

ORDER OF THE ARROW HIGH ADVENTURE

# YEARBOOK

ISSUE 1

DEC. 2018



OA HIGH ADVENTURE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



Foreman Alumni and Other Arrowman,

In the summer of 1992 three young Arrowmen had an idea that would soon change the Order of the Arrow as a whole. That summer, Seth Brown, Michael Edwards, and Marty Tschetter envisioned a service program at Philmont for OA members; that program came to life in 1995 and is now known as Order of the Arrow Trail Crew at Philmont Scout Ranch. At its inception, the program was intended to be run for only one summer, on one project. Many youth wrote letters to Ed Pease, the National OA Committee Chairman at the time, about how impactful and how important this program was. A few years later in 1999, Northern Tier started their own program: OA Wilderness Voyage. In 2009 they created a second program, Canadian Odyssey, expanding the scope of their projects to include the Quetico Provincial Park in Ontario, Canada. In 2005, Florida Sea Base started OA Ocean Adventure. Most recently, the Summit Bechtel Reserve introduced the OA Summit Experience in 2014. What started as a single summer of service has evolved into one of the Order of the Arrow's most meaningful experiences, in the form of these five programs at all four national high adventure bases.

Now, in 2018, a group of past OA High Adventure (OAHA) foremen have embarked on a new adventure. They came together and decided to build upon the bonds of brotherhood that are born among OAHA alumni and foremen with this magazine; in this inaugural edition, and the many editions to come, we will highlight the five program's accomplishments each year. As you read on, allow yourself to be overcome with memories from your time spent as a foreman. Life as a foreman does not end with your last crew and your last season. Your dedication to the high adventure program, your continued encouragement of others to go out on trail, and your continued service in Scouting is still your life, and duty, as a foreman. From one foreman to another, thank you.

Yours in Adventure,



**Talon Parker**  
 OAHA Alumni Team Lead  
 OAOA Foreman '16  
 OATC Foreman '18



**Chuck Coutteau**  
 OAHA Alumni Team Adviser  
 OAOA Foreman '13

"WIDERNESS  
IS NOT A  
LUXURY BUT A  
NECESSITY  
OF THE  
HUMAN SPIRIT."

- EDWARD ABBEY



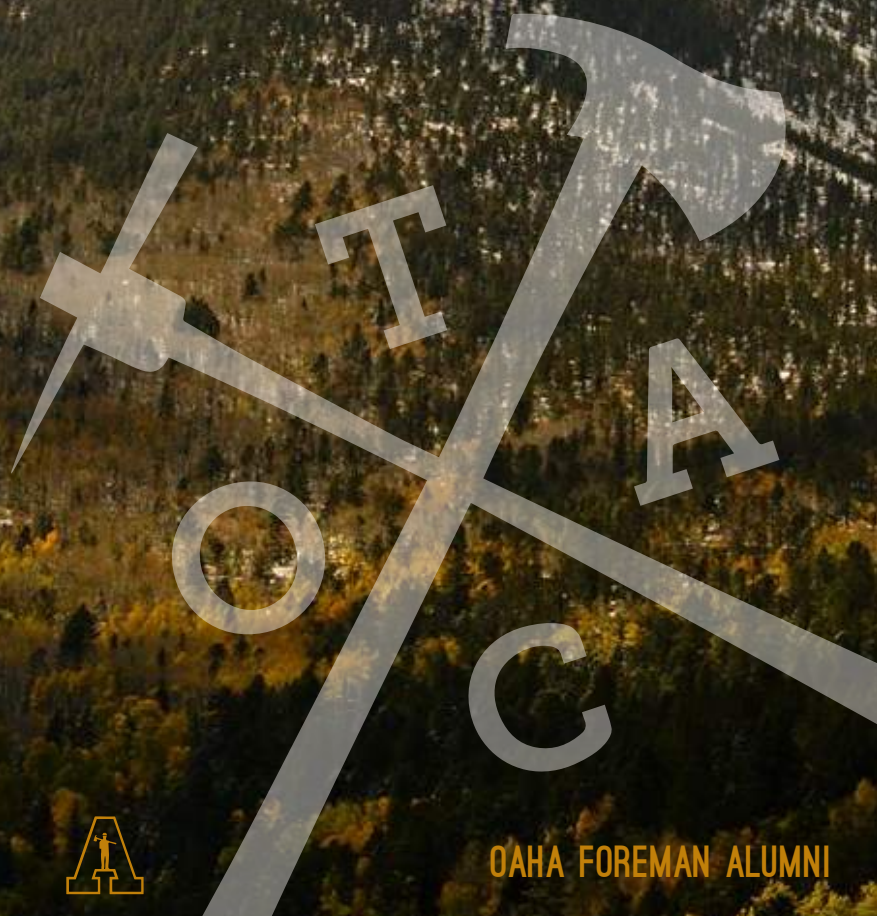


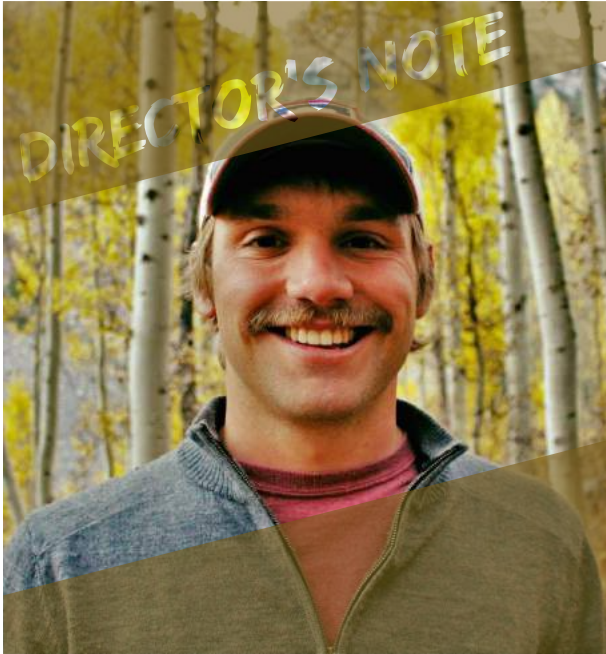
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OATC





Dear Brothers,

The summer of 2018 promised to be an excellent season under the leadership of eighteen foremen, but that all suddenly changed as the Ute Park Fire forced Philmont to close. With no crews to lead out on trail, foremen joined the conservation department's widespread timber stand improvement projects, aiming to improve fire resistance in the remaining forest. In a typical summer, foremen teach others Leave No Trace principles. This summer's principle was drastically different: Leave No Trees. This was a key facet

of ranch operations throughout the summer. As an added bonus, the chainsaw-certified OATC staff contributed in Philmont's rise to the largest firewood producer in the state of New Mexico.

While it was exciting to meet and work with staff members of other departments, and cut down big trees with chainsaws, the season was very unstable. The turmoil of changing job descriptions and growing wildfires presented a challenge. At the end of the season, the foremen made the trip to NOAC for a refreshing change of scenery. During the conference, they interacted with participants, built trail as part of the conservation project, and promoted the program they had been trained to lead. As we look forward to the summer of 2019, the OATC program should remain stable due to the promotional efforts made at NOAC and the dedication of the OATC staff.

Adventure Awaits,

Kyle Anderson  
2018 OATC Director



ORDER OF THE ARROW

**TRAIL CREW**

# 2018 OATC FOREMEN

- |                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| KYLE ANDERSON (C)   | JUSTIN ROZENDAAL |
| AUGUSTUS BALLENTINE | COLLIN SINDT     |
| DONALD BODE         | ADAM SOMMERS     |
| CHRIS CLARK         | SCOTT TOOMER     |
| AUBREY COVER (S)    | AYLE WEZMAN      |
| JOEY DIERDORF       | JOHN WIER        |
| JACOB FAGER         | ANDREW LARKIN*   |
| OMAR GONZALEZ-ROMAN |                  |
| DANIEL HARPER       |                  |
| TALON PARKER        |                  |
| KACEY PAYSON        |                  |
| DYLAN PILGER        |                  |
- \*LEFT FOR OAOA  
(C) COORDINATOR  
(S) SPECIALIST



96 CHAINSAWS PURCHASED\*



THREE WILDFIRE EVACUATIONS\*



1,476 TREES FELLED\*



832 FEET OF TRAIL BUILT

## OATC SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS



151 SLASH PILES CREATED\*

\* FIRST IN OATC HISTORY





## PARTICIPANT REFLECTION



A participant in 2017, Josh Squirrel said that the program helped him to learn a lot about himself and form lasting bonds with others. Josh found out about OATC at NOAC in 2015, and decided to sign up because he wanted to do high adventure and had never been to Philmont. When Josh signed up, he said that the only thing he really knew about the program was that it was going to be difficult, but fun. One thing that Josh did not expect was how well he got to know the other participants in their two weeks together. "I learned more about some of the other participants than I thought was possible in only two weeks" said Josh, "It was a difficult experience, but we were able to push through as brothers". Personally, Josh said that his greatest challenge during the trek was climbing up Black Mountain on a trail that ascends approximately 2000 vertical feet in less than a mile and a half. Josh now looks back at this event as motivation when he is struggling, saying that "if I could get through that then I can get through anything."

**"THE ORDER OF THE ARROW IS A THING OF THE OUTDOORS RATHER THAN THE INDOORS. IT WAS BORN IN AN ISLAND WILDERNESS. IT NEEDS THE SUN AND THE RAIN, THE WOODS AND THE PLAINS, THE WATERS AND THE STARLIT SKY."**  
**- E. URNER GOODMAN**

Not all of OATC is about pushing your limits though, as Josh also has many fond memories of less strenuous experiences. During the work week, Josh's crew was able to help build a rock wall to hold in the platform of a switchback, which Josh recalled fondly. From the trek week, Josh specifically remembers a moment of tranquility one morning when his crew stopped for breakfast. "There was this one day when we had breakfast on top of these rocks on the side of the trail," he said. "Just across the trail from us was this steep drop off, so we had this amazing view while we sat and had breakfast." Moments like these are surprisingly common during the trek week, as there is no real objective other than (eventually) making it to your next destination.

Along with the personal lessons he brought back, Josh also brought back new ideas for his home lodge and troop. Not only did Josh convince several others to sign up for OATC by sharing his experiences, but he is also in the process of starting a trail crew within his own lodge. Lastly, Josh's advice to anyone on the fence about signing up for OATC is just to go for it. "My trek had people from various places in various conditions, and they were able to do it," says Josh. "You can push through the hardships as brothers, and it's an amazing experience that you can't get anywhere else."





# 2018 UTE PARK FIRE



WRITTEN BY: 2018 OATC FOREMAN DAN HARPER

This summer was a very unusual summer for Philmont Scout Ranch. The Ute Park fire burned 36,740 acres and caused Philmont to shut down all backcountry treks for the summer, the first time in Philmont's 80 year history that this has happened. In the American Southwest, regular fires are an important part of forest ecology as they help to remove densely-packed underbrush and dead trees to free up scarce resources for the rest of the forest. If fires are suppressed for too long, there is too much competition for resources and the health of the forest becomes endangered. Any fire that starts in an overgrown forest has the chance to travel into the crowns of the trees, burning much hotter than a healthy fire and completely decimating the area it travels through.



OATC FOREMEN KEEPING MORAL HIGH  
AT THE SPRINGER, NM CAMPGROUNDS

When the fire initially began, there was a great deal of uncertainty among staff regarding what was going to happen in the near future of the ranch. Some left right away, while many (including all OATC staff) stayed and remained optimistic about the situation. Many foremen were eager to help with the fire, including Justin Rozendal, a second-year OATC foreman. "We knew we could still be helpful, and we knew we could succeed as a team," Justin said. Cheerful service was not limited to the OA this summer, as many who stayed were reassigned to the Philmont Recovery Corps, a program created to do conservation work and help rehabilitate the land. Most people did not sign up to come to Philmont and do this kind of work, but "most that stayed had a passion for Philmont and did what they could to help."





# PHILMONT SCOUT RANCH

PICTURED ABOVE: THE ROCKS AT CIMARRONCITO

According to Justin, the biggest difference between this year and every other year for OATC wasn't necessarily the work or lack of participants, but in the interactions with other staff members. Normally, OATC is isolated to a worksite that gets very few visitors and spends the trek week hiking, leading to few interactions with other staff members. This year, Justin said he made a lot of friends outside of the department, and interacted with many people I did not expect to. In summary, Justin said, "Not what we expected, but I wouldn't change a single thing about it."

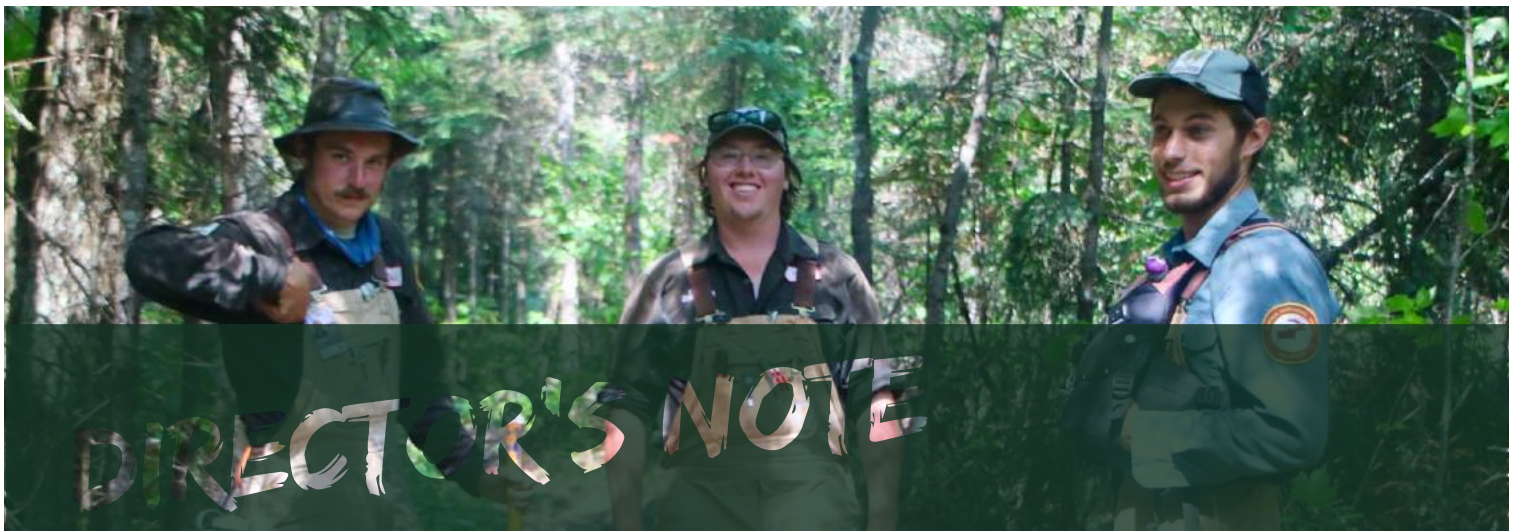
The Philmont Recovery Corps mostly focused on timber stand improvement along one major road into the backcountry. The goal of this was to create a strip of healthy forest on each side of the road by removing all trees under a certain size, simulating the effects that a healthy fire would have. By creating this section of healthy forest, a defensible space is created that provides a potential holding line in the event that a fire sweeps through Philmont's south country. After the fire was fully put out, the PRC also had several groups working in the recently burned areas to stabilize the soil and protect the town of Cimarron's water source. After a fire such as this, lack of vegetation destabilizes the soil and creates a major risk for mudslides or flooding. The PRC worked to mitigate this risk by laying down trees and armoring them with rocks or branches to catch sediment that would wash down the hill when it rained, creating an artificial terrace. This terracing was mostly done on hillsides around Cimarroncito (one of Philmont's backcountry camps), and the Cimarroncito reservoir, which serves as the town of Cimarron's water source. Although the fire itself was a tragic event, the projects and policies it set in motion will help to maintain the safe and proper usage of Philmont's land long into the future.



TSI CREWS CELEBRATING ONE OF THE FIRST RAINS OF THE SEASON

OAWV  
OACO





Dear Brothers,

The summer of 2018 saw the Order of the Arrow Wilderness Voyage program enter its 20th season in operation. Under the leadership of myself and Assistant Director Andrew Price, the OAWV and OACO programs experienced an outstanding summer of service and brotherhood. Since 2018 was a NOAC Year, the season was shortened. Both programs were nearly filled to 100% capacity very early in the registration process, with the exception of a few spots due to last minute withdrawals. Focusing on consistency and continuing the high standards set in recent seasons, fine-tuning the OA program's delivery of traditional Ojibwe principles and OA themes, foremen delivered a powerful and meaningful experience. The OAWV/OACO staff also continued to teach and utilize camping skills such as flint and steel fires and open fire cooking. The program continued to help form strong bonds of brotherhood and provide cheerful service to the wilderness. 67 Arrowmen came up to Northern Tier for the experience of a lifetime.

This year, the US Forest Service tasked the OAWV foremen and their crews to clear corridor and maintenance every portage in the entire Kawishiwi District of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. On the other side of the border, the OACO foremen and their crews began work on a brand new portage. After completing work on the Sunday to Meadows Lake portage last summer, the program moved to the next portage, Meadows to Agnes. Being a major entry point lake, Agnes and the surrounding areas are heavily trafficked so these trails are especially in need of attention. In total, between the OAWV and OACO crews, 3480 service hours went into the 2018 season.

Adventure Awaits,

Dan Rogan  
2018 OAWV/OACO Director

 ORDER OF THE ARROW  
**WILDERNESS VOYAGE**

 ORDER OF THE ARROW  
**CANADIAN ODYSSEY**





# 2018 OAWV & OACO FOREMEN

- JOSH REDDICK
- JOHN CALVIN BRUCE
- PHILLIP DALY
- BRIAN DVORAK
- DAVIS KELLOGG
- ANDREW PRICE\*
- JOE PROCHASKA
- OZZIE REIF
- DAN ROGAN\*
- CHANCE SLOAN
- CHARLIE TODD
- RUSS WICKLUND
- BEN WINTER
- COOPER WOLKEN

\*PROGRAM LEADERSHIP



**8,026 RODS OF PORTAGE CLEARED (25 MILES)**



**MAINTAINED 122 PORTAGE TRAILS**



**500+ 5-GALLON BUCKETS OF SLEDGED ROCK**



**3,480 HOURS OF SERVICE PROVIDED**

## NORTHERN TIER SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS





## PARTICIPANT REFLECTION

### A FATAL PORTAGE

REFLECTIONS FROM OUR NATIONAL CHIEF, ANTHONY PELUSO

Going through OA Wilderness Voyage this past summer at Northern Tier is something I will certainly never forget. Looking back, I remember the long, hot days of endless paddling, and the cold, mosquito-filled nights like it was yesterday. One of the most meaningful moments throughout my trip, however, came in a moment of complete embarrassment! While portaging a canoe, I came across a steep, slippery rock. I quickly realized there was no way around it - I would have to walk down the rock, about a 5-foot drop, in order to continue on the portage. I took one, careful step forward. Then another. . . still okay. However, when I went for a third step forward, my foot immediately slipped, I collapsed under the weight of the canoe, and I fell face first down into a small stream at the base of the rock.



Laying there, under the canoe, I recall feeling rather defeated with my head in a stream of water. Almost immediately, however, I hear someone approaching from up ahead, and it was the foreman running back to help after hearing the loud crash. He instantly dropped the gray whale and food pack he was carrying and rushed back, a good distance, to help me up and get the canoe squarely back on my shoulders. He proceeded to stay at the rock and make sure

the rest of the crew after me didn't fall like I had. Although at the moment I was only concerned with not falling again, I realized afterwards how selfless that decision was to come back and help me. My foreman could have easily kept walking, not turned back, and left the problem for the rest of my crew behind me.

This spirit of service is what I believe high adventure is all about. Losing yourself in the service of others, and having fun while doing so. I've learned some of the most valuable life lessons while on the trail, and that wouldn't have been possible without a foreman to deliver the program to me. Leadership isn't about the person giving the speech. Leadership is about setting the example, even when no one is watching.






CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Mitch Andrews  
 Joey Dierdorf  
 Brad Ellis

Taylor Giles  
 Talon Parker  
 Tim Reidl

Rob Rodriguez  
 Ted Weiland  
 James Williamson




**CONGRATS**  
 ...to alumnus  
 Scott Beckett on  
 completing his PhD  
 in Global Leadership  
 from Pepperdine  
 University.

**PEPPERDINE  
 UNIVERSITY**



**CONGRATS**  
 ...to alumnus  
 Grady Lee Gaston  
 on completing the  
 Pinnoti 100  
 Ultra Marathon.

**CONGRATS**  
 ...to 2013 OAOA  
 alumnus  
 Nate Broadhurst  
 on his marriage to  
 Peyton Magruder.  
 May their union be  
 a long and happy  
 one.



**CONGRATS**  
 ...to '16 & '18 OATC  
 alumnus  
 Joey Dierdorf on  
 being selected as  
 a Fulbright Scholar  
 placed in Germany.



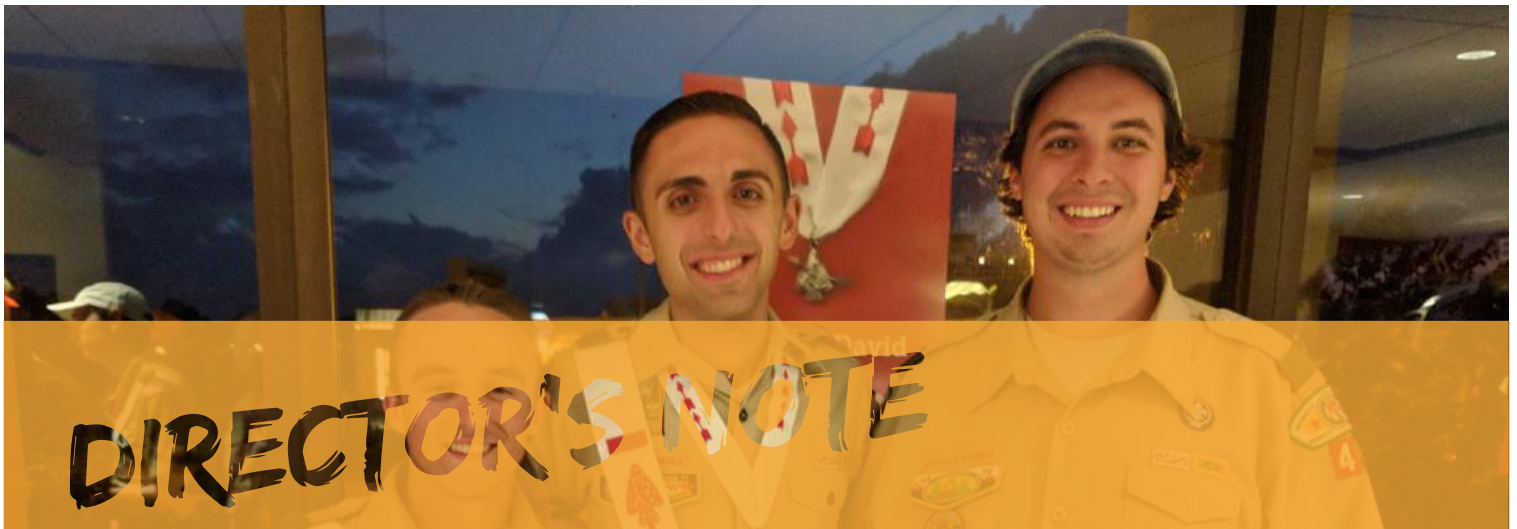







OAOA





Dear Brothers,

The Order of the Arrow Ocean Adventure program was at the Dry Tortugas National Park for the second year and was a great success. In 2018, we extended the length of the program from 7 days to 9 days to allow participants to spend more time at the National Park as well as spend some time in Key West. After Hurricane Irma hit the Florida Keys in September of 2017 there was a lot of work to do in all over the Florida Keys. At the Dry Tortugas National Park, we spent a lot of time working to help the park staff make the park safer for visitors. Participants worked to clear fallen tree branches and bricks that had been moved as a result of Hurricane Irma. During the summer, we installed many signs including, "No Swimming" signs in boating areas and in the moat, as well as "No Step" signs that covered open vents on the path that goes around the top of Fort Jefferson. One of the major projects completed this summer was the instillation of new composting toilet systems that visitors camping at the park use. Participants also helped the National Park record the location of turtle nests and tagged turtles to help conduct research.

Since the program was longer this summer, participants had the opportunity to spend time doing community service helping Camp Weesumkee that had been destroyed during the Hurricane. Participants also had the opportunity to visit Key West, seeking Historic Key West and the Sunset Festival. During the 2018 NOAC, the Ocean Adventure Staff was able to spread the word about the new changes to the program and help promote OA High adventure programs to arrowmen from around the United States. 2018 was a successful year for the Ocean Adventure program and will only get better.

Adventure Awaits,

Ted Apostle  
2018 OAOA Director



ORDER OF THE ARROW

**OCEAN ADVENTURE**





# 2018 OAOA FOREMEN

- TED APOSTLE
- KOLTON BREEDING
- MIKE BRIGNOLA\*
- MATTIAS LEIER\*
- GREGORY YENTZ
- ANDREW LARKIN\*

\*DID NOT COMPLETE THE SUMMER



144 KEY LIME  
PIES EATEN

610 NIGHTS  
SPENT AT



DRY TORTUGAS  
NATIONAL PARK



8.8 AVERAGE  
RATING



4 COMPOSITE  
TOILETS BUILT



31 TRIPS TO  
KEY WEST



# SEA BASE SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS





## FOREMAN REFLECTION

### SEA TURTLE SCRAMBLE - AN ACCOUNT BY 2018 OAOA FOREMAN, GREG YENTZ

This past summer I had the opportunity to serve as an OA Ocean Adventure foreman. Throughout the season, I befriended some of the finest Arrowmen and most interesting National Park Service (NPS) staff. Looking back, one of my favorite memories happened about half way through the summer when the crew I was leading had the special opportunity to work directly with a US Geological Survey team tracking a sea turtle. The opportunity came out of the blue when the NPS staff offered our assistance to a USGS team. That night, the crew set off in a little motorboat to an island of the Dry Tortugas that not many people get to visit. Completely made of sand, devoid of any vegetation, and no more than a five minute circumference (island time), this was our home for the night. It was made clear from the very beginning that lights and sounds were to be minimal as to not disturb the turtles. The objective of the night was to capture a mother turtle as she returned to the sea after laying her eggs. After capture, we would remove her old gps tag and put on a fresh one.



The night dragged on and we took rotations sleeping and walking the perimeter in search for turtle tracks. As I was woken up for my turn to walk the sand and halfway around the island, the mother turtle was slowly walking up the beach to lay her eggs. Thinking that this was the beginning of the end to the night (we were all really tired as we had had a full day of service and program already), I radioed in my location and the whole group of five ran over with the barricades and supplies. This was actually the beginning of a several hour ordeal where we waited for the nest to be covered, corralling and barricading a several hundred pound mother turtle, removing the old GPS tag from the epoxy, removing the epoxy, removing barnacles from the shell, cleaning the shell of skin oils, prepping the new epoxy, applying the new epoxy, setting the new GPS tag in place, and waiting for the epoxy to set - all while holding a giant turtle and trying to prevent any sand from getting on her shell.

Throughout the rest of the summer, we had the opportunity to send more participants on these similar trips to different islands, looking for different turtles. Each morning after, those who had gone out would be exhausted, hungry, and ready for a full day of service and program for the upcoming day. Exhaustion aside, it is one of the coolest things I've ever done, and our participants agreed.



"NOW I SEE  
THE SECRET OF  
MAKING THE BEST  
PERSONS,  
IT IS TO GROW  
IN THE OPEN AIR  
AND EAT  
& SLEEP  
WITH THE EARTH."

- WALT WHITMAN



# DAN SMITH

DAN SMITH SERVED AS A FOREMAN AT NORTHERN TIER, AND CONTINUES TO BE ACTIVE WITH TROOP 5 IN HIS HOMETOWN OF JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA. HE CURRENTLY WORKS IN YOUTH MINISTRY PROGRAMS FOR THE DIOCESE OF CHARLESTON-WHEELING AND AT PHILMONT IN THE SUMMERS.

**Q:** What is your fondest memory from your time as a foreman or participant?

**Dan:** The second to last day of one of my voyages, we had our longest day and it started raining really hard. The weather devolved into gale-force conditions throughout the day. My boys kept pushing onwards though, past crews that had pulled over due to the conditions. It really brought the crew together; it gave them a feeling of brotherhood and a great sense of confidence about their abilities that is hard to come by.



**Q:** How have those experiences affected your professional life?

**Dan:** My time in the Northwoods as a foreman gave me the insight that most tasks are not impossible or impractical, given proper planning, teamwork, devotion, and a belief in yourself.

**Q:** Do you have any advice for participants going to OA High Adventure this summer?

**Dan:** Every member of our brotherhood should participate in OAHA. If for no other reason, we are a camping honor society. But beyond that, the bonds of fellowship and the tangible accomplishments will stay with you for a lifetime. I might not remember every merit badge I earned, but I remember every detail of the turnpikes we laid down during my time as a foreman. Accept the privilege of your time on trail, and strive to soak up every last moment of it, most of you will not pass that way again. Be joyful, drink coffee, sing loudly, hone your dad jokes, and value the friendships you'll make on trail, they're a rare thing.

**Q:** Do you have any advice for the foreman going out on trail this summer?

**Dan:** Coffee. Coffee is the glue that holds together the entire program. But seriously: to the soon to be foreman: recognize that while planning can mitigate a multitude of evils, it's not a cure all for the trials and joys of the trail. Accept that and be open to spontaneous moments of teaching and learning.

# JAKE WELLMAN

JAKE WELLMAN WAS A FOREMAN AT NORTHERN TIER IN 2010 AND SERVED AS THE DIRECTOR OF THE RE-VITALIZED OADA PROGRAM AT SEA BASE IN 2011. WE SAT DOWN WITH JAKE TO DISCUSS HOW OAHA CONTINUES TO IMPACT HIS LIFE.

**Q:** Reflect back to your first year at Northern Tier - what made you decide to become a foreman?

**Jake:** I was national chief in 2008 and got to spend the entire summer in national forests during ArrowCorps5. The summer after, I interned in DC and realized how much I missed the outdoors. It seemed natural to return to Northern Tier and help others develop the fond memories I had of (re)building portage trails in the boundary waters.

**Q:** What is your fondest memory of OA High Adventure, as a foreman, director, or participant?

**Jake:** I'm lucky to have many, from climbing Mt. Baldy on July 4th to see the Eagle's Nest fireworks from above, to taking my crew on one last night paddle on Moose Lake. I listened to that crew discuss servant leadership unprompted, and I realized that everything we tried to teach them over the past two weeks was heard, understood and internalized. Tub cheese, however, ranks amongst less than fond memories.

**Q:** What are you doing now, besides avoiding cheese sold in tubs?

**Jake:** I'm working as an economist in London for a firm called Vivid Economics. We work on challenging economic problems around the world, like how to quantify the benefits of a forest, how to promote environmentally-sensitive industries in Africa, and the future economic impact of renewable energy in 2050. It's cool and exciting and keeps me focused on interesting problems that (I hope) are good for the world.

**Q:** How did being a foreman affect your decision to work in economics?

**Jake:** I studied environmental economics in graduate school and now work on global environmental issues, which seems related to OAHA. But there's a risk of selection bias.



**Q:** How do you use what you learned as a foreman in your life today?

**Jake:** I spend a lot of time in offices and busy cities, but still turn to the outdoors to relax, challenge myself, and clear my mind. I think my time as a foreman taught me that the outdoors were for more than enjoying; they have much to teach me and making time for being outdoors is an important part of being a balanced person. I don't use my sailing lessons from OAOA nearly as much as I'd like.

**Q:** Do you have any advice for participants going to OA High Adventure this summer?

**Jake:** I think now more than ever, I look back on my OAHA experiences and appreciate the opportunities to reflect on life in silence. There's no headphones or traffic to distract your mind and you're in some of the most special places on earth; use them to think about what's important and who you want to be. But also appreciate that these places, places that teach you so much, are special and worth protecting.



# SCOTT SCHMIDT



THE OAHA TEAM SAT DOWN WITH ANOTHER DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI, SCOTT SCHMIDT. SCOTT, ALSO KNOWN TO SOME AS "COACH," SERVED AS A FOREMAN FOR TRAIL CREW IN 2001 AND 2002.

My research examines the effect of design on innovation in evidence-based policy-making and collaborative governance. I worked on capitol hill after I graduated for about ten years before that. I worked in the House of Representatives and for the George Bush administration. I served as a special assistant at Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Bush Administration as a speechwriter during the financial crisis in 2008.

**Q:** So, back in 2001, why did you decide to go to Philmont and become a foreman?

**Scott:** There's a number of reasons but the most important one is that my foreman had a lasting impact on me when I was a participant. It felt like they knew something that I didn't and I wanted that same knowledge and to be able to be like them. If it wasn't for the foremen that I had as a participant I never would have become a foreman.

**Q:** What is your fondest memory of OA High Adventure, as a foreman or participant?

**Scott:** In 2000 I was a participant at OA Wilderness Voyage, we went to Lake Superior. It was the most physically taxing but also the most rewarding. Every day we were paddling sun up to sun down, and on the last day, we had a portage that was between 9 and 10 miles. It was definitely one of the most mentally taxing things to do.

**Q:** What are you doing now?

**Scott:** Currently, I do research at the University of Maryland Human-Computer Interaction Lab and serve as an Adjunct Professor in at both Georgetown University and at Clemson University.

**Q:** How did serving as a foreman affect your career in government, and now academics?

**Scott:** It allowed me to learn mental and physical limits and how to push myself mentally and physically in order to achieve something or meet a deadline. Also just as important, it taught me how to work with a group of people when it is just you. There is no outside help or technology and you have to lean on how to rely on other people. It 100 percent shaped who I am today.

**Q:** Do you have any advice for participants going to OA High Adventure this summer?

**Scott:** There certainly is a generational difference now; I didn't even have a cell phone! A challenge now would be living without technology and learning how to live in the present. It really is special being able to live minute by minute. When you leave Philmont (or any other base), you'll be in a world that you have deadlines and distractions. I think the program is more important than ever before because it allows you to be without all of these distractions for 2 weeks. The opportunity is there to learn more about yourself and go through that experience with a number of people going through the same thing. OAHA is something that everyone should do if they are lucky enough to have the chance. It's all about the people and places along the way, more than I could have ever imagined.





# OASE



Dear Brothers,

The 2018 OASE season had 62 scouts go participate in 6 sessions, followed by our staff packing up and driving to Indiana to work with the other bases to promote OAHA. We saw small adjustments to the program this season, including the addition of a hike into the New River Gorge on one of the National Park Service's highest rated trails systems and small logistical improvements such as participant drop off being held at the Ruby Welcome Center so that parents no longer have to drive into the Summit.



Major milestones were reached on the trail loop that the program began constructing in 2014. We are now just a few hundred feet away from completing this loop. It will be no easy task to finish this small section as it will need at least seven major switchbacks, one of which will require large earth moving equipment. As we look to the future we hope to finish this loop in the next year and will have to begin construction on a new loop potentially as early as next year. We are very excited to work with the National Park Service to open this loop to the public as soon as possible and continue to provide excellent service to the Park Service and its lands.

Adventure Awaits,

**Mitchell Babej**  
2018 OASE Director



ORDER OF THE ARROW

**SUMMIT EXPERIENCE**



# 2018 OASE FOREMEN

MITCHEL BABEJ  
 JORDAN BARTON  
 TONY ELEY  
 AARON ELSING  
 AUSTON GRAY  
 AVERY LOGUE



50 MILES ZIPLINED

600 TORTILLAS CONSUMED

1,848 MAN HOURS OF SERVICE

390 GALLONS OF WATER DRANK

62 PARTICIPANTS

# OASE SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS





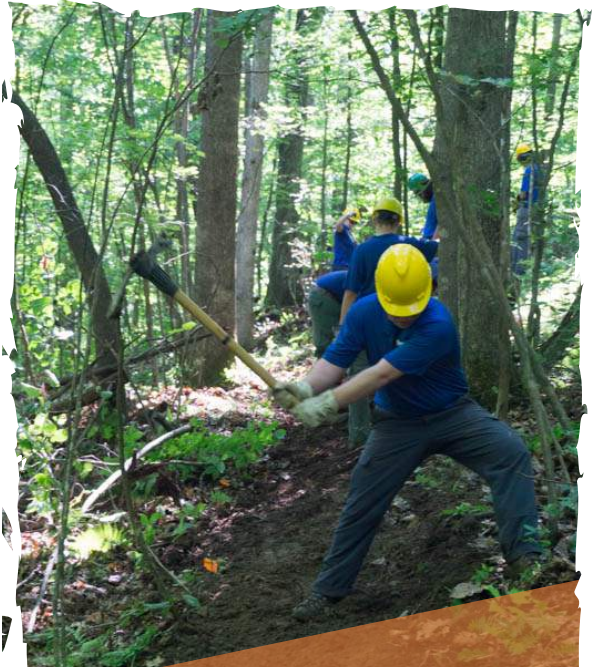
# FOREMAN REFLECTION

## THE BATTLE OF THE BURM - AN ACCOUNT BY OASE FOREMAN, TONY ELEY

This past summer, I joined the foreman ranks at the OA Summit Experience. Throughout the summer, I met many hard working Arrowmen and experience the inspiring beauty that West Virginia offers. During my time there, we continued on the same service project as 2017 with the National Park Service (NPS) at the New River Gorge National Park, building a mountain biking trail. For me, the service component is the most enjoyable aspect of the entire experience. As we began to build trail this summer, my foreman partner Auston and I were first on rotation. We set out with high hopes to produce some large quantities of high-quality trail. Throughout our first week, progress was going well. We had built several hundred feet of trail, using the rain to our advantage to fix muddy spots, and made lots of gravel. Little did we know what the following week had in store for us.

We finished out with our first crew and had a fantastic time riding mountain bikes and white water rafting before our week off rotation. That Thursday I returned to the trail to help bring the crew working on the service project back to the Summit. As Auston and I walked the trail to prepare for the work our next crew would do, we saw we would be working on a berm incorporated into a switchback. This was going to be a challenging week ahead. We began the following week working on the berm and repairing trail built by the crew before. By Wednesday however, our work had not been going as planned. We couldn't figure out where to go. Luckily we had some of the best NPS staff to work with. They came out the next day and helped us work through how to handle our new challenges. As the summer went on, we were able to build a quality berm that we could be proud of.

Even though the berm was the most challenging trail feature we had to handle, it was one of the most enjoyable aspects of the entire summer. Through its construction, I was able to have some of the most genuine interaction with our participants, and something all of our foremen could rally around as a goal for accomplishment for the summer. Constructing the berm was one of my favorite experiences during my time as a foreman at the Summit, and reinforces how impactful the service of our program is - not only to the participants but to the foremen as well.



"ACT AS IF WHAT YOU DO MAKES A DIFFERENCE. IT DOES."

- WILLIAM JAMES



## COUNCIL HIGH ADVENTURE COMMITTEES

TED WEILAND WAS A VOYAGE FOREMAN (2012) AND ASSOC. DIRECTOR (2013-14) AT NORTHERN TIER AND A TRAIL CREW FOREMAN (2015) AT PHILMONT. BUT HE CONTINUES TO FIND WAYS TO ENGAGE IN OAHA AND HIS COUNCIL.

The opportunity to work at a high adventure base is rare across the country but it has been one of the most interesting and valuable experiences Ted Weiland has had in Scouting. He was fortunate enough to be able to work at two of the bases, Northern Tier and Philmont. What was the best part of his experience? Bringing it back home to his local council.



The leadership development that occurs as a foreman is extensive, and it becomes obvious when one comes back to help with local Scouting. The skill set developed with goal setting, team management, and organizational vision helps with any project. He has been fortunate enough to do some conservation work at his local summer camp and even lead a few Ordeal projects. Ted currently sits on the Hawkeye Area Council Conservation Committee and has found that there are not a lot of people who have the appropriate knowledge of trail building. This is especially true when compared to a foreman who spent several summers living and breathing it. Camp trails are often poorly designed, so there is a lot of work to do and it is a great way to promote the OAHA programs to local Scouts and Scouters. Ted recently had the opportunity to serve on Hawkeye Area Council Wood Badge staff. This is the most common high-level leadership experience that a council will offer to their leaders. For a large majority of them, it is the last leadership development course that they will take. "As a former OAHA Foreman," Ted explains, "I have had different, often more practical experiences with leadership and will bring a different view to the training. The situations we have been in and the direct mentoring we have done for young people are indispensable."

**"WHEN MY WOOD BADGE PATROL ASKED ME WHERE I HAD DEVELOPED THESE SKILLS, IT IS AN EASY QUESTION TO ANSWER...AS A FOREMAN IN THE ORDER OF THE ARROW."**

**-TED WEILAND**

OAHA Foremen have many great experiences that can help improve local Scouting efforts. They can provide necessary and critical leadership at district and council levels. Whether they work with units as a unit commissioner, bring their camping expertise onto the Camping Committee, or help with leadership development courses like Wood Badge, there will always be a place for your highly developed leadership skills.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT GETTING INVOLVED IN YOUR HOME COUNCIL OR SUPPORTING YOUR COUNCIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE, PLEASE CONTACT: [OAHAQUESTIONS@OA-BSA.ORG](mailto:OAHAQUESTIONS@OA-BSA.ORG)



# OAHA VILLIAGE HOW TO

## PUT TOGETHER A COMMITTEE/STAKEHOLDERS

# 1

Planning for a High Adventure Village is made easy when a committee or team is formed with a youth lead and supported by an adviser. OA High Adventure foremen and alumni, and past participants of a high adventure program can be great potential members for this committee and can be key assets in staffing the village during the event. Reach out to your local council's camping committee as they may be able to provide contacts for quality potential members in your area.

## GAIN SUPPORT & FIND A VENUE

# 2

To get started with planning, first express interest to the event coordinator for the lodge, section, or council event you wish to host a village at. They will be able to see if a High Adventure Village is feasible for the event and they may be able to provide resources for the village. Continuing to work with the event coordinator will be important in planning the program. They may be able to provide materials and/or a budget to help the village. Working with a budget can be helpful to develop a larger and more interactive village, but a successful village can still be made if no budget is available. A budget may also be accessible from the lodge and/or the council camping committee.

## ACQUIRE PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS

# 3

Acquiring or printing promotional materials from each base about their programs is important so parents and Scouts have something to walk away from the village with that has a link for more information. Below is a link for promotional materials:

<https://oa-bsa.org/high-adventure/promotional-resources>

you can also find resources on the official websites for each national high adventure base

## CREATE A PROGRAM

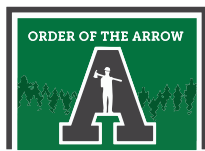
# 4

With time and experience with setting up a High Adventure Village you will be able to fine-tune a process and grow the activities included. From competitive outdoor skills to live music, and cooking demonstrations to outdoor games, the more activities you include the more time scouts spend understanding why high adventure is an important aspect in Scouting.

## BE CREATIVE

# 5

Be creative and cater this model to what works best in your area, but most of all, have fun with the High Adventure Village. It is meant to be engaging and help promote the outdoor program. Put yourself in a young Scout's shoes and think about what would get them excited about attending a high adventure program at one of the four bases. The possibilities are endless.



HIGH ADVENTURE

FOREMAN ALUMNI

**THANK YOU**

**2018 FOREMEN**



ORDER OF THE ARROW  
**OCEAN ADVENTURE**

**TED APOSTLE\*\*  
KOLTON BREEDING  
MIKE BRIGNOLA\*  
MATTIAS LEIER\*  
GREGORY YENTZ**



ORDER OF THE ARROW  
**TRAIL CREW**

**KYLE ANDERSON\*\*  
AUGUSTUS BALLENTINE  
DONALD BODE  
CHRIS CLARK  
AUBREY COVER\*\*  
JOEY DIERDORF  
JACOB FAGER  
OMAR GONZALEZ-ROMAN  
DANIEL HARPER  
TALON PARKER  
KACEY PAYSON  
DYLAN PILGER  
JUSTIN ROZENDAAL  
COLLIN SINDT  
SHANE SOMMERS  
SCOTT TOOMER  
AYLE WEZMAN  
JOHN WIER  
ANDREW LARKIN\***



ORDER OF THE ARROW  
**SUMMIT EXPERIENCE**

**MITCHEL BABEJ\*\*  
JORDAN BARTON  
TONY ELEY  
AARON ELSING  
AUSTON GRAY  
AVERY LOGUE**



ORDER OF THE ARROW  
**WILDERNESS VOYAGE**

**JOHN CALVIN BRUCE  
PHILLIP DALY  
BRIAN DVORAK  
DAVIS KELLOGG  
ANDREW PRICE\*\*  
JOE PROCHASKA  
JOSH REDDICK  
OZZIE REIF  
DAN ROGAN\*\*  
CHANCE SLOAN  
CHARLIE TODD  
RUSS WICKLUND  
BEN WINTER  
COOPER WOLKEN**



ORDER OF THE ARROW  
**CANADIAN ODYSSEY**

**\*DID NOT COMPLETE SUMMER**

**\*\*PROGRAM LEADERSHIP**

