OA High Adventure Trail Crew: A Life-Changing Experience

Philmont is often said to be Scouting’s paradise, and for two youth members of Wenasa Quenhotan, it proved to be just that and more. Terry and Conner would never have had the opportunity to attend Philmont if it were not for the Order of the Arrow High Adventure Program. OAHA Trail Crew at Philmont is a two-week experience provided by the OA, where you get to experience the bases in a new, exclusive light. The moment you arrive for OA Trail Crew on Saturday you are thrown into meeting your crew mates from all around the nation, and then you head out into the backcountry that same night! For the first week, Terry and Conner got to spend their days and nights on the beautiful side of Mt. Phillips building a new trail up to the peak. During this week they took part in life-changing program elements, survived a lightning storm, and ate exceptional food because OA Trail Crew does not have to eat Philmont trail meals. The next week they experienced the trek that them and their crew created, which allowed them to see all of the hot-spots they wanted to see at Philmont. From Cypher’s Mine, to Black Mountain Summit, the Tooth of Time, and even high cope at Rocky Mountain Scout Camp, they got to experience more of south country than most treks. They even got to meadow crash and stay in some of Waitte Phillip’s original cabins. Above all though, their favorite parts of OA Trail Crew were meeting and bonding with their crew throughout the two weeks, experiencing how the staff gave them more opportunities, and the fact that they got to sign up as individuals and go for only $325.

If you or anyone you know is interested in a life-changing OA High Adventure trip, make sure to check out www.oa-bsa.org for more information!
Further Your Leadership Knowledge at National Leadership Seminar (NLS)

National Leadership Seminar (NLS) is a weekend conference focused on the skills and attributes of leadership. It is intended primarily to enhance the leadership skills of the Order of the Arrow’s key youth and adult members as they seek to improve their services to the Boy Scouts of America and the greater community. The weekend format is designed to complement the longer, more detailed Wood Badge and National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) programs. Near the end of the seminar, participants make a contract with themselves to apply the skills studied in the seminar on projects in their lodge, council, and community. NLS prepares Arrowmen to become better leaders both within and outside of the Scouting program. The next NLS in our region will be held October 25-27 in St. Louis. Look for details on the Lodge website and on social media.

Letter from the Chief

Greetings Brothers,

I hope your summer was fun filled and went well! Between the Boundary Waters and Order of the Arrow Trail Crew at Philmont, this was my best summer yet.

Apart from that, this summer was also a really big year for us as a lodge. We helped send a boy to camp, had two youth go to an Order of the Arrow High Adventure trip, offered multiple OA activities at camp to get involved in, gave out many OA Camp Participation Awards, and inducted our first female youth during our Summer Ordeal.

With this momentous summer behind us, our Lodge Executive Committee is now building up our team for the new year to keep this same energy going. By the time you read this, we will have already had our Lodge Leadership Development Course and will be full swing into bringing you a quality Fall season and Fellowship. Let's all make sure to keep up the good work, and above all else, inspire someone else to get involved.

Yours in Friendship,
Terry Hendriex
A look Back at Summer Camp

A lot happened this summer at Ingersoll Scout Reservation! Through our Summer Ordeal we received 39 new Ordeal members. Every Thursday night we also held a Brotherhood ceremony and 23 Arrowmen completed their Brotherhods. On top of that, two brothers also earned completed Vigil since they will not be able to do so at Fall Fellowship. Congratulations to all of you, and thanks to everyone who made these events happen. We hope you had a great time.

Time to get excited for Fall Fellowship

Fall Fellowship is coming--online registration is now live on the lodge website. Don't forget to bring your mess-kits and water bottles because, we are going to continue to go green and limit our waste! Come out October 4-6 to Fall Fellowship at Ingersoll Scout Reservation to help out the camp, participate in fun activities, and enjoy the ceremonies!
Get Ready for NOAC 2020!

It’s time to get excited and get on board for NOAC 2020, the National Order of the Arrow Conference! This national OA event will be held August 3-8, 2020, on the campus of Michigan State University. Thousands of Brothers from across the country will gather for five days of fellowship, fun, service, training, exhibits, OA history, arena shows, patch trading, and inspiration. It is truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience that you don’t want to miss!

Accommodations are university dorms; food is in the university food service; training, demonstrations, trading post and other activities are across campus. Total cost (including transportation, conference shirts, patches, and other items) is to be determined, but the conference fee is $545. NOAC Youth Subsidy Funds will be available to help cover costs for all youth delegates.

Online registration will open October 1, 2019. If you are interested in learning more, submit your name on the lodge website: www.wq23.org. Someone will be in touch with information as it becomes available.
Help Bring Back the OA With Thrive!

From 2018 to 2019, the Order of the Arrow 12,030 members nationally, its most significant membership loss to date. That’s 12,030 missed opportunities, 12,030 lives that we no longer have the opportunity to impact, and 12,030 fewer members in our Brotherhood. This year, to combat this loss of membership, which our lodge too suffered, the Order of the Arrow will be holding a National Webinar on October 19 with every lodge’s LEC in the nation lined up to view. The webinar will go over the new roles of a Section, deliver new insight onto the three key focuses of a lodge, assign a three-year plan to make sure every lodge is hitting the measurements of “High Performing,” and get every volunteer actively on board to turn around this decline of membership across the 269 lodges in the nation. This will be no easy task, and the best way you can make a difference is to spread the message of the OA. You are all in this Order for a good reason, so encourage your friends and units to get re-involved or pay their dues for that same reason.

Wenasa Quenhotan has arranged to have the webinar available for viewing at the Council Camporee on October 19 at Heartland College in Bloomington. All OA members are invited to attend and learn how the OA will Thrive Tomorrow. Details available on wq23.org.
Ask Kitchkinet

Here we will feature answers to questions about the Order of the Arrow, its purpose, its structure, and the opportunities it offers to all members.

Q: I know the Order of the Arrow is nationwide, but how do the Chapters and the Lodge fit into the system?

A: The Order of the Arrow has five levels. Each level has a chief. The smallest group is the Chapter. Wenasa Quenhotan has four Chapters: Lowaneu, Wotamalo, Mattameechen (Crossroads District), and Lawasgoteu (Heartland District). The Chapter is the base unit for the OA.

The Lodge is the next unit. The Lodge has at least three events every year: Fall Fellowship in October, Spring Fellowship in May, and Winter Banquet in January. The current Lodge Chief is Terry Hendriex. Information about the Lodge and the Chapters can be found on the Wenasa Quenhotan website: wq23.org.

The Lodge is part of a Section. Our Lodge is in Section C-3A. The main event of the section is Section Conclave, which is hosted by a different Lodge in our section each year. This year Section Conclave is at Camp Loud Thunder in Illinois City, IL, which is about an hour from Ingersoll Scout Reservation.

The Section is in the Central Region. There are four regions in total. Then the highest level is the National Order of the Arrow. The major national event is NOAC or the National Order of the Arrow Council. NOAC is held every four years, it will be taking place at Michigan State University. You can find more information on page 4. If you are interested in any of these upcoming events feel free to check them out online at wq23.org.
Region Maps
These maps show the locations of the four OA regions, along with greater detail showing the central region. Our lodge is part of Section C (for Central) 3-A (in green).

Upcoming Events

Section Conclave..........................................................September 13-15, 2019

Fall Fellowship..............................................................October 4-6, 2019

NLS/DYLS.................................................................October 25-27, 2019

Winter Banquet...........................................................January 11, 2020

All upcoming events can be found on our Lodge Calendar - http://wq23.org/calendar
Go Green with the Arrow--Opt Out of the Paper Edition!
You might have noticed that the lodge is making an effort to go green by no longer using paper plates and utensils at events. Starting with the next issue of The Arrow, you'll be able to help further that goal by opting out of the paper edition of the newsletter. If you opt out, you'll be sent an email as soon as the most recent edition of The Arrow is released online. You'll also be able to enjoy the news in its fully colored glory! Check out past editions at our archive at www.wq23.org!

Check out the lodge website!
www.wq23.org