



The Newsletter for the Members of the Owasippe Staff Association

Vibrations

2020, Volume 42, Issue 4

Call for 2020 OSA Board of Directors Nominations

Being on the Board has its share of benefits and commitments. These people make the decisions about Fix-it projects, event locations, fundraisers, membership and more. The Board's input is needed on many topics and situations. It's not all fun and games; a lot of work goes into running this organization. We need motivated thinkers and doers.

Candidates need to be OSA members in good standing, at least 21 years old and must be available for monthly meetings. The only other requirement is a dedication to Owasippe, the OSA and its members. If you or someone you know has the drive and ability to make things happen, we need to hear from you!

The Elections Committee will contact nominees to see if they are willing and able to serve. The Elections Committee will then review all the nominees and make a slate recommendation to the Board. Slated candidates will then be

contacted to garner their respective bios and goals for publication in the next newsletter.

PLEASE NOTE: Nomination does not guarantee a spot on the slate. The Elections Committee will review all the nominees and select a fair and balanced slate.

Please email the OSA at osainfobooth@gmail.com with any nominees. Nominations are due by December 12, 2020. Now is the time to step up and show your commitment to Owasippe and the OSA! ♣

Why should I run?

To preserve and promote the bond of friendship forged through Owasippe; To offer your time, talents, resources, and assets to the OSA and Owasippe; To continue to provide a great experience to Owasippe campers, Owasippe staff and OSA Members; And to HAVE FUN.

Current Board of Directors			Term expires
Bob Kurth	Greg Lange	Rachel Weber	2021
Adam Keene	Candy Merritt	Kevin Harper	2022
Henry Nakazawa	Michelle O'Connor	Jennifer Kempa Kotwasinski	2023

* Two consecutive term limit goes into effect.

Steve Schaefer Fund Recipients

Every summer at Owasippe Scout Reservation feels different than the one before, this past summer especially. While many of the past staff were unable to enjoy the calm and serenity while visiting one of the most beautiful places in our hearts, there were still several people who put on a great program for the scouts of the PTAC areas.

The following camp staff worked this past summer and were eligible for the Steve Schaefer Scholarship: **Daniel Piper, Katie Hogan, Eddie McCarthy, Dalton DeVries, Katie Johnson, and Nick Udell.** Thank you to these young adults who remained committed to the scouting program no matter the format. ♣

President's Perspective

by Kevin Harper, OSA President

Hello Members! I know this past year has been different for everyone and there is still a lot of uncertainty ahead. But I have been looking at it from a glass half-full approach. We as an organization, like many others, have had to cancel events and adapt to the situation at hand. On the positive side of things, the OSA — despite a pandemic and no scouts in camp — was still able to leave its mark this summer at camp. We provided support in the form of donations and labor to the tune of at least 950 manhours. At our last work weekend every cabin on A side of Reneker was occupied! This is something that hasn't happened in a long time. At night, every cabin had its lights on and you could hear the (socially distant) conversations echoing through the woods. It was a moment of immense pride for me serving as your President.



Unfortunately, to add to our list of cancelations, Pizza Night will also not be happening this year. As it stands, the board and I are working on a plan to still have an annual meeting sometime in March 2021. It will most likely be virtual, but more to come on that in the coming weeks. Lastly, I would like to invite any and all members that have an interest in running for the board next year to please contact us. We look forward to hearing from you! ♣

Vibrations needs a new editor!

by Pete Kulak

After several years of shepherding the OSA newsletter, it's time for me to move on so someone can give it the love and attention it deserves. I know there is someone out there who can do a better job and take Vibrations into the 2020s and beyond.

Is it you? Are you a designer? An editor? Do you have your finger on (or near) the pulse of all that is the OSA?

If you're interested, or just want to learn more, get in touch with me at kulak.pete@gmail.com or Kevin Harper at kjharper06@yahoo.com.

Member Updates

by Kevin Harper, OSA President

New Members

Bob Wilcox
Dale Posen
Ken Schumacher
Ryan Carlson
Michael DeBlazer
Deborah Smeberg
Maxwell Zelenka

New Life Members

Andres Sanchez
Brian Daniels
James Walker
Thom Seymour
Chris Mulcahy

Apply now for 2021 Owasippe camp staff

Spread the word — Owasippe camp staff positions are open for the 2021 season.

Apply now! Grab your mouse or your mobile device and head on over to:
<http://www.pathwaytoadventure.org/camping/campstaff>
to fill out an application.

Do Your Holiday Shopping with Smile.Amazon.Com and Help the OSA

You can give a gift to Owasippe at the same time you buy anything from Amazon! Use Amazon smile. When signed in on Amazon, go to smile.amazon.com, and in the drop down menu underneath the search bar, choose Owasippe Staff Association. A percentage of your purchase will go toward the OSA.

Looking for photos from 1985 Staff and Beard mess hall

If any OSA members have staff photos from **1985** the museum only has the Robert Crown staff photo — no others were stored. We also have an OSA member looking for photos of the Dan Beard mess hall.

If anyone has copies of either you can email them to: osainfobooth@gmail.com

2020 OSA Fix-It Weekends

by Adam Keene, Fix-it Chair

2020 has certainly been quite a year. Back in March, we were still hoping to have our Spring Fix-It in May just as we have in years past, but as the pandemic wore on we knew we would have to cancel it and hope for things to get better later in the year.

As Spring rolled into Summer and things started looking better, Council reopened parts of the camp and we decided we would try to host a Summer and Fall Fix-It. We were uncertain of how much interest we would have and were slightly apprehensive of how to conduct the events in a COVID-safe manner, but as the survey results rolled in and we started getting e-mails and phone calls, we were pleasantly surprised at how much interest there was in still having the events. That really goes to show how much we all love Owasippe.

Council graciously allowed us to proceed with these events and gave us reservations for all the cabins on Reneker's A-side, which I felt was very generous of them because they had opened the cabins for reservations to the public in hopes to generate some of the revenue they lost with summer camp being cancelled. Giving us 100% of the reservations meant that they would not receive any income from cabin rentals for those two weekends.

Being given the GO! from council, the OSA board got to work making plans. It was an awesome display of teamwork by the board – we had so many considerations to make, so many variables to think about. I was extremely impressed and thankful for all the help I received from members of the board – all without having to ask for it.

The Summer Fix-It was our first attempt at all of this and it turned out very well. We had about 50 attendees, which included one Scout troop that stayed in Health Lodge. The biggest change we had to make was how we handled meals – we didn't want everyone sitting together in close quarters in the traditional Food Prep format so we opted to provide simple pre-bagged breakfasts and catered boxed lunches that could be eaten in individual cabins or outside picnic style.

This year, the Rangers wanted to focus on some smaller tasks that often get overlooked. The Scout troop was a big help with accomplishing some of the more labor-intensive work – they dug a trench at Wolverine pool so new electric cable could be laid, and they cleared a ton of brush out of the way. In other work, we repaired the ceiling and hung new lights in Maintenance, split some firewood, trimmed overgrown weeds and brush, and helped



to bag up some items in Food Prep to prepare for insect extermination treatments. We also had a crew repairing floor boards at Blackhawk's Pioneer sites, removed the old chain link fencing from Wolverine pool, and the Museum once again had a group diligently working to preserve Owasippe's history.

In September, we were once again blown away by how many reservations were coming in for the Fall Fix-It. In all, we had about 60 people attend and all cabins on Reneker's A-side were completely booked plus Health Lodge! The focus of that weekend was Blackhawk waterfront and dining hall area where there was a ton of debris on the ground from recent storms. The amount of hard work displayed by our members was truly amazing; we picked up a huge amount of branches, large tree limbs and tree logs. That wood chipper was running continuously the whole morning! We even ventured into the muck and mire of the creek to clear out rotted logs and dead trees. Then, as if all of that wasn't enough, a team of strong arms went to work literally busting up a pile of reinforced concrete with nothing more than sledgehammers. The crushed concrete, which was

from the old Wolverine pool deck, was then arduously moved via wheel barrow to use as backfill for repair work that was done to the creek's culvert.

Up on Blackhawk's staff row, we had a crew of painters working to give the interiors of the staff cabins a fresh new coat of paint. We also had a crew out at the Pioneer sites again who were able to repair over 40 floorboards. Back at Maintenance, we were graced by the presence of skilled mechanics who worked tirelessly to repair several of the camp's important vehicles. Over at Wolverine, a group of skilled carpenters completed some of the last KYBO retrofits to ensure co-ed Scouting compliance.

Overall, the Fix-it weekends this year went even better than we had hoped. I can't possibly express enough gratitude to everyone who came in the face of a pandemic to selflessly volunteer their precious time and energy to this great place that we all hold "so dear to memory." HAIL OWASIPPE! ♣



OOEC Announces Plan to Dissolve

It is with a mix of emotions that the Owasippe Outdoor Education Center announces the planned dissolution of the nonprofit organization, effective June 30, 2021. The board of directors voted recently to cease operations as of December 31, 2020, and take the steps to formally close the nonprofit.

We are pleased that the main purpose of the organization's creation – to protect the Owasippe Scout Reservation, America's oldest continuously operating Boy Scout camp, from sale to developers – has been accomplished. The threat of sale in the early 2000s led our founders to envision an outdoor university open to the public year-round and to Scout use in particular for summer camp adventures. Since 2003, our board of directors has been a voice for expanded use of the 4,800-acre property and in particular has managed the public use of the trail system for biking and hiking.

At this time, our purpose has run its course. The Pathway to Adventure Council, owner of the Owasippe Scout Reservation, has also been expanding its public access of the property for cabin rentals, hunting opportunities, and volunteer activities. We will aid in the transfer of the public trail use to PTAC or any entity it names to manage those uses. The OOEC stands ready to provide procedural guidance in the hopes that this appreciated public resource will continue to be available to hikers and bikers in

West Michigan.

Our plan is to continue public use of the trails for the remainder of the 2020 calendar year. At that point, the OOEC will cease collecting funds related to public use of Owasippe Scout Reservation and pay all outstanding debts, including the annual payment of funds for use to PTAC. All remaining assets of the OOEC, both financial and of property, will be distributed to the Owasippe Staff Association, a 501(c)3 organization that shares our love of the Owasippe Scout Reservation and a dedication to environmentally conscious improvements to the camp. The OSA has a 42-year track record of responsible use of donor funds and will be able to maintain all donations made to OOEC for earmarked uses.

The Board of Directors of the OOEC would like to express our gratitude for our many supporters and donors over our 17 years of operation. Our mission has been completed, and our directors look forward to continuing our personal service to Owasippe in our own unique ways.

All the Wealth of Earth and Heaven. ♣

Read the full press release at: https://ooc.org/assets/Dissolution_of_OOEC.pdf



See You at the End of the Trail

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



Nelson Lindsay "Lin" Carter passed away on October 9, 2020. Born on March 11, 1931, he had a 40-year career as a professional with the Boy Scouts of America (BSA). He achieved the rank of Eagle Scout at age 16 and began his professional Scouting career in 1955,

following two years of enlisted service in the United States Army during the Korean Conflict. He was a Field Scout Executive in the Rip Van Winkle Council in Kingston, NY; a District Scout Executive in the Bergan Council in River Edge, NJ; an Assistant Scout Executive in the Thomas Edison Council in Edison, NJ; the Scout Executive in the Aheka Council in Clifton, NJ; the Scout Executive of Bucks County Council in Doylestown, PA; the Associate National Director of Personnel for the East Central Region; Area Director for Illinois; and retired as the Scout Executive/CEO of the Chicago Area Council in Chicago, IL.

In addition to the Eagle rank, Lin was also a Vigil Honor member of the Order of the Arrow, a Wood Badger, and a member of several National Jamboree staffs.

Randy Dupuis passed away at the age of 80 at Central Dupage Hospital on August 21, 2020. Randal grew up in the Rogers Park neighborhood of Chicago where he graduated from Amundsen High School and North Park College. He was Airman Second Class in the Illinois Air National Guard and Reserve of the United States Air Force. He enjoyed a career in the Insurance Industry and owned a Meineke Muffler Shop in Aurora, IL before retiring.

Some of his favorite activities included camping with the Boy Scouts (Troop 923). He camped all over Owasippe, including Beard, Wolverine South, Blackhawk, and his favorite, High Beach. He was a life member of the OSA.

John Sanchez passed on November 2, 2020. Active in scouting for over 50 years, he



was a Vigil Honor Member of the Order of the Arrow, a Charter Member of the OSA, longtime camp commissioner at Owasippe, Assistant Scoutmaster of Troop 1650 Chicago and Troop 532 Schererville, and Committee Chairman of both Post 2650 and Post 2474 Chicago. He was also a District Award of Merit honoree and Silver Beaver recipient. In an article with the NWI times, he said "If you help a boy become somebody, you've accomplished something." "He died peacefully at home among family.

Donald E. Studaven passed away in May from a three-month battle with cancer. A full family-written obituary follows on the next page. Don was a Vigil Honor Member of Owasippe Lodge, O/A, and a Charter and Life Member of the OSA.

Once Don became involved in Scouting as an adult, there was no stopping him. He started his professional Scouting career as the ranger at Camp Harrison in Calumet City, IL. In 1963, Don went on to become the ranger at Kiwanis Scout Camp.

Serving as the ranger of Kiwanis and Fort Dearborn until 1986, Don was then named as the Owasippe Scout Reservation Director of Properties in Blue Lake Township, MI. When reflecting on his life and involvement in scouting, Don noted "Respect life, take care of our earth, respect yourself and have some fun while doing it."

All the Wealth of Earth and Heaven ✦

Galloping Grapevine



Kevin Lee and Brittany Krenzela were wed on October 17th, 2020.

It's OSA Ad Book time again, 43 years and still going strong!



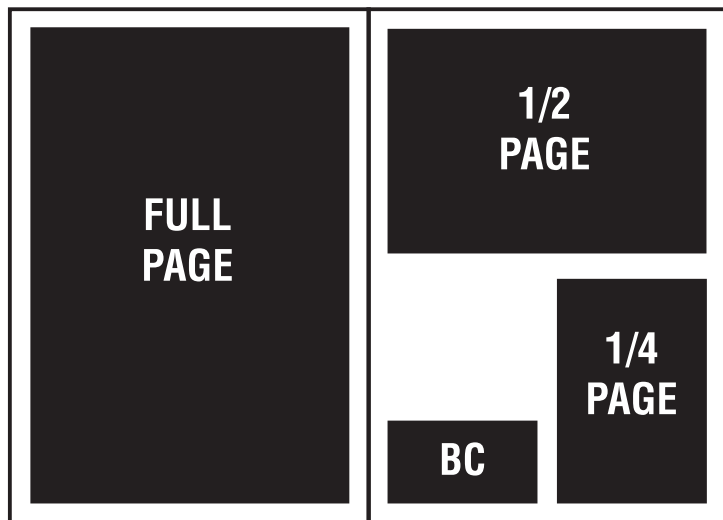
Dear Friends and Supporters,

We are seeking sponsors for the Owasippe Staff Association Ad Book distributed at our Annual Meeting in March of 2021. Here is an opportunity to promote your business, extend greetings to your friends, and/or wish Owasippe and the OSA well. The annual Ad Book is an important fundraiser for the OSA, and its proceeds help us carry on our mission of supporting Owasippe.

As you probably know, Owasippe is located in scenic West Michigan near Whitehall and Montague, and it is the nation's oldest Boy Scout summer camp. Owasippe serves youth and families from the Chicago area and throughout the U.S.

ONLINE FEATURE OFFERS YEAR 'ROUND EXPOSURE!

The ad book consists of a program for the annual meeting, our annual report and a yearbook of event photos. We have four ad options as outlined below, and each ad lives on in the online Ad Book archive on the OSA website at www.owasippe.com!



Please respond with your materials by January 15, 2021 using the form provided below.

Enclose your camera-ready art or any message you wish to present and mail it to the address below.

Email ad submissions (PDFs) are preferred.

If you have any questions, please contact Ron Derby at (231) 557-0770 or osa.adbook@gmail.com

The OSA thanks you for your support and reminds you that we are a not-for-profit organization, therefore your participation is tax deductible.

AD BOOK ORDER FORM

Complete this form and send with a check payable to the Owasippe Staff Association to...
OSA Ad Book c/o Ron Derby • 510 Holton Whitehall Rd. • Whitehall, MI 49461

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

e-mail: _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____ Date: _____

Business Name: _____ web address: _____

Message (or attach copy) _____

Qty.	Ad Description	Size (width x height)	Cost
	Business Card	3.5" x 2"	\$30
	1/4 Page	3.5" x 4.75"	\$45
	1/2 Page	7.5" x 4.75"	\$70
	Full Page	7.5" x 10"	\$105
	Cover Full Page (inside front, inside back, outside back)	7.5" x 10"	\$130

Order New Gear by Mail!

or Online at owasippe.com/ways-to-help/store



A

Short Sleeve
LADIES "V" Neck

- 60/40 cotton polyester
- 40+UPF rating
Sizes: XS - 3XL



B

Short Sleeve Shirt

- 60/40 cotton polyester
- 40+UPF rating
Sizes: XS - 3XL



C

Long Sleeve Shirt

- 60/40 cotton polyester
- 40+UPF rating
Sizes: XS - 3XL



D

3/4 Sleeve Shirt

- triblend shirt
Sizes: XS - 3XL

OSA Gear Order Form (Please Print)

Order Deadline: December 15, 2020

Style	XS	S	M	L	XL	2X	3X	Total Qty.	Price	Subtotal
<input type="checkbox"/> A) Short Sleeve LADIES "V" Neck									x \$20	
<input type="checkbox"/> B) Short Sleeve Shirt									x \$20	
<input type="checkbox"/> C) Long Sleeve Shirt									x \$22	
<input type="checkbox"/> D) 3/4 Sleeve Shirt									x \$22	

Enclose a check payable to the OSA in the amount of:

Name: _____

Shipping & Handling Included!

Street Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

e-mail: _____



Mail to:
The Owasppe Staff Association
P.O. Box 7097
Westchester, IL 60154

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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

November

26..... Thanksgiving Day

December

12..... OSA Board Member Nominations Due

21..... Winter Solstice

25..... Christmas

31..... New Year's Eve

January

1..... New Year's Day

15..... Ad book Deadline

15..... Deadline for Spring Vibrations Submissions

18..... Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

