

## Winter Workshop Addresses Native Americans, Racial Equity, and the Role of Maine Camps

“We all love Maine. And we are learning and recognizing that people loved this land thousands of years ago.” In honoring those “neighbors,” Catriona Sangster continued in her Winter Educational Workshop introduction, camps must be “better stewards and educators of young people.”

“We are just beginning our journey,” she said.

Much of that beginning comes from the efforts of MSC’s Native American Working Group, a core group of camp directors who have undertaken a number of efforts to address issues related to camps and Maine’s indigenous history. The NAWG organized the January 26 educational workshop, intended to help MSC members begin to travel the journey of understanding and honoring camps’ Native American neighbors.

The event was a two-part presentation. Racial justice educator and writer Debby Irving delivered a wide-ranging talk chronicling her own journey, the reality of systemic racism, and measures for addressing our own biases. “We are works in progress, all of us,” Irving said.

Irving described at length examples of the ways racism has been baked into our culture. From the 1921 destruction of the affluent African American Greenwood District of Tulsa known as Black Wall Street, to the long-loved children’s books featuring Babar the elephant, to the GI Bill and the New Deal, prejudice and bias have been embedded into the system, Irving explained.

The genocide of indigenous people — “a campaign of terror” — was a cornerstone of such prejudice, she said. Indian boarding schools — created to house young Indian children for the purpose of obliterating the influences of their indigenous culture — and the “Kill the Indian, Save the Man” as well as the “white savior syndrome” evidenced by Manifest Destiny, all demonstrate the horror of these prejudicial attitudes, Irving said.

*Racial justice educator and writer Debby Irving delivered a wide-ranging talk chronicling her own journey, the reality of systemic racism, and measures for addressing our own biases.*



“As a collective, we have silenced our black and brown sisters and brothers,” she said.

Irving, author of the book *Waking Up White*, has spent the past 12 years in her role as an educator and writer. In her concluding remarks, she encouraged MSC members to participate in the 21-Day Racial Equity Indigenous Challenge, which the MSC Education Committee has promoted as a way to learn about and respond to the reality of racial inequality. There are three elements to developing such awareness, she said. First, “seek multiple perspectives,” she advised. Second, “be radically curious.” Finally, “break the Code of White Silence.”

We can empower ourselves to understand prejudice and to make change, Irving told members.

**Winter Workshop continues on page 4.**

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## MESSAGE FROM THE MSC PRESIDENT FEBRUARY 2022

*Just as winter is in full swing here in Maine — with freezing temperatures and lots of snow — so are all the Maine Summer Camp Committees. Maine Summer Camps' board is extremely active with much of the planning, organizing, visioning and work done at the committee level.*



*Committees that continue to do great work include our Education committee, Membership committee, Business group, Junior Maine Guide committee, Marketing group, Community Connections group and Level Ground committee. Our relatively new formed committees include Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI), Native American Working Group (NAWG), as well as Executive Director Search group. Please take a look at the list of committees and their members on the next page.*

*I am inspired and honored to be working with such dedicated camp directors who put numerous hours in to represent Maine camps, provide learning opportunities, support all members and look out for the best interests of MSC.*

*I hope that you have all had the opportunity to attend some of MSC offerings, from the January Workshop focused on Native American appropriation and follow-up 21-Day Racial Equity Indigenous Challenge. MSC's offerings also provide a deep dive during the month of February, including DEI casual conversations around gender identity and inclusion in camp spaces.*

*These committees are what help MSC to make its invaluable impact. So, please, when you see MSC committee members please thank them for all they do to continue to strengthen our association.*

*Warmly, Beigette*

## Welcome New Camps

### New England Sports Camps

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### Camp Tracy

**Camp Tracy** is a beautiful 32-acre YMCA Camp located on the waterfront of McGrath Pond in Oakland, Maine and home to Maine's Fenway, a 66 percent scale turfed replica of Fenway Park in Boston. With a unique blend of Day Camps, Residential Sports Camps, Sport Tournaments, Team Building Retreats, and Special Events, Camp Tracy is truly a one-of-a-kind facility.

Gabriel Merrill  
207.873.0684  
[gmerrill@clubaycc.org](mailto:gmerrill@clubaycc.org)

# 2021-22 Maine Summer Camps (MYCF) Committees

## **Executive Committee**

Beigette Gill, *President*  
Matt Pines, *Vice President*  
Fritz Seving, *Treasurer*  
Terri Mulks, *Secretary*  
Catriona Sangster, *Past President*

## **Education Committee**

Anna Hopkins, *Chair*  
Beigette Gill  
Lisa Tripler  
Peter Kassen  
Laura Jo Cunningham  
Catriona Sangster  
Terri Mulks  
Kathy Jonas  
Alex Jackson  
Karen Malm  
Emily Chaleff (volunteer)  
Carissa Chipman (volunteer)

## **Book Club Committee**

Karen Malm  
Laura Ordway

## **Finance Committee**

Fritz Seving, *Treasurer, Chair*  
The Executive Committee serves as the ad-hoc Finance Committee as needed, for example, to review the proposed budget each May.

## **Junior Maine Guide Committee**

Spencer Ordway, *Chair*  
Moose Curtis, (volunteer)  
K Bolduc (volunteer)  
Other JMG staff attend as invited

## **Membership Committee**

Mike Katz, *Chair*  
Rich Deering  
Terri Mulks  
Lisa Tripler  
Beth Packard (volunteer)  
Andy Sangster (volunteer)

## **Marketing Committee**

Mark Lipof, *Chair*  
Matt Cornish  
Annie Bowe (volunteer)  
Ellen Cady (volunteer)  
Kris Millard (volunteer)

## **Camp Fair Planning Committee**

Tom Doherty  
Mike Douglass  
Heather Plati (volunteer)

## **Legislative Liaison w/ MYCA c4**

Laura Ordway  
Jack Erler, *Legislative Affairs*

## **Awards Committee**

Rich Deering, *Chair*  
Pam Cobb (volunteer)  
Mary Ellen Deschenes (volunteer)

## **Community Connections Group**

Kristy Andrews, *Chair*  
Sally Mann  
Mary Boyle  
Dan Emmons  
Dana Zimmerman  
Carly Vargas  
Nicky Martin  
Jenny Mueller  
Sarah Schechter  
Tony Pritchard  
Rory O'Connor

## **Investment Committee**

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Steve Sudduth  
Fritz Seving  
Rich Deering

## **Business membership**

Arleen Shepard, *Chair*  
Garth Altenburg  
Andy Lilienthal  
Jim Chalmers  
Jamie Bollinger (volunteer)

## **Spelling Bee Committee**

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Jack Day

## **Level Ground Committee**

Mike Douglass, *Chair*  
Peter Kassen  
Terri Mulks  
Catriona Sangster  
Matt Pines  
Kris Millard (volunteer)

## **DEI Committee (ad hoc)**

Peter Kassen, *Chair*  
Catriona Sangster  
Beigette Gill  
Tracy St. Onge  
Anna Hopkins Buller  
Alexis Dascoulias (volunteer)  
Bex Rosenblatt (volunteer)  
Evelyn Kirby (volunteer)  
Sarah Stone (volunteer)

## **NAWG (ad hoc)**

Catriona Sangster, *Chair*  
Andy Lilienthal  
Peter Kassen  
Fritz Seving  
Karen Malm  
Greg Shute (volunteer)  
Tyler Costello (volunteer)

## **STATE COMMITTEES**

### **State Trip Leader Advisory Committee**

Spencer Ordway, *MSC Rep. Chair*  
Greg Shute, *ME Guide w/camp exp.*  
Ron Fournier, *ME Guide w/camp exp.*  
Alex Jackson, *MSC Rep.*  
Jen Adams, *TL with camp experience*  
Eri Martin, *TL with camp experience*  
Aaron Cross, *Warden*

### **State Junior ME Guides Advisory Committee**

Spencer Ordway, *Camp Rep.*  
John "Moose" Curtis, *JMG Instructor*  
Cindy Murphy, *Camp Rep.*  
Plus State appointees

## **MAINE YOUTH CAMP ASSOCIATION 501 c4 BOARD**

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Tom Doherty, *Secretary*  
Fritz Seving  
Norm Thombs  
Mary Ellen Deschenes  
Tracy St. Onge-May  
Jack Erler, *non-voting*  
Matt Pines, *non-voting*  
Beigette Gill, *non-voting*

Volunteers are non-board members serving on committees

## ■ Hearing Stories, Gaining Insights

The second part of the afternoon presentation included personal reflections and suggestions for moving forward from two Native Americans. Claudia Fox Tree is a member of the Arawak tribe who teaches middle school in Massachusetts, and Erick Giles is a citizen of the Mvskoke (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma from the Rekackv (Broken Arrow) Tribal Town and the Katcv (Big Cat/Tiger/Panther) Clan. He now practices law as part of the tribal nations practice group at Drummond Woodsum in Portland.

Both panelists recounted personal experiences and advocated for individuals and organizations to do the hard work to re-educate themselves to make change.

Giles described events of bias both has a child and in his adult professional life, including use of negative terms revealing a clear lack of understanding and sensitivity to Native American experience and culture. “I appreciate that you take this seriously,” he said.

Tree described becoming acquainted with Irving after a book talk, in which Tree observed that Irving’s work displayed an absence of Native American stories. The two met for lunch and the connection has continued.

Tree reminded MSC members that bias is not “individual acts alone,” but rather the system of prejudice. From laws to loans to representations in the media, “it’s not the shark, it’s the water,” she said.

Camps, whose very names can be part of the problem, are empowered to make a difference, she said. One acronym they can consider is DUNCE, she suggested:

- Don’t culturally appropriate;
- Understand issues regarding dressing up;
- No fake stuff, such as language and dancing;
- Ceremonies are off limits; and
- Eliminate aggressions, such as micro-aggressions of which many people are unaware.

Giles also advocated creating opportunities to educate campers about indigenous culture.

“It’s not hard to incorporate Native American lessons into camp,” he said. Educator resources are widely available at both the Abbe Museum in Bar Harbor and the Hudson Museum based at the University of Maine, he suggested. Both institutions are dedicated to honoring and sharing information about Maine’s Native people, the Wabanaki.

Giles also described Mitchell Red Cloud Day, celebrated on July 4, honoring Mitchell Red Cloud Jr., a member of the Winnebago tribe who was killed in the Korean War and was awarded the Medal of Honor. Camp Winnebago, based in Fayette, has an opportunity to educate campers about the Winnebago tribe, which is based in Wisconsin, Giles said.

“Winnebago” is not just an RV,” Tree added.

Tree also advocated the use of the acronym PLACID:

- Plants are indigenous, too;
- Learn about language;
- Animals are our teachers;
- Connecting indigenous food to land, cuisine;
- Include indigenous ingenuity; and
- Do use place-based learning

We need to “uncover layers of story,” Tree said, suggesting that by “apprenticing ourselves to place,” we can honor indigenous people.

## ■ What Camps Can Do

Andy Lilienthal, owner and director of Camp Winnebago, was instrumental in organizing the event. He asked the panelists to advise steps “to open minds” in camp communities.

Erick Giles suggested, first, that camps create land acknowledgments as a means of honoring and educating. Sharing the history of experience on camp lands is also crucial he said.

Similarly, Tree advocated land acknowledgements, and learning history of place, as well as teaching about contributions of indigenous peoples.

***There's a real commitment to this question of the right relationship with indigenous people, and what camps need to be thinking about. – Anna Hopkins Buller***

Anna Hopkins Buller, director of Friends Camp and the Education Committee chair, said committee members were pleased with the program. Irving’s work laid an important foundation for Tree and Giles’s remarks, she said.

The opportunity to speak with small groups in breakout rooms was also helpful, Hopkins Buller said. “We also appreciated that Debby talked about every day antiracism practices,” she said. “It’s work, and it takes practice,” which “aligns with what we talk to kids about. You don’t just decide to be good at something. It takes practice.”

“I’m really grateful to the MSC Native American Working Group and Cat [Sangster] especially,” Hopkins Buller said. “There’s a real commitment to this question of the right relationship with indigenous people, and what camps need to be thinking about. We are sticking with it even though it’s a hard topic. And we are getting to the harder work.”

As part of that work, the Education Committee planned three drop-in chats for casual discussion of these issues. In addition, a webinar in April will guide camp directors on land acknowledgements, including their significance and how to create them. MSC members are encouraged to undertake the 21-Day Racial Indigenous Racial Equity Challenge as well. Information about the projects is available in the Hall Monitor. ■

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If you'd rather connect directly with a member of the Ampion Team, please contact Corinna Ricard-Farzan at **(207) 606-7774** or [cricardfarzan@ampion.net](mailto:cricardfarzan@ampion.net)

Dear Maine Camp Directors,  
what you have done over the past couple of  
seasons is INCREDIBLE.

You have made camp both safe and accessible for  
kids across the country. And you've also served  
as a model of safety for all types of youth  
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difficult time.

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# 100th Anniversary ACA New England Camp Conference

March 24-26 in Manchester, NH

We are excited to be back in person. Join over 500 other camp professionals from throughout New England for three days of learning, networking, and celebrating 100 years of the conference! The CampEXPO will also take place on March 24 and 25 and you can see the registered vendors here.

 [Click here to view ACA registered vendors](#)

The schedule is filled with great sessions on topics such as staffing, mental health, DEIB, programming, and more. More than 60 speakers, including Michael Brandwein, Kim Aycock, Tracy Gaslin, Simone Gamble, Chris Rehs-Dupin, and John Hamilton, will share their expertise. Each day, we have opportunities built in for you to network with like-minded folks during special interest group times (e.g. single gender camps, overnight camps, day camps, faith-based camps). And, we will have a great 100th Anniversary Celebration on Friday evening to honor our past, present, and future.

Visit ACA, New England's website for more information and the registration link! ■



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## 2022 Revised MSC Calendar

### Tuesday, February 23

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

### Wednesday, March 3

1-3 pm MSC Business Networking Virtual Extravaganza

### Tuesday, March 8

Pandemic-Impacted Campers Webinar

### Thursday-Saturday, March 14-16

Tri-State Camp Conference, Atlantic City, NJ

### Thursday-Saturday, March 24-26

New England ACA Conference, Manchester, NH

### Sunday, March 27

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

### Wednesday, March 30

10 am – noon Virtual Semi-Annual Membership Meetings of MCA and MYCA

### Tuesday, April 26

9:30am-12:30pm MSC Spring Workshops, Location TBD

9 - 11 am Spring MSC Board of Directors Meeting  
Location TDB

### Monday-Friday, July 25-29

Junior Maine Guide Test Camp  
Stephen Phillips Memorial Preserve, Oquossoc

## MSC Book Club to discuss *Salvage the Bones* by Jesmyn Ward

Zoom meeting on March 14 at 7 p.m.

The Maine Summer Camps Book Club is reading *Salvage the Bones* by Jesmyn Ward. The work of fiction relates the story of how one family on the Mississippi Gulf Coast endured Hurricane Katrina, but it also shares the story of what they were enduring before the storm. According to Parul Sehgal of the New York Times, “the 2011 National Book Award winner for fiction is a taut, wily novel, smartly plotted and voluptuously written. It feels fresh and urgent, but it’s an ancient, archetypal tale. . . It’s an old story — of family, honor, revenge, disaster — and it’s a good one.”

We invite you to join us in a discussion via Zoom on Monday, March 14 at 7p.m. ■



[Click here to register for the book club meeting](#)

# Webinar to Address Land Acknowledgements of Indigenous Territories

Virtual gathering with Dr. Darren Ranco, Tuesday, April 26 11 a.m. - Noon

Following MSC's January educational workshop focusing on white privilege and appropriation of native culture, the Education Committee is organizing sessions that support camps in their next steps toward great understanding of and collaboration with our indigenous neighbors. We begin with Land Acknowledgements.

Where do Land Acknowledgements of Indigenous territories come from? What is their purpose? What sorts of collaborations and working relationships can they lead to? In this workshop, Dr. Darren Ranco, Professor of Anthropology and Chair of Native American Programs at the University of Maine, will present the history and purpose of Indigenous territory land acknowledgements and will offer some examples and best practices.

Dr. Ranco will emphasize the ways in which these acknowledgements lead to greater collaborations with Indigenous people and Nations, and how they should not be used as a single space for organizations to create "feel-good" moments.

This webinar promises to provide learning that will be both compelling and actionable for all member camps.

*Dr. Daren Ranco, Professor of Anthropology and Chair of the Native American Programs at the University of Maine.*



[Click here to register for the April 26 Webinar](#)



This webinar is sponsored by Chalmers Insurance Group and Redwoods Group.

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# MYCA Update

February 14, 2022

Throughout the winter, the MYCA board has been tracking many issues which pertain to Maine Summer Camps, including:

- ✓ **Salaried employees' exemption status** for labor protections, such as overtime, etc.
- ✓ **DHHS requirement** for reporting child-to-child abuse and neglect
- ✓ **Fuel Gas Detectors** regulations, January 1, 2022
- ✓ **Maine headline news topics:** proposed ban on mandated vaccinations; reconsidering limits on Indigenous tribes' sovereignty
- ✓ **IF&W commissioner rule** affecting non-motorized sailboat and canoe races
- ✓ **Second session of the 130th Maine State Legislature**
- ✓ **J1 Visa status** for 2022

The Hall Monitor is the best place to review details of these issues, but as a member of MSC you should always 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. 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

*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.*

## Virtual Business Networking Event March 3, 1-3 pm **Business Members – Please Sign Up!**

We are excited to be holding our second virtual **annual vendor show on March 3**. We are using the same format that we used last year (Booth Central). Reports were that it was easy to set up and manage a booth. We plan to contact via phone all of our 140+ member camps to encourage them to participate in the event. We will be offering a number of great raffle items including three days and two nights at The Inn at Ocean's Edge in Lincolnville (a Migis Hotels property). We even have two raffle items for business members who participate in the event, including a Ron Hall cutting board!

Each business will have its own virtual booth that can include videos, photos, displays and provides the opportunity to chat with camp staff that "visit" the booth. The cost for a virtual booth is \$35 for a basic booth or \$200 for a sponsor booth. (Sponsor booths will get priority listing while all other businesses will have their booth location randomized.) For many of you this may be the only time you'll have an opportunity to meet "face to face" with senior staff from lots of camps. ■



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## Maine Camp History

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

By Henry Paul Johnson, Maine Summer Camp Historian

In my last article, I began to examine a 1956 publication entitled, “The Maine Camp for Boys and Girls,” which outlined multiple reasons for sending your child to a Maine Summer Camp. This article tallies up those boys and girls’ camps that, according to the that publication, existed within the State of Maine.

In 1956, there were 64 girls’ summer camps. For all of you Maine camp enthusiasts, this article provides to you a comprehensive list of those camps. Challenge yourself by comparing this list to the

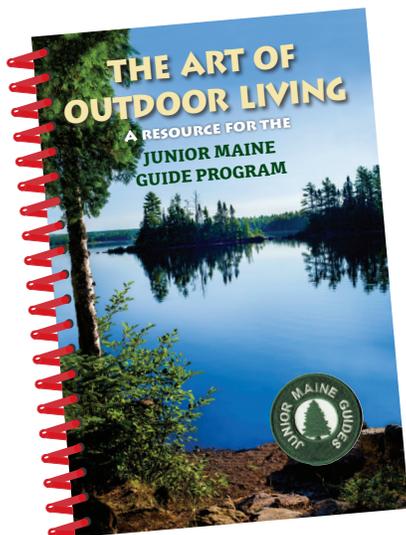
Maine summer camps that you know exist today. I would suggest to you that while some of the camps remain intact, by name, location and directorship, others no longer exist or have changed their name, location or directorship.

I have always welcomed comments relating to all articles written to date. In the case of this article, I would so enjoy receiving comments, anecdotes or other information, which you might share regarding any of the camps examined in this article. ■

*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](mailto:hjohnson@henryjohnsonlaw.com)*

## Girls’ Summer Camps existing in 1956

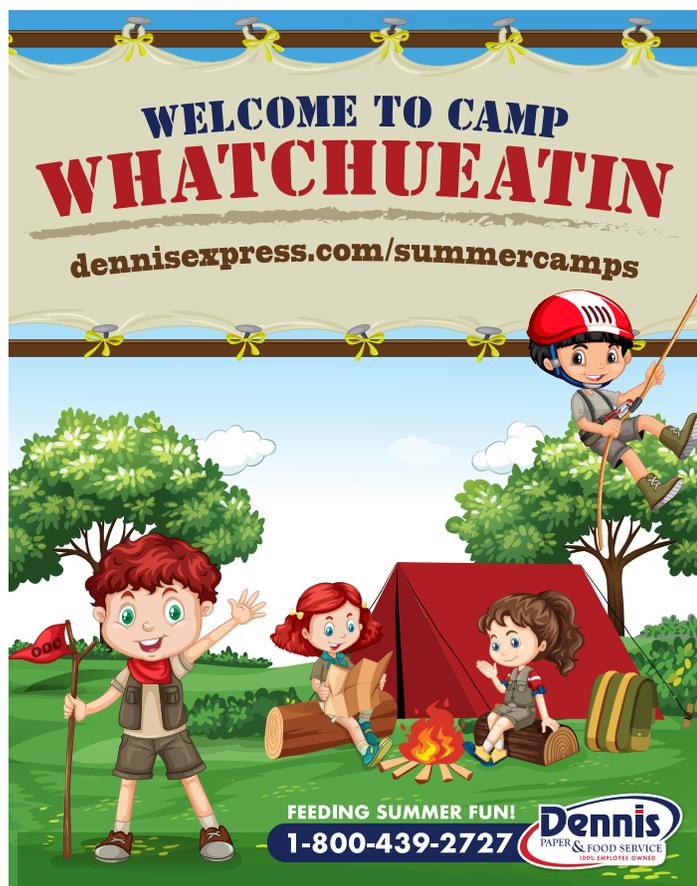
Name of Camp	Location	Name of Camp	Location	Name of Camp	Location
1. Abena	Great Lake	23. Laughing Loon	Little Ossipee Lake	44. Seal Bay	Bagaduce Bay
2. Accomac	Peabody Pond	24. Les Chalets Francais	Penobscot Bay	45. Sebago Wohelo	Sebago Lake The Luther Gulick Camps, Inc.
3. Alford Lake	Alford Lake	25. Little Wohelo	Sebago Lake Luther Gulick Camp	46. Somerset	Belgrade Lakes
4. Aquila	Little Sebago	26. Mataponi	Naples	47. Sunningdale	Sebago Lake
5. Arcadia	Pleasant Lake	27. Matoaka	East Lake	48. T-Ledge	Harpwell Sound
6. Atalooa	Ocean Park	28. Med-O-Lark	Medomak	49. Tanglewood	Duck Trap Stream
7. Bendito	Island Pond	29. Merestead	Megunticook Lake	50. Tapawingo	Keyes Pond
8. Blazing Trail	Sand Pond	30. Merrymeeting	Merrymeeting Bay	51. Tawasi	Long Lake
9. Cedar Crest	Messalonskee Lake	31. Modin	Canaan	52. Trebor	Lovewell’s Lake
10. Cedar Cove	Lake Cobbosseecontee	32. Moy-Mo-Da-Yo	Pequaket Lake	53. Tripp Lake	Tripp Lake Camp
11. Cherith	Lyman	32. Mudjekeewis	Kezar Lake	54. Truda	Pleasant Lake
12. Dr. Johnson’s Camp	Crescent Lake	33. Naiad	Pleasant Pond	55. Vega and. Vega Sr	Echo Lake
13. Evelyn de La Tour	Sedgwick Summer Dance Workshop	34. Naomi	Crescent Lake	56. Wabunaki	Hancock Lake
14. Fernwood	Thompson Lake	35. Natarswi	Lower Tongue Pond	57. Walden	Walden Pond
15. Forest Acres	Saco River	36. Newfound	Long Lake	58. Wavus	Damariscotta Lake
16. Four Winds	Walker’s Pond	37. Penko	Lake Cobbosseecontee	59. Wawenock	Sebago Lake
17. Gaywood	Oakland	38. Pesquasawasis	Worthley Lake	60. Wayaka	Lake Thompson
18. Hiawatha	Stanley Lake	39. Pinecliffe	Crystal Lake	61. Waziyatah	Long Pond
19. Hitinowa	Lake Cobbosseecontee	40. Pinecrest	Long Lake	62. Wenonah	Lake Wenonah
20. Kineowatha	Wilson Lake	41. Rapputak	Lovewell Lake	63. Woodlands	Long Lake
21. Kirkwold	Lovejoy Pond	42. Runoia	Great Pond	64. Wyonegonic	Moose Pond
22. Lakeridge Manor	Oakland	43. Sa-Gis-Ca The Sanford Girl Scout Camp	Horn Pond		



Available  
this spring!

An updated edition of *The Art of Outdoor Living* will be published by Maine Summer Camps in late spring. The first edition of 800 books sold out and a supplement was published. The new edition will include the original and supplement information. Price — \$34 / book

Contact Sue at MSC at [office@mainecamps.org](mailto:office@mainecamps.org) to order books.



## Webinar: Pandemic-Impacted Campers: Hope and Healing in 2022

Tuesday, March 8, 2-3:30 p.m.

Join **John Hamilton**, National Director of Camp Hope America, for a practical workshop on what stressors campers have experienced over the past two years and how to integrate hope and healing into your camp for Summer 2022. The event includes a 60-minute webinar, followed by a 30-minute discussion with MSC members.



John Hamilton, National Director of Camp Hope America

John collaborates with human services agencies, clinicians, and youth development leaders to offer hope to children around the country. He is an expert in youth programming and trauma-informed care and specializes in forging unlikely partnerships and developing unified teams.

Education Committee Chair Anna Hopkins Buller reports that Hamilton's perspective "was striking and empowering, because he emphasizes how truly disruptive and challenging these past few years have been for youth (and adults—including us!). He encouraged us not to think so hard about the language but about the major impact of the last few years on kids and the potential for positive influence that camp has." ■



[Click here to register for the March 8 Webinar](#)



This webinar is sponsored by Chalmers Insurance Group and Redwoods Group.

## New Date for the MSC/MYCA Semi-Annual Membership Meeting

March 30, 10 a.m. on Zoom

Due to Covid concerns and spotty wi-fi connection we have moved the semi-annual membership meeting from March 26 at the ACA New England Conference to a virtual meeting on March 30. More information about the meeting will be in the upcoming Hall Monitors.

## The Challenges of Job and Camp Fairs in Covid Times — *two fairs are remaining*

**M**SC scheduled two job fairs and two camp fairs for this winter and spring. Unfortunately, the first event, a camp fair at Cheverus High School on February 6, was canceled due to Covid concerns. The next event, a job fair at the University of Maine in Farmington on February 7, was held but was negatively impacted by newly imposed Covid restrictions on the day of the fair. Those restrictions required that the 33 participating camps be split between two spaces, which reduced overall student attendance. Old man weather decided to postpone the job fair, scheduled for the following day at Husson University.

We hope our two remaining events will go off without any interference by Covid or weather. We still have space at our **job fair rescheduled at Husson University on February 23 from 10 to 1:30**. If you are interested in registering for the job fair contact Ron Hall (camps@mainecamps.org).

The final fair for the season is a camp fair at the **East End Community School in Portland on March 27, 1 to 3:30 pm**.



[Click here to register your camp for the March 27 camp fair](#)

## Camps! Sign-Up for the March 3 Virtual Business Networking Event!

**C**ritical to the operation of MSC are “Business Members”. Their financial support is a significant contribution to the MSC operational budget. For this reason, and because we are all Maine business-people and in this together, please participate in **MSC’s Virtual Business Networking Event on March 3, 1-3p.m.**

It’s easy, and there’s no fee for your camp. Each participating MSC Business Member, whether you use them or not, simply wants and deserves the opportunity to meet with you (or your representative) virtually. Too busy? It’s fine to send a trusted staff member.

The platform is far easier and more intuitive than most virtual trade shows. Just click to register, and on March 3 log in for a few minutes with the vendors of your choice. If it’s a vendor you already know, they’ll appreciate your encouragement. If it’s one you don’t use yet, you will make a connection for when you do have a need.

Need some extra incentive? The raffle prizes are amazing. Each booth “visited” gives you the chance to win. Grand prize is a three day/two-night mini vacation, plus gift cards, MSC thermos, coffee mug, and Ron Hall cutting board. ■



[Click here to register to attend the Virtual Networking event.](#)



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## Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee Update and Plans Looking Ahead

Maine Summer Camps' Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee was created by the MSC Board in the spring of 2021, and the committee has undertaken a broad range of efforts in the past year. Its specific projects include the following:

- ▶ Assessing the MSC Code of Ethics and how it aligns with the goals of Diversity, Equity and Inclusivity
- ▶ Surveying the MSC membership regarding desires, needs, questions and expectations from the DEI Committee.
- ▶ Organizing, promoting and hosting casual conversations on “Gender Identity at Camp” and “Creating Safe Spaces for People of All Genders in Camp”
- ▶ Penning the DEI Corner for the Hall Monitor which includes contemporary topics for further exploration and learning opportunities for camp directors.

Going forward, the Committee will continue partnering with MSC's Native American Working Group. In particular, committee members hope to develop resources to support

camp directors who were inspired by MSC's January workshop addressing cultural appropriation and the history and importance of Maine's indigenous populations. The DEI and NAWG groups' efforts will include offering education about the indigenous people who have inhabited the land now called Maine. Committee members also plan to host casual conversations on relevant DEI topics later this year.

*Going forward, the Committee will continue partnering with MSC's Native American Working Group. ...committee members hope to develop resources to support camp directors who were inspired by MSC's January workshop.*

The DEI Committee meets on the second Monday evening of each month and continues to explore topics that promote supportive and welcoming camp environments for children, staff and families of all backgrounds and demographic characteristics.

If you're interested in getting involved in the work of the DEI Committee, please contact Alexis Dascoulias at [alexis@campcenterstage.org](mailto:alexis@campcenterstage.org). ■



## Welcome New **Business** Members

### Ampion Renewable Energy

**Ampion** offers opportunities for Maine businesses, nonprofit organizations, and homeowners/renters to participate in Maine's Community Solar program through a subscription-based model. This program is free to participate in and results in annual electricity savings of up to 15%.

Corinna Ricard-Farzan  
207.712.5834  
cricardfarzan@ampion.net

### Bangor Savings Bank

**Bangor Savings Bank**, with more than \$6 billion in assets, offers retail banking to consumers as well as comprehensive commercial, corporate, payroll administration, merchant services, and small business banking services to businesses. The Bank, founded in 1852, is in its 170th year with more than 60 branches in Maine and New Hampshire and business and/or loan production offices in Maine, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts.

Michelle Webber  
207.41.2752  
Michelle.Webber@Bangor.com

### DiaMedical USA Equipment

**MedMattress** serves as a turnkey solution for Camp Mattresses, Furniture, Bunk Beds, PPE & Medical Supplies.

Jonathan Hebel  
249.801.1913  
jhebel@diamedicalusa.com

### Northeast Bank

**Northeast Bank** is a full-service community bank based in Maine. We offer a full range of personal and business banking services, from banking accounts with competitive rates and features to financing options to cash management. At Northeast Bank, we are committed to bettering the lives of those in need. We focus our charitable efforts in the markets we serve and aim to raise the aspirations of our youth, support those in need, and promote economic development.

Katie Rooks  
207.808.5080  
krooks@northeastbank.com

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## Bring Your Summer Campers to Adventure Bound!

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For more information, contact John Philbrick at [info@adv-bound.com](mailto:info@adv-bound.com)