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Vigil Honor



On the very cold Sunday morning of November 15th at the combined Cahuilla / Pavunga Lodge Fall Fellowship PowWow we welcomed our newest Vigil Honor members.

Please join us in congratulating those who have earned the highest honor of Order of the Arrow.

Nancy Fassbender / Caleb French / Justin French / Stephen French / Zachary French / Griffin Martois / Travis Martois / Orion Pastorian / Jarod Quinn / Carolyn Stanley / Robert Stanley / James Vineyard / Stephen Morici

2016 Lodge Officers



left to right: Secretary - Jorge De La Torre / Treasurer - Jarod Quinn / 3rd Vice Chief - James Vineyard / 2nd Vice Chief - Trenton Goopio / 1st Vice Chief - Hayden Martois / Lodge Chief - Griffin Martois



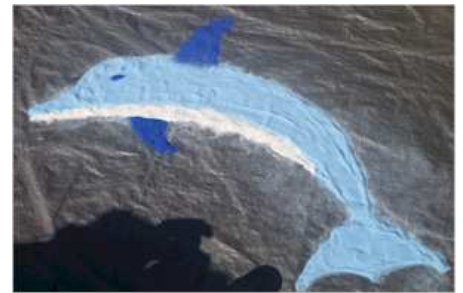
Conclave Back to the Spark



At Conclave this year our lodge competed spectacularly, and showed lots of spirit in the various events. We had great participation in a variety of different classes, and crafting sessions.

Friday nights show was hosted by Cahuilla and had the Chiefs all competing in various timed events, testing their dexterity and problem solving abilities. Saturday everyone

attended the various classes to learn more about the OA before they were turned loose to compete in lodge ball, Indian dance, ceremonies, and sand painting.



On Saturday night the theme continued with a 'Back to the Future' inspired show featuring Sean Sedey and Javier Venegas.

Bright and early Sunday there was a 5K organized by Hayden Martois. Javier Venegas was elected as the new Section Chief and our very own Sean Sedey was elected as Section Secretary.



Fall Fellowship Pow Wow



This years our Fall Fellowship was a combined effort between Cahuilla and Pavunga Lodges. We came together as one so we could help Pavunga with their very first Vigil Ceremony. We were able to provide service to Camp Tahquitz before moving on to a great day of competitions, and then an evening of movies and fellowship.



See more pictures at snakepower.org

Chief Speaks



My fellow Arrowmen,

It has been an amazing year. Definitely a busy one! Ordeals, Arrow Tour, NOAC, Fall Fellowship, and Conclave were just a few of the many events we put on or participated in as a lodge. As many of you know, this year was the Order's Centennial celebration and I just want to say how much of an honor it was to serve as your chief this year. It was an experience I'll never forget. Whether it was cheering at NOAC or playing lodgeball at Conclave, I created memories with many of you that I will cherish for years to come. For those of you who went to NOAC, you will remember the theme. It starts with us. I encourage all of you to remember that and employ it for the rest of your lives. Maintain the excitement you have for the Order and you will create life long memories just as I have. I look forward to seeing what next year's LEC accomplishes and wish the best of luck to all of you.

Yours in Brotherhood,
Sean Sedey
2015 Lodge Chief

Adviser's Minute

Brothers of our Order,

As we close out our centennial year, I thought I would take this opportunity to recap some of our efforts and activities. The Lodge completed three successful Ordeal Induction Weekends, two at Camp Emerson and one at Camp Wrightwood serving our community. Arrowmen were present at University of Scouting, District Camporees, Adventure Weekend, Camp Emerson Service Days, and many other council and district events.

As the centennial year of the Order of the Arrow, Cahuilla Lodge participated in the year-long activities sponsored by the National Order of the Arrow. We had Arrowmen at ArrowTour events, we created a Lodge History Book, and were well represented at the 2015 Centennial National Order of the Arrow Conference at Michigan State University where Arrowmen had the opportunity to attend a wide variety of training programs, compete in activities, do some patch trading, serve on staff, and most of all have a great time.

Section W4S Conclave at the Orange County Outdoor Education Center was a huge success and Cahuilla Lodge took home the Spirit Award. Friday and Saturday night shows were AWESOME! Fall Fellowship was a shared event with Puvunga Lodge at Camp Tahquitz. Chief Sean Sedey performed the first Vigil Honor Ceremony for Puvunga Lodge and for our new Vigil Class of 2015.

2015 was a record year for Cahuilla Lodge and its six Chapters for service to community, council, district and units with more than 30,000 hours of service were given by Arrowmen. No project or task was too small or too big for the cheerful service of Cahuilla Lodge Arrowmen.

I would like to thank all those who support our Lodge and our Arrowmen with their time and their generosity, making it possible for our youth to participate in many events, leadership and service opportunities. Thank you to Chief Sean Sedey and his 2015 Lodge Executive Committee for a wonderful year of growth and leadership.

December brings many of us together... to celebrate and enjoy each other's company, to affirm our faiths, to cherish what we have and think about the opportunities the year ahead may bring. This December, I want to thank you for allowing me the opportunity to be your Lodge Adviser. You have placed great trust in me, and that is a gift that I truly value.

I wish everyone a wonderful and safe holiday season, a joyous Christmas with friends and family and a very Happy New Year! Looking forward to continue the legacy of the Order of the Arrow into its second century and to build on the 2015 NOAC theme of "It Starts With Us".

Cynthia Blessum
2015 Cahuilla Lodge, Adviser to the Chief

2015 Bow South Expedition Kayaking The Entire Lower Colorado River / Adventure & The Influence Of Cheerful Service

On November 13 myself and a team of 4 other kayakers launched from the base of Hoover Dam to begin the 2015 Bow South Expedition. This is a charity paddle that raises funds for the Sherman Indian Foundation and the Breast Cancer Research Foundation. The expedition encompasses paddling all 340 miles of the lower Colorado River from Hoover Dam to Morelos Dam on the U.S./ Mexico border. What made this trip unique is that most of the team members are Scouters and the youngest team member is also 1st Vice Chief of Aca, Gary Burrill.



Two members of our team could only be with us for the first 2 days and Gary and his dad, Wayne Burrill, were going to paddle to Cottonwood Cove, 42 miles south of Hoover Dam. On day 1 we launched to beautiful weather and took the opportunity to explore the many caves, hot springs, and waterfalls in upper Black Canyon. Once past Willowbeach we had to race as far as we could the next 2 days to Cottonwood Cove before a major winter storm came through. We almost made it. Only 5 miles north of our destination we had to seek shelter when the wind suddenly picked up to 40 mph. The waves were so high that we watched a bassboat almost capsize and eventually get abandoned when it got smashed on rocks. Overnight we had lightning, rain, and freezing temperatures. We took advantage of a break in the weather just before sunrise and sprinted the final 5 miles to Cottonwood Cove. We still had a mild wind creating 2 foot rolling waves, but we were still able to make it the last few miles without much difficulty.

Once I said my final goodbyes to Wayne and Gary I headed south. It would take me another 2 and a half days to paddle the 22 miles down to Davis Dam due to heavy wind. One day I was only able to paddle 1 mile before getting high centered on a rock and bending a rudder. On day 7 of the expedition I launched from the base of Davis Dam and thus began, in earnest, the marathon when I would be kayaking an average of 30+ miles for 10 hours a day, for the next 10 days. Everyday brought a new adventure (a blunt term would be challenge) that resolved my dedication to completing the expedition. Just below Laughlin a pulse flow created a chute and hydraulic that I had to pirouette my kayak around. Duct taping a flashlight to my front deck to use as a headlight while entering Topock Gorge well before sunrise. Bouncing around like a cork through wind driven waves and 4 foot chop next to a pumpstation on lower Lake Havasu. Negotiating whitewater in a 17 foot sea kayak south of Parker, AZ. Paddling through the smoke from a brush fire north of Blythe, CA. Hugging a rip rap shoreline while avoiding strainers, more waves, hypothermia, and a 25 mph headwind north of McIntyre Park. Floating through a symphony of shotgun blasts from duck hunters south of Laguna Dam. Portaging 6 dams, COLD nights, wearing wet neoprene in 38 degree weather, sore shoulders, and a fatigue that only got worse with each passing day were among the "challenges" I faced through my trip.



The drudgery of the "challenges" were balanced by the sheer beauty that appeared each day. Many nights I saw a double sky of stars due to the reflections in the water. The stillness of Topock Gorge acted as a silent choir whom purveyed a masterpiece that elicited awe from the silence. When pointing my kayak into the light of the morning sunrise, the reflections on the water danced a glimmering sheen of light that were parted by my bow into 2 equal trails. After paddling almost 50 miles on Thanksgiving day, I was rewarded by looking east across the river at a low hanging full moon that cast a silhouette and long shadow from a cottonwood tree.

When summarizing my experiences of the expedition I don't see it as 17 days of "challenges", I see it as 17 days of church. Albeit, 17 days of church that's really cold, windy, wet, and you have to wear stinky river clothes everyday. The inspiration for holding the Bow South Expedition is a direct influence from one of the founding principles of the Order of the Arrow, cheerful service. This singular purpose can be the motivating factor for serving our fellow man. Even if you're a youth member or an adult adviser in the Wimachtendienk, our goals are mutual no matter what your age. To serve, to lead, to do right by your fellows.

In short, cheerful service.
A special thanks to all ya'll for that scouting spirit.

James Hermes
Aca Chapter Adviser



Navajo News

Recently, the Navajo Chapter painted one of their two teepees. The chapter has had the teepee for 35 years and uses it constantly for ceremonies like Arrow of Lights and Call-outs. Throughout this entire time, the teepee has stood blank, until now as Navajo Chapter has finally decided to paint designs onto the teepee.



So far, the chapter has spent a day, from 10:00 am to 2:00pm, adding simple, traditional designs. The task of painting was taken up by the Hayden and Griffin Martois, Calab, Zachary, Justin French along with Mr and Mrs French, and Justin Yule. To prepare, they were taught about designs that would go onto a teepee and the methods and techniques of painting it. These designs consist of a red stripe along the base with yellow dots on the red stripe, a strip of blue along the front by the opening, and red smoke flaps.

However, the teepee is still a work in progress. On another day, the chapter wishes to paint on the Navajo brave logo along with other possible designs. In addition, they also must finish the door flaps but have made great progress on the painting already.

Justin French
Navajo Chapter Chief



Lodge Banquet



Live & Silent Auctions

Your 2016 Dues Can Be Paid At The Door

Saturday, January 23, 2016

Evergreen Masonic Lodge Riverside

5801 Chicago Ave, Riverside, CA 92506

Gathering at 5:30 PM / Dinner at 7:00 PM

Cost: \$30.00 per person

Free for 2015 Golden Arrow Members

Registration Deadline is January 19, 2015

Golden Arrow Members must also register.

No Walk-In Registrations Allowed

*All proceeds from the Live & Silent Auction will help
benefit our youth Arrowmen*