



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

Volume 3, Issue 3

Newsletter Date: 11-16-16

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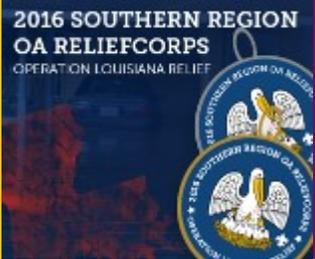
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OA Relief Corps patch

In early August 2016, deep tropical moisture in combination with low pressure unleashed unprecedented historic rain on the State of Louisiana. The American Red Cross says this is the worst natural disaster to strike the United States since Hurricane Sandy with over a dozen people dead, more than 40,000 residential homes damaged, and 10,000 people sent to emergency shelters. President Barack Obama has granted the governor's request for an emergency declaration to assist in response and recovery efforts. Gov. John Bel Edwards has deployed the Louisiana National Guard, which mobilized 1,700 soldiers to assist in search and rescue efforts. The governor said he expects to have close to 30 parishes declared disasters — nearly half of the state's 64 parishes. As a response to the disaster, Region Chief Jeff Sedlacek has tasked SR-1A to relaunch Southern Region ReliefCorps: Operation Louisiana Relief.

The vision of ReliefCorps is to give aid to those affected by the recent natural disasters in the Southern Region. ReliefCorps is a Southern Region program sponsored by Section 1A in Louisiana and Mississippi. As previously sponsored by Section 5 in 2015, Section 9 in 2011 and Section 8 in 2013, this will be the fourth taskforce established. All lodges are encouraged to participate. The program has two components: a lodge service project and a fundraiser. To commemorate our recovery efforts, a special gold mylar bordered patch has been designed and can be obtained by participating in a lodge organized service project. The only requirement for the lodge service project is that the project must benefit the community and not the BSA or any council. Additionally, a silver mylar bordered patch may be purchased for \$10.00 and the gold mylar bordered service project patches can also be purchased by those wishing to donate \$100 to the relief efforts. All proceeds from these sales will be given to the American Red Cross. Please help reach out to the victims of these natural disasters by participating in this program and remember that "he who serves his fellows is of all his fellows, greatest".

Yours In Service,
Jeff Sedlacek
2016 Southern Region Chief



Ordeals Recap

The July and August Ordeals saw another great number of new Arrowmen inducted into the OA. We had 106 scouts become a part of the OA. In addition, the Ordeals saw some great projects being completed at Camp Pirtle. The

gaga ball pit was resized to host even bigger games. In addition, a horseshoe pit was built to add another game to Camp Pirtle. Just a couple of days before the start of the August Ordeal, one of the walkway slabs in front

of the Founder's Lodge cracked. With the help of Terry Westmoreland and Brian Allen, the slab was fixed at the Ordeal. Tejas Lodge and Ranger Ken would like to thank everyone who helped at the Ordeals.

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

Fall Fellowship

The Fall Fellowship was a great success this past September. The Fall Fellowship put an emphasis on where everyone belongs in the OA, which was successfully achieved. The morning part of the Fall Fellowship was split into two sessions; the first focusing on

the Native American side of the OA and the second focusing on promotions, chapter development, and patch design. The 2017 Lodge Officer elections were also held, and the results of the election can be seen on the next page. We tried something new at the

event: OA Jeopardy! The game was very well received and the competition was fierce. All in all, the Fall Fellowship was another great event put on by the Lodge Officers. We hope everyone had a great time!

Lodge Banquet

Tejas Lodge announces its Annual Lodge Banquet for November 19, 2016 at the First United Methodist Church of Henderson at 6 PM. This is the final lodge event of the year dedicated to celebrating the work of our members

over the last year. This year the banquet is hosted by the Five Rivers Chapter. Accomplishments from the past year will be highlighted including the recognition of the 2016 Vigil class, the 2016 James West Award recipi-

ents and the 2016 Founders' Award recipients. The Chapter of the Year award will also be presented to the most outstanding chapter for 2016. The 2017 Lodge Chief and his officers will be installed. See you there.

NEXT Recap

This past summer, four members of Tejas Lodge traveled to Indiana State University to participate at NEXT. NEXT was the OA's national conference to bring together lodges from across the country to decide what would

happen "NEXT" after the 100th anniversary. Thanks to some great sessions and speakers, the four delegates from Tejas learned a lot on how they can better improve the lodge. In addition, they got to meet with lodges from across

the country on what programs work with them. The four Arrowmen were not the only ones attending from our lodge. We also had 3 Arrowmen staffing the event from our lodge. These Arrowmen cannot wait to use their ideas!

Conclave 2017

The Section Leadership of SR-2 is excited to announce the details of the 2017 Conclave! Conclave is an OA event at the Area level of Scouting with the purpose to bring together members from ten lodges, spanning the distance from Amarillo, TX to Shreveport, LA and

Texarkana TX/AR. Conclave will take place on April 21-23, 2017 at Garland Scout Camp in Stonewall, Louisiana. The theme for this Conclave is "Serve", which centers our organization on service. Registration for Conclave will open in December starting with the

early bird fee. Unlike with other years though, instead of stopping the early bird at a certain date, we will be stopping it once 200 people have registered for Conclave. Have a great day and we hope to see you at the 2017 SR-2 Conclave!

"Conclave will take place on April 21-23, 2017 at Garland Scout Camp in Stonewall, Louisiana."

2017 Lodge Officers

Lodge Chief

Thomas Ghiringhelli

Vice Chief of Ceremonies

Michael Pirtle

Vice Chief of Administration

Levi Morrill

Vice Chief of Native American Affairs

Justin King

Vice Chief of Service

Lake Brannon

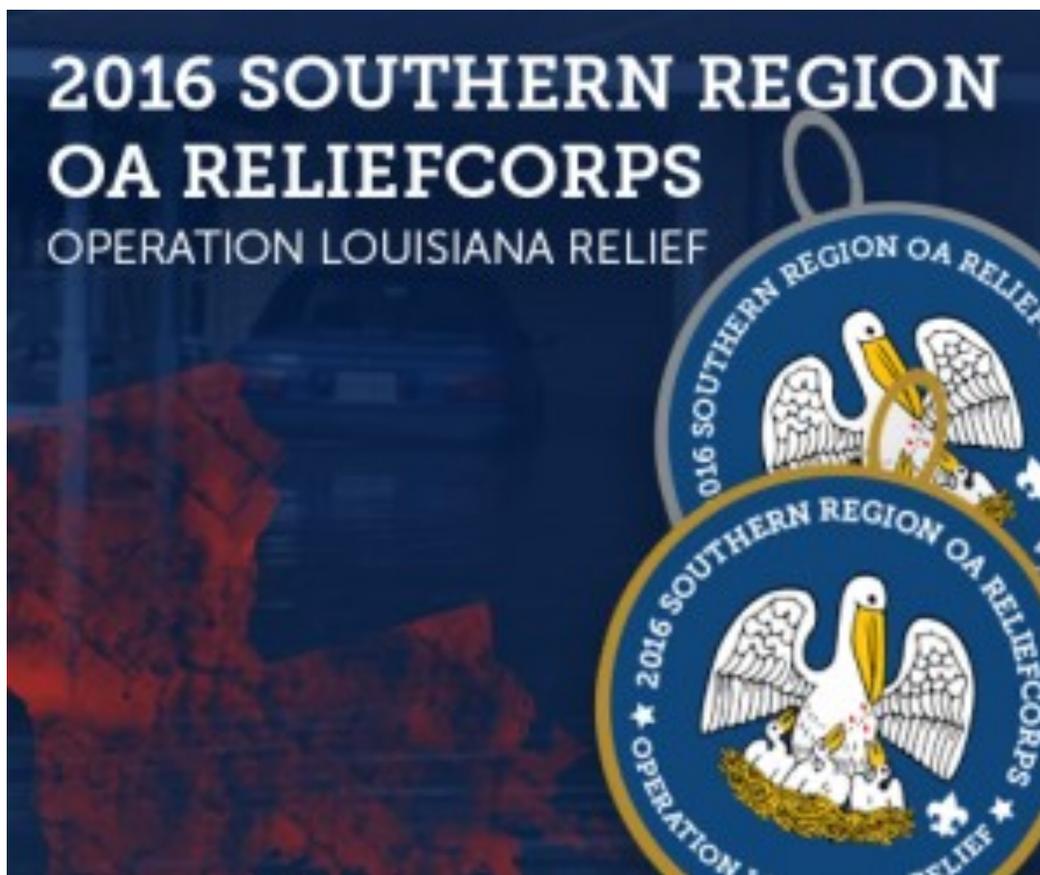
Secretary

Jacob Kimbrough

Lodge Chief's Report by Thomas G.

Tejas Lodge had another great summer! We received 106 new Arrowmen into the OA, traveled to the Summit and Indiana University for Prism and NEXT, and ended it off with the Fall Fellowship. My summer was just as great as I attended each of these events! At the Ordeals, I got to see so many great projects completed. Myself and the past two chiefs of Tejas Lodge even came up with a "Chief Project," where we painted one of the poles in the Founder's Lodge and redecorated some of the NOAC flaps. At Prism, I got to visit the Summit again and see the OA's ceremonial grounds for the first time at the OA Summit Circle. Myself and everyone there also got caught in a huge rain storm. At NEXT, I got to meet so many people from across the country. I learned some of the programs that work with their lodge and told them some that work with ours. I also learned some of the new programs that the OA is coming out with and got to hear some amazing speakers. I cannot wait to share these ideas I have with the rest of the Lodge Officers. I got to end my summer with the Fall Fellowship. I had such a great time with everyone and was happy to see the event was well received. My favorite part of the event had to be hosting OA Jeopardy. This was something new we had never done before. I was glad to see everyone had a great time with it. The Lodge Banquet is coming up next week and I cannot wait to see everyone there!

"My favorite part of the event (Fall Fellowship) had to be hosting OA Jeopardy."



Wo-Ha-Li by Andrew F.

This last quarter of the year for Wo-Ha-Li has been action packed. We wrapped up the July Ordeal with 7 candidates and 17 in the August Ordeal. We held our August Chapter meeting at Green Acres Bowling in Tyler; with a huge turn out with Lodge Chief and Lodge Vice Chief of Administration in attendance to promote

the upcoming Fall Fellowship on September 24th. We are having a service project on Saturday 17 at Faulkner Park. We will be doing mountain bike trail maintenance work. One of our own members earned his Eagle Scout. Our new members are attending meetings and activities with lots of enthusiasm

“We held our August Chapter meeting at Green Acres Bowling in Tyler; with a huge turn out...”







Word Search

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BANQUET
BROTHERHOOD
DOGWOOD
FOUNDERS
LOUISIANA
ORDEAL
PATCH
PIRTLE
VIGIL

Adviser's Minute by Matt Lindsey

I had a great experience in September when I volunteered to staff a weekend at a Philmont Scout Ranch Fly Fishing event. In between stints fly fishing in the Rayado River, I cooked and prepared meals for the dozen people staying at Zastrow with me for the weekend. On Saturday afternoon, I fished my way up the Rayado to Abreu Camp. I decided to check out the camp and came across the garden that the staff and scouts tended all summer but had to abandon late in August at the end of the camping season. I was excited to see it was overflowing with vegetables. I loaded up on tomatoes, peppers, onions and squash. We enjoyed fresh zucchini bread and other fresh things out of the garden that night.

The experience with the garden got me to thinking. Many of our scouts have served the last year as chapter and lodge officers and many more have actively supported our OA Lodge events. Just like the scouts and staff that worked the garden at Abreu, the "payoff" for all your hard work is in the future. Like the garden, the chapter officers have tended to their chapters all year and as their term expires many of them will move on to other challenges. However, someone will come after them and get to enjoy what they leave behind. As the year winds down, please thank your chapter and lodge officers for all the effort they invested over the past year. I would also like to thank each of you as well. You have left some healthy gardens all across our lodge and some future Arrowmen will soon enjoy the fruits of your labor.

I would like to thank one individual that will certainly leave a healthy garden for others to enjoy. That person is Peggy Scott. Dr. Scott is completing a three year term as a lodge associate adviser. She has advised the lodge secretary and maintained the lodge master system for the last three years. When you see her, please thank her for all she has done for the lodge in this position.

I hope everyone in the lodge is able to attend our banquet on November 19. We will get to recognize our new vigil class, our founder awards recipients and present the chapter of the year award.

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 Thomas G.

It has been such a great summer for Tejas Lodge. So many Arrowman got to experience the OA at it's fullest. I would like to truly thank everyone who helped out at the Ordeals. We accomplished so many great projects. In just a week, we will be recognizing some of the Arrowmen who have given great service to Tejas Lodge at the Lodge Banquet. I hope to see everyone there!

WWW



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Peggy S.
Adviser

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Vice Chief of Administration
Kyle G.
Vice Chief of Service
Michael P.
Vice Chief of Ceremonies
Justin K.
Vice Chief of Native American Affairs
Jacob G.
Secretary/Treasurer

