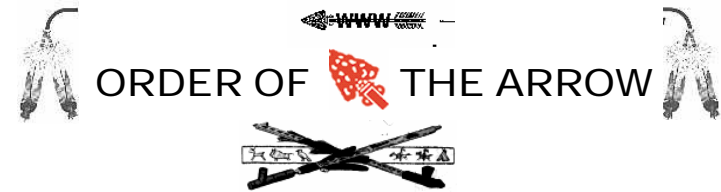


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THE ASHOKWAHTA TEHTAS

A production of Ashokwahta Lodge

Volume 2005 Number 6—Winter

On behalf of the Iroquois Trail Council Board of Directors, I would like to take this opportunity to thank every Arrowman for your support of our Council in 2005.

On October 12th of this year, the Board of Directors unanimously adopted an updated ten (10) year Strategic Plan.

The Vision Statement outlined in that plan states that the 'Iroquois Trail Council is the premier youth serving agency in Western New York.'

In order to fulfill this benchmark as well as to continue our work of building a quality council, we ask for your prayers and continued support.

May you all have a Blessed Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

God Bless,
Glen Miller, President

UPCOMING CALENDAR --- 2005 – 2006

December LEC -----21 ST @ 7:00 PM

January Banquet --- 7 TH @ 6:15 PM

Batavia Party House

January LEC ----- 18 TH @ 7:00 PM

February LEC ----- 15 TH @ 7:00 PM

OKPIK ----- February 17-18-19

March LEC ----- 15 TH @ 7:00 PM

June Conclave ---- 2-3-4 Camp Olmsted

June Spring Wknd—9-10-11 Camp Sam

Wood

July / August ----- NOAC --- Michigan

Visit our Lodge Site @ itcbsa.org/oa

ORDER OF THE ARROW SCOUTING'S NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Dropped Dues Causes Payments / Updating

For the past four newsletters, 1999 And before, 2000, 2001, and 2002, the alignment of the lodge's **Ashokwahta TEHTAS** mailing list saw an influx of membership dues of those that were about to be dropped for non-payment of their past and current dues. Many of those that were dropped may, of course, renew their membership with the timely payment of their present year's and one year past dues.

(\$12.00 ---2004 & 2005)

The possibility of a member hearing of a person relating that they do not get the newsletter any more should inquire as to the person's dues status should forward the news to the lodge. Guide them to reconnect with the lodge.

It is amazing that many of those that were dropped have not presented their dues to bring them up to date. Possibly they were not interested in the lodge at this time.

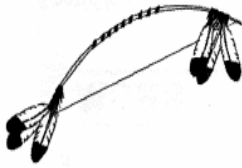
As of the Order of the Arrow Winter Banquet, dues are payable for the year --- 2006. These may be paid to the lodge at the Winter Banquet held at the Batavia Party House on January 7th.

Thank you to those that took advantage of continuing their dues payment.

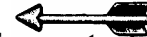
Look at the date on your mailing label for your current status.

LEC

What is an LEC?????? Many of the members of the OA do not know the words that are told by an acronym. Those that attend many of the Order of the Arrow functions will come to know the LEC means ----LODGE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.



Order of the Arrow Unit Elections start with contact



It's hard to believe that it's already time to hold elections for the Order of the Arrow at the unit level. A youth election team representative should be contacting every troop in the near future to schedule your election time. Unit leaders - please be advised the youth are working hard towards achieving 100% participation, but we could use your help. If you have not been contacted for your unit election, please call one of the youth chairmen listed in the help wanted section of this paper. Order of the Arrow troop representatives can also help us out by reminding the unit leaders election time is at hand, and helping out in the election itself.

There is often a fear by the units that another scout function will drain the resources of the unit. Please know that the troop or crew comes first in all Order of the Arrow functions. The Order is a necessary and integral part of the Council's infrastructure that helps maintain our two scout camps and promote camping-every boys favorite part of scouting. Most importantly, the Order teaches selflessness, showing our youth that one can help others with no expectation of reward.

If you have Questions or concerns about your unit election, please feel free to contact me.

I'm looking forward to our best election year yet.

Yours in Service,
Paul Crawford
Lodge Advisor
716-514-3044



Dance Team Started

A dance team has been started for our lodge. Six Arrowmen formed the Dance Team at the Fun Weekend. Any Arrowman wanting to join the team can come to the practices at the Boy Scout office, 45 Liberty Street, Suite #2, Batavia, New York on Sundays on the following dates ----- 2:00 PM.

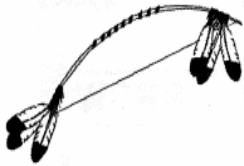
January 8 th	January 22 nd
February 5 th	February 19 th
March 5 th	March 19 th
April 2 nd	April 23 rd
May 7 th	June date will be selected by the Dance Team.

If you are new, we will be teaching dancing, put together dance clothes and feathers. You might invite Mom to your first practice so we can explain what clothes need to be sown. Other regalia parts we will teach. The new dancers already know four dances we are working on. Also, any adult Arrowman who wants to learn how to drum, make beadwork and other regalia ---- you are invited. Lets make it a lodge project and have fun doing it.

My Brothers:

*Sow a thought of cheerful service and reap an act of one
 Sow an act of cheerful service and reap a habit of one
 Sow a habit of cheerful service and reap a character of one
 Sow a character of cheerful service and reap your destiny.
 For our life is what our thoughts make it.
 As we think so we become
 Think well my brothers, and sleep well because of it*

Author unknown



Fall Fun Weekend Breaks Records



The Second Annual Fun Weekend held at Camp Sam Wood broke expected numbers as OA Members attended to rest, relax, stay up all night, eat, play video games, and contribute 82 "donated" hours to Camp Sam Wood. The weekend was great as the weather was dry, but crisp; and some would say on Sunday AM --- COLD. That is why winter long johns are useful to own.

The Call Lodge, temperature of 73 degrees ----was just hopping / humming / and electrically active with about \$10,000 – 15,000.00 worth of games, equipment and tens of feet of extension cords to run the complete arcade like program. Screens, sheet screens and television monitors plus computer monitors / speakers were glowing / shining / and with the audio ----- you had to be there. No sleep was heard about on Friday night.

Those that attended the weekend were in complete agreement that it should be held in 2006. Possible suggestions were that the date could be moved up some in the year; more planning on how to host so many visual and auditory stations. Movies and video games rule.

Contact one of the 42 people that attended to find out more of the activities. Most importantly ---- the jobs were completed in record time so that the camp benefited from the "donated time."

Plan on attending next year. Watch this newsletter for details.



Turkey and Pheasant Feathers Needed

The dance team could use turkey and pheasant feathers from any hunters. Just the tail feathers please. We can't use the other feathers from the birds.
 Call Dave Brown (585) –300 – 7685.





BURNING ISSUES

Annual Lodge Banquet

The Annual Ashokwahta Banquet for our lodge will be Saturday, January 7, 2006, 6:30 PM at the Party House (5762 East Main ---Route 5) in Batavia. Come and join the fellowship. Because costs have gone up at the Party House, the dinner will cost \$14.00 a person. This year for the first time we will have the election of officers for the year 2006 – 2007. The annual report of our lodge will be presented by our Lodge Chief. There will be words from our Council Executive, Lodge Advisor, and Staff Advisor. One of the highlights will be our annual auction of Scout memorabilia. In order for us to know how many will be coming to the banquet so food can be ordered, the deadline for reservations will be December 27th. Bring your Dad and have fun.

The Lodge Needs YOU!

Lodge Positions Available:

Youth Position/Adult Mentors/drivers needed:

- **Election committees for every district**

No experience needed-we will train. Please contact:

Niagara District: Bob Lawson 716-434-7529

Orleans District: Jonathan Doherty 585-589-9985

Letchworth District: James Franklemont 585-216-5863

Genishua District: Dan Jones 585-343-1366

Youth Position/Adult Mentors/drivers:

- **The Ashokwahta Native American Dance Team**

No experience needed- we will train

We have a great start folks, help to keep a great tradition alive.

Contact: Dave Brown via Paul Crawford at

pcraw61@juno.com

or 716-514-3044

Youth Position/Adult Mentors/drivers:

- **Ceremonies Team:**

No experience necessary-we will train

Contact Cory Hall at 716-692-5046



Patch Auction Supports Lodge

Arrowmen, it is time to be checking your stash of Scouting Memorabilia to see what you can donate to the annual auction to be held at the Lodge banquet on January 7th, 2006. We need any kind of Scouting items, including patches, neckerchiefs, books, old uniforms, camping gear or any collectible items you can part with.

The auction will include a **youth only** section so the younger Arrowmen will not be bidding against the adults. Youth can also bid in the adult/open section of the auction, but those items will go to whoever has the deepest pockets and wishes to help the major fundraising event of the Lodge. It has been the policy of the Lodge to use the proceeds to benefit the Council camping program. The promotion of camping has always been the priority of the Order.

I will accept all donated items until December 21st. I need the additional time to catalog, package, price and organize the items so they can be ready for another spirited evening of bidding. We will accept cash, check or credit card, so remember to bring one of these with you. We do not extend credit. If you contemplate bidding on several items, our cashiers will keep a running tab so you can pay for all your items at one time.

Items can be left at the Batavia office or at my home. NO items will be accepted for auction at the banquet. It becomes too confusing!!!! I look forward to another evening of great bidding.

Donald Ames 585-757-6661

4788 Ford Rd.

Elba, NY 14058

carsnquilts@geneseeit.com



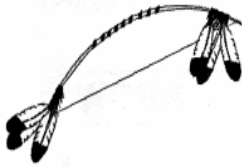
Fall 2005 has been one of the most incredible seasons that I've ever seen

Fall Weekend 2005 saw 13 New Ordeal Members, a high amount for our Dittmer weekend, and 14 new Brotherhood Members. Don't think that the fun stopped at the Fall OA Weekend however; Ashokwahta Lodge is always on the move. Many of our Brothers assisted with the office move that took place from Harvester Ave to Liberty Street in Batavia. The new office looks fantastic and thanks to all of those Brothers who assisted in that endeavor. The Ashokwahta Fun Weekend, held at Camp Sam Wood, was a great time for all who attended. It was a weekend of food, fellowship and fun. At which I hope I met many new Brothers whom I hope will attend more events in the future. Great job to Kevin Drury for organizing such a great event. On the weekend of November 19-21, nine other Arrowmen and I traveled to Camp Custalogatown for the annual C.O.R.E. training weekend hosted by our section. It was a beneficial and an important training weekend. Those in attendance gained much valuable insight into running a lodge. Coming up is the lodge banquet, to be held on January 7th at the Batavia Party House, send in reservations for yourself now. Thank you to all of the other lodge officers, chairmen, and advisors for all your hard work this season. I hope to see many new faces in the future.

In Service-
Dan Jones
Lodge Chief

CORE

11 members associated with our lodge attended a fantastic weekend of brotherhood and training sessions, where the end result was to organize and communicate plans for our next Section 3A Conclave. Job well done.



Keep It Moving Arrowmen!

2005 is turning out to be a great year for the Brothers of Ashokwahta Lodge. All of you should be excited about what has been achieved and what is yet to come.

As we prepare to submit the lodge's annual recharter, it looks as though the lodge has earned and achieved the "Quality Lodge" status. This recognition is something that must be earned and not just given and recognizes the youth of the lodge for what they have been able to achieve; membership growth, a healthy helping of service to the council and community; a financial commitment to the council and an attractive program. Congratulations to all who helped make 2005 a "Quality Lodge" year.

As we look ahead to 2006, every Arrowman can get the year off to a great start by attending the annual banquet, and then make plans (and yes put in your family calendars) to attend the fellowship weekends, the Area 3A Section Conclave, and our regular lodge meetings on the third Wednesday of each month.

Lastly Brothers, I am most excited that some of you are participating in the early stages of a dance team. As a Scout and an Arrowman, I can tell you that I have many great memories from my participation on both the lodge and an Explorer Post dance team. We traveled far and wide throughout our council performing for many groups while building some life-long memories,

It has been a great 2005 – you're going to make it an even better 2006.

Yours in the Brotherhood,
Jamie Shearer





National Order of the Arrow Conference -- 2006

The National Order of the Arrow Conference will be held July 29 TH through August 3 RD in 2006. There will be over 10,000 Order of the Arrow men at the conference at the University of Michigan. The cost for the NOAC may run from \$475.00 -- \$500.00 depending on the mode of transportation, and activities, meals to and from the conference. Spending money will be of your choice. Your meals will be in the college cafeterias, your stay is in the college dorm. NOAC is a lots of fun and you meet a lot of new people from all over the world. NOAC is so much fun and there are so many cool activities that you can do by yourself or with your lodge. One of the BIG THINGS at NOAC is the Trading Post where you buy lots of cool stuff. The training and shows, the friends and learning experiences are a great reason to journey to Michigan in the summer of 2006.

..... NOAC 2006 will be the best ever and you should go to NOAC. The best time of your life.

Jonathan Doherty

See page 14

Words from the Lodge Advisor

We often read in the news about the decline of today's youth. I'd like to take a moment to tell you all about a great bunch of Scouts in the Order of the Arrow whose main focus is cheerful service to our council and our community.

Every spring the youth of our lodge prepares Camp Sam Wood for the upcoming camping season. They work long hard hours to make sure the camp is in top condition for their brother cub scouts. Later at the end of summer they put on a full weekend to promote camping for the cub scouts called the Cub-Parent Weekend. They teach the cubs what camping and

In the Order of the Arrow adults are considered age 21+ and youth are under 21. If you are an adult interested in going, make sure you have a youth committed to attending as well! It is the quickest and easiest way of ensuring your spot. The cost may sound a bit steep, but remember the only money you will need to bring with you on the trip is for souvenirs or additional items you wish to purchase. All meals to and from NOAC are covered in the price. To attend Jamboree, which is not anywhere comparable to NOAC in excitement, you would be paying nearly twice the amount. Our lodge will be having fundraisers and patch sales and other programs helping to cover the cost. We will also be setting up a payment plan so all of the money is not needed upfront. If you have any ideas for a full pocket patch for NOAC, please submit it to me as soon as possible so we can make the patch and begin selling it to help defer your cost to attend NOAC. If you want to go to NOAC but you think you can't afford it, please do not disregard this opportunity! Please contact me and we will work something out. Every lodge member should experience NOAC and there is no reason you can't experience it this upcoming summer!

Yours in Brotherhood,

Steven Olsen

NOAC Committee Chairman

Fellow Arrow members,

I am Bob Lawson and the Chairman for Unit Elections. Tis the season to elect. If you have not contacted me, and are in need for an election in your home troop or just want to help out in the Unit Elections Process for the lodge in your own district, then please don't hesitate to call me at (716)-434-7529 . If you have any other questions about the election process or the lodge in general call me or the lodge Chief Dan Jones at (585)-343-1366.

Yours along the trail,

Bob Lawson

Unit Elections Chairman



Conclave with National Dimensions

Where can you go for a week during the summer and have your transportation, board, and complete meals as well as a little money left over covered for only \$475? Well if you are up for a true value and tons of excitement, sign yourself up for the **National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC)**. July 29th to August 3rd, 2006 lodges from all over the United States will converge on Michigan State University's campus in East Lansing, Michigan. Unlike the Jamboree, you will be staying in dorm rooms where running water, bedding and meals are provided. Also, there will not be a scoutmaster standing over your shoulder and instructing you where to go. At NOAC, we want you to have fun! Shows will be put on nearly every night, and instead of cheesy children stuff these shows are packed with pyrotechnics, fun music, girls, jumbo screens, exciting plays and stunts. If patch trading is your thing, you will find people of all ages trading all kinds of patches nearly everywhere on campus. There are several expos which take place, giving away loads of free stuff and information helping you on the scouting trail. If this whole experience isn't enough, on our way home we will be stopping at the famous Henry Ford Museum which consists of miles of cars, historical facts and theatres. If this sounds like something you would like to go to, please do not hesitate; included in this newsletter is a signup form. Please fill out the form and send in your payment of \$50 to reserve your spot. We need to get an accurate count as soon as possible, because we are trying to get contracts in place for our transportation to NOAC and back. We will most likely be taking big comfortable chartered busses from "Grand Tours," the same bus company which provided transportation for the Jamboree this past summer. National standards call for all adults attending NOAC to have at least one youth going as well to make our number of youth and adults attending equal.



scouting is all about, and have a great time doing it. In the fall at the end of the camping season, the scouts dismantle Camp Dittmer. Dozens of tents are carefully folded and stored, maintenance is done to the buildings, and the grounds are picked up and prepared for the winter.

We currently have a Native American Dance team. These scouts are carrying on a tradition that so many have lost to video games or cable TV. These are just a few examples of the positive direction our lodge youth have taken. I am very proud of our scouts, and would invite and encourage all scouts and scouters to run for scouting's national honor society, The Order of the Arrow.

Yours in Brotherhood,
Paul

Second Annual OA Fun Weekend

By Chas Streb

On November 14-15, of 2005 the Order of the Arrow held its Second Annual Fun Weekend at Camp Sam Wood. This year we had a turn out of 42 Arrowmen, almost double last year. This weekend included two hours of camp clean up and winter preparation. This involved bringing cots down from the Call Lodge and raking in front of the Trading Post. The rest of the weekend was carefree and full of lots of fun! The majority of the time members spent up at Call Lodge watching movies, playing cards, and playing video games. The food, prepared by our "Honorary Dishdogs", was excellent! We had chili, pizza, and pancakes. Hats off to the Dishdogs for volunteering to cook for us the entire weekend. In honor of Veteran's Day, Conner Gerbowski held a flag burning ceremony to commemorate all those who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces. Overall, it was a productive and enjoyable time for all members.



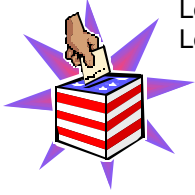
Officer Elections to be Held at Banquet

Lodge Officer elections will be held at the winter banquet this year. This will allow elected officers the opportunity to attend training and observing the office prior to taking office. The newly elected officers will take over the spring ordeal weekend.

If you would like to be considered for election to any of the offices, please submit your intentions to the lodge chief prior to December 27.

OFFICES:

- Lodge Chief
- Vice Lodge Chief
- Lodge Secretary
- Lodge Assistant Secretary
- Lodge Ordeal Master
- Lodge Historian



Okpik Winter Adventure Camp Sam Wood February 3 – 5, 2006

What is Okpik

Okpik is a “Classroom style” training experience designed to make the learner aware of the physiology and psychological aspects of winter camping, as well as the great variety of winter camping equipment that’s available. This training will give you the skills and confidence to lead a winter campout and ensure a safe and fun experience for all.

Lodging will be in the heated “Call Lodge” You should plan on arriving at the Lodge no later than 8:00 pm on Friday and we’ll depart Sunday mid-morning.



How much will it cost??

The entire trip, including transportation, the conference, side trip and complete meals will be \$475. This may sound like a lot, but we are planning fundraisers and payment plans so this price can be easily paid by any lodge member. **However, to reserve your spot you need to make a check payable to Iroquois Trail Council for \$50 and mail it to the scout office before December 31, 2005.** Any deposits mailed after the due date will not guarantee a reserved spot.

2006 National Order of the Arrow Conference Deposit

Name: _____ Phone #: () _____

Address: _____ Email: _____

Adult (age 21+) Youth (under 21)

Mail To: Iroquois Trail Council, BSA

NOAC Registration

45 Liberty Street Suite 2

Batavia, NY 14021

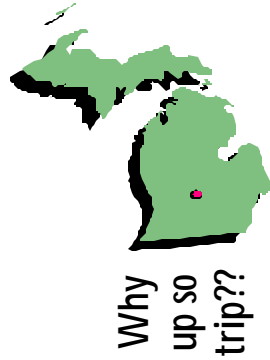
Included is my payment of \$50.00

★ **In the memo area of the check; write “NOAC DEPOSIT.”**

National Order of the Arrow Conference

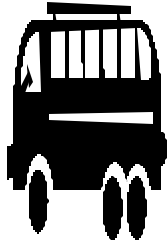
July 29-August 3, 2006

Michigan State University



Why
up so
trip??

do we
early



have
for



to sign
this

We want you to sign up **NOW** because we need to know how many people are going to be attending! We need an accurate number so we can plan transportation before gas prices increase again and we need to reserve your room at the conference immediately! **PLEASE DO NOT WAIT, DETATCH THE LOWER PORTION OF THIS FLYER AND MAIL TODAY!!!!** Spaces are limited and fill up fast, so please save YOUR spot before it's gone!

(Lodging, meals are included)

Bring the following items

- Warm personal clothing: Be prepared to be outdoors in winter conditions
- Long underwear, wool socks, wool or synthetic shirt and sweater (no cotton)
- Fleece or wool pants (plus shell)
- Warm Winter Jacket or (layering shell)
- Insulated waterproof boots and a pair of shoes to wear indoors
- Winter mittens and or gloves (wool)
- Winter hat (wool or fleece)
- Face Mask (optional)
- Sunglasses
- Sleeping bag & pillow (plus ground pad if sleeping outdoors)
- Any personal items you normally use including medication

Class 1 Medical Form (valid class 3 is acceptable)

Learn New Winter Skills

Winter Travel: The Native Americans have used snowshoes for thousands of years. It is the best way to travel in winter conditions.

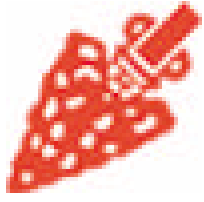
Winter Shelter: A warm shelter is the key to enjoying a frigid winter night. Shelters taught are the thermal shelter, the snow piled quinzhee.

Winter Camping: Camping in the snow is more than just summer camping with more clothes, techniques are taught which will increase your enjoyment and safety and your overall camping skills.

For Questions: Call District Executive Bob Drury at (716) 434-2851 or e-mail rdrury@bsamail.org

Cost: \$50.00/person (non-refundable after 1/20/06)

Make Check payable to: Iroquois Trail Council"



Ashokwahta Lodge

2006 Winter Banquet and Patch Auction
January 7, 2006 @ 6:00 pm

Once again the time for our lodge winter banquet has arrived. As always it will be held at The Batavia Party House Rt. 5 in Stafford. The cost will be \$14 and is payable at the door or you may send a check to the Batavia service center. All we ask is that you PRE-REGSTAR BY TUESDAY DECEMBER 27.

NO Reservations can be accepted AFTER THU FRIDAY DEC. 30. Please call the BATAVIA office at 585-343-0307 to register. Parents, spouses or your guest are welcome.

Lodge Officer Elections will take place at this years Banquet. Officers will take office at the Spring Ordeal Fellowship. Those wishing to be considered for office must contact the lodge chief by December 27th.

Lodge Dues will be payable at the Banquet. National Dues have increased considerably. The LEC will determine the fees at the December meeting. If you forgot last year or have been inactive and wish to reactivate your membership. All you need to do is pay one years back and this years current; you will then be in good standing once again.

Dig through your patch bag, clean out the attic or basement and Please make a donation to the Auction. We really need some more items. Lets make this year the best ever! Items don't have to be just patches, any Scout related item would be great!

Please call Don Ames at 585-757-6661 if you have any thing you'd like to donate.
Get together and social hour starting at 6:00 dinner served at 7:00PM.

Hope to see you there!

Harold M. Teller, Phone/Fax 585-815-0312, E-mail: hteller@bsamail.org

----- Cut Here -----

Ashokwahta Lodge #339

2006 Winter Banquet

Registration Act#: 339

Name: _____

Check One:

I will be attending \$14.00

I will not be attending

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Additional Guests \$14.00 Each

E-Mail Address: _____

Make checks payable to: **Ashokwahta Lodge #339**

Enclose and mail to: Ashokwahta Lodge #339
Iroquois Trail Council, BSA
45 Liberty Street Suite 2
Batavia, New York 14020

This form will be on the council website.
However, registration must be done by mail this year!!!