



VOICE ^{OF} THE PINES

NA TSI HI LODGE 71 - ORDER OF THE ARROW

SPRING SERVICE WEEKEND 2025

From the Lodge Chief

Hello my Brothers,

I'd like to begin by welcoming our new membership. We're proud to have you as a member of our Lodge. To be a member of the Order of the Arrow is to be exceptional; it is to be chosen by your peers as one who personifies the Scout Oath and Scout Law, one who goes above and beyond the call of leadership. It is an honor to induct such outstanding individuals into our Order.

Since the time of my election, so much has happened, and so much has changed. Event attendance increased exponentially from last year, our membership is up, we went through the Thrive Program, we had representatives at more non-Lodge events than ever, we added a cheerful service request form to our website, we experienced NOAC, we prepared for Conclave in Puerto Rico, we started preparing for Conclave 2026, we expanded the number of our events and their scope, and so much more. This year has set the stage for our continued growth and success.

Now my term is approaching its end. I have lived and breathed the OA. I have lived and breathed Scouting. Though this judgment may seem premature — I have only been in the Lodge since 2022, and I am still a youth member — the friendships, challenges, triumphs, silly moments, and pure love of the Order of the Arrow has shaped me more than anything else in my life. The Order of the Arrow represents so much of what I love about being alive. So I have some advice for all of you: commit yourself to being an Arrowman. Whether a little or a lot, any commitment you make will be repaid a hundredfold. I want you all to remember the following:

From the Lodge Adviser

As we head into our season of Service Weekend with Ordeals and Vigils occurring, we have an opportunity to contemplate the stars again. In an ever-changing and complex world, where decisions are not always black and white, and life's path often twists and turns unexpectedly, having a "North Star" or a moral compass is crucial.

These metaphors represent our guiding principles and ethical frameworks that help us navigate through life's challenges and decisions, ensuring we remain true to ourselves and our values.

The North Star, or Polaris, has been a guiding light for navigators for centuries, offering a fixed point in the night sky to help determine direction. Similarly, a personal North Star represents a fixed vision or goal guiding your actions and decisions. It represents your most profound values, aspirations, and what you consider your purpose in life. This could be a passion for helping others, a desire to achieve in your academics or career, or a commitment to personal growth and learning.

Having a clear North Star gives your life direction and helps you stay focused on what truly matters, especially when faced with distractions or challenges. It provides a sense of purpose and motivation, driving you to pursue your goals even when the going gets tough. Being surrounded by other Arrowmen within the Order of the Arrow, there are plenty of examples of role models and mentors that can help you with forming your own North Star.

Yours in Brotherhood,

Mr. Chris Harris—Lodge Adviser

(Continued on page 3)

From the Vice Chief of Inductions

Hello Na Tsi Hi,

Welcome all new brothers to the Order of the Arrow! This organization has been one of the best parts of my Scouting journey, and I encourage you all to stay involved. In the start, you may be frightened-I know I was. Seeing so many brand new people with titles may make you feel like a fish out of water. However, we have all been in your position. I remember looking at the officers at the first LEC I attended (which you should all go to) and thinking, "That will never be me." Turns out, two years later I would reject my self-doubt and become an officer. I urge you all to seize the opportunities that the OA offers. Join a committee and stay involved by attending Lodge events. If you get the chance, I would highly recommend attending NOAC (National Order of the Arrow Conference) and Conclave. NOAC took the Lodge and I to Colorado University at Boulder. This gave me the trainings which made me the leader I am today, whilst being fun and connecting me with Arrowmen throughout the U.S. I hope that you will enjoy the OA as much as I have. I look forward to meeting you all soon!

YIB,

Philip R - Vice Chief of Inductions

Brotherhood: A Deeper Understanding

The Order of the Arrow Ceremonies are very near and dear to many Arrowmen's hearts, mine included. In an effort to observe and preserve the traditions of the Order, I recently had the pleasure of reaching out to Jay Dunbar via email. Jay served as a Chief in Na Tsi Hi Lodge back in 1968. He received the Vigil Honor in 1968, was Area (Section) Chief in 1971, and received the Distinguished Service Award in 1977. As a member of the Ceremonial Advisory Group he authored our current pre-Ordeal Ceremony (1979), and subsequently our current Brotherhood Ceremony, which became official in our centennial year (2015). He is also the author of the booklet *'The Drum: a training aid for ceremonial teams'* and a card game called *Or-Deal*, designed to simulate planning for a successful Ordeal

From the Vice Chief of Administration

Hello to all new Arrowmen! My name is Colin S and I'd like to congratulate you all on your induction into Na Tsi Hi Lodge. I'd like to share a piece of advice that was told to me upon my induction: You get out of this organization what you put into it. This has been entirely truthful during my time in the OA. I've met so many amazing people and participated in many events on all different levels just by saying yes and showing up. From our smallest of Lodge Fellowships, in which I played (and lost) in a Wii Bowling Tournament, to attending the National Order of the Arrow Conference in NOAC with 8,000 other Arrowmen from across the world, every experience within this sector of scouting has been truly amazing. I hope that as one of the Lodge officers I can make sure all of you can have similar experiences to what I did so that you can understand why I love it so much. I look forward to getting to meet all of you individually and I look forward to seeing you active in the Lodge and beyond!

Yours in Brotherhood,

Colin S. - Vice Chief of Administration

Why join the Activities Committee?

Our committee is responsible for planning and executing all the Fun Fellowship. We need creative individuals that love coming up with fun and creative ideas around different themes. We are primarily responsible for Fellowship at Spring and Fall Service Weekend, Fall and Spring Fellowship as well. We also help with our Annual Winter Carnival! Do you have what it takes to create new and creative games for our Lodge members to participate in? If you're interested in having fun, meeting new people, and becoming more active in the Lodge, activities@natsihi.org.

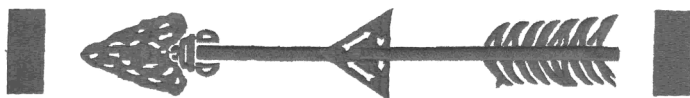
YIB, Douglas T – Activities Chairman



- >Don't do it all yourself, you're only one person.
- >Do it all: Being only one person isn't a limitation, it is a blessing.
- >Do what you can together: there are people who will love, respect, and support you unconditionally in this world. They aren't hard to find here in the OA.
- >Do what you need to alone: Sometimes, the only person who can help you is you. Sometimes it's because a job is simply a one-person job (try to thread a needle with a group of 3 people), but sometimes it's because the best thing you can do for yourself is to find solitude. But never, ever isolate yourself. Being physically and spiritually alone are two completely different things. Even if nobody else is, your brothers are always behind you.
- >Do your best, but know that your best can always improve.
- >Do what you love. This needs no explanation. Just don't hurt anyone.
- >Find the right people. The right people are the ones who are happy because you're happy, who admire and respect you no matter what, and who make you feel welcome whenever you're with them. Our Lodge is full of the right people.
- >Make other people happy, for there is no greater joy.
- >And always remember the Admonition.

"Who serves his fellows is, of all his fellows, greatest." - E. Urner Goodman

Yours In Brotherhood,
Theo D.S - 2024-2025 Lodge Chief



Historic trails

Why YOU should join historic trails!

Historic trails is a great way to get involved and is a great committee to stay involved outside of the service weekends and you should join if you enjoy hiking and history!

Yours on the Trail,

Mya W - Historic Trails Chair

Elections Update

Hello Na Tsi Hi,

Congratulations to all our new members!

If you remember from a couple weeks ago, when you were elected by your troop, the Unit Elections Committee handles introducing possible candidates to the Lodge. Our job is to create valuable first impressions to non- OA members. We are always looking for new members.

Our committee is unique since we are only active before inductions, gathering candidates. Our members are welcome to join other committees, in addition to elections, to help during induction weekends. We aren't picky with our members, anyone and everyone is welcome to help.

If you are interested, please email

elections@natsihi.org

YiS,

Rayna M – Elections Chair

Just a simple
reminder.
Have you paid your
DUES yet?

weekend. He even saved the OA program at Forestburg from being discontinued while serving as Lodge Chief and FSR staffer. After we connected and shared our passion for the ceremonies, he mailed me some historic texts, including older versions of the pre-Ordeal, Ordeal, and Brotherhood ceremonies, *The Drum*, and *Or Deal: The Card Game*. I've been living by the moral lessons found in the tales he wrote for quite some time now, long before I ever even heard them. And now that I truly understand them on a deeper level, I believe I always will. One cool fact I learned: it turns out we both share the same favorite principal in the ceremony. Jay Dunbar actually coined the term *principals*. He's also the creator of *The Brotherhood Hike*. In fact, some of the imagery in that ceremony is inspired by what you can see, hear, and feel at Forestburg. And if you've ever been to Forestburg, you know how powerful that is. In the Order of the Arrow, we often refer to each other as either Arrowmen or Brothers. We're all brothers in the sense that we *click*, we're alike in many meaningful ways. I mention this because, in the emails Jay and I wrote to each other, we addressed one another as *Brother*. This is significant because we had never met, yet we opened up to each other as Brothers, sharing our memories and thoughts on the ceremonies that make them feel truly personal. They speak directly to you, especially while leading in Scouting. Jay, I'm truly grateful we had the chance to connect and share our thoughts and feelings about the tales you wrote. It really is something special. I encourage all Ordeal members who are eligible for Brotherhood to take the opportunity. Not only that, it's one of the most meaningful experiences you can have, especially by doing it at Forestburg. Personally, I've found that I become great friends with other Arrowmen very easily. So again, I encourage you to become a Brotherhood member, not because we want to boost our numbers or anything like that but because it's a once-in-a-lifetime chance to share something special with others that will stay with you forever.

See you on the trail,

4 Thomas O. - Lodge Secretary

Quartermaster News

Hello Arrowmen, old and new! I am Alex A., the current Quartermaster Chair, and I am here to talk a little bit about the Quartermaster committee and what we do to support the Lodge. The Quartermaster Committee isn't just about keeping shelves stocked—it's where the action happens! If you've ever visited a trading post, you know it's a place full of energy, camaraderie, and plenty of cool finds. But behind every successful sale, there's a dedicated team making it all happen. Being part of the Quartermaster Committee means taking an active role in managing inventory, assisting customers, and ensuring that the trading post runs smoothly. Whether it's helping a scout find the perfect patch to commemorate an achievement or showcasing new apparel, committee members play a vital role in keeping everything organized and accessible. This isn't just a behind-the-scenes job—it's an opportunity to develop valuable skills in sales, teamwork, and customer service. Members gain firsthand experience in handling transactions. Beyond the logistics, working on the Quartermaster Committee builds connections. It's about engaging with fellow scouts, sharing knowledge, and fostering a community where everyone has the tools to thrive. And let's not forget the fun—there's something incredibly rewarding about helping someone find the perfect piece of gear or memorabilia that will stay with them for years to come. So, if you're looking for an opportunity to step up and get involved, consider joining the Quartermaster Committee. You won't just be organizing supplies—you'll be shaping experiences, one sale at a time! Even if you don't decide to join, make sure you stop by to check out all our Lodge swag!

YiB,

Alexander A – Quartermaster Committee Chair



Ceremonies Update

Dear Lodge Members,

My name is Dhwen P, and I am honored to serve as your Youth Committee Chair for the Ceremonies Committee. Over the past year, I have been dedicated to revitalizing our Na Tsi Hi ceremonies, ensuring they are both memorable and impactful for all who participate.

One of the key initiatives I have led is the reintroduction of fully memorized, off-script ceremonies for all service weekends, including Ordeal and Brotherhood. This is something our Lodge has not seen in a long time, and I am proud to say that it has already begun to elevate the authenticity and emotional connection of our ceremonies. To make this vision a reality, we have implemented regular monthly meetings, providing time for our team to practice, refine, and perfect our presentations.

However, the strength of our ceremonies relies not just on tradition but on the commitment of our members. I invite all of you—especially new members—to join the Ceremonies Committee. Whether you want to take on a role in ceremonies, help behind the scenes, or simply support our efforts, your involvement is crucial. By joining, you'll be part of preserving and strengthening one of the most sacred aspects of our Lodge experience.

If you are interested in joining or learning more, please feel free to reach out to me. Your contributions, big or small, will help us continue the legacy of passing down these powerful stories. Together, let's keep the fire burning strong.

Yours in Brotherhood,

Dhwen P - Ceremonies Committee Chair



Welcome to All

New Members,

Congratulations on making Ordeal! Everyone in the Lodge understands how big of an achievement you've accomplished. Since you're in the Lodge now, you may be thinking of joining a committee. If you are, I recommend looking through this newsletter to get an idea of how we run. The Communications Committee is responsible for the website, social media, the VOP and takes photos of the events. If you are interested, email communications@natsihi.org. You can also talk to me at LECs which happen the second Thursday of every month.

Congratulations,

Elizabeth S - Communications Chair

Vigil Honor

Congratulations to our Vigil Honor Class of 2025!

Colin S, Theo D-S, Thomas O, Julia A,

Mr. Matt Anderson, Mr. Steve Nudelman, Mr. Mark Ugi

Vigil Honor is the highest honor that the Order of The Arrow can award its members for service to Lodge, council, and Scouting. The Vigil Honor is a high mark of distinction and recognition reserved for those Arrowmen who, by reason of exceptional service, personal effort, and unselfish interest, have made distinguished contributions beyond the immediate responsibilities of their position of office to one or more of the following:

- Lodge
- Order of the Arrow
- Scouting community
- Scout Camp

Yours in Scouting,

Heidi K - Vigil Honor Committee Chair

Commissary News

Dear OA Members,

Hello! As your Commissary Chair, I've done my best to provide good meals during our induction weekends. As my term comes to a close, I'm asking for your feedback to help improve the experience for the next Commissary Chair—whether that's me again or someone new.

I hope you've all had a great scouting year and have an amazing summer ahead. Please take a moment to share your thoughts so we can make the food even better next time. You can leave your feedback by emailing

Commissary@natsihi.org or visiting <https://www.natsihi.org/contact/>.

Yours in Brotherhood,

Robert M - Commissary Chair

Moving out from college

When I first got inducted into the OA I did not think that I would be writing a contribution to the my Lodge's newsletter on my way back from college 600 miles away almost 4 years later. But fast forward and it's the first thing at the top of my mind. As I think I mentioned before in previous submissions, Scouting and the OA has done so much for me. From preparing me to be a good roommate, professional, student and leader, our organization definitely is one that is a gift that keeps on giving! I have officially survived and embraced one year of jokes about being from New Jersey and being a Scout. I cannot wait to recharge this summer, and collect more camp staff stories to tell to my college friends while they are in disbelief!

Best,

Cole P – Past Lodge Chief

Get connected
www.natsihi.org

Facebook
fb.com/NaTSiHi



6 Instagram
www.instagram.com/natsihi71/

Snuffy Hollow Camporee

Not too long ago, I had the opportunity to help volunteer at Snuffy Hollow Camporee. I guess you could say I have the "Snuffy Spirit." Every day, I look forward to the next Snuffy, and I always end up having the time of my life at the event. It's a great opportunity for your troop to attend, it happens every first weekend of May. But before you tell your troop, you should hear the legend.

One day during a particular strong thunderstorm back in 1963, Dan Kerwin noticed a small man clinging tightly to the tree in his front yard. The wind was so strong. It threatened to blow the small man away. In one hand, the man was clutching a ragged black hat and wore a patched pair of blue jeans over a red-checkered shirt. A large shaggy moustache sprouted under this man's rather large nose. Hurrying outside, Dan helped the man by leading him indoors. The two men started talking... As the legend has it, Dan had rescued Snuffy Smith himself, the toon had been blown from the pages of the Sunday comics and so Snuffy was very grateful. Snuffy noted that Dan Kerwin was a Boy Scout Leader and suggested that Dan create a Camporee where young men could come, learn skills, and compete in healthy fashion. Dan was so impressed with the idea that he decided to try it out. In honor of where the idea came from, Dan named it the Snuffy Hollow Camporee. Snuffy had to leave, and although the wind had stopped, the rain was still falling. Snuffy left to return to his home in the funny pages, and Dan was never the same since. It is Snuffy Hollow tradition to present the first place troop with Snuffy's most treasured possession THE RIFLE. The last place troop also receives an award THE BOOT which signifies a boot in the (well you know where) to get the troop to practice and learn the scouting skills needed for the next Snuffy Hollow Camporee. The winners get to take home and display these awards throughout the year and get an automatic invitation back next year.

I've been going to Snuffy ever since I was a Cub Scout, and later as a Boy Scout, starting back in 2018. Now, I volunteer, and there's a reason I keep coming back. Snuffy has that special Scout magic you just don't feel anywhere else. I really hope your troop decides to join us next year, you won't regret it.

Great balls of fire (as Snuffy Smith says),

Thomas O - Lodge Secretary

All I Ever Needed to Know,

I Learned at Philmont

By an anonymous staff member of Philmont Scout Ranch

Most of what I really need to know about life and how to live I learned while working at Philmont. Wisdom was found atop a real mountain where the air is a bit thinner and your mind is clearer. These are the things I learned while hiking the mountain: Different is good. Take pride in what you do. People talk too much. Map and compass skills are good to have. Live simply. Avoid redundancy. Be flexible. Know how to drive a stick and on a mountain road. Sometimes when you go camping in July, it snows. Appreciate nature. Share your water and food with strangers. You can cure most ills with a cup of cocoa and a star-filled night. All you need in this world is food, water and good friends to stop by and see you once in a while. Everything tastes better after you've been hiking for three days. To make a burro do as you please, you have to bribe him with something. You do not need electricity or running water or cable or computers or telephones to live an enjoyable life. Thoreau was right. Getting dirty is OK. Dirt in food won't kill you. God is everywhere. It doesn't matter where you're from or what you do for a living. You're only lost when you don't know where you're from and you don't know where you're going. Sleeping under the stars is more meaningful if you have a warm sleeping bag. Campfire entertainment is better than concerts you pay for. All you need on your days off is a shower. You can carry everything you need to survive on your back. Take pictures. Hike slowly and quietly or you'll never see anything. Try not to hike in cowboy boots. Always have dry boots, comfortable shoes to change into and clean socks. Be prepared. E-mail and reunions are no substitute for the real thing. Dream big. If each person does just a little bit more than expected, everyone has less to do. While it may be a lot of work, the view is best from the summit. A good view is more important than privacy. Never take mornings for granted. Every person has something to share. The more often you quit something, the longer it takes to get done. It's worth hiking over the next ridge to see friends. There's no better feeling than knowing that almost anywhere you can go in the world, you have a friend who will want you to stay with them. Drink lots of water. Always have TP. And always take a buddy.

Monmouth Council

The mission of the Monmouth Council, Scouting America, is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

Want to find out more about our Council and how they support our Lodge and how we can support them?

Visit the website at <https://www.monmouthcouncilscouting.org/>

On this site you can subscribe to the Council e-news for up to date information. Why not take a look at the Strategic Plan. Once we have a good understanding of what the plan is we, as a Lodge can support it to make sure we do our part.

Remember WWW, Brotherhood, Cheerfulness & Service.

The Legend of Na Tsi Hi

Although Na Tsi Hi Lodge 71 was first chartered in 1951, to properly understand our Lodge's history it is only right to start this story almost twenty years earlier, with the first Lodge 71...

The original Lodge 71 was chartered to Monmouth Council on October 5, 1933 with the name Ohowa. The Lodge totem was an owl. The council's Camp Burton was the hub for Ohowa Lodge activities. Camp Burton-at-Allaire was in the "Deserted Village of Allaire" at what is now Allaire State Park.

At that time, the Monmouth Council served the boys of both Monmouth and Ocean counties. Therefore, Ohowa Lodge 71 was not only the predecessor of Na Tsi Hi Lodge in Monmouth county, but also of Schiwa'pew Names and Japeechen Lodges in Ocean county.

For the rest of the history of our Lodge go to the website under the Heritage tab.

<https://www.natsihi.org/the-legend-of-na-tsi-hi/>



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