

**The quiet and serene winter view of the building that has always been home to the Omena-Traverse Yacht Club. This summer marks 60 years.**

*Bill and I thought this report from the annual meeting of years ago gives great background on the formation of OTYC. It was 60 years ago this summer that it became officially OTYC. The notations in parentheses will hopefully help in making connections. Enjoy the history and appreciate that it continues only because of its members.*

**The Editor**

### **Annual Meeting-August 10, 1950**

In order that the entire membership of the Omena - Traverse Yacht Club, those who have joined recently, as well as those who were members at the beginning, may know what has been done and how accomplished, we submit the following brief summary: The Club was organized early in July 1948, through the initiative and tireless effort of **Gus Rogers**, assisted by a few interested helpers.

Articles of Incorporation were filed with the Michigan Corporation and Securities Commission August 9, 1948, and a Charter was issued in the name of the Omena-Traverse Yacht Club, Incorporated. At the time the Club was formed, a two year lease on

the Club's present property was secured from **Mr. H. M. Carmichael** at an annual rental of \$1.00. The lease carried an option to purchase the property any time within the period of the lease for the sum of \$2,000.00.

Revenue of the Club for 1948 amounted to \$745.82, derived from dues, initiation fees, proceeds from special benefit parties, Snack Bar, and some small contributions. For cleaning up the grounds, putting the building in usable condition, improving the road-ways, together with some minor repairs and improvements, we spent in 1948, \$441.99, leaving a balance of \$303.83. This was made possible largely by our member, **Frank Kalchik**, who gave generously of his time and use of equipment without charge.

Early in the vacation season of 1949, a campaign was started to raise funds for the purchase of this property. The result of the fund raising campaign was as follows: 14 members contributed \$100.00 each; 6 members, \$50.00 each; 4 members, \$25.00 each; 3 members, \$10.00 each; also, one \$15.00 and one \$5.00 subscription from non-members.

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**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  
Carolyn Renz

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**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 Edgely,  
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): \$850.00.

**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

March 7th, 2008

Greetings from Omena, where the deer are shivering, the bay is frozen, the roads are iced, the cars are dirty, the water is low and we have two colors- white to the horizon and grey above. All that however, won't last too much longer as the days lengthen and the sunshine begins to reappear. And, Marsha and I are anxious to see all of you back at the club where we have an exciting year planned.

As to our roster of volunteer stars- **Bill Knorp** will be returning as Program Chairman. Rich Connell is returning as Youth Director and will be invested with the complete management of the program along with **Karen Edgely**, the member director. **Charlotte Read** will act as Social Chairwoman and **John Mitchell** will return to handle the waterfront duties. **Bob and Jeanne Grabowski** have agreed to co-chair the Catered Dinners and the Bosco girls, **Tami and Trish** will co-chair the Potluck events. **Bruce Balas** returns as the groundsman and **Laura Deibel** and **Melissa Chenault** will be your hostesses at the Opening Dinner on June 28th. **Tish Renz** continues as Breeze editor and **Judy Pohlod** will manage the OTYC e-mail bulletin Board. With all that talent in front of me, I'll be on the beach, just overseeing things from afar while I catch a tan.

In every respect your club is in pretty good shape. We remain in good financial condition with major capital repairs behind us and good control of predictable operating expenses. Specific delegated duties- such as membership, insurance, accounting and so forth, are being very competently managed by volunteer members. Your board continues to carefully watch and "grow" the preservation fund, which is reserved specifically for protection and continuation of the club's hard assets. This will allow us to continue with a simple and ongoing philosophy of keeping dues affordable (that means "low") while reserving assessments only when absolutely necessary. We are challenged in one respect, this being the mere number of our members, which today stands about 10 memberships over our traditional number of 254. Your board will continue to focus on that challenge as continuation of OTYC spirit and ambiance for the people of Omena and Ingalls Bay is a primary goal. Where else can you find four generations of family under one roof? We need our Legacies to join and to serve under the newly announced program which is of great benefit to them. We will be surveying Legacies soon to discern where they want to take the club in the future.

This summer you will note the addition of some minor building improvements- flagstone at the walkways, and the porch deck will receive another coat of penetrating oil stain. We will also increase handicapped parking near the porch to three spaces. We ask that all members observe those marked and dedicated spaces for our seniors.

Some short reports from our volunteers appear in this issue and the very basic social calendar is inserted. This will be supplemented as you all return for the summer holiday. Until then, keep warm and keep thinking Omena/Ingalls.

*Tom*

## Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Members of the Omena Traverse Yacht Club, July 14, 2007.

The Annual Meeting of the Omena Traverse Yacht Club was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on July 14, 2007. **Commodore Knorp** chaired the meeting and **Tom Buehler** acted as Secretary. Minutes of the immediate prior Annual Meeting were approved and ordered filed. Committee reports were then given and filed.

**Treasurer- Mrs. Balas** reported on the outstanding stewardship of the Board in conservatively guarding club funds. Presently the club has about \$27,000 in cash or equivalents, which amount **Mrs. Balas** expects will increase to about \$31,000 by year's end. She was thanked by all for the continuing hard work.

**Breeze- The Turners** reported, in tandem, their efforts at production of the Breeze and membership directory for the year. **Cmdr. Knorp** thanked them for two years of excellent service and pointed out that they have elected to discontinue as publishers.

**Building- Jim Miller** reported of the condition of the building and the small projects undertaken in the last year to insure that condition. Some minor structural roof work will be undertaken in the fall, however, the physical structure remains in great shape. **Cmdr. Knorp** and the membership thanked **Mr. Miller** for the hard work.

**Grounds- Bruce Balas** reported on the continuing success of the early summer work parties and thanked all of those who assisted. **Mr. Balas** also commented upon the special aspect of continuing volunteerism at the OTYC, and its

importance as a prominent dimension of the club. The members agreed and congratulated **Mr. Balas** for the beautiful appearance of the grounds.

**Membership- Mrs. Disch** reported for **Kanda McKee** on the number of membership applications and departures during the prior year. OTYC now has 261 members of various types, a number consistent with the historical norm. She announced that the Board has previously approved 6 new memberships for 2007 (four of whom are legacies) and that any further applications this year will be deferred for consideration until 2008.

**Social- Melissa Chenault** reported on the vast array of activities already conducted and those to be held during the balance of the summer. She thanked all of the volunteers who assisted her during the year. **Cmdr. Knorp** thanked **Mrs. Chenault** for three years of good service and announced that we will be needing a volunteer to chair this committee in the near future.

**Waterfront- Tom Buehler** reported on the effort to repair failed concrete at the main pier and launch ramp, both of which were repaired this spring at a cost of \$1100. He also reported on repairs to the club boat, which is now functioning properly.

Finally, he reported that the Board is carefully watching the condition of the outer wooden "crib" as it ages to insure that any severe

deterioration will be dealt with.

**Youth Group- Cmdr. Knorp** reported on the great success, to date, of the youth program. In the first two weeks attendance has averaged 18 children.

**Cmdr. Knorp** is especially pleased with the quality of the leadership of the co-directors, whom, among other innovations have added a camper of the week award. He thanked **Marsha Buehler** for instituting the process of designed succession in the program by placing former campers into the positions of youth instructors as they get a little older. **Cmdr. Knorp** is considering adding a sixth week to the program.

**Nominating- Judy Pohlod** nominated **Bill Knorp**, **Tom Buehler** and **Barbara Harris** to act as directors of the club for the ensuing year and upon motion duly made and seconded, the members unanimously approved the resolution. In a related action **Mary Jo Brumbaugh** was also unanimously elected to act as a director for the ensuing year.

**Dues- Mrs. Balas** announced that the Board had determined that dues would not be increased for the ensuing year.

In closing, **Cmdr. Knorp** thanked departing member **Mrs. Disch** for her years of past service and the members gave her a standing ovation.

Thereupon, the meeting was adjourned.  
Secretary,  
Tom Buehler

**Continued from page 1**

At the annual meeting in 1949, **Mr. Carmichael** very generously reduced the purchase price \$100.00. With this reduction, and the funds secured by our campaign, together with a small amount from our general fund, the purchase of the property was consummated. A deed to the property was delivered at this meeting to your proper Officers.

Extended coverage insurance in the amount of \$7,500.00 is carried on your property. We are, also, protected with Liability Insurance.

At this same meeting, a lease for 5 years was secured from **Mr. Carmichael** on the two lots adjoining our property, at an annual rental of \$1.00. A portion of these two lots has been converted into a very necessary parking lot. Space is also available for a tennis court, which will be constructed in the near future. Materials and cost of construction of a tennis court have already been generously donated by **Mr. Fred Schaefer**.

Also during 1949, our new dock was constructed, and shore improvements made under the able supervision of member, **Paul Hill**, who also contributed a lot of manual labor to give us very creditable yachting facilities. Paul has also been tireless in his efforts in managing our racing events, which have been most successful and afforded great pleasure to the participants as well as to the spectators.

Expenditures during 1949, including the purchase of the property, amounted to \$3142.90, leaving a balance in the treasury of \$153.51.

We closed the 1949 season with a membership of 62.

At the first meeting of your directors in 1950, it was decided to proceed with the very necessary improvement of installing rest-rooms. These rest-rooms, as you know, are now completed. Your Board of Directors proceeded with this improvement largely on faith, that is faith in our members. We felt that the members, realizing the desirability of this improvement, would readily supply the funds necessary to cover the cost.

Our solicitors, to date, have contacted a limited number of members and report contributions amounting to \$340.00. All the bills for this improvement are not yet in, however, we know contributions thus far are considerably short of the total cost. Your directors, never-the-less, still have faith.

At this first meeting in 1950, a lease for two years was secured from **Mr. Carmichael** on his boat slip, at an annual rental of \$1.00. This added facility is available to members and guests alike.

The next major improvements we plan to make are the painting of the Club House building, and over-hauling the lighting system. We hope we can proceed with these necessary improvements at an early date. The renewed interest that is manifest these past weeks, both in yachting and social activities, convince us that in a very short time we shall have a Yacht Club and a Community Social Center of which we all can be justly proud.

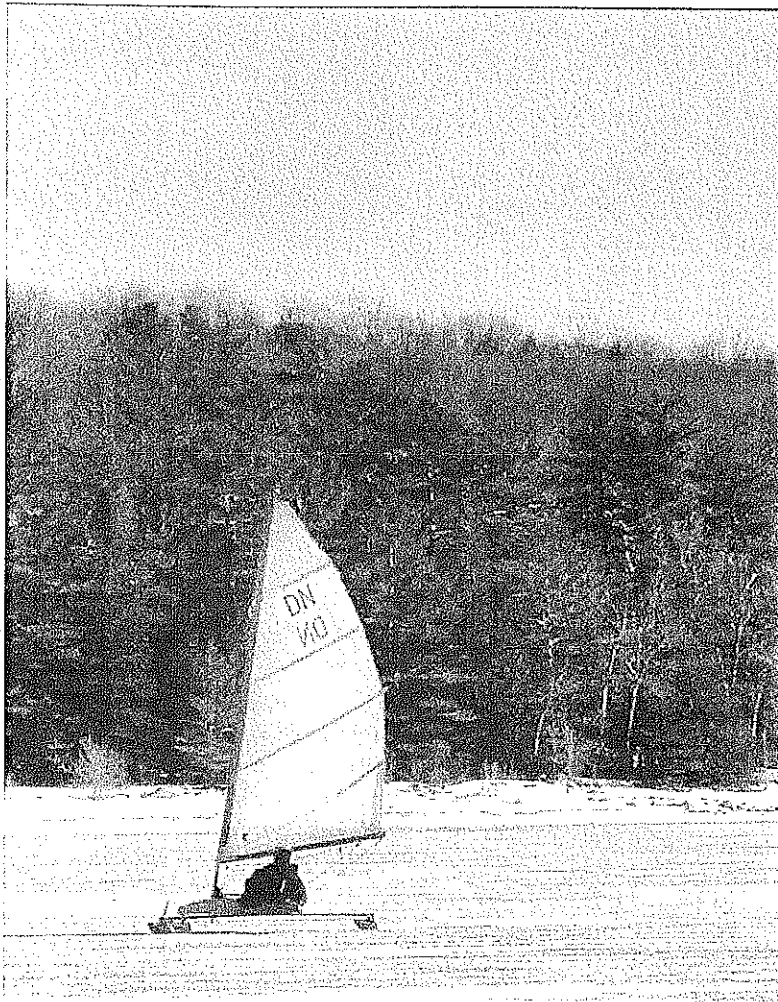
A report such as this would be incomplete if attention were not invited to the very special services rendered by some of our members.

**Mary Foltz**, for instance, has rendered so many different services it is impossible to enumerate them all. As Secretary of the Board, and Chairman of the House and Grounds Committee, she has given unstintingly of her time, skill and effort. She designed the rest-rooms, decorated the lounge, painted the Snack Bar, did carpentry work, supplied great quantities of material from her own stock, and paid for a lot of other things with her own funds.

Then there is **Mrs. George Smith (Carolyn Renz and Craig Smith's mother and Debby Disch's grandmother)**, Chairman of our Social Committee, who has given us many pleasant times here at the Club House. The proof of an able Chairman is the support and cooperation received from the membership; these Mrs. Smith has had in large measure, especially from **Mrs. Kitty Smith, Mrs. Lestra Saxton** (great grandmother of **Stuart Williams, Suzy Wheeler and Clark Saxton**), the **Newman Sisters, Mrs. Griffin**, and others. Mrs. Smith always has the Club House clean and in order for all social functions, and order restored after the party is over.

Again, there is **Carolyn Smith (Carolyn Renz) and Mary Helen Ayars (Mary Helen Ray)**. How could the Club function without these two efficient and willing workers? They are always ready to perform any service asked of them. They are our very dependable solicitors, ticket sellers and errand runners. To all who have contributed financially, with manual labor, with advice, or in any other way, your directors and members are deeply grateful.

Respectfully submitted, **David G. DeVore (Nancy Cooper's grandfather)** for the Board of Directors.



**Caryn DeVries flies across the frozen bay.**

## The Need for Speed

Okay, all you fair weather Omenians, those of us that stay behind and tough it out each winter want you to know what you're missing.

You think you're hot stuff cruising back to town with your winter tans and convertibles. You think we just act tough in the fall and then hunker down feeling miserable as we wait for spring and sunshine. *Au contraire, mes amis!*

We are a hardy group that actually enjoys the crisp mornings in late fall and the first snowfall of the season. We love a warm cup of coffee by the fireplace on a

winter's morn with several inches of freshly fallen snow on the ground. A good book, toasty warm in a blanket with easy conversation makes for a great start to the day.

You may be challenged finding the nearest Starbucks while we are enjoying a day of snowshoeing through Omena woods or following a deer trail on cross country skis.

You can fight for a parking space at the mall while we watch the deer cross our yard. So, am I convincing you that you are making a mistake every year?

Probably not.

The winter of 07/08 has been a little harsher than those in the recent past. The good news is the "system" snow we have received has more water content than the usual "lake effect" snow which is light, fluffy and melts quickly.

I've seen mixed reports from the Army Corps of Engineers that say the lake could be up by as much as a foot by mid-summer, which was confirmed on the front page of the Record Eagle. Because of our having so many days of sub-zero temperatures, the bay froze over in late February and it didn't take long for the ice fishermen to get out there. It started breaking up toward the end of March. I was surprised to learn that the ice thickness reached between ten and twelve inches thick!

A week before the ice breakup, our neighbors, Bob and Julie Krist, broke out their ice boat. Soon, it was zipping across the bay like a butterfly skidding across a mirror. This was my first ever experience with ice boating and it was exhilarating! One second you are barely moving and the next, your head is thrown back and you are flying. I have never sailed anything before by myself. Naturally, **Kathy** was worried that I was going to sail off the ice into the bay. I did give it some thought.

We were joined by Walter Gaudette, Dave Dickerson and his friend, Jill. **Caryn DeVries** looked like a pro out there.

See you next winter, if you are tough enough that is!

**Jim Miller**

# Gearing Up for Summer 2008: Committee Reports

## Waterfront Update

Dear Friends:

I look forward to my new position as waterfront chair of the venerable OTYC and welcome your suggestions as to how we might enhance your enjoyment of this special place.

The best news is that we have a nice new boat for the summer youth program, a whaler style 14 footer with a 40hp Evinrude motor. The cost was \$1400 including the trailer, and we will dedicate her at the opening dinner. If anyone is looking for something to putter around the bay in, I believe the old youth boat plus trailer can be had at a bargain.

The bad news is that due to the continuing drop in lake levels, our new flat bottomed boat is one of the few size and styles that will not go aground in our five slips. The outermost slip may be the exception, and with a creative repositioning of the dock cleats, we should be able to accommodate a good size boat here.

Four of the slips are currently available on a first come basis during July and August at \$200 for a two week stay. Contact me for details at <mailto:info@greatlakeshistory.com>

We have improved the boat launch area by adding new security posts and some concrete to retard erosion. The cost was about \$700. The lock combination remains the same -1990.

I am pleased to say I recently passed my Coast Guard deck officer examinations and I am now licensed to captain all vessels of up to 25 tons.

I could tell you that our new Commodore insisted on the license as a prerequisite for my new position with the OTYC, in fact, I began the lengthy process of certification over a year ago. Frankly, I'm not sure I would trust me behind the wheel of anything but my 17' Boston Whaler Montauk, which is fine with me - she can go almost anywhere the big boats can, and faster!

See you all soon.

**John Mitchell**

## Youth Program

**Karen Edgley,**

OTYC coordinator

We are very pleased to say that the Youth Program will be held this summer under the directorship of Rich Connell, following on a wonderful 2007 summer.

The dates will change slightly this year, to begin on July 7th and end on August 8th, because of the end of the week 4th of July holiday and the need for warmer water for younger children to enjoy themselves.

The program will still take place from 10am to 1pm, for 7 to 14 year olds, and focus on sailing and water activities, with tennis as an additional activity. We would still like to strongly encourage pre-registration and pre-payment, which will again give a discount to the weekly fee. Details of fees and payments will follow.

## Potlucks

**Trish Bosco and Tami Bosco** are the co-chairs for Potluck this summer. They are jumping in with both feet and already asking for hostesses. According to them, it is never too early to reserve your

spot as a coveted OTYC hostess! Potlucks will be scheduled on Wednesdays from July 9 to August 27. Please contact Tami to volunteer or ask questions at 608-442-7667 or by email [zbosco@Msn.com](mailto:zbosco@Msn.com).

## Nominating Committee Announces OTYC Slate

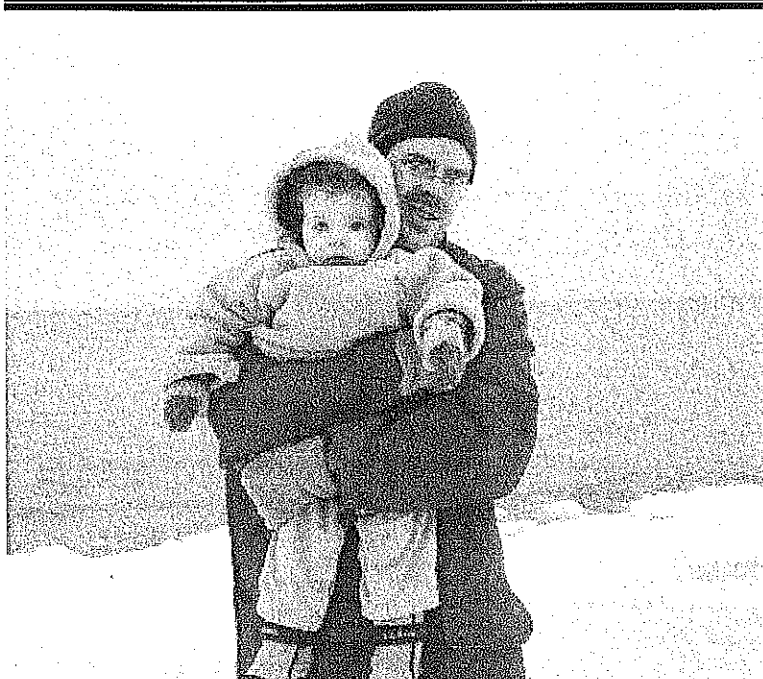
The Nominating Committee is pleased to announce its slate of candidates for election to the Board for 2008. **Tish Renz** and **Dave Pohlod**, both existing Board members have agreed to serve for a second term. We are very pleased to tell you that **Jeff Bosco** has also agreed to serve as a Director.

Accordingly, the Nominating Committee will submit the following resolution for adoption by members at the Annual Meeting:

Be it Resolved, that **Tish Renz**, **Dave Pohlod** and **Jeff Bosco** be and hereby are nominated to serve as Directors of the Omena Traverse Yacht Club, with three year terms commencing August 16, 2008.

The Board of Directors endorses and highly recommends the election of such persons as directors at the annual meeting. The purpose of the Nominating Committee is to seek, screen and recommend qualified candidates to serve the club as board members. All members are eligible to serve and those interested in qualifying should contact the committee chairwoman.

For the Committee, **Judy Pohlod**, Chairwoman, **Barb Harris** and **Joey Bensley**.



**Charlotte Read's son Nathan and granddaughter Nora enjoying the February snow.**

## Now is Time for Legacies To Join OTYC

In recent years, the concerns with the demographics of our membership have surfaced many times. It is true, our membership is aging. There are many challenges our younger generations face and one of them is time. Two parents are now working so there isn't the time for the families to come to Omena for extended stays. Many members have children in this situation but if you don't encourage them to become members, the draw to Omena will become weaker.

As each generation comes along, chances are they will know less and less people in Omena unless they become members of OTYC to help strengthen the ties.

This is an invitation to all OTYC members to think back on your years in Omena. Think of your memories, who is part of them, how you got to know them and where many memories took place. I think you will find OTYC streamed throughout. If you by chance are not around for a season, your family won't be able join the activities unless they are members of OTYC. Encourage your kids to join OTYC so they will continue to be drawn back and not just by a cottage but also by the people.

To address other issues, initiation fees are scheduled to increase each year. For the year 2008, the initiation fee has been held at the past level of \$600 for any Legacy that wants to join during this year and the fee can be paid over several years. Now is the time to join! Questions can be addressed to Kanda McKee, membership, [kmckee@fuse.net](mailto:kmckee@fuse.net).

### A note from the editor

Thank you so much to all who contributed to this Breeze with their news. It is your publication, thank you for helping carry on the tradition. A big thank you to **Debby Disch** for nudging some people along and giving us tidbits on others. Thank you, **Jim Miller**, for giving us a glimpse of winter in Omena for those of us experiencing it in different ways elsewhere.

## *Favorite Memories of Omena in 2007*

**Charlotte Read's** favorite memory from Omena this summer was starting the sailing lessons for adults. She wants to work on getting a sooner start next summer.

**Kate Mustaine's** (6) favorite memory from Omena this summer was swimming **everyday** and playing with her cousins.

**Mary Helen Ray's** favorite memory from Omena this summer was at the fun realization that one of the gentleman working on minor alterations of their Fire Lane 8 home is the son of Bill Livingston, the boat builder, who built in 1950 the first Penguin fleet at OTYC for Renz, Smith, Lyon(Ehrhardt), Ayars(Ray), Jackson, Gleason(Oberndorf), Pike and Barker.

**Tami Bosco's** favorite memories from Omena this summer were cousins, bingo and The Knot Just a Bar.

**Sam Mustaine's** (3) favorite memory from Omena this summer was petting a turtle and a frog, and playing with Monster (his cousin's dog).

**Tish Renz'** favorite memory from Omena this summer was a trip by their 20ft SeaRay to Harbor Springs to see friends and the return trip in 4ft. waves.

**Cathy Stephenson's** favorite memory was: "Saturday night of Labor Day weekend, following a delicious dinner of whitefish and trout with Nan, Ran and my Mom, heading

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## *Favorite Memories of Omena in 2007*

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down by boat to watch the fireworks in Suttons Bay. The night was clear and warm, the water smooth as glass and the afterglow of the sunset peach rose.

Only a few boats joined us so it seemed like a secret that only we knew. The fireworks above us were beautiful against the moonless night.

Upon our return to Ingalls Bay, somewhat complicated by no moon to show Newton's Point, we docked and upon stepping out of the boat, we saw a beautiful, huge orange moon arising through the woods and over the Point. Simply gorgeous and serene - the perfect end to a perfect evening!"

**John Ray's** favorite memory from Omena this summer was the enthusiasm with which **Emily and Jack McKenzie** tried "to do everything they'd done all last summer" within the first 24 hours upon arriving for a visit at the cottage.

**Bob and Karen Gelakoski's** favorite memory from Omena came after spending a wonderful summer with family and friends. They stayed into the fall this year and enjoyed seeing the array of beautiful fall colors.

**Libby Mustaine's** favorite memory from Omena this summer was spending some great time with her family.

**For sale** -The venerable Ed, former OTYC youth program boat. 16' glasstron, vintage unknown, but thought to be about 1965, with 30 horse Suzuki outboard. Needs glass and upholstery work, but would make an excellent fishing boat. Trailer included. \$600, but make us an offer. Call John Mitchell, Waterfront Chair.

**Sailing Lessons** - Rich Connell and John Varley are available for sailing lessons for groups, individuals, children or adults after camp hours. They will use either the Sunfish at OTYC, your private boat or Rich can teach using his Rhodes 19' sailboat moored on Northport Bay. Rich 561-376-5522.

**Looking for a handyman?** Rich Connell is looking for general handyman work, yard cleanup, trimming up shrubbery, etc., minor boat repairs/maintenance or other odd jobs. Just check with him at 561-376-5522.

### **Jazz Musician**

Did you know Rich has a background in music? He is looking for opportunities to play instrumental music on guitar (jazz standards, Bossa Novas and show tunes from the 1920's to the 1960's). If he will fit into your entertaining scenario, call Rich at 561-376-5522.

### **FAQ**

#### **What are the principal expense items at the OTYC ?**

\*There are four. The Youth program budget presently runs about 9,000 per year. Tuition receipts and a modest club subsidy cover that amount. Building and Grounds require about \$11,000 per year. Insurance runs approximately \$8,700 per year. Taxes run approximately \$7,500 per year. Building and grounds costs, insurance and taxes are paid from operating funds.

#### **Will Bingo and other programs be continued ?**

\*Absolutely. Bill Knorp is Program Chairman.

#### **Should we be dredging the slip area to make it usable ?**

\*The short answer is "no". The pier is supported by water and the sand/rock bottom. The marine dredging folks advise that with low water, removal of the supporting bottom material on the north (slip) side of the pier may cause it to tilt in that direction. So we'll just have to live with the low water.

#### **The yacht club does not permit members or other entities to borrow its tables and chairs. Why not ?**

\*Tables and chairs at the OTYC are in many states of repair; and some will need replacement or supplementing in the near future. Over the years we have experienced some damage and some shortages. Given that experience, the Board decided two years ago that loans/borrowing of OTYC assets would not be allowed.



## Member Tidbits

• **Suzy Saxton Wheeler** writes: In December, mom **Jane Saxton** and I went to Chicago for a visit with **Cathy Stephenson**. We got to see snow (unusual for us Texans), went to the opera and to see Jersey Boys. We also dined at a wonderful restaurant and all three of us had the whitefish to commemorate Omena. Cathy is certainly the hostess with the mostess and we all had a memorable visit!

My daughter **Betty** is a senior at Tulane University, on target to graduate in December, a semester early! **Crawford** is currently a junior in high school and has started the process of college visits. The University of Michigan has always been alluring to him, I guess because of his Omena summers. He's never been up there in January though! It's a busy time of year for my husband, **Otto**, a CPA. We are all looking forward to being in Omena in July.

• **Ron and Mary Tonneberger** returned from a break from the ice and snow. They visited the Yucatan peninsula in Mexico where they had dinner in Merida with **Dick and Nana Kennedy** and her brother and sister-in-law and then spent time in Playa del Carmen area where **Karen, Katherine and Tess Edgley** joined them. For Easter, they stopped in Miami Beach where their son, Scott, prepared a traditional dinner with international guests from Venezuela, Columbia and Germany.

• **Roger and Alex Edgley** spent spring break touring Ohio colleges.

• **John and Judy Smart** have enjoyed the beautiful winter in Omena with 137 inches of snow, but are glad daylight savings came early. Judy is excited to see the first evidence of spring with her crocus and hyacinths beginning to peek through. They both spent a week in Los Angeles in March visiting with their children. The Smarts went to a screening of their daughter Amy's new movie, "The Seventh Moon".

Amy had spent 2 months in the fall filming it in Hong Kong. She had a great time although most of the filming took place at night. Adam, their son, went and visited her in Hong Kong for 10 days during her filming. While still in Los Angeles, they found out that Amy was cast as the female lead in a one hour TV series pilot for CBS. It's called "The Meant to Be's" and she is filming the pilot in April. Adam has been working for CBS for 5 years, so they'll both have the same employer.

• **John and Elizabeth Ettinger** have recently adopted a dog from a local shelter and love to take her, and their daughters, to Pt. Isabel Park along the beach to run free. **Sylvia**, their five year old daughter, is enjoying her last year of preschool and will start kindergarten this fall. She is passionate about reading and ballet and wants to be a ballet teacher when she grows up. **Frankie**, their four year old daughter, is quite an artist and is very devoted to their new dog. She says that when she grows up she will be an adoption counselor or a veterinarian. Frankie had a rough start to the year with obstructive sleep apnea that became pretty serious very quickly. She had her tonsils and adenoids removed a couple of weeks ago and is gradually getting back on her feet. Thanks to two devoted grandmas, **Marion Jones** and Jean Ettinger, they are surviving. Elizabeth has recently started working full time after staying home for five years. She is working as an Activities Director for an assisted living facility in San Leandro and is finding the work to be both challenging and very rewarding. John continues to enjoy working as the shipping manager for Ifshin Violins and will be releasing another CD later this year. They are looking forward to returning to Omena for a week in August.

• **Charlotte Read** reports: I've been on the "go" this winter - Christmas in California, followed by a week in Omena (7 days of lost luggage), down hill skiing with old friends in Maine, and another week of cross

country skiing in Omena in February. The February visit included son, Nathan, his wife, Sarah, and 18 month old granddaughter, Nora. We all loved watching Nora experience her first snowman, sled ride, and cross country skiing trek through Omena Woods. I wrapped up my February week by locking myself out on the second story deck. Ask me about my stellar performance in the new sport of deck jumping, with an assist by Rose Hollander.

It IS a small world. On my trip back to Virginia, I bumped into **Cathy Stephenson** at O'Hare, and we were able to share some quick coffee time.

I have become a Trustee of the Historical Society for Early American Decoration, and so will spend a week in early May in Sturbridge, MA, followed by an art workshop in Vermont. Then to Omena mid-May.

PS I've accepted the job of Social Chair for OTYC.....so be ready to help me out. See you soon!

• On March 1st, the **Husteds, Rays, Martineaus**, and Janet O'Neil were with **Delcie White** at a Marco Island, FL, memorial service for **Glenn White**. All will miss him very much! There will be a "northern" memorial service in the spring/summer timeframe. Please keep Delcie in your thoughts and prayers.

• **Lynn Spitznagel and Ron Sutton** are getting married June 14th in Ann Arbor. Ron just bought a new house in Pinckney, about 30 minutes north of Ann Arbor, and both are thrilled at the chance to start their new life together in a fresh new place. Of course the down side is they will now own 4 houses! The market is terrible in Michigan, but they are hoping for the best, realizing it might be awhile before they can sell both homes. The cottage in Omena is undergoing a face lift with two extra bedrooms, two extra bathrooms and an enclosed porch where once was a screened in porch. They anticipate it will be ready when they arrive up north after the wedding. It has been an exciting winter with all the planning and they are looking forward to some down time in Omena come July!

• **Les and Debby Disch** took the train out to Seattle in April. They took the train from Grand Rapids to Chicago, spent a day in Chicago, then boarded the train for the two day trip. They got a sleeper car - a "roomette", which is the small one, but a great way to travel. While in Washington, they spent a week on the Olympic Peninsula and then some time in Seattle. They also got to see cousin, **Cynthia Dotzauer**, and their nephews, Hunter and Andrew Powell.

**Editor's note:** The next time you read a Leelanau Enterprise, look at the Omena column, you may find yourself mentioned since **Les Disch** is the new Omena correspondent.

• **Melissa Chenault** has been busy this winter in Dallas with activities of her women's club, making sure she sees all the good movies being made and eating at all the great restaurants in Dallas, playing Mah Jongg every week, and volunteering with getting birthday gifts to all the children in foster care at Buckners Children's home.

She is also running between Dallas and Austin helping **Sarah**, her daughter, get settled in her apartment in Austin. Sarah loves living in Austin. She is substitute teaching, working at the Mexican American Cultural Center where she recently taught a metal works class. She is salsa dancing, and also dancing with a production company performing at different events. The middle of July, Sarah will be in Omena for a good friend's wedding.

• **Admiral Joan Brovins and Captain Tom Oehmke** sailed their 36' catamaran *Sargassum* north from Tom's home in Key Largo, 100 miles up the Atlantic seaboard. They anchored two nights in Biscayne Bay (at Elliott Key and near the Miami skyline). Another night, they docked along the New River after motoring past the quaint shops of downtown Ft. Lauderdale. Then they ventured north to Palm Beach to "guest" with friends from Charlevoix. They took a

dog leg sidetrip to the track to cheer the greyhounds who dutifully chased *Rusty the Rabbit* 'round and 'round, before they (not Rusty) headed back south to the Keys.

Practicing law on either end of I-75 is quite a stretch. So while the thought of dress attire south of the 25th parallel was a bit daunting, on their return, Tom donned a pinstripe suit, white shirt and tie to compliment his appearance as an expert witness in commercial arbitration during a two day hearing in Miami-Dade Circuit Court. (Joan says she prefers Tom's swimming suit over his "lawsuit.") Note to Michigan attorneys: to earn the hourly rate of a Miami lawyer is akin to uncovering the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. Now back to celebrating St. Patrick's Week.

• **Judy and Bruce Balas** enjoyed an Up North winter this year. Having purchased a 107 year old farm house in downtown Suttons Bay last summer, Judy, the architect on the project, needed to supervise the addition and renovation and remain on site through the rough-in inspections. The building will house a 2nd floor apartment and "Martha's Leelanau Table," a cafe owned by long-time Leland caterer and Stone House Bread Cafe chef/manager, Martha Ryan. As you may recall, Martha was one of our caterers last summer for the OTYC Catered Dinner. The Cafe will serve breakfast and lunch daily with a Sunday Night Supper - a meal much like our Catered Dinners. Susan McConnell, the Swiss trained pastry chef who provided Hattie's with their desserts for a number of years, will bake pies, tarts and other yummy things for the cafe every morning. Opening is scheduled for Memorial Day weekend. This winter the Balases also got to enjoy their granddaughters, Isabella and Alex, who moved here from Australia last summer with their mother Allison Balas. Since coming out of retirement for this project, Judy has enjoyed being back to work so much that she formed a partnership with architect David Hanawalt of Suttons Bay. Judy and Bruce finally headed to their

home in Sanibel, FL in March for a break from a snowy and very cold winter.

• **Dave and Judy Pohlod** enjoyed a beautiful two week getaway in Puerto Vallarta in February. While there they had dinner with **Ron and Mary Tonneberger** one night and **John and Judy Smart** on another night, the day after Judy's special birthday! **Joan Blount** and Judy Pohlod sang in the Traverse Symphony chorus in a magnificent performance of Handel's Messiah.

• The new State Theater in Traverse City was doing live telecasts of the Metropolitan Opera on selected weekends throughout the winter. Several of the Omena winterites enjoyed the beautiful performances without all the travel hassle in getting to New York. Just ask the **Bensleys, Blounts, Deibels, Pohlods, Buehlers and Grabowskis** about their experiences.

• **Tish, Bill and Crystal Renz** have been on the go. In January, they took advantage of the now defunct Skybus low fares and went to Kansas City where they did some sightseeing and visited with **Peggy, Jon and Claire Elscott**. Crystal and Claire continued where they left off last summer and had a great time. For spring break this year, Tish and Bill took Crystal to visit Tish's aunt in Hawaii. Tish's parents had been there for 5 weeks and Tish's younger sister's family also came for spring break. They spent two nights on the big island of Hawaii and the rest of the time in Oahu with her aunt. They saw the highlights in what seemed like a short amount of time. A wonderful time was had by all.

• **Dennis Turner** is officially retiring in May, but will continue to teach part-time "for as long as it's fun". In celebration, Dennis and **Kathy** are traveling to Europe in May for 3 weeks. The first week will be on their own in Paris, Strasbourg, and a visit to their grandsons' other grandmother near Frankfurt. For the next two weeks, they will be part of a

Rick Steves tour of Berlin, Prague, and Vienna. The tour allows a maximum of one 22 inch bag per person, a true packing challenge!

- In February, a number of OTYC members headed to Mexico. **Dave and Judy Pohlod** got together with **Ron and Mary Tonneberger** the first week they were in Puerto Vallarta and **John and Judy Smart** the second week. **Dale and Joan Blount** were in Puerto Vallarta around the same time. The Smarts celebrated a special birthday for Judy in grand fashion, including flowers, spa and dinner compliments of their children. The Tonnebergers spent a second week in Acapulco, where the weather was even 10 degrees warmer. At the end of February, **Stu and Suzie Mulligan** spent three weeks in Mexico. They spent the first two weeks in Guadalajara and the last week with friends in San Miguel de Allende. In March, **Dick and Nana Kennedy** were in the Yucatan Peninsula for 10 days with her brother and sister-in-law. They saw the Mayan ruins and the flamingoes, and had a wonderful time.

- **Mary Smith** adjusted quickly to her to move to the Toy House Retirement home on Setterbo Road. The remodeled farm house is home to just six residents. Owners Bob and Fran Jelinek go out of their way to ensure that Toy House really feels like home. Mary's room looks out on an orchard, so that has been a familiar scene. The Toy House has three separate sitting room areas, so that guests can visit privately with the person they are seeing.

Mary has kept busy attending many of her activities – Omena Womens Club, Questers, Share Care Annual meeting, and NCAC performances. Every week, a pianist comes to play for the residents, and twice a week, everyone participates in Body Recall, an exercise program.

Mary really encourages anyone who is considering it to make a move like she has.

- **Kanda and Harold McKee** participated in and completed the

10K walk in the Cincinnati Heart Marathon. Kanda hadn't completed that distance since she broke her leg last spring.

- **Annette and Gil Deibel's** granddaughter, Meagan Muladore, spent three months in San Jose, Costa Rica studying Intensive Spanish. Meagan is a sophomore at Saginaw Valley State University. She stayed with a wonderful family who hosted several students. Meagan kept friends and family up to date with a fascinating email account of her adventures there.

- **Laura Deibel** and her daughter **Kady** went on a 12-day photo safari in Kenya in March. They had an incredible time in the game parks there, and saw an abundance of wild animals - some quite close up.

- **Cathy Stephenson** writes: My trip to Asia last fall was fabulous. Visited Hong Kong, Angkor Wat in Cambodia and Bangkok. Loved sponging up the culture, the history, the people - and just everything since it was all so different. Makes me thirsty for more. Also spent a wonderful, relaxing week in Aruba in February, bumping into **Charlotte Read** in O'Hare on the way. Seeing a friendly face in the airport was a great start to the vacation. I have a Marriott time share which is fabulous, and my Mom came too. The temperature is around 80 degrees. The sand is soft, the water warm, the trade winds strong, and the rum plentiful. Snuba'd over a shipwreck which was a treat! What more could you want for a vacation south? To be back there, since it is still snowing in Chicago on March 27th. Aaaargh! I'm counting down the days til Memorial Day weekend when I'll be up north opening up my cottage.

Cathy also shared some family news. There's been so much snow in Vermont this winter that Reggie (Ellie's dog) just climbs up the snow to the top of the fence and leaps into the woods and off he goes. But when he comes home, he does the same in reverse on the other side of the fence

to get to the back door! Mother (**Ellie**) plays bridge, takes a strength training class and volunteers with several organizations. Janet, her sister, is enjoying her new career as an RN in the neurology wing at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center. She says every patient is interesting. She's really enjoyed being in New England and close enough to go visit her daughters, Sydney in Boston and Madeline in Amherst, MA.

- **Madison Duff** is playing tennis for his school, St. Johns Country Day, and **Helen Bradley** is busy refereeing college tennis. They will be traveling to Greece and Rome in June on a Harvard-sponsored archeological trip but will be back in time to come to Omena in July.

- **Tom Maher** relays: Aside from putting a new deck on **Helen's** home here in Cartersville last fall and Helen having just recovered from the flu after 4 weeks, we've been fairly quiet this winter.

However, we are traveling to Charleston, SC the first week of May to attend Helen's granddaughter, Danielle Neri's graduation from the College of Charleston where she distinguished herself by being chosen All American on the women's college sailing team in her junior year - an almost unheard of honor. We will be met there by Dani's parents, Karen and Dan Neri of Gardnerville, NV and Newport, RI. Also attending the graduation will be Helen's son, Matt Gregory of Chattanooga, TN and Dani's brother, Matt Neri of Newport, RI. Helen's son-in-law, Dan Neri is Vice President of North Sails, maker of sails for the America's Cup and clients around the world.

Secondly, we will be attending the 60th reunion of Swarthmore High School in Swarthmore, PA during the first week of June. Helen and I are both members of the class of 1948. We then rush home to pack for Omena so that we can oversee the re-siding of the "Pioneer" whose siding has suffered weathering over the past century. We will be met there by Matt Gregory and

### Member Tidbits Continued

Karen Neri. Matt will have participated in the Port Huron to Mackinac sail competition. Matt is on the Board of Governors of the Atlanta Yacht Club. (I married into a family of wine sipping, beer guzzling sailors.)

• **Jack Frohman** celebrated his 60th anniversary as a representative with Northwestern Mutual Life in January. His son, Bob, has been associated with the company for 22 years.

• **Rat and Bill Renz** spent three weeks in Florida where Rat thoroughly enjoyed soaking up all

that sunshine. On Sanibel Island, they spent an afternoon at "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge along with the **Gelakoskis** and the **Rays**. The three couples took a guided tram ride on Wildlife Drive, where they spotted lots of unusual birds, including a large flock of white pelicans. Other activities while on Sanibel included an all day trip by boat to Boca Grande where they explored the island in a golf cart.

To avoid some terrible storms on their drive home, Rat and Bill stayed in Georgia an extra day and took that opportunity to visit Plains, Georgia. They plan a trip to Seattle in June for

granddaughter, **AJ's**, high school graduation and current plans call for going by train instead of plane, after which they will be at Omena.

• **Bill and Judy Knorp** are thrilled to report that the call their daughter got on April Fool's day was not a joke. Their daughter and son-in-law, Becky and John Van Gundy had been working with the Catholic Social Services Agency in Phoenix to adopt a baby. They received the call on April 1st telling them they had a baby boy to be picked up the next day at 9 a.m. Born March 9, 2008, Hunter Logan Van Gundy will be visiting Omena in August with his parents.

## OTYC Loses Two Members

### Marilyn Flett 1930 - 2008

Marilyn Flett was born and raised in Cincinnati. She was a graduate of Wheelock College in Boston and taught elementary school for many years, during which she was named Teacher of the Year. Marilyn and her family were instrumental in getting our Yacht Club off the ground in the club's formative years.

She was one of the original teens who went around drumming up interest in forming a yacht club, then spent many afternoons scrubbing and painting at the clubhouse. Marilyn found the ship's wheel that her father, Ray Flett, later electrified and made into a light fixture. Today it still hangs in the center of the yacht club. Our club will long remember the many contributions the Flett family made.

### Glenn W. White 1933-2008

We were all saddened by the news of Glenn's death February 26th on Marco Island, FL after a valiant year and a half fight with esophageal cancer. Glenn is survived by his wife, Delcie Dixon White. Also surviving are his son, Duncan (Kelley) White of Denver, CO; daughter, Andrea (Greg) Hosbein of Chicago; stepchildren, Barbara (Thomas Swartzlander) La Belle of Virginia Beach, VA; Brian Knop of McCloud, CA; and Kelli (Matthew) Fitzgerald of Wellsley, MA; and 8 grandchildren.

A memorial service was held on Marco Island March 1st with family members, Florida friends and some Omena friends in attendance. Another service will be held in Omena in early summer. Memorial contributions may be directed to the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 22718, Oklahoma City, OK 73123 or Avow Hospice, 1095 Whippoorwill Lane, Naples, FL 34105.

Glenn was born in Rochester, Minnesota in 1933, served in the U.S. Navy, and earned his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Minnesota. He was a tax attorney for Dow Worldwide for many years, living and traveling all over the world. His last years before retiring were spent in Midland, Michigan. He and Delcie retired to Omena in 1990.

Glenn was an avid fisherman and enjoyed joining with old friends every summer in Canada for an annual fishing retreat. He was also an outstanding swimmer, swam in high school and college, then became active in retirement with the Masters Swimming Organization, training vigorously both in Traverse City and Marco Island. He won many awards and medals for events at the state and national level.

Even after going through devastating cancer treatments, he returned to his swimming regimen last summer, once again preparing for competition. A fond memory many of us here in Omena have is seeing Glenn each afternoon striding down Omena Point Road, rain or shine, with their black lab, Tucker. Along with swimming and fishing, Glenn also had a passion for history, books, writing, football, boxing, classical music and theater. There was always good conversation when Glenn was around! We are going to miss Glenn's big smile, hearty laugh and exuberant hugs. Thanks for the great memories, Glenn!