NE-4B Brothers,

Welcome to the Future! Much has happened in the Section over the past month from the annual Section Conclave to Wagion announcing the theme of the 2017 Conclave which is “Back to our Future” to the election and transition of new Officers. I look forward to serving you throughout 2016 and into 2017 as our Section Chief. Although it is not a new year according to our calendars it is for the section. I’d like to give you a glimpse of what you have to look forward to in the future both near and far.

There is much happening right now with the Section with our Section Training SALLS, the Newsletter, Online Trading Post, Conclave 2017 preparations, Conclave 2016 survey, and a new program is being developed to help strengthen the Lodges of the section. That new program is the Lodge Exchange Program or LEP in short. The idea of this program is to set up a structure where some Arrowman from each Lodge will get to visit other Lodge Weekends and other Lodge events to see how they run things. This will give those in attendance the opportunity to bring back that experience they had there and what they learned to their home Lodge to help build and strengthen themselves, but this will not only help their Lodge, but the Lodge that they are visiting because they could make suggestions on how they runs stuff and let them know how they do stuff back at their Lodge. So when it comes down to it this will help the Arrowman and Lodges in NE-4B to better understand how their neighboring Lodges operate.

As we move forward onto what awaits in our future I feel it is also appropriate to reflect back on our past. I’d personally like to give a shout out to Kuskitannee for being a very gracious host of our 2016 Conclave! I personally had a blast as I do at every Conclave. I’d like to leave you all with a quote by Edward de Bono
- “You can analyze the past, but you have to design the future.”

I look forward to seeing all of you soon!

Yours in Service,

Aaron Coffman

2016-2017 NE-4B Section Chief
Section Vice Chief

On behalf of Kuskitannee Lodge, I want to thank all of you who came to Camp Bucoco for Conclave 2016. We enjoyed hosting the section and hope you had a memorable time! Most memorable for me was being elected as the 2016-2017 Section NE-4B Vice-Chief, a position which I am very pleased to be able to serve the section.

Even though our section is amazing because of the Lodges we serve, we can always improve! I would like to help us meet a goal to work to continually improve communications between the individual Lodges and the Section. While improvements with the website have been made, we are working to address some technical issues at this time, and then move forward with a stronger web-presence.

In addition, I look forward to working on the further development to the SALLS Program. It is clear to me that everyone who attended the seminar last year benefited from it and I am looking forward to seeing how we can improve an already solid program. As an elected officer and someone who genuinely loves the Scouting and the Order of the Arrow, please feel free to contact me with questions, concerns or just for fellowship! I’d love to hear your ideas, stories and suggestions for Section NE-4B! I look forward to meeting you soon and stay tuned for more updates as we develop our next newsletter!

Yours in Scouting,
Ethan Mooney
Section NE-4B Vice Chief

Are you on Twitter? If so, stay up to date on news from the Northeast Region by follow-
My Brothers,

If you were at Conclave 2016, I am sure that you would agree that Kuskitannee Lodge 168 put together a great Conclave. Now that Conclave is over, however, we must shift our focus towards SALLS and helping Wagion make Conclave 2017 just as great. Having attended SALLS this past year, I can confirm that it is a great program that I would suggest that all lodge leadership attend. This year we are striving to make the SALLS program even more beneficial and successful. We are also planning on implementing a new program called the Lodge Exchange Program or the LEP. The LEP will be a program to allow lodge leadership in the section to attend other NE-4B lodge’s events. The goal of the LEP will be to allow lodge leadership to bring ideas from other lodges to their lodge and to improve the fellowship between the lodges in the section. As Section Secretary, I hope to improve section communication and increase the section’s presence on social media. Currently, the section website is experiencing technical difficulties that should be fixed soon. Until the issues are fixed, please check the official Section NE-4B Facebook page to stay up to date with what is happening around the section. I believe that this is going to be a very exciting year for the section and I look forward to serving you as Section Secretary. In the words of Meteu, “For, said he, who serves his fellows is, of all his fellows, greatest”

How will you serve your brothers this year?

Yours in WWW,

William Moats

2016-2017 Section NE-4B Secretary

Like us on Facebook: @OAn4b

Follow us on Twitter: @ne4b
Section Spotlight

The Hemlock Society

Wagion Lodge 6

Servant leadership is the hallmark of membership in the Order of the Arrow. All Arrowmen strive to cheerfully serve through a variety of unique abilities. As leaders, we are called to fulfill our obligation and to become the authors of our own legacy. In 2015, Wagion Lodge 6 began a new program to help support local scouting. It would be called The Hemlock Society and its purpose would be to recognize Arrowmen for their financial contributions to Wagion’s chartered organization, the Westmoreland-Fayette council. Through the Hemlock Society, Arrowmen may preserve Wagion Lodge’s Legacy through dedicated financial service. To become a member of the Hemlock Society, a Wagion Arrowman must make a one-time financial contribution of $1000.00. As a token of appreciation for their unselfish, financial service, each member of The Hemlock Society receives the following: A lifetime membership in The Hemlock Society, a sterling silver hemlock cone suspended on an embroidered ribbon featuring hemlock branches of a gold fabric, a framed certificate, and a ticket to the annual Hemlock Society dinner. The initial class of the Hemlock Society includes 5 Wagion Arrowmen. Each received a green ribbon with their hemlock cone (pictured left), reminiscent of the first Distinguished Service Award Recipients. Hemlock Society members have chosen to make a distinguished contribution beyond the normal responsibilities of an Arrowman and have demonstrated extraordinary commitment to the ideals of brotherhood, cheerfulness, and service. Membership in the Hemlock Society is an outward expression of one’s own dedication of service and devotion to Wagion Lodge 6 and the ideals of the Order of the Arrow.
Allohak Menewi Lodge #57

So far this year we have had seven weekends of cheerful work completed five were our ordeal weekends one was vigil another was a work weekend and one social weekend. Each ordeal weekend has been very successful on completing the projects for each camp. We have had one long and ongoing project for Seph Mack building the boat docks we have held several work days to complete them are on the verge of being done. In total we had 46 ordeals completed 6 have sealed their membership during these weekends and we are now in the process of getting ready for conclave.

Yours in Service,

Tristen Miller

Allohak Menewi Chief

Do you wanna be part of one of the Order of the Arrow’s Largest Staff Teams Ever?! Join Operation Arrow the Order of the Arrow Staff of the 2017 National Jamboree!
Find Out More and Apply Today at:

http://event.oa-bsa.org/events/jambo2017/
Since March, Monaken Lodge has had three events. We had our Chapter Weekend where we have a competition between the three chapters in our lodge to see which one will win the Chapter Trophy. This year, Nittany took home the hardware as they won the weekend. After that, we had our Spring Ordeal on the weekend of May 20-22. We accomplished a large amount of service on this weekend despite the lack of cooperation from mother nature. We also had our first New Members Only Party. Many of you will recall that this idea was presented to the section at the Section Advancement for Lodge Leaders Summit. Monaken really liked this idea, and we are very glad that we implemented it into our lodge. The new members that I asked about the party all said they thought it was good and enjoyed it very much. We are happy as a lodge that S.A.L.L.S. proved to be a very beneficial program, and we look forward to bringing more people to the excellent training next year. The next event was the Section Conclave. We had a contingent of thirty-nine people attend Camp Bucoco for the 2016 Section NE-4B conclave. Our contingent had a great time at the event and we are very enthusiastic about the upcoming section year. Looking forward, we have a contingent of four people going to NEXT, and all of our prism tickets were either claimed or given back to national to auction off. We are having tap-outs at summer camp each of the three weeks on Friday night, and we have Vigil tap-outs after regular tap-outs on the third week. After summer camp, we have our Fall Ordeal the weekend of August 19-21.

Yours in Brotherhood,

Zachary Bonson
Monaken Lodge Chief

Have you attended the National Leadership Seminar? If not, you still have one more opportunity to attend in 2016. Camp Alpine will host the last NLS of 2016 on November 11-13, 2016. For more information visit http://northeast.oa-bsa.org/programs/nls or talk to your Lodge Chief
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Have you always dreamed of going to Philmont or Northern Tier, but couldn't afford the steep price tag? What if I told you that you could go on a longer trip for just a fraction of the price? That’s right, through the Order of the Arrow High Adventure programs, you can do just that! What if I told you that you could go for FREE? That’s right, Section NE-4B offers an annual OAHA Scholarship every winter. Don’t miss out on the Adventure of a lifetime. For more information on the program, visit: http://adventure.oa-bsa.org/. For more information on how and when to apply for the scholarship, visit: http://ne4b.org/ or follow us on twitter @ne4b

Kuskitannee Lodge #168

This has been one hectic year for Kuskitannee Lodge. Between preparing for Conclave and getting our camps ready for the Summer Camp Season, we have been stretched thin working on our camps. In the spring we held our Spring Ordeal at Camp Bucoco and made a large dent in the preparation of the camp. This work weekend was followed by our Council Service day, which saw almost fifty people volunteer to finish some of the work for the coming summer events. Camp Staff members, Lodge members and even a few helpful local scouts turned out to serve the camp. At the end of the day we had completely set up the necessary tent infrastructure and cleaned the sites and grounds of unwanted vegetation. After hosting the 2016 Conclave, many of the same volunteers stayed behind and helped clean up in preparation for our Staff Week.

We look forward to welcoming our new Brothers throughout the summer as they are called out at Summer Camp to being their journey in the Order. We also look forward to our Big Three Weekend, August 19-21, where we have our Vigil night in addition to the Ordeal process and Brotherhood tests. I would like to say thank you again to everyone that made conclave so successful and to all the participants that made it fun and enjoyable. I hope to see you all at next year’s conclave.

Yours in Brotherhood,

Peter Gemperle

Lodge Chief, Kuskitannee Lodge #168
Kuskitannee Lodge 168

Kuskitannee Lodge is the smallest lodge in the section with a paid membership at 177; however, even with a small number of members, service has been something our Lodge prides itself on.

In 2000, the Lodge began a “spirit of Service” program that, in short, requires 50 hours (or more) of service to the camps/council per year for the individual to be awarded a special edition service flap. Members must keep track of their own service hours, and gain approval from the service chairman. On average, 12 members get the service flap each year. We also have implemented a “168 award” for members who get 168 hours or over in a given year. 2016 marked the 16th year of the Service Award, and currently we have 4 distinct versions in circulation.

Though our lodge is small, we put a lot of emphasis and focus on our service efforts. We have many dedicated members in the lodge that come to camp each and every Saturday for a camp work crew at either Camp Bucoco or Camp Agawam and just some of the projects we have completed with volunteer labor are: New windows/siding on the Agawam Ranger’s Residence, demolishing old and building a new pool house at Bucoco, new latrines, and the list goes on and on after 16 years of the Spirit of Service Program.

Some features that have led to continued success of our service efforts are that we have many contractors who are active in the lodge, who take in our volunteers as “apprentices” and teach them valuable skills. Members want to come back and learn more skills, so the volunteer service benefits the youth by teaching them actual skills that can apply to their future. Also, if requested, the work crew members are welcome to informally stay the night and this provided a great opportunity for friends to gather, and a change for the college-age members to reconnect with the lodge and camp. The weekends are based on service, but provide a social atmosphere as well. The crew always welcomes new members to attend each Saturday and help when and how they are able, and it gives the youth a chance to better know the adults in the lodge, and above all we have a lot of fun and fellowship as we provide our cheerful service. Over the years the program has become more that a patch, but more of a service club within our lodge.

Yours in Brotherhood,
Peter Gemperle
Lodge Chief
Kuskitannee Lodge #168
To Purchase any of the items showcased here, visit NE-4B’s official trading post at: http://www.sgtradingpost.com/sub_cat.php?sub_category_id=279
Conclave 2017

NE-4B
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