



The Newsletter for the Members of the Owaspice Staff Association

Vibrations

2013, Volume 35, Issue 3

Troop 81 Brings New Addition to Blackhawk's Firebowl

Many thanks to the scouts of Troop 81 and the exceptional leadership from Brad for rebuilding the entrance of the Blackhawk Firebowl. The PLC pulled the troop together, and had a general meeting and explained what they wanted to accomplish. They put up a work schedule with time slots for guys to volunteer their time on

and completed everything in four days' time. This was all done during an overnight canoe trip down the White River, going to Wrangler Outpost, doing merit badges and having a great time at camp. Behind what you see in the photo are 4 X 4's sunk about 4 feet in the ground with concrete with landscaping timber making up the front.



President's Perspective

by Edgar Wolff-Klammer, OSA President

You know what camp really needs? As OSA President I get e-mails, phone calls and face to face discussions requesting work weekend projects and donations of materials to make Owasippe better. There are needs for replacing roofs, repairing a bridge, replacing picnic benches, and painting. Material requests include new refrigerators, new dining flies, canoe paddles, floor boards and many other items.



Here's how some members and friends of Owasippe helped:

- Last June while assembling the picnic tables at Reneker, Caitlin was telling us that Family Camp needed some refrigerators. Phil Pappas was helping us and offered to give some refrigerators and other appliances to camp. The following week Tom Crissey, who volunteered as an OSR Ranger this summer, drove to Chicago and picked up the donations for camp. Thanks Phil and Tom.
- The fishing poles at camp had seen better days. An e-mail to Chauncey Niziol and new poles were delivered to before camp started. Thanks Chauncey.
- During Staff week the OSA got a call that Wolverine needed a couple of dining flies (car port size) for the shooting ranges. Thanks to Ron Derby, the OSA could buy them and get them delivered to Wolverine within a couple of days.
- Robert Landmichl and other members of the OA saw a need to replace 100 tables for our campers at Owasippe. The OSA and our members made a donation to help build 10 this year. See <http://www.chicagobsa.org/document/2013-picnic-table-flyer/106048> if you would like to donate.

How can you help?

Come to an OSA fix it and help repair, build or clean.

Come to an OSA event and bring a friend and ask them to join.

Come to an OSA event and just have a good time.

THANKS FOR EVERYTHING YOU DO ♣

Guest Lodge Restoration Project

by Ron Kulak

After a long delay and the obtaining of township work permits, work will finally begin on the reconstruction and rehab of Owasippe's Guest Lodge during the first week of September. Plans were previously drawn up that include the construction of an addition over the existing bedrooms and carport that will be tied into the main building. New living capacity will be around 28-36. Initial work will include the restoration of electric power to the building, the razing of the car port, and the installation of a slab foundation to support the new addition. A local contractor has been retained to do the initial work and to construct the walls and roof of the new addition. As this is finished, we are seeking volunteer help to complete the interior electrical and plumbing work and necessary carpentry for windows, doors and walls. The

kitchen and bathrooms will have to be completely rebuilt. The objective is to enclose the building and weatherproof it before the snow flies.

The Guest Lodge annex will be a split dormitory area that will permit a larger number of Scouts to live and sleep there. One of the old bedrooms will be converted as an adult leader room. An additional bathroom and shower will be installed adjacent to the existing bathroom to allow handicap access. Handicap access will also be arranged to the building from its lakeside entrance off of the old porch which was already torn down. That porch will also be reconstructed but not screened in at this time.

A committee has been formed under the leadership of Dr Francis Podbielski, Ron Kulak, and Ron Derby to rehab the Guest Lodge to allow its continued use as an off-season dormitory for scout units, a meeting facility, and as a staff/program center during the summer. The Guest Lodge was actually being considered by the council for demolition until a reprieve was granted to see if funds could be raised to try to restore the building to operational use. Chicago Area Council has no funds of its own for this project, and the effort will have to be supported by private funding and sweat equity.

The Guest Lodge was originally built in 1948 as a sportsman's lodge for a physician who was a member of The Lake Wolverine Club. It was that club which acquired the land from the developer of the Fruitvale subdivision and built the Gus Kopp Dam in the early 50s that formed Lake Wolverine. It sits atop a bluff overlooking Lake Wolverine and the spillway. When the hunt club failed, Chicago Area Council was able to acquire all of that land and the lake along with a series of hunting lodges situated around the lake. Over the years, the Guest Lodge, in particular, has been used by hundreds of units for winter camping and by 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 personal interest in the building's preservation which has given life to this project. The OSA is supporting this rehab project and is also going to act as the repository of donations. The Guest Lodge Committee is not only seeking pledges and monetary contributions but also donations of time, talent and materials.

So, we are seeking your help and that of others you can recruit. Pledges and checks can be made payable to the O-S-A (referencing Guest Lodge Rehab in memo) and sent to Owasippe Staff Assoc, P.O. Box 7097, Westchester, IL 60154. You can also go to the OSAs Store on its website 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 and ideas can be emailed directly to Ron Kulak at owasiron@juno.com for further followup.

So far, the OSA has collected a little more than \$36,000 in contributions but more will be needed as we anticipate costs of \$50-60,000 for construction depending on forthcoming donations of volunteer work and materials. This is also a critical part of the success of this project. We are hopeful that the kitchen appliances and cabinets, heating unit, and electrical work will come through as donations from prior discussions.

Please spread the word and let others know of this effort. We are extremely thankful to those individuals and groups who have generously contributed. Together, we can make a significant difference and can preserve this historic structure in a very scenic setting for future use by our Scouts and camp staff.

Look for further updates on this project at www.owasippe.com in coming months. Plans and prints on the building will be on display at the September Fix-it Weekend and at the November Vigil Reunion Banquet and the OSA's Owasipalooza.

If you will be at the Fix-it Weekend, please stop by and visit the Guest Lodge. ♣

Camp Reneker went for it again!

by Candy Merritt, OSA board Secretary

Hats off to Caitlin Boline and her staff for delivering one action packed summer for the campers at Camp Reneker (GO FOR IT). The Candy land theme was awesome and the decorations were wonderful a real eye popper as you traveled through Reneker. From Caitlin to Maureen Haneberg, Susan Derby and the rest of the staff rocked out this summer and you can see how awesome their week was by their closing campfire morale. Caitlin and staff ended the night on a musical note that entertained and left lasting impressions on the campers. You could see the joy by looking at all the smiles on the campers faces while the staff and audience were singing. I hope you enjoy some pictures from Camp Reneker (GO FOR IT) I know I enjoyed taking them. ♣



Spring Work Weekend a Success; Fall Work Weekend Coming Up

by Andy Marhoul, Fix-it Chair

Another successful work weekend was completed this past spring in time for camp. Projects included remodeling the Blackhawk dining hall's kitchen floor, setting up the circus tent at Carlen, road crew, rebuilding the main bridge at the bogs, roofing at a couple Staff Village cabins, and clearing brush. We also set up a circus tent for our brothers in arms, the OA, for their work weekend that follows ours so they would have a place to eat and gather. Fun times were had by all and there were a few new faces as well that added to the experience.

The upcoming work weekend is currently scheduled for September 20th to the 22nd. Currently planned, we will be remodeling the Wolverine rifle range to accommodate an

additional shooting station, provide extended sun protection, and reinforced security for the storage of the program equipment. This is going to be a larger project that will have the work divided amongst this work weekend and next spring's weekend as well. Other projects are also in the works with details to follow. And to entice all of you to come join us, we will once again be welcoming the famed food of the Ruiz group to feed us all.

Good food, good friends, good projects, what other reason do you need to go up to Owasippe? Again, September 20th to the 22nd. Please contact Andy Marhoul with your RSVP and any special skill sets or tools (all skills, or non-skills, are welcome) at fighting_mongoose@rocketmail.com or 708.655.2911. ♣



Free tours of Big Blue!

by Jim Schlichting

The pontoon boat "The Three Hour Cruise" will be offering free cruises of Big Blue Lake during both the OSA Fix-It weekend (September 21 & 22, 2013) and the Owasippe Trail Race weekend (October 12 & 13, 2013). Times will be as requested and will be able to depart and return to convenient locations all around Big Blue Lake. Each cruise of Big Blue can handle 10 people with life jackets. All safety gear will be provided on board, but bring your own refreshments.

Also, bring your camera and enjoy Big Blue Lake, including lake views of Blackhawk, Turtle Bay, Hiawatha Beach, Camp Pandalouan, Camp Pioneer Trails, Dermo Park, Blue Lake Residences and Blue Lake Park. The October weekend is at the traditional peak of the color season and the cruise will offer exceptional picture-taking opportunities. Big Blue Lake Fishing opportunities can also be arranged.

I'll do my best to accommodate all requests. Contact me through email at Jschlich@aol.com. ♣

Owasippe Lodge Tradeoree

by Ron Kulak

The Owasippe Lodge Tradeoree is in October and the OSA will be a featured exhibitor. We will be selling assorted Owasippe memorabilia, neckerchiefs, cups and patches as well as the new Owasippe history book written by Paul Myers. There will be other OSA members there as featured exhibitors, namely John Kennedy, Jerry Lutz, and Lynn "Swoop" Dellamano.

We will gladly accept anyone's contribution of Owasippe memorabilia for resale. All sales proceeds go into the OSA's projects at Fixit Weekends and other necessary acquisitions for the camp. ♣

Galloping Grapevine



Yosemite National Park (CA): Dispatch received a call at 2 a.m. on June 5th reporting that a woman was experiencing abdominal pains at a park residence in Wawona in the southern portion of Yosemite. Rangers **Heidi Schlichting**, Chad Andrews, and Anna Mezera responded to the call. The rangers quickly discovered that the woman had begun to give birth and that a foot was presenting (the baby was in a breech position). Schlichting and Mezera, both paramedics, and Andrews, a park medic, immediately began attending to the woman. The baby was born within 20 minutes, but was having trouble breathing. Schlichting used a bag valve mask to resuscitate the baby; within minutes, the baby's breathing was stronger and core functions were good. Meanwhile, an ambulance from Oakhurst, about 20 minutes south of the park, was dispatched to the scene. Once the ambulance arrived, the mother and the baby were taken to a hospital in Fresno. Schlichting, a ranger for 6 years and a paramedic for 13 years, had delivered one baby previously in her career. "It all went so fast," she said. "This is not something that happens very often and it was a great opportunity. I am glad I was able to help."



Here we have **Bob Pagels** next to the #19 Boy Scouts of America IndyCar in the garage at Gasoline Alley the morning of the Indy 500. Justin Wilson drove this car at 220 MPH into the turns just a few hours later. He finished in 5th place.

The BSA sponsorship of this car on the IndyCar circuit was originally intended to recognize 100 years of scouting, and to emphasize science and technology for scouts.

Christian Townsend has resigned his positions as CAC Director of Camping and as Owasippe Reservation Director effective September 1 to take a promotion from the BSA with the Crossroads of America Council in Indianapolis. He also was recently married in August to **Christina Sener**, daughter of **Joseph and Linda Sener** of Crystal Lake, IL. Christina is a prior Owasippe staffer, OSA Member, and a graduate of Marquette University. Congrats to the couple and best wishes to Christian on his recent promotion and transfer.



Jerry Lutz and **Jim Graczyk** recently came across a very large bald eagle at Gerber's OA ring. They emerged mostly unscathed.

Tom Patterson has been in the active Army for 14 years as an Ordnance Officer. He is now a Major and a Detachment Commander at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, where he oversees the training of Radar Repairmen (94M) and Patriot System Repairmen (94S). He was deployed three times, twice to Iraq (2003-04 and 2006-07) and then to Kuwait in 2011-12. Throughout his US Army career, he has been stationed from Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Md; Fort Carons, Co.; Fort Lee, Va.; Fort Riley, Ks; Fort McPherson, Ga.; and Fort Leavenworth, Ks.

Tom's two children live in Peachtree City, Georgia, with their mother. Kaleb, almost 15 years old, is as tall as Tom and will start playing freshman year football. He has his Star Scout rank. His daughter Kaitlyn is almost 13 and is a great gymnast, working on level 8 for this year. Last spring, she qualified for the Georgia State competition and placed well. She was placed on the Georgia State team, which competed in the 8 state region, and finished third.

Please keep **Ted Augustyn** in your thoughts and prayers as he is battling cancer. He is currently undergoing chemo and is optimistic for his recovery.

Congratulations to **Scott and Barbara Dorencz** on the birth of their daughter, Clara Ann Dorencz, on April 26.



Dave Strenski gave a TED talk earlier this year on solar power. It can be found on Youtube under the title: *Understanding Solar Power in Ypsilanti: Dave Strenski at TEDxEMU.*

Adventures in Local Dining with Kurt and Caitlin

by Caitlin Boline

While many of us typically have our favorite dining places to visit while at Owasippe and the White Lake Area, there is an excitement in finding a “new” place to try! This summer, Kurt and I made plans to have lunch on a weekly basis in order to catch up and enjoy the company of a good friend. Our first stop was, of course, Pekaill’s, but we were eager to expand our dining horizons and seek out new establishments. For the next four seasons of Vibrations, enjoy Kurt and Caitlin’s Summer 2013 effort to provide you with new and exciting options in OSR-area cuisine!

This Stop:



The Feed Mill: 8500 Holton Road, Holton, MI

Expert Directions, per Kurt Wolff-Klammer:

“Turn left out of Reneker, and drive until you reach the town of Holton. Turn right on Holton-Duck Lake road, followed by another right at Holton Road. Feed Mill will be on your right.”

A few miles down the road from Family Camp, this restaurant is far from the “bustle” of Whitehall, in a more quaint location in the quiet town of Holton. Under new management, the Feed Mill is a clean, casual, and cheery restaurant with very nice staff. Additionally, their prices are fair (after tasting, we’d pay more!). The typical patrons are local mechanics on a group lunch break, or local friends catching up.

During our first trip, Kurt and I both ordered sub sandwiches (I the “Italian”, and Kurt the “Deluxe”). After his first bite Kurt said “HAVE YOU TRIED YOUR SANDWICH? Mine’s DELICIOUS!”. Mine, in fact, was excellent! While we were waiting for our food, a pizza came out from the kitchen for another table. As it passed our table, we immediately agreed to come back the following week for the pizza. After THAT first bite, Kurt simply said, “This was a GREAT idea...”. We were certainly happy we ordered the large pizza, as Kurt’s intention was to substitute his leftovers for the Salisbury steak

that was to be served that evening for dinner!

If you are looking for an alternative to Whitehall and would like to take a ride to Holton for a change of scenery, then the Feed Mill is definitely a place to try. If great company is what you lack, rest assured that Kurt or I will join come summer. :)

Next stop: Nonnie’s in Twin Lake! ✦



Galloping Grapevine (cont.)

Pete Klaeser was married on April 6th, 2013 in Valparaiso, Indiana. He met Ruth through their running club in Northwest Indiana—they are both long distance runners. Ruth teaches Special Ed at Wilber Wright Middle School in Munster, Indiana. Pete is currently teaching at St. Joseph High School in Westchester, Illinois. They both currently reside in Sauk Village but will probably move to Chesterton, Indiana in a couple years. Congratulations, Pete we wish you years of happiness!

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

OSA Picnic Brings Owasippe Family Together

by *Candy Merritt*

Thank you to everyone who came out to the OSA Picnic. It's always good to see some familiar faces like Buddha, Bill Tenner, Ryan Gust, Bill (Harpo) Zilenski, and many more. We had a beautiful day and a big attendance from the current Blackhawk staff and even a couple girls from Reneker. The picnic is always a nice way to see each other after being home from camp for a week before heading back to school.

The OSA provided chicken and we appreciate our friends who also brought a few items to share. My favorite side dish has to go to Marilyn Kulak—her salsa is the best salsa I have ever had. We had a blast playing some kids' games—thank you to Kris Dorich, Eric Wolff-Klammer, and True Merritt for stepping in to assist playing some games to even out the teams. I have to give a shout out to my friend Jennifer Kempa Kotwasinski, we all really missed seeing her and the kids all miss her wonderful game events. Great times and great weather is all we can ever ask for. Thank you to Chrissy Gust and Andy Lukasiewicz for providing pictures.



See You at the End of the Trail

Tony Krier, Sr.

Passed away on August 23, 2013, at the age of 89.

We lost a legend, a co-worker, an old scout, a fisherman, someone who loved Owasippe, and much more. There must be a scout camp in heaven that needed their pier fixed, or a door rehung on a staff man's cabin, or the pearly gates of heaven needed to be fixed.



He was a living camp legend that can never be replaced.



In Memoriam,
The Owasippe Staff Association
Establishes
The Tony Krier Camp Project Fund
Contributions Can Be Made Payable To:
Owasippe Staff Assoc.
Memo: Tony Krier Project
PO Box 7097, Westchester, IL, 60154



The Owasippe Staff Association
P.O. Box 7097
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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

September

- 2..... Labor Day
- 20-22 OSA Fix-it Weekend

October

- 12-13 Owasippe Trail Race
- 15..... Vibrations deadline for winter issue
- 18-19 Owasippe Lodge 7 Tradeoree
- 31..... Halloween

November

- 3..... End of Daylight Savings Time
- 11..... Veterans' Day
- 27..... Hanukkah begins
- 28..... Thanksgiving

December

- 21..... Winter Solstice
- 25..... Christmas
- 31..... New Year's Eve

