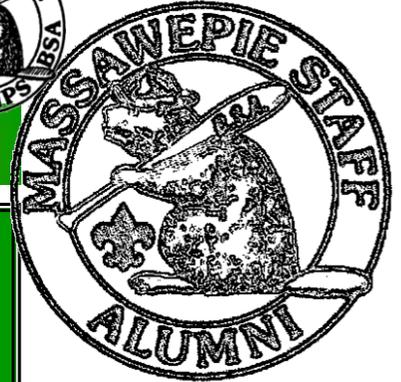


SPRING 2015 Beaver Tales



Newsletter of the **Massawepie Staff Alumni Association**

Providing Spirit, Service and Support since 2000!



MSAA: Celebrating 15 Years!

Notice of MSAA Annual Meeting: June 6, 2015

The Massawepie Staff Alumni Association's 2015 Annual Meeting will be held during Beaver Weekend at Massawepie on Saturday, June 6, 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. (See the Page 2 article about nominations.) Reports of 2014-15 activities will be shared, along with plans for the rest of 2015. 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! Some members will then return to projects (while some never left them). Socializing may continue, as always, at one or more locations in the greater Childwold/Gale area.

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Beaver Weekend, plus 1985 & 2005 Staff Reunions: June 5-7 *by Mark*

Not only is this our Annual Meeting weekend, it is the most important work weekend for Massawepie! Meals (Friday breakfast through Sunday breakfast) 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), how many will be in your group, and project preference if any. Contact me: e-mail mpulvino@rochester.rr.com or call 585-645-5421. I'll send the info to Property Superintendent Ben Geiger, coordinator of projects and housing.

Here are the MSAA focuses: replace rotten benches at the Loren Hakes Campfire Circle, add mulch as needed, plus general clean-up; Culinary Infusion Services Team (kitchen crew); waterfront set up; and a special Alumni project (maybe a roof). A more complete list of projects is on Page 3 - something for everyone. It is an ambitious list and will take the efforts of many volunteers to complete every project! Your participation (along with anyone you can recruit to help) is more important than ever!

NEW THIS YEAR: we'll celebrate the 10th & 30th anniversaries of staff from 2005 and 1985 respectively, with reunions! Rick Byers, '05 Pioneer Program Director, has recruited several 2005 staffers to attend, and is working on more. As 1985 Mountaineer (now even more) Senior Commissioner, I've recruited the usual suspects and will get more. Join us in this 64th year of Scout camping! It's a super opportunity to give back to Massawepie, meet new friends and see old ones. I look forward to seeing YOU there!



After yet another great Winter Gathering, the MSAA now turns its attention to Service and Support. Service, in the form of work weekends, is vital to the successful opening and operation of our camp. Opportunities are described in this newsletter. If you haven't participated, at all or recently, make this your year. And invite friends - all are welcome, not just MSAA members. Beaver Weekend is like a family reunion - the Massawepie staff family! Support, this year in the form of a donation toward naming the Trek Center for the Turner Family, is also vital. Your donations enable continued improvements at our camp which are not possible within the normal budget, like several of the Beaver Weekend projects. Serve and support your camp - the spirit (and the fun) will follow!

2015-2016 Nominees for the MSAA Executive Committee

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

Mark Pulvino, for Chair

-----, for Vice-Chair

Tim Smith, for Secretary

Peter Collinge, for Treasurer

George Varga, for Past Chair/B.T. Editor

for Member at Large: (next column)

Rob Cunningham

Sean Glenney

Gary Hicks

Mike Knittel

David Lippitt

Stephanie VonBacho

Richard Wright

Additional nominations for these positions or for the openings must be submitted in advance of the meeting to Secretary Tim Smith (contact info on Page 1) or another Officer. We *need* new Executive Committee members! Please contact Tim 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. Officers must be regular members of the Association; Members at Large can be in the "Friends of Massawepie" membership category.

Massawepie History Puzzler

QUESTIONS: Which family has collectively spent the most summers on Massawepie staff? And which member from that family has spent even more years on staff than Ray Meyering did?

ANSWERS: The Turner family has been

on MSC staff over 100 total summers! Doug Turner has been a staffer 34 years (starting as a CIT in '72) including 25 as Trek Director! Other Turner staffers are his wife Laura, his parents Gerry & Doris, his siblings Russ, Ginny & Nancy, and his & Laura's children Michelle, Samantha & Justin.

The Turner (Family) Trek Center, MSAA 2015 Donor Option Fundraiser

Each year, the MSAA raises money for a project at camp, and also solicits donations for the Massawepie Square Foot Endowment. Now that you know the answers to the Puzzler above, you'll also know why the MSAA Executive Committee decided in February to use the 2015 project to honor the Turner family's service at Massawepie. On April 14, the Seneca Waterways Council Executive Board agreed that if we can raise \$25,000 for the Massawepie Square Foot Endowment, the Trek Center at Massawepie will be renamed as the Turner (Family) Trek Center. Normally, a Scout building is named for someone who donates much of its cost. That cost would have been much more than \$25,000 but the Council agreed to a lower amount in recognition of the many years of service by the Turner family. Square Foot Endowment donations are invested, with the proceeds used annually to fund the maintenance of, and equipment for, Massawepie – helping to ensure the future of our camp! To date, over \$4,000 has been pledged or donated by some MSAA Executive Committee members and a friend! Please read the brochure included with this newsletter and consider a generous gift. Gift recognitions and other details are in the brochure. If you were at Massawepie any summer since 1972, there was probably a Turner (or two, or more) on staff. Just as the MSAA helped recognize Loren Hakes with the Campfire Circle in 2000, and Ray and Addy Meyering with the Rifle Range in 2006, we will recognize the Turners in 2015. The Trek program is a Massawepie highlight; let's give the Trek Center a name that is widely known for Adirondack Treks!



Membership Renewal Info

by Peter

Please check the Membership Renewal Form that's with this issue: pink, expired; yellow, expiring June 30; green, expiring 2016 or later. If it's pink or yellow, please renew NOW – we don't want to lose a valuable member like you and you don't want more reminders. Just send in \$15 for a year, or \$25 for two years, or a \$60 donation which includes a free one-year membership). Donations must be to the Mass. Square Foot Endowment Fund; see article on this page. Keep your membership current, help Massawepie, and keep get-ting this fine newsletter. Even if not renewing this year please return the form to update any personal information, *OR to make a donation*. And speaking of membership, please ask a friend to join the MSAA!

Treasurer's Report

by Peter

As shown by the numbers below, the MSAA had a positive 2014. Thanks to generous members, we raised \$1665 toward replacing the White Trail bridge over the Massawepie Lake Outlet. We also raised \$1935 for the Sq. Ft. Endowment Fund, and added \$500 from MSAA funds to buy a square yard in memory of Ray Meyering. And we gave \$500 of our funds to the Endowment Fund for the new SWC office at 2320 Brighton Henrietta Town Line Rd. and as a result have a brick in the Honor Courtyard at the office entrance. Despite the expenditures, our fund balance rose \$368 by year-end thanks to dues income, and surpluses from our winter and fall events which occurred when member donations kept expenses down. There has been little activity in 2015. A \$20 surplus from the winter event, and early donations to the Turner Trek Center naming project, are it to date.

MSAA News & Notes *by Peter*

MSAA paid membership grew in 2014, for the first time in several years; we had 83 members on January 1st and 90 members on December 31st! New members often come via word-of-mouth, so please ask friends to join!

Speaking of new members, our final new member of 2014 was *Glenn Whittenberg*, who actually started on staff at Otetiana Council's former Camp Eagle Island in Sodus Bay in 1951. Glenn worked on Massawepie trail staff from '52-'64, serving as Central Trail Coordinator the last three of those years. From '65-'67 he was the Mountaineer Director. Welcome Glenn!

Volunteers are needed Skills Weekend (May 15-17) to help clear and prune the 15+ miles of trails at Massawepie. Having the trails clear is vital to trail use. In recent years the trail crew has consisted of my wife Carol and I, and we need help! Food and "rustic" lodging is furnished. Contact Peter: collinge@localnet.com or 585-334-4132.

Beaver Weekend Projects *by George*

The primary project of special interest to MSAA, as mentioned elsewhere, is replacement and leveling of some rotting benches in the Loren Hakes Campfire Circle. Fire altars and the whole area need cleanup and new mulch needs to be added and raked. But there is a long, ambitious list of other projects (below, not complete by any means) requiring many volunteers, including you!

Two renovations are on the list. Cabin MC-14 needs a new bathroom, including replacing the rotting floor. The room will be gutted and all fixtures and the water heater will be replaced with new. The Mountaineer Gang Shower House is being completely renovated. Ben Geiger, Property Superintendent, will have materials and plans.

Several construction teams are needed. In the shop, 24 new tent platform halves and yokes will be built. Three more tabin frames will be built in the staff site. 1500 gallon latrines will be built at the Archery Range and by the Sports Building. Two cabins will have metal roofs put on. Materials and plans will be furnished.

Among the general tasks are: assemble 5 picnic tables and organize nuts & bolts in the shop; put leather on oars and match them up; waterfront set up; spray clear finish on the ECON and Trek Center decks with the power sprayer; cut down and remove hazardous trees from campsites; take tarps, tents, mattresses and new platforms and yokes to campsites, and campsite set up (after tree work is done in some); general camp and building cleanup; clean coils in refrigeration units in dining halls and the warehouse, and evacuate refrigerant from old units; and much more.



News Flash! Alumni members drink, eat and have fun at our annual Winter Gathering!

by David; photos by Kathy Elliott

So what else is new? On Sunday March 8 22 members and guests ignored the lure [golf?] of one of the first days that looked like spring to gather at CB Craft Brewers in Honeoye Falls. And what did we do? Drink craft beer, eat sausage, cheese and pickles, catch up with each other, share camp stories and drink more craft beer. Thanks to all who attended! We will continue our (ad)ventures at a local brewery late next winter.



Camp 2015

by Dave Cheney

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Hi! I am the newly named Camp Director of Massawepie. I'm also the Seneca Waterways Program Director, Venturing Staff Advisor and Wood Badge Course Director. Previously I've been a District Executive, Sr. D.E. and Director of Cub Adventure Camp at Cutler. My 25 years in Scouting also include holding almost every volunteer leader position. As Scoutmaster of Troop 227 in Lyons, I went to Massawepie many summers. Staff hiring is progressing well. Jon Northrup is returning as the Program Director, as is his Assistant, Mary Beth Boyle. Other returning staff include Christielee Geiger as Business Manager, Sean Glenney as Health Officer, and Rob Byers as the Shooting Sports Director (after a 2-year hiatus). George Varga will be the Trading Post Director. Also returning are (some in the same jobs, some in new ones): John O'Hern, Eric Hanss, Miguel Matos, Ray Larimore, Freddy Stein and Mike Fritz.

We still have a few major openings. Needed are: Scoutcraft Director, Sports/Biking Director, and a Shooting Sports Assistant. If you, or someone you know, are interested please email me at david.cheney@scouting.org as soon as you can. All of these positions pay fairly well.

There will be two new programs for 2015. Log Rolling will be done in the lake at the Waterfront. Aerial Archery (think trap shooting with arrows) will obviously take place at the Archery Range.

Upgrades are being made to the BMX Bike Course. And the program area at Gannett Lodge, home to seven Merit Badges, is moving to the Scoutmaster Lounge. This is a more central location, and can be done due to camp IT upgrades making internet access available there.

Speaking of IT upgrades, the Trading Post will finally have 21st Century technology with a new computerized checkout system, including "live" credit card scanning!

All in all, this will be another great summer at Massawepie! If you are in the area, stop in for a visit. Please check in at the office upon arrival.

Massawepie Staff Alumni Association
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INSIDE Beaver Tales:

- Annual Meeting Notice
- 2015-2016 Nominees
- Membership Renewal
- Work Weekends
- 2015 Donor Option, & MORE

Visit us at massstaffalumni.org

TO:

Save the Date!

Our annual Fall Family Picnic has been scheduled. As in recent 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 26th* as the date. Location, time and other info are yet to be finalized.

Go GREEN! Get Your Copy of Beaver Tales via E-mail!

The Executive Committee (12+) and 35 other members now get Beaver Tales via e-mail. Seven or more copies are hand delivered. At current postal rates, we save over \$26 an issue; up to \$80 each year! Help save even more. Get Beaver Tales in pdf format via e-mail. You'll get it sooner **AND in color!** All mailed copies are done on my laser printer instead of my color ink jet printer, to save my donated time & expense. Send your request to me at: gjvarga@rochester.rr.com . Thanks!



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2015 EVENTS

May 15Annual Massawepie Conservation Meeting,
Friday morning, Gannett Lodge, MSC

May 15-17....Spring Skills Weekend at Massawepie -
ALL Alumni welcome - skill or no skill!
Trail clearing volunteers needed, contact Peter.

June 3 & 4....Pre-Beaver Days - come early - help
prepare for the weekend projects and get an
early start on some (see article within)

June 5-7....Beaver Weekend at Massawepie -
ALL Alumni are encouraged to attend!
(see article within)

June 6.....MSAA Annual Meeting following Beaver
Weekend dinner, in the Loren Hakes
Campfire Circle or the Dining Hall!

September 26...Annual Fall Family Picnic & Clams