

GATOR

February 2011

The Official Publication

of Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge #237



TALES

Visit Us Online www.aal-pa-tah.org

Calendar

March 4th-6th
Spring Ordeal at TK

April 8th-10th
Section S-4 Conference at
Tanah Keeta
HOST LODGE!!!

June 3rd-5th
Summer Pow Wow at TK

<http://aal-pa-tah237.org/calendar>

Spring Ordeal 2011

My Brothers:

Here is a weekend that you surely do not want to miss! March 4-6, 2011 – Lodge Spring Ordeal Weekend at Tanah Keeta. Aal-Pa-Tah’s Spring Ordeal weekend is fast approaching. The 2011 election year brings many new Candidates to the Lodge. March 4-6, 2011 will be the first of two (2) Ordeal opportunities for these Scouts. Please come join the Lodge in welcoming our new Brothers, and in completing some service towards getting TK ready for SECTION CONFERENCE.

A lot of cool stuff has been planned for Friday and Saturday nights, that you surely don’t want to miss! Saturday will be a FUN day with quality time and Cheerful Service with your Brothers and then a Fun Filled night! We are currently planning a Broom Hockey Competition for Friday Night. Plus a GREAT Carnival for Saturday Night!!!! We have a lot more surprises in store, including a GREAT 237 Surprise!!! Our Lodge hasn’t seen anything this great in a long time!

This is a reminder that this FUN weekend will cost \$20.00 if you pre-register before the close of business on Friday, February 28th. After the 28th, a \$5 late fee will apply to all registrations - EVEN FOR FAST PASS MEMBERS.

Lodge adults desiring to sleep in a dorm for Spring Ordeal must coordinate with Lodge Adviser Amanda Pantone at mrs pantone@aol.com, and will be handled by the Campmasters on Friday March 4th.

So, don’t make any plans for March 4-6, because everyone should be at Camp Tanah Keeta to give Cheerful FUN Service. After we’re done working, we’ll have more FUN than ever. This whole weekend is about FUN and Service!

Come on out and have some REAL FUN!!!

I can’t wait to see you all at TK March 4-6th! Please don’t hesitate to email me if you have any questions regarding all the FUN that the Spring Ordeal will bring!

In WWW
Mike McLoughlin
m.mcloug@gmail.com
2011 Spring Ordeal Chairman

Gator Tales Staff

[Gator Tales Website](#)

Lodge Secretary

Gregory Olbrych

secretary@aal-pa-tah237.org

Editor

Mike McLoughlin

m.mcloug@gmail.com

Editing.....Proofing Team

Banner.....Salvatore Sodano

Content.....Aal-Pa-Tah Arrowmen

Adviser.....Barry J.F. Ekle

Contact.....Gulf Stream Council

(561) 694-8585

www.aal-pa-tah237.org

Contents

Page 2.....	Chiefly Speaking
Page 3.....	Officer Reports
Page 4-5.....	Adviser’s Reports
Page 6.....	Summer Camp 2011
Page 7.....	OAOA
Page 8.....	High Adventure
Page 9.....	Section Conference
Page 10.....	Chapter Reports



Chiefly Speaking

My Brothers,

Section Conference is rapidly approaching and we have our work cut out for us to be ready for this event. To help Aal-Pa-Tah get ready for this event we moved up the Ordeal to March, and moved Pow Wow back till June. By moving up the Ordeal we can get camp ready for conference. The lodge needs everyone's help to get camp ready to put on the best conference that the section has ever seen. For the upcoming spring Ordeal Mike McLoughlin has some awesome activities planned. Amp guard, lodge ball, and a water slide just to name a few. This will be a cant miss weekend. I hope to see everyone there.

WWW,

Elliot M. Taft

Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge #237 Chief 2010-11

Health Forms

Reminder, the BSA requires health forms for all campouts. For events under 72 hours **Parts A and B are required** (no physical). Please bring your health form to the Spring Ordeal signed and dated in 2011. Once we have it on file it will be valid for all OA events for rest of the year. This policy applies to both youth and adults.

The health form can be found at http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/34605_Letter.pdf

Elangomat

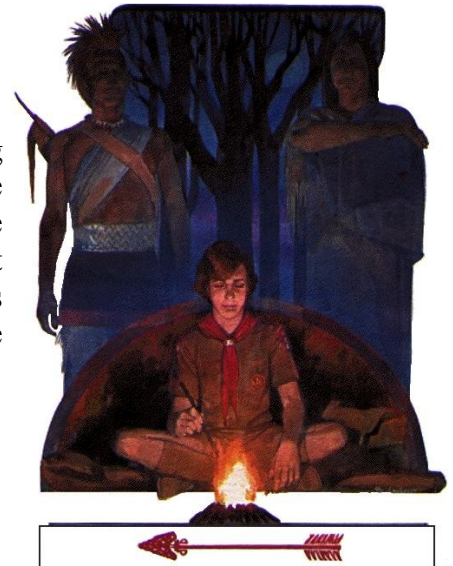
Brothers,

I find that some fearless, Arrowmen seek new heights during the Ordeal, and there is something out there just for them. In our lodge we have a program that helps the candidates through the Ordeal, these are called Elangomat. In doing this three times you have the great honor of earning their Black sash (along with any past Elangomats please contact Kelsey Cupples at the council office). If any of you are interested it taking this step up please contact Kelsey Cupples.

Yours is service

Daniel Olbrych

Elangomat Chairman



Officer Reports

Lodge Vice Chief of Program

The Spring Ordeal is getting ready for business. Along with several fun activities, Arrowmen will have the opportunity to provide much needed service to camp. Also, the summer is approaching swiftly and the OA high adventure bases are still accepting applications. These bases are world renowned for their activities and allow you to go to places such as Philmont in New Mexico, Northern Teir in Minnesota Canada, and the Florida Sea Base . You must be at least 16 years old to apply. Lastly, I would like to personally invite each and every Arrowmen in the lodge to this year's 2011 Section Conference. This year is special because we, as a lodge, are hosting section conference at the beautiful Tanah Keeta Scout Reservation. Email me at denver09@bellsouth.net if you have any questions.

In WWW,

Denver Sherman

Lodge Historian

The Kings Cup Display is going GREAT!! We are working on creating a new one. We started construction at the Workday on February 12th. If you have any pictures, please be sure to upload them to <http://aal-pa-tah237.org/members/photos>

In WWW

Mike McLoughlin

Lodge Treasurer

My brothers,

The annual Lodge Banquet was very successful. Our traditional live and silent patch auctions made at least \$700 for our lodge. Also at Banquet, the first patch of the 2011 year set was given out. Speaking of patches, the entire 2010 year set is now available for purchase in the Lodge Box for \$22, or the event patches separate for \$3 each and the back patch at \$10. There will be other events upcoming in the near future; for one, Section Conference workdays, and also "Spring Ordeal", March 4-6, 2011.

George Cooper

OA Ring Redesign

If you have been to camp recently, then you would have noticed the massive reconstruction project underway for the OA Ring (behind our Lodge Building). Sporting a completely new gateway entrance and entry path, the new ring is shaping up to be a most dramatic change. In 50 short days, the ring will have been completed - just in time for Section Conference. As a part of the changes, new benches are being placed in the ring. So far, half of the benches have been sponsored, and the other half are waiting sponsorships. For more information on how you can sponsor a bench, please see the sponsorship form at:

<http://aal-pa-tah237.org/assets/files/Bench%20sponsorship%20form.pdf>



2010 Vigil Honor Class

At the Lodge Banquet in January at Jupiter High School, the 2010 Class of Vigil Honor Members were announced. They will be recognized at the March Ordeal at the Saturday night dinner. This year's class includes:

Walter "Dutchee" Arnett
Dale Blomberg
Aaron Flack
John Gordon
Jeff Gray
Greg Olbrych
Beth Snyder
Jeff Vorpapel
Justin Warnimont

We congratulate all of these Brothers who have been thus recognized with the highest honor that our Lodge can bestow.

The Lodge Vice Chief of Inductions and the Lodge Vice Chief of Service did not submit a report and no report was submitted on their behalf.

“Sharing the Vision”

Dear Brothers,

“WOW” does not even come close to describing the amazing program put on by Zachary Regan and the rest of the hard-working lodge leadership at Winter Fellowship. Three months of planning culminated in an action packed weekend that featured tons of fun, fellowship and service to our beloved camp Tanah Keeta! GREAT, GREAT JOB!

This was followed by an AMAZING banquet in January, organized by our own Lodge Chief, Elliott, under the superb guidance of his Adviser, Mark Kidd. The silent auction organized by Elam Patterson raised over \$1,000 for the Lodge. Thank you to all for that stellar event!



Mrs. Amanda Pantone,
Lodge Adviser

It is such an exciting time for the lodge! We are just finishing up an accelerated elections cycle this year so that the candidates would have the option of attending a March Ordeal (March 4-6) and in doing so will be able to attend the much anticipated Section Conference at Tanah Keeta on April 8-10, 2011. You absolutely MUST attend Section Conference! The theme for the event is “Accept the Arrow, Live the Legend” and it promises to be a weekend packed with amazing events such as carnival games, shows, seminars, competitions, amazing food and much, much more!!!

A huge THANKS to Hung Nguyen, Tim Arnold, Ranger Steve, Ranger Harlan, Tim Brown, Larry LaRosa, Tom Johnson, Frank Schwartz, David Smith and all the other scouts and adults who came together to create and build the new OA Gateway! And this gateway was just the starting point for the next BIG project – the OA Ring Renovation!! This much needed project was organized and is being coordinated by Mick Desjardin and it is progressing FABULOUSLY! Mick has put in countless hours and resources into making this project happen for our camp. Please be sure when you see him to thank him for his TREMENDOUS work and ask him how you can help!!

Thanks to all of the adult Advisers who have stepped into new roles in the lodge including Cindy Hall who is our new Associate Adviser of Admin. She will be helping to relieve some of the great workload of our other outstanding Associate Adviser, Brad Ellis who will be the Associate Adviser of Program. Also, welcome to Debbie Mundell, who is the new Cheepatah Chapter Adviser; Chris Smith, who is the new Oiyatah Chapter Adviser; Cecil Phibbs, Indian Summer and Ceremonies Support Adviser; Richard Gallant, Cub Scout Camping Award Adviser; Andy Flack, Special Projects Coordinator and Ryan Kidd, Multimedia Specialist. Also, many thanks to all the Advisers who have pledged continued support in their current roles.

And finally, I would like to say that it is a true honor to work with all of the youth and adults in this lodge. Elliott and his team are top notch! Just wait to see all the great things they have in store for the next few months.

Amanda Pantone
Lodge Adviser
mrspantone@aol.com

Lodge Wish List

Lodge Golf Cart
237 Members at next Lodge weekend
Arrowmen for Ceremonies Teams
Articles on interesting campouts for the next Gator Tales

Associate Adviser's Counsel

Well, another year has come and gone, and Aal-Pa-Tah has just closed the books on 2010. In 2010, we inducted 144 new members to our Order, and converted 53 members from Ordeal to Brotherhood membership. Overall, the lodge shrunk by 20 or so, but we are still strong with over 500 dues paid members. To be remembered, our lodge lost Brothers Richard J. Cocchia, Sr., Herb Levine, and Robert Trojan. As we begin 2011, let us all celebrate the lives of these loyal Brothers.

Sadly, 2011 also brought the relocation of our - now past - Lodge Adviser Tim Arnold and Lea Arnold to Las Vegas, Nevada. After 16 years of service to Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge, Tanah Keeta, and Gulf Stream Council, it is time for the Arnolds to start their next adventure. The Arnold family's service to our Lodge has been remarkable. The entire Arnold family are Vigil members. In case anyone is wondering, the Arnolds are tied with



Mr. Tim Arnold

the Sassadors at 4 for the most Aal-Pa-Tah Vigil members from the same family. Michael is a pilot in the Air Force, in North Carolina, and Daniel is an engineer with Lockheed-Martin in Orlando. No doubt, Tim and Lea's westward journey will leave more than one void in my life which cannot be filled. Please drop Tim and Lea a line to thank them for their friendship, and encourage them to stay involved with Scouting in the years to come. Thank you Tim! Thank you Lea!



Mrs. Lea Arnold

In all, 2011 is going to be an action-packed time to be an OA member. Between our lodge hosting Section Conference in April (<http://aal-pa-tah237.org/2011/>) and all of the summer OA High Adventure programs, there simply is no reason why each and every one of us cannot have a 2011 adventure. Get informed, stay involved, and keep exploring.

WWW,
Bradley Ellis
Associate Lodge Adviser
assocadvisor@aal-pa-tah237.org

I am humbled and honored to have been asked to become an Associate Adviser for Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge. Over the next few months, our Adviser Amanda Pantone, Associate Adviser Brad Ellis and I will endeavor to streamline and organize the systems of our lodge. The Order of the Arrow is fundamentally based upon service to others and I truly believe that it is incumbent upon every one of us to serve the lodge in whatever capacity we are able. We have so many options for fellow brothers to participate whether it's only once a year at a weekend event or over the course of several months or years.

Don't think that because you can only contribute a minimal amount of time that it won't be appreciated. If every one of our 400+ members contributed only 1 hour per year, that would be the equivalent of 10 WEEKS of work that could be done at camp. It doesn't seem like much when you look at the individual contribution but it's a whole lot when combined together and together we can accomplish a lot. With Section Conference rapidly approaching, we need all of our members to participate in some capacity. Please contact the Conference Chair and Adviser and let them know how you can help or better yet, ask how you can help them.

We have one of the most awesome lodges and I know we can count on all of you to help with not only this event, but to grow our lodge to a true service organization. So remember, if you are asked to serve, please look back on our core beliefs and say "Yes". I hope to see all of you around at our next OA Event!

Yours in Scouting,
Cindy Hall,
Associate Lodge Adviser

Tanah Keeta Summer Camp 2011

Brothers,

Tanah-Keeta has kicked off preparations for another great Summer. This year's theme, *The Wild, Wild West*, promises to be filled with non-stop action, activities and adventure. Staff tryouts are well underway and this year's program will be geared toward a more traditional summer camp feel, with troop activities, camp wide events, and plenty of merit badge classes and fun! Wednesday is our Order of the Arrow Day, so we hope to see all Arrowmen from Aal-Pa-Tah out at camp throughout the summer to promote our great lodge! Come out and join us this summer! You can register your unit by contacting Gulf Stream Council at (561) 694-8585. If you have questions regarding Summer Camp Staff, you can contact Camp Director Shannon Wiley (shannonpwiley@yahoo.com) or Program Director Geoff Miller (gmillrx45@yahoo.com). We look forward to seeing you this summer.



WWW,

Geoff Miller

Tanah Keeta Program Director 2011

Machek Trail Crew at Winter Fellowship

by Bradley Ellis

On December 11, 2010, the lodge's Mike Machek Trail Crew provided some cheerful service to camp during this past Winter Fellowship. The thirteen Brothers pictured below worked for an hour before lunch on Saturday – for a total of thirteen service hours - to clear trees and undergrowth that has overrun the footbridge in recent years. For its upcoming project, the Trail Crew plans to restore the footbridge, which is located on the Tanah Keeta-Jonathan Dickinson border. If you are interested in participating in future Trail Crew service,



please contact the Trail Crew Chair – Crawford Teets (561.723.5079 / teets19@comcast.net) – or the Trail Crew Adviser – Richard Gallant (561.707.5973/ kf4hvt@bellsouth.net). The Trail Crew maintains the Machek Trail during each Saturday of lodge events, and typically only for a portion of the day. All lodge members are welcome to participate, and any level of service to the Trail Crew is much appreciated by all who enjoy the Mike Machek Trail.

Order of the Arrow Ocean Adventure is Back in Business

After a year without an Order of the Arrow high adventure program, the Florida Sea Base will be offering an Order of the Arrow Ocean Adventure program to service-oriented Arrowmen in the summer of 2011. The new Ocean Adventure has been revamped and will provide a significantly different experience to participants. The new OAOA will introduce Scouts to an environment found only in the magical world of the Florida Keys. Working among tropical islands, coral reefs, and majestic shores Arrowmen will grow and learn together with Scouts from around the nation, working as one in cheerful service.

After arriving at the Sea Base's Brinton Environmental Center on Summerland Key, adventurers will embark on a trip marked with various service experiences around the Keys area. Mobilized by boat, sea kayak, and war canoe, OAOA work crews will provide service and conservation work to a number of different environments, working on trails, islands and fragile habitats for tropical fauna and flora. After 5 days of island hopping and cheerful service, Arrowmen will grab their sea legs and depart on a 5 day cruise of the world's largest wilderness- the deep blue sea. With the help of an OA staff member and a boat captain, Scouts will navigate the Gulf of Mexico in a sailing yacht, developing team skills and leadership while learning all the more about themselves, their crew and life at sea aboard a sailing vessel (e.g., fishing, snorkeling, swimming, celestial navigation). The world's oceans remain its largest mystery. Your ocean adventure will lead you to new discoveries about yourself and the world you live in.

A ten day adventure in the Florida Keys awaits you. Discover what servant leadership means to you. All Arrowmen who will be at least 16 and under 21 next summer are invited to apply. Applications are available online at <http://adventure.oa-bsa.org/>. Spots are limited in this inaugural year, so don't wait to apply. The 10-day program costs \$400.



Thoughts from the Kitchen~

As our first Ordeal of 2011 approaches, we think of what to serve our new brothers for their Feast on Saturday night. Steak and baked potatoes will all the trimmings comes to mind but then the budget interferes and that goes out the window unless it's the only meal we have. We have to prepare 4 meals, 2 cracker barrels and a snack so here is how we will break it down:

Friday night cracker barrel: Cheese, salsa and chips

Saturday breakfast: French toast casserole, sausage patties and a banana

Saturday noon: Grilled ham and cheese with tomato soup, brownies

The Feast: Salisbury steak, garlic mashed potato, corn, gravy, mixed green salad, tremendous desserts

Saturday cracker barrel: Salty party mix

Sunday Breakfast: Biscuits and sausage gravy; leftovers

LEC Snack: Good stuff

The Ordeals will be the standard fair of unsavory foods and stuff that you should not feed anybody. It should be great fun, food and fellowship. Let's be there and help welcome in our new brothers and get TK ready for the Section Conference.

Chas Carlson

The Food Wizard of TK

OA High Adventure Opportunities

As we start the New Year, it's time to start making final preparations for your summer's Scouting adventures. Over the past few months, you have learned about two exciting opportunities that the Order of the Arrow is making available to the Arrowmen in your lodge: SummitCorps - The New River Experience and Indian Summer.



If you are looking for a new outdoor adventure this summer then look no further than the mountains of West Virginia near the site of Scouting's newest high adventure base, The Summit! Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge 237 will be traveling to SummitCorps the week of July 3rd! Participants will be building trail along the New River Gorge National River, helping to lay the foundation for future Boy Scout use at this beautiful national property. Crews will spend several days providing service and will have a day to enjoy recreational activities along the New River. Registration is open to any youth or adult Arrowman who meets the Philmont height and weight requirements.



Another great way to spend your summer is to jumpstart your American Indian Activities involvement at Indian Summer. Indian Summer is a one-stop shop for all things American Indian related: whether it's singing, dancing or OA ceremonies and inductions. Arrowmen will have the opportunity to study all areas of American Indian activities or OA ceremonies and inductions - they do not have to focus on just one area. As part of the Indian Summer activities participants will be divided into nations, with each nation having its own tribes and clans to share experiences. What makes Indian Summer a standout program is the specific attention given to participants by meeting them at their ability level. Whether a seasoned ceremonialist or a novice dancer, each Indian Summer participant will walk away better prepared for the next Pow Wow or ceremony. This is another great opportunity to get your lodge members involved in a great national program. Make sure your contingent registers on the Indian Summer website today! The deadline to register with our contingent will be sometime in mid-February!

We Hope to see you at either of these High Adventure Activities!

Section Conference 2011

Lookout IT'S Coming:

What is IT, you ask? Only the greatest thing to happen to Aal-Pa-Tah in years. It's the chance to host the 2011 Section S-4 Conference. Your Conference Team has created a great plan and now its time to join in and help bring it too completion.

For us at APT we are going to begin the Conference by arriving on Thursday evening the 7th of April (if you can). We will have a late snack and get a good night's sleep (if possible with all the excitement in the air). Friday morning of the 8th we will get TK set up and ready to accept Arrowmen from around the state. We are looking for around 850 to 1000 of our fellow Brothers to be in attendance. We will start with a bang around 3PM with a Carnival Atmosphere of Games of Chance. The evening will conclude with Fun on the Stage with the Section Leadership, loud music and a cracker-barrel.

Saturday the 9th is seminars followed by the Quest for the Golden Arrow and Lodge on Lodge Games. A lot of fun will be had by all. The Saturday night show looks to be great along with a few surprises. Sunday the 10th is the annual Section meeting and then we will break down TK and depart for home. It is going to be great fun and fellowship.

However for this whole plan to be successful we need all of APT to pitch in and help make this plan work. It would not take a lot of your time, maybe just a couple or three hours from each brother and we will have it made. Interested? Fill out the Reservation Form, take Friday off and join us in a great event.

Aal-Pa-Tah is know for being able to show visiting Brothers a good time and this conference should be no exception if we all turn out and support the plan.

Yours in Brotherhood,
Ian McKay, Conference Committee Chair
David Carlson, Conference Adviser.

Gator Tales Reminder

Officers, Arrowmen, and Advisers
Each issue of the Gator Tales is
produced on a tight schedule.

Help us get each issue out on time!

If you are contributing ANYTHING
for the next issue please send
it in before the deadline!

Final Submission Deadline: March 19th

BROTHERS IN ACTION

Chapter Reports

A-Bani-Ki

Osceola District

Fellow Brothers,

So far, this year the A-Bani-Ki chapter has been getting almost all of their Unit Elections done so we can get ready for Section Conference. Furthermore, we have our chapter meeting at the Spanish River Church on every second Monday of the month. In our chapter meeting we cover what's happening in the lodge and what events are coming up so that we can be prepared. There will be some great giveaways if we can bring our chapter meeting to double in attendance the number of Arrowmen by the next meeting.

Yours in Service,

Daniel Olbrych

Abaniki Chapter Chief

Osceola

Lighthouse District

We are doing SPECTACULAR!!!!!! We are currently finishing up Unit Elections for 2011. We welcome all new Arrowman with open arms. Remember we meet at St. Marks every 2nd Thursday of the month from 7pm-8pm. If you are an Osceolian, please make sure that you are there!!!

WWW

ST Oblaczynski

Chapter Chief

Lowaneu-Mawat

Indian River District

Fellow Brothers,

I hope everybody's doing well. Things with the chapter are going great. Meeting attendance is up and we recently had a great chapter fun day. We just finished up our unit elections and we have a great batch of new candidates. We have a guest speaker lined up for our next chapter meeting and we're also planning a chapter service event/camping trip which should be a lot of fun. If anybody has ideas or suggestions for the chapter feel free to call me or contact me on the new chapter facebook group.

WWW,

Jeff Gray

The Chapter Chiefs for Nekiwa, Chee-Pa-Tah and Panasofee did not submit a report and no report was submitted on their behalf

Fall Ordeal



Michael McLoughlin at the Ordeal Closing



New Brothers Entering the Dining Hall



Luke Spratt Welcoming Newest Brothers



Lodge Chief Elliott Taft & Lodge Advisor Tim Arnold Welcoming Newest Brothers



Wyatt Bunch Serving Up Dinner



Lodge Chief Elliott Taft at the New Members Meeting



Dutchee Arnett at the New Members Meeting



Levi Stahl and James Herrera at the Opening of the Pow Wow



Lodge Members at the Pow Wow



Retiring Flags on Sept. 11



Jordan Davis at the Pow Wow



Maggie Arnett & James Herrera at the Pow Wow

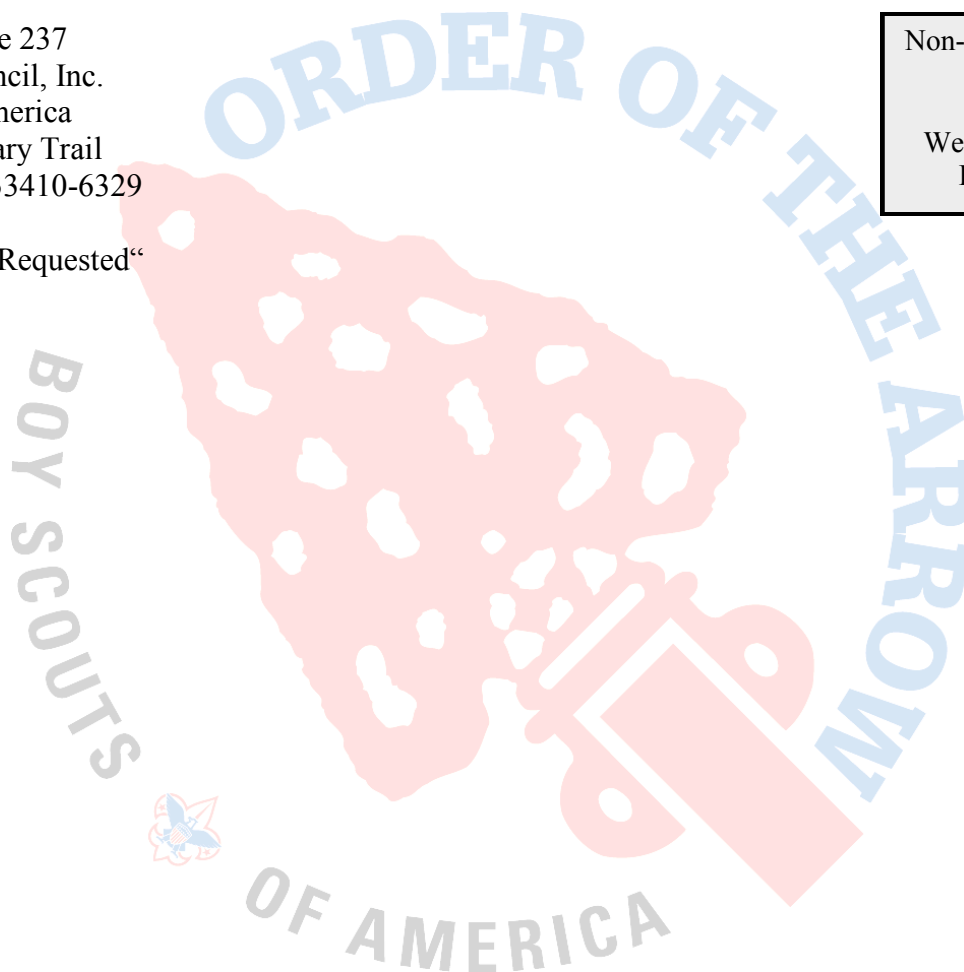


Members Playing Risk in Aal-Pa-Tah Tradition

Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge 237
Gulf Stream Council, Inc.
Boy Scouts of America
8335 North Military Trail
Palm Beach, FL 33410-6329

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
West Palm Beach FL
Permit No. 130

“Change Service Requested“



Fast Pass 2011

The Fast Pass cost was lowered to \$ 105 for 2011, however since you've already missed out on the Banquet, you can now purchase a pro-rated Fast Pass for the remainder of the year for just \$95. Your pro-rated Fast Pass includes: 2011 Annual Dues; 2011 Lodge Weekend Fees (Spring Ordeal, Summer Pow Wow, Fall Ordeal, and Winter Fellowship (sorry, Lodge weekends only, no Section or National Events); 2011 Lodge Patch set, including the back-patch (note: Fast Pass patch sets are given out at the Spring Ordeal, first come first served to Fast Passers. Due to unpredictability of Fast Pass purchasers, we cannot guarantee all Fast Passers will receive the back-patch. Also, the pro-rated Fast Pass may not include the Banquet patch depending on availability; Served first for all meals; Faster registration and check-in for events; Fast Pass membership designation on your OA Membership Card.

Please note OA event registration procedures have changed slightly. To see details visit our registration tab at <http://aal-pa-tah237.org/members/registration> NOW!!!!