

# Takachsin Lodge ~ 2015 Annual Report

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- Journey to Excellence level “GOLD”
- Membership 252 (highest in 6 years)
- Ordeal Induction Rate 100%
- Brotherhood Induction Rate 33.3%
- OA Service Projects by Lodge Members 2,699.5 hours
- Lodge donation to the Friends of Scouting \$900

2015 has been an incredible year for the Takachsin Lodge and we provide this report as a summary of the events and accomplishments from the past year.

In January, we conducted the annual Lodge Leadership Development weekend at Cary Camp. We had all our officers in attendance for the training sessions, as well as a couple adults. It was a great weekend to learn and plan for the upcoming year's events.

The Winter Klondike was conducted at Cary Camp in January with very mild temperatures. The outdoor events were about the mud instead of snow. There was a great youth turnout to compete in the numerous events, including four-man skis, obstacle course, and sled race. The OA enjoyed being the cooks and servers for all those in attendance.

In February the OA had representatives attend the Lincoln Pilgrimage in Wabash, Indiana. This was a great opportunity to introduce scouts to our organization and to help out with activities.

In April, the Lodge attended the OA Conclave at Camp Belzer in Indianapolis. We had ten youth attend this event, as well as 5 adults. It was a great opportunity to receive training in a variety of areas, as well as participate in a lot of fun activities. This was a great weekend for everyone who attended and we are looking forward to next year.

In May, we conducted our Spring Ordeal at Cary Camp. The weekend started out with a lot of rain for those several youth and adults camping under the stars. The weather improved for the work projects which provided 318 hours of cheerful service. There were also four new Vigil members honored.

In late May, we attended the Scout Night at Victory Field. A group of six youth and four adults headed to Indianapolis to watch the Indians play baseball. After the game there were fireworks and a movie before we pitched our tents in the outfield and spent the night camping. This was a great event and we look forward to doing it again.

During the months of June and July the Lodge assists at Summer Camp with numerous projects throughout the summer. It is a great opportunity to assist that camp and sometimes the community by completing cheerful service. The lodge also conducted weekly ceremonies to announce those being called to join the Lodge. The Lodge Camp Coordinator was also responsible for beach parties, root beer floats and movie nights for all campers. These are all

great ways to get scouts involved with the OA members attending summer camp and introduce new members to the group. During summer camp we completed 127 hours of cheerful service.

The highlight of 2015 was the National Order of the Arrow Conference. This would be a great event to attend anytime, but the fact that it was the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the OA made it incredibly special. It was fantastic that we were able to send a lodge contingent of 15 youth and 5 adults to Michigan State University to enjoy a week of training, seminars, events and activities. Many of the youth participated in track and field, football, BMX bikes, human fooseball, rock climbing, and obstacle courses. There was patch trading and bands playing. The nightly shows provided great entertainment as well as information and inspiration. It was a great week of memories for all those who were able to attend.

In early August a couple of the OA members assisted the Council with their Council-wide Cub Scout Recruitment Night. These members were available at Galveston Elementary School to help register new youth into the Cub Scout program.

In August we conducted our Fall Ordeal at Camp Buffalo and we were very excited by the attendance. The weather was fantastic and there were a lot of improvements made within camp by all the work projects. We completed 934.5 hours of service during the Fall Ordeal. We also recognized three new Vigil members during this great weekend.

In November, the OA conducted their Fall Fun Fellowship at Camp Buffalo. This event was attended by 30 youth and about 12 adults. The theme was Jedi Knights of the Sash and included numerous events such as talent show, karaoke, lodge ball, etc. There was just enough snow to make the outdoor activities entertaining and the indoor activities a welcome break. It was a fun event and we look forward to planning next year's Fall Fun Fellowship.

The 2015 Winter Banquet was held on December 12, 2015. This event had more than 60 people registered and included a number of events such as patch auction, silent auction and trading post. There were special presentations about the National Order of the Arrow Conference and a review of the lodge history. The 2015 awards recipients were Tressa Bowman (Founder's Award), Mathew Bowman (Founder's Award), Bill Hart (Francis Lee Award), and Nathan Diemen (Francis Lee Award).

Overall this was a successful year for the Takachsin Lodge. We participated in many familiar events and a couple new events. We also sent a ceremony team to a troop campout to conduct an induction ceremony, which was different for us. Over the course of the year we completed over 2699.5 hours of service for the Council, which is an increase of 1225 hours over last year.



## Takachsin Lodge, Sagamore Council #162

Service Hours Summary Report

Dues Year – 2015

Event	Location	Date	Hours
2015 Shooting for Youth Education	Camp Buffalo	08/29/15	136.00
2015 Cub Scout Recruitment Night	Various	08/27/15	9.00
2015 Fall Ordeal	Camp Buffalo	08/14/15	934.5
2015 NOAC	Michigan State Univ.	08/03/15	100.00
2015 Summer Camp	Camp Buffalo	07/19/15	127
2015 Spring Ordeal	Cary Camp	04/17/15	318.00
2015 Lincoln Pilgrimage	Wabash	02/06/15	44.00
2015 Trade-o-Ree	Indianapolis	02/06/15	32.00
2015 Winter Klondike	Cary Camp	01/23/15	574.00
Arrowmen Service Awards	Various	12/31/15	425.00
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,699.50</b>
	Previous year- 1,444.50		

We also increased our membership again this year by 10%. This gives us the highest membership rate in at least 6 years. We have an ordeal induction rate of 100% and increased our brotherhood conversion rate to 34%. These statistics show that we continue to move in the right direction and that our lodge is thriving.

