The Order of the Arrow

CROSSROADS OF AMERICA COUNCIL
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
The Order of the Arrow was founded in the summer of 1915 at Treasure Island Scout camp near Philadelphia. It was formed to recognize those campers who best exemplify the spirit of the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives.
The founders, E. Urner Goodman and Carroll Edson, decided to base the organization on the principles of Native American Tradition. The reason for this was that the camp was rich in Native American History.
The Order of the Arrow is a service organization, and it has changed little since its beginning. Today, there are approximately 170,000 active members who provide over a million service hours per year. Soon, some of you will be given the opportunity to become a part of this great Order.
The Order of the Arrow Lodge of Crossroads of America Council is called Jaccos Towne. The history of the lodge goes back to 1973 when there was a merger of Kikthawenund Lodge, chartered in 1942; Wahpinachi Lodge, chartered in 1945; Wah-Pe-Kah-Me-Kunk Lodge, chartered in 1955, to form Wulakamike Lodge in 1973. In 2003, Wulakamike Lodge merged with Kickapoo Lodge, chartered in 1938, to become Jaccos Towne Lodge.
At the Lodge Winter Banquet in 2003, the current Chief of the Wea Tribe and his two sons presented the new lodge with its name. Jaccos Towne Lodge is named for Chief Jacco Godfroy, who was the fifth-great grandfather of the Chief of the Wea Tribe in 2003. The lodge also received its new totem, the River Otter, or Kinohsamia in the Wea language, which inhabits the areas of the tribe’s residence.
As you have heard from this brief account, the Order of the Arrow has a long and proud history. In a moment, some of you will be called out from your fellow Scouts to begin your journey to join us as a member of this great and honored organization.
Here let the Treasure Island spirit kindle fires of friends far.
SERVICE TO SCOUTING
ORDER OF THE ARROW

SCOUTING'S NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY