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Ashokwahta Lodge #339

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ASHOKWAHTA TEHTAS

Volume 03-09

Spring Ordeal
2009

... a publication by Ashokwahta Lodge #339

Congratulations Lodge #339



2008

The Ashokwahta Tehtas is available on-line, in color, at:
www.itcbsa.org listed under "Order of the Arrow"

WORDS FROM OUR LODGE CHIEF



Unit elections are coming to an end and soon enough we'll be at the Ordeal weekend. How many lodge brothers do we have in our lodge? Roughly 250, and about half are youth. How many lodge brothers (youth) were at the last LEC, not including the LEC members? **Four**. Including the LEC members, there were **nine**. It is not funny or amusing that we only had four youth members present that were not LEC officers.

How many Arrowmen in our lodge claim to be Troop OA Representatives? To be quite frank, I don't know. Why don't I know this? Well, I rarely receive any e-mails or communication from OA Troop Representatives, and very few Troop Rep's attend the monthly LEC's. Being a Troop OA Rep is a lot MORE than just wearing a patch on your uniform.

If you are a Troop OA Representative you are expected to attend the monthly Lodge Executive Committee meetings. It is a responsibility that goes with the job. By attending, you receive the information about Ordeal Weekends, upcoming events, as well as any other lodge business - such as unit elections. Then, it is the Troop OA Representative's responsibility to take this information back to their unit. How are you going to be able to get the information back to your unit if you don't attend the meetings? We will be reorganizing future LEC meetings and devote a portion of these meetings to provide hands-on Lodge Leadership training for adults and youth.

Arrowmen should realize that your LEC officers are only seven individuals. We're greatly behind in unit elections. We have more than 60 units that haven't been contacted or their Troop Rep's haven't contacted the LEC for an election. NJ Solis has been supervising elections for the Towpath District. I have been supervising elections in Nundawaga and Seneca Districts. In past issues of the *Tehtas* we have had a "Help Wanted" page. We have requested volunteers for ceremonies teams as well as for unit elections. No one, **not one** person, has responded or shown any interest.

New Lodge Flap Now available at Batavia Office



The newest issue of the Lodge #339 pocket flap patch is available for purchase at the Batavia office Scout Store for the low price of \$4.00 each.

Lodge #339 would like to thank Mr. Doug Johnson, Vigil Honor member of Lodge #339, a former Scoutmaster of Geneseo Troop 70, for providing the Lodge with the fantastic new patch design.

The design features our Lodge symbol, the peace pipe, crossed by an Ordeal sash and overlaid by a gustawa - the traditional head-wear of the Iroquois.

Editor's note: please ignore the pencil lines visible in this scan of Mr. Johnson's original drawing. They were used to designate the color scheme.

Ashokwahta Lodge #339 Receives “Quality Lodge” for 2008

Congratulations to Ashokwahta Lodge #339 for receiving recognition as a Quality Lodge for 2008. Quality Lodge pins are available for purchase at the Batavia Scout Store. Brothers are reminded that only the most recent pin awarded may be worn. Quality Lodge pins are worn against the left vertical border of the lodge flap.

DID YOU KNOW?

Answers to Arrowmen questions:

Q: I see a lot of different Lodge flaps worn by scouts and scouters in our council. Which one should I wear on my uniform?

A: Well, I have my favorite lodge flap, but there really is a National Policy. The policy says that lodge members should wear the current issue of their lodge flap (see related article, page 15).

Q: Are there any patches that I can wear on my sash?

A: Great question! The answer is “yes”. The 25th and 40th OA Anniversary patches are the only patches authorized to be worn on the OA sash. According to National Policy, other patches, nametags, pins, and “the Legend” are not authorized for display on the OA sash.

Words from our Lodge Chief—continued

Our Lodge is behind on unit elections. One reason that we're behind on unit elections is a direct result of the lack of help being given to the elections committee by Lodge members. If Scouts are helpful, then why isn't the LEC receiving the help needed, even after advertising it clearly? We've sent out e-mails asking for help. Our next step will be to contact lodge members directly via phone calls. What will your excuse be?

Step up and get involved with the lodge! Who will run the lodge when the current officers age out?

Scheduling unit elections can be a lot of work when we wait to the last minute. In the fall of 2009, elections will begin in October and they will end by March. By reorganizing this we hope that we will be able to encourage more members to participate and increase our membership.

Your Lodge also needs help with ceremonies. Would you rather see a ceremony where parts are memorized and choreographed, or would you rather continue seeing last minute helpers reading from a script in the dark? Your Lodge needs youth and adults on every committee. The Lodge is not getting the required assistance from youth members. Therefore, our lodge is on a path which could lead to failure.

One of the Lodge's primary missions is camp promotions, which will be combined with Unit Elections. The youth in units should be the ones deciding where their units go to summer camp. If the Lodge is not actively promoting our Council camps then the youth in our units are not able to make an informed choice. What are we saying about our camps if we aren't promoting them?

Yours in Brotherhood,

Austin J. Boyd
Lodge Chief



Calendar of upcoming Events

March LEC	03/18/09
April LEC	04/15/09
May LEC	05/20/09
Spring Ordeal Weekend (CSW).....	Jun 5-7, 2009
June LEC	06/20/09
Section NE-3-A Conclave	Aug 14-16
(at Camp Woodlands)	
National Order of the Arrow Conf	Aug 1 - 6
Fall Ordeal Weekend (Dittmer)	Sept 11—13

The Lodge Executive Committee (LEC) meetings are usually held at the Batavia Service Center located at 45 Liberty Street in Batavia (side door). This meeting is for Lodge Officers, Troop Representatives, and any interested members.

The LEC meetings begin at 7 P.M. and end around 8:30 P.M.

Mailing List and Dues Payment

Members who have not paid dues, as per the guidelines of the Ashokwahta Lodge, will be dropped from the mailing list soon. Those members no longer current with Lodge dues will be considered inactive for the mailing list after the Spring 2009 OA Weekend. Payment of the 2009 dues (\$8.00) will continue active membership for those members who have remained current. Payment of 2008 and 2009 dues will bring current any inactive member — \$8.00 per year or \$16.00 total. The upper right corner of your mailing label indicates the year your dues are paid through.

Reminder: If a fellow Arrowman tells you they are not receiving the newsletter, please have them update their home address by calling Judy Anderson at the Batavia office (585-343-0307).

Does your unit have an OA Troop Representative?

"Let it be remembered that the Order of the Arrow was created to help the unit - to help it present its membership a better ideal of the inner qualities of the good scout camper. Qualities of character, like cheerfulness and service are hard for a boy or a man to understand in the abstract. They come easier when seen in human life.

Let us realize the significance of the Order in the unit - for the unit is our best hope in scouting."

*Dr. E. Urner Goodman
Founder, Order of the Arrow*



Contact your Lodge Executive Committee for more information about the Troop Representative qualifications and responsibilities.

Responsibilities of the Troop OA Representative

Troop Representatives should not be receiving credit for serving in a leadership position for wearing the OA Troop Representative patch on their shoulder if they are not attending Lodge Executive Committee meetings. "Credit" means if scouts are using the Troop Representative position to qualify for rank advancement.

How many troops have provided the LEC with information on their troop representative?

Here are the OA Troop Representative Duties, for your reference:

- Serves as a communication link between the lodge and the troop
- Encourages year-round and resident camping in the troop
- Encourages older Scout participation in high adventure programs
- Encourages Scouts to actively participate in community service projects
- Assists with leadership skills training in the troop
- Encourages Arrowmen to assume leadership positions in the troop
- Encourages Arrowmen in the troop to be active participants in lodge activities and to seal their membership in the Order by becoming Brotherhood members
- Sets a good example
- Enthusiastically wears the Scout uniform correctly
- Lives by the Scout Oath, Scout Law, and Obligation of the Order
- Shows Scout Spirit
- Attends Lodge Executive Committee meetings

A Message from our Lodge Adviser

Fellow Arrowmen,

I recently attended the National Lodge Adviser Training Seminar (NLATS) March 27th-29th and learned a lot about Lodge operations through the sessions they offered. At the same time, there were a lot of scouts going through National Leadership Seminar (NLS) and - from what I have heard - that is a great program too. I know our Lodge Chief, Austin Boyd, has completed this program and I encourage anybody, youth or adult to consider attending these programs (NLATS is for adults interested in Lodge positions; NLS is for youth).

We have our spring weekend coming up June 5th-7th at Camp Sam Wood. I hope we continue to have a strong turnout for this as we have a lot of things to do getting camp ready for the summer. This is a great time, for those that are eligible, to seal their Brotherhood in the Order of the Arrow. Please review the requirements in your OA handbook and be prepared.

Make sure you bring your tents for this weekend. There will be limited sleeping space in Call Lodge, Outpost, and possibly Barlow's Cabin. We have decided, due to how late Cub Resident camp begins, to not to set up tents this early in the year. As Cub camp is starting after Boy Scout camp is over, we will be saving wear and tear on the tents. We have plenty of projects scheduled to keep everyone busy. As always we will have plenty of good food cooked by our outstanding kitchen crew. Hope to see everyone there.

Yours in Brotherhood,

Mike McNutt
Lodge Adviser
Ashokwahta Lodge #339



Section NE-3A Conclave 2009

This year's annual Conclave will be hosted by Kayanernh-Kowa Lodge 219, of Hiawatha-Seaway Council, at Camp Woodland, which is located north of Syracuse. This year's theme is **"Survivor: A New Beginning"**. Our lodge is in charge of Saturday Special Events, which include a Movie and a Patch Auction. Donations for the patch auction are being accepted. Please send any donations to the Batavia office, c/o Lodge #339 Conclave.

There will be no tents or other sleeping accommodations provided by the host camp at this year's conclave. Participants will have to provide their own tents. However, there will be an open water-front. The cost of this year's Conclave is \$45. This price includes a T-shirt and Buff. Interested participants must register by the Spring Ordeal Weekend, June 5-7 at Camp Sam Wood.

Conclave information and registration materials will be mailed separately. Watch your mailbox and respond ASAP!!

TIME IS RUNNING OUT TO COMPLETE UNIT ELECTIONS



After supervising the unit election, Lodge Chief Austin Boyd congratulates newly selected Ordeal Candidates at Nundawaga District's Troop 26, in Avon. The *ad hoc* elections supervisors would like to thank OA Troop Rep. Brian Frail and Scoutmaster Jim Yencer (past Lodge Chief, Vigil Honor recipient) for inviting them to Troop 26's meeting.

OA Days at Camp Dittmer

Hey campers! The 2009 summer camp staff at Camp Dittmer wants to remind everyone that every Thursday during the summer camp season we will be recognizing OA members and having special OA activities. Don't forget to bring your sash to wear at Thursday flag ceremonies.

2008 FOUNDERS AWARD PRESENTED
AT THE
2009 WINTER BANQUET



Congratulations to Lodge #339 2008 Founders Award recipient, Mr. Bernie Bonczyk (center), pictured with Mr. Eric Volk (left) and Mr. Gerry Vukman. (Editor's note: we apologize for the delay in publishing this picture from the Winter Banquet)

Annual Camp Dittmer work weekend scheduled

It is time once again for the annual "Beaver Weekend" at Camp Dittmer. This is the weekend when individuals desiring the coveted Lake Remick fishing permits turn-out and help complete projects around camp. All are welcome and invited, not just applicants for permits. If you plan on being there, you can come camp for the weekend of May 15 - 17. Breakfast and lunch provided on Saturday. Please call Judy at the Batavia Office so we can estimate the amount of food needed. Hope to see you there!!



Help Wanted

Help Still Needed: Youth members are needed to serve on the Camp Promotions Committee. Participants travel to units, present a video or slide show and let cubs and scouts know of the wonderful activities they will experience at our Council summer camps. Contact Mr. Boyd if interested:
reboyd2@hotmail.com

Positions Remain Available

Youth volunteers are needed for the Lodge Ceremonies Team. We would like to be able to field separate teams for Ordeal and Brotherhood ceremonies. Please contact Mr. Boyd if interested
reboyd2@hotmail.com

Please Join

The Dance Team is seeking new members. Applicants should be energetic and willing to be the center of attention. Any adult or youth interested in participating, please contact Phil Crane or Mr. Crane at: maccam@aol.com

Volunteers Needed

Youth volunteers are needed from each District for Unit Election Teams. A volunteer is also needed to serve as the chairperson for the election team. If interested, please contact **NJ Solis** or any LEC Officer.



Spring 2009 Ordeal Weekend Registration

June 5-7, 2009 at Camp Sam Wood, Pike, New York



Name	Unit	Ord	Bro	Mem	Sat Only*
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Pay in advance at the Batavia Office, or pay at camp. All participants are expected to call the Batavia office and register in advance. Health forms are required on-file for all participants.

Total Ordeal @ \$25.00 ea. = _____
 Total Brotherhood @ \$25.00 ea. = _____
 Total Members @ \$15.00 ea. = _____
 * Saturday, meals only* pro-rated, see Lodge Chief or Secretary prior to meals.

Registration begins: 6:30pm @ dining hall. The weekend is not officially over until the end of the Lodge general assembly meeting, no earlier than 10:00am Sunday. Please plan accordingly

Spring Ordeal Weekend at Camp Sam Wood

What: Spring Ordeal Weekend
Where: Camp Sam Wood
When: June 5-7
Cost: Members \$15.00
 Ordeal Candidates \$25.00
 Brotherhood Candidates \$25.00

The fee for Ordeal candidates includes: sash, dues, and OA Handbook. The fee for Brotherhood candidates includes the Brotherhood sash.

Registration will begin at 6:30pm in the Dining Hall.

All participants are required to have a current physical on file. Health/physical forms are available online at the Council website: www.itcbsa.org

Please join us in preparing Camp Sam Wood for Cub Scout Resident camp. Sleeping areas are limited and there will be no tents set up this weekend. Youth members should plan on sleeping at the Call Lodge, Outpost, or bring their own tents to sleep in.

Member wishing to pay dues are reminded that the cost is \$8.00 per year and should be paid separately.

All participants are reminded that the weekend is not over until the end of the Lodge meeting on Sunday morning, no earlier than 10:00am.

Although payment may be made at camp, we request that all participants CALL the Batavia Office and register so the food needed for meals can be accurately estimated.