

STAFF ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Providing Spirit, Service and Support

Founded 2000

MSAA Officers

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Kathy Elliott

Vice President

Mark Pulvino

Treasurer

David Lippitt

Committee Member

Peter Collinge

Staff Advisor

Don DeClerck

Massawepie Staff Alumni Association

C/o Don DeClerck

*J. Warren Cutler Scout
Reserv.*

7131 Gullick Rd.

Naples, NY 14512

Phone (585) 374-5770

Email: MassAlumni@aol.com

Web: MassStaffAlumni.org



Commissioned by Pete Collinge, the Massawepie Beaver weighs over 350 lbs. and stands on the porch of the Scout Master lounge. It was carved by North Country Artist "Woody" Adams.

Massawepie 50th Anniversary Celebration a Great Success

Over 400 people attended the 50th anniversary celebration at Massawepie on Saturday August 3, 2002. The Council and Massawepie Staff Alumni Association are still receiving numerous congratulations and compliments on the success of that event. The event got off to a great start with activities at all of the program areas, thanks to Mark Pulvino's crew of volunteers. Brad VanAuken coordinated a special patch trading and Massawepie memorabilia show at the Scoutmaster lounge. Dr. DeMarco provided a historical slide show at the Dining Hall. Numerous volunteers also operated an Alumni food stand and Pete Collinge ran the Staff Alumni souvenir/history stand.

A late afternoon retreat at the Pioneer parade field included a rededication of the camp by Council President Dick Leo, the presentation of a letter from Governor Pataki and inspirational words from Council Executive Larry Pritchard. Special recognitions were given to Virginia Sykes Dreby and her family who sold the property in 1951 to the Council, long-time Massawepie supporters Burt and Chuck August, and long-time Massawepie volunteer Berle Thaine. The retreat closed with a flag ceremony of which included participation by the current Reservation Director Steve Weisenreder, and past Reservation Directors Bud Frank, Jack McDonough, Dick Trier and Gordon Lew.

The next event was a rededication of the Loren R. Hakes Campfire Circle. The Campfire Circle is a gift from the Alumni Association and is dedicated in the memory of Loren R. Hakes, Massawepie's beloved and long time camp superintendent. Kathy Elliott, Sherry Kurtz, Dick Trier, Brett Elliott and Debby Salmon made the rededication a special event. Council Executive Larry Pritchard thanked the Staff Alumni Association for raising \$22,000 for the Campfire Circle.

After dinner, David Lippitt emceed a Campfire which featured six decades of Massawepie campers and future campers, as well as some of the all-time greatest cheers, songs and skits from the first 50 years of Massawepie - many by the original cast who made them popular. The Campfire included a surprise presentation of the Silver Beaver award to David Lippitt, a founding member of the Massawepie Staff Alumni Association, for his longtime volunteer service to the Council - particularly Massawepie. In addition, Ray and Addie Meyering were recognized for their many years of Massawepie summer camp staff work.

The Campfire closed with a flag burning ceremony led by Matt Arlauckas and a spectacular fireworks display over Massawepie Lake. Special thanks go to the Order of Arrow who built the Campfires and Don Meyering who provided lighting and sound. Thanks also go to all (too numerous to mention) who made the Campfire a great success.

The success of the anniversary celebration was due to a great team effort. Special efforts were put in by the Massawepie Staff Alumni Association coordinating committee - Kathy Elliott, Mark Pulvino, Peter Collinge, David Lippitt and our fearless adviser Don DeClerck. We extend our thanks to all who participated in it and made another great Massawepie memory.

Fall 2002 Picnic/Clambake!!

On Saturday, September 28, 2002, the Massawepie Staff Alumni Association will hold its third annual Fall Family Picnic/Clambake at the Shady Rest Pavilion at Powder Mills Park in Rochester. Last year over 45 people enjoyed a day of good friends, good food and good fun. Come join us for more fun and laughter and help us celebrate the success of the 50th Anniversary celebration! This year's Clambake will start at 2:00 PM and last until they send us home.

Back by popular demand, the menu will include steamed clams, chicken, corn on the cob and salt potatoes. Spouses and kids are welcome. Please bring your own beverage, a munchie or dessert to pass and a big appetite! Please also bring along your camp pictures and memories. Cost is \$10.00 per person for adults, \$5.00 per child. A reservation form is enclosed. Please return it to our address at Camp Cutler no later than Friday, September 20th.

We hope to see you there!!!

Have you renewed your Membership yet?

Many of you have renewed your memberships and we thank you!!! For those of you who have not renewed, please do so! Membership is required for involvement in many of our events. We need you!!!



Loren R. Hakes Campfire Circle Goal Reached!!!

By Kathy Hakes Elliott

It is my greatest pleasure to announce that with your help we have reached our goal of \$22,000 for the Loren R. Hakes Memorial Campfire Circle! Many thanks to all those that have contributed their time and efforts towards obtaining this goal. Special thanks to Don DeClerck, Pete Collinge, David Lippitt and Mark Pulvino for all of their efforts and support. Now Dad's name will always be part of Massawepie, along with what has been there all along....his spirit, humor and laughter!

Alumni Member in the News

Our very own David Lippitt, Massawepie Staff Alumni Association Treasurer received a surprise at the 50th Anniversary Campfire. Dick Leo, Council President, presented David with a Silver Beaver Award for his outstanding service to Otetiana Council. The Silver Beaver Award is the highest recognition an adult volunteer can receive from Otetiana Council. Congratulations David!!

Upcoming Events

Each year the Massawepie Staff Alumni association hosts several annual events. Below you will find information on these events and the dates so that you can schedule the time well in advance!!! Please join us as the Massawepie Staff Alumni Association continues to grow! Mark your calendars!

3rd Annual Family Clambake/Picnic – Saturday, 9/28 at 2:00 PM. (See article in this newsletter for more information)

Annual Fall Council Camporee – October 18th - 20th. **We need you!!** The Alumni Association will be volunteering where needed for this event. Many jobs are available: program, support staff, etc. Please call or e-mail the Alumni Association (see page 1) to volunteer!

Happy Hour event – Date to be announced, held in January in the Rochester area.

Beaver Weekend – Held May 31st and June 1st at Massawepie. The Staff Alumni Association sponsors several projects each year and hold it's annual meeting. Please join us as a volunteer for a weekend of hard work and a lot of fun! Watch for details on 2003 Beaver Weekend projects in future Newsletters.



Addison Child and the Childwold Park House

by Peter Collinge

Addison Child, the founder and namesake of Childwold, was born January 30, 1821 in Sturbridge, Massachusetts. Child was well educated, traveled extensively, and was involved in a number of large-scale business ventures with varying degrees of success. In 1856 he began the development of a subdivision in Swampscott, Massachusetts. This venture later ended in bankruptcy. In 1878, after purchasing approximately 15,000 acres in the region of the current Childwold and Massawepie, Child advertised through handbills in post offices throughout St. Lawrence County that he would sell small tracts of land suitable for farms at the low price of \$1 to \$3 per acre. He built himself a log house in 1878 in the center of the new settlement, built a thundershower sawmill on the outlet of Jock's Pond in 1879 to supply lumber for houses, and spent the next 10 years developing the hamlet of Childwold. In 1884 the first post office was established as "Childwood", apparently in error, which was corrected to "Childwold" on April 22 with Mr. Child as postmaster. ("Wold" means an upland or hilly area of open country.)

Addison Child was apparently held in high regard by the settlers, and by his many laborers on the hotel and on local roadbuilding, as a friend interested in their welfare. For example, during a diphtheria epidemic he opened his store and supplied medicines and provisions to the stricken families, along with paying doctor bills out of his own pocket. Child also donated the land and the lumber for the Childwold church.

Addison Child's masterpiece, the Childwold Park House (known as the Hotel Childwold after about 1900) was constructed in 1889 on Massawepie Lake in what is now the Camp Pioneer parade field. Child apparently hoped to profit from the fashionable Adirondack resort trade, and to provide jobs for the settlers of Childwold and another market for their crops. The hotel opened for its first season in 1890, with William F. Ingold from the famous "Magnolia" of Florida as its manager. On May 1, 1895, Ingold also became the first Massawepie postmaster. Later managers included Charles Leland in 1897, C.R. Eldridge in 1903, E. R. Champion, and Major Henry Dorr (who included stories of Massawepie in his 1921 book, *Mohawk Peter*).

The original red frame hotel building was three stories tall, with a central tower that rose an extra story, and was located on a rise 27 feet above the lake. Later, to increase capacity, an addition was constructed at the north end of the building. The addition included another four-story tower and a five-story belvedere toward the northern end rising 78 feet above the lake. That northern end of the hotel had piazzas on three sides, totaling 400 feet in length. The hotel office was located near the central 40' x 60' Adirondack Room, which had a stone fireplace in the center and contained rustic "Adirondack" furniture. Much of this furniture was made by Billy Jones, who especially liked using birch with the bark showing. Near the Adirondack Room was the spacious Sun Room, and also the Telegraph/Main office which maintained 24-hour telegraph service for guests, many of whom wished to keep abreast of the stock market back in New York City. At the south end of the hotel was the main Dining Room and Kitchen, along with three separate dining rooms for nurses, porters, and servants. An annex to the east contained a laundry and storerooms, with a baseball field nearby.

The enlarged hotel building itself held approximately 250-300 guests in its 106 rooms. There was no electricity. Illumination was provided by hundreds of kerosene lamps, which were cleaned and filled in a special room on the second floor. A separate building held steam boilers which provided hot water for the operation.

In addition to the main hotel, there were eventually 18 cottages on the grounds, housing another 100 guests. Outbuildings to the north of the hotel included a bowling alley with billiards rooms on the second floor, and a casino with a polished maple floor for dancing and a stage for theatrical productions. Stables for horses and carriages were found at the eastern edge of the grounds, and two boathouses were located on Massawepie Lake below the hotel. A nine-hole golf course was located in the field between Massawepie Road and Catamount Pond. Across the road from the hotel, near the middle of the golf course, stood a three-story, 40-room Guide House. (Across Catamount Pond stood the much smaller Gale House (1890) summer resort, later known as the Gale Pond View House and the Gale Lake View House, and store (1889).)

The hotel quickly became successful, drawing wealthy guests from Boston and New York City, where a hotel office was maintained for some years at 320 Fifth Avenue. Among the notable hotel visitors were W. A. Goodyear and H. L. Firestone, the tire magnates, and M. and J. Guggenheim, sugar barons. There are unconfirmed reports that Presidents McKinley, T. Roosevelt, and Taft also visited.

Guests initially arrived by John Hurd's new Northern Adirondack Railroad to Childwold Station, which opened in 1889 at Pitchfork Pond near Tupper Lake, then traveled seven miles over a densely wooded road past Mount Matumbula and across the Raquette River near Sol's Island. In July, 1892, a different Childwold Station near Mt. Arab on Dr. Webb's new Adirondack and St. Lawrence Railway (later the Adirondack Division of the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad) replaced the original stop. Trains ran daily, except Sunday, from Boston and New York City. Travelers then reached Massawepie over a carriage road, connecting with the current Massawepie Road (formerly Townline Road) near Horseshoe Pond. This carriage road has been used for 50 years by Scouts as the hiking trail to Mt. Arab.

In 1892, the hotel was open from June 1 to October, at a price of \$3 per day for room and board. A menu from August 13, 1903 shows such luncheon items as Fried Fresh Butterfish a la Vinagrette and Roast Leg of Mutton with Currant Jelly, while dinner entrees included Boiled Fresh Beef Tongue with Piquante Sauce and Spring Lamb Kidney Broiled, Brown Butter. All drinking water was from "our Crystal Spring," which apparently was located somewhere near the present Camp Mountaineer. A complete wine list was also offered. (The hotel's Wine Room and Smoking Room were near the central Adirondack Room.) Pete Buletti was the chef for many summers, and John Hawkins was headwaiter.

Addison Child died on January 23, 1898. Some accounts of the time indicate that his health was shattered by the strain of the development of Childwold and the hotel. Unfortunately, the hotel's health didn't last much longer. With the decline of the U.S. economy after the "gay 90's", the hotel's fortunes gradually suffered along with many other Adirondack resorts. The hotel closed in 1909, with its luxurious furnishings and equipment still intact in the abandoned building.

Years later, in 1976, the name *Childwold* was used by author Joyce Carol Oates as the title of her book about an impoverished region. It is possible that Oates "borrowed" this Adirondack name which she

may have seen during her time at Syracuse University. Not all of the residents may have appreciated the somewhat disturbing fictional depiction of life in Childwold. The real Childwold lives on along Route 3 at the western edge of the Town of Piercefield. (Piercefield celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2001, having been split in 1901 from the Town of Hopkinton.) Childwold still has its own post office, and a USGS map quadrangle named for it. Childwold today is best known for its historic church building, the Leather Artisan shop that ships worldwide, and the Dumas Restaurant. In this case, reality is better than fiction!

Massawepie Staff Alumni Association
Providing "Spirit, Service and Support"!
Third Annual Fall Family Picnic/Clambake

Come join us for an afternoon and evening of fun and food! Bring
your old camp photos and memories to share!
(Must be a paid Alumni Member or family of paid member
to attend.)

Saturday, September 28rd, 2002
Shady Rest Pavilion
Powder Mills Park, Pittsford, NY
2:00 PM - till?

Cost - \$10.00 per adult

Includes 2 dozen clams, chicken, salt potatoes, and corn on the cob
\$5.00 per child

Includes hot dogs and chicken, salt potatoes and corn on the cob
Please BYOB and a munchie or dessert to share

Send below RSVP and check or money order (payable to Otetiana Council) to:

Massawepie Staff Alumni Association, 7131 Gulick Rd., Naples, NY 14512

Please RSVP by September 13th, 2002

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RSVP

Name_____

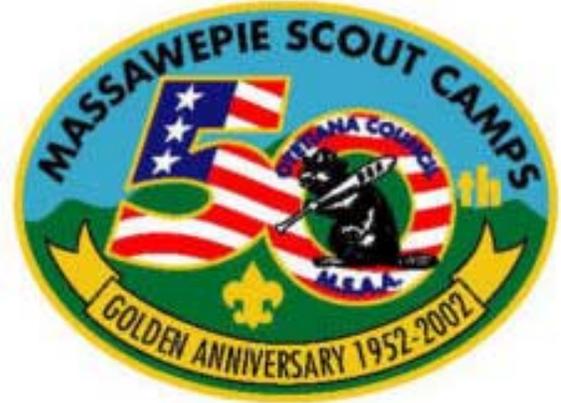
of Adults attending_____ x \$10.00=_____

of Children attending_____ x \$ 5.00=_____

Total enclosed_____

Massawepie Staff Alumni Association 50th Anniversary Patch Order Form

The Massawepie Staff Alumni Association has produced a special 50th Anniversary Massawepie patch. This 6-color patch was on sale at the Massawepie on August 3 as part of the 50th Anniversary Celebration. The patch price is \$10, with discounts if ordering 5 or more at a time.



A limited number (less than 150) of our supply of 465 patches is still available on a first-come, first-served basis. Once these are gone, the patch will not be reordered.

To order patches, complete the form below and return it with your check or money order.

Proceeds from this sale will be used for Alumni Association projects at Massawepie, including the Camp Pioneer Rifle Range (planned for 2003). Note: Patch design courtesy of Mark Arlauckas and Brian Trovato.

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MSAA Massawepie 50th Anniversary patch order.

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip: _____

Phone or e-mail (in case of questions): _____

Please send me the special Massawepie 50th Anniversary patches produced by the Massawepie Staff Alumni Association as follows:

Quantity (1-4): _____ Patches at \$10 each = \$ _____

OR

Quantity (5-8*): _____ Patches at \$9 each = \$ _____ *why order 9 for \$81

OR

Quantity (10+): _____ Patches at \$8 each = \$ _____ when you can get 10 for \$80?

Make check or money order payable to Otetiana Council, Boy Scouts of America. Please write "MSAA Patch" in the memo field of your check. No cash, please.

Mail orders to: Massawepie Staff Alumni Association
c/o Camp Cutler
7131 Gulick Road
Naples, NY 14512

Please allow up to 4 weeks for shipping,
though we generally ship within 2 weeks.