

The Wulamoc



Octoraro Lodge 22
In Cheerful Service Since 1926

Lodge Chief's Minute

Over the past 6 months the Lodge team has been working with the national initiative called Thrive Connect. Over the journey we have taken we have created a new image for our lodge and I am only excited for what these new programs hold for our lodge in the near future. The work that we continue to do over the second half of the year will be determined by our dedicated lodge members and I would not be here without any of you. If you are interested in becoming more active in the lodge or just looking for new ways to get involved, come up to me or any of the officers this weekend.

Thank you Octoraro,

Ben Merkle

Lodge Adviser's Minute

Welcome back Brothers! I am thrilled to say that we are getting back to somewhat of a normal weekend and schedule. It was September of 2019 since that last occurred. We will still have to manage through some COVID-19 regulations to ensure we have a safe weekend. Let's all do our part to ensure that occurs.

As with many Lodges across BSA, the COVID 19 pandemic affected membership in a big way. Octoraro Lodge #22 saw a membership decline of 15% in the 2021 recharter – far better than most. However, this year, we could see another impact of possibly losing an additional 150 Brothers. The delayed impact is due to the way we register new Ordeal Candidates. It will be up to each and every one of us to ensure we reenlist and reenergize the Troops.

I am very excited about the work the Youth Leadership is doing with the aid of our National THRIVE Connect Team. The implementation of some of these initiatives will be occurring sooner rather than later – some of them are behind the scenes, in which you will not notice. More to come.

In recent months, the Lodge actively participated in some HSR and PARC services events. I would like to extend a huge thank you to those that made it out and provided Cheerful Service. We are hopeful that with the completion of PARC towards the end of Summer, we will once again be meeting in person.

In closing, I am hopeful that all Brothers get to enjoy their Summer Camping season. I look forward to the Lodge once again being the best it can be.

W.W.W.

Gus Sauerzopf

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What's New in the Lodge?

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Open Committees

Brotherhood- The Brotherhood committee is the one for you if you like raising excitement, testing other's knowledge, or just want to see others achieve more. The Brotherhood committee is responsible for making sure brothers can learn about our order and want to keep coming back.

Troop Representative- The Troop Representative is the bridge between the Troop and the OA. Our Troop Representative chair is the one who helps the Troop Reps relay information and helps build excitement for our lodge. The Troop Representative is responsible for sending out correspondence and brief recap of the upcoming events as well as information from the Lodge Executive Committee meetings. The Youth Chair should build a Team of Scouts (minimum 1/District) willing to assist with Visitations.

Unit Elections- Unit Elections is the committee that organizes troop elections to help our lodge gain new members and promote the Order of the Arrow and all the activities we do . Ideally the Youth Chair will build a Committee of Brothers (1/District) to assist and cover Elections for one another if the designate cannot attend.

Costumes- The costume committee is in charge of keeping our Regalia clean and organized for our Ceremonies team.

Conclave- If you have ever been to one of our section conclaves and wanted to help out and give your input and ideas on how to make it even better, conclave might be a great team to join!

Camping Promotions- If you love HSR and want to help even more people come to our camp, Camping Promotions is perfect for you. We want people with a love for camp to help us promote it even more. Responsibilities include ensuring all Camping opportunities are communicated to the Troop Representative Youth Chair – so that they can spread the word.

Winter Staff- Winter Camp Staff is a great committee if you want more of a reason to stay at Camp Horseshoe. Winter Staff get to do activities with the troops in camp and make winter camping even more exciting for the troops in camp.

Projects- Is leading others in doing service projects something you are interested in? Maybe just being a leader? With the projects committee, you get to do just that. At our service weekends, the Projects chair gets to lead everyone in service and help clean up the camp. You may even get to tell the Lodge Chief what to do.

Trustee (2)- The Trustee committee is in charge of the upkeep of our lodge. Our lodge is where we display our whole lodge history. If you like building, fixing, or plumbing the trustees are the perfect place for you.

If you are interested in any of these positions, please let us know, at Communications@octoraro22.org

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Lodge Member Portal

In an effort to give you, the members of Octoraro 22, better access to your information in our database, we will be implementing Member Portal access shortly after the June 2021 service weekend. You will receive via email an invitation to claim access to the portal and from there, you will be able to do the following:

- View your member information and update yourself your contact information, and for other information, contact the lodge to update for you.
- View an events calendar. Events that have registration links will also be put in this calendar.
- Print your own membership cards.
- View any important messages that the lodge leadership places in the member portal.

Hopefully you will find the Member Portal useful and another small step to keeping up to date with not only the lodge but your own information.

CONCLAVE @ HOME

For the second year in a row, Section NE-6B conducted a virtual conclave, and while participants numbers were a little on the lite side, those who attended did enjoy the various trainings and activities that they could do while still being a short stroll to the bathroom. Starting on Friday, the Conclave opened with some remarks from our outgoing Section officers followed by a keynote speech from 2021 National OA Chief Derek Porter. Derek highlighted a few key struggles in his Scouting journey as a reminder to us that 2020 was a struggle for everyone and that all hardships are meant as tests and obstacles to overcome, not shy away from.

Saturday started off with made-to-order omelets - for those at home who decided to serve themselves that. From there, training cells were grouped in tracts - for New Arrowmen, Adults, and Current Leaders. Youth learned about Building a Team, Navigating Change, and Leadership Development Programs, while adults had three trainings on Mentoring, Communicating with Youth, and THRIVE Connect. The afternoon included Trivia, a session on OA Sustainability, and even a Virtual Escape Room! Certainly more exciting than a Virtual Breakout Room!

Finally, section business was conducted whereby the new Section officers were elected for the 2021-2022 year, and from there, plans got kicked started for Conclave (Not) @ Home 2022 - back to Hidden Valley Scout Reservation for Sasquesahanough hosting! See you all there in 2022!

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PARC Service Day – Part II

Inching ever closer to PARC finally opening, Octoraro 22 played their part by providing some much-needed service in litter and invasive species removal on May 22nd. The Program Activity & Resource Campus (PARC) will be the new home for Scouting in Chester County Council, and while the finishing touches are being made to the inside, 20 members of Octoraro 22 and about 15 other volunteers from across the county came out on a sweltering Saturday to drag countless branches of the Amur Honeysuckle out from the forest and into a chipper. While not completely removed, one can now take a stroll in the woods and see much more open space with the hope that native species can now flourish even more on the 28 acres of the PARC property. Thank you to all the great work of our lodge volunteers, and keep an eye out for other opportunities to provide future service at PARC as this is just the beginning!



Upcoming Events

July 10 - 11: July Vigil Weekend
August 29: Lodge Meeting
9/24 - 26: September Fellowship Weekend
9/26: Lodge Meeting
10/9 - 10: C5 Weekend

Social Media

Tiktok- @Octoraro22
Snapchat- @Octoraro_22
Instagram- @Octoraro22
Twitter- @Octorarolodge22
Facebook-@Octoraro22