

# Gator Tales

www.aal-pa-tah.org



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Sept 2013

## Fall Ordeal



My Brothers,

Fall Ordeal is going to be by the best one we have had yet! With many new Scouts going through their Ordeal to successfully complete it, I want to see each and every one of you out there to congratulate them and encourage them to come back to other Lodge weekends.

With an awesome theme like Medieval Times, and a renaissance festival Saturday night, and the meals we have planned, I don't see any excuse out there that could persuade me from not seeing you at camp the weekend of September 20-22<sup>nd</sup>. The weekend will be featuring Cheerful Service topped with human basketball, human bowling, jousting, Lodge Ball and many more with a 237 Surprise following the Renaissance Festival..... So come on out and join us for our Lodge's Fall Ordeal!

WWW,

*James Herrera*



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# Chiefly Speaking



To all of the Brothers in Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge #237, I would like to say that I am humbled and honored to serve as your Lodge Chief for the 2013-2014 year. It is a privilege to have been elected to serve this Best Lodge in S-4. Myself, the Lodge Officers, and the Committee Chairmen have a lot of new and exciting activities in store for the year ahead.

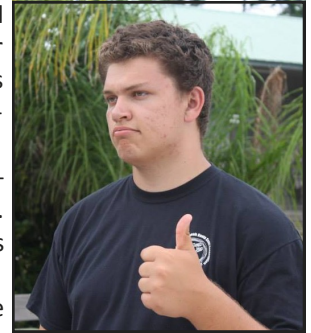
I urge all Brothers in Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge #237 to attend the next Lodge weekend, the Fall Ordeal, which will be held at Camp Tanah Keeta on September 20-22. It will be the last Ordeal weekend for this year's class of Arrowmen at Tanah Keeta. It is one of the most important weekends that our Lodge puts on, because it is the first time that the candidates will experience an OA event as well as our Lodge. A strong presence of Brothers in attendance would make the event even more memorable to our newest Brothers.

As most of you already know, Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge #237 will be host of the Section S-4 Seminars in 2014, this will be the third time that Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge #237 will be hosting Section Seminars. Therefore, we need a larger than normal presence at the upcoming Seminars on November 8-10. It is going to be a fun and memorable event for all Brothers in S-4 and is not an event to miss.

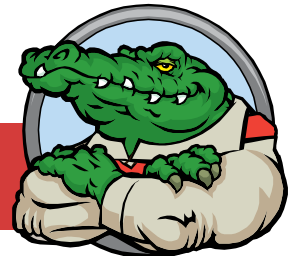
In closing, this year is going to be one of the best years, all around, that Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge #237 has seen. I look forward to working with each and every member in the Lodge, so that we can once again make Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge #237 the Best Lodge, All Around!

WWW,

*Daniel Olbrych*



# Adviser's Minute



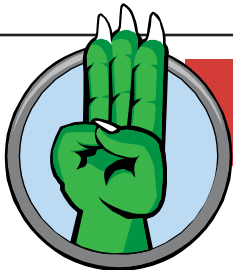
It is hard to believe that we are now back in the school year! The summer went by far too fast. A few weeks ago, we completed our Lodge Leadership Development Conference at Tanah Keeta. It was a great success!!! The prevailing theme for the event was LEADING CHANGE. Most of us are often resistant to change, especially when we are accustomed to doing things a particular way. But change happens and in order for us to be effective leaders we must learn to not just adapt, but to lead change so it does not lead us. The youth leaders of the Lodge embraced this challenge and we have some of the following NEW and EXCITING CHANGES going on in the Lodge.

1. We have a NEW Chapter!!! Osceola and part of Cheepatah were merged into a new district and they have selected the name Wyhome-Pa-Ta, which means Spirit Gator.
2. We have a NEW website! Thanks to our tech gurus, Sam Cavaleri and Evan W. who worked very hard all summer to make this happen!
3. We have a NEW "brand" as created by our new PR / Marketing Team under the direction of Josh Marker! Wait to you see this! This will roll out on new merchandise to include hats, shirts and belts!!
4. We have some NEW things going on in the Lodge Building thanks to the great renovations by our own Chris Olbrych!!!
5. We have NEW Chapter Chiefs, Officers, Chairmen and Advisers!!! This is an incredibly enthusiastic!!!!
6. This year we are going to do some great NEW things with our program to include themed weekends, new activities and much more.
7. Food Service is also leading change by going green to reduce our usage of disposables. They are also introducing NEW features in the menus including healthy options, themed menus and much more!!!
8. There are also some changes going in service – including a NEW Brownsea Island event which will be hosted by the Lodge, NEW changes to one of our great ceremony rings, NEW service projects and much more!

Thanks to everyone for your creative ideas, your hard work, and your leadership! You are going to make this a GRREEAAAATTTTTT year for APT!!!

WWW,

*Amanda Pantone*



# Officer Reports

## Vice Chief of Program

I'm looking forward to another great year with our Lodge Officers and kicking it off not only with LLDC but also with our September Ordeal, the weekend of September 20-22<sup>nd</sup>. A lot of time and planning has gone into this Ordeal with the theme being Medieval Times. So I plan to see you all there to welcome in our newest members after they complete their Ordeal Saturday evening followed by a Renaissance Saturday night!

WWW,

*James Herrera*

## Vice Chief of Inductions

My Brothers,

Brothers, we have a great year ahead of us! Please plan on being at the Ordeal September 20th-22nd at Camp Tanah Keeta. It promises to be a GREAT event! We also need everyone's help with Unit Elections. Elections must be scheduled by the September 19th and will be conducted October 1st to 31st. Please contact your Chapter Chief to help with these. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns please contact me at 561-267-8759 or [m.mcloug@gmail.com](mailto:m.mcloug@gmail.com)

WWW,

*Mike McLoughlin*

## Vice Chief of Service

My Brothers,

Hello fellow Arrowmen, I am Matt Jones, Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge's 2013-2014 Vice Chief of Service. My main focuses for the upcoming year are to rebuild the Machek Trail Crew, strengthen our support of the community by raising attendance in the "One day of Service" projects, and to make Aal-Pa-Tah the "BEST ALL-AROUND LODGE" once more.

During the past few years, the Machek Trail Crew has lost its presence in the Lodge's eye, and as a result the Trail Chief has been over worked. Over the next year, I hope to successfully rebuild the Trail CREW to its once great status and in doing so give our Lodge's members yet another activity to experience through the Order of the Arrow. As a Trail Crew member you would start your hike Friday night and spend Saturday on the trail; repairing or replacing blazes, clearing trails, and having fun with friends. Anyone who is interested in spending a weekend out readying the trails of TK for your fellow Scouts, please contact me.

WWW,

*Matt J.*

## Lodge Treasurer

Brothers,

During the next year, I will be serving as your Lodge Treasurer. Previously I held this post from March 2010 to May 2012. My responsibilities as Treasurer will include overseeing the Lodge Box, keeping track of spending and income of Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge, and creating a budget for the year 2014. The next Lodge weekend is the Fall Ordeal, which is September 20-22, 2013. Be sure to attend and visit the Lodge Box during the weekend!

WWW,

*George Cooper*

## Lodge Historian

Brothers,

I'd like to start by thanking you for entrusting me as Lodge Historian. Specifically, I plan to remake the kings cup display and work on preserving the lodge history as we move forward. If anyone has any ideas please let me know. I intend to keep an accurate lodge history and I wish to take the position of historian to the next level.

WWW,

*Christopher Olbrych*

## Lodge Secretary

My Brothers,

A lot is going on. Not only do we have a brand new website to complement the new Gator Tales but we are also working on rebranding our lodge with new merchandise including t-shirts, hats, belts, belt buckles, and many other miscellaneous items. If you would like to have a say in how the designs are going to look, feel free to talk to me or Josh M, our branding chairman.

Also going on is the creation of next year's patch set. If you have any ideas also see me or Josh Marker. I'm looking forward to a great ordeal and I hope to see you all there.

WWW,

*Aaron G.*



# Chapter Corner

## A-ban-iki

Brothers,

Welcome back! Prepare yourselves for another action packed Aal-Pa-Tah year. Our year is getting kicked off with some awesome events. Fall Ordeal will be the 21st and 22nd of Sept. at TK and we're going to have an awesome time so come on out and have some fun. For those of you who are Ordeal members eligible for Brotherhood, start working on the requirements. All this can be found at the new Lodge website [www.aal-pa-tah.org](http://www.aal-pa-tah.org). Feel free to contact me at [gyentz@gmail.com](mailto:gyentz@gmail.com) if you need anything or have questions.

WWW,

*Greg G.*

A-bani-ki Chapter Chief

## Oi-Ya-Tah

Brothers,

I'm looking forward to serving you all as your new chapter chief. For our new year, I'm glad to be working with our new Chapter Advisor Ken Smith, our new Chapter Vice Chief Michael Riley, and new Treasurer Braxton Papsidero. We are trying to breathe new life into our Chapter and encourage participation from all our members so come out to our meeting. Come on out to Fall Ordeal and get involved in growing our chapter. Any questions feel free to contact me, our advisors, and any of the officers.

WWW,

*Jeremy J.*

Oi-Ya-Tah Chapter Chief

## Wyhome-Pa-Ta

For those of you who did not come to the LLD and do not know, Osceola and Cheepatah have now combined. All those who attended the LLD have voted as to the new name of the new Chapter. We have decided to use the name Wyhome-Pa-Tah, meaning Spirit Gator. Last time Osceola had a meeting, we did the Loxahatchee River Run. All involved walked away having had the experience of a lifetime and getting a lot of new stories. Unfortunately, only two other Scouts had the chance to join me on this.

I am personally hoping to get this new Chapter going strong and staying strong, with meetings of more than 3 Scouts. We will be holding our Chapter meetings on the first Sunday of every month at 1 pm. except for when it falls on a holiday weekend, when it will be on the 2nd Sunday at 1 pm. The location of the meetings will change monthly based on our activities. The activities and places will be decided at the meetings so if you have an idea please come and voice it!

WWW.

*Seth A.*

Wyhome-Pa-Tah Chapter Chief

## Nee-Ke-Wa

I am honored to be serving as Nekeewa's Chapter Chief. We meet the third Thursday of each month at roundtable. I am interested if anyone had any ideas about where they would like to meet or ideas to help the chapter grow and thrive. Contact me at 772-341-4669 or [nekeewa@gmail.com](mailto:nekeewa@gmail.com)

WWW.

*Everett P.*

## Pan-A-Sofee

I hope you all had a great summer break. I have been holding Chapter meetings in Clewiston since most of the members of Pan-A-Sofee are located there. If there is anyone who has a better location for us to meet monthly my email address is [rponce4@embarqmail.com](mailto:rponce4@embarqmail.com).

I hope to see everybody at the Fall Ordeal and look forward to a great year for our growing Chapter.

WWW.

*Nick P.*

Pan-A-Sofee Chapter Chief

# Section Seminars



Brothers,

Section Seminars is right around the corner! This great Section Event will be held November 8th-10th at Camp Soule, hosted by Timuquan Lodge. This is the LAST Section Seminars before we host in November 2014. We need everyone to go so that we can have a strong presence and learn how a good Seminars is run so that we can make ours GREAT!

The weekend cost is \$48, which includes transportation and the registration fee! I highly encourage EVERYONE to attend this event! Also, if you would like to help with Section Seminars 2014, please send me an email at [m.mcloug@gmail.com](mailto:m.mcloug@gmail.com).

In WWW,

*Mike McLoughlin*

Section Seminars HOST Chairman 2014





# The Forum

## The Forum

The Forum is a place in GT where everyone from Chairmen to Arrowmen can speak. We accept all submissions, so if you have something you want to say in the next issue, please submit it to [lodge237@gmail.com](mailto:lodge237@gmail.com)

## Ceremonies Team

Hello Brothers do you want to help the Lodge induct new Brothers and help us grow? If so, then joining the Ceremonies Team is the place for you. Come join us and learn the true meaning of the Order of the Arrow that can only be found in the Ceremonies. With your help our Candidates and Brothers will be able to see what we represent and you can spark the Fire in our new and continued Brothers. To join, call or email at 561-602-6333 or [Christopher@chrisclaridge.com](mailto:Christopher@chrisclaridge.com).

WWW,  
*Christopher C.*

## Registration

Hello from your friends in registration!! We have a few reminders for everyone. Starting at the Fall Ordeal, a permission slip is going to be required for each OA event you attend. If the form is not turned in you will not be allowed to participate until we have received it. A link to the form is on our website under event registration. Second, Mrs. Mundell is starting the daunting task of organizing our health forms. If she finds that we do not have a current one on file and you are registered for an upcoming event, she will email you and let you know. A link to the current form can be found on the Gulfstream Council website under forms. Remember you only need parts A and B for weekend events. If you have any questions feel free to email me at [majorshan@gmail.com](mailto:majorshan@gmail.com).

Also we will be looking for a few volunteers to help out with registration for the upcoming Ordeal. If you would like to volunteer just email me at the above email address.

WWW,  
*Shannon Straight*

## One Day of Service

The Lodge's One Day of Service is going to be held this October. We're still looking for a date but we will be sure to let you know, so please get with your Chapter Chief. Each Chapter will be responsible for creating a project for its community, with the Chapter Chiefs heading up that effort. Let's make a difference and give back to our community. If you have any questions contact your Chapter Chief or myself at (561) 482-8440.

WWW,  
*Gregory G.*

## Website Redesign

Hello. Over the summer we took on the job of completely redoing the Lodge's website. The old site was getting cluttered and we thought it was time to make it look cleaner. We made a page for all of the Chapters, so please go and visit your Chapter's page. I will try to update the site frequently.

If you find problems or just have any suggestions, please email us at [lodge237@gmail.com](mailto:lodge237@gmail.com). And just in case you have forgotten, the site is at [www.aal-pa-tah237.org](http://www.aal-pa-tah237.org).

WWW,  
*Evan W.*

## From the Kitchen

Greetings, Brothers,

In the ongoing effort to reduce our economic impact (and costs!), the kitchen staff has been working with Lodge Leadership to devise a few new policies. As always, we will need your help to succeed.

It is not uncommon for a single Brother to use ten or more cups during a weekend. As you might imagine, this can be quite costly and create a great deal of trash. In response to this problem, it has been decided that we will no longer provide cups at Lodge Weekends. We ask that everyone please bring their own cup or water bottle with them to events, beginning with the Fall Ordeal. Keep your eye on the Lodge Box and you might see some official Aal-Pa-Tah cups being sold sometime in the near future.

We would also like to put out the call for help - in more ways than one. We would like to get some new blood into the kitchen. There is quite a bit of work to be done, but working in the kitchen can also be a fun and educational experience. If you are interested, why not give it a shot? We also are looking to see if anyone has connections that can get us fresh fruits or vegetables in sufficient quantities for the weekend meals. If you do, please contact us at (772)713-0153.

The menu theme for Fall Ordeal is "Medieval". Hope to see you all there, and don't forget to bring your own cup!

WWW,  
*Chas Carlson*

# Summer Camp



As many of you may now know, Summer Camp 2013 the “Legends of the Loxahatchee” was a success. We delivered a great experience to all of our campers. So much so that Troops are already contacting council for the opportunity to sign up again for Summer Camp 2014.

What I believe made Summer Camp 2013 such a great success was, in a word, “staff”. But Summer Camp is not just about any one person theme or program, it is about the compilation of a talented ensemble of individuals who, in an orchestrated collaboration, deliver a program that is nothing short of magical.



# Summer Camp

And so we set our sights on Summer Camp 2014 and while we do not have a theme finalized, we do know that we have the most important ingredients, a phenomenal program, a beautiful camp and an energized group of enthusiastic alumni who are set and ready to do it again.

So how do we get the word out to those who did not experience the magic of Summer Camp 2013? We do it through the delivery of a presentation that conveys the excitement and fun that awaits every person that participates, both young and old alike. So whether you are visiting a unit to conduct an election or just at a Scouting event, I urge you to articulate from the heart, the phenomenal experience that awaits every participant when they come to camp for our summer program. Remind them that Tanah Keeta is our camp, a place of tradition and old Scouting values, a camp whose intrinsic value does not lie in its facilities, but in the preservation of its living spirit for us today and for the youth of tomorrow. Nothing is more powerful or persuasive than a message that comes from the heart.



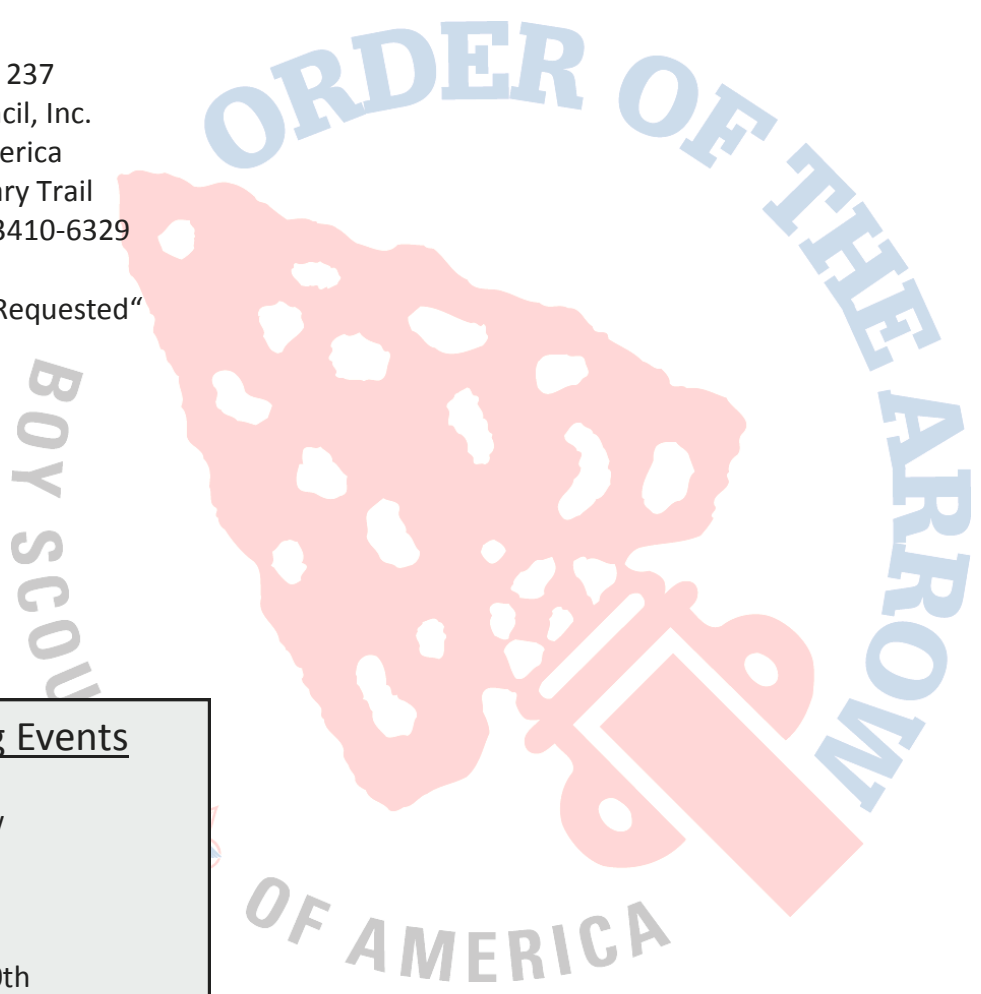
# Suds For Scouting

As many of you know, we have the Car Wash for Scouting coming up on September 28th, 2013. It's a great opportunity to give Cheerful Service and support our Council. One of our main goals is to serve our Council and support our Troops. We all need to do our part and get our units involved to make this a great success. Contact you local gas station, school, or place of worship and see if they'd like to host your car wash. We will be selling presale tickets for \$5 and are available now. Let's reach out to our community and really make this a success. Feel free to contact us at [boyscoutcarwash2013@gmail.com](mailto:boyscoutcarwash2013@gmail.com) if you have questions.



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"



## Upcoming Events

September 20-22

Summer Pow-wow

October 19th

Day of Service/LEC

Section Seminars

November 8th -10th