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BUCKSKIN LODGE No. 412, ORDER OF THE ARROW

NASSAU CO. COUNCIL

Vol. 14, No. 7

EXPOSITION ISSUE

May 1, 1965

THE O.A.: A SERVICE ORGANIZATION

The Order of the Arrow was founded in the summer of 1915 by the directors of Treasure Island Scout Camp in Philadelphia. It was intended to make the principles of the scout oath and law more effective in the lives of all scouts. O.A. lodges were soon organized. In 1934 the O.A. was approved by the National Council of the B.S.A. Since then it has become a recognized part of the scouting program.

Many scouts and scouters do not know what the O.A. is or what it does. Many think it is apart from scouting. These people are wrong. The O.A. is not apart from scouting. It is a device used in the camping program of the B.S.A. It exists primarily as a service organization, and emphasizes cheerful service in the camping part of the program. The O.A. is democratic in character. It elects its own officers, plans its own programs, and carries out service projects under its own leadership. Adults act as advisors but do not run the activities of the Lodge. One of the main purposes of the O.A. is to build spirit and secure a love for service and camping in its members. The O.A. places its emphasis on the individual, not the mass. Each individual is important. The O.A. attempts to instill a feeling of security in each member.



ORDER ACTIVE IN EXPOSITION

This year at the exposition, Buckskin Lodge is participating to a greater extent than ever before. The Lodge has opened three booths with the hope that they will help people understand more about Buckskin Lodge and the Order of the Arrow. The 3 booths explain what the Lodge is and give examples of what the Lodge does. They show the past history of the Lodge and show how the O.A. operates. The Buckskin Lodge dance team will be performing at the exposition, showing the public the dances of ancient Indian tribes in America. The dance team performs these dances with great precision and it would be a great mistake if anyone missed such a spectacle.

AN ACTIVE UNION OF BROTHERS

The Order of the Arrow's purpose is to exhibit unselfish service to others. In order to maintain its purpose, the O.A. must remain active. In service the O.A. is most active in camp promotion. The Camp Promotions committee encourages unit attendance at summer camp as well as year round camping. The O.A. does this by donating cheerful service, such as cleaning the camp, repairing it, and keeping it in excellent condition. The O.A. has about four or five work weekends at scout camps at which it makes the camps suitable for scouts.

Buckskin Lodge has fifteen committees, all of which work hard to improve the scouting movement. The O.A. is not all work and no play, however. Many members of the Order take part in the Indian Dances and they entertain others as well as themselves. Buckskin Lodge holds a Banquet every year. At the Banquet members meet out friends and converse over a full dinner plate. Guest speakers interest the brothers with lectures related to their particular field. This year produced something new in the line of entertainment. Buckskin Lodge held its first Hootenanny, which proved to be a great success!