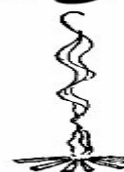




Smoke Signals



A Publication of
Lowwapanew Lodge 191



Vol. 17, Issue 1

Northeastern Pennsylvania Council

Winter 2008

FELLOWSHIP WEEKEND CAMP ACAHELA

Don't miss this weekend of fun and camaraderie with fellow Scouts and Scouters. The OA Lodge hosts this weekend on April 4-6, 2008 at Camp Acahela as a time of brotherhood and fellowship for everyone. The weekend begins on Friday night between 6-8 pm and ends on Sunday around 10-11 am. The event is filled with tons of programming including movies, video & board games, competitions, activities, general relaxed fun and much more. On Saturday there will be a short time of Cheerful Service around camp in the morning. There will also be a Brotherhood Ceremony on Saturday for those eligible to "Seal The Bond" with a Brotherhood training session on Friday night. The event is open to any Boy Scout (with adult leadership) or Scout leader...you do not have to be an OA member to attend! Make plans now to attend this great weekend...bring a friend! Please use the registration form on page 11 to sign up for the Fellowship Weekend today!

2008 LODGE GOALS

Brothers, we have set before ourselves the goals for our lodge for 2008. These were developed at the LLD in January. They are as follows:

1. Achieve Quality Lodge for the 12th straight year.
2. Attain 30% Brotherhood Conversion
3. During the calendar year contact 100% of all new Ordeal members
4. Create a web site that is up to date and functional with youth participation.
5. Have 67% of our Executive Committee in attendance at all Lodge Activities.
6. Complete a major service project at one of our camps during the year.
7. Run a successful Fellowship weekend and two successful Ordeals.
8. Run mini LLD trainings at all LEC meetings.
9. Conduct quarterly evaluations of all Officers, Chairmen, and Advisors.
10. Arrow Corp 5 youth to adult ratio will be 1:1.

With these goals, we can better the lodge through our hard work. Only by working together we can achieve Quality Lodge for the 12th year. To have 30% percent Brotherhood conversion, you eligible brotherhood candidates need to come out to an Ordeal/ Fellowship weekend and take your brotherhood!

We plan to personally contact all new Ordeal Candidates through face to face talking or phone calls. Currently the Lodge website is being transferred to the Council's host server and updated! We plan to start building a pavilion at GPSR to be the major camp service project, so with your help we can do it. With your help, we can achieve these goals and have a great 2008 lodge year!

ARROWCORPS5 A HIGHER ADVENTURE

In the summer of 2008, a contingent from Lowwapanew Lodge will travel to George Washington and Jefferson National Forests in Virginia as part of the 2008 ArrowCorps5 leadership in service initiative. ArrowCorps5 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. 5,000 Arrowmen will converge on 5 different US Forest Service lands over 5 separate weeks.

The Virginia projects will occur from June 21-June 28, 2008 and will include a full day recreational opportunities such as whitewater rafting, fishing, mountain biking, rock climbing, water skiing and viewing nearby historical sites. The cost to participants is \$250.00. This includes accommodations, meals, recreation and recognition during the project. The age of participants is 15 to adult ... provided participants meet the "Philmont height and weight requirements". To help defray the cost of our transportation, the Lodge will be holding a Burger Burn at Sam's Club on April 20th. See the separate article in this issue of Smoke Signals.

We are asking all Arrowmen to help meet the 2008 Lodge goal of sending a contingent of 1 youth for every adult. At this point, we have more adults than youth. So this is your time to step up to the plate and support one of if not the best Lodge in the Northeast Region. Sign up now by contacting Mr. Minello at: minello@nawarhorse.com.

CHIEFLY SPEAKING

Brothers, What can I say except that we are going to have a great year in 2008! I foresee a great deal is going to happen for the good of everyone. We have so much to look forward to. The long awaited Arrow Corps 5, the Fellowship Weekend, and of course all of the brotherly moments we will have together as Arrowmen.

First off, I'm looking forward to working with all the chairmen and their advisors to make this great year possible. I'm expecting much out of them and so should you, because I know they can accomplish what they need to. To all of the chairmen, good luck and congratulations, I know you can go above and beyond all expectations needed of you.

Secondly, the goals have been set for the upcoming year. With everybody's help I know we can accomplish them. Overall, we are in for a tough haul, as always, but don't fret over the future. For when we work together, all roadblocks in our future can be overcome.



Nick Murley, Lodge Chief

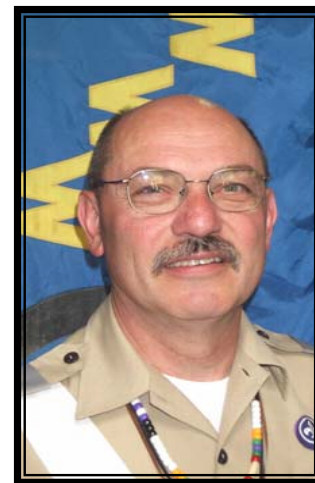
ADVISOR'S MINUTE

In this New Year we have come out of the gate running!

Past Lodge Chief Ben Raines and the 2008 officers ran a very successful LLD in January. The topics were set in accordance to what the Lodge Chairmen needed to address and some short comings we have experienced in the past. Hopefully this training will keep us in the fast lane!

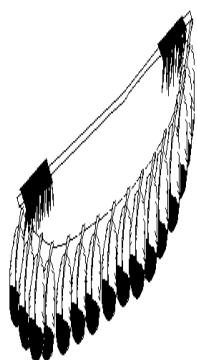
The Lodge goals for 2008 were also set at the training. The mini LLD training sessions will resume at each Lodge Executive Committee meeting. If you want to contribute to these or other aspects of the Lodge, please contact Nick or I.

It looks like a very promising year as we strive to continue our positive growth and earn for the 12th year the distinction of Quality Lodge.



Mr. John Croom, Lodge Advisor

2008 LODGE OFFICERS



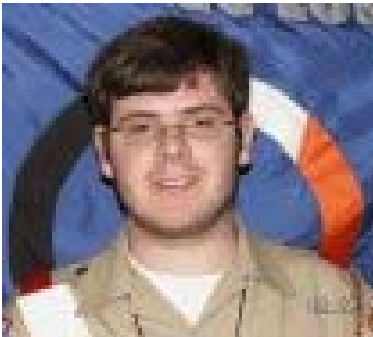
Lodge Chief
Vice-Chief -Program
Vice-Chief -Admin
Lodge Secretary
Lodge Treasurer
Lodge Advisor
Assoc. Lodge Advisor
Assoc. Lodge Advisor
Lodge Staff Advisor

Nick Murley
Jack Spitzer
Mike Brunetti
Phillip Diefenderfer
Craig Bortree
Mr. John Croom Jr.
Mr. Matt Beckage
Mr. Mike Minello
Mr. Dave Srebro

tasd2008@yahoo.com
jspitz191@aol.com
mpj918@comcast.net
pdiefend@ptd.net
eclipseguy900@aol.com
croomjr@gmail.com
matthew_beckage@verizon.net
minello@nawarhorse.com
dsrebro@nepabsa.org



Jack Spitzer
Vice Chief of Program



Mike Brunetti
Vice Chief of Administration



Philip Diefenderfer
Secretary



Craig Bortree
Treasurer

2008 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE LODGE COMMITTEES

Activities

Chairman	Jerry Clum	jclum3@gmail.com
Advisor	John Croom, Jr.	croomjr@gmail.com

Brotherhood

Chairman	Kris Tomaine	topher892@hotmail.com
Advisor	Greg Russick	russickg2@gmail.com

Camping

Chairmen	Mike Trischetta	m_trischetta@yahoo.com
Advisor	Charlie Fisher	elangomat191@hotmail.com

Ceremonies

Chairman	Mike Kugler	oadude191@adelphia.net
Advisor	John Gaudenzi	gdenz40@hotmail.com
Assoc. Adv.	AJ Gaudenzi	ndfball3@hotmail.com

Elangomat

Chairman	Sam Levandoski	bsaboy50@gmail.com
Co-Advisor	Ed Fitzgerald	webmaster@fssp.com
Co-Advisor	James Naticchi	nepaowl@aol.com

Food

Chairman	Matt Tomazic	mtomazic@echos.net
Advisor	Tino Penzone	tpeagle@echoes.net

Native American Activities

Chairman	Frank Jones	piano404@aol.com
Advisor	Greg Morcom	glmdgm@aol.com

Ordeal

Chairman	Paul Hoban	hborn88@aol.com
Advisor	J Croom	jrcroom3@gmail.com

Publications

Chairman	Jason Bender	cbsysco@msn.com
Advisor	Chris Bender	cbsysco@msn.com

Technology

Advisor	Tim Bongard	tbongard@nepabsa.org
---------	-------------	----------------------

Service

Chairman	Eric Hayden	claycrusher@comcast.net
Advisor	Mark Diefenderfer	mldiefen@ptd.net

Troop Representative

Chairman	Carl Jurkowski	jurkowsm@hotmail.com
Advisor	Mike Jurkowski	jurkowsm@hotmail.com

Unit Elections

Chairman	Conner Baldwin	connor61013@aim.com
Advisor	Mike Nestorick	bsa418@epix.net



HOLIDAY BANQUET RECAP

On Dec 30, about 120 fellow Arrowmen and their families gathered for a night of food, fun, and fellowship. The Holiday Banquet is one of Lowwapaneu Lodge's finest annual events. The night was, as always, filled with Brotherhood, Cheerfulness and Service. The night started with a gathering and an auction of various Order of the Arrow and Boy Scout items, especially patches. Then the meal was served followed by the program. The program started with the "State of the Lodge" address, and then by the installation of the new 2008 Lodge officers. The installed officers are; Nick Murley as Chief, Mike Brunetti as Vice Chief of Administration, Jack Spitzer as Vice Chief of Program, Philip Diefenderfer as Secretary, and Craig Bortree as the Treasurer. As the night went on, the "Mr. Dave awards" were presented, for what someone has done or even randomly. The night then continued with new honors and election training recognition. Then the James E. West Fellowship awards were presented to past Lodge Chiefs Dan Nestorick and A.J. Gaudenzi. The Founder's awards were presented to distinguished members of the Order of the Arrow Mr. Tom Owens and Ryan Johnson.. The night was then concluded with a speech from our newest chief, Nick Murley.



Mr. Dave presenting some great gifts to the newest members of the Lodge.

Philip Diefenderfer, Lodge Secretary



Dan Nestorick and A.J. Gaudenzi, recipients of this year's James E. West Fellowship awards.



Mr. Tom Owens and Ryan Johnson, recipients of the 2007 Founder's Awards.



The new 2008 Lodge Officers shortly after being sworn in.

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE & FELLOWSHIP WEEKEND

Attention all Lodge members! Many of you know about the super fun things we do at the Fellowships, and Ordeals, but how does it work? Who plans it? Well the answer is the Activities Committee. The Activities Committee is looking for members who want to take a behind the scenes look at OA functions and make things happen. If you want to join our committee or have questions or suggestions, email me at: jlum3@gmail.com

The Fellowship Weekend will be held between the 4th and the 6th of April, at Camp Acahela. This is a fun weekend for all Arrowmen and other interested Scouts. The cost of this event is \$20 for OA members and \$22 for non-members, and will include great food and of course lots of activities. Those members who are eligible to Seal the Bond in Brotherhood should also plan to attend. Additionally, since there are limited sleeping accommodations indoors, all scouts should take their tents with them and assume they will be sleeping outdoors that weekend.

Jerry Clum, Activities Chairman

BURNING ISSUES...ASK MR. DAVE

This is a regular Smoke Signals forum, answered by "MR. DAVE" Srebro, our Lodge Staff Advisor, Professional Scouter, and All-around Good Guy. Ask Mr. Dave anything (well almost anything) that has been a "burning issue" on your mind.



Dear Mr. Dave,

I have heard the Lodge officers and advisors talk about looking sharp and setting the example when it comes to wearing the uniform...right down to the kind of t-shirt to wear under the uniform...are we really that detailed?

-Aaron

Well Aaron, we should always make an extra effort to wear the Scout uniform properly all the time, especially as OA members. Take pride in your uniform...make sure it's clean, pressed, tucked in, all patches in proper place, not too many danglies, all with official BSA pants belt and socks! (See my column from last summer on official shoes.) As for the t-shirt part, well... we do sorta have a little unwritten rule that encourages the wearing of a nice bright white crew neck tee under the uniform shirt. It looks sharp and professional. Recently, Mike Brunetti and I met coincidentally at the mall...we were both shopping for white tees, imagine that. I like Champion brand, but they are not always easy to find locally. Mike swears by Stafford. I picked up a package of BVD heavyweights (for winter) to try them out. Of course the standard Hanes or Fruit of the Loom tees are always a solid fallback. I won't name names, but I even know one Arrowman who irons the part of his tees that show at the neckline! It all might sound a little crazy, but hey, after all, aren't we supposed to be the National Honor Society of Scouting?

Dear Mr. Dave,

Should I wear my OA sash to my weekly Troop meetings? My SPL says I should, but I remember hearing something about it only worn on special occasions.

-Bruce

Bruce, in keeping with the uniform theme of this column, the answer to your question is no. First of all, you should only wear your OA sash with your **full** uniform (**never ever** with just a t-shirt or class B). Second, only wear your sash at events where you are officially representing the OA or the Lodge such as an OA Troop election, a Lodge meeting or event, OA day at camp, or an event where the OA is officially serving as a service corps or honor guard, like Harvest Fest or Merit Badge College. At all other times, the pocket flap and/or ribbon on your shirt identify you as an Arrowman. Also, your active sash should remain free of any patches, pins, signatures, or any other tchotchke (look that one up!). One last bit of advice...when your sash becomes really worn or stained (from all that cheerful service you've been doing) or if you adults still have the sash you got when you were 14 and the snap is now under your armpit rather than at your waist (for some mysterious reason) it's time to buy a new one, don't be a cheap-o. Again, wear your sash with pride...keep it clean and pressed. And yes, you can machine-wash them...use the gentle cycle with a little Woolite (a tip I learned from Momma Srebro a long time ago).

Do you have a burning question for Mr. Dave? Feel free to email your questions to askmrdave@lowwapaneu.org and Mr. Dave will do his best to answer them in the next edition of Smoke Signals.



WANTED: SUMMER CAMP STAFF

Are you looking for the opportunity and experience of a lifetime this summer? Look no further...we've got something you can't pass up! Are you (or do you know) someone who is enthusiastic, eager to learn, likes Scouting, working with young people, being part of an awesome team, and having more fun in a summer than you ever thought possible? We've got you covered!

If you are at all interested in the summer of a lifetime, be sure to get yourself a camp staff Application as soon as possible. They are available at the Service Center, or on the Council website (www.nepabsa.org) or contact Dave Srebro to get one sent or emailed to you, or for more information. All types of positions exist at Boy Scout resident camp at Goose Pond Scout Reservation and Cub Scout resident camp at Camp Acahela for those who are age 15 through adult. Those who are at least 14 years old by June can apply to be accepted into the Counselor-In-Training programs. Its the best deal going-7 weeks of summer camp with leadership training, all for free!



GOT BROTHERHOOD?

Sealing the Bond of Brotherhood is a big step in the OA, but it doesn't come without hard work and perseverance. It sets you apart from other members by showing your dedication to our lodge and the OA as a whole. These things illustrate your willingness to accomplish toilsome tasks while being cheerful. In completing these tasks, you also exemplify your commitment to Scouting, by living the Scout Oath and Law. Becoming a Brotherhood member in the lodge also involves increased responsibility in the lodge, but responsibilities also offer rewarding experiences that you won't soon forget.

As you may know, this year our lodge has set a 30% Brotherhood conversion goal. As chairman, I will do my best to meet this challenge. But I can't do it alone! If you are an Ordeal member, you will enrich your experience in the Lodge by becoming a Brotherhood member. If you've been an Ordeal member for ten months, or more, make sure you Seal the Bond at one of our lodge activities this year.

BROTHERHOOD OPPORTUNITY DATES

Fellowship Weekend, April 4-6, 2008 at Acahela
Spring Ordeal, May 30-June 1, 2008 at GPSR
Fall Ordeal, September 12-14, 2008 at Acahela.

If you have any questions, e-mail me at:
topher892@hotmail.com.

Kris Tomaine, Brotherhood Chairman

PUBLICATIONS SMOKE SIGNALS INPUT

Do you have an article of general interest to the Lodge that you would like to have published in a future edition of *Smoke Signals*? You can email them to me at: cbsysco@msn.com.

Jason Bender, Publications Chairman

ELANGOMAT COMMITTEE

Brothers, my name is Sam Levandoski and I am the new chairman for the Elangomat Committee. I have some new ideas that could help the Elangomats and the future of the lodge. We currently have a meeting and a training set up for all current Elangomats and anyone interested in becoming an Elangomat. The meeting is March 11th at 6.30pm at the Council Service Center. The training will occur at Goose Pond on April 12th. The training is during the Hammer & Saw Day so all Elangomats could still do their cheerful service. Any one interested in attending the meeting or training can send me a email at: bsaboy50@gmail.com. Thank you, and hope to see you there!

Upcoming Dates:

Meeting- March 11th at the Service Center- 6.30 pm
Training- April 12th- GPSR- Time to be announced

Sam Levandoski, Elangomat Chairman



SERVICE COMMITTEE

As members of the OA our goal is to provide cheerful service, and everyone needs service time for rank advancement. Come out and lend a hand to improve our camps.

Here is a list of some of the upcoming service projects that we will be working on at the OA Fellowship weekend April 4-6, 2008 at Camp Acahela with which Ranger Tim could use our help:

- Build a new set of doors onto the end of the storage trailer.
- Build or finish tool racks for camp sites
- Build or finish cleaning tool racks for cabins
- Build or finish hose racks
- Refinish stocks and metal on BB guns
- Paint metal cot frames
- Build geocaching boxes
- Install folding doors on laundry area
- Sweep out & sanitize interior of walk-in refrigerator & freezer
- Re-rope dining hall flagpoles with lighter gauge rope
- Assist in re-plumbing project at Health Lodge
- Apply sanding sealer to last of the oar sets

Next is the Goose Pond Adopt-a-Highway program scheduled for April 12th, 2008. This is also Hammer & Saw Day at the Pond. So come out and lend a hand to clean up the highway leading to our camp. We will meet at the shale pit at 10 am. Hope to see you at the Pond.

To all OA brothers, if you would like to help, make suggestions or have any questions about the OA Service Committee, please contact me by email at claycrusher@comcast.net

Erik Hayden, Service Chairman

ORDEAL COMMITTEE

As most of you know the Spring Ordeal is quickly approaching. The date for the Spring Ordeal is May 30-June 1, 2008 at Goose Pond Scout Reservation. The cost of the ordeal is \$20.00 for members and those sealing their bond in Brotherhood. The Ordeal committee will be holding their first Ordeal Functional Team Meeting on April 5, 2008 at the Fellowship Weekend starting at 8pm. I highly encourage all members of the Lodge to come out this spring to the Ordeal to welcome the new members to our Lodge, watch those Seal their Bond in Brotherhood and see the next Vigil class get called out. This years' Spring Ordeal is again May 30-June 1, 2008 at Goose Pond Scout Reservation. I hope to see everyone there.



Paul Hoban, Ordeal Chairman

BURGER BURN PLANNED

The Lodge will be doing a "Burger Burn" at Sam's Club in Dickson City on Sunday April 20, 2008. This is a collaboration between the Arrow Corp 5 contingent and the Lodge.



Profits will be split between the Lodge general fund to defray cost of Lodge projects and the other half will go towards the Arrow Corps 5 group expenses for their trip to Virginia in June of this year. We have requested a matching fund grant from Sam's as well. Plan to come out and support the Lodge!

LODGE SEASON PASS

Here is how it works, you pay \$60 for the Season Pass and get the following:

<i>Event covered by Pass</i>	<i>Original Cost</i>
Spring Ordeal	\$20
Fall Ordeal	\$20
Holiday Banquet	\$20
Annual Dues	\$ 8
Total Cost	\$68

Additional Savings:

Fellowship Weekend: W/O Pass \$20
With Pass \$15

Conclave : W/O Pass \$22 (Youth)
\$27 (Adults)

With Pass \$17 (Youth)
\$22 (Adults)

Cost for All Events: W/O Pass \$110(Youth)
\$115(Adults)
With Pass \$92(Youth)
\$97(Adults)

Total Savings for the Year: \$18

Each year the Lodge Season Pass memberships increase, so it truly is a great deal!

Hurry and get your Lodge Pass! The sooner you do the more you save!!! The Lodge Pass is available for purchase at the Service Center Scout Shop.

Craig Bortree, Treasurer

OA TROOP REPS...

Hello everybody. Our committee plan is to get more participation from the Troop Reps and other Arrowmen in Lodge activities. It's up to you guys to get the word out to the other Arrowmen in your troop as to what's going on in the O.A. There are many exciting lodge activities planned for the future and it is the responsibility of the Troop Rep to pass the information on to the Arrowmen in your troop. You may be wondering how to do this. You and other members from your troop can come to the Lodge Executive Committee meetings which are held on the last Wednesday of every month at the Scout Service Center at 7:30pm. I am looking forward to meeting and contacting the Troop Reps throughout the Council and I hope to see you at the next Lodge meeting. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me at oa troop@hotmail.com

Carl Jurkowski, Troop Rep Chairman



MERIT BADGE COLLEGE RECAP

The Northeastern Pennsylvania Council in conjunction with King’s College held the 10th annual Merit Badge College January 5, 2008 on the campus of King’s College. Scouts must hold 1st Class rank or higher to participate in Merit Badge College at which they can earn multiple merit badges. Approximately 300 Boy Scouts earned several hundred merit badges at this year’s College. Some of the more popular merit badges were: First Aid, Citizenship in the Nation, Fingerprinting and Metalwork. Nearly all of the Scouts who attended Merit Badge College left the King’s College campus with signed blue cards in hand.

Lowwapaneu Lodge 191 was well-represented again at this years College. Several Arrowmen served as merit badge counselors while others helped with various administrative tasks such as...helping merit badge counselors: carrying supplies; reviewing badge prerequisites; assisting with registration; conducting the opening ceremony or running various administrative errands. Next year, you should consider volunteering to assist at Merit Badge College. Helping out at the College is definitely a great “cheerful service” experience.

Philip Diefenderfer



Various Arrowmen caught “in cheerful service” at MBC ‘08.

(Pictured: Brian Henning, Ben Raines, Philip Diefenderfer, Craig Bortree, Dave Srebro, John Sepcoski, Nick Murley, John Gaudenzi, Allan Stroud, Mike Hill)



LODGE LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT RECAP

On January 20th, 2008, thirty-one of our fellow brothers gathered together to partake in the lodge's annual Lodge Leadership Development course (LLD). Of those members, thirteen took the LLD for the first time. At the LLD we covered many important topics such as time management, problem solving, motivation, and teamwork. We set many goals for the Lodge for this year including: achieving quality lodge for the 12th year, quarterly evaluations of lodge chairmen, officers and advisors, and directly contacting every new Arrowman who enters the lodge. I would like to thank my fellow brothers, chairmen, advisors, and officers for attending. With that, we thank Ben Raines, our immediate past Lodge Chief for putting together such a successful and worthwhile LLD.



Jack Spitzer



Charlie Fisher & Paul Hoban show “Enthusiasm” during a training session on Attitude.



Mr. Caviston, Frank Jones, Paul Hoban, Mr. Diefenderfer, Jerry Clum & Erik Hayden listen attentively.

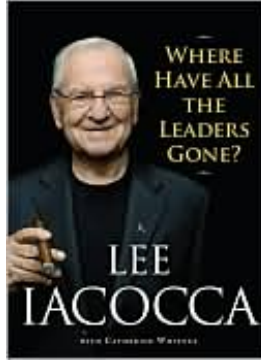
Lodge Chief Nick Murley leads the discussion on the 2008 Lodge goals.



ANOTHER GOOD BOOK...

Lee Iacocca, “*Where Have All the Leaders Gone*” Scribner Press, published in April 2007, Hard Cover, \$25.00 List Price, can be purchased through Barnes & Noble or found on their used book site for under \$5.

The first time I wrote this review I got half way through it and realized that I was writing as if you would automatically know who Lee Iacocca is. So, to bring those of you who weren’t alive in those barren and painful years when muscle cars were replaced with the “K Car”, let me bring you up to speed.



Lee Iacocca is the man responsible for the Ford Mustang – the *original* incarnation of the car that has been so deftly reincarnated. Lee was a driving force behind Ford’s muscle car era. A marketing genius, he later joined Chrysler as it was about to tank and turned Chrysler around, spinning all sorts of deals with banks and Congress. The ubiquitous “K” car (a veritable bread box on wheels) gave way to a series of cars aimed straight at Baby Boomers and the younger generations to the point where he even tagged old friend Shelby to soup up the Plymouth Omni/Dodge Charger. It yielded a pocket rocket that was one of the hot rides in the first half of the 80’s.

Fast forward: He’s now 82-years old, but as feisty and outspoken as ever. Lee has a reputation for being a straight shooter and doesn’t hold back at all, so his newest book, “*Where Have All The Leaders Gone*” is a candid look both backward and forward on the state of leadership in our country and a call to our citizens to *act*. And if nothing else, his book will get you to *think*, which is always healthy.

This book is written in a very comfortable and conversational style, which makes it both an easy and enjoyable read, even if you disagree with him on any point. It’s also written in a style that will make it plain enough for even our youngest members to understand. If you want to get a grasp on some of the issues we face in this election year, there probably isn’t a better book out there that can give you the facts so that you talk intelligently about what we, as a nation, need to do in the months and years to come. Iacocca’s book is insightful, provocative, and educational. This bio/critique is worth reading and would make great material for any paper you might have to do for school or even for the joy of reading something for *entertainment*. Now there’s a thought...

Ranger Tim Bongard

OA VOYAGE AT NORTHERN TIER

Have you ever seen the Northern Lights or portaged a canoe? If not, then the Order of the Arrow has the opportunity for you to participate in the OA Voyage Program at Northern Tier Canoe Base in Ely, Minnesota. Even if you have portaged a canoe or participated in the program previously, there are other opportunities available to you. All participants in the program are placed into crews that will service a portage trail for one week as it is imperative as members of the Boy Scouts of America to leave things better than we found them.



After learning how to use a variety of tools and how to effectively perform a “J-stroke,” you and your crew will design your very own trek. These treks are unique in that many of them are longer and travel to uncharted territory than the normal crews that leave the base. Not very many people whom you go to school with or work with can say that they have paddled 185 miles by canoe to International Falls or portaged the final 4 miles that leads to Lake Superior. Experiences are what shape the people we will become in the future. Sign up today for a journey, you will surely not regret.

For more information about this, or any of the Order of the Arrow’s High Adventure programs, please visit Adventure.oa-bsa.org.

Dave Nguyen

CONCLAVE 2008

Who is your favorite team? China? Russia? Or the proud red, white, and blue of the USA? On January 13, I met with my fellow Lodge Chiefs of our Section NE-2B at the Council of Chiefs meeting to discuss and plan the upcoming Conclave. The theme that was decided upon is “The Olympics.” So, don your Lowwapaneu pride and sign up for the OA Section Olympic games! The cost is \$22 for the youth and \$27 for the adults. But if you have a Lodge season pass, you’ll have a \$5 cost reduction! The conclave will be June 13-15 at Kittatinny Mountain Scout Reservation which is not far from Milford, PA and Interstate 84.

Nick Murley

(Pictured right are Lowwapaneu Chief Nick Murley (left) with NE-2B Section Chief Joe Maugeri after the recent Council of Chiefs meeting in Florham Park, NJ.)



OA TROOP ELECTIONS – DEADLINE APPROACHING!

All Scoutmasters and Troop Representatives are reminded that NOW is the time to schedule your Troop's 2008 OA election if you have not already done so. All OA elections in the Council MUST be completed no later than **April 15, 2008**.

To get your election scheduled, complete and submit an "Election Request Form" to the Service Center. Forms can be obtained from the Service Center or downloaded from the homepage of the Council website, www.nepabsa.org

COUNCIL COLLECTORS PATCH SERIES ANNOUNCED

Below are images of the first two patches in a new series that will be offered annually with the proceeds going towards those items and equipment that we need right now or in the very near future at our two camps. Two beautiful wildlife designs will be released each year during 2008, 2009, and 2010 featuring the animals that can be seen at either camp.



Special Limited Collector's Edition: Each patch will have a Limited Edition run of only 200 patches and will have its own serial number, stitched right on the front of the patch. They will also come on a Special Collector's Edition Card suitable for framing, which will be numbered and signed by the artist, Scout Executive, Tom Slavicek. You can request a specific number in the run - if it's available, it's yours. (Orders will be filled on a first-come-first-served basis.) *Individual special Edition patches are also available at only \$25 each.*

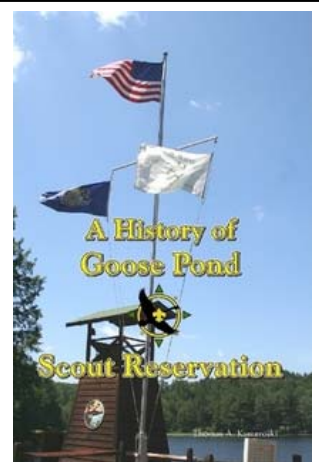
Standard Edition Patch: Regular editions of the patches will be offered as well. They won't carry the special serial number and we won't limit production. *At only \$7 each*, every Scout and Scouter can easily show their support and enthusiasm for our Council. Plus they make outstanding trading patches as well!

Subscribe for a Complete Set: You can subscribe for a complete set of patches and lock in your number for the whole series - get one each of the Special Editions and one each of the Standard Edition patches - all shipped at one time!

Reserve Your Number Today: Use the special e-mail address, camppatch@nepabsa.org to reserve your number and we'll hold it for you (if it's available) pending receipt of your payment. You have to act fast! Graphics of all the patches in the series and much more information is available by following the link on the homepage of the Council website, www.nepabsa.org

GOOSE POND HISTORY BOOK & FILM PUBLISHED

The Council Historical Committee is pleased to announce that Thomas Kamoski's book, "A History of Goose Pond Scout Reservation" has recently been published. In addition to a complete narrative history of Goose Pond, the **Order of the Arrow Lodges** and the other camp honor societies, the book is loaded with over 200 archival photos of The Pond dating as far back as the 1920's. The book is also accompanied by a DVD of vintage film footage of Goose Pond from the 20's, 30's and 40's. The video segments were converted from old 16mm 'home movie' film reels. The book with the DVD is only \$17 and is currently available from the Council Scout Shop. If you would like to purchase one and have it shipped to you, email goosepond@nepabsa.org or call the Service Center (570-207-1227). They will also be available at the Goose Pond Trading Post this summer!



Lodge Dues & Season Pass Form

Name: _____

Lodge ID#: _____

(Found on Mailing Label)

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

_____ Ordeal
 _____ Brotherhood
 _____ Vigil

Phone: (____) _____ - _____ E-Mail: _____

Dues: I want to pay my dues: _____ years x \$ 8.00 per year = \$ _____

_____ Youth
 _____ Adult

Or
 Pass: I want the Season Pass: _____ x \$60 = \$ _____

Please make checks payable to:
 "Lowwapaneu Lodge 191"

After completing this form please mail it to:
 Lowwapaneu Lodge
 c/o Northeastern PA Council
 1 Bob Mellow Drive
 Moosic, PA 18507

Troop Representative Registration Form

Name: _____ Troop: _____ District: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____ E-mail: _____

After completing this form please mail it to:

Lowwapaneu Lodge 191
 c/o Troop Rep Committee
 1 Bob Mellow Drive
 Moosic, PA 18507

or Email: Carl Jurkowski at:
 jurkowsm@hotmail.com

THIS COULD BE YOUR LAST MAILING!

Check the date on your mailing label on the back page, if it says 12/31/07, your Lodge dues have run out and you will no longer receive further *Smoke Signals*, be able to attend OA functions, or wear the sash or flap.

Also check with your fellow Arrowmen in your Troop, if they do not receive *Smoke Signals* then their dues have likely run out and they should pay their dues today!



Fellowship Weekend Registration Form

Name(s) _____

Troop# _____ Phone # _____

Number of OA Members Attending: _____ x \$20 = \$ _____
 (\$5 Less with Lodge Season Pass)

Number of Non-members Attending: _____ x \$22 = \$ _____

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

I am also planning on going for my Brotherhood Membership on Saturday. I took my Ordeal on (date): _____

*Please make all checks payable to: Lowwapaneu Lodge 191
 Please mail to: 1 Bob Mellow Drive, Moosic, PA 18507*

Smoke Signals

Lowwapaneu Lodge 191
Northeastern Pennsylvania Council, BSA
1 Bob Mellow Drive
Moosic, PA 18507

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 78
Scranton, PA

IMPORTANT LODGE DATES

Lodge Executive Committee Meetings:

The 4th Wednesday of Each Month at the Scout Service Center at 7:30 p.m.

March 26, 2008 July 23, 2008 (at GPSR)
April 23, 2008 August 27, 2008
May 28, 2008 September 24, 2008

General Lodge Meetings:

June 1, 2008 - Goose Pond (Spring Ordeal)
September 14, 2008—Camp Acahela (Fall Ordeal)

Activities and Other Important Events:

April 4-6, 2008—Fellowship Weekend, Camp Acahela
April 12, 2008—Hammer & Saw Day I, Goose Pond (Adopt-a-Highway)
April 20, 2008—Burger Burn, Sam's Club, Dickson City
May 3, 2008—Beaver Day I, Acahela
May 10, 2008 - Hammer & Saw Day II, Goose Pond
May 30-June 1, 2008—Spring Ordeal Weekend, Goose Pond
June 13-15, 2008—Section NE-2B Conclave, Kittatinny Mountain Scout Res.
June 14, 2008 - Beaver Day II, Camp Acahela
July 26, 2008—Lodge Summer Picnic
September 12-14, 2008—Fall Ordeal Weekend, Camp Acahela
December 28, 2008—Holiday Banquet