Throughout the week, the delegation visited the Pentagon, CIA, Capitol building, Supreme Court, Washington Monument, and White House.

On the last day of their excursion, they presented the Report to the Nation to President Bush in the Oval Office. Following numerous security clearances, a long waiting period and a brief reception, the delegation entered the Oval Office and President Bush sat down with the group to discuss the BSA’s potential for service to America.

Jake commented afterward that the trip opened his eyes to the “realization that the leaders of our country share the same values that we strive to teach youth through Scouting.”

More information about the BSA Report to the Nation, including photos, daily logs, and previous reports, can be found at http://www.bsartn2007.org.

Left to right: George W. Bush, President of the United States and Jake Wellman, National Chief

Left to right: Chief Scout Executive Robert J. Mazzuca and Jake Wellman, National Chief

OA is set to provide service to the United States National Forests

See pages 4-5 for information on trading post orders, finals preparation plans, and summary of ArrowCorps®. Are you ready and registered for ArrowCorps®?
2007 national camping and service awards announced

E. Urner Goodman Camping Award

The Order of the Arrow is pleased to announce the selection of eight lodges for the 2007 E. Urner Goodman Camping Award. The award was established as a tribute and testimonial to the Order’s founder, E. Urner Goodman. Its purpose is to encourage Order of the Arrow lodges to increase their effectiveness in promoting and expanding Scout camping in each region. Awards are presented annually to two outstanding lodges in each region.

Central Region
- Tom Kita Chara Lodge
- Samoset Council
- Nischa Chuppecat Lodge
- Hoosier Trails Council
- Weston, Wisconsin
- Wisconsin
- Blooming, Indiana

Northeast Region
- Gyantwachia Lodge
- Chief Cornplanter Council
- Wyona Lodge
- Columbia-Montour Council
- Warren, Pennsylvania
- Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania

Southern Region
- Ittawamba Lodge
- West Tennessee Area Council
- Coosa Lodge
- Greater Alabama Council
- Jackson, Tennessee
- Birmingham, Alabama

Western Region
- Cahuilla Lodge
- California Inland Empire Council
- Wipala Wiki Lodge
- Grand Canyon Council
- Redlands, California
- Phoenix, Arizona

National Service Award

The Order of the Arrow is pleased to announce the selection of eight lodges for the 2007 National Service Award. The award was established to recognize two lodges in each region that have performed outstanding service, qualitatively and quantitatively, to their local councils. The National Service Award petition is submitted along with the lodge recharter application. To be considered for the National Service Award, a lodge must be certified as a National Quality Lodge the year in which the National Service Award petition is submitted.

Central Region
- Ku-Ni-Eh Lodge
- Dan Beard Council
- Cho-Gun-Mun-A-Nock Lodge
- Hawkeye Area Council
- Cincinnati, Ohio
- Cincinnati, Ohio
- Cedar Rapids, Iowa
- Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Northeast Region
- Madockawanda Lodge
- Pine Tree Council
- Gyantwachia Lodge
- Chief Cornplanter Council
- Portland, Maine
- Portland, Maine
- Warren, Pennsylvania
- Warren, Pennsylvania

Southern Region
- Echockotee Lodge
- North Florida Council
- Nawakwa Lodge
- Heart of Virginia Council
- Jacksonville, Florida
- Jacksonville, Florida
- Richmond, Virginia
- Richmond, Virginia

Western Region
- Shunkah Mahneetu Lodge
- Grand Teton Council
- Wiatava Lodge
- Orange County Council
- Idaho Falls, Idaho
- Idaho Falls, Idaho
- Santa Ana, California
- Santa Ana, California

Arrowmen,

On June 15, 1916, President Woodrow Wilson signed the first federal charter for the Boy Scouts of America. Since then, Boy Scouts have answered many calls to action from our nation’s presidents. For example, Scouts sold $355 million in war bonds during World War I; collected 1.8 million articles of clothing during the Depression; and collected millions of books, papers, and other military supplies as a service to the nation during World War II. Recently, Scouts willingly gave countless hours of service to the relief efforts in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

The Order of the Arrow has always been on the leading edge of such initiatives, pledging itself to service not only to our local communities, but to our country. Our environmental initiative programs have received much praise from the USDA Forest Service in the past, and with ArrowCorps’ just around the corner, we will have a chance to show the nation how much of an impact our practices can really make.

Every Arrowman is a crucial component of the ArrowCorps’ effort to preserve the forestlands we cherish as a nation. In that vein, the simple words of a famous folk song probably say this best:

“"This land is your land, this land is my land, From California to the New York island, From the redwood forest to the Gulf Stream waters This land was made for you and me.”

Again, thank you for all that you do for the Order and for what you will do to make ArrowCorps’ an amazing experience.

Yours in Brotherhood,

Benjamin L. Stilwill
National Vice Chief
The Order of the Arrow recently launched its Cub Scout Support Tool Kit, a DVD unveiled at the National Planning Meeting in Dallas, Texas, this past December. The tool kit is designed to help Arrowmen become more involved in Cub Scouting, specifically by assisting dens and packs in three key areas:
- Recruitment
- Outdoor program
- Webelos-to-Scout transition

The support booklet outlines sample presentations to introduce youth and parents to Cub Scouting, its outdoor program, and the Webelos-to-Scout transition. Each presentation requires the participation of adult Cub Scout leaders and Arrowmen to be most effective. Advance discussion with the Cub Scout leaders in charge should determine the role that Arrowmen can play.

Selected Arrowmen should meet one or more of the following criteria: have served as or been selected to be a trainer with the National Leadership Seminar, have served as a conclave staffer, have achieved Star Scout or higher rank, or have been approved by their Scoutmaster and lodge adviser to serve in Cub Scouting.

In addition, the following characteristics are highly desired for Arrowmen involved with Cub Scouting: friendly and pleasant personality, enthusiastic about Scouting and the OA, experienced at speaking in front of groups, and willing to practice the presentations.

Having access to transportation and making the time to attend rehearsals and presentations are also important.

Arrowmen have a unique opportunity and responsibility to help further the aims of Scouting across America and beyond. This tool kit will help prepare them to meet that responsibility.

For additional information, contact your OA lodge and staff advisers.

OA lodge hosts rocket themed weekend for Cub Scout families

Siwinis Lodge of the Los Angeles Area Council recently hosted 1,150 participants at its Cub Scout Rocket Academy Family Weekend Camp at Firestone Scout Reservation in Brea, California. The event took place over the course of two weekends in March and April, during which Arrowmen assisted Cub Scouts with model rocket building, BB gun shooting, archery, pioneering, biking, and advancement tasks.

This event showed Cub Scouts a great time while also helping them progress toward new ranks. Lodge Chief Charles Pickering said he most enjoyed helping the Cub Scouts learn to tie knots. He described feeling “fantastic when the lightbulb goes on and a Cub Scout can tie a knot on his own for the first time!”

Siwinis Lodge, founded in 1944, has been dedicated to Scoutreach mentoring since the program began.

Lodge Adviser Bob Ulrich noted that “this mentoring aspect of our lodge program allows Siwinis Arrowmen to get involved in a very meaningful type of hands-on service, and it is a wonderful step forward in expanding our already active unit-mentoring program.”

JumpStart is there for your lodge’s newest members

Lodge leaders, don’t forget to continue promoting JumpStart to your new Ordeal members.

Visit today! http://www.jumpstart.oa-bsa.org
Finish your plans for historic OA project across the United States

ArrowCorps® Program Staff

With only weeks to go, the final pieces to ArrowCorps® are being put into place. Get ready for the event that will certainly be a mountaintop experience in your Scouting journey. An incredible staff is set, and outstanding projects and recreational opportunities are planned. Combined with eager participants, this absolutely remarkable program is sure to both inspire and energize you.

Complete your preparation now for this experience. The weeklong expeditions are designed to be interactive, yet personal in nature. What you are willing to put into the experience will define the inner success that you can achieve, so come with an open mind. There will be opportunities to meet fellow Arrowmen from across the nation, render service on a nationwide scale, and experience the true joys of Scouting alongside your closest friends.

Our Order’s heritage is deeply rooted in unselfish service to family, friends, community, local councils, camping programs, and Scouts and Scouters alike. This project will certainly echo all of the values learned at the Ordeal, and it will strengthen us as an Order in the coming years.

If you have not signed up to be a part of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, contact your lodge leadership to join your council’s contingent. Some slots are still available, but time to sign up is coming to a close. Get pumped and get ready for the largest service project ever conducted by the Order of the Arrow.

Once you are signed up, be sure to stay in contact with your contingent leader for details and appropriate items to pack. Most importantly, bring your camera—this will be the chance of a lifetime to capture some of the greatest scenery in the world.

ArrowCorps® Dates and Locations

JUNE 7-14, 2008 / MISSOURI
Mark Twain National Forest
Located in the Ozarks in central and southern Missouri, and the only national forest in the state, Mark Twain National Forest covers 1.5 million acres. To restore native grasses, participants will remove cedar trees, which are considered an invasive species in the forest. The USFS estimates there will be no natural grasses in this area in 10 years if the cedar trees are not removed.

JUNE 14-21, 2008 / UTAH
Manti-La Sal National Forest
Situated in the Manti-La Sal Range in southeastern Utah, this national forest covers 1.4 million acres and is composed of three unique land ecosystems – alpine, plateau, and red rock canyon. Participants will remove tamarisk, an invasive species, from the Buckhorn Wash area and Joe’s Valley Reservoir near Huntington, Utah. Each day of work during the project will push the tamarisk invasion back 30 years.

JUNE 21-28, 2008 / VIRGINIA
George Washington and Jefferson National Forests
Covering more than 1.8 million acres of forest, including a segment of the Appalachian Trail across the Blue Ridge and Allegheny Mountains, this forest area is rich in history. Participants will provide campsite improvements, removal of exotic vegetation, and construct more than seven miles of new multi-use trails north of the forest office in Covington, Virginia.

JULY 12-19, 2008 / CALIFORNIA
Shasta-Trinity National Forest
The largest national forest in California, Shasta-Trinity covers more than 2.1 million acres and varies in elevation from 1,000 feet to the top of Mt. Shasta at 14,162 feet. Participants will provide significant trail maintenance, repair, and reconstruction to reduce and eliminate soil erosion.

JULY 26 - AUGUST 2, 2008 / WYOMING
Bridger-Teton National Forest
Located in western Wyoming adjacent to the Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks, the Bridger-Teton National Forest is one of the largest in the United States covering 3.4 million acres. Participants will construct mountain bike and hiking trails, remove fencing to allow unrestricted movement of wildlife, and help control fire through a fuels reduction project where the forest and urban areas meet.

Order your ArrowCorps® merchandise at www.tradingpost.oa-bsa.org!

Be sure to visit the OA Trading Post at www.tradingpost.oa-bsa.org to find helpful gadgets for your sites, ArrowCorps® memorabilia, and unique items to commemorate this once-in-a-lifetime event.
Brotherhood conversion: tips, tools, impact

Robert Mason

Imagine that it is October and your lodge recharter packet has just arrived at the service center with the latest quality lodge petition. If you are a lodge officer, the same frustrating Brotherhood conversion box will be staring you in the face once again. You make the quick calculations to figure what 30 percent is and if you can skate by to qualify. Sound familiar?

Many successful lodges have found routines that work, and they meet this requirement. Some of them incorporate Brotherhood costs into the Ordeal fee, so the candidate has prepaid for sealing his membership in 10 months. Another popular approach is to hold follow-up events and timely communication after the Ordeal until successfully conferring Brotherhood membership. Ideally, lodges should offer the Brotherhood conversion at every event and perhaps even allow chapters to conduct the ceremony at their events. There is always something more that can be done to increase conversion percentages.

For lodges that are struggling, here is some advice to consider. First, look at the lodge program to see if effective Brotherhood promotion is present in your annual planning, publications, and presentations. Ensure that everyone is on board to make this a priority for the coming year. Take an in-depth look at your council and lodge events. Perhaps offering the privilege to obtain Brotherhood could be allowed at council camporees, summer camp, and district merit badge weekends. Letting chapters and camp staff members become involved might generate new ceremonialist interest. Lastly, how elaborate is your conversion process? Is it given easily, and only to obtain the numbers required? Can you make this process more meaningful? Some lodges have a Brotherhood service project or daylong process that is tailored to further the candidate’s service commitment.

Legacy of service established at OA high-adventure programs continues with ArrowCorps

Ken Davis

In 2005, the OA Ocean Adventure became the third Order of the Arrow service event program established at a national BSA high-adventure base. At the same time, the Order began planning ArrowCorps, the largest conservation project the OA has ever undertaken.

The project took root in 1995 when the first high-adventure program, OA Trail Crew, began at Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico. The idea was twofold. First, each participant would work for a week improving or creating trails at Philmont. This work would be followed by a weeklong trek along Philmont’s trails. The second part of the program was a reinforcement of the purposes and principles of the Order in the lives of the attendees through discussions, program elements, and the example of the staff. Most summers, this program runs throughout the season at Philmont.

Following the successful work done at Philmont, the National OA Committee in 1999 authorized a similar program, OA Wilderness Voyage, at Northern Tier High Adventure Base near Ely, Minnesota. This program engaged young men in improving portage trails between lakes, work that had not been done in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness since the 1930s. Like the Philmont program, the Arrowmen plan and take a weeklong canoe trip after their week of portage trail work.

Following the great work at Northern Tier, the USDA Forest Service awarded the OA its top volunteer recognition in 2003, noting that the Voyage effort had improved canoeing for all members of the canoeing public in the Boundary Waters area, a 1.2 million acre tract supervised by the Forest Service.

Because of the success of these programs, the OA committed itself to five major service projects for the summer of 2008. Working with the Forest Service, the OA developed the ArrowCorps’ program to offer conservation events at national forests in California, Utah, Wyoming, Missouri, and Virginia. The OA’s history of finding additional ways to serve led to these major projects planned for this year.
Central, Northeast, Southern, and Western regions in process of area realignment

Tyson Ford

The Boy Scouts of America has recently undertaken an effort to investigate ways to better meet the needs of local councils. As part of this effort, the National Council has recently announced the realignment of councils into new geographic areas in the Central, Northeast, and Southern regions.

Randy Cline, Northeast Region OA Chairman, believes the new alignment “will allow the regions to better serve local councils and councils can therefore do a better job serving the Scouting movement.”

As a result of the BSA’s new alignment, the Order of the Arrow sections, which typically follow the same boundaries as the areas, have also been realigned. The new section boundaries were determined by the region staff in consultation with the area directors.

When deciding on the section alignments, the regions considered several factors including “lodge sizes, the strengths of the lodges, the sections’ conclave traditions, and the distances that lodges would be required to travel to attend conclaves and Council of Chiefs meetings,” said Cline.

OA section boundaries have changed many times in the history of the OA as similar realignments have occurred. According to the leadership of the OA Central Region, section realignments provide the opportunity to take a fresh look at our section and lodge programs, meet new Arrowmen with new ideas, and form new bonds of brotherhood.

What effect do the realignments have on upcoming conclaves? None, yet. The 2008 section conclaves and section officer elections will occur as scheduled in the existing, pre-alignment sections. Following the 2008 conclaves, the new sections, in their new configurations, will come into being.

Beginning in 2009, Arrowmen will attend section conclaves in the newly configured sections and continue fellowship with the Arrowmen of old while building new bonds with the new section members.

Realignment plans are being outlined for the Western Region and Central Region. Check the next edition of the National Bulletin for an update.
Josh R. Sain Memorial Scholarship recipients

The Josh R. Sain Memorial Scholarship was established in 1998 in memory of Josh Sain, a former national vice chief. These scholarships are available to immediate past national, regional, and section chiefs. They may apply upon successful completion of their terms of office. All awards are selected on merit and based on performance in their respective roles and academic achievements while serving as chief. Congratulations to these fine youth leaders of the Boy Scouts of America and the Order of the Arrow.

The recipients for this year are as follows:

Larry M. Newton of Georgiana, Alabama, is a senior at Huntingdon College, completing a degree in political science with a minor in English. Larry served as the 2007 national vice chief and is a member of Alibamu Lodge, Tukabatchee Area Council, Montgomery, Alabama. He will receive $1,500.

Greg Bajan, past section chief of S-5, is a senior at the University of South Carolina, studying to complete a degree in visual communications. He is a Vigil Honor member of Atta Kulla Kulla Lodge, Blue Ridge Council, Greenville, South Carolina. Greg will receive $1,000.

Brad Reeder, past section chief of W-1C, is a sophomore at Brigham Young University, studying to complete a degree in biology with a premed focus. He is also active in Army ROTC. He is a registered member of Tataliya Lodge, Grand Columbia Council, Yakima, Washington. Brad will receive $1,000.

National conference 2009 to be at Indiana University

The National Order of the Arrow Committee recently announced that the 2009 National Order of the Arrow Conference is scheduled for August 1–6, 2009, at Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana. This will mark the 10th time that NOAC has been held at Indiana University. Please make sure to add this date to your lodge calendar and start planning early.

NOAC is a gathering of all our lodges from across the nation. At Michigan State in 2006, more than 8,000 Arrowmen came together for a weeklong conference that featured superb training, intense competitions, great shows, and fellowship, and provided an excellent environment for us as an organization to reflect and grow. More information will come in the fall edition of the National Bulletin. For current information, visit http://www.oa-bsa.org.

NESA contacting all Eagle Scouts

The National Eagle Scout Association recently updated its Web site at http://www.nesa.org. The site features NESA membership applications, resources, and a portal to help Eagle Scouts stay connected to the Scouting community.

“We want to find and contact every living Eagle Scout and register his achievements, past and present,” said NESA director Bill Steele. “This effort will culminate in Roll Call: The National Eagle Scout Registry—a publication that will capture the tradition, history, and honor of our nation’s Eagle Scouts and will be available only to bona fide Eagles.” Steele added that only Eagle Scouts who agree to be listed and who are adults will be included in the directory.

If an Eagle Scout does not receive a correspondence from Roll Call publisher Harris Connect Inc., they can call a toll-free number available on the NESA Web site to update their information and order the book.
Will Arrowmen attending one of the five ArrowCorps® sites receive any special recognition or patch?

Yes! In addition to having the honor of participating in the largest service project the BSA has undertaken in decades, Arrowmen who attend one of the ArrowCorps® sites will also receive the Service Team Member emblem. This colorful patch is being issued to Arrowmen who have committed to serving this summer at any the five ArrowCorps® sites. The Order is proud of the service its members are about to provide and encourages every member to wear their Service Team Member emblem and tell the story of ArrowCorps®

2008

National Planning Calendar

May 21 National OA Committee Meeting
May 21-23 National Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA
May 23 ArrowCorps® instructors arrive at Philmont
June 3 OA Ocean Adventure begins
June 8 OA Trail Crew Begins
June 7-14 ArrowCorps®, Mark Twain National Forest
June 10 Northern Tier OA Voyage begins
June 14-21 ArrowCorps®, Manti-La-Sal National Forest
June 15-21 OA Philmont Training, Philmont Training Center
June 30 OA Service Grant Application distributed
July 12-19 ArrowCorps®, Shasta-Trinity National Forest
July 26-August 2 ArrowCorps®, Bridger-Teton National Forest
August 10 OA Ocean Adventure ends
August 17 Philmont OA Trail Crew ends
August 19 Northern Tier OA Voyage ends
September 12-14 NLS/NLATS, Alpine, NJ
September 19-21 OA Steering Committee meeting
October 1 OA Charter Renewal Kits distributed
October 3-5 NLS, Canton, MS
October 10-12 NLS/NLATS, Orange County, CA
October 13-15 BSA national meetings, Dallas, TX
October 17-19 NLS, Toledo, OH
October 24-26 SOS, Tempe, AZ
October 31 OA Service Grant applications due
November 2 OA Lodge Program Paks available
November 7-9 NLS/NLATS, Fincastle, VA
November 14-16 NLS, Marin County, CA
December 5-7 SOS, Rochester, IN
December 27-30 OA National Planning Meeting, Dallas, TX
December 31 Lodge charter renewal deadline

2009

August 1-6 National Order of the Arrow Conference, Bloomington, IN