



The Bear Growls

Nendawen Lodge 618

Volume 05

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August 2005



Chiefly Speaking

Brothers,

This is Brian McQueen filling in for James. Due to James's previous obligations (Staffing Summer Camp & National Jamboree), I will be doing this issue of the Bear Growls entirely by myself. Also, I apologize that I did not get this put together and mailed sooner. I am currently juggling a job, getting ready for college, and earning my Eagle rank. But, all excuses aside, I hope this issue will live up to all of the praises that we have received about reviving the Bear Growls.

I am sorry that I have not updated the web site recently, but my computer has too slow of a connection to do the job properly (Not to mention that I am still not very sure quite how to update it anyway).

I was very pleased with the turnout for the first Section C-4A Conclave. As far as I could tell, everyone had a great time. For all of you who missed out, there is always a chance for you to go next year.

Spring Fellowship went off without a hitch, and some unscheduled work hours helped to get the tents set up for the first week of Summer Camp.

Our calendar tends to wind down after summer camp, but there are still enough exciting events to keep everyone busy until 2006. Of course, don't forget the most important event of the year, the Winter Banquet.

Yours in brotherhood,
Brian C. McQueen
2005 Nendawen Lodge Vice - Chief

Calendar of Events:

August 12-13
Ordeal/Brotherhood
Weekend -
Camp Kootaga

September 16-18
Fall Fellowship &
LEC Meeting -
Camp Mahonegon

December 10
Winter Banquet -
Cottage Corner
Restaurant
Salem, WV

Summer Camp Call-Outs

This summer at Camp Kootaga, Nendawen Lodge called out many new Ordeal Candidates to become Ordeal members later this summer. It is important that we experience a positive growth in membership in order for us to obtain Quality Lodge. Those who become our new members will prove to be a great benefit to the Order and our lodge in the very near future. Let us congratulate all those who were called out.

Fall Ordeal

Camp Kootaga will be seeing lots of action and even more camp improvement August 12-13 at the Fall Ordeal Weekend. This is the first of two chances the recently called out candidates will have to become members of the Order of the Arrow. This is also a good opportunity to become a Brotherhood member if you have been an Ordeal member for at least ten months. There are plenty of things to do even if you just come as a member to help out. Think back to your Ordeal and the experience you received. We want to make sure that these candidates get the same experience. We need lots of help in making this Ordeal a success. Some of the most helpful people on this weekend will be the Elangomats. The Elangomats are the lodge members who lead the clan and work cheerfully with the candidates throughout the day on Saturday. Come out on August 12-13 to have some fun and do some service to the camp.

Elangomats

We need Elangomats for the Ordeal to work correctly. They are a VERY important part in the whole process. You CAN be an Elangomat if you are going for your brotherhood during the Ordeal weekend. If you are interested in being an Elangomat, contact James Kane, Patrick Orndorff, or myself, Brian McQueen. Contact information can be found at the lodge web site

www.nendawen.0a-c4a.org



Ceremonies

We also need people who are interested to volunteer to do ceremonies for Ordeal weekend. We will need quite a few volunteers as this is a very serious job and an important part of the Ordeal. If you are interested, please contact Jeff Blaker, Larry Hostottle, or Greg Midcap.



Summer Camp

This summer at Camp Kootaga, we once again sold Slushies in the Trading Post as a fund raiser for the lodge. Most of the call-out ceremonies went off without problems with the exception of some rain. James Kane was the OA Coordinator for the second year, with the exception of the last week of summer camp. During the last week, Jeff Blaker took over the responsibilities. The Ice Cream Social was also a big hit. A special edition of the Bear Growls hit summer camp as well this year to keep members informed of OA events happening during the week.

Fall Fellowship

Septemer 16-18, Camp Mahonegon will be host of the 2005 Nendawen Lodge Fall Fellowship. This is a time for all members to simply come out to camp and have some fun. Each year we have a football game in the parade field, hikes to Eagle Rock, card games in the dining hall, and many many more fun activities for you to enjoy. Although this weekend is intended to be relaxing and simple, there will be some projects going on around camp that we would be more than happy to have you help with. It is not required that you help any, but it sure can be a lot of fun and productive. You can attain your Brotherhood membership during the weekend. We will need a ceremony team for this weekend as well. We also select candidates for the Vigil Honor during a special meeting on Saturday afternoon. Some come on out and catch up with your friends, lend a helping hand, or just lie in bed and sleep all weekend. Whatever you do, I am sure that you will have fun doing it.

Conclave

Instead of looking ahead to upcoming activities, I am going to recount the activities and experiences of Section c-4a Conclave 2005. Let me start by saying that if you missed this trip, you missed out on a great time. But don't worry; there is another Conclave next year. Although we did not reach our recalculated goal of 55 people, we did have 29 people from Nendawen lodge in attendance this year. This met our original goal of 25 people and was a wonderful improvement over last year (14 people) and the year before (1 person). James and I both were very pleased to see that we are steadily growing in attendance. Here are some of the things those who did not go missed out on: The Redneck Games (Muffler Tossing, Bobbing for Pigs Feet, Cross-cut Sawing Race, and others), informative OA University classes, drum and dance competitions, ceremony competitions, totem

pole building, and a western-themed party with live entertainment. The OA University was a popular program this year. Many of the youth participants earned Bachelor's and Master's Degrees. Even a couple of the adults got in on the action by earning Doctorates in Advisor's Studies. Our lodge had an impressive showing in dance competition this year. 5 lodge members competed against dancers from other lodges and placed in their categories.

OLD STYLE

First- John Chambers
Third- Zach Baker

FANCY DANCE

First -Michael
Chambers

GRASS DANCE

Third -Denny Robert
Fourth -Roy Plant

Next year we hope to have competitors in the ceremony competition and even more in the dance competitions. We also hope to have even more people attend from our lodge and win the Man-Mile award - an

award given to the lodge that travels the most miles to get to Conclave = Number of people attending x miles from our Council Service Center. This year we came in second place only by a few miles.

Winter Banquet

Please don't forget the annual Winter Banquet this year at the Cottage Corner Restaurant in Salem, WV on December 10. This year's program will be updated from previous years and hopefully be a lot more informative and enjoyable. More information concerning this event will be presented in the next issue of The Bear Growls.

Lodge Anniversary

Next year will mark the 15th anniversary of Nendawen Lodge 618. Since the merger of Kootaga and Buckongehannon Lodge, our lodge has grown to be quite a great organization. Good leader, advisors, and helpful hands have helped this lodge grow into what it is today, and we are thankful that it has.