



The Newsletter for the Members of the Owasippe Staff Association

Vibrations

2013, Volume 35, Issue 1

OSA Silent auction items needed!

Thank you to everyone who donated and purchased items for the 2012 Silent Auction.

Now is the time to start submitting your donations that you might be able to make to help the OSA raise funds at this year's dinner dance. Also if you could ask for donations from local businesses, restaurants, spas, sporting outfitters, et cetera, we would appreciate it. All donations are a tax deductible donation to the OSA.

To make a donation, please e-mail Edgar Wolff-Klammer at osainfobooth@gmail.com or call 847-677-1688.

If you are unfamiliar with how a silent auction works, here is the idea: The OSA assigns a minimum bid to each item and a specific bidding increment of \$5 or \$10 dollars per bid. At the dinner dance, the auction is open throughout the night and you have an opportunity to see what the current bid is. All you have to do to bid is write your name under the previous bid and increase the amount by the minimum bid. The winner is the highest bid at the end of the night and gets to take the prize home with them that night!

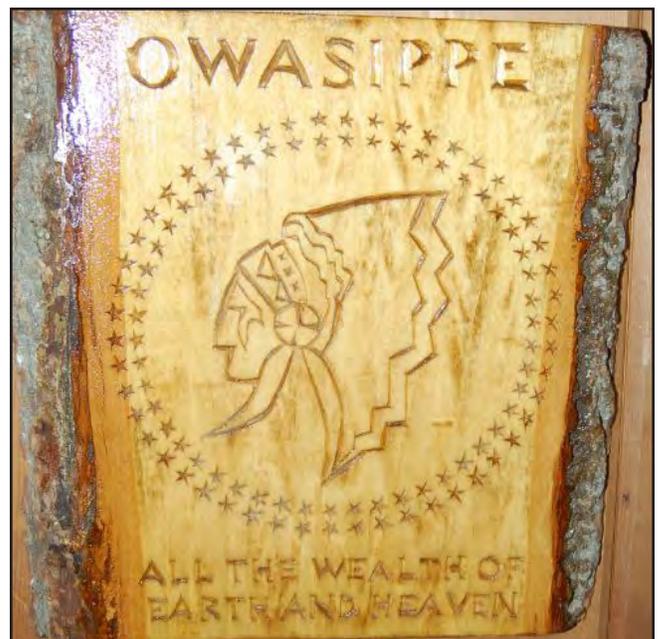
All donations to the silent auction are welcome and appreciated! ♣



Some sample auction items from 2012's Dinner Dance:



Sports card collection donated by Bob Ward.



Carving donated by Edgar Wolff-Klammer.

(continued on pg. 2)

President's Perspective

by Edgar Wolff-Klammer, OSA President

Happy 35th Anniversary!

I'd like to thank our two outgoing board members, Andy Lukaszewicz and Michelle O'Connor, for all their contributions with memberships, taking board meeting minutes, helping with events and being great friends. Both have served on the board for the past six years and cannot run in this election due to the two-consecutive-term limit.



I'd also like to express thanks to Caitlin Boline, who has just finished her first term on the board. During her term on the board, Caitlin worked at Owasippe. She has helped enable us to provide assistance with projects that have come up during the summer. On behalf of the board, I would like to thank Dan Kleinfeldt for serving as the 2013 elections chairman.

On December 12, 2012, I attended the Chicago Area Council Board of Directors meeting. I gave a brief overview of the numerous improvements and equipment that the OSA has provided over the last 35 years. I indicated that the OSA wants to continue working with the Chicago Area Council, the Order of Arrow, and the OOEC to provide scouts and staff the best camping experience. A copy of my overview can be seen on the OSA Website (www.owasippe.com). After the meeting, I met with a few board members and all of them appreciated the dedication we have to Owasippe.

I also spoke with Ted Kumzi of the Owasippe Lodge and we spoke about the projects. Ted and Bob Landmichl have a project called "Lodge Picnic Table Project" from the January E-Scouter. The lodge continues with their goal to replace 100 picnic tables at Owasippe. The need is great. Last summer we were able to build 30 new tables. The new tables were placed in Camp Carlen for the Webelos Camp and provided a first-time, first-class impression of Owasippe to the future Boy Scouts in our council. Again, with your help, we can come even closer to this goal and improving the quality of camp for all our scouts at Owasippe. You or your unit can support this project by making a donation in any amount, large or small, to help defray the cost of the materials. The labor to assemble the tables will be provided by the lodge during the Work Weekend of 2013. The estimated cost for materials to build one table is \$225.00.

At the December OSA Board meeting, the board unanimously approved supporting the Owasippe Lodge Picnic Table Project for ten tables, \$2,250.00, and a check was sent for that amount payable to Chicago Area Council BSA. We hope to do other projects with the Owasippe Lodge and strengthen our bonds with Owasippe.

Thank you to everyone who helped to make the OSA successful this year and every year. I look forward to seeing you at this year's annual meeting and welcoming a few new members to the Board of Directors.

Join the OSA's
group on...



Visit www.owasippe.com for a link.

Sample auction items (cont.)



Painting donated by Dan Troy.



One night stay at White Swan Inn B&B in Whitehall (www.whiteswaninn.com) donated by Cathy and Ron Russell, innkeepers.



Chauncey Niziol and Captain Jack of the Diamond Ghost Charter donated this charter.

2013 OSA Board of Directors Candidates



Caitlin Boline

Caitlin Boline is excited to continue her friendship with the OSA. She currently teaches 1st Grade ESL (English as a Second Language) and is obtaining a dual-masters in Educational Leadership and ESL/Reading at Dallas Baptist University.

This year will be her twelfth consecutive summer working at Owasippe and her second year as the Reneker Director. Before that, she served as the High Adventure Director for 3 summers; her younger staffing years were spent at Reneker, Hiad, and Blackhawk. During her time working at Owasippe, Caitlin has been able to serve in a variety of positions that have broadened her understanding of what it takes to run such a large and diverse camp.

"I have been lucky to serve at camp during a period of time where camp continues to improve and diversify the opportunities it offers for both scouts and families each summer. I would like to continue to work with the OSA to keep Owasippe competitive and special for all." All the wealth!



Barb Lea

Barbara T. Lea is 34 and lives in the Edgewater neighborhood of Chicago. She teaches children and adolescents in hospitals and spends her free time working on getting kids outside and learning about their natural environment. She was involved in Girl Scouts both as a scout and a leader.

Her first Owasippe experience was at Family Camp / Camp Reneker in 1978 when she was just three weeks old, and since then, Owasippe has been in her blood. Three of her seven siblings—Caroline, Liz and John—worked on camp staff, along with their mother, Barb Sr. Barb (Jr.) served on staff from 1992-1997 and again in 1999, 2002, and 2003 at camps Reneker, Carlen, Wolverine, and Crown High Adventure Base/Manistee Quest.

She trekked at Philmont in 2000 as an adult leader and has camped both in downtown Chicago at Northerly Island, and at Owasippe for the 100th anniversary! Barb is an OSA Life Member and is active in OSA events whenever possible. She enjoys work weekends when she is able to attend them. An avid traveler, Barb recently walked part of the Camino de Santiago pilgrimage in Spain, and visited the UK Scouting headquarters (Gilwell Park in the Epping Forest) near London.

"Owasippe has given us so much. We are all sons and daughters of Owasippe, and we must continue to give back to Owasippe in any way we can."

Tom Crissey

Tom Crissey, 64, lives in La Grange with his wife, Cindy. He is an Eagle Scout and OA Vigil. He was an Owasippe Staffer for seven years: Wolverine North in 1967; CIT Director in 1970-71; Pack and Paddle Director in 1972; and Camp Director at Wolverine South in 1973, Carlen in 1974, and Blackhawk in 1975. Tom is a Life Member and Founding Board Member of the OSA.



After a successful career as a Software Engineer and Consultant, Tom's retirement is quickly filling with Scouting activities. Along with Phil Pappas and Head Ranger Al Geisler, Tom produced a new digital map of Owasippe this past year and volunteered as Maintenance Staff during the 2012 session. Tom teaches map and compass skills to Scouts of all ages and is a Merit Badge Counselor in Des Plaines Valley Council.

"Scouting is great fun, offering sound values, useful skills, and treasured friends. As a result, I will do what I can to promote and preserve Scouting's program for current and future generations. As an OSA Board Member, maintaining Owasippe's facilities and helping develop program opportunities for the future will be my primary goals."

Kurt Wolff-Klammer

Kurt Wolff-Klammer, age 25, lives in Skokie, Illinois. He has a bachelor's degree in mathematics education from Northern Illinois University. Currently, he is a long-term 8th grade math substitute teacher in Franklin Park.



Kurt started his Owasippe career in 2002 as a CIT. He worked at Camp Blackhawk as a nature instructor from 2003-2005 and was nature director from 2006-2008.

Kurt is currently an Assistant Scout Master for Troop 72 in Skokie. You may have seen him at many different OSA events including the picnic, fix-its, and dinner dances. "I am looking forward to serving on the OSA board to help give back to the camp that has given me and many of my friends so much."

Make your vote count!

Voting for our Board of Directors takes place on March 2 at the OSA dinner dance! Absentee ballots can be found on page 7 of this very issue of Vibrations!

Bowling in Berwyn

by Candy Merritt, OSA Board Member

Bowling, Bowling, Bowling... Come one, come all to Striker Lanes on Saturday, February 16th, from 2:45 pm until 5 pm. We are going to Mega Bowl for two hours. The price is only \$15.00 and they are throwing in shoes. We will be serving some pizza and pop.

Has this piqued your interest yet? Alright, well what if I told you that this is also a great opportunity to catch up with Jennifer (Kempa) and Kerry Kotwasinski, in town for a short time from Germany. Come listen to their stories about their

travels and maybe pick up a few German words while you are there. Are you ready to RSVP yet? Perhaps the fantastic photo below will change your mind.

Please RSVP to Candy Merritt at 708-860-2555 by FRIDAY FEB 15th.

Striker Lanes
6728 16th Street Berwyn, IL 60402 ♣



Jennifer Kempa and Kerry Kotwasinski, Germany-ing it up.

Reneker seeks equipment donations for this camping season

by Caitlin Boline, OSA Board Member

Reneker seeks your help! Know anyone getting rid of any stereo equipment? Reneker is in need of a working (but definitely NOT new) stereo receiver for their sound system, as music is a large part of their program. The OSA donated outdoor speakers 2 years back that have been great, and they are now in need of a stereo receiver to keep the joint jamming!

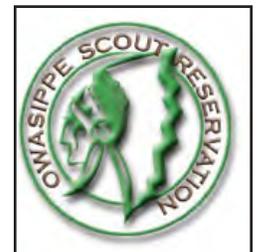
(Additional Information: Donors will receive baked goods).

If you can help us, please email Caitlin Boline (OSA board member/2013 Reneker Director) at caitlinboline@gmail.com! THANK YOU!

Props and costumes needed for Theater Merit Badge!

Once again, Reneker is collecting any and all things theatrical! Do you have any old novelty clothes (any old 3-piece suits in the attic...?), costumes, prop pieces, et cetera, to donate to the coolest badge at Owasippe? Please email Caitlin Boline at caitlinboline@gmail.com with any donations or questions!

THANK YOU!



Guest Lodge Restoration Update

by Ron Kulak, OSA Board Member



Ron Kulak and Francis Podbielski receive a generous donation of \$2000.00 from the Blue Island Council #1366 Knights of Columbus for the Guest Lodge project.

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.

The Guest Lodge was originally built as the key hunting lodge for The Lake Wolverine Club, which acquired the land and built the Gus Kopp Dam that formed Lake Wolverine in the late 1940s. When the hunt club folded, Chicago Area Council acquired that land

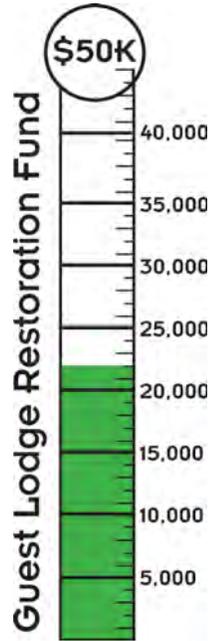
as well as the hunting lodges located around the lake. Over the years the Guest Lodge, in particular, has been used by hundreds of visitors for winter camping and by much of the staff for pre-camp housing. Ceremonial Teams for Owasippe Lodge OA also have used this as an administrative facility during the summer.

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.

So far, the OSA has raised about \$22,000. 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 both scouts and camp staff.

Further updates on this project can be found at www.owasippe.com. ♣



Plan date 11/6/2012

A 1

Elevations
1/4" = 1'

At left, an architectural drawing of the outside of the guest lodge.

Family Camp/Reneker Reunion held March 2012

Photo provided by Laurie (Jacobs)Tomaino



In March 2012, some of the Camp Reneker staff met up in Chicago to reminisce about family camp fun at Owasippe. **Standing from left:** Laura O'Reilly, Nancy O'Reilly, Chris Sanchez, Mary Nedza, Laurie Jacobs, Kim Winkler, Carolee Jaskolski, Carrie Swearingen. **Seated from left:** Audrey Pryst, Cheryl Voliva, Karen Schaefer, Terry Horvath, Chris Rotzoll, Beth Peraino, Laura Rotzoll, Denine Hermesdorf. **Not pictured:** Jill Peraino.

Galloping Grapevine



Tom Ewan

Tom Ewan was recently featured in the North County Times newspaper- In Person: Rawhide Ranch Camp Director fosters a half-century-old dream. Tom Pfinsten wrote "As a Boy Scout administrator in the suburbs of Chicago, Tom Ewan never imagined that he would someday occupy a desk between "Flossie's Feed Store" and "The Greatest Wild West Show Ever Seen By Human Eyes." To read the full story, go to: http://www.nctimes.com/news/local/columnists/pfingsten/in-person-rawhide-ranch-camp-director-fosters-a-half-century/article_d1007d61-9366-54a8-9a0f-4e8a6d54401d.html

Congratulations to Jena Sullivan on her engagement to Kevin Biel.

OSA Membership Corner

by Andy Lukaszewicz, OSA Board Member

New Life Members:

David Meyer

Larry Miller

See You at the End of the Trail

Charles M. Accardi

Father to Mary Beth Niziol and grandfather to Sarah (Niziol) Hall and Therese (Niziol) Gach, passed away at 94 years old on January 10, 2013. Our deepest condolences to his friends and 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

2013 Election Info.

Your OSA Board: The affairs of the OSA are managed by the nine members of the Board of Directors whom you elect. Their terms are staggered so that three must be elected each year. Each Board member serves a three-year term unless a vacancy must be filled for a shorter term. A Director must be a currently registered Staff or Associate member age 21 or older as of the day of election to be held on March 2, 2013, have a genuine interest in the success of the organization, and be available for monthly Board of Director meetings.

Current Board of Directors			Term Expires
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.

Who may vote?

Each OSA member currently registered (2013) is entitled to one vote at the Annual Meeting for the purpose of election of the Board of Directors. Voting may be done in person at the 33rd Annual Meeting (Bobak's Signature Events) on Saturday, March 2, 2013, from the time doors open until dinner is served.

Alternately, signed ballots will be accepted via the U.S. mail. A list of candidates, their resumes and a ballot are included in this issue of Vibrations.

Be sure that you are currently registered (2013) so that your vote can be counted! The current year of your membership will be on the mailing label addressing this mailing. Any questions regarding the status of your membership can be presented to the Membership Committee Chairman Andy Lukasiewicz at (312) 203-5534 or relievestress@yahoo.com.

Winners Those candidates receiving the largest number of valid votes will be inducted into the Board of Directors during the 2013 Annual Meeting. The top three vote-getters will be considered duly elected. Seats are held for a term of three years.

Operating Officers The first official duty of the newly constituted Board of Directors will be to select operating officers for the next 12 months, namely President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. These officers will be announced at the Annual Meeting.

Absentee Ballot

Owasippe Staff Association



2013 Board of Directors
Official Mail-in Ballot

Vote for 3 candidates

- Caitlin Boline
- Tom Crissey
- Barb Lea
- Kurt Wolff-Klammer

- write-in _____
- write-in _____
- write-in _____

Mail-in ballots MUST BE SIGNED for authenticity and received at the P.O. Box by 12:00 p.m. on Friday, February 22, 2013 to be counted in the election.

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

Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

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



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

February

- 2..... Groundhog Day
- 16..... OSA Bowling
- 18..... OSA Shopping/Gift card order deadline and Early Bird deadline for Dinner Dance tickets

March

- 2..... OSA 35th Annual Meeting and Dinner
- 10..... Daylight Savings Begins (spring forward)
- 17..... St. Patrick's Day
- 20..... March Equinox
- 23..... Skit-O-Rama 2013

April

- 1..... OSA Vibrations copy Deadline

May

- 17-19 OSA Fix-it Weekend
- 27..... Memorial Day



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

*The Owasippe Staff Association's
35th Annual Meeting & Dinner Dance
on March 2, 2013 from 6-11 p.m.*

at European Chalet Banquets
5445 S. Harlem Ave. • Chicago, IL 60638
www.eurochal.com



Ticket price is \$45 per person (in advance*)
and includes dinner with an open bar.

***NOTE: \$45 price is for mail-in orders postmarked by Feb. 18th or PayPal orders by Feb. 24th
Ticket prices go up to \$50 at the door so make your reservations early!**

There is limited parking available in the adjacent lot.

You can also park in Joe & Frank's Market on the corner of Archer & Harlem.

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

For additional information, call
Candy Merritt at 708-860-2555 or e-mail candymerritt@yahoo.com

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

What are Golden or Green Tickets?

This year we are again using the "Golden Ticket/Green Ticket" system in a continued effort to speed up the check-in process. As mentioned above, each Dinner Dance ticket is \$45 if your reservations are postmarked by February 18th (PayPal by Feb. 24).

- A Golden Ticket will be mailed (or confirmed by phone) to each OSA member who has their ticket and membership dues paid for by Feb. 18th (PayPal by Feb. 24).
- A Green Ticket will be mailed (or confirmed by phone) to each non-member who has their ticket paid for by Feb. 18th (PayPal by Feb. 24).

Present your Golden or Green Ticket at the door and you're set to meet and greet friends!

NOTE: In order for this to work smoothly we will need the names of all the attendees in your party as well as an indication of their membership status (see order form).

See reverse for the order form and raffle info!



Dinner Dance Raffle Info.

Drawings to be held at the OSA Dinner Dance/Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 2, 2013.
 Winners need not be present. Advance orders MUST be postmarked by February 18th (or PayPal by Feb. 24).



Apple iPad Mini
\$10 each

- WiFi
- 32GB
- Black/Slate

There will also be a silent auction on the night of the dinner dance.



Set of 3 Vintage OSR Steins
\$10 each

8.25" tall!

OSA Dinner Dance & Raffle Order Form (Please Print)

(Golden Tickets)
 OSA Member Name (s): _____

(Green Tickets)
 Non-Member Name (s): _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

e-mail: _____

Item	Qty.	Price	Subtotal
<input type="checkbox"/> Dinner Dance Tickets (by 2/18)		x \$45	
<input type="checkbox"/> OSA Membership Dues Renewal		x \$15	
<input type="checkbox"/> OSA Life Membership		x \$350	
<input type="checkbox"/> Apple iPad Mini (raffle)		x \$10	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ultimate Split-The-Pot Cash (raffle)		x \$10	
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Vintage Owasippe Steins (raffle)		x \$10	

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



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