

# The Torchbearer

## the newsletter of Tamegonit Lodge

February 2012



a 2011 Quality Lodge

### 2012 OA DUES

Do you need to pay your 2012 OA dues? At the February Chapter Meetings/Roundtables, you unit leader should pick-up the 2012 OA dues renewal packet from their Chapter Chief. We are making some changes to the dues process this year that will hopefully make it easier for units to process their dues and do so earlier than in year past. Instructions are included as part of the renewal packet. Individuals are welcome to pay their dues online at <http://2012oadues.kintera.org/>

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### CHIEFLY SPEAKING, colby soden

At the beginning of my first term as the Lodge Chief for Tamegonit Lodge you might remember I put a challenge out to the Arrowmen of this lodge: "We can do better," I said. And we did. Everyone from my six lodge officers down through the Lodge Executive Committee to each chapter and into the units across the Heart of America Council stepped up and did what they could to improve scouting in this council and the functions of this lodge. This year the program team enjoyed a large increase in Arrowmen attending Induction Weekends just to assist in the process, not as candidates for Ordeal or Brotherhood. The number of youth participating in the Lodge Executive Committee still astounds me and because of that we were able to add more committees for this upcoming year without fear.

Most importantly you bore with me. I will be the first to admit this year was rough. We had to do some major schedule shifting with Fall Fellowship, pushed back the date for Winter Banquet and had a handful of chaotic moments during Induction weekends with storms, emergencies and unexpectedly large attendance numbers (though I'm not complaining). Through it all you worked with us and we made it through just fine. Even during 2 a.m. storms during inductions everyone

was smiles (or asleep) and I never heard a complaint. For that I thank you. The youth who work with me, the advisers who assist them and the volunteers and professionals who assist our events put a lot of time and when we get nothing but cooperation it makes it that much easier.

Thanks to each of your contributions at every level I can honestly say that Tamegonit Lodge, the Heart of America Council and scouting in the Kansas City area improved in 2011. Now it's time to look ahead, to plan, to build, and to keep improving. I look forward to speaking more on this and the plans being laid for 2012 and beyond. Until then I have one question for you: How can you *aim higher, aim farther?*

Colby Soden, Lodge Chief



## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR, joe devader

Hello all, my name is Joe DeVader and I am your Newsletter Chairman for 2012. I figured I could just write a few things about me in a quick little blurb, so here we go: I am an Eagle Scout from Troop 428 in the Trails West District, where I served as Senior Patrol Leader twice. I became a Vigil member of the OA last year. I have worked summer camp staff at Naish for the past three years, and I plan on returning this summer for my fourth year.

This is my first time doing anything like this, but I am more than willing to step up to the plate and give it my best. If you have any suggestions or want to contribute in any way please let me know. I'm more than willing to listen to any ideas any

of you might have, and I could use all the help I can get to make the Torchbearers of 2012 the best they can be. I'm especially looking for writers and a photographer, so if you're at all interested in doing these for the newsletter please email me at [thedobaga@yahoo.com](mailto:thedobaga@yahoo.com) and we'll see if we can't get you involved!

With that, I think I've rambled on enough. I hope you enjoy this issue of the Torchbearer and I hope we have a good year from here on!

~Joe




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**"The Order of the Arrow is a thing of the spirit."**

**E Urner Goodman**

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## NOAC 2012, joe bush

When I attended my first National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC) in 2009, I did not know what to expect. I had been told that it would be a great experience, but I didn't know what I should have been ready for. Once our bus got to the University, all of the fears that I had developed before the conference had disappeared. NOAC was one of the most enjoyable experiences that I've ever had, and every time that anybody asks me about it, I always tell them to go to

NOAC, because they won't regret it.

NOAC 2009 was at The University of Indiana in Bloomington, Indiana. The campus was great and easy to navigate. All of the classes and seminars at NOAC were done on campus in the classrooms, which was nice because there was no mystery as to where the classes are. Campus navigation was very easy, and maps

were plentiful around the campus. The people teaching the classes were very knowledgeable about the topics. One of the misconceptions that I had coming into the event was that the classes would be terribly boring, about things that I didn't need to know; that thought was very wrong. There were a multitude of different classes and subjects, like communication via E-mail, patch histories, ceremonial team training, and that's not even half of the classes.

Outside of classes, Arrowmen were able to participate in inter-lodge competitions like basketball and dodgeball along with ceremonial and dance team performance competitions. A NOAC newspaper was handed out every morning at breakfast which provided information about the day's events and interesting articles on the many things that happened. Everything that the NOAC staff did was for the benefit of the Arrowmen. There was an atmosphere at NOAC that was unlike the atmosphere at any other event that I've ever been to. Everyone was there to have a good time with each other. My advice to other Arrowmen is this:

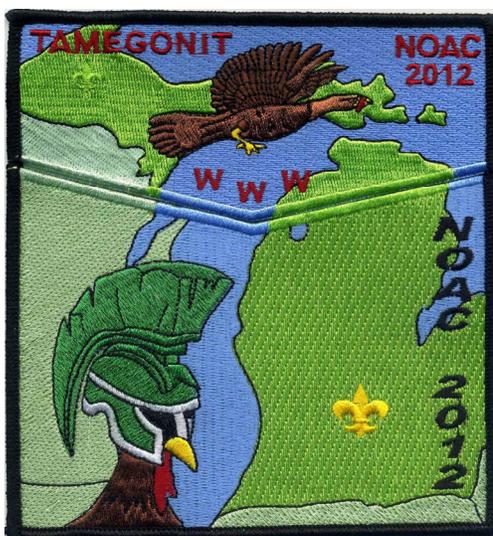
Enjoy yourself. If you come into NOAC with an attitude that you're going to have a great time, then you will have a great time.

Our goal is to bring at least 60 people to NOAC 2012 at Michigan State. NOAC will be held from July 30–August 4. The cost to participate in NOAC as a member of the Tamegonit Lodge contingent is \$575.

If we meet our goal of registering at least 60 participants, Kenn Miller, Heart of America Council Scout Executive, has offered our contingent \$1000 towards NOAC scholarships to bring additional participants. Right now, we have about 50 people signed up!

Any Arrowman can attend NOAC. To find out more, talk to a member of the Lodge Executive Committee, or visit the website at <http://www.hoac-bsa.org/Camping/HonorCampingPrograms/OrderOfTheArrow/NOAC.aspx> to get more info and to register online.

We look forward to seeing you there!



## 2012 INDUCTION EVENTS, marty stevens

Tamegonit Lodge is proud to offer six opportunities for newly elected candidates to become members of the Order of the Arrow this year. All Induction Events are held at Camp Naish. Those dates are as follows:

**April 27-29, 2012**

**May 18-20, 2012**

**June 4-5, 2012**

**June 11-12, 2012**

**June 18-19, 2012**

**August 17-19, 2012**

The Lodge Executive Committee received lots of feedback from first time participants and veterans alike on how we can get better and we will be implementing those improvements this upcoming year.

The biggest change to Inductions in 2012 is something I hope you have heard about already and will continue to hear. A FIRM TWO WEEK DEADLINE will be implemented for EVERY Lodge event this year to ensure our membership team has adequate time to prepare for the weekend. This means that NO WALK-IN'S will be accepted

and every registration must be in two weeks before the first day of the event. Induction Registration packets were available at the Winter Banquet and will be available through Roundtables and online beginning in February. Go to <http://www.hoac-bsa.org/Camping/HonorCampingPrograms/OrderOfTheArrow/Activities.aspx> to download the Inductions packet or to register for an Inductions event online.

Last year 932 Ordeal members were inducted into our lodge. Can we top 1000 in 2012?

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**"The ones who  
chose you need  
you."**

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## 2012 WINTER BANQUET WRAP-UP, clay knapp

Tamegonit Lodge held its Annual Winter Banquet on January 14. More than 322 Arrowmen turned out for the event at Arrowhead Stadium. Highlights of the Banquet include the recognition of our 27 newest Vigil Honor members and installation of the 2012 Tamegonit Lodge Officers. Also, four members of the lodge were recognized with the Founders Award: Tom Bundy, Pam Clark, Jesse Miller, and

Victor Tuttle. Ray Capp, National Order of the Arrow Chairman, was on hand as our Guest Speaker and shared his thoughts and vision of the role Arrowmen play in giving back to Scouting at the council, districts, and most importantly, unit level!

We are looking forward to Winter Banquet again next year at Arrowhead Stadium.



## 2011 TAMEGONIT LODGE HIGHLIGHTS

932 new Ordeal members

576 new Brotherhood members

27 new Vigil members

Four Founder's Award recipients

One youth attended an OA High Adventure experience

25 lodge members attended or staffed National Leadership Seminar or National Lodge Adviser Training Seminar

4030 members at the end of 2011, an increase of 53 members, or 1.33% versus 2010

28 members attended Section Conclave in Des Moines, IA

23,086 hours service given by lodge members to scouting, camp and the community.

Contribution of \$10,000 to the Heart of America Council camping operation

36% Brotherhood Conversion rate

Five members participated in Summit-Corps in West Virginia

Restructured lodge operations to provide better service to members

Engaged leaders in final district without a chapter to restart their chapter

Started planning for the lodge's 75th Anniversary celebration in 2014

**2011 Quality Lodge**



Tamegonit Lodge  
10210 Holmes Rd  
Kansas City MO 64131

Tamegonit Lodge is the Order of the Arrow Lodge of Heart of America Council, BSA. The Lodge has been in existence since 1939, providing service to the council and the community in the 73 years since its establishment.

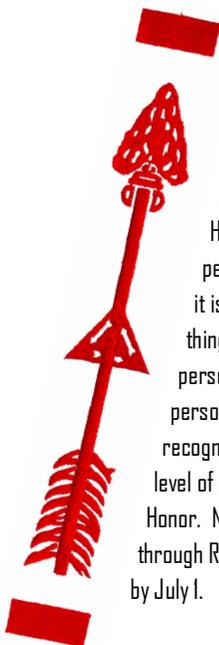
The Order of the Arrow is a service organization within the Boy Scouts of America whose primary purposes include supporting successful unit operation, promoting the camp experience for all Scouts, giving service to Scouting and the community, and providing leadership opportunities for its youth members.

Tamegonit Lodge operates throughout the entire year, putting on Induction Events, annual banquets and fellowship events, and teaching leadership skills to youth and adults alike.

In 2011, Tamegonit Lodge ended the year with 4030 members, an increase from the year before and was recognized with the Quality Lodge distinction once again. In 2012 and beyond, Tamegonit Lodge has plans to attend NDAC, expand opportunities for new members to become active in the lodge, and start planning for the 75th Anniversary of the lodge in 2014!

<http://www.hoac-bsa.org/Camping/HonorCampingPrograms/OrderOfTheArrow.aspx>

## VIGIL NOMINATIONS & FOUNDER'S AWARD NOMINATIONS



Each year, Tamegonit Lodge recognizes those members who stand out as models of the brotherhood of cheerful service. Those members recognized as most outstanding in their service to their unit, their council, scouting, the lodge, and/or camps are selected Vigil Honor members of the Order of the Arrow. A person can do nothing to earn this recognition as it is an honor bestowed upon members, not something to be earned. It has been said often that "a person does not seek the Vigil; the Vigil seek the person." An individual must be nominated for this recognition and only those nominated with the highest level of service will be selected to receive the Vigil Honor. Nomination forms are available online and through Roundtables. All nominations MUST be received by July 1.

Introduced at the 1981 National Order of the Arrow Conference, the Founder's Award was created to honor and recognize those Arrowmen who have given outstanding service to the lodge. The award is reserved for an Arrowmen who demonstrates to fellow Arrowmen that he or she memorializes in his or her everyday life the spirit of achievement as described by founder E. Urner Goodman and cofounder Carroll A. Edson.

Tamegonit Lodge has presented only 89 of these recognitions since its creation, speaking to the very high level of service an individual must render to be considered worthy of this award. Nominations for this award must be made and received by July 1. Nomination forms are available online and through Roundtables.

Lodges may petition the national Order of the Arrow Committee to present up to four awards annually, based on lodge membership. If the lodge presents more than one award, one must be to a youth under the age of 21.

