



The Newsletter for the Members of the Owasippe Staff Association

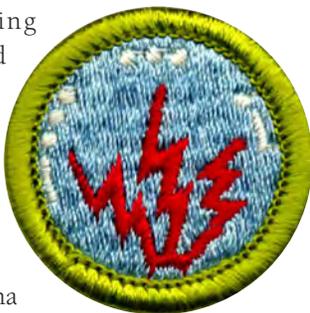
# Vibrations

2012, Volume 34, Issue 2

## Home (Away From Home) Improvements

by Edgar Wolff-Klammer, OSA President

The OSA has been working with Chris Townsend and Dennis Mitchell to determine how the OSA could help with establishing Radio Merit Badge at Owasippe. Dennis provided an excellent shopping list of the materials needed, such as: Radio Tower, Antenna, 100 feet antenna cable, Rotator for antenna, Radio Equipment, Bulletin boards, and Charts and Teaching Aids. Dennis will be donating some of the material, but the OSA has allocated \$7,000.00 to purchase the remaining equipment. Also if any assistance is needed with the construction, the OSA has offered to help. The plan is to offer the merit badge from the Photo Hut, located in the old Wolverine south pool house, near the Handicraft area.



The dining tent has seen better days at Camp Carlen and needs replacing. The OSA has allocated money to purchase a new tent.

I remember the pier at Blackhawk when I was on staff in 1978 and it has been repaired many times since then. The OSA has allocated \$30,000.00 to purchase a new floating dock. Each section is 4 feet by 10 feet or 6 feet by 8 feet and can be attached to any other section at any point along its perimeter. The dock is constructed with rugged, durable polyethylene to give us years of convenient, dependable use.

Thanks to former Owasippe Staff member Tom Sniegowski, the OSA has purchased 60 grills from Cabela's. Troops will be able to sign out the grills and use them in their campsites.



While the OSA has allocated money for all these items because of the short time before camp opens, it may not get there in time. We are working hard with Chris Townsend and Chicago Area Council to make these improvements happen before camp opens for the 2012 season. ♣

## The Guest Lodge Demo Project

by Ron Kulak, OSA Treasurer

The Guest Lodge demo project was a great success in absolutely ideal weather conditions. We filled up a large dumpster and then some. All furniture was removed — including the removal of old fixtures and cabinets — the porch was taken down, rotted timbers removed, kitchen and bathroom were gutted (the bathroom was coming apart and full of mold), and windows, broken glass, frames, doors and floor tiles were removed. The entire building is broom-clean. The bedroom ceilings still need to be removed, as the crew only got to half of that since we ran out of time and dumpster space. All of the windows and doors were boarded up.

The guys and gals worked their asses off and did an

(continued on page 3)



# President's Perspective

by Edgar Wolff-Klammer, OSA President

Hello Everyone, I am Edgar Wolff-Klammer and the OSA Board has elected me to be the President of our organization. For those who don't know me, I've been involved in Scouting for roughly 35 years. I'm an Eagle Scout. I worked at Owasippe from 1975 – 1978 and again 1982. I met my wife at camp, have three sons' and they all have also worked at Owasippe. I am a Life member of the OSA and have served on the OSA Board for the past four years.



But that's enough about me, what about you? I know we cannot make it to every event but when was the last time you came to an OSA Event? We have a few of them already planned for this year and we all really hope you can make one or all of them.

Visit Owasippe! Join us at the Spring Fix-It on May 18th-20th. Contact Andy Marhoul, our Fix-it Chairman, 708-655-2911, fighting\_mongoose@rocketmail.com, to reserve a cabin.

Catch up with some old friends at the annual OSA Pub Crawl on June 2nd. Roman Henclewski planned this year's event which will take place at some bars in Chicago's North Center neighborhood (see page 3 for details).

Bring your family to the OSA picnic on August 19th and play a game of softball. Fried Chicken will be provided. There will be kids and adult games, so they are sure to be lots of fun!

For those who attended the OSA Dinner Dance and those who could not please mark your calendar now for March 2, 2013 to help celebrate the OSA's 35th anniversary. ✦

## Thank you!

by Edgar Wolff-Klammer, OSA President

Thank You to everyone who was able to join us at our annual Meeting and Dinner Dance on March 3, we had a great time. For those who attended and those who could not PLEASE MARK your calendar now for March 2, 2013 to help celebrate the OSA's 35th anniversary.

As with most OSA events, a lot of people contributed to make the dinner dance a success, and they all deserve to be recognized and thanked.

Candy Merritt enough for organizing this event. Also all the Board Members helping with check in, raffles, silent auction, and everything else that made the dinner outstanding.

Ron and Susan Derby did another outstanding job of soliciting ads and putting together a remarkable ad book.

Dan Kleinfeldt served as our elections chairman and did a great job of putting the slate together and managing the election process. We would like thank Mike "Buda" Campbell, Scott Dorencz and Mike Dorich for running.

Our outgoing OSA president Bill Van Berschot who

organized the silent auction, obtained donations and helped raise \$1,398.00. Thank you to Cathy Russell - While Swan Inn, Emil Rousseau - Harborview gift certificate, and OSA Members Elaine Pagles, Chauncey, Pat Troy, Lyneete Debnar, Bob Ward, Michelle O'Conner, Ted Rotzell, and Edgar Wolff-Klammer for their donations.

Returning to the Board are Candy Merritt (Events chair) and Ron Kulak (Treasurer) and our newest board member Andy Sirota. Completing our Board are Caitlin Boline, Andy Lukasiewicz (Membership Chairman), Andy Marhoul (Fix-it chairman), Michelle O'Connor (Secretary), and Vince Rychtanek (Vice President).

## 2011 OSA Member of the Year Recipient

**Bob Pagels**

### Notable Guests

**Joe Sener**

OSEC Chairman

&

**Chris Townsend**

CAC Director of Camping

### Raffle Winners

**Lynette Debnar**

Ultimate Split-The-Pot

**Edgar Wolff-Klammer**

GT Bike

**Bill Vannerson**

Kindle Fire

## Funds Raised for OSA Programs

**\$1,028 raised**

The OSA Ad Book

**\$745 raised**

Dinner Dance Raffles

**\$1,398 raised**

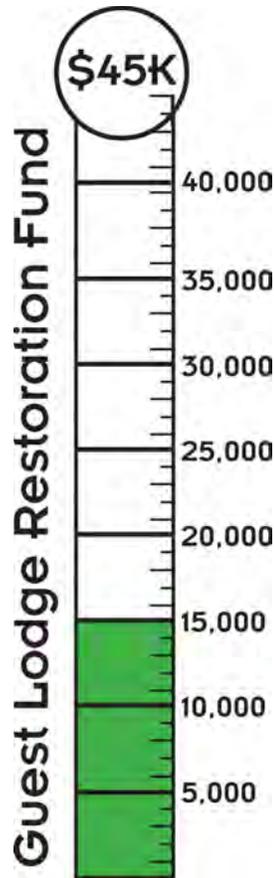
Dinner Dance Silent Auctions



## The Guest Lodge Demo Project con't.

absolutely a remarkable job with the task they were charged with. All of them are to be commended on a job well done. The OSA paid for breakfast and Dr. Podbielski treated everyone to lunch. Gary Dorencz bought approximately \$95 of plywood. The dumpster was donated by a friend of Owasippe and Al Geisler.

We are seeking your help and that of others you can recruit. Pledges and checks can be made payable to the OSA (referencing Guest Lodge Rehab) and sent to the OSA. You can also go to the OSA's Store and use Paypal to make a contribution. The OSA is a 501-c-3 charitable organization and such donations are tax deductible per the IRS tax codes. Pledges can be emailed directly to Ron Kulak at [owasiron@juno.com](mailto:owasiron@juno.com) for further followup. Also, please let us know if you have a specific trade that would be useful, ie. carpenter, electrician, plumber, or if you have a material resource we can tap. ♣



## Support The Arts

*by Caitlin Boline, OSA Social Media Chair*

Camp is just around the corner and Camp Reneker is getting excited to host Theatre Merit Badge this summer! While doing your spring cleaning, keep our program in mind. Do you have any random items that may be used as props or scenery? How about clothing that is now outdated or too small/large? **Please Donate!** We will take everything and anything to kick-start our "arsenal"!

Additionally we are looking for a large amount of cloth to fashion a working curtain. Please contact Caitlin Boline at [caitlinboline@gmail.com](mailto:caitlinboline@gmail.com) or (708) 989-2909. Thank you in supporting our new program! ♣

## OSA Pub Crawl

*by Roman Henclewski, OSA Member*

The OSA Pub Crawl will take place on June 2nd, 2012 in North Center. Parking is available near Lincoln and Cullom.

The first location will be either Bowman's (on the southwest corner of Montrose and Lincoln) or Tiny Lounge (at Leavitt and Lincoln), followed by Bad Apple, Gannon's and Wild Goose (at the intersection of Cullom and Lincoln).

Public transportation options include the Brown Line El Train, Western Bus #49B, and the Montrose Bus #78.

For more details as the date draws near, keep your eyes on [www.owasippe.com](http://www.owasippe.com). ♣

## OOEC Opposes Land Sale

*by Joe Sener, OOEC Chairman*

The Owasippe Outdoor Education Center (OOEC) disagrees with and cannot endorse the sale of the Owasippe property North of Silver Creek Road and West of Russell Road located in Section 8 and Section 9 of Blue Lake Township currently being proposed. We appreciate the effort that has gone into trying to perfect this particular sale but we must urge the Chicago Area Council to **not** proceed with this sale for the following reasons (*abbreviated*):

- The Chicago Area Council has said repeatedly over the past several years that it would not sell any piece of the property without placing the parcel into a conservation easement.
- The Chicago Area Council has yet to put forward a capital fund drive to conserve Owasippe.
- The OOEC believes the current assessed value of the property is at least \$1,100 per acre.

The OOEC considers this sale to be a step backwards that we do not believe the current council leadership should take. The OOEC strongly supports the retention of this property, the clear statement of retention of Owasippe, and the forming of a special capital fund drive sub-committee of the Endowment Committee to organize a drive to financially conserve Owasippe.

In addition, the OOEC strongly suggests that the balance of Owasippe be put under a conservation easement at the earliest possible opportunity. ♣

For the full story, visit:  
[www.ooec.org](http://www.ooec.org) under **News & Info**

## Pay It Forward

*by Candy Merritt, OSA Events Chair*

Have you ever been a recipient of the Steve Schaefer Memorial Fund? Do you know why it exists? Steve Schaefer, son of Bill and Linda Schaefer, was the victim of a fire in 1989 in his off-campus apartment while attending Southern Illinois University Carbondale at the age of 20. Because of Steve's love of scouting and Owasippe, his father, a former reservation and camp director, set up a fund that aids college-aged staff members, to honor his son's memory.

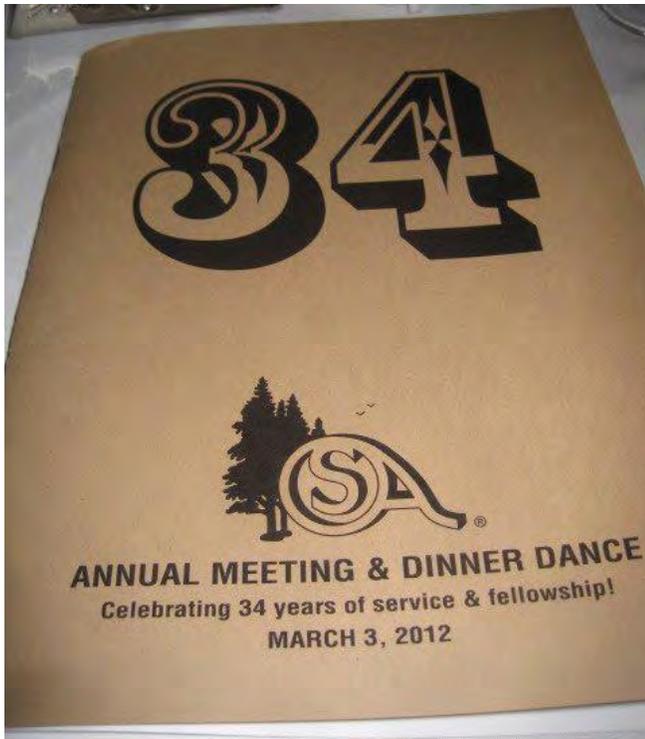
Every year the fund becomes more and more depleted, and at times has been completely emptied. It is now that I ask you; have you ever received this scholarship? Are you able to pay it forward? I reach out to recipients and friends of the OSA to help keep The Steve Schaefer Fund available for future staff members and to help honor the memory of a great scout, leader, friend and staff member.

If you would like to donate to this fund please send a check to the Owasippe Staff Association with it marked specifically for The Steve Schaefer Memorial Fund. The OSA does not maintain the scholarship, nor will we keep any part of this donation. Your donation in its entirety will be sent to Bill Schaefer. ♣

# OSA Dinner Dance Recap

by Candy Merritt, OSA Chair

I wanted to thank everyone who attended our 34th Annual Banquet and Dinner Dance. Thank you for those that supported our ad book and raffles even if you were not able to be in attendance we appreciate your continued support. We had a fantastic time at the European Chalet. John treated us like royalty as he usually does. Friends re-united and had a great time catching up. We had some familiar faces pop up this year Steve Mason, Steve Probst, Ken Kaz, Tim Babovac, Kevin Joyce and many more. To thank a few people Ron and Susan Derby for their work on the ad book, Tim Toerber for his fantastic job as our DJ, Father Scanlon for the invocation and to Bill our Emcee who kept our evening moving. Thank you those who generously donated to our silent auction and who participated. We look forward to seeing you all next year March 2nd to celebrate our 35th Anniversary. ♣



Photos by Scott Oomens, Sandy Romcoe and Ken Kazmarz.  
See them in color at [www.owasippe.com](http://www.owasippe.com)



# Galloping Grapevine



## **Bill Schaefer**

In the last harrowing installment of Vibrations, we reported a cancerous growth on Bill's kidney. Since then, the kidney has been removed along with the surrounding fatty tissues. He will return for regular check-ups, but has been instructed to resume life as normal. Bill's prognosis is optimistic, and his outlook is very bright.

## **Bill Perkis**

We have heard from Bill Perkis, worked staff at Wolverine North Zap! 1972 and 1974 Nature Dir. (Billy Butterfly). He has retired from the Natural Resources Conservation Service USDA as a Soil Scientist. He is presently working as an adjunct professor of Evolution and Geology at Gogebic Community College. He is married Betty and has two children Alex eagle scout, Liz pres. Venture post both in college. He is still active in Troop 323 Ironwood-Hurley as Scoutmaster.

## **Mike Schlagel**

He was on OSR staff as a CIT 71, Blackhawk 72,73,74, Wolverine South 75 and Stuart 76,77. He is still active in scouting in Blackhawk area Council Troop 140. He is looking for a copy or clear scan of the Blackhawk 1971 Staff Photo. If you can help us out, send it to osainfooth@gmail.com. We will post it and forward it to Mike.

## **Adame Keene and Abby Rempala**

Adam and Abby are getting married on May 12, 2012.

## **Brian Weems and Katrina Mudd**

Brian and Katrina are engaged to be web in December of 2012.

## **Jennifer Carroll**

In May of 2102, Jenny will have completed her coursework and officially added "R.N." to the end of her name.

## **Amanda Rychtanek**

Amanda, daughter of Vince and Beth Rychtanek, has been accepted to the Air Force ROTC program at the University of Illinois this coming fall.

## **Don Studaven**

Don Studaven was one of 14 winners at the "Love in Action" awards

dinner in February. The dinner was held by the Urban League of Greater Muskegon as a Black History Month celebration. Studaven served as Head Ranger and Property Superintendent and spearheaded Owasippe's transition into a great community-accessible preserve. He is currently serving as township supervisor and is active with the Muskegon Area First and the West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission.

## **Kevin Shotas**

Kevin completed his 26 weeks of The Basic School (TBS) for the US Marine Corps in Quantico, VA, in June 2011. Following TBS, he headed for Camp Lejeune, NC, to begin his Military Occupational Specialty in Combat Engineering. Kevin graduated from Marine Corps Engineer School as a Combat Engineer Officer in November 2011 and has been assigned to Camp Pendleton in California. He has settled in on the West Coast living in off-base housing in Carlsbad, CA.



Kevin served on Owasippe Staff from 2003-2010 at Camp Blackhawk in various capacities including commissioner.

He would probably appreciate letters and postcards being away from home.

Kevin Shotas  
2360 Merwin Drive  
Carlsbad, California 92008

## **Mike Nelson**

OSA Life Member, Mike Nelson, has been selected by Three Fires Council to receive The Silver Beaver Award. Mike was a Robert Crown staff member for quite a few years back in the 70s and early 80s, working for Bill Shaefer in Aquatics. He is currently Scoutmaster of Boy Scout Troop 13 in St. Charles, Illinois. And, as a true Scouter, Mike will be with his crew at Philmont this summer when the Silver Beaver recognition dinner is taking place.

## **C.I.T. Class of 2027**

### **Mila Anastasia Gach**

Born on February 23rd, 2012 to Aaron Gach and Therese Nizio-Gach.

### **Lillian Lorraine Kosiara**

Born in February, 2012 to Sam Kosiara and Jean Thuot-Kosiara.

### **Elianna Gail Juszcak**

Born on April 14th, 2012 to Jeff Juszcak and his wife Dena.

## **OSA Life Members**

Congratulations to the OSA's newest Life Member  
**Blaise Lukasiewicz**

## **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: OSAinfooth@gmail.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  
2012 Board of Directors

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Andy Sirota  
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Warrenville, Illinois 60555  
630-310-0093



**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](http://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.

**Editor:** Jason Katzwinkel

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: **OSAINFOBOOTH@GMAIL.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*

- 7.....“I Never Use Gift Cards” Deadline
- 13.....Mothers’ Day
- 15.....E. Urner Goodman’s Birthday
- 18-20 .....Spring Fix-It
- 26.....Order of the Arrow Work Weekend

### *June*

- 2.....OSA Pub Crawl
- 14.....Flag Day
- 17.....Fathers’ Day
- 19.....Juneteenth

### *July*

- 4.....Independence Day
- 6.....The Running of the Bulls
- 14.....Bastille Day

### *August*

- 4.....US Coast Guard Day
- 11.....Sons’ and Daughters’ Day
- 19.....OSA Picnic
- 26.....Women’s Equality Day

July 1st? “Praise a Postal Worker” Day. Look it up.



# Where will you be on May 18-20, 2012?



## You will be joining us at the 2012 Spring Fix-it

**Meals provided on Saturday.**

Our primary objective will be getting Owasippe ready to open. Projects may include painting, roofing, carpentry, plumbing, electrical and don't forget Adopt-A-Road. Bring grubby clothes and a trunkload of tools for various projects!

**Contact Andy Marhoul at 708-655-2911 or [fighting\\_mongoose@rocketmail.com](mailto:fighting_mongoose@rocketmail.com) to reserve your spot today!**

### PLEASE NOTE:

**The age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.  
Alcohol is strictly prohibited on Owasippe property.**



The OSA Family Picnic is just around the corner! Make plans to attend on Sunday, August 19, starting at 11 a.m. at Sundown Meadow. The entrance to the grounds is on the west side of LaGrange Road at 67<sup>th</sup>, just north of I-55.

As in past years, we will have some kids' games and softball equipment. Feel free to bring your own other activities for the picnic - kites, baseball gloves, beanbags or flying discs. **Can you help run the kids games? Let us know at [osainfobooth@gmail.com](mailto:osainfobooth@gmail.com).**

This is a great event for calling your old staff buddies that you haven't seen in years to catch up and remember the summers of the past and chat with current staffers from this summer to see how things went at camp.

**NEW THIS YEAR - The OSA will provide 200 pieces of fried chicken at 1 pm.** You can still pack a picnic lunch or bring the grill out to cook your own meal. Call up an old camp friend to split some great food and conversation! But no matter what you do, be there!!!!

**Last year we started the program**  
**“I NEVER USED GIFT CARDS, SO WHY SHOULD I BUY ANY?”**  
 and we had members from all over the country send us donations.

We were able to get \$250.00 in Pizza Hut Gift Cards and another  
 \$200.00 in Home Improvement Gift Cards to use last year.

<p>This year we are working with          White Lake Dairy Treat          “Home of the Monster Shake”          to give every 2012 staff member a  <b>FREE ICE CREAM TREAT.</b></p>	
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	<p>I want to help buy Ice Cream for the          2012 Owasippe Staff.</p>	<p>Enclosed (\$10 each)          _____.</p>
	<p>I want to buy _____ Home Improvement gift cards for          the OSA to use at the Fix it.</p>	<p>Enclosed (\$25 each)          _____.</p>

**Send checks only (no cash) by May 7, 2012**  
 Checks payable to the Owasippe Staff Association Mail entire form and check to:  
 Edgar Wolff-Klammer, 7820 Keystone Skokie, IL 60076

**Questions?**  
 Contact Edgar Wolff-Klammer at  
[ewolffklammer@prodigy.net](mailto:ewolffklammer@prodigy.net) 847-677-1688

Name:
Phone:
Address:

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Or go to [www.owasippe.com](http://www.owasippe.com) and then the store link at the top right side.  
 Here you can use PayPal for this donation only

**MAKE A GENERAL DONATION**  
**\$10 increments**

Support OSA programs by making a charitable donation to the Owasippe Staff Association (OSA) in \$10 increments. The OSA is incorporated and operated exclusively for charitable purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and Chapter 48 section 331 of the Illinois Revised Statutes. Our Federal Tax Identification Number is 36-303-9912. We thank you for your support of our efforts!

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