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Boy Scouts of America
45 Liberty Street Suite 2
Batavia, New York
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ORDER OF THE ARROW



THE ASHOKWAHTA TEHTAS

A production of Ashokwahta LodgeVolume 2006 Number 5—winter




Ashokwatha # 339 Upcoming Events.

December Lodge Ex Mtg	-----	12/20/06
Reservations for winter Banquet Due		12-27-06
OA Winter Banquet	-----	1/06/07
January Lodge Executive Mtg	-----	1/ 17/07
Unit OA Elections	-----	January 2007
Scout Week	-----	February 4 – 10, 2007
February Lodge Executive Mtg	-----	2/21/07
Unit OA Elections	-----	February 2007
Camp Leader / OA Chili Dinner	----	2/21/07
March Lodge Executive Mtg	-----	-3/21/07
Unit OA Elections	-----	-March 2007

Ashokwatha Lodge # 339 Proposed Slate of Officers -2007 to be voted on at the winter Banquet

Connor Grabowski	-----	Lodge Chief
Cory Hall / Bob Lawson	-----	Co- Vice Lodge Chief
Zach Roberts	-----	Secretary

Visit our Lodge Site @ itcbsa.org



ORDER OF THE ARROW SCOUTING'S NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY



Season's Greetings

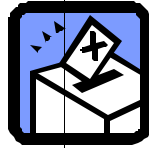
to each of you. The holiday season brings out a level of care and concern in the general community that most people tuck away throughout the rest of the year. I'm constantly amazed, though, by the giving spirit and generosity that Scouters, and particularly Order of the Arrow members, display in ordinary, daily life. Your daily service to others makes you unique, and it has many rewards. Chief among these is the joy that comes to new members of the Scouting family when they enjoy their first experience at summer camp.

Recently I had the opportunity to travel to Camp Dittmer and see first hand the wonderful facilities offered there. The lake and waterfront, the beautiful chapel, the campsites, and the many program areas offer life-changing experiences to young men in our Boy Scout troops. My personal experiences at Camp Sam Wood are many: as a youth, as a camp staff member, and as a Cub Scout dad camping with my son. What a great place to introduce our Cub Scouts to the world of outdoor learning and adventure!

I was fortunate as a youth member to be part of an excellent troop, to have a role as a Chapter Chief, and to be selected as a Vigil Honor member. I'm thrilled to be able to join the Ashokwahta Lodge in offering those opportunities to Scouts throughout the Iroquois Trail Council. I look forward to meeting many of you at the winter banquet in January, and to working with you to promote camping and service to others throughout the new year. Yours in Cheerful Service,
Jim McMullen.

ATTENTION ARROWMEN

The spring ordeal weekend is coming up fast. We are starting to schedule OA Elections with all of the troops. If your troop needs to get someone to schedule an election, if you would like to help out, or if you have any questions, please contact me. I can be reached at (585) 624-5096 or e-mail me at goosmith@msn.com
Joe Smith, Unit Elections Chair



*It's a Party
Let's Celebrate*

**Order of the Arrow
2007 Winter Banquet**
January 6, 2007

Batavia Party House 6:00 pm
Reservations Due in Office by December 27, 2006

Fill out the form below and mail to the address listed

Ashokwahta Lodge #339 2007 Winter Banquet Account #339

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Check One:

I Will Attend

\$15.00

I Will Not Attend

Additional Guests

\$15.00

My 2007 Membership
Dues are enclosed (\$8.00)

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

Enclose and mail to:

Ashokwahta Lodge #339
Iroquois Trail Council, BSA
45 Liberty Street Suite 2
Batavia, NY 14020-3207



Dear Fellow Arrowmen & Women,



One of the main functions of adults in the Order is facilitation. One of the greatest contributions to the lodge from Scouters would be to transport as many youth to the Lodge Executive Committees every third Wednesday of the month at the Batavia Office; and to any of the other 5 major annual functions. The Lodge youth are the future of this organization, and they are the ones making the decisions. We need more youth for the various committees that the lodge is forming. The Youth Arrowmen are frequently willing and excited about contributing; but do not attend because we don't network our transportation.

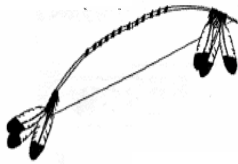
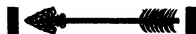
Speaking for the Niagara District, I know that Roger Belling, Dale Lawson and Curt Hall (who mentioned this at the last LEC), attend the LEC's regularly as well as all of the other OA functions. The youth frequently meet at the Pendleton Free Methodist Church on Bear Ridge & Campbell Blvd., an hour before the meeting to carpool.

That's food for thought for one district. Can a few more adults step up to the plate in the other three districts, and can the Troop OA Reps let the youth know they can get a ride? If we all pitch in, we can grow the lodge even more together.

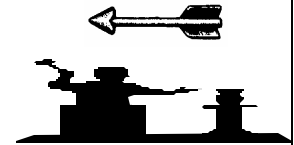
We've come a long way, thanks to many good Scouts and Scouters, let's keep the momentum going. Thanks for your consideration.

Your in Brotherhood,

Paul



OA AUCTION RULES



- 1) Get a number and register to create a tab previous to the start of the auction.
- 2) Write down the numbers of items you are interested in bidding on, ahead of time.
- 3) Youth only auction (under 21) will be conducted first.
- 4) Any item receiving no youth bid, will be open to the adults for bidding.
- 5) Bidding will be in dollar (\$) increments only.
- 6) We accept cash, good check and Visa or Master Cards.
- 7) If you need to leave early and want to bid on an item (s) let the auctioneer know.
- 8) If you are bidding raise your card so we can identify you.
- 9) Keep the talk to a minimum so everyone bidding can hear.
- 10) We will be moving quickly, so if you are interested in something, be ready to bid.
- 11) When you are not bidding, on any further items, pay the cashier what you owe.
- 12) Please be patient when checking out.

The Order of the Arrow is a great organization.

It has a very large alumni, whose purpose is to foster and assist its newest members. These members are elected by their peers, not by the membership. The organization also gives its newest members the opportunity to lead, shape, and mold the order. These unique qualities recognizing the best in scouting and giving those chosen, a chance to awaken and expand their accomplishments, is what makes this organization work. It also takes and needs our alumni to foster this awakening, not by dictation but through mentoring. Please take the time to mentor youth from your community.

Klamachpin



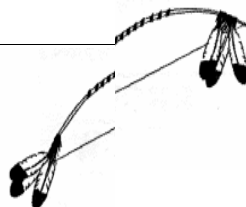


FELLOW ARROWMEN - Dance team is going great. This year we're making our own costuming with the help of Mr. Brown and my Dad (Ed Grabowski). We are in the process of doing bustles with painted eagle feathers (white turkey feathers) we made, and will soon be working on our new hair roaches. (last year we made headdresses, aprons and chokers) Costuming instruction meets from 1-2pm every other Sunday. Following that, from 2-3:30pm, Mr. Brown is teaching us some new dances, including the hoop dance, duck dance, and Chippewa deer dance. We never thought we could fit through a 24 inch hoop while dancing, but we're all doing it. It's a lot of laughs watching each other while we are getting used to the hoops. If you're interested in costuming or dancing, come join us. Upcoming dates are December 17th, January 7th and 21st, February 4th and 18th, March 4th and 18th, April 1st, 15th, and 22nd, and May 6th. We meet at the Council office at 45 Liberty Street, Batavia. Call me, Connor Grabowski, at 585-798-4966 if you need information on what kit to buy in order to make the hair roach, or just want to ask a question. It's a lot of fun, educational, and good exercise too! YIS Connor

The Neutral Nation

A Little History compiled By Ed Grabowski

Western New York is known for its Native American Nations, and some of the encampments have been found by archaeologists in the area. One of those is the Neutral Nation earthworks near the corners of Blair Road and Salt Works Road in Medina. Those of you who attended the Orleans District Fall Camporee in 2003 or 2005 were able to tour the circular earthworks (where the palisades of the tribe stood), being guided by our District Chairman, (Vigil member and former OA Advisor) Frank Berger. The Neutrals were a tribe of Native Americans who lived in what is now upstate New York and southern Ontario. Their own name for themselves has been lost, but they were called Attawandaron by the Hurons, meaning "people of a slightly different language". The name *Neutral* was applied to them by the French because they tried



My name is Wesley Alan Hall and I am an Eagle Scout from Troop 98 in Pendleton NY and a Vigil Honor member of the Ashokwahta lodge. My vigil name is Wewingtonheet, which means "he who babbles", so I'll try not to bore you all by babbling through this article. In January of this year I was given the Founders Award by our lodge and asked to write a bio of myself for the newsletter, (as you may have noticed I'm also a procrastinator) so here it goes.

I am 19 years old and a sophomore at Clarkson University where I major in Environmental Engineering. Aside from school Scouting is one of the biggest parts of my life. I worked at Camp Dittmer for three years, and served as a member of the councils JLT staff for three years, and was asked to be the Senior Patrol Leader of Iroquois Trail Council's first NYLT staff. I served as an officer of our lodge for four years, and continued my involvement by serving as Section NE-3A Vice Chief, and Section Chief. I am currently serving the OA as the Northeast Region High Adventure Coordinator (so if you want to go to trail crew come talk to me).

I have been blessed with many opportunities in the few short years I've been in Scouting. I have been to Philmont Scout Ranch twice and cannot wait to go again. I served on training staffs for the 2006 NOAC, two Northeast Region NLS's, and am looking forward to being on staff for the 2006 Section Officers Seminar. To go with my opportunities have received some recognitions too, most notably the Founders Award and the Barber B. Conable Distinguished Eagle Scout Award.

They say no good deed goes unnoticed right, well I've been duly thanked for every good deed I've ever done, and I'm not talking about awards. The people I have met through scouting have all helped to sculpt my life, and that is something I will be ever grateful to all of you for.

I don't know how many people know what the two most powerful words in the English language are but I do, Thank You.



YOUTH IN NEED

Recently several people have talked to me and have wondered why there are not as many Order of the Arrow members attending meetings of the Order. I started to think about the comment. What can be done to help the attendance of the lodge members?

As I thought about this challenge, I realized that youth members of the Lodge do not drive a car and can not get to the meetings. Maybe they are also bashful; and do not call an adult in their community who also is a member of the Lodge.

May I suggest to the youth of the Ashokwahta Lodge that they need to contact the adult members of our lodge in their community for rides to and from meetings, weekends and activities. Better yet, why don't the adults of the various communities offer a ride to lodge functions?

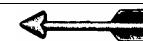
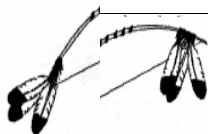
We might find an increase in the numbers of youth attending and representing their troop. Also, the youth could then see the many things that the lodge is responsible to handle for the Iroquois Trail Council. Think of the Lodge as another patrol / group within Scouting that has representation from all over the Iroquois Trail Council.

For the youth of Ashokwahta Lodge why be left out of fellowship when your adult leaders can increase your participation. The recent " Order of the Arrow Third Fun Weekend " showed that once OA Arrowmen are at camp; fun, fellowship and " cheerful spirit " usually overcomes each one. In fact the evaluation forms of the " Fun Weekend " at Camp Sam Wood proved more than two (2) hours of work were requested to help the camp to improve.

Lastly, adults are a valuable part of the lodge as they can help to provide transportation for the youth so that they can continue to participate in the role of that E. Urner Goodman and Carroll A. Edson envisioned. Leadership is a great thing ----- help the OA youth of your troop participate and enhance skills.



Along the Trail DH



to be neutral between the warring Huron and Iroquois peoples. During what was called the Beaver Wars, the Iroquois conquered and absorbed the Neutral tribe in the year 1651. Some of the Neutrals seem to have had a close relationship with the Eriehonian people, and some of their neighbors referred to them collectively as the "Cat nation". They possessed about forty villages in a highly productive agricultural, mostly treed regions (the Medina historic site is located within a wooded area). A little Trivia: the name "Niagara" comes from the Neutral word *Onghiar* (pronounced on-ge-ara), meaning "thunder of waters".

The Eriehonian people, were a prehistoric group of Native Americans related to the Iroquois, who lived from western New York to northern Ohio on the south shore of Lake Erie. Their name means "long tail", and were also called "Erie", "Eriez" and "Nation du Chat". Hence the name Lake Erie. The Eriehonian were also called the "Cat" or the "Raccoon" people. They lived in multi-family long houses in villages enclosed in palisades like the Neutrals, and grew the "Three Sisters", Corn, beans, and squash during the warm season. In the winter tribal members lived off the stored crops and animals taken in hunts. They were ultimately destroyed by the Iroquois, who adopted some of the survivors into their own group, these being primarily absorbed into the Seneca's.

If you get a chance, visit the Neutral Tribe site the next time you are in the Medina area. Frank Berger, while a County Legislator, was able to secure a NYS Historic Site sign and place it on Salt Works Road near the archaeological site. If you are real interested in seeing it, give him a call 585-798-4966 and he can fill you in on it.

Picture this

Picture this over 40 people in a small lodge playing video games. With this scene you can get a pretty good idea of what we did at Fun Weekend we watched movies, listened to music, and of course played tons of video games. But we didn't just play games we also played capture the flag out side. If you haven't been to Fun Weekend before, I would highly recommend participating in it next year. Remember to try to bring something to contribute to the fun.

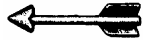


Yours in Service,

Kyle Smith

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Annual Banquet / Auction

Arrowmen, it is time to check your stash, of memorabilia items, that you wish to donate to the upcoming Patch Auction held in conjunction with the Annual Banquet on January 6, 2007. These donations can include patches, neckerchiefs, scouting books, old uniforms, camping gear or any scout related items of interest. As always, it takes a wealth of my time to assemble, catalog, package, research values and be ready for a smooth auction. Therefore, I will need all items on or before the Lodge meeting on December 20, 2006. Any items after that date WILL NOT be accepted !!

These auctions were established, many years ago, to create funds to improve and rebuild Barlow's Cabin at a time when the Lodge account was minimal. We still need to periodically spend funds for that purpose but the prime use, for additional moneys generated, is for improvements to our Council camps. I believe that often times, when our account looks big, ideas contrary to the purpose of the fund usage becomes escalated !!

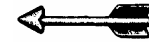
Last years auction netted \$3,016.00 for the Lodge. The last 11 years have brought in funds totaling \$28,476.00. This is quite a remarkable figure when you consider how few people actually contribute and how few actually get involved in the spirited bidding.

I already have several donated auction patches that were brought back from NOAC trades. Also featured will be several dozen MUGS that I have acquired. If you are a mug collector, come prepared to buy in quantity as most will be sold in groups, not separately. Now is the time to put away your extra dollars and come to the big auction ready to bid and support the Lodge !! I am looking forward to another great event. Remember the DEADLINE for contributions is 12/20/06.

Contact me at: Donald Ames

585-757-6661

carsnquilts@geneseeit.com



A call to arms...would you all be so kind to write an article for the next Order of the Arrow newsletter. I'd like to run up the postage bill this next edition, and help educate our newer and newest members on the past present and future of the lodge. If you worked at Dittmer in any capacity, tell us your highlights, same with Sam Wood workers, directors & helpers. If you have knowledge of Indian lore or of local tribes that once populated the region, this is part of the basis for our fine organization. Give us a half a page or a series for the next 4 newsletters. Scouters, share the good memories before the merger, and after the merger. If you are trying to promote anything camping, this is what we do-help us do it! I'm looking forward to our best newsletter yet. Would you all be so kind to forward this to arrowmen & women not on my list?



Yours in Service,
Paul

Words from the Chief

I know first hand how much Scouts and Arrowmen alike enjoy camping and the great outdoors. For many, Scouts it is the only reason they remain in the program. However, there are so many great programs out there that only a small percentage of Scouts take advantage of them on their way to being an Eagle Scout.

There are National Jamborees and International Jamborees for Scouts and of course the THREE high adventure bases. The Scuba Adventure at Sea Base in Florida; a true wilderness experience canoeing in the Northern Tier Canoe Base; and the Mecca of Scouting at Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico. All of which have OA Programs, I urge all Scouts and Scouters alike to take advantage of these wonderful places. It really can enhance the Scouting experience. I look forward to seeing everyone at our Winter Banquet. Please sign up now (see Page 7).

Allowat Sakima

