

## NARRAGANSETT COUNCIL

2010 NATIONAL SCOUT JAMBOREE

100 YEARS OF SCOUTING COLLECTION















The Rhode Island Boy Scouts was founded on September 6, 1910, with Charles E. Mulhearn as its president and G. Edward Buxton as commissioner. It existed as a rival to BSA in the Ocean State until merging into the national organization in 1917, when it became the Greater Providence Council. In 1930 Greater Providence merged with three previously existing BSA councils in the state to form Narragansett Council, which presently serves Scouts in Rhode Island, Massachusetts and Connecticut. Today R.I.B.S. exists as a trustee organization that owns most of the properties operated by Narragansett Council, including Camp Yawgoog.

(Worn by Provisional Troop 127)

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The term **Totin' Chip** was coined at Camp Yawgoog in 1950 by **John Page**, a professional Narragansett Council Scouter. The first cards, which featured a knife and axe reportedly drawn by J. Harold 'Chief' Williams (who served as Scout Executive of Narragansett Council from 1919-62), were signed by Page as 'Johnny Appleseed, Esq.' In an article published in the March 1951 edition of *Scouting* magazine, Page introduced all of Scouting to the requirements for earning the card, which was issued to grant 'Totin' Rights' to a Scout who 'has subscribed to the woodsman's code & has demonstrated his constructive skill with sheath knife & scout axe.'

)The Knights of Yawgoog were formed as an adult honor society in 1920 to welcome the 'King of Yawgoog' into camp, a ritual started in 1916 when Camp Yawgoog's first 45 campers included Harold C. 'Gus' Anthony—who went on to become Camp Director in 1951. Today new members are 'knighted' with a potato hung around their necks at the weekly Saturday night variety show and are admonished not to remove the spud before Sunday's closing ceremony, a West Point-inspired dress parade instituted in 1922. Their emblem features a pipe-smoking Chief Yawgoog, a caricature created by Stuart and Allan Halladay in 1948, portaging his yellow canoe—which appears on each of the council's 2010 Jamboree shoulder patches—between Wincheck and Yawgoog Ponds.

## Stories Behind the Narragansett Council's 100 Years of Scouting Collection

"The Old Scouter" jacket patch is the work of nationally acclaimed cartoonist **Don Bousquet**, whose New England-themed cartoons appear weekly in the *Providence Journal* and regularly in numerous other publications, such as *Yankee Magazine*. Born in Pawtucket, RI, he is the author of more than a dozen books, including *Beware of the Quahog*, *The Quahog Walks Among Us, I Brake for Quahogs, The Quahog Stops Here*, and *Revenge of the Quahog*. He previously designed the Narragansett Council's "Quahogs Rule" JSP for the 2001 National Jamboree, and the much sought after "Revenge of the Lobster" jacket patch in 2005.

(Worn by All Council Contingents)

The **Wincheck Indians** were formed at Yawgoog in 1922 as the camp's 'Junior Honor Society.' In an initiation ceremony based on the Legend of Chief Yawgoog, as told by **J. Harold Williams** (who served as Chief of Yawgoog from 1919-61), each new *Mátwauog*, or Warrior, was presented with a Tomahawk pin, symbol of the organization, and an eagle feather. The Indians were disbanded in May 1958, but members were offered the opportunity to join Narragansett Council's newly chartered Order of the Arrow lodge, appropriately named Wincheck Lodge 546. When Narragansett merged with Moby Dick Council in 2001, Narragansett Council Arrowmen became charter members of present-day Abnaki Lodge 102.

The first issue of *Boys' Life* magazine to be published on a regular schedule—'Volume I, Number 1'—was printed in Boston in March 1911 under the joint editorship of 18-year-old R.I.B.S. member **Joseph Lane**, **Edwin Short** and publisher **George S. Barton**, the latter two of whom were officials of another BSA rival, the New England Boy Scouts. It was 48 pages long and sold for 5¢. In June 1912, BSA purchased the magazine, which was by then being printed in Providence and had a circulation of 65,000 readers, from Barton for \$6,000. The first BSA-published *Boys' Life*, edited by James E. West, went out to BSA members the next month.

(Worn by Provisional Troop 129)

Opened in 1916 as a 'Scout Adventureland Forever,'
Yawgoog Scout Reservation is located near Rockville,
RI on an 1,800-acre backcountry site explored by
R.I.B.S. Executive for the Scouts Donald North. Today
Camp Yawgoog is generally acknowledged to be among
the five oldest Boy Scout camps in the U.S. Steeped in
traditions, such as the Camper of Yawgoog CY award
instituted in 1922, the reservation is headquartered in the
Bucklin Memorial Lodge, built between 1930-31 with a
bequest from Civil War Captain George Bucklin. For
8 weeks each summer, over 6,000 Scouts from more than
10 states populate Yawgoog's 3 resident subcamps—
Three Point, Medicine Bow, and Sandy Beach.

(Worn by Council National Staff Contingent)

Located on 880 acres in Myles Standish State Forest near Carver, MA, Cachalot Scout Reservation was opened in 1946 by Cachalot Council—originally named Fairhaven-New Bedford Council when granted one of the first BSA charters in the Bay State in 1916. In 1972, Cachalot merged with Massasoit Council—originally chartered in 1916 as Fall River Council—to form Moby Dick Council. In 2001, Moby Dick merged with Narragansett Council, which now operates Cachalot—a name derived from the French and Portuguese words for sperm whale that was originally suggested in 1933 by *Martha's Vineyard Gazette* newspaperman Joe Allen—a heritage commemorated by the splashing flukes of a whale's tail.