

SPRING 2013 Beaver Tales



Newsletter of the **Massawepie Staff Alumni Association**

Providing Spirit, Service and Support since 2000!



**Celebrating 61 Years of Scout Camping...
Massawepie Scout Camps, Since 1952!**

Notice of MSAA Annual Meeting: June 1, 2013

The Massawepie Staff Alumni Association's 2013 Annual Meeting will be held during Beaver Weekend at Massawepie on Saturday, June 1, 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 Operation, elections will be held for officers and at-large members of the Executive Committee. We'll also vote on two changes to the MSAA Rules of Operation. (See the Page 2 articles about nominations and changes.) Reports of 2012-13 activities will be shared, along with plans for the rest of 2013. Ideas for the future role of the MSAA at camp, and for how to grow our organization with staff and former staff who are younger, are solicited. Come share your ideas and hear from others, as part of the fun and service of Beaver Weekend! The closing activity will be the traditional group photo shoot! (Socializing may then continue at one or more locations in the greater Childwold/Gale area.)

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Gary Hicks
gar2724@aol.com

Vice-Chair

Erin Burruto

Treasurer

Peter Collinge

Secretary

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Past Chair

Stephanie VonBacho

Member at Large &

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MSAA Web Site

MassStaffAlumni.org

Beaver Workend is May 31-June 2 *by Mark*

This is the most important work weekend for Massawepie! The Properties Committee calls them workends. There are many projects to do and your help is needed to complete them. Meals and a place to sleep are furnished. Let us know when you'll be there (you can come a day or two early - Pre-Beaver Days) and how many will be in your group. Contact me: e-mail mpulvino@rochester.rr.com or call 585-645-5421. I'll send the info to the workend coordinator.

Here are the MSAA focuses: campsite set up (most attendees will be asked to devote some time to this critical task - no special skills needed); prepare the Loren Hakes Campfire Circle for summer use; Culinary Infusion Services Team (kitchen crew); and of course, focus on other focuses of the Property Committee. Join us in this 61st year of Scout camping! It's a super opportunity to give back to Massawepie, meet new friends and see some old ones. I look forward to seeing YOU!



What a cold weather season we have had! But Spring is here and Summer is just around the corner. There are happy times behind us...on a Wintery night this past March...at Olmstead Lodge in Highland Park...celebrating with Steve Weisenreder his many years of service as Camp Director at our beloved Massawepie. A grand time was had by all...probably the biggest showing of members for a MSAA social event...ever! More good times are ahead with Spring Skills Weekend (May 17-19) and, of course, Beaver Weekend. Mark your calendar, keep the dates open and let us know you're coming. Encourage friends from past camp staffs to join the MSAA too. Our main meeting of the year is on Saturday night of Beaver Weekend at the Loren Hakes Campfire Circle. Don't miss out on the fun and fellowship!

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2013-2014 Nominees for the MSAA Executive Committee

The Alumni Association Rules of Operation provide for advance publication of the names of candidates for officers and at large Executive Committee members nominated at least 45 days in advance of the Annual Meeting (held on Beaver Weekend). The Executive Committee has nominated the following:

Erin Burruto, for Chair
-----, for Vice-Chair

Joe Varga, for Secretary
Peter Collinge, for Treasurer
Gary Hicks, for Past Chair
for Member at Large:

Matt Arlauckas (Webmaster)
Rob Cunningham

Sean Glenney
Mike Knittel
David Lippitt
Mark Pulvino
George Varga (B.T. Editor)
Stephanie VonBacho

Additional nominations must be submitted in advance of the meeting to Secretary Joe Varga (contact info on Page 1) or another Officer.

We need new Executive Committee members! Please contact Joe or one of the other officers if you are interested in joining us, or know of a good candidate. We especially need younger members on the committee (and the Association in general), but welcome anyone willing to serve, including new MSAA members.

Proposed Changes to the MSAA Rules of Operation

The MSAA Executive Committee, by e-mail in April, recommended the following changes to the MSAA Rules of Operation. These will be voted on by the membership at the June 1 annual meeting. Note: The first change below was suggested at the 2012 annual meeting, but under the bylaws we didn't have the power to make the change then. (The full document is on our web site.)

1) To change our dues expiration date from May 31 to June 30 each year

Section 3 - Membership

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

- 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~~ July 1 to June 30. The Executive Committee shall establish membership categories, which may include Individual, Family, and others.

2) To allow "tweaking" of proposed rule changes at the annual meeting

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 20 days prior to the meeting. *The wording of a proposed amendment may be changed at the annual meeting, as long as it still affects only the topic(s) affected by the original proposal.* The amendment(s) must be approved by the Council's Camp Operations Committee (or its successor committee) before taking effect.

Membership Renewal Info

by Peter

Please check the enclosed (or attached) Membership Renewal Form to see whether it says "Expires May 2013" (or earlier). If so, please renew NOW - we don't want to lose a valuable member like you! And you probably don't want repeated reminders to renew. Just send \$15 for one year, or \$25 for two years, or a \$60 donation (which will include a free one-year membership) to the return address shown on the form. Donations can be either to the 2013 Donor Option or to the Massawepie Square Foot Endowment Fund, or any combination of the two. Keep your membership up-to-date, help Massawepie, and keep receiving this fine newsletter during 2013 and beyond. All members not renewing this year are encouraged to return the form if you need to update your address, phone number, e-mail or other information, *OR to make a donation.* And speaking of membership, please ask a friend to join the MSAA!

MSC Equipment Donor Option for 2013

by George

The Camp Equipment/Project Donor Option for 2013 was chosen in November by the Executive Committee. New at Massawepie in 2013 will be a BMX bike program. A course will be built; bikes and safety equipment will be needed. We will support this program by raising money to purchase bikes. Five or six will be needed to get started; quality bikes will cost about \$500 each. Our goal is to raise \$1500 from members and donate \$500 from our treasury - enough for four bikes. Your help, as always, will be appreciated.

MSAA 2013 Winter Gathering... Thank You Steve!

by George

Saturday March 2nd brought some wintery weather. It was cold, slippery and windy, keeping some people at home. But 39 people gathered in Olmstead Lodge in Rochester's Highland Park to warmly show appreciation for the service of Steve Weisenreder.

Steve was the Director of Camp Massawepie for 11 years – longer than any other director in the 60 years Massawepie has been open for Scout camping! He had been a Massawepie camper and then held other staff positions before becoming a professional Scouter. This led to his appointment as Camp Director.

In those 11 years Steve led hundreds of staff members in serving thousands of Scouts and their leaders, maintaining and reinforcing the reputation of Massawepie as the premier Scout Camp in the northeast and one of the best in the nation. We often teased Steve regarding some of his “misfires” in hiring. What we have rarely done is to praise him for finding, hiring and nurturing countless people who became shining examples of excellence in camp staffing.

Many of us in the crowd on March 2nd had been part of Steve's team at Massawepie – most for several years. That meant there were many great memories to share – and they were – abundantly. It should also be noted that for many, “team member” status has become true and valued friendship with Steve.

Near the end of the evening, all paused for a more formal session. Steve was presented with a certificate showing that a Square Yard of Massawepie had been “purchased” in his honor by the MSAA. This donation to the Massawepie Endowment Fund was but a small measure of the respect and appreciation we have for him.

Steve managed to get out a few words of thanks but admitted he was overwhelmed and at a loss for words. I have known and worked with and for Steve for over a dozen years and this was only the second time I have seen him speechless.

Thanks again Steve! We hope your future endeavors go well.



News of Note 🎵

🎵 Welcome to new member Bob Cooper, who joined at the Winter Gathering.

🎵 The new MSAA info brochure/membership application form, designed by George Varga, has been approved by the Executive Committee. Copies were available at the Winter Gathering. Soon it'll be downloadable from our website (8.5" X 14" – legal size, 2-sided, full color). Copies will be available at camp this summer and at the council office & Scout Shop.

🎵 The map of Massawepie that was made by Bill Keymel has a permanent home. Steve had it mounted on the bulletin board outside the fireplace end of the Pioneer Dining Hall.

🎵 The Trek Lodge (near Gannett) which Bill Keymel spent many, many days remodeling and refurbishing, will be renamed in his memory. At some point an appropriate plaque will be made and placed on the building.



Photos by George

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Camp Update by George

Ed Theetge, the new Massawepie Camp Director, reports that registrations for this summer are on a par with last year at this time. This is great news in a Jamboree year, when attendance is traditionally down.

Staff hiring is going well. Returning senior staff members include: Jon Northrup as Program Director and James Earl as his assistant; Christie Geiger, Business Manager; Sean Glenney, Medical Director; Mary Beth Boyle, Trading Post Manager; Mark Mancini, Dining Hall Steward; and several others (including me, the “old guy.”)

Ed still needs a Senior Commissioner, Area Directors for Scoutcraft, Sports/Mountain Bikes, and Handicraft, and two Lifeguards. Age requirements vary. If you are interested in, or know of a candidate for, any of these jobs, contact Ed at: etheetge@bsamail.org or 585-244-4210.

New for 2013 are the BMX Bike Course and an optional Saturday afternoon check-in for troops.

Massawepie Staff Alumni Association
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Visit us at massstaffalumni.org

TO:

Save the Date!

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Our annual Fall Family Picnic has been scheduled. Like the past two years, we'll do just clams. Attendees will bring their choice of a dish to pass. Full details will be sent to regional members in early September. But mark your calendars now with *Saturday September 28th* as the date and West Area Shelter at Powder Mills Park as the place.



OPT IN The Executive Committee (13) and 29 other members now get Beaver Tales via e-mail. Six (or more) copies are hand delivered and couples get one copy. At current postal rates, all this saves MSAA over \$22 per issue - over \$66 per year! Help us save even more. Get your Beaver Tales in pdf format via e-mail - you'll get it sooner AND in color! All mailed copies are printed on my laser printer instead of my color ink jet printer, to save my donated time and expense. Send your request to George Varga, Editor at: gjvarga@rochester.rr.com . *Thanks!*

2013 EVENTS

May 17-19.....Spring Skills Weekend at Massawepie -
ALL Alumni welcome - skill or no skill!

May 28-30...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 following Beaver
Weekend dinner, in the Loren Hakes
Campfire Circle!

September 28...Fall Family Picnic & Clams