Hello everyone, my name is Nathan Strentz and I was recently elected your 2013 Tamegonit Lodge Chief. I started out as an Ordeal in 2007 and sealed my membership as a Brotherhood in 2008. I then was recruited to the Ceremonial Team in early 2009 and became very active since then. In 2010, having been active for a year I decided to go for a more in-depth leadership role and was elected the Chapter Chief for chapter 12 or Trails West for 2010 and 2011. I then wanted to expand my service because I was infatuated with the order and its principles. I decided to take a chance and run for Vice Chief of Chapters for 2012 which I now am. Then taking another step with my skills and abilities I learned throughout my scouting career I ran for your Lodge Chief recently and was elected.

The LEC or Lodge Executive Committee which are the Scouts and Scouters who put together the programs and Torchbearers that you are reading right now is a team effort. Not just one person writes an article but a conglomerate as a whole. The same thing with the LEC we all work together. If this sounds like something you would like to do, do not be afraid. Go ahead and come to events, get active and serve as a runner, Ni-mat, or Elangomat. Get active in the membership chair, the Dance Team of the Ceremonial Team. This is our program; you get out what you put into it.

WWW, Nathan Strentz, Vice Chief of Chapters
2013 ArrowPass

The ArrowPass 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 Sunday, December 16, 2012 at 11:59 p.m. No ArrowPasses will be sold after December 16. 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 a 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!

2013 OA Winter Banquet
January 12, 2013
Registration: 5:00 p.m.
Dinner: 6:00 p.m.
Arrowhead Stadium, North Club
http://2013winterbanquet.kintera.org

New Vigil Honor Members!

On October 6, 28 of our 30 Vigil Candidates completed the process to become Vigil Honor members in the Order of the Arrow!

Congratulations to those 28 individuals! The other two have been scheduled to go through their Vigil in mid-December. More than 157 Vigil Honor members and candidates attended the Banquet that evening to welcome these new members of the Vigil Honor.

The Vigil Honor is the highest honor that can be bestowed on a member of the Order of the Arrow. Candidates are selected based on demonstrating their service to units, council, camp and/or the DA as above and beyond the expected level of service. Candidates are selected through a nomination process. Nomination forms are available year-round online; they are due on or before July 1 of each year. Nominations do not roll over from one year to the next.

Plan to join us at the 2013 OA Winter Banquet on January 12, 2013 at Arrowhead Stadium to formally recognize all our new Vigil Honor members!

Letter from the editor, Ian Boyd

Hi, my name is Ian Boyd, and I am 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 by 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.
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?

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.
By the time I leave Arrowhead Stadium on January 12th after Tamegonit Lodge’s annual Winter Banquet I will no longer be the Lodge Chief, a position I’ve held for the past two years, and it will mark the end of a chapter in my life that included 5 years on the Lodge Executive Committee. There are so many people I need to thank for their guidance, help, support, and more along the way.

First, the ceremony team and those that pressured me into joining it in the first place. After sealing my membership through the Brotherhood process this was the first thing I did with OA. I was never a runner, Elangomat, or Nimat (I hope to be an elangomat this year) and this was what catapulted me into involvement.

I have immense pride in Pelathe District, Linchen Chapter, and the scouts that come out of it. My time as Chapter Chief was difficult and challenging but multiple adults and friends were there to help me along the way.

All of my lodge officers over the past two years have become some of my closest friends. Without them the lodge would have never reached the level we are on today and I would have not been able to complete two years as chief with my sanity intact. They kept me in check, helped me wind down after a long induction weekend, and always had my back when burdensome tasks needed to be done.

Lastly all of my advisors, official or not, who helped me grow through this stage in my life. I couldn’t ask for a more supportive group of adults to be in my corner these past two years. Most commendable was their patience when I would make a mistake or fall behind.

But mostly I want to thank the youth of this lodge. It was you that elected to give me this opportunity to lead you. It was you that showed up in record number to induction weekends just to volunteer your time. It was from you that the real leaders of this lodge emerged, our chapter chiefs and committee chairmen that made every event and resource possible year-after-year.

So thank you. I hope to see you all at Winter Banquet so I can thank you in person and work alongside you at inductions in the coming years.

Yours in Brotherhood,

Colby Soden