

Tomahawk Alumni Association

Serving: Fred C. Andersen, Akela, Kiwanis Scout Camp, Day Camp, and Tomahawk Scout Reservation

Join the Alumni Association!!

TOMAHAWK ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Membership levels are as follows:

	Individual	Family
Annual Student	\$5.00	
Annual	\$15.00	\$25.00
3 year	\$40.00	\$60.00
Lifetime	\$150.00	\$200.00
Lifetime Charter	\$175.00	

Lifetime memberships are offered through 2005 only. All Lifetime Charter Members will receive a special **Alumni fleece jacket!**



(Sample embroidery for jacket)

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Currently the Lifetime Charter Members are:

Mark Abbott	James (Jay) Garey	Chuck Olson	Chad Towle
David Albrecht	Rene Greer (Rule)	David Schmitzke	Rich Tregilgas
Dave Beardsley	Dr. Earl Grinols	Arnold (Skip) Sheldon	Richard Yeager
Tim Engel	Keith Johansen	Wade Smith	<u>Lifetime Family Members:</u>
John Flowers	Jim King	Jeff Sulzbach	James Grinols
Jim Frost	Lori Mongelluzzo	Rev. Tom Thompson	Myron & Catherine Jacobson
James Garey	Pat Murray	Greg Todd	Your name could be here, see pg 5.

Message From the Chair - Jim King (staff 1955-1970)

Small World Department - I was privileged to be a staff member at the National Jamboree in Virginia this past summer. As I got off the plane in Richmond VA I sat next to a Scouter who, like me, was waiting for the shuttle to the Jamboree site. Turned out to be Dr. Dan Ahlberg, who worked with me in 1962 as a leader of the Tomahawk Provisional troop. Dan was on the Jamboree medical staff. Two days later, I ran into Paul Reis who was also a 1962 staffer, who was working on the Merit Badge Midway. Paul currently lives in North Carolina.

Warm Thoughts Department - Got an email last month from Charlie Olson, a fellow staffer from 1957 and 1958, telling me how much he liked his new Tomahawk Alumni Jacket that had arrived just in time for the Purdue/Gophers game. Within the next 2 weeks also heard from Dave Beardsley and Keith Johansen, both 1950's guys, telling me how much they liked their

jackets. Yes, they (the jackets) are nice, they will keep you warm on a late fall afternoon, and they come with a lifetime supply of warm thoughts. We have one in your size, and you can be one of the Charter Life Members of the TAA if you act by the end of the year. Order form enclosed. They are REALLY NICE!!!

Projects Department - Some have asked about the goals of the TAA, and what we will do to improve and grow the camp. One of the possibilities is a project or two each year, or a large multi-year undertaking. We would like your thoughts and ideas. Suggestions currently include Camp Staff Scholarships, purchase of needed equipment, and purchase/construction of new camp signs with the new council name [Northern Star]. Your ideas???? See the enclosed article on the 'old timers' Display Case completed this summer...

Volunteerism - Every organization has a need for interested, committed, and talented leadership....people like you. TAA has evolved from an idea of a few with a list of names, to 300 identified alumni a year ago, to over 1200 identified alumni at present. There is a need for representatives from each 'decade' to help with our membership search, plan alumni events, develop and carry out camp projects, mold the TAA into an effective support for the council camping program, develop a website, serve as a nominating committee, etc. In short, we need you to help move the TAA to the next level. Please consider a 2 year commitment to help make the camping experience at Tomahawk an important part of a young Scout's life, as it was for you.

Happy Camping! Jim King
jbking@boreal.org

Council Consolidation

On March 30 of this year voting members of the Viking Council and Indianhead Council decided to combine the two councils. The new council that resulted from the combination of these two councils is the Northern Star Council. A task force was appointed to weigh the advantages and disadvantages of a council consolidation prior to the vote. The task force determined that there were several areas in which the two councils could be better off as one council.

The five objectives that the new council hopes to achieve are:

- 1) The new council would provide more programs for more young people.
- 2) The new council would be fiscally more efficient and effective.

- 3) Relevance to Today's Young People and Innovative Community Partnerships
- 4) Ability to Demonstrate Scouting's Value to Parents and their Children
- 5) Expanded Service to Volunteers

The two councils officially consolidated on July 30. Both of the former Indianhead and Viking Council headquarter offices are being used to office Scouting professionals. Don Blacker for former Viking Council CEO retired on July 30. John Andrews the former Indianhead Council CEO was named the new CEO of the Northern Star Council.

There is no plan to sell camp properties. There are now seven council camps as a result of the consolidation. The camps



include Many Point Scout Camp, Tomahawk Scout Reservation, Phillippo Scout Reservation, Kiwanis Scout Camp, Rum River Scout Camp, Stearns Scout Camp, and Fred C. Andersen Scout Camp.

The consolidation efforts are going well. There are now Scouting professionals serving rural districts that were vacant before the consolidation. Troops and packs are now able to select from a wider variety of camp programs than they had before. Stay tuned for more council updates in future Alumni Newsletters.



Alumni Day at Tomahawk by Myron Jacobson

If you were unable to attend our first Alumni day at camp this past July, I want to let you know what you missed.

First off, everything about the day was first-class. Jim Schwieger and all of the camp staff did an outstanding job of hosting and making us feel welcome. At check-in we were all given welcome packets containing, among other things, wonderful mementos such as our own TSR name tag, camp patches, and even a commemorative water bottle. Right after breakfast the camp directors and our other guides began showing us around. I have to say that the reservation has now grown to such a Disneyworld scale that, try as you might, you just can't visit every part of it in a day. But, from atop the 100-foot fire tower, you can see almost the entire camp from one spot and all the way around the lake! From there you might even sight... "a great herd of buffalo. BUFFALO!"

After enjoying a real barbeque picnic lunch hosted by the camp's food service provider, Upper Lakes Foods, we witnessed the ribbon cutting of the new COPE high course, located across from the Randall Scout Farm. We also honored Tomahawk's longest serving camp staffer, a man who has resisted joining our ranks for decades, Ralph McLean. We managed to tear Ralph away from his duties in the business office to recognize him for his 20 years of service to the camp.

I thought that the best part of the day was visiting with old friends, meeting their families, reminiscing about the past, and hearing about what they are up to now. It was a particular pleasure to visit with former Reservation Director Homer Miles! And I immensely enjoyed sharing the camp for the first time with my own children.

Alumni Day will be an annual affair. We all know the logistical problems with visiting the camp on a weekend, so we'll warn you that in 2006 it will be on a weekday in July or August – with the exact date to be announced later. But whether you made it up to camp this year or not, we hope you'll join us next summer. I know we all have someone in our lives to whom we would like to show Tomahawk – and maybe even introduce them to an old co-worker. Well, this will be the perfect opportunity. I guarantee that you'll be glad you visited.

The reservation has grown to such a Disneyworld scale that, try as you might, you just can't visit every part of it in a day.

Camp Staff Spotlight



Paul Fischer
Past Tomahawk Staff

Around the USA by bicycle: more than muscle.

Over the course of my eight summers working at Tomahawk, on occasion a former staff member would come by for a visit and become overwhelmed. “Never stop working at camp, real life will never compare to it” was a statement I’ve heard before, although few articulate to such a degree. Wistful shakes of the head and stories of forgotten times, the glory days of youth discovering their seemingly limitless possibilities in life. I figured I’d have to find something distinctively good to top the tremendousness of my years of summer camp.

One aspect I appreciate about Tomahawk was the attitude that you are limited only by your own creativity and energy. If you’ve got a wild idea and some ambition, you can make it happen. With a college diploma hanging squarely on the wall next to my Eagle picture, I was up for something big. The thought of grad school and careers made me queasy, so a few weeks after the final giant flag ceremony in Navajo, the dining hall and buildings entombed for a cold and solitudinous winter, I loaded up my bicycle and headed out into the warm early fall with a vague goal: bike until I hit an ocean, then turn right. Then keep that up until I get back home.

I didn’t know what to expect when I left St. Paul last September to bicycle around the perimeter of the United States. I didn’t know if I would be able to do it. I’d look at my US map in my tent at night and shake my head and wonder. Such a long way to go. In honesty, I attribute much of my success to abilities and resources I accumulated at Tomahawk and through Scouting. Outdoors skills without question I learned through Scouting. On mornings that I woke up with water bottles frozen solid or a snowy tent, I was glad to have gone to Snow Base so many times. I pulled out tricks I hadn’t thought of in years, Cooking Merit Badge meals and orienteering on cloudy confusing days, even Personal Finance

proved to be worth something when it came to budgeting. These skills enabled me to participate in the journey. While incredibly useful and important, this skill-related aspect of Scouting was a more minor part in my trip in comparison to the more profound but less concrete qualities I have derived from my years in Boy Scouts.

My experiences over the next year were about as diverse as this country can offer. Mountains, plains, desert, big cities, tiny towns, oceans, swamps, ditches, back yards, you name it. Wandering around the country I met folks from all walks of life. They were often intrigued by the stranger in cycling shorts with a funny trailer off the rear of his bike; funny accents and an interest in the ways of different folks caught my attention. Some stared wide-eyed at me as I rolled through, a few invited me into their homes. Rubbing elbows with fellow bums or having lunch at a nice country club, having interacted with different types of people at Tomahawk set me up well for getting along with people leading lives very different from my own. I didn’t go to preach my personal views of the world, instead I went with my mind open to see and learn how other people go about their days. By trying to maintain a high standard of personal conduct, such as concepts of the Scout Oath and Law, and by treating people with as much respect as I could muster, it wasn’t difficult for me to accept people without regard to their social, ethnic, or economic standing, and in return I regularly felt welcomed into their communities.

Related to the acceptance of and interest in different sorts of people is an appreciation of the many functions and manifestations of American society. Beauty exists all around, and that beauty isn’t limited to wilderness. Countless small towns and unending farmland, strip malls and Santa Fe evenings, ours is a big and sundry culture. After sweating so hard only to wind up in a dumpy-looking area, I’d force myself to find value in what I saw. Camping out in a ball field with permission from the town hall in a place few would venture to call charming did not fill my eyes with beauty as did the Grand Canyon or the rocky Pacific Coast. But the friendliness and community strength I regularly encountered possessed a resilient, albeit different, form of beauty and quality. Fur-

thermore, a lack of a permanent roof and refrigerator, and regularly dwelling in solitude with no friends or family for thousands of miles, reinforced in my mind that important role of human society to my happiness and well-being.

A person can learn outdoor skills from plenty of other sources or organizations. Scouts certainly isn’t the exclusive way to meet different kinds of people. Merit badges aren’t the only ways to learn handy skills. Lots of people can suck it up enough to get through a tough situation. But to wake up on a bad day and be excited about it, to have a good attitude, is something for which I am uniquely grateful to Scouting, particularly Tomahawk. On lots of days things didn’t go according to plan, and plenty of days I didn’t have a plan at all. Bad weather, knee-grinding mountains, nowhere to set up the tent at night, harrowing traffic, being alone so much ... to have let it get me down would have been the end. I’d have jumped on the Greyhound before two weeks were up. Being willing to work hard at something, finding the quality in demanding and wearisome situations, and looking forward to what may be next is a unique focus of Scouting, and is well practiced at Tomahawk. This aspect of Scouting is what aided me the most in my travels.

After 13,500 miles, 355 days, 34 states, and dozens of new acquaintances, I finally again rode down the streets of St. Paul, down Hamline Avenue, back to my old neighborhood, and was done. Done with a bike trip, anyway. Now that I’m home I feel very much like I’ve just started something, that getting off the bike for the last time was really stepping up into a new and uncertain arena. And has all this topped my more youthful summers well spent? While that was never the driving motivation for biking around the country, I have to admit some sadness when thinking about the dining hall songs and canvas tents and crazy Scouts on which I missed out. Many would argue that such a trip is no more “real” than working at Tomahawk, but these experiences incubate qualities that cannot be taught in school or on a job site, and the time taken to achieve such qualities is incontestably time well spent.

At Tomahawk you are only limited by your own creativity and energy.

The Gale and Jim Frost Camp Staff Story



Gale Frost was a camper in 1926-27 at the Square Lake Scout Camp. In 1928, the first year of its operation, he was a camper at what was originally known as the Rotary Boy Scout Camp, later St. Croix River Camp and now Fred C. Anderson River Camp. He earned his Eagle badge as a member of Troop 17 in St. Paul.

In 1929 he was hired as the crafts person at the river camp and in 1931-32 he was waterfront director. In 1933-35 he ran canoe trips, taking groups of Scouts from the camp to Taylor's Falls and back on three-day adventures. Between trips, he taught canoeing and rowing merit badges; he was featured on the cover and in other photographs in several editions of the canoeing and rowing merit badge books.

He was recruited to set up a model beach and teach water safety at the Schiff Scout Reservation in New Jersey in 1936 and then went to Sioux Falls, S.D. as assistant Scout executive. In 1938-43, he was Scout executive in Great Falls, Mont., and then left Scouting to train military swimming instructors for the American Red Cross. He returned to the Twin Cities in 1944, went into the agricultural products business, retired from a successful sales career in 1976 and then worked for 25 years as curator of the Minnesota State Fair History Museum.

He was married to Elaine for 60 years and they had five children. He believes that his camp experiences had a profound and

lasting impact on his life. His swimming at camp led him to the swimming teams at St. Paul's old Mechanic Arts High School and St. Olaf College in Northfield. He says teaching aquatic classes gave him confidence and made him a comfortable speaker, leading to success as a salesman. His advice is to get set with something you like and learn all you can about it.

He remembers David Brink, who succeeded him as waterfront director and Harry Bartelt, the first river camp director and later Scout executive in Duluth. One of his tent mates was the camp cook, Larry Gates, who later became a well-known stage and screen actor. The first year he was at river camp, there was only a shack for a mess hall; the second year Good Medicine was built. Cost for campers was \$6 per week and most came for two weeks.

Gale's three sons were all Boy Scouts and all camped, sometimes with their dad, at both Fred C. Anderson and Tomahawk Scout Reservation. Bob is now a writer and has written for publication about his camping experiences. Tom earned his Eagle Scout badge as a member of Troop 80 in St. Paul. Jim was a camper at Tomahawk from 1954, its first year of operation, through 1958. He was also on the staff for five-plus years and ran two beaches at Tomahawk. Gale and Jim are the only father and son to serve as waterfront directors at two Indianhead Council camps.

Jim was an apprentice (today's counselor in training) in 1958; was an assistant at Beaver Point and what was then called main beach for three years, 1960-62; director at Beaver Point in 1964, and director at main (Chippewa) beach in 1965.

New during those years was the heater-stack system of food delivered to campsites; before that, almost everyone walked to the dining hall in Chippewa for all three meals. Campsites north of the dining hall were informally called "short walk" and those in Sioux Camp were called "long walk."

Jim remembers wrestling the old steel pier on main beach into place each spring and the huge snapping turtle and infamous floating pier at Beaver Point. He believes that camp gave him self-reliance and life skills. Also that the guys he got to know were among the best and brightest friends he has had in his life. He gets together with Steve Flood and Chuck Perkins every three or four months for dinner and reminiscing about Tomahawk. He also has been in touch over the years with Steve and Dave Albrecht, Andy and Tom Creager, Bill Dorgan, Hugh and John Gwin, Carol and Don Kelsey, Steve King, Pat McCardle, Gary Norman and other early '60s staffers; the group has had several reunions. Jim, Dave Albrecht and the Creagers took a motorcycle trip to Tomahawk this summer.

He spent 33 years in the exposition business at the Minnesota State Fair, Clay County Fair in Iowa, and Dakota County Fair in Farmington, Minn., and is now doing consulting work including assisting with the management of Arnolds Park Amusement Park in Iowa. Jim's advice is to do everything you can to convince younger generations the value of living outdoors and learning the skills that go with camping and aquatics.

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Holiday Alumni Gathering

All camp staff alumni and friends of Northern Star Council camps are invited to the annual Holiday “Get-Together”. Current staff and alumni 21 years old and older are invited to come to Patrick McGoverns Pub on Thursday December 29. McGoverns is located at 225 7th St. W in St. Paul.

The gathering will begin at 7:00 p.m. We will have a room reserved upstairs. Hors d’oeuvres will be provided during the evening.

This gathering is a great opportunity to reconnect with staff members you may have worked with and meet new staff members who are working at the camps this year. This event is also a great chance to ask more people to become a part of the Tomahawk Alumni Association. Please help spread the word about this event.

A RSVP is not required but it will help us plan. Please call Mark McCabe at 651-254-9138 or send an e-mail to

mmccabe@northernstarbsa.org by Dec. 9 if you plan on attending.

Patrick McGoverns Pub
Thursday December 29
 7:00 p.m..
 225 7th St. W
 St. Paul.

Lifetime Charter Membership opportunity to become a Charter member and receive a Alumni Association jacket will expire on December 31, 2005. Don’t miss out on this once in a lifetime opportunity. Send in your membership now, don’t hesitate.

<p>Tomahawk Alumni Association 393 Marshall Avenue Saint Paul MN 55102-1717 651-224-1891 www.camptomahawk.org</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p>Phone Numbers: (H) _____ (B) _____</p> <p>Years/Positions at TSR: Years _____ Positions: _____</p> <p>_____ _____ _____</p> <p>Name _____ Company: _____ Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Email: _____</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Tomahawk Alumni Association</p> <p>Membership Levels</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Individual</th> <th>Family</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Annual Student</td> <td>\$5.00</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Annual</td> <td>\$15.00</td> <td>\$25.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3 Year</td> <td>\$40.00</td> <td>\$60.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lifetime</td> <td>\$150.00</td> <td>\$200.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lifetime Charter</td> <td>\$175.00</td> <td>-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Jacket Size (for Lifetime Charter Members): S – M – L – XL- XXL- XX Payment: \$ _____ Date: _____</p> <p>I prefer to pay: _____, Cash _____, Check No. _____ Please make checks payable to: Northern Star Council / BSA</p> <p>Please charge my credit card: Type of Card: _____, MasterCard _____, Visa _____ Account No. _____ Expires: Month _____ /Year _____</p> <p>Signature (Required): _____</p>		Individual	Family	Annual Student	\$5.00	-	Annual	\$15.00	\$25.00	3 Year	\$40.00	\$60.00	Lifetime	\$150.00	\$200.00	Lifetime Charter	\$175.00	-	<p>Thank You for Supporting Your Camp Alumni Association!!</p> <p style="text-align: center; transform: rotate(-30deg);">Return to: Tomahawk Alumni Association 393 Marshall Avenue Saint Paul MN 55102-1717</p>
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New Tomahawk Display Case

Perhaps the first 'project' of the Tomahawk Alumni Association was completed in time for the 2005 Camp Season. Alumni from the first decade; 1955 – 1964, raised over \$5,000 to construct a 12' x 3' x 6' lighted display case in the lobby of the Services Building at camp. Staff pictures, uniforms, patches, postcards, OA memorabilia, staff manuals, neckerchiefs, etc from the 'early years' are part of the permanent display. Special thanks are in order to Bob Albright for picking up the project started by Dick Fihn prior to his death. Bob was able to duplicate pictures and coordinate the many contributions of Tomahawk items provided by other alumni. Check out the pictures of the display on the web. www.camptomahawk.org

Contributors to the display include: Loren Albert, David Albrecht, Steve Albrecht, Bob Albright, Dave Beardsley, Dave Benson, Kenneth Berglund, Rolland Bowler, Tom Campbell, Ed Dery, Bill Dorgan, Bill Ellison, Bob Ellison, Mary Elmore, Dave Fihn, Shirley Fihn, Dick Fihn, Steve Flood, Bruce Foster, David Franks,

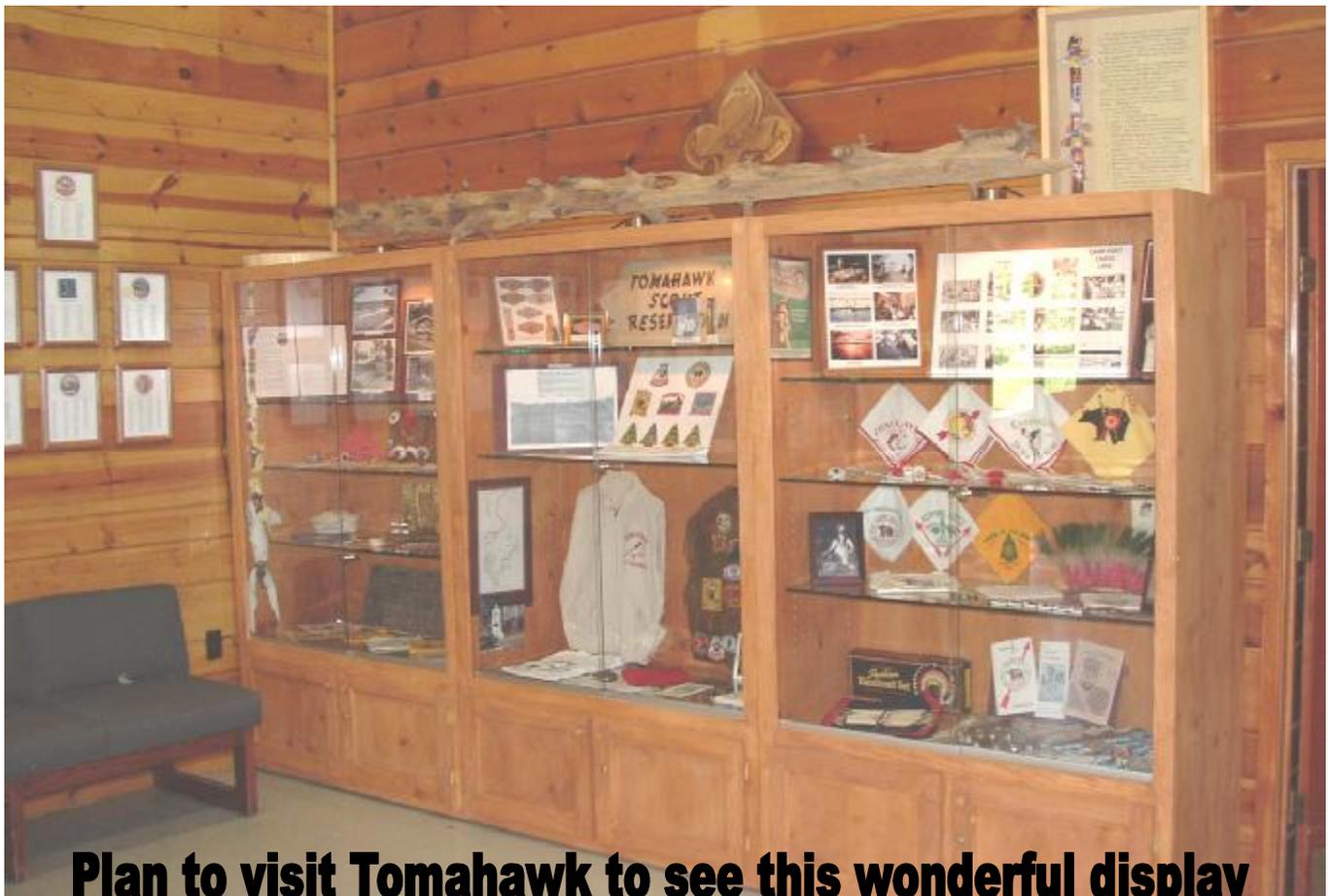
Tom Fredeen, Jim Frost, John Gwin, Keith Johansen, Ron Johnson, Doug Keim, Jim King, Steve King, Lloyd Knutson, Patrick McCardle, Steve Melander, Leo Meyer, Gary Norman, Charles Olson, Gene Peterson, Ben Pomeroy, Sherwood Pomeroy, Dan Pratt, Terry Pratt, Skip Sheldon, Bob Takle, Dennis Tooley, Tom Wilson, John Winters, and Richard Yager.

Meet the new Tomahawk Director

Mark McCabe has started his role as the Tomahawk Director. Mark was a Tomahawk staffer from 1998-2001, serving as the White Pine Aquatics director for two seasons and the White Pine Camp Director for two seasons. In the fall of 2001 Mark was hired as a Cub Scout Camping Executive for the Indianhead Council. Mark directed the Camp Akela summer programs at the Philippo Scout Reservation from 2002-2005. He is extremely excited to return to Tomahawk as the director helping to provide great program experiences for Boy Scouts.

Mark graduated from North Dakota State University in 2001 with a degree in Biology Education. He is currently pursuing a master's degree in organizational leadership from the College of St. Catherine which he hopes will provide additional insights to leading the Tomahawk staff.

Mark and his wife Katy live in the Como Park neighborhood in St. Paul.



Plan to visit Tomahawk to see this wonderful display