

THE WULAMOC

He Who Speaks Truly

Octoraro Lodge 22: Serving Cheerfully Since 1926

Upcoming Events

July 18: Virtual Conclave

September 25-27:

Fellowship Weekend

October 10-11: C5

Please continue to check your email and social media pages for updates about lodge events going forward.

Highlights

Check out page #2 to see an update on Unit Elections and Inductions.

Check out page #3 for some service ideas!

See page #3 for an update about Conclave 2020!

Check out page #4 to see the temporary camping night policy.



Run for an Officer Position!

Octoraro 22 will hold its elections for officer positions for the 2021 year this September. This is a great way to serve the lodge and get more involved. Contact nominations@octoraro22.org with any questions. See the positions below.

The **Lodge Chief** is the head of the LEC and runs meetings, work with the lodge advisor to help plan and make sure all committees and events run smoothly.

The **Corresponding Secretary** puts together the Wulamoc and sends out lodge lists and reminders to the lodge over email.

The **Recording Secretary** is in charge of taking meetings notes and chairs the Youth Protection committee.

The **Treasurer** creates and manages the budget and runs the trading post on lodge weekends. (Continued on Page 2)

Virtual Unit Elections and Induction Date Extension

The National OA Director has approved lodges to hold virtual unit elections through July 1, 2020. Due to the cancellation of many induction events, candidates that were elected February 1, 2019 through July 1, 2020 will have 24 months from the date of election to complete their ordeal. There are no changes to the membership requirements with the exception of the temporary virtual camping policy.

If your troop needs a unit election, contact unitelections@octoraro22.org.

The following guidelines should be followed in order to conduct virtual unit elections.

1. The Lodge and Council leadership must approve their lodge conducting virtual unit elections.
2. The unit leader must agree to a virtual election.
3. The Lodge Unit election team and the appropriate forms/videos must be able to be presented to unit members. (This assumes the use of some type of online meeting technology.)
4. The unit leader should continue to validate those eligible for elections.
5. A means to confidentially collect votes for eligible unit members must be available and used. NO OPEN VOTE COUNTING IS TO BE ALLOWED.
6. Conduct your election in accordance with the Election to Ordeal process outlined on page 23 of the Guide for Officers and Advisers which can be found here.

Units which have already held an election between March 1, 2020 and April 30, 2020 are authorized to hold one additional election for any individuals who were ineligible at the time of the election due to the camping requirement, but would have been considered eligible at the time if this temporary policy had then been in effect. This second election must be completed no later than July 1, 2020. Those who were previously considered for election in the first election may not be reconsidered on this second ballot (i.e., no one can be considered for election more than once in a year).

Officer Positions (Cont.)

The Vice Chief of Administration is in charge of administration committees. They make sure that everything runs smoothly during weekends. They are also there to offer support to the committee chairs and other officers.

The Vice Chief of Program oversees the program committees, chairs the banquet committee and serve as the master of ceremonies for that event. They also help plan the activities at the September fellowship weekend.

Virtual Conclave

As many of you know, Conclave 2020, Olympus Adventure has been postponed until June 2021, however, the section is hosting a virtual event in its place. Make sure you sign up for Virtual Conclave, which is happening on July 18. Virtual Conclave is a free event that you can sign up for on ne6b.org. Virtual Conclave will host a National Officer Panel. There will also be virtual trainings, a Kahoot and other interactive events.



Keep Helping out the Community

Brothers,

Many of us have had trouble finding service to do in quarantine as the Lodge's events have been cancelled along with other service opportunities. As Chester County is now in the yellow phase, some in-person service activities might be possible. If performing any in-person service activities, ensure all local guidelines are followed. If doing virtual activities, please ensure Youth Protection guidelines are still followed.

-Help new Scouts with Scout skills (youth/adults): our newest Scouts in the Scouts BSA definitely need help. Contact your troop's SPL or Troop Guide to see if you can help out! This can be done virtually, so consider lending a hand and offering to lead Scout skill sessions going up to First Class.

-Become a Merit Badge counselor (adults)! Scouts are looking for advancement opportunities during the pandemic. Sessions for many merit badges can be held virtually, and some merit badges can be completed virtually!

-Make cloth masks. Many have been making cloth masks and been giving them to organizations or putting them out on the curb for free to help out strangers.

-Fundraise for first responder meal drops. Fundraising and coordinating can be done virtually and help those on the front lines.

-Give blood (always a good idea!)

-Coordinate a drive by parade with signs thanking first responders.

-Write letters to seniors! Many seniors and those in nursing homes have been stuck in their apartments or rooms for months now, unable to see any family or friends.

-Clean out your house and donate books, clothing toys and more! Donate to libraries, homeless shelters, food banks, etc.

An Update from the Ordeal Committee

Brothers,

The COVID-19 virus has certainly changed our lives. We are working from home, schooling from home, and scouting from home. Our OA weekends for both April and May have been cancelled. All of us are certainly hopeful that we can get back to our normal routines as soon as possible.

With the two spring weekends cancelled, there are no candidates that are able to complete their Ordeal. Scouts are still advancing digitally. The traditional summer tap out patterns may be a little different this year depending on what happens at summer camp, but they will still occur.

This means – WE NEED YOU! When September rolls around there will be a backlog of Ordeal candidates. The number of candidates could be very large! In addition, no one will have been an Elangomat in a full year. Many of our older and experienced youth Elangomats will go off to college.

Think about your own Ordeal. What is the mystery of the brotherhood? What is the importance of the four tests of the Ordeal? How can you be a bigger part of that?

In the Lenni Lanape language, Elangomat means ‘friend’. To serve as an Elangomat is a great opportunity and a great responsibility. It is a responsibility in that the candidates in your charge are looking to you to help to be their ‘friend’, to positively influence and to help shepherd them through the entirety of the Ordeal. It is a great opportunity in that you get to practice and showcase your leadership skills to others, all while serving as a guide and mentor, in the brotherhood of cheerful service. Take advantage of this great opportunity, an opportunity to serve your lodge, your brothers, and yourself in the process.

To learn more, contact the ordeal committee at ordeal@octoraro22.org

In Brotherhood,

The Ordeal Committee

Temporary Camping Night Policy Due to COVID-19

In light of the extended period of camping restrictions attributable to COVID-19, the following temporary modification is being made to the camping requirements for OA eligibility:

(Continued on the next page)

Virtual camping (i.e., backyard or solo camping) may be counted toward the required nights of camping for OA election eligibility if all the following stipulations are met:

- To be counted, all virtual camping nights should be a direct result of COVID-19 pandemic restrictions and be part of a BSA unit-organized unit camping event (i.e., multiple members of the unit are involved and camping simultaneously at remote locations).
- Some form of unit-organized communications should occur either during or immediately following the event.
- All existing youth protection policies and digital safety guidelines should be followed.
- No more than 3 nights of virtual camping are to be credited in any month in which government- or council-imposed COVID-19 restrictions are in place.

This change is in effect until September 1, 2020.

A Note from the Lodge Chief

Brothers!

It's been a while since we've had an opportunity to gather as a lodge. Order of the Arrow events are one the many things I look forward to as the year progresses. So it may be upsetting to some Arrowmen that we have been forced to cancel a couple of the most anticipated events of the year, such as the April and June ordeal weekends; however, the safety of our fellows scouts is more important.

The current situation with the corona virus may have changed our plans, but we shouldn't let it ruin them. There is still so much left in the year. Many of you planned on attending conclave, and while we may not be able to attend one in person, we encourage you all to join us for a virtual conclave on Saturday, July 18th, and start to look forward to next year's conclave hosted by lodge 317 at Camp Sinoquipe.

Many troops are known for holding their unit elections at camp. With this, I encourage all troop leaders to reach out to our unit elections team about holding a virtual one, so that the young, new, and deserving scouts can take their ordeal, hopefully, this September at a sure to be amazing fellowship weekend.

While this pandemic is starting to slow down, I hope you all continue to stay safe and are just as excited as me for what the rest of the year has planned.

Yours In Brotherhood,

John Porter, Lodge Chief