

## THANK YOU TO THE 2018 MDSA VOLUNTEERS

Without you we would not have a swim club. Now, I know that of our over 1060 active members a few hundred of you probably deleted this email right away. Others will read it cursorily. But to those of you who truly understand that we depend on the people listed below to be able to continue the MDSA, and if you are one of them, we want to recognize your efforts. And we want to encourage all of you still reading to go to our website, click on the history section, and read about the efforts of those volunteers who succeeded in negotiating our distance swimmers beach back in 2001–2002. It was a hard struggle.

First off there is our Co-coordinator STEPHANIE BLUDAU TOR who took over the data base and website management many years ago. We pay for her technical skills, but not for the many volunteer hours she puts in. If we had to pay any other of our scores of volunteers we would not be able to sustain our low \$20 membership fee.

ADDIE HAAS began handling our email even before we became the MDSA in 2002. When you write to info@minnewaskaswimmers.org it is Addie who responds or forwards your letter to the right people.

NANCY REEDER has been our highly efficient Treasurer for five years now, despite NOT being retired.

DORIS CHORNY, is one of the most active founders of the MDSA and our Recording Secretary. If you learned about our swim tests through the local press, it was Doris who made that happen as our Publicity Director.

TERESA GENOVESE continues as our Swim Test Coordinator. She has shared that heavy task this year with MARA KEARNEY LOVING who also was both a swim test leader and lap counter. Both put in many hours making certain that each of our 8 tests were fully staffed. Taking responsibility as the Test Leader for most of our swim tests in June and July was ANN WANDRES. RENA BLUMENTAL was also a test leader. Our Greeter for several tests was once again SHEYDA EVERSLEY whose creativity has helped to simplify our test procedures.

SCOTT SCHIFFER for the fifth year organized and maintained our Volunteer Guides service. His efforts result in the many weekend Guides whose job it is to explain to people who wander over to our beach why they need to be tested to swim without a lifeguard where the water gets deep so suddenly.

KRISTINE LOGAN is in her fourth year of picking up our mail from our Post Office box. This is a crucial job and she has learned quickly and taken increasing responsibility for dealing with all the mail that comes in.

JULIE ROSE has been our Lost Cards Replacer for multiple years. Please reduce Julie's workload by storing your card after Labor Day in a really safe place. AND THEN MAKE A NOTE that you will find next April, as to where that "safe place" might be.

BRIGET BARCLAY for a second year ran our "Packet Party" where hundreds of renewal letters are sent out with amazing efficiency. Bridget also provided early morning swim tests.

KATHLEEN ANDERSON has taken on the responsibility of taking care of phone messages left on our MDSA "hot line".

For years TERRY LAUGHLIN took home and stored our beach chairs over the winter. Last year CAROL METSGER and JIM WILLIAMS stepped up and not only stored the chairs but replaced those that were no longer useful. They are taking on this essential task again this season. Our thanks to the Park for storing our locker, bulletin board, and signs.

And thanks to ERIC PERLMAN and DON DAVIS for diagnosing a problem with our AED and fixing it, Everyone should remember we have an AED in our locker along with a first aid kit.

THERE ARE DOZENS OF OTHER VOLUNTEERS WHO DONATED THEIR TIME TO STAFF THE PACKET PARTY, THE SWIM TESTS, AND AS VOLUNTEER GUIDES

PACKET PARTY IN JUNE: Bill Brinnier, Janet Chapman, Renee Hack, Dawn Hein, Ellen James (a co-founder of MDSA), Janet Pickering, Shelly Wyant, and Carrie Loveland. Carrie, who also provided swim tests, is the daughter of founder Terry Laughlin who, very sadly, we lost last fall after a struggle with cancer. Terry ran a Master Swim class every year at our beach.

DAVE BARRA organized the Memorial Swim to Terry this past June, a moving tribute.

SWIM TEST VOLUNTEERS: Of the many volunteers who staffed those eight tests, some came to one test, others to several. Here they are:

Adam McDonald	Alanna Medlock	Andrew Kontola
Anne Wandres	Beth Tango	Bill Gehris
Carol Bergman	Carol Brown	David Dallis
Ellen Carson	Ellen Stern	Gabe Gonzalez
George Airday	Greta Baker	Hanna Manner
Harriet Koral	Harriet Vestergard	Janet Chapman
Jenn McDonald	Jill Bressler	Jo Gangemi
JoAnna Jenner	Karen Bryant	Kate Hamilton
Katherine Betts	Kathleen Kluber	Lauree Feldman
Lena Petersen	Leslie English	Linda Fite
Lisa Sterer	Lorna Tychostop	Martha Dallis
Mary Isakson	Maureen Roger	Michele Humphrey-Nicol
Nancy Ribacore	Pam Zino	Rae Slingerland
Rena Blumenthal	Ronnie Sauders	Sarah Holland
Sheyda Eversley	Shirley Irons	Susan Scher
Susan Wisniewski	Tamara Telberg	

VOLUNTEER GUIDES: Some people worked multiple lakeside shifts: Laura Finestone (10), Shirley Irons and Judy Linn (12), Bena Silver and Ed Berkel, Hope Dejpour, Kathleen Wiacek, Lynn Margileth (4 each), Melinda Hildebrandt, Mike Flannery, and Anne Wandres (3), Sabine Roehr, Doris and Hal Chorny (2), plus Ginny Fauci, Susan Hamovitch, Alan Scheiner, Ellen Stern and Paul Wissman, one each. Apologies to anyone left out, and this may or may not include the Labor Day weekend.

TONA WILSON assisted me when my computer skills were not up to the task. JOAN COMBELLICK donated her home and lawn for our annual Activist's picnic.

I, JUDY MAGE, began this enterprise in 2001. I had crucial assistance from Ray Greenberg and others who continued to volunteer. I have just acquired the title "Matriarch" of the MDSA, thanks to our new member Erin Quinn who wrote a lyrical article in the New Paltz Times of August 23rd, pages 10 –11, about Minnewaska State Park and about the MDSA, whose spirit she really captures.

Adding up the numbers of volunteers and it comes to a little under a hundred. That is less than 10% of our membership, and they are essential. My apologies to those I missed. If you have never volunteered consider doing so next year. KEEP TRACK of your password, and help by renewing your membership online right after April 1st, 2019 when you'll receive the renewal email. If you have friends who do not get our email, remind them to click on CURRENT MEMBER LOGIN on our website, www.minnewaskaswimmers.org now and next season. Enjoy the last few days, through Labor Day, of our swim season which we all wish could be longer. And have a safe winter.

### Swimmingly yours

**Judy Mage, MDSA Co-Coordinator**

AND, my thanks to JUDY MAGE for not only persisting for the existence of the MDSA, but who also continues to oversee the details of all that's needed to keep the MDSA in good stead. Hats off to Judy for her uncanny tactful ability to garner volunteers!

And our thanks to ERIC HUMPHREY, JORGE GOMEZ, and ALL THE PARK STAFF for their continued support of the MDSA, and especially for the extra mile they go by driving some of our less able members down to our beach.

### Take care, and see you next season!

**Stephanie Bludau Tor, MDSA Co-coordinator**