



**SAGAMORE INSTITUTE
OF THE ADIRONDACKS**

2008 Annual Report

January 2009

Facilities Maintenance Plan Completed

With the support of grants from the New York State Council on the Arts and from the National Trust for Historic Preservation, a new Facilities Plan has been completed by Mesick, Cohen, Wilson, Baker Architects of Albany. They write:

Members of the board of the Sagamore Institute of the Adirondacks are fully aware of the historic, architectural, and cultural importance of Camp Sagamore. Its designation as a National Historic Landmark in 2000 was fully deserved, for the camp is truly a treasure of national importance. It is unique in its social history, its architecture and even in the way it can be experienced by the public, and remarkable efforts and sacrifices have been made by many who have understood its significance over the years. Although the camp was created and shaped by wealthy individuals interested in enjoying the Adirondacks through the lens of their refined lifestyle, it is likely the camp helped those individuals more fully appreciate the Adirondacks in the same way it continues to serve this purpose today. Although great resources were committed to create the camp, it is still a fragile complex that must be properly cared for to ensure that it survives for generations to come. The driving force behind this effort was the recognition that in the near future a new generation of stewards will be responsible for the daily administration and maintenance of the camp, and the time was right to evaluate the buildings with a “new set of eyes”.

The plan includes chapters on Near-Term Recommendations, Overall Planning Concepts, Caretaker's & Executive Director's Housing, Dining Complex, Sports Complexes, Winterization, and Conservation Policy. It will serve as an essential guide to the staff and trustees.

www.greatcampsagamore.org

Sagamore now steps into the future with confidence that it will not be overlooked on the information highway. With a generous grant from the John Ben Snow Foundation, Great Camp Sagamore has a new website complete with videos and site plan. Doors on the home page lead you to Vanderbilt History and Tours, Elderhostels and Internships, Accommodations and Events, and Support and Resources. Visitors can learn about our programs and history, register to stay, buy gift certificates, and donate. Everyone can "register to win" a free weekend at Sagamore and those who do will also receive monthly e-news-letters with updates. The feedback has been very positive. Please visit often!

ANNUAL AWARDS Trustee: Bill Locke for advice and outstanding service

Service: Raquette Lake Fire Department for constant help and vigilance.

WINNERS Volunteer Quilt: Pam Hufcut, Bloomingburg, NY. Adirondack Chair: Josh Frey, Marion, NY. Canoe: Walt Pomeroy, Mechanicsburg, PA

Guest Nights: 5457 Tourists: 7082 It was an outstanding year with more guests and tourists than ever before.

Work Weekend HOSTS were Bob and Julie Connors.

Red Chair AWARD was presented to Kevin Malaney.

The TRUSTEES

Linda Cohen, President, David Rockwell, VP, Marion Goethals, Secretary, Gail Doering, Treasurer, Beverly Bridger, Janet Griffith, Jerry Luhn, Peggy Lynn, Peggy O'Shea, Lowell Siefert, Richard Widdicombe, Chick Rubenau, Paul Reber.

Emeriti: Barbara Glaser, Christine Swann, Jennifer Potter Hayes. Tony Cashen, Gary Jesmain, Rich Torkelson

STAFF

Beverly Bridger, Frances J. Parent, Michael S. Wilson, Lilian van Welzenes, Nic Steltzer, Karen M. Russell, Liam Fox, Nancy Sue Foltz, Pat Burdick, Christian E. Hansen, Melinda A. Disotell, Joanna E. Kowalewska, John M. Pitoniak, Mike Dulac, Derrick Wells, Rich Forbes, Heidi S. Woodward, Robert Heinsler, Rally D. Colton.

INTERNS

Erin Silverstein, Mitch Gruber, Meg Flood, Lia Niskanen, Jackie Hane, Daniel Krysak, Adam George.

SPECIAL THANKS to the Benefit Committee for a record-breaking fund raiser Aug. 2. Susan Hockert co-chaired the event with Linda Cohen. Members Sarah Cohen, Janice Luck O'Connor, Janet Griffith, Caroline Lawrence, Diane Lux, Margie Burstein, Dawn Timm, Mary Sanders Shartle, Lezlie Dana, and the trustees deserve credit and thanks.

WE SADLY NOTE the passing of Joan Payne, former trustee and long-time friend.

ENORMOUS THANKS to our VOLUNTEERS. They know we could not do it without them.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION projects completed in 2008 with your generous donations are the Chalet roof and chimney cap and the replacement of the roof on Alfred's Cottage. The dish room was upgraded with donations in memory of Elmer Shafer and David Smits.

Best Feed Back of 2008

We attended the Hamilton County Birding Festival. The camp is terrific. The staff was energetic, thoughtful and willing to go the extra mile for guests. We LOVE the way you run the camp, getting people steeped in history and natural beauty and invested in the preservation of the camp. The place is clean as a whistle and well maintained. We loved being able to use the canoes, the real wool blankets, the Stickley furniture in Wigwam, the fresh paint and above all the dedication of staff. It shows and is greatly appreciated.

July 08

Bev and Bob,

It was a great time relaxing at Sagamore with good friends and a beautiful sunny weekend on top of it. The boat cruise was interesting and a perfect afternoon. My Dad brought us to mountain as children to a very small family cabin every summer. It is so special being a part of the Sagamore Volunteer family, to be able to continue coming to the wonderful Adirondacks each summer.

*In appreciation,
Pat George*

(Note: Pat has been a volunteer for 22 years and was the first Work Weekend Host.)

Thanks for a Lovely Weekend

Dear Beverly:

My family had one of the most wonderful weekends on record at Sagamore this weekend. We can not wait to come back (we are already planning a trip in October, and a family reunion in 2009).

Not only is the site amazing, but your hardworking, wonderful staff was always there to help us with what we needed. The little details, such as leaving bug spray on the porch, or sending someone around to turn on the outside lamps, made us feel like we were well cared for. The food was so much better than we've had at some expensive hotels, and I am really grateful that there were good vegetarian options.

We will be supporting Sagamore financially in the future (our donations for 2008 are committed for, but next year you will be on the list). Also, we would love to help when you have work weekends. Let us know how we can help to keep this beautiful spot alive.

*Sincerely,
The Everett & Fernandez Family*

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Great Camp Sagamore

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... National Historic Landmark ...

August 1st is the 2009 Benefit for Historic Preservation Please come!