



The Newsletter for the Members of the Owasippe Staff Association

# Vibrations

2012, Volume 34, Issue 4

## Call for 2013 OSA Board Nominations

Think of all of the OSA members you know. The people you talk to at the Annual Meeting Dinner Dance. Picture the workers and cooks at the Fix-it weekends. Who do you see at the picnic or the pizza night? Those are the people we want to talk to. If anyone on your list of OSA members is someone you'd consider a good candidate for the Board of Directors, let us know! This is an open invitation for OSA members to make nominations of themselves or of others.

Being on the Board has its share of benefits and commitments. These people make the decisions about Fix-it projects, event locations, fundraisers, membership, and more. The Board's input is needed on many topics and situations. It's not all fun and games; a lot of work goes into running this organization. We need motivated thinkers and doers.

Candidates need to be OSA members in good standing, at least 21 years old, and must be available for monthly meetings. The only other requirement is a dedication to Owasippe, the OSA, and its members. If you or someone you know has the drive and ability to make things happen, we need to hear from you!

The Elections Committee will contact nominees to see if they are willing and able to serve. The Elections Committee will then review all nominees and make a slate recommendation to the Board. Slated candidates will then be contacted to garner their respective bios and goals for publication in the next newsletter.

Please contact Dan Kleinfeldt, 2013 Elections Chairman, at (773) 505-4512 or [DKleinfeldt@oprfs.org](mailto:DKleinfeldt@oprfs.org) with any nominees. Nominations are due by December 14, 2012. Now is the time to step up and show your commitment to Owasippe and the OSA! ♣

### Why should I run?

To preserve and promote the bond of friendship forged through Owasippe; To offer your time, talents, resources, and assets to the OSA and Owasippe; To continue to provide a great experience to Owasippe campers, Owasippe staff and OSA Members; And to HAVE FUN.

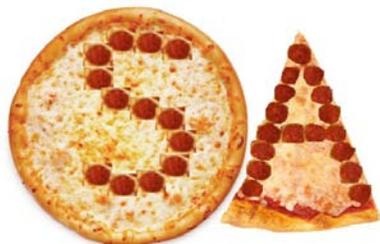
Current Board of Directors			Term
Caitlin Boline	Andy Lukasiewicz*	Michelle O'Connor*	2013
Andy Marhoul	Vince Rychtanek	Edgar Wolff-Klammer	2014
Andy Sirota	Candy Merritt	Ron Kulak	2015

\* Two consecutive term limit goes into effect.

## Owasipalooza Pizza Nite

by Ron Kulak, OSA Board Member

The colors of Fall remind us that the OSA will again be running its popular post-Thanksgiving mixer on Friday, November 23, at



the European Chalet Banquet Hall (Lower Level—west entrance) at 5445 S. Harlem Ave, Chicago, approximately 1/2-mile south of I-55. For directions, visit [www.eurochal.com](http://www.eurochal.com).

Dubbed the "Owasipalooza Pizza Nite," this fun social rendezvous of Friends Of Owasippe will run from 7:00pm to 11:00pm with a cost of \$10/person at the door. Please

(continued on pg. 2)

## President's Perspective

by Edgar Wolff-Klammer, OSA President

Like many of you, I am active as a Scoutmaster and volunteer for my local BSA Council. Last spring I attended my council's annual Council Dinner and saw an old friend and fellow OSA member, Joe Schlupe. Joe and I both worked together at Owasippe but had not seen each other since then. After the dinner, presentation, and awards I went over to Joe and reintroduced myself.



Joe's reply was priceless to me. He said, "Edgar, the last time I saw you, you were wearing a dress." Yes, it was true. At the 1982 closing banquet our skit was a version of the dating game. I was wearing a dress asking the questions to other staff members playing the parts of the Reservation Director, Assistant Reservation Director, and Properties Manager. It is a great memory.

At the recent Fall Fix-It, I was returning to Reneker Friday evening and saw a fire at the fire bowl. I went over and met the Regalado family and friends. They had not been back to Owasippe in many years and as we talked they told me of the many great memories of Owasippe they have. Some of them were similar to mine. They had decided that too much time had passed since they were at camp and came as a group to help us. Thank you and we hope to see you again soon.

These recent instances served to remind me that we are all a family. Like most families we get older, move further away, and find less time to get together to work and play. But when we are able to get together, we accomplish some great things, tell some good stories, and laugh out loud.

If you have not had a chance to see or talk to some of your camp buddies this year, please reach out to them. Join us for Pizza Night. This is the most informal event we host and is a great opportunity to get the Owasippe family together.

If you cannot make it for Pizza Night or are looking for another reason to get together, then plan on joining us for the Annual Meeting and Dinner on March 2, 2013. There is some formal business that the OSA Board needs to conduct during the Annual Meeting and Dinner (elections and how we are doing), but we try to keep it at a minimum so everyone can enjoy the night. It is also our 35th Anniversary this year and it is always great to see everyone.

Lastly, a big thank you for taking the time to complete the survey regarding the Annual Meeting and Dinner. We received over 90 responses. Most of them were very favorable to the location and price. Many came back with some other written comments. We are reviewing all the comments to help us make the best choice we can for the Annual Meeting and Dinner. ♣

## Owasipalooza Pizza Nite (cont.)

RSVP, so that proper plans can be made for sufficient food and supplies. Owasipalooza registration forms and split-the-pot tickets are also available for purchase online at [www.Owasippe.com](http://www.Owasippe.com)! The entry fee will give you a variety of delicious pizza, various snacks, and a door prize ticket. A cash bar will also be available.

There will be a variety of displays regarding Owasippe

history, patches, and photos. Feel free to bring your own unique Owasippe collectibles and photos to show off. The new history book on Owasippe by Paul Meyers will also be on sale for \$15. It will also be great to reminisce and relive our favorite stories with each other of times spent at America's Premier Scout Camp.

Owasipalooza is open to OSA members and their spouses and friends as well as to other Friends of Owasippe. This is an adult-only event. Come for a great time, terrific food, and the lively art of conversation. The more, the merrier...so help us spread the word.

Again, please send all RSVPs and the number in your party to Ron Kulak at [Owasiron@juno.com](mailto:Owasiron@juno.com) or at 708-535-7748. Hope to see you there for good fun and fellowship! ♣

## A Letter From The Editor

by Pete Kulak, The Above-mentioned Editor

The campfire was always the center of camp life, especially at Owasippe. It seemed some kid was always hanging by the firebowl, getting dirty and smelling of summer. I'm not just talking about those weird pyromaniac kids, either. Patrol leaders would sit on the benches and put together kybo duty for the week, while others would use the fire to work on their Camping and Cooking merit badges or Firem'n Chit.

I feel like Vibrations is the OSA's quarterly campfire. No matter what other projects we have going on in our lives, this is where we meet four times a year. We sing songs, tell stories and of course, announce...announcements.

I was a little nervous about battling these flames, so I'd like to heartily thank those that have tended the fire before me. Both Jason Katzwinkel and Ron Derby were very helpful in pointing out where the best kindling is, and also where the number 10 cans of sand and water are. I'll make sure this fire stays under control and that everyone gets to sing their song.

All right, that's it for the extended metaphors this issue. Back to the good stuff! ♣

## 35th Anniversary Dinner Dance

by Candy Merritt, OSA Board Member

What goes into choosing a location for our annual dinner dance? Some things we consider when choosing a location include: What would we have to charge each member and their guest to come to the dinner dance? Is the location close to an expressway? Are there hotels in the area that our members could stay safely for the night? Each year we evaluate and look around at different venues that vary in cost, location, and comfort.

We have chosen the European Chalet for many years because John and his family are Boy Scout supporters and they support the OSA. We have been to different venues but John's service continues to shine above the others. We want it all when it comes to booking an event: value, great food, service, location, and parking. As we continue to search venues for these attributes I wrote about we will discuss and make a decision as a group on where our dinner dance will be this year. Please save the date! March 2nd, 2013 (our 35th anniversary) I look forward to seeing each and every one of you there! ♣

## OSA Ad Book

Dear Friends and Supporters,

We are seeking sponsors for the Owasippe Staff Association Calendar/Ad Book to be distributed at our Annual Meeting in March of 2013. Here is an opportunity to promote your business, extend greetings to friends and family, or wish Owasippe and the OSA well. The annual Ad Book is an important fundraiser for the OSA, and its proceeds help us continue our mission of supporting Owasippe.

As you probably know, Owasippe is located in scenic Western Michigan near Whitehall and Montague, and it is the nation's oldest Boy Scout summer camp. Owasippe serves youth and families from the Chicago area and throughout the United States.

The ad book consists of the annual meeting program, our annual report, and a yearbook of event photos. We have four ad options (outlined on the order form) and each ad comes with a corresponding space on the OSA website for one full year!

Please respond with your materials by January 16, 2013, using the downloadable order form located at [http://www.owasippe.com/docs/ad\\_book\\_form.pdf](http://www.owasippe.com/docs/ad_book_form.pdf). Enclose your camera-ready art or any message you wish to present and mail it (e-mail preferred) to the address on the form. Please be sure to clearly state any special instructions or placement preferences.

The OSA thanks you for your support. Remember that since we are a not-for-profit organization, your participation is tax deductible. ♣

## News & Notes

### PROGRAM IDEAS FOR OWASIPPE SUMMER CAMP

Have you ever had a program idea for Owasippe Summer Camp? The camping committee is interested in your ideas. If you have any program ideas, please share them with the camping committee via the Owasippe New Program Proposal form (found at [www.chicagobsa.org/openrosters/ViewDocLibrary.asp](http://www.chicagobsa.org/openrosters/ViewDocLibrary.asp), under "Camping"). New program proposal forms should be sent to the Council Office. Ideas can be sent in at any time but most ideas will be considered for the 2014 season.

### CAMP STAFF INTERVIEWS

Individuals interested in working on camp staff are invited to attend the first interview day on Saturday, November 24th, at the Chicago Area Council Service center at 1218 West Adams Street, Chicago, IL.

Interviews will be held from 9:00 AM until 2:00 PM. Applicants are welcome to come by any time within that time frame. The interview generally takes about 20 minutes but applicants should plan on being there for about an hour. Please bring an application and three letters of reference, if possible.

An application must be filled out and turned in order to participate in an interview. Applications can be found at <https://chicagobsa.doubleknot.com/camping/owasippe-scout-reservation/camp-staff/3823>. Please contact the camping department with any questions. ♣

## Owasippe Guest Lodge Rehab

by Ron Kulak, OSA Board Member

Dr. Francis Podbielski and Ron Kulak have formed a committee to rehab the Guest Lodge for continued use as off-season housing for scout units and a program facility during the summer. This has taken on some urgency as the building has fallen into serious disrepair. It was actually being considered for demolition until a reprieve was granted to see if funds could be raised to try to restore the building to operational use.

There has been considerable interest in the Guest Lodge's preservation, which has given life to this project. The OSA is supporting this project and is also going to act as the repository of donations. The committee is not only seeking pledges and monetary contributions but also donations of time, talent and materials. The notion of an addition is being considered and is under professional advisement.

We are seeking your help. Pledges and checks can be made payable to the O-S-A (referencing Guest Lodge Rehab) and sent to P.O. Box 7097, Westchester, IL 60154. You can also go to the OSA's online store and use Paypal to make a contribution. The OSA is a 501-c-3 charitable organization and such donations are tax deductible. Pledges can also be emailed to Ron Kulak at [owasiron@juno.com](mailto:owasiron@juno.com).

So far, the OSA has raised more than \$15,000. Please spread the word and let others know of this effort. Together, we can make a significant difference and preserve this historic structure for future use by our scouts and camp staff.

Further updates on this project can be found at [www.owasippe.com](http://www.owasippe.com). ♣

Join the OSA's  
group on... 

Visit [www.owasippe.com](http://www.owasippe.com) for a link.

## OSA Online Store

The Owasippe Staff Association now has an online store! Find it at <http://www.cafepress.com/owasippestaffassociation>. Our OSA logo merchandise is now available online, every day. You no longer have to wait for an event to purchase OSA gear! This new OSA Online Store, run through CafePress, is where you will be able to buy official merchandise along with merchandise designed by other OSA members.

CafePress technology allows visitors to design their own t-shirts, posters, water bottles, and other custom products. These self-designed products will live alongside official merchandise in the OSA Online Store. You order and pay online. They even accept Paypal. The merchandise is then shipped directly to you.

If you have suggestions for new merchandise feel free to contact us at [osamerchandise@gmail.com](mailto:osamerchandise@gmail.com). Otherwise just go to the store and design your own unique items!

If you would like to buy Paul Myers's well-researched history book on Owasippe and Owasippe Lodge, you may continue to do so through the OSA web site store ([www.owasippe.com](http://www.owasippe.com), click on "Store") for \$20 which includes shipping and handling. ♣

# OSA Picnic in Review

by Candy Merritt, OSA Board Member

We could not have asked for a better day for our Picnic this year. It's always a good time for a staff reunion, and it was really nice that people were able to come out and visit with old friends.

Both the chicken and the bags tournament were huge hits. Ron Kulak was set up curbside with some Owasippe memorabilia to show.

It was nice to see so many little ones at the picnic this year. It's good to know the Owasippe legacy lives on. Thanks to everyone for their patience and for coming out to share an exciting day with us! ♣



## Galloping Grapevine



### Ken Yamamoto

Ken Yamamoto (OSA life member) was awarded the Silver Beaver award for 2012 from The Greater St. Louis Area Council. Many of the “mature” (older) OSA members remember Ken from his 7 summers working at Owasippe. He has been very involved in Scouting in the Southern Illinois area for a number of years. This summer, he led a group of Scouts on a backpacking trek through elevations in the Tetons exceeding 10,000 feet. The trip also involved white water rafting. Ken’s father has also been awarded the Silver Beaver. His son, Ian, is also an Eagle Scout and a member of the Order of the Arrow.



### Mark Behnke and Jason Kulak

On July 22, over 20,000 cyclists converged on Sioux Center, Iowa to begin a 7-day, 470-mile bicycle trek to eastern Iowa’s Clinton where they dipped their tires into the mighty Mississippi River. Included in this sea of humanity were OSA Members Mark Behnke and Jason Kulak. The ride is called RAGBRAI (the Register’s Annual Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa). Riders traveled an average of 67 miles each day, camping out at night. Congrats to Mark and Jason for completing this long ride and physical challenge.

### 2012 Staff People of the Year!

A hearty congratulations and a heartfelt thanks to the fine, fine folks who put their best feet forward in an effort to make Owasippe a better place for everybody!

This year’s staff people of the year are:

- Blackhawk .....Charles Price and Sean Donaldson
- Wolverine ..... Kyle Nystrom and John Villarreal
- High Adventure .....Kevin Lee
- Reneker ..... Elise Sawa
- Carlen ..... Conrad Zadlo
- Volunteer of the Year.....Mike O’Connor

# Fall Fix-it in Pictures

Photos by Edgar Wolff-Klammer, OSA President



# Season's Greetings From the OSA Board of Directors!

Photo provided by Al Geisler



## Montague Shops

by Caitlin Boline, OSA Board Member

Always on the prowl for interesting and new places to visit near Owasippe, I visited the small line of novelty shops on Dowling Street this past summer. Made up of a tea shop, a few antique and nautical-themed shops, and a chic boutique, the stretch of small businesses had original and interesting finds for a variety of tastes and budgets. I bought Michigan cookie cutter sets (containing both the Lower and Upper Peninsula) for four dollars!

The business owners were extremely friendly and very fond of Owasippe campers, mentioning that they were looking forward to more visiting in the summer. The antique shops were perfect for a rainy day adventure, and FULL of great finds. If you are looking for a small gift, local souvenir, old treasure, or simply a quick outing to town that supports local business, consider hitting up the Montague shops! ♣

## OSA Gift Card Fundraiser

Support the OSA by simply spending money you already spend!

In September, the OSA sold \$4,600 in gift cards to raise \$190.00. Included with this order the OSA received \$125.00 in home improvement cards to use at the Fix-its. This quarter's fundraiser raised a total of \$315.00 to bring the yearly total to \$587.00. Thank you!

The next gift card order needs to postmark by November 9th and will be delivered at the annual Pizza Night on November 23rd. Last year, \$6,400.00 in cards was ordered and raised \$325.00. Hopefully, you can help the OSA exceed this amount this year.

There are two things that you can easily do to help make the gift card fundraiser work. First, place an order. If everyone in the OSA ordered just \$10 in gift cards, our order would be more than \$4,000. Second, pass out a copy of the gift

card order form to family, friends, and co-workers. You'll be surprised by how happy people will be to order gift cards. They are often grateful to have one less thing to do during the busy holiday season.

The order form can be found in this newsletter and is also available on [www.owasippe.com](http://www.owasippe.com). Save yourself some time and energy by getting gift cards for all of your holiday giving and shopping.

If you have any questions, you can e-mail Edgar directly at [ewolffklammer@prodigy.net](mailto:ewolffklammer@prodigy.net). ♣



## See You at the End of the Trail

### Charles Bury

OSA member Chris Bury's father, Charles R. "Chuck" Bury, Jr., passed away on October 17, 2012. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Bury family.

### Loretta Niziol

It is with great sadness that we bring the news of the passing of Loretta Niziol, Mother of Philip "Chauncey" Niziol. She succumbed to a long-time illness at the end of September. We extend our condolences to Chauncey and the Niziol Family.

## 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](mailto: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  
2012  
Board of Directors

#### PRESIDENT

Edgar Wolff-Klammer  
7820 N. Keystone Ave.  
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847-677-1688

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Vince Rychtanek  
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Andy Lukasiewicz  
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Berwyn, IL 60402  
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#### Fix-its Chair

Andy Marhoul  
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708-655-2911

#### Events Chair

Candy Merritt  
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LaGrange Park, IL 60526  
708-354-9837

Andy Sirota  
2s511 Continental Drive  
Warrenville, IL 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**



**Proudly Saluting Owasippe's Centennial**

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

**Editor:** Pete Kulak

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***

### *November*

- 6..... Politically Non-Specific Election Activities
- 8..... OSA Gift Card Deadline
- 22..... Thanksgiving
- 23..... OSA Pizza Nite Rendezvous
- 24..... Staff Interviews

### *December*

- 7..... Pearl Harbor Day
- 14..... OSA Board Member Nominations Due
- 21..... Winter Solstice
- 1-31 ..... Culturally Non-Specific Holiday Festivities

### *January*

- 1..... New Year's Day
- 15..... Deadline for Spring issue Vibrations submissions
- 21..... Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

### *March*

- 2..... OSA 35th Annual Meeting and Dinner
- 17..... St. Patrick's Day
- 20..... March Equinox

