Lodge Growth

As of August 17, 2012 Tamegonit Lodge has 4,158 regular dues-paying members. Through announcements and mailing reminders, we have grown by +2.13% so far this year! Our lodge hopes to grow even more with membership additions from our Fall Induction Weekend. As many of you may know, we are the second largest lodge in the USA as of December 31, 2011. The top three are:

- Amangemek Wipit (Washington DC) – 4,562
- Tamegonit (Kansas City) – 4,030
- Totanhan Nakaha (St Paul) – 3,608

This is a great honor to be known as the second largest lodge in the country and we should appreciate all the hard work that has been put forth to make this happen.

Information provided by Tom Ward, Lodge Membership Chair
LETTER FROM THE EDITOR, Ian Boyd

Hi, my name is Ian Boyd, the current Editor of the Torchbearer. When you join the lodge, new opportunities open up immediately. Serve the Lodge in a leadership position or a team member; there are always opportunities. There are opportunities for all skills and interests and the length of your membership in the Lodge is not important. If you like to take pictures, contact me to provide photographs for the newsletter becoming a Torchbearer photographer. If you like writing, telling stories of Lodge activities or doing e-communications, contact me to become an Assistant Editor. My email is: iansboyd8@gmail.com. Contact me to help make your Lodge better.

Ceremonial Team, Jacob Dokos

Hello! I am Jacob Dokos your 2012 Ceremony Team Chair. We have had an awesome time at NOAC: National Order of the Arrow Conference. One of our teams received an honor medal with a ceremony rating of excellent. Congratulations to team members Rob Koudelka, Clayton Knapp, Nathan Strentz, and Jacob Dokos. Other team members worked on ceremonies and character development. This time allowed us learn new ideas for our ceremony program to provide a better ceremonies for our candidates. We hope to also take many of the new ideas to a wider audience throughout the Lodge. Hey, why don’t you expand your experiences and fun in your Lodge? New members are always welcome on Ceremony Team! Consider activities such as drumming, performing, support, attire care and many others! For more information on the Ceremony Team, send an e-mail to jsdokos@gmail.com with questions or activities you want to try. Look forward for new experiences in your Lodge!

Chiefly Speaking

My fellow Arrowmen,

United, We Leave a Legacy. This was the theme of the 2012 National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC), attended by sixty-five Tamegonit Arrowmen, including me. For one week, we joined over 7,000 of our brothers from across the nations for fun, training and fellowship. We explored this theme and worked to leave our own legacy. As intended, this got me thinking about not only my own legacy, but that of Tamegonit Lodge.

If you were to ask me right now what that is, I would not be certain. Is it the fact that we are the second largest lodge in the nation? Maybe it is our history of quality ceremonial teams? Or perhaps the service we give back to the Heart of America Council and scouts? Is it the assistance to the Theodore Naish Scout Reservation through donations of funds, labor and time? Currently, I don’t have the answer to this question. However, as I always try to do in life: I plan to find the answer. As we approach our 75th Anniversary as a lodge in 2014 and the Centennial of the Order of the Arrow the following year, we will be exploring our legacy and how the lodge continues into the future.

This task won’t be easy, but I ask you to enjoy the ride with me. You can expect some big and exciting things in the next three years. It all starts at this year’s Fall Fellowship and includes Tamegonit Lodge’s 75th Anniversary Celebration in 2014 and the Centennial of the Order of the Arrow the following year. It will all lead toward the must-see NOAC in 2015, highlighting the Centennial Celebration of the Order of the Arrow.

To hear more details about these exciting and upcoming events & legacy building opportunities, I encourage you to attend Fall Fellowship Sept. 21-23, 2012. There I will be holding an open forum to answer your questions, get your input and consider your thoughts and dreams of the legacy of Tamegonit Lodge.

Yours in Brotherhood,
Colby Soden
2012 Tamegonit Lodge Chief
I was the chief of Tamegonit Lodge five years ago. Today, I’m a graduate student living in Austin, TX, studying developmental biology, and sailing my boat on Lake Travis as often as I can get a free weekend. In the past five years, a lot has changed and I have grown with it. I’d like to share with you some lessons from the journey, and how being an Arrowman and former lodge chief has contributed to my success.

Lesson #1: Figure out the course ahead of you.

This one may seem pretty obvious. Scouting taught me to Be Prepared and embrace the virtues of planning ahead. If you’ve been to an induction weekend before, you know the routine: Friday check in, Ordeal callout, Saturday there’s cheerful service and ceremonies, and Sunday check out. The routine for a lodge chief has a few more steps to it. Is North Meadow mowed for Pre-Ordeal? How many water coolers are there in Whippoarrow? Who is serving at crackar barrel? I used that knowledge as I considered my career goals. When I talked to my college adviser about how I wanted to be a biology professor someday, we agreed that I would need a Ph.D., and I would need graduate school to get a Ph.D., and I would need research experience doing to get into graduate school. It was time to get into the lab.

Lesson #2. Make success a priority.

One of my favorite things as lodge chief was sitting in Whippoarrow, watching the culmination of each candidate’s induction experience. Being able to watch from the sidelines, knowing that everything was going well was a great reward. When the ceremonial team was short an Allowat Sakima, however, it was my duty to suit up when I’d rather be monitoring from the sidelines. I learned to always strive to make help out as needed to make the responsibilities of the Lodge a success. In school, I wondered, could I get paid for doing research? Not likely. Would I be able to go back to camp for the summer? Probably not. There were many students besides me clamoring for limited research opportunities. In order to find my way into a lab, I had to commit myself to working when I would want to be at camp. I used my summer camp experiences as evidence of my service and leadership abilities, working toward success for the research project.

Lesson #3. See potential in every opportunity.

As I applied for positions, I found that most of the labs I was interested in did not have room for an undergraduate researcher. One lab did have an opening; however, I would be only responsible for food preparation for the laboratory animals and washing dishes. It was going to be manual labor and certainly not anything you could call research experience, but I saw it as an opportunity. In OA, most new Ordeal members don’t usually see themselves becoming a lodge chief; however they will only get there by being involved in smaller opportunities. To me, washing dishes was like being a runner or an Elangomat. I helped the operation run; I got to know the people doing research, earning their trust and respect. Before long, I was asked if I would like to work on a project with one of the graduate students, and I jumped at the chance. In May 2010 I wrote about my research in my senior thesis and graduated with honors. Additionally, I was accepted into graduate school at the University of Texas, where I started in the fall.

Lesson #4. Surround yourself with capable, passionate people.

A lodge chief is only as good as his support. A good vice chief certainly goes a long way, but there are relatively few lodge officers compared to the overall size of the lodge. When a lodge chief recognizes a young Arrowman doing good work and asks for his help, that Arrowman will be more likely to return and look for additional ways to help. He may be a future lodge chief himself, but only if he is shown the opportunities to serve and he takes them. When I started graduate school, I got to work in three different labs for ten weeks each, before deciding where to work for the rest of my Ph.D. It was important to me during these rotations that the people in the lab were people I would seek out for guidance and who would do their best to help me. Similarly, I wanted my work to inspire my passion, so more senior researchers would see my enthusiasm to get involved in different projects and pass those opportunities my way.

There’s still a lot to look forward to, for both me and you. I try to keep my oaths and admonitions in mind as I grow and advance in my career. It’s important to also reflect on experiences as lodge chief for lesson learned. I hope these lessons are also useful for you. I admonish you to search for and discover the opportunities to learn in your own life.

Tamegonit Lodge has made it’s selections of individuals for recognition as Vigil Honor members of the lodge in 2012. 30 people have been selected for the Vigil Honor out of our lodge of more than 4000 members. This is less than one percent of the lodge and a testament to the exemplary service of these individuals. A lodge may nominate a maximum of two percent of their registered Arrowmen once a year. At least 50 percent of all nominated must be under 21 at the time of nomination.

These 30 individuals will be recognized at the Vigil Banquet on October 6, 2012, beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the Central Camp Dining Hall at Naish Scout Reservation. Reservations can be made online beginning Monday, August 20 at http://VigilBanquet.kintera.org/. 

- Mike Bennett (A)
- Jacob Dokas (Y)
- Matt Lawson (Y)
- Aaron Perkins (Y)
- Riley Stevens (Y)
- Joe Bush (Y)
- Chuck Goodman (A)
- Steven Loughridge (Y)
- Tom Pistorious (A)
- Jerald Thomas (A)
- Robert Coates (A)
- Anthony Kawecki (Y)
- Julian Marshall (Y)
- Raul Salmon (A)
- Jane Thompson (A)
- Jeff Cochran (A)
- Dan Kerling (A)
- Rick Miller (A)
- Andre Sidney (A)
- Austin Van Black (Y)
- Jordan Cook (Y)
- Clay Knapp (Y)
- Robert Miller (A)
- Joshua Smith (Y)
- John York (Y)
- Laura Crotty (Y)
- Gail Lavenburg (A)
- Morgan Olander (A)
- Monrai Spikes (Y)
- Stuart Zizzo (Y)

Congratulations to all new Vigil Honor candidates. This recognition of your service to Scouting, the lodge and the community is most deserved, and Tamegonit Lodge is proud to count you among its Vigils!
Proposed Tamegonit Lodge By-Law Changes to be voted for approval at the 2012 Fall Fellowship

Currently standing By-Laws are in normal font.  Proposed insertions into the By-Laws are in bold italic font.  Proposed deletions from the By-Laws are underlined in normal font.

III. Officers: D) Lodge Officers will be elected at the Fall Fellowship. Chapter Officers will be elected at either Fall Fellowship, following Lodge Elections, or the Chapter’s District Roundtable immediately following Fall Fellowship. The term of all officers shall begin at Winter Banquet and end immediately following the next year’s Winter Banquet. Chapter Officer Elections will be reported to the current and incoming Lodge Key 3 within three (3) days of the completion of the election.

Reasoning: Specifies the timing of Chapter Officer Elections as part of the lodge operations.  It determines a specific time frame in which to complete and report Chapter Elections to begin preparations for new officers to learn their roles.

III. Officers: D) The Lodge Executive Committee shall be composed of the elected Lodge Officers, immediate Past Lodge Chief, Lodge Adviser, Council Camping Committee Chairman or representative, Chapter Chiefs, Chapter Advisers, Lodge Committee Chairman, Lodge Committee Advisers, and the Scout Executive or his/her designee.

Reasoning: Formally include the Lodge Committee Chairs as part of the LEC.  This allows for the potential of a female Scout Executive in the future.

III. Officers: F) The Lodge Chief shall appoint such operating Committee Chairmen as may be required with the approval of the Lodge Adviser.  All chairmen shall be under twenty-one (21) years of age.

Reasoning: Article III, Section H states that all Chairmen shall be under twenty-one (21) year of age.  Eliminating this statement reduces redundancy in the By-Laws.

III. Officers: D) Chapter officers shall be elected each fall, after the Lodge elections.  The standard open-floor nominating procedures shall be used.  The term of all Chapter Officers shall be from January 1 of the year following their election until December 31 of the same year.

Reasoning: By moving rules pertaining to Chapter Officer Elections into Article III, Section A, this Section is no longer needed as it creates conflicting redundant information.  This also brings the term of office for Chapter Officers in line with the term of office for Lodge Officers.

III. Officers: J) 2. Votes shall be counted by the current Lodge Chief, Lodge Secretary, and the Lodge Adviser or their designates.  If either the Lodge Chief or Secretary is running for any Lodge office they must appoint a qualified replacement to take their place in counting votes.

Reasoning: This statement is added to eliminate the possibility of an individual running for office to purposely alter the results to win an election.

III. Officers: K) 2. The Officer being impeached will be notified by the LEC in writing in writing by the LEC at least one week in advance of action by the LEC.

Reasoning: The change in Article III, Section K, Sub-section 2 provides for timely notification to the Officer to prepare a defense.

III. Officers: K) 7. If approved, the lodge or chapter officer shall serve his position until the next annual lodge or chapter elections end of the current term of office.

Reasoning: The changes in Article III, Section K, Sub-section 7 changes the term of office to extend to the end of the term, rather than until the election.  Only extending his term until the election creates a situation where that position is technically unfilled between the annual election and until the elected officer via election takes over that position.

III. Officers: L) 3. If approved, the lodge or chapter officer shall serve in his position until the next annual lodge or chapter elections end of the current term of office.

Reasoning: The changes in Article III, Section L, Sub-section 3 changes the term of office to extend to the end of the term, rather than until the election.  Only extending his term until the election creates a situation where that position is technically unfilled between the annual election and until the elected officer via election takes over that position.

V. Lodge Dues: B) Dues for all Lodge members shall be $10.00 per year shall be set by the previous years LEC. If a change is made, the lodge shall be notified by December 1 and it will be published in the next Torchbearer.

Reasoning: Changes the dues from a set amount in the By-Laws to an amount that is determined through needs of the budget on a yearly basis and provides for communication guidelines to lodge members if there are any changes in dues.

V. Lodge Dues: C) Dues will be collected by the Lodge Secretary, Lodge Treasurer, or designated Lodge Official Heart of America Council Service Center.

Reasoning: Changes the collection agent to the Heart of America Council to serve the administrative function of collecting and processing dues for all lodge members.

V. Lodge Dues: D) Upon paying dues, each Arrowman shall fill out a dues renewal card form, either individually or as a unit, to be sent to the council office to update the Lodge roster.

Reasoning: This change reflects the move the lodge has made to the forms we now use to process dues via unit rosters of members provided to units during renewal or through individual dues payment online or via paper form.

VI. Fees: B) 3. Coup thong arrowhead and leather thong A coupon for an arrowhead at the Theodore Naish Scout Reservation Trading Post.

Reasoning: The lodge does not provide the arrowhead or leather anymore; instead a coupon has been provided for the past several years.  This formally states that change.

VI. Fees: B) D) Dues paid through December 31 of the next current year.

Reasoning: The lodge cannot afford to pay dues for all new members and does not collect the proper amount of fees form newly inducted members to cover this cost.  Rather than increase the fee for new Ordeal members to cover this cost, it was determined that eliminating that second year of dues was a more affordable plan.  This will also encourage the lodge to communicate more readily with new members to engage them and inculcate new members to the process of paying dues on a yearly basis to remain an active OA member.
Section Conclave

Hi! I am Aaron Prothe the Section Conclave Chairman. Section Conclave will be held from September 14-16, 2012 at Camp Jayhawk. We will join with members of five other lodges to attend Section Conclave. This event will feature training opportunities, ceremony and dance competitions, games, and patch trading activities, and Section Officer Elections. The cost for the weekend is only $35 and covers food, activities, material, section fees. Tamegonit Lodge has set a goal of bringing at least 110 people to Section Conclave. We encourage you to sign-up online at http://asectionconclave.kintera.org/.

NLS / NLATS

National Leadership Seminar (NLS) and National Lodge Adviser Training Seminar (NLATS) are two of the best trainings offered anywhere in the BSA. These trainings will provide you with tools that you can use in and out of Scouting and the OA in all sorts of leadership opportunities. NLS is open to all OA members, youth and adult. NLATS is open to all adult chapter or lodge advisers (current or potential). Register through the lodge at http://NLS-NLATS.kintera.org. Set aside November 2-4, 2012 to attend NLS or NLATS.

The full cost of each course is $175; however Tamegonit Lodge pays a portion of the fee for every participant, youth and adult. Youth need to pay only $50 for NLS; the lodge will cover the rest! Adults pay only $125 for either NLS or NLATS. Again, the Lodge will cover the rest! Sign-up now for NLS or NLATS. Whether you are an active OA leader now or want to learn more, these trainings are a great place to start to learn more!

2012 Lodge Officer Elections

If you are interested in serving as an elected Lodge Officer in 2013 (Lodge Chief, Four Vice-Chiefs, Secretary, Treasurer), you MUST complete an Election Candidacy Agreement. This Agreement states what is expected of you as an Officer in 2013 and MUST be signed by you, your parent, and your Unit Leader (Scoutmaster or Varsity Coach) before being signed and approved by the Lodge Adviser, Kelsie Clark, to run for office. All youth running for office will meet with Kelsie prior to being approved to run for office to ensure your commitment to these positions if elected. You can get a copy of this Agreement online at http://www.hoac-bsa.org/Camping/HonorCamp/Programs/OrderOfTheArrow/LodgeExecutiveCommittee.aspx. Additional info about the LEC, Lodge Committee Chairman positions and other leadership opportunities in the lodge and chapters can be found on this page and other sub-pages located here. Make sure to talk with each of the current Lodge Officers and Committee Chairmen if you are interested in holding one of the positions in 2013!

2012 Fall Fellowship

Fall Fellowship 2012 is just around the corner and you can expect a weekend full of fun, fellowship, and friends. From September 21-23, Arrowmen from across Tamegonit Lodge will be gathering at Naish Scout Reservation and we hope you will join us. There will be more to do at this weekend then any one scout could do but here is an idea of what to expect opportunity to take ing, including ones youth and adults. After booths, outdoor and tions, a pow wow, and lodge business meeting Saturday morning will be an training classes of your choos specifically geared towards lunch check out the chapter camping vendors, demonstra more. There will be the annual which will include the election of next year’s lodge and chapter officers. To cap off the day we will gather in Whippoorwill for a ceremony put on by our Ceremonies and Dance teams, highlighted by the 2012 Vigil Call. See you at Fall Fellowship! http://oafallfellowship.kintera.org/

LODGE LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT - OCTOBER 13, 2012: 4:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m. @ Power Play, Shawnee, KS; DETAILS TO FOLLOW: This training is for all incoming 2013 Lodge Officers and Arrowmen interested in taking on leadership roles in their Chapter or Lodge in 2013 or beyond. Any Arrowman, youth or adult, is encouraged to attend this training!

NOAC Recap - 65 members of Tamegonit Lodge attended the National Order of the Arrow Conference at Michigan State University from July 31—August 4 this summer. Highlights include: Merit Honor - Lodge History Display, Honor Medals - Pre-Ordeal Ceremony Team, 4th Place finish - Mascot Competition, Multiple Second Round Advancements - Dance Team members, DSA Recipient Phil Raine, 4th Place finish - Basketball Competition. Later this fall, we will be issuing a special edition of the Torchbearer covering NOAC in depth and talking about how you can start to plan your trip to NOAC in 2015, for the Centennial Celebration of the OA! Our Goal: Bring at least 150 Tamegonit Lodge Arrowmen to 2015 NOAC!
2013 OA Winter Banquet
January 12, 2013
Registration: 5:00 p.m.
Dinner: 6:00 p.m.
Arrowhead Stadium, North Club
Details and Guest Speaker to be announced in the coming weeks!

2013 ArrowPass

This program will return for 2013. We are budgeting our events for 2013 and will determine a cost for the ArrowPass soon. The ArrowPass is a one-time REDUCED PRICE payment for registration to five 2013 Tamegonit Lodge events: Winter Banquet, all three Induction Weekends (Spring #1, Spring #2, and Fall), and Fall Fellowship. You will automatically be registered for all five events with nothing more for you or your troop to pay all year long; make sure your troop indicates that you are marked as an ArrowPass holder when registering for events if you register through your troop for events; as an individual, you need to do nothing more. All 2013 ArrowPass holders will receive a commemorative 2013 ArrowPass patch, available only to ArrowPass members and not for purchase anywhere. Once cost is published, ArrowPasses will be available for sale through Thursday, December 28, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. No ArrowPasses will be sold after December 28. NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE TO THIS POLICY!

It is strongly encouraged that all LEC members consider purchasing an ArrowPass; if you are considering serving as a Lodge Officer or as Lodge Committee Chair or as a Chapter Chief, you may want to discuss purchasing an ArrowPass with your parents or start saving money now. Advisers are also encouraged to purchase an ArrowPass to ensure you are registered for all events. All Arrowmen, including LEC members MUST register for any Order of the Arrow event!

Find Tamegonit Lodge on Facebook
Scan this QR Code:

Order of the Arrow Operations Update 12-07: The national Order of the Arrow committee has modified the requirements for the nomination of adult unit Scouters to become candidates for induction into the Order. The changes will increase the number of currently-serving Scoutmasters and Varsity Team Coaches and other unit Scouters who can be nominated to be candidates. These modifications apply only to adult leaders in Scout troops and Varsity teams who are 21 years of age or older. They become effective at the beginning of each lodge’s 2013 elections season or January 1, 2013, whichever comes first. [For Tamegonit Lodge, these changes become effective January 1, 2013.]

The following will replace the corresponding paragraph on page 21 of the Order of the Arrow Guide for Officers and Advisers:

1. Adult leaders in units: Each year, upon holding a troop or team election for youth candidates that results in at least one youth candidate being elected, the unit committee may nominate adults to the lodge adult selection committee. The number of adults nominated can be no more than one-third of the number of youth candidates elected, rounded up where the number of youth candidates is not a multiple of three. In addition to the one-third limit, the unit committee may nominate the currently-serving unit leader (but not assistant leaders), as long as he or she has served as unit leader for at least the previous twelve months. Recommendations of the adult selection committee, which consists of the lodge adviser, the chairman of the council committee on which the lodge adviser serves, and the lodge staff adviser, with the approval of the Scout executive, serving as Supreme Chief of the Fire, will be candidates for induction, provided the following conditions are fulfilled:

- Selection of the adult is based on the ability to perform the necessary functions to help the Order fulfill its purpose, and not for recognition of service, including current or prior achievement and positions.
- The individual will be an asset to the Order because of demonstrated abilities that fulfill the purpose of the Order.
- The camping requirements set forth for youth members are fulfilled.
- The adult leader’s membership will provide a positive example for the growth and development of the youth members of the lodge.
Tamegonit Lodge is celebrating its 75th Anniversary in 2014. Plans are being made NOW for this celebration. Do you want to get in on the fun? Do you have ideas for making this an unforgettable year in our lodge? Visit our booth at Fall Fellowship!

**NAISH TRADING POST SALE**

Purchase at least $30 in Trading Post merchandise (not including BSA registration, OA dues, or event registration fees) between now and Fall Fellowship and you will get a coupon for $5 off the purchase of an OA fleece jacket or OA sweatshirt.

You can redeem this coupon at the same time as your minimum $30 merchandise purchase.

This offer expires on November 10, 2012.
CHAPTER PIZZA PARTY
Hey Chapters, you can win a pizza party for your whole chapter! How do we get a free pizza party?
Well, the Chapter that has the largest percentage of their chapter membership, as of the end of the day on September 14, 2012, attend Fall Fellowship will win a FREE PIZZA PARTY LUNCH for all their chapter members attending Fall Fellowship on Saturday of Fall Fellowship!
So if you like pizza and you like getting free pizza, register NOW for Fall Fellowship. We’ll see you at Fall Fellowship from Sept 21-23. Register online: http://oafallfellowship.kintera.org/

CHAPTER CHIEF CONFERENCE
The next Chapter Chiefs Conference (CCC) will be held 45 minutes prior to the LEC Meeting on September 20. We will begin promptly at 6:15 p.m. This meeting will be held at the Council Office. We will discuss progress each Chapter has made on the Chapter Journey to Excellence program and share ideas about strategies to accomplish some of the requirements you still need to complete to qualify as a Gold Level Chapter in 2012. Nathan will provide statistics you need for information regarding membership growth, Brotherhood Conversion, etc. Attendance of all Chapter Chiefs and Chapter Advisers is expected; RSVP’s need to be made whether you can be in attendance or not to Nathan Strentz, Vice Chief of Chapters, through Cortland Bolles, Staff Adviser, at cortland.bolles@scouting.org. - Nathan

LODGE CALENDAR
September 14-16, 2012 –Section C5B Conclave, Camp Jayhawk
September 20, 2012 – Lodge Executive Committee Meeting, Council Office, 7:00 p.m.
September 21-23, 2012 – Fall Fellowship, Naish Scout Reservation
October 6, 2012 – Vigil Banquet, Naish Scout Reservation, 5:00 p.m., Dinner @ 6:00 p.m.
October 13-14, 2012 – Lodge Leadership Development, TBD
October 18, 2012 – Lodge Executive Committee Meeting, Council Office, 7:00 p.m.
November 2-4, 2012 – NLS & NLATS, Heartland Presbyterian Center
November 15, 2012 – Lodge Executive Committee Meeting, Council Office, 7:00 p.m.
December 13, 2012 – Lodge Executive Committee Meeting, Council Office, 7:00 p.m.
January 12, 2013 – Winter Banquet, Arrowhead Stadium, North Club, 5:00 p.m., Dinner @ 6:00 p.m.
January 17, 2013 – Lodge Executive Committee Meeting, Council Office, 7:00 p.m.