

Time to Start Planning for the Summer
By Ethan Rein

I would be remised to not mention that as winter approaches, and we begin to long for summer, it is a good time to plan for the summer. The Order of the Arrow has great opportunities to go to Philmont or Northern Tier for two weeks in the summer to do service work and then go on a week long trek for a mere one hundred dollars.

There is also a great chance for college age Arrowmen (18-25) called Philbreak to spend a week helping restore Philmont form the terrible fires of 2001. This program costs only 50 dollars and takes place throughout the month of March. Anyone interested in learning more about these programs can check out <http://www.oa-bsa.org/programs/>.

I also encourage any scouts who are looking for a summer job to apply at one of our Council Camps, D-bar-A or Cole Canoe Base. As Scouting's National Honor Society, Migisi Opawgan has a history of providing the backbone of council summer camp staff. Interested potential staff members should check out the council web site (www.dacbsa.org) for

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“It was worth the effort,” says Philbreak Program Vice Chief and former Lodge Chief Sam Stocker. The 2003 Philbreak was a rousing success. It was full to maximum capacity with 72 people. Although Philbreak is a program organized by the Order of the Arrow, anyone registered with the BSA, mal or female, were encouraged to attend. Philbreak participants spend their week in New Mexico doing great service to the Scout Ranch, making great friendships with others from around the country, and even spending a day skiing at Angel Fire Ski Resort, all for only 50 dollars.

The dates for Philbreak 2004 have not yet been released. Check out www.oa-bsa.org/programs/philbreak for more information. Also, the Order of the Arrow Trail Crew at Philmont and Order of the Arrow Wilderness Voyage offer great service and brotherhood opportunities for Arrowmen



Migisi Calendar 2003/2004

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- Dec 3 Annual Dinner (Wapaneu)

February 2004

- Feb 13-15 Winter Fellowship
- Feb 14 Lincoln Pilgrimage

April 2004

- Apr 23-25 Spring Ordeal
- Apr 30-May 02 Section Conclave

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- Oct 29-31 Fall Fellowship and Training
- Oct 30 7:30 am Vigil Breakfast

Lodge Executive Board Meetings are the third Wednesday of each month except July and August. For Calendar updates and more details: www.migisi.org

Have you paid your 2004 Registration yet?

Don't miss out on the fun! Pay your registration now and you can attend all these events! If you were inducted before Fall 2003, your registration for 2004 is due now.

Chapters

Mahican

Greetings Brothers,

The Chapter has been very busy this fall, with the Fall Conclave, and the Fall Fellowship. We are also getting ready to have the 2004 Chapter Officer elections on November 20th. Five members of our chapter comprise half of the Migisi Opawgan 2003 Vigil Class, Geoff Booth, Paul Kupser, Brian Lenz, Zach Polifroni, and Jamie White.

There are also six Arrowmen from Mahican Chapter running for Lodge office at the Annual Dinner, so come on out and choose your 2004 Lodge Leadership Team.

YiB,

Jamie White
Mahican Chapter Chief
Section C-2A Media Chairman

Committees

Communications

The Communications Committee is constantly working on improving the Lodge website. Large numbers of pages are going to be converted to PHP over the next few days. This will make site design and content changes a lot easier in the future. We've converted even more of the history to a database driven approach, allowing add your own memories and awards (even non Order of the Arrow Awards). The list of Vigils is updated and nearly every other section on the History page has been updated. If you find something you think is missing, please tell us, especially if it's for the calendar or it's newsworthy. Our view of The Eagle Pipe and the Website are pretty much the same - we are publishers of content. That means if we don't get content, we don't publish much. On the other hand, if we do get content, we pretty much publish it. If you find any problems with the Lodge website, please e-mail us know as soon as possible so we can get it fixed because chances are if you found it, so will someone else.

YiB

Ricky Naida, Andrew Hooker, and Steve Donohue
Migisi Opawgan Communications Committee

Ceremonies and Dance

Brothers,

We had a great conclave with four ordeal ceremonies teams performing. Keep up the good work, guys! The brotherhood ceremony was a real inspiration- it truly showed the spirit of brotherhood, with the lodge coming together to make sure it happened. Special thanks to everyone who performed. (Matt Elias, Ryan Lang, Ken Marriot, and Nathan Petrusak) Thanks for the effort Mahican. Although we had no brothers looking to seal their membership at the Fall Fellowship, the Mahican chapter ceremonies team was on hand and prepared to serve! I really appreciate the effort guys! We need more teams like you around! Honorable mention to the Lowaneu Kuwe Chapter's drum and dance teams. The Chapter held a dance demonstration at the Fall Conclave Saturday night by the dining hall, and then again surprised us by bring out the drum and singing at Fall Fellowship Saturday afternoon!

-Jay Whitmer

Lodge Ceremonies and Dance Adviser

Committees cont.

Service Committee

With the year slowly coming to a close, we get the opportunity to look back upon all the great events and activities that have taken place. When people think of the great Migisi lodge I truly hope that they also think of the amazing Service we perform. Our Arrowmen over this past year have been hard at work once again trying to fulfill their obligations of cheerful service, and what a good job they did. Arrowmen completed many hundreds of hours of service at our camps as well as in their local communities, giving generously of their time and efforts. The year at D-bar-A started out with the January Service Weekend and the much needed help of cleaning up after the worst ice storm that has hit Michigan in quite a long time. The Service Committee would wholeheartedly like to thank all of our members who graciously participated in the Service Weekend the first weekend of every month during the school year. Without your hard work and spirited attitudes many of the projects we've accomplished this past year would have never been completed. Many miles of fence were painted black, many trees and limbs were chipped away, erosion walls constructed, chapel benches built, war canoes revarnished, barns painted red, and whole ton of other projects completed because of YOU. If you didn't have the chance to go out to D-bar-A on one of the first weekends of the month this past year, then maybe you might be able to fit one into your busy schedules this coming year! The help is always very much appreciated, and many of the projects the lodge completes will continue to have an impact on campers for a very long time. Have a great Christmas!

-Service Committee-

Lodge Officer Candidate Letters

Dear Migisi Brothers,

My name is Chris Szybisty and I am running for the position of Lodge Chief of the great Migisi Opawgan lodge. For the past year, I have served as the Wsigau chapter chief. I am currently a member of Troop 2001 out of Redford where I am their troop representative. I served as my troop's SPL for two years before becoming active in the order. I was Wsigau's elangomat chairman for a year and a half before being nominated to run for chapter chief. I attended the 2003 National Leadership Seminar in Cincinnati, Ohio, where I learned a great deal about what it takes to be a leader and how I can improve myself, my team, and those for whom I work. I am a junior at Detroit Catholic Central High School and a member of its debate team where I have learned that you should always work hard to benefit others.

Throughout my years as a scout, I have been preparing for a large-scale leadership role of this caliber. All of my experiences throughout scouting, school, and extracurricular activities would be utilized for the benefit of the lodge and its members if I am elected to lodge office. I have learned how to work as a team to accomplish great challenges. I will push for greater communication between the section, lodge, chapter, troop, and you, the scout, so that we may accomplish more than ever and have more fun in 2004! As a chapter chief, I understand the importance of the lodge-chapter relationship and I wish to serve each and every one of you through your chapter. I fully understand that the order could not survive without the support of you, the youth of our lodge. You are the most important element. I wish to not only serve you but to represent you and the great Migisi lodge in everything that I do and everywhere I go. For this reason, I ask of your support in the upcoming election. Together, we can make Migisi the best it can be in 2004!

Yours in Brotherhood,

Chris Szybisty

Greetings Brothers!

My name is Jamie White. Some of you may know me, while a lot of you probably don't. I have been nominated by one of our brothers for the office of Lodge Chief. As you probably know the elections for Lodge offices are held at the Annual Dinner. I just want to take this opportunity to let you know a little bit about me and my Scouting history.

Since I joined Troop 1104 in September of 1998, I have served as Patrol Leader, ASPL, Troop Guide, SPL, JASM, and Assistant Scoutmaster. In the spring of 2000 the members of my troop chose me as a candidate for membership in this esteemed Order. I completed my Ordeal at the 2000 Spring Conclave. At the next Spring Conclave I sealed my membership by becoming a brotherhood member, and I received Eagle in July 2001. I was elected Executive Vice Chief of Mahican Chapter for the year 2002 and received the Rutherford Award that year also. This year I have served my chapter as Chapter Chief and was the Ordeal master for the Spring Ordeal, I was also selected as a Vigil Honor candidate of 2003, and just recently appointed as the Section C-2A Media Chairman.

Some other facts about me: I was home schooled, I own a horse, I love shooting sports, and I'm somewhat of a computer nerd ;-).

In closing, I have had a lot of leadership experience both in and out of Scouting, from leading a Patrol of eight... to a troop of 80...to a Chapter of 277...and I believe that I have developed the skills to pilot one of the finest lodges in the nation to even higher levels than ever before.

Thank You,
James L. White
Section C-2A Media Chairman

Greetings My Brother, for those of you who do not know me my name is Jason Smith and I am running for the position of Executive Vice Chief of the great Migisi Opawgan Lodge 162. Let me tell you some of my qualifications and background. I have been an active scouter since tiger cubs with pack 273 and as a bear transferred to pack 399. I am now currently a Life scout in Troop 399. In just my 3rd year as a scout, I was elected into the O-A. In my first ever Chapter meeting I was elected as Wapaneu Chapter Treasurer, and at my Lodge Executive meeting, also that year, I nominated and then ran for Lodge Treasurer. Last year I received both the Arrowmen service award and the Honor Chapter award with the great Wapaneu Chapter. For the past two year, I have worked on D-A summer camp staff. I am also currently a sophomore at De La Salle were I participate in Cross Country, Track, and Band. I hope to see everyone at the Annual Dinner and have an exciting 2004.

Yours in Brotherhood,
Jason Smith

Greetings Brothers

Many of you already know who I am. However, there are some of you who don't. Therefore, I wish to tell all of you a little bit about myself. My name is Robert D. Gillette, and I am 17 years old and I am in the 11th grade at Warren Woods Tower High School. I am involved in many activities, some of which include; Drama Club, Musical, Tennis and National Honor Society. I am also very active in band, whether it is marching, concert or jazz band. During my free time in the summer, I have worked at D-A, since the summer of 2001, where I was a C.I.T.

It is my desire to be Lodge Chief for the great Migisi Opawgan Lodge 162. Here are just a few of my qualifications; I have been involved in the scouts since 1st grade, when I joined Pack 1423 as a Tiger Cub. After Cub Scouts I joined Troop 1969. I have been a member ever since. I am currently in the works of finishing my eagle; I am in the planning stages of my project, and plan to finish as soon as possible.

I became a member of the Order of the Arrow in the fall of 1999. At my very first chapter meeting, I was elected as the Treasurer for the Wapaneu Chapter. In my second year in the Order, I was elected to Executive Vice Chief for my chapter. During this year, I sealed my membership in the Order and became a Brotherhood member of our Lodge. My third year, I was elected Chapter chief. This past year, I have served as the Lodge Vice Chief of Activities. Also, it was in this year that I was elected as a Vigil Honor member of our Order. During these 4 years in the Order, I have obtained countless leadership skills. I feel it is time for me to take my big-

Greetings Brother,

Most of you probably know me as Ricky Naida. I currently serve as the Lodge Communications Chairman, putting together our wonderful quarterly publication, *The Eagle Pipe*, and working on our award winning website, www.migisi.org. At the Fall Ordeal I was nominated by one of you for the position of Lodge Secretary. I would like to use this space to introduce myself to those of you who don't know me.

I started out in scouting as a Tiger Cub in first grade. I went on to earn my Bobcat, Wolf, Bear, and Webelos badges as well as my arrow of light. I crossed over into Troop 1232 of Gibraltar in April of 2000. Since then i have served as ASPL, SPL, Scribe, Den Chief, and I am currently the Troop Guide, OA Rep and Librarian. I am a Life Scout, but my Eagle Board of Review is on 11/17. In December of 2001 I was elected to the O-A by my troop mates and I went through my ordeal in at the fall ordeal in 2002. I made Brotherhood in July, 2003. I also worked as a C.I.T. at D-bar-A Scout Ranch this past summer.

Some non-scout related stuff about me: I am a devoted member of my Church Youth Group. I am a Freshman at Carlson High School in Gibraltar. I played on Carson's freshman football team. Most of what's left of my time is devoted to build and fixing other people's computers, setting up networks, and taking care of my 25 pets.

I hope that if you didn't you do now. I also hope that you find me a good candidate for Lodge Secretary. I believe that because of the past leadership skills i hold the discipline to be a member of the exec board. Don't forget to buy your tickets for the Annual Dinner so you can vote Ricky Naida for Lodge Secretary. Thank You.

Good of the Arrow

Area 2 Leadership Training Conference

By Ethan Rein

March 26-28, 2004 will be a weekend of epic proportions. It is the weekend of the first ever Area 2 Leadership Training Conference. This will be an event where members of every Order of the Arrow Lodge in Michigan and part of Ohio gather to be trained by some of the best trainers the Central Region has to offer.

There will be classes for every Arrowman. The weekend will boast a variety of training classes and a chance to meet lots of new people and spend time at the beautiful Camp Rotary in Claire, Michigan. The Conference will run from Friday evening to Sunday morning. The event will cost about 24 dollars, and a form should be available soon. For more information, check out www.sectionc2a.com or contact Ethan Rein (ethan@migisi.org).



Fall Fellowship

FELLOW BROTHERS IN THE WIMACHTENDIENK,

It would be, my greatest folly if I were not to say that this years Fall Fellowship was a true blue (Go MICHIGAN!) Blast! This Autumn Gathering of our brothers was a time of great significance. It was an adventure of greater importance than those of you who did not attend can ever know. Training was superb, the activities were stupendous, and the comradery was sensational.

I would like to once again congratulate out 8 new vigil members. If any of you see any of these dedicated Arrowmen bearing there brand new bright and shiny sashes be sure to greet em' with a cheerful smile! I send special thanks to Jason Rhiew for his work with the training aspect Friday night and Saturday Morning, Dan Swan for his organization of the afternoon games, my own pappy Jeff Gerald along with Ricky Naida, Bobby Gillette and my fellow brothers in Lowaneu Kuwe who worked in the kitchen. Along with my most personal thanks to Don Van Damme and Jay Whitmer for the help and support they gave me during the Friday night ceremonies, I could not have done it without you guys.

Again, this weekend was another class act of fun under the banner of the big 162.

Your Brother,
Kyle Gerald (Kaak Mehamentschit)

Fellowship Training

The training at the Fall Fellowship thanks to the great trainers that making things happen. Starting on Friday night with Mr. Clement presenting Youth and Adult Relations, Chris S. presenting The Chapter: making the OA mission a reality, and George B. with Stuff a Lodge does. Early Saturday morning Identify, Recruit and Retain was presented by Mr. Alderman and Ethan R, Time management/ Goal Setting Session by Mr. Clement and Dave B Jr. The final training session was presented by Mr. Lang tang teamed with Mr. Gerald presenting What We're Going to do and When, with the youth training by Ricky N. and Dan S presenting Communications, along with Dave B Jr. and George B presenting Innovative Programming. I would also like to thank Mr. Schlemmer for this support through out the planning stages. I would also like to thank Mr. Cormier, Mr. Gerald and Mr. Donohue for providing materials for the presenters. Thank you to the youth at came out to the Fall Fellowship and participated in the activities.

Lodge Advising is a lot of Work

by Ethan Rein

In the 64 year history of Migisi Opawgan, there have 20 times when the lodge adviser has changed. This annual dinner will mark the 21st of these historic events. The job of lodge adviser is a hard one. The lodge adviser acts as a coach counselor to the Lodge Chief and the other officers and appoints all the other advisers.

Joel Clement, the current lodge adviser will be stepping down after three years of great service to the lodge as the adviser, in addition to his other year and years of service to the lodge. Joel is a Vigil Honor member of the Lodge and a recipient of the Harold Oatley Service Award who has also served as an associate lodge adviser under Harold Hanna. Most recently, Joel received the Founder's Award last year. Joe Retzbach will be taking over the job of Lodge Adviser at the Annual Dinner. Joe Retzbach is a brotherhood member of the Wsigau Chapter has a great record of service to the council, as a scoutmaster in Northville, a national jamboree scoutmaster and as an active member of the National Jamboree Committee. The new year will bring a new chief and a new lodge adviser. It will be an exciting year indeed.

2003 Vigil Class

by Ethan Rein

The 2003 Migisi Opawgan Vigil Class is really a great group of guys. These Arrowmen, who have served the lodge in many great ways, include former Achowalagen Chapter Chief Ricky Mazyck, Mahican Chapter Chief Jamie White, the super sweet Paul Kupser, Mike Ruzala, the man who revolutionized Migisi Opawgan's service to D-bar-A, Lodge Vice Chief of Activities and former Spirit Chairman Zach Polifroni, Wapaneu Chapter Adviser Bill Marriot, Lodge Vice Chief of Activities and past Wapaneu Chapter Chief Bobby Gillette, Lodge Secretary Geoff Booth, and Wsigau Associate Adviser John Morgan. These are great guys, and very well deserving of the Vigil Honor.

NOAC 2004

by Ethan Rein

Every two years, the Order of the Arrow meets at a college campus. This National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC) is a great time for Arrowmen to go receive some amazing training, participate in awesome activities and see some of the best shows in the history of the BSA. Anyone who is not sure if they should go to this event should simply take a look around the room at his next chapter meeting. Most assuredly, there will be some Arrowmen sporting lodge flaps from the last NOAC, a full year and a half ago. Not only are these flaps really cool, the people still wearing them had such a good time that they want to keep that flap on. These Arrowmen would love to tell other people about their NOAC experience. Any one who has ever had fun at a section conclave should look into going to this year's NOAC. There are many of the same elements, including the fun, but magnified by at least

The Lincoln Pilgrimage 2004: A Return to Glory

By Ethan A. Rein

The Lincoln Pilgrimage began as a way for Migisi Opawgan, Order of the Arrow Lodge 162, to celebrate Abraham Lincoln and have a nice weekend in 1959. Later, Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts were invited to enjoy fun games and honor Lincoln. Every year, the Lodge keeps up this Tradition.

This year, the lodge would like to cordially invite every Boy Scout Troop, Venture Crew and Cub Scout Pack in the Council to Come up to D-bar-A on February 13th to enjoy a day filled with games and tribute to a great president.

The event will be 6 dollars a person. Registration begins at 10 AM, and the event will run until 3 PM.



**www.
migisi
.org**

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