

WINTER 2011 Beaver Tales



Newsletter of the Massawepie Staff Alumni Association

Providing Spirit, Service and Support since 2000!



Photo by G. Varga



2010 Annual Meeting and Elections

The Executive Committee held the annual meeting of the membership on June 5, 2010 during Beaver Weekend at Massawepie. The meeting was held in the Loren Hakes Campfire Circle where many of our members had spent the day replacing and leveling some log seats, pulling weeds and spreading wood chips. The old boards created a large campfire which played host to the annual meeting until it started to rain and we moved to the dining hall to finish.

The Executive Committee officers and members-at-large were unanimously reelected. Stephanie Von Bacho reported on the work of the committee throughout the year including a successful Clambake, participation at the Seneca Waterways Centennial Celebration Scout Show, and completed Beaver Weekend projects (see below). Peter Collinge provided financial and membership reports. Mike Knittel and Don DeClerck reported on the ongoing work with sailboat repairs and the washer & dryer replacement projects supported by the Association and its members.

This annual meeting marked the 10th anniversary of the creation of the Massawepie Staff Alumni Association. A commemorative patch was designed by George Varga to mark the event and will be given to MSAA members who actively participated in work weekends or donated \$50 or more in 2010.

MSAA members worked on many Beaver Weekend projects besides the campfire circle, such as: feeding the volunteers all weekend, waterfront set up, campsite crews, construction of two new pit latrines, building a windbreak at Handicraft, trail work, cabin reroofing, and others. See the photos inside.

Executive Committee

Chair

Stephanie VonBacho
Stephanie_VonBacho@
urmc.rochester.edu

Vice-Chair

Gary Hicks

Treasurer &

Council VP of Camping

Peter Collinge

Secretary

Rob Cunningham
rcunnin@courts.stateny.us

Past Chair

Mike Knittel

Member at Large &

Webmaster

Matt Arlauckas
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Member at Large &

Newsletter Editor

George Varga
(585) 461-9424
gjvarga@rochester.rr.com

Members at Large

David Lippitt

Mark Pulvino

John Zaffino

Picture Your Name Here!

Staff Advisor

Don DeClerck

(585) 374-5770

don.declerck@

Senecawaterways.org

MSAA USPS Address

MSAA, Camp Cutler

7131 Gulick Road

Naples, NY 14512

MSAA E-mail

MassawepieAlumni@yahoo.com

MSAA Web Site

MassStaffAlumni.org



With the Holidays behind us and spring not too far away, we start the New Year with a sense of renewal and recommitment. One of the top ten New Year's resolutions is to help others by giving back. The alumni association offers a number of ways to do so this year. Volunteer support through work weekends at Massawepie, donations for capital improvements or program enhancements, and preserving and sharing Massawepie history and traditions are just a few. Each promotes the ongoing focus of the association to provide "Spirit, Service, and Support" for Massawepie Scout Camps.

Another popular resolution is to slow down a little and spend more time with family and friends this year. Make plans to bring your family and join with alumni and scouting friends for an afternoon of camaraderie at the Winter Gathering event at Powder Mills Park on Saturday, February 26th. Details are on Page 5. Hope to see you there!

Member Notes & News *by Peter*

As of 12/31/2010 the Massawepie Staff Alumni Association has 89 paid members.

Welcome to the following new MSAA members who have joined since May, 2010:

Christie Bower, 2010 Business Manager
Ben Geiger, Current Massawepie Ranger
Russell Hauser, 1968 Pioneer Staff
Ralph Tanner, 2010 Shotgun Director

Peter Scribner, 1970's Mountaineer & Forester staff member, was part of the "Intellectual Insolvents" team of bankruptcy attorneys which placed first in the Literacy Volunteers of Rochester's 2010 "Brain Game" trivia challenge.

Scribner's team beat 15 others, including teams from Rochester's most prominent law firms.



Dick Betz (left) of Largo, Florida and Bob Maurice of Covington, Louisiana had a staff reunion of their own near Orlando, Florida in late April 2010. While celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary, Bob and his wife Gail met up with Dick, who was Best Man at their wedding in Rochester. Dick and Bob became friends while on the Massawepie staff during the 50's. Both eventually became BSA professional executives. Having lost contact with each other for nearly four decades, Dick and Bob had recently reconnected through the MSAA. Both are currently active members.

Submitted by Bob Maurice
204 Arian Lane, Covington, LA 70433 985-898-0016

Donor Options *by George*

2010 Update

Our Donor Option for 2010 was to raise money to buy new washers and dryers for the three camp showerhouses. 16 generous members donated \$5 to \$80 each and three very generous members donated \$100 to \$500 each, for a total of \$1,500 raised! Vice-Chair Gary Hicks made a deal to buy 2 washers and 3 dryers for the \$1,500. Don DeClerck handled the pickup and pay, and transported the appliances to camp.

Camp Ranger Ben Geiger repaired 2 washers and 1 dryer. So the Staff Showerhouse had 2 good washers and dryers and the other two showerhouses each had a good washer and dryer. For the first time in years, there were NO complaints about showerhouse laundry equipment!

2011 Donor Option Decision

Continuing our tradition of supporting Massawepie, we have decided to direct donations toward something that will directly benefit the Staff. 2-person (but generally used by one) tents and platforms in the staff site are very old.

The camp has begun replacing these with 4-person Tabin tents and frames/platforms. The cost for a set of tent plus frame/platform materials is about \$1,000. We are committed to paying for one set, but hope to raise enough for two sets.



If you donate \$50.00 or more at dues renewal time this year your dues are waived. And you'll help us purchase a tabin and frame (or two) for the staff site.

Executive Committee Minutes *by Rob [edited]*

13 December 2010, Todd-Hale Servicenter. Present: Peter Collinge, Rob Cunningham, Don DeClerck, Gary Hicks, Mike Knittel, Dave Lippitt, George Varga and Stephanie VonBacho.

- 1) Peter announced that the council plans to sell both the Geneva and Rochester servicenters and to acquire a new location in the Route 96 corridor near the Monroe/Ontario county line, with easy access to I-490. Satellite storefronts are planned for Brockport and Geneva.
- 2) Membership Report: Peter indicated that there were 86 paid members as of October 31, 2010.
- 3) Treasurer's Report: balance 10/31/10 of \$2,678.35, from which disbursements will be made [see Page 3].
 - a) Peter moved that MSAA reimburse the council \$500.78 for funds spent on kayaks that exceeded what was raised in 2008-09. George seconded and all voted to approve.
 - b) Peter presented the 10th Anniversary patch. 100 were made at a cost of \$286.78. Up to 2 patches will be given to each member who attended a 2010 work weekend or donated \$50 or more. The rest will be sold [see next page].
- 4) 2011 Donor Option:
 - a) Two possible options were discussed. Some sailboat parts are still needed, as well as a two-person kayak (only one on hand now). Large wall tents (tabins) with camp-built frames are needed for the staff site. Cost is about \$1,000 per set. Volunteers could build the frames Beaver Weekend.
 - b) All voted in favor of making a tabin or two the 2011 donor option.
- 5) Fall and Winter newsletters:
 - a) No Fall issue was published.
 - b) George solicited articles for the Winter 2011 issue, with a deadline of 12/31.
 - c) George discussed potentially distributing the newsletter via e-mail attachment, to save money. It was decided to continue printing/ mailing a paper copy, but to make it available via e-mail to all who request (opt in) to get it that way, hopefully attaining some savings. [See back page.]
- 6) Website Status:
 - a) Matt was in another meeting, so no report.
 - b) Peter suggested that someone be trained to do minor updates to the website.
- 7) Joint project with the council Historical Society:
 - a) Rob discussed a potential project for developing a seasonal display on the history of Massawepie. He noted that much material is available for display but a location and display cases are needed.
 - b) Several locations were discussed, such as improving the existing display in the Central Office, or setting one up in the Scoutmaster Lounge or the O/A building. It was determined that the Scoutmaster Lounge was the best option, for its central location in camp.
 - c) Stephanie has a contact who may be able to construct display cases. Peter said to let him know if appropriate used cases are found for sale.
- 8) Winter Event: options for a winter event were discussed and February 26 was selected as the date. A brew pub event generated the most interest, but food being available was a concern. Some research is needed. The other acceptable option was to gather at a park lodge. After research is done, further discussion and a decision will be made via e-mail.

Preliminary MSAA 2010 Financial Report		
12/31/09 Balance		\$ 2,449.13
2010 Income Details		
Dues	\$680.00	
Staff Washer/Dryer Donations	\$1,500.00	
Square Foot Endowment Donations	\$1,405.00	
Patch sales	\$62.00	
2010 Income Total		\$ 3,647.00
2010 Expenses Details		
Postage Expenses	(\$77.00)	
Staff Washer/Dryer Expenses	(\$1,500.00)	
Balance of 2008-09 Kayak Expenses	(\$500.78)	
To Square Foot Endowment	(\$1,405.00)	
Shelter for Clambake (cancelled)	(\$99.00)	
10th Anniversary Patch Costs	(\$286.78)	
2010 Expense Total		\$(3,868.56)
12/31/10 Balance		\$ 2,227.57
Peter Collinge, Treasurer, 1/1/2011		



A limited number of MSAA 10th Anniversary patches are available at \$5 each plus \$1 for shipping (flat fee for any quantity). Mail a check (payable to Seneca Waterways Council BSA) to Don DeClerck, MSAA, Camp Cutler, 7131 Gulick Rd., Naples, NY 14512.



Eagle Flight at Massawepie enters its 3rd year expecting 75 Scouts, up from 33 in '09 and 54 in '10. It is a unique program offering all Eagle required merit badges in a provisional Troop/Patrol setting. Fun activities and special events are offered each day, along with many optional merit badges.

Eagle Flight week is June 26 to July 2, 2011 (Staff Week). It is not intended to replace the normal troop summer camp; Scouts are encouraged to attend camp with their troop.

We need the help of additional merit badge counselors. If you have interest in delivering your merit badge program in a non-traditional setting - we can make this work, and have some fun! Consider spending two days or a week at Massawepie (free room and board!). The schedule is flexible enough to accommodate most personal calendars.

Meetings between Scouts and counselors begin in February, enabling Scouts to finish pre-requisites before camp. If you counsel less popular badges, please consider helping. Also, note that should you wish to be involved in a position other than a merit badge counselor give us a call! Either way, please contact Bob Cooper at robhbiec3@mindspring.com or 585-385-1474 as soon as possible.

Massawepie Scout Camps *by Steve W.*

2010 was another great season for The MSC. 108 troops with just over 1,500 Scouts (and over 500 adults) attended during 6 weeks of camping. The program was again outstanding under the leadership of Program Director Tim "Tito" Royce, who served his final summer in that position. The reemergence of the Great Canoe Race was again one of the big successes of the summer. Returning in 2009, the race includes 3 portages and covers several miles of water. Over 100 teams competed in 2010.

The Massawepie management team is in place for 2011. I will return for my 10th season. Josh Homer will return as the Assistant Camp Director and Mark Costello joins the team as the new Program Director. Josh started with us as a Voyageur Guide in 2002 and has since worked at the Pioneer Waterfront for 5 summers (including 3 summers as Director). He became the Assistant Camp Director in 2010. Mark has been part of the Massawepie staff since he was a CIT. He has worked as a Lifeguard, Trail Blazers Director, Assistant Waterfront Director, and 2 summers as the Waterfront Director. Cody Hampton and Adrian Felder will return to the team in significant roles yet to be determined. Business Manager Christilee Bower, Health Director Sean Glenney, and Trek Director Doug Turner are all expected continue in those positions for 2011. Hiring begins for all other positions this month.

In other camp news, it was recently announced that the Western Massachusetts Council, BSA has decided not to operate a Boy Scout summer camp in 2011. They have chosen Massawepie as one of three partner camps to provide summer camp experiences for their Boy Scouts. Seneca Waterways Council looks forward to welcoming these Scouts to Camp Pioneer and the Massawepie Trek Program.

Photos by G. Varga



MASSAWEPIE STAFF ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Winter Gathering of Friends & Family



1 to 5 pm Saturday February 26

NORTH LODGE

Powder Mills Park, Pittsford, NY

BRING PHOTOS, MEMORIES & MEMORABILIA TO SHARE!

The Powder Mills Park
SLEDDING HILL
is near North Lodge!
Bring your favorite winter toys!

North Lodge has bathrooms,
picnic tables, a cook top (but
no oven, or refrigerator) and a
wood burning stove.

*Can anyone bring
some firewood?*

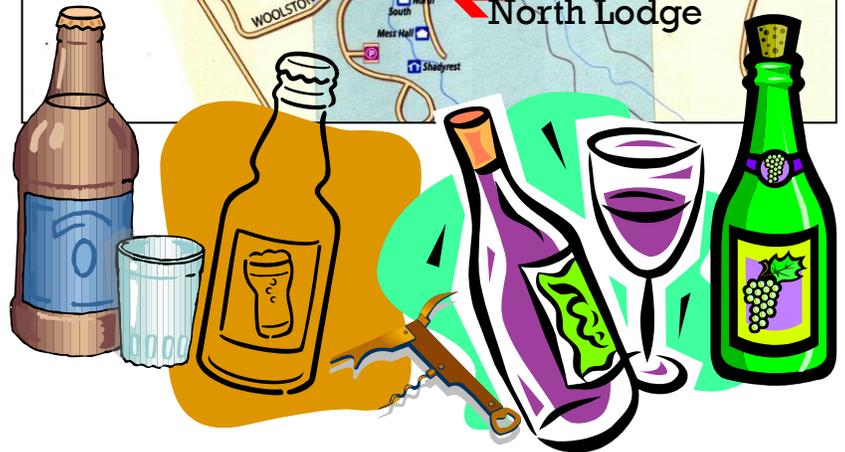
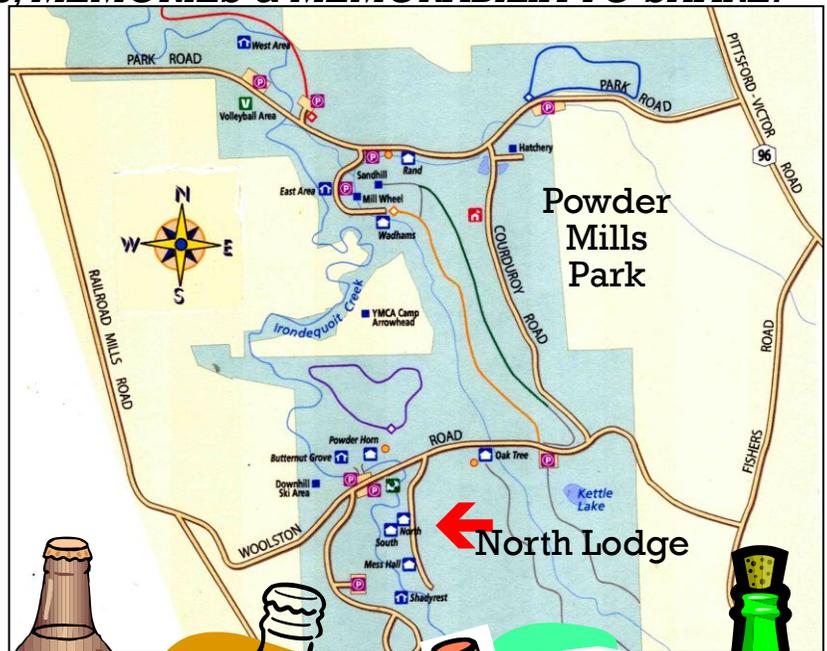
BRING TO SHARE:

chili & bread/rolls, or
hot appetizer/snack, or
spicy meat sauce, or
chips & dips, or
cheese & crackers, or
whatever hearty grub you like
plus a serving utensil if needed

AND:

NYS craft brews (6-pack or 2), or
Finger Lakes wine (bottle or 3), or
craft root beer or other soft drink
pre-chilled, in a cooler, with ice
plus an opener if needed

MSAA has tableware, bowls, plates,
cups, napkins, etc. If you want real
glasses, bring them.



There is a **\$5 fee** per adult (18 & up) to help
offset the cost of the lodge. Pay at the event.

RESERVATIONS REQUESTED!

Please tell us **by 2/20** how many kids &
adults will attend so we have supplies for all.

e-mail: gjvarga@rochester.rr.com

USPS: 196 Linden St., Rochester, NY 14620

Massawepie Staff Alumni Association
J. Warren Cutler Scout Reservation
7131 Gulick Road
Naples, NY 14512

INSIDE Beaver Tales:

- MSAA Winter Gathering!
- MSAA News & Notes!
- New Donor Option!
- Beaver Weekend Recap & Photos!
- And more!

Visit us at massstaffalumni.org

TO:

Member Choice... Help MSAA Save \$\$\$

The Executive Committee has determined that postage cost is an expense which could offer further savings. We already hand deliver 10 to 15 copies per issue, and couples are mailed one copy. We spent nearly \$400 on postage over the past three years (and would have spent about \$435 had we published a Fall 2010 issue). This will only grow as the USPS raises rates.

We can attach Beaver Tales to an e-mail in pdf format at no cost. You could print the file if you like to read a hard copy, or read it on your monitor to save paper/ink; you could also save the file on your computer for future reference.

This will be an "opt in" choice. If you prefer to continue receiving Beaver Tales via USPS, do nothing. But if 75% of you opt in, we'll have about \$100 more per year to donate to the Endowment and/or Donor Option, etc. To *opt in*, send an e-mail to gjvarga@rochester.rr.com asking to receive Beaver Tales via e-mail attachment. Please include your e-mail address in the e-mail. This will begin with the Spring 2011 issue which will include your renewal form.

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We apologize for not publishing a Fall 2010 issue. Your editor, after two months of testing, had surgery in September followed by chemo, which ended this month. He is now well. Time got away from the rest of us in the busy Fall season. We thank member Bob Maurice for the reminder in November of our omission, prompting us to get our act together.
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UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY 2011

26MSAA Winter Gathering – details on Page 5!

MAY 2011

20-22 ...Spring Skills Weekend at Massawepie -
ALL Alumni welcome – skill or no skill!

JUNE 2011

1-2..... Pre-Beaver Days – come early – help prepare for the weekend projects!

3-5..... Beaver Weekend at Massawepie -
ALL Alumni are encouraged to attend!

4MSAA Annual Meeting following Beaver Weekend dinner, in the Loren Hakes Campfire Circle!