



Volume 44, Issue 1 - February 2022

VIBRATIONS

NEWSLETTER

Mark Your Calendar - 44th Annual Meeting

by Dan Kleinfeldt

You are cordially invited to an evening of great fellowship, raffle drawings, and the annual election and meeting!

The Owasippe Staff Association's 44th Annual Meeting & Digital Social will be held on March 5, 2022 starting at 6:00 pm CST. It will be hosted via zoom for a second year in place of the Dinner Dance that was held pre-pandemic. Raffle tickets, election ballots, and due payments are accessible online as well. Purchase raffle tickets anytime between now and the 5th.

We look forward to seeing you all!

The agenda for the evening includes...

- Board Meeting
- Election and board officers
- Raffle prizes (view on page 7)
- Social breakout rooms
- and more!

Join from computer, tablet or phone via Zoom. Find the meeting link at [owasippe.com /category/osanews](https://owasippe.com/category/osanews) or join with the info below:

Meeting ID: 842 6419 1808

Passcode: 825957

Vote for the 2022 Board of Directors



In this issue find out important information about the 43rd Annual meeting, learn about the board of director candidates, election dates, methods of voting, and the details of the election process. Also included is information for yearly members on how to renew their membership. Make sure your dues are up to date to make your vote count and to partake our lineup of 2022 events!

The newsletter for the members of the Owasippe Staff Association

President's Perspective

by Kevin Harper



Happy New Year Membership! As the year has come to an end I had some time to think about this past year, being as challenging as it was. We could not have had the success we did if it were not for our flexible and determined membership.

I'd like to thank Adam Keene our outgoing board Treasurer and chairmen for the fix-it weekends. Adam spent many hours planning and communicating with the board and ranger staff to safely put on our work weekends as well as keep our finances organized. I also like to thank Dan Kleinfeldt for serving as the elections chairman and working to digitize our election process. Thank You goes to all of our members and friends would have contributed to the OSA by attending work weekends, events or by their generous financial donations. Now unfortunately this year's annual meeting will not be held in person, in really down the wire decision the board and I have decided it would be best to again host over zoom. Our meeting will be on March 5th, 2021. This will be the second time for our organization to do so, last year we had give or take around 120-130 people drop in if only for a little while. All members who are up to date on annual dues or are life members will again have the option to vote by mail and or vote online through google. Members can pay online through our website using paypal or mail a check to our PO Box. So mark your calendar now for the Annual Meeting and digital social. Hope to see many of you on zoom!

OSA APPAREL NOW AVAILABLE!

Shipping is NOT included if you wish to have items delivered.

Items can be received at the next OSA event.



SCAN ME

SHOP THE
ONLINE STORE
[HTTPS://OWASIPPE.COM/
WAYS-TO-HELP/STORE/](https://owasippe.com/ways-to-help/store/)



A Short Sleeve LADIES "V" Neck 60/40 cotton/poly \$18



B Short Sleeve Shirt 60/40 cotton/poly \$18



C Long Sleeve Shirt 60/40 cotton/poly \$20



D 3/4 Sleeve Shirt triblend shirt \$20



E Hoodie - Grey/Black 50/50 preshrunk cotton/poly \$25



F Hoodie - Black/Green 50/50 preshrunk cotton/poly \$25



G Full Zip Hoodie Grey/Black 50/50 preshrunk cotton/poly \$30



H Full Zip Hoodie Black/Green 50/50 preshrunk cotton/poly \$30

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>



Membership Dues

Be sure that you are currently registered (2022) in order to partake in the election!

Annual Dues: \$15

Life Membership: \$350

Mail-in dues form is available on page 8 or can be renewed online or via this QR code. <https://owasippe.com/ways-to-help/renew-membership/>



Any questions regarding the status of your membership can be presented to Membership Committee Chair Greg Lange at (773)206-1727 or greglange89@gmail.com.

The OSA Grapevine

Camp Reneker's 2022 C.I.T. class will feature some familiar last names ... Maggie Derby, Ali Kleinfeldt, and Clara Fitzer. Proud parents Ron & Susan Derby, Dan & Mindy Kleinfeldt, and Jeff & Karen (Schaefer) Fitzer are all very excited to see their daughters join the Owasippe staff. Lizzy Frietsch and Clara Lawrence will round out this year's Reneker C.I.T. class. Have a great summer ladies!

Have news to share with your fellow alumni? The OSA is happy to publish it! Please send submissions to vibrations@owasippe.com or mail them to OSA Vibrations Editor, P.O. Box 7097, Westchester, IL 60154. Anything and everything is welcome.

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!

A new burger joint, The Gnarley Heifer, is opening at 301 E Colby St (Formally the Taqueria Diaz Mexican Restaurant). Give it a try next time you are in town. Check out their Facebook Page for more info.

As the temperatures dropped down the past few months several inches of ice have formed on Big Blue, allowing for great ice skating and ice fishing opportunities for residence around the lake. Photos courtesy of the 'No Place Like Big Blue' Facebook Group below.

An iconic Owasippe favorite Dog N' Suds is up for sale. David Hosticka, who took over the business from his father, has been the heart and soul of the Montague and Muskegon locations for 50 years. Now faced with health problems and no one to take up his legacy David hopes to sell the buildings to someone aware of the important community history and cultural history the last two Dog N' Suds in Michigan have.



MEET THE 2022 CANDIDATES FOR THE OSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Members each vote for 3 of the 6 candidates. The top three candidates receiving the largest number of valid votes will be inducted for a three year term during the 2022 Annual Meeting. How to vote, election dates, and additional information is available on page 6.



Edgar Wolff-Klammer, 61, is married and a father of three sons. He lives in Skokie and works for Underwriters Laboratories Inc. in Northbrook as a principal engineer. He has been involved with Scouting for 50 years and is an Eagle Scout. Edgar worked at Owasippe for five summers (CIT, three years at Camp Blackhawk, and one year on maintenance staff) during the late 1970s and early '80s. Edgar has been a Life Member of the OSA since 1985 has been active at work weekends and other OSA events. He has previously served two terms on the OSA board including two years as OSA president. Besides Scouting, Edgar enjoys woodworking and woodcarving.

“The OSA has provided many camp improvements, materials and opportunities to make Owasippe better for the staff, scouts and leaders that attend Owasippe. I would like to again serve on the OSA Board to continue and expand the OSA’s mission at camp so that the current and next generation of Scouters experience the best camp we have.”



Lynnette Kantorski Debnar, 63, lives in Naperville with the “cutest boy I met at Owasippe Scout Camp” when she was just 14 years old and has happily called him “Hubby” for 42 years. She and Steve have 4 children, Steve, Brad (Rebecca), Kandice and LynnZee. Her four grandchildren, Brantley, Hunter, Rosalee and Brynlee, occupy her time daily with silly camp songs and laughter. On March 5th, they will be celebrating their youngest daughter’s wedding. Lynn is a retired sales trainer for American Greetings and CVS Health and her outside interests include gardening, camping, and refurbishing furniture.

“I look forward to working with the OSA using my skills to unite old and new members- one thing is true -once OSA is in your heart it never leaves. I have fond memories of our annual summer and fall visits. I have wonderful friendships that have lasted a lifetime. I look forward to sharing the joys of scouting again with my grandchildren. Hopefully one day one of the littles will join in the comradery of being on staff just as their dad, uncles and their GiGi (I) have.”



Kevin Harper, 34, lives in Villa Park, Illinois with his wife and one-year-old son. For the past eight years has worked in middle management in operations for US Foods in Rosemont. He was a CIT in 2003 and then worked various positions at Blackhawk and High Adventure until 2009. Kevin then returned to work at Blackhawk in 2011 for the 100th Anniversary. He earned Eagle Scout with Troop 969 and is also a vigil member. He is a former Lodge Chief and Section Chief for the O/A. For the past 3 years on and off has been restoring a 1958 Chevy pickup truck with his father. Prior to the pandemic, Kevin had visited 18/30 MLB ballparks with friends that he made while working on camp staff.

As the current President of the board, he hopes to continue to provide input and value to the group for the years to come. Be it the last two years have been a challenge for the organization, Kevin and the board have been flexible and still made an impact at Owasippe for both the staff and the scouts.

continued on page 5



Dalton DeVries, 24, lives in Jefferson Park, Chicago. Currently, he is a commercial editor, camera operator, and part-time faculty member at Columbia College Chicago. Dalton has been working at Owasippe since 2015 and is looking forward to his 8th summer ahead of him. He joined the leadership team in 2018 as Head Commissioner at Camp Blackhawk GO!, served as Program Director in 2019, and faced the challenge of hosting a virtual summer camp for both Owasippe and Napowan during the 2020 pandemic spike. Dalton served as the Blackhawk Director last summer and is excited to be back in 2022.

In his free time, Dalton has taken on a variety of projects for Owasippe including archiving historical maps of the property, designing signs and shirts, and shooting promotional videos. Most recently, Dalton has assisted in publishing the OSA Vibrations Newsletter.

"I believe that the OSA is a privilege for PTAC and Owasippe to have and it is an asset many other camps don't have in these hard times for the BSA. I don't want to take for granted the impact the OSA has made on my experience and hope to serve my time to continue driving that mission forward. I've always enjoyed working with the many familiar faces in the OSA and at OSR and am excited about future projects. I am dedicated to encouraging recent generations of alumni to join and participate in OSA activities and hope that my knowledge of the current summer camp program and connection to current staff can assist the group in making a greater impact on the scouts, staff, and OSA members yet to come."



Candy Merritt, 49, is married and has two daughters, True (OSA Member) and Bailey. She and her family reside in Lagrange Park. Candy currently works as an Account Executive Underwriter for Travelers Insurance. Her staff experience began in 1989, and she continued on staff through 2007, holding various duties including Reneker Camp Director for 8 years. She loves Owasippe for many reasons- the beauty, the adventures and the people she has had the opportunity to meet and become friends with.

Candy started serving the OSA as a Board Member in 2002. She handled many positions on the Board including President, Vice President and Event Chair. She is looking forward to bringing her creativity and experience as both a camper, staff member and OSA member to the OSA Board.



Ron Kulak, age 70, is a resident of Oak Forest, IL, with his wife of 44 years, Marilyn. They have four grown sons, all Eagle Scouts, i.e. Peter, Nicholas, Richard & Jason. He is a bank manager for the US Bank Mt Greenwood Branch in Chicago where he has worked for 15 years.

Ron worked on the Owasippe Staff from 1969 to 1975 at both Camps Blackhawk and Wolverine North both in Scoutcraft and as a Commissioner. He served as a Scoutmaster of Troop 442 in Tinley Park for ten years. In 1997, he developed and introduced the Manistee Quest high adventure program at Owasippe where it ran for ten years. His tenure in Scouting has spanned 40 years in various service positions where he has been honored with the Vigil Honor in the Order of the Arrow, District Award of Merit, and Silver Beaver Award.

Ron is a co-founder of the Owasippe Staff Association in 1978 and has served on the OSA board in multiple terms. He has served as President, Secretary, and Treasurer and was a newsletter editor in its early years. He has chaired various OSA events in the past including directing the OSA Staff Development (CIT) Program at Owasippe for twenty years and was most recently the general manager of the OSA's Guest Lodge-LC2 Restoration Project. He currently takes care of Scout and camp memorabilia sales for the OSA which he has worked for the last 15+ years. Ron is a Life Member of the OSA and has been awarded Member of The Year.

Outside of work and home, Ron volunteers with the Kiwanis Club of Southwest Chicago where he is currently their President and with the Lions Club of Tinley Park where he is on their board of directors and is a past president.

2022 Board of Directors - Election Information

by Daniel Kleinfeldt - Elections Chair

Current Board Member Term Expirations

2022	Adam Keene	Kevin Harper	Candy Merritt
2023	Henry Nakazawa	Michelle O’Conner	Jennifer Kotwasinski
2024	Michael Brus	Chris Sanchez	Wally Kleinfeldt

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 board member must be a currently registered Staff or Associate member age 21 or older as of the day of election to be held on March 5th, 2022, have a genuine interest in the success of the organization, and be available for monthly Board of Director meetings.

Who may vote?

Each OSA member currently registered (2022) is entitled to one ballot on which they can vote for up to 3 candidates. Voting will take place online via the OSA website starting February 14th. You will be notified that voting is closed if you access the online ballot before this date. Please try again within the voting period. Additionally, signed ballots will be accepted via the U.S. mail. Ballots must be received by March 4th to be considered in the election count.

MULTIPLE WAYS TO VOTE

Mail in ballot on page 8 *OR*

Via the QR Code below *OR*

Online at owasippe.com/category/osanews



VOTING IS OPEN

FEBRUARY 14th - MARCH 4th

**Join the annual meeting
March 5th to see the results.**

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 appointed at the Annual Meeting



Annual Meeting & Raffle Info.

Drawings to be held online during the OSA Annual Meeting & Digital Campfire on Saturday, March 5, 2022

NEW Raffle tickets are ONLY available online at: go.rallyup.com/osa-annual-meeting-2022



**\$250
Amazon Gift Card**
\$5 each



**ULTIMATE
SPLIT-THE-POT**
\$10 each



**2-Night Stay
at Guest Lodge***
\$5 each

*Subject to OFFSEASON availability,
must be used before 11/15/22.

These prizes
and MORE
available
online!



**\$250
Cabela's Gift Card**
\$5 each

Annual Meeting info:
owasippe.com/annual-meeting-2022

Election & Candidate info:
owasippe.com/board-election-2022
(Members must be caught up on dues to vote)

Buy Raffle Tickets Online:
go.rallyup.com/osa-annual-meeting-2022
(Credit Cards, Apple Pay, Google Pay & Checks Accepted)

(Please Print)

OSA Member Name (s): _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

e-mail: _____

This form is for mail-in dues renewal and donations only. All raffle tickets must be purchased online.

Item	Qty.	Price	Subtotal
<input type="checkbox"/> OSA Membership Dues Renewal		x \$15	
<input type="checkbox"/> OSA Life Membership		x \$350	
<input type="checkbox"/> General Donation to the OSA		\$	

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



Mail to:
OSA
P.O. Box 7097
Westchester, IL 60154

Upcoming Dates of Interest to OSA Members

February

14th Board of Director Online Voting Opens

March

5th Annual Meeting

April

1st Vibrations contributions submissions due

May

20th OSA Fix It Weekend

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

by Henry Nakazawa

The OSA would like to welcome new 2021, 2022, and life members of the group.

Joe Ahlbach	Member for 2022
Bob Corrao	Member for Life
Tim Hethcoat	Member for 2021
Robert Kondrot	Member for Life
Mike Maddox	Member for 2022

Thank you for your continued commitment to Owasippe Scout Reservation and the OSA

MAIL-IN BALLOT



OWASIPPE STAFF ASSOCIATION
2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OFFICIAL MAIL-IN BALLOT

Owasippe Staff Association
Attn: Elections
P.O. Box 7097
Westchester, IL 60154

Mail in ballots must be signed and received at the P.O. Box by 12:00PM on Friday March 4th, 2022 to be counted in the election.

Signature _____

Printed Name _____

Vote for three candidates:

- Lynnette Kantorski Debnar
- Dalton DeVries
- Kevin Harper
- Ron Kulak
- Candy Merritt
- Edgar Wolff-Klammer
- write-in* _____
- write-in* _____

Owasippe Staff Association
P.O. Box 7079
Westchester, IL 60154

LEAVE BLANK FOR MAILING

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:

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

Connect with us!

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Owasippe Staff Association



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