

Gator Tales

www.aal-pa-tah.org



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Feb 2014

Summer Pow-wow



My Brothers,

May 16-18 we will be having our Summer Powwow, this is a great time to come join in fellowship with other Arrowmen. We will be having the Best All Around Chapter Competition during this weekend along with seminars that introduce you to new areas of the Lodge, teach you how to bead, dance, sing, Dutch oven cook and many more.



There will also be a Powwow Saturday night so you can take part in singing or dancing. We would love to see as many of you guys there as possible.

WWW,

Crawford Teets

**Make sure that you register for Summer Pow-wow
before Friday May 9th to avoid the late fee**

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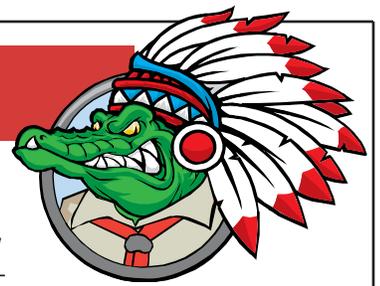
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Chiefly Speaking



My Brothers,
Dear, Brothers

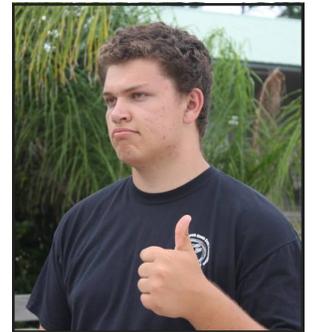
What an amazing year this has been! We have had some crazy memories, to last year's Summer Pow Wow, where we caked Mrs. P to Fall Ordeal with the cheerios and Peanut butter toss. Winter Fellowship's corn and watermelon eating contests were tons of fun as was Spring Ordeal's jousting and service to camp. We finished with a fun Section Conference with Sportsmanship and Spirit and hosted a ton of small events supporting our council and troops. We are gearing up for a great Summer Pow-wow! Make sure that you register for Summer Pow-wow before the late fee as it is going to be a fantastic event. Our Weekend Chair, Crawford Teets and our Vice Chief of Program, James Herrera are working diligently to put on a great program for YOU!

At this time, I'd like to thank everyone who has helped the Lodge this past year. From the Chapter Chiefs, to the Kitchen Staff, to the Ceremonialists, to the members who devotedly attended events! It is also very essential to thank all of the Advisers who give countless hours a week guiding their youth leaders to their goals. We, united in brotherhood, make Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge 237 what it is. I am honored to say that through all of your hard work and dedication this past year, we have continued this legacy as a Lodge and Brotherhood.

With that said, lodge elections are once again upon us. No matter how the elections turns out, I see nothing but great things for Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge. We are a body of Scouts united to make a difference while having fun. Nothing can ever change that fact. If you plan on running for a Lodge Officer position, please read the Election Policies and Procedures found in this newsletter. It is also imperative that we maintain the high ideals of our Order throughout the election and I will be personally looking out for any un-Scout like behavior.

WWW,

Daniel Olbrych



Adviser's Minute



Integrity: the Aal-Pa-Tah Way

Recently I had an experience that has me really pondering the word "integrity". Dictionary.com has this definition of integrity ...

- 1) "adherence to moral and ethical principles: soundness of moral character; honesty"
- 2) "the quality or condition of being whole or undivided"

So why all this pondering? A few weeks ago I learned that someone who I thought was a true role model, is in fact only a role model when "on stage"; the image is really an act, a lie really. We see this in the media all of the time. Now, of course, most of us do behave a bit differently depending on which group we are with. For example, I am sure I can be more irritable (on RARE occasion, mostly before I have my morning coffee!) at home than when I am in public; however I am confident that my values are the same regardless of whomever I am with.

Integrity is NOT about not ever making mistakes, and it is not about living someone else's values; it is about knowing and being TRUE to your values. It is about not giving into peer pressure and compromising your values just so you fit in. It is being able to stand up and defend your values if needed. It is about being a person of your word and making your actions mirror your values (both in the spotlight AND when the lights are off and no one is in the audience).

When you go through life as an "actor" you can never find true contentment and happiness as you are never truly comfortable with yourself. You may be able to fool others, but you will not be able to fool yourself. My advice to all young people is this... once in a while ask yourself "What do I stand for?" or "What values define who I am?" Then live your life by those values. True happiness comes from knowing who you are, what you stand for, what defines you and living those values each and every day. That is integrity....



And integrity is the Aal-Pa-Tah way

WWW,

Amanda Pantone



Officer Reports

Vice Chief of Program

Aal-Pa-Tah lodge,

Where to start..... Conference was a great time for anyone that attended! It was awesome to see so many young and new arrowmen from our lodge take part in games, quests, seminars, and much more. I am looking forward to summer powwow being chaired by Crawford Teets, with lots of fresh ideas and confidence, I am positive this will be a powwow to blow the others out of the park! I hope to see everyone there also as we vote and elect our new officers for the upcoming year. If you were unable to attend any of our previous events, feel free to visit our lodge website and relive the memories that were created.

WWW,

James Herrera

Vice Chief of Service

My Brothers,

These past few weekends are lodge has given back hundreds of hours back to TK. This past weekend we had a service day and got a lot of cheerful service done. It makes me happy seeing many of the new arrow men interested in cheerful service and giving back to are wonderful camp TK. I look forward to getting a lot more work done.

WWW,

Matt Jones



Lodge Secretary

My brothers, I would like to thank all of you who attended section conference and helped us in all the activities. The Gator Tales took home first place in the publications competition. I also had the great honor of being elected your Section Vice Chief and I am looking forward to seeing you all at the upcoming section events: Section Summit here at TK and Section Conference at La-N-Che. The lodge year is coming to a close and I look forward to seeing Aal-Pa-Tah grow under its next set of officers. WWW, Aaron Gluck

WWW,

Aaron Gluck

Lodge Treasurer

Brothers,

The lodge box is doing great! At Spring Ordeal, we introduced the new Aal-pa-tah t-shirts and tumblers, and re-issued the hats. However, the tumblers and hats have since sold out. With a large number of ordeal candidates and many current members, a large amount of patches were also sold. Overall, nearly \$3,000 in merchandise was purchased from the lodge box at Spring Ordeal! The LEC is also currently working on a new once-in-a-lifetime patch, as the supply of the old one has run out.

WWW,

George Cooper

Vice Chief of Inductions

My Brothers,

My brothers, it's been great to serve you this past year as Vice Chief of Inductions. I want to thank each of you for helping to provide for a successful inductions year. Remember that all of our new Arrowman will be eligible for brotherhood in 10 months. As always, if you have any questions or concerns feel free to email me at m.mcloug@gmail.com or call me at 561-267-8759

WWW,

Mike McLoughlin

Lodge Historian

Brothers,

I'm looking forward to summer pow wow at Tanah Keeta. I will be there to record our lodge history in photos too. I have uploaded new photos to the lodge website for the past couple of events. Take a look and relive the memories through photos. You can email the lodge email if you have pictures to add to the site. I presented the kings cup at Section Conference at Camp Shands. Although we did not place as high as we had hoped, we did receive positive feedback and many recommendations and ideas for the next one.

WWW,

Leonardo Herrera





Chapter Corner

A-Bani-Ki

Brothers,

I hope you all had a great time at Section Conference. Summer Powwow is fast approaching and the year is almost over. Meetings are every month at Faith United Methodist Church. It's No Lie, The Best Chapter Is A-Bani-Ki!!!

WWW,

Greg Yentz

A-Bani-Ki Chapter Chief

Nee-Ke-Wa

Dear Brothers,

For those of you that were not able to go to the Section Conference at Camp Shands hosted by Echowottee Lodge you missed out on a great event and a great time. Also, upcoming is Summer Pow-wow which will be a great time and your time to show your leadership in the lodge and run for a Chapter or Lodge position. Looking forward to seeing you at Summer Pow-wow.

WWW

Everett Periman

Nee-Ke-Wa Chapter Chief

Oi-Ya-Tah

Brothers,

Oi-Ya-Tah continues to improve. We are averaging 20 members a meeting. We are getting numerous calls for assistance from the District and several packs. Several members are assisting Troop 772 to get up and operating. We are gathering design sketches for Chapter t shirts and expect a final design in May. Come on out to this weekend and join the excitement. We also meet as a chapter the 2nd Thursday of every month at St Andrews Lutheran Church, 295 NW Prima Vista Blvd, Port St Lucie. It'd be great to see you there.

WWW,

Jeremy Johnson

Oi-Ya-Tah Chapter Chief

Pan-A-Sofee

Brothers,

Pan-A-Sofee is doing well. We have several active arrowmen in their troops. I encourage all of you to make the effort to be at the Summer Pow-Wow and I will do likewise. I hope to see all of you soon. If anyone has any questions or concerns my email address is rponce4@embarqmail.com

WWW,

Nick Ponce

Pan-A-Sofee Chapter Chief

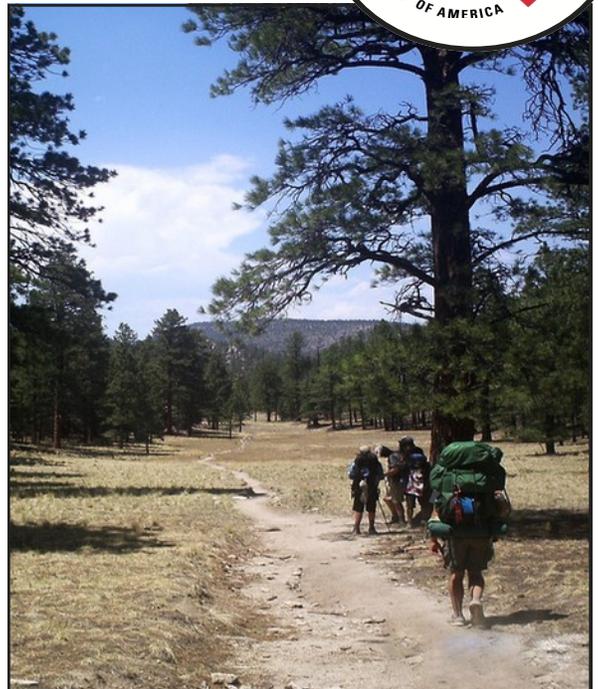
OA High Adventure



As the signups for OA High Adventure come to an end I encourage you, It's not too late! These programs give an experience like no other and open you up to the opportunities of the Order of the Arrow. If you are interested, visit <http://adventure.oa-bsa.org/> for signups and more information. In addition, if you are interested in signing up, but not necessarily this year, please feel free to talk to me whenever about the unbelievable experience available to you!

WWW,

Matt Mirandi





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

Mentoring Day

Our lodge organized a day event on April 5, 2014 at Tanah Keeta for all newly crossed over boy scouts to work on their tenderfoot advancement. We had our Arrowmen teach skills to the scouts throughout the day such setting up tents, fire building skills, knot tying, cooking techniques, camping skills and first aid. We had fantastic turnout for this event and looking forward to have over 100 scouts next year. The Order of the Arrow Mentoring Program is a joint effort of the Boy Scouts of America and the Order of the Arrow.

WWW,

Daniel Olbrych



Brotherhood

Since we did not have a Brotherhood ceremony at the spring ordeal, there will definitely be a Brotherhood ceremony at the next OA weekend. When the weekend comes closer you will be sent an email informing you with more details on the opportunity. If you are eligible for Brotherhood I strongly recommend you get it. If you are not sure on the requirements or if you are eligible your OA handbook as the requirements in it or feel free to contact me.

WWW,

Tommy Wilson.

From the Kitchen

Hello Brothers,

The menu for Summer Pow Wow has been planned, and I must say that you're not going to want to miss a single meal. We are trying to diversify the menu and bring you things that you haven't seen before. We are also looking for 1-2 more "permanent" staff members. If you think that you might be interested, come on in and work a shift. See if it is for you. I'll see you in line!!!

WWW,

Evon White

National Leadership Seminar

The National Leadership Seminar is a weekend conference on the skills and attributes of leadership. It is intended primarily to enhance the leadership skills of the Order of the Arrow's key youth and adult members as they seek to improve their services to the Boy Scouts of America and the greater community. The weekend format is designed to complement the longer, more detailed Wood Badge and Junior Leadership Training Programs. Near the end of the seminar, participants make a contract with themselves to apply the skills studied in the seminar on projects in their lodge, council, and community. National Leadership Seminars run from Friday - 7:00 p.m. to Sunday - 12:30 p.m. They are held at different locations across the Southern Region on a rotating basis. The next NLS training will be at Camp Beckwith in Fairhope, AL on November 7-9, 2014.

WWW,

Aaron Gluck

Trail Crew

The Trail Crew is a vital part of this lodge due to the mass number of people who hike the Mike Machek trail that borders our camp. During the lodge weekends and service days we work on making the trail safer, easier to follow, and a lot more fun as the time goes by! In the next few months we plan on implementing many improvements to the trail and I encourage every member of the Lodge, take some time to hike the Trail and to talk to me about how you can make your experience with it even better!

WWW,

Matt Mirandi

Lodge Website

The website is going very well. After the competition at Section Conference, I have things that need to be worked on, so I will get going on that. If you have any suggestions about the site or know anything about websites and want to help out, please email me at lodge237@gmail.com

WWW

Evon W.

Website Chairman

Section Conference



This Section Conference held up at Camp Shands was a blast! From start to finish, this state-wide gathering of Arrowmen really showed what we can do as a brothers and as a lodge, as we partook in the various activities such as Lodge vs. Lodge competitions, seminars, dancing, and more! In the end we came home with many awards for our amazing efforts and hope to do even better next year! I hope that all of those who attended had a great time and I hope to see everyone at Summer Pow-Wow!

WWW,
Matt Mirandi





Spring Ordeal



Spring Ordeal was an amazing event. We were able to accomplish plenty of service projects for the camp. Later on Saturday night everyone had a blast. There was something fun for everyone including bouncy House boxing, jousting, tons of sports, and video games. The one great 237 surprise had everyone that was still awake making masterpieces with desert pizzas. All in all everyone had a great time at the ordeal weekend and I can not wait till the next OA weekend.

WWW,

Tommy Wilson

Spring Ordeal Weekend Chairman



Summer Camp 2014



Camp Tanah Keeta has provided fun and adventure for thousands of youth and adults. Our program offers more than just merit badges, it is crafted to teach life skills, allow Scouts to express self reliance, demonstrate discipline, challenge themselves and just have fun. Our Boy Scout camp includes outstanding programs for both new and experienced Scouts alike. We offer more than 60 merit badges that range from basics like Handicrafts, Shooting Sports and Ecology to more challenging Aquatics, PADI Scuba, and Project C.O.P.E. Day Campers welcome. New this year, we are offering an Aqua Trek which a high adventure explorer trek that embraces the beautiful cool waters of both the river and the ocean. Developed for Scouts 14 years and older, this trek will provide a different water related adventure each day. Each venue has its own unique environment for fun, excitement, and physical challenge. Scouts will test their endurance and master their nautical skills as they explore the tranquil waters of South Florida. If you love the water, this awesome aqua adventure trek is for you!

Sign up provisional or with your troop (how?) (to be added) and by when.

Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge 237
Gulf Stream Council, Inc.
Boy Scouts of America
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Palm Beach, FL 33410-6329

“Change Service Requested“

Upcoming Events

March 7-9th

Spring Ordeal

April 11th-13th

Section Conference

May 16th-18th

Summer Pow-wow