



The Otter Side



Spring 2005

Volume X Number 2

Western Region Update

Let me introduce myself. My name is Ross Armstrong and I am currently serving as your Western Region Chief.

I am a Vigil Honor member from Tannu Lodge of the Nevada Area Council 329 and an Eagle Scout from Troop 152 in Reno, Nevada. I am currently pursuing an Economics degree at the University of Nevada, Reno. You can find out more about me on the region website www.w3a.org.

WEST IS BEST Thank you to all of you for working so hard last year on Quality Lodge attainment. The Western Region was the only region to increase its number of Quality Lodges. I believe we can again increase our numbers as long as we start planning on Quality Lodge now. Please take some time to look at the petition for next year and identify how you can ensure your lodge is going to be a Quality Lodge next year. With your help we can make sure West stays Best!

NATIONAL JAMBOREE The OA is still looking for staff members to help with its OA Service Corps at the National Jamboree. If you know an arrowman who wasn't able to go with the troop from your council this is a great opportunity for him to go. Staff members will serve the needs of the Jamboree as well as have time to explore the Jamboree, hang out in the recreation tent, and possibly take a trip to Washington DC. Applications are available online at <http://www.scouting.org/nav/enter.jsp?s=x&c=ds&terms=jamboree+staff> and should be sent in as soon as possible.

CHIEF'S CHALLENGE Each month I will be challenging lodges to do something related to strengthening OA programs in your council. This month's challenge is to Identify and Contact one Scoutreach unit in your council and begin initiating the OA Scoutreach Mentoring Program with that unit. Your council should have a coordinator for Scoutreach whom you can contact in helping you start this program.



Andrew Coggiola, Lodge Chief, pictured above

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS If you have any questions or comments about this Region Update or OA in general feel free to email me at chief2005@western.oa-bsa.org

Ross Armstrong Western Region Chief

Spring Ordeal a Success!

By Andrew Coggiola

The 2005 Spring Ordeal was great! It took place at Cutter on the weekend of April 8th-9th. It is the larger of our two yearly ordeals and we accomplished much. We inducted 69 new Ordeal members and had 5 Brotherhood conversions. We again had candidates make special chokers to identify their Village and Clan. Service projects included clearing brush and rebuilding the steps between Harkson Lodge and the campfire area. The weather helped make both camping and working truly an ordeal as we got 2 1/2 inches in 24 hours.

Ordeals can't happen without a lot of help and support from the Lodge members. I'd like to thank Kelly Veach for guiding the candidates through their evening ceremony. I'd also like to thank Marti Noble for the excellent food, and the Ohlone ceremonies team for another great performance. Thanks also go to all those people not mentioned here who made this weekend work, especially the Elangomats.

Otter Side Needs YOU!

We are rebuilding *The Otter Side* from the ground up! Articles, information about OA opportunities, humor, trivia, etc.

We also welcome *small* ads for local businesses selling OA related stuff (ie regalia, furs, hides, beads, and hatchets).

Promote your village, favorite campsite or Eagle project with a well placed article..

The Otter Side is published in the middle of January, April, July, and October. Temporarily, the best way to submit something for publication is to email DavidRosenkrantz@aol.com

Upcoming Events

May 7 Scout-A-Rama

Class A or B uniform and sash.

Arrive early to help setup tipis

Help cook burgers and dogs or just lounge out in the tipi.

May 12 Council of Chiefs annual business meeting. Only youth vote. Look in the Lodge Advisors Corner on the next page for details.

May 28 Grave Decoration

Arrive early, Class A uniform and sash.

Lodge Banquet - to be announced

see our website www.ohlone63.org

October 7-9 Fall Ordeal

Class A uniform, sash, and work clothes
Be an elangomat, help cook, etc.

OA Trivia

Did you know that the music for the OA song was originally written by Prince Alexis Fyodorovich Lvov (1788 - 1870) in 1833 as "God Save the Tsar", the anthem of Imperial Russia. It replaced an earlier anthem that was virtually identical to the "God Save the King", still used by England to this day. It served until 1917 when the Russian Revolution overthrew the Tsarist monarchy.

It has also been used for the hymn "God the Omnipotent!"

The OA treated me....

Bob Alberts
Sipliskin Advisor

Editor's Note: This article has been removed from the electronic version of News From The Otter Side. Instead we bring you a recipe for BBQ turkey from the pages of Scout-L

We tried this recipe at a recent OA event and the result was one good bird. We even had one person saying, "That was really good and I don't usually even like turkey".

I would recommend following the directions exactly as written the first time you do this and experiment from there.

Be sure to have the shiny side of the foil facing in.

The only change I could suggest is that covering the ground with aluminum foil makes cleanup easier.

We also made a mesh basket about a foot across with a screen about 7 inches above the ground so we didn't have to use a tripod.

That's um good Turkey!

From: Jim Peterson
KUPETE@KUHUB.CC.UK.ANS.EDU

Subject: THE best outdoor turkey

Okay folks, here's the instructions for THE most spectacular and amazing way to roast a turkey. No, not even grandma's time-tested recipe will beat this! The turkey is golden brown all the way around and incredibly juicy!

All of my scouting friends now roast their family Thanksgiving turkey in this fashion. Here goes:

EQUIPMENT NEEDED:

4ea 4ft steel rebar stakes or equivalent (scrap 1/2" pipe, etc) 4ea 10in X 3ft strips of chicken wire rolled into 3ft tubes

1 roll heavy duty, wide aluminum foil 3ea 8ft staves

stovepipe wire

charcoal and starter

1ea thawed turkey - popout button type or use meat therm. 1ea large onion salt

trowel or tongs

PROCEDURE:

1. Pound 4ft stakes into ground to make a 3ft X 3ft square 2. Using wire, attach rabbitwire tubes, about 3 inches across to stakes.

3. Wrap aluminum foil around stakes and tubes to make a box. Wrap two strips high. Crimp strips together at center seam. You should now have a 3ft square reflector oven.

4. Wire staves together to form tripod and place over box.

5. Remove giblets, wash turkey, rub with salt inside and out. Quarter onion and put inside turkey.

6. Wrap turkey with wire and suspend from tripod into center of box.

7. Start charcoal, when ready, use trowel or tongs to fill chicken wire tubes with hot charcoal.

8. As turkey cooks, add more unlit charcoal by tapping stakes to make coals sink down.

COOKING NOTES:

This is guaranteed to work the first time! An eighteen-twenty pound turkey takes about four hours to cook. After the first two hours you'll say "NO WAY...this bird is still raw!" An hour or two later it will be absolutely golden brown and beautiful. You won't believe how juicy it is!

I've been quartermastering for our Scoutmaster Fundamentals training for four years. (we do an extended version, two WED nights and two weekends!) It has been a smash hit every session! This weekend at training we're doing a whole goat this way just for variety!

Blue Skies!

Jim Peterson

BS RT Commissioner, Pelathe Dist

ASM, Troop 55, Lawrence, KS

Mic-O-Say: Warrior Shieldm



Pictured here is Mark Matthews Sr., the current Lodge Advisor

Lodge Advisors Corner

By Mark Mathewa Sr.
Lodge Advisor

To the 69 new members that were inducted in April welcome. The lodge had a work party / Ordeal at Cutter Scout Reservation and provided 541 Man hours of service to the camp. Next will be Boulder Creek this October. We need as good a showing so we can provide BCSR with the same type of service.

As we go into summer all arrowmen and women should remember to take their sashes to summer camp and wear them proudly on the OA Day at whichever camp you are at. All arrowmen and women should make sure that your unit attends a summer camp, this is good for both the unit and the youth as it meets their requirements for advancement.

All arrowmen and women are encouraged to attend the May Council of Chiefs / Lodge Business Meeting on May 12, 2005. We will be electing new lodge leadership, changing bylaws, and other Lodge Business. The Council of Chiefs / Business meeting is at Foster Service Center at 7:30 pm. We will be having Pizza & Soda prior to the meeting. We need as many members at this meeting as possible.

Have a great and safe summer.

Mark Matthews Sr.
Lodge Advisor

To the left is the unfurling of an OA flag at OAOA, one of the high adventure programs available FREE to members of this Lodge (after section and lodge scholarships. See the Lodge Chief for information about these and other available programs.