

Onarga Military School Alumni Association

THE ONARGOSY

Volume 24 – Issue 2 - No. 86 – Summer 2021

2021 Alumni Reunion

Mark your calendars, submit your reservation form and payment, and reserve your lodging for this year's Reunion. Details follow:

Saturday, October 9, 2021, is the date for our annual OMS Reunion get-together and banquet. This is the 50th anniversary for those who graduated in 1971, the 55th for those who graduated in 1966, and the 60th for those who graduated in 1961.

BANQUET Details:

We plan to have our banquet at *The Gilman Door*, a new restaurant occupying the old RED DOOR Grill and Lounge building across from the Gilman Super 8 Motel. According to "Our Inside Man From Gilman," the new owner is currently renovating the building, and intends to have her restaurant open and operating in time before our reunion. A cocktail hour, cash bar, will begin at 5:30 to 6:00 PM followed by dinner at 7:00 PM. The dinner will be \$25.00 per person. Complete and send your Reservation Form along with your check, made payable to *OMS Alumni Association*, to John Friebe! at the address listed on the form Not Later Than Thursday, September 30, 2021. *This date is the last day to make reservations.* The reservation form is at the end of this edition.

LODGING Details:

A block of rooms at the Gilman Super 8 Motel is reserved for Friday, October 8 through Sunday, October 10. The rates for our OMS Group is \$69.00 for a single Queen bedroom; \$79.00 for a double Queen bedroom. The reservation telephone number for the Super 8 Motel is [815-265-7000](tel:815-265-7000); be sure to mention that you are with the "Onarga Military School Reservation Group."

SATURDAY MORNING BREAKFAST OPPORTUNITY (PENDING):

Traditionally, the Onarga Lions Club hosts a pancake breakfast in the dining room of the Onarga Academy. OA has yet to decide to host this event, but if it is held, all Reunion attendees are invited to participate. We'll keep you posted.

BUSINESS MEETING:

Our annual business meeting will be held in the Auditorium at 2:00 PM on October 9, 2021. Members should send agenda item(s) for discussion by email/snail mail to Mark Hayden not later than September 30, 2021.

Onarga Military School Alumni Association

REMINISCING/TALL-TALE TELLING:

Pictures and other memorabilia will be on display in our Alumni Room in the Auditorium basement. The Onarga Historical Society may also be open to visitors for an historic glimpse of Onarga's past, as well as some OMS memorabilia.

Memorial Proposal - *Status*

Progress Report: we are still attempting to identify a Brick source, engraving Vendor and settle on the walk design. We hope to have a definitive plan to present at the October Reunion.

In review, this program allows alumni, former cadets and family members & former faculty to permanently recognize on the campus an individual or group of classmates, patron, family member or special event remembrance.

The memorial brick concept is to form or align a new easy public access walkway from the East Seminary Street sidewalk to the existing memorial bench area. The price for each brick would cover a pre-determined tax-deductible donation amount for Onarga Academy plus the cost of the brick, the engraving, and installation. For reference, existing Memorial Brick Programs cost from \$200 to \$300 per brick for three lines of 20 characters each.









Onarga Academy

A hearty Congratulations to **Mike Tilstra**, Administrative Services Director at Nexus-Onarga, who retired May 31st after 30 years of dedicated and compassionate service with Onarga Academy.

Onarga Military School Alumni Association

50th Graduation Anniversary

The Senior Class of 1971 recognizes their 50th year since graduation. **Congratulations and Cheers!**

	Charles Fielden Bowles Mar 3, 1953 -- Feb. 2, 1994		Robert Edward Branam Oct. 17, 1952 -- Apr 6, 2010
	Blaire Hope Dillon Nov. 1, 1954 -- OMSAA		Timothy Edward Drapak Sep. 17, 1953 -- Oct. 11, 2014
	Jay Wickman Johnson Apr 25, 1953 -- OMSAA		Eugene G. Mryszuk Nov. 2, 1952 -- Deceased
	Mark Edward Sheridan Nov. 8, 1952 -- Searching		Samuel Richard Smith Jul. 15, 1953 -- Searching
No Picture Available	Glen J. Burton Dec. 22, 1952 -- Nov. 6, 2003	No Picture Available	John Phillip Gotwalt Jul. 21, 1952 -- Nov. 12, 2015
No Picture Available	Howard W. Starks OMSAA		

Class of 1971

Onarga Military School Alumni Association

Happy Birthday . . .

To all the alumni listed below – *HAPPY BIRTHDAY* – if by chance your Birthday is in one of these three month, then your birthdate is not on file – please send your birthdate to the Secretary to complete our directory listing.

JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
2 Ross Braatsch	1 Darrell Davis	1 Wes Marshall
3 Jim Mager	2 Jack Donohue	4 Ted Schmidt
4 Charles Knell	2 Robert VanBrussell	5 Harry Carlson
7 Casimir Kowalski	6 Jose Valadez	8 Richard Earp
7 Kent Montavon	11 John Hays	18 John Guisto
8 Walter Heck	11 Eugene Valenta	19 Kerry Adams
12 Douglas Hummel	15 Raymond Kasperski	19 Edward Chandler
12 Patric Irgens	15 Jan Nelson	19 Andre Holtzman
14 Del Angelo	23 Albert Liska	21 Stu Marty
14 Ronald Westergren	24 Michael Erickson	22 Charles Stewart
21 William McCracken	24 Max Newman	24 Robert Flannery
19 James Dickerson	27 Keith Sheffield	26 Michael DeShon
22 Joseph Milos		27 Towner Clark
22 Allan Zitella		28 George Gannon
23 Lawrence White		28 Ivan Pivaroff
25 Keith Torgerson		28 Roy Wiley
26 Michael Adams		
26 Robert Gillfillan		
31 Steven Dunbar		

Onarga Military School Alumni Association

Many academicians, professional athletes and entertainers have forgotten what it means to honor our National Flag and Anthem. Here's one patriotic expression on why she renders honors.

"Why I Stand"

by Meredith Looney LaMirande

I don't do it out of obligation,

I don't do it because I'm told.

I don't do it because I was trained,

I don't do it to be bold.

I stand for our National Anthem because I'm forever grateful to be free.

I stand for the Anthem to respect, those before me.

The broad stripes and bright stars are symbols of freedom which is rare.

The type of freedom that was won, while bombs burst in the air.

I stand for bravery dating back, to the Revolutionary War.

Battling the greatest army, not knowing what was in store.

I stand for the heroes who stormed Normandy, that fatal day.

Accepting that the ultimate sacrifice might be the price to pay.

I stand for our twin towers, as a tribute that we have not forgotten.

I salute our military for ending, our fear that was Bin Laden.

Our children are born, with rights and freedoms at birth.

How blessed are we to live, in the greatest nation on Earth.

Where democracy is our foundation, and there is opportunity for all.

A country free from oppression, our Lady Liberty stands tall.

Onarga Military School Alumni Association

Association Website

The Association's online presence is found by clicking on OnargaMilitarySchool.com. Members may submit appropriate stories, photos or class information to post. Please email or snail mail your item(s) to the President or Secretary to review for posting by our Webmaster.

The Secretary requests all Alumni members, former cadets, and former faculty who may have recently moved to a new residence to update their new contact addresses (email/postal mail) and primary telephone number with him soonest for our OMSAA Membership Directory. As a note, this directory is off-line, and a hard copy is sent annually in October with the dues notice.

TAPS

I regret to inform the membership of the passing of our fellow alumnus, classmate, and OMS Alumni Association Vice President.

Name	Year	DOD	Place
Robert W. Sheridan	'67	5 June 2021	Westmont, Illinois

Obituary reprinted: "Robert W. Sheridan, 73, of Westmont, proud Vietnam Army Veteran. Beloved husband to his chickadee Judy, nee Cook, for 51 years; loving father of Catherine Sheridan and Stacy (Frank) Kovac; devoted grandfather of Ryan, Jack, Cooper, Kailey, Patrick, MacKenzie, and Riley; fond brother of Susan (John) Martzen; uncle of Mark, Steven, and Todd. Robert also served 8 years in the Army Security Agency (ASA). Services and Interment are Private. Memorials to the Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Services Program at Hines VA Medical Center are appreciated."

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	Vacant	
Secretary	John Friebe	'57
Treasurer	John Friebe	'57
Director	Steve Denney	'57
Director	Tom Leasure	'66
Director	John Egan	'68
Onarga Academy Liaison:	Vacant	

Onarga Military School Alumni Association



Alumni Association

c/o Mark K Hayden
52 Tavern Rd
Stafford, VA 22554-8814

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

OMS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
Banquet Reservation Form
Saturday - October 9th 2021
The Gilman Door Restaurant

NAME _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

I would like to make reservations for the following number of individuals _____ who will attend the banquet. Enclosed you will find my check made payable to the OMS Alumni Association at the cost of \$25.00 per reservation for a total of _____ reservations (people) and _____ (dollars)

My guests are as follows:

1) _____ 2) _____

3) _____ 4) _____

5) _____ 6) _____

All reservations must be received with this form and your check no later than Thursday, October 1, 2021. Make Checks payable to **OMS Alumni Association** (please do not send cash) and mail to:

John Friebe
Secretary/Treasurer OMS Alumni Association
9211 George Kyle St.
San Antonio, TX 78240-3609

NO RESERVATION SHOULD BE MADE DIRECTLY TO THE RESTAURANT.
IF YOU HAVE A LATE RSVP, CALL JOHN FRIEBEL AT
[1+210 550-1703]. WE REGRET LATE RESERVATIONS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED
AFTER OCTOBER 2nd 2021.