

THE ZUCKER FAMILY

Barry and Lisa Burnett Rev. Beverly Duncan William and Valerie Holt Austin Phillips

Grant Phillips
Channing and Yasuko Zucker
Clayton Zucker
Michael Zucker

SPECIAL THANKS

M.G. Smith Building Company Blue Heron Lodge #349 Wahunsenekah Lodge #333

Mike Maruska
Camp Maintenance Chair

Cutch Armstrong

Tom Williams
Council Executive Board

Kathryn Callahan Troop 19 Scoutmaster

Timothy Walsh
Troop 417 Scoutmaster



STAFF

James Parnell

Evan Sommerfeld
Camp Ranger

Alison Harrison

Marketing & Communications Director

Christy Cooper
Development Director

Pam Samples
District Executive





DEDICATION CEREMONY



CHESTER G.A. ZUCKER
FAMILY PAVILION

MAY 3, 2025 • PIPSICO SCOUT RESERVATION SCOUTING AMERICA TIDEWATER COUNCIL







CHESTER G.A. ZUCKER

1902-1981

LIFELONG SCOUTER, SCOUT EXECUTIVE, AND ROTARY DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Chester G.A. Zucker became a Boy Scout in 1914, just four years after Scouting came to America. It was an auspicious start. Daniel Carter Beard presented Chester's Tenderfoot pin to him. "Uncle Dan." as he was known, was a founder of the Scouts and one of the first three National Commissioners.

As Scoutmaster for Troop 8 in Elizabeth, N.J., "Uncle Chet," as Chester liked to be called, took his troop in 1929 to the World Jamboree at Arrowe Park near Birkenhead, England. In 1933, he took it to the World Jamboree at Gödöllő Park outside Budapest, Hungary. This time, Uncle Chet led a 70-member contingent of two troops and individual Scouts from several states. Between 1934 and 1942, he held volunteer unit, district, and council positions in northern New Jersey's Union Council.

In 1943, Uncle Chet attended the Schiff Scout Reservation in preparation for becoming a professional Scouter. From 1943 to 1947, he served as the Field Scout Executive for the Pine Tree Council in Maine. He was promoted to Scout Executive for the Cape Cod Council in Massachusetts in 1948. One of his early initiatives was bringing the Order of the Arrow's Honor Society, in the form of Abake Mi-Sa-Na-Ki Lodge, to the Cape Cod Council. His most significant accomplishment was constructing a dining hall for Camp Greenough, the council's camp, with funding and hands-on contributions from Rotary clubs in the area. Fittingly, it was called the Rotary Lodge.

After concluding his professional Scouting career in 1953, Uncle Chet immediately resumed his volunteer service in positions at the Cambridge (Massachusetts) Council. He stayed active with the Cambridge Council until shortly before his passing. He was honored with the Silver Beaver Award in 1959 for his 35 years of volunteer achievements prior to and following his professional service.

Uncle Chet was a Rotarian for more than 35 years. He was president of the Arlington, Massachusetts, club in 1961 and 1962. From 1968 to 1969, he served as Governor for District 7930 in eastern Massachusetts. He was widely known as a superb song leader in Rotary and Scouting circles. He was often called to lead them at significant events for both organizations.

A financial donation from the Rotary Club of Chesapeake led to the reopening of Pipsico in 1988 and the designation of a third area as the Rotary subcamp. The 1988 reopening of Tidewater Council's Pipsico Scout Reservation marked a rebirth of the property.

The "Red Trail" that encircles the reservation provides a variety of visual and ecological wonders for hikers of all ages. Visitors often stop along the trail to see the "Pipsico Tree," a tulip poplar nearly 20 feet in circumference that predates the arrival of the first English colonists.

Walkers along the shoreline of the James River can often observe the flight of the bald eagles that nest on the reservation. Cliffs 60 to 75 feet high overlook a picturesque sandy beach and several cypress tree coves.

The cliff walls are studded with marine shells and fossils, providing tangible evidence of the James River's influence on life over the centuries. It's easy to imagine yourself as one of the early settlers while hiking through the wooded areas of Pipsico and experiencing the history that is part of this land.

Pipsico is available for rental. Governance requires that priority is given to Scouts, then non-profit organizations, and then for-profit organizations.

CHESTER G.A. ZUCKER FAMILY PAVILION

Lacking permanent program structures, Camp Rotary has operated as a primitive or wilderness subcamp. It has been used primarily for weekend camping, by troops coming by themselves, and for camporees.

The Zucker family hopes that, with their gift of this pavilion, Camp Rotary will now be another option for long-term camping and other multi-unit events at Pipsico Scout Reservation.



HISTORY OF PIPSICO SCOUT RESERVATION

Pipsico Scout Reservation encompasses 916 acres of woodland, open fields, and marshes. The terrain includes a natural ravine system and ranges in elevation from 20 to more than 100 feet above sea level.

The history of the land goes back to 1634 when King Charles I deeded 2000+ acres of land on the south shores of the James River and four miles upstream from Jamestown, to Col. Henry Browne, who arrived in Virginia from London that year. The land was considered part of the original Jamestown Colony and served as a lookout post to protect the settlers at Jamestown.

The original plantation name honors Chief Pepsicumah of the Quioughcohannock Indians. The settlers referred to him as Pipsico. He assisted settlers by providing food and training them to raise and manage indigenous crops, such as corn.

In 1958, Pipsico Plantation was placed in trust with the Tidewater Council to benefit area youth and was renamed Pipsico Scout Reservation. The area near the barn was used for short-term "High Adventure" camping for the first two years.

During the next few years, local Kiwanis and Lions clubs made donations for an administration building, an aquatic center, and other improvements. Improvements and facilities were made in both subcamps in the following years, helped by contributions from clubs of both service organizations. The regular summer camp program began at these subcamps in 1961. Contamination of the James River closed the reservation from 1977 to 1987.





SCOUT EXECUTIVE CHESTER G.A. ZUCKER FAMILY PAVILION

DEDICATION

MAY 3, 2025
CAMP ROTARY • PIPSICO SCOUT RESERVATION

WELCOME

TOM CALLAHAN

EXECUTIVE VP. TIDEWATER COUNCIL

OPENING & FLAG CEREMONY SCOUTS

SCOUTS BSA TROOPS 19 & 417

INVOCATION

EVAN SOMMERFELD

CAMP RANGER, PIPSICO SCOUT RESERVATION

RIBBON CUTTING

THE ZUCKER FAMILY

SPEAKER

CHANNING ZUCKER

SHARED MEMORIES

THE ZUCKER FAMILY

SCOUT EXECUTIVE'S MINUTE

JAMES PARNELL SCOUT EXECUTIVE, TIDEWATER COUNCIL

BENEDICTION

REV. BEVERLY DUNCAN

CLOSING

TOM CALLAHAN

