

SPRING 2005 NEWSLETTER of the MASSAWEPIE STAFF ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Providing Spirit, Service and Support

Founded 2000



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Camp Work/Fun Weekends *by Mark Pulvino, Chair*

There are two opportunities to continue our tradition. Skills Weekend is May 20-22. Beaver Weekend is June 3-5. We have made a difference in the past and can impact the success of summer camp by attending one or both.

Don't miss out on Beaver Weekend 2005! There are many opportunities to give back to Scouting with some sweat equity! Plus it's the first chance you will have to purchase the 2005 version of the official "MSAA" shirt. Experiencing the Adirondacks, improving Massawepie, and sharing great times with friends we haven't seen in so long, is what makes life so great.

We are all excited that the Ray and Addy Meyering Rifle Range is under construction and needing some of our skilled helpers. 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. A Staff Alumni crew will run the kitchen from Friday morning through Sunday morning. We will finish painting

the Health Lodge. There will also be an opportunity to help set up the waterfront and just a little sprucing up is needed at the Campfire Circle. As always, tent crews will be crucial to getting the camp ready for Scouts.

Our annual meeting will be Beaver Weekend, after Saturday dinner. In 2004 we had about 32 involved, with many new faces. It would be great to see better attendance, especially with election of officers, and decisions being made about MSAA. With the addition of "Friends of Alumni" we should see

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Ray & Addy Meyering Rifle Range News

Great news - fundraising for the new Meyering Rifle Range at Camp Pioneer is nearly complete, due to a significant gift from the John and Erika Berggren Fund! This gift was facilitated by their son John S. Berggren, who was a

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Notice Of Alumni Association Annual Meeting: June 4, 2005 *by Peter Collinge, Secretary*

The Massawepie Staff Alumni Association's 2005 Annual Meeting will be held during Beaver Weekend at Massawepie on Saturday, June 4, following the evening meal. We'll meet in the Loren Hakes Campfire Circle unless the weather keeps us in the Pioneer Dining Hall.

Under our Rules of Operations, elections will be held for officers and at-large members of the Executive Committee. (See the page 2 article regarding nominations.) Reports of 2004-05 activities will also be shared, and future plans will be discussed.

As usual, the closing event will be the traditional group photo shoot! (No doubt socializing will continue afterwards somewhere within the general Childwold area.) Come join the fun!

Alumni Association Executive Board Nominees for '05-'06

by Peter Collinge, Secretary

The Alumni Association Rules of Operation provide that nominations for officers and at large Executive committee members should be made in advance of the Annual Meeting (held on Beaver Weekend). The Executive Committee has nominated the following candidates:

Brad Van Auken for Chair
 Jeremy Cooney for Vice Chair
 Mike Knittel for Treasurer
 Peter Collinge for Secretary
 Gary Hicks, Executive Committee Member at Large
 David Lippitt, Executive Committee Member at Large
 George Varga, Executive Committee Member at Large
 (Mark Pulvino will serve as Past Chair)

In addition, we are looking for nominations (including self-nominations) for MSAA members (including Friends of the Alumni members) to serve as at-large members of the Executive committee. Nominations should be submitted in advance to Secretary Peter Collinge (see contact information on page 1).

NEW Official MSAA Shirts

by Mark Pulvino, Chair

By popular demand! We heard your requests at the Annual meeting and at the Clambake. It is time for new Alumni threads.

We are in the process of introducing a new shirt for the Alumni Association. There have been two and a half different versions, and some of us may be outgrowing or wearing out the older ones, so it is time for a new one.

At the Winter Rendezvous, it was decided the colors would be a maroon and tan combination in a crinkle pattern. Also a request for long sleeve shirts was made.

The price for short sleeve shirts will be \$10 for sizes S to XL, and \$11 for larger sizes. Long sleeve shirt prices will be \$13 for sizes S to XL, and \$14 for larger sizes. The new shirts will be available first at Beaver Weekend, but only for members in good standing (dues up to date). If you renew or join then, you can buy shirts.

Any profit made will offset the cost of the Staff Appreciation Barbecue we will be sponsoring and running on July 30 at Mas-

sawepie, during Staff Alumni Weekend (see separate article). Shirts will be available that weekend as well for current and new members to purchase.

Dear MSAA folks,

I thought you might be interested in this neckerchief that I recently found on eBay. It's from Camp Pioneer of the Cadoo Council, which I understand is headquartered in Texarkana. Recognize the beaver?

You also might be interested in the web site of the "Old Timers" (alumni) group for that camp: <http://oldtimers.camppioneer.org/>. It's quite extensive, with a number of interesting ideas. For one thing, they have an actual museum at the camp! They've apparently been active since 1977.

Peter Collinge



Executive Committee Notes

by Peter Collinge, Secretary

The MSAA Executive Committee met April 20 at Mark Pulvino's house. Key results from that meeting:

- Mark Pulvino will be coordinating MSAA Beaver Weekend project help with the Facilities Committee.
- Gary Hicks will coordinate the Beaver Weekend food and kitchen crew. The menu will be similar to last year, but Gary hopes to keep the costs down.
- Mark Pulvino is working on getting new MSAA T-shirts. (See separate article)
- A slate of officer and board nominees was approved for the June 4 Annual Meeting. (See separate article)
- Membership renewals will go out with the next newsletter. Those donating \$50 total to the Meyering Rifle Range [later changed to new Kayak Program] and/or the Massawepie Square Foot Endowment will receive a 1-year free membership renewal.
- The Alumni Reunion & Staff Appreciation Barbecue will be held at Massawepie July 30, and we hope for a good turnout of MSAA members. (See separate article)
- The Fall Family Picnic/Clambake will tentatively be September 24.

Weekends...from Page 1

even more at our annual meeting this year. (Membership is a great gift idea for one you love, too!)

Contact Mark Pulvino if you can help. Please include with your reservation the dates you plan to be at camp. Also, let us know if you want vegetarian meals or have other special dietary needs. We'll do our best to accommodate. mpulvino@rochester.rr.com .

Camp Staff Update

The Massawepie Staff for 2005 is nearly complete. Otetiana Council has announced the following as key staff members.

Camp Director:

Steve Weisenreder

Program Director: Rick Byers

Senior Commissioner:

Joe LoTemple

Business Manager: Gael Roberts

Trek Director: Doug Turner

As of the newsletter deadline, there are openings for two Voyager Guides (age 21+). If you know someone who might be interested, please encourage him or her to contact Steve Weisenreder. Call 585-241-8530, or via e-mail at s.weisenreder@otetiana.org .

Whitcomb Conservation Center at Camp Cutler

Many of you remember Don Whitcomb, long-time Troop 91 Scoutmaster, who passed away on September 26, 2003. He led Troop 91 to Massawepie every year he was Scoutmaster. Don was a member of the Massawepie Facilities Committee and coordinated Beaver Weekend, both for many years. During his last summers, Don served as a staff volunteer at Massawepie.

Don's friends are building a Conservation Center at Camp Cutler in his memory. Many of you will receive a personalized letter in May seeking support of this fitting memorial to Don. If you wish to support this effort but do not receive a letter, or have any questions, contact David Lippitt: dlippitt@frontiernet.net .

Announcing...**the 2005 Alumni Reunion Weekend and Staff Appreciation Barbecue**

by George Varga

Save the weekend! **July 29-31** we're holding a Massawepie Staff Alumni Reunion! On Saturday July 30 the MSAA will sponsor and provide the second annual Staff Appreciation Barbecue. All members, as well as former staffers (who can join the association there) are invited. The fee will be only \$20 (plus \$10 if joining) and includes all you can eat at the Barbecue, which your fee will also help pay for. All attending alumni will clean/set up, then do preparation, cooking and serving for the Barbecue, and clean up after.

The event will take place at Gannett Lodge, where overnight accommodations will be available. Arrangements for Saturday lunch at Gannett and Sunday brunch (probably in the Pioneer Dining Hall) are being made.

Alumni can spend the weekend at Massawepie, go up Saturday and stay over, or make it a long day and be there Saturday only. Renew old friendships and make new ones. For planning purposes, we'll need reservations. Reserve your spot through MSAA Secretary Peter Collinge (contact info on front page) giving name/s and day/s you'll be joining us.

We had a lot of fun doing this event last year, but a bigger crew will mean less work and more fun for everyone. The Staff Appreciation Barbecue came about last year as yet another service of the MSAA. The idea is to thank the current staff for their efforts by giving them a free break from the routine. The event also promotes the association to potential new members. Those who are 18 or older can join MSAA at this event.

EVENT CHAIR NEEDED

George Varga, who led the 2004 inaugural event, will be the Pioneer Trading Post Manager and camp Communications Director this summer. He'll help at the Barbecue and will start promoting it during Staff Week. By July 18 he'll have a firm number of staff attending. But obviously, George can't attend the two planning meetings in the Rochester area in June and July, nor will he be able to delegate purchasing, cooking, etc. duties. Other members from the Event Committee last year will be available. They will bring the lessons learned last year to the table. George also kept good records last year and has left a folder of them to get things started. He also saved most of the decorations and will have them at camp. If you'd be willing to take on this task, contact Mark Pulvino. If you have questions you want answered to help you decide, contact George. Contact info is on the front page.

Congratulations to MSAA Members...

Jim Hinman on being awarded the Silver Beaver by Otetiana Council!

David Lippitt on receiving his Wood Badge Beads and OA Vigil Honor, on the same weekend no less!

Our fearless Staff Advisor Don DeClerck on being promoted to Camping Operations Director (COD) for Otetiana Council! In his new position, Don will assume responsibilities for the operational side of Massawepie and Cutler, including summer camps, in addition to his current duties as council Property Superintendent.

New MSAA Members

Listed below are the 2 new MSAA members who have paid their dues for 2005-06 since the listing in the December newsletter. The total paid MSAA membership is now 92.

Michael Leneway (1995 staff)
Jeff Wight (Friend of Alumni member)

We're still trying to exceed 100 members. If you know a Massawepie staff alumni or friend of Massawepie who's not a member, please encourage him or her to join or renew. (Membership forms are found in the "About Us" section of MassStaffAlumni.org.)

Membership Renewal

Enclosed with this newsletter is a membership renewal form. If your information on that form says "Expired May 2005" (or earlier), then your MSAA membership needs to be renewed. Send \$10 (or \$20 for 2 years) to the return address shown on the form.

All members, whether renewing or not this year, are encouraged to return the form if you need to make any updates of your address, phone number, e-mail or other information.

Any member, whether his or her membership has expired or not, can receive a free one-year membership extension by returning the attached membership form with \$50 of donations (total) to the new Massawepie Kayak Program for 2006 and/or to the "Square Foot" Endowment (which will support Massawepie equipment and maintenance in perpetuity). Your support of these worthy Massawepie causes will be greatly appreciated.

Keep your membership up-to-date, help Massawepie, and continue receiving this fine newsletter! Coming next issue: The history of Massawepie's purchase by the Otetiana Council.

Upcoming Events

May 2005

20-22 Skills Weekend at Massawepie
Alumni welcome, skill or no skill!
Contact Don DeClerck if attending (info on front page)

June 2005

3-5 Beaver Weekend at Massawepie
Contact Mark Pulvino if attending (info on front page)
4 MSAA Annual Meeting following Beaver Weekend dinner, in the Loren Hakes Campfire Circle
4 A Taste of the BarkEater Program Ceremony Campfire following the Annual Meeting

July 2005

29-31 Staff Alumni Weekend at Massawepie
30 2nd Annual Appreciation Barbecue for 2005 Camp Staff
Have fun & help out; see article on page 3

September 2005

24 MSAA Annual Fall Family Picnic/Clambake
(details next issue)

Annual Winter Rendezvous Wrap-up

by David Lippitt

On Saturday, March 5, 2005, about twenty-five alumni and friends of alumni ignored a nice spring day to spend the afternoon inside Flour City Brewing for our Annual Winter Rendezvous. Stories shared, locally-brewed beers poured, and munchies eaten set the mood for a great time. Vice Chair Brad Van Auken made a presentation about Massawepie's exciting new BarkEater program. Treasurer Mike Knittel made arrangements for us to get a tour of the brewing facility, led by the Flour City Brewmaster. It was a thoroughly enjoyable time among the best of friends. In addition, over \$100 in donations were collected to support the Staff Appreciation Barbecue the Alumni Association will host at Massawepie on July 30.

Oh yes, in a staff tradition for many of us, we closed the place, literally. Despite our business, Flour City Brewing closed two weeks after the Rendezvous. We'll find a new place next year for this great event!

Meyering Rifle Range...from Page 1

Massawepie CIT in 1976 and served on staff from 1977-1979. Many of the donations prior to this most recent gift were also from Massawepie Staff Alumni. Additional donations will still be accepted, with those donating \$250 or more being recognized on a plaque at the new range. (Meanwhile, you'll notice that on your MSAA membership renewal form the 2006 camp program for optional donations is the planned new Kayak Program.)

Construction on the range is continuing this spring with the goal of completing it in time for the summer season. The first directors of the new range will be long-time staffers Ray and Addy Meyering, for whom it is named! A dedication ceremony will be planned.