



The Arrow of Light

February, 2026

Are You Ready for Spring Fellowship?

By Austin Snell

As we wrap up these wintry months, it makes sense to look forward into spring, and, of course, Spring Fellowship! We know that everyone loves to travel, so this year we will become globetrotters while staying at camp. Come along for the ride as we travel "Around the World in a Weekend" this spring!

Join us at Broad Creek on April 10th-12th for Spring Fellowship 2026! Each chapter will represent one continent to go along with our theme:

- Carroll is Africa
- Fort McHenry is Asia
- Gunpowder Falls is Europe
- Harford is South America
- National Pike is North America
- River Hawk is Oceania
- Lodge Officers are Antarctica



Prepping for Brotherhood at Spring Fellowship 2025

At Spring Fellowship, there will be trainings, games, food, and plenty of fun! Our program will include: a campwide game of capture the flag; a chapter cook-off where each chapter will cook a side dish from their continent; and a round robin with rifle shooting, ceremonies and Elangomat training, as well as a presentation of international scouting opportunities.

Along with all those fun options, Ordeal members will also have the opportunity to complete their Brotherhood at no additional cost! Seal your membership while traveling around the world this spring!

Register before March 27th to avoid the late fee by visiting nentico.org! We can't wait to see you there!

Bring Your Friends to Lodge Service Day!

Have you or your friends ever attended an event that focuses on service while also providing food and fellowship? If not, Lodge Service Day is the perfect event! Come join us, and bring your friends, lodge members or not, for service, as well as fellowship and food! Better yet, it is all free! Please join us Saturday, March 7th, 2026, at Broad Creek Memorial Scout Reservation from 8am-4pm for service and fellowship. Make sure to bring work gloves, work boots, and a water bottle so that you are fully prepared to complete all tasks given to you in a safe manner.

Not only does Service Day help us as a lodge, but it will also help Broad Creek stay beautiful Scouts and Scouters that attend, whether that be a troop campout or summer camp! This year, our main task will be helping clean up Broad Creeks conservation project, but will also be completing several other tasks across the camp! Register now at nentico.org! We can't wait to see you there!



Organizing service projects at Service Day 2025

Experiences of a Past Chief

By Ryan Fischer

Arrowmen and our mission are not - and cannot be - mutually exclusive. Without Arrowmen, we cannot deliver transformative fellowship that ignites the limitless Scouting journeys. And when we do fall short on fulfilling our mission, we lose the opportunity to change lives. Same Aronson, lead adviser for the National Leadership Seminar, is known for his infamous mantra: "The strength of our work is the strength of our relationships," and by extension, the strength of our Order. When relationships are strong, a culture of trust takes form. From that trust, Arrowmen feel empowered to lead, serve and grow alongside one another. Only then can the Order of the Arrow's mission transform from words on a strategic plan to tangible outcomes that make a difference in peoples' lives.



Past Lodge Chiefs from 2022-2025 at E10 Conclave 2025

Simon Sinek, a renowned speaker and author on leadership, puts it this way: "Leadership is a choice, it is not a rank... I know many people who are at the bottom of organizations who have no authority and they are absolutely leaders - and this is because they have chosen to look after the person to the left of them, and they have chose to look after the person to the right of them." Especially in the volunteer world, leadership is never about positional authority. Having your name on an organizational chart or listed on the lodge is merely pro forma. Rather, leadership is about building coalitions to support a common goal, and through them, leading by influence - no matter what your role is on paper.

Sinek goes on to add, "We call them leaders because they will choose to sacrifice so that their people... may

gain, and when we do... they will give us their blood and sweat and tears to see that their leader's vision comes to life." Through and with our fellow Arrowmen, meaningful change begins to take root. When we invest in Arrowmen first, we create an environment where fellowship and cheerful service can thrive. From that foundation, one committed Arrowman inspires another until what began with the power of one grows in size, strength, and impact.

The next time you're at a chapter meeting or Ordeal weekend, make it a point to say hello to a new Arrowman. Make sure they know that they have a place here. Make sure they know that they belong. Only together can we carry on the rich legacy of cheerful service given to us by our founders.

Welcoming New Arrowmen!

By Kaylee Snyder

Over the past three months, Nentico Lodge has been working hard to hold several activation events for our Arrowmen, with many more to come in the future! These events are aimed toward the new Arrowmen of the lodge, but we still look for experienced Arrowmen to be there as well. Our activation events have the goal to engage Arrowmen and help them learn about the Order of the Arrow.

The activation events were on December 12th and February 27th at the Monster Mini Golf in Towson, MD, and Columbia, MD, respectively. These events were the kickoff to the lodge's new approach at retaining our inducted youth after their Ordeal. Both events were successful in getting newly inducted Arrowmen out and learning about our Order, and we're looking forward to more in the future!



Arrowmen enjoying mini golf at an activation event!

Winter Fun with River Hawk Chapter!

By Issac Tannenbaum

On February 20th-22nd, River Hawk chapter held their gaming-themed Winter Fellowship! From video games to upgraded s'mores, it was truly a blast! Friday kicked off the event with a couple of games of manhunt, spanning the entire property of the Davidsonville Family Recreation Center, followed by some introductory Super Smash Bros, Go Fish, and Hangman.



Arrowmen playing card games at Winter Fellowship

By Saturday, the event was in full swing. In the morning alone, we held a marshmallow tower and bridge building competitions, helped Pack 454 build wood duck houses, and of course played some Gang Beasts and Foosball! Saturday afternoon boasted a great performance by the ceremonies team, including both a Brotherhood ceremony and a Broken Arrow ceremony, in honor of the late Larry Peterka. Many members the community came out to support and attend the ceremony. Wrapping up the event on Saturday night, dinner was held with the attendees.



Ceremonialists during Larry Peterka's Broken Arrow Ceremony

Sunday morning, there was plenty of time for fellowship, where more Foosball was played, Hangman, Super Smash Bros, and many other games! Overall, the event was a ton of fun!

Why Should YOU Attend an Ordeal?

By Joe Carloni

The Ordeal experience and what new Arrowmen learn from it is the backbone of the Order of the Arrow. This, of course, means that Arrowmen must take time to come back to the Ordeal, not only to help Ordeal candidates become brothers, but also to remember our ideals and guiding principles. This could mean serving as an Elangomat to guide Ordeal candidates firsthand, or serving behind the scenes, or being a ceremonialist, defining our Order's core principles. Now more than ever, we need Arrowmen, like you, to help staff and guide our new members on the path to a successful scouting career.



Arrowmen giving cheerful service during an Ordeal

This year, we have four Ordeals at Broad Creek, the first hosted by River Hawk chapter, April 24th-26th, and the second hosted by Gunpowder Falls and Harford chapters, May 1st-3rd. Later in the year, National Pike chapter will host our third Ordeal on the weekend of August 21st-23rd. The final Ordeal will be hosted on September 18th-20th by Carroll and Fort McHenry chapters at Camp Spencer.

No matter if you can attend only one of the Ordeals or all of them, your presence matters not only to us but to the new Arrowmen you can, and will, help along the way.

Chiefly Speaking

Just a couple week ago, several youth representatives from our lodge attended the Baltimore Area Council Annual Volunteer Celebration. Each of these Arrowmen presented awards, whether that be the Silver Beaver Award, District Commissioner Award, or the District Achievement Award. After the awards, the Arrowmen got a run-down of past years. Though a youth focused program, youth had previously not been incorporated into the volunteer ceremony.

Being one of the Arrowmen there myself, many Scouters came up to the group of us after the ceremony and told us that it was quite nice seeing youth presenting the awards, and not only having it be adults. So, why is having youth be present so meaningful? The youth in the program are leaders. Each and every youth throughout every program in Scouting is a leader. It isn't just a title, you are here to lead others, no matter how that is represented. You could be a Senior Patrol Leader, leading your troop to win most spirited at summer camp. You may be a chapter chief, planning the gatherings for the next three months with your Chapter Executive Commit-

tee. You could be a Jamboree Vice Chief, planning for National Jamboree in July. It doesn't matter the title you hold, where you are, or what program you are in, you are a leader.

Yours in WWW,
Tara Qualey
2026 Lodge Chief



Tara with other youth speakers at the BAC Volunteer Celebration



Tara speaking during the BAC Volunteer Celebration



Tara at River Hawk Chapter's Winter Fellowship

Lodge Socials

Make sure to connect with Nentico on all of our socials listed below! To stay updated on lodge events and news, follow us on Instagram and Facebook. To connect with other Arrowmen, join our Facebook Group. For pictures from recent events, take a look at our SmugMug account!

