



NEWS

DECEMBER

2021

MSC Winter Workshop & Business Networking Extravaganza Wednesday, January 26 at the Italian Heritage Center

This winter's workshop and business event will be held on Wednesday, January 26 at the Italian Heritage Center in Portland. There will be a few changes to the annual event this year. The major change will be reversing the day's schedule. We will hold the Business Networking Extravaganza in the morning followed by lunch; the Educational Workshop will take place in the afternoon. *All attendees will be required to show proof of vaccination.*

Business Networking Extravaganza

The format for the Business Networking Extravaganza will be similar to past years, where staff from camps will receive tickets for each business they visit. We hope to award lots of great prizes, ending with the raffle for the grand prize. To be eligible for the grand prize participants must arrive by 10:30 AM. This will most likely be the only time you spend in-person with many of the businesses that you work with. There is no better way for us to support our highly valued businesses. Come early! Doors open at 9 AM for businesses to set-up.

An informational mailing was sent to business members on December 15.



[Click here to register your business](#)

Business Extravaganza Schedule

9-10 AM	Businesses set-up (coffee available)
10 AM-12:15 PM	Business Networking Extravaganza
12-12:45 PM	Lunch and raffle
1-5 PM	Workshop – sponsored by H&H Purchasing and Consulting

Maine Summer Camps Winter Workshop

The MSC educational presentation will focus on Native American issues and camps. During the first part of the afternoon, we will explore and discuss how white privilege and power helped both isolate and caused entire cultures to disappear. We will then have the opportunity to hear from a panel about how it was to grow up in Maine as a Native American. Finally, we will learn about what is happening in other parts of the country as organizations, communities, and others grapple with issues of cultural appropriation, land acknowledgements and other native-related issues.

The workshop will be in person. We will also be recording it so those unable to join in person can participate at a later date. There is a \$25 per person fee to attend the conference in person, or a \$20 fee to participate virtually at a yet to be determined time and date.



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

Winter Workshop Schedule

1-2:30 PM	Debby Irving (www.debbyirving.com)
2:30-3 PM	Q & A with Debby Irving
3-3:15 PM	Break
3:15-4:15 PM	Panel discussion moderated by Debby Irving. Discussion will focus on what it was like growing up native in a white world and what is happening across the nation in terms of native issues and how they are being resolved.
4:15-4:45 PM	Q & A with Panel

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Maine Summer Camps Board of Directors 2021-2022

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Executive Director - Ron Hall, *Maine Summer Camps*

MSC Historian - Henry Paul Johnson

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Ron Hall, *Executive Director*
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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT DECEMBER 2021

As the season transitions into the winter months and we head towards the new year, it is a great time for reflection, creating vision and setting goals to accomplish that vision. This is what MSC and MYCA board members have been doing for our association.



This past November, MYCA and MSC board members participated in its first ever all board training. The training workshop was organized by our Native American Collaboration Working Group (NACWG) and was led by Wabanaki REACH. The workshop reflected on over 400 years of Maine indigenous history and understanding colonization and non-colonization. After the training the board members had a facilitated conversation to consider direction, future goals, and next steps.

There was 100 percent attendance by board members, which highlights the commitment to address cultural appropriation in Maine camps through valuable education opportunities. This training is one of the initial visions to bring further awareness, education, and learning opportunities to all the members. Our Winter Workshop in January, sponsored by the MSC Education Committee, will focus on some of these issues. Stay tuned for future announcements regarding this vital gathering.

I also want to acknowledge the dedication of our NACWG and thank Cat Sangster, Peter Kassen, Andy Lilienthal, Fritz Seving, Greg Shute, and Tyler Costello for their continual commitment to this important matter and service to Maine camps.

On another important note, after many years of dedicated and committed service to all Maine summer camps and MSC business members Ron Hall has announced that he will be retiring in early 2023. Ron reiterated his love for his position as Executive Director and stated his only regret is that "he didn't start this job when he was younger." He continues to thoroughly enjoy his position at the helm of Maine



Summer Camps and prioritizing what is best for all Maine camps. After retirement Ron plans on travelling and spending much deserved time with family and friends. Ron will be sincerely missed by all.

We are grateful that he has given us more than a year of notice to find the next MSC Executive Director. A search committee has been formed by representatives of both MYCA and MSC board members. We will meet regularly to facilitate the transition as smoothly as possible. Ron is committed to assisting in this process as we move forward, and we will coordinate a celebration to show Ron our deepest gratitude and appreciation. Stay tuned!

Warmly, Beigette

**Thank you H&H Purchasing
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Supply Chain Woes, 2022: Camps Must Plan, Innovate

'Planning, planning, planning—storage, storage, storage'

Josh Cohen, president of H & H Purchasing, a purchasing and management group that serves camps throughout the state, is direct in his advice. Supply chain issues, which camps dealt with last summer, aren't going away, Cohen says. "Not to be an alarmist, but I'm very concerned."

"The good news is that since everyone dealt with this this past year, I firmly believe that with some pre-planning, good organization and good strategies, there's no reason it's not manageable," he said.

... I firmly believe that with some pre-planning, good organization, and good strategies, there's no reason it's not manageable.

– Josh Cohen, president, H&H Purchasing

The challenges camps face come from a trifecta of transportation, supply, and pricing factors, Cohen says. For example, the current Consumer Price Index sitting at over six percent translates to "huge increases in pricing."

"It's not vendor price gouging," he said. "Some are passing the buck because of extreme increases in salaries," particularly those of driver and warehouse workers. Worker shortages are having a significant impact, he says.

There are also issues on the product side. Manufacturers are reducing their SKUs to maximize production and margins, Cohen says, resulting in less availability of certain products. Take Tyson chicken tenders, for example. A shortage in the raw chicken market traces back to supply chain issues, driver issues, even rooster issues, Cohen says.

"They're way behind on chicken production."

"All that being said, what we really believe is that this is manageable," Cohen said. Camps need to order ahead, and store supplies based on careful planning, he says.

Camps should consider bringing in extra storage, either renting or buying freezers and consider a storage container for dry goods and disposables in the event they don't have the space, Cohen says. Even "a big chest freezer" could serve a camp well if budgets prohibit something larger.

Cohen acknowledges that issues in summer 2022 could be worse than last summer. "The silver lining is that now everyone hears about it. Last summer no one knew about it."

In a webinar held in November, Cohen and Eric Forti, H & H's director of vendor relations, elaborated on these issues.

One suggestion is for camps to use multiple vendors, national and local, to meet their needs. In addition, camps should have

"back-up" meals in house in case planned menu items are not delivered. In addition, if camps have traditions of serving particular foods, they should bring them in early to best ensure availability. Finally, menus should not be "set in stone."

Camps also need to plan on budgeting more money for their food purchases, Cohen says.

As for ordering timeframes, Cohen and Forti recommended that camps order disposables – paper goods, etc. – by February or March, and that all non-perishables be ordered three to four weeks ahead. Perishables should be ordered a week ahead of time, except for fresh produce and dairy.

► Words of Wisdom

Cohen's recommendations are straightforward: "Be flexible. Order early. Stay ahead. Expand your purchasing network. Think outside the box."

With planning and organization, camps will be well positioned to face the challenges summer may bring.

Supply Chain Woes continues on page 4.



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Supply Chain Woes *continued from page 3*

► Transportation Challenges

Supply chain issues weren't limited to food and other essentials last summer. Camps suffered from a lack of available vans for camper transportation as well.

Marcus Luce, a vice-president at Merchants Fleet, based in New Hampshire, recently served for three years as the organization's mobility group operations director. The pandemic wreaked havoc on transportation planning, requiring innovation on the part of Merchants, which typically orders \$40-\$50 million worth of vehicles annually to support camps and school transportation needs.

A major impediment is vehicle production time, Luce says. Where Ford produced vans in 12-14 weeks pre-COVID, current lead time now hovers around 30 weeks, he says.

Merchants has implemented a new plan for summer 2022 to help best ensure that camps' transportation needs are met.

"Right now, we are taking reservations 60 days out," Luce said. Camps may end up paying for the vehicle for a period prior to camp starting, he said, but they will best ensure meeting their transportation needs.

"If they really want to secure vehicles, secure the fleet earlier," he said.

"I think the big difference is that it's going to sound like a bad deal in some regards – why pay if you don't need it?" he acknowledges. However, camps may find that the short-term lease price is "incredibly favorable" compared to daily rental rates.

Being proactive and understanding what the options are is more critical than ever. That, plus flexibility, will ensure the best outcome.

– Marcus Luce, VP at Merchants Fleet

"Being proactive and understanding what the options are is more critical than ever," Luce said.

The pandemic-era challenges that camps face are real, but much more predictable than a year ago, experts say. Now is the time to start planning, they say. That, plus flexibility, will ensure the best outcome. ■

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MYCA Update

MYCA (Maine Youth Camp Association) is the sister organization to Maine Summer Camps (MSC). MYCA's mission is to monitor, publicly comment and interpret state and federal legislation on behalf of MSC, with the purpose of furthering the welfare of camps in Maine. We maintain relationships with policy officials for camp advocacy. Additionally, our 501(c)(4) non-profit status allows for limited activities supporting political campaigns. As a member of MSC, your camp is also a member of MYCA.

December 1, 2021

Throughout the summer and early fall, the MYCA board has been tracking many issues that pertain to Maine Summer Camps, including:

- ✓ Maine minimum wage
- ✓ PFAS ("forever chemicals") and ground water
- ✓ Camp cabins: new construction and sprinkler systems
- ✓ OSHA: employee vaccination guidelines
- ✓ First and Second sessions of the 130th Maine State Legislature
- ✓ J1 Visa status for 2022

Of special note, Ron Hall and Jack Erler continued to meet regularly with representatives from DHHS (Department of Health and Human Service) to ensure clarity for licensed youth summer camps with the Health Inspection Program and Reportable Conditions paperwork.

Catriona Sangster (Camp Wawenock) represented MYCA with her testimony in a DECD online public hearing (Department of Economic Community Development) regarding the Maine Jobs and Recovery Grant Program, specifically the economic impact of the pandemic on summer camps.

In addition, Spencer Ordway (Winona Camps) spoke on behalf of MYCA at an in-person public hearing for IF&W (Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife) regarding proposed new rules to sailing regattas and other non-motorized boat races.

The Hall Monitor is the best place to review details of these issues, but as a member of MSC you should contact Ron, me, or a member of the MYCA board if you have further questions.

Spring 2022 will mark the end of an era for MSC and MYCA with Jack Erler's retirement. Jack's 40 years of working with Maine's youth summer camps have brought our organizations to an advanced level of engagement with legislation and policy. The Maine camp industry is admired across the nation for the structure Jack has helped create, balancing the education of our members with detailed review and descriptions of rules and regulations which affect camps.



Jack Erler, current MSC counsel

We have such gratitude for all Jack has brought to our industry. His decades of work have truly made a difference in the summer experiences of campers, staff, and directors of Maine.

Laura Ordway
Winona Camps



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2022 MSC Calendar

Tuesday, January 25

2 pm MSC Board of Directors Meeting
Location TBD

Wednesday, January 26

10 am-12:30 pm MSC Business Networking Extravaganza and Lunch, Italian Heritage Center, Portland
1-5 pm MSC Workshop, Italian Heritage Center, Portland

Sunday, February 6

1-3 pm MSC Camp Fair, Cheverus High School, Portland

Monday, February 7

11 am-1 pm MSC Job Fair, University of Maine, Farmington

Tuesday, February 8

10:30am-1:30pm MSC Job Fair, Husson University, Bangor

Tuesday-Friday, February 8-11

ACA National Conference, Portland, Oregon

Monday-Wednesday, March 14-16

Tri-State Camp Conference, Atlantic City, NJ

Thursday-Saturday, March 24-26

New England ACA Conference, Manchester, NH

Saturday, March 26

Semi-Annual Membership Meetings of MSC and MYCA – Location TBD

Sunday, March 27

1-3:30 pm Annual MSC Camp Fair, East End Community School, Portland

Wednesday, April 27

9-11 am Spring MSC Board of Directors Meeting – Location TBD
11 am-2 pm MSC Spring Workshops – Location TBD

Monday-Friday, July 25-29

Junior Maine Guide Test Camp
Stephen Phillips Memorial Preserve, Oquossoc

MSC Camp Fairs Slated for February, March



This winter MSC will once again sponsor two camp fairs. The first fair will be at Cheverus High School in Portland. The second fair will be at the East End Community School.

The cost for MSC camps to attend one fair is \$110. If you register for both fairs the cost is \$200. MSC member camps

can start registering now. Two years ago, more than 700 people attended our fairs, and we anticipate a high turnout this winter for these fairs.

MSC will do extensive marketing for both camps from Biddeford to Bath and as far west as Raymond. Registration will be open to non-MSC camps on December 18. Payment can be made by check, or you can use the link at right to pay by credit card online. Your space is not confirmed until we receive your payment.

Final guidelines for the camp fairs will be sent in mid-January. We will require all attendees to wear masks.

2022 CAMP FAIRS

- Sunday, February 6, 1-3 pm , Cheverus High School**
- Sunday, March 27, 1-3:30 pm, East End Community School**



[Click here to register for camp fairs](#)

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MSC and MYCA Board Members Participate in Wabanaki REACH

On November 30th, the Boards of MSC and MYCA met online to participate in a workshop led by representatives of Wabanaki REACH, which supports the self-determination of Wabanaki people through education and other efforts in Maine.

The workshop, Interacting with Wabanaki-Maine History, provided an interactive experience in which 31 Board-members engaged in the story of over 400 years of colonization of Wabanaki people in Maine.

“The Wabanaki REACH workshop was very poignant and thought-provoking,” said MSC Board President Beigette Gill. “It provided a great foundation to prompt conversation amongst the board members and plan future steps for meaningful educational opportunities for all Maine Summer Camp members.”

This extraordinary Board meeting fulfilled one of the goals established in May when the Board issued the following statement in response to concerns raised about Native American cultural appropriation:

Maine Summer Camp’s mission is to support and promote meaningful developmental, educational, environmental, and recreational experiences for children. MSC is dedicated

to promoting equity and the dignity of every individual. In this spirit, MSC believes that all camps should acknowledge the harm done to indigenous people and others by Native American cultural appropriation and indigenous erasure. Camp programs should be respectful of Native culture and provide authentic, relevant education for all participants and recognize, where applicable, the link between Native peoples and their current program(s).

Last spring the Board also established a Native American Collaboration Working Group that has been coordinating next steps, including a January educational session for MSC’s membership (see article on page one). MSC’s Education Committee will provide offerings for members as well.

November’s Board meeting represented a meaningful and critical first step for Maine’s camping movement as we learn more about the true history of Maine’s land and recognize the importance of reaching out to our indigenous neighbors. Reflecting on this event, Peter Kassen, a member of the Working Group and chair of the Board’s DEI Committee said, “It was a deeply meaningful reminder that, despite centuries of mistreatment, there is a rich indigenous culture here that we all must understand and respect.” ■



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Diehl Estes, Assistant Director/Director of Operations,
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Maine Camp History

1956: Why You Should Send Your Child To A Maine Summer Camp Part 1

By Henry Paul Johnson, Maine Summer Camp Historian

A 1956 publication titled “The Maine Camp for Boys and Girls” outlined multiple reasons for why you should send your child to a Maine summer camp. Below, we explore some of the reasons and suggest these reasons aptly apply today.

1. Maine is a Pioneer in the Maine Camp Movement.

As discussed in the 1956 publication, Maine has played a notable role in the development of the boys’ and girls’ camp movement, a fact “that [was] readily apparent to whoever studies the history of this praiseworthy growth.” There it was stated:

It is interesting, and pleasing, to look back and reflect that, even at [an] early date, people proposing to establish...camps, were quick to perceive the superior advantages Maine had to offer...it is worthwhile to note that out of the first ten camps founded in Maine, there are still nine in active operation in this year 1956.”

2. Boys And Girls Need Camps.

It was suggested in 1956 that child physiologists believed that it was urgently important that the growing child spends part of his time exclusively in the company of his contemporaries. The camp experience would enable a child to master the art of learning how to get along with those of his own age. At camp, a child early on absorbs the principle of ‘give and take,’ which is a necessary part of a child’s social knowledge. A child at a summer camp can stand on her or his own feet, overcome diffidence and shyness, and become self-reliant, generous and tolerant. The great boys and girls camps of Maine provide children with invaluable traits that they have the opportunity to carry forward through to the rest of the years of their lives.

3. Maine Camp Directors Are Leaders In Their Field.

It was stated in the 1956 publication that “no camps anywhere in our land enjoy a higher prestige than Maine camps. If imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, surely Maine camps should feel proud, because their patterns have been widely followed both here and abroad.” This attitude appears to “stem directly from the many fine men and women” who own and direct our Maine camps.

This Historian’s firsthand knowledge of how great so many of our camp director’s are and have been stems from his firsthand knowledge of the wonderful qualities displayed through the experiences of himself, as well as his children, as they had the opportunity to view firsthand the outstanding directorship of Macki King at Camp Fernwood, Joel Bloom at Camp Powhatan and Stanley Hirsch at Camp Androscoggin. These persons are mentioned only by example. I know through my many years as Historian for Maine Summer Camps that great directorship and great Maine summer camps go hand in hand.

4. Maine Is The Ideal State For Boys’ And Girls’ Summer Camps.

The 1956 publication recited that Maine is a “huge, happy playground” that might have been created with the needs of a “carefree growing child” in mind. The majority of Maine’s camps

are located on the shores of beautiful lakes, surrounded by “tall, aromatic pines.” Away from the lakes, stretching forth to all sides, can be seen fertile farm country and stands of “verdant woodlands.” Behind most camps, or in the general nearby vicinity, are mountain slopes that gently form “majestic backdrops.” In such surroundings, “forever under watchful eyes of camp counselors and instructors, children can swim in clear, pure water.”

5. Maine Campers’ Health And Safety Are Carefully Guarded.

Health and safety was in 1956 and continues today to be front and center of the Maine camp experience. Maine summer camps have done a tremendous job of attempting to navigate Covid-related issues and throughout the years have been sensitive to make certain that all campers and counselors interact in a healthy and safe environment.

6. Maine’s Climate Is Ideal For Boys’ And Girls’ Camps.

In 1956, it was described that summer days were pleasantly warm and thermometers generally read somewhat lower than what prevailed in other sections of the same latitudes. In 1956, Maine camp records reveal that whereas the mean maximum temperatures in July, for example, ranged between 80 and 90 degrees for southern, northern and northwestern states, in Maine temperatures were in the seventies. This Historian would contend that even with global warming Maine temperatures are lower than many other states in the United States.

7. Nearby Farms Furnish The Maine Camp With Fresh Food.

The 1956 publication suggested that Maine is an ideal food producer for summer camps because of the ideal conditions for good soil, adequate moisture, warm days and cool nights. In 1956, it was touted that Maine raises potatoes, corn, peas, tomatoes, beans and other vegetables “right from the garden and are loaded with highly essential vitamins.” Camps feature menus that include fresh, ripe fruits picked from the tree and vine “at exactly the proper moment.” Furthermore, it was suggested “every poultryman knows that Maine hens are the healthiest hens in the whole wide world.”

8. Why Else?

It was also suggested in the 1956 publication that Maine transportation was excellent, that Maine camps offered an outstanding Maine Junior Guide program and, ultimately, Maine summer camps provided mom and dad the opportunity for “a much needed vacation.” The concepts of safe transportation, great canoeing and camping experiences and the reality that mom and dad can enjoy their vacation because they know that their children exist in a safe environment at a Maine summer camp is true today.

In 1956, Maine, by all accounts, had 193 camps in operation. The names and locations of the 65 girls’ camps and 92 boys’ camps and 36 coeducational camps will be examined in Part II of this article in a future issue. ■

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 relating to the history of any Maine summer camp you may do so at: hjohnson@henryjohnsonlaw.com



Community Connections Group Enjoyed Volunteering this Fall

WinterKids activities and dog walks provided the fun

This fall, the Community Connections Group created opportunities to see each other in person through outdoor meetups and volunteering with WinterKids. We had two very successful and highly attended dog walks, hosted by Camp Wawenock and Wohelo Camps. Up to 10 dogs and 14 people were in attendance!

The group also spent two afternoons volunteering with WinterKids to help them prepare toolkits for their Winter

Games initiative. The Winter Games brings outdoor winter fun to schools across Maine and is serving 10,000 children this year. MSC volunteers spent time counting out swag and other items for WinterKids to deliver to each school.

Email Kristy Harvey at kristy@campwawenock.com to learn more about ways to be involved with the MSC Community Connections Group. ■

Maine Summer Camps 2022 Job Fairs

In February, MSC will again be holding job fairs at two Maine college campuses. These fairs are only for Maine Summer Camps and are limited to 33 camps at UMF and 35 camps at Husson University. There is a registration fee of \$100 per fair or \$75 for nonprofit camps. MSC is working with the colleges in promoting the fairs. We will also have a cash raffle drawing for students who attend the fair and we will handout \$10 Amazon gift cards to all students who engage with 5 or more camps.

February 7, 11 am - 1 pm University of Maine Farmington (UMF)

We are collaborating with the UMF Career Office and Student Internship Program. Camps can agree to work with the school's internship program (or not) so that a student gets their internship requirement satisfied (up to 600 hours) and earns a salary by working as a counselor! The fair will be held in the Olsen Student Center

February 8, 11 am - 1:30 pm Husson University, Bangor

The event will take place in the Campus Center. This camp fair is being held in collaboration with Husson's Career Services. We will be promoting the fair in a number of departments including nursing, education, and athletics.

University of Maine Orono

We are working on setting up a third job fair at UMO in conjunction with Outdoor Education and Education departments.

Registration for the two fairs held in February opened on December 6.



Click here to register for the Job Fairs



Nancy Savage Marcus, MSC's new counsel

Meet Nancy Savage Marcus, Taking the Helm as MSC's Counsel

Nancy Savage Marcus knows Jack Erler is a hard act to follow. As Erler retires in the coming months, Marcus plans to pick up where he leaves off: providing MSC and MYCA with top-notch counsel.

Marcus comes to the position with a wealth of experience, including several years two decades ago as the first Executive Director of Portland's Ronald McDonald House.

"It was an amazing job—by far the most amazing job I've ever had," she said. "In some ways there were a lot of similarities to running a camp." In other words, 24/7, unless she was off-site. "That's what camp directors go through in the summer."

The similarities also included the importance of creating a community at the site, she says. "What can come out of a community you create, from a disparate group of people that you didn't pick? I know how that works, and how helpful and how important it is to create a community."

Marcus brings many other experiences to her work, as well, including work as a corporate attorney and broad knowledge of the legal aspects of marketing and real estate issues.

She is also a "huge supporter" of summer camps, she says. A happy participant of Echo Lake Camp, a family camp on Mt. Desert Island, Marcus also attended day camps throughout her childhood growing up outside Boston.

"I see the benefits of kids being outside," she said. Those benefits include disconnecting from electronics and being in the "wonders of nature and the wonders of a community you might not ordinarily see."

A partner at the law firm Curtis Thaxter, where Jack Erler practiced for decades, Marcus has been serving individual camp clients' needs for about a year, collaborating with associates Tyler Costello and Emily Crowley.

Nancy Savage Marcus continues on page 13.



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Nancy Marcus Savage *continued from page 11*

"All three of us are filling Jack's shoes," Marcus says.

Marcus has been working with Erler as he hands over the reins at MSC. Most recently, she has been involved with a project involving the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife; Spencer and Laura Ordway of Winona Camps in Bridgton are also actively involved.

"I'm really excited about working on some of the lobbying stuff," Marcus said.

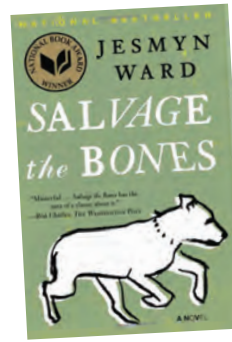
***And it's all about serving children as best as camps can...
I feel like camp offers so much to kids. It's just great to
be able to support that process.***

Marcus is also enthusiastic about doing counselor talks, for which Erler has earned a sterling reputation over the decades.

"I did my first one this summer and had an absolute blast," she said. The leadership at staff at Camp Skylemar "gave me the warmest, most enthusiastic reception," she said. "They made it fun for me to be presenting it."

Like many MSC directors and owners, Marcus also emphasizes the true spirit of collaboration among Maine youth camps. "I always find myself thinking, I bet it's not the same in other states. [Maine camps] do lead in policy making and planning, and in collegiality."

And it's all about serving children as best as camps can, Marcus says. "I feel like camp offers so much to kids. It's just great to be able to support that process." ■



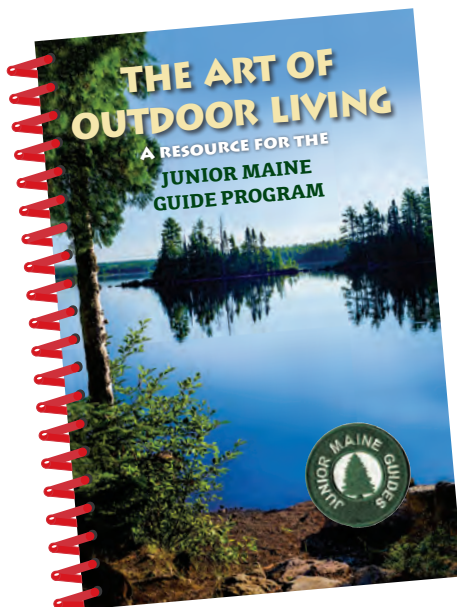
***Salvage the Bones
by Jesmyn Ward is
the next selection for
the MSC Book Club.
Meeting date and time
announced soon.***

News from the MSC Book Club

The MSC Book Club gathered on Zoom on December 9 to discuss *Overcoming Bias: Building Authentic Relationships Across Differences*. The group found the book engaging and practical with applications that can be used in staff development. Following the path set out by authors Tiffany Jana and Matthew Freeman, participants shared some personal lessons and learning before discussion turned to ways in which we can expand our own cultural experiences.

The group agreed that one step in doing that can be to expand our cultural horizons by changing genres to fiction and reading a book by an author of color.

Our next book will be National Book Award for Fiction winner *Salvage the Bones* by Jesmyn Ward. The story is set in the days prior to Hurricane Katrina and is called "a big-hearted novel about familial love and community against all odds, and a wrenching look at the lonesome, brutal, and restrictive realities of rural poverty." Meeting date and time coming soon, but get a jump start and pick up the book now at your local bookstore. ■



New and improved for 2022!

An updated edition of *The Art of Outdoor Living* will be published by Maine Summer Camps in late spring 2022. The first edition's printing of 800 books sold out and a supplement was published in 2019. The updated edition will include the original and supplement information and more!

Price will remain the same — \$34 / book

Pre-order by February 1, 2022 — \$25 / book

***To pre-order books contact Sue at MSC
(office@mainecamps.org) and let her know how
many copies you want.***