

November 2011

Volume 13



Tomahawk Alumni Association

Serving Past and Present Staff Members and Supporting Tomahawk Scout Reservation

Happy Holidays

Spend an Evening with Camp Staff Alumni

The annual Tomahawk Alumni Association holiday gathering will be held at Axel's Bonfire, in the Porch Room at 850 Grand Avenue in St. Paul starting at 7:00 p.m. on December 28, 2011. The Porch Room is located straight through the bar area. Two entrances into the Porch Room are located through the bar area and one to the right of the bar.

Everyone is welcome to an event that has become a tradition among Tomahawk staff persons in the Twin Cities area during the holiday season. Spouses and significant others are of course welcome as well. Hors d'oeuvres will be provided by the association and there will be a cash bar. There is a parking ramp, unfortunately they do not validate after 4:00 p.m. and free off street parking.

A short annual meeting will be held, election of 2012 officers and board members will take place and the association's financial status will be reviewed. But the event is mostly about renewing friendships and recalling summers at camp.

Axel's is on the corner of Victoria and Grand avenues; phone number there is 651-312-1299.



December 28 at 7:00 p.m.
Axel's Bonfire
850 Grand Avenue
St Paul, MN 55105

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Board Highlights

From the October 26 meeting at Northern Star Council's Base Camp

Website—a new website is online and will continue to be developed to serve TAA members and others interested in Tomahawk and our association. Its URL is <http://alumni.camptomahawk.org> or just google Tomahawk Alumni Association.

TAA award—a project to benefit Tomahawk was discussed. Based on a recommendation from 2011 staff members, it was decided that an award would be established in the name of the association to be presented annually to the most proficient instructor/teacher of Scout skills at camp. Details of how the person will be selected and then recognized will be announced online and in the next (April) newsletter.

Board elections—terms of the several board members expire in December; Myron Jacobson, Chris Lacher and Dale Martin; also, Scott Schuette is moving from the area and one vacancy. *Thank you to these folks for their excellent service!*

Nominated to replace them are Joe Filipas, Bill Dorgan, Matt Folsom, Carol Kelsey and Dave Albrecht. They will be presented to the association membership at the annual December meeting and party.

President—a change in the bylaws regarding the office of president was discussed. Current term is three years but to better accommodate persons filling the position and to allow more persons the opportunity to lead the board and association, it was decided that in the future a president-elect would be designated for a one-year term; this person would then serve as president for one year, and past president for a third year. Larry Moser has accepted nomination as president for 2012 so his position on the board must be filled as well.

Therefore, nominated to the 2012 board are Dave Albrecht, Bill Dorgan, Joe Filipas, Matt Folsom and Carol Kelsey. This slate will be presented to the association membership at the annual December meeting and party. Their brief bios begin on the center insert and continue on page 4.

Native People on Long Lake

This is the second in a series of stories about the history of Tomahawk Scout Reservation from prehistoric times through today. Much of the information is taken from the history exhibit in the camp's Berglund Welcome Center. Stories this month are about the Native American past of the camp's location on Long Lake.

The Anishinabe people (also called Ojibwe or less properly Chippewa) came from the east in the 1600s as part of a grand migration to avoid white settlers and because of conflicts with the Iroquois Confederacy. Their migratory flow was through Michigan and along both the north and south shores of Lake Superior. Those that went south pushed the Meskwaki into the lower part of Wisconsin in the 18th century and then drove the Dakota out of Wisconsin and much of Minnesota.

One of 14 major Ojibwe tribal subdivisions was given the name Ottawa Lake Men and lived at what today is Lac Courte Oreilles near Hayward, Wisconsin. A smaller group, known as the Rice Lake Band, had a village on the Long Lake peninsula at the southwest end of the lake. White people have successively called the peninsula Indian Point, Larson's Point and now Holy Island; its official name is Woodland Park. The village disappeared around 1892 and most of the remaining Rice Lake Band members moved to the reservation at Lac Courte Oreilles.

According to research done by the author of the Long Lake Improvement Association's 2009 calendar, the Ojibwe name for the lake was "gaa-ginooggamaag," meaning long lake. There are also stories that at one time it was called "makoons zaaga'igan" or Little Bear Lake.



Anishinabe Dwelling

Native American Lore

Long-Armed People

Lena Larson (nee Kjorstad), who in 1955 was the oldest living member of the first white family to live on Long Lake, told this fascinating story of a large race of people living near the lake before the Ojibwe came. They refused to fight or even use weapons to kill game, which they caught for food with their hands. During construction of a town road on the west side of the lake in the late 1800s, one of their burial mounds was found. In it were several corpses with forearms four inches longer than what would have been expected of an average person of the time.

The Old Woman of the Lake

In 1903 a Native American woman named Che-ma-get told this story to the editor of Washburn County's history books. A young native girl lived on the lakeshore with her father who loved her, and an evil old stepmother. While her father was away hunting the stepmother tried to kill her so she ran out onto the frozen lake and sought help from an ice fisherman. The man told her to crawl between his legs and then run around a point of land. When the stepmother arrived he told her the girl had crawled between his legs and run around the point, and that she should do the same. He had, however, moved and now sat over his ice hole into which he pushed the evil woman as she crawled. The girl was saved and she and the fisherman got married and lived happily ever after. But when you hear the winter sounds of Long Lake—strange rumbling and thumping—you should remember this: it is the old woman bumping her head against the underside of the ice as she tries to get out.

Waterway To Rice Lake and Beyond

The Ojibwe band at Long Lake also had a headquarters on Rice Lake in Barron County. The two lakes are connected by waterways, now named the Brill and Red Cedar rivers, which were used for travel between them.

Scouts interested in travel by water should know that from Tomahawk it is possible to get into a canoe and travel all the way to the Twin Cities. First head for the dam on Long Lake and follow the Native American path down the Brill and Red Cedar to Rice Lake. Then cross Rice Lake, portage around the dam (it won't be your last portage) and follow the Red Cedar through Menomonie and south until it joins the Chippewa River near Downsview, Wisconsin.

Take the Chippewa to where it flows into the Mississippi River at Lake Pepin. From there a strong paddle north will get you to Fort Snelling and the Northern Star Council's new Base Camp at the confluence of the Mississippi and Minnesota rivers. The journey is about 250 miles—not counting all the little unmapped twists and turns in the rivers.

2012 TAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS CANDIDATES

Dave Albrecht

Worked at camp 1958-61

Dave was a Scoutcraft instructor at camp—knots, lashings, and knife and axe sharpening—and also assistant provisional Scoutmaster. He lives in Lindstrom where he also grew up, was a member of Troop 159 and achieved Eagle rank. He has been a dentist there for 44 years and just retired. He skis in the winter and enjoys boats, cars and motorcycles in warm weather. Because of their big part in his formative years he wants to repay Scouting and Tomahawk by serving on the TAA board.

Dave's best memories of Tomahawk include gathering with Scoutmasters and other staff persons in the Program Room of the Service Building (Chippewa Dining Hall), with its moose and buffalo heads on the wall, to schedule troop activities for the week. He characterizes it as organized chaos, "day trading" on Wall Street that ended with everyone marching out fully scheduled to the strains of Don Kelsey's guitar. He says it was a "Norman Rockwell moment" for him every Sunday evening.

Bill Dorgan

Worked at camp 1960-62

Bill lives in Maplewood and grew up in the Macalester-Groveland neighborhood of St. Paul where he was an Eagle Scout as a member of Troop 238 at Randolph Heights School. He is a semi-retired educator and counselor in St. Paul and Minneapolis public schools and now substitute teaches in South Washington County and North St. Paul. His favorite things are playing with his grandchildren, traveling, golfing, playing bridge and going to meetings. He would like to help preserve the memory of the overall Tomahawk staff experience and support the success of its camping program by serving on the board.

Bill remembers the fire drills from his time at camp, with Rolly Bowler using the six-by-six truck, "in a determined effort to save Family Island from destruction." His best experience was working as provisional Scoutmaster, directing a program with an average of 50 Scouts each week who attended camp without their own leaders.

Matt Folsom

Worked at camp 1998, 2000-05, 2007

Matt grew up in Sartell and was a member of Troop 11 there. He now lives in St. Paul and works as a registered sales associate at USBancorp Investments. His favorite recreation is canoeing and camping in the boundary waters. He wants to serve on the TAA board because he feels it will be a great opportunity to help give back to the Tomahawk community by helping current staff persons and alumni in any way he can.

Matt says he will always treasure the wonderful times he spent working on the beaches during enjoyable summers with good camp friends. And he, too, has a milk memory.

"...we were trying to build our 4th of July float and we had run out of milk cartons, one of the most important building pieces! We all started drinking milk, and eventually the kids caught on to what we were doing and started as well. Everything was going great and we had huge stacks of empty milk cartons for our float until one kid walked over to the woods, doubled over and sprayed milk all over.

2012 TAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS CANDIDATES

Joe Filipas

Worked at camp 1998-2004

Joe lives in the Twin Cities and is a marketing manager at Celadon Systems, a technology company; he also has started his own business, Sugo Media, to provide advertising and consulting services to small businesses. He was a Scout in Apple Valley's Pack and Troop 293. He loves going to movies, concerts and the theater; in nice weather he hikes, bikes and runs; in not-so-nice weather he likes to cross country ski. Working at Tomahawk was one of the most enjoyable and meaningful experiences of his young adult life. He wants to serve on the TAA board because he considers it will be time well spent if he is able to help other young persons learn about themselves as campers or staff.

Joe remembers, "One summer the staff that ate at White Pine's Weekes dining shelter started challenging each other to races where we'd roll down a hill and then run to the flag pole at the far end of the field. One of the staff was challenged to drink a quart of milk before a race and after he reached the flag pole, he puked into the woods. The Scouts cheered like they were at the Super Bowl."

Carol Kelsey

Worked at camp 1961-62

Carol grew up on a northwest Minnesota farm in an area where there were no Scout troops; she was a 4-H Club member. She now lives in St. Paul's Como Park area. She was camp nurse at Tomahawk and recently retired from a "wonderful" career in health care. A RN, she also was director of education departments at Twin Cities hospitals and director of health care computer systems. She currently serves on the foundation board for the University of Minnesota school of nursing. Carol's favorite recreation is walking and she loves music and the arts. She hopes to support the women who are Tomahawk alumni while learning about and contributing to the work of the board.

Carol's best memory from Tomahawk is the proposal of marriage she received in 1962 from fellow staff person and husband Don Kelsey while in a canoe on Long Lake. She was inducted into a troop at camp and to prove it still has the neckerchief and slide she was presented. When she went to work she was told she would not need a Wisconsin nursing license to practice at Tomahawk because it is a Minnesota camp; later she had to pay for a Wisconsin license on the spot when the head of the Wisconsin board of nursing came with a local sheriff to arrest her! In 1961 she had a partner nurse but the next year she was all alone with 400 Scouts and their leaders.

She has sad memories of the explosion at the close of the season in 1962 that claimed the lives of two staff persons but also produced true leaders. There was still a physician in camp who helped look after the victims and assisted medical personnel from Rice Lake on one of Tomahawk's most traumatic nights. She and Don were married one week later.

Tomahawk Alums strongly support the Friends of Scouting Campaign

Please join us for an inspiring program to help kick off the 2012 Friends of Scouting fundraising campaign. The events held at two locations will include our annual stewardship report, outstanding scouting stories and special guest speakers. As well as the presentation of the Scoutmaster of Philanthropy award. The St. Paul breakfast will be held on Wednesday, December 7 from 7:15-8:30 a.m. at the Crowne Plaza, Riverfront (11 E. Kellogg Street, St. Paul). Nationally renowned comedian (and Eagle Scout) Stevie Ray will keynote the event, and the Scoutmaster of Philanthropy Award will be presented to past Council President Jon Theobald.

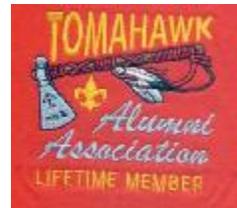
The Base Camp breakfast will take place the following morning, Thursday, December 8 from 7:15-8:30 a.m. at Robert S. Davis Base Camp (201 Bloomington Road, Fort Snelling). The event will feature Eric Magnuson, former Chief Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court as the keynote speaker. He was a Scout as a youth and was recently recognized with a 2011 Northern Star Council Spurgeon Award for his leadership and community involvement. The Scoutmaster of Philanthropy Award will be presented to long-time board member and Scouter David Carlsen.

Please email Mark McCabe at mmccabe@nsbsa.org as to which breakfast you would like to attend or to make a donation. Further questions can be directed to him as well 651-254-9138. We look forward to seeing you at one of our events.

Alumni Membership

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 along with the 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 laps, I would like to 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 submit your membership registration card below to become a member today.



<p>Tomahawk Alumni Association 393 Marshall Avenue Saint Paul MN 55102-1717 651-254-9138 (Fax) 763-231-7202 www.camptomahawk.org Phone: (H) _____ (W) _____ Years/Positions at TSR: Years: _____ Positions: _____ _____ Name: _____ Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Email: _____</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Tomahawk Alumni Association</p> <p>Membership Levels by calendar year</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Annual Current Camp Staffer</td> <td>FREE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Annual Member Dues</td> <td>\$15.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lifetime Membership</td> <td>\$150.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lifetime Membership with Jacket</td> <td>\$175.00</td> </tr> </table> <p>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 _____ Code: _____ Signature (Required): _____</p>	Annual Current Camp Staffer	FREE	Annual Member Dues	\$15.00	Lifetime Membership	\$150.00	Lifetime Membership with Jacket	\$175.00	<p style="text-align: center;">Thank You for Supporting Your Alumni Association</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Mail to: Northern Star Council 393 Marshall Ave St. Paul MN 55102-1717</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Or Fax to 763-231-7202</p>
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Directors Report

It has been an exciting year at Tomahawk, and we have our Alumni to thank. During last spring's TSR Alumni Association service day, we built the new Knapp-Stout Logging Camp, a bouldering wall near the mega tower and many other valuable projects around camp. The TAA hosted the Air Band, Staff Sparkler in July, featuring some great 80's tunes.

This past summer the addition of Geocaching merit badge and Physical Fitness merit badge added to the long list of Tomahawk offerings. We had a fun, exciting, and safe 2011 summer camping season at Tomahawk Scout Reservation! Next summer we plan to continue improving our programs to be one of the best.

We are looking into adding additional merit badges to include Chess and Photography. GPS units and other program equipment will be purchased to help accommodate the demand Scouts have for these popular badges. With the new Logging Camp program in place, it will continue to grow and improve with the goal of providing a unique experience, hands-on historical education, as well as fun activities and personal challenges.

Wind surfing will appear in our Sailing & Whitewater T-2 program, and more High Adventure activities to challenge older Scouts. Scouters will be kept informed with a redesigned website, and additional online notifications. Tomahawk continues to strive for new adventures to stay ahead of the curve and push the Scouting Program to new heights. We are looking forward to serving even more Scouts in 2012.

Again thank you for your many contributions to Tomahawk, the Scouting program has proven stronger through your attention and efforts!

Mark McCabe

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark McCabe".

Tomahawk Director