

LEC Agenda

1. Opening
 - 1.1. Meeting opened at 10:01 with the Obligation.
2. Roll Call
 - 2.1. The Brotherhood and Service & Ordeal committees were not present.
3. Secretary's Report
 - 3.1. Motion to approve the LEC Minutes from the October 24 LEC passes.
4. Treasurer's Report
 - 4.1. 2008 sent us a little over on our budget. We are shown to be about \$800 over, but that includes the mugs and 2 new flaps. We can add these to the 2009 report and we will come out a little bit more accurate for the 2008 budget. An updated 2008 end-of-year budget report will be presented next LEC.
5. Chapter Reports
 - 5.1. Abnaki
 - 5.1.1. In the next few months Abnaki Chapter meetings will consist of preparing for unit elections and scheduling those elections for the troops in our chapter. In our January meeting, we will be making a list of suggested activities that OA members would like to see at our meetings or at special events such as OA camping weekends in the spring or fall. We will also be contacting all members in our chapter about paying their dues for 2009.
 - 5.2. Casco Bay
 - 5.2.1. Casco Bay has many events planned for this year; we are running our third Klondike Derby for the district. Our themes are always a little strange, and this year will be no different. We are getting out of the cold weather, yes we're going Hawaiian. Grass skirts, coconut bras, and of course, the lovely weather in the 90s... well, maybe in your dreams. As the Lodge knows, we elected 71 new candidates last year, and this year we plan to do even better. We are

planning to do another service project at Camp Hinds. We are all looking forward to hosting the best Conclave ever! I believe this year will be a very successful one for Casco Bay chapter.

5.3. Downeast

5.3.1. The chapter recently contacted people through mail and telephone to get them to pay their dues for 2009 of \$13 and get reinstated. We still don't have the numbers we were hoping for – we needed 15 for Honor Chapter. In the upcoming meetings we will be working to contact 100% of the troops in the area. At least one cubmaster has already contacted us asking for a crossover ceremony in April. With everyone helping I hope to make this year a successful one.

5.4. K Valley

5.4.1. In December, we had our annual Christmas party with a Yankee swap. We also had election training so we are ready to go. We have a solid schedule for OA elections. We already have more troops signed up than last year. Coming up later in January, we are once again providing service at the Klondike Derby, helping out where needed.

5.5. York

5.5.1. The 2009 season began with new officers: Brandon Lyon, Chief, Jeff Molina, Vice Chief, Joshua Morse, Secretary, and Jacob Lanoue, Treasurer. We would like to thank the 2008 officers for their service. In a few weeks, we will begin our unit elections. Our hope is to increase the membership from last year. This year we plan to hold some meetings at the bowling alley and on a Slip n' Slide™. We also plan to adopt the Pleasant Point Park on the Saco River. Our thoughts for this are general upkeep and trail maintenance. We have started to discuss plans for this year's Annual Banquet.

6. Committee Reports

6.1. AIA

6.1.1. The much awaited MAINE Fellowship Weekend is very quickly approaching! At this exact time seven days from now, some of your fellow Arrowmen that are attending the event will be going through their morning periods, all building up to the pow-wow in the afternoon. Throughout the weekend we will have access to the Alford Youth Center's recreational areas, such as the pool, heated pool, and the climbing wall. If you have not already registered,

but are interested, come see Jeff Molina after the meeting and he will get you set up. Later in the LEC there will be more discussion of the event.

6.2. Brotherhood

6.2.1. No report presented

6.3. Campership/Camp Promo

6.3.1. Report presented, not turned in

6.4. Ceremonies

6.4.1. After a few months off ceremonies is back at the forge once more in preparation of our conquests of 2009. Next week there will be training cells for ceremonies at the AIA weekend. We will be holding spring practices on February 13-15th at Bates Cabin and March 13-15th at Tenny Cabin and all are invited and encouraged to attend. Anyone interested in ceremonies can come. We also have many people working on chapter teams preparing for Webelos crossovers throughout the Council.

6.5. Conclave

6.5.1. Report presented, not turned in

6.6. Elangomat

6.6.1. We hope for 2009 to be a great season. To make the Ordeals successful, I will be looking for Elangomats and shadows. If you know of anyone interested in being an Elangomat, please have them email Brandon Lyon at [REDACTED].

6.7. Fellowship and Functions

6.7.1. No report was presented

6.8. Founder's Award

6.8.1. The 2008 Founder's Award recipients were Nate Smith and Bruce Rueger. I look forward to a successful 2009.

6.9. LLD

6.9.1. Report presented, not turned in

6.10. Lodge Store

6.10.1. The lodge store committee is kicking off the year with a great start. We currently have a minimum of four youth, other than myself, on the committee. We have been in contact with each other and are coming up with a list of items as suggestions for new items for the lodge store. We will have a completed list to share with the LEC soon.

6.11. Membership and Elections

6.11.1. This year's election season is right around the corner, and we need to do everything to prepare for it. Try to contact your troops by telephone if at all possible, because a direct

conversation is better than playing email tag. Even if the troop does not have any people eligible this year, it is still a good idea to give the presentation to the troop so that they have an opportunity to learn more about the OA. The easiest way to contact the troop is not necessarily the Scoutmaster – if you can't reach him/her, try other troop leadership. With help, we can make this a productive year, and hopefully fun. Think of when you were elected – remembers the suspense and the surprise? Let's try to continue that for these troops and make it a memorable time for everyone.

6.12. National Events

6.12.1. No report was presented

6.13. OA Troop Rep

6.13.1. 2008 was a good year, but 2009 promises to be better. The Troop Rep program is going into the year strong. Steve Molina will be teaching a class at the University of Scouting on the program. He is also hoping to update the Troop Rep database that was created last year. This helps me learn how the OA Troop Rep program is doing. I look forward to 2009 being another great year for the Troop Rep program.

6.14. Publications and Website

6.14.1. The Nov/Dec Turtle Soup is being sent out late due to problems with the copier, but was folded by LEC members and should be arriving in mailboxes very soon. The Lodge website is in the process of being updated to take advantage of the extremely useful CSS 2 standard. The upgrades should be finished soon. The new layout retains all of the functionality of the old, with the addition of loading faster, using less bandwidth, and being much more cleanly written. The changes will include the following:

- We are using experimental styles to create rounded corners for some parts of the layout. Only users with Webkit and Mozilla-based browsers will see the rounded corners, however – Internet Explorer doesn't support them yet. The rounded corners invalidate the stylesheet, though if removed it will not have such problems.
- The number of images in each page has been decreased (the navigation bar headers were removed). Additionally, the quality of news images will be reduced a bit to save bandwidth and decrease load times further.
- Font sizes and most dimensions are now in ems, not pixels.

- The website has a custom 404 page with a Google widget to allow searches for related information.
- We're tracking site errors and usage data with Google Webmaster Tools & Google Analytics.

6.15. Service and Ordeal

- 6.15.1. No report was presented

6.16. Vigil

- 6.16.1. So far no Vigils have been selected and the meeting date has not been set. Though I can tell you the Vigil itself will be held on July 17th at Camp Bomazeen.

7. Old Business

- 7.1. Madockawanda Lodge met all the requirements for and earned Quality Lodge status in 2008.

8. New Business

8.1. Membership

- 8.1.1. As far as meeting membership requirements for Quality Lodge goes, Bruce would like to not have to pay for member's dues – they should be paying them. Promote paying dues! Retention is extremely important, especially in 2009, as we host Conclave.

8.2. MAINE Fellowship Weekend

- 8.2.1. If we put in their docks, we get the camp for free (camp tracy) and get it free next year. This could yield a profit of \$15 per attendee.
- 8.2.2. The AIA committee posed the question to the LEC of whether or not the MAINE Fellowship weekend should run or not. Only 15 people are registered, and 25 are needed to break even. More are expected to register and/or attend. A motion was made and passed to run the event. Some of the AIA committee's budget will be used to cover any deficit.

8.3. UoS

- 8.3.1. The number of classes running at UoS has not changed. The Extended Elangomat, Great Schem Bomazeen, and Natives of Norridgewok classes were cut and replaced with The Adult's Role in the OA, Traditional Perspectives on Service, and Living the Upright Mind of the Arrowman. New this year is a \$5 fee for Arrowmen, which will help cover the increased cost of running UoS.

8.4. QLS

- 8.4.1. Promote, go, enjoy. QLS is an underused resource for Lodge and Chapter Officers, and Committee Chairmen. Bruce

would like to see a representative from each chapter attend QLS this year. It is not mandatory to stay for the whole event. Lunch will be served, as usual. 2009 National Chief Jack O'Neill will be conducting at least one training session, which should be exciting. Mike notes that there is a track for people who want to learn how to be a good/better presenter.

8.5. Conclave (June 12th–14th)

8.5.1. Jake Wellman, 2008 National Chief, will be attending Conclave. The Conclave committee would like to set up a work weekend to get the camp ready. Training committees will be set up soon. Show up at Conclave and help if you can – we need it. Chapter Chiefs – promote Conclave! Conclave is really a lot of fun, and can help retain members.

8.6. Ceremonies Practices

8.6.1. Come to practices! We'll have fun and work in regalia. Practices will be February and March 13–15th.

8.7. Brotherhood Conversions

8.7.1. Nate Smith raised the topic of summer Brotherhoods. He says that we need to provide a quality experience. Ian Hanley says that we should do Brotherhoods at different events during the year. Those could be workdays, Funpack Weekends, and so on. During the summer, each chapter should do one conversion, and the Lodge team will pick up the remainder (there are six total). Each ceremony should take about 3 hours. Jarod White agrees with Ian.

8.7.2. John Trott wants to see Brotherhoods at Funpack weekends, because we need the Cub integration, and we need to get them into the OA when they become Boy Scouts. We also need to educate the parents about the OA.

8.7.3. Ian would like to see more people attending Founder's Day, and he thinks that running a Brotherhood ceremony would help that. Also, there's a Ceremonies practice March 13–15. More discussion was had on the topic of doing a Brotherhood ceremony at Founder's Day. Numbers are harder to get when we're not at summer camp – even National says so. Most lodges that don't do summer Brotherhoods don't make Quality Lodge. There is a possibility of doing additional ceremonies at weekend events, but not replacing the summer ceremonies.

8.7.4. The suggestion was made to send one member from the Lodge ceremony team to help the chapter teams. York, Casco Bay, Abnaki and K Valley say they have teams that

- can do ceremonies. Downeast is still putting their team together. Chapter should talk to Ian by the March LEC and let him know which week this summer they want to do.
- 8.7.5. Bruce would like to see a Brotherhood ceremony every time we get the chance to do one.
 - 8.8. Chapter Ceremonies Teams
 - 8.8.1. The Lodge ceremonies team will be provide help and regalia if needed. Practive crossovers and Brotherhoods – and do them.
 - 8.9. 10th Anniversary Service Hour
 - 8.9.1. The Service Hour 10th Anniversary patch needs to be designed – send your designs to Mike Mirisola and/or Matt McAdam as soon as possible!
 - 8.10. OPC (April 4th)
 - 8.10.1. The OPC runs at almost the same time as the Key 8 meeting. Coordination should be made with the Section so that the meetings can be separated more effectively. As an alternative, the OPC members could go on the walkthrough with the Key 8.
 - 8.11. Ordeals
 - 8.11.1. The Ordeals will be focused on preparing camp for Conclave. Suggest service projects to Matt McAdam, if you have some.
 - 8.12. Service Projects
 - 8.12.1. The Lodge needs a service project for 2009 – talk to Matt McAdam if you have (an) idea(s). One potential project is the dock moving at Camp Tracy.
 - 8.13. Purple Arrow Award
 - 8.13.1. Nate wants everyone to think about potential nominees for the award. It was not presented to anyone last year.
 - 8.14. NLS/NLATS
 - 8.14.1. The Lodge should consider sending an adviser to NLATS this year.
 - 8.15. NOAC (August 1st–6th)
 - 8.15.1. Promote NOAC at your Chapter meetings. There will also be a meeting after the LEC to begin planning the trip.
 - 8.16. National Activities
 - 8.16.1. Looking at cutting extra trip items to save money.
 - 8.17. Fundraising
 - 8.17.1. Greg is looking at doing some fundraising based on suggestions from National and others. He’s also hoping to expand his committee to a few more members.
 - 8.18. LLD

- 8.18.1. Looking at the last weekend in September. Jarod is trying to get military elements in to run demos, etc.
- 8.19. 65th Anniversary
 - 8.19.1. Should the Lodge do something special for the 65th?
- 8.20. Webelos Woods
 - 8.20.1. The Lodge should help out at the event again this year.
- 8.21. OA Camp Chief
 - 8.21.1. We should do it again.
- 8.22. Turtle Soup
 - 8.22.1. A list of articles was sent out via email, but anyone is free to write articles for Turtle Soup. Send your articles in to Adrian as soon as possible.
- 8.23. National High Adventure
 - 8.23.1. Promote opportunities for Arrowmen at the BSA's High Adventure camps.
- 9. Other
 - 9.1. Nick wants Chapter Chiefs to continue collecting and submitting emails for Conclave. Continue the wooden nickel program!
 - 9.2. A new Chapter End of Year report form was distributed. Chapters – read it and submit it at the other end of the year.
 - 9.3. Bruce wants to open up the AIA weekend to more people – possibly by adding programming to make it a fun weekend that everyone can enjoy, not just ceremony team members. We could make the event open to the entire section, change the date, and change the name to be less AIA-centric, as well.
- 10. Staff Adviser's Minute
- 11. Lodge Adviser's Minute
- 12. Closing