

## National OA Conference

...by Ron Watermeier, NOAC Contingent Adviser

By the time you're reading this 15 Arrowmen from the Golden Sun Lodge will be packing their bags to attend the National Order of the Arrow Conference at Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa.

Every two years, Arrowmen from across the country gather on the campus of a major university for the National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC).

The National Order of the Arrow Conference is Scouting's second-largest national program event. The reason for its growing popularity can be attributed to the fact that it is planned and carried out by Arrowmen themselves. Youth involvement ensures that the conference program will be exciting, relevant, and non-stop fun.

These gatherings draw over 7000 Arrowmen, traveling from as far away as Europe and Asia, for five days of training, fun, and fellowship. With each conference, NOAC becomes more diversified, more fun, and more exciting.

NOAC has many different aspects and it is impossible to participate in every event in one year. Each year events are added and changed so you could go to NOAC every time and do new things each time. The main activities at NOAC include training, ceremonies evaluation, American Indian events, shows, competitions, and Founders' Day. NOAC has something for everyone of all backgrounds and all ages. It is definitely one of Scouting's most unique and entertaining training events.

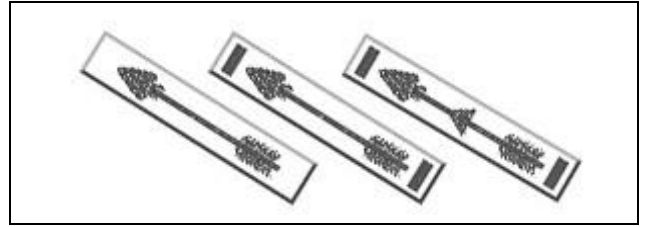
In addition to the 15 Arrowmen who will be part of the Lodge contingent, a number of lodge members will also be participating on the NOAC staff.

Make sure you talk to these people at the Pow-Wow to get all the great stories and hear about the wonderful times had by all at this year's National Order of the Arrow Conference.

### Want to Learn More about the National OA Programs?

You can find out about NOAC and other great programs on the National OA website at...

[www.aa-bsa.org](http://www.aa-bsa.org)



## Lodge Issues New Flap and Patch for NOAC 2004



The National Order of the Arrow Conference is just around the corner and the Golden Sun Lodge is producing its First Ever NOAC Lodge Flap! We have ordered a limited number of these NOAC Flaps and Contingent Patches. The GSL Contingent members will have the

first opportunity to purchase these NOAC sets and can sell them to others as a fund raiser to help pay for the cost of their trip. If (and that if should be spelled with a big I and a big F) there are any sets left after NOAC, they will be sold at the Pow Wow for the price of \$10.00 a set.

Since there are a limited number of these patches available it is expected that they will sell out quickly. If you want to make sure that you get one of these Historic Lodge Flaps for your collection, you need to contact a contingent member and make arrangements to purchase a set from them.



Arrowmen prepare for dancing and ceremonies at the Spring Event