



Section NE-3B

Council of Chiefs Meeting Minutes

*Conclave Onsite
Camp Tuscarora – Windsor, NY
May 9-10, 2008*

1. Call to Order

- a. Section Chief Dan Higham opened the Council of Chiefs meeting with the Obligation of the Order at 9:05 AM.

2. Roll Call

- a. Tahgajute, Kayanernh-Kowa, Otahnagon, Kittan, Half Moon, and Onteroraus Lodge were in attendance at the Council of Chiefs meeting.
- b. Ga-Hon-Ga Lodge was not in attendance at this Council of Chiefs meeting.

3. Secretary Election

- a. Dan Higham opened nominations for the remaining term of the Section Secretary.
 - i. Nate Wadsworth was nominated by Kayanernh-Kowa Lodge.
 - ii. David Cass was nominated by Kittan Lodge.
 - iii. Matt Slimowicz was nominated by Otahnagon Lodge.
 - iv. Matt Lacy was nominated by Onteroraus Lodge.
- b. **Matt Lacy** was elected to the remainder of the Section Secretary's term.

4. Lodge Reports

- a. Tahgajute
 - i. First fellowship weekend held last weekend (5/2-3).
 - ii. Also held a recent LLD.
 - iii. Next weekend (5/16-17) is a call-out ceremony.
- b. Kayanernh-Kowa
 - i. Planning for a June "Backwoods Olympics" program.
 - ii. Sending participants to ArrowCorps⁵.
 - iii. Estimating 35-40 people at Conclave 2008, had 30 in 2007.
- c. Otahnagon
 - i. Held their first fellowship weekend last weekend (5/2-3).
 1. Inducted 35 new members.
 2. 9 returned for Brotherhood.
 - ii. Expecting approximately 100 members at Conclave.
 - iii. Sending 9 youth and 2 adults to ArrowCorps⁵.
 - iv. Sent 2 Arrowmen to recent regional training (National Leadership Seminar).

- d. Kittan
 - i. Expecting to send 90 members to Conclave 2008.
 - ii. Sending Arrowmen to ArrowCorps⁵.
 - iii. Held a recent Ordeal Weekend for their new members.
 - iv. Still experiencing growing pains.

- e. Half Moon
 - i. Have already begun work on their 2008 Quality Lodge Petition.
 - ii. Planning a Spring Fellowship Weekend June 6.
 - 1. Expecting 40 new Ordeal and 60 new Brotherhood members.
 - 2. LEC positions to be elected at this time.
 - iii. Planning to send participants to the Bridger-Tetons ArrowCorps⁵ site.

- f. Onteroraus
 - i. Successfully completed another Winter Fellowship in March, with over 30 members in attendance.
 - ii. Planning for a Spring Fellowship the first weekend of June.
 - iii. Have developed a phone tree through the use of LodgeMaster records to help quickly spread information throughout the lodge.
 - iv. Anticipating the call-out ceremonies held at the conclusion of each week of Boy Scout camp on Friday nights.
 - v. Sending an Arrowman to the Mark Twain ArrowCorps⁵ as a support staff member.

5. Tour of Camp Tuscarora

- a. Before the tour, Zachariah Riley discussed the informational packet handed out to those in attendance and answered questions before beginning the tour.
- b. Zachariah Riley led those in attendance on a tour of the camp, beginning at 9:45 AM. Notable points included (see Appendix A):
 - i. There are ten campsites, each holding anywhere from 16 to 26 individuals.
 - ii. The dining hall can hold 250 individuals regardless of weather conditions.
 - iii. There are approximately 15 locations for training at this camp.
- c. The tour returned to the dining hall at 11:30 AM.
- d. A short quiz was conducted after the tour describing some of the points of Camp Tuscarora.

The meeting went into recess for lunch at 11:40 AM.

Throughout lunch, Section Chief Dan Higham played a slideshow of photos from a conclave he attended on the west coast with Section Adviser Bob Black.

The meeting reconvened at 12:30 PM.

6. Conclave 2008

a. Service Lodge Report

- i. Conclave Coordinator Zachariah Riley discussed each of his operating committees for the 2008 Conclave; descriptions of each of the committees, as well as contact information is contained in the information packet distributed at the meeting.
- ii. The deadline for needs list reports were due May 10. If needs lists were not turned in at this time, they need to be emailed to Zachariah Riley, Joe Bennett, and Cathy Fuller as soon as possible.

b. Participant Award

- i. Since this will be the last conclave of Section NE-3B, it was decided that the service lodge would order white-bordered Conclave patches to serve as the year's participant award.
- ii. It was decided that the participant award would be given to those who accumulate 30 out of the 36 possible points over the weekend. Eligible events and their point values are listed below:
 1. 10 points for pre-registration.
 2. 4 points each for the training sessions.
 3. 3 points each for attending the Friday and Saturday Shows.
 4. 2 points each for attending the Meet the Man panel and the Scout's Own religious service.
 5. 1 point each for attending a recreation event.
 6. 1 point for donating to the patch auction.
 7. 1 point for attending the Section Officer Candidate Forum.
 8. 1 point for attending the casino night and/or movie.

c. Conclave Registration

- i. Section Adviser Bob Black gave those in attendance an overview of the Conclave Registration system. Usernames and passwords will be distributed to lodge advisers shortly.

Dates and information of interest:

1. The registration website is located at <http://registration.ne3b.org>.
2. A generic registration form and fee transmittal form is available when logged in.
3. It was stressed that a lodge's assigned password should be kept secure due to the fact that a person with that password can make commitments on a lodge's behalf.
4. June 20: This is the date set for "preregistrations" as referred to by the Participation Award. This is also the date that memorabilia preorders are due to the section.

5. August 1: The registration system locks for new registrations. Changes may be made to existing records, but no new records may be added.
6. August 11: All registrants must be paid in full to the service lodge.

d. CVC Reports

Before the CVC reports, Section Adviser Bob Black reminded those in attendance of the section's policy and definition of what the section considers "gambling." The full text of this definition and description is attached as Appendix B to these minutes.

Also, it was made extremely clear that CVCs MUST verify with the service lodge prior to making any monetary commitments over the amount budgeted to them that budget money exists for those purchases; otherwise the conclave account may not pay the portion of the bill in excess of the CVC's predetermined budget for the conclave.

i. Tahgajute: Saturday Night Shows

1. The movie trailer is completed and will be uploaded to the YouTube video service this weekend.
2. The committee will be holding meetings to discuss and finalize the filming schedule in the near future.
3. The script will be finalized as well.

ii. Kayanernh-Kowa: AIA

1. Have contacted a reenactment group to set up a village for the time period of the French and Indian War.
2. They will be making a CD containing information for lodges to use for their own ceremony teams.
3. Also planning on holding a workshop during conclave discussing how to select a style and time period for building an authentic ceremonies team.

iii. Kittan: Special Events

1. Currently looking at prices for prizes.
2. Working with local Elks lodge to get authentic poker tables for "casino."
3. Accepting donations for patch auction.

iv. Half Moon: Recreation

1. Still looking for more members for their committee.
2. Have decided on location for events.
3. Planning to purchase equipment for games, will become the prize for the winning team (where appropriate).
4. Games slated for Conclave 2008
 - a. Volleyball
 - b. Ultimate Frisbee

- c. Ceremony Team Evaluation
 - d. Texas Hold-Em Tournament
 - e. OA Jeopardy
 - f. 3K Run
 - g. Greased Watermelon
- v. Onteroraus: Friday Night Shows
1. Looking to bring a Baden-Powell re-enactor to conclave.
 2. Script is still in progress, should be completed and sent out for review shortly.
 3. Will have needs list to conclave coordinator and logistics committee in the next few days.
 4. Have been in contact with other CVCs looking for items to borrow.
- e. Training Session
- i. The section officers presented a training session on membership retention. At the end of this session, the syllabus was presented to those who participated.
- f. Backdater Review
- i. Dan Higham reviewed the section backdater with those in attendance and discussed upcoming dates with the Council of Chiefs. He also answered questions regarding the dates and what was to be accomplished by then.
- g. Conclave Attendance
- i. Dan Higham went over the planned attendance numbers developed by the section to achieve our goal of 300 members at the conclave this year. It was stressed that these numbers are not the same as the “largest lodge contingent” numbers that are based on a lodge’s rechartering numbers.

<u>Lodge Name</u>	<u>2007 Actual</u>	<u>2008 Projected</u>
Otahnagon (2008 Service Lodge)	45	125
Kittan (2007 Service Lodge)	98	40
Kayanernh-Kowa	30	40
Half Moon	18	35
Onteroraus	18	25
Tahgajute	25	25
Ga-Hon-Ga	8	10
<u>Totals:</u>	<u>242</u>	<u>300</u>

- h. VIPs
- i. Dan Higham discussed the VIPs who have been confirmed for the 2008 Conclave with those in attendance. The following VIPs have been confirmed:

1. Jake Wellman, the 2008 National Chief.
2. Patrick Rooney, the 2008 Northeast Region Chief.

i. Conclave Awards

- i. John Whitaker discussed the different conclave-wide awards available to participants.
 1. Most Outstanding Lodge
 2. Most Outstanding Arrowman
 3. Most Cheerful Arrowman
- ii. Refer to the planbook for more information on these awards (attached as Appendix C).

7. Section Website

- a. Matt Lacy talked to those in attendance about the recent updates and additions to the section website. If there are any changes or corrections to the information posted on the website, please let Matt know at the email address located on the website.
- b. Lodges wishing to have their events posted to the section website calendar and RSS feed should also contact Matt.

8. ArrowCorps⁵

- a. Dan Higham discussed the ArrowCorps⁵ program with those in attendance, talked about some of the programs available at each of the project sites, and discussed which lodges are sending participants to the different projects.

9. Lodge Assistance Program

- a. Section Adviser Bob Black discussed some of the awards and honors our section received in terms of our successes with the Lodge Assistance Program.
 - i. Currently, we are 6th in the national rankings, up from 30th or so from a year ago.
 - ii. However, we are first in the Northeast Region.
- b. John Whitaker discussed the remaining lodges and their proposed visitation schedule for 2008:
 - i. Onteroraus Lodge is scheduled for the first weekend in June, the same time as their Spring Fellowship Weekend.
 - ii. Ga-Hon-Ga Lodge is projected for Fall 2008.

10. Section Re-Alignment / Conclave 2009 Information

- a. Dan Higham discussed the realignment facing our section after the conclusion of our 2008 Conclave.
- b. Since the realignment will change the composition of our section, the service lodge for the 2009 Conclave will be chosen at a meeting after the conclusion of the 2008 Conclave, with the new section of ten lodges attending.
- c. In short:

- i. There will be no more NE-3B after the 2008 Section Conclave.
- ii. The region begins its realignment July 1st, but we will not feel the effects until the conclusion of our conclave.
- iii. Kittan Lodge will become part of NE-2A.
- iv. Half Moon Lodge will become part of NE-7B.
- v. The rest of our lodges in NE-3B will become part of NE-3A, a section with ten lodges.

11. Adviser's Minute

- a. Section Adviser Bob Black discussed the latest National Operations Update (08-05) with those in attendance. Items discussed included:
 - i. OA LodgeMaster
 - ii. OA Membership Verification through ScoutNet
 - iii. Updates to the FOG (Field Operations Guide) and GOA (Guide for Officers and Advisers)
 - iv. A new Lodge Finance Manual
 - v. Ideas to improve Unit Elections
 - vi. Policy clarifications for Event, Activity, and Program Promotion
 - vii. The 2008 Quality Lodge Petition (see Appendix D)
 - viii. Quality Lodge Pins
 - ix. Ordeal Ceremony Requirements
- b. See Appendix E for the complete text of the 08-05 Operations Update.

Motion to close brought by Kittan Lodge at 2:50 PM, seconded by Half Moon Lodge. Motion passed.
The meeting was closed with the song of the Order.

TRAINING LOCATIONS

Site	Capacity	Weather	Power?	Projector?	Water?
Dining Hall Porch	50	50	Yes	Yes	Yes
Handicraft	40	40	Yes	Yes	Yes
Scoutcraft	30	15	Yes	No	Yes
Dining Hall	250	250	Yes	Yes	Yes
Trailblazer Pavilion	50	50	Yes	Yes	Yes
Waterfront	30	15	Yes	No	No
Council Point	250	0	No	No	No
Outdoor Chapel	250	0	No	No	No
Handicraft Yard	45	0	No	No	Yes
Staff Lounge/Comm. Area	50	25	Yes	Yes	No
Nature Lodge Yard	50	0	No	No	Yes
Center Lodge 1	50	50	Yes	Yes	Yes
Center Lodge 2	50	50	Yes	Yes	Yes
Center Lodge 3	50	50	Yes	Yes	Yes
Center Lodge 4	50	50	Yes	Yes	Yes

CAMP SITES AND CAPACITIES

SITE	#	BK
Abnaki	1	16
Cayuga	2A	16
	2B	16
Chippewa	3	20
Dakota	4	18
Delaware	5A	18
	5B	18
Lenape	6A	18
	6B	18
Minomine	7	24
Mohican	9	26

SITE	#	BK
Onondaga	11A	18
	11B	18
Seneca	12A	18
	12B	18
HCP Lean-Tos	3	
Winter Unit	1	36
Winter Unit	2	32
Winter Unit	3	32
Winter Unit	4	32
Winter Unit	5	32
TOTAL		444

GENERAL INFORMATION

The phone number for Camp Tuscarora is 607-467-2721. In addition, depending on cellular coverage, the service council leadership may be called directly (see phone numbers within).



Matthew Lacy

From: secretary@ne3b.org
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2008 6:02 PM
To: Minutes Distribution
Subject: January CoC Meeting Minutes
Attachments: 2008-01-19 Minutes.pdf

Attached please find the minutes from this year's Section Retreat. Below, please find a message from Section Adviser Bob Black on the definition of gambling for our purposes.

If you have any questions, feel free to let me know.

The next CoC meeting will be at the onsite the weekend of May 10th.

YiB,
Zach Shepherd
Section NE-3B Secretary

To all Lodge Advisers, Lodge Chiefs, and CVCs,

I had a great time last weekend seeing and working with each of you at the retreat last weekend. If you have feedback about the retreat, please get it back to your Section Chief, Dan Higham, at Chief@ne3b.org. We're always interested in how to make the event better, and more useful for your conclave planning.

As a followup to our discussion at the retreat regarding what qualifies, and what doesn't, regarding games of chance (gambling) please refer below for the definition. Please get with one of the Section Staff if you have a question on the definition. There will be no gambling at the conclave. If I see something at the conclave that meets this definition of "gambling", I will be forced to immediately shut it down.

While we all want everyone to have fun at the conclave, we also need to insure that we stay on the right side of BSA values. If you are having trouble figuring out how you can do some of the casino games within this definition, let me know. There are ways to do them and remain "safe".

Please flow this e-mail down to anyone that we might have missed, so that they are aware. I look forward to seeing each of you at our Conclave on-site in May.

Warmest Regards,

Bob Black
Section NE-3B Adviser

Gambling (games of chance) defined:

The official policy of Section NE-3B and the use of the 2008 Conclave casino theme and the use of games of chance are as follows: There will be no games of chance; there will be no pot's, ante's or stake's. All games played must be free and open to all participants. Each participant will have an equal number of chances to compete. Points can be awarded for best hands or highest number or closest to the mark. Points can be turned in for prizes.

Conclave Awards

Our Conclave Awards were created to recognize outstanding Service to the Section and Order. At each Conclave, two Arrowmen, and two Lodges are recognized for their achievement, dedication, and attitude toward serving others. The guidelines for these awards were decided upon by the Section Officers & Advisers. The recognitions are bestowed upon their recipients through mutual agreement by different parties, depending on the award.

Most Outstanding Lodge

The Most Outstanding Lodge Award was created to recognize the Lodge that not only runs an exceptional local program, but also operates in a timely and outstanding way on the Section level. This Lodge cannot be the Conclave Service Lodge.

Specifically, the award will be presented to the Lodge that most closely exemplifies the following guidelines:

Pre-Conclave:

1. Pre-Registration was submitted in a timely and complete way.
2. Conclave Pre-Order memorabilia was submitted in a timely and complete way.
3. Lodge used a current travel permit.
4. All delegates possessed a valid health form.
5. The lodge behaved and operated in a way that exemplifies the Spirit of the Order in its yearly program. Significant growth and improvement has been shown in the program.
6. If extra delegates are awarded to the lodge after the registration deadlines, all money was submitted prior to the conclave, consistent with Service Lodge guidelines.

At Conclave:

1. All lodge delegates were properly groomed, and wore proper uniform.
2. The behavior of all delegates was in accordance with the Scout Oath and Law at all Conclave events.
3. The teamwork and participation of the Lodge in inter-Lodge competition was exemplary, and the highest degree of sportsmanship was adhered to.
4. All Lodge delegates participated (enthusiastically) in all program areas.

Most Outstanding Arrowman Requirements

This Arrowman has shown exceptional leadership ability and potential, and also has had a role in the success of the Conclave. Specifically, the award will be presented to the Arrowman who most closely exemplifies the following:

1. Arrowman is properly groomed and wears his uniform correctly and proudly.
2. Arrowman is friendly and outgoing, helping those persons and program areas in need.
3. The level and spirit of participation has been outstanding.
4. The Arrowman has made a large contribution to the success of the Conclave.

The Most Outstanding Arrowman Award recipient is selected through consultation of the Section and Lodge Advisers, and all other individuals from whom advice is sought.

Most Cheerful Arrowman Requirements

This is awarded to an Arrowman who has shown exceptional cheerfulness and spirit during the conclave. Specifically, the award will be presented to the Arrowman who most closely exemplifies the following:

1. Promotes theme of the Conclave
2. Maintains cheerful spirit even in the midst of irksome tasks and weighty responsibilities.
3. Cooperates with and helps various members and staff groups at the Conclave to successfully carry out their responsibilities

The Most Cheerful Spirit Award recipient is selected through consultation of the Section and Lodge Advisers, and all other individuals from whom advice is sought.

The Lodge Spirit Award

This is awarded to the Lodge that has shown great enthusiasm and team unity during the conclave. Specifically, the Lodge spirit award will go to the lodge which best exemplifies these requirements:

1. Brings the largest number percentage wise of participants to the Conclave.
2. Promotes the theme of the Conclave as well as shows good team unity and enthusiasm.

The Lodge Spirit Award recipient is selected through consultation of the Section and Lodge Advisers, and all other individuals from whom advice is sought.

SUGGESTED OBJECTIVES FOR QUALITY LODGE RECOGNITION

- A. In addition to contributions made in item 9, the lodge made a minimum contribution of \$1000 to the council's endowment fund.
- B. The lodge published a Where to Go Camping pamphlet, CD, or information on the lodge or council website which has been updated within the last three years.
- C. Each ceremony team member memorized his part and each ceremony was presented in an effective and impressive manner in accordance with the official ceremony books and the *Guide to Inductions*.
- D. The lodge Key 3 met at least six times during the year to discuss the progress of the lodge.
- E. The lodge provided manpower, resources, and/or program assistance in support of the Scout council's Cub Scout outdoor program and Webelos transition to Boy Scouts.
- F. Within the last two years, two youth attended a National Leadership Seminar and completed their contracts, and one adult attended a National Lodge Adviser Training Seminar and completed the required discussion with the council Scout executive.
- G. The lodge created a plan to serve the OA Scoutreach Mentoring Program. The plan was approved by the council Scout executive or the council Scoutreach committee and was included in the lodge annual report.
- H. The lodge produced and distributed (by hardcopy, email, or lodge website) a minimum of four newsletters to its members and contributed articles to the council's newsletter or website. Lodge websites conform to the council's website policies.
- I. One youth member attended a national OA high adventure program. A minimum of three youth and two adult members attended the section conclave. At least five lodge members participated in *ArrowCorps*⁵.



OPERATIONS UPDATE

08-5

DISTRIBUTION:

- Scout Executive
- Section Chief
- National Committee
- Section Adviser
- Area Director
- Lodge Adviser

OA LodgeMaster System

Over the last three years the national Order of the Arrow committee has been developing an integrated membership management system to support council OA operations. Called OA LodgeMaster, the system is now up and running in more than 195 councils. The latest status of the council rollout can be followed by going to: www.oalodgemaster.org and following the link at the end of "Current Version". The migration status is shown for all 302 councils having Order of the Arrow organizations.

On February 1, 2008, OA LodgeMaster Desktop, version 1.1.1, was released. It added a number of fixes and enhancements to the previous release:

- A new database engine,
- Full multi-user security,
- Windows Vista support, and
- An improved install process.

Version 1.1.2 was released on April 25. This latest release includes new functionality and other enhancements along with a number of additional fixes.

Feedback on the system has been very positive. Some comments have been received that a few council Scout executives have denied the Order of the Arrow the use of the OA LodgeMaster System because they did not consider it to be a nationally sanctioned effort. This is not correct.

The OA LodgeMaster System was developed by the national Order of the Arrow committee and OA members around the country. It has been fully supported and funded by the Order of the Arrow and will continue to be so. Complete security and privacy protection is provided from the appointment of the administrator to the management of each transaction. It was never intended that the data entry and maintenance tasks would be placed on the already overburdened council office staff. OA members can and should do this.

To get your council set up to use the OA LodgeMaster System, go to www.oalodgemaster.org to learn more about the process. And remember, it's free!

OA Membership Verification

In March 2005 the national OA committee announced the availability of a new ScoutNet process to verify the BSA registration of dues-paid OA members. The new capability was distributed to all councils in the February 2005 ScoutNet production release. Complete details of how to use the process were included with the announcement.

The OA Membership Verification process needs to be run several times during each calendar year. Councils renew unit and district charters at different times throughout the year to balance registration workloads. Therefore the BSA registration status of OA members will change each time a unit/district charter renewal is processed. It is important to remember that all OA members must be registered in some way in the BSA. Without BSA registration they cannot be OA members and cannot be counted or recognized in the Order.

Updated Literature

New editions of the *Order of the Arrow Guide for Officers and Advisers (GOA)* and the *Field Operations Guide (FOG)* are available for download and printing at the OA Website: <http://www.oa-bsa.org>. The new FOG contains an updated national OA committee organizational description and a revised Appendix 3 – Ceremony Team Evaluation. The appendix has been revised to require team members to wear their current OA sashes with their American Indian regalia; not to wear wigs or parts of the flag; and to provide guidance on wearing shorts, T-shirts, socks, and appropriate footwear. A statement has also been added that the BSA policy regarding weapons must be followed by ceremonialists.

The new GOA lists the new national chiefs and vice chiefs since the 2006 edition; updates the national OA committee organizational description; adds the themes and attendance at NOAC 2006 and NCLS 2007; adds *ArrowCorps*⁵; adds references to the *OA Lodge Finance Manual*; updates the Quality Lodge Recognition Petition; specifies that chapter officers will be a chief, a vice chief, and a secretary; corrects a number of chapter organizational and role issues on page 16; states that chapters are not permitted to have funds separate from the lodge custodian account; and affirms that Vigil Honor ceremonies must be conducted at the lodge level.

OA Lodge Finance Manual

The *Order of the Arrow Lodge Finance Manual* is now available for download and printing at the OA Website: <http://www.oa-bsa.org>. This is the same edition that was distributed on the *2008 Lodge Program Resource DVD*. This is a new publication which replaces the previous *Lodge Budget and Financial Records* book.

Unit Elections

Electing candidates from medium to large size troops and teams can be a challenge. The basic problem is that many Scouts, especially the older ones, don't really know the younger Scouts and are reluctant to vote for them. This can be a significant problem especially with youth who are quiet and introverted.

Noticing their low election results, a number of Scoutmasters have developed a procedure to directly address this situation. It has produced significant improvements in the election results in these units. Some Scoutmasters announce the youth's rank, number of nights of camping, and service hours as the names are read. Others include similar information on the ballot of names. Another technique is to print the individual Scouting record of each candidate, listing his name, grade, rank, number of merit badges, summer camp years, camping nights, leadership positions held, and special awards or events attended. Regardless of the procedure used, the purpose of this is to help the unit members know something about the candidates before they vote. It works and produces much better election results.

The Scoutmaster still decides the names to appear on the ballot, listing only those who have demonstrated Scout spirit and who meet the OA eligibility requirements. A Scout whose name is being withheld because of Scout spirit needs to be told why in advance. Also, some Scouts may not be interested in becoming OA members. The Scoutmaster should offer the eligible candidates the opportunity to "opt out" of being on the annual ballot prior to its printing.

Most troops and teams have found that the results should be announced immediately after the election. The benefit here is that the Scout does not have to stew over whether or not he was elected. Early announcement of results also helps ensure families plan as soon as possible to have their Scout available for the Ordeal weekend. The call out can occur later.

This procedure has been tried and tested. It produces 50 to 100% better election results and is worthy of your consideration.

OA Event, Activity and Program Promotion

It is the policy of the Order of the Arrow to promote its events, activities and programs through media that are directly controlled by the national Order of the Arrow committee or the Boy Scouts of America. Promotion through media not directly controlled by the national Order of the Arrow program or the Boy Scouts of America (i.e., Facebook, MySpace, YouTube, etc.) can create potentially damaging and uncontrolled connections with individuals, organizations, events, or activities that may not reflect the values of the Order of the Arrow and the Boy Scouts of America. Further, such promotions may also be construed or interpreted as endorsement or support of a particular medium or other organizations, events or activities which use that medium. Members of the Order of the Arrow are free to use such media when it is clear that they are doing so as individuals.

2008 National Quality Lodge

The Quality Lodge Recognition Petition for 2008 is significantly different from the petitions used in previous years. There are still ten required and five additional objectives that must be achieved to be recognized as a National Quality Lodge at the end of 2008. However, the new petition requires that the lodge Key 3 and council Scout executive jointly identify and approve the five additional objectives to be accomplished during 2008. The key phrases here are: “jointly identify”, “approve” and “during 2008”. The first two of these things need to occur very early in the calendar year if the third is going to have a chance of happening by the end of 2008. The lodge Key 3 and the Scout executive must choose three objectives from the list of nine suggested on the reverse side of the form. The last two objectives can come from the same list or they can be locally developed. Time is escaping. If you haven’t had this meeting and identified your five objectives, it’s not too late. If you wait another three months it will be more difficult to accomplish and you won’t be realizing the benefit of this new direction: to accomplish things that are important to the local council.

Quality Lodge Pins

Councils with certified Quality Lodges for 2007 are eligible to purchase pins for youth and adult members of the lodge. *Only the most recent pin awarded may be worn*, and it must be mounted against the left vertical border of the flap. The pins may be purchased for \$1.50 each from the national office.

Ordeal Ceremony Requirements

The conduct and content of the Ordeal ceremony, including the Pre-Ordeal, is spelled out in the Order of the Arrow’s *Guide to Inductions*, which may be found at the OA Website: www.oa-bsa.org/resources/pubs/. As stated on page 40: “Because the four Ordeal challenges must work together to achieve the intended effect on the candidates, it is essential that they are administered in a single 24-hour block of time: first the night alone, then the day of toil, with the silence and scant food applying to the entire period.”

The *Guide to Inductions* reflects national policy. A council may not alter the content of any of the ceremonies or the manner in which they are to be conducted any more than it can unilaterally change membership or advancement requirements for the Boy Scout program. A council’s OA organization will not qualify as a Quality Lodge if it fails to follow national policy, including policies contained in the *Guide to Inductions*.