

News from

THE OTTER SIDE

Summer 2008

Volume XIII Number 3

Upcoming Events

July / August 2008

Enjoy summer camp with your units.

September 2008

4 Village Meetings 7:30pm
District Roundtable Meeting Sites

11 LEC Meeting 7:30pm
Pacific Skyline Council Scout Service Center - Foster City

October 2007

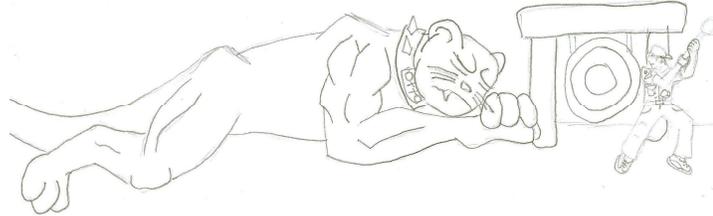
2 Village Meetings 7:30pm
District Roundtable Meeting Sites

9 LEC Meeting 7:30pm
Pacific Skyline Council Scout Service Center - Foster City

24-26 Fall Ordeal
Cutter Scout Reservation

When Does Ordeal Start and End?

Many people ask when Ordeals start and end. The official start time of an Ordeal is 8:00, although it is recommended that you are there by 6:00. Really, the earlier you can get there the better. Who doesn't want to hang out with their favorite chief for a few extra hours? The official end time is Sunday at 11:00, so that way we can squeeze in a few fun activities in the morning. If you need to leave on Saturday night due to religious issues or other commitments, the best time to do so is right after dinner.



(Picture above is a proposed design for the *Awakening a Giant* campaign - by Kevin Aflatooni)

Awakening a Giant

By Bradley Bottoms

Ohlone Lodge is a lodge of much history, even though it is only 13 years old. The lodge was formed as a merger between two neighboring powerhouses in the OA, Pomponio Lodge and Stanford-Ojato Lodge. The merger made what some thought to be a super lodge, a giant. Now, 13 years later, the days of winning most Indian Lodge at conclave, the award for being the best lodge in the section, seem to have vanished. According to Matt Rudnick (a former Ohlone Lodge Chief as well as former W3A Section Chief) at this year's conclave, "Ohlone is a sleeping giant."

The time has come. This year we will be "Awakening a Giant." Last year's leadership coupled with this year's has already given us the opportunity to earn the Quality Lodge Award, something that has not been done in this lodge for several years. Now, with your help, we can go on to win awards from section, to region, all the way to national awards. All we need is your involvement. We need our Ordeal members to take strides to become Brotherhood, if you need help email me. I need more chairmen, a secretary and much more. Once again, if you are interested email me. I need everyone to come to all of our events, and to our new Lodge Meetings, which will begin November, and will take place of our current village meetings. Everyone, do your part, and bring you alarm clocks!

Chief's Corner

Brothers,

It is a great honor to introduce myself as your 2008-2009 Lodge Chief. I have the pleasure of knowing many of you from my term as both Vice Chief of Administration and Inductions last year. I am also very excited to announce that we have a leadership contingent this year that has a plethora of great skill sets and a strong passion for the OA.

Due to the quality of this year and last year's leadership we will be expecting to be named a quality lodge this year, something that has not been done for a few years.

This year we will have several great events. A few of them will be our ordeals, a leadership weekend, a1 fellowship, banquet, and much more.

We will also be starting a new lodge meeting system that will make the meetings more meaningful and fun than the current village meetings. (more details to come)

We are sure to have a great year **IF YOU GET INVOLVED** we still have a few positions that need to be filled and I would be happy to involve as many people as possible in this year's program, one that is sure to be one of the best Ohlone has ever had.

Yours in Brotherhood,
Bradley Bottoms
Lodge Chief
Lodgechief@ohlone63.org

What We're About

By Bradley Bottoms, Lodge Chief

It is truly a hard time for scouting. The youth of America are getting more and more occupied, and the values of scouting are becoming lost in the modern world. Sadly, we boys are becoming more interested in electronics than camping. But scouting has not passed it's time; in fact scouting is more important than ever. Baden Powell founded the Boy Scouts in order to instill values and wilderness techniques in boys who were lost in the industrial revolution. It is our time to help those in the technological revolution.

Really, it is time for the entire world to go camping. With global warming being a rising issue everyone should be sitting at camp taking the environmental science merit badge. To better understand foreign relations issues, everyone should earn the citizenship in the world and communications merit badges. It was once said that scouting is not about producing eagle scouts, but molding proper young men. We all know that is what the world needs to do today.

The Order of the Arrow was founded so that the spirit of camping would not be lost during the year. That is still our goal today. Our job is to remind people to live as if they were always at camp. At camp we are lively, kind, adventurous, and peaceful. You, as a brother in this order are called to be that way all year. We are called to be brothers of cheerful service. Throw the idea of "a good turn daily" out the window; you should be doing as many and as much service as you can. Our world is in constant need of service, and there are nowhere close to enough people helping. I see people daily who pass by the handicapped person at the store who is struggling, and no one helping. I see people walking by trash on the street, speeding passed the broken down car on the side of the road. I am calling each and every one of you to do the right thing, stop and help, you will be rewarded.

Lodge Trivia

The mascot of Ohlone Lodge is a sea otter named Otto. That is why the full name of this newsletter is *News From the Otter Side* even though we often refer to it just as *The Otterside*.

High Adventure for Free!

Philmont, Northern Tier, Florida Sea Base! What do these places have in common with each other besides adrenaline? Price! Although adventures in these world class Scouting locales are usually cost thousands of dollars you can go there for free, that's right free! Philmont, Northern Tier, Florida Sea Base are all once in a lifetime experiences, so don't let this opportunity pass you by! Please contact the Chief, Bradley Bottoms, immediately at lodgechief@ohlone63.org for scholarship information.



(Pictured above: Sailing at Florida Sea Base)

NOAC 2009!!!!

NOAC 2009 is right around the corner. NOAC, National Order of the Arrow Conference will be held at the University of Indiana. Essentially, NOAC is a giant party. With Indian dancing and drumming, fantastic shows and classes, patch trading, and 8,000 Arrowmen from around the country!!!!!! Our lodge is taking a road trip to get there, so not only do you get to go to NOAC, you will also be about to see the sights in between here and Indiana, including Yellowstone National Park. NOAC will start August 1st and end on August 6th. Our lodge will be leaving on the 24th though to allow for travel time. If you are interested email me immediately at lodgechief@ohlone63.org.

Free Brotherhood Sashes

Ohlone Lodge is currently giving away free Brotherhood sashes to our members who earn the Brotherhood Honor. See your handbook for details. Contact our new Vice-Chief of Inductions, Dan, at VCI@Ohlone63.org for details.

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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 Order of the Arrow
<http://www.oawest.org/>

Need more information about the lodge or the Order of the Arrow? Check out Ohlone lodge's website at www.ohlone63.org
Find the lodge calendar, committee and village information and more!

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