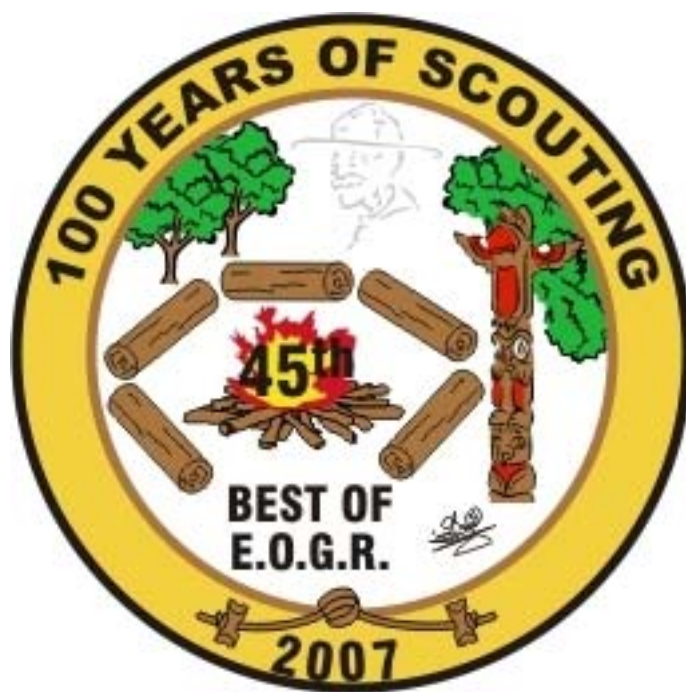


The Log of the



45 ANNUAL EASTERN ONTARIO GILWELL REUNION

SEPTEMBER 15,16 & 17 2007

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Group Photo



Wilburn Cowan

Ken Vardy, Randy Miller, Karla Benoit, Bert Catt, David Hamilton ,Richard Doner, Dot Thompson,

Bill Gibson, Deb Vardy, Jeffrey Lambert ,Stephen Redshaw, Bob Williamson, Priscilla Copeland

Don Judd, , Fred Hyde Glenda Farstad, Robert Gemmell, John Copeland

Honorary Camp Chief



Web Cowan

The Log of The 2007 Eastern Ontario Gilwell Reunion, our 45th Camp Opemikon - Sept. 14, 15, 16.

Friday Sept 14 - I'm not only the newbie here, I'm also the first to write in the Log for 2007. I came in with Rick Doner, and Ken Vardy (the other newbie and my husband) verrrry early. We thought we were the first ones here, but, after Tim Taylor told us where we were staying - 'Carlingwood' - we met Steve and promptly registered (even more paperwork). After a round of introductions as people started to arrive, I had to not only learn new names (Bob, Glenda, Bill, Karla, and Jeff) but I had to try to remember them all. I guess 3 out of 9 is a good start. Jeff immediately (after registration) introduced Karla and I to a card game called "Wizard". After a practice round, Karla, Steve, Jeff and I played a game which finished well into the night. Steve won, the other 2 tied and I have the dubious distinction of losing with a whopping -90. I strive to do my best, I really do. Speaking of mug-up, the Venturers did a great job of supplying us with cupcakes (with Sprinkles) and hot chocolate. We also procured our t-shirts. Oh yeah, Rick and Ken went to town for film (3 rolls) and missed all the festivities. Those shutterbug types. By the way, ask Rick about the cheese brick in the fridge.

Rick says to never mind about the cheese brick.

Saturday Sept 15 - Well, how are you all doing? Slept great last night after hitting the sofa at 1:30am. The need for film took Ken and I to Perth last night. We got back after coming back to camp the long way. The bridge was blocked by a truck. Well, Stan just told us a story about a 'roofless shower' at a Part 2 he trained on. You'll have to ask Stan for details, it's a great story. This morning, when I went to get a shirt from my duffle, I was surprised after opening the door to find Bill (Bob? whomever) Williamson there. He arrived when Ken and I were out exploring the back roads. Breakfast was standard bacon and eggs, coffee, orange juice, and hot chocolate. The Venturers did a good job - no Dayrall this year, yes, I'm the one that had him cook on the Part 2 I took in 2001. Arriving today are John and Priscilla Copeland, Don Judd, Dottie, Bert, Stan, and Fred. We are almost ready for opening, I'm passing the Log on.

The Opening was held at the entrance to the Dinning Hall. The Canadian flag and the Scout flag were broken on the 2 flag poles by the steps. Brenda then told us of the plans for the day - take your passbook and go to origami, try the blind walk, find out about orienteering, play croquet, and learn how to tie any knot you wish. Wib Cowan was introduced as our 2007 Honorary Camp Chief. We were told of the campfire where Scouts Own will be held, and the auction in the dinning hall.

10:40am and I have another chance to become creative. Karla just announced she 'got it'

- Part 1 of the Jubilee Jug. Steve quickly followed. Both proceeded to Part 2; brand new questions. The pitch for croquet has been set by persons unknown and probably not knowing anything about the game. Inside the dinning hall Fred and Mr. C - the knot man - are swapping knot tales, some of which may even be true. Bill continues - Well, the annual reunion has begun and my mind is still at rest. Round 1 of the Christie Challenge has been completed . Debbie and Karla verses the B. P. Guild. Bill guesses that 'we were showing our age' cause they lost to the women;' or maybe it was because his brain was still asleep. Which was it Don? At 5:16pm the pictures were taken during a slight rain shower. The annual meeting started shortly after. It voted that we will have the same Organizers for the 46th as we had this year.

Then the dinner - after a Blessing, 3 toasts with juice - Our Queen, Our Founder, and Our Camp, Ope. Then the roast beef, potatoes, veggies, gravy, tea biscuits, tea, coffee, milk that we all ate and drank with gusto - some even having seconds. Finally a beautiful cake with the 2007 crest, in icing, on top, and a most tasteful, delicious, mouth-watering cake it was.

As Bill already told us, this year's committee was re-elected to serve for another year on a motion by Don Judd. Dave Hamilton, our treasurer, presented the financial statements for year ending 2006, which were accepted as presented.

Sunday Sept 16 - After breakfast, 14 sitting around telling stories and some even wrote short notes in the Log. Ken Vardy writes - What a wonderful reunion! Certainly I will be returning next year. I have fallen under Opemikon's spell. A shutter-bugs dream. It was great to re-unite with Stan, a trainer from the Family Pack Part 2 I attended in 1994 in the St. Lawrence Region at a Scout Camp north of Kilaloe, which I understand is now closed. Also caught up with Jeff Benson, a Regional Scouter whom I worked with as President of Peterborough District in White Pine Region. So much for fretting about not knowing anyone at E.O.G.R. Had a fantastic Campfire last evening, run by our Honourary Camp Chief, Wib Cowan. It was held in the Dinning Hall where it was nice and warm and cosy. A Scouts Own led by bill Gibson was held at the Camp Fire as some Gilwellians were not staying overnight. The auction was held and Stan lived up to the reputation bestowed upon him by his admirers as being a tough auctioneer who can sell ice cubes to certain indigenous people's. Although I don't look forward to leaving all my new found friends , I have the promise of being able to reunite again next year. Thanks to everyone for making me feel welcomed and a part of everything. I guess it's true - strangers are friends you haven't met yet.

Last day of E.O.G.R. Weekend. We all had a fun time. We had a croquet challenge which was a tie between Karla, Diane, Stan, Bob and Randy. (Interesting how 5 people can make 3 teams of 2, but we all know that in Scouting anything is possible.) The Jubilee Jug was once again won by Karla (second time - Question - is she allowed to win it three times in a row? If she does, does she get to keep the trophy?) Tune in next year and see.

Jeff agrees with everyone - another great Reunion, and with that thought we will all go home with a warm glow that we will try to describe to our fellow Gilwellians. If we're successful, we'll be able to grow this event to the kind of event that has Scouters beating a path to 'Ope' so they can take part in next years Reunion.

And the last word from our Chair, Glenda - This was my 3rd E.O.G.R. Weekend. Again I had a great time. Thanks to my husband, Jim, who brought the badges from Ottawa. Zone West had forgotten to ship them so when I called Friday, they said they would ship them to the Ottawa airport by FedEx and Jim volunteered to pick them up and deliver them to Camp, so I would not have to go into Ottawa. I believe that this was the first time that the croquet game was played in the dark and ended up being a contact sport, played, of course, under scouting's flexible rules. It was great to get together with friends from near and far. I'm looking forward to next year.

See you at the

46th EASTERN ONTARIO GILWELL REUNION,
CAMP OPEMIKON
SEPT. 19, 20. 21, 2008

Minutes of the 45 Annual General Meeting

Of the Eastern Ontario Gilwell Reunion

The 45th Annual General Meeting of the Eastern Ontario Gilwell Reunion was held at Camp Opemikon, Christie Lake, Ontario on September 16, 2007. The meeting opened at 4:26

Presiding: Glenda Farstad
Secretary/Registrar: Steve Redshaw
Treasurer: David Hamilton

Attending

Karla Benoit
Bert Catt
John Copeland
Priscilla Copeland
Wilburn Cowan
Richard Doner
Glenda Farstad
Robert Gemmell
Fred Hyde
Bill Gibson
David Hamilton

Don Judd
Jeffrey Lambert
Stan Lasenba
Randy Miller
Stephen Redshaw
Dot Thompson
Ken Vardy
Deb Vardy
Robert Williamson

Agenda

Approval of Minutes
Budget
Voting in changes in the EOGR
Election of Officers
Close

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the 44th EOGR Annual Meeting were verbally given as notes from the 44th Annual Reunion were not available. Items arising from the discussed minutes were the potential Fence Gate project; this was discussed during the 44th Meeting but was not pursued as approval had not been obtained from Opemikon. Part of the reason based on discussion was that installation of a steel fence was being considered.

There was an objection noted by Bob Williamson to having a steel fence at Opemikon, it was suggested such a fence was not in keeping with the scouting spirit. A fence with lashing, wood was more reflective of Scouting. Next year is the celebration year for Opemikon and such a fence may be a good anniversary project, at minimum getting rid of old gates as part of the April work party event may improve the entrance appearance. Discussion closed with no specific action, follow-up to be determined by the 2008 Committee.

Budget review – David Hamilton

2006 finance statement was handed out, we closed at \$1,923, Dave estimated for this year that expenses would exceed income by about \$100. It was noted that last year the project cost us about \$500.

Opemikon Project: A question was raised about donating to Opemikon. The meeting members indicated that general consensus was that we wait until we have a better idea about what Opemikon

will be doing and then contribute to specific projects.

Discussion on Promoting the Reunion

Jeff Lambert suggested that we ask Opemikon to promote EOGR which would lead to increased revenue, general discussion concluded that other groups would be more relevant in terms of promotion .

Promotion: Discussion on who best to promote EOGR, Voyageur vision is a good target as it covers our target population, it was noted by John Copeland that we cannot get the names of Woodbadge II graduates from Scout Headquarters, we need a way to advertise the group. Presentations would also be a good way to promote the group, we need someone from the committee to get out to visit the various Woodbadge II's. Fred Hyde noted that its best to have it as a special edition of Voyageur Vision as the Vision at times gets so long that items get lost. Another activity would be to do presentations at the Area meetings. Additional suggestions: Present to the Guilds.

Discussion took place on the present format of a one-day event. It was noted that we presently have a conflict with the Commissioners Forum. It was suggested that we talk to the organizers of the forum and suggest that the Commissioners forum be held on Sunday. This would allow individuals to attend and participate in the Reunion, stay over and finish up with the Commissioners forum. A potential fall back would be to have the reunion on Sunday, however that would interfere

with the Campfire event and Auction, while the Commissioners Forum is a half day event.

MOTION: It was moved by Jeff Lambert and seconded by Priscilla Copeland that the Commissioners forum be approached by the EOGR to suggest positioning the Forum on Sunday, allowing members to attend the Reunion and attend the Forum. Vote passed Unanimous, Motion carried. Glenda to follow-up.

Items related to Reunion Organization 2007

A number of members do not have reliable access to email, the approach of how best to distribute the Registration information was discussed. This year the approach was to email out the registration for anyone we had the email address for and only use Canada post for those without email or whose emails had errors.

A number of approaches were discussed, based on the discussion it was decided to Mail out to group next year and follow-up with email, Month late, to send out. Descriptive Brochure to send out with the pamphlets.

Bob Williamson suggested that we no longer offer T-Shirts as part of the Reunion. A number of members had indicated that the crest was sufficient and that they had not ordered T_Shirts. The Committee would be provided with T-Shirts for identification, any others will be by order only, with a firm cutoff for ordering. To reduce future costs only a standard Gilwell Reunion T-Shirt would be designed.

DECISION: We will go with a Generic Gilwell Reunion T-Shirt. Committee to determine how to obtain the design.

Election of Committee

MOTION: It was moved by Donn Judd and seconded by Stan Lasenba that the organizing present committee be kept for another year, 17 members in agreement, 2 opposed, Motion carried. It was noted as part of the discussion around the organizing committee that Bob Williamson is irreplaceable.

Trustees have agreed to continue to serve.

Vote of thank you to present committee,
Moved by Seconded by Fred

Open Discussion

- Crests for Opemikon can be bought at Opemikon or at Scouts Headquarters.
- Committee would like to continue with one day event. Target the 20th of September 2008.
- Blue Spring reunion is holding stable with a small decline over time.

Motion: It was moved by Karla Benoit, seconded by Richard Doner to add Transportation needed checkmark to the registration form.

Meeting adjourned at 5:14.

Photobook



The Jubilee Jug (Then and Now) : Karla Benoit



The Christie Cup Challenge (Croquet):



The Cake



Knots and ropes

