



Northern Lights District Fall Conclave 2009

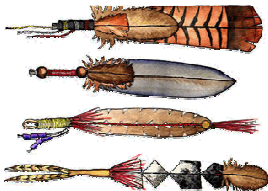
Welcome back all OA Members. Here is some specific information about our conclave that was not included in the letter the lodge is sending to all members.

As you all know, the Order of the Arrow is the Brotherhood of **Cheerful Service** and the conclave weekend is our main time in the year to provide that service.

In the past, our conclave has focused on the service aspect, and the cheerfulness has been lagging behind. We started to change that last year. While we continue to improve Rum River Scout Camp to the best of our ability, we also plan on some down time for fellowship, relaxation and to get to know our fellow OA members.

With the retirement of Ranger Bob, it is more important than ever that the Order of the Arrow steps up and helps maintain Rum River Scout Camp. For your efforts you get that delicious dinner served up by Dave Bredeson and crew. Saturday evening is devoted to fellowship and includes: an OA introduction presentation by our chief, Carl Sitler, Elections, outdoor activities, cribbage tournaments / instruction, movies and other events. If you have a cribbage board, please bring it along for the weekend.

On Sunday morning we have an activity to create ceremonial wrapped feathers, a Native American pouch from deerskin or a choker from beads, hair pipe and leather. **This activity will cost an additional \$5 for materials** for each pouch or choker you would like to make. **Please indicate on your registration if you would like to make this and how many. Example: write "2 CHOKERS" or "1 POUCH" or "1 Feathers" anywhere on the registration form. This is an optional cost and an optional activity.** Material costs will be collected at the time of the event on Sunday morning. Do not send in the cost with your conclave registration.



To make this a success, we are asking all Conclave Participants to stay the complete weekend, and to camp as a unit if possible.

Please help make the new Ordeal Candidates weekend a success by coming as a troop, if possible. It makes them feel more at home and not alone for the weekend.

Ordeal Members

If you are an Ordeal Member, we hope you will return to seal your membership by obtaining the Brotherhood Honor. This simple ceremony shows you care about camping, scouting and service to others. While there is some service to the camp involved, you do get a regular breakfast and lunch as well the great dinner. You can even lead the work projects instead of doing all the work! **Also, talking is allowed!**

We are looking for youth to be Elangomats during the weekend. The Elangomat, from the Lenape word meaning friend or family member, heads a crew of candidates during the Ordeal, and follows up with his *clan* in the ten months following to encourage his clan's participation in the Lodge and prepare them for Brotherhood conversion. This is a great opportunity for OA members seeking Brotherhood to become an active member of the chapter. Elangomat training will be held at 7:00 on Friday night, for the first portion of the weekend, and at 10:15 the same night for the latter portion of the weekend. Please let us know when you arrive if you are interested in this opportunity to serve the OA Chapter.

Contact Dave Purdham at (952) 937-6236 if you or any youth you know of are interested. dmpurd@hotmail.com

At the same time, we are also looking for some youth to server as Niemats to serve as the heads of Brotherhood clans. Again, training will be offered at the conclave. Please call Bryan Northup at (763) 424-5699 if interested. bnorthrop@comcast.net

As usual, we also need to donation of tools for the weekend. Wheelbarrows, shovels, rakes are always appreciated. As are tree trimming equipment, gloves, etc. We don't know all the projects that need being done at camp, so bring whatever you have that can be of general use in improving the camp.

If you are a youth and would like to be in ceremonial costume for one or more of the ceremonies, please let us know during check in.

Our Chapter is in need of adult Arrowmen to lead work projects, if you are interested please contact Jason Zeman at 763-559-9063 jzman11@msn.com .

This year, we are also offering clothing with our OA Chapter logo on it. We have tee shirts, sweatshirts, ball caps, winter skull caps, back patches available. The Chapter Logo represents the chapter throughout the Northern Star Council. Items are available for purchase at the conclave. If you want to pre order a jacket or sweatshirt, please call Doug Farmer at 763-424-6424.

A pre order form and description of the items can be found at:
<http://northernlights.nbsa.org/OrderArrow/Order.htm>

Pre orders received by August 25th should be available at the conclave.

Patch Auction - Every conclave we run a patch auction. Funds raised from this patch auction offset some of the cost of equipment rental for the work projects and also help to run the chapter throughout the year.

If you have any duplicate patches, or other scouting memorabilia you would like to donate, please bring it to registration Friday night. Your help is appreciated.

Your Conclave Chairman is Shane Baesler from troop 531 and his adviser is Ken Skoglund at 763-493-2614 klskog@comcast.net.

Please feel free to call them with any questions about the weekend. Or, you can call the Chapter Advisor, Doug Farmer, at 763-424-6424.

We anticipate a GREAT weekend filled with fun, fellowship, and service for all Arrowmen.

Carl Sitler
Chapter Chief

Doug Farmer
Chapter Advisor