



# Owaneco Observer

[www.owaneco.org](http://www.owaneco.org)



Volume 4, Issue 3 Owaneco Lodge - Connecticut Yankee Council, BSA November, 2005

## A Letter From The Chief

**S**ea-son's greetings brothers! Each year the lodge chief and his ECM create a set of goals for the year. I would like to take this opportunity to share with you this year's lodge goals:

1. Increase new member retention.
2. Obtain quality lodge for 2006.
3. Install the extended elangomat program.
4. Organize a contingent of at least 25 brothers to NOAC.
5. Significantly exceed the 30% brotherhood conversion requirement.
6. Make sure that every committee chairman and lodge officers accomplish their own goals.
7. Increase the number of O A t r o o p representatives.
8. Add another element to the construction of the ceremony ring.

With the completion of these goals we will continue to be the best lodge in the section. These goals, however, will not complete themselves, and we will need everyone's help. There is no 'I' in lodge, so get involved. I look forward to seeing you this coming year.

Yours in Wimachtendienk,  
*Charlie Johnson*  
Charlie Johnson  
Lodge Chief

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## 2006 Membership:

Dues for the 2006 lodge year are now being collected. Dues are **\$15** this year. If you have a question, please contact:

Mr. Bob Cloutier at  
[cloutier@owaneco.org](mailto:cloutier@owaneco.org)  
or (203) 452-1922

## Introducing the Owaneco Gold Pass



This year lodge members have the option to either pay the normal dues costs for the year or purchase an Owaneco Gold Pass. The Gold Pass includes lodge dues and entrance to all three ordeals, the fellowship, and the winter banquet. The total regular cost for the year is \$105.00, and the Gold

Pass is available to you for the low cost of **\$90.00** - making dues for the year free! The pass is non-transferable, and only valid for lodge events.

### Member Benefits:

- Pay once for the entire year.
- Online event registration.
- Save on the cost of attending events.

Registration forms are included in this mailing, so be sure to be a part of the inaugural year of Owaneco's Gold Pass program! Looking for a gift? Owaneco Gold Passes can be presented as a gift to other lodge members too! Have a question about our new lodge membership options? Contact Membership Chairman Brian Cofrancesco at [cofrancesco@owaneco.org](mailto:cofrancesco@owaneco.org).



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## A Message from the Quinnipiac Dancers

Hey Brothers, are you serving your Lodge? Are you fulfilling your obligation and working on one of the many committees in the lodge? In case you are looking for a way to get active, we would like to suggest the Quinnipiac Dancers. We are now meeting every Sunday and are always looking for new Brothers wanting to get involved.

We meet on Sundays at the Our Lady of Mt Carmel Church, Whitney Ave., Hamden. The meetings start at 7:00 and go to about 8:30. You do not need to know anything about Indian dancing or crafts. We will teach you everything! You are welcome to just visit and see what we do before any commitment. So come on down and give us a try! Here are some upcoming events that we will be participating in:

Community Pow Wow, December 10, Hamden Miller Library complex, Dixwell Ave. This event is partially sponsored by the Team. There will be dancing, crafts, traders, and a free feast to all that attend. Come and see what a traditional Indian social is like.

NOAC '06 - National Order of the Arrow Conference. There is a move by the Team to again attend and compete in the Group Historical Dance category. This is a national competition and we need committed members.

## Kevin's Quote

*“Success is the ability to go from failure to failure with no loss of enthusiasm”*

I chose this quote to introduce the inaugural column of “Kevin’s Quote” because I feel this is the most applicable quote to youth (personally, it is my favorite). As youth in the Order of the Arrow, we are challenged to work with adults and other youth, who oftentimes do not share our same views and ideas. As leaders, it is our job to rally people behind us to simply get projections done.

During our terms of leadership, we often encounter failures and disappointments, and many times it is easier to forgo our ideas or concede to the group, even if we truly know what we are doing is right. Driving home, we may feel disappointed and “down and out.” It is in these trying times that we mustn’t lose that spark that encourages us to be the arrowman and leaders we strive to be. Losing an election, having ideas voted down, we will all encounter failures; it is how we deal with those failures which determine the type of leader we are.

This quote is by Winston Churchill—British Prime Minister from 1940-45 and 1951-55. He is a fine example of how leader’s determination and persistence can get us through even the toughest of times.

## Your Owaneco Lodge Leaders

<b>Lodge Chief</b>	Charlie Johnson	<a href="mailto:johnson@owaneco.org">johnson@owaneco.org</a>
<b>Vice Chief—Chapters</b>	Sean Murphy	<a href="mailto:murphy@owaneco.org">murphy@owaneco.org</a>
<b>Vice Chief—Program</b>	David Chick, Jr.	<a href="mailto:dchick@owaneco.org">dchick@owaneco.org</a>
<b>Vice Chief—Inductions</b>	Zach Silver	<a href="mailto:silver@owaneco.org">silver@owaneco.org</a>
<b>Lodge Treasurer</b>	Dan Peck	<a href="mailto:peck@owaneco.org">peck@owaneco.org</a>
<b>Lodge Secretary</b>	Dan Miller	<a href="mailto:miller@owaneco.org">miller@owaneco.org</a>
<b>Lodge Advisor</b>	David Chick, Sr.	<a href="mailto:chick@owaneco.org">chick@owaneco.org</a>

## Owaneco Makes Many “Links” at Conclave

From August 26-28, Section NE-2C held its annual conclave at Camp Keowa in upstate New York. At the weekend, Owaneco’s contingent of 20 brothers helped to ensure that the weekend’s theme, “Search for the Fire Within”, was fully realized. The lodge produced 5 conclave newsletters, called “The Link”, and ran many of the entertainment events, including Lodge Feud and the weekend in review slideshow. Shawn Murphy, who was the Conclave Vice Chief for, said that this is one of the busiest conclaves he’s been to. “There’s so much to do, you can’t do it all,” Murphy said.



Most importantly, elections were held for the 2006 NE-2C leadership was chosen. Kevin Sylvester was re-elected Section Chief, John McCourt, of Nachanimat, was elected Section Vice Chief and Alex Larsen, of Ktemaque, was elected Section Secretary. The weekend included a good ol’ fashion country western night, action packed training presentations, inter-lodge and individual competitions, a casino night and Owaneco’s signature weekend in review. The weekend also featured a number of guests, including the 2005 Northeast Region Chief, Dan O’Rourke.

## September Ordeal a ‘Touchdown’

The September ordeal was held at Camp Sequassen, and despite the weather, many service projects were completed. New Elangomat chairman Andy Vill and adviser Wade Anderson worked hard to get qualified Elangomats to lead each clan. Brush was cleared and disposed of, and campsites in North Sequassen were cleared of trees –thus expanding their usable space. Despite a severe thunderstorm prior to the ceremonies, the ordeal and brotherhood ceremonies were conducted in the ceremonies ring. The hard day of work ended with a tailgate party banquet in the dining hall to welcome all the new ordeal members. Everyone sat intermixed and ate a family style meal. There was an enjoyable David Arrowman



Show and a weekend in review slideshow. Overall there were 75 new ordeal members and 6 new brotherhood members.

**LEFT:** Owaneco’s All-Star Football Team.

**RIGHT:** Ordeal candidates clear debris in North Sequassen.



## NOAC 2006 Pre-Registration



MICHIGAN STATE  
UNIVERSITY

The lodge is now taking pre-registrations for NOAC 2006. Anyone interested in going to NOAC with the lodge should contact Dr. Bob Kravecs at [kravecs@owaneco.org](mailto:kravecs@owaneco.org). Tom Early ([early@owaneco.org](mailto:early@owaneco.org)) is chair of the NOAC Ad-Hoc committee.

The National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC) is held every 2 years, and is a gathering of lodges from around the country for training, fun and fellowship. Interested in what programs are planned? Check out [www.oa-bsa.org](http://www.oa-bsa.org) over the next coming months to learn about what is planned for NOAC 2006!

## Lodge Leadership Development –*Continuing Owaneco's Success*

On October 7-8, 2005 brothers gathered at Hoyt Scout Reservation for a two day intensive course on leadership development. Almost 50 arrowman were eager and excited to be trained by some of the top leadership within the lodge. The Lodge Leadership Development Course is designed to hone applicable leadership skills in a Lodge and troop related setting.

Friday night kicked off with an informative session which encouraged individuals to reflect on their own style and goals as a leader. John Greenman, a past section officer from New York, traveled down to deliver "*Knowing Your Leadership.*" David Applegate, past lodge chief closed the night with a "*Goal Setting*" session which reflected on our mutual vision as a lodge and personal goals as scouts.

Saturday morning was packed with brain-storming sessions on various topics such as *Running Lodge Events* and *Brotherhood Conversions*. In the afternoon, brothers increased their knowledge of the OA through jeopardy and various other team building activities.

Much appreciation goes out to Wade Anderson for providing excellent food in the kitchen, to Kevin Sylvester and Mark Abrahamson who planned the event, and all Arrowman who trained.

The Lodge Leadership was another successful event of Owaneco Lodge. Sure there was training, but arrowman met lodge officers, watched movies, and bonded as a group. No matter how much you know, there is always room for additional information! It is encouraged that even the veteran arrowman come out for next year's Lodge Leadership Development conference. Look for the date in the upcoming months for next fall.



Lodge members write down notes at the this year's LLD.

## Good Ol' Time at the Fall Fellowship

A fun time was had by all at Deer Lake Scout Reservation, which was converted into the land of 'Dixie' for this year's fall fellowship. Friday night featured episodes from the Blue Collar Comedy Tour, followed by a pumpkin carving contest. Brothers awoke the next morning to a hearty southern breakfast including grits and waffles, and the *King of the Hill* "The Order of the Straight Arrow" episode. Members spent the morning completing a service project at the camp's dam, clearing debris and tree limbs from past storm.

Lunch featured ribs, chili and the pilot episode of "The Dukes of Hazzard." Members played Southern games in the afternoon such as Horseshoes, wheelbarrow races and a tomahawk throwing contest. After a KFC dinner, everyone watched the new movie "The Dukes of Hazzard." Everyone enjoyed the weekend in 'Dixie' with 55 bothers attending and 3 obtaining their brotherhood. If couldn't make it to this year's fellowship, don't miss the next one!



Kevin Sylvester, Chris Guarniere and Mike Card compete in the watermelon eating contest.



Lodge members clear brush and debris off the lake's dam.