

MASSAWEPIE STAFF ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Providing Spirit, Service and Support

Founded 2000



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KLONDIKE 2004

GET OUT! AND CHILL OUT!

On February 6, 7, and 8th, Otetiana Council will be staging a council-wide Klondike Derby. The events will run from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m., when the events will end with the Great Sledge Race. We are expecting close to 1200 attendees, including staff! We're looking for some Alumni exposure - to the elements. Get out and Chill out with us at this event.

Mark Pulvino is heading the event up, and has asked if the Alumni would be interested in helping out. Since Mark will be pretty busy that day, we would need someone to round up Alumni members to help out Friday evening during check in, Saturday, and on Sunday making sure the park has been left in good shape. If you're interested in helping out all or some of the weekend please contact Mark at 872-1507 or at mpulvino@rochester.rr.com
So come join the fun!

Key Staff for 2004

The following Massawepie key staff have been announced for 2004:

- Camp Director – Steve Weisenreder
- Program Director – Kyle Watkins
- Business Manager – Michelle Bopp
- Senior Commissioner – Devin Bedard

JANUARY HAPPY HOUR(S)

Celebrate the New Year with "old" friends at the Alumni Association's fourth Happy Hour! On Thursday, January 29, 2004 we will be getting together at the Road House Restaurant on Jefferson Road (next to the Genesee Valley Regional Market, across the street from a Hooters). 5:30 p.m. is the starting time. The munchies are on the Alumni Association (figuratively, not literally), the rest is up to you.

In addition to sharing camp memories, we can talk about the Klondike Derby, the Rifle Range, and remember Don Whitcomb. Please let us know if you will be joining us on January 29th by sending us an e-mail or contacting us at our address or phone number.

We hope to see you there!!!

Additional MSAA Members

Listed below are the 16 new and renewal MSAA members who have paid their dues for 2003-04 since the original listing in the Fall newsletter. The total paid MSAA membership is now 81.

We'd like to grow to 100 members this year. If you know a Massawepie staff alumni or friend of Massawepie who's not on this list or the previous newsletter's list, please encourage him or her to join or renew. (Membership forms are available in the "About Us" section of MassStaffAlumni.org.)

Timothy Bills	Thomas Bills
Rich Bishopp	Ralph Cooley
John DeMarco	Douglas Downs
John Ford	Bob Hart
Jim Hinman	Mike King
Rev. James Lang	Chuck Levengood
Don Meyering	Michael Scheetz
Brian Smith	Doug Turner

Friends of Alumni

Alumni membership in the Association is now open to those who love Massawepie, but never served as a paid or volunteer staff member. If you know someone who wants to be part of the Association, is at least eighteen years of age and in good standing with the BSA and the Council (does not have to be registered), encourage them to join as a Friends of Alumni member. A Friends of Alumni membership application can be found under "About Us" on our web site at MassStaffAlumni.org - the more the merrier!!!!

In Memorium

MSAA member Dan Brandes died on September 21 in Erie, PA. Dan served on Massawepie staff from 1969 – 1974, starting as a Commissioner at Pioneer, then Program Director at Forester, and finally Food Service Manager. Dan later became a professional Scouter, most recently in Erie.

Massawepie Fun Weekends

by Mark Pulvino, MSAA Chair

I have officially designated Massawepie work weekends as fun weekends. (From an Alumni perspective). Let's face it - we never look at it as work, and some, if not all the weekend is fun. Experiencing the Adirondacks, improving Massawepie, and sharing great times with friends we haven't seen in so long, is what makes life so great.

There are 2 opportunities to continue the tradition coming up this year. Skills Weekend is May 21st-23rd. Beaver Weekend is June 4th-6th. We have made a difference in the past and can impact the success of Summer Camp by planning to attend one or both. We are all excited that the Ray and Addy Meyering Rifle Range is under construction. It's great to see fellow Alumni recognized for their service and dedication. This and many projects will be available for us to get our hands dirty on. Our annual meeting, which will include elections and a photo shoot, will be held Saturday after dinner. Last year we had close to 40 involved, with many new faces.

Contact Mark Pulvino at mpulvino@rochester.rr.com or give him a ring @ 872-1507 if you're interested. As we get closer to the dates, we will have an idea which projects we can work on as a group. (I ONLY MENTIONED WORK TWICE!)

Camp Staff Recruiting

The Massawepie camp staff hiring season is in full swing. Alumni help in locating potential staff members, especially those at least 18 years old, is always welcome! If you know of a good prospect, encourage him or her to contact Camp Director Steve Weisenreder at (585) 241-8530, or at sweisenreder@otetiana.org.

Don Whitcomb Remembered

We are saddened to share the news that Don Whitcomb passed away at age 62 on September 26, 2003, after a lengthy illness. For nearly 20 years Don was the Scoutmaster for Longhorn Troop 91, sponsored by St. Augustine's Church. Under his tutelage, more than 10 scouts from Troop 91 achieved Eagle.

Don led Troop 91 to Massawepie every year he was its scoutmaster. He was also a leader of the Rolling Rock Patrol, and subsequently the Slug Patrol. These groups of adult volunteers, most with city roots, enjoyed performing thousands of hours of volunteer work at Beaver weekend and other Council work weekends. Don was also a long-time member of the Massawepie facilities committee and was the Beaver Weekend coordinator for many years. During the last several summers, Don served as a volunteer staff member at Massawepie.

Don devoted his life to Scouting without expectation of reward. Nonetheless, Don received the Silver Beaver Award in 1984. He was also an Order of the Arrow member, a Philmont trip leader, and received the St. George and Pelican awards. In addition to those honors and awards, Don received numerous other recognitions from the Scouts and was a member of the Alumni Association.

Don was a friend who could always be counted on to help out when help was needed. His commitment and service to Scouting, particularly urban Scouting, were unparalleled. His influence on the those in Troop 91 and those who met him through other Scouting activities will be his legacy.

The Alumni Association will make a \$1,000 contribution to the Rifle Range in Don's memory. In addition, a group of Don's friends are currently finalizing plans to find an appropriate way to remember Don for all the special and wonderful things he did to support scouting and the Otetiana Council. We will let you know when those plans are finalized. If you have any questions or suggestions regarding this effort, please contact David Lippitt at dlippitt@frontiernet.net.

Meyering Rifle Range Construction Starts, Fundraising Passes 50%

On November 3, a crew from LeChase Construction began the site preparation work for the new Ray and Addy Meyering Rifle Range for Camp Pioneer. This new range, just off the Mountaineer Road near upper Pioneer, is expected to be completed in 2004. It will provide more shooting points, and be closer to Pioneer, than the old Mountaineer range currently in use. The new range will also honor long-time Massawepie staffers Ray and Addy Meyering.

The Rifle Range fundraising campaign has now passed the halfway mark, with over \$48,000 of the \$90,000 goal paid or pledged. At least \$28,000 of the total raised to date has come from Massawepie staff alumni. In addition to personal donations from alumni, the Alumni Association donated \$2000 directly (including \$1000 in memory of Don Whitcomb) from our balance from 50th anniversary patch sales and concessions.

Other recent large donations have include \$1000 from Ty-Ohni Lodge, \$1000 from the local Buckmasters group, and \$3000 from the Friends of the NRA. Additional donations, or leads on groups to contact, are always welcome! More information is available at MassStaffAlumni.org.

Upcoming Events

(see articles in this issue for details)

January, 2004

29 MSAA Happy Hour

February, 2004

6-8 Otetiana Council Klondike Derby at Mendon Ponds Park – help from Alumni will be greatly appreciated!

May, 2004

21-23 Massawepie Spring Skills Weekend

June, 2004

4-6 Beaver Weekend at Massawepie MSAA Annual Meeting

Membership Renewal

If your mailing label below says “Expired May 2003”, then your MSAA membership needs to be renewed. Send \$10 (or \$20 for 2 years) to the return address below, along with any updates of your address or phone number. Keep your membership up-to-date, help Massawepie, and keep receiving this fine newsletter!

Have You Moved?

If the address on the sticker below is not correct, please send your correct address to Peter Collinge, MSAA Secretary, 77 Tall Oak Lane, Pittsford, NY 14534.

Massawepie Staff Alumni Association

c/o Don DeClerck
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To:

Visit us at MassStaffAlumni.org!