



Beigette Gill

Halsey Gulick Award Recipient 2024

“She was the perfect person to be in that role at that time because she is such a thoughtful, calm presence.” This praise of the 2024 Halsey Gulick Award recipient is well deserved and widely shared. As the COVID-19 pandemic upended the globe, and the Maine youth camping industry along with it, this year’s award winner, serving as Maine Summer Camps board president, rose to the challenge with grace, intelligence, and quiet and confident leadership. “We needed somebody who could relate on a personal level to what was happening to us emotionally as well as logistically,” this colleague continues.

Vastly capable and organized, with emotional intelligence “off the charts,” she offered hope, strength and an inordinate amount of time to help the MSC members navigate unprecedented challenges. “She was the right leader at the right time,” says a fellow MSC board member. “Not only did she do it with flying colors, but she did it at a time that brought us challenges we had no idea to expect.”

Another colleague says this camp professional “brought a new definition to what ‘pivot’ means.” Together with former MSC Executive Director Ron Hall “they handled themselves so deftly and beautifully.” While Ron “got the job done,” this colleague reports, “this year’s award recipient “really came in to bring some true compassion and helped us find the joy of what we do in very tough circumstances.”

Ron Hall describes this camping professional as “unflappable” during the peak of the pandemic. “Totally supportive to all and always looking for ways to help camps in the most challenging of times. And she was always ready to give us hugs!” The warmth, compassion, and dedication she demonstrated during the pandemic “kept us positive and inspired to do our great work helping kids feel safe and secure,” another colleague reports. “But more than that, she reassured members amidst all the challenges of the pandemic that ‘all will be well.’”

Our 2024 Halsey Gulick recipient exhibits curiosity coupled with self-awareness, taking the time to “understand herself and therefore herself in relationship to others,” says a longtime friend and fellow camp owner/director. She brought great energy and dedication as a former Education Committee chair and, a remarkable listener, she also asks insightful questions. “I think she is extremely knowledgeable but very approachable, so she comes across as such a collaborator rather than a leader from above.”

The awardee has also personally faced a life-altering event, and she and her husband met that challenge with extraordinary resilience, colleagues say. Another camp director praises, she is inspirational in how she teaches “us all what’s so important about picking ourselves up and reinventing ourselves, making us stronger physically, emotionally and spiritually. The greatest thing is that she has so much insight into the human connection that inspires people to reach for their very best,” this fellow MSC board member concludes.

This year’s Halsey Gulick Award winner consistently brings her best in providing such inspiration. Honoring her as a champion of human connection, curiosity and compassion, an individual who buoyed an organization facing unparalleled obstacles with tremendous care and capability, Maine Summer Camps presents the 2024 Halsey Gulick Award to Beigette Gill.



Past Recipients of the Halsey Gulick Award

For distinguished service to the organized youth camping movement in Maine

Catriona Sangster – Camp Wawenock – 2023

From exemplary leadership at the camp level to wide-ranging and invaluable contributions to Maine and New England’s youth camping industry, Cat combines her own talents with a spirit of genuine care, connection, and a commitment to growth among camps, campers and fellow camp professionals. As President of Maine Summer Camps and Education Committee Chair, she moved the organization in numerous ways. Cat helped launch the MSC Book Club, helped found the Level Ground Initiative to improve camp access for children of Maine’s immigrant and refugee communities, and brought this same dedication to her work on the MSC Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee. She has also been instrumental in the groundbreaking work of the MSC Native American Working Group, which has worked tirelessly over the last several years to educate and guide camps and campers around issues of cultural appropriation. Cat possesses abilities and a spirit of volunteerism that reach beyond Maine. As another colleague writes, “she’s an incredible resource in relationship with ACA, New England,” of which she is a board member. Colleagues report all of these accomplishments are born of our recipient’s “thoughtfulness and people-first perspective.” She has a “warm and welcoming presence” both as a colleague and mentor and “never rests on her laurels.”

Michael Katz – Camp Sunshine – 2022

Mike is known for his extraordinary talent and equal amounts of humility. In chairing the MSC Membership Committee for more than a decade, Mike initiated outreach efforts with more systematic and proactive engagement and increased memberships in terms of both volume and MSC revenue returns. A key developer in our organization’s strength and success, his organizational impact has also extended to ACA, New England’s

Stewardship Committee. All of Mike’s contributions to the camping industry are extensions of his efforts at Camp Sunshine where he served as executive director from 2014 to 2022. Always a champion of Sunshine’s mission, he was “Mr. Policy and Procedures,” but also engaged in joyful play with young campers. Mike always delivers with precision and heartfelt articulation. There is never any bravado about his steadfast leadership – he knows how to rally the troops with sincerity and gratitude. The most significant virtue Michael Katz brings to the camping industry is his work ethic, passion to help others, and kindness – all underscored by his gentle soul and wit.

Spencer Ordway – Winona Camps – 2021

At Winona Camps, Spencer has spearheaded the creation of approximately 65 wilderness-based trips each summer, developing a curriculum for campers of all levels. He has made particularly lasting contributions to the joint Maine Summer Camps and Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Junior Maine Guide Program. The JMG program director calls him a “guiding light” and “quiet leader” for the JMG program, whose efforts around pandemic procedures helped make the 2021 JMG Testing Camp happen. This extraordinary individual has filled every camp role, served on Maine Summer Camps committees for decades, and has made an indelible mark on the full range of camp operations both at his own camp and those across Maine. Camping is in his DNA, and his talents and commitment are invaluable. A “tremendous camp director,” to whom Winona Camps and camps across Maine extend great admiration and gratitude.

Richard Deering – Birch Rock Camp – 2020

As a former Board President his efforts included reorganizing MSC's committees, infusing new energy to the Education Committee and providing clearer purpose to dormant committees. He has served on the Maine Tourism Council as well as ACA, New England's board of directors. Indeed, his advocacy for Maine camps, along with his unfailing support for colleagues and friends, are exemplary of the positive, collaborative nature of MSC. At the same time, he is a successful realtor, no doubt sharing these same qualities. Our recipient has traveled a path from Birch Rock camper to now Birch Rock Camp's Executive Director. Caring and generous, collaborative, and committed, our recipient is described as "a steady flame of the fire that spreads the value of camping, the importance of connection with peers, the power of people joining together."

Lisa Tripler – Kamp Kohut - 2019

A camper in New Hampshire, and, as a young adult at Camp Fernwood, kitchen help, swim instructor and waterfront head counselor, and head counselor. Kamp Kohut was in Lisa's family, in her blood. Owning the camp was Lisa's long-time goal and now she and her husband have owned the coed camp for 27 years. Long involved with Maine Summer Camps, Lisa has served on the organization's Education Committee, Marketing Committee, and Membership Committee. She has provided lengthy and steadfast service on the Board, served as Board secretary, and was involved in numerous momentous organization decisions, such as spinning off MSC and MYCA, and hiring an Executive Director. When Lisa Tripler and her husband Dan Rapaport bought Kamp Kohut almost three decades ago, it was a new adventure. Today, every day, the adventure continues. For her spirit, her energy, and her vast expertise.

Sue McMullan – Alford Lake – 2019

Her first decade provided immediate evidence of a future camping professional of the highest caliber. Whether it was packing out trips, serving as a tent counselor, acting as head of tennis, or head of program, this vibrant addition to Alford Lake Camp came to camp in 1970 and quickly became indispensable. Sue spent 1980-1982 as associate director, then took on the role of co-director from 1983-1991. Since 1992, a 27-year span, Alford Lake Camp has thrived under the direction of our award recipient. For 40 years those abilities have been the key to her leading

the camp's senior counselor trainee program. As camp director, this beloved guide and visionary has continued to implement programming and opportunities for the girls Alford Lake Camp serves. From 1980-1982 she served on the board of directors of ACA New England. She served on the board of directors and as education committee chair of Maine Summer Camps for many years. She was also a trustee at Waynflete School.

Alan Kissack – Kingsley Pines – 2018

For more than 40 summers, Alan Kissack has committed unwavering dedication to the growth of youngsters at Maine summer camps. Alan's first foray into camp life was as a camper and then as a staff member in every role at Camp O-AT-KA in Sebago. He then took on the role of Director of YMCA Camp Jordan in Ellsworth. For the past 23 years Alan has served as Director of Kingsley Pines Camp in Raymond. He guided Kingsley Pines through a period of significant expansion, and the camp now hosts 600 children a summer. Alan has also dedicated countless hours to the growth and improvement of Maine camps as chair of the Maine Summer Camps marketing committee. His primary project was spearheading a complete overhaul of MSC website. Alan's overarching goal is the development of children, and he embraces each summer as an opportunity to achieve this goal. Every decision he makes is rooted in what is best for the kids, and he has ingrained this commitment in all the staff who have worked for him.

Ron Hall – Maine Summer Camps – 2017

From his ten years at Camp O-AT-KA, to his current position as Maine Summer Camps' Executive Director, Ron Hall has built on his long-time tenure as an educator in continuing to create positive camp experiences for youngsters from all backgrounds. At Camp O-AT-KA he created a program that met the needs of all boys with all interests. ACA New England has also been the beneficiary of Ron's talent. He has served as board Vice-President, Public Relations and Camp Information Task Force chairs, and was the recipient of an award for meritorious service. Ron has also reached beyond the camping community to raise awareness of Maine camps and their impact on the State of Maine. By connecting with the Maine Tourism Association and Maine chambers of commerce he has generated increased exposure for Maine camps. Upbeat and positive, collaborative, and considerate, a listener always, Ron Hall continues to serve camps throughout Maine with energy, enthusiasm, and expertise.

Tim Ellis – Chewonki – 2016

Tim Ellis's Chewonki career began in 1938. Tim's childhood summers were spent at Chewonki as the son of the head counselor, and eventually Tim forged his own path as a camper and counselor. By the time Tim took over as camp director in 1965, Chewonki was already steeped in 50 years of camping traditions. Tim was the first employee of the newly formed Chewonki Foundation. In the fall of 1971, Tim pioneered the first residential school program at Chewonki for a group of eighth-grade students. Imagine a 10-day fall program at Chewonki with your eighth-grade class. Tim was the visionary that made this happen. Tim also served as president of the Maine Youth Camping Foundation from 1989 to 1991, giving of his time and experience for the good of all Maine camps. As we look to a future where the camps of Maine have a tremendous opportunity to partner with our schools, we celebrate the leadership of Tim Ellis.

Barry Costa – YMCA Camp of Maine – 2015

Barry has embodied a commitment to the values of Maine camps for decades and has worked tirelessly to preserve and expand those experiences for Maine youth. For more than 25 years of service as Director of the YMCA Camp of Maine, he opened the doors of a true Maine camp experience to thousands of children. All the while, Barry strived from behind the scenes of day-to-day camp operations to advocate on behalf of all of Maine's camps. His steadfast and exemplary service to the Maine Youth Camping Association has benefitted camps and campers alike. He spent countless hours in Augusta both providing testimony and being present to monitor legislation on behalf of MYCA and MSC. Fulfilling the Y's long-standing goals of developing mind, body and spirit, Barry made connections with a broad range of Maine groups and non-profits, hosting creative programs and retreats, and tapping into international relationships, specifically China. He is responsible for the camp's transformation into a year-round venture. Barry's dedication has been lasting, effective, and instrumental in the irreplaceable camp experience of children across the state of Maine.

Greg Shute – Chewonki – 2014

Greg has provided powerful camp wilderness trip experiences to the children of Maine's summer youth camps, through his own direct trip leading at Chewonki, and as an educator of and advocate for countless wilderness

trip programs throughout Maine. From his roots growing up in Belfast and at his family's "camp" on Pitcher Pond in Lincolnville, to his numerous adventures in the woods and on the waters, Greg has seen it all in the Maine outdoors. In 1991 Greg became Chewonki's first Wilderness Trip Director. Through his leadership, he has pioneered new wilderness trips for teens while providing safe wilderness experiences for tens of thousands of campers and students at Chewonki. In 2011 Greg played a vital role on behalf of Maine Summer Camps in working with the state to revise the Maine Trip Leader permitting system for camps, representing Maine Summer Camps as a key partner in the process, working so that the interests of the camps were understood and incorporated. Greg's legacy is that we, as a group of camps, will be able to provide transformative wilderness camping experiences in the Maine outdoors to the next generations of Maine campers.

Fritz Seving – Camp Fernwood -- 2013

Fritz has been a catalyst for positive change and forward thinking in the Maine camp community for the past several decades. A camper from the age of 7, he became a staffer at Camp Robin Hood at 15 and worked at camp through his college summers and recruiting in the winter. Fritz began his career with Fernwood in 1989. Making sure to keep Fernwood's founding principles in the forefront, he inspired and excited children to grow and learn during their summers at camp. Fernwood's enrollment grew. In 1998 he founded Fernwood Cove, Maine's first half-season traditional girls' camp on the Camp Chickawah property, which required extensive reconstruction. He served as President of the Maine Summer Camps from 2003-05 and is currently its Treasurer. He was instrumental in the formation of the Maine Youth Camp Association (MYCA) and is an active member of the board in the role of Vice President. Fritz has been a board member of the Association of Independent Camps (now CODA) and is a founding member and advisory board member of the Maine Camp Experience organization.

Mary Ellen Deschenes – Maine Summer Camps – 2012

Mary Ellen has been involved in Maine camps for over 25 years. As a sponsored child camper, she learned firsthand the long-lasting benefits of summer camp and later served as Camp Susan Curtis's Executive Director for 14 years, bringing a camp experience to thousands of Maine's disadvantaged children. For the past decade, Maine Summer Camps has been the primary beneficiary of her talents. She has expanded the services of MSC to

its members. Mary Ellen runs the organization efficiently on a modest budget, implemented a fundraising program, and expanded marketing, web presence & membership. She provides valued guidance to camps on regulatory and legislative issues. Mary Ellen was pivotal in the formation of MYCA, the governmental relations “sister” association of Maine Summer Camps. She is a past president of Maine Summer Camps (1995-97) and was a board member from 1990-2002.

Garth R. Nelson – Camp Agawam – 2011*

Garth was destined to be a camp director beginning as a camper at Camp Wyanoke, NH, continuing as a counselor, trip director & waterfront director for a number of years. He moved on to be asst. director & director at Camp Passumpic, Vt. for 5 years. In 1984 he came to Agawam, after long-time owner Dave Mason retired. He was active in MYCA (now MSC) serving on the board from 1986 – 1993, holding the office of treasurer from ’89-’92. He played a pivotal role in the JMG program from ’86-91. Garth retired his directorship in 2008 but remained as Director of the Board of Operations until 2010. He is also a long-time girls’ soccer coach for Hanover High School, MA, an avid hiker, and has climbed Mt. Washington 100 times. Garth died in 2013.

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 4th generation of family directors. Changes she made ensured 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 her entire adult life to youth camping, it is an interesting footnote that she never went to camp as a child. Georgia moved to New England at the age of 26 was hired by Camp Bishopswood as Camp Director. During her tenure she 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. As a veteran ACA Accreditation Visitor she has mentored many camp directors. Georgia’s 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 Master’s 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 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 benefiting 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 was 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 was active in MYCA and National ACA and helped establish the first ACA Standards Program. He died in 2011.

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, Lifeguard 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. Pat died in 2022.

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.

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 was 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 was 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 later was the owner/director. June served many years on the boards of MYCA, and ACA New England. She also served a long tenure on the Editorial Board for the national ACA’s Camping Magazine. June died in 2011.

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, teenagers from war-torn countries 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.

John Paul Erler – 1996

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.

Louise Gulick Van Winkle and Davis 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 multicultural 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 Directors 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 served on the National Certification Board.

Jean G. McMullan – Alford Lake – 1992 *

As director of Alford Lake Camp, 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. Jean died in 2023.

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 continued until 2022. 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 Dimmock Award. He was also nominated to stand for election to become President of ACA. Frank designed and secured funding for the nation’s first ongoing 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. Frank died in 2012.

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 was 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 was

extensive and included several years of service on town boards and committees and many years as President of the Board at Gould Academy in Bethel, Maine. “Uncle Al” passed away in 2013.

Philip Jackson Cobb - Runoia – 1986 *

Ranging from the Council of Community Services to the Peace Corps, Phil was 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. He died in 2012.

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.

Myron H. Rogers - Tapawingo – 1982 *

Mike Rogers and his wife, Lenore, owned Camp Tapawingo until their 1987 retirement. He spearheaded 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.