

A new year, a  
new Program  
Director



WORDS FROM  
WAGON MASTER  
CALEB



GOODBYE TO  
HOVEY



A LOOK AT  
CAMP WHITMAN



FUNDRAISING  
AND OTHER  
NEWS

# ONSEYAWA WINTER NEWSLETTER



Amelia Rothfuss  
Program Director  
Rotary Camp Onseyawa

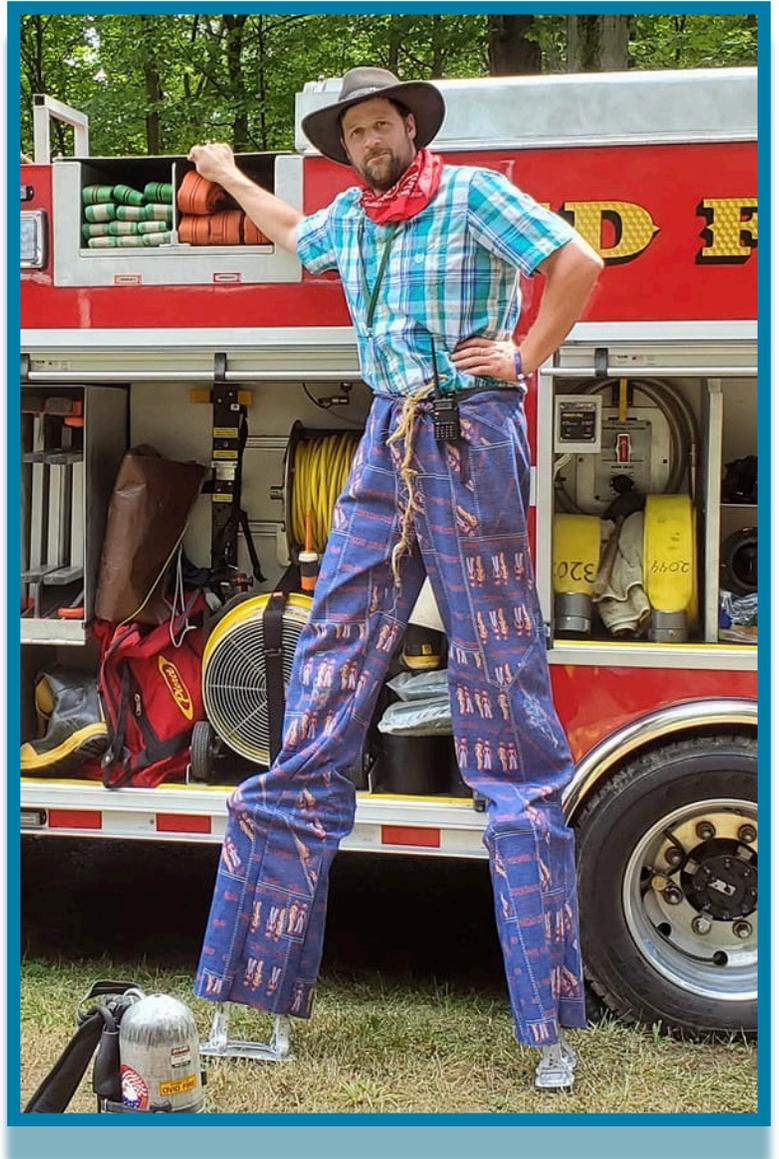
Hello everyone!

I am very excited to be your program director for the upcoming year at Camp Onseyawa. Throughout the rest of the year, I work as an EMT in the city of Buffalo and am attending school for my paramedic certification. I also enjoy international cooking, traveling, and endurance sports like cycling and hiking. Camp Onseyawa has been a big part of my life, starting as a staff-kid and volunteering annually at the carnival with the Wolcott Rotary Club before becoming staff as a lifeguard. Over the years, I have also led the Handicrafts program and was able to be an Assistant Program Director in 2022. Being involved in creating the evening programs for the campers has always been a highlight for me. Some of my best memories from camp have involved running around in silly costumes and getting into the spirit of camp! I'm very excited to be stepping into this new role as we transition Onseyawa's new home to Camp Whitman! Stay tuned for more updates, and I can't wait to see everyone in August!

## Howdy Partners!

Now some of you maybe wondering why I'm not your program director this year. Well, I assure you it has nothing to do with all those snakebites Taylor got last year. Or Unit leader Scott's wagon crashing into the ravine with all of his supplies. Or the camp wide Dysentery epidemic. No no, truth be told I just have a few too many other camp responsibilities this year. With our exciting move to Camp Whitman, there comes a lot of odds and ends that need to be taken care of in order to ensure a great camping experience for all of ya. Outside of camp, I work as a contractor and interior carpenter. So I will be focusing on getting camp ready for you this spring. But, don't worry, I will still be at camp and working as an assistant to Amelia. Amelia's work ethic and creativity has always impressed me, and I am happy to hand the wagon rains over to her. I can almost guarantee she has a 50% chance of improving camp by 15% by 2025.

I miss you all and can't wait to see you this summer!



**Wagon Master Caleb**



**Did anybody remember to round up the buffalo before leaving camp?**



If you have not heard, BSA Camp Babcock Hovey has been closed and placed on the market for sale. Hovey has been a home for Camp Onseyawa for over 65 years. We can not begin to describe the feelings of sadness we have in leaving. Babcock Hovey and Onseyawa have both shared starry nights on the parade field, cool swims in the lake, and thousands of friendships and memories made.

A camp like Hovey will never be replaced. Although we are sad to leave, we appreciate our time and friendship with the Boy Scouts Of America. We wish them well in our combined goal to serve the youth of America. I believe our friend Matt Crance said it best.

“Don’t cry because it’s over, smile because it happened”



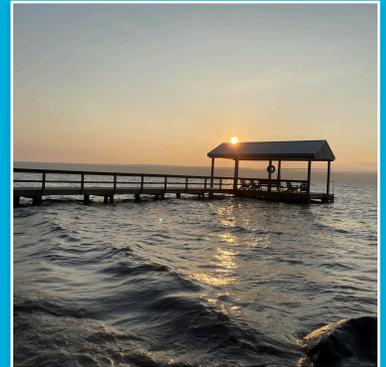
## A New Home the Same Onseyawa

When Joanna, Robin, and Caleb began the search for a new home for Onseyawa, they had a lot of things in mind. One of the most important was finding a camp that could offer a traditional outdoor experience for our campers. Of all the camps we visited, none of them stood out to us like Camp Whitman. Our new camp has its own unique charm mixed with some of the things we loved about Babcock Hovey. For starters, the lake. We will still be on Seneca Lake but will now get to enjoy sunrises instead of sunsets. The campers will get to enjoy many of the same program areas including Archery, BB, Crafts, Ceramics, Outdoor cooking, Nature, Aquatics, Podcast, and Photo. We are also looking into a few new program areas. More on that to come. Campers and staff will find getting around to be much easier, with the majority of the areas only half the previous distance. The units are set up very similar to Hovey with the main difference being small 4 person bungalow cabins instead of two person tents. Just think how nice it will be when one of those famous Seneca Lake thundershowers pops up, and you can simply close the window and play cards with your bunkmates until the storm passes. Whitman has many more things to offer, but you will have to come see it in person!

Here's to 68 years of Friendship with Camp Whitman!



**Senior Counselor Andrew and Assistant Program Director Taylor testing the dining hall stage at Camp Whitman.**



## Would you like to help with our move?

### **There are a few ways you can help.**

We are planning several spring work days and will be looking for Rotary and Staff volunteers.

You can also help by making a donation to our building fund by mailing a check or going to our Gofundme page.

Click here to Donate at [Gofundme](#) .

Or make checks out to “Camp Onseyawa”

Mail to

Rotary Camp Onseyawa Board Treasurer  
Victor Arsenault, Treasurer  
PO Box 723  
Canandaigua, NY 14424



Some of the larger projects we hope to have completed this year are:

- 1. Run water and electric to units.**
- 2. Add some upgrades to the kitchen.**
- 3. Build a new Archery range.**



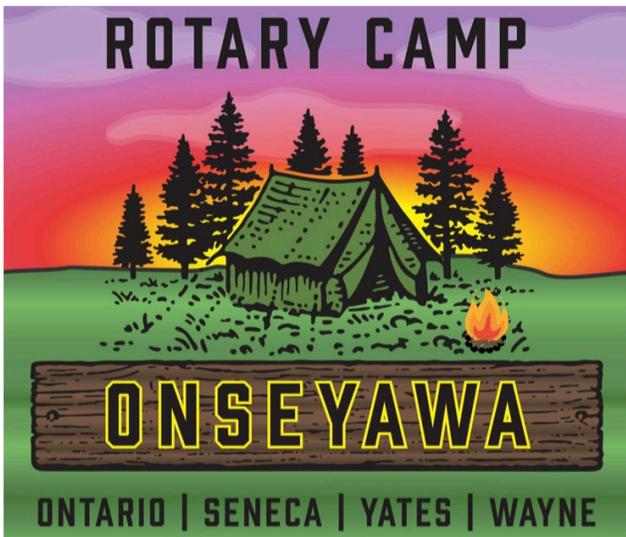


**Joanna Meyer**  
Co-Camp Director

**Updated camper applications will be coming out in March! Acceptances will be on a first come first serve basis once we reach our maximum number of beds. Keep an eye on your email in March returning Camp families...**

**New Staff applicants can fill out their form on our website.**

**<https://www.onseyawa.org/online-staff-application>**



**See you at Camp Whitman!**

**Camp Dates Announced for 2023**

Saturday, August 12, 2023  
to Saturday, August 26, 2023