Lodge Banquet

On January 5th, Ktemaque Lodge rang in the New Year with its annual banquet held at The Mansion at Colonial Terrace. Planned by Banquet Chairman Aidan Healy and Adviser Ms. Dina Bochnik, the festivities kicked off with a rousing opening by our Ceremonies Team.

After leading an invocation of the OA Grace, Chief Krajca announced a very generous endowment donation from a Westchester-Putnam Council Board Member, Mr. Gordon Whiting. Brother Whiting surprised the lodge by contributing $15,000 to start an endowment fund, which will benefit the Lodge every year, now and forever. He has also put out a challenge that he will match additional contributions to the OA endowment fund, dollar for dollar, up to $5,000. If this challenge is met, this new endowment fund will start out with a total of $25,000. Anyone who wishes to contribute to the fund may send checks payable to Ktemaque Lodge Endowment c/o Westchester-Putnam Council, 41 Saw Mill River Road, Hawthorne, NY 10532. Thank you Brother Whiting for your leadership and generosity!

During the delicious buffet dinner everyone enjoyed a slideshow of photos prepared by Jack Kiernan which featured all of the lodge events in 2016. After the chairmen for Ceremonies, Communications, Program and Unit Elections made appeals for new committee members, Master of Ceremonies Matt Pulley introduced James Reilly, who conducted the Founders’ Award ceremony for honored brother Mike Tripodi. A call-out ceremony was held for six worthy brothers selected for the Vigil Honor. Two more brothers who were not present are also expected to be called-out before Vigil ceremonies are conducted later this year. Congratulations to all new Vigil candidates!

All new Ordeal and Brotherhood members received certificates to recognize their membership in our lodge. The evening concluded with ice cream for dessert, cookies for the road, and a lot of inspiration to participate in all of the lodge activities in 2017.
Chiefly Speaking

Since the Spring Ordeal, not much has needed to change. My job is not about doing the work, but about delegating the work to others. My team, however, has accomplished a great deal over these past few months.

Over the summer up at camp Read, Vice Chief of Programs Matt Pulley, ran the OA Ice Cream social, in which he displayed what the OA was all about to those who may know nothing about the Order. As well as giving service and ice cream to those who attended the social, in September, the members of Matt's team, as well as Vice Chief of Communications Jack's, successfully pulled off another Ordeal weekend, running the Brotherhood Quest, Ordeal work detail and both ceremonies smoothly.

Our Service Vice Chief ran two wonderful service projects in October. The first was cleaning up the DEP reservoirs within Westchester and Putnam counties. The second was running our yearly station at the council Thunderbird games. Vice Chief of Service Brandon moved away from our normal station games and had a huge success with the new station games, Castle ball and a playpen for the younger children.

As of now I have presided over most lodge meetings and assisted Section NE-2B in planning the next Section conclave, while my team of Vice Chiefs and their Committees have worked miracles planning and executing multiple events.

Yours in Scouting,
Chris Krajca

Adviser's Minute
By Robert Behan

There are sixteen words in the Scout Law. The Law does not say, “A Scout is tall, handsome, rich or smart.” Why is that? Because a young man cannot choose to be tall, or rich, or those other things that are beyond his control. However, he does have choices to make. He can choose to listen to you when you are down, to respect your religion, to clean up after himself, and to keep the crew’s spirits up on the trail. These characteristics are what comprise the Scout Law. When I think about the men who have made a difference in my life, I think about the ones who have made the choice to take the harder path and go above and beyond what others do.

The Order of the Arrow is the honor society of the Boy Scouts of America. As the youth of the lodge, you run the lodge. I encourage you all to take that harder path. Come to lodge events and take leadership roles. If you are interested, please contract our Lodge Chief at LodgeChief@Ktemaque.org.

OA Jamboree

To continue a tradition that dates back to the 1950 National Scout Jamboree, over 750 youth Arrowmen will answer the call to serve as part of Operation Arrow - the largest jamboree staff team ever assembled by the Order of the Arrow!

Operation Arrow staff members will support the jamboree program by joining one of three primary OA program areas: the Service Corps, the Trek Guides and the Indian Village.

The summer of 2017 seems like a long time away, but planning for the 2017 National Jamboree at the Summit Bechtel Reserve (SBR) is already well underway. The Order of the Arrow will continue to release information about Operation Arrow staff opportunities and how to become involved in the coming months.

We hope you will join us for what is sure to be the experience of a lifetime, as a part of Operation Arrow at the 2017 National Jamboree!
Conclave

We look forward all Ktemaque Lodge brothers joining us at Conclave 2017. We will travel 2 hours away to Camp Keowa, for a weekend of fellowship and fun hosted by Kintecoying Lodge between June 9th and 11th. Section leadership elections, brief training sessions, dining hall meals and patch auctions will be featured parts of the program. Register on our Ktemaque website today!

GO Bro

Are you interested in sealing your bonds of Brotherhood? During the Fellowship Weekend, we will be hosting a Brotherhood Quest program for all Ordeal members who have been in the OA for more than 18 months. Based on the comprehensive foundation developed by Mr. Jess Hurwitz, the new Brotherhood Quest was crafted by Jack Kiernan, John Kiernan and Rob Carlson and now features videos, music, interactive dialogue and personal introspection to prepare Ordeal members to demonstrate their general OA membership knowledge, deepen their understanding of the Ordeal Ceremony and Ordeal process, be able to describe differences between Ordeal and Brotherhood membership and understand the history, structure and organization of the Order of the Arrow. Each new Brotherhood member put in writing their commitment to our principals by writing a letter describing how they have been fulfilling the OA Obligation in their unit and daily life, how they have used their understanding of the Ordeal to aid in this service, and outlined their specific plans for continuing service in the future to their unit and our lodge. The Brotherhood Quest concluded with a special ceremony where additional information about our Order was relayed and new sashes are presented to worthy candidates.

Calendar 2017

The Ktemaque Lodge calendar in its entirety is on the Ktemaque Lodge web site at www.wpcbsa.org/Ktemaque/

February

28 LEC Meeting

March

10-12 NLS/NLATS
11 University of Scouting
24-26 OA Fellowship Weekend
28 LEC Meeting

April

25 LEC Meeting
29 Lodge Leadership Development

May

19-21 Spring Ordeal at Read
23 LEC Meeting

June

9-11 OA Conclave
27 LEC Meeting

July

15-29 OA Operation

OA High Adventure

The Order of the Arrow is offering you an opportunity to join other Arrowmen in cheerful service and the formation of lasting brotherhood on the trails of Philmont Scout Ranch. Under the direction of the Philmont Conservation Department, experienced Philmont staff members with strong Order of the Arrow backgrounds will lead participants on the two week trail crew and trek.

The program is a fourteen (14) day experience. The first week focuses on trail construction and maintenance under the guidance of Philmont OA Trail Crew Foremen. The second week is a seven day backpacking trek that is designed by the participants. The program is not simply building trail and hiking though, the OA Trail Crew is ultimately a journey that challenges Scouts mentally, physically, and spiritually.
The National Leadership Seminar (NLS) is a weekend conference on the skills and attributes 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 services to the Boy Scouts of America and the greater community. The weekend format is designed to complement the longer, more detailed Wood Badge and Junior Leadership Training programs. Near the end of the seminar, participants make a contract with themselves to apply the skills studied in the seminar on projects in the lodge, council, and community. NLS prepares Arrowmen to become better leaders both within and outside of the Scouting program.

Developing Youth Leadership Conference

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

The Developing Youth Leadership Conference will move us beyond lodge mechanics and operations to establishing a lodge and chapter culture that grows youth who are capable of establishing goals, building teams, and guiding the lodge’s work to achieve Journey to Excellence. Prior participation in the National Leadership Seminar is encouraged, but not required.

BOTH NLS and DYLC will be offered on March 10-12th in Alpine, NJ
New Vigil Members

The Order of the Arrow provides numerous leadership opportunities for its youth members to excel and be recognized for their accomplishments. Leadership and alertness to the needs of others is the mark of the Vigil Honor. It calls for an individual with an unusual awareness of the possibilities within each situation.

The Vigil Honor is the highest honor that the Order of the Arrow can bestow upon its members for service to their lodge, council, and Scouting. Membership cannot be won by a person’s conscious endeavors.

The 2016 Vigil Honor Selection Committee members included Kyle Creaven, James Reilly, Jacob Wassey and Awards & Recognition Chairman, Sean Healy. The committee reviewed over 100 eligible Brotherhood members and after numerous discussions, Emails, Conference Calls and the normal eleventh hour pushing and prodding by their adviser, they selected 8 worthy individuals for this distinguished honor.

Due to previous scheduled family obligations, only 6 out of the 8 Vigil Honor Candidates were called out. They will be recognized in a future newsletter.

Brother Louis Alagno
Brother Evan Attinger
Brother Rachel Carlson
Brother Ann Reilly
Brother Ian Troge
Brother Dan Troge

New and Improved Lodge Web Site

Go to our lodge web site at www.wpcbsa.org/Ktemaque/ to get detailed information about upcoming events, links to our lodge social media sites, forms, lodge calendar, newsletters, contact information, and lots more information.

OA Troop Representative and OA Troop Adviser

Every troop should have an OA Troop Representative (youth position) and an OA Troop Adviser (adult position).

Scouts may use the OA Troop Representative position to meet the leadership position requirements for the Star, Life, and Eagle ranks. For more information, go to this web page www.oa-bsa.org/pages/content/troop-representative

If you have questions, please contact our Lodge Adviser Bob Behan.

Elangomats

Why be an Elangomat? Who wouldn’t want to spend a weekend camping and hanging out with friends? Do you remember the food that was “out of this world” at the end your Ordeal? Well, imagine a weekend full of that mouth watering, steamy goodness on a plate.

What is an Elangomat you ask? Well, those Scouts helping you through the challenges are known as Elangomats. They were the ones wearing the sashes who went everywhere with you on your journey. From the opening ceremony to the hard day’s work, they were alongside you as your guide.

Because of this, we need previous Elangomats and eager new ones to help fellow Scouts through their upcoming Ordeal. Youth and adult members are welcome to join us in the role of mentoring new candidates. Training for this role will be held prior to the Spring Ordeal, and help is always appreciated. Being an Elangomat is a great way to become an active member of Ktemaque Lodge. The training is short, lasting approximately 3-4 hours, but is necessary. You will be given recognition for your contributions such as an Elangomat T-shirt and segment patches. Brotherhood members are encouraged to participate.

To register to become an Elangomat, contact our Elangomat Chairman, Evan Attinger, at ElangomatChairman@Ktemaque.org or Adviser Mr. Dan Troge at ElangomatAdviser@Ktemaque.org for specific dates, training, and more information.
**Founder's Award**

The Founder’s Award was introduced at the 1981 National Order of the Arrow Conference to recognize Arrowmen who have given outstanding service to their lodge. The award is reserved for an Arrowman who demonstrates that they personifies the spirit of selfless service, as advocated by founder’s E. Urner Goodman and co-founder Carroll A. Edson.

In January, Ktemaque Lodge recognized Michael J. Tripodi as this year's Founder’s Award. Michael was inducted into the Order of the Arrow in the Spring of 1998. He sealed his membership in 1999, and was awarded the Vigil Honor in the Fall of 2002.

Mike has provided exceptional service to Ktemaque Lodge and the Westchester Putnam Council assisting with the promotion of the Curtis Read Scout Reservation, serving as a NCAP Camp Assessment Specialist for Area 2, and mentoring youth Arrowmen in performing lodge ceremonies at both Durland and Read.

Mike also provides Water Safety instruction in his community and within Scouting on a year-round basis. He is very active with the American Red Cross and constantly maintains all his certificates enabling him to teach and keep Scouts up to date on the best practices available.

**Fellowship Weekend**

March 24-26th, 2017
Durland Scout Reservation, Putnam Valley, NY

We expect as many as 100 Brothers to attend this annual event which celebrates the Fellowship that makes the OA so worthwhile.

I am your new Fellowship Weekend Chairman, Joseph Confalone, and I am supported by Lodge Adviser Bob Behan. All Brothers will be able to compete in Olympic themed games and activities that will challenge their skills and inspire their spirits. Games will include canoe races, chariot races, relay races, and archery and rifle shooting, which will not be races. Combined with Brotherhood Quest activities, this weekend will be action packed. The food prepared by chefs Ernie Wieting and Rob Carlson are always delicious. for preparing delicious and nutritious themerelatedmeals for the weekend, so bring your Olympic sized appetite.

Bring your "A" game, your OA sash, and your cell phone charger and come out and enjoy the 2017 Fellowship weekend.Register online at www.ktemaque.org

You need to sign up as soon as possible, and anyone who had their Ordeal from last spring or longer is eligible to seal their bonds of Brotherhood in the Brotherhood Quest. If you are interested in helping me run this event, please contact me at FellowshipChairman@Ktemaque.org.

Yours in Scouting,
Joseph Confalone

**Ktemaque Lodge Is On Facebook**

Would you like be informed about Ktemaque Lodge's activities on social media? Visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/Ktemaque15/
Unit Elections Need Your Help!

The most important job each of us has is to recruit worthy members into the Order of the Arrow so that we build stronger troop leaders. Please help our lodge with Unit Elections between January and April 2017.

This year, we have launched special teams in the Northern and Southern portions of our council to better serve our troops as they conduct these elections. No experience is required, and training is available free of charge. Anyone who has ever conducted a Unit Election knows that they have made a difference in the lives of Scouts and the lodge here at Westchester-Putnam. Please contact our Vice Chiefs at OperationsViceChief@Ktemaque.org to volunteer.

The following Arrowmen contributed to the production of this issue:

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Joseph Confalone
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