

THE THUNDERHEAD

← INI-TO Lodge 324 — Order of the Arrow →

Official Publication of Ini-To Lodge

September 2007

Fall Fellowship

Black Powder Shooting and more....

Will Mc Cranie

Lodge Chief

Hello Brothers,

We have a great event coming up on the weekend of September 28.

Fall Fellowship promises to be a great event. We will have shooting activities all day on Saturday, with opportunities to shoot black powder rifles, .22 caliber rifles, and shotguns. In the afternoon we will have a Native American events program for those who get tired of shooting or anybody who is interested. We will also be mixing it up in the cooking department this year, and the food will be another great reason to come

down. Our dining experience this year will consist entirely of outdoor cooking dishes, cooked outdoors just for you. We'll have dishes cooked in dutch ovens and smokers that will make your taste buds go crazy.

All of you who are eligible for Brotherhood are especially invited. We will be having a Brotherhood ceremony on Saturday night after dinner. Also, Saturday after dinner will be our yearly Lodge officer elections, so anyone who is interested in becoming a lodge leader or having a say in who will be a lodge leader should come out. All in all, Fall Fellowship promises to be a great event with lots of fun activities and productive business and great food. Mark your calendars Brothers, and I will see you there.

Will McCranie

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THE THUNDERHEAD



PLAN NOW FOR LODGE BANQUET

The annual recognition banquet will be held at Camp Thunder Friday Nov 30. This year's banquet will feature guest speaker Mike Campbell, a former Blue Angel and popular speaker.

Lodge Leadership Development

The Annual Conference will be held Saturday and Sunday following the Banquet (Dec 1 & 2). All new officers and advisors are encouraged to attend, but ALL arrowmen are welcome. This conference will help everyone learn about their responsibilities and develop some skills to help perform them. There will be special Adult focus sessions (new) as well as guest trainers.

JUMPSTART FOR NEW ARROWMEN

New to the Order of the Arrow? Just went through the Ordeal? Well, here's some suggestions: Read the OA Handbook, attend a Chapter Meeting, Come to Fall Fellowship, and Checkout "JumpStart for Arrowmen" at <http://www.aa-bsa.org>

CHAPTER NEWS

COWETA

PLACE – CORNERSTONE UMC, THOMAS CROSSROADS
TIME - 7:30 TUES OCT 2
MEETS EVERY FIRST TUESDAY

ECHOTA

PLACE – FAYETTEVILLE FIRST BAPTIST
TIME – 7:30 THURS SEPT 20
Pizza.

Tusshaw

PLACE – FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH McDONOUGH
TIME – 7:30 SEPT 13
Chapter Officer elections

NEW NAME – COMBINED CHAPTER

PLACE: TO BE ANNOUNCED SOON
TIME : TO BE ANNOUNCED SOON



NCLS Report

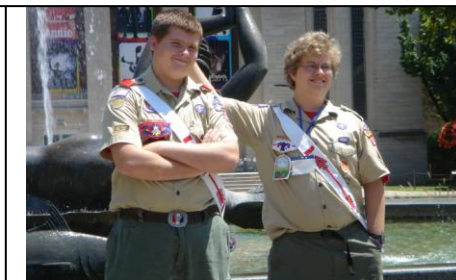
At NCLS or, National Conservation and Leadership Summit, the OA's new strategic plan for 2008-2012, a plan to improve the OA's involvement within the BSA, was introduced to 1400 Chiefs and Advisors from across the country at Indiana University.

The four main points of the plan were: To serve and support Scouting, Develop leaders of character, Promote outdoor adventure, and to Be an active and honored Brotherhood. Some of the ways these goals can be accomplished are to recruit new boys while retaining the old ones, increase OA involvement at Scout Camp, start programs to help Cubs crossover into Boy Scouts, and to increase OA membership and Brotherhood Conversions.

We have come up with our own strategic plan for the Lodge/Council to be implemented over the next 5 years. A meeting of the Lodge Leadership is needed to discuss the development and implementation of the goals within the plan.

Our Lodge's contingent consisted of Lodge Adviser John Kominsky, Assistant Lodge Adviser Wally Wallace, Tusshaw Chapter Chief Josh Crane, Echota Chapter Chief Sam Strawbridge, and Sue, she who directs with signals from the sky. We all had a lot of fun and came up with some great ideas for improving the Lodge, see you Fall Fellowship.

Josh Crane, Sam Strawbridge.



Josh & Sam in Bloomington, Indiana at NCLS



ARROWCORPS⁵



What is ArrowCorps Five?

The Order of the Arrow has had a long-standing interest in coordinating a national service project, utilizing the infrastructure and leadership established over many years of success at the Boy Scouts of America's high adventure bases. Working closely together, the United States Forest Service and the OA have chosen five project sites, spread across America, that will be the focus of our combined efforts. ArrowCorps⁵ (pronounced Arrow Corps Five) will provide a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for each participant to set an example of leadership in service to those who treasure our national forests.

Five thousand physically fit and able volunteers (determined by the "[Philmont Weight Limits for Backpacking & Hiking](#)"), made up of youth and adults, will participate. The national Order of the Arrow committee and key sponsors will fund the projects. Participants will pay a reasonable fee (\$250) to help pay for accommodations, meals, and a full day of recreational activities during the projects.

Additional information will be available through the National Order of the Arrow Web Site or by Contacting Mr. John Kominsky, jkominsky@bellsouth.net or 770-719-1336

This is a once in a life time opportunity for HIGH ADVENTURE SERVICE. Adults and Youth will work side by side, and everybody gets a day off for fun that can only be found in the Service area. Choose one week or choose all five, but choose soon! Each site is limited to 1000 arrowmen, first come first to serve.

Information For Arrowmen

Summer of 2008, what are you doing? If the answer is staying at home, that's the wrong answer. In 2008 Order of the Arrow members from around the country have the unique opportunity to get together at five different sites across the country for an event to remember. Ever want to see the beauty of Bridger-Teton, Mark Twain, or Washington and Jefferson National Forest? If so we have the program for you - ArrowCorps⁵.

ArrowCorps⁵ is an event like none other ever hosted by the Order of the Arrow. In 2008 we embark on one of the most ambitious projects ever undertaken by the Boy Scouts of America, and will make a true difference in the future of our National Forests. We invite EVERY arrowman to pick up a shovel, or work implement of his choice, and find the nearest site to him - ArrowCorps⁵, ARE YOU PREPARED

Dates & Locations

Mark Twain National Forest

June 7-14, 2008 | Missouri

Manti-La Sal National Forest

June 14-21, 2008 | Utah

George Washington & Jefferson National Forests

June 21-28, 2008 | Virginia

Shasta-Trinity National Forest

July 12-19, 2008 | California

Bridger-Teton National Forest

July 26-August 2, 2008 | Wyoming

ARROWCORPS⁵
5 SITES - 5 WEEKS - 5,000 ARROWMEN



Echota Chapter

It's a exciting time planned for the Echota Chapter meeting on September 20, 2007. At the fall ordeal, 13 more arrowmen joined our wonderful chapter. The meeting will be fun with tons of pizza and the making of ankle dance bells. Also, the chapter service project will be planned to allow arrowmen to earn service hours toward receiving the leadership in service award. Look forward to October, which will be fun with atlatl making. **Be there or be square!!** Also, all Echota arrowmen, please forward your contact info. Name, Troop #, Phone # and e-mail address to srs53@mindspring.com.

Who is your OA Representative? Ask your SPL and/or your Scout Master and let me know.

Sam Strawbridge
Chapter Chief

Leave No Trace (LNT)

Fellow arrowmen, as honored campers it is up to us to set the example of proper LNT camping practices. We should all do our best to make sure that the 7 principals of LNT are part of our individual troop's camping practices. As a reminder here are the principals:

- 1 Plan Ahead and Prepare
2. Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces
3. Dispose of Waste Properly
4. Leave What You Find
5. Minimize Campfire Impacts
6. Respect Wildlife
7. Be Considerate of Other Visitors

Additional info is available at www.lnt.org or feel free to contact me, Mike Strickland @ strick54bellsouth.net

Calling All Regalia

Attention all arrowmen. The lodge needs to do a full inventory of all regalia and other ceremonial related items. If you have, or know anyone who does have, any shirts, breechcloths, bonnets, drums, shields, torches, or any other piece of ceremonial gear please contact me so I can do a full accounting. It is important for the lodge to keep up with all of our equipment. Preserving this gear not only saves the lodge money but also helps us to preserve a part of the history of our lodge.

Yours in Service,
Chris Dunn
Eagle697@hotmail.com



Volunteer Spooks needed. Must be willing and able to scare little kids. Must not be afraid of the dark. Individuals and units needed.
Contact: Keith Fernander @ jkf@bellsouth.net and phone number 770-712-2029

Been an Arrowman 10 months? Went thru Ordeal Aug 06 or before? Then **BE A BROTHERHOOD MEMBER. Saturday Night at Fellowship.** Not prepared? The Brothers will help you. Remember, those who chose you, need you.

Ceremony Teams Needs You

Have you ever thought about being on a ceremony team? Ceremonies are an important part of the order of the arrow and when done properly they not only add to the pageantry of the order of the arrow but share information about our purpose. Without dedicated teams to conduct these ceremonies much of the information and history we are trying to spread and keep alive remains unlearned. We need arrowmen to become ceremonialists and continue this legacy. Ceremonial team members become the roles they are playing and joining a team will make you aware of aspects of our order that most miss. Learn every aspect of the ceremonies, listen to the words of the principles as they speak, seek the higher vision. We not only need youth arrowmen to play the roles but also for support roles such as torch bearers and drummers, perfect roles for those too shy to speak in front of people. Adults are needed to coordinate practices and offer advice to the teams. Experience is not needed for adult or youth ceremonialists, only enthusiasm. If you or anyone you know is interested please contact me for more information. Yours in brotherhood, Chris Dunn



Introducing: New Chapter Advisors

John Youmans will assume the mantle of Advisor to the new combined Chapter (from the Towaliga and Kuwe Waschichu chapters which merged last year.). John is a Vigil Honor member in the order and a long time scouter in Griffin. Its not well known, but he's also Andrew's Dad.

Mike Strickland will likewise become Advisor for the Echota Chapter. Mike is a Brotherhood member and former Scoutmaster of Troop 118 in Senoia. He was well know for a boy lead troop and a solid outdoor program.

Please give your full support to these Brothers as they begin the new challenges facing them.

As soon as we can find some mantles, I think we used them last campout.

Advisor's Corner

Wow! What a fantastic **Fall Fellowship**. We've done plenty of fun things at Fellowship, but Black Powder rifles and other shooting sports is something else. There's even a special award from the National Muzzle Loader's Association for those that can hit the target FIVE times. Sounds easy!

Don't miss John Cochran's antique rifle display.

This year's Fellowship will feature some real special camp cookin', too. Be sure to send in, mail in, call in, text message, or email your reservation. Unless you want to be standing at the end of the line.

Last, but not least. Have you been an Ordeal member for ten months or more? Are you a dedicated scout or scouter, active in your troop? Then you have met every requirement for becoming a Brotherhood member.... You just need to jump through a few hoops now (see accompanying article). It is only through the Brotherhood experience that you gain full understanding of what it means to be an Arrowman.

Take the leap – become a Brotherhood member this Fellowship.

The Challenges of Brotherhood Membership

*From page 50 of the Order of the Arrow
Handbook*

You must meet five challenges before you can enter the Circle of the Brotherhood. The first of these you should meet now. The next three require steady effort over a period of months. The last challenge you must meet after you are satisfied that you are meeting the first four.

1. **Memorize the signs of Arrow membership.** Memorize (*to the best of your ability*) the obligation of the Order, which you received from Allowat Sakima (printed on the back of your membership card and in the OA Handbook). Also, memorize the Order of the Arrow Official Song, the Admonition, the sign of Ordeal membership, and the Arrow handclasp.
2. **Advance in your understanding of the Ordeal.** Gain a thorough understanding of the Ordeal through which you have passed.
3. **Serve your unit. Retain your registration in Scouting.** During a period of at least ten months, strive to fulfill your obligation by continuing and expanding your service to your own troop or team.
4. **Plan for service in your lodge.** Retain your registration in your Order of the Arrow lodge and keep your dues paid. Be aware that acceptance of Brotherhood membership involves a pledge of service to the lodge. Develop a concrete idea of how you plan to fulfill this pledge.
5. **Review your progress.** When you earnestly feel that you have met the four challenges above, write a letter to your lodge secretary. In this letter (see sample letter, lodge web site):
 - Explain what you think the obligation means
 - Describe how you have been fulfilling this obligation in your troop or team and in your daily life, and how you have used your understanding of the Ordeal to aid in this service.
 - Describe your specific plans for giving service in the lodge program

Volunteers needed to evaluate Ini-To's new "Where to Go Camping Guide". Contact Keith Iarson

keith_iarson@bellsouth.net



Lodge Web site: <http://Ini-To324.org>

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INI-TO LODGE EVENT REGISTRATION FORM

NAME(S): _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone/Email: _____

Not for use by Candidates or as a transfer form. See <http://ini-to324.org> for the proper forms.

Mail To: Ini-To 324 Lawhorn Scout Base, 1166 Dripping Rock Road, Molena, GA 30258

Check All that apply:

Brotherhood \$10.00 (for new sash) _____

Fall Fellowship \$20.00 _____

Vigil Breakfast \$10.00 (vigils only) _____

Annual Dues \$10.00 _____

Recognition Banquet \$15.00 _____

Total Enclosed: _____

-----Thunderhead-----
- Service - Brotherhood--
Adventure - Arrowcorps5
----- Fellowship -----
- Leadership - Service -
----- Camp Thunder -----
----- Brotherhood -----
----- Scouting -----
----- Cheerful Service -----

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