

Gator Tales



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

www.aal-pa-tah.org



April 2018

Section Conference 2018

Brothers,

Are you ready? For the BIGGEST EVENT of the YEAR? Section Conference 2018 will be hosted by the Osceola Lodge at Camp Miles in Punta Gorda, FL on April 13-15, 2018.

I can attest that this will be one of the best Section Conferences that you will have ever attended. The Section has been working hard to provide all of your favorite programs, including lodge v. lodge competitions, innovative training seminars, and more! I encourage you to check out the "Section Conference 2018" page under the Events Tab on the lodge website: www.aalpatah.org with more information on the event, and registration instructions.



Base registration is \$36.00 (just the event fee). Contingent Registration is \$62.00 (including a t-shirt, patch, and spirit pack!). Check those out online! Transportation will ultimately be your responsibility, but carpooling will be organized; and if you are struggling to find a ride, let us know. The lodge leadership will help in getting you there! Don't let a ride be a reason not to attend. I wouldn't want to see you miss out.

As mentioned later in this publication, this Section Conference is especially important to our Lodge. It is the last one before it is OUR TURN to host this event. That's right! Section Conference comes to Camp Tanah Keeta in 2019. Your attendance to Osceola's Conference is CRITICAL, so you can learn what a great conference looks like, and use that experience to throw on the ABSOLUTE. BEST. CONFERENCE... THAT SECTION S4 HAS EVER SEEN! These are some strong words, but I know our lodge has what it takes!

See you at Camp Miles.

Robert Ulrich

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Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge 237



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Chiefly Speaking



Brothers,

I have had the pleasure to serve as the Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge Chief for the past two years. Serving as a leader in Scouting's National Honor Society has taught me much about the community and spirit of this organization. This publication of Gator Tales is the final one of this term, and therefore this will be my final time writing as the Lodge Chief. Its a humbling thing, but I want to take this chance to set our sights on the future.

Section Conference is just around the corner. Conference is the most highly anticipated event each year, as Arrowmen from all over the great sunshine state will gather for a weekend of fun, fellowship, and competitions! If you haven't registered, do so SOON! You don't want to miss this!

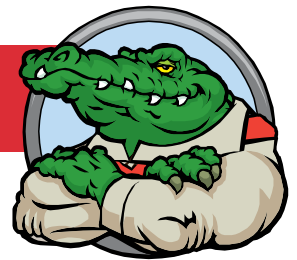
Ahead of Conference, our Summer Gathering will take place on May 4-6. This is the final Ordeal opportunity of 2018. At this weekend, themed Key West, we will elect our 2018-19 Lodge Officers. This group of officers will lead our lodge into a new year of exciting program. Come on out, and kick off the summer right! The weekend will be full of exciting program and other fun happenings.

In 2019, our Lodge will host Section Conference. That's right! - Tanah Keeta will open its gates to over 900 Arrowmen from across the state of Florida. This only happens once every seven years. We are going to need every Arrowman to help make this event possible. The 2019 Conference theme will be revealed at Section Conference 2018, so make sure to be in attendance!

In WWW,

Robert Ulbrich

Adviser's Minute



Imagine what William Clark was thinking when he exclaimed "'Ocean in View!" ... O! the joy," on the Lewis and Clark expedition. Think of the hurdles that the expedition faced on that fantastic trek. The ever-changing landscapes of the American Frontier continually threw them off their plan.

A mere 157 years later we choose to go to the moon not because it was easy, but because it was hard. It was challenging, difficult and it was life altering. We did not take short cuts to get there. We made a full commitment to the challenge, and through hard work, perseverance, and discovery, we landed on the moon.

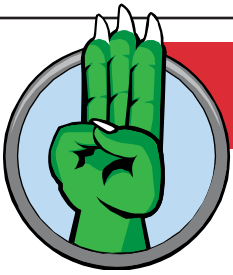
And to what benefit was going to the moon? Besides the all-important Cold War gain to establish our nation in firm control of dominance in spaceflight capability against the Soviet Union, some of the 6,300 discoveries made on our quest to land on the moon include the CAT scan, the Computer microchip, Cordless tools, the Ear thermometer, home Insulation, the Joystick, Satellite television, the Smoke detector and the Water filter.

While not on the grand scale of landing on the moon, we are met with challenges daily. It is through the diversity and adversity of our journey that we better prepare ourselves for what life has in store for us. From something as simple as tying a square knot or ascending Mt. Baldy at Philmont, or even landing on the moon – which by the way - Of the 12 men to physically walk on the moon's surface, 11 were involved in Scouting, learn from what went wrong, but never let it stop you from your goal.

Hard work, cheerful service and High adventure challenge each and every one of us and inspires us and broadens our horizons. Dream big, work hard, and most of all, enjoy the journey!

In WWW,

Mr. Whalen



Officer Reports

Vice Chief of Program

My Brothers,

The year is flying by and it's almost time for Aal-Pa-Tah to show what we are made of at Section Conference. It is an action packed weekend with amazing training, shows, games and spirit! Shortly after that we will have our annual Summer Gathering. We are still in need of people to join the wonderful program committee, so if you are interested in helping out or want to learn more about what program has to offer, email me at lodge237@gmail.com. It's going to be a great weekend!

In WWW,

Nicholas Boekholder



Lodge Secretary

My Brothers,

Congratulations to all the new Ordeal members who were able to complete their Ordeal and to the Brotherhood members who were able to seal their membership at Spring Ordeal. I can't wait to see how we represent ourselves at Section Conference and to see the new Lodge Leadership take place in May at Summer Gathering at TK!

It has been an honor to serve as the Secretary for the Lodge for this past year and to bring about the new website and Gator Tales.

In WWW,

Justin Kram

Lodge Treasurer

My Brothers,

It has been a wonderful term serving as your lodge treasurer. I was honored to serve you during this past year by working to ensure the areas that you, the Arrowmen wanted to improve were top priorities of mine. I have truly had a wonderful time representing you over the past year. I challenge you all to step up beyond your limits and to try things that you've never done before in the lodge. You'll never know where you'll find your niche! Most of all, make sure you have fun while serving your fellow Arrowmen. Thank you again for a momentous year and I hope to be able to serve you again next year.

In WWW,

Matthew Grabasch



Chapter Corner

Oi-Ya-Tah

Brothers,

Congratulations to the New members of the lodge, also to the brothers who successfully sealed the membership! I am extremely proud to say Oi-Ya-Tah is starting to reform. Lets get those inactive members back to our meetings and events. This chapter is making great strides in the right direction as we come together as one. Lets continually make it a priority to come to all lodge events. Section Conference is April 13-15th at Camp Miles!! Hope to see you all there!

Chapter Meetings are still the 2nd Thursday of Every Month at Roundtable. If you are interested in a Chapter Leadership position please be at the April 12th Chapter Meeting.

In WWW,

Wilner Joseph



Section Conference Sports

Brothers,

As you may know Section Conference is rapidly approaching. It is being held by Osceola Lodge and at Camp Miles. Aal-Pa-Tah needs to represent, and what better way to do that then win ALL the Lodge vs Lodge games! So, if you play or are good at games like **Volleyball, Tug-o-War, Ultimate Frisbee, Pie Eating, Toilet Paper wrapping, Canoe racing, or even Scout Carries.** Email lodge237@gmail.com if you want to be on the team or even team captain for one of these events and sign up for section conference today!

WWW,

Joshua Caudill

Ceremonies

Brothers,

Ceremonies are the most important part of the inductions process and possibly the most important function of the lodge. Without the ceremonies team new members could not be inducted, and the purpose of the Order of the Arrow would not be communicated. Joining the ceremonies team is a great way to become active in the lodge and a lot of past lodge leaders got their start on the ceremonies team. If you love theater, or enjoy entertaining others, or care about giving your fellow brothers the best experience possible, please contact the Vice Chief of Inductions, Ryan White, at lodge237@gmail.com and tell him of your interest. There are roles for Ordeal and Brotherhood members alike. We look forward to working with each and every one of our fellow brothers and we hope you will consider joining us to do the same.

In WWW,

Aal-Pa-Tah Ceremonies Team



The Forum

Call for Elangomats

My Brothers,

Now is the time to answer the call, step up and serve your fellow brothers.

I'm sure all of you remember your Ordeal and the elangomats that guided you through it. They sacrificed their fun-filled weekend to spend the Ordeal with you in arduous labor, working cheerfully.

Now it is your turn. Your fellow brothers need your experience and guidance to make it through their ordeal. Remember, "He who serves his fellows, is of his fellows greatest".

If you are interested in serving as an elangomat or have previously been one and would like to continue your service for Summer Gathering, please contact me at lodge237@gmail.com.

In WWW,
Ryan White

Fast Pass 2018

Brothers,

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



Well, Fast Pass will include:

- Registration for all 3 events **AT A REDUCED PRICE:**
 - Summer Gathering: May 4-6, 2018
 - Fall Festival: September 7-9, 2018
 - Winter Fellowship: December 7-9, 2018
- Dues for 2018!

FAST PASS 2018 is perfect for any Aal-Pa-Tah Arrowman! Order now on <https://www.aalpatah.org/> !

In WWW,
Gator Tales Writing Staff

James T. Sasser Campership

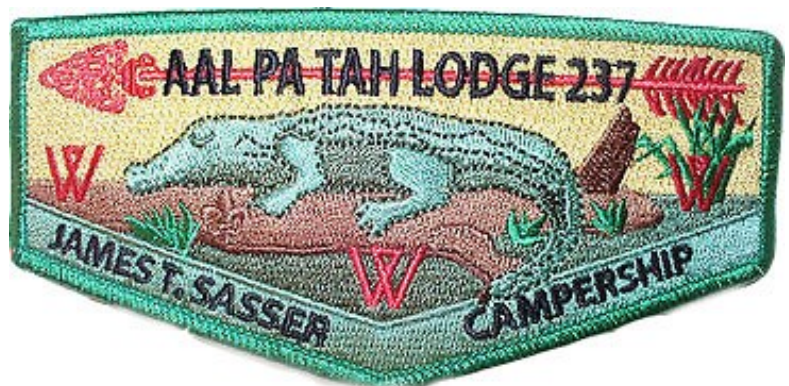
Brothers,

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.

In WWW,
Gator Tales Writing Staff



Spring Ordeal Brotherhood Recap

Brothers,

The Brotherhood Ceremony at Spring Ordeal was one of the largest Brotherhood ceremonies we have had in recent memory. Congratulations to the following Brothers who were able to seal their membership at Spring Ordeal:

- Pete Boffa
- Hunter Jones
- Sam Cohen
- Roman Woodcock
- Jude Van Zyl
- Oleg Conrad
- Matthew Einkauf
- Jeremy Wilson
- Kai Handal
- Casey McLean Morton
- Corlas Goodman
- Won Mee Goodman
- Joshua Katz
- Austin Garrett
- Keaton Kosma
- Jonathan Farrell
- Sharon Webb

In WWW,

Andrew Sasser, Brotherhood Chairman

Recap of Mentoring day?

Brothers,

The weekend of March 24th the A-Bani-Ki Chapter hosted OA Mentoring Day 2018 we had a phenomenal day with fantastic attendance. We worked on all sorts of requirements from knots to cooking to even hiking. With 32 new scouts in attendance we were able to give them a head start in their scouting careers and introduce them to not only beautiful camp Tanah Keeta but also to the Order of The Arrow. This was a great event that I hope to see expand in the future with more participants and even better program. If you are interested in helping with this event in the future please contact me.



Yours in Cheerful Service,


Kyle Webb

A-Bani-Ki Chapter Chief

kylewebb.bsa@gmail.com

Spring Ordeal Photos





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

April 13-15

Section Conference at Camp Miles

May 4-6

Summer Gathering

June 20, June 27, & July 11

OA Days at TK