

FALL 2016 Beaver Tales



Newsletter of the Massawepie Staff Alumni Association

Providing Spirit, Service and Support since 2000!



2016 Annual Meeting and Elections

The MSAA Annual Meeting was held on June 4th during Beaver Weekend at Massawepie, in the Loren Hakes Campfire Circle. It was opened at 8pm by George Varga, standing in for Chair Mark Pulvino who was in a wedding. Attending were 16 MSAA members. Several others were back working on projects or had to head home early. A moment of silence was observed for members who have passed: Dick Betz, Gary Hicks, Mark Maurice and Jerry Turner. It was noted that a new Sunfish sailboat has been donated in memory of Mark Maurice (see article within). The next official order of business was annual elections. George first asked for nominations for Vice-Chair and the open Member at Large slots; there were none. The nominated slate was then unanimously approved. Peter Collinge reported that the Association had a balance of \$3,500, noting that this was unusually high. He proposed that we make a general \$1,150 donation to Turner Trek Center campaign, plus \$350 to that campaign as a Square Yard in memory of Gary Hicks. Both donations were unanimously approved, and his report was accepted. Peter then reported that with the above mentioned \$1,500, the total raised to date for the Trek Center naming campaign was \$20,000! MSAA members helped organize and run the highly successful 46 ADK Peak Challenge last October at Massawepie. MSAA members also helped with the MSC Staff Holiday Party in December. Our Winter Gathering in March at Swiftwater Brewing was very successful. Mike Knittel is selling on eBay Massawepie memorabilia donated by Dave Henry. Per Dave, proceeds are added to our treasury. Doris Turner, widow of Jerry Turner, was recognized for being part of the Beaver Weekend kitchen crew along with her daughter, Nancy Turner Snyder. She thanked the Association for its efforts and all the donations. The meeting ended at 8:30, followed by the traditional group photo. Respectfully submitted, *Tim Smith*

CHAIR'S STUMP! I am pleased to announce that Executive Committee Member at Large Sean Glenney has volunteered to fill the office of Vice Chair! Sean has some great ideas and is excited to lend his vast Scouting and Massawepie Staff experience and knowledge to help us grow. We are striving to increase our membership to 100 and beyond. The relationships we have built with non-member current staffers have made a huge difference in the success of off-season programs at Massawepie. Now we must convince them all to join the MSAA!

In September, I hiked a section of the Long Trail from North Adams, MA to Killington, VT – nearly 110 miles over 7 days. Though hiking with 3 friends, I had time to myself to decompress and reflect. I met north-borders, south-borders, backpackers, slackpackers, through-hikers, section-hikers, flip-floppers & foragers; doing the LT, the AT, or just the Green Mountains. I joked that while we met a variety of hikers and the self-describing labels can seem funny, we're just hikers. We are ALL hikers! The next day, while hiking and feeling a bit guilty about missing the MSAA clambake on Sunday, I thought about Massawepie staff. There are millennials, gen x-ers, baby boomers, baby busters. There are staff from the 1950's to the 2010's. I must bridge those decades and speak to all because we're just Massawepie staff alumni. We are ALL Massawepie Staff Alumni! *Mark*

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2 Treasurer's Report (as of 10/31/16; unaudited) by Peter

Balance on 12/31/15.....	\$2,778.03	
CATEGORY.....	INCOME.....	EXPENSE
Dues.....	\$815.00.....	\$0.00
Administrative (mailing, website, etc.).....	\$0.00.....	\$39.70
Square Foot Endowment, Donor Option Turner Trek Center ..	\$16,260.00...	\$17,960.00*
Social Event (Winter Gathering, Clambake).....	\$325.00.....	\$298.70
Memorabilia (patches, tee shirts).....	\$297.00.....	\$0.00
TOTALS.....	\$17,697.00....	\$18,298.40
Balance as of 10/31/16.....		\$2,176.63

*Includes \$1,700 donation from the MSAA treasury.

Your Association is doing well financially again this year. Thanks to our loyal membership (and other donors), we've donated \$17,960 to the Massawepie Square Foot Fund/Endowment in support of our campaign to name the Trek Center for the long-time staffers from the Turner family. That included \$16,260 donated directly, and \$1,700 from the Alumni Association treasury. Your dues and donations made this possible, so thanks on behalf of all of Massawepie's present and future Scouts and Staff!

Fall 2016 Executive Committee Meeting Notes by Tim

We met at the SWC Service Center on October 26. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Mark. Also present were George, Tim, Peter, Don, Mike, David and Sean. Richard and Stephanie were absent.

Peter presented Finance and Membership reports. [See articles on this page for details.] Members present approved the reports. Peter reminded us that last November we approved spending \$200 to offset the cost of the Massawepie Staff Holiday Party. He stated that Member at Large Richard Wright covered the cost with a personal donation, saving us the \$200. Peter proposed that, in recognition, Richard be given a complimentary 2-year membership. This was also approved.

Peter reported that the Turner Trek Center naming campaign has reached \$27,625 to date, 110.5% of the goal! [See separate article for more.] He asked for suggestions on disposal of remaining recognition items. It was decided that magnets will be given to 2017 camp staff and pins will be given to Doug Turner for 2017 Trek recognitions.

The next topic was a location and date for our annual Winter Gathering. Everyone agreed that since recent forays to regional craft breweries had been very successful, we should continue the tradition. George suggested Knucklehead in Webster, our second-choice last year. We all agreed and Mark volunteered to investigate further. We decided on Sunday March 5, 2017 for the event. [See Page 3 for an update.]

Mark noted that the Executive Committee has an opening for the position of Vice Chair, and there are three open Member at Large slots. Sean Glenney stated that his schedule had changed and he volunteered to be Vice Chair. After a very brief discussion, Sean was approved as Vice Chair by all present. It was then noted that there are now four open Member at Large slots. Discussion centered on inviting newer, younger MSAA members to fill these slots. Mark and Sean will work on this effort.

Following a discussion of how to remedy light attendance at the Fall Clambake, Sean suggested a survey and offered to write one. [See Fall Event Survey in this issue.]

The next topic was a Donor Option for the membership in 2017. A decision was made to help with the cost of appliances in some cabins. [See article in this issue.]

David Lippitt plans to buy a courtyard brick in memory of Gary Hicks and asked anyone who wants to join with him in the purchase to contact him.

MSAA member Jim Hinman was recently diagnosed with cancer. He had an operation in October and reports that he is recovering and is in good spirits.

Finally, article responsibilities and timing were set for this newsletter.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30.

MSAA News & Notes by Peter

MSAA's paid membership:

12/31/15 = 78

7/1/16 = 74

10/31/16 = 80

The year-end number should be a bit higher when more renewals come in. We continue to look for ways to recruit new members. Please recruit a friend!

Has *your* MSAA membership expired? It has if you got a renewal form with this newsletter! Renew now to keep getting this newsletter, and to continue supporting Massawepie!

Two alumni have joined the MSAA since the last newsletter.

Nancy Turner-Snyder worked in food service at Pioneer from 1983-85. She worked with head chef Doris Turner, her mother!

Freddy Stein has been on staff for four years. In 2016 he was CIT Director and Director of the new Forester Program.

Welcome, Nancy and Freddy!

Square Foot Fund Update by Peter

The Massawepie Square Foot Endowment Fund was created in 2002 to help support the future of the camp. Donated funds are invested, with 5% of the average balance taken out each year to support maintenance and equipment at MSC. At the start some wondered if small donations (\$50/Foot, \$350/Yard for sponsorship, less to just donate) would amount to much. They have - at the end of 2015, the Fund held \$95,395! During 2015, \$9,965 in new donations and \$1,236 in investment gains were added, while \$2,417 was withdrawn for camp use. And, the Turner Campaign has added over \$18,000 to the fund in 2016 so the balance is now nearing \$115,000! That's mostly due to your generosity, so thank you!

'17 Donor Option: New Appliances in Cabins *by Peter*

Have you ever baked a mouse in an oven? Each Massawepie staff cabin has a 20" propane stove, many of which are about the same age as the cabins (1950s era). Some of these ovens have had mice and other critters living in them over the years, which made a mess, chewed the oven insulation or worse - died in there. Some stoves are so old that the gas lines, fittings, valves, and pilot lights don't work well and are dangerous. And, most of the old stoves simply look worn-out. For these reasons, many of the oven knobs have been removed so that the ovens can't be used by staff, or during the two-week Family Camp, a popular event held at the end of the summer season. Thus, Property Superintendent Ben Geiger would like to replace up to 8 of the cabin stoves for 2017. This project is more urgent because the new propane vendor may be reluctant to even hook up some of the old stoves. Ben estimates a cost of about \$325 per stove. With budget reductions in place for 2017, this cannot be done without help. So, the MSAA Executive Committee has agreed to make the staff cabin stoves our "donor option" project for 2017. Anyone donating \$60 or more to this project will receive a free year of MSAA dues. You'll see this listed on the membership renewal forms in the spring. And optimistically, given the results of the Turner project, if members donate more than what is needed for the stoves, Ben can replace a few of the old, energy-wasting refrigerators!

Turner Trek Center Campaign Succeeds! *by Peter*

The campaign to name the Trek Center at Massawepie for the Turner Family has been completed. Over \$27,600 was raised in 2015 and 2016, surpassing the \$25,000 goal! These funds have been/will be placed in the Massawepie Square Foot Endowment Fund, with the proceeds used to fund the maintenance and equipment of Massawepie forever! Our sincere thanks to ALL donors! A dedication ceremony for the building is tentatively being planned for Beaver Weekend, 2017. We hope many of the Turners will be able to attend. At that time, as promised, a plaque will be unveiled with the names of all donors of \$500 or more. To date, those names are:

Philip Bartels
Jim M. Belaskas
Boy Scout Troop 334, Rush
Peter Collinge & Carol Thiel
Richard DePalma
Tod C. Holmes
Kenneth G. Lombart
Massawepie Staff Alumni Association

Richard & Roberta Trier
The Turner Family (including Jerry,
Doris, Doug, Laura, Ginnie & Nancy)
Brad VanAuken
Rosemary & George Varga
Guido F. Verbeck III
Al & Pat Williams

Donations will be accepted through December 31, so it's not too late to add your name to the plaque. Other donors who made this project succeed are listed below. For more information, or if your name was mistakenly left off either list, contact Peter Collinge: collinge@localnet.com .

Richard Betz	Ben & Christielee Geiger	Mike Oyer
Bill Boyle	Bruce Hanat	Paul Pape
Lisa Buckshaw	Bob Hart	Doug Perryman
Peter Bundschuh	James Hinman	John Poray
Janet Collinge	Honeoye Central	Mark Pulvino
Jody Collinge	School Secretaries	Phil & Gael Roberts
Mary Ellen Collinge	David Hoselton	Yves Robinson
John Connor	Mike Knittel	Debra Salmon
Bob Cooper	Eileen Kurtz	Michael Scheetz
William Conklin	Mark Kurtz	Stevens Connor Amer-
Ethan Crist	Sherry Kurtz	ican Legion Post 1330
Don DeClerck	David Lippitt	David Turner
Kathleen Elliott	Wilfred Leblanc	Jeremy Whitmore
John Ford	Roger & Judy Mead	Lacey Williams

MSC 2016 Update

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by Dave Cheney and George

Massawepie was again very well attended in 2016. 1813 youth campers (plus 11 provisional) and 656 adult campers were at camp over the six-week season. These campers were from 74 SWC units and 52 units from 14 other councils! Add over 70 staffers and the Trek program and that's a lot of people! There were three new/almost new programs. The Forester Program, while lightly used in its first year, is set to take off in 2017. The Mud Run, located between the BMX bike course and COPE, was VERY popular! The third "new" program was log rolling, using an artificial log purchased from BSA. After a misfire in 2015, we worked to resolve problems. The log was on target, a big hit in 2016. Camp signups for next summer are doing well. Hiring for 2017 has already begun and we hope to have a full staff by early spring.



Winter Gathering '17 *by Mark*

Who hasn't been a knucklehead at least once? *Save the date!* MSAA will host our annual Winter Gathering on Sunday March 5, 2017, gathering at 2:00 at Knucklehead Craft Brewing in Webster, NY. The brewery, just over 2 years old, is located on the west side of Webster. They offer some great house-brewed beers plus wines, hard ciders and soft drinks! The food at Knucklehead is limited to snacks and sandwiches, but they are great! This place is another "made for MSAA" establishment! Building on our very successful 2016 gathering, we'll again be reaching out to potential "Young Members," inviting them to join us at this event. Bring a friend, young or old, who you'd like to join the MSAA. Complete details, including cost, location directions and reservation info, will be sent to regional members in early February. This should be another great MSAA event!

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Beaver Weekend 2016

THANKS!

While rebuilding/building of shelters at Scoutcraft and Trailblazers became the 2016 "glory" projects, let's not forget the many Beaver Week/Weekend (and Pre-Skills and Skills Weekends) volunteers who helped with more mundane but vital tasks: feeding workers, electrical, gas, plumbing, tent/site work, mowing, road work, trading post, painting, roofing, cabins, waterfront setup, trail clearing, tabin frames, latrines, and so much more. Thanks to ALL who helped get Massawepie ready for over 2500 campers and staff in the 2016 camping season. And, remember to recruit a friend for the 2017 camp work/fun weekends! [Thanks also to the ranger crew and camp staff for completing the lean-to at Four Points during camp! Neither time nor available labor allowed this major job to get done Beaver Weekend.]



FRESH MOOSE TRACKS!
On Nov. 7, Ben just missed seeing a huge (from size of the tracks) moose that had recently crossed the road from Scoutcraft to Archery!



Money for New Sailboat Donated in Memory of Mark Maurice

by George (with info from Don & Peter)

Mark Maurice, who was on the Forester waterfront staff in 1977 & 1978 and a member of MSAA, passed away in February. His parents, Bob (also an MSAA member) and Gail, believe that Scouting, and Massawepie, had a significant positive influence on his life and wanted to recognize this with a memorial donation. A new Sunfish sailboat was purchased in Mark's memory and used by Scouts all summer. It was a welcome and needed addition to the aging fleet of sailboats at the Pioneer waterfront.



Fall Picnic/Clams – Few People, Great Event!

by George



On September 25th, a beautiful Fall day in Powder Mills Park, 10 people found out that George could properly steam clams the first time he tried! Expenses were only \$18.70 over cost. Mike turned in \$107 from eBay sales of Massawepie memorabilia donated by Dave Henry, so Peter declared the event a "net profit." But interest in this event has waned seriously in recent years. Please respond to the survey on the next page to help us solve this problem.



Off-Season Events... Massawepie Outdoor Challenges



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by Mark

The MOC Fall Event



Over Columbus Day Weekend, with the winds starting to get a taste of chill and green leaves giving way to vibrant fall colors, over 100 campers were at Mountaineer. They did the Tupper Triad, the Saranac 6er and/or the Massawepie Fishing Derby. Some ventured deeper and tackled the Seward Range. One group saw a person achieve 46er status atop Whiteface. The Columbus Day event was successful thanks to incredible Alumni and staffers who helped prepare facilities, run programs, star in the Sunday night campfire, grace our culinary infusion team (the cooks), and so much more! There were at least 15 of us involved and we are already planning for next year. Contact me if you'd like to join us.

MOC is Bringing on the MAC this Winter!



Massawepie is calling you! The 4th Annual Massawepie Arctic Challenge will be held on Martin Luther King weekend, January 13-16, 2017 at Gannett Lodge. We'll have all the popular activities from past events, and we're adding some new ones. There will also be some new swag you'll want to order! Jeremy Wyatt and Ben Geiger are organizing the program. Tim Smith, wearing his chef hat, will lead the MSAA kitchen crew. If you'd like to help, reach out to Ben (ben.geiger@scouting.org) or Tim (smith3656@rochester.rr.com). Make contact soon; staff "housing" is limited, unless you want to tent it for the weekend.

MSAA FALL EVENT SURVEY *by Sean*

The association is looking for ways to increase participation at our social functions, especially the Fall event. Please take a few minutes to complete this survey and get it to me.

You can email it to me (sglenneybsa@gmail.com). In the subject line put "MSAA Survey." In the body of the email put: 1 and A, B or C; 2 and A, B, C or D; etc.; etc. You can also add comments anywhere.

If you'd prefer to use the USPS, or don't have email, fill out the form, tear it off and mail it to the MSAA address on Page 1. Please put "MSAA Survey" on the envelope.

1. What type of social event would you attend during the Fall season?
A) family style B) adults only C) either
2. What month do you prefer?
A) September B) October C) November D) no preference
3. What day do you prefer?
A) Friday B) Saturday C) Sunday D) no preference
4. What time of day do you prefer?
A) early afternoon B) mid-late afternoon C) evening D) no preference
5. What kind of event WOULD you attend? All would be BYOB. [check all that apply]
A) clam bake B) chicken barbecue C) pig roast D) steak roast E) pot luck picnic
F) appetizers only G) other: _____
6. How much would you pay for the event?
A) \$5 B) \$10 C) \$15 D) \$20 E) depends on the event & what is included F) cost is not an issue
7. Where would you prefer to hold the event?
A) park pavilion B) park building (enclosed, higher cost) C) rental hall D) micro/craft brewery
E) restaurant or bar F) other: _____
8. Any other thoughts for a Fall event? Events at other times of the year?

NAME (optional): _____

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INSIDE Beaver Tales:

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- Turner Trek Center Campaign Update!
- And much more!

Visit us at MassStaffAlumni.org

TO:

Membership Renewal

If you received a renewal form with this newsletter, your membership has *expired*. Renew NOW to keep receiving this newsletter, and to continue supporting the future of Massawepie!

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Go GREEN!

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2017 MSAA EVENTS

March 5...Winter Gathering, Knucklehead Craft Brewery, 426 Ridge Rd., Webster, 2-5pm (see Page 3)

May 19...Annual Massawepie Conservation Meeting, Friday morning, Gannett Lodge, MSC

May 19-21...Spring Skills Weekend at Massawepie - ALL Alumni welcome - skill or no skill!

May 31-June 1...Pre-Beaver Days - come early - help prepare for the weekend projects!

June 2-4...Beaver Weekend at Massawepie - ALL Alumni are encouraged to attend!

June 3...MSAA Annual Meeting, about 8pm, in the Loren Hakes Campfire Circle or the Dining Hall!

Oct. 6-8...Fall Skills Weekend at Massawepie - come help button up the camp for winter!

Sept./Oct./Nov.... TBA, MSAA Fall Event