



*The Newsletter for the Members of the Owasippe Staff Association*

# Vibrations

**2016, Volume 38, Issue 2**

## 38th Annual Dinner Dance — Silent Auctions and Lively Conversation

*by Caitlin Boline, OSA board member*

On Saturday, March 5th, Owasippe friends from near and far gathered on the South Side to celebrate friendship and fellowship at the 38th Annual OSA Meeting/Banquet. Thanks to the planning efforts by Candy Merritt, the night was a success, and enjoyed thoroughly by those that attended. Highlights of the evening included:

### **2016 OSA Board Election Results**

Kurt Wolff-Klammer, **PRESIDENT**  
Carl Young, **VICE PRESIDENT**  
Barb Lea, **SECRETARY**  
Conrad Zadlo, **TREASURER**  
Ryan Gust  
Eric Hetland  
Blaise Lukasiewicz  
Kyle Nystrom  
Andy Sirota

### **2015 Member of the Year Recipient**

Ken Graczyk

### **Honorary Life Member**

Candy Merritt

### **Raffle Winners**

Ultimate Split-the-pot: Amy Ryan

iPad Mini: Mike Brus

Amazon Gift Card: Susan Derby

### **Net Funds Raised for OSA Programs**

The OSA Ad Book: \$1,380

Dinner Dance Raffles: \$810

Dinner Dance Silent Auctions: \$1,238

Thank you to all who attended and worked to make this year's Dinner Dance a success! We look forward to seeing you next year! ♣



(more Dinner Dance photos throughout!)

## President's Perspective

by Kurt Wolff-Klammer, OSA President

The March 6th Annual Dinner Dance was very successful. I would like to thank everyone that worked hard to help with this event. We had many creative and practical silent auction items. I know a good time was had by all. I would like to congratulate Barb Lea on her re-election and Kyle Nystrom for being elected to the board. I also would like to thank everyone that ran for the board. I hope they will consider running in the future.



While at the Dinner Dance I had a couple of members come up to me and ask if they could run events. I am looking forward to these events and seeing everyone there. If you want to get involved, there are many ways to get involved with the OSA without being on the board.

I am hoping to see many of our members at upcoming events, including the Spring and Fall Fix-its, Bar Crawl, Picnic, and Bowling. We have some great projects planned for The Spring Fix-it this May to help get Camp Carlen reopened for Webelos. I am certain that these are signs that camp will be used more.

All of our work with the completed Guest Lodge is paying off. I have been excited to hear about many people staying at Guest Lodge. I have heard that it has been used almost every weekend this winter. I am proud of the hard work of all our members on this project and to see that Guest Lodge is being used again. ♣



## OSA Bar Crawl 2016 - Oak Lawn

by Scott Dorencz

The OSA bar crawl returns on Saturday, June 11, 2016, after taking a year off! Bring your thirst for a fun night out with great OSA friends. Eat before hand or grab some food at our meeting place, BJ McMahon's on 95th. See you there!

RSVP on the Facebook event page or to Scott Dorencz. **phone:** 708-567-7714 **email:** ScottDorencz@icloud.com

This is a 21 and over only event. Please drink responsibly and designate a driver.

Itinerary:

**6:30-8:00**

BJ McMahon's  
5432 95th St, Oak Lawn, IL  
Food available

**8:00-9:00**

George's Lounge  
5407 95th St, Oak Lawn, IL

**9:00-10:00**

St James Place  
5305 95th St, Oak Lawn, IL

**10:00-??????**

Deja Brew Bar & Grill  
5219 95th St, Oak Lawn, IL  
Food available (food last call 10:45)

**\*Backup bar**

Goal Post  
5207 95th St, Oak Lawn, IL

**\*Closing campfire** (weather permitting)

The Fire Pit  
Scott and Barbie's backyard  
9207 Tulley Ave, Oak Lawn, IL

**Parking/Taxi**

Free parking lot behind Deja Brew  
Oak Lawn Metra parking garage  
95th street  
Scott and Barbie's house (meet at 6:15 and walk with the group to the first bar)  
<http://www.mcnamaracab.com/>

♣

# Meet Your 2016 Camp Directors



**Steve Adams**  
**Reservation Director**

This year Steve will serve as the Reservation Director at Owasippe. This is not a new role to him, as he also served in this role during the summer of 2001. Steve has lived in the Chicago-land area for 16 years working in the areas of camping (primarily), fundraising, and administration. During this time, he gave up his allegiance to the St. Louis Cardinals baseball team and adopted the Cubs who play nine blocks for his home. This has proven to be a frustrating experience, but he maintains hope that “next year” has finally arrived and looks forward to post-season baseball.

Prior to coming to Chicago, Steve served as the Camping Director in Orange County, CA, District Director in Cincinnati, OH and Pontiac, MI and also as National Sales Representative with Supply Division in Texas. His passion has always been to involve youth in a quality Scouting program like the one he had while growing up in Kentucky. Steve is an Eagle Scout, a Vigil Honor Member of OA, and was a Lodge Chief as a youth. He is always glad at the end of the summer when many scouts enjoyed a great program, no major injuries reported, and the summer budget has been balanced. He is pleased to take this opportunity to recognize the Owasippe Staff Association for their continued support of the property and the summer camp program. He is continually glad for the OSA’s help.



**Caitlin Boline**  
**Camp Carlen Camp Director/Associate Reservation Director**

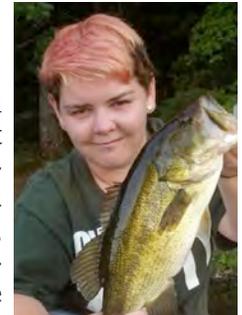
Caitlin is excited for the opportunity to come out of “camp retirement” to support new OSR programming at Webelos Science Camp which will return to Carlen. In addition, she will be supporting Owasippe leadership in the role of Associate Reservation Director. Caitlin previously held leadership roles at OSR as both the Reneker Camp Director and High Adventure Director. Caitlin serves as the Director of ESL/Alternative Education for Battle Creek Public Schools. She is looking forward to the exciting, progressive changes happening at OSR this summer!

**Zach Carlson**  
**Camp Wolverine Camp Director**



This will be Zach’s 11th year coming to Owasippe and his seventh consecutive year working on staff. He has worked at Wolverine for his entire time on staff, first as an aquatics instructor, then Pathfinder Director, and now Camp Director. Camp has been his “home away from home” since he began coming to Owasippe and he has high hopes for this coming summer. With new programs and new troops coming up, he hopes to make this one of the most exciting years yet for both scouts and staff. Zach is currently earning his B.S. in History at Illinois State University with plans to pursue a master’s degree or federal work following graduation.

**Nicole Valle**  
**High Adventure Director**



Nicole has worked on High Adventure staff since 2010, first serving on the COPE and Climbing staff and then as the 2014 HiAd Assistant Director. In 2015, when the High Adventure Director was hired full time to the council right before summer, Nicole moved into this position. This year she has enjoyed being more involved in the off-season preparation for the summer so that she can hit the ground running in June!

When she’s not at camp, Nicole works as part of a reading intervention team helping students ages Kindergarten to Second Grade in Calumet City District 155. She has an associate’s degree in art and is currently working towards a bachelor’s in education. When Nicole first joined camp staff, she was entirely new to scouting, but now Owasippe has become a second home to her. She looks forward to bringing new ideas to the High Adventure program and finding exciting ways to help Owasippe grow.

# 2016 Camp Directors continued



**Kyle Nystrom**  
**Camp Blackhawk Camp Director**

Kyle Nystrom, 25, lives on Chicago's northwest side with his family. He's working as a server part time while pursuing an Outdoor Education Degree. He is excited for Owasippe 2016 to serve his 12th summer on camp staff. He's worked Wolverine and High Adventure as Handicraft Director, Commissioner, Assistant Camp Director, and COPE Director. This year he is serving as Blackhawk's Director and can not be any more ready to accept the responsibility of providing the best program possible.

**Rachel Weber**  
**Camp Reneker Camp Director**



Rachel is excited to return to Camp Reneker after taking the 2015 summer off to begin a Master's degree in Speech-Language Pathology from Elmhurst College. Rachel Weber worked at Owasippe for 10 summers at both Reneker and Blackhawk. She most recently served at the Aquatics Director at Reneker summers 2012-2014. She will graduate this May and begin her search for a job in either an education or medical setting. (Hint hint: if you have a lead, let her know!)

## More from the 2016 Dinner Dance



## Galloping Grapevine

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### Call for submissions:

Hey there, loyal Vibrations reader! As you may be aware, **Galloping Grapevine** is the place for any and all info on the comings and goings of all OSA members. As much as they'd like to think so, the OSA board is not all-seeing or all-knowing – sometimes they need help. They need your help to see and know things.

So let them know what's going down in your neck of the woods, fork in the road, or stick in the mud. It doesn't have to be long, it doesn't have to be about you, but it does have to be mostly accurate.

Send submissions to [kulak.pete@gmail.com](mailto:kulak.pete@gmail.com). Please put OSA newsletter in the subject line, so it doesn't fall into the inbox vortex. Thanks!

- Pete Kulak, editor

### On to the Grapevine:

Brian Weems recently obtained his Director of Special Education certification.

Barb Lea and Eddie Ojode are getting married on May 7th.

Scott and Barbie Dorencz had a baby boy. Kurt Daniel Dorencz was born on April 2nd.

Mike Brus recently accepted a Brewer position at Bell's Brewery in Comstock, MI. He began work at a different position at Bell's in the summer of 2014 in hopes of eventually securing a brewing position. Huge Congrats, Brus!



## OSA Family Picnic - August 14

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*by Eric Hetland*

Please join us for the return of the OSA Family Picnic, which will be on Sunday, August 14, starting at 11:00 a.m. at Grove 2 of Sundown Meadow Forest Preserve in Countryside, IL. The entrance to the grounds is on the west side of LaGrange Road at 67th, just north of I-55.

Pack up a picnic lunch, bring the grill out to cook up your favorite dish, or call up an old camp friend to split some great food and conversation! But no matter what you do, be there! The OSA will provide some kids' games and softball equipment, but feel free to bring other items, such as kites, footballs, baseball gloves, beanbags, or flying discs. This is a great event for mini reunions and is conveniently scheduled for one week after the closing banquet up at Owasippe. Therefore, current staff are encouraged to attend and share the best stories from summer 2016! So call up some old staff buddies you haven't seen in years, catch up over some delicious food and drink, and relive summers up at Owasippe. We look forward to seeing you there!

## Spring Fix-it - May 20-22

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*by Andy Sirota, Fix-it chair*

Well, the new camping season is coming up, and that means the Spring Fix-it is right around the corner, May 20 – 22. There is plenty to do, and spring is a beautiful time of year to head up to Owasippe! We will meet at Food Prep for breakfast at 7:30 a.m. Michigan (Eastern) time on Saturday morning. This year, all of the meals will be provided by the OSA, so come hungry. Bring your cordless drills, saws, hammers, and willingness to help!

RSVP: Andy Sirota at [a\\_sirota@msn.com](mailto:a_sirota@msn.com) or 630-310-0093 by May 14 to ensure we have enough food.

### WHAT WILL YOU BE HELPING WITH?

• We will be doing road crew, painting, roofing, carpentry, general repairs, etc.

### PLEASE NOTE:

1) Persons under 18 MUST be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. 2) Alcohol is strictly prohibited on Owasippe property. 3) Ground fires are not allowed by Reneker Cabins.

# Wanted: Camp Commissioners at Owasippe for 2016

We need your assistance this summer! Owasippe needs volunteer Scouters to work as Camp Commissioners. You can volunteer for one or two weeks. Please pass this information on to other Scouters who may be available. See below for details on sign-up and camp duties.

This is your chance to be part of the 2016 Owasippe staff and help assist troop leadership and development. You will be of great assistance to the adult volunteers who give leadership to the Scouts at camp. They will benefit greatly from your efforts.

You will be provided with a 2016 Owasippe Staff patch and special Staff T-shirt. Plus, you will receive many memories of the Scouts and leaders who attend camp during the summer.

We will have Pre-Camp training in Chicago in the month of May.

During camp, we ask you to be at Owasippe Ad Center by noon on Sunday starting your week. We will have training at Owasippe from 12:30 to 3 pm, and then you will go to your sub-camp.

## Get a Staff Application at:

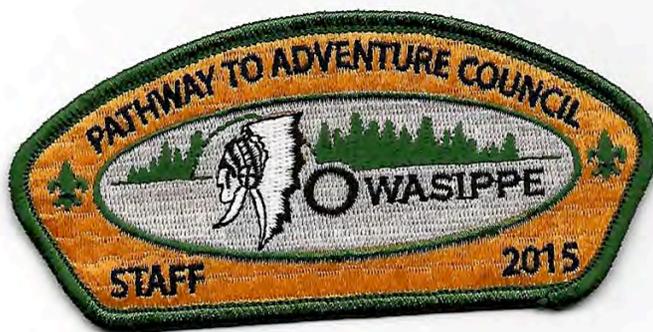
[pathwaytoadventure.org/camping/staff](http://pathwaytoadventure.org/camping/staff)

Fill out an application and hard copy it twice; one for your records, and one for interview.

## Please send Staff Applications to:

Pathway to Adventure Council, BSA  
Attn: Owasippe Reservation Director  
617 E Golf Road #101  
Arlington Heights, IL 60005

For questions, please contact CIT Coordinator Frank Chlebek at [fchlebek2076@wowway.com](mailto:fchlebek2076@wowway.com).



## Requirements

- Submit 2016 Camp Staff application.
- Long term BSA camp physical.
- Registered member of the BSA. (You can register as Camp Staff for the \$24 fee if you are not currently registered)
- Must wear a complete Summer Scout

Uniform with Scout shorts, belt, and socks.

- Two to three summer camp experiences as a camp unit leader, or former staff member.

- Ability to walk to perform your duties in Camp in any kind of weather, and strenuous activity.

- Working knowledge of the Owasippe Summer Camp program.

- Ability to listen to adult leaders, diagnose situation, and getting situations resolved.

- Work along with younger staff to solve any situations that arise.

- Attendance at Pre-Camp Meeting.

## Duties while in Camp

- Work under the guidance and direction of Camp Director, and/or Senior Commissioner.

- Be a part of the camp staff and assist in camp operations.

- Be responsible to assist several units in camp during the week

- o Work with SPL for Baden Powell Award.

- o Work with unit leaders on issues they may have.

- o Follow through on solutions to issues.

- Assist in the camp office and lodge to answer questions of unit leadership.

- Follow the camp program and assist where ever you can (i.e., medical emergency or Pathfinder Program)

- Live in staff housing with an adult Commissioner partner.

- Be present at all staff meals while in camp unless excused by Camp Dir. or Sr. Commish.

- Provide leadership in Merit Badge work where you are qualified.

## More from the 2016 Dinner Dance



# Gift Card Program

THANK YOU – February Gift Card orders made **\$468.20** in sales and donations.

**Deadline:** The next Shopping/Gift card orders must be postmarked by May 6, 2016.  
**Order form:** [http://owasippe.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/gift\\_card\\_flyer.pdf](http://owasippe.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/gift_card_flyer.pdf)

Did you know that the OSA spends about \$1,000.00 on food for the OSA Fix-its? It is always helpful and appreciated when we get Gift Card donations to help with some of the costs. If you would like to make a donation, please send checks only (no cash) payable to the Owasippe Staff Association.

**Mail entire form and check to:**

Edgar Wolff-Klammer, 7820 Keystone Skokie, IL 60076

Questions? Contact Edgar: [ewolffklammer@prodigy.net](mailto:ewolffklammer@prodigy.net) or call 847-677-1688

I want to buy \_\_\_\_\_ gift cards  
for the OSA to use at the Fix-it.

Enclosed (\$25 each) \_\_\_\_\_

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*

### *April*

29-May 1..... MOB (Make Owasippe Better) Weekend

### *May*

6..... Gift Card Order Deadline

20-22 ..... OSA Spring Fix-it Weekend

22-25 ..... Owasippe Lodge OA Work Weekend

### *June*

11..... OSA Bar Crawl

17..... Owasippe Staff Week Begins

25..... Owasippe Open to Scouts

### *July*

4..... Independence Day

25..... Christmas in July

### *August*

7..... OSA Vibrations copy Deadline

7..... Camp Shutdown Week Begins

14..... OSA Family Picnic

