

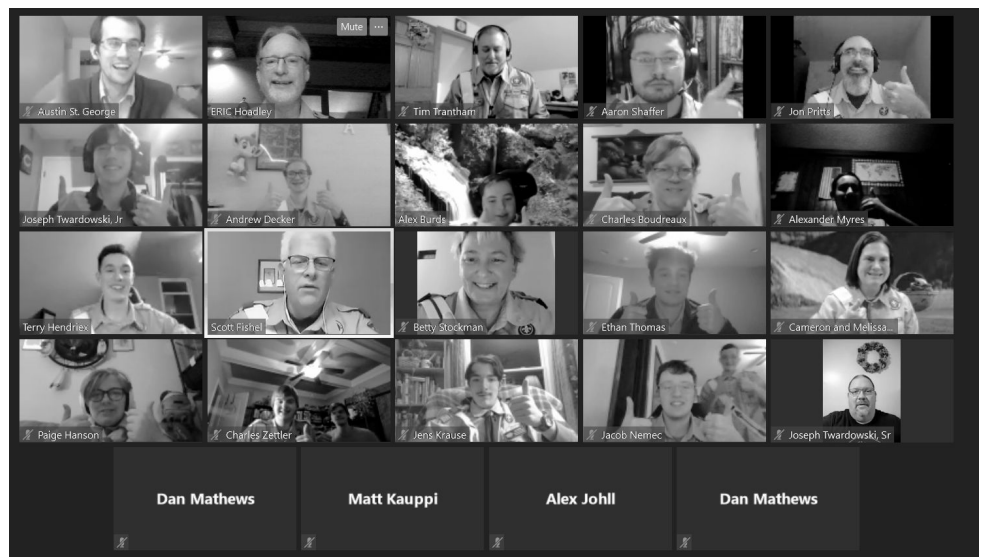
## Winter Banquet Goes Virtual, But Delivers Real Fellowship

Pandemic pressures may have kept us physically distant for the 2021 Winter Banquet, but it could not douse the sense of comradeship in our lodge. More than 50 Arrowmen registered to attend our January 9 online event, from the farthest reaches of our council (and nobody had to drive)!

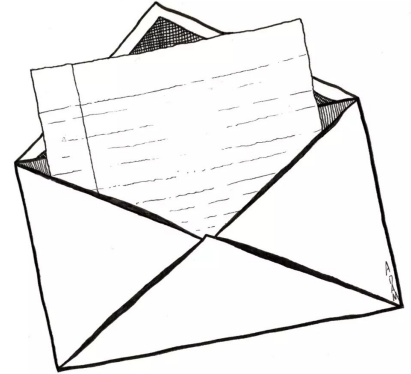
Lodge leaders delivered messages on the state of the lodge, exciting updates on brand new ceremonial drum and regalia assets (see example image at right!), and where things stand regarding unit elections and lodge membership (see other stories in this issue).

Kudos to those behind this effort to keep us all informed and together in difficult circumstances. Zoom meetings will never replace face-to-face gatherings for the warmth and friendship-building moments they offer.

But some sure felt the love ... five Arrowmen renewed their memberships during the Winter Banquet!



# Letter from the Chief



Brothers,

Even without being able to mingle this past year, we still had some great opportunities to experience my favorite part of our Order: brotherhood. Whether it was at our Winter Banquet, live LEC's from our couches, and even events from National like Momentum Spark. Yes, it is more difficult than the past, but also easier than ever.

With the phone probably in your pocket right now, you can directly message Justin Bieber or Selena Gomez in about 15 seconds. Now more than ever, you have more of an opportunity communicate with anyone. Even though we might not be able to sing at the top of our lungs the Campfire Song song from SpongeBob, we still can experience brotherhood within our lodge. Ask someone to start a Minecraft World with you, join the Scouts BSA Meme Page Discord Server, follow our lodge on Facebook.

Brotherhood still exists, and if you are missing it, all you have to do is reach out. It's no further than your pocket.

Yours in Service,

Joey Twardowski

## 2021 Dues Now Accepted

When did you pay your annual dues in the past? Many do so at the Winter Banquet (13% in '19), some at Fall Fellowship or Summer Camp (19% each). But the majority do so at the Spring Fellowship (34%). Seems like the first major in-person event is the typical "light bulb" moment.

But you can take care of this task right now (see other story for Golden Kernel info)! Online payment (and paper forms) are on the lodge website, [www.wq23.org](http://www.wq23.org). If you prefer paper (and many still do, so it's perfectly fine), deliver paper forms to the Service Center in Peoria or Bloomington. Call ahead for hours.

## Why pay dues?

- Dues keep our lodge financially strong. The money you pay goes toward many things, including annual recharter fees, inductions, service projects, communication and more.
- Your dues payment keeps you as an active member of the Lodge, which means you can stay involved in all of the opportunities for OA brotherhood, cheerfulness, and service.
- Only dues-paid members will receive emailed/mailed newsletters and other information. **Renew soon, or this may be your last newsletter!**
- You must be a dues-paid member to attend OA events throughout the year, like the Spring and Fall Fellowships, Winter Banquet, OA High Adventurer, Section events, OA training and NOAC.
- Remember, you **MUST** be a registered member of the Boy Scouts of America to be in the OA.

# Winter Banquet Leftovers

## Every Chapter Represented

Maybe an online meeting isn't all bad; each chapter's attendance was more or less even.

*Lowenau - 27% Mattameechee - 24%*  
*Lawasgoteu - 21% Wotamalo - 27%*

## It's What's for Dinner

This being a BYOCOW event (Bring Your Own Chicken or Whatever), we surveyed participants' choices for the evening's meal. It would be difficult to replicate this varied menu at an in-person Winter Banquet!

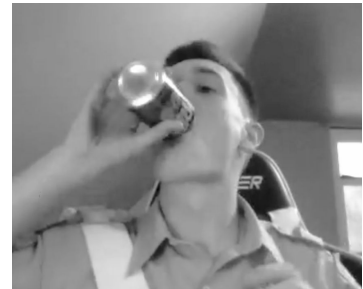
<i>Cheetos</i>	<i>Ribs</i>
<i>Fish</i>	<i>Going out for Italian</i>
<i>Chicken Strips</i>	<i>Turkey Sandwich</i>
<i>Pizza</i>	<i>Chicken Wings &amp; Salad</i>

## Membership Miscellany

2020 Member Count: 357 (vs 506 in 2019)  
2021 Dues Paid: 38  
Golden Kernel: 15 (8 so far in 2021)  
41 Elections Held / 106 Scouts Selected  
89 Ordeals (includes 2019 carryovers)  
31 Ordeals from 2020 still eligible at Spring Fellowship  
28 Brotherhood  
8 Vigil



Backlight makes for scary hair!



The pause that refreshes?



Regalia camouflage?



# How to Prepare for Unit Elections

The season for OA Elections is coming to each and every unit. Is yours ready?

Don't worry if your answer is, "Not really." That's where most units are. But you can take steps to ... be prepared.

Elections will run very much as they did last year, when 23 of the 41 elections used the online election form that was new in 2020. The form submitted results faster, aided legibility and saved trees in the process!

To start, everyone should view the five-minute national video on You Tube (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Rgtzffgvlq&t=10s>). It starts with "general OA info"

that is good for all to know and remember. Then, it goes into detailed descriptions of how individual unit elections work.



Then, go to our lodge site ([www.wq23.org](http://www.wq23.org)) to see the video lodge leaders created on our specific process, and fill out an online form to request your election (live Feb. 8).

If you have questions about elections ... If you are ready to schedule an election ... Contact your Chapter Chief through any of the methods listed in the table below.



## Contact Chapter Chiefs for Unit Election Details Starting Feb. 8

District Name	Chapter Name	Chapter Chief	Phone	Email
Heartland	Lawasgoteu	Matt Kauppi	(309) 294-2813	lawasgoteuchapterwq23@gmail.com
Lowaneu	Lowaneu	Zach Swart	(815) 883-0191	bettyboopchic@hotmail.com
Crossroads	Mattameechen	Joe Matthews	(309) 830-2847	marveljam10155@gmail.com
Wotamalo	Wotamalo	D. Draeger (temp)	(309) 264-9454	mitsi22770@yahoo.com

# From Lost to Leader: WQ23's Terry Hendriex Named Central Region Chief

We asked newly minted Central Regional Chief, Terry Hendriex (from Troop 1142 in Clinton), to explain his “if it weren’t for ...” moment that motivated him to stay active in the OA.

“Immediately following my induction, I remember being tired and hungry, but most of all confused. I wasn't sure what to make of the OA and I felt lost because there was no one outside my troop I knew well.

“I stayed involved though, because people like Paul Oelkers immediately turned that around and made the Order of the Arrow feel like a family to me. He quickly encouraged me to get involved, wanted me to succeed, and introduced me to new friends I would've never met. I think it's easy to go through your induction and then not feel included into the OA. If it weren't for him reaching out encouraging me to stay, I would've never known this organization like I do today.

“This is why I want to foster a culture in the OA where every youth feels like they have a second



*“... it's easy to go through your induction and then not feel included into the OA.”*

family in us. I, and so many others, are involved because one person took the time at a scouting event to get to know us, *so the next time you see a youth sitting in the dining hall alone, be that one person they need.*

“Just like Paul did for me. You just never know what might come from it.”

## Upcoming Events

### Projected Dates:

- Spring Fellowship – April 30 – May 2, 2021
- Summer Ordeal – June 23-24, July 7-8, 2021
- Section C-3A Red Arrow Rally @ ISR – September 24-26, 2021
- Fall Fellowship – October 8-10, 2021
- Winter Banquet 2022 – January 8, 2022
- Spring Fellowship 2022 – April 29-May 1, 2022
- Fall Fellowship 2022 – September 30-October 2, 2022

## New Ceremony Regalia Is On the Way

The lodge is working toward a change in ceremonial regalia, in accord with national OA policies. Lodges pursuing such attire should make efforts to depict tribes indigenous to their areas.

The Sac and Fox tribes lived in Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, and Nebraska. One of their largest villages was Saukenuk, between the Rock and Mississippi Rivers



in Illinois, with approximately 4,000 Sac and Fox people.

Our ceremonies team worked with the McLean County Museum of History to research these tribes' apparel, and are busy creating the regalia seen here, pictured alongside historical photos of actual Sac / Fox tribe members as a pattern reference.

Not as flashy as those seen in Western movies? That's the point.

The BSA is trying to support and embrace the people who actually walked our trails and fished our rivers, rather than perpetuate Hollywood stereotypes.



After all, American Indians exemplified a life in harmony with nature, promoted by early Scouting leaders like Ernest Thompson Seton and Daniel Carter Beard.

The current plan is to debut the new regalia at our 2021 Spring Fellowship.



## Support the Lodge, Wear More Uniform Bling

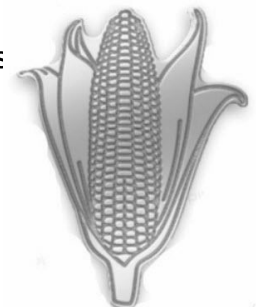
When you think back all the way to Cub Scouts, the BSA leans heavily on awards and recognition, doesn't it? Activity pins and belt loops. Merit badges and event patches. Rank advancements. They're all public recognition of a job well done, and your belief in Scouting's ways.

If you're still looking for a uniform adornment that not everyone has, we have just the ticket: **the Golden Kernel pin**. It will tell all Arrowmen that you respect what the lodge does and stands for so much, that you pre-registered for all of our yearly events, as well as pre-booked next year's membership dues. That commitment level deserves to be recognized!

If you suspect that you'll be attending the Spring and Fall Fellowships and next year's Winter Banquet anyway, go out to [www.wg23.org](http://www.wg23.org) to sign up online or download the paper form. Show everyone that ...

... **you are a Golden Kernel!**

*Sign up by Spring Fellowship. No transfers or refunds for missed or canceled events.*



# SPARK THE LEADER WITHIN.

CENTRAL REGION, ORDER OF THE ARROW  
NLS & DYLC

Mark your calendars now for an amazing weekend of fun. NLS and DYLC are programs that will take your OA commitment to another level.

**National Leadership Seminar** is a weekend conference focusing on the skills and characteristics of leadership. It is intended primarily to enhance the leadership skills of the Order of the Arrow's key youth and adult members, as they seek to improve their service to the Boy Scouts of America and the greater community.

**Developing Youth Leadership Conference** will deepen an adviser's capacity to develop youth leadership within the lodge and chapter. Conference topics include fostering a growth mindset, promoting resilience, providing constructive feedback that leads to changes in youth behavior and creating a lifelong coaching/mentoring relationship. Conference participants will gain insights necessary to successfully coach youth applying the leadership skills they gained during NLS.

**London, OH, May 7 - 9**

**Kansas City, KS, May 21 - 23**

**Grass Lake, MI, Oct 15 - 17**

Details at <https://central.oe-bsa.org/nls/>

## OA Helps Cub Scouts Have Winter Fun

On December 21 and 22, members of Wenasa Quenhotan Lodge assisted with the W.D. Boyce Cub Scout Winter Camp Kit distribution. Lodge members went to the Peoria office and brought the Lowaneu District kits to Veterans War Memorial Park in Mark for distribution. Boxes were distributed on Monday from 3-6pm, and Tuesday from 9am - noon.



## Broken Arrows

With reverent affection, we remember two Arrowmen we lost in 2020. If you know of others, please contact us at [admin@wq23.org](mailto:admin@wq23.org).

**Paul Long - March 3**

**Mark A. Young - March 31**



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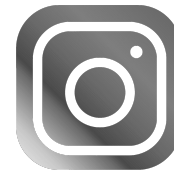
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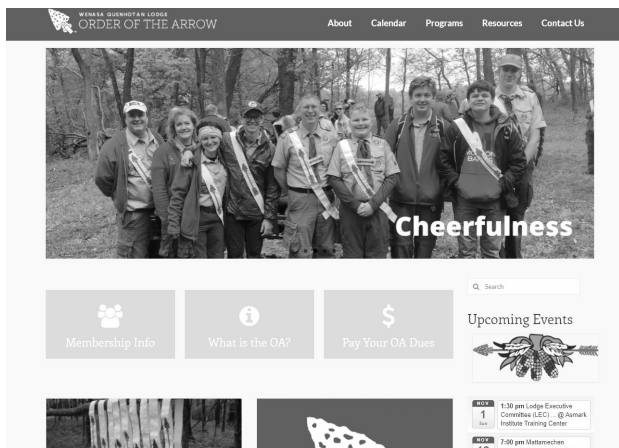


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Check out the lodge website:

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

**Renew your membership to receive future issues of the Arrow & other lodge information!**