

FLOODWOOD MOUNTAIN SCOUT RESERVATION

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER - FALL 2016

That's a wrap -2016 Season - Scott McKim

Thanks to all who made Summer 2016 a success at Floodwood! Youth, Adult Leaders, Staff members, and volunteers contributed to a great 5 weeks on the waters and trails of the Adirondacks. It's fantastic to be part of a team all working together for the same goal of providing a top-notch experience for our campers.

What we do at Floodwood goes beyond the 12 points of the Scout Law and the morals embedded in the Scout Oath. On the one hand we as leaders facilitating the experiences that Scouts have at Floodwood need to say very little out on trek, as time on a river or lake or in the mountains presents life lessons well beyond the concrete experience at hand, lessons that are available for anyone who cares to learn them. Challenge, perseverance, confronting fear, pride in learning new skills - the list goes on and on and the magic of our environment often is the best teacher - let the woods and waters do their thing. As such, canoe tripping works very well as a vehicle for learning.



On the other hand it often takes a guide to nudge the learning and the experience, someone who can make these experiences and lessons come to life and realization, explaining the deeper meaning of experience and encouraging reflection. Both sides are right, and both have a place. The question then becomes, when and where is each appropriate? Whatever the answer, we hope your experience at Floodwood through the natural environment that we call our backyard and the work of our Staff acted to make a positive impression on you.

As we take a breath and fondly remember the past summer, we eagerly look forward to next

Summer's Thoughts - Scott McKim

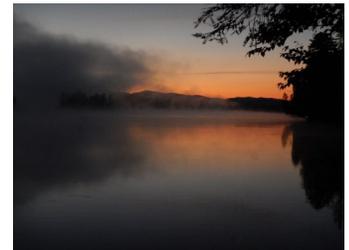
Floodwood means a lot to a lot of people. I tried to capture of a little of that elusive meaning here...hope you enjoy it.

I've never been sure of what I'm chasing, but I'm always certain when I find it.

It might only be a moment, a brief instance in time. The sparkle in the shallows, the way a spider web catches the sun suddenly, or the solid shapes on the edge of the sky as the day fades to night.

Perhaps it is my heart pounding in the weightless silence as the canoe glides through reflected stars above, or the enriching first sip of cowboy coffee at daybreak. Or maybe it's simply freedom.

(Cont'd next page)



Important Dates:

Fall Weekend

Sept 24-25

2017 Camp Dates

July 9-15	Week 1
July 16-22	Week 2
July 23-29	Week 3
July 30-Aug 5	Week 4
Aug 6- 12	Week 5



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Summer's Thoughts-cont'd

Regardless of whatever that feeling might be, Floodwood was the first place I felt it. When my paddle first dipped into the tannic headwaters of the Saranac that feeling came and hijacked my heart, and so I have been chasing after it ever since. And oddly enough, the chase always leads me back to where it started.



There is a certain something special about Floodwood. I've always felt that way. But why was that feeling of freedom born there? It was always a mystery to me until I returned to Floodwood in 2015 after being away in more northerly environments for the last decade. It was midweek during Week 2 of last summer, I was sitting atop Floodwood Mountain, about to run down to West Pine for an evening dip and paddle, to a pond I had not paddled in 10 years. Ten years of wild times and ten years of wild paddle trips across the Arctic. And looking out over the world - camp below visible through the trees, an unending green swath of trees to every horizon broken only by small lakes - 10 years suddenly felt like a very short period of time.



And then, as if time unraveled before my eyes, I realized that right here and right now are all that is real. Everything else is memory or imagination. And I thought, I think that perhaps this is what the Floodwood "old timers" I met at the reunions meant when they claimed they lived those summers on staff on "Floodwood time."

That saying, to me at least, meant they honored the present moment, that they appreciated their consciousness, and they celebrated the idea that no future moment could ever be more important than the moment

they have right now.

No wonder I first discovered that feeling of freedom at Floodwood, and always felt it stronger with each new visit. That location, and this emotion are forever married to each other. And I suspect I'm not alone in my feelings.

Promo Visits 2016-2017—Steve Lung

The promotion team is gearing up again for the start of the promotional season and is looking forward to visiting troops and sharing the Floodwood experience. Last year we covered NNJC and will do so again this year. However this year we will also include adjacent councils in NY State and Long Island that do not have their own High Adventure camps. Anyone interested in scheduling a visit to their troop should contact *Steve Lung* silung@rocketmail.com or *Dave Stuhr* stuhr@fordham.edu

Items Wanted

Looking for donations for the our program:

- Foosball table
- 1st Aid supplies

If you have an item to donate please contact Steve Lung at silung@rocketmail.com

Donations

Floodwood relies in part on donations, if you wish to donate to Friends of Floodwood please contact John at:

johnringoe@comcast.net

Contact Information:



Base Director

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Council Address

Northern New Jersey Council BSA
25 Ramapo Valley Road, Oakland NJ 07436
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Informational Visits—Arrange informational Visits

Dave Stuhr stuhr@fordham.edu
201-445-1637
Steve Lung silung@rocketmail.com
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Camp Address

Floodwood Mountain Scout Reservation
Post Office Box 251 Lake Clear, New York 12945
PHONE: (518) 891-4460 (Summer only)

Camping Services—Reservations, booking and payment

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