

Tail and Feather

Vol. 2, No. 3

Indian Waters Council

September 2024

“When you look out into the future of the Order of the Arrow, you must remember that love is the most important tenet that we can carry, share, and display. As the brotherly love of our organization continues, our organization will not only persist, but flourish, for the next century.” – **David Gosik, National Chief**

FROM THE CHIEF

Preston K, Lodge Chief

Muscogee Lodge has enjoyed an incredible summer, highlighted by our Summer SUPER Fellowship at Camp Barstow. At our biggest event this year, we welcomed over 160 Arrowmen to camp for fun, fellowship, and service. During the Ordeal portion of the weekend, 24 Arrowmen joined our Order, with our Arrowmen contributing over 500 hours of service to Camp Barstow.

In the fellowship portion of the weekend, Chapters competed for the Quest for the Golden Arrow, the Spirit Award, and the prestigious Chapter of the Fellowship Award, with Tschitanek Woakus bringing home all three. Additionally, we inducted 8 new Brotherhood members and called out 6 new Vigil Candidates, who will keep the Vigil at the Fall Fellowship. We could not be prouder of the learning and fun times shared at the Summer SUPER Fellowship.



As we transition into the fall season, our next event is the Fall Induction Weekend, which takes place from September 20-22 at Camp Coker. Be sure to sign up on the lodge website for this fantastic event. We also value your feedback as to how we can improve our fellowships and induction weekends, so please take a moment to complete [this](#) survey. Your input is integral to our success, and with your help we can make our events better for everyone.



Looking ahead, we are excited to select a theme for the 2025 Cornerstone Conclave. To have an amazing Conclave and a chance at bringing home the C. Norman Alston Spirit Award again, we need your help. Fill out [this](#) form to suggest themes to be considered at the Fall Fellowship. I cannot wait to see you there!

UNIT ELECTIONS

Jackson Duke, Lodge Vice Chief

As we continue this fantastic lodge year, we are reminded of the core principles that make up our journey in the Order of the Arrow. One core part of this journey is unit elections, a necessary process that strengthens our community and supports our commitment to leadership and service.

What are Unit Elections? Unit elections are the foundation of the Order of the Arrow, where Scouts nominate those peers who best exemplify leadership, dedication, and a commitment to service. Being elected is not only an honor but a responsibility to continue these ideals within our lodge and beyond.

Why Participate? Participating is not just fulfilling a requirement but an opportunity to grow our lodge with people like you who exemplify the spirit of the Order of the Arrow. By actively engaging in the election process, you can play a vital role in growing and shaping the future of Muscoogee Lodge and the Order of the Arrow as a whole.

As we progress this year, I kindly remind you that unit elections must be completed soon. Our goal is to have all elections completed by September 15th so that we have time to prepare candidates for Fall Induction, the last chance for an Ordeal this year. Please coordinate with your [Chapter leadership](#) and our lodge's Order of the Arrow representatives to ensure a seamless and timely election process. Thank you for your

unwavering dedication to the Order of the Arrow, and let's make this year's elections a testament to our commitment to service and leadership.

FALL INDUCTION

Michael O, Vice Chief of Administration

The Fall Induction Weekend is our lodge's final Ordeal weekend of 2024. Please reach out to those you might know who have been elected to our lodge but have not yet completed their Ordeal. As I said, this will be their last opportunity of 2024.

This event is vital to our lodge's success at the 2025 Cornerstone Conclave, as it increases our chances of once again earning Lodge of the Year!

As Fall Induction Weekend approaches, we will need more Elangomats to guide our candidates. If you are interested in supporting our lodge as a volunteer, email ordeal@muscogeelodge.org.

To register, go to the Muscoogee Lodge 116 Website → Events → Fall Induction Weekend → Register.



SUMMER SUPER INDUCTIONS

Tiwaiti Funchess, Vice Chief of Inductions

The Inductions team held a successful induction weekend at the Summer Super Fellowship! On Thursday night of the event Muscoogee welcomed 24 candidates, ready for their Ordeal, many of whom seemed uncertain of the great journey ahead. These 24 candidates successfully passed the tests of the Ordeal and completed several service projects, including trail cleaning and improvements to the swimming areas – all providing great improvements to Camp Barstow. This once-in-a-year induction experience was one to remember, but only because of our Arrowmen!



A SUPER SUMMER EXPERIENCE

Joshua Prevette, Vice Chief of Program

This past July, our lodge hosted another Summer Super Fellowship, which quickly became a weekend of fun-filled activities, training, and spirit! With each chapter proudly displaying their themes and thumping their chests with heart-filled spirit, it promptly became a superb event!

Our opening campfire received a resounding reception with the Brotherhood and Ordeal recognition ceremonies, leading to our Vigil callout after several fun games and activities. The weekend featured unique training sessions, such as “Scooby Doo Leadership” and a “Patch Design 101” class to help include some fun twists on old sessions! Each session brought unique perspectives to help bring ideas of leadership, creativity, and Scouting fundamentals to our Arrowmen as we aim to make the next batch of sessions just as entertaining!

With Quest following our training sessions, each chapter brought out their wooden clubs and dinosaur bones with our “Flintstone Car Race” and then raced to see who would be the fastest! Then, “Guess the Cartoon Voice” brought nostalgia out in all of us, as Chapters tried to guess which voices belonged to iconic cartoon characters! To finish out the weekend Tschitanek Woakus

won the Chapter of the Fellowship award and set a high bar for other Chapters to follow at upcoming events!

Overall, the Summer Super Fellowship was a resounding success, and the program team is already working diligently to plan and prepare for the next fellowship! Join me in carrying on this vision of fun, leadership, and growth as we continue onto our future fellowships, Arrowmen!

VIGIL CANDIDATES NAMED

Madelyn Ridley, Vigil Chairman

At the Summer Super Fellowship, Muscoogee Lodge 116 called out six Vigil Honor Candidates, each of whom were selected for their dedication to their home unit, Muscoogee Lodge, and the Scouting movement.

Youth Candidates:

Walker Miro
Casey Joeph
Benjamin Prevette

Adult Candidates:

Allen Frierson
Sharon Doyle
Mark Skipper



SPECIAL AWARDS NOMINATIONS

Michael O, Vice Chief of Administration

As we reach the end of this year, the Lodge Special Awards Committee asks for your nominations of deserving Arrowmen for each of the Jimmy Duffy and Bernie Moore Legacy of Service Awards as well as Muscoogee Lodge's highest honor, the Founder's Award. Nomination Forms may be found on our [forms page](#). Each of these awards may be bestowed once in an Arrowman's lifetime, so you are encouraged



to carefully review past recipients before submitting a written nomination. A list of the Founder's Award recipients can be found [HERE](#), [HERE](#), and [HERE](#). Past recipients of each of the Jimmy Duffy and Bernie Moore Awards can be found [HERE](#) and [HERE](#). All nominations must be submitted by noon on Wednesday, October 9th. To submit a nomination or to share a question, please email awards@muscogeelodge.org.



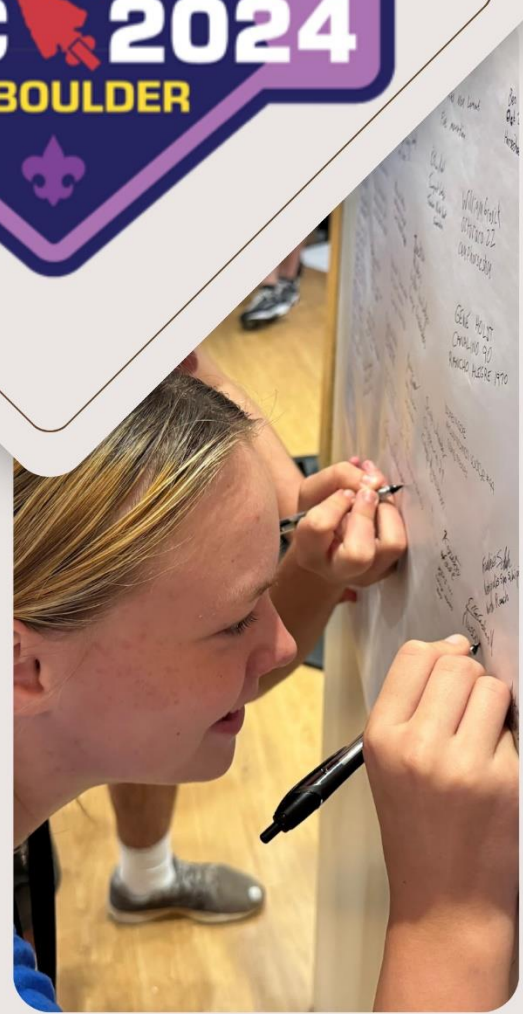
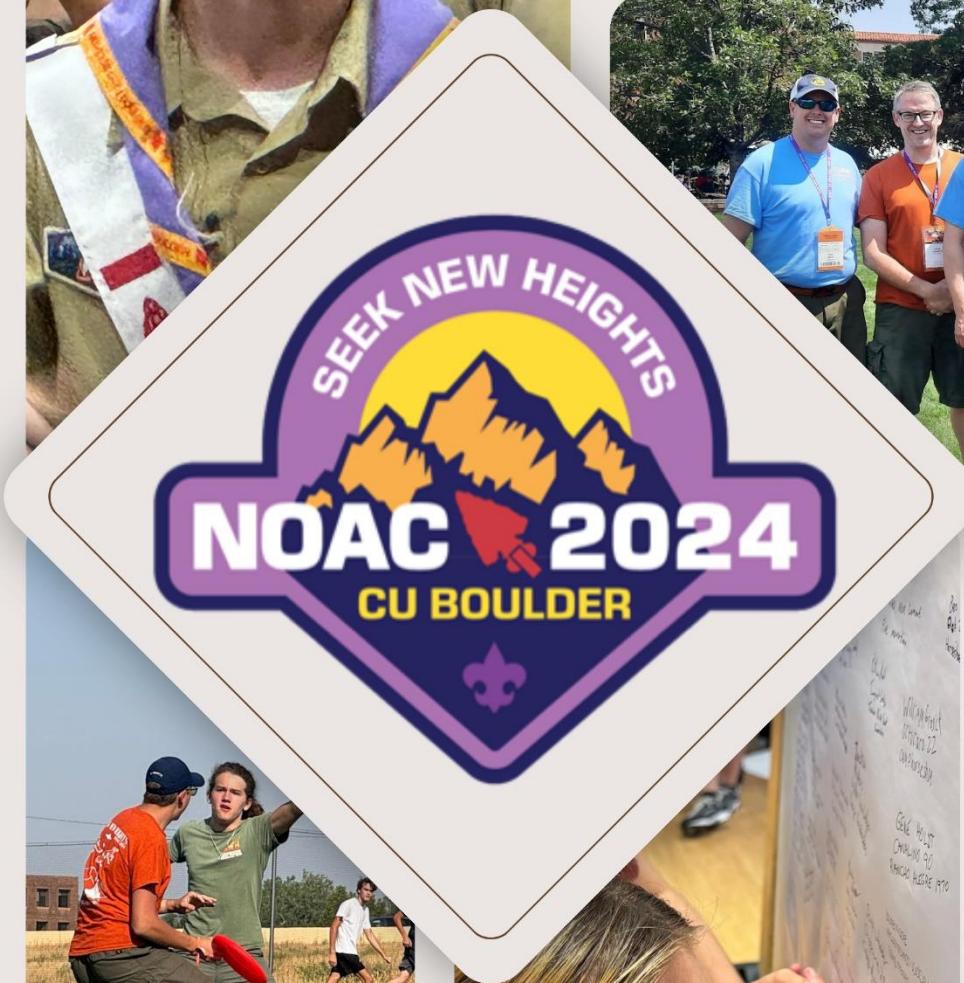
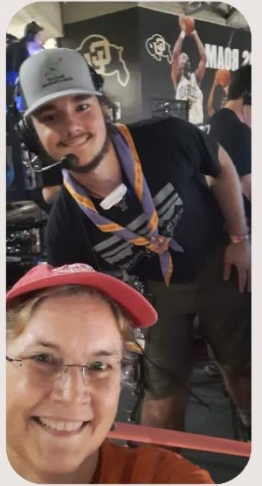
FALL FELLOWSHIP

Evans M, Newsletter Chair

The Fall Fellowship is the final Fellowship of the year. Hosted at beautiful Camp Barstow, our members will experience a weekend of fun and fellowship, including games, competitions, and lodge elections.

The Fellowship's theme is “board games,” opening many fellowship opportunities within Chapters and with lodge members. I cannot wait to see all of you there!

To register, go to the Muscoogee 116 Website → Events → Fall Fellowship → Register.



NOAC

Michael O, NOAC Contingent Leader

Our Lodge was represented at the 2024 National Order of the Arrow Conference by 14 youth delegates, six adult delegates, and 15 staff members. Through training, shows, games, and plenty of patch trading, all our lodge members had an amazing time! The next NOAC will be in 2027, and I hope many of you will take that opportunity to attend a national OA event!



WE NEED YOUR HELP

Preston K, Lodge Chief

We would like to hear from you about our lodge's performance at Summer Super Fellowship: what we did well, what wasn't so great, and how we can improve our events in the future! You can find a link to the survey [here](#).

For our upcoming Conclave in 2025, our lodge would like everyone's help picking out our theme! [Here](#) is a survey with some of the proposed themes from the Summer Super Fellowship. Please pick your top three and submit your own theme idea! I look forward to seeing all your ideas!

A SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY

Michael O, Vice Chief of Administration

At this year's Fall Fellowship, not only will we hold elections for all lodge offices, but we will also have a very rare position available to our lodge members: the Vice Chief of Conclave. This elected officer holds their position through the 2026 Conclave, which will be hosted by Muscogee #116. The VC of Conclave will plan, prepare, and execute the conclave, with the help of key advisors.

The position comes with special requirements:

- Be under the age of 21 through the 2026 Conclave
- Attend the September COC at Barstow

If you are interested in running for this special position, make sure you notify our Lodge Chief, Preston K, and our Lodge

Advisor, Mason Thomas. You can do this by emailing chief@muscogeelodge.org.

2025 WINTER BANQUET PATCH DESIGNS

Michael O, Vice Chief of Administration

The Patches, Insignia, and Memorabilia Committee wants YOUR designs! That's right, the PIM Committee is requesting patch submissions for our lodge's Winter Banquet in January.

Struggling with ideas? Our approved patches for the 2023 and 2024 Winter Banquets are on our lodge website. Under Resources → Publications → Insignia Guide

When you have your completed designs, email them to PIM@muscogeelodge.org.

THE WITAHemui AWARD

Carter R, Service Chairmen

The Witahemui Award is a service award in our Lodge, available to those who complete at least six hours of service to the Lodge and a minimum of 12 hours of service to the community outside of Scouting. The Vice Chief of Administration then reviews these completed requirements, and once signed off, the candidate is eligible to purchase one Witahemui Award neckerchief at that year's Winter Banquet.

The award is designed to promote service, as the Order of the Arrow is the "Brotherhood of Cheerful Service." I hope many of you will complete this challenge in time for this year's Winter Banquet. Download the [award form](#) from the lodge website and be sure to bring the completed, signed form to the Winter Banquet in January.



ADVISER'S CORNER

Mason Thomas, Lodge Adviser

Throughout the year so far, my Adviser's Corner has focused upon the Mission and Purpose of the Order of the Arrow. My original goal was to break down each part,

diving deeper into what they truly mean and how we can live up to those pillars in our daily lives.

However, as fortune would have it, the National Order of the Arrow Committee recently approved a revised Mission and Purpose while, for the first time in our history, setting a Vision for what we should be. I am pleased to present them, in their entirety, for the first time to our lodge:

Vision:

To be why Scouts want to stay in Scouting."

Mission:

"To Achieve the mission of Scouting America through transformative fellowship that ignites limitless Scouting journeys."

Purpose:

As Scouting's National Honor Society, we forge lifelong bonds among the leaders in Scouting and:

- Recognize those who exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives and, through that recognition, cause others to act in the same way.
- Reinforce a life purpose of leadership in cheerful service to others.
- Create and deliver peer-led, adult-guided, advanced leadership experiences for Scouts and Scouters that positively impact their unit, community, and ultimately our nation.
- Be an integral part of Scouting America and encourage participation in all it offers through units, outdoor adventures, and national events to further the Scouting experience.

The underlying theme throughout each of these expressions of principle is that our Order is the premier membership retention arm of Scouting America. For those of us who have been longtime members of the OA, this will come as no surprise. Many of us would agree that the Order of the Arrow is what has kept us involved in Scouting all along. For those who are newer to the Order, I suspect you will also come to appreciate how the lodge is different and unique, as we strive to provide quality experiences that will help keep you engaged for years to come.

Regardless of tenure, it is now our collective responsibility to give greater focus to this fundamental duty: to grow the Order and deliver the promise of Scouting to more and more young people, preserving our program and spreading it to others.

Muscogee Lodge No. 116
Indian Waters Council
Scouts, BSA
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2024 EVENT CALENDAR



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