

# The Arrow Head



January, 2007 Issue

A publication of Raccoon River Valley Order of the Arrow Chapter, Mitigwa Lodge of Mid-Iowa Council, BSA

## THE OFFICERS

We recently had a great time at our Winter Banquet. I would like to personally extend my congratulations to those brothers that just received the Founders Award and the Arrowman of Achievement Award. Our recent meeting, if you did not attend, was our Elections and Promotions Training.

Our next event is our Holiday Party, held on Friday night, February 2nd. We plan on playing board games, dodge ball; and, most importantly, we are planning on having a huge Halo party. So bring your X-box, TV, board games, cards, and pop and junk food. We plan on having an awesome time.

Our next meeting is Thursday February 8. Clear your schedules to have a great time. We're starting off on a good foot, let's follow through to next year.

Yours in Brotherhood,  
Aaron Hambleton

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Aaron Hambleton<br>Chief                  | 992-3159 |
| Andy Fox<br>VC Ceremonies                 | 986-9717 |
| Ian O'Hagan<br>VC E&P East Chapter        | 252-7302 |
| Josh Allen<br>VC E&P Central Chapter      | 992-3446 |
| Sam Meisinger<br>VC E & P Western Chapter | 758-2231 |
| Brian Lamont<br>VC Communications         | 480-0031 |
| Nate Hon<br>VC Membership                 | 279-4978 |
| James Sevenich<br>Elangomat Chairman      | 986-1323 |
| Jim Shumaker<br>Advisor                   | 278-2899 |

### Elections and Promotions sign up

Ian O'Hagan -  
3,36,43,44,46,50,58,61,71,77,92,93,205,208  
Josh Allen -  
4,78,80,96,98,115,128,202,242,280,284,295,316, 888  
Sam Meisinger -  
48,70,111,116,117,120,127,141,152,153,167,171,178,181

Please help ensure your Troop has scheduled its election to be held before the May 1. Make sure your Scoutmaster has contacted the Vice Chief of Elections and Promotions listed for your unit at the left. Then make sure all your boys are at the election. Remember how you were elected? Help the E&P team when they are at your unit and volunteer to do an election yourself. We'll help you!!!

### ADVISOR'S RANDOM FIRING OF SYNAPSES

It's the morning after the Winter Banquet, 2006 is officially over, and there are some proud accomplishments from that past year to reflect on and some things we can do to make 2007 a better year. As a chapter, we did not receive Quality Chapter recognition because our membership numbers were down and we didn't place in the top three for Chapter of the Year due to lower participation percentage wise than the other three chapters. However, as a chapter, we still provide more work to camp than other chapters, but we're larger than they are so we rightfully should. Our Brotherhood conversion percentage was above 40% which was excellent. RRV was proudly represented in the presentation of the Arrowman of Achievement Awards with Chris Baldon, Harvey Blaisdell, Joe Salvini, and Nancy Schoene receiving the awards. In the prestigious Founders Award, RRV members received all three of them with Tim Baldon, Andy DeBoard, and Rick Hubbard being recognized. Please congratulate these people on their recognition. As for the chapter level awards, we need more youth to attend the events and participate if we expect to get back up into the top three.

With the New Year, I want to start something new. I have loved the Boundary Waters and have been there five times for treks. The Order of the Arrow started doing trail crew work there in 1999 and my son Robert took part in one of these experiences. He said it was the best experience he had in Scouting, and he experienced a lot. Last summer I went back for my fifth trip, personally witnessed the work of the OA Wilderness Voyage, and feel it's time to help other people attend this, even if in some small way. I will donate 2 \$50 scholarships per year to Mitigwa Lodge members that participate in the OA Wilderness Voyage. This will be in memory of my father Robert who took me there the first time, and in honor of my son Robert who help make it a better place. I will be providing more information about the scholarship later. Look for more information about OA Wilderness Voyage at <http://adventure.oa-bsa.org/index.php?p=voyage>.

Let's start the New Year right at the Holiday Party and go forward from there and kick things up a notch.

Jim Shumaker  
Allogagan Clamichpin  
RRV OA Chapter Advisor

### IMPORTANT DATES

|                      |                          |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| February 2-3, 2007   | RRV Holiday Party        |
| February 8, 2007     | RRV Chapter Meeting      |
| February 23-25, 2007 | Snow Flake Pow Wow       |
| March 8, 2007        | RRV Chapter Meeting      |
| April 12, 2007       | Chapter Meeting          |
| April 13-14, 2007    | Chapter work weekend     |
| April 28, 2007       | Lodge One Day of Service |
| May 5, 2007          | Ring Blitz-Camp Mitigwa  |
| May 11, 2007         | RRV Chapter Meeting      |
| May 18-20, 2007      | Spring Conclave          |

**MORE  
IMPORTANT  
NEWS ON  
THE BACK!!!**

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All of these dates below satisfy your requirement for Brotherhood—Come help make things better. Better yet, bring someone else along.

## Chapter Work Weekend

Make plans to attend our Chapter Work Weekend April 13—14. We will be staying in Frankel Trading Post Friday night, followed by a day of fellowship, cheerful service, and of course great food. Come help us make our camp even better. We need your help to get back on top for Chapter of the Year!!!

## RING BLITZ

A new event we started last year counts as the day needed for Brotherhood. Ring Blitz will be held at Camp Mitigwa on Saturday, May 5 for the purpose of improving our beautiful ceremony ring and the area around it. Look for more information in the Mitigwa Chief.

## Dan Beard Trail Crew Days

The north end of the trail is done and after some maintenance on it, the trail heads south. Be a part of the Dan Beard Trail experience and help build a trail you can be proud of showing your son or even grandson. Dates are being established, so look for information at <http://www.mitigwalodge.org> or the Chief.

## One Day of Service

This is a way for the Mitigwa Lodge to give back to the community. One day a year the lodge goes to a park to perform needed tasks. This year we're going to Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge by Prairie City. This will be on April 28. Look for more information in the Mitigwa Chief.

## Holiday Party News

The officers have decided to drive the advisors crazy by making us stay up all night again by having a lock-in. Once again we will have mass quantities of food, fellowship, games, but little sleep (except for Harvey).

The date will be Friday night, February 2, 7:30 PM. and end Saturday morning, February 3, 8:00 AM.

The location is Rex Mathes school at 1401 Vine St. West Des Moines (see map below).

**THE EVENT IS OPEN TO ALL REGISTERED BOY SCOUTS AND VENTURE SCOUTS** — Let's show them how to have a good time.

The cost is \$ 3.00 for OA members and \$5.00 for other scouts.

We will provide pizza, pop corn, and breakfast. You provide your own drink and any junk food you want to eat. Bring the board games, cards, balls, etc. you want to play, but if you bring a X-box or other gaming platforms be sure to have a TV with you. You might want to bring an extension cord and power strip as well. Make sure anything you bring is labeled to make sure it goes home with you. If you can't make it all night (Harvey), bring a cot and sleeping bag and we'll throw you in a dark room someplace, or maybe in the snow outside. No registration is needed—just come and have fun!!! If you need to get hold of an advisor during this fun event, you can call Jim Shumaker at 515-210-3726. It is very important you be picked up by 8:00 AM because we will lose the room we're in to other groups and the advisors want to go home and collapse.

