HUGE SUCCESS—Conclave 2017

The section conclave 2017 was held for the first time in over 50 years at Camp Buffalo on April 7th thru the 9th. A conclave is the gathering of the lodges in our state and happens once a year. It was a HUGE success in many ways. First it was the largest attended conclave in at least the past 10 years, with over 244 Arrowmen plus additional shooting staff made it go to nearly 255. Takachsin had 78 paid members and another 10 guests (shooting sports, etc.) which as Steve Bowman, Lodge Advisor, indicated that is either 30% of our end of year registration or over 50% of our current paid registration.

We had beautiful weather, we had great training and activities, and excellent food on top of that. All lodges complimented us on how well it came off. We even had a member of our lodge become a sectional officer, something that hasn’t happened all that often in the past 44 years.

There was much behind the scenes work done by many to make it a success. Estimates are that members of our lodge spent over 250 hours of planning, meetings, and work along with over $2000 of money being spent (most un-reimbursed). The first 50 who registered got a special orange T-shirt along with a special Takachsin issue replica of the 1966 section patch.

Host Lodge CVC (conclave vice chair) Lucas Bowman said “a big thank you goes to all those who helped with making this a success”. Host Lodge CVC advisor Chris Birk was heard to say “Takachsin means Leader, and no doubt we have led our section in receiving Gold JTE and in a huge attendance (the largest any lodge has done in the past 10 years) at our conclave, again it shows that Takachsin is a leader”. Having arrowmen present to take incoming lodges to their campsites was a great addition. Basically what Takachsin did was look at last year’s conclave and looked how we could improve it and set forth a plan.

Whether you participated in shooting sports which Don Harper and his crew headed up, or lasso the cow or lodge ball or AIA events or the morning trainings, there was plenty of activities going during the conclave. Saturday night, the section put on a great show and on Sunday morning, Matthew Bowman received the sectional RD Dunkin Leadership Award. This award is to recognize outstanding lodge and section/national related efforts.

Lucas Bowman was elected Section Vice Chief during the annual sectional elections. In our lodge history only a couple other people have ever held a sectional office. Lucas came very close to beating out the incumbent section chief, which could have put him on a potential path to be either regional or national chief. When a lodge has a sectional officer, it reflects on the quality of that lodge. We can take pride in our Lodge. Takachsin means LEADER!

Spring OA Weekend

You may have noticed that we no longer call it Ordeal weekend, for our Spring and Fall weekends are not just “ordeal” weekends, but a time for all members to come to camp and give in cheerful service, for we are the Brotherhood of Cheerful Service. The Spring OA weekend is May 12-14, 2017 at Cary Camp.

Remember that you need to have Parts A and B of the physical form filled out and brought with you. You can get a copy of this form over at takachsin.org under forms.

Proposed Bylaw Changes

During the LLD (Lodge Leadership Development) training held last January, the LEC (Lodge Executive Committee), did their annual review of the bylaws. During this review they found items they wished to change. And so if you go to http://www.takachsin.org and click on resources on the left nav and you will see proposed bylaws-2017 hyperlink, you will be able to see on this pdf the proposed changes which will be voted upon at the Spring OA weekend during the lodge meeting. Most of them are simple changes like changing adviser to advisor, and removing references to chapters which we do not have, along with a clarification of voting procedure.

Patches, Patches, Patches

At the Spring OA Weekend, there will be voting done on the Fall OA weekend patch, along with the patch for Fall Fun Fellowship, our NOAC 2018 patches and our 45th Anniversary Lodge flap. If you are interested in designing patches to be considered, please bring them to the Spring OA weekend.

Ceremonialists still needed

At the Spring OA weekend, we are still in need of those who will be a ceremonialist. See inside this newsletter about the new lodge flap we have for such. If you can do this contact Eric Chauret at vcinductions@takachsin.org. Adults if you are interested in being the ceremonial advisor for a particular ceremony contact Chris Birk at ceremonialadvisor@takachsin.org Your job would be to coach and advise the ceremonialists. We are going to have a ceremonial advisor training in the near future in our lodge. Watch the lip for more details.
Lodge Helps Out Summer Camp

If you have ever been to a summer camp program in the campfire ring, both when the staff do their skits or the OA does the callout, many times it is hard to hear. The lodge working with the camp director Billy Rood, has purchased sound gear that will greatly enhance the program. Ours is the honor camper society, and in the tradition of our lodge, we help our camping program.

New Ceremonialist Patch

The LEC (lodge executive committee) approved a special lodge flap that can only be earned by those doing ceremonies, including the advisor to the ceremony. This will include callouts, Pre-Ordeal, Ordeal, Brotherhood, Pre-Vigil and Vigil Ceremonies. Below is a picture of the patch.

Did you know?

- If you haven’t been to a ceremony for awhile, you may wonder who is this “new TEE kit” guy, and what happened to “new ti kit”? National has changed the proper pronunciation for Nutiket to be “new TEE kit” and so to be accurate, we too in ceremonies have done such. This was in full force at NOAC 2015 and was implemented by national a year or two earlier than that.
- Well, I hear some folks call elangomats by “EE Ling ga mats” and some say “EE lan go mats” and so which is it? The proper pronunciation according to the latest printed brotherhood handbook is “EE lan go mats”, where it is “lang” like Langley not “ling”.
- Last summer at summer camp, when our new candidates were called out, they weren’t told to be on silence like I was when I was called out. Did the call out team make a mistake?
- No they did not. One of the ten principles of induction as found in your handbook is called symbolic progression. What this is, is that you do not reveal or do things until the appropriate ceremony. As you know being on silence is one of the tests of the Ordeal, revealed in the pre-ordeal ceremony. So putting newly called out scouts on silence breaks symbolic progression, so we no longer do that.
- Have you ever noticed that the 4 principal people in the call out are referred as the chief, guide, etc. not the names that we know them in the Pre-Ordeal/Ordeal, etc. That too is purposefully that way, because of symbolic progression.
- Can a person who has been elected go through their ordeal PRIOR to being called out, that is they were elected in March, and went through the Spring OA weekend and then got called out at summer camp? Absolutely, as the call out is only recognition and is not required at all to be inducted into the OA.

2017 Executive Committee/Officers

- Lodge Chief- Nathan Demien chief@
- Lodge Vice Chief of Programs- John Kelsey vcprograms@
- Lodge Vice Chief of Induction- Eric Chauret vcinductions@
- Treasurer- Bryce Borden treasurer@
- Secretary- Kyle Eenigenburg secretary@
- Lodge Committee Chair (Vigil)- Lucas Bowman vigil@
- Lodge Advisor- Steve Bowman lodgeadvisor@
- Lodge Associate Advisor (Inductions)- Chris Birk & Don Harper
- Lodge Associate Advisor to Membership – Brad Rody
- Vigil Advisor- Chris Birk
- Lodge Associate Advisor of Commissary- Craig Burholder
- Lodge Committee Advisor (Finance)- Doug Whitham
- Lodge Website Advisor- Vicki Triplett
- Lodge Staff Advisor- Chas Triplett
- Email addresses are shown in red, add takachsin.org to them, such as chief@takachsin.org

Troop Elections/Callouts

If your troop needs an OA election , contact Brad Rody. We will be doing a Call out at the Council Camporee and of course summer camp. You can email brad at unitelections@takachsin.org

Are you getting our emails?

If you are not receiving our emails, it might be the email address we have for you is no longer accurate. If you aren’t getting them, drop an email to: lodgeadvisor@takachsin.org with your correct email address.

Vigil Selection

If you are a brotherhood member who has been a brotherhood member for at least 2 years, you are eligible to be considered for Vigil Honor. The Vigil Honor Committee will meet at the Spring OA Weekend, and only those whose 2017 dues are paid are eligible to be considered. The Vigil Honor induction will take place at the Fall OA Weekend.

The Vigil Honor is a high mark of distinction and recognition reserved for those Arrowmen who, by reason of exceptional service, personal effort, and unselfish interest, have made distinguished contributions beyond the immediate responsibilities of their position or office to one or more of the following: their lodge, the Order of the Arrow, Scouting or their Scout camp.

Thank You

The lodge would like to thank all who helped or attended with the conclave. A special thank you goes to:

Those that helped serve meals, those who assisted as guides, those who cleaned up afterwards, Vicki Triplett, Brad Rody, Carson Rody, Steve Bowman, Tressa Bowman, Matthew Bowman, Lucas Bowman, Chris Birk, Kyle Eenigenburg, Nathan DeMien, Chas Triplett, Billy Rood, Cree Gerlach, Cook Sue and Staff, Craig Burkholder, Don Harper and his shooting range staff. And those who helped that we haven’t mentioned. Without the efforts of our Arrowmen, we could NOT have been a great host lodge which contributed to the success of this conclave.
Lodge Advisor’s Corner

A friend of mine told me the following story.

“As a man was passing by some elephants, he suddenly stopped, confused by the fact that these huge creatures were being held by only a small rope tied to their front leg. No chains, no cages. It was obvious that the elephants could break away at any time from their bonds. For some reason, they did not. He saw a trainer nearby and asked why these animals just stood there and made no attempt to get away. “Well,” trainer said, “when the elephants are very young and much smaller we use the same size rope to tie them.

At that age, it’s enough to hold them. As they grow up, they are conditioned to believe they cannot break away. They believe the rope can still hold them, so they never try to break free." The man was amazed. These animals could at any time break free from their bonds but because they believed they couldn’t, they were stuck right where they were.”

Like the elephants in the above story, how many of us go through life hanging onto a belief that we cannot do something, simply because we failed at it once before? Failure is part of learning; we should never give up the struggle in life. I have seen how the Order of the Arrow has helped youth break away the ropes that have held them back. OA provides training, experience, and builds confidence.

I have seen shy youth find new friends at Lodge events. I have seen timid youth volunteer as Elangomats and gain the respect of other to lead clans on work projects. I have seen youth at summer camp brag about what they have accomplished for the camp during Ordeals. I have seen a youth that was afraid to raise his hand in class to become a polished speaker through his experiences in the Lodge.

I have seen youth that were afraid to tell you their name become great speakers through the confidence of performing ceremonies. I have seen young lodge officers make mistakes, learn from them, and become great leaders. You get much more from OA than people realize. OA is the place for people to step out of their comfort zone and break the rope that is holding them back!

Steve Bowman
Lodge Advisor email: lodgeadvisor@takachsin.org

Lodge Chief’s Corner

Hello Brothers:

I am very proud of how Conclave went this year. The event as a whole had record turnout making our Conclave the largest in over 10 years. Not only that, but we also brought a record number of contingent members just from our Lodge. The only thing I can say is wow! Awesome job everyone!

We are continuing to get ready for the Spring OA Weekend. Almost everything the LEC can do is done. Now it is time for you to make your mark! We are having a patch design contest that will end at the OA Weekend. This could be your chance to have a permanent mark on the Lodge.

Overall, I would say that this year is going extremely well. Recently we had our conclave CVC, Lucas Bowman, elected to a Sectional Office. Not only that, but it appears we are on track to earn yet another Gold JTE. It would be awesome to be one of 3 Lodges in the nation to have received Gold JTE for 4 years in a row; as I said in my speech, it would not be my JTE nor my Advisors’ nor my father’s it would be everyone’s JTE as you guys make this organization what it is and make it a strong and awesome Lodge. Keep up the good work!

Yours in the Order,

Nathan DeMien
Lodge Chief email: chief@takachsin.org

Upcoming Events-Calendar

May 5-7 Council Spring Camporee (callout)
May 12-14 OA Weekend at Cary Camp
June 28-29 Cub & Webelos Adventure Camp, Lodge helping staff.
Summer Camp, call out each week.
July 30—LEC meeting at Cary Camp

For more information on these events and our full calendar, see takachsin.org

Lodge Lip

The Lodge Lip is published 6 times a year, at the end of the even months (i.e. February, April, June, August, October, December) and is sent to those whose dues are current.

NOAC at IU in 2018...

The National OA Conference will be held in July 30-August 4, 2018 at Indiana University, and registration should begin in August 2017 and only those in our lodge whose dues are paid can register. There will be registration limits placed on the lodges. The cost will be around $500 a participant.
Our “bull” ride being tried out by an Arrowman. This was designed by Steve Bowman, after someone suggested a mechanical bull.

Our new section officers, L to R: Lucas Bowman, Vice Chief; Michael Kipp Chief and James Colter Secretary

Members of Takachsin Lodge lowering the flags.

Lodge Chief Nathan DeMien getting ready to “take one” for the Lodge.

The extra fun our lodge chief gets by being chief.

Our Bear Scholarship winners, Joshua Boruff & Anthony Czerniak

A few photos of the Section C6A conclave held at Camp Buffalo April 7-9, 2017. This was the largest attended conclave in at least 10 years, and Takachsin Lodge brought more members than any other lodge in the past 10 years. Every Takachsin Lodge member who helped with the conclave or who attended are to be congratulated. Members of our lodge put on one training course on ceremonies. It was a fast paced weekend that included training, shows, activities and GREAT FOOD. Unfortunately, we did not register 100 Takachsin members, so Lucas, Steve and Billy did not have to jump into a very cold Liberty Lake as they said they would do if we got 100 registered. (grin).