

BROTHERS IN SERVICE
LEADERS IN CAMPING

ORDER OF THE ARROW | BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

THE SILVER ARROWHEAD

PRESENTED FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO THE ORDER SINCE 1940 VOLUME 5, ISSUE 3 | WINTER 2012



The Order's outstretched hand to Native America

By **TIMOTHY C. BROWN**

*National Order of the Arrow Subcommittee
Recognition, Awards, History & Preservation*

Since it began, the Order of the Arrow has included an almost spiritual relationship with the histories and traditions of the American Indians. This kindred spirit endures through the OA's ceremonies, its symbols, and name. Influenced by culture and crafts from the American Indian, the Order accepted an obligation to maintain the highest standards of authenticity and sensitivity. However, this relationship did not always exist. Donald C. 'Don' Thom served as a pioneer recognizing the Order's need to understand American Indian culture.

Born and raised in Louisville, Kentucky, during the height of the Great Depression, as an only child, he tended to keep to himself. At the urging of his father, he agreed to visit a local Scout troop. Soon enough he overcame his shyness and became active in Troop 85 earning both the God and Country and Eagle Scout

Awards in 1943. A gifted leader, Don held nearly every youth leadership position within his troop and served as an assistant Scoutmaster. Joining the U. S. Naval Reserves as a high school senior, his unit activated in June 1944, immediately after his graduation. By May the following year he found himself aboard the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Ticonderoga in the South Pacific. By now the Japanese fleet was in shambles, but the carrier continued attacks against enemy airfields and patrolling the waters. On September 6th, four days after the formal surrender ceremonies on board the battleship U.S.S. Missouri, the U.S.S. Ticonderoga entered Tokyo Bay, the first American carrier to do so.

After military service he served as Scoutmaster until 1959. Inducted into the former Zit-Kala-Sha Lodge in 1946, he received Brotherhood in 1949 and the Vigil Honor in 1952 with the name "Lively One." As a young adult, Don served two terms as lodge chief, immediately followed by 20 consecutive years (1952-1972) as lodge adviser. In addition, he served an unprecedented 30 consecutive years (1953-1982) as adviser for Area 4B, Area 4G, and Section SE-1IB.

Don attended the 1948 NOAC where he first saw Scouts performing American Indian dancing.



Don Thom in the U.S. Navy, 1945

Enthralled with the hoop dance, he and Bob Poppe tried to mimic the techniques back in their dorm room by fastening together wire coat hangers into a large hoop. The following summer Zit-Kala-Sha started the Wawoyaka Dance Team, which in Sioux means "Story Teller." By the next national conference with Don as

see **THOM**, page 5



Matt Dukeman

Dukeman appointed OA Specialist

By **MARTY TSCHETTER**

Class of 1996

Starting in September 2012, Matt Dukeman became the OA Specialist at the national office working with OA Director Clyde Mayer. Matt grew up in Eureka, California, and served as chapter, lodge, and section chief in 2000. The year before as section vice chief, he played an integral part helping to plan the conclave

held at Yosemite National Park that included a service project with over 500 Arrowmen.

An Eagle Scout, Matt attended OA Trail Crew the inaugural year in 1995, returned as a foreman, assistant director, director in 2003, and received the DSA in 2004. He earned a political science degree from Sonoma State University and entered professional Scouting in

see **DUKEMAN**, page 2



Campaign button used by Joe Brunton (Class of 1946) when he successfully ran for National Lodge Chief at the 1938 National Meeting at Irondale Scout Reservation. He later served as the Chief Scout Executive from 1960-1966.



At the December 1962 national conference planning meeting, Eagle Scout Randy Scott from Pennsylvania (Class of 1969) became the first African American selected as a deputy conference vice chief.



At the December 1987 national conference planning meeting, David Erb (Class of 1988) and his officers completed their two-year terms. Starting this year, elections of national officers changed to one-year terms.

ON THE COVER



LEADERSHIP

RAY CAPP

National Chairman, Class of 1973

MICHAEL THOMPSON

*Vice Chairman, Class of 2006
Recognitions and Awards*

CRAIG SALAZAR

*Vice Chairman, Class of 1994
Communications and Marketing*

CLYDE MAYER

Director, Class of 1998

MATT DUKEMAN

OA Specialist, Class of 2004

JOHN REHM

National Chief

PRESTON MARQUIS

National Vice Chief

MARTY TSCHETTER

Editor, Class of 1996

JEFFREY ST. CYR

Layout Editor, Class of 2012

**ORDER OF THE ARROW
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA**

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The Silver Arrowhead is distributed two times each year via electronic communication to recipients of the Order of the Arrow Distinguished Service Award. Articles, photographs, and updates may be sent to stephanie.jordan@scouting.org.



The University of Kansas hosted the 1958 NOAC, pictured is the Allen Fieldhouse where the shows, ceremonies, and Indian dancing occurred. Photo taken by Dr. Louis Marchetti (Class of 1961) and part of the OA Archive collection. The 1958 National Conference Chief Jim Kolka recently donated his personal notes, letters, and various documents. Note the article on page 4.

Miller retires after 36 years of service



1995 OATC participant Matt Dukeman far right (Class of 2004); OATC foreman Zieak McFarland sitting on roof far left (Class of 1996); participant Chris Wells standing far left back row (Class of 2000); participant David Clark standing on stage third from right (Class of 1996); participant Alex Rhodes kneeling on far right (Class of 1996). Also in this crew is Mike Szczys, son of Bob Szczys (1967 national chief and Class of 1969).

DUKEMAN, continued from page 1

the fall of 2004 starting in Portland, Oregon, as district executive. Matt was promoted to development director in Spokane, Washington. He then moved to the national office as a development specialist helping to raise funds for Project Arrow at the new Summit Bechtel Reserve. In his new assignment, Matt is staff adviser to the Region and Section Operations, Development, Outdoor Adventures, and Recognition, Awards, History and Preservation national sub-committees.

Recently retired

OA Specialist Carey Miller started to work for our Order in 1998, retiring this past spring. A native of Eastover, South Carolina, he earned a degree in business administration from Benedict College and a master's degree in human services and leadership from Murray State University. He served professional Scouting for 36 years including assignments in Roanoke, Virginia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Columbia, South Carolina, and in St. Louis, Missouri. Carey received the DSA in 2002.

Arrowmen serving Scouting and their community

Don Cunningham recently joined the Greater New York Council Executive Board. An Eagle Scout, Don served as the 2001 National Chief and received the DSA in 2002. He works for Phoenix Capital Resources.

Brad Haddock has been named to the National Executive Board of the BSA, serving as chairman of the Outdoor Adventures Committee. The committee supports the OA high adventure programs, Philmont, Sea Base, and Northern Tier. Brad served as the 1974-75 National Chief, National OA Committee Chairman from 2000-09 and received the DSA in 1977.



Brad Haddock

Ed Pease has been appointed to chair the BSA Alumni Outreach program.

Carl Kramer, PhD is co-recipient of the Indiana Historical Society's 2012 Dorothy Riker Hoosier Historian Award for "distinguished contributions to the world of historical scholarship." Kramer retired earlier this year as director of the Institute for Local and Oral History and adjunct assistant professor of history at Indiana University Southeast in New Albany, where he taught for 34 years. He also developed and directed the Lewis and Clark Summer Institute. He is the author

of 10 books and scores of other publications. He currently is working on two new books. Dr. Kramer continues as vice president of Kramer Associates Inc., a historical consulting firm that he founded and co-owns with his wife, Mary Kagin Kramer. In August 2012, Governor Mitch Daniels honored Dr. Kramer as a "Distinguished Hoosier." He received the DSA in 1973.

Jeff Jonasen has been appointed to the National Florida Sea Base Committee. Jeff recently served as the Southern Region OA Chairman, and continues to serve on the national OA committee. He received the DSA in 2006.

Andy Chapman has been appointed as lodge adviser for Colonneh Lodge in Houston, Texas. An Eagle Scout originally from Sulphur, Louisiana, he served as a two-term lodge chief, section chief, 2002 conference vice chief for special events, and received the DSA in 2004. After graduation from Louisiana State University, he works as a tax consultant with Alvarez & Marshal.

Jim B. Borsig, PhD will be formally installed as the fourteenth president of Mississippi University for Women



Dr. Carl Kramer

on February 15, 2013. He began serving as president on January 1, 2012. Dr. Borsig's experiences have afforded him the opportunity to build and maintain good working relationships with a wide variety of constituencies on the local, state and federal level, as well as those within the business community. His legislative experience includes both policy and budget issues, allowing him to become familiar with the appropriations process and the capital improvement bond bill process. He holds a bachelor's degree in political science and American studies and a master's degree in political science with a concentration in public administration, both from the University of Southern Mississippi. He earned his doctorate in public policy and administration from Mississippi State University. An Eagle Scout, Dr. Borsig received the DSA in 1977. He serves on the Pushmataha Council Executive Board and chaired the Eagle Scout Centennial event.



Dr. Jim B. Borsig

DSA recipients are encouraged to send an update to be included in future editions of The Silver Arrowhead to stephanie.jordan@scouting.org.

From the Chairman, Ray Capp

My Brothers,

What a great national conference at Michigan State - the second largest attendance ever! Congratulations to our 69 new Distinguished Service Award recipients and to our brother, Ed Pease, who received the Lifetime Achievement Award. To cap it off, the BSA Key-3, National President Wayne Perry, National Commissioner Tico Perez, and Chief Scout Executive Wayne Brock attended.

We held a successful "Meet the Man" session and introduced new tools for units, chapters, and lodges to ease their program delivery. We introduced new opportunities for Arrowmen and Scout alumni to support the OA endowment with special trading post items, the Legacy Fellowship, and the Goodman Society. If you were unable to attend the national conference, please take a look at our new initiatives:

- Unit, Chapter, and Lodge Support Resources:

www.oa-bsa.org/resources/ucl.htm

- National OA Endowment: www.endowment.oa-bsa.org

We hosted the National Eagle Scout

Association for a joint celebration of 100 years of the Eagle Scout Award. A grand banquet culminated this fabulous collaboration, which I hope will continue over the years.

The OA Center for History and Preservation was a pilgrimage site for many. We unveiled the latest Csatari painting to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of our Order in 2015. The online history timeline is now active at <http://history.oa-bsa.org>.

As we approach our 100th Anniversary, you will receive more information about our efforts reaching out to OA alumni across the country. I continue to seek new ideas to help us reunite with former members. Please send me your suggestions at ray.capp@oa-bsa.org.

Until we meet again down the old Scouting trail, I remain devotedly yours,

Ray Capp
National Chairman



OA Archives in action: the power of public history

By **MARTY TSCHETTER**
Class of 1996

Over the summer we reconnected with Jim Kolka, the 1958 National Conference Chief. After a few email exchanges, followed by a lengthy phone conversation recollecting about his Scouting experience as a youth, a box arrived in the mail. Jim graciously donated a treasure trove of personal files including four three-ring binders that detail planning the 1958 NOAC. The papers include letters between Kolka and his deputy chiefs, correspondence with Carl Marchetti and Don Thom, speeches, planning meeting minutes, handwritten notes, and a few photographs that included meeting Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt.

Jim Kolka grew up in Eau Claire, Wisconsin, worked on staff at Camp Phillips from 1953-1959, earned Eagle Scout in 1953, attended the 1954 NOAC in Laramie, Wyoming, elected Area 7B Chief in 1955, and received the Vigil Honor in 1956. Unique to the era, Jim served three terms as area chief, and on the planning committee for the 1956 NOAC. Therefore, by the next planning meeting in December 1957 he knew what to expect and his peers subsequently elected him national conference chief.

He briefly attended the 1961 National Conference to install Ron Temple as chief, then got in his car and returned to school. Followed by several years of rigorous academic studies, busy starting a professional career and family, he just moved on in life until we reached out to him. Thrilled with the reconnection, Ray Capp mailed *The Brotherhood of Cheerful Service: A History of the Order of the Arrow* by Ken Davis.

Jim earned a BS political science degree (economics and chemistry minors) in 1960 from the University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire, then a JD from the University of Wisconsin-Madison Law School in 1963. He was admitted to the Wisconsin State Bar, followed by a PhD in political science and international affairs from the University of Kansas in 1969. Presently he works as an international legal consultant based in Atlanta, Georgia.

Interestingly, while Tim Brown researched the article about Don Thom, he located a beautiful scrapbook of 1950's photographs taken by a Scouter from Louisville. One photograph happened to be Jim Kolka's Wisconsin lodge performing the opening ceremony at the 1956 NOAC. Without meeting Jim, quite easily the identification of the ceremony team might remain



Jim Kolka and Eleanor Roosevelt

a mystery. Our passion as an organization to engage the past by tracking down photographs, documents, and people illustrates a powerful application of public history.

Youth recipients, not just the national officers

By **MAC MCLEAN**
Class of 1988
Section S-5 Adviser

At each national conference, a number of youthful Arrowmen receive our award. The question to answer: Are youthful recipients primarily the national chief, vice chief, and region chiefs? As mentioned in previous articles for purposes of this analysis, recipients under age 30 are defined as "youthful." Typically, recognition is acknowledged at the conference following completion of one's youth leadership role. The first region chief elections occurred in December of 1974, and those elected served a two-year term. Therefore, this analysis starts with the 1977 national conference - the first slate with the modern scheme.

The youthful selections from 1977 to 2012 resulted in 388 recipients. Out of this number, how many were presented to national officers? Former national officers accounted for 197 youthful recipients. A bit surprising, the remaining 191 youthful recipients made their mark on the Order through different opportunities for service. In this 37-year period, youthful recipients not national

officers, equate to a little more than 10 per biennial national conference.

Because nearly half of the youthful recipients did not hold a national office, how many served as a conference vice chief (or a vice chief position at a national event)? Even more surprising, only 85 recipients served in this position out of the 191 non-national officers.

Wondering how this group of young men warranted recognition, the research revealed a variety of reasons: OA high adventure leaders, *National Bulletin* youth editors, key OA shows staff, multi-year section chiefs, regional OA trainers, and other roles. One more interesting statistic surfaced: between 1977 and 2012, 388 awards went to youthful recipients out of 695 total presentations, or 56 percent.

In short, it is apparent that the Distinguished Service Award exists for youth who demonstrate the traits of servant leadership, without requiring a youth to have served as a national officer.



DSA RECIPIENTS WHO HAVE GONE TO MEET THEIR MAKER

CHARLES WILLIAM BEARD
Beaumont, Texas
Class of 1992
June 7, 2012

RICHARD HENRY "DICK" AUSTIN
Denton, Texas
Eagle Scout, Silver Beaver
Former professional Scouter
Class of 2000
October 21, 2012

ROBERT C. GILMAN, DDS
Owatonna, Minnesota
Class of 1965
April 4, 2012



1979 National OA Conference held at Fort Collins, Colorado; Courtesy of Brad Haddock. Front row, left to right: Larry Brown, Carroll Edson, E. Uner Goodman, Jeff Herrmann. Second row: George Feil, Jim Barbieri, unknown, Skip Montgomery, Bob Matthews, Tom McBride, John Dozier. Third row: Brad Haddock, unknown, unknown, Bob Bradshaw, Chris Boswell, Rick Burton, unknown.

Also a steward to American Indian youth

THOM, continued from page 1

the adviser, the team competed and won a couple national champion dance team competitions. *Boys' Life Magazine* featured the team several times and the 1955 edition of the Indian Lore Merit Badge booklet featured Don wearing his dance regalia. The pursuit of cultural authenticity led him to acknowledge the need to study and respect American Indian culture.

Starting at the 1950 NOAC, Don became involved with Indian events. At the following NOAC, he observed that only the shows staff retained continuity from conference to conference. The other program areas randomly assigned staff for support. Therefore, he decided to build a group of knowledgeable Arrowmen for Indian events. This core group stayed together for subsequent national events, contributing greatly to the success of the Indian events program.

Extremely active as a young adult throughout the NOACs of the 1950s, Don embodied servant leadership. OA committeemen noticed his commitment and tapped him to serve as an assistant Scoutmaster for the 1960 National Jamboree OA Service Corps. The following year Don and Charles Weber became the first recipients from Kentucky to receive the Distinguished Service Award. He continued to serve in leadership positions with the service corps over the next 30 years, and directed the OA Indian Village at the 1993 National Jamboree.

Though closely engaged with Indian events, Brother Thom occasionally observed OA members misrepresenting American Indian mannerisms and dress. Over the years this portrayal increasingly became offensive and he worried that if members did not learn to develop respect for American Indian culture, in the near future it could be discontinued. Therefore, the Order's quest for better understanding and awareness of the American Indian culture developed into the National Indian Seminar, first hosted in 1974 at Philmont. National OA Committeeman Maury Clancy (Class of 1971) served as the adviser and initial driving force, but he passed away in the middle of December. Although Don missed the inaugural event, the national OA committee selected Don to replace Clancy, who represented American Indian Affairs. Almost immediately, Don changed the subcommittee's name to American Indian Events (AIE). When asked why he adjusted the name, he responded, "Scouts don't have affairs, they have events." From that time forward he took ownership of the AIE program including all the national conferences from 1975 through 1996, and the 1978, 1980, 1982, and 1984 National Indian Seminars, the 1987 National OA Pow Wow, and the 1995 Philmont Retreat. Don remained on the national OA committee for 25 consecutive years.

In early 1975, Don and the OA National Executive Secretary Bill Downs learned that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (F&W) planned to show up unannounced at the upcoming NOAC to confiscate feathers and animal parts that dance team members illegally possessed. To avoid a huge embarrassment, Don and Bill conducted a preemptive meeting with the F&W to find a better solution. As a result, Fish and Wildlife agents came to the conference to provide educational programs for the dancers and advisers, rather than for law enforcement purposes. In return,



Left to right: Bill Strode (1956 Area 4B Chief sitting), Don Thom (Area 4B Adviser standing), and Bill Schreiber (Director, Camp Covered Bridge) and Marion Disborough (Scout Executive, Old Kentucky Home Council). From the Art Hoerter collection.

the OA agreed to establish a policy prohibiting the use of illegal feathers and animal parts in regalia. Subsequently in 1976, the OA developed its "Protected Feathers Clarification Policy." Don played an integral role drafting the policy, which restricted the use of feathers and animal parts to only domestic and game birds. This policy kept the BSA and the OA in good standing with the federal agency ever since.

As AIE lead adviser, Brother Thom took the lead role in developing a strong relationship with the American Indian Scouting Association (AISA). A national organization within the American Indian community and formed by tribal elders with Scouting experience, the AISA supports American Indian youth in the program. Don personally dedicated himself to this group, and in so doing brought that commitment to the Order.

In 1985 again he became aware that the American Indian community had concerns with the OA's representation of dancing and culture. At a national AISA meeting held in Philadelphia, Mississippi, Don listened to their concerns. He explained the Order's goal to teach members respect for American Indian culture. He emphasized the program did not include religious connotations and focused on social fellowship. In addition, he announced the OA's intention to end the use of face and body paint, a long-term contentious point with American Indians. Strengthening the growing rapport and aiding open communication, AISA members started staffing Indian seminars and national conferences. Brother Thom served on the group's board of directors for many years and in 1993,

received the AISA's Grey Wolf Award acknowledging his stewardship and service to American Indian youth. His relationship with the organization healed old wounds of misunderstanding and significantly formed a permanent bond between the Order of the Arrow and the American Indian community.

Don's wife, Carolyn, also a longtime affiliate supporting the Order's mission, received the Red Arrow Award in 1992. An Arrowman since 1946, Don has provided exemplary servant leadership in our Order. His lifetime of service forever linked the OA's mission with American Indian heritage, on which it was founded.



Don Thom, Circa early 1970's.



The Zit-Kala-Sha Lodge Wawoyaka Dancers. Budd Allison, Charles Wetherell, Art Hoerter, J. R. Routt, and Don Thom. Circa mid 1950s. From the Art Hoerter collection.

National OA Endowment supports annual program

Since its modest launch more than 30 years ago, the endowment provides financial support for all OA high adventure programs, Josh R. Sain Memorial Scholarships, national Scout jamboree programs like the *Mysterium Compass*, and lodge service grants supporting lodges to serve their local councils.

Along with 26 councils, the BSA Asset Management monitors the fund allowing for significant savings in management and trust fees, while providing professional oversight. Since 2009 the national OA endowment value increased by \$1,318,478 through positive change in market value. At the end of 2011 endowment assets totaled \$4,143,551, excluding gifts designated in the estate planning of Goodman Society members.

Goodman Society

Members who wish to make a significant contribution

of at least \$10,000 to the national OA endowment may become members of the Goodman Society. This gift may be a onetime cash gift, or the national OA endowment may be included as part of the members estate planning.

Order of the Arrow Discover Card®

Just introduced this past summer, the Order of the Arrow Discover credit card is available, along with a debit card with parental controls for youth. A portion of each transaction will benefit your local council, the national council, and the national OA endowment.

For more information about the Goodman Society or the Order of the Arrow Discover credit card, visit www.endowment.oa-bsa.org or email Tony Steinhardt at tony.steinhardt@gmail.com.



The Order of the Arrow Discover Card. Learn more about the Order's endowment at www.endowment.oa-bsa.org.

Outreach to Vigil Honor and Founder's Award recipients

By JASON HOOD

Class of 1986

We need your help with an important project to reach out and re-engage Arrowmen who received recognition for their dedication to the highest ideals of the Order of the Arrow and the Boy Scouts of America, but who may no longer be active in Scouting or with whom we may have lost contact. Arrowmen recognized with the Vigil Honor or with the Founder's Award represent a great potential resource to lodges and councils in a variety of roles. At the very least, we want the opportunity to

keep them informed about Scouting activities.

The national office maintains a list of Vigil Honor and Founder's Award recipients. However, our records do not include individual contact information such as addresses and email information. You can help us "round up" this information by sending the contact information of Vigil Honor members to vigil@oa-bsa.org and Founder's Award recipients to founders@oa-bsa.org. To update contact information for recipients of the Distinguished Service Award, please send a message to DSA@oa-bsa.org.

We have provided each lodge with a list of Vigil Honor members and Founder's Award recipients asking for

their help too, so we can maintain communication with our brothers. Your assistance with this project would be most appreciated. Wouldn't it be nice if these brothers could receive information similar to what you receive in *The Silver Arrowhead*?

If for some reason you would prefer not to receive information from us about the Order of the Arrow and Boy Scouts of America and request removal from our lists, please let us know by sending a message to alumni@oa-bsa.org and DSA@oa-bsa.org. Otherwise, we will continue our efforts to keep you informed and share additional information about our programs.

ORDER OF THE ARROW, W. W. W.
Meeting September 3, 4, 5, 1938
IRONDALE RESERVATION
"OAG"
Benjamin Brittain
Philadelphia, Pa.

HOME TIMELINE PROFILES BACKGROUND ABOUT CONTACT

Visit the new timeline at www.history.oa-bsa.org



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