

ORDER OF THE ARROW | BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

# National Bulletin

ISSUE 3 | VOLUME LXXII | FALL/WINTER 2015



Bear the village, the peaceful village  
The Sun always bright  
Bear the village, the quiet village  
The Sun always bright

*Arrowmen at the 2015  
National Order of the  
Arrow Conference*

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# Operation Arrow: Fueling Scouting's Adventure



OA staff at the 2013 National Scout Jamboree

## ORDER OF THE ARROW

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If you have an article and/or photo

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## Preston Marquis OPERATION ARROW TEAM

In 2017, the Order of the Arrow will continue its tradition of providing cheerful service to the national Scout jamboree. More than 800 youth Arrowmen will answer the call to serve in Operation Arrow by staffing one of the OA's program areas, which include the Service Corps, Trek Guides and Indian Village.

Each program component of Operation Arrow carries a unique legacy of jamboree service and caters to various types of Arrowmen. The OA Service Corps, a tradition dating back to 1950, provides reliable manpower support to other essential jamboree programs. Service Corps staffers work tirelessly to accomplish projects, both big and small, and exemplify the OA's commitment to "service with a smile." The OA Trek Guides lead units on their day-long jamboree trek to the summit of Garden Ground Mountain, where participants spend a day enjoying unique programming. Trek Guides enjoy rugged, outdoor adventures and help their crews

find fulfillment in their jamboree experience. The OA Indian Village serves as the hub for American Indian programming. Indian Village staffers educate Scouts on American Indian life by teaching dance, craft, song and drumming. In addition to these teams, the OA will have small exhibit, program, recreation and non-emergency medical transportation staffs.

Experienced Arrowmen will steer Operation Arrow planning over the next two years. Mackie Zewalk, a key volunteer (KV) for the unit, chapter and lodge support subcommittee of the National Order of the Arrow Committee, will serve as the lead adviser, ably assisted by Deputy Lead Adviser Dan O'Rourke, also a KV, who served as Northeast Region Chief during the 2005 National Scout Jamboree. Matt Dukeman, national director of the Order of the Arrow, will serve as the professional staff adviser. These advisers will work with the youth leadership elected in December 2016 and program lead advisers to shape Operation Arrow.

The 2017 National Scout Jamboree staff experience

promises to be even more rewarding than previous years, based on improvements made in response to feedback received in 2013. Among other improvements, staff members will have greater access to onsite transportation to shorten the commute between staff lodging and workstations. Additionally, the jamboree leadership is committed to ensuring that all staff members receive at least one full day off to explore other jamboree areas. Finally, staff dining will be improved to include stronger lunchtime offerings and the incorporation of retail food stands in the design of staff villages. These changes are welcome news for new and returning OA staffers, who work in intense, highly active programs.

In the coming months, there will be several opportunities for highly qualified youth Arrowmen to learn more about Operation Arrow. Key leadership will look to expand its promotional presence in chapters, lodges, and sections by recruiting Project 2013 alumni to aid us in our efforts. There will also be a chance to learn more about our programmatic

offerings from members of our promotional team at upcoming National Leadership Seminars, Section Officers' Seminars and section conclaves throughout the country. More concrete details will be unveiled by the end of 2015.

Applications are already being accepted to join Operation Arrow. Interested Arrowmen can find more information on our program areas and a link to apply by visiting <http://www.oa-bsa.org/jamboree>. Prospective staff members should be able to commit to Session 1 (the full two week period), must be at least 16 years old by the start of the Jamboree and must meet current BSA membership, training and fitness requirements.

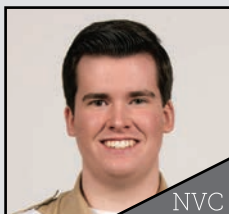
The summer of 2017 seems like a long time away, but planning for the next national Scout jamboree at the Summit Bechtel Reserve is already well underway. The Order of the Arrow will continue to release information about Operation Arrow staff opportunities and how to become involved in the coming months. We look forward to serving alongside you at the Summit Bechtel Reserve in 2017!

## 2015 NATIONAL OFFICER DIRECTORY



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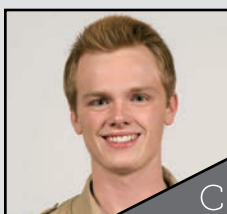
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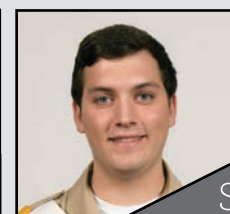
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## New changes coming to 2015 Journey to Excellence program



Since 2012, Journey to Excellence (JTE) has been used to help lodges evaluate their performance, plan for the future and develop better, more effective programs.

JTE has been phased into lodge program over its first three years: the 2012 program was optional and the 2013 and 2014 programs were left unchanged to get lodges adjusted to using JTE and understanding the information it can provide.

This year's program will see three major changes to the Journey to Excellence program that all lodge leaders should be aware of:

### NEW REQUIREMENTS

This is the first year the lodge JTE requirements have been wholly revamped. Major changes include:

**No more required items:** lodges no longer need to achieve specific requirements to get JTE recognition. Instead, an overall point value will be used to determine which JTE level a lodge receives, and the point values by requirement have been adjusted to reflect a weighting of what the national committee believes

is most important for lodge success.

**Emphasis on unit outreach:** the unit elections requirement has been changed from doing a percentage of requested elections to doing elections in the total number of units in the council. Additionally, new requirements for the OA Unit of Excellence Award and doing in-person unit visits have been added to help make the lodge more visible.

**Streamlining requirements:** requirements on communications, planning and reporting have been consolidated to make tracking and reporting easier.

**Achievement levels:** the benchmarks for each requirement have been adjusted to reflect the performance of lodges over the past three years, and the total point values have been redone to better achieve the ideal distribution of awards per the national BSA JTE guidelines.

### REVISED CHAPTER JTE

One piece of feedback that the national committee heard over the first few years of JTE's existence was

that the chapter program's "one size fits all" approach was not in line with how chapters operate. Each lodge uses its chapters for different purposes.

In 2015, the chapter JTE program has been completely reworked. The program now consists of three core requirements related to membership, elections and communications: areas of responsibility that seem consistent across almost all lodges. The remaining requirements are flexible to each lodge so that lodge leadership may determine what areas are important for their chapters to execute and design requirements specifically for them.

### OALODGEMASTERINTEGRATION

For the past two years, OA LodgeMaster (OALM) has been an optional way to submit the annual JTE and charter petition. Beginning in 2015, all lodges will need to use OALM in order to submit their JTE and charter petition. This move is being made both to improve the accuracy of data collected through JTE (which will help provide more valuable recommendations to lodges) and to begin offering real-time tracking tools, similar to the council JTE program.

The OALM team is available to help lodges that need to re-enter their information or need support for other issues. Please email [support@lodgmaster.oa-bsa.org](mailto:support@lodgmaster.oa-bsa.org) and/or visit

<http://support.lodgmaster.oa-bsa.org> for assistance on OALM. All of the latest documents and forms related to Journey to Excellence are available on the national OA website.

### CHIEFLY SPEAKING

**DONNIE STEPHENS**  
2015 National Vice Chief



Brothers,

We're no strangers to meetings in the Order of the Arrow. From chapter and lodge gatherings to the National Planning Meeting, we've locked down the formula to any good conference: they are guided by an agenda, feature a number of directly responsible individuals who report on tasks and conclude with a list of post-meeting action items that ensure the success of the group or team. That's the way we get work done.

This year, the Order of the Arrow convened its meeting of the century: the 2015 National Order of the Arrow Conference. Held at Michigan State University and attended by 15,000 Scouts and Scouters, NOAC was not unlike any other meeting that you or I have attended in our OA roles. It had a meeting agenda—the daily schedule—directly responsible individuals—you and I—and finally, it came with a number of post-meeting action items that give meaning to our time at MSU. Today, I'd like to review with you some of those key action items:

- 1. Serve Scouting.** I was blessed to open our conference with my keynote address at the Monday show. In it, I discussed the importance of using our energy and resources to grow Scouting in the face of some trying challenges. To do this, remember that serving Scouting is our central focus as Arrowmen. If we direct our time and talent to our councils and troops, then Scouting, the OA and each of us will be successful.
- 2. Gear up for our second century.** The 2015 NOAC marked the first six days of the next 100 years of our organization. To ensure our success in the next century, we must re-energize, plan and innovate. It is only through a renewed sense of passion for our movement and continuous quality improvement that we will achieve a bicentennial celebration.
- 3. #DareToDo.** My good friend and our 2015 National Chief Alex Call left each of us at the conference with a dare—a dare to do. The premise of the dare was simple; the goal, profound. Seek to complete one small act of service for someone each day in the 100 days following the conference, and post about it on social media using the hashtag, #DareToDo. In doing so, we can flood the world with our message of positivity, selflessness and love for one another. Have you committed to the dare? If not, there's still time. Dare to do today.

Without action, meetings are just talk. The path to success following our historic conference is clear—it lies in serving Scouting, gearing up for our second century and daring to do; however it'll take a bit of work on each of our parts. Good luck as you rise to the occasion!

With excitement to get started,

*Donnie Stephens*

Donnie Stephens



# OA's centennial celebration hit the road with ArrowTour

**Forrest Gertin**  
CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY LEAD

This summer, the Order of the Arrow went on the road. Arrowmen geared up, loaded into vans and set out on an adventure to celebrate the OA's centennial anniversary with as many people as possible across the country.

ArrowTour, our national centennial experience, brought the OA to over 40,000 individuals across the nation. Each region had its own road crew. Combined, the crews made 109 stops across the country to provide a day of program centered around the Order of the Arrow's centennial. Each stop also provided the unique opportunity for visitors to reflect on, connect with and discover the Order's Centuries of Service in a manner both memorable and meaningful.

The program at each stop consisted of tented displays for visitors to discover more



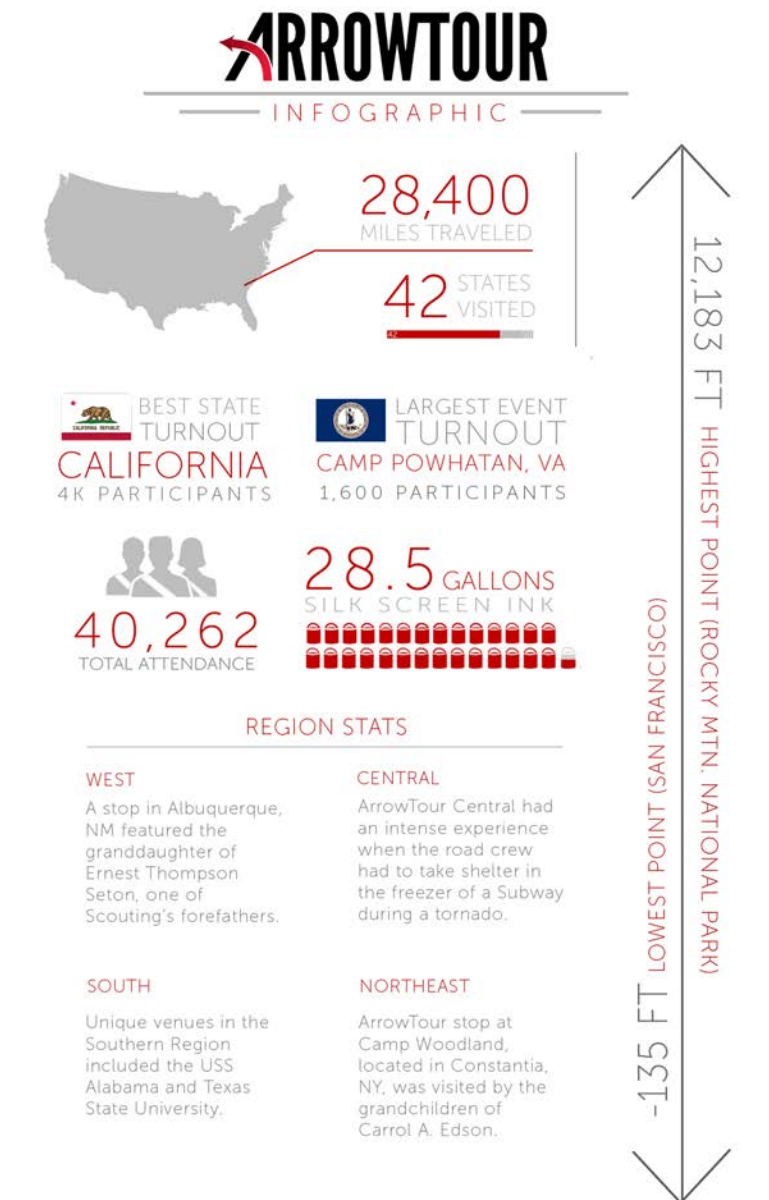
about the Order's history and current programs. Activities included branding, gaga ball and silkscreening in addition to the programs put on by host lodges and councils.

ArrowTour Northeast made the first stop on the

entire tour schedule, joining Unami Lodge at Resica Falls Scout Reservation in East Stroudsburg, PA. From there, the caravan stopped at 29 different venues, traveling a total of 7,846 miles before arriving at Michigan State University for NOAC 2015. Although it rained at almost half of the stops, 6,680 total visitors attended. The largest stop in the Northeast Region was at Camp Horseshoe in Rising Sun, MD, with 550 visitors. Camp Greenough in Yarmouth Port, ME had the lowest elevation of any ArrowTour Northeast stop: only 52 feet above sea level! The road crew didn't just visit councils, as they also took the opportunity to visit the Devil's Tea Table and see the boat launch to Treasure Island Scout Reservation, where the Order was founded. Moreover, the ArrowTour stop at Camp Woodland, located in Constantia, NY, was visited by the grandchildren of Carrol A. Edson, the co-founder of the Order of the Arrow!

ArrowTour South also had the opportunity to be part of a very foundational experience: the crew members participated in a call-out ceremony at Camp Powhatan in Virginia. 1,600 visitors attended ArrowTour at Camp Powhatan in Hiwassee, VA, the fourth of 20 different ArrowTour South venues, making it the most attended stop in the nation! Other unique venues in the Southern Region included the USS Alabama and Texas State University. The road crew traveled 4,250 miles and, with 11,470 total visitors, had the greatest attendance total of any region.

ArrowTour West was a close second with 11,420 visitors overall and the largest



Central Region ArrowTour Road Crew

number of stops: 33. More than 1,000 visitors turned out at the region's largest stop at the California State Capitol Building. Over their 9,304 mile long journey, the road crew reached both the highest and lowest elevations of the entire tour. From the Rocky Mountain National Park, at 12,183 feet above sea level, to the San Francisco BART Transbay tubes, at 35 feet below sea level.

One stop in Albuquerque, NM, featured the granddaughter of Ernest Thompson Seton, one of Scouting's forefathers: Dr. Julie Seton. While at that stop, Seton got to see first-hand Scouting's preparation and leadership development when a strong microburst flipped a tent and Arrowmen instantly jumped in to help.



# NOAC 2015: Bridging into a second century of service

Alex Hughes  
CONTENT TEAM

The 2015 National Order of the Arrow Conference was the most anticipated OA event this century. It was also the largest. From August 3rd-8th, 2015, at Michigan State University, 15,104 guests, vendors, VIPs and staff members from across the nation came together to celebrate the Order's centennial anniversary and kick off the second century of service.

On Monday, August 3, lodge contingents arrived at MSU, where the 1,847 staff members had spent days preparing for their arrival. Traveling in planes, buses and by car, Arrowmen showed up decked out in lodge spirit, wearing everything from matching T-shirts to antlers. The largest contingent was from the Greater St. Louis Council, with 322 Arrowmen and the smallest from Maui County Council, with only three. The oldest Arrowman in attendance was 95, while the youngest was just 11. Large or small, young or old, they were in for the conference of a lifetime.

At orientation, guests were introduced to two defining features of NOAC 2015: the theme, *It Starts With Us*, and Spark, the conference-wide game. Spark allowed Arrowmen from across the country to connect at conference simply by touching a small device to checkpoints and others' Spark devices. This process, known as the "High Four," allowed individuals to share contact information and gain resources from trainings and other events that they could bring home. The total number of Spark interactions over the course of the conference was 6,661,572!



Approximately 15,000 Arrowmen performing a card stunt at the 2015 National Order of the Arrow Conference.

That evening, the entire conference gathered for the first of four phenomenal stadium shows. The Centennial Fire was lit for the entire conference to see, and National Vice Chief Donnie Stephens addressed the audience, speaking on the important role the Order has to maintain by serving Scouting for another 100 years. The shows for the rest of the week were equally impressive. Tuesday, the conference recognized the recipients of the Distinguished Service Award, as well as Laurin Gierman, the fifty-sixth recipient of the Red Arrow Award, with a show capped by Charles

Peachock, *America's Got Talent* alumni and juggler extraordinaire, and country singers Maddie & Tae. BSA President Dr. Robert Gates, a DSA recipient himself, also addressed the conference, emphasizing the role that leaders like Arrowmen will play in shaping the future of the world.

The third show, titled "100 Arrows: The OA's Centennial Commemoration," opened with a talented cast relating the impact that the OA has had on them and their lives. This moving performance was followed by National Chief Alex Call, whose keynote address captured the imaginations of thousands with the

#DareToDo campaign. The Friday show delivered another inspiring message, and then ended NOAC with a blast of confetti, over-the-top light show, and high-energy karaoke.

While the evenings were filled with the shows, the days were packed with more activities than anyone could dream of completing. Arrowmen attended thousands of training courses, including the signature session: *The Secret to Ruling the World*. Other highlights of the conference included the AIA Night of Champions performance, the STEM activities at The Hive and the NESAs Gathering

of Eagles, featuring distinguished Eagle Scouts like astronaut Mike Fossum and NESAs committeeman Todd Plotner. Patch traders abounded, and the total number of patches sold in the trading post, when laid end to end, would stretch over 1.6 miles! Arrowmen explored The Hub, an area that included rock-climbing walls, ArrowTour, spar-pole climbing and an enormous inflatable obstacle course: *OAWarrior*. Inside The Hub Arrowmen could also find the Legacy Display Tent, which displayed the hundreds of completed legacy projects, and Adventure Central, full of vendors and information about Scouting and beyond. The Hub was also the site of the Centennial Festival, Friday's celebration of all things OA, which featured "Starting Point" booths run by lodges from across the country.

The Centennial Festival began, however, not in The Hub but in Spartan Stadium, where Arrowmen completed an evacuation drill as a service project for Michigan State University. While in the stadium, they participated in a massive card stunt and heard Creek Stewart, host of *Fat Guys in the Woods*, take the #DareToDo challenge.

From stadium shows to exciting competitions to Spark, the conference had everything. NOAC 2015 was the perfect culmination of the Order's centennial anniversary, celebrating it with galas and festivals and fun, while reflecting on the OA's legacy to help define its future. This future truly starts with each and every one of us, as Arrowmen and servant leaders who create tomorrow with action today.



A portion of the Watonala Lodge contingent present at NOAC 2015.



## 2015 Josh Sain Memorial Scholarship recipients



*Pictured above: Josh Sain*

### Honoring the spirit and the memory of Josh Sain

The National Order of the Arrow Committee is pleased to announce the recipients of the Josh Sain Memorial Scholarship for 2015. This scholarship was established in 1998 to honor the spirit and the memory of Josh Sain, a former national vice chief of the Order of the Arrow. This scholarship is provided to immediate past national officers and immediate past section chiefs based on exceptional service and scholastic achievement. The following individuals have been selected:

#### AWARD RECIPIENTS:



##### **RICKY D. ANGELETTI**

Ricky D. Angeletti is a member of the Great Trail Council, Marnoc Lodge, headquartered in Akron, Ohio. Ricky is a junior double majoring in accounting and economics at the University of Akron.



##### **TAYLOR L. BOBROW**

Taylor L. Bobrow is a member of the Tidewater Council, Blue Heron Lodge, headquartered in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Taylor is a sophomore majoring in electrical engineering at Old Dominion University.



##### **NICHOLAS G. DANNEMILLER**

Nicholas G. Dannemiller is a member of the Cascade Pacific Council, Wauna La-Mon'tay Lodge, headquartered in Portland, Oregon. Nicholas is a junior majoring in wildlife biology at Colorado State University.



##### **MATTHEW D. FORSTER**

Matthew D. Forster is a member of the Indian Waters Council, Muscogee Lodge, headquartered in Columbia, South Carolina. Matthew is a senior majoring in construction science & management at Clemson University.



##### **NATHAN L.R. JENKINS**

Nathan L. R. Jenkins is a member of the Santa Fe Trail Council, Mandan Lodge, headquartered in Garden City, Kansas. Nathan is a sophomore majoring in ministry at Southern Nazarene University.



##### **MICHAEL J. KINTSCHER**

Michael J. Kintscher is a member of the Mount Diablo Silverado Council, Ut-In Selica Lodge, headquartered in Pleasant Hill, CA. Michael is a junior majoring in software engineering at Diablo Valley College.



##### **KYLE M. PALMER**

Kyle M. Palmer is a member of the Great Salt Lake Council, El-Ku-Ta Lodge, headquartered in Salt Lake City, Utah. Kyle is a junior majoring in accounting at the University of Notre Dame.



##### **BRANT J. PORTNER**

Brant J. Portner is a member of the Hawk Mountain Council, Kittatinny Lodge, headquartered in Reading, PA. Brant is a junior majoring in biology at Pennsylvania State University.



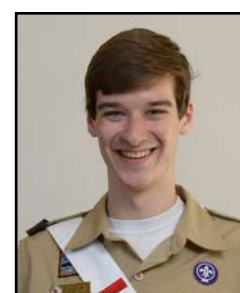
##### **KYLE M. RAFFENSPERGER**

Kyle M. Raffensperger is a member of the National Capital Area Council, Amangamek Wipit Lodge, headquartered in Bethesda, Maryland. Kyle is a junior double majoring in diesel & heavy equipment technology and construction & forestry systems technology at Wake Technical College.



##### **AARON R. SHEPHERD**

Aaron R. Shepherd is a member of the Blue Grass Council, Kawida Lodge, headquartered in Lexington, Kentucky. Aaron is a junior majoring in education at Morehead State University.



##### **MICHAEL A. SHOSTEK**

Michael A. Shostek is a member of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Council, Lowwapaneu Lodge, headquartered in Moosic, Pennsylvania. Michael is a senior majoring in health & societies at the University of Pennsylvania.

# Challenge accepted: Will you #DareToDo?



#DARE  
toDO

## Forrest Gertin

CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY LEAD

A century ago, a small group of individuals at Treasure Island Scout Reservation rallied around the principles of brotherhood, cheerfulness and service. Today, in a world that is ever-changing, we continue to rally around those same ideals that continue to form the bedrock of the Order of the Arrow. Communication is instant. Our attention is drawn to the myriad happenings of people and movements across the globe as we are bombarded with information from every angle. Social media has become ubiquitous, and much of our time is spent crafting our virtual image. With this in mind, a group of youth leaders came together to ask a new question: "What if social media was about helping someone else, instead of myself?"

This was the genesis of #DareToDo, a challenge to serve that was first issued at the National Order of the Arrow Conference. National Chief Alex Call issued this challenge to Arrowmen at NOAC, in a keynote address that captured both those at Michigan State University and others watching live from around the world.

"Our first century meant something not because of how much we served but because of the feelings that we

demonstrated as we served," Call said. "The legacy of our next century won't be defined by the projects we undertake but, rather, by the feelings we share through our service. It's been 100 years in the making and, now, it is our duty - our dare - to share this feeling of love with the world."

Alex took that moment to reimagine the world as one in which individuals strive to make others matter by completing simple acts of service. That is the #DareToDo: for 100 days, do a daily good turn and then post about it on social media using the hashtag #DareToDo.

One of the first things a Scout learns is the slogan, "Do a Good Turn Daily." This spirit of service is central to both Scouting and the Order of the Arrow and the #DareToDo campaign is structured to share that message with the world. The message is very clear-cut and requires only a small amount of time and energy to spread. Through a simple act of service, such as something as small as holding the door for a stranger, one can make the world a better place.

In our world, spreading that message is a job for social media. There is no more visible means of sharing anything than by tweeting or posting about it. If each

Arrowman posted about his or her daily act of service, their message would reach millions of others. The power of the #DareToDo comes from the inspiration to follow the example of selfless service.

Indeed, people have been inspired. More than 50,000 acts of service are recorded weekly! Already, over 3,000 people like the #DareToDo Facebook page. On Twitter, @dareto\_do has tweeted about almost 2,000 simple acts of service. The #DareToDo website, Dareto.do, is covered in service-related posts and tweets from across the globe. These acts of service have rippled out to countries as far away as India and Japan, and thousands are recorded in the United States. The Salvation Army has used this hashtag to share its service on Twitter and companies like American Airlines and Warby Parker have engaged some of the Order's youth leaders through social media in regards to #DareToDo.



If you're looking for inspiration, check out some of these small acts of service:

**Kevin Montano**  
@KevinMontano



Gave directions to some freshman today. Finding your way on the first day of classes can be tough! #DareToDo

**Mitch Leonard**  
@Mitch\_Leonard1



It's not always big acts, appreciate the little things too. Patiently waited in line at the store when others got frustrated. #DareToDo

**Matt Griffis**  
@mgriffis



Picked a friend up from the ER after he broke his wrist and brought him home. #DareToDo

**Kevin Gecowets**  
@KevinGecowets



Bought some gas for a stranded motorist so he could get home to Ohio. #DareToDo

These acts of kindness only require a little effort but can change a person's day in a big way. It is truly the little things that count and everything from picking up litter to making time for a friend spreads the positive impact of #DareToDo. Everyone needs a friendly face or helping hand; this is your chance to serve. The challenge asks for 100 days of service, 100 days where one gives a little so that the world can gain a lot. If you are not sure where to start, visit Dareto.do for some easy ideas. Beyond that, the dare is up to you. It is time to join the challenge. Imagine a world that is filled with simple acts of kindness. Then, #DareToDo.

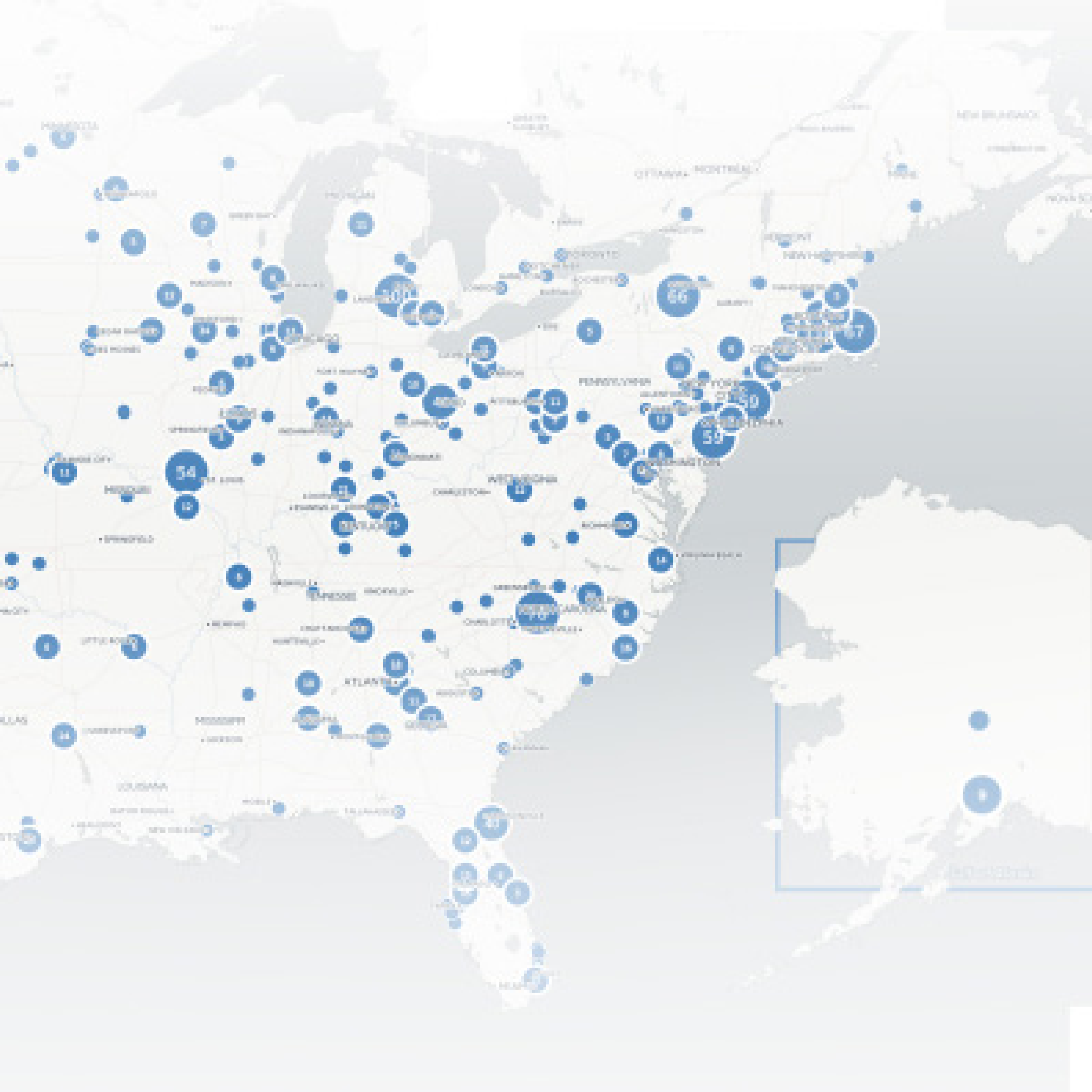
## #DARE toDO

Accept the  
dare and  
share, today.



# #DARE toDO







## Arrowmen use OA grace to give thanks before meals



**Reed Powell**  
CONTENT TEAM

Before your next lodge event, you might pause for a moment before each meal and recite the Order of the Arrow grace. The language of the Order of the Arrow grace invokes the poetry of the Pre-Ordeal, Ordeal and Brotherhood Ceremonies and alludes to the four tests of the Ordeal, explained National OA Chaplain Billy Walley.

“The grace acknowledges the rest of sleep, the break of day or daily journey on the trail of life or cheerful fellowship about an evening fire or food and our work to serve others, all for which we are thankful,” he said.

The prayer was written after members of the National Order of the Arrow Committee realized in 2012 that all four BSA national high adventure bases had their own mealtime prayers unique to their own

activities and geography, but the Order had no such prayer. Thus, a small group gathered to write a grace appropriate for the Order of the Arrow. At the National Planning Meeting in December 2013, Walley submitted many proposals and the national committee selected the grace that is now in use.

**The Order of the Arrow grace reads as follows:**

*“For night alone that rests our thought,  
For quiet dawn that lights our trail,  
For evening fire that warms and cheers,  
For each repast that fuels our work,  
We give thanks, O Lord.”*

All are encouraged to use the grace before meals at Ordeals, conclaves, fellowships and other chapter, lodge, section, region and national events.

## Philmont Scout Ranch recognizes OA Trail Crew's service legacy with Silver Sage Award

**Chuck Coutteau**  
CONTENT TEAM

Philmont Scout Ranch challenges thousands of Scouts from across the country every summer with more than 214 square miles of New Mexico's rugged northern wilderness. The ranch has a long, proud history and, for the past two decades, that history has included the Order of the Arrow.

The OA's service to Philmont actually began three decades ago, when the OA hosted a national trek in 1985 and another in 1989. Both events highlighted the fact that Philmont was an ideal location to teach leadership and personal growth.

In 1994, National OA Committee Chairman Ed Pease opened dialogue with Philmont General Manager Bill Spice to explore projects that the OA could take on at the ranch. Ultimately, the two decided that the OA's service could have the biggest impact building much-needed trails across the country. In 1995, the first Order of the Arrow High Adventure program was unveiled: the Order of the Arrow Trail Crew (OATC). Four section chiefs, led by 1994 National Chief Scott Beckett and the first OATC Director, Marty Tschetter, developed the new program for older Arrowmen between 16 and 20 years old.

Over the last 20 years, the program and its participants have left a lasting legacy at the ranch. Through the efforts of the OA Trail Crew program, nearly a dozen new trails have been forged, including the Vaca trail, Tooth of Time, Lovers Leap, Black Horse, Lower Bonito, Chandler Canyon, Flume Canyon, and the newly constructed route from Copper Park to Mount Baldy. As of the summer of 2015, more than 3,000 Arrowmen have contributed more than 100,000 man hours in building miles of hiking trail.



At the 2015 National OA Conference, the Philmont Staff Association (PSA) presented the Order of the Arrow with the Silver Sage Award. The Silver Sage Award is presented annually by the PSA to recognize exceptional service or contributions of an important and lasting nature, by any individual or organization, for the benefit of Philmont Scout Ranch. The Philmont Staff Association salutes the profound

efforts of the OATC program and the thousands of Arrowmen who have participated in the two decades of cheerful service to Philmont Scout Ranch. The success of the OA Trail Crew program led to the development of OA High Adventure programs at Northern Tier, the Florida Sea Base, and the Summit Bechtel Reserve, as well as other national service projects such as ArrowCorps<sup>5</sup> in 2008 and SummitCorps in 2011.



## Alex Call among youth leaders recognized with gift to national OA endowment



National Chairman Ray Capp (left) presenting the certificate to National Chief Alex Call (right).

This year's centennial NOAC was full of surprises for everyone in attendance, including National Chief Alex Call. Thanks to the support of his home lodge as well as mentors and friends from across the nation, Alex was surprised to receive both the James E. West Fellowship Award and Legacy Fellowship at the national conference. Both fellowships are recognitions for donations to council and Order of the Arrow endowment funds, respectively. At the Section SR2-3S gathering, members of Karankawa Lodge surprised their former lodge chief by presenting him the James E. West Fellowship. Karankawa Lodge members donated money to their council's endowment on Alex's behalf and gifted him the award as recognition for his service to the Order. Inspired by this, friends and mentors of Alex, including Scouters outside of his lodge, decided to recognize the national chief with the Legacy Fellowship, the recognition for donations to the Order of the Arrow's national endowment fund. They staged their surprise for Alex at the Legacy Display Tent during Friday's Centennial Festival.

Thanks to his lodge and a handful of dedicated Scouters, Alex Call is now both a James E. West and Legacy Fellow. As shown here, a fellowship

is a perfect way to recognize someone for their commitment to Scouting. These donations are a way to further recognize the time a youth has invested in Scouting by giving them an honor through a monetary gift. When a donation is made to either a council endowment or the national OA endowment, the donor (or group of donors) has the option of gifting the fellowship to someone else or receiving it themselves. What separates giving to an endowment from your normal donations is that money given to the endowment is invested for the long term instead of spent on immediate needs. The money spent from the national OA endowment is the interest earned on those investments, so the gift you give to the endowment continues to benefit the Order for years to come.

The James E. West Fellowship Award has four different levels of donation and recognition: bronze, silver, gold and diamond. In order to earn each, the donation must be made to the endowment fund of a local council. For Alex, this meant the money donated on his behalf benefitted the South Texas Council. Recipients of this award are recognized by a certificate, pin and square knot patch for their uniform. Councils use their endowment funds to support a variety of programs and provide quality

experiences for their youth.

The Legacy Fellowship is the Order of the Arrow's compliment to the James E. West Fellowship. Where the previous award is for gifts to a council's endowment, this award recognizes gifts to the national OA endowment. However, just as your unit comes before the Order, so does your council. With that in mind, a prerequisite to become a Legacy Fellow is being a James E. West Fellow. The Legacy Fellowship has a few differences with the previous award. First, there is only one level of recognition, and that is for a donation of at least \$1,000. Secondly, keeping in line with the idea of your council coming first, the recognition item for this fellowship is an arrowhead pin to be worn on the square knot patch received for the James E. West Award. Gifts to the national OA endowment end up benefiting phenomenal programs such as National Leadership Seminars and OA High Adventure programs.

Whether you simply want to support Scouting or are looking for a great way to recognize hard work and dedication, both the James E. West and Legacy Fellowships are perfect ways to do it. For more information, visit the national OA endowment's website at [endowment.oa-bsa.org](http://endowment.oa-bsa.org).

## The circle widens in the second century

Preparations for another century of service are already underway! Last August, the groundbreaking ceremony for the Summit Circle - the new official home of the OA at the Summit Bechtel Reserve - took place. The Summit Circle is a ceremonial site made of materials from the original

site at Treasure Island Scout Reservation as well as the lodge legacy rocks featured at NOAC.

The groundbreaking was attended by Donnie Stephens, Ray Capp, Shane Miller and many others. The Summit Circle is being made possible thanks to generous contributions to the Centennial Campaign.



From left to right are Shane Miller (C-4B Section Adviser), George Soltis (architect and former lodge adviser), Chris Grove, Matt Dukeman, Donnie Stephens, Ray Capp, Don Miller (construction guru), Bobby Robinson (metal work) and Tony Steinhardt.



From left to right are Chris Grove, Ray Capp, Donnie Stephens and Tony Steinhardt.



The Summit Circle team prepping for the groundbreaking ceremony.



# Arrowmen recognized with Silver Buffalo Award

**Victor Hinojosa & Jasper Davidoff**  
CONTENT TEAM

Many dedicate their lives to better Scouting and the Order of the Arrow, but few go above and beyond enough to warrant one of the BSA's highest recognitions. Dr. Glenn Ault, Bob Sirhal and Jeff Jonasen were each recognized with the Silver Buffalo Award on May 22nd at the BSA's National Annual Meeting in Atlanta, GA. These three have much more in common than just being some of the 2015 recipients of the Silver Buffalo Award, as they are also our brothers within the OA.

## **BOB SIRHAL**

Bob Sirhal had three reactions when he was first informed that he had been given Scouting's Silver Buffalo Award. First, he says, he was surprised, then humbled, then "trying to figure out how not to get in the limelight." Sirhal has never been one to stay in the spotlight. While a vice chairman of the National Order of the Arrow Committee, he started his work at the 1992 NOAC as a member of the training staff. He worked there in subsequent NOACs until he was asked to be the conference's lead tech adviser in the early 2000s. Sirhal has his plate full between planning the 2017 National Scout Jamboree and working on the OA Steering Committee. Additionally, he works on OA projects in the Northeast Region as well as the Sea Scout program.

Sirhal said he has been fortunate to serve in so many national roles within the OA because of being in the right place at the right time. He made the most of opportunities as they became available and places a big emphasis on servant leadership.

"The key to leadership is how successful those you lead become." Sirhal said of his fellow Silver Buffalo recipients, "both men are outstanding national and regional committee members." Sirhal says he continues to serve on the national committee because he knows that "if we as adult leaders don't get our hands dirty, the program won't develop on its own." He works hard to perfect everything he works on, believing that "we have to treat everything like it's a once-in-a-lifetime experience."

## **GLENN AULT**

Glenn Ault started his Scouting career when he was a Cub Scout at the age of seven. He has now been a member of the national committee for almost 22 years. Ault says his role in the OA continues to be exciting even after so many years of service.

"To see where we have come from and what we have accomplished even since I have been on the committee has been amazing. We are looked upon nationally by Scouting in such a favorable fashion - it is truly amazing."

Ault started his tenure in the OA as a section chief, among other things. He has also served as an assistant Scoutmaster.

His biggest accomplishment while serving as a national committee member is "having contributed to developing the financial foundation of the Order nationally is probably my greatest contribution. This financial foundation is what has permitted the Order to do the great things it does."

While Ault is honored to receive the Silver Buffalo Award, he said his service to the OA and Scouting is about



National Chairman Ray Capp congratulates Silver Buffalo Award recipients (left to right) Jeff Jonasen, Bob Sirhal and Glenn Ault.

much more than recognition.

"As with so many of us, I don't serve to receive recognition like this -- I serve and receive recognition by seeing the youth we work with grow and develop into great adults, leaders and citizens."

“ I serve and receive recognition by seeing the youth we work with grow and develop into great adults, leaders and citizens. ”  
**Glenn Ault**

## **JEFF JONASEN**

Jeff Jonasen joined Scouting when he was still a young man and continued in the program as an adult where he went on to become a section adviser, Southern Region chairman

and, currently, a vice chairman on the National Order of the Arrow Committee.

Jonasen said his most important roles have been ones in which he has been charged with mentoring youth Arrowmen.

"The most important part of [being region chairman] was to serve as adviser to the region chief. The adviser's role is the most rewarding and important role that an adult in the OA can have" he said.

Jonasen chose to devote so much time and energy to the Order because he feels that he owes a debt to Scouting and the Order for all of the experiences he had when he was young. "However, if we are being honest, those of us who love this program have to admit that we get more than we give," Jonasen said. The lessons and skills Scouting has taught him are, he said, too numerous.

Jonasen learned how to plan as a chapter chief, and fast, at a chapter Ordeal weekend. "My Scouting experiences in the outdoors, at high adventure bases and at my own council camp, have provided me with practical skills, life-enriching memories and a strong conservation ethic."

Upon receiving this award, Jonasen said he was embarrassed, surprised and honored. In Jonasen's opinion, "the most important thing the OA does is provide opportunities for Scouts to learn about service and leadership, to practice what they have learned and to enjoy fun and engaging outdoor programs. I was especially pleased to know that I would be receiving the award alongside Glenn Ault, Bob Sirhal and John Lea, all of whom I have had the honor of serving with in the Order at national jamborees."

# NEXT: A New Century

As our centennial draws to a close, the Order of the Arrow prepares to embark on its second century. Arrowmen everywhere are asking themselves, "what's next?" The answer: NEXT!

The 2016 national event, NEXT: A New Century, will be unlike anything the OA has ever seen. Youth leaders from across the nation will gather at Indiana University in Bloomington, IN from July 30th through August 3rd, 2016 to learn, grow and be inspired to be the driving force behind the Order's second century. This hands-on, high-energy event will focus on membership, program and innovation at the local level,

which will subsequently empower delegates to return home and be powerful agents of change.

Youth and adult leaders who attend will work with Arrowmen from across the country, providing them a unique opportunity to network and discuss lodge operations. A member of the NEXT Experience Team, comprised of current and former youth leaders and advisers at the lodge, section and national level, will guide lodge delegates, who will be organized into groups for the duration of the event. Each of the four days at NEXT will be focused on a different key

CHANGE  
SUCCEEDING  
FORWARD

NEXT

FUTURE  
ADVANCE  
VISION

## WHAT IS IT?

**NEXT: A New Century** will be a hands-on, high-energy event that will focus on membership, program and innovation.

## WHO ATTENDS?



**3 youth and 2 adult** delegates from each lodge

## WHERE AND WHEN?



**July 30th-August 3rd, 2016**  
Indiana University

topic: brotherhood, program, membership and innovation. Together, these and other programmatic elements will empower the local leaders to shape the next century.

Similar to the 2015 National Order of the Arrow Conference, participants will stay in the Indiana University residence halls and enjoy all-you-can-eat meals at the adjacent dining centers. Environmental sustainability will be a notable aspect of NEXT, focusing on how simple, novel changes back home can make an enormous difference.

Each lodge will be able to send three youth, its lodge chief, another lodge officer and one additional youth member, as well as two adults, the lodge adviser and one associate adviser. Youth delegates who are not lodge chiefs should be Arrowmen who are passionate about their lodge and will still be

youth, influencing their lodge's program and operations, for at least a year or two after the event. Similarly, the associate adviser attending NEXT should be a part of the next generation of advisers in the lodge.

If you are interested in attending this event, talk to your lodge chief and adviser today! As of October 15th, 2015, contingent registration has opened at registration.oa-bsa.org.

Additionally, Lodge Key 3s were emailed a contingent information kit in late October, which outlines key dates and other important NEXT information. Any additional questions you may have regarding NEXT: A New Century may be directed to [NEXT2016@oa-bsa.org](mailto:NEXT2016@oa-bsa.org).

With a new century before us, the OA has limitless possibilities. Will you be responsible for the NEXT big thing in our history?



## Gyantwachia Lodge hosts “free, food, fun” events



**Joe Donahue**  
CONTENT TEAM

Gyantwachia Lodge of the Chief Cornplanter Council, headquartered in Warren, PA, came up with an interesting way to increase attendance at lodge events: make them fun and make them free.

The lodge's youth leadership has been challenged by the advisers and the council's Scout executive to come up with engaging activities to help emphasize the brotherhood aspect of our Order. As a result of that challenge, the lodge executive committee decided that the lodge will fund all programs for youth participants that take place at the council's camp, Camp Olmsted.

Gyantwachia Lodge Chief Brian Bonner said he hopes this will help overcome a stigma that has arisen in recent years. "When I was growing up, the OA was cool," Bonner said. "I remember growing up looking at the folks in American Indian costumes and thought that was cool. But something happened between then and now that caused people to not want to be a part of that anymore."

The lodge had been having poor turnout at events for years and Bonner said that with a lodge of approximately 150 people, they had to do something to give attendance at lodge functions a shot in the arm.

During this two-year experiment, events held by the lodge will cover the program fees for youth participants that are not candidates for Ordeal or Brotherhood. Those being inducted into Ordeal and Brotherhood do have to pay for items such as the sash, flap and other incidentals but will not have to pay the food costs.

Gyantwachia Lodge Adviser Alex Watkins was excited about the events but noted that the youth were the ones planning the fellowship activities at the events. "We told them that this was their program," Watkins said. "We would support them but you need to define what 'fun' is and plan it." Watkins also stated that the food was

going to be high quality at these events. "That's one area people might think we'd cut corners but we're not," he said.

Bonner noted early success of the experiment. "We went from having five youth at the meeting prior to our spring Ordeal weekend to having over 30 youth show up to the Ordeal," Bonner recalled. He also noted that there was a spike in the number of candidates for Brotherhood at the Ordeal.

For those not going for their Ordeal or Brotherhood, there was no mandatory service at the last Ordeal weekend. However, Watkins noted that many youth still decided to work anyway. "There were several youth who worked

their tails off," noted Watkins. "They were Elangomats and Nimats and nobody asked them to do so."

The lodge's next steps are to focus on the OA program at Camp Olmsted, where the lodge will host a week's worth of fellowship activities for Arrowmen and non-Arrowmen alike. For the lodge's fall fellowship weekend, the youth leaders have been challenged to come up with something memorable to help the lodge regain its "cool" factor. "Kids love our camp and they want an excuse to get up there," Bonner stated, "We want to plan competitive games, awesome activities and things that will bring us closer and like a family."



## OA Director Clyde Mayer to retire after 22 years of service to the Order

**Justin Schimmel**  
CONTENT TEAM

Clyde Mayer has seen many changes in his 22 years as the OA director. As his tenure comes to an end with his retirement later this year, Mayer is reflecting on the past and his final NOAC as director.

A professional Scouter, Mayer joined the OA not as a youth but as an adult. He is also the first OA director who never had the opportunity to meet co-founders E. Urner Goodman or Carroll Edson. The biggest surprise is that he didn't like his first time at a NOAC!

With all of this as background, one could say that perhaps the job of OA director would not have been a good fit but that would be unfair. More likely, you could say he simply took a different path, matured in his outlook and succeeded – setting him apart in a couple of unique and honorable ways. Mayer has served longer than any other Scouting professional with the OA, reaching the 20-year milestone in 2013. Even then, when Mayer was appointed as OA director, he already had 19 years of professional Scouting experience, having worked as an assistant Scout executive and Scout executive for Piankeshaw Council in Danville, IL. Mayer was encouraged and sponsored to become a member because of his position as camp director. He went through his Ordeal weekend in 1974.

Mayer's performance as OA director attracted attention. He was presented the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award, a rare honor in and of itself but even more rare for a professional Scouter. Aside from his own circuitous



*Pictured above: Former OA Director Clyde Mayer speaking at the 2015 NOAC.*

history, one aspect of the OA and Mayer's beliefs that has remained the same are the OA's values.

A reason Mayer held his post for so long is that he was always impressed with the Order's ability to retain young people. More importantly, he said it was remarkable that young people could run such an organization.

Mayer also liked the idea of youth learning leadership skills and then putting them into practice in their units and lodges. "Developing youth into leaders is one of our foundational goals," said

Mayer. "And it really works."

He describes his main role at NOAC as one of support. He has tackled tasks that most never see. Mayer's first NOAC was at Colorado State University in 1978 but it's fascinating to know now that he didn't enjoy it. He only went to attend regional training sessions.

The first NOAC he enjoyed was in 1994 at Purdue University in Indiana. Mayer attended as a professional Scouter and was impressed at the professionalism of the youth managing the conference. While he has held

many positions in his Scouting career, he loves and cherishes being national OA director the most.

"Being national director is the best position for a professional Scouter," said Mayer.

After 22 years, Mayer is saddened to be leaving but sees a bright future for the Order because the values of brotherhood, cheerfulness and service are timeless.

"There are few organizations today that provide brotherhood like the Order does," Mayer said. "The cheerfulness we have in the Order is what we need in the

world...service is what makes the world turn; without it, we would be empty."

“  
The cheerfulness we have in the Order is what we need in the world...service is what makes the world turn; without it, we would be empty.”

**Clyde Mayer**



# OA's centennial celebration hit the road with ArrowTour

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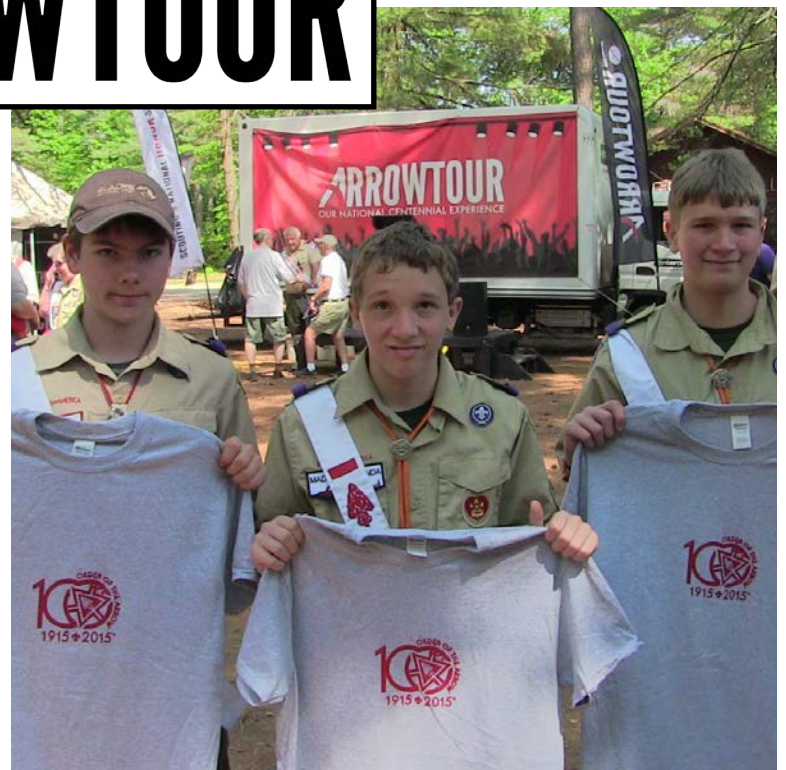
ArrowTour Central had an even more intense experience: during a tornado, the road crew sheltered in the freezer of a Subway. The region, home to the Windy City and Tornado Alley, also hosted a helicopter at a stop along the 7,000 mile route. The tour schedule took ArrowTour Central to 27 different venues, including the BSA's newest high adventure facility: the Summit Bechtel Reserve, home to the national jamboree. The Central Region's host lodges put on supplemental programs ranging from a bagpipe performance to a live petting zoo. The region's most attended stop came at Rainbow Scout Reservation in Morris, IL, where 792 people visited. One camp staffer thought the program was so engaging that she asked the road crew to stay for another day!

While ArrowTour is easily reduced to numbers - 28,400 miles traveled, 28.5 gallons of silkscreen ink used and 40,262 visitors - it became much more than that. The impact of the program is found not so much in its breadth as in its depth. Each local stop showcased the best of what Scouting has to offer, and the leadership demonstrated by Arrowmen there had an enormous impact on the individual visitors.

Take for example, the shy Cub Scout in Eugene, OR, who told the road crew "When I grow up, I want to be an ArrowTour road crew member." Or the mother of two Scouts who, after her sons spent the day at Central Region stop, wrote a glowing email to National Chairman Ray Capp about the experience. Not only did the visitors have a great time but so did the road crews. In the



# ARROWTOUR



Northeast, road crew member Alex Hughes raced a Cub Scout at Mount Norris Scout Reservation and, of course, lost every time. The terrific energy and enthusiasm of the staff was truly inspiring, as

day after day they displayed their passion for the Order.

Each ArrowTour stop closed with the Centuries of Service Gathering, a show that synthesized the Order's history and legacy

to reveal where the steps to our second century of service each visitor, Arrowman and non-Arrowman alike, a straightforward task: take a pledge of service to others.

Inscribed on a challenge coin, the pledge asked each person to do a good turn each day, and switch the coin to the opposite pocket to mark the completion of their act of service.