

Salt



Providing Resources to Support Units, Chapters, and Lodges

On July 31, 2007—the last night of the Order of the Arrow’s National Conservation and Leadership Summit—our National Chief gave a speech. In his speech, he related a story about the importance of salt to the human race.

Salt is a major ingredient that is used to season our food. When we use salt to season our food, it usually takes several shakes to spread multiple granules of salt onto the food. Everyone’s tastes are different, so not everyone will require the same amount of salt to provide the added seasoning to satisfy their taste buds.

In the early days, salt was used to preserve foods. Early settlers did not have the convenience of cold storage from refrigerators or freezers as we have today. They would use an abundance of salt to cover their meat to preserve it for later consumption.

Salt can also be used with water to create a mouthwash for sores you may have in your mouth. Simply rinse your mouth out with this salt and water solution to expedite and improve your oral health.

We have identified three attributes of salt: (1) It seasons, (2) it preserves, and (3) it improves. So how is salt related to our lodge? Why is it important to our lodge? Do we need salt in the lodge? Do we have salt in the lodge?

Consider each member a granule of salt. We need salt for the same reasons mentioned above. We need to constantly season our younger members for them to one day lead the lodge and chapters as youth officers and chairmen. Seasoned, older Arrowmen can provide help in continuing this seasoning process.

We need salt to continue to preserve our values not only in our lodge and chapters but also in Scouting and our society. Our values must be maintained and passed on in our future. Every year we should not be complacent to just do what was done the year before. We should strive to improve on what we did last year.

Salt is comprised of tiny individual granules and one granule is a start, but will not provide enough to recognize a huge difference. However, when we use multiple granules of salt, we begin to realize a difference and see results. I challenge you to band together like salt and help season our lodge, work to preserve our values, and participate to improve our lodge and the members in it.