



The Newsletter for the Members of the Owasippe Staff Association

Vibrations

2009, Volume 31, Issue 2

31st Dinner Dance = Good Times

by Susan Derby, OSA Member

The Annual Meeting and Dinner Dance was another great success for the OSA. We had an excellent number and variety of OSA members attend the event, and the entire evening went off without a hitch.

We celebrated the OSA's 31st birthday at European Chalet Banquets, where we dined, danced, voted, held the annual meeting, and raffled off some fantastic prizes. In one of the fastest and most efficient meetings in OSA history, emcee Bill Van Berschot kept the evening's program portion moving and got everyone to the social time shortly after the end of dinner.

The OSA membership elected Ron Kulak, Candy Merritt and incumbent Bill Van Berschot to the Board. As 2008 was the last year of Tricia Groben's term, she stepped down as president with a speech recapping the OSA's accomplishments during her term. Bill Van Berschot takes over as president, with Tim Toerber as vice president, Candy Merritt as secretary, and Bob Pagels continuing as treasurer. With the departing of Hans Anderson from the board, the new membership chairman will be Andy Lukasiewicz.

Andy introduced the 2008 Member of the Year, Scott Oomens, and highlighted all his work and generous donations to the organization during his decade-long membership thus far. Scott has been the resident HVAC specialist during many fix-its, sometimes fixing the Reneker water heaters in time for the rest of our volunteers to take hot showers after the long day of work. Congratulations to Scott on the recognition of

his dedication and work.

Don Studaven went home with the Nintendo Wii raffle prize, and Caitlin Boline scored the ultimate split-the-pot jackpot. Caitlin promptly turned around and spent a large chunk of her winnings on an OSA Life Membership! Congratulations to them both as well as all the silent auction prize winners. The silent auction boasted some fabulous prizes including a B&B weekend in Whitehall at the White Swan, a full set of mounted Owasippe trail markers, canvas-printed photos from the Jeff Juszcak collection, a weekend stay at a lakefront hotel suite, and lots more. The table was packed with tempting packages, thanks to all the donations from OSA members!

Among the attendees were Blue Lake Township Supervisor Don Studaven, OOEC Chairman Joe Sener, CAC Scout Executive Chuck Dobbins and CAC Director of Camping Chris Townsend. Long-distance travelers included Rob and Sarah (Nizio) Hall, who came up from Tennessee, and Heidi Schlichting, who flew in from California for the event. Bill Tenner was the DJ for the evening, and there was a lot of time to socialize and catch up with friends.

Thanks to everyone for attending and to all who supported the OSA through raffle ticket purchases, silent auction donations, and other means! We would also like to thank everyone who participated in the ad book. Visit the home page at www.Owasippe.com to see all of this year's ad book advertisers! ♣

Owasippe Task Force Formed and Seeking Input

*by Tricia Groben,
OSA Member*

An OSR task force has been created by the Chicago Area Council. Tom McDonough, the chairman of the camping committee, will also be the chairman of this task force. The mission of the OSR task force is to make recommendations to the council about the future of Owasippe and its property. Currently, the task force is looking at the usage of Owasippe, seasonal and year-round, and brainstorming ideas to better market Owasippe. I am on this committee as a representative of the OSA. OSA Board member Michelle O'Connor is also on this committee. If you have any input you would like me to bring to the group, please e-mail me at tricia.groben@gmail.com.

The committee is made up of about 24 people and has been asked to provide its summary recommendations by the middle of this summer. The task force is tackling a huge

range of topics, from determining what new programs may be added to attract troops to camp and setting a "right-sized" Owasippe if some of the land is deemed to be unneeded, to determining if off-season use could be established and expanded. The task force is first looking at past camping statistics and future projections of demographics to determine what Scouts are most interested in when selecting a summer camp.

The task force is collecting input from everyone on these issues. A full list of committee members is available from the CAC website (www.chicagobsa.org and look for "OSR Task Force Committee in the left column). Share your input! This is a chance to let the committee hear your suggestions and desires for the future of Owasippe! ♣

President's Perspective

by Bill Van Berschot, OSA President

Back when I began my membership in the OSA at the age of 18 (which in dinosaur years was... yesterday), I remember thinking that the OSA was an incredible organization; and the free pizza didn't hurt either. I am proud and honored to step into the roll of President of the OSA and to serve its membership, for whom I have tremendous admiration.



I thank both our membership and the Board for their confidence, and I promise that I will do my very best to reach the bar that has been set by our past presidents.

This particular period marks an interesting chapter for both the OSA and the CAC. We all know the issues at hand. I feel that we are finally at a point where our common goals of excellence in programming, betterment of facilities, increased staff development and training, and providing the best outdoor programming available to today's youth are attainable, together. Yes, it has been a difficult road. However we have never lost sight of the fact that our mission is twofold: first, to provide service to the camp; and second, provide fellowship to attain that goal, and for that I am proud to be an OSA member.

As we enter into a new and better relationship with CAC, I am excited about the many possibilities and opportunities to improve Owaspice that are currently unfolding and the ways in which the OSA will be instrumental in that process. In the near future, the Board will be reaching out to each and every one you for your input, support and dedication, something I have no doubt that we will receive.

Recently, post Dinner Dance, we convened as a new board with the privilege of our past board being present for an all-day meeting to discuss our future, plan for our fiscal year, and discuss how to best utilize the resources of the OSA. It was a great meeting, and we have great aspirations for the times ahead. It was also a time of change, and there are a few things I would like to say:

As Hans leaves the Board, he enters into the respected lore of the ancients, of those who have gone before, of the age of... the dinosaur. Thank you, Hans, for all of your dedication, and as a former Board Member, we expect to see you volunteering at every event!

Tricia set a new milestone for the OSA when she became our first female president! She is an incredible asset to our organization in more ways than one. I can only hope to fill her shoes with my size-11 hiking boot. Thank you, Tricia, on behalf of our membership and the Board. You have done an outstanding job as President, and we look forward to your continued support!

Our newest Board Members bring experience, vitality and a passion to the board, and we are lucky that they are familiar with their commitment as they have each served on the Board in the past. I cannot say enough good things about Ron Kulak and Candy Merritt, and it is fantastic to have them on the Board again.

Lastly, I would like to ask everyone to please keep your email and street address updated so that we can send you the latest OSA information. Thank you for your support! ♣

Gift Card Orders... 5/2

by Tricia Groben,
OSA Member

The March shopping/gift card order raised \$208.75 for the OSA. Thank you to all who participated! The next shopping/gift card order must be postmarked by May 2nd. The cards will be available for pick up at the Spring Fix-it on May 16th. Gift cards will be here just in time to celebrate graduations and Father's Day. You can also use cards from Dominick's, Jewel, Sam's Club and Walmart to stock up on food and supplies for summer tailgating and camping. Michelle O'Connor suggests using these shopping cards to budget grocery money. She says this works especially well if you have a roommate or kids. Look for the enclosed gift card form, and get your order in today! ♣

Blast from the Past

by Ron Kulak,
OSA Board Member

This photo was provided by Bill Schaefer Sr. out of his archives. The Galleon was a place that the infamous "roll call" moved to after the Village Inn stopped accommodating the Owaspice staff back then. It had good



sandwiches and a terrific view of White Lake. The Galleon was located in close proximity to the White Lake Lighthouse. When Bill Lotter was still on staff, we utilized a banquet hall above the bar for an enlarged roll call at the end of the summer after closing banquet. It was an awesome place as many will attest to. It's now a condo resort as far as I know. ♣

Editor's Note: Thanks to Bill Schaefer Sr. for sharing this photo and to Ron Kulak for passing it along. Bill also told an amazing story at a recent social event about the time a certain well-known band played at camp. We're looking forward to getting all the details from Bill about that and printing it in an upcoming issue. Stay tuned!

OSA Membership Corner

presented by Andy Lukasiewicz - OSA Board Member

New Life Members:

Catlin Boline
Eric Gebhardt
Steve Henclewski
Ken Van Der Griend

New Members:

Diane Brady
Brian Dowling
Steven R Kantorski
Chris Townsend

Owasippe Love

by Andy Lukasiewicz, OSA Board Member

Everyone loves Owasippe, and some of us have found love at Owasippe. My name is Andrew Lukasiewicz and I met my wife, Chrissy Benedetto, at Ad Center in 1998. Who would have thought that after 10 years of friendship, we would decide to get married?

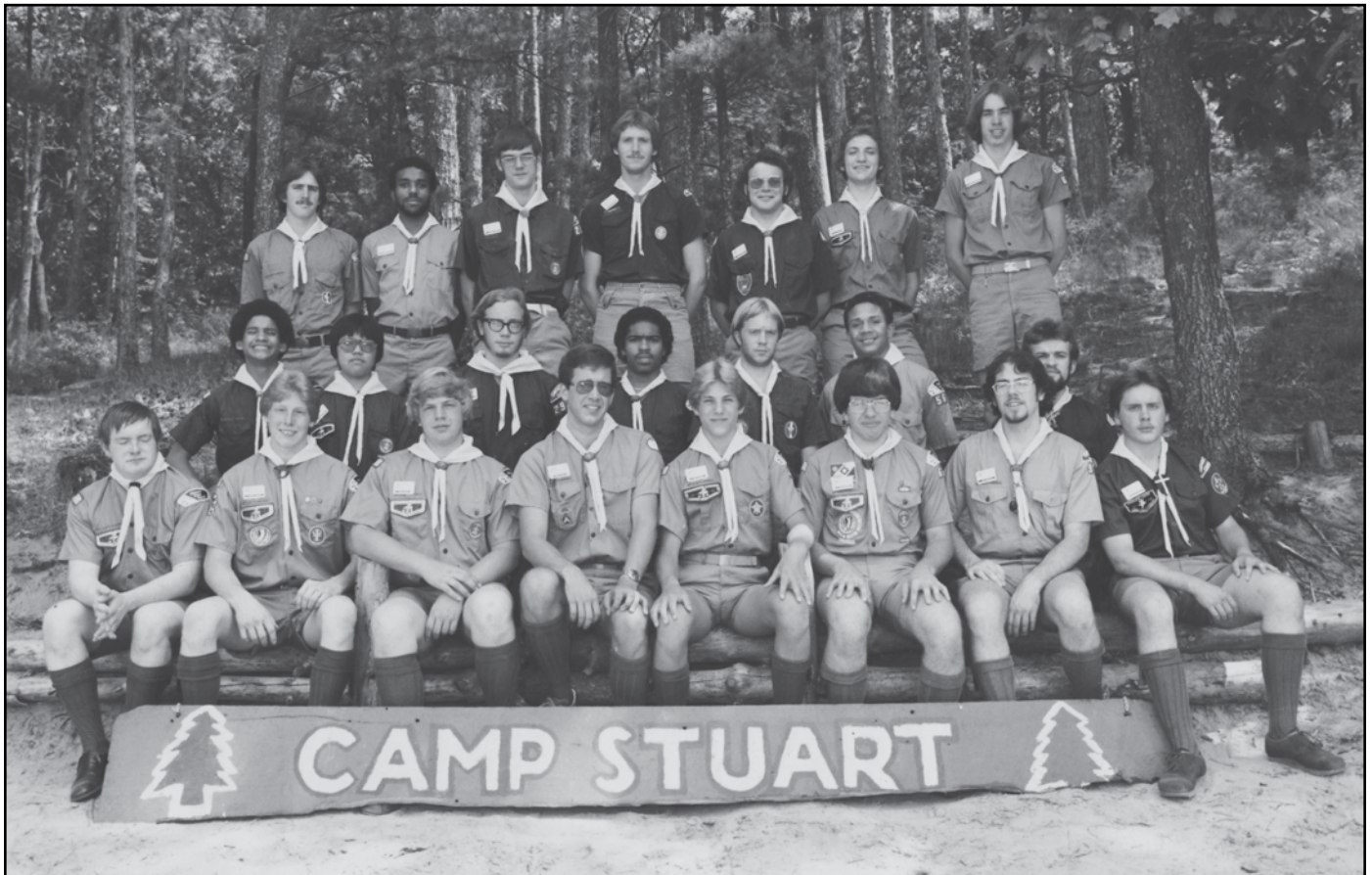
We worked at rival camps for most of our camp years. We worked together in 2001 and started dating in 2003. We have many memories at camp from our first date at Pekadill's to gathering sand from all the camps for a sand ceremony at our wedding. We have been married for two years and now reside in Berwyn.

We are by no means the only couple to have met at camp, and that is what I am interested in hearing about. If you are interested in sharing your love story, please send a short message with your maiden names, the year you and your significant other met, and how many years you have been married to me at relievestress@yahoo.com. It would be great to have a photo as well that we can include in the newsletter. I will have a follow up article that will share your tale with the rest of our organization. ♣



Super Camp Stuart Staff '78

Photo sent in by OSA Member Mike Bachman



NOTE: We have started a "Staffs of the Past" picture page located in the "Picture Archives" section of www.owasippe.com. We need your help to fill it up! So please scan those old staff photos (full size) into 72 dpi JPGs and e-mail them to vibrations@owasippe.com.

PS - So far, response to this effort has been great. Look for photo submissions from Bill Hoppe, Ron Kulak, Walt Weber and (more from) Mike Bachman in upcoming issues. Keep those old photos coming in!

Upcoming Events

the 2009 Spring Fix-it

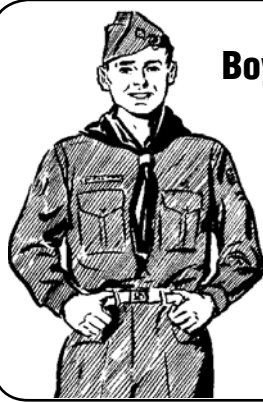
Our primary project will be painting Reneker cabins, Adopt-A-Road Crew and getting Owasippe ready to open. Other projects may include roofing, carpentry, and more. Don't forget to bring a trunkload of tools for various projects!

May 15-17

PLEASE NOTE:

- All persons under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.
- Alcohol is strictly prohibited on Owasippe property.

Round up some friends & contact **Tim Toerber** at **312-545-6320** or **timothytoerberiii@hotmail.com** to reserve your spot today!



Calumet Council's 20th Annual Boy Scout Memorabilia Show & Swap Meet!

Memorial Day Weekend
 Friday May 22, 2009 • 6:00 p.m. - ???
 Saturday May 23, 2009 • 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

St. Christopher's Church Gym
 147th (Sibley Blvd.) & Keeler - Midlothian, IL

More Details
 General Admission - \$1.50 - Scouts in uniform - Free
 Refreshments Available... Lunch & Soft Drinks

Buy, Sell, Trade, Browse!



the Pub Crawl

Saturday, June 6th starting at 7:00 p.m.



NEW LOCATION!
 Chicago's Beverly Neighborhood
 (60643)

on Western Ave.
 between
 103rd & 107th

must be 21 or older to attend

- 7:00-7:45**
Sean's Rhino Bar & Grill
 10330 S. Western Ave.
- 8:00-8:45**
Keegan's Pub
 10618 S. Western Ave.
- 9:00-9:45**
Dinger's Sports Bar
 10638 S. Western Ave.
- 10:00-?**
Cork & Kerry
 10614 S. Western Ave.

There will be beverage specials as well as raffles!
 Pizza will be served at Cork & Kerry... and we are asking for a \$5 donation to cover Crawl costs.
 Pub crawl t-shirts are available for \$20 (which includes \$5 admission) and must be ordered in advance using the order form below.
 Questions: contact **Michelle O'Connor** at **michelle.oconnor@gmail.com**

OSA Pub Crawl T-shirt Order Form

- \$20 price includes \$5 Pub Crawl admission.
- T-shirts orders must be in by May 16th


Size	S	M	L	XL	XXL	3XL	4XL	5XL	Total
Qty									

Name: _____
 Phone: _____
 e-mail: _____

Enclose a check payable to the Owasippe Staff Association in the amount of:

x \$20

Mail to: **Andy Lukasiewicz (OSA)**
 3213 Ridgeland Ave.
 Berwyn, IL 60402





Visit www.Owasippe.com to see these and many more (full color) photos!

Galloping Grapevine



Joe Alonso ~ Woodridge, IL

Joe has recently been appointed as one of two Regional Property Managers for the newly formed Girl Scouts of Greater Chicago and Northwest Indiana. The newly formed council is the result of the consolidation of seven other councils and is now the largest in the U.S. He'll be overseeing the management of 7 camps and 4 service centers. He says he's looking forward to working with a great group of staff. "And to think all this after my first camp experience (at Owasippe nonetheless) was a classic case in homesickness." Glad you overcame it, Joe, and congratulations on the new position!

Caitlin Boline ~ Chicago, IL

Congratulations to Caitlin, who was crowned the 2009 Gaelic Park St. Patrick's Day Queen. She officiated at a number of events in the weeks leading up to St. Patrick's Day. She was even part of the host committee, welcoming officials from County Cork. Caitlin beat out the competition for the honor of being the queen, but she won't tell us if there was a talent portion as part of the competition. Congrats, your highness!



Andy and Kelly Gorz ~ North Dakota

We're so happy to announce the arrival of Zoey Elizabeth Gorz! The little bundle of joy arrived on March 4th at 7:57 p.m. She was a healthy 8 lbs. 8 oz. and 20.5 inches long! This is Andy and Kelly's first baby, and she is absolutely adorable. We're hoping they all remained safe in the flooding that hit North Dakota in April and that they are having a great time getting to know their little girl. Congrats to the happy family!

The Rychtaneks ~ Elgin, IL

We've gotten word of two important events in the Rychtanek household. First, Vince headed out to Arizona with the family to visit his mother. While out there, he had a chance to visit with Scott Weber. Scott said it was great to see a familiar face and that he'd like to come back to our area for a visit sometime. The other big event is that Rachel Rychtanek has accepted an appointment with the Coast Guard Academy. She heads out on June 29th to begin the rigorous school, located in Connecticut. We wish her the best in the exciting opportunity!

Bob Ward ~ Chicago, IL

Bob was (deservedly) recognized by his troop, Troop 475, for his decades of service to Scouting. With a Scouting career starting in 1968, Bob has served in numerous capacities, including his years on Owasippe staff. The surprise dinner was held in February, and Bob was given a book the Troop assembled of well-wishers, personal notes, and memories from Bob's Scouting past. We add our humble thanks to Bob for all he has done for Scouting and the many lives he has touched.



See You at the End of the Trail

Grace O'Connor

Grace, mother of Mike and the late Larry O'Connor and grandmother of Michelle and Christy, passed away in late March. She was 88 years old. Grace was a veteran of WWII, serving in the Navy. Our thoughts and prayers are with the O'Connor family.

News & Notes

Caboose to Become Railroad Museum

That little red caboose that's parked at the White Lake Chamber of Commerce is about to become a railroad museum. A chamber board member is gathering authentic railroad items and is hoping to restore the inside to show how it would have been during normal railroad use. The Wolverine staff volunteered to paint the caboose a few summers ago as a community outreach project. Now that it has a fresh coat on the outside, donated items will hopefully adorn the inside. The chamber building is the old railroad depot, left unneeded when the railroad running through Whitehall was pulled out. The Muskegon Railroad Historical Society has helped in identifying the serial number for the caboose (C&O 90702) and followed up with historians who are helping to provide a history of the car and an accurate description for restoration.

Scouts Twitter Together

Bill Vannerson highlighted some new ways the National Council BSA is using technology. Not only does the BSA have its own Facebook page, but now it's got a Twitter feed (<http://twitter.com/boyscouts>) that started in March. This is part of the National Council's efforts to bring Scouting into the daily lives of its members and leverage technology into a more active membership. Bill says, "I think these initiatives are great and they are in the right direction. However, most of the contact is still geared towards leaders. There's still not much on the web to draw youth to the sites. Still, I am very impressed with the direction and speed with which BSA has implemented its new vision. It will be interesting and encouraging to see what they do next."

Two Courses Offered at Owasippe

The CAC is offering two courses at Owasippe Aug. 9-15. National Youth Leadership Training is aimed at senior patrol leaders and patrol leaders, but can be valuable for any older Scout. It integrates activities, presentations, challenges, discussions, and audio-visual support to help participants become better leaders. The CAC is also offering Woodbadge, known worldwide as the premier training course for Scouters. It is for Scout Leaders of all programs and will teach skills that will help you become a more effective leader. The skills learned also transfer to business and life. More information is available at the council service center and on their website, www.chicagobsa.org.

Keeping Up With the Council

After the tragic death of J. Stephen Fossett in a plane crash, his foundation has presented the council with a gift of \$1 million. CAC Scout Executive Chuck Dobbins and Council President Mike Hughes met with Mrs. Peggy Fossett in February to thank her for the gift, and they determined that the council will rename the Service Center the J. Stephen Fossett Center for Scouting in the near future. Fossett was a long-time board member of the CAC and was on the National BSA Board and President of the National Eagle Scout Association. In the 1980s, he was instrumental in funding the creation of the Sailing Base at Camp Blackhawk that bears his name.

Also, the CAC has named the members of its 2009 Board Nominating Committee. Nominations can be sent to the council office. They ask that you include the person's name, contact information and a brief history outlining their qualifications for a possible position on the slate in the future. The members of the nominating committee can be found on the CAC website.

Hey! Are your OSA dues up to date?

Membership dues cover a variety of operational expenses including but not limited to... insurance premiums, mailings, state & federal fees, accounting fees, printing costs, etc.

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

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

Owasippe Staff Association
2009
Board of Directors

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& Fix-its Chair**

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773-718-1524

Edgar Wolff-Klammer
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Skokie, IL 60076
847-677-1688



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 OSAs 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 Membership
P.O. Box 7097
Westchester, IL 60154

New Member \$20 _____

Renewal \$15 _____

Lifetime \$350 _____

Visit the OSA online at www.owasippe.com

The Owasippe Staff Association
P.O. Box 7097
Westchester, IL 60154



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.

Articles, tidbits, photos and artwork are encouraged. E-mail all such materials to: **vibrations@owasippe.com**. Submissions can also be made by mail to: **OSA 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.

Deadlines for submitting materials for publication are as follows:

- Spring (Issue 1) January 15
- Summer (Issue 2) April 1
- Fall (Issue 3) August 7
- Winter (Issue 4) October 15

Dates of Interest to OSA Members

May

- 2.....Gift Card Order Deadline
- 15-17OSA Spring Fix-it
- 22-2320th Annual Calumet Council Swap Meet
- 22-25Owasippe Lodge OA Spring Fellowship
- 25.....Memorial Day (observed)

June

- 6.....OSA Pub Crawl
- 20.....Staff Week Begins
- 28.....1st Day of Owasippe's 98th Summer!

July

- 4.....Independence Day

August

- 7.....Vibrations Copy Deadline
- 8.....Last Day of Camp
- 16.....OSA Family Picnic (FREE EVENT)

Join the OSA's
group on...



Visit www.owasippe.com
for more information.





Shopping/Gift Card Fundraiser

Deadline:

Shopping/Gift card orders must be **postmarked** by May 2nd. 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
Owasippe Staff Association**

Mail entire form and check to:

Tricia Groben
1044 Ontario, #2D
Oak Park, IL 60302

Questions?

Contact Tricia Groben at
tricia.groben@gmail.com
or 708-334-1100

Please note:

Shopping/Gift card denominations can change without notice. Orders must be made in multiples of the card amount. On rare occasions, cards become unavailable or are discontinued. If this occurs, we will refund your money.

Pick Up or Shipping:

You can pick up your order (free of charge) at the upcoming OSA Spring Fix-it on May 16th.

Please note: If you choose to have your cards shipped to you, we will send them via Priority Mail with delivery confirmation.

Unfortunately the USPS will NOT insure gift cards through the mail. That being said, Priority Mail with delivery confirmation is still a very safe way to send the cards, and it's a flat fee of \$4.80 no matter what!

*Thank you to the people who ordered gift cards in February.
The February gift card order raised \$208 for OSA programs!*



See order form on reverse side and thank you for supporting the OSA!



Use cards for your own shopping or to give as gifts!

Perfect for employees, co-workers, teachers, teenagers and any other hard-to-shop-for people.

Name:		
Phone:		
Address:		
Vendor	Qty.	Total \$
Groceries		
Dominick's \$25		
Jewel \$25		
Jewel \$100		
Walgreens \$25		
Car & Travel		
Amoco \$50		
BP Gas \$50		
Delta Sonic Car Wash \$16		
Gas City \$50		
Jiffy Lube \$25		
Marriott \$50		
Mobil \$50		
Shell \$25		
Speedway Gas \$25		
Restaurants, Coffee & Fast Food		
Applebees \$10		
Burger King \$10		
Caribou Coffee \$10		
Chili's \$25		
Chipotle Mexican Grill \$10		
Cold Stone Creamery \$10		
Dunkin Donuts \$10		
Lettuce Entertain You \$25		
Max and Ermas \$25		
Olive Garden / Red Lobster \$25		
Outback Steakhouse \$25		
Panera Bread \$10		

Restaurants, Coffee & Fast Food (cont.)		
Pizza Hut \$10		
Starbucks \$10		
Wendy's \$10		
Retail		
Amazon.com \$25		
American Eagle \$25		
Barnes and Noble \$10		
Bath and Body Works \$10		
Bed Bath and Beyond \$25		
Best Buy \$25		
Borders \$10		
Carson Pirie Scott \$25		
Dick's Sporting Goods \$25		
Eddie Bauer \$25		
Express \$20		
Fannie May \$20		
Game Stop \$25		
Home Depot \$25		
Kohls \$25		
Lowe's Home Improvement \$25		
Macy's \$25		
Old Navy / Gap \$ 25		
Sam's Club / Walmart \$25		
Toys R Us \$20		
Ulta Cosmetics \$25		
Entertainment		
AMC Movie Theaters \$25		
Blockbuster Video \$10		
Classic Cinemas \$10		
Checkout		
Total Amount Ordered		
+ Shipping (\$4.80 if applicable)		
Total Amount Enclosed		