



Kanwa tho Lodge 2023 Annual Report



CHIEFLY REFLECTIONS

The Order of the Arrow, as an integral part of the Boy Scouts of America, continues to play a vital role in today's world despite the rapidly changing landscape. Positive youth leadership guided by selected capable adults keeps the cycle of leadership and mentorship alive and well in the world. We have been a small part of the Order's 100-year history, being a younger lodge of 10 years, but the impact we have had is more than 2,000 Arrowmen in the Milwaukee, Racine, and Kenosha area but also around the world. Wherever you are, the Order of the Arrow will always have a place for you, welcoming you back into our brotherhood.

My ordeal and brotherhood played a crucial role as I developed to be a better leader but also as an Arrowman. The Ordeal that we all go through, unites us. In a world where division and opposition seem all too common, the Order of the Arrow is dedicated to unifying Scouts and Scouters to live a life through the Scout Oath and Law, emphasizing the message that living your life through the Scout Oath and Law will allow for others, inside and outside of the movement to see why we are still here. The lodge is dedicated to keeping this message of unity through fellowship, the induction process, and friendships that last a lifetime. To the leaders of tomorrow, trust yourself. You were chosen for a reason, and although that reason might not be known at the start of your journey, you can find it in the Order of the Arrow. No matter how big or small of an impact you leave, you have served your fellows and "those who serve their fellows, is of their fellows, greatest." Leadership is not about the title: it is inspiring someone else to grow and become a better person.

2022 and 2023 were years of regrowth and refocus in the Order of the Arrow. The success of NOAC 2022 and the involvement of the Order of the Arrow at the National Jamboree 2023 have seen an increase of members coming back to our brotherhood. Service will always be readily given, but creating relationships with others will keep the Order of the Arrow and our lodge around for decades.



Yours in the Wimachtendienk,
Evan Smazal
2023 Lodge Chief



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ANNUAL REPORT CONTRIBUTORS

- VICKI DUBIS
- TYLER GERDS
- STEVEN GERDS
- EVAN SMAZAL
- WILLIAM STEINGRABER
- ELUWAK CHAPTER
- TEHINK SIPU CHAPTER
- WIKIAK SABBELEU CHAPTER

LODGE ADVISER REFLECTIONS



The 11th of Kanwa tho Lodge saw several changes in leadership. Vicki Dubis took over as Lodge Adviser replacing Ken Walton who retired from the position after serving for the previous five years. Madilynn Puetz, the Lodge's first female Chief, was elected in May of

2023, and Cory Weber took over as Staff Adviser in July of 2023.

We achieved Thriving Status for 2023 with the noted activities:

Between Chapter events, Service, Lodge Executive Committee meetings, and Lodge events we averaged one Lodge event each week.

Our service included Storm clean up at Oh Da Kota, College of Commissioner Science, Sturtevant Egg Hunt, Scouting the Zoo, Haunted Hayride, Salvation Army Bell Ringers, Food Drive and toiletries for Milwaukee Homeless Veterans, Trade O Ree take down, Conclave and Fellowship Camp Service.

We had 3530 Service hours which averaged to 7 hours per Lodge member.

Lodge Leadership Development was attended by 34 people which was 7% of the Lodge trained.

In 2023 we had 92 units- Troop and crew. 69 elections were completed from 92 units. 110 youth and 11 adults were elected. 65 ordeal youth and 10 adult members completed their Ordeal. 26 Brotherhood youth and 5 adults sealed their membership This was a 31% Brotherhood Conversion.

7 youth Vigil and 5 adult vigil members were inducted.

28 of our new ordeal members engaged in a lodge activity within the first 6 months of their ordeal. This was 9 more than in 2022.

We contributed \$13,602 to the Council averaging \$26.94 per each of the 505 members. The source of these funds were:

- \$3000 FOS
- \$8602 State Fair
- \$2000 Endowment ie. James E West.

We participated in Section events with 31 attending Winter Council of Chiefs, 26 Section Conclave, and 16 Fall Council of Chiefs. Many LEC members held positions with section committees.

And on that note we are off to planning for NOAC 2024.

Yours in Brotherhood,

Vicki Dubis | Kanwa tho Lodge Adviser



MISSION OF THE ORDER OF THE ARROW

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

PURPOSE OF THE ORDER OF THE ARROW

- Recognize those who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives and through that recognition cause others to conduct themselves in a way that warrants similar recognition.
- Promote camping, responsible outdoor adventure, and environmental stewardship as essential components of every Scout's experience, in the unit, year-round, and in summer camp.
- Develop leaders with the willingness, character, spirit and ability to advance the activities of their units, our Brotherhood, Scouting, and ultimately our nation.
- Crystallize the Scout habit of helpfulness into a life purpose of leadership in cheerful service to others.



Lodge Chief
Evan Smazal

Lodge Adviser
Vicki Dubis

Lodge Financial Officer
Vacant
Sean Waiss, Adviser

Lodge Secretary
Nick G.

Supreme Chief of the Fire
Andrew Hardin

Staff Adviser
Nathan Rackers

Immediate Past Chief
Evan Smazal

Vice Chief-Operations
Josiah Reinholz

Operations Adviser
Doug Reed

Communications
Vacant
Tyler Gerds, Adviser

Special Events
Brett W.
Angela Bucher, Adviser

Service
Vacant
Colten Greenhill, Adviser

Vigil Honor
Kadyn B.
Doug Reed, Adviser
Chris Kradich, Assoc. Adviser

Chapters

Eluwak Chapter
Robert B., Chief
Joe Bonow, Adviser

Tèhink Chapter
Jacob R., Chief
Matthew Murdaugh, Adviser

Wikiak Sabbeleu Chapter
Madilynn P., Chief
Anthony Heider, Adviser

Vice Chief-Inductions
Caden S-R.

Inductions Adviser
Ken Walton

Brotherhood
Ian Lawler, Chair
Bob Farrell, Adviser

Ceremonies
Rebecca S., Chair

Ordeal
Abby Bork, Chair
Bob Farrell, Adviser

Unit Election
Navtej S., Chair

Member of Importance

Lodge Historian
Kimberlynn H., Youth Rep.
Donna Jaworski, Adviser

Section, National, & Regional Events - SNARE
Lee Kammerer, Adviser

Lodge Registrar
Steven Gerds, Adviser
Randy Sharp, Adviser

Council Events Liaison
Mike Dubis, Adviser

Eluwak:
Eluwak Chapter serves the Aurora District, essentially covering Milwaukee County north of the I-94 corridor. In 2023, Eluwak Chapter held a variety of events and fundraisers to serve the community.

The year began with meetings to inform members about OA High Adventure and prepare for Brotherhood. Other fellowship activities throughout the year included a mini golf outing, root beer floats and hot dogs, and a holiday game night. Chapter meetings attracted 25-40 members from 6-8 units each month.

Eluwak Chapter continued its strong history of service by completing several collection drives, including food for the Milwaukee Homeless Veterans Initiative and baby supplies for the United Way. Over 90,000 diapers were donated to the United Way in November. In August, the Eluwak Chapter sponsored a State Fair Parking night to help raise money for the council campership fund, the council in general, and the lodge.

Tèhink:
Tèhink Sipu Chapter serves the Southern Shores District covering the southern half of Milwaukee County.

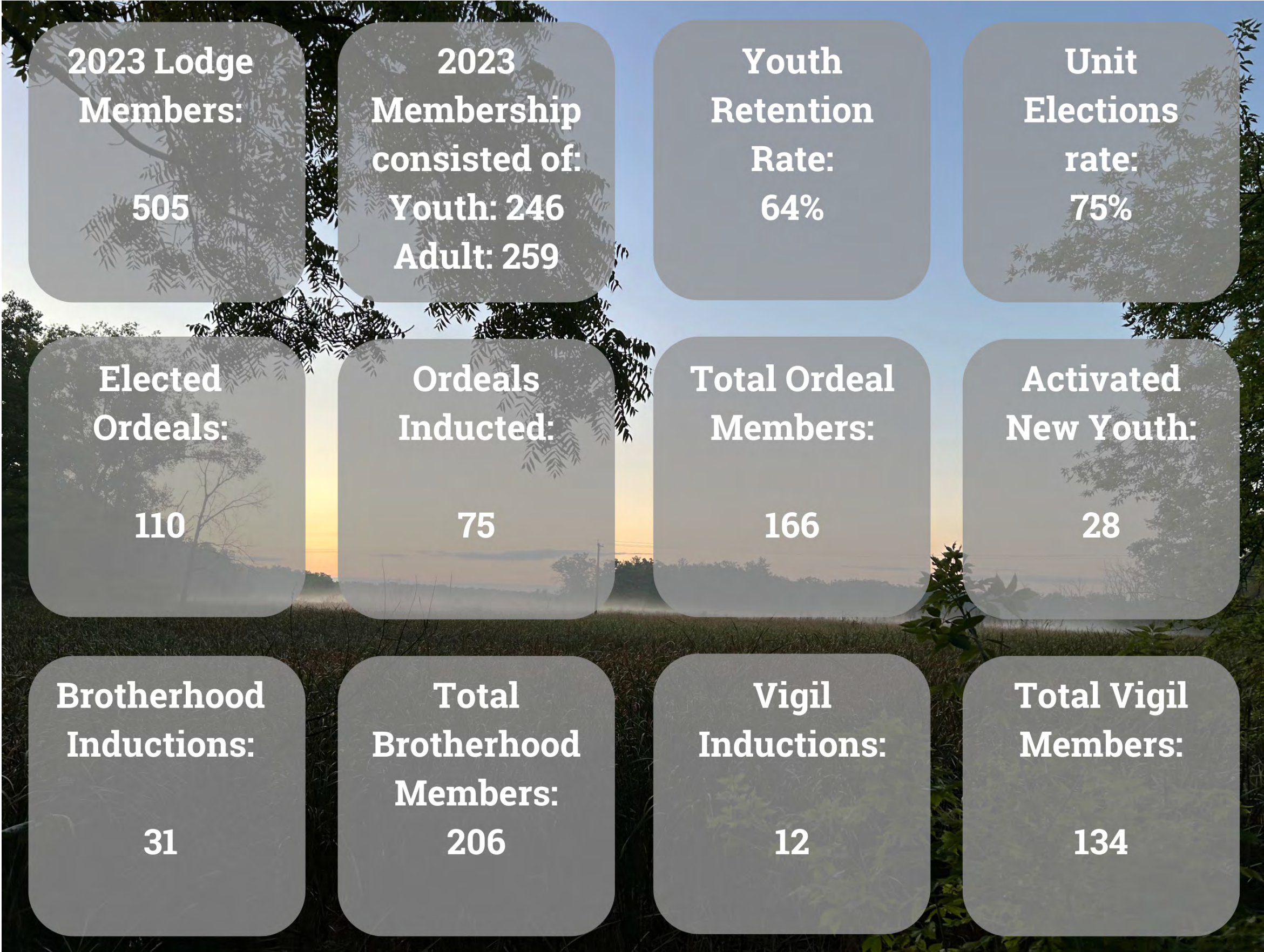
In 2023 Tèhink Sipu started its year off with Jacob Rezutek as our Chapter Chief. At our March meeting we did our annual St. Patrick's Day BINGO with prizes and snacks. At our meeting in May Ivan Bannier was elected our new Chapter Chief. In August we had our End of Summer grill-out meeting at Scout Lake Park, we had brats and drinks and freezes. We also shared our summer camping experiences and played games with ice water and sponges since it was 100 degrees that day with an even higher heat index. Finally in October we had a Halloween themed meeting with a costume contest, pizza, and pumpkin games like pumpkin bowling.

Wikiak:
Wikiak Sabbeleu Chapter serves the southern portion for the council, including Kenosha and Racine Counties.

Wikiak Sabbeleu has had a fantastic year and we want to share what we've done. Each month our chapter has hosted meetings for all members to explain fellowship and learn how to improve themselves.

We had a Bowling social for all members to compete against or alongside each other. For Christmas our chapter volunteered to ring bells at a local store for the Salvation Army. Recently our chapter did an Easter egg hunt for the Sturtevant Village. Thank you everyone for the fun times and the fantastic work you've been able to accomplish! I look forward to finishing out the year. Keep a lookout for our upcoming chapter overnight on June 1st. attendance of all the chapters at Winter council of chiefs.





Friends of Scouting Contribution:

\$3,000

Capital Contributions (Cash):

Camperships: \$4,301

Council Fund: \$4,301

\$8,602

Council Endowment Contribution:

\$2,000

Total Contributions:

\$13,602

Average Dollars Per Member:

\$26.94

In 2023, Kanwa tho Lodge reported 3,530 hours of service to our camps, to Three Harbors Council and to the community.

Service to Camps

Service to our two Scout camps is completed primarily during the spring and fall fellowships—weekend-long events open exclusively to Arrowmen in Three Harbors Council. Camp Oh-Da-Ko-Ta received much needed maintenance of the OA ceremonies site, spread sand at the beach, painted the camp sign and camp buildings, cleared a new fishing spot for campers, and provided general service around camp.

Service to Council

Annually, Kanwa tho Lodge provides financial and manpower contributions to Three Harbors Council. Financial contributions are made through direct donations to the council Friends of Scouting campaign, campership funds and donations to the council endowment fund by awarding the James E. West Fellowship Award in the name(s) of Arrowmen who have provided exceptional service to the lodge. Lodge members also serve as lot attendants at the Milwaukee Scout Service Center during the 11-day run of the Wisconsin State Fair; two-thirds of the proceeds of which are donated back to the council. Kanwa tho Lodge provides manpower to countless council events, as well. The lodge provides Arrowmen to check coats at the Leadership Breakfast, set up and take down the Scout Heritage Trade-O-Ree, and provide service teams to council programs such as Scouting the Zoo, Haunted Hayride, and various district klondikes and camporees.

Service to Community

Kanwa tho Lodge cares about our local community and strives to give back. At the chapter level, our Arrowmen have been hard at work organizing toy and clothing drives, holding an annual Easter egg hunt and ringing bells during the holiday season. At the lodge level, members have continued our awareness flap program with proceeds from this years suicide awareness flap going to American Foundation for Suicide Prevention - Wisconsin Chapter.



2023 AWARD RECIPIENTS

Heart of the Fire Award

The Heart of the Fire award is a lodge-level award presented to a youth Arrowman who has given extraordinary service to Kanwa tho Lodge.

The 2023 recipient is Abby Bork.



Honored Scouter Award

The Honored Scouter Award is a lodge-level award presented to an adult Arrowman who has gone above and beyond in his or her duties in service to Kanwa tho Lodge.

The 2023 recipient is Ken Walton.



Founders Award

The Founders Award is a national award that recognizes Arrowmen who have given outstanding service to their lodge. The award is reserved for someone who demonstrates that he or she personifies the spirit of selfless service, as advocated by founder E. Urner Goodman and cofounder Carroll A. Edson. **The 2023 recipients are Evan Smazal and Joseph Bonow**



James E. West Fellowship

The James E. West Fellowship is designed to recognize gifts of \$1,000 or more to the local council's endowment fund. Kanwa tho Lodge donates each year in the name of Arrowmen who have shown unselfish service to the lodge. **The 2023 recipients are Kadyn Barsch and Frank Russ.**



Lodge Advisors Award

The Lodge Adviser's Award is a specially-made lodge flap that is given out by the lodge adviser for outstanding service to the lodge. This award patch cannot be purchased or obtained by any other means. **The 2023 recipients are Daniel Dyer and Tyler Gerds**



Kanwa tho Activities Fellowship Award

The Kanwa tho Activities Fellowship Award is given to an Arrowman who donates to the Kanwa tho Activities Scholarship Fund in the amount of \$250.00 or more. The donor may also choose to donate the money in honor of a different named individual. In addition, each year, the lodge will donate \$500 to the scholarship fund and name two fellows under the age of 21 who have given significant time and service to the lodge. **The 2023 recipients are Caden Schaefer-Rose and Josh Susmilch.**



2023 VIGIL HONOR CLASS

Alertness to the needs of others is the mark of the Vigil Honor. It calls for an individual with an unusual awareness of the possibilities within each situation. The Vigil Honor is the highest honor that the Order of the Arrow can bestow upon its members for service to the lodge, council and Scouting. Membership cannot be won by a person's conscious endeavors.

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 of office to the lodge, the Order of the Arrow, the Scouting community and/or Scout camp.

Youth

Aedan Cram

Tgauchsin Lehelekhiket
Friendly Writer

Bryce Cram

Tgauchsin Pikchel Natenummen
Friendly Photographer

Sam Forgie

Elangomat Welapensit
Friend Who Sets a Good Example

Ian Lawler

Allogagan Wlinhake
Servant Athlete

Martin Mausing

Gihim Wopalanne
Encouraging Eagle

Payden Schulz

Machque Lekhiket
Bear Who Writes

Evan Smazal

Tepchehelas Hama Sakima
Traveling Chief

Emily Thomas

Kitchkinet Nitamu
Guide Who Served First

Adults

Eric Conley

Lilchpin Wischerman
He Who Offers Help

Anthony Heider

Pe Netamixink
He Who Responds First

Jean Hrpcek

Allogagan Chitkuwi
She Who Serves Quietly

Jonathan Schroeder

Achgegim Wopalanne
Coaching Eagle

Joseph Seif

Allogagan Temakelenist
He Who Serves Humbly





KANWA THO LODGE

ORDER OF THE ARROW



Kanwa tho Lodge #636 is affiliated with

Three Harbors Council, Boy Scouts of America

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