



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

GATOR TALES

Spring Issue

2001

Section Conference 2001!



Arrowmen!

Now is your last chance to sign up for the trip of a lifetime! That's right folks, Section Conference 2001, the last conference of the dissolving Section S-4, promises to be jam-packed with activities for everyone. Native American Competitions, Quest for the Golden Arrow, Great Shows, Good Food, Ceremonial Competitions, patch trading, and much, much more! This conference is for everyone. From the new Ordeal Member to the wise Vigil Honor member, you owe it to yourself to attend Conference with Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge! Aal-Pa-Tah has planned on taking 150 brothers across the state to Camp Sand Hill Scout Reservation on the outskirts of Tampa, FL. Here's the deal. All you need is \$20 to reserve your spot on the bus. But seats are becoming limited! If we fill all 150 seats, Brad Ellis and I will proudly shave our heads at conference. The entire cost of the trip is \$65, and this gets you: A ride on the luxurious Aal-Pa-Tah Limo

Bus, a beautiful Aal-Pa-Tah Contingent Shirt, a Contingent Patch, a beautifully crafted Aal-Pa-Tah Contingent Hat, your gloriously annoying squeaky gator, and not to mention pays for your food and registration (the basic conference fees). But you have to act fast! Send in your deposit to Council Office today. The total \$65 is due March 23rd. Don't give up the trip of a lifetime. For all you collectors, this conference offers one-of-a-kind items that will never be made again. Get the last of your Section S-4 merchandise April 20th-22nd. Remember, when it comes to Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge, #237...."Don't take it personally!" Remember, total fee of \$65 is due March 23, but at least \$20 deposit must be paid by March 15. Additionally, if you are Vigil and plan to attend the Vigil Breakfast, it is an extra \$5 due March 15.

Chris Smith
Aal-Pa-Tah Contingent Chairman
S-4 Conference 2001.

Ponder Your Purpose

What have you done for yourself, lately? Huh? Pop-quiz, do you have the answer? Nothing? Well, why not? Have you complained lately? Wait, that doesn't make any sense. You have complained, but you haven't done anything. Does that strike you as slightly unfair? What are you complaining about then? Your inability change? Change is inevitable; no one likes it; don't kid yourself. We are all in the same boat, but I'll let you in on a little secret...

lean closer... CHANGE IS GOOD. How are things ever supposed to get better if they don't change? What is the point of complaining if you are going to let everything stay the same? Of course, some things can't change, or at least not yet, not the way you would like, or as fast as you would like. That's life. Two of the most important lessons in life, in my humble opinion, are the lesson of compromise, and the lesson of patience. I know, I know, you have heard it before, but patience is not only that unbearable fortitude, but it is also knowing your place. You have to know when you have the right to change something and when you have to look for ways around it. Sometimes the way around is to change the things that are the cause for the undesirable effect; then other times, it is just finding a new way to accomplish your goal. Yet, here we have come full circle back to change. So now comes the penance for failing the pop quiz earlier: Work to change things you don't like. It will make you a good brother and a good citizen, and beyond that a good person.

Now hold on one second. I am sure you want me to tell you to try new experiences. No matter where you are in life, young or old, new experiences are good. They help make change exciting; but don't forget to hang on to your direction. Stand up for your convictions. Try to influence those that could do a little changing themselves. Enact change among those most like you. Those are the ones that are most likely to change, and you will be doing the both of you a favor. Set an example. Start small. Oh,

and in case you have never read a cheesy self help book, first you have to change the things you don't like about yourself. If you wouldn't follow you, how can you expect anyone else; so again I ask, what have you done for you lately?

Oh, yeah, one more little secret...I am talking to YOU! I have been trying to show you in these "Ponder Your Purpose" articles that WWW extends beyond the Order of the Arrow. All parts of your life can be universal, and they should be. It is a quality that makes you command respect. I know your parents at some point in your life said, "Life's not fair," but let me ask you, "why couldn't it be?" And remember, don't forget to have fun in the process.

Let's bring back some trophies from Section Conference. Good luck.

Lodge Calendar Dates for 2001

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

Chiefly Speaking

Brothers,

These next few months will be a fun and exciting time for both our lodge and for the Order as a whole. The annual Spring Pow Wow is coming up on the weekend of March 16th-18th at Tanah Keeta and, not to mention, Section Conference 2001 on April 20th-22nd hosted by Timuquan Lodge out of Tampa, FL. I urge all to attend both of these events as they are the perhaps the most fun and fellowship that we have to offer. As you will read in other articles, if you wish to attend Section Conference as part of the Aal-Pa-Tah contingent the \$65 must be paid in full by March 23rd (you may pay this fee at any time to the council office or you may pay this fee at the Spring Pow Wow).



Lodge Chief Bradley Ellis

Brothers,

Do you ever find a problem that becomes so common, you don't even realize it is a problem? Do you witness drug usage or traffic and don't give it a second look? What is the world coming to? In a land where "Sex, Drugs, & Rock 'n' Roll" have become the dominant figure in teen culture, we sometimes lose the things that are important to us: young leaders, mentors, and role models. At my old school, it was common to see 6th grade students "making-out" in the bus zone, 7th grade students fighting each other because Little Suzy Hotpants was cheating on Billy Hormone with Johnny Popular (excuse me for my crude use of last names), and 8th grade students walking around with track lines on their arms from excessive heroin usage, and soon-to-be high

In other news, in addition to some of the many other things that my administration has changed about our lodge over the past year I have decided that we will hold the lodge elections for the 2001-2002 term at the Spring Pow Wow. In years past, we have typically held the elections during the service weekend in May (which is an Ordeal this year) and due to a low turnout of youth for the service weekends, the lodge leaders have been elected by a minority of youth membership. I feel that this should not be so; that positions of leadership which are so crucial to the welfare of the lodge should be decided by a greater representation of the youth membership. For this reason, we will hold the elections for the executives (Chief, Vice-Chief, Secretary, Treasurer, and Historian) at the Spring Pow Wow. However, the new executive officers will not be sworn in until the completion of the May Ordeal, and all other current lower level officers (i.e. chapter chiefs and committee chairs) will continue to perform their duties until the completion of the June Order weekend; after which time the new administration, with all positions filled for the new year, will be responsible for the lodge. This, I feel, is necessary for the following reasons: 1) allowing my officers to complete their obligated one year term and 2) giving the new chief a transition period to gather and inform his officers without having to jump right into the job. The lodge election rules are listed in this issue of the *Gator Tales* and if you wish to run for any of the executive positions you must declare your intent to run to me by March 16th.

On that note, I would like to encourage any eligible youth to seriously consider run-

Vice Chiefs Beef

school girls walking in the mall with their strollers, showing off their newborns to the other 14 year olds. The whole time, it seems like I was the only one thinking, "This is wrong". "Why is this happening?" Here's my point: Kids are growing up faster each year. Babies are having babies and pre-teens are hooked on drugs. The question floating through my mind is "These are the leaders of tomorrow?" Arrowmen, this is our time to shine through. If there were a 13th point to the Scout Law, I believe it would be "A Scout is Watched." As Arrowmen, we are watched, by everyone. Scoutmasters, older scouts, younger scouts...they're all watching you (scary, eh?). Even when you're alone you are watched. I was told once to "See yourself the way others do. Everything you do, positive or negative, effects the whole world." You use drugs, the statistic for people that do drugs goes up ever-so-slightly. You volunteer to help in a toy drive, thousands of children feel the effect. Remember to live by all that you have agreed to. The Scout Oath, Law, and the Order's Obligation should not only be lived, they should be spread to others. If we all do our part, the dim light may shine through the clouds once again.

A positive role model,
Christopher R. Smith
Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge Vice-Chief
tkmoondog@adelphia.net

ning for a lodge position; not as someone seeking the glory of a position, but as a brother who is seriously dedicated to the Order and who wants to see Aal-Pa-Tah grow and succeed in fulfilling the purpose of the Order. A lodge thrives, or withers away, based on the work of its leaders. I am proud of my work as chief this past year and wish that I could do more, but because of age I am ineligible for re-election leaving the lodge in the hands of whomever will step up to the plate. The Order does not just thrive by the hands of "Johnny Eagle Scout and Vigil Honor Member" but also because of "Timmy 1st Class and Ordeal Member." Soon I age out, as does Phil, Evan, and the rest of my peers, and as the lodge is safe in the hands of competent leaders for at least the next year or so, we need fresh new faces to join the LEC now to ensure the growth and stability of Aal-Pa-Tah for the future. If you are a youth, new to the lodge or not, and wish to do more for the Order, please consider running for a position or volunteering for a committee chair (no matter what level of leadership it may be). Remember the words of Uncas, "Let us both urge our kindred. Firm devotion towards our brethren and our cause. Ourselves forgetting, let us catch the higher vision. Let us find the greater beauty in the life of cheerful service."

Take care my brothers and I will see you soon...

In Service

Bradley Ellis

Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge Chief

Bje3839@garnet.acns.fsu.edu



Our fearless leaders.....



Lodge Vice Chief Chris Smith



Lodge Elections

Brothers,

The following criteria is the Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge election rules which will be used to hold the upcoming lodge elections for Lodge Chief, Lodge Vice-Chief, Lodge Secretary, Lodge Treasurer, and Lodge Historian at the upcoming Spring Pow Wow. If you are planning to run for one of these positions, please read the following criteria carefully. The candidates' meeting mentioned under "Candidate Eligibility" item #6 will begin precisely at 5:00 PM on March 16th, 2001 (prior to opening of registration at the Pow Wow). You must notify the current Lodge Chief, Bradley Ellis, at bje3839@garnet.acns.fsu.edu or at 850-853-1601 prior to the 16th if you plan to run.

Candidate Eligibility:

A candidate for office:

1. Must have been inducted or transferred into AAL-PA-TAH at least six months prior to the election date.
2. Must have dues paid for the current year.
3. Must not reach his 21st birthday during the scheduled term of office.
4. Must physically reside within the official boundaries of The Gulf Stream Council.
5. Must be currently registered with a unit that is chartered by The Gulf Stream Council, B.S.A.
6. Must present himself at the scheduled candidates' meeting¹, unless he is running for a chapter position or makes specific prior arrangements with the Lodge Chief and/or Lodge Advisor. The candidate may have one person of their choosing with him during the interview. The person can be anyone of the candidate's choosing as long as they are not also a candidate.
7. Must be determined eligible by the Interview Committee.

¹ The Interview Committee is composed of The Current Lodge Chief, only if he is not running for an office, The Lodge Advisor, Associate Advisor(s), and one youth, who is not a candidate, which is appointed by The Lodge Chief.

Voter Eligibility:

All dues paid members who have not

reached their 21st birthday by the day of the election are entitled to vote. No absentee ballots or proxies are permitted. The Lodge Secretary is responsible to provide the supervisor of elections with an accurate list of eligible voters.

General Election Rules:

1. The election for each office is to be held separately. The results will be announced before the next election will begin.
2. A candidate may run for any office. If he is defeated, he may run for another office of his choice.
3. Campaign promotional material is limited to a single flyer. The size may not exceed 8½" by 11". It may be printed on both sides, folded or cut in any manner and on any paper stock. There will be no other campaign material by The Candidate nor on his behalf. Flyers may only be passed out, or hung as posters in a neat manner, after weekend registration has begun.
4. A candidate may be disqualified, upon the approval of the Lodge Key 3, for violations of the election procedure or for conduct that is not keeping with the highest traditions of The Boy Scouts of America. The Scout Oath, Scout Law and Obligation of our order will serve as a standard of judgment. A candidate may be held responsible for actions on his behalf.
5. The Lodge Chief and Lodge Advisor shall appoint one youth and one advisor. The youth will hold the title, Supervisor of Elections, and shall hold such duties and responsibilities as are implied by that title and any other duties as may be assigned to him by the Lodge Chief.
6. At the time of the Annual Lodge Business Meeting, The Candidates will be expected to:
 - A. Be nominated by another youth member of the lodge. The Nominator will be allowed to speak for two minutes on behalf of The Candidate.
 - B. Speak for two minutes, if they so wish.
7. Neither the current Lodge Chief (unless

he is running), The Supervisor of Elections, nor any adult may nominate, speak for, or in any way publicly endorse any candidate.

8. The Candidate that receives greater than 50% of the votes is elected. Unintelligible ballots are not counted.

9. Unopposed candidates must receive greater than 50% of all votes.

10. In the event of a tie vote, there will be one additional ballot to break the tie. Before the ballot is given, the tied candidates will each be given an additional two minutes to speak on their behalf, if they so wish. If the second ballot results in a tie, the determination of which of the tied candidates will serve in the office is made by the Lodge Executive Committee, before the new officers are installed, and will require a majority vote of that body. Lodge Chief may never be chosen by the Lodge Executive Committee and must be the result of a whole Lodge vote.

11. If no candidate receives greater than 50% of the votes for an office, a second election will be held immediately between the two candidates who received the highest amounts of votes if the second vote results in a tie, the determination of which of the tied candidates will serve in the office is made by the Lodge Executive Committee, before the new officers are installed, and will require a majority vote of that body. Lodge Chief may never be chosen by the Lodge Executive Committee and must be the result of a whole Lodge vote..

12. If no candidates run for an office, the newly elected Lodge Chief will appoint a lodge member who meets the candidate eligibility requirements to that office. The Lodge Executive Committee must approve appointments of elected officers.

13. After counting, the ballots will be held by the Supervisor of Elections for a period of thirty days. Any lodge member, with the approval of the Lodge Chief may review the ballots during this period.



**Lodge #237, Order of the Arrow
Gulf Stream Council, BSA**



Brothers Nathan and Glenn Alexander hard at work during the October Ordeal.



Brother Tom Chewing teaching young Scouts basic SCUBA techniques during operation First Class.



A-Bani-Ki Chapter Chief David Makler instructing young Scouts in Archery during Operation First Class.



Brother Drew Haines at the September Ordeal... "look out, he's coming right for us!"



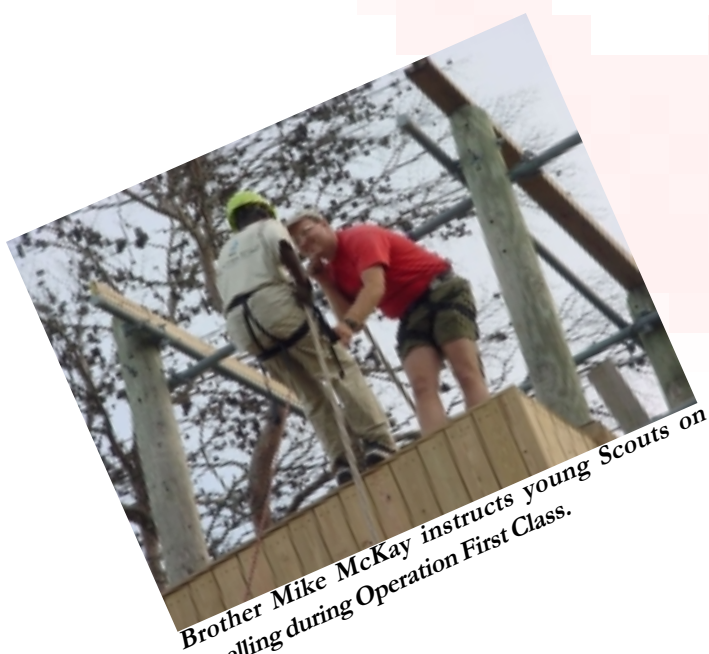
The adult clan working hard on the pond during the September Ordeal.



The Ceremonial Team takes a break for a photo op during the September Ordeal



Arrowmen enjoying a chat with the Lodge Chief during the October Ordeal feast.



Brother Mike McKay instructs young Scouts on rappelling during Operation First Class.





Brother Matt Lombard hard at work at Operation One Day.



Arrowmen repair the roof of the trading post at the September Ordeal.



men making stocking stuffers at the Toys for Tots warehouse in Palm Beach as part of Operation One Day.



A Troop of Operation First Class attendees pause for a salute.



Toys for Tots (Operation One Day) was a lot of fun. There are two Arrowmen in this photo, can you find the second?



Young scouts learn how to build and launch rockets as a part of the Operation First Class schedule.



Brothers Drew Haines and Scott Ellis work together to pack one of the last boxes in the Toys for Tots warehouse.

Operation One Day

Brothers,

Each year the lodges in our section set out to provide one day of service to the community outside of the Scouting world in an event called Operation One Day. This year Aal-Pa-Tah helped out Toys for Tots, an organization that distributes toys to needy children. Ironically, this year Operation One Day was actually two days long for Aal-Pa-Tah. We had a great turn out of members on both the 16th and the 23rd of December, who cheerfully came out to help the Marines with the Toys for Tots program.

On the first day, December 16th, we had nineteen members from our lodge separating toys and making stocking stuffers. Throughout the day, the Marines would bring in truckloads of toys, which we unloaded and separated between the genders and age groups. We also had to filter out any toy that could resemble a real weapon in any way and put it



Brothers of Aal-Pa-Tah deliver presents to the Fenners, whose home was robbed a few days before.



Operation One Day coordinators Scott Ellis, Sgt. Darrell Brown, and Ray Ellis.

in a separate box. About half of the brothers were making stocking stuffers, composed of a Teletubbie book, a sports poster, and three smaller toys. The girls' stocking stuffers additionally had Barbie dolls, whereas the boys' stocking stuffers additionally had Pokémon toys and playing cards. On the other side of the warehouse were bags of toys with order numbers that the Marines had put together. Throughout the day, agencies (churches, schools, etc.) would come in with their order numbers and we would give them the bags full of toys for that order. That agency would then hand out their toys to the children in their assigned area. By two o'clock, our work for the first day was over. I would like to thank the following members for helping out on the 16th: Darrel Brown, Matt Lombard, Scott Ellis, Ray Ellis, Terrance Dickson, Bill Hawthorne, Joey Kahl, Keith Giffels, Chris Smith, Ryan Kidd, Andrew Horning, Phil Ashford, Mark Kidd, Sean Curtin, Eric Barth, David Walker, Will-

iam Anderson, Chris Litwin, and Michael Boltz.

Throughout the week, the Marines and other volunteers had worked hard to separate and distribute the toys. In the end, the Toys for Tots program had distributed 104,957 toys to 38,873 children the 2000 holidays. The Operation worked with over 263 different agencies and also personally helped out 25 special families. As for working hours, the Toys for Tots warehouse logged 1,542 hours from volunteers, and 621 hours from Marines, totaling 2163 man-hours for the whole operation.

Now that most of the toys had been distributed, what else was there to do? Well, the clean up of course. When we had shown up on the 23rd, the warehouse was mostly cleared out except for a few small piles of toys and some boxes full of leftovers. We started by securing the boxes with tape so they didn't fall apart. Then we moved the boxes into huge trucks, supplied by the Palm Beach County Sheriff Office, and we distributed the left over toys throughout the community. I read an article in the paper a few days before about a family, the Fenners, who had their mobile home robbed of all their appliances and Christmas presents. While half of our members were cleaning the warehouse, I had the other half put together a box of new toys, based on the ages reported in the news article, and went down to personally deliver them to the Fenners. Actually being there and seeing whom we were helping added a whole new view to our labor.

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 money 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 can be paid now 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

Trail Crew

Brothers in the Order,

I'm sure most of you have hiked on, or at least heard of, the Mike Machek Trail. It is a 5-mile trail inside Tanah Keeta that is used heavily and by which all who camp there have access to. The trail, however, is not self-maintaining. Our lodge has volunteered to take on the maintenance of the trail. In order to do this, we need the support of the lodge members. As a part of the trail crew, you only will be asked to help during existing lodge weekends and it will only take a few hours each time we go out on the trail. Please contact me if you are interested.

In cheerful service,
Jeremy Regan
Trail Crew Chief
Phone: 561-287-3119
E-mail: lobotsmind@yahoo.com

Section Conference 2001
Registration Form

Name: _____ Youth/Adult: _____

Chapter: _____ Membership Status: Ord. / Bro. / Vig.

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

E-Mail: _____ T-shirt size: MED LG XL 2X 3X

Attending the Vigil Breakfast (Vigil's Only)? (circle one) Yes No

Do you intend to ride one of our coach (bus) vehicles? _____

If so, which area do you live closest to? Boynton Beach West Palm Beach
Jupiter Fort Pierce

Send to:
Gulf Stream Council
8335 North Military Trail
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410

Name: _____ Amount Paid: _____

Payment (circle one): Cash (must be paid in person)
Check (payable to Gulf Stream Council, BSA)
Credit (Visa or Master Card Only)

Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Name of Card Holder: _____

Remember: Even if you do not ride the bus, you MUST pay the full amount of \$65.00. The buses will depart from their locations during the morning hours of Friday, April 20th. This is not a holiday. Please make prior arrangements with work and/or school.

Order of the Arrow



WILDERNESS VOYAGE

A 14-day experience in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness located in Northern Minnesota. Based out of the Northern Tier High Adventure base, participants spend half of their time repairing portage trails to the wilderness area and the other half voyaging throughout the waters of the United States and Canada.

AVAILABILITY

- Session 1: June 12 - June 25
- Session 2: June 19 - July 2
- Session 3: June 26 - July 9
- Session 4: July 3 - July 16
- Session 5: July 10 - July 23
- Session 6: July 17 - July 30
- Session 7: July 24 - August 6
- Session 8: July 31 - August 13
- Session 9: August 7 - August 20

REQUIREMENTS

- Be at least 16 years old the day your program begins, but not yet 21 by its conclusion.
- Be strong and robust.
- Be a registered member of both the BSA and a local OA lodge.



\$100⁰⁰ ONLY

Applications available ONLINE:
<http://www.aa-bsa.org/programs/ntvoy/>

Chee-Pa-Tah Chapter Report

Hello all Chee-Pa-Tah Chapter members, its your devoted chapter chief, Daniel Bialczak. Its that time of the year again. Time for Spring Pow Wow, Section Conference, and the troop elections.

I encourage you to attend the fun filled Spring Pow Wow; the Spring Pow Wow is one of the greatest OA events next to NOAC and Section Conference. For all of you new brothers, this weekend is where you can see how the OA is really like. This weekend is packed with fun and exciting activities.

The next event I strongly suggest you go to is the Section Conference hosted by Timuquan lodge. At this event lodges all over Florida will join you. This is the second largest event for the OA and is unlike anything you have ever experienced. This weekend is filled with fun activities, interesting classes, and loads of lodge against lodge competitions. Go to this weekend and show your AAL-PA-TAH spirit; not to mention the cool squeaky gators you get.

Finally, the annual troop elections are here again from Feb. 1st to March 31st. Make sure you remind your scoutmaster. If I have not gotten a hold of them, tell them to expect a call.

If you have any questions, you can contact me at 561-791-0134 or at dan13185@hotmail.com.

Yours in Brotherhood,
Daniel Bialczak
Chapter Chief.

A-Bani-Ki

Chapter elections are well under way and will be completed on time. I encourage every able bodied Arrowman to attend the Spring Pow Wow and Section Conference. Also, concluding the lodge executive elections, we will need to hold an election for the next chapter chief. If any youth is interested in running, please contact me. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at 561-482-9011 or my Advisor (Jim Hare) at 561-369-2988.

WWW,
David Makler
A-Bani-Ki Chapter Chief
Roval4@bellsouth.net

Lodge Leadership

Lodge Chief	Brad Ellis
Lodge Vice Chief	Chris Smith
Lodge Historian	Terrance Dickson
Lodge Secretary	Mike Griffiths
Lodge Treasurer	Chris Montgomery
Past Lodge Chief	Steve Brown
Keeper of the Records	Steve Brown
Asst Keeper of the Records	Matt Hall
Trail Crew Chief	Jeremy Regan
Ceremonial Team Chief	Phil Ashford
Gator Tales Editor	Daniel Arnold
Chief of the Fire	Ron Oats
Staff Advisor	Ron Barbour
Lodge Advisor	Richard Fore
Safety Advisor	Scott Smith

Chapter Reports

Ne-Ke-Wa Chapter Report

Dear Brothers,

I would like to thank all of you for you participation and involvement in our order and would like to inform you of our upcoming events. We will need to show some spirit and attend the Spring Pow Wow weekend and also our upcoming Section Conference. I will be calling y'all for a chapter meeting.

Yours in Brotherhood,
Matt Dillon
matthewross@email.msn.com

Oi-Ya-Tah Chapter Report

Dear Brothers

Hello Scouts, there is an exciting and fun-filled year ahead of you in Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge. The Lodge has two BIG events coming up. On March 16th at Tanah Keeta there will be our Annual Spring Pow-Wow. Section Conference will be on April 20th hosted by Timuquan Lodge. I hope to see you at these events. You may contact me at:

Email: Terrance_Dickson@email.com
Phone: 561-879-9264

Sincerely,
Terrance Dickson

Lowaneu Mawat Chapter Report

Unit Elections is the majority of our chapter activity right now, but we have also been planning another chapter meeting for when that work is completed. If anyone is interested in running for chapter chief please notify me. Otherwise, I urge all chapter members to attend the Spring Wow and Section Conference. If you have any questions please feel free to call myself at 561-562-4380 or my advisor (Patrick Foradori) at 561-589-3318. I'll see you at the Pow Wow...

In Brotherhood,
James Archer
Lowaneu Mawat Chapter Chief
gtarcher@aol.com

Osceola Chapter Report

Osceola Brothers,

Now is the time to start making plans for the Spring Order of the Arrow Season. Things are going to get very busy and you will need to plan early. Spring Pow Wow is a no miss event. The Lodge will be setting in place plans that will run through the year 2001 and into 2002. If you aren't there you will miss the opportunity to get your voice into the planning sessions. Section Conference is next. This is an excellent opportunity to meet fellow brothers from all over the Southeast in brotherhood and a little friendly competition. Finally NOAC. I was able to attend NOAC on staff last year, where I learned to put together newsletters like the Gator Tales. Now I edit and publish the Gator Tales for your enjoyment. I would recommend that if you can attend, do so! It is a lifetime event.

Closer to home, I am asking for immediate help to do elections. This requires visits to Troop meetings in the Lighthouse District. There is a written ceremony and prepared scripts. This will be fun and will give you the opportunity to represent the Osceola Chapter in front of your fellow scouts. If you would like to come with me and the rest of the team, call or e-mail me and we will make arrangements.

In Cheerful Service
Daniel Arnold
Phone 561.745.0297
Email RabidMan2@hotmail.com

Coo-Wa-Chobee

Dear Brothers,

My Apologies for the inactivity in our chapter. Unit elections, as well as the shift in leadership has caused a standstill. With elections around the corner, Coo-Wa-Chobee has room to change. If anyone is interested in becoming chapter chief when elections take place, please contact me at 641-6380. All are encouraged to attend our upcoming lodge events, and stay active. We will be having a chapter meeting at the next lodge weekend.

Yours in WWW,
Brian Case
TroopRep237@aol.com

ADVISOR'S MINUTE

Let me open by saying that I am proud to be in Scouting and I hope you are too. The way we make Scouting stronger is to be out in the community do good deeds and showing people who we are. I was very proud of the job the Lodge did at the Toys for Tots warehouse. A big thanks needs to go out to Scott Ellis and all the members who worked on the Operation One Day Project.

Spring Pow Wow should be very exciting so mark your calendars and come prepared to have a great time. We need every Aal-Pa-Tah Arrowmen at this event.

The founder of the company I work for, William H Danforth had a saying "What's Next?". This is what I leave you with. Will we grow into the best Lodge in the Section or will we just get by? It is up to you. The Lodge grows



Lodge Advisor Richard Fore

one Arrowmen at a time.

Yours in Brotherhood,
Richard M. Fore
Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge Advisor