Hillis elected 2011 National OA Chief

By QUINN KAWAMOTO
Section W-1N Chief

Having been in Scouting since joining in 1998 as a Tiger Cub, I have seen a lot. I have been to the national jamboree, the National Order of the Arrow Conference, ArrowCorps*: Shasta-Trinity, numerous conclaves, and many lodge events. However, for the first time I experienced what few Arrowmen get the opportunity to see: the National OA Planning Meeting(NPM).

The National Planning Meeting, or “Dallas,” as it is often referred to, is the opportunity of a lifetime. It is hard to express the magic that goes on in Dallas without experiencing it firsthand. It may be the best OA event I have attended thus far. Although it is not camping out in the backcountry or training fellow Arrowmen, it is an opportunity to plan the day-to-day activities and learn how Dallas has changed over the years.

For the first time in a long time, the OA will be putting on not one, but two summer programs of emphasis: SummitCorps and Indian Summer. The tradition of service with SummitCorps equals a four-week-long project at the New River Gorge National River in West Virginia. Indian Summer will be focused on our tradition and celebration of Native American culture. Scheduled for Ridgecrest Conference Center near Asheville, North Carolina, Indian Summer will be an updated version of the first one, which was held there in 2003.

Being able to take ownership and given the huge responsibility that the section chiefs have each year in planning the summer programs is quite satisfying. Dallas would not be a huge success if it were not for the many advisers and support staff that continue to come back each year. One person that has been coming for several years now is Clint Takeshita. Clint was elected national chief at the 1990 Dallas meeting. Through him, I had the opportunity to learn how Dallas has changed over the years.

“My first National Planning Meeting was in 1989,” Takeshita said. “It was not held that year at the Marriott Solana.”

However, since 1990, the NPM has been at the Marriott with only one exception, in 1993. Much like the location of the NPM, the election process has virtually stayed the same with a few minor alterations to it.

“I think that it was a lot like what the guys experience now,” Takeshita said. “Back then the election was the first morning and it wasn’t the evening that you first get there. People would stay up late and talk the night before the election. Then the national chief election was right after breakfast, followed by the vice chief and region chief elections.”

“The most noticeable change to the NPM is the number of people that attend,” Takeshita said. “At my first planning meeting, it was pretty much the section chiefs and the national committee and a very small number of support staff. It was really a small number, so the youth-advisers are invited to the meeting, and we never did that. That started several years after I was chief. This year with two major events, we had to bring in more people to support them.”

see PLANNING, page 4

Adventure awaits you this summer

By JEFFREY ST CYR
National Promotions Team

Summer plans still up in the air? Looking to get away? Spend some time learning about the American Indian culture and become an expert on OA Ceremonies and Inductions! You can also check out latest addition to the BSA outdoor program at the New River Gorge National River in West Virginia this summer! Finally, as if that wasn’t enough the BSA has three high adventure bases that are ready to sign you up! Go grab your calendar and get involved in one or more of these national events or programs this summer!

Indian Summer is a week-long conference held in Asheville, North Carolina from August 1-6, 2011. Indian Summer will have program tracks of American Indian culture, OA ceremonies and Inductions, and independent study where Arrowmen can create their experience.

Indian Summer will feature interactive training, crafts and gatherings with Arrowmen from across the country, unique Powwows and a conservation project.

SummitCorps: The New River Experience will bring Arrowmen to West Virginia for a week of trail building, conservation work, and other ground breaking projects at the New River Gorge National River. The OA’s trail work there will help to connect the New River Gorge and the Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve, the home of the 2013 National Scout Jamboree and the 2019 World Scout Jamboree. Lodges can organize contingents to participate in any one of the four weekly sessions in July 2011: 3-9, 10-16, 17-23, or 24-30.

To learn more about the 2011 national events, visit event.oa-bsa.org. To register and join your lodge contingent, contact your lodge key three today.

The Order of the Arrow still has space available open for three of its four high adventure programs this summer where Arrowmen can truly experience the rugged outdoors: OA Trail Crew at Philmont, and OA Canadian Odyssey

see SUMMER, page 4

Online at event.oa-bsa.org

Arrowmen may still register for the 2011 national events. Arrowmen may register through their lodge leadership.
11 lodges awarded National OA Service Grants

Since 1999, the National OA Committee annually selects lodges from around the country to receive matching service grants. These grants, with matching contributions from the recipient lodges, provide for incredible service projects at our local Scout camps and service areas. The recipients for 2011 were announced at the National OA Planning Meeting at the end of December. More than 70 lodges applied for funding this year. Eleven were selected to receive a total of $30,000 in grants.

Central Region
Nacha Tindey Lodge will receive $4,000 to help build a Baloo Cave program area and safety shelter at the Gerald R. Ford Council’s Cub and Webelos Scout camps.

Migisgi Opawagan Lodge of the Great Lakes Council will receive a $1,550 grant to construct a first-year camper program area at the Cole Canoe Base.

MKano Lodge will receive $1,850 to build a quarter-mile bike path at Indian Mound Scout Reservation for their Cub Scouts.

Southern Region
Ini-To Lodge will receive $1,450 to improve access to the Pine Mountain Backcountry outdoor programs of the Flint River Council’s Gerald I. Lawhorn Scouting Base.

Bobwhite Lodge of the Georgia-Carolina Council will receive $3,850 to restore the Rivers Lodge, a lodge cabin built in 1813 that will be moved to the Knox Scout Reservation.

Ta’Iki Lodge will receive $4,000 to restore the Pine Burr Area Council camp’s amphitheater, which was impacted by Hurricane Katrina.

O-Shot-Caw Lodge will receive $2,250 to construct an arena and latrines at the South Florida Council’s Camp Seminole, which was damaged heavily by Hurricane Wilma.

Western Region
Toloma Lodge of the Greater Yosemite Council will receive $3,150 to expand and protect Camp John Mensinger’s water supply. The improvements will allow for increased camp attendance.

Sikhs Mox Lamonti Lodge is the recipient of $1,950 to create a Cub Scout-friendy campsite at the Mountain Baker Council’s Fire Mountain facility.

Nisqually Lodge of the Pacific Harbors Council will receive $1,950 for a blacksmith program shelter at its Scout reservation.

### 2012 National OA Conference

July 30 - August 4, Michigan State University, East Lansing Michigan

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### 2011 National Planning Calendar

**April**

8-10  NLS, Marin on St. Croix, MN  NLS/NLATS, Phoenix, AZ  SummitCorps Site Visit, Glen Jean, WV

29-30  NLS, Shuykill Haven, PA

**May**

1  NLS, Shuykill Haven, NY  25  National OA Committee Meeting, San Diego, CA  25-27  BSA National Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA

**June**

8  Philmont OA Trail Crew Begins  Northern Tier OA Voyage Begins  Northern Tier OA Odyssey Begins

13  OA Ocean Adventure Begins

19-25  Philmont OA Adviser Training, Cimarron, NM

**July**

3-9  SummitCorps: The New River Experience, Session 1

10-16  SummitCorps: The New River Experience, Session 2

17  OA Ocean Adventure Ends

17-23  SummitCorps: The New River Experience, Session 3

24-30  SummitCorps: The New River Experience, Session 4

**August**

1-6  Indian Summer, Ridgecrest, NC

17  Philmont OA Trail Crew Ends  Northern Tier OA Voyage Ends

Northern Tier OA Odyssey Ends

**September**

16 – 18  NLS, New Braunfels, TX  NLS/NLATS, Alpine, NJ

**October**

7-9  NLS, Salt Lake City, UT

10  OA Steering Committee, Irving, TX

14-16  SOS, Southern Region, Islamorada, FL  NLS, Cincinnati, OH

21-23  SOS, Western Region, Orange County, CA

31  OA Service Grant Applications Due

**November**

4-6  NLS/NLATS, Haines City, FL  NLS/NLATS, Parksville, MO  SOS, Northeast Region, Alpine, NJ

18-20  SOS, Central Region, Rochester, IN  NLS, Portland, OR

**December**

27-30  National Planning Meeting, Dallas, TX

31  Lodge Charter Renewal Deadline

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By JOHN REHM
National Bulletin Features Editor

Will Scott of Ku-Ni-Eh lodge served as the national jamboree vice chief of Service Corps last summer, leading over 100 blue-shirted brothers in service as the jamboree’s “on call” guys. Scott was able to execute this effort by utilizing the basic concepts he learned from the National Leadership Seminar training.

The planning for Service Corps started in December at the National Planning Meeting in Dallas, Texas. From there, the committee divided into three groups: Evening Program, Chapter Chiefs, and Logistics. “From there we all moved toward accomplishing our tasks, how we were going to communicate, what we were going to do once we got there, and how we were going to coordinate with other areas at the jamboree,” Scott said.

Many situations occurred where Scott had to analyze the situation to determine what was right. Scott and his team were able to overcome problems ranging from severe weather to deciding how to put bikes together. “Each day had its own unique set of problems, but with everyone working together there wasn’t much that slipped past us,” Scott said.

“I learned many things at the jamboree, especially patience. If we take a moment to just breathe, then we might find ourselves in a better place. I also learned not to take everything personally. When you’re doing a job like this for the Order of the Arrow, you need to check your ego at the door and not be offended by the small things. As a leader it doesn’t matter what you’re dealing with, you must keep a positive attitude. Nothing sinks a ship faster than a bad attitude,” Scott added.

Scott is also heavily involved with OA High Adventure. “In my lodge, I was a sash and dasher, but thanks to OAWV I got involved again with the OA. I went on to become section secretary, chief, and eventually Service Corps JVC.” By taking the risk, Scott was able to learn more not only about the Order and himself. “On a final note, I would like to say that I have learned more from the people I have met in the OA through OAH, NOAC, jamboree and lodge events than I ever hoped to. Because of them, I am driven to be the best person I can be. I want to challenge and encourage every Arrowman to utilize the people around you and learn from them. You never know what you can accomplish until you try,” said Scott.

Brian Ahrens, Northeast Region Chief working on a trail at Northern Tier.

Chiefly Speaking

Arrowmen,

We stood on a pad of asphalt without a bit of shade in sight, and it was one of those days so hot that you could feel the warmth radiating up from the ground. As my stopwatch hit three minutes and 45 seconds, I brushed the sweat off my forehead and ratcheted down the last bolt on the front tire. I cheered and exchanged high-fives with my team: an incredibly nice, genuine kid from small-town Illinois, and Brad Lichota, the 2010 national chief.

The three of us, along with the rest of our Service Corps group, were in the process of converting 600 sets of tires, frames, pedals, and handlebars into functioning bicycles at the 2010 National Jamboree.

That moment encapsulated everything I have come to know and love about the Order of the Arrow: the joy of brotherhood shared by three new friends building bikes in perfect unison, the thrill of cheerfulness as we broke our bike-building record and went to grab another set of parts, and the pleasure of service we received from the opportunity to help the Jamboree run smoothly for thousands of Scouts we would never know.

I had the chance to reconnect with my bike-building buddies from Service Corps at the OA National Planning Meeting in December. Brad swore me in as his successor, and our other team member—the guy from Illinois—was Dan Dick, who was elected to serve alongside me as the 2011 national vice chief.

That was my experience last summer: an incredible affirmation of brotherhood, cheerfulness, and service at the 2010 National Jamboree. Those two weeks at Fort AP Hill, along with my time spent at Wilderness Voyage and NOAC, are some of the OA experiences I will always treasure most.

What will your summer look like this year? Watching lots of television and wishing you had something more exciting to do? Not for me. I’ll be building trails in West Virginia, learning about the cultural heritage of Native Americans in North Carolina, and exploring our national high adventure bases. I hope you’ll join me.

Yours in Service,

Jonathan Hillis
2011 National Chief
Four region chiefs elected at planning meeting

Daniel Dick, National Vice Chief
Dwayne Fontenette
Travis Cunningham
Collin Huerter
Joseph Garcia

**PLANNING**

Continued from page 1

Little has changed with the menu. It has been virtually the same for 20 years. One can be assured that Dallas will remain vigilant in planning the programs that Arrowmen experience now and in the future.

As always, one of the highlights of Dallas is the election of new national officers to lead the Order for the following year. Jonathan Hillis, of Austin, TX and Tonkawa Lodge was elected to serve as the 2011 National Chief. Jonathan is studying political science and environmental studies at Carleton College. Prior to his election as chief, he served as a lodge and section chief, and on NOAC, NLS, and National Jamboree staff. Jonathan’s hobbies include backpacking, camping, student government, and ultimate Frisbee.

Dan Dick, of Lena, IL, was elected the 2011 National Vice Chief. Dan was a two-term lodge chief of Wulapejuk Lodge and section chief. He is an education member at Highland Community College. In 2010 Dan served on the OA Service Corps at the National Jamboree, and previously had participated in NOAC, OA Trail Crew, and NLS. His hobbies include camping, student government, racquetball, choir, and band.

The Southern Region chief is Dwayne Fontenette. He is a member of Chilantakob Lodge from New Orleans, Louisiana. Dwayne previously served his lodge as its vice chief and chief, and his section’s One Day of Service coordinator. He has also staffed an NLS and attended NOAC, NCLS, and the Southern Region’s SOS. Dwayne majors in political science and journalism at Loyola University New Orleans and looks forward to instructing many Arrowmen in leadership this year.

This year’s Northeast Region chief, Travis Cunningham, is from Pittsfield, Pennsylvania. Before his election, Travis was a second-term section chief from Gyantwachia Lodge in Atikokan, Ontario to Ely, Minnesota if also allows for a scenic 90 mile trek from the mountains in New Mexico. The adventures by charting courses through allows trek teams to select their own course, and OA Wilderness Voyage at the Northern Tier Base in Ely, Minnesota. Additionally, he attended NCLS and ArrowCorps. Collin is enrolled at Kansas State University, where he studies political science. When not attending school or traveling, Collin enjoys camping, playing music, and watching sports.

The chief of the Western Region is Joseph Garcia. Joseph is from San Diego, California. He is a member of Tiwahe Lodge and was previously the Section W-4S chief. He began his journey in the OA as his lodge’s ceremonial chairman. Joseph has attended NOAC, NLS, and ArrowCorps. At Grossmont College, he is studying criminal science. Joseph’s other passions include sailing, backpacking, and photography.

**Indian Summer, SummitCorps is almost here**

**SUMMER**

Continued from page 1

and OA Wilderness Voyage at the Northern Tier Based in Ely, Minnesota. Through these programs you can look forward to learning about conservation processes such as switchbacks, how to properly install retention bars, how to build portage trails for canoeing, and what goes into laying down a new trail. The second week of each of these programs allows trek teams to select their own adventures by charting courses through the wildernesses around Lake Superior, Quetico Provincial Park in Canada, or the mountains in New Mexico. The second week of OA Canadian Odyssey also allows for a scenic 90 mile trek from Atikokan, Ontario to Ely, Minnesota if teams choose to take on that challenge.

For program information and registration forms, visit www.adventure.oa-bsa.org. A limited number of slots are remaining for these programs so you are encouraged to sign up as soon as possible!

INDIAN SUMMER

**Inductions and Ceremonial Events**

By Brent Wessel

As the program vice chief for American Indian Activities at Indian Summer, I want to tell you about the many great programs you can enjoy at this event. Throughout the week there will be three separate pow wows for dancing. Each will feature a mixture of southern, northern, and exhibition dances along with live drumming.

Our daytime staff will offer training sessions that will teach you about many aspects of history and culture that surround Native American life, thus explaining their importance to many of our traditions in the Order of the Arrow. Other sessions will touch on differences in dancing styles, arts and crafts, and regalia.

We will also offer several opportunities for the Arrowmen at Indian Summer to make their own regalia, necklaces, and ornaments under the direction of some of our Order’s expert craftsmen. Whether you are just looking for a few extra tips to improve your performances or want to learn about an entirely new technique of dance in craftsmanship, Indian Summer will deliver.

We will also coordinate with the Inductions and Ceremonies staff to conduct evaluations for dancers and ceremonialists on form and presentation. These evaluations will provide participants with valuable feedback for improvement that they can use to better represent the Native American elements in their lodge programs.

This is just a glimpse into the AIA program at Indian Summer. We are still looking for enthusiastic Arrowmen to join us on the AIA staff. I look forward to meeting many of you at Ridgecrest, North Carolina, this summer!

**Inductions and Ceremonial Events**

By Scott McCormick

The Inductions and Ceremonial Events Committee for Indian Summer is divided into three subcommittees: Ceremonial Development, Induction Leadership, and Individual Coaching. These subcommittees are focusing on areas that will benefit participants in improving their lodges’ induction processes. Individual coaching will also be available to teach Arrowmen how to improve their acting skills.

**Independent Study Program**

By Mitchell Saulsbury

An Independent Study offering is available to all Arrowmen who would like to explore both the American Indian Activities and Inductions and Ceremonies program tracks at the 2011 Indian Summer. Arrowmen can choose classes from either program area or work with the Independent Study team to develop a schedule that best suits their personal learning objectives. I urge you to make the journey to Indian Summer and strongly encourage you to take advantage of the hands-on guidance and expertise that our staff members have to offer.

**SUMMITCORPS**

**Program Week One**

By Brandon Azoulai

As the Youth Incident commander for Week One of SummitCorps, much of my focus lies with ensuring that our project is providing the maximum amount of quality service to the New River Gorge National River in West Virginia. I am a Vigil Honor member of Blue Heron Lodge 349 and currently serve as the SR-7A section chief.

My team for Week Two is committed to providing every participant with an outstanding program that will be an enjoyable and unforgettable adventure. This includes making sure that Arrowmen have fun and exciting recreational opportunities after a long day of cheerful service. It is my plan that all Arrowmen who attend will leave as better stewards of the environment, equipped with conservation strategies they can use in their councils and communities.

**Program Week Two**

By Preston Marquis

As the Youth Incident commander for Week Two of SummitCorps, much of my focus lies with ensuring that our project is providing the maximum amount of quality service to the New River Gorge National River in West Virginia. I am a Vigil Honor member of Blue Heron Lodge 349 and currently serve as the SR-7A section chief.
Inductions resources are a click away

Ar rowmen who are eager to improve inductions in their chapters or lodge have many resources available at their fingertips. These resources were designed to explain the best Induction practices and the correct policies and procedures that should be used.

One of the most important resources is the Guide to Inductions. The GTI contains a ton of useful information aimed at helping chapters and lodges conduct inductions properly. The GTI covers every aspect of the Inductions process, beginning with a Scout’s election in his troop, and culminates with the Journey to Brotherhood.

The Guide to Inductions is available at http://lld.oa-bsa.org/resources/pubs/gti. Arrowmen can download the entire document or read about an individual topic. Unit election videos, sample letters, checklists, and other resources can also be downloaded.

The GTI is undergoing its first cover-to-cover revision since it was released in 2002. Included in the updates will be new information on Ordeal administration, managing Elangomat Ordeals, and a model call-out ceremony. The newly revised GTI will be released at Indian Summer.

Other induction-related materials can be found online at the national OA Web page. Over the past year, Lodge Leader Development training sessions have been developed and revised. Visit http://lld.oa-bsa.org to browse resources that will improve your lodge.

The OA Training Central Web page is another great place for useful information. Training syllabi from every National Order of the Arrow Conference since 2000 can be downloaded. These sessions can be found at http://training.oa-bsa.org.

Use all of these resources to enhance the quality of inductions in your chapter and lodge. They are guaranteed to introduce you to new ways to make your Inductions a rewarding experience for candidates and members in your lodge!

Lodge achieves 75% conversion

By Mike Lewis

2010 Tutelo Lodge Chief

Editors Note: The National Bulletin staff wanted to take a snapshot of a lodge Brotherhood program as a derivative of this quarter’s theme: Inductions. We asked Tutelo Lodge 161 of Roanoke, Virginia, to share some of the highlights of its local program, one that boasts an annual Brotherhood conversion rate of 75 to 80 percent.

Tutelo Lodge is a relatively large lodge located in the Blue Ridge Mountains Council, in central and southwest Virginia. While attending my first lodge meetings, I remember hearing those around me expressing excitement that our lodge was finally achieving high enough Brotherhood conversion rates for Quality Lodge recognition—a process I knew nothing about at that time but would become intimately more involved with over time.

Tutelo Lodge developed a “First Year Arrowmen Program” that allows members to earn a special award for achieving the Brotherhood honor within one year after going through the Ordeal. This required their participation on a lodge operating committee and attendance at lodge meetings, service weekends, and other functions. By the second year of its implementation, the number of award recipients jumped to well over 30 and continues to grow with each year.

At the beginning, Ordeal members are not fully aware of the many opportunities that come with joining the Order. It is the job of their more experienced brothers in the lodge to show them the way and open their eyes to what it truly means to wear the sash. With that in mind, chapter-led leadership is crucial to ensuring a high Brotherhood conversion rate. As the first point of OA contact for troops, chapters are in the best position to promote camping, assist Arrowmen with paying their dues, and assist in the journey to Brotherhood. This means the chapter must be proactive about maintaining personal relationships with the troops and teams in the district. It is easier for Scouts to see the benefits associated with advancement when they are presented with live examples rather than just the standard email or phone call. The goal is to persuade them to maintain active membership.

The key supporter in this effort has to be the lodge chief. At every lodge function, it is crucial for the lodge chief to shake hands with and congratulate members who have recently completed their Ordeal. The lodge chief is often an important figure in an Arrowman’s development into a servant leader. To have him personally engage new members as they begin their journey in the Order of the Arrow will help. This in turn is a very good promotion tool to keep new members active and progressing toward achieving the First-Year Arrowman award. It is not as much about converting Ordeal members as it is about being a friend to those who are beginning their OA journey.
Arrowmen meet with Gill Clay

Last October, the Sam Houston Area Council held its centennial outdoor event, SHAC Jam, at Texas World Speedway near College Station, Texas. Over 9,500 Scouts, Scouters, and Venturers attended this event, and more than 16,000 Cub Scouts visited on Saturday with their parents.

The event’s special guest was Lord and Lady Baden-Powell’s granddaughter, Gillian Clay, a prominent Scout leader and supporter of the Boy Scout program. While at the event, Gillian served as an active volunteer and spent her nights in a backpacking tent, an obvious gesture of Scout spirit.

Colonneh Lodge provided outstanding service at this event, which doubled as a fall fellowship weekend with lodge elections, Brotherhood ceremonies, and a Vigil Honor callout.

Gillian Clay at dinner with Colonneh Lodge officers and several national officers in attendance. The attached pictures are of (L-R) Dwayne Fontenette (SR-1A section chief), Jonathan Hillis (SR-2/3 South section chief), Gill Clay, Will Swingle and Don Combs.

Servant Leadership

By ROBERT ORR
Servant Leadership Chairman

Since its inception in 1915, the Order of the Arrow has placed emphasis on cheerful service and the building of strong youth leaders. For many years there was no clear way to define or combine these attributes.

In 1970, Robert Greenleaf coined the term “servant leadership.” In the coming months, the Servant Leadership Task Force will examine the various ways that the idea of servant leadership can be used to better bridge the gap between leadership and service in the OA. If you attend any of the national programs this summer (SummitCorps, Indian Summer, or OA High Adventure), you will have an opportunity to learn about and experience servant leadership firsthand. We are also seeking ways to further establish this concept into the Order’s many training programs.

Through these initiatives we hope to improve our Order in a way that relates to leadership development and service to others. It is also our goal to provide a clearer definition of servant leadership within the context of the Order.

History moment: finding the founder

By NELSON R. BLOCK
National Committee

One hundred years ago this April, young Gilson Talmadge and a friend, both Boy Scouts in Philadelphia’s Troop 1, went on a mission to find an assistant Scoutmaster. Scoutmaster Wallace Reimold, the former superintendent of boys’ work at Tioga Presbyterian Church, had come back from a meeting of Scoutmasters in New York and formed the troop at the church a couple of months earlier.

The Scouts knew that one likely candidate might be a popular teacher in the church’s Sunday School, E. Urner Goodman. These Scouts went to see Goodman at his home to ask him to get involved with their troop. The young Goodman knew little about the Scouts, and as yet had not been too impressed with them. Nevertheless, he agreed to accompany the troop on a hike and afterward agreed to help as a Scout leader. Before too long, Scoutmaster Reimold retired and Goodman took over as the acting Scoutmaster—“acting” because he was only 20, and Scoutmasters had to be 21.

Dr. E. Urner Goodman
Gilson remained in Scouting and became an active member of the Order of the Arrow, receiving the Distinguished Service Award. When you met Gilson, he would proudly give out his OA calling card, which noted as his title: “The Founder’s Finder.”

Key Dates for Summer Events

Indian Summer:
4-1-11 Training Options Available
5-31-11 Contingent/Staff Late Fees
5-31-11 Staff Assignments Completed

SummitCorps:
4-1-11 Individual registration forms available online

Check out the 2011 national events online at www.event.oa-bsa.org

For more information, visit EVENT.OA-BSA.org today!
To register for SummitCorps and Indian Summer, contact your Lodge Key 3
Order hosts four high adventure programs this summer

By LUKE MCNEESE
OA National High Adventure

The OA High Adventure programs are some of the most exciting programs in our Order, and they teach many valuable lessons. My time at Northern Tier in Ely, Minnesota, was spent exploring the vast boundary waters and helping to repair a portage trail. The entire experience was incredible. Don Combs, past Southern Region chief, was a member of my trek and one of six national officers that participated in the OA’s High Adventure programs last summer. At the beginning of the trek, Don was reminded to cherish the time spent in the outdoors and keep in mind that the national Order of the Arrow High Adventure (OHA) programs help our members sharpen their leadership skills in a challenging environment, all at a very low cost.

“My time at OA Wilderness Voyage: Canadian Odyssey goes down as one of my favorite Scouting memories. The Quetico Wilderness area is one of the most beautiful and remote places I have ever visited, and I hope to return someday,” said Brian Ahrens, 2010 Northeast Region chief.

Arrowmen can participate in OA Trail Crew (OATC) at the majestic Philmont Scout Ranch in Cimarron, New Mexico. Past National Chief Brad Lichota expressed that, “OA Trail Crew opened my heart to our brotherhood and cleared my mind of troubles. The program taught me to have compassion for the outdoors, service, and my fellow man. The OHA programs have great potential to refresh and rejuvenate Arrowmen’s lives, and I stand proudly as a witness to all that they offer.”

The final high-adventure experience is the OA Ocean Adventure, which operates out of the Florida Sea Base in Islamorada, Florida. This program has been revitalized for 2011 and offers Arrowmen the experience of improving the Florida Keys Heritage Trails and sailing a 40-foot yacht. OAOA participants will explore pristine reefs by snorkeling and trolling for sport fish.

To set up your adventure, go to http://adventure.oa-bsa.org. OAOA is full and space is still available for the other high-adventure programs. Submit your application today.

Outdoor program sub-committee falling forward

By BRAD LICHOTA
2010 National Chief

The Outdoor Program Subcommittee is no stranger to multi-tasking. The subcommittee is dedicated to several major facets of not only the Order of the Arrow, but the Boy Scouts of America as a whole. The team’s dedication to the outdoors and youth outreach has led to several initiatives and upcoming events.

The subcommittee will roll out a new resource for the lodge, council, and summer camp programs this spring. The Guide to the Order of the Arrow Camp Coordinator (OACC) is a new tool for lodges to develop an official OA presence within council summer camp programs that will directly support the units and camping program. This resource provides information about the dynamics of the OACC position, respective council and outdoor program benefits, and tools for its immediate implementation.

We encourage every summer camp to adopt and utilize the dynamic Arrowmen who will serve in these roles.

In addition to the guide’s release, the Outdoor Program Subcommittee met to discuss the upcoming strategic plan of the Outdoor Program group. At their first annual Outdoor Program Fall Forward (who wants to retreat?), nearly 30 brothers gathered in Denver, Colorado, for a weekend devoted to shaping the next five to 10 years of the Order of the Arrow’s commitment to the outdoors. Topics included our OA High Adventure programs, lodge service and outdoor outreach guides, and fundamental agency partnerships. The weekend was energized with innovation and creativity fueled with passion for the outdoors. Arrowmen can expect to see exciting, fundamental changes introduced in the coming years as the OA works to drive outdoor initiatives for tomorrow’s youth.

Finally, with SummitCorps quickly approaching, it is all-hands-on-deck time for the team. Members are working closely with the National Park Service, the International Mountain Biking Association, the National Guard, and the state of West Virginia to prepare for the upcoming summer. The staffs for each week of SummitCorps and its Instructor Corps have already been working tirelessly laying the hiking and biking trail networks through West Virginia’s New River Gorge. They are finalizing preparations as Arrowmen continue to register for service.

As you can see, the Outdoor Program Subcommittee is deeply committed to service to the Order of the Arrow and the outdoors. Stay tuned for the release of the upcoming OA camp coordinator guide, and don’t forget to sign up for SummitCorps!

National leaders in high adventure and conservation convened in Denver for the informal Fall Forward retreat for the outdoor sub-committee, from left to right Marty Tschetter, Howard Kern, Whit Culver, Carey Miller (Order of the Arrow Specialist), Brad Lichota (2010 National Order of the Arrow Chief), Brian Chrzanowski, and Wally Erbes.
In May 2007, the National Order of the Arrow Committee authorized the development of a Quality Lodge pin for individual Arrowmen. Lodges that are certified as a Quality Lodge this year and in the future will be eligible to purchase pins for youth and adult Arrowmen after February 1 of the following year. The pins may be purchased for $1.50 each from the national OA office; an order form will be included in the 2011 Lodge Program Support Pak. The pin is to be worn on the lodge flap as displayed below.

All proceeds from the sale of the Quality Lodge pin will go to the Order of the Arrow’s Endowment Fund. Interest income generated from this fund provides the following support to Scouting both nationally and locally:

- College scholarship assistance
- Camp improvement grants to lodges
- National BSA high-adventure service projects
- Youth and adult leadership training programs
- Camp promotion kits for every troop and team in the BSA
- American Indian camperships
- OA communication improvement projects
- Programs that preserve the traditions and history of the Order of the Arrow.

Quality Lodge pins now available

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