

NYS Ranger School Alumni Association, Inc

FALL NEWSLETTER 2022



Greetings from the Acting President— Christopher Tcimpidis '93

Hello my fellow alumni, fall is here, summer has officially ended and it seems the our rotation around the sun has brought then most consistent thing back to us, CHANGE. Here in Alaska the trees are turning or have turned yellow, with some reds to be found in the aspen north of the Alaska Range. The red aspens are very colorful and remind me of the color of red maple back east. I have been watching the snow advance and retreat on the sides of the Talkeetna Mountains from my home office for week now, and I see mixed precipitation in the forecast for next week. The last time I supplied content for our new letter I sat in Juneau, Alaska and was serving as a natural resource forester for NRCS. Today I sit in Palmer, Alaska as the NRCS State Forester. Likewise, when I was in Juneau I served you as the Vice President, today I am the Acting President.



On September 8, 2022 our elected president, Rob Snyder, resigned as President of the association and from the board of directors. We wish Rob the best in his endeavors and hope all is well with him. The board of directors is actively reviewing options to fill the absent position left on the board by Rob's departure. Until we find a person to fill the chair of the president I will be the acting president. I know this may come as a surprise and concern may rise out of this. Our past president, Chris Westbrook, myself, and the entire board of directors will see to the continued operation of our association.

The post-COVID, 2022 Ranger School Alumni Association reunion is in the books! Unfortunately due to COVID I could not be in attendance. But all who attended have reported that it was a success, with 250 members in attendance. This was a large event and undertaking for the board of directors. Mike Rozeski chaired the committee that developed this event. He and his committee did an outstanding job! This was not a small or easy job for Mike or his committee. Much had to be done, learned and executed to make this a successful reunion. Thank you!

October 15 will be our fall work weekend at the alumni campground and house. As is normal we will clean the house and campground, prepare it for winter and winterize the house. Those who are available are always welcome to come help, enjoy a fire, friendship and tell stories around the fire.

Let's discuss some exciting news! The Society of American Foresters (SAF) announced two new professional credentials last week: Urban and community forester certification and certification for forest technicians! As a former forest technician, an alumnus to our great school and a member of SAF I find this news to be extremely exciting. Without going into a long discussion of the history of forest technicians in SAF or the odd politics found in the United States on this topic, I can say that it has been long road for technicians, and I believe the professional credentials that will be provided through SAF will further demonstrate the importance of well-educated technicians in the workplace. I look forward to being able to provide more information on this over the next few years as the program is developed and refined.

I hope the fall treats all my Ranger School brothers and sisters well, it is a beautiful time of year and brings winter to our doorsteps. And, I love winter, especially the Aurora Borealis that appear on cold clear nights here in Palmer, Alaska. Enjoy your fall and winter!

Ranger School Directors Report—Doctor Mariann Johnston



Greetings from the Director's Office at the Ranger School. We are now well into the Fall semester, approaching our sixth week of classes. We are thrilled to be holding classes in person and without masks or travel restrictions, feeling as close to pre-Covid 'normal' as we can. We are prepared with test kits and quarantine rooms in anticipation of possibly illness, and are prepared to manage should the situation arise. The students in this year's class are excited to be here, though not without angst as the typical course workload continues to build. We are well into Dendrology (60 species in?), Ecology (plant collections due in early October), Communications & Safety (skidder and chainsaw training in progress), Remote Sensing and GIS (Survey123!), Natural Resources Measurements (defecting for volume), and Intro to Surveying (proficiencies, anyone?). Student clubs are getting underway as well, with the Forestry Club, Outing Club, and Bird Nerds already completing their first field trips. Student Government will

be getting underway mid-October, Woodsmen's Team is practicing for their first meet, and we'll get skates on the ice for our first hockey practice on October 15. The colors are just starting, and we hope to host an informal Family Day in early October, followed by an Open House event later in the month.

This year's class stands at a respectable 47 students, with 25 enrolled in the Environmental and Natural Resources Conservation (ENRC) Program, 17 in Forest Technology (FT), and 5 in Land Surveying Technology (LST). We have eight women in this year's class. This is also 'Decision Week,' the last opportunity students have to change programs, so those numbers may change a bit, yet. This year, the faculty decided to try a new approach to sharing opportunities and potential of the different majors. This means that each Friday morning, we have brought in a different professional or group of professionals, to talk about what they do and what educational pathways they recommend. Our guests have included both public and private sector professionals, representing a variety of work opportunities ranging from forestry to wildlife to surveying oriented jobs. Students have until October 1 to make their final program choice. In early October, we then commence with program-specific classes including Timber Harvesting for the FT students, Computer Aided Drafting and Design for the LST students, and Wildlife Techniques/Adirondack Cultural Ecology for the ENRC students.

Are you Current on your Dues?

If you haven't paid your dues, you can do so on our website at www.nysrsaa.org or by filling out the enclosed Information Sheet.

Even if you are a life member, we appreciate you taking the time to fill out the 2023 information sheet. This lets us be sure we have the most current contact information for you.

We look forward to hearing from you!

...AND REMEMBER— IF YOU WANT YOUR NEWS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE 2023 ALUMNI NEWS BOOK IT MUST BE RECEIVED IN TO THE ALUMNI OFFICE BY MAY 1.



2022 Reunion Update—Mike Rozeski Class of '90

Good day Alumni,

As summer winds down and the fall colors are beginning to appear, I hope all is going well.

I wanted to provide a recap of this year's reunion. It was attended by over 250 alumni and their families. We spent the weekend engaging in some of the typical reunion activities (forest van tours, Cranberry Lake boat tours, hiking, etc.), and some new ones—a dunk tank and a bounce house for the kids. We shared a few meals together, a few drinks together, and caught up about events from the past couple years. It felt really special to meet again on the school grounds, see some familiar faces, and meet some new ones.

A couple highlights from the reunion:

We had a special champagne toast luncheon to celebrate the career and retirement of Gail Simmons. It was a very special moment! Many memories/hugs were shared during the ceremony and throughout the weekend. Gail's impact on the RSAA over the years cannot be measured, and we all deeply appreciate the time and effort she put into the association.

A beautiful fireworks display in front of the school over the Oswegatchie River took place. To be able to sit in front of the school and witness the display over the river was quite a sight!

The auctions raised over \$2200 for various scholarship funds. There were several one-of-a-kind items, which found new homes. A special thank you to everyone who contributed items for the event.

All in all, the alumni and guests had a fun weekend. As we start looking ahead to the '23 reunion, feel free to contact us with any suggestions for weekend activities you would like to see. Also, we are always looking for alumni to join the board and participate in everything that goes on "behind the scenes."

I would like to extend a special Thank You to the new Office Manager Beth Daut, Out-going President Chris Westbrook, and the Reunion Committee for all of the hard work put in to ensure this reunion would be a success. Your efforts were deeply appreciated.

Enjoy the winter season and Keep in Touch!



Properties and Projects Update—Jerry Butler '05

Greetings Alumni, I would like to introduce myself as the Properties Manager for the RSAA. I have assumed the responsibilities from Mike Bushey '94 and I would like to thank Mike for all his efforts as Properties Manager and for the committee work he has been involved in over the past several years. Tough shoes to fill to say the least! Thank you Mike. It looks like, by the end of the season, the alumni house will have been used 113 out of 157 possible days (72%). Total revenue to date is \$10,870 for the house and \$1372 for the campground. More income will be coming in before the end of the season. The Forest Rangers were there for 5 weeks at a cost of \$3000 which is included in the total revenue. I believe the fees for 2023 will remain the same. If you are interested in reserving the alumni

house or using the campgrounds, please visit the RSAA website for information on fees and availability. October 15th we closed the alumni house for the winter. Draining the water, a final cleaning, removing the dock, some preventative rodent control and picnic table storage are on the list of items to be completed. Alumni spring cleanup weekend is slated for the end of April, 2023. The exact dates have not been finalized as of this time.

Thank you for your support of our Alumni Association. We hope that you continue to enjoy the alumni house and campground. If you have any questions or suggestions about our alumni property, feel free to email me at butlerjerome22@gmail.com

Legacy Scholarship Update—Greg Vavercheck

The following excerpt is updated information that was presented at the 2022 alumni reunion:

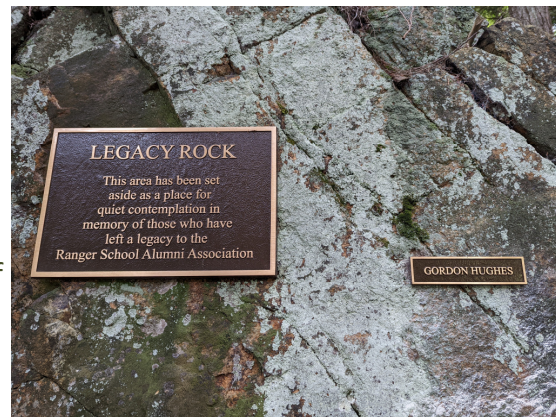
Following an anonymous donation earlier this year, an ad hoc committee was appointed by the president to help breathe some life into the association's legacy efforts. There are two areas of focus. The first of which is the Legacy Scholarship.

In 2011, the board voted to establish a fund for a scholarship for Alumni, in memory of Alumni. In 2017, the fund reached the \$25,000 endow-able threshold and the board began paying out scholarships. To be eligible, recipients must be a current Ranger School student and related to an alumnus. This is not a selective scholarship. All eligible students are paid.

To date, ten \$600 scholarships have been paid to students. It is the boards intention to continue to grow this fund so larger scholarships can be paid in the future. When created, the hope was to cover the full tuition. The second legacy effort is Legacy Rock. At the 2013 reunion, the rock outcropping by the Oswegatchie, down at the alumni campground was dedicated as Legacy Rock. A plaque was mounted that reads:

“This area has been set aside as a place for quiet contemplation in memory of those who have left a legacy to the Ranger School Alumni Association.”

Gordon Hughes was the first alumni to be honored on the rock. His plaque is the only one currently on the rock, however the board has voted to add Kerm Remele and Phil Haddock. Anyone from the membership can nominate an individual to be added to the rock by submitting a dossier of their contributions to the ALUMNI ASSOCIATION. It is important to note that this is a posthumous honor and the final decision will be made by the board by comparing the nominated individual to those already honored on legacy rock. This recognition is meant to be reserved for those who truly have made a lifelong commitment to the association, however there is an alternative option. A second plaque has been made to recognize any individual who donates \$10,000 or more to the legacy scholarship fund. This perpetual plaque will be installed on legacy rock following the reunion. In August, a \$10,000 donation was received from Dan Cooke '55. His name will be added to the plaque.



Ranger School Outing Club Celebrates 20 Years!

By Jamie Savage, Professor

In the fall of 2002, newly elected Class President for the Class of 2003 Travis Zainchowski, along with some very enthusiastic classmates, approached me with the idea of creating an Outing Club. The faculty agreed that it was time to officially establish such a club, and I eagerly accepted the honor of becoming the club's advisor.

At that time, official extramural/club activities consisted only of Student Government, Woodsmen's Team, and the nascent Hockey Club. And up until this time, any 'outings' were organized by the students themselves, with random participation of faculty/staff, if and when the students could fit it into their busy schedules (Remember, Ranger School was harder back then. Ha). Alternatively, adventures were incorporated into the curriculum, like the traditional hike up Algonquin Mountain, New York's second-highest, during the last week of classes. For many years both before and after I became a faculty member in 1991, all students enrolled in the introductory forest recreation course attempted the hike. The tradition was changed circa 2001 when new regulations prohibited groups of 16 or more from hiking together in the High Peaks. Other in-class adventures you might say, then and now, involve canoeing to the Big Pine for Ecology lab, and/or canoeing to the Inlet Flow lean-to for Dendrology lab (some would say that every lab is an adventure!).

But the Adirondack Park has a lot more to offer, and the Class of 2003, with their 'work hard, play hard' attitude, wanted to take full advantage of their temporary home in the mountains. The club set out on 4 trips that year. I don't exactly remember them all, but I do have fond memories of our first outing, a paddle up the Oswegatchie River from Inlet to High Rock. We also made a trip over to Whiteface Mountain that winter. Several students went downhill skiing with Professor Westbrook, while I lead a few brave souls on a cross-country ski up the frozen memorial highway. The high was about 7° F that day, and the wind made it feel much colder. It was the first and only time I ever got frostbite, on my chin.

Mr. Tim O'Mara joined me as co-advisor of the club about 10 years ago. With his assistance and enthusiasm, the club now organizes about 6-8 trips each year. The trips are well-attended, and usually involve hiking, paddling, skiing, biking, and white-water rafting, or some combination of those. We also occasionally conduct bowling outings (fun!) and trips to Canada for sight-seeing, skating, and/or professional hockey games. The club seems more important now than ever. In the old days there was only one curriculum. Everyone was together all of the time. Now there are 3 curriculums that can serve to divide the student body somewhat. The club gives students an opportunity to come together on weekends, get some exercise, and celebrate their common interests. As I write, students from the Class of 2023 are signing up for hikes to Cat Mountain near Wanakena, and Mt. Van Hoevenberg near Lake Placid. The fun continues...

With more than 100 successful trips over the last 20 years, the Outing Club lives on and continues to expose curious and energetic Ranger School students to the wonders of the Adirondack Park. We are grateful to Travis and the ambitious Class of 2003 for getting it all started. To all of our past Outing Club participants, thank you for the spectacular adventures and the fond, everlasting memories.

Recreation Update: Three New Bridges Installed and “The MUTT” Nears Completion! - Jamie Savage, Professor



Thanks to the regular efforts of faculty, staff, and students, the forest recreation resources on the James F. Dubuar Memorial Forest continue to expand and improve. Current resources include about 12 miles of trail and a similar amount of forest roads (both used for hiking, biking, running, snowshoeing, x-c skiing, birding, etc.), the Arboretum, the Hayes Brook lean-to, the Cathedral Rock Picnic Pavilion, the fire tower, the Route 3 Picnic Area, scattered glacial erratics for bouldering and, of course, dock and shoreline access to spectacular Cranberry Lake.

Most of the work on trails and related resources gets completed during lab-time, as part of the Introduction to Forest Recreation course that is offered each spring semester. Other work gets done by student-volunteers during evenings or weekends, or during the summer by our full-time Instructional Support Assistant Rob Fleming. Occasionally, Work-Study students are available to assist with the work on weekends or during the summer.

Over the last few years, we have installed 3 new bridges along our trails. These are well-built, solid bridges made from pressure-treated lumber, so they should last for at least 25 years. The bridges were designed and constructed by Construction Management students enrolled in Dr. Paul Crovella’s class on the Syracuse campus. The bridges range from about 10 to 15 feet long, and from 3 to 6 feet wide. After being built and tested, they were delivered to Wanakena by truck. In the case of 2 bridges, they were carried down the trail by hand, requiring 12-16 people due to the weight. Facilities staff assisted with the placement of the third bridge using a backhoe, since that bridge is located right next to a forest road. Thanks to ALL the people that made the installation of these new bridges possible.

In other recreation news, we hope to soon install some blinds near Grassy Pond for wildlife viewing and photography. We are also widening and smoothing trails in the Arboretum which, of course, is an area used for both recreation and education. In addition, we are nearing completion of the Multiple-Use Tower Trail, or “The MUTT.” The MUTT is designed for mountain biking, hiking, and trail running, and it has been under construction for a few years now. It ‘flows’ downhill for about a mile from the fire tower on Cathedral Rock to the Hayes Brook Road. The well-known Latham Trail has been used by hikers to access Cathedral Rock for decades. However, bikes are not appropriate nor allowed on the upper, Cathedral Rock portion of the Latham Trail due to steepness, exposure, switchbacks, and the likelihood of running into hikers (The Latham Trail, which connects the main campus to the fire tower, is the most popular hiking trail on the forest).

The MUTT is the first trail on the Dubuar Forest designed specifically for mountain biking according to sustainable-trail standards (Sustainable trails eliminate the need for water bars and require low maintenance in general). It is designed for intermediate level bikers and includes some optional technical features. Once at the lower trailhead, riders can ride back up the trail (hard) or follow the forest road system (intermediate) to return to the fire tower. The MUTT will also provide access to Cathedral Rock and the fire tower for hikers coming in from the Hayes Brook Road/Route 3 side of the mountain. Though continued refinements will be necessary, The MUTT should be marked and useable by spring 2023. It will be fun to ride, but will also serve as a great example of sustainable trail design and construction. Stay tuned for more details and photos. And, again, thanks to the many hard-working faculty, staff, and students who have made this all possible.

Looking for Ranger School Alumni Merchandise?

You can get everything from t-shirts, hats, hoodies, even water tumblers and coffee mugs. All proceeds go to help the Alumni Association and support our mission of helping Ranger School Students.



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



Ranger School Computer Lab named in honor of Dr. Joel Howard, RS'66.

Dr. Howard is a 1966 graduate of the Ranger School. He went on to earn B.S. and M.S. degrees from SUNY-ESF, and his Ph.D. from North Carolina State University.

Dr. Howard is a Forest Ecologist by training, with additional interest and expertise in soils, agronomy, cartography, GIS and more. Dr. Howard taught for many years at the ESF campus in Syracuse, and also directed the summer forestry field camp for SUNY-ESF, then offered at Pack Forest. Dr. Howard graciously taught forest ecology and management during the 2007-2008 academic year at the Ranger School, just prior to the arrival of Dr. Johnston.

Dr. Howard is a tremendous proponent of modern technologies, and was a strong supporter of implementing computer technology and training at the Ranger School. He continues to advocate for forward-thinking technological training, and is presently advocating for increased training in unmanned aerial vehicles, or UAV's (drones), for Ranger School students.

In 2022, Dr. Howard continued his legacy with a monetary award to the Ranger School Endowment fund, which provides a significant annual budget to the Ranger School Director. These funds are used for student scholarships, faculty development, and program support.

The Computer Lab is named in Dr. Howard's honor, recognizing both the financial legacy he leaves to the school, and his strong and ongoing support of technological innovations and training at the Ranger School.

Thank you, Dr. Howard!



Interested in seeing your fellow Alumni?

With Alumni scattered all over the country, and the world, there's bound to be someone in your area! Do you know the fellow graduate that lives just down the road? Would you be interested in meeting them?

The RSAA would be more than happy to facilitate that! Given enough interest we'd like to set up some mini Reunions for everyone to gather, share stories, and get to know their neighbors. This could be in someone's backyard, a favorite restaurant, local park, wherever! If you are interested in meeting up with fellow Alum in your area please let us know at rangerschoolalumni@gmail.com. We'll see who else is in your area and get something set up for you!

Robert “Skip” Lansing and the Fox Farm

Robert Lansing (b. 17Jan1896) was a member of the Ranger School Class of 1916. He was often called “Skip”.

According to Bob and Gail Simmons of Wanakena, NY (personal communications, June 2022), Skip Lansing was somewhat of an “entrepreneur”. After graduating from Ranger School, he chose to live in Wanakena, making a living as best he could. He owned a house directly in front of the Wanakena beach. Sometime in the early 1930’s, he purchased the original train depot in Wanakena, and moved it to a location along the Oswegatchie Flow, as a real estate investment. He transferred it downstream on the frozen river, using horses and sleighs. About ten years later, Bob Simmons’ parents purchased the house for themselves.



Class of 1916, photographed by Professor McCarthy

One of Skip Lansing’s enterprises was the establishment of a “fox farm”, on property known as the Olsen Farm. This property included most of the Setback, heading north towards Toboggan Hill, and east to the gravel pits south of Eskar Pond. Between the years of 1920’s to 1940’s, he tried to raise silver foxes and minks for their fur. About 1927, Skip took a logging job in Carbur, Florida, “leaving his fox ranch in the hands of a competent man”, with the intention of returning the same year (Haddock, 1927). In 1930, he reported that he was the postmaster in Wanakena, a fox rancher, and dairy man. He claimed to have 37 adult foxes, and 25-30 pups. He was also elected first vice president of the RSAA (Haddock, 1930). In 1931, he was still living in Wanakena, still the postmaster, fox rancher and also a guide to hunting and fishing. He referred specifically to silver foxes (Haddock, 1931). Sometime in 1943, he took a job as a surveyor and mapper for an oil exploration company in the southern states, Seismic Explorations, Inc. of Houston, TX (Haddock, 1943). In 1944, he returned to Wanakena to care for his mother and on July 1, he was hired as a civil engineer with the Jones & Laughlin Ore Company at Benson Mines (Haddock, 1944). Haddock (1946) reported in 1946 that Lansing was employed as a civil engineer with J&L, and was “mink ranching as a sideline”.



The abandoned foundation of a long-forgotten building on the former Olsen farm

Later in life, Skip became a guard at the J&L plant at Benson Mines, retiring in February 1961 (Haddock, 1960, 1961).

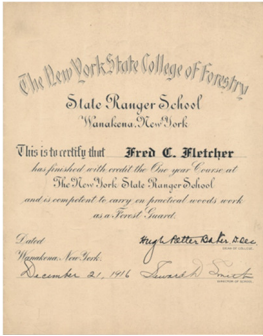
According to Bob Simmons, cages from his fox farming enterprise could still be found on the College forest property in the 1940’s and 50’s.

Halloween Highlights

Located near the “fox farm” and on the former Olsen Farm property, just east of the Ranger School gravel pit along Ranger School Road, may be found the abandoned foundation of a long-forgotten building. It is so old that large yellow birch and other hardwood trees have successfully invaded and become established. The origins and use of the building are not known.

During his years as Director, Mike Bridgen conducted late-night Halloween hikes for adventurous students. He promoted it as “the most haunted location on the Dubuar Forest”, having a history of “human struggle, despair, and tragedy.” Before walking to the site, Bridgen required students to sign a “Safety and Security” waiver, acknowledging the possible dangers of uncontrolled jitters, paranoia, spectrophobia, nyctophobia, ophidiophobia, physical dismemberment and decapitation. Students had a lot of fun hiking through the woods at night, and always found a box full of Halloween treats among the ruins.

News from the Wanakena Historical Association



Since July 2021, over 900 people have visited the Wanakena History Center (WHA). New additions to the Ranger School Room display include a 1916 Ranger School graduation certificate for Fred Fletcher and a set of textbooks from the Class of 1937.

Electronic tablets have been added throughout the History Center with videos or slide shows on different historic themes such as the Rich Lumber Company's pre-Wanakena years in Pennsylvania. The tablet in the Ranger School Room includes a promotional video made in the 1930s to recruit new students. A large shed has been donated and reconstructed in the backyard to house the Wanakena railroad exhibit that had been on display at SOS (The Old Schoolhouse) in Star Lake.

Special events in 2022 included a WHA fundraising concert, "North Country Fair," on June 18th at the Wanakena Church by Rick Kovacs' ('76) band which featured French and Irish logging-related folk music dating back to the 1700s. A post-concert reception was held at the History Center with old time delicacies prepared by Rick and Angie.



The history of a 1934 quilt on loan to the History Center from Bob and Dawn (Hall) Howard ('78) inspired the formation of a new WHA subcommittee called "Common Thread Quilts." CTQ's mission is to share the history and art of quilting through community-building creative projects, interactive educational programming, and special events. In 2022, CTQ presented free quilting classes at SOS and a Labor Day weekend Quilt Fest in Wanakena. The Fest theme was "Celebrating Roots: Old Quilts of the North Country" and featured a display of 57 old quilts, live demonstrations on an antique treadle sewing machine, and a quilt-inspired silent art auction and craft activities. Proceeds will be used to support future community events.

Visit www.wanakena.com for general information about the WHA. Contact wanakenaha@aol.com to request a History Center tour and Kathy Greenwald ('79) at greenwald4@verizon.net to share ideas or artifacts for displays in the Ranger School Room.



"Smokey the Snowman" Constructed December 1954

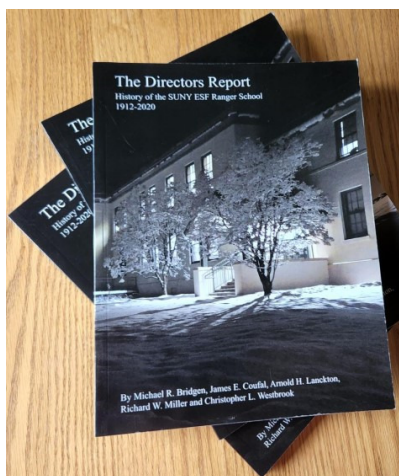
Thank you to Nick Walsh '55 for sending this picture



A Note From the Alumni Office—Beth Daut '82

A question was asked at the 2022 Reunion about hunting, trapping, and metal-collecting on the Dubuar Forest. Please remember that this 2800-acre property is the Ranger School's classroom and students/faculty/staff would appreciate recognition of this. We encourage our alumni and friends to consider other locations for these recreational pursuits.

Also, as we are working to recognize and preserve artifacts of archeological and historical significance, so if people do find items (metal or otherwise) on the property, to please leave those items in place and inform the Ranger School so that we may ensure the items are properly examined and catalogued. Thank you for your cooperation!



Now Available The Directors Report: History of the SUNY ESF Ranger School 1912-2020

A chronological description of the School, as reported by former Ranger School Directors. First Edition. 246 p. Available by mail-order only. Send order to: bridgenmichael@gmail.com or text/call 315-262-7494. Cost: \$50 plus \$10 shipping. All proceeds will be donated to the Ranger School Endowment.

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/>

Ranger School:

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

Main Campus SUNY ESF Alumni:

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

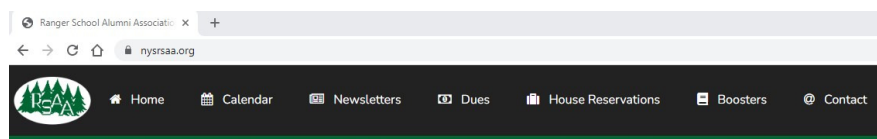
Ranger School Flickr:

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

Ranger School Facebook:

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

The Flickr logo, consisting of the word 'flickr' in a lowercase, sans-serif font. The 'f' is blue, and the 'i', 'l', 'l', 'r' are pink.



The Facebook logo, consisting of the word 'facebook' in a white, lowercase, sans-serif font on a dark blue rectangular background.



Class of 2023—on Their Way!



2023 ALUMNI NEWS BOOK

This is the beginning of the **2023 ALUMNI NEWS**. Please feel free to contribute articles, stories, artwork, photos, poetry, news etc. that are informative, entertaining and interesting to other alumni. These articles may not necessarily be the views or opinions of the RSAA Board of Directors, or the editor, but this is YOUR book. Boosters are again available. This helps defray the costs of publishing and it is a good place to advertise. Wouldn't you or your company like to be included?

If interested fill out the order form below and email rangerschoolalumni@gmail.com with your ad. Or print and mail to RSAA, PO Box 48, Wanakena, NY 13695

Donations can be made via check payable to "RSAA" or via PayPal at <https://bit.ly/36w2CxH> If paying with PayPal please write "BOOSTERS" in the comment box.

_____ Whole page \$75 _____ 1/2 page \$40 _____ 1/4 page \$25 _____ one line listing \$15

Name: _____ Class: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

RSAA Awards

Please take a minute to fill in your nominations and reasons for choices for both these awards on page 3 of the 2023 information sheet.

Philip J. Haddock Award for Excellence

2022 Haddock Award Recipient



It is with great pleasure that we announce David Newman as the 2022 recipient of the 2022 Haddock Award. Dr. Michael Bridgen, Director and Professor Emeritus, prepared the following tribute to David:

“Dr. David Newman is certainly deserving of the Philip J. Haddock Award. He has been a staunch supporter of the Ranger School since his appointment as FNRM Department Chair in July 2007. David supported recruitment efforts and encouraged the transfer of freshman students from ESF to attend Ranger School. He supported the development of new curricula and new academic programs. He encouraged Ranger School graduates to enroll at the Syracuse Campus. Although he called them “clannish”, he recognized the leadership skills which Ranger School students contributed to the BS programs. David often invited outside groups to visit the campus, promoting our programs in the profession. He welcomed our students and graduates in the New York Society of American Foresters. As a supervisor, he was trustworthy, very honest, occasionally brutally honest, but dedicated to developing the best academic programs possible. David played a valuable role during the COVID outbreak, and his efforts allowed the Class of 2020 to complete their programs and graduate on campus. David has played a significant role in Ranger School history.”

Past recipients:

2021– Ariane Tanski ‘09
2020 – Debbie Caviness
2019—Michael H. Webb ‘74

2018—Arnie Lankton ‘53
2017—Michael Bridgen
2016—Lawrence Hawkins ‘55

Kermit E. Remele Award of Meritorious Service

The award is presented by the RSAA in honor of Kermit E Remele. Professor Remele, a 1943 graduate of the Ranger School, served on the Ranger School faculty for over 30 years. One of his greatest strengths was his ability to mobilize and motivate people to work for the betterment of the Ranger School. The intent of this award is therefore to recognize groups of people who have combined efforts have gone beyond the norm to have a positive lasting influence on the Ranger School. This years award went to the Ranger School Food Service. No matter what is going on for the students, the curriculum or the bigger picture these folks show up, provide delicious, nutritious meals and do it with a smile and a kind word. Thank you!

Past recipients:

2020—The Clifton Fine Arena
2019—The NYS Forest Rangers
2018—The Wanakena Historical Society
2017—Star Lake Fire Department

