

# THE CAMP BARTON STAFF ALUMNI ASSOCIATION FRONTENAC POINT OF VIEW



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## ON THE HORIZON

Looking for a way to help? Here's how...



**BADGES AT  
BARTON**  
ADVENTURE • ADVANCEMENT • TRADITION

### Badges at Barton 2024

Gear up for  
another summer  
of opportunity  
and experience at  
Camp Barton!!

- July 26-28
- August 2-4
- August 9-11
- August 16-18
- August 23-25



### CBSAA SERVICE CORPS

Service is the foundation  
When we take care of our camp we  
provide opportunity for its programs to  
succeed!

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Get involved today!

**Not a registered member?  
Why not?**



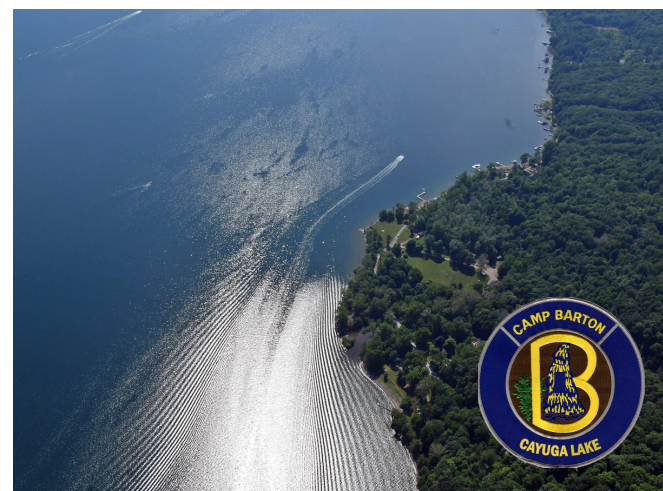
**Contact**  
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## 2024 CBSAA Annual Meeting & Reunion!! SAVE THE DATE!

### AUGUST 3

Join us for the day or stay for  
a night or two as we host our  
3rd Annual Meeting of the  
CBSAA and welcome alumni  
spanning 7 decades.

Registration Opens in January







# STATE OF THE ASSOCIATION



SCOTT D. STOLTE  
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Richmond, Virginia 23225  
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October 1, 2023

To: All Members of the Camp Barton Staff Alumni Association, related Scouting Friends, and Families.  
RE: State of The Camp Barton Staff Alumni Association

Dear All:

Having taken the Oath of Office at our last Executive Board Meeting, today marks the beginning of my two-year term as President of the Camp Barton Staff Alumni Association (the "CBSAA"). This is a position I am honored to hold, and I promise to do my best to do my duty to serve our organization, Scouting, and Camp Barton.

The CBSAA, is the brainchild of DJ Jones, who had the foresight and vision to reach out to former Camp Barton staff members from years past. Many of the people he reached out to, including myself, were people that he did not personally know, but he had heard stories, had seen pictures, and had seen their names on staff plaques. As a result of his efforts, a few former staff members, from all across the country, and spanning generations, began virtual online meetings to discuss the formation of the CBSAA. The initial intent was to form a fraternal organization to recognize and celebrate both the Camp Barton Staff and Camp Barton, however, almost immediately, this changed. Camp Barton was going to be shut down and sold. We switched gears and agreed that we would do everything in our power to stop the sale and/or somehow be involved in a future for Camp Barton.

Thus, The Camp Barton Staff Alumni Association (the "CBSAA") was officially chartered by the Commonwealth of Virginia State Corporation Commission on August 17, 2021, and today is active and in good standing. The CBSAA is recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501 (C) (3) Charitable Foundation and as such donations to the CBSAA are tax deductible.

What began with a few former Staff Members has grown, in just two short years, to a thriving organization with over 160 members. We have also posthumously recognized 34 deceased staff alumni whose families have registered them in memorial. When we learned that a resident camp program would not be an immediate option at camp the CBSAA explored, received guidance on, and adopted 2 forms of short term programming from our connections to councils in Florida and Connecticut. We then merged these ideas into a camping format of our own called "Badges at Barton", an affordable merit badge and specialty program which to date has been administered and operated almost entirely by former staff members and new staff volunteers who unselfishly donate their time talent, and resources to support our youth. What an outstanding job you all have done! In 2022, 105 Staff Members served 199 Scouts and 73 adult leaders. In 2023, 129 Staff Members (37 new members joining 92 members returning from the year before) served 276 Scouts with 116 adult leaders. We are confident that 2024 can continue this trend and surpass these outcomes.

I would like to thank our previous officers; Alan Dixon, Peter O'Connell, David Ludewig, DJ Jones, and Board Chairmen; Kevin Gross, Dave Carlson, Mike Brown, Tim Clive, and Jeff Smith. I would like to welcome our new board members George O'Connell, Michael Catalano, and 2023 Camp Director Marc Salino. Thank you to all those who are serving our various committees and are participating in those meetings throughout the year, and to the Baden-Powell Council for your collaboration and support of the CBSAA over the past two years. To those who have served on the Badges at Barton Staff, please know that all of us on the Executive Board thank each and every one of you for your gracious contributions of time and talent as you lead and mentor our youth just as we ourselves were by those who came before us. The Camp Barton tradition of excellence continues.

Now to the future. It is fine and well to pat ourselves on the back and say job well done. It is a job well done, but the work has just begun. As we all now know, the New York State Department of Parks, Recreation, and Historical Preservation has purchased Camp Barton, and a local corporation of municipalities has been tasked to operate and manage the property. While it is uncertain how this will all piece together, we are confident that Scouting, supported by the collaborative efforts of the Baden-Powell Council and the CBSAA, will continue at Frontenac Point, and Camp Barton will continue its century long service to the outdoor youth education community.

If we are going to continue to uphold our association's vision and purpose to forever preserve Camp Barton and its service to outdoor youth education by way of its alumni and supporters; if we are going to support Camp Barton through resource management, community outreach, and charitable contributions; if we are going to enhance the camping experience and broaden educational programs to further promote the ideals of Scouting, we must be ever vigilant in our efforts. So, I now ask, of all of us, that we rededicate ourselves to this very important cause.

Please continue to, and step forth to, participate in the CBSAA as often as possible. We continue to need your time and talents, no matter how little, or what they may be. Please continue and decide to help the CBSAA protect and preserve Camp Barton. Do so by volunteering as part of the Badges at Barton Staff in years to come, by aiding the facilities, grounds, and conservation through the CBSAA Service Corps, by way of a CBSAA operational committee, through involvement with Baden-Powell Council sponsored activities at camp, and last but not least, by way of financial support. No contribution is too small.

Please also note that fulfillment of our association's vision and purpose cannot be limited to the summer programming at camp. We must support and participate in Camp Barton throughout the entirety of each year. We need our membership, and those we recruit to be a constant presence at camp helping with programs and camp upkeep. We urge you to reach out to a few of the staff members you worked with, to the Scoutmasters who brought you to camp in the first place, and encourage them to get involved. Our strength is our membership.

Soon, our committee's (Finance, Membership, Correspondence, Reunion, and Program) will resume their regular meetings as our Executive Board will continue its regular convening as a means to keep our efforts transparent and in sync. Each of our chairmen have been tasked to grow their committee, and b) exceed their outcomes from our previous term. Our Program Committee will, as it has done in seasons 1 and 2 of Badges at Barton, lead the efforts in its review, planning, and development. With these efforts it must be known that we value each of you and your opinions. We encourage you to participate on a committee of your strengths and interests. If this level of involvement is not possible, if nothing more, please communicate with us your ideas.

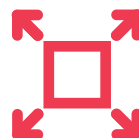
In conclusion, the State of the Camp Barton Staff Alumni Association is GREAT!

Together, in the 102<sup>nd</sup> year of Camp Barton, we will accomplish amazing things and influence, in a positive way, countless numbers of young men and women.

May the Great Scoutmaster of all Scouts be with us until we meet again.

Yours in Scouting,

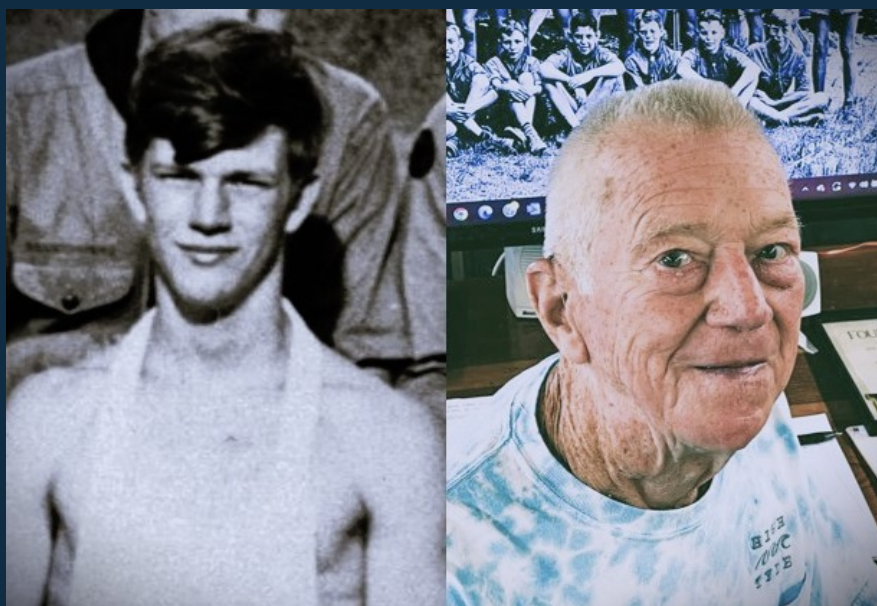
Scott D. Stolte  
Camp Barton Staff Alumni Association President



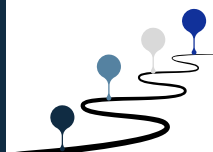
**Scott D. Stolte**  
Staff '78-85, '22-23  
CBSAA, President

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

**David A. Geller**  
Camp Barton Staff Member  
1944-1947



**Then, 1947**  
18 yrs of age



**Now, 2023**  
94 yrs of age

David A. Geller of Owego NY, first attended Camp Barton as a Scout in 1941 under the leadership of his Scoutmaster, Rev. Sidney Winter and followed in the footsteps of his two older brothers William and Fred. All three of the Geller's found their place on camp staff, David serving both in the Kitchen and on the Waterfront. David's service to Scouting carried well beyond his time at Camp Barton whereby he was Scoutmaster of Troop 37 of Owego for many years. He has remained active and supportive of Camp Barton for over 75 years.

A loving husband of 71 years to Violet until her passing in 2022, and a father to three children (David P., Marcia, and Michael) - His sons both earned their Eagle Scout Awards respectively.

David is member of the original Chi Sigma Honors Fraternity and is the CBSAA's oldest active member. We are so very fortunate to have him as a member of this association and we are honored to recognize a small piece of his story in this first newsletter edition. Thank you David!





# CAMP BARTON; THEN, NOW, AND THE FUTURE

Ithaca Journal  
June 3 1921

## Boy Scout Activities

### SCOUT CAMP IN JULY TO BE REAL OUTING

Hurray, Scouts! we're goin' to have a camp. A real camp. Tents that you can stand up in, beds that you don't have to be tired to sleep in, and without the waffle iron pattern usually found in the beds of Mother Nature. It will be next July 18 to 30, inclusive, at Lake Ridge on Cayuga Lake.

Every Scout in Ithaca will be on his toes to start down there, but it is limited to 50 boys, first come first served. Get your application in early.

In order to insure a good time the spirit of the Scout Oath and law will determine the method of leadership maintained in camp. Each tent will be in charge of a tent leader, and there will be three or four adult leaders in camp all the time.

This will be the first big scout camp that we have ever had here. It will be different from the little week-end hikes in a pup-tent. The advantages are innumerable. You will not have to do your own cooking. Your bed will be somewhat more comfortable. You will get larger doses of

swimming, boating, and all the scouting activities that you ever got before. This disadvantages, such as early to bed, early to rise, plan and the chilly morning dip can be easily changed to advantages with a little practice.

You needn't "be prepared" to enjoy yourself. You won't be able to help it.

2024 will mark the 102nd year of Camp Barton.

**Camp Barton**..... as in, a historic Scouting landmark of the Finger Lakes Region.

**Camp Barton**..... as in, a regionally desired resident summer camp.

**Camp Barton**..... as in, a casualty of bankruptcy and a consequence of justice.

**Camp Barton**..... as in, a survivor, both in name and in spirit, and soon, in actuality.

**102 years ago**, in its infancy, Camp Barton was the answer to the itch Samuel D. Bogan, newly appointed executive of the Ithaca Council, needed to scratch when he arrived just 1 year prior. Scouts, until that time, in order to attend "camp" needed to travel outside of the area to places such as Camp Kamargo, Camp Russell, Camp Tarion, and Camp Otetiana. Camp Barton would become one of the first Scout camps in the Finger Lakes Region and would spark the growth of several others to follow throughout the 1920's and 1930's. For Barton, attendance would continuously increase each summer between 1922 and its peak in 1977- the 50th Anniversary at Frontenac Point. Staff size each summer steadily expanded along with the program offerings available. Winslow F. Alder, Camp Director in 1946 and long time council executive would etch his place in the history of Camp Barton for nearly 45 years leading a major capital drive in 1968, creating a steady core staff that was retained summer after summer, and spreading awareness of Camp Barton through a steady source of local visibility by way of various media outlets.

**Like all things**, Scouting has fluctuated at times in popularity and numbers, yet Camp Barton has continuously served as a sanctuary for troops to spend their summers. The culture and theatrics of weekly theme, the energy of the dining hall, and an embodiment of the camp spirit by the staff has seldom faded.

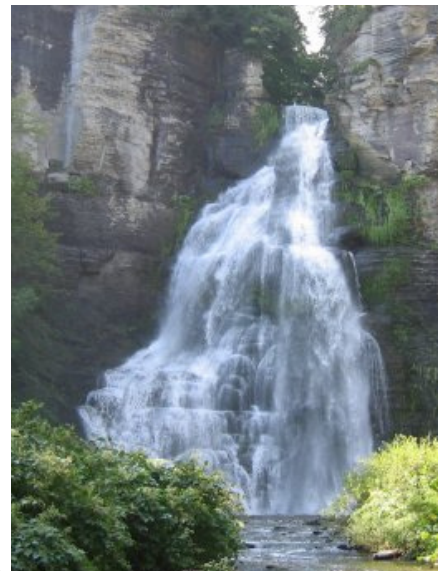
**Camp Barton** now faces uncertainty not only for its landscapes and facade, but for its identity and spirit. Bogan and Alder are gone and this once focal piece of a community is now looked at simply as an "option" for troops, not a need.

**The future** now rests on the shoulders of those who still embody its spirit through their own time and experiences.

**Fate** presents itself at times in life whether we are able to recognize it or not and so... the question becomes -- Will we commit to a fate we all desire

for Camp Barton?, or, when it's all said and done, will we find ourselves asking ..what if we had?, ..should we have?, ...or wishing we did something we could have.

The CBSAA: Who are we? and What are we willing to endure for Camp Barton?



## WHAT'S IN STORE FOR 2024?



### CAMP BARTON

YEAR ROUND CAMPING

[Click Here](#)

TAUGHANNOCK DISTRICT & BADEN  
POWELL COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

[Click Here](#)

MANAGERIAL TRANSITION TO  
THREE FALLS LDC & NYS

[Click Here](#)



### CBSAA SERVICE CORPS

February 24 & March 24  
Mini Work Party

April 20  
Spring Cleaning

June 15  
Camp Set Up Day

June 13  
Beaver Day



### BADGES AT BARTON

- July 26-28
- August 2-4
- August 9-11
- August 16-18
- August 23-25

**VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED**

PAID & VOLUNTEER STAFF  
APPLICATION

[DOWNLOAD](#)



### CAMP BARTON STAFF ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



Monthly Executive  
Board Meetings



Annual Meeting &  
Reunion Event



# REMEMBER WHEN.....

**We dedicate this section to the memories of times spent at Camp Barton. We dedicate this to section to the memories of those no longer beside us, those we hope will walk with us again, and to those we have yet to meet. Thank you for all of the memories and contributions to this section!**



"I had the pleasure of being on the waterfront staff in the years of 1944 & 1945 with Bob Netro, Lou Cogan, and my older brother William. We all had great time. Then I worked in the kitchen with Cy Burn in 1946 and in Joe Moses 1947."

"Cy had a tattoo on his back of a dog chasing a rabbit down a hole.... only half of the rabbit was showing.

I sure had a great time as camper starting in 1941. Cost for a week was \$7. I was able to save enough through the year so that could stay for all four weeks." - David Geller



"Rackety," the 1953 camp mascot. Paul Kelsey, the regional Department of Conservation Wildlife specialist, allowed me to rear an orphaned baby raccoon until it could be safely returned to the wild. Rackety was very friendly and came to camp with me. He loved attention and handouts and rode around camp on my shoulder. That summer I also took care of a pet fox which was kept by a State Trapper. Although we kept her in her cage, we could open the door and play with her. It was bitter-sweet saying goodbye to Rackety as he gradually returned to the wild in October." - Dr. David Hanselman



1962+ "I was Handicraft Director and later Storekeeper at the Hotel Frontenac. Handicraft and the trading post were on the 1st floor. The staff lounge and storage was on the 2nd floor- Rooms A, B and C upstairs ... haunted, you didn't want to be there at night. Room B had some mattresses and was a rumpus room. My friend Bruce Spaulding gave me a black eye there, all perfectly innocent. Room C had a lot of old dishes in storage and had a delightful mice odor. The staff lounge had an Arcade Bowling Machine - Super Shuffle Alley for entertainment ... there was a puck that you slid toward the back and a score showed up on the display. The puck was returned to a slot at the lower right of the machine. Someone you know, future electrical engineer, put a micro switch in and above the slot with a nail head sticking down. You'd never know it was there. But when you retrieved the puck, you pushed the nail up and this guaranteed a strike of 10 pins. Such a great bowler I was." -Alan Dixon



**A Little Shipwreck Lore at Camp Barton?** One of the most wonderful things about Camp Barton has been its second to none waterfront. Who doesn't remember doing the Tarzan jump into the water off the tripod? I remember out of council troops coming just for the lake fun. I vaguely remember someone running an old film projector at the dining hall showing black and white images of scenes around camp and one of the images showed scouts apparently up at the parade field with a beached shipwreck behind them.

No idea how old that home movie was. People have told me it was the Frontenac or maybe the Iroquois, both of which were steamships on the lake way back in the day. Supposedly it was blown off the point into deeper water during a hurricane or another story is that the coast guard dragged it into deeper water as it was a hazard to navigation. The pictures I saw could have been from a field trip up the lake as there is a big story (thanks Google) about the Frontenac burning up near the north end of Cayuga. Supposedly the wreck was there for years but ended up getting scrapped during WWII as metal for the war effort. Many folks have gotten their scuba diving merit badge or finished up their open water dives at Camp Barton including myself. A couple of diver friends said they went looking for the wreck but found only a piece of the funnel in deep water, the rest is maybe deeper but beyond safe rec diver limits. Anyone know the rest of the story or better yet the truth? How many scout camps have their own shipwreck?"



"One of my clear and fond memories from working at Camp Barton in the early 80's is our (certain staff members) evening get togethers at Pete O'Connell's house. These "meetings" would happen on an irregular basis throughout the camp season. Pizza and wings adult beverages were always on the menu and the invited staff members were treated to educational interpersonal movies ("wink, wink, nudge, nudge") on Peter's VCR. Along with the videos, we were also entertained by Pete feeding his dog, Moose, the stripped chicken wing bones which he would devour in one or two bites. Good times at the O'Connell house!" - Doug Saunders

Summer of 1990.... Waterfront Staff.....Tom Bond, (*Director*) on the proper use of the diving board off of the high dock:

"Boinka Boinka ..... okay" ..... "Boinka Boinka Boinka..... not okay." -Leon Stoll



2005.... during a pre camp administration and area directors "retreat" a heated debate ensues over the topic of what songs should or should not be sang in the dining hall.... the debate abruptly is ended upon the following dialogue..... "That song will not be sang in the dinning hall!!..... I am the Camp Director and I have the final say" ..... response..... "That song most certainly will be sang!! ... and I have the final say!!..... why??..... because I'm the F\*\*\*ing KING OF MUSIC!! .... that's why!!"

A few of the top staff pranks from the 2010's:

- The GIANT weather rock...

-Canoes everywhere in camp. Lashed to the tower, to the floating dock, in Nature filled with knot- weed, in the Trading Post, screwed to the Handicraft table, and the stupidest one of all..... in the rafters of the dining hall- filled with water.

A common yet ridiculous event:

"The Lagerwall Dash" - a term for a person who is tucking in their class A while sprinting from the Chateau to retreat as the band is already playing.



**The Frontenac Point of View is brought to you by the CBSAA Correspondence Committee**

**If you would like to participate in the development of the Newsletter in any way please reach out to:**

[correspondence@bartonstaffalumni.org](mailto:correspondence@bartonstaffalumni.org)

## Letters to the Editor / Articles / Photos

Submit at any time to  
[correspondence@bartonstaffalumni.org](mailto:correspondence@bartonstaffalumni.org)

All material is vetted by the Correspondence Committee & Executive Board

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Payable to: CBSAA, Inc.

Mailed to:

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Burbank, CA 91505

or click here:



**CAMP BARTON IS THE PLACE FOR ME..... HEY!!!!**

**Next Issue: May 2024**