



The Torchbearer

Winter 2016. Volume 4. Edition 1

Letter from the Editor



Hello arrowmen, my name is Dawson Garcia and I am your 2016 Secretary for Tamegonit Lodge. I am proud to announce that the fourth volume of Torchbearer for 2016 has been released! Our lodge has come a long way this year, and I'm honored to be the arrowman to share all of this information with my fellow brothers. 2016 has been a huge success for the Tamegonit Lodge, and we are on the right path to begin a new year.

The Secretary committee finalized tasks to complete the end of the year. Throughout the year the committee has been in charge for communication to the Lodge. This has been completed by taking detailed notes at all LEC meetings and with the use of the google drive system these notes were taken live and posted as soon as the meetings were over. This means that all LEC minutes were up to date and ready for distribution. Second the social media chairman made good use of the lodge communication channels to promote all Inductions, fall fellowship and most importantly keeping the lodge community updated with important information. Whether it was with a signup now reminder or the ever so memorable throwback Thursday, postings to the followers of Facebook, Twitter and Instagram were kept up to date. All six HOAC adventures in scouting publications had current information about the Tamegonit Lodge and consistently were promoting OA and how our members could get involved. Finally the biggest task of all we did not have one torchbearer, not two torchbearer, not three torchbearer but FOUR torchbearers for 2016. This was the first time since 2013 that the lodge has supported this initiative. By far this has been the best communication from Tamegonit lodge in YEARS.

Thank you for being part of the lodge and it was a GREAT pleasure to serve you in 2016.

Dawson Garcia
Tamegonit Lodge Secretary 2016



Don't Forget to Pay your 2017 OA Dues

For the past four years, Tamegonit Lodge has held the title as the LARGEST lodge in the nation. Help us retain our position as the top lodge by simply renewing your dues!

OA members paying their 2017 dues through their unit should contact their unit's OA Troop Representative or Troop Representative Adviser for information. Members paying their 2017 dues individually can pay online at

<http://oadues2017.kintera.org>. Don't miss out on another exciting year in the Order of the Arrow! Any questions can be directed at the [Lodge Staff Adviser, Scott Weaver](#).

SCOUTING'S NATIONAL **HONOR** SOCIETY



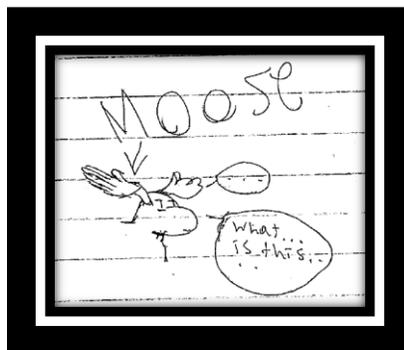
2016 Brotherhood Letters (Excerpts)

Part of the process for obtaining Brotherhood is to write a letter to the Lodge Secretary. This past year I had the privilege to read every one of these letters. I thought it would be appropriate to share some excerpts of these letters with the lodge community.

2016 Induction #1 Quotes from Brotherhood letters

- I believe that the obligation is a guideline to follow at all times.
- I gained an understanding of going into deep thought can help guide you to the way you need to be going.
- The obligation sets you aside and makes you pause when times are tough and when times are grand.
- The purpose of the obligation is to not just live in cheerfulness for 1-2 days but for the rest of their lives.
- The obligation means that painful tasks and just plain ones that you don't want to do need to be done anyway.
- I have been fulfilling the obligation by cleaning our old cast iron skillets which were hard to clean but fun. And I cleaned the trailer which was nasty and cleaned utensils instead of throwing them away.
- The obligation is that we are equal or the same,
- People are too caught up in their own ways that they don't take the time to serve someone in need. We should help others.
- I plan to be a respectful helpful gentleman and to love one another.
- The obligation is pretty deep if you ask me.
- I don't know my purpose in life but I do know I can't go wrong if I follow the obligation.
- If everyone gave and no one took, there would be no point in giving because no one would take it.
- I thought the first time I did OA it was hard but I said to myself I think I am going to make it. I think this program is kinda boring but also kind of fun like getting service done is hard but it was fun.
- I want to be an even better person and I believe that OA will help me become the future man I hope to be.
- The obligation means no matter what happens I should always find a way to help others before I wallow in self-pity.
- It is good to help others and OA is the way to go.
- Getting brotherhood means that I am advancing the ladder of respect.
- I think I should be part of brotherhood because I have the will power to work.

- OA means a lot to me because it symbolizes something larger than scouting. It is an honor being part of something not every scout earns and something bigger than yourself.
- I would like to be Brotherhood because I would complete something not every scout will do,
- I have reason to believe great spirit that you did not like my old letter. So here is attempt #2.
- We were picked from our troop because we are to step up any challenge.
- I don't stop until I reach the top.
- I heard that you were going to burn this letter but I am not sure?
- I am now just writing words in order to look like I wrote more than I did. I am sorry.
- I will show other scouts how OA is cool.
- I plan to continue my cheerful service in my community as well as my scout troop.
- I will be more cheerful during scout service projects and take on more leadership roles in my troop.
- I resiliently put forth all efforts to helping the scouts within my troop.
- I fulfill the obligation by being friendly, generous and following the Boy Scout Oath and Law.
- I plan to help in my unit and daily life. I will consider serving as a Nimat at future OA inductions.
- I will do whatever you want to make OA better.
- To me, the obligation means I will cheerfully serve my family, our troop, my place of employment as well as other organizations to which I belong.
- Since I completed the ordeal, I have worked to fulfill the obligation by helping other scouts with a smile.
- I feel that the obligation is a commitment to the concept of providing cheerful service.
- You should be cheerful no matter what and take on responsible when asked.
- I must be happy during toilsome work.
- To me, the Order of the Arrow means to point scouts in the direction of cheerful service.
- Brotherhood will take me further in my journey to become a better person and scout.
- This weekend provides me a reminder of my commitment to scouting and to the Order of the Arrow.
- My future plans for the lodge is to join the ceremony team.
- I am honored to have been selected to participate in the Order of the Arrow program.



(Doodle included in a Brotherhood letter).

Thanks,
Dawson Garcia
Tamegonit Lodge Secretary 2016

Letter from the Chief, Senn Boswell



Fellow Arrowmen,

It has been a great year for Tamegonit Lodge; we inducted over 700 Ordeal Members and over 400 Brotherhood members. We've concluded our year with 4464 members and Silver Journey to Excellence Status. It has been truly an honor to have worked with all of you this past year, whether it have been at an induction weekend, at summer camp, or another Scouting event.

Being in the OA gives you a greater commitment to serving others. Each of us has an obligation to help those around us. Giving cheerful service is not restricted to OA events: it can be for service to camp, Scouting, the community, country, or the world. It is for this reason that the Vigil Honor is not bestowed only for service to Tamegonit Lodge, but also for service to Scouting or Scout camp. There are many ways to give service. If you are interested in serving the OA this next year, email chief@tamegonit.org. A personal favorite way to give service, for me, is serving on camp staff. All three of our council camps are always in need of staff to support the impressive program put on each year. If you are interested in camp staff, applications are available on the council website under Camping Resources (<http://www.hoac-bsa.org/camping-resources>).

At this January's Winter Banquet, I will turn over the reins to Phillip Vaughn, our newly elected Lodge Chief. Please join me in wishing him luck in this upcoming year. It has been a pleasure serving as your Lodge Chief for 2016.

Yours in Brotherhood,

Senn Boswell
2016 Tamegonit Lodge Chief

2017 Lodge Leadership

Lodge Chief: Phillip V
Vice Chief of Administration: Joe W
Vice Chief of Chapters: Colton L
Vice Chief of Inductions: Kurt J

Vice Chief of Programs: Blake S
Secretary: Wesley P
Treasurer: Trey M

Meet Suzanne Shartz!



Within the Tamegonit Lodge, there are countless ways to get involved and serve your brothers of the Order. One such group is the ceremony team, often times called the “C-Team”. Every induction weekend of the year, the ceremony team is responsible for carrying out as many as 18 ceremonies in order to induct our

lodge’s new Ordeals, and seal the membership of our current Ordeal members. It is fair to say that all these ceremonies and inductions would not be the same without the beautiful attire that our lodge has. Many people don’t know that nearly all of Tamegonit lodge’s attire is made by its very own members. One attire maker that stands out from the crowd is none other than Suzanne Shartz, Lodge Membership Advisor. Suzanne is a Vigil Honor Member from the class of 2010, and her Vigil name is Hitai Akchelhe Takachsin, which translates to Artistic Servant Leader. Since 2009 NOAC, Suzanne has been hooked on making attire for her son and for the lodge. Her favorite part of making the attire, she says, is “the research, to reproduce, as best I can the artistry that goes into making the regalia”. Although time consuming, her favorite pieces of attire to make are embroidered wool aprons. As with many things when serving cheerfully, Shartz says the hardest part is making the first step. After that, “hours fly by”. This year alone, Suzanne has given herself in cheerful service towards the order in both attire making and trading post work for close to 3000 hours, nearly 60 hours a week. To put that into perspective, that is like serving at 75 induction weekends in a year. Through all of her hard work towards the lodge, Shartz’s main goal is to focus on others. “My wish is to share what I have learned, to others in the Lodge, keeping the Legacy of Attire ongoing”. Next time you spot Suzanne at an LEC or induction weekend, make sure to thank her for all that she does for our lodge. She might just teach you a thing or two about American Indian Lore.

Winter Banquet Guest Speaker: Robert Bixby



Robert Birkby is our guest speaker for Winter Banquet at the DoubleTree in Overland Park, Saturday January 7, 2017.

Birkby grew up in Sidney, Iowa. As a Boy Scout, Birkby was on staff at summer camp, made a trek at Philmont Scout Ranch and earned Eagle Scout. In 2010 Birkby also received the Boy Scouts of America's highest award for conservation: the William T. Hornaday Gold Award. While attending college, he spent his summer breaks working at Philmont in positions such as a trail crew foreman and director of conservation.

Birkby wrote the 10th, 11th and 12th editions of the Boy Scout Handbook and the 4th edition of the Fieldbook. Winter Banquet is on January 7, 2017 at the Double Tree Hotel in Overland Park Kansas. Don't forget to sign up and attend. This is for [ALL Arrowmen!](http://2017winterbanquet.kintera.org) <http://2017winterbanquet.kintera.org>

Arrowman at the 2017 Jamboree

The National Scout Jamboree, located at the Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve, is one of the premier events a scout can attend in his lifetime. The next opportunity to attend will be in 2017. The Order of the Arrow has agreed to lend cheerful service to the national BSA event again this year in an effort being dubbed Operation Arrow. The Operation Arrow task force has a goal of recruiting 800 Arrowmen to be members of largest Jamboree staff ever assembled by the OA. The three major programs of Operation Arrow are Service Corps, Trek Guides and Indian Village staff. There will be other support areas in addition to these key programs. Arrowmen staffing these areas will play critical roles essential to the success of the Jamboree. The Order of the Arrow will continue to release information about Operation Arrow staff opportunities and how to become involved in the coming months.



OA High Adventure opportunities 2017

There are 5 OA High Adventure opportunities for 2017

First - OA TRAIL CREW This two-week expedition at Philmont is literally a mountaintop experience. Blaze new trails during a week of service. Then experience Philmont and the OA like never before. Just \$250

Second - WILDERNESS VOYAGE Experience the wilds of Wilderness Adventure. Explore the waterways of the north woods. Rebuild centuries old trails and live the virtues of the OA. Just \$200

Third - CANADIAN ODYSSEY OA service goes international in the Ontario wilds. Embark on the odyssey of a lifetime, transcending borders and the spirit of the Order. Just \$200

Fourth - OCEAN ADVENTURE Explore tropical waters while performing conservation projects in the Florida Keys. Just \$500

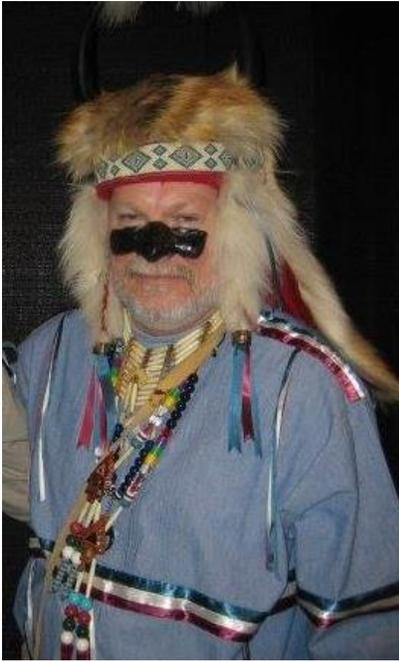
Fifth - OA SUMMIT EXPERIENCE Explore the Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve and provide service to the New River Gorge National River. Experience rafting and kayaking while building bonds of brotherhood. Just \$250

APPLY FOR AN ADVENTURE AT [HTTP://ADVENTURE.OA-BSA.ORG](http://adventure.oa-bsa.org)

*** Cost of treks do not include transportation to and from the High Adventure Location



Meet Tom Bundy!



Tom Bundy

Apuichton Wdehiwi Meken Alluns

For years now, the arrowhead on lace around the neck of a scout has been one of the identifiers of an Arrowman in the Tamegonit Lodge. These arrows let the Arrowman wearing them show the work he has done, and the future ahead of him. The arrow is a physical token that ties us all together in Brotherhood. Tom Bundy has recognized this and put his own twist on the arrows. Tom is a Vigil Honor Member from the class of 2000, and his Vigil name is Apuichton Wdehiwi Meken Alluns, which translates to Light Hearted Giver of the Arrow. He is also a member of the White Buffalo Society and a Centurion Award Recipient. Bundy started off making arrows before he was even in the Order of the Arrow at the troop level after his unit's arrow maker left for college. It wasn't until the first year after his Brotherhood that he made more arrows than his troop required. This is when he started to share the arrows with his brothers in the lodge. "That was the hook. I never look back. I just kept making more and more." Bundy has been making arrows ever since, and has even made an arrow for every Vigil in Tamegonit lodge since 2002.



Troop 218 Bundy Arrows

Throughout his tenure, Bundy has made as many as 275 arrows in a year. "When I hit 2800 arrows... I stopped keeping track. Again I never look back." Tom doesn't just use any old treated wood you would find at Home Depot either. "I usually try to find wood that has meaning. Some years it's prettier than others." Some of his favorite wood came off of the old commissioner's cabin and the Great House deck and siding, and the 2016 Vigil arrows came from the frame of the dinner prayer in the dining hall. Although he is "...always on the run.", at inductions as he works on the maintenance team, one of his favorite things

to do it hand out the arrows to the new Ordeals. "In the old days when the lodge encouraged people to come in regalia to add mystique to the ceremony... that was my most fun giving arrows."



2016 Vigil Arrows

helping the lodge in any way he can for years to come. "I'll try to make them as long as I can. You know? It means a lot to me."

Bundy truly is a model Arrowman and does his work for the benefit of others. "To be able to make them takes a lot of time. But to this day I can walk and see people with my arrows on and I can remember making that particular one. That's fun for me... visiting good memories. People always ask 'can I buy one from you?'. The answer is always no. Brotherhood of Cheerful Service and giving back. That's what it is to me." Bundy plans to continue making arrow and

2016's OA Tamegonit Lodge Vigil Honor Class:

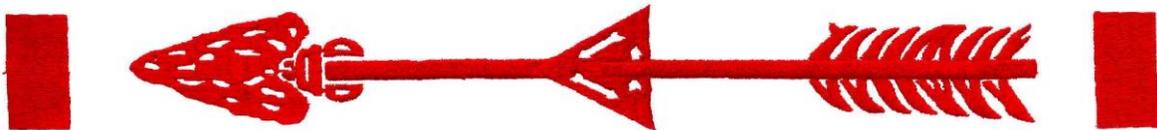
Youth

Asa Abrahamson
Noah Armstrong
John Bennett IV
Benjamin Bissen
Justin Brown
Philip Davis
Thomas Deane
Michael Gates
Colton Lauber
Austin Lemmons
Treyton Meyers
Thaddeus Nash
Joshua Reiss
Hunter Ruskanen
Austin Simms
Kyle Skelton
Philip Vaughn
Mathew Vest
Benjamin Walters
Joseph Ward
Jacob Weinmann

Adult

Edward Chapman III
Leona Dekat
Marty Fahnke
Barbara Garcia
Eric Hallmark
Lester Ham
James Hanus
Timothy Helton
Allan High
Thomas Lanio
Todd Martin
Edward Molt
Angela Nguyen
Michael Nolan
Nathan Nowatske
Philip Riley
Jeanie Salmon
Jeffrey Wandtke
Larry Zeilmann

Congrats!



Chapter Center:

On the behalf of the Lodge Executives we can assure you that the chapters within the Tamegonit Lodge are our heaviest supporters, and has help support the lodge and council all year for the greater good, and we as a lodge should recognize some of the hard work that chapter have put in for the 2016 year. We could not include summaries from all chapters but here are a few examples of what they've done this past year.

Shawnee Trails is one of the newly added chapters due to the Council's recent District Realignment. They had some challenges that other chapter did not have. However, this chapter formed an election team to be trained and got the job done. This chapter conducted 22 unit visits and held 2 callout ceremonies. Several Chapter members assisted with the Lodge NASCAR fundraiser service project while many more participated in a Chapter Veterans Day service project serving meals at a local restaurant. At least five Chapter members attended NLS/NLATS training. This chapter has also done a great job of providing great support at all inductions for every type of induction staff this year. Brad P, the chief says, "With a year of experience together as a chapter now under our belt, our main goal for next year is to grow our active member participation."

Iron Horse - A chapter of Excitement. This chapter has been on their feet working hard all of 2016 and has accomplished many great things to support the lodge. Will O, the chapter chief of Iron Horse says, "The beginning of the year, we had many great elections. Every troop that could do OA did have an election and that is amazing. Our C-Team had amazing year with 18 blue and golds. Our chapter is growing with more attendance at meeting and lodge events. I am very excited for the next year for our chapter." This chapter has done great and we are thankful for all they do to support our lodge and council.

Kaw District - Colton L, the Kaw District chapter chief says, "Chapter 1 had a great year! The Chapter increased its membership attendance at both Chapter and Lodge events, bringing the most people to the NASCAR fundraiser and Section Conclave. The Chapter also had a presence at every single induction weekend by providing ceremonialists, elangomats, nimats, and runners. The Callout, lock-in, and other Chapter events went very well, and the Chapter is set to do very well next year with growing the Chapter and supporting the Lodge. Three of the 2017 Lodge Officers come from Chapter 1."

Blue Elk- A healthy and helpful chapter they are indeed. This chapter assisted in elections with three troops in the High Trails district. They also had trading post items at their December roundtable which has significantly helped the trading post. On top of what they have done to help the lodge this chapter has also grown membership by 12 members, they elected 78 ordeals and 70 went through and they had 45 brotherhood conversions this year. This chapter also had 12 members assist with the Blue Elk cubs Christmas crafts. The Blue Elk chapter has done a tremendous job of supporting other chapters, and the members within.

Pioneer Trails - This chapter has had a strong district and chapter relationship all year long. The Pioneer Trails District names their chapter Kishkakon. This chapter has been working very hard since the beginning of 2016 with forming a new election team and election script. After the elections were set and done the chapter had time to strategically plan their callout which was a huge success. This chapter has also helped the district by staffing cub scout day camp and camporee. This chapter has also helped with trading post sells and has been promoting camping, OA related events and much more, all year. They have been a great support of the lodge and council and Wesley P, the chief of this chapter said, "Tips that I would give to the next chapter chief is follow the communication plan, stay organized, remember the mission and purpose of OA, participate at events and promote everything."

Don't forget to plan your Unit Elections for 2017 !!

A successful unit election is the first step to attaining membership in the Order of the Arrow. *Learn how to schedule an election at <http://www.hoac-bsa.org/Data/Sites/1/media/order-of-the-arrow/oa-documents/oa-unit-elections.pdf>* You may also contact your chapter OATR for more information.



PLAN AHEAD FOR YOUR FUN _ -- Spring.....Summer.....FALL...WINTER

Lots of exciting OA events will be happening this Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter and in 2017-- don't forget to SAVE the DATES on your calendar:



2017 Tamegonit Lodge Event Dates

Winter Banquet

January 7, 2017

Section Conclave

April 7-9, 2017

Spring Induction #1

May 5th – 7th

Spring Induction #2

May 19th – 21st

Summer Induction #1

June 7-8, 2017

Summer Induction #2

June 14-15, 2017

Fall Induction

August 11-13, 2017

Scouting 500

August 25th – 27th

Fall Fellowship

September 22-24, 2017

Vigil Banquet

October 7, 2017

NLS/ NLATS

October 13-15, 2017

LLD Training

October 28, 2017

Winter Banquet

January 6th 2018

JOIN the OA Lodge Ceremony Team

The Tamegonit Lodge ceremony team is looking for new ceremonialists to perform in Brotherhood and Ordeal ceremonies. Practices are on Wednesdays from 6:30pm-8:00pm at Camp Naish. No prior ceremony experience required!

Prior to attendance, contact Simon Davis: si.phi.dragon@gmail.com



Trading Post

Come to the Camp Theodore Naish Trading post during any induction weekend to purchase OA coupes and other scouting merchandise. *Learn more about the Trading Post at <https://www.hoac-bsa.org/naish-trading-post-open-2016-03-12>*

Follow Along with Tamegonit Between Torchbearers at:



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<https://www.facebook.com/Tamegonit-Lodge-Order-of-the-Arrow-149979421736092>



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<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqSpaO9c4cK8DmwF6IW69ig>