

The Stag

Lodge to Construct New Campsite

Sipp-O Lodge has committed to the project of constructing a new campsite at Sven Ranges. This site, to be used at summer camp this year, is located between the Scoutcraft area and Dungannon campsite. It is a beautiful clearing surrounded by trees and close to the camp entrance. At a work day in October, lodge members cleared an approach trail and filled tree holes in the new site.

There is much yet to be done. Tent platforms must be built and moved to the site. A bulletin board, tool rack and flag pole must be installed, and of course a latrine and wash stand must be built. All of this has to be completed by the beginning of summer camp.

Our first Service Day is Saturday, March 17th. Meet at the maintenance building at 9:00 A.M. ready to help out. Contact Service Chairman Rob Lake at (330) 262-2590 or E-mail: lakerrl@hotmail.com if are able to help, or if you have any special talents or materials to contribute.

Sipp-O needs a good turnout of members to accomplish this project. Service "Sipp-O Style" is fun and rewarding. **DON'T BE LEFT OUT!**

Winter Banquet

I would first like to point out that this year's Winter Banquet was very well organized and planned out by Troop 10. We are very grateful to them for hosting us this year. To all arrowmen that did not attend, you certainly missed a great evening. Aside from the dinner and dessert, we were entertained by the very talented and funny Jeff Conley. His presentation of magic and humor filled the air and a wonderful time was had by all.



Lodge Advisor's Minute — Dave Fernandez

This address is intended primarily for all scoutmasters and adult leaders whether or not they be members of the Order of the Arrow.

Would you permit a member of your troop to continue as SPL or PL who maybe only attends one or two meetings a month or how about a boy that rarely attends troop campouts?

I'd bet that the majority of you might disqualify a boy from running for an office of this magnitude unless you could secure a commitment of some sort from him. This is the exact scenario that you are creating when you permit him to wear the newly adopted troop representative patch on his uniform and not require him to attend his district meetings.

National requirements have been laid out very clearly that a troop representative:

1. Serves as a communication link between the lodge and the troop.
2. Encourages year round and resident camping in the troop.
3. Encourages older Scout participation in high adventure programs.
4. Encourages Scouts to actively participate in community service projects.
5. Assists with leadership skills training in the troop.
6. Encourages Arrowmen to assume leadership positions in the troop.
7. Encourages Arrowmen in the troop to be active participants in the lodge and to seal their membership in the Order by becoming Brotherhood members.
8. Sets a good example.
9. Enthusiastically wears the Scout uniform correctly.
10. Lives by the Scout Oath, Scout Law and OA Obligation.
11. Shows Scout spirit.

It is the plan in Sipp-o Lodge that eventually all elections will be scheduled by the troop representative in conjunction with the unit leader, thus eliminating the cumbersome "phone tag" that both you and the elections chairperson endure every year. As you already know all elections must be done by May 15th each year and I'm sure you can appreciate the need to do things just a little bit better.

I would like to appeal to you that if you are not utilizing this program now, how about giving it a chance. If you do have a troop representative that is not fulfilling his commitment, talk with him and remind him that it is at your discretion whether or not he receives credit for serving in an office.

2001 ADULT LODGE APPLICATIONS

We will be accepting adult applications for membership into Sipp-O Lodge and the Order of the Arrow beginning in January until May 15th.

I would like to remind you that acceptance into the Order of the Arrow for an adult is in no way to be considered an honor for past contributions toward BSA. Therefore when you send in an application to the council office you must be sure that the applicant is aware that he is merely volunteering for service to Sipp-O Lodge. Be careful when filling out the application that you do not use one of the old application forms which may have been floating around in your briefcase. They are easily recognizable because they will have a line after the applicant's personal information which asks you to list all of the awards the applicant has received in Scouting. If you have any of these please discard them and secure new ones from council or the election team. The new forms will require that an adult Lodge member must recommend you. The election teams have been instructed **not** to accept completed forms from you. You must deliver or mail them to the council service center no later than May 15th.

A committee reviews these applications after May 15th and scrutinizes them very closely. Two of the most common errors, which in turn can cause the applicant to be rejected, are leaving questions blank (which includes personal information) and not answering the questions entirely. For example question #4 requires that the applicant must have completed a minimum of 15 days and nights of camping including one long-term campout (summer camp) within the last two years prior to this application. Frequently on this question we get a mere "yes". What we wish to see is: summer camp 1999 & 2000; 5 troop camp outs in 1999, 6 troop camp outs in 2000. Let's make 2001 a year that we will accept all adult applications.

New T-Shirt Design Needed!

Brothers, it's that time again! Every few years Sipp-O lodge makes a new t-shirt for our members to sport, this is one of those years! This time however it's up to YOU to design it.

The Sipp-O lodge executive committee is looking for the perfect design to put on a large quantity of t-shirts. Make your design however you want, just make sure to keep it simple enough to keep its costs in the \$10-\$15 range. Designs will be accepted until March 22, at which time the executive committee will vote on the coolest design. Please make sure to submit your design before the deadline to Brandon, or it won't be voted on! Good luck!

**Please send designs to Brandon Holman at:
Sipp-O T-shirt Design Contest
1573 Hickory Lane
Wooster OH, 44691**

Spring Ordeal!

This is the last chance for the Spring Ordeal! Know some one who has been elected to be in the Order of the Arrow and has not been to an ordeal? This is their last chance to be accepted without re-election! Let them know that they must go to the Spring Ordeal. It is June 01-03. There are approximately 65 of those procrastinators out there, and we know where they live! Don't make us come and get them! **BE THERE!**

P.S. This Ordeal will have the best food in a long time! So if you want to come and help don't be shy!!

Calander of Events

Feb. 22	Executive Committee Meeting
March 17	Camp Good Turn Project
March 22	Executive Committee Meeting
June 1-3	Spring Ordeal
June 8-10	2001 Section C-5 Conclave

Just a quick reminder in reference to the selection of this year's Vigil candidates... On April 21, 2001 at the Council Service Center, The Vigil Committee will be meeting. This meeting is open to the general Vigil public. All Vigil members are welcome to come and submit nominations for the Vigil Honor.

Conclave 2001

Conclave 2001's theme is "And So Tomorrow." There will be many fun filled activities available to fulfill any kind of recreational pastime you enjoy best. We do not know all of the specifics yet, but we do know that it is June 8-10 at Camp Manitoc which is near Akron. The cost will be \$35, so get your reservation in now!!! Hope to see the whole lodge at Marnoc's home to show them just how much spirit we Sippites really have!!

Brotherhood Reminder:

This is a reminder to all arrowmen wishing to seal and strengthen their membership in the Order of the Arrow. If you have been an active member in the Order of the Arrow for 10 months, you may want to complete your brotherhood requirements. There are five main requirements to meet, all found in your handbook. They are memorizing signs of the Arrow membership, advancing in your understanding of the Ordeal, service in your unit, planning for service in you lodge, and reviewing your progress. You can receive the Brotherhood membership at the Spring Ordeal, any period during summer camp, the 2001 Conclave, or your district camporees.

Chiefly Speaking...

In my view of the world everything happens for a reason. Whether it is to motivate us, inspire us, or to remind us about something; likewise, every organization has a purpose. A big business' purpose is to make money. Religion gives us order. Scouting strives to create role models and promote community service.

In an average teenager's life he or she goes through many tough decisions. Many of those have to do with right or wrong, good or bad. As the National Honor Society of Scouting we should strive to live our lives as peer role models for all of those teens not involved in any of the Scouting movements. This means thinking before you do something.

Give respect, even if you do not think that respect is deserved. These things are easy to say but hard to do. We could all pick out one person who we really do not like. They probably do not like us either. Let's try to be a role model for them. Try to show them that you are trying to give them respect. Do this in an effort to strengthen the oath and law that we all claim to live by.

Yours in Cheerful Service,
Gregory M. Clements
Lodge Chief

District Training Review

District Training was held on January 7, 2001 at the Boy Scout Council Service Center. The event was an informative and, yet, satisfying. Assisting me were Brandon Holman and Matt Fernandez (much to my delight!), in addition to a cameo by Chris Sandrock. Every present officer was duly trained, ideas to boost meeting attendance were shared and proper election procedures were taught.

All this training is great, but it takes more than just ideas to make the district system work, it takes YOU!!! Attend your district's monthly meetings. This is a great opportunity of a leadership position if you are under 18 as well, because there is the Troop OA Representative Program. So take one evening a month to have some OA fun and meet some new friends! You won't be sorry you did!!

Arrowman Service Award

- The Order of the Arrow's vision for the future emphasizes a strategy of increased service to the Boy Scouts of America by Arrowmen. To reward those Arrowmen who go beyond their immediate responsibilities to help and guide others to new heights, the Order of the Arrow created the Arrowman Service Award.
- The award will focus on three areas of service: personal, chapter/lodge activities, and general service to the community.

Westark News

Dear fellow Westark District arrowman,

I am Kevin Kelley, the new District Chief for the Westark District. Are meetings are held the second Wednesday of every month at the Massillon Senior Civic Center (same place as Roundtable) from 7:00-8:15. I look forward to a great term this year. I ask for your help and support to make the Westark District the strongest District in our Lodge. We are now working on elections, and we need as much help as possible, so please bring other arrowman from your troop, in order for us to become brothers together in cheerful service.

Kevin Kelly

Indian Activities Training Session

Have you ever wanted to be a trail guide at an Ordeal? Would you like to help set up props with the Indian Activities team? Maybe you'd like to be a drummer or even audition for a speaking part. For all you aspiring ceremonialists out there, We're going to be holding an Indian Activities Training Session. The purpose of this will be to get ready early for the Spring Ordeal and to prepare everyone for other events as well. The session will take place sometime in April and will be open to all who are interested, so feel free to attend. The date and place will be announced in the next Stag. Let me know if you are interested in coming by calling Matt Long at 330-345-7256 or email him at mattlo@sssnet.com.

More Indian Activities - Jim Holman

Indian Activities is active indeed. We are doing a lot of work to rejuvenate the ceremonial regalia and props. The black outfits are black again instead of a strange off-gray, the beading is being repaired or replaced, the torches are being reworked so they only burn from one end, and there will be some new leggings, shirts, and other items -- we're going to have some sharp outfits for some great ceremonies this summer.

In addition to the work we're already doing, we hope some of you can help us with some new things and some old things. For new things, we'd like a nice bow for use in pre-ordeal. In the past, we've managed to borrow one, but Sipp-O deserves one of its own, so if you have such an item you'd like to donate to the cause please let Matt Long (mattlo@sssnet.com) or Jim Holman (holman.2@osu.edu) know. For old things, over the years various pieces of rarely used regalia seem to have been lost or misplaced. If you know where any of this is stored, please let us know.

Elangomat Training

Hello Arrowmen,

If you remember back to your ordeal four people probably stood out for you. The first was Kitchkinet, he took you to your beds, and stayed with you through the night. Second, was your Ordeal Master, he woke you up and took you to your breakfast. Thirdly, was your elangomat, and lastly Allowat Sakima, who performed your ceremony. Most of these positions have been filled. But I am in desperate need of elangomats. Gentlemen, these people are the backbone of our lodge. Without good elangomats, this lodge WILL fall apart. So, if you are willing to serve, and can attend a training session on a Saturday in May, email me at Allowat@neo.rr.com, or call at 330-305-9493. I may be calling on you to serve, but remember the purpose of this brotherhood; and your obligation to your brothers.

Dan Taylor

Order of the Arrow Troop Representative Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ - _____

Troop # _____

District _____

Send to:

**Sipp-O Lodge
c/o Buckeye Council, BSA
2301 13th Street N.W.,
Canton Ohio, 44708**

****Or drop off at Council Headquarters in an
envelope addressed to Sipp-O Lodge****

Winter Banquet 2002

This year, we are going to plan for the Winter Banquet long in advance. Just as we did last year, we are going to use a bidding system to determine where the winter banquet will be held. If your troop is interested in hosting next year's winter banquet, send bids to me at either RAIJIN18@aol.com or phone at 330-494-6685. Remember, your bids should account for food and use of a large facility. Let us know what facility you would like to use so that we may visit and evaluate it. Bidding starts on February 1 and ends on August 30. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me via the methods listed above.

Matt Fernandez
Vice-Chief of Activities

Meet Thom Bomba

Thom Bomba joined our illustrious lodge in the fall of 1998. Not content with Ordeal membership, he received his Brotherhood in the summer of 1999. During this period, Thom was very active on the executive committee from day one. He was the Seneca District Chief, Treasurer, and is now the Vice-Chief of Districts. Thom is also quite dedicated to Indian Activities, and once spent an entire Ordeal in face paint as wandering Kitchkinet. After the rash on his face went away, Thom swore that was the last time he'd do that. Thom has been a Life Scout for two years and will probably be 18 before he gets his driver's license. He is very active in his school. Thom is in the choir, theatre, and is the president of the drama club. He also wears more jewelry than most girls (hmm.) Thomas has also managed to procure a lady friend. Her name is Liz, and she apparently has a vision problem. One of Thom's goals is to learn all the lodge rules so that he can shoot people down in debates on lodge policy.

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Sipp-O Lodge #377 ~ Buckeye Council, BSA
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