

OWANECO OBSERVER

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LOOKING BACK & AHEAD

Another year has been placed into the history books as the new year for Owaneco Lodge is just beginning.

Last year saw five very successful events and a plethora of change within the lodge. The 2001 Spring Fellowship was one of the most successful fellowships to date. With the theme of a Hawaiian Luau, the fellowship included a pig roast and major trade-o-ree. The June Ordeal was the largest ordeal of the year with 100 candidates inducted and a change in leadership at the conclusion of the weekend.

Under the leadership of new Lodge Chief Bob Kravecs, the lodge held two successful ordeals in the fall. New events chairman Rob Anstett ran the first lodge ordeal ever at Deer Lake Scout Reservation, which also included a vigil induction and a visit from a distinguished guest. To conclude the year, the lodge held the largest winter banquet ever at Liedle's in Stratford which was well enjoyed by all.

As Owaneco looks towards a new year, lodge lead-



Above: A depiction of new member induction by Allowat Sakima during the Ordeal Ceremony.

ers are looking to make this the best year in lodge history. The fellowship has been moved back to October in order to allow more people to attend. This means the first two events of the year will be ordeals, one at each of the council's camps. Both ordeals promise to draw a large number of candidates; the lodge hopes to induct 250 new members this year. In order to make these ordeals a reality, Owaneco needs help from all members.

Each of Owaneco Lodge's operating committees needs

new members to join and provide assistance in building this year's program. From aiding in ceremonies or tribal dances to organizing service for the ordeal weekends to actually helping to plan and prepare for lodge events, each and every committee needs help. For more information on joining a committee contact one of the chairmen listed in the New Member's Guide or call Jeremy Meurice at .

Now is the chance to get involved as Owaneco looks to make 2002 the best year yet!

OWANECO LODGE LISTSERV: JOIN TODAY

Are you looking for a new way to find out about the Lodge and upcoming events? Well, if you are, join the Owaneco Lodge Listserv today.

A Listserv is an email list that allows all members to

receive email announcements and hold email discussion. The Owaneco Lodge Listserv is known as *Owaneco-L*.

All members that have email are encouraged to subscribe: it is just another way to stay informed. To subscribe send an email to:

LISTSERV@BESTEFFORT.COM
with no subject line and the following in the message:

SUB OWANECO-L Your Name

Copy exactly, adding in your own name, and you'll get an answer right back.

A LETTER FROM THE CHIEF

As we enter into the fourth full year in our history, it is amazing how great Owaneco Lodge has become. I invite each of you to take part in this success and join myself and the entire execu-



Brotherhood Of Cheerful Service

tive committee in striving to make this the best year in Owaneco to date.

So many opportunities exist for you to become involved. Join one of the lodges fifteen operating committees, become involved in planning for lodge and chapter events, or simply voice your opinion at a chapter meeting. Each and every member of the lodge is invited to attend the lodge's Executive Committee Meetings and find an opportunity to help out. Also please consider of volunteering to assist at the council extravaganza in May. We need your help to make

the trade-o-ree a success.

You have four opportunities to continue in the tradition of cheerful service over the upcoming year, and I look forward to seeing each and ever one of you. If you are a new member, remember good food and good talk are only some of the perks of attending. Please see the article below on the May Ordeal and register today!

I look forward to seeing all of you during this upcoming year. Until then, always live the Obligation and remember to "Catch the Higher Vision."

Yours in the Wimachtendienk,

Bob Kravecs
Lodge Chief

MAY ORDEAL: SERVING DEER LAKE

The first ordeal of the 2002 lodge year will taking place on May 3rd thru 5th at Deer Lake Scout Reservation in Killingworth. Over 100 candidates are expected to attend and many members will be needed to make the weekend a success.

This is the first chance for many new members from last year's ordeal and anyone who has been an ordeal member

for over ten months to go through the Brotherhood Conversion process and become a full brother of Owaneco Lodge. For a list of requirements see the Order of the Arrow Handbook or Owaneco's New Member's Guide. For more information call the Brotherhood Chairman Will Lugo At

The lodge also needs help in organizing elangomats

to lead the candidates through the ordeal. The weekend is free for anyone serving as an elangomat and there are a number of other perks. If you would like to serve as an elangomat, please fill out a registration form and check off the elangomat box. Please include the fee, it will be refunded at the weekend. The lodge needs help to make the weekend a success.

YOUR OWANECO LODGE LEADERS

Lodge Chief	Bob Kravecs
Vice Chief—Chapters	Bill Cummings
Vice Chief—Program	Jeremy Meurice
Vice Chief—Inductions	Tyler White
Lodge Treasurer	Tom Gordon
Lodge Secretary	Michael Katona
Lodge Advisor	Mr. Ralph Deer

"Awake my friends, you now are starting on a long and toilsome journey..."

LEADING OWANECO INTO 2003

As the June Ordeal draws near, again all members of our Lodge must consider how our lodge will be lead over the next year. Officer elections will take place during the June Ordeal and all members present are allowed to vote. If you are interested in running for or holding a position, please read the rest of this article.

Holding the position of a lodge leader is an honor and a challenge. Newer members who are interested in becoming more involved in the Order of the Arrow and helping to improve the lodge should consider running for a chapter office. All the chapters need people to serve as Vice Chiefs

or chair chapter committees. If you are interested please contact your chapter chief to find out when chapter elections are held.

More experienced members of the lodge should consider running for a lodge office or heading a committee. If you are interested in chairing a committee see the newly elected lodge chief in June. If you are interested in running for a lodge office, please fill out the enclosed



Above: The official lodge chief patch from the early 1990s.

form and submit it with a letter of intent to the Lodge Advisor. Good luck to all who run!

LODGE WEBSITE UNVEILED

Owaneco Lodge has unveiled a new website so that members can received information about the lodge in a modern format. The site contains an up-to-date news section included important announcements. All contact information and an in-depth history of the lodge can also be found on the site. Please check the site out:



Above: A screenshot from the new lodge website's main page, which can be viewed at:



Let Brotherhood,

Like The Bowstring,

*Bind Us Each To
Every Other,*

*Closer When The Bow
Is Tested.*



OWANECO LODGE CALENDAR

Executive Committee Meetings

Location: Milford Scout Office
Time: 7:30 – 9:00 PM

Upcoming ECM Dates:
April 14th, 2002
May 20th, 2002
June 18th, 2002

No ECM Will Be Held In July Or August

Upcoming Lodge Events

May Ordeal:
- May 3rd Thru 5th, 2002
- Deer Lake Scout Reservation
- See Registration Form For Details

June Ordeal:
- June 7th Thru 9th, 2002
- Sequassen Scout Reservation
- Lodge Elections At Sunday Meeting

CYC EXTRAVAGANZA & TRADOREE

It has been five years since the entire council has come together for a council wide camporee. The 2002 Connecticut Yankee Council Extravaganza will be taking place at Hammonasset

Beach State Park in Madison, CT on May 10-12. Most of the troops throughout the council will be attending this spectacular council event.

The event will include demonstrations of different activities and camping techniques by many of the different attending troops throughout the day on Saturday. There will also be demonstra-



Above: The official Connecticut Yankee Council shoulder strip.

tions by other different scouting organizations like venturing and sea scouting. Parents and siblings are invited to attend the event during the day and participate in the demonstrations. At night, the council will come together for an exciting show and campfire. All OA members who wish to participate should attend with their troop.

Owaneco Lodge will be participating in the extravaganza by organizing and running a trade-o-ree for all participants. The trade-o-ree will consist of forty dealer tables, a patch auction in the afternoon, and an Order of the Arrow display. In order to make the trade-o-ree a success, the lodge needs members to help to plan for the event and also to man the ticket table and help the dealers to move their supplies at the beginning and end of the day. If you would like to help out, please contact Rob Anstett at



“Catch The Higher Vision In The Order Of The Arrow.”



NATIONAL OA CONFERENCE 2002

In less than four months, twenty members of Owaneco Lodge will be departing for the National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC) in Bloomington, Indiana.

Each one of the fifteen youth and five adults will have an opportunity to learn about newly developed programs, leadership styles, and training techniques that can be used to improve this lodge. NOAC is far from just training, though. Attending members will participate in inter-lodge competitions on a national scale, camping and high adventure demonstrations, and a Founder's Day celebration of epic proportions. Attendees will also be in store for the best



Above: The NOAC fundraiser patch is available today.

shows ever produced for NOAC. The national committee has been working for over a year and a half to make NOAC an enjoyable and motivating experience for everyone who attends.

Members of Owaneco Lodge will also have the benefit of building a stronger group within the lodge both at NOAC and during special activities before and after. Owaneco's contingent will be attending an Indian's baseball game

and one of the largest theme parks in the country. Other activities are still being planned.

Six members of Owaneco Lodge will be attending NOAC on staff. Bill Chin, Adam Fromm, Michael McCann, and Bob Kravacs

will be serving on the Inductions and Ceremonial Events (ICE) staff. Rob Anstett will be serving on the shows staff and Michael Card will be serving on the competitions and recreation staff.

Fundraiser patches for NOAC are available today. The money raised from the sale of these patches helps to defer the cost of NOAC for those attending. Please see the enclosed form for more information on ordering.