Dallas Planning Meeting Update

**Justin St. Louis Elected to Serve as 2018 Region Chief**

Congratulations to Justin St. Louis, our 2018 Northeast Region Chief, elected by the Region Section Chiefs in Dallas, just a few days ago. Justin is an Eagle Scout from Troop 7 in Lowell, Massachusetts, he is a Vigil Honor member and Founder’s Award recipient of Pennacook Lodge, Section NE-1. Justin is a Sophomore at the University of Massachusetts Lowell where he majors in political science.

**Jon Hagenow concludes his term as 2017 Region Chief**

The leadership of the Northeast Region is grateful to Jon for his year of service as our Region Chief. He spent over 100 days on the road, in uniform, representing the Northeast Region. In Dallas, Jon was presented with a framed collection of all the patches from the events he helped lead this year. Additionally, he was presented with a James E. West Fellowship in his honor of his year of service. Thank you Jon for your service this past year!

**Bob Black concludes his term as Region Chairman**

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!! On behalf of the NER we would all like to say “Thank You” to Bob for all his Service to the NER as Region Chairman!

Bob Black concludes his term as Region Chairman, a role he has held for the last three and one half years. We are all excited with the news that Bob will not

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be going far. He will be taking on a new role as the Vice Chairman for Regions and Section Operations.

In his new role, Bob will oversee the Lodge Charter Renewal Process, NLS, DYLC, and SOS Schedules, OA statistical reports, LINK and much more. We all wish Bob much success in his new role!

The NER would like to say “Thank You” Bob for a job WELL DONE and for all he has done, and will continue to do, to make the NER so great. We are extremely excited that Bob will continue to be involved with the region in his new role. Again, THANK YOU Bob!

Congratulations to our five NER National Service Grant Lodges

The Region is proud to congratulate the five Northeast Region Lodges for their selection as 2018 Service Grant recipients. The selection and announcement was made at the National Planning Meeting in Dallas.


Kintecoying Lodge of the Greater New York Council, headquartered in New York City, New York – for the construction of a new roof for the Pouch Scout Camp archery range and to build an additional archery range at Alpine Scout Camp.

Paugassett Lodge of the Housatonic Council, headquartered in Derby, Connecticut – for renovations to the amphitheater at Edmund D. Strang Scout Reservation.

Yokahu Lodge of the Puerto Rico Council, headquartered in Guaynabo, Puerto Rico – to repair damage from Hurricane Maria to living quarters at Camp Guajataka.

Tschipey Achtu Lodge of the Seneca Waterways Council, headquartered in Rochester, New York – for the construction of a stage at the Frog Pond Amphitheater at Camp Cutler.

NOAC - 2018

The NOAC 2018 slogan, revealed during the 2017 National Planning Meeting, is Decide Your Destiny. This slogan reinforces the conference learning objective: Today’s decisions shape tomorrow’s reality. Together, these elements make up the NOAC theme.

Much of NOAC planning this past week focused on creating innovative ways to ensure that Lodge delegates have an awesome experience. NOAC will be the premiere event in 2018.

The program is being planned by the following Northeast Region Section Chiefs:

Activities and Recreation – Matt Parsons – NE-6A – CVC
Adventure Central – Adam DiRocco – NE-6B & Conor Lynch – NE-2B
AIA – Kent Boatman – NE-3B
Conference Festival – Zack Hill – NE-3A
Engagement – Jeremy Bedient – NE-5 – CVC & Andrew Work – NE-2A
ICE – Noah McGovern – NE-4A – CVC Training – Aaron Coffman – NE-4B

A few other Highlights coming to NOAC this year:

• Endowment Committee will host a premier patch auction for the first time.
• We will have a Sustainability Group at NOAC that will work with all NOAC committees to be more social, economic and environmental friendly at our National events.
• Hodag is being replaced with a Region Gathering! The Region Chiefs are planning an awesome evening!
• Adventure Central will have tons of new activities include STEM related events.
• Arrival orientation will be very different this conference.
• And much, much more...

**From the National Committee Meeting, the following are topics of interest.**

• DYLC to be held at Philmont this summer – June 17-23.
• JTE Lodge Pins will be available in 2018 – See your 2018 Lodge Program Packet for more information and ordering information.
• OA High Adventure programs – Please continue to promote your scholarship programs and opportunities in your Sections and Regions. Currently, OAHA programs are only 25% full. The programs are very affordable, and there are scholarships to help those with a financial need. Promoting OAHA programs is a year-round task. Please continue to promote these incredible programs. If you know of an Arrowman interested in attending an OAHA event but they need some financial assistance, please let Justin St. Louis or me know.
• National Website – new and updated! The new OA site will be rolling out in a few days. The new site looks great and will be much easier to navigate meaning fewer clicks to get you where you want to go or find what you are looking for! [www.oa-bsa.org](http://www.oa-bsa.org).
• Looking ahead to 2023 there is in the works, a National Event in Washington, DC. Preliminary information is that this will be a project in conjunction with the National Park Service.
• On-Line Section Adviser Training is coming soon – being worked on now.
• New LLD rewrite is coming and will be rolled-out at NOAC 2018.
• The Brotherhood and Vigil ceremonies are now available on the National website.
• The updated Guide to Unit Elections and Guide to Induction is also available on the national website.

**Lodge Re-Charters are Due**

If your Lodge Charters haven’t been submitted to National (both “pushing the button” in Lodgemaster and the signed acknowledgement by the Scout Exec to National), they are late. Please continue to follow up with your lodges.

**Upcoming Region Events**

**SOS/GOL**

The Section Officers Summit, called “Gathering of Leaders” in the Northeast Region, will once again provide renewed emphasis on Conclave planning and program. Our Chief, Justin St. Louis, will be working on the program over the next few months. Sections should anticipate that their Conclave Coordinator (youth) and Conclave Adviser will be invited again this year.

**Lodge Key 3 Summit – October 2018!**

On the weekend of October 5th through 7th, Lodge Chiefs, Lodge Advisers and Lodge Staff Advisers from every Lodge in the Northeast Region are invited to take part in this special event. It will be held at Camp Alpine in Alpine NJ. Please be sure to put this event on your lodge calendars!

This event will include: training and breakout sessions by position, best practice and idea sharing a well as information about new and upcoming programs in the OA. Breakout sessions will include topics like, How to Help Your Lodge Become a “High Performing Lodge” and Understanding the Three Steps to Better Retention: Election, Induction and Activation. The
The purpose of the Lodge Key 3 Summit is to help every lodge work towards being the best it can. Key 3 attendees will also have a chance to meet and hear from several special guests and members of the National Committee.

The event will be led by Region Chief Justin St. Louis. Additional staff will be members of the National OA Committee as well as past officers and advisers. More information and registration links will be available in the Spring.

**NLS / DYLC**

**A New NLS for 2018:**
In 2017, an NLS task force was assembled and given the challenge to maximize the relevance of NLS takeaways and improving the overall experience for today’s participants. The task force spent the past year developing an updated course. This updated program will provide learners, previously referred to as “participants,” with the skills and tools necessary to better lead themselves, their teams, and our organization. The core concepts and values of leadership in NLS are unchanged – this updated course builds on the objectives that have made it so successful over the years. The update utilizes new and more interactive and engaging sessions, focuses on the adaptive leadership model, and integrates technology to highlight these core concepts in an innovative way. Additionally, this revised course teaches the importance of ethical leadership and incorporating values into decision making.

Sending youth and adult members to NLS is an excellent way for lodges to develop their leaders. Attendees will learn skills that are directly applicable to the situations they face locally and return home with a renewed passion for the OA program. While NLS is designed to be a fun, engaging experience, it is also mentally challenging. Youth learners should be at least 15 years of age or a chapter or lodge officer. All learners should come prepared to engage in a strenuous and invigorating weekend. Individuals who have already attended NLS will still find value in the updated course, but in order to ensure that new Arrowmen have the opportunity to attend, repeat attendance is only recommended if it has been several years since having taken the course.

One key change that lodge leadership should be aware of involves ‘participant contracts’. Previously, participants came home from NLS with a contract consisting of three goals to complete before receiving their NLS patch and then officially completing the course. In this updated course, learners will still get to work closely with the staff to develop a detailed roadmap for accomplishing their goals back home. However, there is no longer a contract to complete, and learners receive their patch at NLS and leave the weekend enabled to make their goals a reality.

Registration for March NLS/DYLC is now open: [https://registration.oa-bsa.org/](https://registration.oa-bsa.org/)

**Region Schedule for the Coming Year – Please Publish.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NLS</td>
<td>March 9 - 11, 2018</td>
<td>Camp Alpine, Alpine NJ</td>
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<td>NLS</td>
<td>April 20 - 22, 2018</td>
<td>Griswold SR, New Hampshire</td>
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<td>NOAC</td>
<td>July 30 – August 4, 2018</td>
<td>IU, Bloomington, IN</td>
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<td>SOS / Gathering of Leaders</td>
<td>Sept. 14-16 2018</td>
<td>Camp Alpine, NJ – Section Leadership</td>
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<td>Lodge Key 3 Summit</td>
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<td>December 27 – 30, 2018</td>
<td>West Lake, TX – Section Chiefs</td>
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**Service Opportunity for all Arrowman!!**
As a continuation of the relief efforts, we are planning an Arrowcorps Puerto Rico event. The Section leadership together with Puerto Rico staff and volunteers, and with the support of the Chief Scout Executive of the BSA, and National, Region and Area staff and volunteers, are organizing a weeklong OA service project at Camp Gujataka in Puerto Rico. The service project will take place on Sunday, March 11 through Saturday March 17, 2018, to coincide with some college spring breaks. The event will be open to any OA members across the nation and is FREE. Individuals must only pay for their own transportation to/from San Juan International Airport (SJU). All other costs such as ground transportation, tools, lodging and food are being paid by the BSA. Your Section or Lodges may want to consider sponsoring someone to go. You must book your flights so that you arrive before 6PM on March 11 and you can depart no earlier than 10AM on March 17.

Registration for the event can be found at the following website: https://registration.oa-bsa.org. Additional information will be posted on the following website: https://sites.google.com/view/oane5/puerto-rico-arrowcorps.

For more information, contact: Section Chief NE-5, Jeremy Bedient at jeremybedient@gmail.com

Thanks!

Your Region Key 3 appreciates all that you do in your leadership role. There are so many great things happening in the Northeast Region. Our youth and adult leaders are making a mark in so many different parts of the National OA program. Thank you for doing your part to promote the excellent programs available to our youth at Lodge, Section, Region and National events. Thank You!!

How to reach the Key 3

We are available to help you with anything that you need in order to be successful. Please feel free to reach out to us at any time.

Region Chief, Justin St. Louis – via email at: 2018chief@northeast.oa-bsa.org
Region Chairman, Bob Chaballa – via email at: chairman@northeast.oa-bsa.org
Region Staff Adviser, Bradley Bowersox – via email at: Brad.Bowersox@scouting.org

More Region Info is available here:
NER Website: http://northeast.oa-bsa.org/
NER https://www.facebook.com/pg/oanorth/about/?ref=page_internal