



The Thunderhead

INI-TO LODGE 324, ORDER OF THE ARROW NEWSLETTER

The Thunderhead

August 2017

Winter Events Approaching

The 2017 year is coming to a close! The year has shown developments in the Lodge's ceremonies, successful service projects, and the roots of cheerful service. Lodge Leadership Development approaches followed by our Winter Banquet.

Enclosed in this newsletter you will find detailed Fall event, the 2017 Lodge calendar, 2018 Lodge Officer elect's, 2017 Service Chapter Rotation, Unit election information, Chapter meeting times, and Ceremonies information.

Summer Ordeal Recap

The Coweta chapter successfully planned and executed the 2017 Summer Ordeal. During this Ordeal we were able to induct new members into our Brotherhood and seal the membership of many more!

The Ordeal was defined through camp maintenance and preparation. All four of the chapters and candidates participated in cleaning campsites, repairing tents, and beautifying the landscape on the Thunder and canoe base sides of camp.

A big thanks to all Arrowmen, candidates, and volunteers who participated in the Summer Ordeal!

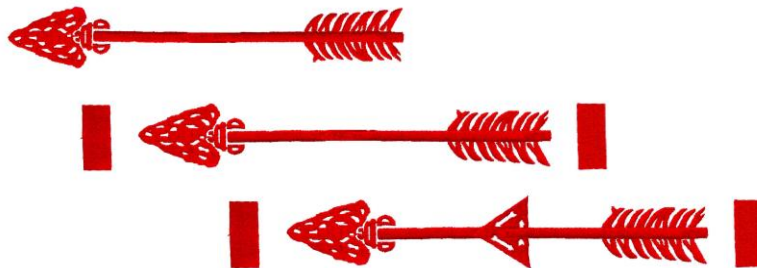
-All Lodge Officers

Fall Fellowship Recap

Ronotohatchi, the service chapter, organized and ran Fall Fellowship. During the Fellowship, Arrowmen help gather the materials and organize logistical details for the 2017 Spook-o-ree. Spook-o-ree was staffed by Arrowmen from Ini-To Lodge 324 who helped bring joy for all who attended the event!

During Fall Fellowship, Ini-To Lodge held it's Lodge Officer elections for the 2018 year.

Information under 2018 Lodge Officer Elects



Lodge Leadership Development

Brothers,

Lodge Leadership Development will be held November 17-19.

This event is held to train the new Lodge Officers, Chapter Officers, and set goals and begin the planning of events for the 2018 calendar year. Officer elects are recommended to attend for insight to the full responsibilities of their positions. Also, all of those interested in running a Lodge or Chapter Officer in upcoming elections are highly encouraged to attend the 2018 Lodge Leadership Development session.

For any further questions, contact Austin Clark or Nicky Akin.

austinclark718@gmail.com
nicholasakin@gmail.com

Winter Banquet/Ceremonies Weekend

Winter Banquet will be held on December 2nd. Ceremonies Weekend will start on December 1st and go through December 3rd.

Winter Banquet is Ini-To Lodge's traditional event to end the year. The event hosts delicious food, an informational session, and a memorable award ceremony.

Ceremonies Weekend coincides with Winter Banquet. Ceremonies weekend is used to build regalia, prepare for ceremonies, and train Arrowmen whom wish to become part of the pre-ordeal/ordeal ceremony or Brotherhood ceremony.

For more information about either event please contact Nicky Akin.

nicholasakin@gmail.com

Unit Elections

Brothers,

Summer and Spring Ordeals are the times of the season that we have the opportunity and privilege of accepting new members into our Order. New members potentially bring new leadership, new ideas, and new attendance records. Though, all of this would not be possible without unit elections conducted by the 4 Chapters of Ini-To Lodge. Each Chapter has its own responsibility and area to promote Order of the Arrow and ultimately, promote Scouting. I challenge all of you to meet new people, see new faces, and show the Brotherhood of cheerful service we stand for to all of the troops you contact.

Attached to this email you will find the Unit Election Forms

Yours in Service,
Nicky Akin

2018 Lodge Officer Elects

Congratulations to our 2018 Lodge Officers! These Arrowmen have shown the characteristics of a qualified leader and officers. Elected by their fellow Arrowmen, the officer elects will contribute to the Lodge through methods that benefit the people, Arrowmen, and members of the Lodge's community.

Lodge Chief- Caper Steen
Vice Chief of Administration- John Malnerich
Vice Chief of Ceremonies- Jacob Stout
Secretary- Nicky Akin
Treasurer- Cormac McCarthy



Lodge Officers 2017

Contact any of these Arrowmen if you would like more information about our Lodge or are looking for ways to become more involved.

Lodge Chief

- **Austin Clark** – Tussahaw
 - austinclark718@gmail.com

Lodge Vice Chief of Administration

- **Caper Steen** – Tussahaw
 - capersteen162@yahoo.com

Lodge Vice Chief of Ceremonies

- **Charlie Lovell** – Echota
 - charlielovell30@gmail.com

Lodge Secretary

- **Nicky Akin** – Echota
 - nicholasakin@gmail.com

Lodge Treasurer

- **Brian Bales** – Coweta
 - brianlovesmath@aol.com

Chapter Officers 2017

Coweta

Chapter Chief: Jacob Stout
Chapter Vice Chief of Administration: Joseph Ashley
Chapter Vice Chief of Ceremonies: Brian Bales
Chapter Secretary: Joshua Brandon
Chapter Treasurer: Corey McCarthy

Ronotahatchi

Chapter Chief: Micah Holston
Chapter Vice Chief of Administration: Vacant
Chapter Vice Chief of Ceremonies:
Chapter Secretary: Jacob Boehler
Chapter Treasurer: Jacob Boehler

Attend Chapter Meetings

Each chapter hosts a monthly meeting. This is a great way to interact with local Arrowmen and learn about the OA program. Each chapter has an adviser who is a good contact point for Scout leaders and parents within their respective district.

Coweta Chapter - Coweta County

- Cornerstone UMC - Second Tuesday at 7 PM
- Advisor: Frank Harper - fourlittleharpers@yahoo.com

Echota Chapter - Fayette County

- All Saints Anglican Church - Second Thursday at 7 PM
- Advisor: Bob Sharp - bobsharp46@gmail.com

Ronotahatchi Chapter - Lamar, Pike, Spalding, and Upson Counties

- Mount Gilead Baptist Church - Second Thursday at 6:30 PM
- Advisor: Kevin Kirkland - kkevinlisa@bellsouth.net

Tussahaw Chapter - Butts and Henry Counties

- McDonough First Baptist Church - Second Thursday at 7 PM
- Advisor: Mike O'Dell - mikeodell56@yahoo.com

Echota

Chapter Chief: Jeremy Stevens
Chapter Vice Chief of Administration: Nicky Akin
Chapter Vice Chief of Ceremonies: Gus Heatherman
Chapter Secretary: Clay Odom
Chapter Treasurer: Vacant

Tussahaw

Chapter Chief: Harry Poole
Chapter Vice Chief of Administration: Matthew O'Dell
Chapter Vice Chief of Ceremonies: Hayden Carpenter
Chapter Secretary: Ian Carpenter
Chapter Treasurer: Vincent Mason

Lodge Calendar 2017-2018

| Event Name | 2017 Date | Deadline | Price | 2018 Date | Price |
|--------------------------|----------------------|---------------|-------|-----------------|-------|
| Heartland Gathering | April 21-23 | Closed | \$45 | April 20-22 | \$45 |
| Spring Fellowship | May 5-7 | Closed | \$20 | May 4-6 | \$20 |
| Summer Ordeal | August 18-20 | Closed | \$15 | August 17-19 | \$15 |
| Fall Fellowship | September 29 - Oct 1 | Closed | \$20 | September 28-30 | \$20 |
| Leadership Weekend (LLD) | November 17-18 | November 15 | Free | November 16-17 | Free |
| Vigil Night | November 18-19 | N/A | N/A | November 17-18 | N/A |
| Winter Banquet | December 2 | November 26 | \$15 | December 1 | \$15 |

All event registrations may be found by visiting www.IniTo324.org/calendar/. Be sure to register before the deadline. Pre-registration helps with program and food preparation, so that we can continue to offer our events for a low affordable price.

Service Chapter

Rotation 2017 2018

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Spring Ordeal | Tussahaw | Echota |
| Spring Fellowship | Echota | Ronotohatchi |
| Summer Ordeal | Coweta | Coweta |
| Fall Fellowship | Ronotohatchi | Tussahaw |
| Winter Banquet | Tussahaw | Echota |

“Strengthen the
ties of brotherhood”
-Allowat Sakima

Advisor's Minute

We're ready to finish out a productive 2017 and look for a new 2018. I encourage all Arrowmen who can meet age requirements for summer camp staff to apply and support your council camp. Every youth Arrowman was elected because you're a leader in your troop. "As an arrow drawn from a quiver you were drawn from many others". That's why the symbol of our order is an arrow it's aim high. Please advertise in your district and troop the 2018 Klondike. We use this to help financially support our Camp Thunder service projects and improvements. Thanks for your help!
Yours in the Brotherhood,
Mr. Pesce
Ini-To lodge advisor

Follow the Lodge

Website: www.IniTo324.org
Instagram: [@IniToLodge324](https://www.instagram.com/IniToLodge324)

Facebook: [fb.com/IniToLodge324](https://www.facebook.com/IniToLodge324)
Twitter: [@IniToLodge324](https://twitter.com/IniToLodge324)

Officer Reports

Lodge Chief

Brothers,

With 2017 quickly coming to an end, Arrowmen have just a few more opportunities to be involved in the lodge! The first event is Lodge Leadership Development (LLD) on November 17-18. This two-day event is the time for newly elected chapter and lodge officers to receive the proper training and answers to any questions they may have about their office. Finally, the annual Lodge Banquet is December 2. This is the final event of 2017, and a chance to recognize the lodge and chapter officers from this year.

This previous year has been a learning experience for me as lodge chief. I am still grateful for those who elected me last year, and I am excited to still serve Ini-To Lodge as SR-9's Vice Chief. I look forward to seeing all of you at LLD and Banquet!

Yours in Brotherhood,
Austin Clark

Coweta Chapter

We started the year off strong with Klondike 2017, Coweta chapter hosted Compassion and Orienteering, Cross Cut Saw, Chariot Race, and The Sled Race. During the Spring ordeal we helped with all service projects and had _ new arrow men join our chapter, and our Ceremonies team preformed for the first time doing pre-ordeal. With the spring ordeal we helped serve in the construction of the Gaga Ball Pit. When Coweta hosted the Fall Ordeal, we helped clean up both sides and our Ceremonies team preformed pre-ordeal and ordeal ceremonies. When our Coweta Fall camporee came around our OA chapter hosted it and helped our county earn the Indian Lore merit badge. During Fall Fellowship we helped begin preparations for the Spook trail. To close the year out we have chapter elections, more unit elections and preparation for Klondike 2018.

Echota Chapter

2017 has been another great year for Echota Chapter as we hosted a fun Spring Fellowship where we built a Ga Ga ball pit for Camp Thunder and we played a fun game of Capture the flag and many exciting games of Ga Ga ball. Over the summer we held two fun meetings at the pool, one of which we invited all of the other Chapters to join us.

In terms of membership, we gained 27 new Arrowmen, 10 members earned their Brotherhood, and we had 2 Vigil inductions. Also Charlie Lovell our Lodge Vice Chief of Ceremonies who recently moved to California, was called out as our newest Vigil Candidate at our recent Fall Fellowship. Our Elections for this year are going really well as 1/3 of Troops in Fayette County have registered for elections and we held our first OA Troop election on October 16.

On October 12, we also held our Chapter Elections. The new officer wish for a successful year!

Ronotohatchi Chapter

In 2017 Ronotohatchi Chapter moved our meetings to coincide with the district's round table meetings. Since then, we have doubled attendance at these meetings and, subsequently, at lodge events. As Fall Fellowship's Service Chapter, Ronotohatchi oversaw food and activities for the weekend, including Native American games and a flag retirement ceremony. Ronotohatchi focus in 2018 will be dispatching election teams to **all** 14 troops in our district, and retaining these new members by holding informative and meaningful meetings. By the end of 2018, I predict our chapter will double in size for the second consecutive year and will have such a quality program, that this growth will continue in future years.

Tussahaw Chapter

This year in Tussahaw we started out the year at a Chapter Training day where we trained our election teams that would use the information we had compiled to go and meet our goal of doing elections at 80% of troops. They went out and exceeding that doing elections at 90% of the troops in our district. This year we started out with great meetings with attendance reaching 20+ regularly, we used this high attendance to plan and carry out a successful Spring Ordeal. Sadly as the year went on the number of people at these meetings fell to less than 10, in the coming year we hope to use that same election system we have to do unit elections at 95% of troops and hopefully we can do unit elections at 100% of troops in our district which would elect a large number of possible Arrowmen. After we do that we can communicate effectively to go at least 75% of them to ordeal. Once that is done we can plan informative, fun, and engaging meetings to help keep them active. We are planning on doing Chapter officer elections at the November meeting to create a well-rounded group of officers that can effectively run the chapter in the next year.