



The Feather

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



Winter 2017



The Vigil Honor

By Cole Gabriel

At our 2017 Winter Fellowship, we had the opportunity to recognize Echockotee Lodge's largest Vigil class in history. We had fifteen recipients of this prestigious honor. Initially we experienced some severe weather hazards, which led to the Vigil tap-out ceremony being held in a new location at the Meninak. However, this small change in venue only added to the uniqueness of this historical event. At this tap-out, each Vigil candidate received a wooden triangle with their name engraved on the back and the date of their selection. This memento also included a Vigil Honor name in Lenni Lenape representing a quality about or a short description of each recipient's service.

On Saturday evening, our lodge hosted a banquet to honor these exemplary individuals. Each member who received this honor had a Vigil speaker, who spoke for a few brief moments on the incredible service of each individual. It's times like these where we recognize incredible people in our lodge, and the Order of the Arrow is as a whole. I remember attending my first banquet and listening to each speaker; I thought to myself, I hope that one day I can perform service as incredible as these people. Years later, I still watch this banquet and find myself in awe of the spirit of cheerful, unselfish service that so many of our Arrowmen represent.

Though the Vigil Selection committee each year only recognizes a select few, I believe that this process helps us all more deeply consider the principles of our order. After each year, I am personally inspired to be a better brother and cheerful servant of my community, and I thank our fifteen recipients for adding to our inspiration: Collin Bloch, David Gabriel, Bradley Hight, Justin Hiller, Aaron Pannell, Preston Richter, Chris Standish, Matthew Waeltz, David Elliot, Jane Kilby, Lee Mintz, Debbie Newell, Rusty Park, Cheryl Undheim, and Linda Visman.

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With seventy-five years behind us and a new generation before us, Echockotee Lodge is proud to recognize the generations of service exemplified in our 2017 Vigil Honor recipients.



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AUSTIN SCHWINDT
Lodge Chief

BRADLEY HIGHT
Lodge Vice Chief of Program

WYATT WILTSE
Lodge Vice Chief of Administration

MATTHEW WAELTZ
Lodge Secretary

JACKSON ALEXANDER
Lodge Treasurer

DAVID GABRIEL
Lodge Historian

MARTY HEESACKER
Lodge Adviser

ALLAN GRINNAN
Associate Lodge Adviser

CHRIS BEURY
Associate Lodge Adviser

MICHAEL PANNELL
Associate Lodge Adviser

ELIAS RIVIERA
Lodge Staff Adviser



Dear Brothers,

It is my absolute pleasure to have been elected as the 2017 Echokotee Lodge Chief. I can't wait to meet all of you and really get this year started right. We have a lot of big plans for the year and at the center of all of them is you. The officers and I have already been hard at work making sure that 2017 is Echokotee's best year. From the programs we put on, to the service projects we will do; the powwows to the new and improved Echoshows committee, I can't tell you how excited I am about this year. This year is going to be "Yuuuuuuge" and I hope all of you find the time to come out to at least one event this year, if not all of them! Whether you are reading lines for a ceremony, helping to teach in the Brotherhood class, or staffing a district camporee, GET INVOLVED! There are so many fun ways to involve yourself in our order, and trying new things is a perfect way to find your niche in the lodge. Speaking of fun, Spring Fellowship will be here before you know it. Make sure you get registered because you don't want to miss out on one of the biggest fellowships of the year and considering our theme is Asia, I know Bradley has a lot of surprises in store. Also, if you are brotherhood eligible, make sure you sign up to go through the brotherhood class at Spring Fellowship. It is a great chance to learn more about the Order, Echokotee Lodge, and ways to get involved. I can't wait to see you all at Spring Fellowship, but until then, stay classy Echokotee Lodge.



Yours in Brotherhood,

Austin Schwindt

Austin Schwindt
Echokotee Lodge Chief



Bradley Hight
Lodge Vice Chief Of Program

Hello Echocottee,
Firstly, thank you for electing me to serve as your Vice Chief of Program and I believe that we can do great things together. Our biggest objective this year is the themes. We will be working with Scouting Around the World and I am excited to see what the chapters can do with these themes. I look forward to seeing you at events this year!

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Wyatt Wiltse
Lodge Vice Chief Of Administration

Sveiki Echocottee!
I am excited to lead our lodge as your newly elected Vice Chief of Administration! We have big plans coming up for 2017, and we want every Arrowman to be a part of them! Join a committee, and get involved in our Order. Feel free to contact me at anytime if you have any interest in a lodge committee. I hope to see you at every fellowship and event this year! Stay classy Echocottee.

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Matthew Waeltz
Lodge Secretary

Hola Echocottee Lodge!
I am already so excited to serve you for the 2017 year! Our Feather and Fluffy publications will once again be the best in S4, and I am so proud to call Echocottee Lodge my home. As officers, we are accomplishing so much to make sure that 2017 is Echocottee's best year to date. I look forward to seeing and meeting each and every one of you at events this year. I look forward to serving you all!

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Jackson Alexander
Lodge Treasurer

Hello Echocottee Lodge,
This coming year and its fellowships are bound to be the best ever. Our Lodge has drafted the budget and is working hard with our committees to ensure that the year is awesome! Be sure to attend this Spring Fellowship, it will be a blast! The Lodge Box is going to be filled with new Echocottee gear and swag, be sure to bring your spare change to grab some of the newest hats, shirts, and jackets.

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David Gabriel
Lodge Historian

Hello my fellow brothers,
I am very pleased to be serving as your Lodge Historian this year! I'm excited to capture the greatness of Echocottee Lodge, through photography, for the year of 2017. I aim to create the best display in recent years and win first place at Section Conference. If anyone is interested in helping to create and preserve the history of our amazing lodge, please email me at DavidAGabriel@gmail.com.

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Section Conference 2017

Hey Echokotee! One of our upcoming trips will be going to Section Conference which is April 21-23. During the conference there will be fantastic shows at night for us to participate in. Then during the day on Saturday, the amount of activities to do are immense. There will be Arrowman from all over the state teaching classes from things like program to American Indian Activities. I can guarantee that you will learn something new while out at Section Conference. Once classes are over, there will be plenty of games and activities for every Arrowman to participate. Whether you want to watch the AIA competitions or sling some dodgeballs at other lodges, there is always something for everyone! Then on Sunday, we will get to elect new section officers. This is a big part of the conference because you will get to support fellow Arrowman from our lodge as they run for office. In all, Section Conference is an event that is a ton of fun that any Arrowman can enjoy. I hope to see everyone come out to the conference this year!

-Tyler Boudreaux, Section Contingent Chairman

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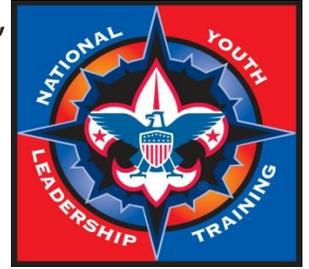
@echokotee

CHIEF'S CHALLENGES

- 1.) Invite a new Ordeal member to a chapter meeting.
- 2.) Join a committee.
- 3.) Bring somebody new to a fellowship.
- 4.) Bring back an inactive Arrowmen.

What on Earth is National Youth Leadership Training?

National Youth Leadership Training (N.Y.L.T.) is a very in-depth, interactive, and fun week long leadership training course. New leadership skills, in-depth challenges, and a huge sense of accomplishment await those who attend the course. Having gone through and returned three times as a staff member, I can confidently say that this is the most effective way for scouts to hone their leadership skills.

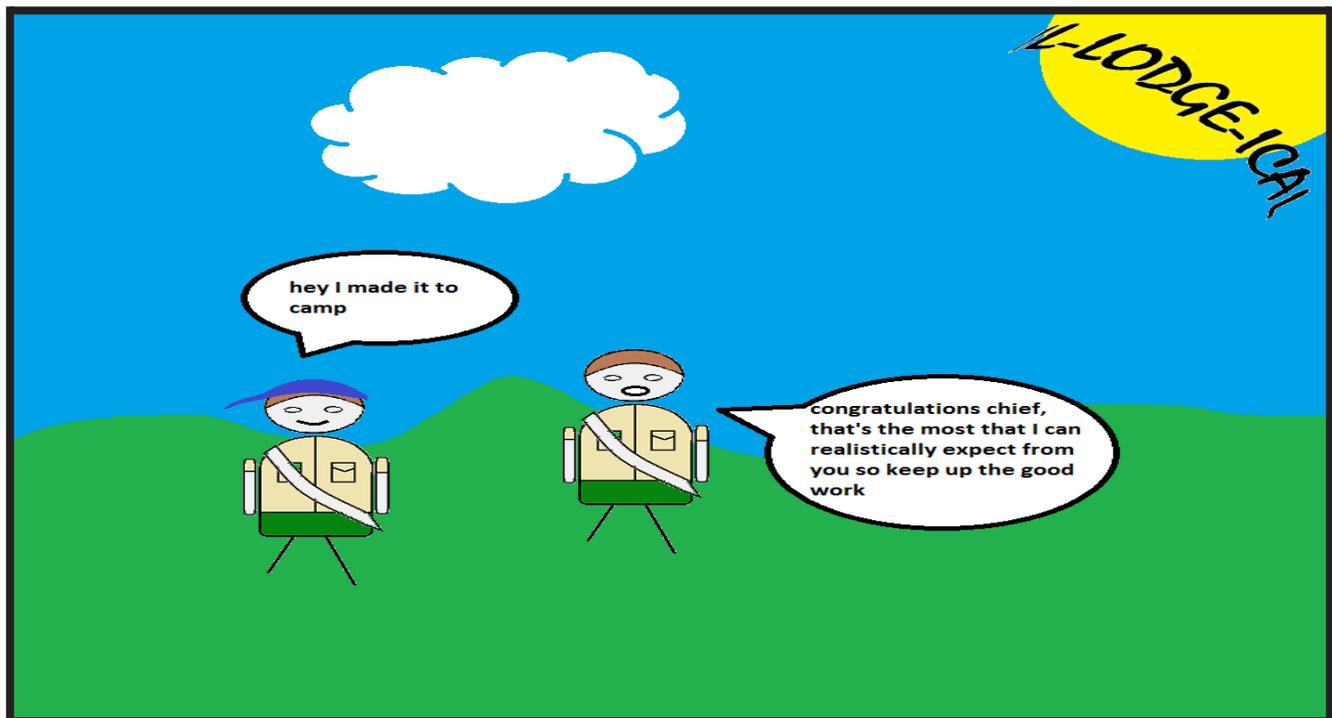


Not only does N.Y.L.T. sharpen your personal leadership skills, but it also helps a scout to become a better leader in their troops back home. Serving on staff for N.Y.L.T. gave me a second glance at how much this program helps scouts. N.Y.L.T courses are offered once in the summer at Camp Shands, and once in the winter at Saint Johns River Base at Echokotee. I proudly credit the foundation of my leadership skills to my time as a participant and staff member at N.Y.L.T. Brownsea. I would like to personally encourage all scouts in Echokotee Lodge and North Florida Council as a whole to attend this life changing week. Here in North Florida, you cannot find a more fun, effective, and memorable leadership experience than the one found at National Youth Leadership Training.

-Matthew Waeltz, Echokotee Lodge Secretary



Ill-Lodge-Ical Comics



Created By: Sean Farrier

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Chapter Reports

Apieka

Hello Echockotee Lodge! Apieka had a great time at Winter Fellowship, where we learned important skills during training, played awesome games, and received silver Journey to Excellence. Apieka is excited to begin the new year working for bigger and better things as we actively set up unit elections and chapter events. We would also like to congratulate all of the newly elected lodge and chapter officers on their great achievement. We are extremely excited to see all of you at Spring Fellowship and beyond!

-Kiler Melvin, Apieka Chapter Chief

Elemukulek

Hello Echockotee, Elemukulek had a fun filled weekend with all of you at Winter Fellowship. The newly elected officers and I have big plans for this year. 5 out of 6 newly elected lodge officers are from Elemukulek, and we just ran our annual Camporee, which was a blast. We have our twitter @elemukulek up and running again, so feel free to follow us! We are so excited for this upcoming year and can't wait to see you all at Spring Fellowship. Ducks Go, Quack!

-Ford Setzer, Elemukulek Chapter Chief

Oglala

Hello Echockotee! Oglala Chapter had a wonderful Winter Fellowship. We earned the gold level on our historical display and we now have a new Vigil member, Jane Kilby. We had 13 scouts and 12 adults at the previous fellowship. As for the Spring Fellowship, we hope to have an incredible experience doing cheerful service. We will be pushing for Sonic again; our spirit will be at an all-time high.

-Tyler Grogg, Oglala Chapter Chief

Onathequa

Hello Echockotee and greetings from Onathequa chapter! All of the members of Onathequa Chapter are very excited to make 2017 a awesome year! Since chapter elections, Onathequa has their sights set on increasing attendance at monthly chapter meetings as well as fellowships. In October, Onathequa chapter will host the annual Camporee for all of north Florida. Together, the members of my chapter intend on making Onathequa chapter great again!

-Jacob Gravel, Onathequa Chapter Chief

Oklawaha

Hello Echokotee! Oklawaha had a great year and a wonder time at fellowship. We were lucky to have one member of our chapter receive the Vigil Honor. Congratulations Chris Standish! We are looking forward to a great year with our awesome new lodge leadership. We have many new things planed for the coming year including a completely new sign for our campsite. We look forward to seeing you all at fellowship.

-Joe Veale, Oklawaha Chief

Osceola

Good day Echokotee! Osceola chapter is flying towards the future! Unit elections are commencing and we are looking forward to an epic year! Membership is stable and we are looking forward to meeting all the incomming arrowmen. We cant wait to see how the lodge and chapter grow throughout 2017.

-Ethan Griner, Osceola Chapter Chief

Saturiwa

Hello everyone! My name is Whit Hemphill and I am the new Saturiwa Chapter Chief. I am excited to take up this role to lead the chapter. I would like to congratulate all of our new officers in the chapter and lodge as they are working hard to make this year great. Our performance at Winter Fellowship was awesome, taking silvers in the officer competitions and having a stellar performance in the games. Saturiwa is ready to take it to the next level and step up our game for the coming year, and we look forward to seeing everyone at Spring Fellowship!

-Whit Hemphill, Saturiwa Chapter Chief

Seminole

Hello Echokotee Lodge, Seminole Chapter had an amazing year and fellowship! Our chapter received silver in Journey To Excellence, historical display, website, and publications. We had a fantisc time during games and training at Winter Fellowship. We already have a great start on unit elections, and we look forward to a great year with our new Lodge and Chapter officers!

-Ben Altman, Seminole Chapter Chief

Timucuan

Hello Echokotee Lodge! Timucuan has had an amazing 2016, and we are ready to have an even better 2017. Our chapter elections are coming up soon, and we have a solid plan to knock them all out of the way to fulfill our Journey to Excellence requirement. Our merit badge fair is coming up in March as we get ready to teach skills to our younger scouts. Our beloved spirit award, Sonic, has been on many different adventures with our chapter. Sonic is always with us to represent that the spirit of the Order of the Arrow is always with Timucuan Chapter! In preparation for fellowship, we have already been contacting eligible Brotherhood candidates to ensure Timucuan has a large Brotherhood conversion contingent. I hope to see you all at Spring Fellowship!

-Ricky Rubio, Timucuan Chapter Chief



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Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Location
March 3-5, 2017	Spring Fellowship	Camp Shands
April 21-23, 2017	Section Conference	Sand Hill Scout Reservation
April 29, 2017	Service Day	Camp Shands
May 19-21, 2017	Summer Fellowship	Camp Shands
September 22-24, 2017	Fall Fellowship	Camp Shands