



# Smoke Signals



A Publication of  
Lowwapanew Lodge 191



Vol. 21, Issue 7

Northeastern Pennsylvania Council

Summer 2012

## What's inside this edition?

- An interesting story of NOAC 2012 personally told by Donald Stephens
- Pictures from the Acahela Ordeal
- Nomination Information (Founder's and Vigil)
- Articles from some of the Lodge's committees
  - Key dates on our Calendar
  - Contact Information

## Another Successful Ordeal!!

Some highlights were:

- ⇒ Over 400 hours of Cheerful Service was performed!
- ⇒ Successfully inducted 24 members
- ⇒ 25 Brotherhood Candidates received further knowledge of our Order
- ⇒ Successful General Lodge Meeting



## Dream Catchers History

While dream catchers originated in the Ojibwa Nation, during the Pan-Indian Movement of the 1960s and 1970s they were adopted by Native Americans of a number of different Nations. Some consider the dream catcher a symbol of unity among the various Indian Nations, and a general symbol of identification with Native American or First Nations cultures. However, other Native Americans have come to see dream catchers as "tacky" and over-commercialized, especially as most of them are being manufactured and sold by non-Natives.

Traditionally, the Ojibwa construct dream catchers by tying sinew strands in a web around a small round or tear-shaped frame of willow (in a way roughly similar to their method for making snowshoe webbing). The resulting "dream-catcher", hung above the bed, is used as a charm to protect sleeping children from nightmares. As dream catchers are made of willow and sinew, they are not meant to last forever but are intended to dry out and collapse as the child enters the age of adulthood.

The Ojibwa believe that a dream catcher changes a person's dreams. According to Terri J. Andrews, "Only good dreams would be allowed to filter through . . . Bad dreams would stay in the net, disappearing with the light of day." Good dreams would pass through and slide down the feathers to the sleeper.



## CHIEFLY SPEAKING

Brothers,

We had two very successful Ordeals and our year is now winding down, but there are still more events and noteworthy happenings within Lowwapanau Lodge. We will be helping out during Harvest Fest on October 27th and 28th at Camp Aachela. With many Arrowmen in attendance, I am sure we will be able to provide much needed support. Save up your old cell phones, laptops, and mp3 players and bring them in to us for TerraCycle! In addition, consider getting active as a Committee Member, Chairman or even . In the OA, the possibilities are endless. The only question is: what will you choose to make from it?

WWW,  
Samuel Levandoski  
Lodge Chief



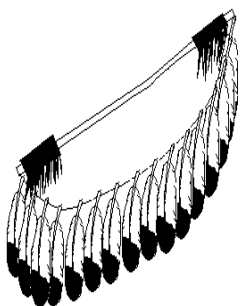
## ADVISORS ARTICLE:

Brothers,

The Aachela Ordeal is in the books and marked a success. The weather was a slight problem at the onset but eventually cleared and gave us a very good weekend. A lot of activities are being planned for the upcoming months. Join a Committee and get active or consider running for a Lodge office. It's all up to you! Remember to manage your time and activities wisely.

WWW,  
Mr. Croom  
Lodge Advisor

## 2012 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

Sam Levandoski  
Michael Shostek  
Sal Zaydon  
Branden Bender  
Branden Bender  
Mr. John Croom Jr.  
Mr. Matt Beckage  
Mr. Mike Minello  
Mr. Dave Srebro

bsaboy50@gmail.com  
chappy5576@aol.com  
Szaydon@gmail.com  
Bendereagle1216@aol.com  
Bendereagle1216@aol.com  
croomjr@gmail.com  
matthew\_beckage@verizon.net  
minello@nawarhorse.com  
dsrebro@nepabsa.org

## 2012 LODGE OFFICERS



Sam Levandoski  
Lodge Chief



Michael Shostek  
Vice-Chief-



Sal Zaydon  
Vice-Chief-Admin



Branden Bender  
Lodge Secretary/  
Treasurer

## 2011 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### LODGE COMMITTEES

#### Activities

Chairman	Phil Gilmartin	Philsy77@yahoo.com
Advisor	Jim Healey	jhealey1@keystone.edu
Advisor	John Gaudenzi	gdenz40@hotmail.com

#### Brotherhood

Chairman	Sean Rigau	sharkboy88888@aol.com
Advisor	Steve Lenceski	slenc139@gmail.com

#### Camping

Chairman	Tyler Sepcoski	tsepco@gmail.com
Advisor	Chris Bender	cbcysco@msn.com

#### Ceremonies

Chairman	Don Stephens	djsmail1596@luckymail.com
Advisor	Joe Russick	JOERUSSICK@MSN.COM

#### Elangomat

Chairman	Matt Williams	mrsarcastic2009@aim.com
Advisor	James Naticchi	nepaowl@aol.com
Advisor	Bob Williams	willfam40@aol.com

#### Food

Chairman	Derrick Wentovich	dwentovich@yahoo.com
Advisor	Tino Penzone	tpagle@echoes.net

#### Native American Activities

Chairman	Jake Weston	weston@socantel.net
Advisor	Greg Morcom	glmdgm@aol.com

#### Ordeal

Chairman	Austin Shission	wasoccerms18@aol.com
Advisor	J Croom	jrcroom3@gmail.com

#### Communications-Publications

Chairman	Jeremy Tomaine	jeretomaine@gmail.com
Advisor	Rick Henning	Camper91@pa.metrocast.net

#### Communications-Technology

Chairman		
Advisor	Nick Murley	tasd2008@yahoo.com

#### Service

Chairman	Connor Zale	zaleconnor@yahoo.com
Advisor	Mark Diefenderfer	mldiefen@ptd.net

#### Troop Representative

Chairman	Scott Grassi	Scott0207@aol.com
Advisor	A.J. Posluszny	Alepos@comcast.net

#### Unit Elections

Chairman	Don Michalson	donald1997@epix.net
Advisor	Larry Morton	llaw@aol.com



## NOAC 2012!!!!!!

My experience at NOAC can be summed up in one word... amazing! This year, over 7000 arrowmen gathered at Michigan State University to experience the vast array of programming that NOAC had to offer. And Lowwapaneu was caught up in the middle of it! The week began with the first step off the long bus ride from NEPA. We were off to finally experience NOAC firsthand! Our first day there was quite overwhelming, because we knew that there were innumerable opportunities waiting for us out there on that campus, and we wanted to do it all.

I knew it was going to be a good week for me when I received my training schedule to find sessions such as "Finding the Arrow: Allowat Sakima" and "Inside the Ordeal Ceremony," among others. The sessions turned out to be top-notch, and left me with resources that will help to improve our ceremonies team overall!

But the climax of the week had to be at the very end of it all, the end of the closing show, when we all circled up in the arena. There we were- 7000 arrowmen all linked up singing the song of our Order. It really affirmed for me the fraternal notion of our Order because there, amidst it all, I realized that I shared something very special in common with the total stranger next to me- and it was awesome.

I know I "summed it all up in one word" in my first sentence, but I'm not really doing NOAC any justice. Some other words I'd use are exciting, astounding, eye-opening, and above all, unforgettable. I know I speak for the rest of the contingent when I say that NOAC 2012 is an experience that none of us will soon forget!

Written by,

**DONALD STEPHENS**



### Meeting the National Scout Executive!

Left to right: Austin Shission, Don Stephens, Wayne Brock,  
Jeremy Tomaine, Steve Lenceski

## Another Great Summer Camp Season for Lowwapaneu!



As you may know, Thursday is “OA day” at Goose Pond Scout Reservation. This year, Lowwapaneu Lodge and the Order of the Arrow had a strong presence in camp, not only on Thursday but throughout the entire week as well!

The OA program in camp began on Sunday evening, when the announcement for the Terracycle collection was made. Terracycle collections throughout the weeks were consistently strong, and really did help Lowwapaneu to “go green.”

Also throughout the week, myself and my two Summer Vice- Chiefs, Scott Grassi and Matt Williams, went around to each campsite and distributed a folder to all the in-council troops who have members in the Order. We spoke with each of you, and would like to remind you that you now know who in your troop needs to pay their dues and who is eligible for Brotherhood. Once again, we urge you to encourage these arrowmen to pay their dues and seal their bond!

Thursdays in camp saw a large outpouring of arrowmen pride. The weekly service projects held at 3:00 each Thursday afternoon amounted to a total of 105 man hours offered for the good of our camp. The rededication ceremony held each Thursday evening saw an average weekly attendance of 23 arrowmen, and a good time was had by all at the fellowship feast and American Indian Activities held in the parade field each Thursday evening!

I would like to take the opportunity to congratulate each of the 27 troops who received the “OA in Camp” award throughout the summer. It was these troops who really kept the tradition of cheerful service alive in camp this summer. I would also like to take the opportunity to thank my summer Vice Chiefs, Scott Grassi and Matt Williams, and our Summer Adviser, Pat Friccione, for all their help and support throughout the summer. It was because of these troops and these individuals that that 2012 was “another great Summer Camp Season for Lowwapaneu!” Thanks for a great year!

**DONALD STEPHENS,**  
OA Summer Chief 2012

For Calendar information, updates, and other information



Within the lodge, follow us on Twitter

and ‘like’ us on Facebook!





## ARE YOU GOOD WITH COMPUTERS, OR LIKE TO TAKE PICTURES?

If you are inactive in the lodge, but don't want to be and can use simple software, or like to take pictures this is your lucky day! There are just those openings in the Communications Committee. In the Communications Committee we do tons of fun and exciting things like, help with the lodge website, updating various things, take amazing pictures/editing for the Smokesignals you are reading now and the website, and so much more! If you like to read, write, photography, or layout type projects without a doubt this is the perfect committee for you!

Written By: **JEREMY TOMAINE**,  
Communication-Publication Chairmen

### BREAKING NEW GROUND

Fellow Brothers,

We have just had yet another successful Ordeal Weekend, completing numerous service projects around Camp Acahela. Some of the projects included: construction of a fence at the archery range, installation of new benches at the OA Site, preparation of camp for the winter season, securing campground signs, cleaning trails, and filling potholes on the road into the camp, as well as much much more! This work could not have been completed without the help of the ordeal candidates, brotherhood candidates, and the additional volunteers. I would like to thank all those mentioned thus far, as well as Ranger Bill. Without his help, our goals could not have been completed. I hope that our new brothers enjoy their involvement in Lowwapanew Lodge over the coming years. Another great opportunity to get active in the lodge is to assist in the Adopt-A-Highway and Pavilion Project work day that will be in late September. Please check your emails in the coming weeks for more information about the work day. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me by my email, [zaleconnor@yahoo.com](mailto:zaleconnor@yahoo.com). Have a great school year and don't forget to fill out your Pemachapin Award forms!

**CONNOR ZALE**  
Service Committee Chairman



## Founder's Award

With the death of the Order of the Arrow's Founder, Dr. E. Urner Goodman, The National Order of the Arrow Committee decided that the time was right to reinforce the values first established by the founders. The Founder's Award was created in 1981 to honor and recognize those Arrowmen who have given outstanding service to the lodge. The award is reserved for an Arrowman who demonstrates to fellow Arrowmen that he or she memorializes in their everyday life, the spirit of achievement as described by Goodman. The award consists of a bronze medallion bearing the likenesses of founder E. Urner Goodman and co-founder Carroll A. Edson. The reverse of the medallion is inscribed with the words, which immortalize the meaning of the award, "For he who serves his fellows, is, of all his fellows, greatest!" Accompanying the medallion is an engraved certificate with appropriate national and local signatures. The recognition piece for the Arrowman's uniform is an arrow ribbon, similar to the universal arrow ribbon, except that it has a gold-colored arrow suspended from a solid red ribbon. Local Lodges may petition the National Committee to present one Founder's Award annually for every 500 lodge members or portion thereof. Since it's inception in 1981, only 27 Lowwapaneu brothers have received this award.

Dave Mitchell	Josh Thomas	Jeremy Kobeski
Bill Botke	Greg Morcom	Bill McAulifee
Dave Srebro	Eric Chase	John Croom III
John Croom Jr	Dan Nestorick	Matt Beckage
Dave Nguyen	Aaron Dombroski	Greg Russick
Bob Gibbons	AJ Gaudenzi	Jack Spitzer
John Gaudenzi	Joshua Tucky	Tino Penzone
Mark Diefenderfer	Phillip Diefenderfer	Michael Minello
Nick Murley	Tom Owens	Ryan Johnson



Nominations should be taken seriously and as much information about the nominee as possible should be submitted to the Lodge Committee on the Founders tent to the Service Center in care of John Croom. The nomination paper work can be found on the Lowwapaneu web site, Lowwapaneu.Org. Nominations are due by November 5, 2012.

### An Awesome Year for the Food Committee!!

I'd like to thank everybody that came out to help on food committee for both ordeals. It was a great help and I'd like to see more people get active at the upcoming events, such as the spring and fall ordeals and fellowship weekend. Overall I think food committee had a great two weekends and awesome fellowship weekend. I hope to see everyone that signed up for food committee get active. Thanks for such a great two weekends. **If you are interested in joining please contact me, Derrick Wentovich, at [dwentovich@yahoo.com](mailto:dwentovich@yahoo.com) or by phone (570)876-3318. You could also contact my advisor Tino Penzone at [tpeagle@echoes.net](mailto:tpeagle@echoes.net). Can't wait to see you there.**

## VIGIL NOMINATIONS

The Vigil Honor is the highest honor that a Lodge can bestow upon a member. It dates back to 1915 when our Founder, Dr. E. Urner Goodman became the first Vigil Honor Member. It is a mark of high distinction and is reserved for those arrowmen who, by reason of exceptional service, personal effort, and unselfish interest, have made distinguished contributions beyond the immediate responsibilities of their position of office to one or more of the following: their lodge, the Order of the Arrow, Scouting, or their Scout Camp. Under no circumstances should tenure in Scouting or the Order of the Arrow be considered as reason enough for a Vigil Honor recommendation. The Vigil Honor is a recognition of one's commitment to leadership and proper example of Brotherhood in Cheerful Service. Alertness to the needs of others is the mark of the Vigil Honor.

Any member of the Order of the Arrow registered in Scouting and in good standing in a regularly chartered lodge is eligible for recommendation to the national Order of the Arrow Committee for elevation to the Vigil Honor provided that, at the time of the recommendation, the individual has met all of the criteria bellow, been a Brotherhood member for a minimum of two years. A lodge may nominate a maximum of two percent of their registered Arrowmen once a year, through the Vigil Honor petition, found in the annual re-charter packet. At least 50 percent of all nominated must be under 21 at the time of nomination.

The individual must:

1. Be a Brotherhood member for at least two years.
2. Be registered in Northeastern Pennsylvania Council
3. Be a member in good standing of Lowwapaneu Lodge.

Nominations for the Vigil Honor ought to be taken seriously. Please provide as much information about the nominee as possible. In this way the Vigil Honor Selection Committee can make a fair assessment of the contributions of the nominee to Scouting and the Lodge.

In order for a nomination to be accepted, it must be submitted on an official and current Vigil Honor Nomination form which can be found at [WWW Lowwapaneu.org](http://WWW.Lowwapaneu.org). Any additional information can be attached to the nomination form.

**THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS DECEMEBER 1, 2012.** All nominations must be received at the Northeastern Pennsylvania Council Scout Service and Training Center no later then the close of the business day.

Completed nomination forms may be turned in or mailed to

Lowwapaneu Lodge  
c/o NEPA Council  
ATTN: Dave Srebro  
1 Bob Mellow Drive  
Moosic, PA 18507



## Ceremonies 2012

As summer draws to a close and fall starts setting in, the Lowwapaneu Lodge ceremonies team is closing out another great year. This year alone, the ceremonies team successfully completed a total of 9 ceremonies between Fellowship Weekend and the two ordeal weekends. We also competed in the ceremonies competition at the 2012 National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC) held at Michigan State University, in which we placed among the top twenty ceremonies teams in the nation. I think I speak for the rest of the team when I say 2012 has been a blast!

Why is the ceremonies team so important? The ceremonies team is the main component in the lodge that keeps the Native American traditions alive in our Order. But the greatest part of being on the ceremonies team has to be seeing the faces on those candidates as they each receive their brand new sash and wondering what's in store for our new arrowmen.

It is with great pleasure; therefore, that we say congratulations to the 140+ arrowmen who were either inducted into the Order or sealed their bond in the Brotherhood. These arrowmen have taken a significant stride in their scouting careers, but we who are on the ceremonies team would be remiss not to remind these arrowmen of the words of Allowat Sakima, the mighty chief, "membership in our Order is given, not only for what you have done, but for what you are expected to do in the future, for your journey is just beginning."

We urge all arrowmen to get involved with the Order. And the ceremonies team is always looking to the future, so if you would like to get involved with the ceremonies team, check out our page on the Lowwapaneu Lodge website and get in contact with me, the chairman. Congratulations, once again!

WWW,

**DONALD STEPHENS,**  
Ceremonies Chairman

## OA Troop Representative

Hello brothers,

I hope you have all had an excellent year so far! I wish to welcome all of our new members to the order. Congratulations on taking the first step of brotherhood. There is still much more to come for you. Therefore, I suggest you, and all other members as well, join a committee and get active in any way that you can. I challenge you to go onto the Lodge Website, and look at every committee. Then, choose one that you are interested in and e-mail the chairman to join the committee. I am the chairman of the Order of the Arrow Troop Representative Committee. OA Troop Representatives go to LECs, and then return to their troop and relay the information. I also challenge you to go to as many OA events as you can. There are tons of events that you can go to! Look on the website and go to the Lodge Calendar. I hope to see you all at some of these events and in a new committee soon. Until then, have a great rest of the year!

In Brotherhood,

**SCOTT GRASSI,**  
OA Troop Rep. Chairman

## HELP LOWWAPANEU GO GREEN!

The TerraCycle program is underway for Lowwapaneu Lodge, and we've had a very successful year! During Summer Camp season, several OA members collected items from both Goose Pond and Camp Acahela, which gave us even more promising numbers, but we aren't finished yet! Currently, we are in a competition through the months of August and September to raise more points than we already have, so please search your house and ask your troops for their electronic waste! The next event we are collecting items for TerraCycle is the September LEC meeting, but if you contact me at [chappy5576@aol.com](mailto:chappy5576@aol.com) we can arrange a time sooner. A list of items we are collecting can be found on the TerraCycle tab on the "Events" menu on [lowwapaneu.org](http://lowwapaneu.org). Your help and support with this project is greatly appreciated, and keep on collecting to raise this scholarship for NOAC in 2015!

If you have any questions, feel free to contact:

**MICHAEL SHOSTEK**  
Vice Chief of Program  
[chappy5576@aol.com](mailto:chappy5576@aol.com)



# Photos of NOAC 2012!

# Lodge Dues 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 \$ 10.00 per year = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Youth

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: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

After completing this form please mail it to:

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



# More photos of the Acahela Ordeal!

# 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.**

*October 24, 2012*

*January 23, 2013*

*February 27, 2013*

### **Activities and Other Important Events:**

*Harvest Fest - October 27th-28th 2012*

*General Lodge Meeting - November 28th 2012*

*Holiday Banquet - December 27th - 2012*



