

# Gator Tales



The Official Publication of Aal-Pa-Tah #237 Council #85

Nov 2013



## Inside this issue:

Winter Fellowship	1
Chiefly Speaking	2
Officer Reports	3
Chapter Reports	4
The Forum	5
NOAC 2015	7
In Memory	8

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## Winter Fellowship



On December 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> our Lodge will be hosting one of the greatest events of this year, Winter Fellowship. There is going to be so much going on this weekend that you might not be able to do everything. We will be offering seminars in the afternoon for our Arrowman to attend. Some of the seminars will be Tomahawk throwing, shotgun shooting, Iron Chef, High adventure, Drum and Dance, Elangomat, Brotherhood Counseling and the Section Conference Teams will practicing together.

We are going to have a western theme weekend with tons of fun activities such as sweet corn feast, watermelon spitting contest, tumble weed toss, bunking bronco and a balloon stampede to name a few items. During the weekend, we have planned the Chapter Competitions for the Best All Around Chapter. The Chapters will be competing in the following activities Volleyball, Ultimate, Lodgeball, Kickball, Tug of War, Chapter Service Project, Chapter Games & Challenges and Chapter Spirit. We will also have our NOAC 2015 Kick-off on Friday evening.

I hope to see you there and remember you need to register now. As always, you can sign up through the Lodge website at <http://aal-pa-tah237.org>. The cost for the weekend is \$25 if paid before November 29th, or \$30 after November 29th.

WWW,  
Tommy W.



### Fast Pass Deadlines:

Order by December 8th to get your personalized Fast Pass name tag  
Order Online by December 31st to get the Early Bird Discount of \$100

# Chiefly Speaking



Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge hosted a very successful Ordeal weekend on September 20th-22nd at Camp Tanah Keeta. We had many new Arrowmen that were inducted into the Order and an additional 4 Brothers sealed their membership in the Order by going through Brotherhood. There were over 750 service hours performed at Camp Tanah Keeta during the weekend! In all, it was a very fun and productive Lodge weekend.

Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge taught the Cooking Merit Badge at Scouting Advancement Weekend on November 16th at Tanah Keeta. The future Arrowmen of the Lodge were furthering their advancement while learning about trail food, cooking methods, planning of menu and nutritional information.

On the weekend of 6-8 of December, the Winter Fellowship is happening and it will be like no other before. We will have our Best-All-Around Chapter Competitions, western activities, seminars, fellowship for all, and do not forget about service.

The 4<sup>th</sup> of January marks this year's Banquet, a time to look back over the past year, while planning to jump feet first in our Super Hero Lodge theme this year. At Banquet we will also be unveiling the new lodge gear, including hats, shirts, belts, and belt buckles. This night will be one to remember.

If you have any questions about the Lodge or how you can become more involved, please email us at [Lodge237@gmail.com](mailto:Lodge237@gmail.com). As a member of this Lodge you represent your Troop and all of Gulf Stream Council. We have lots of new and exciting activities in store for the year ahead. Are you coming?



www,  
Daniel Olbrych

# Adviser's Minute



If you are my age you have probably thought on occasion, "I wish I knew then what I know now.....". I have had thought this many times, but the thing I REALLY, REALLY wish I had known when I was a teenager and young adult is how being "physically strong" could have such an impact on my life. As a kid growing up in a rural community we were active kids, mostly because we were not allowed in the house much, but in no way were we athletic. We had PE in school but this was the 70's and PE consisted of wacky things like square dancing. And being a girl, at the time no one even thought to encourage us to do anything in the realm of physical fitness. Even healthy eating was disdained as something that a small group of "hippies" did.

So it was not until I was plagued with numerous health issues that it even occurred to me that overall physical fitness might be the answer. It has been a 4 year journey thus far but from what I am learning (mostly the hard way) is the following:

- Being "physically strong" is NOT about how you look, but how you FEEL! Becoming more fit has totally changed how I feel physically (more energetic, less aches and pains, better sleep) AND even more so how I feel mentally (calmer, more focused, more positive).
- Being "physically strong" is NOT just about weight, cardio or how much weight you can lift – it entails everything in total. Your body needs great nutrition to operate and repair itself (think LOTS of fruits and vegetables), AND cardio, AND strength training AND flexibility. (Sound familiar – this is all in the Personal Fitness Merit Badge book!)
- Being "physically strong" is NOT about how you compare to others but how you compare to yourself! If you were to look at the statistics of my Cross Fit class you would see my name at the bottom of almost every workout, but I cannot compare myself to the 26 year old male athlete – I can only compare myself to my previous workouts and see how much progress I have made.
- Anyone can become "physically strong"!!!! It is NEVER too late to start. I am more fit at almost 50 than I have ever been in my life. And I predict I will be even more fit at 60.
- Becoming "physically strong" is the BEST, BEST, BEST thing you can do for yourself! It makes you confident, self-disciplined and carries over into all other areas of your life, which makes you a better leader, family member, friend, etc....

Because I am so passionate about this topic, I am thrilled that the Lodge is rolling out a theme this year – Scout Strong – Gator Tough. Scout Strong is a national BSA program to encourage physical fitness. In the Lodge we are going to use this theme and kick it up a notch! Look for activities at Lodge Weekends and for year-long Gator Tough Lodge Challenges!!!!

www,  
Amanda Pantone



# Officer Reports



## Vice Chief of Program

This has been a great year so far and I am thankful for all the great new members we have in our Lodge. We had an awesome Ordeal in September. The theme for this event was Medieval Times, some of the activities we had were amptguard, jousting and even a feast on Saturday evening. All in all, it was a lot of fun. A huge thanks goes out Tommy W. for helping out on this weekend. Congratulations to all of the new Ordeal members. Please join us at the Winter Fellowship and Banquet and I look forward to seeing you there.

WWW,

Christopher Olbrych

## Vice Chief of Inductions

My Brothers,

Brothers, Inductions is going great! Unit Elections are off to a fantastic start! Thank you to everyone who is helping conduct our newest members. We are offering a Brotherhood Ceremony the Saturday night of Winter Fellowship. If you are eligible, I highly encourage you to attend as this will be your last opportunity for 2013. We will also be offering Elangomat Training at the Fellowship, so if you wish to serve at the Spring Ordeal, make sure that you are trained. I would also like to thank Mr. Larry LaRosa, Mr. Dave Pantone and the other adult leaders from Troop 111 for making major improvements to our Brotherhood Ceremony Ring. If you are interested in being a ceremonialist please contact me! Thanks and I hope to see you all at Fellowship.

WWW,

Mike McLoughlin

## Lodge Treasurer

Brothers,

This is my report on the Lodge Box since the previous issue of Gator Tales. At the most recent Lodge weekend, Fall Ordeal, the Lodge Box sold about \$450 in patches and other merchandise. I will also be working on re-stocking the Lodge Box. Most Chapter patches were close to or completely sold out, same with the gator pins, t-shirts, belts, and belt buckles. In addition, I also hope to be working on the Lodge budget for the year 2014. Also, check out the approved 2014 patch set for the upcoming year.

WWW,

George Cooper

## Lodge Historian

Brothers,

I am looking forward to Section Seminars. Winter Fellowship is just around the corner. I will be at both events to record our Lodge history in photos as it happens. I have recently uploaded many new photos to the Lodge web site. Please check them out. If you have pictures you would like to share, please email them to the **Lodge. I will be working on the King's Cup soon. I welcome any ideas and suggestions. Let's bring home First Place for the King's Cup at the next Section Conference!**

WWW,

Leonardo H.

## Vice Chief of Service

My Brothers,

Service is going great. The past Ordeal weekend we gave many hours in service to TK. We rekindled the Mike Machek Trail Crew and are looking for more Brothers to join. We are also having many upcoming services days and I'm looking forward to seeing many Brothers in attendance. The most immediate service day is January 18th so I hope to see you all there and at Winter Fellowship. It will be a blast!

WWW,

Matt J.





# Chapter Corner

## A-Bani-Ki

Brothers,

Our meetings are held at 7:00 pm on the second Monday of each month at Faith United Methodist Church. Chapter shirts are available for sale so let's show the other Chapters how awesome we are. Thank you to all who participated in our One Day of Service. Hope to see you all at Winter Fellowship. All this can be found at the new Lodge website [www.aal-pa-tah.org](http://www.aal-pa-tah.org). Feel free to contact me at [lodge237@gmail.com](mailto:lodge237@gmail.com) if you need anything or have questions.

WWW,

Greg Y.

A-Bani-Ki Chapter Chief

## Ne-Kee-Wa

I am honored to be serving as Ne-Kee-Wa's Chapter Chief. We meet the third Thursday of each month at Roundtable. If anyone has any ideas about where they would like to meet or ideas to help the Chapter grow and thrive please contact me at [lodge237@gmail.com](mailto:lodge237@gmail.com). If you do not know Winter Fellowship is December 6-8 and is a great time and a good event to come to attend to support the Lodge. Also Fast Pass sales have started and are a great deal so make sure to buy one today.

WWW.

Everett P.

Ne-Kee-Wa Chapter Chief



# When Was I? (A Trip Down Memory Lane)



See if you can't recognize these images from some of the great events we've had in the recent past. The first three Arrowmen to submit the correct answers to [lodge237@gmail.com](mailto:lodge237@gmail.com) will receive a prize at Winter Fellowship. See you all there as we make new memories!



# The Forum

## The Forum

The Forum is a place in Gator Tales where everyone from Chairmen to Arrowmen 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](mailto:lodge237@gmail.com)

## Health Forms

My fellow Arrowmen, since taking over the health forms earlier this year, I find that many of the forms are very outdated. After speaking with Mrs. Pantone we have decided to ask that each of you get a new Health form part A and B. and bring them to either Winter Fellowship or the first event that you attend. We will be shedding all of the forms that are currently in the books. This will bring everyone into compliance with the new requirements from National. If the new forms are not available we will at least have a new updated form.

www,  
Debbie Mundell

## Lodge Banquet

**This year's Lodge Banquet will be held on Saturday, January 4, 2014 at Tanah Keeta beginning at 5 PM.** The theme of the Banquet is Super Heroes and we have a lot of great **things planned for a super night. We've got awesome activities, fantastic food, an amazing auction and much more.** The cost is only \$10 (free if you have Fast Pass). If you purchase Fast Pass prior to the Banquet you will be able to pick up your Fast Pass Packet at the Banquet! The deadline to register for the Banquet to avoid the \$5 late fee is December 27<sup>th</sup>. Hope to see you all there.

www,  
Aaron G.

## Section Seminars

Brothers,

The Lodge attended the Section S-4 Seminars at Camp Soule in Clearwater, Florida this November. It was a packed weekend full of Brotherhood, Training Sessions, Patch Auction, and a whole lot more. All in attendance had a great time. Our Lodge will be hosting the Section Seminars next November at Tanah Keeta. We are less than a year away!!! We need YOUR help! If you are interested in helping us show the rest of Section S-4 just how great a Seminars can be, please contact me at [m.mcloug@gmail.com](mailto:m.mcloug@gmail.com) or 561-267-8759. We will begin to have monthly planning meetings, so keep track and be aware of your email. We would greatly appreciate your help.

www,  
Mike McLoughin

Section Seminars HOST Chairman

## Brotherhood Day

At the last OA weekend we were able to have four more members seal their membership in the Brotherhood. The next weekend to complete your Brotherhood will be at Winter Fellowship, and if you are eligible please attend. There will be counseling for Brotherhood on the weekend of Winter Fellowship, please email with any questions at [lodge237@gmail.com](mailto:lodge237@gmail.com).

On Saturday, February 8, 2014 we will be having a Brotherhood Day and Call Out Ceremony. Times will be announced. This is a GREAT time for all those who completed their Ordeal last March to seal their membership in the Order. In addition, we will be having a Call Out Ceremony and Meet and Greet for all candidates. We hope to see you all there!

www,  
Tommy W.

## From the Kitchen

Greetings, Brothers,

The World Famous OA Lodge 237 Culinary Crew is currently seeking to fill a number of part time and full time positions. We are searching for adults and youth who would like to be part of a winning team, have a passion for food, and want to provide Cheerful Service in a delicious way. Your commitment might be for as short as one meal period, or as long as the entire weekend. In exchange for your talent and Cheerful Service, we will provide an abundance of friendship, fellowship, and **Extra Tasty Scooby Snacks!!! Positions are limited, so don't wait.** Contact Chas Carlson at 772-713-0153 if you are interested.

www,  
Chas Carlson

# OA High Adventure

## OA TRAIL CREW

This Two week expedition at Pinelawn is literally a mountaintop experience. Blaze new trails through a week of service and then experience Pinelawn and the OA like never before.

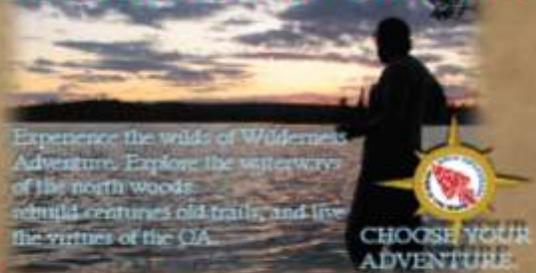


CHOOSE YOUR ADVENTURE

<http://adventure.aa-bsa.org>

## WILDERNESS VOYAGE

Experience the wilds of Wilderness Adventure. Explore the waterways of the north woods, rebuild centuries old trails, and live the virtues of the OA.



CHOOSE YOUR ADVENTURE

<http://adventure.aa-bsa.org>

## OCEAN ADVENTURE

Explore tropical waters while performing conservation projects in the Florida Keys.



CHOOSE YOUR ADVENTURE

<http://adventure.aa-bsa.org>

## CANADIAN ODYSSEY

OA service goes international into the Ontario wilds. Embark on the Odyssey of a lifetime transcending borders, and the spirit of the order.



CHOOSE YOUR ADVENTURE

<http://adventure.aa-bsa.org>

# 2014 Patch Set



# NOAC 2015



The National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC) is the premier event of the Order of the Arrow, and is Scouting's second-largest national event. Over 10,000 Arrowmen from across our nation gather for an inspirational and unforgettable experience full of fellowship, training, adventure, and fun! During NOAC, Arrowmen will participate in a six-day conference which includes top notch training sessions, cool recreational opportunities, evening shows full of theatrics and special effects, and exciting programs. The 2015 NOAC will be held from August 3-8, 2015 at Michigan State University in East Lansing, Michigan, and will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Order of the Arrow. Arrowmen attending the 2015 National Order of the Arrow Conference will get a once in a lifetime souvenir, a [special edition red sash](#). These sashes will differ from those currently worn in that the colors will be reversed, with a white arrow emblazoned on a red sash. The rarity of the sash is noteworthy, as only those present at NOAC 2015 will receive them. Don't miss out on NOAC in 2015, because the next one won't be until 2018! If interested, contact Mike McLoughin, the 2015 NOAC Chairman. Hope to see you all there.



## Design the Patch for NOAC 2015!

The Order of the Arrow is seeking input to develop the identity that will represent its 100 years of cheerful service. The designs for a 100th anniversary year-long logo, a NOAC 2015 patch, and 100th anniversary totem that will symbolize the legacies of the men and women of our Order lie awaiting in one of you. Search your heart and conscience for the essence of the Order of the Arrow.

While you look for inspiration, it will be helpful to consider examples from the past. The 75th anniversary of the Order was in 1990, and a similar contest was held to find the best image to represent seventy-five years of service to Scouting and the community. The turtle was selected as the totem and was integrated in the 1990 NOAC patch, which embodied both the past and present of the Order. The year-long logo pulled together the MGM Indian logo, the turtle totem, the numerals "75", and was widely used at all levels of the Order. The three pieces ended up complimenting each other well for the 75th; what will the identity of the 100th look like?



Some additional guidelines while considering your design include:

- Take inspiration from the "Centuries of Service" thematic concept
- Reflect on what the Order of the Arrow and the Boy Scouts of America have done to celebrate other large milestones
- Create a NOAC 2015 patch that can be easily stitched
- Think simple, clean, crisp
- Integrate the three potentially unique pieces together

Submissions will be accepted no later than the end of October, so get out your pencils and colored pencils, or start up your computer drawing program and see what you can do! When you have produced something you like, send it on to [oa100@oa-bsa.org](mailto:oa100@oa-bsa.org); both youth and adults are welcome to submit their ideas. The Arrowman with the chosen submission will be recognized at the 2015 National Order of the Arrow Conference with an exclusive commemorative patch set capturing what they helped to create. As an added bonus, if the winning submission originates from a youth, his NOAC fee will be picked up by the National Committee and he will be invited to participate as a member of the 100th Anniversary Youth Advisory Committee.

# In Memory of a Brother



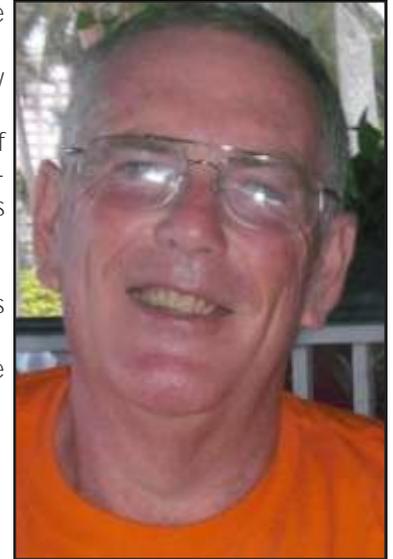
We lost a true hero recently. It is still so hard to believe. Brian Morgan, you are greatly missed. I think you had much work left to do. You were so enthusiastic about returning to the Lodge now that your job was to be closer to home. You told me you would have been happy being the official Lodge Building Janitor if that was what was needed. That is how you were, humble, a true servant leader.

I hope you know how many admired you and appreciated you. I hope you know how much I appreciated and admired you and how much I learned from you. While the space here is too small to list all of these things, you taught me that as a leader I should...

- Be passionate - if you are not loving what you do, then you need to rethink it. I know even when things were tough, you were always passionate about what you did.
- Not forget who I serve – it was always very clear to me that you had a very clear vision of your purpose in Scouting and that was first and foremost to serve the youth of this council. You never let adult agendas, politics and red tape get in your way. The youth always had a true champion in you.
- Stand up for what is right – even when it is tough and even when you tick people off!
- Have fun – I rarely saw you without a mischievous smile on your face! You reminded us all not to take ourselves too seriously.

Brian, no one can ever fill your shoes, but we will all do our best to ensure that we will continue your work with passion, with integrity and with fun!

We will miss you my friend,  
Amanda Pantone



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“Change Service Requested”

## Upcoming Events

December 6-8

Winter Fellowship

January 4th

Annual Lodge Banquet

January 18th

Lodge Service Day & LEC

