



Founded in 1899

# ONEIDA MOUNTAINEER

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Education for Time and Eternity

A bi-monthly newsletter of Oneida Baptist Institute

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## Meet some of our award-winning students



**Quentin** earned two major awards last spring -- Most Improved and Most Outstanding freshman boy. These honors were voted on by our faculty, support staff, and administrators.

Quentin is one of our day students from Oneida. This is his fifth year at OBI. He has been involved in drama, National Honor Society, basketball, baseball, cross country, and yearbook.

When asked about his Most Improved title, "I was in a state of depression and had a bad attitude," Quentin acknowledged. "Half-way through the year, things started to change. I knew God was telling me that I needed to work on my attitude and my anger issues."

Quentin talked with **Dr. David Price**, OBI Campus Minister. Also, "God led me to people who are really there for me, both on campus and off," Quentin explained. Price later stated, "The change in Quentin this year has been amazing."

"Now my attitude is better and my anger is pretty much gone," Quentin said. He sees his experience as ongoing; "I'm still changing." □

**Abbi** was our Most Outstanding eighth grade girl. Born in Kentucky, she grew up in Tanzania. Abbi returned to the Commonwealth for a very practical reason: "It was my best option for getting an education in the U.S."

She has played volleyball and basketball, and has been on track/field. She has also participated in FCA, ONE, academic team, and Student Ambassadors.

Abbi said, "I didn't expect to get this award; I honestly don't know why I did." One of her teachers, **Sarah Hawley**, said of Abbi, "She strives to do her very best in everything she does. Abbi goes above and beyond expectations in assignments given to her. She is caring and thoughtful to her fellow students and teachers. Abbi is the model student."

Noting that OBI is "different from most schools," Abbi stated, "People come here not knowing God. I especially love the Spiritual Emphasis Weeks; a lot happens then. Oneida is life-changing." □



## Back to school at OBI



**Clockwise from left:** School starting means friends reunited; bus safety evacuation drills; and an open house for families of our Lower School and Middle School day students, including an opportunity for students to chat with OBI President **Larry A. Gritton, Jr.** (OBI '93)



**Kyle** was another Most Improved student, as well as Most Studious. He is a seventh-grader from Kentucky. His church had sent volunteers to Oneida, and they told Kyle and his family about the school.

When he came to OBI, Kyle admitted, "I hardly ever did my work, especially my homework." His grades had been F's, D's, and C's. Now, however, he's making all B's. He was surprised to receive the Most Studious title for sixth grade. The teachers noticed not only his improvement, but also his willingness to work hard to achieve those B's.

Kyle thought he also may have been named Most Improved because "at first I was really quiet. But now I talk, and I have friends."

When asked what he liked about Oneida, he had a ready answer: "The people are nice, the education is awesome, the food is delicious. I like everything!" □

Check out the Oneida Baptist Media Lab on Facebook!  
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## Volunteering at OBI—A Work of Heart

The 2018 volunteer season was marked by the return of many long-time, faithful friends along with numerous new faces. This year's campus theme is: "We are ONEida!" Volunteers play an important role in OBI's ongoing mission. Here are a few fun facts from this year:

- Nearly 60 different groups comprised of over 400 individuals volunteered at Oneida this year.
- Some of the 400 were volunteers who did not come with a group.
- There were five first-time groups.
- Most of our groups stayed for one week, but a few volunteered for two or more weeks.
- Our two biggest missions teams were the Alabama Campers on Mission with about 50 and a group of 26 from Ninth & O Baptist Church in Louisville, Kentucky.
- Groups and individuals traveled from Alabama, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio and Tennessee.



**Terry Pace and Earl Dean Thomason** arrived a week ahead of the group from their home church, First Baptist Church, Tusculumbia, Alabama. Terry and Earl stayed for a month to work on the OBI farm. They delivered a new band saw, thanks to contributions by individuals and groups in the Tusculumbia area.



**Dianna, Nelda and Colleen** from Leitchfield Crossing Baptist Church have been volunteering at Oneida for over 15 years.



**Left**—Two volunteers from First Baptist Church, Leitchfield, Kentucky worked on quilts in the craft room. **Madeline** (seated) is 94 years young! FBC Leitchfield has been sending missions teams to Oneida for over 21 years. **Center**—**Jason** came with a group of 20 from Heartland Worship Center, Paducah, Kentucky. He spent the week chiseling out salt deposits on the floor of the hog barn. **Right**—**Patricia** with Central Baptist Church, Hawesville, Kentucky, prepared General Mills Box Tops for mailing and worked in the crafting area.



**Cathy Chinn** (center) assisted in the book room during the first week of school! Since retiring from public service jobs in 2001, Cathy and her husband, **George**, have served in the Mission Service Corps of the North American Mission Board. They led the group that came to OBI from Living Faith Baptist Church in Ohio County.



Clarkson Baptist Church in Grayson County sent teams three times this year! In March, this group repainted the inside of the Friendship House. **Charlie and Pat Murphy** (fourth and fifth from left) returned the following week to help restock. Pat explained why they come to Oneida several weeks each year saying, "We have ties going way back because of our son being here, [but] mainly, it's because we just love Oneida! The people keep bringing us back, too!"



**Marijane Sheldon** is an Oneida graduate, Class of 1986. This was her first time back to campus since 1987. She said, "I've wanted to come for years!" Her home church, Yellow Creek Baptist Church in

Owensboro, Kentucky, usually comes in August—a busy time when you have three children to get ready for school. Now that the two youngest are teens and her oldest is out of college, Marijane was able to sign up! She said, "When I was a student here, girls weren't allowed on the farm, so I wanted to work on the farm!" She assisted in the hog barn for the week.



For a week in March, volunteers from the First Baptist Church in Central City, Kentucky led by **Pat Key** (back row, second from left) assisted OBI full-time volunteer **Sharon Detro** (right in photo) in organizing the new crafting space located on the main campus in Baker Hall. The Gift Shop on the edge of campus is still open and will sell OBI spirit wear and homemade crafts.

## Brad Dorough Friendship Award

**Ally** (far right) was the 2018 recipient of the Brad Dorough Friendship Award. This award is the only major honor voted on by our student body, and gives the winner a full room and board scholarship for the following year. Ally is a junior from Georgia.



Brad Dorough was a student at OBI for three years, and spoke of how much he valued his friendships here. After he died in a motor vehicle accident, his family established the award in 1990 in his memory. The first recipient of the award was our current First Lady, **Angie Berry Gritton** (OBI '91). Students are asked to vote for someone who has been kind and helpful to them and to others.

Ally has been at Oneida for four years. She has been involved in Lion's Den, BCM, volleyball, swimming and track/field.

Describing herself as "a very open person, very funny," Ally added, "I say what's on my mind." She stated that she likes to help people in need. "I just do it automatically," she explained. "Our family donates to charity, and it's something I was raised with. My mom tells me to be there for people, even if they're not there for me."

Still, Ally was surprised when her name was called as the award winner. "I thought someone else should have gotten it," she said. Destiny (not pictured) is one of Ally's good friends. She supplied a description of Ally; "She's friendly, helpful, outgoing, kind, relatable, and fun to hang around with. She keeps you laughing, and she's always there for you."

Congratulations to Ally and to all of our spring award winners! □

## Bits and tidbits

### Our mission statement

The mission of Oneida Baptist Institute is to provide a Christian living, learning and working environment in which each of its students, Christian or non-Christian, is diligently challenged to grow mentally, physically, socially and spiritually in order to acquire an *Education for Time and Eternity*.

### Need to contact us?

Phone: 606-847-4111 Fax: 606-847-4496

### Does your church have a web site?

If so, ask them to link to OBI:

**Web:** [www.oneidaschool.org](http://www.oneidaschool.org)

**Facebook:** <http://www.facebook.com/OBI.KY>

**Twitter:** [https://twitter.com/Oneida\\_Baptist](https://twitter.com/Oneida_Baptist)

**Connect with Mr. Gritton:**

<https://twitter.com/lgritton>

### Want an easy way to give?

Go to our web site and click the "Give/Volunteer" tab, then the "Donate now" button to give via credit card, debit card or PayPal: <http://www.oneidaschool.org/support.shtml>

### Want to receive the Mountaineer or Alumni News by e-mail?

Send your name, mailing address, e-mail address and the 5-digit number above your name on this issue's mailing label to: [diane.dimsey@oneidaschool.org](mailto:diane.dimsey@oneidaschool.org)

Let her know if you'd like the e-Mountaineer or e-Alumni News or both. **IMPORTANT:** Be sure to add [mountaineer@oneidaschool.org](mailto:mountaineer@oneidaschool.org) to your contact list in your e-mail program, or it may reject our publications as spam.

### OBI continues these programs:

#### Tyson's "Project A+"™

Send entire labels from specially marked Tyson chicken products. They are worth 24 cents each, and return to us as cash. <http://projectaplus.tyson.com/>

#### General Mills "Box Tops for Education"™

Send specially marked box tops, each worth 10 cents with points-to-cash. <http://www.boxtops4education.com/>

Oneida Baptist Institute is proud to be an institution of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.



# CRENSHAW FAMILY REUNION

by Marc Holland & Michael Davis

*All are invited!  
Admission is free!*

**October 18-19 at 7:00 PM  
October 20 at 5:30 PM**