

The Trail Marker

January – February - March Issue 2026

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

From the Chair...

“Kindness is like snow, it beautifies everything it covers”

-Kahlil Gibran-

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Winter is upon us, and we have passed the Winter Solstice when daylight will again slowly lengthen. While hiking in spring and summer brings the joy of all types of colorful vegetation, winter hiking offers the same joy, albeit in a different fashion. One can enjoy the ice formations on the streams and lakes, and marvel at the beautiful icicles that form over the rock faces. Though we all know there is a vast amount of wildlife living in the park around us, in winter it can be verified by the tracks left in the snow. Reliable traction devices, sturdy hiking poles, and proper clothing all make for a safe and enjoyable winter outing.

A new year has arrived and with it our strong and vibrant club marches onward into 2026. The enthusiasm, participation and camaraderie of our members is what sets our club apart from other organizations. There is a distinct forward momentum that demonstrates the long-term viability and stability of NOANY. All

of this is due to you, the members, and the leadership of the Board and Committees. Over the last few years, our membership numbers have consistently hovered in the 200-member range, and there continues to be an influx of applicants. The Committees have expanded and grown with members volunteering their time and expertise.

One future goal should include an even greater level of active involvement and participation by growing our committees. Whatever skill each of you has to offer would only benefit the club. The Trail Marker lists all the Committees and Committee Chairperson(s). Please reach out and connect with these members, to ensure our club continues for generations to come. Many hands make for light work!!

From the Chair...CONT'D

ANNUAL APPEAL

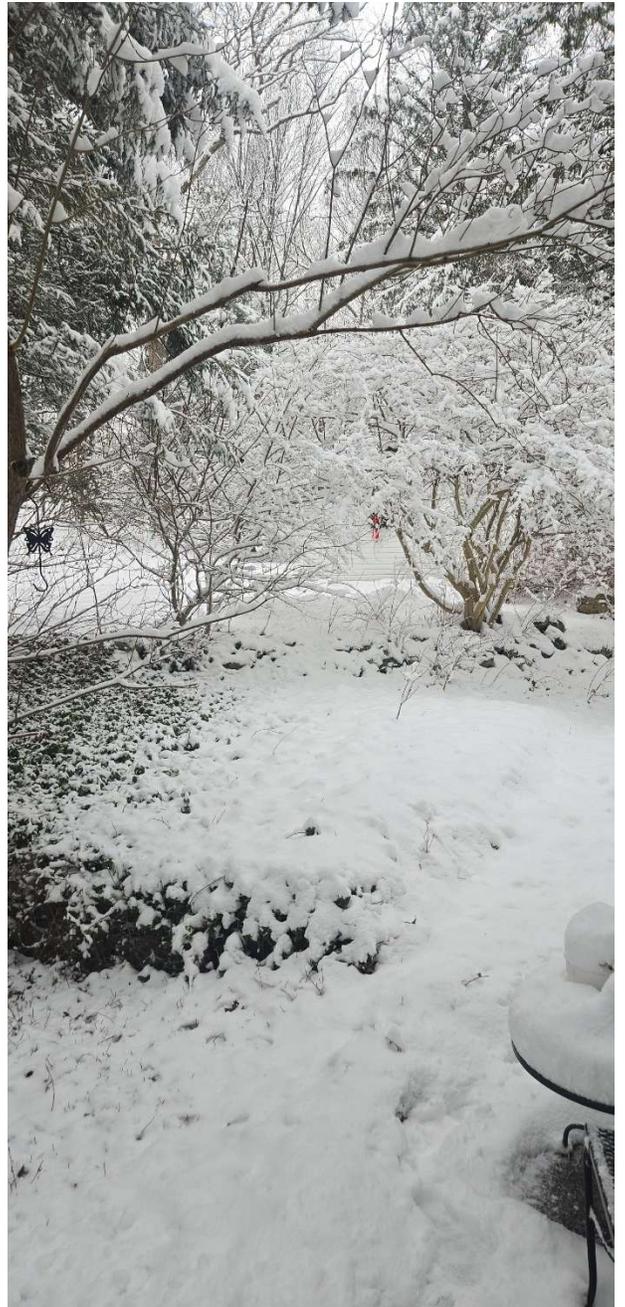
You all should have received an email regarding the Annual Appeal. The funds donated during this appeal are a necessary component of our annual budget to run camp. Thank you in advance for your generosity. See page 7 with details on how to donate.

WINTER SOCIAL - January 25, 2026

The Centennial Committee was researching alternate NYC locations for our Centennial Winter Social but in the interest of keeping costs within reach, the Winter Social will again be held at Character's Restaurant in Sloatsburg. Please see page 4 for details. I hope to see you all at the Winter Social, and please RSVP to confirm your attendance.

Kind Regards,

Eve Mancuso, Chairperson



Nawakwa Outdoor Association of New York, Inc.

Board of Directors and Committees

Chair: Eve Mancuso eve@noany.org
Vice-Chair: Marty McDonald info@noany.org
Secretary: Kate Walker kate@noany.org
Treasurer: Suzanne Rocheleau treasurer@noany.org
Director: Andy Frank andy@noany.org
Director: Janet Perlberg janetp@noany.org
Director: Edie Green edie@noany.org
Director: Carol Burns carol@noany.org
Director: Alex Wilkie alex@noany.org
Director: Susanne Flower susanne@noany.org
Director: Dave Hayes camp@noany.org

Activities Committee:

Chair: Edie Green edie@noany.org

Camp Committee:

Chair: Dave Hayes camp@noany.org

Hikes and Outings Committee:

Co-Chair: Oliver Lunt oliver@noany.org

Co-Chair: Ingrid Strauch
ingrid-hiking@noany.org

Trails Committee:

Chair: Andy Frank andy@noany.org

Membership Committee:

Co-Chair: Jerry Flower membership@noany.org

Co-Chair: Janet Sibarium janet@noany.org

Hosting Committee:

Chair - Maryann Poris maryann@noany.org

Co-chair- Rosanna Romagnano

rosanna@noany.org

Co-chair- Doris Blasi doris@noany.org

Conservation Committee:

Chair: Kate Walker kate@noany.org

Environmental Education Committee

Chair: Marty Kellerman martyk@noany.org

Archives Committee:

Chair: Raymond Kozma archives@noany.org

Webmaster: Marty McDonald info@noany.org

Commissary: Cathy Grady cathy@noany.org

Newsletter Editor: Nancy Dargis trailmarker@noany.org

Park Liaison: Eve Mancuso eve@noany.org

Problems Receiving the Trail Marker? Please let our Secretary know of any problems.

Change of address: Please contact Jerry Flower, our Membership Co-Chair, at membership@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 Webmaster.

Follow us on [Instagram!](#) nawakwa_outdoor_association_ny Account managed by Jess Scirbona
jess@noany.org

**“Be aware of scammers- NOANY and its members
will never contact you via email for money or gift cards”**

**Deadline for submissions to the next edition of the Trail Marker (April– May 2026) is March 21, 2026.
Please send submissions to Nancy Dargis trailmarker@noany.org**

Annual Winter Social

Sunday, January 25, 2026, 12 PM

Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Camp Nawakwa!

This year's Winter Social will be our kickoff event celebrating the 100th anniversary of Camp Nawakwa! Built for us by the park, Camp Nawakwa had its Grand Opening on April 17, 1926. For one-hundred years, Camp Nawakwa has been the headquarters of our club and at the heart of our activities. The social will be held at Character's Restaurant in Sloatsburg on Sunday, January 25, 2026, at 12PM. Come gather together for this once in a life-time special event!

*Characters Restaurant
94 Orange Turnpike
Sloatsburg, NY 10974*

MENU

Hot and Cold Appetizers

Choice of Entrée:

SALMON- served in a lemon and caper sauce and serve with your choice of rice or baked potato and mixed vegetables.

CHICKEN FRANCESE – served with your choice of rice or pasta and mixed vegetables.

BEEF TERIYAKI – sliced steak served with peppers and onions in teriyaki sauce with your choice of rice or baked potato and mixed vegetables.

ANGEL HAIR PRIMAVERA – served in a roasted garlic, basil and pomodoro sauce topped with seasonal vegetables.

Choice of Dessert:

Chocolate Mousse Cake, Apple Pie ala Mode, Cheesecake, Tiramisu

Soda - Tea - Coffee Included, Cash Bar

Cost - \$50.00 per person

Please RSVP to Eve ASAP but no later than January 19 with your meal choice, and by sending payment. You may pay by mailing a check to Eve Mancuso or by sending payment via Zelle to Suzanne Rocheleau- Rocheleau3@gmail.com.

*Mailing Address: Eve Mancuso
12 Wintergreen Road,
Sloatsburg, New York 10974*

Notification of NOANY Annual Membership Dues

For keyholders whose current membership is expiring at year-end December, 2025, this is a reminder to renew your annual NOANY membership. You should have received an email or mail notification in the third week of December. The annual membership fee remains at \$45. Please remit \$45 to our Treasurer either by check or electronically.

Electronically using Zelle

Send to rocheleau3@gmail.com with the notation '2026 Annual Membership'.

Check

Make check payable to the Nawakwa Outdoor Association of New York, Inc. with the notation '2026 Annual Membership' and send to:

Suzanne Rocheleau
Nawakwa Membership
300 Albany Street #4J
New York, NY 10280

For keyholders whose current memberships expire sometime in 2026, you will receive an annual renewal notice one month before your expiration date.

Thank you for your continued support.

Jerry Flower
Janet Sibarium
Membership Co-Chairs

Results of the 2025 Elections to the
NOANY Board of Directors

Dear Nawakwans:

Vice-chair Marty McDonald, Secretary Kate Walker, and Directors Dave Hayes, Andy Frank, Edie Blum and Janet Perlberg were elected for the 2026-2027 term. Congratulations to them and to all who ran!

The election results are as follows:

Vice Chair –

Marty McDonald - 64 votes

Secretary -

Kate Walker - 63 votes

Director(s) -

Dave Hayes - 61 votes

Andy Frank – 53 votes

Edie Blum - 50 votes

Janet Perlberg – 39 votes

Leonard Lausen – 34 votes

Thank you all for voting and supporting NOANY.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Walker, Secretary



ANNUAL APPEAL 2026

The Camp Improvement and Sustainability Fund

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

Dear Fellow Nawakwans,

We are happy to report that the 2025 Camp Nawakwa season was a resounding success! In addition to the hundreds of visits, the enjoyable hosted weekends, the hikes and special activities that were held, there were on-going projects that helped to keep our camp in good shape. Among the camp projects this year were:

1. There were successful workdays, that in addition to providing opportunities to improve camp, allow seasoned members, new members, and applicants to work side by side and build up the spirit of teamwork and camaraderie.
2. More repairs were made to the Swim Dock as well as upgrades to the path leading to the swim dock, and boat dock.

As with any "mature" facility, the regular operation and maintenance of camp is itself an ongoing work. Improvements to all the pathways and steps, and continued renovation and replacement of the handrails from the waterfront up to the turn-around area and up to the cabins, are works in progress. We are hoping to acquire approval from PIPC to construct additional tent platforms.

We are grateful for and appreciate all that keyholders have done over the years in support of camp. It is to that generosity of keyholder members that we once again make this appeal for funds to help us move forward. Working together, and as we look forward to our centennial in 2026, we can continue the legacy that has been entrusted to us and help Camp Nawakwa continue for new generations of members for the next one-hundred years. We ask you please to be as generous as possible.

With appreciation and for the Board,

Eve Mancuso, Board Chair

To make a donation please send a check payable to: Nawakwa Outdoor Association of New York, Inc. Please indicate if you wish your contribution to be acknowledged in the Trail Marker. Alternately, contributions may also be sent to our Treasurer by Zelle (rocheleau3@gmail.com), noting in the subject line "2026 Annual Appeal." Please note: As the Nawakwa Outdoor Association of New York is a 501(c)7 corporation, gifts are not tax deductible. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Reminder: Off-Season Use of Camp Nawakwa

During the camp off-season from October 15 to April 30, permission to make use of Camp Nawakwa is needed from the Park Office for any keyholder who wishes to access and use camp during this period.

Any keyholder member who wishes to access and use camp during the off-season must notify Eve Mancuso, NOANY Chair, who will contact the Park Office to request permission and obtain the necessary Permit. Members should contact the chair about a week before the requested visit date so that sufficient time can be allowed for the Park Office to be notified and respond.

All the normal Park Rules and Regulations, and our established Policy and Procedures, will be in effect during the Off- Season.

2026 Meeting Schedule of NOANY Board of Directors

All regular Board meetings are held by Zoom, on the fourth Wednesday of the month, starting at 7PM, unless otherwise noted. Meetings will be held 1/28, 2/25, 3/25, 4/22, 5/27, 6/24, 7/22, 8/26 (Open Board Meeting), 9/23, 10/27 (Annual meeting), November and December TBD

WhatsApp Messaging for Nawakwans

WhatsApp, a popular and free messaging app, is now available to Nawakwa Members and we have a dedicated group chat with moderators. This group will act as an online meeting place and allow folks (both applicants & members) to connect in regard to transportation and camp visits. Sometimes you just need a buddy, a ride, or a little more info about an upcoming event. This app is completely optional to join and/or participate in but will serve as a great connection and source of information if enough people opt into using the app.

Step 1: On your iPhone or Android device, head to your official App Store and search "WhatsApp", download the application and then open it.

Step 2: Once the app is installed on your phone you can click the link below to join the NOANY group. We do ask that you use your real name so that people know with whom they are chatting.

WhatsApp Group Link: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/JPCmPSXyyjWGgr8OMPORIW>

If anyone is having trouble or would like additional help setting up the app or joining the group, Dave Hayes & Jess Scirbona will be offering quick tutorials as needed.

Looking forward to seeing you all at Camp!

Best Wishes,

Dave Hayes, Camp Chair

Leave A Legacy

Nawakwa Outdoor Association of New York, Inc. is the correct designation for any special bequests anyone might wish to include in estate planning. Please note that our club is a 501(c)7 non-profit membership club. As such, we are not able to arrange for tax-deductible gifts.

For more information, please contact:
Suzanne Rocheleau, Treasurer at
treasurer@noany.org



Camp Committee News

Chair: Dave Hayes (camp@noany.org)

Conservation Committee

Chair: Kate Walker (kate@noany.org)



Hosting Committee

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:

Chair: Maryann Poris maryann@noany.org

Co-chair: Rosanna Romagnano rosanna@noany.org

Co-chair: Doris Blasi doris@noany.org

Commissary Concerns? Email Cathy Grady
cathy@noany.org

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

*The Hosting Calendar on the NOANY website shows the most updated information.
Check it out for deadlines and registration contact info!*

Hikes and Outings Committee

Co-Chair: Oliver Lunt oliver@noany.org

Co-Chair: Ingrid Strauch ingrid-hiking@noany.org

For listings of hikes not led by members of NOANY, (and not necessarily qualifying) try the following link:

<http://www.nynjtc.org/content/member-clubs>

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

Note: If you can offer a ride to participants coming from New York City, please let the hike/outing leader know.

UPCOMING HIKES & OUTINGS

Outing: Central Park in Winter

January 10, 2026 10:00am to about 1:00pm

1/2/3 line also C nearby, we meet at Gray's Papaya on 72nd and Broadway.

Head along 72nd Street and over to Central Park to see the Lake, the King Jagiello Monument, Cleopatra's Needle, the Boathouse, Belvedere Fountain, the Mall, the Dairy, and a walk along Sheep Meadow and Tavern on the Green. We'll walk back to the Upper West Side if you'd like to stay for Coffee/tea/hot chocolate/snack at Joe's Coffee 72nd & Columbus for anyone interested. About 3 miles. Extreme cold and or heavy rain cancels. This outing is non-qualifying.

Register with Marty McDonald info@noany.org or text 646-232-7203 by Friday 1/9/26.

Outing: Loop around Lower Manhattan

February 7, 2026 10:00am to 1:00pm

1/2/3 line, we meet in front of Starbucks on chambers and West Broadway.

Head down Chambers Street to Battery Park City, then south through the park, stopping to walk through the Irish Hunger Memorial, Brookfield Place, passing by the South Cove and the Jewish Heritage Museum, around Castle Clinton, the Staten Island Ferry, Fraunces Tavern and Stone Street, and then over to Pier 17. Anyone interested can stick around for coffee, tea, or what have you at the Tin Building (A/C/2/3 train back from nearby Fulton Street). About 3 miles. Extreme cold and or heavy rain cancels. This outing is non-qualifying.

Register with Marty McDonald info@noany.org or text 646-232-7203 by Friday 2/6/26.

Outing: Daylight Savings Time on Governors Island

March 14, 2026 9:45am to 1:00pm

Meet @ 9:45 on 11/16 inside the Governor's Island Ferry Terminal at 10 South St Slip 7, New York, NY 10004. It's near the heliport, just a minute north of the South Ferry. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, N, R and W trains are nearby. We'll aim for the 10:00 am ferry which is free (as of this writing).

We'll take a short ferry ride to a 172 acre island located a few hundred yards off lower Manhattan to walk Governors Island. The walk will take us through natural areas, along former Coast Guard housing, and up a very small (70') hill to great views of the Lower Harbor. Good chances for bird spotting and public arts too. Maybe even a cruise ship sighting at the Brooklyn Terminal across Buttermilk Channel.

About 4 miles, wear walking shoes and warm layers. Extreme cold and or heavy rain cancels. Bring snacks as there might be just a few vendors open at this time of the season. This outing is non-qualifying.

Register with Marty McDonald info@noany.org or text 646-232-7203 by Friday 3/13/26.

Annual Palm Sunday Hike

March 29, 2026 9:00 am - see details below

Check the website for updated hiking information and added hikes and outings!

Annual Palm Sunday Hike

to St. John's Church in the Wilderness
Sunday - March 29, 2026

The annual Palm Sunday hike to St. John's Church in the Wilderness has been a tradition since 1935. Once again, the good people of St. John's will be hosting this traditional hikers' event, welcoming hikers to gather and partake of a light lunch provided by the parishioners. The luncheon is scheduled to begin at 1:30PM (after their usual 12:30PM church service). (There is no charge for the food and drink, but donations are always welcomed.) **Distance: 5 miles. Elevation gain: 400+ feet. Moderate pace**

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

All who are driving should meet at the Church by 9:00AM 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 Boat Launch area of Lake Sebago about 9:30 AM. The buffet finishes about 5 PM. The drivers of the cars left at the starting point will be driven back from the Church to get their cars after the event.

March weather can be very changeable. Rain, some cold, blustery weather including snow and ice, are always a possibility. Participants should dress warmly (layers, no cotton), bring snacks, water, rain-gear, and wear sturdy hiking shoes.

The address of the church is 119 Johnstown Road, Stony Point, NY in between Lake Welch Parkway and Route 106.

All participants must register with Ray Kozma (917-406-3782) or raymondkozma@gmail.com by Thursday night, March 26, 2026. Hike is Qualifying.

Trails Committee

Chair: Andy Frank andy@noany.org

Would you be willing to carry the torch forward?

Since our club's founding in 1923, Nawakwans have played a significant role in the great work of keeping Harriman Park's trails open, safe and inviting for the public's use and enjoyment.

Would you consider learning more about the tasks involved in caring for our trails? This work requires energy but is also personally rewarding! Like forest bathing, working on a particular section of trail can be an opportunity to deepen your awareness and sense kinship with the trees, creatures, contours of the landscape and other elements present in this particular woodland environment... while your work will also benefit all who will hike this stretch of trail!

Two sections of the Ramapo Dunderberg trail are currently in need of a dedicated trail maintainer:

- 1.) The Ramapo Dunderberg trail from the Tuxedo train station to Tri-Corner (2.15 miles).
- 2.) The Ramapo Dunderberg trail from the Yellow Triangle trail, on the top of Parker Cabin Mt., to Kanawake Road (Rt. 106). (1.25 miles)

Please contact Andy Frank, Trail Maintenance Committee Chair at andy@noany.org and/or watch for upcoming Qualifying Trail Maintenance Workshops this fall!

Activities Committee

Chair: Edie Green

edie@noany.org

NOTICE

The Activities Committee announces the purchase of a digital projector for showing media directly from a phone, iPad, or computer onto a large screen.

Any member may use it to organize a movie night or show a slideshow of photos from your latest hike or worldwide vacation. The possibilities are endless.

Simply decide your activity, pick a date, and let the Activities Committee know via phone-call/text at (917-881-9931) or email: edie@noany.org

- Edie Green, Chair

Membership Committee

Co-Chair: Jerry Flower membership@noany.org

Co-Chair: Janet Sibarium janet@noany.org

Welcome to Our New Applicants

Jeff LaFleur

Kim Russo



Archives Committee

Chair: Ray Kozma
archives@noany.org

Camp Nawakwa Centennial 1926-2026

What's In a Name

"It did not seem appropriate to continue calling our place "the new camp," so word went out for a better name with the winner having a free weekend at camp. Katherine Williams won the prize with Nawakwa. This is an Indian word meaning "in the midst of the wilderness." - Ira Ayres'

The simple definition of the term 'name' is "a word or phrase that constitutes the distinctive designation of a person or thing." [Merriam-Webster]. Before there was the name, though, there was the thing. And our 'thing' was not just a building, but a set of experiences and shared history and relationships that bound those first members together and that still binds us together. We call it "Nawakwa," but this 'name' evokes memories and experiences in each club member that are both common and unique. It might be useful to think of "Nawakwa" both as a place and as a metaphor, a word suggesting an analogy for all our individual and shared memories of experiences we have had through camp and the membership over the years.

We do not know from where Katherine Williams found the winning name "Nawakwa." We do know that Major Welch, in developing Harriman State Park, liked the idea of giving Indian names to the lakes that were being formed. Such names are generally Algonquin names as these were the native tribes that prevailed along the Atlantic coast. For example, Askati means 'one side'; Skannatati, the 'other side.' [Cornell University Library: Indian Names in New York, page 93.] Thus we have Lake Askati on one side of Seven Lakes Drive and Lake Skannatati, with its parking area and trailheads, on the other side. Sebago means 'large, open water'[Cornell University Library: Indian Names in New York, page 102] Lake Sebago is the largest lake in Harriman State Park. A quick search on the internet uncovers many camps that use the name Nawakwa. For example, there is a Nawakwa Lodge in Virginia, and they write that "the name Nawakwa is from the Chippewa tribe. When translated it means. "in the middle of the

forest, similar to where the forester finds the best timber.” There is a Girl Scout Camp Nawakwa in Wisconsin that describes “Nawakwa” as “an Ojibwe word, meaning “in the woods” or “camp by the water.” So, the word ‘Nawakwa,’ does indeed have its origins in the Algonquin language family, specifically from the Ojibwe language and easily can be translated as “in the middle of the forest.”[Note: Both the Chippewa and Ojibwe were part of the Algonquin family of tribes. The Ojibwe People’s Dictionary (Ojibwe.lib.umn.edu) additionally translates Naawake as ‘it is mid-day, is noon’ (that is, the ‘middle’ of the day). It is also compounded into other words and sentences, e.g. Gii-ishkwaabiisaamagad giinaawakweg meaning It stopped raining at noon.”] The earliest use of the name Nawakwa, according to Wikipedia, was by the Mississippi Valley Council (headquartered in Quincy Illinois) which served Scouts in Illinois, Missouri, and Iowa. There was a Camp Eastman Scout Camp (1918-1920) that moved their camp to a new location in 1920 and renamed it Nawakwa. So perhaps Katherine Williams was familiar with some of these other camps named “Nawakwa,” with the general understanding that Nawakwa does have the meaning ‘in the woods’ and ‘camp by the water.’

So what’s in a name? Everything. It evokes a place, a time, experiences, and memories that we all share, drawn to Camp Nawakwa because of the common love we have for the outdoors, the woods, and wilderness.

Ray Kozma, Archives Committee