Winter Festival

Kola Lodge’s Winter Festival is held annually in late January or early February. Comparable to the District and Council recognition dinners, this event is our chance to present the annual report of the Lodge and to recognize those who helped the lodge be successful over the prior year. The daytime activities of the event are scheduled similar to that of a Lodge Leadership Development. Any and all Lodge members are strongly encouraged to attend and celebrate with their fellow members and honored guests. This event is also where Kola lodge recognizes event chairs, chapter and lodge officers and advisers, and other important members of the lodge and council as well as the announcement of nominations for the Vigil honor. Before the Vigil ceremony, two distinguished awards are presented:

**James E West Fellowship:** Each year the lodge makes a donation in the name of an exceptional member of the lodge in honor of their outstanding service. These funds are directed to the council’s endowment fund helping to ensure the future of the council and lodge.

**The Founder’s Award:** This award, which can only be awarded once in a person’s lifetime, honors Arrowmen in the Order of the Arrow for unselfish service above and beyond their normal duties to their lodge. This is the highest award that can be awarded by the lodge.

- **What:** Winter Festival
- **When:** Late January or Early February (specific dates are included on the Council/Lodge calendar) of every year. Event Check- opens on Friday at 6:30 PM and again on Saturday morning. Saturday program begins at roughly 8:30 AM and continues until Sunday morning between 9:00 and 10:00 AM. Attendees are recommended to show up on Friday night and stay through Sunday morning, but may arrive Saturday morning or leave on Saturday night if necessary. The banquet itself starts at 7:00 PM on Saturday; guests and individuals only attending the banquet should arrive no later than 6:30 PM.
- **Where:** Hosting of Winter Festival rotates between each of the chapters in a semi-clockwise manner around the Council.
- **Why:** Celebrate accomplishments of the Lodge. Training/fellowship opportunities are offered as well.
- **Who:** Kola lodge members and guests.
- **How much:** $25.00 (guests are an additional $10 each) The lodge provides Saturday breakfast, lunch, and dinner as well as Sunday breakfast; attendees should bring a “sack-dinner on Friday night. Attendees may also register for the Friday-night LEC and pay an additional $5.00 for dinner.

Expected Uniforming = Full “Class A” Field Uniform and OA sash.

Gear/Equipment. Scouts staying overnight at the event should bring gear for same (sleeping bag and pad). Sleeping areas are generally indoors, however, outdoor (camping) may be available or required depending on specific event location requirements.

Transportation to and from the event is the responsibility of the individual scout, carpooling to the event is recommended, but all BSA travel and youth protection guidelines should be followed.

Attendees will need to bring a signed copy of an annual health and safety form (sections A and B) available at: [http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/healthandsafety/ahmr.aspx](http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/healthandsafety/ahmr.aspx)