



Tejas Lodge, Order of the Arrow
East Texas Area Council, BSA

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Operation Arrow

The Order of the Arrow have established a lofty goal for themselves: to assemble the largest staff team ever for the National Scout Jamboree next year. To continue a tradition that dates back to the 1950 National Scout Jamboree, over 750 youth Arrowmen will answer the call to serve as part of Operation Arrow. Operation Arrow staff members will support the jamboree program by joining one of three primary OA program areas: the Service Corps, the Trek Guides and the Indian Village.

Service Corps—The OA Service Corps will return in 2017 - its 18th consecutive national jamboree. The Service Corps will help support the jamboree program by providing manpower to service projects all across the Summit Bechtel Reserve. The corps' versatility offers each Arrowman the unique opportunity to see the entire jamboree while exemplifying the OA devotion to 'service with a smile.'

Trek Guides—The OA Trek Guides will lead jamboree participants on an all-day adventure beginning at the unit campsite and ending at the highest point at SBR, Garden Ground Mountain. The Trek Guides will provide an incredible program filled with discussion and reflection throughout the unit's journey. Once on top of the mountain, Trek Guides will help provide various activities for participants including buckskin & carnival games as well as field sports. At the conclusion of the trek day, Trek Guides will lead units down the trail for a final debrief of the day's activities and the journey they completed together.

Indian Village—The OA Indian Village will again provide jamboree participants an opportunity to immerse themselves in American Indian history in fun and interactive ways. The Indian Village staff will teach participants about Indian craft-making, dance styles and survival methods of different tribes throughout the nation. Participants will walk away from the Indian Village with increased knowledge of American history, and self-made souvenirs to remember their experience. If you would like to learn more about Operation Arrow or sign up for this great experience, visit <http://event.oa-bsa.org/events/jambo2017/>



July Ordeal Recap

What a successful Ordeal! The July Ordeal was just recently held from the 15-17 where we got to welcome in 42 new brothers. In addition, there was a lot of work done to Pirtle to greatly improve the camp. Projects were worked on by candi-

dates and Arrowmen alike. The gaga ball pit is starting to be resized into an even bigger pit, along with a horseshoe ring being built right beside it. The cattle guard at the entrance to Pirtle is close to being cleaned out and the brush has been

trimmed back on the Pirtle roads. Three Tejas Lodge chiefs also did a project of their own by painting the center pole and rearranging the NOAC flaps in the Founders Lodge. A big thanks to everyone who helped out with the Ordeal!

Help needed at the August Ordeal

“Arrowmen are asked to help in whatever they can at the August Ordeal.”

With only a week away, our next Ordeal is quickly approaching. The August Ordeal has always been the busiest (and hottest) Ordeal the Lodge puts on. Which is why we need as much help as we can get. Arrowmen are asked to help in whatever they can at the August Ordeal. Being an Elangomat is a great

act of service you can perform at the Ordeal. We are definitely in need of adults who have a vehicle willing to transport water, food, and materials to the candidates. Adults helping out in the kitchen is also greatly appreciated. If you and a group of Arrowmen would like to tackle a project at Pirtle, please

contact the Lodge Chief. Also, if you know a scout who was elected to the OA, please encourage them to attend the August Ordeal. Make sure to pack your water bottles and I will see you at the August Ordeal.

Fall Fellowship

Come join Tejas Lodge in our Fall Fellowship at Camp George W. Pirtle. Every year, the Lodge holds a Fall Fellowship to get Arrowmen from across East Texas to come together at Camp Pirtle for a day of fun, fellowship, and service. Registration begins at 8:00 am on

Saturday with the event starting at 9:00. Saturday will be filled with dance demonstrations, ceremony practices, and chapter competitions. Those wanting to run for a lodge office will have the opportunity to at the Fall Fellowship. Make sure you have a letter of recom-

mendation from your chapter adviser. We will also have the opportunity to give back to Camp Pirtle by doing a service project. The Fall Fellowship will conclude at 10 am on Sunday. I cant wait to see you there!

Prism

A couple of weeks ago, 6 Arrowmen from Tejas Lodge went to the Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia to experience Prism. Prism is a four-day adventure program at the Summit where Arrowmen can experience the activities that the Summit has to offer. The

event ends with a re-dedication ceremony of the Summit circle. The original Treasure Island Scout Reservation (where the OA was founded) ceremony grounds where moved and recreated in their entirety at the new Summit Circle. The Arrowmen from our

Lodge that went said that the Summit is a fantastic place and that it offered fun and top of the line activities for them to do. They highly encourage anyone to attend the Summit, and especially for them to visit the Summit circle.

NEXT

The 2016 national event, NEXT: A New Century, will be unlike anything the OA has ever seen. Youth leaders and key adults from across the nation will gather at Indiana University in Bloomington, IN from July 30th through August 3rd, 2016 to learn, grow and be inspired to be the driving force behind the Order's second century. Five Arrowmen from our lodge will be making the journey to

Indiana State University for this once in a lifetime event. At NEXT, Arrowmen from across the country will be provided with a unique opportunity to network and discuss lodge operations. Each of the four days at NEXT will be focused on a different key topic: brotherhood, program, membership and innovation. Together, these and other programmatic elements will empower the local

leaders to shape the next century. If you would like to know what's going on up at NEXT, make sure to follow Tejas Lodge on Facebook and Twitter for all the updates. In addition, if you have an idea you think would help the OA, whether it be at a national or lodge level, make sure to share it on the Tejas Lodge Facebook and Twitter as well.

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New Lodge Merchandise

Tejas Lodge is getting some new merchandise! As the year goes on, we will slowly be adding some new merchandise to the Lodge store. We have currently added two new items to that store: a lanyard and a coffee mug! These items will be available for purchase starting at

the August Ordeal and all future Lodge events.



Lodge Chief's Report by Thomas G.

The summer months are definitely the busiest time for our Lodge. We start off with summer camp and it's Brotherhood and Callout ceremonies, go into our two Ordeals (which are the two largest lodge events), and end with the Fall Fellowship in September. In addition, we have not only one but two national OA events this year. The first one, Prism, is a four-day adventure program at the Summit where Arrowmen can experience the activities that the Summit has to offer and end with a re-dedication ceremony at the Summit Circle. I had the privilege to attend this event and it was definitely a great scout experience. The next event is literally NEXT. NEXT: A New Century is a NOAC like event where Arrowmen from across the country gather at Indiana University to discuss the future of the Order of the Arrow as we move into our second century. Only 5 Arrowmen from each lodge are able to attend, and as I am writing this article, I am sitting in the dorm here at IU, waiting to start a beautiful day here at NEXT.

In about a week, we will begin our last Ordeal for the year. The August Ordeal is always our biggest lodge event and we will need all the help we can get. Let us be there for our soon-to-be brothers as they go thru the Ordeal.

I am excited to begin our 101st year of the Order of the Arrow and I can't wait to see everyone at the August Ordeal.

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Admin's Answers by Levi M.

The spring months are the busiest and most important for me as Vice Chief of Administration. During these months the chapter election teams conduct unit elections across our 5 districts and are ultimately responsible for promoting growth within the lodge. Thank you to all of our Arrowmen that have served on an election team. After the elec-

tions as we all know, we have two ordeals in July and August where our Ordeal Master and Elangomats step up and go about inducting our newly elected members into our brotherhood. Thank you to everyone that helped bring in 42 new members during the July Ordeal. In the middle of all of that Tejas showed a strong presence at Conclave and participated in eve-

rything from ceremony competitions to athletic competitions and continued the new tradition of winning Best-of-Section. Thank you to everyone that helped make that happen again. As I look ahead I can't wait for an awesome August Ordeal and Lodge Banquet in the near future.

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Ceremonies Comments by Michael P.

In the July ordeal we had 4 scouts attain the brotherhood membership of the OA. I am also please to say that 42 scouts became Arrowmen at the July Ordeal. I am pumped and ready to go for the August Ordeal as all of our ceremony teams are ready to go. See you at the August Ordeal!

Five Rivers by Nat Scott

“We provided several crossover ceremonies and an Eagle Court of Honor Ceremony for the district.”

Greetings, Brothers in cheerful service! The Five Rivers Chapter had an exciting spring and summer so far! We provided several crossover ceremonies and an Eagle Court of Honor Ceremony for the district. Lots of excited faces and a few “mom tears” were seen. The Eagle COH was for Troop 103 and saw that troop’s last Eagles to the summit. We are proud of Brothers Nate W., Wade A., and Michael B. for earning their Eagles! We were happy and sad at this court of honor!

July Ordeal was great! We have 14 new Broth-

ers we’re looking forward to working with and more to come in August. This election year is really going to build up the Five Rivers Chapter. We also had two Brothers show up at Ordeal for their Brotherhood Hikes. Congratulations, Reece P. and Jalon P.!

We’ve had a couple of Brothers have some new experiences this spring and summer. Chief Nat S. served the ETAC Wood Badge course as a Venturing Leader to get the participants to their campsites, set up and to the model campsite and led part of the problem-

solving games round-robin. He also got his first taste of being an ASM with his troop taking some of our soon-to-be Brothers to summer camp. Kyle G. is missing somewhere in the Rocky Mountains this summer! Not REALLY missing! Word on the mountain is that he’s enjoying working in God’s Country at Philmont soaking up some coolness! Kyle, bring back some cool air when you come home!

Golden Eagle by Dakota H.

Once again it had been a very busy quarter for Wo-Ha-Li. We have done two Crossovers and we have five more to do on the schedule. We have done one Troop OA Election for Troop 369 and our Chapter Vice Chief is contacting Scoutmasters within our Chapter to schedule more of them. We recently had

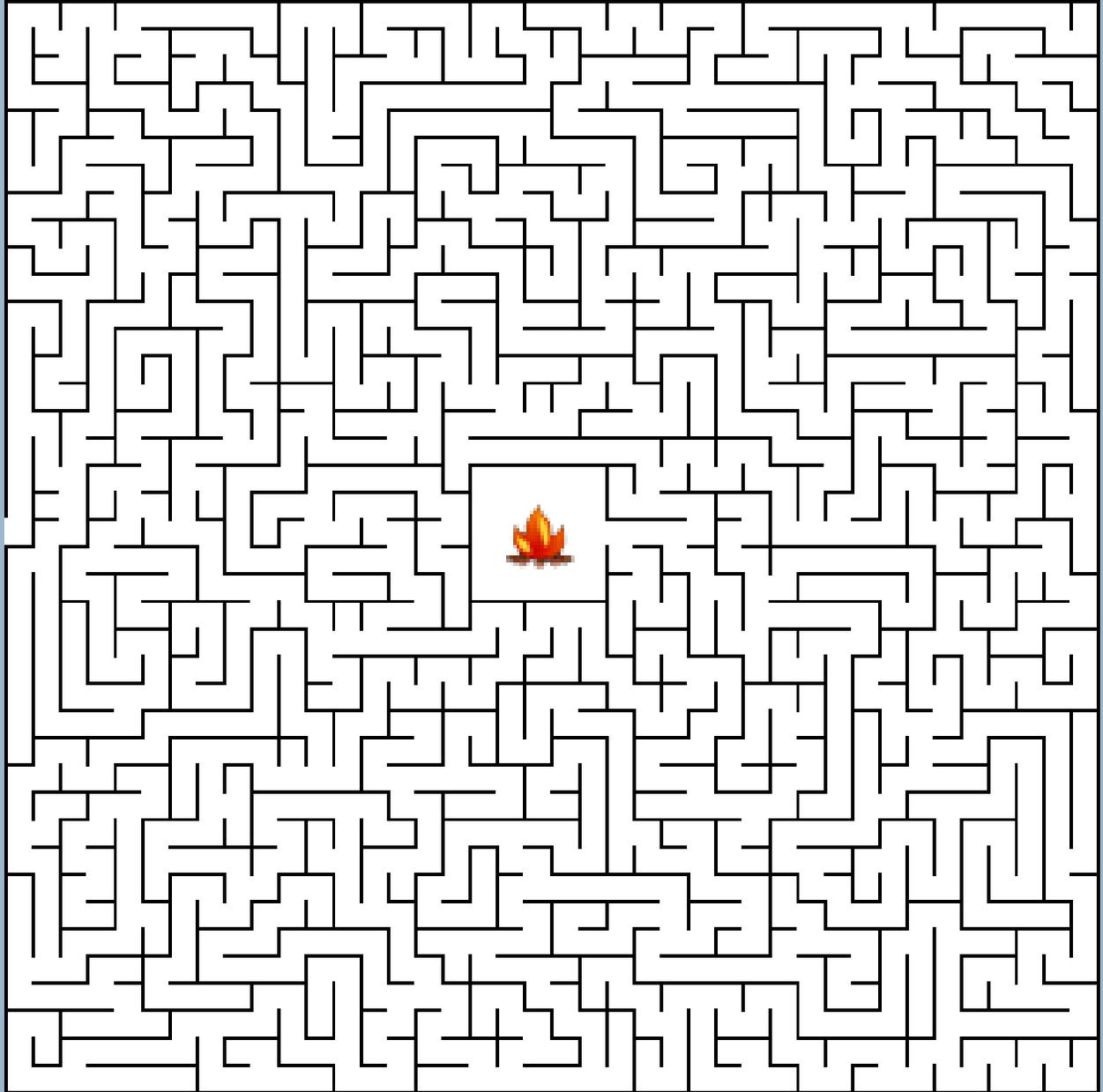
two arrowmen serve at the District Pinewood Derby a couple of Saturdays ago. Our Ceremony Teams are already practicing every week in preparations for Conclave. We are hard at work to make this a very successful year.

“We are hard at work to make this a very successful year.”





Find your Camp



Adviser's Minute by Matt Lindsey

Reflect and move forward

We just passed the summer solstice signaling that the days will now start to grow shorter as we pass the half way point for 2016. The lodge officers and members had lofty goals at the start of the year, yet, I think we are making great progress at achieving them. Of particular merit, is the lodge's commitment to supporting council events, including the quad jam and service days at Camp Pirtle. I believe it is important that the OA contribute to the well being of the council and not just focus on lodge activities. So it makes me very proud to see lodge members having prominent roles in council events. Thanks for all your service.

As the summer heats up we are now moving into ORDEAL season. This is the time that we will welcome up to 131 new members that have been elected this spring. These new members are the leaders of the future, so please do all you can to encourage them to attend an ordeal and find a place in the lodge to participate.

Finally, I want to thank two lodge members who have provided great service in the last two years but are moving on to other challenges. First, thanks to Paul Vaughn who has provided service and leadership to our lodge cook team, the Tejas Taste Buds. I would also like to thank our staff adviser Charlie Aman who has served the lodge for two years and is now stepping away from scouting. Both have provided countless hours of cheerful service and I am thankful for all they have done.

I hope to see you soon at a lodge event.

WWW,

Matt Lindsey
Tejas Lodge Adviser

The mission of the Tejas Lodge, Order of the Arrow is to fulfill its purpose as an integral part of the East Texas Area Council, Boy Scouts of America through positive youth leadership under the guidance of selected capable adults.

Final Notes by Jacob G.

What a great start to the year we had, and to think that we are already six months into it. I encourage everyone to help at the August Ordeal and to attend the Fall Fellowship. Thanks to everyone's help during the summer. I will see you at a Lodge event!

WWW



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