

NYS Ranger School Alumni Association, Inc

SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2022

Greetings from the Alumni Interim President— Christopher Westbrook '73

Greetings Alumni!

It has been an unsettling couple of years for the Ranger School Alumni Association and I am pleased to report that with sincere dedication and effort, your Association Board of Directors and Beth Daut, our Office Manager, have worked tirelessly to get things back on track.

I am most pleased that after needing to cancel the last two Alumni Reunions that we will be welcoming Alumni back onto campus this summer for what we hope will be a spectacular gathering. Reunion Chair, Mike Rozeski '90, the Reunion Committee and Office Manager Beth Daut '82 have been diligently working to organize an action-packed weekend for all Alumni and their families!

A highlight of the weekend will be honoring the Classes of 1970, 1971 and 1972 who will be formally celebrating their 50th reunions. Another important event will be a tribute to Gail Simmons, retired RSAA Office Manager. The details of our reunion in August can be found in the various materials included with this newsletter. We ask that if you are planning on attending the reunion to please send in your reservations as soon as possible so that we can finalize all the plans to make this a successful and fun reunion for all in attendance.

I will be stepping down as President of the Alumni Association during the Reunion and a new President will be voted on during the Annual Meeting of Alumni held on Saturday morning of the Reunion. It has been a pleasure serving the Association for the past year and I am confident that the Alumni Association is in a position to continue its role of supporting the Ranger School and providing a variety of services to our Alumni! Thanks to all who have pitched in over the past year to help keep our Association functioning at the highest level!



Guess what year?

Are you current on your dues?

If you haven't paid your dues, you can still do so on our website at www.nysrsaa.org if you would prefer a paper copy, please let us know at rangerschoolalumni@gmail.com or by leaving a message at 315-848-2566 ext 2112.

Even if you are a life member, we appreciate you taking the time to fill out the 2022 information sheet. This lets us be sure we have the most current contact information for you.

We look forward to hearing from you!



RSAA Properties Manager—Mike Bushey '94

Greetings fellow alumni,

As I am writing this, the days are getting longer and the weather warmer. This has me thinking about spending time camping on our wonderful Alumni Properties. For those of you who have never been to our Alumni Properties, let me tell you about them.

The Ranger School Alumni Association has two properties side by side on the Oswegatchie River in an area known as The Narrows. It is only a few hundred yards before you reach the main school building on Ranger School Road.

The first property is our campground. This campground is for Alumni use only and their guests. There are 8 campsites plus 1 lean-to available on a first come, first serve basis. We ask for a \$15 donation per night per site used. There is a slot on the side of the Alumni Garage to place your donations. There are water spigots placed throughout the campground. Also there is an outhouse and a porta-jon. Each site is equipped with a picnic table and a fireplace/ring. As a reminder, the Alumni campground is a carry in, carry out facility. Please try to leave your site cleaner than you found it.

The second property is the Harold J. Spaulding Alumni House located next to the campground. The Alumni House is a wonderful camp situated right on the river. It has a screened in porch that wraps around 2 sides. There are 4 bedrooms upstairs, one with a full size bed, one with bunk beds, and two other bedrooms with two twin beds in each. You have to bring your own bedding. Downstairs in the living room is a couch that folds out into a futon. There are two bathrooms, one upstairs with a bathtub and one downstairs with a shower. There is a kitchen with silverware, pots and pans, coffee maker, and toaster. The Alumni house is also a carry in, carry out facility. There is a furnace to help take off the chill on those cool Wanakena mornings. Finally there is a gas grill with extra tanks located just outside the kitchen. To reserve the Alumni house, you have to pay your dues and send in your reservation request by Feb 28. If there are openings after the initial lottery, they will be posted to the RSAA Facebook page.

Other amenities available for anyone staying on the campground or the Alumni House; there is a floating dock that you can fish from, swim from, or if you brought a boat, you can tie up there. Up in the Alumni Garage are canoes with paddles and life jackets. Please make sure to return them back to the garage when done. If you are looking for a quiet place to reflect, take the stairs down to Legacy Rock on the river.

Hopefully I'll see you all up there for the Alumni Open House on the Friday of Alumni Weekend. If you come, feel free to have a look around. We are very lucky to have these properties. It has been an honor for me to look after them these past 5 years.

Sincerely,
Mike Bushey
Class of 1994
Alumni Properties Manager



2022 Reunion Update—Mike Rozeski Class of '90

Good day Alumni,

I hope all is going well. It appears the world is becoming more spring-like out there. While I like winter and all of the beauty it brings, I am looking forward to the warmer temperatures and days with more sunshine. Another thing I am looking forward to this summer is we get to have our Annual Reunion on the Ranger School campus! If you are like me you, carry with you many fond memories of the place which started off your career and began a lifetime of friendships with many people. The reunion is an opportunity to expand on those feelings. My two boys and I have many fond memories of reunions' past: trips to the fire tower, fishing, hiking, making new friends, and catching up with old friends over the weekend.

Regarding this year's reunion, I would like to bring up a couple points. The reunion committee is in the final planning stages for events this year and is looking for volunteers to help out with a couple items:

In the past, Gail & Jean Bell have worked the registration desk on Friday & Saturday. This year we are looking for volunteers to help with this process. If you are interested, please contact Greg Vaverchak ('02) at gmvaverc@esf.edu for information.

The raffle and silent auction on Saturday evening are important to sustain the alumni association and add monies for scholarships. If you would like to help out with organizing the auction, or donating an item toward it; it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Mike Bushey '94 at mrbushey@yahoo.com to do so. He and his daughter Chloe (Class of 2033?) have been organizing it for the past several years.

Please plan on joining us for cake after lunch on Saturday as we wish Gail Simmons a Happy Retirement. She has touched all of our lives in the course of her career as Office Manager of our association and we all wish her the best!

In closing, the alumni reunion is a chance for the alumni to reminisce, meet new friends, & maintain past relationships. To keep this event a successful one, your involvement is needed. Please help out where and when you can, bid on another 'one-of-a-kind' auction item, and engage the alumni you meet. Also, please fill out the comment section in the paperwork. Let us know what you would like to see at future reunions. All positive comments and constructive criticisms are welcome.

Until August 5th...Enjoy the day!

Michael D. Rozeski '90

Reunion Chair

PS If you are so inclined, please consider bringing a raffle item to the reunion.

The Clifton-Fine Summer Concert Series 2022

Get ready for the 21st season of the Clifton-Fine Economic Development Corporation's (CFEDC) Summer Concert Series. **There will be a live music event at the Gazebo in ZPark 7pm Friday, August 5th 2022.** This event is free and open to the public. Your donations help keep this music series alive. If you wish to donate by check, please mail to: CFEDC - POB # 115 - Wanakena, NY 13695 with "Cultural Arts" in the memo - or donations can be made in-person at the event. Cheers from rainy and warm Wanakena!

And don't forget there is ALWAYS a croquet course set up in the ZPark (downtown Wanakena) - open to the public and tons of fun!!



Gail Simmons Celebratory Luncheon

As you know, with Gail’s retirement coming at the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, a proper celebration was postponed. Well now the time has come to do just that. We have set aside time following the business meeting at the reunion to focus on, and celebrate Gail and her 43 years, plus, of dedication and service to the Ranger School and the Alumni Association.

The event will begin with a champagne toast followed by a lasagna lunch catered by the Ranger School food service. Tom Martin will serve as the master of ceremony and everyone registered for the event will receive a commemorative party favor. Make sure to register for the GAIL SIMMONS CELEBRATORY LUNCHEON on the reunion registration paperwork.

As part of the celebration, we would like to present Gail with a compilation of all your important memories, funny stories, well-wishes and photographs that you would like to share. To contribute, please fill out the included form or add in any documents or pictures and return it with your reunion registration information. Alternatively, you could email the information to gmvaverc@esf.edu. Gail has made such an impact on all of our alumni and it is my hope that we can show her how she has touched the lives of so many. Please, contribute to this collection.

Ranger School Alumni Association

Since 1928, the NYS Ranger School Alumni Association has represented alumni of the SUNY ESF Ranger School.

We welcome all members of the Ranger School family – alumni, current students, parents, friends, and prospective students - to connect with the RSAA community.

Whether through the Annual Reunion, newsletters, social media, or the Alumni News publication, the RSAA is a great way *“To Keep In Touch”* with The Ranger School, Wanakena Community, and your Fellow Alumni!



1928



2022

Looking for Ranger School Alumni Merchandise?

Warmer weather is here. Time to get out and show your Ranger School Alumni pride. There are lots of shirts, hoodies, backpacks, pins, stickers, tumblers, and more at our online Spreadshirt store. You can access the store by typing in the following link:

<https://www.spreadshirt.com/shop/user/ranger+school+alumni+association/>

or by accessing the link through our Alumni website at:

<http://www.nysrsaa.org/>

Your purchases help our Alumni Association continue its mission of supporting current students and helping alumni "keep in touch". Thank you for your support!

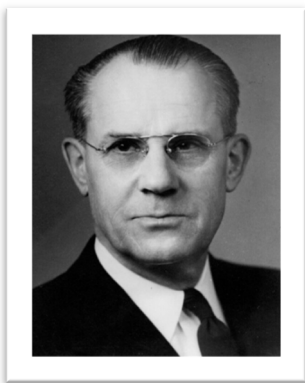


A Bit of Ranger School History - Dr. Bridgen

Did you know that someone died while living in the Director's House?

James Dubuar's mother, Narcia died July 5, 1939, aged 80, in Northville, Michigan. About 1941, his father, Charles Levi Dubuar, moved to Wanakena. He lived in the Director's house with his son's family until he died on January 10, 1945, aged 86. Both Charles and Narcia are buried in Northville, Michigan.

While researching the Dubuar history, it was determined that Mike Bridgen is related to James F. Dubuar, being a 7th cousin twice removed, through Dubuar's paternal grandmother, Martha Aurelia Purdy. Bridgen is also an 8th cousin, twice removed, from Hugh P. Baker, another of the School's "founding fathers".



A Note From the Alumni Office—Beth Daut '82

We often get requests in the Alumni Office asking for the contact information of fellow classmates. Please know that RSAA has a policy not to share this information unless all parties are in agreement. This is to protect our alumni from unwanted solicitation or identity theft.

If you would like contact information for a classmate or group of classmates please let me know. If I have contact information for that person (or group of people) I will reach out to them asking for their consent that their information be shared and circle back to you.

Recruitment Opportunity

Ranger School alumni have the opportunity to help with student recruitment. ESF admission staff do attend many events at high school and college nights but there are so many that they can not attend all. Many Ranger School students come from relatively rural areas and smaller schools. Ranger School alumni are spread around the country and many are near these rural and smaller schools. Ranger School representation could serve at local high school and college nights throughout the country. Thus an opportunity for Ranger School alumni.

ESF has a strong alumni ambassador program designed to help with this student recruiting opportunity. As an Alumni Ambassador for the college/Ranger School you would participate in a “training session” with an Admission Officer (on-campus, over the phone or on-line”. These sessions provide current information about the college/Ranger School so that the message is consistent and concise.

Providing prospective students the opportunity to speak with a Ranger School alumni-especially one from their hometown-is a powerful tool and once a student has been accepted personal contact can help solidify their decision to come to the Ranger School. A phone call or email from you who has gone through the Ranger School can make a difference.

The Alumni Ambassador form is available on-line at ESF

Office of Alumni Relations
315 470 6632
alumni@esf.edu

Keep in Touch with your fellow Alumni by checking out the following sites!

NYS Ranger School Alumni Association, Inc.
nysrsaa.org

RSAA website through SUNY ESF:

<https://www.esf.edu/rangerschool/alumni/>

RSAA Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/RSAAinc/>

RSAA SpreadShirt – merchandise sales:

<https://www.spreadshirt.com/shop/user/ranger+school+alumni+association/>

Ranger School:

<https://www.esf.edu/rangerschool/>

Main Campus SUNY ESF Alumni:

<https://www.esf.edu/alumni/>

Ranger School Flickr:

<https://www.flickr.com/people/rangerschool/>

Ranger School Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/ESFRangerSchool>



Ranger School Alumni Hockey Game - Aiden Ahrens '22

On March 5th at the Tenny Ice Skating Pavilion located on the Syracuse University campus, the class of 2021 faced off against the alumni for the first time since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. There was a large turnout this game, with the alumni bench nearly overflowing and the class of '22 bench composing of four full lines with several alternates. Alumni, class of '22 students, parents, and even students from main campus ESF came to watch the exhilarating, long-awaited showdown.

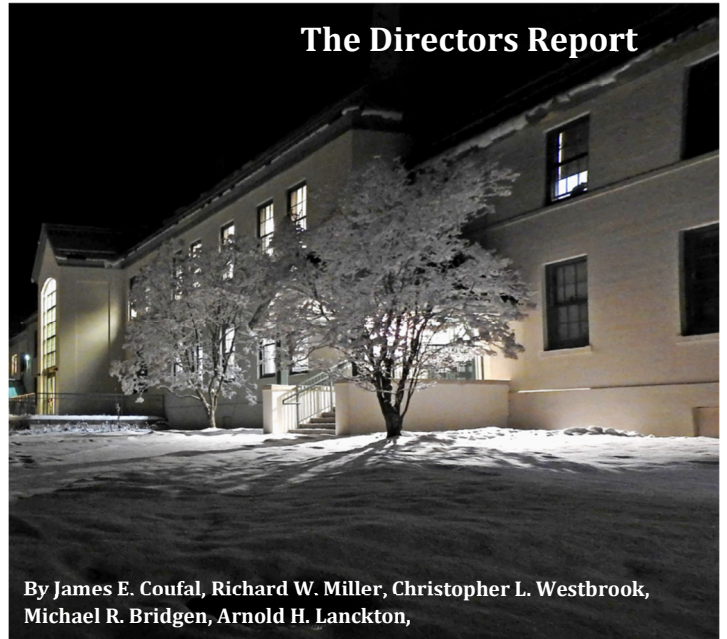
The alumni started the game off strong with a punishing 6-0 victory against the class of '22, with the second period being equally as devastating for the class of '22 team losing 6-0 yet again. This winning streak soon fell apart in the third period where the class of '22 finally took the lead with Jacob Avery scoring 2 goals, Aidan Ahrens scoring 1, and Jacob Dietz scoring 1 more to top off the period with a devastating 4-0 loss for the alumni, giving the class of '22 another chance at victory. This morale boost for the class of '22 was not enough to stop the mighty alumni team from ultimately winning the Bridgen cup after winning the fourth period 5-2 and fifth period 3-0. The first alumni game since the start of COVID-19 thus came to an end and the class of '22 will have to wait until next alumni game to finally taste victory,



Coming this August, "The Directors Report"...

...a cumulative history of the Ranger School from 1912 to 2020. Written and prepared by former Ranger School Directors. 246 pages. All sales of this publication will be donated to the Ranger School Endowment fund. \$50.00

The Directors Report



By James E. Coufal, Richard W. Miller, Christopher L. Westbrook, Michael R. Bridgen, Arnold H. Lanckton,



Class of 2022 Hard at Work.....



*New York State Ranger School
Alumni Association
Keep in Touch*

