

2017

Talidandaganu' 293

# LODGE PLANBOOK

Cherokee Area Council #556

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## Introduction

The mission of the Order of the Arrow is to fulfill its purpose as an integral part of the Boy Scouts of America, through positive youth leadership, under the guidance of selected capable adults.

As Scouting's National Honor Society, our purpose is to:

- Recognize those who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives, and through that recognition, cause others to conduct themselves in a way that warrants similar recognition.
- Promote camping, responsible outdoor adventure, and environmental stewardship as essential components of every Scout's experience, in the unit, year-round, and in summer camp.
- Develop leaders with the willingness, character, spirit and ability to advance the activities of their units, our Brotherhood, Scouting, and ultimately our nation.
- Crystallize the Scout habit of helpfulness into a life purpose of leadership in cheerful service to others.

Talidandaganu' is the Order of the Arrow Lodge for the Cherokee Area Council in Northwest Georgia and Tennessee. As the honor society for the Boy Scouts of America for over 100 years we believe that we are to follow the purpose of the OA in everything we do. As we live the four points above, we believe that we not only improve the council as a whole, but we also improve the scout program for individual members.

This planbook is a summary of the purposes of youth officers of Talidandaganu'. We sincerely hope you find it useful in making your plans to join us in achieving our goals and activities this year.

## Lodge Goals

Our lodge goals for 2017 are:

1. To focus on communication, specifically social media communication.
2. To develop an extended elangomat program to guide new Arrowmen from induction to Brotherhood.
3. Finally, to encourage active participation in our membership, and to provide and to inform members of the opportunities that are possible with the OA.

## Special Events

Besides the customary events our lodge schedules and prepares each year, such as Ordeal weekends, Fellowships, and service events, the lodge leadership leads several signature events each year.

### Conclave

Conclave is an annual event held as a weekend-long camporee style event packed with all the amazing training, activities, and fellowship the Order has to offer. This is our premiere event each year, rotating between the nine lodges that make up our section, this year's event will be held on April 28 – 30, 2017, at Boxwell Scout Reservation in Lebanon Tennessee which is only two hours away.

To register for this event, visit [oasection6.org](http://oasection6.org)

### Banquet

Our lodge banquet is an annual event where the entire lodge gets together to share in fellowship, to feast, and most importantly, to honor those deserving arrowmen, that in that in the past year, have done exceptional work in our lodge in various areas. The 2017-2018 lodge banquet will take place in early January.

To register for this event, please visit our lodge website in November: [www.tali293.org](http://www.tali293.org).

### Lodge Leadership Development

Our Lodge Leadership Development is held at University of Scouting annually and is provided free of charge. Members who attend will be able to grow their knowledge of leadership and gain a better understanding of their lodge. Registration is required at [www.tali293.org](http://www.tali293.org) and will be available in December.

## New Member Information

### WHAT IS IT?

For over one hundred years the Order of the Arrow (OA) has recognized Scouts and Scouters who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives. This

recognition provides encouragement for others to live these ideals as well. Arrowmen (as they are called) are known for providing cheerful service to others. OA service, activities, adventures, and training for youth and adults are models of quality leadership development and programming that enrich and help to extend Scouting to America's youth.

## **PURPOSE**

The mission of the Order of the Arrow is to fulfill its purpose as an integral part of the Boy Scouts of America through positive youth leadership under the guidance of selected capable adults. As Scouting's National Honor Society, the purpose is to:

- Recognize those who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives, and through that recognition, cause others to conduct themselves in a way that warrants similar recognition;
- Promote camping, responsible outdoor adventure, and environmental stewardship as essential components of every Scout's experience, in the unit, year-round, and in summer camp;
- Develop leaders with the willingness, character, spirit and ability to advance the activities of their units, our Brotherhood, Scouting, and ultimately our nation;
- Crystallize the Scout habit of helpfulness into a life purpose of leadership in cheerful service to others.

## **WHEN DID ALL THIS START?**

The OA was founded by Dr. E. Urner Goodman and Carroll A. Edson in 1915 at the Treasure Island Camp of the Philadelphia Council, Boy Scouts of America. It became an official program experiment in 1922 and was approved as part of the Scouting program in 1934. In 1948, the OA, recognized as the BSA's national brotherhood of honor campers, became an official part of the Boy Scouts of America. In 1998, the Order of the Arrow became recognized as Scouting's National Honor Society, when it expanded its reach beyond camping to include broader service to Scouting and the community.

## **CEREMONIES**

There are two ceremonies, which are kept in confidence to maintain their mystery for candidates. One ceremony occurs Friday evening, the other Saturday evening. It goes without saying, that in neither case is the scout ever subjected to any sort of harassment or harm. Overall the candidates enjoy a feeling of accomplishment and prestige at being elected and completing their Ordeal. It is imperative that members spend Saturday night so that they can learn more about the OA and the opportunities it has to offer Sunday morning.

## **WHAT IS A "LODGE"?**

Our lodge helps the Cherokee Area Council provide a quality Scouting program through recognition of Scouting spirit and performance, development of youth leadership and service, promotion of Scout camping and outdoor programs, and enhancement of membership tenure.

## The Challenge of Brotherhood

The Brotherhood membership is reserved for those members who have committed to the high ideals of the Order of the Arrow and have sealed their membership.

You may seal your membership in the Order if you have:

- Maintained your registered membership in Scouting;
- Maintained your registered membership in the Order of the Arrow;
- Memorized the Obligation, the OA Official Song, the Admonition, the Sign of Ordeal membership, and the Arrow Handclasp, and;
- Gained a thorough understanding of the Ordeal through which you have passed. (see "*The Customs and Traditions of the Ordeal*" in the OA Handbook.)

If it has been at least ten months since you have been inducted into this great and honored Order, you can undertake the Brotherhood experience and earn your bars by registering for one of our Ordeals. You will have the opportunity to review with experienced members all of the above requirements in detail in order to help you prepare.

For 2016 we have two Ordeals: May 5-7 and one in late September (a date will be released with the council calendar) . Registration is available online at [www.tali293.org](http://www.tali293.org).

## Lodge Executive Committee

### Lodge Officers

Joel Hunt  
Lodge Chief

Brent Gass  
Lodge Vice Chief

Joseph Johnson  
Lodge Secretary

Aaron Simpson  
Lodge Treasurer

### Chapter Officers

Lee Crabtree  
John Ross Chapter Chief

Ian Henry  
Ocoee Chapter Chief

Michael Swiecichowski  
Mountain Chapter Chief

Jacob Barham  
Mission Chapter Chief

### Advisers

Amanda Smith  
Lodge Adviser

James Petty  
Lodge Associate Adviser

John Hunt  
Lodge Secretary Adviser

Vann Newell  
Lodge Treasurer Adviser

Jim Feldmier  
John Ross  
Chapter Adviser

Mack Gregg  
Ocoee Chapter  
Adviser

Jed Swiecichowski  
Mountain Chapter  
Adviser

Scott Fosse  
Supreme Chief  
of the Fire

Scott Martin  
Lodge Staff  
Adviser

## Lodge Committees

Our lodge has several important committees on which you may serve. The lodge chief appoints committee chairmen, who are members under the age of 21, however any member of our lodge may serve on any committee.

### Activities

Develops and plans for two fellowships and our winter banquet, and is responsible for their success.

### Service Corps

Is responsible for planning and leading service and major council events including University of Scouting and Flag Placement Day at the National Cemetery.

### Ceremonies

Recruits and trains ceremonial teams, instructs members on appropriate ceremonial regalia, keeps ceremonial grounds in good condition, and conducts lodge and Scout unit ceremonies when requested.

### Communications

Prepares lodge newsletters, develops and maintains lodge websites, and promotes participation in OA events and activities. In addition, this committee has a strong focus on keeping the lodge abreast of technological trends in order to help the youth in the lodge communicating more effectively.

### Ordeal

Plans and administers Ordeals, recruits and trains Elangomats, and is responsible for submitting a schedule to the LEC and keeping all other committees informed of their responsibilities for the ordeal.

### Training

Plans and leads Lodge Leadership Development as well as planning new and current member orientation at all ordeals.

### Nominations

Is responsible for the Vigil and Founders nominations process and execution, and is responsible for the awards portion of winter banquet.

### Trail Crew

Leads the lodge in work projects that are trail related at ordeals, and other events, and sets up additional trail service projects throughout the year.



## Chapters

Our chapters are important parts of our lodge. The lodge and chapters work closely to implement the program of the lodge as determined by lodge leadership. Chapters are led by the chapter chief and assisted by the chapter vice chief.

Following are our lodge chapters:

**John Ross** Chapter serves troops and teams in the state of Georgia in Catoosa, Walker and Dade counties and in the state of Tennessee Marion, Grundy, and Sequatchie counties.

**Mission-Mountain** Chapter serves troops and teams in the state of Tennessee in Hamilton, and Bledsoe counties.

**Ocoee** Chapter serves troops and teams in the state of Tennessee in Bradley, Polk, and Rhea counties.

Due to the change of districts that will occur in late Spring 2017 the Chapters above are the proposed Chapters that will take effect late Spring.

## Lodge Bylaws (as voted and enacted by the LEC)

By the power of The National Council of the Boy Scouts of America and the establishment of these Bylaws, we henceforth form our lodge, Talidandaganu' Lodge 293, Wimachtendienk, Wingolauchsik, Witahemui.

Our lodge shall be affiliated with Cherokee Area Council 556, Boy Scouts of America, and shall be under the supervision of the Council Camping Committee and the administrative authority of its Scout Executive.

The totem of our lodge shall be an eagle in flight, which shall be worn properly with all uniform and regalia per the latest edition of the official BSA publications and the most recent edition of the Order of the Arrow guidelines.

It is the mission and purpose of our lodge to achieve the purpose of the Order of the Arrow as an integral part of the Boy Scouts of America in the council through positive youth leadership under the guidance of selected capable adults.

### **1. Membership**

#### 1. General Membership

1. A person is considered a member in good standing of our lodge upon meeting the following criteria:
  1. Is currently a registered member of the Boy Scout of America.
  2. Has completed the ordeal entirely, as defined in the current printing of the Order of the Arrow Handbook and the Administration Guide for the Ordeal.
  3. Has paid all dues required to the lodge for the current year.
  4. Is in good standing with the Council.
2. The requirements for membership in our lodge are not to conflict with the current printing of the Order of the Arrow Handbook and Order of the Arrow Guide for Officers and Advisers.

#### 2. Ordeal Membership

1. Completion of Ordeal membership shall be in accordance with the requirements in the current printing of the Order of the Arrow Handbook, the Order of the Arrow Guide for Officers and Advisors, and the Administration Guide for the Ordeal.

#### 3. Brotherhood Membership

1. Induction and testing for Brotherhood membership shall take place only during lodge ordeal weekends.
  2. Completion of Brotherhood membership shall be in accordance with the requirements in the current printing of the Order of the Arrow Handbook and the Order of the Arrow Guide for Officers and Advisers.
4. Vigil Honor
1. Attainment of the Vigil Honor shall be in accordance with the requirements in the current printing of the Order of the Arrow Handbook and the Order of the Arrow Guide for Officers and Advisers.

## **2. Lodge Executive Committee**

1. Officers
  1. The officers of this lodge shall be Lodge Chief, Lodge Vice-Chief, Lodge Secretary, and Lodge Treasurer.
  2. All officers shall be elected by a majority vote at the Fall Ordeal.
  3. The term of all officers shall run from December 1st of the year they are elected to November 30th.
4. Lodge Chief
  1. The Lodge Chief shall oversee all Lodge Committees, Vice-Chief, Secretary, and Treasurer.
  2. The Lodge Chief shall uphold the responsibilities of his position, as defined in the Order of the Arrow Guide for Officers and Advisers.
5. Lodge Vice-Chief
  1. In the case of absence of the Lodge Chief, the Vice Chief shall assume all responsibilities of the Lodge Chief during his absence.
  2. The Vice Chief shall oversee all Chapter Chiefs, chapter operations, OA Troop Representatives, and Units of Excellence.
  3. The Vice Chief shall uphold the responsibilities of his position as defined in the Order of the Arrow Guide for Officers and Advisers.
6. Secretary
  1. Shall assume the responsibilities of the Lodge Chief in the absence of both the Lodge Chief and Vice-Chief.
  2. The Secretary shall uphold the responsibilities of his position as defined in the Order of the Arrow Guide for Officers and Advisers.
  3. Shall keep a written record of all executive, officer, and LEC

meetings.

7. Treasurer

1. Shall assume the responsibilities of the Vice-Chief in the absence of both the Lodge Chief and Vice-Chief.
2. Shall assume responsibilities of the Lodge Chief in the absence of the Lodge Chief, Vice-Chief, and Secretary and shall appoint a standing officer to assume the responsibilities of Vice-Chief.
3. The Treasurer shall uphold the responsibilities of his position, as defined in the Order of the Arrow Guide for Officers and Advisers.
4. The Treasurer shall prepare an annual budget, which shall be approved by the Lodge Executive Committee, Key 3, and Scout Executive no later than February 1st of each year.

8. Chapter Chief

1. The Chapter Chiefs shall oversee all chapter committees, OA representatives, and elections in their chapter.
2. The Chapter Chiefs shall uphold the responsibilities of their positions, as defined in the Order of the Arrow Guide for Officers and Advisers.

2. Committees

1. The standing Committees of this lodge shall be Activities, Nominations, Camping, Communications, Indian Affairs,, and Training
2. All Committee Chairman will be nominated to their position no later than the Winter Banquet, by the Nominations Committee, and appointed by the Lodge Chief, with approval of the Lodge Executive Committee, no later than the first of the year.
3. Activities
  1. Activities Committee shall oversee all lodge events outside of ordeals.
  2. The Activities Chairman shall maintain a position on any special events committee formed by the Lodge Executive Committee.
4. Camping
  1. The Camping Chairman shall serve as the Ordeal Master.
  2. The Camping Committee shall be responsible for updating the Where to Go Camping guide.

3. The Camping Committee shall be responsible for all OA High Adventure events, publications, and activities.
    4. The Camping Chairman shall uphold the responsibilities of his position, as defined in the Administration Guide for the Ordeal.
  5. Communications
    1. The Communications Committee shall be responsible for all communications from the lodge, including but not limited to, newsletters, social media, and website publications.
  6. Indian Affairs
    1. The Indian Affairs Committee shall be responsible for all ceremonies and ceremonial events.
    2. The Indian Affairs Committee shall be responsible for enforcing regalia regulations, per the most recent edition of the Order of the Arrow guidelines.
    3. The Indian Affairs Chairman shall uphold the responsibilities of his position, as defined in the Guide to Induction.
  7. Nominations
    1. The Nominations Committee shall be responsible for conducting or overseeing all of the nominations of the lodge.
      1. Vigil Nominations
      2. Founders' Award Nominations
      3. Lodge Officer elections
  8. Training
    1. The Training Committee shall be responsible for training at all lodge events, including but not limited to Lodge Leadership Development and Ordeal.
3. Advisers
  1. Lodge Adviser
    1. The Lodge Adviser shall advise, and work with the Lodge Chief, Secretary, and Treasurer.
    2. The Lodge Adviser shall uphold the responsibilities of his or her position, as defined in the Order of the Arrow Guide for Officers and Advisers.
  2. Associate Lodge Adviser

1. The Associate Lodge Adviser shall advise and work with the Lodge Vice-Chief and Chapter Chiefs.
  2. The Associate Adviser shall uphold the responsibilities of his position, as defined in the Order of the Arrow Guide for Officers and Advisers.
3. Lodge Staff Adviser
  1. The Lodge Staff adviser shall act on behalf of the Scout Executive in giving guidance to the lodge.
4. Ad-Hoc Advisers
  1. Any Ad-Hoc advisers shall advise and work with the committee or position the Lodge Adviser appoints him/her to.
4. General
  1. The Lodge Executive Committee shall be composed officers (II.A), immediate past lodge chief, lodge committee chairmen (II.B), lodge adviser, member of the council camping committee, and lodge staff adviser.
  2. All elected and appointed officers and chairmen of the Lodge Executive Committee must be younger than 21 during their entire term of office.
  3. The term of office for all standing members of the Lodge Executive Committee shall be one year.
  4. The Lodge Executive Committee is responsible for the interpretation of these bylaws.
5. Duties
  1. The Lodge Executive Committee shall meet at least (8) times a year.
  2. Dues shall be determined by the Lodge Executive Committee and approved by the Scout Executive.
  3. All power, authority, duties and functions of the membership, officers, and Chapters shall be exercised in the strict conformity to the applicable regulations of the Boy Scouts of America.
  4. It shall be the duty of the Lodge Executive Committee to conduct all business of the lodge, as defined in the Order of the Arrow Guide for Officers and Advisers and Robert's Rules of Order.
6. Limitations
  1. The Lodge Executive Committee must strictly adhere to conformance of the regulations of the Order of the Arrow and of the Boy Scouts of America.

2. No adviser, under any circumstances, is allowed to make a motion or vote.
3. Any responsibility NOT expressly stated as belonging to another position as defined in the Order of the Arrow Guide for Officers and Advisers shall lie solely with the Lodge Executive Committee.

#### 7. Impeachment

1. In the event that any elected officer is unable to fulfill his duties, a letter of resignation shall be submitted to the Executive Committee, and a temporary officer to complete the former's term of office shall be appointed by the Lodge Chief with the approval of the Lodge Executive Committee.
2. Any elected officer of the Lodge may be impeached by a majority vote of the Lodge Executive Committee. The former officer shall be notified in writing.
3. If any voting member of the Executive Committee is not present at three (3) consecutive Lodge Executive Committee meetings without an acceptable reason, he shall be removed from his position, and the Executive Committee shall take action to replace him.

### 3. Key 3

1. The members of the Key 3 committee shall consist of the Lodge Chief, Lodge Adviser, and Lodge Staff Adviser.
2. Responsibilities
  1. It will be the responsibility of the Key 3 to set and monitor the goals of the lodge.
  2. The Key 3 shall be responsible for establishing an agenda for the Lodge Executive Committee Meetings.
3. Limitations
  1. Any duty not expressly mentioned as a responsibility of the Key 3 committee, shall lie solely under the authority of the Lodge Executive Committee.

### 4. Voting

1. The voting members of the Lodge Executive Committee shall consist of the Lodge Chief, Vice-Chief, Secretary, Treasurer, Chapter Chiefs, and Standing Lodge Committee Chairs.
2. The Lodge Executive Committee may endow temporary voting status to Ad-Hoc Committee Chairmen.

3. The Lodge Chief shall hold the deciding vote in the case of a tie in any executive vote.
4. Any member under the age of 2, may vote during any general lodge voting session such as:
  1. Lodge Elections
  2. Popular Vote Amendments proposals
  3. Any other subject the Lodge Executive Committee sees fit to put to general vote.

#### **5. Duties and Obligations of the Lodge**

1. It shall be the duty of the lodge to cheerfully serve Skymont Scout Reservation.
2. All lodge funds shall be handled through the council office and go through all normal accounting procedures used by the Cherokee Area Council.
3. The lodge must hold the following events annually:
  1. Beaver Day(1)
  2. Ordeals(2)
  3. Fellowships(1)
  4. Winter Banquet(1)
  5. Lodge Training Courses(2)
  6. Lodge Executive Committee Meetings(8)
  7. OA Socials (10)

#### **6. Amendments**

1. General
  1. The Lodge Bylaws shall be reviewed by the Lodge Executive Committee at most one time per year, for its application and accuracy, and/or need for amendment.
  2. Before any vote to amend these Bylaws, all member of the lodge must be notified at least 30 days prior to give adequate time to respond.
2. Amendment by Lodge Executive Committee
  1. A motion to propose an amendment must be made and seconded during a Lodge Executive Committee Meeting
  2. If approved, the entire lodge must be notified that a Lodge Executive Committee amendment vote will take place at the following Lodge Executive Committee Meeting.
  3. The proposed amendment then must pass with (2/3) approval of the all



voting members of the Lodge Executive Committee.

3. Amendment by Popular Vote

1. A member may petition for a popular vote to amend these Bylaws by acquiring a quorum (1/3) of the members of the lodge signatures.
2. The petition must be presented to the Lodge Executive Committee who will then notify the members of the lodge of the voting date following the policy stated in (VI.A.2)
3. Passage of the amendment requires majority approval by all active members of the lodge.

**7. Ratification**

1. These bylaws shall become binding after approval of the Lodge Executive Committee, which will then be passed to the chapters for popular vote.
2. All chapters must pass these proposed bylaws by majority vote before being set as binding.

Notes