



Moose Tracks

Official Newsletter of Totanhan Nakaha Lodge

Issue 2016-2

April 2016

Welcome to the Lodge Newsletter

This is the spring issue of Moose Tracks, the newsletter for the Totanhan Nakaha lodge. In this issue, we hope to highlight some past and future events, as well as help you understand the Order of the Arrow and your position in it. If you have any comments for the next newsletter, please forward them to farmer.doug@comcast.net, (Communications Adviser).

CAMP PATCH 2016

This year at Tomahawk and Many Point we are selling OA patches to all campers, to raise money for the Northern Star Council campership fund. Each camp will have 650 patches. The patches sell for \$10 each. This should help us raise \$6,500 for the campership program. Get them quick and help advertise the OA.

SECTION CONCLAVE (Sept 9-11th)

Once every 6 years, our lodge hosts a conclave for all lodges in our section. This year, the section conclave is at Phillippo Scout Reservation.

We are having an on-site camp visit on April 15-17th, 2016. Contact Sam Gentle at Samuel.gentle97@gmail.com if you are coming to the event as soon as possible.

We need help at the conclave for such activities as: setting and cleaning up buildings, guides to help our guests travel to where they need to be and other activities. Please volunteer when asked to help.

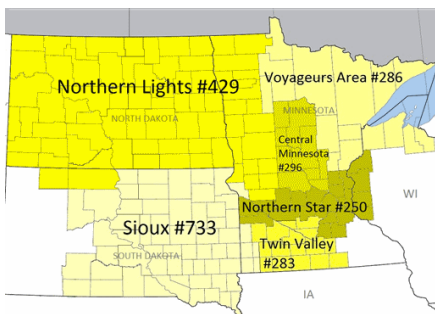
LODGE OFFICER ELECTIONS

It is time to elect new Lodge Officers for the 2016-2017 program year. Our lodge needs youth leadership in various positions. If you are interested in helping to lead the lodge for the coming year, think about running for office. Positions include: Lodge Chief, Executive Vice Chief, Vice Chief of Program, Vice Chief of Finance, Vice Chief of Membership, Program, Vice Chief of Communications. To run for office, you need to create a short campaign video at the April Lodge Meeting (April 21st, Golden Valley Council Office 7PM). You will also need to fill out an application. May is the election month, and at the June Lodge Meeting, the 2016-2017 officers are announced.

Go to OA.NSBSA.ORG for more information and an application form.

All youth Arrowmen are encouraged to run for office.

GOOD LUCK TO ALL CANDIDATES THIS YEAR!!!



Follow us on Twitter

Follow us using the twitter handle @TNL_OA. Keep up with happenings at the Lodge Level.





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NLS TRAINING

The National Leadership Seminar (NLS) is a weekend conference focused on the skills and attributes of leadership. The program enhances the leadership skills of the Order of the Arrow's key youth and adult members as they seek to improve their services to the Boy Scouts of America and the greater community. The weekend format complements the longer, more detailed Wood Badge program (for adults) and Junior Leadership Training program (for youth). During the seminar, participants make a contract with themselves to apply the skills learned on projects in the lodge, council, and community. NLS prepares Arrowmen to become better leaders both within and outside of the Scouting program.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Every Arrowman will benefit in some way from attending NLS. Youth participants should be at least 15 years of age or a lodge officer. Completion of a Lodge Leadership Development (LLD) course is desirable. The seminar is an intensive experience in learning about the nature of leadership and practicing some of the skills that a leader uses. While fun, the course challenges participants mentally as well. Participants should be developmentally, physically, and mentally prepared to engage actively in an exhausting, invigorating weekend.

When: April 29th—May 1st, 2016

Where: Kiwanis Scout Camp

Cost: \$190-195 (No charge for the first 10 to sign up)

We need your commitment as soon as possible. Please contact our Scout Professional Adviser, Ben Coder, at 763-231-7223 or bcoder@northernstarbsa.org right away and let him know you are interested. He will get you signed up!

OPERATION OTTERTAIL

This summer, you have the opportunity to put the words Brotherhood of Cheerful Service into action. Operation Ottertail is a joint effort with the Minnesota DNR to rehabilitate the Ottertail River in western Minnesota.

Over the course of three weekends, Arrowmen from lodges in the Section are joining forces to clean up the river and to enhance recreational activities for all.

Operation Ottertail is based out of various areas, depending on the weekend and work crew needs:

- [Fergus Falls MN](#)
- [Frazee MN](#)
- [Glendalough State Park](#)
- [Phleps Mill](#)

Work Crews will:

- Build Trails
- Build Ins and Outs for Canoes, Kayaks and Paddle Boards
- Build Parks Benches
- Conservation Work

You can attend one of the short weekends for \$40, the long weekend for \$60 or all three weekends for \$100.

The dates are:

- June 17th and 18th
- July 14th, 15th, and 16th
- August 5th and 6th

Check out these two You Tube videos:

[Video #1](#)

[Video #2](#)

[To register for this unique event, click this link.](#)



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From the Lodge Chief:

Hello Arrowmen,

It seems every time that I write a piece I start by saying it has been busy these past couple months. As a lodge, we have had successes and failures in these past months. I too have had successes and failures as a leader, student, and growing person in these past months. Part of the reason that I am so grateful for the Order of the Arrow and the Scouting Movement is that I have had opportunities to fail and succeed amongst my peers and grow along the way. Sometimes, I beat myself up over my failures and get discouraged about setbacks that I have had in Scouts and life. However, I can look back and remember all the times I succeeded at something in Scouts whether it is big or small. Most times, those accomplishments were probably preceded by some failures. In the end, on any path that you or I take, there will bumps and in the end those added challenges will be what we remember and cherish, not reaching the end of the trail. We just have to keep moving forward to enjoy it.

Yours in Service,
Sam Gentle; Lodge Chief



From the Lodge Adviser:

Fifteen Blazes led you to us, but the trail that you have followed becomes rougher, steeper,

fainter. You will need a brighter light" Have you ever stopped to think about what this means? Perhaps unless you have portrayed Nutiket in the pre-Ordeal ceremony, then you haven't given much thought to this. We know what fifteen blazes represent. Think about what Nutiket means when he says that those blazes led you to the pre-Ordeal ceremony. What does he mean when he says that the path becomes more difficult? What is the brighter fire he refers to, and how will it help you over this treacherous terrain? Nutiket is not saying that you should abandon the fifteen blazes and opt instead for a brighter fire. Instead, you should continue to use the fifteen blazes to assist you on your path. However, they won't be enough. Have you experienced a time since your induction when the trail has become a bit rougher? Perhaps there were forks in the road, and you needed a guiding light to help you safely discern the right path from the wrong one. The fifteen blazes are there to help you. Think about these things the next time you watch a ceremony. What words resonate with you? How can you make the fire brighter?

Randy Reverman; Lodge Adviser

**Have you visited our Web Site?
Liked us on Facebook?**

Check out the lodge web site at oa.nsbsa.org for updated news on events, forms and information.



Also, like us on Facebook, go to <http://www.facebook.com/tnl.oa>.



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Founders Award

The order of the arrow is known as the brotherhood of cheerful service. This year, we recognize selected members who embody the true spirit of the order. This award is the highest award that can be bestowed on an Arrowman by a local lodge.



Matthew Freeman:

Matthew Freeman, during his tenure with the Totanhan Nakaha lodge, has shown an unwavering dedication in service to the lodge and scouting. Matthew was instrumental in leading the lodge to achieve gold-level journey to excellence in 2012-2013, and served not only as a Lodge Chief, but also as youth National Order of the Arrow Conference contingent chair on two separate occasions; all this in addition to his role in serving as a youth staff member for the council's Grey Wolf national youth leadership training program.

Brandon Peterson:

Brandon Peterson has faithfully served the Order of the Arrow and scouting, and has had a profound impact on his chapter and district. Since 1997, Brandon has served as an adult leader in the Northwest district, furthering his involvement by serving as chapter adviser from 2006-2015. Despite not having a youth in a program, Brandon has dedicated himself to giving back to the program he was a part of as a youth.

Matthew Moen:

Matthew Moen is a dedicated servant of scouting and the order, and has been a valued member and leader of the Paul E. Wethern chapter ceremony team and lodge ceremony team. Since becoming an Arrowman, Matthew has continued his involvement with his local district, serving as camporee staff for both Cub Scout and Boy Scout events. As a member of the lodge, Matthew has been an advocate for the preservation of the traditions of the order, continually supporting Indian winter events and lodge ceremony training.

Jason Zeman:

Jason Zeman is an integral part of the Totanhan Nakaha lodge, and has also supported major activities for the local council. At the council-level, Jason has supported the national jamboree contingent as quartermaster, as well as having served as the event chair for the bi-annual Webelos experience. In chairing the Webelos experience, Jason was responsible for the recruitment, planning, and execution of an event that drew 3,400 Webelos and their parents. He is a willing servant of the order and scouting.

Camp Openers

Every Year, the OA helps get our camps ready for the summer camping season. Come spend a weekend at camp to help out. All weekends offer Brotherhood conversion ceremonies, if you missed your last chapter conclave. If you know an ordeal Candidate that missed their conclave, this is the last chance to be inducted before they are no longer eligible. See the OA website at oa.nbsa.org for a details on each opener weekend.

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|-------------------------|--|-----------------|--|
| Kiwanis | April 23 rd to 24 th | Fred C Anderson | May 6 th to 7 th |
| Phillippo | May 6 th to 7 th | Rum River | May 6 th to 7 th |



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Spring Fellowship

The first ever Spring Fellowship was hosted by the Lake Minnetonka Chapter at Mound-Westonka High School on March 11-12th. This lock-in event was themed to be a gathering of tournaments and gaming of all kinds, and attendees played many sorts of games throughout the night. There was also time for swimming and water pole (a new game invented by LMD - just ask us), Lodge ball, and the ever-so-desired pizza feast. Our Chapter Chief would even sew on patches for you if you had them with you. A good time was claimed by all who showed up. The Lodge has voted to continue the practice of the Spring Fellowship along with Fall Fellowships, for the foreseeable future; just more fun to be had by all.

Spring Fellowship Statistics:

Date: March 11-12, 2016

Location: Mound-Westonka High School

Theme: Tournaments

Attendees: 26 youth and 11 adults, with 8 of these being walk-ins



Hard to stay up all night.



Lots of Video Games



Swimming Pool was open for business



Lodge Chief Sam Gentle was on hand



Even the "experienced" Arrowmen found excitement With age comes wisdom





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Northern Lights Chapter feeds hungry Cub Scouts

The first week in February was just cold enough to host the Northern Lights District Cub Scout Ice Fishing Derby. The Northern Lights OA Chapter was on hand to help feed hungry Cub Scouts with hot dogs, chips and plenty of fluids.



And what has your chapter been doing? Send pictures and text or your chapter events to farmer.doug@comcast.net for the next Moose Tracks





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Jumpstart your OA Knowledge

Looking for more information on the Order of the Arrow? The national OA organization has a web site just for you. Go to www.jumpstart.oa-bsa.org and get started. You will need your OA Handbook for the password.



2016 Dues are due

Totanhan Nakaha is now accepting lodge dues payments for the 2016 program year. If you did not attend conclave, you probably owe dues for the year. Lodge dues for the year are \$15.00. The biggest reason to pay dues is to remain an active member of the organization. As an active member, you will have the opportunity to become a Brotherhood or Vigil Honor member, attend events, help with official service projects, run for official positions and seek leadership opportunities within the Lodge. You should know that your lodge also supports many other activities that are part of our mission to provide service to others. For instance, your dues are used to build and maintain ceremonial outfits, pay for camp improvements, and support other programs. Thank you in advance for supporting your lodge and council!

Thoughts on the nature of camping

The founders of both the Scouting Movement and the Order of the Arrow valued camping as a way to teach Scouting skills. But each Scout who has truly experienced the outdoors while camping will value camping for its own sake. True, it is in the outdoors that many Scouts learn how to tie their knots and their bandages, and first use a compass. But it is also true that the outdoors is where a Scout's self-reliance is fostered.

From the OA-BSA.ORG Web site

You can pay your dues online at <https://scoutingevent.com/?oa2016dues>

Thank you for your continued support for the Order of the Arrow and for Scouting.



Totanhan Nakaha Lodge

Order of the Arrow
Northern Star Council BSA

