerry is representative of the family we call *Susquehannock*. "Qualities of character, like cheerfulness and service are hard for a boy or a man to understand in the abstract. They come easier when seen in human life" (Goodman). Certainly, no man epitomizes real servant leadership more than Joe Marsicano. Joe was a pioneer of the current lodge leadership, structure, and program. His service as lodge chief, section chief, and Northeast Region Chief make him the only member who has served in the top position at each level of the organization. His friendship and brotherhood stand as an example to us all during this special anniversary.

Among my now favorite memories is a long-standing joke among some of my closest friends: The fact that I never had the honor of serving as Chief of Susquehannock XI. The first was the lodge chief election of 1998, a Sunday morning when Jason Mackey defeated me by a considerable majority. It was that day that began a long-time relationship between Jason and I that would flourish into future roles at the section level. The next was my second and final defeat, in 1999, when another dear friend, Ryan Crider emerged triumphant on another Sunday morning. I look back at these two occasions with a smile, knowing how proud I was to have such great friends in the organization—friends who remain to this day.

If no one ever told you before, I urge now that your ability to change lives in your chapters and in this lodge is at its pinnacle. Your example, in words, but more importantly in actions, is representative of the greatest contributions of our society. You are those contributions. You bear that magical ability. That legacy of leadership has now been passed down from men like Edd Sellers to Joe Marsicano, from the hands of Jason, Ryan and myself to your hands. Your new charge as a leader and as a citizen will be challenging. There will be loneliness, struggle, and strife, but energy, faith and devotion will impel us onward to future successes.

I have been so privileged to grow up in Keystone Area Council, to surround myself with the volunteers who make it unique, to call myself a member of the Susquehannock Lodge XI. As we look back over 80 years of service, let us reflect upon those days when we fell; let us celebrate those days when we helped one another up from the ground; let us look into the bright future, filled with memories and many anniversaries to come. Wear your flap proudly, Arrowmen, for you are among the greatest members that the Order of the Arrow has to offer.

Happy anniversary, Susquehannock XI! God bless you and Godspeed.

Yours in Brotherhood, W.W.

Don Cunningham

Susquehannock Lodge was first chartered on March 4, 1922. On March 16th, members of Minsi Lodge No. 5, under the direction of Gegeyjunhet (Supreme Chief of the Fire) Arthur A. Schuck, installed the new lodge. The lodge name, pronounced Sus-que-han'-nok, was taken from an Iroquois tribe living along the Susquehanna River. It appears to have been an Algonquin name meaning the "people of the Muddy River" (Susquehanna). What the tribe called itself is unknown. The lodge totem is a thunderbird. No known local records for the early years of the lodge exist, although it is known that the lodge was represented at the 1922 Grand Lodge Meeting in Reading, Pennsylvania, where R. H. Dilks of Harrisburg was elected Grand Treasurer of the Order.

The earliest local records of the lodge date from 1943, when 15 unnamed members were inducted into the Order by Assistant Scout Executive Paul Wemple. Ordeals were conducted every week of summer camp in 1944 and the first known Brotherhood ceremony was conducted in 1946.

The lodge experienced a period of inactivity before a reorganization effort began in early 1949. At this time, a permanent record-keeping system was established. In 1951, Robert S. Dolbin became the first Vigil Honor member of the lodge. Lodge chapters were first formed in

1951 or '52, with reorganization or realignments taking place at least five times in the lodge's history. On December 20, 1955, the first "Rules of the Lodge" were established. The next 12 years reflected a slow but steady growth in the membership of the lodge, which peaked in 1968.

In 1969, Susquehannock hosted the Area IH-E Conference at Camp Hidden Valley in Loysville, Pennsylvania. In 1974, the lodge hosted the Koshare Indian Dancers of LaJunta, Colorado. Eight members of Susquehannock attended the 1975 NOAC, and in 1976, the lodge achieved "Standard" status for the first time. The lodge hosted the largest NE-5B Conclave ever in August 1976 at Hidden Valley. Eighteen delegates traveled to the 1977 NOAC where Susquehannock won the display competition.

In 1979, the lodge contingents of Section NE-5B traveled together by bus to the NOAC at Colorado State University. Sixteen members of Susquehannock attended. In 1980, a lodge picnic was added to the calendar, and the camping promotion effort was enhanced by the creation of a multi-projector slide show. The show, entitled "Back to Basics," was used as a model by lodges throughout the Northeast Region. Susquehannock received National Standard Lodge status in 1979 and 1980. Lodge Chief Bill Trivitz, Jr. led the lodge delegation to a "clean sweep" of first place awards at the 1980 Conclave, including display,

dance team, and ceremonial competitions. The lodge service beads system was established in 1981.

The lodge hosted the NE-5B Conclave in 1982, and in 1983 its delegation again swept the NE-5B Conclave competition awards. It also sent 22 members to the NOAC at Rutgers University. In 1985, Susquehannock sent ten youth and four adults to the first Philmont OA Trek, and Luke Huggins served as Section NE-5B Chief and was a member of the trek staff.

The lodge dance team was reformed in 1985, winning the NE-5B dance team competition that year as well as in 1986. Sixteen members attended the 1986 NOAC at Central Michigan. Due to the realignment of the Northeast Region in 1988, the lodge was reassigned to Section NE-6. The lodge hosted its first NE-6 Conclave in 1992 at Hidden Valley.

Susquehannock has provided much support for Hidden Valley Scout Camp and the camping promotion efforts in Keystone Area Council. The lodge constructed Thunderbird Lodge and has funded the purchase of additional land, building improvements and equipment needed for camp. Susquehannock achieved National Honor Lodge status for six straight years beginning in 1987, and is currently a National Quality Lodge.

SUSQUEHANNOCK LODGE CHAPTERS

- **Uchowig** (1952-1974) served the Susquehanna, Paxton and Upper Dauphin Districts.
- **Unilatchigo** (1952-1974) served the Conodoguinet and Conococheague Districts.
- **Weshpeca** (1952-1960) served the Carlisle, Perry and West Shore Districts.
- **Minquas** (1952-1974) originally part of the Susquehanna and Paxton Districts, served the Swatara District.
- **Lakota** (1957-1959) originally part of Uchowig, served the Upper Dauphin District. Carlisle (1960-1962) served the Carlisle District.
- **Attaock** (1960-1974) served the West Shore District.
- **Tuscarora** (1962-1974) Perry County section of Attaock merged with Carlisle forming Tuscarora (West Shore).
- **Allumoppie** (1972-1974) Perry County area of West Shore sponsored their own chapter.
- **Lenape** (1974-1974) Conodoguinet District started its own chapter.

In 1974 the Keystone Area Council reorganized and reduced the number of districts to four. Lodge chapters were also reduced to four to match the new district structure.

- **Shikalemy** (1974-?) Lenape, Tuscarora and Unilatchigo chapters merged to serve the new Cumberland Valley District.
- **Cepowig** (1974-?) Uchowig and Lakota merged to serve the new Blue Mountain District.
- **Shawnee** (1974-?) Attaock and Allumoppie merged to serve the new Triangle District.
- **Andastes** (1974-?) Minquas and the Hershey part of Uchowig merged to serve the new Union Canal District.



The number of chapters was reduced to two with the Susquehanna River serving as the boundary line between them.

- **East Shore** (?-present) Andastes and Cepowig merged to serve Dauphin County.
- **West Shore** (?-present) Shikalemy and Shawnee merged to serve Cumberland County, Perry County and Franklin County.



The Boy Scout Statue

The Boy Scout statue standing outside council headquarters in Mechanicsburg is known the world over. The original was made in 1915, by famed sculptor Robert Tait McKenzie. The statue came to council headquarters through a donation by the Albert Herbert family.

Dr. McKenzie was a remarkable man - soldier, athlete, teacher, surgeon, physical educator, artist, sculptor and a writer. He was born in 1867 in Ontario, the son of a minister who died when McKenzie was nine years old. A graduate of McGill University, McKenzie served on the McGill Medical School faculty as head of the new department of Physical Education, from 1904 until 1931, when he asked to be relieved of his duties to devote more time to his sculpturing. Dr. McKenzie served England, the United States, and Canada during World War I, as a pioneer in the physical-mental rehabilitation of the severely wounded. One of his books, *Reclaiming the Maimed*, became the official manual of the US Army for handling the severely wounded.

McKenzie was a friend of Sir Robert Baden-Powell, and shared with Baden-Powell's belief in Scouting for boys. In the early days of Scouting, it was felt desirable to have some visible expression of the spirit of Scouting.

McKenzie told the story of how the statue came to be in the 1930s. "In 1914, the last year of peace which this distracted world was to know for nearly two decades," he said, "Dr. Charles D. Hart suggested that there should be something tangible which could be placed before the eyes to represent the product of this altruistic organization, something that would stand as a symbol for what Scouting stood for, in fact, a statuette of the 'Ideal Boy Scout' and in saying this, he pointed his finger at me. Knowing Dr. Hart as I did, and with characteristic vigor that marks everything he does, he arranged for a series of parades to enable me to choose a suitable model. The competition narrowed to three; and finally the one, Asa Franklin Williamson Hoover, was selected as having the most points. The resulting statuette fixed for all time, his fine face and boyish figure at 12 years of age. G. Dunbar Shewell, served as an alternate, the ideal Boy Scout."

Dr. McKenzie contributed his vision of this at a meeting of the national Boy Scout Executive Committee on March 10, 1915. There, the good doctor shared the original model of the statuette, an 18-inch bronze, with the certificate of copyright registration.

Presenting the model Dr. McKenzie said, "He (the statue) trusts that his uncovered head may betoken to them (troops) reverence, obedience to proper authority, and the well-ordered discipline so necessary to our well-being as a nation; that the hatchet, on which his hand rests, may serve as a symbol of the truthfulness that

characterized him who first sat in the chair of state in this the birth-place of national freedom in America; that he may never unsheathe it for grinding purposes; that he may never raise it in the cause of wanton destruction, but always for the defense of the weak and for hewing out new and nobler standards of conduct and progress; that he may apply it unceasingly to the neck of treachery, treason, cowardice, discourtesy, dishonesty and dirt."

Ten people, each of whom contributed \$100 to defray the cost of mold-making and casting the statue, received a bronze replica of the "Boy Scout." According to the papers of Dr. Charles D. Hart, Philadelphia Council president from 1912 to 1941, no more of these bronze models were ever to be cast. Each copy was numbered and the name of the person to whom it was given stamped in the base. Baden-Powell, Connie Mack, George D. Porter and later Charles A. Lindberg received models. Plaster copies, in the 18" size in green, bronze, and ivory finish were made, starting in 1917, by Mazzoni and were distributed by the National Council.

When the Philadelphia Council moved into its building on the Parkway, it was expected that Dr. McKenzie would provide a new statue, life size, for erection in front of the building. This required a more detailed study because it was on a larger scale. Scout P. Douglas Shannon was chosen from 20 candidates as the model for the head of the life-size statue. It was also required that high hiking shoes had to be used, and another Scout, Albert Frost, was selected to pose for the shoes. Eventually, the entire model was completed but it is difficult to say who it really is because four different boys, among them Douglas Shannon, Joseph Straub, and Albert Frost, had posed at some time in connection with its development. A few new insignia and patrol medallions were also incorporated into the life-sized model. Dr. McKenzie presented the life-sized statue in front of the Philadelphia Council headquarters, on June 12, 1937.

It was Dr. McKenzie's desire to make the statue available to any community wishing to buy one—providing that it was properly erected, suitably landscaped, etc. A duplicate was made and shipped to Ottawa, Illinois, facing the grave of W.B. Boyce, the man who brought Scouting to America. However, World War II interrupted this. No more life-sized statues were cast until 1954 when the Philadelphia Council presented a statue to the National Council Headquarters, at New Brunswick, New Jersey (relocated to the new National Council Office in Texas). This, and succeeding statues were cast by the Modern Art Foundry, of New York City. A copy of the heroic size statue was unveiled in front of the National Headquarters of the Boy Scouts of Canada in Ottawa, Ontario, June 29, 1963.



"In 1914, the last year of peace which this distracted world was to know for nearly two decades, Dr. Charles D. Hart suggested that there should be something tangible which could be placed before the eyes to represent the product of this altruistic organization, something that would stand as a symbol for what Scouting stood for, in fact, a statuette of the 'Ideal Boy Scout' and in saying this, he pointed his finger at me."

- ROBERT TAIT MCKENZIE

Other locations of the statue include Pasadena and Los Angeles, California; Dallas, San Antonio and Fort Worth, Texas; Columbus and Cleveland, Ohio; Phoenix, Arizona; Detroit and St. Joseph, Michigan; Oak Brook, Illinois; Denver, Colorado; St. Paul, Minnesota; Springfield and Jackson, Mississippi; Greensboro, North Carolina; Portland, Oregon; Memphis, Tennessee; Baltimore, Maryland; Mobile, Alabama; and Gilwell Park, England.

In Pennsylvania, in addition to Keystone Area Council, Philadelphia, Allentown, Marshalls Creek, Valley Forge and Pittsburgh have copies of the statue.

McKenzie died April 28, 1938, less than a year after unveiling the first heroic-sized statue in front of the Philadelphia Boy Scout Headquarters.

KEYSTONE AREA COUNCIL... Stagnation: The 1980s

As it is with most periods of time, 20 years after the fact, there is a certain nostalgia for the 1980s today. People remember the good things, like President Ronald Reagan's "Well," the music and the fun they had, not "trickle down" recessions, the highest unemployment since the Depression, sobbing televangelists begging for money, the blood and violence of terrorist bombings, AIDS, Alaska's Prince William Sound defiled by crude oil oozing from the hull of the Exxon Valdez, and drought-induced African starvation.

The decade began on a sour note when, in late 1979, the Shah of Iran was forced into exile, and fanatics in Ayatollah Khomeini's Islamic fundamentalist government held 100 US Embassy staff members and Marines hostage. There were also shadows of today's headlines when Adolph Dubs, US ambassador to Afghanistan, was kidnapped by Muslim terrorists and killed in gun battle. That Christmas Eve, the Soviet Army invaded Afghanistan.

These events overshadowed the significant international peace-making efforts of President Jimmy Carter earlier that year. Pres. Carter initiated historic talks between Egyptian president Anwar Sadat, and Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin. He also furthered world peace with the Strategic Arms Limitations Treaty (SALT II) talks in an agreement with Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev. Meanwhile, Pope

John Paul II became the first Pope to visit a communist country (his native Poland) and toured the US afterwards to call for universal peace.

In 1980, Pres. Carter's apparent lack of muscle in dealing with the Embassy hostages propelled Ronald Reagan, a former actor, and George Bush into the Republican political limelight. That fall, the Reagan-Bush ticket received a landslide victory and Republicans controlled the Senate for the first time since 1964. Meanwhile, the World Health Organization announced the eradication of smallpox; tornadoes struck 30 towns from Nebraska to Pennsylvania, killing 37 people; Mt. St. Helens, in Washington, erupted; and Iraq invaded Iran, beginning a decade-long war.

But the really important thing was "Who Shot JRT?"

"Dallas," the height of television programming during the 1980s, got the highest ratings ever for a regular television series, when 88.6 million viewers tuned in to watch this pseudo-Western soap opera. Other amusements included the "Amityville Horror," "A Coal Miner's Daughter," "The Empire Strikes Back," and "Airplane." The Moscow Olympics were also boycotted by the US in 1981 due to the Russian invasion of Afghanistan. (We supported the Afghan rebels.)

In 1981, the Reagan "trickle down" budget proposed the greatest spending and tax cuts ever.

Voyager II flew by Saturn, gathering information on the planet, its rings and moons. Sandra Day O'Connor was appointed as the first female Supreme Court justice. More than 12,000 striking air traffic controllers were fired. Muhammad Ali retired from boxing with 56 wins and five defeats. And John Hinckley tried to assassinate Pres. Reagan outside the Washington Hilton. Hinckley missed—but not by much—sending Reagan to the hospital and permanently crippling press Secretary Jim Brady.

In 1981, new Scoutmaster Fred Neumann and his troop were doing some maintenance work at Hidden Valley. Neumann and his boys were building steps for the Kiwanis I and II cabins. Neumann and the troop had built a tower for a recent camporee, and they enjoyed it, so they were back, doing more.

Neumann and his troop evidently didn't hear about the national decline in interest in Boy Scouts taking place during the late-1970s and early-1980s. Some critics pointed their fingers at the "Me" generation's myopic self focus. Others attributed the decline of Scouting interest to changes in the national Scout program. During the mid-1970s, the program shifted the focus of Scouting away from traditional camping, hiking and outdoor activities to a more urbanized style of Scouting. The idea was to appeal to a more modern, hence more urban Scout.

At Keystone Area Council and Hidden Valley, the numbers of Scouts attending camp showed some of this decline. In 1972, more than 1,700 boys attended camp. By the mid-1970s, the number of campers had fallen to just over 1,350 Scouts. The numbers rose in the late 1970s—1,436 in 1977 and almost 1,400 in 1978—but they continued to decline going into the 1980s. In 1979 and 1980, more than 1,225 boys camped at Hidden Valley. By 1981, this number was down to 1,171; in 1982, to 1,147.

Another factor in the declining number of Scouts going to camp was linked to economics. William Hawkins, the Council executive since 1973, when Charlie Steele retired, kept a tight lid on finances. He had to, given the economics of oil embargoes, recessions, and Reaganomics that he faced until his own retirement in 1992.

Hawkins regularly showed the council breaking even or with a slight surplus in funds; however, he did this at a cost to both the council and Hidden Valley. Hawkins' economic policy was to minimize expenses, with camp improvements and maintenance kept at a bare minimum. Shortly after he retired in 1992, this would play a major role in the future of Scouting in the Harrisburg area.



In May of 1983, at the Council's camporee, there was a parade of colors.

Meanwhile, the 1980s went on with Solidarity leader Lech Walesa demanding freedom of speech, the release of political prisoners, and new labor laws, at a Gdansk shipyard strike in Poland; with the Vietnam Veterans War Memorial, containing 58,000 names of the dead, rising from its Washington, D.C. site in 1982. Canada blamed US factories for the environmental damage wrought by "acid rain." Shiite Moslem bombs destroyed the US embassy in Beirut, Lebanon, and two suicide attacks on peacekeeping forces killed more than 300 people. Unemployment hit 12 million, the highest since 1941; and 70 US bank failures, the highest rate since 1937, preceded the world's largest corporate merger, Standard Oil of California and acquiring Gulf for \$13.2 billion. The US Army awarded more than 8,000 medals for action in Grenada, although there were never more than 7,000 soldiers on the island. The AIDS virus was discovered, and the Apple Macintosh microcomputer with a mouse was launched.

In 1986, the Chernobyl nuclear accident—worse than TMI's 1979 near meltdown, because the reactor actually blew—caused 133,000 people to be evacuated, and clouds of fallout across Europe.

Near the end of the decade, seven major economic powers held a summit meeting in Tokyo that was the target of five terrorist rockets.

The conference agreed on proposals to stop worldwide terrorism. The Challenger explosion took the lives of seven astronauts, including Christa McAuliffe, the first citizen in space. Evangelist Oral Roberts raised \$4.5 million after declaring that God would "call him home" if he failed to do so. Jim Bakker, head of the Praise the Lord television ministry, resigned after accusations of adultery. Rev. Pat Robertson announced his Republican candidacy for president. And Chinese rebels calling for democratic freedoms were crushed by tanks in Tiananmen Square.

The turn of the decade saw the fall of worldwide Communism with the first elections in Romania and Hungary, and freedom speeches in Czechoslovakia. The Berlin Wall fell under the sledgehammers and East and West Germans united for the first time since World War II. Gen. Colin Powell became the first black chairman of Joint Chiefs of Staff. Crude oil oozing from the grounded hull of the Exxon Valdez fouled the pristine waters of Prince William Sound in Alaska, and "When Harry Met Sally" "Batman" saw his "Field of Dreams," with "Turner & Hooch."

During the late 1980s and early 1990s, traditional youth membership in Keystone Area Council was like a dammed river pool, becoming stagnant. Registration of Boy Scouts fell from a high of more than 3,000 in 1978 to less than 2,500 in 1993. Overall service to youth, however, did not decline as new programs, such as Learning

for Life and Tiger Cubs, boosted membership totals so that, by the late 1990s, the Council was serving almost 50% more youths than in 1978.

Overall Council growth and the desire to recognize and further involve the Chambersburg Community in all activities lead to a realignment of districts in 1995.

• **Frontier District**—Carlisle was removed from the old Cumberland Valley District so the new district was comprised of the towns of Shippensburg and Chambersburg.

• **Kittatinny District**—Parts of Cumberland Valley (Carlisle) and Triangle District (Perry County) were joined to form this new District.

• **Adventure District**—Triangle District was downsized, taking away Perry County and leaving only the old West Shore District.

• **Blue Mountain District**—Remained the same, and included Harrisburg and Upper Dauphin.

• **Union Canal District**—Also remained the same, including the towns of Steelton, Hummelstown, Hershey and Swatara Township.

Scouts Who Lived It

Fred Neumann's Naked Cave Adventure!

FRED NEUMANN recalled that Kiwanis I and II had no steps, and in 1981 his Troop built the steps. 1981 was his earliest time as a leader.

He recalled building a tower for the Camporee.

He also took five older boys caving in Winchester, West Virginia. They had to swim underwater for a short distance to get into a large open room in the cave, so they took off their clothes, protecting them in a lard can. Years later he was in a church in Winchester and some boys remembered him as being "scared to death."

Another time they did an airdrop in Virginia—a friend had a small plane. They made up little parachutes with packs of Hershey bars. A boy on the ground signaled with a neckerchief and they dropped the parachutes with candy bars. Then the pilot dropped a box of ice cream packed in dry ice, on a parachute to surprise Fred.



Fred Neumann

Three Outstanding Volunteers

Although many unseen volunteers have contributed to the success of Hidden Valley over its 75-year history, we can not write this story without mentioning the contributions of three Scout volunteers during the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s, Dale Peirce, Dick Deaven and Wayne Lippert.

These men were in camp every weekend, doing whatever chore or project needed done. Peirce laid many concrete blocks for the various buildings. When he ran out of block, he rested and drank coffee. It took four or five boys carrying blocks to keep Peirce in blocks and out of the java.

These men inspired the young Scouts so much that the boys always looked forward to working on another project the next day—even if it was Sunday. One time, John Mitten recalled, Peirce got the camp's tractor so stuck in the mud, that Mitten had to pull him out with his own Farmall M tractor.

Camp ranger John Crider remembered that when he took over in 1975 there was one concrete block at each winter lodge building. Thinking they looked unsightly, Crider gathered them all up. The following weekend Peirce, who was a short and husky-built man, wanted to know who took his cement blocks. Turns out that Peirce needed the block at each building so that he could reach the padlock up at the top of the doorframe.

These men inspired Mitten to install the bridge abutments at the wooden bridge, following a flood that eroded the base of this bridge. Peirce and Lippert were good Scouts, very active in OA projects. Deaven also served as OA Lodge Advisor.

Peirce and Deaven worked for Charlie Steele and virtually built the West Camp. They could do construction, plumbing and electrical work, and gave countless hours of their time, talent and efforts to the success of Hidden Valley. Lippert helped too, but is better remembered as the Santa Claus who visited the camp every year at the appropriate time.

Wayne Lippert, who often played Santa and Rachel Crider. (Photos courtesy of Joyce Crider)



Dale Peirce



This hungry bunch were at the Council Camporee—May 1983. Seated on left: Bill Alcock, Dick Turner. On the right, 4th back with dark glasses is Frank Gill. Second from front without cap is Al Wolfe. The others are unidentified. (Photo courtesy of Don Roseth)



Dale Peirce designed and built the first cable bridge across Sherman's Creek at Hidden Valley. It went to the small island near the rifle range. After the bridge was assembled, Scouts hoisted the bridge in place, and rolled it up each season for about five seasons.



Leadership training at Ritter Lodge at Hidden Valley in April of 1984 featured this collection of Scouts: left to right are Ray Scurazzo, unknown, Bob Moore, Charles Norris, Jim Dolbin, and Dick Denison.

Help, I've Fallen—At 1983's fall camporee in Tuscarora State Forest, Scouting skills were evident throughout the camp. This photo shows a mountain terrain rescue skill building session, where the victim has fallen and broken a leg at the base of a cliff. River Rescue personnel did the demonstration, showing how to stabilize a victim and get the person back to the top of the mountain for proper medical treatment.



Primitive Camporee—In October of 1981, Troop 269 enjoyed a primitive camporee in Pine Grove Furnace State Park. The boys toiled everything they needed for the weekend a mile and a quarter back into the woods. Only a cook and an ambulance on standby were allowed vehicle access to the site. They dug latrines and learned how to recover the tracks of their being there that weekend. The ranger who visited the site later reported that he could not find where the Troop camped. (Photo courtesy of Don Roseth)



LOOKING BACK...

A PHOTO ESSAY • 1980s



Above - That's "little" Rachel Crider standing on a block of Sherman Creek ice, the likes of which the Crider family had not seen in 20 years as Hidden Valley's ranger family. The photo was taken at the boat dock area. Many ice blocks floated up on the road leading to Friendship Bridge. The ice blocks had to be cleared using a tractor. The Criders reported that the ice could be heard cracking and groaning at the ranger's home. Wow! (Joyce Crider photo)

Above - Scouts repair the steps at the Kiwanis Adirondack shelter at Hidden Valley in 1982. Shown are "Skipper" Joseph Lauer III, David Lauer and Eric Brehens. (Photo by Fred Neumann)



Above - A Scout is clean...including when he is camping.



Above - Troop 121 at attention in the summer of 1982. (Scoutmaster Robert Reed photo)

JAMBOREE '85



Left - Jamboree 1985. This was a practice run at Camp Hidden Valley's tree farm area for Troop 517. It was also the first time the large Keystone Gateway was used. The Troop was jamboree-bound for Fort A. P. Hill in Virginia that summer. This gateway now stands in Hidden Valley near the "Commissioners' Corner." (Photo courtesy of Don Roseth)



Above - Troops 517 and 518 joined forces to attend the Jamboree at Fort A. P. Hill in 1985. Troop 517 representing council, and 518 as the "tag-a-long" Troop, were composed of Scouts from various Troops in council. This scene is the aftermath of Hurricane Bob. It took out most of the two Troops' tents. The Keystone gateway, however, stood its ground. (Photo courtesy of Don Roseth)

Below - Jamboree 1985. This is a general view of the stage arena at Fort A. P. Hill. (Photo courtesy of Don Roseth)



Above - At the Jamboree shake-down at Camp Hidden Valley, the boys had to practice for all aspects of Jamboree life, including the fun, like this tag-of-war game. Actually, the tag-of-war was one of four special competitive events that would be held. (courtesy of Don Roseth)



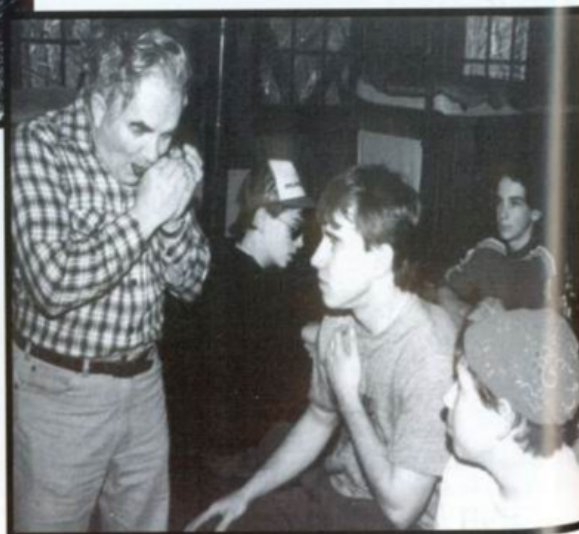
Above - Leadership training in March of 1981. A Sunday church service is held in front of Ratter Lodge, lead by Dick Brumbaugh (in coat) and Bob Moore. (Don Roseth photo)



Above - Explorer Post 4 of Camp Hill installs some anti-erosion devices on a trail at Hidden Valley. The work was hard on a hot summer day. Shown are Dave Hull, Paul Howley, and Jim Ruggaber.



Above - This building was originally used as the assistant camp director's cottage. In more recent times it became the campmaster's cabin. The structure was built in the 1980s by volunteer Dale Peirce.



Below - Scoutmaster Bob Reed shakes 'em on down! Reed, of Troop 121, of Shippensburg, shows some boys how it's done on the harmonica in winter camp during 1981. Go, Bob, go! The boys seem pretty interested in this, too.



Above - Key Scouter Conference at Messiah College in 1988. Shown are Don Roseth, Sen. John Shumaker and Al Branch.

Below - Two Scout leaders take it easy at Great Stag Campsite during the council camporee in 1988. (Don Roseth photo)



**A SCOUT
IS BRAVE...**

CUB SCOUTS



Above - Mrs. Winifred Paudus talks with Cubs about why she is involved as a United Fund contributor.



Top - Cubs learn about archery at Hidden Valley.

Above - A Cub pack that participated in a 1980s Roller Derby.

Far Left - Young Scouts learn lashing.

Left - A group of Cub Scout leaders.



Above - A Scout talks about his display at the Scout exhibition at the mall.

Left - The West Camp entrance sign.



Above - This was the trading post at the Cub Village. It is now used as the Handicraft Lodge.

Below - Hidden Valley summer camp in 1988 at the Kelly campsite. Shown are Troop 198 members Steve Kahler, Eric Fank, Scott Brown, Douglas Brown and Jacob Brown, Jr. The troop is sponsored by Fishing Creek Salem United Methodist Church. (Jacob Brown, Jr. photo).



CLIFF RESCUE...



Hidden Valley summer camp Scouts got to witness what it takes to make a rescue in the cliffs above Sherman's Creek in this staged 1980s event at the camp. Upper left shows the front face of the cliffs; above is a side view, left is bringing a victim to medical help in a basket.



Left - Taking aim at Hidden Valley's rifle range.

Below Left - In 1988, at a council camporee, the Army War College's Honor Guard from Carlisle shared a parade of colors with the Scouts. Behind the modern troops are members of the "Old Guard" representing Revolutionary War-period soldiers. (Don Roseth photo)

Below Right - Raising the colors at Camp Hidden Valley during the 1980s.



**A
SCOUT
Is
HONEST...**

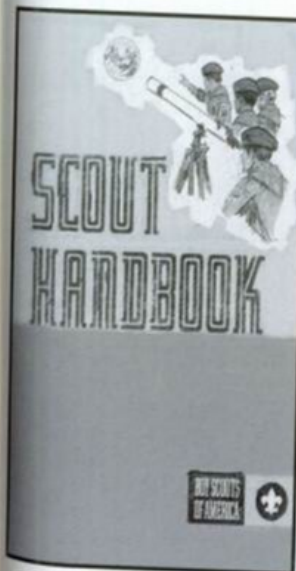


Left - These Scouts are learning map and compass skills the hard way—but the right way—by doing it.

**A
SCOUT
Is
KIND...**



Below - A Scout Handbook from the late 1970s and early 1980s.

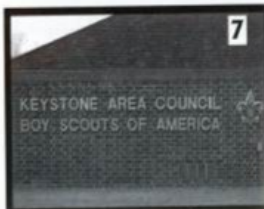


Above - Shades of Ron "Buffalo Bill" Hock, from the 1950s! This wagon made a visit to camp during the 1980s.

Below - This isn't "Last of the Mohicans." It's a campfire scene from a 1980s camp session at Hidden Valley.



A NEW HEADQUARTERS



Photos correspond with numbers in the upper right of each photo: 1.) The former Scout headquarters on Front Street in Harrisburg. 2.) The land is located and set aside for building. 3.) An artist's concept of the new headquarters. 4.) The required "golden shovel" photo of the groundbreaking ceremony. 5.) Dedication of the ground and the building. 6.) Actual construction-pouring the footers. 7.) The finished product, a fine looking, stout building. 8.) Al Herbert also helped acquire a life-sized Boy Scout statue for the council.



Right - Scouts learn to swim at Hidden Valley's pool. Note the kids on the bottom, they seem to be having a grand time making all that splash.



PHILMONT SCOUT RANCH...



PHILMONT SCOUT RANCH, in Cimarron, New Mexico, is one of several places where Scouts can go for some high adventure challenges and a chance to change their points of view. A number of Scouts and Scout troops in the Keystone Area Council have traveled to Philmont, and have their own stories to tell about their experiences there. *Left* - One of the Philmont crews from Keystone. *Above* - This is Mt. Baldy at Philmont, a challenge to backpack to the top. *Below* - Scouts learn the elements of horsemanship from one of Philmont's guides.



Crisis and Rebirth: The 1990s

"Outdoor adventures are at the heart of Scouting."

Boy Scout Handbook 10th edition, 4th printing (1990)

"Let it be resolved that the Keystone Area Council ... Discontinue summer programs at Camp Hidden Valley after 1997."

Executive Board Resolution of January 28, 1997

"Camp Hidden Valley is the heart and soul of the Keystone Area Council. Closure and sale of this property is likely to effectively destroy the integrity of this Council. It also has the potential to destroy this Council."

Conclusion of report supporting

Executive Board Resolution of April 27, 1997

On January 28, 1997, the Keystone Area Council Executive Board, following three deficit funding years and fearing the financial collapse of the Council, passed a resolution approving the termination of summer camping operations at Hidden Valley beginning in the summer of 1998.

The broad repercussions of this decision likely could not have even been contemplated by any of those participating in that fateful vote as, five years later, the camp not only remains open but it and the Council are thriving at a level not seen in decades. The story of how the decision to close the camp came to pass and how the camp and Council were reborn is one of grass roots participation and strong leadership in the face of crisis.

THE CRISIS

In 1992, Council Executive William Hawkins retired after leading the Council for 20 years. During his tenure, Hawkins kept a tight lid on finances, regularly showing the Council breaking even or generating a slight surplus. That accomplishment was attained, in part, through minimizing expenditures, with camp improvements and upkeep being a particular target.

For several decades, capital improvements were limited and maintenance expenditures were kept to a bare minimum. To control camp staff salaries, members of the professional staff were required to work at Hidden Valley for the summer. Although the central Pennsylvania area was growing and more entry level jobs were becoming available for high school and college students, salaries for the non-professional staff members were not increased, thus reducing the attractiveness to teenagers of working at Hidden Valley.

Little serious effort was made to attract units to camp. Promotions were sporadic and unenthusiastic. Efforts to create programs for later years which could be promoted while units were at camp were barred as volunteers proposing such changes were informed that the camp director controlled the program and that camp directors are not hired until after all units had left camp for the summer.

The consequences of the fiscal tight-

fistedness and reduction of volunteer involvement included a gradual but steady deterioration of the facilities and a loss of loyalty to the camp from units and volunteers.

Units began to visit other camps and found that they offered superior programs for comparable costs. As the units became sophisticated buyers of camping services, the attractiveness of Hidden Valley continued to pale before its competitors.

As a result, only location, loyalty to the Council and tradition seemed to compel attendance at the camp.

In 1989, the Executive Board, at the urging of the Susquehanna OALodge, adopted a resolution requiring Council units to attend Hidden Valley at least once every three years. The resolution reflected the reality of units defecting to other camps but did nothing to address the underlying causes of the defections. Rather, both camping expenditures and attendance remained stagnant for the next several years.

In 1992, a long-range plan for the Council was adopted. That plan recognized the need to increase attendance at Hidden Valley and set forth a series of sound recommendations for

improving the facilities. Unfortunately, events intervened to prevent such improvements from occurring until 1997, at which time almost all of the recommendations were implemented.

In 1992, Anthony Brock replaced Hawkins as Scout Executive. Brock was immediately confronted with a significant decrease in United Way funding for the Council. The immediate decrease was a result of a change in the Capital Region United Way's fund allocations. A more long-term decrease in United Way funding was also contemplated by the Council. Brock had come to the Council from serving as the Scout Executive for the East Valley Area Council, near Pittsburgh. That Council had faced a similar crisis of a threatened decrease in United Way funding, with the end result being that the East Valley Area Council was compelled to merge with the Allegheny Trails Council, forming the Greater Pittsburgh Area Council. Unless the current crisis was handled satisfactorily, the Keystone Area Council faced a similar fate of merger or a likely risk of financial instability.

In 1991, approximately 36 percent of the Council's funding came from the \$310,000 in United Way allocations. That number began to



A 1991 Woodbadge course with (back row) Don Brubaker, Jim Hummelstine, Don Roseth, Ray Sciarozzo, Sam Zeiders, Ed Carvel, Bob Starkiewicz; (front row) Karl Dietrich, Mike Robbins, Fred Fisher, Gary Entlerline, Dennis Foley, and Ben LeFever. (Don Roseth photo)



John Mitten, a local sawmill operator, converted this 1941 Army truck to be used as a logging truck for pulling heavy logs out of the woods. Mitten and "Big Bertha" helped Hidden Valley many times over the years, including gathering logs to make totem poles, pulling school buses out of the mud, fording Sherman's Creek for bridge abutment repairs. Former camp ranger Dave Rohrbaugh is the man in the photo.

steadily decrease, to a low of \$133,000 in allocations in 1997.

Meanwhile expenses continued to climb. In 1992, 1994, 1995 and 1996, the Council posted deficit funding years. A deficit of almost \$200,000 occurred in 1995. By 1997, the Council was over \$300,000 in debt, with little relief on the horizon. There was little enthusiasm from volunteers and 1994 saw a 50 percent reduction in Friends of Scouting donations. While contributions increased in 1995 and 1996, they did not reach the same level as any of the years from 1988-1993. As financial losses mounted, the Council faced possible revocation of its Boy Scouts of America charter.

In late 1996, a special committee appointed by the Council President reviewed the effect of Hidden Valley operations on the Council's finances. On January 28, 1997, the Committee, chaired by Rev. William King, presented a written report and recommendation to the Council Executive Board. The Committee, observing declining camp attendance in recent years, concluded that:

- "The clearest, most powerful, and most honest voice of the units and membership which comprise our council has expressed its preference: that is, not to use Camp Hidden Valley. There is no need to conduct meetings, surveys, or polls to obtain a clearer consensus of the Council than we have already obtained through the consistent camping choices of our units and membership."

- The Committee expressed its view that the units of the Council had expressed their lack of support for the camp with their feet, as attendance at Hidden Valley had steadily dropped over the prior ten years. The Committee concluded that units were not using the camp. This was a

financial drain on the Council, distracting resources that could be better devoted to other needs. The Committee recommended that, to reduce further losses to the Council, summer camping operations should cease, beginning following the 1997 camping season. The proposal was met with opposition at the Board meeting but was ultimately adopted by a vote of 32-10 as a painful but necessary remedy to the Council's financial woes.

One of the persons who spoke against the resolution at the January Board meeting was Dr. Webb Hersperger of Carlisle. On February 4, 1997, a group of eight interested persons, including current and former Board members, met at the office of Dr. Hersperger to discuss whether alternatives existed to closure of the camp, and whether the Board Resolution could be reversed. In the weeks to come, the small initial group held several additional meetings, with the size of the group growing in number each time. Other groups were also convening in different parts of the Council to discuss the Resolution and its impact on the future of the Council.

The groups assembling to discuss the January 28 resolution disagreed with a fundamental assumption of the resolution, that the camp was losing money for the Council and that closure was necessary to save the Council. The dissenters believed that the camp was generating net income for the Council and that closure of the camp could very likely result in the ultimate insolvency of the Council. This assessment challenged the financial analysis by pointing out that the cost savings from closure would not exceed the loss of income which had previously been generated by camp fees and product sales.

The dissenters also believed that a council camp is the heart of a Boy Scout council. Char-

table donations are often made to support camping programs. Should the camp close, those donations could likely dry up, with the net result being further financial distress to the Council. This belief soon found hard support when Rick Roadarmel, Vice-President of Cumberland Distribution Services, Inc., and financial supporter of the Council, wrote to Brock, "If there is no camp to give to any more, what do you think is going to happen to our desire to contribute?"

With both sides clinging to firmly held views, the future success and existence of the Council hung in the balance. If one side prevailed, and was wrong, insolvency seemed likely.

During the meetings conducted in Carlisle, a consensus arose that simply calling for the opening of the camp would not address the underlying causes of both the financial distress of the Council or the stagnant attendance at Hidden Valley. A comprehensive alternative plan had to be presented to address these issues. Dr. Hersperger, Dick Denison, Sharon Lance and Alan Boynton were asked to prepare an alternate plan to present to the Board. That document was drafted and refined in early February and became known as the "Counter-Resolution."

The Counter-Resolution proposed rescission of the January resolution and specified fifteen steps to be taken to address the financial concerns of the Council, as well as the problems at the camp.

On February 13, 1997, the proposed Counter-Resolution was delivered to Brock with the request that it be considered at the next (March 25) Board meeting. On February 21, it was mailed to all of the Executive Board members.

On February 25, the Council Executive Committee, consisting of the officers of the Council, met at a regularly scheduled meeting. The Executive Committee discussed the request to consider the Counter-Resolution, but it concluded that a tremendous amount of work went into the proposal to close the camp, and that the committee was satisfied with the results. The committee opted to stand by the Board-approved resolution. It saw no reason to discuss the counter-proposal at the March Board meeting.

At the same meeting, the subject of possible merger of the Council was raised. Although it was stated that there was currently no written plan in the works, it was also noted that "we do have standards to meet, Quality Council with a Balanced Budget, being one of them. If we fail, the possibility of having to merge would become a reality."

With the Executive Committee refusing to permit the Counter-Resolution to come before the Board, the group seeking its consideration decided to take a different approach to ensure its presentation at the next Board meeting. The group asked to be heard at each of the five upcoming District Committee meetings to propose that the Districts adopt motions requesting the Board to consider the issue. Under Council

guidelines in effect at the time, the Board was required to consider a proposal if it had the approval of all five Districts.

As word spread of these presentations, the attendance at District meetings dramatically increased. District leaders, however, were instructed by Council leadership not to permit a vote on these requests or even to allow such presentations to be conducted. Some District Executives were informed that their employment could be terminated if they permitted presentation of the request. Several Districts did permit discussion of the issues after the conclusion of the regularly scheduled meeting, and after the District Executives had left the site. In the Adventure District, however, Sharon Lance, who was a member of the District Committee and planned to make the presentation, was first asked to resign from the Committee prior to the March 6 meeting for conduct "detrimental to the Adventure District" and, when she refused to do so, was told that she had been removed from the Committee.

On March 10, what had now become a very large group of persons opposing the closure of Hidden Valley met at Belvedere Medical Center in Carlisle to discuss options in light of the Executive Committee's refusal to permit consideration of the Counter-Resolution. The decision was made to continue with grass-roots efforts to educate volunteers and Board members about the situation and to compel the Council

leadership to reopen the issue for further discussion.

Support for the Counter-Resolution was growing quickly.

On March 12, Al Herbert, past Council president and a major financial supporter, wrote to Dr. Hersperger to confirm his support of the Counter-Resolution, indicating that closure of the camp "is the worst thing that could happen to scouting in our council in the 70 years I have been connected with it, and therefore I strongly support your resolution and hope the Board will approve it." He also stated that, due to his dissatisfaction, he would not be renewing a \$35,000 grant given by him to the Council the prior year. The January 28 Resolution was already beginning to have a direct financial impact on the Council.

The Executive Committee, facing financial repercussions of the January 28 resolution and growing support for at least discussion of the Counter-Resolution, reversed its earlier ban on discussion in part and agreed to permit two speakers supporting the Counter-Resolution and two persons supporting the original resolution to make ten minute presentations at the March 25 Board meeting.

On March 19, 1997, the group supporting reconsideration held a meeting to discuss the upcoming meeting and options. By this time, the group had received commitments from enough Board members to make it likely that the Counter-Resolution would pass.

On the morning of the next Board meeting, March 25, Council President Lyle Shugart, who had been elected in November of 1996, resigned. Board members were then advised by phone that the Executive Committee had decided to cancel the Board meeting scheduled for that evening. Pursuant to the Council Bylaws, on March 26, 21 members of the Board, including six past and future Board presidents, delivered a written request to Brock that a special meeting of the Board be convened to consider the Counter-Resolution.

On April 15, interim Council President Fred Faber—who had been selected by the Executive Committee pending election of a new President—informing the Board that a special meeting of the Board would be convened on April 29, with the sole purpose of the meeting being consideration of the Counter-Resolution.

On April 29, the Board convened to discuss the Counter-Resolution. By then, the weight of opinion was in favor of keeping the camp open. After considerable discussion, the Board voted 21-17 to support a slightly modified version of the Counter-Resolution. The final version of the document was approved by the Board at its regularly scheduled May 27 meeting.

On May 5, 1997, the group now calling itself the Friends of Hidden Valley held a public meeting at Zion United Methodist Church in Wertzville to discuss the Counter-Resolution and means of improving attendance at Hidden Valley and the financial strength of the Council. The meeting was widely publicized and was attended

by Brock and Faber, who were invited to speak. Several local television stations were present as well to report on the growing wave of enthusiasm for the camp. Several weeks later, the Board formally approved the Counter-Resolution. The initial crisis having been dealt with, the Council now moved toward getting its financial house in order and rebuilding the Camp.

REBIRTH

The first step in rebuilding the camp and Council occurred at a special meeting of the Council held at Eagle View Middle School on June 16, 1997.

At that meeting, attended by over 100 people, James Pannebaker was elected Council President. Pannebaker immediately made clear his priorities of rebuilding the camp and restoring the Council to fiscal soundness. Both would be achieved with remarkable speed.

As of July 1997, the Council was projecting an \$86,000 deficit for 1997, with a resulting overall debt of nearly \$400,000. Yet, the Council ended 1997 with a slight budget surplus, and, by the end of 1998, the entire Council debt had been erased. By 1998, other revenues had increased to such an extent that reliance on United Way funding had decreased to represent only nine percent of the Council's funding. Budget surpluses continued for the 1999, 2000 and 2001 fiscal years.

The effect of the crisis and the change in Council leadership on Hidden Valley was immediate.

In 1997, after most units had already committed to attending other camps before learning of the crisis, only 698 Boy Scouts attended summer camp at Hidden Valley. Boy Scout attendance in 1998 through 2001 was over 1,000, numbers not achieved since the early 1980s. (Projected attendance for 2002 is about 1,200 Scouts.)

The increase in numbers at the camp reflected dramatic changes in the commitments to the facilities, program and staff leadership. Immediately upon taking office, Pannebaker appointed several new committee chairpersons and Council officers. In 1997, the position of Council Camping Chairman became an officer position, with Dick Denison becoming the Council's first Vice President of Camping. He was succeeded by Bob Hoover, Bob Moore and Sharon Lance, who had served as Camping Program chair since July of 1997.

Pursuant to a provision of the Counter-Resolution, in July 1997, a Hidden Valley Study Committee was appointed to assess the needs of the camp. The Committee, chaired by Dr. Joseph Sassani, conducted a survey of area camps and of the desires of Council units. This committee did a thorough assessment of the existing resources at Hidden Valley and conducted a financial analysis of the impact of the camp on the Council. What emerged in November of 1997 was a comprehensive plan for the resurrection of Hidden Valley.



These boys, taking part in a 1990 National Guard demonstration at a council camporee, really aren't aiming for the fire truck.

Improvements to facilities and equipment began in 1997. That year, eight new rifles were purchased for use at the rifle range, a new climbing wall was installed, new heaters were installed at all of the winter camping cabins, and a fireplace was added to the dining hall.

The Council leadership recognized that immediate and substantial improvements were needed to the facilities at Hidden Valley. Funding for the improvements began to pour in immediately after the Counter-Resolution was adopted. In July of 1997, two donations of \$5,000 committed to improvements to the camp were received from the Marysville Lions Club and Dr. Hersperger. At the same meeting, a \$68,200 grant was received from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development. These were the first of over \$1 million in contributions to improvement of the facilities at Hidden Valley.

Some of the major physical improvements to the camp from July 1997 to May 2001 include:

- **New Chapel**—The long-time camp chapel, which had fallen into disrepair, was torn down in 1993. Due to the shortage of financial resources, it was not replaced at that time. The lack of such an important facility at Hidden Valley was remedied in 2000 with the construction of an impressive and unique design created by architect Robert Flaynik. Funds for construction of the Chapel came from private donations and the Schoffstall Family Foundation. The chapel, located near the Cub Village and overlooking Sherman's Creek, was ready for use by the beginning of the 2000 summer camping season and was formally dedicated on September 23, 2000.
- **New Health Lodge**—Also completed in time for the beginning of the 2000 summer

camping season was a new Health Lodge. The prior facility, located near the Cub Village and swimming pool, was in disrepair and considered inadequate for current needs. The new structure, with housing for the family of the Health Officer, is located very near the old one and has some outstanding features, such as air conditioning and a modern examination room. \$100,000 in funds for construction of the Health Lodge came from the Hall Family Trust.

• **New Shower House**—The third major construction project of the 2000 camping season was the new shower house, located near the camp staff tenting area. The \$125,000 facility is available for adult and staff use during the summer and is also available for general camp use the rest of the year.

• **Herbert Lodge Renovations**—Kitchen appliances were replaced. Steel doors with panic bars were installed. The outside was restained, the roof replaced, and the window sashes were repainted.

• **Dining hall improvements**—The camp dining hall saw some major improvements. The building was insulated and heated for winter camp use. Air conditioning was added. The kitchen received a major upgrade. The tables and benches were all replaced.

• **Rotary Lodge renovations**—The porch was replaced.

• **Pool project**—In 1997, the camp pool was losing 20,000 gallons of water a day to leaks. Major renovations were required. Thanks to a major grant from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the pool was completely renovated and a heating system installed. The Hidden Valley pool is now one of the few heated Scout camp pools. The



Pioneering at Camp Hidden Valley

Above - A group of unidentified Scouts assemble a gateway at Camp Hidden Valley during the late 1980s. Note Charlie Steele's "car wash" A-frame in the background. You can also see the tools and the ropes and knots used in assembling the gateway if you look carefully to the right in the photo. Scoutmaster Don Walker is the man in the ball cap and jacket with the patch in the middle of the back.

Right - "Skipper," the boy in the photo, said he would do the lashing for this gateway, but he didn't want this photo shown to his mother. Things do look a bit wobbly up there. Note the fire bucket in the foreground and the Adirondack shelters in the background. (H. C. Fred Neumann, Camp Commissioner photos)

DO A GOOD
TURN DAILY...



renovations also included the addition of a large slide and installation of a ramp which allows wheelchair-confined Scouts to enter and use the pool.

• **West Perry Schools agreement**—In 2000, the Council entered into an agreement with the West Perry School District to permit the School District to use the Hidden Valley facilities as an outdoor alternative education center. The School District installed a classroom facility at the camp and pays a monthly fee for access to the camp. The program was so successful that, in 2001, the arrangement was expanded and a second classroom added.

• **Road improvements**—In 2000, the Council received a \$100,000 grant to improve the road which runs through the heart of the camp. In 2001, the first efforts were made toward rebuilding the road at the west end of camp. The project is ongoing.

• **Adirondack Shelters**—For many years, the Council has had wooden shelters, known as "Adirondacks," in the Kiwanis campsite. The site has been a popular one for summer camp use and is regularly booked early for the summer camping season. In 2001, the Council decided to expand this opportunity for units and converted the Stockade campsite to Adirondack shelters. The expectation is to convert several other sites to this format within the next several years.

• **Other Projects**—The decking was replaced on the wood bridge. A backhoe, "igator" and lawnmower were purchased. A boundary survey of the property was completed and a master engineering and a timber management plan were prepared.



Above: Cub Village in April of 1991. Two of the Cubs are Andrew Karius (3rd from right) and Ryan Crider (2nd from right), son of camp ranger John Crider. (Joyce Crider photo)

Mike Kelly Remembers Cleaning Up HVSR...

"I HAD THE GOOD FORTUNE TO RETURN TO HIDDEN VALLEY LATE IN 1997. I say return because HVSR is where my scouting days began. I camped at HVSR with troop 73 when it was still in Landisburg in the early 60's. When my family moved out of the area, I attended camps in other councils. If not camping at HVSR, we would be fishing Sherman's Creek along with my father Marlin, and a neighbor, Frank Cooper. I can remember my father commenting how beautiful and peaceful it was sitting along the creek near the wooden bridge.

"Many changes had occurred in the 33 years I was away. So many, in fact, that I spent the first several months finding my way around the once familiar camp. The existence of the West Side of camp was completely unknown to me until an interview was scheduled in the Wagner Training Center—an important interview I would have been late for, had a neighbor not happened by to tell me I was at the East gate and should be at the West, a gate I knew nothing about.

"When I was finally hired I was given a challenge. Simply stated, if I wanted a job in the future, we had to turn this place around. Such folk as Jim Pannebaker, Webb Hersperger, Al Keller and many others were determined we would succeed. Not so much as to ensure my job security, but for the generations of Scouts to come.

"My first major project was a clean-up, fix-up, mow weeds and paint campaign. Many of the roofs were in need of replacement, roads were in disrepair and the buildings were painted the drabest maroon with dark brown trim. Many hours of volunteer labor were poured into the numerous projects. Beaver Days, OA Weekends, college groups and individuals who come on their days off, all help with the various projects.

"Days of 18 hours or more are not uncommon for me. The work is often dirty, hard and tiring, but at the same time easy. Easy because of the common goal we all are working toward.

"Much of the work could have been prevented had a maintenance plan been in place. When the 'new' buildings were built in the mid-1960s, people took the attitude the buildings were new and they didn't need to worry about any repairs. I feel sorry for the ranger that was here during the late 1970s and 1980s. When he saw need for repairs he was told there was no money for them. Gradually the camp was allowed to slip into a sad state of repair. My job, on the other hand, has been made easier by the fact I have been blessed with an Executive Board and Properties Committee that are committed to doing what is necessary to continue the improvements at HVSR.

"Now, as we enter the 75th year of camping at HVSR, planned future improvements such as a Cub Camp and a camp wide sewer system with flush toilets and shower houses are in the works. Continuous updating of the summer program will ensure returning campers have the Merit Badge opportunities they desire, and the atmosphere will remain fresh, and not become boring. From Tiger Cubs through Eagle Scouts and Venturers, HVSR will be here with something for everyone.

"I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all the Board and committee members for their support. The many companies and individuals who have made donations of money or materials, whether it be five dollars or hundreds of thousands of dollars, thousands of tons of stone or a hand full of nuts and bolts, all are equally important and appreciated. From the neighbors who mow grass or plant flowers at the East gate or stop in to say hello, to the many volunteers who pour thousands of hours of sweat equity into their camp, and my family for being understanding. I and all the critters at HVSR thank you. You all are what makes HVSR what it is today, tomorrow and for generations of Scouts to come."



Mike Kelly, Hidden Valley's Ranger

The Friends of Hidden Valley...

In the midst of the 1997 crisis over possible closure of Hidden Valley, a new organization, the Friends of Hidden Valley (FOHV), emerged.

At first, the organization existed in name only, a means of identifying those who sought to preserve the camp. Then, steps were taken to formalize an organizational structure. The first formal discussion of creation of the Friends of Hidden Valley occurred at the March 10, 1997, meeting of the group opposing the closure of the camp. A follow-up meeting occurred on March 17 to specifically discuss an organizational structure for the group. The initial suggested approach was modeled after the Friends of Beshore, an independent volunteer organization formed years ago to support Lancaster-Lebanon Council's Camp Beshore. A member of the Friends of Beshore attended an early meeting, and a copy of that group's bylaws was presented. A local attorney offered to incorporate the group if it chose to move in that direction. No firm decisions were made, however, as the group focused its energies on promoting the Counter-Resolution.

The originally proposed Counter-Resolution included a provision for the creation of the FOHV. This provision was removed from the final resolution approved by the Executive Board, leaving the structure and role of the group in doubt.

Following the May 27 Executive Board meeting, more serious consideration was given to the future role of the FOHV in the Keystone Area Council. The debate reflected some strong disagreements over that role. A substantial number of supporters wanted the organization to be "outside" the Council, an independent watchdog that would ensure accountability and not be

subject to pressures from the professional staff or from volunteers with different priorities. Others saw the group being strongest if it could work within the scope of the Council, as a separate committee reporting directly to the Council President or Board. Questions immediately arose as to who should be eligible to join: Should membership be limited to adults or to registered members of the BSA? Should there be dues? If so, how should they be applied? A committee was appointed to work through the issues. The debate continued through the summer.

Finally, in the Fall of 1997, a report and proposal was sent by Dr. Hersperger on behalf of the FOHV organizing committee to Council President James Pannebaker proposing that the FOHV be established as part of the Council.

Dr. Hersperger noted the lack of unanimity on the subject but observed that: "while many volunteers would argue that there are benefits to having a 'watchdog' organization wholly independent of Council supervision and control, the committee believes that such an organization would not serve the Camp or the youth of the Council as effectively as one which directly interacts with the Council committees and leadership directly responsible for the operation and success of the Camp."

The proposed structure, with membership open to all persons willing to abide by BSA policies and guidelines and with the FOHV being directly responsible to the Council President, was approved by the Council Executive Board. In a unique arrangement, the FOHV was permitted to nominate its own chair for approval by the Board. Additionally, the chair of the FOHV was permitted to serve on the Executive Board as well as the Council Camping, Properties and Maintenance Committees, with representatives

of those committees also serving on the FOHV Executive Committee.

In the fall of 1997, Dr. Hersperger became the first chair of the FOHV. He served in that capacity until the end of 1998 and was succeeded by Diane Bowen, who served for two years, and then Patrick McCormack, who has served as chair of the Friends of Hidden Valley in 2001.

Since its formation, the FOHV has been active in its support of the camp. Perhaps its biggest accomplishment to date was to spearhead the effort to construct a new chapel at Hidden Valley. This project was one undertaken by the FOHV and supported financially by the Schoffstall Family Foundation. The structure was completed in June 2000.

Other projects undertaken by the FOHV include the donation of 50 percent of the cost to produce a camp promotional brochure; sale of Hidden Valley merchandise; providing annual camperships for needy Scouts to attend Hidden Valley; development of a history of Hidden Valley; hosting an open house at Hidden Valley; and organizing and sponsoring an "Old-Timers" weekend at Hidden Valley.

LEADERSHIP TRANSITION

At the end of October 1998, Anthony Brock, citing health problems, tendered his resignation as Scout Executive. On November 2, 1998, Brock died suddenly. For the next six months, Assistant Scout Executive Tony Rogers served as interim Scout Executive. He was assisted by Ron Brown, Regional Scout Executive, who spent much of his time at the Council Service Center. A search committee was convened to select a replacement for Brock.

In the spring of 1998, Malcolm ("Jack") Carr was selected as Scout Executive. Carr joined the Council after serving as Scout Executive for Kaibahdin Area Council in Maine. He brought to the Council a hands-on approach and a strong commitment to the camping program.

In November 2000, M. L. ("Skip") Ebert was elected Council President. Ebert succeeded Pannebaker, who had served as President since June of 1997.

CAMP BRIDGES RESTORED

When recent flooding caused erosion and threatened the pilings supporting the two old bridge abutments, a number of local firms stepped forward to help. One was Erdman Anthony Associates, Inc. When the firm became aware of the safety conditions with the two Hidden Valley bridges that cross Sherman's Creek, they sent Carl Poffenberger, a civil engineering manager from the firm, to inspect both structures and confirm the dangerous conditions. Their challenge was to design bridge supports that were very eco-



Troop 283's campsite at the City Island camporee in 1995. Tightly spaced campsites were required on City Island due to space limitations. Since that time, City Island has no room for campsites. (Photo courtesy of Don Rosetti)

nomical and could be constructed quickly. This was done by survey crews, who reviewed the original drawings of the bridges, performed the necessary load factor analysis, and did on-site inspection of the bridge piers. The best option for repair was a rock-filled gabion system to be placed around the base of each pier.

Erdman Anthony representatives met with PADEP officials at the site to fast track the environmental permitting process. John W. Gleim, Jr., of Carlisle, was selected to construct the project; Penny Supply, Harrisburg, Lane Enterprises, Carlisle, and Tri-Boro Concrete, Carlisle, all supplied materials. Within eight months of the original inspection, construction on both bridges was complete.

The Council presented all companies involved with this project a commemorative plaque in appreciation of the resources donated by each. The new gabions now in place may not be noticed by the many enthusiastic Scouts crossing the bridges, but they provide a solution that will serve the camp for many years to come.

**BE
PREPARED...**



Above - Patrick McCormack, left, and Jason Ernst, right, lead supports-literally-to Virgil Vigil at the OA Fall Ordeal in 2001.

Biographical Data: Jack F. Carr, Jr. Scout Executive Director

MISSION

It is the mission of the Boy Scouts of America to serve others by helping to instill values in young people and in other ways prepare them to make ethical choices over their lifetime in achieving their full potential. The values we strive to instill are based on those found in the Boy Scout Oath and Law.

WHY SCOUTING?

The problems and stresses facing families today are complex. Today's youth are facing pressures unparalleled to those faced by youth only a decade ago. Single parents are raising many of these children. Twenty-eight percent of American children never finish high school. Drug abuse by young people has also become a critical problem. Added to this are child abuse, AIDS, homelessness and teenage suicide, all factors that are changing our world and our children.

However, Scouting offers a program that helps young people deal with today's pressures while preparing them for tomorrow's role as responsible adult members of society. Scouting addresses ethics, values and integrity.

EDUCATION — High School: Stevens High School, Claremont, New Hampshire 1970; College: Plymouth State College, Plymouth, New Hampshire, 1974, Bachelor of Science Degree (Cum Laude) in Business and Master of Education Degree, 1975.

MILITARY — Served in the United States Army from 1976-1979 in Stuttgart, West Germany, and Fort Devens, Massachusetts. Recipient of a Direct Commission to the Officer Corps in 1977. Served in the Personnel Administration and Military Intelligence Branches, receiving an Honorable Discharge.

GENERAL ITEMS OF INTEREST — Senior Active Rotarian with the Harrisburg Club; Former Board of Trustee Chairperson, Vice-Moderator, and Choir Member of West Congregational Church in Concord, NH; Former Chairperson of Stewardship Committee and Christian Fellowship Committee, and Choir Member of All Souls Congregational Church of Bangor, Maine; Current Member of Calvary Methodist Church in Dillsburg.

EMPLOYMENT — Employed for the last 22 years as a professional with the Boy Scouts of America: Daniel Webster Council in New Hampshire, District Scout Executive, Finance Director, Field Director and Development Director; Katahdin Area Council in Maine, Executive Director of the council, serving central and northern Maine, from 1993 to 1999. Keystone Area Council, Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, Executive Director since March, 1999.

PERSONAL — Married 26 years to Pamela Gordon of Portland, Maine; Three sons:
• 24-year-old Eugene Gordon Carr (Eagle Scout) Graduated Hartwick College, and current member of North American Tour of The Buddy Holly Story.
• 22-year-old Malcolm F. Carr, III (Eagle Scout) Senior at Messiah College.
• 19-year-old Benjamin Joseph Carr (Eagle Scout) sophomore at the University of Maine at Orono.

Residence: Dillsburg.



Jack F. Carr, Jr., Keystone Area Council,
Scout Executive Director

SCHOFFSTALL CHAPEL...



Above - Taken in the Spring of 2000 this photo shows the framework of the new Schoffstall Chapel at Hidden Valley. The new chapel was formally dedicated on September 23, 2000, at 4 p.m. This construction replaced the old Reese Chapel that had been destroyed in the flood of 1972, and had been removed during the early 1990s. The Schoffstall family worked with FOHV and other donors to design and build the complete complex that now overlooks Sherman's Creek, and sits high enough that flood waters will never be a threat. Below - Schoffstall Chapel as it appears today.



Reese Chapel Served HVSF Well...

REESE CHAPEL, THE SPIRITUAL CENTER OF CAMP, was prone to flooding when Sherman's Creek overflowed, and had to be demolished before a new chapel could be built. Reese Chapel was torn down to its foundation by a group of Scouting volunteers in the early 1990s.



Left - The Judge Reese Chapel and outdoor seating. This chapel was located along Sherman's Creek, and only about ten feet above the normal water level. The chapel was hit numerous times by flooding waters, and was finally destroyed beyond repair in the "Agnes" storm of 1972.



Left - Volunteers remove pews, benches and other furniture from Reese Chapel.



Left - The chapel wrecking crew atop the old chapel's foundation. Members included Fred Neuman, Karl Dietrich, Charlie Brubaker, Diane Bowen, John Spader, Kevin Messner. Not shown in the photo Jim Snyder and Jim Pannemaker.

GOD AND COUNTRY AWARDS

The Last Great Summer...

HERE I AM IN THE YEAR 2001, in my final days of existence on a planet called Earth. Right off the line, maybe I sound strange, huh? No, just an old Boy Scout, trying to remember the best youthful days of his life, when most people have the hardest time to get through their early years.

The last time I could view Hidden Valley, as a Scout, would be 1953. I was a typical young male, not interested in achievement in its true sense, just doing what most Scouts had to do to receive credit for merit badges naturally because the forest was my home.

Where I grew up, all the neighborhood kids had a hollow with a small running stream to enjoy, just like our parents had. The hollow had half a dozen dams to swim in, monkey swings in some of the highest trees imaginable, improvised archery and gun ranges, and campfires through summer weekends. Tree huts and tents were enjoyed, so going to summer camp was an extension of home.

As I think back to those years, I find what I learned as a Scout has stayed with me most of my life. We had the same problems of support as today. My first Scoutmaster was Howard Dickey, a former Marine. Troop 98, our Troop, was sponsored by the Enhaut Fire Hall and the local Lions and Rotary clubs (part of the volunteer fire company). Dickey and William Sasa Szekres dipped into their pockets more than a couple times to take us camping. Collecting tin cans, bake sales and so forth just wasn't enough.

The Troop lasted from 1948 to 1952. Camping was done at Dickey's cabin on Swatara Creek, just below Middletown. More weekend campouts were held along Swatara Creek, at Clifton Bridge, Indian Echo Cave, a place called Bullfrog Valley, and several places around Hershey. One place in particular was the large field in front of Harmony Hall, part of Camp Easter Seal, where we attended a camporee, usually on fall weekends.

After Troop 98, I spent a small amount of time with Oberlin's Troop 105, and ended my last years with Troop 95 of St. John's Church and Scoutmaster Frank Blazi.

While in Troop 98, we all had to demonstrate individual ability to swim in Swatara Creek. One summer, Scoutmaster Dickey anchored

a boat to a sandbar in the middle of the creek. Everyone had to swim out to the boat using all the strokes they had learned. The most able swimmers started. By the next day we had pretty much finished, even Edward "Dine-dine" Spriggs swam out to the boat for fun. One of the boys talked about a big rock in the sand bar that had a funny lump on it. Diving under for a good look, we discovered a stolen safe. The state police were called. We wrapped a chain around the safe and a tow truck pulled it to shore with its hook and cable. When opened, the safe had money and important papers in it. It had something to do with a man from Steelton named Greybill. We thought we might get a Troop donation for finding the safe, but that remains a mystery.

While in Troop 98, some of the boys received first-hand training to the miseries of life. A lady named Miss Happy, who ran Harmony Hall, part of Camp Easter Seal, needed help. Troop 98 was asked to pitch in, a summer chore never to be forgotten. Many children at Harmony Hall had polio, multiple sclerosis, infantile paralysis, and other crippling diseases. They required lots of assistance with eating and just getting around.

We helped as best we could, and must have been useful because Miss Happy picked us up for several weeks.

Physical therapy at the Naval Academy swimming pool became an interesting thing. One Scout was responsible for each child and an inner tube, on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. We also made a totem pole, for each year there; and some of those totems are still there.

I believe a great many Scouts learned something that summer that only each one of them can say. I know I did. I also wonder what happened to the children. I remember one boy named Terry, who wore a head protector, to keep his head from hitting the floor so hard if he lost his balance. I also remember Miss Jean Feally, the chief executive officer of Harmony Hall—the Easter-Seal Foundation, in later years. Sadly, Ms. Happy died about a year ago.

At the end of that summer, we had a camporee, and with it came the mountain men and the most outstanding archer ever—Howard Hill. Hill had hunted all over the world and collected bows and arrows from as far back as

Alexander the Great and Genghis Khan. It was said he had over a thousand pieces in his collection. Happily, I got to retrieve his flight arrow for a prize. Hill put on demonstrations never equaled by modern archers like Fred Bear, shooting an arrow, banked off seven posts, which struck the bulls-eye dead center. Hill's personal big game bow had a pull of 105 pounds; it shamed quite a few men who thought they could pull it, for a shot.

The mountain men showed us what the old days were really like—why flint and steel was so valuable, what flintlock rifles could do.

The most interesting thing about Troop 105 of Oberlin was a camp out between Christmas and New Year's day. A cabin along Swatara Creek was our base camp, and we explored further up the creek, looking for caves. After exploring Hobo Cave and two others, we ate our supper, and sacked out. This situation became very hairy the next morning when we found ourselves trapped in the cabin. Swatara Creek had flooded overnight and the water was all around the cabin.

We spent all day trying to keep warm and attract attention to our plight, but to no avail. After finding some dead branches on the roof and using them for a fire, a second problem developed which actually saved us. The temperature dropped into the single digits and froze the creek. Butch Linn's parents came looking for us.



Theodore G. Valcis

Breaking ice under receding waters made things worse, but with the help of some ropes and long boards, we finally got to the railroad bank and higher ground. We went home glad to be alive with the New Year.

In the spring of 1953, I had become an Explorer Scout. But I had to start all over in acquiring my merit badges and demonstrating the necessary abilities thanks to bad record keeping when I came to Troop 95.

In early July, we gathered for the trip to Hidden Valley. We met at St. John's Church, loaded our duffel bags and supplies into a large coal truck. Some boys in the Troop rode on top of the load with me, once the truck was loaded. We went up Cameron Street, crossed the Market Street bridge, and on to Marysville. We followed Route 850 to Landisburg and entered Hidden Valley at the East Gate.

At camp, we set up our tents, and supplies, and then explored the grounds.

Contrary to some beliefs, we didn't have much hot water. In the evening, the first-in was warm; last-in, you froze.

We did most of our own cooking in Frontier Camp. The mess hall was for very special occasions. Certain foodstuffs were sent to camp separately, some were supplied by the camp. The mess hall supplied baked goods, especially pies and cakes. The cook and baker gave first dibs on the cakes and pies to Scouts who could throw a tomahawk, axe or special belt knife at a target better than other Scouts did at camp. For some reason, my Troop did quite well at this. We didn't discuss it too much. Today, Briny Carroll reminded me, this is still taboo.

We did other things I guess they don't do any more: building rope bridges across the creek and a lookout tower at Frontier Camp. Some of us slept in the tower for the first couple days until we ran out of room.

Hiking—all day trips after breakfast—was grand. We found old abandoned cabins, cemeteries, and lots of deer, snakes, birds and hawks.



This is the Eagle Board—where the names of Scouts who have earned their Eagle rank, are posted—at Hidden Valley. Dave Horning and Mike Chew were the main leaders involved in the original construction, and its expansion in 2000. John Mitten donated all timbers needed for the expansion. Today more than 5,200 names reside there.

The swimming in Sherman's Creek was the best ever. As usual, one good thunderstorm created a flood on the parade grounds. But we didn't lose a single boat or canoe.

The canoeing and boating at camp hasn't really changed—just the people who say "no swimming or playing in the creek." Yet the creek is cleaner now than when we played in it.

Archery and target shooting were allowed. Some of us had our own hand-made bows, so shoot offs were great—real close, too. Some boys found out how good they were, and some...well, they didn't talk so loud afterwards.

We went on to get many merit badges, the cards signed by Charles Steele.

Most of the boys learned a lot at camp. And that's what this small story is for, to throw a little light on the good old days for those of us who can remember with pride what yesterday was like before things became complicated, like today. This is for posterity, to help give our great-grandchildren an understanding of what we believe in.

In these days of looking for old Scouts, and information, I find that once their minds kick in, well, they remember just like me—it was the greatest! Long Live Hidden Valley! Yes, it helped me the following year when I went into naval service, but that's another adventure.

Thanks must be given to the following old Scouts: David Gilbert, James Clark, Brian Carroll, Steve Vajda, Roger Milo, Milletics, the Twins and their older brother, Skip Wiedeman, Louis Farina, John Grubiec, Gary Metzger, Edward and James Spriggs.

P.S.—In my senior year of high school, we were taken on a tour of the Dauphin County jail, and there was Mr. Greybill. Funny thing, his cell door was wide open and he looked really relaxed, smoking that big cigar.

Theodore G. Valcis



2001 Conclave...

Above - Don Cunningham (left), National OA Chief is shown above. Other Scouts are unidentified. Below - Clowning around at Conclave 2001. Don Cunningham, National OA Chief; Rick Sichula, OA Lodge Advisor; and Joe Marsicano, former OA Northeast Region Chief, section chief, and Lodge Chief.



Above - Old Timer's Day 1999 finds, L-R: Aubrey Rose, Sr., Rev. William Gray and Bud Reisman are the best of buddies. Photo taken at the Hidden Valley Scout Reservation on Mamma Road. (Photo courtesy of Diane Bowen)



Hidden Valley's Hall Medical Center, the new health lodge, is shown above during construction. The health lodge was generously donated by the Hall Foundation, in memory of John N. Hall. The new health lodge is located near the Cub Village, just a short distance from the old health center donated in 1960 by Carlisle Tire & Rubber Company.

SLOGAN OVER THE FIREPLACE IN THE ORIGINAL DINING HALL (1927)

**"The Simple Life and Friendly cheer,
May all those find who gather here"**

OLD TIMERS WEEKEND...

by Diane Bowen

MANY OF THE OLDER SCOUTERS would head down to the Baltimore Area Council for their Old Timers Weekend every November. As some of the fellows hated to travel that far and it was always too cold for camping out, it became a dream of Bill Willard to get an Old Timers started in Keystone Area Council.

Many times he was told we couldn't do it. Well, anyone who was privileged to know Bill knew that sooner or later he would make it happen.

With all the changes that took place in the 1990's, and the threat of closing Hidden Valley, he joined the Friends of Hidden Valley and jumped on the bandwagon to help keep our camp going. After proposing his ideas to the Committee, it was approved. It was advertised in newspapers, on radio and by word of mouth. The first Old Timers Day was held in October 1998.

What a pleasant time! The newspapers were all out in full force and how great it was to have people come to join in the festivities and see how great camp was starting to look.

Dick and Dottie Owen were set up bright and early to take care of registration when Charlie Steele, Scout Executive from 1951 to 1973, showed up. It was the first time he was invited back into camp since leaving in 1973. He was responsible for developing the West side of Hidden Valley during his term as a professional.

Another surprise that day was Harry Seitz.

Harry was the ranger during the time Charlie served the Keystone Area Council. Harry was accompanied by his son and grandson. Oh, what fun they had as people came by and talked over old times with each other.

There were displays of patches and other Scout Memorabilia by Don Fry and Dave Hultberg, the American Flag Display by Don and Jean Benfer, games and events by Jim Dolbin and Tony Roselli, a Scouting trivia trail by Edd Sellers, and Show and Do by Mike Chew and others.

The stories were flying and so many came out to see what was happening. Bud Reisman was there in the Trading Post and, of course, he had his stories to tell too.

What a wonderful time everyone had. Old friendships were rekindled, and people were interviewed about the good old days, both on video and by pictures. Some of the stories are captured in our video and elsewhere in this book.

Meanwhile, Bill Willard was a true Scoutmaster and, thanks to him, Mike Chew was his SPL. We lost Bill in 2001; Mike stepped in and helped to carry on the program for Bill.

Hidden Valley Scout Reservation celebrates 75 years of camping in 2002, the Keystone Area Council is 85 years old, and Old Timers Weekend is the baby of celebrations as we gear up for the 5th Anniversary. As Bill always said, you are an Old Timer if you are at least 18 and the ink is dry on your application....



Charlie Steele and Bill Willard at the first Old Timers Day in October of 1998. Both men passed away during 2001. (Photo by Diane Bowen)



Don Fry and Charlie Steele discuss the patches seen on Steele's white blanket. Steele collected these patches from around the world during his 75-year Scouting career. (Photo by Diane Bowen)



Greg Seitz, Harry Seitz and Ranger Mike Kelly reminisce over a cup of coffee.



Left to right, former camp ranger Harry Seitz, Bud Reisman and Charlie Steele share old memories at the first Old Timers Day. (Greg Seitz, Harry's grandson, is hidden from view on the left.)



Charlie Steele looks at the stone chimney and fireplace remaining from the original dining hall, behind the new Cub pavilion, remembering days gone by. The pavilion was donated to all Scouters by Jack and Shirley Leisure. (George Lance photo)



Left - Charlie Steele and Terry Seitz on the front porch of Steele's "Chalet." The wall plaque (right) marks it as Steele's Chalet. Above - Don, Jean, Dan, and Andrew Benfer collected this display of flags. Right - "The Old Timer," a wooden cut-out, was created by Michael Chew in memory of Bill Willard.



Harry Seitz, Edd Sellers and Greg Seitz look through memorabilia. Sellers was a true Scouter and the OA dance ceremony counselor for many years. He passed away in March of 1999 following a brief illness.



A collection of patches and other Scout memorabilia on display during Old Timers Day.



Dave Hultberg shows his extensive patch collection and other memorabilia at the fourth Old Timers reunion, in September of 2001.



LOOKING BACK...

A PHOTO ESSAY • 1990s



Above (right and left) - Some things don't change, even with time. Here, Scouts of the 1990s practice their pioneering skills.



Left - A Scout troop from Pastang works on their knots and pioneering at Camp Hidden Valley in the 1990s.

**A
SCOUT
Is
LOYAL...**

Right - A directional sign at Camp Hidden Valley shows the way to the various campsites and activities.



WINTER STORMS...



Winter storms in the 1990s covered Hidden Valley in both beauty and destruction. Left - This 1993 blizzard scene was taken from Hidden Valley Road looking into camp from the West Gate. The flag pole is in front of the ranger's home. Above - A 1994 snow storm knocked down the pool house roof and walls. (Joyce Crider photos)



SCOUTING SKILLS CAMPOREE

Basic Scouting skills were the emphasis of one spring camporee held at Hidden Valley during the 1990s. Camping, campcraft skills, and pioneering were the focus of the weekend, including knot-tying, building shelters, lashing projects, wood tool use, cooking and fire-building using flint and steel. About 900 Scouts, 350 Cub Scouts and 400 adult leaders attended the event. Above - Adult leaders show boys how to work a crosscut saw, hard work any time. Top Right - An adult leader shows a young Scout how branding is done. Bottom Right - Cubs sharpen their leatherworking skills.





Above - Order of the Arrow Scouts, including Joe Mariscano, center.

Below - The 1994 Scouting Mariscano family: Left to right are Jerry Mariscano; son, Joe, OA Northeast Region Chief; and Edith Mariscano. (Diane Bowen photo)



Above - Scouts check out the goods in front of the trading post at Camp Hidden Valley during the 1990s.

TO OBEY THE SCOUT LAW...

Below - Ice cream is never far from the mind of a true Boy Scout, even if he is in camp. Fortunately for all true Boy Scouts, camp provides a release for this pent up yearning as these Scouts so aptly observed.



Above - Boys learn about raptors (birds of prey) during a demonstration at a camporee. Below - Edd Sellers, Jr. had just completed the restoration of the bronze plaque on the Rotary Lodge chimney when this photo was taken. (George Lance photo)



OLD TIMERS...



Above - The first Old Timers Day at Hidden Valley on October 10, 1998. Bill Willard is leading the group in the Scout Oath. Note the Old Timer symbol to the far left.



TO HELP OTHER PEOPLE...

Left - Lincoln Warrell (right) shows Dr. Webb Hersperger various patches collected during his Scouting days in the 1950s in Troop 25.

Below - Beloved Charlie Steele came back to Hidden Valley for Old Timers Day in 1998, the first time he had been in camp for some time. (Diane Bowen photo)



Left - Bill Willard and Diane Bowen in the dining hall during Old Timers Day 1998. The woman at right is a reporter who was doing a story on the event. Diane was making sure Bill was getting his story straight. (Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance)





Above - Lincoln Warrell (right) and Dr. Webb Hersperger check out Scouting memorabilia. **Below** - Lincoln Warrell explains the meaning of neckerchief markings. **Bottom** - Paul Query created this Old Timers silhouette for the first gathering of Old Timers at HV. His silhouette has been used since that time to represent all Old Timer gatherings in Keystone Area Council.



Above - Mike Chen, Edd Sellers, Jr., and Don Cook swap stories about Sauquehannock OA Lodge at Old Timers. All shared in this experience. (Diane Bowen photo)

Below - Leader Training - March, 1981. Instruction is provided by Wendel Dimer to a group of Scouts in front of Ritter Lodge. (Photo courtesy of Don Roseth)



Right - Lincoln Warrell demonstrates his old bow saw friction fire-starter. George Lance (right) keeps the base steady. (Diane Bowen photo)

LOOKING BACK...

A PHOTO ESSAY • 1998 - 2002



Above - This memorial to Al Herbert was erected outside of Herbert Lodge at Hidden Valley in 1999. Shown in the photo, L-R: Mrs. Marie Herbert, Jim Pannebaker, Paul Herbert, Jack Carr, Charles W. Steele, Dr. Rex Herbert and his wife, Lisa. The Scout in front of the monument is Paul's son, Greg. The date was May 1, 1999.

TO DO MY DUTY TO GOD AND MY COUNTRY...



Above - Jonathan "J" Aller, Assistant Hidden Valley Program Director (center front), poses with this group of Scouters from Troop 250, Spring Run, PA. They were about to participate in the camp wide game and were dressed in costumes to carry out the "Safari" theme for the whole camp. (Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance)



Left and Below - John Mitten (left) John Mitten, Jr. (below) have a lot of memories of Hidden Valley.



Above and below - These are some of the new Adirondack shelters built in 2001 for the Stockade campsite, for leaders and Scouts. All openings are screened.





Above - Taking a gator ride during Old Timers Day are (left to right) Jack Leisner, Charlie Steele, George Lance and Shirley Leisner. **Left** - Sanford Oringer, a former Scoutmaster from the Keystone Area Council, now lives in the Milton & Hattie Kutz Home in Bellefonte, DE. Sandy joined Scouts in the Boston, MA Council in 1931. He was presented the Silver Beaver Award with the class of 2001 by the Del-Mar-Va Council for his 70 years of service to Scouting. **Above right** - Jack Carr accepts a check from Jim Pannebaker and friends on behalf of Hidden Valley. **Right** - Dottie and Dick Owens registered Old Timers at the first event in October of 1998.



Above - The Wagner Training Center, at Camp Hidden Valley, was built by Edwin and Mildred Wagner in honor of all Scouts, worldwide. It is a year-round training area for both Scouts and their leaders, and is equipped with rest room and shower facilities to accommodate men and women staff members overnight. **Right** - West Perry School District, Hidden Valley Unit 1, is a modular classroom designed to help troubled youth who have been disruptive in a regular classroom setting. It was installed at Hidden Valley in 2000, and a second unit was added in 2001. The district pays a fee for this use.



Left - Chuck Essig, Council Commissioner, is spending some money at Hidden Valley's trading post, with the help of Jim Dolbin and Bud Reisman during the fourth Old Timers Celebration. **Above** - Boyhood buddies Dr. Wilson Everhart and Judge William Lipsitt talk about the good old days. Their recollections can be found in the text.



Above - It's not the Cat-in-the-Hat, its Don and Jean Benfer with their extensive collection of flags and other Scout memorabilia at the fourth Old Timers reunion, held in September of 2001 at Hidden Valley. **Below** - Jean Benfer shows off a portion of their flag collection. (Diane Bowen photos)



Above - Dennis Hose is quite the hot dog chef at Spring Camporee, held in May of 2001, at Hidden Valley. Dennis is part of the Friends of Hidden Valley, and was helping the group's fund-raising efforts.



Below - It must have been a funny story, because Nick Ramsey and his father are all smiles at Old Timers Day, 2001.

**...TO KEEP
MYSELF
PHYSICALLY
STRONG,
MENTALLY
AWAKE AND
MORALLY
STRAIGHT.**

Right - This photo shows some of the work that went into collecting the history of Hidden Valley and the Keystone Area Council. Ted Valcis (white shirt) interviews Al Herbert (2nd from right) and Charlie Steele (left). Matt Miller, Patriot-News Reporter, is at right, asking about their experiences with Scouting in the Council and at camp over the years. (Photo Diane Bowen)





▲ The following 6 photos were posed for a promotion brochure:
A small group of unidentified Scouts pause at the West Gate sign before beginning their day in camp. Their young Scout leader will teach them various Scouting skills before this day is over. They have just checked the flag across Hidden Valley Road before starting into camp at the Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. This photo was taken in December, 2000. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



▲ The same group of unidentified Scouts pauses from their lessons and play to pose for the camera. This old tractor tire hangs near the Climbing Wall at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation, and just across the road from the Nature Lodge. This photo was taken in December, 2000. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



▲ With all their classes complete for the day, the Scout leader and his group of Cubs take a walk around the campsite. They have many choices at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation, as can be seen on the sign post to the right. This location is just back of the large Keystone Gate Way near the Commissioner's Corner. The photo was taken in December, 2000. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



▲ A close up of the Webelos Resident Camp Scouters at the Archery Range. None are identified, but the photo was taken during the summer, 2000. Hidden Valley Scout Reservation has many facilities like this Archery Range to satisfy the craving for outdoor adventure in all young Scouts. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



▲ Still looking sharp, this group of unidentified Scouts and their Scout leader continue their daily training schedule. It is easy to see they are learning the skill of tying knots under the leader's careful eye. This table was located in back of the "A"-frame building (seen to the left in back of the pine trees, and near the Eagle Board (seen along the right edge of the photo). The photo was taken in December, 2000. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



▲ Webelos Resident Camp is a big step for young Scouters, and this 2000 crop was no exception. Seen here boarding the row boats in Sherman's Creek is another group of unidentified boys. Hidden Valley Scout Reservation has been utilizing Sherman's Creek for 75 years straight, and many Scouts have learned to swim in these waters. Photo taken during the summer, 2000. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



▲ This group of Webelos Resident Camp Scouters are having a go at the Archery Range at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. None are identified, including the instructor, but the photo was taken during the summer, 2000. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



▲ Another class for these industrious Scouts is conducted in the art of building a camp fire at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. The unidentified Scouts are paying close attention to their Scout leader's advice. The campsite is not recognized, but the fire ring is more than adequate for the task. Likewise, there are plenty of pine needles around to get a good fire going. December, 2000. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



▲ Having fun is all a part of camping, and Hidden Valley Scout Reservation is prepared to supply plenty of that. Our trusty Scouts end their day by walking to Cub Village for some fun of their own. Other facilities within Cub Village can be seen in the background. This photo was taken in the December, 2000. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



▲ Parent / Pal Weekend seems well under way as this group of unidentified parents and boys hike along one of the many trails at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. Photo taken in summer, 2000. Photo courtesy of Marna Holt



▲ A dining room scene with Parent / Pal weekend under way. No groups are identified, but Chaplain Bob Baldwin is near the upper right corner in a dark shirt, with his left hand up to his face. This is the Hershey Dining Hall at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. Note all the Scout memorabilia safely stored in the glass cases along the far wall. Photo taken in the summer, 2000. Photo courtesy of Marna Holt



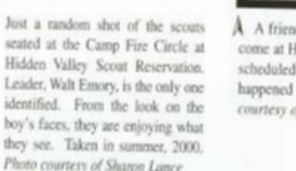
▲ Looks like another happy-go-lucky group of staff members, paddling their way to some far off place beyond the camp fire. In reality, it is some of the staff paddling away on top of Hidden Valley Scout Reservation's red dirt. At least there is no danger of getting wet! Photo taken summer, 2000. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



▲ An unidentified scout works on his basketry merit badge at the Handicraft Lodge, Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. This photo was taken in summer, 2000. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



Brad McNaughton, staff member at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation, teaches a First Aid / CPR class to a group of unidentified scouts. The Scout in the chair in the background appears to be about to check his own pulse. The photo was taken during the summer, 2000. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



▲ Two important staff members at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation are Mike Kelly, left, Council Facilities Manager, and Hank Greenawalt, Cook for summer camp. Both share a lighter moment outside the dining hall, which can be seen in the background. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance

▲ The new parade field and triple flag poles are seen here as the colors are lowered at the end of another summer camping day at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. This photo was taken during summer camp, 2001, from the Scout Pavilion looking east. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



▲ The Nature Lodge at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation is always an attraction to most boys, especially those who desire to qualify for their merit badge. Shown here are a group of unidentified young Scouters who were watching the various crawling critters that had been captured during the week. Each critter will be released back to the wild at the end of the summer. Photo taken in summer, 2000. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



▲ A friendly but competitive game of basketball is always welcome at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. This may have been scheduled troop activity, or just a friendly game of anyone who happened to be around. Photo taken in summer, 2000. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



▲ Another attraction at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation is the Climbing Wall, located across the road from the Nature Lodge. This group of unidentified Scouts is trying their hands and feet to see how well they can do. Photo taken summer, 2000. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance





A class in Scuba Training is taking place in the pool at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation during summer camp, 2001. The leader is Mark MacNamara but the other Scouts are unidentified. Note the handicapped ramp and railing leading into the water in back of the boys at left. This pool was completely renovated in time for summer camp, 1999. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



A Wes Trump, Handicraft Director for summer camp, 2001, directs unidentified Scouts in a drawing lesson. Hidden Valley Scout Reservation has many such centers for learning new skills and earning merit badges. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



A Mike Leteere and the Rev. Mr. John "Deacon John" Mowery share a lighter moment on July 25, 2000, at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



A Responding warmly to the leadership for Summer, 1999, Webelos Resident Camp are Kay Good and Rick Zellers. The location was the Hidden Valley Fire Circle on parents night. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance

During summer camp at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation, 2001, Troop 42 decided to do something different with their spare time. They not only succeeded in building a miniature golf course in the woods around their campsite, but they charged 25¢ a game to play and donated all proceeds to Chaplain Bob Baldwin's Chapel fund. As other troops came into camp over the balance of the summer, they added more holes to the course and passed along the money raised to the Chapel Fund. Photo taken during summer camp, 2001. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



A This shows unidentified members of Troop 42 playing their own miniature golf course at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. Photo taken during summer camp, 2001. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



A Scoutmaster, Steve Trimmer, smiles for the camera as he proudly marches his Troop 300 to retreat at summer camp, 2001. Hidden Valley Scout Reservation has operated a camp at this location without interruption for 75 years. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



At the second Old Timers gathering, September 11, 1999, Dennis "Tiny" Haag is shown conducting a class in rocketry in the Hershey Dining Hall. This was in preparation for the Space Camporee to be held in the summer of 2000. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



A Seen here sharing a fun filled moment on the Spring Beaver Day are Diane Bowen, an unknown Scouter with his back to the camera, George Johnson and Dale Wetzel. The date was May 22, 1999. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



A Serving chow in the Dining Hall line are Sue Collins, left, and Kathy Mohr. Eagerly waiting are Wes Trump, left, and Dennis "Tiny" Haag. Those chicken croquettes look pretty good! The date is October 28, 2000 - Fall Beaver Day. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



A All smiles at the prospect of racing around Hidden Valley Scout Reservation in grand style is George Johnson at the wheel of the Gator. This was taken on June 12, 1999, at the O.A. N.E. - 4C Section Conclave held at Hidden Valley. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



A Waiting for dinner before an Executive Board meeting held at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation on July 25, 2000, are L-R: Fred Faber, Jr.; Don Bertolette; unknown; and Betsy Faber. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



A Taking time to pause for the camera are Marna Holt, left, and Kathy Mohr, seated on the steps of Hershey Dining Hall at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. The date was September 11, 1999, on the second Old Timers Day. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



A This large group of O.A. Officers and Advisors was taken during the Spring Fellowship. It was posed in front of the Patrick Fireplace in the Hershey Dining Hall at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. Front row: L-R: Edith Marsicano; Ryan Crider; Brian Pomeroy; Ryan Worden; and Ryan Hayes. Second row: Beth Meno; Dan Miller; John Dalton; Andrew Thumma; and Dusty Church. Third row: Ken Barber; Sam Meno, Sr.; Charlie Brubaker; Verlyn Hayes; Robert Moreo; and Jeff Lupinacci. Back row: Mike Chew; Jason Mackey; and Rick Sichula. The event was held on April 21, 2001. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



A Another group of eager workers serve food in the Hershey Dining Hall chow line: L-R: Bruce Felo, Ralph "Butch" Brubaker and Bill Reiner. Receiving on the opposite side are Harry "Nick" Ramsey, Margaret Widdinger from the Baltimore area, and Dick Turner. The date was September 11, 1999, Old Timers Day - the second held in the Council. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



A Shown in the Hershey Dining Hall at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation are L-R: Tony Roselli; Chuck Essig; Pattie Essig; and Jean Benfer. The occasion was the third Old Timers Weekend, September 23, 2000. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



A Enjoying a moment of laughter are Attorney Bob Hanson and Senator Jeffrey Piccola, Executive Board members of Keystone Area Council. The occasion was a board meeting held at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation on July 25, 2000. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



A Spring Beaver Day, May 22, 1999, had new Ranger Bill Gesford installing a new side door entrance into the Administration Building at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. The Scooter to the left is unidentified. Bill took over the Ranger duties from Mike Kelly, who was promoted to Facilities Manager of all structures of the Keystone Area Council. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



Two important people in and around Hidden Valley Scout Reservation are Bill Gesford, Ranger, and Mike Kelly, Facilities Manager. They are seen in front of the Patrick Fireplace in the Hershey Dining Hall on Beaver Day, October 28, 2000. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



Seen at the new Schoffstall Chapel groundbreaking at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation are Marvin Schoffstall, left, and Dr. Webb Hersperger. The groundbreaking ceremony was held on April 17, 1999. The newly constructed chapel was dedicated on September 23, 2000, and placed in service in time for summer camp. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



Discussing the impending groundbreaking ceremony for the new Schoffstall Chapel are, from the left, Mike Kelly, Alan Boynton, Jr., Dr. Webb Hersperger and Jack Carr. Dr. Hersperger was fully equipped to not only turn the earth, but record the event for all time. The date was April 17, 1999. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



A young "Davy Crockett" - also known as Ryan Crider - is seen sitting on an old tree stump along Sherman's Creek in March, 1987. Rotary Lodge of Hidden Valley Scout Reservation can be seen in the background. Photo courtesy of Joyce Crider



Smiling for the camera are Wayne "Santa Claus" Lippert and his wife, Dena. This was taken in the Scout Pavilion at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation on the occasion of Ryan Crider's Eagle Ceremony, 2001. Wayne was a volunteer that helped with many maintenance projects in and around the camp for many years. He also played "Santa" every year for the children of John Crider - Camp Ranger from 1975 - 1995. Photo courtesy of Joyce Crider



Angus, the dog of the Crider family during the early 1980's, was a favorite in and around Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. Angus visited all the campsites looking for a handout from the young campers. He was known to pick up any food that was within reach, including popsicles held out to tempt him. Photo courtesy of Joyce Crider



Members of Troop 288 in the gateway of their campsite at the Camporee, May 1970. L-R: Jay Schell, John Biting, Mike Lance, Charles Fritz, John Williams, Kurt Stoner, David Appleby and Carl Marshall. Paul Bowen - Scoutmaster. Photo courtesy of Paul Bowen



Troop 288: Center front: David Page. Second row, sitting L-R: John Williams, John Biting, unknown, and unknown. Third row, kneeling L-R: Mike Lance, Jim Mumper, Dave Smith, David Luck, Gary Morrell and Steve Edwards. Back row, standing L-R: Jay Schell, Bryan Krause, David Appleby, Carl Marshall, Norm Young, Charles Fritz, David Bauer, Kurt Stoner (in cap), Andy Hartman, unknown, George Edwards, Bob Edwards, and Bob Newmyer. Photo courtesy of Paul Bowen



Edd Sellers, Jr., long time Susquehanna Lodge XI O.A. Ceremony Team advisor, stands just to the left of the American flag and Virgil Vigil. This photo was taken in 1997 in the Hershey Dining Hall. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance

MORE PHOTO MEMORIES.....



No date or names were provided with this old photo, but it is a good example of early Scouting days on the trail or in camp. Based on the dress we believe it to be the late teens or early 1920s. Note the old canvas rucksack to the right.



This photo was marked "Scenes during Pioneer Week," and is part of a series taken at the new Loysville Scout Camp in 1927-1928. The boys helped greatly by clearing land and removing tree stumps to make new campsites and clear space for buildings.



Not everything was work at the Loysville Scout Camp, as can be seen in this photo of the water front. Canoe tilting as a sport seemed to be quite a prevalent activity for many Scouts. Note the full body bathing suits and no life vests. Photo from a series dated 1927-1928.



This has to be one of the first "Camp Staff" photos taken at the new Loysville Boy Scout Camp. It is dated 1927 - 1928, and was taken by the Ensminger Studio, 315 Walnut Street, Harrisburg, PA. Sadly, there were no names noted on the photo.



One more view of the original Dining Hall at the Loysville Scout Camp, taken in 1927. This is the rear side that overlooked Sherman's Creek. This building was removed in the late 1960s, but the stone fireplace and chimney still stand as a memorial to Miss Mary Sachs and Dr. Philip David Bookstaber.



This was the line up for Mail Call in the very early days of the Loysville Scout Camp. The Trading Post also served as the Postal center. In fact, the Trading Post and the Mail Center were both a part of the original Headquarters Building for a number of years. Sadly, we do not know the identity of any of the Scouts pictured.

MORE PHOTO MEMORIES.....



▲ An early shot of the Rifle Range at the Loyville Scout Camp. No date or identities were noted.



▲ The Drum Corps of the Steelton Boy Scouts is seen while they are in formation in front of the Soldier's Monument, 2nd and State Streets, Harrisburg, PA. This photo was taken just prior to a parade that was to honor James E. West, Chief Executive of the Boy Scouts of America. May 3, 1930.



▲ "Pennsylvania Forest Guide badge" with attached annual service bars, indicating the years in which service was rendered by the Scout. Photo courtesy of John H. Bilzer, Treasurer, Pennsylvania Forest Fire Museum



▲ Seven new Eagle Scouts from the Harrisburg area are seen as they appeared on August 26, 1930. Although the names of the Scouts and the location are unknown, the structure in back of them could be one of the State Capitol facilities.



▲ This old photo was taken on December 17, 1932, showing a group of Harrisburg Scouts with toys they collected from three Wilmer & Vincent theaters. The theater owners admitted youngsters to their Saturday matinees for one toy as the price of admission. The Boy Scouts took charge of the playthings and turned them over to the Toy Mission, sponsored by the Welfare Federation (present day United Way). Scouts shown, L-R: Eugene Wieder, Richard Goldsmith and Harold Kaplan, all of Troop 10; Victor Aderton, Troop 7, and Douglas Tobin, Troop 19.



▲ This is a very rare photo of the inside of one of the Adirondack shelters in the Kiwanis Campsite. It was no doubt a "posed" publicity shot, but does provide an excellent example of how the lean-to design lends itself to the camping situation. No names were furnished or a date, but is believed to be in the 1930s.

MORE PHOTO MEMORIES.....



▲ This is a most unusual photo. It was taken of the Devotional period in training course at Island Park for persons interested in Sea Scouting. George Spangler, Scoutmaster of Troop 51, Camp Hill, is reading from the Scriptures.



▲ One more shot of Sherman's Creek and the wooden decked bridge that was erected in 1949, to provide year-round access to the Loyville Scout Camp through the East Gate. The steel support was designed and furnished to the Council by Bethlehem Steel Company. The wood deck and railing was replaced in 2001.



▲ Hidden Valley has had its share of snowfall over the last 75 years, but this particular year seemed to be the exception. No date was given but we believe it to be about 1963-1964 time frame. Shown next to the snow drift is Jay Hoke of Troop 50, demonstrating how high the snow was along the road "three weeks later" after the snow had first fallen.



▲ Another photo of one of the two life boats operated by the Harrisburg Sea Scouts in the early 1930s. Their base was Island Park (now City Island), and the base was destroyed in the 1936 flood. None of these Scouts are identified, but it is evident that they are near one of the many bridges that cross the Susquehanna River at Harrisburg.



▲ There were no dates of identity noted on this photograph. However, there is little doubt that this man is none other than "Scotty" Burgoon, a very popular professional in the Harrisburg Boy Scout Council for a number of years. Scotty later was appointed Executive in the Lebanon Council.



▲ An unusual camera view of the parents sitting at the parade field and water front at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. No date was listed, but it appears it could be in the 1940s based on the clothing styles. Note the many men with white shirt and tie - even a few straw hats. And there are all those women and not one pair of slacks or jeans in the bunch. Styles certainly have changed!



For those who can't guess the name of this young man, it is none other than James P. Pannebaker during his college years. As one old Scouter observed after learning the identity, "that just proves that gravity is still at work!"

MORE PHOTO MEMORIES.....



▲ This undated photo shows a large group of Scouts waiting to begin their Order of the Arrow "Ordeal" somewhere on the grounds at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. Anyone recognize themselves?



▲ Members of the Susquehannock Lodge XI Dance Team after competing at the O.A. Conclave in May 1997.



▲ Members of the Susquehannock Lodge XI Ceremony Team in their ceremony leathers. L-R: John Leshko, Joe Peters, Ben Lance and unknown. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



▲ Members of the Carlisle District Order of the Arrow Dance Team, under the direction of Robert Smith, wait to perform at the Court of Honor hosted by Troop 173, 175, and Explorer Post 173 from the Carlisle Barricks. The date was June 1966. Photo courtesy of US Army War College



▲ The Order of the Arrow Dance Team conduct their activity on the Post's historic "Indian Field." This is the same ground which served as the home field for the famous Carlisle Indian School's athletes, Jim Thorpe, Chief Bender and Tewantima so many years ago.



▲ Robert (Bobby) Glennon, Ben Lance and John Runshaw show off their regalia after participating in a powwow on February 25, 1995, at Heidelberg Fire Co. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance

MORE PHOTO MEMORIES.....



▲ Troop 121 from Shippensburg is shown at Summer Camp in 1986. None of the Scouts or leaders are identified, but Robert Reed was Scoutmaster for many years. Photo courtesy of Robert Reed



▲ Troop 185 of Hantsdale following a Court of Honor held at the Penn Township Fire Co. The Scouts and their leaders are, front row, L-R: Kevin Cornman, Jason Schwenninger, Curtis Russell, Ben Lance, Justin Nickle. Back row, L-R: Asst. Scoutmaster Robert Lindsay, Jimmy Hollenbaugh, Eric Schwenninger, Mike Lewis, Matt Grimm, Jason Cornman, Asst. Scoutmaster Duane Allemen, and Scoutmaster Holbert "Bert" Myers. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



▲ Den 1 of Pack 300 are seen on November 24, 1987, at Lower Allen Elementary School. These eager Cubs and their Den Leaders in front row are L-R: Brian Freeman, Ben Lance, Andrew Martin, Christopher Fromm, Mark Blackburn; 2nd row, L-R: Sharon Lance, Billy Coleman, Bryan Willis, Eric Weltmer, Eric Wray and Beth Fromm. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



▲ Troop 185 of Hantsdale is shown on July 18, 1992, outside of "Charlie's Carwash," the A-Frame at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. The Scouts had just completed an exciting week at summer camp. They are in the front row, L-R: Curtis Russell, Ben Lance, unknown, Kevin Cornman, Steve Orner, Scott Baldwin and Justin Nickle. Second row, L-R: Matt Grimm, Jimmy Hollenbaugh, Jason Cornman, Mike Shatto and Committee Member, Bob Baldwin. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance



▲ Hannah Sachs Cantor was Miss Mary Sachs' younger sister. Hannah worked for Mary in her apparel store on North Third Street, Harrisburg. Following Miss Sachs' untimely death in the 1960s, Hannah assumed management of the business until it closed. Hannah continued to administer the Mary Sachs Foundation Trust, which has supported local schools and other charitable causes for many years. Keystone Area Council continues to receive financial support from this organization, even though Mrs. Cantor passed away in 2001. Photo courtesy of Patriot-News



▲ M.L. "Skip" Ebert and wife, Ann, at the Susquehannock Lodge XI O.A. Picnic, held at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation in July 2000. Photo courtesy of Sharon Lance

MORE PHOTO MEMORIES.....



From the Spring of 1996 through the Spring of 2000, Susquehanna Lodge XI O.A. members worked to install bench seating, lighting and an expanded stage area at the Hidden Valley Scout Reservation campfire circle. This greatly increased the total seating capacity and added much comfort over the old blankets and lawn chairs that were used previously. Photos courtesy of Sharon Lamer



Skip Ebert (left), Keystone Area Council President, presents an honorary plaque to Don Research, former commissioner for the council. In back of the men is the new "Commissioner's Corner" position that was dedicated in Don's name for all his volunteer efforts over many years of service throughout the Council. The date was September 22, 2001. Photo courtesy of Don Research



Newly Created Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Award To Be Awarded To Masons Serving Scouting



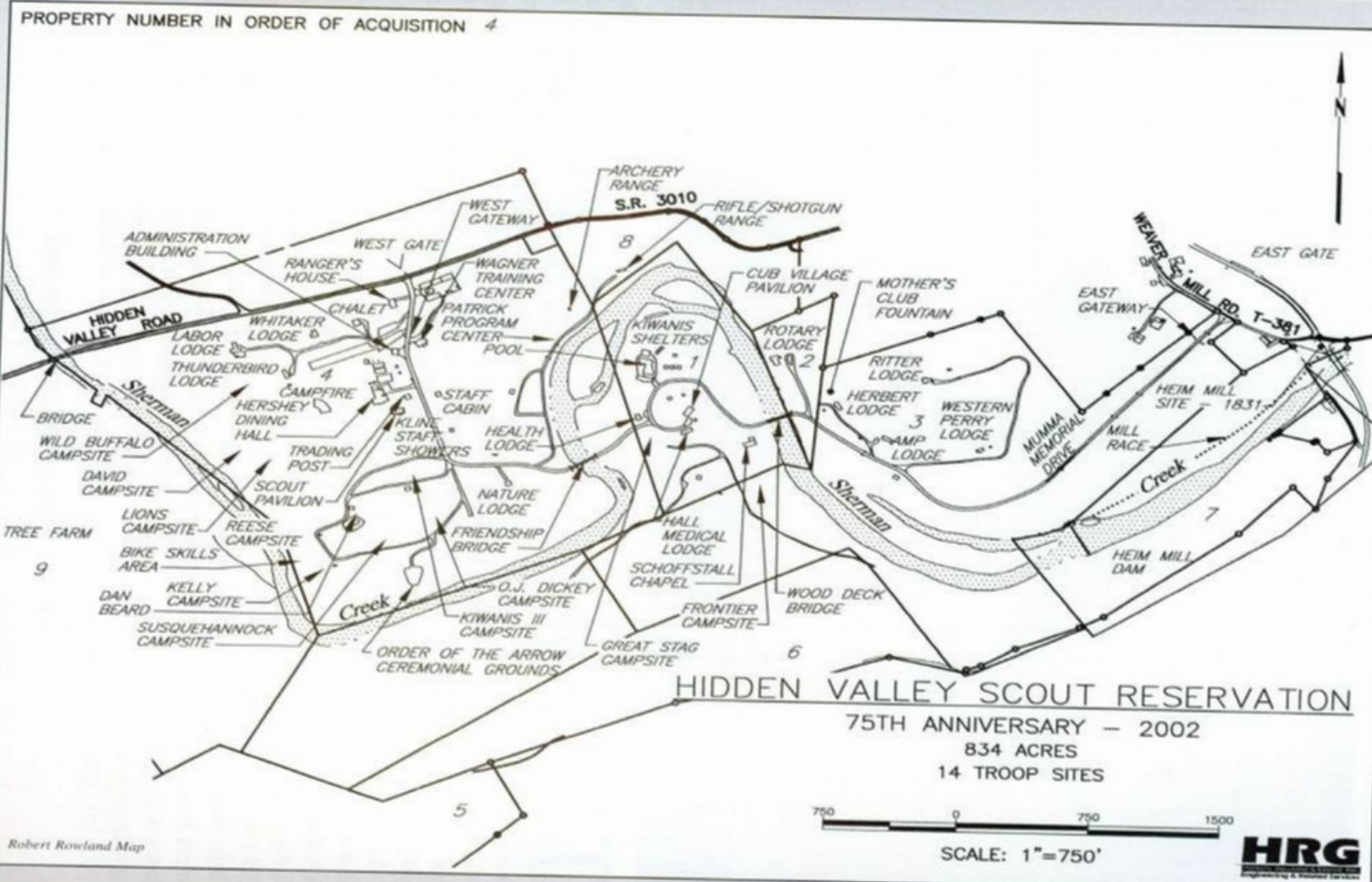
The Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Award was created by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania after many years in the making. It is now available to Masons who meet the required criteria that strengthen the relationship between Freemasonry and Scouting. The first recipient of this award was Dale W. Grove, an old time Scoutmaster from York, PA, who spent many hours at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation during the reign of Charles W. Steele, Jr. Mr. Grove received his award on December 8, 2001, at Elizabethtown, PA.



Tony and Belinda Roselli are shown with the Reverend Mr. John Mowery at the Schoffstall Chapel. "Deacon John" officiated as this couple renewed their wedding vows on June 26, 2001, to celebrate their 30 years of marriage. Deacon John was Tony's Scoutmaster with Troop 31. Tony and Belinda first met at Hidden Valley on July 4, 1967. Photo courtesy of Tony Roselli



And just one more: This is a rare view of the Boon Campsite, circa 1948. These two permanent shelters and the fire circle with surrounding fence were later removed to make space for the "Good Tan" swimming pool that was constructed in the mid to late 1990s. Some of these Adventure shelters were moved to the Kiwanis Campsite to make room for the pool and surrounding structure.





This aerial view, looking South East, shows the West gate entrance from Hidden Valley Road. In the lower left corner can be seen the winter time sled trail that was cut out of the former forested area. Along the left edge can be seen part of the overflow parking area. The Seabee's workshop building can be seen to the left of the entrance and the roof of the ranger's home is visible on the right. Further to the right can be seen the roof of the Steele Chalet, and the extreme right is the roof of Whitaker lodge. Following Mumma Road further into camp, the next building on the left is the Wagner training center. Across the road is the administration building. To the right of this are the volley ball courts, the chaplain's cottage, and the two Western Perry School district classrooms. Just above the classrooms is the Hershey dining hall. To the left of the dining hall, at the edge of the trees, can be seen the trading post. The scout pavilion can just be seen in back of the trees. Further along the road before it disappears into the trees, is the new Kline shower and bath house on the left. In the upper left corner of the photo can be see Sherman's Creek winding through camp. Note the island area in the stream, which is opposite the location of the archery and rifle ranges hidden by the trees. Friendship bridge can be seen crossing the creek in the top center of the photo. A glimpse of the pool area can be seen in the upper left, just above the island. A little to the right appears the new Hall medical center. Sherman's creek can be seen exiting the photo in the upper left, just to the right of the plane's wing strut. Photo taken on January 18, 2002.

Pilot was Bill Schlak - Carlisle Airways
Photo Courtesy of George Lance



This aerial view, looking South West, shows the predominance of Sherman's Creek in the center, with two island masses clearly denoted. In the center left is the pool complex, with bath house. At lower right corner can be seen a glimpse of Hidden Valley Road before arriving at the West gate entrance. At the middle of the right edge of the photo can be seen a small part of the overflow parking area. Between the parking area and the stream can be seen the rifle and archery ranges, and the path leading to them along the creek. In the upper right corner can be seen the administration building, the Hershey dining hall and the two Western Perry School district classrooms. To the left of the dining hall is the new parade field, one corner of which is snow covered. The three flag poles are not visible. However, if you look very closely you can see the American flag flying in the breeze - just in front of the dining hall. Mumma Road can be followed around from the West gate past the commissioner's corner to friendship bridge, although the bridge is not visible in this photo. The road again emerges to the left of the pool and can be seen going along the water front field that is white with snow cover, just under the wing strut of the plane. Photo taken on January 18, 2002.

Pilot was Bill Schlak - Carlisle Airways
Photo Courtesy of George Lance

The Future...

Keystone Area Council, Boy Scouts of America, in the first years of the 21st century is a vibrant, growing organization, focused on preserving Scouting as a way of life, as a character-builder for young men. The people involved in the organization are energized—perhaps the blessing of the struggles of the late 1990s—to help the Council and the Scouts associated with it to grow.

"Another way of looking at this," said Alan Boynton, currently Council vice-president of administration, "is in boy membership. We had 9,341 youths registered (of all available boys of Scout age) in 1972. In 2000, the total number of youths registered from this same category was 13,979."

The Council has also become more aware that the function of the organization is to serve the young men of the Harrisburg area in the same way industry serves the customers. "We recognize," Boynton said, "that Scouts in the Council are intelligent, sophisticated buyers of camping services. If there is a better camp, people will go to it."

Today, with the revitalization of the Scouting program and especially with Camp Hidden Valley, largely thanks to the efforts of groups like the Friends of Hidden Valley, camp numbers are climbing, too. In 1989, only 19 percent of registered Boy Scouts attended the camp. In 1989, the OA asked the Council's Board for a mandate that would require troops to attend Hidden Valley at least once every three years. It turned out to be ineffective, as the number of campers at Hidden Valley did not begin climbing until 1998, after the "Counter-Resolution" was adopted. By 2000, 38.7 percent of registered Boy Scouts in the Council were attending summer camp at Hidden Valley.

This enthusiasm for Scouting extends from the grass roots to the Scoutmasters and committee members, all the way to the top, including Scout Executive Jack Carr.

"I must continue the Keystone Area Council's mission of providing quality programs to an ever-increasing number of South Central Pennsylvania young people. Special emphasis must be directed to the Council's Urban Emphasis through innovative program delivery, proper recruitment and training of volunteers, and dedicating the necessary financial resources. The word 'quality' says it all!" Carr said.

So, the future of Keystone Area Council and Hidden Valley Scout Reservation looks bright, especially when all involved remember the past and the lessons learned there, and aim high in coming years.

The Future of Scouting And The Keystone Area Council

As Boy Scouting moves towards its 100th birthday in the United States in the year 2010, I believe, as a movement, it has withstood the test of time. Realistically, we must face the fact that probably not every young person eligible for our programs will participate in them. The world of our youth today is crowded with many activities and demands.

Numerous organized sports teams exist, beginning at the youngest ages, with the lure of popularity, scholarships, and even pro careers. Heavy work schedules seem necessary to pay for the peer trappings which young people find so essential today. Of course outright unhealthy or un-American attitudes belittle Scouting as "uncool" or "politically incorrect."

Our challenge as Scouts and Leaders is to keep this program a viable alternative.

Not every child will be a star athlete and the values we teach in Scouting can keep many away from the destructive path of life-destroying decisions.

Our program must remain relevant, fun and challenging. It requires that some of our old-timers recognize that youth today are different, and that what worked years ago in the decades when Scouting was the only "game in town" may not be as relevant now.

This is not to say that the values Scouting teaches have changed, or that the value of self-reliance, public service and appreciation of our natural resources taught by our outdoor program is passe. We just have a tougher job in explaining the relevance of these things to our young people.

Our Council has been in existence 85 years. I am convinced that Central Pennsylvania, with its hard-working people, who are committed to traditional values, will remain fertile ground for development of the Scouting program. We must continue to improve Hidden Valley Scout Reservation's physical plant while ever improving our staff and programs.

We must continue to aggressively recruit more youth members, especially in our Venturing units. These things will require active marketing and development programs, which have not been seen in Scouting in the past. If we accept these challenges, stay attuned to the new attitudes influencing our youth and maintain our commitment to our founding values, Scouting will continue to thrive in the Keystone Area Council.

M. L. "Skip" Ebert,
President, Keystone Area Council



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William R. McCaleb, 1917-1918
George S. Reinehl, 1918-1919
J. William Bowman, 1919-1920
Arthur D. Bacon, 1920-1921
John S. Musser, 1921-1922
Dr. M. V. Hazen, 1922-1925
R. H. Lyon, Sr., 1925-1937
Col. Samuel W. Fiering, Jr., 1937-1940
Albert L. Allen, Sr., 1940-1943
Col. Lynn G. Adams, 1943-1945
Franklin Moore, 1945-1947
Seth Gordon, 1947-1948
John W. Kirkpatrick, 1948-1949
L. R. Thurston, 1949-1954
Hon. Carl B. Shelley, 1954-1956
U. A. Whitaker, 1956-1957
John L. Tivney, 1957-1959
Albert L. Allen, Jr., 1959-1962
Wallace H. Alexander, 1962-1965
Albert C. Herbert, 1965-1969
Hon. William W. Lipsitt, 1969-1972
Dr. John O. Hershey, 1972-1974
Dr. David Porter, 1974-1976
Fred S. Faber, Jr., 1976-1978
Richard Wehrle, 1978-1980
Robert D. Hanson, 1980-1982
Robert T. Reilly, 1982-1984
Lee N. Whitaker, 1984-1987
Terry L. Bush, 1987-1991
Keith A. Clark, 1991-1994
Joseph F. Smyers, 1994-1996
Walter L. Lowery, 1996-1997
Lyle B. Shugart, 1997
Fred S. Faber, Jr., 1997
James B. Pannemaker, 1997-2000
M. L. "Skip" Ebert, Jr., 2000-present

Council Scout Executives

J. H. Stine, 1917-1918
J. Frederick Virgin, 1918-1920
T. Frank Tabor, 1920-1922
De G. Van De Boe, 1922-1926
Thomas Sparrow, 1926-1936
Harry H. Hunter, 1936-1948
Thomas W. Miller, 1948-1951
Charles W. Steele, 1951-1973
William J. Hawkins, 1973-1993
Anthony C. Brock, 1993-1998
Jack F. Carr, Jr., 1999-present



Silver Antelope Awards

Col. Lynn G. Adams
Dr. Philip D. Bookstaber
Lester R. Thurston
Albert L. Allen, Jr.
Albert S. Schmidt
Dr. John O. Hershey
Fred S. Faber
Albert G. Branch
Shirley H. Leisure
Elmer B. Greey, Jr.
Keith A. Clark, Jr.
Nancy Adams Besch

Silver Buffalo Award By National Council

Dr. Philip D. Bookstaber

Silver Fawn Award

Shirley H. Leisure
Dr. Theodora J. Koob

Distinguished Eagle Scout Award

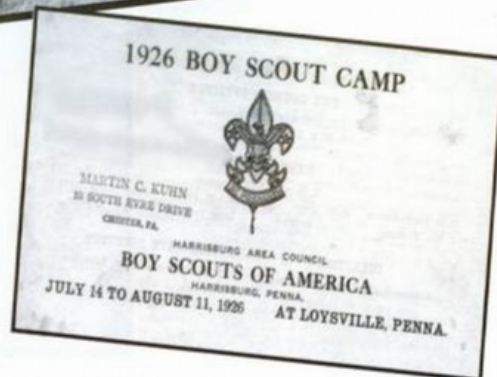
Albert C. Herbert

Silver Beaver Awards for Outstanding Service

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Left - This 1940 scene shows Scouts posing by the old camp truck. Right - This is the original pamphlet urging Scouts to come to summer camp at Loysville - what would eventually become Hidden Valley.



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In Loving Memory of Joseph F. Smyers (Past President)

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BRUCE BARTON

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