



THE SOUNDS OF S-4S

The Official Newsletter of Section Four South, Southern Region, Order of the Arrow

Volume 14 Issue 2

Winter 2008

2008 Section S-4S Conference

By Eric Wolfe

The Section 4S Conference 2008 is rapidly approaching! This year's conference will be hosted by Osceola Lodge at **Camp Flying Eagle in Bradenton Florida, April 11-13, 2008**. The theme is "A Cheerful Heart is Lively," and I am sure that some memorable times will be had by all. The brothers of my lodge are looking forward to hosting other Arrowmen from throughout the Section, and have been working tirelessly for well over a year in preparation of the event.

The theme of "A Cheerful Heart is Lively" was chosen to remind our brothers that the Order of the Arrow is not just about serving others, it is about serving them with cheerfulness in your heart. Osceola Lodge is working hard to put together some very unconventional and out-of-the-box activities and shows that will surely bring cheerfulness to every participant's heart.

Camp Flying Eagle is the oldest Boy Scout camp in the state of Florida, and one of the ten oldest in the nation. It was founded in 1929 along the banks of the Manatee River, and is centrally located within the section. The camp is outside of Bradenton, Florida, about 45 minutes south of Tampa, or about 1 hour north of Fort Myers. Today, Flying Eagle is an approximately 140 acre cornerstone of our council and community; eight decades of continual use of Flying Eagle has made it an immensely historic part of our part of Florida.

Generations have camped along the banks of the Manatee, where the land is still pristine and untouched in spite of the massive growth of Florida's population. Huge improvements are being made at the camp specifically in anticipation of the Section Conference—including

a new Central shower complex and a new amphitheater.

The Section Conference is truly one of the greatest events one can attend as a Scout—the third largest Scouting event of its kind, beside NOAC and the National Jamboree. It's one of the greatest opportunities we have as Arrowmen, and a remarkable way to meet new friends from across the Section. Osceola Lodge is extremely excited about hosting Conference this year, and we cannot wait to make some new friends and have a great time at Camp Flying Eagle!

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Chiefly speaking

By Geoff Landau

Brothers of S-4S,

The year 2007 was perhaps the best that our section has ever seen. In January, we received news that we were officially the #1 section in the country. We also found out that all 8 lodges in our section earned National Quality Lodge and both of the Southern Region's National Service Award recipients were members of our section; O-Shot-Caw and Echockotee. Congratulations!

In April, Echockotee hosted an awesome Section Conference at Camp Shands that was attended by over 1,100 arrowmen, including Larry Newton, the National Vice Chief and Alex Gomez, the Southern Region Chief and past S-4S Chief. Although bad weather tried to interfere with our event, it could not affect the cheerful spirit that was present throughout the weekend. Thanks Echockotee Lodge for a job well done! Over the summer of 2007, Section S-4S had more brothers attend Order of the Arrow High Adventure programs than any other section; proving our commitment to the outdoors. This coming summer we are in the lead yet again. At the National Conservation and Leadership Summit, S-4S was well represented in Indiana. Thank you to those who attended this historic event. Semialachee Lodge hosted this year's Section Seminars and showed our section how a Seminars is run. Thanks to their creative ideas, excitement, and great food, Seminars will definitely have an even greater attendance in 2008.

With your help, 2008 can be just as successful. ArrowCorps5 is less than 6 months away, and is filling up quickly. Please register soon or you might miss the chance to be part of the biggest service project that the Boy Scouts of America has ever done.

Yours in Service,

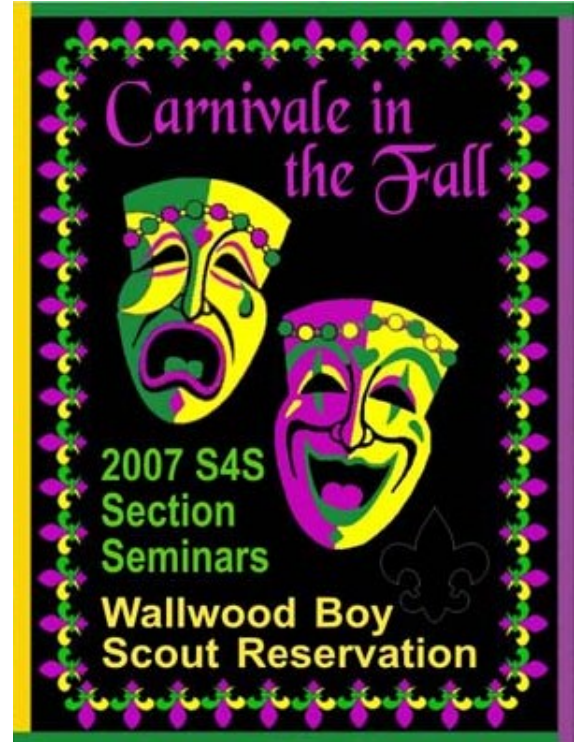
Geoff Landau
Section S-4S Chief



2007 Section Seminars... A Huge Success!

By JW Putnal

The 2007 Section Seminars hosted by Semialachee Lodge was a huge success. The theme for this year's Seminars was "Carnivale in the Fall" and the theme was evident throughout the entire weekend, beginning with the opening show and even with the food that was served. Many arrowmen gathered from across the Section at Wallwood Scout Reservation in Quincy, Florida. This was a Section Seminars full of firsts! The first Section Seminars in history hosted at Wallwood and for the first time in the history of the Seminars, there was a Friday night show. This weekend was all about training, fun, fellowship and food. During our training sessions many ceremonialists experienced the one on one attention of experienced instructors. Meanwhile at the Native American area, attendees were able to experience many hands on crafts, dance and clothing sessions, and in the Leadership/General sessions there was a lot of brainstorming on ArrowCorps⁵ and the like. Overall an amazing array of classes that you did not want to miss out on. In the Afternoon was a fun filled day at the carnival. There were many games going on from football to an OA themed Family Fued game, which pitted the Lodge Chiefs against their Advisers. After the Saturday night shows our Annual Section Patch Auction raised lots of money for future Section Scholarships and other worthy needs. Also during Saturday night there was a Pow-Wow for many Native American Dancers. This was a great event and an amazing time to be with your brothers from around the Section. If you missed it... DON'T miss the next Section event... the 2008 Section Conference at Camp Flying Eagle!



Letter from the editor

By Jamie Nelson

My Fellow Brothers of Section S4S,

It is my privilege to serve you as your Section Secretary and to be able to produce the *Sounds of the Section*, Many countless hours went into putting in this edition together for your reading pleasure. Thank you all for who had help produce this edition of the Sounds. I hope to see you all at the 2008 Section Conference on April 11-13 at Camp Flying Eagle!

Yours in Brotherhood,
Jamie Nelson

Report from the Section

Vice Chief report

By Zach Lombardo

Dear Section,
It has been my honor to serve as the 2008-2009 Section S4S Section Vice Chief. It is common knowledge that this is the best section in the nation and it is that charge that makes section officer positions such a responsibility. This year Section Seminars was hosted by Semialachee and despite the small attendance, there was training aplenty for those who wanted it. Semialachee livened up the event by carrying out their own version of family feud and culminated the event with an amazing dinner. Before the year is out, a Section Assistance Team will have visited both O Shot Caw and Osceola. The Section Assistance Team, also known by the acronym hungry OA as the SAT is a way for the section to assist the lodges in evaluating themselves. To insure that it is doing all it can to assist the lodges to it's full capacity. As of now, we are on track to once again be named the best section in the nation.

See you all at conference,

Zachary Wells
Lombardo



Historian report

By Jon Wright

Hello arrowmen, my name is Jonny Wright, and its been a pleasure serving you so far this year as the Section S-4S historian. I am 17 years old and an Eagle scout currently registered in 13 different units. Every weekend I spend serving as a troop guide for different units, helping to mentor younger scouts on there trail to Eagle.

In the Echockotee lodge, I am the Vice-Chief of Program, and aspire to soon be the lodge chief. I have also served as my council's Venturing President. As your section historian, I will be heading up our section's Kings Cup competition (which you should definitely participate in) and serve my fellow officers in any way they tell me I can. This year our section leadership will also create an display for the Kings Cup area. I look forward to seeing everyone at Section Conference.

In Brotherhood,
Jonathan Wright



Aal-pa-tah Lodge Celebrates 65 years in the making!

The Aal-pa-tah Lodge was founded in 1942, "Aal-pa-tah" is from the Seminole language, meaning alligator. On November 31st– December 2nd Aal-pa-tah celebrated their 65years birthday at their winter fellowship held at Camp Tanah Keeta. Aal-pa-tah lodge has hosted over 7 Section Conference and one Section Seminars, with another coming in the fall of 2008. Many Arrowmen have served on both section and national level, Aal-pa-tah is also known for their native American dance team called the Hitchiti dance competing on both Section and National level. Aal-pa-tah has a total of nine chapters extending from the northern border of Indian River County to Southern West Palm Beach. " Being able to e part of the Aal-pa-tah Lodge 237 was the best thing in my scouting career, but to be able to part of history is an under statement. It is with great pleasure to be able to be part of this historical event of celebrating Aal-pa-tah 65 years. " Okely Hammond, an Arrowmen of Aal-pa-tah and the chairman for 65 annviristy..



Scout Reach Mentoring Program

By Kenny Barton
Southern Region ScoutReach Chairman



Take a second to think of all the people who have helped you get to the point at which you are. Think of all the parents, teachers, scouts leaders, and fellow scouts that have encouraged you to succeed and taught you essential knowledge that you use on a daily basis. Most of us have mentors and we can attribute our success in part to those individuals.

What does a scout do when they do not have strong, experienced people to mentor them?

Recently, the Boy Scouts of America has created Scout Reach, a program that facilitates this problem. Scouts from across Florida and the United States, who live in both rural and urban areas, and might not traditionally receive the same scouting experience, are given more resources and dedication from the scouting movement to help expand this program in those areas



(Continued on page 14)

2008 Philbreak

By Brain Sweeney

During spring break of 2006, I had the opportunity to participate in Philbreak at the Philmont Scout Ranch in Cimarron, NM. It was a great opportunity to meet other Scouts and Ventures, which I still communicate with today. Philbreak is a seven day program that includes seven-nights, seventeen meals, one day ski package, and shuttle transportation to and from the Albuquerque airport all for the low price of \$100. There are several days of work, which consists of working on a Philmont conservation project in the backcountry. Philbreak is definitely the cheapest way to experience Philmont and you have the chance to observe more than most Philmont treks experience during the summer. The program allows you to not only give service to the Ranch, but a chance to build friendships that will last a lifetime.



Philbreak is an "alternate spring break" program started in 2003 to help restore Philmont Scout Ranch after devastating forest fires the previous year. Since 2004, the participants have been working on the Urruca Trail, which is intended as a day hike for those attending the Philmont Training Center. Participants in the seven day program are expected to work eight or nine hour days in all types of conditions. The program takes place during three separate weeks during March. Upon arrival at Philmont, participants meet their trained staff and immediately begin project orientation. Work crews perform meaningful service projects for Philmont and build their understanding of wilderness conservation and the outdoors. Participants also have an opportunity to take a ski break at Angel Fire. Participants are required to be registered with the BSA in their local council, be between the ages of 18 and 26. The Order usually provides a large number of the participants through its Philbreak recruiting efforts. The program's goals are:

- To provide Philmont with approximately 72 scouters for service to Philmont.
- To provide a qualified pool of potential staff members.
- To enhance and build participant's leadership skills.

For more information and for an application, visit:

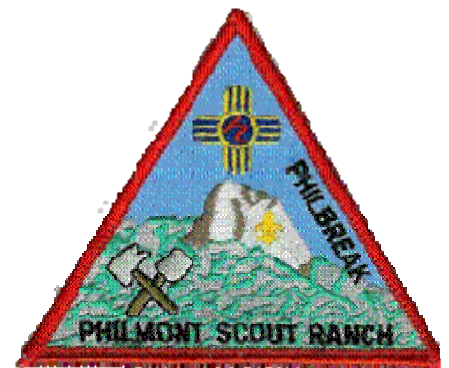
<http://adventure.oa-bsa.org/files/applications/PHILBREAKApp08.pdf>

2008 Philbreak dates are out as followed:

Session 1 March 3– March 7, 2008

Session 2 March 10– March 17, 2008

Session 3 March 17- March 21, 2008





What do you see yourself doing during the summer of 2008? Sitting at home, complaining that you are bored, waiting for summer camp week to get here? Wouldn't you rather be a part of something big? How big you ask? How about 5 US National forests, over 5 weeks with 5,000 Arrowmen? The Order of the Arrow has had a long-standing interest in coordinating a national service project, utilizing the infrastructure and leadership established over many years of success at the Boy

Scouts of America's high adventure bases. Working closely together, the United States Forest Service and the OA have chosen five project sites, spread across America, that will be the focus of our combined efforts. ArrowCorps5 (pronounced Arrow Corps Five) will provide a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for each participant to set an example of leadership in service to those who treasure our national forests. Over 8 days you will have a chance to participate in a variety of activities that may include trail building, brush removal, cleanup activities, reconstruction, and one fun-filled action packed day of adventure. These projects will have a lasting impact for generations allowing tens of thousands to enjoy the efforts of ArrowCorps5.

Five thousand physically fit and able Arrowmen (determined by the "Philmont Weight Limits for Backpacking & Hiking"), made up of youth and adults, will participate. The national Order of the Arrow committee and key sponsors will fund the projects. Participants will pay a reasonable fee to help pay for accommodations, meals, and a full day of recreational activities during the projects. Wait? What? You are going to be over the age of 21 by next summer? No problem! For the first time ever adult Arrowmen will have the opportunity to participate in a high adventure like atmosphere with the youth Arrowmen. No it is not Trail Crew, nor Wilderness Voyage, but ArrowCorps5, our largest conservation project.



June 14-21, 2008 | Utah

The 1,413,111-acre Manti-La Sal National Forest is located in southeastern Utah. It is managed for multiple uses such as range, timber, minerals, water, wildlife, and recreation. The Forest is divided into three land areas: the Manti Division, the La Sal Division at Moab, and the La Sal Division at Monticello.

We will be divided into several divisions to make organization easier. Divisions A and B will include one BSA supervisor per division, one Forest Service supervisor per division, and three to five crews per division (with 60-100 individuals in each). Divisions C, D, and E will also include one BSA supervisor per division, one Forest Service supervisor per division, and three to five crews per division (totalling 60-100 individuals per division).



We will be removing "Tamarisk," a deciduous or evergreen shrub or small trees growing to 1-15 m in height and forming dense thickets. We will be removing this plant species from the forest by use of a simple process: we will prune small limbs (whips), scattering those limbs, we will then cut large limbs and trunks (again scattering the limbs), we will begin marking cut stumps w/ pin flags, we will then treat those stumps with herbicide, and finally we will mark treated stumps w/ pin flags.

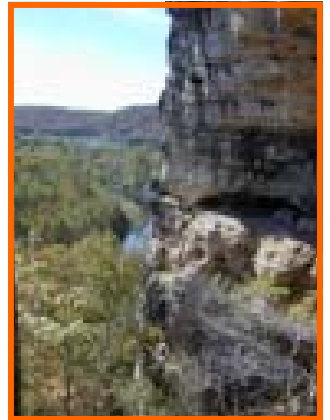


June 7-14, 2008 | Missouri

Missouri may have only one national forest, but what it lacks in quantity it makes up for in quality. Mark Twain National Forest is a land of limestone mountains of surprising steepness, clear rushing streams perfect for canoeing, and a diversity of plant life as remarkable as it is interesting.

Wildflowers and wildlife are plentiful, making the forest popular with hunters, trappers, fishers, and wildlife photographers and observers. Hikers can pick and choose from one of the country's richest system of trails.

Lying mostly in the Ozark Plateau, Mark Twain is 1.5 million acres of forested area that was once given up for dead after timbering operations cleared these hills by the turn of the 20th century. Careful stewardship has brought the forest back to life, and it now holds some of the Midwest's wildest, most remote land.



Our 1000 OA members will be organizing into 10 Sections of 100 people each. Each Section will be made up of five Crews of 20 people and each Crew will be made up of Squads of 5 people. We are asking Lodges to bring squads or crews of persons 14 years or older to work the forest. There is no ratio for adults to youth although we want a strong youth contingent from each lodge.

Crews will consist of a crew leader with four "squads" of five people (all participants must be 14 or older, and adults are welcome).

Each "squad" will consist of a "Squad Leader" with 4 other participants. Each squad will have 1 Bow Saw, 2 Loppers for small branches, 2 hand saws, and a rope. Finally each section will be provided with two chainsaws.

Working in the Hercules Glades Wilderness (located south of Ava, Missouri) we will remove cedar trees from glade areas in the wilderness to help restore native grasses.

Participants may work to earn the Forestry or Wilderness Survival Merit Badges in classes. 40 to 50 Service Hours will be counted for the participants such that they can put them toward individual advancement and the Lodges may count them toward National Service Hours. Elements of the Hornaday Award will be available.





June 21-28, 2008 | Virginia

The Jefferson National forest is comprised of lands located in Virginia (690,106 acres), West Virginia (18,526 acres) and Kentucky (961 acres). The George Washington National forest is comprised of lands located in Virginia (956,222 acres) and West Virginia (108,858 acres). The total combined George Washington and Jefferson National Forest are 1,646,328 acres

in Virginia; 123,384 acres in West Virginia; and 961 acres in Kentucky. The two National forest contain nearly 1.8 million acres of public land, representing one of the largest blocks of public land in the eastern United States.

The size and the location of the forest makes it an excellent center for outdoor activities. The forest covers over 1.8 million acres and 140 miles along the Appalachian Mountains in northwestern Virginia and in eastern West Virginia. Most of the forest is in Virginia and within a day's drive for 54 million people.



Recreation is a key Resource as hikers, picnickers and campers pursue their interest surrounded by the natural beauty of the forest. Popular water sports include swimming, fishing and boating. Many visitors enjoy the forest scenery while driving over the mountain and valley roads.

The climate is relative mild, but varies considerably because elevations that average between 1,000 and 3,000 feet, with some peaks above 4000 feet. Average daily temperatures range from a minimum of 20 degree to 26 degrees F in January to a maximum of 80 to 86 degrees F in July. The average rainfall is 38 inches a year, including an average snowfall of 15-20 inches a year.

The George Washington and Jefferson National Forests has two operational districts; James River District located in Covington Virginia and the Warm Spring District located in Warm Springs Virginia. Both have unique features, the James River District offers the traditional National forest operation, protected lands with a diverse variety of flora and fauna; the Warm Springs District leans more toward the recreational opportunities for it's user, i.e. a lake, fishing, boating, swimming, picnicking, a fully operational marina and over night camping.

ArrowCorps5 participants and staff will be utilizing National capital Area Council BSA Goshen Scout reservation as base operations. Goshen is one of the largest active Boy Scout Camps in America hosting 900 to 1,000 scouts per week in a summer camp experience. ArrowCorps5 participants will stay in camp style tents; eat in dining halls, and other facilities. Check out Goshen By going to web page (will forward later).

Projects for the two districts are unique to its operations. The James River District will offer participants the opportunity to construct a new five-mile horseback trail system. While the Warm Springs District will require arrowmen the chance to construct a much-needed trail from the park Marina to its beach about a mile in distance, refurbish minor trails and clear campsites of invasive plant species.

Around the Section

Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge

By Adam Taft

Brothers,

Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge recently conducted its Winter Fellowship. This is one of our 2 fun weekends and was offered to the new Ordeal members as a free weekend for all of the hard work that was done at the 2 Ordeal weekends.

In January, we have our Annual Lodge banquet dinner (Jan. 12) and our third Ordeal weekend (Jan. 4-6) at Camp Oak-La-Wa-Ha. ALL BROTHERS IN THE SECTION are encouraged to attend our Annual Spring Pow-Wow weekend on March 7-9. Gather round the drum and watch while Dancers of any style are able to participate in the Pow-Wow on Saturday night (March 8) with the Hitchiti dancers of Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge. Adults are also encouraged to participate. There will also be Games and competitions all weekend long including a hearts tournament and patch trading.

In other news Aal-Pa-Tah is currently finishing up our new strategic plan for the next 5 years and reviewing the progress made from the last one. For further updates on our strategic plan or on other events, check out our Lodge website at <http://www.aal-pa-tah237.org>. See you all at Section Conference.

Yours in Cheerful Service,
Adam Taft
Aal-Pa-Tah #237 Lodge chief

Echockotee Lodge

By Corey Troxell

Brothers,

Echockotee Lodge has been very busy during the last year. From the beginning of the year, we were already starting to make preparations for Section Conference at Camp Shands. We started with our Winter Fellowship, where we had 12 vigils that were tapped out. We had tons of fun through training and games and activities. Our next event was our Service Day that we created just for hosting Section conference. We needed the extra service day to accomplish many things for the physical camp. We had great participation at the service day, but we had an even better participation at our next event. That event would be our Spring Fellowship. We had so many people at that event, that we were able to make camp Shands ready for Section Conference. That was the last event prior to the actual event.

Echockotee Lodge hosted in our opinion a great Section Conference. We had 1,285 participants that came to our event. Echockotee Lodge brought 425 people to help with support staff. Overall, with tons of games, competitions, and training seminars the whole event went on without a hitch. Continuing down our schedule of events, we had a Summer Fellowship where we had a beach theme and we partied down on our lake all day on Saturday. We did some service in the morning, but this event was mainly to celebrate and congratulate everyone who worked so hard towards the Section Conference.

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Around the Section

Echockotee Lodge

Continued from Page 10

After our summer break, we came immediately back to do our LLD. We had over 100 people in attendance. With a good training schedule provided by Jon Wright, many people enjoyed their time at this year's LLD. A few weeks later we had a fall fellowship. We had many new ordeals and about 48 members obtain brotherhood. We did some service such as brush clean up and a few projects that needed to be done for the ranger. Our last event which was a few weeks ago, was our December Service Day. It was held in Jacksonville, at our other camp. The service needed to be done, due to avoiding that camp for the past year and a half for preparation of Section Conference. We had a great day and accomplished service that desperately needed to get done.

In conclusion, Echockotee Lodge is doing well with just around 875 members. We are hosting Winter Fellowship at Camp Shands in a few weeks and are anxious to get that underway. We are so far the leading lodge in the nation for taking people to OA High Adventure and that is something that we are very proud of currently. I hope you have enjoyed reading a wrap up of this past year for Echockotee Lodge.



Osceola Lodge

By Sean Ferrier

As another year comes to a close for Osceola Lodge I look back at all of the amazing things that have happened within our Lodge over the past year. We started the year with our Spring Ordeal where we welcomed 140 new members into our Lodge. Forty one of our members sealed their ties of Brotherhood this year and our Lodge inducted nine of our brothers into the Vigil Honor in one of the largest Vigil classes in our Lodge history.

We made our presence known at Section Conference this year by yelling the loudest, playing the hardest, and wearing the brightest shirts in S-4S history as a result we were able to win the Spirit Award for the first time in many years, and come in a close second in the Adviser Sink-A-Thon. (unfortunately we forgot our outboard motor at home) Once our new officers were in place we began to gain momentum and improve our program in preparation for 2008 Section Conference which we will Host at Camp Flying Eagle in Bradenton. This year we began a new tradition in our Lodge in the form of "themed weekends" at our Fall Fellowship we enjoyed a sporting weekend, and at our Winter Fellowship we experienced some type of Willy Wonka style Fellowship complete with Oompa Loompa's and the very interesting site of our Chief dressed like the man himself, this Fellowship proved to be a fun activity for everyone in attendance. We have accomplished amazing things this year and it is only the beginning, only time will tell what the future has in store for us.

YIIB
Sean F.
Lodge Chief
Osceola 564

Around the Section

Semialachee Lodge

By JW Putnal

Brothers,

The year 2007 for Semialachee Lodge has been very busy and very productive. Our lodge inducted many new members into our lodge as well as advancing the membership of many other members. We had over eighty members inducted into the ordeal, twenty five sealed their membership in the brotherhood, and four members were inducted into the vigil order. We also held two days of service this year, one at local Girl Scout camp, Camp for all Seasons, and the other at the local animal shelter in Tallahassee. Our lodge had two adult Advisers who attended the NLATS in November. We are also pleased to have held Section Seminars this year and we hope all members of Section S-4S had a wonderful time at seminars. Semialachee Lodge is happy to have such a wonderful year in 2007, and looks forward to an even better year in 2008.

Seminole Lodge

By Davey McIntosh

My brothers in this fine section,

It is my honor to tell you what Seminole Lodge has been up to this year. From my last article you may remember that I said that Seminole Lodge has had a few changes in leadership. We have a new lodge adviser, Susan Freeman. We also have a new staff adviser, Ted Johnson. This year we have a lot of new lodge officers on the lodge executive council. So this year is a vary new year for Seminole Lodge. Not every thing in Seminole Lodge is new this year. We are also going back to some of are old traditions. We have decided to go to all of are council camps and hold at least one event at each of them. We have also decided to have are Lodge Banquet at another location instead of having it out at Flaming Arrow Scout Reservation. Are next event is out at Flaming Arrow Scout Reservation, we are having are 3rd annual winter fellowship troop election campout, on January 11-13 2008. That is about it for Seminole Lodge as of now. Keep an eye out for more info about Seminole Lodge 85.

Tipisa Lodge

By John Alexander

Brothers,

The coming and passing of any given year is an opportunity to reflect upon those things – good and bad – that have happened. It offers us the chance to learn from our mistakes and build upon our successes. Although 2007 may be gone, there is a lot that 2008 holds for us.

One of these is a new lodge event, the Tipisa Native American Weekend (TNAW). Members of the Lodge Executive Committee saw a desire and need for an improved Native American program and the best way to take steps towards that was to host a weekend on February 1-3 at Camp La-No-Che for that sole purpose. Also in line with this focus, we are taking strides towards building a larger, more functional dance arbor. These two topics will aid not only our Native American program, but the overall program of the lodge.

Just as new things are on the horizon for 2008, there are also many traditional things that are being looked into as to how we can improve them. On March 7-9, members from all across central Florida will gather for our annual Spring Conclave. You can expect many of the popular events to return, but you can also look forward to the many new twists and improvements that are in the works. As a lodge, we are striving to improve upon where we've been and, with your help, we can do just that.

This year has been full of many great and noteworthy accomplishments. However, as one year passes by so another year of op-

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Around the Section

Tipisa Lodge

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portunity arrives. I challenge you to join with me as we have the opportunity to re-dedicate ourselves to the Obligation of our Order. With a renewed vision and a refreshed focus, we can embark upon on a journey towards true inspiration and purpose. I look forward to joining with you, side-by-side, in this endeavor and that, together, we will continue to build the legacy known to us as Tipisa Lodge.

O-Shot-Caw Lodge

By Michael Worley

When describing this incredible O-Shot-Caw year, three specific adjectives come to mind: Change, Innovation, and Success.

First of all let's focus on what's new, because O-Shot-Caw has seen its fair share of change this year. On the adult side we have seen a brand new Lodge Adviser, Rich Levinson, a new Associate Adviser, Jon Fisher, and a new Financial Adviser, Henry Alonso. On the Youth side, we have had three Lodge Chiefs serving all in one year! Geoff Landau moved up to the section level in January and the new interim Lodge Chief, Chaz Pinna, took over. Chaz, in less than half a year, courageously led the Lodge to another Best All Around victory and one of the most successful Lodge Banquets in recent times, despite the location change (due to Camp Seminole Re-Construction) and the new adult leadership transition. Then in June, I was privileged to be elected as the 2007 – 2008 Lodge Chief. Since this summer, O-Shot-Caw has experienced two major changes: A new Fall Ordeal venue, Tree Tops Park in Davie, and a new Haunted Forest venue, Markham Park in Sunrise.

The success of these events, despite the change in location, was made possible by the innovations introduced within our Lodge this year. The first of these innovations came in the form of our OA-Cub Scout Program, the most forward thinking of its kind in the Southern Region. Our Cub Program was initiated through two distinct ways: pack visi-

tation and "Join Scouting Night" assistance and administration. Our coordinated efforts with the South Florida Council, as well as individual Packs and Districts, created a surge of positive public relations between the individual Cub Scouts (our future OA-Members) and the Packs that help them grow. Our Cub Scout presence throughout the year was rewarded at the Haunted Forest, when our Lodge saw a %75 increase over last year's profits. All proceeds from this event go to our nationally recognized Joseph Aaron Abbot Camper-ship Fund, which sends needy scouts to summer camp. The success of the Haunted Forest was also enabled by our aggressive pre-sale initiative, which was made possible by the newly renovated O-Shot-Caw.org. Our new website now allows online registration for all of our events, including Haunted Forest Pre-Sale. The website also provides our Lodge members with important information on upcoming events and provides an RSS feed for updates on Lodge information. This improvement is all a part of our Lodge's new Induction & Communication initiative. Over the next few months our Lodge will be involved in making our communication more efficient through introducing innovative techniques of data collection on our new members. It is our hope that through the development of these new techniques, our Lodge will be able to fully utilize the tools granted to us by emerging technology such as growing E-Mail communication and the Lodge Master program.

The innovation our lodge has experienced has been important in continuing the success we've experienced this year: Best All Around for the 9th consecutive year, National Service Award for the 6th Consecutive Year, 1st Place in Publications, 1st Place in King's Cup, 1st Place Golden Arrow, Best in Section Ceremonies Team, 1st Place Group Dance, 1st Place

Group Drum and a are just a few of the incredible successes O-Shot-Caw has experienced in 2007!

With all these exciting changes, innovations, and successes, it's no wonder that O-Shot-Caw is so excited to start off another great year in full force. The tradition of excellence continues in 2008...

"Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail."

- Ralph Waldo Emerson

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Scout Reach Mentoring Program

Our Society of Honor Campers has also created a supplemental program called Scout Reach Mentoring. The Scout Reach Mentoring program allows lodges to send their arrowmen to the troops in their council. These arrowmen, both youth and adult, use their knowledge and experience to make up for a lack of older youth that normally help support a troop's operations.

The Scout Reach Mentoring program does not require a vast amount of time from an arrowmen, but the return on the investment is far greater. We are helping build our organization, and also helping build a stronger America.

The Scout Reach Mentoring program allows lodges some "wiggle room" in planning the operations of this program. This means that lodges can use their ideas and creative freedom in order to serve these scouts the best way possible. The important part is that lodges have this program in place.

From my home state of Georgia, to Florida, we all have scouts in need, and it is our responsibility to help them along the Trail to Eagle and beyond.

NESA EAGLE SCOUT SEARCH IS UNDERWAY!

The Eagle Scout Court of Honor is undoubtedly the proudest moment of a young Scout's life. Years of learning, teaching, and hard work culminate in this special honor that only the most determined Boy Scouts obtain. That is why the National Eagle Scout Association has launched a national Eagle Scout search program. "We want to find and contact every living Eagle Scout and register his achievements, past and present," said NESA Director Bill Steele. "This effort will culminate in *Roll Call: The National Eagle Scout Registry*--a publication that will capture the tradition, history, and honor of our nation's Eagle Scouts and will be available only to bona fide Eagles." Steele added that only Eagle Scouts who agree to be listed and who are adults will be included in the directory. Be sure to watch for updates about the search. NESA has partnered with Harris Connect Inc., the nation's membership publication experts, to help locate all Eagle Scouts and to produce *Roll Call*. If you know an Eagle Scout, please alert him about this important project. You might even contact your local council office to alert them of Eagle Scouts you know, and be sure to include their contact information.



2008 National Officers

National Chief

Jake Wellman

Lodge: Yah-Tah-Hey-Si-Kess

Council: Great Southwest

Section: W-5A

Hometown: Albuquerque, NM

Age: 18

School: Cibola High School

Scouting Background: Eagle Scout from Troop 174 in Albuquerque, NM. He served as the Assistant Program Director at Camp Frank Rand in 2006, and served on Jamboree Shows Staff in 2005.

OA Background: Has attended NCLS, NLS, Wilderness Voyage, Trail Crew, and Ocean Adventure. Served on the 2006 NOAC staff and served as the Summit Vice Chief of Events at NCLS in 2007.

Thoughts: "This opportunity to serve is unique and a great honor. I hope that this year brings memorable experiences and a renewed obligation to Arrowmen across the nation!"



National Vice-Chief

Benjamin Stillwell

Lodge: Gabe-Shi-Win-Gi-Ji-Kens

Council: Chief Okemos

Section: C-2B

Hometown: Okemos, MI

Age: 18

School: DePauw University

Scouting Background: Eagle Scout from Troop 109 in Okemos, MI.

OA Background: Has attended OA Trail Crew, Wilderness Voyage, and has served on NLS and NOAC Staff. Ben is a two term section chief and a past lodge chief.

Hobbies: Tennis, String Bass, and Piano

Thoughts: "At first it was a little overwhelming, but I am very excited to serve the Order, and look forward to the opportunity to serve as the National Vice Chief!"



Southern Region Chief

Mason Thomas

Lodge: Muscogee

Council: Indian Waters

Section: S-5

Hometown: West Columbia, SC

Age: 19

School: University of South Carolina

Scouting Background: Mason is a member of Troop 339 in Cayce, SC. He is an Eagle Scout and a member of several camp staffs. Over the years, Mason has served on Staff at Camp Barstow (2005, 2006, and 2007), as well as Camp Old Indian (2006).

OA Background: Mason is Vigil Honor and Founder's Award recipient, and has attended various national events. He has attended: NOAC (2002, 2004, 2006), Wilderness Voyage, NLS (2005, 2006, 2007), NCLS, and SOS (2006, 2007). Mason is a past lodge and chapter chief.

Thoughts: "I am humbled to be able to serve the Southern Region for this upcoming year. Meeting outstanding Arrowmen from around the country, and having the opportunity to get to know them will be a truly exciting experience."



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Calendar of Events

2008

March

Philbreak Session 1

April

11-13 2008 Section S-4S Conference
Camp Flying Eagle — Bradenton, FL

June

OA Ocean Adventure
OA Tail Crew
OA Wilderness Voyage
AC⁵: Mark Twain
AC⁵: Manti-La Sal
AC⁵: Washington and Jefferson

July

AC⁵: Shasta-Trinity
AC⁵: Bridger-Teton

November

7-9 2008 Section Seminars/CoC
Tanah Keeta Scout Reservation — Tequesta, FL

2009

April

17-19 2009 Section S-4S Conference
Sand Hill Scout Reservation — Brooksville, FL

August

1-6 National Order of the Arrow Conference
University of Indiana — Bloomington, IN

September

National Leadership Seminars
FFA Leadership Training Center — Haines City

November

Section S-4S Seminars/CoC
Hosted by O-Shot-Caw Lodge

In the Next Edition...

*In the Spring Edition of the Sounds of S-4S,
look for the following:*

- 2008 Section Conference Updates
- Continued coverage of ArrowCorps⁵
- Section Officer's Qualifications