



The Newsletter for the Members of the Owasippe Staff Association

Vibrations

2014, Volume 36, Issue 1

An OSA Member Abroad, Soldiering and Scouting

by Danielle Carroll, OSA member

I was experiencing a feeling all too familiar to those of us that have worked at or attended camp – that feeling of sadness as you drive away at the end of another successful season, realizing that you will never be with that same exact group of people in that same place again. This familiar feeling was felt, however, as I was waving goodbye to Kabul, Afghanistan after spending the last year deployed as the Deputy Chief of Operations for the 1st Theater Sustainment Command. Our unit was tasked with running all of the logistical aspects of Operation Enduring Freedom – supplies, storage, movement, vehicles, fuel, ammunition, airplanes, etc.



When I left my family last year to embark on this adventure, I was determined to be productive in the little bit of free time that I had. To that end, I taught myself to play the guitar (I'm not quite up to Pat Romcoe standards yet, but I'm getting



there!). When I wasn't at work or perfecting my campfire songs, I was focused on discovering opportunities to serve the youth living in the area around my base.

One way I was able to do this was through volunteering with Scouts for Afghan Scouts. Soldiers and contractors operating in Kabul formed SfAS to help re-introduce Scouting to the youth of Afghanistan. There are over 1,000 Scouts residing in five locations in Afghanistan.

I had the opportunity to help plan and execute a Space Derby for over 75 Scouts. Scouting in Afghanistan is co-ed and it was inspiring to see both boys and girls building their rockets side by side with the assistance of Service Members who were Scouts or Leaders back in the States. Language is not a barrier when it comes to the ideals of Scouting – friendliness, helpfulness, cleanliness, and cheerfulness were all thriving on that day

(continued on pg. 2)

President's Perspective

by Edgar Wolff-Klammer, OSA President

I should have done it sooner! My six consecutive years on the OSA Board will end on March 1, 2014. Looking back at these six years I realize that I should have run for the OSA Board sooner than I did. I had already known many of the members of the OSA but being a part of the board, I was able to meet many other OSA members. THANK YOU to everyone who makes the OSA the best BSA Camp Alumni Organization.



A very special thank you to current OSA Board members Andy Marhoul and Vince Rychtanek. They will be completing their first term on the board on March 1. Due to increased personal commitments, Vince will not be running for a second term.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the OSA Dinner, OSA Spring Fix it or other OSA events. If you have additional time to volunteer at Owasippe this spring, you may find the following interesting:

Make Owasippe Better (MOB)

The Chicago Area Council Board, as of 8/21/13, voted to make a financial commitment to invest \$1,000,000 into the improvement of Owasippe Scout Reservation.

Across the Reservation, there is a substantial amount of skilled and unskilled labor projects that need to be completed. As the saying goes, "Many hands make light work," so by pulling together we can all do our part to improve camp and accomplish many of these projects.

The Council Property Committee is planning to host several Skilled/Unskilled Labor work weekends starting in the spring of 2014. These weekends will be in addition to OSA, OA, and other service organizations which volunteer at camp and add to the manpower working on projects. Come out and catch the spirit while improving Camp!

Volunteer to help improve Owasippe this spring at a work weekend. Several skilled and unskilled labor work weekends will be held to improve the camp. See the flyer at (<http://www.chicagobsa.org/document/help-make-owasippe-better-flyer/132810>) and sign up today.

OSA member abroad (cont. from p. 1)

as the Scouts cheered on their racing friends. While not busy building and racing their rockets, the Scouts rotated between stations that taught them the physics behind a helicopter, the history

of airplanes, and the future of space travel. It was an equally rewarding day for both the Scouts and the Soldiers involved.

Another organization that I volunteered with was Anna's School ([http://www.anna-](http://www.anna-awec-af.org)



awec-af.org), founded by Arizona native, Anna Hacker. The school is located in the heart of one of Kabul's poorest neighborhoods and serves women and children in a variety of ways. Classes on sewing, First Aid, reading and English are taught to adult women, while a government curriculum with additional English, reading, and technology is taught to both boys and girls of all ages. I had the chance to visit this school on numerous occasions to deliver supplies donated by scout groups and children in the US. It is a very humbling experience to ask an eight-year old child what they would like if they could have anything in the world and all they ask for is a pencil, clean paper, and a pair of covered shoes so that their feet stay warm when they walk to school in the snow.



I made the most of my deployment this year thanks to the help and support of many people, including my Owasippe family. Thank you for the GS Cookies (Candy Merritt!), the letters from your class (Caitlin Boline and Greg Lange!), the care packages (Jenny Carroll and Lynn Mesirow!) and the prayers (too many to name!).

As you think back on all of those summers spent away – at camp or elsewhere – just know that you made a difference in the lives of children who may then go on to do great things in our country and in our world. ♣

2014 OSA Board of Directors Candidates



Ryan Gust

Ryan Gust, age 30, married to Christina Gust, he has a 3-year-old son, Carlen, and another little boy on the way! They currently reside in “the city on the hill,” Lemont, IL. He attended Governors State University where he received his BA in Communications.

He is currently employed with Presence St. Joseph Medical Center in Joliet, where he works as a food service supervisor.

Ryan joined Scouting in 1996 and enjoyed Owasippe at Camp Carlen from 1997 until 1999. In 2000, he joined the Carlen staff, where he served until it closed its traditional scout camping program in 2002. From 2003, he worked at Camp Wolverine and served as its camp director in 2007 and 2008. Ryan has continued to be active in Scouting in many capacities since his days of summer camp. Besides Scouting, Ryan enjoys all aspects of the outdoors, being a part of the OSA family, and is looking forward to the excitement of the coming year.

“I would like to serve on the OSA board so that we may continue to strengthen the bonds of friendship we have all come to appreciate and to ensure that the OSA is synonymous with camp operations. I want to maintain the integrity of the Owasippe experience that has brought us all to this point in our lives. As Owasippe has given me so much, I now wish to serve the OSA and carry out the Scout Oath and Law to its fullest.”



Jack Newell

Jack Newell, 31, lives in Chicago, IL with his girlfriend Rebecca. He is an independent / freelance film producer and sometimes teacher at Columbia College Chicago, where he graduated. Jack camped at Blackhawk as a scout and became staff from 1996 - 2003,

working at Blackhawk, Carlen, and Wolverine in Nature and as a Commissioner, but his true passion was in Scoutcraft. He has fond memories of work weekends and dinner dances when he was more involved, and although he’s been busy with film projects that have taken him to Paris, France and the countryside of Haiti he is looking forward to the opportunity to lend his talents as a leader, organizer, and all around idea man as a board member.

Blaise Lukasiewicz

Blaise A. Lukasiewicz, age 24, is a resident of Tinley Park, Illinois and is married to Beth. He currently is working as a mechanic at Sunrise Southwest in Crestwood, Illinois. Blaise graduated from Illinois State University in 2012 with a B.S. in Organizational Communication and Leadership. An avid scouter, Blaise has spent 20 seasons attending and working at OSR. After completing his CIT year in 2003, he worked until 2007 at Wolverine in the aquatics area. This past summer he had the opportunity to work at Blackhawk and served as their Shotgun Director. Blaise is an Eagle Scout, a life member of the OSA, and Camp School certified in Shooting sports. Blaise hopes he can bring the knowledge and skills he possesses to the OSA board.



“Owasippe has played a major part of my life. I would do anything to make the camping experience better. I only hope that I can help the OSA reach that goal.”

Kyle Nystrom

My name is Kyle Nystrom, 23, and I live at home with my parents and (Eagle) brother. I have been in the Boy Scouts since I was 9 and I made Eagle rank in 2008. I am currently working two part-time jobs to enroll in college where I would like to pursue an Education degree. I have been working at Owasippe since my CIT year in 2005. I have served as the Wolverine HandiCraft Director, Wolverine Commissioner and Wolverine Assistant Camp Director in the most recent years. I have attended found myself at a few events held by the OSA (such as the Picnics, and Banquets), but I have always enjoyed the banquet. At the banquet, the attendance of Owasippe staff/staffed is astonishing. The stories and experiences shared there are always something I look forward to. I will be spending my tenth consecutive summer at Owasippe, and I would love to do what I can to help give back to the camp that has affected me so positively. The camp and the program it provides has provided me with a lifetime of treasured moments and knowledge that I want to share.



2014 OSA Board of Directors Candidates

(continued)



Andrew Marhoul

Andy Marhoul has proudly been serving on the board for the past three years. His main focus has been the work week-ends providing nearly fifteen years of construction experience.

In addition to his board duties, Andy is happily married to Kim (Sturtevant), father to Lila, and is expecting a second child in April.

If re-elected, he wants to focus on bringing non-practicing members back to the fellowship and overall increase the involvement of the OSA and its members with camp and its programs.

Make your vote count!

Voting for our Board of Directors takes place on March 1 at the OSA dinner dance. See Election Information and find the Absentee ballot on page 7 of this very issue of Vibrations!

Galloping Grapevine



Jean (Thuot) Kosiara and her husband Sam are expecting baby #2. Their daughter, Lily, was born in 2012.

Jena Sullivan married Kevin Biel on September 28th at Immanuel United Church of Christ in Evergreen Park, Illinois.

Alex Lohse graduated in December from Northeastern Illinois University with a degree in Finance. He is currently serving as a Chicago Area Council District Executive for the Greater Southside.

Congratulations to Phil and Patricia (Monahan) Groben on the birth of their second child, Daniel.

Congratulations to Owasippe Staff member Paul Kerchberger who became an Eagle Scout on December 22, 2012.

Carl Young

Carl Young, 59, lives on the Northwest side of Chicago with his wife and two daughters.

He is a Physical Education Instructor/Elementary School.

He first camped at Owasippe in 1966, as a Boy Scout, at Wolverine South. He has continued to come to Owasippe each summer either as a camper or on staff. His troop currently camps at Blackhawk.

In 1971, he started working at Owasippe as a CIT. He was on staff in aquatics at Wolverine North, Camp Stewart, Sauger Lake, and Blackhawk from 1971 to 1979. He started out as an aquatic aid and worked my way up to Aquatic Director. He also worked as a senior commissioner (1982-1984) at Wolverine and Blackhawk. In the early 1990's, he worked as assistant reservation director for two years and one year as Camp Director at Wolverine. In 2002, he was Camp Director at Blackhawk. His last year on staff was in 2006 as Camp Director at Wolverine.

"It has been a while since I was on the OSA board. I previously served as Vice-President. I ran the picnic for a couple of years and organized a night at Maywood Race Track. I regularly attend the Pizza night and Dinner Dance.

As a member of the OSA board, I would work to improve the facilities at Owasippe. Reinhart Plaut designed new kybo facilities for the camps and I would like to see these built."



See You at the End of the Trail

Mary Typtaner

"Mrs. T" was a proud member of scouting for the past 50 years. She led, organized, and chaired numerous committees in the Chicago land area. She passed in December 2013. Our deepest condolences to her friends and family.



Kenneth Young

OSA Life Member Kenneth Young, 89 years old, passed on December 25, 2013. Previous Chicago Area Council Cub and Boy Scout leader. Great supporter of Owasippe and the OSA. Beloved patriarch of numerous current and former staff members, including the families of the Youngs, Kulaks, Reddens, and Wolff-Klammers.

A Hero Visits Dallas

by Caitlin Boline, OSA board member

Last year I taught 1st Grade ESL (English as a Second Language) at La Academia de Estrellas Charter School in Dallas, Texas. Many of the students I taught had never left Dallas, let alone Texas. Additionally, we were learning about community helpers and heroes. In an effort to expose my students to a world outside of Dallas, but to more importantly introduce them to a real-life hero, I decided Dannielle Carroll would be the perfect pen pal. My students were excited to write to a “real soldier” and were especially excited she was a “girl soldier”. Around Valentine’s Day, we shipped our large envelope of letters off to Dannielle and not-so patiently waited for her reply. The day we received her letter was one of the BEST days of our year, and my students were so excited to receive a letter and pictures from Dannielle. We re-visited the “Captain Danielle” topic many times throughout the year. You can imagine their excitement (now as 2nd Graders) when Dannielle decided to pay us a visit.

Dannielle contacted me this past January 6th asking if I had the same students and if we were available for a visit on January 10th, as she was in Dallas attending her final Yellow Ribbon ceremony. By the time she arrived on Friday, she was lined up to speak to FIVE groups (Man, did I look cool having an Army Captain as a friend!). She spent her day at LAE



showing students pictures and videos from her deployment, answering questions (from both students and teachers), and really humbling us all with her knowledge and experience. Her visit was awesome, and I was so excited my students got to meet a real-life hero. I am so happy and honored to know such a brave, selfless person. ♣

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



Camp Crystal Lake, 1936.



New Guest Lodge roof, November 2013. photo courtesy Ron Derby.

Adventures in Local Dining with Kurt and Caitlin

by Caitlin Boline, OSA board member

This Stop: The Shipwreck Inn (6012 Holton Rd, Twin Lake, MI 49457)

Directions from OSR: Head south on Russell Road. Turn left onto Holton Whitehall Road, right on Blue Lake Road. Continue onto Main Street, left on Holton Road.

Ahoy! Looking to jump Owasippe ship and try the local fare of Twin Lake? Head on over to the Shipwreck Inn! One afternoon this summer, Kurt and I ventured to the Shipwreck Inn after passing it earlier in the summer (conveniently located near Nonie's). This joint has everything you are looking for in a casual lunch with a twist: original menu, novel décor, and a full bar. (Author's Note: Kurt and I were on lunch, no midday beers for us!)

The Shipwreck's crew is small but extremely friendly, and you definitely won't have to wait long for a table. While it was hard to choose, we quickly made our selections: Kurt with the roast beef sandwich and I with the bacon cheeseburger. Need some entertainment while you're waiting for your food? Test your Nautical trivia knowledge with the trivia questions provided on the menu! Or simply stare at your DREAMBOAT lunch date, like I did! ;) Both of our choices came quickly and were both excellent and fresh! In true fashion, we both took our leftovers home to eat instead of dinner. ♣



OSA members homebrewing, looking for others

by Michael Brus, OSA member

Happy 2014! The new year is a time where I like to reflect upon the previous year and It's hard to believe that it has not even been a year since Brian Weems and I brewed our first batch of beer! We are still very much learning and we are very grateful to have such supportive friends who sample our beers and in Brian's case, a wife who allows us to brew in their house.

Since the previous Vibrations issue, we have brewed our first all-grain batch of beer. It was a vanilla porter and turned out to be really good. We have also welcomed Kevin Harper, who has previously worked on Owasippe staff, to our brewing family. Kevin has introduced us to the idea of making mead. What is mead? Mead is an alcoholic beverage fermented from honey, water, with fruit sometimes added to enhance the taste. Sometimes mead is referred to as honey wine and it can be light or rich, sweet or dry, or even sparkling. Kevin has several small experimental batches of mead involving various fruits that are currently fermenting. Pictured is Brian making his very first mead which will be a mixed berry mead. Next fall we have plans to make a special Owasippe-inspired mead that will include at least one ingredient from Owasippe. Suggestions for an Owasippe ingredient are welcome, just send one of us an email to either of the addresses listed below. More details on this mead to come in future issues.



As we move into this new year, I am interested in potentially organizing an OSA-Home Brewers/OSA Members interested in homebrewing get-together. If you fall into one or both of these categories or just want to talk about craft beer, contact either Michael Brus at michael_brus@comcast.net or Brian Weems at weemy@sbcglobal.net. Cheers! ♣

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

*The Owasippe Staff Association's
36th Annual Meeting & Dinner Dance
on March 1, 2014 from 6-11 p.m.*



Victoria Banquets

(in the "penthouse" of the Holiday Inn Express)
6600 North Mannheim Road • Rosemont, IL
www.victoriabanquets.com/rosemont • 847-544-7500

Ticket price is \$45 per person
and includes dinner with an open bar.

Mail-in ticket orders MUST be postmarked by Feb. 18th • Tickets will also be available via PayPal until Feb. 24th

NO tickets will be sold after Feb. 24th • Tickets will NOT be sold at the door

Hotel rooms are available while they last. Call 847-544-7500 & mention
that you are with the Owasippe Staff Association to get a discounted price.

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.

Mail-in ticket orders must be 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.
- A Green Ticket will be mailed (or confirmed by phone) to each non-member who has their ticket paid.

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 & raffle info!



Dinner Dance Raffle Info.

Drawings to be held at the OSA Dinner Dance/Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 1, 2014
 Winners need not be present. Mail-in orders MUST be postmarked by Feb. 18th (or PayPal by Feb. 24)



Microsoft
Surface
 • WIFI
 • 64GB



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		x \$45	
<input type="checkbox"/> OSA Membership Dues Renewal		x \$15	
<input type="checkbox"/> OSA Life Membership		x \$350	
<input type="checkbox"/> Microsoft Surface (raffle)		x \$10	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ultimate Split-The-Pot Cash (raffle)		x \$10	
<input type="checkbox"/> 3-nights in Guest Lodge (raffle)		x \$20	

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

2014 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 1, 2014, 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
Andy Marhoul	Vince Rychtanek	Edgar Wolff-Klammer*	2014
Andy Sirota	Candy Merritt*	Ron Kulak*	2015
Caitlin Boline*	Barbara Lea	Kurt Wolff-Klammer	2016

* Two consecutive term limit goes into effect.

Who may vote?

Each OSA member currently registered (2014) 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 36th Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 1, 2014, 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 (2014) 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 Sirota at (630) 310-0093 or a_sirota@msn.com.

Winners Those candidates receiving the largest number of valid votes will be inducted into the Board of Directors during the 2014 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



2014 Board of Directors
Official Mail-in Ballot

Mail-in ballots MUST BE SIGNED for authenticity and received at the P.O. Box by 12:00 p.m. on Friday, February 21, 2014 to be counted in the election.

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

Vote for 3 candidates

- Ryan Gust
- Blaise Lukasiewicz
- Andy Marhoul
- Jack Newell
- Kyle Nystrom
- Carl Young

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

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

January

23..... OSA Ad Book Deadline

February

2..... Groundhog Day
18..... Mail-in deadline for Dinner Dance tickets
21..... Deadline for Board election absentee ballots
24..... PayPal deadline for Dinner Dance tickets

March

1..... OSA 36th Annual Meeting and Dinner
9..... Daylight Savings Begins (spring forward)
17..... St. Patrick's Day
20..... Spring Equinox

April

1..... OSA Vibrations copy Deadline (no joke)

May

16-18 OSA Spring Fix-it Weekend
26..... Memorial Day

