



The Emerald Bay Chronicle

Volume 19 Number 3 Published by the Emerald Bay Association Fall 2012



Message from the Chair

The wind is cooler and the days are shorter, but I still cannot help thinking of Catalina and EB during this time of year. The holidays are always a busy time with family events, traveling, and the chaotic year-end crunch at work. It is this busyness that reminds me of how hard we used to work and play with our best friends while out at EB. Recently, my father told me that he grows older, but refuses to grow up; I definitely am the same way and keep myself busy at having fun every day!

The busyness, fun, and friends doesn't stop with the holidays and definitely hasn't stopped because summer is over! We have a Colorado ski trip planned, a winter cocktail party, spring wine tasting, summer reunion, and fall BBQ all on the books for next year. All of this while we have embarked on our most ambitious fund raising event to date, the construction of a year-round staff cabin.

Enjoy your holidays with friends and family, we will be very busy at working together and having fun very soon!

- Dave McAlister, Chairman



Participants at the 23rd Emerald Bay Alumni Summer Reunion pose for a picture.

Tri Champ Crowned at Reunion

The 23rd annual Emerald Bay Association Reunion at Camp Emerald Bay was enjoyed by the more than 100 alumni and families that attended on August 11-12. The perfect weather, the warm, clear water in the bay combined with the graciousness of the camp staff, guaranteed a memorable weekend.

The 11th Annual EBA Tri, a popular event at the Reunion, saw a record turnout. With pre-race favorites Pat McDonald and Paul Renner both out with the sniffles, it looked like defending champ, Greg Walther, was the man to beat. After the swim, it was Walther in 1st place, with Matt Marak and Dan Bolton hot on his heels. A large gap was closed by Sarah Stewart during the kayak leg, but it all came down to the run. Dan caught Greg and held him off to take the champion's title. Tom Foote turned in the second fastest run to take 3rd place. Sarah Stewart clinched the women's title and Team Titus smashed the team course record. As always, Lee Harrison finished 5th. A big thank you to all the volunteers who came out and made the race possible. I encourage all of you to come out and race next summer. A special challenge has been issued to the current staff, whom have been handily defeated by Alum racers for the last 5 years.

- Your race director, Rich Wise

Rebuilding South Hill

The EBA is excited to share our latest Capital Campaign with you. The camp will soon be undertaking a historic building project, to replace the dilapidated cabins on South Hill. As you may be aware, most of these cabins date back to WWII, some farther! The plan is to replace such cabins, next year, with SIX (6) new two-story, 4 bedroom cabins. The cost is approximately \$175k, per cabin. Camp is well on its way to funding these cabins and has asked the EBA to step up, as we always have in the past. The EBA has taken this challenge and agreed to raise the funds to build one (1) of the cabins. We have pledged to accomplish this feat over the next 2.5 years. While this may seem daunting, you will be impressed to know that due to generous pledges from the Nate Dean Family, The Morimoto Families and the EBA Board Members, we are already more than half way to our goal.

We ask that you all join us in making this historic event possible. With over 1,900 members (several of whom have already pledged), we have no doubt that the EBA can add this project to the long list of contributions we have made to the place we all love. To help out, please visit the website at <http://emeraldbayalumni.org/cabin> or contact me at: rich@emeraldbayalumni.org

-Rich Wise, EBA Fundraising Chairman





Larry Monson, An Appreciaton



Emerald Bay has changed over the years since my first visit as a camper in the summer of 1969. Most of the buildings have been replaced or remodeled, the pier and docks are new and even the names of the campsites have been shuffled. One constant during this whole time that did not seem to change very much was Larry Monson. As long as I have been coming to camp, Larry was there as a volunteer commissioner.

At first he and Milt Samuels were a team, coming during the same summer week to volunteer as commissioners. They listened to scoutmasters concerns and would offer solace and advice. They poured coffee on the porch. They were an avuncular presence that made staff and scouts feel that someone cared about their concerns and made them feel at home. When Milt passed away, Larry continued to come to camp and provide service.

Larry loved attending staff meetings and contributing to the staff auctions. He seemed to have an endless supply of staff shirts, patches, buckles and other items that he generously donated for the auction. He enjoyed the few minutes of frenzied bidding and the acknowledgment he would receive for the donation of the items. I witnessed scores of auctions that Larry participated in over the years including what would be his last one this past summer. I think he loved every one.

I did not know much about Larry's life away from camp. I know he was in the grocery business and lived in the

(See **Larry**, page 2)

EB Staffman Swims Channel

This summer, Ernie Hoftzyer swam the Catalina Channel, in 61-degree waters, without a wetsuit! Starting at Doctor's Cove at midnight, Ernie arrived in Palos Verdes at 9:36 a.m. Ernie commented: "I wouldn't have even thought about attempting this without our life-defining experiences at Emerald Bay. Cal's ashes are spread off the point there and that was a pull too." Ernie and his late brother Cal were "standout" staffmen in the 1980's. This incredible feat is a testament to perseverance, determination and the EB spirit. Well done Ernie! - R.Wise

Pierce Family Chapel Dedication

Bob Hawkins thought that the natural southeast-facing bowl, perched above Doctor's Cove, would make a good location for the camp chapel. It was close to camp, but far enough away to offer a quiet place for reflection and worship. The location had a commanding view of Emerald Bay and the south side of the island. Bob chose well. For more than fifty years, the chapel has provided a serene and beautiful place for countless religious services and meditations. The chapel was completely rebuilt this past winter and spring. It was dedicated to Brian Pierce, Resident Ranger, and Judy, his wife, in a moving ceremony conducted this summer.

The chapel was dedicated to Brian "for his years of service and all that he has done for camp" according to Lee Harrison, Chief Operating Officer. Lee explained at the dedication ceremony that Brian "consistently and quietly does his job" and is "honest, committed and dedicated." Lee noted that Brian has been involved in all of the recent construction projects at camp, including engineering and installing the water and fire suppression systems.

Lee led the effort to rebuild the chapel. He organized volunteers to remove the old seating and improve the trail to the chapel, including repairing stairs, planting trees and installing a watering system. Most of the materials for the new stone and wood benches were carried to the chapel by hand. There are two wood benches that were created out of planks of eucalyptus that came from Emerald Bay Trees. According to Lee, the project was "a labor of love by volunteers and staff."

The Pierce Family Chapel is a fitting testament to Brian and Judy's commitment to Camp, their many accomplishments and their service to others.



Lee Harrison, Chief Operating Officer, addresses the audience at the chapel dedication.



Staff Picture Project

The EBA is proud to have placed over 60* newly laminated staff photos in the dining hall. Once again, the Dining Hall becomes a museum to honor the staffers who have built the spirit of Camp Emerald Bay. A special thanks to those who helped round up missing photos, including Ed Butterworth/Ken Wise ('20s), Paul Renner ('40s), Len Block ('50s), Bob Henszey ('70s), and Brad Rothenberg ('90s). Extra thanks to Bob Fenton, Lee Harrison, Joseph Strothers, Brian Pierce and Dave McAlister for all their assistance. (*Note: We are still looking for '26, '27, '29-'41, '46, '49-'51, 54-56, 58, 59, 62, 63, 65, '67-'69. If you have any of these, please let us know.) - SPP Coordinator, Rich Wise

Where in Emerald Bay?



Former Resident Ranger Bob McDermott and Maintenance Man Jon Ericson are playing horseshoes in the shade of the spreading fig tree. Where are they playing? Bob and Jon are playing near the southeast corner of the Dining Hall. This picture was taken in the mid seventies before the Dining Hall was remodeled and the porch extended.

Larry (from page 2)

San Fernando Valley. He had been active in Scouting and had a wife and family. I am sure that his quiet persistence and calm demeanor that he exhibited at camp were assets in those endeavors too. Larry was 95 years old when he passed away this fall. He will be missed. When I volunteer at camp next summer, I will miss catching up with him and renewing our friendship that has been a constant all these years.

- Bob Fenton, Editor



Larry Monson and Rod Wheeler

Calendar of Events

- Mar 03 Colorado Ski Trip
- May 2013 Wine Tasting
- Jun 09 First Camping Session
- Aug 10-11 Emerald Bay Association Reunion
- Aug 17 End of Last Camping Session
- Oct 26 EBA Barbecue

Yes, I want to support Camp Emerald Bay.

I am enclosing: () \$50 () \$100 () \$250 () \$500 () \$1000 () \$_____

Name _____

Email Address _____

Please send your donation to the Emerald Bay Association, P.O. Box 959. Venice, CA, 90294

To learn more and donate online, please go to www.EmeraldBayAlumni.org/donate.



Leeward

www.emeraldbayalumni.org

Summer at Emerald Bay



Participants in the 11th annual EBA Triathlon at Emerald Bay.



EBA Board Members Brad Rothenberg and Kara Taylor conduct the memorabilia auction at the summer reunion.



Handicraft Instructors help Scouts with their projects.



A war canoe lands at Parson's Beach with assistance from the Parson's rangers.

Emerald Bay Association
P.O. Box 959
Venice, CA 90294

Address Correction Requested