



# THE PAPAH

Wa-La-Moot-Kin Lodge 336  
Order Of The Arrow



November 2001

## Adviser's Corner

As the new Lodge Adviser for Wa-La-Moot-Kin, I am looking forward to the opportunity to work with the youth and adults of the lodge. When I first accepted this position, I was reminded by a close friend and fellow arrowman that Allowat Sakima told us that membership in our order was given not only for what we have done, but for what we are expected to do in the future. Using that as my foundation, I sought to better educate myself on what I should do as an arrowman and as a Lodge Adviser.

Looking back through my OA literature I found the Lenni Lenape name given to the lodge adviser position. That name is *Witawematpanni Gegeyjumhet*, meaning one who aids the head chief. So the next step was to determine how best to aid. I think the "Vision for the Order of the Arrow for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century" is a good starting point. Simply put, the vision states that the Order of the Arrow will be recognized as "Scouting's National Honor Society" and as an integral part of the council.

So how do we as a lodge fulfill that vision in Blue Mountain Council? I see three areas of opportunity. First, I believe we should start in the area of leadership. We should look for opportunities to lead within the council, our district, our units and our lodge. It is much easier to follow an example than it is to follow an idea. Second, as a lodge we should develop and implement a program aimed at increasing not only the number of registered members but also increasing participation in the lodge by the membership. Lastly, Wa La Moot Kin should increase our support for all outdoor programs in the Blue Mountain Council.

I am asking all arrowmen to consider these three goals and how you, as an individual, can help. Your Chief and I want to hear your ideas. Remember the root of our orders beginning. I doubt E. Urner Goodman and Carroll A. Edson ever dreamed that the simple group started on Treasure Island 86 years ago would be what it is today. I look forward to hearing from you.

Scott Feemster

## NOAC 2002

Have you been looking for something fun to do this summer? Are you interested in having one of the best weeks of your life? If so, then NOAC 2002 is just for you. So what exactly is NOAC? NOAC (National Order of the Arrow Conference) is a mini Jamboree that has something for everyone; top-flight training, ceremonial and American Indian competitions, exciting shows and special guests, Founder's Day, patch trading, recreational opportunities, plus fun and fellowship. The weeklong event runs nearly 24/7 and will take place July 27 through August 1. NOAC will be located on the beautiful campus of Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana. The estimated cost of the event is only \$450 plus airfare! We are working to cut costs and make this as affordable as possible. If you are interested in attending, a \$100 deposit by December 21 will reserve your space in the contingent. Please contact Paul Ash ([webmaster@walamootkin.org](mailto:webmaster@walamootkin.org)) if you're interested in being a part of this awesome event or would like more information.

Paul Ash

## Ceremonies Team

Do you remember what your OA ceremonies have looked like? Do you think it would be neat to dress up like an Indian? Do you wish that you could become more active in the lodge? Being part of a ceremony team is a great opportunity to really get involved in the OA and get to know your fellow arrow men.

If you are interested in joining, feel free to come and participate in a practice and see how you like it. In the Tri-City area, we meet the second Thursday of the month at Central United Protestant church in Richland from 7:00 PM till 8:00 PM. You can contact Ian Greene at [secretary@walamootkin.org](mailto:secretary@walamootkin.org) for more information.

Ben Johnson

## THE EARLY YEARS

How did it all begin? The Order of the Arrow was founded in 1915 but was slow in developing in the West. As best as can be determined, Tsisqan Lodge of Eugene, Oregon was the first lodge in the Pacific Northwest to receive a national charter. Arrowmen from the Tsisqan Lodge #253 came to Yakima in the spring of 1945 and inducted a number of scouts from the Yakima valley. Moskwa Lodge #301 received a national charter on June 6, 1945. Jud Compton, a district Scout executive serving Eugene, was the driving force for introducing the OA to councils in this area. He later was transferred to Richland where he served as district executive to the Tri-Cities in the early 1950s.

Moskwa Lodge, with headquarters in Yakima, served as the "father lodge" to three lodges in the area. Koo-Ben-Sho Lodge #311 of Couer d'Alene, Idaho received its charter July 12, 1945 and Ump Quah Lodge #335 was chartered March 1, 1946. Arrowmen from Yakima handled the initial induction ceremony for both of these lodges.

In January of 1946 a carload of Scouts from the Blue Mountain Council left Walla Walla and drove to Yakima for the purpose of inducting four boys into the Order of the Arrow. It was again conducted by members of the Moskwa Lodge and the ceremony was held in a Yakima hotel. Boys making the trip were Miles Lodmell, Mark McDermott and Sam Johnson, of Walla Walla, and Weston Gray of Richland. Mr. R. D. "Chief" McDermott, Scout Executive and father of Mark, drove. A group of Canadian Scouts were also present. They had been invited to witness the ceremony and to learn more about the Order of the Arrow as they were considering it as a possible program that could be introduced and used in Canada.

The name of the lodge was chosen when the request for a charter was submitted. It appears that the name *Walamootkin* was taken from the name of the Nez Perce Indian band of Lower Nez Perce in the Wallowa Valley of Oregon. Old Chief Joseph (father of the famous Chief Joseph), the renowned Chief Tu-eke-kas, was sometimes called "Wella- motkin." He was one of the first Christian converts of the pioneer Presbyterian missionary, Henry Spalding. The name of the lodge can be found spelled a number of different ways in printed texts and publications. This is the result of attempting to spell Indian names phonetically. Research has revealed *Wal-lam-wat-kin*, *Wella-mootkin*, and *Walamootkin*. The number 336 was given by the national office, as it was the 336th lodge to be granted a charter. The mountain sheep was selected as the lodge totem because it was native to the Eagle Cap Wilderness Area in the Wallowa Mountains, where the council summer camp is located. A copy of the first charter granted the lodge by the national office can be found in the Appendix.

Mark McDermott was the first arrowman to be elected Lodge Chief. Other scouts serving in lodge leadership positions during these early years included Herb West, Miles Lodmell, Weston Gray, Dick Ray, Bob Brown and Gabe Joseph.

Much credit for bringing Order of the Arrow to the council must be given to "Chief" McDermott. He was serving as Scout Executive and worked closely with the

lodge during the first few years. At that time the scout office was located in the city hall building in Walla Walla. Assisting him, as district scout executive was Lynn Hebron, who assumed the role as one of the adult advisers for several years. After Lynn's transfer, Cliff Hanson played an important part in the development of the lodge, assuming the role of staff adviser. He continued his interest in the Order, and in the 1980s received the national Distinguished Service Award. Now retired, he is serving as the lodge adviser at Salem, Oregon.

Mark and his father moved to Montana in the late 1940s, where his father became Scout Executive for that council. In 1950 Mark, who was working at their summer camp, drowned while trying to save a Scout's life.

Camp Wallowa had been operating in the 1940s as the official council camp. In 1947 the first Brotherhood ceremony was held and Cliff Hanson, Weston Gray, and several other boys successfully completed their sealing of membership in the Order. In the summer of 1947 at Mill Creek, near Walla Walla, the second Ordeal ceremony was held. At this time, Gabe Joseph, John Jefferis, Herb West Jr. and several others completed their Ordeal.

In 1948 at Camp Wallowa Dick Ray, Ray DeeZander, David Dilts and others

completed their Ordeal. It was common practice for most lodges at that time for Ordeals to be conducted in conjunction with summer camp.

Early adult leaders during this period included Jerry Jesseph Sr, Ben Laws, Lynn Hebron,

Jim Figenshaw and Bob Devan. Most of these scouters were associated with troops or had sons who had been inducted into the Order.

In 1949 a Brotherhood ceremony was held in the Walla Walla City Hall. Bob Brown, Dick Ray, Gabe Joseph and Miles Lodmell received their Brotherhood at this time.

Lodge activities were few and far between the first few years. The elections of candidates were conducted at summer camp as were the Ordeal ceremonies. The operation of an executive committee as it is known today was nonexistent; however, lodge officers including chief, vice chief, secretary and treasurer were elected and advised by adult volunteers.

This chapter would not be complete without the mention of other key arrowmen. Fred Sporleder and his son, Fred Jr., Bob Rankin, John Jeffrey, Sam Greco, Norman Adams, Ken Darr, and Jack Haase, among others, were all contributors in seeing that the lodge developed and grew.

A special note is in order concerning Norman Adams of Walla Walla. Norman was active in the lodge from 1948-1951. After completing his schooling, he pursued a career in art. For over thirty years he received commissions from *Boys' Life* magazine to do artwork that accompanied the articles. In the mid-1970s it was his artwork that was featured for the Order of the Arrow lead article in this magazine. He is a freelance artist who makes his home in Walla Walla. The lodge, however small in number in the 1940s, attempted to perform the objectives set forth in the Order: to give cheerful service, to promote camping and to recognize honor campers.

Source: The Lodge History as provided by Holland St. John

#### Lodge Officers

Lodge Chief	Jim Gibbons	chief@walamootkin.org
Past Lodge Chief	Calvin Fulks	past_chief@walamootkin.org
Vice Chief for Administration	Chris Ralph	admin@walamootkin.org
Vice Chief for Program	Kevin Ralph	program@walamootkin.org
Vice Chief for Washington	Brad Pratt	washington@walamootkin.org
Vice Chief for Oregon	Vacant	N/A
Lodge Secretary	Ian Greene	secretary@walamootkin.org

See the lodge web page at [www.walamootkin.org](http://www.walamootkin.org) for other e-mail addresses.

#### Pow Wow and Fall Banquet

The Second Annual Pow Wow was September 22. It was a GREAT event! If you missed it you missed a lot from Spokane, taught us how to bead. There was a regalia workshop where some made their own leggings. We all were taught Indian dancing by Don Carlyle, a past dance champion from our lodge, and Indian drumming. Then those who had their Indian outfits put them on we all had a chance to practice dancing.

The Fall Banquet followed with a delicious chicken dinner. Lodge Chief Jim Gibbons gave out the Lodge Spirit Awards. And an explanation of the new Arrowman Service Award.

lot of interesting learning and some great FUN. Be sure to be there next year. Friday night started with a history of Nez Perce Indian clothing by Bill Buchmiller. Saturday morning Ben Johnson explained the Ordeal Ceremony. Scott Thompson Lodge Spirit Awards. And an explanation of the new Arrowman Service Award.

A BIG thank you to Jim Gibbons, Scott Feemster, Bill Buckmiller, Pete Gibbons, and Monte Job for helping make these Lodge events so successful!!!

## **W-1-C Conclave 2002**

**April 12-14**

**Eastern Washington University**

**FUN!!**

**FELLOWSHIP!!**

**TRAINING!!**

**COMPETITION!!**

**Feel The Power  
Of The Spirit!!!**