



WAGION LODGE #6

THE T-BIRD TIMES



Volume 61, Issue 1 | "A National Honor Newsletter" | February 2024

A Year of Leadership Beginning

Upcoming Lodge Events

- **February 24** - Lodge Banquet
- **April 26-28** - April Service Weekend
- **May 4** - Spring Nature Walk
- **June 7-9** - June Service Weekend
- **August 16-18** - August Fellowship Weekend
- **October 11-13** - October Service Weekend

Contents

- **Officer Chat** - pages 1-3
- **Chair Chat** - pages 4-9
- **Scouting Spotlight** - pages 10-11
- **Picture Page** - page 12
- **Puzzle Page** - page 13
- **LEC List** - pages 14-15



A Message from the Chief

Greetings Wagon,

My name is Matthew Dalton and I am honored to serve as the 2024 lodge Chief for Wagon Lodge 6. For those of you who may not know me, I am an Eagle Scout from Troop 304 in Latrobe, and I am also a student at Greensburg Central Catholic High School. I have been involved in Scouting since I was a Tiger Cub and have enjoyed everything that I have experienced throughout my time in the program. In addition to being active in my troop, I have also worked for four years as a camp staff member at Camp Conestoga. I began in 2020 as a CIT, then worked in future positions as a Pathfinder Instructor, an Aquatics Instructor, and this past year as the Lakefront Supervisor. Throughout my time in the OA, I have held various positions, such as First Aid Chairman, Unit Elections Chairman, lodge Secretary, and Program Vice Chief. As the lodge Chief for 2024, I will do my best to serve our lodge and make it a great year for everyone.

The 2024 officer team has been hard at work to plan and carry out events for the lodge, and this year we have come up with the theme "Today's Arrowmen, Tomorrow's Leaders." In choosing this theme, we hope to encourage our members to become active in various committee and leadership roles that will not only support the lodge but also provide a learning experience for the members of our lodge. By becoming active in committees and as chairmen, Arrowmen will be able to have a greater experience in the lodge. It's worth a note to point out that almost every lodge officer has served on a committee as a member or as a chairman. Helping the lodge means not only the growth of our program but also the growth of its members. It will instill great values and leadership skills and help build friendships that will last for years to come.

As we reflect on our lodge's past years, we must acknowledge the great moments that we had. In 2021, we celebrated our lodge's 100th Anniversary with an extraordinary weekend that was full of service, fellowship, and Scouting. In looking forward, we must begin to focus on our lodge now and work toward preparing it for the 200th Anniversary. In the words of Chinese Philosopher Lao Tzu, "A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step." In 2024, let us look to the future, to better our lodge, our Scouts, and our world with the principles of Leadership, Service, and Fellowship.

On February 24th, we will have our first event of the year, our Annual lodge Fellowship Banquet. This event will be held at Mount Pleasant High School from 11 AM to 8 PM and will include fun activities, great food, and great fellowship. I encourage everyone to spread the word about this event and to attend for an amazing time. Thank you all, and Rock On Wagon!

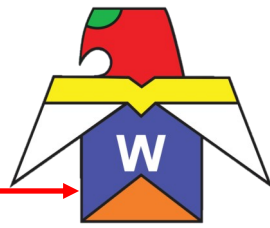
Carry On,
Matt Dalton
2024 Lodge Chief



WAGION LODGE 6
ORDER OF THE ARROW



Officer Chat



Program Vice Chief - Brian Broadwater

Greetings Wagon,

My name is Brian Broadwater. I am very honored to serve as your Program Vice Chief for the 2024 lodge year. I am an Eagle Scout from Troop 201 in Level Green and have been in the lodge since August 2018. 2023 was a great year for our lodge, and I am excited to see what 2024 brings. The Program Division has been working hard to provide an enjoyable experience for the upcoming lodge year. I encourage everyone to join a committee and become more involved in the lodge. Whether it is helping to run an activity or participating in ceremonies, a little effort goes a long way. The Annual Lodge Banquet is a great opportunity for everyone to see what each committee does. I hope to see you all at the Banquet on February 24th. Carry on, Wagon!

In Service,
Brian Broadwater



Administrative Vice Chief - Angela Henry

Hello Wagon!

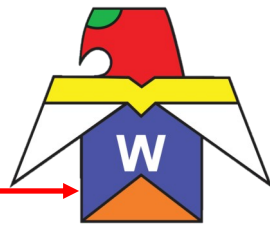
My name is Angela Henry, and I'm so very honored to be serving as your Administrative Vice Chief for 2024. I am an Eagle Scout and an adult leader out of Troop 1239 in Claridge. I've been a member of Wagon since 2021, serving as an Elangomat and as the 2023 Membership Chairman. I'm a part of camp staff as the Pathfinder Area Director, and I've been running our council's NYLT course for two years. Scouting has been my passion for almost 5 years now, and I am so excited to continue and be able to give back to Wagon. The Administrative Division already has a lot planned and is ready to begin the year strong. 2023 was a fantastic year for the lodge and for Conestoga, and the Administrative Division is ready to make 2024 even better. To make the division even stronger, if you have any interest in joining a committee, please don't be afraid to reach out to me or the chairmen! The Banquet is a great opportunity to check out all of what Wagon has to offer, and I'm sure we've got something for you. I look forward to seeing each of you at the Banquet on February 24th! Carry On!

In service,
Angela Henry





Officer Chat



Secretary - Carl Schaefer

Hello Wagion!

My name is Carl Schaefer and this year I will be serving as your lodge Secretary. I've been a member of the lodge for almost three years now, having taken my Ordeal at the 100th weekend. I am a Life Scout from Troop 304 with various experiences as a leader in the troop in addition to my time last year as the 2023 Brotherhood Chairman. The lodge has become a very prominent feature within my life thus far, both through the experiences that have helped me progress as an individual and through the people I have met along the way. This year, I plan to expand the methods that are used to communicate with you in an effective and entertaining way- especially with the many means we possess in the modern age.

Can't wait to see everyone at the Banquet!

In Service,
Carl Schaefer



Treasurer - Alena Seder

Hey Wagion,

I'm Alena Seder, and I am very excited to be taking on the role of your 2024 lodge Treasurer. I am an Eagle Scout out of Troop 1304 in Latrobe, where I continue as an adult leader. I am looking forward to a great year with you all. Our first event of the year is the annual lodge Banquet at Mount Pleasant Area Junior/Senior High School. The Finance Committee is looking into some great things for you all at the Banquet, so be sure to not miss out. Also, while you are there, make sure you are getting your dues paid at the door and even checking up on your information so you can make sure you're staying up to date on all the lodge events and activities. Can't wait to see you all there!

Carry on Wagion!
Alena Seder



Come to the Banquet!

Where: Mt. Pleasant High School

When: February 24th

Time: Doors open at 11

Dues: \$25 for the year (\$150 for Silver Arrowman)



x



Price: Only \$25

Registration: Go to www.wagion.org

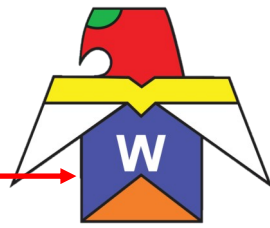
Who: **You!!**

Registration Deadline: February 14th





Chairman Chat



Activities Committee—Jayden Mattis

Hello Wagon,

The Activities Committee has been hard at work bringing you a Banquet to remember. We will be having football, ultimate frisbee, games, training, and much, much more! You won't want to miss the Banquet as it is the start to this amazing lodge year! Register before it's too late!

Are you creative or good at carrying out tasks? Then, the Activities Committee is for you! It's arguably the most fun committee because it creates all the fun at weekends! Join us in planning and carrying out a variety of great events for our lodge. Help us brainstorm activities that YOU want to see at weekends! Reach out to me if you would like to help!



Carry On,
Jayden M.

Leadership Development Committee - Jayden Mattis

Hello Wagon,

This past month, the Leadership Development Committee held our annual Lodge Leadership Development training. It may have been snowy with a wind chill of -15 degrees, but we had a wonderful event. Your LEC is now ready to plan and carry out an amazing lodge year.

A big thank you to everyone who made it out as well as all of the staff that helped make the event possible. If you're interested in further developing your leadership skills or want to get more involved in the lodge, feel free to reach out!

Carry On,
Jayden M.

Communications Committee - Thomas Kopasko

Wagon,

Thank you for a great 2023 for the Communications Division! We had a great turnout with articles and are very grateful for all the help we have received. Special thanks to photographer Tom Vater, editors Robbie Lavelle and Jim Jackson, and all those who devote their time to making the T-Bird even better.

Looking forward to a great 2024, and the Communications Division is excited to spread the word and hopefully get better and more information into each T-Bird. Carry On!

In Service,
Thomas Kopasko



Thunderbird Award Committee—Logan Depta

Wagon,

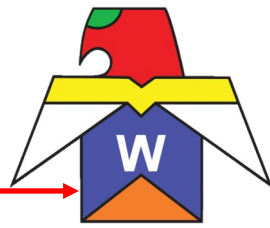
We will be presenting the Thunderbird Award to our 2024 recipients at the Fellowship Banquet.

WWW,
Thunderbird Award Committee





Chairman Chat



Camp Conestoga 75th Anniversary Committee - Daniel Pickles Sosko

Dear Wagion,

The 75th Anniversary celebration of Conestoga is quickly approaching, and we are putting together a service crew to help out during the event. If you want to help out, you can still go with your troop and participate in the event. We are just looking for an hour or two of help, most likely on Sunday. If you are interested or want more information, reach out to me or the Lodge Chief.

Yours in WWW,
Daniel Sosko



Unit Elections - Jack Jeffries

Greetings, Wagion!

I am glad to be serving this year as your chairman for Unit Elections. Emails have been sent to all the Scoutmasters requesting dates for scheduling. If you are a Scoutmaster and didn't receive an email, please email Kyle Collamer and me so we can schedule your troop. We will be running a training cell at the Banquet for any youth or adults who want to help perform unit elections. I can't wait to see everyone at the Banquet.



Carry on Wagion,
Jack Jeffries

Inductions Committee - Cody Kuehn

Hello Wagion!

The Inductions Committee is looking forward to a great lodge year! At our upcoming Banquet on February 24th, we will be hosting an Elangomat training for anyone looking to become or learn more about being an Elangomat. Over the coming year, we will be looking to develop and expand inductions. If you or anyone you know is interested in being an Elangomat, or is interested in helping out with Ordeal inductions, please contact me.

Hope to see you all at the Banquet!
Cody Kuehn

NOAC 2024 Committee—Logan Depta

Greetings Wagion,

NOAC 2024 is fast approaching! Anyone participating should plan on attending a meeting at the Fellowship Banquet. We will be covering travel information and other items of importance. Additionally, all participants **must** be paid in full by the Banquet. This is required.

The committee will be having our annual NOAC auction. We would appreciate any donations of Scouting memorabilia. On top of this, we will be selling engraved toothpick holders featuring the contingent's NOAC logo. These will be available for \$10. All funds raised through these fundraisers will alleviate costs for youth attending NOAC.

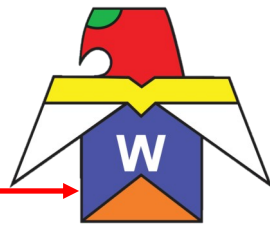
Go Pens,
Logan Depta



WAGION LODGE 6
ORDER OF THE ARROW



Chairman Chat



Conclave Committee - Christian Snouffer

Greetings Wagon,

As a new year is upon us, it is time for us to look ahead to this year's Conclave. Some of you might not know what Conclave is. Conclave is a very important event for the lodge each year. This event allows you to not only meet, trade patches with, and make lifelong memories with the brothers in your section, but it is also where you as members of the lodge are able to elect the section officers that represent our section E12, on the national stage. You may also be interested yourself in running for one of these positions.

This year is going to be a Conclave to remember. There are two special circumstances this year: First, a combined Conclave with our brothers in the north in E14, and it will be the same weekend as the June Weekend.

This year's conclave is going to be a joint venture. This means you will not only be able to meet brothers from our own section but also be with brothers from all over western PA. The Conclave will be held at Camp Mountain Run this year in Penfield. This will be a rare opportunity for you to meet, in mass, Scouts from this section.

If this interests you in any way or you are already planning to come, please come see me at the Conclave meeting at the Fellowship Banquet.

Carry on Wagon!
Christian Snouffer



Help Wanted! Do you think that you could add an article in this space? Whether it is something about the history of the lodge, a good memory you have had from a Wagon or Scouting event, an article about another member of the lodge, a Scouting puzzle, or anything that is relevant to the T-Bird, we want to see what you have to say!

As we want to continually improve the T-Bird, we are creating a competition for the Communications Committee. Whoever sends in the best article / content for the T-Bird this year outside of the normal chairman articles will receive a prize at the next Banquet in 2025. This may include a gift card, Wagon merch, or much more.

Right now, Tom Vater, Wagon's resident photographer, is in the lead for this competition with his Christmas hat photographs of Wagon members. It's up to you to beat him for the 2024 T-Bird Times contribution prize!

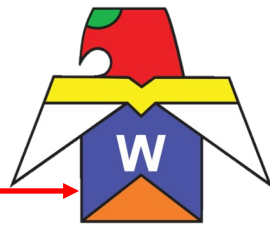
You can submit this content to the T-Bird article submission page on the website or email or text Thomas Kopasko with your article. Looking forward to seeing some great content for 2024. Thanks!



WAGON LODGE 6
ORDER OF THE ARROW



Chairman Chat



Cub Relations Committee - Ben Hollerman

Wagion,

2024: A new year is upon us! We have new opportunities to be in fellowship together and to serve together in this lodge. This includes new opportunities to improve our lodge to the best it can be! The Cub Relations Committee is looking to have a showstopping Spring Nature Walk this year. This event (if you don't know) is where we invite Cub Scouts to Camp Conestoga to participate in fun nature-related (or not nature-related) activities around camp. It takes place on May 4th and will be a ton of fun. But this event only happens with a lot of people helping out and putting things together. Marketing the event to our local packs is critical in order to get them to the event so that they can experience the fun! So, if you know of a local pack and want some promotional fliers, are a Scout and have some free time on Wednesday or Thursday evenings, or want to help out with activities, the Trading Post or food on May 4th, send me an email!

To a great 2024!

In Service,
Ben Hollerman



Promotions Committee - Darius Colangelo

Hello Wagion!

New year, new LEC, and importantly this year, new MOA! I'm Darius Colangelo, the Ahairman of the newly (re)-established Promotions Committee. Our goal is to get the word out about weekends, events, and activities: to promote Wagion! I'm excited for this next year and all it will hold for our great lodge. Anyone interested in joining, please contact me along with Carl our Lodge Secretary, and Robbie Lavelle.

Carry on Wagion!
Darius Colangelo

Food Service Committee - Jake Teets

Hello Wagion!!

My name is Jake Teets! I was the previous Chairman of the Culinary and Dining Hall Committee. I am proud to say that I will be Chairman once more. I'm really excited to be able to work with and see everyone at camp once more to enjoy amazing food, fun activities, and another year filled with happiness, new friendships, and great Brotherhood. I'm super excited for the weekends to come. One last thing: I hope that this year is even better than last year and that this year will bring more people into the camp to enjoy what we all enjoy about Wagion! Hope to see you all at the weekends, be safe, and, always remember, Carry On, Wagion.



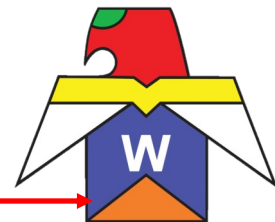
Yours in Service,
Jake Teets



WAGION LODGE 6
ORDER OF THE ARROW



Chairman Chat



Web-Tech Committee - Hunter Dumnich

Greetings Wagon,

My name is Hunter Dumnich, and I will be serving as your Web-Tech Chairman for the year 2024. I have been in Scouting for almost four years now, and I am an active Life Scout within Troop 304 out of Latrobe, PA. I hope to bring many great things to this lodge and its website. I believe the most important part will be hearing from you. I would love to hear suggestions for the website and anything related to it. Feel free to reach out anytime with suggestions or requests.



In WWW,
Hunter Dumnich

Brotherhood Committee - Jack Knopsnider

Hello Wagon,

My name is Jack Knopsnider! I am the Brotherhood Chairman for 2024. I am excited to have as many Brotherhood eligible members seal their membership as possible throughout this great year, so if you are eligible, or know a troop member that is eligible, please encourage them to come out to the April Weekend to seal their membership. If you are eligible and have questions about the Brotherhood process, feel free to contact me. We are also looking to build the committee and get a few members to assist with Brotherhood discussions for the upcoming year. If you are interested, please feel free to contact me.

Carry on,
Jack Knopsnider

Finance Committee - Alan Methven

Hello from the Trading Post!

I am very excited to see what 2024 has in store. The Banquet is soon approaching, and we have lots of new items coming. We have beanies, travel mugs, money clips, and, of course, some patches. As always, if you're interested in working in the Trading Post or have exciting ideas for merchandise, please contact me using the LEC contact information.



In service,
Alan Methven

Ways and Means Committee - Ty Gaughnar

Hello Wagon from Ways and Means!

I'm excited for the new year and can't wait for April so we can all get back out to the great outdoors.

Carry on,
Ty Goughnour



WAGON LODGE 6
ORDER OF THE ARROW

Vigil Honor Committee—Thomas Kopasko

Congratulations to the two newest members of the Class of 2023 Vigil Honor members: Marcus Ragland and Larry Dennis! Your contributions to Scouting are greatly appreciated, and we are excited to see what will come from the work that you will continue to do in the lodge. Thank you to all those who helped create a great Vigil experience for Marcus and Larry and the candidates at the August Weekend, even in the midst of ugly weather. This completes our Vigil Honor Class of 2023. The full class and their chosen Vigil names are shown below. We will present certificates to the recipients at the lodge Banquet. Carry on!

In Service,
Thomas Kopasko



Larry Dennis
Vigil Name: Xinkwtie Kitahpanshi Kishikhe Maxkok
Name Meaning: Large Log Building Bear

Marcus Ragland
Vigil Name: Kikeyjumhet Nachpauchsin Wulonquan
Name Meaning: Supreme Chief Who Has Wings

Ben Hollerman
Vigil Name: Witschingen Nihillatamen Gock
Name Meaning: Helpful Cheerful Master of Dues

Jason Lazar
Vigil Name: Assiskuju Pachsennummen
Name Meaning: Dirty One Who Tows

Cody Kuehn
Vigil Name: Wulelendamuw Klamachpin Elangomat
Name Meaning: Joyful Quiet Elangomat

Ana Lucci
Vigil Name: Nianque Metschimi Pomsin Wachtschu
Name Meaning: Wildcat Who Now Walks the Mountain

Jayden Mattis
Vigil Name: Gischitelen Nag'atamen Nianque
Name Meaning: Determined Reliable Wildcat





I can't decide between the
June Weekend & Conclave
JUNE 7-9 2024



Why not attend both?

ATTEND CONCLAVE & THE JUNE WEEKEND!!!!

How is this possible you may ask?? We will be car-pooling
from Camp Conestoga to Camp Mountain Run!

Q: What will I get to do at the Lodge Weekend?

A: Attend Friday/Saturday night Activities & Ceremonies

Q: What will I get to do at Conclave?

A: Represent Wagon in Saturday competitions, section
elections & have dinner with Arrowmen across PA!

It's hard to think of a weekend in the past few years where someone wasn't thinking about how much Dan has done for the lodge and his true devotion to Wagon. It's hard to think how the lodge weekends, the 100th Anniversary, numerous Conclaves and NYLTs, summer camp, and many other Scouting events would have been a success without the cooking mind of Dan. Dan has shown what it truly means to be a servant leader, and he has not only provided affordable and amazing food for the hard workers at the OA Weekends, but he has helped to form many great leaders in the lodge.

An example to many, Dan has kept many Eagle Scouts on track by continually reminding us of the true importance of this rank and the effects it can have outside of the Scouting program. He has also kept many in the Scouting program and has a large clan of followers that work in the kitchen and, in turn, get excited about the OA and come back for many weekends to come. He has been around for many changes in the lodge and always supports the youth that lead before anyone else, making sure that their voices are heard and their decisions are what stand.

Whether awake or not so much, Dan is at just about every LEC and business meeting, every ceremony and meal, and every imperative function that our lodge has had. His advanced years allow him to give great advice to youth leaders who often take his thoughts and run with them, making successful implementations into the lodge.

And, even after deciding to take a small step back from the Commissary Committee that he has devoted himself to for the past few years, he has "retired" to another advisor position, overseeing the PVC and continuing to share his wisdom for years to come.

As a chairman, I have always found Dan's perspective to be one that is not overpowering, but brings great ideas and thoughts to light that I could never have imagined. He continues to make Wagon a better place than it was when he found himself to be a part of it and doesn't hesitate to motivate, share a laugh or two, have a serious conversation, or just speak of good memories with another member of the lodge.

While he's not going away, it felt important to give some deserving attention to his service to the lodge, specifically in the Commissary Committee, and to speak of a man who does not want to be spoken about. Leaving your legacy to many bright leaders, our Commissary Committee will continue to provide the fuel for the lodge to cheerfully serve the camp, lodge, and Scouters alike. The lodge would not be able to provide nearly as great service as they do without the Commissary Committee. Thank you, Dan, for keeping the committee a bright spot in the best lodge in the world.

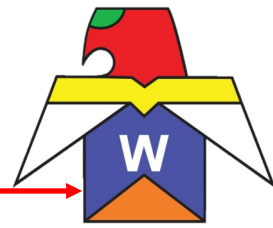
Finally, a fitting quote to wrap up Dan's service to the Commissary Committee comes from Cesar Chavez who says, "The people who give you their food give you their heart."

Thank you, Dan, for giving your heart to Wagon Lodge 6. To many more years, Carry On!





Scouting Spotlight: J.L.



I would like to share with you a fond memory from a lodge weekend a few years ago. Walking out of the Dining Hall after lunch, I walked by the 100th Anniversary brick walkway, which was being worked on. And, right in front of me, I saw Jeff working on placing sand and dirt and tamping it down. It was apparent he had been working all morning and, talking to him, I found that he worked right through lunch, working all morning and with intention to work up until dinner. In this moment, I saw my Lodge Advisor be so devoted to service that he didn't lay down the shovel but, instead, put in all that he had into service. That is quite a great thing to see in your Lodge Advisor, and that is a great example of who Jeff Lydic is and what he stands for.

I truly believe that Jeff was called to be the Lodge Advisor through the 100th Anniversary. I believe that his gifts and talents were exactly what the lodge needed, and his service to the lodge has truly been a gift.

Jeff has seen many important events during his time as Lodge Advisor. He saw the 100th Anniversary of Wagon through, the introduction of female youth into the lodge, the many large service projects that were taken on, a new generation of leaders, restrictions of COVID, and much more. And yet, even through some of the largest hurdles that Wagon has faced, Jeff helped to make those years some of the most productive, exciting, and memorable years in our history.

As a former officer, I can say that Jeff was a great man to work with, a great mentor, and a great guiding leader. Even in the most stressful and difficult times, Jeff was never worried or upset but, rather, had a calm perspective from which he rarely waived. In my most stressful times, Jeff gave me great advice and made sure that I was not worrying too much about little things in the lodge that could not be controlled but, rather, that I looked at the big picture and just did the best I could.

An inspiration to many, Jeff was more excited than many youth members for lodge events, and he never took the credit for himself but, rather, gave thanks to all those that gave service to the lodge. With a fun hearted manner and an easy going attitude, Jeff instilled high expectations into the lodge that were almost always met due to the great work of many devoted volunteers. Jeff also was a great advocate for female youth in the program, making sure that they had every opportunity to participate and take advantage of the program, and encouraging the female youth to be trailblazers that would help define the next century of Wagon's history.

Jeff, I can't say enough how much the lodge is thankful for the service that you have provided and for the many many questions you answered and concerns you heard. You are a bright light in the lodge, and your work has helped to lay a great foundation for the next 100 years of the honors program of Scouting. Thank you for all you do, and we look forward to seeing you around at many lodge events to come.

As we look forward to the next 100 years of Wagon, the most crucial leaders will be those that empower our youth to do great things for the betterment of Scouting and beyond. Thank you, Jeff, for being a leader who has empowered Wagon to continue moving forward, onward, and upward like the arrow.

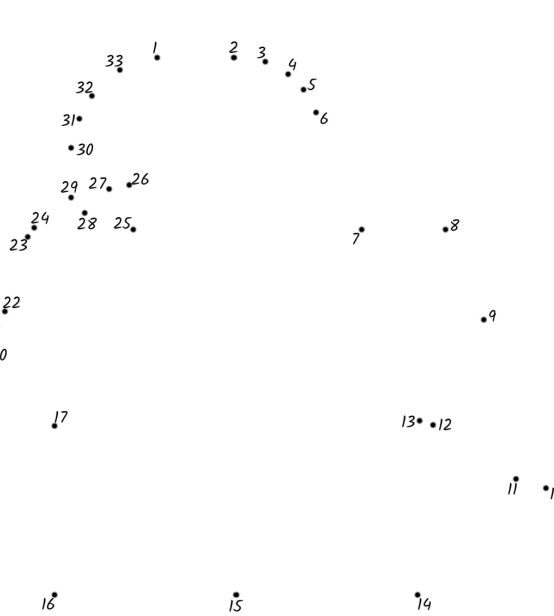
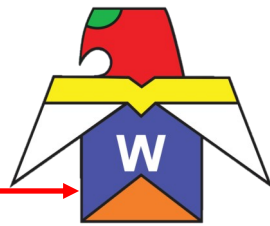


October 2023 - February 2024 Pictures





Puzzle Page!



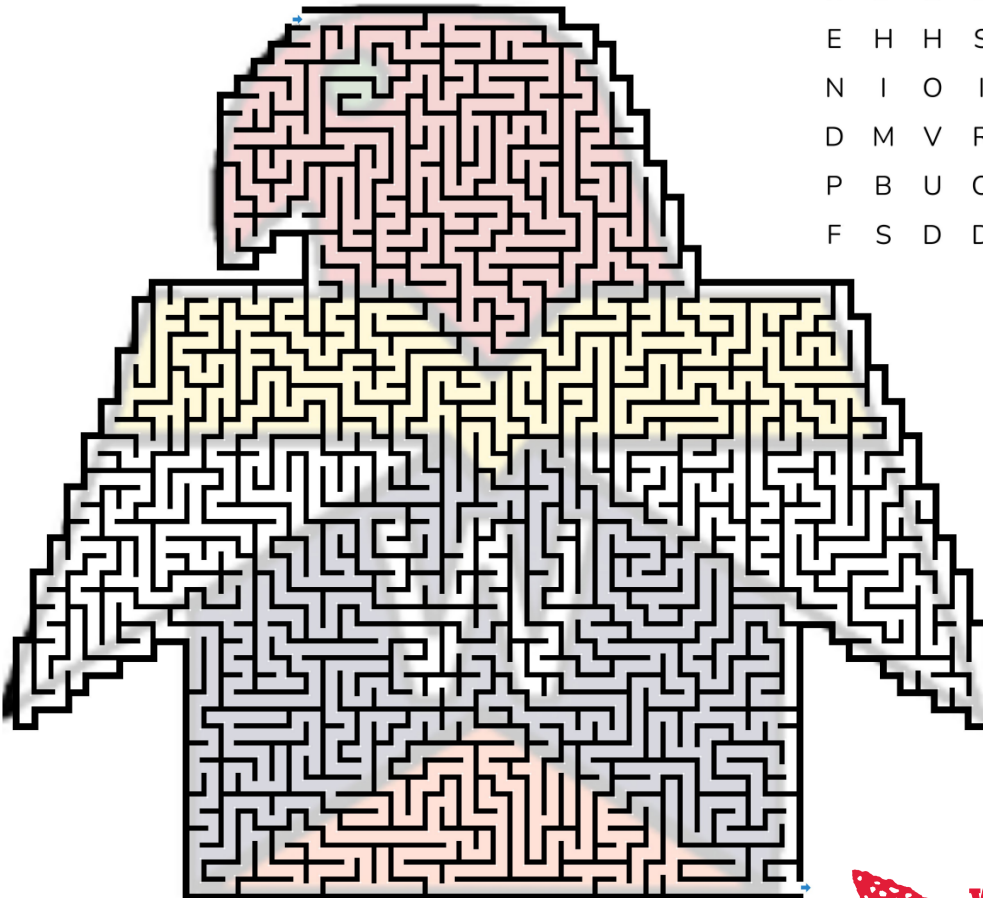
Banquet
Hemlock
Scouting
Vigil Honor

Brotherhood
NOAC
Service
Wagon

Conclave
Ordeal
TBIRD Times
Weekend

Eagle Scout
Order of the Arrow
Thunderbird

O R D E R O F T H E A R R O W
F N H P R R I E A O E W T B C
B A E D R M I W B C T O N R I
E D E T R C G L I O D N T O V
H A I C T O S V E A R B D T O
L U T O P N R D R S I R A H E
H O K N D E I F E R O S E E S
W A C C S B Y M D N P O A R C
W A O L E L N T O R I T G H O
E C L A G Y I H N D E W L O U
E L M V T M L N O A A M E O T
K D E E E I I C O G L W S D I
E H H S G V E A I A N D C C N
N I O I B R H O U L C Y O E G
D M V R I L N P E S D Q U F K
P B U O Y T B A N Q U E T E R
F S D D R I B R E D N U H T T



G		W			
	A	O		W	
			O		W
O		N			A
N	I		W		
W		G	N		



WAGON LODGE 6
ORDER OF THE ARROW

Westmoreland-Fayette Council, Inc.
Boy Scouts of America
2 Garden Center Drive
Greensburg, PA 15601-1393

Contents

- Officer Chat - pages 1-3
- Chair Chat - pages 4-9
- Scouting Spotlight - pages 10-11
- Picture Page - page 12
- Puzzle Page - page 13
- LEC List - pages 14-15

Medical Forms Reminder:

Remember to bring a Copy of your Medical Form (Parts A and B only) to ALL Lodge Events!

The T-Bird Times is the official newsletter of Wagon Lodge 6 of the Westmoreland-Fayette Council. The publication of the T-Bird Times has been a tradition in the Lodge since 1964. This newsletter is made by Arrowmen, for Arrowmen. Thank you for your underlying and unconditional support of this publication, our great lodge, and our proud heritage and tradition.

THE T-BIRD TIMES WAGON LODGE #6

