



The Newsletter for the Members of the Owasippe Staff Association

Vibrations

2009, Volume 31, Issue 3

New CAC Board Elected

by Susan Derby, OSA Member

After countless rejections over the past seven years, the slate of nominations to the Chicago Area Council Board was finally approved by the voting membership. On June 22, the Annual Meeting and Board Election was reconvened, with about 60 CORs and Scouters gathering to vote. All five slates of nominees was approved by hefty majorities.

Leading up to the election, there was much talk encouraging both sides of the election. While some felt enough concessions as to the members of the slate were made that they could be approved, others sought more changes and specific persons to be included or excluded from council governance.

The major change in the CAC board is Glen Emig replacing Mike Hughes as council president. Emig, a member of the Scouter 11 group that brought suit (and won in court)

against the council in 2007 over irregular governance, wasted no time in working on key issues. Just one month after his election, Emig convened a board meeting addressing the CAC bylaw stating a board will remain in place until the next Annual Meeting should the nominations slate fail two times. Also on Emig's "to-do" list is a full review/revision of the CAC bylaws, the official hiring of Chuck Dobbins as official Scout Executive (he is currently interim S.E. appointed by National), and a full financial review of the council's books.

Upon the successful election in June, the National Council of the BSA restored the charter of the CAC, which had been in receivership. The Member-At-Large slate was greatly expanded to include many frontline Scouters including OSA President Bill Van Berschot, OOEC Chairman Joe Sener, and Bill and Rita Egan. ♣

Owasippe 100 Approaching

If you were at camp this summer, you may have spotted some bold, simple banners of the Chief Owasippe icon surrounded by stars – 100 stars to be exact. It was the first step in creating anticipation for the huge celebration of 100 years of Owasippe, which will happen in 2011.



Owasippe is just one year younger than the Boy Scouts of America, which is celebrating its centennial next year. As the oldest continuously operating Scout camp in America, Owasippe truly has much to celebrate and commemorate. The Owasippe 100 committee, headed by Joe Sener, has already begun work planning events, giveaways, special guests, and camp-wide celebrations for Owasippe's 100th year.

So what do you get a camp that is celebrating such a huge birthday milestone? Tell us your ideas on the OSA guestbook at www.owasippe.com. ♣

Guests Aim High at COPE

The Owasippe Outdoor Education Center, in its ongoing partnership with the Rosa and Raymond Parks Institute for Self Development, worked with the CAC to put 17 participants of the Rosa Parks Pathways to Freedom program through the High COPE course at Owasippe. After all the campers and most of the staff had gone home for the summer, some members of the COPE staff stayed an extra day to belay the program students through one of the highlights of their three-week program. The OOEC picked up the tab for staff salaries for the event and organized the partnership.

The Pathways to Freedom program encourages junior high and high school students to work hard in school, in their community and in themselves to develop into strong leaders. The COPE course was a component teaching confidence, patience, teamwork and encouragement. The students graduated from the program Aug. 14 at Muskegon Heights High School. Rosa Parks founded the organization after a lifetime of civil rights activism stemming from her defiance on a bus in Montgomery, Alabama, in 1955. ♣

Financial Support Still Needed

The fight to save Owasippe is far from over. Visit www.ooec.org for donation info.



President's Perspective

by Bill Van Berschot, OSA President

Now that the 98th camping season has drawn to a close, the planning has already begun for the 99th season as well as the centennial celebration. I see a bright future for Owasippe. This is a wonderful opportunity to mend some damaged relationships and refocus money and effort on the successful operation of both the property and programming. Because of the dedication of our members and their commitment to the Scouting program, Owasippe has remained open and continues to be both the oldest Scout Camp in the United States (no matter what those New Yorkers say!) and the longest continually operating Scout Camp in the world!



In the past we have been at odds with the CAC over the sale of the property, but never over the mission of Scouting. As we now see a shift in energy on behalf of the Council from selling the property to maintaining Owasippe's ecological footprint, I think that this has truly opened the doors of communication. There are now many opportunities for desperately needed infrastructure improvements, new programming and forward-thinking repairs that are part of an evolving plan to turn Owasippe into a "Premiere Scout Camp." In the upcoming months, I look forward to working with the council on these developing ideas and to represent, along with the OSA board, our organization as they take shape.

If you have not had the opportunity to visit camp as much as you would like, please come and join us at the Fix-It September 18th-20th. As you know, our commitment to service is paramount to our organization, and there is no better way to express that than through the dedication of time while enjoying the fellowship of the OSA. ♣

Fall Fix-It Around the Corner

Get ready for a weekend at camp, Sept. 18-20, filled with a day of volunteering and lots of great food and conversation. And the great news is that we finished painting all the Reneker cabins during the spring Fix-It, so we're moving on to some new tasks to help button up camp for winter and improve the facilities.

We'll have the usual road crew work, but lots of other projects are on the table. Gather up a few friends. Contact Tim Toerber at (312) 545-6320 or at timothytoerberiii@hotmail.com to let him know you're coming and reserve a cabin. With Owasippe's 100th birthday coming up fairly soon, we've got to roll up our sleeves and start getting the place ready! ♣

Join the OSA's
group on...



Visit www.owasippe.com
for more information.

Micro Mich

by Andy Lukasiewicz, OSA Board Member

Many of you know of the abundant wineries nestled along the roads to our favorite camp, but did you know that Holland has a brewery? Micro breweries have become the new trend in beer, and Michigan is no stranger to breweries. The New Holland Brewing Company is located at 66 E. 8th St. in Holland, Michigan. The pub has food and many craft beers as well as distilling their own spirits. You can check them out online at www.newhollandbrew.com.

So on your way up to camp, why not spend a night in Holland and have a craft beer or sprit? A leisurely stop will make your drive more relaxing and will give you a chance to explore Holland's charming downtown area.

You can also stop at another favorite, Old Boys Brewery in Spring Lake. Just take the exit north of the Grand Haven drawbridge, head east toward Spring Lake, take the first left and then another immediate left. It's across the street from the Holiday Inn, and they have an excellent outdoor seating area right along the canal. Sip a sudsy beer, snack on a meal or appetizer, and watch the boats go by. You can check them out online at www.old-boys.net ♣

Editor's Note: Founders Brewing in Grand Rapids also has excellent beer and grub. Check them out online at www.foundersbrewing.com. Another good one is Jamesport Brewing Company in Ludington. Check them out online at www.jamesportbrewingcompany.com.

2009 Owasippe Staff Members of the Year

Camp Blackhawk	Alex Lohse Russell England (under 18)
High Adventure	Geoff Gawne
Camp Reneker	Rachel Weber
Camp Wolverine	Nick Johnson Kyle Griffin (under 18)

Congratulations on a job well done!

OSA Membership Corner

presented by Andy Lukasiewicz - OSA Board Member

New Life Members:

Katie Heffernan

New Members:

Eric Hetland

Nick Johnson

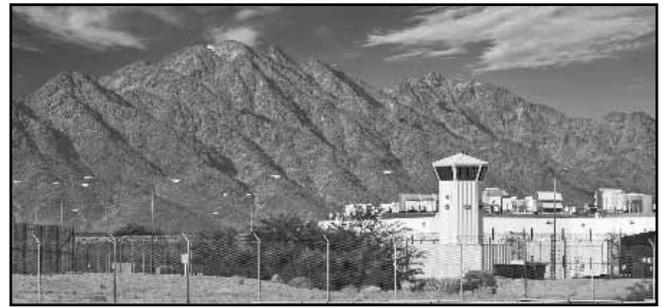
Letter from a Past Scout

Sent to Ron Kulak by John Salazar

Hello. The reason that I am writing this email to you is because I am a past Boy Scout of the Chicago Council. I grew up in the Northeast side of Chicago in the 1970s. I did manage to go to Owasippe in August of 1976. The week-long trip still stands out as one of the most memorable times during my young life for sure. I have met only one person since I went to camp that year who has actually attended the camp as well.

One night recently I decided to Google "Owasippe" online to see if it would give me any information about the camp. Boy was I surprised to see that it actually still existed and that there was plenty of information available. It has been many summers since I went to Owasippe and I still have many fond memories of my week there. For example, during our first day in camp all of the scouts in my troop had to assemble on a floating dock on the shore of Blue Lake to partake in a swimming test. Well to make a long story short, it's been about 32 years now and I can still see that greenish blue water go well over my head when I jumped in off that dock, and to make matters worse I couldn't swim. I finally learned how to swim in 1980.

A little bit about myself, I now live in Southern California about 50 miles west of Los Angeles. I work for the California Department of Corrections as an officer. I have been living in California for coming up on 30 years now (much too long). I have taken many trips back to Chicago but



unfortunately never back to Michigan.

Even though I have never met you, I would like you to know that the impact that you and all of the staff have on the youth of today is huge. The job that you people do there is important in that it helps the youth of today remain focused and teaches them important skills that in my opinion will benefit them well into adulthood. I know because I feel that the "Owasippe experience" has impacted me in that way. Let me assure you that working in a state prison everyday is a constant reminder of the tragedy of the youth that have failed in society. I would like to take this moment to personally thank you and all of the staff that were associated with Owasippe before, during and after your time there. Keep up the great work. Thank you for the memories.

John Salazar, Correctional officer,
Ironwood State Prison California. ♣

Camp Wolverine Staff '85

Photo sent in by OSA Member Bill Hoppe



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 Ron Kulak, Walt Weber and Mike Bachman in upcoming issues. Keep those old photos coming in!

Owasippe Love

by Susan Derby

Last issue, Andy and Chrissy Lukasiewicz started an ongoing series featuring camp couples and the stories of how they met. They have passed the torch to Ron and me to share our story, and it's one I really love to tell. It makes me smile to think of all we have been through over the years.

Ron and I met my first year at camp, 1997. It was a brief meeting over the fence of the Crown pool. I was practicing my newly earned lifeguard skills, and he had brought the CITs out for their swim checks. In that brief encounter, I knew he was very funny and had an awesome tattoo, and he says he definitely noticed me as well.

Fast forward to four years later when he finally got up the nerve to ask me out. Over the summer, we began to realize we had something special going. Just a short six months later, we were engaged and planning our wedding. We got married at the Crown Chapel, just steps from where we'd first met. Dan Troy performed the ceremony (an earlier trip to city hall

made it official) and told his renowned seagull/gift-giver story. The sun shone bright and warm just long enough to have the outdoor ceremony on that chilly October day. It snowed before the ceremony, and the rain came down as we were wrapping up photos at the Wolverine boat docks.



In the eight years since then, we moved from our little apartment in the city to a house in Vernon Hills, and ultimately up to Whitehall. Our house is on a piece of old Owasippe property, complete with red trail markers still in the trees! Now with little Maggie over a year old, we're continuing our Michigan adventures, and we enjoy showing her all the wonders of Owasippe.

Now we pass the torch to Ron and Marilyn Kulak for next issue's love story. If you'd like to submit your story, send it to vibrations@owasippe.com and include a photo too! ♣

Upcoming Events



CHICAGO FIRE GROUP OUTING

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29TH AT 7:30 P.M.



the 2009 Fall Fix-it

We will take care of our Adopted Roads and any other jobs that will help get Owasippe ready for winter. Other projects may include roofing, carpentry, and more. Don't forget to bring a trunkload of tools for various projects!

Sept. 18-20

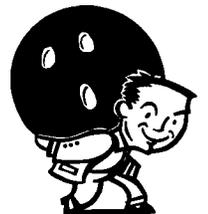
PLEASE NOTE:

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

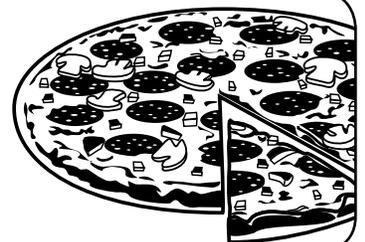
Round up some friends & contact Tim Toerber at 312-545-6320 or timothytoerberiii@hotmail.com to reserve your spot today!



Candlelight Bowl is being planned for October... details TBD



Owasipalooza (OSA Pizza Night) is being planned for November... look for details next issue!





Southern Crawl by Michelle O'Connor, OSA Board Member

The OSA Pub Crawl has developed into a great way to start off the summer, and this year didn't disappoint! On June 6th, about 25 members visited four of the bars along Western Avenue on the South Side, and though we did have to dodge a few raindrops between bars, everyone still had a great time.

The evening kicked off at Sean's Rhino Bar, where Peter Foote, who was attending his first ever OSA event, was able to pick us out of the crowd. We then moved on to Dingers, where our group doubled in size. Sean Monahan even came in from Texas to join us! Then, at Keegans, we ran into a former Reneker camper, who was on a bar crawl of her own. Finally, we settled in at Cork and Kerry, where we enjoyed some tasty pizza and the massive beer garden.

A big thanks to Suzy Smyth, who kept the group on track with time, and Ron Kulak, who made a nice donation to the pizza fund. Thanks to everyone who came out to enjoy the evening with us. We look forward to hearing where next year's pub crawl will be! ♣



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

Galloping Grapevine



Karen and Jeff Fitzer ~ Elmhurst, IL

Congratulations to Karen (nee Schaefer) and Jeff on the birth of their second daughter together. Charlotte McAlpin Fitzer was born on July 2, and weighed 7 lbs. 14 oz. (amazingly the same weight as cousin Miles, see below) and was 20 inches long. Karen has put Charlotte's name in the running for the youngest Owasippe camper ever, attending Reneker events just two weeks after her arrival. Now that's what we call getting her off to a great start in life! Congratulations to the whole Schaefer gang on the growing family, and to Karen, Jeff, Annie, Eric and Clara on their new family member.

Kristin and Dustin Mazanowski ~ Chicago, IL

Kristin (nee Schaefer) and Dustin welcomed their second son, Miles Steven Mazanowski, on July 17 at 5:01 p.m. After a smooth delivery, he weighed in at 7 lbs. 14 oz. and was 21 inches long. Big brother Zach has proudly been showing off his little brother ever since. Miles arrived on the same birthday as his grandfather, Bill Schaefer Sr. Congratulations to the whole happy family!

John "Jack" Schmidt III ~ Charleston, SC

Jack successfully completed his basic training at Great Lakes Naval Station in April and has since been deployed to South Carolina to attend the nuclear engineering program there. He is a former member of Troop 923 out of St. Margaret Mary Church and is an OA member. Thanks to Michelle Kmiec for passing along the good news of his progress in training, and our best to Jack!



Larry Strickling ~ Chicago, IL

Owasippe friend and former CAC board member Larry Strickling has joined the Obama administration as Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information. The position is part of the Department of Commerce and will put his many talents to great use. His official White House bio (that just sounds so cool) states he is "a technology policy expert with more than two decades of experience in the public and private sectors" and that he has worked for various employers including Broadwing Communications, Allegiance Telecom, Federal Communications Commission and Ameritech. This is an amazing position, and we congratulate Larry on being part of the White House team.

News & Notes

Welcome OSA Newbies!

The OSA held its annual staff pizza night at camp during staff week. This is one of our recruiting events and also just a nice way to introduce a new batch of staff members to the OSA's mission and accomplishments. We had about 60 staff age 18 and older and served up 32 Pizza Hut pizzas.

We had two people sign up as new members, and the OSA gives first-time attendees a one-year membership free to help introduce them to our events and members. Overall, the staff was very appreciative of a relaxed dinner together. A big thanks to Ron and Susan Derby, Candy Merritt, Pete Klaeser and Caitlin Boline for all the help, prep work and clean up for the event.

And for all you new prospective members, welcome to the OSA family! We hope to see you at the fall Fix-It and all our upcoming events.

Wish List for Safety

On the Owasippe wish list this year there was a request for 40 smoke alarms, and Edgar Wolff-Klammer worked with his employer, Underwriters Laboratories, to donate them. A few years ago there was a similar request for 100 smoke and carbon monoxide alarms and UL donated them. UL was able to help again, and the smoke alarms were installed during the annual spring Fix-It weekend.

We thank Edgar and Underwriters Laboratories for their donation and helping make Owasippe a safer place to work and enjoy for the staff and campers this summer. Did you know that fire is the third leading cause of accidental deaths in the United States? A residential fire occurs every 82 seconds in this country, and once burning, the size of a fire doubles every 30 seconds. If a fire should occur in your building, evacuate as soon as possible. Do not try to act bravely or put the fire out. Remember to routinely review your escape plan, and follow it at the first sign or smell of a fire. Never exit a door if it feels hot to the touch, as flames are likely on the other side. When entering a building it is important to identify the location of the nearest fire extinguisher.

Pizza Hut Now Serves Beer and Wine

That's right, the Whitehall Pizza Hut now serves a small selection of beer and wine!

Lakeside Inn Celebrates 70 Years

If you haven't stopped for a meal at the Lakeside Inn along Scenic Drive south of Whitehall, it's worth your time. The charming restaurant/inn is right on the shores of White Lake and is a charming historical landmark. This year, Lakeside is celebrating 70 years of ownership by the same family. Parts of the original building, a general store and boarding house built in 1855, are still standing.

The inn has hotel rooms as well as separate cabins for rent. Many of the visitors have been coming to the same place for years and have gotten to know the other renters very well. The dining room is creaky, but the meals are fantastic. Even just stopping by for coffee and dessert on the wicker furniture on the porch is worth it. Check it out next time you're looking for a nicer place to enjoy a meal while up at camp.

Vibrations always needs copy!

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

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

Preferred Method

➔ e-mail: vibrations@owasippe.com

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

PRESIDENT

Bill Van Berschot
6140 N. Lakewood Ave.
Chicago, IL 60660
773-844-8356

**VICE PRESIDENT
& Fix-its Chair**

Timothy Toerber III
4621 N. Broadway
Chicago, IL 60640
312-545-6320

SECRETARY

Candy Merritt
1446 Homestead Rd.
LaGrange Park, IL 60526
708-354-9837

TREASURER

Bob Pagels
4717 Main Street
Downers Grove, IL 60515
630-541-5896

Steve Henclewski
330 Tulip Lane
Lowell, IN 46356
219-696-4399

Ron Kulak
5220 W. 156th St.
Oak Forest, IL 60452-3307
708-535-7748

Membership Chair

Andy Lukasiewicz
3213 Ridgeland Ave.
Berwyn, IL 60402
312-203-5534

Michelle O'Connor
1402 N. Bell #2
Chicago, IL 60622
773-718-1524

Edgar Wolff-Klammer
7820 N. Keystone
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

August

29.....OSA Chicago Fire Group Outing

September

3.....Gift Card/Shopping Card Order Deadline

7.....Labor Day

18-20OSA Fall Fix-it

October

TBDOSA Candlelight Bowl

12.....Columbus Day

15.....Vibrations Deadline

31.....Halloween

November

TBDOwasipalooza (OSA Pizza Night)

26.....Thanksgiving





Shopping/Gift Card Fundraiser

Deadline:

Shopping/Gift card orders must be **postmarked** by September 4th. 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 Fall Fix-it on September 19th.

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 May.
Gift card orders raise much needed funds 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		