OA Voyage Receives National Forest Service Award

by Brian Seeton

The summer of 2003 was a resounding success for the Order of the Arrow Northern Tier Wilderness Voyage. Ninety-nine Arrowmen from across the country participated in the experience of a lifetime. The ideals of brotherhood, cheerfulness and service came alive as Arrowmen paddled around wilderness lakes, catching glimpses of bald eagles, moose, the northern lights, waterfalls and ancient Indian pictographs.

OA Voyage Dates

Summer 2004 dates are:
Session 1: June 8-22
Session 2: June 15-29
Session 3: June 22-July 6
Session 4: June 29-July 13
Session 5: July 6-20
Session 6: July 13-27

The participants and foremen of the OA Voyage donated 4,761 total man-hours of service repairing portage trails that have not been worked on since the 1930s. Arrowmen built 1.2 miles of trail.

This summer, the USDA Forest Service recognized the OA Voyage for five years of service with a national award, authorized by the chief of the Forest Service. In the five summers of the OA Voyage, 350 Arrowmen have repaired 22 high-use portage trails for a total of 5.5 miles in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area. At a special banquet, Ranger John Pierce of the Forest Service staff with the National Forest Service Award for Youth Support. This award belongs to the 350 Arrowmen and 50 foremen who have participated in the Voyage themselves over the past five years. Special thanks to all of the advisers and youth who have supported the OA Voyage program. Of note are the advisers over the past five years, both volunteer and professional, lead adviser Dan Segersin, Gene Schnell and staff adviser Carey Miller, as well as the directors of the past five summers, Jason Accola, Bobby Kunstrman, Bob Richards and Brian Seeton.

Northern Tier General Manager Doug Hirdler and Forest Service liaisons Mike Manlove, Nicole Summers, and John Pierce also are directly responsible for this accomplishment. The Order of the Arrow, Northern Tier and the Forest Service have become an amazing team in the preservation of the wilderness area.

It is not too early to begin registering for the 2004 OA Voyage. You must be at least 16 but not yet 21 by the end of your trek, an Arrowman in good standing, and be strong and robust to qualify for this 14-day journey of a lifetime. The cost is only $100 plus your travel to the base. See your lodge chief, section chief or adviser for an application, or go to the OA Web site at http://www.oa-bsa.org.

OA Trail Crew 2003 Overview

by Matt Dukeman

Hikers trekking across Philmont Scout Ranch will be able to reach new parts of the Baldy Mountain area, thanks to the effort of 161 OA Trail Crew participants this summer.

Arrowmen worked four weeks to complete Black Horse Trail, which will permit Scouts to explore areas near Baldy Mountain. The work was started in 2000 but delayed in 2002 because of wildfires at the ranch.

During the last five trail crew sessions this summer, Arrowmen began building a new trail from Copper Park to the ridge above Greenwood Canyon. The new Copper Park Trail will allow easier access to Philmont’s Valle Vidal. Scouts walk some of the area at Philmont destroyed by wildfires in 2002.
New National OA Committee Members Selected

By Jason Laney

At the national Order of the Arrow committee meeting in May, Chairman Brad Haddock announced the appointment of the following Arrowmen to the national OA committee:

- Anthony Steinhardt, Indianapolis, Indiana, is a member of the Crossroads of America Council. He will serve on the communications and marketing subcommittee.
- Scott Beckett, Dana Point, California, is a member of the Orange County Council. He will serve on the outdoor program subcommittee.
- Wayne Dukes, Findlay, Ohio, is a member of the Black Swamp Area Council. He will serve on the lodge operations subcommittee.
- Tico Perez, Orlando, Florida, is a member of the Central Florida Council. He was appointed to the lodge operations subcommittee.

Hoffman and McCarthy Receive Silver Antelope

By Jason Laney

National Order of the Arrow committee members Michael Hoffman and Dan McCarthy received the Silver Antelope Award at the BSA’s National Annual Meeting in Boston. The National Court of Honor presents the Silver Antelope Award to Scouters who provide distinguished service to youth within their region.

Michael Hoffman is a member of the Grand Canyon Council and Wipala Wiki Lodge, Phoenix, Arizona. He was active in the Order as a youth, and served as the national vice chief in 1985. In addition to providing local troop and lodge support, he served as section adviser and currently serves as vice chairman of leadership development on the national OA committee. Professionally, Michael is vice president of sales and marketing for Arizona Benefit Plans Inc. Dan McCarthy is registered with the Keystone Area Council and Susquehannock Lodge, Mechanicburg, Pennsylvania. As a youth he was active in the Order, serving as chapter chief. As an adult, Dan served on numerous national Scout jamboree and National Order of the Arrow Conference staffs. He is chairman of the national training task force and a member of the Northeast Region Executive Board, and he serves on the Order’s financial resources subcommittee. Dan is a rear admiral in the U.S. Navy Supply Corps and commander of the Naval Supply Systems Command.

Billy Clark—The Picture of Cheerful Service

As Scouts, we all do at least one Good Turn daily. Did you ever wonder whether those little acts of kindness really have an affect on anyone?

The Founder of the Order, Dr. E. Urner Goodman, was Scoutmaster of Troop 1 in Philadelphia from 1911 until 1915. He told this story about a camping trip on Treasure Island in 1914, the year before the Order’s founding. It gives us an insight into a good deed by Billy Clark, the troop’s assistant scribe, that became the inspiration for our ideal of cheerful service.

“One time during our stay there, one of our charges came down with a minor sickness. There was no medicine, no hospital on the island at all. So he had to stay in his tent and he had to be taken care of carefully. Billy volunteered to be our live-in nurse for the two or three days he had to be there. And he did a good job of it.

“Came to a crisis however the next morning. It had rained during the night. Now, there is a vessel used in hospitals they call a bedpan. And it was time to take that to the latrine and Billy, of course, cheerfully took on the assigned visit. However, in going from the tent to the latrine carrying this thing, he had a little upset. It was the wrong kind of bath, to be put lightly. But Billy got up smiling from it all, if you can imagine. Now that’s the picture of cheerful service.”

Adapted from A Thing of the Spirit: The Life of E. Urner Goodman, by Nelson R. Block.
Indian Summer Sights

by Jonathan Hardin

This past August, the Order of the Arrow held a special event for American Indian enthusiasts at Ridgecrest, North Carolina. Indian Summer was a national program event that focused on training ceremonials and American Indian dancers, providing participants a special opportunity to share ceremonial dance techniques, and helping lodges improve their competitive skills.

There was superb training on topics ranging from ordeals to fancy dancing. The evening assemblies and special activities added fun and inspiration to the entire event. Overall, Indian Summer was a wonderful opportunity for Arrowmen to celebrate their common interests in OA heritage. These pictures from Indian Summer give a glimpse of the learning and fun.
Where Are They Now?

Jeff Posey has been active in a variety of positions in Scouting for many years, including involvement with Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, the Order of the Arrow, Exploring and Venturing. He became an Eagle Scout in 1984 as a member of Troop 461 in the National Capital Area Council, then moved to Miliam, Hawaii. There he joined Troop 264 of Aloha Council and began his involvement with the Order. He was elected chief of Na Mokupuni O Lawelawe Lodge, then chief of section W-C3, and then, in December 1990, national vice chief of the Order. He was recognized with the Distinguished Service Award in 1992.

Jeff is a member of the Grand Canyon Council, Phoenix, Arizona. He works with the Venturing program and serves as the service committee adviser for Wipala Wiki Lodge, as well as the training adviser for section W-4C.

Jeff's Scouting career, along with his degree in sports management from Washington State University, helped him to become the director of game operations for several professional sports teams since 1994. By working in sports management and running his own soccer camps, Jeff has had the opportunity to play and work with a number of professional soccer players, including Roberto Baggio, the 1993 World Player of the Year and Italian national team member; Tomas Bickle, a member of the Switzerland national team; and numerous U.S. national team members. Working in the professional sports industry also helped Jeff to build working relationships with other professional sports organizations such as the Seattle Seahawks and SuperSonics, and the St. Louis Rams, Blues and Cardinals.

He now works for Trammell Crow Company as conference services supervisor for the seven American Express facilities in Phoenix. His wife, Shari, is a registered nurse at St. Joseph's Hospital.

"It is amazing when you look back on your past participation in the OA when you did not realize the amount of leadership skills you were being taught while having so much fun," Jeff said.

"Those skills will stay with you forever."
Committee Returns to Order's Birthplace

by Riley Berg

The city of Philadelphia played host in May to the National Annual Meeting of the Boy Scouts of America, where the leaders of Scouting gathered to meet and discuss the direction of our organization. The meeting’s location gave the national Order of the Arrow committee occasion to return to a city at the center of the Order’s formative years.

The national OA committee meeting addressed major projects and initiatives in progress, along with decisions affecting the National Order of the Arrow Conference and the national OA high-adventure programs. Four distinguished Arrowmen were introduced as new members of the committee, while others were thanked for their noteworthy service.

Following the meeting, the committee and several family members ventured to Treasure Island Scout Camp, the birthplace of our Order, for a tour, dinner and rededication ceremony. This unique opportunity was made possible by the leadership and generosity of Unami Lodge, Cradle of Liberty Council, Philadelphia.

“We realize how lucky we are to have Treasure Island as our camp. But to be able to share that magical place with the national leaders of our organization was a great experience for the brothers of Unami Lodge,” said past Unami Lodge Adviser Mark Chilutti. “To spend a few hours on those very same grounds where Dr. Goodman inducted our very first Arrowmen more than 88 years ago, and kindle the spirit within is something everyone should experience in their lifetime. That the brothers on the national committee, many who have dedicated their lives to serving others, could get that chance meant a lot to us.”

Committee members were led on guided tours to all corners of the camp, where veteran members of Unami lodge recounted stories and their memories of our Order’s founders, E. Urner Goodman and Carroll A. Edison.

Many committee members were visiting Treasure Island for the first time. It was also a special opportunity for the 2003 national officers, as they were able to take part in a special presentation and re-enactment of the 50th anniversary of the first OA ceremony, held at Treasure Island.

“There is something special about visiting the birthplace of our Order. Seeing the landscape, feeling the breeze—it puts a real place with all the names you have read in a book,” said 2003 Southern Region Chief Frank McMillan. “If nothing else, it makes you recognize how amazing it is that from such a humble beginning, this organization has grown to touch hundreds of thousands of youth across America.”

Left: Unami Lodge transports guests to Treasure Island. Right: John MacMillan, the last Arrowman to keep the Vigil at the Devil’s Tea Table, conducts a tour of the camp.

Left: The historical marker at the entrance to Treasure Island. Right: National Chairman Brad Haddock and his son, Austin, stand with a marker placed in 1965 commemorating the 50th anniversary of the first OA ceremony, held at Treasure Island.

Left: Members of Unami Lodge reenact the original Ordeal Ceremony with National Chief Nick Digirolamo and National Vice Chief Rich Moore serving as candidates. Right: Lodge Adviser Mark Chilutti (right) and Unami Lodge Chief Ryan Edmonds accept a plaque of appreciation from the national committee.

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The National Bulletin is published quarterly. If you have an article and/or picture (with caption) for submission, please send it to Clay Capp, 9 Warwick Lane, Nashville, TN, 37205 or e-mail it to capp@fas.harvard.edu. The next submission deadline is October 24, 2003.

www.oa-bsa.org 5 Scouting’s National Honor Society

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Dear Readers:
We have received numerous articles and photographs for publication, and will continue to welcome them. However, in the case of some photographs we have received inadequate information or quality. If you are submitting pictures for publication, please adhere to the following guidelines:

(1) Provide names and lodges of all individuals in photographs. Identify the people from left to right, starting with the front row if there are multiple rows.
(2) Those in the photograph should be in complete uniform, unless the activity captured does not require the complete uniform (such as the Philmont backcountry).
(3) It is an action photograph. Please provide a description of the activity and possible caption.
(4) The photograph must be suitable. They cannot be over/under exposed or too light/too dark to see.
2003-2004 Planning Calendar

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National Bulletin Distribution Reminder

Lodges need to remember to fill out the direct mail request form for the National Bulletin in the 2004 Re-Charter packet. This will insure that the key leaders of the lodge get a copy of each Bulletin mailed directly to their home. For other members who want a printed copy, they can fill out the enclosed subscription form. All members can access the National Bulletin on the national OA Website. A limited number of copies will also be mailed directly to Council Offices. Lodges are encouraged to make sure these copies are distributed to their members.

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Question: When will the Boy Scouts of America publish a new Fieldbook, and what will this edition contain?

Answer: The BSA is pleased to announce that its fourth edition of the Fieldbook, a comprehensive resource for older Boy Scouts, Varsity Scouts, Venturers, unit leaders, trainers and outdoor enthusiasts, will be released this fall. In 34 chapters, the Fieldbook will cover intermediate and advanced outdoor skills, from safety tips and backcountry hygiene to monitoring the weather and disposing of waste. The Fieldbook also will include more than 200 informative graphics, 500 full-color photographs and a convenient companion Web site that offers great references and Internet resources. Look for the new Fieldbook to arrive in Scout shops across the nation in November 2003, with a cover price of $19.95.

National Notes

- Lodge Charter Renewal. 2004 Lodge Charter Renewal Applications are due December 31, 2003. The Distinguished Service Award and Red Arrow Award nomination forms are included.
- 2004 Lodge Support Pak. Paks will be mailed to each lodge after its charter renewal forms and fees are received at the national office.
- Web Update. In August, the Web team presented daily news from Indian Summer for Arrowmen back home still online at http://www.oa-bsa.org.