BLACK EAGLE LODGE
ORDER OF THE ARROW

Black Eagle Lodge Lodge Executive Committee
MEETING NOTES DRAFT

October 18, 2026 - 4PM CET
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81968807865

The Lodge Executive Committee met on Zoom on October 18, 2026 at 4 PM CET, opened with the Obligation led by Nils. Twenty-three people were recorded as present.

Nick G, Lodge Chief
Nils B, Lodge Senior Vice Chief
Moxie C, Treasurer
Jesse Rhoades, Lodge Adviser
Michael Garst, Associate Lodge Adviser
Rick Galeano, Associate Lodge Adviser
Henry Legarre, Treasurer Adviser
Jen Guth, Registrar
John Erskine, Lodge Staff Adviser
Quinny C, Achwon Woapalanne Chapter Chief
Mel D, Achwon Woapalanne Chapter Vice Chief
Nick Dickson, Achwon Woapalanne Chapter Advisor
Jim Cheng, Achwon Woapalanne Associate Chapter Adviser
Paul Skinner, Lakota Chapter Advisor
Jessica Smith, Mamchachwelendam Chapter Adviser
Curtis Koenig, Mantowagan Chapter Adviser
Frank Sotrines, Namassakett Chapter Adviser
Andrew
Robert M.
Ryan

Andrew Wright
Lars Bespolka
Kat Galeano

Recap of Last Meeting

The prior meeting was led by Lodge Adviser Jesse Rhoades, with the Lodge Chief and Vice Chief absent.

- Achwon Woapalanne held elections during its chapter fellowship, a successful event. No other chapter gave an update.
- Discussion covered Fall Fellowship and NOAC, including pricing categories and how many people to register. NOAC registration opened October 1.

Chapter Reports of Last Meeting

Achwon Woapalanne is the lodge's one chapter with active leadership; Desert Eagle and Mantowagan submitted no report.

Chapter	Status	Key points
Achwon Woapalanne (Edelweiss)	Reported by Chapter Chief Quinny C.	New leadership after elections: Quinny, Chapter Chief, and Mel, Vice Chapter Chief
Desert Eagle (Horizon)	Absent	No report submitted
Lakota (Barbarossa)	Reported	Moved to monthly online meetings on the 2nd Sunday of the month at 6 PM to encourage attendance. At the District Camporee, Lakota Arrowmen were encouraged to join the monthly meetings.
Mamchachwelendam (Med)	Reported	Update given by Associate Adviser Rick Galeano. Ms. Smith dialed in a little later. The Chapter Advisor is trying to revive the chapter. Elections are coming up, and the current chapter chief is not responding.
Mantowagan (Charlemagne)	No report	No report submitted
Namassakett (Mayflower)	Reported by Mr. Sotrines, Chapter Adviser	Held Fellowship Oct 2–4 alongside the District Camporee, with 17 Arrowmen attending. One Scout completed the Ordeal. No Brotherhood conversions this fall: the three Spring Ordeal members missed the six-month mark by one week. Five Brotherhood members were completed in May. Focus now is helping the chapter's four units elect more Scouts to complete the Ordeal in 2027.

Lodge Officer Reports

Lodge Chief (Nick)

- The lodge has spent the last three weeks moving from the old leadership to the new, holding background meetings so the new team can learn to lead.
- Only one chapter has active leadership; several chapters will schedule elections soon.
- Arrowmen have been encouraged to get active through email, social media and in-person contact. Unit and chapter involvement is key.

Vice Chief (Nils)

- Nils provided a membership update: Currently163 Ordeal, 144 Brotherhood and 58 Vigil members.
- Induction rate varies between 42-73% in the chapters, except Mantowagan at 8%. The induction rate is the percentage of elected youth candidates who actually complete their Ordeal and become members of the Order of the Arrow. Our goal is to induct at least 60% of our youth Ordeal candidates. We didn't quite reach that this year, but we were very close at 59%.
- Brotherhood conversion is 21% across the lodge. The goal is to raise this to 30% and improve retention.
- That is why the New Induction Experience is being introduced by National. The goal is to increase retention.
- Nils will work on a new induction process.

Treasurer (Moxie)

- Goals are a transparent budget and close tracking of funds.
- Discussed the Normandy campout budget.
- Moxie has just started the job and conducted his first meeting with members of the LEC and the lodge treasurer adviser Henry Legarre, also Transatlantic Council's treasurer.

Old Business

Fall Fellowship recap

- Held September 25–27 at Camp Freedom, with 11 Ordeal candidates, two Brotherhood and one Vigil.
- The lodge celebrated its 74th birthday.
- The service project at the Mona Museum, a short walk from camp, involved landscaping and moving bricks.
- Thanks went to Robert for organizing the service project, Nils for leading the ceremonies team, and Mr. Galeano for the after action report.

Normandy

- More than 500 attendees have registered so far.
- Anyone interested in joining the service team should fill out the form.
- The OA will play a big role in the campfire ceremony and will help afterward, including a beach clean-up after the Saturday campfire.

NOAC

- Registration opened October 1, and the lodge registered 17 youth and 8 adults.
- The interest form is tied to the Lodge Chief account, which is locked. Nick asked Mr. Erskine to unlock it.
- An eagle mascot has been approved. Fundraiser patches have been ordered.

New Business

Annual Planning Book

- The bylaws require one, and the last leadership team did not produce one.
- It sets direction and planning for the coming year.
- A draft has been emailed to the Lodge Executive Committee.

Upcoming service opportunities

- Veterans Day, Scouting for Food, Peace Light

Upcoming camping and outdoor opportunities

- Camp Kenya: Dec 29 - Jan 4 Sign up by Oct 31. https://tacscouting.org/camps/campkenya/
- Not camping but outdoor fun: Klondike Derby: Jan 15-18 in Switzerland. https://scoutingevent.com/802-2027KLONDIKE
- Intercamp: May 14 - 17 in Merksplas, Belgium https://intercamp.info/. Registration opens in December.
- TAC Summer Camps: Camp Alpine in Switzerland: June 27-July 3 and July 4-10 - Camp Avantura in Croatia: July 25-31 and Aug 1-7
- Your unit may already register, so it's time to get everyone excited about summer camp and reach out to any AOLs ready to cross over and join you this summer in either Switzerland or Croatia. Units are encouraged to get everyone excited about summer camp and to reach out to any AOLs ready to cross over and join them this summer.

Open Forum

Video meeting platform. Moxie asked whether meetings could move from Zoom to Google Meet, since Zoom requires phone users to download an app. Mr. Dickson has a Google Meet Pro account, and Paul Skinner noted that a combination of the two is possible.

Lone Scouts and 802 Scouts voting in chapter elections. The question was whether Arrowmen who are Lone Scouts or 802 Scouts can vote in the chapter they reside in. 802 Scouts belong to Mantowagan (Charlemagne District) and vote in that chapter.

- One suggestion: a Lone Scout in the OA who lives in a chapter's footprint should be allowed to vote in that chapter's election.
- John Erskine noted that the Order of the Arrow is not available to Lone Scouts, per the national OA guidance on Lone Scouts.
- That guidance does not address Arrowmen who joined through a traditional unit and later became Lone Scouts.
- Suggested follow-up: research this and add it to the bylaws.

Adviser and Chief Minutes

Lodge Staff Adviser (John Erskine)

- Send in ideas for Normandy patches soon, since production and shipping take time.
- The Normandy Camporee is coming up, and the service team is important.

Lodge Adviser (Jesse Rhoades)

- Recruiting contingents for NOAC and for the Normandy Camporee.
- Patch ideas are needed for Normandy and NOAC, and NOAC needs a banner.
- Dues become active November 1.

- The lodge will recharter.
- The Section Council of Chiefs takes place in October.

Lodge Chief (Nick)

- Service starts at the unit level.
- Unit election information will be shared soon.
- Arrowmen are asked to be active, encourage others to step up, and remember they are role models for younger Scouts. Ideas are welcome.

Closing

Next LEC:

Sunday, November 15 at 4pm
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81968807865

Approved: November 22, 2026