

# ROOTS

SPRING 2006

Newsletter of the MASSAWEPIE STAFF ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Founded in 2000 to provide Spirit, Service and SUPPORT!



## Work and Fun Weekends at Camp *by Mark Pulvino*

There are two great opportunities for you to make a difference for many Scouts this year. The Staff Alumni Association has made a positive impact throughout Camp Pioneer in the past. We have seen a consistent group of alumni up every year that bring along friends, too. This year will be no exception. Plan on joining numerous MSAA members helping out at Massawepie. We want more than last year and we can never have too many.

**Spring Skills Weekend is May 19 – 21. Beaver Weekend is June 2 – 4.** If you can come up a day or two early, let us know – there are always tasks that need to be done to prepare for the full crews. We have former staffers coming from Hawaii, Texas, Boston, Chicago, and all over – just for Beaver Weekend. A MSAA crew spends that weekend in the kitchen, so we all have great meals, including a super banquet on Saturday night. Don't miss out – you'll definitely have earned it. The MSAA Annual Meeting and Elections will immediately follow the banquet. There's nothing quite like meeting in the Loren Hakes Campfire Circle and then watching the sunset. Schedule your time off for these great opportunities for fellowship, camaraderie and fun. Make plans with other former staff members and make a reunion weekend of it. Bring friends and family too – we have a job for everyone. We'd love to see some fresh/old faces and hear some great stories. Let us know and we'll save a place for you! E-mail Mark Pulvino, mpulvino@rochester.rr.com or call him at (585) 872-1507.

## Meyering Rifle Range Dedication Ceremony Saturday July 15

*by Peter Collinge*

The new Ray & Addy Meyering Rifle Range at Camp Pioneer will be dedicated on the afternoon of Saturday, July 15, 2006. A dedication ceremony at 1:15 p.m. that day will recognize the Meyerings and the many people who assisted in making the Rifle Range possible, all of whom are "dedicated" to Massawepie!

Ray and Addy will direct the Rifle Range again in 2006. The new range is much closer to Camp Pioneer than the previous range in Mountaineer, and has double the number of shooting points.

All are welcome at Massawepie for the dedication ceremony. (Donors are receiving invitations from Otetiana Council.) Limited bunkroom housing will be available by prior arrangement – contact Peter Collinge at capejo@localnet.com or (585) 334-4132. Those who prefer to stay outside of camp may wish to try a nearby motel such as Shaheen's in Tupper Lake.

Lunch will be served in the Pioneer dining hall on Saturday at noon, shortly before the ceremony. Plan now to attend, whether just for lunch and the ceremony, or for the whole weekend!

Anyone available after Retreat on Friday July 14 is encouraged to help serve and then enjoy the weekly picnic at Pioneer (see adjacent article). Alumni doing the serving – you know this was a highlight of your staff days – will allow the 2006 staff to have a special gathering. Hopefully they'll be celebrating success in the annual Northeast Region BSA Visitation (formerly Inspection), which is taking place that day.

## Notice of MSAA Annual Meeting: June 3, 2006

The Massawepie Staff Alumni Association's 2006 Annual Meeting will be held during Beaver Weekend at Massawepie on Saturday, June 3, 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. We'll also be voting on two proposed changes to our Rules of Operation. (See page 2 for articles on nominees and proposals.) Reports of 2005-06 activities will be shared, and future plans will be discussed. Alumni T-shirts will be available for purchase and you can pay your MSAA dues! If we remember this year, the closing activity will be the traditional group photo shoot! (But socializing may continue afterwards somewhere in greater Childwold.) Come join the fun!

## Alumni Needed *by Shannon Davis*

The MSAA is asking alumni to come to camp on Friday, July 14 to serve the "picnic" in the dining hall for the campers. You can also eat. Meanwhile, the staff will enjoy a well-deserved break at a party with pizza and ice cream, plus a keg of root beer provided by the MSAA. This is the eve of the Meyering Rifle Range dedication ceremony, so make a weekend of it! What better place to spend a July weekend than the Adirondacks?! If you're interested, please contact me at shannon.davis@otetiana.org or (585) 241-8541.

### *Executive Committee*

#### *Chair*

Brad VanAuken  
(585) 624-2403  
bvanauken@rochester.rr.com

#### *Vice Chair*

currently vacant

#### *Secretary & Webmaster*

Peter Collinge  
(585) 334-4132  
capejo@localnet.com

#### *Treasurer*

Mike Knittel

#### *Member at Large*

Shannon Davis

#### *Member at Large*

Gary Hicks

#### *Member at Large & Council VP of Camping*

David Lippitt

#### *Member at Large & Newsletter Editor*

George Varga  
(585) 461-9424  
gvarga@rochester.rr.com

#### *Member at Large*

Stephanie VonBacho

#### *Past Chair*

Mark Pulvino

#### *Staff Advisor*

Don DeClerck  
(585) 374-5770  
don.declerck@otetiana.org

#### *MSAA Mail Address*

MSAA  
J. Warren Cutler  
Scout Reservation  
7131 Gulick Road  
Naples, NY 14512

#### *MSAA E-mail*

MassAlumni@aol.com

#### *MSAA Web Site*

MassStaffAlumni.org

#### *Send newsletter submissions to:*

MSAA Newsletter  
196 Linden Street  
Rochester, NY 14620-2335

## Nominees for the MSAA Executive Committee

The Alumni Association Rules of Operation provide that nominations for officers and at large Executive Committee members should be made 20 days in advance of the Annual Meeting (held on Beaver Weekend). The Executive Committee has nominated the following:

Brad VanAuken for Chair  
Shannon Davis for Vice Chair  
Mike Knittel for Treasurer  
Peter Collinge for Secretary

for Executive Committee Members at Large:

Gary Hicks  
David Lippitt  
George Varga  
Stephanie VonBacho, and  
John Zaffino

(Mark Pulvino will serve as Past Chair)

Any additional nominations should be submitted in advance of the meeting to Secretary Peter Collinge (see contact information on page 1).

## Minutes of the March Executive Committee Meeting

The MSAA Executive Committee met March 30 at David Lippitt's house at 7:15 p.m. Present were Brad VanAuken (Chair), Peter Collinge (Secy.), Mike Knittel (Treas.), David Lippitt, Gary Hicks and Shannon Davis. The following topics were covered.

**Beaver Weekend:** Gary will help order food but may not be there, depending on work schedule; the kitchen should be covered with Tim Smith, Anthony Pulvino, probably Kathy Elliott, probably Mark Arlauckas, and possibly Gary Hicks. **Rules of Operation:** Peter distributed proposed rules changes to allow current or former staff members under age 18 to join the Association, and to reduce the notice needed for rules changes before the meeting where they are considered from 30 days to 20 days. **Treasurer's Report:** Mike is waiting hear back from Bill Boyle with figures, so there was no report. **Kayaks:** funding for 6-7 kayaks is confirmed, with rumors of 3-4 more. Don may be able to get a better deal at Bass Pro Shops rather than Gander Mountain. We discussed possibly writing the kayak name on the top with permanent marker. **Nominations:** See article on this page. **Additional Members:** Mike suggested that we need more members, and all agreed. After some discussion, we tentatively agreed to hold a 55th Anniversary Staff Reunion during the Thanksgiving or Christmas holidays in 2007, and working before then to invite as many past staff members as possible, especially those from 1990 to the present. **2006 Summer Event:** the Rifle Range Dedication will be Saturday afternoon, July 15. We

## Proposed Changes to the MSAA Rules of Operation

The MSAA Executive Committee is recommending that the following two amendments to the MSAA Rules of Operation be approved at the June 3, 2006, annual meeting.

**1) To allow camp staff members under 18 to join the MSAA.** [This may help in recruiting more current staff members to join the MSAA.]

### Section 3 - Membership

Alumni membership in the Association is open to any person who:

- ~~is at least eighteen years of age,~~
- has served during a portion of a summer camp season as a paid or volunteer staff member at Massawepie,
- is in good standing with the Boy Scouts of America and with the Council, and
- is interested in supporting the Purposes of the Association.

The Membership Year shall run from June 1 to May 31. The Executive Committee shall establish membership categories, which may include Individual, Family, and others.

Friends of the Alumni ("FOA") membership shall be available to any friend of Massawepie who **is at least eighteen years of age and** meets the requirements above except for service as a Massawepie staff member. The membership categories and dues for FOA members shall be the same as for Alumni members. FOA members shall be entitled to all of the privileges of membership except that an FOA member may not serve as an Association officer.

Any person meeting the requirements above may become an Alumni or FOA member of the Association by means of a payment of dues for the appropriate category. In addition, the Scout Executive, the Council Director of Support Services, Council Vice President of Camping, and the Staff Advisor to the Association (see Section 5) shall be ex officio members of the Association without the payment of dues.

**2) To make the mailing timing for amendments to the Rules the same as the mailing for the annual meeting notice.** [While we are likely to mail these two items in the same newsletter, they currently have different time requirements.]

### Section 8 - Amendment of Rules

These rules may be amended by approval of a majority of the members present at an annual meeting of the Association, but only after a copy of the proposed amendment(s) is sent to all Association members at least ~~30~~ 20 days prior to the meeting. The amendment(s) must be approved by the Council's Camp Operations Committee (or its successor committee) before taking effect.

decided, pending approval from Steve Weisenreder, to try to recruit volunteers to serve at the camp picnic on Friday, July 14, so that the 2006 camp staff can have a pizza party during that time and celebrate the successful (hopefully) camp inspection that day. We might supply a treat such as a keg of root beer. Shannon will check with Steve. (See articles on page 1.) **Newsletter Articles:** to meet the current 30-day notice before voting on changes to our Rules of Operation at the Annual Meeting, we need to mail the newsletter by May 1, which means it should be printed before the end of April. Articles are due to George by April 10. This newsletter will be mailed in envelopes along with membership renewal notices. Various people volunteered for articles (whether they knew it or not).

Respectfully Submitted,  
Peter Collinge, Secretary

## MSAA Shirts by Mike Knittel

Yes, the maroon and tan combination crinkle pattern MSAA logo tee shirts are still available in both short and long sleeves. I have a good supply in all popular sizes, but I would like to have a lot less. I will bring them to Beaver Weekend, so be sure to bring your checkbook.

Prices are \$10 to \$14. Purchase of the shirts continues to pay for future staff events and for Massawepie kayak support.

The shirts can also be ordered by sending the order form on Page 4, with your check, to: MSAA, c/o Don DeClerck, J. Warren Cutler Scout Reservation, 7131 Gulick Road, Naples, NY 14512. Remember that the shirts are only available to current paid members, so also include your \$10 annual dues with the check if you have not renewed.



## BarkEater 2006

by Brad VanAuken

The second year of the BarkEater program will soon commence at Massawepie. Adults can earn their BarkEater honor camper recognition by volunteering their time at two of the three work weekends or by participating in the program while at camp with their units this summer. We will perform a first dry run of the second year ceremony at Beaver Weekend 2006.

We are still seeking one prop for the second or third year ceremony – a giant beaver (fabricated from fiberglass or some other durable material). If someone is interested in sourcing this for us, please contact me at 585-624-2043 (home/home office) or [vanauken@brandforward.com](mailto:vanauken@brandforward.com) for an additional explanation of what is needed.

The BarkEater program, designed to encourage boys to return to Massawepie year after year, focuses on Adirondack and Massawepie history and lore and reinforces the aims and ideals of Scouting. It consists of unique program elements, recognition and ceremonies for each of five years.

## Massawepie Staff Update

by Steve Weisenreder, Camp Director

The 2006 Massawepie Staff is nearly complete and we are pleased to announce the following management team appointments.

Devin Bedard will be serving as the Assistant Camp Director in 2006. Devin has been on staff at Massawepie since 2002, having served as Senior Commissioner and Sports & Mountain Bikes Director among other positions. Devin is a student at the University of Buffalo and will be responsible for assisting in the day-to-day camp operation and will be overseeing several special projects.

The 2005 Program Director Rick Byers returns to that role as the 2006 Assistant Camp Director for Program. Rick's leadership was one of the key components to the success of last summer and he will be counted on to play an even greater role in the camp this time around. Rick has been a part of the Massawepie staff since he was 15 years old, having served as a Handicraft Assistant, Lifeguard and Handicraft Director prior to being promoted to Program Director in 2005.

Gael Roberts is back as the camp Business Manager. Gael and her husband Phil (Star Village Director/counselor for the new Archeology MB) have been a part of the staff since 2004. They are both indispensable to the year-round operation of the camp.

Sean Glenney reprises his role as Health Director. Sean has been in that position since 2003 and has improved the health and safety operation greatly in that time.

Joe LoTemple, in his fourth year on staff, will again be Senior Commissioner this year.

Doug Turner returns as the Trek Director. Doug's longevity at Massawepie is legendary; his record of accomplishment speaks for itself.

In addition, George Varga returns as Trading Post Manager. Look for an even better merchandise selection for 2006! George will also edit and produce the "Pioneer Daily Log" for the second year.

## Massawepie Kayak Program by Brad VanAuken

As you know, the Massawepie Staff Alumni Association is spearheading a new kayak program for Massawepie this summer. We are well on our way to our goal of funding twelve kayaks before camp opens this summer. Kayaks (including paddles) will cost about \$300 each. While donations of any amount are appreciated, if you donate \$300 or more, you can name 'your' kayak (subject to MSAA executive committee approval). Two MSAA executive committee members are combining each \$300 in donations with a \$50 donation to the Square Foot endowment to cover ongoing maintenance of the kayaks.

Please help us complete our funding of this initiative. We only need a few more kayaks to reach our summer of 2006 goal. Thanks go out to the following people who have already donated toward this program (as of April 1): Waldemar Bachmann, Jim Belaskas, Richard Beltz, Peter Collinge, Dick DePalma, James Forsythe, Tim Lewis, Amy Lippitt, David Lippitt, Pierre Loncle, Eric Meisenzahl, Mark Maurice, John Newberry, Paul Pape, Mark Pulvino, Daniel Reitz, Tay House Troop 19 and Brad VanAuken. This is another way the MSAA enriches the Massawepie experience, making it one of the best Boy Scout camps in the Northeast.



## Trek Openings

Massawepie's Adirondack high adventure trek program offers youth a chance to test their mettle by canoeing and backpacking in the Adirondack backcountry. The treks can be combined with rappelling, rock climbing, mountain biking and other 'high adventure' elements. It is one of the premier trek programs in the Northeast. There are still a few openings for this summer.

Please let people know about this unique and exciting program. For more information, go to [www.otetiana.org/treks/index.php](http://www.otetiana.org/treks/index.php) or contact Otetiana Council office at 585-241-8545.

## Massawepie Staff Reunion in 2007?

by David Lippitt

The MSAA Executive Committee discussed whether something special should be done to celebrate Massawepie's 55th anniversary, which will occur in 2007. One idea was a Staff Reunion, open to all former staff, hosted by the Alumni Association in Rochester. The Friday or Saturday after Thanksgiving, the weekend of December 22-23 and the weekend of December 29-30 in 2007 were all discussed as possible dates, because out-of-town former staffers might be in Rochester for the holidays.

Please send an e-mail ([MassAlumni@aol.com](mailto:MassAlumni@aol.com)) letting us know what you think of the idea, or send us any other ideas you may have for celebrating the 55th anniversary. In addition, please provide us with the names and addresses (street and e-mail) of former staff members you know so we can start developing a mailing list for whatever we decide to do.

## Voyageurs & CITs Still Needed

by Steve Weisenreder, Camp Director

Doug Turner is looking for a few Voyager Guides to fill out his crew. Training is provided. Call Doug at (607) 637-2434.

There are still spots available in the CIT Program at Massawepie this summer. CITs are active Boy Scouts who are 14 or 15 years old. They'll spend four weeks at Massawepie and experience camp staff for the first time; we all know that is a life-changing experience. If you know anyone who may be interested, contact me at [s.weisenreder@otetiana.org](mailto:s.weisenreder@otetiana.org) or 585-241-8530.

# Membership Renewal

by Peter Collinge

Is your MSAA membership expiring? Enclosed with this newsletter you'll find a membership renewal form. If your information on that form says, "Expired May 2006" (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. Please return the form NOW - we don't want to lose a valuable member like you!

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 Massawepie kayak program and/or to the "Square Foot" Endowment (which will support Massawepie equipment and maintenance in perpetuity). Your support of these worthy causes will be greatly appreciated.

Keep your membership up-to-date, help Massawepie, and keep receiving this fine newsletter!

# Name This Newsletter Contest!

by David Lippitt

Many of you probably noticed that starting with the Winter 2006 issue, our newsletter was named "Roots," thanks to editor George Varga. George used "Roots" based on the support the Alumni Association furnishes to the camp (tree) and the staff (branches).

That got us thinking; why not hold a contest to name the newsletter? So that is what we're doing. Submit your entries to our e-mail address (MassAlumni@aol.com), with an explanation as to why you chose the name.

The Executive Committee will select the winning name. The person submitting the winning entry will win a free Alumni Association t-shirt (either short or long sleeve).

You must be a paid Alumni Association or Friends of Alumni Association member to win, so if your dues are not up to date get that taken care of (see article above).

## Upcoming Events

### MAY 2006

19-21 Spring Skills Weekend at Massawepie  
All Alumni Welcome, skill or no skill

### JUNE 2006

2-4 Beaver Weekend at Massawepie  
3 MSAA Annual Meeting & Elections, after banquet,  
Loren Hakes Memorial Campfire Circle

### JULY 2006

14-16 Staff Alumni Weekend at Massawepie  
14 5:30pm, we serve picnic so staff can party  
15 1:15pm, Dedication of the Ray and Addy  
Meyering Rifle Range

### SEPTEMBER 2006

15-17 Fall Skills Weekend at Massawepie  
TBA MSAA Annual Fall Family Picnic/Clambake  
(details next issue)



## MSAA Tee Shirt ORDER FORM

PLEASE PRINT!

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (in case of questions) \_\_\_\_\_

	QUANTITY	X	COST	=	TOTAL
<b>SHORT SLEEVE</b>					
MEDIUM		X	\$10.00	=	
LARGE		X	\$10.00	=	
X-LARGE		X	\$10.00	=	
XX-LARGE		X	\$11.00	=	
<b>LONG SLEEVE</b>					
MEDIUM		X	\$13.00	=	
LARGE		X	\$13.00	=	
X-LARGE		X	\$13.00	=	
XX-LARGE		X	\$14.00	=	

SHIPPING: 1 or 2 shirts, add \$4; 3 or 4 shirts, add \$6 =

Make check payable to: **GRAND TOTAL \$** \_\_\_\_\_  
Otetiana Council, Inc.