

January 23 MSC Educational Workshop – Networking Extravaganza to Follow Dr. Chris Thurber to lead ‘Gender and Stereotypes at Camp’

When camp directors and personnel gather on **January 23** at **Portland’s Italian Heritage Center** for the winter MSC Educational Workshop, they will have the opportunity to examine ideas regarding gender and gender role stereotypes and learn about how their camps can best serve youngsters in an age where classifying boys and girls is increasingly complex.

Leading the way in the morning-long exploration will be Dr. Chris Thurber, whose workshop is entitled “Gender and Stereotypes at Camp.” He asserts that “Gendered organizations like camps and schools have a responsibility to re-examine gender, gender roles, gender role stereotypes, and decide what kinds of leadership, programs, and year-round communication deliver the healthiest outcomes for the young people they serve.”

HANDS-ON EXPERIENTIAL PROGRAM

At the hands-on experiential program participants will redesign toys, produce short videos, and update programs, activities that present the many challenges of exploring issues of gender. Thurber says this will allow camp personnel to connect new ideas to existing camp missions, visions, and values. The result? “Greater confidence in their capacity to nurture healthy relationships, communicate with families, and train their staff.”

Participants are asked to meet the following pre-requisites in advance of the workshop:

- 1) Bring candor, humility, and an eagerness to learn;
- 2) Complete 30 minutes of self-paced learning before the workshop by visiting the *It Gets Better* project website.



Click here to visit It Gets Better website.

3) Bring a toy to the seminar...could belong to you, your kids, a friend’s kid...doesn’t matter. You’ll get it back, unharmed, at the end of the day.

In addition, Chris asks that participants explore the podcast “Scene on Radio,” whose current season is entitled “MEN.” If MSC members are unable to listen to the entire program, please do listen to Episode 2 and Episode 10. John Biewen of the Center for Documentary Studies at Duke University produces and hosts the

Educational Workshop continues on page 4.

Outreach Committee ‘Chills’ at Event



Members of the Outreach Committee (left to right, Dan Emmons from Kingsley Pines, Nicky Martin from Maine Teen Camp, and Grace McMullan from Alford Lake Camp) volunteered at the 7th Annual Winter Kids ‘License to Chill’ fundraising event at the Portland House of Music in November. See story on page 3.

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

WINTER 2019

I'm not sure why, but December and January always feel like a natural time for reflection. Perhaps because it's the time of year that I feel most rested and the onslaught of the coming camp season is not yet urgent. Or perhaps it is the holidays creating space for thoughtful gratitude. Whatever it is that makes this time of year ripe for contemplation, I appreciate the focus on looking back with a view to moving forward with intention. I hope you take the opportunity to do the same both professionally and personally.



In reflecting on our MSC organization, I couldn't be more proud! Most of you probably know by now that our Executive Director, Ron Hall, will be receiving an ACA National Service Award in Nashville in February! This recognition of Ron personally is clearly well deserved, and it is also a tribute to the commitment of MSC to the camping industry!

Ron's support of each of us and our camps/businesses is second to none. And, as a member supported and volunteer driven organization, it is all of YOU that make this organization as successful as it is. Thank you for your contributions to creating such an active and vibrant MSC. Among other things, this last year has brought us engaging book club meetings, fun volunteer opportunities for young professionals, helpful webinars, a nonprofit camp luncheon roundtable, and outreach of camperships to under-resourced populations in southern Maine. None of this would be possible without thoughtful and creative volunteers who enthusiastically plan and implement our initiatives. What a joy it is to work alongside so many talented and dynamic individuals, especially since many of us work in somewhat isolated offices. MSC provides us a vital collegial community for sharing ideas and thoughtful conversation, making each of our camps the best youth-serving organizations possible.

I am proud to be part of an organization that consistently strives for excellence in supporting youth development opportunities. I hope you continue to participate, or join us and become actively involved, in this amazing community of camp professionals.

Happy New Year!

Catriona Sangster
President, Maine Summer Camps

Outreach Committee

Join Outreach Committee Members at Upcoming Winter Kids Event

Members of the Outreach Committee volunteered at the 7th Annual Winter Kids License to Chill fundraising event at the Portland House of Music on November 9. Winter Kids helps children in Maine and New Hampshire get outside, get active and have fun. The event raised over \$34,000, had nearly 200 in attendance, and auctioned off more than 100 items.

Members of the committee plan to volunteer again with Winter Kids at their Welcome to Winter event on January 19 at Payson Park in Portland.

On January 23 when the MSC Business Networking Extravaganza wraps up, the group plans to meet at Bunker Brewery on Westfield Street, just off Congress Street. They would love to have anyone from the workshop and Extravaganza join the group to socialize and enjoy a beverage.

For information about upcoming events, contact Kristy Andrews, Chair of Outreach Committee at kristy@campwawenock.com.

Welcome New Camp Members!

Salt Pump Climbing Co., Scarborough

Salt Pump Summer Camps provide young climbers a chance to explore the exciting world of climbing in a supportive and inclusive environment. We seek to instill confidence and inspire learning on and off the wall, encouraging each child towards his or her full potential.

Website: saltpumpclimbing.com/kids/summer-kids-camps/

Email: info@saltpumpclimbing.com

Phone: 207.219.8145

West End House Girls Camp, Parsonsfield

Founded in 2008, West End House Girls Camp sits on 43 acres, including 1,000 feet on Long Pond. Each cabin houses 12 campers and three staff, including two bathrooms with private hot showers. Activities include basket weaving, outdoor basketball, softball, soccer, swimming, archery, arts & crafts, nature, kayaking, tubing, water trampoline, paddle-boarding, mountain bikes, yoga, dance, evening activities, a large playing field, modern cabins, small library, and campfire rings

Website: wehgirlscamp.org

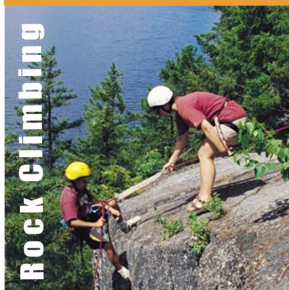
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Educational Workshop, continued from page 1

program. As MSC members may recall, Biewen produced “Seeing White” on Scene on Radio last year, which was discussed at the 2018 Educational Workshop with Niambi Jaha-Echols.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Chris suggests that the workshop will offer the following learning outcomes:

1. Understand more about gender roles and gender role stereotypes.
2. Review your organization’s policies and procedures with respect to gender and ensure that they remain true to your organization’s mission.
3. Practice ways to provide sensitive responses to queries from parents and campers about gender, gender roles, and gender role stereotypes.
4. Envision how to train staff to continue being sterling role models with respect to gender, gender roles, and gender role stereotypes.
5. Wrestle with the reality that while the awareness of gender issues and gendered violence has increased, so has some people’s discomfort. Consider the question: “Are we comfortable with change and still perpetuating stereotypes?”

RECOMMENDED READING

Recommended (but not required) books and articles include:

National Geographic Learning Reader: Gender Roles: A Cross-Cultural Perspective



[Click here to read the article.](#)

The Gender Spectrum: Gender Roles in a Modern Society



[Click here to read the article.](#)

Parenting Beyond Pink & Blue: How to Raise Your Kids Free of Gender Stereotypes



[Click here to read the article.](#)

Chris also has written several articles, available on his website, drchristhurber.com

REGISTER TODAY!

Workshop registration is \$25 per person.



[Click here to register for the workshop.](#)



More than 60 businesses have registered for Maine Summer Camps’ annual Vendor Networking Extravaganza.

BUFFET LUNCH AND VENDOR EXTRAVAGANZA

Following the workshop, MSC will once again offer a buffet lunch and the annual Vendor Networking Extravaganza, ending with the Mega Raffle. More than 60 businesses have registered for the event.

Many thanks to our sponsors for the Extravaganza: Norway Savings Bank, Acadia Insurance, Chalmers Insurance, CIEE, Androscoggin Bank, Redbird Media Group, Northeast Charters, Payroll Management, Custom Coach, Ranger Ready Repellents, BD SOURCE, Migis Lodge, Blast Party, Bunkline, and Casella.

January 23 promises to offer a morning of thinking and learning on a topic of continuing importance to the missions and values of Maine camps. Followed by a buffet lunch, the chance to meet scores of vendors, and the potential for raffle winnings, the day will provide participants with essential insights and information as they look ahead to summer 2019.



Junior Maine Guides Program Makes Plans for 2019

Fourth Annual **JMG Rendezvous**

Saturday, July 6

Bryant Pond 4-H Camp

JMG Testing Camp

Monday-Friday, July 22-26

Stephen Phillips Memorial Preserve

Many thanks to all of those who support the Junior Maine Guides Program. We are grateful for the funding from our sponsors: L.L. Bean, Enterprise Holdings, the Maine Timberlands Charitable Trust and individuals who make donations to the JMG Program during the year. The donations from L.L. Bean and Enterprise Holding help support program upgrades and the Maine Timberlands Charitable Trust grant helps to provide scholarships to nonprofit agency camps that attend JMG Testing Camp. The JMG Program also thanks the Maine camps that are involved with the program, the incredible dedicated JMG staff, and the office of Maine Summer Camps. Last, the Stephen Phillips Land Trust must be recognized for offering us our beautiful testing campsite on the Kennebag River.

The Rendezvous has proven to be a productive event. First, the candidates get to meet the JMG staff before testing camp begins, and they are able to review some of the skills and approaches they will use at JMG camp. The Rendezvous also offers candidates an opportunity to meet the candidates from the other camps. Counselors at the Rendezvous have a session or two with some of the JMG staff to discuss their obligations at the JMG Camp and to learn some teaching tips. The Rendezvous is also open to other counselors from camps who are interested in learning more about the JMG program or just want to go to the four training sessions that are offered. A cookout luncheon is provided by some of the funding from Enterprise Holdings.

Since the publication of the updated version of *The Art of Outdoor Living*, more camps and other organizations have shown interest in all the three levels of the Junior Maine Guide Program — especially in the Junior Maine Woodsman and Maine Woodsman programs.

To inquire about the Junior Maine Guide Program, please contact Moose Curtis at mr.moose675@gmail.com or call 207-928-2107 or visit us at the Rendezvous or JMG Camp.



MAINE CAMP FAIR

Sunday, February 3, 1-3 pm

Cheverus High School, 267 Ocean Ave, Portland

Visit with representatives from 40 Maine summer camps!

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2019 MSC Camp Fairs

February 3, 1-3 p.m. at Cheverus High School

March 24, 1-3:30 p.m. at East End Community School

This winter Maine Summer Camps is sponsoring two camp fairs, including a new fair at Cheverus High School in Portland. The cost for MSC camps to attend one fair is \$110. If you register for both fairs the cost is \$200. Non MSC camps pay \$150 for one fair and \$280 for both fairs.

Historically, more than 600 people attend the East End Community School fair in Portland. Last year 70 camps registered for this fair. We are trying to find a food truck to sell food at the March Fair and it is also possible food will be sold at the Cheverus fair.

We will market both fairs on social media, to schools via electronic bulletin boards, in newspapers and on the radio. For the March fair we will continue to distribute camp fair flyers to more than 25 area schools.



Click here to register for one or both camp fairs.

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New MSC Projects Address Summer Staffing Shortages

This year Maine Summer Camps will take a more active role in addressing the issue of the staffing shortages many camps face by introducing two new projects.

Work at a MAINE CAMP This Summer!

Summer Camp Job Fair

Tuesday, February 5

12-2pm

7th Floor, Glickman Library – USM Portland campus

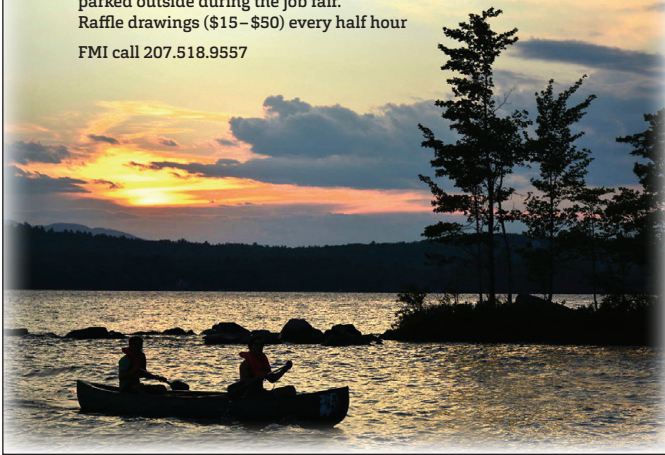
30 Maine Camp Directors will be in attendance

Paid internships available when working at summer camp

Students spending time with reps from at least 5 camps will get a coupon for a free meal at the Pinky D's Poutine food truck parked outside during the job fair.

Raffle drawings (\$15–\$50) every half hour

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We will also have hourly raffle drawings for students who attend the fair. We have hired a food truck to be on location. During the fair we will hand out free food coupons to any students who engage with 5 or more camps. Both colleges anticipate the turnout for the fairs will be very strong.

Job Postings on MSC Website

Our second new initiative will be the launch of a new job board on our website, in which interested camps can participate at a cost of \$150 per year. This permits the camp to post as many job openings as they want for the year. Currently 47 camps have chosen to join the job board.

In early January, when the site is ready, we will connect with regional colleges, culinary schools, nursing schools, and outing clubs, including associated Facebook groups, to promote the job board. We will also boost the site on our public Facebook group and will publish a blog about this new service in the Bangor Daily News.

Additional camps can opt into the program at any time by contacting us at camps@mainecamps.org.

Two Summer Camps Job Fairs

In February, we will sponsor job fairs at the University of Maine Farmington (UMF) and the University of Southern Maine (USM). Registration for these job fairs filled up in about 4 hours, so in January we will arrange meetings with St. Joseph's College and University of Maine in Orono in hopes of doing job fairs at these schools in early April. Any camps who are currently on the wait list will be given priority for placement in the new fairs if they take place.

Maine Summer Camps Job Fairs

February 4, 11a.m.-1 p.m. at UMF, Farmington Campus

February 5, 12-2 p.m. at USM, Portland Campus

The February Job Fairs are *only for Maine Summer Camps* and are limited to 30 camps (space restrictions). MSC will work with the colleges in marketing the fair.

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January Webinars

Androscoggin Bank has signed on for 2019 as the
sponsor of our Webinar Series. Two webinars are
scheduled in January:

**January 9 @ 10 a.m. – Recreational and Medical
Marijuana** – *What camp directors need to know before
next summer.* The presenter will be Hannah King, an
attorney at Drummond Woodsum in Portland. More
information about this webinar will be forthcoming.



Click here to register for the Marijuana webinar.

January 17 @ 10 a.m. – Creating Your Own Videos.

Due to technical difficulties we are redoing this
December webinar. We need video to fully promote our
camps, but most summer camps don't have budgets
to hire qualified videographers. It is possible to create
high quality promotional videos with the phone in
your pocket. Ryan McDonald will take you through the
process assuming you know nothing, and you should
feel confident in making videos the next day.



*Click here to register for the Creating Your Own
Videos webinar.*

MSC NEWS BITS

- ▶ We are still looking for a camp in southern Maine to host the annual meeting this June 12.
- ▶ Contact Sue at the MSC office if you would like a copy of the MYCA informational backpack that we sent to all Maine legislators this summer.
- ▶ It's time to make your hotel reservations if you are planning to attend the ACA New England Conference in March.
- ▶ Save the date: April 24 for the MSC spring Workshops and Sysco Food Show. The MSC Education Committee is currently working on the details for the workshops. The major workshop will focus on best practices pertaining to tracking weather. Details coming soon.

A child wearing a helmet and harness is ziplining through a forest. The background is a lush green forest.

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FEEDING SUMMER ADVENTURES

Maine Camp History –

Camp Zakelo & Long Lake Lodge

By Henry Johnson, Maine Camp Historian

Camp Zakelo was founded in 1928, and by all accounts, operated continuously for 43 years on Long Lake.

The camp was founded by Isadore Zarakov and was a boutique camp for boys between the ages of 6 and 15. Camp Zakelo was located, at least in part, on Zakelo island which is on the Northern end of Long Lake. Zarakov, with the assistance of his wife Lillian, created a “strong healthy environment” for their campers and offered some unusual land and water camping activities. There, unlike many camps, boys could spend their time playing in an orchestra, working on a newspaper, producing and performing plays in a theater, learning astronomy, racing in four-man and eight-man sculls and learning foreign languages (including Spanish and French).

Camp Zakelo did not forget its commitment to land sports. Zakelo, during its operation, was a frequent participant in the Camp Powhatan for Boys invitational Tennis Tournament, as well as, an occasional participant in the Camp Cedar Invitational Basketball Tournament. Isadore Zarakov was known for having a most distinguished and divergent undergraduate athletic career at Harvard.

Long Lake Lodge was established in 1902 on the shores of Long Lake in Bridgton. Records reflect that Long Lake Lodge remained in existence until at least the summer of 1985. Long Lake Lodge was a coeducational summer school that according to one of its publications existed to “serve the student”. The Lodge attempted to provide the opportunity for its students to acquire certain knowledge and ideas that would help them

meet the challenges of the future. There, the students/campers attended small classes and study periods from 8 a.m. to 12 noon. Extra help was provided on an as needed basis from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. Afternoons were used as free time to participate in a variety of camp activities including swimming and field sports.

There existed a compulsory evening study hall from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Students/Campers had the opportunity during the weekends to engage in canoe trips and mountain climbing trips. The Lodge philosophy was to provide the students/campers the opportunity to make new acquaintances and getting to know, understand and explore uncommon things together with other students.

There existed also an athletic director at the Lodge who organized team sports in baseball, basketball, tennis and soccer. The teams competed with neighboring summer camps on an average of twice a week. Students/campers at the Lodge also engaged in such activities as table tennis, outdoor tennis, horseshoes, golf and horseback riding, as well as, excursions out of the camp for rock concerts, summer stock theater, movies and visiting historical sites.



Editor's Note: This article is written by noted author and Maine Summer Camp Historian, Henry Johnson who attended Camp Powhatan in Otisfield, Maine from 1966 through 1973 as a camper, counselor, and ultimately, program director. Mr. Johnson is the author of numerous articles and publications relating to the history of Maine summer camps. If you wish to submit

information to Mr. Johnson relating to the history of any Maine summer camp, you may do so at the following email: hjohnson@henryjohnson/aw.com.



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Nonprofit Camps Meet to Share Ideas and Challenges

In early November, a group of six nonprofit camps gathered at the Inn by the Sea in Cape Elizabeth to discuss topics specific to nonprofit work. It was an invigorating day covering everything from staff recruitment to the role of boards to programming and operations. Exchanging ideas, embracing challenges, and sharing creative solutions all happened over a delicious lunch. Others are welcome to join by emailing tmulks@susancurtis.org. A resource share has been created on Google Docs and we are hoping to create a Swap & Sell & Share with all MSC Camps.

Maine Summer Camps 2019 Calendar

January 15

11-4 p.m. ACA NE Accreditation Process Workshop, JCC, Portland

January 23

9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. MSC Workshop at Italian Heritage Center, Portland

12:30-3 p.m. MSC Business Networking Extravaganza & Lunch

January 24

9-11 a.m. MSC Board of Directors Meeting

February 3

1-3 p.m. MSC Camp Fair at Cheverus High School, Portland

February 4

11 a.m.-1 p.m. MSC Job Fair at University of Maine Farmington

February 5

11 a.m.-1 p.m. MSC Job Fair at University of Southern Maine

February 12

12-4 p.m. ACA NE Visitor Update Workshop, JCC, Portland

February 19 -22

ACA National Conference, Nashville, TN

March 12-14

Tri-State Camp Conference, Atlantic City, NJ

March 24

1-3:30 p.m. MSC Camp Fair at East End Community School, Portland

March 28-30

New England ACA Conference, Manchester, NH

March 30

7:45-9 a.m. Semi-Annual Membership Meetings of MSC and MYCA at the ACA/NE Conference, Manchester, NH

April 24

9-10:45 a.m. Spring MSC Board of Directors Meeting
11 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Workshops at SYSCO Food Show at Cross Insurance Arena, Portland

June 12

MYCF and MYCA Annual Membership Meeting, TBD

July 6

9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. JMG Rendezvous Workshop, Bryant Pond 4-H

July 9

1:30-4 p.m. Chris Thurber Staff Training Workshop at Camp Wawenock, Raymond

July 11

14th Annual MYCF Spelling Bee, Portland

July 22-26

Junior Maine Guides Testing Camp at Stephen Phillips Memorial Preserve, Oquossoc

September 18

Fall Membership Workshop and Cookout, Migis Lodge



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