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Ashokwahta Lodge #339

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Batavia, New York 14020

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ASHOKWAHTA TEHTAS

Fall 2012

... a publication by Ashokwahta Lodge #339

2013 NE-3A

Conclave

May 31 - June 2

**Section
NE-3A**



Hosted by Lodge #339

At

Camp Sam Wood

Registration Form Enclosed

The Ashokwahta Tehtas is available on-line at

www.itcbsa.org



Advisor's 2 Bits

We have many things that our youth need to be working on in the coming months to insure that our Lodge continues to enjoy a successful year. First, the Annual Banquet and Patch Auction is Jan 5th, at the First United Methodist Church in Batavia. This is the same location as last year. The cost is the same, and there is a registration form included in this newsletter. Evan Kindron of Middleport has volunteered to be the Youth coordinator for it. Sign up now so that we can have an accurate count well ahead of time.

The next thing we need to be doing is signing up to attend and help with the NE3A Conclave that we are hosting the weekend after Memorial Day. Andrew Sykes is the youth coordinator and Mr. Jim Barrett is acting as his advisor. Contact either of them if you have a special area that you would like to help with. Andrew has several signed up already to fill vital positions but, more are needed. We would also like to have a very large group of youth attending as participants. There will be an early bird signup form in this newsletter for this. After the section decides the merchandise that will be offered for sale for the conclave there will be a more detailed form that needs to be filled out also.

Starting in Jan. we will be working on doing unit elections. There are several new programs out this year that will help to recognize those units who encourage their boys to be active in the Order of the Arrow. Those programs are detailed in an article in this newsletter. There are also new rules for the nomination of adults to become member of the Order of the Arrow. It will be important to fill out the new form entirely and accurately. All unit leaders and committee chairman will receive a letter telling about the new programs and the new

Conclave 2013 Registration

May 31-June 1, 2013

Camp Sam Wood, Pike, NY

Name: _____

Unit: _____ Phone: _____

E-Mail _____

Names of Additional Members Registering*

Total registering _____ x \$40.00 = _____*

Total enclosed* = \$ _____

_____ **Check Enclosed**

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

Pay by debit/credit card:

___MC ___ Visa

exp. Date __/__/__ Security Code ___

Signature required for credit/debit payments:

Signature

Conclave 2013 Registration

May 31-June 1, 2013
Camp Sam Wood, Pike, NY

Pre-register with payment in advance:

By Phone: 585-343-0307 or 1-800-592-0242

OR

Mail to: Ashokwahta Lodge #339
Batavia Service Center
45 Liberty Street Suite 2
Batavia, NY 14020

**All participants
*are expected to register and pay in advance
by mail or phone.**

All checks payable to: Ashokwahta Lodge #339

There will be an additional form to fill out when the Section has determined the merchandise to be offered and the training classes available. This form will be sent to you if you register now. The only additional cost will be pre-order items you wish to buy from the Section.



rules around the first of Jan. The new forms will be enclosed for them to have filled out before an election is done. Again this form needs to be filled out completely.

Feb. 27th will be the Annual Chili Dinner and camp program signup night. We will be acting as hosts and serving chili while the camp program and signup process will be carefully explained. This will also be held at the First United Methodist Church. The Officers are looking for a few good workers to help with setup and take down of the room.

Spring fellowship weekend will be especially important for us this spring as we will be getting the camp ready for hosting the conclave 2 weeks later. We will be working to get everything ready, and have all areas that we will be using clean and spotless. We must have everything working as if camp had been operating for a month. The only thing that we won't have operational is the pool. There will be a sectional conference call in Nov. where the final details about theme and training will be decided. Andrew Sykes and Alex Kieffer will be part of it representing our lodge.

We are working to try to improve on the lodge presence at summer camp during Order of the Arrow day at camp. This will be discussed and worked on during the lodge meetings this coming spring. As you can see we have many things for the members of the lodge to be involved with. If you want to become involved, contact any of the lodge officers listed in this newsletter and we will help you to find a place to be useful.

YIS

Mr. Schmidt



Calendar of upcoming Events

Nov 21	Lodge Meeting	Batavia Office
Dec 19	Lodge meeting	Batavia Office
Jan 5 ^t	Lodge Banquet	TBD
Jan 16th	Lodge Meeting	Batavia Office
Feb. 20th	Lodge Meeting	Batavia office
Feb 27th	Chili/camp launch	TBD
March 20th	Lodge Meeting	Batavia office
April 17th	Lodge meeting	Batavia office
April 24th	All election results due in the office.	
May 15th	Lodge meeting	Batavia Office
May 17-19 ^t	Spring Weekend	Camp Sam Wood
May 31-June 2	NE3A Conclave	Lodge 339, Host

Lodge meetings are 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.

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

Patch Auction Donations are Needed

There will be a framed set of the Council FOS CSP'S

There will also be a handmade lamp made

From a tree at Camp Sam Wood

Please get your Donations to Don Ames by Dec Roundtable.

You can bring to either office and specify to give to Mr. Ames

You can also bring to the Nov. Lodge meeting!!

headed out. We were going to our final destination which was a real campground just outside of the National forest.

About half way to our destination we found a good lunch spot and had lunch and went swimming for a while. After swimming we quickly followed the trail till it left the forest. At that point we slowed down greatly because we had to go through a lot of sand on the beach to the camp site.

After an hour of hard hiking we had finally made it. We set up camp made dinner took showers happily except the scout that was unprepared. He didn't want to for some reason. But it wasn't optional. The next day we were met by the cars and went back to Cole.

Editor's Note: The Ashokwahta Tehtas is always interested in publishing articles relating your Scouting experiences. We are thankful for the contribution from Troop #164 of Albion, New York. We look forward to receiving future articles from our Arrowmen.

Hello everybody. I am Alex Kieffer your 2012-2013 Ashokwahta lodge chief. I know this letter is obviously a bit late but let me tell you a bit about myself. I am currently a Junior in Pavilion Central School and I just finished my second cross country season. I come from troop 6016 out of Pavilion, NY. I am currently the senior patrol leader in my troop and have been active in the scouts ever since I was about five years old. Also I am a life scout and plan on completing my Eagle scout project this spring.

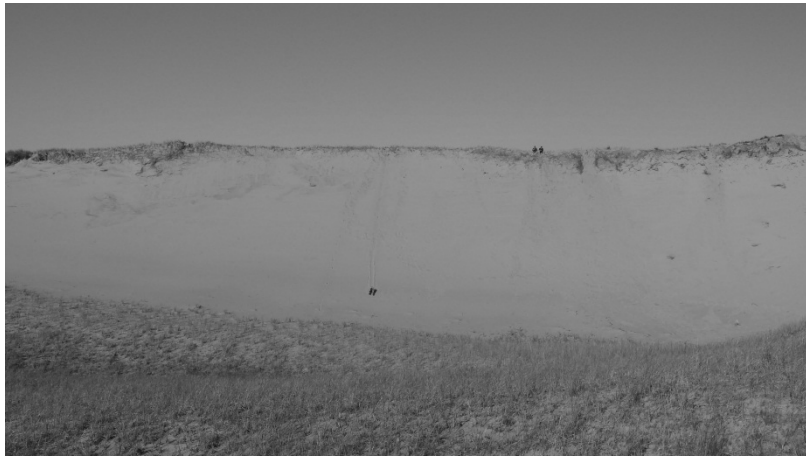
I have really enjoyed being your lodge chief so far and I hope the next six months can be as good as the first six. I really appreciate the effort everybody has put in thus far to produce a strong year for our lodge and lets continue our efforts to make a strong and successful year as well as a successful conclave.

Your in Scouting,
Alex Kieffer

was all set up we were doing a head check when we found that two scouts were no longer in camp. We all searched for about 15min before we found them. They got caught up looking at some “cool” grass.

After the chaos we had a campfire with a couple songs on the ukulele that my friend brought. On the trail, he and I took turns carrying it. After the fire it was off to bed. The next day we had a lot less ground to cover so we had breakfast, toured the nearby light house, had lunch and packed up before the hike to our next camp behind the dunes.

We quickly got to camp and set up camp. We then found a sandy trail up to the top of the dunes. When we got to the top there was an amazing view. We saw towering sand walls that had to be 20-50ft high. We had lots of time to mess around so we all went and jumped off the sand hills in to piles of sand.



Doc and I had the unprepared scout and his buddy lash sticks and hiking poles together to make their tent work. We had another camp fire while eating dinner and got to bed early. The next day we did like usual and packed up and



Fall Fellowship

The fall fellowship weekend at Camp Dittmer was a lot of fun. We accomplished most of the tasks that we set out to do. In the morning all of the tents were taken down and folded. All the cots and mattresses were put away in the barn.

After lunch we collected all of the tent-poles and ridge-poles for tents and put them away. The waterfront equipment was also stored away. Lucky for us the docks did not have to be removed.

We had approximately 8 ordeal candidates and 13 brotherhood candidates. Overall we got everything done and had a good time in the process.

Yours in Brotherhood,
Evan Kindron





A Brother's Journey

My first real experience of the Ashokwahta Ceremonies Team occurred, like many, during the weekend of my Ordeal. I recall being so entranced by the impressive regalia and stately figures that I knew without hesitation that I wanted to be a part of it somehow, in some way. So I talked to a few people, sent an email or two and before I knew it there I was dressed in the regalia of Meteu, nervously waiting for the candidates to arrive for their Pre-Ordeal Ceremony. I am sure I was far from perfect. In fact I can guarantee it, but that didn't matter. I had just cleared the first (and arguably the largest) hurdle of being a Ceremonies Team Member.

The following day we prepared as a team for the Ordeal Ceremony and that evening we did just fine. And with each successive Ceremony is has become a more enjoyable and more fulfilling experience. Each year has had its own unique challenges and obstacles, but we have overcome these. Everyone came together and worked as a unit to make the experience lasting for the candidates. Each year has seen new members enter the group and our team has grown bigger and stronger and our ceremonies have reflected this. When I first entered the group it was commonplace to see someone during the ceremony with paper and flashlight in hand. That is now a thing of the past. Occasionally things were missing and we would have to improvise props. This is no longer the case.

Being a member of this team has allowed me the opportunity to truly dive into and better understand the ceremonies and why things are the way they are. Everything in the ceremonies has significance and we are able to better

100ft above the lake. All was well until we stopped to refill on water by filtering out of the lake. When we stopped all sorts of bugs and flies came out and started to bite us.

After another mile or so of hiking, we finally made it in to our camp by Trappers Lake. We made dinner and set up camp without any problem until I was informed that one of our scouts was not prepared. Being the crew leader of the group I had to solve the issue. It turned out that the scout left the tent poles for his and his buddy's tent back at Cole. Since it was late, I split the pair into other tents and we all got a good night's rest.

Following the same pattern we all got up early, broke camp, ate breakfast, and were on our way to our next camp site at Au sable Point. This day was cooler and less buggy. At one point on the trail we knew we were back on the cliffs but we found what appeared to be a beach on top of the cliff. It was pretty spectacular. We finished that days hike by seeing the giant sand dunes that we would face the next day.

We got to our camp site earlier than the day before so we had more time for camp set up and dinner. Then after it



Pictured Rocks National Forest

50 miler by Matt Flanigan

On July 14th 2012 all of the scouts from troop 164 going to pictured rocks met at Dr. Madjeski's house around 6:00 am. We then loaded up and all piled in to the van and were on our way. The car ride took about 10hrs hours, but we finally made it to Mr. Meek's house in Lower Michigan.

We then spent the Night there and the next morning we were off again. We had to go to Cole Canoe Base because the hike was part of their summer camp. So we spent the day there, met with the ranger and we sorted our food for the trip before we called it a night.

The next morning we got into the Cole Canoe base van and some other cars and we had to ride another couple hours until we reached Pictured Rocks. Picture Rocks is located on the northern shore of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, along the side of Lake Superior. We had lunch and started down the trail.

The trail was mostly flat, clear, and was really hot, but we moved along really well. We were right along a cliff about



comprehend and portray this significance with a strong and dedicated team. I have met and worked with many wonderful people throughout my years on the team and the times spent together at the Fellowship Weekends are memories that I will carry for a very long time to come.

However, even though I may cherish these memories as long as I wish, National Order of the Arrow Policy prohibits anyone 21 years of age or older to be a member of the Ceremonies Team. Unfortunately this means that I have participated in my final ceremony as a youth member of our lodge. Although this is the closing of a chapter of my involvement in the lodge it is far from the end of my involvement. I am looking forward to transitioning to my new role as an Adult Mentor for the team. This being said, we are also left with another undeniable truth- since we are at this time when some of us "regulars" are aging out of youth positions, we are in need of you, the youth of the lodge to step forward and become a member of this rewarding team.

I encourage you to take some time to reflect upon your current position in the lodge. How involved are you? Have you been looking to do something more? Perhaps you are a Brotherhood member who is searching for a way to become more active.

If you have any interest at all, if you know for certain that you feel called to become a member of the team or if you have some questions please, I encourage you to email me at 339ceremonies@gmail.com for more information. Think back to your Ordeal Ceremony and remember the excitement you felt to be a part of something greater than yourself!

*"He alone is worthy to wear the Arrow, who will
continue to faithfully serve his fellow man."*

Yours in Cheerful Service,
Jake Horner



Left to right: Wesley Ebersol, Andrew Chevrie, Alex Roberts, Gio Madejski, Aaron Guarino, Jake Horner, Nathan Maniscalco; front: Tyler Davis

Important Dues note

If the first line of your mailing label on this newsletter reads dues paid thru 2010, this is your last mailing you will receive from the lodge until you become paid up with your dues. You can do that by paying 8 dollars a year back dues and 8 dollars for the current year.

You are considered a current member only if you are paid up for the current year. The dues year ends on the last day of the calendar year.

We have corrected our records to coincide with the National rules, so only current dues paid members are listed with National. We still send our mailings out to those who are slightly behind. Current dues paid up has become a requirement for advancement to the rank of Brotherhood.

You can make payment at either office or over the phone.

New OA Awards

There are 3 new Unit of Excellence Awards available for the Lodge to award to units or members within their Council units.

Note: The OA Troop/Team Representative Adviser is a new, official BSA adult position of responsibility that has been created in conjunction with this award. Its purpose is to create the role for an adult to guide the youth Troop/team Representative and be a 'voice of the Order' at the adult level in the troop structure.

Order of the Arrow Scoutmaster of Excellence:

Lead your unit in earning the **OA Unit of Excellence Award** three times during your tenure as Scoutmaster.

Order of the Arrow Troop/Team Representative of Excellence:

Lead your unit in earning the **OA Unit of Excellence Award** during your tenure as a Troop/Team Representative.

Order of the Arrow Troop/Team Representative Adviser of Excellence:

Advise at least two Troop Representatives towards earning the **OA Unit of Excellence Award** during your tenure as Troop Representative Adviser.

The complete rules for earning this awards will be passed out at the Winter Banquet, as well as be mailed to all Scoutmasters and Committee Chairmen.



Revised New Member Rules

Each year, upon holding a troop or team election for youth candidates, that results in at least one youth candidate being elected, the unit committee may nominate registered unit adults (age 21 or over) to the lodge adult selection committee. The number of adults nominated can be no more than one-third of the number of youth candidates elected, rounded up where the number of youth candidates is not a multiple of three. In addition to the one-third limit, the unit committee may nominate the currently-serving unit leader (but not assistant leaders), as long as he or she has served as unit leader for at least the previous 12 months. Recommendations of the adult selection committee, the lodge Key Three, with the approval of the Scout executive, serving as Supreme Chief of the Fire, will be candidates for induction, provided all conditions are fulfilled.

The camping requirement set forth for youth candidates must be fulfilled by adults for them to be considered. To be eligible, the adult must have completed 15 days and nights of Boy Scout camping during the two-year period prior to nomination. The 15 days and nights must include one, but no more than one, long-term camp consisting of six consecutive days and five nights of resident camping, approved and under the auspices and standards of the BSA. The balance must be overnight, weekend, or other short-term camps. Include above the dates and location of the resident camping experience on the nomination form.

The rules for youth election to be a candidate have not changed. They must be first class and meet the camping requirements that are listed above. They must also have the approval of the scoutmaster. Then, their name must be on at least half the ballots cast. There is no limit to the number of youth that a scout can vote for.

Our Obligation

"I do hereby promise on my honor as a Scout, that I will always and faithfully observe and preserve the traditions of the Order of the Arrow."

This is the first sentence of the obligation that all members take upon joining the Order. But what does it mean? Have you ever thought about the deeper meaning of the obligation we make as members of the OA?

Notice the Scout Oath and Scout Law are not mentioned. There's no need to do so because we promise on our honor as Scouts, implying that we do our best to live up to the principles of the Oath and Law in our daily lives. It is the next part of this sentence that may be confusing to some.

We obligate ourselves to observe and preserve the traditions of the OA. What are these traditions? Is it the sash and flap, regalia, and ceremonies? Or could it possibly be something with more meaning?

Co-Founder Carroll A. Edson, Jr. attended the Lodge #339 Winter Banquet in either 1975 or 1976. I had the honor and privilege of speaking with him. During our conversation Mr. Edson clarified that the traditions we preserve extend to the entire Scouting experience. By promoting camping at all levels, we ensure that those who follow are afforded the same opportunities we have had to enjoy the Scouting experience.

The next time you have the opportunity to join in repeating the obligation, think of the deeper purpose behind the words. In the words of Meteu:

"We who love the woods and camping,

We who strive in cheerful service,

Stand beside and urge them forward,

On the next step of their journey ..."

Winter Banquet 2013 Registration

6:00pm, January 5th, 2013

First United Methodist Church, 8221 Lewiston Road (Route 63), Batavia

\$15.00 Registration Due before December 28th

Name _____ Unit _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Qty Additional Names of OA Members or guests included with this payment

_____ \$15.00 Per Member _____

_____ \$15.00 Guests _____

_____ Total reservations _____ Total enclosed *

_____ Pay by Credit/Debit Card _____ Check Enclosed Make Checks payable to: Ashokwahta Lodge #339

___MC ___ Visa _____ exp. Date __ / __ Security Code ___

Signature required for credit/debit payments: _____

Pre-register with payment in advance: By Phone call 585-343-0307 or 1-800-592-0242

Mail to: Ashokwahta Lodge #339: Batavia Service Center
45 Liberty Street Suite 2
Batavia, NY 14020

All participants are expected to register and pay in advance* by mail or phone.

Checks payable to: Ashokwahta Lodge #339