

O WANECO OBSERVE R

Volume 2, Issue 3

Owaneco Lodge #313 - Connecticut Yankee Council, BSA

November 2002

A LETTER FROM THE CHIEF

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As our fifth year as a lodge begins, we look back at what has been the greatest year yet. Over two-hundred new members were inducted and, because of improvements in lodge program, most are staying involved. Furthermore, over sixty members sealed their membership in our Order this year by completing their Brotherhood conversion. In addition to this, seven members were inducted into the Vigil Honor. These brothers worked tirelessly over the past few years to make our lodge what it is today and have earned this high honor. Thanks to all who made this past year a great success! However, there is still much to be done.

During this upcoming year we hope to implement a new

program that will help chapters become more involved in lodge activities. This change will require increased involvement by the members of each chapter. Please attend your next chapter meeting and find out how you can get involved. Also, this past summer our lodge introduced its newest tool in communications: Owaneco Online. A large member section has been incorporated into the site which allows you to find out information on both your chapter and committees of which you are a member. Please see the article on **page 2** for more information.

I am proud to announce that next September we will be serving as the host lodge for the Section NE-2C Conclave, which will be held at Camp Sequassen. This is a great honor for us as a lodge. I have appointed Michael

Card as the Conclave Coordinator and committees are presently being formed to run the different aspects of the weekend. Next June, we will look to make improvements to our camp to prepare it for the Conclave. Please volunteer to help on a committee and assist us to make this the best conclave our section has ever seen.

Have a joyous holiday season and a Happy New Year. I look forward to seeing all of you at the upcoming Winter Banquet. Until then, remember that "he who serves his fellows is of all his fellows greatest."

Yours in the Wimachtendienk,

Robert Kravecs III
Lodge Chief

UPCOMING 2003 UNIT ELECTIONS

AS the Fall Season comes to an end and Winter begins we all know that another season of Unit Elections is upon us. The Vice Chief of Inductions in each chapter is working right now to schedule an election for each unit. Unit elections is a very difficult but important task each year, and everyone's help in the chapter is needed to make the process a little easier.

If you are a Scoutmaster, please be sure to promptly reply when you are contacted by the Vice Chief of Inductions. If not, urge your Scoutmaster to contact your chapter and schedule a unit election as soon as possible. Elections have been taking

place since early November and will continue until March 15th of the upcoming year. The deadline for elections must be strictly observed by all chapters.

This year, a new format has been put in place for recording and reporting elections to the Lodge Vice Chief of Inductions, the Unit Elections Chairman and the Membership Advisor. Each chapter was given an elections binder at the Fall Fellowship which included an updated elections script and all the necessary forms. If you are part of an election team you must be sure to familiarize yourself with the new format so that all candidates will be properly recorded.

This brings us to the final

part of unit elections which is putting together teams to visit each of the troops for the election. Each chapter needs to put together at least three teams of two Youth members and an Adult leader. Members of the troop holding an election should not serve on the team for their troop. The lodge needs you to step up and become a member of a unit elections team. If you would like more information, or to volunteer, call Mark Carpenter, Unit Elections Chairman at 203-371-4468. You may also email him at carpenter@owaneco.org

The Lodge needs your help to make this year's elections a success. Please give this effort some thought and join in the process.

**2003 LODGE DUES
PAYMENT REMINDER**

Dues for the 2003 year will again be \$8.00 for those who pay them before January 31. Beginning February 1, the dues fee will increase to \$13.00. Take advantage of the lower fee from now until the end of January. You may pay your dues when you send in the enclosed Banquet Registration Form. Please use this form even if you will not be attending the Banquet. You may also pay your dues at the Scout Shop in Milford. Be sure to fill in **all** the information on the payment form so that we may update our records.

If you know of any members of your troop who did not pay their dues last year, please encourage them to register for 2003. Your Chapter Chief and Advisor have a list of current Chapter Members and of those who were active in 2001.

THANK YOU!



“A wake my friends, you now are starting on a long and toilsome journey...”



Owaneco Online

WWW.OWANECO.ORG

Owaneco Lodge would like to introduce to the entire membership the newest resource for Arrowmen to receive information about the lodge. Owaneco Lodge is now on the web at www.owaneco.org. Owaneco Online has every resource that you will need to find out more about the lodge, your chapter, and all of the different operating committees.

The names and email addresses of all of the lodge leadership, agendas and minutes from executive committee meetings, a complete lodge calendar, forms and other resources, and links to other important sites are available. You'll find all of these things and much more available at your fingertips.

To have full access to all of the areas on Owaneco Online, you need to create an account for yourself which you can then use to login to the site. To begin creating an account open your web browser and go to www.owaneco.org. Choose “Accounts” from the left navigation menu, then click “Register For New Account.” Follow the on screen instructions to create an Owaneco Online account. Once your account is created, you will have access to the chapters and committees areas and additional resources.

Please take advantage of this resource and enjoy using Owaneco Online! For questions please contact the webmaster at webmaster@owaneco.org.

YOUR OWANECO LODGE LEADERS

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| Lodge Chief | Bob Kravacs |
| Vice Chief—Chapters | Michael Katona |
| Vice Chief—Program | Jeremy Meurice |
| Vice Chief—Inductions | Tyler White |
| Lodge Treasurer | Tom Gordon |
| Lodge Secretary | Sean Murphy |
| Lodge Advisor | Mr. Ralph Deer |

WINTER BANQUET 2002

After all the presents are opened, the dinners devoured, and the boredom of Holiday Vacation has set in, there is hope. The 2002 Owaneco Lodge 313 Winter Banquet is coming! This banquet promises to be the best ever but to get in on the excitement you must attend!

The Banquet will take place on Friday, December 27 (Snow date is Monday, December 30), from 6:30pm to 9:30pm, at Liedle's Restaurant in Stratford. Registration and a reception with appetizers begins at 6:30pm. From 7:30pm until 8:30pm, a full course meal will be served consisting of salad and bread, pasta and meatballs, chicken, rice, vegetables, and a desert.

After dinner we will have the lodge's annual business meeting. If you cannot attend



the dinner you are welcome to attend the meeting; please arrive around 8:15pm. A number of important things will take place during the meeting: the presentation of the Conclave Promotional Video, a vote on the by-law revisions included in this mailing, and a number of special presentations.

The banquet patch is being designed by Keewayden Chapter. You will receive one as part of your banquet fee and there will also be extras in the trading post for purchase. There are also many new items in the trading post, including our 5th Anniversary Lodge

Flap, a new lodge neckerchief, and a new lodge back patch. A pre-order form is included in this mailing

A new part of the banquet will be a silent auction of patches and other items including charter flaps, Red Ghost Jamboree delegates, the silver mylar border September 11th patch, and all the 2002 NOAC issues, including neckerchiefs and delegates. The auctioning will also include tickets for sporting events and gift certificates from local businesses. For this auction to be a success we need everyone's support. If you would like to make a donation to the auction, please contact Dr. Bob Kravecs at (203) 459-0939 or email him at drbob@owaneco.org. Items can be scouting related, sporting tickets, gift certificates, or just about any other item.



Some of the brothers at the Fall Fellowship.



*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:
December 16, 2002
January 13, 2003
February 10, 2003
March 17, 2003

Upcoming Lodge Events

Winter Banquet
- December 27, 2002
(Snow Date: December 30)
- Liedle's Restaurant in Stratford
- See Article and Registration Form For Details

Spring Ordeals
- May 2-4, 2003 at Deer Lake
- June 6-8 at Camp Sequassen

PAST AND UPCOMING EVENTS



The Fall Fellowship Patch

This Fall we had two very successful events: an Ordeal in September and a Fellowship with a Mel Brooks theme in October, not to mention a thought-provoking LLDC also held in October. At the Ordeal, we tried many new and different ideas. One of them was a show after the banquet featuring our own David Arrowman, a.k.a Robert Kravecs, our Lodge Chief. This allowed each committee to do an “advertisement” to promote involvement in their committee and the lodge. The show was arranged and run by Chief Pomperaug chapter, and in the future parts of events will be run by each chapter.

In October we had the Fall Fellowship, Mel Brooks style, called *History of the Lodge Part 313*. This was a great success. All the activities were

based on the movies of Mel Brooks, with a climactic showing of *Blazing Saddles*. For the first time in OA Jeopardy, all the teams were in positive numbers because this was not just OA Jeopardy, it was Mel Brooks Jeopardy! There was also an archery range (thanks to the Cub camp for allowing us to borrow it), a Frisbee game, a pumpkin carving contest, and of course, the showing of all the Mel Brooks movies. We had a total of 6 out of the 14 Brotherhood conversions that we need to make honor lodge.

There will be a Ceremonies Team weekend on November 29-30 at Deer Lake. All that you need to do is show up on Saturday and have fun. Lets make Honor Lodge this year, this would be only the 2nd time Owaneco Lodge has earned this award. Ordeal

members from last year, if you are eligible to convert to Brotherhood, go and have fun, you might find the lodge to be a bit more exciting than you remember.

On December 27, the lodge will be hosting the Winter Banquet at Liedle’s Restaurant in Stratford. Come and attend! There will be fellowship, a great dinner, a brief Lodge Business Meeting to discuss plans for next year, a silent auction, door prizes and FUN, FUN, FUN!!!

See you in December!



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



In Memoriam

Brian D’Orso

*March 28, 1986-
November 6, 2002*

**Troop 925, Orange, CT
Ordeal Member— June 2000
Brotherhood—June 2001
Lodge Ceremonies Team**

*We extend our sympathy to
his family and friends*

PICTURES FROM THE FALL FELLOWSHIP



The mighty Emperor Caesar and his “assistant”, who led the Lodge in an intense game of Mel Brooks Jeopardy!



The winners of the pumpkin carving contest. (l to r) Adam Holland, Dave Chick, Jr., Ed Wolf.



*Brotherhood of
Cheerful Service*