

Gator Tales

www.aal-pa-tah.org



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Oct 2016

Oklowaha Ordeal

Brothers,

For those of you who know candidates who have not completed their ordeal yet, they're in luck! From October 28-29 (Yes; this means a 2 day ordeal-No Sunday!), Camp OKLAWAHA will be hosting an ordeal. This is open to everyone, so any brother can attend. Registration is just \$15! Please RSVP in advance if you're going. There will be buses leaving from/returning to Tanah Keeta, these are on a first come, first serve basis! Lets make this an AWE-SOME ordeal, and get as many candidates inducted as possible.

WWW,

Gator Tales Writing Staff

(Note: for candidates, this only applies to those who were elected between October and December 2016).

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Chiefly Speaking



"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others."
- Gandhi

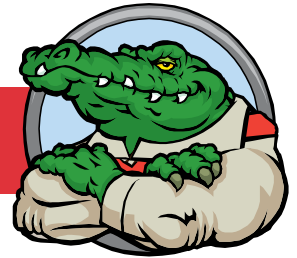
Why is it that humanity remembers old names such as Aristotle, or Confucius? Why don't we remember the leaders and entrepreneurs of the time? It is because these people taught the world something. Think 3,000 years from now, who will humanity remember? Kim Kardashian, or Martin Luther King Jr.? Kanye West, or Gandhi? Why is this?

Martin Luther King Jr., and Gandhi both lead in cheerful service. When you completed your Ordeal, you learned of the importance of cheerful service. You learned the secret to changing the world. I encourage you, brothers, go and change the world. Whether your contribution is big, or small, at least you didn't sit down and watch others give. Don't waste your time chasing the wrong things, but the right things.

In Cheerful Service,

Robert Ulrich
Lodge Chief

Adviser's Minute



Brothers,

Coming out of a very successful LLD, it was exciting to see all the new faces surrounding the table at the LEC. We have some great energy going into our ceremonies, service and programs, and a renewed vigor to get our AIA program running strong. If you are not currently involved with any of the great programs in the Lodge, I encourage you to reach out and get involved.

"What ever you do, do it well. Do it so well that when people see you do it they will want to come back and see you do it again and they will want to bring others and show them how well you do what you do."

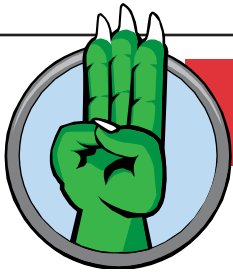
This quote is one of many that have always inspired me by Walt Disney. While you may think it may only apply to a theme park, it actually applies to everything you do in life.

In your day-to-day life, the decisions you make and the actions that you take are what define you. At home, at school, in your troop or the Lodge, your character, hard work and morals are what brings people back to want to be with you. When you follow through on your word, you become dependable. These are the traits we all look for in a friend.

The same holds true for leadership. By setting the example, doing your best and working hard towards your goal, you blaze the path for others to follow. As we move forward with our roles here in the Lodge and life in general, I encourage all of us to keep this in mind. Make everything around you be what others want to be a part of.

In WWW,

Mr. Whalen



Officer Reports

Vice chief of service

Brothers,
its been a year of service towards camp, and this term is going to be even better. My goal is for service to be meaningful to you. Not trimming the bushes, but service that you will be able to look back on in a couple years and not only feel accomplished but also see how it bettered our camp. I look forward to working besides you to fulfill what the OA is about, cheerful service
WWW,

Ryan White

Contact: lodge237@gmail.com

Vice chief of Inductions

Hello , Gators my Name is Michael Riley and I am your new vice chief of inductions. I'm looking forward to serving you as your VCI and hope can't wait to welcome our new brothers who are getting elected and going through there ordeals. We are looking for volunteers for Ceremonies and Induction service so if you are interested please contact me. I am hoping to make the ordeals and elections go super smooth and with your help I think we can. Come out and join as at our ordeal in October for our brothers who are grabbing there last chance to join our ranks. Looking forward to serving you all!

WWW,

Michael Riley

Contact: lodge237@gmail.com

Secretary

Brothers,
Hi there! I'm Andrew Sasser, and I will be serving as your Lodge Secretary this year. Throughout the year, I want your input into our Gator Tales articles, and to submit any cool articles, photos, or other ideas you have. I am also looking for potential ideas for games/puzzles in Gator Tales, and will be seeking to add some more pictures to improve the layout. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to email me; my email is andrewjuliansasser@gmail.com. Thanks, and lets make this year a great one!

WWW,

Andrew Sasser

Contact: andrewjuliansasser@gmail.com.

Vice chief of program

Greetings Brothers

If you've always loved Aal-Pa-Tah's program then get ready for it to be even better. This next year is going to be a jammed packed one with not only many of our past activities, but new camp amenities and fresh ideas. We have our completed gaga pit, cleaned pool, and finished basketball court for all of our upcoming weekends. The lodge has a blow up obstacle course, we're bringing Sinkathon back, and Ft. Blanchard will be a common location for a slip'n'slide. These are only our universal weekend activities. We will still have things even bigger for certain weekends, bountiful chapter games year long, and new camp equipment to be used for our leisure (one of these is a set of tomahawks). I encourage all members, new and old, to come out to our upcoming weeks because compared to our great past I only see it going up from here.

WWW

Sincerely, *Arren Richter*

lodge237@gmail.com

Treasurer

Brothers,
my name is Matthew Grabasch and I will be serving as your Lodge treasurer for this lodge year. My main goal to make the Lodge Box a great place to volunteer for a weekend. I will be rolling out a new incentive program that you can cash in on. For donating just 2-3 hours every lodge weekend, you can earn cool things like patches patches, shirts, and even a web belt! If you want to take advantage of this opportunity, then contact me at lodge237@gmail.com I am excited to work as your treasurer this year!

WWW,

Matthew Grabasch

Contact: lodge237@gmail.com



Chapter Corner

Nee-Kee-Wa

Brothers,

The chapter is doing great and unit elections start soon. If you have any questions contact me at nekeewa@gmail.com.

In WWW,

Eric Kastelic

Contact: nekeewa@gmail.com

Wyhome-Pa Tah

Brothers,

Wyhome-Pa-Tah Chapter holds Zoom online meeting. Trying to save time and make it more convenient for members to attend Chapter meetings. Wyhome-Pa-Tah had its first online chapter meeting in September. Chapter Chief Connor Thomas and Vice Chief James Jean use a PowerPoint presentation. Chapter members were excited about being able to meet online in a video conference. Wyhome-Pa-Tah plans to do three or four more meetings this year online. Hopefully this will bring higher attendance to the chapter meetings.

WWW

Connor Thomas

Contact: lodge237@gmail.com

Oi-ya-tah

Brothers,

Oi-Ya-Tah is doing supercalifragilisticexpialidocious. Right now, we are planning a new t-shirt design, new patch, and plenty of services to help out troops and packs in our district. We are also planing on providing service to our own community. Oi-Ya-Tah is looking forward to winning this year's best all-around chapter!!

WWW

NATER

Contact: lodge237@gmail.com

A-bani-ki

Hi, I am Isaac Sunderman and will be serving as the A-Bani-Ki Chapter Chief. As the new Chapter Chief I hope to solve some of the problems we have with membership retention in my chapter. During this lodge year, I will be trying my best to make sure everyone in the chapter is having the best time they can at lodge and chapter events. Please remember that all A-Bani-ki chapter meetings will be held on every second Monday of the month. They will be held at the Chancellor Charter School

Sincerely, *Isaac Sunderman*

Contact: lodge237@gmail.com

OA Unit of Excellence

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

The award is broken into five major parts:

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



The Forum

The Forum

The Forum is a place in GT where everyone from Chairman to Arrowman can speak. We accept all submissions, so if you have something you want to say in the next issue, please submit it to lodge237@gmail.com

Brotherhood

Brothers,
If you're eligible for Brotherhood and interested in completing your counseling, please contact me at nekeewa@gmail.com. All the needed information is on the Lodge website and there will be a ceremony at the next Lodge weekend.

In WWW,
Eric Kastelic

Fall Festival

Brothers,
Fall festival was an absolute blast from start to finish, with some notable program including a slip n slide at Fort Blanchard and a water balloon fight by the lodge building.

AIA also had a large presence at the event which they capped off after dinner with drum and dance that included just about everyone.

Unfortunately though we had a relatively small turnout, so please, talk to anyone you know in the OA about going to events.

WWW,
Ronnie Webber

Editor

Brothers,
Hi, for those who don't know, my name is Ronnie Webber and I will be continuing to be the editor for Gator Tales. If you have any ideas for Gator Tales or an article about something happening in the lodge please email it to me at ronniev2000@gmail.com.

WWW,
Ronnie Webber

Website Chairman

Brothers,

I am now the current Website Chairman as Evan has gone off to college, and coincidentally, we are redesigning a website that is new and fresh! If any of you have anything that you think would be a good addition to the new website, then let me know at lodge237@gmail.com, or tell me at the events. Also, if you need something updated on the website, let someone on the LEC, including me, know so we can fix or update accordingly!

WWW,
Justin Krum

Lodge Calendar

October 28-29, 2016: Oklawaha Ordeal

November 4-6, 2016: Section Leadership Summit (Bradenton, FL)

November 11-13, 2016: NLS and NLATS (Talladega, AL)

December 2-4, 2016: Winter Fellowship (TK)

January 7, 2017: Annual Lodge Banquet

February 4, 2017: OA Day at Trade-O-Ree

March 3-5, 2017: Spring Ordeal (TK)

March 11, 2017: 2nd Annual TK Gator Grind

April 21-23, 2017: Section Conference

May 5-7, 2017: Summer Gathering (Ordeal)

Summer Gathering

Brothers,

Wasn't Summer Gathering a blast!? Our circle grew to accept many new brothers. A few brothers sealed their membership by completing their brotherhood, and we set out full steam ahead - constructing all of the Summer Camp tents for the whole season. Even through the heat, everyone kept a smile. This was CHEERFUL SERVICE!

Our newly elected team of leadership is well prepared to serve each and everyone of you. As well, be on the lookout for opportunities that you can help with very soon! Some examples may include serving on a unit elections team, or joining us in service towards the basketball court. There is something for everyone!!

We hope you're ready for another GREAT year!

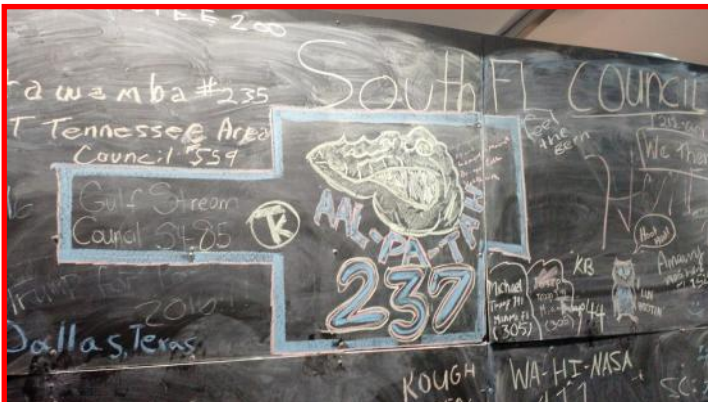
Prism

Brothers,

This summer, I was able to go to Prism at Summit along with 4 other members from our lodge (Robert Ulrich, Greg Yentz, Matt Grabasch, and Christianne Yentz). It was an amazing experience and time up at Summit, even though I personally arrived a day early due to scheduling my flights a day early. The program was delivered perfectly by the Southern Region staff, and the scenery was amazing, For those of you that are on the fence about going to Summit in 2017 for National Jamboree, I would definitely go if I were you. All in all, it was an amazing trip and I can't wait to go back for Operation Arrow!

WWW,

Justin Krum



NEXT

Over the summer was a National OA Event called NEXT: A New Century. Delegates of lodges from all over the nation, including Aal-Pa-Tah, at Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana. The delegates were there to discuss how to improve the most trying issues every lodge faces: Sash-and-Dash, Brotherhood conversion, and overall membership retention, just to name a few and gave their input to National on some things they would like to see changed or created to better the OA as a whole. The delegates from our lodge came home with some great ideas on ways to make our lodge even better.

WWW,

Robert Ulrich, Ryan White,

Andrew Sasser, Issac Sunderman



Summer Camp

My Brothers,

We are proud to announce some AMAZING enhancements to Tanah Keeta Summer Camp! In addition to our already spectacular traditional merit badge program, we are offering a total of 6 new “high adventure” specialty programs! 3 of these programs are SCUBA related. In addition to our traditional 1 week open water certification program, we have expanded this program to include a 2 week and a 3 week program as well! We are also proud to announce our TK Angler Adventure, for those avid fishermen, the TK Ocean Adventure, for those scouts who want to experience the Ocean like never before, and the Loxahatchee River Adventure, for our adventurous scouts who want to “live off the land” and experience “Native Florida”!




This year's 3 weeks of Traditional Summer camp promise to be YOUR Gateway to Adventure this Summer! We have also redesigned our Eagle Program into an express week of summer camp, branded Eagle Clinic and Cub Scout Resident Camp is BACK!! We are always looking for the best of the best scouts for to staff our programs, so if you are interested in serving on our staff or as a CIT, apply today! For more information on all of these programs, including TK Staff and our redesigned CIT program please visit <https://www.gulfstreamcouncil.org/summer-camp> . We hope to see all of you and your units this summer!!!

In WWW,

Mike McLoughlin

Program Director



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

October 28th-29th

Oklawaha Ordeal

November 4th-6th

Section Leadership Summit

November 11th-13th

NLS and NLATS