

# The St. Nicholas Lead

## Camp Cherry Valley Alumni Association Newsletter

Winter/Spring 2004

### CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

By Ron Wood

Greetings! For those of us who lived in camp for many seasons, we know by this time of year the summer staff is being selected, developed and trained. We know the time and interest invested in the working staff now will pay off when those exciting summer months appear.

Through my affiliation with other island organizations, it is fun to see planning for those summer days of island visitations. The Cherry Cove Yacht Club is actively pursuing their ever-strengthening relationship with Cherry Valley, under the leadership of Commodore Scott Bice, CCV alumnae from the 50's and 60's. Camp Cherry Valley is no longer "your dad's Cherry Valley." Evolutions in technology and programs lead to an ever changing look to camp. But, beyond and under all that's new, our Cherry Valley experience has blessed us all. I never tire of tying a small boat to the pier, walking the camp, seeing long time friends and happy campers . . . and awakening fond memories.

Share a camp experience/memory. Send it on to Dave Minnihan.

When is your next trip to camp? I'll see you there.

Ron Wood

### NEWS FROM CAMP

By: Bill Hartley

It's been a busy winter! We did two new decked tent sites (need to do two more), repaired the pier ramp, completed a lot of the fuel modification program, replaced the Staff Village deck, continued working on the Water, Electrical, Fire Suppression Project, repainted the Grove Restroom and replaced the commercial water heater, did some landscaping and grading, worked on the problems found during the Fire Department's 5-year inspection, replaced some of the refrigerator floor, replaced the Dining Hall interior paneling, and refurbished one of our pier floats (ok that still needs to get done), but you get the point. Along with what seems like hundreds of other little items shows that we have not just been sitting around.

Our main goal this winter was to finish up the water tank project and have the Camp Store on line by the spring. That hasn't happened. A design problem was discovered with the pump motor cooling system and it has taken all this time to resolve. Everything has been figured out now and I'm hoping to report in our next newsletter that this project has been completed. Keep your fingers crossed!

Recently received our campers numbers for this coming year and again Cherry is a big draw for the Council. Our summer camp program is still being booked well into future. Our weekend programs are filling up well in advance of the season and CIMI is going strong. It is great that Cherry can still be the council breadwinner, so to speak, but the constant use and high numbers really puts a strain on this old facility and the council pocket book.

Something Mark and I are excited about and take some pride in is that we started program this year, February 16<sup>th</sup>, with a pier in! That's right, we can now provide year-round pier access to the camp. It is not only a much safer way of providing waterfront program, but it keeps CCV accessible by water for Baywatch and shore boats, as well as providing access for camp guests, hint, hint.

On the first of February, Karen and I started our 16<sup>th</sup> year here at camp. I must say it has been a very enjoyable experience. I feel very lucky to have gotten the job (thanks Ron) and have been able to keep it (thanks Bob). There are so many things that contribute to the enjoyment of being here and working for the camp. For me the most important ones have been the opportunity to have and raise my son, a beautiful environment to live and work in, the diverse work opportunities, and the great people I have been able to meet. Thank you all.

To look at CCV today compared to my earliest memories of it in the mid 60's much has changed, but also much has remained the same. There are many new faces at CCV but many familiar ones are still seen, there are new buildings but we also still use some of the old ones, the landscape has changed but the feeling has not, and so on. Change has been a difficult thing at times for Camp Cherry Valley in the past. But, one of the most important things to remember is that even though change has and is occurring, the same camper smiles are being seen and being a staff member here is still a life changing experience.

## C.O.R.E. STAFF REPORT

By Yolanda Hernandez

For the last couple of weeks we've been at our other camp, the staff and I. Camp Eaton is high up in the mountains. It's beautiful, there's snow, and the sun is out. What more can you ask for? You change program, kids adapt, and you make igloos, play in the snow, and make snowmen. Then the winds come, changing temperatures to 10 degrees. It's COLD!!!

Brittany and Rochelle start talking about sun, beaches and CCV, but I am still enjoying the mountains. The next week we get thunder, rain, hail, snow and MORE SNOW. The girls start talking about CCV. After I've slipped, slid, and hiked in the snow, I've had enough of it. I start hearing the call of the Island, and we're all saying yes, it's time to get to CCV, forgetting about the snow and the call of the mountains.

Yes, Cherry Valley program is starting soon. This season, some of our camps are already full. The staff is ready and eager for the staff weekend to start setting up equipment and program. Yes, it's time. The coldness is slowly leaving my body and I'm waiting for the heat.

## CUB STAFF REPORT

By Dave Minnihan

While many of you have experienced Cherry Valley as a Boy Scout Summer Camp, the last weeks of August have been used as Cub Scout Resident Camp for about 12 years now. We currently offer two sessions and usually have about 125 campers and 80+ parents per session.

Bears and Webelos attend Camp for 4 days and 3 nights, working on their Achievements in the mornings, and enjoying waterfront activities, BB guns, Archery, Handicraft, and other activities in the afternoons and evenings. There is a yearly theme which has included *Treasure Island*, *Castaway Cove (Gilligan's Island)*, and *Adventurers of the Lost Island (Indiana Jones)* in the past, and a new theme this year, *Tom Sawyer's Island*.

This is my third year as Camp Director, ably assisted by Program Director Michael Nicholson, a longtime Cub Staffer; Aquatics Director Susan Wood Roche, longtime Aquatics Director for CORE Staff and Cub Staff; Field Sports Director John Cloherty, another longtime Cub Staffer; and Head Cook Karen Hartley, who has cooked for every program at camp over the years. The balance of an outstanding staff is a mixture of old CCV summer staffers, CORE Staff, and longtime Cub Staffers, many of whom have been doing Cub Camp for five or more years.

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

By Rick Scobey

Your membership is necessary to keep the Camp Cherry valley Alumni Association alive! It currently requires five new memberships each year just to cover the cost of our web site. It also requires seven memberships, or approximately \$170.00, for a complete newsletter mailing to everyone in our database. We've found it necessary to cut the number of those mailings down to once a year. The other mailings are limited to current members, or those who have subscribed to the newsletter.

The membership fee is currently only \$25 per year. Life Membership is available for \$250, and Junior Membership (ages 16-20) is \$10. If you were on Summer Staff, CORE Staff, or Cub Camp Staff last year, your dues are free for this year. Newsletter subscription only for our non-members is \$5 per year. If you are a current member, you do not need to pay for the subscription.

A special thanks to our Life Members: Hudson Bair, Scott Bice, Albert Cain, Bruce Davis, Dennis Dayne, Dominic Femino, Dave Hagen, Bill Hartley, Larry Hooper, Carol Hopping, Roy Johnson, Gary Kief, Mike Kilbride, Bob Lundquist, ed McArthur, Jim McClung, Jr., Keith Mikas, Dave Minnihan, Morgan Morgan, Bill Norris, Phil Piet, Ian Pinkham, Bob Shafer, John Shaw, Sherwood "Woody" Simpson, Edward Wellman, and Ron Wood.

Let us know if your contact information has changed. It's expensive and difficult to keep track of our members. Too many newsletters have been returned because of an incorrect address, and often, the Post Office charges us for address corrections. Be sure to send us your email address. We'll notify you of changes to CCVAA web site, upcoming special events, and newsletters when they are posted on the web site.

Don't forget to visit our web site [www.ccvaa.org](http://www.ccvaa.org). We'd appreciate any ideas, suggestions or comments that you might have. If you have any pictures, documents, memories or anything else that you want posted on the CCVAA web site, or want to help work on the web site, please contact us.

Again, your membership is needed in the Camp Cherry Valley Alumni Association. Your dues are important and necessary to keep us going! If you haven't already, please send in your dues now. Every membership helps. It makes a difference.

Hope to see you soon!

## HISTORIAN'S CORNER

By Dave Minnihan

Vic Harris, long time Council volunteer and alumni member, forwarded some copies of excerpts of the minutes from some of the Council's early Board meetings. Lots of interesting material. I'm including the minutes pertaining to camp.

April 24, 1919. The president announced the appointment of a "Camp Committee" as follows, J. P. Howe, L. B. Burck, Freeman Ford, E. S. Gossey, Dr. Edward H. Angle, and J. W. Reeder.

A report of the Catalina Camp was made by Mr. Trask and Mr. Lockwood to the effect that Wm Wrigley, Jr. had given the Pasadena Council Howland Landing for a permanent site.

May 15, 1919. A letter from the Santa Catalina Island Company was read which confirmed the use of Howland Landing as a Boy Scout camp.

June 6, 1919. Mr. Sloan moved, seconded by Mr. Snider that the camp committee be empowered to purchase equipment for the Catalina Island summer camp. Motion carried.

The Los Angeles Boy Scouts asked for the privilege of using the Pasadena Camp Site on Catalina Island. The matter was referred to Messrs C.C. Clark and Trask with powers to act.

July 14, 1919. Mr. Trask stated that a Ford truck would be necessary for camp use at Catalina. He was instructed to try and procure one possibly from the Red Cross Salvage Department.

July 10, 1920. It was announced that Scouts had cleaned over ½ ton of potatoes which had been hauled and stored by Chester Ambler of Troop #6, to be shipped to Catalina Island.

September 3, 1920. It was decided by the Board of Directors that the President should write letters to William Wrigley, Jr., D. M. Renton, and Howell McAdam for their cooperation through the camping season.

November 8, 1920. Bakersfield boy Scouts asked if they could use our Catalina Camps two weeks next June. Motion to approve was made by Stevens, seconded by Carpenter and carried. The Scout Executive was instructed to see if the Company would allow us to do this.

May 12, 1922. Mr. Stevens moved that the Crescent Bay District Council be allowed to use our Catalina Camp at a time Mr. Trask selected for them.

June 11, 1923. Following the reading of a letter from Mr. Dennis Stovall, and a letter written by the Scout Executive to the President of the Council, a motion was made by Mr. Carpenter and seconded by M. Delano that Mr. Stovall be employed as one of the assistant directors at the Catalina Camp.

July 2, 1923. The possibility of leasing Camp Cherry Valley at Catalina Island was discussed; the President was to communicate with Mr. D. M. Renton, Vice President and General Manager of Santa Catalina Island Company concerning same.

February 11, 1924. The President read a letter from Mr. D. M. Renton, Vice President and general Manager of the Catalina Island Company, in which he stated that "Cherry Valley" would again be available for Boy Scouts camps this summer. But it would be impossible at this time to give any information regarding a long-term lease because of the extensive mining operations going on at the lower end of the island.

Annual Report January 16, 1925. Last summer we conducted six ten-day camps at Cherry Valley on the lower end of Catalina Island, where Mr. William Wrigley, Jr. has set aside a campsite for us. At these six camps we had an attendance of 522 Scouts, 21 leaders, and 68 visitors. Scouts attended the summer camps from 50 different troops. These camps were self-supporting, the best of food was served, and the health of the camp was excellent. Through the help of the Pasadena Rotary, Pasadena Elks, and several individuals, it was possible for us to take the Scout Troop from the Boys and Girls Aid Society of South Pasadena to camp. Through the interest and the cooperation of the 24 Masonic Lodges in Los Angeles County, we were able to take the Scout Troop to camp from the California State Masonic Home at Covina. During the summer there were 1141 Second Class, First Class, and Merit Badge tests passed. Plans are now under way for extensive summer programs at Catalina this year.

October 12, 1925. The secretary gave a report on summer camp and the executive was instructed to write to L.L. Mc Donald, National Camp Director, calling attention to the fact that while our camp is on land not owned by the council, it would seem that our camp grade should not suffer by reason of the fact that it is impossible to own property on Catalina Island.

November 9, 1925. Mr. French reported on the Catalina Camp. A letter was read from Mr. Renton that read as follows: "I have your letter of the fourth relative to the Boy Scout camp site at Cherry Valley. "I am not unmindful of your wish for assurance of a somewhat permanent camp site. Yet the granting of a lease for a period of years on any part of the island is strictly at variance with the wishes of Mr. Wrigley's policies. The Santa Catalina Island Company and all of its officers have always felt keenly interested in all of these various boys camps we have here in the summer months and we have always tried to make them comfortable and happy. I can see nothing in the future that would keep you from using Cherry Valley for another three or four years, and even if it became necessary to devote this cove to mineral development or other purposes, we could always find another site for your encampments".

(continued on next page)

## HISTORIAN'S CORNER (cont.)

May 10, 1926. Executive spoke of fund accumulated from summer camp now amounting to \$1748. He suggested making a movie of the summer camp from start, including a full day's activities. Estimated cost would not be over \$300.00. It was moved, seconded and carried that a sum not to exceed \$300.00 be appropriated for this use.

July 12, 1926. The secretary was instructed to write a letter of thanks to C. C. Arnold, jewelers, for outdoor clock for Catalina Camp.

August 12, 1927. The purchase of four boats at \$25.00 each, for use at Cherry Valley, was approved by the board. These amounts to be paid out of the surplus of the 1927 camp fund. Thirty dollars for the purchase of raw materials was made, which will be delivered to Camp Huntington and made up into equipment to be used at Cherry Valley next summer. This amount will also be taken from the surplus summer camp fund.

## ACTIVITIES

### Staff Barbecue

We'll be going over to Camp on Saturday, July 17, for our annual steak barbecue for the Staff. This is a great chance to go over to camp for a weekend, get to know the Staff, and enjoy some great steaks. We'll have more information in the Spring Newsletter.

### Old Goats Weekend

September 10-12 will be the annual Old Goats Weekend. Alumni and their families are invited to come to camp for the weekend and enjoy the activities. There will be more information in the summer newsletter.

## CALENDAR

May 30	Newsletter article deadline
June 6-12	Staff Week at CCV
July 17-18	Staff Barbecue at CCV
August 30	Newsletter article deadline
Sept. 10-12	Old Goats Weekend at CCV

## OFFICERS

Chairman:	Ron Wood	woodfolly@aol.com
Secretary/Treasurer:	Morgan Morgan	bearmorgan@aol.com
Membership Chairman:	Rick Scobey	scobeyr@earthlink.net
Membership Coordinators:		
1950s:	Bill Gold	
1960s:	Mark Bevan	bevan@sbcglobal.net
1980s:	Frank Brundige	
1990s:	Al Garcia, Jr.	
Work Parties Chairman:	John Morales C	
CV Camp Liaison:	Bill Hartley	BHCCV@aol.com
Editor and Historian:	Dave Minnihan	dave.minnihan@bowne.com

CCVAA Web Site: [www.ccvaa.org](http://www.ccvaa.org)