

October 8, 2013

SUBJECT: Back to the Future

We are approaching two significant dates in the life of Achewon Nimat Lodge, both of which deserve a relook at the lodge and its vitality. Our 2014 Lodge Banquet will occur on the exact date of the lodge's 50th anniversary. Right on the heels of our 50th anniversary will be NOAC 2015 where the Order of the Arrow will be celebrating its 100th anniversary.

Because of these two events we have been looking back at the history of our lodge and of the Order of the Arrow and have been making adjustments based upon the lodge's past and future. The following exciting changes have been approved for implementation:

1. Tulpe (Peralta) and Amangi (Tres Ranchos) villages have been working together successfully for the past few years and their success will be officially recognized by their temporary being united as *Husca Wimachtendienk* (New Brotherhood) village. This joining will only last until both villages experience active membership sufficient to permit them to function independently once again. Monthly Village meetings will alternate between the Tres Ranchos and Peralta district round table.
2. The Lodge will reduce its Ordeals to 2 per annum. The Spring Ordeal will be conducted at Camp Royaneh on the Friday, Saturday and Sunday at the end of Camp Staff Week.
3. The following OA activities will be undertaken during Summer Camp at Camp Royaneh:
 - One staff member under the age of 21, who is also an OA member, will be given the additional responsibility of serving as the OA Camp Coordinator with a stipend of \$50.00 per week throughout Summer Camp. The other Arrowmen on the Camp staff will assist the OA Camp Coordinator in all OA activities at camp Royaneh.
 - The opening campfire each week will occur on each Monday night to permit unit elections on Sunday night and on Monday. The OA Camp Coordinator will organize election teams made up of Arrowmen on the camp staff. A call out ceremony will be conducted during the opening campfire and will be orchestrated by the OA Camp Coordinator. Each candidate will receive an appropriate symbol of his candidacy. Unit elections conducted prior to camp will be recognized during the camp fire if those candidates were not previously called out and if the Achewon Nimat is in receipt of the election report.
 - An Ordeal will be conducted at camp beginning on Thursday night and ending Friday evening. The induction ceremony will be conducted following the final camp fire.
 - The OA Camp Coordinator will be responsible for evaluating the OA camp program and submitting a report to the Achewon Nimat Lodge Executive Committee (LEC). This change will be expanded to Wente Scout Reservation during subsequent summer camps.

4. The Lodge will continue the Achieifest event as a means of preparation for the annual Section W3S Conclave and for the conduct of a general Lodge meeting and Lodge officer elections. This event is the only lodge event during the year that focuses on “fun” as the major activity. We will also look at developing new fun activities during each lodge year.
5. The Fall Ordeal will be scheduled during October at Camp Royaneh for the foreseeable future.
6. Troops and crews should schedule their OA unit elections to be completed no later than May 15th to permit those elected to attend the Spring Ordeal and no later than September 15th to permit those elected to attend the Fall Ordeal.
7. The Lodge Leadership Development (LLD) will be rescheduled to occur no later than the week prior to Memorial Day following the lodge elections held during Achieifest to accommodate the preparation of the newly elected lodge officers to assume their duties on July 1st.
8. The Lodge will not conduct a Klondike Derby until its membership and active participation by both youth and adult Arrowmen increases to a level that will both justify and support conducting this event.
9. Since both Alameda and Piedmont Councils participate heavily in the Winter Camp Awareness sessions, the Lodge will solicit Order of the Arrow assistance from the Alameda and Piedmont Council OA Lodges in conducting selected sessions of the annual Winter Camp Awareness program.
10. The Council calendar and Lodge calendar will be merged so that Lodge activities are always shown when the Council calendar is opened.
11. The LEC will determine the best method(s) to promote Lodge and Village activities with a focus on “changing the attitudes” within the Troops. Examples of such activities are as follows: Sessions at both the Winter Awareness and University of Scouting to promote the OA (to both youth and adult leaders) and review/ enhance the information pertaining to the Lodge on the Council website. The LEC will continually look for other ways to meet the needs and desires of Arrowmen that will result support of the Lodge and Villages in the Council.
12. National Order of the Arrow Conference staff applications will be approved by the San Francisco Bay Area Council only for Lodge members who have maintained their membership in the lodge during both 2014 and 2015. Exceptions will be made for new Arrowmen inducted during 2014 and 2015.

Wimachtendienk, Wingolauchsik, Witahemui

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