



Maine Summer Camps News

Real Kids. Real Camps. Real Maine!

Fall 2013

MSC Sponsors Gary Forster Camp Workshops--September 18

9 – 12 noon
For camp directors & staff

Coming Back and Bringing Their Friends – Gary Forster
-- A way to focus your marketing, program, and facility decisions to fill your camp

Many young camp directors watch “Mad Men” and think a magic slogan and a fancy toy will attract new campers out of thin air. The more humble camp leaders -- those of really successful camps -- know that only two things guarantee a full camp: high return rate, and great word-of-mouth. From visiting over 300 camps, Gary will share photos, stories, and data that can help us all bring more kids to our camps, and keep them coming back. Gary Forster is an ACA-NE member since 1984, a past ACA national board member, former head of camping for the YMCA of the USA, and now a consultant for church, Girl Scout, YMCA, and private camps across the country.



Gary Forster

9 - 12 noon
For Facilities managers: (runs simultaneous with “Coming Back & Bringing their Friends”)

Fall Protection - Acadia Insurance
Learn how to be safe while working on ladders, scaffolding, roofs and mechanical lift booms.

Technology in the Woods – Chris Wentworth, Wyonegonic Camps
Learn how to add secure Wi-Fi to your camp property with easy-to-use equipment. Also learn how to increase your cordless phone's range, add to existing phone systems, two way radios and DIY video systems.

12 noon LUNCH provided for all participants. Sponsored by KEY BANK.

1 -2:30 pm Collaborative workshop for Camp Directors, Staff & Facilities managers

How to Eat An Elephant - Camp facility priorities one bite at a time- Gary Forster

If you ever tell yourself “someday I’ll get caught up,” you haven’t worked at camp very long! Here are some of the most important (yet oh-so-common) facility and program concerns, and really clever ways that they’ve been solved by others. Yes, there will be a lot of laughing at others (because we’ve done it ourselves!) But most important is a way to set priorities that match those of your customers while improving communication between departments and creating better solutions.

Location: Acadia Insurance

One Acadia Commons
250 County Road Rt 22
Westbrook, Maine 04092

Fees for any or all sessions:

\$20 for 1st person
\$10 for each additional person from the same camp

Registration: www.maine camps.org or call 207-518-9557

*Something for Everyone:
Sessions for Camp Directors, Staff &
Facilities Managers*

Maine Summer Camps
Workshops &
Fall Board Meeting
Wed, September 18, 2013

Acadia Insurance
Westbrook, ME

9:00-12 noon Morning workshops
(running simultaneously)

12 noon Lunch, sponsored by Key Bank

1- 2:30 pm Afternoon Workshop

2:45- 4 pm - Board meeting
(for MSC board members)

Inside:

- Fritz Seving- Gulick Awardee pg 3
- Spotlight on Camp Netop pg 5
- Junior ME Guide Highlights pg 4

Presidents Column



Andy Lilienthal

Greetings to all and congratulations on what I hope was a wonderful and edifying summer. From where I write on the shores of Echo Lake, I hear the faint rustle of leaves, see the glistening sparkle of the late August sun on the lake while a dynamic silence permeates the air. A state so different than just a few weeks ago when camp was abuzz with action and energy. The campers and staff are gone now and when I walk the camp

grounds, I sense the echoes of laughter ricochet off of the trees as if the memories of the summer are not yet ready to depart completely.

The emptiness reminds me that physical camp is just the shell and it is the people that are the rich ingredients that make the recipe. They are what allows us to create the happiness, memories and change that we all hope for in the populations we serve.

Like ripples that spread their edge as they move outwards, the lessons, the deep friendships, and discoveries are some of the pieces of the iceberg that we work from each summer to edify those lucky enough to be at our camps. Of course, what we did, or tried to do this summer, has legs and will travel near and far and with much work and good planning it will happen again next cycle.

Until that next cycle, may you take at least a minute and hopefully many minutes, to account for all the great work you have done. Although many don't see, or can even imagine, what it takes to create the experience we have created this summer, I look forward to celebrating our work together on September 18 at our Fall Meeting and throughout the year to come.

With all best wishes,
Andy

President, Maine Summer Camps

Maine Summer Camps Board of Directors 2013-14

President: Andy Lilienthal, *Winnebago*
President Elect: Catriona Sangster, *Wawenock, Educ. Chair*
Secretary: Matt Pines, *Maine Teen Camp*
Treasurer: Fritz Seving, *Fernwood*

Erik Calhoun, *Agawam*
Judy Crosby, *Davinci Experience*
Rich Deering, *Birch Rock Camp for Boys*
Tom Doherty, *Camp Ketcha*
Mike Katz, *Camp Sunshine*
Nancy McCann, *Tripp Lake*
Spencer C. Ordway, *Winona - JMG Chair*
Anne Randall, *Pondicherry, Girl Scouts*
Jem Sollinger, *Laurel*
Nat Shed, *Friends Camp*
Robert Strauss, *Wigwam—Buying Group Chair*
Steven Sudduth, *Wyonegonic*
Lani Toscano
Lisa Tripler, *Kamp Kohut*
Mark Van Winkle, *Wohelo*

Appointed & Ex-Officio Members
Business Representatives:
Jim Chalmers, *Chalmers Insurance*
Susan Pope, *Key Bank*

Counsel - Jack Erler
Program Consultant - Mary Ellen Deschenes

Maine Youth Camp Association (MYCA) Board of Directors 2013-2014

President: Steven Sudduth, *Wyonegonic*
Vice President/Pres Elect: Peter Hirsch, *Androscoggin*
Vice President: Fritz Seving, *Fernwood*
Treasurer: Barry Costa, *State YMCA Camp*
Secretary: Tracy St. Onge, *The Summer Camp*
Stefan Jackson, *Winona*
Norm Thombs, *Mechuwana*
Quincy Van Winkle, *Wohelo*

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www.mainecamps.org
Submissions and articles welcome!

Legislative and Government Affairs

News from the Maine Youth Camp Association



MYCA Board Elections

At the July Annual Meeting, the following members were re-elected to the MYCA board:

- President Elect, Peter Hirsch, *Androscoggin*
- Secretary, Tracy St. Onge - *The Summer Camp*
- Vice President, Fritz Seving - *Fernwood*
- Board seat, Norm Thombs - *Mechuwana*
- Board seat, Quincy Van Winkle - *Wobelo*

Notes from the Legislative Session

Jack Erler reports there were a number of bills proposed that would have changed the relationship between income, sales

and property taxes. Without any benefit flowing to camps these bills reduced the income and property taxes. In exchange sales taxes would have been increased in rate and coverage. As in the past, the bills included a proposal to expand sales tax to include services. One of the categories, “amusement, entertainment and recreational” services, was not defined and thus would have included camp tuition. In addition, the current list of sales tax exemptions was to be eliminated. This would have resulted in a sales tax on meals served in camp. The good news is that none of these bills passed. The cautionary note is that the issue of broadening sales taxes and eliminating sales tax exemptions is NOT going away.

MYCA is the sister organization to Maine Summer Camps. It focuses on governmental relations for summer camps in Maine. It is a 501c4 non-profit. For more information on any items listed, contact MYCA at 207-518-9557.

Fritz Seving Honored with Halsey Gulick Award



Pam Cobb of Ranoia presented MSC's highest honor, the Halsey Gulick Award, to Fritz Seving, of Fernwood at the July MSC Annual Meeting

Maine Summer Camps is honored to pay tribute to Fritz Seving, owner/director of Camp Fernwood by awarding him the esteemed Halsey Gulick Award at the July Annual Meeting. In all of Fritz's endeavors, he has provided the leadership and wisdom to do what is best for Maine camps as a group. Maine camping is blessed to have Fritz's vision, support and dedication.

Following his years as a camper, his long and successful relationship with Camp Robin Hood in Sargeantville, ME began. From camper to staffer at age 15, with a one-summer hiatus from camp (“the most disappointing summer of his life!”), Fritz moved up the ranks to “director”, working at camp through his college summers and recruiting in the winter.

At age 25, he knew that camp would be a full time career, and he began sending out exploratory letters, one of which got to Macky King who was seeking an assistant director for Camp Fernwood. Kismet! It was quickly apparent that Macky, Fritz and Fernwood were a great match, and in 1989 his Fernwood career began.

Fritz soon helped Fernwood's enrollment to rebound. Happily, Macky would eventually sell the camp to the Fritz and his wife Christine in 2002,

but they welcomed her continued leadership role for many years. In 1998, happy with Fernwood's successful format, but seeing the changing trend for shorter session camps, Fritz and 2 partners founded Fernwood Cove on the former Camp Chickawah site in Harrison. Thus began Maine's first half-season traditional girls' camp. The Cove was later sold to Jim and Beigette Gill.

Fritz has been a catalyst for positive change and forward thinking in the Maine camp community for the past several decades. In the early 2000's Fritz stepped into leadership roles in the larger camp community. He served as President of the Maine Youth Camping Association (now Maine Summer Camps) from 2003-05 and now as Treasurer (since 2007). He launched several “big ideas” for Maine camps – the first was to spin off the lobbying & legislative functions into a sister organization, the Maine Youth Camp Association (MYCA). Fritz serves as an active member of the MYCA board as Vice President. He also inaugurated the special marketing effort from 2011- 2013, which created an enhanced website, web presence and branding for MSC.

Fritz has served on the board of the Association of Independent Camps and is a founding member of the Maine Camp Experience group.

For full citation of Fritz's award, please visit: <http://mainecamps.org/files/2010/04/2013-Gulick-Book.pdf>

Junior Maine Guide Test Camp 2013

Steven Phillips Preserve
Oquossoc, ME
July 22 -26, 2013

Participating Camps

Arcadia
Birch Rock
Bryant Pond
Kawanhee
O-AT-KA
Runoia
Winona
Wyonegonic



2013 Staff

Moose Curtis, Director
K Bolduc
Katie Curtis
Ron Fournier
Ginny Geyer
Marie Keane
Bruce McDonald
Lynn O'Donnell
Bill Southwick
Gard Thompson



*Clockwise from top left:
Shelter Test, Topographic Map Test, Bryant Pond Test Candidates, Wet Day Fire Test*

- 22 out of 24 second year candidates passed
- 16 out of 49 first year candidates passed
- Total: 38 out of 73 candidates passed, a 52% passing rate.



JMG Staff: from left, Gard Thompson, Ron Fournier, Bill Southwick, Marie Keane, Lynn O'Donnell, Moose Curtis, K Bolduc. Kneeling from left, Katie Curtis, Ginny Geyer

Highlights of Test Camp 2013

- CMP installed two phone poles to replace a tree that went down in a storm-- the tree was an integral part of the tarp system for the tester's area
- Scott Upham donated a picnic table
- Bill Mace, Reidfield, donated dry firewood
- Camp Winona donated use of a truck for the week for water runs
- Camp O-AT-KA donated canoes for the week.

Evening speakers:

- Nathan Kay, Operations Forester
- Tom Hyatt, Border Patrol Pipes & Drums Team
- Brett Damm, Registered Maine Guide
- Don and Stephanie Palmer, Rangeley Outdoor Sporting Heritage Museum

Spotlight:

Netop Summer Camp



For a wagon wheel to turn smoothly, each spoke must be strong and balanced. At Netop, this metaphor has served as the basis of the camp's philosophy since its beginning in 1956. Netop campers set goals in each of four "spokes", or areas of life: mental, social, physical and spiritual. The simple self-improvement philosophy helps boys (ages 8-15) develop skills and habits that will lead to a well-balanced and satisfying life.

The history of Netop (pronounced nee-tope; a Native American word for "friend") spans two distinct eras. From 1956-1987, Netop was run by the Truscott and Webster families. Most of the campers were from either the Philadelphia or Boston areas, respective homes of the original two owners. One of the Philadelphia campers, Steve Hallowell, began a 10-year stretch at Netop in 1968, six years as a camper and four years on the staff. That experience had a profoundly positive impact on Steve's life, which would become even more evident almost four decades later.

Sadly, the first era of Netop ended when the owners retired in 1987. During a 20-year period from 1987-2006, Netop was a private residence with just a few cottage rentals during the summer. Other than the main Lodge, most of the camp facilities were either sold or grown over.

In 2004, Steve Hallowell decided to leave his corporate career and pursue a re-birth of Netop. After scouring old camp rosters and tracking people down, a large alumni reunion was organized for the summer of 2005 at the old camp property. During that weekend, Steve shared his vision to re-open Netop in 2006. Enthusiasm and momentum began to mount.

After much re-building, a total of 38 campers attended two mini sessions in 2006, with just 20-25 campers per session. Despite the low numbers, it felt like Netop again! With 8 successive seasons of growth, Netop is now a 6-week season topping out at 100 campers at a time. Our plan is to continue growing gradually to around 125 campers per session. Geographically, Netop draws from 20 different states and several countries.

Throughout its evolution, Netop has remained a rustic style camp. Currently, 23 platform tents are nestled within the pine grove. The camp property is set on 100 acres in Casco and situated on private Dumpling Pond (which the camp has always called "Birch Pond"). The main Lodge was built in 1927 as the Crescent Lake Dance Pavilion. It was known locally as a classy place to dance and socialize. Much of the interior of the Lodge remains unchanged from its early days as a boys' camp.

In keeping with Netop's well-rounded philosophy, the program offers a balanced array of experiences, including sports, lake activities, arts and crafts, rock music and wilderness trip camping. Netop enjoys a wide variety of inter-camp events, including its annual ping pong tournament and socials with the girls at Camp Arcadia. Many of the old traditions remain, such as Saturday night campfires, Netop Sundaes (a prized

award), tribal games, Klondike Day (a variation on the game of Monopoly) and hikes up neighboring Rattlesnake Mountain.

It is rewarding to see the old Netop come back to life and exciting to blend it with the new Netop. Most importantly, we are thrilled to offer the same growth experience that was so valuable to a 10-year old camper in 1968 that four decades later propelled him to re-establish the camp. The emphasis on friendship and a "four spokes" way of life is one that will hopefully continue for many new generations of future Netop campers.



Passages

Garth Nelson



Garth Robert Nelson passed away unexpectedly in July in Hanover, MA. Garth was the former director of Camp Agawam, a position he held for 25 years. Garth's achievement in the field of camping was honored by Maine Summer Camps with the Halsey Gulick Award in 2011.

Garth was a past board member and Treasurer of ME Summer Camps and a past chair of the JMG committee during a time of transition. He spent

32 seasons as the girls' varsity soccer coach at Hanover High School, earning two state championships and numerous other titles. Garth was exceptional in his roles as steady and loving husband, amazing dad, wonderful Gramps, best friend, and devoted coach and counselor. Guiding kids and celebrating their successes, big and small, was the joy of his life! Donations can be made to: The Main Idea at Camp Agawam/Agawam Council, (ref. Garth Nelson/Main Idea), 54 Agawam Road, Raymond ME 04071

Camp Staff Trainings



Director's Camp 2013

September 27 –29, 2013

Camp Belknap, Lake Winnepesaukee, NH

Registration: directorscamp.com

Facilitators:

Scott Arizala □ Steve Maguire □ Christopher Thurber, PhD

Enrollment is limited to a select group of directors who can commit to an electronics hiatus and immerse themselves in a supportive and challenging experience. By engaging in diverse educational activities, participants will re-ignite their professional passions, stimulate thinking and uncover new skills.

Norway Savings/Camp Spelling Bee 2013



West End House campers with First Place Team Award

On July 17, eighty five (85) camp spellers gathered for the 9th Annual Spelling Bee, sponsored by Norway Savings Bank. Team winners for ages 12 and Under was West End House Camp, runner up was Camp O-AT-KA. Claire MacDonald of Arcadia took first place for individual category.

For ages 13-15 Years, Wigwam was the winning team, runner up team was Tripp Lake. Arcadia again took individual first place with Emily Lencyk. Tricky words this year included *warranty*, *magnificent*, *liaison*, *vacuum*, *counsel*, *discernible*, *geisha*, & *gnarled*. Thanks to Bobby Strauss for again spearheading the Bee!

Elections & Awards at Camp Cedar

The MSC board said farewell and thank you to Garth Altenburg (*Chewonki*) who ended his 2-term presidency at the July Annual Meeting held at Camp Cedar. Garth received a memento for his service from incoming President Andy Lilienthal of Wivenago. Also elected were VP/President Elect Catriona Sangster (*Wavenock*), Secretary Matt Pines (*ME Teen Camp*), and Immediate Past President Garth Altenburg. Board members renewing 3 year terms are Mark Van Winkle (*Wobelo*), Mike Katz (*Sunshine*), Tom Doherty (*Ketcha*), Nat Shed (*Friends*) and Rich Deering (*Birch Rock*).

Fritz Seving (*Fernwood*) was awarded the Halsey Gulick award, see story on page 3.



Outgoing President Garth Altenburg, left and new President Andy Lilienthal, right.



February

02
14

REACH MORE THAN 400,000 READERS WHO ARE READY TO ACT-NOW!

Reach the parents and grandparents who know the value of sending kids to camp in Maine!

Maine is a camping paradise – from camps for kids to extreme camping adventures for adults to rustic cottages and RV parks. Our February issue will feature a special section dedicated to camps – like yours – in Maine.



Book Space	Materials Due	Mail Date	On Display
12/10/2013	12/13/2013	1/10/2014	1/28/2014

Special Pricing in Camping Section (limited availability)

“ We welcomed over 1,900 more visitors ... confirmation of Down East’s reach and pulling power.”

Thomas B. Johnson,
Director, Victoria Mansion



Full Page..... \$2,320
 Half Horizontal.....\$1,160
 Quarter Page Vertical.....\$580

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September 18, Workshops with Gary Forster, Acadia Insurance, Westbrook, ME.

Calendar of Events

Save the Date!

September 18, 2013 Wednesday

Fall Board Meeting & Fellowship. Workshops with Gary Forster. 9 am - 2:30 pm Acadia Insurance. Westbrook, ME

October 4, 2013 Friday

ACA/NE Fall Seminar – Steve Cony, Marketing Guru. Brooks School, N Andover, MA (781) 541-6080

January 14, 2014 Tuesday

Business Member Networking Event & Winter Board Meeting & Fellowship. Location TBA.

February 5-8

ACA National Conference, Orlando, FL

March 29, 2014 Saturday

At ACA New England Conference: Semi Annual Membership Meeting, MSC & MYCA. Manchester NH

April/May - Quarterly MSC Meetings. Details TBA.

Summer 2014 - MSC/MYCA Annual Meetings. Details TBA.

July 21-25, 2014 Monday - Friday

Junior Maine Guide Test Camp, Oquossoc, ME

Welcome

New Business Members

Casella Organics Contact: Chris Bales, 135 Presumpscot St., Portland, ME 04103. Email: chris.bales@casella.com. (888) 472-9471 or (207) 650-7021. *Maine Made Products for Camp Landscaping, Trails, and Paths Since 1983.*

CIEE Contact: Katie Harrigan, 300 Fore St., Portland, ME 04101. Email: kharrigan@cicee.org. (207) 553-4011. *The leading sponsor for cultural exchange programs in the US.*

Kinsey's Inc. Contact: Gene Lagomarsino, 1660 Steel Way, Mount Joy, PA 17552. Email: glagomarsino@kinseyarchery.com (717) 653-9074, ext. 3056. *Leading archery distributor, carrying more than 14,000 products from 400 vendors.*

Sebago Sailing, Inc. Contact: Maura Mulcahy. Bridgton, ME. 207-647-4400 Email: info@sebagosailing.com. *Sailing lessons, sailboat tours & cruises on Sebago Lake or Long Lake. Small boat rentals. Sales: Sunfish and Optis, equipment and repairs.*