

A History of Powahay District

Celebrating 100 Years of the Boy Scouts of America
& 30 Years as Powahay District

Introduction

Much of the photographs and information for this publication came from my Grandfather, the late Harold B. Scribner and father to Assistant District Commissioner, Charles Scribner.

This booklet is a collection of articles and research from the Internet, local newspapers, old Alfred Dater Council publications, Scouting Magazine, past Council Scouters, and from Chick Scribner.

This publication is dedicated to:

Harold B Scribner "Mr. Scouting of Darien"

In a resolution dated December 11, 1961, the Alfred W. Dater Council, wrote:

"..for almost half a century, Harold Scribner has given so much of himself to Scouting, to the degree that he became known as "Mr. Scouting of Darien", serving as Assistant Scoutmaster, as Scoutmaster, as District Commissioner (the first in Darien), and in many other capacities, receiving the Silver Beaver Award in 1938... and in addition he has served his country bravely in combat overseas in World War I.."

John Hanks — District Commissioner

Sources

- Native American drawings Page 3 from the Connecticut Water Trails Association <http://connecticutwatertrails.com>.
- Robert D. Towne, Stamford Historical Society . Pages 5 to 6.
- Scouting 1940 to 1980 — Page 13. Found off the internet. Great insight. Researched and written by Scoutmaster Jeff Snowden, <http://www.troop97.net/t97hist.htm>.
- Scouting Magazine
- Old Scouter Newsletters <http://ctyankee.org/news/thescouter/oldnews>
- Old newspaper clippings from the Stamford Advocate and Darien Review.
- Commissioner Newsletter, National Boy Scouts of America.
- Research by Charles Scribner & Chester Wickett



Harold B Scribner



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The History of Powahay

From the January 1990 *Scouter*



recorded entitled the “Deed of Ponus and Owenoke.” In the agreement, the lands were defined as what is now Greenwich to Wilton and Bedford and Pound Ridge.

In 1667, **Taphance**, also a son of Ponus, and **Powahay**, grandson of **Ponus**, signed another agreement, more appropriately called a “Directive.” They were told to give over all rights to their land forever, except for their planting land which they had to fence in. The paper also stated that no other Indians could come and live with them; they were to remain isolated.

In keeping with Indian tradition, Ponus and Owenoke believed that the land was not theirs to sell or give away, but a gift from the Creator. As a tribute.... The name **Powahay** was chosen.... In honor of these people who tried to live in peace with the English but were railroaded into surrendering their land.

The Tankiteke Tribe

The Tankiteke Tribe of Native Americans hunted and fished in the lands that are now southern Connecticut's Fairfield County and New York's Westchester County.

The Tankitekes were a part of the last wandering Algonkian group called the Lenni Lenape (or Delawares). The Lenape was the “Grandfather” tribe of the various smaller groups

The steady influx of Dutch settlers into the area during the mid 1600's resulted in the 1643 Kieft's War. Pacham, a Tankiteke Chief was responsible for stirring up the tribes against the Dutch. Finally, a peace was concluded by Mahican Chief Eskuyas and the enraged Chief Pacham was given over to the Dutch. In 1655, Ponus, a Tankiteke chief, sold Rippowam (now Stamford) to Norwalk settlers. Later, over a period from 1680-1740, Chief Catoonah sold other sections of Stamford, New Canaan, Ridgefield and the oblong (Vista, New York) to white settlers. Small pox and the white intrusion slowly did away with the proud Tankiteke tribe and by the time of the American Revolution they were gone. Tankiteke was the name chosen for the former OA Lodge of the Fairfield County Council.



Have you ever wondered about the origin of the name of our district **Powahay**? Did you know the correct pronunciation is **po-WA-hay**, with accent on the second syllable.

The logo for Powahay District is a medicine feather from a Shaman, or Indian medicine man. The feather is strong medicine for curing and for strength of mind, body and character.

On July 1, 1640, the sale of Rippowam between the Sagamores of Shippan and the Toquam tribes was transacted with Captain Nathan Turner, agent of the New Haven Colony. Soon after, the New Haven Colony sold the land to the men of Wethersfield, Connecticut. In the winter of 1641, the men brought their families and settled in Rippowam.

The tribes then inhabiting the area were members of the Siwanoy Chieftaincy, in the Wappinger's Confederation of the Delaware Nation. They were referred to as the “Woodland Indians.” As they could not read or write, the deed was signed with the marks of Ponus, Sagamore or Sachem of the Toquams; Weseusee, Sagamore of the Shipans; Owenoke, son of Ponus and a fourth unidentified Indian.

Apparently, the conditions of the sale were not understood by the Indians. So, in 1655, another paper was



The Founding of the Boy Scouts of America



Pictures: Left to Right:

Robert Baden Powell, William D. Boyce, Daniel C. Beard and Ernest Thomas Seton.

In 1909 a number of boys' camping groups were developing in the U.S. Two notable ones were under Daniel C. Beard and Earnest Thomas Seton, the latter on his estate in neighboring Cos Cob. That year, Chicago publisher William D. Boyce, traveling in England, was so impressed by Robert Baden-Powell's Boy Scouts he applied for an American charter. The official birth date of the Boy Scouts of America is February 8, 1910. The movement spread rapidly, with Messrs. Beard and Seton among the driving forces.

Pictures of BSA Founders are from Scouting Magazine January/February 2010.

Stamford Scout Facts 1921

Secretary of State says: "It would be wonderful forward step if every boy were a Scout."

Walter D. Daskam says: "Teaching boys the full meaning of the first eight words of the Scout Oath, 'On my honor, I will do my best,' is worth to our community whatever it costs."

Judge B. Lindsey says: "I say without question that if you give the Boy Scout Movement the moral and financial support it rightfully demands, the Juvenile Court will no longer be needed."

Stamford has 19 Troops with 550 Scouts. Each week 40 Scoutmasters and Assistants give 140 to 200 hours of companionship to these boys. Back of them are 57 Troop Committeemen. Scout membership shows: 7 Eagle Scouts, 12 Life and Star Scouts, 54 First Class Scouts, 155 Second Class Scouts, and 322 Tenderfoot Scouts and Merit Badge Scouts.

We hope to have 700 Scouts in 1922. To do this, a budget of \$10,000 is necessary.

A few of the Many "Good Turns" Saved eight persons from drowning, helped find a lost child, put out forest fires.



A history of Scouting in Stamford, Darien & New Canaan

By Robert D. Towne, Stamford Historical Society

Photos: From the Scribner Family archives



Stamford Scouts at the Eastern Exposition 1925

Scouting began in Stamford on March 22, 1912, according to the Advocate's 1941 Tercentenary Edition. The first troop, formed at St. John's Episcopal Church, as Troop 5. Other troops followed quickly.

On March 23, 1917 a committee of leading citizens and Scouters met in the Common Council Room to coordinate scouting in Stamford and Darien (later New Canaan). By June the Stamford Council, Boy Scouts



Stamford's Armistice Day Parade

of America was official. Alfred W. Dater, head of the Stamford Gas and Electric Company, was elected president, a post he was to hold for 22 years. William A. Aycrigg, active in Stamford scouting since 1912 and first Scoutmaster of Troop 5, was Commissioner, and Noble P. Randel was Scout Executive. Offices were opened in the Washington Building, 1 Bank Street.

The nation was in the seventh week of war. Stamford scouts quickly found a job in the Liberty Loan campaign. In October they raised \$384,750. By the end of the war the scouts had raised more than \$1,200,000! By February 10, 1921, the Stamford Council had grown to 19 troops, 548 scouts and 180 active adults.

Camping being central to scouting, the Stamford Council opened its first camp at Winnituyk House Farm in Long Ridge in the summer of 1920,

though an informal camp may have been used earlier. Two years later, named Camp Toquam, it was located nearby on Holly's Pond in Hunting Ridge. In 1924 the camp was moved to Lake Mamasasco in Ridgefield. That same year, Troop 1 at the Presbyterian Church established Stamford's world-famous Pine Tree Patrol, and on March 6 the Council was incorporated.

By 1926, 20 troops held over 1000 meetings annually. The Darien Scout Cabin was completed and dedicated, later named for its donor, Andrew Shaw. Plans for a new camp were started with a Tenth Annual testimonial dinner raising \$50,000. A few months later new Camp Toquam opened the 1928 season, settled for good on Dog Pond, Litchfield Hill, Goshen. It was destined to provide fond memories and a large dose of character for thousands of Stamford-Darien boys. A major expansion took place in 1938.

Much of this period's growth was guided by one man: A Wilson Beeny. He left Brooklyn, N.Y. in June 1922, where he was Field Executive, to serve for 15 years as Scout Executive in Stamford until his death late in 1936. A little over a year later the Council lost another of its great builders with the death of Alfred W. Dater, the only president the group



In 1924 Stamford Troop 1 Presbyterian Church world-famous Pine Tree Patrol due to their selection in training the American Jamboree Delegation to Denmark. The Pine Tree Patrol was the older boy patrol in a troop.

ter, John Sherman Hoyt, gave the Council 18 acres in Norwalk to be called the Five Mile River Camp, used for short term camping.

Through the 40's and 50's, enrollment showed its greatest growth. The mortgage on Camp Toquam was finally paid off in February, 1950. In October 1952, Robert Critchell became Scout Executive, to serve until September, 1969 for the longest term of any. In January, 1954 he was happy to report 3,269 Stamford and Darien boys and adults in the Dater Council.

Shortly after, sponsored by Union Memorial Church and financed by sale of a portion of the Five Mile River campsite and by a \$4000 donation from the Lions Club, Scout headquarters got its own building an Kirkham Place in Glenbrook. Other highlights of the 50's were the participation of local scouts in the 1953 California Jamboree, and the dedication of the Williams Training Center made possible by sale of the rest of the Five Mile River property and a major donation by. A successful campaign in 1958 raised \$120,776 for improved facilities and expansion of Camp Toquam. 50 years after its start, the Stamford Council counted 76 units and 2,620 Scouts.

Through the 60's activity remained high and growth continued. In February, 1971 the Council included 3000 scouts, cubs and explorers, plus about 1200 men and women in leadership functions.

In 1973 all local Scout Councils were merged into just one Fairfield County Council headquartered in Norwalk. Stamford's Alfred W. Dater Council passed into history and the Scout House on Kirkham place was gradually phased out. Eventually even Camp Toquam was sold.

had ever had. On December 2nd that year, 1938, in his memory the Stamford Council was renamed the Alfred W. Dater Council.

About that time the Scout offices were moved to No. 1 Atlantic Street. Enrollment was 585 scouts and 71 cubs. By May 1939 the Council included a very active Sea Scout unit which was using the old bath house at Cummings Park. In 1947 a dedicated Scou-



Stamford Scouts 1920's — Safety patrol downtown Stamford

Plans for a new camp were started with a Tenth Annual testimonial dinner raising \$50,000.





Stamford Scouts 1920's —Troop 1 Stamford, Pine Tree Patrol shows off their skills. (Left).



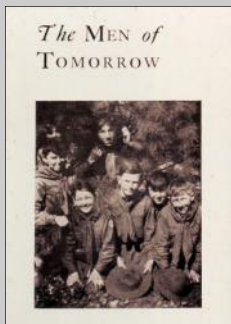
— While a Scout participates in a Pets event with looks like a rooster in his hands.

A Snapshot of 1925

Calvin Coolidge was President and the first President to have his inauguration broadcast on radio. Airlines were forming with freight and passenger services, and the Chrysler Corporation is founded by Walter Percy Chrysler. Boy Scouts was celebrating its 15th Anniversary.

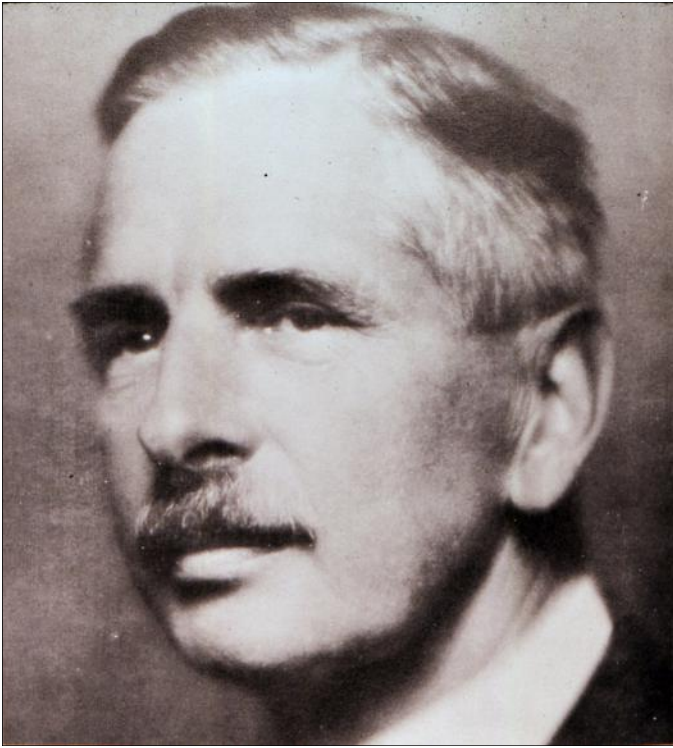
The Stamford Boy Scout Council from *The Men of Tomorrow* A Stamford Boy Scout Council 1925 Publication:

- 461 Boy Scouts were registered with 163 men as leaders.
- It cost a boy just \$7.00 to attend a week of summer camp.
- Rent for the year for Council Office including lights, heat and telephone was \$500.00.
- The Scout Executive and his Secretary were paid \$4,600.00 for the year.
- The total Council Budget including camp maintenance, operations, training, printing, and salaries, was \$8,000.00.



1925 Listing of Boy Scout Troops Stamford Council

Troop	Sponsored by	Scoutmaster
★ 1	Presbyterian Church	Wm Huntsman
2	Congregational Church	Edward Monjo
3	Methodist Church	Edgar Mott
4	American Legion	Clinton Sherwood
★ 5	St. John's Episcopal Church	Horace Graves
6	St. Luke's Episcopal Church	
7	Hebrew Institute	Nathan Martin
8	Long Ridge Community	Charles Howes
★ 9	Massee School	Walter Bertram
10	Community Center	Edwin Smith
★ 11	N. Stamford Cong Church	Victor Fox
12	Community Center	Samuel Brown
13	VFW	Lewis Bodman
16	St. Andrews Episcopal Church	F. Halsey Jerman
17	Community Center Belltown	Edward Huntsman
18	Stamford Advocate Newsboys	Frederick Frank
20	Roxbury M.E. Church	Richard Grenfell
Darien	D1 Community Royle School	Frederick Nelson
Glenbrook	G1 Union Memorial Church	Frank Van Iderstynne
New Canaan	Community	
★ Noroton	(T53) Noroton Presby Church	Harold Scribner
Springdale	Community	Louis Van Brock
★	Troops still active today	



One of Boy Scouts and Powahay's Pioneers...

John Sherman Hoyt 1869-1954

- ◆ 1910: Charter Member, Incorporator of the Boy Scouts of America.
- ◆ 1910-1954: Member of National Council Executive Board.
- ◆ 1926-1950: Vice President of National Council.
- ◆ 1910-1935: First Chairman of National Finance Committee
- ◆ Member of The Alfred W. Dater Council.
- ◆ 1926: Presented the Silver Buffalo by National Council

John Sherman Hoyt

John Sherman Hoyt of Darien, was a wealthy industrialist and dedicated Scouter. Hoyt was involved with the scouting movement since 1910 as one of its founders and later served as National Council Vice President for Finance, a member of the National Council Executive Board and Advisory Board.

Hoyt had a large estate on Continent Island in the Tokeneke section of Darien and allowed Darien Boy Scouts to camp on an island off his estate and also helped to finance the building of the original Darien Scout Cabin in 1926. In 1947 he donated 18 acres of land to the Alfred W. Dater Council, which became the Five Mile River Camp. The camp was later sold.

In 1966 the current John Sherman Hoyt Reservation, 174 acres was donated and named in his honor. The reservation has been operated by three different councils. Alfred W. Dater Council merged to form Fairfield County Council in 1972 and merged again in 1998 to form the present Connecticut Yankee Council.



Camp Treasure Island 1937

The Darien District has successfully run a ten day camp under the sponsorship of the Darien Kiwanis Club. Through the kindness of Mr. John Sherman Hoyt, and Mr. Harold B. Scribner this camp was made possible for boys who were unable to get to the big Council Camp at Camp Toquam.

The Camp was located on an island owned by Mr. John Sherman Hoyt. This island is directly opposite (about 500 yards) from Mr. Hoyt's front gate.

Twenty-two Cubs and Scouts enjoyed the full ten days of camping.

Harold B. Scribner, District Commissioner served as Camp Director. Mr. Scribner is well qualified having conducted many such camps and 22 years of scouting service.

Darien Review Article



Chow line at John Sherman Hoyt's Treasure Island.

John Sherman Hoyt's Treasure Island

By ADC C. Scribner

In the Tokeneke section of Darien, Conn. on Contentment Island Road there was an estate owned by Mr. John Sherman Hoyt. Just off shore from the Hoyt estate is an island owned by Mr. Hoyt that was considered part of his estate. During the depression years of the 1920's and 1930's the boy scouts of Darien were allowed to use the island for camping in the summer each year. A large lean-to with a pull down door was erected on the island and water was piped out from the mainland. At the water's edge a dock was installed and two rowboats were provided for the scouts' use. The lean-to was used for storage when the camp was not in use and occasionally for camping in foul weather. Most of the camping was done in two-man pup tents.

The scouts named it Treasure Island and it was a treasure that was enjoyed by the scouts for over ten years. All vehicles had to park in a small area on Contentment Island Road but it was possible to approach the island by foot one or two hours before and after high tide. Even then the water was only ankle deep. A series of trenches was dug into the salt marshes to hold the tide down a little. A few wooden bridges were built to negotiate the trenches. Since scouting is steeped in Indian lore the boys played lacrosse in the marshes at low tide. This was long before it became a major High School sport. In the area of the dock in the front of the island the scouts would wade knee deep in mud to get clams. For swimming the rowboats were used to get to the Fish Islands with their beautiful sandy beaches. Another small island dubbed Lone

Pine Tree Island, a short distance from Treasure Island, was also used for swimming. There was plenty of firewood for cooking and campfires. The usual scout camping chores and duties were assigned such as KP, area clean up etc. Lashing and knots were taught as the scouts made useful camp gadgets. It was an ideal location for working on merit badges, especially the waterfront badges, such as rowing, swimming etc.

All and all it was a great place to camp. Remembering that this was during the years of the great depression the cost for a weekend campout from Friday evening to Sunday afternoon cost only 75 cents per person. One or two weeks each summer were set aside for weeklong camping costing \$3.00 per person as opposed to \$7:00 per week for Camp Toquam, the Stamford Council Summer Camp.

I am unaware how the construction on the island was financed but I assume it was paid for by the generosity of Mr. Hoyt.



The Andrew Shaw Memorial Scout Cabin — 1926



Scout Cabin, 1926



On November 20, 1999, a new Andrew Shaw memorial Scout Cabin was dedicated.

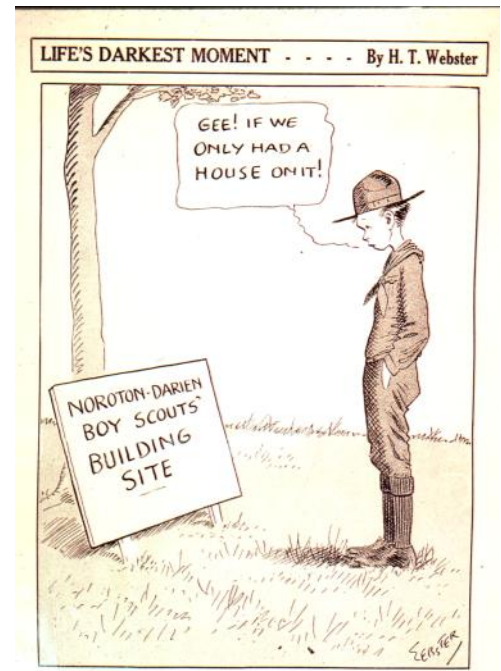
The original cabin was constructed on land donated by Andrew J. Shaw, who later became Darien's First Selectman. It was financed by some Darien's most influential citizens and consisted of a one room cabin. The official dedication was held on November 26, 1926, and was presided over by John Sherman Hoyt.



Photo — Early Scout Ceremony at the Cabin in 1928

Andrew J. Shaw was Darien's First Selectman from 1929 to 1937 after which he retired due to failing health. A Darien native, Mr. Shaw was very interested in Scouting. In 1920 he was a member of the Noroton Troop Committee (now Troop 53), helped organize Sea Scouting in Darien and served on the Darien Scouting committee for many year.

Research by C. Scriber



The “new” Andrew Shaw Memorial Scout Cabin — 1999



The cabin is home to Troops 35 and 53 plays host to District training, meetings and activities .

In 1997 a group of Darien Scout and Community Leaders came together to rebuild the Scout Cabin. The rebuilding initiative was started by a grant from the Darien Land Trust in appreciation of many projects done by Eagle Scouts of Troop 53.

Eric Ferguson, John Gibb, Jack McFarland, and Joseph Roxe provided the financial leadership in the rebuilding.

The Cabin is not owned by the Boy Scouts and is administered by a Trust.

Architectural services were donated by Eagle Scout Neil Hauke. Ring's End Lumber Company provided the building material at their cost, and/or below cost and as well as donations. The new cabin was dedicated in 1999.

The History of Cub Scouting

The "Cubbing Program" was introduced by the Boy Scouts of America in 1930, but its roots go all the way back to the first days of Scouting. With the early success of the Boy Scouts for boys 12 and over, there was popular demand for a "younger boy program" for the siblings of Scouts.

- 1911 At the urging of the national Executive Board of the BSA, Ernest Thompson Seton develops prototype "Cubs of America" program with "Cub Moms" and a motto of "We do our best." This program was shelved due to a "tremendous upheaval" within the BSA.
- 1916 Wolf Cubbing becomes an official part of the British Scouting with the publication of Robert S. S. Baden-Powell's "The Wolf Cub Handbook." This program soon found its way to numerous communities in the Americas.
- **1918** Unofficial Wolf Cub Packs appear in Butte, MN, **Stamford, CT**, Paris TX and other locations. James E. West, Chief Scout Executive, secured the rights for the American printing of British Wolf Cub Handbook for sale to unofficial US Wolf Cub packs. This book was sold by the BSA for 10 years before the introduction of Cubbing.
- 1924 The national Executive Board proposes the "adoption of a younger boy program that should be kept entirely distinct from Scouting, should prepare for graduation into the Scout movement."
- **1928** Experimental Cub units were started in each of the 12 regions of the National Council. In all, 106 locations were sanctioned for experimental Cub units across the nation. ***The Alfred Dater Council was one of those locations with a Cub unit starting in Darien.***
- 1929 The national Executive Board approved the Cub program.
- 1931 At the end of the second year 25,662 boys were registered in Cub packs in 258 councils across the nation with 5,228 registered pack leaders.



Cub Scouts Comes to Darien 1928

Finally, after 20 years of Boy Scouting in America, "Cubbing" was introduced! What has followed has been nothing short of phenomenal! Boasting over 50,000,000 members since its inception, no program in history has had the far ranging impact on American youth than Cubbing and Cub Scouting have! The Alfred Dater Council was a pioneer in its development with unofficial "Wolf" Packs found in Stamford in 1918 and in 1928 Darien served as one of 106 locations to test the program.

New Cub Program for Darien

The first meeting of the Darien Cub Scouts to be held under the supervision of the newly appointed leader, Mrs. Cladwell A. Smith was held on Thursday afternoon at the Boy Scout Cabin on West Avenue. The new Troop (Pack) is in the process of organization. Mrs. Smith is co-operating with Harold Scribner, District Commissioner of the Darien District of the Boy Scouts of America to speed up early adoption of a plan adaptable to the boy of eight to eleven years, the Cub Scout age. Mr. Scribner is devoting a great deal of time and thought to the development of this plan.

Interest in the new Cub Scout movement has already manifested by parents of boys in Darien and Noroton Heights. According to Dr. H. W. Hurt, originator of the new Cub Scout Program.

"There has been increasing demand to for the Boy Scouts to do something for boys too young to be Boy Scouts. Scout Leaders sought relief from younger boy 'hanger-ons' who interfered with troop work. So in 1925, a Executive board adopted committee on younger boys and in 1928 actual work and research began building a program."

Nineteen boys were registered at the first meeting. The leadership consists of women as Cub Leaders and older boys as Den Chiefs. Mrs. Smith was ably assisted by three older Boy Scouts, Nelson Summerton, Howard Nardine and Charles Raymond. Mr. Scribner is the Cubmaster and will direct the work of Cub Leaders, Mrs. Smith and the Den Chiefs. Indian Lore will be incorporated into the program and boys 8 to 10 will work on the ranks of Wolf, Bear and Lion and 11 year olds on Tenderfoot to join the Boy Scouts.

Darien Review 1928

1937 Cub Scouts Chief Ponus Treasure Hunt

A clarion call for all boys between the ages of eight and eleven years old to join Cub Scouts was sounded by today by District Commissioner Harold Scribner, who has arranged a treasure hunt to be held in the rear of the Scout Cabin.

A page from the early history of Darien, or Middlesex as it was known in 1640, will be reenacted during the hunt. The hunt will follow the pattern of the actual treasure search sponsored by Chief Ponus in 1640 when he called upon the youth of his tribe to find his son, Oenoke Sagamore Ponus, who became lost in the woods.

According to history, Ponus conducted a seven-day hunt himself before giving the alarm. He then ordered his braves to distribute treasure all over the territory and sent runners to other tribes to announce that the treasure would be theirs, if they searched woods.

The Indian boys, under the leadership of young braves, gleefully romped through the woods and searched



caves, hidden nooks and other recesses to recover the treasure. During the course of their search they found Ponus' greatest treasure, his son.

Coming back to the year 1936 the cub who finds Oenoke Sagamore Ponus will receive an Indian Hatchet as a reward. After the hunt, Cubs will gather at Chief Ponus' wigwam on the Scout Cabin grounds for a victory feast. 1937 Darien Review Article

1912 — Sea Scouting Then and Now — 2010



Sea Scouting in America was founded in 1912. A Sea Scout manual published in 1915 gave some direction to Sea Scouting. Since its beginning, the Boy Scouts of America had been aware of the need for an older-boy program. Above Darien's Sea Ship 1 in 1928 line up for inspection by the National Sea Scout Director Thomas T. Keane. In 1971 girls were officially allowed to join Sea Scouting.

Today, Powahay's only active Sea Scout Unit is Ship 6. Founded in 1957, Ship 6 has been chartered by the Norwalk Sail and Power Squadron for nearly 50 years. Sea Scout Ship 6 is part of the Venturing division of the Boy Scouts of America. Each unit in Sea Scouting is called a "Ship". The key principle of Sea Scouting is that the coed crew of the Ship is responsible for the program and their boat.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT INVITES BOY SCOUTS TO THE NATIONAL JAMBOREE, JUNE 30 to JULY 9, 1937, WASHINGTON, D. C.



His Message to Your Troop

FELLOW SCOUTS: Today we are celebrating our twenty-seventh anniversary. From one end of the country to the other we are taking stock of what has been accomplished during all these years and paying a deeply felt and well-deserved tribute to the ideals of Scouting.

... speaking to you today twenty-five thousand boys will live together under canvas from June thirtieth to July ninth. It will be a magnificent and I am sure that it gives all of you a special thrill.

Our country was developed by pioneers who came of olden the trails which they blazed all the way from the Atlantic Ocean

The First National Jamboree was held in Washington from June 30 to July 9, at the invitation of President Roosevelt, with an attendance of 27,232 representing 536 councils.



**World War II — Troop 46 Norwalk 1941
Helps With War Effort**

Boy Scouts participated in the war effort with scrap drives, collecting tin, aluminum, rags and tires for recycling into war materials. The victory garden pictured here provided civilians with vegetables at a time when most food supplies were being sent to soldiers overseas.

Photo to right: 1970's Darien Scouts celebrate United Nation Day.

Scouting 1940 to 1980's

Research by Jeff Snowden

The 1940s and the 1950s were a time of change and rapid growth for the BSA. Cub Scout and Boy Scout age limits were lowered, Scout advancement underwent several changes, Cub Scouting added the Webelos program. BSA membership soared from 2.8 million to 5.2 million.

The 1960s were a time of increasing membership and high hopes for Boy Scouting. The turmoil in American society of the late '60s (Vietnam protests, race riots, drug abuse) had little visible effect on the BSA until the early '70s. The late 1960s finally saw the BSA end racial segregation in its chartered Scout Councils, districts, troops, and camps. Membership climbed from 5.2 million to 6.3 million.

The period from 1972-80 was a disaster, when membership declined nationwide by 34% (a loss of 2.2 million members)! In 1972 there were sudden and radical changes to the Scouting program, abandoning much of the traditional outdoor program, and applying inner-city programming to ALL of Scouting. New, "politically-correct" terminology defined the era (the BSA had no "boys" or "Boy Scouts" because "boy" was considered demeaning; no longer an outdoorsman, the Scoutmaster became a "manager of learning" who taught Scouts the 11 "leadership competencies;" he guided Scouts through "personal growth agreement conferences" as they advanced through the various "progress awards.") The program was finally scrapped in 1978, after six years of use. Membership peaked at 6.5 million in 1972, and reached bottom in 1980 with 4.3 million.

Starting in 1978, BSA return to a more traditional Scouting. The 1980's brought about the start of Tiger Cubs age and to the creation of new, non-traditional programs (Varsity Scouting, Learning for Life). Women were allowed to serve as Scoutmasters.

- Scouting 1940 to 1980 — Found off the internet. Great insight. Researched and written by Scoutmaster Jeff Snowden, <http://www.troop97.net/t97hist.htm>.



Hoyt Scout Reservation Cabin Dedicated to General Carter



The Training Cabin at Hoyt Scout Camp is dedicated to "General Carter - 1968" based on the plaque over the fireplace. So who was General Carter? Well, the mystery has been solved.

Arthur Hazelton Carter (01/06/1884 - 01/03/1965) was a native of Hillsboro, Kansas, and a graduate of West Point, Arthur Carter earned distinction both as a soldier and as a civilian.

He entered the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1901. After graduating as a second lieutenant of field artillery, he served in various posts in the United States and the Philippines before returning to civilian life in 1915. Two years later, when the U.S. entered World War I, Carter returned to the Army

as a major in the Bureau of Ordnance and then as commanding officer of the Field Artillery Central Officers' Training School in Kentucky. In 1919, he received an honorable discharge as a full colonel.

He married Marjorie Sells in 1910.

After WW I, Carter joined his father-in-law's firm, Haskins and Sells, a predecessor firm of Deloitte & Touche. He qualified as a CPA and in 1922 was admitted to the firm. In 1930, he became Managing Partner, a position he held for over a decade.

From 1941 to the end of World War II, he served in Washington, D.C on President Roosevelt's staff as executive accountant (1941-1946), reviewing and recommending improvements in the War Department's auditing organization and procedures. He served as Fiscal Director of the Army Service Forces from May 1943 through December 1945. He was promoted to major general in 1943. During WW I, he was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal; an Oak Leaf Cluster was added in WW II. General Carter returned to Haskins & Sells in 1945, and retired in from the accounting firm in 1947.

General Carter apparently was a member of the Stamford Rotary Club. Marjorie Sells Carter was involved with the Alfred W. Dater Council (Stamford), and was a significant benefactor of Scouting. She donated the funds for the Cabin after her husband's death. Ground was broken on the Training Cabin in October 1968, construction was completed in the late spring or early summer of the following year, and the Cabin was officially dedicated at 4:00 PM on October 4, 1969, during a Council Camporee. The dedication referred to LTGEN Carter, so he was apparently promoted in rank upon his retirement.

Source: <http://scatacook.org/HoytGeneralCarter.htm>

Note. Many thanks to many Scouters who helped research General Carter. Special thanks to **Chester Wickett** and Rich Barton for staying the course and keeping up the research. Eric Goldstein also put a lot of time into the search and research. Also thanks to John P. Hammond of Wilton, for his remembrances of the Carters. Mr. Hammond's father (Carleton E. Hammond, Silver Beaver & Silver Antelope) was very active in Scouting at the local (Stamford & Darien), regional, and national level, and was a long-time advisor to Mrs. Carter; he peaked her interest in Scouting.

Press Stories from the Past



John Sherman Hoyt (L) & John Schiff (R)

Troop 19 Glenbrook (Later know as G1), Stamford Takes a Hike to New Canaan in 1921

Six members of (Stamford) Troop 19 Glenbrook including their mascot left Glenbrook Saturday at 11 am, for New Canaan. We went up Hope St to see the new road. We counted all the dogs we saw and when we came to 23 we stopped. Anyone would think that all the inhabitants of Springdale had dogs.

We cooked our dinner about a mile over the New Canaan town line. Following directions, we took the first road to right called Frogtown Rd. We stopped at Radium Spring Camp and had a delicious drink of cold water. We reached New Canaan at 2:15 and wandered around the village till we came to the Town Hall. Seeing people going inside, we went inside also. There was a basketball game going on.

After the game we went to the railroad station where we met Mr. Walz and two other Scouts of the Troop. From there we hiked to Mansfield Road (Darien) and turned into Middlesex Rd. When we reached our Cabin, Stonybrook Lodge, we had supper. Another troop was having supper across the brook. After supper, we started home and arrived about 7 pm, tired but happy.

Stamford Advocate—Jan. 24, 1921



A TOY FOR EVERY CHILD AT CHRISTMAS CAMPAIGN

The annual "Toy of Every Child At Christmas" campaign of the Boy Scouts of Stamford is now underway, and are collecting from the homes of Stamford discarded toys. These toys will be repaired where necessary, and distributed personally with greetings by Boy Scouts to kiddies who might otherwise without toys at Christmas.

— Stamford Advocate 1925

News From Norwalk 1925

Troop 27 met last night in the Broad River Community Club. Assistant Scoutmaster Harry Pickering opened the meeting. There were 30 present. They are planning a trip to New York City.

The first meeting of the fall of Troop 35 was held last evening in Parish House of the First Congregational Church on the Green. Scoutmaster Charles MacDonald presided with guest Scoutmaster Louis Decker of Troop 27 attended to present the troop with a special ribbon for their flag.

Press Stories from the Past

Chief of Boy Scouts Honored Guest Here

Dr. James E. West, chief executive of the Boy Scouts of America, was honored guest and speaker at the roundup of local Scout Leaders and old time scouts held in connection with national anniversary week in the auditorium of the Stamford Gas and Electric Company. The Boy Scouts are observing their 21st. Birthday, or the "coming of age" of the organization in this country.

Dr. West, whose talk was informal and humorous at times, told of the founding of the Boy Scouts in America, and of the progress made.

"The year 1930 stands as the most successful in the 21 years Boy Scouts has been growing here," he said.

Dr. West stressed the importance of Scout work in filling for the boy the gap that is left between home and school. He said that what children do in this margin of time determine what kind of men and women they will make.

Alfred W. Dater, president of the Stamford Council presided at the meeting. The attendance was large considering the inclement weather and Dr. West was given an enthusiastic greeting.

A special feature of the evening was the singing by a group of World War veterans from the Soldier Home at Noroton (Darien).

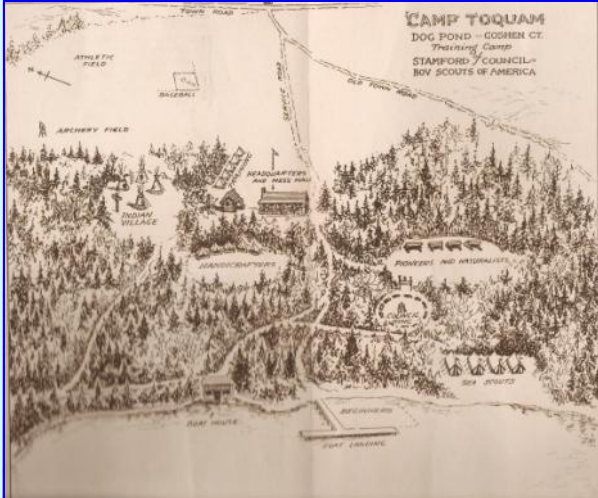
In conclusion to the evening, Dr. West said that he thought the reason so many public officials supported the scout movement was because they realized it made better citizens.

Stamford Advocate -- 1930



Darien had the nation's first Veteran's Home — The Fitch's Home for Soldiers. The home was established for old soldiers and orphans from the Civil War. During the 1920 & 30's Boy Scouts participated in various programs and ceremonies at the Home.

Fairfield County Council Camp Closings



In 1940 it cost \$7.00 a Week to attend Camp Toquam.

“Based on the steady decline of camp attendance of 2650 boy-weeks in 1972, to only 714 in 1982, and a corresponding drop in the boy population, the Executive Board (carrying out a long range plan) has voted to sell several properties. Camp Toquam in Goshen, and Camp Aquila both have tentative buyers with closings scheduled. Camp Pomperaug in Union, and Hoyt in Redding, will be retained and upgraded with money derived from interest on the principal from the sale of the camps. The Long Range Plan directed that, all funds realized by sale of these properties should be placed in the Council's trust fund, with the capital being made available only for future camp acquisition and development. The new owners of Aquila will sign an agreement allowing the council continued year-round use of most of the 330 acres.

Since a large number of our Aquila troops will be going to Camp Sequassen in the future, much of the equipment at Camp Aquila has been loaned to Sequassen, so that our Scouts can continue using it. — **January 15, 1982 Scouter**

Reflections of Council Camps

By John Hanks

When I became an Assistant Scoutmaster in 1977 of the now defunct Troop 74 (St. Gabriel's, Stamford) and later when I became Scoutmaster of Troop 53 of Darien in 1981, there were four Council (Fairfield County Council) camps for us to use. Camp Toquam and Pomperaug, although no longer used for Summer Camps were great resources for weekend campouts, camporees and OA functions, along with Hoyt. Camp Aquila (name changed from Camp Mauwehu) was our summer camp.

I remember Camp Toquam as a favorite for winter camping and how special Camp Aquila was as a Summer Camp. A lot of the campsites were right on the lake, a central boat pond, and Green Island provided for canoe trips, overnight experiences and jumping off of “chicken rock”.

The selling of our camps, especially Camp Aquila was quite controversial along with council no longer providing a summer camp program. Arrangements were made for our Scouts to attend Camp Sequassen, then part of the Quinnipiac Council. Talks of a new summer camp were promised but never delivered. During this time there were a tremendous amount of consolidations of councils going on and declining membership resulting in new council formed with more camps then they could maintain and support.

There's also an interesting story of the selling of Camp Aquila. The Council made arrangements with the new owners for continued use of the camp by our units. The former Tankiteke Lodge continued to use the camp for OA functions. After about a year, the new owners had enough of scouts and pulled the plug on use of the camp. During a final Ordeal weekend at Camp Aquila to load up trucks and bring gear and items up to Camp Pomeraug, the new owners felt that all of the tables, kitchen items, and collectibles in the Dining Hall belonged to them and called the State Police. Most of the trucks had to return with the gear to Aquila.



Troop 74 Stamford 1979 enjoying a winter campout at Camp Toquam.

Powahay District Founded April 9, 1980

April 1980 Scouter – Stamford and Sasqua Districts will hold a joint annual meeting on Wednesday, April 9th, at the Darien Scout House... The slate of officers for the new Stamford, Norwalk, Darien, Wilton, and New Canaan District will be voted on.” Vista, NY was part of our District but then rejoined Westchester-Putnam Council.



Photo — District Committee 2008: Top Left: John Valenzisi, John Hanks, Mark Greene, John Rochette, Bob Eason, Nathan Newhall, Don Raccio, Clayton Cole. Top Right: District Chairmans Mike Krause and Nathan Newhall,

Powahay District Team – 2010

Key District Leadership

Mike Kraus, District Chairman, John Hanks District Commissioner, David W. Rennie, Senior District Executive

District Committee

Stephen Coe, Clayton Cole, Robert Eason, Mark Greene, John Hanks, Michael Kraus, Gwen Lupinek, Nathan Newhall, Louis Pataki, Domenic Rauccio, David Rennie, Kevin Smith, Chester Wickett, Roger Williams

Commissioner Staff

J. Greg Brannan, Anthony D’Andrea, Frank DeMasi, Malcolm Dickinson, Arnold Feintuck, James Garvin, Mike Gregorio, Jeff Helfand, Ted Helms, K. John Karlson, Andy Karwoski, Ken Korin, Lori LeMay, John Moritz, Louis Pataki, Troy Piivarnik, Domenic Rauccio, Robert Riith,

Powahay District Key 3 1980 to 2010

YEAR	District Chairman	District Commissioner	District Executive
1980	Bill Ruddock	Walter Arnold	John Fitzpatrick
1982	Michael Lynch	Walter Arnold	John Fitzpatrick
1982	Michael Lynch	Walter Arnold	John Fitzpatrick
1983	Dennis Murphy	Bill Dunn	Kit Beatty
1984	George Ehinger	Fred Weisman	Harold Jenkins
1985	George Ehinger	Fred Weisman	Ed Bozek
1986	John Rosenquist	Fred Weisman	Ed Bozek
1987	John Rosenquist	Art Littleton	Ed Bozek
1988	Fred Weisman	Art Littleton	Ed Bozek
1989	Mike Holiman	Mike Anderson	Rick Anderson
1990	Mike Holiman	Bob Riith	Dave Osborne
1991	Mike Holiman	Helen Holiman	Rick Camolino
1992	Mike Holiman	Helen Holiman	Rick Camolino
1993	Mike Holiman	Helen Holiman	Greg Kazmjerzak
1994			Dan Cooley
1995			Dan Cooley
1996		Carlos Maldinado	Dan Cooley
1997		Carlos Maldinado	Dan Cooley
1998	Bob Priest	Val Trowbridge	Ed Greenburg
1999	Bob Priest	Val Trowbridge	Chris Hopkins
2000	Carlton Chen	Val Trowbridge	Chris Hopkins
2001	Carlton Chen	John Karlson	Jonathan Glassman
2002	Carlton Chen	John Karlson	Jonathan Glassman
2003	Nathan Newhall	John Karlson	Tony Vogl
2004	Nathan Newhall	Lou Pataki	Tony Vogl
2005	Nathan Newhall	Lou Pataki	Tony Vogl
2006	Robert Eason	Lou Pataki	Tony Vogl
2007	Robert Eason	John Hanks	Tony Vogl
2008	Robert Eason	John Hanks	John Rochette
2009	Nathan Newhall	John Hanks	David Rennie
2010	Mike Kraus	John Hanks	David Rennie

Commissioner 100 Years of Service

The Boy Scouts of America isn’t alone in turning the page on its first century. Commissioner service is also celebrating 100 years of coaching, consulting, and supporting adult leaders.

Baden-Powell’s Gentlemen (1908)

Individuals identified by the monarch to be commissioners had to qualify as a “gentleman.” As legally defined, a gentleman earned his income from property, and as such was independently wealthy with time to devote to other agendas. It was exactly these kind of men that Robert Baden-Powell, the founder of Scouting, wanted as his volunteer commissioners—those of money and leisure.

The BSA Needs a Few Good Men

As communities formed more troops, it became evident that some form of leadership was needed to maintain standards, provide camping opportunities, recruit leaders, facilitate training, establish local courts of honor, and stimulate local Scouting. This person was the commissioner. While originally serving as a volunteer, some areas of a community were able to raise enough funds for the Scout commissioner to become a salaried position. The areas with paid leadership, known as the Scout executive or executive secretary, became identified as First Class Councils. Those areas with a volunteer head called the Scout commissioner were known as Second Class Councils.

Powahay's Oldest Troop — Troop 5 Stamford Founded 1912



Troop 5 was Stamford's first troop founded on March 22, 1912. William Aycrigg was the first Scoutmaster and then Commissioner for Stamford. Troop 5 is still chartered by St. John's Episcopal Church. Nathan Newhall is the Scoutmaster, Alan Gerard is Troop Committee Chair and Rev. Dr. James Wheeler, Rector of St John's Church is the Institutional Head.



A Tale of A Special American Flag

When Lt. Commander P. Alan Gerard was deployed to Kuwait with the US Navy to support the war efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan, members of Troop 5 presented him with a American flag to take with him. The flag was flown at various location during Mr. Gerard's tour of duty.



Harold Scribner sits on top his Model T, a World War I veteran and a founder of Darien's Troop 53.

Powahay 2nd. Oldest Troop — Troop 53 Darien Founded 1915



On April 15, 1915, Troop 53 was founded. Harold B. Scribner shortly took over as Scoutmaster, a position he held for 15 years. The Troop was founded as Troop 20; change to Troop N1 (Noroton 1) in 1921 and renames as Troop 53 in 1930. From 1915 to 2000 when the new Scout Cabin opened it was chartered by the Noroton Presbyterian Church. In 2002 the troop became so big it was split into two troops with the formation of Troop 35.

Grant Evans is the Scoutmaster, Calvin Chung and Linda Yim are the Committee Chairs and Joellyn Gray of Andrew Shaw Trust serves as the Institutional head.

2010 Celebrating 100 Years of Scouting

Powahay's celebration of the 100 Years of Scouting started with the 2009 Fall Camporee, "The Great Race" hosted by Troop 35 Darien (2nd. Photo). Troop 9 was the top winner in the day long competition

Powahay Units 2010

Unit	Charter Organization	Community	Unit Leader
Crew 1369	Wilton High School	Wilton	Jim Dey
Crew 002	United Church of Rowayton	Norwalk	Paul Voges
Crew 086	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints	Stamford	Matt Cole
Crew 286	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints	New Canaan	Charles White
Crew 313	Order of the Arrow (Trinity Unlimited)	Norwalk	William Chin
Crew 808	Wilton Presbyterian Church	Wilton	Dawn Cole
Pack 003	All Saints School Home School Assn.	Norwalk	Philip Ricci
Pack 006	Our Lady Star of the Sea	Stamford	Mark DeLuca
Pack 007	United Methodist Church of New Canaan	New Canaan	George Harvey
Pack 011	North Stamford Congregational Church	Stamford	Adam Terr
Pack 015	Jewish War Veterans Post 142	Stamford	Jonathan Adam
Pack 017	Congregational Church	Wilton	Stephen Batter
Pack 022	Hope Evangelical Free Church	Wilton	Jeff Spiewak
Pack 028	American Legion Post 3	Stamford	Mark Vilas
Pack 039	Friends of Stillmeadow School	Stamford	Mark Greene
Pack 048	United Methodist Church of Stamford	Stamford	Douglas Penn
Pack 055	VFW Post #6933	Darien	Amy Wade
Pack 056	The Andrew Shaw Memorial Trust	Darien	Kevin Gallagher
Pack 058	Tracey School	Norwalk	Anthony Broncati
Pack 061	Brookside School PTO	Norwalk	Tom Drain
Pack 066	East Norwalk Improvement Association	Norwalk	Pablo Aymerich
Pack 068	Fox Run PTO	Norwalk	Anthony Carrano
Pack 070	St. Mark's Episcopal Church	New Canaan	Michael Reeves
Pack 095	Congregational Church - United Church	New Canaan	Richard Kurth
Pack 097	Cranbury School PTO	Norwalk	Mark Judkins
Pack 098	NEON Center	Norwalk	John Mortiz
Pack 161	The Andrew Shaw Memorial Trust	Darien	Richard Terhune
Pack 286	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints	New Canaan	Bob Aillery
Ship 053	Andrew Shaw Memorial Trust	Darien	Grant Evans
Ship 006	Norwalk Power Squadron	Norwalk	Kai Horan
Troop 001	First Presbyterian Church	Stamford	Andy Critelli
Troop 002	United Church of Rowayton	Norwalk	Paul Voges
Troop 005	St. Johns Episcopal Church	Stamford	Nathan Newhall
Troop 009	First United Methodist Church	Stamford	Roger Williams
Troop 011	North Stamford Congregational Church	Stamford	Mark Lorusso
Troop 015	Jewish War Veterans Post 142	Stamford	David Rand
Troop 019	Norwalk United Methodist Church	Norwalk	Mike Dorrico
Troop 020	Zion Hill United Methodist Church	Wilton	Erik Olstein
Troop 021	Friends of Cloonan School	Stamford	Ronald/Julie Katz
Troop 031	The United Methodist Church	New Canaan	Bob Eason
Troop 035	The Andrew Shaw Memorial Trust	Darien	Tavo Reynoso
Troop 053	The Andrew Shaw Memorial Trust	Darien	Grant Evans
Troop 070	St. Marks Episcopal Church	New Canaan	Tread Mink
Troop 086	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints	Stamford	Ryan Johnson
Team 086	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints	Stamford	Gravin Brandan
Troop 125	St. Matthews Parish	Wilton	Steve Gorenbergh
Troop 286	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints	New Canaan	Charles White
Team 286	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints	New Canaan	Charles White



The 2010 Klondike Derby— "What Would You do for a Klondike Bar" was hosted by New Canaan's LDS Church Troop 286





Cub Scout 2010 Field Day was a Super Heroes Theme with a day of exciting activities.



Cub Scout 2010 District Pinewood Derby and Cubmobile



Powahay at the Spring Tri-District Boy Scout Camporee



Powahay 2010 Spring Webelos Wow at Hoyt Scout Reservation

Saluting Powahay's Pioneer Award Recipients
Charles "Chick" Scribner 2009—Frank DeMasi 2010 —Frank Waters 2010—Felix Antedomenico 2010



Pioneer Award Recipients left Frank Waters and (top left) Felix Antedomenico recognized for their decades of service to Scouting. Presenting the awards were Chick Scribner and Chester Wickett. Right photo is Frank DeMasi and Charles Scribner.



Powahay Celebrates 100 Years of Commissioner Service

Photo: Front-left: Arnold Feintuck, Ken Korin, Jim Garvin, Charles "Chick" Scribner, Frank DeMasi, Mike Kraus (not a Commissioner but District Chairman), Tony D'Andrea, Jeff Helfand, Ted Helms, and leading the team is District Commissioner John Hanks. Rear-left: Tom Sass, Lou Pataki, Andy Karwoski, Mike Gregorio, Dominick Rauccio, Hugh Sebastian, Malcolm Dickinson, and Sr. District Executive Dave Rennie. Missing is Greg Brannan, Michael Chirigos, John Karlson, Lori LeMay, Barry McMullin, John Moritz, Troy Pivarnik, Richard Poli, Rich Rilling, Tom Robinson, Lloyd Sturges. and Rich Wellen.

The District Committee



District Chairs Incoming District Committee Mike Kraus with outgoing District Committee Chair Nathan Newhall, help organize a year celebration of 100 Years of Scouting.



Left is Advancement Chairman Chet Wickett and right is former Boy Scout Activity Chair John Valenzisi



Celebrating 100 Years of Scouting & 30 Years of Powahay District



Fall Camporee 2010 at Seton Scout Reservation, Greenwich CT



Cub Scout Fall Field Day — based on the book series Percy Jackson and Lightning Thief had record attendance with almost 500 Cub and adults participating. Hosted by Pack 55 Darien.



Troop 53 Darien Junior Leader Training Course October 2010



Troop 35 Darien prepares for their trip to Haiti to aid the earthquake relief efforts.

100 Service Projects

Debbie Parnon congratulates the following units for special recognition in the Council's 100 Service Project. (Left) Roger Williams, Troop 9 Stamford Special Olympics; Christina Nathanson Pack 48 Stamford Hitting Home Run Charity; Kurt Schlegel Norwalk Pack 68 100 items for the Norwalk Shelter; Amy Wade Pack 55 Darien Food Drive for Person to Person; and (front) Holly Ruoff New Canaan Norwalk River clean up.



To be continued...

This historical accounting of Boy Scouts and Powahay District is just a beginning. We hope to add more to this research and would welcome more information on the development of Scouting in Norwalk, New Canaan and Wilton.