



The Bear Growls

Nendawen Lodge 618

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Chiefly Speaking

Fellow Brothers,

As we celebrate the coming of a new year, your newly elected lodge executive committee is meeting and getting ready for the year to come. I know that I speak for all of the officers when I say that we are extremely excited for the upcoming year in Nendawen Lodge 618. This year we will have several old officers returning to the table as well as a couple new faces. Everyone is ready to make this year the best ever. Last year our lodge made such advancements as:

- Sending a contingent of 29 people to conclave!
- Building and maintaining a Lodge Website!
- Sending out 5 issues of The Bear Growls!
- Maintaining growth in numbers!

While last year proved to be a big one for the lodge, we are certain that 2006 will be our biggest ever. All of the officers have personally set goals for their own position, and I have personally set the following goals for the Lodge and the LEC as a whole:

- Obtaining "Quality Lodge"
- Sending 55 people to conclave
- Sending 26 people to NOAC
- Having Successful Witahemui Weekends
- Having a fun-filled fellowship at Kootaga

With all this said I have one personal note to add. While all of the officers have been officially charged with the successful running of this lodge, I want you to realize how important it is for us to have your support. In order for us to obtain Quality Lodge we need ordeal members to convert to brotherhood. In order for us to have a successful Witahemui Weekend, we need manpower from our numbers. And finally, in order for us to have a successful year, we need everyone to participate. Come on out help your brothers. With everyone's support, there is no doubt in my mind that our lodge can grow and build as one, successful lodge.

Yours in Cheerful Service,
James R. Kane
2006 Nendawen Lodge Chief

Spring Fellowship

Nendawen Lodge is holding another Spring Fellowship this year. Our intention is to have a relaxing weekend at Kootaga. We will also be holding a general lodge meeting Saturday after dinner. The Spring Fellowship is an addition to the calendar, not a replacement. We will still have Fall Fellowship at Mahonegon this year. Come out to Kootaga on April 7-9 to have some fun with your brothers.

Calendar of Events:

January 14
Little Kanawha
Pinewood Derby

January 21
Hock Hocking
Pinewood Derby

February 4
Pinewood Derby
Grand Central Mall

March 4
Pinewood Derby
Meadowbrook Mall

March 17 & 18
Witahemui Weekend
Camp Kootaga

April 7-9
Spring Fellowship
Camp Kootaga

Witahemui Weekend

This year, Nendawen lodge 618 is trying something new.

Witahemui weekend will be a new and improved version of our old work days. We will come in Friday night, March 17, have a cracker barrel, and have free time for the night. Then Saturday we wake up, have some breakfast, work through the morning, have lunch, do some more work, and have a nice meal in the evening before we leave. Come join us and help fulfill your pledge of service.

Elangomats

Greetings fellow arrowmen! I am certainly looking forward to an exciting year serving as your Elangomat Vice Chief. James and I have a common hope for this year: to get the extended Elangomat system up and running, so that we can assist conversion from Ordeal to Brotherhood. The lodge executive committee would like to make quality lodge this year, and brotherhood conversion is one of the areas we lack most in. I have much faith that our elangomats will do

everything this year to the best of their abilities. I want to encourage all of our elangomats to try to stay in contact with our new arrowmen from the time they make Ordeal until they reach Brotherhood & seal their membership in the Order of the Arrow. I look forward to serving this lodge. This is something that I take seriously and I will do everything in my power to help make this work.

Yours in Brotherhood,
Zach Baker
Elangomat Vice Chief

Ceremonies

Brothers,
Let me ask you a few questions. Do you enjoy acting? Do you enjoy working on a team? Do you enjoy working to make something perfect? If you answered these questions Yes, then Ceremonies Team is for you. My advisors Larry Hostottle and Greg Midcap, along with myself are looking forward to another exciting and productive year. We want you to experience that with us!

Last year we were lucky enough to receive two new sets of regalia. With this new regalia, the team will have greater freedom when it comes to the ceremonies, and the ease of transitions will become so much easier. I am currently looking to purchase a new headdress to add to the one we currently have to prolong the life of both of the current one. I am also looking to improve the ceremonies ground, making them more user friendly. I am also planning on competing at Conclave, which will be held at Camp Mountaineer in Morgantown in May. To do this, we must have a dedicated group to win. I feel this can be accomplished by so-called "ceremonies weekends" where we will go to either Camp Kootaga, or Camp Mahonegon and prepare for the ceremonies. It will be a fun time. If all of this intrigues you, than I am looking forward to working with you in the coming year.

Yours in Brotherhood,
Jeff Blaker
Ceremonies Vice-Chief

National Order of the Arrow Conference

Dear Brothers,

This summer, Order of the Arrow members from around the country have the unique opportunity to get together at the National Order of the Arrow Conference ("NOAC"). Over 7,000 Arrowmen will come together for have fun, learn new things, and celebrate the best the OA has to offer. This six-day adventure is unlike any other event in Scouting, and only OA members can participate. A typical NOAC day covers all aspects of the OA. In the morning, you can pick your choice of world-class training sessions ranging from Leadership, to Indian Crafts, to Ceremonies, to High Adventure Skills, and more. The afternoon brings sports, competitions, special events, and more. After dinner, you get to see an outstanding Evening Show, a new show each night. After the show, there are open activities, patch trading, and just hanging out with your friends. Finally, you head to bed, to get some sleep so you are ready to do it all again the next day!

The Allohak contingent will be departing on Friday, July 28 for NOAC. We will be staying overnight in a motel and will arrive at the National Conference on Saturday, July 28. We will return home on the evening of August 3. The contingent cost for the conference will be \$450.00. This cost includes lodging, transportation, food, and the conference fees. We are limited to 26 participants so it will be imperative that you get your reservation in ASAP. Below is a payment schedule so you can pay over a period of time. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 304/295-7298 or e-mail at Kootagadancer@aol.com

January 30	\$75
February 20	\$75
April 3	\$75
April 17	\$75
May 1	\$75
June 5	\$75

Pinewood Derbies

This year, the first ever West Virginia State Pinewood Derby Championship will be held from Friday, March 31st to Sunday, April 2nd at the Meadowbrook Mall in Bridgeport, WV. They are in great need of about 20 OA members to volunteer to help. The volunteers will be needed most on April 1st. Governor Joe Manchin will be there to kick off the race on Saturday. If you are at all interested, we will accept as many volunteers as we can get. Please help out the Cub Scouts by helping out with this event. Contact James Kane or Brian McQueen if you are interested. Also, don't forget that your own districts are holding their district pinewood derbies soon. This is one of the main things the OA is supposed to help with during the course of the year. Contact your chapter chiefs if you wish to volunteer for your district pinewood derbies.

The Bear Growls is a quarterly publication of Nendawen Lodge 618 Communications.

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Camp Staff

By Mike Harter

Camping Promotion Vice-Chief

Some of the Best memories I have are from working summer camp staff at camp Kootaga. Working staff is a lot different then attending camp as a camper. For starters, instead of attending for just a week you're there for 6 weeks. There's also a lot of hard work that goes into making every campers week memorable. Don't get me wrong, though. Working staff is an incredible experience. Not only do you gain many new friendships that will follow you throughout life, but working staff is also a great way to give back to your council. As Arrowmen we were elected partly because of our camping experience. Also, as Arrowmen we are told to practice cheerful service, and working on staff is a form of service that makes the cheerful part very easy. I encourage all of you to pick up an application from the scout office or print one out from the council website. I promise you won't regret it.

Winter Banquet

On December 10th, 2005, almost 150 Nendawen Lodge members and guests met at the Cottage Corner Too Restaurant in Salem, WV, for the annual Winter Banquet. During the meal, a slide show recapping the year was shown. Afterwards, the annual business meeting began. At the business meeting, the members of the lodge voted to approve all of the amendments that were proposed. Those amendments were included in the last edition of the Bear Growls, and can be found on www.nendawen.oh-c4a.org. Also during the business meeting, the lodge elected a new slate of officers for the year of 2006. 10 people were called out for the Vigil Honor, and Jim Cox received the Founder's Award. We hope to see another big turnout this year.

Nendawen Dance Teams

By: Michael Chambers

I would like to give updated information regarding the dance team. All recruited members from 2005 will continue to be listed into 2006. We would also like to **welcome anyone else to join the dance team.** The practices will start January 15, 2006, from 2.00 to 4.00. They'll be held every first, third, and fifth Sunday at the Kiva located on St. Mary's Street in downtown Parkersburg. Members in and around the Highland area can practice at Camp Mahonegon. Contact Rob Kerns for further information about the Mahonegon practices.

During the six weeks of summer camp, dancing will take place every Thursday.

During the call-outs, all OA members are welcome to dance. After the call-outs, the candidates will be taken to Sparky's Park and will have the opportunity to sign up. Anyone else is welcome to come join at this time as well.

This year, Conclave will be held at Camp Mountaineer and NOAC will be at Michigan State University in East Lansing, MI. Throughout the past years we have had few dance members attend the dancing competitions. We would like new members to attend meetings to practice and then compete in Conclave and NOAC's dance competitions. For members who do not wish to dance, they can choose to drum. Feel free to contact myself or my advisor, Ted Cox, anytime you wish. Please visit www.nendawen.oh-c4a.org for contact information.