

Vol. 55

OTYC

December, 1998

OTYC

No.1

# CELEBRATING 50 YEARS



Photo #1 ▲  
◀ Photo #2      Photo #3 ▶

OF  
KIDS



### The Omena-Traverse Yacht Club Breeze

Official organ of the Omena-Traverse Yacht Club, authorized by its Board of Directors in 1948, published twice yearly.

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#### Editorial Staff

Suzie Mulligan, Editor  
Nana Kennedy, Distribution  
and Proofreading

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#### Terms ending September 15, 1999

Kathy Bosco  
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#### Terms ending September 15, 2000

Mike Biskupski  
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#### Terms ending September 15, 2001

Marsha Buehler  
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**Permanent Membership:** Initiation fee (includes children up to 24 years of age): \$360.00.

**Family Annual Dues:** (as defined in the By-Laws 7/92) \$200.00.

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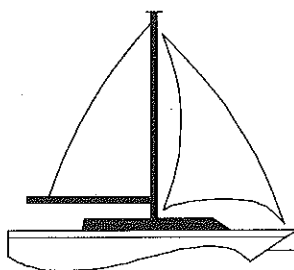
#### Fees for rental of the Clubhouse:

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Scheduling and lease application is available from the Commodore.



## A Message from the Commodore

Twenty years ago, I sat down to write my first Breeze column as your Commodore. It would be trite of me to say that "time has flown by," but one thing is certain: our lives swirl and change, but Omena is always there to center us. This special place fills our souls, revives and heals us, ties us together and brings us joy. Drawn to this beautiful spot, as you are, I am so pleased to serve as your Commodore again, just a quick two decades later!

The OTYC continues to thrive with dedicated members giving of their time and talents as they have for more than 50 years. With such a grand birthday celebration this summer, it is easy to see how our Club has evolved over the years from the dreams of seven young people to a continually growing organization of 207 regular members. I'd like to thank all those members who have made contributions to the Birthday Gift Fund. You will be hearing in the Spring Breeze how the money will be spent and about plans the Board is now working on to address issues which are affected by our larger membership.

This coming year many new and long-term members will be involved as committee chairmen. I am grateful to have these talented and enthusiastic people helping me serve the OTYC:

<i>House &amp; Grounds</i> - Mike Biskupski	<i>Waterfront</i> - Tom Buehler
<i>Social Chairman</i> - Connie Martineau	<i>Opening Dinner</i> - Charlotte Read & Annette Husted
<i>Potlucks Chairman</i> - Judy Smart	<i>Special Events</i> - Mary Loveless
<i>Program Chairman</i> - Carolyn Faught	<i>Off-Season Activities</i> - Nana Kennedy
<i>Commodore's Reception</i> - Caroline Oberndorf & Melissa Chenault	<i>Membership Chairman</i> - Barb Harris
<i>Historian</i> - Bill Marbach	<i>Youth Program</i> - Amanda Bosco & Bill Mason
<i>Nominating</i> - Jay Grosmark, Connie Martineau, Barb Harris, Tom Buehler, Trudy Lewis	

The calendar is set and plans have already begun to make the summer of 1999 a fun and exciting one. The Club's Sunfish fleet of nine boats has all been refurbished, thanks to Tom Buehler and Nick Ferdinand, last year's sailing instructor. Marsha Buehler has made new buoys for the sailboat classes and races, while Tom has completely restored the Club's motor boat. It has never looked so wonderful. All will be ready for next summer's activities.

Before I departed for Phoenix in October, I made one last stop at the Club. Inside the historic building I saw only darkness and emptiness. But in the silence I could hear a continuing echo of the laughter, fun and friendship we shared last summer. As we enjoy the holidays with our families and loved ones, I know the Yacht Club silently sits in winter's peaceful tranquility, eagerly awaiting the return of its family when the sun warms its windows and the gentle summer breeze blows off Omena Bay. Mike and I wish you all the best in the coming year.

Kathy

## Taming the Wind

Caroline Turner

Skimming through the water,  
Gliding on the breeze,  
I am a sailor.  
I am taming the wind.

Crashing through the waves,  
Gripping the tiller,  
I am a sailor.  
I am taming the wind.

Facing the gusts,  
Fighting for control,  
I am a sailor.  
I am taming the wind.

Heeling too far over,  
Swimming in the lake,  
I am a sailor.  
You cannot tame the wind.

## OTYC HISTORIAN'S REPORT - July 18, 1998

*William A. Marbach*

In 1997 a fire-resistant cabinet was purchased. It is now filled with OTYC records which were gathered from various locations. The historian, secretary and commodore have keys. It is located in the storage room adjacent to the stage. There is a file of Board minutes, Annual Meeting minutes, and a year-by-year file of other materials. Further organizing and purging will be undertaken in the next few weeks.

## NEW DINNER FEATURE AT OTYC

*Connie Martineau*

Beginning July 15th we will offer five catered Thursday evening dinners. The format will be similar to our Wednesday potlucks, but you won't have to bring food. The dinners will be reasonably priced and designed to please all tastes. We feel that this new feature will help us accommodate all of our members. You'll see more information in the May Breeze.

## YOUTH ACTIVITIES - July 18, 1998 - Bill Mason

The Youth Program at OTYC has had a successful year with Nick Ferdinand as sailing instructor and Wayne Russel as tennis instructor. Suzanne Mason and Caroline Turner are assistant instructors. There has been a total of 93 participants in the program. The power boat had some mechanical problems so the Marbachs, Bucholtzes and Masons lent their boats for use and it seemed to work out fine. We had a minimal number of rainy days, which allowed more time on the tennis court and more instructional time for sailing. The Thursday outings included: a trip to Sleeping Bear Sand Dunes, a movie in Suttons Bay, and Capture the Flag on the OTYC grounds. We all look forward to a successful summer of 1999.

## CELEBRATING KIDS - Suzie Mulligan

In 1947 our yacht club was created by the kids, for the kids, and of the kids. All were young, but many too old to be called children. Gus Rogers, our first Commodore, was a mere 17 years old, and the other initial "movers and shakers" were kids. Current member Marilyn Flett was a teenager when she and three friends persuaded Hector Carmichael to rent his "Pavilion" to them for use as a yacht club. (The initial cost: \$1.00 per year.) Mary Helen Ayars (Ray), Carolin "Rat" Smith (Renz), Betsy Lyon (Ehrhardt) and Margy Lyon were among the youngsters who took on many small but important tasks: signing up people for potlucks, making stage curtains, managing the snack bar, etc.

Both teenagers and adults manned the boats in the first Lightning fleet, and a fleet of Penguin sailboats was soon formed to suit the abilities of younger members. As sailing activities increased, a more organized Youth Program evolved to include tennis and sailing lessons, and sometimes swimming and boating safety.

As I browse through old issues of the Breeze, I find three generations of kids (some of them my own) learning, enjoying and adding to the vitality of OTYC. It is to them that this issue of The Breeze is joyfully dedicated.

▼ Photo #4 Do you recognize these '70's kids? Photo #5 ▼



## News From Our Friends

**O**ur early-bird correspondents were **Nancy and Bill Sandt**. "Instead of sailing on the bay, we spent the last two weeks of September in France, and more particularly in Paris, of course, and in Provence. In Paris we stayed in an enchanting little hotel in a building that must be 500 years old in the oldest, but still one of the liveliest, sections of the city, close to the Hotel de Ville (city hall). The Louvre and the Orsay Museum were among our visual highlights. It is impossible to starve in Paris. There must have been fifty restaurants within a 5-10 minute walk of the hotel. The Provence is wine with some gorgeous scenery and lots of Roman history thrown in. No wonder the artists loved it. Skies were blue, the sun warm, the Mediterranean calm and the beaches beautiful. As with so many places, now that we know what it looks like, we would love to spend some real time!"

**B**ob Gelakoski writes, "Hi! I just bought a condo in South Pasadena, FL, which is near St. Petersburg. It's on the 15th floor with a good view of the Gulf of Mexico. I am having a lot of fun furnishing my new condo. My friends are helping me with interior decorating ideas. St. Petersburg has a very nice art museum featuring the works of Salvador Dali. I am volunteering at the museum 1/2 day a week, and I have also entered their docent program. Later this year I will be able to give guided tours of the museum on a volunteer basis. **Andrea** is having a great time at the University of Florida. She just joined the Chi Omega sorority. It was great fun spending the last weekend of September in Gainesville with her. **Brian** is doing well. He is spending a lot of time surfing and is becoming quite good at his new sport. I miss everyone in Omena and am looking forward to next summer already. Happy holidays!"

**A**nd from **Sam and Mary Cone**: "We traveled through the Republic of Ireland in a small van with five

other couples, a guide and a driver, September 6 - 22. We got a true sense of the beauty and mystery of the Emerald Isle. The warmth and gentleness of the people, and their past and present history is everywhere...in the countryside, small villages and large cities such as Dublin. We arrived at Shannon airport and spent the next two weeks touring the Ring of Kerry, Cliffs of Moher, just to mention a couple of places. We stayed in delightful B. & B.s, comfortable and charming. The food was good - from lamb to the gifts from the sea (especially salmon!). There would be lots of other places and things to mention, but we're keeping it short and ending with an Irish blessing we love so much: 'May the road rise to meet you; may the wind be at your back; may the sun shine warmly on your face and the rain fall soft upon your fields; and until we meet again, may the Lord hold you in the hollow of his hand.'"

**O**n behalf of the **Ehrhardt** family and herself, **Margy Lyon** reports that "Summer sped by at its usual rapid pace. We enjoyed all the activities planned for the OTYC 50th Anniversary. We were pleased to have the whole Ehrhardt and Lyon families together during July. This fall Bert Wheeler has been painting our cottages so we will be all spruced up for next summer. September found Margy and Betsy and Drew visiting **Peggy Ehrhardt and Jon Elscott** in Kansas City for a long weekend. The weatherman indicated it would be cool so we packed accordingly. Luckily we put in a pair of shorts at the last minute, as it was 90 degrees the whole time! Shopping at Nordstrom's, Margy bought the first "fine" hat she'd had in probably 30 years. She expects to find many times to wear it. In early October, Betsy and Drew went to Baltimore to visit **Bob and Martha Ehrhardt** and the three grandchildren: **Ida, Eva and Nathan**. The report was that the children were as darling as ever. Betsy and Drew are also planning a theater week-

end in New York City in November. Margy is running for President-elect of the Hamilton County Retired Teachers Association. Merry Christmas to all!"

**J**oan and Ole Kiersey write, "Here we are in beautiful Durham, NC, with woodsy streets & avenues & lanes curving into Leelanau County-type terrain. It's a good sized city, of course, but doesn't seem like one at all - excellent feature, we think! We arrived here on October 1st in our trusty old car with the little U-Haul trailer following behind (masterful job by Ole through those mountains!). We're now between Phase 2 and Phase 3 of The Big Move. Our apartment is cute and roomy, but we'll be leaving it by the first of December, as we've found our condo of choice, after much looking and comparing. It's called Summit Hill and is in a country-ish setting in Chapel Hill, about ten minutes from where we are now. (New address is in the OTYC member list.) Weather is pleasant and the sun is as warm as Omena's in August. We've been shopping every day, replacing those things that were tired and thrown away when we left Kalamazoo. It's fun to think of **Mary and Tom Smith**, as we enjoy all those great apples we brought along. Ole makes apple bread and applesauce; Landen makes the pies...all delectable. It's a special joy to be so near **Kathy & Landen and Kim & Jim**. Kim & I forever marvel that these phone calls are free! It's also a joy to know we'll be back up there with all of you next June. We wish you all a wonderful winter and hope any of you who come near here will let us know. Rays, Mulligans, and Barb Harris have our number.

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## More News...

**M**att and Trish Bosco are "elated to introduce a new member to our family and OTYC. Kathryn Ellen Bosco, a.k.a. "Kate", was born October 4, 1998, at 1:47 p.m., weighing in at 7 pounds, 4 ounces at a height of 19 inches. The future aviator, Olympian, beauty queen and heart breaker is eager to take a dip in Omena Bay and meet future O.T.Y.C. pals. **Grandma Bosco** came out to Davis, California, helping Kate and her parents adjust to her first week at home. (Thank goodness!) **Grandpa Bosco** also came out for a weekend visit to proclaim little Kate to be "a very special Bosco beauty!"

**H**ere's the news from **Rat & Bill Renz**: "We've just returned from New Orleans, where we spent a fun few days with **Bill E. and Tish**. We did the town up right, enjoying a dinner cruise with The Dukes of Dixieland, the fine cuisine and jazz on Bourbon Street and a lot of walking in the Vieux Carre. Driving to New Orleans (via Texas), we took in the Fire Ant Festival! (Are we the first OTYC members to take part in this amazing annual event?) Also caught some Cajun culture in Fayette, Louisiana, where we ate in a Cajun restaurant complete with live Cajun music and dancing. A bit like Dill's with a Cajun touch. We're home now, enjoying the fall colors and looking forward to a big Thanksgiving."

**J**ohn & Barb Harris celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary with an eight day cruise to Alaska's Inland Passage on the M.S. Maarsdam of the Hol-

land America Line. The weather was perfect, the meals outstanding and the scenery breathtaking. They visited Juneau, Glacier Bay, Skagway & Ketchikan, taking some wonderful shore excursions at each port. A fantastic trip with many memories to treasure forever! Some more exciting news: Grandparents at last! Tyler Jonathan Harris was born May 5, 1998 to Dr. Paul & Terri B. Harris. Paul & Terri are now living in Lansing, IL, where Paul is doing a fellowship in critical care at the U. of Illinois-Chicago. Tim & Aimée have bought a new house in Carlsbad, CA, and are busy decorating and landscaping. Tim is currently working on his MBA. Cindy is teaching 3rd grade at Truckee Elementary School near Lake Tahoe, CA. She still loves teaching and also loves being able to live "in" the Sierra mountains. Hopefully, we can be together for Christmas.

**W**e spoke to **Mary Woolford** on the phone recently. She reports that her recovery from September her hip surgery got off to a shaky start, but she's doing well now. In fact she's working on some travel plans for later this winter.



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**C**aroline & Ed Oberndorf tell us, "October 11 we will have survived forty years together. Are we becoming an endangered species? This summer **Charlie** was given a grant by the Ohio Arts Council. He submitted the second chapter of his new novel. He is back to teaching and we are still feeling proud. **Rob** just finished a week mountain-biking in Utah...now back to lawyering. Mike & Connie and their three are fine and will be in Omena next summer."

**T**he Mulligans are off to San Jose, CA, to enjoy Thanksgiving with **Scott & family** after a few days with Helen in Costa Mesa. We thank all of you who sent your Breeze news & articles promptly. Those of you who know Helen (our mom) will be sorry to hear that she fell in late October and broke a hip. She's doing well and expects to be sailing again next summer.

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## SAILBOAT RACING - Dennis Turner

The OTYC Sunfish Regatta was held on July 26. Unlike last year, the wind cooperated, so two races were held. Using his uncanny ability to anticipate every windshift, John Ray won both races and overwhelmed the competition. There was a tie for 2nd place between the Caroline Turner/Alison Biskupski boat and the boat skippered by Bill Mason and crewed by Suzanne Mason.

As is typical for these OTYC races, however, the most interesting stories are not connected with the leaders, but with the also-sailed. The team of Kathy Turner and Marcia Biskupski, for example, would have completed the course except for mutiny at the leeward buoy. Marcia told her captain, "If you gybe around that buoy, I will never speak to you again!" Weighing the alternatives, Kathy chose not to round the mark before heading for the finish line. One could only speculate what the response would have been if Mike B. had been the skipper.

The True Grit Award, however, must go to Austin Jones. The first OTYC Sunfish he chose was defectively rigged and, for a few harrowing minutes, the boat gybed left and right before dumping Austin in the bay. The boat could not be righted, so Mike Biskupski graciously belly-flopped into the water and swarm the boat back to shore. Soaking wet himself, Austin returned to shore in the Committee boat, rigged a different Sunfish, and still managed to finish the race ahead of a couple of competitors.

On August 2, the Regatta for Big Boats took place. John Harris and his boat, "Sure", did not enter this year, thus raising the hopes of the other entrants.

The course was from the OTYC dock to the Stoney Point Buoy and back. The wind varied from strong to non-existent and blew from all points of the compass except the east and southeast. One could literally be close-hauled on starboard tack with a SW wind on the Stoney Point leg and then, after rounding the buoy still be close-hauled on starboard back to Omena, because the wind changed from SW to NE in a matter of minutes.

The race for 3rd place was exciting, with the Sandt, Mulligan and Martineau boats all bunched together within a hundred yards of the finish line. With the OTYC dock looming up, both Bill Sandt and Stu Mulligan chose discretion and tacked just before the finish line. Bob and Connie did not tack, closed their eyes, crossed their fingers, and just squeezed by the dock, moving from 5th to 3rd place in the last hundred feet. Second place went to Bill and Judy Knorp's boat, with Caroline Turner as helmswoman. In first place was the Turner boat, with Dennis at the helm, crewed by Michael Turner and Mark Spooner.

## ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES - JULY 18, 1998

The 50th Annual Meeting of the Omena-Traverse Yacht Club was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Commodore Carolyn Marbach. There were 43 members present, with two members represented by proxy.

Board Members Present: Commodore Carolyn Marbach, Kathy Bosco, Mike Biskupski, Sam Cone, Gil Deibel, Jay Grosmark, Ed Oberndorf, Ellie Stephenson, Dennis Turner.

Members present: Joan Kiersey, Trudy Lewis, Nana Kennedy, Guenther P. Mueller, Bob Gelakoski, Mary Tonneberger, R.J. Johnson, Austin Jones, John Ray, Elizabeth Renz, Ole Kiersey, Judy Knorp, Bill Marbach, Nancy Sandt, Barbara E. Harris, Jonnie Hodgson, Marion Jones, Jack Stephenson, Carolin Renz, Marcia Biskupski, Marsha Buehler, Jeanne Hines, Bill Sandt, Larry Bensley, Martha Bills, Mary Woolford, Barbara Harris, Mary Cone, Mary Helen Ray, Jo-Ann Bishop, Bill Mason, Suzie Mulligan, Joey Bensley, Jane Saxton, Charlotte Read.

Proxies: William A. Renz, William E. Renz.

The Commodore began with the attached report on the "State of the Club." (See page 12.)

A motion was made by Nancy Sandt, seconded by Bob Gelakoski, that the minutes of the 1997 Annual Meeting, as published in the Breeze, be accepted and placed on file. Motion carried.

Treasurer Sam Cone presented a report for the year 1997, as well as the period Jan. 1, 1998, through June 22, 1998. The Commodore thanked Sam Cone and Gil Deibel for their efforts on behalf of the Club's finances. Suzie Mulligan moved, Austin Jones seconded, that the Treasurer's report be accepted and placed on file. Motion carried.

The following committee reports were presented.

Breeze, Suzie Mulligan; Waterfront, Bob Johnson; Building and Grounds, Mike Biskupski; Youth Program, Bill Mason; Social, Mary Cone; Membership, Barb Harris; Building Preservation & Safety, Larry Bensley for Dan Schlee. (A suggestion was made that a female serve on the committee); Tennis, Jack Bishop; Sailing, Dennis Turner; Historian, Bill Marbach; 50th Anniversary, Jane Saxton. The Commodore thanked all who chaired committees this year and their helpers as well.

New Business: Bill Sandt noted that there may be a problem with the seawall. This needs to be looked into.

Mary Helen Ray commented that the capacity of the Club is becoming strained. She also suggested that a sprinkler might be looked into for fire protection.

The Commodore reminded the membership that there are burgees, pennants, polo shirts, sweatshirts and Club histories for sale. She thanked all those who responded to the Birthday Letter. A committee will be appointed to make recommendations for the use of these funds.

Nominating Committee member Barb Harris presented the following slate to serve as Board members: Marsha Buehler, Bob Johnson, Mary Tonneberger. There being no further nominations from the floor, John Ray moved to accept the slate as presented. Mary Woolford seconded. Motion carried. The Commodore noted that Jay Grosmark, Ed Oberndorf and Carolyn Marbach would be going off the Board as of Sept. 15, 1998. They were thanked for their dedicated service to the Club.

Commodore Marbach then especially thanked the Board for graciously assuming their responsibilities and for the support that she had been given during her term as Commodore. Ed Oberndorf expressed the Board's thanks for Carolyn's leadership and the new ideas she has brought forth. Austin Jones thanked the entire Board.

Bill Sandt moved to adjourn, seconded by Suzie Mulligan. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted - Ellie Stephenson, Secretary

### WIN AN OTYC T-SHIRT!

**H**ow many of the young people in this issue of the Breeze can you identify? Don't be afraid to ask for help from: 1. your family, 2. your friends, 3. total strangers, 4. the police.

On a sheet of paper, print the number of the photo (there are six of them), followed by a list of the names of the kids in that photo. Then send your entry to:

Suzie Mulligan

P.O. Box 185

Omena, MI 49674

or send e-mail to: [mulligan@traverse.com](mailto:mulligan@traverse.com)

The winner will be the first person (based upon date entry is sent) to identify the greatest number of kids. The lucky winner will be announced in the May Breeze.

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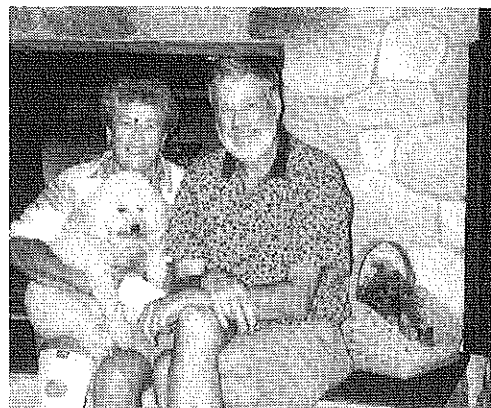
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## Meet New Members Annette and George Husted



**I**n 1967, the Husteds purchased "Tanglewood" on West Bay, north of "Shady Trails" and south of the Cones and Turners. After vacationing and retirement dreaming, they built their log home there in 1996... and became residents of "God's Country."

George yearned to play competitive tennis. So he flagged down the first guy he saw with a racket in hand, Dennis Turner. Dennis said he should join OTYC and invited them as guests to a Wednesday "potluck." The Husteds were amazed at all the "carrying ons" at OTYC. After twenty years of short vacations here, they didn't have any idea that so many did so much so often so close to their new home. Enjoying all of their new Omena friends during their three years as "guest members," Husted's became regular members last summer. Next summer, George and Annette will co-chair the opening 4th of July party with Char and Alan Read... and they hope not to finish last again in the "big boat" sailing race... start practicing, Rays!

Husteds came to Omena from Dearborn Heights, a suburb of Detroit, where they raised four children: Suzette, Sherri, George Jr, and Gordon. Today, they range in age from 29 to 35. The Husted clan is expanding rapidly as did their own family. They now have five grandchildren under five years of age. Heather, Jonathan, Mary Beth, Zachary and Brian all anxiously await tennis and sailing lessons at OTYC...when they get bigger!

George Sr., was a lithographer and Annette a mid-level manager at AT&T in the Detroit area. Both developed real estate in their "spare time."

George and Annette retired in the last five years and have been busy developing new homes in Michigan and Ft. Myers, Fla. In Florida, they are residents at the Admiralty Yacht Club, on the Caloosahatchee River, where they have been known to provide haven to Omena "Snowbirds."

Husteds enjoy tennis, golf, boating (motor & sail), gardening, and visiting with new and old friends and family. They very much enjoyed touring ten European countries last spring, but came away with the confirmation that our own Northport/Omena area is unmatched anywhere in the world!

**BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE***Michael Biskupski, Junior Assistant Groundskeeper.*

Last year's flowers that were planted did not bloom this year as expected. Something about not knowing the difference between annuals and perennials. I'll talk to the Head Groundskeeper about this.

The tennis court was powerwashed and came out looking new. Someone hung the net, and credit should go to "The Tennis Fairy," although Barb Grosmark was there and said that Jay had hung the net and wouldn't appreciate being known as "The Tennis Fairy." We promised that "The Tennis Fairy" would not be disclosed and could be appointed to the Flagpole Committee.

The women's bathroom is almost painted. Our committee attempted three times to enter, but each time, after a knock at the door, we heard, "Somebody's in here." I thought that, left over from last year, it was my mother-in-law. (If you remember, I didn't let her use the bathroom at my house.) But after the second time, trying to enter, we heard, "Somebody's in here," I saw Dennis Turner's lips move. I asked if he was throwing his voice to avoid painting. He, in an English accent, said, "No, I'm not." "Yes, you are," I said. "No, I'm not," Dennis responded. This went on for about fifteen minutes, until Dennis finally admitted being attracted to my mother-in-law and he was practicing her voice pattern. The toilet paper holder is broken. It was decided by the all male committee that, to save money, toilet paper was no longer necessary in the women's bathroom.

The stairs to the tennis court and the dock were powerwashed at a cost of \$460. The Commodore and Treasurer approved a max of \$400. When Treasurer Sam Cone received the bill, he called and inquired. "You kno--ow, Mi-ike .....you went over your bud--get .....plus you did--n't pay your du-ues until the last hou--ur...and you sti--ill owe fif-teen doll--ars for your daugh--ter. Plea--ease don't make me tu--urn this o--ver to Barb Har--ris for mem--bership sanc--tion."

The Flagpole Committee consists of Dennis Turner, Jay Grosmark (Tennis Fairy), Dick Kennedy (who Nana says can raise the flag anytime he wants), and Gil Deibel. The committee's task was monumental: the flag mast is some 70 or 80 feet high, weighing 200-300 lbs. Lower it, repair the pulleys, and again raise it. The committee needed a new chair. Four of us were surveying the task, when our newest member arrived. Gil Deibel, dressed as "The Horse Whisperer," sized up the situation and immediately began whispering orders. "Dick, we need a flagpole vang about 8 ft. long....Find it." ... "Jay, we need 30 more feet of rope...You've got 8 minutes." ... "Dennis, get on the 2nd floor porch and tell me how I look in my chaps." Eight minutes later Dick brings the flagpole vang and Jay brings the rope. Dennis wants to wait

for the right light to give Gil an answer. Dick has to saw a V into the flagpole vang, which Gil says reminds him of a vitamin that Annette gave him that morning - something that rhymes with Niagara Falls. Gil hoots and says, "I'm gonna climb that sucker," meaning the flagpole. Dick, Jay and Dennis talk him out of the idea. With strength, fortitude and dedication to the Club, the committee raises the pole. It stands silently as the flags, at sunset, are raised: the American flag, the new Club flag - and the four new signal flags which the committee thinks spell out OTYC. They stand in silent salute.

*Addendum by Gil Deibel: This report was printed without grammatical emendation, and its attempt to caricature ingenuous volunteers is lamentable. This is what we deserve for employing non-union serfs. It "serfs" us right! P.S. I wore out a good pair of gloves which, with the chaps, were a stunning ensemble.*

**PRESERVATION & SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT***Larry Bensley, Ole Kiersey, Gary Silverman, Dan Schlee, Ch.*

This committee was formed at the end of the 1997 season to develop a long-range plan for the maintenance and improvement of OTYC, including all its facilities. Meetings during spring, 1998, led to two major areas of effort: the determination of the present status of the physical facilities and the development of a procedure for determining future needs.

The first area, as reported to the OTYC Board and to the Annual Meeting, included the following steps:

1. A general inspection of the building, with particular attention given to fire safety, as well as to the condition of the building. This inspection revealed some important, though relatively minor deficiencies which have been remedied at minimal cost.
2. Testing of the water supply to the building with satisfactory results.
3. An inspection of the electrical wiring and fixtures. The report from this inspection has now been received, and it indicates some problems which require attention. The report is being sent to the Board for further action. Secondly, the Committee has implemented the following plan for involving members in the determination of future requirements to provide a pleasant and safe facility for members and their children.



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Five areas of concern were first defined. These included the following:

1. General maintenance of building and grounds
2. Maintenance and improvement of waterfront facilities
3. Improvement of kitchen facilities
4. Maintenance and improvement of tennis facilities
5. Improvement of facilities for children and teenagers.

Key individuals were identified for each of these areas, and charged with consulting others with particular interest in that area, to develop a description of needs which would be of importance over the next several years. Following the gathering of these reports and consolidation of their content, a questionnaire will be prepared which is the Committee's plan to distribute to the full membership for comments and further suggestions.

With this information in hand, the Committee will provide a timetable of recommendations for the future maintenance and improvement of the Club facilities for consideration by the Board and by the membership.

#### REMEMBERING DON - Betty Betker

*With great sadness, we learned that Don Rothang passed away on October 12th. The Rothangs were valued members of OTYC until last year, when they moved to Florida.) Their close friends and Cove Road neighbors, George and Betty Betker, were still in residence at their summer home, so I asked Betty to make some comments. S. M.*

Don Rothang grew up in Buffalo, NY, as did his wife Doris. Don worked as an engineer for Ford Motor Co. for many years and was most proud to be a part of the large automobile industry.

Don was a rather quiet man, one who was always there for everyone. He especially liked to travel, and he and Doris had been all over the world.

He loved people...meeting them, getting acquainted, and becoming friends. He enjoyed golf, boating and parties. Don and Doris had just celebrated 54 years of marriage. They were on a trip down the Mississippi River with five other couples who were long-time friends, when he died peacefully and doing something he really enjoyed.

#### ...AND REMEMBERING D.J. - Suzie Mulligan

Long-time OTYC member, Donna Jean St. John (known to all of us as simply "D.J.") passed away on August 8th, after several weeks of illness.

D.J. was born in Detroit in 1925 but, as a child, spent all of her summers at Omena with her aunt and uncle, Ruth and Adolph Jacobson. Their cottage was located where the Mulligan home now stands on Omena Point Rd. As an adult, she worked as a data processor for the State of Michigan and for Bell Telephone Company, where her much loved husband Ike was also employed.

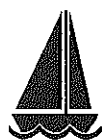
In the early 1970's D.J. and Ike moved into their new home next to the Jacobson cottage, but their happiness there was cut short by Ike's sudden death. She soon lost her aunt and uncle, as well as both of her parents. During those tragic years, D.J. tried to deal with her grief by keeping busy. She was the Treasurer of OTYC for several years, a regular volunteer at the Leelanau Memorial Health Center where residents looked forward to her faithful Thursday evening visits. She served on the board of the Leelanau County Commission on Aging and was an active member of the Omena Women's Club. In 1978 she bought a state-of-the-art (then) home computer and enjoyed the new learning adventure. She even joined the youth program at OTYC and learned to sail the Sunfish Ike had given her the Christmas before he died.

Those of us who knew D.J. in better times remember that she was fun to be with and sometimes outrageously funny. We cherish the memories.

#### EXTENDED SEASON ACTIVITIES - Nana Kennedy

Special thanks to Judy and Bruce Balas, Mary Louise and Jack Sarvis, Nancy and Jim Gregory, and Mary and Tom Smith for making a great success of the Memorial Day, Labor Day and Apple Picking events - all well attended and very much enjoyed!

Please circle your calendars for our mid-winter cross country ski outing on Saturday, February 13, 1999. Skiers will meet at the end of Fire Lane 6 at 3:00 p.m. to head out through the woods (assuming good snow), and everyone will gather for cocktails at Kennedys' home at 5:00 p.m. (snow or no snow!). Watch the OTYC roadside bulletin board for details.



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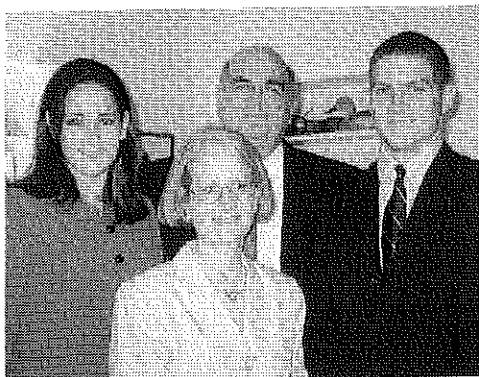
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## Meet New Members Sarah and "T" Woods



**S**arah Graf Woods and Thomas ("T") Woods have resided in Coral Gables, Florida, for the past 25 years. They have two children, Catherine ("Catie"), age 21, and Thomas Joshua ("Josh"), age 17. A fifth member of the household is Duke the Boxer.

Sarah, a native of Cincinnati, graduated from Vanderbilt University in 1970 with a B.S. degree as a Registered Nurse. "T" and Sarah were married in 1972. She practiced nursing until the birth of their first child in 1977. Sarah is presently the Business Manager of St. Thomas Episcopal Parish School. The daughter of Douglas and Betty Graf, Sarah enjoyed summers at the family cottage on Ingalls Bay from her infancy until marriage. She recalls many activities at the Yacht Club during those years...sailing, swimming and tennis lessons. She also vividly remembers having to "rescue" Al Cherne from the bottom of Omena Bay at the Club to qualify for her life saving certificate. In her limited "free" time, Sarah enjoys needlepoint and tending her rose garden.

"T" is a Florida native, but lived in Memphis from elementary school days through college. He earned his undergraduate and law degrees at Vanderbilt, and it was during Law School that Sarah and "T" met on a blind date. "T" is a senior partner in his law firm in Miami where he has practiced for 26 years as a civil trial lawyer. On his first visit to the Omena area in the late 1970's, "T" fell in love with the area and thereafter purchased lots on Omena Point where he and Sarah look forward to building a retirement home. "T" admits to being an avid, but mediocre, golfer, and collects antique toy soldiers as a pastime.

Catie is a senior at Florida State University, where she pursues an English major and is a fourth generation Kappa Alpha Theta. Josh is a senior at Ransom Everglades School in Coconut Grove. He is the scholar athlete of the family, playing varsity football, soccer and baseball since the ninth grade. He hopes to attend college in the northeast next year and possibly play college football. Except for last summer, he and Catie have spent part of every summer on Ingalls Bay.

Duke, who has yet to receive an invitation to Michigan, remains in Coral Gables as Josh's roommate. Although having attended "dog college", Duke's academic achievement can best be described as receiving a certificate of attendance.

## 50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION - Jane Saxton

**M**y heartfelt thanks go out to every one of you who planned and executed our 50th Anniversary Celebration, which included: the OTYC 1948-1998 book; the design and production of the sweatshirts, t-shirts, burgees and pennants; the Dinner Dance and Commodore's Reception. My hat goes off to each of you for doing a fabulous job and making our 50th celebration a momentous success!

Pat Kulick	Rat Renz	Mary Helen Ray
Margy Lyon	Jay Grosmark	Marcia Biskupski
Mary Loveless	Barb Harris	Jonnie Hodgson
Judy Knorp	Bill Knorp	Cyndy Standley
Joey Bensley	Marty Bills	Caroline Oberndorf
Jo-Ann Bishop	Kathy Bosco	Melissa Chenault
Suzie Mulligan	Annette Husted	Bob Gelakoski
Mike Biskupski	Charlotte Read	Carolyn Marbach
Carol Silverman	Mary Woolford	

## BIG BOYS AND THEIR TOYS

Sources: Gil Deibel & John Harris



**S**ailing and racing remote-controlled model sailboats is a great sport. It is especially so for the young at heart and for those who are on the threshold of second childhood. The 1st Annual Model Sailboat Race took place in August, with competing boats being launched from the Omena public beach. Flukey winds and a couple of collisions-at-sea added to the excitement, which attracted several enthusiastic spectators. Visiting yachtsman, Roger Schmidt, of Auburn, Michigan, took first place honors, winning the coveted Omena Cup. John Harris and Gil Deibel finished 2nd and 3rd respectively. The race had only three skippers, and they are hoping for more entrants next summer. The boats sailed were 50 inch hulls - any size is welcome.



Kits are available. If you are interested in competing or have questions, Call Gil or John.

◀ Harris, Schmidt, and Deibel proudly display their racing yachts.

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**WATERFRONT COMMITTEE REPORT - Bob Johnson**

The summer of 1998 is upon us, and the slips of OTYC are all filled. The repairs from the fall are holding well, and the waterfront took no new damage over the mild winter past. The Club boat, endearingly known as "Ed," is having propulsion problems that have it currently in dry dock undergoing diagnostic evaluation. The prognosis is guarded. This spring the mooring for "Analare" was moved south, opening up the ramp area for launching. No news is good news from this committee, since changes and upkeep usually are quite expensive!

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT - July 18, 1998**

Barbara Harris

Family units 120

Adult members -205 Jr. members - 18

Guest members - 4 Total membership - 227

•New Regular members for 1998: Sandy & Janet Tate Walker, Charles Pastor, Roger & Karen Edgley, George & Annette Husted, Charles & Janet Dickerson, Dale & Joan Blount, Dick & Sara Moore Allen.

•Guest members for 1998: David & Carolyn Faught, Roger & Kathy Moore.

•Resignations: Peter & Betty Mann, Gary & Vicki Sova, Eric Spitz-Nagel, Mark & Amy Spitz-Nagel.

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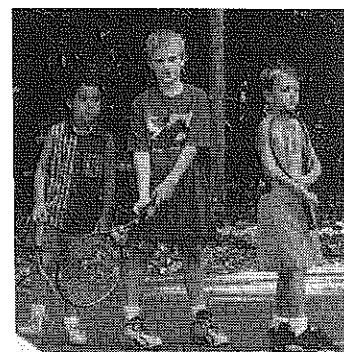
**TENNIS ANYONE? - Jack Bishop**

Tennis continues to be an important activity at OTYC for both young people and adults alike. Once again this year, interest in the Hodgson Cup Mixed Doubles Tournament was high and, were it not for some injuries and physical limitations this year on the part of some of our regulars, we would have had our largest tournament ever!

The semi-finals were completed with the teams of Judy Knorp & Dennis Turner, Bill Knorp & Marcia Biskupski, and Nancy Cooper & Drew Ehrhardt playing for the Cup. In the final match, Cooper and Ehrhardt emerged as winners.



Other women players this year were: Cindy Standley, Alison Biskupski, Charlotte Read, Barbara Grosmark, Mary Tonneberger, Sue Mueller, Linda Cherne, Karen Edgley, & guest Carol Borzymowski. Photo #6 ▶



The other men were: Mike Biskupski, George Husted, Joe Varley, Jack Bishop, Bob Gelakoski, Gil Deibel, Shep Tate, & Hacom Edgley.

In addition to our tournament play, we are very pleased that there was a regular women's game every week. Most hours, morning and afternoon all summer, were filled in our schedule at the Club court. Tennis is alive and well at OTYC!

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## THE STATE OF THE CLUB Report *(presented by our retiring Commodore at the 1998 Annual Meeting)*

I want to report to you today that this club is a **FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE** organization with a **VITAL, VIBRANT** membership, occupying an **HISTORIC OLD BUILDING** with extreme pride and a **RENEWED SENSE** of responsibility for the future of the Club and its magnificent facilities.

We all know about our past history. We have a new book about it for sale this year. But I want to talk about the last few years.

About six years ago the Board had a wake up call...to the tune of a costly renovation on the front porch that caught everyone by surprise. Since then the Board has grappled with the reality of the aging building and its problems: escalating taxes; a growing membership; many requests for use of the building by members, their relatives and friends and several local non-profit groups. The Board has responded by raising initiation fees, the level of fees for the Youth program, dock slip rental and for rental of the building, and brought our insurance up to a more adequate level. When we were faced with the major expense of the dock repair you, the membership, responded when we asked for more money for dues and for special assessments. At that time the Board also began the fund to set aside money for future renovations, pledging to save \$25 per member per year for that purpose.

With that fund now in place, the Board set up the new Preservation and Safety Committee, whose first report you will soon hear. (See page 6.)

In program areas we have also expanded. The Youth group now includes kids who are visiting grandparents and families for one or two weeks, as well as longer term summer residents. The social programs increased to several off-season events: Labor Day picnic, October apple picking and cocktail party, midwinter ski outing and the Memorial Day cocktail party, as well as several additional summer events with out-of-Omena trips...all in addition to our regular potlucks and dinners.

In the last few years the Board itself has become more actively involved in the details of running the Club. It is a widely representative and committed group.

When I first began my term as Commodore, an "Older Commodore" talked to me about his concerns for the Club, pointing out that there had always been a mingling of generations with a respect for each other among older and younger people that was the strength of this Club. He was concerned that, in this contemporary world, that would not survive here. As witnessed by the activities all around us this year, it is evident that it is still happening in this unique place.

We are 50 years old and having a party to celebrate it. Many of us may not be here for the 100th celebration but, at the rate we're going, I'm sure there will be one.

*(Carolyn adds the following postscript for The Breeze)*

October 15, 1998 - One last word about the OTYC Anniversary year: Thank you, one and all who helped to make it such a great summer. By your help and participation in all the events, our 50th year is one we will long cherish and remember.

Carolyn Marbach - Commodore, 1998

## HONORING THE COMMODORES

For many years at OTYC it has been a tradition to honor our present and past Commodores with a special summer "reception." This year's event was especially well attended, and eleven Commodores were present to enjoy the appreciation of the membership.

*L. to R. Dan Schleef, Kathy Bosco, Bob Gelakoski, Caroline Marbach, Bill Renz, Melissa Chenault, Vin Moore, Suzie Mulligan, Bill Sandt, Austin Jones, John Harris. ▼*



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