



THE TWILIGHT OWL

Annie Memhard Braunstein, Editor

2008 Season: Issue 5

Silver Trowel Party

Saturday, August 16th at 5:00 pm
Tressler cottage

Please come to the Tressler cottage for fellowship, drinks and hors d'oeuvres, and to congratulate the winner of the 2008 Silver Trowel award.

The (now) famous Winking Owl wine has been imported especially for this occasion.

Youngsters interested in gardening are welcome (we'll make ice cream floats).

Questions? Contact Bonnie at 589-6218 or e-mail bonnie.mackenzie@comcast.net.

Screening of Britton Fisher's Movie

Wednesday, August 20 at 8:00 pm
Twilight Park Clubhouse

Please come to movie night and see Brit Fisher's film **Full Battle Rattle** at the Clubhouse, Wednesday, August 20 at 8pm. The film has been widely critically acclaimed. It premiered at the 2008 Berlin Film festival and is currently running in Seattle. It is a fascinating and captivating documentary about the US Army's efforts to train the troops before forward deployment. It is a humanistic approach to the subject matter and real life that the constructed and fully realized 'mock' Arabic towns and the role players take on.

The film is 87 minutes long. It contains some graphic material and language that will not be appropriate for those under the age of 13 (or so).

On the Right Path

In the history of Twilight Park, walking has always been a pleasurable past time. In the days of dirt roads and horse-and-carriage, the preferred venues for walks were the many paths that connected the cottages to the inns and the pool. (Continued on page 4)



Support Your Twelka Team!

Sunday, August 17 at 2:00 pm
Twilight Clubhouse

Forget the Olympics... for real sports excitement tune in to the finals of the Ping Pong tournament between Twilight Park and Elka Park in pursuit of the famed **Twelka Cup** this Sunday at the Twilight Clubhouse.

Thirty-seven Twilight denizens have been participating in a Ping Pong ladder tournament since mid-July to determine the nine finalists destined to compete against Elka Park's finest nine finalists. There will be seven adult finalists and two kid finalists from each Park.



Refreshments will be served (provided free by the promoters). All Twilight Cottagers are cordially invited to attend this momentous battle of Mountain Top Pong Titans. The winning team gets their name inscribed on the vaunted Twelka Cup for posterity, along with the winning score, and also enjoys the right to display the trophy for one year at their home Park, for all the world to see. The bragging rights that accompany a victory are incalculable!

Please join your fellow Twilighters for this event. There will be great Ping Pong, lots of trash talking, and a surprise or two in store for attendees.

Bye Bye Birdie

Friday and Saturday, August 22 – 23 at 8:00 pm
Onteora Theatre



Curtain Up!!! Light the Lights!!!

Have you made reservations for the Onteora Theatre production of the popular musical comedy *Bye Bye Birdie*?

This classic show features Twilight thespians Anna Zabel, Grace McCarrick and Sally Maurer.

Call Susan Kleinfelder at 589-5262 A.S.A.P. to reserve your seats now!

(Friday is traditionally "Twilight Night")

Mountaintop Historical Society Annual Open House

Saturday, August 23, from 11 – 5

Historical Society Campus, Haines Falls.

This great event features hay rides and entertainment. The featured speaker is Dr. Kevin Avery, a curator at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and an authority on the painter Sanford Gifford.

Labor Day Rock and Roll Dance Party

Saturday, August 30

Twilight Clubhouse

Featuring the 'RSVP' Band

Hors d'oeuvres at 5:00

Music begins at 6:00

Brooks BBQ Dinner

Coffee and dessert

Adults \$30

Children (6-12) \$10



BYOB

Please RSVP and send payment to Nora Monaco by August 24. Make checks payable to Twilight Cottagers.

Nora Monaco

Phone: 589-6543 E-mail: nmonaco@csc.com

Mail: Twilight gatehouse or P.O. Box 211

Mountain Top Historical Society Hikes

Saturday, September 13 - Giant Ledge

Depart 9:00 am, return 2:00 pm

- o Meeting place: Big Indian (Intersection of State Route 28 and Ulster County Route 47)
- o Vertical Rise: 1000 ft. Distance: 3 miles
- o Difficulty: Moderate
- o Panoramic views of the Devil's Path to the North and the Hudson Valley in the Distance.
- o Depending on the day, and the interest of the hikers, we may continue on to Panther Mountain. Those who choose to continue will cover a total of 7 miles with a climb of 1600 ft and return around 5:00 for a more difficult hike.

The Mountain Top Historical Society does not require membership for hike participation. We do, however, request that you register for each hike. For more information and to register, call Bob Gildersleeve at (518) 734-9701 or Larry Tompkins at (518) 734-4264.

An up-to-date list of hikes and other programs can be found at: <http://www.mths.org>

Memorial Service for Jean Smith Behlke

Saturday, September 13 at 11:00 am

All Angels Church

The Behlke Family – John, Dara and Brendan – invite you to a service of celebration of the life of Jean Behlke (1915 – 2008), including 58 years as a Twilight resident.

A reception will be held following the service in the Behlke cottage, Far View.

At the Mountain Cinema in Hunter

For more information call 263-2002

Tropic Thunder

Saturday, August 16 – Sunday, August 17 | 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:30pm

Monday, August 18 | 7:00pm, 9:30pm

Wednesday, August 20 – Friday, August 22 | 7:00pm, 9:30pm

Saturday, August 23 – Sunday, August 24 | 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:30pm

Starring: Ben Stiller, Robert Downey Jr., Jack Black

Directed By: Ben Stiller **Rated:** R

Running Time: 107 min.

Through a series of freak occurrences, a group of actors shooting a big-budget war movie are forced to become the soldiers they are portraying. Winner of the 2008 Golden Trailer Award for Best Comedy.

Seeking Housing in NYC

Greg and Gemma Dayton, on return this month to New York from Spain, will return homeless, as their sublet co-op apartment on West 73rd St expired in June. Greg and Gemma are seeking a two-bedroom apartment near an express subway stop that will enable Noa to easily get to her school, the Performing Art School on West 48th Street. Greg would appreciate any leads or suggestions. He can be contacted by email at gdaytonguitar@yahoo.com.



2008 Owl Awards

At this year's Annual Meeting Joe Keifer presented the Owl Award to Rick Manix and Bill Clare. This award was created by Emily Fisher in 1980 to recognize and honor those that have made exceptional contributions to Twilight Park. Since 1980, sitting Park Presidents have awarded 33 Owl Medals.

Onteora Takes Twilight in Owl Matches

On Saturday, August 3rd, the 29th Owl Matches team competition in tennis between Twilight and Onteora took place on a lovely afternoon. Going into the competition, Twilight historically had won eighteen previous matches, compared to Onteora's eleven.

This year, in a very close encounter, Onteora prevailed, as Twilight's men's doubles team of Jim McMenamin and Keith Krasney fell to Onteora's Dick Taggart and Bob Schengel 8-2 in the last match of the day, creating a total match score of Onteora 36, Twilight 31.

The Twilight Women's Doubles team of Judy Sheridan and Paula Canning came from behind playing Onteora's Jenny Nay and Susan Kleinfelder, who had a lead of 5-1, to take a win for Twilight 8-6.



In the Men's Singles, Twilight's Dave Maurer lost to Tim Struthers 3-8. Twilight's Kimmy McMenamin took the Women's Singles over Ann Ansley 8-2.

In the Junior Doubles Twilight's Matt Roll and Drew Sterrett added to Twilight's winning ways with a win over Riley Schengel and Tom Davlin of 8-2.

The Mixed Doubles team from Onteora of Mary Elizabeth Dickenson and Terry Martin took Twilight's Robin Mechlowitz Kaukonen and Bob Sheridan 2-8.

The Owl Matches competition was established in 1978 by the Dayton family when Jon Dayton was working as the tennis pro. A very large crowd enjoyed some excellent tennis.

Bruce Dayton

The deadline for the next Owl is Tuesday, August 26. Submissions may be dropped in my mailbox at the gatehouse (call to confirm that I will be there if it is time-sensitive) or e-mailed to me at TwilightParkOwl@gmail.com.

Opening on the Twilight Board of Directors

Members of the Board of Directors may serve two three-year terms of office and typically commit to that length of service. In **August of 2009** there will be **one slot open** and the person who will fill that slot may well be asked during their term of office to serve as President.

Interested parties should speak to Bruce Dayton, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, or by email at: bmd56@concentric.net. Ask Bruce to confirm receipt to be sure you are not screened out as "trash". The selection of candidates is based on the following criteria:

- The talents and experience of the candidate
- Active experience in serving on Park committees, or other active involvement in Park matters
- Representation of a Park constituency or age group
- A desire to serve

Some background: The Nominating Committee consists of five members, each of whom may serve no more than four consecutive years. Two members are appointed by the Board and the other three by the Activities Committee. The Nominating Committee's nominees must be delivered to the Park Secretary by July 1, 2009.

The form of proxy for the Annual meeting circulated with the notice of the Annual Meeting at which directors are to be elected to the Board should be worded so as to enable the Voting Member executing the proxy to indicate his or her choice among the persons nominated, whether by the Nominating Committee or by petition.

Grocery Shopping

Tired of the high prices at Grand Union and Price Chopper? Then try shopping at the Bungalow Market – Albert C. Hommel, Prop. – in Tannersville.

I found a receipt from Bungalow in a desk drawer the other day. Groceries listed include:

A dozen oranges	79¢
One cabbage	25¢
Head of Lettuce	15¢
1 qt milk	15¢
2 lb green beans	40¢
1 lb bacon	50¢
A dozen eggs	60¢

And so on. Haven't located this store yet, but... Oh! Oh! I just noticed the date on the bill – July 7, 1928.

Mr. Hommel may not be in business anymore

Art Tressler

Twilight Paths *(continued from page 1)*

A 1917 map of Twilight clearly shows the paths, and even the map in the Twilight calendar shows some of the paths. Look closely, the paths are depicted by the thin black lines. Paths had names like *Pool Path*, *Squirrel Path*, *Cherry Lane* and *Moses Rock Spring Path* and provided the easiest and most scenic way to get from place to place. Stone or log steps in the paths helped with steep grades, and wooden bridges over streams kept feet dry. Over time, with the advent of hard roads and multiple cars, the paths fell into disuse. How many paths do you know? and take? Here are some of them:

- **Wingate Path:** Connects the third level with the Wingate and the pool. Starts at Balsam road. Head down the Rectory driveway, path is visible to the right in the woods.
- **Gazebo Path:** At the far end of Wingate Field, wooden steps lead to the Centennial Gazebo. Enjoy the view of the Pool from the Gazebo. An easy way to avoid the hill when walking to and from Wingate from the pool.
- **Squirrel Path:** The original Squirrel Path that connected the pool to Squirrel Inn has washed away. But you can access Wingate Field by the path that begins in the parking area across from the gate at the shallow end of the big pool. The path goes up hill then turns to the right. Cross a rustic bridge and you are at the backstop of Wingate Field!
- **Pool Path:** This path stretches from behind the Pool, down behind the Mack and Thompson cottages, parallels the road and emerges at Ledge End Road at the stone steps below Tressler (near Tarnowski). The full length of the path needs major restoration, but you can take a short cut by using the stone stairs at the beginning of the stone wall of the Murray, now Thompson, cottage.
- **Moses Rock Spring Path:** Begins on Ledge End Road to the left of the Tadler Cottage. This former carriage road, now a rustic path, ends at stone steps and pillars at the foot of Church Lane Hill.
- **Cherry Lane:** Thanks to Artie Homel and his crew, this path has been restored. Enter across from the tennis courts. Stone steps lead to the right of Cherry Falls. Two rustic bridges cross the stream. From the higher bridge walk straight for Pommander Walk, turn left to take path to road emerging across from Braunsteins.
- **Pommander Walk:** Once a roadway and the entryway for the Elder, Cobb, Campbell and McCarrick cottages, Pommander Walk connects Pharmacy Hill Road with Cherry Path.

It is a shame to let these once popular paths become overgrown. The next time you think of driving to the pool, why don't you take a path instead?

Joann Ainsworth

Path Restoration



Kim Marcus, Alan Lans and Allin Tallmadge clear the trail

PATH RESTORATION COMMITTEE - On Fridays August 1 and 8, a group of Twilighters donned gardening gloves, carried rakes and branch cutters into the woods and started clearing some neglected paths.

On August 1 Bob Sheridan and Bonnie Tressler assembled volunteers at Wingate Field. Bonnie shared a 1917 map that showed the paths, and Joanne Ainsworth, Susie MacGahan and Patti Spitko reminisced about using the paths as campers. Volunteers Bonnie and Art Tressler, Bob Sheridan, Kim Marcus (renting the Janeway cottage), Susie MacGahan and Patti MacGahan worked on Wingate Path, Squirrel Path, the Gazebo Path and Moses Rock Path.



Libby Tallmadge, Kim Marcus and Joann Ainsworth survey their progress

On August 8 the group grew to include Libby and Allin Tallmadge, Bill Clare, Allan Lans, and Annie and Charlie Braunstein. They cleared Pool Path behind the Pool House, past the Mack and Thompson cottages with a right turn down to Ledge End near the Young cottage.



Charlie Braunstein shows off his rakish charm

Interested in helping?

The group meets at 9:00 on Fridays at Wingate Field. Time involvement is one and a half to two hours. Contact Bob Sheridan for more information

Changes to Business Listings?

The business telephone list on the back of Twilight Park calendar gives names and numbers of various local organizations. Some of these change from year to year. For example we learned this week that Sargeant Bradley Chimney Sweep has retired. If you know of any other corrections we should make for the 2009 list, please send them to art.tressler@comcast.net, or put them in the Tressler mailbox at the gatehouse.

Art Tressler

61st Art Show a Great Success

On August 9th and 10th the 61st Annual Art Exhibition sponsored by Twilight Park Artists was open to the public. The Exhibition featured over 200 works by artists, sculptors, and photographers, in addition to children's art, from the Mountain Top and surrounding areas.

The opening reception on August 9th at the Twilight Park Clubhouse was attended by more than 350 people. Classical and original piano music was provided by Michael and Raphael Wedd, sons of Patrick and Allison Pratt Wedd.

As in recent shows, Co-Chairman Gracia Dayton hosted a guided tour of the show, quoting statements made about the pieces receiving awards by the show's judges.

The judges presented blue ribbons for the Judges' Choice, red ribbons for an Award of Excellence, green ribbons for Merit Awards, white ribbons for Honorable Mention and one gold ribbon for Best in Show.

Ed Shuttleworth's watercolor *Life Circles* and Gracia Dayton's mixed media *City Vision* both won awards. Jessica Gibbons and Anna Vitz of Elka were also honored, as was Penny Rivenburg's son George Rivenburg, Jr, for one of his sculptures in wood.

The show was co-chaired by Gracia and Bruce Dayton. Members of the art committee include Ann Collins, Bruce Dayton, Hendy Dayton, Susan Ferris, Mary Gaillard, Sandra Gooder, Olivia Mechlowitz, Rachel Roll, Rena Tarnowski, Catherine Tangney and Heather Dayton Wilson.

Access to photographs can be arranged by calling Bruce Dayton at 589-5119.



Pete Bennett waves cheerfully as he brings in that pesky bear, which will make a lovely rug to warm Mel's toes.

Restaurant Review: Deer Mountain Inn

Twilight denizens desiring a memorable dining experience in a beautiful setting need travel no further than a leisurely ten minute drive on picturesque Route 25 to the Deer Mountain Inn in rural Tannersville.

The restaurant is located in a charming turn-of-the-century country estate (now a seven bedroom bed and breakfast inn) which local lore claims was once the sylvan retreat of gangster Jack "Legs" Diamond. Two delightful, candlelit dining rooms, with decorations reminiscent of an Alpine hunting lodge, and including two massive stone fireplaces and an outdoor dining deck, offer an exceptional setting for the equally satisfying dining experience.

Innkeeper Danielle Gortel and Executive Chef Shamus Butler (trained at the renowned Culinary Institute of America, and with three decades of cooking experience) are your congenial hosts. They offer a Prix Fixe menu which includes a choice of appetizer, entrée and dessert, with prices ranging from \$28 to \$38 per person. An extensive and imaginative wine list, as well as a full bar, are available.

Chef Shamus offers a wonderfully creative, eclectic selection of prepared dishes to satisfy the palates of all dinner guests. Several of our favorites include the rosemary crusted rack of New Zealand lamb, served with peppercorn demi glace and oven roasted potatoes; maple and teriyaki glazed salmon filet, with rice pilaf and cucumber, tomato and dill salsa; baked macadamia crusted mahi mahi, with a coconut curry cream sauce, white rice pilaf and seasonal vegetable; and sautéed breast of chicken piccata, over long grain wild rice and fresh vegetables du jour. There always are wonderful daily specials to supplement the regular menu, which changes with the seasons. Did I mention that the desserts are to die for?

The Deer Mountain Inn has been in business since 1988, but remains unknown to many Mountaintop residents. This secret jewel deserves your consideration and patronage.

For reservations and directions, call 589-6268.

John Gordon, Greene County gourmand

New Number for the McMenamins

Make a note of the McMenamins' new phone number: 589-4066.

Twilight Family Campout – a belated report

On Saturday, July 12, kids and adults from all over Twilight packed up their sleeping bags, tents and coolers and headed for the Twilight Golf Course for a campout.

A veritable tent city emerged over the course of the afternoon, and a house tour of sorts ensued. The Macks' *Taj Mahal* received the most oohs and aahs. The spiffy two-room tent featured matching mosquito net-topped Pack 'n' Play cribs for the twins in the North room, and matching cots for Anne and her friend Tracy in the South suite. (Charlotte and Grace Mack had their own tent, sporting a more bohemian décor.) The Roll family's *Versailles*, a three-room woodland palace larger than most Manhattan apartments, ran a close second to the *Taj*; the Mack group's cocktail attire may have tipped the scales in their favor.

In the early evening, grillmeister Dan "Toasty Buns" Maurer and sous chef Tom Braunstein grilled hamburgers, hotdogs and chicken while dozens of kids played ball and rolled down the hill. Extra kudos to Cheryl the lifeguard for her fabulous Mexican bean salad (recipe follows).

As dusk approached, a campfire was lit and the s'mores bacchanal began. Decker Paterson made an unheard-of 13 glorious, gooey marshmallow monstrosities, which he secreted away to a waiting picnic blanket. One was snatched up by one of Pete and Mel Bennett's golden retrievers, but the fate of the other 12 is unknown (as is the fate of the indulgent dog). Ghost stories followed s'mores, and bedtime crept upon the campers as the sugar buzz wore off. Walker Pitts' eerie "Tale of the White Ghost" haunted the dreams of more than one camper that night.

Later that night, Deborah Dobski stopped by to warn campers that she had just sited a bear in the streambed by the Sunset Road bridge. The roaring fire

and good company allayed her fears, and she stayed a while before making her way home to a warm bed.

In true Lewis and Clark style, the campers arose the next morning to donuts, cereal, hot coffee and the New York Times. Tents were wearily dismantled, and the adventurers returned to their cottages to catch up on their sleep.

Cheryl's Mexican Bean Salad

1 can black beans, rinsed
1 can kidney beans, rinsed
1 can white kidney beans, rinsed
1 package frozen corn
1 yellow bell pepper, chopped
1 red bell pepper, chopped
1 red onion, finely chopped
¼ cup chopped fresh cilantro

½ cup olive oil
½ cup red wine vinegar
2 tbs. sugar or honey
2 tbs. lime juice
1 tbs. lemon juice
1½ tsp. cumin
1 tsp. chili powder
1 tsp. salt
1 clove garlic, finely chopped

Combine beans, corn, peppers, onion and cilantro in a large bowl. Mix remaining ingredients in a small bowl and pour over the bean mixture.

Serves well as a vegetarian burrito filling as well as a chip topping for nachos. Enjoy!



The turnout for July's family campout exceeded all expectations. (Photo courtesy of Scott Graves)

Catskill Cottage Life (part 2 of 3)

The Ideal Way in Which to Spend a Summer's Outing.

The New York Times, June 4, 1893

Santa Cruz Park, bordering on Twilight Park, and named from the beautiful falls in it, is an outgrowth of the older park. It contains 200 acres, and was started two years ago by the Rev. Dr. Suydam of Rhinebeck and the Rev. W. D. Perry of Brooklyn. There are already ten cottages in the park. There is also a clubhouse, called The Lodge, which has accommodations for thirty persons. The cottagers all dine in The Lodge, which is managed by James Bolton, formerly of the Ballston Springs Sanitarium. This park, like Twilight, is owned by an association. Some of the prominent stockholders who will spend a part of the Summer in their cottages or at The Lodge are Mrs. Sarah Whelen, Mrs. William C. Ludwig, and the Rev. Dr. Edwards of Philadelphia, Otto Crouse and W. E. Drake, the President of the association, of Jersey City, H. H. Johnston, a New-York cotton broker; C. L. Rickerson, President of the Otis Elevating Company, and Miss Culbertson of Brooklyn. H. H. Johnston, Mr. Ferris, and Mr. Morgan of New-York are now camping at the park.

Sunset Park, like Santa Cruz, is a youthful neighbor of Twilight Park, and contains about a dozen charming cottages. Its situation is east of this park, and the view from every cottage is fully as grand as from the other two settlements. Among the persons who own cottages there are men prominent in business and social life in New-York and Brooklyn. These three parks, situated in one of the most romantic spots in the Catskill

range, have many very beautiful drives and walks about them. The Kaaterskill is in plain view, and Tannersville, Hunter, Palenville, and the Beach House are, most of them, within easy walking distance.

The name Onteora, which is the Indian word for "hills of the sky," is suggestive of cool, invigorating air, delightful scenery, and beautiful woods. The park thus named has all of these and is one of the most beautiful spots Nature ever planned. It is situated almost at the foot of Onteora Mountain, a little over a mile west of Tannersville. The view from here is no less pleasing than that from Twilight Park. The landscape which greets the eye toward the east is a vast green amphitheatre walled in by towering mountains, while to the left the Kaaterskill is plainly seen, and through the Clove one may see the Hudson, which looks like a vein of purest silver, made doubly beautiful by the Berkshires in the dim distance. The park is an ideal place for any one to live in, and attractive groves of balsam fir, maple, and beech trees abound in undiscovered glens, which one never tires of exploring. The elevation of this park, which is 2,500 feet above tidewater, affords an atmosphere always cool and agreeable. S. B. Thurber and Mrs. Candace Wheeler of New-York and B. D. Coykendall of this city were

the founders of the Onteora Camp and Cottage Company, the name of the association. The park, which

comprises about 1,000 acres, was opened in 1887, simultaneously with Twilight Park.

The entrance to the park is through a rustic gate, just inside of which stands the lodge, a small stone building in which the post and telegraph offices are situated. From here the drive leads by several attractive cottages to the Bear and Fox Inn, the first building erected in the park. The Bear and Fox was opened June 1, and this season will be under the supervision of Miss S. M. Hanley of Philadelphia, who held the same position last year. She is very enthusiastic over the beauties of the park and makes the Bear and Fox a very attractive place. The exterior walls of this inn are made of slabs of wood, with the bark left on, and the wainscoting in the rooms is of the same material. The assembly room is perhaps the most attractive in the inn. Its hard-wood floor is covered with bear and fox skins, and a fire burning in the immense fireplace in the stone chimney throws out a cheerful light and is a popular gather place on cool evenings. There are many portraits of noted persons

on the walls of the assembly room, which were presented by the painters who produced them. Among these are the following: Mark Twain, by Carroll Beckwith; Booth, by Oliver Lay, and Laurence Hutton, by Dora Wheeler Keith. The posts which support the ceiling in this room, as in all the others, are small birch trees, and the ceiling is left unfinished with all the crossbeams in sight. There is quite a large library in this room.



Onteora's Balsam Cottage, 1890

The dining room, which was added to the inn last year, will seat 200 people. Many of the cottagers dine altogether in the inn. Seven cooks are employed constantly to supply the wants of the guests. In the centre of the large dining room there is a huge stone chimney running up through the ceiling to the roof. There is a fireplace on each side of this chimney. Around the walls of the dining room there is a very pretty display of china in glass cases. The office at the entrance from the wide veranda is no less attractive than the other rooms. There is a billiard room in the inn and a fine tennis court near by. The park has about forty-five cottages in it, and its Summer population is about 300. Every Saturday night, which is known as club night, the cottagers gather at the assembly room, where an informal dance is held. The people in the park point with pride to Balsam Cottage, near the inn, which was occupied by Mark Twain two years ago. Onteora Park always welcomes literary men who are personally known to some the members, and last year Brander Matthews, Laurence Hutton, Mrs. Gen. Custer, and Henry B. McDowell enjoyed the hospitality of the park.

(Final installment in the August 30 edition)