

GATOR



Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge 237

TALES

May 2005 Issue

www.Aal-Pa-Tah237.org Visit our Forums! www.forum.aal-pa-tah237.org

- Calendar -

May 20-22
Pre Jambo Weekend

June 3-5
OA Service Weekend

June 5th LEC
10-4 @TK

June 12 - July 9
TK Summer Camp

September 9-11
OA Ordeal

November 11-13th
Section Seminars
Held at Sand Hill S.R.
Brooksville, FL

December 1-3
Winter Fellowship

Greetings Aal-Pa-Tah

-Stephen Gray

The June Service Weekend is fast approaching, so mark your calendars for June 3rd-5th at TK. We are going to have an action-packed weekend, and there is something for everyone. For those of you that like to play cards, then this is your lucky day, because we are continuing our annual Hearts Tournament after a one year lapse. If you just want to help improve camp for summer camp and otherwise, Saturday will be filled with meaningful service projects towards the camp that has housed our lodge for so many years. We are going to be having various chapter games and competitions, and will also be holding a brotherhood ceremony for those that are eligible. (Pg. 4)

The weekend itself only cost \$15, \$20 if you pay after registration deadline, and that includes registration and a great looking patch, and not only that, but also the great food the kitchen staff consistently provides for us every weekend, and does a tremendous job doing it! Immediately following the

weekend on Sunday will be our Lodge Leadership Development Conference (LLDC), in which everyone can attend, but lodge officers, chapter chiefs, and committee chairmen for the upcoming year need to plan to be there (REQUIRED!). For those of you that don't know, our lodge officers for the 2005-2006 year have been elected, and they are as follows:

Lodge Chief - Stephen Gray
Lodge V.C. of Program - Jay Pantone
Lodge V.C. of Service - Ryan McReynolds
Lodge Secretary - Chris Shanks
Lodge Treasurer - Scott Paul
Lodge Historian - Patrick Rice

I hope to see everyone this weekend, as it will be a good one!

In Cheerful Service,
Stephen Gray
2005-2006 Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge Chief
psych452000@yahoo.com

Lodge Service Weekend

-Editor

You MUST pre-pay the weekend fee of \$15.00: Members must be dues-paid to participate in Lodge events. Please check the label on this mailing to determine if your dues are up-to-date. Annual lodge dues are \$10.00. On-time payments must be received in the Council Service Center no later than 05/27/05 at 2 pm. Payment can be made in person, by mail, or by phone with credit card (VISA/MC/AMEX/DISC) at 561-694-8585 ext 234. Information required if using voice mail: purpose of payment (weekend, dues, etc.)

participant name, cardholder name, card #, expiration date, street address and zip code. You will be allowed to register at the door for \$20.00.

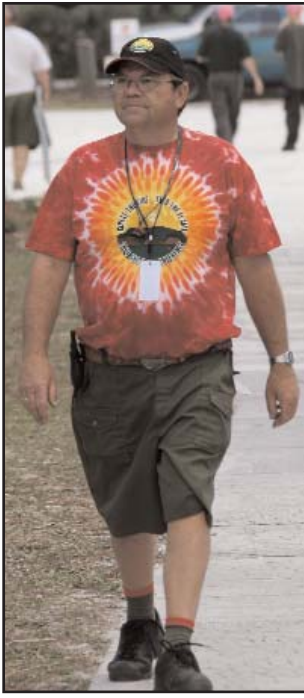
Save the hassle of having to register. Why not purchase a Fast Pass for \$75. Fast Pass registers you for the week end Lodge events, dues, annual year patch, plus if you are not able to make it to a weekend, a weekend patch will be saved for you

- Gator Tales Staff -

Layout: Patrick Rice
Editing: Chris Shanks
Chiefly Speaking: Chief
Banner: Chris Shanks

Advisor: Mrs. Suzi Gordon

Contact: Gulf Stream Council
(561) 694-8585



Advisors Corner....

-Richard M. Fore

IT'S GREAT TO BE AN HONOR LODGE. Through your efforts we have been designated an Honor Lodge this year. The key was getting our Brotherhood conversation above 30%. I want to thank everyone who worked so hard to get this done and every Arrowman who became a Brotherhood member this year.

Congratulations also go out to our new Vigil members, Founders and James West recipients.

Wow what Conference. My congratulations go out to all the winners. Boy it's great to know that we have the Best ceremony teams in the section. I cannot wait to see them at NOAC. Good work to all the dancers and to the winners. I am sorry that Steve and I could not win the adult sink-A-Thon but the fix was in and they were not going to let us win two years in a row.

Again let me say a big THANK YOU to all the Advisors and Arrowmen who helped with the Lodge this year. I look forward to a very good 2005 and Go GATORS.

Richard M. Fore
Lodge Advisor

Section Conference Wrap-up

-Stephen Gray

Section Conference 2005, hosted by O-Shot-Caw, was a huge hit! Over 60 of our fellow Gators attended and showed why we're a great lodge. Here is a list of the awards our lodge and its members took home:

Fancy Dance - 1st Place (Travis Sheehan)
2nd Place (Josh Davis)
3rd Place (Kyle Rogers)

Grass Dance - 2nd Place (Bradley Phibbs)

Straight Dance - 1st Place (Tony Gordon)

Old Time - Honor Ribbon (Cory Reynolds-For being honest about a piece of costume falling off)

Traditional Dance - 3rd Place (Ryan McReynolds),

BEST PRE-ORDEAL CEREMONIAL TEAM

Best Brotherhood Ceremonial Team

Best Kitchkinet - (Jay Pantone).

For those of you that don't know, our very own Travis Sheehan was elected the Section Chief for Section S-4S at the weekend! Travis is a past 2 term lodge chief, Vigil Honor member, and recent Founder's Award recipient. We all wish him the very best as he will lead our section this upcoming year!

As for the activities during Saturday, we worked hard and did our best. Here are three things to not do at the next section conference: 1.) Do not let Derek

Kerley sing anything resembling a song 2.) Do not compete against O-Shot-Caw in the tug-of-war, or else the Incredible Hulk might attack you if they win 3.) Do not let Kyle Rogers, Derek Kerley, Travis Sheehan, Josh Davis and Ryan McReynolds play volleyball shirtless, as they will blind you from their lack of skin pigment! To cap everything off Saturday night, the National Chief and National Vice-Chief of the O.A. joined our lodge on stage to do "The Gator". They were slow to learn, but they pretty much got the hang of it!

All joking aside, those that attended will forever remember the fellowship and the spirit of this weekend, and it reminds us all of why we are arrowmen.

For those of you that didn't attend, but would have wanted to, don't fret. It'll be back next year, hosted by Tipisa Lodge. This coming November will be Section Seminars, hosted by Timiquan Lodge, and I strongly urge everyone to attend both. They are both sure to be a thriller for all!

See you at the next lodge weekend!
In Cheerful Service,
Stephen Gray

Brothers in Action

Abaniki

-Editor

This chapter could not be reached for comment.

Osceola

-Editor

This chapter could not be reached for comment.

Atseenahoofa

-Editor

This chapter could not be reached for comment.

Panasofee

-Editor

This chapter could not be reached for comment.

Chee-pa-tah

-Editor

This chapter could not be reached for comment.

Lowaneu Mawat

-Peter Turner

Our chapter is doing extremely well. We completed the gateway for the Mega Show and I hope everyone enjoyed basking in its glory. But on a more serious note our chapter tapout is going to be May 13 and 14, this weekend will include games and a better understanding of the OA to hopefully reduce the numbers of "sash and dashers" from our lodge/ chapter. Our chapter is also hosting the Council Camporee for Indian River District and our theme is Native Americans and we are looking for some dancers who might be interested in doing a performance and maybe even some Indian history. If there are any dancers in the lodge who can help us or direct us to someone who can please give me a call at 772-562-0935.

- Your brother in the North-
-Peter Turner-

Ne-Kee-Wa

-Tony Gordon

First, I would like to recognize and thank, Ms. Debbie Sadd for all her years of cheerful service as our Chapter Advisor, and a special thanks from me for her guidance. It's with great pleasure, that I announce our new Chapter Advisor, Ms. Sandy Griffiths. Ms. Griffiths, is from Troop 888 in Stuart, and is a Vigil Honor member of the OA.

I would also like to extend a special congratulations to our newest Vigil Honor Member, Mrs. Cindy Hall. Our chapter is growing and I would like to see all of you come out for our Lodge service weekend, June 3-5th. A word for all Ne-Kee-Wa OA Troop Reps, we are going to start having chapter meetings at our Sailfish District Round Table. Any OA member from our chapter that wants to come is invited. If you are not getting any e-mails send a message to Ms. Griffiths to get on her OA Broadcast list... grifa@worldnet.att.net This way, whenever we have important info to get out ASAP, you'll be informed!

WWW,
Tony Gordon
Ne-Kee-Wa Chapter Chief

Oi-ya-tah

-Oakley Hammond

This is Oakley Hammond, your Chapter Chief. Our chapter has finished all of our OA elections as of March 1st. Oi-Ya-Tah members, make sure you encourage any elected members to go to their ordeal. We had a fun weekend of cheerfulness and service at the Spring Pow-Wow weekend. I hope to see many of you at the next weekend.



Brotherhood

-Editor

This summer, arrowmen will have an opportunity during each week of summer camp to seal their membership and become brotherhood members. Those who would like to complete their Brotherhood will need to do the following:

1. Be an active paying member for 10 months
2. Memorize the O.A. Obligation, Song, Admonition, Handclasp, and sign of Ordeal membership
3. Gain a thorough understanding of the Ordeal through which you passed.

4. Write a letter to Lodge Secretary explaining:
 - a. Your interpretation of the O.A. obligation
 - b. Describe how you have fulfilled, and will continue to fulfill, the obligation in your troop or team and daily life, and how you have used your understanding of the ordeal to aid in service to the lodge
 - c. Describe your specific plans for giving service in the lodge
5. Register for brotherhood prior to weekend and pay additional \$12 fee at or before the weekend.

Congratulations Brothers

Congratulations to all of our Brotherhood members from 2004 to now. You have all earned privilege. This is as far as you can go on your own. You must now rely on your actions and others to bring you to the highest level of

Brotherhood, the Vigil Honor.

Our lodge always needs the help of a fellow Brother so please consider taking a role in the lodge leadership.

AARON KORSON
ALAIN NAU
ALEXANDER KRAUS
ALEXANDER PADDEN
ALLAN CHAPPLE
AMEER RAMADAN
ANDRE HANKINS
ANDREINA ARAYA
ANDREW GORDON
BLAKE FENNELL
CHAS CARLSON
CHRISTOPHER CHERRINGTON
CHRISTOPHER POWELL
CYNTHY PIERCE
DALE BLOMBERG
DAVID JAWORSKI
DAVID MARTINSON
DEBORAH MUNDELL

DENNIS FAILLACE
DOUG GIFFORD
ERICA CRADDOCK
GARY SOVINE
GREGORY FELDMAN
JACOB TURNER
JERRY DEVOR
JESSE CHAPPLE
JOHN ADAMS
JUSTIN WARNER
KEITH COLONNA
LEVI STAHL
LIBBY DEVOR
MATTHEW ALEXANDER
MICHAEL STAHL
MIKE KIEL
PATRICK BENDA
PATRICK RICE

PHILLIP CORK
RALPH CESSNA
RICHARD CRUSE
ROBERTA STEIN
ROSALYN MACKELL
RYAN SCHWEITZER
SCOTT PAUL
STEPHEN MACCARONE
T AUSTIN HEDGEPEETH
THEODORE SOBOL
THOMAS MACKELL SR
TIM FAILLACE
TINA AARON
TONY SASSO
TONY SCHWEITZER
TONY GORDON
VIC SPAGNUOLO

NOAC 2006

-Ryan McReynolds and Glenn Alexander

Don't miss out!!!! It'll be time to go to the National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC) before you know it! NOAC 2006 is July 29-August 3, 2006 in East Lansing Michigan on the Michigan State University campus. The cost for NOAC is estimated at \$800 per person. This will cover the conference, travel up and back, including meals. If we decide to take side trips it will probably cost a little more. Start your NOAC account now at the council office.

Ryan McReynolds is contingent youth leader and Glenn Alexander has agreed to be the adult advisor. We've set a couple of goals and rules for getting ready.

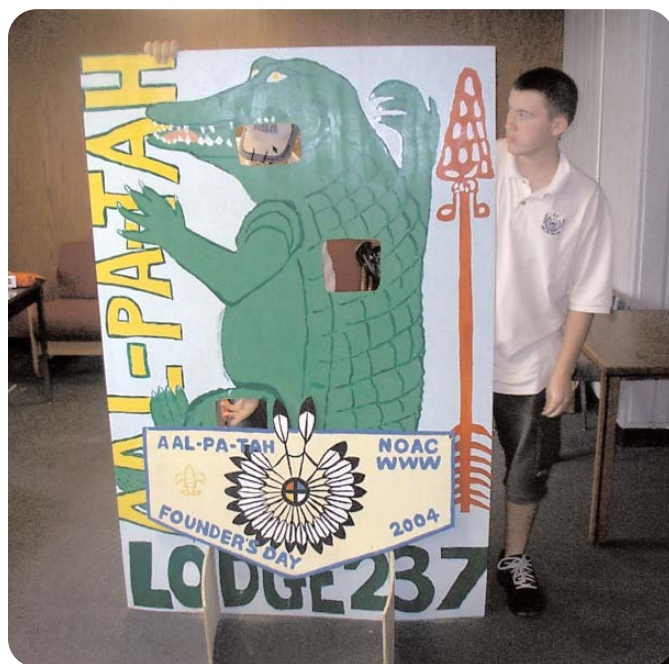
First, there was a list at the Spring Pow wow however, lists are not commitments. Please put a down payment of \$50 into the Council, specifically for NOAC 2006, and provide a phone number and valid email address so we can contact you.

Second, we want everyone to be all paid up by March 31, 2006. That means everyone that is going is paid in full to the council. This will help greatly with getting all to arrangements made and the fees paid. This should be achievable as we are starting early enough.

Third, there is a 2 youth to 1 adult rule. That means for every 2 youth we have registered one adult can go. No exceptions, (We found that out in 2004) it's a conference rule. So to make this go smoother, Adults please don't sign up unless you've adopted 2 youth and have them signed up and are really going to attend. Ryan McReynolds is already spoken for by Mr. Alexander, (the only perk to being advisor).

Any questions or comments please contact Glenn Alexander @ 561-722-0381 or Ryan McReynolds @ 740-814-6953.

Yours in Brotherhood,
Ryan McReynolds
Glenn Alexander



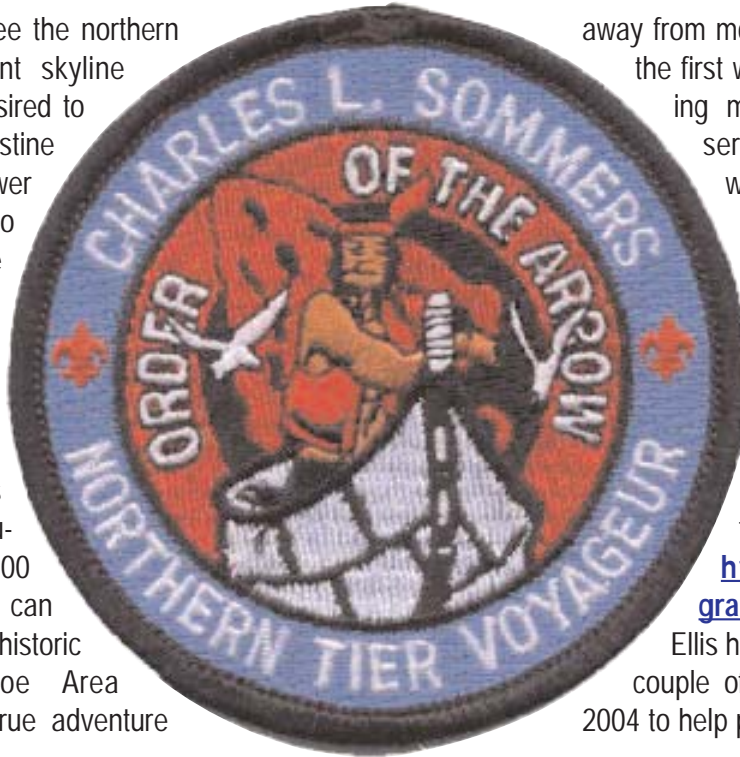
A few of the pictures from the 2004 NOAC Trip.



Wilderness Voyage

-Nat. OA website

Have you yearned to see the northern lights over a different skyline every night? Have you desired to spend time in the most pristine wilderness area in the lower 48 states? Do you want to spend two weeks on the most inexpensive, yet most influential, high adventure experience of your life? The Order of the Arrow Wilderness Voyage program provides Arrowmen with the opportunity of a lifetime. For just \$100 (plus travel expenses), you can spend two weeks in the historic Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness experiencing true adventure



away from most of mankind. You will spend the first week of your experience providing much needed and appreciated service in the boundary waters wilderness. This is a unique experience because your work affects thousands of people who use this wilderness area. On the second week of your experience, your crew will design a voyage where you paddle and portage through the boundary waters. For registration and information, visit <http://www.oa-bsa.org/programs>. Former Lodge Chief Brad Ellis has taken part in this adventure a couple of times and traveled to NOAC 2004 to help promote the program.