



Tomahawk Alumni Association

Serving Past and Present Staff Members and Supporting Tomahawk Scout Reservation

Tomahawk Scout Reservation Gearing Up for Another Great Season!



It may be only the 57th year of Tomahawk Scout Reservation, but this year marks the 100th Anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America! The Tomahawk staff is hard work preparing to make this another great summer.

One of the major program features for this summer is that Lord Robert Baden-Powell and his First Scout have been hired onto the staff, allowing Scouts to participate on historic Scouting activities, learn about the origins of Scouting, and even earn one of the formerly discontinued merit badges that has been brought back by the BSA for this year only. While some

doubters will suggest that these two are actually character actors who used to work in Navajo, we can assure you, it really is Baden-Powell and the First Scout working at camp.

The celebration of the 100th Anniversary will only be heightened by a special Tomahawk patch celebrating 100 years, along with a plethora of special 100th Anniversary items for sale at the Trading Post.

Another very exciting aspect of Tomahawk 2010 is that Raven's Roost will be entering its second year of existence, run this year by former Sioux Camp Director Jeff Rosburg. Raven's Roost was an extremely popular and exciting program last summer, and you can be certain that the program is certain to mature and expand in exciting new directions. Between the Baden-Powell program and the Raven's Roost Outpost, the "human zoo" quality of camp will surely be at its peak.

Our High Adventure program is also being expanded, so that the week-long T-2 program will now contain a new option: Advanced Skills Expedition. We anticipate that many excited older Scouts will participate in this pilot program, as it will

focus on learning and developing skills in climbing, sailing, and kayaking, both on and off Tomahawk property.

While many exciting new programs are happening this summer, all the traditions and age-old programs will remain in tact. We will still be offering over 30 merit badges, putting on fantastic campfire program, and teaching all our campers about the Scouting spirit and the great outdoors.

The 2010 Tomahawk staff are eager to greet this years scouts and leaders to what may be the most exciting summer yet! They will be able to say they camped in the 100th year of scouting !

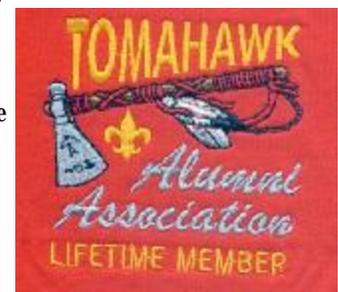
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Tomahawk Alums strongly support the Friends of Scouting Campaign

The council's annual fundraising drive, called the Friends of Scouting Campaign, provides resources that support the ongoing operations of the Scouting program. Each year these funds are used to train adult leaders, provide program materials for Scouts, support camping operations, and more. The Tomahawk alumni team has currently raised \$28,600 toward an overall \$32,500 goal. A special thank you goes out to Myron Jacobson, Scott Schuette, Kevin Balfanz, Craig Flor, and Steve Linder for their volunteer efforts in soliciting donations and working as a team to achieve the goal. Also thank you to all the TSR alums, friends of Tomahawk, and vendors who have contributed to the 2010 campaign. The Scouting program is stronger because of your investment.

Additional support is needed to achieve the overall goal. Donations of any amount are greatly appreciated and in-kind donations such as tools, trading post supplies, and other camp needs are welcomed as well. Please contact Mark McCabe at 651-254-9138 or mmccabe@nsbsa.org if you wish to contribute. Thank you!



TAA to Host Sparkler for Tomahawk 2010 Staff

Continuing a recently-begun tradition, the Tomahawk Alumni Association will be presenting another sparkler for the Tomahawk Staff. Sparklers are always highlights of the summer, offering an opportunity for staff from all the sub-camps and programs of Tomahawk to come together for laughs, food, and casual competition. The last several years have seen a Tomahawk Idol talent show and a Best Skit Competition.

President-Elect Scott Schuette has already begun preparing ideas for a 2010 sparkler, potentially named "Rock the Barn!" The event will likely be organized by a combination of TAA members and current camp staff, and talks are currently considering resurrecting the nearly-forgotten "Air Band" event, a sparkler which faded from existence after the demise of the Chippewa Beach Boat House. Last year, Scott did a dead-on impression of Chris Farley's Mick Foley, thoroughly entertaining all staff familiar with the SNL "In a van down by the river!" sketch.

While it will be some time before the sparkler—tentatively scheduled for the middle of July—one idea that seems very likely to happen is that the sparkler will take place in the newly-acquired pole barn at the north end of the peninsula (which may or may not be haunted.)

We would really like to have more alumni members present at this event. Any alumni interested in helping out and attending the event should contact Scott Schuette at scott.schuette@comcast.net.



Beautiful Lavine Cabin at Tomahawk Available for TAA Members

Tomahawk Alumni Association members last summer used Lavine Cabin as a way to visit Tomahawk and have fun with their family and it is available again in 2010. Once staff members have finished their 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 a beautiful cabin available for alumni members to use.

Lavine Cabin is tucked away on a hillside not far from the Central Administration Building, with views of and access to Long Lake. Sleeping space includes a full bed, one set of bunks, and a couch/futon. Amenities are simple but nice: basic kitchen facilities, bathroom, water and electricity, a dock on Long Lake, a grill, and the beauty of the north woods. Please join us with your significant other or a few of your alumni friends and see what is new and what traditions continue at TSR.



There is a nominal \$35 per night fee for the cabin. To make a reservation please email kburbank@northernstarbsa.org

Tomahawk welcomes you and the TAA wishes you a most agreeable stay!

Fun Had by All at Winter Gathering

Another great year was concluded with the annual celebration of camp and friendship: the Holiday Alumni Gathering, held this year at Chammps Americana in Maplewood. The event was once again a success, with around 140 people in attendance, many of whom are members of the Tomahawk Alumni Association.

Following tradition, the event began with a Board Meeting, run by President-Elect Scott Schuette. During this Board Meeting, Lars Loberg gave some positive membership statistics: the Association contains 4 three-year members, 10 annual members, 69 charter members, and 50 lifetime members. This is in addition to the 130 current staff members, who are all also official Association members.

The event was also marked by the ending of Bob Albright's term on the TAA board. In recognition of the time and effort made by Bob over the years, Scott presented him with *Honor Bright*, the book created by Northern Star in honor of the 100th anniversary.

As Bob's position on the board became available it was necessary to elect a new board member during the meeting. Former White Pine Camp Director Greg Rhode was nominated and elected to serve as a new board member.

Following the end of the meeting, the socializing continued for hours, as camp from every decade mingled and laughed together. All in all, the event was another joyous, classy celebration, as Tomahawk camp staff from the 50s to the present came together in the lower banquet room of Champps, in honor of the camp at which they all spent some of the best summers of their life.

Spotlight on TSR Alumni Who Are Busy Changing The World!

The following are spotlights on two busy, ambitious Tomahawk alums. We are in the process of trying to build up a collection of profiles and spotlights on the wide variety of Tomahawk alums who are out doing great things in the world, or who have already done some amazing things throughout their lives. All kinds of people have worked at Tomahawk, and we would like to use our Association—and in particular, our website—as a venue for showcasing the many careers, interests, goals, and talents held by our various alumni. No accomplishments are too big or too small to share with the Association.

Any dues-paid member of the TAA can be profiled on the website, or in the newsletter when room permits. If you would like to submit a profile to the Tomahawk Alumni Association, or at least some facts about yourself, please let us know.

Every member of the Tomahawk Alumni Association has a few accomplishments to their name worth taking pride in. Please share your achievements and ambitions with the rest of us!

Greg Rohde grew up on a farm in North Dakota, where he began every morning eating a dozen raw eggs and wrestling oxen. Since then, he has had many adventures, but he says nothing compares to the five summers he spent at Tomahawk. He began his camp career working as White Pine Aquatics Director during 2000 and 2001, followed by White Pine Camp Director during the summers 2002 and 2003. He spent his last year on Reservation Staff, as Program Director in 2004.



While working at camp, Greg attended North Dakota State, where he studied Chemistry. After his last summer at Tomahawk, Greg moved to Bank, Oregon, where he worked as a middle and high school teacher, as well as a wrestling coach. In 2006, he moved to Eureka, California, where he continued to teach.

In 2007, Greg returned to Minnesota and obtained a Masters in Chemistry, studying molecules that are candidates for molecular memory storage devices to make RAM smaller in size, but able to store more data. As if that wasn't hard enough, he then started work on his PhD in Chemistry at University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, studying metals in biology and how we can apply them to problems we face.

Greg is known for saying, on a daily basis, "You can take Greg Rohde out of Tomahawk, but you can't take Tomahawk out of Greg Rohde." He enjoys cycling in all weather and at all times, so you never know when you may see Greg ride past. He is very, very proud and excited to be the newest member of the TAA Board.

Timothy E. B. Lovett is a fresh-faced young Alum, for whom 2010 is his first summer not on Tomahawk staff since he began there as a Counselor-in-Training in White Pine during the summer of 2003. Since that initial summer, Timothy spent two years as a Navajo Scoutcraft specialist, one year as a Chippewa Scoutcraft specialist, one year on COPE staff. His camp career then was nearly cut prematurely short, when he injured his back in a snowboarding accident in the mountains of Montana. However, after a quick surgery and several months of recovery, he appeared fit enough to return to camp, and he was able to return to Navajo to work as Scoutcraft Director in 2008, where he had the privilege of working for the best camp director ever. In 2009, Timothy returned to his roots, working as Assistant Camp Director and Head Commissioner in Chippewa, the camp where he had once camped as a young Scout.

Why, one might ask, has he chosen not to return to Tomahawk after such a great stretch of years? The reason is that he has been presented with a new opportunity, one which he could not pass up. In 2007, Timothy began studying Environmental Studies at Knox College. In February of 2010, he began a semester abroad, called "Documenting Change in the Caribbean." He spent six weeks in Woods Hole, Massachusetts, where he studied a variety of subjects, including Nautical Science, Maritime History and Culture, and Oceanography. He is currently sailing around the Caribbean on the S. S. Corwith Cramer, a 134-foot steel brigantine built as a research vessel for operation under sail. During his time on the boat, he will be visiting a variety of places, including stopping by Haiti to dropping off supplies he helped raise with his fellow students.



Upon returning to the Continental United States, Timothy will be spending the summer at Knox College, working on a research project for which he received a grant. The subject of the research involves the social construction of nature, and how American thought regarding prairies has shifted over time, from destruction to restoration.

Q & A with our TAA President: Myron Jacobson

Q: What years were you on Tomahawk staff and what positions did you hold?

A: *My first summer working at camp was in 1982 serving as a CIT and then later that summer I got hired as a camp painter. I went on to work at camp the summers of 1983 – 1990 and 1994 and 1995. Painter; Assistant Dining Hall Steward; General Store Operator; four years as a Commissioner in both Chippewa and Sioux Camps; Reservation Programs Director; Sioux Camp Director; Associate Reservation Director.*

Q: What was happening at Tomahawk during your tenure? What was new?

A: *As a painter I remember painting the then newly expanded kitchen and loading dock in Chippewa and the kitchen staff living quarters known as "skid row." Of course the camp's paint scheme then was a tan color called "Silenus Fawn." I also remember the short lived "computer camp" program in the early 80s. Even back then, we all knew its days were numbered. Before I left I saw the opening of both Navajo and White Pine Camps.*

Q: What was your most memorable experience?

A: *Cooking Demos. It was the program highlight of the week. Every Monday at 5pm the entire camp, staff and scouts, gathered in the Scoutcraft area for a cooking extravaganza. One of the most fundamental outdoor skills kids should learn at camp is outdoor cooking "You there! Boy on the street! What day is it?" Boy on the Street: "Day? Why its Cooking Demo Day sir." "Then I haven't missed it!"*

Q: How did your experience at Tomahawk affect your life?

A: *There is a well know book on leadership entitled "All I Really Need To Know I Learned In Kindergarten." Well, in my world the last line is "Camp." I'm not alone. I once had lunch with former Walt Disney CEO Michael Eisner. He commented that he had written two books. The first book is not surprisingly about his 22 year career as the head of Walt Disney Company. His second book is about his summers working on a camp staff, it's entitled simply "Camp." Nothing prepares you for the real world like working at camp.*

Q: What was your favorite place in camp?

A: *I think we all get imprinted when we work at Tomahawk., ask a former Chip Beach staffer his favorite place? Or a Sioux Ecology or Navajo Scoutcraft staffer his favorite? We all love where our memories are. My memories are in Chippewa and Sioux, and a couple of other places around Long Lake*

Q: When was your last visit to Tomahawk? What was different?

A: *I have been back to Tomahawk every summer since I first saw it as a Scout in 1978. So if you ask me when I was last there? I'll tell you last summer when the Berglund Welcome and Visitor's Center was dedicated. Every time I think the place has really changed I'm reminded that the trading posts still gets the horse ride tickets screwed up. The more things change, the more they stay the same.*

Q: What is your current occupation/affiliation with Scouting, etc?

A: *After leaving camp, I went on to work for many years in politics, including working as a staffer in the California legislature and the U.S. Congress. After leaving Capitol Hill, I became a lobbyist with a Washington-based lobbying & consulting firm. In 2002 my family and I returned to Minnesota, where I have been a stay-at-home dad ever since. Presently, I am a member of the Northern Star Council's President's Cabinet, a member of the Central Region's camp visitation team, and an Assistant Cub Master in my son's Cub Scout pack.*

Q: Which former staff members do you keep in touch with?

A: *Too many to count! I have several life long camp friends. And more and more are coming out of the woodwork on Face Book everyday. But there is a core group of us who go up to camp every summer since we stopped working there. We spend a lot of time on the lake. In fact, it was that group that was the driving force behind the creation of the Alumni Association.*

Q: Do you have any other comments you would like to add?

A: *Tomahawk has a special place in my life. The fact that my wife Catherine and I met while working there in 1984 may have something to do with that. We have an annual tradition of taking our kids family camping at Tomahawk every summer.*

