



The Feather

Echokotee Lodge 200 - North Florida Council 87
Order of the Arrow - Boy Scouts of America

Winter Edition 2011

Encouraging Words from the SECTION CHIEF!

Brothers of Echokotee Lodge,

What a fantastic job everybody has been doing this year. I was honored to be able to attend Fall Fellowship back in September and it certainly was an impressive event. The Service that you all rendered to Camp Shands was pretty spectacular, the Brotherhood that was demonstrated was a shining example of what the Order of the Arrow is all about, and it was great to see all of the effort that everyone put forth to make the Ordeal a memorable experience for all of the new members joining Echokotee Lodge. As always when I visit Echokotee, I was proud to be among friends who do so much to make me feel welcome.

Seeing all of the great things going on in Echokotee Lodge tells a lot about the leadership of our Order and the excitement of our members to be involved in the programs that we offer. At Section Seminars we accomplished a lot of planning throughout the Section to bring you all a better program, I look forward to seeing all of my Echokotee brothers at Tanah Keeta in April for Section Conference, its going to be a blast.

Yours In Brotherhood,

Sean Ferrier

S-4 Section Chief



Echokotee Lodge Wishes the Best to Resigning Officer

Andrew Self

By JONATHAN WRIGHT

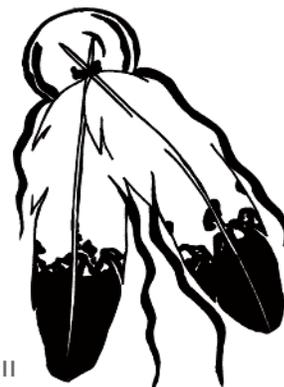


When I first heard that Andrew was resigning from his position as Lodge Historian, I'll admit I was a little bummed out. After the elections I remember sitting with Chris, Andrew, and Bryan laughing about how we were getting the "old team" back together. This year was going to be the year of the "has been". So what happened to this officer and his last hoorah?

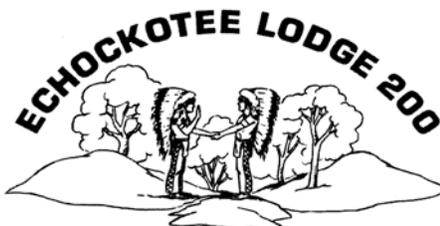
As many of you know, Andrew ranks among the top 5 with regards to scouting accomplishments as a youth member of Echokotee lodge. Since his ordeal in 2005, he has served as a lodge officer twice and as a section officer for section S-4. He selected by his peers for the Vigil honor three years ago. Andrew remained active in the lodge working extensively to the Inductions Committee to.....(Continued on p.3)

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CHRIS HUME
Lodge Chief



BRYAN FRANZ
Lodge Vice Chief of Program



ALEX WILLIAMS
Lodge Vice Chief of Training



JONATHAN WRIGHT
Lodge Secretary



BRADLEY WATKINS
Lodge Treasurer



ANDREW SELF
Lodge Historian



CHIP LEONARD
Lodge Adviser



ALLAN GRINNAN
Associate Lodge Adviser



PATRICK WRIGHT
Associate Lodge Adviser



RON FISH
Associate Lodge Adviser



BRIAN PATTERSON
Lodge Staff Adviser



My Brothers,

With the Winter Fellowship just around the corner the chapters should begin to gear up for a weekend were they get to determine their own theme, this weekend will also include several Chapter competitions such as Historical display, Chapter publications, and the Chapter Website competition. The Historical competition is where each Chapter gets to put on display everything they have done over the past year for all Chapters to see. The Website and Publications competitions are designed so each Chapter can show off their communications and their information that they give to their chapter members. We will also have the shooting ranges open allowing for competitions and games involving shooting. So every Chapter chief needs to be prepared to shoot. However the ranges are open to anyone wanting to participate and shoot. This is also the time of year where we tap out the new Vigil Honor recipients. I hope everyone has had a great start to their holiday season and will continue to have a great time. I look forward to seeing everyone at the Winter Fellowship..

Yours in Brotherhood,
Chris Hume

Echokotee Wishes the Best to Resigning officer Andrew Self

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

improve the brotherhood class. Aside from his OA contributions, Andrew has served the council as a staff member at Camp Shands for several years. This last Summer, Andrew's leadership of the 50 man staff of Eagle scouts earned him the recognition of most honored staffer. The scripture on the award reads, "Trailblazer on the Path to Eagle Summit".

Like several other previous Hall of Famers from our lodge, Andrew is quickly approaching the next stage of his life. At the University of Florida Andrew studies Anthropology and Political science. This next semester Andrew will have the opportunity to study abroad in Nicaragua and will unfortunately have to leave behind his officer duties. His advice to every arrowmen is to work hard, play hard, and play the game of life as smart as you can. We all have the potential to do what we want, whether that is become the Lodge Chief or getting accepted to a big University. You just have to find it.

Andrew is being relieved by Joseph Saxon of the Satoriwa chapter. Joe's plans to win the coveted Kings cup competition at the Section Conference.

Patch Auction to Send Youth to NOAC!

BY PATRICK (PDAWG) GHERRITY

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Ready for the most exciting time of the year? No its not Christmas or even New Years, it's the Echokotee Lodge Patch Auction at the 2011 Winter Fellowship. This is a great and exciting time for Patch Collectors both young and old, Experienced and beginners. Now you ask yourself, where do the proceeds go from the patch auction? That's easy, the proceeds go to the Nation Order of the Arrow Conference Fund for Echokotee. The proceeds help provide scholarships to send fellow Arrowmen to NOAC every time it is held. NOAC is one of if not the best experience that an Arrowmen can experience. Image a college Campus in the summer, filled with

7,000+ fellow Arrowmen from all over the Country. With nightly shows to be amazed by and the development of new friendships. It is an opportunity that should be experienced by every Arrowman. Make sure to stop by the Patch Auction held Saturday Night at the Winter Fellowship and remember every patch you bid on helps send an Echokotee Arrowmen to NOAC. The next NOAC is in 2012 at Michigan State University held LATE JULY EARLY AUGUST TIME FRAME.



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LOAC! An Event You Don't Want to Miss

BY BRYAN FRANZ

For Any New arrowmen or brothers who have not been able to experience a Winter Fellowship let this article serve as a personal invitation to the lodge's hottest fellowship of the year! I don't mean hot as in the weather. After all, last year's temperature readings were well below freezing... I mean hot as in, "Woahh dude that is awesome!" What am I talking about? I'm talking about there are so many activities in the schedule that there will be no time for service. Yes, you heard me right, no service. There are so many fun games and spirit competitions that by Sunday morning your voice will be hoarse from yelling. Have you asked your Chapter Chief what the theme is yet? Make sure you find out! The crazier you look the more fun you're gonna have. Are you curious about what other chapter have been doing all year? Come and find out! Each chapter has been asked to bring a bulletin board displaying their history of activities during the last year.

Have you ever seen a Vigil tap out ceremony? You know, the guys with triangles on their sashes. Well, this is your chance to witness one because it is happening Friday night of the Winter Fellowship.

Have you ever thought about joining a lodge committee? Maybe you have but perhaps but you may not know how to get your name on their list. Fortunately there will be a Committee Midway so you can meet the chairmen and find out how you can get involved. Anyone can join a committee right away, even if it is your first fellowship as an ordeal member.

Remember to really get the most out of the Order of the Arrow you must be a part of the events and activities. Our Winter Fellowship can be the start of

a great new year in the OA. Hope to see you there full of spirit.

AIA

By Kyle Geary

Hello, my brothers of the obviously BEST Lodge ever to have existed! (That's Echockotee in case you've been living under a rock.) Today, I'd like to let you know just what the committee I oversee with the help of my advisor, Mr. Robert Burns, does for the Lodge and what we plan to do in the near and distant future!

The American Indians Activities Committee (AIA) is commonly referred to as the Song and Dance Team. Though we DO dress in Native American regalia to dance and sing, we are always, first and foremost, Arrowmen! Like all arrowmen, we've taken an oath of cheerful service and we work hard to move the lodge forward.

In addition to this, we also keep Native American culture, (You know, those guys with the ideals we kind of modeled our Order after.) alive in our lodge! We strive to ensure our programs are as authentic as possible so that Native American culture is authentically portrayed.

Let me mention a few upcoming events that you should definitely consider attending! A perfect example will be at LOAC, January 7-9 at wonderful Camp Shands, where the AIA committee will be offering 3 classes, Craft Making, Introduction to Song, and Introduction to Dance - all at the Handicraft Pavilion. This is great opportunity to learn more about AIA from experts in your own lodge.

If enjoy the training and would like to take it a step further, (Which I will DEFINITELY be doing), there is a National OA event called Indian Summer 2011 where



national experts will provide in-depth training on craft making, singing and dancing.

In addition to the AIA training the Ceremonies Committee will be giving arrowmen an opportunity to become a part of the team. Alex Leonard is the committee chairman and he will be available to answer any questions and talk with individuals interested in either of these two wonderful activities in the Lodge.

For more information, go to <http://event.oa-bsa.org/events/is2011/>.



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Chapter Reports

Apieka

By **JOE HEESACKER**

Apieka Chapter is on a roll! Apieka Arrowmen rolled into LLD for a Friday night cookout with four officers and about a dozen Arrowmen in attendance. Next stop, Fall Fellowship. Anyone who rolled around Fall Fellowship would see Apieka in action with the Lodge. Whether it was Mr. Spitznagle and Mr. Heesacker at Ordeal, Shawn McFarland in the kitchen, Joe Heesacker editing Echoshows, or Josh Mintz running the Lodge Box, Apieka was everywhere! After rolling over the other chapters to win the Chapter Competitions at Fall Fellowship, we rolled into Special Needs with, not one, not two, but three game booths (special thanks goes to the Mintz's for their efforts). Then we rolled on down to Section Seminars at Sandhill Scout Reservation with five Apieka Arrowmen, including the Chief and Vice Chief. Next stop on the freight train that is Apieka is Camp Echockotee Service Day, where Apieka Arrowmen will be cheerfully serving in impressive numbers.

Chapter meetings have been an absolute blast, from old traditions like Battle Sock to newer crazy games such as Frozen T-Shirt

Contest, Water Bucket Shoe Removal, Balloon Shaving, and my personal favorite, Face Diving for Whistles in Whipped Cream. The special guest for our December 9th chapter meeting is Lodge Chief Chris Hume! You want stuff signed by the Lodge Chief, bring it! And Saturday, December 20th is our Fun Day/Work Day to get ready for the Chapter Competitions at Winter Fellowship.

Elemukulek

By **BRANDON NEWELL**

Hey Echockotee, Hope you have had an awesome year so far. We ducks are having a ball and doing great. Our yearly cuboree staff went down to Camp Shands on Nov 5th and ran games, Saturday, for over two hundred webelos. Planning for our chapter run camporee is already underway and we are excited for a fun program headed up by Chris Faison. We can't wait for winter fellowship and we are ready to bring the spirit back to Echockotee. At our last chapter meeting we planned our theme for winter fellowship and we are ready to show it off to the whole lodge. Lastly I hope to see everyone at the December service day, because this is when we show what the OA is truly about.

Oglala

By **JOSEPH FRETWELL**

Oglala had a great time at the Fall Fellowship. We had around 25 arrowmen and 10 booths at the Special Needs Camporee. Our Districts', Cub'O'Ree, and Camp'O'Ree were also grand successes. For our December Chapter meeting, we are going to have a little gift exchange. Some of our members are planning to participate in the Council's Winter Blast program, and some others plan to serve as staff members.

Oklawaha

By: **Peter Wyckoff**

I hope everyone has had a great and productive year! The Oklawaha Chapter is currently working on making a new war bonnet and updating our website: oklawaha.bravehost.com. Our Chapter went to the Special Needs Camporee in October and hosted two booths. I think we had as much fun as the kids and families.

The Chapter's Christmas party will be December 16! Members please bring food and a gift to exchange. Let's make this a great turnout event.

Our Chapter has been

working hard to get our bulletin board ready for the Winter Fellowship.

The Lodge annual dues of \$15 is due at the next Chapter meeting, December 16. Our monthly Chapter meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of every month at the Troop 380 Scout Hut located at the Central Christian Church. I hope you all have an exciting and rewarding year!

Osceola

By **DREW MCNERNEY**

Osceola has been growing and growing and growing. We already have a bunch of Unit Elections planed out for January and are looking for a good turnout for both the Winter and the Spring Fellowships. Not only are we growing, but we are looking forward to our new Brotherhood members.

We also have finished our new Osceola sign for our campsite. Our new ordeals will have no problem finding our campsite now.

Outina

By **JOHN DAVID BUTLER**

Hey there this is John David Butler, Outina Chapter Cheif. Outina is hard at work getting prepared for the Winter Fellowship. We also attended the Section Conference with 7 total members (4 boys 3 adults). We are having a fun time at meetings normally pulling 7 youth and 4 adults for each chapter meeting.

Saturiwa

By **DANIEL SMITH**

The Saturiwa Chapter is

doing fantastic. At the last meeting we had over 20 members and pizza show up. Fall Fellowship saw a large attendance with over 40 youth there. We are currently in the midst of preparing for Winter Fellowship and if I may say so, our display is going to be epic so get ready to ROCK! We are also developing a chapter patch and its looking pretty awesome, so get ready! Saturiwa Chapter is doing better then ever and we're hoping everyone brings there best to LOAC, because IT IS ON!!

PLANNNETTT!

Seminole

By **JULIO DEALMEIDA**

Seminole Chapter is ready for a new year and all the great fellowship were going to have!With the events like the Special Needs Camporee coming up Seminole chapter is ready to give some cheerful service.

Seminole chapter was also excited to be invited to open the Cherokee of Georgia 30th anniversary Pow Wow with 55 Arrowmen with sashes carrying in the flags to open the ceremonies.

Panthers Go!

Timucuan

By **BRANDON WESTGATE**

The Timucuan chapter is running great. At the last fellowship we had one of the biggest chapters there. We had a total of 60-70 members show up. Timucuan has not seen those kind of numbers in several years. During the games we showed up with 22 members including the adviser. The chapter meeting has doubled the amount of members there

compare to the last couple of years. The new Timucuan chapter hats are out and we looking better than ever.



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Editor: Jonathan Wright

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2011 Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Location
January 7-9, 2011	Winter Fellowship Theme: Wacky Winter Jam	Camp Shands
March 4-6, 2011	Spring Fellowship Theme: British Mania	Camp Shands
April 8-10, 2011	Section Conference	Tanah-Keeta SR
April 23, 2011	Service Day	Camp Shands
May 20-22, 2011	Summer Fellowship Theme: Cheeseburger in Paradise	Camp Shands
August 19-21, 2011	LLD	Camp Shands

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