

# The Emerald Bay Chronicle

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## A Festive 2005 EBA Reunion

The 2005 Annual Summer Alumni Reunion was a tremendous success this year. The event was held at Camp Emerald Bay on August 20 and 21. Nearly 100 alumni and their families attended. The weekend began with a journey across the channel onboard the *Miss Christi*. Other attendees rode with Sea Scout Ship 16, The Islander, onboard the *Manta*. The first order of business was a tour through the camp, highlighting the recently upgraded facilities, including new docks at the waterfront (purchased by the EBA), the Marine Science Center and the newly-dedicated Alan B. Solursh Field Sports Area (also funded in part by your contributions to the EBA). After lunch the current staff generously opened their areas so that the Alumni could enjoy snorkeling, kayaking, mountain biking, pottery, and shooting. After a terrific dinner the Alumni enjoyed a traditional campfire, at which many folks were cajoled into replaying their old roles. Sunday morning brought the third annual Alumni Triathlon Event, which saw increased participation from both the Alumni and current staff.. Following the Triathlon was the annual board meeting, in which

**2005 EBA Summer Reunion—**  
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the year's events were reviewed, and future plans discussed. Finally the memorabilia auction, featuring many rare and unique Camp items, raised over \$3,500. For those of you that attended, I'd like to take a moment to thank you for joining us. I would also like to thank the current staff for so warmly welcoming us into their summer home. It was a privilege to meet you and to spend precious time at Camp. Next year's reunion will be August 19-20, 2006, and I hope you will all join us for another fantastic weekend!

-Andrew Wilder, EBA Chair



## EBA TRIATHLON GROWS! BREMNER MORRIS TAKES 1ST PLACE

The 3rd annual EBA Triathlon grows by 40% as 22 sign up to take the challenge! Most all areas of camp were represented as the current staff, once again, held off the alumni to take the trophy. For the 3rd year running, former waterfront stud and EBA officer Pat McDonald finished first in the swim. However, Pat's aged knees were no match for the winged feet of staff speedster, Bremner Morris, who flew through the run to cross the finish line first. Bremner's finishing time of 37 minutes was more than a full minute faster than the course record, set by Kirk Hetherington in 2004. Pat was able to hold off the late charge of Jimmy Moore who placed 3rd by seconds over a determined Dave Ziegler. Ziggy's 4th place finish was 2½ minutes faster than his finish last year. More importantly, Ziggy finished well ahead of his nemesis and 5th place finisher, Lee Harrison. Lee finished with faster times, but cannot seem to move up the leaders' board. This is the 3rd year in a row he has

*Triathlon continued on page 3.*



2005 Emerald Bay Alumni Triathlon participants at the starting line in Doctor's Cove.



Rugged E's overnight mountain bike trip to Little Harbor on the east end of the island.

## The Future of High Adventure at Emerald Bay

The original high adventure program at Camp Emerald Bay created in 1965 by Dick Rice and Bob Hawkins was called Rugged E after the Eagle and Explorer scouts it sought to bring back to camp for one more year. Rugged E catered to scouts that had already done most of the programming at Emerald Bay and who were looking for something more thrilling and daring. The program was based on the Navy's elite Underwater Demolition Team and utilized many of the skills taught in the military with a strong aquatic theme. While Rugged E has changed from its original concept, the program still seeks to challenge, excite, and thrill older scouts. Today, Emerald Bay seeks to broaden its scope of influence over the ethics and leadership skills of the 14 year old and older population of scouts through a greater utilization of the unlimited aquatic opportunities found in and around the camp. The Emerald Bay Academy of Ethics and Leadership seeks to develop a high adventure camp tailored to sophisticated young adults with varied interests. In addition, the camp will expand its capacity through "outback" program experiences and the utilization of existing program buildings such as the Pennington Marine Science Center. The camp sees this as a major opportunity to increase our emphasis on the development of positive approaches to individual ethics and provide a wider range of leadership experiences and opportunities to practice leadership skills. The camp will incorporate the existing Rugged E (Explorer), Canoe Catalina (now Rugged C) and Open Water SCUBA certification along with several new programs e.g. Rugged O (Oceanographer), the national Youth Leader Training, and Rugged S (Sailor). By creating a separate camp, each program element will be able to develop a winning structure without being limited by the normal operations of camp. As an example, Rugged E will be able to use the camp as a base and spend most of its time exploring the island over a longer time frame. Several

*High Adventure continued on next page.*

## Eleven Week Journey

This summer started off so quickly: before I knew it, high school was over and three days after my graduation I was taking the Catalina Express to my summer getaway. As the island and all of its beauty glimmered past the horizon, I knew where I was—home. The usual camp friendliness did not fail me. While this was my third summer, I was removed from the nature area, my area of expertise, and was transformed into a scoutcraft instructor. Unbeknownst to me, this change made this summer the best of my life. Truth be told, junior staff instructors are not omniscient. In fact, most of us are far from experts in our hired areas. Before this summer started, I had little experience with skills such as knot tying and orienteering. As summer progresses an instructor gains knowledge and insight through his or her experience with the scouts and merit badge material. Thus, by forcing me out of my comfort zone, the new position allowed me to gain new skills and experiences; I was a scoutcraft master by the end of my eleven-week journey. Here's the bottom line: Emerald Bay is a place of growth and new experiences. Now of course, camp will not do all the changing for us, we have to aid in the process by being open to change and step out of our comfort zone to meet new people and try new things. I was lucky enough to realize this which I believe was one of the elements that made this last summer unforgettable.

*-Mike Bartha, 2005 EB STAFF* 🦋



## Alan B. Solursh Field Sports Area Dedication

On June 11<sup>th</sup>, the Alan B. Solursh Field Sports Area was officially dedicated. Friends and family sailed and flew to Catalina for this beautiful event set between the Rifle and Archery Ranges in front of the new teaching area. The backdrop was a rolling stone wall wrapping around a Toyon Tree and dedication plaque balancing nature and program. Several years in the making of the state-of-the-art facility doubles the number of shooting positions, providing each scout more time at the shooting line and the staff greater opportunities for coaching. This coupled with the best quality equipment, scouts now earn the merit badges offered in record numbers with the highest caliber of instruction. The camp's new emphasis on instilling ethics in Scouts had a fundamental effect on the Fields Sports staff's purpose and teaching. This past summer they agreed to focus their attention on the value of personal responsibility through discipline and self-control. This enabled the staff to see their role as more than instructors of a skill. They understood their purpose was to be facilitator's in the development of a Scouts values. The new Field Sports Area is a tremendous addition to the arsenal of providing Scouts a fun experience with a values based purpose. Thanks to Alan, his family, and friends for making this all a reality.

-Lee Harrison, 2005 Camp Director ☘



Ribbon cutting ceremony performed by Brandon and Darren, sons of Alan and Julie Solursh.

*High Adventure continued from last page.*

infrastructure opportunities that will ensure a quality high adventure camp that will inspire scouts nationally include: a new campsite, Dive/Research Vessel, C.O.P.E., 4 Catamarans, SCUBA Equipment, Stake Bed, Program and Support Equipment, and a Program Director. Emerald Bay is in the rare position of being one of the few camps in the nation capable of offering a dynamic and challenging ethics and leadership program with unparalleled access to sites on and around an island. The investment needed to run a world class high adventure program is approximately \$250,000 with a goal of being fully operational by 2007 with much of the infrastructure and programming occurring in 2006.

-Lee Harrison, 2005 Camp Director ☘

*Triathlon continued from front page.*

finished 5th! Asked for a comment after the race, Lee *promised* "a podium finish next year!" Other racers logged faster times over last year's race, including Artie, Chris and Sarah. Naomi finished first among the women with Sarah fast on her heels. In the end, all the competitors came in under 1 hour and a good time was had by all. A special thanks to the volunteers that made the race possible! You are all invited to come out next year, which promises to be epic, with all three prior champions racing at the same time. Will Bremner defend his title? Will a new star take him down? Will Paul

Renner toe the line and beat them all? I look forward to seeing you all when we get the answer next August! *Your race director, Rich Wise*

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**Bremner's stellar run earned him 1st place.**





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## Gung-Ho for EB!

During my fourth summer working at Emerald Bay, my mom finally made the trip down from Vegas to come visit me. I was giving her the royal tour of camp, and as we were stopped for a few minutes on the porch of the Marine Science Center overlooking the parade ground, she said, "I'm beginning to see why you love it here." So why do you love Emerald Bay? If someone asked you to answer this question, what would *you* say? While trying to formulate a response, I instead find myself caught up in a slew of memories that only fellow comrades could interpret. I love Emerald Bay because you can hop in a motorboat and chase dolphins off of Arrow Point. I love Emerald Bay because you can spend your birthday hiking to Silver Mine and jumping off cliffs. I love Emerald Bay because every week there are hundreds of new people who want to get to know you. I love Emerald Bay because the friendships you build at camp are ten times stronger than ones from the mainland. This past summer while I was helping in the Trading Post, Kara Taylor reminded me that I once told her, "I like camp, but I'm not one of those people who is all gung-ho about it." Well friends, you guys must have done something right because a lot has changed in the past four years. Standing on the porch with my mom that afternoon I thought back over the summers I had spend at camp. The buildings, the programs, and the faces all change, but the reason I love Emerald Bay is because the great memories last forever. *-Burt Miller, 2005 EB STAFF* ☠



Jimmy Moore teaches motorboating.



Bob Fenton stands on EBA donated docks .



Jon and Becky in Cock Robin.



Clif Stewart at the EBA Auction.



Awesome alumni volunteers.



JP Caputo coaches CIT Sam Ducourant.

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