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Smoke Signals

A Publication of Lowwapaneu Lodge 191





Vol. 17, Issue 4

Northeastern Pennsylvania Council

Fall 2008

ELECTION OF NEW LODGE OFFICERS - NOVEMBER 26

As another year slowly winds down and comes to an end, we look back and ask where exactly did the year go? The election of the new Lodge Officers for 2009 is just right around the corner. The Lodge is looking for qualified, mature Arrowmen to step up and lead our Lodge into the 2009 calendar year. Being in such respected and responsible positions allows you to mature, while making important decisions that impact hundreds of Arrowmen from the top of Wayne County down to Mountain Top. These skills that you obtain throughout your term of office do not just last during your one-year term, but will endure throughout YOUR LIFE!

On November 26th, there will be a General Lodge meeting at the Council Service Center at 7:30pm. During this meeting, YOU the youth members of the Lodge will cast your vote for Lowwapaneu's next Chief, Vice Chiefs, Secretary and Treasurer.

If you intend to run for office, you must submit a "letter of intent to run" by November 19th to Mr. Croom. The letter must be in the format found on the lodge website, www.lowwapaneu.org. It is your turn to be the next chief or other officer?...Thinki about it! Also, your vote counts..be there! Remember "Through inspiration, Lead them."

2008 HOLIDAY BANQUET

The 2008 Lowwapaneu Lodge Holiday Banquet is right around the corner! It's hard to believe that it is time for Lowwapaneu Lodge to celebrate again! This year's Holiday Banquet will be held on Sunday, December 28 at 6:30 at the After Five Supper Club - 280 Main St. Dickson City, PA. Doors will open at 6:00 for gathering and fellowship.

All Arrowmen and their spouses, girlfriends, families, and friends are invited to join in the celebration of the Holidays and the achievements of the lodge. The cost is \$20 per person. Please complete the registration form in this edition of Smoke Signals and return to the Scout Service Center no later than December 19. Highlights will include presentation of the Founder's Award and recognition of all Arrowmen who took their Ordeal, Brotherhood, or Vigil this year. Special highlights will also include the annual "Mr. Dave" awards, silent auction and other recognition. This is a night of celebration and fellowship that you don't want to miss!

UNIT ELECTIONS UPDATE



The Unit Elections Committee is getting ready to meet the challenges of another busy season. We will be holding an exciting Elections Team Training for those interested in helping in the process on Sunday December 7th at 7:00 PM. If you attend you will not only garner a great deal of election knowledge, you will receive a trained

patch and get the year pin for 2009 at the holiday Banquet. The Unit election season begins on January 1 and lasts until April 15. There will not be any elections held after that date. Each troop will be contacted to determine their election status at the beginning of the season and Election Request Forms will be available to Troops at the Service Center ands on line.

.If you have any questions, concerns, want to request an election, or would like to join a local elections team please contact Mr. Croom or Chief Nick Murley.

THE VIGIL HONOR & NOMINATIONS

The Vigil Honor is the highest honor that a Lodge can bestow upon a member. It dates back to 1915 when our Founder, Dr. E. Urner Goodman became the first Vigil Honor Member. It is a mark of high distinction and is reserved for those Arrowmen who, by reason of exceptional service, personal effort, and unselfish interest, have made distinguished contributions beyond the immediate responsibilities of their position of office to one or more of the following: their lodge, the Order of the Arrow, Scouting, or their Scout Camp. Under no circumstances should tenure in Scouting or the Order of the Arrow be considered as reason enough for a Vigil Honor recommendation. The Vigil Honor is a recognition of one's commitment to altruistic leadership and proper example of Brotherhood in Cheerful Service. Alertness to the needs of others is the mark of the Vigil Honor.

Any member of the Order of the Arrow registered in Scouting and in good standing with the Lodge is eligible for recommendation to the national Order of the Arrow Committee for elevation to the Vigil Honor provided that, at the time of the recommendation, the individual has meet all of the criteria listed below. A lodge may nominate a maximum of two percent of their registered Arrowmen once a year. At least 50 percent of all nominated must be under age 21.

The individual must:

- 1. Be Brotherhood member for at least two years at the time of nomination.
- 2. Be registered with the BSA in the Northeastern Pennsylvania Council
- 3. Be a member in good standing (dues paid) of Lowwapaneu Lodge.

Nominations for the Vigil Honor can be made by completing the nomination form from the lodge website, www.lowwapaneu.org and submitting it to the Scout Service center by December 1st.



CHIEFLY SPEAKING

Brothers,

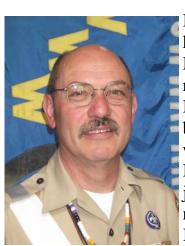
The end is near. First off, I would like to thank everyone for a great year. Each one of you has worked hard in one way or another to help your fellow brother. I'm proud of each one you for your work. There were many tasks that were completed this year. The list includes 2 successful Ordeals, a successful Fellowship weekend, successful adopt-a highway project, helping with merit badge college, and so many more!



Soon we will be having the Holiday Banquet to celebrate all our hard work for the year. But that is still a little bit away. So let's work hard right up until the end! The more we do, the more we get to enjoy at the banquet. I'll see you on the Scouting Trail.

In Brotherhood,
Nick Murley, Lodge Chief

ADVISOR'S MINUTE



In this troublesome hard time in our history it is very hard to keep everyone focused on volunteerism.

Memberships are hard to keep, goals harder to obtain, vital numbers almost impossible to hit.

I am so proud of the Lodge officers, Advisors and the members of the Executive Committee who keep on plugging away with these large mountains to climb.

I hope you will help us in our endeavors and come out and join a Committee, run for an office or volunteer to take on a new or larger role in the Lodge. We need you! Keep up the good work.

Mr. John Croom, Lodge Advisor

2008 LODGE OFFICERS

Lodge Chief
Vice-Chief -Program
Vice-Chief -Admin
Lodge Secretary
Lodge Treasurer
Lodge Advisor
Assoc. Lodge Advisor
Assoc. Lodge Advisor
Lodge Staff Advisor

Nick Murley
Jack Spitzer
Mike Brunetti
Phillip Diefenderfer
Craig Bortree
Mr. John Croom Jr.
Mr. Matt Beckage
Mr. Mike Minello
Mr. Dave Srebro

tasd2008@yahoo.com
jspitz191@aol.com
mpj918@comcast.net
pdiefend@ptd.net
eclipseguy900@aol.com
croomjr@gmail.com
mathew_beckage@verizon.net
minello@nawarhorse.com
dsrebro@nepabsa.org





Jack Spitzer
Vice-Chief of Program



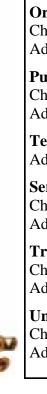
Mike Brunetti
Vice-Chief of
Administration



Philip Diefenderfer Lodge Secretary



Craig Bortree Lodge Treasurer



2008 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

YOUTH CHAIRMEN & ADULT ADVISORS

Activities

Chairman Jerry Clum jclum3@gmail.com Advisor Joe Ferdinand joeferdinand@verizon.net

Brotherhood

Chairman Kris Tomaine topher892@hotmail.com Advisor Greg Russick russickg2@gmail.com

Camping

Chairmen Mike Trischetta m_trischetta@yahoo.com Advisor Charlie Fisher elangomat191@hotmail.com

Ceremonies

Chairman Jack Spitzer jspitz191@aol.com Advisor Joe Russick joerussick@msn.com

Elangomat

Chairman Sam Levandoski bsaboy50@gmail.com Advisor Ed Fitzgerald webmaster@fssp.com Assoc. Adv. James Naticchi nepaowl@aol.com

Food

Co-Chairman Matt Tomazic mtomazic@echos.net
Co-Chairman TJ Spall spall@troop-8.org
Advisor Tino Penzone tpeagle@echoes.net

Native American Activities

Chairman Frank Jones piano404@aol.com Advisor Greg Morcom glmdgm@aol.com

Ordeal

Chairman Paul Hoban hborn88@aol.com Advisor J Croom jrcroom3@gmail.com

Publications

Chairman Jason Bender cbsysco@msn.com Advisor Chris Bender cbsysco@msn.com

Technology

Advisor Tim Bongard tbongard@nepabsa.org

Service

Chairman Erik Hayden claycrusher@comcast.net Advisor Mark Diefenderfer mldiefen@ptd.net

Troop Representative

Chairman Carl Jurkowski oatroop@hotmail.com Advisor Mike Jurkowski jurkowsm@hotmail.com

Unit Elections

Chairman Connor Baldwin connor61013@aim.com

Advisor

SERVICE COMMITTEE REPORT

For those Arrowmen who came out to the recent Adopt-a-Highway and Fall Ordeal, **thanks for your help!** I know that Mr. Natton and Ranger Tim appreciate all the Cheerful Service.

The Fall Ordeal went very well. The rain held off and we were able to accomplish all the tasks that Ranger Tim had on the list. It was great that we were able to provide such outstanding service to maintain Camp Acahela. Once again I thank you for your help.

The Service Committee is always looking for Arrowmen, to serve on the committee, to help plan the service opportunities at the Fellowship Weekend and the Ordeals. Contact Mr. Diefenderfer or myself to get involved. *Erik Hayden*

ELANGOMATS

The Elangomat Committee had a fantastic year. At our first meeting we set numerous goals to fulfill during this year. I am happy to say that all of those goals are completed. I would especially like to thank all the Elangomats who helped out this year. If you are interested in becoming an Elangomat you can contact Mr. Fitzgerald, Mr. Naticchi or myself. We are always looking for new members.

Sam Levandoski

PUBLICATIONS

We are always looking for writing contributions to the *Smoke Signals*.

Consider submitting an article for the next issue:

The submission deadline for the next Smoke Signals is:

February 1, 2009

Submit to: publications191@hotmail.com

LODGE LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

On January 18th the Lodge officers will hold our annual Lodge Leadership Development at the Scout Service and Training Center in Moosic. This is a required training event for all chairmen,

advisors and officers. However, all Arrowmen are encouraged and invited to attend. The training will start at 1 PM. And will go no



later than 6 PM. Everyone in attendance will learn valuable skills from "dealing with committees," "what a committee is expected to do throughout the year," "working with the adult advisors," as well as learning communication skills and training methods. You will also receive an LLD patch for attending. Those at the training will also have input in setting up with the Lodge goals for the 2009 Lodge year. Naturally food will be served at this event. We also may have some leaders from our new OA Section in attendance.

If you have any questions or are planning on attending please contact this years' Lodge Chief, Nick Murley or Mr. Croom. Don't forget to mark your calendars and plan to attend.

GREAT EXPECTATIONS TRAINING

Leadership Training Workshop for Troops November 15, 2008

Kings College Campus Center, Wilkes Barre Cost: \$20.00/person. \$25.00 after 10/31/08



You and your troop are invited to attend a one-day training course — offered only once every year and designed here in Northeastern Pennsylvania especially for Boy Scout leaders: youth and adults. What's it all about? Delivering Scouting's Promises...the goal of Great Expectations is simple: Better Troops. All Scouts and Scouters who currently hold a leadership position in their troop are strongly encouraged to attend. Individuals who may become leaders in their Troop in the future are also equally welcome.

The course is an intense, practical program with sessions on everything from Communicating, to the Patrol Method, to Troop Program Planning. Inter-patrol Games and activities will add some excitement to the day.

Contact your troop Scoutmaster to make a reservation. For more information contact: Scoutmaster John Croom (570) 842-8805 or croomjr@gmail.com
Staff Advisor Dave Srebro (570) 207-1227 or dsrebro@nepabsa.org
Course Advisor J Croom (570) 499-8855 or jrcroom3@gmail.com

NATIVE AMERICAN ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE



Yes we're still around! Yes we're still active! And Yes, you are welcome to join us at any meeting! Speaking of meetings, we meet on the second Wednesday of every month at the Scout Service Center! We need ANY member interested in Native American Drumming or Dancing to attend. It's a great time and we have lots of fun! The Native American Activities Committee is also planning to go to North Carolina for a Native American Seminar that is run by our brothers in Eswau-Huppeday Lodge #560. If you are interested please contact Mr. Morcom for more information. Please come out, see what we're all about and attend the meetings to make the Drum & Dance teams a success!

CALLING ALL OA TROOP REPRESENTATIVES

Hello, my name is Carl Jurkowski and I am the OA Troop Representative Chairman. I have taken this position in order to improve the participation of the Troop Representatives, and to get information about the Lodge to other troops. I am asking that all of the Troop Representatives come to the next Lodge Executive meeting at the Scout Service Center on November 26 at 7:00pm. I would like to talk to you about transferring information from the meeting to your troop. If you are unable to attend the meeting please contact me by e-mail at lordnin-ja90@aol.com or by calling my advisor, Mr. Jurkowski at 570-352-7830 or 251-8793. Hope to see you at the meeting.



FOUNDER'S AWARD & NOMINATIONS

With the death of the Order of the Arrow's Founder, Dr. E. Urner Goodman, The National Order of the Arrow Committee decided that the time was right to reinforce the values first established by the founders. The Founder's Award was created in 1981 to honor and recognize those Arrowmen who have given outstanding service to the lodge. The award is reserved for an Arrowman who demonstrates to fellow Arrowmen that he or she memorializes in their everyday life, the spirit of achievement as described by Goodman. The award consists of a bronze medallion bearing the



Tom Owens

likenesses of founder E. Urner Goodman and co-founder Carroll A. Edson. The reverse of the medallion is inscribed with the words, which immortalize the meaning of the award, "For he who serves his fellows, is, of all his fellows, greatest!" Accompanying the medallion is an engraved certificate with appropriate national and local signatures. The recognition piece for the Arrowman's uniform is an arrow ribbon, similar to the universal arrow ribbon, except that it has a gold-colored arrow suspended from a solid red ribbon. Local Lodges may petition the National Committee to present one Founder's Award annually, one for every 500 lodge members or portion thereof. Since it's inception in 1981, only 22

Lowwapaneu brothers have received this award.

Ryan Johnson

Dave Mitchell	Josh Thomas	Jeremy Kobeski	Bill McAuliffe	Bill Botke
Dave Srebro	Eric Chase	John Croom III	Matthew Beckage	John Croom Jr
Dave Nguyen	Dan Nestorick	Aaron Dombroski	Greg Russick	Robert Gibbons
John Gaudenzi	Joshua Tucky	Tino Penzone	AJ Gaudenzi	Michael Minello

Nominations should be taken seriously and as much information about the nominee as possible should be submitted to the Lodge Committee. **The Deadline for submission is November 14**th and all must be on the Nominations form found on our website. Nominations will not be accepted on any other format. They should be sent to the Service Center to the attention of "OA Founders Committee". More information and requirements are on our website.

BURNING ISSUES...ASK MR. DAVE

This is a regular Smoke Signals forum, answered by "MR. DAVE", our Lodge Staff Advisor, Professional Scouter, and all-around Good Guy. Ask Mr. Dave anything (well almost anything) that has been a "burning issue" on your mind.

Dear Mr. Dave,

At summer camp, we have OA day at Goose Pond to show off our sashes, why don't we do OA day at Camp Acahela in the summer?

-Jeremy

Jeremy, well...The OA is predominantly a Boy Scout organization (as opposed to a Cub Scout one). As a Lodge we strongly support the Cub Scouting program in many ways, but often times it is in a behind-the-scenes way (serving as Den Chiefs, on the campstaff at Acahela, camp service projects or working at Harvest Fest are just a few examples). Holding an OA day at Camp Acahela during summer camp would not have much meaning to the Cub Scouts. It would only involve a few staff, leaders and Den Chiefs. You know Nick, the sash is only an outward symbol of what it means to be a Brother in the OA...it's really a thing of the spirit, what we are in our heart..not what we wear on our uniform.

Dear Mr. Dave,

What's the deal with circle of colors on our Lodge flap...does it have a meaning?

-Greg

Greg, that's a great question. I'm sure many of us wear our flap (or hat or shirt or some other Lowwapaneu swag) all the time without even knowing the meaning of these symbols. The circle with the fire at the center makes up our official Lodge Totem which was adopted in 1996. Every Lodge in the country has an official totem, approved by National, which is defined in their Lodge bylaws. The circle of colors is a Native American spiritual symbol which represents the medicine wheel or circle of life. It is a common symbol to many tribes but the meaning varies slightly from tribe to tribe. Basically, the medicine wheel symbolizes the individual journey we each must take to find our own path. Within the medicine wheel are the four cardinal directions and the four sacred colors. The center of the circle is the Eternal Fire. There's a lot more meaning behind each of those basic explanations too. For more information, do some 'googling' on line, there's tons of stuff on the web about it. Pretty deep stuff huh Greg? And you just thought it was a patch!



Do you have a burning question for Mr. Dave? Feel free to email your questions to askmrdave@lowwapaneu.org and Mr. Dave will do his best to answer them in the next edition of Smoke Signals.

THESE HIGH ADVENTURE PLACES ARE WITHIN YOU

Do you need an escape from that 9-5 job, summer classes or the monotony of staring out of your bedroom window longing for something new? If your answer is yes, the Order of the Arrow has the answer for you.

Each summer, the Order of the Arrow offers a myriad of different High Adventure opportunities to meet your summer needs whether its wetting your appetite by going for a plunge in the Atlantic Ocean with the Ocean Adventure at the Florida Sea Base; maybe hiking is your passion, what better place to go than the Philmont Scout Ranch where you can hike the same trails as your Scoutmaster or Scouting ancestors as a part of your Trail Crew experience. Have you ever given thought about what the Native Americans and early explorers did to be avid traders, maybe the OA Voyage is for calling. Whatever your summer aspirations may be, these National High Adventure bases have put together a multitude of options for you.

Along with your one week trek completely designed by you, each Arrowmen will be afforded the opportunity to leave their mark in history by helping to sure up portage trails, backpacking trails or coral reefs. Aside from providing a good deed to each of these high adventure bases, every participant will have the opportunity to work closely with Arrowmen from across the country, who have a similar interest in the future of both the program and the adventure base.

You may be thinking that this is a daunting task but it is an experience unlike any other afforded to you in scouting in that it takes you out of your world and places with people, who want to do something different. It's not everyday that you can tell your friends that you climbed into Cypher's Mine, watched the Northern Lights from a canoe or went scuba diving in the Florida Keys.

These programs help to insure that the future of scouting has a place to live, work and interact. This summer, try something new or do something you thoroughly enjoy, but do something with the Order of the Arrow High adventure opportunities. For more information about these High Adventure programs, please visit Adventure.oa-bsa.org or talk to your lodge chief. Your destiny awaits you.







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HARVEST FEST 2008 - ANOTHER LODGE SERVICE SUCCESS

On October 25 & 26 at Camp Acahela we assisted our Council in running the largest event of the calendar year. Haunted Harvest Fest was again staffed by numerous Arrowmen from throughout the Council, helping with registration, parking, costumes, hayrides, dining hall, as well as a number of different program booths for almost 1000 Cub Scouts, parents and families. Our Drum Team also highlighted the program by performing at the top of every hour on the Parade Field. Overall, the weekend was a huge success with good weather and a great program. We were an asset in helping the Council with this very important Cub Scout event. Special thanks goes out to all Arrowmen who contributed time and effort in assuring that Harvest Fest was the success that we all knew it would be!

ARE YOU GETTING EMAILS FROM THE LODGE?

The Lodge communicates the bulk of our information, reminders, and activities to our members through the **Lowwapaneu E-groups Email List.** If you aren't on the e-list, you are missing out on lots of up-to-date information on the happenings of Lowwapaneu and the Order!

To join the Lodge E-Mail List:

- Visit the Lowwapaneu homepage at http://www.lowwapaneu.org.
- On the left column of the webpage, there is a link that is called "Mailing List." Click on the link.
- Follow the appropriate instructions.
- You will now be set to receive all the latest information from the Lodge.

Smoke Signals

Lowwapaneu Lodge 191 Northeastern Pennsylvania Council, BSA 1 Bob Mellow Drive Moosic, PA 18507 NON-PROFIT
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Scranton, PA

IMPORTANT LODGE DATES

Lodge Executive Committee Meetings:

The 4th Wednesday of Each Month at the Scout Service Center at 7:30 p.m.

November 26, 2008 January 28, 2009 February 25, 2009 March 25, 2009 April 22, 2009

General Lodge Meetings

November 26, 2008 - Election of Lodge Officers at Service Center

Activities and Other Important Events

December 7, 2008 - Unit Elections Team Training - Service Center
 December 28, 2008—Holiday Banquet - After Five, Dickson City
 January 1-April 15, 2009 - Unit OA Elections Taking Place
 January 10, 2009 - Merit Badge College, Kings College
 January 18, 2009 - Lodge Leader Development - Service Center
 March 27-29 - Fellowship Weekend - Camp Acahela







Be Sure to Join Us...



Holiday Banquet 2008

An Annual Tradition of Fellowship



WHERE: The After Five Restaurant, 280 Main St, Dickson City

WHEN: Sunday December 28, 2008. Fellowship begins at 6:00PM with Dinner at 6:30PM

DIRECTIONS: The After Five is located near Schiff's and Johnson College. Take I-81 to Exit 190. At the end of the exit ramp, turn right onto Main St, watch for the After Five approaching quickly on your right.

WHAT: This year's banquet will feature the usual fare of good food, outstanding awards, and lots of fun and fellowship.

WHO: The Banquet is for all Arrowmen but is also open to anyone...please bring your family, friends and other guests as well.

COST: The price for the Banquet is \$20 per person. Register today!

DEADLINE: Reservation & payment must be made to the Service Center by December 23

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Name:______ Unit #:_____

Number of Guests_____ x \$20 = \$____

Phone: _____

Make Payments and Registrations to: Northeastern PA Council, BSA Lowwapaneu Lodge 191 1 Bob Mellow Drive Moosic, PA 18509



Fun—Ceremonies Competitions—Basketball Tournament—Theme Shows-



Ceremonies Training

Football—Slip and Slide Competition—

NOAC 2009



-Founders Day—Golf Tournament

⇒When: July 31st–August 6th 2009

5K run/walk—Miss Teen USA—Ordeal Training—Scuba

⇒Where: University of Indiana

Diving—IT—Volleyball Tournament —Swimming—

⇒Who: 8000+ Arrowmen

Costume Making—Fellowship—Vigil Training—The

⇒How Much: Approximately \$750 for the conference and Outdoor Adventure—Memories—Brotherhood Band— Transportation. (Through fundraising we hope to get it A Major Parade—Get the National Cube—Brotherhood down to about \$550 or LESS)

Chorus -- National Cope Like Activities—Meet the Man—

⇒What will I do there: Everything on this paper and so Camp Training—Learn about High Adventure—Great much more!!!

Food—Lots of free stuff—Meet 8000+ Arrowmen from 50

⇒Who Should Register: YOU

States and the Transatlantic Council—Publications

⇒When Should I Register: Today. Slots are filling FAST. **Competition—Demonstrations by leaders in outdoors**

National Council of Chiefs Meeting—Flag ⇒How To Register: Fill out the form from page 9 of this activities—National Scouting Museum—Sleep in Dorms—

Smoke Signals, or on lowwapaneu.org, or at the Service Fireworks—DSA Presentations—Web Page Competition—

Center. Youth submit \$50 deposit with the form and your -AND MUCH MUCH MORE....-

spot is reserved!!!

Irading—Dance Competition—Unit Elections Iraining—OA Jeopardy—

Leadership Development—Meet the National Officers—Drum Competition—Soccer Tournament—Patch