

Gator Tales

www.aal-pa-tah.org



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Spring Ordeal

Brothers,

This weekend (March 5th-7th) will be our Spring Ordeal at Tanah Keeta. You can register online or pay in person. This weekend isn't just for the candidates; there will be plenty of fun, awesome, and exciting activities all throughout the weekend! In addition, for those that didn't attend the brotherhood weekend, you can also earn your brotherhood here (sign up on the website as well). This will be an AMAZING weekend, and we hope to see you there!

WWW,

Gator Tales Staff

Picture from spring ordeal 2015.



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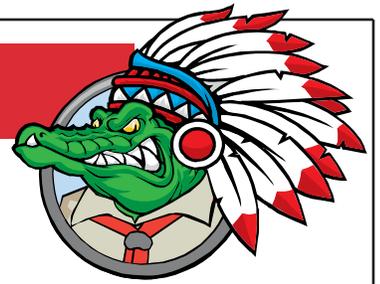
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Chiefly Speaking



Brothers,

Cheerfulness (according to Merriam-Webster) means "full of good spirits", "causing good feeling or happiness", "conducive to cheer", and "ungrudging".

The first printed use of "ungrudging" that I could find can be dated back to 1766 in "Nature Spiritualised, in a Variety of Poems" by William Cruden:

ON SEEING A MAN SOWING HIS FIELD.

I.

Spread wide thine hand, industrious man,
Be lib'ral to thy ground:
With chearful and ungrudging heart
Throw forth thy feed around.

II.

The foil, if hungry, back again
A scanty crop will yield:
Then with penurious handfuls now
Starve not that fallow'd field.

Even though it was written 250 years ago, this is still applicable today.

Gregory Yentz
Lodge Chief

Adviser's Minute



Brothers,

I would like to start by saying how privileged and honored I am to have been selected to serve as the APT Lodge Adviser. I know I have giant shoes to fill, and I promise you all I will do my best, and then a little more, to serve you and the Lodge. I was a scout here in GSC as a youth, camped here at TK, and my heart never left this great place. I have two sons that are both Brotherhood members. I have been an adult leader for going on 14 years, serving in roles ranging from den leader to Scout Master to VP of membership for Gulf Stream Council. In 2013 and 2014, I was the Course Director for NYLT – which I have to say is one of the highlights of my Scouting career (so far!). Most of the young men that were in those courses are leaders here in the lodge, and it is truly great to working with them again.

Next, I want to thank everyone who made our Vigil/Brotherhood Day/Pow Wow/Call-Out such a huge success. Our Chief did a fantastic job of getting a lot of moving parts to work cohesively into a very successful day. In spite of the mountain of obstacles in front of Gregory, everything went off without a hitch; we dodged the rain, and even got done an hour ahead of schedule. And to top it off, we had 8 brothers receive their Vigil honor!

In closing, a few words about change. There are a lot of changes happening around us right now. But that is not necessarily a bad thing. The one thing in life that is consistent is change. At on time or another, everything changes, some are abrupt and painful, and some are slow and methodical. Many of these changes are happening at camp, and they are all for the better! There will be a lot of calls from the Lodge looking for help in the months to come - we are moving forward with a handful of projects aimed to make Tanah Keeta a premier camping destination. These changes include a new basketball/multi-use court, a Ga Ga Ball Pit, and more! When you here the call to service, I sincerely hope we all answer the call!

We have more great events ahead – The last couple of build days for Gator Grind, Spring Ordeal, TK Gator Grind, and Section Conference on April 8th – 10th. I look forward to seeing you all there!

In WWW,

Mr. Whalen



Officer Reports

Vice Chief of Program

Program is going amazingly we have had a great year thus far and are looking forward to what is in store. We are hard at work planning spring ordeal and summer gathering and can not wait to share all our ideas with our brothers. Please please attend the upcoming lodge weekends help welcome in new brothers and rekindle relationships with old ones. If you are interested in helping out with program ad always to not hesitate to contact me at anytime. Looking forward to this new year of OA fellowship and seeing where this lodge will go. LET'S GO GATORS!!!

Michael Riley

Vice Chief of Service

GATORS,

Awesome things to come.. AND I'M SURE YOU ALL HEARD THE NEWS! The lodge is building a basketball court at Camp Tanah-Keeta, and we need YOUR help! Spring Ordeal is going to be HUGE, and we need all the help we can get. We are aiming to have the court complete by Summer Camp. So watch out for more news!

Gator Grind is right around the corner! Make sure to come out on March 12th, and bring all of your friends! You can register through the Gulf Stream website. It is free to volunteer, and you will get the chance to run the grind! We will be assisting in the finishing touches at Spring Ordeal.

Keep up the great work guys.. There is much more to come!

WWW,
Robert Ulrich

Lodge Secretary

Brothers,

We are having a great year so far in publications! As you may have noticed, we now have a new publications chair, Ronnie Webber. If you are interested in contributing to gator tales, there are many ways in which you can contribute; write about a recent event, your perspective on the lodge, anything! If you are interested in helping us edit, gather pictures, or come up with content, we would appreciate that as well! There is also our GREAT lodge website that you can help out Evan White (the website chairman) with. If you have any questions, please contact myself at Andrewjuliansasser@gmail.com, Ronnie, or Evan for information.

WWW,
Andrew Sasser



Chapter Corner

Nee-Kee-Wa

Ne-Kee-We

Brothers,
There are ten chapter patches left (reserved for chapter members)! If you are interested in ONE please contact me at neekeewa@gmail.com . Also chapter shirts are for sale. I look forward to seeing everyone at Spring Ordeal.

In WWW,
Eric Kastelic

Contact: neekeewa@gmail.com

Wyhome-Pa Tah

Brothers,
Spring Ordeal and Gator Grind are coming up quickly in March, remember to sign up for those! Let's continue to make Wyhome-Pa-Tah's presence known to the rest of Aal-Pa-Tah! As a reminder about Remind: Wyhome-Pa-Tah has set up a Remind101 account. You can text the number 81010 with the message "@wyho" to receive updates from the Chapter Officers.

WWW,
Justin Krum

Contact: justinhkrum@gmail.com

Lowaneu Mawat

Brothers,
Thank you to those who came out to our meeting at Camp Oklawaha. There are BIG things to come! Our chapter elected our next Chapter Chief, Michael Stefanacci, from Troop 567. Please join us in welcoming him into his leadership role, he is going to do a GREAT JOB!
There will be a Oklawaha service day at the end of the month, open to all. We will be preparing the Gilwell site for the second weekend of Wood Badge. Anyone is welcome, so spread the word! More information to come out by email.

WWW,
Robert Ulrich

Contact: robert.ulrich@irchsonline.org

Oi-ya-tah

Brothers,
Though we are facing difficult times we are still prospering as a chapter. We meet on the 2nd Thursday of every month at 7 at st Andrews church. We are looking forward to spring ordeal and would like to congratulate all of our brothers that completed their brotherhood at brotherhood day.

Oi-ya-tah writing staff
Contact: jamp3@juno.com

A-bani-ki

Brothers,
I would like to first congratulate all of you who received an award at the banquet and/or sealed your membership in the order by completing your brotherhood on brotherhood day. The chapter has been doing well with our t shirts and patches recently coming in. Remember that you can buy these items together at a discounted price. Please continue to come to our chapter meeting as you can get a free t shirt if you attend 3 in a row. Please encourage all of the candidates in your troop to attend their ordeal to keep our lodge (and chapter) going strong. Hope to see you all there at Spring ordeal too (March 4 -6).

IT'S NO LIE THE BEST CHAPTER IS A-BANI-KI!!!!!!!!!!!!

WWW,
Matthew Grabasch

Contact: mattisahockeyfan@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

Section Conference

Brothers,

Section conference is quickly approaching. This year, Section Conference will take place from April 8-10, at Camp Elmore (formerly Camp Seminole) in Davie, Florida. This is an annual gathering of lodges from our section. There will be several exciting and informative seminars that are rich in Native American dance, drum, and ceremonies; and other ceremonies that will allow arrowmen to better improve their leadership and craft-making skills. In addition to this, there are several competitions, ranging from volleyball to dodgeball to basketball, for us to participate in as a lodge. Remember, this is not just an inter-lodge competition; this is a gathering of lodges to rededicate themselves to our founding principles: brotherhood, cheerfulness, and service.

For more information, please visit www.thevisioncontinues.org. Registration is fast approaching, so please, get your payments in as soon as possible, and register at www.aal-pa-tah.org/on-line-payments/. There will be vans for travel to and from Tanah Keeta.

This is an incredible experience, and you won't want to miss out!

March - May Lodge Calendar

March

Lodge Weekend: March 4-6
Spring Ordeal

March 12
Gator Grind starting at 8:30am

April

April 8-10
Section Conference

May

May 13-15
Summer Festival

Editor

Brothers,

I will be serving as the editor of Gator Tales for the time being. We're always looking for articles and ideas for Gator Tales,

So if anyone has anything that could make Gator Tales better than please send it to either myself at ronniev2000@gmail.com or andrew at andrewjulisasser@gmail.com.

WWW,
Ronnie Webber

Brotherhood

Brothers,

At brotherhood day we had 16 arrowmen go through brotherhood! For those of you who didn't go through brotherhood this past weekend and are eligible there will be brotherhood counseling at spring ordeal. If you have any brotherhood questions feel free to contact me at nekeewa@gmail.com. I look forward to seeing you all at spring ordeal.

In WWW,
Eric Kastelic

Banquet

Our annual Aal-Pa-Tah Order of the Arrow Banquet was a great success and a lot of fun. This year's theme was retro video games. The Lassiter building served as the inside venue. Theme decorations on the walls and windows such as Pac-Man, Centipede, Tetris and Mario help set the mood. Arrowmen had fierce and fun competitions playing these old-school video games in the computer room of the Lassiter Center. Of course the silent auction for historical Order of the Arrow patches from past years and events is always very popular. Thank you for all of you that supported the auction, this is a great fundraiser for our Lodge. The weather was our friend again this year and allowed us to have our celebration dinner outside. Once again Aal-Pa-Tah dedicated food service crew hit the ball out of the park. Being a co-Master of ceremony with James Jean was definitely one of the highlights in my Arrowman career. The award ceremony and raffle had a great feeling of fun and energy. Aal-Pa-Tah Arrowmen and Advisers were honored for their contributions hard work and selfless service to others. Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge exemplifies selfless service and dedication to helping others, that is truly the cornerstone of the Order the Arrow. The audience participation in our Lodge raffle and a flash mob of arrow men doing the (TK gator dance) added to the fun and excitement. Our banquet ended with the vigil ceremony, this year's candidates of course are great examples to other Arrowmen. They represent what selfless service and dedication, on a level that all of us should aspire too. A special thanks to all of the Arrowmen, officers and advisers that dedicated their time to making this banquet successful and fun for all.

Brotherhood Arrowmen

Connor Thomas

Gator Grind

Gators!

With Gator Grind quickly approaching, we need all the help we can get! The race day is MARCH 12TH!! Our lodge leadership has been looking for ways to inspire arrowmen to come out and volunteer at the Gator Grind. So, those members, who give exceptional service towards the grind, will receive a very limited GATOR GRIND LODGE FLAP.

Don't miss out! To earn the patch, a one should:

- Attend at least 1 Gator Grind work day
- Recruit at least 1 runner (or volunteer) to the Gator Grind. -watch out for more info-
- Volunteer at the Gator Grind, MARCH 12TH

Concerning registration, one can register for the Grind at tkgatorgrind.com

To participate in the race, To participate in the race costs \$45 for youth, \$85 for adults, and includes a RUN on the race, a t-shirt, a medal, and more. Scouts and Scouters can use the code: gscbsa2015 , to receive 25% off of the Gator Grind. Please do not share this code with unregistered Scouters.

To VOLUNTEER is FREE - and includes a FREE RUN on the race, and a T-SHIRT! Please invite your friends, fellow scouts, family - ANY-ONE can volunteer or participate in the Gator Grind!

check your e-mail for more Make sure to information!

Robert Ulrich

Contact: robert.ulrich@irchsonline.org

(P.S. If you do not get lodge emails, your dues may not be paid . . . Or your contact information is incorrect.)

Winter Powwow Photos



Regalia Class

Brotherhood Ceremony grounds.



Vigil Breakfast

Drumming Class





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

March 7-9th

Spring Ordeal

April 11th-13th

Section Conference

May 16th-18th

Summer Pow-wow