



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

# GATOR TALES

Winter Issue

2001

## Ponder your purpose

Whatever doesn't kill you will make you stronger.

Have you ever watched a scary movie? At an OA event? Did you sympathize with the characters about to die? Are you afraid of dieing? Are you ready to die? Would you feel fulfilled if you weren't HERE tomorrow? Why not? Are you stressed out, or feel there is stuff you still haven't done? What is holding you down? It can only be YOURSELF, because all life can do is make you stronger. Ask yourself: "Am I truly living?"

Life is a game that we play. Nothing more, nothing less. And games were meant to be fun. There is a always a little risk involved when you play, but it makes life interesting. So as cheerful members of a brotherhood and of the common man we should try to make the most out of life. A lot can be gained from the OA, and from life, if you want it. It is

there for the taking. There is nothing holding you back. There was a man several years ago that bought a lottery ticket. The next day he checked his numbers in the paper and low and behold, he won! Millions and millions of dollars. He immediately started making a list of all the things he would do and was very excited about accomplishing these things. However, he later found out that the paper had misprinted the winning numbers. At first he was very dejected, but then he came to a realization: there was nothing stopping him from accomplishing his list. It might take him a little longer, but no more doors were closed to him than before he thought he had won. He had the power to make his dreams come true.

Now all of this may sound very cliché, but I am making a point. Throughout the OA, and life, you will find that there are many things that are going to be obstacles. Not everything in life is a wonderful experience, but all expe-

riences have the power to teach. I had a leadership teacher that said, "There is no comfort in your learning zone, and no learning in your comfort zone." Step out of your comfort zone once in awhile.

You have to decide what you want. For me that is happiness. Now many of these obstacles bring me unhappiness, but they are challenges; they make me stronger, and appreciate the happiness and blessings I have. I try every day to do more and to be a better person, but if I died tonight, I would feel that I have done my best in cheerful service. I am prepared. What do you want? If you don't know too many people at events, step up and meet them. If you aren't sure you liked your first weekend, keep coming, give it a chance and try something new. If you don't feel an event or project is worth your while, get involved, take on some responsibility; make it worth your while. Always challenge yourself to grow...

## Section Conference 2001

Arrowmen!

The time is upon us; fun and excitement awaits YOU at Section Conference 2001! Section Conference will be hosted by Timuquan Lodge, #340 at Sand Hill Scout Reservation, near Tampa, FL, on the weekend of April 20<sup>th</sup> -22<sup>nd</sup>. We've got EVERYTHING! Patch trading, Native American Events, Ceremonial Competitions, Quest for the Golden Arrow, Shows, Fantastic Food,

Cracker Barrels, live music, the conference radio station, and MUCH, MUCH MORE! Now is the time to register for the greatest event Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge, #237 will ever attend and all it's going to cost you is \$65!!!!!! That's right, friends, for \$65, you can join the big boys and party hardy with all the other Arrowmen in Florida and South Georgia. The deadline for full payment is March 23, 2001 but you can reserve your spot now by submitting \$25.00 to the council office. Don't let this opportunity pass you by! Your fee covers your T-shirt (designed by Jeremy Culler and Shannon P. Wiley), delegate patch, hat, conference fee, bus fee, and your VERY OWN SQUEAKY GATOR!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Now you and your fellow arrowmen can annoy the heck out of all the other conference goers by squeaking your gators to your heart's content. You may mail your payment and registration form to OUR VERY OWN Gulf Stream Council Office! That's right, friends, don't let this opportunity get away from you! At the Council Office you will find the registration form!!!! FILL IT OUT! MAIL IT OUT! It's just that simple, ladies and gentlemen! WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? Get this form out, write out your check, and get yourself registered for a trip of a lifetime! If you have any questions, please give me a call at (561) 336-0264. (Operators are standing by) That's right, better act soon, cause slots are filling up quick! And remember, when it comes to Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge.....Don't take it personally!

Christopher Smith  
Aal-Pa-Tah #237 Contingent Leader  
S-4 Section Conference 2001  
Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge Vice-Chief  
[tkmoondog@adelphia.net](mailto:tkmoondog@adelphia.net)

Forms for this event are available at the Council Office or on the Web at [www.timuquan.com/forms/htm](http://www.timuquan.com/forms/htm)

All orders after January 19th, 2001 must be made by the Timuquan Website. Do not forget this very important change.





## The Following Brothers were inducted into Ordeal Membership in 2000. Congratulations to the newest members of 237!

Acevedo, David- Alexandrich, Stephen- Anderson, William- Andreozzi, Ryan- Antonio, Rocco- Atwell, Donnie- Baldwin, Bobby- Barnes, Alex- Bartalini, Peter- Barth, Eric- Bender, Clayton- Bennett, Tery- Berry, Chris- Berry, Rick- Bihl- Lubin, Jesse- Blomberg, Brant- Bolls, David- Bowdre, Preston- Bowes, Chris- Bray, Benny- Bray, Jeff- Cacciapuoti, Michael- Cairnes, Michael- Chapman, John- Christian, David- Christian, Michael- Cintron, Nick- Cohen, Paul- Coyle, Michael- Curtin, Sean- Davis, Josh- Delarue, Robert- Dickenson, Matthew- Diehl, Bobby- Dighton, Derek- Donaldson, Donnie- Eastberg, Kwentin- Eckenrod, Jason- Edwards, Brendon- Edwards, Justin- Ehrbar, Tom- Ehrbar, Tommy- Evans, Tim- Faralli, Tom- Fisher, Kyle- Friend, Chad- Gallagan, Tim- Gallo, Joseph- Gaub, Evan- Gerner, Chris- Gilbert, Valerie- Glover, Jimmy- Goggans, Chris- Grantham, Timothy- Graunke, Ryan- Gray, Stephen- Gregory, Sean- Gustafson, William- Hampp, Ehren- Hegeman, Ryan- Hill, Mason- Hoff, Justin- Horning, Andrew- Humphries, Zak- Irvine, John- Jerauld, Steve- Kahl, Joey- Kappeler, Brandon- Kearney, Michael- Kidd, Mark- Kilbride, Patrick- Kinchen, Robbie- Koza, Kyle- Lal, Vijay -Larkin, Jed- Laughlin, James- Leitner, Daniel- Liner, Matthew- Linn, William- Litwin, Christopher - Logan, Wesley- Lombard, Matt- Ludwig, Jimmy- Ludwig, Lloyd- Lynch, Michael- Malanga, Alice- Malanga, Colt- Maniscalco, Colleen- Marshall, Helen- Marshall, Turner- Martin III, Patrick- Massey, Wayne - Matyjasik, Steven- McDaniel, Jared- McGrath, Jonathan- Michaud Jr., Rudy-



Moeller, Brendan- Montgomery, Charlie- Mori, Hector- Munsell, Matt- Neimi, Sean- O'Roark, Elliot- Paisley, Richard- Paisley, Richard- Pardue, Dan- Parfitt, Cary- Parker, Renee- Pawlak, Adam- Peede, Thomas- Peltan, David- Peltan, Ryan- Perales, David- Phibbs, Bradley- Pinault- Gallo, Robert- Powell, Evan- Preiser, Jon- Preston II, Matthew- Ramos, Carlos- Reid, Lee- Reid, Vincent- Richardson, Kenny- Riddick, Billy- Rogers, Kyle- Rose, Andrew- Roux, Tyler- Salino, Richard- Salsman, Adrian- Sampson, Paul- Samuels, Daniel- Sasso, Anthony- Sasso, Tony- Schirmer, John- Schragger, Andrew- Seal, Trey-

Sherman, Alex- Shivers, Greg- Solis, Spenser- Spencer, Greg- Spencer, Mark- Stein, Andrew- Stimphil, Gary- Taylor, Michael- Thomas, Christopher- Travanti, David- Ulku, Cagin- Vigliotti, Vincent- Vileno, Danny- Vincente, Michael- Wagner, Erik- Walker, David- Watson, Joseph- Williams, Justin- Williams, Scott- Willis, Nelson- Wilsnack, Andrew- Winsinger, Darryl- Wood, Chris- Wood, William- Woodruff, Stephen- Yacavone, Angelia- Yackulics, John- Yeary, Benjamin- Zaleski, Joe- Zamora, Michael- Zuker, Samuel- Zuker, Tamra

### The following sealed their membership in the Order in 2000 and are now Brotherhood members; congratulations to all:

Alexander, Nathan- Arnold, Daniel- Ashford, Scott- Baker III, John- Boney, Mike- Bonna, Anthony -Bouchard, Andrew - Bouchard, Richard- Bowdre, Paul- Carnevale, Michael- Colter, Samuel- Dickson, Terrance - Gardner, Matthew- Griffiths, Mike- Harmon, Jason- Kidston, Benjamin- Kuczynski, Kevin- Makler, Robert- McDermott, Eric-

McReynolds, Patrick- Roark, James- Schwarz, Frank- Shanks, Chris- Shaouni, Chris- Smith Jr., Scott- Smith Sr., Scott- Smith, Andrew- Smith, Elaine- Stout, Jean- Sword, Piers- Taft, Adam- Taylor, Eric- Thomas, Derek- Welch II, Mike- Welch Sr., Michael -Willis, Tommy- Zuppinger, Ryan

### Founders Award Recipients

The Founder's Award was created to honor and recognize those Arrowmen who have given outstanding service to the lodge. The award is reserved for those Arrowmen who memorialize in their everyday life, the spirit of achievement as described by founder E. Urner Goodman. The award is a handsome bronze medallion bearing the likeness of E. Urner Goodman and co-founder Carroll A. Edson, with wooden base and brass plate suitable for engraving. The award is suitable for display at home or the office. Also available is the Founder's Award arrow ribbon, similar to the universal arrow ribbon, except that it has a gold-colored arrow suspended from a red ribbon. Lodges may petition up to four awards annually, based on lodge membership and if the lodge presents more than one award, one must be to a youth under the age of 21. At the October Ordeal, Aal-Pa-Tah honored two of our brothers, Ray Malin and Phil Ashford with this distinguished award for 2000.

Bruce Garwood	1981
Kelly Landers	1981
Jake Greenspon	1982
"Doc" Hardman	1982
David Weda	1986
Barry J.F. Ekle	1986
Bob Somers	1987
Jason Jackson	1989
Uly Hubbard	1989
Joe Wilcox	1991
Elliot Wilcox	1991
John Leasor	1992
Troy Rinks	1992
Kevin Murphy	1995
Eric Mason	1997
Elam Patterson	1997
Jimmy Walls	1998
Tom Sasser	1998
Ray Malin	2000
Phil Ashford	2000

### Section Seminars 2000 Close-out Report

I would personally like to thank all of Aal-Pa-Tah's arrowmen who came out to Tanah Keeta the first weekend of November (3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup>) to help with Section Seminars. The success of the event was due, in no small part, to those of you who were willing to lend a hand.\* Once again we have demonstrated to Section 4 that Aal-Pa-Tah can handle the responsibility that comes our way. I thank you all for your cheerful service...

Phil Ashford  
Section Seminars Chairman

### Lodge Calendar Dates for 2001

February 1 <sup>st</sup>	Elections Begin
March 16 <sup>th</sup> - 18 <sup>th</sup>	Spring Pow-Wow at TK
March 31 <sup>st</sup>	Elections End
April 20 <sup>th</sup> - 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Section Conference, hosted by Timuquan
May 11 <sup>th</sup> & 12 <sup>th</sup>	Mega Scout Show/Pig Roast
May 18 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup>	May Ordeal at TK
June 8 <sup>th</sup> - 10 <sup>th</sup>	June Ordeal at TK

## Chiefly Speaking

Brothers,

I would like to start off by saying that I am very proud of the renewed enthusiasm for the Order that I have witnessed this year. Those who have been in attendance all along appear more cheerful, old friends have returned, and some new friends have joined our circle with pride (on that note I would like to once again congratulate our new members who joined the Order in 2000). We have come a long way thus far in returning pride, tradition, and cheer to our lodge and I am excited about what is to come.

Secondly, I would like to thank Dan Arnold for his excellent work on putting together these publications and also to all whom have contributed to the contents of the Gator Tales. Putting together a publication such as this is an arduous task for a volunteer to undertake, and Dan's hard work should not go

unmentioned. Thank you Daniel.

Thanks is also in order for Phil Ashford and Elam Patterson for coordinating a successful Section Seminars and also to all members of the lodge who participated in hosting this event for the Section. Everyone had a wonderful time at the event and once again Aal-Pa-Tah proved to Section 4 that we are the authority on hosting.

I want to encourage everyone to sign up right away for the upcoming Section Conference 2001. The registration form for the event, as well as the trading post pre-order form, is on the web at [www.timuquan.org](http://www.timuquan.org). Please send them in to the appropriate councils right away. Aal-Pa-Tah has set at goal of taking 175 members to this Section Conference; as an added bonus, my Vice Chief and I will shave our heads at the conference if this goal is met. Interested now? Whatever the reason,

please send in your registration right away.

Lastly, I would appreciate it if anyone who has not yet given me your email address to be added to the lodge mailing list to please send do so. The mailing list has worked much to my benefit for spreading information to the lodge quickly and I hope to be able to reach the entire membership through this medium. On the same note, if you are on the list now and change your address at any point, please remember to email me the correction. Please send all additions or corrections to me at [bje3839@garnet.acns.fsu.edu](mailto:bje3839@garnet.acns.fsu.edu) and remember to put OA in the subject.

Thank you my brothers and I will see you at the upcoming Spring Pow-Wow...

In Cheerful Service,  
Bradley J. Ellis  
[Bje3839@garnet.acns.fsu.edu](mailto:Bje3839@garnet.acns.fsu.edu)

## Advisor's Minutes

Fellow Arrowmen,

I would like to take this time to thank the many Brothers who have wished me well in this new endeavor. I look forward to trying to do as good a job as Fred Danaher did for the Order. I have resigned my duty as Section 4 Associate Advisor so I can spend full time advising Brad Ellis our Lodge Chief.

I have left most of the infrastructure from the adult advisor positions intact where possible. I will be looking for more Advisors in the near future so if you have a desire to help please let me know.

Brad's stated goal is to increase numbers by making the Order more meaningful for both the young arrowmen and the older arrowmen. I plan to do all I can in support of his efforts.

We have to remember that the Order is more than just a patch on a uniform. It is truly a Brotherhood of Cheerful Service. If you have not paid your dues for this year please do. Remember there is no back dues charge if you pay for 2000 now.

I want to thank everyone who came to the Section Seminars. The help was well appreciated. I think we showed the others lodges in the Section the true AAL-PA-TAH spirit. Thanks again for your help and support.

Don't forget to check your calendars for upcoming events and plan to be part of the Lodge. The Lodges grows one Brother at a time.

Again I want to thank each of you for your support; I look forward to serving the Brothers in AAL-PA-TAH.

Richard M. Fore  
Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge Advisor  
[rfore@aol.com](mailto:rfore@aol.com)

## Treasurer Report

Brothers,

We are looking for patch designs for the next year's set and also for a jamboree trader flap for the upcoming 2001 National Jamboree. Any designs need to be submitted to the LEC at Make-up Ordeal Weekend; if you will not be attending the make up Ordeal, make sure to have an officer present the design for you (you can email them to myself or Brad Ellis if you like). Another up and coming announcement is GATOR Pass (Fast Pass). Here are the details:

1) All registration fees for the 4 main

lodge weekends, (Pow Wow, Service Weekend, Ordeal and Fall Fellowship) is covered. You will also receive your weekend patch.

2) There will be perks in the dining hall currently TBA.

3) The cost is only \$75. Council has already started accepting money.

I hope that all Brothers can attend the upcoming weekends.

Firm Bound in Brotherhood,  
Chris Montgomery  
Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge Treasurer  
[lwshorty27@aol.com](mailto:lwshorty27@aol.com)

## Vice Chiefs Beef

My fellow brothers,

We have reached the pinnacle of the year. Over fifty percent of our lodge functions have taken place during the past three months. It has been a difficult journey, full of hardships, but also full of glory. There are those who strive to serve our lodge to the best of their ability. During the past six months, I have worked harder and longer than ever on Scouting in general. From Executive Board meetings, all the way down to Local Roundtables and my own Troop meetings, I have spent seventy percent of my time on scouts, and thirty percent on everything else. Now, you might be asking, "Why?" (I know my parents have!) Scouting has brought me so much. One of the biggest things Scouting has brought me is Friendship. My mother has always said, "You are lucky if you have one true friend throughout your entire life." If this is so, than I truly feel that I am one of the luckiest men alive. Friends such as Phil Ashford, Stephen Brown, and Evan Mason have taught me that if you can dish it out, prepare to take it! Besides just hanging out with these individuals, I thoroughly enjoy going on awesome road trips, and getting moose tracks all over the floorboard. Friends like Brad Walbridge, Brad Ellis, and John Sheetz have given me the foundation I need to become a successful leader. Even people such as Adam Taft and Charlie Montgomery, who might not

be well known, are important to me because I know that I am being looked at as a role model, which gives me something to strive for. And I know I'm forgetting hundreds of others, but one thing is certain. The friends we meet teach us something. Not only does Scouting build character, but it also builds strong friendships. These are the friends that count. Quality friends are those with high moral standards. Look at how you spend your time. Figure out what you REALLY want to do with your time. When you look closely, most Arrowmen realize that they have never really thought about how much time they actually spend on Scouting. It's just something that they like to do. When I worked in retail, I would always look at my watch to figure out how much longer I would have to stay until I could go home. When I'm at an OA weekend, I'm always looking at my watch so that I won't miss anything. I hope to see everyone at Spring Pow-Wow in March (which is VERY close to my birthday), and Section Conference.

In Friendship and Service,  
Christopher R. Smith  
Aal-Pa-Tah Vice-Chief  
[tkmoondog@adelphia.net](mailto:tkmoondog@adelphia.net)

## Historian's Report

Dear Brothers

My Advisor and I are currently planning a weekend to go to Tanah Keeta and work on the Kings cup display for Section Conference; I am currently going through lodge pictures to form a new lodge Photo Album. To get in contact with me to help out with the kings Cup display, you can email me or call me at 561-879-9264.

Sincerely,  
Terrance Dickson  
Lodge Historian  
[Terrance\\_Dickson@email.com](mailto:Terrance_Dickson@email.com)



# Chapter Reports

## A-BANI-KI

To all members in A-Bani-Ki, I need you to send me your email address so I can contact you with upcoming events; please have "OA" in the subject of your emails. A chapter meeting is in the works and I hope to see everyone at the Spring Pow-Wow.

In Service,  
David Makler  
A-Bani-Ki Chapter Chief  
[roval4@bellsouth.net](mailto:roval4@bellsouth.net)

## CHEE-PA-TAH

Hello again all Chee-Pa-Tah members. I am sorry that there has been no chapter meeting yet. Due to the long span of no O.A. activities in January, there will most likely be a chapter event then. I am currently planning a trip to the Flagler Museum. There will also be a chapter meeting Friday night March 23rd at Trade Winds District Camporee. If you have any other ideas for chapter meeting or events email me at [dan13185@hotmail.com](mailto:dan13185@hotmail.com) or call me at 791-0134.

Remind your Scoutmasters that there is information about the O.A. and its events at the district Round Tables every month. This is a way for your scoutmaster to get his information and get involved in the Order. Also, Troop Representatives; not every troop has one yet. At every round table I will have the forms they need so your troop can get an official Troop Representative.

If you have any further questions or comments feel free to email me or call me at 561-791-0134. I need your feedback to let you get the full experience of the Order of the Arrow.

Yours In Brotherhood,  
Daniel Bialczak  
[dan13185@hotmail.com](mailto:dan13185@hotmail.com)

## OI-YA-TAH

Hello Brothers,  
Congratulations to all new members. A Chapter Meeting is in effect and phone calls are going out now. I hope to see you all at Spring Pow-Wow, I'll be in touch....

Sincerely,  
Terrance Dickson  
Oi-Ya-Tah Chapter Chief  
[Terrance\\_Dickson@email.com](mailto:Terrance_Dickson@email.com)

## LOWANEU MAWAT

Dear Brothers,  
The Lowaneu Mawat chapter is proud to announce an 800% participation improvement for Fall Fellowship. (Woo Hoo) A reminder to everyone who is not a new brother—If you have not already paid your 2001 dues, please call Debbie Clineman at the council office (694-8585) to pay them; dues are \$11.

We are in the middle of planning a chapter meeting. Details are forthcoming. For information email me or call me at 561-562-4380.

WWW,  
James Archer  
Lowaneu Mawat Chapter Chief  
[GTArcher@aol.com](mailto:GTArcher@aol.com)

## COO-WA-CHOBEE

Brothers,  
My name is Brian Case, and I will be stepping in for Matt Teele as Coo-Wa-Chobee's Chapter Chief. Please call me at 561-641-6380 with any questions, and I hope to see you all at the next lodge event.

Brian Case  
Coo-Wa-Chobee Chapter Chief  
[Farside6@aol.com](mailto:Farside6@aol.com)

## NE-KE-WA

Dear Brothers,  
I would like to report that we recently had another chapter meeting and will do so again in the near future. I am pleased at the way things are looking up for our lodge. Everybody remember to pay you dues and I'll see you at the next weekend. If you have any problems please email me or give me a call at 561-287-6147.

WWW,  
Matthew R. Dillon  
Ne-Ke-Wa Chapter Chief  
[matthewross@msn.com](mailto:matthewross@msn.com)

## OSCEOLA

Brothers,  
I believe that the year 2000 was a great one and it will be our responsibility to make 2001 as equally successful. We can only do this by involvement and participation. Section Conference is right around the corner, elections will be held late in the winter and into the early spring of 2001 and NOAC needs to be planned. These will be successful with involvement of all members especially the Troop Representatives.

I will begin the process of calling the Troop Representatives to schedule elections beginning in February. Please start preparing your troops now, and the process will be easy and less time consuming. I look forward to meeting each and every troop in the near future.

Firm Bound in Brotherhood,  
Daniel Arnold

## The 2002 National Order of the Arrow Conference

In the summer of 2002, Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge will send a contingent of as many as 45 Arrowmen to the National Order of the Arrow Conference on the campus of Indiana University in Bloomington, IN. More than seven thousand Arrowmen from across the country will gather for the Order's biannual meeting and enjoy six days of fellowship, competition, spectacular shows, training and fun. If you choose to join in this adventure, our lodge's contingent will make this trip one to remember!

Our Lodge contingent looks to depart late July and fly to Chicago, IL. We will do some sight seeing on our way to IU and NOAC. Then, when the conference concludes on Thursday, we will take in a cave, and other local sights on our way back to Chicago for two more days of fun, shows, and touring "The Windy City". We will fly home Saturday night following the Conference back to West Palm Beach. Our planned tour itinerary will be finalized later next summer, and is still subject to change. You can be sure that we will have a great time! Ask any one of the 31 Aal-Pa-Tah members that went

to NOAC 2000 in Knoxville, TN. how much fun this trip can be.

The Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge fee for NOAC 2002, which includes travel by plane and vans, all meals, all tickets to side trips and attractions, all lodging, and NOAC itself, will be around \$650.00 for youth and adults (those who are 21 or older as of the end of NOAC). The only other one you might need would be for extra souvenirs and snacks. The Lodge's NOAC tour is the only option for our contingent and the fee for an Aal-Pa-Tah delegate will be the same regardless of whether he or she is able to participate in all tour activities with the contingent.

Due to financial commitments, the Lodge is unable to accommodate special travel arrangements, and deposits and payments are non-refundable, but transferable. The deposit to hold your space on this limited trip is \$100.00 and will be accepted on and after (but not before), February 1, 2001 at the Gulf Stream Council office. This trip is being filled on a first come, first paid basis. A minimum

of \$300.00 will have to be paid near the end of September in order for us to insure that we get the spaces we are looking for. The National office will only reserve us approx. 13 spaces for the NOAC 2002 Conference. In order for us to take 45 members, we must have our money into the National office when the paper work comes out in early November 2001 to have a chance on bringing our goal. This will be a very exciting trip and I can assure you that everyone will enjoy it as much as this past NOAC

If there are any further questions concerning this trip, please contact me anytime during the day at 561-371-9046 or evenings at 561-790-4532. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible sign up on February first.

Sincerely,  
Elam Patterson  
NOAC 2002 Advisor  
[elamp@gate.net](mailto:elamp@gate.net)