



The Newsletter for the Members of the Owasippe Staff Association

Vibrations

Volume 25, Issue 2

A Brief Save Owasippe Update

by: Joe Sener - SOSR Committee Chairman

This is just a brief update to let everyone know where we are with the Save Owasippe effort. The Owasippe Outdoor Education Center has been incorporated as a Michigan not-for-profit corporation. This corporation has been founded as a "directorship." We have filed paperwork with the United States Internal Revenue Service to apply for 501c(3) status that will make us an official U.S. not-for-profit corporation.

The valuation of Owasippe, a critical step in our seeking funding to buy Owasippe, is not yet complete. It was originally due by the end of March, but the valuation company is having difficulty determining "comparable value," which is usually based on recent sales of similar property (there's nothing quite like Owasippe, is there?). The valuation should be completed sometime in May.

We have 22 prospective donors and have made contact with many of them to determine interest. To

date, those contacted have responded with interest but want to know that we are 501c(3) registered and what the final value of the property will be.

In short, things are coming together and we are keeping in constant contact with our partners, The Nature Conservancy. Stay tuned for further updates.

Editor's note:

There is still much you can do. Continue to get the word out to possible sponsors and let us know who they are. We want to talk to foundations, grant holders, corporations, donors, anyone who can help out! You can contact the SOSR Committee by e-mailing Joe at Joe_Sener@owasippe.com.

Another way that you can help is by selling 9900 Club raffle tickets (that's \$25,000 to the Save Owasippe Fund if we sell all 2,000 tickets). E-mail us at 9900raffle@owasippe.com if you'd like to help.

Celebrating 25 Years of Service

by: Ron Kulak - OSA Treasurer

The OSA's 25th Anniversary kicked off in high gear with a whopping 205 people at the dinner dance, held March 1st at European Chalet and Banquets in Chicago. Lots of familiar faces were on hand to welcome back those who we haven't seen in a while. We opened the doors a little early for those who just couldn't wait to start the camaraderie, and many members, spouses, and friends were still hanging on when the banquet hall pushed us out at 1 a.m.

Highlights of the program included the presentation of the Member of The Year Award to John Sterling and the Honorary Life Member Award to Joe Sener.

Tricia Monahan became a new member of the OSA Board of Directors, joining Hans Anderson and Dan Kleinfeldt as holders of the three seats up for

election. Dan continues holding the position of vice president. The remainder of the Board consists of Ron Derby (president), Mike Campbell (secretary), Ron Kulak (treasurer), George Korzen, Candy Merritt, and Jim Rich.

Attendees enjoyed a delicious family-style dinner, an open bar, and music.

Bill Lotter even brought out the accordion and the Stuart BEMO Bench!

Bill Egan donated a 6-lb. embossed bar of chocolate from World's Finest Chocolate and Mark Bregin brought a wooden rocking horse that were awarded as door prizes to Ed Gorz and Don Studaven, respectively. Five other items were also raffled off as part of a very successful fundraiser: a sawzall, DVD/VCR combo, mountain bike, a Home Depot gift card, and \$250 cash.

(continued on page 2)



President's Perspective by: Ron Derby - President

It's true, we have a heck of a lot going on right now, but believe it or not, it's "mission as usual" for the OSA. We are continually striving to do our very best to make this organization great.

In the coming months, you will be seeing new events and some old favorites. We'll of course be putting on fix-its, and we're still working hard to help Save Owasippe. At the same time, we also want to start taking more time out for fun and fellowship. We'll be holding our second annual Pub Crawl. We've got the picnic and the big raffle drawing coming up in August. We're hoping to get everyone together for a 25th Anniversary Reunion at Owasippe over Labor Day weekend. We're even talking about a White Sox outing or perhaps a Cosmic Bowling Night. Stay tuned!

At this time, I am also VERY proud to announce that we are in the final planning stages for the construction of a brand new climbing tower to be built at the Charles F. Nagel COPE Base. The plan calls for the new tower to be certified and ready to open by the first day of the upcoming 2003 camping season!

The tower will be dedicated in memory of Christopher Nicholas Hill (1984-2001). All donations that were made in Christopher's name have been given to the OSA by his mom, Monique Tripp. The OSA 40K Fund will be matching Ms. Tripp's generous donation.

Council officials have approved the proposal and the OSA will contract for the tower's construction through Kalamazoo's Experiential Systems. Joe Sener, George Korzen, Sarah Niziol, Dan Kleinfeldt and the rest of the OSA Board Members have been instrumental in getting us to this point.

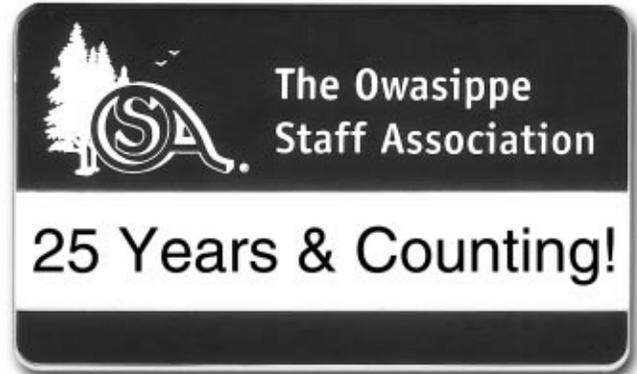
This two-sided, three-pole climbing tower will offer a variety of climbing options. One side is a shear flat climbing surface. A second side has a chimney and an overhang for advanced climbers. The third side will be open and can be used for rappelling or can accommodate a third climbing face in the future. Up to four climbers will be able to climb at one time!

Yep, it's "mission as usual" for the OSA. We are proud to be helping improve the OSR camping experience while honoring the memory of one of Owasippe's sons. The Owasippe Staff Association... 25 years and going strong!



Dinner Dance Review (continued from page 1)

New OSA apparel was introduced and sold that evening by Mike Campbell. The new items include: ball caps, t-shirts, workshirts, polos, and fleece jackets.



A new OSA-SOSR fundraising effort was launched by Jim Rich. The 9900 Club cash raffle will be ongoing until the August OSA Picnic. \$50,000 in cash prizes will be given out at the picnic (including a \$25,000 grand prize). Winners need not be present to win. Contact your favorite Board Member for tickets or to help sell tickets.

All attendees were given an OSA nametag, a pint glass with the anniversary logo, a 2003 OSA calendar/yearbook, and a small white pine tree seedling for planting back at home... Owasippe. As a matter of fact, an additional 200 seedlings were given that evening to Ranger Al Geisler for transport back to Owasippe where the OSA will plant them in May.

Thanks to all who attended the event. Kudos and congrats to Chauncey and the OSA Board for a great meal, terrific program, and an enjoyable reunion!

Key OSR Staff for 2003

Reservation Director Bill VanBerschott
Assistant Reservation Director Pete Klaeser
Camp Blackhawk Director Marilyn Kulak
Camp Reneker Director Candy Merritt
Camp Wolverine Director Mike "Buda" Campbell
High Adventure Director Heidi Schlichting

*Be in the know...
sign up for OSA e-mail updates at
www.owasippe.com*

Save Owasippe Apparel

We'd like to invite you to a week of camping under pine-scented star-lit skies, angling in one of the best fishing lakes in the country, hiking the ancient paths of Native Americans, and, perhaps best of all, swapping stories (some true, some not) around a blazing campfire with fellow adventurers.

What's that you say? Been there, done that? OK. Then how about the thousands of kids who have never had that opportunity and possibly never will if we don't save Owasippe Scout Reservation?

Did you ever wonder why so many of the people who have taken the lead in the Save Owasippe Movement are old Camp Stuart Scouts? We know what it's like to lose a camp, to see so many memories and opportunities paved over in a housing development. To lose any more while we still have the chance to do something about it would be immoral. Like Joni Mitchell sings, "You don't know what you got 'til it's gone."

We in the Arrowhead District have found a cheap, positive solution. Instead of engaging in the rumor-mongering and mud-slinging about the "professionals" and the Executive Board, how about spending some energy finding the hundreds of thousands of people who have attended Owasippe in its history and asking for a small donation? In return, we'll send them a beautiful black t-shirt with the top right image (\$30) or a buttercream polo with the bottom right image on the left upper chest (\$60).

You will be surprised at how many people want to help...they only need to be asked!



**For more details call Jim Adamitis at (708) 423-0687
or e-mail him at saveowasippe@yahoo.com**

More Owasippe Treevia

by: Hans Anderson - Membership Chairman

Fire up your memory banks! Board Member Hans Anderson dug up another dose of trivia from an old issue of the Owasippe Tree, the underground staff newsletter. This batch is from the July 20, 1989 issue. Let's see how much you still remember...

1. Who was shocked when lightning hit the Crown Lodge in 1978 and received first degree burns from the waist down?
2. Where was the previous location of the Museum?
3. When was the first ever issue of "The Tree" printed?
4. What wasn't removed from the milk truck before it was buried under the Crown/Carlen service road?

5. What is the name of the bridge over Mud Lake?
6. Who was the first curator of the Owasippe museum? (Hint: He was on the charter staff of Robert Crown)
7. Why are there so many oak trees on the reservation?

ANSWERS
1. Bill Schaefer Sr. 2. Across Russell Road from the entrance to Canoe Central 3. July 1, 1972
4. A 109-piece socket set 5. The Edward J. Kinnerk Bridge 6. Dave Webb 7. Because of the Chicago fire (the pine forest was used to rebuild the city after the fire and the Tribune company replanted with oak trees)

Dinner Dance Pictures

photos by: Vince Rychtanek, Jerry Brown & Candy Merritt





Letters Home (#1 of 10)

On loan from the Owasippe collection of Joe Sener

From: Don Theren, Checaugau
To: Angela Balducci
July 30, 1930

Dearest Angela,

I was wondering how long it would be before you started writing to me everyday, and now I am wondering if it will happen for a while. I was pleasantly surprised when I saw your handwriting in the mail but pleasantly so.

About the picture I asked you for, if you'll send me the negative of the one you sent me or another negative of a picture as good as that, I'll see to it myself that it becomes a larger picture. The one you sent me before is in a little leather frame I had one of the Scouts make for me, you should see how nice it looks (I mean the picture, not the frame) since it's set off by the little frame.

As for coming in this Saturday and Sunday, it will be a physical impossibility as the outlook for the close of this period and the start of next is anything but cheerful. After clearing my records, etc., for 250 I'll have to start right in on records for 200 so you can see my position. Gosh but maybe I'm not a disappointed guy tho! I sure had planned big things for a 48 hour leave which I doubt I will ever get this summer. I am going to do what you do however, just grin and bear it as well as I can 'till the end of the camping season when I'll be in for another 10 months of school which I just know are going to be the best years of my scholastic dealing, especially in a social viewpoint 'cause I'll have you as my partner throughout.

I just finished scraping 3 days' beard off my face and succeeded in butchering my homely mug as well as an experienced butcher. Some big shots are in camp and we have to look pretty at least 'till they go.

Our regular camp director came back today and as he found the staff in such a tired out condition he made

out a sleeping in schedule whereby half of the staff sleeps today and the other half tomorrow. Tomorrow is going to be my turn but as I can't sleep in the afternoons I guess I'll have to find something to do during that time and I know I'll not have to look at all for work.

One of the Scouts made me an ashtray that he carved out of wood and gave it to me this morning and another Scout braided me a lanyard. It makes a fellow feel good to know that the fellows around him like him. It's not so much the article as much as the spirit in which it's given I think.

Last night I told the fellows in my tent that next year I was going to sail my ship up here across Lake Michigan and they seem to get a big laugh out of it until I told them they didn't have internal fortitude enough to sail with me after which time I had my turn to laugh. I really am seriously planning such a cruise now although I was almost joking last night. It'll be a thrilling cruise at any rate, that I know.

Wally, my tentmate, bought a ukulele the other day and now if he ain't playing it I am so we're both getting full value rec'd. I sent home for mine this morning and I hope it gets up here sometime this summer so I can use it. We'll have to go out on the lake tonight in a canoe and play it. There's where the ukulele sounds best.

Tonight I and several other fellows are asked to go over to the family camp. They're going to have a big party over there, I am wondering what it's going to be like, old fashioned I imagine, maybe not I'll just have to wait and see.

It's getting on in the afternoon now so I'll have to get ready to go up and work for a change and I'm happy even to forget about coming home in Chicago 'till tomorrow then Angela I hope I remain as ever,

Your loving,
Don



Envelope postmarked by the Owasippe Post Office

July 30th 1930
CAMP Chocangon

Dearest Angelo,

I was wondering how long it would be before you started writing to me every day and I was wondering if it will happen for awhile I know pleasantly surprised when I saw your handwriting.

About the picture I asked you for if you'll send me the negative of the one you sent me I'll make a negative of a picture as good as that I'll send to it myself that it become a larger picture. The one you sent me before is in a little leather frame I had one of the scouts make for me you should see how nice it looks (I mean the picture not the frame) since it's set off by the little frame.

As for coming in this Saturday and Sunday, it will be a ~~pleasant~~ ^{pleasant} ~~impossibility~~ ^{impossibility} as the ~~outlook~~ ^{outlook} for the close of this period and the start of next is anything but cheerful. After cleaning up records etc for 250 I'll have to start right in on records for 200 so you can see my position. ~~God~~ ^{God} ~~but maybe that~~



page 1

not a disappointed guy tho! I sure had planned big things for a 46 hour leave which I doubt I'll ever get this summer. I'm going to do what you do however, just grin and bear it as well as I can till the end of the camping season when I'll be in for another 10 months of school which I just know are going to be the best years of my scholastic teaching, especially in a social viewpoint cause I'll have you as my picture throughout.

I just finished scripping three days' beard off my face and succeeded in getting my lonely mug as well as an appearance! Besides some big shots are in camp and we have to look juicy at least till they go.

Our regular Camp Director came back today and so he found the staff in such a ticked out condition he made out a sleeping in schedule whereby half of the staff sleeps today and the other half tomorrow or going to be my turn but as I can't sleep in the afternoon's I guess I'll have to find something to do during that time and I know I'll not have to look at all for work.

One of the scouts made me a hat tray that he carved out of wood and gave it to me. It's decorative and a water stand branched over a cup with it makes a pillow for you to

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CAMP Chocangon

Dear that the fellows around him like him. It's not so much the article as much as the spirit in which it's given I thank.

Last night I took the fellows on my tent that next year was going to sail my ship up here about Lake Michigan and they seemed to get a big laugh out of it until I told them they did it have internal fortitude enough to stand up for me after which time I had my turn to laugh. I really and seriously planning such a cruise now although I was almost joking last night. It'll be a thrilling cruise at any rate, that I know.

Stally, my tentmate bought a uke the other day and now if he starts playing it I can see ~~the~~ ^{the} getting full value out of it. I don't know for sure this morning and I hope it gets up here some time this summer so I can use it. He'll have to go out on the lake tonight in a canoe and play it. I know where the ukelele sounds like.



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I thought I and several other fellows are asked to go over to the Family Camp. They're going to have a big party over there, I'm wondering what it's going to be like, old fashioned I imagine, maybe not. I'll just have to wait and see.

It's getting on in the afternoon now so I'll have to get ready to go up and over to the camp. I'll be back tomorrow then Angelo. I hope I'll see you over.

Yours forever,
Dawn

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Spring Fix-it #1 May 16-18

Our primary goal will be to complete the seating area at the Blackhawk firebowl.
Contact Dan Kleinfeldt at 773-592-5506 to reserve your spot!

Trade-O-Ree May 23-24

147th (Sibley Blvd.) & Keeler - Midlothian, IL
The OSA will be selling 2 tables of donated OSR memorabilia at this Calumet Council event.
All proceeds will be going to the Save Owasippe Fund. Reminder, this is Memorial Day weekend.

Spring Fix-it #2 June 6-8

We will be putting finishing touches on the Blackhawk firebowl.
We'll also be helping get camp ready to open.
Contact Dan Kleinfeldt at 773-592-5506 to reserve your spot!

OSA Pub Crawl June 14

All stops are in the heart of Roscoe Village, near the intersection of Roscoe and Damen.
There will be beverage specials, raffles and surprise giveaways at each establishment!
Watch your mailboxes for a postcard that will be coming soon.

OSA Family Picnic August 17

Brookfield Woods, on 31st Street, between 1st Avenue & LaGrange
Pack up those coolers and come on out for fellowship, kids games, volleyball, softball and the 9900 Club Raffle drawing!
Watch your mailboxes for a postcard that will be coming this summer.

OSA Reunion Aug. 29 - Sept. 1

Come on up to Owasippe and celebrate the OSA's 25th birthday!
We're getting together over Labor Day weekend for a relaxing good time.
Contact the CAC Camping Department at 312-421-8800 to reserve a cabin.

Fall Fix-it Sept. 19-21

Projects and other details to be announced.

9900 Club Raffle

Drawing to be held on Sunday, August 17, 2003, at the OSA Family Picnic.



**Grand Prize
\$25,000**

1st Prize \$10,000 • 2nd Prize \$5,000 • 3rd Prize \$1,000 • 2-4th Prizes \$900
2-5th Prizes \$800 • 2-6th Prizes \$700 • 2-7th Prizes \$600 • 2-8th Prizes \$500
2-9th Prizes \$400 • 2-10th Prizes \$300 • 2-11th Prizes \$200 • 2-12th Prizes \$100

Only 2000 tickets will be sold at \$50 each.

Support the OSA, help Save Owasippe & win big bucks!

Contact an OSA Board Member for tickets today. (see page 11)

Visit www.owasippe.com for more details.

A total of 2000 tickets will be sold at \$50 each. In the event all tickets are not sold, all prize money will be awarded on a pro-rated basis. **Make all checks payable to the Owasippe Staff Association Raffle.** Winners of prizes of \$1000 or more will not receive their prize until a proper tax identification (or social security) number has been supplied. Winners need not be present at the drawing to win.

Galloping Grapevine



Paul and Melissa (Steggall) Braun

Melissa wrote in to share the joy of their newest little one. Clare Oriann (pronounced O-ree-ann) Steggall Braun was born on March 23, 2003. She weighed 6 lbs. 6oz. and was 19-5/8 inches. Mom and baby are doing well after a little bit of a tense start for Clare in the ICU. They say she is cute as a button, meows like a kitten, and snuggles up to mom and dad. Big brother Gabe is happy to show her off. Congratulations!

Tom Patterson III

Tom (TJ) shipped out a few weeks ago to the war in Iraq. He is serving with the Third Armored Cavalry Regiment as a Material Management Officer. In that role, he says he tracks all inbound vehicle parts, so he should be at the rear and fairly safe. He writes of his confidence in his unit and its equipment. We keep him, his family, and all the troops in our thoughts and prayers for a safe return home. Go get 'em Tom!

Reinhard Plaut ~ Chicago, IL

Reinhard and Anne Duston were married last September. The happy couple is living in Rogers Park in Chicago. Our congratulations to you both on the new digs and the marriage! May you always be happy and healthy.

The Lea Family ~ Chicago, IL

Elizabeth (Liz) Lea and Jeff Hosfield were married on March 2, 2003. Liz worked on the Reneker staff from 1991 to 1993 and was a camper for many years before that. A big congratulations to Liz and Jeff! Barb Lea spent Christmas and New Year's in Kenya visiting a friend's family. Hawaii and now Kenya – Barb's our OSA ambassador to all places warm. Hope it was a great trip!

Tom and Val Ewan ~ Bonsall, CA

Tom, a former CAC Director of Camping, wrote in to get us caught up. He is the director of the Rawhide Ranch (see the ad in the OSA Ad Book), which sounds like quite a big job. They are getting ready for summer with a new pool, 4 new bathhouses, and a new group camp that holds 136. Tom's oldest, Alissa, will graduate from Marquette in May. Maggie is just starting to look at colleges and has one more year of high school to go. He says "hi" to all and passes along the bit of news that his ranch turned a profit last year so, as he says, "It can be done." Thanks for checking in, Tom. It's great to hear that things are going well.

- New OSA Members -

Christopher Chouinard	Mark Linse
Lauren Chouinard	John Magyarics
Joseph DiNovo	Ray Narducy
Brian Kasal	James Nierman
Mindy Jo Kleinfeldt	Mike Pakourek
Marilyn Kulak	Adam Pilarski
Jason Kulak	Mike Romcoe
Laura Linse	

Welcome to the family! Sorry if we forgot anyone.

See You at the End of the Trail...



Mr. Bachman ~ Chicago, IL

Mr. Bachman, father of Mike who worked on staff and is a long-time OSA member, passed away in early February. As a veteran of the Korean War, he was buried with military honors at the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Will County. Our thoughts are with the Bachman family during this time of healing.

Greg Buckner Jr. ~ Oak Lawn, IL

Greg, of Troop 1605, died at age 14 on January 25. He was involved in a skiing accident while on a weekend outing in Wisconsin with his Troop. He and his Troop camped at Wolverine. Greg started Scouting at age 5 and was the rank of First Class, serving as Assistant Patrol Leader for his Oak Lawn Troop. He enjoyed working on his cooking merit badge at camp last summer, and his "cobbler surprise" won the Scoutcraft cookoff for 3rd period. Our hearts go out to his mom, dad, 2 sisters, and all the members of Troop 1605. A memorial fund for Greg has been established through the OSA. Mark any donations for the Greg Buckner fund with his name.

James M. Lonergan ~ Chicago, IL

James, age 57, died late February. He was active in Troop 617 and Pack 3459 of Arrowhead District. James was a retired Chicago Police Officer, father of three children, and grandfather of four. James, you will be missed.

Ralph Lutz ~ Lansing, IL

Ralph, father of Wolverine shooting sports director Jerry Lutz, died in early February after a two-year battle with many medical problems. He was a Life Scout and attended Owasippe in 1938 and 1939. Ralph worked with Pack 149 and Troop 526 in Lansing and was in the Army Air Corps during WWII. He was 80 years old and had recently celebrated 60 years of marriage with his wife. Our sympathies go out to Jerry and the entire Lutz family.

George Freestone ~ Phoenix, AZ

At 104, George was believed to be the world's oldest living Boy Scout. He was a member of the second Troop ever chartered in the U.S., joining in 1910 at age 12. His life-long dedication to Scouting continued even after his 104th birthday in the form of meetings with Troops and leaders to encourage Scouting involvement. George lived most of his life in the Phoenix area. He died in early February.

Got shirt?

Be cool like Andy. Bring a little extra cash with you to our next event and get yourself some brand new OSA gear!

Hey! Are your OSA dues up to date?

Membership dues DIRECTLY paid for this very newsletter!

Check the 4 digit number on your mailing label. According to our records, that is the last year you paid your dues.

Please send checks to: OSA, P.O. Box 7097 • Westchester, IL 60154

Owasippe Staff Association
2003
Board of Directors

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708-403-4506



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I hereby submit my request to register as a member and I certify that I am 19 or older at the time of my application.

Furthermore, as a friend of Owasippe, I pledge my support of the OSA's purpose. I also understand that I must stay current with my dues in order to remain a member in good standing.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Birthdate: _____

email: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Staff, Service or Camping Years at Owasippe:

Year	Camp	Position

Employer: _____

Occupation: _____

Marital Status: _____

Spouse's Name: _____

Children's Names & Ages: _____

Mail to:
OSA
P.O. Box 7097
Westchester, IL 60154
attn: Membership

New Member	\$20	_____
Renewal	\$15	_____
Lifetime	\$250	_____

Visit the OSA online at www.owasippe.com

*The Owasippe Staff Association
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Vibrations is published four times per year by the Owasippe Staff Association.

Editorial Staff: Ron and Susan Derby

The opinions stated by contributors to *Vibrations* are those of the authors and are not by fact of publication necessarily those of the Owasippe Staff Association or its Board of Directors. Publication does not imply endorsement. All materials are subject to editing.

Manuscripts, photographs and artwork are encouraged. Address all such materials to: ***Vibrations Editor, P.O. Box 7097, Westchester, IL 60154.*** All materials which the author wants returned must be accompanied by a self addressed stamped envelope. Submissions can also be made via e-mail to ***vibrations@owasippe.com.***

Deadlines for submitting materials for publication are as follows:

- Spring ~ January 15
- Summer ~ April 1
- Fall ~ August 7
- Winter ~ October 15

Dates of Interest to OSA Members

May

- 11 Happy Mother's Day!
- 14 **Early** OSA Board Meeting
- 16-18 Spring Fix-it #1
- 23-24 Calumet Council Trade-o-ree
- 26 Memorial Day

June

- 6-8 Spring Fix-it #2
- 14 OSA Pub Crawl
- 15 Happy Father's Day!
- 18 OSA Board Meeting
- 21 Staff Week Begins
- 29 First Day of Camp

July

- 4 Happy Independence Day!
- 25 Christmas in July

August

- 7 Vibrations Deadline
- 9 Last Day of Camp
- 13 **Early** OSA Board Meeting
- 17 OSA Family Picnic & Raffle Drawing
- 29- Sept. 1 OSA Reunion at OSR (Labor Day Weekend)

