

Vol. 64

OTYC

December 2007

OTYC

No. 1



Let the thoughts of
bright clear blue skies,
warm breezes,
water gently lapping
against the shore
and great friends
carry you through
until we can gather again
for another Omena summer.
The best to you
during the holiday season.

Sixty Years of Traditions Continue at OTYC

By Tish Renz

I have the wonderful privilege of being able to look thru all the old Breezes. Some wonderful things jump out at me from these old publication. One of the biggest things is how true to our origins we have remained.

Our traditions are very strong. Sixty years ago in October, the first Breeze was published under the name "Leelanau Yacht Club News". Much of the space was used to regale the sailing trip of the Shamash around Lake Michigan. Those sailors were part of a group of people banded together to establish a club. During the sailing trip, they gathered advice from members of various yacht clubs they visited. They summed up the advice into three points:

- 1) Work hard and don't discourage too easily.
- 2) Build slowly and firmly; don't build ahead of your capabilities and needs.
- 3) Keep interest up by having plenty of activities.

In many ways, these three points still work for us today, sixty years later. Not only has the club remained true to its beginning, but so has the Breeze. The following was written in the first Omena-Traverse Breeze in Feb. 1949:

Ship Ahoy

"We finally launched the 'Omena-Traverse Breeze' on its maiden voyage, and hope the journey will be both successful and pleasant. Make the succeeding voyages interesting by sending in your news items, gossips, criticisms and contributions.

"Let this be the means of bringing the members together fraternally, with anticipations of pleasant fellowships and happy cruises on the Bays during the coming season. Let's hear from you."

The traditions of the Breeze, its content and its appearance continue on today. Your contributions are what give it a personal touch and make it an OTYC publication.

During the first complete summer of 1949 as a new

Continued on Page 11

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

Tish Renz

Rat Renz

Officers

Commodore, Tom Buehler

Vice Commodore, Dave Pohlod

Rear Commodore, Bill Knorp

Secretary, Dave Pohlod

Treasurer, Judy Balas

Terms Ending August 15, 2008

Judy Balas, Tish Renz, Dave Pohlod

Terms Ending August 15, 2009

Mary Jo Brumbaugh, Karen Edgley, Caroline Oberndorf

Terms Ending August 15, 2010

Tom Buehler, Barb Harris, Bill Knorp

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

The Breeze.....

All the news that fits, we print.

COMMODORE'S CORNER

Your board has been busy — new copper roof, vinyl siding, new windows, second tennis court, full-service commercial kitchen, add a stone fireplace, pave the parking lot, add several new boat slips, screen the front porch, enclose the front porch, tear off the front porch (oh vey on this last one!) — **too busy, in fact to implement any of these suggestions.**

To the contrary, the board has been at work preserving the OTYC for the people of Omena and Ingalls Bay. Clearly we have something very special here and wonderfully localized to our community and we all need to both recognize and work to preserve that charm.

The OTYC is more than building and grounds. It forms a part of our history, our memories and our continuity into the future. Your board appreciates that sentiment. With all that in mind, your board has considered and adopted several new policies.

First, our demographic is aging, while use of the club facilities, in what is now a very compressed season, has skyrocketed. We need your first born (and second and third and fourth) who are legacies to become members of the club, and to participate in its continuity. Thus the board has adopted a quite palatable financial opportunity for them to do so. Please see the policy details in this issue.

The board has increased the initiation fee, which has been constant for several years. Legacies are urged to consider joining in 2008 under the new program, in order to avoid those increased initiation fees later.

The board has also adopted a new potluck policy. Potluck events are important to all of us and a central feature of an OTYC summer. However, a number of members who are in Omena for brief stays have been unable to sign up for already-full potlucks. Your board finds that situation to be unacceptable, thus the new rules. We ask your cooperation in observing them. Such changes are never easy, but we are trying to be fair to all.

Please note that we are starting a new column with this Breeze called "FAQ's." We'll work on only a couple of these per issue and use them to explain why we do (or don't do) what we do.

Finally, but very importantly, we continue to need volunteers for the social program and catered dinners. Your interest and hard work will be much appreciated by all.

Thanks to all of you who have so tirelessly worked for the OTYC this past year. Each little task that you undertake means so much to all of the members and your efforts are appreciated. May you all have a blessed and most Merry Christmas and holiday season and a prosperous new year.

Your Commodore,
Tom Buehler

Board Adopts New Policies

After due consideration your Board has adopted a number of new policies. These are designed essentially to assist members in potluck attendance and to encourage legacies to both JOIN AND PARTICIPATE in the OTYC. All such policies are effective immediately.

POTLUCKS

1. Sign up list will **NOT** be circulated at Wednesday Potluck. Sign up list will be posted at the club notice board only.

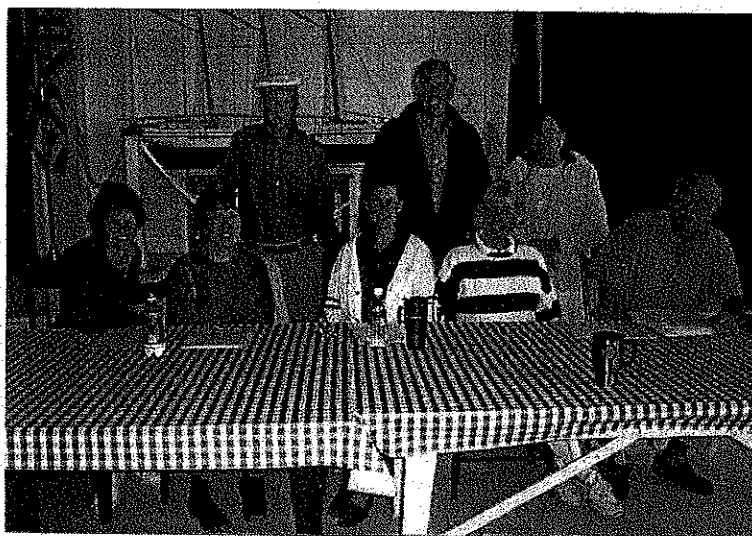
2. Those **MEMBERS WITH 2 GUESTS ONLY, AND WITH PARTIES OF 6 OR LESS** will be allowed first opportunity to sign up until Monday at Noon. Thereafter, **Members WITH MORE THAN 2 GUESTS OR PARTIES LARGER THAN 6 IN NUMBER** may sign up first-come, first-served on a space available basis.

3. No party may exceed 10 persons (1 table).

4. Fees remain the same: Members and guests \$3, ages 7-12 \$2, 6 and under free.

LEGACIES ENCOURAGED TO JOIN OTYC-SPECIAL PROGRAM- ONE YEAR ONLY !

1. All Legacies who apply for membership prior to September 30th, 2008, will pay the '06 initiation fee of \$600, which may be paid in 6 equal installments of \$100 each, along with the subsequent 6 years of dues. (Of course, legacies may also elect to pay the \$600 fee in full when joining.) Legacy is defined as "the sibling, child, grandchild, parent or grandparent of a current member in good standing."



OTYC Board at July 2007 Annual Meeting
Back row (left): Bill Knorp, Tom Buehler, Caroline Oberndorf; Front row (left): Karen Edgley, Judy Balas, Debby Disch, Mary Jo Brumbaugh, Dave Pohlod.
Absent: Tish Renz.

2. For those legacies failing to join within that period, the full initiation fee applicable when they join will be paid.

3. Legacies are subject to the full membership application process, however no recommendation letters or introductory meetings with Board members are required. However, **ALL LEGACIES MUST STILL VOLUNTEER FOR ACTIVITIES AS REQUIRED IN THE APPLICATION PACKAGE.**

INITIATION FEES INCREASED

The initiation fee for new applicant members has been increased to \$720 for 2007 and \$850 for 2008. In addition, singles are now required to pay the full initiation fee. Respecting singles, this is a return to the historic OTYC policy.

Frequently Asked Questions

Why don't we have a commercial range in the kitchen?

The kitchen project included all commercial equipment, certified to code, except for the range. A commercial range would require a complete commercial ventilation system with fire suppressant features - estimated installed cost \$20,000.

The Board felt that amount was not justified. Thus we do not do proprietary (original) cooking in the kitchen, only reheating and catering functions in which food is cooked elsewhere and brought on site.

The youth group sails and tubes. Why not water skiing instruction?

Our insurance carrier will not cover liability for skiing.

The Fun of Summer 2007

Social Report by Melissa Chenault

Thank you and an abundance of appreciation to all the following individuals for stepping up and taking on a piece of our social calendar.

The season got started with the Memorial Day Reception. **The Tonnebergers** and **Kennedys** were in charge of the event to welcome the coming of summer and the return of fellow OTYC members.

In the capable hands of **Judy Balas**, the catered dinners were well attended thru the summer. There were fun themes and good food from several different caterers for the seven catered dinners. Having them twice a month, from June thru September, seemed to work well.

Our opening dinner tapped into the talents of **Judy Smart** and **Mary Smart**. Everyone enjoyed the Mexican fiesta dinner made by **Peggy** and the company of those who recently arrived in Omena for the summer. The festive decorations and pitchers of margaritas added to the fun.

The nine potlucks were overseen by **Stuart Williams** in July and **Caroline Oberndorf** in August. The first was at the end of June. By the second one, they reached capacity and remained full, with more people interested, thru the second one of August. All the hostesses did a great job and it couldn't happen without them. Bingo was as popular as ever in the hands of **Brenda White** and crew. This year, to claim your prize, you had to do the Bingo Boogie.

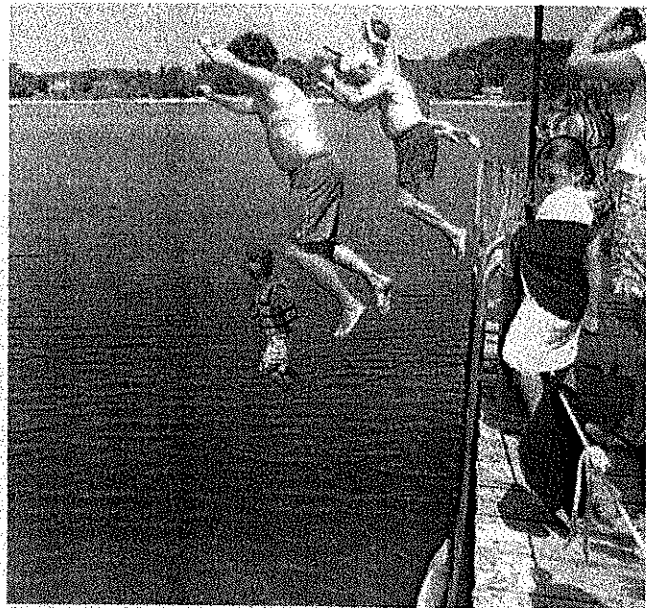
Drew Ehrhardt and **Don Kennedy** put together the Fourth of July picnic for everyone to gather in celebration of the holiday.

Jane Saxton graciously hosted the Ladies social meeting in early July. It was especially great since she had rebounded from her car accident in Texas to be in Omena and able to have everyone over.

Captain Gil Deibel collected all the interested sailors for a Saturday in July and one in August to have remote sailboat races. Interested observers stopped by to cheer on the sailors.

Stu Mulligan donated his time in running the Sunfish race, and **Bill Emmert** ran the big boat race.

Trish and Tami Bosco directed their energies to organizing an afternoon of tie dye for all the kids interested in participating. Everyone just needed to bring a shirt or whatever they wanted dyed to join in the fun. They had an overwhelming response. Even



Three generations of Knolls dock jumping. (One Friday the campers encouraged parents to join them in a favorite activity.)

Commodore and **Judy Knorp** joined in. The participants shared their finished products with everyone in attendance at potluck the next night.

Dave and Judy Pohlod and **Joey and Larry Bensley** helped us to celebrate all the fine work by **Commodore Knorp** by throwing a very nice reception in August. Many of the past commodores were in attendance.

Marsha Buehler hosted a lovely garden luncheon for the ladies in August and treated them to a tour of her daughter's picking garden at Cherry Basket.

Bob and Karen Gelakoski diligently hosted Toddy Times through the summer. Most were intimate groups gathered for great conversation.

George Husted did an excellent job in organizing the Hodgson Cup Mixed Doubles tennis tournament.

The summer wrapped up with the Labor Day picnic hosted by **Nancy Cooper** and **Cathy Stephenson**. The wind posed a challenge, so the ladies made the decision for us to eat inside instead struggling to eat and hold things down at the same time. It was a lively gathering in which to end the summer.

During the post season, a rare OTYC Halloween event occurred at **Judy and John Smart's** home with **Peggy** catering. All were appropriately dressed.

A big thank-you to all those who were not mentioned but participated willingly, and to those that helped even though they hadn't officially volunteered. Our club would not be what it is without all the people involved. **Thank you very much.**

Membership Report by Kanda Sue McKee 7/14/07

Full Members:

Family memberships 99
Single memberships 34

Guest Members:

Bob and Sylvia Bullinger
Bruce and Carla Cunningham
Bob and Caryn Devries
Jim and Barb Karchon
Florine Mark
Larry and Alice Littlefield
Mike Walstrom
Richard and Patricia Wilson

Honorary Members:

Mary Louise Root
Mary Woolford

Lifetime Members:

Ping Abbot
Dr. Bill and Marilyn Graf
Vincent Moore

Associate Members - 9

Junior Members - 62

Type of Membership

	2007	2006
Family	198	192
Single	34	34
Associate	9	7
Lifetime	4	6
Honorary	2	2
Guest	14	19
Total	261	260

Resignations:

Skeet Durbrow
Don and Patti Kennedy-Guest members;
Barry and Carolyn Elz-Guest members;
Jack and Mary Louise Sarvis;
Harold and Genevra Grossman
(All mail returned)

Deaths:

Craig Smith
Alan Read
Betty Graf

Joined as Full Time Members in 2007:

Robert and Mary Smart
Jim and Kathy Miller
Dr. Paul and Terri Harris
Tom and Debra Jeffrey

New Applications:

Brad and Linda Lutz
Jeffrey and Cynthia Dailey
Kip and Christine Barber
Margaret and Matthew Wilkes
Michael and Elizabeth Mustaine
Margaret and Jon Elscott

Waterfront Committee Report by Tom Buehler

The waterfront assets of the club remain in good operating order.

The club boat, "Ed" was repaired and a 9-year-old battery replaced at a cost of approximately \$85. The boat is reported to be running in good condition. We anticipate minor repairs to the trailer, and winterizing at Manitou Marine at the approximate additional cost of \$100.

Four bids were elicited to repair broken concrete beams on the launch ramp and to repair the severe crack in the main concrete pier. \$2,500 was reserved for this work. Two bids were received, one for \$9,900 and one for \$1,100. We opted for the latter. The work was completed in May and both the ramp and the pier are now in excellent shape.

We continue to closely watch the aging and degradation of the outer wooden "crib." This deterioration is natural as the years go by. We hope for many more years of service, however repair of that crib, when required will be an expensive proposition.

Four short-term slip rentals were accomplished this season under the club's rental policy, bringing in \$800. The policy will be continued for the summer of 2008, and members and their houseguests are encouraged to contact the waterfront committee if a rental is desired.

Annual Report on the State of the Breeze by Kathy and Dennis Turner

We are pleased to report the following:

- We wrote the Breeze.
- We edited the Breeze.
- We printed the Breeze and Membership Directory.
- We mailed the Breeze and the Membership Directory.
- We came in under budget.
- We successfully defended two libel actions.
- Our resignation as editors of the Breeze has nothing to do with the Grand Jury subpoenas. We want to spend more time with our family.



OTYC Spring Clean-up Crew

Clean-up day by Jim Miller

Take a beautiful spring day, add a group of young, energetic and enthusiastic people and what do you get? No, it's not a high school pep rally, it's your OTYC spring cleanup crew! Okay, I may have misled you with the "young" part. I forgot **Bill Knorp** was in the group.

OTYC Preservation Fund Growing Due to Diligence

Treasurer's Report by Judy Balas

We are continuing to exercise conservative financial management of your dues dollars. Some examples are:

When the Club needed repainting and we were being told that the siding needed to be replaced, **Jim Miller**, in charge of House related items, found someone who would strip and sand off the existing paint which revealed sound wood beneath. This approach saved the Club several thousand dollars.

When the decaying boat ramp needed repair and other bidders said we needed to replace the concrete slabs, **Tom Buehler** found a contractor who was able to reinforce the decaying boat ramp for 10% of the cost of replacing the concrete slabs.

By having a June "work party," **Bruce Balas**, in charge of the Grounds, and his crew of volunteers have kept the grounds looking in top condition and kept the maintenance costs to a minimum.

For the past 2 years **Judy Knorp** has been donating

Our crew, under the observant eye of groundskeeper and slave-driver **Bruce Balas** rolled up their sleeves and cleaned, swept, raked and shoveled until all was again pristine and ready for the summer's festivities.

Our fleet of sunfish sailboats were even steam-cleaned and taken to the beach in preparation for our very successful summer youth program. The area around the tennis courts was also raked and fallen branches removed.

It was rumored that **Mike Biskupski** had previously placed some of the small branches on the tennis court, hoping to gain advantage over opponents he was playing that

afternoon. We all know Mike is incapable of such a dastardly deed. Right?

After the work was completed, Bruce released us from duty for some great sandwiches, soft drinks and conversations to catch up on winter travels. It was truly a fun day, turning work into play and laughter among friends.

her time and skills, doing our bookkeeping in-house. This has not only made my job as Treasurer much easier, but has lowered our administrative fees and made financial reports, cash flow analyses and budget forecasts readily available.

By having **Bob Lewis** as my off-season Assistant Treasurer and **Nana Kennedy** as his assistant, we saved the Club having to send all of the OTYC mail to Florida during the winter months.

Collectively, these careful expenditures have contributed to our OTYC Preservation Fund increasing to just over \$27,000 as of January 1, 2007. Our cash flow projection for this year is that we will be able to add \$4,000 to the Preservation Fund by the end of the year.

Although we and previous boards have worked hard to maintain our beautiful old building, our dock will need to be repaired in the not too distant future. The Preservation Fund will be used for this major project to avoid any assessments.

Youth Program Attracts Many Campers in 2007

Youth Program Report by Bill Knorp

I am pleased to report that your Youth Program is alive and very well. The following are some random thoughts about the program:

For the second year, we are fortunate to have **Rich Connell**, director, and **John Varley**, co-director. While stressing safety first, they are fully utilizing the sunfish sailboats, the entire waterfront including our dock, the tennis court and the inside of the club when necessary.

In addition, we have a splendid cadre of very young youth instructors: **Shelbie Lingauer, Caroline Gulsby, Amanda and Taylor White, and Alex and Claire Edgley, Madison Duff and Crawford Smith** will join the staff later in the season.

Our advance sign-up scheme under the supervision of **Joey Bishop** is working. A majority of those attending are taking advantage of the discounts by paying in advance. Having a "heads up" on how many will be attending each week is a help to the staff.

Last year Rich did some fiberglass repairs to the



Campers and Instructors for Week 2

boats. This year he refinished all the centerboards and rudders.

The attendance for the first two weeks has averaged 18 campers per week. This is an ideal number of campers for the program.

We have accepted 6-year-olds into the program if they are qualified.

This year we have introduced Kinderkamp each Wednesday under the direction of **Hannah Connell** assisted by **Carrie Anne**.

Karen Edgley and **Kerry Magrini** are registering the campers each Monday and coordinating the outings on Thursday. Their help is greatly appreciated.

We are considering having a sixth week from August 6th to August 10th if we can have 12 campers signed up in advance.

In conclusion, it is truly a pleasure to see the kids having fun, and I hope they are learning a few new skills.

I am most appreciative that you are sending your children and grandchildren to the camp again.



Campers and Instructors for Week 5

To Side or Not to Side: That was the question

State of the Building Report by Jim Miller

Overall Condition-The building remains in very good condition, given its age, frequent summer use and the weather conditions for our area. Maintenance is an important issue and key to keeping it ready for the demands of our active group. Some issues need to be taken care of in the next year however, none are critical.

Exterior-The south-facing corner on the west end was in the poorest condition last year. **Terry Groesser** had painted the corner the year before, but warned that the wood siding underneath was in poor shape and probably needed to be replaced. This situation was mentioned in last year's report.

Based on Terry's recommendation, bids were solicited to evaluate and repair, as necessary, any bad siding. Three bid solicitations were mailed. Two came back "no bid" and the third was for more than \$10K.

I sought another bid from painting contractor **John Evans**. Upon seeing the situation, he said it didn't appear to be as bad as we had been told. He bid approximately \$3K to remove the old paint down to the bare wood, prime and repaint the bad area. Included in that amount were the replacement of two window trims and the sealing off of openings under the rafters that were allowing bees and wasps to enter the upstairs area.

Because this is more cost-effective and helps us retain the original look of the building, we will be taking the same action in other areas of the exterior as needed.



The Bosco girls and Carrie Anne Connell

Interior-The overhead fan switches weren't all working. The original switches were overloading, heating up and had to be replaced. Improved switches had to be ordered and installed.

Roof-The sagging roof was also bid on. I decided to wait until this fall or next spring to make the repairs to the deteriorating splices. The cost to do the work will be approximately \$2,100. The roof will be raised in the three sagging areas (where possible) and bracing installed. Existing ceiling joists will be re-enforced to support the new bracing.



Tami and Trish Bosco take a women's sailing lesson

Water Condition-Peggy told me the water is not clearing up as it has in past years and that it is remaining slightly rust colored. If it persists, we may need to consider a filtration system. I am not sure about the age of the well, if that is the problem. We will keep an eye on it. I am told no health risks are present.

Security-We had some damage to the sign-up box out by the road. Vandals broke the window and destroyed the box. It was replaced with a slightly larger box that would allow two sign-up sheets, side-by-side.

I am recommending the board consider replacing the combination numbers on the boat ramp and building locks. It seems the numbers are well known by many people including contractors and non-OTYC members.

Of course it is essential some non-members know the numbers. It just seems our combinations are out there with too many folks. Example: I was opening the building each morning for the painting contractor. One morning, I arrived to find the door already opened. I asked how they opened it and one of the workers said they already knew the number.

I replaced the internal workings of the lock on the side door to the kitchen from the parking lot.

Member Tidbits

Nana and Dick Kennedy wrote: "In October, we celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary in Ireland. Our children, grandchildren and assorted family members gathered back on the "Old Sod" - 31 of us in all. It was a gala occasion—a beautiful Manor House, delightful catered dinner, traditional Irish music for singing and dancing. During the week of festivities, there was a fair amount of sightseeing, lots of Guinness and generous doses of Irish Blarney — and, always, majestic mountains, sheer cliffs, pounding surf and the eternal 40 shades of green. An event of a lifetime!"

News from **Cathy Stephenson**: "It's been a busy fall with many highlights. Attended **Robin Cooper's** wedding in August and **Abby Thayer's** wedding in September, both in Cincinnati. Both were so lovely, and it was such fun seeing these lovely girls as brides and remembering having been in each of their parents' weddings. Just returned from a marvelous trip to Hong Kong, Cambodia and Bangkok. It was like 3 vacations in 1! So many wonderful experiences — love being in new cultures, but it really made me appreciate the cool Omena breezes. Will head to Norwich, VT, over Thanksgiving and Christmas to be with **Ellie and Janet**, who is now ensconced in her nursing job at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center."

David and Andrea (Gelakoski) Compton are very excited to be expecting their first child due May 24th.

From **Ron and Mary Tonneberger**: "**Karen Edgley** and **Mary** took **Claire** to Bath, England, in September where she started school at the Royal Bath High School. Spent a few days sewing on labels on every ounce of her clothing. Karen and Mary then recuperated in London where we saw some plays and walked and toured! We have had a beautiful fall here in Omena, combined with visits from our son **Scott** and his friends from Venezuela and Miami. In mid-November, Scott has planned our fourth Thanksgiving trip, this year to Germany — Frankfurt and parts south. In December, we descend, with the Edgleys, on Miami for two weeks to celebrate a warmer Christmas. A good finale to 2007."



Commodore Buehler presenting **Commodore & Judy Knorp** with thank-you gifts during the Commodore's reception.

Kathy and Dennis Turner almost went to Chicago this fall. They are going to work a little harder at getting to New York City for a few days early in January. Kathy said it has been so long since they were there that they never saw the World Trade Center Towers when they were standing. There are many changes awaiting them to be discovered. Have fun, Kathy and Dennis!

Melissa Chenault writes: "Hi, I am waltzing through Europe, I started in Rome, then went to Tuscany with Dallas friends. I left Tuscany and met my cousin in Milan and we drove to Belligo, Italy, on Lake Como. Now I am in Lucern, Switzerland, and will finish my trip in London and return to Dallas on Nov. 5th.

From **Mary Smith**: "On November 5th, I will be living at an assisted living home called 'Toy House.' I decided to do this because I am so unsteady on my feet. It is a small place with only 6 bedrooms with half baths. It overlooks an orchard and feels like home. **Electa** is coming from Virginia to help **Debby** move me. If all goes well, I'll come back in the spring, at least for awhile. The newsletter is a super way to let friends know. The address is 1990 N. Setterbo Rd. Suttons Bay, MI 49682. The phone number is 231-271-7328. The email is the same cherries@copper.net. Hope you all have a wonderful fall and winter."

Bill and Lin Emmert reported that they left Omena on September 25 in their new travel trailer, with their 60 pound (and still growing) sheepdog. They stopped first at Yellowstone National Park, then went to Lewiston, Idaho, to see Lin's brother. Next was a week in Portland. Continuing on, they went down the coast of Oregon and California. Visiting their daughter in Las Vegas was next on the agenda. From there they may give some consideration to returning home.



Austin & Marion Jones' granddaughters, Sylvia (4) and Frankie (3) Ettinger.

Liz and John Ettinger write: "We missed coming to Omena this last summer, but are looking forward to a visit next summer for two weeks in August. We just had a nice visit here in California with **Suzie and Stu Mulligan**, **Scott Mulligan** and Scott's son **Kyle**. We all met at a party for our cousin **Khethani's** first birthday. Suzie's sister and brother-in-law, **Sylvia and Jim Hatton**, were also able to attend the party and are proud grandparents of Khethani."

Tish and Bill Renz were on the go in September with a trip at the beginning and another at the end of September to Omena for long weekends. In between, they headed to the west coast to spend some time with Bill's sister, **Cynnie** and her husband **Ron Dotzauer**. They got to attend their annual Round Up party and the next day go to the Cincinnati Bengals versus the Seattle Seahawks football game. In October, they stayed in Cincinnati and enjoyed all the fall/Halloween activities, even including **Rat Renz** on a trip thru a 12 acre maze. Early December found Bill and Tish in Chicago for three nights. Bill attended dental seminars and Tish shopped for 2 days. They enjoyed the getaway and managed to leave the Chicago area just before snow arrived later in the day.

Kathy Bosco passed along, very enthusiastically, that she had a very fulfilling trip to Africa on a medical mission to Kenya in September with 14 other medical and dental professionals.

She went to assist in any way possible and ended up tapping into her background as a certified sex educator to speak to the children in the different villages about HIV and AIDS. She would talk to the children in grades 8-12 usually in large groups under the trees and was able to communicate fairly easily with them since they learn English in the schools.

They were very interested in what she had to say and also in her personally since many had never seen a white woman. Kathy ended up speaking with over 4,800 children. The mission group took 13 planes arriving many times into the bush in small aircraft on dirt runways and visited 18 different places. Despite the challenging conditions, the people on the mission never complained.

Margy Lyon, Drew and Betsy Ehrhardt descended upon their daughter, **Libby**, and family in Orlando for 6 days right before Halloween, so they were able to enjoy some of the festivities and the kids in their costumes.

In the middle of November, **Mary Helen and John Ray** headed east to see their son, **Kevin**, and his family before heading to Phoenix for Thanksgiving to spend the holiday with their son and daughter-in-law, **Michael and Samantha**. **Linda and Mike McKenzie** and the kids will also be in Phoenix over the Thanksgiving break.

Rat and Bill Renz enjoyed a few days in Toronto in early October. Their hotel was right across from the main train station into downtown Toronto, and from their window they observed the people pouring out of the station on their way to work. Don't know if Toronto is typical of the big cities in the US, but all those early morning commuters in Toronto wore black — not navy or gray — and certainly not any bright or even muted colors, just black. New trend?

They attended one of the many Toronto theatres and got to see "The Drowsy Chaperone," with the author starring as narrator. On their way up to Canada, they briefly stopped at Niagara Falls where they took the "Maid of the Mist" boat ride. Rat really wanted to do that, even though they thought it might be pretty hokey, but it turned out to really be fun, if a little damp! From Toronto they returned to Omena to enjoy all those fall colors.



Kathy Bosco with some Kenyan students.

Liz Schleef is recovering well from a broken pelvis and shoulder injury which she sustained when she fell while running errands in Traverse City earlier this fall. Because she couldn't walk while her pelvis was mending, Liz stayed in the new Tender Care facility in Suttons Bay for rehabilitation.

She and **Dan** are both happy to have her back at home. She is able to walk unassisted now, which is

great progress. She still has to see the orthopedic surgeon regularly, so their annual migration to Reno has been delayed until March.

Did you know that...

Joan Blount and **Judy Pohlod** sing in the Traverse City Symphony Chorale?

Kady Dick graduated a year early from her L.A. area high school and is planning a gap year of classes at a community college and a trip to Africa with her mother, **Laura Deibel**?

Trish Bosco and her niece, **Abigail Bosco** (**Mark and Amanda's** daughter) are running the half marathon in San Francisco in the middle of November? This will be Trish's second time to the San Francisco marathon.

Marsha Buehler had back surgery and is doing well?

Sixty Years of Traditions Continue at OYTC

Continued from Page 1

club, several social activities were tried to see how they were received. Potluck dinners, bingo and a Commodore's Ball have been continued to this day, with some changes to format. Our members overwhelmingly support potlucks and bingo currently. These events bring families together every summer.

The roots in OYTC remain strong from its beginnings. Of the 39 members listed in the 1948 Breeze, 15 have relatives as members currently in OYTC. Three of the 15 were part of the first board of directors.

In looking through the old Breezes, I realized how privileged my daughter Crystal is since she gets to experience the traditions first set up by her great-grandfather **Andrew Renz**, who sat on the first board of directors, and her great-grandmother, **Helen Smith**, who seemed instrumental in getting the social activities off the ground.

Crystal's experiences to this day are enriched by her grandparents, **Rat and Bill Renz**, and her father, **Bill Renz**, carrying on the traditions and sharing

their memories of their time in Omena and at the OYTC.

The memories one has accumulated growing up over the years in Omena are what bring one back. Having married a Renz, it became evident that the cottage is where the family memories are made, but many times it is the OYTC where the friendship memories come from.

The children and young adults are the keepers of the future of OYTC. This generation will sometime be old enough to enjoy extended stays in Omena, but may miss out on the sense of belonging and making OYTC their own, unless they are encouraged to join, even if it may not make logical sense to do so.

The kids that have grown up part of the OYTC family have the heart to keep it going. The new people to Omena and the OYTC are the spice. That spice contributes greatly to our club, whereas it is the abundance of heart from all ages that we need in our membership to sustain the club in the long term.

The traditions are deep, let's keep them going for many generations to come.

What goes on in Omena in the off season?

These pictures should give some idea. There were probably some good stories, but you will have to check in with one of the party-goers to get the scoop.

