2013 Leadership Awards Gala

On August 2, 2013, the Adirondack Park Institute (API) held the 2013 Leadership Awards Gala at SUNY ESF’s Adirondack Ecological Center in Newcomb, NY. We were honored to be joined by the family of Frank M. Hutchins (1922-2012) founding President, leader, and mentor of the API. It was announced at the Gala that the API’s annual award for excellence and leadership in environmental education and programming in the Adirondacks will be known as the Frank M. Hutchins Environmental Education and Leadership Award. Frank’s wife of 67 years, Jeanne, attended the Gala and took part in the recognition along with their daughter Virginia Hutchins Valkenburgh.

The first recipient of the Award was Elizabeth M. Lowe. Betsy was recognized for her tireless efforts to promote educational programs in the Adirondacks as a founding member of the Natural History Museum of the Adirondacks, the Wild Center, in Tupper Lake and through numerous community boards and civic activities.

The Honorary Gala Co-Chairs were Dr. Neil Murphy, President of the College of Environmental Science and Forestry in Syracuse, and Assemblyman Dan Stec, 114 Assembly District. All proceeds from the Gala support children and family based programs at the Adirondack Interpretive Center and throughout the Adirondacks.

Board Members and Specials Guests at the 2013 Gala

Pictured left to right, API Trustees Abbie Verner, Paul Hai, Liz Thorndike, and MJ Huneycutt; Dan Fitts API Executive Director and Sue Goodspeed, API Office Manager and Assistant Treasurer; Phil Terrie, Betsy Lowe, Katherine Lowe; George Canon, API Trustee and Supervisor of the Town of Newcomb; Assemblyman Dan Stec; API Trustee Ed Lynch; and, API Board President, Mike German. (Photo by Ken Rimany)
We’ve Moved

Last March, the Adirondack Park Institute relocated its offices to the Newcomb Town Hall. This central Adirondack location has helped us focus attention on SUNY ESF’s Adirondack Interpretive Center and better align with other environmental education programs throughout the Adirondacks. Many thanks to Supervisor George Canon and the Town of Newcomb for the generous contribution of office space and strong support for the API!

Meet Our New Staff Member

The API is pleased to welcome Susan Goodspeed of Newcomb, NY as Office Manager and Assistant Treasurer to the Board of Trustees. Sue, her husband Sterling, and family live in Newcomb where she is involved in several civic and community organizations. Before joining the API staff, Sue was publisher and editor of the North Creek News. She is a graduate of the University of Albany.

2013 Summer at the AIC

(Excerpt of an article by Frank Morehouse, AIC)

It was an exciting and eventful summer at the Adirondack Interpretive Center in Newcomb. The season kicked off Memorial Day weekend with another successful Loons and Logs Day. The one-of-a-kind, made in the U.S.A., rubber loons continue to be a popular way to support the center. The center was also filled with new staff this summer. Two new permanent staff members, Program Manager, Frank Morehouse and Assistant Program Manager, Kristin Pasquino, came on board in May and June. Both are ESF graduates with a passion for the Adirondacks and for sharing the natural world with others. Adirondack Park Institute, funding made it possible to hire a SUNY ESF Naturalist Intern, Angela Noviasky, and two high school Junior Naturalists, Rebecca Marra and Erin Mackey. Maggie Busman of the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) also worked as a WCS Bear Steward.

Now that the leaves have fallen, the AIC has switched gears to fall programming. School children from throughout the region are back. For all upcoming public programs, please go to the AIC’s website at www.esf.edu/aic.

2013 Funds Awarded

At the May 2013 Board Meeting, the API Trustees awarded $11,000 to the Paul Smith’s College VIC and $11,000 to SUNY ESF’s Adirondack Interpretive Center. Funds for the Paul Smith’s College VIC were used for such popular programs as the Native Species Butterfly House, the Great Adirondack Birding Celebration, and the School Children Visitatio Program. Funds at the Adirondack Interpretive Center supported two summer interns from the Town of Newcomb who worked as Junior Naturalists, the summer lecture series, and other environmental education programs at the Center. (Photo by SUNY ESF)

Coming in 2014

August 2014: Adirondack Park Institute’s Leadership Awards Gala including presentation of the 2014 Frank M. Hutchins Environmental Education and Leadership Award, SUNY ESF’s Adirondack Interpretive Center.

Fall 2014: Adirondack Park Institute’s Mountains of Education Fundraising Golf Tournament, Newcomb Town Golf Club

Become an API Member Today

The strength of our organization is the generous support of our donors and members. Since 1989 we have raised over one-million dollars in support for family based programming that is giving generation after generation the opportunity to learn and appreciate the natural world.

Please donate or become a member today. Remember, your gift is tax deductible! Contact us for details.

Visit the AIC

There is a lot going on at the SUNY ESF’s Adirondack Interpretive Center and in the Town of Newcomb. Visit the AIC’s web page at www.esf.edu/aic/ to learn all the latest program and activity information at the Center or give our office a call, we are happy to assist you.

Pictured right, SUNY ESF’s 2013 Soccer Team visits the AIC.

Photos by SUNY ESF