



2011-2012  
Lodge Officers



Elliott Taft  
Lodge Chief

James Herrera  
Vice Chief of Program

Dan Olbrych  
Vice Chief of Service

Mike McLoughlin  
Vice Chief of Inductions

Chris Olbrych  
Lodge Secretary

George Cooper  
Lodge Treasurer

Ross Pantone  
Lodge Historian



Amanda Pantone  
Lodge Adviser

Bradley Ellis  
Assoc. Lodge Adviser

Cindy Hall  
Assoc. Lodge Adviser  
Steve Steinmetz  
Lodge Staff Adviser

January 2012

Dear Candidate:

Congratulations on your election as a Candidate for the Order of the Arrow! You should take great pride in being elected. However, your *Journey* has not yet begun, and you are not yet a member in the Order. A greater thrill awaits you when you become a member, are decorated with the Order of the Arrow sash, and the history that goes with it is unveiled to you. This happens when you have completed the *Ordeal* of the Order of the Arrow successfully.

You will have two opportunities to complete your *Ordeal*. The first opportunity is **March 2-4, 2012** at Camp Tanah Keeta. Your second and only remaining opportunity will be in **September 2012** (tentatively September 21-23; the Council Calendar has not yet been set), again at Camp Tanah Keeta. **There will be no additional opportunities** to make-up your *Ordeal*. If you fail complete your *Ordeal* at either of these two weekends, then you will have missed your chance to become a member in the Order of the Arrow in the 2012 election year, and must be re-elected again by your unit. I urge you to accept the *Ordeal* and not let this opportunity pass you by. Please arrange your schedule now so you can take advantage of this life changing opportunity.

The fee for the *Ordeal* is \$55 per candidate, and is broken down as follows:

- 1) Ordeal Weekend Fee – \$20. All Lodge members pay this fee. Includes camping fee, food, and event patch.
- 2) OA Sash - \$14. The white sash you wear with your Class A uniform.
- 3) 2012 Dues – \$10. OA dues are \$10 per year. This payment fulfills your registration through the end of the 2012 calendar year. If your dues are not paid then you will not receive Lodge mailings, nor may you attend OA events.
- 4) OA Handbook - \$6. Official National OA publication.
- 5) Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge 237 Once-In-A-Lifetime Uniform Flap - \$5.

**The \$55 fee must be paid in full no later than the close of business on Friday, February 24, 2012, or Friday September 14, 2012 respectively.** After these deadlines a \$5 late fee applies. Available payment methods include cash, check, Visa, MasterCard, Discovery, or American Express. To register go to the registration tab of the Aal-Pa-Tah website and print the form and fax, mail or bring it to the Council Service Center with payment. <http://www.aal-pa-tah237.org/members/registration>

We want you to have an exciting and safe experience. **Please bring a current copy of your BSA health form – Parts A, B and C including the physical.** In your *Ordeal*, you will leave the comforts of home behind and you will be tested by exerting yourself physically on a restricted diet. If you have a permanent physical or medical problem that could limit your participation, please notify us immediately; we would like to make advance plans so that you can have the very best experience possible. Also please advise us of any dietary limitations.

At the end of this letter, you will find a list of items to bring - please review it carefully. This is the only reminder you will receive of your *Ordeal*. It is up to you to make sure that you register for this weekend.

**Additionally, we highly encourage you to attend the March *Ordeal* as we have several great events in the coming months.** Aal-Pa-Tah will be going to the **Section S-4 Section Conference** at Wallwood Scout Reservation near Tallahassee **April 20-22, 2012**. Section Conference is an exciting annual event that rotates its host location from year to year. This year, it will bring between 1,100 and 1,400 Arrowmen to the Tallahassee area. Please do not pass up this opportunity.

**Parents, we have prepared a parent letter that provides further details about the Order of the Arrow and your son's upcoming Ordeal. To receive that letter electronically, just email our Lodge Adviser at [mrsfantone@aol.com](mailto:mrsfantone@aol.com).** If after receiving that letter, you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me. As always, you can find more information about Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge at [www.aal-pa-tah237.org](http://www.aal-pa-tah237.org). I look forward to opening the circle of our Brothers to you.

Yours in Scouting,

*Elliott Taft*

Elliott M. Taft

Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge Chief

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**Aal-Pa-Tah's Website:** [www.aal-pa-tah237.org](http://www.aal-pa-tah237.org)



8335 NORTH MILITARY TRAIL

PALM BEACH GARDENS, FL 33410

[WWW.GULFSTREAMCOUNCIL.ORG](http://WWW.GULFSTREAMCOUNCIL.ORG)

561-694-8585/ FAX 561-694-9050

[BSAGSC@SCOUTING.ORG](mailto:BSAGSC@SCOUTING.ORG)

Note: You should also receive this letter via email and U.S. mail both by February 13, 2012. If either does not reach you, please go to the red "Update Contact Info" tab on [http://aal-pa-tah237.org/](http://aal-pa-tah237.org) and provide your correct information.

### **Items to Bring to Your Ordeal:**

**BSA Health Form – Parts A, B & C including the physical (Copy Only)** \* Field and Activity Uniform \* Work clothes (jeans, long or short sleeve shirt, closed toe shoes, work gloves, hat) \* Sleeping Bag \* Ground Cloth \* Backpack [to hike gear (except tent)] \* Foam Pad (for sleeping on ground under stars Friday night) \* Tent (for Saturday night – may share with other Candidates from same unit) \* Insect repellent \* Sunscreen \* Flashlight \* Rain Gear \* Water Bottle \* Personal Hygiene Items (soap, towel, shampoo, toothbrush/paste)

**Arrive at Tanah Keeta promptly by 7:00p.m. Friday Night**

**PLEASE NOTE: THE WEEKEND DOES NOT END UNTIL 11 AM SUNDAY MORNING**

**Important safety information:** At any Lodge event, if you require assistance from a representative of the Lodge at any point during the event, please contact the following people in order: (1) Lodge Chief Elliot Taft: 561.801-5901; (2) Lodge Advisor Amanda Pantone: 561.324.9120.; (3) Lodge Staff Advisor Steve Steinmetz: 561.307.9013; and (4) Associate Lodge Advisors Bradley Ellis: 561.267.8658 or Cindy Hall: 772-370-4713

**Talent Release** - By participating in any Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge activity, the participant, and the participant's legal guardian when the participant is a minor, grants Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge and Gulf Stream Council - and their officers, employees, agents, licensees, representatives, or assigns - permission and consent, to copyright, use, publish, exhibit, display, broadcast, or otherwise disseminate via any medium: film, video, kinescope, audio, still pictures, slides, or any other type of recording, which includes the participant's name, voice, and/or image or likeness. The participant and/or legal guardian waives any and all rights to inspection or approval of the final product. The participant and/or legal guardian waives any all rights to remuneration for uses consistent with this waiver. The participant and/or legal guardian further releases Aal-Pa-Lodge and Gulf Stream Council - and their officers, employees, agents, licensees, representatives, or assigns - from any liability arising out of uses consistent with this waiver, including but not limited to claims of misrepresentation or false light. Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge and Gulf Stream Council warrants they shall conduct all uses in manners consistent with the policies of the Boy Scouts of America.