

Vol. 59

OTYC

December 2002

OTYC

No. 1

OMENA'S SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

A fair number of OTYC members can trace their roots to Omena back in the early 1900's...in fact one member - **Annette Deibel** - had a grandfather, **Andrew Anderson**, who settled in Omena in the 1880's. Not surprisingly the Omena Sesquicentennial, celebrated in July 2002, was enthusiastically supported by the OTYC with numerous members active in the planning and implementation of celebration activities. Some of that enthusiasm is reflected in the following member comments:

Omena's Sesquicentennial was a celebration of all that we love about Omena - its people, its history, its "village-ness" and its community spirit. We all came together and just enjoyed the fun while seeing old friends, making new friends and celebrating our shared heritage. There was something for everyone.... **Cathy Stephenson**

Community spirit, local talent and old fashioned small-town pride and participation were enthusiastically displayed during Omena's 150 year celebration.... **Annette Husted**

Without doubt the Omena Sesquicentennial Celebration deserves all positive adjectives from A to Z: amazing, engaging, inventive, pleasurable, spirited and zestful.... **Joan Kiersey**

A lot of impetus for the celebration can be traced to

Scrub and Joey Bensley. The Bensleys are long term residents of Leelanau County and, as many of you know, **Scrub** was the president of the Omena Historical Society. Their goal was to have a celebration that was educational and entertaining.....with a focus on underscoring the rich history of Omena.



Scrub & Joey Bensley.....
.....heart and soul of the celebration

With the blessing of the Omena Historical Society, in 2000, an exploratory committee was formed which included **Kathy Bosco, Betty Craker Armstrong, Gail Lang and Joey Bensley**. After much discussion, they proposed producing an historical video to be shown at a celebration dinner and a musical program to be followed by an ice cream social.

A permanent committee, initially chaired by **Kathy Turner**, was formed. In the Fall of 2001, **Kathy** turned the leadership over to **Joey Bensley**. Sesquicentennial fever was contagious, and the following people joined the committee: **Caroline Oberndorf, Annette Deibel, Mary Stanton, Judy Smart,**

Judy Balas, Dave and Sally Viskochil, and George Anderson.

The committee soon expanded the list of planned activities to include a parade in "downtown" Omena, a

(Please see page 6 - Sesquicentennial Celebration)

**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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Full Membership: initiation fee (includes children up to 24 years of age): \$500.00.

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Adult Annual Dues (per single adult): \$110.00. *

Junior Annual Dues (ages 14 to 23 as of December 31 of current year): \$15.00. **

Associate - a person age 24-30 as of December 31st, and his/her spouse, if any, who has been a junior member each year since eligible 50% of Adult Dues. **

Guest Membership... same categories and costs as above. *

* In addition \$15.00 Breeze subscription

** \$15.00 Breeze subscription optional

Web Site: www.otyc.net



"....what a fabulous time we've had!"

Thanking my lucky stars.

With a few snowflakes in the air and fall color approaching "peak", I reflect upon this past season in Omena and think- what a fabulous time we've had! The excitement and community spirit fostered by the Sesquicentennial events have really been pervasive. The renewed recognition of how special little Omena is, and has been to so many, seems to have spurred efforts to preserve and protect what we have. More and more of our OTYC members are taking an active role and, as the saying goes, "the more the merrier".

I am so grateful to our many members who have been generous with their time and enthusiasm to make the improvements in programs and facilities that we are all enjoying. The list of priority building and grounds projects identified several years ago by the Preservation and Safety Committee is very near to completion, and will literally be capped next spring when the new roof and ventilation is installed.

Thanks are due to the super 2002 Youth Program staff, which has enriched this year by the addition of several Junior Instructors. What an impressive group of young members we have, and I hope they will all join in the fun for 2003. We have a great calendar of events developing for next summer for all ages and interests. I encourage you to become involved - with so many functions an extra set of hands is always welcome. The committee heads are listed in the BREEZE- please call one to volunteer!

Finally, my thanks to the "old faithfuls" of the OTYC. You all know who they are- who you are- ever willing to lend a hand, take on a job, share an idea, say a kind word. You are Omena.

Marsha

CLUB NEWS

Some good news for all of you who may have suffered through OTYC functions on hot summer days or been pelted by the occasional drip from our aging roof during a rainstorm. The OTYC Board has elected to address both of these long-standing problems next spring by installing a new roof and three large commercial fans to improve ventilation. The fans will exhaust large volumes of hot air, bringing in cooler ground level air. The ventilation project was the number one priority of the Preservation and Safety Committee, and can be done very economically at the time of the re-roofing.

Half of the project will be funded with existing cash reserves, with the balance coming from a \$50.00 per member assessment recently approved by the Board. As you are aware, the Board may approve an assessment up to the amount of annual dues for extraordinary expenses. This assessment will be billed with your 2003 dues in January.

Marsha Buehler commented: "A roof project is not much fun, but we will all enjoy the fresh air next summer."

IN PURSUIT OF TRIVIAin what year was the existing flag pole erected? *As usual, clues to this trivia question are blowing in the Breeze.*

ANNUAL MEETING - 2002 Thirty-nine members attended the 2002 annual meeting. Since **Bill Sandt's** proposed amendment to the bylaws did not involve any cost

to the members, the meeting atmosphere was very congenial and remained that way until the "Bored" spiced things up with several announcements.

Barb Harris, Membership Committee Chairman, stated the club has 146 membership units which translates into 252 adult and 49 juniors memberships. New regular members for 2002 include: **Jim and Kathy Browning**, **Jeff and Mia Drinan**, **Bruce and Nicolette Harper**, **Donald and Betsy Leathery**, **Charles and Linda Melville**, and **Dean and Leigh Anne Leathery Wallace**. There are nine approved guest memberships.

Social Committee Chairman, **Mary Helen Ray** reported: "The 2002 season began with the Opening Dinner, chaired by **Caroline Oberndorf** and **Marcia Biskupski**. We served a full house with **Peggy** preparing a delicious meal. Catered dinners were planned by **Judy** and **Bruce Balas** throughout the twelve months. Special dinner themes added interest to this year's program. **Kathy Turner** continued to co-ordinate Potlucks.

Special events were planned by **Judy Smart** and **Marsha Buehler**. The post season activities were coordinated by **Nancy** and **Bill Sandt** with help from **Deibel**, **Sarvis**, **Pohlod**, **Bishop**, **Balas** and **Schleef**.

We had lots of helpful volunteers, which makes everyone feel more a part of the activities. Thanks for the excellent cooperation."

Building and Grounds Committee Chairman, **Tom Buehler**, reported that 30 members attended an extensive "clean up party" on June first. He also was pleased that the ladies' restroom now has two toilets and that all are modern, low flush efficiency units. **Tom** commented on the condition of the roof, estimating that the cost to put in a new ventilation system and roof would be between \$20,000 and \$30,000.

Marsha Buehler announced that the Youth Program has added Junior Instructor positions. It is the hope that this will develop future instructors from within our membership, as well as provide an activity for our underserved teenage members. The instructors this year were **Alison Biskupski**, **Esther Johnson**, **Mike Okma**, **Woody Parker**, **Chelsea Mason**, and **Haden Gulsby**. Junior Instructors were **Sam Cooper**, **Kara Bensley**, **Clark Gulsby** and **Lucy Loveless**.

John Smart stated that the tennis court has a new paved apron and a professionally painted surface. The cost of this project was \$11,000. The purchase of a ball machine to be used by the youth program and by the general membership

2003 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Breeze	Bill-Judy Knorp
Catered Dinners	Judy-Bruce Balas
Extended Season	Liz Schleef
House & Grounds	Tom Buehler-Bruce Balas
Landscape	Mary Tonneberger
Membership	Barb Harris
Nominating	Judy Knorp
Opening Dinner	Caroline Oberndorf
Potluck	Cindy Standley
Preservation	Scrub Bensley
Program	Jonnie Hodgson
Sailing	Stu Mulligan-Bill Emmert
Social	Judy Smart
Tennis	John Smart
Waterfront	Alan Read

is planned. Immediately after the meeting **Mary Woolford** offered to donate a ball machine in the name of her husband **Bob Woolford**. Kudos and thanks to you, **Mary**, for this generous gift.

The "Bored" then turned up the temperature in the room with two announcements. First, there will be a dues increase of \$10.00 per member effective January 1, 2003.

Second, for the first time in the history of the club, there will be a limit on new members. For the next twelve months, new guest members will be limited to four. However, this does not have any impact on the nine currently approved guest members.

Since there was not a quorum, **Bill Sandt's** proposed amendment to the bylaws that the club should promote sailing and boating was only discussed in a broad context.

At the conclusion of the meeting, **Judy Balas, Millard Mack and Mary Loveless** were elected to the "Bored" by unanimous proclamation. A special recognition was given to retiring "Bored" members **Ellie Stephenson** and **Gil Deibel**. After the loud applause in appreciation for a job well done, **Gil** asked: "How about a monetary recognition, too?" The meeting was quickly adjourned.

THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE met at the end of the season to discuss plans for 2003. Kicking it off will be the traditional **Memorial Day Cocktail Party** on Sunday, May 25th chaired by **Liz Schleef**.

Caroline Oberndorf and **Marcia Biskupski** did such a fabulous job planning the **Opening Dinner** last year that we twisted their arms to do a repeat June 28, 2003, and they must have had fun planning it because they said, 'yes'. Since the Opening Dinner used to be held on the 4th of July and some people have missed having a 4th celebration at the club, **Nana Kennedy** has volunteered to chair a **4th of July Potluck Picnic** with the club providing brats and everyone attending contributing the salads, casseroles and desserts. The May Breeze will have a reservation form for both of these events. There will be no potluck on July 2.

Because of their tremendous popularity this past summer,

an **Omena Community Picnic** at Villa Marquette followed by a **Barn Dance** at the Smith Barn are being planned by Club 21.

The **Brunch and Sunfish Race** will be scheduled as soon as the date for the Community Picnic is established, but the **Big Boat Race** will be held Sunday, August 3 with a **Picnic** following at the club.



Happiness is a "royal flush" in the new ladies room toilet.

Commodores past and present, will be toasted at the **Commodore's Reception** on Saturday, August 9.

The Ladies' Luncheon hosted by **Judy Smart** at her home last August, was so festive and fun that two **Ladies' Luncheons** are being planned for 2003—the first for Friday, July 25 and the second for Thursday, August 14. Places and hostesses will be announced in the May Breeze.

Liz Schleef reports that on October 12th, the annual apple picking event was held at the Smith Orchard and was followed by a Turkish meal prepared by **Peggy**. Hosts for the evening were **Joe and Kate Varley**.

The next extended season event will be the **Cross Country Ski Party** on February 15th. Plan to meet at Firelane 6 at three o'clock. An apres ski chili dinner will be served at the Deibel Chalet. **Please make reservations in advance either by signing up in front of the club or by calling the Deibels.**

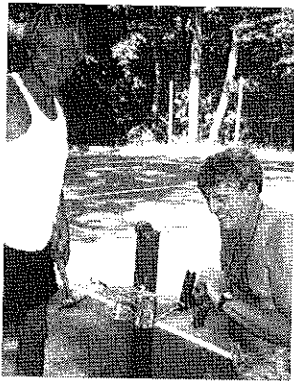
THANKS, John and Mary Helen Ray, for generously donating a sunfish sailboat to the youth program. The club has established a "repair and restoration" fund for the club's aging sunfish fleet. In addition, two trolleys to move the boats are needed. Donations to these projects will be welcome and appreciated.

Annual Cross Country Outing
Saturday, February 15th ... 3:00 meet at
Firelane 6 for skiing adventure
Apres ski chili dinner at Deibel Chalet
RESERVATIONS MANDATORY
(either sign up at club or call Gil and Annette)

TENNIS NEWS

OTYC tennis players are tipping their sweat bands to the efforts of **John Smart** and **Tom Buehler** who gave the club's aging tennis court a new lease on life this year. **John** hired a contractor to replace the dirt surrounding the court with asphalt. Later, the entire surface was professionally re-painted. **Tom** recruited a number of OTYC volunteers to repair the fence. Finally, electrical power was extended to the court in anticipation of the new ball machine **Mary Woolford** has donated to the club.

According to **John**: "In spite of these modifications, the unique, camp like atmosphere of the court has remained in tact. I think everyone is really enjoying the improvements made to the court this year, and I anticipate the ball machine will be a positive addition to the youth program next year. Of course, it will also be available to the general membership....and I wouldn't be surprised if it didn't help bring a number of new players into next year's tennis scene."



For the eighth year, **Jack Bishop** directed the **Hodgson Cup Tennis Tournament** featuring the usual "rope-a-dope" player exchange. Missing due to medical, travel, or relocation reasons were a number of the usual competitors including **Drew Ehrhardt**, **Ed Oberndorf**, **John Ray**, **Roger Edgley**, **Joe Varley**, **Barbara Grosmark**, and **Cindy Standley**. The void was filled when **John** "I'm from L.A." **Smart** made his grand entrance.



Hodgson Cup Winners **Judy Knorp** & **John Smart** and Runner ups **Ned Davis** and **Alison Biskupski**



Consolation Winners (right) **Cindy Standley** and **Mike Biskupski**; Losers **George Husted** & **Mary Tonneberger**

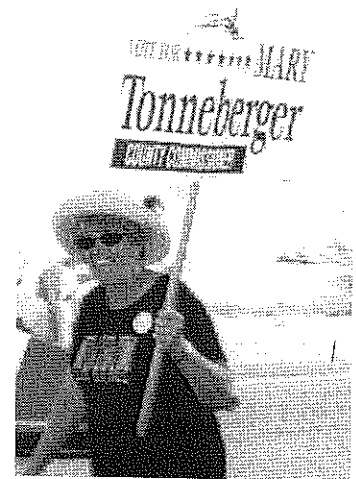
Seventeen seasoned players participated in this year's tournament. Teams included: **George Husted** and **Mary Tonneberger**, **John Smart** and **Judy Knorp**, **Bill Knorp** and **Nancy Cooper**, **Jack Bishop** and **Annette Husted**, **Bill Sandt** and **Charlotte Read**, **Mike Biskupski** and **Helen Bradley**, **Bob Gelakoski** and **Marcia Biskupski**, **Ned Davis** and **Alison Biskupski**. After recovering from her toe injury, **Cindy Standley** substituted for **Helen Bradley** who left Omena prior to the Consolation Finals.

Congratulation to winners of the Hodgson Cup **John Smart** and **Judy Knorp** who defeated **Ned Davis** and **Alison Biskupski** in the finals.

Also, kudos to **Mike Biskupski** and **Cindy Standley** who won a three set match against "Georgie-Porgie" **Husted** and **Mary Tonneberger** in the consolation finals.

It is important to note several things about this match: **Cindy Standley** injured her elbow during the first set primarily because she left her arm wrap in Cincinnati. Gentleman "Georgie-Porgie" came to the rescue and gave **Cindy** one of his just in time for her to win the match. Surprisingly, sportsman and perennial OTYC tennis champion, "Georgie-Porgie", was the loser in the loser's bracket.

Fortunately, his partner, **Mary Tonneberger**, avoided the double loser label by winning her election as Leelanau County Commissioner later that evening. Congratulations, **Mary**!



Sesquicentennial - Picnic Photo on left Jordan Newland(3), Janey Capers Newland(6), Nellie List(6), Sam List(7), Olivia List(6) and Frances Newland(4)

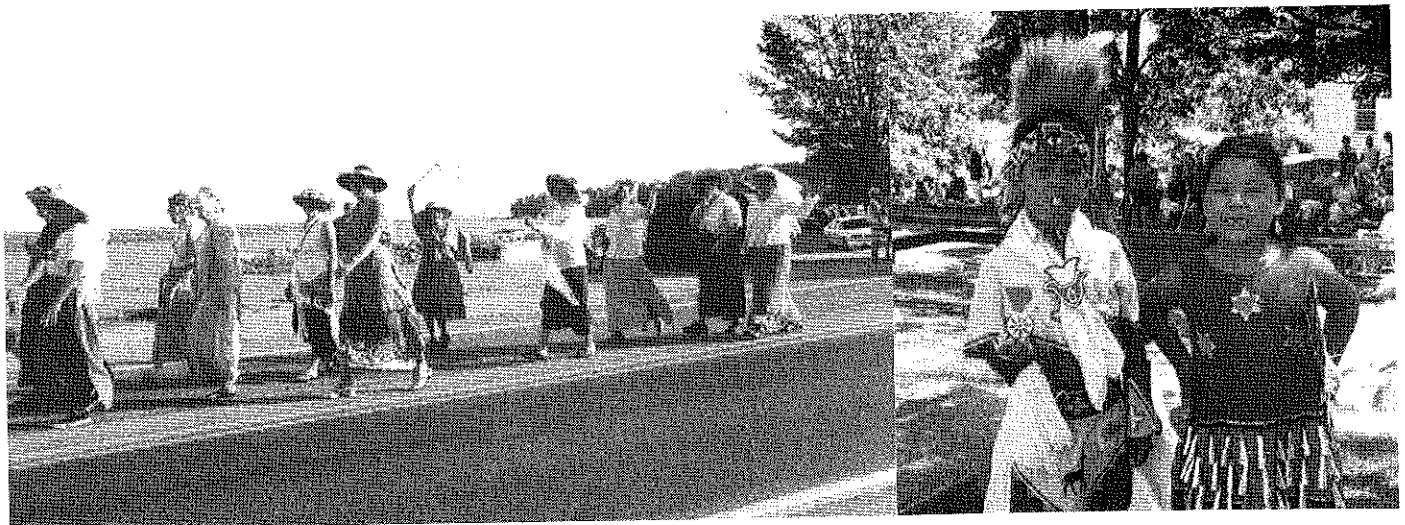
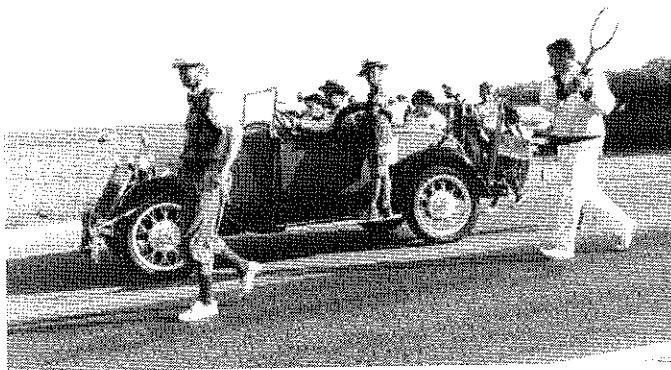
tour of historic barns, a barn dance and a community picnic. Flags and banners were created and hung, T-Shirts were designed, a map identifying 52 historic sites was drawn, a timeline and old photos were displayed at the post office, and the Omena Quilters stitched a spectacular commemorative quilt.

Fun takes money, but once again **Scrub Bensley** was up to the task, and he was able to obtain a donation from the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippawa for the historic video. He also received a grant from the Leelanau Township Community Foundation and contributions from local businesses and Leelanau Township.

The opening community picnic, sponsored by Club 21, was held on the lovely grounds of Villa Marquette. Barbequed brats, hot dogs and side dishes were available to satisfy all appetites. The laughter of children playing games and adults visiting filled the beautiful surroundings. It was so successful some are predicting it may become an annual event.

Later that evening, sounds of 'swing your partner' and 'promenade back home' drifted across the evening sky from the historic barn at the **Smith Orchard**. Maybe everyone was not in perfect sync with the caller, but young and old alike had a great time. *Seeing Sunny Colling square dance with Ellie Stephenson was a huge treat...* **Mary Loveless**

On Sunday, there was something for everyone. There were guided tours of the little cemetery at the Presbyterian Church and the buildings and grounds of the Villa Marquette. At the end of the day, Sesquicentennial attendees were treated to a wonderful musical program at the church followed by an old-fashioned ice cream social served on the church grounds by **Judy and Bruce Balas** and friends.



There was standing room only at a celebration dinner held on Monday at the OTYC for yacht club members and other Omena residents who were lucky enough to get tickets. The evening was coordinated by **Judy Smart** and featured a delicious meal followed by the showing of the historical video documenting the lives of the pioneer settlers of Ahgosatown. *Ahgosatown History and Remembrance* was written, directed and produced by **Bill Bensley**, president of Moose Cabin Productions.

The process of producing this video began with six hours of interviewing and video taping local historian **Betty Craker Armstrong** and was followed by 70 hours of research, script writing, and film editing. According to **Bill**, "It was a wonderful experience working with **Betty**.....the only sad thing is that Ahgosatown has disappeared from the face of the earth."

The most enduring memories for me of the celebration have to do with learning more about our lovely haven. The Omena video was fabulous and spurred my interest to find out about the early inhabitants and their life style... **Brenda Anderson**

The next day, many joined **Caroline Oberndorf** at the Craker Farm to begin a tour of seven historic barns. *The barn tour was wonderful – subliminally emphasizing the ongoing struggle between the agrarian based economy and the developers...* **Millard Mack**

Credit for the memorable parade that closed the Sesquicentennial Celebration must be given to **George Anderson** – Northport resident but son of Omena. **George** organized the parade through downtown Omena that people are still talking about. He was able to have traffic diverted on M-22 for three hours, to design a route where one could see both sides of the parade without having to move, to solicit fifty-five entrants and get them organized and ready to start precisely at 7:00 p.m., and to have the Coast Guard helicopter cruise the parade route from above seconds before

the event began.

The parade was unique, magnificent and beyond description all summed up in the feeling of emotional nostalgia that literally brought tears to my eyes... **Jonnie Hodgson**

*I thought it was great when the Coast Guard Helicopter flew over Omena...it was good seeing **Barbara Grosmark** in the parade with her beautiful early 1900s dress ...* **Bob Gelakoski**.

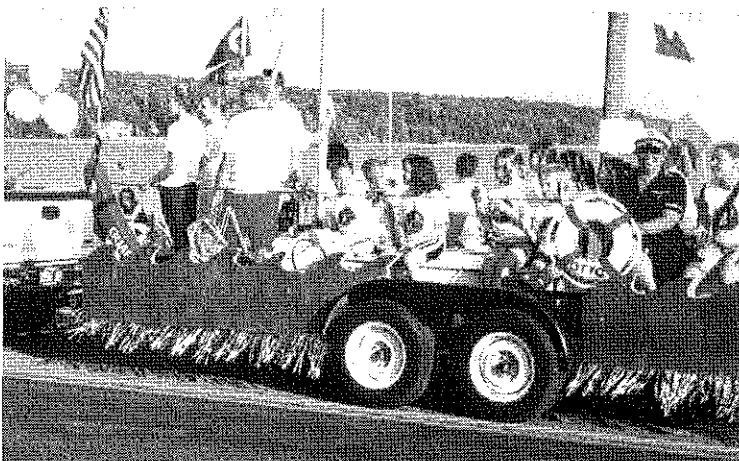
It will be a long time before I forget that wonderful Omena 150th Anniversary Parade which was longer than the town itself. The parade passed through town, looped around the north outskirts and doubled back on itself – an historic parade going both directions at the same time. Former Andersons, Putnams, Barths, Crakers and Co. must've been proud.... **Rev James Bremmer**

The 2002 Omena Sesquicentennial was splendid....and a wonderful way to reaffirm our roots." ... **Mary Woolford**

Weeks later, **Joey Bensley** reflected: "Memories of the celebration will remain for years to come in the hearts and minds of those who took part. A small community of permanent residents and summer people came together and made it all happen in the very special place we call Omena. Hats off to those who worked so hard and to all the participants who came and made it so much fun and such a huge success."

Space is insufficient to adequately sing the praises of **Scrub** and **Joey** for all the time they spent organizing and executing this beautiful celebration – for all the "behind the scenes" work they did to make these four summer days so special. We all thank you.

Pictured below (left to right) are: Historian Betty Craker Armstrong, Producer/Director Bill Bensley, and Actress Amy Smart



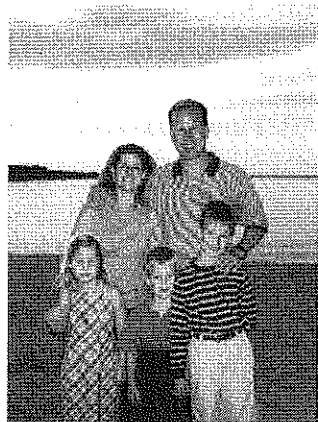
Welcome the Browning, Leathery, Harper and Melville Families

Jim and Kathy Browning ... "Our family has been coming to the OTYC for the past twenty-two years. Every summer it was our vacation tradition to attend the opening dinner or potluck. Our sixteen year old son was two weeks old when he first attended the club. The kids always enjoyed the youth program. Our children are **Landon**, age 16, **Aric**, age 14, and **Lauren**, age 13.

What we enjoy the most about the OTYC is the ambience and the people who come from all walks of life.

We are delighted to finally be members of OTYC and look forward to getting to meet and know everyone."

Don and Betsy Leathery are from Columbus, Ohio.



Don spent many summers at the yacht club as a child. His parents, **Don and Ann**, owned a cottage on Ingalls Bay from the early 1970's until the late 1990's. "We are happy to back in Omena with our family and feel lucky to have purchased a cottage on the same bay. We are looking forward to getting to know more OTYC members."

The **Leatherys** have three children: **Dave**, 9; **Anna**, 7; and **Tim**, 5. "We love the beach and water! We've had two fun summers up here, and are excited to watch the kids experience all the activities of the yacht club in the years to come. We will see you next summer!"

Bruce and Nikki Harper... "We actually 'discovered' Omena back in the 1970s when **Bruce's** dad (**Bob Harper**) built a home on Omena Point. **Bob** introduced us to OTYC and communicated his enjoyable experience as a member. After we attended a potluck dinner, stood on the porch admiring the gorgeous view, and played tennis

on the most desirable court in the state, we knew we wanted to be a part of this club."

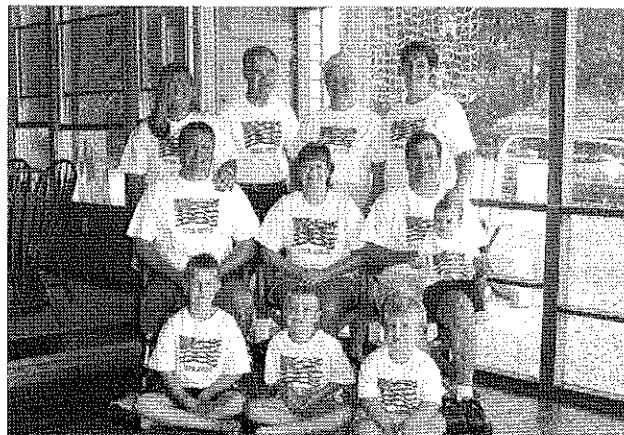
In the 1980s, the **Harpers** moved to Traverse City where **Bruce** took a position with a health care company and **Nikki** taught in a small parochial school. Subsequently, they moved to Indianapolis and are now living in Brighton, MI. Son **Brian** is a senior in high school and is on the varsity swim team. Daughter **Stephanie** is a junior and plays tennis on the varsity tennis team. The entire family enjoys boating, water sports, skiing and the great outdoors, especially 'up north'.

"We look forward to getting more involved in the future and getting to know the other OTYC members."

Charles and Linda Melville are actually returning members of OTYC. "**Linda** and I live in Cincinnati, where I am an attorney in an 'Of Counsel' position with the firm of Strauss & Troy. 'Of Counsel' is as close to retirement as one can get without actually being retired. **Linda** is a nurse in the Emergency department at Bethesda North Hospital, and is looking forward to retirement on May 1, 2003.

We have three children, **Jeff**, **Francie**, and **Tom**. **Jeff** and his wife **Patsy** live in Bend, Oregon and have three boys, **Holton**, **Charlie**, and **John**. **Tom** and his wife **Julie** live in Portland, Oregon and have a son **Jacob**. **Francie** is a Flight Attendant with American Eagle based in Chicago.

We discovered Omena in 1969 after seven years of renting different places in Northern Michigan and Canada, looking for the perfect summer home."





June first work party..... "a good time was had by all who attended."



These are some of the fun activities enjoyed by approximately thirty members of the club for the June first clean up party. A good time was had by all who attended the bash.



Pictured top left are Dick Kennedy and Bruce Balas (guess who is supervising); Bruce, Stu, George, Tom, John (and others not pictured) are raising the flag pole after repairs had been made. Note this flag pole was originally installed in the summer of 1977. The final picture includes Kate Varley, Marsha Buehler, Mary Tonneberger, Stu Mulligan, Judy Smart, Tom Buehler, Judy Knorp, Bruce Balas, Judy Balas, Dick Kennedy, John Smart, and George Husted.

OMENA TELL TALES

Jack and JoAnn Bishop wrote: "With great joy, on August 23, we celebrated our 50th Wedding Anniversary in Omena with our family and many friends. Several weeks later, we continued our celebration in Paris, attending an

Elderhostel course on 'The Impressionists.' It was a 'fantastique' experience. Then we went to Washington D.C. and points south for a mini reunion of **Jack's** class at Yale and a Seminary Reunion in Virginia." They look forward to seeing the 'Omena South' group this winter.



Jay Grosmark invites everyone to "visit www.otyc.net to get the latest OTYC news, to see pictures of last summer's sesquicentennial, to get info about the highlight of the fall season, the Halloween party at Husted's and other information. The site also displays phone numbers and addresses. Please send your news to jay@jaywg.com to keep the web site up to date."

Bill and Rat Renz traveled to Williamsburg and the surrounding historical areas, West Virginia's Beckley coal mine, Texas for a visit to relatives, then to New Orleans for Halloween and Alabama to see friends. The entire family has raised \$6,600 for Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's "Light the Night" program.

Tom and **Helen Maher** went to Greensburg, Indiana where **Tom** gave a talk at the rededication of his great grandfather, Civil War General John Wilder's, marker and did some research on General Wilder at the State Historical Library. They are relieved that **Tom** survived flipping his row boat twice ... both times in two feet of water last summer.

Ron and **Mary Tonneberger** traveled to Miami to visit their son and then flew to Cancun for a week of sun and golf.

TATTLE TALES

The **Tattle Tales** staff has been asked by many to clarify our editorial position. Our policy is quite simple and can best be described by Sir Walter Scott's *The Lay of the Last Minstral*.... "I cannot tell how the truth may be; I say the tale as twas said to me."

Kudos to **Michael "B" Biskupski** for being honored as one of four "Great Americans" for the summer of 2002. Here's the deal....the Great American Insurance Company Ball Park will be the home of the Cincinnati Reds starting in the Spring of 2003. As a promotion for the new facility, the insurance company sent applications to nominate individuals as *Great Americans* who have contributed to the quality of life for people living in our inner cities.

Joshua Wayne read the message and nominated **Mike** ".....he is probably the most intelligent and yet humble person I know who has worked with the most high-risk youth in a community besieged with drug-abuse and gang-involvement. He has made a career of caring for, and in effect raising, the children of people who are not able to do so. **Mike** is sought out for his wisdom and guidance, and yet he continually passes along the credit for his successes. He exudes a humility that is truly inspiring."

Mike's prize includes transportation, hotel, meals, and tickets for two to one of the Reds games next year, the chance of a lifetime to throw out the first pitch, plus \$2,000 half to be donated to the charity of his choice. Good job - "**Bozo**".

Congratulations Bill and Be Fuertges on becoming Great-Great Grandparents this summer or did **Bill** mean, they are great Great Grandparents?

and

Congratulations to newlyweds **Lynn Spitznagel** and **Tim Hogan** who were married late last summer.

As she sipped on her martini one August evening, **Mary Woolford** proudly recited this limerick to a cub reporter: "I do love my martinis, two at the very most. With three I'm under the table, with four I'm under the host!"

Overheard at one of the Potlucks last summer, **Marion Jones** pleaded: "I sure hope the club will add a new P.A. system to its wish list!"

George **Husted** was being pestered by raccoons last summer. At first he shot them with a water gun which did not deter the critters. Out of desperation, he clinched his fist and threw a punch, which to his amazement, landed in the raccoon's face. "**Georgie-Porgie's**" comment - "Well, I needed a rabies shot anyway!"

Wanted by **Gil Deibel**....remote controlled racy women models. Or did he mean women interested in racing remote controlled models? At any rate, a fleet of model Laser sailboats is being formed. These boats, including the remote control radio, can be purchased for about \$400 by calling 800.497-8976. Men, this would be a perfect Holiday gift for the "little lady" in your life. Curious???? Call **Gil** 386-7560.

Ace **Turner** was sailing his sunfish around Gull Island when all of a sudden a bow pulpit from a Cal 30 sailboat crashed into his sail, spinning the boat and knocking him into the water.

Ace: "At first I thought it could have been my fault since I was on a port tack but then I realized the Cal 30 was motoring and that the owner of the boat was not paying attention. Initially, he offered to patch my old sail. Even though I was not physically injured, I pleaded pain and suffering for myself and mental anguish for **Kathy** and, as a result of this sneaky maneuver, the Cal 30 owner paid for a brand new sail. Yes, I will be teaching this negotiating tactic to one of my law school classes in the Fall!"

Have you heard the Yale Whiffenpoofs (circa 1960) may be coming to sing at the OTYC next summer? Whiffenpoof **Sam Knoll** is trying to organize a reunion of his old cronies for Omena in 2003. If the "Poofs" don't come to Omena, **Sam** reportedly has volunteered to sing the Whiffenpoof Song at a Potluck dinner. Stay tuned for more news on these exciting possibilities.

It really is a small world. **Dick** and **Nana Kennedy** drove their car to Stratford, Ontario for

Dale and **Joan Blount's** Shakespearean outing. For the trip, **Nana** checked out some tapes of *Romeo and Juliet* from the library. They listened to the tapes on the drive and commented that the narrator sounded familiar. Later, as the **Blounts** drove to dinner with the **Kennedys**, **Dick** replayed the tape. "How in the world did you get this?" screamed **Dale**, "I made this set of tapes for a class at Central over twenty years ago!"

At about the same time and over a thousand miles away in Orlando, Florida, the **Kennedy's** son **Rich**, went on the internet and purchased an Omena post card from E-bay. When he received the card, it included a note written by **Millard Mack** many years ago.

POST OFFICE UPDATE.... Want to help keep the Post Office open in Omena? One easy way to help is to purchase all your stamps from **Mark Frank** even when you are away from Omena. The process is simple, send **Mark** a request along with a check and he will send stamps to you on a Priority Mail basis. According to **Mark**: "Each stamp purchased goes into the formula for our profitability which is one of the factors used to evaluate locations considered for closure. We sure do appreciate all the OTYC members who purchase their stamps from us when they have gone home for the winter."

IN MEMORIAM

Fred Gorham

Fred Gorham died in February 2002 at the age of 89.

Those in the Omena community who had the privilege of knowing him remember that he loved this area, from the time when he was a young boy until he moved to Minneapolis in later life to live close to one of his sons. Fred and Ruth Gorham lived in the Schwartz cottage near the Yacht Club. He spent many years as treasurer of OTYC and, due to the proximity of their cottage to the Club, he was an ever vigilant mechanical helper as well as good friend to anyone who drove onto the premises or needed help with a boat on the bay. An example of one of his contributions was, along with several others, a major rebuilding of the tennis court backstop. Much of this reconstruction remains in place today. Fred's quick wit and friendly smile endeared him to people of all ages.

Fred and Ruth raised their four sons in Evanston, IL and he worked for the Oil Insurance Association in Chicago for 43 years. He had the same job that Hector Carmichael had several decades previously (the Carmichaels were the previous owners of the OTYC property). Fred made a marvelous contribution to the Omena community, and he will be sincerely missed by all who knew him.

Fred is survived by his wife, Ruth, and three of his four sons. Those who wish to write to Ruth may do so in care of her son Michael at 11933 Bradford Rd., Minnetonka, MN 55343-8860.

by Mary Helen Ray

Cottage wanted to Rent

Needed: Any size cottage for wk of July 19 - 26 in Omena. Call **Jonnie Hodgson** 914.238-8314

Cottages for Rent

Sanibel Island Home - 3 BR, pool on canal w/bay access- dock & boat lift. East end loc. Call **Nancy Cooper** 513.561-7996

Create Memories - 4 BR Ingalls Bay Cottage - June, Sept & Oct Gt. beaching, swimming, sunsets **Cathy Stephenson** 773.975-9072

Omena Bay Rental: Cottage: and/or Guest House. Both fully equipped. Sleeps up to 15. Call **Jim Centner** 231.883-6126

Mission furniture- custom made & designed by **Ron Tonneberger** call 231.386-7941 for more details.

Real Estate - for assistance with your next transaction, whether buying, selling or even just thinking. Call **Jim Centner** 231.883-6126

Cherries and owning the orchard make a good recipe for the future. Join successful **Cherry Basket Neighbors**. Call **Cathy Stephenson** 773.975-9072

ATTN: Junior Members. The OTYC Youth Program will have several 1 week opportunities for Jr. Instructors for the 2003 program (6-30 to 8-8) If you are interested in applying, email me with dates available to buehler@traverse.net. **Marsha "B"**

WHOOOPS - our email provider lost all email sent to the Breeze between September 26th and October 4th. If you submitted material to the Breeze during this time, please send again for the Spring edition....bill and judy

HOLIDAY GIFT IDEA

Historic Video - Ahgosatown
History & Remembrance

\$10.00 plus shipping

Joey Bensley - 386-7726



PHOTO POTPOURRI clockwise from the top

1. Ladies Luncheon – Ellie Stephenson, Mary Tonneberger, Mary Helen Ray, Kay Harris, Carolyn Faught, Hostess Judy Smart, Delcie White, Marsha Buehler and Judy Balas
2. Woody Parker & His Angels – (left to right) Diana Drinan, Chelsea Mason, Haydon Gulsby (back), and Lucy Loveless
3. Potluck Princesses – Drew and Betsy Ehrhardt's granddaughters Eva, Kate, Claire, Elizabeth and Ida. Dresses – a gift from Great Aunt Margie Lyon
4. Fishermen (and cousins) Cam Storey and Michael Bosco
5. Ace Turner somewhere in Europe

