

 Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge #237   
Unit of Excellence Award

Dear Unit Leader,

Thank you for your service to the youth of the Boy Scouts of America. The Order of Arrow, as Scouting's National Honor Society, is committed to serving and supporting the Scouting program on all levels. The national Order of the Arrow committee is focusing on a concerted effort to create tools and develop resources for local-area Scout leaders. For the Order of the Arrow to provide the best support to units, we have created the Order of the Arrow Unit of Excellence recognition program.

This program incentivizes your unit to participate in local Order of the Arrow events, hold annual elections for those Scouts who are eligible for OA membership, and implement the OA Troop Representative Program. Our hope is that units that complete these criteria will benefit from the support programs that the Order of the Arrow has implemented to strengthen unit-delivered program. Units who qualify for OA Unit of Excellence recognition will be presented with a ribbon from your local lodge to be displayed on your unit flagpole. In addition, your unit's Troop Representative, Troop Representative Adviser, and Scoutmaster are eligible for awards associated with their roles in supporting the achievement of your troop's OA Unit of Excellence status. Requirements for the award are listed below.

As new members are elected into the Order of the Arrow from units, they experience leadership development opportunities that build upon the lessons learned in their units about living a life of character and leading by example. Lodge and chapter events are designed to improve upon the experience of OA members so that they can bring back greater value to the Scouts in their unit. The OA Troop Representative program offers a youth in your unit the chance to develop leadership and communication skills as an officer of the troop and bring greater connectivity between your OA lodge and the youth of your unit. To effectively implement the OA Troop Representative program, you should also appoint an adult leader to serve as an OA Troop Representative Adviser. The OA Troop Representative Adviser is a new, official BSA adult position of responsibility that has been created in conjunction with this award, and formally establishes the role for an adult to guide and mentor the youth Troop Representative.

If you have any questions about the Order of the Arrow or the programs your unit can participate in, please contact me.

In Scouting,




*Robert Ulrich*

Robert Ulrich, Lodge Chief  
lodge237@gmail.com



# Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge #237

## Unit of Excellence Award Criteria



### Leadership:

-  Implement the OA Troop Representative and the OA Troop Representative Adviser Program in your unit.
-  Every six months, ensure that the senior patrol leader appoints one scout to serve as Troop OA Representative and the Scoutmaster appoints one adult to serve as Troop OA Representative Adviser.
-  Feature an annual presentation at a Court of Honor by the Troop OA Representative on the Order of the Arrow with a focus on the accomplishments of unit members.



### Participation:

-  Promote lodge events and provide transportation to all Arrowmen wishing to participate.
-  At least 50% of unit OA members attend at least one lodge event other than their Ordeal, and at least one unit OA member attends 100% of full-lodge events.



### Elections:

-  Schedule a unit election with the chapter election team annually.
-  Hold an election and have 100% of elected Scouts complete their Ordeal.

### Planning:

-  Maintain an active planning process that prevents overlap between lodge and chapter events with unit events.
-  Review the local OA calendar with the Patrol Leader's Council during annual troop program planning and schedule unit events so that 100% of troop programs do not overlap with any full-lodge events.

### Conversion:


-  Demonstrate the depth of your unit's OA program through Brotherhood conversion.
-  At least 30% of eligible troop members seal their membership in the Order by converting to Brotherhood.

Contact [lodge237@gmail.com](mailto:lodge237@gmail.com) by December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017 to confirm that criteria has been met.  
Award will be presented to the unit at the Lodge Annual Banquet, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018


# Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge #237

## Order of the Arrow Unit of Excellence Leader Recognition


### Scoutmaster

-  Lead your unit in earning the OA Unit of Excellence Award three times during your tenure as Scoutmaster.

### Order of the Arrow Troop/Team Representative of Excellence:

-  Lead your unit in earning the OA Unit of Excellence Award during your tenure as a Troop/Team Representative.


### Order of the Arrow Troop/Team Representative Adviser of Excellence:

-  Advise at least two Troop Representatives towards earning the OA Unit of Excellence Award during your tenure as Troop Representative Adviser. Note: The OA Troop/Team Representative Adviser is a new, official BSA adult position of responsibility that has been created in conjunction with this award. Its purpose is to create the role for an adult to guide the youth TTR and be a 'voice of the Order' at the adult level in the troop structure.


## Award Design/Format

Units and unit leaders selected to receive the Order of the Arrow Unit of Excellence Award will be recognized at the Lodge Annual Banquet on January 6th, 2018.

### OA Unit of Excellence

-  National: Troop flag ribbon, per annum, Local: Lodge and council recognition


### OA Scoutmaster of Excellence

-  National: Certificate, Local: Lodge and council recognition

### OA Troop/Team Representative of Excellence

-  National: Gold-bordered Troop/Team Representative patch, Local: Lodge recognition

### OA Troop/Team Representative Adviser of Excellence

-  National: Certificate, Local: Lodge and council recognition

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