

SPRING 2008 Beaver Tales



Newsletter of the Massawepie Staff Alumni Association

Founded in 2000 to provide Spirit, Service and Support!



Notice of MSAA Annual Meeting: May 31, 2008

The Massawepie Staff Alumni Association's 2008 Annual Meeting will be held during Beaver Weekend at Massawepie on Saturday, May 31, 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 4 article about nominations.) Reports of 2007-08 activities will also be shared, especially the 55th anniversary reunion, and future plans will be discussed. Alumni T-shirts and patches will also be available to buy! BarkEater induction ceremonies will be held after the meeting for those eligible. The closing activity will be the traditional group photo shoot! (But socializing may continue afterwards somewhere in greater Childwold.)

Part of the discussion will be future role of the Alumni Association at camp, and for the 100th anniversary of the BSA in 2010. Come share your ideas and hear from others, as part of the fun and service of Beaver Weekend!

Executive Committee

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Vice-Chair

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Treasurer

Mike Knittel

Secretary & Webmaster

Peter Collinge
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Past Chair

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Member at Large & Council VP of Camping

David Lippitt

Member at Large & Newsletter Editor

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Stephanie VonBacho
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Join Us for Work Weekends *by Mark*

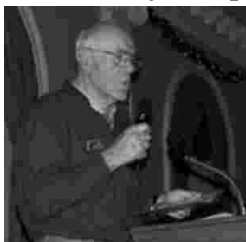
Giving back to Massawepie with some sweat-equity and sharing great times with old and new friends – the work weekend tradition! There are two opportunities to continue the tradition coming up. Skills Weekend is May 16th-18th. Beaver Weekend is May 30th-June 1st. We can impact the success of the 2008 camp season by attending one or both.

We know gas prices will make it a challenge for many of you to make this trip. Car-pooling and sharing the cost of gas is the solution! Invite a few friends and share expenses. If you need a ride or have space for riders, let us know. We'll try to hook people up.

We will staff the kitchen from Friday morning through Sunday morning. You can help on the waterfront and do a little sprucing up at the Campfire Circle. Cabins need work. The Properties Committee is setting up other projects from a very long list.

It would be great to have at least half our members at Beaver Weekend, especially with the Annual Meeting being held. Also, you can see the new "Voyageur" 4th-year BarkEater ceremony. If you work *both* weekends and are a 3rd-year Bark-Eater, you can be in the first group to earn the 4th-year BarkEater token! 1st-, 2nd- and 3rd-year BarkEater can also be earned.

E-mail Mark Pulvino at mpulvino@rochester.rr.com or call him at 585-872-1507 to reserve your spot, today.



55th Anniversary Staff Reunion!

Article and Photos on Page 2!



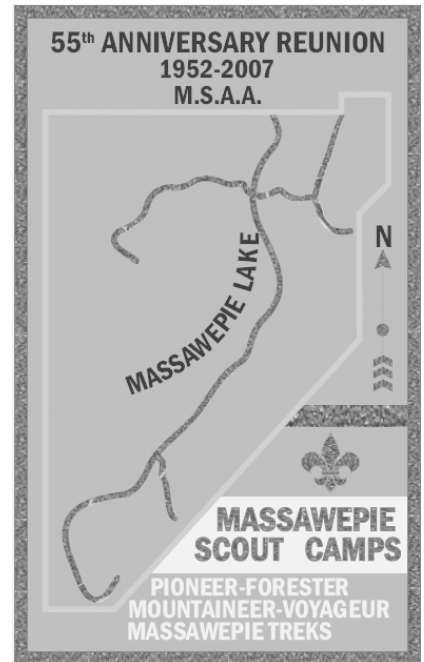
Reunion Recap *by David*

60 people enjoyed the Massawepie 55th Anniversary Staff Reunion Celebration at the Rochester Club Ballroom on Friday, December 28th. The food, the great program, and most importantly, the participants, made for a hugely successful event and a wonderful time. Many friendships were renewed, and new friends made.

Brad VanAuken, MSAA Chair, emceed the evening program, which included a camp video from the early '60s. Ray Meyering shared memories of his many years at camp, and recited "The Cremation of Sam McGee." Brett Elliott and Brad led old favorite camp songs. Our Secretary and Webmaster Peter Collinge won the "pick the year of the staff photo" contest. The event concluded with the traditional group photo.

Special recognition to the 1975 Forester staff with eight members attending - including its camp director, the Rev. Mike Bausch, and program director, Mike Sullivan. Others from the 1975 Forester staff included: MSAA officers Gary Hicks and Dave Lippitt, and Ted Klick, Lance Harrington, John Poray, and Doug Turner.

Thanks to the MSAA Executive Committee members who planned and put on this great event. We should do it again some time!



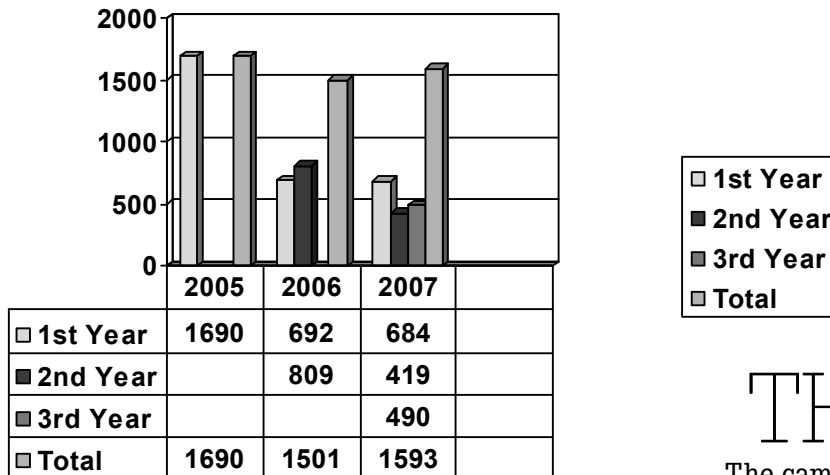
'52 or '53 pennant with 18 or so staff signatures, including Ray Meyering



BarkEater 2008 *by Brad*

This summer, youth and adults have the opportunity to become fourth year BarkEaters. The fourth year's theme is "Voyageur" and its focus is on leadership development. Fourth year candidates will learn about the attributes of successful leaders and will have the opportunity to demonstrate leadership at camp. Each fourth year BarkEater will receive a fourth year BarkEater token. First-, second- and third-year campers will be able to earn the appropriate level of BarkEater as well. We hope you will spread the word about this unique honor camper program.

BarkEater participation in the first three years of the program is as follows:



MSC '08 *by David*

We are delighted to report that Steve Weisenreder will be back as Camp Director for his seventh year of leading the best Boy Scout Camp in the Adirondacks, and probably the country.

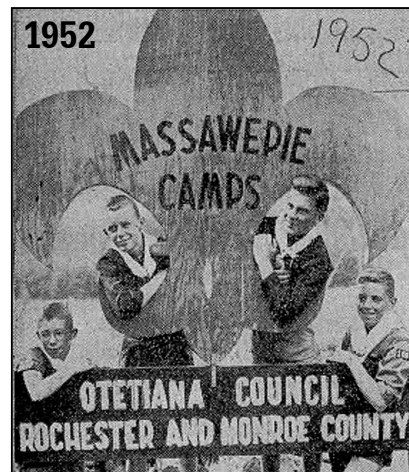
Joining him will be Rick Byers as Assistant Camp Director and Tim Royce as Program Director. Rick has been Program Director for several years and will focus on customer service. Tim is an experienced staffer, most recently as '07 ECON Director.

Most other area directors and key staffers are returning or have experience and are moving up.

With this leadership it should be another stellar summer.

THEN & NOW...

The camp entrance sign at Route 3 and Massawepie Road has changed over the years.



Nominees for the MSAA Executive Committee

The Alumni Association Rules of Operation provide that nominations for officers and at large Executive Committee members should be made 20 days in advance of the Annual Meeting (held on Beaver Weekend). The Executive Committee has nominated the following:

Mike Knittel, Chair
Gary Hicks, Vice Chair
Peter Collinge, Treasurer
Stephanie VonBacho, Secretary
for Member at Large:
Shannon Davis
David Lippitt

George Varga
John Zaffino

(Brad VanAuken will serve as Past Chair)

At the Annual Meeting we will ask for a volunteer to fill the at Large opening. Additional nominations must be submitted in advance of the meeting to Secretary Peter Collinge (contact info on page 1).

We will need some new Executive Committee members by next year. So please contact one of the officers if you are interested in joining the Executive Committee or know of a good candidate.

Upcoming Events

May 2008

16-18 ..Spring Skills Weekend at Massawepie
All Alumni welcome – skill or no skill!

30-June 1

.....Beaver Weekend at Massawepie
ALL Alumni encouraged to attend!

31MSAA Annual Meeting following Beaver Weekend
dinner, in the Loren Hakes Campfire Circle

September 2008

27(tentative) MSAA Clambake – details next issue

Membership Renewal & Mountain Bikes

Following on the heels of the popular Kayak program, the MSAA Executive Committee has decided to encourage donations to help replace the aging mountain bikes at Massawepie. Normally we prefer to use MSAA member donations for a new program or project, but this year there's an urgent need for new bikes and the camp is not able to pay for those due to a tight council budget and an unexpected decline in camp registrations for 2008. You can receive a "free" one-year extension of your MSAA membership by returning the enclosed membership form with a donation of \$50 or more (total) to the Massawepie mountain bike program and/or to the "Square Foot" Endowment (which will support Massawepie bikes and other equipment, and maintenance in perpetuity). The cost of a new bike suitable for rough use is about \$500. Anyone donating \$500 is welcome to come autograph one of the new bikes at camp this summer.

Please also check the enclosed Membership Renewal Form to see whether it says "Expired May 2008" (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.) Just send \$10 (or \$20 for 2 years or a \$50 donation which will include a free membership) to the return address shown on the form. Keep your membership up-to-date, help Massawepie, and keep receiving this fine newsletter.

All members, whether renewing or not this year, are encouraged to return the form if you need to make any updates of your address, phone number, e-mail or other information. And speaking of membership, please ask a friend to join the MSAA!

New Members Since Last Newsletter

The MSAA currently has 98 members! We welcome these new members:

Rod Rebman, Churchville, NY (Pioneer Staff, 1967-68)
Steve Salyards, LaVerne, CA (Mountaineer staff, 1976-79)*
Justin Turner, Fish's Eddy, NY (recent camp staff)
Laura Turner, Fish's Eddy, NY (long-time camp staff)

*Steve traveled the furthest to the 55th anniversary celebration in December.

Will this be the year to reach, exceed and retain membership of 100 in MSAA? With your help it will be!

Webmaster Needed!

The MSAA is seeking a new Webmaster to replace Peter Collinge. Peter has been filling three MSAA roles: Secretary, Webmaster and Historian. His council responsibilities have increased; his time has not.

If you have HTML/web skills and would like to maintain and improve the MassStaffAlumni.org site, please contact Peter at capejo@localnet.com .