



# The 2011 Halsey Gulick Award

*Presented to*

## **Garth R. Nelson**

Garth Nelson is one of those people who just seemed destined to be a camp director. He was the director at Camp Agawam from 1986 until 2008, but he arrived at Agawam with 25 years of camp experience already under his belt. He began his career as a camper at Camp Wyanoke in Wolfeboro, NH. After a distinguished camper career Garth continued on the staff for many summers as a counselor, trip director, and waterfront director. Later he took a position as associate director, and then director, of Camp Passumpic in Vermont for 5 years. At Passumpic he stepped into the unfortunate situation of a camp in great decline. Through his efforts during his tenure, enrollment went from 40 to 140 and he was able to put the camp back on sound financial footing.

In 1984 Dave Mason, the long-time owner and director of Camp Agawam, decided to retire. It was a pivotal point in the history of Agawam as Dave opted to turn Agawam over to a group of Alumni who formed a non-profit organization. Their first task was to hire a new director. Garth was not the “safe” choice as he did not, like most other candidates, come with an “Agawam pedigree.” But, in fact, he was the *perfect* choice. During 22 years under his steady leadership, Agawam has thrived and grown. He has been able to walk the fine line of honoring long-standing camp traditions while adding his own touch and making sure that Agawam was progressive in its approach to the development of boys.

During his years at Agawam, Garth became active in the Maine Youth Camping Association (now The Maine Youth Camping Foundation), and served on the MYCA board from 1986-1993. He was treasurer from 1989-1992, and during this service he was instrumental in creating the first investment endeavor for MYCA funds.

Garth chaired the Junior Maine Guide Committee from 1986 to 1991, and during that time, shepherded through a new curriculum and teaching guide that was widely distributed to encourage more camp participation. One feature of the new curriculum was to bring JMG teaching into line with newer concepts of wilderness living such as low impact camping. The program also was redesigned to be more of a feeder program into Trip Leader credentialing. He created a standing Junior Maine Guide Committee on the board, which continues to operate today. One of Garth’s challenges during that committee chairmanship was the loss of Moose Curtis as JMG Director for several summers. Garth undertook providing leadership and instructors for JMG during several difficult summers before Moose returned to run the program. Regionally, Garth served a term on the ACA New England board and on the Steering Committee for the ACA/NE conference.

In addition to being a camp director, Garth is the long-time girls’ soccer coach at Hanover High School in Hanover, MA. During his years as coach he essentially built a winning program from the ground up. His teams have won many conference titles, several state titles and have sent players to Division I programs. Perhaps most important is the impact he has had on the many girls who have come through his soccer program. Garth is also an avid hiker and has climbed Mt. Washington 100 times!

After retiring the directorship of Agawam in 2008, Garth remained with the organization as the Director of Board Operations and Consultant to the director until his full retirement in the fall of 2010. He remains involved in Maine camps through his continued commitment as an ACA visitor. In the end, his impact at Camp Agawam can be measured by the quality of programming under his watch and the many boys and young men that he positively influenced during his tenure. His impact on Maine camping is measured by the high quality of his volunteer leadership in the Maine Youth Camping Foundation.

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***Presented by the Maine Youth Camping Foundation***

# Past Recipients of the Halsey Gulick Award

*For distinguished service to the organized youth camping movement in Maine*

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## **Pamela Cobb Heuberger – Camp Runoia – 2010**

After growing up as a camp kid, Pam headed out on her own to pursue other interests and an MBA, but returned in 1990 to run Camp Runoia as the 4<sup>th</sup> generation of family directors. Changes she made insured the camp's financial stability. Pam's involvement in Camp Runoia accompanied a growing involvement in MYCA and New England ACA. As president of each organization, she brought vision and leadership to both. Pam also branched out into National ACA service as an ACA board member, Council Delegate and Ambassador. Pam is respected nationally and is a strong voice for New England camps. She is a licensed pilot, scuba diver, avid skier and sailor.

## **Georgia Koch - Camp Bishopswood - 2009**

For a woman who has dedicated nearly her entire adult life to youth camping, it is an interesting footnote that she never went to camp as a child. Georgia graduated from Florida State with a BA in Recreation; she moved to New England at the age of 26 was hired by Camp Bishopswood as Camp Director, a role she still holds. During her tenure she has reached out to groups with special concerns, hosting deaf & hearing impaired campers at Bishopswood, inner city Atlanta kids to NE camps, and hosting Camp Chrysalis, one of the first camp programs for AIDS victims & their families. Georgia is a founding board member of the original MYCA. She is a veteran ACA Accreditation Visitor and has mentored many camp directors. Georgia's empathy and caring aren't just part of her camp life, she has a history of going out of her way to help others without good support systems through terminal illness and other serious problems.

## **Robert Strauss - Camp Wigwam - 2008**

Bobby began his camping career at 12 when his parents Helen & Ned purchased Camp Wigwam. Like most camp kids he served every role imaginable at Wigwam. He graduated from Lake Forest College (Illinois) and earned his Masters in Sociology from Florida Atlantic University. In the late 70's he returned to camp taking over as Director from his parents. From 1993 to present he has been active on the MYCF board, serving as President from 2005-07. He started the MYCF buying group and the Annual Spelling bee. He hosts two post season camps: Camp to Belong - a camp to reunite siblings in foster care, and a camp for developmentally delayed and disabled adults & children from the Chicago area.

## **Steven Sudduth - Wyonegonic Camps - 2007**

Steve's camp career started at the ripe old age of 16 months. Forty years later he is co-directing Wyonegonic with his mother, Carol Sudduth. As a young man he attended Camp Winona for ten years as a camper and staff member. He graduated from the University of Vermont. After college he worked in hotel management in Colorado. Upon the death of his father, Steve stepped into the family girls' camp business. From 1999 to present he has been active on the MYCA board serving as Legislative Chair. He is chair of the Legislative Priorities Committee for ACA-NE. He serves on the ACA National Public Policy Committee. He was the recipient of the ACA National Service Award in 2006.

## **Phil Lilienthal - Winnebago - 2006**

Phil began life in camping nearly at birth. His father, Howard, became owner-director of Winnebago in 1956. After college Phil entered the Peace Corps with wife Lynn and founded Camp Langano in Ethiopia in 1965. The camp operated until

1974. Following Howard's death, Phil returned to assume directorship of Winnebago. In 2003, after son Andy took over as director of Winnebago, Phil resumed his international calling by founding World Camps, Inc. and runs a camp in Africa for children affected by the HIV/Aids crisis

## **Dave Mason - Camp Agawam - 2005**

Dave was Director of Camp Agawam from 1955 to 1985. His father, Appleton Mason, founded the camp in 1919. One of Dave's visions was to provide local Maine boys with the benefits of a camp experience. In 1971 he and his wife Peg established the Main Idea, a free week of residential camping for disadvantaged Maine boys. The program was awarded the national Eleanor P. Eells Award for Program Excellence in 2005.

## **Jay Stager – Med-O-Lark - 2004**

Jay's passion has been to revitalize Maine camps that were falling on hard times. Camps benefitting from his involvement include Nashoba North, Hidden Valley, Maine Teen Camp and WorldPeace Camp (later called Omni). Jay offered an alternative camp experience at Med-O-Lark in 1967 when he opened a coed camp that banned color wars, guns, archery, uniforms, junk food, and strict regimentation. Med-O-Lark was an instant success and has continued to evolve as a child-centered camp ever since.

## **Ed Trenner – Kamp Kohut – 2004**

After service in World War II as a decorated pilot, and college, Ed began a camp career that took him from New York to Maine. He purchased Kamp Kohut in Maine. He is most proud of mentoring new camp leadership and of his efforts to "rescue" several Maine camps. Camp Vega, Camp Waziyatah, Camp Laurel & Laurel South have historical ties to Ed. He has been active in MYCA and National ACA, and helped establish the first ACA Standards Program.

## **Pat Smith - Camp Wawenock – 2003**

Since 1968, Patricia A. Smith, CCD has been with Wawenock and has been a director for the past 15 years. Pat's lifetime commitment to quality camping includes planning seminars and trainings for MYCA and ACA-New England Section conferences. She has been a trainer for Red Cross Water Safety, Life Guard Instructor, ACA Standards visitor, member of the ACA-New England Section Standards Committee for 12 years and was the MYCA membership chair for 13 years. Pat also is an active volunteer in local recreation programming for children in Raymond.

## **Dick Thomas - Camp Chewonki - 2002**

Dick's camping experience at Camp Chewonki in 1970 evolved after college to Development Director and later Camp Director. He has been an active member of MYCA's Board of Directors and was President from 1997-99. He initiated a major strategic planning process to set the course for the future of MYCA. Dick has held numerous committee posts with ACA, New England as well as serving as a standards visitor and ACA delegate. He was presented the 2002 ACA NE Section Service Award at the ACA New England Spring Conference.

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## Recipients of the Halsey Gulick Award

### **Betty Cobb – *Runoia* – 2001 \***

Betty began her camping career at the ripe old age of eight - and never missed a summer except during WWII. Betty and husband Phil purchased Camp Runoia in 1960. She was involved with MYCA and ACA as a board member and chaired ACA's Membership Committee for New England ACA for years. She received the ACA Section Honor Award, and National ACA's Regional Recognition Award. Betty was one of the original members of the State Trip Leaders and Junior Maine Guide Advisory Board. Betty passed away in 2003.

### **Ed Andrews - *MYCA Consultant* -2000**

Ed was Assistant National Director of the American Camping Association (ACA). He served on the National Board and National Standards Board of the ACA and the Board of both ACA-NE and as Treasurer of MYCA. He was also the Director of Cooperative Education at the University of Maine. As consultant to the MYCA for over 13 years, he was responsible for the oversight of the Camping Services Project at the University of Maine. Ed Andrews is an advocate for Maine children's camps worldwide.

### **June Gray - *Camp Wawenock* – 1999**

June Gray has been an education “guru,” with a primary focus on training staff and challenging all of us to expand our notion of what camp can be and do in today’s society. She has been part of the leadership team at Camp Wawenock, a camp for girls in Raymond, for over 40 years. She began as a staff member and now is the owner/director. June has served many years on the boards of MYCA, and ACA New England. She also served on the Editorial Board for the ACA’s Camping Magazine for many years.

### **Tim Wilson - *Seeds of Peace* – 1999**

Tim Wilson’s career in camping began back in 1960, as a counselor at Camp Powhatan. Since then Tim has served as Maine’s First Commissioner on Human Relations in 1970, the headmaster of the Hyde School, and also a teacher in Pittsburgh in the 1980’s. Tim was the co-director in 1993 at Powhatan, and later the director of the Seeds of Peace camp in Otisfield. Through a carefully crafted program, Arab and Israeli teenagers are taught to put away prejudice and anger and to learn to live together. Tim’s spirit is an indispensable part of the camp.

### **Bruce A. Chalmers – 1997**

President of Chalmers Real Estate and Insurance and a business member of MYCA for many years. His involvement with a multitude of political activities allows Bruce to be on a first name basis with the former Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell, and former Secretary of Defense, Bill Cohen. He never hesitates to bring the needs of Maine’s children’s camps to the attention of his many friends in public service. Bruce’s presence as an advisor and friend has been reassuring to camp directors under immense stress during times of disaster. We are fortunate to have had Bruce’s involvement for over four decades.

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### **John Paul Erler – 1996**

Licensed pilot, farmer, woodsman, skier, father, camp co-director, and currently counsel at Curtis Thaxter Stevens Broder & Micoleau LLC, Jack Erler is Maine's most senior camp counselor. Jack is a vigilant watchdog over legislative incursions that may harm or benefit the camping community. He has positively and constructively drafted and submitted beneficial alternatives to destructive proceedings in Augusta. Jack answers phone calls from directors, soothing ruffled feathers, counseling patience and cooperation instead of confrontation, and reassuring us that a competent, successful attorney is on the side of Maine's children's camps.

### **Davis and Louise Gulick Van Winkle *Wohelo - Luther Gulick Camps* – 1995**

Directors of Wohelo, the Luther Gulick Camps, Davis and Louise have always been the silent leaders and “doers” for Maine camps. Louise was secretary of the New England Camping Association at an early age, and Davis has served as President of the Maine Youth Camping Association. They have chaired the New England ACA Camping Conference on more than one occasion. Since 1989, they have edited and published the Maine Directory of Children's Organized Camps. They have hosted MYCA Board and Fellowship Meetings many times.

### **Joel W. Bloom - *Camp Powhatan* – 1994 \***

Joel held many local and national leadership roles including President of the New England Camping Association, the Maine Camp Directors Association and Vice President of the American Camping Association. Joel has worked to encourage the camping community to support multi-cultural programs and make camping available to all children. He was instrumental in the creation of the Susan Curtis Foundation, and in 1993, brought the "Seeds of Peace" program to Maine where children from the Middle East camp together to increase the understanding that leads to peace among people. Joel passed away in 2009.

### **Carol S. Sudduth - *Wyonegonic* – 1993**

Carol Sudduth served many years on the board of the Maine Camp Director's Association, and was Vice President when it became MYCA. She was instrumental in charting a new course for MYCA after studying the needs of Maine camps. Carol served on the ACA New England board for 10 years and is a past President. She also served on the National ACA board, was Dean of four Camp Director Institutes, and also served on the National Certification Board.

### **Jean G. McMullan - *Alford Lake* – 1992**

As director of Alford Lake Camp in Union, Maine, Jean invited Samantha Smith to take greetings from Maine camps on her history making trip that included visits to camps in the former Soviet Union, thus beginning an incredible increase in the worldwide exchange of campers. Jean has been National President of the American Camping Association but her first love is Maine camps and she has given extensively of her time, energy, and resources collectively and individually to help Maine camp directors succeed.



## Recipients of the Halsey Gulick Award

### **Helen Herz Cohen - *Walden* – 1991 \***

Helen Cohen created the "Main Idea" as a post-season ten-day camp for inner city girls. Contributions cover part of the cost of the program, but Helen never allowed lack of funds to prevent any child from attending. She often opened her camp to the local community and encouraged and provided support to other Maine camp directors who needed assistance. Helen died in 2006.

### **John "Moose" Curtis - *Winona* – 1989**

Moose Curtis, while a counselor at Camp Winona, worked closely with Bob Whiting on the development of the Junior Maine Guide Program. He began directing the testing encampment in 1977 and has continued ever since. Asked by the Governor to help set up the Trip Leaders Safety Certification Program, Moose sat on the original board and served as chair during the development of the Maine Trip Leader Training Curriculum.

### **Frank M. Levine - *Trebor* – 1988**

Frank was named a recipient of the American Camping Association's highest national honor, The Hedley Dimock Award. He was also nominated to stand for election to become President of ACA. Frank designed and secured funding for the nation's first on-going study of Children's Organized Camping. He created the Gulick Award to "...honor Halsey and to give MYCA status in recognizing subsequent, outstanding leadership." Frank served as Executive Director of MYCA from 1983 to 1989.

### **Alan B. Ordway - *Winona* – 1987**

In addition to regional and national camping leadership roles, Al Ordway served for over twenty-five years on the MYCA Board, including three years as President. Al is owner/director of Camp Winona. As Legislative Chair, he created and served as the only Chair of the Maine State Safe Drinking Water Coalition. Al's public service activity is extensive and includes several years of service on town boards and committees and many years as President of the Board at Gould Academy in Bethel, Maine.

### **Philip Jackson Cobb - *Runoia* – 1986**

Ranging from the Council of Community Services to the Peace Corps, Phil has been remarkably active in public service continuing in the tradition of his father who was Maine's Commissioner of Fish and Game from 1950-1963. As owner/director of Camp Runoia, Phil devoted much time to positive public policy for camps and served as a Commissioner on the State Drinking Water Board. It was his singular inspiration that originally created the Maine Directory of Children's Organized Camps and broad marketing plan to encourage camper enrollment from around the world.

### **Jean T. Dellert - *Forest Acres* – 1984**

Jean Dellert was the Executive Secretary of the Maine Camp Directors Association from 1965 - 1982. She was the first Executive Secretary of the newly formed Maine Youth Camping Association. In 1984 she served in the Maine House of Representatives and worked to foster positive legislation in support of Maine's camping industry. She continues to assist MYCA in following legislation affecting camping.

### **Maxine B. King - *Fernwood* – 1983 \***

Macky King was an officer and leader in Maine youth camping for more than 50 years. She was the camp representative on the board of the Maine Publicity Bureau. Macky was six years old in 1921 when her parents built Camp Fernwood and was at camp every year until her death in 2007. During Fernwood's 75th anniversary in 1995, Macky celebrated her 50th season as Director. She died in 2007.

### **Myron H. Rogers - *Tapawingo* – 1982 \***

Mike Rogers and his wife, Lenore, owned Camp Tapawingo until their 1987 retirement. He spearheaded a drive to strengthen MYCA's finances and insure its future. In retirement Mike served on numerous local boards in Sarasota, FL. He passed away in 2009.

\* Deceased



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# J. Halsey Gulick

## 1899 – 1980

J. Halsey Gulick, educator, public servant, and outdoorsman, was devoted to organized youth camping and particularly to camps in Maine. He was one of the first camping leaders to call attention to the value of youth camps to the economy of the state.

In the fall of 1934 Gulick was elected President of the New England Camping Association which was the start of many years of volunteer leadership in camping's professional organizations including the Maine Camp Directors Association. In 1982, the Maine Camp Directors Association created the Halsey Gulick Award to recognize other leaders who have given distinguished service to the camping movement in Maine.

Mr. Gulick was one of very few independent camp directors of his day to reside in the state of Maine. As the son of Dr. Luther Gulick, founder of the Luther Gulick camps, he was part of a very small group to be educated with the idea that conducting recreational summer camps for children was a bona fide role for a professional educator.

Halsey's parents, Dr. and Mrs. Luther Gulick, were pioneers of the camping movement. They began the first camp at Gale's Ferry, CT., in 1888. That camp was continued in 1906 when they began the Luther Gulick Camps in South Casco, Maine on Sebago Lake. Luther Gulick died during the summer of 1918 due to a strenuous winter of investigating overseas work of the Y.M.C.A. Mrs. Gulick carried on the camps until her death in 1928 at which time Halsey became director.

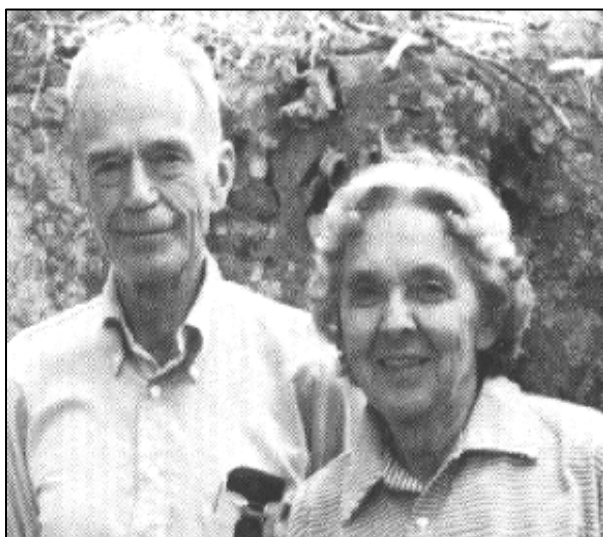
Halsey Gulick was educated at the Ethical Culture School in New York, Phillips Exeter Academy, and Princeton University, graduating in 1923. He taught physical education at Lehigh University from 1923-1927 and at Princeton from 1928-1929. Mr. Gulick headed the physical education department at the Fessenden School for Boys in Massachusetts from 1931-33. In 1933 he became the director of the junior division of the Mary C. Wheeler School in Providence.

In 1935, Gulick was appointed Headmaster at Proctor Academy in New Hampshire where he served with distinction for 17 years. In 1953, he left the independent school to devote his full time to the Luther Gulick Camps.

Mr. Gulick had many interests including all forms of outdoor sports like swimming, fishing, motorboat racing, and skiing. In 1931 he was married to Dorothy Merrill, from Washington, D.C. Together, they directed the camps until the late 1960's, when they turned the day-to-day operations over to their three daughters.

Halsey's daughter Louise Van Winkle and her husband, Davis Van Winkle, directed Camp Wohelo, the Luther Gulick Camps for over 34 years. They now serve as Directors Emeriti.

Their children Heidi and Mark, and Mark's wife Quincy, are now the Directors of Wohelo. There are over 5000 alumni of the camps. Many of the older generation of campers and parents have known all members of the Gulick family.



*Halsey and Dorothy Gulick*



## The Halsey Gulick Award

The Halsey Gulick Award was first presented in 1982 by the newly formed Maine Youth Camping Association to recognize those people who have distinguished themselves by giving unselfishly of their time, energy, and resources to improve organized youth camping in Maine.

Recipients are selected by their colleagues in camping for their record of public service to the camping movement in Maine. Anyone may recommend candidates for the award. Candidates need not be members of the Maine Youth Camping Foundation (formerly MYCA) and their contribution to Maine camping may not necessarily be related to leadership roles within the Association. The award is normally presented at the annual summer meeting of the Maine Youth Camping Foundation.

## The Maine Youth Camping Foundation

The Maine Youth Camping Foundation is a membership organization for camp directors, staff, parents and supporters of camping and outdoor adventure programs for children and youth. It is dedicated to quality youth camping experiences for children of all ages from all parts of the world.

The Foundation also provides education and training programs for both professional and volunteer leaders of the more than 200 camps in Maine. It conducts a Junior Maine Guide program in cooperation with the Maine State Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. Foundation leaders provide counsel and support in the development of a State of Maine Program for Trip Leader Training and Certification.

Membership dues, along with contributions and grants provide the resources for the programs of the Foundation. The organization is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation. Volunteers, under the leadership of an elected board of directors, conduct programs and activities of the foundation.



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