

The Emerald Bay Chronicle

Volume 9 Number 1

Published by the Emerald Bay Alumni

Spring/Summer 2002

Waves

I feel a wave of nostalgia sweeping over me. I can't help myself. I am lying awake in my cot staring at the ceiling of the old Bayshore cabin on "old" South Hill. I am tired from the work of the work party on this mild May evening, but not ready to close my eyes. I pull my sleeping bag around my shoulders and let the memories flood over me.

The one room cabin is very little changed from the middle seventies when I called it home for several summers. Canvas flaps still keep out the night chill (and now keep out the glaring light at the end of the pier.) The sound of the ocean swell lapping on the beach still fills the quiet cabin. The wood patch in front of the door, routed with "BSYC," which covers a crack in the front porch, is still there. Gone are the bunk beds and metal lockers.

Gone too, of course, are the friends I shared the cabin with. I think about my cabinmates, some I have not seen since then, some I still maintain contact with. I have lost contact with Jon Erickson, who was on the bunk below me, Jim Lopes, Dan Schmallen and Steve Geise. I still keep in touch with Mike Mullin and Bob Henszey.

I am reminded of the good friends, the adventures, the hard work, the warm days, the cool nights, the campfires, overnights at Parson's, elderberry pie, elderberry wine (a story for another column), the hikes to Ironbound and the dive trips to Starlight.

The memories are comforting and relaxing. Their images are vivid and colorful. They serve to distract me from the cares and worries of the day and suddenly I remember how tired I am. I snuggle deeper in my sleeping bag and fall fast asleep.

- Bob Fenton, Editor



Setting up tents on a work party at Emerald Bay this Spring.

Dedication Celebration Planned for Annual Alumni Reunion

The annual Emerald Bay Alumni Reunion is scheduled for August 17-18 at Emerald Bay. A dedication of the new construction that has been completed at camp is planned during this weekend. A reception and tours of the improvements are some of the special activities. Alumni and their families are invited to participate in the dedication. The usual reunion activities, such as the waterfront, hiking and sunning on the beach will also be available. In the evening, a campfire and cracker-barrel are planned.

On Sunday, the annual Alumni meeting will be held. An update on camp improvements and a memorabilia auction are on the agenda.

Accommodations for the weekend will be in a wall tent located in one of the campsites closest to the dining hall. Saturday lunch and dinner and Sunday breakfast and lunch are included. Cots and mattresses are provided, but sleeping

bags are needed.

The cost of the weekend is \$75 for food and transportation on the Miss Christi. Children 12 and under pay \$65. If other transportation will be used, food only will cost \$35.

To arrange travel to camp on the Miss Christi, please call Fred Barker at (818) 841-0565 to make a reservation. Fred will need a day and evening phone number to return your call. Confirmation must be received from Fred to ensure space on the boat.

The Miss Christi is scheduled to leave from the Pardee Sea Scout Base, 13640 Mindanao Way in Marina Del Rey at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday and will go directly to Emerald Bay. The Miss Christi will return to Marina Del Rey at approximately 5:00 p.m. on Sunday.

Join in the fun, sun and friends at the reunion. Escape to the island paradise. We look forward to seeing you there!



Construction Update

The construction projects continue at Emerald Bay. Despite some setbacks, new buildings are being completed and the new water system, by the time you read this, should be supplying camp.

Visitors to the front end of camp will notice the new training center located next to the dining hall and the new staff cabins located on either side of the parade ground. All of these buildings have been completed. Their stone faces and distinctive dark green roofs blend well with the surrounding terrain, but also look fresh and new.

In the middle of camp, the new trading post has been completed. The two-story building contains the trading post, the business office and the clerk's office on the first floor. The second story is designated for storage. The trading post has cathedral ceilings and a porch that runs the entire length of the front of the building.

Two new sets of bathrooms and shower rooms have been completed

in the backcountry. The bathrooms are complete with individual flush toilets as well as indoor sinks. No more pit toilets and washstands! The shower rooms have individual shower stalls and are completely covered.

The new water tank, after some initial setbacks, should be supplying camp with adequate water pressure for the fire suppression systems as well as the new bathrooms. The new tank contains 100,000 gallons of water. Imagine water pressure at the fourth A-frame at dinner time!

The next project scheduled will be the construction of another two-story building next to the trading post. This building will house the handicraft lodge and the staff lounge. The rifle range reconstruction has been postponed until Spring of 2003, because there were concerns that it could not be completed in time for use this summer. The Alumni will continue to raise funds and organize work parties to help rebuild the rifle range.



Dave Lerew stands in the center of the new water tank.

Calendar of Events

- Jun 2, 2002 - Pre-Week
- Jun 9, 2002 - Camp Begins
- Aug 17, 2002 - Alumni Reunion
at Emerald Bay
- Sep 2, 2002 - Camp Closes

Yes, I want to help support Camp Emerald Bay. My contribution will be used to help the program and develop the facility at Emerald Bay. My donation will help the Alumni achieve our goal of rebuilding the rifle range at Emerald Bay.

I am enclosing: 50\$ 100\$ 500\$ 1000\$ \$_____

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



Letters to the Editor

What's Up Doc?

Thanks for the reply! It's great that my memory actually works well enough to remember names from that period of my life. I'm actually not too surprised, since EB itself as well as many of the staff (such as yourself) made such an impression on me. In fact, during my graduate work in Chemistry at UCSB (1982-87) I was also working on a private pilot's license, and I took many of my friends from Santa Barbara to lunch at the Airport In The Sky (Buffalo Burgers, of course...). This trip would always entail a nostalgic pass over EB on the way back.

I remember the one memorable summer when the Glomar Explorer passed by the camp one afternoon on it's way from the Isthmus to find that Russian submarine, and I had some people out on one of the Hobie 16's chasing it...until they warned us away! That was also the summer when I tried to perfect a couple of R/C boats, but they kept running aground or the radios would fail or something. I remember that a guy named "Flash" was on the Waterfront staff at the time, too...

I really miss that place! I would be interested in one of the August reunions.

Curt M. Breneman, '73-'75
Troy, NY

Update

Just updating my contact information for the EB Chronicle. The address you've got on your mailing list is actually my parent's, who diligently save every copy of the Chronicle to give to me whenever I get the chance to come back to LA.

But I just stumbled across the EB Alumni website on a cold day here in DC and it's got me feeling all nostalgic for one of the best summers of my life (1984) — when I started out as a CIT and ended the summer as part of the waterfront staff, so tan and fit when I got back home that my parents hardly recognized me. Ah, it's been all downhill from there.

Peter Harsha, '84
Falls Church, VA

Get Back

My name is Rob Gray. I worked at E.B. as a C.I.T. in 93, and came back 94 to work on the water front staff. Currently I'm staying in Redondo Beach.

I would like to get The E.B. paper. Actually, I would really like to work out there again.

Rob Gray, '93-'94
Redondo Beach, CA

More Memories

Just stumbled across your website on Emerald Bay. I attended as a camper with troop 11 (Santa Monica) from 1961 through 1966. I was a "Ranger" on staff for the summer of 1967. Your website brought back a flood of GREAT memories....Helmet diving, Order of the Arrow ceremonies, overnight canoe trips to Little Harbor, and, of course, the weekly USS Resolute visits (complete with the Mariner Girl Scouts!).

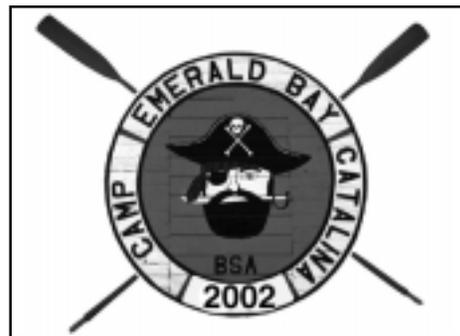
Skip Feher, '67
Tustin, CA

Rifle Range Fund Raising Continues

Alumni Chairman Dennis Conneally announced that the Alumni has raised more than half of the funds needed to rebuild the rifle range at Camp Emerald Bay. According to Dennis, the Alumni has raised more than half of the \$26,000 needed to complete the project. An additional \$10,000 is needed to ensure that the project is fully funded. The rifle range construction is expected to begin in the fall and be completed in time for the 2003 summer season. Jon McKenzie, Director of Camping for WLAAC, stated at a recent Alumni board meeting that only fully funded projects can begin construction and there is no other funding for the rifle range. This is why the Alumni's support is so important. Dennis is confident that the Alumni will be able to meet the fundraising goal by the time construction begins.

Email Addresses Needed

Please send your email addresses to the Alumni. We are compiling a list. Go to www.emerald-bayalumni.org to leave us your email address or other updates.





Leeward

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

A Slice of Camp Life



The new trading post underconstruction. Ranger Brian Pierce is accompanied by volunteers Dave Lerew, Steve Kofahl and Stick.



The new trading post nearing completion. It is a two story building that will also house the business office.

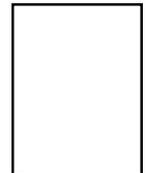


This is the new water tank which sits on hillside above camp. The tank will ensure adequate waterpressure for fire suppression and flush toilets.



This is the completed training center building. This conference room has a fireplace and is completely wired for video and audio presentations.

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



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED