



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

# ATOR TALES

Summer Issue

2001

## Spring Powwow 2001, March 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>

by Stephen Brown

Spring Powwow 2001 was a tremendous success. By all accounts the weekend was fun-filled and truly conveyed the ideals of brotherhood and cheerfulness. Beginning on Friday, March 16, 2001, Arrowman arrived at Tanah Keeta Scout Reservation for a weekend of fun and fellowship; they were not disappointed. Friday night was marked with the opening of campaigns for 2001 Lodge Elections, X-Men – The Movie, lots of great chicken wings, patch trading, board games, and a hackie sack competition. At 3:45am, Arrowmen were still up having a blast!

Friday was fun, but Saturday was when the real fun began. Directly after breakfast, chapters competed in Tug-O-War, Broom Hockey and Ultimate Frisbee while other Arrowmen participated in seminars featuring such topics as Patch Trading, Lodge Leader-

ship, and Indian Dancing. When lunch rolled around, we had over 100 well trained and worked out Arrowmen. Congratulations to Osceola Chapter for placing first in both Broom Hockey and Ultimate Frisbee, and to A-Bani-Ki for placing first in Tug-O-War.

At lunch the Lodge Elections were held and 4 fine Arrowmen were elected to serve Aal-Pa-Tah for the 2001-2002 year. Congratulations to the 01-02 Officers! Following lunch, the annual Quest for the Golden Arrow was held. Chapters participated in Shotgun Shooting, Sand Skiing, Nerdling, and Winger Shooting. The Quest was capped off with a Peanut Butter and Jelly Swimming Relay. Congratulations for A-Bani-Ki for winning Sand Skiing and Nerdling, Osceola for winning Swimming and Shotgun Shooting, and Oi-Ya-Tah for winning the Winger Shoot. When all was said and

done Osceola chapter was victorious in The Quest! Good Job Osceola! A-Bani-Ki followed in second place and Chee-Pa-Tah and the Lowaneu Mawat/Ne-Kee-Wa teams came in third.

Dinner, a Campfire Program, and the showing of Rocky and Bullwinkle marked Saturday evening. For Dinner, Arrowmen enjoyed barbecued ribs cooked by our outstanding foodservice! The evening's campfire program began with the Vigil Callout for 11 members of Aal-Pa-Tah, which was followed by a performance by the Hitchiti Dance Team; It was truly a great show. The 2001 Spring Powwow was the greatest weekend Aal-Pa-Tah has seen in a long time and Arrowmen should look forward to future weekends that plan to be just as great!

## New Vigil Honor Members

The Vigil Honor is the highest honor that can be bestowed upon an arrowman by the lodge. The Vigil Ceremony was conducted on Saturday evening of the Spring Powwow, which was held on March 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>, 2001, for the following brothers:

### Youth

- Mike Arnold
- David Briggs
- Stephen Brown
- Chris Rudinski
- Chris Smith
- Brad Walbridge

### Adults

- Philip Ashford III
- Raymond Ellis
- Allan Stollberg

Additionally, Brothers Debbie Clineman

and Alan Clineman were called out and will complete their ceremony at a later date. The awarding of the Vigil Honor stands as a testament to many years of hard work and dedication to our lodge by all of these brothers.

Congratulations to all of Aal-Pa-Tah's newest Vigil Honor Members



During the Vigil Callout Ceremony, Brother Alan Clineman gets tapped out by the Chief while some of his fellow candidates look on.



# 2001-2002 Lodge Officers

*"For who serves his fellows, is of all his fellows, greatest!"*

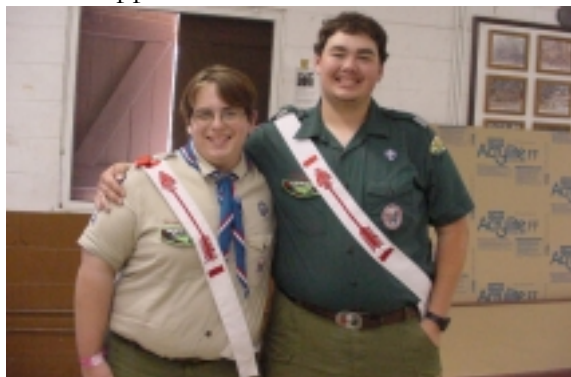
-Chingachgook, the Ordeal Ceremony

The elections for the 2001-2002 Lodge Officers were conducted at the Spring



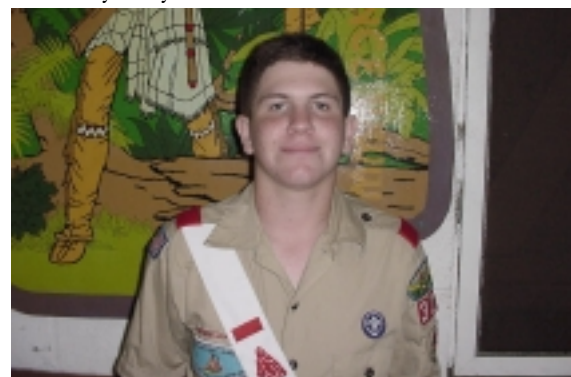
Terrance Dickson, the 2001-2002 Lodge Historian.

Powwow. By election, Chris Smith is the new Lodge Chief, Scott Ellis is the new Lodge Vice-Chief, David Makler is the new Lodge Secretary, and Terrance Dickson will carry out a second term as Lodge Historian. Lodge Treasurer will be appointed at a later date. The 2001-



Scott Ellis (left) and Chris Smith (right), the 2001-2002 Lodge Vice Chief and Chief (respectively).

2002 Lodge Officers will be sworn into office at the June Ordeal on June 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> and will begin their term with the completion of the June Ordeal weekend. Congratulations to the newest leadership of Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge 237 and may they have a successful administration.



David Makler, the 2001-2002 Lodge Secretary.

## What's New with the Campership Fund?

The Campership Fund recently started a new fundraiser neckerchief. This piece will be **pre-order only** and will be limited to seventy-five sold. However, if only fifty are pre-ordered, fifty will be sold, etc. You have until the May weekend to order them and they will be distributed at the June weekend. The cost is \$75 so hurry while supplies last. You can order at Section Conference, the Pig Roast, the May Weekend, or by contacting Debbie Clineman at 694-8585.

Yours in brotherhood,  
Randy Wertepny

## Fun Fact:

In case any brothers have been losing sleep over what the various names of Aal-Pa-Tah mean, here they are:

Aal-Pa-Tah	=	Big Gator
A-Bani-Ki	=	People of the Sun
At-Seena-Hoofa	=	?
Chee-Pa-Tah	=	Small Gator
Coo-Wa-Chobee	=	Big Cat
Lowaneu Mawat	=	North Ones
Ne-Kee-Wa	=	People by the Sea
Oi-Ya-Tah	=	Mother Gator

Osceola	=	Name of a famous Seminole Chief
Pan-A-So-Fee	=	?

We have been unable to discover what At-Seena-Hoofa and Pan-A-So-Fee means despite all our research. For the first brother who can offer what each of these names mean, with surety of evidence, the lodge chief will personally buy that person one of our new lodge standard flaps (one for each of the translations).

## Arrowman Service Award

### 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 will focus on three areas of service: personal, chapter/lodge activities, and general service to the community.

### Timeline

The timeline of the award will begin 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 will be 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 arrowhead. 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 picked up at the Council Office or 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.





# Scoutreach Mentoring Program

The Order of Arrow Scoutreach Mentoring Program is a joint effort of the national Scoutreach Division of the Boy Scouts of America and the Order of the Arrow. Its purpose is to identify and assist urban and rural Scout troops whose camping and advancement programs are below standard.

## Goals and Functions

- To act as a positive change agent in the midst of startling social, political, economic, and demographic events affecting urban and rural Scouts.
- To increase advancement and camping opportunities for Scouts in urban and rural troops whose programs might be insufficient.
- To fulfill the Order of the Arrow Strategic Plan.
- To create the opportunity for more urban and rural Scouts to become eligible for membership in the Order of the Arrow.
- To provide additional, positive youth and adult role models for disadvantaged urban and rural Scouts and adult leaders.
- To create a "guided discovery" for Order of the Arrow members to reflect on the ideal of "He alone is worthy to wear the arrow who will continue faithfully to serve his fellow man."

## Application Process and Requirements

Interested Arrowmen can secure an application from the Council Office or online at <http://www.oa-bsa.org/programs/scoutreach/>. The application should then be completed carefully and returned to the Lodge Chief via Debbie Clineman at the Council Office. The appropriate lodge committee and the commissioner staff serving the districts where the troops are located will meet to review all applications. Selected mentors will then be matched to a troop as identified from the master profile of urban and rural troops.

## Recognition

This final phase of the Order of the Arrow Scoutreach Mentoring Program is an opportunity to recognize mentors for their diligent efforts in assisting urban and rural troops. Before recognition is granted, mentors must have the approval of the urban or rural Scoutmaster, lodge chief, lodge adviser, lodge service committee chairman, and district commissioner. Once approvals are granted, the Scout executive will forward applications to the national Scoutreach Division. The national Scoutreach Division will forward patches and certificates to the Scout executive for presentation.

The Order of the Arrow Scoutreach Mentor Award consists of a colorful triangular patch and certificate. Mentors who successfully complete their first action plans and have received application approval are presented patches and certificates with a bronze border. Mentors completing action plans for a second time, with application approval, are presented patches and certificates with a silver border. Finally, mentors completing action plans and approved for a third time are presented patches and certificates with a gold border.



## Lodge Calendar Dates for 2001

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 (callout of new candidates)
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
June 22 <sup>th</sup>	Recognition of new members at campfire and cracker-barrel at TK
June 29 <sup>th</sup>	Recognition of new members at campfire and cracker-barrel at TK
July 6 <sup>th</sup>	Recognition of new members at campfire and cracker-barrel at TK
July 13 <sup>th</sup>	Recognition of new members at campfire and cracker-barrel at TK
July 20 <sup>th</sup>	Recognition of new members at campfire and cracker-barrel at TK
September 21 <sup>st</sup> -23 <sup>rd</sup>	Fall Fellowship at TK
September 24 <sup>th</sup>	First \$300 of NOAC 2002 payment is due to insure spot.

# 2001 National Order of The Arrow Trail Crew

## Philmont Scout Ranch - Cimarron, New Mexico

### About The Program

The Order of the Arrow is offering you an opportunity to join other Arrowmen in cheerful service and the formation of lasting brotherhood on the trails of Philmont Scout Ranch. Under the direction of the Philmont Conservation Department, experienced Philmont staff members with strong Order of the Arrow backgrounds will lead participants on the two week trail crew and trek.

The program is a fourteen day experience. The first week focuses on trail construction and maintenance under the guidance of Philmont trail crew foremen. The second week is a seven day backpacking trek that is designed by the participants. The program is not simply building trail and hiking though, the OA Trail Crew is ultimately a journey that challenges Scouts mentally, physically, and spiritually.

Trail building is tough. The worksite experience is full of long, strenuous days requiring a great deal of physical effort. Participants are expected to work with great diligence as the trail that is being built is designed to last over 75 years and protect the beautiful landscape of Philmont Scout Ranch. Other than trail building techniques, Scouts will strengthen their leadership skills, learn advanced wilderness and low-impact camping skills, observe and participate in group wilderness safety, good

judgment, and motivation activities, and receive special OA instruction.

The project's mission is to maintain, reinforce, and enhance the purpose of the Order of the Arrow by using Scout camping traditions. Participants are expected to use their experience to benefit their troop, chapter, lodge and council programs. Camping is a method of Scouting that enhances and builds stronger programs and people.

### Requirements

- Be at least 16 years old the day your program begins, but not 21 by its conclusion.
- Be physically fit, able to lift and handle materials up to 50 pounds.
- Be a registered member of both the BSA and a local OA lodge.
- Scouts from the same unit, or otherwise acquainted, will be placed in separate crews. No Exceptions!

### How to Apply

See the OA Wilderness Voyage article in this issue of the Gator Tales; application process is the same.

### Program Cost

Participant cost is \$100 for the two week experience. **A \$25 non-refundable deposit is required with the application.** The balance of the fee is due at the time of acceptance as a participant in the program. Additional ex-

penses, including travel to and from Philmont as well as miscellaneous purchases, are the responsibility of the participant.

A shuttle is available from the Albuquerque, New Mexico, Airport to Philmont. The shuttle leaves the airport at 4:00 pm the day **before** your scheduled starting date, arriving at Philmont at 8:00 pm (four hour trip). The return trip leaves at 6:00 am on your last scheduled day, arriving at the Albuquerque Airport at 10:00 am. Busses and trains arrive at Raton, New Mexico (40 miles from Philmont). A shuttle is also available from Raton. Plan to arrive at Philmont between 8:00 - 11:00 am of your starting date.

Those applicants not accepted as participants in the program will have their deposit returned. Participants canceling acceptance will be eligible for a refund if notification is received to the national office by May 14, 2001. No shows are not eligible for a refund.

### 2001 OA Trail Crew Session Dates

- #1 June 10 - 24 #2 June 17 - July 1
- #3 June 24 - July 8 #4 July 1 - July 15
- #5 July 8 - 22 #6 July 15 - 29
- #7 July 22 - August 5
- #8 July 29 - August 12 #9 August 5 - 19





*The A-Bani-Ki Chapter takes a break for a photo-op between morning competitions at the Spring Powwow.*



*At the Powwow members enjoy the skeet shooting competition.*



*A-Bani-Ki pulled and Oi-Ya-Tah t*



*Brother Glenn Alexander taught a seminar on the basics of Native American drumming and dancing*



*The Lowaneu Mawats watch as the Ne-Ke-Wa Chapter takes their winger shots during the Quest for the Golden Arrow.*



*Capt. Tom Chewing gave a seminar on patch collecting during the Spring Powwow.*



*Lodge Chief Bradley Ellis and Brothers Ray Ellis and Bill White*



*Ray Ellis giving instructions for the skeet shooting section of the Quest for the Golden Arrow: PULL!, point, pray, pull, BOOM!, hopefully in that order.*



*No, they're not brothers with extreme cleanliness habits, they're playing broom hockey!*





ugged, but there could only be one winner... A-Bani-Ki be their name.



Members watch as Patrick Martin eats the sandwich to score extra points for his chapter in the PBJ relay race at the end of the quest.



Arnold Brothers, Mike and Dan, moments after winning the skeet competition for the Osceola chapter.



Ladies and Gentlemen, Brothers Augie Millang (Left) and Brad Walbridge (Right).



Lowaneu Mawat Chapter Chief James Archer (Left) discovered the joys of nerfing, while A-Bani-Ki Chapter Chief David Makler (Right) found its pains.



The Sand-Ski portion of the Quest was mighty..uh...feirce.



Jim Hare of A-Bani-Ki shows them how its done in the sport of Ultimate Frisbee during the Quest



Weekend co-chairman Phil Ashford and Lodge Chief Bradley Ellis watch the awe that is Ulimite frizbee.



# National Order of the Arrow Wilderness Voyage

## Charles L. Sommers High Adventure Canoe Base - Ely, Minnesota

*"The Order of the Arrow is a thing of the out of doors rather than the indoors. It was born in an island wilderness. It needs the sun and rain, the woods and the plains, the waters and the starlit sky."* - E. Urner Goodman

### About the Program

The National Order of the Arrow is offering you an opportunity to join Arrowmen from across the country in cheerful service and the formation of lasting brotherhood on the pristine US/Canadian Boundary Waters. Under the direction of the United States Forest Service, experienced Charles L. Sommers staff members with strong Order of the Arrow backgrounds will lead participants on a two week voyage into the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW).

The program is a fourteen-day experience inspired by the traditions of the French and Canadian Voyageurs who ventured the northern wilderness during the 1700-1800's. Traveling thousands of miles by water and portage, these Voyageurs were hired to haul goods and furs to trade with Native Americans and Europeans. In the spirit of these adventurers, Arrowmen will embark on a voyage that is twofold. One-half of the OA Northern Tier Wilderness Voyage focuses on portage trail and campsite maintenance within the Boundary Waters. The remaining expedition is spent on a canoeing adventure that is planned and chosen by the participants in the program. In other words, each crew plans their own voyage! However, the program is not simply portage trail work, camping, and canoeing. The OA Northern Tier Wilderness Voyage is ultimately a journey that challenges Scouts mentally, physically, and spiritually.

Portage trail work is tough and serious.

The worksite experience is full of long, strenuous days requiring a great deal of physical effort. Participants are expected to work with great diligence as the tasks being accomplished are designed to benefit generations of Scouts and non-Scouts in the Boundary Waters Wilderness. In addition to mastering portage trail maintenance techniques, Scouts will strengthen their leadership skills, learn advanced wilderness and low-impact camping skills, learn wilderness safety techniques, participate in many motivational activities, and receive special OA instruction. The project's mission is to maintain, reinforce, and intensify the purpose of the Order of the Arrow through Scout camping traditions. Camping enhances and builds stronger programs and people. Participants are expected to use their experience to benefit their troop, chapter, lodge, and council programs.

### 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.

### How to Apply

Pick up the application at the Council Office or <http://www.oa-bsa.org/>, complete the application, and have it approved by both your Scout Executive and Lodge Adviser. Parental permission is required if you are under age 18. Mail your completed application and \$25.00 deposit to:

Order of the Arrow  
Boy Scouts of America  
P O Box 152079  
Irving, TX 75015-2079.

The Order will notify you of acceptance by March 16, 2001.

### Program Cost

Participant cost is \$100 for the two-week experience. A \$25.00 non-refundable deposit is required with the application. The balance of the fee is due at the time of acceptance as a participant in the program. Additional expenses, including travel to and from Charles L. Sommers as well as miscellaneous purchases, are the responsibility of the participant.

A shuttle van is available from the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The shuttle leaves the airport at 3:00 pm. the day before your scheduled starting date, and arrives at Charles L. Sommers at 8:30 p.m. (5 1/2 hour trip). The return trip leaves at 7:00 am on your last scheduled day, arriving at the Minneapolis Airport at 12:30 p.m. IMPORTANT: Plan to be at Charles L. Sommers by 8:30 pm the day before your scheduled trek.

Those applicants not accepted as participants in the program will have their deposit returned. Participants canceling acceptance will be eligible for a refund if notification is received in the national office by May 11, 2001. No shows are ineligible for a refund.

### 2001 OA Wilderness Voyage Session

#### Dates

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

## 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 as part of the NOAC 2002 Aal-Pa-Tah contingent.

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

### Attention All Brothers!

On April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2001 we are going to purge our lodge mailing database of any brothers who have not paid their dues through 2001. Please check the mailing label on this issue of the *Gator Tales* and make sure that your dues have been paid through at least 2001. Otherwise, this will be the last mailing that you will receive until you pay your dues. Dues are \$11 and can be paid at any time to the council office.

## Chiefly Speaking

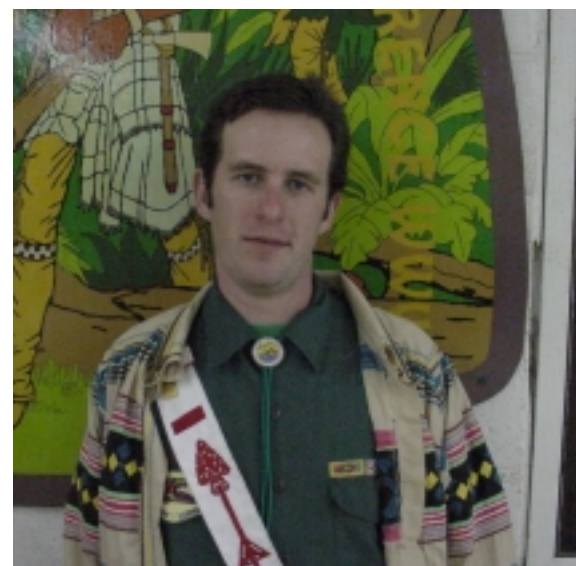
Brothers,

Let me start off by saying that I am proud of the twofold growth that our lodge has experienced this year. Not only have we experienced increased participation at our events in sheer numbers, but also in general all members of the lodge appear to have a rejuvenated enthusiasm for the traditions and spirit of service to which our Order is dedicated. So now that our lodge has grown in size and our brothers are more ready than ever for some cheerful service, where do we go from here? Well, the answer that I propose is for the lodge to take on more responsibility and to have an increased participation in more national events beyond that of recent history. It is for this reason that I have asked the editor of the *Gator Tales* to include articles on four National Order of the Arrow programs in this issue: The Arrowman Service Award, the Scoutreach Mentoring Program, The OA Trail Crew, and the OA Wilderness Voyage. These four articles list all that you need to know about getting active in these national programs; pay special attention to the deadlines of applications for the OA Trail Crew and OA Wilderness Voyage programs as they summer programs with the cut off dates being in the near future. Additionally, I encourage all brothers to take an interest in the Arrowman Service Award as the criteria is not overly difficult to complete and it is only going to be offered for the next few years.

I would also like to thank Chris Smith for all of his hard work in promoting our con-

tingent to the 2001 Section S-4 Conference. Because of his leadership and organization we have registered a larger contingent than in the last few years which not only shows the section that Aal-Pa-Tah is in good shape, but also, as I am confident, will make the trip much more enjoyable for all that attend. On that note, if you still wish to attend the conference, all deadlines have been missed, but it may still be possible to attend with our contingent or by just registering with the host lodge (either way a \$10 late fee will be assessed; please contact me if you are interested in attending and fall under this situation). This conference, the last before Section 4 splits, is going to an enjoyable experience and surely one to remember; I look forward to sharing it with you all.

Finally, this will be the last time that I write to you as Lodge Chief in the *Gator Tales*. Although my term does not end until June, this will be the last publication under my term of office. With that in mind, I would like to sincerely thank every brother who served under my administration (special thanks to Phil Ashford and Evan Mason for serving as the co-weekend chairmen for all of our 2000-2001 lodge weekends; an arduous task that was much appreciated). When I first became chief, I asked you [the brothers of Aal-Pa-Tah] for your support in all my endeavors under the notion that "a leader is only as strong as those who will follow him." It is through all of your hard work and dedication that this lodge has grown. It is through your time and sweat that Aal-Pa-Tah has prospered. It is because of you



Lodge Chief Bradley Ellis

that we are a strong lodge focused under cheerful service. Thank you my brothers for all the work that you have given me and will continue to give, and thank you for allowing me the pleasure to serve as your chief. I wish Chris Smith and the rest of the 2001-2002 Lodge Officers the best of luck in their administration. Keep your eyes on the calendar; I'll see you all at conference, and the pig roast, and the Ordeals. Until we meet again my brothers...

*And so he road off into the sunset...but it was too bright, so he turned and went the other way...*

In Service,  
Bradley J. Ellis  
Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge Chief 2000-2001  
Bje3839@garnet.acns.fsu.edu

## Vice Chief's Beef

Arrowmen,

We are rapping up another very successful year. The Lodge Executive Committee has set new strides in the lodge to keep it running successfully. I would like to thank all the committee chairs and lodge officers for helping to make this the most successful year that the lodge has seen. With this in mind, I would also like to thank co-weekend chairmen Evan Mason and Phil Ashford for putting on a phenomenal Spring Powwow. I know that if their weekend planning skills are as good as their winger aim is (at moving targets, no less), they will make excellent advisors in the years to come. I would like to end my last Vice-Chief's Beef (and begin my Chiefly Speaking) with a charge: I charge all youth Arrowmen of Aal-

Pa-Tah to become more active. There are dozens of committee chairmen slots that still need to be filled, as well as committees to sit on. Every Arrowman has a voice. Please help the new administration in making another successful year for our lodge. With your help, we can insure a quality program for this coming year. I hope to see you all at the OA Pig Roast, and at the upcoming Ordeals.

In Cheerful Service,  
Christopher Smith  
Lodge Vice-Chief  
Gagiwanantpehellan Achpiquon  
"Giddy Violin Player"  
tkmoondog@adelphia.net



Lodgr Vice-Chief Chris Smith

## Advisor's Minute

Brothers,

I would like to congratulate all the Arrowmen who went thru their Vigils at the Spring Powwow. I am sure that the class of new Vigils will be an outstanding group for many years to come.

Don't forget that if you have not paid your dues for 2001 you need to get by the council office. This will be your last *Gator Tales* unless you are paid up.

My congratulations go out to all the youth that made the Spring Powwow a great success. I think a good time was had by all; I know I enjoyed the shotgun shooting. Congratulations also to Osceola Chapter for winning the Quest for the Golden Arrow.

It looks like we will be taking close to 100 Arrowmen to the Section Conference this month. I know that we will do well in the events and I am sure we will be able to bring the Sprit Award back to Aal-Pa-Tah.

Lastly, I would like to congratulate Chris Smith and all the new officers that will be taking over at the end of the June Ordeal weekend.

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



Lodge Advisor Richard Fore

# Ponder Your Purpose

Have you ever stopped to think about the Admonition? Do you remember what it is? Do you have ANY idea of what I am talking about? If not, I suggest you ask an older member. It carries some important words of wisdom. The Admonition's importance, but little utterance, is actually a good analogy for our lives. The Admonition is something to exemplify in our lives, but many people say it without a thought of how they live. They give it lip service, but no actual service, and service is one of the Order's key points. Many people do not give the time to have a good understanding of its meaning; they do not make it relate to their lives. I suggest that you make it relate to yours. So much richness can come to you, and from you, when you make the Admonition REAL to you.

Of what riches do I speak? Well, the act of loving one another is the act of seeing the worth in the other person; in turn, the other sees the worth in you. This sharing makes us a brotherhood. We need others to bring out the best in ourselves, because as individuals we cannot always see our own value. Here is an important lesson. I like to call it "The Lesson of the Individual." Learn this lesson. Every organization on earth, every movement in history is a group of individuals that have come together. They have seen the strength and value in each other. They are the ones that hold the authority to change the world, and they are the ones that I, as an individual, want to see changing the world. Some may argue that this group mentality is a flaw of the system. Ok, so the world isn't perfect; we have established that fact. Is that a reason to give up? No. But, if we aren't working together we might as well give up.

As individuals, we all offer some type of diversity. This diversity is innovative and encouraging; all innovation comes from diversity. For instance, look at our organization. Not only does it continue to change and grow, but also it summons its traditions from an old race of people [the Lenni Lenape]. We draw diversity not only from the present but also from the past. By honoring and respecting their ways we gain a better insight into our world and ourselves. They have given me this opportunity to talk to you; this opportunity for brotherhood.

I would stress one caution, though. Beware of stagnation; it may lead to complacency, squelching innovation. Beware of it not in action alone, but especially in thought. The neglect to grow in your ideas only leads to a cynical life of close-mindedness; one that condemns unknown individuals on pre-determined beliefs. These stereotypes neglect the individual worth of a person. Beware of stereotypes, they close off possibilities, and they could cause you to miss out on a great friend.

Pondering to come: "Getting Luck to Work for You."

# Chapter Reports

## **Chee-Pa-Tah**

Hello all Chee-Pa-Tah brothers, it's me, Daniel Bialczak, your Chee-Pa-Tah Chapter Chief. The chapter unit elections went great; I thank all of the Scoutmasters and O.A. members that helped complete this irksome task. Coming up on May 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> is the Annual Lodge Pig Roast which will be held at the Mega Scout show. This is a great event and I encourage you all to attend, or if you will be there with your unit feel free to stop by for a while.

Finally, if your troop/team does not have an OA Troop Representative, please have your Scoutmaster get a hold of me; this would be a great help to both your unit and the lodge. You can reach me at anytime at (561) 791-0134 or by email. Look out for a chapter meeting in the near future; I look forward to hearing all of your input.

WWW,  
Daniel Bialczak  
dan13185@hotmail.com

## **A-Bani-Ki**

Spring Powwow was a big success for the A-Bani-Ki Chapter. We competed in every competition and won 1<sup>st</sup> place in tug of war and 3<sup>rd</sup> in the shotgun skeet shoot and overall we took second place in the Quest for the Golden Arrow. Also, congratulations to Eric Taylor who will be taking over as A-Bani-Ki Chapter Chief in June. Hope to see you all at the next weekend.

Your Chapter Chief,  
David Makler  
Roval4@bellsouth.net

## **Osceola**

All is well in the Chapter. Spring Pow Wow was an excellent event. The Osceola Chapter had a great turnout which led to winning the Golden Arrow award. We are proud to be the first Chapter to be listed on the plaque that will be placed in the Order of the Arrow Lodge at TK.

I would also like to take the time to thank the Lodge Members that helped complete the unit elections in a timely manner. The members that volunteered are Scott Ellis, Chris Smith, Brad Walbridge, Mike Volk, Brandon Kappeler, Kevin Lybass, and Matt Lombard. I would also like to thank Mr. and Mrs. Arnold and Mr. Ellis for providing leadership and transportation.

Finally I would like to take the opportunity to tell everyone that it has been great being Chapter Chief. My term will end this summer and I look forward to carrying on being Editor of the GATOR TALES.

Your Brother  
Daniel Arnold

## **Lodge Treasurer**

All is well with the Lodge Box. The Spring Powwow was very successful for the lodge financially; the lodge responded well to the new lodge standard flap and also to the introduction of the new camper ship fund neckerchief. If anyone knows of a member who has not paid his/her dues, please encourage them to do so.

ChrisMontgomery  
Lodge Treasurer lwshorty@aol.com

## **Coo-Wa-Chobee**

Brothers,

Thank you to all those who attended the recent Spring Powwow. Unit elections are finished and all are encouraged to help bring our new candidates into the Order at the upcoming Ordeal. Again, if you are interested, a vice-chief is needed within our chapter. Thank you.

WWW,  
Brian Case  
Coo-Wa-Chobee Chapter Chief  
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## **Ne-Kee-Wa**

Dear Brothers,

Ne-Kee-Wa did great at the Spring Powwow; we won 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in Broom Hockey and 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in the Tug O War. Also, all unit elections for our chapter are completed. Please encourage the candidates in your units to attend their Ordeal.

There will be a chapter meeting at CiCi's Pizza on Tuesday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. It is important for everyone to attend as we will be holding elections for the 2001-2002 chapter chief, among other things. I hope to see you all there.

Yours in Brotherhood,  
Matt Dillon  
Ne-Kee-Wa Chapter Chief  
MatthewRoss@msn.com

## **Oi-Ya-Tah**

All unit elections have been scheduled and should be completed by the time you read this article. A chapter patch is in planning and we will be having a chapter meeting sometime after conference to hold chapter elections. If you have any designs for the chapter patch, please let me know.

WWW,  
Terrance Dickson  
Oi-Ya-Tah Chapter Chief  
Terrance\_Dickson@email.com

## **Lowaneu Mawat**

Brothers,

Chapter unit elections have been completed; congratulations to our new candidates. The Lowaneu Mawat chapter will be having a chapter meeting sometime within the next few weeks (pending a time and place, but most likely before Section Conference); I will contact you all soon. All youth make sure to attend the chapter meeting as we will be electing a new chapter chief, as well as, taking care of some other chapter business. My fellow Mawats, I'll see you at the chapter meeting, and I'll see everyone else at conference. If you have any questions feel free to call me or my advisor.

WWW,  
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Patrick Foradori  
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