

Lifetime Members - Mark McCabe, Reservation Director

I would like to recognize and thank the many people who were able to make a lifetime commitment in support of Tomahawk Scout Reservation. As of March 2007 the Tomahawk Alumni Association has a total of 78 Lifetime Members, 72 of which are Lifetime Charter Members. Names on this list span every decade of Tomahawk and attest to the energy and spirit that have made Tomahawk a place that has a tremendous im-

pact that lasts a lifetime. Thank you for your support for the Association and for your commitment to the long-term enhancement of Tomahawk. As more members are added each year, we hope the dedication of our Lifetime members inspires others to remain involved with camp for many years to come. Thank you all for your service as staff members and as alumni members providing much needed support to Tomahawk.

Message from the President

The Tomahawk Alumni Association is more and more becoming an organization on solid ground. After an excellent start over the past three years under the leadership of former president Jim King, new governing articles have now been adopted, an annual meeting has been held, a new board is in place and membership is increasing.

The association is founded on three things: the fellowship of present and past camp staff members and friends of the camp; communication with each other, and support for Tomahawk Scout Reservation.

Obviously these things can be accomplished with any number of members. Like the Biblical quote "Whenever two or more of you are gathered..." camp staff persons do the kind of things on which the association is founded whether they are with a single old friend or in a large group.

But more members will make each of the founding elements even better.

There are several thousand persons who have served on the staff since Fish Fos-

ter began hacking out roads in 1953 and most have good feelings about their camp experiences along with stories worth sharing.

Members of the association have the opportunity to share these reminiscences through our Website and newsletter along with our two annual events at Christmas time and during the summer.

The key to expanding membership is as simple as a phone call or e-mail that tells someone who is not already a member about the association and that they are more than welcome to join. It's easy—an annual membership is \$15 and a lifetime membership is \$150 (\$175 with a commemorative jacket). Annual memberships purchased during the first six months of the year are good for that year; if purchased during the last six months, they are good for the following year as well. When you have a name and address, contact Bob Albright at albright_r@sbcglobal.net or (715)749-3218, or Carol Forrest at (651)254-9158 or cforrest@northernstarbsa.org and they will get you or the new member

the membership material.

This is also notice that the newsletter that has previously been sent to all persons for whom the Scout office has an address will in the future go only to the paid membership.

Please contact someone you know who is not now a TAA member. Tell them about what we have going and invite them to become a part of it.

Thank you.

Jim Frost, President

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In Memory of...

Recollections of Bruce Foster

by Bob Albright

I first met Bruce "Fish" Foster during my first year on the Tomahawk camp staff in 1955. Because Bruce was the only staff member in 1953 and 1954, when he helped make the physical improvements to the newly purchased land on Long Lake so Tomahawk could become the council's summer camp, we all looked up to Bruce and he became the leader and almost an icon for all of us on the staff.

My intent at first here was to write about my memories and interactions with Bruce but having attended his funeral I changed my mind and want to relate to you the events in River Falls, WI. Hundreds attended the service and there were several tributes but I think the most impressive is the article in the River Falls Journal. The headline of the March 8 issue reads "GONE FISHING" "River Falls loses colorful, benevolent historical citizen." The article fills one half of the front page and another two pages inside.

Bruce died of a heart attack while driving home after helping a friend free her car from a ditch during a snow storm. The article goes on to say "Lending a hand to someone in distress. That was Bruce Foster in life, and that's exactly how he died." Then he is described as "a local historian, fisherman, camper, environmentalist, storyteller, prankster, Scout leader, arts patron, animal lover and businessman."

There were many stories told about Bruce but I will share two items that were displayed on the five tables of tribute to Bruce.

First, a sign with one of Bruce's statements: "I fish, therefore I am"

Secondly, someone wrote:

Catch and Release
 Most mornings started with a song
 Many nights ended with music around a campfire
 And in between
 Fish...lots of fish
 Foolishness...lots of foolishness
 Adventure... made where there were none and savored when there were
 The catch of the day, now it's time to release
 He is missed.

As fate would have it, my last long visit with Bruce was when we drove to Dalton, MN for another former staff member, Dick Fihn's, funeral service. On the long drive there and back Bruce relayed to me many of his life's events since we served on the camp staff.

He first became a professional Scouter for North and South Dakota, Montana and Wyoming. Upon returning to River Falls he started an animal shelter for Pierce and St. Croix Counties in Wisconsin. Later he started a pet grooming shop in River Falls. He told me pet grooming is the profession he enjoyed most of all. One friend told the River



Bruce Foster, 1960

Bruce Foster, 2004

Falls Journal that he once went to visit his dog grooming shop and saw Bruce in a tux grooming dogs and listening to an operetta. Bruce was completely unpredictable and that is one of the things his friends and I enjoyed most about him.

Loren Albert a friend and member of Bruce's troop and a Tomahawk staff member emailed me with the following statement. "He had the unique talent of making everyone he met or knew feel like they were his best friend. He somehow found time for everyone."

Bruce was the most unpretentious person I have ever met and he will always be an icon in my mind.

On the Tomahawk Alumni Association's home page is a quote from Bruce that I believe sums up everyone's memories of being on staff, during Bruce's era (1950's) or today:

"We did some of our finest work back then...It was a magical time with enduring results."

Bruce "Fish" Foster
 1936-2007



New Alumni Cabin at TSR

Alumni and family have new space at Tomahawk.

Once you have finished your involvement as camp staff, it can be hard to find a way to visit Tomahawk. To accommodate alumni who want to come back, Tomahawk has reserved one of our nicest cabins with you in mind. This summer, Lavine cabin is reserved exclusively for Tomahawk Alumni Association members and guests.

Lavine cabin is tucked away from the main road on a hillside not far from the Central Administration Building. You can enjoy beautiful views of Long Lake from the cabin or from your own private

dock. The cabin has two bedrooms with a full sized bed, a set of bunks, and can sleep 4-5 people. Additional sleeping arrangements can be added if required. Amenities include full kitchen facilities with full sized refrigerator, stove, oven, bathroom with shower, water, electricity, living room, parking right in front of the cabin, a grill, and the beauty of the north woods.

So come up with your family or a few of your alumni friends and tour the camp at your leisure to see what is new and what traditions still continue at TSR. It has never before been this easy to come back and visit and we hope to have alumni returning all summer to keep

building the staff family. For more details and to book reservations, call Carol Forrest at 651-254-9158. The cabin fee is \$30 per night and can be reserved anytime from June 16 - August 18. Tomahawk's current staff welcomes you, and the Tomahawk Alumni Association wishes you a most agreeable stay.



Lavine Cabin

Northern Star Council's Friends of Scouting Campaign

Northern Star Council conducts an annual fundraising campaign to support Scouting. The money raised each year is used to support camping programs, property improvements, adult leader training, and operational costs associated with Scouting. Northern Star Council continues a long-standing tradition of being a camp program-oriented council. Tomahawk Scout Reservation alone served over 5,500 Boy Scouts last summer (2006) and had over 500 Scouts attend Snow Base this past winter season (2007).

- 20 Gauge Shot-Guns
- Office Supplies (mainly paper)
- Climbing Equipment
- Backpacking Tents
- Tools – Hammers, shovels, posthole diggers, mauls, draw knives, saws, axes
- Archery Supplies
- Fishing Equipment

Several members of the Tomahawk camp staff alumni volunteer to help raise a portion of the overall Friends of Scouting Campaign. This year the Tomahawk Alumni goal is \$37,500. Several camp staff alumni have contributed to this year's Friends of Scouting campaign. We have currently achieved 50% of our goal. In order for Scouting to continue to grow and thrive we need the support of several more camp staff alumni who understand the importance of providing a quality program for boys year round. *It costs roughly \$150 to support one Scout in the program for a year.* We ask you to consider making a gift within this range. However, donations of any amount are greatly appreciated.

Some people choose to give needed program supplies in place of, or in addition to, money donations. Individuals may also designate their money gift if they choose. Below is a list of program supply items needed for the 2007 camping season.

The Friends of Scouting Campaign directly sustains the year-round activities of Northern Star Council, supporting more than 30,000 volunteer leaders who deliver a real Scouting program to more than 100,000 youth members. These Scouts need your assistance to help ensure that they receive an exceptional Scouting experience. Please consider making a gift to Scouting this year. You may mail a check to Northern Star Council at 393 Marshall Ave St. Paul, MN 55102. Please make checks payable to Northern Star Council. All contributions are tax deductible. Please call 651-254-9138 or send an e-mail to mmccabe@northernstarbsa.org if you have any questions. To follow the time line of the campaign we urge you to make a pledge by the end of April. A gift of any amount will be greatly appreciated! Your involvement on any scale is important. Thank you for your efforts and contributions.

Where there is a need, the TAA Service Committee is there

Work Party at TSR – Saturday, June 2, 2007.

Help the 2007 Tomahawk staff jump start their season! Typically, the OA organizes Scouts to come to camp the weekend before staff arrives for a "Service Weekend." During this Service Weekend, Scouts take care of projects that would otherwise detract the staff from the training and team building of staff week. This year the Ripley Rendezvous, which is a regional Scout event, conflicts with the Service Weekend, and is likely to minimize Scout involvement.

So we're pulling in the ringers!

We need Tomahawk alumni (that's you) to come to camp on Saturday, June 2 to help with pre-season service projects around the camp. That's not work, that's a work party! Camp Ranger Mike McKim has assured the TAA that only the most glamorous of projects will be set aside for TAA volunteers. Projects available will be varied and are likely to include finishing remodeling of cabins, behind-the-scenes set-up, and some quality grunt work. A volunteer will be able to choose the project on which she or he works.

Sign up! This is a great way to have an active role at camp. If you haven't been there in a while, this is a good time to see what has changed and what is still familiar. Lodging can be available upon coordination with TAA board member Jim King and Reservation Director Mark McCabe. To get your name on the Work Party list and to hear more details, please contact Jim King at 218-663-7409 / jking@boreal.org. Thank you; your service will help this summer start smoothly.

Director's Report

Despite the desperate lack of snow this winter we finished another successful season of Snow Base. We ran 246 Scouts and 115 leaders through the Spearhead program, 191 Scouts and 95 leaders through Snow Huskies, and 33 Scouts and 25 leaders through the Dog Sledding, Biathlon, and Winter Camp School programs serving a grand total of 705 Scouts and Scouters. Thanks to the Gagner Winter Camp Fund we were able to purchase over \$20,000 in new equipment. We also started a new program called Spearhead Extreme where crews stayed outside 2 nights, used GPS units to find food caches, and participated in team building challenges to win bonuses. We ran the pilot program two weekends this year and are looking to expand it to every weekend next year. The program was designed with older Scouts in mind for a more physically challenging and different experience than they've had in the traditional Spearhead program.

We are currently busy interviewing and hiring this year's summer staff. With 170 positions to fill this year and hundreds of applicants it is a huge task but we will end up with another highly

qualified and outstanding staff to continue the tradition of excellence at Tomahawk Scout Reservation. We do still have some staff openings, all alumni should encourage quality individuals to apply to work at camp this summer.

We already have over 350 people registered to attend a new Navajo Webelos Outpost program at camp this summer. The Outpost is an additional overnight program engaging Webelos Scouts in activities that will prepare them to become Boy Scouts.

This year we have also started a new program called T-2 "The Tomahawk Challenge". It is a high adventure program intended for older Scouts not needing merit badges to spend their week at camp participating in high adventure program. Scouts will do high adventure during the day and spend their evenings with their troop. We are currently taking registrations for the program. We are attracting several Scouts who might not have returned to Tomahawk this summer.

The fourth annual alumni day will be held on Sunday July 29. All alumni are encouraged to stop out for the day to

renew friendships and see what's new at camp.

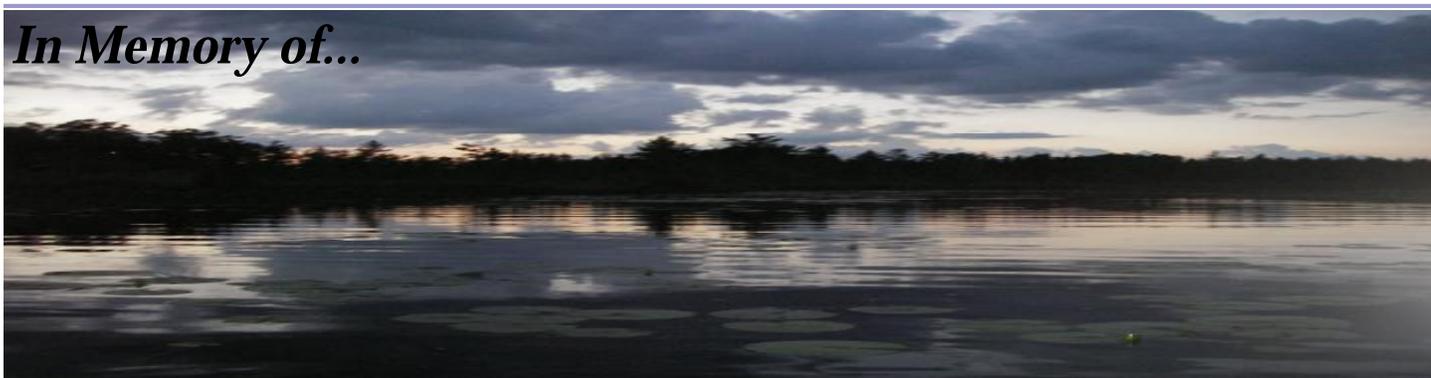
Thank you to all the alumni and friends of Tomahawk who have spent time volunteering to support the camp. A special thank you to Sherwood Pomeroy and Clyde Coulter for their work on property improvements including the renovation of Massasoit cabin. Other alumni are busy raising FOS dollars, helping with staff training, maintaining the alumni web site and database management. Thank you again!



New sled shoot added in 2006



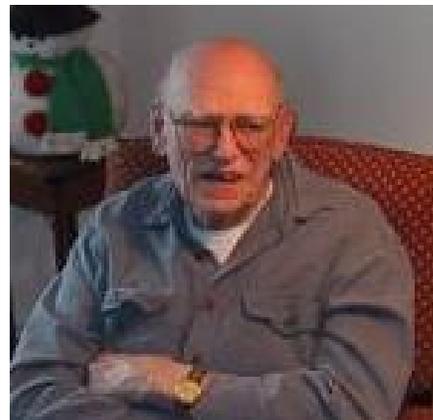
In Memory of...



Steve Matthews 1960 - 2007

The Tomahawk Alumni Association mourns the passing of Steve Matthews, former Director of Camping for Indianhead Council from 1986 - 1990, Tomahawk Camp Staff member from 1977 - 1990 and Reservation Director from 1988-1990. Through his camp leadership many innovations were put into place that continue today including the greatly expanded Scoutcraft areas/emphasis and the early introduction of C.O.P.E (challenging outdoor personal experience).

His laughter and sense of humor was infectious and his care and concern for others were trademarks of his life. An Eagle Scout from Troop 432 in Centerville, Steve continued his Scouting involvement throughout his life, serving on regional camp inspection teams, participating in fundraising events, providing pro-bono professional services to the council and working with a local troop. Steve was principal of Superior Search, a very successful employment firm he founded with fellow camp staff member Rob Duncan. He was part of a strong Scouting family, with four of his brothers serving on Tomahawk camp staff as well. Steve will be greatly missed, but his impact on the lives of thousands of Scouts during his years at camp will continue as a legacy. A memorial fund has been established to honor Steve's service to camp and to Scouting. Contact Jeff Sulzbach for more details at 651-254-9150 or jsulzbach@northernstarbsa.org.



Rollie Bowler - Staff 1958-1961

Rollie Bowler died recently. He was a provisional Scoutmaster and program director at Tomahawk in the 50s and 60s. Known for his enthusiasm and charisma, he might be most remembered for handling the hose on top of the old red truck during fire drills. His family has said that his Scouting and camp memorabilia has been preserved and will be available for display.

If you have more information on Rollie Bowler, or other deceased staff members, please send it to Carol Forrest at cforrest@northernstarbsa.org and it will be used in a future newsletter or on the web site.



You will be missed...



Tomahawk Alumni Day and Sparkler –Scott Schuette VP & Social Committee Chair

I know that the snow has barely left the ground, but it's never too early to start thinking about Tomahawk Alumni Day. Alumni Day is a great way to relive your favorite camp experiences, see what's new at Tomahawk, and best of all reconnect with old friends. This year we have moved Alumni Day to a Sunday in hopes that more of you can attend and

bring your families with you. So mark Sunday, July 29 on your calendar and start making plans to get up to camp.

In addition to Alumni Day, we have decided to add something new for those of you who would like to give back to camp. We've added an alumni sparkler to the summer calendar, the Thursday before Alumni Day, July 27. It's a

chance for us to give back to camp by making the summer experience for current staff members even more memorable. Details on what the sparkler will be are still being worked out. If you would like to contribute your time, and or ideas to the sparkler or Alumni Day in general, please drop me a line at scott.schuette@comcast.net.



Register Now to be a Tomahawk Alumni Association Member!

 Tomahawk Alumni Association
393 Marshall Avenue
Saint Paul MN 55102-1717
651-224-1891
www.camptomahawk.org

Phone Numbers:

(H) _____

(W) _____

Years/Positions at TSR:

Years _____

Positions: _____

Name _____

Street: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Tomahawk Alumni Association
Membership Levels by calendar year

Annual Current Camp Staffer	\$5.00
Annual Member Dues	\$15.00
Lifetime Membership	\$150.00
Lifetime Membership with Jacket	\$175.00
My jacket size is _____	

Payment: \$ _____

Date: _____

I prefer to pay: Cash Check No. _____

Please make checks payable to:

Northern Star Council / BSA

Please charge my credit card:

Type of Card: MasterCard Visa

Account No. _____

Expires: Month ____/Year ____

Signature (Required): _____

Thank You for Supporting
Your Alumni Association!!



Mail to:

Tomahawk Alumni Association
Northern Star Council
393 Marshall Ave
St. Paul MN 55102-1717