

# THE VOICE



SOUTHERN REGION  
ORDER OF THE ARROW



Volume 5, No. 3

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## Online Resources

[southern.oa-bsa.org](http://southern.oa-bsa.org)  
Southern Region OA

[oa-bsa.org](http://oa-bsa.org)  
National OA

[event.oa-bsa.org](http://event.oa-bsa.org)  
National OA Events

[adventure.oa-bsa.org](http://adventure.oa-bsa.org)  
OA High Adventure

[training.oa-bsa.org](http://training.oa-bsa.org)  
OA Training

## Best Practices: Resources to Improve Your Lodge

*The Voice Staff*

Have you visited the national Order of the Arrow website recently? If you have, you probably noticed newly published resources designed to help your lodge or chapter improve.

Increasing a lodge's Brotherhood conversion rate is the topic of one of the resources. The best lodges strive to attain a 30 percent Ordeal to Brotherhood conversion rate each year, in order to meet Requirement #3 of the National Quality Lodge (NQL) Petition. According to the national Order of the Arrow website, the NQL program was designed to provide "a guide for good lodge administration and recognizes a level of excellence in lodge program and operation." The Southern Region had a 33.6% Brotherhood conversion rate in 2009. While most lodges in the region inducted the necessary 30 percent of Ordeal members into Brotherhood, there is room for improvement. We should strive to have all of our brothers seal their membership in our Order.



So, what can your lodge do to increase its Brotherhood conversion rate? Here are some of the tips outlined in the [Brotherhood Conversion Best Practice document](#):

1. Set a goal. Do you want to have a 35% conversion rate? 40%? 50%?
2. Make it a competition. Reward the chapters whose conversion rates lead the lodge.
3. Provide several conversion opportunities. Seize every opportunity to induct more Arrowmen into the Brotherhood.

These are just some of the ways in which your lodge can improve its Brotherhood conversion rate. Take a minute to view the easy to read Brotherhood Conversion ideas and the other Best Practice ideas which can be found at [www.oa-bsa.org](http://www.oa-bsa.org).

## Lodge Key 3 2010 Year-End Reminders

*The Voice Staff*

As we enjoy the holiday season, it's important that lodge leaders remember to tidy up their year-end Order of the Arrow responsibilities. Each lodge is expected to submit their Lodge Charter Renewal Application and their Quality Lodge Recognition Petition to the national office by December 31. The Quality Lodge Recognition Petition should be submitted regardless of whether or not the lodge will achieve Quality Lodge status. Please complete these documents in a timely manner.

Congratulations to Wahissa Lodge of Old Hickory Council and Wichita Lodge of Northwest Texas Council for being the first two lodges in the Southern Region to submit their Lodge Charter Renewal Applications!

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1A Dwayne Fontenette  
1B James Burch  
2-3N Kevin Lovett, Jr.  
2-3S Jonathan Hillis  
4 Sean Ferrier  
5 John Cuenin  
6 Mitchell Saulsbury  
7A Preston Marquis  
7B Rob Orr  
8 Cody James  
9 Rajpal Sagoo

## Chiefly Speaking

Arrowmen,

It has been an honor to be able serve you as your Southern Region Chief this year. I have traveled over 100 days and have met many great people that I know I will continue to be friends with for years to come. This year we hosted three National Leadership Seminars, which trained more than 200 participants. I think this says a lot about our great Region and what we can accomplish. I encourage all of you to attend a National Leadership Seminar or, if you are over 21 and an adult leader in your lodge, the National Lodge Adviser Training Seminar. These are two great programs that the Region puts on that can better you and your lodge.

All good things must come to an end at some point. I must say that I am proud of what we accomplished this year. The Region had an increase in both High Adventure and NLS participation. We also had the most people from any Region serving on OA Staff at the Jamboree. This is all thanks to your hard work and dedication, but the work is not over. Our next chief begins his term on December 28<sup>th</sup> and he will need your help in making Indian Summer and SummitCorps a success. So, if you have not registered, make sure to do so soon.

I encourage all of you to attend one of the High Adventure bases as well. These are great opportunities to experience the outdoors and be able to give back what you have received in so many ways. Again, Thank You for such a great year and keep up the hard work!

Yours in the Order,

*Don Combs III*  
Southern Region Chief 2010



## Order of the Arrow Updates

### Welcome, Ollie Burks!

The BSA Outdoor Programs team has added Ollie Burks to its staff. She will be serving as a secretary and will be responsible for assisting with many of our regional OA programs.

Welcome, Ollie Burks! We look forward to working with you!

### New to OA-BSA.ORG

- Best Practice Ideas posted!
- SummitCorps & Indian Summer Council Information Packets available.
- SummitCorps & Indian Summer websites launched!

### Follow us on Facebook!



Facebook.com/oasouth

## What to Do in 2011?



**Indian Summer 2011** will offer an opportunity for Arrowmen across the country to participate in focus areas including American Indian material culture and OA Inductions and Ceremonies.

The American Indian material culture track will focus on learning about Indian dance clothes, dance (Powwows), song and Arrowmen will be able to complete a hands on craft experience under the direction of the best craftsmen in the Scouting movement.

OA Induction and Ceremonies will include a range of topics from ceremonialists to running an Ordeal and unit elections. Highlights will include acting skills and techniques workshops taught by real-world theater professionals.

### LOCATION AND DATES

Ridgecrest Conference Center near Asheville, North Carolina, August 1-6, 2011

### PROJECTED COST

\$325 with dormitory style housing (6-8 people per room) or \$425 with hotel style rooms (2 people per room). Both include 5 night's housing, 14 meals, program and support materials and recognition items for the 6 days.

For more information, visit [event.oa-bsa.org](http://event.oa-bsa.org).



The **National Leadership Seminar** is one of the best leadership trainings offered by the BSA. The goal of the training is to enhance the leadership skills of the OA's key youth and adult members as they seek to improve their services to the Boy Scouts of America and the greater community. NLS is designed to be fun and challenging.

### LOCATION AND DATES

There will be three National Leadership Seminar trainings in the Southern Region next year.

February 18-20, 2011 in Nashville, TN  
September 16-18, 2011 in New Braunfels, TX  
November 4-6, 2011 in Haines City, FL

### PROJECTED COST

\$175. The cost includes 2 night's housing, 5 meals, program and support materials and recognition items. For more information, visit [southern.oa-bsa.org](http://southern.oa-bsa.org).

**SummitCorps: The New River Experience** is the newest service adventure offered by the Order of the Arrow. In conjunction with the National Parks Service, 500 Arrowmen from across the country will invade the New River Gorge National River in West Virginia.

Arrowmen can choose which of four weeks to attend in July of 2011. Total, 2000 Arrowmen will give service to the New River by helping to build and restore the Garden Grand Hike and Bike Trail, which will connect the New River to the Summit: Bechtel Family Scout Reserve.

### LOCATION AND DATES

New River Gorge National River in West Virginia  
July 3-9, July 10-16, July 17-23, July 24-30

### PROJECTED COST

\$250 per week. The fee includes 7 days of program, 18 meals, safety equipment, insurance coverage, recognition items and a full day of recreation.

For more information, visit [www.event.oa-bsa.org](http://www.event.oa-bsa.org).



## Southern Region OA Calendar



December 27-30, 2010	OA National Planning Meeting	Marriott Solana Westlake, TX
February 18-20, 2011	National Leadership Seminar/ National Lodge Adviser Training Seminar	Joe C. Davis YMCA Outdoor Center Nashville, TN
February 25, 2011	Regional Board Meeting	
April 8-10, 2011	Section 1A Conclave	Mt. Bayou Lake Scout Camp Saint Landry, LA
April 8-10, 2011	Section 1B Conclave	Camp Alaflo Enterprise, AL
April 8-10, 2011	Section 4 Conclave	Tanah-Keeta Scout Reservation Tequesta, FL
April 8-10, 2011	Section 6 Conclave	Camp Crooked Creek Shepherdsville, KY
April 15-17, 2011	Section 2/3N Conclave	Camp Tonkawa Abilene, TX
April 15-17, 2011	Section 5 Conclave	Camp Daniel Boone Canton, NC
April 15,-17 2011	Section 7B Conclave	Camp Raven Knob Mt. Airy, NC
April 15-17, 2011	Section 8 Conclave	Hale Scout Reservation Talihina, OK
April 15-17, 2011	Section 9 Conclave	Gerald Lawhorn Scouting Base Molena, GA
April 29 - May 1, 2011	Section 7A Conclave	Camp T. Brady Saunders Maidens, VA
May 25-27 2011	National OA Committee/ BSA National Annual Meeting	San Diego, CA
June 3-9, 10-16, 17-23, 24-30, 2011	SummitCorps: The New River Experience	Beckley, WV
July 15-17, 2011	Section 2/3S Conclave	Texas A&M University College Station, TX
August 1-6, 2011	OA Indian Summer	Ridgecrest Conference Center Ridgecrest, NC
September 16-18, 2011	National Leadership Seminar	T Bar M Resort & Conference Center New Braunfels, TX
September 23, 2011	Regional Board Meeting	
October 14-16, 2011	Section Officers Seminar (The Region Gathering)	Florida Sea Base Islamorada, FL
October 22, 2011	One Day of Service	
November 4-6, 2011	National Leadership Seminar/ National Lodge Adviser Training Seminar	Florida FFA Leadership Training Cen- ter, Haines City, FL
December 27-30, 2011	OA National Planning Meeting	Marriott Solana Westlake, TX