



# **WAHPEKUTE LODGE ANNUAL REPORT**

**Presented at the Twin Valley Council Annual Meeting  
April 13, 2010**

**Prepared by  
Nathan R., Lodge Chief**

The Order of the Arrow (OA) was founded by Dr. E. Urner Goodman and Carroll A. Edson in 1915 at the Treasure Island Camp of the Philadelphia Council, Boy Scouts of America. It became an official program experiment in 1922 and was approved as part of the Scouting program in 1934. In 1948, the OA was recognized as the BSA's national brotherhood of honor campers and became an official part of the national camping program of the Boy Scouts of America. Today, the OA is recognized as Scouting's National Honor Society.

## **Mission of the Lodge**

The mission of the lodge is to achieve the purpose of the Order of the Arrow as an integral part of the Boy Scouts of America in the council through positive youth leadership under the guidance of selected capable adults.

Fellow Scouters,

It is an honor for me to present this annual report to the Twin Valley Council Executive Board. Since I took over in October of 2008 and re-elected for 2009, Steve and I have talked repeatedly about how to make our lodge better. We both feel it is extremely important that the council knows what we have done, and what our goals are. We, as a lodge, are here to help you. Our number one goal is to develop young leaders of character, and use these leaders to support the council.

As a lodge, we have come a very long way this past year. We have also undergone many changes. Foster Graif hosted the Section C-1A Conclave in September of 2009. Since I was re-elected this last year at our Spring Conclave I made some goals that have helped me through this last year. For example, I wanted to see the chapters meet once a month, every month. Another was to have more people attend our Winter Conclave in which our current Section Chief, Addison Hendricks attended and was impressed with what we're doing.

As the Lodge Chief I had many opportunities such as going to NOAC with 19 participants. We traveled to Bloomington Indiana which was the location of Indiana University. I also went to Section Conclave at Fort Sisseton, South Dakota where I participated in the rededication ceremony. At Fall Conclave I participated by being the Vigil Chief in the Vigil Ceremony along with the new Vigil Members. I hosted Winter Conclave with the Great Bend Chapter Chief, K.C. Dewar and Cody Taylor. I attended the National Leadership Seminar with Greg Rasmussen and Steve Knuth in Rochester, Indiana.

The number one problem we have faced is participation. Not every troop in the council is involved in the OA. Attendance at conclaves is lower than we would like. However, we have talked to many troops and we are having even more troops decided to hold elections. We have very capable advisors in each chapter and I am very confident we will have an increase in participation.

We became a Quality Lodge in 2008 and 2009! This is a big accomplishment for us as we have not done this in the last 10 years. Thanks to everyone that has helped us accomplish this. We have very high expectations for the future and we are all confident we will achieve Quality Lodge again in 2010. I also owe a big thank you to my fellow officers, and all other volunteers that have made these improvements possible. I hope to see this report made next year also.

In Scouting,

Nathan R  
Wahpekute Lodge Chief

**Wahpekute Lodge Officers for 2009-2010**

LODGE CHIEF	Nate R.
LODGE VICE-CHIEF	Ben G.
VICE-CHIEF OF FINANCE	Nate F.
VICE-CHIEF OF COMMUNICATIONS	Mike S.
VICE-CHIEF OF MEMBERSHIP	Austen S.
VICE-CHIEF OF AWARDS	Cody T.

**Wahpekute Lodge Chapter Chiefs for 2009-2010**

NORTH STAR	Greg R.
GREAT BEND	Keith D.
SOUTHERN TRAILS	Michael H.
SIOUX TRAILS	Josiah A.

**Key Adult Advisors**

LODGE ADVISOR	Steve Knuth
ASSOCIATE LODGE ADVISOR	Tom Hallett
STAFF ADVISOR	Rene Maes
SIOUX TRAILS ADVISOR	Tom Wurtzburger/Dr. Jerry Joyce
NORTH STAR ADVISOR	Greg Graif
SOUTHERN TRAILS ADVISOR	Keven Maxa
GREAT BEND ADVISOR	Ted Jacobson

OA Calendar February 2010-June 2011

February 7	LEC in Southern Trails Chapter. TBD
February 26-28	NLS/NLAS in Rochester, IN.
March 7	LEC at TVC Center for Scouting, 2:00 p.m.
April 11	LEC at TVC Center for Scouting, 2:00 p.m.
May 2	LEC at TVC Center for Scouting, 2:00 p.m.
June 18-20	Spring Conclave at Camp Cuyuna. Registration starts at 1:00 p.m.
August 21	LLDC at <u>TVC</u> 3:00 p.m. – 9pm
August 22	LEC at TVC Center for Scouting 2:00 p.m.
September 10-12	Section Conclave at Camp Phillippo.
October 1-3	Vigil Week-end and Fall Conclave, Camp Norseland, L.E.C.
November 6	LEC at Camp Norseland on Saturday. (changed to Nov 6 only)
November 12-14	NLS/NLATS at Parkville, MO.
December 5, 2010	LEC at TVC Center for Scouting. 2:00 p.m.
January 8-9, 2011	Winter Conclave, LEC at 7:00 p.m. on 1/8/10
February 6	LEC in Southern Trails Chapter. TBD
March 6	LEC at TVC Center for Scouting, 2:00 p.m.
April 2-3	LEC at Camp Cedar Point at 7:00 p.m.
May 1	LEC at TVC Center for Scouting. 2:00 p.m.

These dates are subject to change per the L.E.C. vote.

## **Wahpekute Lodge Summary 2009-2010**

### **Commitment and Dedicated Service to the Outdoor Program**

- Over 1,000 hours of service to Twin Valley Council camps.
- 20 out of the 30 staff from last year's Camp Cuyuna staff are OA members.
- Wahpekute Lodge Members help get Camp Cuyuna ready for the summer at Spring Conclave. There were 120 people this past year and approximately 700 hours of service to Camp Cuyuna was done during this weekend.
- A Troop Election and Camp Promotion packet has gone to all Scoutmasters in the Twin Valley Council this year. Included in the packet was a National O.A. Camping Promotion envelope.
- The Lodge Executive Committee (L.E.C. or the youth lodge leaders) have designated funds for helping with camp promotion. They have purchased a video to help inspire scouts to attend camp.

### **Leadership Development**

- The Lodge Leadership Development Course is a one day dedicated to training the leaders and the future leaders of the lodge. Key topics were covered for our new officers.
- The National Leadership Seminar and the National Lodge Advisers Training Seminar was held in Rochester, Indiana and was attended by Nathan Roberts, Greg Rasmussen, and Steve Knuth. This offered a great weekend of training for them.
- Foster Graif, John Fretham, Tyler Karp and Steve Knuth were trainers for the Section Conclave.
- Section C-1A Conclave is held each fall and last year it was held at Fort Sisseton, South Dakota. Wahpekute Lodge had 23 youth and 12 adults attend. Training was held throughout the weekend for attendees.
- Foster Graif, Section Chief of C-1A hosted the Section Conclave. Foster was the first Section Chief from Wahpekute Lodge.

### **Membership Retention**

- At the end of this year we had 308 dues paid Order of the Arrow Members.
- In 2009 paid membership numbers were 141 Ordeal members, 119 Brotherhood members, and 48 Vigil members.
- We had 36 new Ordeal members inducted this year
- We had a 38.2% Brotherhood Conversion rate last year.
- We became a Quality Lodge for 2009. This is the second year in a row that we have attained Quality Lodge.

### **Recognition/Awards**

- Those chosen for the Vigil Honor in 2009 were Ben Goebel, Greg Rasmussen, Cody Klinksiek, Mike Sargent, Mike Wolfe, Rene Maes, and Greg Graif.
- The Founder's Award recipients were Matt Maxa and Keven Maxa
- The George Vaux Award recipient was Nathan Roberts.
- The Ed Smock Award recipient was Bob Homer.

### **Quality Lodge Performance**

Wahpekute Lodge obtained Quality lodge this year. We had a positive membership increase, and the Brotherhood Conversion rate was above 30%. We have sent out packets to each troops Scoutmaster, have started 2010 elections, and we are continuing our new Elangomat Program which will help with Brotherhood Conversion. We are working on these and are confident we will be a Quality Lodge for 2010.