

# GATOR

Spring 2008 Issue

The Official Publication

of Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge #237



Visit Us Online [www.aal-pa-tah.org](http://www.aal-pa-tah.org)

## Calendar

March 7-9  
Spring Powwow

April 11-13  
Section Conference  
Hosted by Osceola

May 17  
Mentoring Day at T.K.

May 30 - June 1  
OA Service Weekend

August 30  
LLDC

[http://www.aal-pa-tah237.org/  
calendar/index.php](http://www.aal-pa-tah237.org/calendar/index.php)

## Gator Tales Staff

Layout: Salvatore Sodano

Editing: Proofing Team

Banner: Salvatore Sodano

Advisor: Barry J.F. Ekle

Contact: Gulf Stream Council  
(561) 694-8585

Website:

[www.gatortales.org](http://www.gatortales.org)

Corrections from December 2007  
-Page 11: The Advisors for Food  
Services are David Carlson and  
Greg Soles.

## Spring Powwow 2008 Some Great Reasons to Attend

### ◆ Annual Hearts tournament!

You don't want to miss this! This is not about winning, this is about bragging rights for a year.

Anyone is welcome to play, we will even have someone teach you how to play if you don't know how.

"The youth are not going to win this year!" -Mr. Taft

### ◆ "How to run a successful Chapter meeting"

A seminar led by Frank Taft. Topics will include: How to raise attendance, How to make it fun, and What business should be done at the meeting.

All Chapter Chiefs and Advisors are encouraged to attend.

### ◆ Magic Card Tournament

Spring Powwow will feature a friendly Magic Tournament, beginners welcome. Bring your own deck which must consist of a minimum of 60 cards and up to 15 sideboard cards. "Sliver" and "Burn" decks are not allowed. The prize will be half of a box of sealed booster packs. Fourth place will win two packs, third place will win three packs, second place will win five packs, and first place will win eight packs!"

### ◆ Powwow!

The Spring Powwow will also feature a Powwow on Saturday night that you will not want to miss.



Christian Martek, picture taken by mztery (from PostPix website).

## Hitchiti Dancing

Are you interested in Native American dancing? Would you like to be able to drum like drummers at a Powwow? Luckily for you, Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge has the well known and admired Hitchiti Dancers. If you would like to be a part of this tradition, you can contact Zach Regan at (772)708-1019, or by email, [lord\\_ig\\_88@yahoo.com](mailto:lord_ig_88@yahoo.com). Make sure to attend the Spring Powwow, March 7-9 at Tanah Keeta.

# Chiefly Speaking

My fellow Arrowmen,

I would like to report that the Gulf Stream Council has made the decision to abandon implementation of the Mic-O-Say program. On behalf of the Executive Committee of Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge #237, I thank you for your time and contributions, I am afraid that I alone could not have elicited such a response from the Council Staff, and that it was due to your efforts that the decision was made to stop this program. I truly am amazed at how our Lodge came together during this event, and I only wish now that we can use that same energy to continue to build this Great Lodge. Our next Lodge event is the Spring Powwow weekend on March 7-9th. I am encouraging ALL brothers in the OA to attend, regardless of your membership attendance in the past. Let us take this opportunity to rekindle the fire, to build upon fellowship, and to have a lot of fun. Please call the council office at 561-694-8585 to register and come to camp Tanah Keeta to see some old friends.



Also, the next Lodge Executive Committee (L.E.C.) meeting will be held on March 30th from 2-4pm at the council office. All Lodge Officers, Chairmen and Advisors are required to attend. At these meetings the committee votes on the decisions that shape our Lodge. All other members of Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge are encouraged to attend and observe these meetings.

In other news, efforts are being made by Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge to add to the support that the OA provides to the Camps and to the Council. Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge has just passed its 2008-2012 Strategic Plan, the execution of which will provide increased community service and financial assistance to the Gulf Stream Council, as well as provide new and increased opportunities for members to be active within the Council. Please visit Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge website at [www.aal-pa-tah237.com](http://www.aal-pa-tah237.com) for updates on Lodge progress and events.

In closing, research has shown that after a boy learns the leadership skills that the BSA has to offer, that he is more likely to venture out into the world and make a difference, as a business leader, astronaut, politician, religious leader, or even as the President of the United States of America. Invest in Scouting. Leadership positions in Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge remain unfilled. Please contact me to see where you can best help the lodge.

WWW

Yours in Brotherhood,

Adam Taft

Order of the Arrow Lodge Chief

Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge #237

[Tadam711@aol.com](mailto:Tadam711@aol.com)

(561)506-5748



Lodge Officers for 2007-2008:  
Justin, Mike, Ian, Adam, Sam, and Sal



# Officer Reports

## Lodge Vice Chief of Program

Hey fellow Gators,

Whats up? I hope all of you had an awesome new year, and that your resolution is to be a part of the BEST LODGE AROUND! I trust that all of you were at the Lodge Banquet. It was a lot of fun! The prizes and awards were great, thanks to Mike Grove, A. Jay Flack, Justin Warnimont, and Bobby Weil. The next event for our Lodge is Spring Powwow. It is sure to be a great time! All of the cool seminars and competitions during the day, and to top it off, the awesome Powwow at night. I hope to see you all there. In addition, the troop OA elections are happening now, so be sure to help get yours done. In conclusion, I hope that you are happy to be a member of the best Lodge in the Section Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge!

WWW

Yours in Cheerfulness,

Ian McKay

[ITMcKay@aol.com](mailto:ITMcKay@aol.com)

## Lodge Treasurer

Dear Arrowmen,

I want to let you know that I think the Treasury is going well. The banquet was awesome, thanks to Mike Grove, and if you weren't there you missed out on some great give-aways. But back to the Lodge Treasury, Chapter patches are on the way to being sold out, so good news to the guys who wish to design new ones. Also, if you have not picked up your World Jambo Flaps yet, then you need to stop by the Lodge Box before they're sold out!

WWW,

Justin Warnimont

## Lodge Historian

Hey Gators,

The ongoing history of the Lodge and the King's Cup Display are going great. At Spring Powwow I will need several people to help out with the King's Cup Display for just a little bit. Hope to see you guys at Spring Powwow, don't forget about the Heart's and Magic Tournaments.

WWW,

Salvatore Sodano

[sal@gatortales.org](mailto:sal@gatortales.org)

## Lodge Vice Chief of Service

Hey Gators,

Hopefully everyone had a good winter break. I know I did. Chapter Chiefs, I still need information about the number of service hours that your chapter completed for your One Day of Service project. The next service weekend for Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge is the May Service weekend, where we will be helping to set up for Summer camp. At the January L.E.C. meeting, our Lodge voted on, and accepted a new Lodge Strategic Plan. This plan will be used to track the number of service hours that our Lodge does annually, as well as set new goals for the future. Plans have been made to have the new plan posted on the Lodge website. The Order of the Arrow provides year round service to the Council, the camps, Districts, troops, and the community. Brothers, I urge you to stand up and take an active role in the OA.

Yours in Cheerful Service,

Sam Taft

(561)676-4978

[TSam731@aol.com](mailto:TSam731@aol.com)



## Lodge Secretary

Hello Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge!

The Gator Tales, thanks to Sal Sodano, has been going out on time before all of our Lodge weekends so you know what's going on. Also, the website is up and kicking, and we are working on it so we can achieve the best website at Section Conference for

the second year in a row. If anybody would like to help out with the Gator Tales or the website please feel free to contact me at (561) 635-1626 or at [mgrove2@fau.edu](mailto:mgrove2@fau.edu).

WWW,

Mike Grove

## Gator Tales Reminder

Advisors, Arrowmen, 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: April 1st



# Winter Fellowship 2007

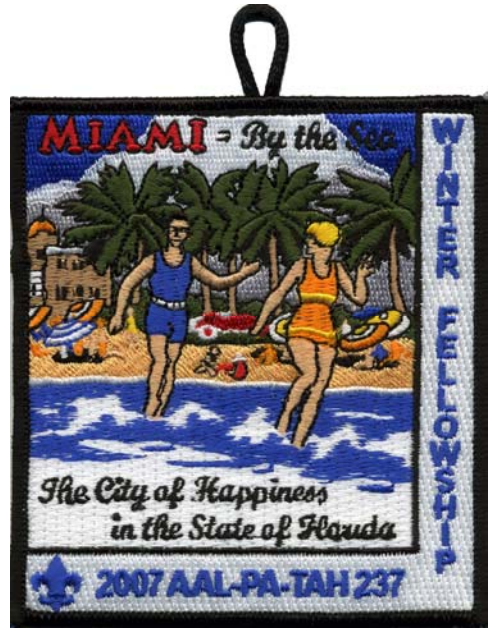
## 65 YEARS OF TRADITION

On November 30-December 2, 2007 Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge 237 held it's annual Winter Fellowship at Tanah Keeta Scout Reservation. The weekend was a huge success with over 150 Arrowmen in attendance. This event marked the 65th Anniversary of the Lodge which was celebrated during the weekend through sessions and special events. Saturday the Lodge hosted a special dinner with guest speaker Jeff Isaac, our new Council Scout Executive, who spoke about the future of our Lodge and our Council. We ended the weekend with a Lodge meeting where Coo-Wa-Chobee Chapter received the Golden Gator Award. This awesome weekend would not have been possible with out the help of Bradley Ellis my adviser, the kitchen crew, the seminar teachers, and the Lodge officers. Thank You Guys!!!

Yours In Fellowship,  
Oakley Hammond







Pictures by:  
Patrick Rice



## Make-Up Ordeal



On the first weekend of the new year, January 4-5 to be exact, we held a make-up Ordeal at Camp Oklawaha. Congratulations to our six new Ordeal members. Thank you for all who came out, the Carlson's and Mr. Soles for the delicious food, and the seven Elangomats that were there to guide our new members. And congratulations to Bradley Woods for earning his black sash.

### **New Ordeal Members**

**Israel Dubin**

**Hank Rivera**

**Daniel Jennings**

**Jared Schorr**

**Elizabeth Jennings**

**Michael Tavlin**

WWW,  
Mike Grove  
Ordeal Master

## The Gator Tales

Hey Gators,

The Gator Tales, as I am sure you have noticed, is back in full strength. This is the second issue since I have become Publications Chairman and so far have completed the Lodge's goal to produce a new issue before each Lodge weekend. I have found that there was a small problem with delivery of the last issue which resulted in a handful of people not receiving their copy in the mail. If you did not receive the last Gator Tales issue, please email me with your name and address at [sal@gatortales.org](mailto:sal@gatortales.org) and I will make sure one is sent to you. Also, if you would like to view this issue or any previous Gator Tales issue online, visit the [www.gatortales.org](http://www.gatortales.org). We expect the next issue to come out before the Service Weekend, so if you would like to have an article included in the issue, be advised that the due date for submissions is April 1st. Don't forget to attend Spring Powwow.

WWW,  
Salvatore Sodano

## Scoutreach Mentoring Day

It's time again for Aal-Pa-Tah's Scoutreach Mentoring Day! This event will be held at it's new permanent location Tanah Keeta Scout Reservation on May 17, 2008. This event gives every Lodge member the chance to give back to his fellow Scouts. So come on out and have a great time mentoring the youth of the Gulf Stream.

Please call the council service center and reserve your spot Today! You must pre-pay the event fee of \$10 which includes a patch, by May 8th, and as always, members must be dues paid to participant in Lodge events. Payment can be made in person, by mail, or by phone with a credit card (VISA/MC/AMEX/DISC) at (561)694-8585 ext 234. Mentoring Day is NOT covered by Fast Pass.



# ARROWCORPS<sup>5</sup>

A HIGHER ADVENTURE

Want to camp at a National Forest for a week, meet Arrowmen from around the country and have the time of your life? If so, then you want to go to ArrowCorps<sup>5</sup>.

Next summer, 5000 members of the Order of the Arrow and the U.S. Forest Service will team up to provide service to five sites across the country over five weeks. This national endeavor is called ArrowCorps<sup>5</sup> 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 located 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. Also, there is a second contingent traveling to the Mark Twain National Forest in Missouri on June 7-14 which T.K. Summer Camp Staff members will be able to attend. A \$100 deposit will hold your spot. The estimated cost is \$295 (plus travel), which may change depending on fundraising opportunities. Additional information is available at: [www.event.oa-bsa.org/events/arrowcorps5](http://www.event.oa-bsa.org/events/arrowcorps5). The Lodge is providing scholarships to help some members attend this trip, but these opportunities are few and go fast. All OA members are encouraged to attend, contact Adam Taft at [Tadam711@aol.com](mailto:Tadam711@aol.com) for information on how to sign up for this once in a lifetime opportunity.

## ArrowCorps<sup>5</sup> Mark Twain National Forest

The first week of ArrowCorps<sup>5</sup>, June 7-14, will be held at Mark Twain National Forest. The forest is located in southern and central Missouri and is more than 1.5 million acres sprawled across the beautiful Ozark Highlands. Arrowmen that attend will help in the removal of cedar trees from the Bateman area of the forest. The estimated cost for the trip is \$295 (plus travel), which may change depending on fundraising opportunities. If you are interested in attending, a deposit of \$100 needs to be made to the Council Service Center to hold your spot. Remember, T.K. Summer Camp Staff members will be able to attend this trip.

Yours In Service.  
Oakley Hammond  
Mark Twain Contingent Leader



## New Patches

To commemorate ArrowCorps<sup>5</sup> The 2008 Aal-Pa-Tah Year Set has five pentagon shaped patches for each OA weekend. Each weekend patch features one of the five National Forests that ArrowCorps<sup>5</sup> is visiting. The back patch adds nicely to the set and makes a nice centerpiece for the weekend patches (as shown above).

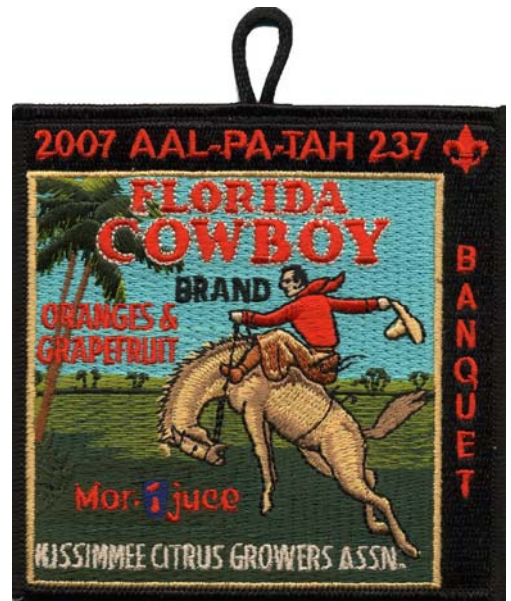


# Banquet 2008



On January 12th, Aal-Pa-Tah hosted our annual banquet at Jupiter High School. It was a night of food, fun, and fellowship. In case you missed it there was a silent auction, a live auction, lots of raffles, and of course awards. It was a night of real fun! A special congratulations to Phil Ashford and Dennis Kennedy who were the recipients of the James E. West Fellowship, Patrick Rice and Sal Sodano the recipients of the Lodge Advisor's Award, and Chas Carlson and Adam Taft the recipients of the Founders' Award.

WWW,  
Mike Grove  
Banquet Chairman







Mike Grove, Banquet Chairman, raffles off one of many priceless prizes.



Let the silent auction begin!



Phil Ashford and Dennis Kennedy receive the James E. West Fellowship Award.



Bradley Ellis speaks about the OA Trail Crew and Wilderness Voyage opportunities (Above).



Pictures by:  
Salvatore Sodano

# ***BROTHERS IN ACTION***

## Chapter Reports

### **A-Bani-Ki**

Osceola District

My Fellow Brothers,

Thank you to everyone in A-Bani-Ki who went to Winter Fellowship 2007, it was great to see you all. At the Winter Fellowship, A-Bani-Ki received the 3rd Best Chapter award for our participation. Morale is rising within the chapter, and I wish to keep it that way. We are starting new and better things within the chapter that will be up and running by this year. We are in the process of building an e-mail registry so that a mass e-mail can be sent out to all of the Troop OA reps and the Scoutmasters within the chapter. This new system will enable the chapter to communicate in ways it never had before. We previously relied on Scoutmaster attendance at the monthly Roundtable to pass on OA news to the troops. Once this new system is in place, everyone within the A-Bani-Ki chapter will be able to receive the latest news and updates as they occur. Also down the pipe is the development of a website, possibly in partnership with the District of Osceola's new web site at <http://osceoladistrict.org/>. The website and the email system will enable the members of the chapter to reach out and inform other members instantly. Members within the chapter will be able to post news articles to the web site informing everyone of OA events that their troop may be having, or to ask questions and chat with other A-Bani-Ki chapter members in the forum. In order to properly grasp everyone, A-Bani-Ki must go digital, and we are taking the steps to do so.

The A-Bani-Ki chapter has begun its OA elections already. The Scoutmasters are being contacted and we are arranging the proper election dates for every troop. We are also in the process of building a larger election team so that the elections can be held as soon as possible, and so no one team gets too exhausted from holding all of the elections. For every election that we hold, we are building a running email list of the Scoutmasters and OA Reps for the uses explained above.

Overall, the A-Bani-Ki chapter has begun its plans to get more people active in the Lodge. A-Bani-Ki is expanding and we are getting prepared to accommodate everyone old and new to show them what it means to be in Aal-Pa-Tah.

In WWW,  
Chandler Weiner  
[crweiner@bellsouth.net](mailto:crweiner@bellsouth.net)

### **Chee-Pa-Tah**

Trade Winds District

The Chee-Pa-Tah Chapter Chief, Walter Arnett, did not submit a report and no report was submitted on his behalf.

### **Coo-Wa-Chobee**

Manatee District

Hello to all Arrowmen from Aal-Pa-Tah's #1 Chapter! We are still celebrating our victory at Winter Fellowship. For those of you who missed it, Coo-Wa-Chobee Chapter was awarded a trophy at the weekend for dominating in the competitions, which included football, volleyball, tug-o-war, and a scavenger hunt. All Arrowmen who came to Winter Fellowship had a great time. I ask that at the next weekend, Spring Powwow, that you each bring another member of our chapter, who was not at the last weekend. This way we have more members to enjoy the food, fun, and fellowship.

Hey brother Arrowmen! Have you seen our new Chapter T-Shirts? They are awesome! Thank You to all of the Arrowmen of Coo-Wa-Chobee who helped with the design.

We had our first Chapter fishing tournament in December and the "BIGGEST CATCH" went to Mr. Mike Frankow. Way to go Mike! We had a good turnout and hope to have more Arrowmen next time.

We are averaging 20-25 members at our Chapter meetings. We meet at the Manatee District Round Table meetings at Lakeside United Methodist Church at 7:00pm on the second Monday of each month. At the Roundtable meetings, our chapter starts by doing the flag ceremony and the Pledge. I invite all of our chapter members to attend. We would also like to announce that the new Lodge Secretary is now Mike Grove (a member of Coo-Wa-Chobee Chapter.)

WWW, Elliott Taft  
(561)676-5910



## Lowaneu-Mawat

Indian River District

What a great time it is to be in the Order of the Arrow and in the Lowaneu-Mawat Chapter. We have just had a super Winter Fellowship which was headed up by Oakley Hammond. There was great training, Chapter competition and Fun, Fun, Fun. If you missed it, you missed one of the good ones.

The first event of 2008 saw us at Camp Oklawaha in Sebastian doing an Ordeal. Not too many candidates, but a great deal of service was given to the camp up here. Again, if you missed it, you missed a fun time. Congrats to all the new Ordeal members.

The next few months will be a busy time in the OA with Spring Powwow, Section Conference, and Arrow-Corps<sup>5</sup>. Don't miss out on these great events if you can help it.

To the members of Lowaneu-Mawat Chapter, you need to get out and support our Lodge. It's a lot of fun when you get active. Our Chapter meetings are on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of every month at the First United Methodist Church Hall on 20<sup>th</sup> Street at 7PM. It is the same place that the District meets for Roundtable. Finally, as a reminder, WE ARE THE #1 CHAPTER in Aal-Pa-Tah

Chas Carlson

## Nekiwa

Sailfish District

Hey Nekiwa Members. I am coming around to do OA elections in the months of January and February. So please attend your troops meetings so that you can support the OA. Also if you are able to help me conduct these OA elections please call me at (772)708-1019 or email me at [lord\\_ig\\_88@yahoo.com](mailto:lord_ig_88@yahoo.com). There will be no Chapter meeting this month due to complications with the roundtable. Please attend the next meeting which is in February. In February we will need to get organized for Spring Powwow and Section Conference. I will be calling all of you to tell you the dates for upcoming events and to find out if you are going to attend them.

Yours in Brotherhood,

Zach Regan

## Oi-Ya-Tah

Treasure Coast District

Hi, my name is CJ Soles, and I am the Chapter Chief for The Oi-Ya-Tah chapter. We have been busy preparing for OA elections in the Troops. Multiple teams are covering the Treasure Coast District to elect new OA Candidates for this year. We are also working on preparations for the 2008 Aal-Pa-Tah Mentoring Day to be held on May 17th at Tanah Keeta, with Oi-Ya-Tah's Oakley Hammond Chairing the event. I am Proud to announce that we have added 10 New Ordeal Members, and had 6 Brothers earn their Brotherhood this year. I also want to report that we had 20 Arrowmen (and women) participate in our One Day of Service project, collecting food bags for the Scouting for Food drive.

Just a reminder that the Oi-Ya-Tah chapter meets each month at the Indian River Presbyterian Church, at 7:30 pm, on the 2nd Thursday of each month during the District Round Table Meetings. Come out and be active in the Chapter! Also, the February Chapter Meeting will be held at the Treasure Coast District Banquet Meeting, Feb. 14th.

Yours in Service,

C.J. Soles

(772)336-8480

## Osceola

Lighthouse District

Osceola Chapter Members,

I come to you with news of the potential restoration of what was once one of the largest chapters in Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge. We are currently working on a location for our chapter meetings and a communication system to facilitate news and messages throughout the chapter. However, in order for these changes to occur we need participation at Lodge and chapter events from our members. Attendance has dwindled to very few whereas it was once many, so I implore you to make the effort and at the very least come to Lodge weekends, the next of which is Spring Powwow. Contact will be made with everyone concerning the newly instituted chapter activities as they are finalized. If you are interested in becoming more involved or want to provide input please feel free to email me. I hope to see everyone at the next weekend.

Yours in service,

Dillon Pettyjohn

[Dpetty1409@aol.com](mailto:Dpetty1409@aol.com)

## Panasofee

Okeechobee District

The Panasofee Chapter Chief, Chris Hall, did not submit a report and no report was submitted on his behalf.

## Spring Powwow 2008

Spring Powwow 2008. This weekend will be held at Camp Tanah Keeta on March 7-9. Spring Powwow has something for everyone: Seminars, Trainings, Activities, two tournaments and a Powwow Saturday night! So come on out and have a great time at Spring Powwow 2008.



Matt Madden, picture taken by mztery (from PostPix website).

Please call the Council Service Center and reserve your spot TODAY! You must pre-pay the weekend fee of \$15.00 which includes a weekend patch, by **March 1st**. Members must be dues paid to participate in Lodge events. Annual Lodge dues are \$10.00. Payment can be made in person, by mail, or by phone with a credit card (VISA/MC/AMEX/DISC) at 561-694-8585 ext 234. You will also be allowed to register at the door for \$20.00.

Save the hassle of having to register., 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.

“Change Service Requested”

Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge 237  
Gulf Stream Council, Inc.  
Boy Scouts of America  
8335 North Military Trail  
Palm Beach, FL 33410-6329

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
West Palm Beach FL  
Permit No. 130