



Sipp-O Lodge's distinctive "calling-out" ceremony



Ordeal work detail of members and candidates

## CHAPTER ELEVEN - The Order of the Arrow, Brotherhood of Cheerful Service

The Order of the Arrow was founded during the summer of 1915 at Treasure Island, the Philadelphia Scout Camp. Dr. E. Urner Goodman was Camp Director and Carroll A. Edson his assistant. These two men, working with their staff at Treasure Island, originated the ideas that became the basis of the National Brotherhood of Honor Campers of the Boy Scouts of America. Edson served in professional scouting for a number of years, then entered public service work in New York State. Goodman served Scouting professionally for many years and retired from the National Staff.

The ceremonies of the Order of the Arrow are based upon an American Indian tradition and emphasize the order's three basic ideals of Brotherhood, Cheerfulness, and Service. The organization is run by young men under 21 years of age with the guidance of adult advisors.

In 1917, the Order spread to other scout councils. A national convention was held in 1921, in Philadelphia. The Boy Scouts of America adopted the Order as an official program experiment in 1922. In 1934, the National Council made the Order an official Scout program. In 1948, the National Executive Board completely integrated the Order of the Arrow into the national program with National Staff supervision.

In the course of its history, the Order has inducted over 1 million Scouts, Explorers, and Scouters into its ranks. Today there are more than 200,000 active members. The Order of the Arrow continues to add color, enthusiasm and quality to the camping program of scouting.

Local Councils are entitled to form local lodges. Canton never had an Order of the Arrow Lodge but Massillon did. Following the merger of the two councils in 1958, the new merged council retained the lodge. The Buckeye Council local lodge is known as Sipp-O Lodge and has a stag's head as its emblem. Sipp-O Lodge was officially chartered in January, 1948. The lodge's first members were inducted in the summer of 1947 by the ritual team from Marnoc Lodge of the Akron Area Council.

The story actually begins much earlier. In December, 1943, Mr. C. Stuart Rila, an Executive of the Central Ohio Council at Columbus, requested complete information in the Order of the Arrow from H. Lloyd Nelson, then National OA Chief. Mr. Rila had earlier, on August 19 and 20, 1943, been inducted into the Katinonkwat Lodge in Columbus. At that time, attainment of Brotherhood Honor, the second stage of membership, required a major service project. In June of 1944, Mr. Rila came to Massillon as Council Scout Executive. His Brotherhood project was to form an Order of the Arrow Lodge in the Massillon Area Council. With this commitment, he returned to Columbus late in 1944 to receive his Brotherhood.

The lodge was not chartered at this time, since certain complications intervened. Largely due to the fact

that the council's Summer Camp, Anakoma Wakewa, was only leased and intensive efforts were underway to find a more permanent, scout-owned campsite, these efforts took precedence over the chartering of a lodge. Camp Buckeye was purchased and began operations on a limited basis in 1946. With the camp problem solved, efforts again focused on the formation of an OA Lodge.

In a letter dated February 27, 1947, Mr. Rila again took up the matter of a charter with the National Lodge. Mr. Rila and his son, Clint, were the only Order members in the Council at that time. The problem of an induction was solved by the Marnoc Lodge Ceremonial team during the summer of 1947, when Sipp-O Lodge inducted its charter members.

That first ceremony took place in the newly constructed ceremonial ring in the northeast end of Camp Buckeye. The records of the charter members are today lost, but certainly among the group were Mr. Rila, Clint Rila, Jim Rila, Chuck Edwards, Dan Marchand, Dan Hoverland, Richard Bond, Paul Trubey, and John Shaw. Charter officers were Jim Rila as chief, John Shaw as secretary and Dan Marchand as treasurer. Paul Trubey and Charles Edwards served as first Lodge Advisors and Marcell LeClair, Post 1 Advisor acted as advisor on matters relating to Indian Lore. Most of the charter members and those of the next several years were taken from the Camp Buckeye staff and Explorer Post 1, sponsored by the Massillon Elks. The post specialty of Post 1 was Indian lore and its members were drawn from the older scouts of each of the Massillon troops. The nucleus group of the lodge numbered just about a handful and remained small for several years.

The lodge name was chosen for a tribe of peaceful Delaware Indians known to have lived near the crossroads community of Sippo, just west of Massillon, where Wooster Street and Manchester Road intersect near Tuslaw High School. The earliest official lodge meeting on record is November 5, 1947. Official application for a charter was made by Mr. Rila on December 13, 1947. The National Office notified Mr. Rila on January 12, 1948, that a charter had been granted and the number 377 was assigned.

In the early years membership was very small, but active. The first service activity outside camp was undertaken in 1948, when lodge members served as guards at the Massillon Picnic. In 1950, Chief Shaw participated in the National Conference at Bloomington, Indiana. John thus started a tradition of active participation by lodge members in national training events.

The first years of the lodge were so tenuous that it was reorganized on October 27, 1951, at Camp Buckeye. Present were Mr. Rila, Vince Stasavich, Ronnie Potts, Jack Pettit, Don Boerner, and Chuck Edwards. Up to that point a total of only 82 members had been either charter or inducted members. The situation was much improved after the meeting.

In August, 1952, Vince Stasavich, Don Boerner, and Ronnie Potts attended the National Conference at





Order of the Arrow founding fathers Col. Carroll A. Edson and Dr. E. Uner Goodman

Miami University at Oxford, Ohio. This group put their newly-acquired knowledge to use by coming to the core of the Lodge leadership for the next several years.

In December, 1952, lodge leadership met with Mar-noc Lodge to plan a 1953 Area Conference. May 17, 1953 marked the first Area Conference that Sipp-O Lodge took part in. Vince Strasavich led a session on lodge administration. The lodge's first brotherhood members were inducted at that conference at Akron's Camp Manatoc. They in turn, were Sipp-O's first brotherhood team and held the lodge's own first Brotherhood Ceremony later that year at Camp Buckeye. The first team was Vince Strasavich, Tim Simon, Lloyd Froelich, Ronnie Potts, and Don Boerner.

Early service to Camp Buckeye included assisting in the construction of the swimming pool, showerhouse and Hunsinger Lodge, the planting of thousands of pine seedlings, the setup and storage of camp equipment, and numerous other services.

The lodge's totem of the stag was first displayed on a pocket patch designed by Ronnie Potts and manufactured in January, 1956. The emblem featured a youthful deer with growing antler spikes. The design was fitfully representative of the Lodge's growing pains to that point. Also, in 1956, Mr. Riia was the first member of Sipp-O lodge to be elevated to the Vigil Honor (the Vigil is the highest Honor of the Order of the Arrow). He was inducted at the 1956 Area 4A Conference.

At the 1956 Area Conference at Camp Chicagami, Tapawingo Lodge's Camp (Warren), Sipp-O Lodge committed itself to hosting the 1957 Conference at Camp Buckeye. The Area 4A Conference was held June 14, 15, and 16. Sipp-O was responsible for the program booklet, meal programs, finances, publicity, and all physical arrangements. Each lodge brought along informative displays. The conference was on Indian lore, costuming, and ceremonies. A Brotherhood and Vigil Ceremony were also performed. The conference was a great success and marked Sipp-O Lodge's passage into maturity.

Meanwhile, the representation of the stag on the 1956 lodge patch was redesigned by Roger Vincent in 1957, and remained the proud symbol of the lodge until its 30th Anniversary. The youthful spikes of the first stag had grown into a full rack and symbolized the new maturity of the lodge.

The extremely small size of the lodge during its early period, only once having over 100 members, meant that the service the lodge could perform was limited. It was probably at its maximum strength for that period due to the Massillon-Buckeye Council's small size. With the Buckeye-McKinley merger, the potential membership was increased many times and the opportunities to do further service grew proportionally. In 1959, membership increased 25% over the 1958 level. In 1961, it tripled and in 1962, it doubled again. In the mid-60's it leveled off at about 625, but by 1969 had reached 1200.

In 1959, the traditional Father-Son Christmas Ban-

quet was begun and became an annual event. About 300 members and fathers and/or sons of the members gather for a hearty meal, a lively program, and an evening of enjoyable fellowship.

In 1962, Sipp-O again hosted an Area 4A Conclave. The Area Chief, Area Advisor, and Area Professional Advisor were all Sipp-O members. The theme was "Gather the Clan" and Sipp-O gathered 56 of its own clan at the conclave. Sipp-O Lodge demonstrated their by-now famous Calling Out Ceremony to announce the candidacy of newly elected members. The conclave necessitated the lodge, for the first time, to have a detailed organization. A youth and advisor team was utilized for finance, program, registration, service, physical arrangements, and the program booklet. Chief Deaver was a special guest speaker and Ken Oberlin's Senior Scout Indian dancers provided entertainment.

In 1964, Chuck Edwards retired as Lodge Advisor and Bob Carmany took over. The Spring Fellowship of 1965 replaced the workdays of previous years. Leonard Hegnauer assumed the duties of printing the newsletter and the Stag was thereafter printed on a regular basis. An attractive metal neckerchief slide was also introduced in 1965.

At the 1966 40 Conference (the area structure was reorganized that year and Sipp-O became part of area 40), Sipp-O's Indian dancers were a sensation as was the demonstration Calling Out. The lodge held a session on camp promotion techniques. The lodge was well represented by 30 members at this conclave. At the 1967 conclave, the lodge led a session on lodge service projects. Bob Bauman and Chip Balough led sessions at the 1968 Conclave. Also in 1968, 20 brothers gave service to the camps at the Spring Fellowship, 144 served at the Ox Roast, and a number of Arrowmen planted trees at Tuscazoar at the November Fall Fellowship.

New woodlands style beaded ceremonial costumes were a highlight of 1969. The Fellowships of past years were changed with the 1969 Fall Fellowship to a program affair with the theme of "Pathways of Service" and an emphasis on Indian activities, lodge administration, and the lodge committee system. The Spring Fellowship was returned to workdays as needed. A songbook for troop use was written by Ray Capp and was made available by the lodge. The 1970 Fall Fellowship was a Father-Son affair and featured a theme of "And Who Will Serve?"

Sipp-O again hosted the Area Conclave in 1971. Bob Bauman served as Area Chief. The theme of "And Who Will Serve?" was again put to use. Sipp-O, in addition to normal hosting duties, had a fantastic session on Indian lore led by Sipp-O's own resident expert on American Indians, Ross Davidson. Ross also wrote a great source manual on Indian costuming as part of the conclave program booklet. Special guests were David Boshea, National Executive Secretary of the Order of the Arrow and L. George Feil, Chairman of the National Committee.

The 1971 Fellowship theme was "Aim High, Serve

All". That year the Killbuck Chapter was formed as an experiment and the 25th Anniversary celebration was kicked off at the Christmas Banquet, continuing through 1972. That year the Fellowship was hosted by the Killbuck Chapter and centered on photography. A committee to improve lodge operations (CILO) was formed and a TV Stamp drive was launched to purchase camp equipment.

Lodge membership peaked in 1973 with 1262 members reported on the lodge charter application. Thereafter the decreased Scout membership figures caught up with the lodge and a change in charter procedures reduced lodge membership to approximately 800, around which point it has fluctuated ever since. The reduced membership led the lodge to experiment with alternative solutions to its challenges.

With the massive reorganization of the entire scouting program in 1973, the Order of the Arrow also changed its structure. The old area structure was scrapped and a more effective section structure was designed. Youth members were given more responsibilities under the new Section Plan. The biennial National Conference was put more actively under youth leadership and the National Chief and Vice Chief were now truly the National Officers of the order and not just National Conference officials. Provisions were made for Regional Chiefs and Advisors. The order now had an effective communications system through section, region, and national youth members of the regional and national OA committees and youth members of the National BSA Executive/Board.

Sipp-O Lodge was active in the transition from area to section with Kirk Albrecht and Darrell Conkle being the lodge representatives at the Section Organizational Meeting. The first Section Conclave took place that fall at Lisbon's Camp McKinley. The Sipp-O delegation was 18 strong and the lodge put on an excellent session on lodge program led by Dan O'Loughlin. Kirk Albrecht was elected Section Vice Chief and Sipp-O volunteered to host the 1974 Conclave. Albrecht represented Northeast Ohio at the East Central Regional OA Meeting the following weekend.

On the local scene, CILO did research and presented its findings to the Lodge Executive Committee. The Committee acted favorably on most of the CILO suggestions: all restrictions on the sale of lodge emblems was lifted, a jacket emblem was designed, Brotherhood and Vigil patches were approved on an experimental basis, the Killbuck Chapter experiment was terminated, and the Towpath Trail was assumed as a permanent service project. CILO also did preliminary work on an updated set of lodge local rules, the lodge's constitution. With its work finished, CILO was disbanded and its duties were assigned to various regular lodge operating committees including the newly-formed Trail Committee. The Executive Committee also accepted a report presented by the National Conference delegates Joe Velovitch and Kirk Albrecht.

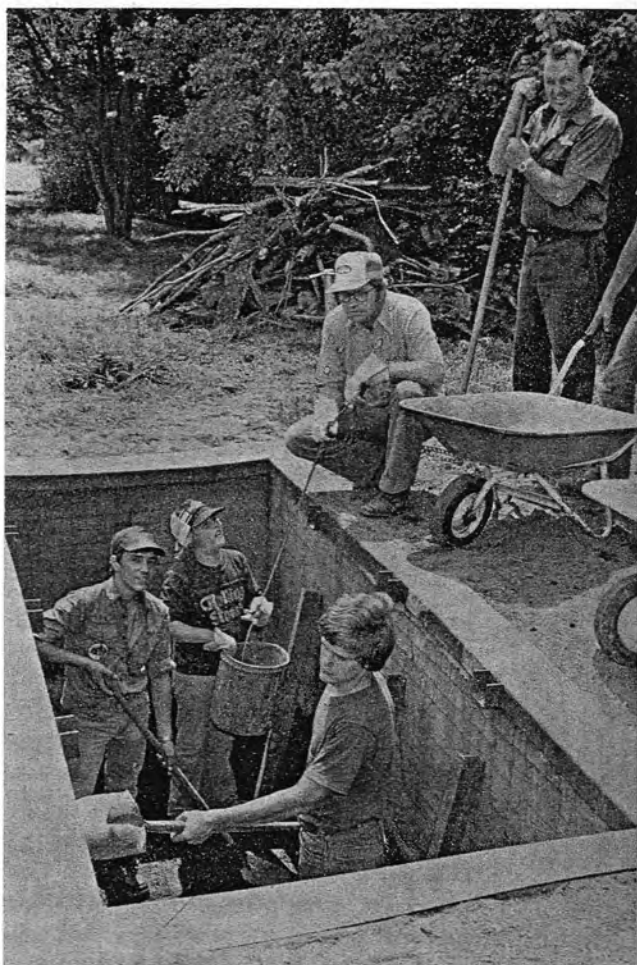
Sipp-O's hosting of the 1974 Conclave was a resounding success. The Lodge was effectively repre-

sented by 41 delegates. In addition to the hosting duties, Sipp-O presented an impressive Indian ceremonial opening which was highlighted by a modernistic version of the Order of the Arrow Legend. A singalong with Massillon Explorer Post 505 was enthusiastically received. Productive training sessions were culminated by Dr. Robert Gray's "Campfire with Baden-Powell". In the Section Meeting the next morning, Albrecht was elected Section Chief.

Lodge Officer Training was separated from the conclave program earlier in 1974 with a Section-sponsored Lodge Officer Training Conference where Albrecht and O'Loughlin led sessions.

The 1974 Fall Fellowship was an enjoyable affair emphasizing backwoods skills and field sports. A Brotherhood was held, the first since the lodge dropped its mandatory service hours requirement. That fall, Post 377 was chartered with the lodge as its sponsor. The post developed a computerized system for lodge membership records. Other lodges had computer systems in use, but Sipp-O's was the most advanced, and was maintained by youth lodge members. McCurdy, Inc. provided the facilities with George Leatherman as Advisor. Later, the post moved to Superior Dairy's computer facilities.

The 1975 Section Lodge Officer Training Session was hosted by Sipp-O Lodge at Brunnerdale Seminary.

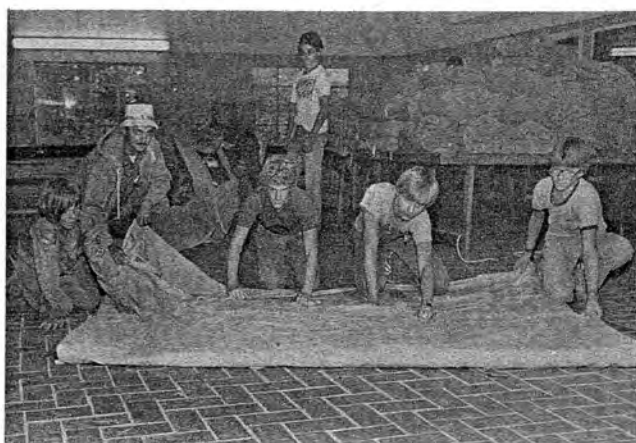


Candidates and members cleaning the Ox Roast pit





Typical O.A. work projects — conservation and camp clean-up



and luncheon was served at Massillon's Five Oaks Mansion. O'Loughlin led a session for Lodge Chiefs and Albrecht the session for Vice Chiefs. Sipp-O was well represented at the conclave in May with 25 delegates. The lodge's session concerned the future of scouting and the Order.

1975 was an especially active year for the lodge. New Brotherhood Calling-Out ceremonies were designed. The Chief's Award was begun retroactive to 1974. The lodge assembled the Council's sustaining member enrollment mailing. Work was completed on a new camp promotion slide show and a Special Proj-



1978 Lodge Officers

ects Committee was formed to investigate long-term service programs. The Council Camping Committee adopted a Council High Adventure Canoeing Program as a result of the Special Projects Committee recommendations. The Towpath Trail was expanded, a brochure produced, and a patch made available. The Stag was now being addressed by computer labels. The tradition of an annual Vigil Reunion Dinner at the Vigil Induction was instituted. The Fall Fellowship centered on Indian Lore and America's Bicentennial.

At the 1975 Fall Fellowship important changes in lodge operations were installed by ratification of a new set of Lodge Local Rules which replaced the old Lodge Constitution. The rules allowed for more adaptability and were much less restrictive. The major change was

the approval of a Service Area Plan of operations. Service Areas were set up along the Council's District organization as a system of communication. Each is headed by a young man under 21 years of age as a Service Area Coordinator, who is a voting member of the Lodge Executive Committee. He is appointed by the Lodge Chief and is responsible to the Vice Chief in charge of Service Areas. He is supplied with an Advisor appointed by the Lodge Advisor. Together they attend all their District Roundtables and recruit from the troop members for the Lodge operating committees, especially Camp Promotions and Unit Elections.

In the Bicentennial year, Sipp-O Lodge was granted a National Standard Lodge Charter culminating a long-range program of lodge operational improvement. In February, Kirk Albrecht was on the staff of the first OA National Leadership Seminar, in Illinois, and Chris Andrews was a participant. That same weekend, the lodge hosted the Section Lodge Officer Training Course at Massillon Five Oaks. The lodge provided a service corp for the Council Recognition Dinner. Each scoutmaster received a Sipp-O Lodge Camp Songbook as a gesture of camp promotion. Sipp-O led discussion sessions on the Ten Cardinal Principles of Induction Enrichment at the Bicentennial Conclave.

Albrecht was appointed Course Coordinator of the first interregional National Leadership Seminar and Sipp-O Lodge was represented by Dave Herritt, Jim Cassler, Greg Mohler, Brad Bowersox, and Skip Verilli.

At the 1977 Conclave at Camp Chicagami, in Warren, Greg Mohler led a session on Ordeal Master Training and Albrecht led one on Administration of the Vigil.

Greg Browning chaired the 1977 Fall Fellowship which proved to be one of the most successful in lodge history. Time was spent carefully examining the adoption of Induction Enrichment methods for Sipp-O Lodge. A version of the new pre-Ordeal was field tested and it was decided that Sipp-O would use it. A special rededication ceremony was performed that evening.

The year 1977 culminated with the celebration of Sipp-O's 30th Anniversary. A special patch and a banquet with the lodge founder as guest speaker high-

lighted the lodge's proud history and its exciting opportunities for further service. The new patch proved so popular that it was slightly redesigned to be the new standard lodge emblem.

In the several years following the 30th Anniversary celebration, lodge leadership steered the organization into different areas of emphasis. Traditional lodge service involvements were streamlined so lodge manpower could be more effectively utilized. Two major service accomplishments were added to the lodge's list of successes. Hoover Lodge was remodeled to be used as a training and storage facility and a new service and storage building was constructed near the Tuscazoar camp entrance with lodge assistance. The new member induction process was beefed up by utilizing the Induction Enrichment Program and its "clan system," leading to a much more meaningful introduction to Arrow membership for many new candidates. Improvements in the Vigil selection, induction and reunion has made the annual Vigil Weekend a much anticipated event for all Lodge Vigils.





Administratively, the post-1977 years have seen a reorganization of lodge energies. The Local Rules were fine-tuned through several amendments to ease administrative burdens and to more effectively accomplish lodge objectives. The composition of the youth leadership and adult advisors experienced significant changes. Many older members, who had taken a back seat in recently-passed years, were rejuvenated and their wealth of experiences and know-how was banked

for lodge use. The newly-ripened crop of youth leaders continues to draw the infurest from this investment by senior Arrowmen. Another investment reached maturation when Jon Roethlisberger was elected Section Chief for 1980, thus becoming the fourth Sipp-Q member to serve in such a position. Sipp-Q Lodge won the honor of hosting the 1982 Section Conclave which will be one of the most rewarding challenges the new lodge leadership will tackle in the near future.



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7. Chapter Eleven should have two noteworthy additions. First, special credit should be accorded Ray Forney who served as Killbuck Chapter Adviser, and Dan Q'Loughlin and Doug Thompson, Jr., who served as Chapter Chief and Chapter Vice-Chief respectively. The Killbuck Chapter experience was very valuable to Sipp-O Lodge and served as the basis for our current "Service Area" concept. The second addition concerns the phenomenal success of the 1982 5-8 Conclave which was hosted by SiP-O Lodge at Camp Tuscazoar.

Two hundred forty Arrowmen from accross Northeast Ohio sampled the best conclave Section 5-B has ever witnessed. From Bagpipe Retreat Ceremony-to an on-site Conference Newsletter to the Sipp-ORendezvous complete with the Wood Brothers Bluegrass Band, root beet and peanut shells on the floor. Seventy-five Sipp-O members participated. Special guest, National Orderof the Arrow Committee Chairman, Tom McBride, stated he had never had more fun at a conclave than at the 1982 5-B gathering.

8. Chapter Twelve requires several corrections: Under Council Citation, "Loren Sousers" should read "Loren Souers"; on the same page under Veteran Scouters, William C. Moorhead's name should be properly spelled "Mooltlead"; in the list of McKinley Area Council Field Scout Executives, Alfred Hartman's name should not have an "S" included; Cecil Moorhead should be listed as the 1938 Camp Tuscazoar Camp Director; the Camp Buckeye Staff list should reflect Greg Browning's tenure to include 1978; the Camp Tuscazoar Staff List should include Charles Mills' service in 1924, W. Cecil Moorhead's service from 1927 through 1933 and add 1938, Wren Shough should be spelled properly with a "U" and Robert Untch does not include an "s"; and Tim Stockdale's name should be added to the High Adventure Wilderness Survival Training List as a participant in the Rayado Men Program in 1976.

We apologize for these errors and omissions and ask that any further corrections and additions with documentation be brought to the author's attention at the following address:

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