

# SMOKE STONAL



Special Edition!

Now  
Digital



IN THIS ISSUE:

**Another Fall Fellowship in the Books**

**Our 2021 Vision and Goals**

**How to be an OA Rep**

**AND MORE**

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF



DZIE-HAUK TONGA LODGE

ORDER OF THE ARROW

# Winter Banquet

Rescheduled for Saturday March 13th.

Open to Arrowmen, Families,  
Scouters, and all!

\$15 for those attending in person  
for the dinner.

We will have an in-person dinner  
option as well as a live-stream of  
the Awards and Pretensions on our  
Facebook Page.

Dinner Starts at 6:00  
Awards Start at 7:00

Pulled Pork dinner!

Mater Dei Assumption Hall  
204 SW 8th Ave,  
Topeka KS 66603

Award Ceremony will include  
Recognition of officers,  
Presentation of Founders Awards,  
Other Lodge Awards,  
Updates on the lodge,  
and more!



# The Smoke Signal

## LODGE LEADERSHIP

### YOUTH:

**LODGE CHIEF**  
Andrew Kirmer  
**LODGE VICE-CHIEF**  
Kyndra McGinley  
**LODGE SECRETARY**  
Nathan Basaldua  
**LODGE TREASURER**  
Ethan Kebert

## OREGON TRAIL CHAPTER CHIEF

Clayton Pilsl

## SHAWNEE CHAPTER CHIEF

Nate Waters

## SAJADI CHAPTER CHIEF

Caleb Maley

## ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN

Brenner Pilsl

## CAMPING PROMOTIONS CHAIRMAN

Tres Faith

## CEREMONIES CHAIRMAN

Charles Edington

## INDUCTIONS CHAIRMAN

Otto Huff

## AMERICAN INDIAN AFFAIRS CHAIRMAN

Ayden Smith

## PUBLICATIONS CHAIRMAN

Josh Evans

## SERVICE CHAIRMAN

Caden Rossillon

## UNIT ELECTIONS CHAIRMAN

Jakob Kebert

## VIGIL CHIEF

Samuel Mazas

### ADULTS:

#### LODGE ADVISER

Matt Riley

#### STAFF ADVISER

Ian Lamb

#### ACTIVITIES ADVISER

Lynda Riley

#### CEREMONIES ADVISER

George Waters

#### LODGE MASTER

Mark Hinds

#### AMERICAN INDIAN AFFAIRS ADVISER

Brock Lowman

#### PUBLICATIONS ADVISER

Irene Haws

#### SERVICE ADVISER

Brian Fugate

#### TREASURER ADVISER

Reed Davis

#### OREGON TRAIL CHAPTER ADVISER

Joseph Pilsl

#### SHAWNEE CHAPTER ADVISER

Thomas Bagley

#### SAJADI CHAPTER ADVISER

Tony Leek



Paul R, Josh E, and Brenden F. before a campfire at Camp Jayhawk this past summer.

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## From the Chief

## From the Adviser



**During the times** of Covid-19, the 2020 Fall Fellowship was an amazing turnout. We had a great ordeal class, and a good number of members seal their brotherhood. Thank you to all that attended and welcome to our new Arrowmen!

At our LLD in November we were able to set some goals and plans for improving the lodge. One of our biggest goals is to improve communication. Right now our primary method of communication is Fac ebook which has had some problems recently.

The biggest effort we will be trying to make is increasing our OA Unit Representative program. Both Arrowmen and Scoutmasters should be on the lookout for more info about OA Reps.

I have been working with our chapter chiefs on working towards making our chapters more active. The goal is to have chapters holding regular events/service projects that Arrowmen can attend for their respected chapter. If you have ideas or would like to get involved, please reach out to your chapter leadership.

I am looking forward to working with everyone on the challenges we face and the upcoming elections. I have high hopes that we will be able to have better and more successful elections and activation rate this year.

WWW  
Andrew Kirmer  
Lodge Chief  
Dzie-Hauk Tonga Lodge

**Happy New Year!** I hope everyone is healthy and doing well. I want to thank all our lodge members for your support this past year.

I am very proud of the youth and adults who stood up to this year's challenges and turned it into a great year. Our youth didn't let pandemic define or stop them from being great leaders wanting to have fellowship and fun. They followed Covid-19 protocols and held safe events.

I am very proud of our lodge members who served on summer camp staff this year. They faced challenges never seen before at camp. Despite dealing with Covid-19 and other adversities they had a successful summer camp.

In June we held a Vigil weekend at FSR. We inducted five new Vigil members. Thanks to all the arrowmen who helped put on the event.

Our Fall Fellowship in October had eighty-four lodge members attend. Our LEC put on a great event. I am very proud of all the members who had the courage to run for office. A big shout out our new Ordeal, Brotherhood Members and new lodge officers.

Our annual Lodge Leadership Development was held in November at FSR. We had a good turnout and a great time. We learned some new things and also talked about making changes and improvements. I want to thank all the presenters and members who attended.

I want to take the time and thank all the current and past advisers. Without your help we couldn't have this program for the youth.

With an energetic LEC and great advisers, I am looking forward to a great 2021.

WWW  
Matthew D. Riley  
Lodge Adviser  
Dzie-Hauk Tonga Lodge



# From the Editors



Hello everyone! My name is Nathan Basaldua and I am your 2020-2021 Lodge Secretary. My goals for this year is to make communication for the Lodge the best it can be and to assist the Lodge in anyway possible. Please enjoy this edition of the Smoke Signal and don't be afraid to contact me with any questions you might have about anything!

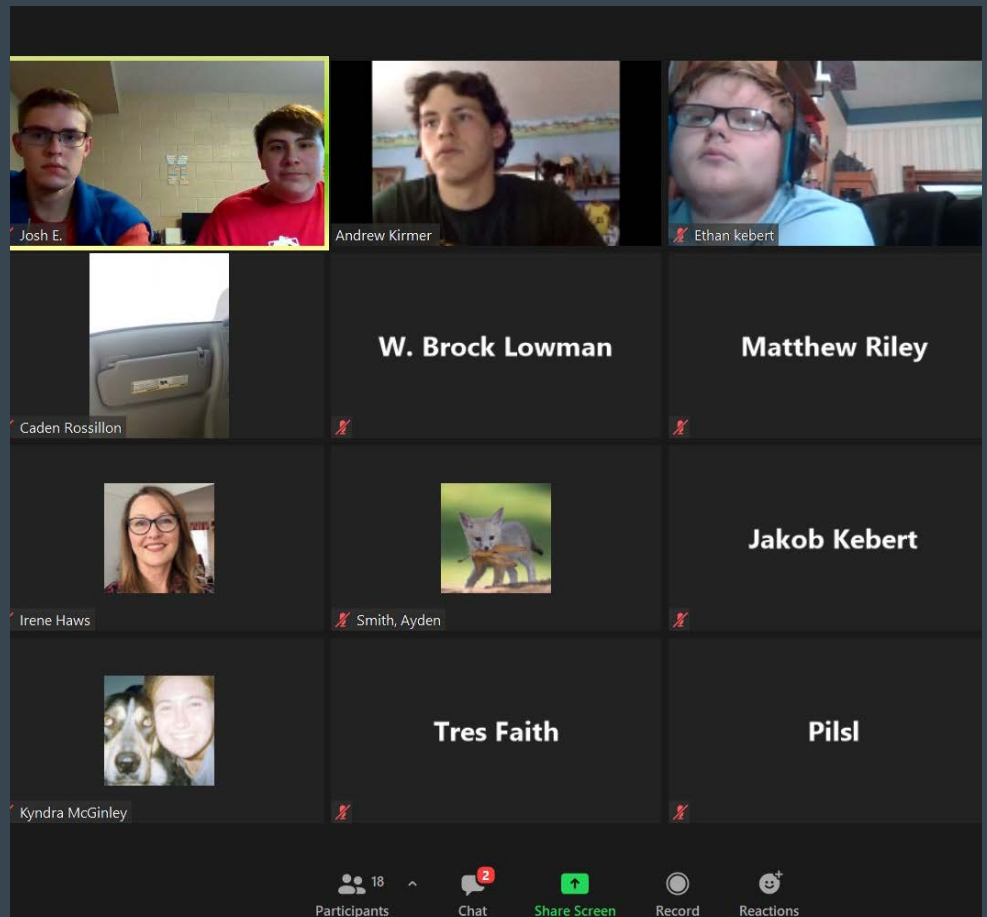


Greetings, from your 2020-2021 Publication's Chairman. Like Nathan, my main goal for the Lodge is to work on our communication. One of the ways we can work on that besides this Special Edition Smoke Signal, is by reviving our OA Representative program and by hearing more from you. Make sure after reading this Smoke Signal that you remember anything you learn and let us know your thoughts.

## Lodge Executive Committee 2020-2021

The Lodge Executive Committee Consists of the Lodge's Key 4, Committee chairmen, and their advisers. All of these arrowmen meet on the first Sunday of the month. This group discusses the plans to make the Lodge run and the logistics of the Lodge. The normal meeting place is at our council's office, but due to COVID-19, we have been fully online meetings via Zoom. The Zoom meeting to the right was taken at this past meeting.

Anyone can become involved! Make sure to follow the Lodge's posts on Instagram, Facebook, and GroupMe. We would love to see you at the next meeting!



# Thunderbird Mythology



The Thunderbird were said to be so large that they could carry a whale in their talons.

A Thunderbird could carry an entire lake on its back. This lake is a possible source of the rain a Thunderbird was said to bring.

Many Great Plains tribes saw the Thunderbird as a summer creature and the opposing force to the winter White Owl.

Depending on the myth, Thunderbird could refer to single entity or to an entire race or tribe.



Myths suggest a Thunderbird had the power to turn people to stone.

Some myths suggest that a Thunderbird had a second face in the center of its chest. Other legends suggest this face was that of the two snake it carried that produced the lightning.

Many legends say that by removing a cloak of feathers and removing their beak like a mask, a Thunderbird could walk among humans unnoticed.

In its human form, a Thunderbird could be discovered by its tendency to speak backwards.

A single feather was so large, it had to be folded in half to fit a quiver.



Source: [www.mythology.net/mythical-creatures/thunderbird/](http://www.mythology.net/mythical-creatures/thunderbird/)

# Introducing the 70 Year Anniversary Lodge Flap



This past year was one full of world events. One of these events that happened may have not been noticed by some people. Our Lodge is now officially 70 years old! This is a very major accomplishment for us. It could not have been possible with all of our brothers and sisters, past and present, putting forth dedication and leadership to keep Dzie-Hauk Tonga where it is now. To commemorate this major accomplishment, we have decided to make the next official lodge flap! This design was created by our 2020-2021 Vice Lodge Chief, Kyndra McGinley, and was voted on by the Lodge Executive Committee. Be sure to watch our social media pages and your emails for updates on how much it will cost and when it will be available.

Can't wait to see this flap worn. Here's to another 70 years!



# Another Fall Fellowship in the Books

On the weekend of October 2nd, our lodge hosted our annual Fall Fellowship. This was the only one that the Lodge hosted this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic starting in the spring. A total of 88 people attended the event. Despite all of the social distancing rules, many bottles of hand sanitizer used, and using different campsites, everyone had fun. Saturday started off with a 3k run that multiple arrowmen took part in at 6:45am! The ordeal candidates did a fantastic job spending their Saturday working hard and staying silent. The ordeal candidates weren't the only ones doing work. All arrowmen spent their morning clearing dams throughout camp. In the afternoon, a fishing competition was held. The food was fantastic and the Ceremonies team was great. The night ended off with the election of our 2020-2021 Lodge officers. Thank you to all came out and we hope to see you at Spring Fellowship!



Arrowmen enjoying their dinners after a long days work



Ordeal Candidates spending their day working on service projects around Falley Scout Reservation

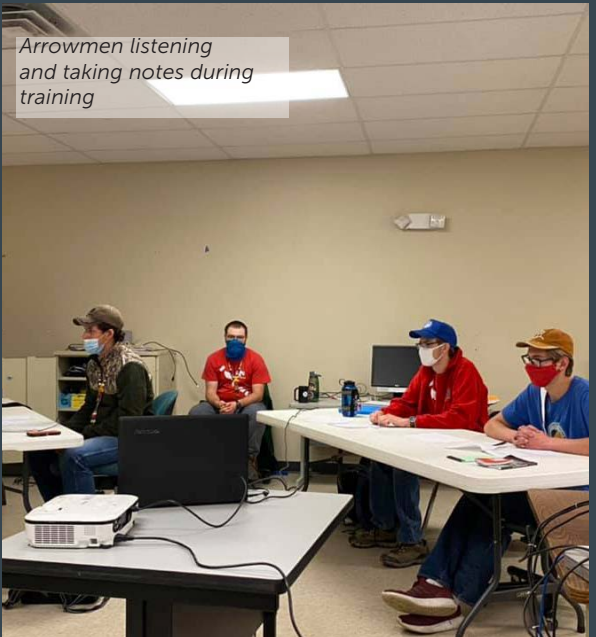
Newly Elected officers leading Lodge Executive Council Meeting



# Learning at Lodge Leadership Development



Our annual Lodge Leadership Development was held on the weekend on November 20th at Falley Scout Reservation. The weekend consisted of great food and many useful trainings. Some of our new Lodge chairmen and other arrowmen attended the event. Most trainings were in person but one was conducted via Zoom. Arrowmen learned how elections worked, learned more about how data for the lodge is collected through LodgeMaster, set goals for our lodge to achieve this next year, and learned more about how the Lodge Executive Committee functions. During this time together we also discussed details about launching a new website. Thank you to everyone who came and learned valuable information!



Arrowmen listening and taking notes during training



# Our Vision and Goals for 2021

At the past LLD in November, amongst our trainings and discussions, we discussed what we wanted our Vision and Goals for the next year to be. One of the things that influenced our decisions was knowing the mission of the Order of the Arrow and therefore, our the mission of our Lodge.

*The mission of this lodge is to fulfill the purpose of the Order of the Arrow as an integral part of the Boy Scouts of America through positive youth leadership under the guidance of selected capable adults.*

Keeping the mission in our minds, we decided on the following for our 2021 Vision:

*By the end of 2021, Dzie-Hauk Tonga Lodge sees itself better playing the integral role in Jayhawk Area Council as set to us in our, and the National OA's, Mission Statement by improving our membership, communication, activity involvement, camping promotion, and organization.*

Below are the our 2021 Goals that will be the stepping stones to reaching our vision.

## 1. Membership:

- A. Host OA elections for more than 50% of the units in JAC by Fall Fellowship.
- B. Get and train 3+ Election Teams (1+ per chapter) by March who will be able to work to help schedule and conduct the OA elections.

## 2. Communication

- A. Continuously improve the Lodge Website. Rebuild the website to be more user-friendly, provide more useful information that more people will use.
- B. By the March LEC, verify/update contact info for lodge members and their preferred method of contact.
- C. Move the Lodge's main from of contact away from Facebook and to a more accessible method. *Note: This does not mean we will stop pointing on the Facebook page. Facebook posts will transition to posts more along the lines of "Check out the Lodge's website for new info about Fellowship"*
- D. Get OA Unit Representatives for every unit with Arrowmen by the April LEC. Use the Communication with the OA Reps and OA Rep Advisers to increase the direct communication with our members.

## 3. Greater Involvement and Activities

- A. Push Chapters to effectively plan and carry out their monthly activities and Service Projects. Use the OA Reps and Chapter meetings, along with multiple forms of communication to get the desired attendance.

## 4. Camping Promotion

- A. Under the direction of Tres, the Camping Promotion's Chairman, create a *Guide on Where to Camp* for camping spots withing the region.
- B. In addition to scheduling Unit elections, schedule Camping Promotion visits to at least 75% of the Troops in council. *Note: Theses visits can be to promote FSR, the values of camping, specific camping skills, show off the new Lodge Camping Guide, or interview the unit for content for the Lodge Camping Guide.*

## 5. Organization

- A. Make important and useful information more accessible to lodge members.
- B. Make event schedules by the LEC before the event and have them available for event promotion.

*Note: any goal that doesn't have a specific deadline is either a continuous goal or a goal to complete by the end of the year.*

# How to be an OA Unit Rep

So you've become your unit's Order of the Arrow Representative. Now what? Or maybe your unit doesn't have an OA Rep. This article is here to guide you on how to be an effective OA Unit Representative and how representatives help both the unit and the Lodge.



The OA Rep's primary job is to act as the liaison between the unit and the Lodge and Chapter. Below is a list of some of the OA Rep's Duties:

- Serve as a communication link between the lodge/ chapter and the unit.
- Help plan Unit Elections and Camp Promotion visits.
- Encourage year round and resident camping in the unit.
- Encourage older Scout participation in high adventure programs
- Encourage Scouts to actively participate in community service projects
- Assist with leadership skills training in the unit.
- Encourage elected OA candidates to complete their induction.
- Encourage Arrowmen to assume leadership positions in the unit.
- Encourage Arrowmen in the unit to be active participants in the lodge and/or chapter activities.
- Sets a good example.
- Enthusiastically wears the Scout uniform correctly.
- Lives by the Scout Oat, Scout Law, and OA Obligation.
- Show Scout Spirit

In today's age with the many different communication input on things. Have methods our lodge tries to your Arrowmen participated

implement to communicate to the lodge, one could think that the OA Rep's job is diminished to what it had been. However, it is still just as important! An effective OA rep should make sure that the members in his or her unit are getting the updates form the lodge. In addition, while the LEC tries to do it's best in communicating to the lodge, it is difficult for us to get information back. Whether that is in the form of making sure your unit's OA members are registered for the next Fellowship or Winter Banquet, or making sure their dues are paid and up to date, it is important to make sure our Arrowmen are up to date on everything.

One way to make sure that you, as an OA Rep, are up to date on the latest news from the lodge is to also make sure you are up to date with your chapter. We really like OA Reps to attend any chapter meetings so we may communicate with you

in a chapter service project?

If you don't know who your OA rep is, FIND OUT!, If you unit doesn't have an OA rep, look into becoming one yourself!

If you are or become your unit's OA Representative, make sure to check out our website for more information and for the *Registration From For OA Reps* so that the Lodge knows who the Reps are.

## Become an OA Unit Representative Today!



# Guide on Where to Go Camping

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## Coming Soon

In many councils across the BSA, the OA lodge is in charge of creating and maintaining a *Guide on Where to Go Camping*. This guide is to help Troops, Crews, and Packs in planning their events.

In hopes of publishing the first edition by the end of the year, our Camping Promotions Chairman Tres F. is taking up the challenge of leading the guide's creation.

Please go to the google form at the link to the right to submit your campground information. Alternatively you can scan the QR code with your cell phone.



<https://forms.gle/BpzUS2CXySqBW36PA>

This is the type of information we are looking for.  
If you don't know everything fill out what you can.

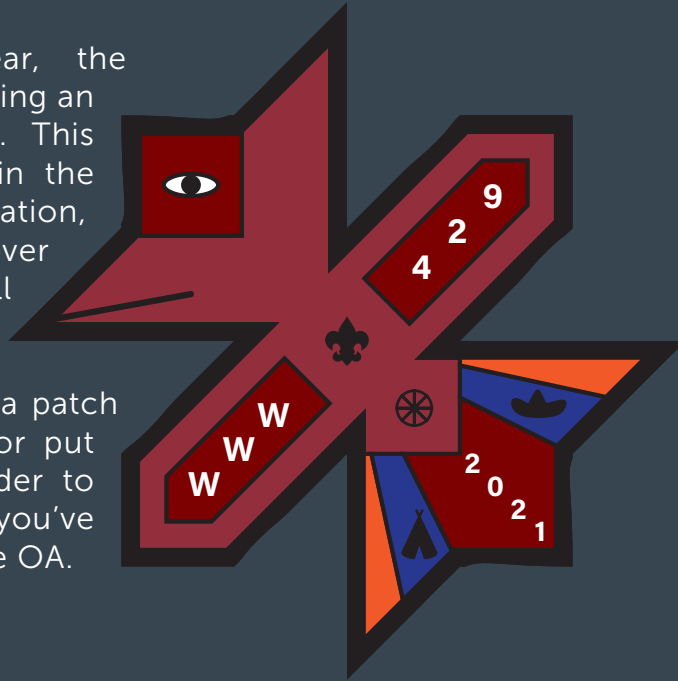
- Where is the camping location and any good tips on how to get there.
- General description of the site/area.
- Good for Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturers, all?
- List of good activities for the site (ie: picnic, sightseeing, day hike, over-night camping, long-term camping, high-adventure, geocaching etc.)
- Facilities available (eating places, fire pits or similar, water, electric power, toilets, shelters, etc.)
- Site regulations (permits required, fees charged, fire regulations, etc)
- Special Features (swimming, boating, hiking trails, nature study area, fishing, conducted tours, etc.)
- What does your unit like to do there? Do you go for a specific reason?
- What does your unit like best about the camping area?



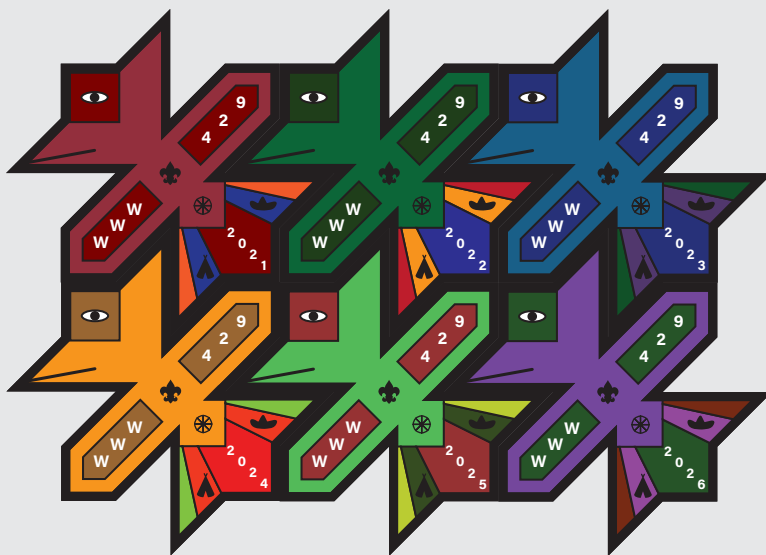
# Time to Pay Your 2021 Dues!

Once again it is time to pay your annual OA dues. It is important for the lodge that you do this in a timely manner so that we will better know who in the lodge is active. Go to [www.jayhawkcouncil.org/OA/TradingPost](http://www.jayhawkcouncil.org/OA/TradingPost) to pay your \$15.

Starting this year, the lodge is introducing an annual Year Patch. This patch is destined in the shape of a tessellation, meaning that, over time, you can fit all your Year Patches together. Maybe you'll put them on a patch jacket or blanket, or put on pages in a binder to see all the years you've been involved in the OA.



**Pay your dues by April 1st and get this patch for only \$5.00**



One possible group of patches.  
Future designs are subject to change

So how much does it cost? Well, it depends. If you pay your dues by April 1st, you will be able to purchase the patch at the minimum cost of \$5.00. But if you missed the mark and didn't pay your dues on time, in addition to paying your dues, you will have to pay the increased price of \$15.00.

# Unit Elections

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Are you ready to help with Elections?

Once again it is time for one of the most important parts of the OA: Unit Elections. This year some temporary changes to unit elections have been implemented because of the pandemic (Visit [www.oa-bsa.org](http://www.oa-bsa.org) for details).

We are looking for arrowmen who are willing to help with unit elections for this election cycle. It's a simple job and a great way to implement some cheerful service.

If you have never helped with an election before, it's really simple. After scheduling an election (the lodge will handle the majority of this process) you simply have to show up to the unit's meeting. An Adviser and at least one other youth will be there to help.

The first part of any election is describing what the OA is, how we focus on cheerful service, and how it is for those scouts who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives.

After talking about the OA, you then say who is eligible (the unit leader will help with this) and you have the scouts fill out a ballot. With the help of the adviser and other OA member helping with the election, you then count the ballots. For most units, at this point you then will announce who was elected in and tell them about what to expect next ("Come to the next Fellowship").

There's a few more things to know but that's the majority of it. We have experienced Arrowmen there to help you every step of the way.

Elections don't take long and this year may even be virtual through zoom making it easy to help conduct an election and then get back to your unit's meeting.

If you are interested in helping with or learning more about unit elections, please email:

[dziehauktonga@gmail.com](mailto:dziehauktonga@gmail.com)

While you are waiting to hear back from us about helping with elections, make sure to ask your unit if they have their elections scheduled.



# Shawnee Chapter December Service Project

Back in December, Shawnee Chapter had their service project with some fun bell ringing for the Salvation Army.



Nathan B. doing *the Worm*.



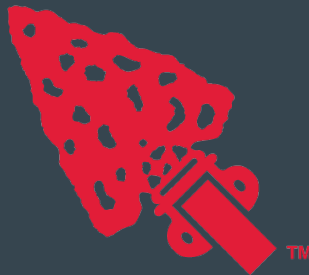
"He who Serves his  
fellows is, of all his fellows,  
greatest."

-- E. Urner Goodman --

# Important Dates

March	13	Winter Banquet
April	9-11	Section Conclave
April	TBD	Ordeal Candidate Virtual Info Night
April 30 - May 2		Spring Fellowship

LECs are the first Sunday of every month at 2:00 at the Scout Office (or virtual)



DZIE-HAUK TONGA LODGE

ORDER OF THE ARROW