

The Trail Marker

January-February-March Issue 2023

Published by the *Nawakwa Outdoor Association of New York, Inc.*
Peter Stuyvesant Post Office Station P. O. Box 327, New York, NY 10009-9998
Camp Nawakwa on Lake Sebago (SB-3), 845-351-4135
www.noany.org

View from the Chair *...Traveling the Open Road*

"The long brown path before me leading wherever I choose..."

Strong and content I travel the open road."

Walt Whitman - Song of the Open Road

Janus, the Roman god for whom the month of January is named, is depicted as having two faces, one looking to the past, the other to the future. January is a doorway for us. We remember all that has been, as we go through the portal into a new year with new possibilities.

At the heart of moving on is the realization that in life all things change. The challenge for us with these shifts from one thing to another, whether planned or unplanned, welcomed or unwelcomed, is always to adapt in the best way possible. The COVID 19 pandemic has created seismic shifts in our lives, as has our disassociation from the Adirondack Mountain Club. All these changes confront us and prompt us to adapt.

The counterbalance to these events which have upset the normal routines of our lives is the continuity we derive from the past, a continuity which grounds us and helps us to adapt, grow, and carry on in creative and healthy new ways. We remember the past as we work to apply our collective wisdom to the new situation.

We enter this new year as our first full year being the Nawakwa Outdoor Association of New York. It is also our hundredth year as a club. As a not-for-profit corporation, there is work to do to keep ourselves up to date with New York State regulations. As a club, we work constantly to renew our committees and activities, heartened by an influx of talented and enthusiastic new members. In doing both tasks, we carry with us all our connections and traditions from the past hundred years.

The collective knowledge we have gained from shared experiences as a club generates an openness and optimism for moving into the future, qualities we share with Whitman in his poem. We travel the open road 'strong and content' as we step into a new year and the next one hundred years. With Whitman, we say "Allons, the road is before us! It is safe-I have tried it—my own feet have tried it well." Strengthened by the spirit of friendly good-fellowship that has been our legacy, we enter the New Year.

-Ray Kozma, NOANY Chair

Nawakwa Outdoor Association

Board of Directors and Committees

Chapter Chair: Raymond Kozma
raymondkozma@gmail.com

Vice-Chair: Teri Gabel
blaugabels@msn.com

Secretary: Eve Mancuso
evemancuso@gmail.com

Treasurer: Suzanne Rocheleau
rocheleau3@gmail.com

Director: Marty McDonald
martymcd@me.com

Director: Ingrid Strauch
ingrid-hiking@noany.org

Director: Guy Lingley glingley@vermacorp.com

Director: Carol Burns carol_kb@yahoo.com

Director: Alex Wilkie afwilkie204@gmail.com

Director: Susanne Flower
susanneflower@gmail.com

Membership Committee:

Chair: Jerry Flower jerry.flower@verizon.net

Members:

David Miller snoop353@aol.com

Janet Sibarium janet.sibarium@icloud.com

Host Committee:

Co-chair: Maryann Poris maporis@aol.com

Co-chair: Mary Hilley hilley66@gmail.com

Commissary: Maryann Poris maporis@aol.com

Newsletter Editor:

Raymond Kozma TrailMarker@noany.org

Activities Committee:

Edie Blum ediegreen17@gmail.com

Camp Committee:

Chair: Dave Hayes camp@noany.org

Hikes and Outings Committee:

Chair: Glen Nison gnisonbike@juno.com

Members: Ingrid Strauch Ingrid-hiking@noany.org

Lewis Ports ports.lewis@gmail.com

Ray Kozma

raymondkozma@gmail.com Trails Committee:

Chair: William Burns wmjburnsjr@gmail.com

Park Liaison: Raymond Kozma

raymondkozma@gmail.com

Conservation Committee:

Chair: Kate Walker katecwalker@gmail.com

Environmental Education Committee

Chair: Marty Kellerman mmkellerman@gmail.com

Lisa North lm1212@aol.com

Archives Committee:

Chair: Ellen King ellen_king13@msn.com

Webmaster:

Marty McDonald martymcd@me.com

Problems Receiving the Trail Marker?

Please let our Secretary, Eve Mancuso, know of any problems. Contact Eve at evemancuso@gmail.com

Change of address: Please contact Jerry Flower, our Membership Chair, at jerry@noany.org, to notify us of any address changes.

Notice: Members occasionally receive email notifications about hosted weekends, hikes, and related Camp events. These notifications are only to be sent by the Secretary, by the Hosting Committee, or by the Website Editor.

Follow us on **Instagram!** [nawakwa_outdoor_association_ny](https://www.instagram.com/nawakwa_outdoor_association_ny)

Get updates on Nawakwa happenings on **Twitter!**

Go to <https://twitter.com/NawakwaOutdoor> click on follow, then receive news, reminders, and special notices effortlessly! Account managed by Ingrid Strauch (Ingrid-hiking@noany.org)

Deadline for submissions to the next edition of the Trail Marker (April-May 2023) is March 21, 2023.

All submissions can be forwarded to Ray Kozma at TrailMarker@noany.org.

Results of 2022 Elections to NOANY Board of Directors

The results of our annual elections are as follows:

Chair (two-year term)

Raymond Kozma - 76 votes

Treasurer (two-year term)

Suzanne Rocheleau - 75 votes

Directors (two-year term)

Susanne Flower - 73 votes

Alex Wilkie - 75 votes

Carol Burns - 67 votes

Stephanie Lai - write in vote - 2 votes

The following candidates have successfully been voted into office for the 2023 Board of Directors.

Raymond Kozma - Chair

Suzanne Rocheleau - Treasurer

Susanne Flower - Director

Alex Wilkie - Director

Carol Burns - Director

We thank all of the candidates and congratulate the re-elected Officers and Directors.

Sincerely,



Secretary

Nawakwa Outdoor Association of NY, Inc.

2022 Treasurer Report

Insurance and rent continue to be Nawakwa's largest expenses on an annual basis. The Park allows Nawakwa a discount of up to 25% total rent due should we incur any major capital improvements (MCI) on Park approved repairs to our campsite which is something we, as a whole, always try to utilize. General annual costs necessary to keep camp running are carefully considered and have run fairly consistent. Historically, we have run a small deficit which we have been able to offset with savings and in some years through donations. The year 2019 was an exception to that as Nawakwa received a considerably generous donation from a member.

Camp's one-time significant expenses in the recent past included the following:

- \$50,000: Donation settlement to ADK in 2022
- \$106,821: Legal fees to settle litigation 2021 - 2022
- \$40,000: New main cabin roof in 2021

We are encouraged by the enthusiasm and support of our members and have seen a strong interest in members renewing passports as well as strong camp attendance generating fee income throughout the camp season. The financial report points out the strength of Passport and Camp fee income received. Thank you all for your continued support and we look forward to moving ahead going forward with strength as our new entity, Nawakwa Outdoor Association.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Rocheleau
Treasurer
Nawakwa Outdoor Association of NY, Inc.

Reminder: The Annual Appeal letter was sent out to all members in December. It's not too late to respond, if you have not done so already. Please send donations to:

Nawakwa Outdoor Association of New York, Inc.
Peter Stuyvesant Post Office
P.O. Box 327
New York, NY 10009-9998

Coming Weekends at Camp Nawakwa

Notes on Hosting

Updates to this hosting schedule will be provided in the weekly hosting emails sent out by the Hosting Committee.

To host a weekend or midweek, contact Hosting Committee:

Co-chair: Maryann Poris maporis@aol.com.

Co-chair: Mary Hilley hilley66@gmail.com

Commissary Concerns?

Call or email Maryann Poris (973) 731-7117 maporis@aol.com

There is a limit of one host plus one co-host per weekend or midweek

Winter Weekend

January 21-22, 2023

Come to camp to enjoy the snow (hopefully), winter tranquility, and fellow adventurous Nawakwans. Dinner will be a hearty stew, popovers, hot spiced wine, and homemade pies for dessert. A "warming" breakfast will be offered in the morning.

The fireplace and wood stove in the main cabin will provide some heat, but cold-weather clothing and sleeping bags are required.

This event is coordinated so that members may attend Camp on Saturday and then head to Characters Restaurant in Sloatsburg for the Annual Nawakwa Winter Social on Sunday (see the details below on page 6).

Please contact Host, Lewis Ports, by 9 pm on Wednesday January 18th to register.
Ports.lewis@gmail.com or (646) 339-1316.

Winter Social

Buffet Luncheon

Sunday, January 22, 2023 - 12:00PM

*Characters Restaurant
94 Orange Turnpike
Sloatsburg, NY 10974*

MENU

Appetizers

Salmon - Chicken - Beef

Pasta - Rice

Vegetables

Soda - Tea - Coffee

Cost - \$50.00 per person

Cash Bar

Please make reservations by sending a check to:

**Susanne Flower
802 West 190th Street, Apt 1F
New York, NY 10040**

Activities Committee Update

Save the Date!

A Paint Night is tentatively being planned for May 20, 2023.

The hosts for the event include Alex Wilkie, an art teacher with decades of experience. All of the supplies will be on hand for you to ensure a fun and uplifting event in which you can capture all the beauty of camp and its setting. There is a nominal charge to cover all the supplies. Details to follow in the April *Trail Marker*.

Hikes and Outings Committee Update

Backpack Hikes Being Added

Last year, several members expressed interest in learning how to do backpacking. A couple of trial overnight trips were planned and carried out successfully. All who participated were very enthusiastic about the trips. So, since there is a good amount of interest in doing backpacking outings, we will officially be adding backpacking to the *Hikes and Outings Committee* purview. When we get into camp season, please check for backpacking outings that will be planned.

Annual Nawakwa Passport

The Annual Nawakwa Passport for 2023 is now available for all Keyholders. The Annual Passport, which covers the Day and Overnight Fees for all visits to camp for the calendar year, is \$125 per individual Keyholder and is non-transferable.

Reminder: If a Passport holder brings spouse, children, other family members or guests to camp, these others must pay the appropriate Camp Fees, as usual.

The Annual Nawakwa Passport may be obtained two ways:

1. Payments can be sent electronically via Zelle® to rocheleau3@gmail.com noting "Passport 2023"
2. To pay by check, please make check payable to "NOANY" and add "Passport 2023" in the memo line. Please send your check to:

Treasurer, NOANY
Peter Stuyvesant Post Office
PO Box 327
New York, N.Y. 10009-9998

Hikes and Outings

Hikes and Outings Chairperson: Glen Nison 718-625-2182 gnisonbike@juno.com

For listings of hikes not led by members of NOANY, (and not necessarily qualifying) try these links:
<http://www.nynjtc.org/content/scheduled-hikes> <http://www.hudsonhikers.org/schedules.htm>

Interested in becoming a hike leader? Please send your name, email, and phone number to Glen expressing your interest in becoming a hike leader for NOANY.

Annual Palm Sunday Hike

St. John's Church in the Wilderness

Sunday - April 2, 2023

Barring any late snowstorm, the good people of St. John's Church in the Wilderness plan to host the traditional Palm Sunday hikers' event on April 2nd this year. A light lunch will be provided by the parishioners. (Note: The Barn itself is not usable due to needed repairs. If the weather is fair, tables will be set up in the field near the Barn. If the weather is poor, the lunch will take place inside using the Church's meeting rooms.) The luncheon is scheduled for 2PM. There is no charge for the food and drink, but donations are always welcomed. The annual Palm Sunday hike to St. John's Church in the Wilderness has been a tradition since the 1930's. Other groups from other hiking clubs are out this day headed to St. John's, and it is very common to cross paths with them as we hike along.

There will be two groups for the hike, one led by Ray Kozma taking a 'traditional' route that will take us along Breakneck Pond and go through the AMC camp, and one led by Lewis Ports who will take the trails on the ridge above Breakneck Pond. **Both groups will start together from the gate at 7 Lakes Drive. At a rest stop at Diamond Creek, the groups will separate, meeting up later at the church.**

Since this is a one-way hike, please note:

All who are driving should meet at the Church by 9AM where the cars will be parked. All cars, except for the one or two that will shuttle hikers/drivers back to our starting point, will be left at the Church where the hike finishes. The hike will start from the Camp gate and Seven Lakes Drive about 10 AM. The address of the church is 119 Johnstown Road, Stony Point, NY between Lake Welch Parkway and Route 106.

Palm Sunday is in early April this year and early Spring weather can be unpredictable. Rain, some cold, blustery weather, including snow and ice, are always a possibility. Participants should dress warmly (layers, no cotton), bring lunch, snacks, water, raingear, and wear sturdy hiking shoes. Traction devices are recommended in case there is ice on the trail.

All participants must register with Ray Kozma (917-406-37820) or raymondkozma@gmail.com or with Lewis Ports (646-339-1316) or ports.lewis@gmail.com by Thursday night, March 30, 2023 Hike is Qualifying.

In Memoriam



ELIZABETH RUIZ-GOMEZ
JANUARY 7, 1969 – OCTOBER 1, 2022

In October, we learned the sad news of the passing of our fellow Nawakwan, Elizabeth Ruiz-Gomez. Our condolences to Carol and Bill Burns on the loss of their daughter. A memorial weekend in honor of Elizabeth is being planned for a weekend at Camp Nawakwa in the Spring. What follows is from her obituary.

Elizabeth Ruiz-Gomez (nee Burns) was born in Staten Island, New York, to William and Carol Burns. She attended St. Adalbert's School and Notre Dame Academy High School. She graduated from Marymount College in Tarrytown, New York, where she majored in accounting and minored in history. Following her graduation, she worked in accounting and human resources for Deloitte until the birth of her first son, Julio, when she decided to exit the workforce to focus on raising her child. Three years later, she welcomed a second son into the world, Oliver. Upon the completion of two master's degrees in education concentrating on childhood and special education at Wagner College, she reentered the workforce as a special education teacher in the New York City Department of Education. Over the next fourteen years, she had a positive impact on the lives of countless young children with special needs.

Throughout her life, she was active in various charitable and religious organizations. She worked as a lifeguard and yoga instructor at the YMCA; volunteered at the Wagner College Early Childhood Center; held various leadership positions within Troop 26 of the Boy Scouts of America; helped organize the Bread of Life Food Drive through the Notre Dame Club of Staten Island; and was on the parish council of Blessed Sacrament Church.

Elizabeth became a Keyholder in October of 2005. From the beginning she was involved with activities at camp. She was very active in hosting weekends and co-hosted at least one weekend each year with her mom, Carol. Elizabeth was often a mid-week host by herself beginning in June 2005. Early on, she had helped host a yoga session at camp. She volunteered in the 2007 for Spring Cleanup and soon cheerfully took up the providing of lunch for a number of cleanup work days over the years. The last such lunch she prepared was for the work day held on August 27 of 2022. The following are memories of Elizabeth.

"I had the pleasure of working alongside Elizabeth when we last voted in person at the Sloatsburg library for our annual Nawakwan Elections. I found Elizabeth to be a kind, helpful and cheerful person. Elizabeth also enjoyed hosting at camp where many had the opportunity to share her delicious meals. She will be missed by many. May she rest in peace." - Eve Mancuso

"Elizabeth was a special education teacher in Staten Island, much loved by students, parents, and staff, and she was a devoted loving mother, daughter, and sister. She had an infectious laugh and made everyone feel comfortable. The last time I saw her and spent time talking with her was when we served on the Tally Committee together (with her mother Carol) in October 2020...I remember that day in camp. Bill Burns was also outside with Elizabeth's sons, hiking nearby." - Janet Sibarium

“One-Hundred Years!”

This year, the Nawakwa Outdoor Association of New York, Inc. (formerly the New York Chapter, Inc.) is celebrating its Centennial Anniversary. To mark this special milestone in the club’s history, the following events are being planned:

1. A Gala celebration will be held in the Fall. Details of this event will be posted online and in the Trail Marker once all has been finalized.
2. Two publications are in the works:
 - a. ***Favorite Recipes of Camp Nawakwa.*** We invite all members to share the recipes they have used either when hosting or think they would like to use in the future. Everything from how to use store bought dishes (and how to serve them) to favorite classics and even some special occasion favorites will be gladly accepted.
 - b. ***Favorite Hikes Around Nawakwa.*** These are envisioned chiefly as local hikes that can be done to/from, at, and around Camp Nawakwa (with room left for some hikes in other areas and locales that might be of interest to members).
3. Special after-dinner lectures will be presented at Nawakwa on designated Saturday evenings. These presentations will highlight significant people and events of the past hundred years that helped in the formation and development of the club and Camp Nawakwa.
4. A series of Centennial Hikes are being planned. These hikes, including at least one overnight backpack, will highlight both significant places in the history of the club as well as significant trails in Harriman Park blazed by our early members who, working in collaboration with other hiking groups at that time, spearheaded the development of the trails we continue to enjoy today.



Welcome New Keyholder

Larry Budner

Sponsors

Glen Nison

Ray Kozma

Welcome New Applicants

"Since the Bylaws give the care, responsibility, and privilege of running and maintaining Camp Nawakwa exclusively to the keyholder members (who are also called Nawakwans), it is desirable and necessary that new keyholder members be recruited on a regular basis. We recruit potential Nawakwans by attracting and inviting like-minded, outdoor-oriented, adults (18 years and older) to become applicants for keyholder status. After completing the required activities, such new keyholders, will take their place in the long line of custodians of Camp Nawakwa and its traditions." [from Policy on Sponsor-Applicants]

Doris Blasi
Lillian Negron

