

Ni-Sanak-Tani Lodge #381 – Gateway Area Council

Volume 25 Issue 4

November/December 2018

LETTER FROM THE CHIEF

Hello Brothers!

My name is Isaac Bachmann, and I am the newly elected Lodge Chief for 2018-19. I am very excited to be elected as Lodge Chief this year and lead our lodge in the right direction. I am going to take this opportunity to introduce myself to you and share my views for the lodge over the next year.

I am a Life Scout of Troop 46 in Bangor, Wisconsin. I am also a senior attending Bangor High School. I am working to finish up my Eagle Scout project. Some of you may know me from summer camp this past summer at Camp Decorah working up at the shooting ranges. I love

spending time outdoors bicycling and running with my cross-country teammates. I also love camping with my family and spending time outdoors with them. Just because I was elected as Lodge Chief doesn't mean I'm above anyone, I'm still just a normal scout like you.

One of my biggest goals for my term as Lodge Chief is to get the number of active arrowmen up again. In the recent years we have seen a decline in active members and lots of new Ordeals have been doing "sash and dash" which is basically, get your ordeal, get your sash and leave. Very few people stay active in the lodge after their ordeal. My hope is to get more people to come to OA events and participate in OA activities. I hope new ordeals can eventually run for office and take my place when I'm done. Another thing I hope to accomplish is to improve communication around the lodge. There has not been the best communication even with me before a ran for office.

I hope that we can get more Smoke Signals going again and get more people aware of what is happening in the lodge. If we can get more members participating at events and find out what is going on, we can get more ceremonies and troop elections done. Then those new members can stay with the lodge and help out, and then our numbers can grow. Thank you for electing me as your Lodge Chief for the 2018-19 year.

NST Lodge Chief,
Isaac Bachmann

TWO MEMBERS EARN THE VIGIL HONOR

The Vigil Honor is the highest honor that the Order of the Arrow can bestow on one of its members for service to the lodge, council and scouting. It recognizes Arrowmen who have shown exceptional service, personal effort, unselfish interest and conducted themselves in accordance to the ideals of Scouting and the Order of the Arrow. We are proud to announce that two of our members have completed the journey to the vigil honor.

Mr. John Parkyn and Mr. Christopher Donahu

WELCOME TO OUR NEW ORDEAL AND BROTHERHOOD MEMBERS

At our August Rendezvous Weekend we inducted 16 new Ordeal and 7 new Brotherhood members into the Lodge. We want to Congratulate and welcome all of these brothers into the Ni-Sanak-Tani Lodge.

ORDEAL MEMBERS

Dominic Kreiling
Zachary Halverson
Pierce Nelson
AJ Adams
Chris Hollon
Ethan Kromer
Daniel Martz
Nathan Novak
Benjamin Barrett
Mitch Stavenau
Nerzhin Santiago
Colin Santiago
Trevor Langel
Sara Langrehr
Caleb Abbott
Noah Hronis

BROTHERHOOD MEMBERS

Spencer Sveen
Isaiah Higgins
Isaac Bachman
Jaden Schindler
Clayton Solberg
Alex Hronis
Jerry Valley

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEW OFFICERS OF THE LODGE RENDEVOUS WEEKEND RECAP



This year's Rendezvous weekend was a great event. The weekend started with our Ordeal ceremony and starting 16 newly elected candidates on their way to receiving their Ordeal sashes on Saturday night. 7 members of our lodge sealed their membership in the Order of the Arrow by completing their Brotherhood. One lodge member was distinguished with his Vigil honor. There were also fun activities for members who participated in kayaking, climbing, zip line, games etc. Encouraging guests to come and see the ordeal ceremony

proved successful as 52 people came to camp—had an orientation about the Order of the Arrow and then attending the Ordeal ceremony. 68 people stayed for our steak dinner before the lodge meeting was held and new officers for 2019 were elected. We are proud to announce the following officers for the Lodge.

LODGE CHIEF:

VICE CHIEF—PROGRAM:

VICE CHIEF—FINANCE:

VICE CHIEF—COMMUNICATIONS:

VICE CHIEF—CEREMONIES:

SEVEN RIVERS CHAPTER CHIEFS

ISAAC BACHMANN

JADEN SCHINDLER

ZACH HALVERSON

ALEX FRONIS

SAM PATSCHULL

PIERCE NELSON

OKTOBERFEST AND SPOOK-O-REE FUND RAISERS

This Fall the Lodge had snack shacks at two major events. We had one during the Oktoberfest parade. The concessions stand was located in the Family Fun Zone area which included such activities as the bb gun range, monkey bridge, inflatables, gag a ball, face painting etc. for families to enjoy as they watched the Fest parade march down Copeland Avenue.

Our second stand was setup at Camp Decorah during the annual running of the Spook-O-Ree event. While all units enjoyed two days of activities, hay rides, haunted forests and sites, the Lodge sold hot chocolate, brats, burgers, dogs and other great treats to all the participants. We want to THANK every lodge member or friend who came to one or both events and helped in the setup, manning and cleaning/tear down of the snack shacks. We raised over \$2,600.00 for the lodge after the two events finances were recorded. We will be doing both events in 2019 and hope we can get even more people to come and help the lodge on those days. We are planning to use the money raised for projects like new regalia for our ceremonies team, training sessions, upgrade of the OA lodge and camp improvements.

SECTION CONCLAVE REPORT

Gardner Dam Scout Camp was the site of this year's C1-B Section conclave. Nearly 300 Arrowmen from five Lodges joined together for a weekend filled with training, games, activities, events, elections, fun and fellowship. "The Greatest Arrowman" was the theme for this year's conclave. The Ni-Sanak-Tani lodge had 11 members attend the conclave. They were: Zach Halverson, Noah Hronis, Sam Patschull, Jeremy Byars, Collin Sontiago, Harvey Geary, Alex Metry, Nik Meiers, Al Abrahamson Sr., Glenn Walinski and Jack Robinson. Next year's conclave will be held at Camp Phillips on September 13—15, 2019



Our Lodge and the Gateway Area Council has been selected to host the 2019 Midwest Rally at Camp Decorah on October 4-6. This a weekend of training, fun and fellowship offered to Lodges located in the Midwest. More details will be coming after the first of the year.

<https://central.aa-bsa.org/c1b/midwest-rally/>

NEW CABINS REPLACING TENTS IN CAMPSITES



The Camp Decorah Ranger Corp has completed a large number of cabins in various campsites at Camp. These will replace tents in these sites. There are 2 and 4- man cabins. Cherokee—Chippewa—Lower Apache—Iroquois and staff row now showcase these new cabins. The goal is to build up to 25 more cabins in 2019. All members are encouraged to come out to camp and help on work days which Joel Thole will advertise as we get into 2019. Thank you to

everyone who has helped work on and made these cabins a reality. Just one of the many improvements going on in Camp Decorah.



SUNDAY, JANUARY 6 AT CAMP DECORAH
HAGERMAN HALL

COST: \$15.00 PER PERSON

4:00 PM REGISTRATION
5:00 PM DINNER
5:30 PM PROGRAM

This year's banquet program will include:

- Silent auction and door prizes
- Induction of new Officers
- Vigil Honor recognition
- Guest speaker
- Lodge committee reports
- 2018 highlights for our Lodge
- Special year in review slide show

Now is the time to start planning to attend the 2019 OA Winter banquet. Reservations are requested before January 3 so that we can get a count for food and setup but you can show up and register at camp at the banquet.

UNIT ELECTIONS

Each Boy Scout Troop and Varsity Team with qualified scouts are encouraged to hold an election no later than May 3, 2019. Elections are held to recognize those scouts that best exemplify the Scout oath and Law in their daily lives. The date and place of the election is selected by the unit leader. Elections are usually held at a regular unit meeting or even a camping experience.

Units CANNOT hold an election if 50% of the active members are not present. The Lodge will send a team to help conduct the election. Election results are the option of the leader if they will be announced on the day of the elections.

Any Unit that needs help with either a cross over ceremony or with their OA election--- PLEASE CONTACT at least TWO WEEKS in advance of the date:

Harvey Geary (608)-792-4144 or hgearyjr@gmail.com

GOLDEN TICKET---2019



Registering to attend lodge events and the Section Conclave can be as easy as buying a "Golden Ticket". You will receive a unique annual NST patch that recognizes those who pay \$100.00 up-front to the lodge. Your fee includes the patch, OA winter banquet, Wing Ding, Fall Rendezvous, Section Conclave and June Ordeal weekend. (Transportation to events is not covered)

LODGE DUES

Your Lodge Dues run by the Calendar Year. That means it is time for all of us to renew our dues in the Ni-Sanak-Tani lodge. Dues are \$15.00. You can pay multiple years ahead if you want. Please take the time to send your dues to the Gateway Area Council office, using the registration sheet that is on the last page of the Smoke signal. It is important that all our members renew their dues so that we can re-charter our Lodge and update of mailing list for all lodge newsletters etc.

MERIT BADGE DAY AND WINTER WING DING



Merit badge day will be Saturday, February 2 at Camp Decorah. Winter Wing Ding will start on Friday night and go through Saturday for OA members. We will plan some fun activities around MBD but also we help with MBD by preparing the lunches etc. OA members who go to Wing Ding (COST \$15.00) can go to Merit badge day for Free. Full details will be coming out after the first of the year.

ITS NOT TO EARLY TO THINK ABOUT THE 2019 CAMP DECORAH SUMMER CAMP STAFF!!!



Camp Decorah will be looking for summer camp staff including an OA coordinator. Any Arrowmen 14 years of age or older can apply for one of the 30 positions available for the 2019 camping season. Staff members live at camp in the newly-built staff quarter cabins, get three meals a day, make new friends, give leadership to activities, plan programs, instruct hundreds of campers for all the age groups and influence lives. There is a special OA summer

Coordinator position which includes running all Order of the Arrow activities during the summer season. This includes the ice cream social, Ordeal elections, Brotherhood talks, Friday night camp call outs, teaching merit badges like (Indian Lore, Basketry, Leatherwork etc.) Full information on all camp Decorah staff positions and application forms will be out the first of the year from the Council Office.

SUMMER CAMP PROMOTIONS

Leaders----Now is the time to talk about and make plans to attend Summer camp in 2019 at Camp Decorah. Reservations are done through the Gateway Area Council Scout Office. To reserve your campsite---a \$100 non-refundable campsite deposit is required at registration. Troops/Crews may be combined in a campsite with another troop/crew if they are unable to fill the entire campsite.

Send all payments to the Gateway Area council Office (2600 Quarry Rd, La Crosse, WI 54601). Credit Card payments can be made by calling 608-784-4040 during business hours.

CAMPERSHIP Assistance is available for scout families in need. Camperships may be awarded for up to 50% of the camp fees. Camp Scholarships cannot be used to cover initial deposits. Campership application forms are available from the council office and need to be submitted by May 1, 2019.

Summer camp Session 1	June 23-----29
Summer camp session 2	July 7-----13
Summer camp session 3	July 14----20
Summer camp session 4	July 21----27

SUMMER CAMP FEES

SITE RESERVATION	\$ 100.00
SCOUTS	\$ 270.00
PROVISIONAL SCOUT	\$ 270.00
ADULT LEADER	\$ 50.00

A NEW Camp Decorah video, Leaders Guide and full information on Summer Camp 2019 at Camp Decorah will be available soon. If any unit would like a presentation about camp at their troop or crew meeting---PLEASE CONTACT:

Todd Nelson 608-769-2659 tspc215@yahoo.com

NSTLodge381 is CONNECTED!!

Ni-Sanak_Tani Lodge is doing all we can to keep you connected. We have created a new Facebook page and a new Twitter Account. You can find both at NSTLodge381.

Want to get electronic notices from the lodge for events and when the Smoke Signal is online? Sign up to get email notices from the lodge by visiting:

<https://www.remind.com/join/nstm> OR SMS messages by texting @nstm' to 81010
(Message and data rates from your carrier might apply)

For More Lodge News and Information---Go to:

NST Facebook: [facebook.com/NSTLodge381](https://www.facebook.com/NSTLodge381)

NST Twitter: [NSTLodge381](https://twitter.com/NSTLodge381)

Section C1-B [sectionc1b.org](https://www.sectionc1b.org)

Central Region [central.oa-bsa.org](https://www.central.oa-bsa.org)

OA High Adventure [adventure.oa-bsa.org](https://www.adventure.oa-bsa.org)

2019 IMPORTANT DATES

January 6	Winter Banquet at Camp Decorah
February 1-2	Winter Wing ding/Merit badge day at camp Decorah
March 15-17	NLS-DYLC Training course, Central city, Iowa
June 14/15	Ordeal/Brotherhood weekend
July 22-Aug 3	World Scout Jamboree
August 16-18	Rendezvous Weekend -Ordeal, Brotherhood, Vigil, Lodge Elections
September 14-16	C1-B Section Conclave at Camp Phillips
October 6-8	Midwest Rally at Camp Decorah
September 29	Oktoberfest Parade Family Zone Snack Shack
October 18/19	Spook-O-Ree snack shack at camp Decorah

LODGE OFFICERS AND ADVISORS FOR 2019

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The Order of the Arrow is a thing of the outdoors rather than the indoors. It was born in an island wilderness. It needs the sun and rain, the woods and the plains, the waters and the starlit sky.

E. Urner Goodman

Ni-Sanak-Tani-Registration

Name _____
 Address _____
 City/State/Zip _____
 Phone _____ Email _____
 Troop/Crew _____

	Qty:	Cost:	Total
Dues: {Please include list of names being paid for}			
Youth (under 21 on Jan 1 of that year)	_____	@\$15= _____	***DY
Adult	_____	@ \$15= _____	***DA
Crew 381 B.S.A. Registration (if not registered elsewhere)	_____	@\$36= _____	***DR
GOLDEN TICKET	_____	@\$100= _____	***GT
Includes Patch, Annual Banquet, Fall Rendezvous, Section Conclave and Ordeals <i>Transportation Not Included</i>			

NST Yearly Events-Sign Up Early! A \$5 late fee will be charged 14 days prior to the event

ORDEALS

ORDEAL Weekend 1 (held in June)

Elongomat	_____	FREE= _____	***O1
New Candidates (Youth & Adult)	_____	@\$50= _____	***O1
<u>Current Arrowmen</u>			
Weekend Only	_____	@\$10= _____	***O1
Brotherhood Only	_____	@\$20= _____	***O1
Both Weekend & Brotherhood	_____	@\$30= _____	***O1

RENDEZVOUS Weekend (held in August)

Elongomat	_____	FREE= _____	***O2
New Candidate (Youth & Adult)	_____	@\$50= _____	***O2
<u>Current Arrowmen</u>			
Rendezvous Only	_____	@\$15= _____	***O2
Brotherhood Only	_____	@\$20= _____	***O2
Both Weekend & Brotherhood	_____	@\$35= _____	***O2

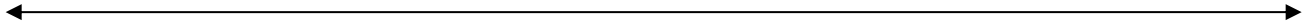
Steak Dinner for Guests _____ @\$10= _____ ***FR

Section Conclave (Held in September) _____ @\$35= _____ ***SC

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

**Order of the Arrow
Gateway Area Council
2600 Quarry Rd.
La Crosse, WI 54601**

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