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Ashokwahta Lodge #339  
Boy Scouts of America  
7121 Rochester Rd.  
Lockport, New York  
14094-1625



A production of Ashokwahta Lodge

Volume 2005 Number 1—Spring

### Words from the Lodge Chief



Happy New Year to all. And now that we've entered a new year I feel it is only appropriate to recap the highlights of the last one.

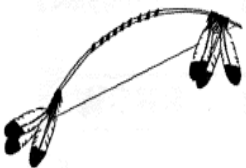
Spring 2004 started off with a blast. Our fellowship and ordeal weekend went smoothly with 108 Arrowmen present. We saw 42 new members join the order and 11 members take the ties of brotherhood. After the spring ordeal it's off to the Section Conclave. We hosted the best ever section NE-3A conclave at our very own Camp Sam Wood. With approximately 300 people from all over Western New York and Northern Pennsylvania we had our work cut out for us. But with a staff over 80 people we made it happen.

On to the summer at Camp Dittmer. This year we tried a few new things, - Camp unit elections, as well as a camp call out ceremony. Both went smashingly well and really helped to strengthen our lodge. These programs, however, could not replace the great programs we already have in place. As always, we had our OA Cracker Barrel and for the second consecutive year we

*(Continued on page 9)*

Visit our Lodge Site @ [itcbsa.org/oa](http://itcbsa.org/oa)

ORDER OF THE ARROW SCOUTING'S NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY



Our lodge is just a small part of a much bigger organization. That organization is The Order of the Arrow. The National OA is broken up into 4 regions each region having a number of sections making it up. A section is a group of six to twelve lodges all organized to make the OA an enjoyable place for all of its members. Our lodge is one of 8 lodges in the Northeast Region, Section 3A. Every three months or so, the Chiefs of all 8 lodges come together for a council of chiefs meeting.

I attended a Council Of Chiefs on January 16th in Falconer, New York with our Lodge Adviser, Paul Crawford, our Lodge Staff Adviser, Harold Teller, and our Lodge.. , well I'm not sure what his "official" position is, but man is he a good guy - Dave Hawley. We discussed plans for the upcoming Section Conclave, which may well be the best conclave ever. We also discussed section training events and other pressing issues with in our section. The meeting was extremely successful and things within our section are looking up.

Wes Hall

**Upcoming Calendar ---2005**

- Jan. / April 2005 ----- all unit elections to be completed
- May 20-22-22, 2005 ----- Spring OA Induction Weekend ( CSW )
- June 3-4-5, 2005 ----- Section #A OA Conclave
- TBA -----Ashokwahta Fun Weekend
- September 9-10-11, 2005 --- Fall Induction Weekend ( Dittmer )
- August 2006 ----- NOAC Conference



Spring Weekend 2005

Yah its that time of year again, time to induct more members into our organization, and have a great time of fun and fellowship. Yes, it's the annual spring Ordeal weekend and it will be at Camp Sam Wood, hopefully without any rain (knock on wood!!). It will be held the weekend of May 20-22. The price for Ordeal candidates is \$24, Brotherhood candidates are \$22, and Lodge members are \$10, and you can renew your lodge dues for only \$6. Come on down to Camp Sam Wood for a great time. Included in this Newsletter is a registration form. Please pre-register so that we can plan accordingly. Trust me when I say it's a good time; I know from experience.

Cory Hall

**Are you an Order of the Arrow Unit Representative** and don't really know what your job entails? Are you a Scoutmaster who wants to know more about the Order of the Arrow??? Are you an Arrowman who feels out of the loop? Well I know one word that can solve all these problems. Communication!!!! And our best communication link is the Troop Representative.

I, as Lodge Chief, want to be able to communicate directly with the troops. The Order of the Arrow is an organization built to help the troops and I want to help you. Troop Reps, this is where you come in. Your job is to provide a communication link between the Lodge and the troop. Your job is to inform all those out of the loop Arrowmen of upcoming events so that they can attend. Before this program can take off the way its supposed to, I need your information - name, phone number, and email address. If I can compose an accurate list of all this information, news will reach the troop fast and the OA can help you!!!!

Please, if you have any questions contact me. If you are a troop rep contact me with your information. Lets get the ball rolling and make this the best OA lodge it can be.

Wes Hall  
Lodgechief339@yahoo.com  
(716)-692-5046



### Founder's Award Presented to David Maskell, Jr.

At the annual lodge banquet, Brother David Maskell was presented the Founder's Award. Dave has been active in Scouting as a youth and as an adult. He did not become an Order of the Arrow member until he was an adult and Assistant Scout Master in Troop 132 of LeRoy. He has been a very active adult Scouter. He has worked on projects at Camp Dittmer and Camp Sam Wood. He has been involved in his local Scout Troop, and in Troop Committee Training. He entered our lodge in 1996 and became a Brotherhood member in 1998. In 2002, he was selected for the Vigil Honor.

In 2000 Dave was asked to become a Unit Commissioner and presently serves four ( 4 ) units. He also was part of the regular construction crew at Camp Sam Wood in building the new Trading Post.

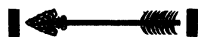
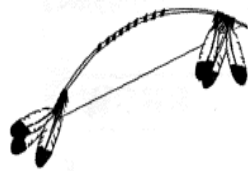
Dave has tremendous Scout Spirit and is always willing to help where ever he can. His exemplary service to the Ashokwahta Lodge makes David Maskell a worthy recipient of the Founder's Award. Congratulations to Dave Maskell.

Jerry Vukman

### ITC Spring Camporee

On May 13-15, 2005, Iroquois Trail Council will hold its "Claim Jumpers" Spring Camporee at the Leroy Conservation Club. Activities and competition will make the weekend a spectacular event for your troop! Come on out and stake your claim!

Lynn Durkee, Chairman

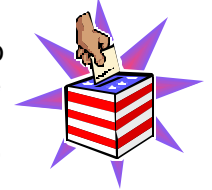


### Unit Elections—

#### Every Arrowmen should help with TWO:

His own and one other.

Each and every unit deserves to have an election every year. They are allowed only one a year, so let's do it right. It is vital we use the election to educate and inform and inspire. If you are in a troop that has not had an election, please contact the lodge and have an election team come and do one.



Election teams must use the video tape. A talking head does not accomplish our goals. The tape explains not just how the elections are to be conducted, but the purpose, history, and an insight into the order. We are an organization that requires nonmembers to select who should be in our brotherhood. To make this decision we must use the tape to educate and inform every Scout what we do, why we do it, and their part in the process. Each election team should have at least two youth and one adult. Units can not do their own election. Members of the troop can assist, but outside Arrowmen should come in to show the tape, run the election, and inspire the younger Scouts.

Remember no election is complete until the paperwork gets to the Scout Office, so that it can be recorded and the candidates invited to the weekend. Adult candidates must also have additional approval steps. This year they can not just show up. Lets do it right and really grow the lodge.

Klamachpin



## BURNING ISSUES

### Dues / Newsletter Update

The ASHOKWAHTA TEHTAS is a paper put out by the Order of the Arrow Lodge to keep its members up to date on happenings in the Lodge. Activities are listed, reservation sheets are included, and news is needed.

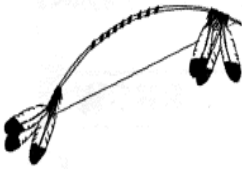
This edition will be the last copy sent to those of the members that have not paid their 1999 dues and are in arrears. The cost of the postage and materials does not warrant continued subscription for those not current.

Please note that as the editions progress toward 2003 dates----- names will be dropped if the dues are not current. Many people were deleted that were not paid prior to 1998. Thank you for the immediate submission of delinquent dues. ( \$6.00 for one year ---\$12.00 to be in good standing if delinquent. )

### AUCTION

The annual patch auction, held in conjunction with the OA banquet, once again proved to be a great success. At times the bidding became very spirited which led to it being a fun time for those who chose to stay and participate until the end. We got a rather late start because of other program items, but my co-auctioneer ( Ron Schmidt ) and I kept the process moving along. There were some bargains to be had and other items brought premium dollars. We only had one lot of the 160 that did not receive a bid and find new ownership. I want to thank those who generously dug into their stash and gave us a nice variety of items to bid on. Also thanks to the bidders, some of whom dug deep into their pockets to help the cause. Every year I find it exciting to be able to assemble the auction items and see the results. It truly amazes me when I look back over the last 10 years and see the dollars that have been raised by this worthwhile event. I am already looking forward to next year !!!!!!!!!

Don Ames Auction Organizer



awards are presented at NOAC.

Distinguished Service Award.

The DSA honors those who rendered service to the order beyond the lodge level (sectional, regional and national levels). Nominations are open to both youth and adult members.

There you have it folks. Do you recognize a fellow Arrowman above? If so, get the ball rolling!

Thanks- Paul

*(Continued from page 1)*

had a Camp Chief. Good work Ben.

We started this fall off with our cub and parent weekend. We had over 130 cubs and their families come down to Camp Sam Wood. The program was spectacular and everyone had a great time. We then went right on to our fall ordeal weekend where we had 78 people in attendance; 24 who got their ordeal membership and 2 sealed their bonds of brotherhood. We also sent 3 people to the National Leadership Seminar and 1 person to the National Lodge Advisor Training Seminar. All who attended learned a lot and are better prepared to lead our lodge. In October, 4 people attended the CORE training seminar to learn essential leadership skills. That very same weekend we had our first ever Fun weekend. With 24 people in attendance the weekend was a smashing success and best of all it was FUN.

Now that was a great year and to cap it off we had a great banquet. Thanks to all who participated and to those who made it possible. It has been a great pleasure to serve you as chief and I am looking forward to the last few months of my term.

Wes Hall



Did You Know ...Order of the Arrow Programs and Awards:

E. Urner Goodman Scholarship fund program.  
The purpose of the scholarship program is to assist Arrowmen preparing for a professional scouting career by helping them with financial assistance towards their college. Applications can be obtained at the national office and must be submitted by Jan 15 for scholarships granted that year.

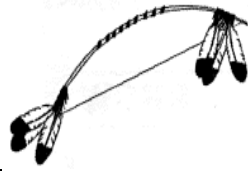
Maury Clancy Indian Campership fund.  
The fund provides financial assistance to American Indian Scouts to attend resident camp. Lodges may contribute to this fund "at will" thereby increasing the fund and enabling more camperships to be awarded.

E Urner Goodman Camping Award.  
This award is presented to two outstanding lodges in each region for increased effectiveness in camp promotion within their council. Applied for at charter renewal.

National Service Award.  
The NSA was created to recognize two lodges in each region for providing both qualitative and quantitative excellent service to their council. Applied for at charter renewal.

Founders Award.  
The Founders award was created to honor and recognize those Arrowmen who have given outstanding service to the lodge. The award is given annually, and if more than one recipient is awarded, he must be a youth.

Red Arrow Award.  
This award recognizes individuals who are not members of the order, for outstanding service to the order. The



**Order of the Arrow**  
**2005 Spring Fellowship & Ceremony**  
**Weekend Registration May 20-22 2005**  
**Camp Sam Wood**

Fill out the form below and mail to the address listed

**Ashokwahta Lodge #339**      **2005 Spring Weekend**      **Pre-Registration**      **Account #339**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

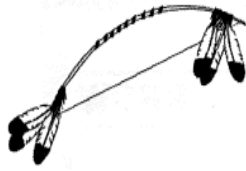
Enclose and mail to:  
Ashokwahta Lodge #339  
Iroquois Trail Council, BSA  
7121 Rochester Road  
Lockport, NY 14094-1625

Check One:

- Ordeal Candidate      \$24.00
- Brotherhood Candidate      \$22.00
- OA Member      \$10.00
- My 2005 Membership  
Dues are enclosed (\$6.00)



Greetings Fellow Arrowmen,



I want to share with you my vision for this lodge. A vision is a picture of what future success looks like. If we can see it, we can be it.

My vision for the lodge will be a model of how every lodge can succeed. In the best tradition of scouting, this is and will continue to be a boy run lodge. My vision has three parts.

First, as Lodge Adviser, I will study the policies and principles of the OA and see that they are followed in the lodge. To the best of my ability, I will attend all lodge functions, and aid the lodge officers in transportation and facilitation of all lodge activities. I see the lodge continue to operate according to the OA Obligation, and of course, the Scout Oath and Laws. We are all here to help one another to have the best possible experience.

Second, I see the adult leaders continue to give the responsibility for leading the lodge to the Lodge Chief, and the other lodge youth leaders. We will always be available to coach and mentor them, but as much as possible, I see us staying on the sidelines while the Lodge Chief and youth leadership carry out a great program for the lodge.

Third, my vision of success includes everyone on the staff, both youth and adult, seeing himself as here to carry out the traditions of the Order- Wimachtendienk, Wingolauchsik, Witahemui (Brotherhood, Cheerfulness & Service). We are here for you. I see us doing all we can to make it possible for you to get the most out of being a member of the Order of the Arrow.

We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give.

Yours in Brotherhood,

Paul



## RUKAT SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Many of us remember Richard Rukat, a Professional Scouter, who served as Orleans District Executive in the Iroquois Trail Council until his transfer to DelMarVa Council in Maryland. Rich was very active in the Cub Day Camp movement in the Council, traveling from District to District to assist in any way he could. Rich is now in need of our assistance.

Rich is presently fighting his third and final bout with cancer, which flared up last November. He and Jody now live in Maryland with their two twin daughters, Katharine and Meghan. Rich has completed chemotherapy and radiation therapy, which had hoped to prolong his life until approximately April of this year. But Rich's health is not good.

I have been in contact with Jody, and volunteered to start a scholarship fund for Meghan and Katharine who are now 3 1/2 years old. I am presently taking collections from anyone who would like to donate. We hope that we can raise a substantial amount to send to Jody to put in trust for the girls.



If you would like to donate to the Meghan and Katharine Rukat Scholarship Fund, donations are being accepted within my attorney office escrow account, and will be sent to Jody upon completion of the collections. Please send any checks made out to "Edward J. Grabowski, Esq./ Rukat Scholarship", in order to deposit into the account. I will be notifying everyone of the total collections through a future article. If you have any questions, feel free to call me at my law office. Edward J. Grabowski, P. O. Box 426, Medina, New York, 14103-0426, Phone 585-798-5555. Please help Rich by donating to his daughters' scholarship funds.