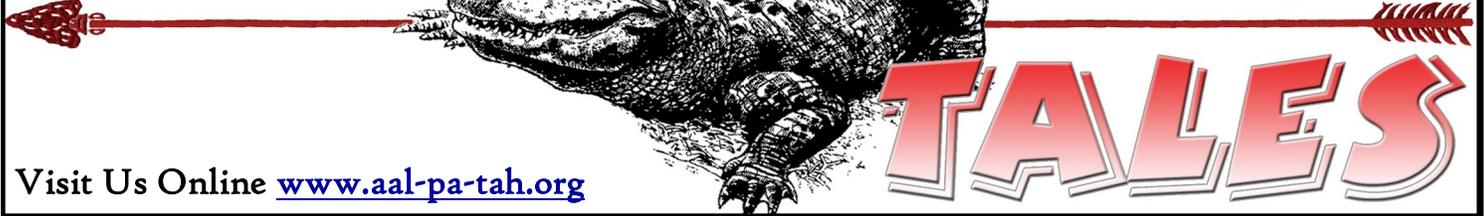


GATOR

February 2012 Issue

The Official Publication

of Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge #237



Visit Us Online www.aal-pa-tah.org

Calendar

March 2-4th
Spring Ordeal
at Tanah Keeta Scout Res.

March 31st
Mentoring Day

April 20-22nd
S4 Section Conference

<http://aal-pa-tah237.org/calendar>

OA Spring Ordeal

Dear Brothers,

This upcoming Spring Ordeal is going to be an amazing weekend and definitely one that you will not want to miss. It will be at the wonderful camp Tanah Keeta March 2-4. Please come to give service to camp, and welcome many new Brothers into our Order. After some cheerful service for camp TK, we will have an awesome night full of movies, raffles, video game competitions, amazing food, a carnival, lodge ball, hearts tournaments and an OUTSTANDING 237 surprise. This is going to be an awesome weekend that everyone should sign up for and come out to have a blast!

Register before the 24th of February for the best deal!

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[Gator Tales Website](http://www.aal-pa-tah.org)

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WWW,

Michael Masters

2012 Spring Ordeal Chairman

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Reminder! Please make payments for OA Events by mailing, faxing or bringing the form to the Gulf Stream Council Service Center. The form can be found at <http://www.aal-pa-tah237.org/members/registration>. Please DO NOT EMAIL Credit Card information to GSC or to any OA email address. Emailing credit card information is not secure. That information can easily be compromised as it sits in someone's inbox or outbox.

Chiefly Speaking

My Brothers,

For those who weren't able to make it to the banquet, you missed a great program, awesome food, and a ton of awards. Mr. Gallant was playing tunes and the dining hall was decorated resplendently. A special thanks to Jeff Gray, our Banquet Chairman, and all the members of his committee. All of the Lodge Chairmen received a binder with the lodge standard flap on it as a token of appreciation for their service. Each of the advisers received a certificate with a special message on the back. Members were tapped out for the Vigil Honor and others received their Elangomat's Black Sash. Thanks to all who made the Lodge Banquet such a success.



Coming up soon is the Spring Ordeal. Michael Masters is putting together an awesome program packed with fun. He is planning to top the last 237 Surprise, which was awesome. We have work projects planned during the day, and we will have an awesome party at night. I hope to see everyone there.

Section Conference is also quickly approaching. The cost will be \$80 including: transportation, T-Shirt, patch and other fun surprises. The conference is being held at Wallwood Scout Reservation on April 20th-22nd. We need all members to attend so that we can bring back the Section Spirit Arrow and win the Quest of the Golden Arrow events, so please come out and join us for a weekend full of fun.

WWW,

Elliot Taft

Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge Chief

Leading by Example

Have you ever been to a camporee or summer camp and noticed how each Troop has a different "culture"? How often at a flag ceremony, dinner or campfire have you noticed a Troop that has all of its Scouts in uniform, or a Troop that has a lot of spirit and participates in the songs and activities cheerfully? My observation has been if you see that the leaders are uniformed, that the leaders are singing the songs and having fun, that the Troop as a whole follows that example. This is called leadership by example.

How can a Troop expect its youth to be well uniformed, well behaved, serve cheerfully and all the other things we expect if the leaders (youth and adult) are not the shining example of what is expected? This same premise holds true in the Order of the Arrow.

Soon we will be having our Spring Ordeal where we expect to induct over 100 new members to our organization. The candidates are expected to complete tasks that help them understand the obligations of a member of the Order: Brotherhood, Cheerfulness, and Service.

As Arrowmen of Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge, we all have the obligation to attend the Ordeal weekend to LEAD BY EXAMPLE. We should be there to provide service, cheerfully, side by side with our candidates. We should be there to welcome our candidates into our Brotherhood at the end of their Ordeal and show them the fun side of the OA. We should be there to educate our fellow Arrowmen in the purpose of the Lodge and how they can enjoy the Brotherhood. We should be there as they depart so they know we look forward to having them back to the Summer Pow Wow.

This is your challenge.... Be the mirror that reflects to the candidates what it means to be an Arrowman. Let them see themselves in a year or two by your reflection. Be a role model. Be a leader who leads by example!!

See you at Spring Ordeal!!!!

Amanda Pantone

Lodge Adviser

Officer Reports

Vice Chief of Program

A huge thanks to Jeff Gray and all of his staff for putting on an awesome Winter Fellowship. Our Lodge also held an incredible banquet this January. I want to congratulate all of the Brothers who received awards to recognize their dedication to our Lodge. We are hard at work preparing for a super Spring Ordeal. This event will take place on March 2nd-4th and will be full of both service and tons of fun, with events such as bounce houses, games, raffles, movies, and a huge feast. Come out and help us welcome new Brothers into our Lodge and show them how much Aal-Pa-Tah rocks!!!

WWW,

James Herrera

Vice Chief of Service

My Brothers,

On January 7th we held our awesome Lodge's Annual Banquet. At this event we had give-aways, great food, awards, patch auctions as well as lots of good company and fun. I'm glad to see how many came out for the Banquet. Don't forget that Spring Ordeal is coming up on March 2nd and sign up as soon as you can. Also, we are hosting a Mentoring Day coming up on March 31st. At Mentoring Day, there will family fun for all Cub Scouts to come out and see how the OA does things. It is a great opportunity to give back to our council and to keep the next generation involved in Scouting. If you would like to come out to help, please let me know.

WWW,

Daniel Olbrych

Vice Chief of Inductions

My Brothers,

Wow! What a great year we just had! And 2012 is shaping up to be even better! On January 21st, 2012, 26 Brothers sealed their membership in the Order by going through Brotherhood. Unit Elections are coming to a close after a successful season. Thank you to all involved in this process and special thanks to Ian Wagner, Eric Fullilove and Scott Leikala who went above and beyond their call of service by assisting with some other Chapter's elections. I would like to thank Bryce Radzkowski, Colton Pray, and Charlie Schmidt for offering to assist the Ceremonies Team in setting up and cleaning up before ceremonies. I would also like to thank Grant Kazi for stepping up and taking the "Ordealmaster" position. If anybody is interested in helping out at the Ordeal, please let me know. We are always in need of Elangomats and support. Thank you for a successful 2011 and 2012 will be even better! Please contact me if you have any questions, comments, or concerns at m.mcloug@gmail.com or 561-267-8759.

WWW,

Michael McLoughlin

Lodge Secretary

Hello Brothers,

2011 was a great year for Aal-Pa-Tah and I expect even more success in 2012. I have had the privilege of publishing the last few issues of Gatortales and I am grateful that I am able to serve the Lodge. I am glad that so many new members are about to come into the Lodge. If anyone is interested in helping with publications, or has any content they want included in the next issue, you can contact me at secretary@aal-pa-tah237.org

WWW,

Christopher Olbrych

Lodge Treasurer

Quite a bit has been going on in the last two months. During the Winter Fellowship, nearly \$600 was sold from the merchandise in the Lodge Box. At our Lodge Banquet, the patch auction made over \$1,000 in sales. In addition, the 2012 Year Set and 70th Anniversary Flap was released and is now for sale. Finally, I would like to mention that the budget for the year 2012 was presented and passed at the LEC in January.

WWW,

George Cooper

Lodge Historian

Hello Brothers,

You may have recently noticed that the photo gallery was down, but the web guys are working on it. The 2011 gallery should be up shortly with a new look. Once the website is in order, we will be uploading some great photos from Winter Fellowship and the Banquet. Construction of the King's Cup will commence at the next Service Weekend. If you would like to help out in any way please email me at ross.pantone@gmail.com.

WWW,

Ross Pantone

Chapter Reports

Abaniki

My Brothers,

The elections in our chapter are now completed and we have elected over 40 new Brothers into our Order just from our chapter. This is great news because Abaniki Chapter is the best chapter and we will continue to grow and succeed. I hope to see everyone at Spring Ordeal on March 2-4th as it is going to be awesome. We have switched our meeting place to be held with Roundtable at Atlantic Community High School in Delray Beach and it would be great to see everyone there who can make it. If you have never been to a chapter meeting, it is time to go now and get involved as the new and best year for Abaniki Chapter begins!!!

WWW.

Matt Jones

Lowaneu-Mawat

Fellow Brothers,

I hope everybody had a great holiday and that the New Year has gotten off to a good start. I would like to thank all of our members who helped make elections go so smoothly. I would also like to remind everybody that this will be my last year as Chapter Chief, so we will need somebody new to step up and take on the responsibility. If anybody is interested or has any questions about the position, please feel free to contact me with anything you would like to know. Please stay tuned on Facebook and watch your email for upcoming news regarding chapter meetings and events.

WWW,

Jeff Gray

Call for Service

An Arrowman who is cheerfully giving service to camp is the best one there is. Perhaps you can share the joy of cheerful service by helping out at Aal-Pa-Tah's Scoutreach Mentoring Day! This year it will be held at our great Camp Tanah Keeta Scout Reservation on March 31, 2012. This event gives every Lodge member the chance to give back to his fellow Scouts. So come out and have a great time mentoring the youth of the Gulf Stream Council. Please reserve your spot today. You must prepay the event fee of \$10 which includes a patch, and lunch. As always, members must be dues paid to participate in lodge events (Sorry unfortunately, Mentoring Day is not covered by Fast Pass).

Dues Reminder

Attention Arrowmen:

If the mailing label on your copy of the Gator Tales says

“Dues Paid Thru: 2011”, then your **Lodge Dues are due**.

Please see www.aal-pa-tah237.org/members/registration for additional information.

Gator Tales Reminder

Officers, Arrowmen, and Advisers

Each issue of the Gator Tales is

produced on a tight schedule.

Help us get each issue out on time!

Order of the Arrow Upcoming National Conference

The 2012 National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC) is the place to be this summer. NOAC 2012 will be held at Michigan State University from July 30 through August 4, 2012 and is going to be one of the largest in the Order's history with more than 8,000 Arrowmen in attendance. Some of the awesome events planned for this summer include national competitions for ceremonies, drum, and dance; evening shows; the OA history museum; and awesome recreation competitions such as soccer, basketball, and ultimate Frisbee, the Founders' Day festivities including the Founders' Day Parade, the Grand Hodag, and the inter-Region Dodge Ball Battle.

Arrowmen can participate in service projects, high adventure opportunities, leadership training, American Indian Activities training, and much more. While enjoying the various activities, Scouts will have the opportunity to meet other Arrowmen from all across the country. This may be your last opportunity to attend a NOAC as the next one will not happen until the summer of 2015.

Our Lodge is sending a contingent to NOAC 2012 and you won't want to miss out. To sign up, contact the Lodge Chief, Lodge Adviser, or the Lodge Staff Adviser to sign up today. Visit www.event.oa-bsa.org for more information and to learn about NOAC 2012.

Winter Fellowship



Daniel Gouge and Michael Masters in the Bouncy Boxing Ring



Lodge Chief Elliott Taft with the Abaniki Chapter during the Cake Making Competition Evaluation



Ross Pantone in the Frisbee Competition



Volleyball Competition in Full Swing

Opportunities for Service

Nimat Program

My Brothers,

Would you like to help out your fellow Brothers? Well, you can if you are a Nimat. This is a fun and exciting job that allows you keep new Ordeal members in the loop and extended the hand of friendship. The Nimat program also promotes Brotherhood and attendance at Lodge/Chapter camp-outs. This a great way to get active in the Lodge and give cheerful service. We especially need your help with all the new Ordeal members coming in. If you are in the Chee-Pa-Tah, Osceola, or Oiyatah chapters and are interested in being a Nimat please call me at (561) 482-8440.

WWW,

Gregory Yentz

Nimat Chairman

Hichiti Dancing and Lodge Drum Team

Brothers,

On January 21, 2012, we had our first dance and drum team meeting. We switched off between practicing dancing as well as some drumming. We will be holding another practice on Saturday, February 18 at 1:30 at Tanah Keeta before the LEC so come on out and give it a try. Thank you to all of the Brothers who came to learn and help out the Lodge. We still need more dancers and drummers and if you are interested in the Native American dancing or drumming please contact me at 561-739-9762. Come and be a part of Aal-Pa-Tah's fastest growing competition at Section Conference and NOAC.

WWW,

Connor Carnes

Hitchiti Chief

Order of the Arrow Troop Representative Program

Brothers,

The OATR (Order of the Arrow Troop Representative) Program is running well. All OA Troop Reps should have been contacted to obtain further contact information. If you are an OA Troop Representative in your Troop and have not been contacted please contact your Chapter Chief or myself at IMW1122@Yahoo.com or 561-847-1922. Their are OATR trainings at all Lodge events. We would like all OATRs to attend training annually to ensure that they can best serve their Troops by providing essential information to the Troop about the OA so please make sure you attend the trainings.

WWW,

Ian Wagner

Troop Rep Chairman

Awards Presented at the Lodge Banquet



Founders Award

David Carlson and Elliott Taft



Adviser's Award

Michael McLoughlin and James Herrera



Lodge Distinguished Service Award

The Olbrych Family (Chris, Kristina, and Dan)

Arrowmen Becoming Brotherhood Members in 2011

AJ Brands
Paul Brennan
Steve Brubaker
Michael Bychek
Riley Carlson
Daniel Cross
Debbie Cross
Robbie Crum
Scott Davis
Aaron Gluck
Chris Green
Austin Halle
Joshua Haritgan
Raymond Granberg
Robert Harding
Elliot Jaffe
Andrew Janeczek

Matthew Jones
Hunter Johnson
Thomas Johnson
Matt Kastelic
Grant Kazi
Nick Keller
Brandon Kiernan
Brandon LaRosa
James Leach
Scott Leikala
Robert Livingstone
Chris Mancuso
John Masterson
Brandon McKay
George Miller
Matthew Mirandi
David Moss

Cheryl Nagle
Hung Nguyen
Nick Nickerson
Chris Oster
Ross Pantone
Chase Patterson
Austin Perez
Patrick Sovine
Michael Springthorpe
Connor Sturgis
Will Tremml
Gui Vazquez
Nick Vazquez
Christian Wright
Justin Wright
David Wysong
Gregory Yentz

National Youth Leadership Training

Hello Fellow Brothers,

If you haven't attended National Youth Leadership Training yet you are missing out on a great experience. In NYLT, you learn about being a leader and develop and hone your leadership skills so that you can better serve your Troop, Lodge, and Council. The staff of NYLT are second to none and we are more than able and willing to guide you on your path to becoming an effective leader. Troops, Crews, and colleges look highly upon this training and it even serves as a prerequisite for leadership positions in some Troops. NYLT will be held from July 15th-21st and is the experience of a lifetime. To attend NYLT you need to have:



- ◆ Attained 13 years of age by the time of the course
- ◆ Earned the First Class rank
- ◆ Obtained a recommendation from you unit leader

If you are interested in signing up for the 2012 NYLT Course, please contact the Gulf Stream Council office at (561)694-8585 or you can look online at <http://www.gulfstreamcouncil.org/ytraining.asp> for more info. You can ask anyone who has ever attended the course and we all will tell it is not something you want to miss.

WWW,

Ian Wagner

Course Leader

Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge 237
Gulf Stream Council, Inc.
Boy Scouts of America
8335 North Military Trail
Palm Beach, FL 33410-6329

“Change Service Requested“

