

BEAVER TALES

SPRING 2017

Newsletter of the Massawepie Staff Alumni Association

Providing Spirit, Service and Support since 2000!

2017: Celebrating 65 Years of Massawepie!



Notice of MSAA Annual Meeting June 3, 2017

The Massawepie Staff Alumni Association 2017 Annual Meeting will be held during Beaver Weekend at Massawepie on Saturday, June 3, following the evening meal and the Turner Trek Center Dedication. We'll decide where to meet when the dedication concludes, considering space needs and weather. Under our Rules of Operation, elections will be held for officers and at large members of the Executive Committee. (See the Page 2 nominations article.) Reports of 2016-17 activities will be shared, along with plans for the rest of 2017. Suggestions for a new Fall social event will be discussed. 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 may then return to projects (while some never left them). Socializing may continue, as always, at one or more sites in the greater Childwold/Gale area.



Turner Trek Center Dedication

By Peter

The dedication ceremony and plaque unveiling for the newly named Turner Trek Center in Camp Pioneer will be held at that building at 7:15 PM on Saturday, June 3 (after Beaver Weekend dinner). This dedication honors the combined 100+ summers of staff service by members of the Turner family. It was made possible by the \$27,000+ raised by the Alumni Association for the Massawepie Square Foot Endowment Fund. All MSAA members are invited to come to Beaver Weekend to help get camp ready for summer, and to attend this ceremony.

Beaver Weekend 2017 is June 2-4! By Mark

While the MSAA Annual Meeting and the Turner Trek Center Dedication are important, the prime objective is projects. There are many to be done and we need your help! The Association will focus on: Culinary Infusion Services (kitchen crew), waterfront setup, Loren Hakes Campfire Circle cleanup, and a yet-to-be-decided special MSAA project. See Page 3 for a more complete list of projects – there is something for everyone. Plan on coming in this 65th Anniversary year, even if it's been awhile, or you never have. It's a great opportunity to renew old friendships and make new ones! Let me know if you'll be there, and how many are in your group. Contact info is above right.

Executive Committee

Chair

Mark Pulvino
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Vice-Chair

Sean Glenney

Treasurer

Peter Collinge

Secretary

Tim Smith
timsmith3656@gmail.com

Past Chair & BT Editor

George Varga
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Members at Large:

Mike Knittel
David Lippitt
Stephanie VonBacho
Richard Wright

Staff Advisor

Don DeClerck
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2017-2018 Nominees for the MSAA Executive Committee

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

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Mark Pulvino, for Chair | <i>Mary Beth Boyle</i> |
| Sean Glenney, for Vice-Chair | <i>Mike Knittel</i> |
| Tim Smith, for Secretary | <i>David Lippitt</i> |
| Peter Collinge, for Treasurer | <i>Stephanie VonBacho</i> |
| George Varga, for Past Chair/Editor | <i>Richard Wright</i> |

*for Member at Large, next column
(there are 3 open positions)*

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 in the Association in general), but welcome anyone willing to serve, including new MSAA members. Officers must be Staff Alumni Members of the Association; *Members at Large* can be in the "Friends of Massawepie" membership category.

2016 Financial Report By Peter

In 2016, for the 2nd year in a row, the balance in the MSAA's treasury account went down a bit. But that was for a good reason, and overall, we had a good year financially. Our biggest expenses were additional donations of \$1700 from our treasury (beyond members' individual donations) to the Massawepie Square Foot Fund to support the Turner Trek Center project. These included \$350 for a Massawepie Square Yard in memory of former MSAA Chair Gary Hicks, and they bring the total of our treasury donations for the Turner Trek Center to \$2700. Here's a summary of our 2016 year:

Account balance 12/31/15	\$ 2778	
Dues income	+\$ 930	
Postage expenses	- \$ 62	
Sq. Ft. member donations	+\$16,260	(for Turner Trek Center naming)
To council Sq. Ft. fund	- \$17,960	(endowment for Massawepie)
Cabin appliance donations	+\$ 350	(an early start on the 2017 staff cabin appliance project)
To council capital fund	- \$ 350	
Winter event surplus	+\$ 45	*Thanks to Dave Henry for donating Massawepie memorabilia, and to Mike Knittel for selling this memorabilia on eBay for the benefit of the MSAA!
Fall clambake deficit	- \$ 19	
<u>Memorabilia sales</u>	<u>+\$ 297*</u>	
Account balance 12/31/16	\$ 2269	

Go GREEN! Save MSAA (YOUR) \$\$! By George

40+ members get Beaver Tales via email. A few copies are hand delivered. But we still spent \$62 on postage in 2016! 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 in pdf format via e-mail. You'll get it sooner, free **AND in color!** (Usually, mailed copies are printed on my mono-laser to save my donated time/expense; this issue I'm testing a color laser - bonus!) Send your request to me at: gjvarga@rochester.rr.com . **Thanks!**

Membership Renewal By Peter

Please check your Renewal Form in this issue: pink, expired; yellow, expiring June 30; green, expiring 2018 or later. If it's pink or yellow, please renew NOW - before you forget! (Bonus: you'll avoid reminders to renew.) Just send \$15 for 1 year, or \$25 for 2 years. Even better, make a \$60 or + donation (which includes a one-year membership) to the Mass. Square Foot Fund &/or the 2017 project (see article below). Keep your membership current, help MSC, and keep getting this newsletter. Even if not renewing, please return the form to update any personal data, *OR* to make a *donation*. Good news - membership grew by 8 in '16! Growth often comes via word-of-mouth; ask a friend to join!

Staff Cabin Appliance Upgrades

By Peter
Our 2017 camp improvement project (Donor Option) is to replace old appliances, especially dangerously old stoves, in staff cabins. This was noted in the Fall newsletter and we've already raised \$700 - two stoves! Property Superintendent Ben Geiger says 5 stoves urgently need replacing and 5 more are quite old. A few refrigerators and heaters also need replacement. This project is listed on the renewal form. Remember, donate \$60 or more to this project and/or to the Massawepie Square Foot Endowment Fund to get a "free" year of MSAA membership. And the camp staff and Family Campers will appreciate having more usable (and safer) kitchens!

Beaver Weekend Projects From Ben

Projects of special interest to MSAA are mentioned on Page 1. But there is a long list of other projects below (not complete and subject to change) requiring many volunteers, including you and everyone you can recruit.

Meals (Friday breakfast through Sunday breakfast) and a place to sleep are furnished. You can come a day or two early (Pre-Beaver Days) to help me get ready for the weekend or to start a project. Please contact me with names and days attending, and project/s you want to work on.

A primary project will be to replace stoves in 6-8 cabins, including shut-off valve installation. The bathroom in Cabin MC-13 is to be remodeled. Metal roofing will be put on the Voyageur Cooks and Intern cabins, and roofing work is needed on the Four Points lean-to. Two or three new latrines need constructing. Other construction/carpentry projects include: front windbreak wall installation at Handicraft, a storage shed for wood and equipment at the lumber yard, a trap house for fixed traps at Shotgun, carpentry work on the Mountaineer lean-to, and installation of storm doors and windows at Keymel Lodge. New lighting is to be installed in the Staff/Adult Shower House.

General projects include: *campsite setup*, painting the canoe storage rack at the Turner Trek Center, general camp and building cleanup, mow all fields and grassy areas, and many more.

Property Superintendent Ben Geiger, coordinator of projects and housing, contact me via email, ben.geiger@scouting.org or call 518-359-3900.

Spring 2017 Meeting Notes By Tim

The Executive Committee met at the SWC Office on April 4, 2017. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mark. Also attending were George, Tim, Peter, Don, Mike, David, Mary Beth and Richard. Sean and Stephanie were absent.

Peter gave the Treasurer's Report. Members present approved the report. He noted that as of 3/31/17 there were 87 current members. Renewal and lapsed membership forms will be sent with the Spring newsletter. The 2017 Donor option for the MSAA is to provide new appliances in some cabins on Staff Row.

The Dedication of the Turner Family Trek Center will be held on Saturday, June 3, 2017 at 7:15, following dinner, as part of Beaver Weekend. Peter and Mark will develop and lead the Dedication program.

The 2017 MSAA Winter Gathering at Knucklehead Brewery in Webster was a success. 18 members attended and a good time was had by all.

The Nomination Slate for MSAA Officers and Members At Large was discussed and approved. Mary Beth Boyle agreed to be nominated as an At Large member of the Executive Committee. It was discussed that we need to reach out to more former and current Staff members as well as "Friends of Massawepie" to join MSAA and be on the committee.

There was a discussion regarding future MSAA events. Since Sean was unable to attend the meeting, it was decided to table the item for discussion at the Annual Meeting on June 3. [Sean later reported getting NO responses to the survey in the Fall newsletter.]

There is a new Massawepie Conservation Committee Chair. He is Alex Oliveri, an Eagle Scout who is the Buyer/Inventory Manager for Park Avenue Bikes and is almost done with a four-year degree in Environmental Science.

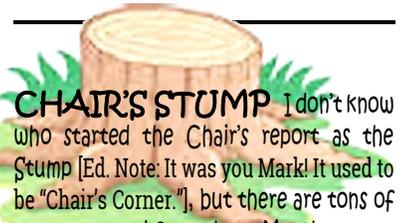
Finally, article responsibilities and timing were set for this newsletter.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Trading Post Open During Volunteer Weekends By George



I plan to have the TP open before and after most meals on Skills and Beaver Weekends. Also, if I'm there, it is open for business. While it will not be fully set up, nor will all items have arrived, I hope to have 65th Anniversary tee shirts in stock. There should also be limited edition anniversary items available: mugs, patches and neckerchiefs. All these have been ordered. Stop in!



CHAIR'S STUMP I don't know who started the Chair's report as the Stump [Ed. Note: It was you Mark! It used to be "Chair's Corner."], but there are tons of stumps around from those March storms. I hope everyone has recovered. One theme came out of that time of "inconvenience." It was: "Be Prepared." That is something vital to Scouting, but it is becoming a thread through life. Many were ready, and made sure they helped others. Neighbors helping neighbors; friends taking care of friends. That comes naturally to many of us, and is reflected in the participation that we see with many of our Alumni members in our communities. The MSAA is always looking to "Be Prepared" for our next generation of Alumni, along with being thankful for the many veterans who have helped us become what we are today. It is refreshing to be involved in events that have staff with an Alumni flavor and engages Staff members from 2002 to 2017. I have seen more Staff from those years getting involved. With many MSAA members involved in Beaver, MLK and Columbus Weekends, we have seen some new faces who enjoy getting involved like we do. In the mid-2000s we reached out by doing picnics and cooking for the staff while they were at camp. We heard recent Pioneer staff were having holiday parties so we sponsored and helped with their celebrations. Not long ago, we were concerned about not reaching more recent Staff members. We can't let up, but I must tell you that it is taking a turn for the better. "Be Prepared" for the next group of Alumni joining. They are, and will be, making a difference. **Mark**



MSAA Winter Gathering '17 (and photos) By Mark

On Sunday March 5th, we had our annual Winter Gathering. The event was at Knucklehead Craft Brewery in Webster, New York. We enjoyed great tasting snacks and delicious beverages. There were 18 Alumni in attendance. It was great to see many of the usual suspects, as well as having Steve Weisenreder join us.

Peter Collinge brought some recent maps he acquired. Many people looked at them. Even one of the owners of Knucklehead was admiring the map of Massawepie and was trying to find the spot on the map where he used to camp as a Scout. Bill Boyle brought some great memorabilia, patches and neckerchiefs. There was a lively conversation about the Massawepie Beaver and how it has changed over the years.

We took over the west side of the establishment, spending time catching up and sharing stories. There was talk of what to do this fall for an event, and if we should keep similar winter events at brew pubs or restaurants, since we aren't putting them out of business anymore. We'd love to get your thoughts.

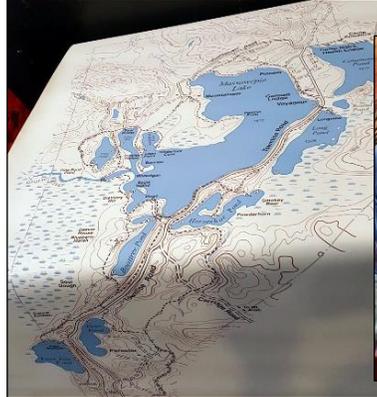
It was great to see everyone! We all look forward to Beaver Weekend, where we can maybe take over the west (or east) side of another establishment once again.

Scouter Gone Home: Addy Meyering

By Peter

Long-time MSC Staffer Adelaide ("Addy") Meyering passed away on April 16, 2017. She was predeceased by Ray, her husband of 57 years, in 2014. The Pioneer rifle range, a project of the MSAA, was dedicated to Ray and Addy in 2006.

Ray began working as Forester Rifle Range Director in 1980; Addy too started on staff then. At first she was in the Trading Post and Handicraft, but soon she became Ray's assistant. After Forester closed, they ran the Mountaineer range from 1995-99, and then from 2000-04 while it was used by Scouts from Pioneer. In 2005 & 2006 they served their final staff years at the new Ray and Addy Meyering Rifle Range. Sons Tom & Don also were on staff at times, as was grandson Brian Duff. Addy will be remembered fondly by many Massawepie staffers, Scouts, and friends.



MSAA 2017 EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

- May 19 Annual Massawepie Conservation Meeting, 9:30 am, Gannett Lodge
- May 19-21..... Massawepie Spring Skills Weekend, all welcome – skill or no skill
Volunteers needed for trail clearing, contact Peter Collinge
- May 31/June 1.. Massawepie Pre-Beaver Days, come early (see article on Page 3)
- June 2-4..... Massawepie Beaver Weekend, ALL members encouraged to attend!
- June 3..... Turner Trek Center Dedication, 7:15 pm (see article on Page 1)
- June 3..... MSAA Annual Meeting, to follow event above (see article on Page 1)
- October 6-9 Massawepie Columbus Weekend Challenge, contact Mark Pulvino
- October 13-15.... Massawepie Fall Skills Weekend, help button up the camp for Winter