

THE INN  
3301 LAKESHORE DRIVE  
P.O. Box 559  
OKOBOJI, IA 51355

PRSRT STD  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
SP&D

Inside:

- Alumni Profile, Ruth Schwarck ..... 1
- What is a "Spoon Holder?" ..... 1
- University of Okoboji Soccer Tournament ..... 1
- Something to Share ..... 1
- New Units Lead to More Renovations ..... 2
- Marjorie's Gift Shop: Unique to Antique! ..... 2
- FAMILIAR FACES ..... 2
- A Package You Deserve ..... 3
- September 11, 2001 ..... 3

The Inn  
AT OKOBOJI  
RESORTER NEWSLETTER • January 2002 • Okoboji, Iowa • Vol. 3, Issue 1

## 2002 COMING TO THE INN IN 2002:

- JOHN JACOBS SCHOOL OF GOLF
- CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY SOCCER CAMP

### Package You Deserve...

In 2001 The Inn At Okoboji added four King Jacuzzi units. It seemed only natural to add dinner, a little champagne and chocolate covered strawberries! Guests can add the "Pamper Yourself" feature to any unit at any time for a very small price! So go ahead and spoil yourself, your partner or how about that hard to buy for couple? Gift certificates are available year round, so call 877-BOJI-FUN (265-4386) ext. 149 for details today!



### September 11, 2001

The Inn At Okoboji wishes to express its deepest sympathy to those who lost loved ones in the tragic events that took place on September 11, 2001. We also wish to express our sincere gratitude to those police officers, firefighters, armed forces and incredible Americans whom are risking their lives to insure our freedom. Also, a huge THANK YOU goes out to all those who donated to the KU00 (local radio station) Red Cross Fundraising Effort. Starting with the goal of only \$1000, families, businesses and even one little boy's birthday money helped the Okoboji's raise over \$200,000 in only two days! UNITED WE STAND!



**GET AQUAINTED PACKAGE:**  
Check our website for more details!  
Visit: [www.bojifun.com](http://www.bojifun.com)

## Join the "INN" crowd!

Each summer season, The Inn At Okoboji employs over 150 people, both full and part time. Here's your chance to make good money and great friends by becoming part of the "INN" crowd. Positions are available in Accounting, Front Desk, Housekeeping, Laundry, Restaurant, Lounge, Banquets, Kitchen, Recreation, Grounds and more. **Please call 877-BOJI-FUN (265-4386)**, stop by or complete an application via our website at [www.bojifun.com](http://www.bojifun.com).



## Now That's Entertainment!

Since opening in 1896, The Inn At Okoboji has been home to extraordinary entertainment. Such star studded entertainment included Dave Major & The Minors, The Fabulous Marilyn Maye, Sing-A-Long with Marie, Eleanor's Social Circle, Georga's Sing-Along in the Hawaiian Lounge, The Diamond Four, The Chasers Four, The Joe Harry Quartet, The T-Bones, Best of Friends and Kroshus & Krew, just to name a few! The Inn At Okoboji promises that 2002 will be no different from years past! We will once again welcome the Fabulous Marilyn Maye to the Lakeview Room Stage in July. Marie can be found leading her famous Sing-A-Longs in the Yankee Clipper Pub & Grille, the Memory Brothers will perform in the Conference Center and who could forget Pete & Howie also performing in the Yankee Clipper Pub & Grille? New for 2001 was Stan Dahl, the "Steel Drum Guy", performing Caribbean flair poolside. Call 877-BOJI-FUN or check out [www.bojifun.com](http://www.bojifun.com) for a schedule of entertainment and ticket prices (if they apply).



### THE INN

3301 LAKESHORE DRIVE  
P.O. Box 559  
OKOBOJI, IA 51355  
[www.bojifun.com](http://www.bojifun.com)  
877-BOJI-FUN

LAKEFRONT LOCATION  
RESTAURANT & LOUNGE  
MARJORIE'S GIFT SHOP  
CONFERENCE & MEETING  
FACILITIES  
INDOOR & OUTDOOR POOLS  
RECREATION GALORE!

2002 SEASON: MAY - OCTOBER

# Alumni Profile

The Iowa Great Lakes and The Inn At Okoboji are successful due, in part, to a wonderful and talented woman. Employed with The Inn At Okoboji for over 28 years, Ruth Schwarck worked with many businesses, associations and individual travelers to create the perfect Okoboji vacation. Ruth became an Iowa Great Lakes Chamber board member over twenty years ago, and now serves as the coordinator of volunteers for the State of Iowa Welcome Center and the organizer of fundraising for the fireworks over West Okoboji Lake on the Fourth of July. Ruth recently celebrated her 79th birthday and her 58th wedding anniversary with her husband, Bill. This past October at the Iowa Tourism Conference, the Iowa Tourism Office awarded the Individual Friend of Tourism Award to Ruth. This prestigious award goes to those individuals whose services go beyond what is expected. No one is more deserving of this award than Ruth Schwarck. We at The Inn At Okoboji congratulate her on her many accomplishments and are proud to call her an Inn Alumni!



Ruth Schwarck  
At the Iowa Tourism Conference

## What is a "Spoon Holder?"

Pictured below is a structure called the "Spoon Holder", circa early 1900's. The Spoon Holder was located on the lakefront outside The Inn At Okoboji. If you know what the spoon holder is or have heard the story please share! Check out [www.bojifun.com](http://www.bojifun.com) for more historic photos compliments of Stephen Kennedy and The Maritime Museum.



Contact us at [reserve@theinnatokoboji.com](mailto:reserve@theinnatokoboji.com) or 877-BOJI-FUN ext. 155 and ask for Sheila Ove to share your memories of The Inn At Okoboji.



FOR FUN!

Early photos of the Rainbow Room & Rock Garden at The Inn At Okoboji



West Lake Suite

### NEW UNITS LEAD TO MORE RENOVATIONS



The wonderful response we received from guests about our new units was overwhelming! The Inn At Okoboji's management and staff were so thrilled you enjoyed our additions that we decided to make more changes for 2002. Renovations on the lower level units on the west half of the property started November 2001, and include new bathrooms, carpet, bedspreads, window treatments and much more. To make reservations in our new units or existing renovated units contact Sheila Ove, Front Office Manager at 877-BOJI-FUN (265-4386) or [reserve@theinnatokoboji.com](mailto:reserve@theinnatokoboji.com).

## Familiar FACES at The INN:

**BRAD TIFFT:** General Manager and Inn Alumni. Brad is a native of the Okoboji's and a graduate of USD. Brad worked at The Inn At Okoboji in conventions during his high school and college years and after 9 years with Village West, he took the position of General Manager of The Inn At Okoboji. Brad is responsible for all the wonderful changes and up keep that you have seen made at The Inn At Okoboji. Taking extreme pride in his work and The Inn itself, Brad would love to hear your comments about The Inn At Okoboji and all of its changes. Please feel free to contact him at [info@theinnatokoboji.com](mailto:info@theinnatokoboji.com) or fill out a comment sheet located at the Front Desk in the main Lobby.

**SHARI DYKEMA** joined The Inn At Okoboji as the Accounting Assistant in 2000, bringing with her eleven years of resort experience. Shari took over the position of controller in 2001 and is now responsible for all accounting aspects of the resort. Not only does Shari handle the financial details at The Inn At Okoboji, but can often be seen lending a helping hand to many departments including conventions and the Stars & Stripes Café!

**DALE PETERSON** is the Maintenance Director and has been with The Inn At Okoboji since 1999. Dale and his staff are responsible for upkeep of all the buildings on property, the golf course, and all grounds keeping. He and his staff have been instrumental in the renovations taking place on the 700 units, located on the lower level of the west side units. Dale is a native of Britt, IA, and formerly served as Fire Chief for the Arnolds Park/Okoboji Fire Department.

**DEB GODFREYSEN & SUE MAC MILLEN:** Deb, Head Housekeeper, and Sue, Assistant Head Housekeeper, oversee a staff of 50 people, and are responsible for the cleanliness of the main building, sleeping rooms, conference center and all laundry. Deb and Sue insure each and every guest will check into a clean and functional room. Sue, known as "Sue Mac" to her staff, has been with The Inn At Okoboji for more than 18 years. Deb originally joined The Inn At Okoboji 20 years ago, and came back to us in 1999. If you have the opportunity to meet Deb or Sue on property, please stop and thank them for the wonderful job they do at keeping The Inn At Okoboji looking its very best.

## University of Okoboji SOCCER TOURNAMENT

Each June over 700 junior high soccer players arrive in The Iowa Great Lakes to take part in the University of Okoboji Soccer Tournament. The Inn At Okoboji is proud to house many of the soccer teams and their families. In it's 25th year, the soccer tournament continues to grow with over 20 teams on their wait list. "We're very excited! The Lakes area is a great area to come to for families. Many parents participated in the tournament 25 years ago, and now are bringing their kids. We think it's wonderful!" said Herman Richter. Richter continues to be an ardent supporter of the wide variety of U of O events. Tournament founders are Bob Ellis and Jim Morrison. Paul Bacino is the Tournament Director.



The beloved University of Okoboji exists only in the hearts and minds of its "alumni". The University of Okoboji is not made up of brick and mortar, but rather of fundraising and community pride. The University is a proud sponsor of local events such as the University of Okoboji Hoops Classic, Wrestling Tournament, USTA McDonald's Junior Classic Tournament, Rugby Tournament, Cycling Classic Campus Ride, World Tennis Classic, Homecoming (including an environmental clean-up drive) Softball Tournament and Oktoberfest Bike Ride. For event dates, registration or official "U of O" sportswear contact The Three Sons at (712) 338-2424.

## Marjorie's Gift Shop: UNIQUE TO ANTIQUE!



Since the early 1900's The Inn At Okoboji has been home to a magnificent gift shop. Once located on the lakefront, and named "The Inn Bazaar", Marjorie's has spread its wings and become one of the most unique shopping experiences in the Iowa Great Lakes. Marjorie's staff, Grace Gerdes (manager), Alida Millikan, Judy Bradley and Mabel Rush, is on hand to help you select that perfect souvenir of your Okoboji vacation. Marjorie's boasts the area's largest selection of Ty™ Beanie Babies, including those hard to find, and is an exclusive dealer of Tervis™ Tumblers glassware. While you're in Marjorie's, don't forget to pick up your official University of Okoboji sportswear!

### SOMETHING TO SHARE

We would like to thank Stephen Kennedy, Director of The Maritime Museum, for donating a number of historical photos of The Inn At Okoboji in her early days. To view this nostalgic gallery please log on to [www.bojifun.com](http://www.bojifun.com) or visit us in person! If you have a classic photo of The Inn At Okoboji that you'd like to share please contact Sheila Ove at [reserve@theinnatokoboji.com](mailto:reserve@theinnatokoboji.com) or 877-BOJI-FUN ext. 155. Please mark photos with name and address and they will be promptly returned!