

Gator Tales



The Official Publication of Aal-Pa-Tah #237 Council 85

www.aal-pa-tah.org



Fall 2017

Annual Lodge Banquet

Brothers,

Just around the corner, we have the biggest celebration of the year: Banquet. At Banquet we meet to recognize the Arrowmen that took it upon themselves to make a difference in our lodge over the past year, and look forward to the next year as a lodge.

We will be having dinner, awards, a raffle, and a patch auction. You will have the opportunity to pay your dues and pick up your fast pass pack. So be sure to check out aalpatah.org to pick up your Fast Pass and register for Banquet!

WWW,

Kyle Webb

Banquet Chairperson



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Gator Tales Staff

Lodge Secretary

Justin Krum

Editor

Advisor

Mr. Robert

Contact

Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge

Lodge237@gmail.com

Visit us at www.aal-pa-tah.org



Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge 237



apt237



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Chiefly Speaking



Brothers,

Every time you wear your Class A uniform, you bear the insignia of our lodge, the OA pocket flap. To wear this emblem entitles certain responsibilities. You, an Arrowman, must embody the principles of our Order, Brotherhood and Cheerful Service. An Arrowman is a friend, a servant, and a brother.

But.. Have you ever thought what it means to be an Arrowman? It's certainly a conversation I have with myself from time to time. How do others see us? What can we do to reach out to our fellow scouts? How do we help, and how do we serve?

Our organization serves a noble purpose. 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. There is a place for you.

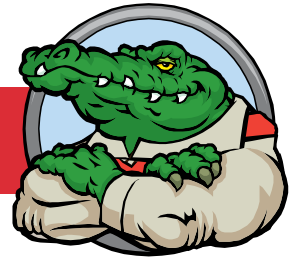
Leadership is a burden, and the results are the reward. I encourage you brothers, to seek out opportunities, big or small, to serve within your unit, chapter, and lodge. Our lodge is now nearing the end of its 75th Anniversary, and we turn our sights towards a bright future. As we develop our program and expand our outreach, our lodge will grow and prosper, and our message of selfless service towards others will continue to touch the hearts of Arrowmen near and far. Congratulations on 75 years, and here's to many more!

In Wimachtendienk, Wingolauisik, and Witahemui,

Robert Ulrich

Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge Chief

Adviser's Minute



Brothers,

2017 saw a lot of great changes in our Lodge! With so many of our "established" leadership going off to college, the time was right for our young brothers to step up and take ownership in the leadership roles of APT. Many of our current officers are in their first and second year of holding a position. The LEC has done a great job putting together some great events, with new faces in leadership roles, and trained many new leaders through our Lodge Leadership Development in August.

This past year Aal-Pa-Tah has continued to support Tanah Keeta in many ways. At Spring Ordeal we completed a rather extensive list of service projects and did a great job of cleaning out many of the common areas around camp. The following weekend, APT was once again integral to the running of the 2nd Annual Gator Grind. At Summer Gathering, we did a fantastic job of getting TK ready for Summer camp, building tents.

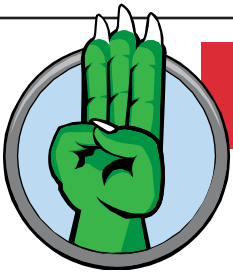
For Fall Festival, we were dealt a serious curve ball when Hurricane Irma hit, and hit camp pretty hard. There were hundreds of trees down, many of which blocked access to the campsites and many of the roads throughout camp. We had over 150 brothers show up at camp to clear the debris. Teams were sent to all parts of camp and removed the fallen trees, cut and stack firewood, and remove all of the smaller debris. During the rescheduled Fall Festival, we successfully helped run the second annual Gator Grind and the inaugural Gator Trail Run. I could not have been more proud of the job that APT did to make sure that the event was a success. It is more than safe to say that APT saved the day! Not only did we manage to do our part for Gator Trail, but we also completed a rather extensive request list of about 30 items that needed to be addressed at camp. Crossing each one off of the list as the day went on and handing over a completed checklist to the Rangers was a true testament to the APT spirit of giving!

We also have several new and exciting accomplishments – life size chess, APT 237 75th Anniversary book and the 2018 *Where to Go Camping Guide*. *Winter fellowship is slated to see the installation of the hammock stand and the knot tying wall – but delayed thanks to Irma.*

It is great to see so many new faces getting involved in the leadership of the Lodge. But there is always room for more! This is your Lodge – I encourage you to get involved. There are always spots to fill, special projects, and other opportunities for both youth and adult.

In WWW,

Mr. Whalen



Officer Reports

Vice Chief of Program

My Brothers,

The lodge is entering a new era, we are in need of curious, hardworking, dedicated individuals to join our Order of the Arrow Program Committees. This committee is focused on getting as many people involved in the planning and execution of our wonderful weekends.

If you are interested in helping the Program Committees in any capacity, please email lodge237@gmail.com.

WWW,

Nicholas Boekholder

Vice Chief of Service

My Brothers,

We have great plans for the future of service in our beautiful camp. We are planning on building a knot tying wall that will help Scouts understand and memorize the techniques behind tying knots. It will be especially useful for new Scouts at Tanah Keeta summer camp. We will also be renovating the Order of the Arrow fire-pit in front of the lodge building. Stay tuned for more service reports.

WWW,

Cameron Whalen

Lodge Treasurer

My Brothers,

Thank you all for coming out to the Fall Festival Fiesta at Tanah Keeta in November! All of your hard work and dedication towards helping the Gator Trail made it run unbelievably smoothly. I hope to see you all at the next event, the Lodge Banquet, which will be one of the best Banquets the lodge has ever hosted!

Also, please contact me at lodge237@gmail.com if you wish to help out at the Lodge Box on weekends!

WWW,

Matthew Grabasch

Lodge Secretary

My Brothers,

With this new era the lodge is entering, we will continue to need tech-savvy Arrowmen to fill leadership positions to help the lodge grow. If you are interested in helping with Gator Tales, the Lodge Website, or Lodge Social Media, please let me know.

If you are interested in helping to edit Gator Tales, run the Lodge Website, or manage the Social Media, contact lodge237@gmail.com

WWW,

Justin Krum



Chapter Corner

Wyhome-Pa-Tah

Brothers,
Fall Festival and Winter Fellowship both had a great turnout! Let's continue to make Wyhome-Pa-Tah's presence known to the rest of Aal-Pa-Tah! As a reminder about Remind: Wyhome-Pa-Tah has set up a Remind101 account. You can text the number 81010 with the message "@wyho" to receive updates from the Chapter Officers. Also, we have changed our meetings to the third Wednesday of the month at Grove Park Elementary. I hope to see you there!
WWW,

Josh Caudill

Contact: wyhomepatah@gmail.com

A-Bani-Ki

Brothers,
First I would like to thank everyone who attended Winter Festival and our amazing archers who brought us 1st place in the archery competition at Winter Festival. Another amazing accomplishment is that we are almost complete with OA elections as of now we have 1 election left to complete so for all of you who have been helping run elections you all are amazing.

As 2017 closes out A-Bani-Ki is working on new shirts as well. We also recently acquired brand new Chapter Flags which we will be able to bring to lodge weekends and Chapter functions. Speaking of which we have OA mentoring day coming up in March and we will need as much help as possible so please contact me for that information. Our next Chapter Meeting will be at Everglades roundtable on 1/22/18 at Chancellor Charter School.

WWW,

Kyle Webb

Contact: oaevergladesaalpatah@gmail.com

OA Unit of Excellence

Since the Troop is the primary and most vital platform from which the Scouting Program is delivered, therefore it is only right that the OA supports the units of our council to the best of our ability. The OA Unit of Excellence Award is given to units that excel in incorporating the OA into their annual planning and participate in the lodge in elections, lodge events and meetings, & implement the OA Troop Representative program. The award is broken into five major parts:

- 1) Leadership: Implement the OA Representative program in your unit
- 2) Participation: At least 50% of unit OA members attend a Lodge event in addition to their Ordeal
- 3) Elections: Hold an Election and have 100% of elected candidates complete their Ordeal
- 4) Planning: Maintain an active planning process that prevents overlap between Lodge and unit events
- 5) Conversion: At least 30% of eligible Troop members seal their membership by converting to Brotherhood.

Section Conference

Brothers,

Section conference is quickly approaching. This year, Section Conference will take place from April 13-15, 2018, at Camp Miles in Punta Gorda, Florida. This is an annual gathering of lodges from our section. There will be several exciting and informative seminars that are rich in Native American dance, drum, and ceremonies; and other ceremonies that will allow Arrowmen to better improve their leadership and craft-making skills. In addition to this, there are several competitions, ranging from volleyball to dodgeball to basketball, for us to participate in as a lodge. Remember, this is not just an inter-lodge competition; this is a gathering of lodges to rededicate themselves to our founding principles: brotherhood, cheerfulness, and service.

Registration is fast approaching, so please, get your payments in as soon as possible, and register at <https://www.aalpatah.org/on-line-payments-1>. There will be vans for travel to and from Tanah Keeta.

This is an incredible experience, and you won't want to miss out!



The Forum

The Forum

The Forum is a place in GT where everyone from Chairman to Arrowman 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

Fast Pass 2018

Brothers,

Fast Pass 2018 is already on sale on the Lodge Website! What is Fast Pass?



Well, Fast Pass will include:

- Registration for all 5 events **AT A REDUCED PRICE:**
 - Awards Banquet: January 6th, 2018
 - Spring Ordeal: March 2-4, 2018
 - Summer Gathering: May 4-6, 2018
 - Fall Festival: September 7-9, 2018
 - Winter Fellowship: December 7-9, 2018
- The **COMPLETE** 2018 patch set. To be distributed at Banquet
- Personalized FAST PASS name tag and FAST PASS lanyard (**order by December 21, 2017**)
- Dues for 2018!

FAST PASS 2018 is perfect for any Aal-Pa-Tah Arrowman! Order now on www.aal-pa-tah.org!

WWW,
Gator Tales Writing Staff

GATOR TALES HELP WANTED

- **Must be proficient with Microsoft Publisher, or willing to learn**
- **Must maintain active status with Lodge**
- **Must go to Section Conference 2018**
- **Willingness to cooperate with other people on Gator Tales articles**

CONTACT lodge237@gmail.com IF INTERESTED

Early 2018 Lodge Calendar

Awards Banquet: January 6th at Tanah Keeta

OA Day: February 3rd at Tanah Keeta

Spring Ordeal: March 2-4th at Tanah Keeta

Section Conference: April 13-15 — Page 4

Summer Gathering: May 4-6th at Tanah Keeta

OA Days at Tanah Keeta Summer Camp



2018 Aal-Pa-Tah Full Patch Set

Brotherhood

Brothers,

At Winter Fellowship we had 3 Arrowmen go through brotherhood! For those of you who didn't go through brotherhood this past weekend and are eligible there will be an opportunity at OA Day. If you have any Brotherhood questions, feel free to contact me at ne-keewa@gmail.com. I look forward to seeing you all at OA Day.

In WWW,

Andrew Sasser

Southern Region Chief

Dear Aal-Pa-Tah 237,

Thank you so much for having me down for the 2017 Winter Fellowship! I loved my weekend at TK, having the chance to get to know all of you and find out what Aal-Pa-Tah is really all about.

From Friday night's opening cracker barrel to Sunday morning goodbyes, I felt extremely welcomed by your lodge's members. I thoroughly enjoyed watching Z-Man take the gaga ball championship Saturday morning and helping with Brotherhood counseling in the afternoon.

When I first met you at the S4 Conference at Sand Hill Scout Reservation, I was anxious to have the chance to meet you again in December- you did not disappoint!

Through the year, I have had the chance to visit many lodges, but I can honestly say that none of them seemed to have much fun (and have such a focus on camp service) as Aal-Pa-Tah. I can not wait to see you all again, whether it is at NO-AC or NLS in 2018. If ever I can be of assistance, all you have to do is let me know.

WWW,

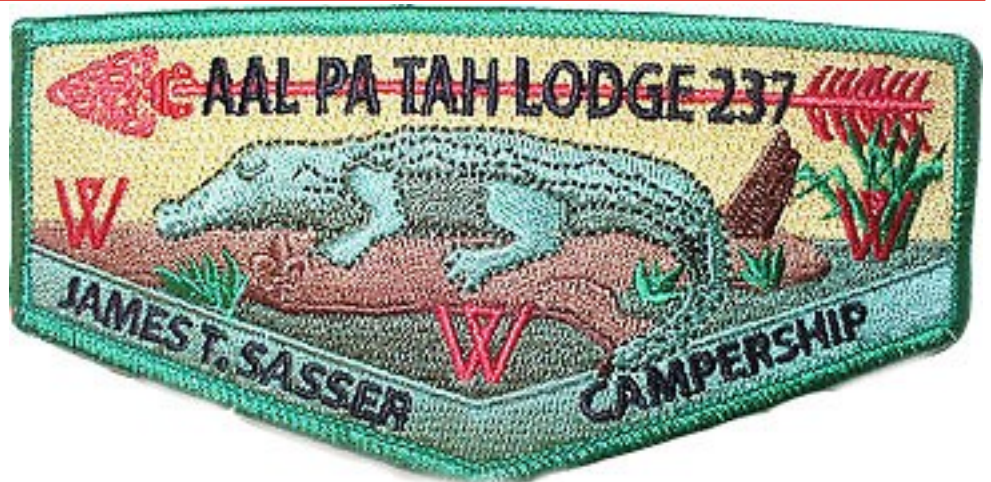
Harrison D. Fry

2017 Southern Region Chief

James T. Sasser Campership

Brothers,

The James T. Sasser Campership helps to fund the Camperships that many Arrowmen and Scouts around Gulf Stream Council rely on.



By purchasing the patch that is pictured, you can help the Lodge donate to the James T. Sasser Campership fund to further support your fellow Scouts.

These patches will be sold at Lodge Box at future events and from the Gulf Stream Council office in Palm Beach Gardens, FL.

WWW,

Gator Tales Writing Staff

Winter Fellowship Photos


Southern Region Chief is bestowed with
Aal-Pa-Tah Swag



Brotherhood Ceremony
grounds.



Circle-Up on Sunday



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

January 6th

Lodge Banquet

February 3rd

Brotherhood Day/Trade-O-Ree

March 2nd-4th

Spring Ordeal