



The OFFICIAL Publication of Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge #237, Order of the Arrow

# GATOR TALES

Volume 3

www.Aal-Pa-Tah.org

Issue 3

## GATOR TEETH

Arrowman service Award; details on page 2

Officers' Reports See page 3

New Brotherhoods Page 6

National Thoughts Page 7

Lodge Officer Contact List Page 8

## CALENDER

September 20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>, 2002: Fall Fellowship at Tanah Keeta.

October 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>, 2002: Council Camporee (OA Service Corps)

November 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>, 2002: Section-4S Section Seminars. [www.sections4s.org/index.html](http://www.sections4s.org/index.html)

## OA WEB CORNER

National OA Website: <http://www.oa-bsa.org/>

Section-4S Website: <http://www.sections4s.org/>

Aal-Pa-Tah Online: <http://www.aal-pa-tah.org/>

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## NOAC 2002 Report

by Stephen Brown

As expected, the 2002 National Order of the Arrow Conference was one of the biggest ever! Aal-Pa-Tah had 30 members in attendance and Section-4S had the largest attendance in the country. Aal-Pa-Tah delegates truly shined. At the conference, Arrowmen from Aal-Pa-Tah competed in several competitions. Travis Sheehan placed 4<sup>th</sup> in the Nation for Fancy Dancing and James Archer achieved First Place in the National Lip-Sync competition! Derek Kerley single-handedly won the first round of 6-man volleyball.

Founders Day was an incredible success for Aal-Pa-Tah. Several National Committee members stopped by our booth and unofficially named it the best booth at Founders Day. Arrowmen were invited to Aal-Pa-Tah's



The 237 contingent outside of Mammoth Cave in Georgia

booth to dig for seashells, win prizes, and get their pictures taken with Jess and Manda, the two Ms. Aal-Pa-Tahs. The booth collected over 500 flaps from around the nation to be auctioned off in the Lodge Auction.

The Conference was just the beginning! Aal-Pa-Tah showed true spirit on the way back to Florida at the Hard Rock Cafe in Nashville where nearly the whole contingent commandeered the stage and did The Gator and The YMCA for the crowd of unsuspecting Hard Rockers. Additional stops were made at the Kentucky Derby, The Ocoee River (for some white water rafting), Mammoth Cave, Stone Mountain, the Coke Cola Museum in Atlanta, and several other fun notable places. Make plans now to attend NOAC 2004 at Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa. Aal-Pa-Tah will once again show the Country that we are the best!



The dancers of Aal-Pa-Tah before competition at NOAC (L to R): Mike Griffiths, Kyle Rogers, Corey Reynolds, Scott Smith, Evan Mason, Travis Sheehan, and Ryan McReynolds.

## Council Camporee

Camporee Patch	\$3
Back Patch	\$8
Survivor Pith Helmet	\$8
Neckerchief	\$10
OA Rendezvous Flap	\$3
Chance To Participate	

On Camporee Staff Priceless

Well not really, it actually costs \$20, but it includes a number of perks. Some of the perks include a hat or visor, t-shirt, service dangle, food on Saturday and Sunday, as well as everything a participant gets.

Council Camporee is approaching fast and if you haven't signed up for the service corps, now is the time. The camporee has a Survivor based theme and will be held on October 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>. We are expecting over 3000 scouters to participate; therefore we need a service corps of at least 100.

This the perfect way give back to your council for what it has provided for you. Whether you just became a Brother or you have been one for years, it doesn't matter; you can all participate on staff.

Some of the activities, as a staff member, will include running a Boy Scout competition, setting up camporee, and running various other events throughout the weekend. All competitions are Survivor related, hence the theme, not just your typical camporee competitions.

All you have to do to sign up is send in that application you received via mail or call council and register over the phone at (561) 694-8585. For question or comments contact me Randy Wertepny.

Yours in Service,  
Randy Wertepny  
(561) 722 - 1090  
[randysw@hotmail.com](mailto:randysw@hotmail.com)

## Arrowman Service Award (Year Two)

### Foreword

The Order of the Arrow's vision for the future emphasizes a strategy of increased service to the Boy Scouts of America by Arrowmen. To reward those Arrowmen who go beyond their immediate responsibilities to help and guide others to new heights, the Order of the Arrow created the Arrowman Service Award. The award focuses on three areas of service: personal, chapter/lodge activities, and general service to the community.

### Timeline

The timeline of the award began on January 1, 2001, and will end on December 31, 2003. The award may be earned in the year 2001, 2002, and 2003. All first time recipients may purchase the original award (the white ribbon with the gold compass). Arrowmen who earn the award more than once during the outlined three year period (2001-2003) may purchase the silver attachment for having completed this award a second time (2002 or 2003 only) and the bronze attachment for having completed this award a third time (2003 only). The attachment will be worn on the award's white ribbon. Signatures of approval will be required for each requirement.

### Design

The design selected is the arrowhead with the compass rose. The compass rose symbolizes direction; the path ahead for one's travel. Since our strategic plan also offers direction for the Order's future, the compass rose is appropriately super-imposed over the arrow-

head. The arrowhead will be red, with the compass rose in gold. A solid white ribbon, representing the new direction for the Order, is most appropriate. A wallet size certificate is issued with each award.

### Criteria

The award focuses on three areas of service: personal, chapter/lodge activities, and general service to the community.

#### Personal: (Complete All)

- Remain active in your unit (or, if an adult not in a unit, active in your Scouting role) through at least 75% meeting attendance.
- Help an Ordeal member attain Brotherhood.
- Mentor a Scout (or, if an adult, another Scouter) in your unit.
- Rededicate yourself to the principles of the Order of the Arrow through discussions with a lodge officer or adviser.

#### Chapter/Lodge Activity: (Complete Any Three)

- Participate on a lodge camping promotion or unit elections team.
- Attend and serve in a leadership capacity at two lodge functions.
- Serve as a chapter or lodge officer or as the Chairman of a lodge operating committee.
- Attend a Section Conclave, National Leadership Seminar, or National Conference.
- Serve as a trainer in an Order of the Arrow training event.

#### Service: (Complete One)

- Participate in council, chapter, or lodge service project.
- Serve as an Elangomat at an Ordeal.

Completed items may be signed off by the Arrowman's Scoutmaster, Lodge Chief and Lodge Adviser. Criteria sign off sheets may be downloaded at <http://www.oa-bsa.org/misc/anr/asa/> and when completed must be turned into the Lodge Chief via Debbie Clineman at the Council Office.



The certification card and award dangle for the Arrowman Service Award.

## Scout Mentoring and Outreach Report

What a day we had for the Mentoring and Outreach Program on June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2002. One of the hi-lights was the Gyro (Orbetron); just like the one astronauts train on. The event was set up for Troop 406 from Treasure Coast district and Troop 582 from Indian River District to learn about the Requirements for Tenderfoot, 2<sup>nd</sup> Class, and 1<sup>st</sup> Class.

The sessions on Knots were taught by Len Hungerford, District Commissioner for the Treasure Coast, and Brad Hungerford. Backpacking was taught by Len and Brad Hungerford. First Aid was taught by Paul

Skurnick, Scoutmaster of Troop 422. Many thanks go out to Brother Capt. Tom Chewning for recruiting for the event. Tents was taught by Jean Stout, Tamra Zuker, Jerry Soars, and Cody Nolan. Knife and Ax use was taught by Bill Duffy and Andrew Stein. District Commissioner Barry Stein, who added a lot of humor to the event, was a judge for the "walk on water with 2x4" race. Rich Rexford and Mary Ann did spectacular job teaching cooking; Rich did a great job teaching Dutch oven cooking and showing how to cook in a cardboard oven. Troop 582 taught Troop 406 how to make

English-muffin pizzas during the fancy dining extravaganza; it was a spectacular success. The Scouts and adults could not get enough of

The pizzas and the lunch hour ran into over time until all the fixings were gone.

After lunch we had games. What was great about the games was seeing the Scouts from Troop 406 and Troop 582 having a lot of fun learning the games and competing with each other. Among other things in the afternoon, the knot relay was run by Len Hungerford and Greg Soles, Steven Hungerford did a nice job running the gyro ride, Elvin Manges talked about Venturing with everyone attending, Mary Ann Jones taught tinfoil cooking with great success (again no food was left over), and Troop 406 was presented with a troop flag made by Tamra Zuker.

The Mentoring and Scoutreach event was a great success. Many thanks to the Oi-yatah, A-Bani-ki, and Ne-Kee-Wa Chapters. Go Aal-Pa-Tah!

Regards,  
Bill Jones  
Mentoring Advisor  
wjones194@worldnet.att.net



Some of the Scouts who participated in the Mentoring event on June 29<sup>th</sup>.

## Chiefly Speaking

Brothers,

I would like to ask everyone, what is your foundation? In the dictionary, the word **foundation** is defined as *the basis upon which something stands or is supported*. Would that mean if you LOST a foundation, you would no longer stand, you would not be supported? My answer is yes.

At the National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC), our contingent heard the National Vice Chief, Riley Berg, speak about love. He spoke of how the world was in desperate need of love. He brought a spectacular point to the ears of all 7500 people in the crowd; EVERYONE in the Order had a special word whispered into their ear by Allowat Sakima, meaning 'to love one another'. These were not mere words, this was an admonition; a **foundation** which every Arrowman was charged to follow.

Three prominent and important founda-

tions of our Order, Brotherhood, Cheerfulness, and Service. The more I reflect on these three, they seem to be one. 'Cheerful Service', 'Serve your Brother', 'Be Cheerful in Brotherhood'. So fitly chosen, these three words and **foundations** mingle and mix to form a higher sense of happiness and success in life...that is, for those who follow them.

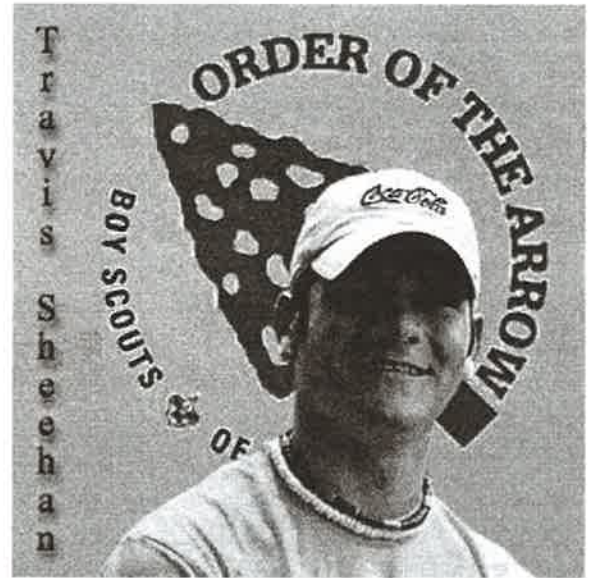
What is this babble you may ask? Well, this is my way of asking every Arrowman in our lodge to once again, like you did in your Ordeal, REFLECT on your pledges, honors, responsibilities, **FOUNDATIONS**.

We have an amazing year planned for every Arrowman in the great lodge of Aal-Pa-Tah #237. Congratulations to all of the newest brotherhood and ordeal members and I hope to see you all at Fall Fellowship and Council Camporee!

Yours in the preservation of the founda-

tions of our Order,

Travis Sheehan  
Lodge Chief  
dasjoker237@yahoo.com



Lodge Chief Travis Sheehan

## Vice-Chief's Beef

Brothers,

I hope you all had a great summer! Inevitably, summer into autumn ripened, and the changing of the seasons brings new joys and responsibilities to all of us.

Many of us are saddened of having to go back to school- but cheer up! You will appreciate your education someday. It may become hard to balance your time between work, school, and Scouting, but time management is what makes a Boy Scout so resourceful. I urge you to try your best to remain active in these activities, but all I can do is guide you, it is your responsibility to try to hang in there. I personally believe that good education and community involvement are two of the most rewarding things in life.

There are a few great upcoming weekends for those of you who can attend. Our Fall Fellowship is coming up on the weekend of September 20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>. The weekend will consist primarily of setting up the Council Camporee (which is October 4<sup>th</sup>), but it will also have carnivals and a campfire at night. Fall Fellowship will be a great mixture of Brotherhood, Cheerfulness, and Service. See the article on the Fall Fellowship in this issue of the *Gator Tales* for further details on the event!

This year we are not holding an Op-

eration-One Day, however; we are going to hold a new weekend, Winter Fellowship. It will be a weekend full of fun and games to close up the year with togetherness. This event will be held on the weekend of December 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>.

I hope to see you all at these upcoming events!

Yours in Cheerful Service,  
Scott Ellis  
Lodge Vice-Chief  
Phone Number: (561) 747-2262  
Email: [ellissm@netzero.net](mailto:ellissm@netzero.net)



Lodge Vice-Chief Scott Ellis

## Chee-Pa-Tah Chapter Report

Hello all of my fellow Chee-Pa-Tah Chapter brothers. Welcome to another action packed year filled with fun activities, seminars, and cheerful service. I would first like to again welcome all new Chee-Pa-Tah brothers; this is all brothers in Tradewinds District. They have worked hard to get here, now they need to see how fun the OA actually is. Next, I need your help in kicking off the OA Rep program. This program allows more information to get to the troops about the OA. If your troop has an OA Rep have him call me as soon as possible. If your troop does not have a rep, please call me so we can with your scoutmaster to appoint one. The Council Camporee is coming up and the OA needs your help by staffing

this event. If you have not signed up for this even as OA staff, do so as soon as possible. Finally, our chapter needs to have another chapter weekend. If you have any ideas give me a call. This could be a one day cookout, a fun weekend, or a weekend to give back to our camp. Whatever you want to do, but I need your input so I know what to plan. If you have any questions or comments feel free to call me Daniel Bialczak at 791-0134 or email me at [hombredelassrtas@hotmail.com](mailto:hombredelassrtas@hotmail.com).

WWW, Yours in brotherhood  
Daniel Bialczak  
Chee-Pa-Tah Chapter Chief

## Advisors Minute

WOW! What a NOAC. I know fun was had by all. I want to thank Steve Brown and Elam Patterson for all the hard work that went into the trip. I also want to thank the group for allowing me to join them on the way back; I had a great time. Our Section Chief Nick Digirolamo decided to give up his plane ticket to join us on the bus home. He told me to thank everyone for him also.

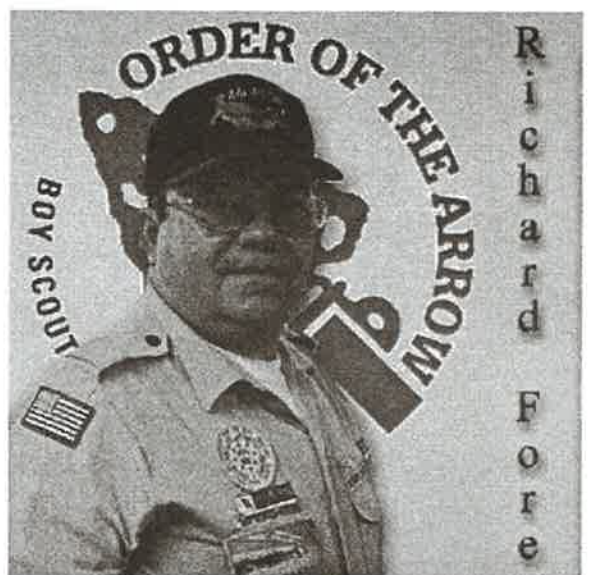
We had an awesome time at Mammoth Cave and the ride down the river was the best. You need to ask the youth about the Hard Rock in Nashville if they have not already told you about it.

Don't forget about the Fall Fellowship and the Council Camporee coming up in September and October. We need all the help we can get.

I want to take this time to personally thank the youth that have gone out of their way to get Brotherhood conversion done; my hat is off to you. We have had over 50 Ordeal members become Brotherhood members thanks to your efforts.

The 2004 Conference at TK will be here in no time. Please ask where you can help. Remember the Lodge grows one Arrowman at a time.

Yours in Brotherhood,  
Richard M. Fore  
Lodge Advisor  
rfore@aol.com



Lodge Advisor Richard Fore



Lodge Chief Travis Sheehan and Vice-Chief Scott Ellis discussion important lodge business inside Mammoth Cave. These guys never stop working...



National Chief Clay Capp and Brad Ellis at the Northern Tier Reunion during NOAC.



Section S-4S Section Chief Nick Digirolamo reflecting on how riding back from NOAC with Aal-Pa-Tah was the best decision he's ever made...



Lodge Chief Travis Sheehan everybody



At the Hard Rock Café in Griffiths, Kyle Rogers, Ryan



Brothers Scott Smith, Brad Ellis, and Evan Mason at the Founders Day Powwow.



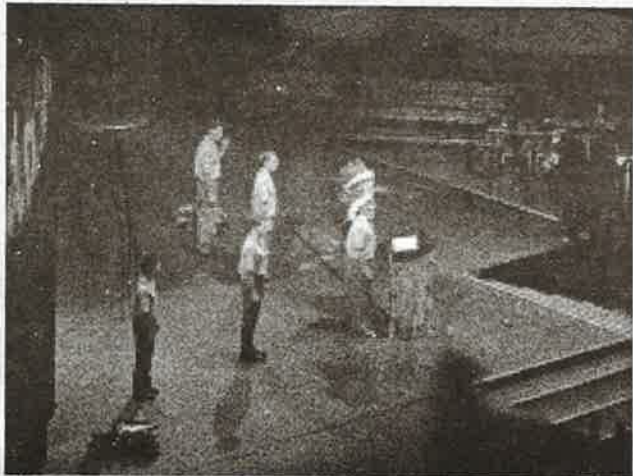
The lodge drum team competing at NOAC.



Dan Arnold, Brad Ellis, and Evan Mason in downtown Nashville, Tennessee. The sign says "Please do not sit on steps". Oops...



Lodge Vice-Chief Scott Ellis, Section S-4S Chief Nick Digirolamo, and Lodge Chief Travis Sheehan at the Coke Cola Museum in Atlanta.



*The National Officers during the Opening Show at NOAC.*



*Brothers Evan Mason and Brad Ellis in the Founders Day Powwow.*



*ville (L to R): Zam Zuker, Mike Reynolds, and Ryan Kidd.*



*The unofficially proclaimed best Founders Day Booth. Go 237!!!*



*The Aal-Pa-Tah contingent doing the Gator at the Hard Rock Café in Nashville.*



*Brad Ellis and Brother Martin Rubin of O-Shot-Caw Lodge #265 in the OA Museum at NOAC.*



*P3 Chief Stephen Brown, P2 Chief Brad Ellis, and Lodge Chief Travis Sheehan at the Coke Cola Museum in Atlanta.*



*Some of the contingent (all from Troop 751) outside of the Kentucky Derby Stadium.*

## Ponder your Purpose

The world needs you. Everyone in this world can be compared to a radiator, or an oil filter, or a fuel injector. We all work in different capacities to make the world function. There are a few key rules of life that must be followed in order to successfully fill your place in society.

The first is: Always be flexible. We all must be willing to change. The world is dynamic and thus we must be, as well, to fulfill our role in society.

Second: Always be willing to help out when needed. There is no magic force that makes things happen. Everything you experience is either part of nature or something that required the work of men. Often we take for granted the "little things" in life. For instance, it took at least 100 men to package and deliver the paper that this article is printed on (and one hamster to shred it and turn it into a nest). Likewise, it takes a dedicated group of Arrowmen to put on every lodge event. The Spirit of the Arrow does not magically produce lodge weekends, Section Conferences, or Camporees!

Third: Know your limits. Never take on more than you can handle. In the end it will

lead to worse results than declining the responsibility in the first place. You are not the only person in the world. Other people may have the time or skills needed to complete the task at hand.

Finally: Keep your word. When you agree to take on responsibility, see it through. When you give up a responsibility, all of the time that you held it is time that the next person will not have. There are some among us who have an exceptional level of dedication and often end up picking up the pieces at the last minute when the proverbial ball is dropped. Usually everything works out well because of the dedication involved, but often the juggling act of the extremely dedicated goes from juggling balls to bowling balls over night and it makes life unfairly difficult for the jugglers.

So where do you fit in? Well, that is a question that only you can answer. Ponder your purpose in the lodge, and more importantly, society. Reach for the stars, but know your limit. Always remember that the Spirit makes you awesome on the inside, but it is for you to show it on the outside.

-Your Friend

## OA Indian Summer 2003

by Travis Sheehan

Attention all Brothers!

The National Committee is offering a new conclave, the INDIAN SUMMER! The Indian Summer will take place from August 2<sup>nd</sup> through the 7<sup>th</sup> in 2003. It will take place at the lovely Ridgecrest Conference Center in Asheville, North Carolina. Now, who exactly can come to the Indian Summer? Well, any Arrowmen with an interest in learning more about American Indian culture and Arrowmen who wish to expand their skills and understanding of the Order's ceremonies are invited. The conference is projecting about 1,000 Arrowmen to participate in this event. The primary goal of this conference is to elaborate

and expand a participant's understanding of American Indian culture at a pace in which the students can learn more. Participants will also delve deeper into the ceremony world of settings, props, understanding the ten induction principals, symbolism, knowing the lines, and development of low-cost ceremonial costumes. Arrowmen will have the chance for hands on experience with American Indian crafts, singing, dancing, customs, traditions, Indian games, and conducting a powwow. For more information check out the Indian Summer page on the National OA Website at: <http://www.oa-bsa.org/events/n2002/live/thurmorn/indiansummer.htm>

## New Brotherhoods

The following twenty-five brothers sealed their membership in the Order and earned their Brotherhood at During Summer Camp 2002 at Tanah Keeta:

### Week 1:

Jon Bates  
Frank Bouchard  
Chris Chamberlin  
Andy Cornwell  
Aaron Davis  
Drew Davis  
Sean Gregory  
Chris Hall  
Joey Kahl  
David Pantone  
Jay Pantone

### Week 2:

William Johnston

### Week 3:

Josh Davis  
Kwentin Eastberg  
John Schirmer  
Richard Woods Sr.

### Week 4:

Dave Colonna  
Bob Losel  
Nathan Pawlack  
Russell Thaxter  
Ken Tolve  
Milo Valenic

### Week 5:

Daniel Caraballo  
Sean Curtain  
Tommy Mackell

Congratulations on taking the next step of your journey!

## 2002-2003 Lodge Calender

### September 20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>, 2002

Fall Fellowship at Tanah Keeta.

### October 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>, 2002

Council Camporee (OA Service Corps).

### November 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>, 2002

Section-4S Section Seminars.

<http://www.sections4s.org/index.html>

### December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2002

Summer Camp Staff Interviews at Tanah Keeta.

### December 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>, 2002

Winter Fellowship at Tanah Keeta.

### January 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>, 2003

Summer Camp Staff tryouts at Tanah Keeta.

### February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2003

Native American Experience at Tanah Keeta (Council Event).

### February 28<sup>th</sup>-March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2003

Spring Powwow at Tanah Keeta.

### April 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>, 2003

Section-4S Section Conference hosted by Semialachee Lodge #239 at Camp Wallwood.

<http://www.sections4s.org/index.html>

### May 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>, 2003

Mega Scout Show (OA Pig Roast) at Roger Dean Stadium.

### June 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>, 2003

Chapter Service Weekend at Tanah Keeta.

### June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2003

OA Callout at the Friday night campfire at TK Summer Camp.

### June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2003

OA Callout at the Friday night campfire at TK Summer Camp.

### July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2003

OA Callout at the Friday night campfire at TK Summer Camp.

### July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2003

OA Callout at the Friday night campfire at TK Summer Camp.

### July 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>, 2003

OA Callout at the Friday night campfire at TK Summer Camp & Summer Ordeal.

### August 2<sup>nd</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>, 2003

OA Indian Summer; Ridgecrest Conference Center in Asheville, North Carolina.

<http://www.oa-bsa.org/events/n2002/live/thurmorn/indiansummer.htm>

### Gator Tales Staff

Advisor - Tim Arnold  
Coordinator - Brad Ellis  
Editor - Dan Arnold

## Thoughts on The Nature of Camping

by Clay Capp, 2002 National OA Chief

The founders of both the Scouting Movement and the Order of the Arrow valued camping as a way to teach Scouting skills. But each Scout who has truly experienced the outdoors while camping will value camping for its own sake. True, it is in the outdoors that many Scouts learn how to tie their knots and their bandages, and first use a compass. But it is also true that the outdoors is where a Scout's self-reliance is fostered.

Anyone who has spent time in the outdoors, attuned to nature, will say that there is a special connection to be felt with the natural world. From that connection grows the skills needed to feel a confidence that can start in the woods and extend to life in general. Learning to cook cleanly in a camp, and how to "leave no trace" are important skills, but the reason they exist is because true campers are always looking for ways to maintain their connection with the natural world.

We all have an inclination toward nature. Whether it is expressed by watching sunsets or the Discovery Channel, it is enhanced when someone is immersed in a pristine outdoor place. Those that do not believe such a connection exists have not camped in earnest. Among campers it is commonly said during rough weather or a setback, "Well, you never

hear anybody say, 'Hey, remember that time we went camping and everything was so easy and it was sunny the whole time and nothing went wrong.'"

The reason we value the challenges of a rainstorm, or a missed trail marker (while those things are not preferable) is because overcoming the difficulty they represent proves to us that we are capable in the wilderness. It shows we are able to surmount obstacles with our own self-reliance and the combined efforts of our campmates and friends.

Outdoor camping promotion is part of the Order of the Arrow's purpose because we try to instill in Scouts the appreciation for the wilderness that leads to two things. The first is the feeling of accomplishment and teamwork resulting from successful time spent in camp. And the second thing, realized by all who have had a truly wilderness camping experience, is the value of our nation's - and the world's - natural resources. It is our hope that Scouts grow to become good stewards of our land, and encourage the good management of our irreplaceable wild places.

The Order of the Arrow provides two high adventure camping programs at the national level. Each provides the opportunity for Scouts to spend meaningful time in the wil-

derness.

The Order of the Arrow Wilderness Voyage at Northern Tier is Scouting's premier experience for Arrowmen. Besides working on conservation projects in a partnership with the National Forest Service, Arrowmen have the rare chance to immerse themselves in the pristine, untouched wilderness that is our nation's northern boundary waters. Scouts from around the country join together for this unique experience, spending a couple of weeks in the wilderness with fellow outdoors enthusiasts who become good friends.

The Order of the Arrow Trail Crew provides a way for Arrowmen to spend time with fellow campers in the backcountry of Philmont. In addition to working on trails to benefit future campers, the Scouts also spend time with fellow Arrowmen who also seek the wilderness experience.

I strongly recommend the OA Wilderness Voyage and Trail Crew as a great way to spend an extended period of time camping in an untouched wild place with quality Arrowmen from around the country.

This article can be found on the National OA Website at [http://oa-bsa.org/resources/thoughts/thoughts\\_02c\\_camping.htm](http://oa-bsa.org/resources/thoughts/thoughts_02c_camping.htm)

## Thoughts on An Arrowman's Primary Duty

by Riley Berg, 2002 National OA Vice Chief

Regardless of who we are, where we're from, and when we became members, each of us inducted as youth have something in common: we are members of the Order of the Arrow because our peers in our units selected us for the honor.

But why is it that we were chosen? The question actually goes much deeper, all the way back to the origins of the Order. When Dr. Goodman set out to create this organization, his thinking didn't just revolve around the boy. It was focused on the individual unit as well.

He is quoted as saying: "Let it be remembered that the Order of the Arrow was created to help the unit - to help it present its membership a better ideal of the inner qualities of the good Scout camper. Qualities of character, like cheerfulness and service, are hard for a boy or a man to understand in the abstract. They come easier when seen in human life. Let us realize the significance of the Order in the unit - for the unit is our best hope in Scouting."

The home of an Arrowman has always been his unit, and so it should continue to be.

The Scouts in our troops chose us for membership because they saw in us the qualities of a servant leader. Their hope was to recognize us for what we'd done, but most importantly for what we have yet to do.

As a Scout becomes more involved in the Order of the Arrow, finding the balance between troop and OA events can grow more difficult. Not too long ago, I remember having to decide between a troop camp out and a retreat my lodge was putting on. I chose the campout, and had a great time hiking in Sequoia National Park with the new Scouts in my troop, most who had never seen the area before.

The truth is, I don't always choose my troop outing. Sometimes I will make a commitment to provide service at an OA function that falls on a weekend the troop is going on a trip. Likewise, in the summer of 2000, I went to NOAC instead of on my troop's 50-mile hike. The key is to find a balance.

So often it seems that a good Arrowman is defined by his activity in the OA. Yet, when

you think about our primary duty - the unit - this isn't always true. I know Scouts in my own troop that make few OA meetings, and even fewer events. I see these same Arrowmen teaching eleven year-old Scouts how to fold a flag, or to tie a taut-line hitch. These same young men serving as Senior Patrol Leader, or at the front of the group when hiking through Yosemite. They may not be an active member of the Lodge Executive Committee, or the best Nutiket the ceremonies team has ever seen, but they're serving the youth back in the troop.

Besides our reason for being inducted, we all have another thing in common. Each of us has been endowed with the lessons of the Ordeal. We were told that "he who serves his fellows, is of all his fellows greatest". I'd ask that we all ponder those words, and ask ourselves what context Goodman might have put them, and how that might apply to our lives.

This article can be found on the National OA Website at [http://oa-bsa.org/resources/thoughts/thoughts\\_02vc\\_unit.htm](http://oa-bsa.org/resources/thoughts/thoughts_02vc_unit.htm)

## Order of the Arrow, New Strategic Plan 2003-2007

Presented at the 2002 National Order of the Arrow Conference, the Strategic Plan for 2003 - 2007 addresses how the National Committee plans to achieve our vision for the future of the Order of the Arrow. The plan is entitled "A Legacy of Servant Leadership." It

defines leadership, service, and financial support as ways the Order can assist the Boy Scouts of America. The plan outlines methods for local lodges to give increased service to their councils, as well as what the National Committee will do to support the lodges and

Scouting in the years ahead. For a copy of the plan itself, check out the Strategic Plan's page on the National OA website at: <http://www.oa-bsa.org/programs/splan/>

# 2002-2003 Lodge Officers and Advisors Contact List

Officers

Lodge Chief	Travis Sheehan	575-5462	Richard Fore	791-3789
Lodge Vice-Chief	Scott Ellis	747-2262	David Weda	
Lodge Secretary	Adam Taft	968-4290	Barry Ekle	(305) 758-3553
Lodge Treasurer	Chris Shanks	533-9733	Elam Patterson	790-4532
Lodge Historian	Anthony Bonna	336-0961	Sally Daniell	336-1890
Past Lodge Chief	Chris Smith	220-4972	none	

Chapters

A-Bani-Ki	Eric Taylor	488-9322	Mike Taylor	488-9322
Coo-Wa-Chobee	Bradley Phibbs	967-2359	Frank Schwarz	683-4867
Chee-Pa-Tah	Daniel Bialczak	791-0134	Bill Bialczak	791-0134
Osceola	Derick Kerley	747-8296	Tim Arnold	745-0297
At-Seena-Hoofa	none		none	
Ne-Kee-Wa	Adam Valencic	283-3795	Debbie Saad	219-8937
Oi-Ya-Tah	Chris Berry	336-9835	Sally Daniell	336-1890
Lowaneu Mawat	Stephen Gray	778-9109	Patrick Foradori	589-3318
Pan-A-So-Fee	none		Jim Ring	(cell)543-1075

Standing Committees

Brotherhood Chair	Ryan McReynolds	784-8911	David Mackland	642-7335
Camping Promotions	Not filled, interested?	Call the Lodge Chief for more info.	Phil Ashford	659-7462
Ceremonial Team	Ryan McReynolds	784-8911	Alan Clineman	744-8534
Drum Team Chief	Not filled, interested?	Call the Lodge Chief for more info.	Mark Kidd	743-0896
Elections Coordinator	Not filled, interested?		David Pantone	793-4105
Food Services	Ryan Kidd	743-0896	Bruce Garwood	965-0509
Hitchiti Chief	Matt Alexander	575-2489	Cindy Hall	334-5966
			Sandy Griffiths	283-8610
Inductions Chairman	Sam Zuker	477-1267	Paul Bowdre	626-1683
Internet Chairman	Brad Ellis	850-504-0884	Tim Arnold	745-0297
Keeper of the Records			Debbie Clineman	744-8534
Asst Keeper of the Records			Ray Ellis	747-2262
Mentoring Chrm, North	Not filled, interested?		Bill Jones	344-1713
Mentoring Chrm, Mid	Not filled, interested?		Bill Jones	344-1713
Mentoring Chrm, South	Not filled, interested?		Bill Jones	344-1713
Publications	Daniel Arnold	745-0297	Brad Ellis	(850) 504-0884
Scholarship Comm.	Randy Wertepny	795-7453		
Service Chairman	Marc Edgar	236-5052	Randy Wigley	220-8618
Trail Crew Chief	Jeremy Regan	287-3119	Fred Fritz	965-9125
Troop Representative Chrm	Not filled, interested?		Ray Ellis	747-2262
Vigil/Founder's Award Chrm	Evan Mason	734-8822	Richard Fore	791-3789

Weekend Chairman

Fall Fellowship	Matt Lombard	743-9875
Winter Fellowship	Matt Lombard	743-9875

