



Tomahawk Alumni Association

Serving Past and Present Staff Members and Supporting Tomahawk Scout Reservation

TSR Celebrates 100th Anniversary of BSA in Style

This summer Boy Scout camps across the county celebrated the 100th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America in a variety of ways. Some camp's hosted birthday parties, others held a special ceremony to honor the 100th but Tomahawk took the celebration further by creating an entire camp program dedicated to honoring the traditions of the organization and instilling lessons from the past 100 years.

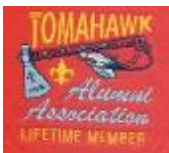


Lord Robert Baden-Powell, founder of the Scouting movement, and W.D. Bois the founder of the Boy Scouts of America joined the Tomahawk camp staff for the summer. David Lovett a tenured TSR staff member and former Navajo Camp Director played the part of Robert Baden-Powell. Nick Renckens a third year staff member played the role of W.D. Bois. The two taught tracking merit badge to Scouts which was a badge brought for the centennial year only. In addition to teaching tracking Baden-Powell and Bois participated in campfire ceremonies, taught Scouts lessons from the founding of the Scouting program and took Scouts on overnight camp outs in remote parts of the reservation where they camped out, cooked traditional meals, and performed plays per the original Scouting handbook for boys. Hundreds of Scouts participated in the Baden-Powell & Bois programs throughout the summer. The centennial program was often rated the top program each week at camp by Scouts and leaders.

President's Corner: TAA Membership -Now Online

Your membership matters! Once a year the Alumni Association reaches out to TSR alumni who are not yet association members by sending our newsletter to all alumni. Belonging to the TAA is the best way to stay connected to your camp and the staff you worked with while supporting Tomahawk and the campers and staffers of today. Through your membership you'll stay connected with the latest camp improvements and alumni news, receive invitations and updates about alumni service and social events, and know that your helping to continue the quality programs at Tomahawk. So, if you are a TSR alumnus who is not yet a member of the Alumni Association, or if you have let your membership lapse, I would like to personally invite you to join the TAA. You'll be glad you did. Remembering our past, maintaining our relationships, helping today's campers and staff, and being good stewards of Tomahawk's future are what were all about.

Dues fees provide the resources to keep past staff members connected to each other and to the camp but they also provide resources that can be used to support the Scouting program at Tomahawk providing a better experience for Scouts participating in the program. Dues and donations to the TAA have been used for the support of several things including funding for service projects at Tomahawk, building a new entrance sign, paying for current camp staff summer social events, and providing training resources for summer staff. Please visit our on-line membership registration site for an easy way to become a member today.



<http://events.SignUp4.net/TSRALumni>

If you have any questions about the association, contact Myron Jacobson at myron.jacobson@q.com.



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Thanks for a Super Service Weekend

We had a fantastic service weekend at Tomahawk last May! Many thanks to the TSR alumni, current camp staff members, and friends of Tomahawk who volunteered their time and talent during the service weekend. A special thanks to TAA board members Tyler McKean and Greg Rohde. They not only promoted this super service event, they coordinated projects through the camp ranger, staff and properties committee.



Some of the key projects that were completed include the construction of tent platforms in the new Red Pine campsite in White Pine camp . The new Chippewa Scoutcraft building and White Pine hay barn received a coat of paint . New uprights and ridgepoles for campsite equipment were constructed which saved the camp well over \$1,000 by crafting those ourselves instead of purchasing finished materials. Various scrap metal from around the camp was collected and recycled which will also bring a financial return to Tomahawk. The money from the scrap metal will be used for program equipment and building maintenance . The administration building was cleaned in preparation for Tomahawk to host the Long Lake Preservation Association's annual meeting during Memorial Day weekend . A planter was built around each of the campsite signs which better defines the traffic lanes for the new road in camp and beautifies the area . Hiking trail maintenance included clearing trees and removing debris . The trading posts were cleaned and program supply storage and inventory bays prepared for new shipments.

A quick head count during lunch revealed about 45 people, even though we had more people in and out throughout the weekend. At an average of six hours of work per person we accomplished at least **270 hours** worth of service, which is fantastic. That's about seven - 40 hour work weeks that our ranger staff would have had to fit into their schedule which would have been impossible

In addition there were several other projects, errands and tasks that everyone worked extremely hard on to achieve. Photos of the weekend are posted on the TAA web site at <http://alumni.camptomahawk.org/> under the "past events" section of the page. Thank you all for a super service weekend and I hope you and others can join us next spring. Tentatively planning on May 14, 2011 for the next service weekend. **Mark McCabe** -Tomahawk Director

2010 Tomahawk Staff Sparkler

On July 22 the Tomahawk camp staff enjoyed an evening of food, fellowship, and fun courtesy of the alumni association. Each year the alumni association hosts a staff sparkler, which is a social gathering for camp staff designed to boost morale and build relationships among the staff.



This summer the TAA sponsored an air band contest. Camp staff formed teams, selected a song or instrumental piece, and lip synced to the lyrics and instruments as they put on a performance. There were over 15 entries from staff across the reservation. Scott Schuette and Larry Moser attended the event on behalf of the TAA and brought sound equipment, lights, and music. Staff enjoyed an array of hors d'oeuvres, music, and performances throughout the evening. This was a great event and was well received by the staff. There are plans next summer to host the event again. TAA members are welcome and needed to attend and help put the event on. Please contact Scott Schuette at scott.schuette@comcast.net if you are interested in helping in the coming year, tentatively planned for July 28, 2011.

Alumni Holiday Gathering December

Our 2010 holiday gathering will enable us to connect with old friends, meet some current Tomahawk staff members and enjoy delicious appetizers, courtesy of the TAA.. We have reserved a newly remodeled banquet room at Champps Americana. A brief annual meeting of the association will include election of board officers. Spouses and significant others are invited to attend as well!

Driving directions from St Paul: I-35E N, Exit 110A toward Larpenteur Avenue. Turn left onto Larpenteur Ave E/CR30. Turn right on Adolphus Street and Champps is on the right. Approximately 4 miles from downtown St Paul.

RSVP by December 23 to Mark McCabe, Tomahawk Camp Director

mmccabe@nsbsa.org or 651-254-9138

Walk-ins are welcome but a head count in advance is appreciated.

Look forward to seeing you there!



Wednesday

December 29th

7:00 p.m.

Champps

Americana

(Lower level banquet room)

1734 Adolphus Street

Maplewood, MN 55117

651-487-5050

2010 TSR Summer Staff Cruising The Mississippi

On September 13th four staff members from Tomahawk Scout Reservation departed on a canoeing adventure of epic proportions. The crew set out to canoe the entire length of the Mississippi River. They put canoes in at the headwaters of the mighty Mississippi at Lake Itasca near Park Rapids, MN. For the next 10 weeks they will canoe south, passing through 10 states and traveling a total of approximately 2,320 miles eventually ending at the Gulf of Mexico.

The TAA is proud to announce they provided a \$500 challenge grant that was matched by several camp staff members and TAA members to provide the resources needed to make this trip a reality. The funding was received with much gratitude and appreciation from the four paddlers. You can follow their entire trip on Facebook by clicking on <http://www.facebook.com/pages/TSR-Mississippi-Expedition/143624069004759?ref=sgm> We wish them the best of luck and the best of adventures.



Davin Grapentine

Age: 28

Years on camp staff: 14

Current Position: Associate Reservation Director

Hometown: Maple, WI

Fun Facts: Davin's mom made the same trip roughly 35 years ago. When the camp season comes to a close, Davin heads to Salt lake City, Utah where he is a ski instructor.



Eric "Easy" Grapentine

Age: 25

Years on camp staff: 11

Current Position: Sioux Aquatics Director

Hometown: Maple, WI

Fun Facts: Brother to Davin. All 4 Grapentine boys are Eagle Scouts and have all worked on TSR Camp Staff at the same time. Eric spends the off season working at a diner in Salt Lake City, Utah.



Maggie Matthews

Age: 21 (will have her 22nd birthday during the trip)

Years on camp staff: 2

Current Position: White Pine Aquatics Director

Hometown: Palm Springs, CA Graduated UCLA.

Fun Fact: Maggie's dad and uncles all worked at Tomahawk Scout Reservation (TSR) when they were young adults. Maggie's uncle, Steve Matthews, was also the TSR Director for a few years. He has since passed away.



Brian "Swiffer" Halloran

Age: 22

Years on camp staff: 7

Current Position: Sioux Camp Director

Hometown: Belle Plaine, MN

Fun Facts: Swiffer is credited with the original idea to make the trip. He and Davin wanted to go on a "big adventure" and Swiffer said "what if we canoed the Mississippi? All of it." Brian recently graduated from the University of Minnesota and is a Director at Snow Base in the winter months.



Base Camp: A New Kind of Camp

Welcome to the Robert S. Davis Base Camp grand opening, a first-of-a-kind program center for the Boy Scouts of America. While camps are not unusual for Scouting, typically they are located in remote locations far from town. In this case, Base Camp is intentionally located right in the city.

Base Camp programs are designed to inspire interactive learning through a variety of educational experiences. Primary emphasis will be placed on outdoor/environmental learning, building leadership and team-building skills, and citizenship development.

Age-specific curriculum has been developed to support interactive learning experiences in these areas. It is expected that Base Camp will host thousands of school students who are seeking field trip opportunities and other learning experiences. Many schools are already familiar with Fort Snelling, one of the state's most popular field trip destinations where students learn about the region's early history.

Nights and weekends, Base Camp will serve Scouting by providing an indoor high ropes course, climbing walls, a space shuttle simulator (one of only 8 in the world), an amphitheatre, program spaces, and access to 14,000 acres of public lands along the Mississippi and Minnesota Rivers.

For more information regarding our newest Northern Star Council camp, please visit us at . . .



Million Dollar Day—December 8 & 9

Each year volunteers members of the TAA raise funds for the annual operation of the Scouting program through the Friends of Scouting campaign. The Northern Star Council is hosting free breakfast events on December 8 to December 9 to anyone interested in attending. The breakfasts will serve as a kick-off to the Friends of Scouting's Annual Giving Campaign. Guests will come together to hear about the incredible things Scouting has done locally, nationally and internationally during the past twelve months. Please consider joining us for one of these events and supporting the annual Friends of Scouting campaign. Donations received will help provide the resources to make Scouting a quality program for over 77,000 youth in our community.

St. Paul Leadership Breakfast
 Wednesday, December 8 -- 7:15 – 8:30 a.m.
 Crowne Plaza St. Paul--Riverfront

Bloomington Leadership Breakfast
 Thursday, December 9 -- 7:15 – 8:30 a.m.
 Sheraton Bloomington Hotel

Please register on-line at stpaulmdd@eventbrite.com or bloomingtonmdd@eventbrite.com based on the location you would like to attend. We look forward to seeing you there.

Snow Base Winter Camp At Tomahawk

Winter camping is an adventure. Scouts that participate stay active in the troop and build lifelong memories from their camping experiences. Both winter programs introduce Scouts to winter activities that can become lifelong hobbies. Reservations and information can be found on our website at:



www.NorthernStarBSA.org/Camping/BoyScouts.

Snow Huskies

- Program for youth under age 13
- Beginner level program to familiarize youth with proper dress, safety, and winter camping skills needed for overnight stays
- Trail meals and staff guide provided
- Activities outside during the day and the evening inside bunkhouse
- Cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, broomball, human foosball, winter nature, and ice climbing



Spearhead Full Service

- Program for youth over age 13
- Intermediate - advanced level program for youth with winter camping experience
- Trail meals and staff guide provided
- Activities outside and spend the night in either a quinze or parachute shelter
- XC skiing, snowshoeing, sled chute, power kiting, shelter construction