



2008  
Shawnee Lodge  
**VIGIL HONOR**  
Recipients

The Vigil Honor is a high mark of distinction and recognition reserved for those Arrowmen who, by reason of exceptional service, personal effort, and unselfish interest, have made distinguished contributions beyond the immediate responsibilities of their position or office to one or more of the following: their lodge, the Order of the Arrow, or the camping program. Under no circumstances should tenure in Scouting or the Order of the Arrow be considered as reason enough for Vigil Honor recommendation.

The Vigil Honor is the highest honor that the Order of the Arrow can bestow upon its members. Vigil Honor members have an honorable tradition to uphold.

### Curtis E. Ahlers

Eagle Scout Curtis Ahlers has unselfishly dedicated himself to the Order of the Arrow and the camping program. On the district level, Curtis has taken part in service projects and worked on camporee staffs. During the years he has worked at the council's summer camps, Curtis was an outstanding staff member, truly demonstrating his commitment to selfless service. He has worked on Fall Reunion staffs and taken part in ceremonial teams at summer camp. Curtis is currently serving as an assistant Scoutmaster in his troop. For his outstanding contribution to the council's camping program, we eagerly nominate Curtis E. Ahlers for the Vigil Honor.

### Ronald W. Armstrong

Scouter Ron Armstrong has continuously shown selfless dedication to the Order of the Arrow. He has helped to build a successful troop through his roles as an adult leader. He has worked tirelessly to develop the Lodge Dance Team and is currently the Lodge Dance Team Adviser. He has attended numerous section conclaves and National Order of the Arrow Conferences. Ron has provided leadership at the O.A. Summer Camps and ceremonial team seminars. He has served on staff for district camporees and klondikes. For his dedication to Scouting and the Order of the Arrow, we proudly nominate Ronald W. Armstrong for the Vigil Honor.

### Joseph A. Bender

Joe Bender has demonstrated tireless service to Scouting and the camping program. He has been active in Scouting as an adult leader for 25 years, thirteen of which he served as Scoutmaster. Throughout this period, he has mentored scores of Scouts and helped them along the road to becoming Eagle Scouts. He is a staunch believer in the camping program and has taken his troop to over 30 weeklong camps, including numerous trips to Philmont and Florida Sea Base. For his dedication to leadership in service, we respectfully nominate Joseph A. Bender for the Vigil Honor.

## Joseph E. Burkard

Eagle Scout Joe Burkard has cheerfully dedicated his time to the Order of the Arrow and the Scouting programs. He has participated in numerous ceremonial teams, conducted camp promotions, assisted with service projects, and attended section conclaves. Joe has served as a chairman for O.A. Troop Representatives, Brotherhood, and Ceremonial Teams in his chapter. Joe is currently serving as the Lodge Treasurer. He has worked on numerous camporee and klondike staffs and three years on the council's summer camp staff. For his ongoing commitment to the Order of the Arrow and the camping program, we wholeheartedly nominate Joseph E. Burkard for the Vigil Honor.

## Daniel J. Corce

Dan Corce serves as a tremendous example of passion and dedication to the Order of the Arrow and the camping program. Dan has served his chapter as both Camp Promotion and Elangomat Chairman. In addition, Dan served as last year's Lodge Elangomat Chairman and worked tirelessly to develop the new lodge Extended Elangomat program. He has served on numerous camporee and klondike staffs. Dan is an Eagle Scout who has spent the past two summers working in the aquatics area on summer camp staff. His commitment to the Order has previously earned him his chapter's Distinguished Arrowman Award. For his selfless service to Scouting and the Order, we enthusiastically nominate Daniel J. Corce for the Vigil Honor.

## J. David Gilbert

Eagle Scout David Gilbert has shown tremendous dedication to the camping program. On the district level, he has worked on numerous service projects, camporee staffs, and camp promotion teams. David has also served on NYLT and University of Scouting staffs where he taught other Scouts the skills they need to become successful leaders. More recently, David attended Wood Badge and is working to complete his ticket and served this past summer on summer camp staff. For his outstanding commitment to the camping program, we wholeheartedly nominate J. David Gilbert for the Vigil Honor.

## Zachary T. Gear

Zach Gear has displayed tireless devotion to his troop, chapter, and the Order of the Arrow. Currently, Zach serves his chapter as Chief and previously served as Chapter Second Vice Chief. He has also served as the Chapter Troop Representative Chairman and has participated in ceremonial teams. Zach rarely misses service projects and has attended section conclaves, Fall Reunions, and Spring Conclaves. His commitment to the camping program is displayed through his participation in camp promotion and years of summer camp. Zach has served in key positions on klondike and camporee staffs. For his endless commitment to the Order of the Arrow and the camping program, we cheerfully nominate Zachary T. Gear for the Vigil Honor.

## Theodore W. Hartzler

Eagle Scout Will Hartzler cheerfully lives by the values of the Scout Oath and Law in his everyday life. He has served his chapter as Secretary and as Troop O.A. Representative Chairman. Will has been an Elangomat and has participated in numerous service projects and camp promotions. He has truly shown his unselfish service to the youth of our council through his five years on NYLT staff, including once as youth director. For his unselfish character and dedication to the Scouting program, we proudly nominate Theodore W. Hartzler for the Vigil Honor.

## Ross A. Hetz

Scouter Ross Hetz has been an important member of the council's camping program. As a youth, he earned the rank of Eagle Scout and was inducted into the Order of the Arrow. He has served on the Council's Horse Trail Guide Committee for nineteen years and has participated in numerous service projects to maintain the horse program at Beaumont Scout Reservation. Ross has been on the Nagel Horse Camp staff for nine years and has served as a Canoe Guide for the last fifteen years. For his dedication to the Scouting program and the ideals of the Order of the Arrow, we earnestly nominate Ross A. Hetz for the Vigil Honor.

## Shannon M. Hinze

Eagle Scout and Scouter Shannon Hinze has tirelessly shown his service to the Order of the Arrow. He has served as the Chapter Adviser, leading the way in bringing focus to the Order of the Arrow and has done a remarkable job as an adult leader in his troop for many years. He has been on the staff of numerous camporees and klondikes and has been a force of leadership in his district. Shannon has served on the district camping and training committees. For this, and much more, we gladly nominate Shannon M. Hinze for the Vigil Honor.

## Raymond J. Kreienkamp

Eagle Scout Ray Kreienkamp is an example of cheerful service and leadership across the Order of the Arrow and the Scouting program. Ray served his chapter in several chairmanships and as Chapter Chief before being elected to his current position as Shawnee Lodge First Vice Chief. Ray has participated in the National Order of the Arrow Conference, in the National Conservation Leadership Summit, and in Order of the Arrow Trail Crew. His service is further demonstrated by his participation on numerous camporee and klondike staffs and as a camporee campmaster. Ray served as a patrol leader at the 2005 National Jamboree, and he has served the council on summer camp staff. For his unwavering commitment and consistent leadership throughout the Scouting program, we wholeheartedly nominate Raymond J. Kreienkamp for the Vigil Honor.

## Benjamin G. Kremer

Ben Kremer has served the Order of the Arrow and the Scouting program as an outstanding example of cheerful service and self denial. He has served on numerous camporee and klondike staffs as well as on the council's NYLT staff. Ben has participated in ceremonial teams, conducted camp promotions, and helped with service projects. He has served as his chapter's Camp Promotion Chairman and Secretary. Ben is currently serving as Chief for his chapter. For his dedicated service to the Order of the Arrow and the Scouting program, we are honored to nominate Benjamin G. Kremer for the Vigil Honor.

### Matthew T. Ludwig

Eagle Scout Matt Ludwig has demonstrated outstanding service and commitment to the Order of the Arrow and the camping program. Matt has worked on countless camporee and klondike staffs. He has served as Website Chairman and Camp Promotion Chairman for his chapter and has actively participated in his chapter's ceremonial teams. Matt has also received his chapter's Distinguished Arrowman Award. He has proudly served on NYLT staff. For his unwavering dedication to the Order and Scouting, we cheerfully nominate Matthew Ludwig for the Vigil Honor.

### Miles A. McKinney

Scouter Miles McKinney has given back tirelessly to Scouting and the Order of the Arrow. He served his chapter as Ceremonial Team Adviser, where he worked to continue strengthening the chapter's ceremonial team program. Currently, Miles is serving his chapter as the Chapter Adviser, where he continues to be a valuable asset in mentoring the youth leadership within his chapter. For his efforts, Miles has been awarded the District Award of Merit as well as his chapter's Distinguished Arrowman Award. For his undying dedication to the Order of the Arrow and Scouting's principles, we ardently nominate Miles A. McKinney for the Vigil Honor.

### Cameron L. Mercer

Cameron Mercer has proudly dedicated his time and service to the Order of the Arrow. He has served on camporee staffs, participated in service projects, and been an active member of his chapter's ceremonial teams. Cameron has served as his chapter's Ordeal Chairman and Second Vice Chief, and he is currently the Chapter First Vice Chief. As a chapter officer, he has worked diligently to set the example and live by the Scout Oath and Law. He has also attended Philmont, Sea Base, Northern Tier, and the National Jamboree. For his untiring devotion to the Scouting program, we gladly nominate Cameron L. Mercer for the Vigil Honor.

## Edward G. Nemeth

Ed Nemeth has exemplified true Scouting spirit through his dedication to the Order of the Arrow. Ed has proven to be a role model for Scouts young and old by serving twice as chaplain for summer camp and developing new long-term camp opportunities for the council. He not only consistently attends troop outings and meetings but is a key asset to his chapter. Ed has attended section conclaves, Fall Reunions, and Spring Conclaves--always willing to provide assistance where it is needed. For his service, dedication, and cheerful spirit to the Order of the Arrow and the Scouting program, we enthusiastically nominate Edward G. Nemeth for the Vigil Honor.

## John J. O'Neill

Eagle Scout Jack O'Neill is a consummate reminder of the meaning of cheerful service. Jack has served his chapter as Camp Promotion Chairman as well as served the lodge as Brotherhood Chairman. In addition, Jack has served as the Section C-5C Vice Chief and is currently serving as Section Chief. Jack has served his district on numerous camporee staffs. Further, Jack has spent his past two summers on the council's summer camp staff. For his devotion to Scouting, Jack was recognized by his chapter with the Distinguished Arrowman Award. For his endless dedication to the Order of the Arrow and the camping program, we wholeheartedly nominate John J. O'Neill for the Vigil Honor.

## Cody W. Polley

Cody Polley has tirelessly served as a leader in both the Order of the Arrow and the Scouting programs. Cody has served in two chapter chairmanships as well as served as his chapter's Secretary, First Vice Chief, and Chief for two terms. He has been involved with ceremonial teams for the past five years and has attended National Order of the Arrow Conferences and section conclaves. Cody has also served in various roles on camporee and klondike staffs. He is an Eagle Scout who has served the council on summer camp staff for two summers. For his dedication and service to Scouting and the Order, we cheerfully nominate Cody W. Polley for the Vigil Honor.

## Stephen R. Rechten

Scouter Stephen R. Rechten has shown true dedication to the Scouting program. A Scouter of nineteen years, Stephen has provided guidance as Scoutmaster for thirteen of those years. He has led his troop's O.A. candidates to the Fall Reunion for the past sixteen years, working alongside the youth to prepare ceremonial sites. Stephen has also shown dedication to Scouting through the NYLT program, working on staff for three years. Stephen has been awarded the District Award of Merit. For his continuous service and dedication to the Scouts and the Scouting program, we readily nominate Stephen R. Rechten for the Vigil Honor.

## Daniel R. Robinson

Eagle Scout Dan Robinson has shown tireless service to Scouting and to the Order of the Arrow. Through his numerous years as a Scouter, Dan has helped many Scouts achieve the rank of Eagle. He has been through Wood Badge and served on Wood Badge Staff. He has also worked the past five years on NYLT staff. In his chapter, Dan has been extremely active as the Crossover Adviser and the Camp Promotion Adviser and currently serves as the Program Adviser. He has received the District Award of Merit, his chapter's Distinguished Arrowman Award, and the Silver Beaver. For his steadfast devotion to Scouting and the Order, we gladly nominate Daniel Robinson for the Vigil Honor.

## Ronald E. Tuley

Scouter Ron Tuley has consistently demonstrated service and devotion to Scouting and to the Order of the Arrow. He is a recipient of the District Award of Merit and both the Scoutmaster's Key and the Scoutmaster's Award of Merit. However, Ron's dedication to Scouting extends far beyond the troop level. He has been involved in the Order since becoming an Arrowman and, for the past several years has been serving as Chapter Ceremonial Team Adviser. For his tireless, behind the scenes leadership to the Order of the Arrow, we ardently nominate Ronald E. Tuley for the Vigil Honor.

## Joseph R. Vaughn

Scouter Joseph R. Vaughn has shown tireless commitment and service to the Scouting program. Serving as Scoutmaster Joe has taken his troop on multiple summer camps and weekend outings. He is true promoter of the camping and outdoor programs. He is involved with the special needs Scouts and has led them in completing service projects for their school, community, and OA ceremonial team sites. For his tireless dedication to the Order, the Scouting program, and its youth, we proudly nominate Joseph R. Vaughn for the Vigil Honor.

## Jonathan D. Wingo

Eagle Scout Jon Wingo has diligently served Scouting and the Order of the Arrow. He has been an active member of his chapter's ceremonial teams and has served as his chapter's Service Chairman and Second Vice Chief before holding his current position of Chapter First Vice Chief. Jon has also worked staff for the council's NYLT program, where he teaches Scouts the importance of servant leadership. For his exceptional contribution to the Order of the Arrow, we honorably nominate Jonathan D. Wingo for the Vigil Honor.

## Paul R. Winter

Scouter Paul Winter has unselfishly dedicated himself to the principles of Scouting and the Order of the Arrow. As a youth, he attained the rank of Eagle Scout. He has attended Wood Badge, received the District Award of Merit, and served on numerous camporee staffs. Paul has been a Chapter Adviser for the past five years. During that time, he worked diligently to maintain the vitality of his chapter by motivating Scouts to become active in the Order of the Arrow. Recently, he has taken on the role of Scoutmaster in his troop. For his tireless dedication to Scouting and the Order of the Arrow, we enthusiastically nominate Paul R. Winter for the Vigil Honor.