

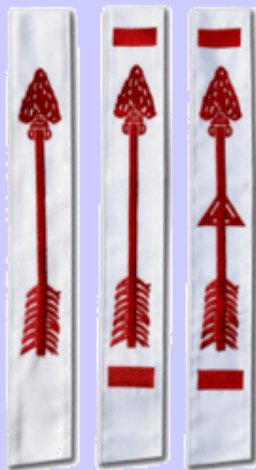


March 10th, 2013

Octoraro Lodge 22's Newsletter

Volume 3, Issue 1

“I hope you all enjoy this banquet of brotherhood and fellowship, and I look forward to serving with you.”



Created By:
Christian Miller and
Price Stevenson IV

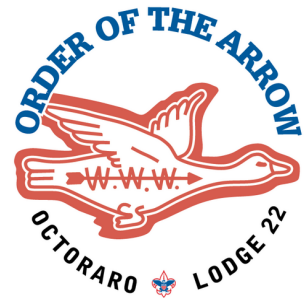
Chief's Corner March 2013

Brothers,

I would first like to thank all of the Scouts, adults, and my officers who have helped me through the year so far. Now with that being said I want to be able to thank all of the Scouts out there for helping me. I see so many Scouts at every weekend who enjoy the lodge. I want those Scouts to come more often to meetings and get more involved. There are many open committee positions now that anyone can help out with. You can even co-chair the committee with a friend. That is what I did my first year getting involved. What I have learned is that it does not take a lot of work to get involved and help out, but it does make a large difference for a lot of people. If you want to get involved, please contact me at chief@octoraro22.org

or the lodge adviser Andrew Coe (adviser@octoraro22.org) and we can get you started.

In Brotherhood,
Philip Ruffini



Seal Your Membership

Calling ALL Ordeal Members: Seal your Membership... Complete Brotherhood in 2013! Remember how cheerful you felt on being called-out as a candidate for the Order of the Arrow? Remember how you were referred to as a “friend” at the Pre-Ordeal ceremony, but were called a “brother” at the conclusion of the Ordeal ceremony? You are on a journey: a journey to awareness of the true meaning of

the Order of the Arrow! When you completed the Ordeal, you took your first steps on a path to greater understanding of the Spirit of the Arrow. By sealing your membership in the Order of the Arrow and participating in the Brotherhood ceremony, you to conclude that journey of awareness, which you started when you were called-out as a candidate for the Ordeal. Furthermore, by completing your Brotherhood, you show your appreciation

(Continued on Page 3)

to those who selected you for membership in the Order of the Arrow while gaining further understanding of the Order's purpose. Moreover, you help your fellow Arrowmen in the Octoraro Lodge 22. By completing your Brotherhood, you help the lodge on its Journey to Excellence. Why is that important? Journey to Excellence attainment signifies to the greater community what our lodge brothers already know: that Octoraro

Advisor's Minute March 2013



“ Some have toiled for less than 2 years in our lodge; others, in excess of 60 years. But all do so as dutiful servants in our brotherhood, ever mindful of the joys of service to our fellow man. “

I recently received word from the National OA Office that Octoraro Lodge #22 has achieved the Journey to Excellence Gold Level in its inaugural year. This is a phenomenal achievement that all lodge brothers should be proud of.

In looking through the report that came with the announcement, I found several incredible metrics that show just how phenomenal our achievement was: we didn't just achieve Gold, in many cases we blew the regional and national averages out of the water. Some details: 88% of all eligible Chester County Council units had a unit election, whereas 69% was the average for councils in the Northeast Region and 59% nationally. Of all the elected candidates in 2012, we inducted 96% into Octoraro 22 as Ordeal members; the National and Regional averages were about 73%. We converted 39% of eligible Ordeal members to the Brotherhood degree; the National and Regional averages were about 32%. The most staggering statistic though was related to our service: on average, Octoraro 22 provided 30 hours of service per member to about 8 hours for the region and nationally. As this is the “bread and butter” of our Lodge's work – to provide service to

Horseshoe Scout Reservation and our Council – this is a feat that we should carry with great pride.

Tonight we honor those who have provided and will provide the driving force behind much of these successes. We are going to bestow awards to honorees ranging in age from 15 to 78. We are going to Call-out brothers into the Vigil Honor who have labored cheerfully in the service of their lodge, units and council. Some have toiled for less than 2 years in our lodge; others, in excess of 60 years. But all do so as dutiful servants in our brotherhood, ever mindful of the joys of service to our fellow man.

In all honesty, I was a late convert to the “more is more” philosophy of recognition. We have had several new awards created in the past few years to honor those for varying degrees of service and experience, and I wasn't initially convinced. In the “Servant Leadership” paradigm, the servant leader is a humble worker who by mere example is able to compel his or her fellows to act for the interest of the group. He or she does not look for recognition of their achievements; they act for the betterment of their organization or community and through their efforts seek to lay the groundwork for a continu-

ing legacy. The brothers you see before you on the stage **tonight** are molded from that “Servant Leadership” cloth: humble and tireless examples who provide the foundation for our lodge's amazing achievements chronicled above. However, though they may not seek recognition, we would be remiss not to show our sincerest gratitude for the work they have provided over the years. They could have chosen many other paths in life, but they have offered – in addition to many other activities outside of Scouting, to be sure - their time, wisdom, and labor to our Brotherhood. The least we can do is to call their names, followed by hearty applause.

And though they will leave here tonight with tokens of that gratitude, we must also congratulate them in person for their astounding efforts. I hope you spend a few moments after the banquet's conclusion to thank them for their service, but more importantly, I hope you spend a bit longer following their exceptional examples of dutiful service.

In Brotherhood,

Andrew Coe

Lodge Adviser, Octoraro 22

Cheerful Service at Minquas Fire Hall

28 Scouts and Scouters joined members of Minquas Fire Department on [February 23rd](#) to help them move from their old location on East Lancaster Ave in Downingtown to just down the road on Wallace Ave. Many of those who helped were Octoraro 22 members, and we spent about 4 hours unloading boxes, crates, furniture, computer equipment and fire equipment from moving vans and trucks. All told, we put in



over 100 service hours to our community. The fire company greatly appreciated our efforts, and through the donations of various local restaurants, fed us a very nice feast for lunch! (The coffee and donuts throughout the morning were appreciated too.) Minquas has been quite generous in our direction too - in the past they have donated equipment to the Horseshoe Scout Reservation. Thanks again to all those who attended and pitched in!

Calling Youth Arrowmen!

Are you a Youth in Octoraro Lodge 22? Do you enjoy working with others who share your interest in Scouting? Do you enjoy having fun at Camp Horseshoe or Ware? Have you ever fought a Dragon? If you answered yes to any of these questions, then the Octoraro Lodge 22 Executive Com-

mittee wants YOU to join a committee position! Committee positions are a great way to get involved in the Lodge, to make new friends, and to have the experience of a lifetime. Anyone can join a committee all you need is the willingness to commit to a little work and even more fun. So get involved by

talking to a Lodge executive [tonight](#) at the Banquet. You may just be surprised by what you and Octoraro 22 can do!

In Brotherhood, The Octoraro 22 Executive Committee

Seal your Membership, Cont.

Lodge 22 achieves excellence in both program and service to the Horseshoe Scout Reservation. Additionally, earning the Journey to Excellence award allows the lodge to apply for grants from the national organization for matching funds for vital improvement projects at both Camp Horseshoe and Camp John H. Ware

You should be asking yourself: am I eligible to complete my Brotherhood? The answer is: all current Ordeal members are eligible to complete Brotherhood during 2013! Ordeal members who completed their Ordeals at the [June 2012](#) service weekend or before are eligible to seal their membership with the Brotherhood ceremony at the



[April 2013](#) service weekend. Ordeal members who completed their Ordeals at the [September 2012](#) fellowship weekend are eligible to seal their membership starting at the [September 2013](#) fellowship weekend. The only other requirement is that your lodge dues are paid. Octoraro Lodge 22 needs YOU!

Conclave 2013: Cowboy Up!

Conclave 2013: Cowboy Up! Conclave isn't just a gathering of Cardinals to elect a new pope. The Order of the Arrow has its own conclaves where Lodges from around the area get together at a local Camp for fellowship and fun. This year Conclave will be host by Wunita Gohkos at their own Camp Mack, and it promises to be an exciting event. The members of Wunita Gohkos have chosen a western theme for their Conclave entitled "Code of the West, Principles of the Order". What does that mean? Well to find out, you

may just have to sign up at [octoraro22.org](#). With western style food, a shooting gallery, a Cowboy Corral and more, this promises to be a great event. So don't miss out on the Western Throw down of the year! Sign-up for Conclave today!

2013 Brotherhood Opportunities

There are four opportunities in 2013 for you to seal your membership by completing the

Brotherhood ceremony; they are:

April Service Weekend [April 26-28, 2013](#)

June Service Weekend [May 31-June 2, 2013](#)

Fall Fellowship Weekend [September 27-29, 2013](#)

Brotherhood Blitz [November 9, 2013](#)

We hope to see you at one of these opportunities. Please help our lodge increase our Brotherhood conversion rate. Make your plans [today](#) to seal your membership in the Order of the Arrow in 2013 by completing Brotherhood.

Conclave 2014

Now that you know what a Conclave is (see Conclave 2013), you're most likely wondering how long it will be until Octoraro 22 hosts a Conclave. Luckily that day, or weekend, is closer than you think. In fact, we are already preparing to host Conclave in 2014. Our theme will be "Conclave 2014: Assemble the Brotherhood!". If you want to get involved in helping the Lodge prepare for this exciting event e-mail conclave@octoraro22.org, or talk to me Alex Hughes here at the Banquet. Already the committee is preparing for a "Super" Conclave, and we want you to be a part of it all

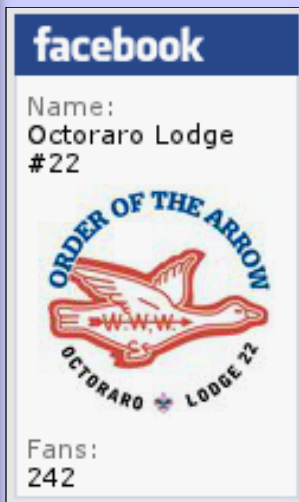
In Brotherhood,
Alex Hughes
2014 Conclave Chair

Octoraro Lodge

Chester County Council Center

504 South Concord Road

Phone: 610-696-2900



www.octoraro22.org

Upcoming Events from January to June 2012:

January 2013

- 6 Lodge Meeting, Council Service Center, 12:00 PM
- Founders Award Selection Meeting, Council Service Center, 1:00 PM
- Vigil Selection Meeting, Council Service Center, 2:00 PM

February 2013

- 3 Lodge Meeting, Council Service Center, 2:00 PM

March 2013

- 3 Lodge Meeting, Council Service Center, 2:00 PM
- 9 **Annual Lodge Banquet, Location TBA, 5:30 PM**

April 2013

- 7 Lodge Meeting, Council Service Center, 2:00 PM
- 20 Lodge Work Day at Camp, 8:00 AM
- 26-28 Lodge Service Weekend at Camp
(Lodge Meeting during weekend, TBA)

May 2013

- 31-June 2 Lodge Service Weekend at Camp,
(Lodge Meeting during weekend, TBA)

June 2013

- 7-9 NE Section 6B Conclave, Lodge 39 Hosting, Camp Mack

Upcoming Events from July to December 2012:

July 2013

- 13-14 Vigil Weekend at Camp (Tentative)
- 15 National Jamboree Begins, Bechtel Family High Adventure Base, The Summit, West Virginia
- 24 National Jamboree Ends, Bechtel Family High Adventure Base, The Summit, West Virginia

August 2013

No Events Scheduled

September 2013

- 8 Lodge Meeting, Council Service Center, 2:00 PM
- 27-29 Lodge Fellowship Weekend at Camp
(Lodge Meeting, September 28, TBA)
- 30 Last Day to Pay 2014 Dues at a Discounted Rate

October 2013

- 25-27 Blue Heron Fellowship Weekend, Tidewater, VA (Tentative)

November 2013

- 3 Lodge Meeting, Council Service Center, 2:00 PM
- 9 Brotherhood Blitz, Camp Horseshoe, TBA

December 2013

- 1 Lodge Meeting, Council Service Center, 2:00 PM
(Service Center Cleanup starting time TBA)