



August 2007 Issue

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- Calendar -

August 25th
LLDC and LEC
Camp Tanah Keeta

Sept. 7-9
OA Ordeal #1

Sept. 21-23
OA Ordeal #2

October 27th
Operation One Day

October 28th
LEC Meeting 2-4pm
Rinker Center

Nov. 2-4
Section Seminars
Quincy, Florida

Want More?
www.aal-pa-tah237.org/calendar

- Gator Tales Staff -

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www.gatortales.org

The Results

Adam Taft

The Competition and Election results are finally in and it's time to share the results with everyone!

Don't know who someone is yet? We have asked all of our new officers and chiefs to write up an introduction about themselves and how they plan to help the lodge or their chapters over the coming year.

When you get a chance be sure to congratulate all of our new officers and

chiefs and thank them for stepping up to help run the lodge!

Are you interested in having a vote on the Lodge Executive Committee?

Do you have what it takes to be a good Leader?

If yes, then contact our Lodge Chief, Adam Taft to find out more.

Lodge Officers:

Lodge Chief- Adam Taft
Vice Chief of Program- Ian McKay
Vice Chief of Service- Sam Taft
Secretary- A. Jay Flack
Treasurer- Justin Warnimont
Historian- Salvatore Sodano

Chapter Chiefs:

A-BANI-KI-
CHEE-PA-TAH- Levi Stahl
COO-WA-CHOBEE- Elliott Taft
LOWANEU-MAWAT- Chas Carlson
NE-KE-WA- Zack Regan
OI-YA-TAH- Zack Wirth
OSCEOLA- Josh Hobbs
PAN-A-SOFEE- Chris Hall

Ceremonies Competitions

Honor Team for Pre-Ordeal
Honor Team for Brotherhood
Honor Team for Vigil

Section Competitions

3rd Place in the Watermelon
2nd Place in the Tug-O-War
1st Place in the Web Site
3rd Place in the King's Cup Display Competition (Advanced Category)
2nd Place in the Spider Web
2nd Place in the Ping Pong

And Last, but not Least!

3rd Place in the Best-All-Around Lodge Competition

Chiefly Speaking



Allow me to start off by saying congratulations to all of our new Lodge Officers. Over the next year you can look forward to great things from these Arrowmen. Also over the next year our Lodge will begin the construction of a Service Corps that will specialize in service to council and district events. We will also be working on our new Where-To-Go-Camping guide and five year strategic plan.

I hope each of you had a chance to come to Camp Tanah Keeta on a Friday night. Between June 15th to July 6th, we held weekly OA Call-Out ceremonies. Now that Call-Outs have finished will be gearing up to host not one, but two Ordeal weekends. The first will be held September 7th-9th, and the second on September 21st- 23rd. It will require the work of every Arrowman in our Lodge to make these weekends a huge success and give each candidate a warm welcome into the Order of the Arrow and into Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge. We will be looking at two very large projects during the two Ordeals. One is the construction of a shelter at the staff dorms. Another project is the removal of trees between the camp and North Passage. If you have a chain saw, chaps, etc. please bring them to the weekend. Also, if you have access to a chipper, please call Tim Bouchard at (561)694-8585.

The annual Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge Leadership Development Course (LLDC) will be held on August 25th at Camp Tanah Keeta. During the LLDC officers and chairmen will learn about how their position functions within the lodge. This training is required for all officers, chairmen, and advisors so mark your calendars.

In other news, at the June Service Weekend, the chapter chiefs of Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge competed in the annual Best-All-Around Chapter competition. During the competition each chapter is judged on a list of items from weekend attendance to service and mentoring. The Lodge's Best-All-Around Chapter for the 2006-2007 term is Lowaneu Mawat Chapter. Thank you to all the chapters who participated.

I would like to add that this will be my last year as a youth in Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge and I intend on making every minute count! Advances in membership attendance, better Lodge weekends and functions, and blueprints to form a district and Council Service Corps are just a few things going on right now. The Lodge needs your help. If you are interested in serving on a committee, planning a Lodge event, running a Lodge event, or have ANY questions, please call me and I will point you in the right direction. Your efforts can aid in the success of our Lodge.

It's time to stand up, while others sit back and remember, "A Hero lives forever, but a Legend never dies." - Sandlot. How will you be remembered?

Yours in Cheerful Service,

Adam Taft

Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge Chief
(561) 506-5748
chief@aal-pa-tah237.org

GATOR TALES REMINDER

Advisors, Arrowman, and Officers - 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!

Submission Deadline:
October 1st

Officer Reports

Vice-Chief of Program

Ian McKay

What's up?

This is your new Vice-Chief of Program, Ian McKay. First off, I would like to thank all of you that helped to get me elected into office. I will not let you down, and I am sure that over the next year that we will have a lot of fun. Having been a weekend chairman 5 times I know what it takes from an officer's standpoint to make the weekend fun and enjoyable for all. In addition I would also like to see our lodge weekend numbers go up incredibly. I have made it my ambition to increase overall Lodge attendance.

Lodge bonding is what we need. It is a major factor in running a successful and confrontation free lodge. My brothers, I will make it my mission to serve you to the best that I can. I look forward to working close with each of you over the next year. Let's get out there and KICK SOME SHELL! –Ninja Turtles.

Yours in Brotherhood, Cheerfulness and Service,
Ian McKay
Lodge Vice Chief of Program

Ceremonies

Bradley Phibbs

Brothers,

There comes a time in every youth Arrowman's time when he is no longer able to continue his duties under a certain position. Whether it be that he ages out and is no longer a youth, he moves to college and is physically unable to participate anymore, or simply he becomes disinterested, it happens to everyone. The Ceremonies Team has experienced this several times over the years and it is that time again that we are looking for new blood to fill the positions that are left open. This is an open invitation to any and every youth member of our lodge: If you are interested in any way about being in Ceremonies or helping out the Ceremonies Team, give me a call and I will set you up with a job immediately.

Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge has a grand history in Ceremonies. We have won several National awards and countless Section awards in Ceremonies alone. The Ceremony is the first impression of the new Ordeal members of our lodge and every lodge. Don't you want to be a part of the tradition of welcoming the new members into our lodge? There are Ceremonies competitions at Section Conference and at NOAC.

Not only do you have a chance to compete first-hand with other lodges, but you can share valuable information with the other competing teams and take that experience back to our own ceremonies in order to make them even better. Ceremonies is a great way to get to know people in and outside of our lodge. I can honestly say that in just the past year, I have met over thirty new people through Ceremonies who are not in our lodge and with whom I keep in regular contact.

Even if you do not feel comfortable getting in front of people and speaking, there are many opportunities for you to get involved with a multi-award winning Ceremonies Team. Once again, if you are in any way interested, please let me know by phone or e-mail.

Bradley Phibbs
Ceremonies Team Chairman
561-267-1809
Laughingfox88@aol.com

Congratulations and Welcome

Elangomat Chairman

Levi Stahl

Hey everyone,

My name is Levi Stahl and I am currently the Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge Elangomat Chairman. I would like to encourage you to come to the 2 Ordeal weekends, and sign up to be an elangomat for those weekends. At each of these Ordeal weekends, you will have the opportunity to earn your black sash. Only 4 people have earned the black sash and 7 others will receive

their black sash after the next Ordeal weekend. To earn your black sash, you only need to serve as an Elangomat 3 times. Training for Elaogomats will be on Friday nights at both Ordeal weekends.

WWW
Levi Stahl
Elangomat Chairman

Treasurer's Beef

Justin Warnimont

Hi, my name is Justin Warnimont, and I am the newly elected Lodge Treasurer. Over the next year, I plan for the Lodge box to incorporate more items, to keep better records of Lodge spending, and to make sure that each weekend chairman has all of the resources necessary to make every weekend amaz-

ingly kewl. I will do my best to make the '07-'08 year the best that Aal-Pa-Tah has ever seen.

Sincerely,
Justin Warnimont
Lodge Treasurer

Historian's Beef

Sal Sodano

The Order of the Arrow is a truly great organization that has fostered Scouting since 1915. As Historian, it is my job to record our Lodge's legacy so that it may never be forgotten. It is also my duty to display our rich history so that every OA member and Scouter alike may know the importance of our lodge. Our lodge recently resurrected the King's Cup display and it will be my mission that Aal-Pa-

Tah wins the King's Cup at Section Conference 08'. I assure you that I will complete all of these duties for the betterment of our lodge. Thank you for choosing me to be your new Lodge Historian.

WWW
Sal Sodano
Lodge Historian

The Nimat Program

Michael Grove

My fellow brothers,

This year our lodge is starting a new program called Nimat. The word Nimat means brother in Leni Lenape, and the program is an extended elangomat program in which, the elangomat remains with his clan until they become Brotherhood members. I

encourage all brothers who want to be elangomats over the next year, to participate in this program.

WWW
Michael Grove
Nimat Program Chairman

Vice-Chief of Service

Sam Taft

Hello, my name is Sam Taft, and I am the new Lodge Vice-Chief of Service. As I said in my election speech, I plan to start a Service Corps that will be active on the council and district level. I also intend on having the best Operation One Day in history, with more hours of service than our Lodge has ever had before. I have made it my personal mission

to increase lodge attendance overall. I am looking forward to working with each of you over the next year. Thank You.

Yours in Cheerful Service,
Sam Taft
Vice Chief of Service

Lodge Secretary

A. Jay Flack

Brothers,

I am A. Jay Flack your new Lodge Secretary. As the 2007-2008 Lodge Secretary, I plan to uphold the most secretarily composure throughout the next year. I also plan on helping to have the best lodge year ever. If you are interested in helping with our

fine publication the Gator-Tales or our award winning Lodge Website, please contact me.

WWW
A. Jay Flack
Lodge Secretary
secretary@aal-pa-tah237.org

ARROWCORPS⁵ A HIGHER ADVENTURE

In the summer of 2008, the Order of the Arrow and the US Forest Service will team up to provide service to five sites across the country over five weeks. This endeavor is called ArrowCorps⁵ and will be one of the most ambitious projects the Order has ever undertaken. The goal is to have a thousand Arrowmen at each site to provide cheerful service to our national forests. One of our contingents will be at the George Washington and Jefferson National Forest north of Covington Virginia June 21-28. We will be constructing forty-nine miles of multi-use trail and making campsite improvements. Recreational opportunities include whitewater rafting, fishing, mountain biking and nearby historical sites.

There will likely also be a second contingent traveling to the Mark Twain National Forest in Missouri on June 7-14. TK Summer Camp Staff members will be able to attend this one.

A \$100 deposit will hold your spot. The Total estimated cost is \$295 subject to fund raising opportunities. Additional information is available at:
www.event.oa-bsa.org/events/arrowcorps5



Section Seminars

The 2007 Section Seminars will be hosted by Semialachee Lodge at Wallwood Scout Reservation in Quincy, Florida (near Tallahassee). Join us for an exciting weekend of training in all aspects of the OA: leadership, high adventure, ceremonies, and Native American activities. We will be travelling by van. Plan to spend Friday afternoon floating down the Ichnetucknee River. Reserve your spot by October 1st for only \$25. Call Kelsey now at the council office with the information found on the back of the Gator Tales.

BROTHERS IN ACTION

Chee-Pa-Tah - Chapter Report

Chief: Levi Stahl

Hey Chapter members, Levi Stahl here! Aside from the Tropical Storm that blew through camp, we had a wonderful June Service Weekend. Our own Walter Arnett ran for Lodge Treasurer, and A. Jay Flack ran for Lodge Chief. I hope to see you all at our next chapter meeting and at the 2 Ordeal Weekends in September. If you are interested in being an Elango-

mat, please contact me for more info.

WWW

Levi Stahl

Chee-Pa-Tah Chapter Chief

Coo-Wa-Cho-Bee - Chapter Report

Chief: Elliott Taft

Hi, my name is Elliott Taft and I am the new Chapter Chief for Coo-Wa-Cho-Bee Chapter. Brothers of Coo-Wa-Cho-Bee, over the following year, with your help, I plan to continue to build this great chapter into the best Chapter in Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge. It all starts with weekend attendance. Starting in August, our chapter will be meeting with the Manatee District Roundtable at Congress Middle School in Boynton Beach on the second Monday of every

month. I hope to see each of you at the next chapter meeting. Please call me if you have any questions.

(561) 676-5910

or E-Mail me at Tadam711@aol.com

Sincerely,

Elliott Taft

Coo-Wa-Cho-Bee Chapter Chief

Lowaneu Mawat - The Northern Ones Speak

Chief: Chas Carlson

Greetings to all whom this reaches. It's hard to believe that another year has gone by and we have had a good run as the Number One Chapter this year and look forward to the results of the contest at the Service Weekend in June.

During this year, we have continued the monthly meeting with increasing attendance, not much but some. We held a great One Day project at the Environmental Learning Center, completed a service project at Camp Oklawaha that earned 391 service hours. We have had several "Northern Ones" as Lodge Officers, Contingent Leaders, and Weekend Chairs. Big thanks to all of our Brothers who have stepped forward to support our lodge.

As we look forward in to the future with Arrow Corps⁵ in "08" and NOAC in "09", we need to look to our brothers to increase the numbers at our meetings and Lodge Weekends. We not only need to get all of our candidates through the Ordeal weekends this fall and keep them active with good program, but also get all of our brothers who are inactive back to active status. The lodge is only as great as it's members and the Gators of Aal-Pa-Tah are the greatest.

WWW

Chas Carlson

BROTHERS IN ACTION

Nekiwa - Chapter Report

Chief: Zach Regan

My fellow brothers,

I am Zach Regan Chief of the Nekiwa Chapter. I am from Troop 840. We need more OA members to attend the Chapter meetings. Our meetings are the 2nd Thursday of every month starting in August. We have our meetings at the same time as the roundtable meeting at the Pine School just east of JD Parker Elementary School at 7:00pm. If anyone has any questions or needs to contact me my

cell phone number is 772-708-1019 and my e-mail is lord_ig_88@yahoo.com. I hope to increase our Brotherhood conversion this year. All members of Nekiwa chapter, if you are Ordeal you are eligible for completing your Brotherhood at the next Ordeal weekend about which I will contact you later with more information.

In brotherhood,
Zach Regan

Oi-Ya-Tah - Chapter Report

Past Chief: Oakley Hammond

Hey Brothers, this will be my last article as the Chapter Chief for Oi-Ya-Tah. We have had our elections and Zack Wirth is the new chief. I just want to thank all of the brothers who have helped me over the past year with every thing our chapter has done. Brothers I hope you have had just an amazing year as I did. I feel our chapter has accomplished so much. I

wish Zack the best of luck as Chapter Chief.

Yours In Brotherhood,
Oakley Hammond
Oi-Ya-Tah Chapter
2006-2007 Chief

Panasofee - Chapter Report

Chief: Chris Hall

Greetings Panasofee Chapter,

My name is Chris Hall and starting this fall, I would like to have chapter meetings at the monthly Round Table Meetings in order to organize chapter activities. Please come and enjoy the fun and help to make our chapter strong. We have a lot of OA events to look forward to this coming year, including two Ordeal Weekends, Section Seminars, Winter Fellowship, Spring Pow-wow and Section Conference 2008.

Chief. I would also like to have OA Troop Representatives for each Troop in our chapter. If you are interested in this position, call me or email me for more information.

See you in the Fall!
Chris Hall
Panasofee Chapter Chief
Home – 772-334-5966
Cell – 772-215-4702
Email – direwolf961@yahoo.com
hallcsmc@bellsouth.net

My goal for this year is to bring in new chapter members and to elect a new Chapter Chief and Vice

Mega Scout Show



For those of you who missed out on the opportunity to make some history shame on you! It's not every weekend that we are able to get an aerial photo of all the festivities!

While all the Cubs enjoyed all the activities put on by the different units we all know the parents came for one good reason: the fine cooking from some of our Lodge's best chiefs!

Go Aal-Pa-Tah!

Want to see what you missed? It's all online in our gallery!

www.gallery.aal-pa-tah237.org





Guess what's cooking!



Section Conference



What better way to spend a weekend than to spend one collecting awards for being the best! Sure you might need to pull a few ropes here and there, but you just need to put the chief on the front lines!

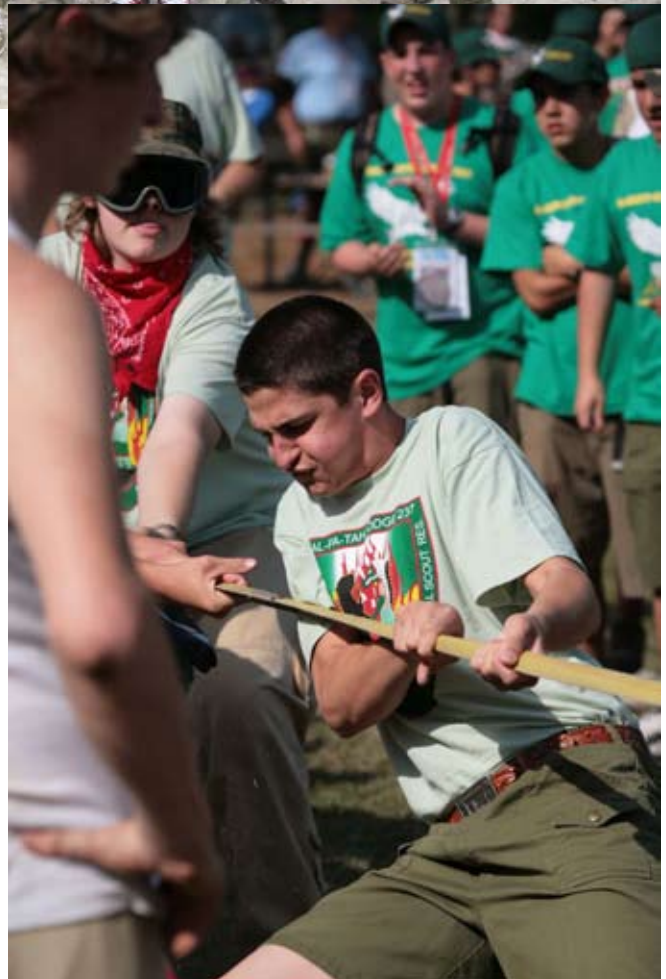
OK, you might need to dodge a few people or scarf down a watermelon, but in the end it's always worth a good laugh or two!

More Gators! Lots More Gators!....

Didn't get your Gator on in time? Don't worry we made sure to send in our best to ensure we caught it all!

So what are you waiting for quite reading and get to the click'n!

www.gallery.aal-pa-tah237.org





Ordeal Weekend I & II

You MUST pre-pay the weekend fee of \$15.00. Members must also 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 8/31/2007 and 9/17/2007 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. For those that fail to pre-register, will have to register at the door for \$20.00.

Save the hassle of having to register. Why not purchase a 2008 Fast Pass? It's only \$90! The Fast Pass registers you for all the weekend Lodge events, covers dues, annual year patch, plus if you are not able to make it to a weekend, a weekend patch will be saved for you. Both Ordeal Weekends are included in the 2007 Fast Pass. See you there!



“Change Service Requested”

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