

THE STAG

The Elogamusslt of Stpp-O Lodge #377

Fall Fellowship Time!

By Ross Miltner

Yes, it is that time again! Sipp-o Lodge's Fall Fellowship 2002 will be held **October 4-6 at Atwood Lake Park**. (When you get to Atwood, just tell 'em you are with the Scouts, and they will point you in the right direction.) The cost of the wonderful event will be only **\$12.50**. You **MUST MAKE A RESERVATION** through the council office to receive this price! Anyone showing up "at the door" must pay the late fee cost of \$20.00, so save yourself a considerable chunk of money and register early! Also, a special new option will be available this year. Anyone wishing to come down only for Saturday night (like just for dinner and the Lodge elections) is more than welcome! If you want to do this and want to come for dinner, the special cost of just Saturday dinner will be \$5.00. If you want to come Saturday night and not get dinner (like just come for the Lodge elections) that is totally FREE!

Along with some great food and the chance to camp at beautiful Atwood Lake, the weekend's fee also gets you into the Atwood Fall Festival, which will be going on all weekend as well! You will find booths, food, crafts, shows, demonstrations, music, cars, and just about anything you could want. With everything the festival has to offer, you are sure to find something you will enjoy!

Our Lodge's fall fellowship is also a very special event, because the Fall Fellowship is the time of year when our Lodge elects its new Lodge officers. The positions elected are: Lodge Chief, Administrative Vice Chief, Activities Vice Chief, Vice Chief of Districts, Membership Secretary, Recording Secretary, and Treasurer. If you are interested in any of these positions for the 2002-2003 Lodge year, come to the fellowship and run for one! (Anyone interested in running for Lodge Chief must first get the approval of the Council Scout Executive by meeting with him and obtaining a letter of recommendation). Or, if you are interested in any of the various chairman positions that will be available for the year, get a jump on the competition by coming to the fellowship and being the first on your block to ask the new Lodge Chief if you can be that lucky Arrowman.

Any of you new Lodge members out there, who are maybe getting your *Stag* for the first time and are not sure about coming to this event, all I can say is, "Come to the Fellowship!" It is the only event all year where absolutely NO WORK happens! If you say "My Ordeal was horrible I'll never go to anything OA again" don't worry. It's not like your Ordeal, there won't be any tent platforms to move, no ditches to dig, no mulch to spread or blocks of wood to whittle. Just fun, fellowship, and a good time had by all. Plus, the food will be way better than what you had at your Ordeal! If you say "None of my friends are going", come on out and make some new ones in the Lodge! If you say "I need a ride", no problem, just call one of the Lodge officers and we'll get you one! There is really no good excuse for not coming! So, whether this will be your first Lodge event since your Ordeal, or whether you're 80 and you've been coming to Lodge events since "the good old days" at Tuscazoar where you had to walk 15 miles through the snow and start a fire with two sticks with only a can of beans to eat, you CAN and WILL have a good time at the Fall Fellowship! See you there! See directions on page 5 and map on page 6.



Sipp-O Election of Officers:

Our Lodge elections for officers will be held at the Fall Fellowship as usual. We will be electing our Lodge Chief, Administrative Vice-Chief, Vice-Chief of Activities, Vice-Chief of Districts, Membership Secretary, Recording Secretary, and Treasurer. Candidates for all offices must be present to be nominated, and candidates for Lodge Chief must arrange a meeting with our Supreme Chief of the Fire, Mr. Johnson, prior to the Fellowship. These seven officers form the Business Committee of the Lodge. Later, the newly elected Lodge Chief and his fellow officers, with consultation with the Lodge Advisors, will select committee chairmen for the many committees that make the Lodge function. Nominations will be taken after breakfast on Saturday, after lunch on Saturday, and immediately prior to the election Saturday night at 7pm. All candidates and members casting a vote must be members in good standing (dues paid), candidates must be under 21 by the end of their term, and once the election starts, no new arrivals may enter the voting area.

Contrary to popular opinion, NOAC didn't really mean "No A/C", but the warm weather didn't stop the enthusiasm especially after a visit to Wal-Mart for a van-load of window fans. For those who missed the event, you missed a good one. Preparations are already underway for NOAC 2004 at Iowa State University, so start planning for the event of the year.



NOAC Recap



A full contingent of eighteen Sippites invaded the Indiana University campus along with 7,300 Arrowmen from other lesser lodges for a great week of training, games, sports, shows, exhibits and just plain fun. We also had six members on staff for the almost week long event.

The Stag
 A publication of Sipp-O Lodge #377
 Philip Oyer Editor in Chief
 Brandon Holman.....Lodge Chief
 Jim Holman.....Lodge Advisor
 Dan WagnerStaff Advisor

☺
 You know you have reached middle age
 when weight lifting consists of just standing
 up.

Fall Ordeal Recap & Words for New Members

By Ross Miltner, Activities Vice Chief

Shaky weather and lots of work projects could not break Sipp-O Spirit as our 2002 Fall Fellowship went off almost without a hitch! The event was held August 23-25 at Camp McKinley, where we inducted almost 100 new members into our Lodge and into the Order of the Arrow.

Since our Ordeals are normally held at Seven Ranges Scout Reservation, it was refreshing (and sometimes a little challenging) to work at Camp McKinley. Few of our members were familiar with the layout of the camp, but we found our way to where we needed to be eventually and all had a good time. Our work clans contributed some invaluable service to the camp, including painting, landscaping, carpentry, and some ordeal classics: ditch diggin' and stump pullin'. Although bad weather forced our Friday night Pre-ordeal ceremony indoors, the weather cleared by Saturday night and our Ordeal and Brotherhood ceremonies were held out in the woods where they belong.

I would like to extend a special "Thank You" to many of our members from the Sandy Beaver district, who put in many hours of hard work planning for and making ready sites to hold our ceremonies. They also put in many man-hours during the ordeal doing just about everything there was to do. Thanks, guys, your cheerful service went way above and beyond the call of duty and it is greatly appreciated!

I would also like to thank all of the other members-both youth and adult-for all the hard work everybody put into that weekend. Thanks to the Ceremonialists for the ceremonies, the elangomats for the work projects, the cooks for the eats, and the adults for...hmm, um, well, thanks for coming. Our members really proved that weekend that "He alone is worthy to wear the Arrow who will continue to serve his fellow man."

Finally, and last but certainly not least, I would like to congratulate all of our almost 100 new members on your completion of your Ordeal. You have become members of a Nation-wide organization which is proud to bear the title of "Scouting's National Honor Society." But, better yet, you're now members of Sipp-o Lodge, one of the *best* lodges in the Country. I sincerely hope that many of you will not simply take your flap and your sash and walk away, never to be seen again. You will find that the OA has amazing opportunities to offer any scout, you just have to want to take that first step. Now that you're a brand new member, come to a Lodge event learn more about your new organization which you worked so hard to join. You will make new friends, have great times, and maybe do things you never thought you ever would. Don't be afraid to get involved! Just because no one from your troop may be involved, or because you don't know anyone yet doesn't mean you won't have a good time. Every active member in the Lodge now had a first event where they didn't know anybody, too. It just takes that first step, and I bet that's all it will take before you'll be signing up for other events and getting your Brotherhood membership, which is something I urge you all to do once 10 months have passed!

The Order of the Arrow can also be a great opportunity for older scouts who have "outgrown" their troops but want to stay active in scouting, because you remain a youth in OA until age 21, not 18. The OA can even offer you opportunities for leadership, travel, fellowship, ceremony acting, national events and even great OA-member-only deals on Philmont and Northern Tier. You will get everything back that you put into OA and more, but you can't start until you get active, so what are you waiting for?

NOAC 2002



Directions to the Fall Fellowship campsite:

The Fall Fellowship will be in the "primitive" (this means bring your own tent) camping area at Atwood Lake Park on the North-West side of the lake. The Park is reached from Ohio highway 212 (the same one that goes by Tuscazoar) by turning East onto Atwood Lake Rd (see map on page 6) and traveling to the gatehouse at the entry to the park. Tell the attendants that you are with the Boy Scout OA group and they will let you enter without a fee. The primitive area is on the main camp road. You will pass several parking, cabin, camper areas and start through a wooded area. The primitive area is down a road to the right (we'll have a Sipp-O sign out so you can't miss it).

Fall Fellowship

Our annual Fall Fellowship (ALL fun, NO work) will be held at Atwood Lake Park October 4-6 (see directions above and a map on page 6). This is in concert with the annual Atwood Lake Fall Festival. There will be Indian Powwows, historical re-enactments, a car show, antique equipment show, arts/crafts show, "haunted" hayride, food stands, craft stands, "weird" stands, live entertainment...just more fun things than you can deal with in an ordinary weekend.

The program for the weekend will be the festival. For a mere \$12.50, you get to camp with your OA buddies for two nights, enjoy our cracker-barrels (we're talking

BARRELS of CRACKERS (and stuff to put on them), Sipp-O food, and the festival itself. This is "primitive" camping, so bring your own tents and sleeping bags; we provide the pine cones, acorns, ruts, tree roots and other things to go underneath. Make SURE you pre-register by mailing in the reservation form or calling the Council office by Thursday, October 3--cost at the door is \$20 for those not pre-registered. If you plan to attend the election only, there is no charge, but you must be there by 7pm on Saturday and may not eat, camp, or participate in the festival activities.

For the full program, plan on arriving Friday night. You can set up your tents, fellowship with your buddies, and take part in our opening cracker-barrel. Saturday morning will be breakfast, nomination for Lodge officers, and the festival. We'll fix lunch, re-open nominations and spend the afternoon at the festival. After dinner, Sipp-O style, we'll finish the elections for officers and have a first meeting of the new Executive Committee. Early decisions will be made for committee assignments, so if you are interested in being involved on the Executive Committee next year, either be there, or let us know of your interest in committee work.

We will end the "official" fellowship after breakfast on Sunday. However, you are free to enjoy the rest of the weekend at the festival. Perhaps your family could come down to pick you up and spend the rest of the day there with thousands of others.



Sipp-O Lodge #377
2002

Please mail completed form, along with your check before Thursday, October 3 to:

Buckeye Council, BSA
2301 13th Street, NW
Canton, Ohio 44708

Troop _____

District _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Fall Fellowship -- \$12.50 per person (or \$20.00 at the gate)
Saturday Supper only \$5.00

_____ x \$12.50 = _____

_____ x 5.00 = _____
(Number attending)

Dues for Year 2002 -- \$7

_____ x \$ 7.00 = _____

Chiefly Speaking

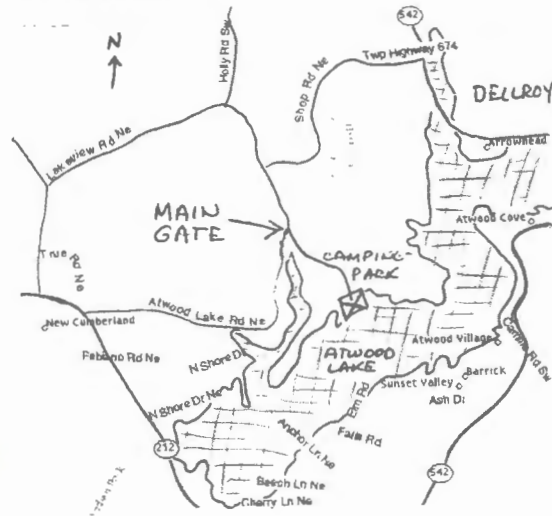
Brandon Holman

Brothers,

As the 2001-2002 Lodge year draws to a close, it is only right that before we close the year and install new officers that we look back on the year we've had. Our election numbers were up, our attendance numbers were up, and our new membership was up. We sent a great contingent to the National Order of the Arrow Conference and brought back a lot of great new ideas.

We had a lot of new people get active in the Lodge by way of the Lodge Executive Committee and Indian Activities Committee. We sold out of our NOAC flaps and made a lot of money to put towards further Lodge and Council camping improvements.

If you look back at it, it looks to me like we had a pretty good year in Sipp-O Lodge. Not only that, we had a lot of fun along the way. I can only hope that next year's Executive Committee can work as hard and get as much done as we did this year. But I'm not worried, I have seen the future, and it doesn't look too bad at all.



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THE STAG



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Sipp-O Lodge #377
Buckeye Council, BSA
2301 13th Street, NW
Canton, OH 44708