



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

# Vibrations

**2019, Volume 41, Issue 2**

## The 41st Annual Dinner Dance

*by Rachel Weber, OSA Board Secretary*

Another beautiful night of fun and fellowship has come and gone. Owasippe Staff Association members, friends, and family enjoyed the evening on March 2, 2018.

It was an evening to remember. The event was located at the Victoria Banquets in Rosemont. The night began with a rockstar playlist from some of the top DJ's in the business, Johnnie Villarreal and Daniel Schergen. With over 25 silent auction items, so many people were able to support the OSA while winning some amazing prizes! As the board meeting came to a close, the OSA family took a moment of silence to remember those who have passed in the last year. Quickly after the board meeting and new members were announced, the dance floor and conversations were back in full swing!

A HUGE thanks to all of those who ran for the OSA Board this year, and to our outgoing board members: Kurt Wolff-Klammer, Barb Lea, and Kyle Nystrom. Your hard work and dedication to the OSA has been essential in keeping it strong! We welcomed three new board members: Candy Merritt, Adam Keene, and Kevin Harper!! Many thanks to the Board and all of those who made the evening, all of those who attended, donated silent auction items, and those who placed ads in the Ad Book.



### **2019 OSA Board Election Results:**

Scott Dorencz, PRESIDENT  
Candy Merrit, VICE PRESIDENT  
Rachel Weber, SECRETARY  
Doug Lotter, TREASURER  
Carl Young, Bob Kurth, Greg Lange, Kevin Harper, Adam Keene

### **2018 Member of the Year Recipient:**

Pete Kulak

### **Raffle Winners:**

Ultimate Split-the-pot: Kurt Wolff-Klammer  
Google Home Mini: Adamowski  
Weber Q1200 Grill: Vince Rychtanek

Thank you to all who attended and we hope to see even more friends in attendance next year! ♣

## President's Perspective

by Scott Dorencz, OSA President

**M**y name is Scott Dorencz and I accepted the nomination of OSA President at this year's annual Dinner Dance board meeting. I'm serving the third year of my first term and have been the fix-it chair and Vice President. I'm looking forward to leading our group this year. Aside from volunteering for an annual Klondike Derby, the OSA has been my only link to scouting since my final summer on staff in 2003. I will be forever in debt to our great camp. The Owasippe family has provided friendships that will last a lifetime. My wedding party was composed of staff men, and my children Clara and Kurt are blessed with loving uncles, my Owasippe brothers.



As always, I had a great time at the dinner dance. I love how our members interact with each other regardless of age or camp affiliation. It's a testament to the character of our members.

Rachel Weber and Barb Lea deserve acknowledgment for organizing the event. There's a lot of planning done behind the scenes in order for a dinner dance to be successful. Thank you both!!

Thank you to the former members of the board — Kurt Wolff-Klammer for two terms (six years), Barb Lea for two terms (six years), and Kyle Nystrom for one term (three years). With three outgoing board members, three seats needed to be filled. Congrats to Kevin Harper, Adam Keene, and Candy Merritt! I look forward to working with you all.

The spring fix-it is right around the corner on May 17-19. Chauncey Niziol has offered to run the kitchen so you know we will be eating well! Hope to see you there and at our other OSA events throughout the year. ♣

## 2019 Spring Fix-it May 17-19

by Scott Dorencz, OSA President

**E**veryone mark your calendars! This year's Spring Fix-It will be held on May 17-19, 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. Guests are put up in Reneker cabins and all meals on Saturday are provided.

Our projects include completing the Blackhawk waterfront bridge we started in the fall, staining the Blackhawk stairs to the leader patio, road crew, and other odd jobs.

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 **Sunday May 12th so we will have enough food for everyone.**

### 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. ♣





# Meet Your 2019 Camp Directors



**Terry Dutton**  
**Reservation Director**

This will be Terry's second summer as Reservation Director at Owasippe. He is a professional scouter and the Director of Program for Pathway to Adventure Council. Terry is a long-time scout volunteer and serves as Scoutmaster of Troop 16 in Oak Park, IL.

Previous to becoming the Director of Program for PTAC, Terry was an elementary school principal. He also has previous summer camp staff experience as a Camp Program Director and Camp Director. Terry is an Eagle Scout and Vigil Honor member of the Order of the Arrow.



**Justin Feld**  
**Asst. Reservation Director**

Justin Feld is returning as the Assistant Reservation Director for the second summer at Owasippe. He has been working on Camp Staff for 15 of the last 20 summers in several areas and in leadership roles at other BSA camps. Justin is a full-time employee of

Pathway to Adventure Council, and lives on-site at Owasippe year round, supporting off-season usage and PTAC's registration system. He is an Eagle Scout from Troop 89 in Downers Grove, IL and a Vigil Honor member of Pachsegink Lodge.



**Annie Nyberg**  
**Reneker Family Camp Director**

Annie began at Reneker as a camper in 1999, joining camp staff in 2013, and became director in 2017. She is excited to continue working to make Reneker better than ever. Annie is an undergraduate student at Marquette University, studying Political Science

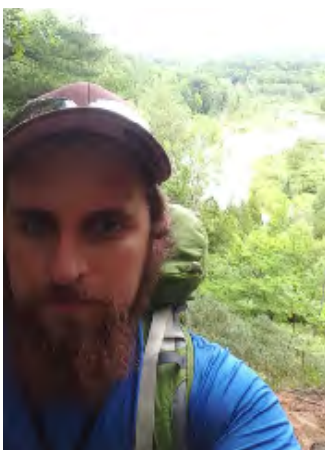
and Law. In addition to being a student, Annie is a Lance Corporal in the United States Marine Corps. She looks forward to combining her multiple interests to make this summer the best one yet at Camp Reneker — Go For It!



**Nick Chavarria**  
**Blackhawk Camp Director**

Nick is returning for his second summer as Blackhawk Director. Outside of summer camp, he is in his 11<sup>th</sup> year as a high school social studies teacher and currently teaches at Hinsdale South High School in Darien, Illinois. Previous to Camp Blackhawk, Nick

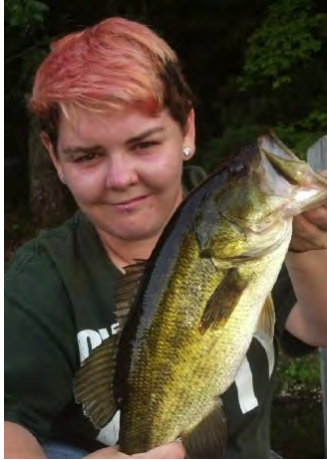
served as the Camp Director at Rainbow Scout Reservation in Morris, Illinois. He is an Eagle Scout and Vigil Honor member. In his scouting career, he has served as an Assistant Scoutmaster with Troop 65 in Lockport, Illinois. Nick has a passion for ensuring that scouts and scouters experience the best example of the Boy Scouts of America and working with young people.



**Kevin Goldberg**  
**Wolverine Camp Director**

Kevin is returning for his 3rd year as Wolverine Camp Director. This will be Kevin's 12<sup>th</sup> summer working at a Scout camp, spending 9 prior years at Gerber Scout Reservation. Kevin is a graduate of Grand Valley State University with a secondary education degree in Biology and Mathematics. He is active in the OA, and he is a recipient of the Vigil Honor and Founder's Award. Kevin is also active at the unit level, serving as Committee Chair and Asst. Scoutmaster over the past 10+ years for Troop 1051 in Muskegon, MI.

# 2019 Camp Directors continued



**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 Hi-Ad Assistant Director. In 2015, she moved into the position of high adventure director and has been working to grow the program ever since. When not at camp, Nicole works as part of a reading intervention team servicing students at the early elementary level in Calumet City District 155. She has an associate's degree in art and is working towards a degree in social work. Nicole joined camp staff entirely new to scouting, but now considers Owasispe a second home.



**Andrew Baert**  
Webelos Camp  
Program Director

Andrew has been working at Owasispe and Wolverine since 2011. When he's not at camp, he is a middle and high school science teacher in a small town in Wisconsin. He also coaches middle school track and advises the Rube Goldberg Machine team. Andrew is an Eagle Scout and Vigil Honor member of the Order of the Arrow.

## Newly elected OSA Board



Your new OSA board, as introduced by Dan Kleinfeldt, from left to right: Bob Kurth, Greg Lange, Carl Young, Doug Lotter, Rachel Weber, Scott Dorencz, Candy Merrit, Kevin Harper, and Adam Keene.



## Galloping Grapevine



Phil Hizek received a Master's of Science in Psychology at Florida and defended his doctorate dissertation. He will be starting his internship in St. Louis with the VA (Veteran's Affairs) this summer. Phil is also engaged to Dr. Jill Strutz and they are getting married this May.

Kevin Harper & Maureen Haneberg were engaged in September and are set to be married in January 2020.

## Betz Swap Meet May 24-25

Camp Frank S. Betz Swap Meet (previously Calumet Trade-O-Ree) is set for Memorial Day Weekend, May 24-25 at St Christopher's School Gymnasium at 147th St. and Keeler in Midlothian.

Ron Kulak will be exhibiting and selling memorabilia on behalf of the OSA. If you would like to lend a hand, contact Ron at 708-738-1197 or [owasiron@juno.com](mailto:owasiron@juno.com).

## OSA Family Picnic August 11

The OSA is once again planning on hosting its annual Family Picnic shortly after the Owasippe summer camping season comes to a close. This year, it will take place on Sunday, August 11<sup>th</sup>, at Sundown Meadow, Grove #2, Countryside, IL (Entrance located on the west side of LaGrange Road one block north of 67th street; just north of I-55). The picnic will be between 11 am and 3 pm. There will be food and fun outdoor games for the entire family, so don't miss out. Can't wait to see everyone there!

For any questions, contact Doug Lotter at [doug.lotter@yahoo.com](mailto:doug.lotter@yahoo.com)



## Meet some OSA-bies



Dave & Jenny (Carroll) Belanski gave birth to their first child, Zachary William, on August 16, 2018. He was 9 lbs 11 oz and 18 inches.



Alex & Shayna Lohse welcomed their first child, Alexander Joseph ("AJ"), on September 23, 2018. He was 7 lbs, 10 oz and 20 inches.



Brian & Katrina Weems gave birth to their first child, Declan William, on October 21, 2018. He was 8 lbs, 6 oz and 21 inches.



...and even more 2019 Dinner Dance





# Owasippe Improvements — Thanks Rangers!

KYBO construction at BLHK and retrofits at Wolverine



Blackhawk Staff Row Showerhouse



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**Vibrations** is published four times per year by the Owasippe Staff Association.

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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. Email all such materials to: **osavibrations@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*

### *May*

- 17-19 ..... OSA Spring Fix-it Weekend
- 24-27 ..... Owasippe Lodge OA Work Weekend

### *June*

- 16..... Owasippe Staff Week Begins
- 23..... Owasippe Open to Scouts

### *July*

- 4..... Independence Day
- 25..... Christmas in July

### *August*

- 4..... Camp Shutdown Week Begins
- 7..... OSA Vibrations copy Deadline
- 11..... OSA Family Picnic - Sundown Meadow

