

December 27,  
2014

# Winter Camp News

"Traditionally Unconventional"

"On Guard  
Since 1986"

Winter Camp XXXVIII News—Precamp Edition

## 3 Chapters. 2 Lodges. One Winter Camp.

Members of the new Migisi Opawgan Chapter (formerly Mahican and Wsigau Chapters) of Noquet Lodge, Order of the Arrow, will make their annual rendezvous with winter adventure by dominating the landscape of Beaver Creek subcamp at D-A Scout Ranch from December 27-31, 2014. Over 30 Winter Campers are expected to strain the capacities of the Ranch. Youth leader Ian McKeever and adviser Kristie Donohue head a leadership team with over 200 previous Winter Camp experiences. The new sponsoring chapter marks the third in Winter Camp's 38-year history: Downriver Chapter hosted Winter Camps I-XIV, and Mahican took over for XV-XXXVII. The name of the new chapter marks the return of Winter Camp's original lodge's name.

While the cost of Winter Camp has lagged behind inflation, the program continues to improve. Winter Camp is a culinary delight, and because many foods are prepared from scratch, an outstanding and sometimes unusual menu is prepared at budget prices. Winter Camp XXV was noted for the largest banquet in Arrow history, which served 162 different dishes. While that meal was a one-time experience (deservedly so), the menu and program for Winter Camp XXXVIII promise their own memorable moments.

This year's theme is "Ocean's 38", and will see youth members competing throughout the weekette on a series of projects to amass wealth, with the ultimate aim of breaking the bank at the Winter Camp Casino on Day Four. Winter Camp has been the home of deluxe camping for over a third of a century, and this year's program just makes official what experienced campers have known since their first camp: Winter Camp's tradition of excess makes the year's last weekette well worth the wait.

## Notorious Cheats

(Note: As a public service connected to this year's Ocean's 38 theme, the Winter Camp News is publishing a sequence of articles detailing famous scams that have been used in the past to cheat casinos. The News presents these stories for entertainment purposes only and does not endorse their use in any casino in or out of the Winter Camp Universe.)

Blackjack is frequently the target of casino cheating scams, in no small part because in games using one or two decks, players are often allowed to touch the cards and thus have opportunities to defraud the casino by marking the high cards in such a way as to reveal their rank to a knowledgeable player. Some cheaters have relied on tiny smudges of red or blue ink daubed near the edges of high cards. In an extreme case, players wore special red contact lenses to make the applied ink more visible to them while very difficult for casino personnel to see. (Casinos fought back with red plastic discard holders such as one you will see at the Winter Camp Casino.) More technically adept card markers have experimented with radioactive tracers applied to cards, detectable by a pocket Geiger counter.

Card marking need not be so sophisticated. Gamblers with bandaged fingers may come in for extra scrutiny from pit bosses, as cheating card players have in the past employed such simple tools as a strip of sandpaper or a small thumbtack concealed beneath the Band-Aid to mark desirable cards by roughing up an edge or lightly pricking the face in a way visible from the back.

How is this useful? Card marking typically tags high cards—tens or aces. When you see that a marked ten is the next card off the deck or out of the shoe, you can adjust your strategy accordingly—either standing on 14 against a dealer 10, say, instead of hitting, or increasing your bet if you know your first card will be a 10, since a hand starting with a 10 gives you a 13% edge over the casino.

## Today's Schedule

(All times WCST)

12:00 N	Hot Potato Lunch and Orientation
1:30 PM	4-Way Volleyball
3:00 PM	38th Parallel Wargames
6:00 PM	Mexican Team Cooking Meal
8:00 PM	Blind Hike A & Baking
9:30 PM	Blind Hike B & Baking
11:00 PM	Bakery Snack
12:00 M	Quiet Hours

The Winter Camp logo was introduced in 1990 at Winter Camp XIV. Unusual in its rhombus shape, the logo's first appearance was on the cover of *Origins*, a book detailing the history of many Winter Camp traditions, and the new three-ring binder for the Winter Camp Manual.



It has since appeared on a wide variety of items, including T-shirts, patches, poker chips, and coffee mugs. Many of these logo items may be seen at camp in the Winter Camp museum and are available for purchase in the online Winter Camp store.

The Winter Camp News plans to publish daily issues during Winter Camp XXXVIII. Come back to read full accounts of Winter Camp adventures, past and present.

# Winter Camp Participation Award—Don't Miss Out!

The **Winter Camp Participation Award** is the most prestigious award that can be earned by a youth member of Noquet Lodge. Now is the time for you to earn this gold-bordered Winter Camp patch! Here are the requirements:

**1. While attending Winter Camp, do each of the following:**

- a. Participate in baking a loaf of bread or similar baked good.
- b. Help set up or coordinate an event.
- c. Provide four (4) hours of service to camp.
- d. Climb D-A's highest peak.
- e. Participate in the Blind Hike.
- f. Set a personal goal to achieve during camp and achieve it.

**2. While attending Winter Camp, do at least two of the following:**

- a. Participate in a project aimed at improving Winter Camp.
- b. Write an article or short story for the *Winter Camp News*.
- c. Sleep outdoors safely during Winter Camp.
- d. Hold a leadership position. This includes serving as youth leader or any

other office designated by the leader.

**3. Do at least two of the following:**

- a. Pass the Winter Camp Basic History Test (available from Mark Bollman—>).
- b. Surf the Winter Camp Universe and participate in one or more discussion areas.
- c. Define the following terms: *CHR, Jiffy, Kitchamajig, El Mediodia, Quiet Hours, Rand Stew, Weekette, Winter Camp Savings Time*.

In earning the Winter Camp Participation Award, you will join an elite crew of 27 Arrowmen who have earned this award since 2000. Your gold-bordered patch will be presented to you at a ceremony that ensures that the patch will not be touched by the hands of an adult Arrowman. No adult worthy of the name would touch a Participation Award, unless he earned that patch as a youth.

For assistance in completing these requirements or to have your work certified, talk to advisers Ethan Rein or Mark Bollman—>, who have agreed to advise Arrowmen working on the Award this year.

## Back In The Day

Tales Of History and Imagination

(Reprinted in part from *Encyclopedia WinterCampica*, 18<sup>th</sup> edition, © 2015.)

For many years, Winter Camp secretly stored some equipment, including a kitchen countertop, garbage can, and ice cream maker, in the attic of the Beaver Creek building. Some of these items were lost when the cabin was remodeled before Winter Camp XXII; in this remodel, the attic became accessible through a high door in the dining area. Over the succeeding years, much of our kitchen and sports gear, including 4-Way Volleyball nets and sets of golf clubs, has come to be stored at camp.

There was thought to be little risk in storing this gear in the attic, but in 2013, the summer camp staff entered the attic and extracted several items, including the air-blown bear and jingle bell wreath, for their use at camp while scattering the contents of many of the storage bins on the attic floor. The items were soon returned, but when Winter Camp XXXVII was shifted to Silver Trails, there was little opportunity for more than a quick grab-and-go mission to retrieve the most vital equipment. At the pre-planning meeting for Winter Camp XXXVIII in September 2014, campers straightened out the gear and installed a D-A-compatible latch and a combination lock on the door to discourage further intrusions.

This lock has a user-defined combination consisting of four letters. *You* are invited to consult the letter options below, choose one from each row, and propose a new combination for the lock. Submissions should be sent to the *News* publisher.

R	S	T	L	N	B	D	M	J	P
A	E	I	O	U	Y	R	T	L	H
A	C	D	E	O	R	S	T	L	N
E	D	H	K	Y	R	S	T	L	N

## Winter Camp Trivia

**From the December 31, 2013 edition:**

1. Which two Winter Camp advisers endured a very long safety video and are now chain-saw certified at camp?

—*Keith King and Doug Wilson*

2. Which candy was added to some of the sausage made at Winter Camp XXXVII?

—*Skittles*

3. Which Winter Camp XXXVII event took place at D-A?

—*Time Capsule Hike*

4. Which flavors of dessert pies were served at Winter Camp XXXVII's Piapalooza?

—*Apple, cherry, chocolate, and blueberry*

**Today's questions (Planning meeting edition):**

1. Steve Donohue proposed a new rule forbidding the suggestion of which meal at the planning meeting?

2. Who tried to convert 4-Way Volleyball into a hike disguised as an activity (HDA) by combining it with Cross-Country Golf?

3. Which one of Steve and Kristie Donohue's pets attended the planning meeting: Mickey, Mortoise, Roadkill, or Sammy?

4. Where was the September pre-planning meeting held?

### Quote O' The Day: Planning Meeting Edition

“*You guys will come to understand the beauty of Luchador!*”—*Steve Donohue*

**Hear something funny? Say something funny? Let the *News* know!**