



WAGION LODGE #6

THE T-BIRD TIMES



Volume 62, Issue 1 | "A National Honor Newsletter" | February 2025

A Year of Leadership and Service Beginning

Upcoming Lodge Events

- February 22 - Lodge Banquet
- April 25-27 - April Service Weekend
- May 3 - Spring Nature Walk
- June 6-8 - June Service Weekend
- August 15-17 - August Fellowship Weekend
- October 17-19 - October Service Weekend

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A Message from the Chief

Greetings, Wagon!

My name is Matthew Dalton, and I am honored to serve as the 2025 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 Saint Vincent College. 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 five years as a camp staff member at Camp Conestoga. Throughout my time in the OA, I have held various positions, such as First Aid Chairman, Unit Elections Chairman, Lodge Secretary, Program Vice Chief, and 2024 Lodge Chief. As the Lodge Chief for 2025, I will do my best to serve our lodge and make it a great year for everyone.

Although we are excited to kickoff the 2025 lodge year, I am happy to announce that our lodge had a very successful close to our 2024 lodge year. On top of welcoming many new members and having great success during our events, we also achieved High Performing status for the fifth year in a row. Thank you all for your help in supporting our lodge and for your contributions over the years that have led us to be the organization that we are today. While we celebrate at our Banquet the accomplishments that we have from 2024, let us also look towards 2025 with determination and optimism to make our lodge even greater. One of the largest factors in the success of any organization is the growth in membership that they may experience year-to-year. Last year, we saw an increase in lodge membership, and this is one of the major goals of our 2025 lodge year. I ask that all lodge members go to their troops and friends and encourage them to attend our lodge events and pay their lodge dues. It is up to each of us to help our lodge continue its growth so that we see it flourish in the future. I know that our lodge and its members are always up to the challenge and I look forward to working with all of you throughout 2025.

On February 22nd 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 fellowship. I encourage everyone to spread the word about this event, register by February 14th, and attend for an amazing time. Thank you all, and Rock On, Wagon!

Carry On,
Matthew Dalton





Officer Chat



Program Vice Chief - Cody Kuehn

Hello Wagion!

I'm looking forward to kicking off an exciting 2025 lodge year, starting with our February Banquet! We have a fantastic lineup of fun events and engaging trainings planned for everyone attending. The Banquet is a special event that brings us together to celebrate our lodge, enjoy great food, recognize achievements, and look forward to an amazing year of fellowship and service. You won't want to miss out, make sure to spread the word about our Banquet to your troops and any fellow lodge members! Throughout the year, our activities and programs at every weekend will offer great opportunities for learning, fun, fellowship, and cheerful service. If you have any ideas for weekend activities, something you'd like to see in our programs, or are looking for more information about any committee within the Program Division, please don't hesitate to reach out to me. I'd love to hear your thoughts, ideas, and questions! Your input helps make the lodge run even better. I look forward to seeing everyone at our service weekends and events this year. Let's make 2025 a great year for Wagion!

Carry on, Wagion!
Cody Kuehn



Administrative Vice Chief - Brian Broadwater

Greetings Wagion,

My name is Brian Broadwater. I am very honored to serve as your Administrative 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. I previously served as Program Vice Chief in 2024. Last year was a great year for our lodge, and I am excited to see what 2025 brings. The Administrative Division has been working hard to provide an enjoyable experience for the upcoming lodge year. We are highly focused on effective communication between committees and lodge members, as well as having good ties with our local troops. I encourage everyone to join a committee and become more involved in the lodge. Whether it is helping to run unit elections or fixing up our beloved circle, 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 22nd.

Carry on, Wagion!
Brian Broadwater





Officer Chat



Secretary - Carl Schaefer

Hello Wagion!

For those of you who aren't familiar with me, I am Carl Schaefer, an Eagle Scout from Troop 304 in Latrobe. I've been a part of the lodge for almost 4 years, and I'm returning now for my second term as Lodge Secretary. I'm excited to have this opportunity again, and I'll be working with the new and returning members of the Communications Division to continue improving the outreach efforts by Wagion. From the continued integration of the year-old Promotions Committee, to the planned revitalization of the lodge website, we have a lot planned for this year and hope that each of you will help us to accomplish our goals as a division and collective LEC.

Get involved and show your willingness to make a difference. Let's have another great lodge year.

In Service,
Carl Schaefer



Treasurer - Alena Seder

Greetings Wagion,

I am honored to be your 2025 Lodge Treasurer. I am an Eagle Scout out of Troop 1304 and was your 2024 Lodge Treasurer. We had a great year last year with lots of good times, good food, and great service. We are looking forward to an even better 2025 lodge year.

Our first event is our Banquet at Mount Pleasant High School. If your dues are not yet paid, you will be able to pay them at registration. They are \$25 for the year. Also at the Banquet will be our Trading Post, so make sure to stop by to see what they have in store for us!

At the Banquet, think about joining a committee; the lodge needs you! Any help you can provide for our chairmen would be greatly appreciated. I am looking forward to getting the lodge year started!

Carry On,
Alena Seder





Chairman Chat



Brotherhood Committee - Stephen Sulkowski

Hello Wagon,

My name is Stephen Sulkowski, and I am your new Brotherhood Chairman for 2025. I am grateful to be in this position. Many of you have seen me in the Dining Hall giving you food, taking your trays, or sitting down with you and eating. This is my first year as a chairman for the Order; I had previously served as a Sub-Chairman for the Unit Elections Committee. I am looking for new people willing to help the Brotherhood Committee. Have a good day, and I'll see you at the Banquet and future lodge events.

Carry On, Wagon!
Stephen Sulkowski

Membership Committee - Landyn Queer

Hello fellow Wagon members!

My name is Landyn Queer, and I will be your 2025 Membership Chairman. In order to support the lodge's goal of achieving high performing status, we need all members to pay their membership dues for this year. Dues can be paid in-person at the Scout Office, at the February Fellowship Banquet, or at any lodge weekend. We appreciate if you can pay your dues as soon as possible. In addition, we ask for your help in achieving high performing status in the area of retention. Please reach out to members of your troops who you know are lodge members and encourage them to also pay their dues for this year. Also, reach out to fellow Scouts and Scouters and remind them to pay their dues. Finally, consider reaching out to former members and asking them to recharter in Scouting and also to register and pay their dues for the lodge. We would like to see them again.

Yours in Brotherhood,
Landyn Queer



Finance Committee - Alan Methven

Hello from the Trading Post. We are already gearing up for 2025 with lots of new items. We have brand new blue baseball caps and green bonnie hats. We also have something completely new cooking in the oven. I can't wait to see you all at the Banquet!

In Service,
Alan Methven

Service Committee - Gabe Tenney

I'm Gabe Tenney, your 2025 Service Chairman. The committee has a lot planned for 2025. See you at the Maintenance Building in April.

In Service,
Gabe Tenney





Chairman Chat



First Aid Committee - Owen Briggs

Hello, my name is Owen Briggs. I am the new First Aid Chairman for this coming year. My goal as the chairman is to grow my committee by having over eight members. I would love for everyone to turn in their new Health Forms (Parts A&B) at the April Service Weekend. My next goal is to promote my committee by making posts and videos presenting the First Aid Committee. One more goal I have is for no serious injuries while I am the chairman. I am so excited for this year!



Carry on, Wagion!
Owen Briggs

Unit Elections - Andrew Pierce & Brooklynne Bowser

Howdy, I'm Andrew Pierce. I am currently working under Jack Jeffries as the Unit Elections Sub-Chairman for the Bushy Run District. This year, I plan on getting my Brotherhood. My main goal for the committee is to get YOU to join Unit Elections! In Unit Elections, we get to meet new people, including new Ordeal candidates, before anyone else. Unit elections is the perfect place to meet new people, make friends, and go as a first committee as it is easy to understand and the others in Unit Elections are there to help you. Lastly, and most importantly, Unit Elections doesn't take up time during activities at OA Weekends, meaning you'll never miss the slip-n-slide!

Hello Wagion! My name is Brooklynne, and I'm the Unit Elections Sub-Chairman for the Laurel Hills District. My goal this year is to get to know more people in the lodge, and I hope taking this position will help me achieve this. A few fun facts about me: I joined Cub Scouts in 2019 and have stayed in scouting ever since. My favorite OA Weekend is the October Service Weekend, and my favorite thing to do at OA Weekends is hangout with my friends. Anyhow, I hope to see a lot of you at the next OA Weekend!

Carry on, Wagion!
Andrew Pierce & Brooklynne Bowser

Ways and Means - Steve Queer

Are you thinking about joining a committee? Still on the fence? Join us at the circle in Ways and Means. Hi, I'm Steve Queer, Ways and Means advisor. Ty, our chairman, has been busy preparing for the coming ceremonies. I thought I would let you know that we are looking for new members and help each weekend beautifying the OA Circle. I am looking forward to seeing you all at the April Service Weekend.

Steve Queer
Ways and Means Committee Advisor





Chairman Chat



NOAC 2027 Committee - Jack Knopsnider

Greetings Wagion, My name is Jack Knopsnider, and I am the NOAC Chairman for this lodge year. My goal will be to fundraise for the upcoming NOAC in 2027. To kick off our fundraising efforts, we will have a NOAC Auction at the Banquet where you'll be able to buy patches and other Scouting items to help lower the cost of NOAC for the contingent going to the event. We'll also have a meeting during the Banquet for anyone who is interested in attending NOAC in 2027.

Carry on,
Jack Knopsnider

Cub Relations Committee - Nate Collamer

Hello Wagion! I am excited to inform all of you about our lodge's annual Spring Nature Walk on Saturday, May 3rd, 2025. For those of you who are not aware, our lodge hosts this event for Cub Scouts and their families. It is very important that we promote this event as a lodge to our troops and district. Please make sure that your packs regularly check the Smoke Signals for updates and registration information. We are always looking for volunteers from the lodge to assist during this event. Please come talk to me at the Banquet or send me a message if you are interested.

Carry on, Wagion!
Nate Collamer



Unit Elections - Jack Jeffries

Hello Wagion, the Unit Elections season has already begun, so please talk to your Scoutmaster about scheduling. The election window opened January 1st and closes May 31st. To schedule your election or notify us that you will not have OA eligible Scouts, please contact us using our information in the back of the T-Bird Times or in the LEC Contact Info file on the lodge website. Or, come visit us during our scheduled time during the Banquet.

Carry on, Wagion!
Jack Jeffries

Promotions Committee - Jayden Mattis

The Promotions Committee is excited to ramp up efforts to spread the word about Wagion Lodge in 2025, and we need your help! Whether you have flyers, social media posts, or other promotional materials, we encourage you to submit them so we can share the excitement across our lodge and beyond. If you have something you'd like to promote—an event, initiative, or idea—reach out to the Promotions Committee, and we'll help get the word out! Our goal this year is to promote Wagion like never before, showcasing the amazing experiences and opportunities our lodge offers. Don't hesitate to submit any ideas or materials, and let's make 2025 a year of engagement and growth!

Sincerely,
Jayden Mattis





Hemlock#Society



The Wagon Lodge Hemlock Society was founded in 2016 by the late Rich Hager. Rich was the Lodge Advisor in 2016 and was also a Vigil Honor member, a Thunderbird Award Recipient, and an Eagle Scout. Rich wanted to encourage Wagon Lodge members to support the Westmoreland-Fayette Council financially as well as through cheerful service at lodge weekends. The result was the Wagon Lodge Hemlock Society.

Members of the Order of the Arrow promote Scout camping traditions and cheerfully serve others. But, the council can't survive on volunteer work alone. The council needs financial resources to deliver the Scouting program and to maintain our Camps. The Hemlock Society is a great way to help. Through a financial pledge of \$1,000, any Wagon member will be recognized as a member of the Hemlock Society.

Upon fulfillment of your commitment, you will receive lifetime membership in the Hemlock Society; a recognition item consisting of a metallic Thunderbird emblem suspended from a gold ribbon on which six hemlock branches are embroidered; listing on the Hemlock Society Roll on the Wagon website; and opportunities to meet with other Hemlock Society members.

Your tax-deductible contribution will be used by Wagon Lodge's chartered organization, the Westmoreland-Fayette Council, to support local Scouts and council operations. This funding is vital to the youth camping program and the preservation of our lodge, camps, and council.

More information is available on the Wagon Lodge website.





LLD Recap



This January, over 40 Arrowmen gathered at Mt. Zion Lutheran Church for the 2025 Lodge Leadership Development (LLD) training, marking an exciting start to the year. Participants took part in goal-setting, team-building activities, and hands-on challenges, including designing and testing catapults, all while focusing on key leadership skills and strategies for the upcoming year. The event provided an opportunity for Arrowmen to plan initiatives, strengthen communication, and collaborate on ways to improve the lodge experience.

A huge thank you goes out to the Lodge Executive Committee, the Training Committee for their hard work, and Mt. Zion Lutheran Church for hosting the event. With the energy and ideas sparked by this training, Wagon Lodge is poised for a successful and impactful year ahead. The future of the lodge is certainly in good hands, and the Leadership Development Committee is excited to see what the rest of the year holds!

Sincerely,

Jayden Mattis
Leadership Development Chairman



LLD Pictures



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Medical Forms Reminder:
Remember to bring a copy of your Medical Form (Parts A and B) 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.



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