



The Pinewoods Post

◆ WINTER 2020 - 2021 ◆

Our Wampanoag Neighbors

By Marney Morrison

Despite over 400 years of intentional and unintentional efforts to erase them, thousands of members of the Wampanoag Nation live on segments of their original land. Pinewoods Camp is near the center of Wampanoag territory.

John Perry is a leader of the Wampanoag Nation Dancers, a group that offers programs to schools and organizations to introduce Wampanoag culture through their music and dance. At an environmental conference that they were invited to open, he introduced himself in two languages, "I am Jonathan Perry of the Aquinnah community of the Wampanoag Nation on Martha's Vineyard." The other members of the group were all Mashpee Wampanoag from Cape Cod. Later Mr. Perry said, "This is Wampanoag territory. We just ask that you acknowledge and remember and honor and respect where you are when you spend time in our home."

This quote is from a video called "Wampanoag Nation Dancers - Opening Ceremony" embedded inside the article *Musical Thanksgiving: The Wampanoag Tribe*, on the website of Liberty Park Music, an international on-line music school (available at <https://www.libertyparkmusic.com/musical-thanksgiving-wampanoag-tribe>).

The article has beautiful photographs of a 6-inch water drum, three kinds of rattles, pipes, and a flute. Short videos show them being played. Another video from a Mashpee Wampanoag Powwow introduces a circle of six drummers around a giant drum, singing and beating complex rhythms for the dancers on the dance ground. Traditional music and dance continue to bring joy, peace, healing, spiritual connection, and community to contemporary Wampanoag people. The Mashpee Wampanoag revived their annual Powwow nearly a hundred years ago but, like everyone this summer, had to cancel their July 2020 gathering.

Today there are five Wampanoag tribes recognized by the state of Massachusetts, two of which are recognized by the federal government. One of those, the Mashpee Wampanoag tribe on Cape Cod, is in litigation with the current administration for their sovereignty. If the government wins, it will set a precedent for stripping many other indigenous groups of their recognized tribal status and more of their land than has already been taken and sold away from the tribe.

Of the Wampanoag communities, the Aquinnah Wampanoag on Martha's Vineyard have been able to maintain the most control over their land, environment, and relations with their neighbors, including us – potential visitors to the island. While their website has a private portal for tribal members, the public space teaches us about their modern community and their history. ◆



Map: From the book *Voices from Colonial America: Massachusetts, 1620-1776*, published by National Geographic Society © 2007

<https://www.nationalgeographic.org/photo/wampanoag-territory/>

The Pinewoods board invites you to explore the websites of the local Wampanoag tribes and listen to what they want us to know about them.

Our three nearest neighbors:

The Aquinnah Wampanoag
<https://wampanoagtribe-nsn.gov/>

The Herring Pond Wampanoag
<https://www.herringpondtribe.org/>

The Mashpee Wampanoag
<https://mashpeewampanoagtribe-nsn.gov/>

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Program Providers

Boston Branch, Royal Scottish Country Dance Society

c/o Folk Arts Center
10 Franklin St., Stoneham, MA 02180-1862
www.rscdsboston.org

Country Dance Society, Boston Centre

P.O. Box 3055, Acton, MA 01720
781.591.2372 • www.cds-boston.org

Country Dance & Song Society

116 Pleasant Street, Suite 345
Easthampton, MA 01027-2759
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Folk Arts Center of New England

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Check Our Website

For news updates, additional information, photos, and past issues of the Post, log on to our website: www.pinewoods.org, or join us on our "Pinewoods Camp" Facebook page.

Note:

This issue of the Pinewoods Post is being sent out via email to most of our readers, as will all future editions. However, paper copies will continue to be mailed to those who have requested their issues in hard copy. To request a paper copy, email manager@pinewoods.org or call 508-224-4858.



Photo by David Conant

Notes from the Interim Executive Director

By Warren Anderson

Since arriving at Pinewoods in late October for our board of directors' retreat and annual meeting, I have been busy with fall administrative tasks, monitoring public health responses to the pandemic, and working with Board President Martin Barbour and Head of Grounds Dennis Carchedi on maintenance of our buildings and grounds. I have also devoted much time and attention to working with Martin on planning options for next summer.

On November 15 I met with the leadership of our program providers, including TradMad, to get their views about the prospect of having sessions next summer and to share PCI's current thinking about the same. Their views ranged from pessimism to guarded optimism. I also met with the membership of the Folk Arts Center on November 28 to answer questions and solicit input about next summer. My next meeting is on December 12 with CDS-Boston Centre. The character and range of responses was similar to that of my conversation with the program providers. As I write this message, the steady increase of infections and hospitalizations in Massachusetts and elsewhere has led state governments to impose greater restrictions on gatherings and stricter requirements for interstate travel. The potential impact of a vaccination program on the feasibility of achieving conditions that may allow us to open camp next summer remains unclear at this time.

The board will meet in late January to discuss the current public health situation and we expect to make a decision in March on whether to open Camp for next summer.

In the meantime, we continue to actively maintain Camp, especially during the winter, when storms can wreak havoc on our forest and buildings. I will also continue to work closely with our board and program providers to monitor public health developments about the pandemic so we can make informed decisions on behalf of our loyal community of campers and supporters. You are in our thoughts as we continue to plan for the near future and the prospect of welcoming you back to Pinewoods with confidence that you will be safe to enjoy the magic of this wonderful place. ◆

Inclusion and Antiracism Statement

The Board of Pinewoods Camp is committed to antiracist beliefs and practices. White supremacy and white nationalism have no place at Pinewoods. Black lives matter.

Racism in our region began over 400 years ago when Europeans first came to Wampanoag territory, and systemic racism continues to negatively impact Black, Indigenous, and other people of color in the local Plymouth community and across the country. Pinewoods Camp, Inc. serves the physical place and environment on which our facilities sit, but Pinewoods is also part of the larger complex cultural history. We commit to study that history and acknowledge systemic bias in our business practices and our relationship to traditional music and dance. It is our intent to provide a safe and welcoming environment for everyone.

See our website for PCI's initial steps to combat systemic bias: <http://www.pinewoods.org/about/inclusion-antiracism/>

A Summer of Virtual Community and Connection

By Anna Alter

This year, many of our most beloved in-person activities and events were canceled for our health and safety, and camp at Pinewoods was no exception. But when change comes, new opportunities arise. This summer, instead of having campers travel, our program providers creatively brought more than one hundred virtual events directly to our homes!

The Country Dance & Song Society (CDSS) offered a total of forty-five events for all six of their Pinewoods weeks, with each week's program director taking the lead in planning an assortment of offerings for virtual campers to participate in and enjoy. The events were free to all, whether you were a regular attendee at camp, or had never been to a CDSS week at Pinewoods before. Campers enjoyed nightly concerts and lectures at Early Music Week, a daily All-Camp Chorus during Harmony of Song and Dance Week, a virtual rendition of Abbots Bromley produced and performed by the teens at Family Week, daily stunts at American Dance & Music Week, a virtual Zoom dance with three callers, wonderful music and over 250 attendees offered by English Week, and morning and evening gatherings at Campers Week.

Country Dance Society, Boston Centre formed a combination of virtual events in lieu of their usual weekend camps at Pinewoods. These included compilation videos with memories from years past, video greetings from Swing into Summer community members, Zoom "Porch and Rail" sessions and "cocktail parties" throughout July Fourth Weekend, as well as a successful cabaret/fundraiser, hosted by Alex Cumming, featuring staff and campers, to raise funds for July Fourth Weekend's staff.

The Folk Arts Center of New England created a Saturday afternoon online series consisting of twenty-two workshops, a Pinewoods retrospective accompanied by twenty-three musicians, and a live virtual dance party featuring musicians from around the world.

The Boston Branch, Royal Scottish Country Dance Society developed a Pinewoods Scottish Sessions staff concert fundraiser for musician grants, a "Call of the Pipes" lesson, a narrated Pinewoods slideshow, and a highly successful virtual ceilidh and auction for Pinewoods Camp, Inc., which raised \$13,150!

Traditional Music and Dance Camp put together four nights of performances featuring sixty-seven artists. They broadcast these onto Ron Olesko's Folk Music Notebook, with hosted Zoom song swaps before and after each streamed show. Over five hundred attendees tuned in from around the world, including the US, the UK, France, and New Zealand!

Each virtual event, whether a compilation video of camps past, song swaps or gatherings, virtual parades or dances, offered community participation and connection. We, the Pinewoods community of campers, are grateful! ◆



Photo by Warren Anderson

News from the Board

By Martin Barbour

I have just completed my first year as president of the PCI Board, and am thankful for the amazing dedication of my fellow board members who worked so hard to navigate the numerous challenges we faced this year: from the incredibly difficult decision to close Camp to keep our community safe, to initiating a search for a new executive director, and now looking toward next summer and developing scenarios in anticipation of a potentially unusual camp experience due to uncertainties surrounding COVID-19. Our sincere desire is to return to Pinewoods for a 2021 dance and music season, and we remain hopeful.

Each fall we have a transition of board members. This year, four board members completed their terms: Lars Hanslin has guided the board with legal knowledge and thoughtful questions. Marissa Roque served as vice president and president, and I will miss her experience, steadiness, and guidance. Sue Rosen chaired the Communications Committee, was the power behind the Pinewoods Post, and guided our transition to social media.

Warren Anderson served as president for many years and as his final term was coming to a close, he transitioned smoothly into the role of interim executive director. The two of us are partnering to ensure continuity of care for the place so many of us love.

I am thrilled to welcome our newest board members: Jo Rasi (Maryland), Anna Alter (Maine), Margaret Keller Dimock (Massachusetts), and Dave Casserly (Virginia). I invite you to find out more about them and our returning board members by reading their biographies on the PCI web page (www.pinewoods.org). Get to know this group and let us know your thoughts and ideas.

Pinewoods has been a very different place this year with an abundance of wildlife and natural sounds. The foxes, muskrats, otters, eagles, skunks, frogs, and other creatures have kept camp humming, and I hope that next year we can round out the choir with your laughter, music, and voices. Can't wait to see you all again! ◆



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Pinewoods Camp Inc. ♦ 80 Cornish Field Road
Plymouth, MA 02360

Please Support Pinewoods Camp!

Your tax-deductible contributions, in any amount, to our Annual Appeal or Planned Giving Campaign will help us achieve our goals:

- Preserve our woods by developing and implementing a comprehensive forestry plan
- Protect our ponds
- Make ongoing repairs and improvements to outdated electrical and plumbing lines
- Continue to maintain and improve our cabins, pavilions, Camp House, and Dining Hall to meet camper needs while still preserving our rustic environment
- Continue our efforts to control erosion of our paths
- Improve accessibility
- Provide scholarships
- Ensure that the land surrounding Camp stays undeveloped

All of us share the responsibility as stewards of this increasingly rare and extraordinarily special place. Join us in our effort to preserve the magic for many generations to come by donating here: <http://www.pinewoods.org/support-pinewoods/donate/>



Photo by Natty Smith

Executive Director Search

Pinewoods Camp, Inc. is seeking an experienced professional with nonprofit and facilities management experience to serve as Executive Director. For a full job description and additional information about this position and how to apply, please see our website: <http://www.pinewoods.org/jobs/executive/>

