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LETTER FROM THE CHIEF

Brothers,

I hope you are all enjoying your summer and the nice weather! We have a lot of exciting events coming up in Lowwapanau. If you do not know, this is a special year for Lowwapanau as we are celebrating our 25th year as a lodge. We are in the midst of planning a special 25th anniversary event to celebrate. The event will be happening August 13 from 1-5 pm at Goose Pond. The event will have food, fellowship, a special ceremony and so much more all for \$20! Each attendee will receive a shirt and a special 25th anniversary edition patch set. A flyer is enclosed so do not forget to register! I hope to see you all there!



WWW,

Matt Wheeland

OA Wilderness Voyage High Adventure - An Unforgettable Experience

By: Bob Hricko

Exhilarating, breathtaking, magnificent – all these words and those like them can be used to describe my recent trip to Northern Tier National High Adventure Base in northern Minnesota. One of four high adventure bases across the country, Tier offers two two-week experiences just for Order of the Arrow members. OA Wilderness Voyage takes arrowmen to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area for a week of portage trail building followed by a custom voyage, and OA Canadian Odyssey gives scouts the opportunity to work on portage trails in the Quetico Provincial Park of Ontario, Canada – also followed by a customized paddling experience. I selected the Wilderness Voyage, on which my crew and I traveled over 100 miles of pristine wilderness. So listen my brothers, and you will hear of my canoe trek at Northern Tier.

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Lodge Officers



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Assoc. Lodge Advisor	Mr. Mark Diefenderfer	assocadvisor@lowwapanau.org	Lodge Secretary	Josh Lawler	Secretary@lowwapanau.org
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2016 Lodge Executive Committee

Our Lodge Officers**Matt Wheeland**

Lodge Chief

**Zach McDonough**

Vice Chief of Program

**Matt Smith**

Vice Chief of Admin

**Josh Lawler**

Lodge Secretary

**Wyatt Sebring**

Lodge Treasurer

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Advisor Nicholas Michalisin ActivitiesAdvisor@lowwapaneu.org

Brotherhood

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Advisor Walter Carlson brotherhoodadvisor@lowwapaneu.org

Camping

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Advisor David Jones campingadvisor@lowwapaneu.org

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Chairman Joseph Fulton ceremonieschairman@lowwapaneu.org

Advisor Scott Grassi ceremoniesadvisor@lowwapaneu.org

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Chairman Ben Sebring unitelectionschairman@lowwapaneu.org

Advisor Lawrence Morton unitelectionsadvisor@lowwapaneu.org

Stay Involved...Become an Elangomat

Brothers,

Another successful ordeal has come and gone, and our circle has expanded with the addition of 79 new ordeal members! The Elangomat committee is overjoyed to welcome these new brothers. I would personally like to thank each arrowman who served as an Elangomat at this past ordeal. Some of these Elangomats were even able to fulfill their duties to their clans, while at the same time reaching their brotherhood honor, which certainly is to be commended.

Elangomats take pride in befriending new ordeal candidates and guiding them through the rigorous challenges of the ordeal. It is an essential part of the ordeal process, especially in retaining activity of new arrowmen. All brothers who seek to gain knowledge and strengthen their connection to the Order are welcome, and in fact, encouraged to serve as an Elangomat at all future ordeals. This is an excellent opportunity to become active and meet new people in the lodge.

Although the Elangomat committee is an excellent place to serve the lodge, ordeals are not the only part of the Order of the Arrow experience. Activities, such as the fellowship weekends, conclaves, and the myriad of other service and fellowship events are wonderful opportunities to enjoy OA membership. The other committees in the lodge have notable experiences as well, so go find out about them too.

WWW,

Jonathan Ross

Elangomat Chairman



Experiences from OA Prism

As we all know the previous home of the national OA site was at Treasure Island Camp. Due to tremendous flooding, the site had to find a new home. The Order of the Arrow found a new home for the site at Summit Betchel Reserve, West Virginia. To honor the site this year they had a grand opening called Prism.



Members of Lowwapanew Lodge who attended OA Prism. From the left: Scott Grassi, Zach McDonough, Matt Smith, Jake Rogers, Josh Lawler, and Ben Sebring

Prism is broken into four day sessions throughout the summer. Each lodge is able to send a small contingent to the Summit to take part in this program. The lodge members in Lowwapanew's contingent were Scott Grassi, Josh Lawler, Zachary McDonough, Mr. Nick Michalisin, Jacob Rogers, Ben Sebring, and Matt Smith.



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Harvest Fest October 22nd and 23rd

In October there is this wonderful event that is held at Camp Acahela. This event is Harvest Fest. At Harvest Fest the lodge helps out and runs an event. This event is the Native American Village. This is a place where cub scouts can throw tomahawks, shoot blow darts, cook and learn about the Native American food, listen to some Native American Drumming, and some other cool things they might not see anywhere else. This all can't happen without the help of the lodge. This is where you can come for a couple hours, or even the weekend and do some cheerful service and make a cubscouts's day. The lodge also takes care of the front gate when people are coming into the camp. This is where the tickets are taken and the families are given the patches for this year. Harvest Fest is October 22 and 23. Hope to see you there!

WWW,

Jeremy Jones

NAA Chairman



OA Prism

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Our trip will be one to remember. The first night we went to a bridge that was all lit up. You can walk on trails at both sides of the bridge that took you above the bridge and below. The next morning we visited the stainability tree house and then we took a trail around the Summit and were able to see the beautiful scenery. When we got to the other side of



camp we found the rock wall where some of our contingent tested their strength and conquered the wall while the rest of us cheered them on, played cards and gaga ball. Then we finished our hike and went back to bridge for a while. The third day we did cheerful service at the new OA site to help preserve the rock pillars. After service they let us explore the site and we found all of our rocks. That afternoon we played a game of basketball and then went back to the rock wall. That night we attended a rededication ceremony at the OA site. On our last morning we said good bye to Summit and headed home.



This trip is one I will remember and tell stories about for years to come. If you ever get the opportunity to go to a Jamboree or another event that takes place at the Summit I would recommend going. It's a once in a lifetime opportunity.

In Brotherhood,

Zachary McDonough

Vice Chief of Program

An Unforgettable Experience

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As is the case with most OA experiences, my OAWV trip can accurately be described through the virtues of brotherhood, cheerfulness, and service.

Brotherhood: We came from across the vast expanse of the United States – some from Florida and Texas, others from Illinois and Iowa, still others from Wisconsin, New York, and New Jersey. I don't believe that any of us expected our bonds of brotherhood to form so quickly. Of course, hauling 85 pound packs and canoes across muddy, mosquito-infested portage trails, charging into four – foot swells while belting out popular camp songs, and huddling under pine trees on an island as lightning splits trees just overhead is bound to forge tighter bonds than shallower experiences. Our final parting at the airport was a truly sad one.



Cheerfulness: Northern Minnesota is absolutely beautiful. Simply being present in such surroundings and with such people as I just mentioned is bound to result in cheerfulness. And yet, many situations on the trail threatened to suppress those good spirits. Aside from practical things such as how to paddle and portage a canoe correctly, I learned how to keep a positive mental attitude – to stay cheerful – through many trying circumstances. Cooking over an open fire, with smoke that blows in the eyes and heat that's sometimes here, sometimes there is a frustrating experience. So too is getting up extra early to make miles, only to be delayed by thunder and lightning. Of course, the mosquitoes – vicious as vampires and thicker than pea soup – were an omnipresent threat to contentment. And yet, a cheerful spirit prevailed.

Service: Half of our trip was dedicated to restoring sections of portage trail for the U.S. Forest Service. Both an honor and a challenge, restoring these trails – many which were cleared by Native Americans and maintained for hundreds of years by fur traders and the CCC – was profoundly satisfying. Of course, smashing rocks with sledgehammers for six days to make gravel was tiring and occasionally monotonous, but arduous labor shared cheerfully with brothers is never unbearable.



Of course, I haven't done more than scratched the surface of the opportunities offered by OA High Adventure. Hopefully you've gotten the message that I'd really tried to send: OA High Adventure is truly an experience you will remember for the rest of your life, and I can't encourage you enough to take advantage of it!



THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU

Thanks to everyone who participated in our Spring Ordeal! And congratulations to all our new Ordeal, Brotherhood, and Vigil members! Without all your hard work we could not have been ready for the summer camping season!

Sincerely,

Bob Pilger

Thanks!

Sealing His Bond After 31 Years

Most guys seal their bond in brotherhood within 10 months of taking their ordeal, some it may be within one year, or maybe even two; but scoutmaster Daniel A. Roote from Troop 518 had just sealed his bond at this past Spring Ordeal after 31 years. Taking his Ordeal in 1985 at camp Acahela was much different than the ordeals today. At that time the local lodge for him was Acahela 223, before Lowwapaneu Lodge 191 was even chartered in January of 1991. “Back when I did my ordeal, I wasn’t able to have a ground cloth, and other items that many ordeal candidates bring today,” said Roote, “If I remember correctly, all I had were the clothes on my back.” Many different practices were even followed than those of today. “We were even given a stick carved like an arrow, to keep track if we broke our code of silence. I ended up getting two notches in my arrow. If I were to get one more I would have to take my ordeal all over again,” added Roote.

After turning 18 Daniel got away from scouting, and started the “rat race” of working. He was never able to complete the rank of Eagle because he lacked a service project and the Citizenship Merit Badges before he turned 18. His son later became involved in scouting as a tiger cub, and crossed over to Boy Scouts. Once his son was actively involved in troop 518, Roote took the necessary training to become a Assistant Scoutmaster. Three months ago he took over as Scoutmaster of Troop 518. “The troop elected my son to be an ordeal candidate. I thought to myself, “what a great time to finally go for my brotherhood.” I could remember 31 years ago, and how much of an honor it was to be in the order, and how much fun it was!” said Roote. “I really wanted to continue the journey that I started long ago so that I could help guide the scouts in my troop, as well as others, to the goal of Eagle Scout.”

Quoting from the late college professor Randy Pausche, “Think about it. Becoming an Eagle Scout is just about the only thing you can put on your resume at age fifty that you did a age fourteen.” Roote added, “If I can help the young scouts realize this then I have accomplished the same thing as becoming an Eagle Scout to myself.”



Fall Ordeal Set for August 19th, 20th, and 21st

Brothers,

This is Bob Hricko, Ordeal Chairman, writing to you to let you know that the date of the Fall Ordeal is set for August 19th, 20th, and 21st.

If I may take the liberty of assuming so, I don't think that Ordeals are our lodge's most anticipated annual events. Certainly they are not as exciting as conclaves, Fellowship Weekend, or even the lodge picnic.

But life is made of highs as well as lows – fun as well as solemnity. A wise person appreciates both as they come, for he knows that one cannot survive without the other. As the maxim goes, “everything in moderation.” Too much leisure is a vice just as much as too much service is. That is why it is so important to help the council by participating in service at the Fall Ordeal.

A lot of us, if not all of us, find service work fun and rewarding. However, it cannot be denied that some service work simply isn't fun, and to dedicate a whole weekend to it – especially right before a busy school year – is not nothing.

And yet, what better way to give back? Most of us have gone to camp this year; have had great fun and have learned a great many things. What better way to spend the rest of the summer than to show our thanks through cheerful service? Our scouting experience would then truly be brought full circle.

Perhaps I haven't explained this clearly enough. Perhaps – for all I might try – it can't be explained clearly enough. At any rate, I don't understand it nearly as much as I want to, and it is for that reason that I hope you attend this year's Fall Ordeal. I don't think you'll be disappointed if you do.



How was Conclave?

My favorite event in the OA to go to every year is the section conclave. It is an amazing time for fellow brothers in different lodges to meet and talk to each other. There are many cool things to do, along with many competitions that will be held between the lodges. There is a lot of fun to have and a lot of things you can learn while there. I recommend that you try to go to at least one. You won't regret it! Hope to see you at upcoming events within the years to come!

WWW,

Jeremy Jones

NAA Chairman



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Upcoming Events!

August 13th Lodge 25th Anniversary Celebration @ GPSR

August 19th -21st Ordeal @ Camp Aahela

October 22nd and 23rd Harvest Fest @ Camp Aahela

**Lodge Executive Committee Meetings every fourth Wednesday
of the month 7:30pm @ Scout Service Center**

**Native American Activities Meeting every first Tuesday of the
Month 7:00pm @ Scout Service Center**

Plus many more events to come!!!

