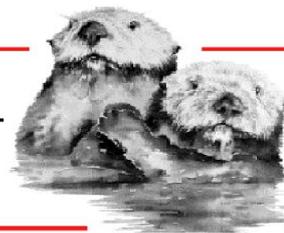


News from

THE OTTER SIDE

Winter 2007

Volume XII, Number 1

Arrowmen meet Football Legends

Every year the Pacific Skyline Council holds a Distinguished Citizens Award Dinner. This dinner honors members of the community who have gone above and beyond to give back to the community and help those less fortunate.

This year, the council honored two distinguished citizens, Ronnie Lott and Harris Barton. These two outstanding former 49ers were on the Super Bowl winning teams together. Friends first as players, they

have become lifelong business partners, starting a host of companies and charities together.

Seven youth and one adult represented the OA at this prestigious event. The attendees savored an exquisite meal of steak and salmon, while meeting firsthand both Lott and Barton.

Lodge Adviser Stan Rudnick stated that this was also an opportunity to support Scoutreach – one of BSA's programs for those less fortunate. "Scoutreach is a wonderful program that promotes camping and scouting in those who cannot afford it and shares much of the same values as the OA. I am proud that our lodge is supporting such a valuable program."

Another attendee, Ian Davis, appreciated the ability to meet with the football legends in person. "It was great," said Davis, "I was able to talk to Ronnie Lott, more than just shake hands. I just thought it was cool that a Pro-Football Hall of Famer would do so much for the community but still talk with me like a regular person."

Overall the youth who attended had a great time, and they are all looking forward to the next exciting OA event, the lodge fellowship.



Fall Ordeal

We all had a great time at the recent fall Ordeal. Please join me in thanking all the staff that helped make this Ordeal great. Also, please welcome the 18 new members of our Order:

Youth

Dewey Di Ricco
Bryan Petersen
Niel Bhateja
Spencer Petersen
Dominic Newmann
Tyler Estkowski

Youth (continued)

Will Cromarty
Jarren Quan
Ian Humphreys
Colin Crandall
Jack Jandro

Adults

Brent Browning
Jason Quan
Andrew Cromarty
Bev Hastings
Betsey Crandall
Neil Tsubota
Nina Waite

Q&A with the Chief

Oh Brotherhood, What Art Thou?

What is Brotherhood?

Brotherhood is the second Honor of the Order of the Arrow. It is a way to seal your membership in our brotherhood (hence the name) and fully accept the values of the OA. It is also a pledge to serve your lodge to the best of your abilities.

What must I do to receive Brotherhood? Do I have to go through another Ordeal?

No, There are no more Ordeals. All you have to do is be an ordeal member for at least 10 months, learn about some of the aspects of the Order of the Arrow and its traditions, and write a letter to our secretary, Ian Davis. To find out more details about the requirements, go to pages 51-56 of the OA handbook.

When will there be a Brotherhood Ceremony for me to attend?

There are brotherhood ceremonies at all of the ordeals. There will also be ones scheduled at other times throughout the year. If you cannot find a date that works for you, but are still interested, feel free to contact me at Ohlone.Chief@gmail.com and I'm sure we can work something out together.

Yours in Brotherhood,
Nick Wilmes

Strong in This One, the Service Is

Conclave is coming! The 2007 W-3A Conclave is coming soon.

Who: You and your fellow Arrowmen from this area

What: Conclave! (Indian Games, leadership classes, and more)

When: April 27-29, 2007

Where: College of Marin - Indian Valley Campus

Why: Because it's fun!

How: In cheerful brotherhood

"Do or do not. There is no try." - Yoda, Jedi Master

Leadership in Service

National OA honors those Arrowmen who provide minimum levels of service to scouts and to the community with a special "Leadership in Service" ribbon which may be worn on your uniform. Watch for an announcement soon where lodge members can perform community service in 2007 for this award.

Dates to Remember

January

- 4 Village meetings
*Roundtable meeting sites**
- 11 LEC Meeting
Foster City Scout Office

February

- 1 Village meetings
*Roundtable meeting sites**
- 8 LEC Meeting
Foster City Scout Office
- 11 Winter Fellowship
Palo Alto Service Center

March

- 1 Village meetings
*Roundtable meeting sites**
- 8 LEC Meeting
Foster City Scout Office

April

- 5 Village meetings
*Roundtable meeting sites**
- 12 LEC Meeting
Foster City Scout Office
- 20-22 Spring Ordeal
Cutter Scout Reservation
- 27-29 Conclave!
College of Marin

**Sipliskin village meets at the LDS Church at 977 Sneath Lane in San Bruno*

**Muwekma village meets at the LDS Church at 3601 Alameda de las Pulgas in San Mateo*

**Puyson village meets at LDS Church on 190 Jordan Avenue in Los Altos*

Indian Gaming: More Than Just Politics

Come join us for a night of fun, fellowship, and food at our first ever Indian Gaming Night. It will be held on March 10 at the Palo Alto Service Center, from 1 to 6 in the afternoon.

To keep with this theme, we will have an open casino with a variety of different games. We will be using real chips, but not real money. There will be prizes awarded to the winners

Or, you can join us outside for some more traditional Indian games. We will have classics such as Indian handball, dogeball, and other great outdoor games.

This is one event that you won't want to miss!

Get High on Adventure

Philmont, Northern Tier, and Florida Sea Base are experiences like no other. People pay hundreds of dollars to go on similar trips of equal beauty. But through a special offered by the lodge and by the section, you can go completely free of charge.

Let me tell you about my experiences. A couple years ago, during my winter break, my father and I went on a trip to New Zealand to hike the beautiful Milford Trek. This trek is supposed to be one of the most beautiful in the world, and the price showed it.

Then, last year I was able to go to Philmont. It was amazing. It was as beautiful as the expensive trans-global trip I had taken a few years earlier, and had only a fraction of the cost. But more than that, there was stuff to do. At every camp you stopped at there were activities, such as C.O.P.E. or spar-pole climbing (in which you climb a tree like the old lumberjacks did: with only spiked boots and a belt).

There is nowhere else where you can experience such amazing beauty, for such a little price. I strongly encourage you to take this opportunity while you can. If you are interested, please contact the lodge chief at ohlone.chief@gmail.com.

Otter Side

As you may have noticed, the *Otter Side* has changed. I have been attempting to update and expand the *Otter Side*, and eventually, though it is a long shot, bring circulation to levels equal to that of *The New York Times*.

Therefore, I would greatly appreciate it if you could submit material for the Otter Side so that I can make it a more personal and interesting read. Currently, it simply reports the news about upcoming events. But I want it to be more.

Your Village Needs You

It is currently the time of the year for elections. You remember those, right? When some cool youth from the lodge came and talked to your troop about how cool the OA is, and helped you to elect new people.

Well, the villages are running the elections this year, and they need you to be one of those youth. Come and be an election official for your troop and other troops in your area.



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Lodge Chief
Nick Wilmes

Vice Chief of Administration
(open for applicants)

Vice Chief of Inductions
(open for applicants)

Lodge Secretary
Ian Davis

Lodge Treasurer
(open for applicants)

Muwekma Village Chief
Michael Henry Tauskey

Puyson Village Chief
Joshua Marcum

Sipliskin Village Chief
Robert Graham

Lodge Adviser
Stan Rudnick

Lodge Staff Adviser
(Olin Laster)

News From The Otter Side is published quarterly by WWW Ohlone Lodge #63, Order of the Arrow, Boy Scouts of America.

For more OA news, check out the following websites:

National Order of the Arrow
<http://www.oa-bsa.org/>
Western Region OA
<http://www.oawest.org/>
Ohlone Lodge
<http://www.ohlone63.org>
(for the lodge calendar, committee and village information and more!)

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Village Reports

Puyson

Though our meetings are often small, we have seen a number of new faces coming to them. We are beginning to work on elections and have begun a list of when each troop meets. At a few of our meetings recently we have eaten pizza and played lacrosse. Come and join us at our upcoming meeting when we will have a discussion with Mike Larsen about the possibility of creating a dance team.

Muwekma

We are proud to report an increase in membership attendance at our meetings. We also encourage all members who have not yet attended a meeting to come to the one in February. There, Lodge Chief Nick Wilmes will be joining us to help us do our part in planning the upcoming Indian Gaming Night. We hope to see you there!

Sipliskin

Our meeting our currently in a very exciting phase, as we make preparations for our new village dance team! We have been making a variety of different regalia items, and have recently gotten funding from the lodge to make more. We are practicing hard, and hope to take first place at the conclave in April.

Words from the Chief

Our order is founded on three principles, brotherhood, cheerfulness, and service. Now, lets focus on that first one: brotherhood.

Brotherhood is probably the most important aspect of our order, for it is what binds us together. It is what compels us to help others when they are in need. Our unity is also what helps us do something greater, that none of us could do individually.

Though it may be called something different, it is equally important wherever you go. Whether it is through the teamwork of a patrol struggling to win a camporee, or an Olympic team working together to get the Gold, unity is vital to success.

This aspect of the OA is so important, in fact, that the second Honor of our order is named Brotherhood, so as to signify your full commitment to the lodge and to your brothers.

Therefore, I am personally inviting you to come out, and get to know your fellow lodge members at the upcoming Indian Gaming Night this March. Join me for all the fun and fellowship the OA has to offer. If you can't make it, please join us for one of our other lodge events scattered throughout the year, such as the spring Ordeal.

Yours in Brotherhood,
Nick Wilmes, Lodge Chief

The Otter Side Goes Electronic!

Currently, we live in the information age. Not only that, but we live in Silicon Valley, the home of such technological powerhouses as Apple, Google, and Oracle. Therefore, the Lodge Executive Committee has decided to update the lodge's communication system to be more in sync with the current technologies.

To do this, we have updated areas of the website to provide easier access and to keep the lodge well informed. On this new website, we plan to have a variety of useful features, such as an electronic copy of the Otter Side, village pages where you can keep up with what's going on in your area, and a special "fun" page where we have games and video clips that somehow relate back to our lodge, even if very indirectly so.

A second part of this plan uses a yahoo group email system to distribute the Otter Side and other notifications electronically. This way, we can send messages out much faster and easier. My troop has been using this sort of a system for years, to great success. Now, our members are reminded of events and outings whenever they check their email, which for most people is every day. I hope to achieve the same level of communication that my troop has achieved.

In order to do this, however, we need your help. For those of you who have not yet received an email being invited to join your village's yahoo group, then please send an email to ohlone.secretary@gmail.com to notify me that you would like to join, and of what your current email address is. Thank You!

If you received your Otter Side by mail, we need you email. Please send an email to Ohlone.secretary@gmail.com with your full name and your current email address