



## 2009 NATIONAL OFFICERS ELECTED



2009 National Chief Jack O'Neill

**Y**our 2009 National Chief of the Order of the Arrow is Jack O'Neill! Jack is from the Shawnee Lodge of the Greater St. Louis Area Council in Missouri. He is 19 years old and is an Eagle Scout from Troop 169 there. Jack is a Vigil Honor member, past two-term section chief

and served on the Instructor Corps for ArrowCorps 5. He has attended Section Officer Seminars and the National Leadership Seminar. He currently attends the University of Missouri. "After being elected National Chief, I was overwhelmed with joy and excitement. I want to congratulate Dan Higham along with the region chiefs on their elections. I am looking forward to working with all of the section chiefs on the planning process of the National Order of the Arrow Conference. Coming off a very successful summer, I want to further the idea of conservation through the legacy of ArrowCorps5."

**T**he National Vice-Chief of the Order of the Arrow for 2009 is Dan Higham! Dan's home town is Vestal, New York and like Jack, is 19 years old. He is an Eagle Scout of Troop 221 and a Vigil Honor Member of Otah-nagon Lodge of the Baden-Powell Council. He attends Oswego State University where he is a Human Resource Management Major. Dan has attended NOAC, ArrowCorps5, NLS, SOS, and has served as Lodge Chief, Lodge Vice Chief and is a two-term Section Chief. Outside of the uniform, Dan enjoys fishing, golfing, and basketball. "Truly an amazing experience to have the support to allow me to serve our order. It will take a little while to sink in ,but I am looking forward to it. I have been granted the chance to inspire the arrowmen all across this nation, and that in itself is a high honor. I am deeply grateful for this opportunity to serve."



2009 National Vice-chief Dan Higham



2009 Western Region Chief David Harrell

**O**ur 2009 Western Region Chief is the Section Chief from W-5, David Harrell. David is from Kola Lodge of the Longs Peak Council. His home town is Fort Collins, Colorado. He is 19 years old and a member of Troop 128 in Longmont, CO. David is a Vigil Honor Member and a Founder's Award Recipient. He has attended NOAC, NLS, and OA Service Corps at Jamboree. He is studying business with a minor in economics at Colorado State University in Fort Collins. When not working with the Order, he enjoys basketball, politics, and spending time with friends. He is an avid Denver Broncos fan. "I'm proud, humbled, overwhelmed, and excited all at once. I can't wait to get started making an impact."

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## Chiefly Speaking

*with Mark Hendricks*



It's been quite a year for the West: Three ArrowCorp5 sites, four National Leadership Seminars, thirteen conclaves, one Gathering of Chiefs, and numerous other Section and Lodge events occurred with resounding success within our Region in 2008.

It has been an honor to serve as the region chief this year and to have the opportunity to witness many of these events and work with many of the great Arrowmen from the West. When I started my term, I had no idea what I was in for; and now I can't believe it's over – a year has never gone by so fast. In the end, I am walking away with the same things that many of you are walking away from 2008 with: great memories, new

and strengthened friendships, and a better understanding of our Order and myself.

Why was 2008 a success? Based on my experiences, the answer is quite simple: you. The Arrowmen of the West blew me away time and time again with their enthusiasm, dedication, and capabilities over the course of the year. I am confident that we shall continue to grow as a brotherhood and maintain our years of "West Is Best" for the foreseeable future because of this.

Finally, I would like to say a final thank-you. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as your region chief, for putting up with me, and for making this year so amazing. Thank you for attending ArrowCorps5 and providing countless hours of service to our forests, and for staffing ArrowCorps5 and providing such a wonderful opportunity for us. Thank you for everything you do within our Order to ensure that West Is Best. Take it from me -- it truly is! 🐎

## National Leadership Seminar

*Photos from Lost Valley and Alameda NLSs*







## Interview with Jake Wellman

### 2008 National Chief



Jake Wellman, 2008 National Chief

Western Region--in fact, the third National Chief in 4 years from the West. What does that mean to you?

**Jake:** I know our region chief likes to say "West is Best." I can only say that the friendship section chiefs establish out West is really something extraordinary. You have guys paying \$300 to fly out and see a friend run a Section Conclave. That builds character. I also think the way our region administers the National Leadership Seminar always impresses the other regions and that is mainly because of our staff, who often are section chiefs. When I ran for National Chief, the other section chiefs looked at these attributes.

**Mustang:** You are also one of the youngest National Chiefs the Order has had in a long time. How does that make you feel?

**Jake:** No different than if I was older. I think it shows that there isn't a specific mold you have to fit in to in order to be National Chief. The section chiefs really do choose their leader every year.

**Mustang:** Did you ever think when you started your OA career, that you would be the National Chief?

**Jake:** No way. I thought the OA was the coolest thing ever, but I never expected to hold any office. I didn't even go to a chapter meeting for the first couple of years. I ended up getting involved in ceremonies once I did start attending meetings but only ran for office at the prodding of the lodge chief at the time.

**Mustang:** What went through your mind in the first few moments after you were elected?

**Jake:** Wow. I thought how incredible the upcoming year was going to be. I was just excited to do a great job as national chief.

**Mustang:** As the National Chief who carried out ArrowCorps5, share some of your thoughts on the impact that had on the Order and the nation.

**Jake:** It's tough to express this summer in only a few words.

**Mustang:** Thanks for taking some time out of your busy schedule to talk to Arrowmen from the Western Region.

**Jake:** I always have time for the Western Region.

**Mustang:** You yourself are from the

ArrowCorps5 was absolutely transformational. It redefined the way we serve as Arrowmen, it changed the scope of what the Order of the Arrow can accomplish on a national level, and it reminded the country that the Boy Scouts are here to serve.

**Mustang:** With a NOAC next year, and a National Jamboree in 2010, where do you see the Order going in the next few years?

**Jake:** Onward and Upward. I really think we are going to build off of the message of service from this summer and become a stronger brotherhood. As the national committee and section chiefs work to execute the 2008-2012 Strategic Plan, many good changes are shaping up. The OA is going to have a big role in all of the future Jamborees and really make a positive impact on our nation. People are going to recognize the sash wherever we go.

**Mustang:** As your term slowly draws to a close, what have been some of your favorite memories?

**Jake:** There are so many. The places I've been rival the experiences of any well-traveled businessman. The people I've met, from Arrowmen around the nation, to Scouts from around the world at the World Scout Youth Forum, to our national leaders in Washington, DC will stand out the most when I look back on this year. ArrowCorps5 was the most enjoyable and the most powerful thing I have accomplished as a scout. That ranks pretty high, too.

**Mustang:** You will still be a youth in the Order for more than a year after your term ends. What are your plans to stay involved in the Order?

**Jake:** Well, I will be working with the 2009 National Officers to help plan the National Order of the Arrow Conference next August, specifically working to bring an effective National Council of Chiefs program to NOAC. I also plan to stay involved in my lodge and section wherever I am needed.

**Mustang:** What are your future plans for college and beyond?

**Jake:** I'm attending the University of New Mexico right now, majoring in Political Science. After that, I'd like to get another degree (maybe Law?) and find a way to help people for a living. 🐾

>  
I'm There

## Del Loder Honoured With Lifetime Achievement Award

By Evan Michael Hess

The Western Region is proud to announce that Del Loder will be awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award at the National Order of the Arrow Conference in August 2009. The National Committee describes the award as that which "is intended to recognize only those extraordinary Arrowmen who have deeply influenced and significantly contributed to the vision, direction, and growth of the Order of the Arrow; faithfully demonstrated a lifetime of servant leadership; and, through their daily example, illuminated and reinforced the significance of the values found in the Scout Oath and Scout Law."

Del Loder's Scouting career and OA history are lengthy and distinguished.

In May 1948, Del Loder met E. Urner Goodman. A teenager at the time, Loder's Scouting career would begin to flourish when the young Scouter came to Seattle. Del decided that he wanted to meet Goodman to learn how the man went about organizing the first Jamboree. After 19 year-old Loder received the answers he sought, Goodman asked him a life-changing question. Goodman inquired about Loder's knowledge regarding the Order of the Arrow. Goodman walked Del through the Ordeal and Brotherhood process, including his Vigil on the Devil's Tea Table. "That was my beginning," said Loder.

Del was very interested in the election process. He brought the idea back to his Scout Troop. After four to five years, the OA took foot in his council. The first members of the lodge were members of the pre-existing Camp Honorary Society. In 1954, the first members were inducted into the Order following the ceremony outlined by Goodman. Del, a Scoutmaster at the time, made sure that his Scout Troop was registered for the first week of camp when the OA began in his council. Members of the camp staff came to Del and made inquiry about holding an OA election. The first member of the OA in his council came from his unit that summer. He was inducted July 3, 1954.

The first meeting of the lodge was in December 1954, where the first officers and lodge name were selected. Del started as Adviser to the Historian, later becoming the Adviser of the Brotherhood Committee. Del was very active and knew how very significant the Order was in the lives of scouts. Del

underwent the Brotherhood ceremony in 1955.

In 1956, his Lodge's Adviser was appointed to the National Committee, thus creating a void that needed filling. Loder's Scout Executive asked him to take over, but he turned it down. Del's commitment was to his Scout Troop, and he made it clear to his scout executive that he wished to continue service to his troop. In July 1958, Del was recognized with the Vigil Honor. Nearly ten years and multiple requests to be Lodge Adviser later, Del took over the role of Lodge Adviser in 1965, where he served for ten years. Meanwhile, Del attended the National Conference in Bloomington, Indiana where he realized that, though his lodge was in great shape, there were some problems. He instituted an effective training program for his youth



lodge leaders and ensured that all his leaders knew the "ins and outs" of the OA.

Del later served as Associate Adviser for his section from 1971-73 and served as Section Adviser thereafter.

In August of 1973, Del was appointed to serve the National Council on the OA Committee by the BSA President. Del was surprised that he was appointed (a testament to his character). At the first meeting, Del was asked to become the Chairman of Ceremonies for the OA. Del, always having been interested in OA ceremonies, was thrilled to take on that position. As a member of the National Committee, Del inherited what he deemed to be "a group of dedicated think-

ers for ceremonies" (the ceremonial advisory group). Del's committee solved a great many of the problems in ceremonies that existed at that time. In 1975, Del was recognized for his unselfish service to the Order with the Distinguished Service Award. Meanwhile, Del served as the Western Region Area 1 Adviser concurrently with the National Committee. Del left the Ceremonies Committee in 1981 to become the Western Region Chairman. He "loved the position and the people with whom he worked," said Loder. "I traveled everywhere, and loved every minute."

Leadership and training has always been a passion for Del. In 1975, Del was concerned that there was no existing national OA training program for lodge officers and advisers, so he convinced the National Committee to re-institute the National Training Course and to create a new and improved training program (National Chief Brad Haddock spearheaded the effort). In 1979, the program was functioning; the National and Region Chiefs would meet with Del to go over the draft and plan, which Del ensured was enforced. This program developed into the National Leadership Seminar, and later the Lodge Leadership Development program. Not yet done with his service, Del then assisted in the reformation of NLS and the creation of NLATS.

Upon suffering a heart attack in 1989, Del was appointed to the Founder's Council by the then National Chairman Marchetti. He served on the Council for two years, after which he was appointed National Vice Chairman of Lodge operations in 1993. This was also the first time he served the OA at a National Jamboree. Del returned to the Founder's Council as Chair of the Goodman Society one year later, and serves there presently.

Of the great many highlights in his career, Del was given the opportunity to work with Goodman on the Ceremonies Committee during the last ten years of Goodman's life.

In addition to his extensive list of accomplishments, Del noted that he has worked with OA shows at the last three national Jamborees and has worked on the OA training program where he has trained three of the four regions in the NLATS program for the last few years.

Del Loder has attended almost every National Conference since 1959, making a total of more than 28 national events. 🐎



## BSA Looking to Establish National Scouting Center

*To Be Used As a Permanent Home for the BSA National Jamboree*

DALLAS—Feb. 11, 2009—As an outgrowth of an 18-month process aimed at establishing a permanent home for its iconic event, the national Scout jamboree, the Boy Scouts of America announced today that it will enter negotiations with sites in Virginia and West Virginia to explore the vision of a National Scouting Center. The National Scouting Center will comprise three major areas of focus: the permanent home for the national Scout Jamboree, a new high-adventure base, and expanded opportunities for national leadership and outdoor skills training.

The site selection process, referred to as Project Arrow, was overseen by a committee that narrowed submissions to three outstanding finalist proposals from Virginia, West Virginia, and Arkansas. Today, after serious and thorough consideration, the BSA's National Executive Board took action to proceed with further investigation



and negotiations with Virginia and West Virginia. Plans call for placement of the permanent home for the BSA's National Jamboree in Goshen, Rockbridge County, Virginia, and the new high-adventure base in Fayette and Raleigh counties, West Virginia.

"This new vision of a National Scouting Center represents an incredible opportunity for the BSA, our Scouts, and the nation. In its entirety, the center will offer a new American

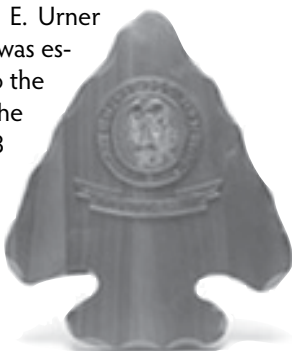
landmark—a multipurpose, year-round destination for Scouting activities that will become the epicenter for the best that Scouting has to offer," said Jack D. Furst, chairman of the Project Arrow Committee and retired partner of the private equity firm HM Capital Partners. "It will be a dynamic place where people from all over this country and the world come together to share their common values, partake in America's best leadership programs, and challenge themselves through rigorous outdoor activities."

Annually, the BSA's three existing high-adventure bases: Philmont, Northern Tier, and Florida Sea Base, serve more than 50,000 youth—with 20,000 more wait-listed. The new proposed adventure base would complement the existing three and help meet the demand for high-adventure activities with completely new programs not offered elsewhere. 🐎

## E. URNER GOODMAN CAMPING AWARD AND NATIONAL SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED

The Recognitions Subcommittee of the National Committee of the Order of the Arrow is pleased to announce the selection of two lodges in the Western Region for the E. Urner Goodman Camping Award. The award was established as a tribute and testimonial to the Order's founder, E. Urner Goodman. The lodges being recognized for their 2008 accomplishments are:

- Tsisqan Lodge, Oregon Trail Council #697, Eugene, OR
- Orca Lodge, Redwood Empire Council #41, Santa Rosa, CA



The Recognitions Subcommittee of the National Committee of the Order of the Arrow is also pleased to announce the selection of two lodges in the Western Region for the National Service Award. The award was established in 1999 to recognize lodges in each region that have performed outstanding service, both in a qualitative and quantitative sense, to their councils. The lodges being recognized for their 2008 accomplishments are:

- Wiatava Lodge, Orange County Council #39, Costa Mesa, CA
- Orca Lodge, Redwood Empire Council #41, Santa Rosa, CA







## Section Chief Elected to City Council



Jeremy Yamaguchi

Jeremy Yamaguchi, Section W-C2 Chief, was elected to the City Council for the City of Placentia in Southern California's Orange County. At the age of 19, he is one of the youngest elected officials in the city's history. Jeremy brought in 7,673 total votes. At 22.7% of the total vote, he was the top vote getter of all six candidates running for the post. Jeremy will take one of three open council

seats. Last year, Jeremy was named Placentia's youngest Citizen of the Year last year. He will be serving on the council while continuing enrollment at California State University Fullerton nearby. Jeremy's campaign website at [http:// www.jeremyyamaguchi.com/](http://www.jeremyyamaguchi.com/).

## Western Region NOAC Patch

The 2009 Western Region NOAC Patches are now available for purchase at the Western Region Trading Post. Get yours today and show off your Western Region pride!

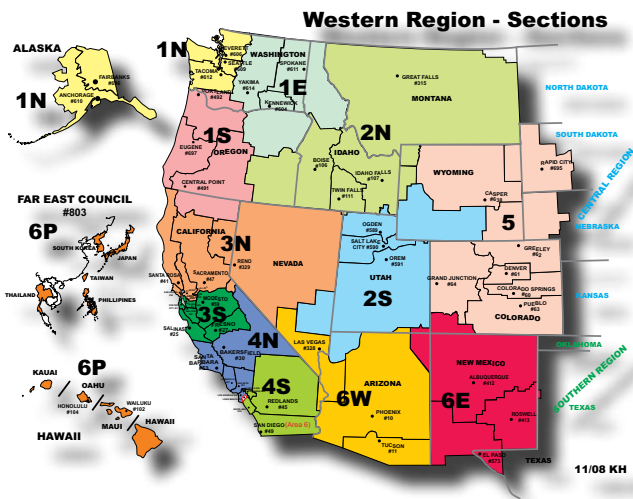


The 2009 Western Region NOAC Patch was designed last fall during the first ever Region Council of Chiefs.

The Western Region Trading Post is located at <http://western.oa-bsa.org/tradingpost/>.

## Section Designations Set

The final section designations have been set by the Western Region. They were announced at the Region Council of Chiefs in October. The previous designations (Example: WA, W-B1, etc...) were substituted now that the area names have been finalized. They are set up as before with W meaning Western, a number signifying the Area number, and a letter. The letters are N, S, E, W, and P, standing for North, South, East, West and Pacific respectively. The Mustang has listed the sections new designations and the corresponding Section Chiefs on Page 4 of this Newsletter in case you are wondering which section you are in. Feel free to contact your section chief if you have any questions. The Western Region thanks you for your continued patience and cooperation during this re-alignment process. Together, we can make this process easy for all Arrowmen.





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**Gabriel Mc Hugh**



Advisor  
**Mike Johnson**

The Mustang is the official publication of the Western Region, Order of the Arrow, Boy Scouts of America. This year, we plan to create four newsletters. We graciously accept any and all submissions whether of article or pictures. Please send your submissions to: [gabemmchugh@gmail.com](mailto:gabemmchugh@gmail.com). If you would like to help further with the production of the Mustang, feel free to send an email to the above address.



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### **Western Region Calendar**

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>
W-6E Conclave	April 3-5, 2009	Philmont Scout Ranch
W-1N Conclave	April 24-26, 2009	Cascade Scout Reservation, Monroe, Wa
W-5 Conclave	April 24-26, 2009	Custer, Sd
W-2S Conclave	April 24-26, 2009	Davis County Fairgrounds, Utah
W-2N Conclave	May 1-3, 2009	Blackfoot, Id
NOAC 2009	August 1-6, 2009	Indiana University, Bloomington, IN
W-6P Conclave	Sept. 4-6, 2009	Honolulu, Hi
W-4N Conclave	Sept. 11-13, 2009	Location TBD
W-1S Conclave	Sept. 11-13, 2009	Camp Baker, Florence, Or
W-3N Conclave	Sept. 18-20, 2009	Location TBD
W-3S Conclave	Sept. 25-27, 2009	Camp Royaneh, Cazadero, CA
W-1E Conclave	Sept. 25-27, 2009	Camp Fife, Goose Prairie, WA
Western Region NLS	October 9-11, 2009	Denver, Co
W-4S Conclave	Oct. 16-18, 2009	Schoepe Scout Reservation, CA
Western Region Gathering	October 23-25, 2009	Heard Scout Pueblo, Phoenix, Ax
W-6W Conclave	November 13-15, 2009	Location Not Set
Western Region NLS/NLATS	November 20-22, 2009	Portland, Or