



The Wolfcall

ISSUE 4

DECEMBER 2009

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- NYLT will be happening from December 28th to 30th and January 16th to 18th. Registration due November 15th
- The Lodge Winter Fellowship will be on February 26—28.

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High Adventure

This summer I was a member of OATC (Order of the Arrow Trail Crew) at Philmont Scout Ranch in Cimmaron, New Mexico. Philmont Scout Ranch is one of a few high adventure bases that the BSA has to offer. OATC is a conservation program with a one week hike after the conservation work week.

For those of you who don't know, Philmont is in the mountains north of Santa Fe, New Mexico. The elevation of Philmont's base camp is roughly 6,500 feet.

While on the OATC, I went through many experiences. When I arrived on July 13, 2009, I spent most of the day filling out paperwork. Finally, on July 14, we hit the trail and went out to our work site. We were over a days hike from base camp at approximately 9,000 feet elevation.

At the work site, we built trail which will connect Chandler Canyon with Ponil. The area where we worked is called Trail Canyon. There was no shade in this area because all of the trees were burnt down from the Ponil Complex fire that hit in 2002.

Our crew built about 500 yards worth of trail. We started off by clearing the path which is going to be the trails. After clearing it, we did some rough cutting into the edge of the trail to help level it out. My crew consisted of 11 participants and 2 foremen. We slept in 2 man tents during this week.

After working on the trail for a week, our crew

started our hike from the work site. From the site, we went to a staffed camp called Dean Cow where we did rock climbing. We spent the night sleeping under the stars at a special camp site that is only for OATC.

The next day we went to a place called Rich Cabins. This is also a staffed camp. On the way to Rich Cabins, we stopped by Ponil and did some branding on our hats and belts. At Rich Cabins, we did homesteading and helped build a wood fence. I milked a cow. They had a camp fire program inside the cabin that lasted until 2 in the morning!

The next day we hiked north from Rich Cabins. We hiked into Valle Vidal which is a U.S. Forest Service owned area which allows Scouts to use the land for hiking. That night we slept in tents again.

From there we went north and entered a staffed camp called Ring Place where we picked up food for the rest of our week. Later that day, we kept hiking north and were hoping to climb the mountain called Little Castilla, elevation 12,526 feet, but didn't make it all the way to the top. Instead we slept under the stars. After getting up at 4 a.m., we packed up our gear and climbed up to the peak of Little Castilla and ate our breakfast there.

We headed south from Little Castilla and refilled our low water supply near a U.S. Forest Service

Camp called Cimmaron Camp. We continued south from there and spent the night at Greenwood Camp, an unstaffed camp.

The next day we hiked south and climbed to the top of Baldy Mountain, elevation 12,441 feet, where we ate our lunch. Afterwards we climbed down hill and spent the night at a nearby nearby.

From there we went southeast to a staffed camp called Pueblano. We spent most of the day there because it was only a short 7 or 8 mile hike there. We climbed spar poles while at Pueblano and also played logger ball. Our team lost to their staff team; the staff team always has to win. We enjoyed a camp fire that night, sang many good songs and told lots of funny stories. We slept out under the stars that night and got drenched by the rain.

The next day was our last day. We hiked down to the Ponil Turn Around and waited for a bus. After riding the bus back in to base camp, got cleaned up, then rode a bus into Cimmaron and ate pizza. That night my fellow scouts and I had a banquet to commend the OA Trail Crew experience, ending our journey together. OATC was a really neat program. I would recommend it to anyone. (Please have proper foot wear and rain gear, or else you might learn the hard way like I did!)

Philip Kemp
Wo-I-Lo Chapter Chief

*“Anyone that went
can honestly say it
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*“Our Lodge had a
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NOAC

Anyone that went to NOAC (National Order of the Arrow Conference) can honestly say it was a blast. Yowlumne Lodge had 16 attend, contributing to the 7000 arrowmen there. We started out the first night with a show meant to blow the top off of the Hoosier’s Arena. It began with the procession of Lodge Flaps and later a skit about a professor and his nephew. That night the lodge went to bed exhausted. In the morning we woke up, ate a great meal and were off to classes. Although classes were optional and some people chose not to attend

any, I felt my classes were informational and helpful. The week followed a consistent pattern of classes in the morning, and shows in the evening until Founders’ Day, the day before we left. Founders’ Day began with a parade followed by team building games. In the afternoon the group collected free stuff at the Founder’s Fair. That night we watched the final show which gave us the message of NOAC, The Power of One. Along with all that cool stuff, there was “The Experience” (staffed by our own Adolph Fastnacht) which was a mini fair

where vendors from across the Nation came to show off and sell their products at discounted prices. Some of the vendors there included Leatherman Tools and Buck Knives just to name a few. Some of the other cool events were Indian dances, sport competitions, and my personal favorite patch trading. NOAC for all who attended will probably be one of the best experiences in their life. If you get the chance go to the next NOAC in the summer of 2012.

Conrad Esch
Lodge Secretary

Fall Ordeal

Our lodge had a very successful fall ordeal. Taking place at Camp Mil Potrero near the majestic Pine Mountain Club, we had a wonderful turnout of both candidates and other attendees. 34 candidates went through the ordeal to become members. 5 members from Siwinis lodge also attended, including our Section Chief, Charles Pickering. Over 30

additional arrowmen attended to help out including our fabulous ceremonies team and the cooks who prepared some fantastic food. Our efforts included cutting down tree limbs, to prevent damage to building structures and prevent fires, removing piles of plant waste by means of a wood chipper, and cleaning up the Mil Potrero mainte-

nance yard. In the evening there was a delicious feast. This was followed by some fellowship which included watching Young Frankenstein, playing cards, and playing board games. All in all it was an extraordinarily fun event for all of those who went!

Cameron Hutton
Lodge Vice Chief

Conclave

This year the lodge didn’t know quite what to expect from conclave. With a section new to us, we just weren’t sure what it was going to be like, but fortunately all was relatively similar compared to the last conclave. At this conclave there were awesome

classes, good food, and a show put on by our own lodge. There were also ceremony competitions and the midnight burrito express (ask someone who went.) Unfortunately we didn’t win any first places while there, but this year we had a presence that

spoke of a long established thriving lodge. In summary, conclave was awesome and I would recommend as many people as possible go.

Conrad Esch
Lodge Secretary

“It was questionable whether the LLD would get off of the ground, but in the end it came together as one of the best LLD’s we have had.”

“The banquet started off with some great food, “

LLD

This year it was questionable whether the LLD (Lodge Leadership Development) would get off of the ground, but in the end it came together as one of the best LLDs we have had in the past three years. The morning started with a couple games of CTF (Capture the Flag) in the park next to the Scout Hut. While this was happening, the advisers were sitting in Mr. Kolstoe’s van discussing the best type of coffee to have on a campout. After about an hour of that we began the day under a small structure in the park because of the mist and the fact that scout hut was still occupied. The opening session was a twenty minute course expressing the purpose of the LLD and sharing a bit about ourselves as a form of ice breaker. One of side events in this course was that all of the instructors traded school ID’s, the next day we found out that we never traded them back. The first course of the morning besides the opening was involving new members with Conner. The course after that was Dynamics of Leadership with Max. Following that was lunch where we had Little Caesar’s Pizza. During lunch we had a riotous and informative game of Jeopardy presented and created by myself. After lunch we had Adolph teach communications and Goal Setting, with the final class being taught by Tom on the subject of Camping Promotions. After that the group cleaned up for the Banquet.

Conrad Esch
Lodge Secretary

Banquet

The banquet started off with some great food from a local Italian place in Tehachapi which served Italian salad, Chicken Parmesan, Lasagna, Fettuccini Alfredo, and Pizza. Directly following the dinner Mr. Johnsen presented a slide show detailing all of the events that have happened in the past year. That was followed by the dozens of awards that Mr. Casperson and Adolph passed out. This was followed by a heated competition for the Lodge Officers, in the running for Lodge Chief were Cameron Hutton, Michael Griffin, and Conner Kellog, it was a heated competition, but in the end Cameron Hutton won and became Lodge Chief. For Vice Chief Conner Kellog and Max Higa ran, and in the end Max won, for the final election of the Night and probably the one of the most heated elections that night was that of Lodge Secretary. Although there was only one competitor it was a tough competition, but in the end, Conrad Esch won. The night ended with the OA song and cleanup of the area.

Conrad Esch
Lodge Secretary

Chapter Officers

Recently Wo-I-Lo and Munsee had chapter elections and elected new chapter officers. Wo-I-Lo had their elections at their chapter Christmas party on December 18th. Those elected were Philip Kemp for Chapter Chief, Drake Rutter for Chapter Vice Chief, and Nathan Esch for Chapter Secretary. Munsee had their election at one of their Chapter Meetings. Those elected were Nick Higdon for Chapter Chief, Ryan Albright for Chapter Vice Chief, and Tom Higdon for Chapter Secretary.

Munsee

Munsee Chapter Meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM at the LDS Stake Center, 1031 S Norma, Ridgecrest. It is held at the same time as Desert District Roundtable. If you have any questions contact Chapter Adviser Paul Johnsen at (760) 371-3431 for more info.

In the past months Munsee has been very active in Lodge and chapter events. We had nine youths present at Conclave where we had a blast. The

Wo-I-Lo

Wo-I-Lo Chapter meets on the 4th Thursday of the month at 6:30 PM at Rusty's Pizza on Ming and Wible, next to Target. If you have any questions contact Mr. Rod Hutton (661) 332-8500

Wo-I-Lo chapter has had some great things happening lately. Just recently, at ordeal we attained TWENTY new ordeal members! During the ordeal we

Amangi

Contact Chapter Advisor- Rob Trost at (661) 882-9419 for more information.

Amangi Chapter consists of the greater Tehachapi area. The Amangi Chapter has been inactive for a long time. With the

chapter was present at the Fall Ordeal where we performed the Ordeal ceremony and the Brotherhood ceremony, with two new arrowmen going through ordeal, and one other arrowman earning brotherhood. We also went to the LLD (Lodge Leadership Development) and Banquet where I was several of our own where instructors and one of our own was elected Vice-Chief. Finally, the Chapter will hold elections at our December Chapter meet-

also had one arrowmen attain the honor of brotherhood, congratulations! We encourage all arrowmen to attend the monthly chapter meetings, these are especially important for new arrowmen, and all OA Troop Representatives. The meetings are at Rusty's Pizza Parlor – (Near Ming Avenue, same parking lot as Target), the last Thursday

addition of 11 new ordeal members our chapter is up to 39 brothers and growing. We have had two meetings thus far, and meet on the 2nd Thursday of every month at Old Town Pizza on Tehachapi Blvd. Bring 3

ing rather than the November meeting, as to not conflict with Lodge elections. We hope that with these new events coming up, we will keep our new ordeal members interested, and hopefully get more of our members active.

Max Higa
Lodge Vice Chief

of every month. Don't forget the Chapter is always looking for new Ceremonialists if you want to dress up in cool Indian costumes, and perform or help in ceremonies for the Pre-Ordeal, or Ordeal see Michael Griffin, or Conrad Esch.

Michael Griffin
Lodge Website Manager

dollars for pizza and we will conduct business over a good meal.

Ryker Newman
Amangi Chapter Chief

Adviser's Corner

Well, here we are at the end of another successful year for Yowlumne Lodge and Southern Sierra Council. We have a new group of Lodge Leaders from our Lodge Elections in November, Congratulations to Chief Cameron Hutton, Vice Chief Max Higa, and Secretary Conrad Esch. I look forward to working with these young men in making 2010 even more successful for you and those we serve. A big thank you to former Chief Tom Higdon who led the lodge so well this past year. Thanks to all the great Advisers we have working so hard to help our youth Arrowmen lead the lodge. They, as well as I, couldn't be successful without you

As we move into the new year, let me share some statistics that led to our success. We're rechartering as a quality lodge again this year with 153 paid, registered members. That's an increase in 20 over last year, a huge jump for our size lodge. Our brotherhood conversion rate was 32%, just over the minimum 30% required. 53 Ordeal candidates passed their Ordeal and became Ordeal members. This was a good number, but was disappointingly only 51.5% of the number elected. These 53 should be new Brotherhood members by this time next year, sealing their membership in our Brotherhood. Under the leadership of Contingent Leader Rod Hutton, we took 12 youth and four adults to the National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC) in Indiana. In addition to the Lodge Contingent, Noah Mapstead and Adolph Fastnacht served as staff at NOAC. This is the largest contingent from Yowlumne to attend in recent memory. 2012, let's have 50! The theme of NOAC was the Power of One. Working with

our Brothers, Units, Churches, and Communities, you can achieve anything. We sent a large group to the first Section W4N Conclave. We ran the Show and special events and participated in every activity available during the weekend, something we have not normally been able to do because we haven't had enough Yowlumne attendees.

Think about serving your Lodge and participating in the activities we have lined up for the coming year. Winter fellowship in February, National Lodge Adviser Training (NLATS) for adults and National Leadership Seminar (NLS) in April in Irvine. This is the closest and cheapest course for adults you'll find in the Western Region. We need to act fast though and get reservations in before Jan 1st or the NLATS may not happen. Application to be coming out soon. Also in April, Camporall and Call-out. We will be playing a huge role in this year's event and will need a lot of help. Desert District Camporee at the end of April will also need our help. Spring Ordeal in June and Fall Ordeal in October always requires a lot of help from current Arrowmen to make it a success for our new members. September brings the Section conclave, a fun and educational weekend for Arrowmen that you won't want to miss. Please step up and be there to serve your Lodge, in addition to your Units. Exciting High Adventure trips available only to Arrowmen are available at Philmont and the Canadian Boundary Waters. Partial scholarships from the Lodge for these trips are available to Arrowmen who request them. The Order of the Arrow is also manning two functions at next year's 100th Anniversary Jamboree. Check out the Official National OA website for more info.

I'll close with a poem from NOAC. Please take it to heart as you move into the new year and beyond. It's up to you!

**One song can spark a moment,
One flower can wake the dream.
One tree can start a forest,
One bird can herald spring.**

**One smile begins a friendship,
One handclasp lifts a soul.
One star can guide a ship at sea,
One word can frame the goal.**

**One vote can change a nation,
One sunbeam lights a room.
One candle wipes out darkness,
One laugh will conquer gloom.**

**One step must start each journey,
One word must start each prayer.
One hope will raise our spirits,
One touch can show you care.**

**One voice can speak with wisdom,
One heart can know what's true.
One life can make the difference,
You see, it's up to you!**

In Service,

Cap

The Purpose of the Order

- To recognize those campers -- Scouts and Scouters -- who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives, and by such recognition cause other campers to conduct themselves in such manner as to warrant recognition.
- To develop and maintain camping traditions and spirit.
- To promote Scout camping, which reaches its greatest effectiveness as a part of the unit's camping program, both year-round and in the summer camp, as directed by the camping committee of the council.
- To crystallize the Scout habit of helpfulness into a life purpose of leadership in cheerful service to others.

For more
information about
our lodge visit
www.yowlumne.org

The Members of Our Staff

Editor– Conrad Esch

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And many thanks to those people that submitted stories and pictures for our newsletter.

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2010 Lodge Dues Form

Please fill out this registration form; make checks payable to BSA. In memo portion of check, write "Order of the Arrow." You may send to or drop by:

Order of the Arrow

Southern Sierra Council, BSA

2417 M Street

Bakersfield, CA. 93301

I am paying my OA dues for 2010
Dues are still \$10.00 per member

NAME(s) _____

Unit Type: _____ Unit Number: _____
(Troop or Team)

Payment of \$ _____ is enclosed

Charge our unit Account: \$ _____ *

*Only unit leaders and those authorized can charge to unit accounts.

To wear the Lodge Flap, your dues need to be paid