



The Newsletter for the Members of the Owasippe Staff Association

Vibrations

Volume 26, Issue 1

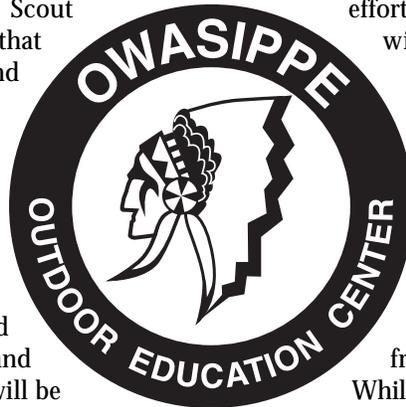
Save Owasippe Update & Timeline

by: Joe Sener - SOSR Committee Chairman

I hope this article finds you well, and I wish you a healthy and prosperous New Year. It has been some time since I have been able to give you an update on the progress of our Save Owasippe efforts. I would like to take a few moments of your time to explain our progress and our prognosis.

In the past year, we have had a number of opportunities and successes. We have had an opportunity to meet with many members and volunteers of the Chicago Area Council. These volunteers told us they would support our actions to try to purchase Owasippe Scout Reservation to preserve and run it in a way that would make better use of the property and make it financially self sufficient.

In late January, we expect to have the formal plan for our Capital Campaign efforts. Our goals will more than meet the reasonable expectations for the purchase of Owasippe as well as the funding of an endowment for ongoing operations. We believe, as do the politicians and community members of West Michigan and Scouting volunteers of Chicago, that we will be able to make an offer in a short period of time. Our plan will include the timeline for our Capital Campaign and the making of the aforementioned offer.



Clearly, the sale of Hoover and the resulting financial windfall has eased the pressure requiring the urgent sale of Owasippe. There is no need to move quickly to subdivide Owasippe or to sell off large portions to other buyers when our solution will meet the needs of the Chicago Area Council camping program and keep Owasippe intact.

Initial Fundraising

The Owasippe Staff Association began a fundraising effort designed to meet our goals but not interfere with the normal fundraising efforts of the Council. Such interference would reduce the revenue of the Council and not get us any closer to our goal – there simply is not enough money in that donor pool.

Our efforts brought forth financial backing from the traditional friends of Owasippe; former staff, Scouters and friends who heard of our need from across the country. To date we have raised over \$100,000 from checks for \$25 to donations of \$5,000.

While \$100,000 is not enough to purchase the camp, it is enough to act as seed money for the development campaign required to properly finance Owasippe's conversion into an outdoor university. (cont. on page 3)

The Dinner Dance is Right Around the Corner!

The 26th OSA Annual Meeting and Dinner Dance will be held on March 6, 2004, at European Chalet Banquets (5445 South Harlem, just south of I-55). Dress for a semi-formal night of dinner, spirits and fellowship. This is a great chance to call some camp buddies and host a reunion of the old gang. Doors open at 6 p.m. and family-style dinner will follow the closing of board elections.

During the evening, we will hold our annual meeting, present awards (including Member of the Year), make special recognitions, conduct elections and, of course, we will be raffling off some wonderful prizes. Raffle prizes are listed later in this article, and the slate of candidates for the election is featured on page 7.

This year we are trying out a "Golden Ticket" system to speed up the check-in process. Each Dinner Dance ticket is \$35 if your reservations are postmarked by February 21st. A Golden Ticket will be mailed (or confirmed by phone) to all members who have their tickets and membership dues paid for by the Feb. 21 date. Present your Golden Ticket at the door, receive your ballot(s) and you're set to meet and greet friends!

PLEASE NOTE: After Feb. 21, the ticket price goes up to \$45 each. Regretfully we can no longer accept IOUs. Advance reservations can only be made with accompanying payment.

(cont. on page 2)

President's Perspective by: Ron Derby - President

First off, I'd like to wish you all a healthy and prosperous new year! I hope everyone had a happy and safe holiday season.

Secondly, I'd like to ask you a few questions about Owasippe.com. Do you like the OSA Web site? Do you spend time there? Do you think it's a valuable resource packed with relevant information?



If you answered "yes" to any of those questions, you'll probably answer "yes" to a few the following questions as well. Have you ever wished you could pay your dues online? Do you wish there was a "members only" area where you could look up old friends? Have you ever wanted to buy OSA apparel online? Would it be convenient for you to make donations online and automatically receive your thank you/tax documentation instantly? Would you like to browse through news and picture archives? I could go on and on.

Don't get me wrong, I know we have a great site. In fact, we have 650 subscribers to our e-mail updates, and people really seem to find our site quite useful. Without an office, our site has really become something of a "virtual headquarters" for the OSA. That's not to mention the vital role it has played in keeping the lines of communication open during the Save Owasippe struggle.

I'm asking you to think about the next phase... the future of Owasippe.com. We have a Web proposal on the table that will allow Owasippe.com to go from "good" to "great." Organizations like ours have been able to use the power of the Web to speed up and simplify many day-to-day operations for both members and directors. The OSA Board truly believes that a big part of our organization's future will center around the Web and that the time to take better advantage of these opportunities is now!

As you may know, we've had a long-standing relationship with xBx, a Web development firm in Highland Park. xBx built our existing site (at a considerable discount), and they donate server space to us that would normally cost close to \$900 per year. Now xBx is offering us almost \$36,000 worth of Web site for just under \$5,000. It's an amazing deal and an amazing opportunity!

If you appreciate the value of a powerful Web site, if you have ever wished for more Web features, or if you're just looking for a good cause to support, we need your help! You can help us make this possible by sending checks made payable to the OSA and earmarked for the Web Site Fund.

Thanks for your time and consideration. I hope to see you all at the Dinner Dance on the 6th! - - R.D.

Dinner Dance (continued from page 1)

Last year's raffle turned out to be very successful and popular, so we will be running things the same way this year. A limited number of tickets for each prize means better odds for you to win!

The prizes offered are as follows:	
\$250 in Home Depot Gift Cards 50 tickets available at \$10 each	
Sony DVD/VCR Combo 40 tickets available at \$10 each	
GT Aggressor 1.0 Mountain Bike 50 tickets available at \$10 each	
\$250 Cash Prize 50 tickets available at \$10 each	
Tickets for the raffle can be purchased in advance, and you need not be present to win!	

Don't wait, fill out the order form insert, send it in and reserve your spot today! If you have any questions, you can call the Events Chair, Candy Merritt at 708-354-9837.

Sener to Receive Silver Beaver

Congratulations to our own Joe Sener, who was honored with the Silver Beaver Award. The formal award ceremony will be held at the Chicago Area Council's Annual Recognition Dinner on Saturday, January 31.

Joe has been a member of the CAC board of directors for the last two years and has been serving as the Chairman of the Owasippe Program Committee, which he has been a part of for at least the last ten years. Joe is a past president and a founding Board Member of the OSA and was presented with the OSA's highest honor, Honorary Life Member, during last year's OSA Annual Meeting and Dinner Dance. He is also an Eagle Scout and a Vigil Honor member of the Order of the Arrow.

For over 20 years, Joe has been on the training staff for Owasippe's Counselor-In-Training program and was instrumental in the introduction, design and construction of the original COPE course back in the '80s. His most fervent preoccupation of late is with the effort to preserve Owasippe for future generations of Scouts and the formation of the Owasippe Outdoor Education Center (a Michigan not-for-profit corporation).

Other veteran CAC Scouters being recognized for outstanding service with the Silver Beaver Award are William Finkler, James Keys Sr., Ron Kron, Lynda Michalski, John Rak Jr. and Richard Snow. Again, our congratulations to Joe for this high honor and recognition of all his incredibly hard work.

Vibrations always needs copy!

Send your Owasippe memories, stories, pictures, news items, grapevine tidbits, editorial comments to:

OSA Vibrations
P.O. Box 7097
Westchester, IL 60154

→ e-mail: vibrations@owasippe.com

Save Owasippe Update & Timeline (continued from page 1)

Last summer, for the first time in recent memory, we opened up Owasippe for off-season use by the community and other youth groups. When we met with the athletic director for Whitehall High School, his interest was in a special area to run plays and train his team in a venue different than their usual field. We showed him our facility, and it became apparent that he did not realize the opportunities we could provide. After seeing our world-class COPE facility, he determined that they could run plays almost anywhere, but he could really teach some team-building skills at the COPE course. With that we helped him redesign his entire program. And it was a resounding success.

In addition, a new customer, The Young Marines, was welcomed to Owasippe. This group of about 85 Young Marines and leaders had such a great time, we are planning for several hundred of them in August of 2004.

OOEC is Formed

Some months ago, several of us formed a Michigan not-for-profit corporation called the Owasippe Outdoor Education Center (OOEC). This corporation has been granted U.S. IRS 501(c)3 status as a charitable organization (IRS number 03-0510621). It was formed for the express purpose of acting as either operator or owner/operator of Owasippe as an outdoor education center for the youth of America. This will include the continued operation of Owasippe as a Boy Scout Camp as well as additional programs to assure the conservation use of the property as an "outdoor university."

Our vision is simple...

Provide a world-class outdoor education experience for youth and adults by operating a premier outdoor university rooted in conservation minded principles.

Professional Development Director Hired

We are using the funds that have been donated thus far to employ Gordon Zion as Director of Development for the OOEC. Gordon is a professional fundraiser and was an Executive with the Boy Scouts of America a number of years ago. Many of us met Gordon when he was a Scouting Professional in Chicago, where he raised over \$3 million for a capital campaign and was Camp Director of Camp Carlen (Sauger Lake) at Owasippe. In his career in financial development, Gordon has led 18 separate projects totaling over \$130 million and has never failed to reach the Capital Campaign goals of those projects.

Meeting the Community

Several times over the past 12 months, we have had a chance to meet with and hear the concerns of the West Michigan community. It is clear that they share our commitment to the conservation use of the camp and maintenance of the camp as a single entity to serve the youth of their community.

These meetings began in October of 2002 with an open

meeting of Blue Lake Township with over 150 residents and representatives in attendance. Our second meeting was the annual meeting of the White Lake Chamber of Commerce, held at Owasippe on September 20, 2003. During this meeting, we had a chance to talk with many members of the Chamber including the political representatives of the area. We also developed a relationship with members of the business and banking communities who have agreed to help us in our quest.

The third meeting was held on December 15, 2003. This meeting was called by Michigan State Representative David Farhat to discuss the opportunities for the community surrounding our efforts to purchase Owasippe. Present at this meeting were State Representatives, State Senators, Muskegon County Commissioners, U.S. Representative John Hoekstra, city mayors, the Blue Lake Township Supervisor and members of the OOEC including Chauncey Niziol (OOEC Board Member), Joe Sener (OOEC Chair) and Gordon Zion (OOEC Director of Development). During this meeting, we discussed the plans and opportunities for the future of Owasippe including access to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund. These representatives all universally voiced their commitment to our success including lending their substantial political support to our Capital Campaign efforts.

The efforts of the OOEC have generated successes and relationships that the Council has not been able to develop for years. We believe that these relationships will help take Owasippe to the next level of service to the youth of America.

Here's Something You Can Do...

Many companies offer donation-matching programs for their employees. Check with your company to see if this is available. It's a quick way to double your dollars towards the effort to save Owasippe. Clorox is one such company (we found this out thanks to an unnamed donor). Ask your employer if a program is in place, or if they would consider matching your own personal donations to the Save Owasippe fund. Thanks!



For the latest info on the Save Owasippe Campaign visit: www.owasippe.com



From: Don Theren
 To: Angela Balducci
 August 4, 1930



Dearest Angela,

I just received your letter and maybe you don't think I wanted it a lot. I sure was glad too that I didn't have to use my imagination at all because all four pages were filled (swell).

When is your birthday Angie, you have never told me you know and I'm curiously interested in finding out for more reasons than one. We'll celebrate over the next period's stayover and I don't mean perhaps, it's going to take a lot to keep me here next period I can tell you that. I intend to leave on the last Friday nite and spend Saturday and Sunday in Chicago leaving on the night train back here.

Last night our camp director, Mr. Miller, staged a semi-banquet for us in our mess hall and it was just as high-class and we had so much fun as if we had been in one of Chi's best hotels. We had everything from soup to nuts and maybe we didn't and you should have been here. I'm not eating dinner this noon and I didn't eat any breakfast this morning and still I'm not so hungry. I just can't stand the way they cook things at Camp Blackhawk (a neighboring camp where we eat every other stayover). In fact I have been kinda sick to my stomach from it. None of the staff is eating today and even the Scouts are getting so they'd sooner starve. Tonight we eat in our own camp again and maybe I'm not going to show that new gang some tall essen.

I guess that by the time I take you out in my ship you'll be better fitted to be her captain than I, you're sure bitten by the waterbug alright aren't you. That's swell. You don't even get seasick when you go for a boat ride however after you've been tossed around in a small boat for a couple hours, I think you will know whether or not you're a sailor. I've done an enormous lot of sailing these last two days and yesterday I sailed about three miles tipped over so far that my deck was underwater and the mast of it was out of the water and I was making about seventeen knots per hour, which is approximately

nineteen and a half miles per hour. Boy, when we'd crash into the waves the spray would come right over the bow and soak the whole cockpit. Today is another day for windjamming but I'm going to try and get in town and get my hair cut (not shaved off however).

As a diver, I'm not so hot but I'm not afraid to dive off of any board. I can't do any fancy tricks at all but I am gradually learning the swan dive and a front jack knife. Last year, I could do a back dive put together with a full turn. I haven't tried it on our new board yet this summer (an idea for the p.m.). I'll bet we'll do a lot of swimming together this fall if the weather permits. I hope so anyhow.

I don't know the location of the new Tom Thumb Golf Course but I do know that we'll soon find out when I get back for the winter and school. I'm kinda waiting for school to open again you know. It's going to be my last and best year of school and I'm planning a lot of things for it.

I haven't any one in my tent this stayover and I'm alone for the last few days but the two fellows are probably on the way back now, so we'll have a big reunion tonight.

As for pictures of myself I haven't really taken any so far but I'm going to enclose some pictures that I took or had taken so far last period. They're not very good but you can get a little idea of where I live and the fellows with me. I'll have another set ready to be developed this afternoon and I'll send them back to you. Please keep these till I get back for me Ang and I'll be much obliged.

That's all for this time Angela but if I can find anyone I'll drop you a hello. 'Till then I am as ever

Yours,
 Don

P.S. Do I miss you? (what a question) Can't you tell by my letters how I feel?

Membership Corner

presented by: Hans Anderson - Membership Chair

- New OSA Members -

Big Blue Lake Assn.*	Michael Peil
Edward Jordan*	Bruce Petersen
Deborah Leinweber*	Ron Sebonia*
Sean Lynch*	

* New Life Members

Also, we are still looking for updated information on 3 lost members: **A.W. "Bud" Huedepohl**, **Kenneth Klemm** (last known address in Wyoming) and **Tom Donlon**. If you have any information on any of these three, please contact Hans as soon as possible.



2004 OSR Key Staff

Reservation Director	Bill Van Berschot
Asst. Reservation Director	Pete Klaeser
Head Ranger	Al Geisler
Camp Blackhawk Director	Marilyn Kulak
Camp Reneker Director	Candy Merritt
Camp Wolverine Director	Mike "Buda" Campbell
High Adventure Director	Heidi Schlichting

Owasippe Memories

by **Jim Hoggatt - OSA Member**

In 1949 Bill Hall and I were “commissary assistants” for cook George Jones at Camp Blackhawk – hired by Ed Cain.

In the early- to mid-'50s I drove trucks hauling food from headquarters at Crystal Lake (Owasippe Lake); canoes and canoe trips on the White River, Manistee, et al. I met Ron Wilson in 1951, and he's been a long-time friend ever since. I worked under Ron for five summers along with such big “O” greets as Ed Cain, Bob Pagel, Jack Perz, Bob Thompson...all of which have long since joined the great camper in the sky. Off-duty hours included flirting with locals at the Goody-Goody, square dancing at the Schiller's barn, cuddling at beach parties at Duck Lake.

Later years included adult events at Montague's Franklin House Bar. Pitkins and Connie Quints Café were popular. Some names that come to mind include Ron Wilkstrom, Bob O'Connell (Reo), Jim Barda, Herb Thurman, Jim “Moose” Dunn, Sadie and Ida, Joe Weiler, Wellington Spaight, Bernie Gladstone, Will and Marge Teall, Mike Mickelson, Bill Remo, Don Thormahlen, Carol Bostrom, Fr. Jerry Scanlon, Fr. Petz, Steve Horvath, and a host of other fine folks.

My Owasippe years were filled with wonder and the most pleasant memories and experiences.

by **Fred Kurnick - OSA Member**

My fondest memory of Owasippe was as a kid living on the West Side. I belonged to a Troop in the Midwest District. The first time I went to Owasippe, I took the Roosevelt Road streetcar to Michigan Avenue. Then we bought a round-trip ticket at Illinois Central. We got on the Pere Marquette train to Whitehall. We hiked to Camp Wilderness.

We lived in Adirondack cabins, which were three sided with potbelly stoves. We ate in the dining hall, which later burned down. It can still be found as remnants when hiking the trail. That same year, I was elected into the OA as an Ordeal Member. The ordeal was held at Hiawatha Beach.

Later on, the Troop did outpost cooking at Frontier and Pioneer. We also camped at Stuart, Beard and West. Each year, we camped for two weeks. Camp was cheap at the time. Later on, I attended Woodbadge at West. I also went to camp school at Blackhawk.

My first job was working in the dining hall. Later on, I was a provincial Scoutmaster at Wolverine North.

The final outcome is that I still go to Blackhawk every year. Total years of going to Owasippe...61 years. The main thing was Chief Owasippe coming to our campfire on Friday night when we received our badges. This made us come back to Owasippe each year.

See You at the End of the Trail

Madeline Roberts

Madeline passed away in early November at the age of 89. She was the Owasippe “Energy Bunny,” running into Whitehall for the people on staff at Ad Center, Family Village and Reneker. She was known for her wit, enthusiasm and friendly demeanor. Madeline is survived by her husband Glenn Roberts who, for many years in the early '70s into the early '90s, was the business manager for Owasippe and the person who oversaw all lot transactions and the paying of real estate taxes on Owasippe's vast acreage. He is a Life Member of the OSA. They also have a grandson who served on the Owasippe staff.

*A card or a note to Glenn and his family would be most appreciated:
Glenn Roberts, 200 Village Drive - #423, Downers Grove, IL 60515*

Charles Roepke

Chuck passed away suddenly in early December. He, his wife Kathy, and their 14-year-old son Jason are all active in Scouting. Kathy is active at Arrowhead District Roundtables and in OPIK, as is Jason. In lieu of flowers, the family is asking that donations be made to the Save Owasippe fund through the OSA or any other Scouting program in Chuck's name. Please, pray for this family and, if you can, please support Jason and Kathy at this time.

Catherine Lyons Schlichting

Kay, mother of Jim Schlichting, passed away on December 27, 2003. She was a beautician for 23 years and an LPN for 25 years. She was buried at Irving Park Cemetery in Chicago. Kay will be missed by the entire family, and our thoughts and prayers are with Jim, Linda, Heidi and Marc. Memorial contributions will be placed into a fund to further educational interests of her grandchildren and step-grandchildren.

Matthew F. Nedza

We are saddened to report that Matt passed away right around the first of the year. Matt was involved in the BSA for more than 25 years and played Santa at one of the OSA Christmas parties held at Camp Kiwanis. His daughter, Mary Faye, and her husband, Ron Pezdek, are both current OSA members. Our prayers are with the family.

Marlene Tenczar

Sad news on the passing of Marlene Tenczar, wife of the late Donald and mother to Keith, who gave in to a long battle with cancer. The family was intimately involved with Troop 465, Mohawk and Chippewa Districts and Scouting in general, Kittakima-Meechgalanne OA Chapter, Kiwanis Crippled Children's Camp, Owasippe and the OSA. *Sympathy cards and letters can also be sent to:
Keith Tenczar, 5307 Prairie Sage Ln., Naperville, IL 60564*

Tim Scherbarth – Park Forest, IL

Tim, son of Jim Scherbarth, passed away after a long struggle with cancer. He was way too young, only in his mid-30s. More information wasn't available as we heard the news at press time. Check the Web site for more details. Our thoughts and prayers are with Jim and his wife, and the entire Scherbarth family.

*You can write to the Scherbarths at:
449 Tamarack St, Park Forest, IL 60417.*



2004 Election Info.

YOUR OSA BOARD: The affairs of the OSA are managed by the nine members of the Board of Directors, elected by the membership. Their terms are staggered so that three must be elected each year. Each Board member serves a three-year term unless a vacancy must be filled for a shorter term. A Director must be a currently registered Staff or Associate member age 21 or older as of the day of election (March 6, 2004), have a genuine interest in the success of the organization and be available for monthly Board of Director meetings.

Current Board of Directors			Term Expires
Michael Campbell (Secretary)	Ron Derby (President)	Jim Rich	2004
George Korzen	Ron Kulak (Treasurer)	Candy Merritt	2005
Hans Anderson	Dan Kleinfeldt (Vice Pres.)	Tricia Monahan	2006

WHO MAY VOTE? Each OSA member currently registered ('04) is entitled to one vote at the annual meeting for the purpose of election of the Board of Directors. Voting may be done in person at the 26th Annual Meeting (European Chalet) on Saturday, March 6, 2004, from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. Alternately, signed ballots will be accepted via the U.S. mail.

BE SURE THAT YOU ARE CURRENTLY REGISTERED ('04) SO THAT YOUR VOTE COUNTS! The current year of your membership will be on the mailing label addressing this mailing. Any questions regarding the status of your membership can be presented to the Membership Committee Chairman Hans Anderson at (773) 631-9962 or hans_de9@netzero.com.

WINNERS: Those candidates receiving the largest number of valid votes will be inducted into the Board of Directors during the 2004 Annual Meeting. The top three vote-getters will be considered duly elected, and each will serve a term of three years.

OPERATING OFFICERS: The first official duty of the newly constituted Board of Directors will be to select operating officers for the next 12 months. Positions include President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. These officers will be announced at the Annual Meeting.

Absentee Ballot

Owasippe Staff Association



2003 Board of Directors
Official Mail-in Ballot

Vote for 3 candidates

- Mike Campbell
- Ron Derby
- Andy Kimbler
- Andy Lukasiewicz
- Jim Rich
- Nick Wolff

Mail-in ballots **MUST BE SIGNED** for authenticity and received at the P.O. Box by 12:00 p.m. on Friday, February 28, 2003 to be counted in the election.

Owasippe Staff Association
Attn: 2003 Elections
P.O. Box 7097
Westchester, IL 60154

Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

Meet the Candidates

presented by: Pat Monahan - OSA Elections Committee Chairman

Mike Campbell, age 43, is single and lives in Chicago. He attended Northeastern Illinois University where he earned a B.A. in Mathematics. He teaches mathematics at Roberto Clemente High School in the Chicago Public School System. An Eagle Scout and a recipient of the Vigil Honor of the Order of the Arrow, Mike has served on the Owasippe staff for 13 summers, working at Camps Robert Crown, Blackhawk and Wolverine. In 2004, he will return as director of Camp Wolverine. Mike is currently registered as the Charter Representative of Post 9900 – the Owasippe Staff Post. He has served two terms on the OSA Board of Directors. *Mike is interested in continuing to serve on the Board of Directors and feels his involvement on the camp staff and the Owasippe Committee is of value to the OSA. Mike urges all members to do their best to accomplish the OSA's goals of service and fellowship.*

Ron Derby, age 32, is married to Susan (Bisset) Derby (Crown High Adventure Base '96-'00) and lives in Vernon Hills. He is a graduate of Columbia College of Chicago where he earned a B.A. in graphic design. He currently holds the position of Vice President of Creative Services with xBx, a Web development firm in Highland Park. A Scout since 1979, Ron joined the Owasippe staff in 1988 and earned his Eagle Award in 1989. Ron served five summers on Owasippe staff including two years at Crown and three at Blackhawk, most recently 1996. Ron joined the OSA in 1991, has been a member of the Board of Directors for 7 years, and for the last three has served as President. He has also been a member of the staff development team (CIT training) since 1998, and he now serves on the Board of the newly formed Owasippe Outdoor Education Center. His outside interests include camping and woodworking. *Ron would like to stay on to continue growing and strengthening the OSA. "We have many programs and projects in the works that need to be seen through. I am also working to streamline board procedures in an effort to make it a more stable, turnkey operation."*

Andy Kimbler, age 32, is married and lives in Chicago. Andy studied criminal justice at University of Illinois, Chicago. He is currently employed as the Assistant Building Engineer for the Evanston Golf Club. He was a member of Troop 986, where he became a Life Scout. He worked on the Owasippe staff for four years, serving as High Adventure Director and Pack N' Paddle Director between 1990 and 1994. His interests include fishing, hunting and backpacking. *In these difficult times, Andy hopes to help the OSA in any way he can. He has been active at OSA fix-it weekends and hopes to provide leadership to the OSA in that area. He believes strongly in the outpost and trails programs at Owasippe.*

Andy Lukasiewicz, age 21, is single and lives in Tinley Park, IL. He is a certified massage therapist and works at Linea Spa and Salon in Glen Ellyn. He has been a Scout for 15 years and in 1999 became an Eagle Scout. He currently serves as an Assistant Scoutmaster in Troop 442. In his first year on the Owasippe staff, Andy was a counselor in training. He staffed at Camp Carlen for five years and at Camp Wolverine for two years, working as a field sports director and a commissioner. He is currently continuing his education in business and theatre. *As a member of the OSA Board of Directors, Andy hopes to reach the younger crowd and open their eyes to all that Owasippe has done for them. "I hope to help gain support to try and give back what was given to us."*

Jim Rich, age 68, is married and lives in Chicago. He is a retired firefighter, who worked for the City of Chicago for 27 years. He joined Scouting in 1983 when his son joined the Cub Scouts, later became Assistant Cubmaster, and moved with his son to Scouting in 1987. He first attended Owasippe in '87 and has returned every year since, joining the staff in 1993. Jim is currently completing a three-year term on the OSA Board of Directors. *He is very proud to be a member of the OSA and even more proud to be a part of the Board of Directors. "It has been a great three years."*

Nick Wolff, age 27, is single and lives in Bolingbrook. He is a graduate of the University of Illinois with an M.S. in Civil Engineering, and he is currently completing an M.S. in Management and Organizational Development at Benedictine University. He is employed as a civil engineer with SEECO Consultants, Inc. in Tinley Park, IL and also provides fee-based financial planning services to 10 clients. An Eagle Scout and a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow, Nick became a commissioner at Camp Blackhawk in 1995 and then served as Senior Commissioner in 1996 and 1997. Nick's resume also includes extensive leadership involvement in the Illinois Chapter of Alpha Phi Omega, a national service fraternity, where he has served as Chicago Area Vice-Chairman. In that role, he has formed a Long-range Planning Committee and created a mediation program. Nick also serves on the APO National Leadership Development committee. *As a member of the OSA Board, Nick feels he would bring a fresh perspective in terms of youth and relative objectivity. He will enter the Board without preconceptions, and he feels that in times of great change, it is very important to listen to everyone and build consensus.*

Pizza Night (November 2003)



Kid's Christmas Party (December 2003)



You can visit www.owasippe.com to see most of these pics (and many more) in color.

A New Fundraising Opportunity

by: Tricia Monahan - Fundraising Chair

The OSA is kicking off a new fundraiser. We will be selling gift cards as an easy way to help fund OSA programs and operations. But the best part is you can help the OSA through the money you already spend!

This is how it works. You buy gift cards and gift certificates through us at face value, we get them at a slight discount allowing us to make a percentage of the card amount. You're then able to use the certificates at stores and restaurants for yourself or give them as gifts.

They're accepted, same as cash, at stores where you normally shop, such as grocery stores and clothing stores. They can be used to fill up your gas tank, rent a movie or pay for a meal at your favorite restaurant. They also make great gifts for that hard-to-buy-for person.

A few examples of gift certificates offered are Jewel/Osco, Dominick's, Applebee's, Panera Bread, Starbucks, Blockbuster, Home Depot, Sears, Speedway and Exxon Gas Stations. The full list has more than 150 vendors! Vendors pay out different percentages ranging from 3% to 18% of the certificate amount. This means you can spend your

normal amount each month on groceries, gas, entertainment, etc, and the OSA gets a cut at no additional cost to you.

We will be taking gift card orders until February 21st. Cards can be handed directly to you at the Dinner Dance on March 6, or you can choose to have them mailed to your home for a small additional cost for insured mail. **NOTE: We will only send these gift certificates via insured mail because it is essentially the same as mailing cash.**

Orders received after the cut-off date will be returned because the cards must be ordered all at once. The good news is we will be taking orders 4 times per year – one with each newsletter!

These gift cards can be used all over the United States, not just in the Chicagoland area. And they're good for at least one year, so you don't have to worry about them expiring right away. See the insert in this issue for a full list of vendors, insured shipping fees and an order form.

Make checks payable to the OSA, earmark them for the "Gift Card Program" and send your order directly to Tricia Monahan - Fundraising Chair.

Jolly Times with Old St. Nick

Thanks to the families that came out to enjoy our Christmas party in December! The kids had a great time working on crafts, which included a CD ornament, and games such as pin the ornaments on the Christmas tree. The pinata, which was donated by Grandma Monahan, was exploding with candy to fill all the kids' goodie bags. Good pizza, nice treats and presents from Santa were enjoyed by all of the kids from ages 1 to 70. Candy Merritt planned a great party! Thanks to Tony Krier for his visit, and thanks to John Kapusciaz for donating use of the European Chalet room for the afternoon.



Seeing Stars?



Owasippe's Astronomy Outpost program is in dire need of telescopes! If you have a new or used telescope that you'd like to donate, you can e-mail us at seeingstars@owasippe.com. You can also send checks made payable to the OSA and earmarked for the Telescope Fund.

The End of Treevia?

dug up by: Hans Anderson

Board Member Hans Anderson has unearthed one last batch of Treevia (that's trivia from the Tree, Owasippe's underground staff newsletter) for you to try your hand at. If you have old issues of the Owasippe Tree, e-mail the trivia questions to vibrations@owasippe.com and we'll print them.

Until then, see how well you do on this 1989 quiz.

1. How many Staff members are there currently for the 1989 camp season?
2. Name two current full-summer staff members who were once camp directors but are not this year. (back in '89)
3. Who are the four people who initiated Cooter's Cove?
4. How many gallons of gas a day does the ski boat go through?

5. What outpost was located next to the Diamond-O Corral other than horseback riding outpost?
6. What words has Jerry Sanders spelled in his banquet speeches?
7. Which current staff member (back in '89) joined the Owasippe staff the longest ago?
8. What is the temperature of Food Prep's basement?

Answers
1. 160, as of June 24 2. John Brown and Pat Troy
3. Mike Romcoe, Alex Alphabet, Mark Kraneberg and Duane Thormahlen 4. 17 gallons 5. Downhill skiing
6. SAP, SPIRT 7. John Brown, 1965 (later updated to Terry Horvath, 1959) 8. 95 degrees F

Galloping Grapevine



Correction

Last issue, we mentioned a request for donations to the Steve Schaefer Scholarship fund at Owasippe. In the article, we gave a short summary of Steve's heroic actions saving people from a burning building. To correct what we printed, Steve was not seen outside of the burning building at any time. As far as all reports and statements from the fire marshal determine, he remained inside the building waking up those who were sleeping and helping them escape safely. We apologize for the mistake and any pain it may have caused.

Please send any contributions to the Steve Schaefer Scholarship Fund to the OSA and earmark them for the "Steve Schaefer Fund."

New Eagles

Congratulations to the new class of Eagle Scouts! Quite a few have close ties to Owasippe, and we are very proud. **Paul Janus** of Troop 41 completed his Eagle Board of Review within a few weeks of returning from camp staff last summer. He has camped at Owasippe for five years and was in the CIT class of 2003. **Eric Hassler**, a graduate of the CIT class of 2002 also reached Scouting's highest rank last September. **Matthew Kavanaugh** of the 2003 Camp Wolverine nature staff passed his Board of Review last March... belated congratulations! **Kevin Barry** completed his Eagle Board of Review on November 20, 2003. And **Marcelo Pappas**, brother of Owasippe staffman Tiago and son of OSA member Phil, earned the rank of Eagle Scout as well. We are proud to have each of you as part of the Owasippe family, and we congratulate you on your dedication and accomplishment!

Bob Menard - Crystal Lake, IL

Bob checked in with us, keeping us updated with his ongoing Scout involvement. He is active in the Blackhawk Area Council as Sycamore District Roundtable Commissioner and will be the backup course director for that council's Wood Badge course later this year. This summer, he will make his third trip to the Boundary Waters with two crews. His son received his Vigil in 2002 and is still active in Scouting between semesters at the University of Wisconsin at Platteville. Hey Bob, we look forward to seeing you at upcoming events!

Marc L'Heureux and Jennifer Van Slyke

Congratulations to the happy couple! Marc and Jennifer were recently married. The newlyweds were in attendance at the November pizza night beaming with bright smiles. Both are former Owasippe staffers. Best wishes for a long marriage filled with love and friendship!

Mindy and Dan Kleinfeldt - Chicago, IL

Christmas came early this year for Dan and Mindy with the birth of Isabella Josephine Kleinfeldt on December 3rd. She weighed in at 6 lbs even and was a tall 19-3/4 inches with a full head of black hair! Papa Dan is the Vice President of the OSA and the paternal grandparents are Wally and Patricia Kleinfeldt, longtime Scouters from Indian Trails District on Chicago's Northwest Side. Mom and baby are doing great. Kudos and congrats to the whole family!

PJ Parmar

Former staffman PJ has completed his book, 101 Countries: Discovering the World through Fast Travel. The book jacket starts by describing it this way, "With an inability to sit still, a knack for

handling uncomfortable travel, and a mission to see most of the world with as little time and money as possible, the author embarks on a whirlwind tour of five continents." Check out www.virtualbookworm.com or your favorite bookseller to get your copy for the low price of \$14.95. PJ worked in the outpost program at Owasippe under Tom McLean. Big pat on the back for the hard work, PJ!

Nancy Cihocki - Evergreen Park, IL

Nancy wrote in with some sad news on her family. She worked at Camp Reneker in the late 1980s. She married Tom Kresal in 1999 and adopted 3 sons, Bill, Ben and Brandon. In late 2001, she had twin girls born three months early. Gabrielle passed away of blood poisoning the following day, and Lauren has suffered many illnesses and health problems stemming from her premature birth. She battles every day with cerebral palsy, Bronchial Pulmonary Dysphasia, and Necrotizing Enterocolitis, among many other conditions. Our thoughts and prayers are with the whole family through this ongoing struggle.

Nancy can be reached at KresalNancy@aol.com or 708-857-7896. She would surely appreciate any kind words of support or any contact with her Owasippe family.

The Lauren C. Kresal Fund has been set up to help the family with medical costs. Any contributions to the Lauren C. Kresal fund would be greatly appreciated and are tax deductible. EIN 48-1275900

Lauren C. Kresal Fund

c/o 5/3 Bank

3101 W. 95th Street

Evergreen Park, IL 60805

Sarah Niziol - Chattanooga, TN

Congratulations to Sarah who got engaged in late October to Rob Hall, whom she met working at Miniwanca Education Center, a camp just north of Owasippe. The wedding date is tentatively scheduled for this October and will likely take place in Chattanooga. Rob has a son, Jonah, who is 7 years old, and the couple has two dogs, Einstien and Runt, all three of which keep them busy (aside from work and school and all the other things life includes). Our best wishes to Sarah and Rob as they tie the knot!

Tom Ewan - Bonsall, CA

Tom wrote in to let us know that he and the Rawhide Ranch that he manages escaped the Southern California wildfires with only a close call. Fires came within 10 miles of the ranch, and they hosted 20 horses evacuated from a camp in the area, bringing the herd to 95. Things are calming down again and getting back to normal. Tom welcomes anyone in the Owasippe family to stop by if they are in the area. The former Council Director of Camping loves to hear how the fight to save the camp is going and enjoys hearing how camp folks are doing. Glad to hear everything's alright, Tom!

Two Kempa weddings on tap!

The Kempa family will have lots to celebrate this year. With two weddings planned for the coming months and camp in the middle, there are lots of reasons for family gatherings. Brian Kempa got engaged to Debbie Mottlow over Thanksgiving weekend, and the couple will marry June 18th. Michelle Kempa got engaged last April and, on September 4th, will walk down the aisle with Dr. Edgar Lerma. Congratulations to both couples, and may the wedding bells keep on ringing!

"See You at the End of the Trail"
can be found on page 5.



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
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Orland Park, IL 60462
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
P.O. Box 7097
Westchester, IL 60154



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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

February

- 11 OSA Board Meeting
- 14 Happy St. Valentine's Day!
- 21 Deadline for \$35 Dinner Dance Reservations
- 21 Deadline for OSA Gift Card Fund Raiser

March

- 6 OSA Dinner Dance/Annual Meeting
- 17 Happy St. Patrick's Day!
- 19-20 C.I.T. Shakedown Weekend
- TBA OSA Director's Weekend

April

- 1 Vibrations Copy Deadline
- 14 OSA Board Meeting

May

- 12 OSA Board Meeting
- 21-23 Spring Fix-it

June

- 9 OSA Board Meeting
- 19 Staff Week Begins





You are cordially invited
to an evening of great fellowship, fine food,
good spirits and raffle drawings at the



Owasippe Staff Association's Dinner Dance & Annual Meeting

at European Chalet Banquets
5445 S. Harlem Ave. • Chicago, IL 60638
on March 6, 2004
Doors open at 6:00 p.m.

**Ticket price is \$35 per person (in advance)
and includes a family style dinner with an open bar.**

NOTE: Ticket prices go up to \$45 after February 21st so make your reservations early!

There is limited parking available in the adjacent lot. European Chalet Banquets is located three blocks south of the Stevenson Expressway (Interstate 55) on Harlem Avenue. Midway Airport is only two miles to the east and out-of-town guests can easily find convenient accommodations.

For additional information, call
Candy Merritt at 708-354-9837 or email candymerritt@yahoo.com

REMINDERS: This is an 18 and over event. NO ONE under 21 will be served alcohol.
Responsible drinking and designated drivers are encouraged.

What's a Golden Ticket?

This year we are trying out a "Golden Ticket" system to speed up the check-in process. As mentioned above, each Dinner Dance ticket is \$35 if your reservations are postmarked by February 21st.

A Golden Ticket will be mailed (or confirmed by phone) to all members who have their tickets and membership dues paid for by the February 21 date.

Present your Golden Ticket at the door, receive your ballot(s) and you're set to meet and greet friends!

See reverse for the order form and raffle info!

Dinner Dance Raffle Info.

Drawings to be held at the OSA Dinner Dance/Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 6th.
Winners need not be present. Advance orders **MUST** be postmarked by February 21st.



\$250 CASH
50 tickets will be sold
at \$10 each



Sony
DVD/VCR Combo
50 tickets will be sold
at \$10 each



GT Aggressor 1.0
Mountain Bike
from Rudy's Cycle & Fitness
50 tickets will be sold
at \$10 each



\$250 in Gift Cards
from Home Depot
50 tickets will be sold
at \$10 each

Tickets quantities are limited, first come-first served.
Refunds will be made if prizes sell out before we receive your order.
Drawing will be converted to a cash prize if enough tickets aren't sold for a particular item.

OSA Dinner Dance & Raffle Order Form

Name(s): _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

e-mail: _____

Item	Qty.	Price	Subtotal
<input type="checkbox"/> Dinner Dance Tickets		x \$35	
<input type="checkbox"/> Membership Dues Renewal		x \$15	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sony DVD/VCR Combo (raffle)		x \$10	
<input type="checkbox"/> GT Mountain Bike (raffle)		x \$10	
<input type="checkbox"/> Home Depot Gift Cards (raffle)		x \$10	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$250 CASH Prize (raffle)		x \$10	

Enclose a check payable to the OSA in the amount of:



Mail to:
The Owasippe Staff Association
c/o Dinner Dance
P.O. Box 7097
Westchester, IL 60154



Gift Card Fundraiser

Deadline:

Gift card orders must be postmarked by February 21st. Orders received after the cut-off date will be returned because the cards must be ordered all at once.

**Send checks only (no cash)
& make them payable to the OSA**

Mail entire form and check to:

Tricia Monahan
13606 Arrowhead Ct.
Orland Park, IL 60462

Questions?

Contact Tricia Monahan at
sailor0011@yahoo.com
or 708-403-4506

Please note:

Gift card denominations can change without notice. Orders must be made in multiples of the card amount. On rare occasions, gift cards become unavailable or are discontinued.

Pick Up or Shipping:

You can pick up your order (free of charge) at the upcoming Dinner Dance on March 6th. If you choose to have your gift cards shipped to you, we will only send them via insured mail (see fee chart below) because it is essentially the same as mailing cash.

Total Order	S&H Fee
\$1-\$100	\$3
\$101-\$200	\$4
\$201-\$300	\$5
\$301-\$400	\$6
etc.	

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

e-mail: _____

Amount ordered: \$ _____

Shipping (if applicable): \$ _____

Total amount enclosed: \$ _____

***** Vendors with Multiple Retail Brands *******Lettuce Entertain You Restaurants**

Ambria
Antico Posto
Ben Pao
Brasserie Jo
Café Ba-Ba Reeba
Cajun Kitchen
Chicago Flat Sammies
Don & Charlie's
Eiffel Tower
Joe's Seafood, Prime Steak
Everest
Foodlife
L. Woods Tap & Pine Lodge
Maggiano's
Magic Pan Crepe Stand
Mity Nice Grill
Mon Ami Gabi
National 27
Papagus Greek Taverna
Petterino's
R.J. Grunts
Scoози
Shaw's Crabhouse
Tru
Tucchetti
Tucci Bennucch
Twin City Grill
Vong's Thai Kitchen
Wildfire
Wow Bao

Houlihans

Braxton Bar and Grill
Bristol Bar and Grill
Charley's Place
Chequers
Darryls
Phineas

Chilis

Big Bowl
Cozymels
Macaroni Grill
On the Border

Service Master

Tru Green Chemlawn
Terminex Pest Control
American Residential Ser.
Merry Maids
Furniture Medic
AmeriSpec
Home Inspection Service
American Home Shield
Service Master Clean
Rescue Rooter

Lowes Theaters

Cineplex Odeon Theatres
Lowes Cineplex Imax Theatres
Magic Johnson Theatres
Star Theatres

Joe's Crabshack

Kemah Boardwalk
Rain Forest Café
The Crab House
Willie G's

Marriot

Courtyard
Fairfield Inn
Renaissance
Residence Inn
Spring Hill Suites
Towne Place Suites

OSA Gift Card Fundraiser

Vendor	% to OSA	Card Price	Qty.	Total \$
Grocery Stores				
Dominicks	4%	\$20		
Jewel/Osco	4%	\$20		
Cub Foods	2%	\$20		
Ultra/Strack & Van Til	2%	\$20		
Sara Lee Outlets	13%	\$10		
CVS Pharmacy	2%	\$10		
Restaurants				
Lettuce Entertain You***	13%	\$25		
Applebee's	8%	\$10		
Baskin Robins	9%	\$2		
Bennigans	10%	\$25		
Boston Market	8%	\$10		
Buca Di Beppo	8%	\$25		
Buona Beef	8%	\$10		
Burger King	4%	\$5		
Chilis***	9%	\$10		
Cracker Barrel	9%	\$10		
Domino's Pizza	3%	\$5		
Edwardo's Pizza	9%	\$10		
Egg Harbor Café	4%	\$15		
Fuddruckers	8%	\$10		
Gino's East	9%	\$10		
Giordano's Pizza	9%	\$10		
Great American Bagel	8%	\$5		
Honey Baked Ham	9%	\$20		
Houlihans***	8%	\$10		
Joe's Crabshack***	9%	\$10		
Kentucky Fried Chicken	9%	\$5		
Max & Ermas	18%	\$10		
Mrs. Fields Cookies	18%	\$5		
Olive Garden	8%	\$10		
Panera Bread	4%	\$5		
Pizza Hut	9%	\$10		
Pretzel Time	18%	\$10		
Red Lobster	8%	\$10		
Starbucks	5%	\$10		
Sweet Tomatoes	13%	\$10		
TGIFridays	8%	\$10		
Wendy's	10%	\$25		
Retail				
American Eagle	9%	\$25		
Barnes & Noble	9%	\$10		
Bath & Body Works	14%	\$10		
Bed Bath & Beyond	6%	\$25		
Best Buy	2%	\$20		
Borders Books	8%	\$10		

*** See reverse for more info.

Vendor	% to OSA	Card Price	Qty.	Total \$
Retail Cont.				
Carson Pirie Scott	2%	\$25		
Circuit City	2%	\$25		
Claire's	7%	\$10		
Crate and Barrel	5%	\$20		
Dennis Uniform	5%	\$20		
Eddie Bauer	8%	\$25		
Express/Express for Men	13%	\$20		
Footlocker	9%	\$25		
Galyans	8%	\$20		
Gap	9%	\$20		
Hair Cuttery	8%	\$10		
Home Depot	2%	\$25		
JCPenney	5%	\$25		
Joann Fabric	5%	\$20		
KB Toys	9%	\$10		
Kmart	2%	\$25		
Lands End	8%	\$25		
Linens & Things	8%	\$25		
Menards	3%	\$25		
Office Max	4%	\$25		
Old Navy	9%	\$20		
Paradise of Shoes	10%	\$10		
Payless Shoe Source	10%	\$10		
Pier One	5%	\$10		
Sears	3%	\$25		
Sharper Image	13%	\$25		
Sports Authority	8%	\$10		
TJ Maxx	6%	\$25		
Toys R Us	3%	\$20		
Ulta Cosmetics	4%	\$10		
William Sonoma	8%	\$25		
Service Master***	9%	\$25		
Gas & Oil Change				
Citgo Gas	2%	\$50		
ExxonGas/Mobil	2%	\$50		
Gas City	2%	\$10		
Shell	2%	\$25		
Speedway Gas	4%	\$25		
Jiffy Lube	13%	\$30		
Video Rental				
Blockbuster Video	7%	\$10		
Hollywood Video	13%	\$5		
Movie Theaters				
Lowes***	13%	\$25		
Hotels				
Marriot***	13%	\$25		
Hyatt	8%	\$25		

NOTE: You must fill out both sides of this form completely and send in the whole form!