

History of the Kwahadi Lodge #78 of the Conquistador Council #413

The Order of the Arrow was founded in 1915 at Treasure Island, the Philadelphia Council Scout Camp. E. Urner Goodman was camp director and his assistant was Carroll A. Edson. These two men, working with their camp staff, came up with the ideas that gave recognition to the Scouts who were good campers and best exemplified the spirit of the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives.

This honor camper society was based on the legends and traditions of the Delaware Tribes. The lodge taught three lessons: Brotherhood, Service and Cheerfulness.

Neighboring Councils watched the camp ceremonies and felt it a great idea. They took the message back to their Councils and other Lodges were started. In 1921 it was established on a national basis.

In June of 1934, at the National Council meeting in Buffalo, N.Y. the Order of the Arrow program was approved by the National Council but it was not consummated until 1948.

In the late twenties there was a great deal of talk about organizing the Order of the Arrow at Wehinahpay. At that time no one in our Council had any real information. We knew the general purpose but had never seen a copy of the ritual, but that did not stop us. We set up our own Lodge, worked out our own tap out and initiation and called it the Order of the Red Arrow. This was started in 1928 and continued until 1934.

A membership card for 1935 carries the names of Rev A. F. Tucker and J. Melindez as officers. The name of the lodge was not on this card. No information is available as to the exact year Kwahadi was selected as the Lodge name, but is believed to be sometime around 1934.

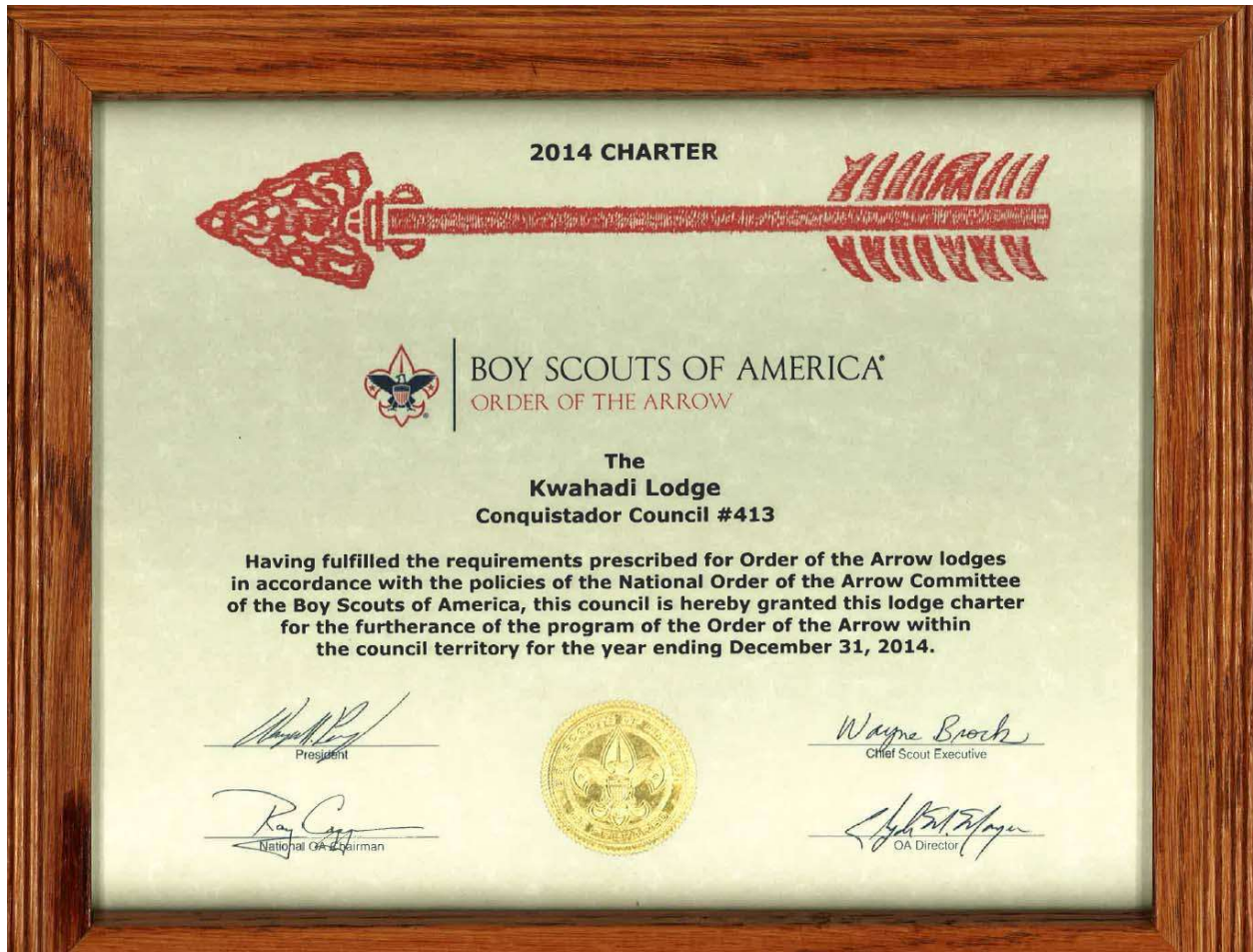
Kwahadi or Kwarari was one of the twelve divisions of the Comanche tribe. They frequented the prairie country and the plains. They were fine horsemen and had a reputation for dash and courage. They were also known for having a high sense of honor.

Kwahadi in Comanche means Antelope, or swift one, and since the antelope is a plains animal and is known for its speed, this selection was appropriate.

The Comanche divisions sometimes referred to the Kwahadi group as antelope eaters and antelope skimmers. The antelope is a native to the plains and the Kwahadi group were plains Indians and they depended on the antelope to supply part of their meat.¹

¹ Saga of Potato Canyon, A History of the Conquistador Council Boy Scouts of America by Minor S. Huffman

Lodge Charters



THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
HEREBY GRANTS THIS 2015
100TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR CHARTER
ORDER OF THE ARROW

TO THE **KWAHADI LODGE**

OF THE **CONQUISTADOR COUNCIL #413**



Wayne Brock
CHIEF SCOUT EXECUTIVE

Roy C. ...
NATIONAL CHAIRMAN
ORDER OF THE ARROW COMMITTEE

John B. ...
NATIONAL DIRECTOR
ORDER OF THE ARROW

