

Brothers of Nacha Tindey,

Over the past year we, as Scouts and Scouters, have experienced many changes in the way we deliver the "Game of Scouting". As we continue the journey into the next century of scouting our Council and Lodge are privileged to be a part of these ground breaking opportunities.

As of January 1st, 2012, the Councils of Michigan have re-aligned themselves into four Field Service Councils (FSC). This has effectively combined Gerald R Ford Council with Scenic Trails Council to create what is currently called Field Service Area "A". The facts of that blend are well known to all scouters in our area. What is not known is how this affects the brothers of our Lodge and the other Lodges of Sections C-2A and C-2B. Over the past month our Lodge Chief has been working diligently with other Lodge Chiefs of the area to develop a dialogue to identify ways to continue our service to our new FSC's. National Order of the Arrow has identified that they will offer each of our four FSC's an opportunity to apply for a new charter. This will result in the blending of nine lodges into four. This change allows the opportunity to combine the brotherhood of Nacha Tindey Lodge with that of Indian Drum Lodge, and the opportunity for our youth leaders to create a new Lodge.

After being informed of this challenge the Lodge Chiefs of both Lodges began communicating. Since that time both Chiefs have put together a team of youth to serve as a transition team. This team has been charged by their chiefs to handle the process of blending the two lodges into one, while at the same time each lodge will continue to perform the duties charged to them for the remainder of 2012. On January 7th, 2012, this team held their first meeting at Camp Greilick. At this meeting they considered what direction they could follow to get them where they needed to go. After many meetings, fellowship, and a midnight run to Taco Bell, they have developed a plan of action. They have identified multiple meeting dates as well as opportunities for fellowship. The information below is what they have to share at this point:

- ❖ Each lodge will continue to follow through with all scheduled events they have on the 2012 calendar.
- ❖ All scheduled events will be open to members of both lodges to participate. This is to encourage better fellowship and brotherhood for all members.
- ❖ Each lodge will follow through on all service commitments they have with the council and community they serve and welcome the assistance of both memberships.

- ❖ Each lodge will still register for and attend NOAC as individual lodges and will leave as One Lodge and Brotherhood. At that point the youth may or may not have decided on a Name, Totem, Flap, etc. for the new lodge, but will work and function as one entity.
- ❖ The new lodge will conduct a Fall Conclave at Gerber Scout Reservation and a Fall Fellowship at Camp Greilick. The timing of an election of new youth leadership and the appointment of adult advisers has not been determined at this point. With permission from the current executive boards the current officers will hold their positions until the election of officers of the new lodge.
- ❖ On February 19th, the executive committee of Nacha Tindey will welcome the attendance of all membership of the lodge to their meeting where they might receive any further information available at that time. These meetings are always open to the general membership.
- ❖ Regular updates will be posted on the website nachatindey.org when new information is available.

We are aware that there are multiple questions and concerns that our members have. Many of these we will not have answers for at this time since the youth unfortunately do not have the information yet to make those decisions that will be needed to make. As the youth gain the information they need they will make the hard choices that they need to make. Until then they will continue to serve the membership and build a foundation to hold the first layers of block to form the new lodge.

Matt Shields
Lodge Chief

Derek Stark
Lodge Adviser