

Vol. 62

OTYC

December 2005

OTYC

No. 1

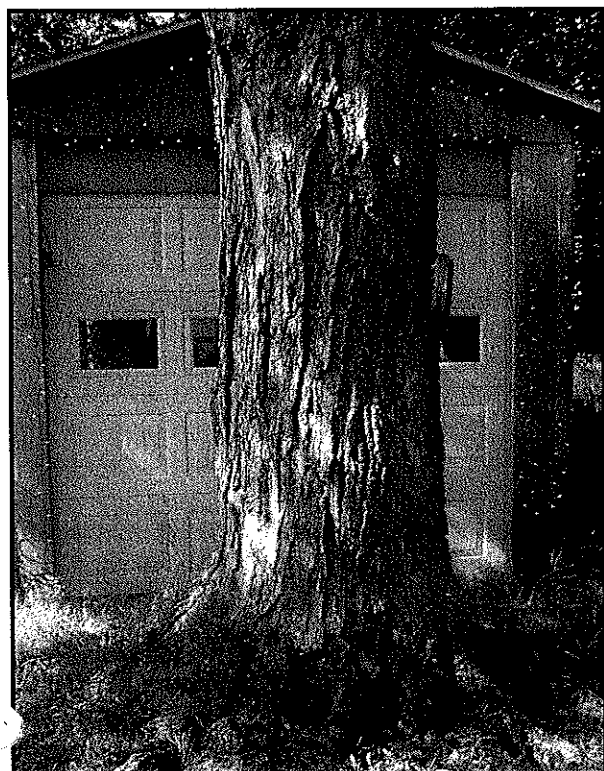


Cougar or bobcat? See page 11

# Omena Wild Things



Smart Fox? See Page 10



Mary Smith's garage?



The Big Shoes.  
See Page 6.



You'll just have to ask them ...

### 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.

Vol. 1, No. 1 published February, 1949. (Leelanau Yacht Club News, Vol. 1, No. 1 published October, 1947.)

Printed in and mailed from Dayton, OH

Classified Ads.... \$15.00 for 4 column lines (\$5.00 for teenagers).

#### Editorial Staff

Kathy Turner

Dennis Turner

\*\*\*

#### Officers

Commodore, Bill Knorp

Vice Commodore, Dave Pohlod

Rear Commodore, Debbie Disch

Secretary, Tom Buehler

Treasurer, Judy Balas

#### Terms Ending August 15, 2006

Larry Bensley, Bill Mason, John Smart

#### Terms Ending August 15, 2007

Tom Buehler, Debby Disch, Bill Knorp

#### Terms Ending August 15, 2008

Judy Balas, Tish Renz, Dave Pohlod

**Full Membership:** initiation fee (includes children up to 24 years of age): \$600.00.

**Family Annual Dues** \$280.00. \*

**Single:** (includes) children up to the age of 24: \$300\*

**Adult Annual Dues** (per single adult): \$140.00\*

**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](http://www.otyc.net)

The Breeze.....

All the news that fits, we print.

## Commodore's Corner



In early October, Judy and I drove from Omena to Burlingame, CA, to attend a milestone high school reunion. We are now in Auburn, where we are slowly adjusting to the tinder dry brown landscape and facing the task of trimming six months of growth in our yard. We miss our Omena friends, the Fall colors and our ever-changing view of the Grand Traverse Bay.

Reflecting on the OTYC, I am thankful to **Debby Disch** for her work as commodore for the past two years, and to all of you who

chaired committees or who worked on the many club activities. All of you are truly the backbone of the OTYC.

Also, thanks to **Melissa Chenault**, **Laura Deibel**, and **Jim and Bonnie Scarlett** for donating the new overhead fans and to **Bob and Pat Bailey** for giving their sunfish sailboat to the club.

To help us enhance your total OYTC experience, a survey of existing and proposed programs and activities is included in the Breeze. Please take time to complete this survey and return it before January 10, 2006. Your opinions are valued.

Already **Melissa Chenault**, **Jonnie Hodgson** and others are making plans for next summer. The results of this survey will be a key factor in putting the finishing touches on next year's social calendar.

This summer, many pointed out the numerous rotting boards on the front deck of the clubhouse. A study was done to determine if the deck should be patched or replaced. The result was conclusive that the deck needs to be replaced. Therefore, the Board of Directors has authorized the construction of a new deck to be completed before the middle of May. In addition, the deck shades will be replaced. The good news is that there will be no assessment for these projects.

Our youth program faces many challenges. Attendance for the past few years has declined. This year, except for one week, the average number of participants was six; on one Friday, there were no campers. To date, no one has consented to chair the Youth Program committee.

But, the following have volunteered to be members of the Youth Program committee: **Bill Cron** and **Mike Biskupski**, who are seeking someone to be the director for 2006; **David and Kerry Magrini** and **Mike and Linda McKenzie** who are willing to assist with certain program needs such as rainy day options; and **Tim White** and **Karen Edgley** who are looking into various activities for the teenagers. **Tish Renz** has agreed to be the liaison between the Board of Directors and the Youth Program Committee.

Although it is not clear there will be a Youth Program for 2006, we are grateful to all these enthusiastic volunteers who are working to make it happen. If you would like to volunteer in any capacity or if you have any ideas, please contact Tish Renz.

In May, I will be sharing some thoughts about the financial picture of the club, some changes in our bookkeeping and budgeting process, and what will be happening during the season.

In the meantime, best wishes for a Happy Holiday Season. We are looking forward to seeing everyone in 2006.

**Bill**

## Social Chairman Report .....

*By Melissa Chenault*

I took over Social Chairman for my good friend (????) **Judy Smart** in the fall of 2004.

Over the winter I spent hour upon hours contacting people to chair the different events we have during the summer for OTYC. It was a bit challenging to find people by phone long distance.



**Be Fuertges & Annette Husted on 4th of July**

I had trouble finding Chairs for the Fourth of July and **Bill Knorp**, who was then in charge of the Breeze, sent out an e-mail soliciting chairman for the fourth and several people responded. Over the winter Bill Knorp and **Debbie Disch** and I had many discussions on the dates of each function. Therefore, Bill Knorp and I are trying to appoint each function for 2006 date this fall 2005. During the summer when we could not find volunteers for different events, I was the volunteer. I found it difficult to find enough volunteers to man each event.

At the annual meeting I suggested we cut back on some events because of members being involved with so many different organizations around Omena. As the summer has progressed, it is debatable how many catered dinners we should have. Several times this summer, Catered Dinner hostesses had to call around to get enough people to meet Peggy's quota of 20 people.

I think the heat could also be a factor in the attendance of the catered dinners.

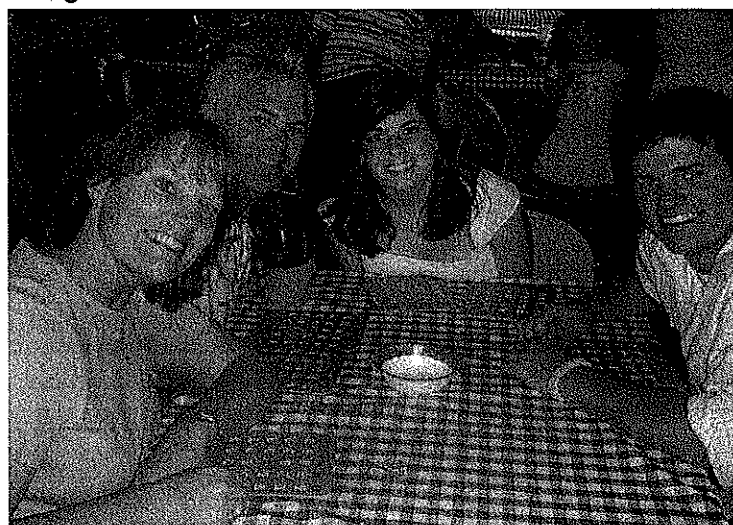
Once the season has calmed down, the catered dinners were better attended. So we will try to decide what is best to do in 2006 concerning Catered Dinners.

The Chairs for the 2005 Social Season in Omena were as follows:

<b>Memorial Day Reception</b>	Mary Tonnnerberger Nana Kennedy
<b>Opening Work Party</b>	Bruce Balas
<b>Opening Dinner</b>	Brenda Mason
<b>Fourth of July</b>	Bob and Trudy Lewis
<b>July Potluck Chair</b>	Mary Loveless
<b>August Potluck Chair</b>	Be Fuertges
<b>Ladies Luncheon</b>	Delcie White
(cancelled because Delcie broke her foot and I could not find a replacement)	
<b>Brunch Sunfish Race</b>	Brenda White
<b>Picnic Big Boat Race</b>	Lisa Newland/ Bill Emmert
<b>Commodore's Reception</b>	Kathy Bosco Jonnie Hodgson
<b>Remote Sailboat Race</b>	Gil Deibel
<b>Catered Dinner Chair</b>	Ellie Stevenson
<b>Labor Day Picnic</b>	Knorps and Pohlods
<b>Potluck programs</b>	Jonnie Hodgson

I have started asking different members to chair event for 2006 and am making headway. I have a better feel for who attends which events and I am getting a better response so far. I will have a much better handle on the chair's for 2006.

### Bingo Fun



## OTYC Youth Program Report .....

**By Marsha Buehler**

For the 2005 season the Youth Program had the following staff members:

**Andy Bradford**, director, 6 weeks; **Phil Smith**, instructor, 6 weeks; **Clark Gulsby**, instructor, 3 weeks; **Alex Edgely**, assistant instructor, 3 weeks; **Jeff Bailey**, assistant instructor, 3 weeks; **Shelbie Lingaur, Jr.** instructor; **Caroline Gulsby, Jr.** instructor

Junior instructors are paid for one week, but may volunteer as much as they choose. On the staff are three lifeguards and three accomplished tennis players.

There were 27 campers in the first 3 weeks of the 2005 Youth Program season. Some of those campers have attended and paid for only a portion of the week. While the fee is weekly, guests of campers may attend, with director approval, for a day or two, and members who arrive late in the week also participate -and pay- for less than a full week.

Our program remains what it had been traditionally: an opportunity for the children to interact socially while learning basics of the lifelong pursuits of tennis and sailing.

The program is staffed by young instructors, not professional teachers. The program has introduced generations of children to each other, and many friendships have resulted. Having a children's program on the premises adds an element of youthful activity and vitality to what could easily become an OTYC of interest only to adults. Our program in recent years has provided the opportunity to

be junior instructors to youth who are too old to be campers. The OTYC members through the years have recognized the benefits of the program, and have repeatedly agreed to support it financially.

That said, as youth chairman, I think that the program needs to be evaluated by the OTYC Board. There are several trends to consider when evaluating the youth program, Campers are attending for fewer weeks each year; there are other excellent camping experiences available in the area, most significantly the nearby Shady Trails Camp.

Shady Trails has a broad full-day program, and we have lost many of our campers, for at least some of our program weeks, to that program. In my opinion, there is no way for OTYC to "compete" with Shady- we simply do not have the assets or the facilities.

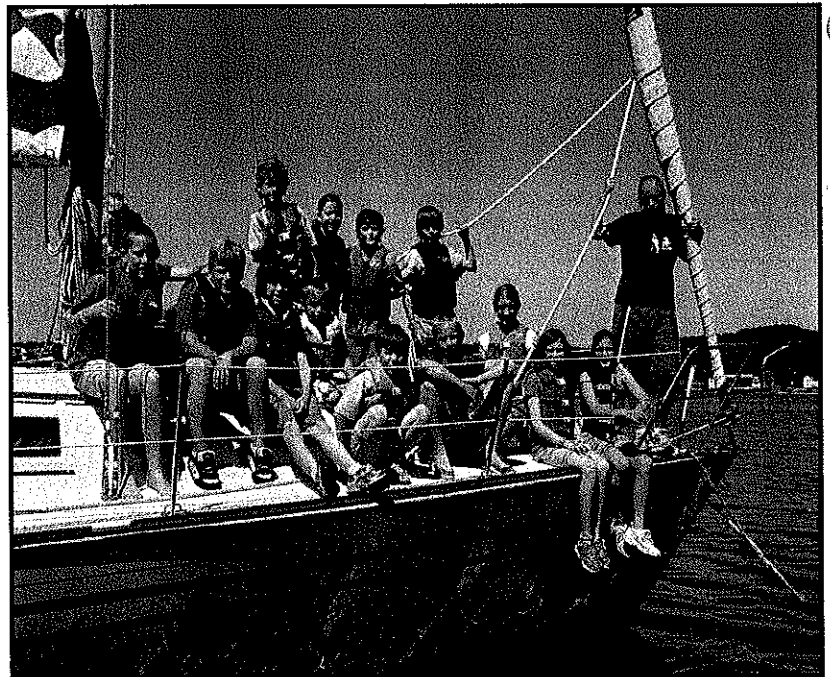
There is steady interest by those 13+ in being instructors: most other area recreation programs and camps do not have programs for teenagers.

Can the program continue in its present form?

Currently no commitment is required from parents/grandparents. No early sign-up of campers is required; no prepayment of fees is required. In fact, parents often negotiate for reduced fees for days not attended.

Planning outings is difficult, requiring parent drivers. Such enrollment and volunteer commitment might not be acceptable to parents, and could further reduce participation. On the other hand, perhaps some promotion of the program, coupled with the realization that it is a "use it or lose it" benefit of the OTYC, could help to renew parent and camper interest.

JA certain staffing level must be maintained for safety, regardless of the number of campers. The staff is responsible and committed - in six years there has been one day of unanticipated staff absence. The youth chairman has the responsibility to identify and hire staff, and to generate and organize all related paperwork contracts, payroll, program information, parental permissions, medical information, and enrollment forms,



**Youth Group sailing with the Knorps on Anelare**

instructions to staff and so forth. Additionally, some oversight of the program and weekly training and supervision of, and discussion, with the staff is required.

## Membership Report

By Barb Harris

Total number of adult members- 267

### Membership Categories:

Honorary-2    Lifetime-6    Family-207

Single-28    Associate-5

Guest-19 (new guest applications included)

Junior members-58 (new Juniors included)

**Honorary Members**-Mary Louise Root and Mary Woolford

**Lifetime Members**- Ping Abbott, Dr. & Mrs. William Graf, Vincent Moore, Harold & Generva Grossman

**Resignations**-Marilyn Flett, James and Nancy Gregory, Joe and Cate Varley. Associate members- Jennifer Buehler and Anna Varley

**Deaths Recorded**- Jack Bishop, Tim Hogan, Dr. Robert Johnson, Pat Kemper and Jane Melville (lifetime members)

**New full memberships 2005**- Helen Bradley and Hank Beardsley, Walter (Bill) & Sharon Cron, Karen Howat, Harold & Kanda McKee, Tom Oehmke, Joan Brovins, Joe & Betty Pope

**Guest members 2005**- Don & Betts Chisholm, James (Kim) Kemper, David & Kerry Kennedy Magrini (legacy), James & Joan Stukel

**New Associate Members 2005**- Sarah Chenault, Davis Compton (Andrea Gelakoski's husband), Robin Cooper

**New Applicants for Membership**- Dr. Paul & Terri Harris & family-Guest (legacy), John & Ann Marie Mitchell- Guest. Sons Matt and Drew- Jr. members, Tom & Debra Jeffrey & family- Guest. Kyle and Carly- Jr. members, (former guest members for 1 year) Don & Patty Kennedy & family- Guest (legacy), James and Kathleen Miller (guest), Robert and Mary Smart- Guest

### Membership – Thank you to Barb Harris

After a gazillion years of service as membership chair **Barb Harris** is stepping down and new member **Kanda McKee** is taking over. Barb's friendly voice and letters were the first contact more than half of the current members had with OTYC.

In addition to her public responsibilities Barb also worked behind the scenes keeping address, telephone, and email addresses current. Did you

## Waterfront Committee Report

By Tom Buehler, chairperson

In general terms, the waterfront assets of the Club are in good functioning condition and it appears they will remain so for the immediate future.

Our power vessel, "Ed," remains both classic, (some would say graceful) and functional. Our appreciation to **Alan Read** for maintaining her and to the **Diebels** for providing storage space for her during the winter months.

The launch ramp underwent significant restoring during dock days and is in excellent shape. Same for the launch dock. Thank you to the volunteers who assisted in that work.

The main dock and slips remain in good shape, but with substantial silting at the southwest corner and within the first two westerly slips. The waterfront committee will evaluate this condition for possible correction next spring, particularly the dredging of those slips. All leases granted in 2000 for use of boat slips expire at the end of this season.

Three slips are presently available for day use (only) by club members. Not much use is being made of slips presently. The committee will take under consideration the possibility to grant short-term (weekly) leases of slips beginning next season, and will present a recommendation to the board over the winter.

We continue to retire Sunfish from the fleet as they age. We presently have five fully operational boats in service with three on stand-by. We also have a substantial parts inventory, which has been recovered from boats previously discarded. Our special thanks to those members donating Sunfish within the last year: the **Saxton, Cooper, and Bailey** families.

All new pennants, burgees, and a US. flag were installed by the committee in the spring. The lifespan of these items is about two years.

know that the membership chair also prints all those shipping labels for your OTYC mail and prepares the text for the membership book and the spring membership list? So, say thanks to Barb, and vow to help Kanda by keeping her current on your addresses!



## Membership Invoicing, Treasurer's Report By Judy Balas

We are initiating a change in the billing for memberships for 2006.

In the past, invoices were sent to the membership in January, due in mid-March. This year, by the due date, almost 1/3 of the members had not paid.

We have decided that part of the problem was that invoices were sent out when Omena and the Yacht Club were far from everyone's minds. For 2006 we will be sending the bill out in March instead, with payment due at the end of April.

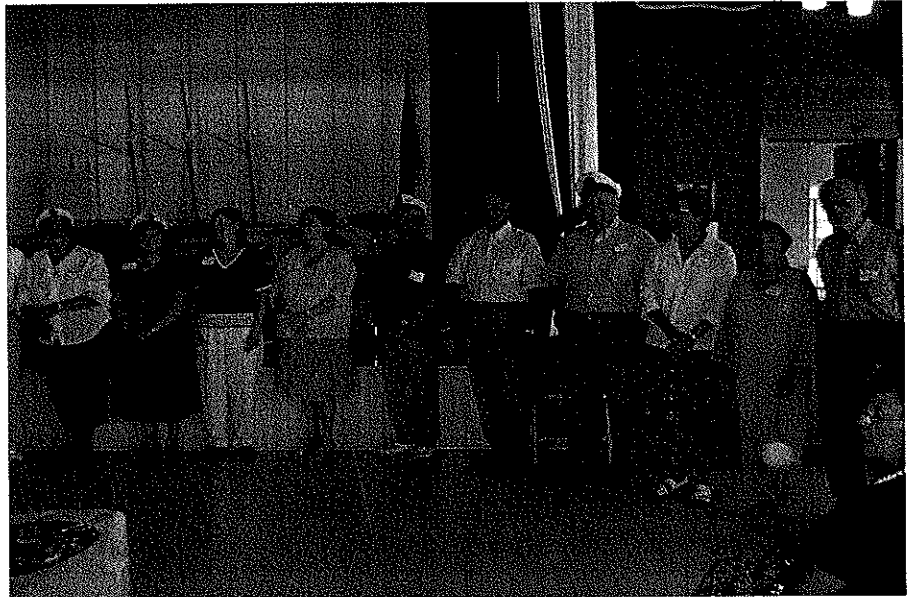
In order to encourage payment on time and reduce the amount of my time sending late notices, we will be imposing a late fee of \$50.00 per month. We hope this will alleviate the problem.

**Current assets:** (as of the July 16 annual meeting)

**Checking:** \$29,265.75

**CD's:** \$20,000.00

**Total:** \$49,265.75



**Honoring Past Commodores on August 7th**

## Breeze Report By Bill and Judy Knorp

We have enjoyed being the editors of the *Breeze* and appreciate all the support received from **Debby Disch**, the Board of Directors, **Judy Balas**, and **Dave Pohlod**.

We are pleased to report that the *Breeze* made a profit for the club in excess of \$800.00 in the past year and are even more pleased to announce that **Dennis and Kathy Turner** will be the new *Breeze* editors. We know they will do an outstanding job.

## BIG SHOES TO FILL

After many years of hard, dedicated and creative work turning out a first class publication, **Bill and Judy Knorp** have stepped down as editors of the OTYC *Breeze* and have asked us to take over. It is a daunting prospect because Bill and Judy have set the "gold standard" when it comes to quality. We will try to follow, as best we can, in their footsteps. However, as you can see from the front page picture, we have big shoes to fill. Thank you Bill and Judy for all the countless hours you devoted to producing the *Breeze*.

## OTHER BIG SHOES TO FILL

**Bill Knorp** also has some big shoes to fill since he will be taking over as Commodore after **Debbie Disch's** tenure. And consider the task of **Kandra McKee**, who has agreed to serve as Membership Chairperson following the many years **Barb Harris** has served in that capacity. Does anyone remember who was Membership Chair before Barb? Thank you, Debby and Barb, for your dedication to OTYC.

## EVEN BIGGER SHOES TO FILL

Perhaps the biggest shoes of all that will need filling are those of the World War II generation. We Baby Boomer, X and Y generations owe them so much for creating a world of freedom and economic advantages which their sacrifice made possible. In an attempt to honor this generation in one small way, the spring *Breeze* issue will include interviews with some OTYC members who served in the military during WWII. We also interviewed **Alan Read**, who, rumor has it, may or may not have been linked with the CIA. Find out in the next issue of the *Breeze*.

**Kathy & Dennis Turner**

## Two Proposed By-law Changes For Your Consideration

For the past several years, the OTYC Board of Directors has actively discussed By-law changes affecting the basic membership application process and the timing of guest membership eligibility.

The language of the proposed By-law modifications reflects these discussions as well as input received from the general membership. The proposed changes are intended to: 1) Provide a new membership application process that operates equitably in the context of expected future population growth in northern Leelanau County and 2) improves our responsiveness to admitting guest members.

The first By-law change addresses our concern over the potential impact of explosive population growth resulting from the Suttons Bay Development, Picnic Ridge and more recently Timber Shores as well as the growing number of small "subdivisions" beginning to dot the local countryside. The Yacht Club and its launch facilities will represent an appealing and relatively inexpensive recreation resource to a number of these new residents leaving us with the potential task of equitably balancing admissions between those within and outside of the Omena community.

The proposed new By-law language assures that applicants with ties to the OTYC and Omena community will be assured an appropriate priority in the application process while still making it possible for qualified applicants outside the Omena community to have an opportunity for membership. The proposal allows the Board to establish two waiting lists: A priority list "A" for those who reside within a geographical boundary or who have historic and/or familial ties to Omena and "B" a secondary list for all others. This proposal would not change the existing policies that priority is given to legacy membership applications and that approved applicants are granted membership in chronological order.

### APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

#### Family or Single Membership

f. The Board may from year to year determine the number of new memberships available and/or establish waiting lists "A" and "B". The "A" list will contain those approved applicants living within a described geographical boundary established by the Board of Directors or if, they do not live within this geographical boundary, have historical or familial ties to Omena or to the OTYC. On the "B" list will be all other applicants who have been approved for membership. Applicants on the "B" list will become eligible for guest membership only when there are no applicants on the "A" list. All of the above is subject to the following provisions:.....

Establishment of, or changes in, geographical limits or historical or familial qualifications can be made at any time by the Board and communicated to the membership via the Breeze, announced at the annual meeting, or covered in a general mailing.

The Board also plans to encourage OTYC members, when

sponsoring new members, to be more diligent with regard to getting to really know the candidate and in their assessment of the candidate's likelihood to be an active participant in the successful operation of OTYC.

**BY-LAW CHANGE #2** The second By-law change will allow the Board of Directors to grant guest memberships prior to the Annual Meeting instead of after the annual meeting. Since new guest members pay full annual dues, this change would extend membership privileges earlier in the summer if there is room under the membership quota. This proposed By-law change is: f. The Board may from year to year determine the number of new memberships available with the following provisions: .....(1) The limitation, if any, shall be announced at the Annual Meeting and will apply for the following 12-month period only or earlier if the Board of Directors has determined the membership quotas for the next year."

The Board welcomes comments on either of these proposed By-law changes. Sending your comments to Bill Knorp or any of the Board members before January 10, 2006 will be appreciated.

## GUIDELINES FOR ACCEPTING GIFTS

### A. Process for Decision Making:

1. The commodore may accept non-designated monetary gifts on the behalf of the club. An example would be a gift of certain number of dollars to be used at the discretion of the board.
2. When a specific gift, either monetary or non-monetary is offered to the club, the commodore will consult with appropriate committee chairpersons, employees or program directors to receive input for a recommendation to the board. The board will make a final decision based on the recommendations along with consideration of the "Guidelines in Considering the Acceptance of Gifts":

### Guidelines for Consideration in Acceptance of Gifts

- The impact of the gift on the club's social culture and traditions.
- The positive or negative effect the gift will have on the facilities ambience, historical character and architecture
- Will improvements to the grounds, tennis courts, driveway, parking lot, or waterfront fit into landscape plan?
- Will gift meet present and/or future needs?
- If the gift is a matching arrangement, will the club have the financial resources to meet the challenge without undo stress.
- Once the gift is accepted, could it be sold, destroyed or given away? Should this be agreed to by the benefactor and the board?
- Accepting corporate sponsorship should be done with caution. All ramifications of the impact of this decision must be considered.

# Boats, Booze & Bloopers:

## OTYC Opening Dinner

The OTYC Opening Dinner, held on June 25, was a balloon-filled, colorful affair chaired by **Brenda Mason**.

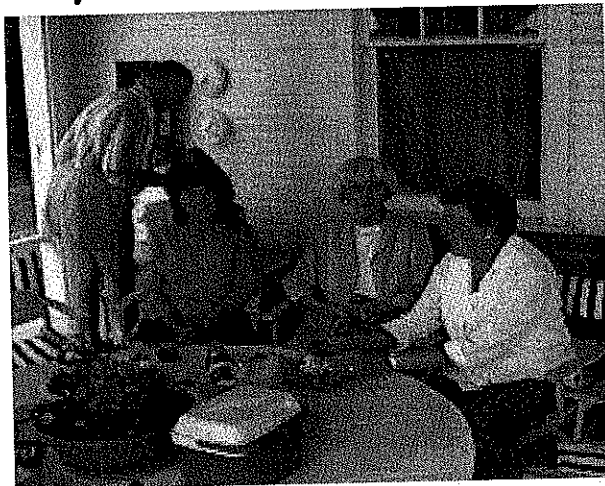
The tables were a riot of hot colors: purple, shocking pink, orange, lime green and blue helium balloons accented by bandanas of the same colors and tissue stuffed (color-coordinated, of course) tin containers, which anchored the helium balloons.

The menu was as colorful as the décor: lemon chicken; Romaine salad with purple grapes and red apples; green asparagus; and mauve cheesecake topped with bright red strawberries.

There would have been even more helium balloons filling the club except for an unfortunate accident. The balloons were purchased, already helium filled, in Sutton's Bay and could only be transported to OTYC by filling the back of a couple of SUVs.

Unfortunately, one of the drivers forgot to close the rear window. Before the SUV had crossed the Sutton's Bay

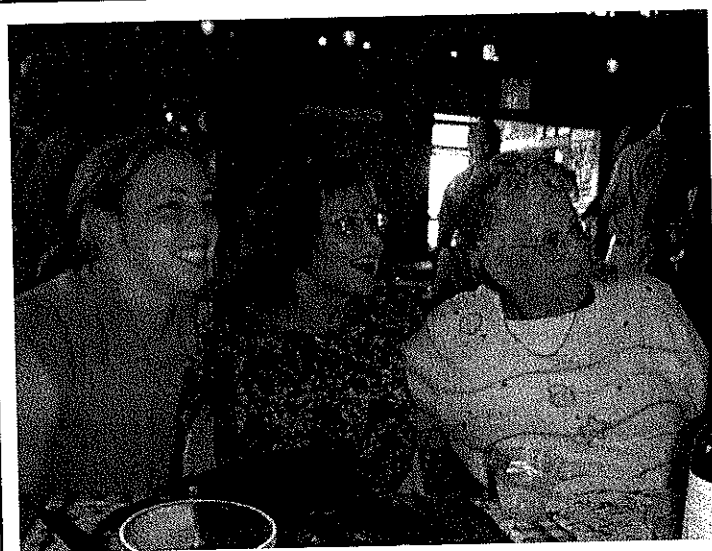
## Toddy Time!!



town line, most of the balloons had made their escape. Balloons were floating all over Sutton's Bay, much to the delight of our neighbors to the south.

## A Summer of Internationally-Themed Catered Dinners, And A Mystery

Peggy's culinary talents were on display again this summer when she created wonderful meals that were thematically connected to the culture and the food of various countries. The dishes may have varied from week to week, but one thing was a constant - nobody left hungry.



Allison Biscupski with her aunt and grandmother

**Fred and Marsha Holz**, chairs for the dinners, worked very closely with Peggy to plan the meals and themes. Sometimes, however, there were unanticipated surprises. One evening, **Jack McCormick**, who is married to **Ellie Stephenson's** cousin, **Betsy**, sat down at the OTYC piano and started playing, prompting a sing-a-long.

It was amazing that any recognizable tune could emanate from an instrument that has not been tuned for eons and has several keys that stick. Jack was amazingly adept at plucking the hammer off the string after he played those sticky notes. He had the crowd rollicking along with favorites like "Take Me Out to the Ballgame."

The playing of the piano gave rise to a mystery. Where did the OTYC piano come from and how did OTYC obtain it? The pianist for the Classical Jazz Stompers who played after a potluck examined the piano and he indicated that it was a quality instrument, or had been at one time.

Can anyone solve the mystery?



# Omena Summer 2005

## Light Winds Challenge Sunfish Race

The OTYC Sunfish Race and Brunch were held on Sunday, July 17<sup>th</sup>. Prior to the race, sailors and other hungry folk could stoke up on delicious food prepared by **Brenda White** and **Melissa Chenault**. Brenda burned the midnight oil, actually the 4:00 a.m. candle, to get all the dishes prepared. Brenda also added a special touch by making OTYC refrigerator magnets for everyone.

By race time, conditions were less than ideal, light winds from the southeast and a hot sun. Consequently, the race directors, **Stu and Suzie Mulligan**, and the skippers decided to reduce the three planned races to one long race. Also, due to a scarcity of entrants, some "older folks" were induced to enter the race in order to fill out the field. "*Kermi*" was the first boat across the start line, skippered by **Alan Read** and crewed by **Charlotte Read**.



**Victory swim by Captain Taylor White and crew member Steven Barnes**

cleared the leeward mark first.

After the race was over, Alan and Charlotte were surprised to learn that "*Kermi*" was not quite as "amphibian worthy" as they thought, water had been seeping into its hull during the whole race. Although, Alan had to settle for a second place finish, he was not distraught. He said, "Anytime I can beat Dennis Turner is a good day."

Congratulations to Taylor and Steven, Alan and Charlotte, Dennis and Judy. Thanks to Brenda White, Stu and Suzie Mulligan, all the race participants and to all who helped make the race and brunch possible.



Alan and Charlotte held the lead until the last windward leg when they were passed by the ultimate winners of the race, **Captain Taylor White and Steven Barnes**.

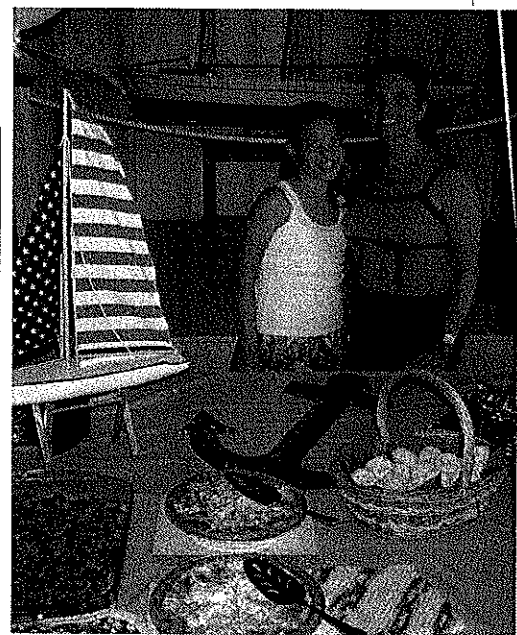
The third place boat, skippered by **Dennis Turner**, with **Judy Knorp** as crew, had its moment when it almost took the lead at the last mark, but Alan's boat and Taylor's boat played the fluky wind in Mulligan Corner perfectly and

## July 4th Picnic Disaster Averted

The annual Fourth of July Picnic was held on July 4th and was organized by **Trudy & Bob Lewis**, and **Kathy & Ellie Stephenson**. The affair was held indoors with the club decked out in reds, whites and blues with plenty of flags. Bob controlled the grills, which turned out to be good thing for **Mike Biskupski's** chicken.

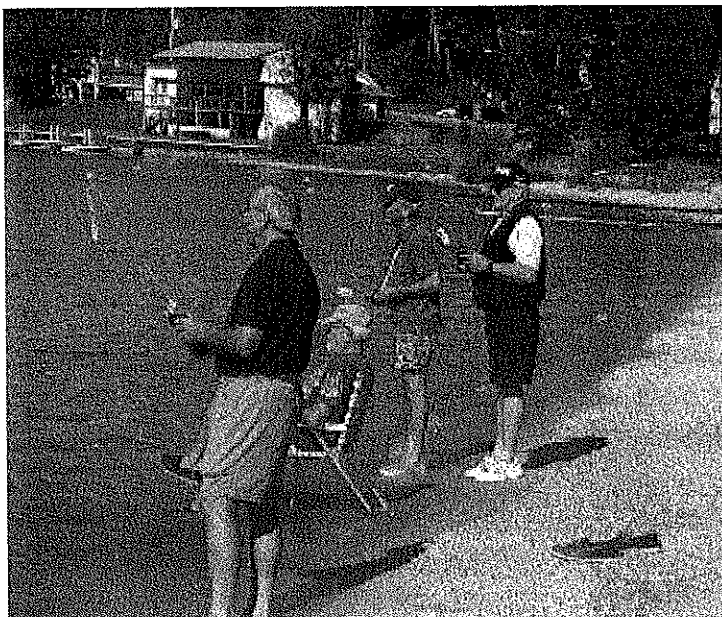
While Mike was off chatting, his chicken breasts were in danger of becoming charcoal briquettes. Perhaps Mike was trying to dispel the rumor that he had once fed his guests undercooked chicken. In any event, Bob saw the impending disaster and removed the chicken from the grill. He then sent out runners to find the wandering Biskupski and let him know his breasts were ready.

Thank you, Bob, and all those who made the picnic such a success. Let's do it again next year.



**Brenda and Amanda White**

# Model Sailboat Race Flummoxes Bookies



## Jockeying for Postion

Omena beach was the venue again this year for the annual Radio Controlled Model Sailboat Regattas. The first race was held on Saturday, July 9<sup>th</sup>, in nearly perfect wind conditions, which made Race Master **Suzie Mulligan's** job easier.

Some expectations were high and some were more modest, like **Jay Grosmark**, whose fond hope was to finish in the top half of the fleet. No expectations could be gleaned from the Race Chairman of the Board, **Gil Deibel**, who refused to tell the press the betting odds on the race.

Four races were held, with **Stu Mulligan** winning with two firsts and two seconds. **Bill Emmert** was second with two seconds, a third and a first. **Bob Knode** was third with three thirds and first place finish.

It was interesting to note that while other participants were pacing along the beach manipulating their handheld controls, Bill Emmert calmly sat in his lawn chair tweaking his controls. A strategy seemed to develop, however, to counter Bill's natural aplomb. At critical points in the race, one of the "pacers" would just happen to stand in front of Bill, blocking his view of the boats, thus delaying the answer to Hamlet's question, "To tack, or not to tack?"

The second Regatta was held on Saturday, August 13<sup>th</sup>. Three races were held, with **Jack Bosgraaf** destroying the competition with three first place finishes. **Bill Emmert** was second again with two seconds and a third. (Next time Bill stand up!) **Stu Mulligan** was third with a second, a third and a fourth place finish.

After the races, Gil Diebel presented the winners with the coveted Omena's Cup traveling trophy and the traditional 12 pack of Coors, which was consumed immediately by all the participants.

A good time was had by all, and the Regattas will held again next summer in the same location.

## IS IT A COUGAR?

Please help solve the mystery. The photo of the cat on the front page was taken by **Jay Grosmark** from the porch of his cabin. There is some debate about the kind of cat it is.

The Breeze's competitor, *The Leelanau Enterprise*, has published numerous stories about cougar sightings around Leelanau, but has maintained a skeptical attitude about the reports because of the absence of reliable photographs.

This photo may supply that lack of proof – if it is a cougar. For the record, Jay thinks not. However, one thing is clear about the cat's personality; it loves the limelight and enjoys posing for pictures. The cat interrupted its stroll across the Grosmark lawn until Jay could fetch his camera, and then it struck this pose before ambling off into the swamp. In any case, it is a BIG cat and owners of small pets would be well advised to keep them from wandering off into the woods.

## Re. the fox picture on the front page:

Jeanne Grabowski photographed the fox on page 1 at **Judy and John Smart's** house last spring.



Annette Husted on *Summer Place*

## Crew Goes Overboard In Wild Big Boat Race

The Big Boat Race was held Sunday afternoon, August 31, 2005. **Bill Emmert** was race master. Four boats competed on a sunny, gusty day with large waves built up by the SW breeze. The course was from the OTYC dock to the Stony Point Buoy and back. When it was all over, *Blammer*, an Ensign 22 skippered by **Dennis Turner**, took first place. Aply assisting Dennis were crew members **Mike Biskupski** and **Jim Wall**.

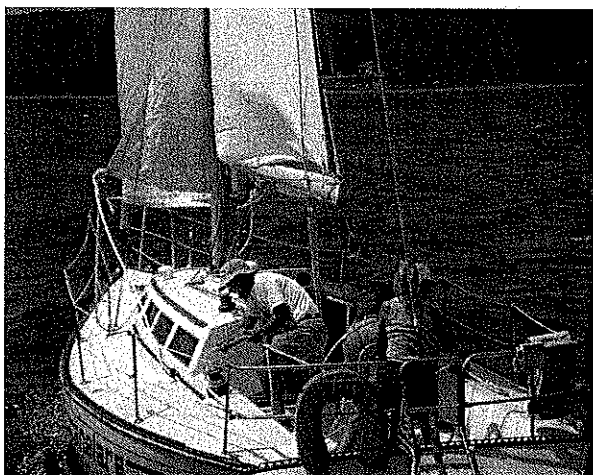
Second place went to *Anelare*, an S2-10.3 skippered by **Judy Knorp**, with a crew of **Bill Knorp** and **Sam Knoll**. *Summer Place*, an S2-27 skippered by **George Husted** with crew **Annette Husted** and **Alan Read**, took third place. In fourth place was a J22 skippered by **Tom Newland** with a crew of Ingalls Bay youngsters, who did a superb job of keeping the boat upright.

After crossing the finish line, the *Blammer* lost one of its crew overboard while he was trying to furl the jib on the foredeck. It is alleged that Dennis tacked the boat without warning in the hopes of dislodging the crewman as part of the traditional victory celebration dunking.

When the sailors came ashore, their comments were solicited about the windy conditions. Alan Read said, "I prefer motorboats." Mike Biskupski reported, "The boat heeled so much that most of the time it seemed we were standing up."



*Blammer* crossing finish line

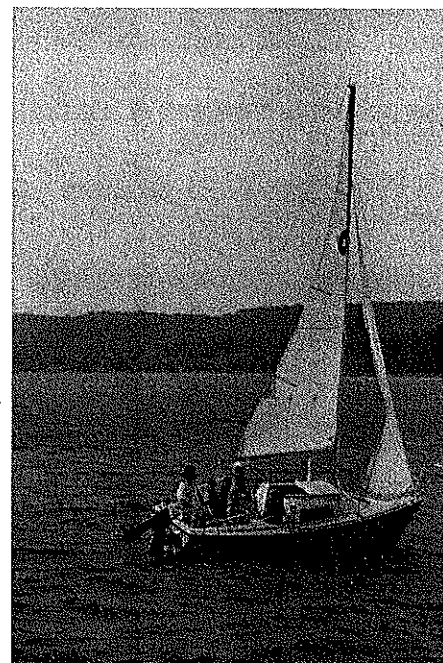


*Anelare* tacking

A bystander who came for the after-race picnic was surprised that the *Blammer* was skippered by Dennis Turner. "I assumed that **Caroline (Turner)** must have been at the helm."

As if to justify that assessment, the next week Caroline did skipper the *Blammer* to a win in the Northport Yacht Club race with Dennis and Mike serving as her crew.

*Where's the four-page spread that I ordered of this astounding victory? - Ed.*  
*In your dreams. - Other Ed.*

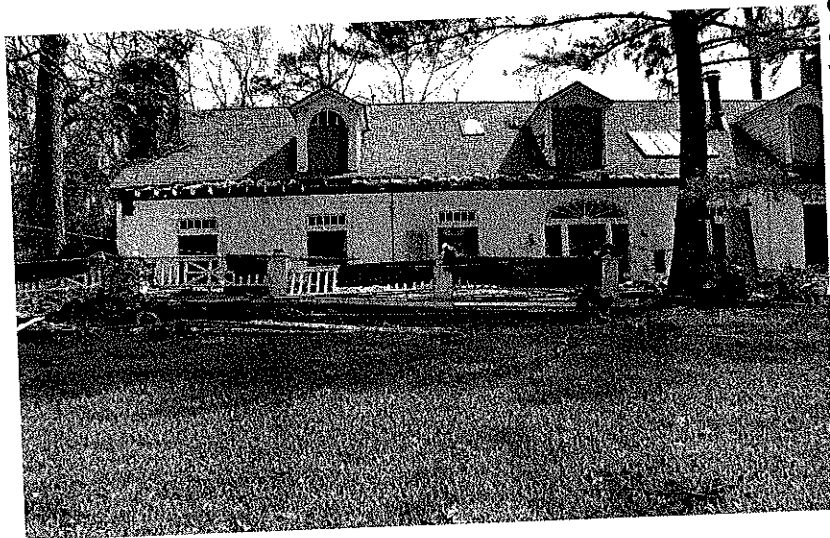


J-22 finishing the race

# Omena News

*Thank you for your replies to our requests for news*

Hurricane Katrina affected several Omena families. **Bill Kulick** wrote about his mother Pat's house in Mississippi, "There was 10 feet of water downstairs- just enough to reach the ceilings. The plaster is ruined, most of the French doors were blown out completely. Her priceless antiques are devastated. One dresser is still lodged in the ceiling!... My in-laws' house was completely wiped away... Things on the coast will be forever changed." He is preparing to sue insurance companies for payment. "I wish I were in Omena. Hope to see everyone next summer."



**Pat Kulick's House after Katrina**

**Suzy Saxton Smith** wrote, "**Betty Smith** was enrolled in Tulane University to begin her freshman year. She had been there a week at a pre-orientation program when Otto and I drove in on Aug. 27<sup>th</sup> with the car full of her belongings... The school had already begun the evacuation process. Hurricane Katrina was on her way. We proceeded to unload all of Betty's stuff into her dorm room, then loaded her up with one suitcase and headed back to Houston.

It took an hour and a half to drive three miles, but we eventually made it back to Houston to my sister and brother-in-law, **Stuart and Lee Williams's** house...

Betty is now enrolled in the University of Texas at Austin and is living in a dorm. The Tulane campus itself did not flood, so we assume Betty's stuff is still intact."

She also wrote that son **Crawford** is playing freshman football. "His goal is to play football and study engineering at the University of Michigan."

**Anna Moore**, daughter of **Eric and Martine Moore** and granddaughter of **Vin Moore**, has also temporarily left Tulane University and has enrolled at a university in Florida.

On a happier note, **Charlotte and Alan Read** traveled to the Adriatic coast in October. Charlotte also wants you to know that the OTYC Cross Country Weekend will take place on February 18, 2006. She wrote, "Come to cross country ski in Omena Woods, or just join everyone for chili supper at the home of Mary Smith."

**Karen Edgley** wrote, "**Alexander** is running cross country his freshman year. Mom and Dad (**Mary and Ron Tonneberger**) just spent the week here with us, so Roger and I could take a few days away."

The Commodore writes that the OTYC front deck flooring will be replaced along with the blinds that shade the deck. The good news is that there will be no assessment of the members for the work. The repairs will be completed before May 15, 2006.

**Bill, Tish and Crystal Renz** enjoyed our shorter than normal summer stay in Omena this year. We left Omena to travel to Detroit and fly to Washington D.C. on the first day of the Northwest strike. We made it, 4 hours later than scheduled, to celebrate Tish's Dad's 80th birthday with family in Georgetown.

Bill traveled back the next day and Tish and Crystal stayed on to visit with family, including an Aunt who had come in from Hawaii. Tish and Crystal returned home to Cincinnati just in time for Crystal to start kindergarten. Crystal is enjoying school and has made many new friends. We were able to return to Omena for Labor Day weekend and again the end of September. We didn't catch the fall colors, but enjoyed a patch of really warm weather.

The *New York Times* Holiday Movies Guide wrote about "Just Friends," which opened Nov. 23rd: "A womanizing recording executive (Ryan Reynolds) considers reform when he runs into the woman (**Amy Smart**) he had a desperate, unrequited crush on in high school. Directed by Roger Kimble.



## COMMODORE HOISTED HIGH ON HIS OWN MAST

Commodore Bill Knorp has had his challenges this summer, but not being able to get his jib unfurled may have turned into his tallest test. The rolling reefing gear was jammed on the *Analare* and it could only be fixed from the top of the 40 foot mast.

The Commodore either had to ascend the mast in a bosun's chair, something he had never done before, or take the boat to the Northport Rip-off Boat Yard, a solution Judy was urging. Faced with this option, Bill opted to save the money.

Bill asked **Sam Knoll** and **Dennis Turner** to help with the task by manning the winches, a task eagerly accepted by Sam and Dennis, who relished the thought that the former editor of the *Breeze* could be held to account for some of the things Bill had written about them.

The crew strapped Bill into the bosun's chair, hooked the chair to the main halyard, and for some reason, Bill put his daughter's bike helmet on his head. Difficulties started immediately. The winches were not designed to lift his weight over such a long distance and the line kept jamming on the winch, leaving Bill swinging ten feet off the deck. Judy solved the problem by suggesting that after hoisting Bill two feet we ease off a few inches to release the jam and then hoist Bill another couple of feet.

After much huffing and puffing, Bill was swinging from the top of the mast. While trying not to look down, Bill worked diligently to free the halyard which was wrapped around the headstay. After a half hour, Bill was ready to "hang it up," descend and surrender to Northport Marina gouging. He decided to persist for a few more minutes, and his effort paid off; the halyard was freed.

Getting Bill down was considerably easier. His first words when his feet touched the deck were, "Now I can go home and have Judy wash my pants." Well done, Bill!



Commodore at risk



OTYC Youth Group and Instructors

The Bay Keeper arriving  
on tug boat to speak at OTYC





Finalists for the Hodgson Trophy

**USE YOUR IMAGINATION PHOTO HERE**

Finalists for the Consolation Round

**RESULTS OF THE HODGSON CUP TENNIS TOURNAMENT**

The finals of the Hodgson Cup tournament was a slugfest between the team of **Hellen Bradley** and **Bill Knorp** and the duo of **Bill Mason** and **Mary Tonneberger**. The net play was particularly sparkling. In the end, however, it was the Knorp/Bradley team that prevailed.

In the consolation round finals, it took three grueling sets of tennis for **Annette and George Husted** to turn back the challenge of **Marcia and Mike Biskupski**. What a contest. Both teams enjoyed the competition so much that they plan to resume their rivalry as soon as Annette heals from her shoulder replacement.

Congratulations to the winners and to everyone who participated in the tournament. Special thanks to **George and Annette Husted** who organized the whole thing and kept everyone on track.

**Rat & Bill Rentz Report Meeting Hurricane Rita**

We came back from Omena in mid-September, only to leave again just a few days later. Destination: Texas, with a little excursion into Missouri and the Ozarks.

We certainly picked the wrong time to go to Texas! We arrived in Houston to triple digit temperatures on Wednesday, Sept. 21, just 2 days before Hurricane Rita arrived. Wow! We were not in one of the mandatory evacuation zones, but on Thursday morning we made an attempt to leave, only to drive just over 18 miles in 4 hours time.

Rethinking this a bit, we decided to accept an invitation to return

**By the way ...**

Wasn't that **Rob Mulligan** we saw playing in Aretha Franklin's band at her Interlochen concert August 14th?

and ride out the storm with relatives. Our children had opposing views about our decision to stay. One said, "I think that will be interesting." The other, "Are you CRAZY?!"

Rita ended up coming ashore about 50 miles of east of us, so we were not on the "dirty side" (a new term for us) of the hurricane. As a

result there was very little damage to the neighborhood, other than a few trees down and a 24-hour power outage. A fascinating 3 days preparing for Rita, but that's another story.

We returned to Omena in mid-October to enjoy the fabulous colors and close up for the season.

**Deaths:**

Lynn Spitz-Nagel wrote of her late husband: Tim Hogan passed away May 11, 2005, at home in Ann Arbor of brain cancer. He was a gentle man who loved the sea. In his childhood, he and his 9 brothers and sisters spent summers in a lakeside cabin in Canada with his parents.

"As life took him away from the water, he made it a habit to read 'Moby Dick' every spring and liked to watch sea movies like "Perfect Storm" again and again.

Tim's working life included 10 years as a priest before he went

on to teach poetry and literature at several colleges, and then work for the Michigan Department of Corrections as a principal and teacher of prisoners.

Tim and his first wife, Krys, had two daughters and two granddaughters. After Krys died, Tim and Lynn Spitz-Nagel were married.

Tim loved telling people about his adventures with Lynn on their Sunfish and spent his last days in Omena on a deck chair perched at the very end of the dock, watching the water.

His time in Omena was much too short.



## Seen and Overheard.....

Identify the owners of these OMENA license plates:

Florida, Illinois, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri, New York, and Virginia. And how about Michigan plate 49674? First person to send the correct answers to [dennisturner@notes.udayton.edu](mailto:dennisturner@notes.udayton.edu) wins a bottle of Omena wine. Are there other states with OMENA plates that we haven't heard about?

Last July, **Bob Gelakoski** met filmmaker **Michael Moore** walking on a Traverse City sidewalk. Bob says Mike greeted him like a long lost friend and invited him over to his house on Torch Lake.

**Karen Centner** got Swimmer's Itch this summer... at Northport Point.

**Marcia Biskupski's** brother, Donald, ratted that the first time Marcia took Michael home to Minnesota to meet her family, Marcia's mother didn't give Mike any silverware at dinner. She was afraid that Chicago boy would steal it.

**Sharon Cron** was seen shopping for Bill's 65<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration in October. She said she has reduced the number of hours she works at Munson Hospital as a psychiatric nurse and has taken up knitting. Bill spends part of every week teaching at Central Michigan University and gets to enjoy the luxurious living at the local Motel 8. They actually keep a room open for him. Happy 65<sup>th</sup>, Bill!

A request from **Ellie Stephenson**: "My cousin **Betsy McCormick** was intrigued to find the ship's model of the J.T. Wing. Wing was married to her great aunt and she would love to know the connection to OTYC and if anyone knows how it came to us."



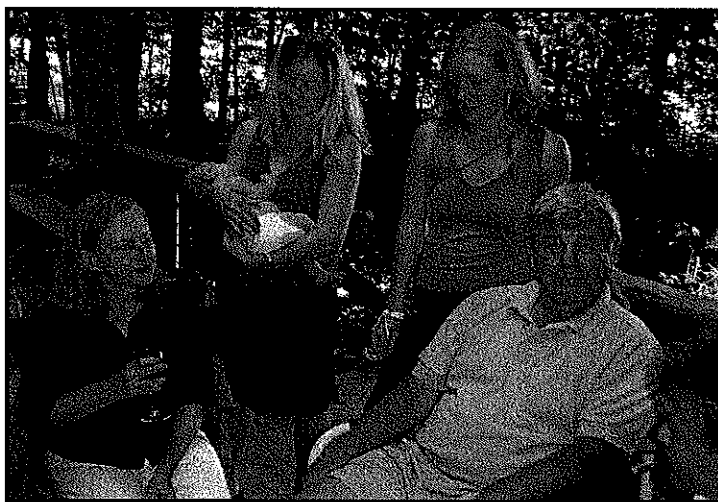
**Drew Ehrhardt jamming with Classic Jazz Stompers**

**Kathy and Jim**

**Miller** hosted a catered dinner in Sept. with Michigan vs Michigan State as the theme. Forty four people attended. There were no reports of bloodshed, but rumor has it that photos reveal who belongs to what camp.

Another catered dinner this fall was a Halloween Party

on Oct. 17. **Melissa Chenault** suggested wearing long underwear as the costume of choice in the chilly OTYC. In addition to Peggy's always wonderful menu, sculptor **Sarah Chenault** baked specialty cakes for dessert.



**The Varley Family**

Former, and maybe future, members **Cate and Joe Varley** visited this summer. They are the proud grandparents of baby **Helen**, born in June to daughter **Anna and her husband Jason Soule**. Cate say they had such a good time that they are looking for a summer house "in a village" in Leelanau. Joe Varley spent this fall working for the State Department's A.I.D program in Afghanistan. Joe lives in a half-container and is not allowed out of the Green Zone. Cate is taking two graduate seminars in Tucson and trying to avoid rattlesnakes coiled outside her front door. You know how Omena deer follow traditional pathways? It seems that rattlesnakes do, too, and the V's new house is on one.

In response to the *Breeze* request for information on what you all have been doing this fall, **Laura Deibel** responded that it's none of our business what she's been up to. She continued, "We do, however, look forward to everyone else's private doings."

Could that have really been **Vin Moore** we saw driving the Point Road in October? **Sunny Colling** at the Omena Country Store confirmed it, "Yeah, he's been in here a couple times." Welcome back, Vin.

*Traverse Magazine's* Northern Home and Cottage edition featured **Peggy Donaghy's** "Holiday Meal Shortcuts" and information on her Ethnic Gardening Catering Company. See pages 8 and 9 in the Nov./Dec. edition.

# See you again soon ...



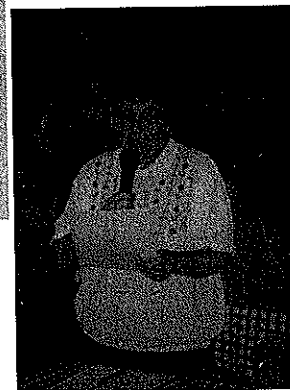
**Brenda White Calling Bingo**



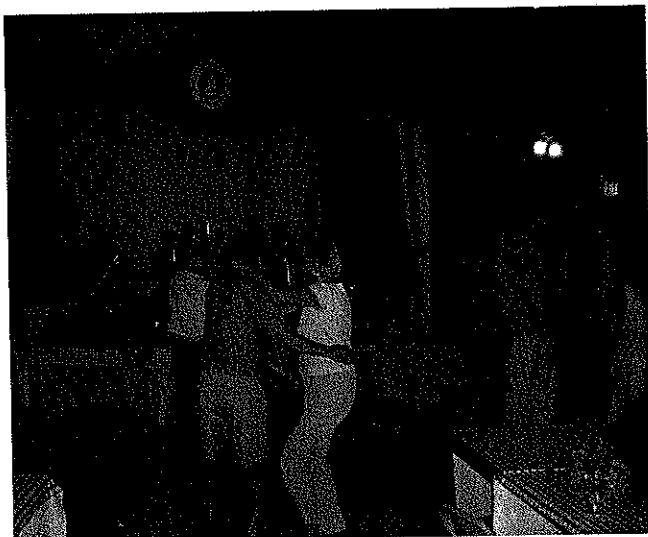
**Commodore Disch  
at board meeting**



**Kanda & Harold McKee  
At Toddy Time**



**Barb Harris giving  
her 15th annual  
membership report**



**Ed Obendorf and Mary Jo Brumbaugh  
swinging to the Classic Jazz Stompers**

## **Let Us Know Where You Are!!**

From your friendly Membership Chairperson.....

Please contact me if you need to update your e-mail address, or for that matter, contact me if you have any updates for the directory.

**E-Mail:** kmckee@fuse.net

## **Kentucky Mailing Address:**

Kanda Sue McKee, 518 General Drive  
Ft. Wright, KY 41011

**Kentucky Phone # 859-341-2917**

**Michigan Phone # 231-386-7440**