



CHATTER

Serving the 12 Lodges of Section One of the Southeast Region, Order of the Arrow, Boy Scouts of America

Issue number two

November 17, 1978

Council of Chiefs

On Saturday, September 30, the Council of Chiefs of Section SE-1 met in the Holiday Inn South in Fredericksburg, Virginia.

The purpose of this semi-annual meeting was to discuss and formulate Section business and policy. Beginning with the Obligation, Section Chief Mike Wagner led the group through committee and lodge reports, following which 1978 Conclave Coordinator Gus Diggs gave a final report on his event.

The main focus of the day came with the presentation of the 1979 Conclave report. Jay Squires, in place of Doug Detrick, the coordinator, gave the report which included detailed descriptions of all the activities and opportunities which accompany the Conclave. The Conclave theme, as decided on at the March Council of Chiefs meeting is, "The Dawn of a New Horizon." Delegation quotas were arrived at and the competitions and their rules were explained. The Council of Chiefs was undecided as to whether or not to have the traditional Section feast; this was tabled until the Indian Seminar.

Finally it came time to discuss and decide upon the budget. After much talking and debate, it was decided to tentatively approve the budget, but to hold a meeting at the Indian Seminar to discuss it further. Jay then proceeded to inform the members of the training opportunities and give them a little background on the Conclave show.

Following the Conclave report, Indian Affairs chairman Glenn Johnson and Indian Seminar Coordinator Keith Sawyer gave the Indian Seminar report. This event, to be hosted by Blue Heron Lodge will be held the weekend of November 17-19. The report touched on such topics as sleeping facilities and dance competition rules.

Mike then discussed a money-making project for the Section which involves the sale of hats with the Section emblem on them. The Council of Chiefs approved this idea. The meeting was then closed with words from Mike and Pete Price, the Section Leader.



Chiefly Speaking



Dear Brothers,

We are now approaching the winter months of hard work and fellowships. This portion of the year is usually filled with unit visitations for camp promotions, and of course, unit elections. The Section will also be doing its part to help the lodges coordinate and better the lodge's visitation program.

I would like to emphasize the importance of camp promotions this year. Last year, Southeast Region had the poorest results of their camp promotions campaign. SE Region had the smallest turnout in summer camps and also in unit long-term camping in general. This year, we must accomplish more by getting more units out of their meeting places and into the woods. The Section Camping Promotions Committee has already started chanting, "79 is camping time!" Let's all put our best into the overall scout camping promotions campaign this winter.

Next, the unit elections campaign needs the same support as camping promotions. The general membership of Scouting is on the rise again; however, we must improve our penetration to the units and get more elections if we want to increase our membership even more.

Presently, I am personally working on a charter flight for the Section to the 1979 NOAC. I have received one estimate from United and am working on two others. Depending on the total quota for all the lodges in the Section, I hope to obtain a very reasonable flight to Denver. December 27-30, I will be attending the National planning meeting for the NOAC at Fort Collins, Colorado. When I return in January, I will have all the finalized quotas along with prices to work with. By that time, I am sure that the plans for the NOAC will be finalized within a short period of time.

I hope to see you at one of your lodge functions that I may have a chance to attend, if not, I hope to see you at one of our Section functions this year.

Forever in service,

M. K.

Welcome

Welcome to the 1978 Indian Seminar and the first bi-annual National Leadership Seminar.

This is weekend designed for fun, frolic, and most of all, learning. Each of you have been selected from your lodge membership because of your abilities and skills. This weekend, you will learn things which you can bring back and greatly benefit your lodge. Don't waste the opportunity.

Many of you may find yourselves with very little spare time this weekend. However, should you grab some, make good use of it. Get to know your fellow Arrowmen from our Section. An added bonus is our special guests for the NLS, Section 3-A.

The NLS and the Indian Seminar are great places to learn, but don't overdo it. After all, with this many Arrowmen in one place, the possibilities for fun are endless.



Black Gets Job

Mr. Earl Black of Nawakwa Lodge and the Robert E. Lee Council has been named the new Section Professional Adviser.

Mr. Black has been serving for quite a while as the Director of Support Services for the Robert E. Lee Council. He is a Vigil Honor member of our Order and is also the Professional Adviser for Nawakwa Lodge. In his own lodge, Mr. Black is best known for his many hours put toward the benefit of Scouting and for his tireless work at the council camp, Brady Saunders.

Mr. Black is replacing Mr. Bill Brackett who resigned as Section Professional Adviser due to a transfer.

We heartily welcome Mr. Black to the SE-1 team and wish him much success.

Sparks

By JAY DUNBAR

(Reprinted from: HILLONS newspaper)

As we approach the Christmas season, it is only right that we remind ourselves of those ties which help to bind us together. The rope is a representation of these ties. The richness of the ceremonial structure of the Order is apparent in this symbol, which appears first as the string on the pre-Ordeal bow, and ultimately as the artery of spiritual kinship.

In the Ordeal ceremony, candidates enter the circle bound together by a rope: the ties of the Brotherhood. The rope is removed after the candidates accept the Obligation. Nutikel tells us that the Obligation has become our common tie. The Obligation is a clear statement of the common purpose we pledged before we were bound by the rope: to return in service to our fellow scouts. This service is defined by the Obligation as an active, personal commitment to the "customs and traditions" of the Order: WWV.

The Obligation is not imposed upon a candidate; neither is the rope a constraint. The purpose of the Ordeal as a journey in self-awareness, is to lead the candidate symbolically into an independent realization of his obligation before he is challenged on the trail to the circle. The challenge, the trail, the circle, and even the Obligation, then, all are symbols for the stages the individual must initiate within himself.

The circle is the outward circumference of the rope, the unity and integrity of the individual. In quiet moments, as in the silence test, the rope is twisted and the spiritual components revealed. These fibers are represented by various symbols in the Ordeal; symbols that recombine in the candidate as the Ordeal ends, as the candidate travels three times around the central fire, tightening and strengthening the core of light within himself.

The "rope" is serviceable only as its strands work together in our daily lives, but in our meditations, let us remember to check its fraying!

From The Editor's Desk

I need your help! As editor of the Chatter, I am looking for good articles to liven up our forthcoming issues. Each of you is a potential contributor, whether boy or adult, lodge chief or rank and file member. Remember, the Chatter is your paper, so I need your help. I have only a few simple rules to govern submissions.

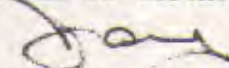
First, there will be a deadline for submissions to each issue. This will be the last week of the month preceding the issue month, except if there is a Section function in the issue month. In this case, the deadline will be the last day of the week preceding the function. Any type of article which pertains to Scouting, the O/A, your lodge or chapter activities, etc. will be considered for publication. Remember this, though: the article should be of general interest to the Arrowmen in SE-1. If the article is published, full credit will be given the author, so this is your chance to get your name in print!

Lodge and Section committee reports will still take precedence, though. It should be a monthly duty of every lodge chief and committee chairman to prepare a report for the Chatter. After all, we are here to help each other, and this is a great way to accomplish this.

Also I would like everyone who has a copy of this issue to fill out the Chatter suggestion form on the last page. Your help, suggestions, and criticism will be greatly appreciated.

The Chatter has great potential to be a truly superb newsletter, but I need your help. So give me a hand, and give your Section a hand at the same time.

Yours in brotherhood,



P.S. Have a great time at the Indian Seminar/NLS!



In the interest of providing a better newsletter for you, the Chatter staff has compiled this questionnaire. Please answer it and return it to Jay Squires either this weekend, or within the next two weeks. The address to send it to is:

Jay Squires 1310 Vassar Road Richmond, Virginia 23229

We certainly appreciate all comments.

Name _____ Lodge _____
Address _____ City _____
State _____ Zip Code _____

1. Do you presently like the format and style of the Chatter? _____ yes _____ no
2. What are some suggestions you would like to make to improve it? _____

3. What type of articles would you like to see more of? _____ features _____ lodge-related _____ news _____ humorous _____ cartoon features _____ other (explain) _____
4. How would you rate the Chatter in light of the first two issues? _____ excellent _____ good _____ fair _____ not so good _____ rather not talk about it
5. Do you feel the Chatter is reaching a large enough number of readers? _____ yes _____ no
6. How would you rate the Chatter's coverage of Section events? _____ good _____ not so good
7. Do you think Mike Wagner's hair looks strange? _____ yes _____ no

**the
CHATTER**

ORDER OF THE ARROW

**SECTION I
O.A.**