

FALL 2018 BEAVER TALES

Newsletter of the **Massawepie Staff Alumni Association**

Providing Spirit, Service & Support since 2000!



2018 Annual Meeting and Elections



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David Lippitt

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Our 18th Annual meeting was held on Saturday, June 2 in the Loren Hakes Campfire Circle at Camp Pioneer during Beaver Weekend. The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by Chair Mark Pulvino. There were 23 members and guests attending. Mark noted that the member travelling the farthest was Pierre Loncle from Rifle, Colorado. Mark also recognized Bill Oette, who was a camper in 1952 and served on the Camp Pioneer staff in 1953. Reading of the minutes from the 17th Annual meeting was waived. The next order of business was the election of officers and members-at-large. The nominated slate was read; Mark asked if there were any nominations from the floor. There were none; the slate was unanimously approved. Peter Collinge gave the Treasurer's Report. The balance as of 5/28/18 was \$2,521.95 and there were 87 paid members. He had also received more applications that weekend. He reported that Alumni have donated about \$1,895 toward the purchase of sleep comfort for the staff. The report was unanimously accepted. MSAA members helped organize, staff and run the successful October Odyssey Challenge Weekend, October 6-10 at Camp Mountaineer. Alumni also organized, staffed and ran the 5th Annual Arctic Challenge held at Gannett and Keymel Lodges January 12-15, attended by 70 youth and adults. The MSAA helped underwrite the cost of the Camp Staff Holiday Party. Our Winter Gathering was March 4 at WhichCraft Brews in Webster, attended by 24 Alumni. A brief discussion about events in 2018-19 led to no decisions other than that further discussion was needed. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm and the traditional group photo was taken. Respectfully Submitted by *Tim Smith*



I'm Freddy Stein, the new chair of the MSAA Executive Committee. 2018 was my seventh summer at Massawepie and I am on the off-season staff. I'm very excited and honored to be the chair, as I've seen firsthand the many ways MSAA members help current staff members and campers. I think we all agree that Massawepie is truly a unique place physically, but I'd argue that it is even more important for the memories that have been made there. For the 89 members of the MSAA, Massawepie brings us together; it also brings together over 2000 people every summer. For 67 years, the property has had a profound impact on many outside this organization. Several 2018 staffers have joined MSAA. We had a great turnout of members at the Columbus Day event at Camp Mountaineer, known as "Trail Days." Planning has begun for the Massawepie Arctic Challenge, which takes place at Gannett every Martin Luther King Day Weekend. If you are interested in volunteering at these events, contact me. I'd be happy to talk with you. You'll also find information in this newsletter. The MSAA Executive Committee is planning several Gatherings for 2019, including winter, in January (details within); Spring, probably in April (details to come); and maybe Fall. I share my gratitude to this organization and its members. If we haven't already met, I look forward to meeting you soon. Freddy



Treasurer's Report (as of 10/30/18) by Peter

CATEGORY	INCOME	EXPENSE
Balance on 12/31/17	\$2,117	
Dues	\$800.00	\$0.00
Administrative (postage)	\$0.00	\$130.49
Camp Project (staff sleep comfort)	\$2,840.00	\$2,840.00
Square Foot Endowment Fund	\$1,425.00	\$1,425.00
Social Event (Winter Gathering)	\$115.00	\$90.00
Recognition Shirts for current 3+ year staff	\$0.00	\$506.50
Memorabilia (patches)	\$20.00	\$0.00
TOTALS	\$5,200.00	\$4,991.99
Balance as of 10/30/18		\$2,325

Your Association has had a positive year so far financially. Thanks to our generous members, we collected \$2,840 for staff sleep comfort – a rested staff is a happy staff! Members also donated \$1,425 to the Massawepie Square Foot Endowment Fund! In a new initiative, we spent \$506 to buy special shirts for all 2018 staffers with 3 or more years of service.

Notes from Fall Exec. Committee Meetings by Tim

SEPTEMBER. We met at the SWC office on the 19th. Attending were Mary Beth, Peter, Sean, David, Jon, Mark, Kendall, Tim and George. Don, Mike and Stephanie were unable to attend.

A tee shirt was made to recognize 2018 staffers that have been on staff for three or more years. It was given out at the Staff Picnic after camp and was well received. Recognition of veteran staff members will grow. Discussion will continue. MSAA is the sponsor for a Venture Crew made up of camp staffers. Mark Pulvino is the Crew Advisor. There was a long, spirited discussion about the Crew. Mark will talk with the SWC Professional who filed the Charter to get answers to our questions and concerns and get a copy of the charter. Consensus is that it is fitting for the MSAA to be the sponsor, but is there enough interest in having a Crew by staffers? Mark and Kendall will contact those on the charter and report back. We discussed a Fall/Winter Gathering. Most newer members are current or recent staffers. Their interests may differ from older members. Having an event over the holidays would enable them to attend while home on college break. Freddy & Jon will investigate having an event at Radio-Social.

The next item was the 2019 Donor Option. Several ideas were put forth. A decision will be made at the next meeting.

Beaver Tales article responsibilities and time-line were set. The meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Meeting notes were edited to fit allowed space. Ed.

OCTOBER: We met at the SWC office on the 24th. The meeting was called to order at 5:50 pm. Attending were Mary Beth, Peter, David, Jon, Mark, Kendall, Tim and George. Don, Sean, Mike and Stephanie were absent.

We discussed recognition items for veteran camp staffers. It was agreed to continue using the 3+ years tee shirt. In 2019 a recognition will be introduced for staffers with 5+ years. Some ideas: knife, hat, mug, water bottle, daypack, fleece blanket. Appropriate staff will be polled about the options and results will be reported. Peter noted he has too many larger size shirts and offered them for purchase.

Mark and Kendall reported on the Venture Crew. Mark said they have called those on the roster. To date, 10 (5 adults, 5 youth) said they were aware of the crew. Five youth were not aware. There are 9 more to talk to. Mark and Kendall will try to meet with Crew members on Nov. 24 to determine interest, and future plans if any.

Jon reported that a gathering can be hosted at Radio Social. January 6 at 1:30 pm or January 5 at 3 pm were suggested as dates which will accommodate college students on break. There are options for food, and there are many activities (all but two have fees). Jon and Freddy will check further. A page in the newsletter will serve as the flyer. George reviewed the Beaver Tales article responsibilities and deadline.

The Donor Option for 2019 was next. We decided to help with the cost of running electricity to the Junior Staff site. See the article in this newsletter.

There will be a Council-sponsored Holiday party for the staffs from all three Camps (Massawepie, Babcock-Hovey and Cutler); no financial support from MSAA is expected by SWC.

Our next meeting will be January 23, 2019 at the SWC office. The meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.

MSAA News & Notes by Peter

MSAA's paid membership:
1/1/18 = 84 10/30/18 = 89
The year-end number may be higher if more renewals come in. Please recruit a friend; we're still trying to break 100!
Five people joined the MSAA since Spring:
Brendan Flaherty, Chris Paul and Matt Thurston are all experienced staffers who served again in 2018; Scott Bischooping, Deputy Superintendent of the Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES, has been volunteering in the kitchen at recent MSC off-season events; Bill Lawrence is an IT Engineer who volunteers to keep all SWC properties connected to the digital world. Welcome All!

Help Secure the Future of Massawepie by Peter

At least 10 Scout camps that operated in the Adirondacks in the 1970s are now closed. How can you assure that Massawepie stays open? One way is a bequest to the Massawepie Square Foot Fund in your will. Your attorney can craft appropriate language, but to be sure your gift is used as you wish you should include wording *like*: "...to the Seneca Waterways Council, Inc., Boy Scouts of America (2320 Brighton-Henrietta Townline Rd., Rochester, NY 14623; EIN #16-0743108) for the Massawepie Square Foot Endowment Fund, with proceeds used prudently in perpetuity for maintenance and equipment of Massawepie Scout Camps, Tupper Lake, NY."

2019 Donor Option: Power to the Staff *by Mark*

As we looked for a 2019 Donor Option, we saw several opportunities. Our intention is always to make an impact for the staff or to make an impact on a program. We are proud to announce that for 2019 the MSAA will fund and help build a pavilion in the staff site, to which power will be run. Our plan is to construct one similar to what has been built in the Trailblazer area. Within the shelter will be picnic tables, lighting, outlets, and charging stations for staff phones and gadgets. The junior staff is going to love this! Property Superintendent Ben Geiger estimates cost of pavilion materials to be \$2500, and cost for poles, cable, wiring and hardware to be \$1000. So, our goal will be \$3500. This will be listed on 2019 MSAA Renewal Forms. As always, donate \$60 to the Donor Option and/or the Massawepie Square Foot Endowment Fund and your one-year renewal is free!

2018 Donor Option Wrap-up *by George*

The donation from Le Moyne College of 25 bunk bed sets and 50 extra-long mattresses, arranged by Property Superintendent Ben Geiger, came later than planned. But by the end of the summer nearly ALL old bunks and mattresses in cabins and other camp buildings were replaced! Six double bed mattresses, two double box springs, plus toppers and protectors for the mattresses were purchased. For cabin cots, enough 3/4" plywood for 50 bed boards was bought. The total cost for all this was \$2167. Since you donated \$2840, the other \$673 was used to partially offset what the camp spent buying 4" foam mattresses and covers for the staff site cots. All in all, this was a very successful endeavor! We thank you and the staff thanks you. Thanks also to Rosemary Varga, who along with Ben, spearheaded the project.

Staff Recognition Initiative *by Peter*

Why has the Alumni Association decided to begin a Camp Staff Recognition program? The Executive Committee has agreed to recognize veteran staffers, both as thanks for their efforts and to encourage them to return for additional years on staff. This August, 29 staffers with three or more years on staff were given special ringer tee shirts (see photos) to recognize their service. The logo on the new shirts, provided by the MSAA through your member dues, came from the 1953-54 Massawepie neckerchiefs. It's getting harder to find enough quality summer camp staffers. Unemployment is low, Scouting membership numbers are down, and fewer teens are working at summer jobs. But the MSAA recognizes the crucial role of quality staffers in providing life-changing summer camp experiences for Scouts. To encourage staff members to return year after year, we will expand the program in 2019 to add a recognition for staff with five or more years of service. We're also exploring the possibility of making these items available for sale to qualifying staff alumni, to help offset some of the costs.



Promoting the MSAA *by Peter*

To help improve recognition of the Alumni Association, last spring we ordered 3"X3" [the sample at right is reduced to fit here] stickers, designed by George Varga, to place on some of the items around camp that we have donated over the years (kayaks, bikes, stoves, sailboats, etc.). If you are at camp and spot one of these stickers, be sure to point it out to any potential alumni members nearby! (Unfortunately, they don't stick well on mattresses and shirts.)



Summer Camp 2018 Recap



by Jon

Massawepie Scout Camps had a very successful summer season in 2018. We encamped over 1,800 Scouts during the summer. Program offerings in Camp Pioneer included rifle and shotgun shooting, archery, swimming, sailing, hiking, nature, handcrafts and more. Our 2018 Camp Pioneer staff of over 70 young (and not so young) men and women provided instruction in over 50 merit badges. New for 2018 highlights included Sustainability and Archaeology merit badges, the revamped Cooking merit badge, and the Stand-Up Paddle Boarding BSA award. The success of our summer camping season can be measured in the year-round, behind-the-scenes work of the many volunteers that Massawepie is lucky to have. Thank you!

Golf at Massawepie?

History, by Peter

From the Tupper Lake Free Press files, May 23-30, 1968:

"Local golf enthusiasts who thought the Big Wolf course, opened in the 1920s, was the first in the Tupper area had to revise their thinking recently. Leslie Rist of Newcomb, an Adirondack history buff, brought in to the Free Press a unique souvenir which turned up at the Tahawus Club: a three-handled trophy cup inscribed 'Childwold Park, Handicap Golf Cup, 2nd Prize, August 25, 1897', proof that a golf course existed in this area more than 50 years earlier than the Big Wolf nine. The Childwold Park Hotel, built in the late 1880s by Addison Child, opened in 1890, and both tennis courts and a golf course were among its attractions. The hotel closed in 1909."

(Note: The golf course was in the field from the current main camp parking lot to the climbing tower.)

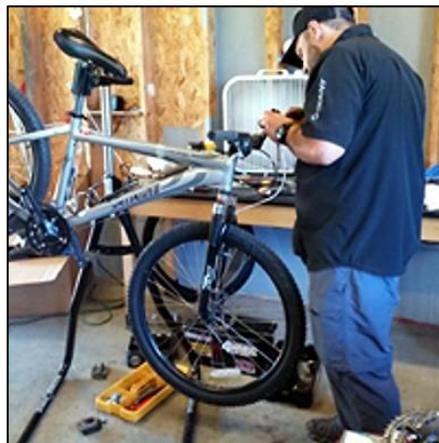


Beaver Weekend 2018

THANKS!

Thank you for your support this past June. We had a successful weekend getting projects done and feeding all the volunteers. The Culinary Fusion team was on top of their game in the kitchen, as always.

Alumni were everywhere; we were very well represented. Everything from trail work to freshening the campfire circle, waterfront set up and roofing was done that weekend. Photos here show a sampling of projects and tasks, but many more were accomplished.



Thirsty Moose, in Transition *by Peter*

The Thirsty Moose (nee **Dumas'**) in Childwold closed October 14. Mickey and Jan announced that, after 16 years as proprietors, they have found new owners and are retiring. Over 100 people showed up for a going away party that Saturday evening. The new owners are from Mexico, NY and are in their 40's. There is no word yet on a reopening date, but in a 'we're closing, thank you patrons' ad in the Tupper Lake Free Press, Mickey and Jan stated, "Watch for the opening of the new THIRSTY MOOSE ADK." Hopefully, the reopening will occur before Beaver Weekend 2019.



SAVE THE DATE!

Beaver Weekend 2019 May 31- June 2

Calling all Massawepie Staff Alumni, family, and friends! Beaver Weekend is Massawepie's largest and most important work weekend. Meals and accommodations are provided all weekend. For more information, or to suggest a certain project or talent, please contact Ben Geiger, Property Superintendent, at 518-359-3900. *Jon Northrup, Camp Director*

MSAA 2019

Winter Gathering

1:30-5 pm Sunday January 6th



We will gather at **Radio Social**, 20 Carlson Road (off Blossom Road, in the old Stromberg-Carlson warehouse), Rochester, for an enjoyable afternoon of camaraderie. The focus will be on reliving our time at Massawepie. Please bring photos, memorabilia, memories and friends. We will have tables reserved in the bar area starting at 1:30.

There will be a \$5.00 per person fee (pay Peter Collinge at the event, cash or check) to cover some appies and finger foods to share. They serve other food which you are welcome to buy. The Brunch menu will be served until 3pm. The Bar Snacks menu will be available from 3pm on*.

You pay for your own beverages. Radio Social serves wine, cocktails, beer, hard cider, soft drinks and more*.

If you imbibe, please do so sensibly or bring a designated driver.

Bowling and many other games and activities are available (unless reserved); all but two have fees*.

*For more info and details, plus directions and a map, go to radio-social.com any time.

We hope to see you there! Please invite friends from camp staff who may not be on our list.

Recent/current staffers who join MSAA at this event get a two-year membership for the price of a one-year membership: \$15; save \$10!

If your membership has expired, please join us and renew at the event.

To help with ordering, we **NEED** to know how many will attend.

PLEASE respond NO LATER THAN Sunday December 23rd!

We need name/s and number attending.

Please respond to Jon Northrup: email northrup.jonathan@gmail.com; text or call 585-354-5003.

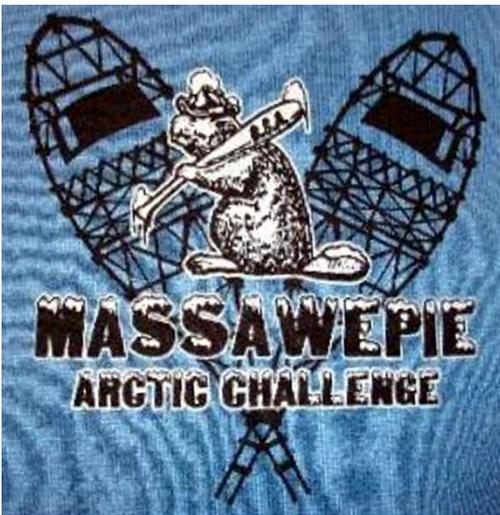


Off-Season Events... Massawepie Outdoor Challenges



The MOC Fall Event – Trail Days *by Freddy*

Several members of the Alumni Association went up to Camp Mountaineer Columbus Day Weekend (October 5-8) to help with the first ever "Trail Days." Troops were able to experience a true outpost experience! They stayed in Camp Mountaineer Friday night, and then could camp in an outpost on their second night. Saturday morning featured round robins that were a mix of games and skill builders all taught by summer camp staff. That afternoon, troops headed for outposts throughout the property to camp overnight. Sunday morning brunch was served in the Camp Mountaineer dining hall.



MOC IS BRINGING ON THE MAC FOR MLK WEEKEND! *by Freddy*

The MSAA will also help (kitchen crew and other event staff) at the Massawepie Arctic Challenge MLK weekend, January 18-21, 2019. This frigid weekend will let troops experience camp during the winter and will include tubing at Mt. Pisgah, a Wild Center visit, and many activities at camp. Troops can camp in the snow or stay in Gannett Lodge, the headquarters for the weekend. It is always a sold out and fun event! Want to help? Contact me.

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!

Go GREEN! Save MSAA (YOUR) \$\$! *by George*

41 members get Beaver Tales & flyers via email. A few are hand delivered. We still spent over \$130 on postage so far in 2018 and postage is rising again! My donated costs for paper, toner & supplies continue to grow. Many groups will mail only to members without email. We don't want to be that way. Please ASK to get YOUR Beaver Tales and event flyers in pdf format via e-mail. You'll get them sooner and save postage costs. Send your "ask" to: gjvarga@rochester.rr.com . *Thanks!*

2019 MSAA EVENTS

- Jan. 6MSAA Holiday Gathering, see Page 5
- Jan. 18-21MOC/MAC, Gannett Lodge, Massawepie
- Jan. 23MSAA Exec. Com. Meeting, 5:30pm, SWC HQ
- March/April?...MSAA Spring Gathering, TBA
- May 10-12.....Pre-Skills, Massawepie
- May 17.....Annual Massawepie Conservation Meeting -
Friday morning, Gannett Lodge, MSC
- May 17-19.....Spring Skills Weekend at Massawepie -
ALL Alumni welcome – skill or no skill!
- May 29-30.....Pre-Beaver Days – come early – help
prepare for the weekend projects!
- May 31-June 2...Beaver Weekend at Massawepie -
ALL Alumni are encouraged to attend!
- June 1.....MSAA Annual Meeting, ~ 8pm, Massawepie
- June 16-22NER Camp School at Massawepie
- June 23-29Staff Week at Massawepie
- June 30-Aug. 10...Weeks One to Six at Massawepie
- Aug. 10-13.....Camp tear down days, Alumni help welcome
- Oct. 11-14MOC Fall Event, Camp Mountaineer
- Oct. 18-20Fall Skills Weekend at Massawepie – come
help button up the camp for winter!