



# Owaneco Observer

www.owaneco.org



Volume 6, Issue 2 Owaneco Lodge - Connecticut Yankee Council, BSA

July, 2007

## A Letter From The Chief

Hello Brothers,

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself, Scott Backer, as your Lodge Chief for the 2007-2008 term. I would like to congratulate and welcome the eighty-seven ordeal candidates that became members of our lodge this past June Ordeal. As well, twenty-one current members strengthened their bonds to brotherhood, service, and cheerfulness, by becoming Brotherhood members. Congratulations to all of you. I would also like to thank Nick Cloutier who was our Ordeal Master for the weekend and his two assistants Warren Amidon and Jon Vignali, for all of their hard work. Thanks to all the Ordeal Candidates, several service projects across Camp Sequassen were accomplished throughout the weekend.

I am also very excited to say, that this year has started off with a bang on the chapter front! In the past month, the Lodge has had its first Inter-Chapter activity in years. Thanks to the organization and planning by Matthew Banas, the Chapter Chief of Achewon and Chapter Advisor Dave Lewis, Achewon's BBQ and Frisbee event was a great success with over 30 youth and adults present. Those also in attendance were both Arcoon and Keewayden Chapter members. On a fun note, Achewon Chapter defended their home turf by beating a combined Arcoon/Keewayden team at Ultimate Frisbee in a very heated and contested 8-6 game. The evening also consisted of wiffleball in which the Lodge Chief's team defeated the Lodge Advisor's team 5-2. This event was a great start to the year and we hope to see many other Inter-Chapter events in the coming months.

As for the future of this Lodge, my emphasis for this year is based upon three words: Be, Know, and Do. For each and every one of you receiving this letter, you are currently registered in the Boy Scout's National Honor Society, the Order of the Arrow. For youth, you have been elected by your fellow peers who thought you were worthy of this honor and for adults, very similarly you were nominated. That is who and what each and every one of you is. You are a leader or a friend, according to your peers and that's why the first word in my theme for the year is so important. We all must be exactly what we are capable of being. As for the Know and Do, the Know is gained along the way in the Order of the Arrow. One learns more about themselves and their limitations in the Ordeal. The Know also comes from attending training sessions such as the Lodge Leadership Development course the Lodge will hold later on this year. Not only will you gain knowledge of what you need to do in the lodge, but will gain the necessary knowledge one needs to lead as well. As for the Do, it is pretty self explanatory. It is time we Do what we can to get the greatest benefits from this Honor Society. The three W's that we repeat in the Order's Obligation tell us the traditions of this program. The first stands for brotherhood, the second, cheerfulness, and the last service. This year, by attempting to Be, Know, and Do, we will accomplish the aims of our Order and therefore have one outstanding year.

I hope all of you are as excited as I am in our plans for the coming year. If this great start is any inclination of what is to come we are truly in for a great year.

Yours in WWW,

*Scott Backer*

Scott Backer



Pictured here is the immediate Past Lodge Chief Andy Vill who just recently completed his trek with the Order of the Arrow Trail Crew at Philmont High Adventure Base.

### Join Communications Committee!

The communications committee is responsible for the newsletter that gets put out 4 times a year. If you are interested in joining, please contact me at [Buono@owaneco.org](mailto:Buono@owaneco.org). **Take pictures, write articles, and have fun!**



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The *Owaneco Observer* is a  
publication of  
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Connecticut Yankee Council



## Dance Team News, Summer 2007

The summer is here and the Dance Team is taking a rest from its usual bustle of activity. We want to take this opportunity to congratulate all of our new brothers that joined our Lodge from the recent 2 Ordeals. You are a member of one of the finest organizations in scouting. Get involved, stay active!

We also want to thank those that expressed an interest in the Team by signing up at the Ordeals. When the summer draws to a close, we will be contacting you about the first meeting of the Team and inviting you and your parents to attend. This no-obligation event will really give you a chance to see the Team up close. We hope that as a result you will become one of us. **This first meeting should be on September 9 at the Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church in Hamden.** We look forward to seeing all potential new members there.

Meanwhile, enjoy the summer and don't forget the huge pow wow sponsored by the Mashantucket Indians at the Foxwoods Casino on August 23-26. If you have never been it is well worth the trip to see all the color, splendor, song and da

Toska,

The Quinnipiact Dancers



## Pay Your Dues!

It is time for all members of Owaneco Lodge to renew your dues for the 2007 year. You should have received a lodge mailing in early December with a pre-completed form - you just need to make corrections and mail the form back with your payment. If you need an additional form, they are available under forms on the top menu.

New this year, you can purchase a Gold Pass to all events for the year for only \$100. This includes your membership dues, entrance to all ordeals, plus the fellowship and the banquet at a \$22 savings off the regular price - you don't have to pay dues!



2007 Gold Pass=\$100.00

## Elangomats are needed!

We have three ordeals that I would like to have at least twelve Elangomats secured for. You may come and not be needed. However, there is always work to be done. Please, seriously consider coming to at least one of the following ordeals: May 4-6 at Deer Lake, June 8-10 at Camp Sequassen, and September 14-16 at Camp Sequassen, also. If you are an Elangomat, you will receive a hat, a bear claw, a patch, free admission to the ordeal and a brand new, T-shirt! If you have any questions or are interested in being an Elangomat please contact me, Andrew McCloskey, at [amccloskey@owaneco.org](mailto:amccloskey@owaneco.org) or (203)-458-0179 by May 1st. Thank-you for your consideration!

Sincerely,  
Andrew McCloskey  
Elangomat Committee Chairman

## Join The Finance Committee

Are you interested in helping out the lodge, but cannot find the committee that is right for you? Well, maybe the Finance Committee is the right choice for you! If you're looking to be involved and help out in a very important part of the lodge, the Finance Committee is for you. Since you already know that the Finance Committee seems like a great choice, you may be wondering, what does the Finance Committee do? The Finance Committee includes the tasks of preparing a yearly lodge budget and keeping track of all the lodge finances. The Finance Committee is an integral part of all lodge events. At lodge events the committee reviews the cash receipts prior to delivering them to the Lodge Staff Advisor. If you have any interest in the Finance Committee don't hesitate to contact: Zach Silver, Lodge Treasurer and Finance Committee Chairman at [silver@owaneco.org](mailto:silver@owaneco.org) or Mr. Steve Elzholz, Associate Lodge Advisor for Administration and Finance at [elzholz@owaneco.org](mailto:elzholz@owaneco.org)

## What Brotherhood Can Do For You?

You may be wondering, what really is Brotherhood Membership all about? After 10 months of service to scouting following your ordeal, you return to take the Brotherhood Quest. By taking the Brotherhood Quest and becoming a Brotherhood member in the Order of the Arrow, you are effectively sealing your membership in the lodge. You may still be wondering, what does that mean? Well what it means is, by taking the Brotherhood Quest you show the lodge that you are serious about the Order and that you intend to learn more from scouting, effectively contributing more. By becoming a Brotherhood member, you will help the lodge become a National Quality Lodge and be recognized as one of the best Order of the Arrow programs in the country. In previous years, the Brotherhood Quest cost an additional \$15 to the ordeal weekend membership registration fee. A special offer for the 2007 ordeal season is, the Brotherhood Quest will have no added charge in addition to the membership registration fee. How could you pass this offer up? As I am sure you all heard at your ordeals, coming back as a member is a completely different experience. Taking the Brotherhood Quest is a great way to complement the membership experience at an ordeal whether it is your first time back since your ordeal or it is your fifth time back. Come to the ordeals, have fun, build friendships, and take the Brotherhood Quest. Hope to see you at the next ordeal.  
- Zach Silver

## 2007 Lodge Vision

### I. Executive Committee Accountability

- Must attend the monthly ECM or send a representative in his place if he cannot attend
- Must bring a pre-written report
- Must call all officers, committees, and or members under his authority prior to the ECM
- Must attend the Lodge's Leadership Development Course
- Should make all efforts to attend all Lodge events or send someone in his place if he cannot attend

### II. Chapter Rebuilding Plan

- Should hold monthly or bi-monthly meetings
- Inter-Chapter Activities
- Chapter Kickoff Dinners
- Chapter Fun Days
- Reintroduction of the Troop Representative Program
- Introduction of the Nimat Program

### III. Communication

- Utilization of Lodge Master for Chapter Officer use
- Utilization of new Lodge website
- Lodge E-Group using Lodge website
- Monthly e-newsletter from the Chief
- Monthly e-newsletter from each chapter chief to his chapter
- Reintroduction of the Troop Representative Program
- Set mailing dates for Lodge Newsletter
- Sub committee of Communications Committee for publishing articles in the Scouter

### IV. Ordeal Format

- Committee/Chapter Find-out Fair
- Chapter Ice Cream Social following dinner
- "What is the OA and why do I want to continue my service?" Explanation/Program
- Ordeal Master set-up

### V. Committees

- Hold committee meetings
- Stray away from one man committees
- Committee Find-out Fair at ECM

### VI. Service and Activities

- \*Lodge Service Picnic\*
- Chapter Service Projects
- Lodge Fun Day to Six Flags, baseball game, etc



### Theme for the Year:

**BE, KNOW, and DO**

## Hoyt Fall Work Parties... WE NEED YOUR HELP

The Hoyt Service Project is well under way, but we will need all of your help to complete it! Owaneco Lodge received a service grant from the National Order of the Arrow Committee to renovate the Hoyt Training Cabin. This was a huge accomplishment for our lodge. A variety of tasks must be completed and we will need everyone to come out and make a difference to our Council's camp. All Arrowman who participate in at least one work party will receive a token of recognition. The service days are arranged by chapter/district, but you are more than welcome to come to as many work days as you would like to Hope to see you there!

The dates are as follows:

**September 29th 9:00 - 1:00 Achewon, Chief Pomperaug, Lighthouse**  
**September 30th 9:00 - 1:00 Scatacook, Powahay, Arcoon**

**October 13th 9:00 - 1:00 Scatacook, Powahay, Arcoon**  
**October 14th 9:00 - 1:00 Achewon, Chief Pomperaug, Lighthouse**

## BBQ / Frisbee Challenge

On Monday June 25, 2007 Achewon Chapter held a Frisbee Challenge / BBQ at Zion Lutheran Church in Wallingford Ct. Home of Achewon Chapter. Arcoon Chapter and Keywaden Chapter were invited there were 30 guests some big names among them were Lodge Advisor Bill Chin, Associate Advisor Michael Card, and Lodge Chief Scott Backer. The night was started by a wonderful BBQ with the cooking provided by Mr. Depola, and Mr. Lewis. Then began the Frisbee Challenge at first there was a game played with all guests in attendance after that game concluded the real challenge began. The Achewon Team comprised of Chapter Chief Matt Banas, Kyle Lewis, Matt Murray, Alex Paiva, and Paul and John Gallagher challenged a combine Arcoon and Keywaden chapter team comprised of Lodge Chief Scott Backer, Arcoon Chapter Chief Jon Agin, Dave Engstrom, Greg Scheiber, John Paine and Joe Anderson from Keywaden. This team was combined because Arcoon and Keywaden didn't bring enough players with them. The epic battle than began with Achewon Chapter breaking out to a 2-0 lead early in the game with long touchdown passes from Matt Banas to Kyle Lewis. The game was being played to first to 5 must win by two. After Achewon's quick scores the combined team fought back and got a lead at 5-4 as the Combined team moved down field they turned it over about midfield. Kyle Lewis then picked up the Frisbee and bombed it deep to Matt Banas who caught it just as he ran into the trees at the edge of the field after that catch The combined team never recover and in the end lost the game to Achewon 8-6. After the game concluded there was then a Wiffle ball game including all guest the Team Captains were Bill Chin, and Scott Backer in the end Scott's team won in a land slide thanks to the awesome pitching of Matt Murray. The night was a huge success and Achewon Chapter is planning on making this a yearly occurrence so mark it down on your calendars for next year.



**It was a long day for some scouts as they compete in a Frisbee Tournament, followed by a Wiffle Ball challenge**



**From left to right: Dan Miller, Brian Compton, Scott Backer, Zach Silver, and Chris McCloskey**

The 2007-2008 lodge officers for Owaneco Lodge were elected during lunch at the June Ordeal. Scott Backer, from Arcoon Chapter, was elected to the position of Lodge Chief. Dan Miller, from Achewon Chapter, was elected to Vice Chief of Chapter Operations. The Vice Chief of Program is Chris McCloskey, from Keewayden Chapter. Elected as Vice Chief of Inductions is Brian Compton, from Achewon Chapter. Zach Silver, from Scatacook Chapter, was elected as Lodge Treasurer. Congratulations to all the new officers and good luck in leading the lodge for the next year!

## Your Owaneco Lodge Leaders

Lodge Chief	Scott Backer	Backer@owaneco.org
Vice Chief—Chapters	Dan Miller	Miller@owaneco.org
Vice Chief—Program	Chris McCloskey	McCloskey@owaneco.org
Vice Chief—Inductions	Brian Compton	Compton@owaneco.org
Lodge Treasurer	Zach Silver	Silver@owaneco.org
Lodge Secretary	J.J. Braddock	Braddock@owaneco.org
Lodge Adviser	Bill Chin	Chin@owaneco.org