



THE OCTORARO LOOP

The Horseshoe Scout Reservation Alumni Association (HSRAA) News

Summer 2022

2006 Aquatics Director, Collin Francis speaks at the HSR Volunteer Banquet



Collin Francis, Mike "Berk", Evan Ellwanger, Andrew Coe, Jake Seegal
In front of a captive audience, Collin Francis recounts memories at the pool - the best he ever had - and how it helped steer him on the career path that led to his current position, Assistant Athletic Trainer for the Baltimore Ravens.



Collin grew up in the Scouting program as a Tiger Cub but drifted apart until a fateful encounter with a Scoutmaster, who suggested he join the troop and check out a summer camp in Rising Sun, MD. Lured back into Scouting at a pivotal time in his life, Collin spoke about the powerful impact Scouting and summer camp had on his life trajectory.

At the PARC event on March 31, 2022, council volunteers also heard Collin recount the skills he gained in the Pool Director position that led not only to his employment with the Baltimore Ravens but also with his work as Executive Director of the Baltimore Area Sports Health

Initiative. Collin eventually went on to earn the Eagle Scout rank, and his time in Scouting and at Horseshoe allowed him to build a foundation in First Aid, Emergency Management, and the Leadership Skills that he harnessed to rise to the top of his field and career.



From HSRAA's virtual museum we pulled these pictures of Collin, who laughed about his bleached hair from his time on Aquatics' staff.



Alumni Social @ PARC, Sept. 17, 2022

HSRAA is pleased to announce a new social gathering for all Alumni members to be held at PARC's second floor Assembly room and deck. This event will be for adults only is scheduled to **start at 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM**. We will provide appetizers, drinks (includes IPAs), plus a side show of the July Reunion and projects at camp. Members are free, guests will be \$25. Here's an opportunity to reunite or establish new friends with fellow HSR alumni.

Goats in Action Clearing Green Briar



12 Goats have been hired to clear the potential site for the new unisex bathrooms to be built along the stockade trail. **Payment:** all the Green Briar they can eat inside an electric fence area.

Park-style information signs installed



Park-like signs with historical facts and timelines about HSR have been installed in 3 locations. Be sure to stop by and read about little-known interesting details, or click the QR codes where you can view videos and more from our website.

Gateway signs replaced at camps

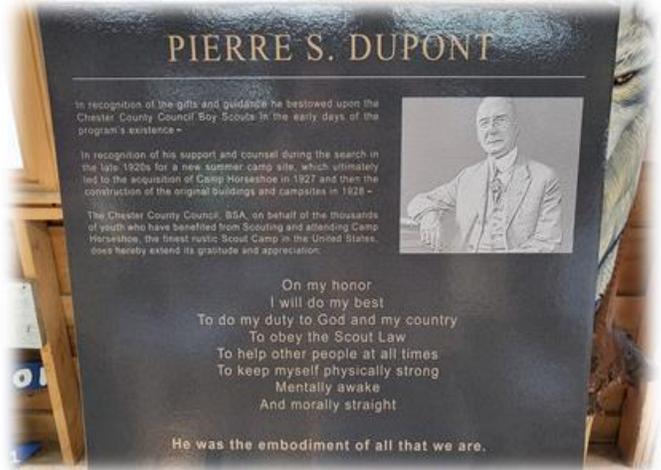


As one of the first camp improvement projects of HSRAA, the gateway signs were in need of repair. After 22 years, weather and delivery trucks had damaged the hanging camp signs. New signs are now installed on the cross beam.

HSRAA and Council honors Pierre S. Dupont as a central supporter with the purchase and development our camp.



A ceremony held during retreat on June 27 presented a prototype of a bronze plaque to honor Pierre's contribution over 95 years ago.



Accepting recognition at the event was **Thayer Dupont**. Presented by **Damon Sinclair** - HSRAA Chairman, from Chester County Council: **Jeff Spencer** - Scout Executive, **Pete Motel** - Exec. Board, and **Valeri Boclair** - President

2022 College Scholarship Contest

Once again HSRAA is pleased to sponsor college scholarships given out to selected camp staff Scouts. Those awarded are made in consultation with the Camp Directors and are based on answers to various essay questions.

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The Octoraro Loop is sent to alumni members, and also posted on the [HSRAA.org](https://www.hsraa.org) website. Do you have an article, photo, memory, upcoming event, etc., of interest to HSR alumni? Please contact Steve.Miller@foxroach.com, call Steve at (610) 715-2319 for the next available issue.*