

**CONFERENCE CALL MINUTES – September 20, 2009, 7:00 pm**  
**ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF THE NORTHERN LIGHTS CAMPS**

Opening by Willem Schrage, Association President

**Actions Taken:**

1. Approval of Minutes from Annual Meeting on July 3, 2009 as emailed out – made by Chad Swenson and seconded by Brandon Wehner, motion passed.
2. Motion made to officially change the name of the staff scholarship endowment fund to the Steve Werpy Staff Scholarship Endowment Fund by Chad Swenson and seconded by Steve Shark, motion passed
3. Motion made to reimburse Chris Soper for cost occurred in mailing out the latest Aurora of \$61.93 by Chris Soper and seconded by Steve Shark, motion passed.
4. Motion made to adjourn the meeting was made by Chris Soper and seconded by Brandon Wehner, motion passed.

**Reports & Discussion:**

1. Chad Swenson talked about the idea of changing the Scholarship fund's name to honor Steve Werpy who recently passed this spring. In addition to the scholarship's name change the plan is to solicit monies for a brick for the courtyard at Camp Wilderness to memorialize the life of Steve. The Association will start promoting both methods of honoring Steve at the next mailings of the Association.
2. Chris Soper spoke for Brad Olson who was unable to attend the call: Brad wanted everyone to know that the summer camp had another successful season. The numbers for the Boy Scout side was down, but the Cub Scout side was up. An interesting note that camp was closed only 12 days over the course of the year when some organization was not using the camp. A pretty remarkable statistic.
3. A 16 page Aurora went out on time again. We have been more successful in getting more members to get their newsletter by email; only 33 were mailed. Feedback has been very good; when you get a chance drop Scott Ralston a note on your thoughts. Scott is always looking for interesting stories about your experience at camp, articles about camp life, or what ever interests you.
4. Steve Shark reported the Achievement Award Committee is still looking for nominations. During the last committee meeting discussion was made over making a special award just for organization, groups, or families. Willem suggested that a proposal be created for one of the upcoming conference calls for a final approval at the Annual Meeting. Another suggestion was made to put a survey in the next Aurora to solicit ideas and opinions of a separate award. This survey should also be sent to officers, chairpersons, and board member. Any ideas or suggestions should be sent to Steve. Note: Chris Soper was presented this year's award at Wilderness during Reunion Week and the 08 Award was presented to Phil Blomquist at the Metigoshe Reunion on August 22<sup>nd</sup> and the Art Heinze will be presented his October 1<sup>st</sup> at the TRF Roundtable.
5. Fall Fellowship is October 16-18<sup>th</sup> at Camp Wilderness. Chad has offered to help with this year's event (and only this year's) and tries to fill Mike Melby's role. A big thanks goes to Mike for helping out with the Fellowship weekends. Brandon has offered to help Willem find a chairman. A suggestion was made to put a note together for the next Aurora or email that sent out for the Fargo Social asking for anyone interested in helping or leading the Fall Fellowship? Note: What purpose or what should happen at the Fellowship? Should the Fellowship change? What's are your ideas?
6. The Spring Gathering was successful thanks to the ideas and efforts of Jodi and Matt Saari. A big thanks also goes to Damian Lewis for cooking a fantastic luau.
7. Chad stated that the Open House was very successful largely due to work of Marianne Jezierski for making invitations for the event that were sent to the parents of the current staff.
8. Chris Soper reported that the Association has 85 members in good standing of which 75 are lifetime members and 7 are annual members. As of June 16<sup>th</sup> we have \$2546 in our account. The mailings for the last Aurora came to \$61.93.
9. The History Committee is continuing the History Trail and Interviews. Two interviews for John Barton and Jim Worner in the Fergus Falls area need to be set up for this fall. If interested in helping please let Bob Rezac or Chad know?
10. The Metigoshe Reunion was a tremendous success with a representative from every year that the camp was open. 37 attended from six different states. The cost of the event was \$1250.15 that was paid by participants and few generous donors. A thanks goes to all those who helped make the weekend a fantastic success.
11. Chad talked about the role that the reunions can be to the Association. They provide a great way to promote fellowship and increase our membership. Looking forward we have the Wabaunaquat Reunion set for May 15, 2010 and a Centennial Celebration at Wilderness August 14, 2010. Wilderness's 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is in 2011, Metigoshe's 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the new camp is in 2013, Big 4's 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is in 2015, and Wabaunaquat's 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is also in 2015. The Association should look for a Reunion Committee for each camp and provide them with a budget. The idea is each committee or camp would have a major event every 5 years. Any thoughts or ideas about the reunions please let Chad know so he can make a report at the next conference call. Note: Finding the actual opening dates of Heart Butte and the first camp of Metigoshe Scout Reservation and verify the opening dates of Wabaunaquat is necessary.

**Other Business:**

No other business was brought up and Willem recommended that we close the meeting by thanking everyone who participated and looking forward to more attending the next call

Happy Birthday goes to Brad Olson whose birthday's is Monday the 21<sup>st</sup>.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM

**Present:** Willem Schrage, Steve Shark, Chris Soper, Chad Swenson, and Brandon Wehner

**Not Present:** Bill Beyer, Matt Saari, Scott Ralston, Brad Olson, Bob Rezac, Steve Lyman, Damian Lewis, Warren Tobin, Jenny Fisher, and Neil Litton

Minutes submitted by Chad Swenson, September 21<sup>st</sup> 2009

**Future Meetings:**

November 15th at 7 pm

January 24th at 7 pm

March 28th at 7 pm

May 16th at 7 pm

July 9th Annual Business Meeting at Camp Wilderness