

## Thrive: Building a Strong, Growing Future for the Order of the Arrow

In October, OA national began the Thrive initiative in every lodge in the nation. The main goal is to look at the strengths and weakness of every lodge and come up with best practices to solve each issue. The hope is that we can stop falling membership and build a stronger OA for the future.

Wenasa Quenhotan's main issue is getting members to come back to an event after their Ordeal. This is called activation, and we have not been very good at it in recent years. Our SMART goal is to fix this problem by spending more time with parents and candidates *before* the Ordeal to show them the meaning of the Order of the Arrow so they don't think of the OA as just working. We want to tell them about all of the fun opportunities inside and outside of the lodge. We also want to have a more detailed and specific new member orientation after the induction process.

Our goal is to have these new programs ready to be used by the first call out ceremony this year so they can be used before the first induction ceremonies this summer.

## #OAThrive



December 2019



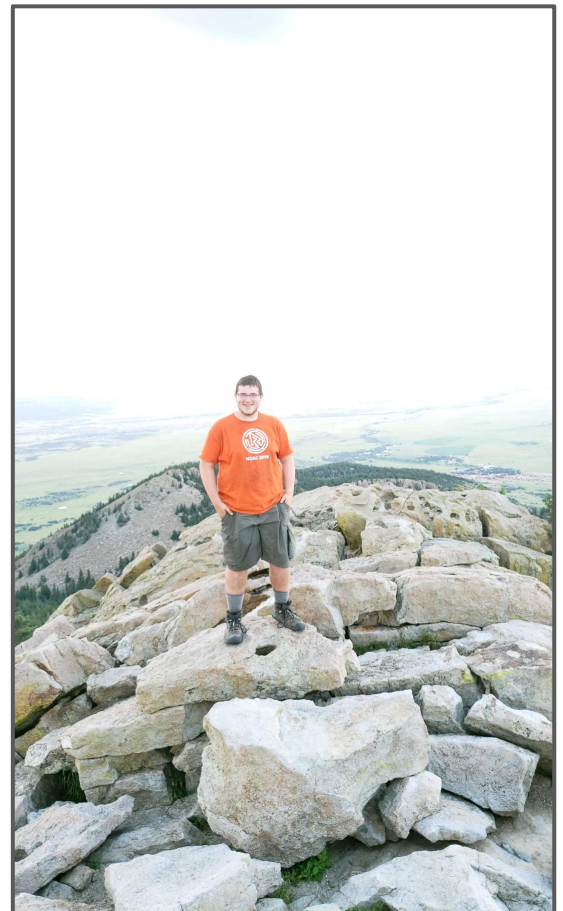
## Lowaneu Chapter

In October, Lowaneu held its largest chapter meeting in 28 years. Seventeen youth and adult members made corn totems and enjoyed an evening of fellowship and fun. Way to go Lowaneu!

And for the rest of you chapter chiefs...let's see if you can beat their record!

## Letter from the Chief

Hello! I am Conner Husted, the new Lodge Chief of WQ23. During this term as Chief, I am sending out a message to all youth in our lodge to personally contact me via emailing [wqchief@gmail.com](mailto:wqchief@gmail.com). I encourage you all to ask questions about the Order of the Arrow, it's benefits, how it can help you, and leadership opportunities within our program. I also welcome adults to email about any questions they have, or to find out ways that they too can get involved. I will personally read every email and will do my best to respond within 24 hours of receiving it, and answer it in the best of my ability. Thank you all for what you do for our camp, lodge, and the people you inspire! #OAThrive!





## A Look at the New Regalia

Starting in 2020, our lodge will be updating its regalia to more closely represent the Sac and Fox tribes, who were local to this region. This will solve a couple of problems for the lodge. One, our regalia is aging, and replacing it with new regalia will improve the quality of our ceremonies and be easier to maintain. Second, the new regalia will be accurate for both genders, which will help with national policy related to ceremonies. Finally, it will be interesting to represent our local tribes in our ceremonies.

These pictures give you general idea of the new regalia might look, but ours will be slightly different based on research by our ceremonialists and their advisor.



## Time to Schedule Elections!

It is almost election season! YAY! So make sure your Scoutmaster schedules an election for your troop! If they contact us first, we don't have to call them! **A sign-up form is currently available on our website: [www.wq23.org](http://www.wq23.org).** Request early to make sure you get the date you want, and be sure to check Facebook for updates!



## Registration for NOAC 2020 is Open!

The 2020 version of the National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC) will happen August 3-8, 2020, on the campus of Michigan State University. It is open to ALL youth and adult members of Wenasa Quehnotan. OA Brothers from across the country will get together for a week of fellowship, service, training, exhibits, OA history, arena shows, patch trading, and inspiration to lead and serve others.

NOAC is truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience that you won't want to miss! If you are interested, submit your contact information on our website. Or take the first step toward this awesome experience by registering at

<https://registration.oa-bsa.org/>

Matt Lee is our contingent leader. He would be happy to talk with you about how you can experience NOAC. Contact him at [aandabooks@live.com](mailto:aandabooks@live.com), 815-75-7880 (cell) or 815-437-9163 (home)



## Congratulations to Our New Section Leadership

At the 2019 Section C3-A Conclave in September, our very own Terry Hendriex and Conner Husted were elected to the positions of Section Chief and Section Vice Chief respectively. Great job to both of you! We can't wait to see what you'll do for the Section!

Also, (in case you've been living under a rock) the Section Conclave will be held at Ingersoll this year! Terry, Conner, and the rest of the Section committee are already hard at work planning for this upcoming event. They even have a theme, which will be revealed soon, so stay tuned for more exciting news about this awesome event.



## Congratulations to our 2019 Vigil Honor Members

Our newest Vigil members who completed their Vigil at Fall Fellowship are: Paul Miller, Don Husted, Terry Hendriex, Theresa Hoadley, and Doug Schwalm. (pictured below) Not pictured are Jarod Anderson and Josh “Little Spoon” Palinkis, who completed their Vigil at summer camp. Thank you all for your service to the lodge!



## 2019 NLS/DYLC

In October, Debbi Draeger, Kyle Hendriex, and Drake Misfeldt attended National Leadership Seminar (NLS) in St. Louis and learned a whole bunch of leadership skills that they'll be utilizing in the lodge. Also pictured here is Terry Hendriex, who was an instructor in the course. Not pictured are Scott Fishel, Doug Schwalm, Gary Ohler, John Seebaur who attended the Developing Youth Leadership Conference (DYLC) but couldn't be bothered to take a picture for posterity.



## Warm Up at Winter Banquet, January 11, 2020

It may be cold outside in January, but you can warm up in the cheerful glow of Brotherhood at Wenasa Quenhotan's annual Winter Banquet. All Arrowmen and their guests are welcome! Make it a point to invite someone -- especially new youth members -- and look forward to a fun evening of good food, fellowship, guest speakers, Founders and Lodge Service awards, and much more.

**Asmark Institute Training Center, 14171 Carole Drive, Bloomington**  
**Patch Auction: 4 p.m. Proceeds will go toward toward the youth subsidy fund. Patch and item donations welcome. Dinner 5:30 p.m.**  
**Register now at [www.wq23.org](http://www.wq23.org)**

## Ask Kitchkinet

### Hey Kitchkinet:

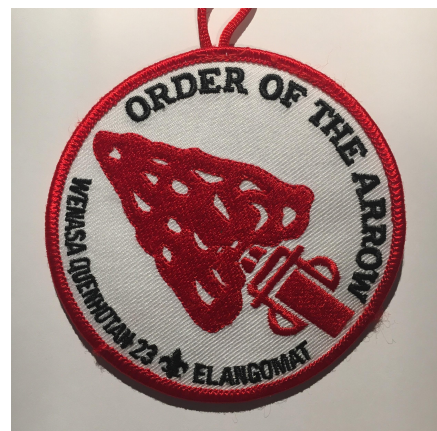
Why would I want to be an Elangomat and go through my Ordeal again?

### Answer:

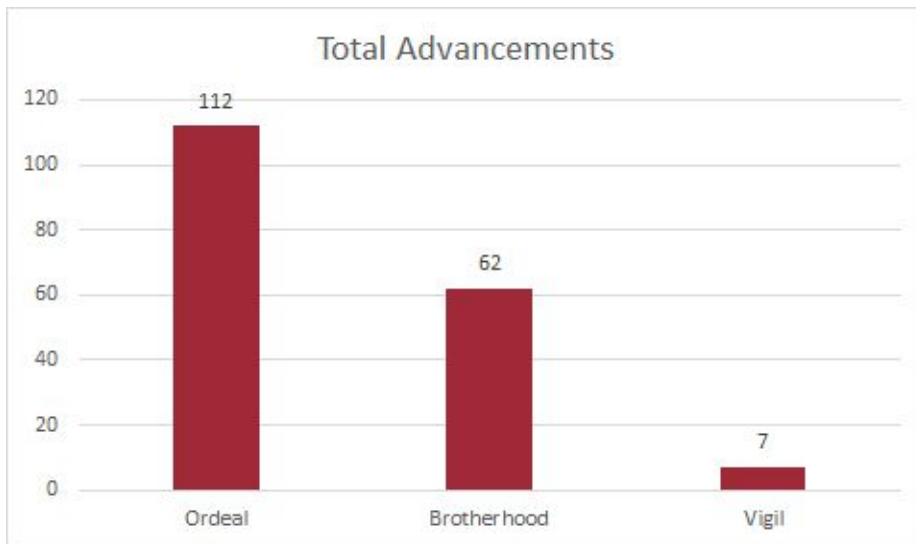
Thank you for asking. Being an Elangomat is so much more than just re-doing your Ordeal. But, before I explain, let's first clarify what an Elangomat is:

"Elangomat" translates to "friend" in Lenni Lenape, which is exactly what you are to the Ordeal Candidates. Guiding others through their Ordeal only emphasizes its lessons, and provides an opportunity to make a direct impact in the candidates and the lodge. Yes, you will have to accept the challenges of the Ordeal once again, but they're often easier the second (or more) time around. Not to mention, the Induction Chairman's goal is to make the Elangomats' jobs easier, and there's a \$20 WQ Trading Post credit incentive and a special patch if you Elangomat! We're always in need of Elangomats, so if you'd like to earn a greater understanding of the Ordeal, significantly help the lodge, and receive these great incentives, please contact the Inductions Chairman today!

Owen Jones, Inductions Chairman  
[owenjones2202@gmail.com](mailto:owenjones2202@gmail.com)



## This Year's Stats



Total Service Hours:

1841

Thank you for all your help in making this year so successful!



### Upcoming Events

Winter Banquet.....January 11, 2020

Spring Fellowship.....May 1-3, 2020

Service Day @ ISR.....June 6, 2020

Section Conclave.....September 27-29, 2020

Fall Fellowship .....October 2-4, 2020

All upcoming events can be found on our Lodge Calendar: <http://wq23.org/calendar>







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PEORIA, IL 61603

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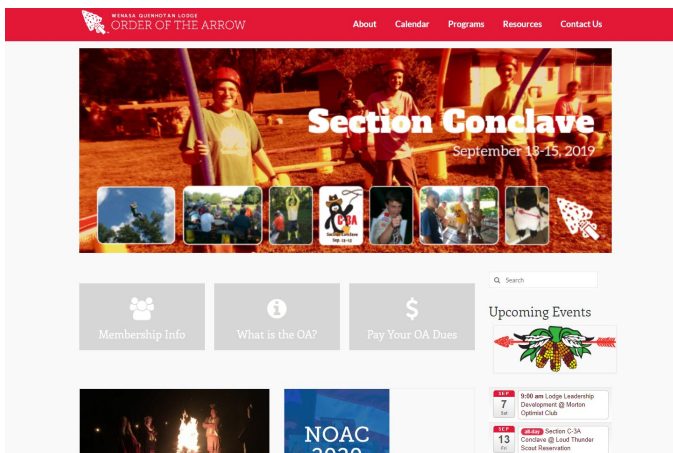


Find us on  
**Facebook**

facebook.com/wq23oa

## Go Green with the Arrow--Opt Out of the Paper Edition!

You might have noticed that the lodge is making an effort to go green by no longer using paper plates and utensils at events. Starting with the next issue of The Arrow, you'll be able to help further that goal by opting out of the paper edition of the newsletter. If you opt out, you'll be sent an email as soon as the most recent edition of The Arrow is released online. You'll also be able to enjoy the news in its fully colored glory! Check out past editions at our archive at [www.wq23.org](http://www.wq23.org)!



Check out the lodge website!  
**[www.wq23.org](http://www.wq23.org)**