

Volume 43, Issue 3 - September 2021

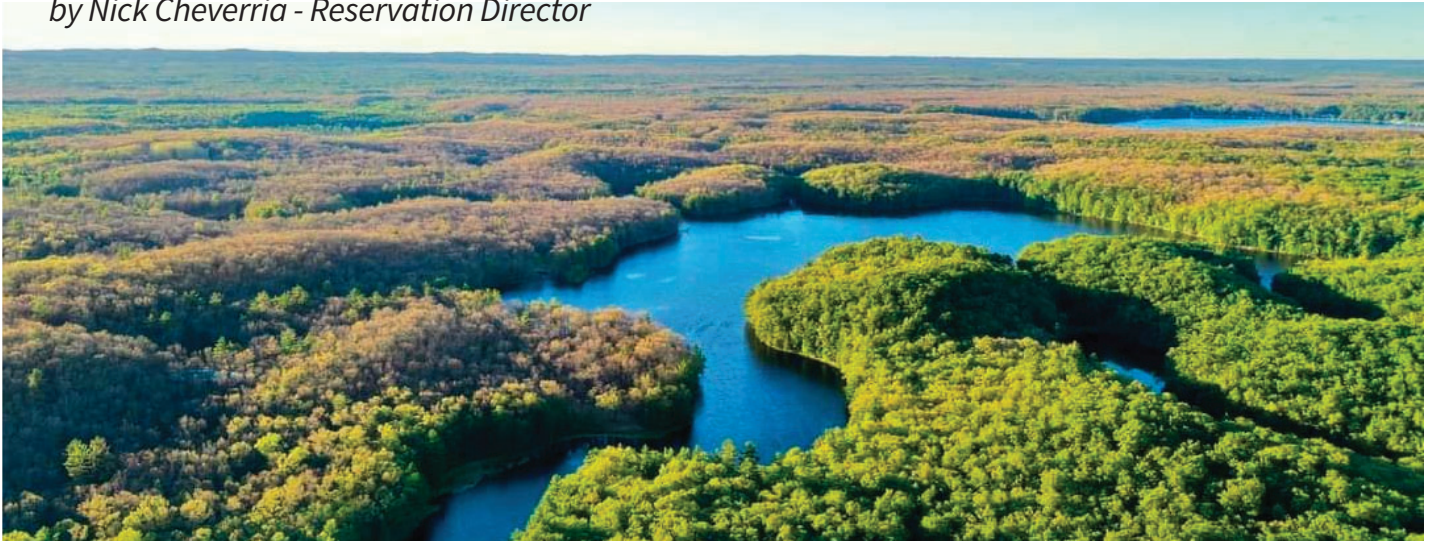
VIBRATIONS

NEWSLETTER



110th Summer In The Books

by Nick Cheverria - Reservation Director



2021 was a huge success at Owasippe. While we saw the normal successes of merit badges, campfires, and fellowship, we also enjoyed a special success, because after a year of no summer camp operations in 2020, the staff helped welcome back over 4,000 scouts, leaders, and guests to all the wealth of earth and heaven. A few months ago, people were uncertain if camp could happen safely. With the support of the council leadership, the staff was able to ensure all our campers were safe, healthy, and experienced the magic of Owasippe. This summer the staff endured modified schedules, programming changes due to the pandemic, and staffing shortages across the reservation, yet they never wavered from their duty and commitment to scouting.

On behalf of the entire staff, I would like to thank the OSA for their continued support of Owasippe and the staff. Each year, the OSA's dedication to support college students via the Steve Schaffer fund, and this year supporting the entire staff by helping support the cost of the closing banquet, is humbling. Again, on behalf of the entire staff, thank you!

This summer, at our opening staff banquet, I reminded the staff they serve as stewards of history, working as staff at the oldest scout camp in the history of the Boy Scouts of America. Rest assured, they met that challenge and continued the long tradition of excellence at OSR. Everyone should be proud of the 2021 staff, I know I am. Thank you to the OSA for your support and dedication. We cannot wait for the 2022 season.

The newsletter for the members of the Owasippe Staff Association

President's Perspective

by Kevin Harper

Howdy Membership!

Another season goes into the books for Owasippe. Despite the lingering virus and challenges that has put forth to all of us in some way or another, PTAC & the OSR staff successfully completed 110th camping season. The OSA also held a successful pizza night during staff week for those potential new OSA members. Kudos to Jen Kotwasinski, Chris Sanchez & Ron Derby for putting that together. I'd also like to extend thanks to those 65 or so members and their families that attended the spring work weekend. Combined we had 530+ hours of completed work projects. Members and friends of Owasippe also visited camp to help close down for the winter and enjoy the fall colors over the fall work weekend Sept 17-18th. It is always great to see what we can achieve with time and dedication!



OSA APPERAL NOW AVAILABLE!

Shipping is NOT included if you wish to have it delivered.
Items can be recieved at the next OSA event.



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ONLINE STORE
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A
Short Sleeve
LADIES "V" Neck
60/40 cotton/poly



B
Short Sleeve Shirt
60/40 cotton/poly



C
Long Sleeve Shirt
60/40 cotton/poly



D
3/4 Sleeve Shirt
triblend shirt



E
Hoodie - Grey/Black
50/50 preshrunk cotton/poly



F
Hoodie - Black/Green
50/50 preshrunk cotton/poly



G
Full Zip Hoodie Grey/Black
50/50 preshrunk cotton/poly



H
Full Zip Hoodie Black/Green
50/50 preshrunk cotton/poly

SPRING FIX IT SUCCESS

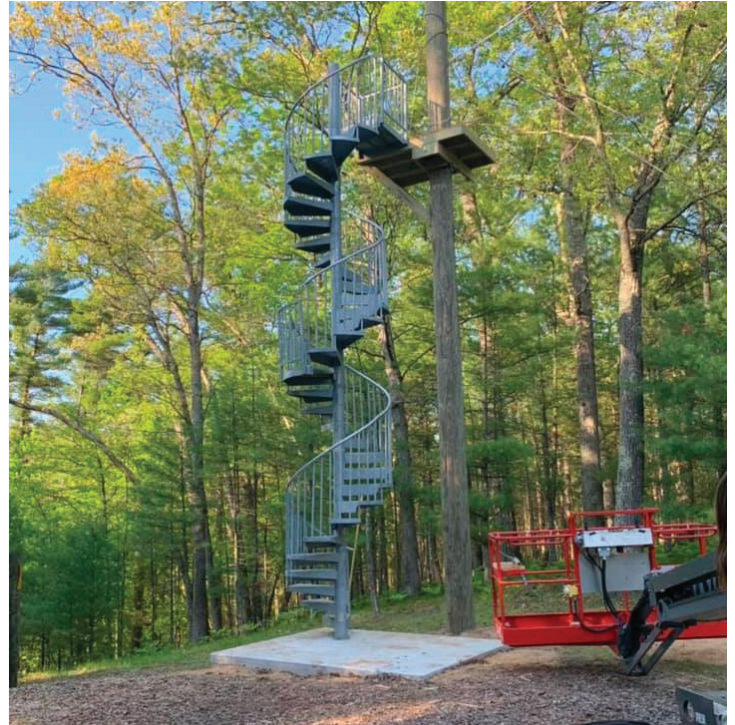
by Adam Keene, Fix-It Chair

We had a super productive Spring Fix-It this past May. One of the larger projects included construction of a new spiral staircase built for the COPE zipline tower. This staircase now allows for zip-lining to be its own separate activity available to scouts, rather than having to complete the entire COPE course first. Standing at nearly 30 feet tall, the staircase construction required the pricey rental of a lift which was paid for by the generous donations of OSA members. THANK YOU to the skillful crew who spent four arduous days working on this. Just thinking of all the wide-eyed suspense-filled faces of those scouts rocketing down the zip line this past summer makes it all worthwhile. Speaking of donations, a special donor made it possible to install an exhaust fan above the loft in Guest Lodge, which was also completed this same week. This should help to keep some of the hot summer air from ruining a good night's sleep.

Over at Blackhawk, new electrical cables were run and trenched to the Handicraft pavilion with additional power outlets installed, a pass-through window was reopened for the sailing base storage area, the last of the pile of concrete debris by the creek was broken up by hand and used as more backfill for the creek's culvert, and storm debris was cleaned up with logs split into firewood. We installed new ceiling fans in the dining hall, continued painting the interiors of staff cabins, and pre-assembled the canopy portion of the leader's patio tent

– to which a special mention is deserved for the hardy folks who stayed out in the hot sun well past dinner time to get the job done, even after a hard day's work.

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OSR Post-Camp Operations

Even though Owasippe has said goodbye to its summer camp troops and has begun preparations to winterize facilities, the property has still been active over the past few weeks with many recreational users. The Wounded Warriors Organization held a Marines & Corpsmen Reunion over a week long outing in August. This is their second stay at OSR participating in High Adventure Activities, relaxing at the Wolverine pool and Blackhawk waterfront, and spending time with Dennis at the shooting range. Recreational trail usage has also been re-opened for hikers, bikes, and horses dawn to dusk through October. Additionally the hunt club is permitted to bow hunt, rifle, and muzzleload shoot October 19th - December 17th. And as always cabin, campsite, and facility rentals are available through the council website.

Though summer camp is over, there are many ways to enjoy all the wealth of earth and heaven throughout the year!

2021 Staff Members of the Year

The OSA would like to recognize this summer's staff members of the year. In an average summer there are many hurdles to jump when it comes to pulling off a successful summer, and this year was no exception. An invasive caterpillar takeover, implementing pandemic protocols, and training a green staff are just a few of this summer's challenges. Standing above the crowd in their efforts to go above and beyond to deliver the best possible program the following staff members were voted for by their peers. **Blackhawk - Kirby Stevenson(+18), Asheigh Rybski(-18). Wolverine - Kendall Robinson(18+), Peter Zeh(-18). Reneker - Fen Nyberg. High Adventure - Zula Pendowski.** - Congratulations to all!

Amazon Smiles

If you are making a purchase from Amazon.com consider using the link below before you put items in your cart!

By shopping with the OSA's Amazon Smiles program a percentage of your purchase will be donated from Amazon to the OSA—no fees, no extra cost!

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/36-3039912>



Help Wanted: OSA Historians

The Owasippe Staff Association is looking for some assistance in digitalizing and scanning a few boxes of OSA Archives including photos and documents.

If interested please contact osainfobooth@gmail.com

Spring Fix It Success...

by Adam Keene, Fix-It Chair

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At the Ad Center, the Food Prep generator van received a fresh coat of paint, new LED lighting was installed in the Food Prep basement, coffee and cold drink machines were serviced, and the Food Prep kitchen and Main Trading Post received a thorough deep cleaning. We also had crews cleaning and organizing in the Museum, posting new signs around the reservation, and cleaning all 3 miles of our adopted roads. Special thanks to the kitchen crew for cooking and feeding everyone!!

Council and the Ranger Staff are deeply appreciative of all the work we helped to accomplish. The OSA wishes to extend a big heartfelt THANK YOU to all the volunteers who came out that weekend – your dedication, skills, and love are what keep Owasippe a special place, and it wouldn't be the same without you!

Now that the summer is over, the OSA has headed back up to camp to continue their service with the Fall-Fix It event. Look for more on the Fall event's success on the next Vibrations Issue!



West Michigan Outpost

by Dalton DeVries

As a staff member you may have explored West Michigan's local attractions in your freetime. Whether it be an afternoon in Whitehall, Fremont, Twin Lake, or a longer trip to Muskegon, Silverlake, or Grand Rapids we've all explored some 'outposts' away from camp. Here are updates on what's happening locally around OSR!



The Montague Dog and Suds has closed its doors for good due to flooding in the area and loss of business during the pandemic. Many campers and staff have memories at the drive-in or stopping along a canoe trek.



Next summer take a stop by The Deck in Muskegon on your way to camp. The restaurant now hosts live music and drinks right on their Lake Michigan beachfront. There is no better way to watch a summer night off.

STEVE SHAFER FUND RECIPIENTS 2021

At the Owasippe Closing Banquet on Sunday, August 8th, the OSA presented scholarship checks to 29 staff members. The scholarship was set up in memory of Owasippe staffer, Steve Schaefer and is presented every year to the current staff that are also full-time college students, in order to help the staff offset their college education. The Steve Schaefer Memorial Scholarship is funded entirely through donations from OSA members and friends. As of the end of August 2021 the fund now stands at \$580.00. If you are interested in contributing to the Scholarship Fund, you may do so via the Online Store on the OSA website or by sending a check indicating your desire to donate to the Scholarship Fund.



Fiona Callahan - Univ. Nebraska-Lincoln, Ashley Cruz - Saint Xavier Univ., Edward England - Northern Illinois Univ., Peter Foote - John Carroll Univ., Meghan Hammond - Mount Holyoke College, Katie Hogan - Grand Valley State Univ., Bachman Julie - Indiana Univ. Southbend, Ian Kells - Univ. of Illinois-Chicago, Benjamin Lisneros - Northern Illinois Univ., Edward McCarthy - Univ. of Dayton, Brittany McConnell North Carolina State Univ., Fen Nyberg Univ. of Illinois-Champaign, Anders O'Laughlin - Grand Valley State Univ., Maeghan O'Laughlin - Grand Valley State Univ., Kiervan Pavlat - Concordia River Grove, Zula Pendowski - Eastern Illinois Univ., Kyle Peters - Grand valley State Univ., Dan Piper - Univ. of Illinois-Champaign, Christina Pronger - Joilet Junior Collge, Charles Pronger - Columbia College Chicago, Curtis Propst - Ivy Tech Comm College-Valpo, Ryan Reid - Milwaukee School Of Engineering, Kendall Robinson - Websters Univ., Zachary Ryan - St. Mary's Univ. of MN, Jack Sloyan - Iowa State Univ., Cameron Stevenson - College of Dupage, Molly Tomzik - Triton College, Nathaniel Voglar - Michigan Technological Univ., Tyler Youngdahl - Northern Michigan Univ.

Know anyone who'd make a great staff member?

The Owasippe Scout Reservation staff application is now open for summer 2022!

Apply for Camp Management, General Staff, Counselor In Training, Volunteer Commissioner opportunities.

Interviews will be held throughout the fall and winter.



pathwaytoadventure.org/camping/campstaff

Upcoming Dates of Intrest to OSA Members

October

10th OSA Board Meeting

November

14th OSA Board Meeting
26th OSA Pizza Night

December

12th OSA Board Meeting

Janurary

9th OSA Board Meeting

Additional Spring Fix It Projects



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

Editor: Dalton B. DeVries

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, and photos are encouraged. Submissions can be made out to vibrations@owasippe.com or mailed 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:

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| • Spring | (Issue 1) | January 15 |
| • Summer | (Issue 2) | April 1 |
| • Fall | (Issue 3) | August 7 |
| • Winter | (Issue 4) | October 31 |

Connect with us!

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