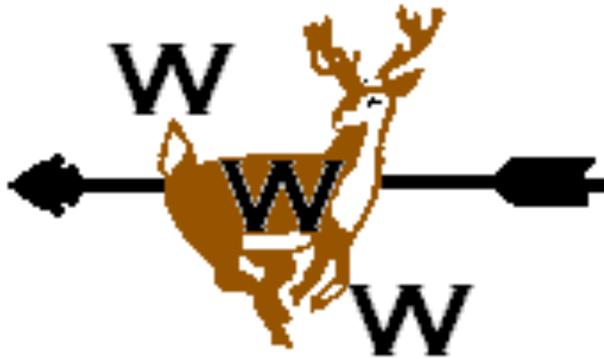


**Ajapeu Lodge 2  
Washington Crossing Council  
Doylestown PA**



**Centennial History Book  
OA Legacy Project**

## Introduction

Ajapeu Lodge 2, Washington Crossing Council was formed on January 1, 2014, and is the combination of two lodges: Ajapeu Lodge 33, belonging to Bucks County Council and headquartered in Doylestown PA, and portions of Sakuwit Lodge 2, Central New Jersey Council headquartered in Dayton New Jersey (specifically, the portions that primarily serve Mercer and Hunterdon Counties).

Sakuwit Lodge 2 is itself a merger between Sanhican Lodge 2, belonging to George Washington Council and headquartered in Trenton NJ and Narraticong Lodge 9 of the Thomas Edison Council headquartered in Edison NJ.

Ajapeu Lodge 2 serves Bucks County PA, Mercer County NJ, and Hunterdon County NJ. It also services a sliver of other counties in New Jersey that are adjacent to Mercer County. Highlights of this territory include Trenton, NJ, which serves as the capital city of New Jersey, the birthplace of the Order of the Arrow, Treasure Island Scout Reservation, and the site of the first Vigil Honor ceremony, Devil's Tea Table. This history book focuses on the histories of Ajapeu Lodge 2 and the lodges that served its geographic area prior to January 2014: Ajapeu Lodge 33, Sakuwit Lodge 2, and Sanhican Lodge 2.

## Sanhican Lodge 2

Sanhican Lodge 2 was formed in 1919 as Trenton Lodge, and was the second lodge in the Order of the Arrow. It was chartered to George Washington Council.

William Durling, along with Harry Biles, Edwin Fisher, Frank Groom, and J. Oliver Smith went to Philadelphia Council's Scout Reservation, Treasure Island, in the Delaware River near Frenchtown, New Jersey for induction into the Order of the Arrow by Unami Lodge #1. These five men and a few members of Unami Lodge #1 assisted in inducting six more candidates into the Ordeal Honor, on August 6, 1920, on Park Island in the Delaware River, across from Sanhican Drive, Trenton, New Jersey. A business meeting followed, during which officers were elected and the lodge was named Trenton Lodge. It was decided that candidates must spend fourteen nights at camp with at least eight boys from his troop. Later a few more candidates were inducted into the lodge.

In 1922, a constitution and by-laws were adopted, and a totem was designed (Rattlesnake). The lodge name was changed from Trenton Lodge to Sanhican Lodge (along the water). On October 16, 1922, William Durling was the lodge's first member elected to Vigil Honor. By 1926, the total membership of Sanhican Lodge was 105.

In September, 1926, the lodge built a Lodge House on Rotary Island. About the same time, the lodge ceremonial grounds at the Council's new Camp, Camp Pahaquarra, was named the "Durling Cermonial Grounds". That name is still used. In 1929, the annual summer pilgrimage and banquet during Christmas was started. The Lodge House on Rotary Island was sold to a Boy's Club. Local outdoor work of the lodge was then conducted at Toad Hollow, Hamiton Square, N.J, where J. Oliver Smith lived as caretaker.

In 1954, the membership voted to build a permanent building at Pahaquarra Scout Reservation. The membership decided to use this lodge home for OA summer activities, and for winter camping for the Council's troops and Posts. After many months and hours of work clearing a site--where the old camp kitchen stood--our lodge house was finally built and dedicated in 1960 as the Pop Keller Cabin.

Spring election of 1965 gave the ceremonial team quite a workout. Because of such a great number, they not only used the Durling Ceremonial Grounds, but also had to hold ceremonies at another selected site. Two such ceremonies were held at each place.

At the Fall Meeting of 1965, the lodge voted that each chapter conduct their own Ordeal Ceremony, allowing one chapter to host and conduct their Ordeal at the annual pilgrimage. This proved successful, until 1968, when the quota was changed and a greater number was allowed to be elected. At the 1968 summer meeting at Pahaquarra Scout Reservation, the membership voted that all Ordeals will be held before the pilgrimage weekend.

Over the years the lodge donated various office equipment along with Cheerful Service. In 1965, the council was given its present building for a service center. Many donated their services and needed equipment to make it suitable for better scouting and service. The Lodge Executive Committee asked the Scout Executive, Leroy Brown, what contribution the lodge could make to the Service Center. He suggested a sign to identify the George Washington Council Service Center would be appreciated. After many months and many different designs, one was finally approved by the Council's Executive Board. The new sign was installed on Saturday, December 24, 1966 in a heavy snow storm, with Advisor Hugh Callahan and Lou Tarcza assisting.

In 1966, the lodge's executive committee approved a triangle (approximately 4"), with appropriate arrows and Indian name painted on face, for future Vigil Honor members. This is to be given to Vigil Candidates on the morning, following their last ceremony.

In the fall of 1968, the council's Executive Board approved a portion of the George Washington Scout Reservation to be used for ceremonial uses of the lodge. This area was a site where stone had been quarried. Much of the stone used at the main entrance, Kerney Lodge wall, fireplace, and including the McIntosh building was obtained from this area.

Sanhican Lodge 2 had five chapters, set up by districts of the council. During the last 50 years, the lodge has had many fine scouts and scouters in its membership, who have given cheerful service for the lodge, the council, the districts, and the local units.

In 1999, Sanhican Lodge 2 was formally merged into Sakuwit Lodge 2 after the George Washington and Thomas A. Edison Councils merged.

On November 11, 2013, Sanhican's lodge charter from 1923 was donated to the national office. This is regarded as the oldest lodge charter issued, and is one of up to 13 that were originally issued. An article about the donation was published by the national Order of the Arrow committee and can be found here: <http://www.oa-bsa.org/pages/content/nycu-2014-01-2>

## Lodge Chiefs

- William D. Durling 1919 - 1920

- H. Biles 1921

- E. Fisher 1922
- F. Groom 1923
- H. Birch 1924
- J. Kiley 1925
- Fred Case 1926
- J. O. Smith 1927
- J. Holcomb Cox 1928
- K. Hargreaves 1929
- William Carroll 1930
- R. Carhart 1931
- C. Harrison 1932
- R. Hough 1933
- Joseph Young 1934
- William Miller 1935
- H. Callahan 1936
- G. Critchlow 1937
- R. Coleman 1938
- D. Torne 1939
- H. Garrity 1940
- W. Mulholl 1941 - 1942
- George Conover 1943 - 1945
- A. Schragger 1946
- P. Robins 1947 - 1948
- Chester Page 1949
- William Guthrie 1950 - 1951
- B. Epstein 1952
- R. Copper 1953 - 1954
- J. Croasdale 1955
- N. Volwiedes 1956
- B. Pullen 1957
- Dale Hess 1958
- Joseph Zaderaki 1959
- William Buss 1960
- Joseph D'Angelo 1961
- Thomas Rossi 1962
- John Smith 1963
- L. Deroche 1964
- Douglas Remer 1965
- Edward H. Dworak 1966
- David Cope 1967
- Ronald L. Castor 1968 - 1969
- Paul DeMott 1970
- William Pflaiderer 1971 - 1972
- Scott Doolittle 1973
- Lawrence Gering 1974
- William Suffern 1975
- James Hirst 1976
- James McKeever 1977
- Doug Olsen 1978
- Richard Vannozzi 1979
- Alan Van Natta 1980
- Chris Retajczyk 1981 - 1982
- Andy Burford 1983
- Jeff Rich 1984
- Christopher Phelan 1985 - 1986
- Scott Chando 1987 - 1988
- Chuck Johnstone 1989 - 1990
- Dave Wallace 1991
- John Copen 1992
- Bill Freed Jr. 1993 - 1994
- Sage Lichtenwalner 1995
- John Chorba 1996 - 1997
- Brice Daniels 1998 - 1999

## Lodge Advisers

- William Durling 1919 - 1940
- Harold Keller 1941 - 1960
- William Guthrie 1961 - 1965
- Hugh Callahan 1965 - 1966
- Lou Tarcza 1967 - ??
- Ray Cary 19?? - ??
- William Forbes 19?? - 1974
- Robert Fletcher 1974 - 19??

## Ajapeu Lodge 33

Ajapeu Lodge 33 was formed in 1927 and chartered to Bucks County Council. Ajapeu means "Running Buck" and the totem of the lodge was a buck.

In 1927, because of the cheerful service exhibited by a group of Scouts during summer camp at Buccou Camps, Scout Executive William F. ("Uncle Bill") Livermore arranged to induct the first Ordeal members of Ajapeu Lodge 33 at Camp Buccou north of Flemington, New Jersey. From the outset, Ajapeu Lodge 33's history was intertwined with the history of Sanhican Lodge 2, as Livermore requested that the degree team from Sanhican Lodge 2 put on the ceremony for the first inductees.

Each year approximately fifty new members were received into the Ordeal Honor. Incentive in Lodge activities was so great that the demand grew for advancement, thus bringing about the birth of our first Brotherhood Honor members. The first Vigil Honor brother was Scout Executive "Uncle Bill" Livermore.

During the 1937 summer camp season, Sakima "Bill" Carlin, visited Buccou each Sunday evening to give the "Legend of the Delawares" to the Scouts and Scouters assembled at "Inspiration Point". It was at this Ceremony that boys and men received their inspirations and developed incentive to become something worthwhile to Scouting.

At the final Ceremonial Campfire of the 1938 summer camp season, the Lodge presented to the retiring Scout Executive, "Uncle Bill" Livermore, as a token of their esteem and in appreciation of the things he did and what he meant to the members in the Lodge; a beautiful Scout statuette, appropriately engraved, which is a representation of Ajapeu Lodge.

In 1939, the last year of Camp Buccou, the OA published a comprehensive booklet containing a general overview of the organization.

In 1935, the Order of the Arrow began the process of integrating into the Scouting program as an official part of the Boy Scouts of America. For the first time in 1945, Order of the Arrow members were allowed to wear the Order's insignia on their uniforms. Ajapeu Lodge 33 took advantage of this and issued the first ever lodge flap, not just for the lodge, but for the entire Order. The story of the first flap's origins are unknown, though the national Order of the Arrow history site attributes the tale to World War II stories of people embroidering their uniforms with the insignia. Later, the lodge would issue the flap. This flap was a simple design, with a green piece of cloth and a deer in the center on top of an arrow. Its inclusion in a photo spread in the first edition of the *Order of the Arrow Handbook*, released in 1948, would serve as the catalyst for a nationwide movement which led to the approval of the lodge flap in 1954 as the official insignia of membership in an Order of the Arrow lodge.

The next decade-plus was spent supporting Bucks County Council and Ockanickon Scout Reservation.

In 1971, Ajapeu Lodge 33 would formally fund the Order of the Arrow Memorial Longhouse at Ockanickon Scout Reservation. To help fund the construction, the lodge began issuing, once each decade, a commemorative flap starting in 1970. This is a tradition continuing to this day; the most recent flap issued was in 2010.

The 1980s and 1990s saw a lull in lodge activity, as the lodge continued to work behind the scenes in supporting the camp and the council.

In 2001, the lodge attained its first Quality Lodge recognition. After a concerted effort by lodge members, led by Lodge Chief Terry Robinson, the lodge was able to raise its Brotherhood Conversion ratio to over 40 percent, and with the lodge meeting or exceeding all other criteria, the lodge was formally recognized with the award. This began a streak that would continue until the present day.

In 2007, Ajapeu Lodge 33 was called into action when Ockanickon Scout Reservation was plagued with the norovirus. Two weeks were closed down due to the virus outbreak. New Lodge Adviser Mike Shavel, who was also the council's vice president of program, volunteered the lodge to conduct a make-up weekend where Scouts displaced by the camp closure could come back to camp and complete the badges they missed during the lodge's August Ordeal Weekend. The event was a resounding success, and cemented Ajapeu Lodge 33's place as an integral part of the council's future and the camp's success.

By the 2000s, the lodge would have four chapters, corresponding to the district geographies of Bucks County Council: Lenape Chapter, Pennsbury Chapter, Playwicki Chapter, and Tohpendel Chapter.

At the December 2013 meeting of the Lodge Executive Committee, Ajapeu Lodge Chief Joe Donahue announced that the lodge had attained Gold status for the second year in a row under the Journey to Excellence program and the 13th year in a row when Quality Lodge was included. Donahue also announced that the council could be involved in a situation where its geographic service territory would expand due to the folding of Central New Jersey Council; the Central New Jersey Council board was meeting the same night to decide the fate of Scouting in its service region. Later in the week, Donahue would share with the officers of the lodge that the council was expanding, and would kick off meetings with Sakuwit Lodge 2 Chief Danny Woods before the year was out. On January 1, 2014, Ajapeu Lodge's service territory officially expanded into portions of Sakuwit Lodge 2's territory.

In May 2014, it was announced that Ajapeu Lodge would be recognized with one of the first Order of the Arrow Innovation Awards, which recognized the lodge's innovative efforts to raise dues money in December 2013. The award came with a \$1,000 donation from the national Order of the Arrow committee to the Bucks County Council endowment fund in the name of the lodge.

## Lodge Chiefs

- Unknown 1927 - 1928
- Mahlon Detweiler 1928 - 1929
- Carl Foell 1929 - 1930
- James Townsend 1930 - 1931
- Robert Wright 1931 - 1932
- Carl Leidy 1932 - 1933
- Edward Baumeister 1933 - 1934
- O. Kenneth Fretz 1934 - 1935
- Burtis C. Tomlinson 1935 - 1936
- William Carlin, Jr. 1936 - 1937
- Jesse Wendkos 1937 - 1938
- A. Howard Bochert 1938 - 1939
- Harold D.R. Crumpine 1939 - 1941
- Walter Huber 1941 - 1942
- Unknown 1942 - 1944
- John Burtonwood 1944 - 1945
- Unknown 1945 - 1946
- Edward Mills, Jr. 1946 - 1947
- Robert Meyers 1947 - 1948
- William Meyers 1948 - 1949
- Unknown 1949 - 1951
- Robert T. Hays 1951 - 1952
- Unknown 1952 - 1953
- John Meckling 1953 - 1954
- Walter Doelp, Jr. 1954 - 1955
- John Rutledge 1955 - 1956

- George Schmunk 1956 - 1957
- William Booth 1957 - 1958
- Edward Barndt 1958 - 1959
- James Blake 1959 - 1960
- Robert Hochwald 1960 - 1961
- Walter Tees 1961 - 1962
- David Gondak 1962 - 1964
- Barry Nicholas 1964 - 1965
- William Whitworth 1965 - 1966
- Steve Daniels 1966 - 1968
- Steve Chatot 1968 - 1969
- Chris Leyenberger 1969 - 1970
- Robert Patterson 1970 - 1971
- Andy Carlin 1971 - 1972
- Dave Charles 1972 - 1974
- Tim Whitney 1974 - 1975
- Michael Wilsey 1975 - 1976
- Earle Hager 1976 - 1977
- Wayne Siefert 1977 - 1978
- Robert Cahill 1978 - 1980
- Wayne Siefert 1980 - 1981
- Jim Moore 1981 - 1982
- William Soloway 1982 - 1983
- Michael Slezak 1983 - 1985
- Matthew Davenport 1985 - 1986
- Matthew Davenport
- John Benson 1986 - 1987
- Kenyon Waugh 1987 - 1989
- Scott Christie 1989 - 1990
- Jim Davies 1990 - 1991
- Adam Patrick 1991 - 1992
- Griff Marshall, Jr. 1992 - 1993
- William King 1993 - 1996
- Justin Behrens 1996 - 1997
- Steve Marchion 1997 - 1998
- Timothy Belloff 1998 - 1999
- William Weigman 1999 - 2000
- Terry Robinson 2000 - 2002
- David Friel 2002 - 2003
- Chris Lutz 2003 - 2004
- Dan Gross 2004 - 2005
- Nick Lutz 2005 - 2008
- Brendan McDonald 2008 - 2010
- Theo Caputi 2010 - 2012
- Raymond Pfundt 2012 - 2013
- Joe Donahue 2013 - December 2013

## Lodge Advisers

- Unknown pre-1999
- Mike Wilsey 1999 - 2006
- John Shaffer 2006
- Mike Shavel 2007 - December 2014

## Sakuwit Lodge 2

Sakuwit Lodge 2 was chartered in 1999 to Central New Jersey Council. It was formed out of the mergers of Sanhican Lodge 2, George Washington Council, and Narraticong Lodge 9, Thomas A. Edison Council. Sakuwit Lodge 2 began with three chapters, covering multiple districts each, but would later move to the national standard of having one chapter for each district, and by its dissolution would have the following chapters: Sanhican, Pahaquarra, Cowaw, and Sakawawin.

Sakuwit Lodge 2 dubbed itself as a very young lodge carrying on the traditions of those that are much older. When Sanhican Lodge 2 of George Washington Council and Narraticong Lodge 9 of Thomas A. Edison Council merged on September 2, 1999, Sakuwit Lodge 2 of Central New Jersey Council was born and began serving the Scouts and Scouters of the area by providing service to council camps, promoting Scout camping and recognizing those who best follow the Scout Oath and Scout Law.

The name of Sakuwit Lodge is significant because Sakuwit literally means “from the mouth of two rivers”, symbolizing the merger of Sanhican and Narraticong as well as the fact that a great deal of the lodge was located between the Raritan and Delaware Rivers. The lodge totem, a

raccoon named Rockwell, is a fitting symbol of New Jersey's camping traditions. The lodge number, "2", served as a reminder to all of the rich traditions of the Order of the Arrow in the area, as well as that with all of the mergers of the years Sakuwit Lodge is truly the second-oldest Lodge in the United States.

Since the lodge's inception, it has hosted over thirty events and contributed service to many more. Sakuwit Lodge would hold four annual service weekends, three in the spring and one in the fall. Assistance was also provided at Cub-Parent weekends, council camporees, the council program launch and many other events. Activities like the Trade-O-Ree and performances by the Gold Feather and Soaring Eagle Dance Teams also help both the lodge and the council. Over the past few years, Sakuwit Lodge has also donated thousands of dollars for the fire ring and other projects at Kittatinny Mountain Scout Reservation.

In 2013, Sakuwit Lodge 2, for the first time in its history, obtained a status in Journey to Excellence, and it was Gold status. 2013 would also mark the last year of Sakuwit Lodge, as Central New Jersey Council would begin the process of folding and cease providing the Scouting program after the conclusion of the year. Portions of the lodge that contained Mercer Area District and Hunterdon County would go to Bucks County Council and Ajapeu Lodge 33. Sakuwit Lodge 2 held its final banquet on January 2, 2014.

## Lodge Chiefs

- Todd Bletcher 1999 - 2000
- Evan Staats 2000 - 2001
- Matt Emerick 2001 - 2002
- Tom Voorhees 2002 - 2003
- Matt Schulte 2003 - 2004
- Ryan Korn 2004 - 2005
- Ted Midura 2005 - 2006
- Brandon Rhea 2006 - 2007
- Randy Breingan Jr. 2007 - 2008
- Alex Rojewski 2008 - 2009
- Dan Menz 2009 - 2010
- Kyle Rinfret 2010 - 2011
- Anderson Monken 2011 - 2012
- Kevin Zebrowski 2012 - 2013
- Danny Woods 2013 - December 2013

## Lodge Advisers

- Fred Bessier 1999 - 2004
- David Oertle 2004 - 2007
- Gerard Case 2007 - 2010
- Mark Murset 2010 - 2011
- Steve Lins 2011 - 2014

## Ajapeu Lodge 2

Ajapeu Lodge 2 was formed on January 1, 2014, after the Central New Jersey Council ceased providing the Scouting program and Sakuwit Lodge 2 folded.

Ajapeu Lodge 2 has six chapters, corresponding to the district geographies: Lenape Chapter, Pahaquarra Chapter, Pennsbury Chapter, Playwicki Chapter, Sanhican Chapter, and Tohpendel Chapter.

The lodge was formed under the guidance of Lodge Chief Joe Donahue, Associate Lodge Chief Danny Woods (who was the sitting lodge chief of Sakuwit 2 after it folded) and Lodge Adviser Mike Shavel.

From the outset, one thing was weighing on Donahue's mind, and that was how to best incorporate lodge members from both sides of the river.

"I had heard horror stories from neighboring lodges that had gone through mergers," Donahue said. "I didn't want that to be us."

The first Lodge Executive Committee met January 4, 2014. Because the combination technically was not a merger, the Ajapeu Lodge 33 Executive Committee's first action was to accept as members the former officers and chairmen of Sakuwit Lodge 2. After some introductory remarks, the youth members of the Lodge Executive Committee met in executive session to consider the issue of a lodge name or number change. The youth emerged from the meeting, having renumbered the lodge to the number 2.

Donahue would later note in a letter to the lodge announcing the change that the driving factor was the history of the Order in the region. "The history that is now a part of our lodge dates to well before our council was formed," he wrote. "Many on the LEC thought that it would be a shame for a number with real significance to the region might go to a lodge where the number would have no significance whatsoever."

The Lodge Executive Committee would come out of that meeting with a new, commemorative lodge flap. It also left the meeting with plans for the first lodge-wide event, a fellowship night. More than 100 lodge members came out to the event, setting the tone for the remainder of the year.



The next event was the lodge banquet in March 2014. Nearly 200 people attended the banquet, too, held at the Plumsteadville Township Fire House a short drive away from Ockanickon Scout Reservation, continuing a strong event presence from all members of the lodge. National Vice Chief Taylor Bobrow joined the lodge in the celebration, speaking about the centennial programs and helping to kick off the remainder of the lodge program. The lodge recognized those who had contributed to Ajapeu Lodge 33 with the Founder's Award and the Youth and Adult of the Year Awards (Sakuwit

Lodge 2 had already recognized its recipients at its final banquet earlier that year).

The lodge would later go on to host its first Ordeal weekends, one of which, the Spring Ordeal Weekend, included well over 300 people, which was larger than most Conclaves.

In July of 2014, because of complications resulting in the combination of the two lodges, Donahue would step down due to his 21st birthday and Danny Woods would step in to act as Lodge Chief for the Fall Ordeal Weekend that August, where the first Vigil Honor class was inducted. Woods would continue to serve until a replacement was elected at the Fall Fellowship Weekend, which turned out over 100 people. At that event, Bryan Liptrot became the first elected Lodge Chief of Ajapeu Lodge 2.

At the conclusion of 2014, Ajapeu Lodge 2 attained gold status in the Journey to Excellence program.

The centennial year of the Order of the Arrow was met with great enthusiasm, as the lodge sent 78 members, its largest contingent ever, to the centennial NOAC. The lodge recognized 12 deserving Arrowmen who had contributed to the Order's legacy with the Centurion Award, issued exclusively during 2015. Additionally, Mike Shavel was elected by the council to be the Washington Crossing Council president, and so decided to step down from lodge adviser. Scout Executive Magne Gundersen appointed Pete Liptrot to serve as the new lodge adviser.

The lodge issued five flaps during its time. The first flap was a special commemorative flap for the 2014 combination of Ajapeu and Sakuwit, and was issued in standard black border and gold mylar for the LEC members. It did not feature a number due to the fact that the number change needed to be cleared by the area director. The second flap was similar to the commemorative, but was the first one to feature the new number and was first released at the Fall Ordeal Weekend. It, too, had a regular border (green) and a gold border for LEC members. In 2015, Ajapeu Lodge 2 issued four flaps, one for its banquet in 2015, two which were directly tied to NOAC (a contingent flap and a trader flap), and a centennial flap.

## Lodge Chiefs

- Joe Donahue 2014 - July 2014
- Danny Woods July 2014 - October 2014
- Bryan Liptrot October 2014 - October 2015

## Lodge Advisers

- Mike Shavel 2014 - August 2015
- Pete Liptrot August 2015 -

## Centurion Award Recipients

- Joseph G. Donahue
- Christopher Fosmire
- Rev. David M. Friel
- Paul Lacerte III
- Bryan Liptrot
- Mark J. Lutz
- Nicholas D. Lutz
- Dylan Principi
- Fred Ritter, Jr.
- Terry Robinson
- Michael Shavel
- Danny Woods