



OPERATIONS UPDATE

98-10

October

DISTRIBUTION:

Scout Executive	Region Chief
Lodge Chief	Region Chairman
Lodge Adviser	Region Staff Adviser
Section Chief	National Committee
Section Adviser	Area Director

LODGE CHARTER EXPIRATION DATE

At the August 1, 1998 National Order of the Arrow Committee Meeting, the national committee eliminated the lodge recharter grace period between January 1 and January 31.

Lodge charters expire on December 31 of each year and the charter is to be renewed on or before that date for the coming year. Orders for supplies, literature, and Founder's Award and Vigil Honor petitions will not be processed for a lodge whose charter has expired. Lodges whose charters are received after December 31 will not be eligible for the Quality Lodge Recognition.

NEW VENTURING PROGRAM OF THE BSA

Venturing is a new youth development program of the Boy Scouts of America for young men and women who are 14 (and have completed the eighth grade) through 20 years of age.

Venturing crews specialize in a variety of avocation or hobby interests. Venturing programs are developed around six experience areas of emphasis.

The National Order of the Arrow Committee currently has no plans of conducting OA elections in Venturing crews. The Order is a program element of the Boy Scout program only, as it has been for 83 years.

VIGIL HONOR CANDIDATE REQUIREMENT

In selecting candidates for the Vigil Honor, keep in mind that all candidates must have been Brotherhood members for two years or longer at the time of selection by the Vigil Honor nominating committee (page 31 "Guide For Officers And Advisers").

NEW OA LOGO

The new Order of the Arrow logo is pictured in the upper left-hand corner of this operations update. The national committee approved the new arrowhead logo design at the May 27, 1998 National OA Committee Meeting in San Antonio, Texas. The arrowhead replaced the Indian head logo that had been the Order's symbol for about 20 years. Clip art of the new logo will be available from the national office by mid October.

1999 NATIONAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

The Order of the Arrow will hold a National Leadership Summit at Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado on July 31 through August 3, 1999. The purpose of the summit will be to roll out the Order's new strategic plan to its key lodge, section, and region leadership. Training and workshops for participants on how to implement the new plan will be a part of the four day summit. (A copy of "The Order of the Arrow's Strategy, and Actions for Greater Service to Scouting in the 21st Century" is enclosed with this operations update).

Invitations to the National Leadership Summit will be mailed to lodges, sections, and regions before the end of 1998. Every lodge, section, and region key three will be encouraged to attend the summit.