

## **Bill Roth: pathways to service**

By MAC MCLEAN Class of 1988

#### **MARTY TSCHETTER**

Class of 1996

In late August, Bill Roth picked up Larry McCollough at Philmont Scout Ranch after his staff contract ended. Headed to the 1954 National OA Conference, they still had a full day of driving to get to Laramie, Wyoming. A student at Wake Forest, the previous year Larry served as chief of Occoneechee Lodge, based in Raleigh, North Carolina. Receiving the Vigil Honor only the year before, and one of the first youth recipients in the state, he embraced a special responsibility, that being to perform the Vigil Honor ceremony at the conference. The long hours on the road afforded preparation time reciting the lines of the chief. Larry shared, "I'm confident Bill suggested my selection for that job--and for my having been one of the first young Vigils in our area. I didn't know about his backstage maneuvering, because that is the way he worked: putting some young person out front to get the glory, while he worked quietly out of sight to get things done." Such an example demonstrates one of Bill Roth's paths to service.

Born on January 12, 1929 in Hartsdale, New York, William Stanley Roth joined Troop 500 in New York City in 1942. Led by a crackerjack Scoutmaster, he excelled at the various leadership responsibilities. In 1944, the troop attended Camp Manhattan the first week of the summer and Bill became an Ordeal member of Man-A-Hattin Lodge. At the end of the week the camp director hired him for the dining hall staff for the remainder of the season. Returning for five more summers, he worked with brothers Al Nichols (Class of 1940) and lodge chief Noel Zakin (Class of 1975), earning Brotherhood, and progressing into management roles. After graduation in 1946, he enrolled at the Asheville-Biltmore College in North Carolina and got heavily involved in Tsali Lodge and a local troop.

Two years later he served as assistant camp director at Camp Daniel Boone and in April 1949 became the lodge's first Vigil Honor recipient with the name "The Great Warrior." Bill transferred to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in the fall of 1948, finishing a degree in business administration in May of 1950, and earned Eagle Scout in the fall.



Bill Roth

Three years later he finished all the coursework for a PhD in industrial relations, but in lieu of completing the degree, he opted to enter professional Scouting. By the 1952 NOAC, Roth's Scouting resume included strong youthful leadership in two lodges and also in Area 6A. At the conference he edited the newsletter,

see **ROTH**, page 5

# William Wadsworth: champion of high adventure

By MARTY TSCHETTER

Class of 1996

Throughout his professional Scouting career, William Hunter Wadsworth aimed to provide youth with the finest outdoor adventure experience possible. Bill developed a deep affection for the outdoors growing up as an adolescent in Fulton, New York, near the southeastern shore of Lake Ontario. His maternal

lineage owned the Hunter Arms Company, a well-known sporting arms maker from 1899-1950, providing an early interest in camping and hunting with both gun and bow. His father served on the Oswego County Council camping committee, which developed Camp Twelve Pines, where Bill and his brother Robert worked on staff. Both earned Eagle Scout, Bill in 1930.

Born on March 25, 1916, Bill attended Syracuse University, earning varsity letters on the swim and

ski teams. As a senior he served as president of Psi Upsilon Fraternity before graduating in 1938 from the Syracuse University Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs. While in college he worked at Tanager Lodge, a private coed camp in the Adirondacks. The camp owner, Fay Welch, worked on the Syracuse faculty at the college of forestry and also as an important

see **WADSWORTH**, page 7



Arrowmen trading patches at the 1938 National Lodge Meeting at Irondale Scout Reservation.



In 1962 Gamenowinink Lodge 555 received a lodge charter thus allowing BSA members overseas to become Arrowmen.



In 1988, adult women become eligible for the OA. Kay Trick became the first woman to serve on the national OA committee and the first to receive the DSA in 2009.



## **LEADERSHIP**

#### **RAY CAPP**

National Chairman, Class of 1973

#### MICHAEL THOMPSON

Vice Chairman, Class of 2006 Recognition and Awards

## **CRAIG SALAZAR**

Vice Chairman, Class of 1994 Communications and Marketing

#### **CLYDE MAYER**

Director, Class of 1998

## MATT DUKEMAN

OA Specialist, Class of 2004

#### MATT BROWN

National Chief

## JORDAN HUGHES

National Vice Chief

## MARTY TSCHETTER

Editor, Class of 1996

## JEFFREY ST. CYR

Layout Editor, Class of 2012

## ORDER OF THE ARROW BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

1325 West Walnut Hill Lane P.O. Box 152079 Irving, Texas 75015-2079

The Silver Arrowhead is distributed two times each year via electronic communication to recipients of the Order of the Arrow Distinguished Service Award. Articles, photographs, and updates may be sent to <a href="mailto:stephanie.jordan@scouting.org">stephanie.jordan@scouting.org</a>.

## **ON THE COVER**



1952 NOAC Alpha Phi Omega gathering at the University of Miami. Bill Roth, back row, second from right. The Miami University Zeta Delta Chapter provided service led by past chapter president and Chairman of the Arrangements Committee Roy L. Henderson, who worked on the OA planning committee. They also manned a booth answering questions and distributing literature about the fraternity.

# Do you have a letter from E. Urner Goodman?

The OA Archive is searching for copies of original letters from E. Urner Goodman for use in activities relating to the Order's 100th anniversary. Please let us know ifyou received a letter from

our founder and would consider sharing. We do not need the original. Please email the editor at <a href="mailto:mbtschetter@suddenlink.net">mbtschetter@suddenlink.net</a> for further information and assistance.



1951 retirement photo.



1956 NOAC by Dwight Bischel.



1948 OA Handbook.



1954 NOAC by Dwight Bischel.

## Why should I support the OA endowment right now?

By TOBY CAPPS Class of 2009

The National OA Endowment embodies many wonderful involvement opportunities for Arrowmen of all ages and stages in life. Previously we mentioned the Goodman Society, the recently introduced Legacy Fellowship, and even the new OA credit card. Detailed information exists on the national OA website.

I want to share a family situation that helps answer the question, "Why should I support the OA Endowment right now?" My Mom, Dad, and I became a part of the Scouting family when I became a Cub Scout. This began what is now nearly a 50-year relationship with the organization that we all love so much. My parents lived during the amazing generation that sacrificed all of their own desires to support anything and everything that their kids wanted to do, or try in life.

Mom served as a Den Mother, my Dad a Cubmaster, and then became a Scoutmaster a few years after I joined Boy Scouts. He then went on to continue as Scoutmaster for another 30 years after I earned Eagle Scout and moved away for college. Mom and Dad continued spending their summers serving as commissioners at Scout camps, when Dad wasn't busy attending jamborees or going on 50-milers with the troop. In other words, Scouting endured throughout their lives, and they loved every minute of it. So when it came time to prepare wills, and make determinations about their future financial gifts, I expected that the

OA and Boy Scouts would remain a prominent role in their plans.

A few years ago, my wife and I attended the National BSA Annual Meeting in Dallas, I received a phone call from a doctor telling me that Dad recently had surgery and we needed to return to Washington State as soon as possible. Mom passed away a couple of years earlier after a short battle with cancer, so Dad decided not to tell us that he scheduled prostate surgery while we focused on the meeting.

The doctor explained he suffered a rare type of stroke during the surgery that caused total loss of memory and needed to be moved into an assisted living home immediately. As we arrived to see Dad for the first time, it certainly took us aback to realize that he had no recollection about his past. This began a nearly five-year journey, to where we are today, watching his life completely changed by dementia. Nearly every week I think about my Scouting and Order of the Arrow experiences and Dad has no recall of who I am or any of our shared time in Scouting. My wife and I had to take over the handling of his finances, and realized that because of the sudden onset of the dementia, he never updated his will from decades ago to include his wishes to honor the organization he spent the majority of his life serving.

The National OA Endowment provides so many wonderful ways to give future financial support to the organization we all love so much, and will assure that these programs will continue to operate for



Bob, Mabel, Toby, and Holly Capps, 1967.

generations to come. The scholarships, programs, and leadership opportunities we provide can only be continued with the financial support of each and every one of us. Like so many things in my own life, it is always easy to say, "I'll do that tomorrow, when I have more time." Well, as my Dad's story shows, occasionally the perfect plans we made for our lives don't always work out the way we intend. For the sake of the generations of Arrowmen to come behind us, I humbly ask you each to take the time today to sign on to the OA website at <a href="https://www.oa-bsa.org">www.oa-bsa.org</a> and pledge your support. Thank you for all you do.

# From the Chairman, Ray Capp

My Brothers,

This summer, the Order of the Arrow continues its century of service by supporting the 2013 National Jamboree with 700 dedicated staff members. For the first time in a generation, this gathering will start using a new site: The Summit-Bechtel Family Scout Reserve near Beckley, WV. Our Arrowmen will serve as Jamboree Trek Guides, Day of Service Guides, OA Indian Village staff and the OA Service Corps, supporting a variety of new and traditional events. This will stand as the largest OA Service Corps contingent since we first supported the jamboree in 1950.

We are also beginning to plan the Order's 100th anniversary, which will culminate at the NOAC at Michigan State in 2015. You are all invited! We hope you can join what we hope to be 10,000 Arrowmen from across the country. This year, we asked lodges to send in a rock, inscribed with their lodge name and headquarter city which we will use to build a new Brotherhood Fireplace. Next year, each lodge is asked to send in a 16x20 painting by a youth member to commemorate some aspect

of their lodge history. Finally, in 2014, lodges will complete a thorough lodge history of the OA for their council. We hope you can see the display of all these materials in Michigan.

The Order of the Arrow is continuing its focus on helping lodges, chapters, and units succeed. We created and distributed in rapid succession the following materials: Chapter Operations Guide, a new Troop Rep (and Adviser) program, an OA Unit of Excellence Award, Professional Scouters' Guidebook, Volunteer OA Advisers' Guidebook, as well as a best practices repository for chapter and lodge ideas.

The legacy you have left the OA is alive and well.

Thank you for your pioneering work.



Ray Capp National Chairman



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA | THE SILVER ARROWHEAD - PAGE 3

# **Arrowmen serving Scouting and their community**

National OA Committeeman *Dr. Chris Grove* (Class of 2006) from Troy, Ohio was recently appointed to the board of trustees of Edison Community College by the Governor of Ohio.

**Jason Hood** (Class of 1983) was recently named the Area Six President for the Southern Region.

Randy Cline (Class of 1973) recently finished serving as the Area Six President for the Northeast Region. Recently nominated for the Northeast Region Commissioner, he will stand for election at the BSA National Annual Meeting.

Tom Fitzgibbon (Class of 2009) was recently promoted to Assistant Chief Scout Executive of Council Support. Under his leadership, the Human Resources Group, Regional Operations Department, Youth Protection Team, and All Markets Strategy will



Tom Fitzgibbon

report to Fitzgibbon. A Scout professional for 36 years, since 2004 he served as the Western Region Director.

**Dennis Prefontaine** (Class of 1971) retired from

professional service this past December after four decades of work. Most recently he served as the Knox Trail Scout executive based in Framingham, Massachusetts. Inducted into the Order in 1960, he received the Vigil Honor in 1963. As a youth he served as lodge chief, area chief in



**Dennis Prefontaine** 

1967, and assisted a young man having a seizure and received the Life Saving Award.

Former Western Region Chief *Chad Wolver* (Class of 2009) from Phoenix, Arizona currently serves in the Peace Corps in the Republic of South Africa working in education and health. During the first two years he worked in an extremely impoverished community

in rural KwaZula Natal Province and lived iwth an all IsiZuli speaking host family. Starting a third year, he is working to supervise about 20 Peace Corps volunteers in the field by providing technical support and coordinating training programs for new volunteers. In addition



**Chad Wolver** 

Chad works closely with HIV/AIDS education projects.

Former Northeast Region Chief *Zieak McFarland* (Class of 1996) from Fairport, New York currently works as the athletic director at the American School of Ulaanbaatar in Mongolia. Zieak served as an OA Trail Crew foreman the inaugural summer of 1995, then moved to Sitka, Alaska to study natural resources and development at Sheldon Jackson College. After college he spent several years working in Petersburg, Alaska and served as a Scoutmaster.

# Northeast Region team leads fundraising efforts to help camps affected by Hurricane Sandy

By MARK CHILUTTI Class of 1990

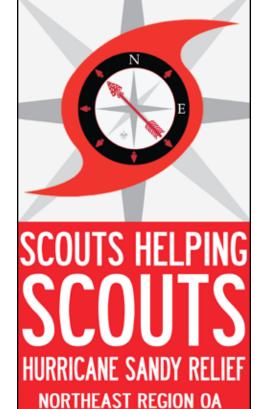
Last fall, Superstorm Sandy caused lots of damage along the East Coast without sparing Scout camps. Trees came down damaging buildings and structures, destroying program areas, and forced many camps to close for months to clean up and make plans for rebuilding.

The Northeast Region Board met about 10 days after the storms and the Region Trust Fund committee posed a challenge to the OA, that if we could raise \$15,000 to aid cleanup efforts, the region would match the amount. Therefore we developed the Scouts Helping Scouts campaign. We asked the regional trust committee to let the OA take the lead in this effort and match the money we raised and the region quickly agreed.

Emails, web posts, and messages through Facebook began with amazing results. We asked people to make a donation, and also offered a nice patch for \$10, or a special silver bordered one for \$100. We surpassed our initial goal to raise \$20,000 in about three weeks. Within no time we passed our next benchmarks of \$25,000, then \$35,000, eventually raising over \$59,000.

We received over 250 financial gifts of all sizes along with notes of why people wanted to help, or what they did to raise the money. Checks came from individuals, packs, troops, lodges and sections. People were happy to help this great effort. The Black Eagle Lodge in the Transatlantic Council made the largest donation, presenting a \$5,000 check at the closing of our NLS in Germany.

As the fundraising wrapped up, lodges began to apply for grants up to \$7,500 to help their camp. Lodges and their council leadership worked together to select a



meaningful project that could be done by the fall. The selection committee awarded money to all 10 lodges that applied.

Pictures and details about those chosen can be found on the Northeast Region OA website at <a href="https://www.northeast.oa-bsa.org">www.northeast.oa-bsa.org</a>.

Thank you to everyone who responded and allowed us to help those in need. We called the campaign Scouts Helping Scouts because that is who we are and what we do.



병 Hurricane Sandy damage at the Ten Mile River Scout Reservation operated by the Greater New York Councils.

- THE SILVER ARROWHEAD | ORDER OF THE ARROW

## Served as youngest APO National President

**ROTH**, continued from page 1

helped judge Indian dancing, and at the end of the NOAC Bill received the Distinguished Service Award representing Tsali Lodge, one of the first four youthful recipients at age 23.

In 1953, Roth served as the Occoneechee lodge adviser and several other key volunteer positions. Scout Executive Spurgeon Gaskin persuaded Bill to enter professional service. Spurgeon served as an important mentor to Bill over the years and later served as his best man when Bill married Hazel.

Concurrent with his heavy involvement with the Order as a young man, he also provided important leadership with Alpha Phi Omega (APO), the national service fraternity based on tenets of the Scout Oath and Law. Bill requested information from the national office with interest to start a local APO chapter at the University of North Carolina. The school previously possessed a chapter during the 1930s; however, during World War Two the chapter slipped into inactive status. Shortly thereafter, Roth connected with a young woman wheelchair-bound from polio transferring to UNC from the University of Miami, who indicated that APO brothers in Miami helped her get to class. She wondered if there might be some similar assistance at her new school. Roth agreed to help and initially organized a group of former Asheville junior college students for the project. This endeavor engaged other former Scouts until the group achieved sufficient size to blossom into the reactivation of UNC's Rho Chapter of APO.

At the time, current or former Scouts made up the

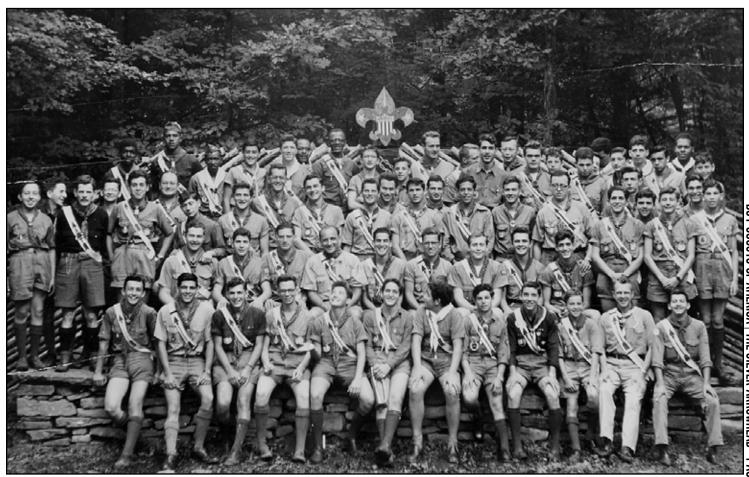
members of all APO chapters across the country. The new chapter launched many service projects, including leading a campus United Way drive, assisting with emergency first aid stations at UNC football games, and providing support staff for local council Boy Scouts events. Bill Roth and the Rho Chapter did their part by helping organize chapters at Wake Forest, the University of Virginia, and East Tennessee State. As chapter president, on March 8, 1949, Roth wrote National OA Committee Chairman Kellock Hale (Class of 1946) that the Rho Chapter selected him for honorary membership.

Roth attended the December 1950 national APO convention and broke barriers as the first "young man" selected to serve as a member of the APO National Executive Board. He continued in service on the board and, in 1956, took over the role of first vice president. In 1958, Roth ascended to the top spot, becoming National President and serving until 1962.

As National President, Roth followed in the footsteps of other pioneer Scouters who served, including APO founder Frank Reed Horton and the longtime Kansas City Area Council Scout Executive H. Roe Bartle. In 1962 at the end of his tenure as national president, Roth received the National APO Distinguished Service Key. Coincidentally, Sidney North (Class of 1956) also received this rare APO recognition that same year. North served many years on the national OA committee as an APO liaison. Roth holds the distinction of serving on the National Executive Board of APO continuously since his first selection nearly 63 years ago, making him easily the longest tenured board member.

Roth joined the Occoneechee Council professional staff in 1953 excelling as a district executive, director of exploring, field director, director of field service, and deputy Scout executive. Under his leadership with the lodge he continued to mentor youth Arrowmen including Willis Howard Williams (Class of 1961) and Pat Caldwell, who both served on national planning committees. In addition, the lodge won national dance team championships in 1954 and 1963. In January 1964, his mentor Spurgeon Gaskin, serving as the Region Six executive, appointed Roth as a deputy regional executive. By late 1965, H. Roe Bartle requested Bill to serve as vice president of the American Humanics Foundation, which Bartle had founded. The Roth family moved to Kansas City and after a few years made a career change as a development officer for a local hospital. Eventually he retired as the president of a local Baptist Health Foundation.

Bill Roth always chose the path of service. After finding enrichment as a Scout, his activity only increased as an Arrowman. As a youth he worked at two summer camps, served three lodges, and helped mentor young Arrowmen to develop into leaders. Along with his OA service, he reorganized an APO chapter that provided service to the college campus and greater community. Instead of finishing a PhD he jumped into serving America's youth as a professional Scouter. Then when the American Humanics program started, he helped develop the curriculum that colleges would use to prepare people for public service in nonprofits. Roth walked many paths of service to others and his life serves as an example of servant leadership to all.



A THE SILVER ARROWHEAD -

1951 Camp Manhattan Staff OA members. Bill Roth located on second row, third from left. Courtesy of the Ten Mile River Scout Camp Museum.

## By the numbers: Professional Scouters

**By MAC MCLEAN** Class of 1988

Throughout our rich history professional Scouters have provided valuable service and support to the Order of the Arrow. Accordingly, a review of the professional Scouters having received the Distinguished Service Award seems appropriate.

In the early years of the Order, virtually the entire grand lodge council and then the national executive committee were professional Scouters. Early Scout executives realized the tremendous value of the Order to their camp and council programs. Upon the full integration of the OA into the Boy Scouts of America in 1948, the national OA committee was reconstituted as a committee of volunteer Scouters with professional support, much like other national committees in the BSA movement.

With that background in mind, it should come as no surprise that the first 22 out of the 26 recipients from 1940 to 1950 were pioneer professional Scouters. After 1950, once volunteers comprised the national OA committee and upon the introduction of the concept of national youth leadership, the DSA lists show a more ratable distribution among professional Scouters, volunteer adult leaders, and youth leaders.

The presentations from 1952 to 1969 recognized another 118 recipients. Of those, 23 recipients provided meaningful involvement as professional Scouters at the time of their selection - about 19 percent. The number included Norman Wood and Dick Wilson, a pair of key youth OA leaders who also served as the Order's first two national professional advisers (then titled the national secretary of the OA). It also included Hal Cairney, then employed as a librarian for the audiovisual service in the national office and not a traditional professional executive. It also included Henry Henning of the supply division.

In the 1970s, the OA recognized 14 professionals, including three sitting Chief Scout Executives, in its list of 128 recipients, approximately 11 percent. That percentage increased in the 1980s when OA recognized 29 professionals out of the 179 recipients in that decade - just over 16 percent. For the 1990s the number decreased to 17 professional Scouters selected. With 184 overall DSA recipients during the same period, the percentage of professional Scouters selected in the 1990s ended up at about 9 percent.

From 2000 to present, a little more than a decade, the Order recognized 273 additional DSA recipients. giving 27 to professional Scouters.

Because this analysis only reviews persons who received the DSA while providing service as a professional Scouter, this analysis does not include another group - those young men who received the award and then later, because of their positive experience in the OA, began careers with the Boy Scouts of America. For example, Jeff Herrmann, former national chief, has continued to serve with distinction as a Scout executive in several councils.

Professional Scouters involved in all facets of the BSA and OA have richly and positively impacted our program in many capacities and thus have amply warranted recognition with the award. The list of recipients includes professional Scouters of all varieties from local executives to key leaders from Philmont Scout Ranch and Northern Tier High Adventure Base and includes 11 Chief Scout Executives. Interestingly, three of the Chief Scout Executive recipients were conferred the award prior to serving in that position. The Order has benefited greatly from the outstanding support over the years from professional Scouters.

## The new Scout executive

THE SCOUT OATH

## By BILL TOPKIS

Class of 2012

On May 1, 1927 E. Urner Goodman took the helm of Chicago Council as their new Scout executive, after serving the previous 12 years in the same position for the Philadelphia Council.

Chicago presented an incredible professional opportunity for Goodman because it consistently persisted as the largest council in the nation outside of New York City, where James E. West and the national headquarters dominated the New York offices. That made Chicago the most significant Scout executive position in the BSA. In those days, the council existed more on Scouting's frontier. Direct contact with the national office happened much less than it does today. Communication required an expensive long distance phone call or a long train ride, so most correspondence remained limited to mail.

Because of this, Chicago offered the propensity for doing things their own way and getting away with it. Goodman changed that and brought the Chicago Council into national compliance, especially in camping. Prior to his arrival, the staff at Owasippe Scout Reservation bplaced Scouts into contingent troops matched by skill Elevel and age. Individual Scouts could sign up for any session of camp. Goodman changed that to the traditional system of Scouts attending summer camp traditional system of Scouts attending sumn together with the friends of their home troop.

Although co-founder Carroll A. Edson served in Chicago as a field executive in 1927, no reunion occurred. Edson sought the position as Scout executive and when the council executive board decided to hire from outside of the council he looked elsewhere. Edson landed the lead position in Hudson Council, Jersey City, New Jersey and began serving there later in the year.

Goodman's four-year tenure as Scout executive in Chicago ended on April 1, 1931. His success serving in Philadelphia and Chicago caught the attention of



MAY, 1927 Camp Improvements Steam Ahead th we told you of the expendi tures that the camping committee had approved for the Owasippe Scout camps

before the summer camp opens up. A lot of these things have already come to pass and the others are in the course of construction. The tent floors are built

and were crossoted by the spring camp ers. 306 sections of them built of white pine are scattered about the camps ready to have the tents erected over them The piers are being gone over. Che

caugau's pier was almost totally destroyed by the ice and is being rebuilt. Black hawk's was moved a little but can easily be straightened up. Camp West is to take over the Dan Beard pier and Beard will get a new one down the beach to-wards the old boat pier. Camp McDonald and Camp Belknap are also getting new

The camp hospitals are going up and ill be completed by the time this paper reaches you.

The log cabin at Camp Blackhawk will look entirely different when you next see it. The roof is off and when it is replaced there will be no more upper story. The pitch of the roof will not be so steep either and that will raise the height of the porch where you used to hump your

Merit Badge Lodge is also being dressed p. The porch has been replaced by a ew cement one. The foundations are ow of cement and the windows replaced.

Chief Scout Executive James E. West who appointed Goodman as the first national director of program. This position position ranked extremely high, one of the four division director positions (business, operations and personnel being the others) that reported directly

to the Chief Scout Executive. As Director of Program, Goodman oversaw the establishment of the Cub Scout and Exploring programs and supervised the writing of the first Scout Field Guide. Goodman served in this position until his retirement in 1951.

## Innovator of outdoor programs

#### **WADSWORTH**, continued from page 1

mentor to Bill. Welch designed the camp to conserve the wilderness for its intrinsic value while functioning as a source of recreation. In 1940 at Tanager, Bill met Bobbie, who also worked at the camp and attended Syracuse. They married two years later and spent their honeymoon camping in the Adirondacks. Bobbie became an indispensable partner throughout Bill's Scouting career.

Starting in the late 1940s as a field executive for the Onondaga Council based in Syracuse at Camp Woodland near Constantia and later at Camp Askenonta on Lake Placid in the Adirondack Wilderness Area, Bill Wadsworth organized extended canoeing and backpacking expeditions. By the early 1950s, the trips included Girl Scouts. The inclusion of girls could be considered a forerunner to the eventual Exploring program. A consistent Wadsworth trademark persisted in his innovation of programs in the outdoor classroom to help engage youth. He pioneered novel cooking methods and designed the "tab tent" that became part of the BSA National Supply Division's camping equipment line. He created small "Pocket Pak" training cards covering a wide range of topics designed for quick reference for teaching outdoor skills.

Bob Cook, who earned Eagle Scout in 1949, fondly

"When Bill worked at the council after army service in World War Two, he organized a ski school for Scouts in the city of Syracuse. Bill set up a schedule so he and Bobbie would be at different locations each day of the week after school. This emerged as an incredible experience for teenage boys. Many went on to race for their various colleges as I did. Another innovation at camp included water skiing. Boys' Life featured an article in July 1952, with a picture on the cover of me and another boy water skiing on Lake Placid."

Bill's programs caught the attention of National Director of Camping Wes Klusmann (Class of 1950), who was impressed with Wadsworth's staff and coed curriculum. In April 1960, Wadsworth joined the national executive staff as assistant camping director. The following spring, he started working with the Philmont Rangers as their national adviser, helping to strengthen training in outdoor skills, the latest backpacking equipment, hiking safety, and camping techniques. Not a desk-bound professional, Bill consistently innovated programs for the outdoor classroom; working in the field at Philmont served as an outlet for his passion.

By the early 1960s, Philmont's attendance started to grow significantly. In order to help contingents properly plan trips, he played an integral role in developing the booklet Campways, BSA: Tours and Expeditions. Shaping the guide, he contacted state and national organizations that possessed places for a group of boys traveling across the country to stay overnight. During Bill's first year working with the Philmont Rangers' vouth leadership in 1961, they brainstormed lyrics for a department song. Jim Place, who served as a training ranger that summer, recalled that the tune came from a song back east. In fact, the lyrics closely follow an old camp song from the Adirondacks titled "I Want to Go Back to Marcy," the highest peak in New York. The Philmont Rangers still use the song, although over the years it evolved into more of a chant.



1962 Philmont Training Rangers. Front row, left to right: Ron Baird, Assistant Chief Ranger Harvey Farmer, Chief Ranger Clarence Dunn, Charlie Dunlap. Back row: Bob Montoya, Brook Kraeger, Bob Washington, Bill Wadsworth, Doug Trevett, Jim Place, Ed Shea.

Bill Buzenberg, the executive director of The Center for Public Integrity, worked as a Ranger in 1965-66. He remembers Wadsworth this way, "I deeply admired him and always felt he served a model for me as an adult. though I never told him so. Tall and strong, but one of the most patient, kindest, and funniest Scout leaders I ever knew. I thoroughly enjoyed any interaction with him, from singing to hiking, to cooking. He upheld professionalism."

By January 1971, Wadsworth started serving as the national director of high adventure programs, a position he held until his retirement. Former Philmont Director of Program Dave Bates shared, "Bill was a champion of high adventure. If we needed support from the national office at any of the bases, he carried the torch. He garnered approval for the former Maine National High Adventure Base, the former Land Between the Lakes High Adventure Base in Kentucky, the Northern Tier High Adventure Base (previously the Region Seven Canoe Base), and the Florida Sea Base. I possess great respect and admiration for Bill Wadsworth. He remains as a great credit to the Boy Scouts of America and to Philmont."

Instead of relocating to Texas when the national office moved, Wadsworth opted to retire in 1978. Not one to slow down, he channeled his energy to another life-long passion, bow-hunting education. In 1969, he wrote the course for the New York State Field Archers and Bowhunters Association, but now retired he took the opportunity to take the program nationwide. One year after retiring from professional Scouting, he founded the National Bow Hunter Education Foundation. Today the Foundation offers courses in all 50 states and 14 countries. Each year approximately 5,000 volunteer instructors certify 60,000 students.

Bob Cook recalled, "My last contact with Bill was the July fourth weekend in 1990. I planned to relocate to the Scout council in Portland, Oregon, as the comptroller but found time to stay with Bill and Bobbie for a few days. He recounted many of our adventures to his neighbors that he invited to meet one of his protégés. Never shy of exaggeration, he could tell a story. The



Bobbie and Bill Wadsworth in 1949, Courtesy of the William Hillcourt Scout Museum and Carson **Buck Memorial Library.** 

following January he was gone. I think about our great friendship often. What a loss. The Wadsworth tales are infinite. Working in Portland I often met professionals visiting from the national office and they all had their stories about Bill Wadsworth."

Bill Wadsworth passed away on January 12, 1991, his legacy continued with posthumous induction 🖴 into the Archery Hall of Fame. In 1965, at the fiftieth anniversary of the Order of the Arrow, Bill Wadsworth received the Distinguished Service Award for his tireless stewardship to high-adventure and national program. In 2008, Bobbie graciously donated the award to the OA Archive in her husband's memory.

The Philmont Staff Association published two books with additional contributions by Bill Wadsworth, I Wanna Go Back: Stories of the Philmont Rangers and The Life

and Times of Jack L. Rhea, the director of camping from 1954-1962. Available at www.philstaff.com.

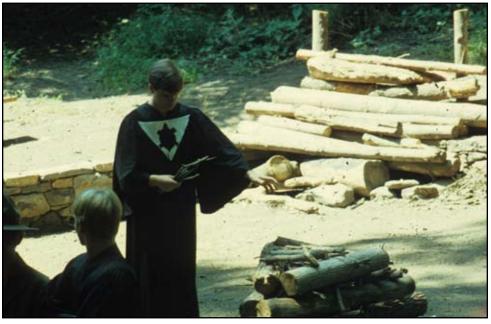
## **The 1983 National Order of the Arrow Conference**



1983 NOAC DSA presentations, courtesy of Brian Naylor (Class of 1988)



1983 NOAC Indian dancer, courtesy of Brian Naylor (Class of 1988)



1983 Treasure Island Encampment re-creation of the original ceremony during NOAC, courtesy of Brian Naylor (Class of 1988)





ORDER OF THE ARROW BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

1325 W. Walnut Hill Lane P.O. Box 152079 Irving, Texas 75015-2079