

THE OTTER SIDE



Volume XIV Number 4

Fall 2009

Upcoming Events

October 2009

1 District Roundtables 7:30pm
District Roundtable Meeting Sites

8 Lodge Executive Committee 7:30pm
Foster City Scout Service Center

16-18 Mountain Man Rendezvous
Boulder Creek Scout Reservation

23-25 Fall Ordeal
Cutter Scout Reservation

November 2009

6-7 Trade-O-Ree 5-12pm; 9am-3pm
Palo Alto Scout Service Center

7 Brotherhood Ceremony 6pm
Palo Alto Scout Service Center

12 Lodge Executive Committee
7:30pm
Foster City Scout Service Center

December 2009

10 Lodge Executive Committee
7:30pm
Foster City Scout Service Center

January 2010

14 Lodge Executive Committee
7:30pm
Foster City Scout Service Center

Lodge Executive Committee

Want a say in our lodge's events?
Come to the monthly LEC meetings at
the Foster City Scout Service Center
to help plan the upcoming events!



From left to right: *Teddy Heidmann, Thomas Abbott, Robert J. Mazzuca (Chief Scouting Executive of the BSA) and Ronald Yeung*

Want more great pictures from NOAC 2009? Just look at page 3!

Mountain Man Rendezvous

by Max Carrillo

Mountain Man Rendezvous is a fun and rewarding way to help the Lodge. This year's event will be held on October 16th-18th, at Boulder Creek Scout Reservation. We need help manning a variety of events such as Candle Making, Tomahawk Throwing, and Archery, to name just a few, so please volunteer by emailing the Lodge Secretary.

Brotherhood Ceremonies

If you completed your Ordeal in Fall 2008 or earlier, you can earn Brotherhood at either the Fall Ordeal October 23-25, or at the Brotherhood Ceremony on November 7. Simply complete the requirements as listed below and send your letter (requirement #5) to the Lodge Secretary at secretary@ohlone63.org. Also, make sure to say which ceremony you would like to sign up for and earn those bars!

Brotherhood Requirements:

1. Memorize the signs of Arrow membership.

Memorize the Obligation of the Order, which you received from Allowat Sakima (printed on the back of your membership and in the 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.

Maintain your registration in Scouting. During a period of at least 10 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.

Pay your dues in your Order of the Arrow lodge. Be aware that acceptance of Brotherhood membership involves a pledge of future 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 or chapter secretary.

(Continued on Page 2)

Chief's Corner

by *Bradley Bottoms*

We were fortunate to have numerous victories this year. First off, we had two incredibly successful ordeals, in which we inducted nearly a hundred new members. Our Brotherhood conversions have been numerous, and we inducted two outstanding Vigil members, John Wise and Robert Graham. We also hosted a very fun and productive fellowship, in which service projects were worked on at the Harkson Lodge and the OA acre. We also sent a full contingent to this year's NOAC, where all of us had a blast. Our most notable achievement of this year was our first ever Quality Lodge. This award is quite an honor, as it does not judge us on a single aspect of the lodge, but the lodge in its entirety.



So I have the great pleasure of reporting to all of you, due to all of these achievements and the many more that occurred this year, that the state of the lodge is strong. So let us celebrate the many successes that we have had this year, but may we not forget the year to come.

I am very hopeful for the next year. I am honored to be rejoining the Lodge at its helm as chief, and will be supported by the outstanding executive officers as well as all of our advisors. We will be continuing our quest next year to once again obtain Quality Lodge, and I am confident that it can be done.

But beyond all of these things I hope that we can continue on the path that Goodmen blazed for us. I do not only want to be a Quality Lodge but a superior one that takes his messages to heart. Our goal will not be to promote badges or recruit new people, but to spread a love for camping and to form not only good Scouts but also good people. We will strive to recreate that magic of camping at home, to make the world more bearable to those camping spirits. With these goals, we will go on a lofty journey, to really find the arrow.

Yours in Brotherhood,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bradley Bottoms".

Bradley Bottoms
Lodge Chief
Ohlone Lodge #63



Ohlone Lodge flap with a 2008 Quality Lodge Pin

Brotherhood requirements: *(Continued from page 1)*

In this letter:

- 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 aide in your service, and
- Describe your specific plans for giving future service in the lodge program

Include with this letter your advance registration application and fees for the next Brotherhood ceremony according to the instructions given by the lodge.



NOAC or National Jamboree?

by *Teddy Heidmann*

I asked one youth and one adult Scouter from opposite ends of the country whether to go to the National Jamboree or NOAC, and heard pretty much the same response: go as an OA staff member. Andrew Horne from Chehaw Council, GA said you can get "...the general Scouting experience and still do OA stuff while on staff...", and strongly recommends signing up as quickly as possible. Steve Johnson from Orange County, CA compared and contrasted NOAC to the National Jamboree. While NOAC is cheaper, shorter, and occurs more frequently, the National Jamboree is a once in a lifetime, life changing experience where you can get the true experience of camping. He recommends going to both (if possible) and to also "go when you have the first opportunity", and to "go as a participant, then as staff". Since the National Jamboree can be marketed to more people, you get a wider variety of participants, and it is truly an unforgettable experience. All in all, if you have to pick one to go to, choose the National Jamboree and go as staff.



NOAC 2009

by Bradley Bottoms



This summer, 16 Arrowmen from Ohlone traveled to Indiana to experience NOAC 2009. Many of you may be asking what NOAC is. NOAC stands for National Order of the Arrow Conference, and is basically like a jamboree, but for OA, which makes it substantially better. This particular conference was held at Indiana University (the location of the first NOAC in 1948) and was attended by roughly 7500



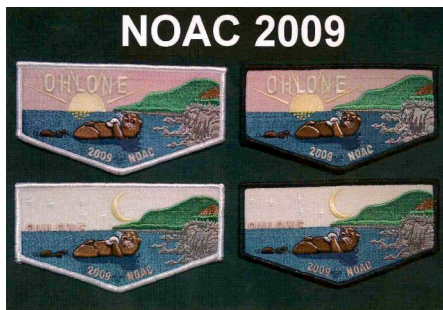
of the Order of the Arrow's leadership from around the country. Our journey began with the early wake up call of 3:00am to make our 6:00am flight (anyone heard of a noon flight?!?!). After a several hour drive from

Dayton Ohio, (where we landed) we enjoyed the lap of luxury at the lovely Martinsville Indiana Super 8 (I have no idea how a pool can have a green slime across the top). The contingent also learned about the gastronomy of the south at our exquisite lodge meal at the local Cracker Barrel restaurant. Yes, macaroni and cheese and French fries were on the menu under vegetables. With many jokes of our charming hotel and dinning experience being shared, we once again hit the road, until we reached the pristine Indiana University (by the way, sarcasm was left in Martinsville, this is actually a very nice place). The NOAC experience had officially begun.



We were acquainted with the theme of NOAC (the power of 1) at the amazing opening show. Shows are an essential part of NOAC and

feature amazing pyrotechnics, great speakers (such as the National Chief, the Chairman of OA, and the CEO of Scouting), and interesting information.



Above: 1 of 99 Ohlone Lodge NOAC 2009 postcards featuring our NOAC patch set.

During the day NOAC was filled with activities. There were fascinating classes that delved into the theme of the conference, scouting, and life in general. There was also TOAP, the outdoor adventure area that featured activities such as rock climbing and mountain boarding. Several members of our contingent also enjoyed scuba and kayaking classes. Several of the youth were very familiar with the staff of the bowling alley on campus, as they spent most of their time playing pool and bowling. The local pizzerias enjoyed NOAC even more than the contingent, as they sold more pizza in those five days than any month of the year (note that we were at a college, and college kids eat a lot of pizza). I am also fairly certain that half of those pizza sales were delivered to one Ohlone room, whose residents ate only pizza the entire week.



But our experience was not only limited to pizza and bowling. Three Ohlone members were invited to the National Council of Chiefs. At this incredibly important meeting, the chiefs and representatives discussed and voted on many items that will surely make the future of the OA, and Scouting, exceedingly bright. The experience was made even more incredible with the following Very Important Arrowman luncheon, where our secretary and I dined with the entire national committee. This experience was a truly amazing one. Our contingent, made up of your lodge leaders bonded closer than I thought possible in one week. We explored, learned, discovered, sought and found. All of us came out of the week with a new sense of what each of us can, and must do, and the power that is in this organization. The power of 1.



NOAC power tags traded among participants



Patch Trading at NOAC 2009

by David Miura

(Photos courtesy of Jason Spangler and eBay)

The wail of the saw blade ripping through plywood pierces the heavy air and reverberates in the small loading dock where I'm frantically trying to finish up the last touches of the NOAC Museum. As the lead for the museum infrastructure, I was responsible for the team that set up and built the display areas to hold the NOAC Museum exhibits, converting 10,000 square feet of abandoned cafeteria into a showcase of Scouting history and memorabilia.

The problem was, my NOAC staff job was taking me away from the biggest trade-off (TOR) in the country that was happening right across the street in the Indiana University Tennis Center. Coming only once every 2-3 years with the NOAC, the Pre-NOAC TOR is the biggest and best Scouting memorabilia event where hundreds of dealers, vendors, and traders spread their offerings over an area eight tennis courts wide. I eventually made it there for the last two hours of the three-day event, but you'll have to ask the other Ohlone contingent traders how it was because I essentially missed it.

That left me to only trading at the NOAC itself, which was perfectly fine. Official trading was conducted at Read Hall after the show each evening.



Imagine being in a very large common room packed shoulder to shoulder with sweaty Scouts all pushing around to look at patches laid out on tables and the floor. The first night we were told that adults and youth could not trade with each other, but for the most part that dictum was ignored since it wasn't an actual NOAC rule. Because "official" trading ended at 11:30 pm and there was a campus curfew, most people packed up and went back to their dorms, but trading could also be found around each of the dorms well past midnight. I also noticed that traders hung out in the Indiana Memorial Union building across from the NOAC Trading Post most hours of the day.

Speaking of which, the NOAC Trading Post had a new patch gimmick to bring customers back. Each morning, they issued a limited edition patch of the day related to the NOAC theme, "The Power of One." The first featured Waite Phillips (donor of



Philmont), then Robert Gates (US Secretary of Defense and former NESA President), and finally a patch with a mirror to represent how YOU had the power to make a difference.

As usual, 2-piece sets (a matching pocket flap and bottom piece) were all the rage. Some lodges even had a 3-piece set that included a CSP (council shoulder patch). Probably the hottest item was the Iron Man 3-piece set from Wiatava



Lodge 13 (Orange County Council, CA) that came in yellow and red versions. I heard of one person who traded seven 2-piece sets to get the yellow one. Other very popular sets included the Star Trek series from Egwa Tawa Dee Lodge 129 (Atlanta Area Council, GA), the Apollo 11 40th anniversary series from Buckskin Lodge 412 (Theodore Roosevelt Council, NY), and the set from Manitous

Lodge 88 (Great Sauk Trail Council, MI) that featured the four principles from the OA ceremonies: Allowat Sakima, Meteu, Kichkinet, and Nutiket.

Because there were just a handful of Ohlone Lodge members trading, the regular Ohlone Lodge flaps were quite popular. The special 2009 NOAC day & night flaps were not sought after like 2-piece sets, but they were scooped up by serious traders trying to collect everything issued for the NOAC. Since I did all of my trading late at night, I couldn't demonstrate the photochromatic properties of our unusual NOAC flaps.

The four lodges that have otters as their totem also managed to find each other and trade flaps. Of course, Ohlone's totem is a California sea otter, while the other lodges have river otters. For the record, they are Jacos Towne Lodge 21 (Crossroads of America Council, IN), Onondaga Lodge 36 (Ohio River Valley Council, WV), and Hunnikick Lodge 76 (Burlington County Council, NJ).



Patch trading at a NOAC is always great and I had a lot of fun. I know other Ohlone Lodge members got into the action because I received a couple of calls from them in the heat of the moment to ask my advice on whether or not a trade they were considering was a good deal. If both parties came away happy with the trade, what better deal could there be?

Meet the **LEC!!!**

Bradley Bottoms *Lodge Chief*

School: Junipero Serra High School Class of 2010

Hobbies: cooking, backpacking, acting, singing, working with nonprofit groups

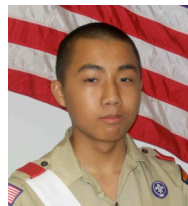


What he plans to do as Lodge Chief: The Order of the Arrow is a truly unique organization. Unlike most fraternal societies, the OA has the ability to form all aspects of a person. Forming these renaissance men of tomorrow is our goal today. The forefront area for development is leadership. The youth of our organization, all of us, are the future leaders of Scouting, America, and the world. It is our responsibility to form the most moral leaders possible. The other area I am focused on is creating conscience campers. For years we have been expending our Earth's resources, and we, the society of campers, need to be accountable for the future of the planet. Leaders are not formed in our leadership seminars but down rivers, atop mountains, and out at sea.

Michael Miura *Vice Chief of Administration*

School: Junipero Serra High School Class of 2011

Hobbies: fishing, volleyball, watching sports, Scouting



What he plans to do as VCA: I plan to help obtain Quality Lodge for the second year in a row, get "Most Indian Lodge" at Conclave, and have a better attendance at lodge events and activities.

Kyle Poland *Vice Chief of Inductions*

School: Junipero Serra High School Class of 2010

Hobbies: video games, camping, backpacking



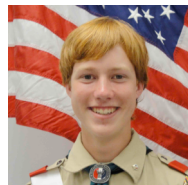
What he plans to do as VCI: I plan to revitalize the Inductions program by creating a better Ordeal program, retaining members, and increasing our Brotherhood conversion rate. For this, the Lodge needs your help. We need Arrowmen like you to step up and become active. We have something for everyone, which is one of the great things about the OA. If all goes well, in about a year's time, we will see a healthier lodge.

Teddy Heidmann *Secretary, Publications Chairman*

School: Mountain View High School, Class of 2013

Hobbies: reading, playing video games, hanging out with friends, creating computer programs, playing soccer

What he plans to do as Secretary & Publications Chairman: I plan to keep an accurate and updated website (www.ohlone63.org) with an easy to see and use calendar, and the most current Otter Side issue available to download. I also plan to have an informative and helpful Otter Side delivered to your mailbox every three months.

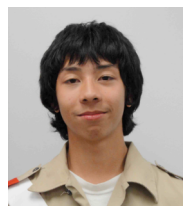


Andrew "Bryan" Hass *Treasurer*

School: Aragon High School, Class of 2012

Hobbies: playing music, hanging out, making videos

What he plans to do as Treasurer: I plan to try to save money for the lodge by not wasting it on stuff we don't need. When we travel, we will use the money wisely, such as getting gas and buying food.



High Adventure Programs!

Applications are now being taken for the 2010 OA High Adventure programs at Philmont, Northern Tier and Florida Sea Base. These popular programs fill up fast, so now is the best time to sign up! Each program is open exclusively to Arrowmen and encompasses two weeks of high adventure activities combined with service projects for the base.

OA Trail Crew at Philmont Scout Ranch features a Philmont trek and backcountry trail construction. OA Wilderness Voyage is two weeks of canoeing, portage, and trail/campsite maintenance work at the Northern Tier National High Adventure Base in Minnesota. OA Ocean Adventure includes scuba certification, wildlife sampling and island restoration projects at the Florida Sea Base. For more information, check out <http://adventure.ou-bsa.org/index.php>.

NOAC Museum

One of the highlight venues of the National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC) was the Museum of OA and Boy Scout history. Covering over 11,000 square feet it was more extensive than any past undertakings of this type, double the size of what was presented at the 2006 NOAC event.

The museum was set up in a unique format, which was divided into five time periods with each highlighting the changes, and progress that had occurred throughout the Order's history. Special attention was taken in each era to reinforce this year's NOAC theme of "The Power of One" and featured a biography of an individual who used their ideas and beliefs to help the Order progress to where it is today.

At the end of the museum experience was a reflection room where Arrowmen were able to share their ideas of what the theme meant to them and how they, like the servant leaders before them, and define their own legacy as a Scout or a Scouter.

As one Scout aptly put it, "there is a lot of stuff here", as displays ranged from antique pins and merit badges to handbooks and uniforms. There were of course lots of flaps and patches, because what would the OA be without them!?!

Responsible for this monumental undertaking were advisers, Craig Leighty, Steve Gaines, and our own David Miura.

NOAC 2012

Sad you missed out on NOAC 2009? Sign up for the next NOAC in 2012 at Michigan State University! 2012 promises to be even better than this year, and now's your chance to sign up! Contact Bradley Bottoms, our Lodge Chief, for more info.

Otter Side Articles

The Otter Side is always looking for more articles to publish! Give your opinion on an event, write about your favorite Scouting event, or just talk about an aspect of scouting that interests you! To submit an article, please email it to Teddy Heidmann at publications@ohlone63.org.



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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
www.ou-bsa.org

Western Region Order of the Arrow
<http://western.ou-bsa.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 information and more!

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