

## Winter Banquet Brings Smiling Faces

Winter Banquet was a lot of fun with some great speakers and delicious food. We had the opportunity to learn about our Lodge's 50th anniversary celebrations and welcome back past Lodge Chiefs to celebrate our Lodge's 50th year!



*All of our past Lodge Chiefs. Our first Lodge Chief from 1973, Joe H., stands below the projected "5." (above). Eric H. speaks about our Council and Lodge's 50th anniversary efforts (below).*



*Ellen H. received the Service Award*



*Joe M. and Jeff G. received the Founder's Award*

**February 2023**

## Letter From the Chief

Hello fellow Arrowmen,

As a Lodge, we have hit our 50th Year and had a great turnout at Winter Banquet! I was pleased to see so many new and former members in person there. Thanks to your hard work, the Lodge has been able to thrive to overcome anything. We were also able to see many past leaders come back to visit our Lodge.

In order to plan the Winter Banquet, a committee of youth and adults had to come together to help plan this event, called the Lodge Executive Committee. We need help on the Lodge Executive Committee, including an award committee and election teams ... we have adult positions, too. To learn more, attend an LEC meeting, held the first Sunday of each month. See the calendar on [wq23.org](http://wq23.org) for time and location.

Election season is currently here, so watch your unit calendars for your election. Better yet, volunteer to help by contacting your Chapter Chief. Our next major event is Spring Fellowship, April 28-April 30, where we can all develop and help as a Lodge.

I hope to see you there!

Yours in Service,  
Ben Ragon  
Lodge Chief, Wenasa Quenhotan #23

### Meet Your LEC

Name: David S.  
Position: Publications Chair

Why did you join the LEC?: "I joined the LEC because I wanted to get more involved in the OA and to help out the Lodge. I love giving back to the OA, and I get to work with my friends while I do it!"

Favorite Experience in the OA: "My favorite experience in the OA was Fall Fellowship because I got to see a lot of friends and meet new people as well."

Why others should help on the LEC: "Others should help on the LEC because it is a lot of fun and it is a great way to give back to the Lodge. If you're interested, we've always got openings too! You can find contact info for our Lodge Officers on page 4 if you'd like to reach out and learn more about getting involved in this amazing group!"





## Now is the Time for All Good Leaders ... to Schedule Unit OA Election

Or ... should come to the aid of their  
Lodge, if you get the historical reference.

Troop Elections: It's when your troop gets  
new leaders AND it's when our Lodge  
grows in new members. We have begun  
sending out emails to troops about  
scheduling their OA Elections for 2023. If  
you have not yet seen those emails, please  
check your spam folder!

We ask every Unit Leader to proactively  
contact your Chapter Chief to set up an  
election. See page 4 to find your Chapter  
Chief's information. Any questions about  
setting up your election can also be sent to  
[admin@wq23.org](mailto:admin@wq23.org).

## 2023 Dues Are Now Due!

Many people often forget that one of the  
parts of a new year is paying dues. Why  
pay dues? When you pay dues you  
receive emails, The Arrow newsletter,  
and other communications about  
upcoming events, chapter meetings,  
activities, leadership opportunities, and  
more. Make sure your 2023 dues are  
paid so that you can experience all of  
the Lodge's great opportunities  
throughout this new year! Visit [wq23.org](http://wq23.org)  
to pay dues online, or to download a  
printable form you can take  
to a council office.



## Remember to Nominate Adults

Don't forget to nominate adult Scouters for  
membership in our Lodge. Nominations can  
be made online, via the Inductions Module  
of Lodgmaster or using a paper form  
under Resources/Forms/Files on [wq23.org](http://wq23.org).  
Nominations are due May 20, 2023.

To recommend an adult, a unit must hold a  
youth election with one or more youth  
elected. Maximum of adult nominations is  
two-thirds of the number of youth elected,  
rounded up where the number of youth  
candidates is not a multiple of three.

Adults must meet the same camping  
requirements as youth: 15 days and nights  
of Boy Scout camping during the two-year  
period before the election.

## SOLD OUT?

The 50th Anniversary Lodge Flap was so  
popular that it SOLD OUT at Winter  
Banquet! Watch for its future availability  
once more are in stock.



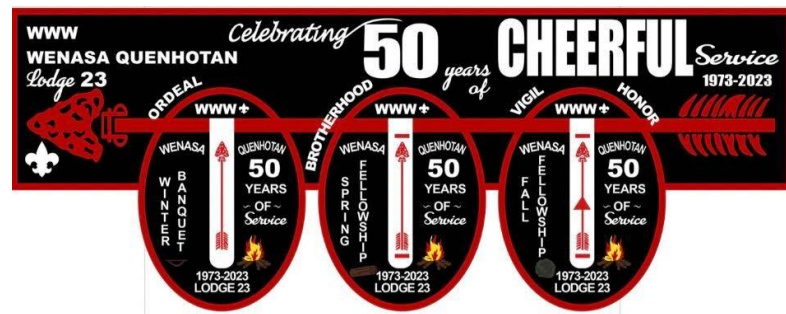


## 50th Anniversary Patch Set

In honor of the 50th anniversary of Wenasa Quenhotan, the Lodge has created a special patch set. As pictured below, there are three individual round patches, as well as a larger patch that the round ones fit into. Arrowmen will receive one of the round patches at each big Lodge event (Winter Banquet, Spring Fellowship, and Fall Fellowship), so if you go to all three, you'll have all three patches! The larger, backer patch will be available at the trading post at future Lodge events.

## Help Need for First Aid Rally

Attention all Arrowmen! On Saturday, February 11, the council is hosting a First Aid Rally. They have asked the OA for help running this event. If you are available, your help would be greatly appreciated! If you are willing to help out, please contact Graham Mullett at [gemullett@yahoo.com](mailto:gemullett@yahoo.com). Hope to see you there!



## Here Are Your Lodge Officers and How to Contact Them

Position	Name	Phone	Email
Lodge Chief	Ben R.	(309) 633-9212	benragon2007@icloud.com
Vice Chief of Program	Nick Z.	(309) 472-5135	niczettler@gmail.com
Vice Chief of Administration	Sophia M.	(309) 357-0934	eagle051922@gmail.com
Vice Chief of Communication	Ben J.	(309) 863-6220	benryanjones06@gmail.com

District Name	Chapter Name	Chapter Chief	Phone	Email
Heartland	Lawasgoteu	Carson S. / Trey S.	(309) 357-4463 / (309) 696-0714	carsaul13@gmail.com / hardwaytrey05@gmail.com
Lowaneu	Lowaneu	Tommy T.	(815) 228-2697	tommytwardowski@gmail.com
Crossroads	Mattameecheen	Henry R.	(309) 831-5820	matta.chief@gmail.com
Wotamalo	Wotamalo	Keslyn R. / Isaac M.	(309) 214-1321 / (309) 241-7414	keslynragon@icloud.com / isaacthomasmler2006@gmail.com

## Section G8 Needs Your Help!

Our Section contains five Lodges and holds an annual event called Red Arrow Rally, this is year it will be held at C.S. Klaus camp hosted by Timmeu Lodge. This will be a fun event filled with educational sessions and fun activities for youth and adults alike. In order to help this event be as fun as it can, the Section needs help planning with Section Committee Chairs. Available SCCs for a youth to help with are OA High Adventure, Shows, Promotion, and Admin. If you are a youth that is interested in helping plan this amazing event, please email Olivia T. (olivatharp@gmail.com) and Ben J. (benryanjones06@gmail.com).



## R.D. Dunkin Award



The R.D. Dunkin Leadership in Service Award was designed to recognize those within Section G8, who go far beyond their immediate responsibilities as Arrowmen and by doing so have laid a path of excellence for Arrowmen to follow. The award is named after R.D. Dunkin who believed that young people can grow to exceptional strengths and reach their full potential with the right combination of leadership, education, mentorship, and love.

To be eligible, candidates must be in good standing with the Order of the Arrow and have given at least 18 months to Section G8 as an active member of the Section Leadership Team. To nominate someone eligible, individuals may submit a completed current nomination form to the Awards and Recognition Committee 60 days before the start of Red Arrow Rally.

## Upcoming Events

Here is a list of of the upcoming Lodge events that will be happening in 2023.

**Spring Fellowship:** Friday, April 28 - 30, 2023

**Red Arrow Rally:** Sept. 22nd -24th, 2023

**50th Anniversary Camporee:** Sept. 22nd -24th, 2023

**Fall Fellowship:** Sept.29th - Oct. 1st, 2023

Please go to [wq23.org](http://wq23.org) and visit the calendar to find more information about these events and to sign up. As always, questions can be emailed to [admin@wq23.org](mailto:admin@wq23.org).





## A Brief Overview of Our Lodge's History

W.D. Boyce Council, in Peoria, Ill., was created in April, 1973, from the merger of the Corn Belt Council, Starved Rock Area Council, and Creve Coeur Council. At that time, National BSA did not allow more than one OA Lodge per council. Potawatomie Lodge #63 (Corn Belt Council), Nee-Schoock Lodge #143 (Starved Rock Area Council), and Kashapiwigamak Lodge #191 (Creve Coeur Council) merged to form Wenasa Quenhotan Lodge #23 after NOAC 1973. Wenasa Quenhotan became a member Lodge of Section EC-3B in the East Central region.



*Section Conclave, Camp Wokanda, undated.*

The newly formed Wenasa Quenhotan Lodge was originally divided into three chapters: Wundchenneu (old Creve Coeur Council), Mackinaw (old Corn Belt Council), and Lowaneu (old Starved Rock Area Council). Wenasa Quenhotan was re-divided into 10 chapters around 1980. Since then, we have chosen to re-divide the Lodge into eight chapters (1983), and four chapters (1993). Today, Wenasa Quenhotan still consists of four chapters.

In 1974, the first year of the newly formed council and Lodge, summer camp was held at Camp Ki-Shau-Wau, Camp Heffernan, Ingersoll Scout Reservation, and Camp Wokanda, all at the same time.

Starting in 1976, long term Boy Scout summer camp was only held at Ingersoll. The other three camps would be used for Cub Camp,

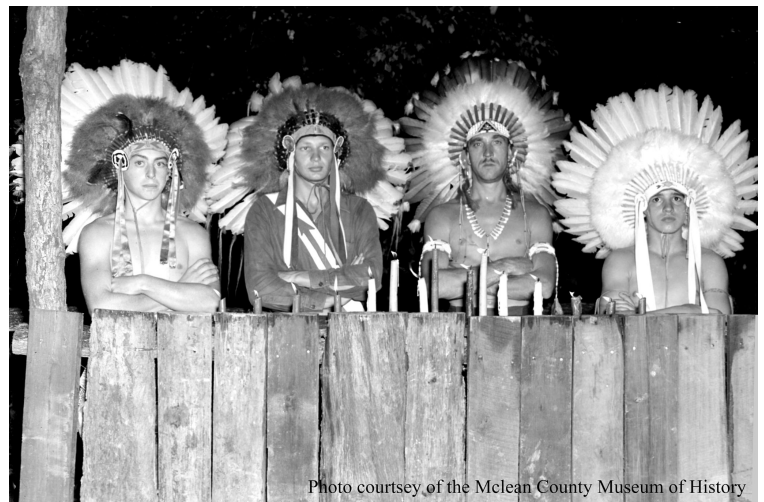
Webelos Camp and Boy Scout short term camping. All starting in 1976, all Call-outs occurred at Ingersoll.

In 2008, the call-out ceremony moved to bottom of the dining hall hill, near the Trailblazer / Scoutcraft pavilion. The ceremony is still performed there each week of summer camp.

Our Lodge's biggest contribution to ISR was made in 1993 with the donation of the Nature building (Eco-Con) at ISR. Financial contributions were later made to build a shelter at the Diamond Hitch campsite, and a National Service Grant was secured to help build the Mountain Bike Building.

In July 2019, Gabrielle S. became the first youth female member to complete her Ordeal in Wenasa Quenhotan. Celeste S. became the first female Chapter Chief in February 2021. At Fall Fellowship in October 2021, Olivia T. was the first female member of the Lodge to serve as a ceremonialist for the pre-Ordeal, Ordeal and Brotherhood ceremonies.

On April 30, 2022, Olivia T. became the first female Lodge Chief of Wenasa Quenhotan Lodge. History was made again in September 2022 when Olivia T. was elected Section Chief for the newly formed Section G8.

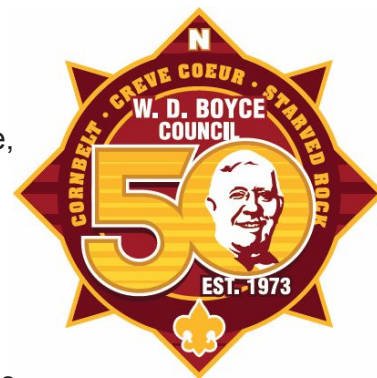


*Photo courtesy of the McLean County Museum of History*

*Potawatomie ceremonial team, 1940.*

## WQ23 and the W. D. Boyce Council Turn 50 in 2023

In 1973, our Lodge was formed, a merger of three prior Lodges – Kashapiwigamak, of the Creve Coeur Council, based in Peoria; Potawatomie, based in Bloomington; and Nee-Schook, of the Starved Rock Council, based in LaSalle. Driving this change was the overall merger of those councils to form the W. D. Boyce Council.

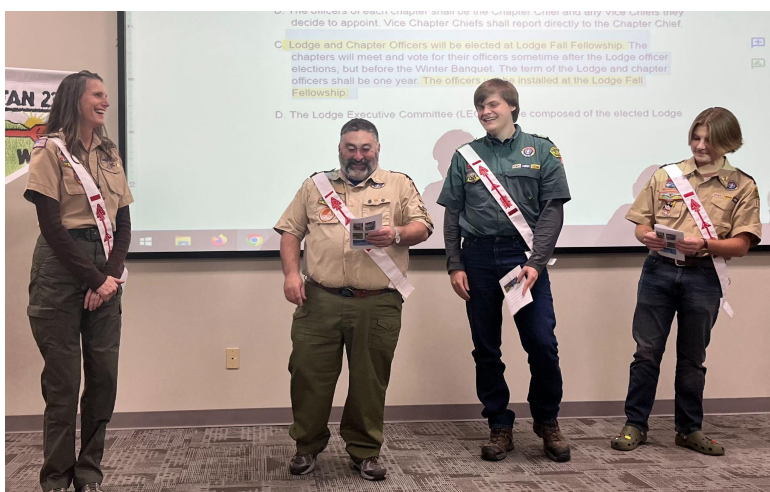


You can pre-order a book detailing the last 50 years and the prior councils and Lodges from the council website. For now, here are a few items of interest:

- Nee-Schook's predecessor Lodge was Kinebo, and was formed in 1939.
- The final Kashapiwigamak ceremony at Camp Wokanda was held in 1975.
- A thunderbird was the Potawatomie Lodge totem.

Anniversary celebration efforts began last summer, with a marketing/awareness campaign. Council-wide events have marked the occasion – such as our 600-camper-strong Fall Camporee – and are still being planned. It all culminates in an urban camporee in downtown Ottawa this September. Your Lodge is planning to participate, with an exhibit on Lodge history.

Watch for more details, and be sure to register for the Ottawa event. Attendance is expected to be limited by the space available.



*Last year's Vigil Honorees enjoy a light-hearted moment at the Winter Banquet, as they struggle to pronounce their Native American Vigil names.*

### Submit Vigil Nominations

Nominations are due for the Vigil Honor. The Vigil Honor is the highest honor that the Order of the Arrow can bestow upon its members for service to Lodge, council, and Scouting. If you know someone who meets the qualifications for this honor please nominate them online or using a paper form, both of these can be found on the Lodge website ([www.wq23.org](http://www.wq23.org)). Nominations for Vigil Honor are due by 8 p.m. on April 27, 2023. Paper forms should be delivered to either the Peoria or Bloomington Service Centers, or mailed to Vigil Nominations, W.D. Boyce Council, 614 NE Madison Ave., Peoria, IL 61703.



WENASA QUENHOTAN LODGE 23  
W.D. BOYCE COUNCIL  
614 NE MADISON AVE  
PEORIA, IL 61603

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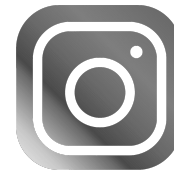
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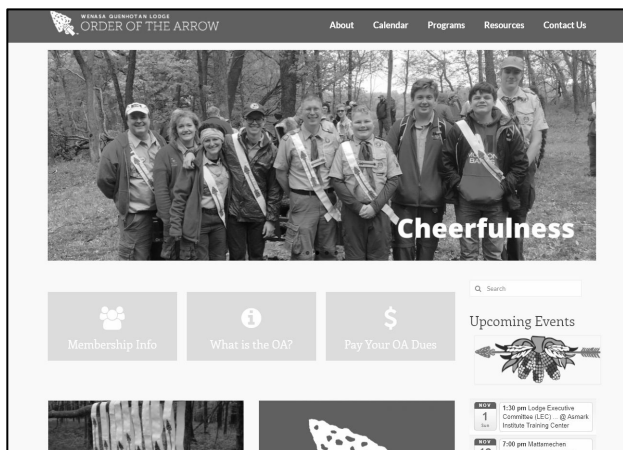


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Check out the Lodge website:

**[www.wq23.org](http://www.wq23.org)**

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