



The Newsletter for the Members of the Owasippe Staff Association

Vibrations

2018, Volume 40, Issue 1

40th Annual Meeting & Dinner Dance Honorees Announced

by Barb Lea

The Owasippe Staff Association and its Board of Directors would like to formally honor all nine of the OSA's Charter Members responsible for establishing our amazing organization: Ron Kulak, Chauncey Niziol, Joe Sener, Jack "Tiny" Norman, Bill Lotter, Tom Crissey, Scott Weber, Larry Miller, and Chuck Nagel.

In 1977, these nine passionate and dedicated staffers decided to take action to form an organization that would bind the ties of brotherhood forged while on Owasippe staff, preserve the fellowship that they enjoyed, and work together as a group for the greater good of Owasippe — repairing camp facilities, enhancing programs, and providing materials. After throwing the concept around between them, they began to hold regular meetings. They discussed a fraternal association, wrote up bylaws, and formed a legal not-for-profit corporation. It was not always easy, but they persevered to establish an organization vested in the maintenance and advancement of the

Owasippe Scout Reservation and all it has to offer, creating an integral piece of the foundation that supports Owasippe today.

Shake the hands of such forward-thinking individuals and hear their stories at our 40th Anniversary celebration! In addition to honoring our nine Charter Members, the OSA Board has planned many activities for the night! See our special 40th Anniversary slideshow, participate in the ultimate Owasippe trivia challenge, bid in the silent auction, and enjoy "roll call" and a camp-style sing-a-long accompanied by accordion. And of course, enjoy dinner and dancing. Let's get all of our Owasippe friends and family together to toast the OSA members with us today, and with us in spirit. ♣



OSA Founding Board Members (left to right): Ron Kulak, Phillip (Chauncey) Niziol, Joseph Sener, Jack (Tiny) Norman, Bill Lotter, Tom Crissey, Scott Weber, Larry Miller. The chair is empty in honor of Charles (Chuck) Nagel, pictured left.

President's Perspective

by Kurt Wolff-Klammer, OSA President

Happy 40th Anniversary! It's time to celebrate the Owasippe Staff Association's 40th anniversary. It has been 40 great years since Thomas Crissey, Ron Kulak, Bill Lotter, Larry Miller, Chuck Nagel, Phil "Chauncey" Niziol, Jack "Tiny" Norman, Joe Sener, and Scott Weber formed the OSA. Many scouts have hiked the trails, earned merit badges and made lifelong memories while attending Owasippe. The hard work and dedication of the OSA has improved the camp and its programs. So please mark your calendar and join us on March 3rd to celebrate this historic milestone.



I would like to thank Conrad and Eric for their past 3 years on the board and Andy for his 6 years on the board. Also, thank you to all the other board members for their support and hard work this past year. The BIGGEST Thank You goes to all of our members and friends who have contributed to the OSA by attending work weekends and OSA events, and by their generous financial donations.

Mark your calendar now for the Annual Meeting and Dinner on March 3, 2017 and the May 18-20 Spring Fix-it. I hope to see you all soon. ♣

Apply now for 2018 Owasippe camp staff

Spread the word — Owasippe camp staff positions are still open for the 2018 season.

Apply now! Take your mouse or your mobile device and head on over to:

<http://www.pathwaytoadventure.org/camping/campstaff>

to fill out an application.

2018 Spring Fix-it May 18-20

by Scott Dorencz

Everyone mark your calendars! This year's Spring Fix-It will be held on May 18-20, the weekend before Memorial Day. If it's been a few years since your last trip to camp, the work weekend is a great excuse!

All skill levels are welcome and there will be a job for everyone. If working hard labor isn't your cup of tea, don't fret. We also need cooks to re-fuel the crews. Guests are put up in Reneker cabins and all meals on Saturday are provided.

Reserving a spot is simple. Just give Fix-It chair Scott Dorencz a ring and you are in. Email and texts are also accepted. See you there!

RSVP: Scott Dorencz at 708-567-7714 or ScottDorencz@icloud.com by May 14th.

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. ♣



Silent Auction Items Needed for 2018 Dinner Dance

by Kyle Nystrom

The Silent Auctions at the OSA Annual Dinner Dances are always filled with an array of Owasippe related items, fun packages, and a lot more! So, I would like to say thank you to everyone who has donated in the past. We greatly appreciate your donation to help raise funds.

In the spirit of annual events, it is time to submit donations you might be able to contribute for this year's Dinner Dance Silent Auction! Get your creative juices flowing, and consider resources you may have with local businesses: restaurants, breweries, spas, sporting outfitters, et cetera.

All donations are a tax deductible donation to the OSA. To make a donation, please email Kyle Nystrom at nystrom.kyle@gmail.com. All donations to the silent auction are welcome and appreciated very much.

Thank you! ♣

2018 OSA Board of Directors Candidates



Mike Brus

Mike Brus, age 32, is a resident of Kalamazoo, MI. He attended Northern Illinois University where he earned his BS in Education. He is currently working as a brewer for Bells Brewery in Kalamazoo, MI. Mike joined Scouting in 1992

and first experienced Owasippe at Carlen in 1997. He joined staff in 2003 and worked on staff for the next 12 years. He has served as a Nature Instructor, Nature Director, Commissioner, and Camp Director at Blackhawk. He has also served as Climbing Director, Webelos Camp Director, CIT Director, and Associate Reservation Director during his time on staff at Owasippe.

Since his time working on staff ended, Mike has focused on volunteering at Owasippe, with an emphasis on helping the mountain biking program grow. Mike's favorite OSA events are the work weekends and dinner dance.

If elected to the Board of Directors, Mike's goal will be to foster strong relationships with current camp staff leadership. He hopes that these relationships will allow the OSA to continue to provide the appropriate resources to improve the program and experience for the Scouts and campers who visit Owasippe.



Kevin Harper

Kevin Harper, 30 years old, lives in Villa Park, Illinois.

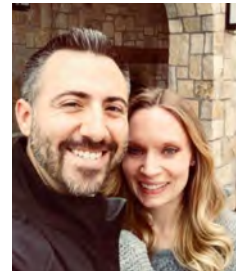
Currently, he works in national customer rebates and set-up for US Foods in Rosemont. When not working on his house he can be found tinkering in the garage on a variety of projects.

Kevin was a CIT in 2003 and then worked various positions at Blackhawk and High Adventure until 2009. He then returned to work at Blackhawk in 2011. He earned his Eagle Scout with Troop 969 and is also a vigil member. He is a former Owasippe Lodge Chief and Section Chief for O/A.

"I feel that I have met some of my best friends working on camp staff. My fondest memories at camp are work weekends and working on change over. I hope that I can add valuable input and assistance to the board in the years to come while furthering the mission of the OSA."

Adam Keene

Adam Keene, 35, a native south-sider, currently resides in Oak Forest, IL, with his wife and 2 year old son. They are expecting baby number two in early February. For the past 6 years, Adam has worked as an engineer for Ford Motor Company at the south side Chicago Assembly Plant where they make the Ford Explorer and Taurus.



Adam began scouting in Calumet Council Troop 507 out of Burnham, IL. He fell in love with Owasippe as a camper in '97 and '98 and felt the calling to serve on staff the next year. He had an amazing first year on staff in the summer of 1999 at Camp Blackhawk and after earning the rank of Eagle Scout, he was happy to return to Camp Blackhawk staff in 2001 and 2002.

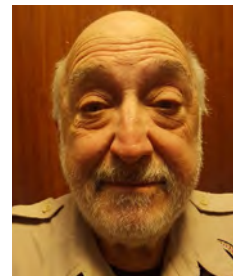
Adam enjoys working on cars, home improvement projects, and visiting Owasippe every chance he gets. He is a Life Member of the OSA and one of his favorite times of year is volunteering at the Fix-It weekends and working with the Dorencz crew. As an OSA board member, Adam would strive to find more ways to help Owasippe as well as get more younger staff involved in the OSA.

Bob Kurth

Bob Kurth, 75, lives with his wife of 45 years in the Hyde Park neighborhood of Chicago's south side where he grew up.

Bob spent two weeks each summer from 1955 thru 1958 as a camper at Camp Wilderness. He returned to Owasippe in 1971 as Scoutmaster of Troop 1559 and brought the troop back every year thru 2007.

In 2008, he joined the OSR staff as a commissioner at Camp Wolverine and continued to serve in that role thru 2010. From 2011 thru 2016 he held the position of Training Director overseeing the adult leader training of some 400 leaders. 2017 saw Bob serving as a volunteer commissioner welcoming visitors to the OSR Museum.



Board Candidates

(continued)

Greg Lange

Greg Lange, 43, lives in Frankfort, IL. He left the Catholic school system with 15 years of service as both a teacher and administrator. He is currently teaching for School District 163. Greg earned his bachelor's degree from St. Joseph's College, and has two Masters: One in Education and one in Old Testament.



Greg spent 15 years on camp staff. His first year was in 1989 as a C.I.T. Over the years he held a variety of positions including Health Officer, various positions in high adventure. High Adventure director, and Blackhawk Commissioner. From the years of 2005-2007, Greg served as Reservation Director. Under his leadership, camp numbers increased by 3 percent.

Greg wants to serve on the OSA Board of Directors to ensure that the facilities are upgraded so that the scouts and leaders are happy. A great camp experience will lead to an increase in scout numbers.

Make your vote count!

Voting for our Board of Directors takes place on March 3 at the OSA dinner dance. See Election Information and find the Absentee ballot on page 7 of this very issue of Vibrations!

Galloping Grapevine



Congratulations are in order for Adam Keene. He joined Ford as a quality engineer in 2011 and recently accepted a position as a product development engineer. If you are driving a quiet and smooth-riding Ford, be sure to thank Adam. He specializes in squeak and rattle abatement.

On October 28th, 2017, Joe Sener, Jr. got engaged to Eris Ross. We congratulate the two of them on their recent engagement and wish them the best with their wedding planning!

After 10 years with Nabco Entrances, Scott Dorencz recently accepted a position with Tee Jay Service, the premier automatic door contractor in the Chicagoland area. Scott can't be happier with

Rachel Weber

Rachel Weber, 26, lives on the northwest side of Chicago. Rachel completed her master's degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders in 2016 and her Clinical Fellowship in 2017. She is a licensed Speech Language Pathologist and works at a therapeutic day school called



Timber Ridge School with grades kindergarten through 8th grade on a wide range of communication needs.

Rachel began camping at Reneker Family Camp in 1998. She worked summers 2007-2016 in a variety of counselor and leadership roles at both Reneker and Blackhawk. Her most recent position at Owasippe was as Reneker Camp Director in 2016. She has been a member of the OSA since 2009 and has continued to recognize the OSA as an organization that brings true positive change and support to programs at camp.

"I would love the opportunity to work more through the OSA to support the initiatives happening at OSR. My main goal is to help increase the participation of newer members who might not know where to begin and to connect them to areas where they can be most successful in supporting camp. I want them to continue to have positive experiences at camp and to share memories from the place we all know and love."

the move and enjoys working in the loop, most days. If you work downtown, keep an eye out for his Tee Jay Service truck!

In July 2017, Chrissy Czemske moved to Kuwait City with husband Josh and daughter Lucy as part of Josh's paramedic work.

Susan Czemske & Dave Hedden were married on June 4, 2017. Susan worked Diamond O Ranch as well as High Adventure at Owasippe for several summers. Congrats!

As of January 1st, 2018, Ron Derby is now the Assistant Ranger at Owasippe. The position calls for Ron to work part time at Owasippe during the offseason months and full time from pre-camp thru post-camp. Ron will also continue to operate Derby Design when he is not on duty at camp. With their house just a mile from camp, the Derbys will not be moving onto Owasippe property. Ron is looking forward to helping keep Owasippe going strong into the future, and expects to see you all at all future fix-its! Neal Walsh is the Head Ranger and Justin Feld has taken on the position of Caretaker.

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

*The Owasippe Staff Association's
40th Annual Meeting & Dinner Dance
on March 3, 2018 from 6-11 p.m.*

at Victoria of Rosemont

in the penthouse of the Edward Hotel Chicago (formerly the Holiday Inn Express)

6600 N. Mannheim Rd., Rosemont, IL 60018

847-544-7500 • edwardhotelchicago.com



Ticket price is \$55 per person and includes dinner with an open bar.



Mail-in ticket orders MUST be postmarked by Feb. 23rd

Event tickets will also be available at owasippe.com/ways-to-help/store (via PayPal) until Feb. 23rd

NO tickets will be sold after Feb. 23rd • Event tickets will NOT be sold at the door.



There will be a block of rooms available, at the Edward Hotel, for \$89 per night, plus tax.
Call by Feb. 10th to book, and ask for the "Owasippe Staff Association" or "OSA" discount.



For more info please contact Kyle Nystrom: 773-504-3287 • nystrom.kyle@gmail.com
or Barb Lea: 773-412-1125 • educatorbl@gmail.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.

Pay in advance and get your FAST PASS!

OSA Members

Pay for your event ticket, raffle tickets AND membership dues in advance, and you'll be able to breeze through the check-in table! Simply grab your GOLDEN TICKET, head straight to the elections table to cast your vote, and get right to the good times!

Non-Members & Guests

Pay for your event and raffle tickets in advance and you'll be able to breeze through the check-in table too! Simply grab your placecard and make your way to the FUN!

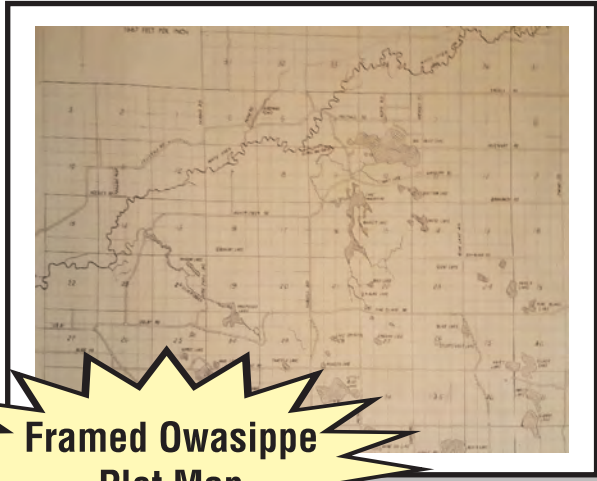
NOTE: In order for this to work smoothly we will need the names of all the attendees in your party as well as an indication of their membership status (see order form).

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 3, 2018. Winners need not be present. Mail-in orders MUST be postmarked by Feb. 23rd (or PayPal by Feb. 23rd) Raffle tickets cannot be purchased online.*



Framed Owasippe Plot Map
\$10 each



ULTIMATE SPLIT-THE-POT
\$10 each

amazon.com

\$250 in Amazon Gift Cards
\$10 each



There will also be an **AWESOME SILENT AUCTION** on the night of the dinner dance!

***PLEASE NOTE:**

Due to PayPal restrictions, raffle tickets cannot be purchased online. Raffle tickets must be purchased by mail or at the event.

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 \$55 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OSA Membership Dues Renewal | | x \$15 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OSA Life Membership | | x \$350 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Framed Owasippe Plot Map (raffle) | | x \$10 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ultimate Split-The-Pot Cash (raffle) | | x \$10 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 in Amazon Gift Cards (raffle) | | x \$10 | |

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

Pay in advance & get your FAST PASS!



Mail to:
Kyle Nystrom (OSA DD)
5354 W. Waveland Ave.
Chicago, IL 60641

2018 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 3, 2018, 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 |
|----------------------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Eric Hetland | Conrad Zadlo | Andy Sirota* | 2018 |
| Barbara Lea* | Kurt Wolff-Klammer* | Kyle Nystrom | 2019 |
| Carl Young* | Scott Dorencz | Doug Lotter | 2020 |

*OSA bylaw two-consecutive term limit goes into effect.

Who may vote?

Each OSA member currently registered (2018) 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 40th Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 3, 2018, 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 (2018) 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 Eric Hetland at (773) 332-8661 or hetland.eric@gmail.com.

Winners Those candidates receiving the largest number of valid votes will be inducted into the Board of Directors during the 2018 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



2018 Board of Directors
Official Mail-in Ballot

Vote for 3 candidates

- Mike Brus
- Kevin Harper
- Adam Keene
- Bob Kurth
- Greg Lange
- Rachel Weber

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 23, 2018 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: **osa.vibrations@gmail.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
- 14..... Valentine's Day
- 23..... Mail-in deadline: Dinner Dance tickets

March

- 1..... Online Deadline: Dinner Dance Tickets
- 3..... OSA 40th Annual Meeting and Dinner
- 17..... St. Patrick's Day
- 20..... Spring Equinox

April

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

May

- 18-20 OSA Spring Fix-it Weekend
- 28..... Memorial Day

