

Camp Norse Alumni News 2021



Camp Norse Alumni Association, Narragansett Council, BSA

info@campnorse.org

Fall 2021

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BSA Bankruptcy Update – August 2, 2021

Dear Friends of the Narragansett Council,

We are writing to update you about developments in the bankruptcy case filed by the national organization of the Boy Scouts of America, and how they will affect Scouting in the Narragansett Council. To emerge from bankruptcy, the BSA has proposed a reorganization plan designed to accomplish two key imperatives: equitably compensate survivors of past abuse in Scouting and ensure that Scouting continues in our communities and across the country for generations to come. To accomplish these goals, every local council, including Narragansett, will contribute to a survivor's compensation Trust in order to resolve legal claims of past abuse in Scouting.

The only way Narragansett Council can meet its obligation is to sell real estate. To help fund our Council's contribution to the survivor's compensation Trust and ensure that we are best positioned to continue serving youth, families, and communities in Southeastern New England, the Narragansett Council executive board has decided to sell Camp Cachalot and Camp Norse.

Although ownership of Camp Norse will change, our Council will enter into a long-term lease of Camp Norse from its new owner, so Camp Norse will continue without interruption to deliver the same life-changing experiences to youth in our area well into the future. This type of arrangement is customary for our Council—we already lease several camps including camps Yawgoog, Champlin, Buxton, Sandsland, Aquapaug, Buck Hill and Cub World from this same organization. We are discussing a sale of Camp Cachalot, which is already subject to a conservation restriction, with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts with the goal that it can be preserved as open space and available for recreational purposes.

The proceeds from the sales of Camp Cachalot and Camp Norse, along with other unrestricted assets available to us, will comprise our Council's contribution to the survivor's compensation Trust as part of the national organization's bankruptcy process.

It's important to note that Narragansett Council has not filed for bankruptcy—we remain as dedicated as ever to delivering our nation's foremost program for character development and values-based leadership training in Southeastern New England. We are looking forward to continued summer programming, our fall recruitment campaign, family camp weekends, Adventure Days, Merit Badge Mania, Scouting For Food, camporees and much more.

Additionally, we know this may raise questions about what other funds may be contributed to the survivor's Trust. We want to be clear that restricted donations can only be used for their designated purposes and are legally protected so that they are used as the donor specified. Local donations through Friends of Scouting (FOS), fundraising events (golf, sporting clays, Distinguished Citizens Awards Lunch) and sponsorships go straight to supporting Scouting in our communities today; these donations are used in real time, are critical to maintaining local operations and are not part of our contribution to the trust. Camp alumni association funds are unaffected and also will not be used towards the settlement.

These were difficult decisions, and we understand the concerns that they may raise with our local Scouting families. However, we are confident that this is the right course of action to ensure the future of Scouting in our communities.

Today's news does not change the exciting activities and adventures Scouting delivers to the youth in our programs every day. For more than a century, Scouting has continued to thrive despite many challenges, particularly in this past year. There is so much to look forward to in the months and years ahead, and we hope you will take part in it.

As always, we are grateful for your continued support of Scouting. Please do not hesitate to reach out with questions - you may email us at info@narragansettbsa.org
Thank you for your continued support of local Scouting.

Yours in Scouting,

Dennis Leahy
Council President

Paul Schofield
Council Commissioner

Tim McCandless
Scout Executive & CEO

Camp Norse Trivia:

1 – Amount of waste paper collected by Annawon Council in March/April 1945?
2 – 1946 Camp Norse had how many acres?
Answers on next page

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"If you haven't the time to help a boy, there's always someone with time to show him the wrong way. Thank You for taking the time"

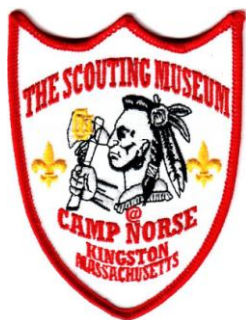
Asst. Dist Commissioner
John Gissetto 12/6/1979

Camp Norse Trivia Answers:

Question 1 – According to the 1945 War Time Service Report 726,009 lbs.

Question 2 – 65 Acres according to the 1946 Annawon Council Annual Report.

Extra bit of trivia - The Health Lodge was built with a \$1,500 Magee grant



This is written about the most important Scout you know. He's your son. On that day when he joined the Boy Scouts of America he promised, among other things, to be a better son and a better citizen too.

At Camp Norse, the summer camp of Annawon Council (BSA), your boy and hundreds of other boys form a Scout community where the finest ideals of character and citizenship are practiced in every daily activity. Here, close to the wonders of nature, Scouts enjoy the true pleasures of healthy, wholesome fun and, at the same time, learn the secret of success – getting along with their fellow Scouts and leaders.

Under the supervision of trained, experienced leaders your boy receives training in Scouting's many skills and crafts.. and has fun while he learns.

For the most important Scout you know, we suggest the very best summer ever.. at Camp Norse.

From the Annawon Council's 1976 Bicentennial Scout-O-Rama

MUSEUM DONATIONS

If you have Scouting memorabilia that you'd like to donate to The Scouting Museum @ Camp Norse please contact Bob Howard at r.howard@campnorse.org.



Would you like to become a CampMaster?

The Campmaster idea is not new or experimental. Many councils have used it for many years. The reason for its preeminence at this time is due to the increased number of packs, troops, crews and other organizations now using Scout properties year round and also the councils desire to maintain a high standard of camping as well as program service. The Campmaster idea is the extension of the commissioner service of the council into the outdoor phase of the program. A quality program of fun, adventure and purpose for youth is more assured when this support is given to the unit leadership in the outdoor program.

To serve as a weekend CampMaster you must be registered with the Boy Scouts of America, be current with your Youth Protection Training, and complete the short CampMaster training which is offered at Camp Norse.

If interested please contact Bob Howard at r.howard@campnorse.org

Shopping online can benefit Narragansett Council

Most of us have shopped online. Did you know AmazonSmile is a way customers can support their favorite charitable organization every time they shop with Amazon, at no additional cost.

Customers who shop at smile.amazon.com will find the same Amazon they know and love, with the added bonus that AmazonSmile will donate a portion of the eligible purchase price to the charity of your choice.

How to sign up for AmazonSmile

1. Visit smile.amazon.com
 2. Sign in with the same account you use for Amazon.com
 3. Select your charity
 4. Start shopping! Remember to checkout at smile.amazon.com to generate donations for your chosen charity.
- Tip: Add a bookmark to make it easier to shop at smile.amazon.com.

AmazonSmile's impact 2021:

- **\$2,814.47** to Narragansett Council, Boy Scouts of America*
- **\$285,795,312.80** to all charities in the US
- **\$321,230,298.08** to all charities worldwide

Camp Norse Alumni Individual Dues

As one of the core camps of the Narragansett Council, Camp Norse provides year-round programs including Cub Scout Day Camp, Family Camp, NYLT, Woodbadge, unit weekend camping and more. Thanks to friends like you (and the Magee and Maxum Funds), the camp provides enjoyable first overnight camping experience for many families. The alumni exists to preserve the heritage of Camp Norse and support its programs and activities. Dues to the Camp Norse Alumni are placed in a permanently restricted endowment fund which will exist in perpetuity.



Renew your dues today at <https://donations.scouting.org/#/council/546/appeal/49>

In Memoriam

In Recognition of members of our Scouting Family Who Have Gone Home

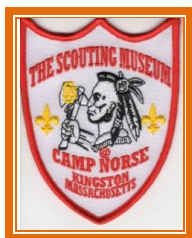
Kevin Jon Dropps, 69, formerly of Berkley MA, passed away unexpectedly at his home on Sunday, April 4, 2021 with family at his side. Kevin was the Scoutmaster Troop xx Berkley for more than 20 years, outstanding Unit Commissioner, Vigil member of Tulpe Lodge Order of the Arrow, recipient of the Silver Beaver Award in 2004.

A memorial service was held at Camp Norse Sunday September 19th in memory of Kevin.



SCOUTING MUSEUM @ CAMP NORSE HELP WANTED

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We are in need of responsible Staff Members for Your Scouting Museum. Your help is needed to vigorously pursue the Museum's Goals of providing: the finest Scout Museum within the New England area. Training will be provided.

Become part of a caring, active and supportive team

- Give something back to Scouting and the community
- Contribute to visitor engagement
- Help preserve and promote Scouting's cultural heritage
- Develop Scouting knowledge

Please consider volunteering for a Staff position today.

For further information contact Bob Howard r.howard@campnorse.org



Closing Thoughts

I think we all can agree 2021 is definitely a better year than 2020 was! Camp Norse summer camp happened with more than 300 Cubs experienced 8 weeks of day camp, we had 5 Family Camp Weekends, a Webelos weekend adventure and an OA ordeal. Fall will include a Cub Covered Wagon Derby, a Fall Camporee and many training opportunities for our Scouts and leaders. Camp Norse is open for weekend tent camping.

Of course it's not all peaches and cream. Membership has taken a significant hit especially at the Cub Scout Level which, of course, affects the Scouts BSA Troops. Many units stopped meeting in 2020 due to the pandemic and now the challenge is to get them up and running. Some chartering organizations are stepping away from Scouting due to the lawsuit. Narragansett Council is working with them to help our partnerships.

The Camp Norse Alumni Association is doing what our motto states "We will give back to camp more than camp gave us." The alumni association made a donation to summer camp to purchase program supplies and many projects were completed to support the infrastructure including painting the Magee Lodge, repairing the fishing docks, assisting with the refurbishing of the admin building, upgrading the camp wide Wi-Fi, work in the dining hall making room for new refrigeration equipment, building storage units at the maintenance building, and more. I'd like to recognize alumni members Steve O'Brien and Greg Boyd for their outstanding dedication and support of Camp Norse.

The Scouting Museum @ Camp Norse is open and ready to receive guests. If you'd like to visit the museum, lend a hand or donate scouting memorabilia let us know.

Thank you to all that have made the Camp Norse Alumni Association and The Scouting Museum @ Camp Norse a success. Please spread the word, we always need more members. If you know of someone that Camp Norse, Annawon Council or the Scouting program has had a positive influence on their life please inform them of the Camp Norse Alumni Association or forward their contact information and we'll reach out.

Yours in Scouting, Stay Safe, Happy Holidays and let's work together to keep Scouting the very best organization available to our youth.

Bob

Bob Howard, Chairman, Camp Norse Alumni Association. r.howard@campnorse.org
Steve O'Brien, Vice Chairman, Camp Norse Alumni Association sobrien@digitalob.com

Please share this news letter with your Scouting friends.