The Owaneco Lodge 2013 Winter Banquet was one that participants will not cease to forget for many years to come. The evening was enjoyed by more than 92 brothers. The evening started with a social hour where everyone was able to catch up with people they haven’t seen in a while. Once grace was said, brothers dove right into a feast fit for a king! There was Chicken Françoise, Sausage Peppers and Onions, Stuffed Filet of Sole, Eggplant Rollatini just to name a few dishes. Following dinner, members enjoyed a nice piece of cake while watching the 2013 year in review video.

After desert, the lodge business meeting was called to order. The first thing discussed was the Major Camp Service project which will be completed in the spring of 2014 at Camp Sequassen. Then we swiftly moved into talking about our 100th anniversary celebration in 2015 and the National Order of the Arrow Conference taking place the same year.

Following those two short presentations we moved into presenting our annual awards. The 2013 James E. West recipients are Andrew McCloskey and Mr. Bill Chin. The 2013 Founder’s Award recipients are Sean Nulty and Mrs. Carolyn Jagielski. The 2013 Ralph Deer Memorial Service award recipients are Stephen Rogalski, Jason Savisky, Mr. Michael Kennedy, and Mr. Tim McCloskey.

2013 also marked our first time awarding our two brand new scholarships. The inaugural class receiving the Owaneco Lodge OA High Adventure scholarship is Zach Webb and Sean Youngblood. The recipients of the 2013 Academic Scholarship are Jesse Morrow, and Ben Weidman. Following the awards presentations, our key note speaker and guest of honor for the evening, Mr. James Heavey gave a very amazing and well put key note address.

Mr. Heavey, or Chief Heavey is the Chief of Police of Greenwich and a life-long Scouter. At the end of his presentation he presented our Lodge Chief, Neil Patrick Harris, with one of his Chief of Police challenge coins. The lodge found out it was Mr. Heavey’s birthday in the past week so it was only fitting that we sung happy birthday to him and thanked him for coming. The meeting closed with the passing of two by-law amendments and the singing of our song.
CHIEFLY THOUGHTS

I hope that each of you enjoyed the winter as much as you could. As we move into spring and summer, I hope that you take each opportunity you have and make the most of it. Within the Lodge, there are many great experiences in the upcoming months. The first is our Major Camp Service Project work parties. By helping out in this awesome project, you will be able to leave part of your legacy with Camp Sequassen, a camp that has given us all many opportunities. The second is both our May and June Ordeals. Come help out at either of these ordeals and help provide the same experience that you went through your Ordeal, to the new members going through theirs. Finally, attend a chapter event. Many chapters are holding awesome events in the next couple of months so make sure you do not miss out!

In the past month, the Lodge has conducted out first two ever Arrow of Light ceremonies for local Cub Scout packs. I want to thank everyone who supported those and if you know of a pack that would like a future Arrow of Light ceremony conducted by the Lodge, please reach out to your Chapter Chief or myself.

Yours in Scouting,

Neil Patrick Harris

2013 - 2014 CHAPTER LEADERSHIP

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STAY CONNECTED
WITH Owaneco

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GO TO WWW.OWANECO.ORG TO FIND YOUR CHAPTER’S MEETING LOCATION AND TIME.
On February 9th Section NE-2A held its second annual Project LEAP (Lodge Excellence Assistance Program) at the Connecticut Yankee Council Resource center. The Owaneco Lodge contingent had 17 brothers take part in it, which was the largest contingent at the event! The theme of this training day was T.E.A.M., meaning Together Everyone Achieves More. This stress on teamwork worked into the opening training cell given by Section Chief Mitchell Heisler: The 5 Dysfunctions of a Team. The participants were then split into four training tracks, Leadership, for Lodge Officers; Program, for Committee Chairmen; Participation, for newer arrowmen; and Adviser, for those who advise.

It was then onto outstanding training cells taught by knowledgeable advisors and officers from the lodge, section and region levels. The Leadership Track enjoyed cells on the Troop Representative program, leadership management, and continual improvement. The Program Track learned all about promotion, recruitment, and the keys to an excellent committee. The Participation Track was oriented about the Order in cells about getting involved, brotherhood opportunities, and the unlimited possibilities in the brotherhood. The Advisor Track expanded their knowledge with cells about the hundredth anniversary of the OA, encouraging brothers to pay dues, and how to keep program fresh.

After the training cells were over, the participants enjoyed a gourmet lunch prepared lovingly by our Section Advisers. While everyone enjoyed lunch, the Lodge Chiefs, Section Officers, and Conclave Vice Chiefs retreated to a Council of Chiefs meeting. During the meeting many great plans were made for the upcoming “Saving Arrowman Ryan” Conclave (which is guaranteed to be an awesome event)!

Once the Council of Chiefs closed, participants discussed areas in need of support, Ceremonies/Dance teams, the Troop Representative program, and brotherhood conversions, thus supporting each other. The day closed with writing goals based on skills and knowledge gained during the day.

Based on the success of this event we all should look forward to the next Project LEAP!

The National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC) is the largest event of The Order of the Arrow. Over 10,000 Arrowmen from across our nation gather for an inspirational and unforgettable experience full of fellowship, training, adventure, and patch trading! During NOAC, Arrowmen will participate in a six-day conference which includes top notch training sessions, evening shows full of theatrics and special effects, and exciting programs.

NOAC 2015 will be held from August 3-8, 2015 at Michigan State University in East Lansing, Michigan, and will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Order of the Arrow. Arrowmen can travel to NOAC with a contingent from their lodge, or as a staff member supporting the thousands of Arrowmen attending in the conference.

Arrowmen attending NOAC 2015 will get a once in a lifetime souvenir, a special edition red sash. These sashes will differ from those currently worn in that the colors will be reversed, with a white arrow emblazoned on a red sash. The rarity of the sash is noteworthy, as only those present at NOAC 2015 will receive them.

Don’t miss out on NOAC 2015. To reserve your spot in your lodge contingent talk to your lodge chief, lodge adviser, or lodge staff adviser today. Get Ready, Get Set, NOAC 2015!

Have you been an Ordeal member for more than 10 months? If so, you should seal your membership in the order by obtaining your brotherhood.

Brotherhood is the next step on your journey that started when you were inducted into the Order of the Arrow. The Ordeal introduced you to the mysteries of the Order. Now, during your service as an Ordeal member, you have ample opportunity to increase your knowledge of the Order and make it work for you. Brotherhood members are identified by the bars on their sash which are located above and below the Arrow. Essentially the bars “seal” the Arrow, or seal your membership in the Order.

Questions? ask the Brotherhood Chairmen, Marck Dackow, by sending him an e-mail at dackow@owaneco.org

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MAY ORDEAL

Owaneco’s own Keewayden Chapter has been selected to organize and run the May Ordeal of 2014. The Ordeal will be held at Deer Lake Scout Reservation from May 9th to May 11th. This is the same weekend as Mother’s Day, but don’t worry, we will get you home in time on Sunday to give you the day with your mom.

Using state-of-the-art science (the simple voting method) to select a theme, the Chapter has decided that the Wild West will be the theme for this event. During the Ordeal, once the candidates are “bright eyed” and “bushy tailed” on Saturday morning, the sky is the limit in regards to the service projects the clans can do. From tree trimming to trail clearing to spreading gravel, there is nothing that will keep a clan idle.

As for food, the Candidates will get the usual delicacies, but for all attending Arrowmen, you will get a delicious Saturday Breakfast of Western Omelets, followed by a lunch of Sloppy Joes, and a dinner of Barbeque Chicken and Vegetables. Then, wake up on Sunday morning to a warm plate of flapjacks. This is all subject to change, however, due to how the selected chef and the Lodge leadership agree upon it.

If you are an Arrowman who has been an Ordeal Member for at least 10 months, it is highly encouraged that you to solidify your membership to the Lodge and your fellow Scouts by becoming a Brotherhood Member. This is a great opportunity and you can even be an Elangomat in the process! Talk about cheerful service! In all, this Ordeal will be jam-packed with the Wild West adventures offered in the name of Brotherhood, Cheerfulness, and good ole’ rootin’-tootin’ service.

CAMP SERVICE PROJECT

This spring Owaneco Lodge has an exciting new opportunity: to complete a major service project at Camp Sequassen.

As a service organization, our Lodge is dedicated to providing service to our Council’s camps. In order to demonstrate this commitment to service we will be building thirty-two brand new docks at the Sequassen waterfront. We will also be repairing the existing docks and donating them to Camp Pomperaug and Deer Lake Scout Reservation, for use in these camps’ respective summer programs. By updating the waterfront our Lodge will be helping to provide a quality summer program to thousands of campers in our council.

This is our Lodge’s opportunity to give back and we need your help in order to make this project a reality. Our first work day will be on April 12th from 8:00 AM until 5:00 PM, at Camp Sequassen, where lunch will be provided. We strongly encourage as many members as possible to attend the service project and help the Lodge give back to the Council and to Camp Sequassen; this is an opportunity you will not want to miss.

We will also have another work party in May, date to be announced. Here we hope to put the finishing touches on the project by adding the flotation billets to the frames we constructed in April. Also be sure to attend our June Ordeal (June 6th-8th) at Camp Sequassen and check out the finished docks at the waterfront.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact Sean Nulty at nulty@owaneco.org or Nick Razaia at razaia@owaneco.org.

JUNE ORDEAL

The June Ordeal is quickly approaching and is shaping up to be a very exciting event. The theme is Jurassic Camp. There will be good food, fun banquet, and an even better show by our lodges own shows committee. The Ordeal is also a great place to come back and get your brotherhood if you have been in the order for at least 10 months. If you are looking for a fun time, this is definitely the ordeal to come to.

This ordeal is also very important for a different reason. It is where the term ends for all positions. Elections will be taking place for all Lodge Officers and some Chapter positions. If you would like a say in who runs your lodge and possibly even run for a position, come to this ordeal.

NEW BYLAW CHANGE

At the Winter Banquet, Arrowmen enjoyed great food and great fellowship at Costa Azzurra in Milford. As always there were several items of discussion for the Lodge Business Meeting that also took place. Most notably, the first revision to Owaneco’s bylaws since 2012 was discussed and approved. Under the revisions, the Shows Committee is now an official committee rather than an Ad Hoc committee.

Anyone who has attended an Owaneco event in the past few years has been able to appreciate the work of the Shows Committee, and those brothers that work together to make it run. Additionally, a clarification was made as to who is allowed to submit revisions to the bylaws: any voting member is allowed to, meaning only members in good standing with Owaneco Lodge under the age of 21 can submit revisions. A majority of youth members voted to pass the revisions, making Shows an official committee of Owaneco Lodge.