



KUSKITA

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Volume 1 Issue 2

Kuskita assembled by Stephen Costello,
the Publications Chairman



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR CHIEF

Brothers,

As some of you may already know, I recently returned from studying abroad for a semester in Rome, Italy. It was truly the adventure of a lifetime. Initially I was apprehensive about leaving because I obviously wouldn't be able to fulfill some of my most important duties as Lodge Chief from 4,528 miles away. I'm pleased to tell you that the Lodge Executive Committee stepped up and handled business during my extended absence. I am eternally grateful to them all for this. The current status of the Lodge is the fruit of their labor.

Onto business, you are all receiving this Kuskita at the banquet because the LEC decided to use the usual funds for this publication to send out a reminder postcard to everyone who has been registered in the Lodge dating back to 2012. The grand total was 437 postcards being sent to Brookies past and present. The goal is to hopefully take some of the past Brookies and turn them into present Brookies.

There are many other exciting projects happening in the Lodge right now. The new HVAC system in Rae's cabin and the institution of the "Lodge Pass" as an alternative form of registration for events are the two that come to mind. I would like to personally thank all of you for coming to the banquet and supporting Kuskitannee. Here's to a great 2017!

Eternally Yours in Service,

Samuel Beaver

Lodge Chief

"Try to leave this world a little better than you found it and, when your turn comes to die, you can die happy in feeling that at any rate you have not wasted your time but have done your best."

~Robert Baden-Powell~

Messages from your Friendly EC Officers

Articles written by your Executive/Administration Vice Chief

NLS Recap

On November 11, 12 and 13, a few members from our Lodge were able to attend the National Leadership Seminar (NLS) at Camp Alpine. For those of you who are unfamiliar with NLS, it is a weekend conference centered around the skills and attributes of leadership. Its intention is to enhance 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 their communities.

This year we were fortunate to send three youth Executive Committee Members and two adult advisers to the training. The weekend prepared us to become better leaders both within and outside of the Scouting program. The Arrowmen who were in attendance were Matt Ehret, Noah Reynolds, Ethan Mooney, Jim English and Alex Connell.

Throughout the duration of the weekend, not only were we able to discuss ideas with other lodges in our section but we were also able to plan some events for our own lodge during the car ride to and from Camp Alpine. Throughout the weekend, we were able to discuss the "Count me in Pass", plan for Winter Fellowship and much more. It was an enjoyable and productive weekend for all of those who were able to attend.

If you are interested in learning more about the NLS program, feel free to contact any of the participants who went through the program or your Lodge Chief. We look forward to sending more Arrowmen to this great program in the future!

Notice of Late Fees

Please be aware that for the upcoming year, we will be enforcing our policy to charge addition fees for late registration. This policy was created a few years ago to help us prepare for food and activities accordingly based on the number of preregistrations we have for each event.

The previously created policy states that an addition \$5.00 will be charged for any registration made within the two-week period prior to the event. The policy also notes that a \$10.00 late fee will be applied to registration made the night of the event.

The reason we have decided to enforce these late fees is due to the lack of preregistration that has occurred over the past year. Pre-registration allows our Executive Committee to accurately purchase food, plan activities and service and prepare for ceremonies. Without proper numbers to base weekends off of, we have been losing money on extra food and activity supplies.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this policy, please refer them to our Lodge Chief or any adult advisor of the Executive Committee. We encourage you to pre-register for all events so that you may pay the lower fee and so that we can make our weekends as enjoyable as possible!

Count me in Pass

As you may have heard, we are unveiling a new method of registration for the 2017 calendar year! The “Count me in Pass” provides a quick and easy way to sign up for all your favorite Kuskitantee events at one time, simply.

The Count me in Pass was created by the current Executive Committee to help us plan and prepare for events more accurately. Tonight, you will be able to purchase your very own pass at the 2017 Lodge Banquet. The cost of the pass ranges from \$5.00 to \$25.00 and will automatically register you and hold your position for the event. The five events included in the \$25.00 price are Winter Fellowship, Spring Ordeal, Conclave, Big Three and Brookie Brotherhood! You have the option to sign up for one, two or all five events between now and Winter Fellowship!

For each event you register for, you will receive the \$5.00 down-payment off the price of the weekend. So, when you arrive at the weekend, you will only have to pay \$15.00 at the door instead of the typical \$20. Purchasing this pass will not only make planning for events easy for you but it will also prevent you from having to pay additional late fees and it will help us plan better for weekends.

If you have any additional questions regarding the “Count me in Pass” feel free to see any current Executive Committee member, they will be happy to answer any questions that you may have.

Rae’s Cabin Project

Our Lodge Building is in need of repair and you can help! Rae’s Cabin needs a new HVAC unit and an upgraded lighting system. We are currently in the process of raising money to make the needed repairs and upgrades. At the Banquet this evening, we will be selling tickets for a basket raffle in addition to a 50/50 to help offset the costs incurred in the project. Thank you in advance on behalf of the entire Executive Committee for any contributions that you are able to make!

Greetings from your Membership Vice Chief

Maintaining Active Participation with a Busy Schedule

Sometimes life can seem overwhelming and it can seem like you don’t have time to participate in the Order of the Arrow. Here are some tips to help you stay active with the lodge. On weekends, if you have activities, try to make it to events as much as you can. If you have marching band on Friday, you can make it Saturday and Sunday for the outing. Also, try to get a leadership position on the EC.

Once you have a position, you can help to further the lodges progress. That may seem like a lot of work, but really it’s just emails that can be taken care of as you find time. Finally, work to advance in the Order. When you can test for brotherhood membership go for it! After achieving Brotherhood take on a leadership position so you can become Vigil.

Yours in Service,

Matt Ehret



GO FOLLOW OUR SOCIAL MEDIA!!!!

Hi Everyone! My name is Noah Reynolds and I am from Troop 403. I will be the Technology Coordinator for the upcoming year. We are planning to revamp the lodge's website in addition to our social media accounts. If you have any ideas that you would like to be incorporated, please come see me! Stay tuned for further features, promotions and new account usernames.



Noah Reynolds
Technology Coordinator



@Kuskitannee



@Kuskitannee



@Kuskitannee



Test @Kuski
to 81010



Kuskitannee
Lodge 168

WHO IS READY FOR CONCLAVE 2017?

Hello everyone,

I am Justice Rozic your conclave chairman for this year. Our AC unit has recently died and we are unsure when the HV will go too. Both of these units are over 20 years old! We are currently raising money to replace these units before summer comes. These units are very expensive, over \$5000! We need to raise this money before summer because of camp. The OA uses Rae's Cabin for EC meetings, storage, drum and dance practice, ceremony preparation and for preparing shows at summer camp.



This cabin is something that the lodge is very proud of and we would like to continue that. We would like to replace the whole HVAC unit because it will be less expensive and we will not have to worry about when the heating will go out. If it is in your heart, please give a small donation to help maintain a wonderful building that is essential to one of the best programs that you can be a member of.

Yours in Brotherhood,

Justice Rozic
Conclave Chairman

Want to Join the Ceremonies Team?

Hi! My name is Tim Wilkinson and I am the Ceremony chairman. I am hoping for an excellent year... with that said, I need a number of individuals to work behind the scenes to help ensure the ceremonies are set up and ready to go on time. I would also like additional volunteers to begin training for ceremony roles in case one of our current members cannot be present for an event. I



am also planning to organize a number of fundraisers throughout the year to help raise money for props and new regalia. We will be holding practices at Camp Bucoco in Rae's Cabin typically the first and third Sunday of each month. If you are interested in becoming a part of the Ceremonies Team, please come out and learn more about us! If you have any questions, feel free to contact me via email at bdt3wlk@zoominternet.net.

Tim Wilkinson
Ceremony Chairman

Have you been an Ordeal Member for more than 10 months?

Hello Brothers, my name is John Book and I will be your Brotherhood Chairman for the 2016-2017 term. Winter Fellowship is right around the corner and with that comes Brotherhood testing! If you wish to contact me with any questions, please feel free to either by phone (724) 651-2306 or by email wildboo99@gmail.com. I hope to see all of you for an amazing weekend of fun, fellowship and service at Winter Fellowship at Camp Agawam!

Yours in Brotherhood,

John Book
Brotherhood Chairman

Do you want to help sell stuff for the Trading Post?

Hello my name is Jacob Humenik and I am the current Trading Post Chairman. As you may already know, my job consists of selling you paraphernalia over the next couple of events. I look forward to seeing you at the trading post! P.S. – if you want to help out, you are more than welcome to come down to the new trading post at Brookie Brotherhood, I hope to see you there!

Jake Humenik
Trading Post Chairman

Who wants to join the Drum and Dance Team?

Fellow Arrowmen,

Drum and Dance team will be having practice on January 22nd and February 5th and 19th from 1-3 at Rae's Cabin. I hope to see everyone there and I ask that everyone coming brings one new song they would like to learn. Thank you, and I cannot wait to see you there!



Dennis Peters

Drum and Dance Team Chairman

UPCOMING EVENTS

DRUM & CEREMONY TEAM PRACTICE DATES

DATE:	TIME:	LOCATION:
JANUARY 22, 2017	1:00 – 3:00PM	RAE'S CABIN @ CAMP BUCOCO
FEBRUARY 5, 2017	1:00 – 3:00PM	RAE'S CABIN @ CAMP BUCOCO
FEBRUARY 19, 2017	1:00 – 3:00PM	RAE'S CABIN @ CAMP BUCOCO
MARCH 5, 2017	1:00 – 3:00PM	RAE'S CABIN @ CAMP BUCOCO
MARCH 19, 2017	1:00 – 3:00PM	RAE'S CABIN @ CAMP BUCOCO
APRIL 2, 2017	1:00 – 3:00PM	RAE'S CABIN @ CAMP BUCOCO
APRIL 23, 2017	1:00 – 3:00PM	RAE'S CABIN @ CAMP BUCOCO
MAY 21, 2017	1:00 – 3:00PM	RAE'S CABIN @ CAMP BUCOCO
JUNE 4, 2017	1:00 – 3:00PM	RAE'S CABIN @ CAMP BUCOCO

DRUM PERFORMANCES/EVENTS

DATE:	TIME:	EVENT/LOCATION:
FEBRUARY 25, 2017	TBD	WINTER FELLOWSHIP
MAY 6, 2017	TBD	SPRING ORDEAL
JUNE 21, 2017	6:00PM	CAMP BUCOCO
JUNE 25, 2017	6:00PM	CAMP BUCOCO
JULY 5, 2017	6:00PM	CAMP BUCOCO
JULY 12, 2017	6:00PM	CAMP BUCOCO

IMPORTANT DATES TO KNOW FOR THE UPCOMING MONTHS

- **Winter Fellowship-** February 24-26 at Camp Agawam
- **Next Business Meeting-** Feb 26 @ Winter Fellowship
- **Spring Ordeal-** May 5-7 @ Camp Bucoco
- **Service Day-** June 3 @ Camp Bucoco
- **Conclave 2017-** June 9-11 @ Camp Conestoga