



THE RED TRAIL

August 1, 2010

Volume 2, Issue 1

SAVE THE DATES

2010

Fall Alumni Weekend

Sept. 11-13

2011

Spring Work Weekends

May 20-22

June 10-12

Family Camping Weekend

July 8-10

55th OSR Reunion

Weekend

Sept. 16-18

2012

Fall Alumni Weekend

Sept. 14-16*

2013

Fall Alumni Weekend

Sept. 20-22*

2014

Fall Alumni Weekend

Sept. 19-21*

***While the dates for the fall weekends were chosen to give everyone a chance to plan ahead, Teddy Roosevelt Council only schedules camp dates for the current year, so while these are anticipated dates, they are subject to change.**

AFTER FIVE YEARS AT THE HELM... OSR DIRECTOR DON SMITH REFLECTS

By Gabriel Gluck

Don Smith has a lot of fond memories of the last five summers.

For the past five years, Don served as Camp Director, turning over the reins this summer to Dominic Kent.

The ex-Navy man—a submariner—grew up in Levittown. But Onteora was an unknown for him because as a Sea Scout, his summer camp was at the Bainbridge Naval Training Center in Maryland.

Don first came to Onteora in 1999 at the invitation of Jim Kent as part of the rebuilding after Council had shuttered the camp.

“That year we had to pay

to be on staff. Every staff member over 21 had to pay \$150. The next year it was \$75, and by the summers of ‘01 and ‘02, it was free. And that first year, we brought our personal tents, but by the following year we were in regular tents.”

Don remembers a night that first summer when he was down by the lake. As he gazed at the night sky, three satellites went by and then two shooting stars.

“And it was like whoa, why would you not want to be here and I just got hooked. And since ‘99 I have not been home for my wedding anniversary,” he said.

Fortunately, she understood his love for Onteora and would come up to visit him.

The more time Don spent

(Continued on page 6)

PLANS UNDERWAY FOR 2011 REUNION

No, that is not a typo in the headline.

While this year’s OAA Fall fellowship weekend is still on for Sept. 11-13, planning is already underway for next year’s reunion.

At the fall weekend in 2006, it was decided that be-

cause the Onteora brotherhood had spread so far and wide, that every five years there would be a special effort to encourage everyone to return to camp for a reunion.

For those who would like to stay at camp longer, it will be

possible to come to OSR as early as Thursday, Sept. 15, 2011, and stay through Monday, Sept. 19, 2011.

Also, for those who work weekends, and may not be able to get away on Saturdays, the hope is that the additional days

(Continued on page 2)

The OAA Board

Anthony Eagan
 Bill Cotter
 Billy Graham - Registrar
 Bob Morse - Chairperson
 Brian Issing - Secretary
 Dave Blaushild
 Gabe Gluck
 Rick Balla – Vice-chairperson
 Reggie Butt

Non-voting:

Dominic Kent
 Kathy Brown (Staff adv.)

Red Trail Editor

Gabe Gluck

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR...

By Bob Morse

It is with a great deal of pleasure that I can report that this past year witnessed a number of significant accomplishments. It has truly been had a successful and productive year for the OAA.

In keeping with our mission statement to provide financial support to the camp endowment for program and capital projects benefiting the camp, I am happy to report that from the combination of annual dues and generous donations of the OAA members, we pur-

chased:

A new sailboat, a professional outdoor weather station, had side railings installed on the stage at the Ken Heim Memorial Amphitheater, installed box lockers installed with power supply at the Long House Dining Hall for the charging of cell phones, pda (s), etc. for the benefit of the adult leaders, awarded two \$500 scholarships to staff members attending college, contributed \$1,625 to the Campership Fund which enabled five scouts to attend summer camp at OSR and Purchased a new ca-

noe in memory of the Adirondack Canoe trips through a gift from Drs. J. Chriss Cancro & Robert Cancro.

We also need to give a resounding “Bully” to Don Smith for completing his five-year term as OSR Camp Director. During that time Don was Ex-Officio on the OAA Board and we valued his insight and counsel.

Although we will miss Don on our monthly conference call, we look forward to forging a new relationship with Dominic Kent, the new Camp Director.

PLANS FOR 2011 REUNION...

(Continued from page 1)

may enable old friends to create alternative arrangements, whether it's getting together Thursday night at the Rockland House for Dinner or Monday-breakfast at the Roscoe Diner.

Russ Rensch and Bill Throop are putting their heads together to coordinate the reunion and the hope is that there

will be a web page soon that will list some of the options open to those coming in with family, including places to stay, things to do and places to visit.

As just one example, Bethel Woods, which never existed when many staffers worked at Onteora, has become a popular attraction for many looking to walk down the Wood-

stock Memory Lane.

We will also be looking to develop a list of area hotels and inns that couples and families might be more interested in than the luxurious offerings at the health lodge or the various lean-tos.

And for those seeking to relive their OSR days, tenting is still an option. (Fortunately, the new showers are better.)

Heater stack races were always lopsided affairs, but that didn't preclude them from taking place. (For more see p.3)

REMEMBERING : HEATER STACKS !!!

By Steve Shull

As part of his vision for Onteora, a critical component of Camp Director Ken Heim's plan was the food service. Troops would be required to cook at least one meal a day in site and would be able to receive lunch and dinner from the kitchens.

While each dining hall was built with a seating capacity of about 360, the campsites in both Tribes and Chiefs camps would come to hold more than twice that number. The answer was to deliver food prepared in the kitchens to the campsites in heater stacks.

The heater stack itself was an insulated metal can measuring about 15 inches in height and 12 in diameter. The can had two handles and a lid and weighed about 14 pounds when empty. Each can would hold three "inserts" - steel pots

(with lids) that measured 4 inches high and ten across. With one course in each insert, a filled heater stack would provide a hot meal to a patrol of up to ten Scouts.

Each kitchen had a heater stack board, a spreadsheet that occupied an entire wall. The board indicated the meals that each troop would receive in heater stacks (red grease pencil) and in the dining hall (black grease pencil).

In the 60's and early 70's, when Onteora was at it's peak capacity, it was normal for each kitchen to be putting out 35 to 40 heater stacks for both lunch and dinner.

Cold courses such as salads, jello and pudding would also go into inserts, but these were not placed in the stack with the hot items. The cold inserts were loaded into wire bread racks while other menu items had to be

bagged, boxed or otherwise portioned out for each patrol. Butter, jelly and condiments were portioned into paper cups with lids and crews always had to make sure there was enough bug juice mix.

Hot courses were placed into the inserts up to an hour before meal time and stored in a large heated cabinet. As meal time approached, the inserts were placed into the stacks which were then usually loaded onto a wagon pulled by a tractor.

Deliveries would generally start 20 - 30 minutes before the dining hall meal time. The driver would pull up to each designated site and someone on the crew would holler 'Heater Stacks' back up into the site. The food - one stack per patrol plus all the extras, were handed down to the Scouts. After all the

(Continued on page 4)

"It was normal for each kitchen to be putting out 35 to 40 heater stacks for both lunch and dinner."

ONTEORA NOW ON FACEBOOK

Onteora is now on Facebook.

From your Facebook page, go to the Search box, type in Onteora Alumni Association, and click the find icon.

When you get to the OAA page, join the group. Then search and join the Onteora Scout Reservation group too. And while we would love everyone to also join the OAA, you don't have to be an OAA member to join the Facebook groups.

So why join? Because as time goes by, you'll get Onteora news a lot faster either

Getting out The Red Trail is a big undertaking, and costly, which is why the issues are limited. Getting news out on the web, along with reminders on upcoming events, is so much easier.

So while the OAA Executive Board is still committed to The Red Trail, the bottom line is, you can't beat the immediacy of something like Facebook, not to mention the ability to get back in touch with old friends.

So please, sign up with the Onteora Facebook pages today.

Stay up to date on news from Onteora and reach out to old friends on Yahoo. Join the Onteora group on Yahoo.

While it's been years since Steve Shull has had to worry about Heater Stacks, many Onteora weekends still find him in the kitchen, cooking up a storm for those who come to the spring and fall weekends.

(Continued from page 3)

stacks were delivered, the crew would take a short break and then head out to retrieve the stacks. Heater stacks often came back with notes to the cooks, some more complimentary than others.

The heater stack room in each kitchen was about ten feet wide and ran along the loading dock, from the dining hall to the breezeway. Along the interior wall was a long stainless steel counter. In the center of the counter was basin with a foot operated jet spray, fondly known as the enema.

At the far end of the counter was a double sink. The inserts were scrubbed, rinsed, and stored upside down in the large cabinet, ready for the next meal. Stacks were cleaned and stored on the upper counter that ran along the breezeway wall to the right of the sink. The lower counter was where the lids were kept.

The heater stack crew typically consisted of three staff members. The senior member of the crew would drive the tractor and the others rode in the wagon. There was usually a whole lot of food on these wagons and the guys in back had their hands full, trying to keep the food from bouncing all over (or off) the wagon as it bumped along the rough roads.

Most troops really enjoyed eating in site. For one thing, Scouts avoided having to put on uniforms and hike to and from the dining hall. Eating in site took less time than in the dining hall. There was a lot of camp lore surrounding heater stacks. In my years (1968 - 73), the Long House had a little blue and yellow Ford tractor, while the Council House had somewhat larger red Massey-Ferguson. Small though it was, the Ford had ten forward gears and was pretty quick.

The Massey had only three forward gears with high and low ranges in each, and was powerful but slow. Heater stack races were always lopsided affairs, but that didn't preclude them from taking place. At times, the two crews would chance to meet along the road that ran from the water tank down towards Witchita. It was always handy to have a bag of stale rolls or some left-over mashed potatoes for these chance run-ins.

The Long House had the better heater stack route to run. Not only was their tractor faster, but the lower loop was quite compact, and the Ute Spur was a smooth stretch of road by OSR standards. In the late 60's, a road was cut from Ute that led back to Gowanus, at which time the Long House route was a relatively compact figure eight. A Long House heater stack run could be completed in around 30 minutes.

Meanwhile the Council Loop was a long and bumpy road, and the delivery circuit extended down the hill to Little Calf, On-On-Tio, and eventually included the Buckskin sites which were situated beyond the end of the Catholic Chapel Road. We tried to schedule only one run a day down to Buckskin since the delivery and pick-up runs would each take nearly an hour. On rare occasions we'd commandeer the Blue Rack or Leland's Ford to speed up the run.

One of my favorite heater stack stories involved Billy Graham. Billy and Bill Persons were the heater stack guys at the Long House in 1972. Someone had forgotten to deliver the baked goods to the Long House that day. Billy jumped onto the tractor and raced down the hill towards Central Commissary, only to discover as he neared Dull



(Continued on page 8)

Legends of Onteora, 2009

Each year, the Alumni Association recognizes several Scouts and Scouters for the outstanding contributions they have made to Onteora. This tradition began in 2001, when Ken Heim, Bill Donaghy, Sr., Rick Balla, Dave Barkstedt, and Jim Kent were the initial honorees.

In 2010, four of our colleagues were selected by the OAA, Don Heiberg, Tony Marren, Russ Rensch, Jr., and Niles Fairbaine. Joe Laratondo, was also finally recognized. Joe was actually chosen in 2008. His biography will appear in the upcoming winter issue of The Red Trail, along with the others recognized at that time.

Donald Heiberg

Don served on Onteora staff from 1966 to 1971. He spent all those years in the office, rising to Office Manager and eventually Business Manager. Along with a handful of other key staffers from this era, he provided a great deal of continuity after Mr. Heim retired in 1969.

Don's other great legacy was related to the Order of the Arrow. Don was the Buckskin Lodge Recording Secretary, Little Lodge and Chief and in 1968-9 the littlest Lodge Chief. It is no coincidence that the hey-days of both OSR and the OA overlapped Don's years of service.

It was with great sadness that we learned that Don suffered massive heart failure and a series of strokes and passed away in 2008. His truly kind nature and passion for Scouting and OSR will be sorely missed.

Tony Marren

Tony has become Onteora's unofficial quartermaster, a task he performs from Salt Lake City where he spends his spare time as a Bishop in Mormon Church.

Need a volleyball and net? Tony'll hunt it down at a bargain price. Electrical gear and painting supplies. If he can't hound some organization into donating them, he'll pay for them (at a serious discount) out of his own pocket. Pots, pans and utensils for the Long House. He's got it covered. The Fedex and UPS guys in Sullivan County have got to be Glenn's closest friends, thanks to Tony.

Onteora is not the sole beneficiary of Tony's efforts. He has been instrumental in numerous charity organi-



zations that have improved the lives of many thousands of underprivileged people in the USA and far beyond our borders. He's roped more than a few of us into helping these causes.

Tony's time on OSR staff was spent at the Council House, near the end of its service life. He was also a driving force in the Order of the Arrow and is a Vigil Honor member. He's had some serious health issues of late but I'm happy to report that he is well on the road to recovery. For those of you who haven't met Tony, be sure to attend our next "big" reunion weekend, which Tony has promised to attend.

Russ Rensch Jr.

If nothing else, Russ Rensch Jr. is living proof that the love for Onteora can come at any age. While Russ never went to summer camp at the Land in the Sky, as a troop leader he would begin a relationship with the camp

(Continued on page 8)

Past Legends of Onteora

<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
Ken Heim	Bill Donaghy	Al Ehl	Eric Anderson	Ken South	Mark Ryan
Leland Tuttle	Glenn Gabbard	Joe Grupp	Jimmy Hammond	Jim Shields, Sr.	Chris Wieczkowski
Dave Barkstedt	<u>2004</u>	Dick Horn	Bill Cotter	Ralph Foster	Steve Shull
Jim Kent	Les Cox	Sturges Shields	Charlie Ruiz		Rev. Ben Bartel
Rick Balla					

(Continued from page 1)

Don Smith reflects....

at
Onteora, the less he could understand the rationale behind ever closing the camp.

“This place is gorgeous. You had a ton of volunteers paying to be here—that’s what really got me, every adult paid to be here and they were also giving up their vacation. And everyone was having fun.”

However, Don admits that while he loves Onteora, Orchard Lake has its limits.

“1999 was the first time I went in Orchard Lake—we had to clear rocks from the swimming area—and it was the last time. That lake is really cold.”

Not that he hasn’t experienced some of the other major climate differences between Long Island and the mountains of Sullivan County.

“During breakdown in August there was frost on the James E. West field. One Fourth of July morning it was 38 degrees and by the afternoon in it was 76.”

For all the incredible work it took to bring OSR back up and running, Don says that being there instilled a confidence that they could make it work.

“You got the sense the camp was going to make it just from the spirit of the staff—and the kids were loving it. They were just enthusiastic. The spirit everybody had was just amazing.

“It gets into your blood. It’s very hard to explain to anyone who hasn’t been here.”

For the five years that Don served as Camp Director, camp attendance ran between 975 and 1,018 scouts. And with each year, the staff got better, he said.

“We’ve learned. You need to do more training before camp begins, not just staff week,” he said.

Given the average camp salaries, recruiting staff is not always easy.

“We can’t compete with McDonalds as far as salary. Four years ago busboys at Red Lobster were making \$9 an hour, they were off two days a week and

got to be home with their friends. We have kids up here making \$3 an hour, working 18 hours a day.”

The salaries are a far cry from the boom years of the late sixties and seventies when charter buses and tractor-trailers would be transporting a thousand scouts back and forth for each of the four two-week periods.

When Don was in the Navy back then, his paycheck was \$121 while, as he would learn years later, the camp commissary director was making twice that.

He also believes that scouts have changed. “It’s a new breed of kids with a different mindset. You have to talk to them almost as equals, they’re so much smarter. I couldn’t program a computer. I didn’t grow up with the devices these kids have.

“During Eagle camp, at a meeting for Citizenship in the Nation, we got into a debate over whether Clinton should have been impeached...and then we got into Nixon, and then Andrew Johnson, and I’m thinking, ‘How old are you?’ These are 13-, 14-, 15-year-old boys and many have learned all this just from reading. The kids today are very very smart.”

“The sad downside is that many of the kids are medicated,” Don said, noting that in a given week, upwards of 60 percent of the scouts are on medication that must be dispensed by the Health staff.

But for as much as he admires their intelligence, he

wishes they were less plugged in. He finds them less spontaneous and needing far more structure.

“These kids don’t know how to have fun. ‘Here’s a ball, do something. If it’s not laid out, if it’s not planned, they seem to lack the imagination to find something to do. I can’t remember the last time I saw kids have chicken fights.”

One day when Don suggested chicken fights, none of the kids knew, at he was talking about.

“Last summer, they brought back manhunt, which is just hide and seek, and these kids thought it was the greatest thing. I think the kids lack the imagination because they’re so used to having a TV, or a computer, and having everything laid out for them and when they have free time, they don’t know what to do.”

The past year and a half have been rough for



(Continued on page 8)



*The Onteora Alumni Association
Fall Alumni Weekend
September 10-12, 2010*

The Annual OAA Fall Weekend, celebrating 50+ years of camping at Onteora, will be held at camp – hang out, camp out, and contribute to our home away from home. Not quite as elaborate or programmed as our reunion weekends (the next one will be in September 2011), but we’ll arrange for housing and good food. Join us Friday evening for a Bar-B-Q dinner at the long house; breakfast, lunch, and dinner will be served on Saturday, and a light breakfast on Sunday. Of course, we will have a campfire Saturday evening.

New for 2010: You can stay in camp Friday night for dinner – the weekend registration fee now includes a Bar-B-Q (from 6:30-8pm) at the Long House.

Join us as we celebrate the successes of our reopened summer camp and the bright future for Onteora Scout Reservation. Any income in excess of expenses from this weekend will be used by the Onteora Alumni Association to support a project at camp.

-----cut here-----

I will be bringing ___ person(s) 22 years old or younger @ \$30.00 each and ___ persons over 22 years old @ \$40 each, so I have enclosed \$ _____.

Please register by Friday September 3, 2010. After that date, please contact Rick Balla at rpb11570@yahoo.com or 516-678-0032 to find out if there is still room. THANKS.

**** Should we include you in the head count for the bar-b-q dinner Friday night at the Long House? Yes/No (circle one)**

I will also bring an Annual Health & Medical Record, see: http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/34605_Letter.pdf

Name(s) _____
Address _____
City, State Zip _____
Phone Number(s) _____
E-Mail _____

Return this information with your payment (checks made payable to Theodore Roosevelt Council BSA) to

We accept: VISA / MC / AMERICAN EXPRESS/ DISCOVER
(circle card type)

Card No.

Exp. Date

Signature:

Amount:

Mail to :
**Onteora Alumni Association
Attention: 2009 Fall Weekend
TRC- BSA
544 Broadway
Massapequa, NY 11758
FAX: 516-797-9765**

Don Smith reflects...

(Continued from page 6)

Don. Diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, he will often use a leg brace and a cane. And he has to be more careful because the MS has affected his sense of balance.

Even so, he still plans on visiting Onteora, just not as Camp Director. And that is one thing he will miss.

“What I will miss most are the kids on staff. When they get it, you see the light bulb go on. I had one kid I called Waldo because I could never find him. I’m going to miss that. You see the kids grow up before your eyes. That’s what I’m going to miss the most, seeing the younger staff get it. These kids have that spirit.”

As Camp Director, Don had many dealings with the OAA, many times participating in the monthly telephone conference meetings during the off-season.

“The alumni association, as big a pain in the ass as they can be, we would not be here without them,” he said. “What they do is very instrumental in

keeping this place operating.”

“Those rowboats have been full all the time and 80 to 90 percent probably came from the OAA. We just made up a new brochure and the backfold says our camp is supported by TRC, the OAA and scouters like you. And it’s not just financial either. It’s the guys who come up here to help with repairs and maintenance.”

While no one is likely to spend an evening discussing the very expensive latrines that the OAA funded by the waterfront, they were integral to the camp being allowed to continue operating.

“Without that latrine at the waterfront, we would not be operating here. Without it, the waterfront had to go. That bathroom kept us grandfathered under the old permits.”

“Without the OAA, we would be in a lot of trouble here,” Don said. “But the members of the alumni association understand.

Once you’re here, you’ve got the fever.”

Heaterstacks.....

(Continued from page 4)

Knife that Bill Persons had unhitched the wagon from the tractor. The tongue bounced off the hitch and the wagon barreled straight into a brand new Lincoln Continental that was parked at Dull Knife.

All of the cooks loved to get out and drive the tractor or truck when kitchen duties permitted. Stu Bricker would often ask Billy to let him drive, and Stu would

invariably get stuck in the muddy stream at the bottom of the Ute loop. Billy would then have to call Ranger Bill to come pull it out. Billy would always take the rap for Stu since cooks were not supposed to be driving. Bill Donaghy Sr. thought that Billy was a total incompetent, a misconception that Billy was never able to correct.

(Continued from page 5)

Legends....

that has never ended.

Generations of scouts and adult leaders have gotten to know Russ, whether through his involvement with the Order of the Arrow, the Council or his troop. Few have a better attendance record at work weekends and few have committed more time to Onteora than he has over the years.

Russ has also volunteered as a commissioner during summer camp, although some might suspect that enables him to always be on the prowl in the unlikely event that some scout has a patch that is not in his collection.

When it comes to helping on any project, no matter the size, the word “No” has never been in his vocabulary. He is always there to lend a hand and do whatever he can to promote Onteora, including the most recent camp promo

tional show that he helped put together. For all of these reasons, and countless others, Russ was chosen as a Legend of Onteora.

Niles Fairbain

Niles Fairbain was a naturalist and an environmentalist before the term was invented.

He lived in the Catskills and was around Onteora from the start, teaching staff and Scouts about the flora and especially fauna of the area. Niles had an uncanny way with animals and was a well-known animal trainer. He is best known for having worked on several Disney movies, including one in which he trained the otters.

He enjoyed fishing the streams in the region. A record brown trout that he caught was stuffed and mounted on a wall in the Council House. Niles was so admired that Onteora’s late Camp Director, Ken Heim, named a campsite in the short-lived Buckskin Camp after him.

2010 Membership Application



Highlight! Rolling Dues year, pay by credit card, campership fund...
 - "Rolling Dues Year" - pay your dues for a one year period starting when your payment is received (like a magazine subscription).
 - Pay by credit card and make monthly, quarterly, bi-annual or yearly payment(s).
 - Give specifically on the campership line to help send a needy Scout to Onteora.
 - Stretch your gift by taking advantage of employer matching gifts (if applicable).

The Onteora Alumni Association was established in 2001. It promotes the aims and methods of Boy Scout Camping through support of Onteora Scout Reservation by:

- Financial support to the camp endowment for programs and capital projects administered by the Theodore Roosevelt Council, BSA.
- Participation of members in camp work weekends to improve camp facilities and programs
- Providing social opportunities for members, who are former campers, scouters, parents, staff, and individuals who support the operations and traditions of Onteora Scout Reservation.

Membership Categories	Dues	Membership Categories	Dues
Individual - Basic (under 21 years of age)	\$ 10	Individual - Basic (21 plus years of age)	\$ 30
Individual - Silver	\$ 50	Individual - Gold	\$ 100
Individual - Platinum	\$ 200	Millennium Member – Onteora Millennium Society	\$1,000
Individual - Life (payable over 4 years)	\$2,000	Corporate	\$ 100

-All paid members receive membership patch and an annual commemorative patch. Join at the \$100 level and above to also receive an annual commemorative neckerchief. Millennium or Life memberships may be paid over 2 or 4 years, respectively.
 -Following the full contribution of \$1000 towards a Millennium or Life membership, you can be recognized as a Council J.E. West Fellow.
 -The Onteora Alumni Association awards at least one academic or vocational scholarship a year to a current OSR staff member. If you are interested in contributing to this fund, please include the amount in the form below.

***** Cut here and enclose with dues. *****

Name: _____ **E-Mail:** _____

Address: _____

Occupation/Expertise: _____ **Phone:** () _____-_____ home

(circle one) Youth(11-20) or Adult (21+)

() _____-_____ business

Membership Category Requested: _____ **Please check here if this is a new or an installment towards an OSR Millennium Membership** _____ **or life membership** _____

Please enclose address changes with dues remittance.

Make checks payable to: Theodore Roosevelt Council BSA

Account# 1-2306-943-00

2010 OAA Membership

Dues Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

OSR Staff Scholarship Fund Donation: \$ _____

Campership Contribution towards our \$3,000 annual goal: \$ _____

I'm already a life member _____; here's an annual contribution _____ \$ _____

Contribution to OAA endowment or capital _____ campaign(s) \$ _____

Total Amount Enclosed/Contributed: \$ _____

Credit Card (circle): MC VISA DISCOVER AMEX

Credit Card No.: _____ **Sec. Code:** _____ **Signature:** _____ **Exp. Date:** _____

For Credit Card Payments	
Total Contribution	\$
Payment	\$
Balance Due	\$

For Credit Card Payments	
Number of Payments	Start Month
(Check One)	(Circle One)
<input type="checkbox"/> One Time	January February March
<input type="checkbox"/> Two Times	April May June
<input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly	July August September
<input type="checkbox"/> Monthly	October November December

TRC Office Fax: **516-797-9765**

My employer makes matching gifts _____
 Please list any special skills, abilities or contributions you can make to Onteora on the reverse of this form. Mail to:
 Onteora Alumni Association c/o Theodore Roosevelt Council BSA - 544 Broadway, Massapequa, NY 11758 (516) 797-7600



Scenes from the Fall '09 Weekend



The Projects Keep Coming...

By Rick Balla

We had 3 great pre-camp work weekends at OSR in 2009, in April, May and June. I try to keep track of who attends and what gets done – those details are included below. While there is always the danger of leaving a name out or missing a project, it is safe to say that Onteora alumni and OAA members significantly contribute to making OSR a better place.

We help by keeping costs down for the camp by contributing time and talents and relieving the workload burden on the camp staff by doing things they might otherwise have to do, and help our Ranger Glenn before he has the extra hands of pre-staff and staff to get things done that have to be done before they arrive.

I also think that I can safely say that everyone who attends these weekends has a great time, doing worthwhile things in the company of fine people at a beautiful place. To

those who come twice a year (or more) to help out, I salute you. To those who come once a year or occasionally, thanks. To those of you who have not come recently or a not part of the “precamp worker society” give it a try in 2011 – you won’t be sorry. No special qualifications are needed. Your time and skills (if you have any particular ones) will be put to good use.

I would also be remiss if I did not express a word of thanks to the individuals and teams who contribute time and materials outside of our 3 regularly scheduled weekends – and I know there are a lot of you, even if I don’t keep a running list of your names and what you accomplish. You are part of what keeps OSR humming, year in, year out.

THANKS.

April 2009 Projects

Replaced main water line from well to central chlorinated water holding tank across Sprague Brook.

Platforms and campsite repairs throughout camp

May 2009 projects

Reset parking lot lean-to on footings.

Unloaded summer camp drink concentrate delivery at Long House.



Tom Quick's Pond...or what's left of it. For those who haven't been back to Onteora in awhile...the dam broke some years back so this is the view one sees after hiking over Rattle Hill, as several OAA members discovered at last fall's fellowship weekend

Removed box speakers in Long House dining room.

Replaced target holders at rifle range.

Replaced broken window sash locks in Long House dining room.

Performed maintenance and did check-up, repair, and recharge on Long House refrigeration unit, assessed need for repairs/replacement of freezer door gasket.

Painted base of serving table in Long House dining room.

Painted base of griddle in Long House kitchen.

Cleaned grease filters above cooking line in Long House kitchen.

Painted 2 pairs of double doors between Long House kitchen and breezeway.

Painted compressor stand on Long House loading dock.

Painted walls of Long House lower bathrooms.

Painted front and back porches/decks at all four A-frames.

Floated and connected 2 dock sections at waterfront to facilitate water sampling. Cooked for 19 work weekend participants.

Installed 2 saddles on doors at parking lot bathrooms.

Trenched and backfilled for new central gas line installation to service all 4 A-frames.

Installed new saddle, sill

plate, and brick molding at side entrance of Health Lodge.

Reattached base cove molding throughout Health Lodge.

Made interim repairs to roof damage at Long House loading dock.

Stripped roof, sheathing and fascia and 2 rafters for replacement at Wichita latrine.

Restrung triplex wire between Maintenance Shop and central chlorinator.

Replaced ballasts in Long House kitchen light fixtures.

Replaced 3 light sensors in central showerhouse.

Installed electrical power strip in Long House lower bathroom.

Repaired door closer in parking lot bathroom.

Repaired damage to and performed maintenance on telephone system campwide, including rehanging line between well and waterfront, restringing service to filed sports shelter off the Parade Field, raising low hanging line at Rifle Range, and repairs at the archery center at Dan Beard Shelter.

Chipped cut trees throughout camp, especially in the upper parking lot, parade field, maintenance shop and elsewhere throughout camp.

Made tent platform repairs throughout camp, inventoried other campsite needs and necessary repairs.

Editor's Note: Our next issue will bring everyone up to date with the 2010 projects.

**ONTEORA ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION**
Theodore Roosevelt
Council, BSA
544 Broadway
Massapequa, NY 11758

Membership Status: Expired _____

Current Thru: _____

Join the OAA: _____



**If undeliverable, please
return to:
91 S. Lewis Place,
Rockville Centre, NY
11570**



Camperships, scholarships, canoes and more...

So where does all that money go that the OAA raises?

This past year \$1,625 went for camperships to help scouts go to camp. There were also two \$500 scholarships. The two recipients of the 2009 OAA scholarships were Eric Panetta and Vincent Pistone.

The OAA also purchased a new sailboat for \$2,900 and three canoes, which cost \$3,450.

Another \$660 went for the railings on the amphitheater stage so that it would meet code requirements and a similar amount went for a charging station in the dining hall so that scoutmasters had a secure place where they could charge their cellphones.

OAA members will also be happy to know that none of the endowment was

invested in any stock market sensitive funds—if only the rest of us had been so lucky.

As a result, the endowment fund did not take any hit with the market crash. In fact, the fund now has over \$90,000 and continues to generate funds to be used for additional camp projects.

Some sad news...

It is with deep regret that we pass along news of the passing of three old friends of Onteora:

Bob Oldmixon
Mark Muzii
Carl Gullans, Sr.

The Oldmixon family has expressed an interest in having some project done at camp in Bob's memory. The board is working together with the ranger to come up with some possibilities.

ONTEORA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Theodore Roosevelt
Council
Boy Scouts of America

544 Broadway
Massapequa, Ny 11758

Phone: 516.797.7600

We're on the Web!

See us at:

[www.trcbsa.org/OAA/
index.htm](http://www.trcbsa.org/OAA/index.htm)