

## Wonderful Turnout at Winter Banquet

Winter banquet went great! We heard a great speech from our guest speaker Ben Jones. We watched an end of the year recap and heard many inspirational words from our Lodge Chief David Stevenart, and so much more.



*Our guest speaker, Ben Jones, giving his speech.*



*The Lodge recognized those who received Vigil honors this past year.*



*Our Lodge Chief, David Stevenart, giving lodge updates.*



## Letter From the Chief

Hello fellow Arrowmen,

I was extremely pleased with the turnout at Winter Banquet! Despite looking low on registration, we had a ton of walk-ins and had to keep getting more tables out to accommodate everyone, so that's a win in my book. Keep up the great work all, and if you weren't able to make it, look out for the event next year. It's a great time with some fantastic food.

Looking ahead, there's a few things coming up. Wotamalo and Lawasgoteu Chapters are co-hosting a Lodge Lock-In event March 21-22 at Advent Lutheran Church in Morton. Everyone is welcome to attend, whether you're apart of those Chapters or not. They've got some great things planned, so mark your calendars and watch social media and the website for more info. Plus, they're working to expand their leadership opportunities and plan more events, so if you're interested in getting involved in the OA as a leader, this is a great opportunity. I'm really excited for the direction this event will take our Lodge.

Finally, don't forget Spring Fellowship is April 25-27 at ISR. Please join us there. I understand many proms are that weekend, but even if you can only come for part of the weekend I'd love for you to be there. There's really no end to the opportunities offered by the OA as long as you stay active in going to events. So I'm super excited with the direction our Lodge is moving right now, and I can't wait to see you all at upcoming events!

Yours in Service,

David S.

Lodge Chief, Wenasa Quenhotan Lodge

### Meet Your LEC

Name: Becca H.

Position: Chapter Chief

**Why did you join the LEC?:** "I joined the LEC first as publications chair because I made a deal with Ariana Roe that I would join comms team if she ran for vice Chief of comms (now secretary) and so I showed up to the next LEC."

**Favorite experience in the OA?** "I really enjoy Fellowships and Red Arrow Rally. Anytime I get to be by my fellow Arrowmen is a good time for me. I do my best to be an active participant in fellowships through ceremonies or elangomattng and I highly recommend both."

**Why should others help on the LEC?:** "The LEC is a good way to get more involved in the lodge and to meet new people outside of your troop and district. There's lots of fun people and it's just a great and welcoming environment."



## Unit OA Elections are Here!

Troop elections are almost here and we need Arrowmen to conduct them! Talk to your Chapter Chief if you are interested in running a unit election.

Not sure how to get in contact with your Chapter Chief? Check the contact information (page 4). Please consider helping with a unit election and enable our Lodge to grow with future leaders.



### 2025 Dues are Due!

If you want to continue receiving emails, the Arrow newsletter, and other communications regarding upcoming events, leadership opportunities, and chapter meetings: Pay your dues!

Dues not only allow you to receive communication, but they also allow you to participate in events such as Fall and Spring Fellowship, Winter Banquet, section events, etc.

Help our lodge stay financially strong by paying your dues. With that money, we are able to pay for our service projects, communication, inductions and more.



### Who's Eligible to be Elected into the OA?

That's right, it's not just youth that are eligible; it's also adults. However, nominating adults is a little different than it is for youth.

Adult nominations can be made online or using a paper form. The camping requirements for an adult are the same as youth: 15 days and nights of camping during the prior two-year period to the election. An adult is nominated by the unit leader. For an adult leader to be nominated, at least one youth must be elected from that unit and the number of adults nominated must be no more than 2/3 of the number of youth elected. Don't forget to nominate adults too!

As for youth, you must hold the First Class rank and have experienced at least 15 days and nights of camping during the prior two-year period to the election. You must carry a current national membership card and participate in unit events. Your unit leader will be able to approve those who are eligible and provide a list to the current elections team.

Don't forget to nominate. We hope to see MANY new members in 2025.





### Spring Fellowship

Join your fellow Arrowmen for a weekend of cheerful service at Spring Fellowship! Together, we will be preparing ISR for the next sessions of summer camp with various projects around the camp. There will be ceremonies for Ordeal and Brotherhood candidates, campfire, great food, and more! Register for Spring Fellowship at [wq23.org](http://wq23.org)!

### Help Wanted at Council's Fall Camporee

Attention all Arrowmen! On October 17th-19th, all Arrowmen are welcome to volunteer at Council's Fall Camporee. You would primarily be working cracker barrel for one of the nights. If you would like to help out, please email David Stevenart at [dstevenart24@gmail.com](mailto:dstevenart24@gmail.com). If you are able to volunteer, your help would be greatly appreciated!



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

Position-	Name	Phone	Email
Lodge Chief	David S.	(309) 713-6393	dstevenart24@gmail.com
Vice Chief	Kes R.	(309) 214-1321	kesragon@gmail.com
Secretary	Ariana R.	(309) 831-8111	ariana.roe7@gmail.com
Treasurer	Matthew L.	(309) 620-1590	matthewclee26@gmail.com

District Name	Chapter Name	Chapter Chief	Phone	Email
Heartland	Lawasgoteu	Conner M.	(309) 989-0751	moodyc.603@gmail.com
Lowaneu	Lowaneu	Zayden O.	(779) 732-0096	odellzayden@gmail.com
Crossroads	Mattameecheen	Byron G.	(309) 336-4815	byronfishes@gmail.com
Wotamalo	Wotamalo	Becca H.	(309) 613-5550	bessicajo13@gmail.com



## Lodge Service Award

The Lodge Service Award is given to the Arrowman who has greatly exemplified the values of the OA. The 2024 recipient was Dale Hall. Congratulations and a big thanks for living up to the ideals of the Order of the Arrow.



## Founders Award

The Founders Award is given to two individuals, one youth and one adult, who have given outstanding service to his or her Lodge. This year's recipients were Dale Hall. (at right, in image below) and Levi Lohnes. Big thanks to these two committed Arrowmen for being so instrumental to the success of our Lodge!



## Upcoming Events

Here is a list of of the upcoming Lodge events that will be happening in 2025

**Spring Fellowship:** April 25th - 27th, 2025

**Fall Fellowship:** Oct. 3th - Oct.5th, 2025

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).

## Lodge Mentorship Program

Do you feel like you have experience in our lodge? Enough experience to teach others? If so you should consider signing up for the Lodge Mentorship Program. This program pairs an experienced Lodge member with a new Ordeal member. Then as a mentor you will help guide them on their next steps to take in the lodge. You can apply to be a mentor on the website. We hope to see you as our newest mentor.

## Join the Lodge Executive Committee

If you are looking for a way to make an impact on you and your fellow Arrowmen, you should consider joining the Lodge Executive Committee. The Lodge Executive Committee is a group of youth and adult leaders who make decisions for the Lodge. There are many ways for Arrowmen of all different skill sets to get involved.

If you are interested, feel free to sit in on a meeting and watch what goes on. We do many important tasks, including changing the bylaws, promoting lodge activities, deciding how to spend the Lodge's funds, and many other tasks that allow the Lodge to run smoothly.



We do more than allow the lodge to run smoothly. We also have fun activities like the white elephant christmas exchange!



For more information on where and when the Lodge executive Committee meets, visit the calendar on [wq23.org](http://wq23.org).



## What is Brotherhood and How Do I Get it?

So you have done your Ordeal, but what's next? After waiting 6 months, an Ordeal member has the opportunity to seal their membership by becoming a Brotherhood member. Becoming Brotherhood allows Arrowmen to have a deeper understanding of the Order of the Arrow and its purpose.

### How do I become Brotherhood?

- 1) Be an Ordeal Member for 6 months
- 2) Memorize the Obligation, the song of our Order, Sign of the Ordeal, the Handclasp, and Admonition
- 3) Write a short reflection letter to the Lodge Chief including what you think the obligation means describe how cheerful service and Scouting principles have been a part of your daily life and create a plan for continued service in the lodge

Candidates can submit their reflection letter with your registration or bring it with you to a Fellowship. Brotherhood Ceremonies will happen in the late evening on Saturday of a Fellowship. For more information on how to become Brotherhood, check [wq23.org](http://wq23.org)



*Congratulations to our newest Vigil Members, shown at ISR after receiving their honors. From left: Levi Lohnes, Ozzy Tharp, Ben Jones, Peter Zeller, Graham Mullett, Kris Reuter, Michael Hatton, and Kes Ragon.*

### Vigil Recommendation Forms

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. The way Vigil Honorees are chosen has changed due to national guidance. Now, *all eligible Arrowmen will be considered* by a committee, to avoid Arrowmen slipping through the cracks.

Recommendation forms are available to assist the committee in selecting those you think are worthy. You can recommend Arrowmen online (at [wq23.org](http://wq23.org)) or on paper. Forms should be delivered to the Peoria Service Center, or mailed to Vigil Nominations, W.D. Boyce Council, 614 NE Madison Ave., Peoria, IL 61703.





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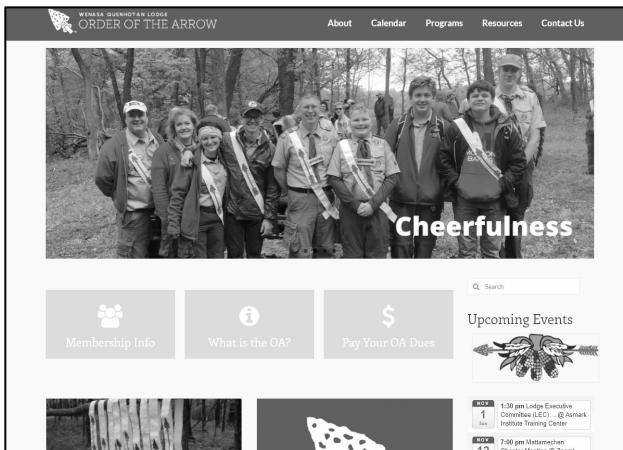


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Check out the Lodge website:

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

**Renew your membership to receive  
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Lodge information!**