



THE OCTORARO LOOP

**The Horseshoe Scout Reservation Alumni Association (HSRAA) News
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The purpose and mission of the Horseshoe Scout Reservation Alumni Association

"To preserve and promote the spirit and heritage of Horseshoe Scout Reservation and its camps (Camp Horseshoe and Camp John H. Ware, III), to be a benefactor to the Reservation and to promote the brotherhood of Scouting among the alumni of the Reservation."



Camp Horseshoe Gateway takes shape

THE HSRAA REUNION - JULY 21, 2001!

Bill 'Biff' Davis, Reunion Chairman, and his committee welcome all to the Second Annual Reunion of the HSRAA.

The Reunion highlights our HSRAA's active and successful year. Alumni/ae from every decade will be there to join in the fun and festivities! The new Camp Horseshoe Gateway is being dedicated while work on the Camp John H. Ware, III Gateway begins later this year.

Both gateway projects are funded by the HSRAA members.

SPECIAL! HSRAA T-shirts available for sale!

Schedule of the day's events:

- **1:00pm:** Registration/fellowship at the Goodman Pavilion in Campcraft, adjacent to the Health Lodge at Camp Horseshoe. Pick up your T-shirt.
- **2:00pm - 4:30pm:** Escorted/self-guided tours of Camp Horseshoe and Camp John H. Ware, III - originating from Goodman Pavilion area.
- As Announced - Gateway dedication.
- **4:30pm:** Decade Reunions & photos, etc.- Camp Horseshoe Campcraft area.

HSRAA REUNION continued

- **5:45pm:** Horseshoe Retreat Ceremony and OA Call - Out at Parade Ground.
- **6:00pm:** Barbecue and Sing-Along.
- **7:00pm:** HSRAA Business Meeting and Election of Officers for 2001-2002.
- **8:00pm:** Closing
- **8:30pm:** Campfire-Achgeketchum Circle (optional) - Vigil Honor



Chairman Matje and Past Camp Director Greene convene

LETTER FROM CHAIRMAN BOB MATJE

Welcome to the Second Annual Alumni Association Reunion! It is a pleasure to be with you this year as we fulfill our mission to

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promote brotherhood among the Alumni of The Horseshoe Scout Reservation. I look forward to meeting each of you and to rekindling the spirit that each of us share.

Over the past several years, I have been very heavily involved with the Camping Committee, Properties Committee, and the Order of the Arrow. All three of these groups have contributed significantly to the growth and upkeep of the Reservation through the various projects that have been undertaken by each. Camp John H. Ware, III now enjoys a new Health Lodge, a new Maintenance Building, a new shower house, and has had several of its key structures re-roofed. Camp Horseshoe now has new kitchenettes in Roberts and Rothrock Lodge, a new Cope Course/ Trail Bike Building, and several new latrines. And this year, the Alumni Association will make its first visible mark on the Reservation by erecting two new entrance gates to each camp.

The first gate will be dedicated to the Reservation and will stand at the entranceway to Camp Horseshoe just in front of the refurbished Lane Farm house that is now occupied by Roy and Matleen Cole. We are very proud of the fact that we are able to make such a dramatic impact on the Camp in such a short period of time, and credit our membership to rallying behind this awesome effort.

The second gate is scheduled to be erected at the entranceway to Camp Ware. In an effort to maximize the impact of the gateway, the Council and the Alumni Association are working closely together to obtain an easement from our neighboring property owner to allow us to place the gate in a location that is very conspicuous at the edge of the property. Further, the Alumni Association and the Properties Committee are working closely to re-grade the road to both bring us away from the power lines in the area, and to allow the gate to be visible from as far up the road as possible. Upon completion of these two key initiatives, the second gate will be erected and dedicated in the same manner as the first.

Again, my congratulations to this group for being able to accomplish so much in so little time. It is truly a pleasure to be working with you, and I look forward to the very

promising future as we strive to preserve our past.

In the Spirit of the Horseshoe,

Bob Matje



Roy Cole and Stone Mason Les King at new gateway

HSRAA-FUNDED PROJECTS FOR HORSESHOE RESERVATION HERE

One of the highlights of the second annual HSRAA Reunion is the dedication of the first of two gateways funded by the Alumni/ae.

HSRAA Projects Chairman Dick Bensing reports that the HSRAA-funded Gateways for entrance to Camp Horseshoe and Camp John H. Ware, III are on target for this summer. The Camp Horseshoe gateway is ready for dedication at the HSRAA July 21, 2001 Reunion.

Each gateway is designed to have field stone bases and will have a bronze plaque embellished with the HSRAA logo. The crossbar will carry a sign welcoming campers and visitors to the respective Camp. The cost is expected to be considerably less and closer to the budget of about \$13,000 for each gateway.

Because the site for the Camp John H. Ware, III Gateway requires a property easement and relocation of the camp road and with Camp in session, its construction will start later this year.

Gateway contributions are welcomed and should be identified as such and sent to HSRAA %Chester Co. Council, BSA at 504 S. Concord Rd., West Chester, PA 19382.



Camp John H. Ware, III gateway to have prominent location

PERSONALITY OF THE DAY -
RAY HADYEN

This past April, Ray Hayden joined the Council Staff as Reservation Property Manager and is living at Camp John H. Ware, III with his wife, Bonnie. With the significant nature of our camping programs and facilities, Ray's Scouting experience and previous Ranger positions offer the Reservation top caliber of leadership as we enter into the new millennium and face future growth in our fine camping facilities.

Prior to coming to Chester County Council, Ray Hayden was Ranger with extensive service in the East Carolina Council camps as well as in Florida. He was the creator of the Pamlico Sea Base where he served as Director for the past three summers.

Ray is an Eagle Scout, Vigil Honor member, Founder's Award recipient and holds the Ad Altare Dei and Wood Badge awards.

According to Camp Director "Berkie", Ray is a strong addition to the Reservation and has a great sense for the program aspects of our camps.

Ray will be joined later this year by a new Horseshoe Scout Reservation Ranger. The HSRAA wishes Ray and Bonnie our best for the future. Horseshoe Reservation is in capable hands. Please wish them well at our Second Annual HSRAA Reunion!



Al Forssmark greets Ray Hayden



New Lodge
Chief Dale Mast

LODGE 22 NEW OFFICERS

The 75th anniversary is a special time for the Octoraro Lodge 22 Order of the Arrow. The Lodge is going strong as the 75th is being celebrated.

Lodge elections were held this spring and the new Octoraro 22 Officers are:

- Lodge Chief - Dale Mast
- Vice Chief, Administration - Ed Dougherty
- Vice Chief, Program - John Sauser
- Vice Chief, Inductions - Mike Palmer
- Recording Secretary - Tom Pantazes
- Corresponding Secretary - Toby McCabe
- Treasurer - Jonathan Rogers
- Youth Trustees - Sean Johnson and Dustin Morazsewski
- Adult Trustee - Fred Stoudt

Special Lodge 22 activities are planned for this year. Some of the events planned include a special reunion weekend with our "daughter" Lodge Blue Heron from Tidewater, Virginia and our "granddaughter" Lodge Wahun Seneca of Virginia. The Wulamoc newspaper will provide added details on these upcoming special events. We hope that each of our Lodge members is just as excited as your Lodge Executive Committee. For more information on the 75th anniversary festivities, email Dale Mast, Anniversary Chairman: dalemast@hotmail.com

Yours in the Brotherhood,
Dale Mast, Chief

HSRAA FUNDED CAMP SURVEY

The HSRAA, as one of its initial efforts last year, financed the Chester County Council's **Harris Interactive 2000 Summer Camp Outcomes Study** involving Horseshoe in comparison to 105 other camps across the country. The study's purpose was to demonstrate how well BSA

HSRAA Funded Camp Survey Continued ...

summer camps contribute to healthy youth development as it related to six elements.

Previous BSA/Harris research identified six critical elements as the cornerstones of healthy youth development: 1) Strong personal values and character; 2) A positive sense of self-worth and usefulness; 3) Caring and nurturing relationships with parents, other adults, and peers; 4) A desire to learn; 5) Productive/creative use of time; and, 6) Social adeptness. Nationally, the study participants included 10,034 Scouts, 5,299 parents and 4,491 leaders who were randomly selected. Horseshoe participants' results were measured against those of the other camps.

In the Study's Executive Summary, the Council's participants verified what we the Alumni/ae organization have sensed. We have an excellent program and facility that provides top-notch experiences for our campers. The following is a portion of the outcomes study.

From the **Scouts'** perspective, "summer camp is more than a place to have fun. It also offers Scouts the opportunity to participate in physically and intellectually challenging activities, introduces them to new and rewarding experiences, and provides them with supporting and caring relationships." "...Horseshoe Scouts ...enjoy and benefit from their experience. 69% ...say they met all or some of their goals...at camp, and 80% would definitely or probably recommend Camp Horseshoe to others." In the six critical elements (above) Horseshoe also fares extremely well. The study lists 43 activities where Horseshoe surpasses the national average. Scout journals were completed by **116 Horseshoe Scouts**.

There were **59 Parents** that completed post-camp surveys. They speak highly and appear to be very impressed with the Scout summer camp. 51% of the parents say their sons' Horseshoe experience was ...better than they expected, and 97% would definitely or probably recommend Camp Horseshoe to others. They comment that ...camp is successful at providing ...positive experiences that directly benefit their sons. National comparisons give evidence that

Camp Horseshoe exceeds or meets the national averages in the areas of: "Was able to learn and test skills and abilities (93% of respondents); Learned to respect nature (90%); and, Was challenged (86%). Horseshoe also had high marks by the parents in that their sons had an enjoyable experience and was in a safe environment.

71 Leaders completed the post-camp survey. 99% of the leaders say they met all or some of their goals at Horseshoe, and 62% say the experience was better than expected. Leaders who attended Camp Horseshoe overwhelmingly agree that camp offers the following benefits: Played a role in helping young people succeed/grow; Had fun; Was with people I respect; Helped youth realize their own abilities; and, Built friendships with youth in their unit. Nationally, Camp Horseshoe meets or exceeds the national average on the first four items mentioned.

The Harris Interactive Study is an important document as it relates to the success of the Horseshoe Scout Reservation in providing the fun and adventure of Scouting summer after summer for more than 74 years to thousands of youth. We can better understand the effectiveness of the work done to make this a good experience for Scouts and bears out why the HSRAA membership swells with pride in the support it gives to Scouting. The complete Study is available in the Council's office.



Newly erected C.O.P.E. building readies for camp program

HSRAA MEMBERSHIP

Acting Membership Chairman Joe Eagan reports that HSRAA membership has risen to nearly 300 in over a year of the Association's existence. Our members range from Link Rice, who attended the opening of Camp Horseshoe in 1928, to Cub Scouts attending summer programs at Camp Ware.

The HSRAA keeps track of its members through a state-of-the-art database developed by our website chairman, Andy Smith. Included in the database is such information as each member's first year at Horseshoe Scout Reservation, membership level and Reservation memories ("There are just too many memories to even know where to begin. All I know is that they were and always will be some of THE BEST years of my life.").

All Association members, and many other friends of Horseshoe Scout Reservation, will receive a letter encouraging them to renew their membership for 2001 and contribute, if they can, to the new gates for Camp Ware and Camp Horseshoe. When you receive this letter, we hope you will give what you can toward these worthy projects.

Association members are encouraged to spread the word about the HSRAA to their friends. Please ask your friends to visit our website at www.hsraa.org and register online. Or ask them to request a membership form by sending an email to membership@hsraa.org. We also can provide an HSRAA information package that you can send to your friends by email. All new members receive a membership card and the current issue of this newsletter.

We hope to designate an "HSRAA representative" for every troop that attends Camp Ware and Camp Horseshoe during the summer. As "long-lost" alumni sign up with the HSRAA, we will put them in touch with the appropriate troop representative. If you can serve as such a representative, please contact us at membership@hsraa.org.

HSRAA AND COUNCIL WEB SITES

The HSRAA Internet website www.hsraa.org carries information about the Reunion, electronic versions of past issues of "The Octoraro Loop" and on line registration of new members as well as

renewal of current memberships. Andy Smith is the Chairman of the website.

Please note: HSRAA is seeking to reconnect with former staff members and campers at Horseshoe and Ware. Anyone who knows of any former camper or staff member who would like to join the Alumni Association, please have that person contact the HSRAA website www.hsraa.org for information. Interested parties may register for membership in the Association on the website or may contact the Chester County Council, BSA Service Center directly at 610-696-2900 to do so.

Also, watch for further work on the Chester County Council, BSA Web Site www.cccbsa.org. Work is underway by Triad Communications to upgrade the site based upon suggestions of the Council's Web Site Committee led by JB Rettew.

See "**The Spirit of the Horseshoe**" book for more of the history of the Chester County Council, BSA and the Horseshoe Scout Reservation on this site or the HSRAA web site.



Camp Horseshoe pool in 1945 awaits campers

"ERNIE SAYS"

Ernie Heegard, Horseshoe Reservation Director Emeritus and Honorary Chairman of HSRAA has returned from a spectacular trip to New Zealand where he and his wife, Betsy, backpacked the Milford Trek.

He writes in this issue:

"DUST IT OFF!"

I found "some" the other day as I was pulling camping gear for a recent trip. I'll bet you will find "some" too without looking very hard. It's that pesky old "dust of Horseshoe". You know, "once you get the dust of Horseshoe in your moccasins, you can't kick it out".

There is truly magnetism about the Horseshoe Reservation that conjures fond

'ERNE SAYS' Continued ...

memories. This spring over a hundred Scouts and Scouters from Chester County Council's Order of the Arrow Lodge attended the yearly Section Conclave held this year at Camp Mack near Lancaster, PA. Throughout the weekend, Camp Horseshoe would come up in conversation with Arrowmen from other councils. Invariably, they would remark about the fun, enthusiasm, and the spirit that they had found during other conclaves at Camp Horseshoe. These Arrowmen spoke of eagerly anticipating their return to Horseshoe for the 2003 Conclave. While our friends expressed fond memories of our camp, this brought back to mind some of my most vivid memories of my first experiences at camping there at age 12. (In the '40's, the joining age for Scouting was 12.)

I remember traveling to West Chester with my parents to the Council's North High Street location, just opposite the Warner Theater, to sign up and pay for camp. (In those days you did not camp with your troop. Individual Scouts would sign up for the two week camping period.) My recollection is that the cost was \$13 per week, \$26 for two weeks.



White House HQ in 1945 ready for check-in

Then OFF TO CAMP! Check-in saw us lining up in front of the White House (old HQ) porch where we awaited the check-in procedure at a long counter on the first floor. Then, it was out the back door to meet our Stockade Leader (the Scoutmaster for the period). I was assigned to the Kit Carson Stockade site and was placed in with other patrol members in the bunkhouse. My bunk was the top left one at the back.

It was a busy afternoon. First we had to fill our "ticks"(cloth bag) with straw that served as our mattress bed at the Straw Hut near to what is now the Quonset Hut. Then our Carson troop was off for health checks at the Health Lodge followed by the swim check at the pool.



Morrison Health Lodge dedicated in 1944



2001 Staff members assemble at Allen Memorial

As we descended the hill to the pool, I could hear the splashing of large fountains pouring water into the shallow end of the pool. These fountains were later removed for efficiency reasons. After a brief (cold) swim in what seemed to be an enormous pool, we returned to our stockade to learn the stockade song and cheer which would be needed that evening in the dining hall.

The Allen Memorial Dining Hall was a "jumping" place for a young Scout, even in the '40's. Two long tables were placed end to end with benches attached to the tables which accommodated eight Scouts on either side facing each other and a staff member supervising at each end. Bowls of food had to be passed to the staff members first before any of us could partake. As the meal neared its conclusion, the Dining Hall would erupt into stockade songs and cheers – each stockade (Sherwood, Boonesboro, Carson, Crockett and Taylor) trying to outdo the others. In those days these were the only units in the camp.

The period following dinner was filled with sports' challenges – softball, volleyball, and pitching horseshoes. After the games on the athletic field below the Dining hall next to the Octoraro, the sweaty group would then be led up the hill to the Trading Post for some candy and ice cream. The Trading Post, located in the basement of Kindness Center next to what is now the

"ERNIE SAYS" Continued ...

Handicraft area, had lines of Scouts eager to get their reward. Each of us had a Trading Post ticket (previously purchased) that would be punched for the cost of his evening's purchase. The allotment to each Scout was a single ice cream scoop on a small paper plate with a wooden spoon stuck in the top and a candy bar both of which were rapidly consumed. The only choice you had was "take it, or leave it!"

Another vivid memory I have was while following some old trails behind the Stockade. These were probably deer trails. I became hopelessly lost in the sea of green-brier. I remember listening to some distant wood chopping and followed those sounds. It was an older Scout who was felling a dead tree for some campfire wood. I sat, watched and waited, and then followed him back to camp. Boy! Was I relieved to find my way back!



Ernie aspirations met as a Staffer

I can remember being greatly impressed and slightly envious of members of the camp staff. I vowed that one day I would join the Horseshoe Staff. I wanted to live as they did in a tent all summer and work in those lush green wooded hills while absorbing the sights and sounds of nature. But most of all, I liked being surrounded by some of the finest people and best friends I have ever known. Looking back, it did not take long for this dream to come true. I was hooked and it only took two weeks! Somehow during those first fourteen days, "the dust of Horseshoe" had crept into my moccasins, and it is impossible to shake it all out.



Berk Berkeihiser announces 2001 Staff jobs

CAMP HORSESHOE AND CAMP JOHN H. WARE, III REPORT- SUMMER 2001

Mike "Berk" Berkeihiser is back as Camp Director at Camp Horseshoe. While "...last year was one of the best seasons ever," this coming summer is to be better than ever. All campsites, except one, are sold out at Camp Horseshoe. Many of last year's camp staff members are coming back including John Callahan, Program Director; Eric Baugham, Food Services Director; Brendan Battenfelder, C.O.P.E. Director, and, Dr. Dave Mellinger and Mark Graham at the Health Lodge. The program and staff continue to grow and improve. Berk comments: "Our camp staff continues to be second to none!" The new multi-purpose building for the C.O.P.E. Mountain Biking Program is constructed on Flag Pole Hill thanks to Ernie Heegard, Al Forssmark, Bill Trowill, and others.



Bill Hess and Ware Director Marjie Prosock and Program Director J. B. Fischer

Camp John H. Ware, III will once more challenge the versatility of its Staff by providing different types of programs throughout the summer. Part of the summer will be devoted to the Webelos and Cub Scout Camping programs. Then, "Parent and Pal" Cubbing programs will be conducted with all the Cub Scout programs having "Robin Hood" theme. Next the staff changes gears and offers traditional Boy Scout camping involving "C.O.P.E." programs, aquatics, merit badge opportunities, etc. While we will not have the Irish Scout camporee this year, we will have a number of Irish scouts from County Cork, Ireland serving on our staff. This gives an added worldly dimension to the Camp John H. Ware, III program. Camp John H. Ware, III Director, Marjie Prosock along with J.B. Fischer, Program Director, will again provide leadership.



Sue Fisher, Ware Camp Nurse, and Don at new Health Lodge

This year a new Health Lodge will greet campers at Camp John H. Ware, III thanks to the generosity of a number of foundation grants the Council received. Also, thanks go to Al Forssmark and his workers for much of the work on this building. A Quonset hut storage facility has also been built.

All in all, it is shaping up to be a great summer at the Horseshoe Scout Reservation!



Ware's Health Lodge with Sue Fisher, Assistant Don, Marjie Prosock and patient

REFLECTIONS/SPECIAL TIMES and PLACES

The following article was researched and submitted by Clark Greene, Past Camp Director, Scoutmaster and Silver Beaver recipient. For one who has hiked the Horseshoe Reservation, this unique outcropping of rock we call Buzzards Rock conjures up thoughts of the Native Americans who traveled the pathways of our Reservation long before the European emigrants colonized this country. Buzzards Rock is a special place for all Scouts today. This piece preempts our "decade" feature this Reunion issue.

BUZZARDS ROCK - RICH IN HISTORY

Many historic pathways cross the relatively few acres of land occupied by the Horseshoe Scout Reservation. Some, like the line that Mason and Dixon surveyed in 1763, are and easy to follow. Others are

obscured by time and reveal their story only on close examination.

During the summer of 1988 a team of archeologists from The State Museum of Pennsylvania in Harrisburg conducted an excavation of the Horseshoe Rock Shelter, or Buzzards Rock. Scouts have hiked to Buzzards Rock to search for arrowheads since the camp was founded in 1928. During the excavation Scouts participated in the work and the artifacts they unearthed were taken to the Museum for careful study that links us with a fascinating history.



Horseshoe - a Real Camp

Over thousands of years the rock shelter served as a temporary campsite for people in search of food and materials like quartz for arrowheads and soapstone for cooking vessels. Animal bone fragments, charcoal from their fires, flakes of quartz left from the tool making process, a few of the tools themselves and

shards of pottery help paint a picture of what went on and when. Layers of activity are deposited over centuries; the deepest reveal the earliest artifacts. Most are so old that they cannot be attributed to a distinct culture or people but are the remains of eras that may have lasted for thousands of years. The earliest artifacts indicate that the shelter was first occupied nearly eight to ten thousand years ago.

We can guess at the political structure and practices of these early cultures, but these interpretations bear a haze of uncertainty. Visitors to Buzzard's Rock left clues similar to those found in other sites throughout the Susquehanna Valley. Through generations they formed villages, dissolved into smaller wandering bands, forged alliances, fought wars, suffered, prospered and returned to the earth. The names given to their cultures 'Minguannan' and 'Shenks Ferry' refer to the sites they occupied and are a poor substitute for what their real names must have been.

We know so little about these thousands of people and thousands of years.

Reflections Continued ...

Archaeologists look at an artifact somewhat like a letter carrier reads the address on an envelope. The type of stone, the method of chipping and the oft-times subtle differences in shape and size of an arrowhead indicate its origin. A fragment of pottery contains an unwritten record; simple incised patterns left by the makers are as telling as a fingerprint. As is the presence of quartz ground down to fine sand or crushed shells used to strengthen the clay.

Some of the more recent layers revealed artifacts that corresponded with the historic record. Sometime in the late 1500's a group of people moved south from the upper Susquehanna River near present day New York State. They were driven south by pressure from the great Iroquois Nations and the allure of trading with the ever-increasing population of European settlers. Villages were founded along the Susquehanna River near present-day Columbia, Pennsylvania.

The first record of historic contact with these peoples was written by Captain John Smith. During his exploration of the Chesapeake Bay, Smith's ships were unable to navigate any farther north than the fall line of the Susquehanna River near present-day Port Deposit Maryland. It was here that sixty men who his native interpreters called 'Susquehannock'; (roughly translated as roily water people), visited his party. What they called themselves is uncertain. French explorers later called them by the name that finally became Conestoga- 'gandastouge' or people of the blackened ridgepole; coined for the poles of their long houses. Susquehannock was the name that stuck, and it is the name they use today.

The Susquehannocks deep, melodious speech, their stature and the bear and wolf skins they wore amazed Captain John Smith. His meeting with them initiated long years of trade and conflict that ended with the Susquehannocks being driven from their land and the small remnant of their once flourishing culture perishing in horrible circumstances.

It is almost certain that Susquehannock hunting and gathering parties used the Horseshoe Rock Shelter during these years. Excavations revealed a very telling clue- one triangular arrowhead formed from a piece of brass.

The presence of brass indicates that the point was deposited there after European contact. Brass kettles were highly prized

because they were more durable and transportable than fragile pottery. One kettle could stand years of constant use and could have been passed down from generation to generation. When its useful days were over the brass itself was cut into other ornaments or utensils. The brass point may have been made in response to some threat or emergency. A brass point was easier to make than a stone point; it would not break if it missed its mark and though the material was more precious than the stone a good many points could be formed quickly from one kettle.

The Susquehannocks camped near the present day Conowingo Dam. The falls and rocks in the river slowed migrating shad at this point in the river and made it an ideal fishing spot. Materials excavated at these sites and at Buzzards Rock support the idea that the Susquehannocks used the shelter.

The Susquehannocks had an advanced political and military culture that accentuated their keen trading skills. As European settlements grew so did their dependence on trade with Native Americans. Furs, notably the beaver, became a valuable commodity as European fashion favored beaver-felt hats. Traders formed companies that battled bitterly over rights to land and trade with the Susquehannock. Other tribes entered the fray and finally a full-blown war ensued in the early 1700's.

This war, the introduction of European diseases such as smallpox and migration westward decimated the Susquehannock population. A small remnant retreated to their villages along the river to try and survive the winter of 1763.

By then settlements dotted the surrounding land. Settlers feared attack and thievery by Anglo and Indian alike in this remote frontier where the rule of law was yet to be established.

These fears were inflamed when it was alleged that some settlers murdered that winter were victims of the Susquehannock. (Responsibility for the attack has never been conclusively determined, but it was certainly not the Susquehannock; then so reduced in numbers and strength as to have been incapable of such and act.) A small group of men known as 'The Paxton Boys' formed near present day Harrisburg, intent on eliminating the perceived danger. In early December they attacked the village at Conestoga leaving only a few women, children and old men alive. These few survivors were sheltered by sympathetic authorities in the Lancaster poor house.

Reflections Continued ...

Unsatisfied, the Paxton Boys broke in the poor house a few days later and killed the remaining Susquehannocks, about fourteen in all.

News of this inhumanity reached Philadelphia where Benjamin Franklin condemned the perpetrators as "white savages". Efforts to bring the Paxton Boys to justice failed and the deed went unpunished.

The camp's earliest occupants have been the subjects of legend since Scouts lit the first campfire at Horseshoe. The truth behind these legends may not be as dramatic but it is equally compelling. It is as much a mistake to consider the Native Americans more than human as it was of our forebearers to consider them less than human. They suffered the same shortcomings and enjoyed the same strengths as we.

This is perhaps the most inspiring thing to remember as we present day campers walk the paths these Native Americans established.



1945 boat docks at Octoraro Creek

GOLD FOUND AT HORSESHOE

Yes GOLD! The year was 1944 (and numerous years since then) that gold was found in the bed of the Octoraro Creek near the Swinging Bridge (OA) and the Boat Docks that then were off the Horseshoe athletic field.

Gold fever was rampant through each of the five stockade camps as news arrived during the afternoon 'siesta'. The campers were mobilized for the search for the precious stone - it was like 1849 and the Gold Rush of that earlier day. Scouts were in a frenzy...leaders did not know what to do to hold their minions back from rushing to the Creek! Finally, Program Director J. Holland Heck and Camp Director Frank Beam coolly issued the plan to the assembled camp so that all could enjoy the wealth the gold would surely bring!

Each Stockade was given instructions that they were to proceed to the Creek in bathing suits and old shoes with appropriate buckets to pan for the gold. When they

got to the Creek, each unit was to stake out their claim in the Creek. "Revenooers" were there to make sure there was no claim jumping. Once the gold was found, the unit was to proceed to the Assayer's Office where the gold would be weighed and exchanged for "money."

Well, I can remember mucking from here to there for some time before my bunk-mates and I came up with the gold rock! We turned it in and were richly rewarded!

That night, in Kindness Center, a Boom Town was built with all sorts of games of chance (and skill) where we could spend our newly found riches!

What a day! What a fun time for a first year camper as well as those who had been to camp for many years!

Editor's Notes June 2001

I was walking out of Allen Memorial Dining Hall with Moose Wunsch after taking pictures for this issue of The Loop. We were discussing some of the articles in the Loop he liked and he brought up the question as to whether campers today knew any of the history behind the naming of the original five Stockade camps. He thought this might be of interest to some of our younger alumni/ae.

Ernie Heegard's column mentions the five Stockades. He was in Kit Carson Stockade his first year. I was in Boonesboro in my first year, 1944.

There were five Stockade camps built in 1927-28 for campers that first summer and used ever since then. A visitor to Horseshoe in 1933 wrote of the camps in his treatise, referring to them as "Kit Carson, Boonesboro, Fire Circle, Sherwood Forest and Bayard Taylor".

Another historian in his writings refers to "Camp Unami, Camp Daniel Boone, Camp Kit Carson, Camp Dave Crockett; and, Old Ironsides Camp (the Sea Scout and Water activities Camp)." Later, the Unami Camp was re-named Sherwood Forest; Daniel Boone became Boonesboro; Old Ironsides became Camp Mason-Dixon (it straddles the Mason-Dixon Line) in 1929 and Pirates camp in 1930. Subsequently, it was renamed Bayard Taylor in honor of the great Chester County writer.

The stockades form a crescent. In earlier days of camp, trails (now the stockade trail) leading to each camp

Editor's Notes June 2001 Continued ...
 carried a specific name related to the history of the specific camp. Kit Carson was reached by the "Santa Fe" trail; Sherwood Forest (then Unami) was reached by the "Unami Path"; Boonesboro by the "Wilderness Trail"; Dave Crockett was reached by the "Alamo Trail"; and, Old Ironsides by the "Clipper Wake" trail.

In future issues, I hope to shed more light on the other camp units that today make up both Camp Horseshoe and Camp John H. Ware, III. Also, I'll try to publish the text to the songs that each camp sang after the meal in Allen Memorial in those years from 1928 to the '50's.

- JB Rettew '44



Early Stockade camp

WELCOME NEW HSRAA MEMBERS!

The following new HSRAA members have joined since last September 2000. Welcome aboard!

- Anderson, Dave '74
- Berdell, Daniel L. '88
- Brown, Ralph F. '63
- Burns, Chuck '95
- Clarke, Allan J. '98
- Dix, Dan '91
- Dolenti, Ronald '86
- Frederick, Jeff '91
- Freeman, William S. '99
- Gain, Matthew A. '95
- Hart, Jeffrey Andrew '96
- Hawk, Daryl W. '98
- Hemcher, George '68
- Hopfer, Danny Edward '97
- Jefferes, Brian '96
- Kelsey, John D. '97
- Mackowiak, Mark '81
- Matje, Mark '98
- Mayfield, Web '77
- McCauley, Paul '86
- moore, richard '01
- Mountain, Daniel '71
- Mountain, Eric '72
- Nemetz, Scott '85
- Noon, Jim '83
- Patton, Richard A. 'na
- Reider, Marc '90
- Reynolds, Ed '62
- Ritchie, Zack '95
- Rossiter, Mahlon '37
- Stanley, Grant A. '95
- stec, charles '48
- Steffen, Glenn '73
- Tyson, Donald '80
- Warner, Herbert A. '57

NECROLOGY

William H. Wolter, Jr. '66, Devon 50

NOTE: Readers are invited to send letters or articles about their special times/places in camp to the Editor.

HSRAA OFFICERS - 2000 - 2001

Officers elected for term ending July, 2001:

- Chairman.....**Robert E. Matje**
- Vice Chairman.....**Paul Owens**
- Secretary.....**Joseph M. Eagan**
- Treasurer.....**Eric R. Lorgus**

**REGISTRATION FORM: Horseshoe Scout Reservation Alumni Association - send to:
Att: HSRAA % Chester County Council, BSA, 504 S. Concord Rd., West Chester, PA 19382**

Name: _____ Email Add: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, ZIP code: _____ Telephone (Home) _____

Occupation: _____ Telephone (Bus.) _____

Year of Birth: 19 _____

I have camped at (please check): ____ Camp Horseshoe; ____ Camp John H. Ware, III (Jubilee); ____ Both.

Camper Year(s) Date(s): _____

Camp Staff Year(s) Date(s): _____ Position: _____

_____ Please send me further information about The Horseshoe Scout Reservation Alumni Association

The following Camp Horseshoe/Camp Ware alumni* may be interested in the HSRAA:

Name	Address
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

* We especially need names/addresses of people not currently registered with Council or Lodge 22 OA.

(Tear off above and send)

**THE OCTORARO LOOP
HORSESHOE RESERVATION ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

% Chester County Council, BSA
504 South Concord Road
West Chester, PA 19382

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