



SCOUTING AMERICA™

ORDER OF THE ARROW

2027
Lodge Charter
Renewal Kit



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ORDER OF THE ARROW

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Scout Executives and Lodge Advisers

FROM: Cortland Bolles, National Director, Order of the Arrow

DATE: 1 October 2026

SUBJECT: 2027 LODGE CHARTER RENEWAL KIT

Enclosed you'll find all the materials needed to renew your lodge's charter for the 2027 calendar year. Please note that your charter renewal is due **on or before December 31, 2026**.

The **Order of the Arrow recharter fee remains unchanged at \$6.00 per member**. Councils will be billed through PeopleSoft beginning in **January 2027**.

Continuing the new policy from last year, lodges must affirm whether a **written agreement** exists between the council/lodge and a **federally or state-recognized tribe** regarding the use of Native American elements in programming. Beginning **January 1, 2026**, lodges **without such an agreement** should **not conduct American Indian Activities (AIA)** until one is in place.

The Order of the Arrow's Vision: ***"To be why Scouts want to stay in Scouting,"*** along with our Mission and Purpose, reinforces the OA's role as a powerful tool for **youth retention**. We encourage lodges to reach out to **all units for elections** in the coming year. By engaging more youth, we help **Scouting America grow** and positively impact more lives.

Additionally, we encourage all Scout Executives and Lodge Key 3s to explore ways in which the lodge and OA members can assist in membership recruitment and retention efforts. Have a conversation centered on one question: "How can our lodge help grow youth and retain membership now?" We know the efforts will look different in each council, yet those many strategies will help Scouting America attract and keep more young people.

We're evolving the induction so today's Scouts forge lasting connections and discover what Brotherhood, Cheerfulness, and Service mean in their lives. The best way to understand it is to experience it. Over the last year and a half, the new OA Induction has been piloted, tested, edited, and approved. We are asking all members to participate in the See One, Do One, Offer One model through a Section and/or Lodge Inductions Experience between now and NOAC 2027.



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This summer at the National Order of the Arrow Conference at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, we are certain that thousands of Order of the Arrow members will enjoy the fellowship, training, activities, shows, and fun that are the hallmark of an exciting and invigorating NOAC experience. We hope you are among those who attend and bring what you learn and experience back to your local council and lodge to help grow Scouting and the OA in your community!

Contents of this recharter kit include:

- Instructions to complete your 2027 Lodge Charter Renewal Application and Lodge Performance Measurement Program (PMP) Petition.
- Lodge Program Updates and Reminders.
- National OA training and program information.

Thank you for your continued leadership and service to the Order of the Arrow. If you have any questions about the recharter process, please don't hesitate to reach out.

**Please forward this material to your
lodge adviser for prompt action**



Lodge Charter Renewal Process

Each lodge operates under a charter granted by the National Council. Each lodge must apply annually for renewal. The Lodge Charter Renewal process provides a systematic opportunity for the lodge officers and advisers to review the accomplishments of the lodge during the previous 12-month period and make plans for the coming year.

Lodge charters expire on December 31 each year. The charter is to be renewed on or before that date for the coming year. Orders for supplies, awards and literature will not be processed for a lodge whose charter has not been renewed.

It is important that the charter review provides an opportunity for officers and advisers to meet with the Scout Executive to establish plans and actions for the coming year. Proper use of the charter renewal process will produce positive results to benefit both the lodge and the council.

Steps to the Lodge Recharter Process	Due Date
1. Appointments: The Scout Executive makes a formal announcement of the annual appointment of the Lodge Adviser and Lodge Staff Adviser for the next lodge charter year (beginning 1 January).	Nov 1
2. Renewal Application: The lodge officers, Lodge Adviser, and Lodge Staff Adviser meet to complete the Lodge Performance Management Program submission and the Lodge Charter Renewal Application . ◆ Both the Lodge Charter Renewal Application and Lodge Performance Measurement Program Petition are found on (and must be submitted through) OA LodgeMaster (https://lodgemaster.oa-scouting.org). ◆ Instructions for completing those two documents are included in this kit.	Nov 30
3. Scout Executive Review: Lodge officer(s) and adviser(s) complete a review with the Scout Executive of the recharter application. 1. In a scheduled meeting, review the current year accomplishments of the lodge, discuss the dynamics of its membership, detail the lodge's plans for the coming year, and gather any Scout Executive's requests for the lodge. 2. Secure the Scout Executive's formal approval of (<i>i.e.</i>, the SE's signature on) the Lodge Charter Renewal Application.	Dec 10
4. Application Submission: Scan and email the signed and completed Lodge Charter Renewal Application to the national OA office at charter@oa-scouting.org .	Dec 31
5. Payment: Do <i>not</i> submit payment with your application. Your council will be billed by the National OA Office for your lodge's charter fees after receipt of your Lodge Recharter Application.	Jan 2027

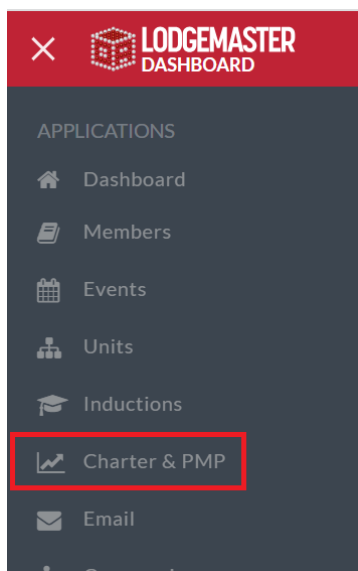


Instructions for Lodge Charter Renewal and Lodge Performance Management Program (PMP)

This document describes how to use the OA LodgeMaster program to review and submit your lodge's annual charter and Lodge Performance Measurement Program (PMP) petition. Please know that while the two activities are linked, the PMP submission process is a *precursor* to the Lodge Charter Renewal Application, in that a lodge will complete the PMP submission prior to completing the application for renewal of the lodge's charter. The 2023 OA Recharter webinar is also available at <https://vimeo.com/910674225>.

Step #1: Log-in to OA LodgeMaster

After logging in to OA LodgeMaster (<https://lodgemaster.oa-scouting.org/>), go to the Applications Menu (left side of the screen) and select **Charter & PMP**. This opens the Charter & Lodge Performance Management Program (PMP) module.



Step #2: Review Current Lodge Status

Use the **Charter & PMP** module for all your lodge's PMP status information for the current year and prior years. The module contains two major components: the **Charter Renewal & PMP Wizard** and the **Submit to National** function.

The **Charter Renewal & PMP Wizard** serves as the primary tool that can be used at any time to view and update a lodge's detailed PMP progress. The program also allows not only a detailed review of your lodge's PMP statistics for the current year, but also for previous years' PMP data which was submitted to the National Service Center.

- ◆ **Current year PMP:** For the current year, the total number points earned and PMP level earned so far by your lodge are shown. To review or edit the detailed PMP statistics, select the current year and open the **Charter Renewal & PMP Wizard** from the menu. The date PMP data was last modified by a user is displayed.



- ◆ **Previous year PMP:** Previous years' PMP petitions already submitted are marked as 'submitted' and the number of points earned and level achieved are shown. To review the detail for a previous year's PMP data, select the year of interest and click **PMP Petition** on the Reports menu. No data can be changed for a year already submitted, but the petition can always be reviewed.

The More You Know: Your lodge's current year data is always available in OA LodgeMaster. You can review your lodge's current year PMP status at any time without completing the final national submission process. Use the Charter Renewal & PMP Wizard frequently to stay abreast of your lodge's PMP progress throughout the year.

The **Submit to National** function sends your lodge's completed Charter Renewal and PMP petition to the National Service Center. This function is designed to be used annually during the Lodge Charter Renewal process after all PMP data has been entered and double-checked.

Step #3: Open the Charter Renewal and PMP Wizard Tool

Select the current year and click **Charter Renewal & PMP Wizard** to open the wizard.

Year	Date Modified	Date Submitted	Level	Points
2023			None	

Next, you will be asked if the Charter & PMP Wizard should reload all data. You are prompted to choose whether the program recalculates all statistics or only the membership count related statistics. For your initial reviews of your PMP data throughout the year, choose **Yes**. Once you approach the final submission process and some data has been changed manually by the override fields, choose **No**.

CHARTER & PMP WIZARD

When loading the Charter Renewal & PMP Wizard all statistical membership data is automatically reloaded. Optionally, all other data can also be requested, including event data, election counts, service hours, etc. Please note that this may override previously input numbers. Would you like to reload all data?



Step #4: Engage the Wizard to Review Status for Each Requirement

The **Charter Renewal & PMP Wizard** will guide you through a 13-page review of your lodge's PMP information for the current year. The wizard begins with a review of the lodge's general membership data from the previous and current year. Once complete with that, it proceeds through each of the PMP requirements (one page per requirement).

Membership Statistics Review (pages 1-3):

- ◆ The first three pages of the PMP Wizard reviews membership statistics from the current year and previous years.
- ◆ On some pages, the data cannot be modified (e.g., current year's Ordeal inductions).
- ◆ On other pages, though, the data shown can be modified. These pages will present the current data calculated from your lodge's PMP database, but you will be offered the opportunity to override the data with manually entered data if necessary.
- ◆ Fields that cannot be modified are shown in **dark grey**, while fields that can be changed are shown in **bright green**.
- ◆ Navigate the pages by using the **Next** and **Back** buttons at the top right of each.
- ◆ Scroll up and down using the scroll bar if necessary to see the entire page.

PMP Wizard (pages 4-13):

- ◆ These pages display your lodge's progress on each objective in the Lodge Performance Management Program (PMP) petition.
- ◆ Review each of the 10 PMP objectives entering information as required.
 - *Several objectives require information not stored in OA LodgeMaster. In these cases, simply check the appropriate boxes or enter the correct data.*
 - *Leave fields blank if the information is not yet available.*
 - *Most data entered in the override fields will be saved by OA LodgeMaster and displayed the next time you use the wizard.*
- ◆ On each page, you will see displayed on the right side of the page your lodge's current performance, the number of points earned toward that specific requirement, and the "Thriving / High Performing" level earned for that specific requirement.

Incomplete and / or Incorrect Data:

- ◆ If any data are found to be incomplete or incorrect, review the original data in OA LodgeMaster and correct the stored information.
 - *Example: if the number of Ordeal candidates is not correct, it may be that some candidate names were omitted from OA LodgeMaster and need to be entered.*
- ◆ If accurate information is not available in OA LodgeMaster, use the green override fields to manually enter the corrected statistics.

Step #5: Perform a final review

Once your data is complete, the next step will be to submit it to the National OA Office for review. Prior to doing so, please double-check your submission to make sure everything is correctly entered and accurate. It is recommended that you:

1. Perform a final review of all the pages of the **Charter Renewal & PMP Wizard**
2. Click **Reports » PMP Petition** and then print a copy of your PMP petition. Review each page for accuracy, and make any necessary changes.



Step #6: Submit to National

When ready to submit your Lodge PMP petition at the end of the year (along with your Lodge Charter Renewal Application) to the National Service Center, you will do so using the **Submit to National** button. This will electronically send your lodge's charter renewal and PMP petition to the National Service Center.

- ◆ **Only take this step** when you are satisfied that all data is accurate and complete, for the process can only be done once for each year, and the PMP petition cannot be changed once it is submitted.

Open the wizard and – after confirming your submission is fully complete and accurate – click on the **Submit to National** button. A warning message will appear. After review the warning message, select **Submit to National** to send the petition to the National Service Center. This will electronically submit the document to the National Service Center.

- ◆ Note: the **Lodge Charter Renewal Form** is *not* available until *after* the submission of the PMP data to the National OA Office is complete.

CHARTER & PMP SUBMISSION

2023 Charter Renewal & Performance Measurement Program Submission

Once you have completed the Charter Renewal and Performance Measurement Program wizard, you can automatically submit your data to the national Order of the Arrow office through OA LodgeMaster. Your Charter Renewal application, Performance Measurement Program petition, and supporting statistics will automatically be transmitted.

You will still need to print the Charter Renewal application, have it signed, and mail it to the national office. Instructions for submission can be found on the printed form. You do not need to mail the Performance Measurement Program petition. Also, please do not send a check, the Order of the Arrow will bill your council from the National Office.

Please Note: This process can only be done once for each charter year. Once your Charter Renewal application and Performance Measurement Program petition is submitted, this cannot be undone, and you cannot resubmit your data. Please be sure your application is complete before submitting.

Submit To National Cancel

12/30/2015 Bronze

Step #7: Lodge Charter Renewal Form

Once submission of your PMP is complete, in the **Charter Renewal & PMP Wizard** click the **Reports** menu and then select **Charter Renewal Form**. The document will appear. Print a copy of your recharter form. Your lodge officers, lodge adviser, and lodge staff adviser will meet with the Scout Executive to review the application and obtain the required signatures on the printed **Lodge Charter Renewal Application** form.



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 Reports Member

Year	↓	Date Modified
2023		

PMP Finish Line

PMP/JTE Petition

PMP/JTE Detailed Worksheet

Charter Renewal Form

Step #8: Submit Signed Application

Once the necessary signatures are on the **Lodge Charter Renewal Application** form, please scan the document and then email the form to the National OA Office using charter@oa-scouting.org. Do *not* send a check for the national fees; the Order of the Arrow will bill your council directly following review of your submitted materials. **Congratulations! Your lodge's PMP petition and Lodge Charter Renewal Application have now been successfully submitted!**

Questions and Support

If you have questions about OA LodgeMaster, please visit the support center at <https://confluence.oa-scouting.org/spaces/OALMLC/overview> where you will find guides, documentation, frequently asked questions, and multiple training resources intended to support you in working with the tool. For OA LodgeMaster support email support@lodgemaster.oa-scouting.org.

For more information on PMP, review the PMP Petition with notes at <https://oa-scouting.org/lodge-support/performance-measurement-program> or email the OA's Lodge Performance Management Program team at pmp@oa-scouting.org.

To watch the 2023 OA Recharter Webinar please visit <https://vimeo.com/910674225>.



2027 Lodge Program Updates

Founder's & Vigil Price Increase

Effective January 1, 2027, as was explained in a memo sent in January 2026, the price for a Founder's Award will increase to \$90 and the price for Vigil Honor will increase to \$22. Since January 1, 2022, the Order of the Arrow has absorbed the increasing costs related to production, printing, and shipping of certificates, cards, medal, and ribbons. Due to significant recent cost increases, the Order of the Arrow is in a position where we can no longer cover these rising costs without passing on an increase in the price charged to lodges for this service. Due to the uncertainty of costs associated with producing these awards, shipping costs, and other external factors, we will not provide a timeline expectation for future price increases. It is our hope that this increase will be sufficient for at least three or four years.

Founder's & Vigil Procedure and Timeline

All petitions, whether for Founder's or Vigil, must be sent and received by the national service center at least 45 days before the planned induction date or presentation date. Do not assume approval or make public announcements until the recognition items have been received in the council service center.

DSA Nominations

The Distinguished Service Award and Red Arrow Award are presented at National Order of the Arrow Conferences. Nominations for these awards to be presented at the 2027 NOAC can be made using an online portal starting Sunday, November 1, 2026, and must be submitted by Sunday, January 31, 2027 for consideration in 2027.

OA Impact Grants are back!

What could your lodge accomplish with the resources and partnership to turn a bold idea into lasting impact? Supported by the Order's endowment, the Impact Grant program will provide financial support for innovative, high-impact projects that advance cheerful service, leadership development, transformative fellowship, and stewardship of Scouting properties and local communities. Projects should strengthen broader Scouting engagement and retention while helping participants discover meaningful and lasting Scouting experiences. Council participation will also be essential, with each application requiring the support of the local Scout Executive to ensure that proposed projects align with council priorities and safety standards, in the interest of growing the Scouting movement. Application questions will be posted after October 1, followed by the opening of an application portal on December 1.



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Together, the national committee, lodges, and councils can develop projects that create lasting benefits for Scouts, Scouting, and their communities.

Thrive

Ready to elevate your lodge? Thrive, the OA's premier consulting program, empowers lodges with mentorship to tackle challenges, amplify strengths, and drive real results. Through dynamic coaching, they will craft a bold vision and roadmap to success for your lodge. Learn more at <https://oa-scouting.org/thrive>.

OA Lodge Treks

After a huge success and positive feedback from lodge contingents who attended the 2026 pilot, the Lodge Treks program is returning for a second year at Philmont Scout Ranch for a 10-day, 9-night trek from July 4th to July 14th, 2027. The Lodge Treks program is an opportunity for lodge members to reconcile their bonds of brotherhood, grow stronger (mentally and physically), build team leadership skills, and return home even more motivated. Interested? Lodges can apply through https://forms.cloud.microsoft/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=oAiQ_UZ4iUmKxXfPrT9-Tnax0ic490tFkDoY6ASvgKIUQ1BBR1Q1RFEwOEJKTEM1VU1FUEVRVzg2UC4u; the deadline is October 12.

OA Merchandise

Visit <https://tradingpost.oa-scouting.org> to purchase OA merchandise and browse great deals on the "Clearance" page. Members of the Order can create an account in the store to receive updates on the latest promotions and new product launches.

Lodge Leadership Development

As your new program year begins and the transition among leadership occurs, take advantage of the Lodge Leadership Development (LLD) website (<https://oa-scouting.org/training>) to assist you with your training needs. The LLD syllabi have undergone significant improvements in providing lodges the tools to help them be successful.

Update OA LodgeMaster Records

OA LodgeMaster is the online system to help lodges track and manage membership. Also, OA LodgeMaster is the data source for contact information sent to lodge Key 3's for national updates. Please make sure to update any changes to the Key 3, including start date, during the year, as soon as a change happens.



2027 PMP

Early each year, the Order of the Arrow reviews the data submitted by each lodge through the rechartering process to adjust goals, if necessary, for the following year's Performance Measurement Program (PMP). The timeliness of reviewing the data and adjusting goals is highly dependent on every lodge submitting their recharter on-time. Once all recharters are submitted, our PMP team will review the data and make a recommendation to the national OA committee for PMP goals, generally during the late winter/early spring national OA committee meeting. Upon approval of the national OA committee, PMP standard will be published. The target date for publication is no later than March 31, 2027.

Scouting America Safeguarding Youth Resources

Scouting America launched an updated training program called Safeguarding Youth Training which replaced Youth Protection Training. This new training can be reached via <https://my.scouting.org> and must be taken annually by all adult leaders and adult program participants (age 18 and up). Anyone can report concerns by text to 844-SCOUTS1, by a call to 1-844-SCOUTS1, or by email to ScoutsFirst@Scouting.org. Additionally, anonymous texting to the Scouts First 24-hour helpline is available.

Invite an Officer to Your Lodge or Section Event

Did you know that you could invite one of the national OA youth officers to your section or lodge events? The request form (<https://forms.gle/4rz8D9tmwN74xqXBA>) is available on the OA website at <https://oa-scouting.org/resources/forms> along with other helpful forms and information. Having a national officer visit your event is certain to be a highlight for event attendees as much as it is for the officer. (The cost for these visits is covered by the lodge or section, not by the national OA office.)

Publications Updates

OA publications are being updated on a more dynamic basis. Please visit <https://oa-scouting.org/resources/publications> regularly to review and download updated publications as they are released. If lodges provide website links to national publications, please link to <https://oa-scouting.org/resources/publications> rather than individual publications as the link addresses for individual publications change as new versions are released.

Stay up to date with OA News
(<https://oa-scouting.org/news>)
for more details on these changes
and to keep up with all things OA!



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October 1, 2026

Fellow Members,

Our Order's Vision is to be the reason why Scouts want to Stay in Scouting. But today, less than 1 in 8 OA members attend a second event following their induction, and membership in Scouting America has steadily dropped for the last four decades. It became clear our induction process was not well suited for new members to discover brotherhood from their first OA experience. In light of this, the new induction experience was developed. The intent of this change is to strengthen lodges and Scouting by keeping Scouts engaged long after the weekend ends. That said, the core is not changing; reflecting on cheerfulness and providing service are central, and much of the new induction will be familiar to long-time members.

While it may seem sudden, this change has been under consideration for nearly a decade. The 2012–2019 Lodge Journey to Excellence (JTE) and then Performance Management Program (PMP) results annually showed the OA had significant issues with new member activation and retention. In 2019, an Ordeal Task Force was formed to address this. Following Covid-19, work continued. With the OA's 2024 adoption of a new mission, vision, and purpose, as well as a thematic narrative, prototypes began to be formed based on all the learnings and ideas that had been collected. The second prototype was shared at the 2025 National Council of Chiefs at Philmont and then it was developed through pilots involving 13 lodges and over 450 OA members as participants. After five full revisions, the National OA Committee approved the new induction in January 2026.

What stays the same:

- Brotherhood, Cheerfulness, and Service remain core values.
- Two ceremonies (though they are not the same ceremonies as before).
- The (typical) Friday evening through Saturday evening weekend structure. (Note: many lodges extend activities into Sunday morning, an approach which remains relevant.)
- The Admonition.
- Service remains one of the vehicles for experiencing the intent of the induction experience.
- The four challenges remain in familiar but new forms intended for discovering brotherhood, reflecting on cheerfulness, and providing service.
- Crews of new members will have a guide called a Luminary, whose role is similar to yet expanded beyond the typical role of an Elangomat.
- There is still a legend in the Ceremony of Fire (Saturday evening), though it is now a story about the Order of the Arrow's foundation. The message and arc will be familiar, but it tells a different story.
- Ceremony sites don't need to change (the only addition is hanging a backdrop).



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What is different:

- There are new activities, including Flight of the Arrow, Step Forward, The Promises, and Crew Affirmations.
- Five ceremonialists instead of four, with one role designed to be "on book" (reading from the script).
- The Luminary role expands on the Elangomat's responsibilities. Luminaries help new members process the experience to better internalize the values of Brotherhood, Cheerfulness, and Service and know how to put these values into practice.
- Removal of scant food. Participants will be provided food and drink on par with a normal day at camp. A lunchtime activity entitled "Silent Lunch" will challenge participants to make personal judgments about what they keep for themselves and what they choose to share.
- Total silence for the duration of the event is replaced with times for individual reflection, meditation, and small group conversation. Guided crew conversations provide opportunities for people to learn with others as they consider questions and ideas central to Brotherhood, Cheerfulness, and Service, while at the same time building connections with fellow participants.
- New ceremonial attire (robes/capes) replaces previous costuming.

Approval of the new approach occurred in January 2026. A cascade rollout of the new induction experience ceremonies began in March 2026 and will continue through NOAC 2027. The approach being used is called "See One, Do One, Offer One" (similar to the EDGE model). A core team from each lodge must "see one" (experience it as participants) before they "do one" (host the event – hopefully multiple times – for existing OA members). Later, lodges will begin using the new induction to induct new members (likely by NOAC 2027). During the transition, lodges will continue using the current induction until they are certified with the new one.

For more information, visit <https://oa-scouting.org/resources/inductions/new-induction-information>.

In Fellowship,

Chris Grove
National OA Chair

Cortland Bolles
National OA Director



2027 OA High Adventure

Each summer, the Order of the Arrow offers several different High Adventure opportunities to meet your summer needs. Whether you are looking for hiking in the mountains at Philmont Scout Ranch, canoeing in the quiet solitude of Northern Tier, exploring the ocean at the Florida Sea Base, or seeking out a variety of different adventures at the Summit Bechtel Reserve, the OA has a program for you! Participants at Philmont, Northern Tier, and Sea Base must be at least 16 years old by the day their program starts, but not yet 21 years old by its conclusion. Participants at the Summit Bechtel Reserve must be at least 14 years old by the day their program starts, but not yet 18 years old by its conclusion. Learn more about our programs and register to participate at <https://oa-scouting.org/high-adventure>.



OA Wilderness Voyage & Canadian Odyssey at Northern Tier

- WV Session 1: June 9 – June 23 (Male Crew)
- WV Session 2: June 16 – June 30 (Male Crew)
- WV Session 3: June 23 – July 7 (Coed Crew)
- WV Session 4: June 30 – July 14 (Male Crew)
- WV Session 5: July 7 – July 21 (Male Crew)
- WV Session 6: July 10 – July 24 (Coed Crew)
- WV Session 9: August 4 – August 18 (Coed Crew)
- CO Session 2: June 16 – June 30 (Coed Crew)
- CO Session 5: July 7 – July 21 (Coed Crew)
- CO Session 8: August 2 – August 16 (Coed Crew)

OA Trail Crew at Philmont Scout Ranch

- Session 1: June 8 – June 22 (Coed Crew)
- Session 2: June 15 – June 29 (Coed Crew)
- Session 3: June 22 – July 6 (Coed Crew)
- Session 4: June 29 – July 13 (Coed Crew)
- Session 5: July 6 – July 20 (Coed Crew)
- Session 6: July 11 – July 25 (Coed Crew)
- Session 9: August 3 – August 17 (Coed Crew)





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OA Summit Experience at Summit Bechtel Reserve

Session 1: June 6 – June 12 (Coed Crew)

Session 2: June 13 – June 19 (Coed Crew)

Session 3: June 20 – June 26 (Coed Crew)

Session 4: June 27 – July 3 (Coed Crew)

Session 5: July 4 – July 10 (Coed Crew)

Session 6: July 11 – July 17 (Coed Crew)

OA Ocean Adventure at Florida Sea Base

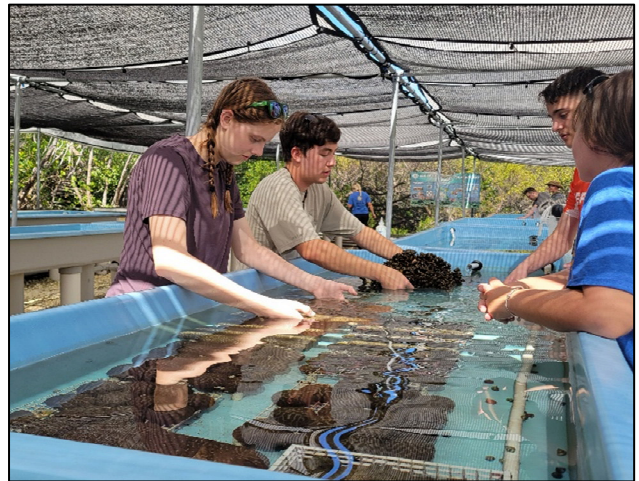
Session 1: June 1 – June 7 (Coed Crew)

Session 2: June 9 – June 15 (Coed Crew)

Session 3: June 17 – June 23 (Coed Crew)

Session 4: July 3 – July 9 (Coed Crew)

Session 5: July 15 – July 21 (Coed Crew)





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2027 National Leadership Seminar & Developing Youth Leadership Conference Schedule



February 5-7: Maui, HI (DYLC only)

February 26-28: Talladega, AL

February 26-28: St. Louis, MO

March 12-14: Pittsburgh, PA

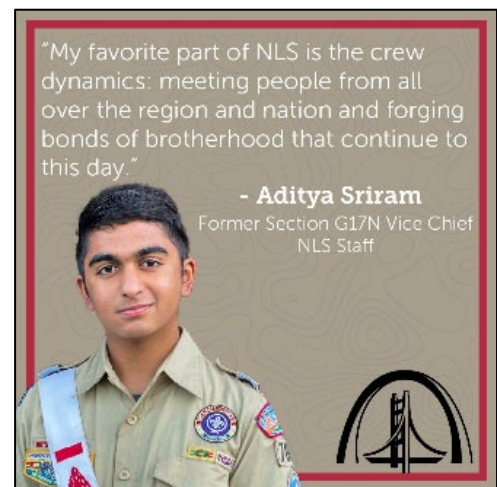
March 19-21: Minneapolis, MN

September 17-19: Alpine, NJ

October 8-10: Dallas, TX

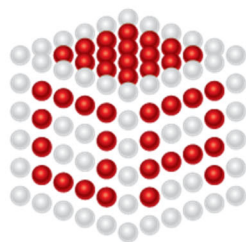
November 12-14: Richmond, VA

November 19-21: Southern CA



<https://oa-scouting.org/training>

AUGUST
2026
UPDATES



ORDER OF THE ARROW

LODGEMASTER



Online Event Registration

Since mid-August, lodges can now accept online event registrations directly in OA LodgeMaster from the OA Member Portal and OA Members mobile app. Payments are processed securely through the Scouting America Payment platform which eliminates barriers to using both

the dues payment feature and the new event registration feature. Lodge Administrators are advised to review the payment integration documentation at <https://confluence.oa-scouting.org/spaces/OALMLC4/pages/340230207/Scouting+America+Payment+Integration> as setup is required prior to using the online dues payment or event registration features.

To use online dues or event registration payments, your Scout Executive must approve the lodge's use of the Scouting America payment platform. To start the process and request an approval link be sent to your Scout Executive, please submit a ticket by emailing support@lodgemaster.oa-scouting.org, as detailed in the payment integration documentation.

OA Members Mobile App

The OA Members mobile app has been available for a year and now has both online dues and event registration integration if enabled for your lodge! Access your member profile, pay your dues, register for events, view upcoming events from your lodge, section, region and the national organization. Access resources including member journeys for new Ordeal and Brotherhood candidates. **Download the App for Android or Apple by scanning the QR code:**



Lodge Administrators should be adding app content from within OA LodgeMaster. Go to the Mobile App module to add news, resources, and approve push messages.

LODGE MERGER & INTEGRATION SUPPORT

Helping lodges navigate change with confidence, consistency, and youth leadership.

YOUTH-LED • LOCALLY OWNED • NATIONALLY SUPPORTED

When councils restructure, lodges do not have to navigate the transition alone. Regional merger teams bring a proven framework, experienced facilitation, and practical resources while keeping youth leaders at the center of the process.

01

YOUTH-LED

Youth leaders shape the future lodge. Teams coach and facilitate – they do not take over.

02

REGIONALLY DELIVERED

Eastern and Gateway teams provide hands-on support tailored to each situation.

03

NATIONALLY CONNECTED

Shared training, tools, coordination, and data strengthen every engagement.

WHAT WE DO

Support spans the full transition – from the first conversation through the launch of a unified lodge.

- **GET STARTED** – Clarify the path, organize the right team, and create a realistic timeline.
- **FACILITATE YOUTH LEADERSHIP** – Give youth from affected lodges an equitable voice in shaping what comes next.
- **BUILD THE NEW LODGE** – Guide decisions around identity, traditions, bylaws, leadership, elections, committees, communications, and operations.
- **NAVIGATE GOVERNANCE** – Help align merger timing, lodge status, section elections, and national or regional requirements.
- **SHARE PROVEN TOOLS** – Bring templates, best practices, lessons learned, and practical resources from work across the country.
- **SUPPORT THE TRANSITION** – Help leadership move from planning into successful operation as one lodge.

HOW SUPPORT WORKS

The support team brings structure and experience; local youth leadership owns the outcome.

EASTERN REGION TEAM

A dedicated regional team supports merger and integration activity across the Eastern Region.

GATEWAY REGION TEAM

A dedicated regional team provides the same hands-on support across the Gateway Region.

MERGER OR INTEGRATION?

MERGER Two or more lodges come together and jointly create a future organization that brings together leadership, history, traditions, and operations.

INTEGRATION One or more districts become part of an existing council and lodge. The process may be less complex, but intentional support remains important.

1

ENGAGE

Connect early and understand the change.

2

ALIGN

Set expectations, roles, and timeline.

3

BUILD

Youth leaders create the future lodge.

4

LAUNCH

Transition into one operating lodge.

WE DON'T BUILD THE NEW LODGE FOR YOU. WE HELP YOUR YOUTH LEADERS BUILD IT TOGETHER.

Preserve the past. Empower today's youth. Build a lodge positioned for the future.

**Facing a council merger, consolidation, or district realignment?
Engage your regional support team early.**

START EARLY

WHEN TO ENGAGE THE TEAM

- A council merger or consolidation is announced or being considered.
- One or more districts will move into another council and lodge.
- Lodge leaders need help defining timing, governance, or transition steps.
- Youth leaders need a neutral facilitator to help two groups build one future.

WHAT LODGE LEADERS CAN EXPECT

- A youth-centered process built around shared ownership and leadership development.
- Experienced facilitators who bring structure without dictating local decisions.
- A process scaled to the situation – merger and integration support are not one-size-fits-all.
- Connection to proven tools, national guidance, and lessons learned across regions.

CHANGE IS COMPLEX. THE SUPPORT SYSTEM DOES NOT HAVE TO BE.

Engage early. Keep youth at the center. Build the next lodge together.