

THE ONARGOSY

Volume 23 – Issue 1 – No. 81 – Spring 2020

Greetings Alumni and Association Members,

Welcome 2020! A Presidential Election year, a National Emergency declared, an economy verging on a recession, and a presidential succession in our Association. Will we ever forgive Bob Gillfillan for abandoning his position and appointing me to fill his shoes! Probably never, but we'll all persevere and continue to honor the OMS heritage, memories and traditions. By the way, many kudos and thanks to Bob for his steady leadership in sustaining our Association and supporting Onarga Academy's mission and goals. He did leave a big footprint to fill, and with your help, I hope to continue to sustain his executive legacy, (at least, until I find another unsuspecting candidate to take over). Seriously, enough bantering, and let's get on to more important business.

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

I hope everyone is taking to heart the national, state and local precautions and provisions to fight the Coronavirus (COVID-19) threat, so we can mitigate and eliminate its dangers, especially to us Senior citizens. I'm sure we can all agree, we are the main target group that is most susceptible, so let's be extra cautious over the next months, practicing simple cleansing habits, maintaining physical separations, making smart health decisions, and praying that an effective vaccine is soon developed.

So, how does this health emergency affect this year's annual OMS Alumni Association Reunion event? Many prognosticators predict this health pandemic to run at least through August, or maybe longer. Let's hold off making a decision now until the next Onargosy issue; and then, determine whether to hold, postpone or cancel the event. Certainly, your views and opinions are welcome anytime. Send your feedback to me at mkhayden06@comcast.net

Onarga Military School Alumni Association

Association Leadership Team – Filling the Void

Please welcome aboard our new Association Vice President, Robert (Rob) Sheridan, OMS '67. Rob volunteered to accept the appointment to fill this position. This move looks suspiciously like the Class of '67 is taking over the top reins, but trust me, this is not a coup!

When we hold our next annual Association meeting, per our Association By-Laws, persons appointed to office are to be elected by the members in attendance. An Officer's term of office shall be three years unless changed by a vote of the membership. For members who desire to serve in these or any executive position, please submit by email or snail mail letter, your name and the specific position to our Secretary, John Friebe (johnfsc74@aol.com) to arrive not later than 15 September 2020.

Memorial Proposal

In January, interest in visually recognizing individual alumni on the campus was expressed. We received a request to memorialize individuals by engraving their names on the existing Honor Wall bricks. This was respectfully denied, as it was previously decided by the membership that the Wall is dedicated to the whole OMS Cadet Corps.

Other current memorials on campus are the "OMS Hall" plaque that is dedicated to the Cadets, Faculty & Staff of OMS. A plaque is also in place at the base of the Flag Pole, which is dedicated to Col L. M. Bittinger & Col L. E. Adams, Superintendents of Cadets. Lastly, we have a 'walk' to three relocated campus benches; the fourth bench is to relocate with them sometime in the future.

Further initiatives must gain Onarga Academy's agreement and support. I brainstormed some ideas with Mike Tilstra, our OA Liaison, that included the relocation of the OMS Trophy cases, now in a gymnasium hallway, to the renovated Auditorium conference room. The case will display previous team and individual honors, and allow for Memorial Plaques.

We also considered offering for individual purchase engraved brass plates to sponsor Auditorium seats, and/or engraved walkway bricks to honor an alumni, classmate, patron, family member or special memory.

The bricks would form or align a new walkway from the East Seminary Street sidewalk to the existing memorial bench area to allow easy public access. The price for each brass plate or brick would cover a determined donation amount to Onarga Academy and plus the cost for the item, engraving, and installation. Mike indicated, as Onarga's Mayor, that he created a similar memorial brick

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project for the town, and he would assist us in establishing a similar program. For reference, existing Memorial Brick Programs cost from \$200 to \$300 per brick with three lines of 20 characters each.

I request the Membership comment on their interest in establishing and participating in this memorial program, if offered. A tally of responses will be presented to our Board Members for consideration and further action.

Please submit your support for your preferred program (plate or brick) in an email (mkhayden06@comcast.net) to me by 30 May 2020.

Admin Note:

Our Secretary/Treasurer, John Friebel, has adjusted his contact info. His home phone number: [210] 681-7728 is no longer active; please use his mobile number: [210] 550-1703. His e-mail address remains the same.

TAPS

I regret to inform the membership of the passing of our fellow alumni and classmates.

Name	Year	DOD	Place
Martin Elmo Anding	'64	May 14, 2018	Encinitas, CA
Ralph Anderson Bennitt	'40	March 1, 1996	Augusta, GA
John Andrew Clancy, Jr.	'41	January 18, 1982	Glenview, IL
James F. Frenzel	'51	January 6, 2020	New York, NY
Charles F. Holtzman	'43	November 14, 2019	Ottawa, IL
Herman S. McGregor Jr.	FAC	July 13, 2019	Evansville, IN
David Charles Owen	'47	March 13, 2018	Torrance, CA
Joseph C. Palazzolo	'54	January 7, 2020	Oak Lawn, IL
Conrad Allan Petzel	'62	November 10, 2013	St Louis Park, MN
Jesse Beaver Schreiter	'28	December 24, 1974	Washington, DC
Takis Leander Vourvoulis	'47	April 2, 2016	Belmont, CA

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Happy Birthday . . .

To all the alumni listed below - *HAPPY BIRTHDAY* - if by chance your Birthday is in one of these three months and it is not listed - it could be that we do not have it on record - please send your birth date to the Secretary so that we can complete our records.

APRIL

2 Cary McCarville
3 Carl Kohlhoff
4 Charles Vega
5 Gene Barrick
5 Phillip Dikeman
8 Robert Nilsen
12 David Westfall
14 John Sellers
14 Eugene Shives
15 Wray Fazio
15 Andrew Novak
15 Glen Sylvestor
16 Don Batson
18 John Zarndt
19 John Adams
20 Edward Bourk
23 Chico Hernandez
25 Jay Johnson
28 John Egan
28 William Fesselmeier
30 Carlos Suicharetz

MAY

2 Ben Schramski
3 Greg Jennings
7 David Allers
7 Donald Boeing
7 Jack Snoddy
9 John Cripliver
10 Lynn Long
13 Wallace Patterson
13 Robert Sklar
21 John Huss
23 George Friebe
24 Victor Whitney
25 Dale Atkinson
29 Jerry Greco

JUNE

2 Bruce Campbell
4 Jack Brewton
4 Mark Hayden
10 Kenneth Baierle
10 Thomas Christos
10 Andrew Puro
13 Alan Sklad
19 Larry Stamberger
21 William Hudson
22 David Goldfein
22 Gervase Stockmann
24 Matthew Johnston
24 Richard Stern
25 Mike Striebel
26 Charles Hoyer

Onarga Military School Alumni Association

The Onargosy is published on a quarterly basis for and about the happenings of the OMS Alumni Association. The Onargosy will contain both official and unofficial information. Officers of the OMS Alumni Association are -

President	Mark Hayden	'67
Vice President	Robert Sheridan	'67
Secretary	John Friebel	'57
Treasurer	John Friebel	'57
Director	Steven Denney	'57
Director	Tom Leasure	'66
Director	John Egan	'68



**ONARGA
MILITARY
SCHOOL**

CORPORATE NAME, GRAND PRAIRIE SEMINARY

**Alumni
Association**

c/o Mark K Hayden
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED