

# Old Guard Gazette

A publication of The Old Guard of Camp Glen Gray - Established in 1914

501 (c) (3) Tax-Exempt Organization - PO BOX 43654, Upper Montclair NJ 07043-4654

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## Editor's Message

by Luis C. Pi-Sunyer OG '56

It has been way too long since our last GAZETTE and due apologies for not keeping our membership properly informed of how well things are going in camp!! It is hard to believe that we are already in our eighth year of supporting the Friends of Glen Gray, Inc. (FOGG) with their mandate to keep the camp open and operating as a wilderness laboratory for the benefit of the general public. The public/private partnership with the Bergen County Parks

Department has worked extremely well and both sides are very, very pleased with the way things are going!



With the support of many of you, plus the general public and campers who enjoy their overnight visits, the camp continues to provide enjoyable camping experiences in a facility that is well maintained and easily accessible.

Special kudos go out to Drew Baumgardt, the camp's Resident Caretaker, as well as the FOGG Trustees and Operating Committee, for providing the support to ensure that Glen Gray remains an attractive camping option for many years to come!

You should all be aware that the camp facilities have never looked better as work is constantly going on to upgrade and repair all the cabins, lean-tos, and tent sites. Work is done by many loyal volunteers who donate their time and talents on Beaver Days and other days when they simply coordinate with Drew to tackle a needed project. The list of completed tasks is lengthy and impressive! Key members of our Maintenance Committee include Pete Orrok, OG '08, Robert A. Brenneck, OG '67, Joseph A. Pastore, Sr., OG '67, Jerry Murnane, OG '07, Doug Morongell, OG '07, Randy Holden, OG '76, Brian Conner, OG '09, and Steven Beirach, OG '99.

We also need to thank many Eagle Scout

candidates now that their Service Projects can be done in camp. Since 2002, Drew has worked with many Life Scouts to coordinate a wide variety of improvements in camp!

Campmasters provide another much needed service to the camp by giving up all or part of a weekend to be in the Camp Office to meet and greet our campers and to be available for information and any sort of emergency. The Office and Living Quarters are very comfortable as we now have FIOS Wireless Internet Service and lots of TV channels, so people can actually get a clear picture!! The wood floors have also just been refinished and much of the old furniture moved out so that we have more space and less clutter! It looks great!!!

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## PROJECTS COMPLETED IN RECENT PAST

You will all be amazed and very pleased with the long list of completed projects!!

Special thanks go out to all those who volunteered to assist in some way:

1. **Tindall Lodge:** Propane gas lights installed and interior ceiling painted (Maintenance Committee)

2. **Channel Cabin:** 2 additional bunks installed. Now sleeps 14. (Maintenance Committee); interior paneling, painting of floor & ceiling, as well as new wood trim completed (Eagle project)

3. **Former Troop 5, Verona, Cabin:** put back in service for use by maintenance volunteers only. Completely cleaned out, 6 new bunks installed and new stove & stove pipe installed. (Maintenance Committee)

4. **Troop 2, Verona, Cabin:** 30 new bunks installed (Maintenance Committee); entire hardwood floor refinished (cabin sponsor expense)

5. **Old Guard Cabin (Sleepy Hollow);** reinforced concrete support pillars constructed (Maintenance Committee) I beam and reinforced steel support structure completed by James Construction of Oakland (donation)

6. **Dining Hall:** new roof installation completed (FOGG Trustee capital expense); all shingles donated for project (by Old Guard member)

7. **Headquarters Building:** office area hardwood floors refinished (FOGG trustee expense). Re-arranged furniture.

8. **Glen Cabin:** 2 additional bunks installed. Now sleeps 12. (Maintenance Committee); all hardwood floors refinished (FOGG Trustee expense); new stairs, railing & entrance landing built (Eagle project)

9. **Gray Cabin:** 2 additional bunks installed. Now sleeps 12. (Maintenance Committee); all hardwood floors refinished (FOGG Trustee expense); new stairs, railing & entrance landing built (Eagle project)

10. **Rotary Cabin:** 6 new sliding windows with screens installed (Maintenance Committee); interior of cabin painted (community service workers)

11. **Explorer Cabin:** new roof installation completed (Trustee capital expense); all shingles donated for project (by Old Guard member)

12. **Trail Maintenance:** 7 new trail map and information kiosks built & installed throughout camp (Eagle

project)

13. **Lean-to Rehabilitation:** Last of 8 Gilwell area lean-tos completely rebuilt (Eagle project)

14. **Tent Platforms:** 3 new tent platforms built at Gilwell area (Maintenance Committee)

15. **Tents:** 18 new tents purchased to replace unserviceable Scout tents & already used for family camp weekend

16. **Shed:** New propane storage facility built in maintenance yard (Eagle project)

17. **Latrine:** Bobcat Hollow latrine completely renovated including new roof. Site now has a new BBQ grill installed as well as new bench seat (Eagle project)



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**MAJOR FOGG CAPITAL PROJECT  
PLANNED AND IN PROGRESS:**

**Replacement of Headquarters Building  
Septic System:** This system serves the  
Office and Campmaster Quarters. The  
engineering design phase, soil tests and  
review by the Bergen County Health  
Department, as well as contractor selection,  
have all been completed and construction is  
underway!



**Dues Appeal:** Many of you no longer live near Oakland or Mahwah, so it is difficult for you to come and enjoy the camp and to help out with maintenance chores. Nevertheless, you can still play a very important role by keeping your Annual Dues current so that we can continue to help underwrite some of the expenses involved in keeping the camp up to snuff in every way possible!! All cash donations and gifts in kind are tax deductible and are very much appreciated!

In fact, some folks are amazed that the Glen Gray effort has proven such a success and that the public/private cooperative effort between FOGG and the Bergen County Parks Department has worked out so well. We should all want to support this effort as we look forward to many more years of serving the camp and the general public!

Annual Dues is \$10.00. If you have been somewhat remiss in keeping your dues payments current, won't you please consider sending us whatever amount you can? It would be highly appreciated if you could send us \$10 for every year that dues have not been paid. All checks should be made payable to: **The Old Guard of Camp Glen Gray** and mailed to: **PO BOX 43654, Upper Montclair NJ 07043-4654**

Dues assist with our annual donations to the camp for a variety of projects. They also help cover our GAZETTE printing and mailing expenses. Please be as generous as you can during these difficult times!!

In view of the disappointing number of Honored and General Members that do not keep their Annual Dues payments current, this issue of the GAZETTE is being sent via e-mail to as many Members as possible, to reduce costs. Those that do not have e-mail will receive the usual hard copy. If you receive the GAZETTE via e-mail but would prefer to receive it by hard copy please let me know at < [luispi@comcast.net](mailto:luispi@comcast.net) >.



**E-Mail Addresses.** PLEASE send all additions and/or corrections to our Treasurer, Arthur M. Franklin, at: < [Arthur@SFranklin.com](mailto:Arthur@SFranklin.com) >. He maintains our contact list and dues records, for which we thank him very much! We do not share our contact lists with anyone not involved with Camp Glen Gray.

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## YOU MAKE IT WORK!!

For yet another year we can be happy and proud that so many Old Guard members have seen fit to support the public/private partnership of the Bergen County Parks Department and the Friends of Glen Gray, Inc, to keep the camp open and operating for use by the general public.

With the dedicated assistance of many volunteers, offering the camp a wide variety of talents, an amazing amount of maintenance and upgrading of the camp facilities was accomplished. For those who have not been able to get up to camp to see all the new improvements, please visit our web site: [www.glengray.org](http://www.glengray.org). You can read all about each cabin, lean-to site, and/or tent site, to learn occupancy rates, amenities and fees. Photos are also available.

Considerable work got done at the two Beaver Days coordinated by Randy Holden, OG '76. New split rail fencing was installed by the Rotary Cabin; water run-off ditches were improved along some of the roads; plumbing/gas lamp projects at several locations

Cabin Sponsors continue to assist with the maintenance of "their" cabins. Donald Cabin looks better every visit, Troop 2, Verona, arranged to remove all of the bunks and furniture from the cabin so the entire wood floor could be refinished. It looks great! Troop 12, Montclair, Troop 13, Montclair, Troop 6, West Orange (Benedict lodge), Troop 31, Ramsey, (Price Cabin), Troop 132, Old Tappan (Explorer Cabin), and Troop 23, Bloomfield, (Gilwell Cabin) keep the cabins

and surroundings neat and clean; Troop 22, Bloomfield, (Tindall Lodge) has done some interior painting and arranged for exterior staining.

Thanks to some volunteers, including some Community Service workers, the Camp Office and the Glen and Gray Cabins were emptied of all furniture so that the wood floors could be refinished. Lots of work but the finished products look terrific!!!



It is very regrettable that Sleepy Hollow has not been properly maintained, especially after all the hard work and expense that FOGG crews provided to reinforce the foundation!! Old Guard members are most

definitely needed to coordinate a rehabilitation plan. Suggestions include a new "kitchen counter" with a dry sink and a 4 burner countertop propane cooking unit. We also need to repair/replace the wood stove as it does a very poor job of heating the cabin in winter. New light fixtures and chinking of walls are also advisable projects.

If you can and will help with this project, please contact one of the Officers or Trustees!



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## **Calling of New Honored Members:**



It is with great appreciation that four individuals have been recognized for their exceptional contributions to the workings of Camp Glen Gray. Our new policy is to pre-advise Honorees so that they can make every effort to attend the impressive Calling ceremony with their family and friends.

This year's honorees are:

- **Jerry Graham:** an active leader with Troop 2, Verona. Jerry has helped out at many of our Beaver Days and also comes up to camp, as and when needed. He is very skilled at staining buildings and fixing things!

- **Les Litchfield:** provides considerable assistance to maintenance projects throughout camp.

- **Thomas Mosher:** Formerly a Bergen County Parks Department employee who so enjoys his time in camp that he volunteers for all sorts of jobs and provides outstanding support to Drew. He is now

training with the New York Police Department so we wish him well and we are confident that we will still see him in camp often!

- **Stanton ("Tom") Weissenborn:** Tom was instrumental in setting up the initial FOGG Investment Committee to manage the FOGG contributions and accounts. He helped write the Investment Policy and continues to consult on how best to invest the FOGG funds.



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### **CONGRATULATIONS TO 2009 HONOREES - LISTED AT LAST - WELCOME!!!**

\***Gina Conner:** Gina volunteers as staff for a variety of events and serves as a Campmaster. As Brian's loyal spouse, she supports his many hours in camp fixing and upgrading the tired water systems.

\***Joanne and Leonard Glenn:** This husband/wife team was "Called" as they have been faithful Campmasters for several years while their three Eagle Scout sons were camping with Troop 12, Montclair.

\***Cathy Lee and Brian Lee, Sr.:** Another couple that has served as staff for a variety of events for several years. Always there when we need some extra help!

\* **Nancy McNamara:** Nancy is the lucky one who gets to live in camp, as Drew's partner!! She is usually seen in the Dining Hall and Kitchen helping out with feeding multitudes and then doing the much needed clean-up! Thank her, and Drew, every time you find a spotless Dining Hall and Kitchen!

\***John Thompson:** a loyal supporter of the Glen for several years who helps out on Beaver Days and keeps an eagle eye out for items that Ramapo College no longer wants but which we can use! His major coup was salvaging all the wooden bunks that have been installed in most of the cabins! (The Army cots are no more...!!!).

\***Lorraine Vanyo:** Another loyal Old Guard spouse who has served as staff for a variety of events and also volunteers as Campmaster with her good husband, Charlie.

\***Paul R. Wilson:** We benefit from Paul's flexibility to help us out for last minute Campmaster and maintenance projects. His Troop 22, Bloomfield, sponsors the Tindall Lodge and the cabin is in excellent shape thanks to new gas lamps, indoor painting and exterior staining.



**Again, CONGRATULATIONS to all our 2009 & 2010 Honored Members!!!**

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## Glen Gray Fellows Award:

This award recognizes new faces getting involved in some way in the camp operation. We hope that they are having good experiences and will continue to provide their support to the overall effort.

In 2010 we honored the following volunteers:

- **Steven Garelick:** Steve has volunteered to staff a variety of events held in camp to attract new campers. Thanks to his very active parents, Nancy and Ira, we are confident that we will continue to benefit from Steven's help!
- **Malcolm Ginsberg:** Mal helps plan and staff several of our events and has great enthusiasm for contributing to the Glen Gray effort!
- **Brian Lee, Jr. and Justin Lee:** These two brothers have been on staff for a good number of our events. Their parents, Cathy and Brian, are very involved with camp activities so it is only natural that their sons are following the same trail!
- **Greg Nitkowski:** Greg has been a General Member since 2001, which reflects his ongoing

interest in what happens with Glen Gray. His primary area of interest has been in supporting short wave radio activities. He teaches interested campers about short wave radio and he also helps repair radios. He has also helped install antennas up at Sleepy Hollow.

In 2009 we honored:

- **Brandon Lees:** A "graduate" of Troop 12, Montclair, who has served as Campmaster several weekends a year for several years. He has also introduced numerous friends to Glen Gray.
- **Lamont McCoy:** Also a "graduate" of Troop 12, Montclair, who has served as Campmaster with Brandon several weekends a year for several years. He also has introduced friends to camp.
- **Vincent Nascone:** Vince is currently an Assistant Scoutmaster with Troop 17, Short Hills, and during his tenure as a Cubmaster, he brought his Pack to Glen Gray. He has also served on staff for several BALOO Training Sessions as well as Family Camp.

## Annual Meeting and Brunch:

Please mark your calendars to save Sunday, January 9, 2011, at noon, for our annual gathering up in camp. This is an ideal opportunity to meet and greet Old Guard members, old and new, and to enjoy a

sumptuous brunch. We then conclude with our Annual Meeting to accomplish some business and to hold our Annual election of Officers and one Trustee. (Joseph Fucito, OG '77, will have served his 5 year term so a replacement will be

nominated for The Membership's Consideration and vote).



## FOGG's Homecoming and Hall of Fame Induction:

This year's gathering will be held in camp on Sunday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, from 3 pm to 6 pm. **Save the Date** postcards and invitations have been mailed so if you did not receive either one, please let us know ASAP so we can correct our mailing list!

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## HONOREES FOR 2010 HALL OF FAME - MOST DESERVING OF RECOGNITION

- James Decker Hayes, Jr., (in memoriam). Mr. Hayes was very active in the Verona Scouting program and also very involved with training of leaders throughout the District and Council. We will be especially honored to have his three sons and their families present to receive this award.

- Robert A. Brenneck, OG '67
- Joseph A. Pastore, Sr. OG '67 Both these loyal supporters of Glen Gray have a long history with the camp and both were Called to the Old Guard in 1967. Since then, they have always been involved in some way, especially since FOGG took on responsibility for operating the camp. They have been involved in many repair and upgrade projects in camp including the Dining Hall, Benedict Lodge, Rotary Cabin, Maintenance Yard Tool Shed, Library/Museum, Gilwell Latrine, and Glen and Gray Cabins. Their "Eagle

Rock Group" of volunteers, (also known as the Dream Team") have been remarkably active and a huge support for Drew!

We encourage Old Guard members to come to camp on October 17th, not only to honor these three friends of Glen Gray, but also to take some time to walk around the camp for a sentimental journey and to see how well everything looks!



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### 2009 HALL OF FAME HONOREES RECOGNIZED

Last year we were very pleased to honor William C. Moodie, Sr. (in memoriam), and Joseph M. Fucito, OG '77, and Robert J. Prout, OG '79. The presentations were made by Howard K. Tober, OG '40, to William C. Moodie, Jr.; by Father Donald K. Hummel, OG '65, to Joseph Fucito; and by Richard Sinton OG '05, and Steven Janett, to Robert J. Prout.

We all enjoyed a beautiful fall day and sincerest thanks went

out to the dinner crew comprising Drew Baumgardt, Nancy McNamara, OG '09, Greg Spinelli, OG '05, Carol Pinkus, OG '95 and Arthur Pinkus, OG '08.

Our special invitees were the Eagle Scouts who completed their very helpful projects in camp. Drew Baumgardt works directly with the Scouts involved to ensure that the projects meet all requirements and will serve the camp well.

***CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL FOR THIS WELL DESERVED RECOGNITION!!!!***



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### **Special Thanks to Al Bentley, OG '94:**

If you ever want to hike in Glen Gray, just call Al as he has been hiking **ALL** of the trails, taking copious notes, and updating all of the trail hike descriptions!!! A super job and one which all of our hiking visitors appreciate! Check out the hike descriptions on the yellow sheets found in the Camp Office!

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**THE GLEN HOSTS  
BASIC ADULT LEADER  
OUTDOOR  
ORIENTATION (BALOO)  
TRAINING:**

Once again, the Northern New Jersey Council-BSA, selected Glen Gray to host the two 2009 training sessions for new Cub Scout parents and leaders. The Old Guard recruited the appropriate staff for both events and hosted 63 visitors and staff on March 28, 2009, and another 50 on December 5, 2009.

Very regrettably, due to NNJC-BSA budgetary and property management considerations, the future BALOO training sessions will only be held in NNJC-BSA camps. Therefore, our staff has elected NOT to participate unless or until the program can revert to Camp Glen Gray!

**Member News:**

We are very sorry to report the deaths of the following Old Guard members:

- John C. Anderson, OG '66
- Burton D. Lewis, OG '88
- Martin J. Bross, Jr., OG '74
- Louis Malachowsky, OG '95
- George J. Kilgen, Jr. OG '04
- George S. Reed, OG '69
- Joseph W. Goodwin, OG '47
- Henry R. Wilsey, OG '55

**THREE ANNIVERSARIES  
TO KEEP IN MIND:**

- In 2013 we commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> birthday of Uncle Frank Gray, the founder of Glen Gray, Take a look at the picture below. It is a nineteenth-century portrait of Frank Fellows Gray, long before he became “Uncle,” long before campfires in the Glen, when he was principal of the “School for Delinquents, Incorrigibles, and Slow to Learn” in Montclair.

We think of Uncle as a Scoutmaster in Montclair, a confidant of Lord Baden-Powell, and, of course, the founder and namesake of Camp Glen Gray. It's easy to forget that he was once a young man poised to make his mark in the world as many of us have sought to do.



Frank Fellows Gray “Uncle”  
1863-1935



When you visit the Library and Museum at Camp Glen Gray you'll be able to reacquaint yourself with the words and deeds of one of the architects of the Scouting movement in New Jersey. You'll see a collection of Frank Gray memorabilia, including his personal Bible and piccolo, as well as a pictorial history of his camp in the Ramapo's. And you'll learn about the ways we plan to commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his birth in 2013.

We hope to see you in camp!

- In 2014 we celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of The Old Guard of Camp Glen Gray.
- In 2017 we celebrate the centennial of Camp Glen Gray itself.

If you would like to become involved in planning appropriate celebratory events, please contact our Historian, Charles F. Vanyo, Jr., at < [cubcamp@aol.com](mailto:cubcamp@aol.com) > or at 973-227-2879.

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**Fall Beaver Day will be held on Saturday,  
September 25<sup>th</sup>!!!!**

**Won't you please make the effort to come up and help?  
Please let Randy Holden know if you can help!  
[jerseytrader@hotmail.com](mailto:jerseytrader@hotmail.com) or 973-280-6425**

**Dates to Remember in 2010  
and 2011:**

Saturday, September 25:

Hike-O-Rama Event

Saturday, September 25:

Beaver Day

Saturday, October 9/10:

Spook-A-Ree Event

Saturday, October 17:

Homecoming and Hall of Fame  
Induction

Saturday, November 13:

Paul Bunyan Event

Saturday, November 13:

Calling of Honored Members  
and presentation of Glen Gray Fellows  
Awards

Sunday, January 9, 2011:

Annual Meeting, Brunch, &  
Election



Saturday, January 22, 2011:

Broken Arrow District  
Klondike Derby

Saturday, January 29, 2011:

Orange Mountains District  
Klondike Derby

Saturday, April 23, 2011:

Beaver Day

Saturday, April 29/30, 2011:

Gal Overnight Event

Sunday, May 14, 2011:

Merit Badge Fair

Saturday, June 12, 2011:

Waterfront Set-up

Friday-Sunday, July 22/24, 2011:

Family Camp Weekend

Saturday, September 24, 2011:

Beaver Day



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## **Herbert Arthur Lewis:**

by Charles F. Vanyo, Jr., OG '76

I've got to admit, I thought I'd have the Glen Gray archives catalogued by now. But life has intervened in a number of different ways over the past few years, and there is so much work still to do. One thing I have managed to complete is what I think is a comprehensive list of all of the men and women inducted into the Old Guard since it's founding in 1914. Excluding this year's honorees, I count 768 members of the Old Guard, past and present. More than two dozen of these names need verification, however; some appear on earlier rosters from the 1940's but make no appearances afterwards. Some seem to be duplicates. But the fact remains that there are over 700 names gracing our cumulative roster.

One name conspicuous by its absence is that of Herbert Arthur Lewis. A history of the construction work begun during the winter of 1917-18 at Camp Glen Gray, recounted in a 1932 Montclair Times article, credited Lewis "for his hardihood during the severe winter in building the mess shack, kitchen, ice house, and digging a well so that the camp could have a supply of good water." This same article, referenced in *Thirty Years of Scout Camping*, noted that "Lewis distinguished himself also in constructing a hospital on plans made by Mr. (Frank)

Gray in 1918." Herbert Arthur Lewis, affectionately known as "Chef," was a "West Indian mulatto" who "had no love for the wintry cold of the Ramapos." He was "the autocrat of the kitchen" who cooked for "a large crowd of ravenous Scouts" until the end of the 1920 camping season. He then apparently disappears from the narrative of Camp Glen Gray. But then – do any of us remember seeing a picture in a past Gazette or two of a young man, probably of West Indian descent, playing an organ in the old Library at Camp. Could this be Herbert Arthur Lewis?

And I thought, wouldn't it be fitting to give Mr. Lewis his due by belatedly welcoming him into the Old Guard? I don't think we've ever inducted anyone posthumously. I don't know if there are or ever were any family members who would acknowledge his induction. I'd hate to think that his omission from the Old Guard may have been a casualty of a less-enlightened time in our culture. But there's something very nice in publicly remembering the man who, among other things, ignited the reveille firecracker at Camp Glen Gray's Fourth of July Celebration in 1920.

We just need to add his name to the Calling this year. And I think, wherever he may be, he would appreciate the gesture.

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## **'UNCLE' REMEMBERED AS SCOUTS CELEBRATE THEIR 100<sup>th</sup>**

by Randy Holden, OG '76

As scouts and visitors gathered at the Fort. A. P. Hill Army Base in Caroline County, Virginia to help celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America, 'Uncle' was remembered in a memorabilia display. While we regard him as one of our own, he is one of BSA's early pioneers strictly using Sir Robert S. S. Baden-Powell's Scouting for Boys program.

At the OA Show, Mysterium Compass, there was a 'Vault' exhibiting some of the best and rarest memorabilia ever assembled. This 16,000 square foot museum was one of the largest displays of artifacts issued by the BSA in its first hundred years. For those that didn't get to see it or visited the exhibit earlier in the week (the Glen Gray exhibit was delayed by the SCF executive director). See highlights on next page.



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## Highlight of Uncle's Work

\*Visited the 1907 and attended the 1908 Brownsea Camp while living abroad for a year  
'Uncle', a Scotsman, is believed to have started Scotland's first troop in Glasgow in January 1908, taking these boys to Brownsea in 1908

\*Founder of what many consider to be the first Boy Scout Troop in the United States **based on the Baden-Powell system of Scouting**, Montclair, New Jersey, March 9, 1909

\*Ernest Thompson Seton, Chief Scout, visited Montclair to address the scouts, December 9, 1910

\*Montclair Council on Scouting formed, February 2, 1911

\*Believed to have organized the *first* real Boy Scout Camp in the United States on Dudley Island, Summer 1911

\*Sir Robert S. S. Baden-Powell on his visit to Montclair bestowed his name exclusively on Mr. Gray's Troop, an honor enjoyed by no other troop in the world, February 2, 1912

\*First film viewing of the British Boy Scout activities in the US in which Sir Robert took a seat in the audience to get a better view for picture show he had not seen

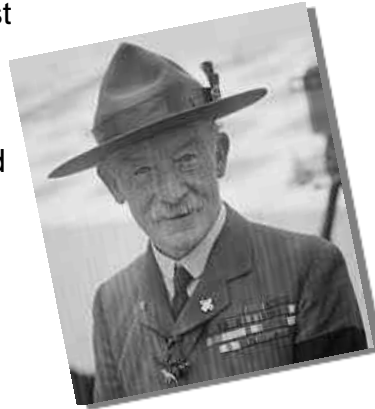
\*One of the organizers of the Girl Scout Movement in the area, 1912-1913

\*Named Scout Commissioner of Montclair Council, 1913

\*One of several letters, by B-P, to the Patrol Leaders of Troop 4 Montclair, 1914

\*Founded the 'Old Guard', an honor society for preservation of 'scout camping'

\*Awarded Montclair's first Eagle Scout Award to Howard Utter, Autumn of 1915



\*Developed and started the Senior Division in Scouting, 1915

*Lord Baden-Powell  
1847- 1941*

\*Founder and namesake of Camp Glen Gray May 1917

\*Organized many World War I relief efforts (War Loans, Thrift Stamp, raising over two million dollars), including the Emergency Coast Guard, April 15, 1917

\*Musician (piccolo), author, songwriter, poet, and above all, an exceptional organizer and a great teacher to all the youth using Baden-Powell's principles of Scouting.

### An Invitation

Come, sit a while with me  
Up in the old cabin shade,  
If the day is hot,  
There's a cool verandah,  
And if there's a chill,  
There's a wood fire on the hearth,  
And there's a book to read  
Or chance to write a letter home.  
So come sit a while with me  
And talk about the old times and new  
In the cabin by the lake.

'Uncle' 1935



WE ARE TRYING TO CONSERVE BOTH TREES AND MAILING COSTS

If you can enjoy this newsletter on-line, or print out a copy for yourself, it will save the Old Guard money which we can use for other projects. We can also include colored photos, which are prohibitively expensive to print. If you do not have email, we are sending this to you in black and white, but you may go to the Glen Gray website to see the Gazette in full color.

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## AN EXPLOSION OF PROGRAMS!



### **HOT TIMES AT FAMILY CAMP- July 23-25, 2010**

by Nancy Garelick, OG '06

It was hot, hot, hot, but family campers still managed to have fun, fun, fun. The weekend of July 23 family campers checked into Camp Glen Gray for the annual family camp weekend. A total of 128 campers arrived on Friday night, enjoyed ice-cream sundaes and danced the night away to the tunes played by DJ Bill Plax of Peez-Out Productions. And, that's not all that happened on Friday night; the campers endured a violent thunderstorm with gusty winds and downpours. I am happy to report that all tents had been pitched and all gear had been delivered in record time before the storm hit. And, all tents were staked firmly in the dry ground and endured the punishing storm.

New to camp this year is the introduction of Camp Glen Gray's tent city, the Gilwell campsite. Our old green canvas tents that are begging to be retired are being replaced with the brand new

dome style tents that sleep up to six people. These new tents were set-up in the lean-to's at Gilwell and three new larger sized platforms were built just for the occasion.

Saturday morning all campers gathered in the dining hall for a delicious home-cooked breakfast by our family camp chefs, Scott, Dave and Luis. After breakfast, the campers headed out to the program areas while some signed up for the Millstone Trail hike led by hike masters Ira, Charlie and Al. Due to the heat, the hikers took their time, rested along the trail, and all made it back safely in time for lunch.

After lunch the program areas reopened for more outdoor fun. The busiest areas were the waterslide at Mary Post field and the swimming in Lake Vreeland. The cash register in the Trading Post kept busy by ringing up cold beverages and ice-cream. Hydration was the keyword of the day.

After a delicious chicken dinner the campers headed to the Amphitheatre for games of football toss, peacock feather relay races and beanbag games, to name a few, and also to enjoy ice-cold watermelon. The traditional campfire of songs, skits and cheers led by the staff and some of the campers followed the games. Incidentally, I believe the campfires built by Brian and Brian were seen from as far as the Cape May

believe the campfires built by Brian and Brian were seen from as far as the Cape May lighthouse! Then it was head back to the campsites to enjoy the last evening at Camp Glen Gray with your family. After breakfast on Sunday morning it was pack up and head for home, with the car air conditioner blasting away.

Thanks to all the volunteers at family camp, Scott, Dave, Nancy P, Nancy M, Luis, Brian, Gina, Marc, Cathy, Linda, Lorraine, Ira, Charlie, Al, Steve, Jake, Michelle, Kevin, Justin, Brian, Emily and Chelsea. And, of course, thanks to Drew for being the backbone of family camp.

### **UPCOMING PROGRAMS:**

#### ● **HIKE-O-RAMA**

The first ever Hike-O-Rama at Camp Glen Gray is scheduled for Saturday, September 25. A few reservations have already been made and promotions to local newspapers are being submitted. This is a great way to get your pack or troop off to a great start or to start a family tradition of an early fall hike at Glen Gray. A small fee is charged for day hikers but if you are camping for the weekend the fee is waived. There will be a Hiker's Banquet followed by a S'mores making campfire at the end of the day. For complete information, or to make a reservation, see on our web site.

*Continued on last page*

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## GLEN GRAY FIRE REMEMBERED



*The following passage from Seasoned With Salt, By Mary Travis Army, recounts the fire that took place at the Glen in the 1940's.*

*The Robert referred to, is the late Robert Allen Arny, Life Scout, merit badge counselor and committee member of Troop 9, Montclair, and a proud general member of the Old Guard of Camp Glen Gray.*

A spiral of smoke curls up into the autumn sky and the phones begin to ring. "There's a fire at Glen Gray and it's creeping pretty close to the Scout camp. Will you come and give a hand?"

Robert drove the old Ford up the narrow track in the valley. Smoke billowed across the whole mountain, scorching, choking, blinding. Here and there sparks leaped the trail from crown to crown in the pines, and a roar would be followed by an explosion from the sap in the trunk and

flaming torches would fall on the roadbed. Those who saw them stamped out the fire with their feet and dragged the branches out of the way.

We left the car by the lake, dragged shovels and burlap bags from the rumble seat, and I started to run. Robert put out his hand. "Don't fall flat on your face in the first fifty yards of a mile run, Sugar." I slowed to a walk.

The cabins of the Scout camp, built by generations of boys and men, stared across the woods, their window eyes gaping in fear. The flames crept through the underbrush, nearer and nearer. Little licking tongues of flame kissed a dry leaf, consumed it, and with profligate passion went on to its neighbor. The woods were dry, so dry that the dust and ashes blew in a fine penetrating powder into our nostrils and our mouths. Blackened trees stood stark and smouldering. Men, women, boys, girls, sweat-sodden and sooty, flogged the advancing fire with soaking bags in endless rhythm.

Children so small they had to double up to lug them, carried buckets of water, and a woman from a nearby farm, wearing a fantastic brown sunbonnet and long skirts, swayed tirelessly between her dungaree-clad sisters and the lake, bearing buckets on a yoke across her shoulders.

Shovels clanged on rock, digging fire breaks, and suddenly a doe, with twin fawns, leaped between the tired men and women.

Panic, heat, and smoke had driven her into the midst of her enemies. No one offered her harm. She stood absolutely still, her nostrils wide, and then walked slowly to the shore and drank quietly among the bustling water carriers.

Rabbits darted out of the underbrush, flocks of jays went over, screaming imprecations. The circle of the fire narrowed. The distance to the cabins decreased.

For three days and nights we, and our neighbors fought that fire. It was a blessed release to have something tangible to battle. For three days and nights the fire moved inexorably closer to the cabins. Fire hoses, which had been brought in, began to crumble from the sustained pressure. People began to crumble too, but always there was a line of swinging shoulders, and finally the fire was quenched.

There weren't any spectacular heroes at the fire. They were just our neighbors, fighting to save a dream and a memory. But when I saw the line of tired friends, leaning on shovels, sitting on logs, bathing their sooty faces in the pond, and smiling, something happened to me that was good.

And when next day I saw blue dungarees, clean and mended, flying like banners of victory from the clothesline... all of a sudden just like that, I wasn't afraid for my children any more.



*This fire occurred during the Second World War. The author had been writing of how she feared for her children in a world, seemingly gone mad, but the fellowship and teamwork of fighting the fire at the Glen, helped her to see that there was still good in the world and that caring people would always be willing to risk and to work to protect dreams.*

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## UPCOMING PROGRAMS (cont')

- **SPOOK-A-REE**

Spook-A-Ree Two is back in full force and set for Saturday, October 9 and 10. This year the program will be limited to 300 paid participants. This Halloween themed event is planned for the elementary age child with their parents or group leadership. Reservations are now open and complete information is on the web site.

- **PAUL BUNYAN PIONEERING WEEKEND**

New to Glen Gray and promising to be an annual fall event, is the pioneering

weekend for November 12, 13 and 14. The event is currently under construction. But, some



of the sneak-peek preview plans include hands-on lessons in knots, lashing and ropes. Then, use these skills to make camp gadgets or lash together an A-frame bridge. There will be a



pioneering relay and competitive games along with making toys pioneer kids played with and cooking demonstrations with some taste testing. This event is for all ages and includes families, groups, Cub Scout Packs, Boy Scout Troops and Brownies and Girl Scouts. Complete information will be available end of September so stay tuned and keep a close eye on the web site. This event will be limited to 300 participants. I did hear something about a planned Night Watch, interesting...

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