



The Newsletter for the Members of the Owasippe Staff Association

# Vibrations

2016, Volume 38, Issue 3

## Chinese Scouts Receive a Warm Wolverine Welcome.

by Paul Kerchberger, 2016 Wolverine Pathfinder Director

Camp Wolverine — Zaxie! — had the pleasure this summer of hosting 14 cultural exchange scouts from Beijing, China. These brave young men flew across the globe to spend a week at Owasippe with their host troop and truly took in all that camp had to offer. All of the scouts took part in the Pathfinder Program to experience all areas of camp and learn skills that would otherwise not be offered to them in their home country.

The Wolverine staff was thrilled to have them in camp and had an amazing time interacting with the young men, despite the language barrier. It was a learning experience for both the scouts and staff alike! The Wolverine staff wishes nothing but the best for their new friends and hope they can share the ideals of the Boy Scouts of America with those they interact with back at home in China. ♣



## OSA Fall Fix-it — September 16 - 18, 2016

**WE NEED YOU!** We will be doing a number of odd jobs & special projects to help get the camp ready to close down for winter ... painting, roofing, carpentry, general repairs, etc. We also need cooks for the weekend.

We will meet at Food Prep for breakfast at 8:00 a.m. Michigan (Eastern) time on Saturday morning.

**PLEASE RSVP** by September 9th to: Andy Sirota, Fix-it Chairman, 630-310-0093, or osafixit@gmail.com.

We need to know who is planning to attend so we can provide lodging, buy enough food and assemble work crews. If you have a cabin preference please let us know.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Persons under 18 **MUST** be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.  
Alcohol is strictly prohibited on Owasippe property.

## President's Perspective

by Kurt Wolff-Klammer, OSA President

As the summer is coming to its end I have heard many great things about Owasippe. I have been excited to hear how well the Webelos camp went at Carlen and hopefully many of them return next year as Boy Scouts. It was great to know that they could use the picnic tables and floor boards that the OSA, OA, and MOB made for them. I have seen many photos of the new activities. I am jealous the ATVs were not around when I was a scout.



I am looking forward to working with this past year's staff and hoping that many of them join the OSA. Many of the staff members have great ideas on ways to improve camp. Maybe we can make some of them into reality. If you know any of the current or even past staff members, encourage them to come out and join us at our upcoming events.

Regarding the future, I am looking forward to hearing about new projects from the Owasippe properties committee that we can help with to improve camp. Hopefully we can start some of them during the Fall Fix-it September 17-19. Hope to see everyone then.✿

## 2016 Staff Members of the Year

**CIT of the Year:** Max Rodriguez

**Reneker:** Katie Johnson

**High Adventure:** Elliot Brinker

**Wolverine:** Over 18: Joe Waddick  
Under 18: Matt Hanlon

**Blackhawk:** Over 18: Matt McComb  
Under 18: Eddie McCarthy

**Congrats and Kudos to all!**

## Owasippe 2016

by Caitlin Boline, 2016 Associate Reservation Director

The summer of 2016 brought many positive changes to OSR that resulted in exciting opportunities for scouts, leaders and scouting families!

On a reservation level, scouts and families had the opportunity to hop on the Owasippe adventure bus which made stops at all camps and outposts to allow families to not rely on personal vehicles to experience all that OSR (and beyond) had to offer. This addition allowed for continued partnership at Gerber Scout Reservation, with Owasippe scouts participating in metalworking, welding and mountain boarding with cub scouts utilizing the exciting program areas at their Webelos location. Many of these programs were facilitated through High Adventure staff, who additionally offered a new ATV program and enhanced mountain biking program.

At Blackhawk, scouts had a blast at the favored "Don Ho Memorial Classic" where they engaged in ACTUAL underwater basket weaving, Hawaiian pizza eating, sandcastle building, and a variety of other high-energy activities which went well over program time.

Wolverine staff enjoyed the opportunity to host scouts from China and offered exciting programs such as a camp-wide evening canoe trip and black powder shoot.

Reneker families enjoyed the theme of "Toy Story" and the staff worked hard to really drive home the idea of "you've got a friend in me". Families enjoyed the addition of new lounge chairs, provided grills and the opportunity to order groceries, prepared meals, and other fun options.

Cub camping returned to Carlen with a new vision and updated facilities that included a specialized staff with a science background to deliver the Science-themed programming and ensure completion of the NOVA: Science Everywhere award. Webelos scouts left excited to return to either Carlen or section camp next year.

All camps received rave reviews on the new food service contract that was established for this camping season. The food preparation building underwent renovations to allow for on-site cooking with fresh ingredients, which scouts and staff alike enjoyed. On a reservation level, scouters and scouting families left the 2016 season extremely happy with their whole experience and looking forward to the 2017 OSR experience!✿

# OSA Spring Fix-it 2016

by Andy Sirota, OSA board member

I am happy to report that the 2016 Spring work weekend was a huge success. The camp continues to improve after every work weekend because of our contributions. First, I would like to thank all those who came up and participated in the projects this May. All of this would not be possible without your continued support and service. Projects large and small were completed throughout camp from the decking at the Blackhawk dining hall to building floor boards; everyone pitched in and did a wonderful job.

This spring we were able to install 36 light kits on the fans at Reneker. I know they will brighten up those cabins at night.

There was a small crew working tirelessly with the wood chipper at Blackhawk to clean up a lot of brush along the camp road.

A few of the deck boards at the Blackhawk

dining hall were rotting and those were replaced just in time for the new summer camping season.

One crew built 29 floor boards in the morning; then assembled 10 picnic tables and several table legs in the afternoon before a delicious dinner was served.

The road crew did a wonderful job working all day to remove all sorts of trash along the OSA's adopt-a-spot area. The immaculate road to camp will be one of the first things scouts see when they arrive.

Lastly, the crew at the horse corral working at the horse shelter did an excellent job and completed the project in time for the first scouts to arrive.

Thank you once again for all your service and dedication.♣



# OSA Pub Night Fun!



# Tomoko Lutz Memorial

by Barb Lea, OSA board member

I had the pleasure of taking a road trip with a couple of long-time camp friends up to Owasippe on July 9 to attend the Memorial Service for Tomoko Lutz, a dear friend to all. The ceremony was simple and beautiful. It was a testimony to her life and all of the different ages and kinds of people she touched deeply through the years. Her husband Jerry and daughter Susan did an amazing job of providing a picture of her entire life, and giving time and opportunity for us friends and loved ones to pay tribute to such an amazing woman. We wrote on cards, single words that described her, listened to her interesting life story that brought her to Owasippe, shared our memories, and listened as Ed Kinnerk played “White Buffalo” as a tribute to her life and happiness now that she is at peace in a better place.

For those of you who were not able to attend or who could not understand my testimony through my tears - Tomoko was very special to me. Not only did she make me feel like I had a mom at camp with me, she gave us fun opportunities for activities at her cabin (such as watching Japanese game shows!). Ed Kinnerk and many of the Carlen staffers would spend fun times with Tomoko on various occasions.

During college, I lived in the International House at Illinois State University, where I always had a roommate from Japan! Tomoko was always so supportive of these exchange students that she even came out to our dorm kitchen and cooked for several Japanese and other exchange students and I! She was a rare breed — a genuine kindred spirit who put herself in others’ shoes and truly cared.



Finally, one summer, Sue and Tomoko offered me a couple of copy paper boxes full of origami cubes that Tomoko had beautifully made after several strokes. Not only did I use these cubes to decorate the two hospital classrooms that I have taught in since receiving them, but I also take time to explain the backstory to admirers of the origami cubes. They ask me about them, and I tell them

that a very amazing woman and friend of mine, despite having strokes and various setbacks, was determined to still create the beautiful origami and other artwork she blessed the world with in her lifetime. She showed others that you can get past physical setbacks, and this inspires my students doing inpatient physical rehabilitation every day.

Rest in peace, Tomoko-chan.

Love,  
Barb Lea



## Shopping/Gift Card Program

**THANK YOU – Year to Date Gift Card orders have made \$720.00 in sales and donations.**

### Deadline

The next Shopping/Gift card orders must be postmarked by September 7, 2016.  
Orders received after the cut-off date will be returned because the cards must be ordered all at once.

### Please note

Shopping/Gift card denominations can change without notice. Orders must be made in multiples of the card amount. On rare occasions, cards become unavailable or are discontinued. If this occurs, we will refund your money.

### Pick Up or Shipping

You can pick up your order (free of charge) at the upcoming OSA Fix-It on September 17, 2016.

Please note: If you choose to have your cards shipped to you, we will send them via Priority Mail with delivery confirmation. Unfortunately the USPS will NOT insure gift cards through the mail. That being said, Priority Mail with delivery confirmation is still a very safe way to send the cards, and it's a flat fee of \$5.25 no matter what!

### “I NEVER USED GIFT CARDS, SO I WANT TO DONATE SOME TO THE OSA”

We have had members from all over the country send us donations.

 	I want to buy _____ gift cards for the OSA to use at the Fix it.	Enclosed (\$25 each) _____.
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### Send checks only (no cash)

Checks payable to the Owasippe Staff Association Mail entire form and check to:  
Edgar Wolff-Klammer, 7820 Keystone Skokie, IL 60076

### Questions?

Contact Edgar Wolff-Klammer at  
[ewolffklammer@prodigy.net](mailto:ewolffklammer@prodigy.net) 847-677-1688

**NOTE: You must fill out both sides of this form completely and send in the whole form!**

Name:
Phone:
Address:

CHECKOUT	
Total Amount Ordered	
+ Shipping (\$5.25 if applicable)	
Total Amount Enclosed	

The Disc column shows what percentage of the gift card amount goes to the OSA in cash.

## Galloping Grapevine



Board Member Eric Hetland accepted a position in Northwestern University's Residential Services Department. He will serve as an Assistant Residence Director while earning a Master's degree in Higher Education Administration and Policy at Northwestern, starting in September.

Blaise and Beth Lukasiewicz are expecting their first child in January of 2017.

Barb Lea, long-time Camp Reneker camper, Owasippe staffer, and current OSA board secretary, was married to Edward Ojode at St. Gregory the Great Church on Chicago's northside on May 7th, 2016. Congratulations to Barb and Eddy!



## Fall Fix-it September 16-18

by Andy Sirota, OSA board member

Well, another summer has come to an end and that means the Fall Fix-it is right around the corner, on the weekend of September 16-18. There is plenty to do, and autumn is a beautiful time of year to head up to Owasippe! We will meet at Food Prep for breakfast at 8:00 a.m. Michigan (Eastern) time on Saturday morning.

All meals are being provided by the best cooks I know, the OSA. If you can swing a skillet or spatula, we're looking for help in the kitchen. Bring your cordless drills, saws, hammers, and willingness to help!

RSVP: osafixit@gmail.com or 630-310-0093 by September 12 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.

## See You at the End of the Trail

Bill Schaefer, Sr., 73, died July 3, 2016, from kidney cancer. Bill died peacefully in his sleep at his daughter's home with family around him. Bill started working at Owasippe in 1971 at Camp Wolverine North — Zap! — and worked at both Robert Crown and the unified Wolverine, where he developed the Zaxie call and the camp song that scouts still sing at every campfire.

Edward C. Jacobs, Scout Executive for the Chicago Area Council from 1976-1985 passed away on March 5, 2016. Ed retired in 2000 from the Boy Scouts after 41 years and spent his retired years "cruising" the world, spending time with his family, fishing and going to the horse racing tracks. He loved Owasippe and scouting. Ed is survived by his wife Jean, who lives in California, his son David (wife Sinead), daughter Laurie (husband Chris)(Laurie "Jake" worked at Camp Reneker from 1979-1987), and his 4 grandchildren: Megan, Christina, Kevin, and Kimberly.

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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*

- 5..... Gift Card Order Deadline
- 9..... Fall Fix-it RSVPs due
- 16-18 ..... OSA Fall Fix-it Weekend

### *October*

- 15..... OSA Vibrations copy Deadline
- 31..... Halloween

### *November*

- 11..... Veterans' Day
- 24..... Thanksgiving Day
- 25..... OSA Pizza Night

### *December*

- 25..... Christmas
- 31..... New Year's Eve

