

THE TIP

Occoneechee Lodge #104 Newsletter

March 2014

Backbone of the Ordeal Experience: *Elangomats*

By: AJ Raulynaitis, *Vice Chief of Administration*

Our Lodge is ever growing. Five years ago getting 400 ordeal candidates at an ordeal would have been crazy! This past fall however, we had almost 600! While Occoneechee Lodge prides itself on the quality of our new members every year, it can be a logistical challenge to deliver a quality program to a high number of ordeal candidates. Without the positive effect of **Elangomats**, our Ordeal opportunities would not be possible.

This year we are anticipating another record breaking year with a high attendance at the three ordeal opportunities. In order to provide the highest level of service and quality program to these scouts; we need Elangomats. Being an Elangomat is a very rewarding experience. I, myself, have been an elangomat three times and I still see candidates I guided around at lodge events. Without quality Elangomats, we can't provide the level of service to our new members that Occoneechee Lodge is known for. Being an Elangomat is one of the best ways of giving service back to the lodge. This is my invitation to you to join our 2014 Ordeal team!

Besides being a great way of serving the lodge, being an Elangomat has other benefits, both tangible and impalpable. The leadership experience you gain from guiding your peers through their first Order of the Arrow event is something that can't be easily replicated. You also get to wear the NEW iconic red Elangomat sash for the weekend. After completing your rewarding endeavor as an Elangomat you will receive the most delicious milkshake you have ever tasted, if it is your first time being an Elangomat you receive the Elangomat recognition patch, and you will get to keep the brand new elangomat shirts that are handed out at each event.

Now that you are on board and want to be an Elangomat; you can pre-register on the lodge website now! Just select Elangomat and you can be on your way to impacting the future of our Lodge!



Elangomat gathering, Spring Inductions 2013

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- High Adventure opportunity
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Left: Pow Wow Ordeal patch

Right: Occoneechee Conclave Patch

Let's get excited for the Spring!

By: Will Rea, *Vice Chief of Program*

There will be a lot more going on throughout the next few months. Spring Pow Wow is coming up and there is always a lot going on. Don't forget to come down to camp in your Fiesta gear and show some spirit for the Lodge! During Spring Pow Wow, the lodge will hold its first Ordeal Experience for 2014! This means that there will be a lot of service going on around camp and I hope that everyone will find some way to help make Durant the best it can be. At Spring Pow Wow we will also be having AIA competitions for Dancing and Ceremonies. We need a ceremony team from each chapter to help with the ceremonies for the ordeal, and I encourage every team that performs a ceremony to compete at Pow Wow. The competitions will help each team to become better than they were and the winning team will represent the Lodge at Conclave in April. Anyone who has a dance outfit ready for Pow Wow should also consider dancing in the competitions because it could help you become a better dancer.

There will be a lot going on in the Lodge during the Spring and I hope to see you at the events and workdays!

Dues on Time!

Thunderbird dues on time! Brand NEW for 2014!

Check out this new incentive program offered by the lodge for arrowmen who pay their dues by Spring Pow Wow and attend that week (March 14 at Camp Durant).

Arrowmen can pick up their free pin (That conveniently fits perfectly over the thunderbird on our regular issued lodge flaps!) in the trading post at Pow Wow.

Life Members may purchase a pin at Pow Wow for \$2. Unfortunately, no pins will be mailed out, they must be picked up in person!

Feel free to stop by the trading post if you have other questions regarding this cool new program!



New 2014 Dues on Time pin available at Spring Pow Wow.

¡Thunderfiesta - Mucho Bueno!

Keegan Pierce, *New Member Development Committee Chair*

The New Member Development Committee went through some changes in the past year -- including acquiring the Thunderfest celebration that occurs on Saturday nights at Spring Pow Wow, Spring Inductions, and Fall Fellowship. This year, Thunderfest will have some new components to it, as well as several familiar elements from years past. It's going to be great! We are currently looking for a chapter to volunteer to help with setup of Thunderfest at Spring Pow Wow -- a big thanks to Neusiok for volunteering to help with the cleanup. If your chapter can volunteer to help with set up, please email me at jkeeganpierce@me.com.

Additionally, the New Member Development Committee works with the new members on Sunday morning to present what the Lodge can do for them, and what they can do for the Lodge. We also hand out packets with the OA Handbook, patches, Lodge information, and award information. We can always use help preparing the packets on Saturday in the Grand Lodge, and would be grateful if a chapter could volunteer to help with this activity as well. Thank you and I look forward to working with you at Spring Pow Wow!



Charley Sullivan Lodge Building and Training Center Walkway

Brick by Brick...to our future!

By: Ryan Biegert, *Vice Chief of Finance*

The Sullivan Center has turned out great thanks to all the help from our arrowmen. One element we still need to finish is the brick path that leads to the parking lot at Sullivan. There is still room to add more bricks so please consider purchasing one. You even have the opportunity to personalize your brick. Some people have thought outside of the box and have organized writing out the Scout Law in bricks, be creative! To purchase a brick, please visit our [online trading post](#). Proceeds from the sale of bricks will help us continue to fund future projects in camp. Thanks to all who have already purchased a brick. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Brand new Occoneechee Lodge “abstract” patch

By: Greg Grimes, *Patch Committee Adviser*

Occoneechee Lodge is on the cutting edge once again with its new “abstract” patch as we are calling it. This patch fits perfectly on the Venturing uniform pocket flap....hmmm imagine that! The new style patch was made specifically for the Venturing uniform and was the brainchild of Carlton McKee and Crew 505. As stated to the Patch Committee, “Brothers that are members of the various Crews in the Council want to show support of the Lodge on their uniforms too and what better way to do this than with a patch that actually fits the Venturing uniform pocket flap!” The patch was designed by Casey Chipka who is an Assoc. Advisor for Crew 505 and a professional graphic artist.

These patches were approved by the Lodge EC at Lodge Leadership Development in November of last year and will be sold at this year’s Pow Wow in March. You do not have to be a Crew member to purchase the new patch. They are available to everyone to purchase however, only Crew members may wear the patch on the pocket flap of their Venturing uniform.

Do not delay in getting to the Trading Post at Pow Wow as these are sure to go fast!



FIESTA TIME — Conclave 2014

Start dusting off your sombreros and ponchos, 'cause it's almost time for the 2014 SR-7B Conclave!

Conclave is an annual event when 6 lodges from across the state get together with over 1300 people and celebrate what the Order of the Arrow is about! Activities planned for this year include two large arena shows, Quest Competitions between lodges, OAX exhibits ranging from High Adventure to basic cooking skills and branding, Minute to Win it and Family Feud Games, three service projects, and a large Pow Wow with each lodges' Drum and dancers. There will also be a spirit competition between the lodges. Our theme is Fiesta, so make sure to bring out all of your Southwestern party supplies!

This year's conclave is being hosted by Klahican Lodge #331 and is being held at Camp Bowers in White Oak, NC April 25th – 27th. If you have not registered already, the cost is \$45 and includes food, patches, activity fees, in addition to special delegate items that you will receive related to our lodge's theme. To register, visit <https://conclaveregistration.azurewebsites.net/>.

But wait... there's more!

If we get 350 people registered and paid for conclave by the Saturday Night Assembly at Pow Wow, your lodge officers will participate in a messy cheese, salsa, and guac slingin' taco brawl!!!! It is sure to be messy and delicious!



Conclave Food Drive

By: Lawson Benfield

It is that time of year again! It is time for Conclave! This year one of the service projects will be a food drive to benefit the Sacred Pathways Soup Kitchen. There will be a competition between the lodges to see who can collect the most food. The winning lodge will be determined by finding the average weight of food per participant in each lodge. The lodge with the highest average will receive a plaque and their choice of preferred seating at the Saturday Night Show. I know Lodge 104 can bring home this plaque. To begin our food collection I'd like each Chapter to bring non-perishable food to Spring Pow Wow. We'll have a competition between the Chapters. Watch for more details on the website and start working on your strategy to be the winning chapter at Pow Wow.

August Patch Trade-O-Ree

Do you like patches? If so, then we have the event for you!

This August, Occoneechee Lodge will be hosting our first ever Patch Trade-O-Ree as a fundraiser for our 2015 NOAC contingent. The event will take place at the Camp Durant Dining Hall on August 22nd (4pm – 11pm) – 23rd (9am – 3pm). There will be food for sale, but not provided.

The cost for admission is \$1 per person. If you are not currently a registered scout, you will need to contact our Lodge Staff Adviser, Tyler Perkinson, at tyler.perkinson@scouting.org in order to obtain permission to be able to attend.

If you would like to put your patches on display, you can rent a 12 foot long table for \$20, or half of a 12 foot table (6 feet) for \$13. If you rent a table, then your cost for admission is FREE!

Meals will be available on Friday night, Saturday Morning, and Saturday afternoon for a fee and the grill will have snacks for sale as well.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact our Patch Committee Advisor, Greg Grimes, at ggrimes104@gmail.com.

We hope to see you there!



Wanted: A Few Good Men

For the OA outdoor adventure of a lifetime.

By: Will Allen, *Past Lodge Chief*

Love camping and backpacking? Looking for a physical challenge, maybe something beyond your regular troop campouts?

Since I joined Scouting at the age of eleven, I've been blessed with countless opportunities for outdoor adventures—from backpacking on the Appalachian Trail to rafting a Class-5 whitewater river to snorkeling off the Florida Keys. But no other outdoor experience will ever compare with my two weeks as a member of the Order of the Arrow Trail Crew at the Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico. If you love the outdoors as much as I do, here are the top five reasons why you should make Trail Crew the highlight of your summer in 2014.

1. You'll meet some of the coolest people in the BSA.

As Scouting's premier high adventure program, Trail Crew is only open to OA youth members age 16 and up. Unlike a typical Philmont trek, you apply as an individual and do not travel with your troop or with a council contingent; instead, when you arrive at base camp, you'll join a crew of Arrowmen from lodges around the country. (My crew of 16 included Scouts from Illinois, Maryland, Missouri, New York, New Jersey, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Wisconsin!) You'll meet all kinds, from recent OA inductees to Vigil honor members and from ceremonialists to Lodge officers. What they have in common is a love of the outdoors, a lust for adventure, a commitment to serving others, and an eagerness to push their physical and mental limits. Speaking of which,

2. You'll push your limits as you probably never have before.

Make no mistake: Trail Crew will challenge your endurance. For the first week of the trek, you'll be camping in remote areas of the reservation, building new trails or restoring old ones with only simple hand tools—including, most of all, your hands. If you're looking for a two-week vacation, look elsewhere. But if you're looking to work hard, to surround yourself with cheerful fellows who will push you relentlessly to do your best, and to fall asleep exhausted and content at the end of each day, look no further.

Your week of trail building is also a mental challenge. Anyone can carve a rut through the earth; it takes skill and patience to construct a smooth and firm hiking surface that will blend with the surroundings and stand up to torrential rains, invasive plant life, and millions of footfalls each year. This brings us to the next reason to join Trail Crew:

3. When you've finished, you'll leave behind a legacy.

You and your crew mates will not only learn the craft of cutting backslope, stacking boulders, and shaping switchbacks; you will *use* these skills to create trails that will last for decades, or even centuries. Ask yourself: How often will you get the chance to do something that memorable and meaningful for other people, *before you've even graduated high school*?

4. Your trek will be like no other.

After a demanding week of work, you will reap the reward: As a Trail Crew, you can completely customize your itinerary for the second week. Philmont is chock-full of camps with unique adventures, from caving to black-powder shooting to spar-pole climbing (Google it!). Without a regular trek itinerary with pre-planned stops, you and your crew mates can choose to go wherever your legs will carry you. Want to hike Mt. Baldy, Mt. Black, and Mt. Phillips in the same day? Prefer to check out a horse ranch, or some of the interpretive camps that let you relive life in the Old West? The choice is yours.

In addition to customizing your itinerary, your Trail Crew may have special opportunities beyond what you would find on a regular trek. In the interest of safeguarding the program, I won't go into details. But as Arrowmen, your cheerful service during trail-building week is appreciated by the entire Philmont staff, and they will make sure that your trek is unforgettable.

5. It's cheaper than a regular Philmont trek, with flexible dates.

This might be the most surprising reason to join Trail Crew. For 14 days of intense trail work, backpacking, and adventuring, you pay only \$250—a small fraction of the cost of a regular 7-day Philmont trek! And thanks to the large number of Trail Crew sessions offered in 2014, you don't have to plan your entire summer around the expedition dates chosen by your troop or council contingent; instead, you can just pick the two-week period that works best for you and plan accordingly. Treks begin June 8 and run through August, so you really have *no excuse not to go*.

Well? What are you waiting for? Head over to adventure.oa-bsa.org to get started on your application for Trail Crew summer 2014!

Questions about the information in this article, or about the OA Trail Crew application process? You can contact me by email at wa9605a@american.edu.

2014 Council Camporee: *Ignite the Spirit*

October 10-12

By: Kenny Ferrari, *Camporee Chief*

The 2014 Ignite The Spirit camporee is different from all other camporees you've been to in the sense that Lodge 104 is taking the lead role in the weekend program. While typical camporees have a standard program all day with little change in activities, 2014 will offer two different types of activities during the day to add a fun new twist to everything. We need you to get involved and help shape it into the best camporee the council has ever seen.

Occoneechee Council Camporee



The 2014 camporee will have a unique program because it brings together regular camporee experience with vendors and games, AND mixes it all with a fun new Challenge Trail! The Saturday of camporee you will be greeted by: fun games, an in-depth American Indian village, interesting vendors, merit badges, shooting sports, etc. . After lunch, we will have the CHALLENGE TRAIL; you can say goodbye to leisure and say hello to our riveting course, designed for team building and cooperation. The trail will consist of fun exercises that require a great attitude, Scout skills and some

physical training. To conclude the fun on Saturday, we will end the evening with our Ignite the Spirit Show!

This is a big project for the lodge, and is designed to strengthen the bridge between the Lodge and Council. I'd like you to join our team and join me to help deliver a stellar program for our Council. Please visit our website at <http://www.lodge104.net/camporee/> or sign up for a sub-committee at coming lodge events.

Talent wins games, but teamwork
and intelligence wins championships.

- Michael Jordan



#Camporee2014 CHALLENGE TRAIL

Lodge 104 Welcomes new staff adviser: Tyler Perkinson

What an exciting opportunity! When I left my previous council to work for Occoneechee in 2010, I thought that I had lost my only chance to serve as a staff adviser in the Order of the Arrow. I am very happy to have been asked to serve in this role once again with the Occoneechee lodge family!

My Scouting career began in Smithfield in 1989 as a cub Scout and the program struck a chord that eventually led to earning Eagle. In the fall of 1996, I was fortunate enough to be called out at Camp Tuscarora and my OA experience kicked off with plenty of damage from hurricane Fran to clean up around camp. Not a great introduction for a skinny ordeal candidate. After the rainiest night of my life, I was officially a member. I then attended the 1997 SR-7 Conclave, and was forever hooked. After a short time as Chapter chief, I found my way to the lodge executive committee for the next several years and was humbled by a Vigil nomination in 2002.

Shortly after I graduated from East Carolina University in 2006, I was hired as a district executive and held the Staff adviser role in Nayawin Rar lodge.

I have served Three Rivers, Orange and now Crosswinds district since coming to Occoneechee and I look forward to many more years in this great Scouting community.

Yours in Scouting,
Tyler Perkinson



Lodge Chief's Corner - Fall Gathering



Brothers,

We have exciting news about our organization of events this year! Last November, the Executive Committee voted to create a new "all fun event," called Fall Gathering, to be held the third weekend in October. The purpose of the event is to celebrate the end of the year with brotherhood and fellowship in addition to serving as our annual Banquet.

Since offering the ordeal experience at Pow Wow, Spring Inductions, and Fall Fellowship, we have been looking for a way to incorporate a new fun event into our lodge calendar. The Fall Gathering is an opportunity for new members to connect with others and engage with the lodge.

The tentative schedule of activities include:

Friday Night: Crackerbarrel and Show
Saturday Morning: OAX style exhibitors and AIA Training
Saturday afternoon: Quest Events and chapter Sports Competitions
Saturday Night: Patch Auction, Catered Dinner, and Banquet

More specific information regarding these programs will be released as we get closer to the event. Be sure to check the website and lodge facebook page to stay up to date!

As this is a change to the 2014 calendar, it is very important that you talk with your troops and other arrowmen to let them know of the new event. If you have any questions or would like to serve on the Fall Gathering planning committee, feel free to contact me at freinsm@appstate.edu, or (919) 740-9996.

Yours in Brotherhood,

Stephen Frein



Adviser's Minute

Kevin Blackwood, *Lodge Adviser*

As I pondered what to write for this issue of the Tipi, I thought back to the night of the Superbowl and some of the commercials that played during the evening. Every advertiser hoped that their spot would leave the viewer with a strong positive impression about their company or product. I can only imagine how many hours (and dollars) went into the filming of those commercials and how many takes, retakes, edits and versions and revisions were made by countless people before the final version was ready to air. Indeed, every second of airtime was choreographed to leave a lasting impression.

In life, we don't often get that choice. No one edits our daily script. The words we say make a first impression and sometimes a last impression. What we spontaneously write in email, or social media is immediately broadcast to the world, to be interpreted by the reader in any way they choose at the moment. The actions we take cannot be edited or reversed.

As members of the Order of the Arrow, your actions are seen by those around you as the examples they should follow. What is the impression you will leave?



Lodge Officer Directory

Lodge Chief– Stephen Frein

Vice Chief of Program– Will Rea

Vice Chief of Administration– A.J. Raulynaitis

Vice Chief of Finance– Ryan Biegert

Vice Chief of Communications– Gray Barnhill

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Chapter Campsite Assignments

Eluwak: Hickory • Kiowa: Maple • Lauchoseen: Sassafras & Magnolia • Mimahuk:
Beech • Netami: Red Oak & Poplar • Netapolis: Holly & Red Cedar • Neusiok:
Sweetgum • Saponi: Persimmon & Loblolly • Tamakwe: Dogwood

2014 Lodge Calendar

Event	Date	Location	Details
Spring Pow Wow	March 14-16	Camp Durant	Ordeal Experience - Brotherhood Trail - AIA Competitions – Quest for the Golden Arrow
SR7B Conclave	April 25-27	Camp Bowers	
Spring Inductions	May 16-18	Camp Durant	Ordeal Experience - Brotherhood Trail
Trade-o-ree	August 22-23	Camp Durant	
Fall Fellowship	September 19-21	Camp Durant	Ordeal Experience - Brotherhood Trail - Vigil Honor Call Out – Lodge Elections - Webelos OA Weekend
Council Camporee	October 10-12	Occoneechee	
Fall Gathering	October 17-19	Camp Durant	Recognitions Banquet - Vigil Weekend
Lodge Leadership Development	November 14-16	Campbell University	
One Day 50 Miler	November 29	North Raleigh Area	