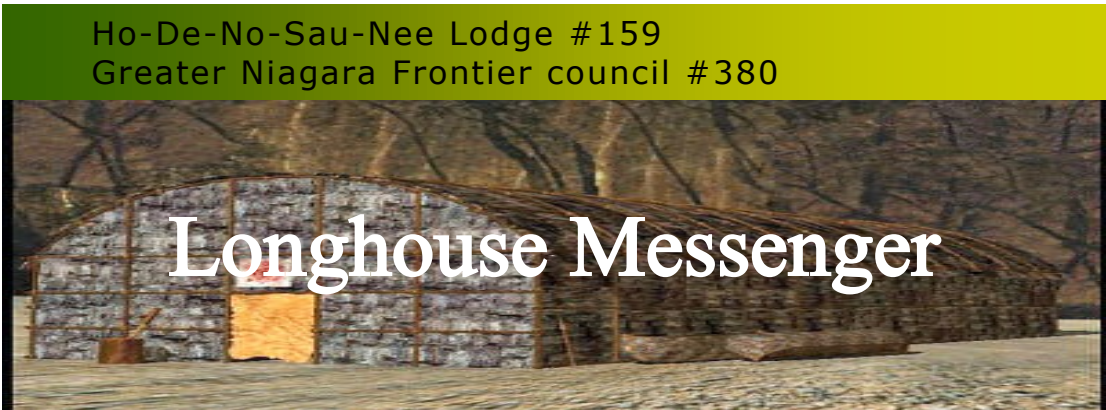




2012
Volume 1



A Word From The Lodge Chief

Inside this issue:

<i>A Word From The Lodge Chief</i>	1
<i>A Word From The Lodge Chief (contd.)</i>	2
<i>Upcoming Dates</i>	3
<i>A Word From The Lodge Advisor</i>	5

Special points of interest:

- You can buy lodge flaps at all lodge events
- Section Conclave registration ends April 10th, so if you plan on going, you should register as soon as possible

Brothers,

It has come to my attention that my article from December never made it into the newsletter. So for those of you who actually read the newsletter and look forward to my pearls of wisdom I am including it as a prelude to this month's article.

Season's Greetings, brothers. Yes, it's that time of year again where we all get busy with the hustle and bustle of the Holidays. So please remember to renew your OA membership. Remember without you there would be no Lodge.

On 12/05/11 I attended the OA Lodge Executive Committee Meeting (we found out more about the Journey to Excellence program that is replacing the Quality Lodge criteria that we are so familiar with. It's more in line with what BSA is currently using)

Looking ahead we have been making plans for: Broomball, Winter Fellowship, and our Lodge Banquet where we elect next year's officers. While on the subject of Lodge Officers I would like to remind those who are or are thinking of becoming a Lodge Officer that these positions require you to spend time

at Lodge functions. The monthly LEC is one of the ones you are expected to attend.

Lodge officers are expected to fulfill their obligation to the Lodge by attending Lodge events. If you are not able to attend, please send someone in your place. If you have found that you do not have the time to commit to your position, please recommend your replacement. I dislike being so blunt but I have an obligation to all members of the Lodge to ensure that the Lodge business is conducted in a timely manner. This can't happen if the youth members are not there to participate.

My expectation of Lodge officers is that they take personal responsibility to ensure they are meeting their obligations to the Lodge. How they manage to do that is their business. I am not going to "baby sit" anyone and keep reminding them of their obligation to be at events and write articles for this news letter. If you have the title please do the job and remember the other members look up to you and learn from you. To those of you, who show up and participate, a very heartfelt,

thank you very much. You make my job that much easier.

I hope to see you all in the New Year and I look forward to working with all of you to make our Lodge the best it's ever been. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me.

Fred (Skippy) Briggs
Lodge Chief

A Word From The Lodge Chief (contd.)

Now for my January article:

Brothers,

Now that the Holidays are over and we are back to our normal January routine (Klondike) I would like to pass along some reminders for those who like to plan ahead:

- 2012 OA Dues are due and are being accepted we are currently at 41%

- Tote washes are scheduled for 1/21/2012, 3/30/2012, 6/30/2012, and 10/27/2012

- 2/17-2/19/2012 Winter Fellowship at Camp Stonehaven

- First Aid Rally is 2/4/2012 if you taught last year; you will be expected to teach again.

- NOAC 7/30/2012-8/4/2012 final payments are

due to National by 3/30/2012

- University of Scouting is at ECC North on 3/3/2012, Trading Post will be there and we will be accepting 2012 Dues

- Annual Lodge Banquet is 3/4/12, If you want to run for a Lodge level position the Nomination of Officers Form needs to be completed and turned in by the February LEC 2/7/12. It is found on our web site at www.OALodge159.org under Forms

- 6/1/2012 – 6/3/2012 Section Conclave

- 6/4/2012 is when the newly elected Lodge Officer's take over their positions

Keep in mind that the new Lodge Officer's will be taking over just when we break for

Summer Activities which means that when activities pick up in September that there will only be less than three months to make sure that we achieve our Journey to Excellence goals. So we need to hit the ground running NOW and complete as much as we can before we run out of time. Let's make things easier for the new Officer's.

The easiest way to accomplish this is to:

- Pay 2012 Dues
- Hold Unit Elections
- Ensure Ordeal Inductions
- Ensure timely Brotherhood Conversions
- Participate at OA Events

Remember you were elected to the OA because you exhibited the following traits:

- You best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in your daily lives

- You as Arrowmen are known for maintaining camping traditions and spirit, promoting year-round and long term resident camping, and providing cheerful service to others

Remember the Lodge is a collective reflection of ALL of us. Don't let the Lodge down just because you don't like someone or something. Instead of complaining, step up and help the Lodge be better. The Lodge always need help. United we will succeed, individually we may fail. Finally any and all OA members are welcome to attend and participate at the Lodge Executive Committee meetings. They are usually held on the first Monday of the month at Council Office at 7 PM.

Frederick (Skippy) Briggs
Lodge Chief

A Word About the Journey to Excellence Program

Everybody has been talking about it, Journey To Excellence, but what is this program and why are we participating. According to the OA National Website this program exists because, "When the Boy Scouts of America launched the new strategic plan, a transition was made to a new program to measure unit, district, and council performance. Following the Boy Scout's transition, the national OA committee adopted the Journey to Excellence program to replace the National Quality Lodge program. Journey to Excellence places emphasis on continuous improvement. Just as

the Boy Scouts of America Journey to Excellence program recognizes each level of the organization (Unit, District, Council), the OA's program creates Journey to Excellence recognition for chapters, lodges, and sections." Basically, this program is quality lodge, but with a twist that allows lodges, chapters, and section to achieve what best fits their situation. The requirements are the same, but each task has three levels; Bronze, Silver, and Gold. A lodge can achieve Bronze, Silver, or Gold status by earning the points that are assigned to each task and to each level

of achievement. As always Ho-De-Nau-Sau- Nee Lodge 159 will, once again, strive to be the best we can. The requirements can be found at www.oabsa.org/annc/g11/jte/ Updates on our status will be given at the LEC. I encourage the chapters to participate in this program, or use the guidelines to gauge their own progress. This program is about growth and learning so take the opportunity and strive to be the best you can.

Ian Shick
Lodge Secretary
ianshick@yahoo.com

March 2012

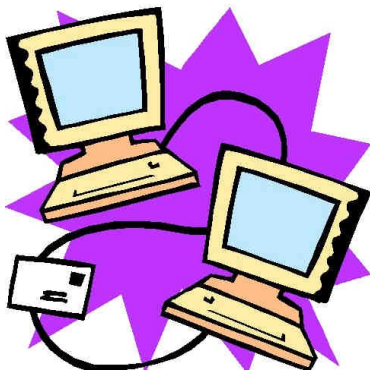
Schedule of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1) ON Meeting	2)	3) Univ. of Scouting
4) Lodge Banquet	5) LEC @ CSC	6)	7)	8)	9)	10) Tote Wash
11)	12)	13) FW Meeting	14)	15)	16)	17) Lodge Broomball
18)	19)	20)	21) SN Meeting	22)	23)	24)
25)	26)	27)	28)	29)	30)	31) Tote Wash

- May 18-20: Spring Induction Weekend @ STH
- June 1-3: Section Conclave
- June 15-17: Spring Induction Weekend @ SCH, SSR
- July 31-August 4: NOAC
- LEC Meetings are the first Monday of every month, not including September and the Summer months

SSR - Schoellkopf Scout Reservation, STH - Camp Stonehaven, SCH - Camp Scouthaven, CSC - Council Service Center, LEC - Lodge Executive Committee, FW - Falling Waters Chapter, ON - Onondaga Chapter, SN - Seneca Chapter

A Word From The Communications Chairman



Fellow arrowmen,

For those who do not know, I am Sean Jones, the communications chairman for the lodge. As the communications chairman, I am responsible for putting out this fine publication for the lodge. However, this newsletter is only great if people write articles for it. As you can see, there are a few articles here, but there could always be more. The average newsletter has at least two more pages full of articles, so you should be considering what you would like to write

for the next newsletter.

I can understand if you feel that writing an article is a very difficult task, but you can write one in just a few minutes if you have an idea on what you want to talk about. Sure, you can sit around for a few hours trying to come up with something that people would want to read, but you can write about almost anything. As long as your article is informative, it's fine with me.

Usually, I only receive articles from some of the lodge officers. Everyone in

the lodge is encouraged to submit articles for this newsletter.

If you have any articles that you would like to submit or if you have any questions for me, you may go ahead and send them to me at sij5183@gmail.com.

Yours in brotherhood,
Sean Jones
Communications Chairman

A Word From The Advisor of Onondaga

Hello brothers,

We have passed through the holiday seasons and I do hope you enjoyed yours. This time of the year causes me to look at how different we all are, but how we all share that same bond of scouting, and a couple of constants that we may sometimes forget. One that comes to mind is to help other people at all times. Today on the way in to work 3 of us all pulled into an auto parts store and we all needed new wiper blades. I was the last one through the line and when I was leaving, a couple was having a difficult time with their wipers, they did not know how to change them. I did the scout like

thing and took care of their wipers and got them on their way. It was a small moment for me but it allowed them to continue on with their day. Second being a member of the Order we were all admonished by Allowat Sakima at our ordeal ceremony. We don't have to like everyone we meet and we all probably don't but being the scouts we are we should be following that admonition, for if we aren't, what kind of scouts and arrowmen are we. The scout law and admonition do not say "if and when we feel like it".

For the second hat that I wear for the Lodge, I would like to remind all that it is

unit election time and if your unit wants and election and a camp promotion please have your unit's SPL or Scoutmaster contact us about the requirements for election into the order and scheduling an election for your units. I can be reached at 716-912-9640 or

larryj1300@gmail.com or you can use the paper form that is available or submit one through our website at www.oalodge159.org/forms/election_request_12.pdf

and we will put your unit on the calendar.

That's it for me as the snow swirls around outside my office window. I look

forward to seeing all of you at camp, our events and around our council fire. Make sure you look in this newsletter for all the upcoming dates of events.

Larry Jones

A Word From The Advisor of Onondaga

Brothers,

I'm back for the third time as an advisory role with the chapter and I have to tell you that this year will be the best so far. We have arranged for guest speakers for our monthly meetings right through to June. I'd like to thank Mr. Dale Shick for his presentation on the DEA in January! Our guest speaker for February was Ms. Jan Owens, of the Buffalo office of Citizenship and Immigration Services. Other topics include the Air Force Academy, Search and Rescue, County Emergency Services and a Hazmat Demonstration. I'm really looking for-

ward to the Hazmat demonstration where I hear they'll make things go BOOM!

Our Chapter Meetings are held the third Wednesday's of the month at the Southgate Plaza Community room at 7:00 p.m. Stop by and see what's happening. Look for future E-mail Blasts announcing our topic for the month!

The Chapter just helped with the Red Jacket Klondike Derby providing first aid and many other adults running events, a hardy thanks to those that assisted in the event. OA Election information was placed in every

Troop UR file at Council. Please check with your leaders and remind them to submit their requests as soon as possible.

James is still looking for youth to help in Chapter positions, If you're interested stop and talk with him!

I'm looking forward to seeing you at many of the upcoming Chapter, Lodge and Council activities.

Yours in the Vigil;

Dennis Smigiera

Seneca Chapter Advisor

WwW

A Word From The Advisor of Onondaga

Brothers

A new year is here and it's time to refresh and renew your commitment to the principals of our order, Brotherhood, Cheerfulness and Service. We have a lot of events coming up and some new opportunities for fellowship and service.

Three of these include helping at a Pinewood Derby at the General Motors plant in Tonawanda, Helping with an overnight camp out for scoutreach and leading the St.Patrick's day parade in Buffalo. If you are interested in helping out with any or all of these, contact any lodge officer or advisor.

Speaking of officers and advisors, the deadline to turn in the paperwork for anyone interested in running for one of the lodge or chapter elected officer positions is the start of our next LEC on February 6th. Check out the lodge website for more info and the forms you need to submit. We are also looking for additional adults to step up and help ad-

vice a lodge or chapter committee, if you are interested, see me or any chapter advisor.

NOAC is just around the corner and we have 33 people signed up already to attend, if you want to have an experience of a lifetime, at a very reasonable price, give some thought to joining our contingent.

Last but not least is the news that the Quality Lodge program is no longer in operation, it has been replaced by The Journey Towards Excellence, The new program operates much like the what you have been using in your units, the districts and the council and it will apply to both the lodge and the chapters. I will be talking about it more in the future as information becomes available so keep an eye on the longhouse messenger and the lodge website.

Dates to remember:

- Winter Fellowship at Stonehaven – February 17-19
- Lodge Banquet at Bowmans-

ville Fire Hall - March 5th

- Broomball at Nichols (we finally got a date) March 17th
- NLS at Camp Gorton – April 20-22nd
- Spring Induction / service weekend at Camp Stonehaven – May 18-20
- NE3A Section Conclave – Camp Babcock – Hovey June 1-3
- Spring Induction Weekend at SSR & Scouthaven - June 15-17

Check the lodge website for costs and registration deadlines.

Have a great day and I hope to see you all at many of these events.

Jerry

A Word From The Onondaga Chapter Chief

Fellow Brothers,

First I would like to congratulate everyone in the lodge for helping us achieve quality lodge this year.

Also unit election time is here so please schedule an election to keep our lodge growing strong.

Also don't forget that there are lots of fun lodge events coming up soon like

the winter fellowship, broomball, and the lodge dinner.

WWW

David Krull



WWW.OALODGE159.ORG
&
WWW.GNFC-BSA.ORG/GNFCOAH.TTML
WHERE ON THE WEB AT

Your business tag line here.

Fax: 555-555-5555
Phone: 555-555-5555
Your Address Line 3
Your Address Line 2
Primary Business Address
BUSINESS NAME



Officers and Advisors

LODGE CHIEF
Fred Briggs

ONONDAGA CHAPTER-CHIEF
David Krull

ONONDAGA ADVISORS
Larry Jones

LODGE SECRETARY
Ian Shick

FALLING WATERS CHAPTER-CHIEF
Chris Swagler

FALLING WATERS ADVISORS
Eric Militello, Brian Kindron and
Steve Heeb

LODGE TREASURER
Joey Arrindell

SENECA CHAPTER-CHIEF
James Dolan

SENECA ADVISORS
Dennis Smigiera, Ron Macleod and
Dale Shick

LODGE VICE-CHIEF PROGRAM
Tyler Schmitt

LODGE ADVISOR
Jerry Sullivan II

LODGE TREASURER ADVISORS
Bill Caccard

LODGE VICE-CHIEF SERVICE
Frank Silence

STAFF ADVISOR
Greg Voyzey

ADVISOR OF PROGRAM
Scott Swagler

ADVISOR OF SERVICE
Rick Tornow