



The Emerald Bay Chronicle

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Message from the Chair

Lucky Number 2013

We have big year ahead of us here in 2013. We have more great events planned and we are in the middle of our largest fundraising campaign ever - the construction of a new cabin on South Hill. By the time this newsletter hits the streets, we will have claimed success on a second annual ski trip to Breckenridge, Colorado. There were even collector's edition beanie hats this year so if you missed the trip, keep your eyes out at the coming auctions for one!

We will be doing our spring wine tasting event again this year, and it will again be in support of the campership program. Even though we have taken on the very ambitious fund raising program of the cabin campaign, the support that our membership has for the campership program cannot be ignored! Please do not feel like you need to contribute to both, but every little bit helps!

This year we are rebooting the fall BBQ and combining it with a morning SCUBA dive trip. This will be a great event and a wonderful chance to spend time with the 2013 staff as they are just getting over the culture shock of coming back to the mainland. Contact John Meyers for more info or if you are interested in helping out.

Looking forward to seeing you out there!

- Dave McAlister, Chairman



Event Chair Clif Stewart and Wine Expert Toby Sharp introduce the offerings at the 2012 Emerald Bay Association Wine Tasting.

Fourth Annual Wine Tasting

The fourth annual Emerald Bay Association Wine Tasting is scheduled for Saturday, May 11 at the Del Rey Yacht Club in Marina Del Rey. The well-attended event begins at 7:00 p.m. and will feature a selection of fine wines selected for this event. Light snack pairings such as cheese, crackers and fruit and non-alcoholic beverages will also be available.

The Emerald Bay Association's evening of wine tasting is not just a social or educational event. It is also an opportunity to showcase and support the Emerald Bay Campership Program. Through the campership program, we can provide opportunities for worthy Scouts to experience the character-building environment of Camp Emerald Bay. This is one of the most directly impactful things we can do for families, our community, and the camp.

The campership program sponsors Scouts who financially struggle to attend a week of camp at Emerald Bay with their troops. A gift of just \$250 enables a Scout to attend camp for a week and provides him with a life-affirming Emerald Bay experience. The cost of the event is covered by the generosity of the event's sponsors to ensure that one hundred percent of your donation will go directly towards sending scouts to camp. Sponsorship opportunities for the wine tasting are still available. Contact Andrew Wilder, event chair, at andrew@emeraldbyalumni.org.

The wine tasting is not going to be a high-pressure fundraising event. We ask that you send in your donation today (no ask will be made at the event due to agreements with the location) and then join us on May 11 for an enjoyable evening of camaraderie and fellowship.

Cabin Construction Update

The construction project to build up to six new two-story cabins to replace the older cabins on South Hill has been delayed until next winter. The delay will allow the contractor to obtain all the necessary permits and ensure the fundraising for the project is completed. The cabins will be built on site instead of the prefabricated houses that were going to be built elsewhere and transported to the island. Each

(See **Construction**, page 3)



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

Growing Up Emerald Bay

(Part 1 of a two-part memoir written by Dr. Jeremy Hogan, Emerald Bay Staff and Camp Doctor. Part 2 will appear in the next Chronicle.)

I still have vivid memories of my first visit to Emerald Bay in the summer of 1982 at the age of eight. My dad, a family doctor, had been invited out to the camp by his friend and co-worker, Mike Kelly. Mike had warned him about the dust and the camp food; however, having been an Eagle Scout, my dad wasn't worried like my mom. So, our family of five, complete with a crib for my sister Molly, showed up prepared for a week of "roughing it." One of the first to meet us was the Camp Director, a fellow who to this day still looks a bit like a pirate: Blackbeard John George (It's really a testament to the power of a place when familiar faces like his have been around for decades, isn't it?). That first week was busy for my dad, but probably more challenging for my mom, struggling to keep three kids entertained – and clean.

We spent a week at camp every summer after that. There was a sort of sweetness to the boredom that would sometimes hit me when I'd visit the camp in those early years. My siblings and I would "camp" in a tent outside of the Hermandad; when my dad wasn't busy in the Health Lodge, we'd hike to Parson's, ride the water weenie, fish off a canoe, or build traps for wild boar. I realized years later that the sweetness was sort of a Henry David Thoreau phenomenon: "I went to the woods because I wished to live deliberately, to front only the essential facts of life, and see if I could not learn from what it had to teach, and not, when I came to die, discover that I had not lived." With each passing year, the trip to Emerald Bay became my Walden Woods. I think it was for my dad, too.

I didn't just learn how to enjoy time away from home during those early years, though. I also watched my dad taking care of people, and loving doing it. One year the old stove near the parade ground exploded, and he helped care for some staffers who suffered burns. Another year, he helped a group of scouts who had cuts and broken bones trying to land a war canoe at Starlight. He still talks about how the staffer driving him over there had to throw the old truck into reverse to get it to slow down when going downhill; he thought he was going to wind up in the ocean himself. There was hypothermia, a stingray sting, sunburn, headache, rash; but also suicidal scouts, diabetic ketoacidosis, compound fractures. Just like I do now, my dad would sometimes get annoyed about the various wild things scouts, staffers and even adult leaders would do on a desert island, especially in the middle of the night – but you could tell he loved the thrill of helping people out (even at 2am). And so my wish to become a doctor myself was born at Emerald Bay.

By the time I was thirteen or fourteen, I was pretty fired up to apply for a staff position and spend several weeks at a time on the Island. I still remember how nervous I was to drop off the staff application with Sal Pilato at the Cliff House, in that funky makeshift office with the iron door and the million-dollar view. I spent two half-summers in a row on the Island, in Nature and as a "Nature Ranger," whatever that was. This guy named Lee Harrison was head ranger; I think at the time he aspired to be an actor, or a musician, or maybe an actor playing a musician? In any case, we all know how that story played out. I never thought a few years later, I'd be attending Sal's ordination as a priest, and still taking orders at camp from Lee (and of course observing all the amazing improvements he worked toward)!

When I was a young staffer, hearing Toby Sharp and Rich Wise talk about "Sounding a barbaric yawp," and seizing the moment, really hit home. Emerald Bay was for me the real world; pure, without distractions. I came home from camp appreciating my family and friends, our home, the values and skills I had picked up at camp – and I was more confident about who I was and where I was going. I was in a troop back home (and set a record for number of merit badges, thanks to my time at camp), but it didn't compare to being on the island. I still get a chill when nowadays I hear staffers sounding off a "yawp," all these years later. What a great tradition. (Part 2 will appear in the next Chronicle)





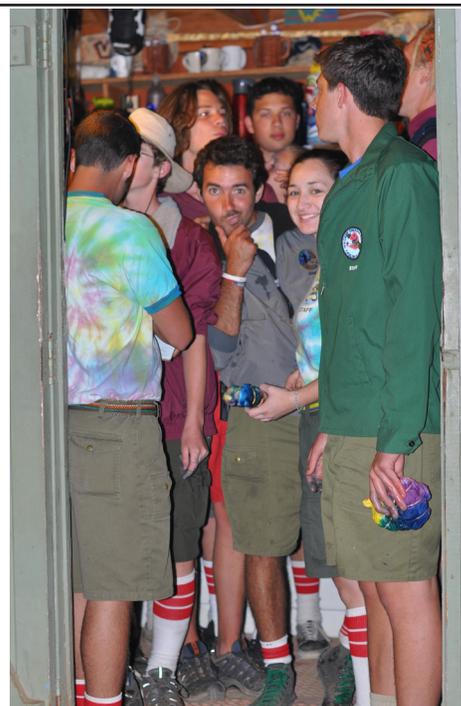
Construction (from page 1)

cabin will have four bedrooms and up to two bathrooms. The new cabins will take the place of Wilson's Warehouse, the Bayshore bathroom, Chaplain 2 and the Luxor. The Association is funding one of these new cabins. According to Rich Wise, fundraising committee chairman, fundraising is ahead of schedule, but new pledges are needed to ensure that the \$175,000 needed to build the cabin is raised. Anyone interested in learning more about the cabins and donating can visit <http://emeraldbayalumni.org/cabin/> or they can contact Rich Wise at rich@emeraldbayalumni.org. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Where in Emerald Bay?



High Adventure Director Gary Rosenstein and his assistant is demonstrating a low Ropes course that he constructed for the Rugged E program in 1995. The course was constructed in a tree shaded former campsite in the back of camp and has since been dismantled. Which campsite? The site was then called Newport, but now is called Redondo.



Emerald Bay Staff attempting to set a new record for occupancy of the Waterfront Shed. Don't let the fire marshall know!

Calendar of Events

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

Memories of Summer 2012



Evening colors ceremony at Emerald Bay.



The Parson's Beach Staff in a high level planning meeting.



Assistant Camp Director John George providing guidance to staff and scouts.



Nature instructors teach a rapt group of Scouts about the composting process.

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Address Correction Requested