



The Newsletter for the Members of the Owaspice Staff Association

# Vibrations

2020, Volume 42, Issue 3

## Summer and Fall Fix-it Update

by Adam Keene, Fix-it chair

Good news! We have received approval from council to host two fix-it weekends this year. We are planning a late Summer Fix-it for the weekend of August 29th and a Fall Fix-it on the weekend of September 19th. However, as you can imagine, there will be some changes in the way the fix-its are run in order to take proper COVID precautions – namely, we are looking at different options for meals, and there will be a limit to the number of people allowed to attend. In this newsletter you will see a link to a survey that asks for your preference on a few aspects of the fix-it weekends. Please take the time to respond to this survey as this will greatly help us in planning the weekends.

Another difference this year is that Reneker cabins are open for public rental and only A-side is open, so cabin availability may be limited. Please don't wait to reserve your spot at the fix-it!

The Ranger staff has a special need for some professional plumbing, electrical, and auto mechanic help. So if you happen to be or know someone experienced in those skilled trades,

please let us know! Some of the other work that is needed is painting, screen repair, brush clean-up, adopt-a-road, table repair, floorboard repair, roof sweeping, etc., in addition to the potential project list below.

- **Wolverine KYBO** modifications for male/female/adult/youth compliance
- **Wolverine Pool showers & bathrooms** modifications for male/female/adult/youth compliance
- **Blackhawk Dining Hall** – powerwash and stain newer staircase on East end
- **Trading Posts** – cut attic access hatch (where needed) and paint ceilings. Also install plexiglass windows
- **Maintenance Shop** – repair ceiling on the East end

If you would like to attend, please contact Adam Keene ASAP at akeene2@gmail.com or 708-567-2678 to reserve your spot by August 24th for the Summer Fix-it and by September 14th for the Fall Fix-it. Email, texts, and phone calls are accepted. Hope to see you there! ♣

**Please take our work weekend survey here:**

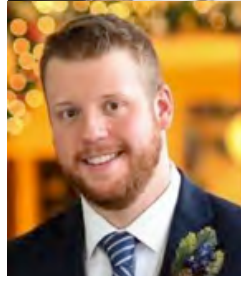
**<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1m4-3A3fjGcZD91CbAR3k-mLdCkS8ZgmUJHlr2j48xh14/prefill>**

**This will help the OSA plan safety precautions accordingly. Thanks!**

## President's Perspective

by Kevin Harper, OSA President

Hello everyone! I hope all of you are doing well and staying healthy. A lot has changed since the last time we all met and were enjoying ourselves at the annual banquet. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 virus has put a damper on all our summer plans and altered the unforeseeable future. With the right actions and precautions, we will all come through this. With the cancelation of in-person summer camp and our work weekend, the ranger staff has still been trying to put a dent in the project list for the summer. This has been a combined effort by a few volunteers and hunt club members. The Ranger staff is also still in need of skilled trade assistance for the summer with electrical, plumbing, mechanical, etc. If you are skilled in any of those trades, please let the OSA know and we can put you in touch with the ranger staff to volunteer for a work weekend or another time.



In other news: typically, the board does not have a meeting in July due to camp already being in full swing. However, this year most of the board were able to visit camp as a group for the weekend. Being up at camp was a tad on the eerie side: no sounds of scouts running through the wood or whistles being blown at the waterfront, and there was a distinct lack of smoldering campfires. As always though, we as staff people and scouts are adaptive — the Board has been working on a plan for the organization to still host a work weekend this August and if all goes well and hopefully continuing our normal September timeslot. More info to come in the next few weeks! ♣

**OSA SUMMER PICNIC  
CANCELED**

**See you next year!**

## Membership Report

by Greg Lange

I would like to give you a quick update on current membership. We currently have 451 members. Out of the 451 members, 175 have not paid dues for the year 2020.

If you have not paid your dues for this year, please consider doing so. Money that the OSA receives goes directly back into camp. If you have any questions about your membership, please let me know. I can be reached at [greglange89@gmail.com](mailto:greglange89@gmail.com). ♣



## Galloping Grapevine



Barb Lea and Eddy Ojode welcomed their second child (and future Owasippe camper and staffer), Samson Ojode, on June 30, 2020 at 9:33am. Samson was 8lbs 3oz and 21.5 inches. Mom and baby are doing well and hope to camp at Reneker next summer!



**Bill Tenner Memorial Campfire link:**  
A wonderful virtual campfire was put together by Sarah (Niziol) Hall and her family in memory of Bill Tenner. View it here: <https://vimeo.com/422449239/7ef06345b5>



With the assistance of Board Secretary Jen Kotwasinski, the OSA purchased and donated \$445 worth of Bosch tools for the ranger staff. Thanks Jen!

All 3 miles of road crew were completed by the board and Keene family - Nice job!



## See You at the End of the Trail



We've recently had to say goodbye to members of our OSA family. Our deepest condolences to their friends and families.

**Ronald W. Brown** passed away on Friday, May 29, 2020. Ron worked for the Boy Scouts

of America for 48 years. His career started in 1963 as a District Executive in Birmingham, AL. In 1969, he became a District Executive

in Chicago, IL. In 1976, his hard work and dedication resulted in his being promoted to Camping Director, Chicago, IL, and in 1977, to Field Director. While in Chicago, he became Director of Support Services in 1981, and in 1983 became Director of Field Services. Ron worked at Owasippe in 1975 as assistant reservation director.

**Jerry Lutz** passed away in May after a three-month battle with cancer. A full family-written obituary follows on the next page.

All the Wealth of Earth and Heaven ♣

# Obituary for Ralph J. Jerry Lutz



Ralph J “Jerry” Lutz of Warrensburg Illinois died peacefully in the home of his dearest friend John Halsey in Reading, MA on May 28, 2020 after a three-month battle with cancer. He was two days shy of his 71st birthday.

Jerry was born to Ralph and Fran Lutz in Lansing, Illinois, where he grew up with his siblings Judy, Janet, and Harvey. As an active Boy Scout, he obtained the rank of Eagle along with his friend John Halsey in 1964. He graduated from Eastern Illinois University in 1971.

In his life, Jerry was many things. He was a proud Marine. He attended Officer Candidates School and eventually earned the rank of First Lieutenant. While serving, he was stationed in Okinawa where he met Tomoko. In January of 1976 they were married in Lansing, Illinois, and he became a proud, devoted husband.

He was a lifelong Scout spending every summer of his life working shooting sports at Boy Scout Camps including Betz, Kishwaukee, Owasippe, and Wah-Tut-Ca. He was awarded the prestigious adult awards; “National Outstanding Eagle Scout Award” and “Silver Beaver Award” by his local Scout Council. He was a Vigil Honor member of the Michigamea Lodge of the Order of the Arrow.

He was a teacher. After earning his Master’s Degree from Eastern Illinois University, he spent his career at Argenta-Oreana Middle school as an English teacher, basketball coach, and track



coach.

Jerry was an enthusiastic collector and trader. His collections included historic guns, custom knives, and scout memorabilia. For many years, he enjoyed traveling to visit his communities of fellow traders and collectors. He was an avid “shooting sports” enthusiast.

He was a person of service driving veterans to the VA hospital weekly for 9 years. He gave over 19 lifetime gallons of blood to the Red Cross. Jerry served as a host on an Honor Flight for a Korean War Veteran.....it was a great joy for both traveling to Washington D.C.

He was a committed caregiver to Tomoko who needed medical support for many years.

He was a loving father to John and Susan. He was a loving grandfather to David, Declan, Nitsa, and Cyric sending packages of treats and taking the kids shooting and fishing. He was a devoted son to Fran Lutz, currently of Lynnwood, Illinois. He was a friend to many and will be greatly missed. ♣

View his online memorial at:

<https://sites.google.com/view/jerrylutz>

Living Memorials can be made to one of the following scout camps loved by Jerry:

## **Camp Betz:**

c/o The Thunderbird Society  
attn: James Carr, CPA  
730 Seberger Dr.  
Munster, IN. 46321

## **Owasippe Scout Reservation:**

Owasippe Staff Association  
P.O Box 7097  
Westchester, IL. 60154  
[www.owasippe.com](http://www.owasippe.com)

## **Wah-Tut-Ca Scout Reservation:**

Jerry Lutz Camp Fund  
“The Key Foundation, Inc”  
c/o Rubenstein & Associates  
10 Speen St. 1st Floor  
Framingham, MA. 01701  
[www.keyfoundation.org](http://www.keyfoundation.org)



- New Member Application***
- Membership Renewal***

Thanks for your interest in the OSA. Simply complete this form and send it in with your check made payable to the Owasippe Staff Association. Thanks, we look forward to hearing from you!

**Note: You must be 18 or older to be a member of the OSA & membership is subject to Board approval.**

I hereby submit my application thus pledging my support of the OSA's purpose ...

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTHDATE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ WORK PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

**E-MAIL ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

EMPLOYER: \_\_\_\_\_ OCCUPATION: \_\_\_\_\_

MARITAL STATUS: \_\_\_\_\_ SPOUSE'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CHILDREN'S NAMES & AGES: \_\_\_\_\_

SERVICE AT OWASIPPE:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Camp</i>	<i>Position</i>

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to:**  
**Owasippe Staff Association**  
**attn. Membership**  
**P.O. Box 7097**  
**Westchester, IL 60154**

- New Member..... \$20
- Renewal ..... \$15
- Back Dues ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Lifetime..... \$350

Make checks payable to:  
 The Owasippe Staff Association

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. Email all such materials to: **kulak.pete@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*

### *August*

28-30 ..... Summer Fix-it

### *September*

2..... Labor Day

18-20 ..... OSA Fall Fix-it Weekend

### *October*

15..... OSA Vibrations copy Deadline

31..... Halloween

### *November*

3..... Election Day

11..... Veterans Day

26..... Thanksgiving Day

27..... OSA Pizza Night

### *December*

25..... Christmas

31..... New Year's Eve

