

## Message from the Chief

Dear new member,

Congratulations on becoming a member of Migisi Opawgan Lodge 162, the BSA's Honor Society for the Detroit Area Council. It is a great honor you received to be chosen above your peers to become part of something greater than yourself.

We hope you will help set the example as an Order of the Arrow member and lead your unit to new and uncharted territories. Your primary responsibility is to your unit, its membership, and their program.

The OA provides many opportunities for you to gain knowledge and learn new skills on a variety of scouting subject from some very knowledgeable people. I encourage you to leverage this wonderful asset to improve yourself and your unit. We also have fun at some very special Chapter and Lodge events throughout the year.

I challenge you to become involved. While supporting your unit, attend your Chapter meetings, volunteer your knowledge and skills, and in turn you will be rewarded. We are here for you.

Welcome to the Migisi Opawgan Lodge.

Yours in Brotherhood,

Jason Smith  
Migisi Opawgan Lodge Chief



## A Brief History of Migisi Opawgan Lodge

Migisi Opawgan began humbly on June 26, 1939 with members inducted at Camps Brady and Howell. At the summer's end, 70 arrowmen were inducted, with Andrew Watson selected as the first Chief. The name Mi-Gi-Si O-Paw-Gan and corresponding totem, an eagle with a piece pipe were selected in 1941. In 1997, the lodge voted to remove the hyphens from the lodge name, however, the National OA still shows us chartered with them.

The names of the first chapters of the lodge were Howell and Brady, after the two council camps. Since then the names and numbers of chapters has varied greatly. A clan system was put into place in the 1970's to administer conclaves at D-bar-A, Charles Howell (CHR) and Cole Canoe Base. Due to declining membership in the 1980's, the clan system was abandoned and the current Elangomat system was established for managing Ordeals.

Migisi Opawgan has been involved in numerous service projects to benefit council camps in its 65+ years of history. Early service work included a Lodge and American Legion sponsored Arrow Lodge at Charles Howell Scout Reservation. The lodge has also sponsored the Pedro Trail and the construction of the Trout Lake Fire bowl in 1990, which was later added to in spring 2003 at D-bar-A Scout Ranch. Migisi Opawgan has also been involved with the Council Cabin Endowment Program to help remodel and update older cabins.



Early in lodge history, activities took place at CHR and Camp Brady. After Camp Brady ceased to be a council camp, lodge activity moved to CHR and D-bar-A Scout Ranch, including the second state conclave in 1949 and a 20th anniversary celebration at in May of 1959, both at Charles Howell. Since the sale of CHR in 1987, D-bar-A has become the center of the lodge's camping activities. The lodge also supports Cole Canoe Base near Alger, MI and the Thomas D. Trainor Scout Museum at D-bar-A Scout Ranch.

Migisi Opawgan has been the host of the Lincoln Pilgrimage for over five decades and continues other traditions including winter camping, outstanding service and participation at Section events and National Conferences.

The Lodge newsletter has taken many forms in the history of Migisi Opawgan. For 45 years, it was the *Tally-Ho*. *The Peace Pipe* was published until *The Eagle Pipe* became the lodge Newsletter in 1987.

## The Challenges of Brotherhood Membership

1) Memorize the following signs of membership in the Order of the Arrow:

### The Obligation:

I do hereby promise, on my honor as a Scout, that I will always and faithfully observe and preserve the traditions of the Order of the Arrow.

Wimachtendienk, Wingolauchsik, Witahemui.

I will always regard the ties of Brotherhood in the Order of the Arrow as lasting, and will seek to preserve a cheerful spirit, even in the midst of irksome tasks and weighty responsibilities; and will endeavor, so far as in my power lies, to be unselfish in service and devotion to the welfare of others.

### The Order of the Arrow Song:

Firm bound in Brotherhood, Gather the Clan

That cheerful service brings to fellow man.

Circle our Council fire, Weld tightly every link

That binds us in Brotherhood, Wimachtendienk.

### The Admonition:

It was given to you at your Ordeal. If you forgot it, ask another member.

### The sign of Ordeal Membership and the OA handclasp:

These were also given to you at your Ordeal. If you forgot them, ask another member.

- 2) Read and understand the signs and meanings of the tests you went through to complete your Ordeal.
- 3) Have been a registered Scout or Scouter since your Ordeal for 10 months. Strive to fulfill the Obligation by continuing and expanding your service to your Troop.
- 4) Keep O-A dues paid and develop a plan for service to the Lodge. Brotherhood membership involves a pledge of service to the Lodge, including attendance at events such as meetings and conclaves.
- 5) Review your progress on the four challenges above, then write a letter addressed to the Lodge Secretary in which you will state the following:
  - a) Explain what you think the Obligation means to you.
  - b) Describe how you have been fulfilling this Obligation in your Troop and daily life, and how you have used your understanding of the Ordeal to aid you in this service.
  - c) Give a specific plan for giving services to the Lodge.

## Important information for your Order of the Arrow involvement

**My Ordeal Date:**

**Date eligible for Brotherhood (10 months after Ordeal):**

**My Elangomat's name:**

**My Elangomat's contact information:**

- **Phone:**
- **eMail:**

**My Chapter is (check):**

- Achowalogen** (Motor City District)
- Lowanue Kuwe** (Northridge & North Trails Districts)
- Mahican** (Three Rivers & Huron Districts)
- Wapaneu** (Michigami & Lakeshore Districts)
- Wsigau** (Sunset District)

**My Chapter Chief and his Adviser's name/phone**

- **Chief:**
- **Adviser:**

**Monthly Chapter meeting time and place** (available on the lodge website calendar at [www.migisi.org](http://www.migisi.org)):

- **Location:**
- **Time:**

## 2008 Lodge Leadership

	Lodge Officers	Lodge Adviser & Assoc. Advisers
Chief	Jason Smith*	Mr. Joe Retzbach*
Executive V-Chief	Andrew Curtiss	Mr. Harold Hanna
V-Chief Activities	James Montour	Mr. Eric Behrmann
Secretary	David Fry	Mr. Steve Donohue
Treasurer	Pawel Jarosz	Mr. Bruce Maxim
Council Staff Adviser		Mr. Dave Morosky *

\* Lodge Key 3

Operating Committees	Youth Chairman	Adviser
Awards	Nick Popp	Mr. Ken Mills
Brotherhood	Josh Herrmann	Mr. Corey Curtiss
Camp Promotion	David Genevich	Mr. Rick Stoner
Ceremony & Dance	Gabriel Church	Mr. Jeff Gerald
Communications	Matt Seychel	Mr. Joe Kelly
Elangomat	Andy Scheffer	Mr. Bill Licht
Service	Shaun Range	Mr. Ken McCormick
Training	Daniel Ghastin	Mr. Don Ray
Unit Services - OA Troop Rep - Unit Elections	tbd	Mr. John Teran

Special Committees	Youth Chairman	Adviser
History	tbd	Mr. Gordon Draper Mr. Ethan Rein
Vigil Honor	Chris Szybisty	Mr. Mike Bien

Support Committees	Support Adviser(s)
Health & Safety	Mrs. Sharon Teran
Resale	Mr. Adam Jewell
Webmaster	Mr. Steve Donohue
Membership	Mr. Miles Church Mrs. Irene Church



## 2008 Lodge Calendar & Meeting Dates

For up-to-date information, visit the [www.migisi.org](http://www.migisi.org) calendar.

Date	Event	Location
May 2-4, 2008	C2A Section Conclave	Camp Agawam, Lake Orion
May 16-18, 2008	2008 Rendezvous Camporee	Willow Metropark, Huron Twp, MI,
May 28, 2008	Lodge Executive Committee Mtg	First United Methodist, Dearborn
May 30-June 1	Service Weekend @ Cole (Ordeal)	Cole Canoe Base
June 18, 2008	Lodge Executive Committee Mtg	First United Methodist, Dearborn
July 2, 2008	Trail to Eagle Ice Cream Social	D-bar-A Scout Ranch
August 3, 2008	Lodge Leadership Mtg - LLC	Mt Hope Congregational, Livonia
August 20, 2008	Lodge Executive Committee Mtg	First United Methodist, Dearborn
September 17, 2008	Lodge Executive Committee Mtg	First United Methodist, Dearborn
September 19-21, 2008	Fall Conclave (Ordeal)	D-bar-A Scout Ranch
October 15, 2008	Lodge Executive Committee Mtg	First United Methodist, Dearborn
October 24-26, 2008	Fall Fellowship & Elections	D-bar-A Scout Ranch
October 25, 2008	Vigil Honor Breakfast	D-bar-A Scout Ranch
November 15, 2008	Lodge Leadership Development	Dauch Scout Center, Detroit
November 19, 2008	Lodge Executive Committee Mtg	First United Methodist, Dearborn
December 3, 2008	Annual Dinner	tbd - Wapanue Chapter host



[www.jumpstart.ou-bsa.org](http://www.jumpstart.ou-bsa.org)

Jumpstart for new arrowmen is a special area of the National Order of the Arrow website. It a great place to learn about the Order of the Arrow for those Scouts who have been inducted into the Order of the Arrow.

This website will help answer any questions you may have about your Ordeal, the Trail to Brotherhood, Order of the Arrow programs and the history of the Order of the Arrow.

The password to get in to the Jumpstart website is fifth word of the title on page 10 of your *OA Handbook*. (Use all lower case letters, no spaces, no quotes, no punctuation.)

## Migisi Opawgan Lodge Song

(In the tune of the University of Michigan Varsity song)

Migisi O-paw-gan  
We're for you.  
We'll *cheer* for you!  
We are the brothers of the *finest* Lodge!  
Sing it *louder* now!!

Mi-Gi-Si O-Paw-Gan  
We're Detroit!  
We'll show our *might!*  
We proudly come to you  
Lodge One-Six-Two!



Migisi Opawgan is our lodge name. It translates to 'Eagle with Peace Pipe' in the language of the Chippewa Indians. Thus, our totem is an eagle and a peace pipe.

# Migisi Opawgan Lodge 162 Detroit Area Council



## 2008 New Member Handbook

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(Arrowman's Name)

A product of the Lodge Communications Committee  
[www.migisi.org](http://www.migisi.org)