



# Bear Tracks



Q1 2023

## Ohkwaliha-Ká Lodge #34, Leatherstocking Council #400

### Annual Winter Lock-In @ Clark Sports Center

Join us at the Clark Sports Center in Cooperstown for our Annual Winter Lock-In. Activities will include swimming, climbing wall, bowling and more.

Scout appropriate active wear for activities, bring your **BSA Health Form A&B**

**March 4<sup>th</sup> 7:30pm – March 5<sup>th</sup> 6:00am**

**Pre-registration is required for all activities!**

Registration Link: <https://forms.tentaroo.com/view.php?id=9567707>

Cost \$30 per person. Questions? [adviser@oalodge34.org](mailto:adviser@oalodge34.org)

### 2023 Unit Elections!

Your unit Scoutmaster will be receiving a message about scheduling a Unit Election. If you or your Scoutmaster does not received a message by February 1<sup>st</sup> about scheduling, please reach out on the [#unit elections](#) channel on Slack or send an e-mail to [elections@oalodge34.org](mailto:elections@oalodge34.org)

We need your help to reach all our Council's Units for an election this year. We cover a large geographic area and rely on you to help with your unit election and elections at your neighboring units. We co-ordinate our elections using Slack. If you can help, please share your availability in the [#unit elections](#) channel on Slack. **New for 2023: All elections must be entered into our Lodgemaster System. If your unit needs assistance with scheduling or data input for candidates, please contact [elections@oalodge34.org](mailto:elections@oalodge34.org)**

### Lodge Calendar and Slack

Always up to date:

<http://oalodge34.org/wp2/calendar/>

Questions or help with Slack:

[support@oalodge34.org](mailto:support@oalodge34.org)

### 2023 Lodge Dues

You can now pay your Annual Lodge Dues (Jan1-Dec 31) for 2023! The \$15 can be paid at any lodge event or at the scout office. Checks can be made out to Leatherstocking Council. Pay online: <https://forms.tentaroo.com/view.php?id=917548>

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## **From The Chief**

To all our Brothers,

I hope you all had a safe Christmas, and a new year with your units, and your loved, ones. With the beginning of the new year, we will have also new members being called, and inducted into our order, and I would like for all our current members to help as much as they can on elections, and on ordeal weekends this year. As, If we as a lodge helped our units elect new members by reaching out, or helping with an election, we will have more people for conclave. As with everything, I hope everyone remains safe.

Diego Gamarra  
Lodge Chief

## **Ceremonies Committee**

Hello Brothers! I am the Chairman of the Ceremonies Committee, Jonathan Deitchman. I welcome you all to join the Ceremonies Committee and help us make the Pre-Ordeal, Ordeal, Brotherhood and Vigil Ceremonies even better! You don't need a part, but you could help us set up before the ceremonies and clean up after. If you are interested in joining, reach out to me through Slack and we can get you added onto the channel!

Jonathan Deitchman  
Lodge Secretary  
Ceremonies Committee Chair

## **OA Member Portal and OA Yearly Dues**

Maintaining your membership in the OA is easier than ever, we are now using the national membership portal and accepting online dues payments in addition to accepting payments at the council office and our events.

OA Membership requirements:

1. Be a registered member of Scouts BSA in a unit in the Leatherstocking Council.
2. Be paid for the current dues year with the Lodge.

To check your current dues paid status or update any of your contact information with the lodge you just need to claim your ArrowID and login to <https://portal.oa-bsa.org/>

If you do not have an ArrowID or need any assistance getting into the membership portal, send an email to [adviser@oalodge34.org](mailto:adviser@oalodge34.org).

You can pay your Lodge Dues at any OA event, the council office or online:

<https://forms.tentaroo.com/view.php?id=9175488>

## Lodge Online Store

The Official Lodge merchandise store is online and accepting orders that will ship direct to you! Check out: <http://leatherstocking.sgtradingpost.online/> to see all the available items.



## Section E16 News

2023 Section E-16 Conclave news!  
Save the date: August 11-13, 2023!

Conclave will be at Camp Barton unless it gets sold, then it will be at Camp Tuscarora in August. The theme for Conclave this year will be Mardi Gras. Our Lodge has Saturday Afternoon & Inter-Lodge competitions for our program area this year. If anyone has ideas or would like to help out, reach out to our Conclave Vice-Chiefs at [cvc@oalodge34.org](mailto:cvc@oalodge34.org) Information about merchandise and registration will be available next year. For the latest information join us on the [#conclave](#) channel on Slack.

Section E-16 Website: <https://www.ne3b.org/home>



## Join the Conversation – Join us on Slack!

What is Slack? – Slack is a communications hub that can bring us all together. Slack gives us a common communication platform to chat, share, and work together. As a Lodge we will be using slack as our primary place for discussion and planning of all Lodge activities. Slack is free and available on all types of devices from phones to desktop computers. All you need to do to connect to us is follow the link: [https://join.slack.com/t/oalodge34lec/shared\\_invite/zt-7zyox54g-MMdB0b6lhV8H1omPfaLpfA](https://join.slack.com/t/oalodge34lec/shared_invite/zt-7zyox54g-MMdB0b6lhV8H1omPfaLpfA) If you have questions or need help joining slack please contact: [support@oalodge34.org](mailto:support@oalodge34.org)

2023 Active Slack Channels:

We have been working to streamline the channels on slack for the new year (feel free to join them):

[#activities](#) will be used for planning all non-induction events

[#ceremonies](#) will be used for the ceremonies committee

[#conclave](#) will be used for all conclave planning

[#elangomat](#) will be used for the Elangomat committee

[#finance](#) will be used for the finance committee

[#inductionevents](#) will be used for planning induction weekends

[#merchandise](#) marketing ideas

[#patchdesigns](#) patch ideas

[#unit\\_elections](#) unit election planning and scheduling

[#voiceofthetroops](#) units can post their local events, OA Unit Representatives

[#general](#) this chat, global to all members announcements and calendar things will post here

[#random](#) post anything

There is also a Vigil channel that is by invite only. @bun0014 for more information



Role	Name	E-Mail
Lodge Chief	Diego Gamarra	<a href="mailto:chief@oalodge34.org">chief@oalodge34.org</a>
Vice Chief	Ethan Witt	<a href="mailto:vicechief@oalodge34.org">vicechief@oalodge34.org</a>
Secretary	Tristan Wilson	<a href="mailto:secretary@oalodge34.org">secretary@oalodge34.org</a>
Treasurer	Jon Deitchman	<a href="mailto:treasurer@oalodge34.org">treasurer@oalodge34.org</a>
Lodge Adviser	Ben Obernesser	<a href="mailto:adviser@oalodge34.org">adviser@oalodge34.org</a>
Staff Adviser	Ray Eschenbach	<a href="mailto:staffadviser@oalodge34.org">staffadviser@oalodge34.org</a>

Our Lodge Calendar is available at <http://oalodge34.org/wp2/calendar/>

Visit us online:

<http://www.facebook.com/oalodge34>

<http://www.oalodge34.org/>

Up to date info is available on slack!

Join us on Slack:

[https://join.slack.com/t/oalodge34lec/shared\\_invite/zt-7zyox54g-MMdB0b6lhV8H1omPfaLpfA](https://join.slack.com/t/oalodge34lec/shared_invite/zt-7zyox54g-MMdB0b6lhV8H1omPfaLpfA)