

THE OWL HOOT

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF IMMOKALEE LODGE 353 ORDER OF THE ARROW
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YOU SHOULD BEEN AT THE CHRISTMAS BANQUET

On December 6, our Lodge held its Annual Christmas and Awards Banquet. This was a great opportunity for Immokalee Lodge members to have a great time together. The evening started with a delicious dinner of turkey, ham and all the trimmings. After dinner, lodge member and Native American Turtleheart Webb told a Native American legend of how we got fire and then a demonstration of Southeastern Native American clothing.

Lodge Adviser Sam Thompson gave a presentation on the upcoming National Order of the Arrow Conference to be held in August at Iowa State University.

Certificates of appreciation were given to 1997 Lodge Officers. Out going Lodge Chief, J. R. Tolbert was presented with a special plaque for his past service to the Lodge. Thirty two members were presented with service flaps for their work of at least 50 hours service to the Lodge and camp. Congratulations to J. R. Tolbert and Sam Thompson for receiving the Founders Award.

New officers were installed by J. R. Tolbert. These are Warren Abernathy, Chief, Ernest Ausby, First Vice Chief, Jonah Shalack, Second Vice Chief, Cory Miller, Secretary and Kevin Bacon, Historian.

Finally, Santa presented gifts to several lucky members.

1998 DUES ARE DUE

If you were not at the Banquet or have not already sent your 1998 dues in, they are now due. We finished 1997 with a record 209 members. We want every one of you to continue as members in good standing.

So complete the form at the end of "OWL HOOT" and drop it by or mail it to the Scout Service Center, 930 W. Oglethrope Blvd, Albany, GA 31701., along with your check for \$4.00. You can also pick up the brand new 1998 Lodge Plan Book and Calendar any time you are at the Scout Service Center.

NUTIKET'S RIDDLE

No one comes to the fire without adding to it
No one has anything with them when they come
What is it??

From "The Drum"

1998 WINTER POW WOW

A big week end of fun for all Lodge members is scheduled for Jan. 30-Feb 1 at Camp Osborn. You can come out and just have fun watching and enjoy the great food or you can enter the competition. We are going to have some fun competition games and some serious competition.

Two man volley ball, horseshoes, rifle and shotgun shooting, and video games with prizes for the champs will be featured. If you want to enter into some serious competition, and help your Lodge, learn one of the parts in the Pre-Ordeal Ceremony. This will also feature a good prize for the winner. Just ask for a copy of the ceremony at the Scout Service Center and pay \$1.00.

You must be prepared to sign up for all competitions when you arrive at camp on Friday evening. If you are entering the two man volley ball, you must have your partner with you when you sign up. For the shot gun shooting there will be an extra charge of 20 cents per shell (You will shoot 10 shots, but more will be necessary in the event of ties.). There will be separate competition for adults and youth.

The weekend will feature, whole, BBQ pig and other goodies. Cost for the weekend is only \$12. Register now by sending in the form at the end with your \$12 check (plus dues if you haven't already paid them). Plan to arrive at camp around 7PM and leave around 11AM on Sunday.

CATFISH FOOD DONATIONS NEEDED

The camp lake is well stocked with catfish, but they need to be fed. Ranger Eric is asking for donations of floating catfish food. It only costs about \$11 for a 50 lb. bag. So how about some of you good Lodge members buying a bag or two. You can bring it to the Pow Wow with you, or just take it to camp or the Scout Service center any time.

NATIONAL ORDER OF THE ARROW CONFERENCE (NOAC)

NOAC is held only every two years and the last time one was held, our Lodge was not represented. The Conference will be held at Iowa State University, Ames, August 2-6. This will be a great experience for any OA member. We would like to take as many as possible. Cost is \$205 or youth and \$240 for adults. We estimate that travel costs will be another \$200. This is a fairly large sum of money, but not nearly as much as going to the Jamboree.

If you would like to go, we must have at least a \$50 deposit by February 23. Send this to the Scout Service Center, Albany. Be sure you indicate that it is for NOAC. It'll be a great trip.

NEW LODGE FLAPS AVAILABLE

Our Lodge has new style flaps. They have a red border and the arrow that the Owl sits on indicates Ordeal, Brotherhood or Vigil. They will be available at the Pow Wow.

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 11, 2:30--Lodge Executive Committee, Camp Osborn
January 30-February 1--Winter Pow Wow, Camp Osborn
February 2--Unit Elections begin.
April 17-19--S-4 Section Conference, Camp La-No-Che, FL

ONE BY ONE

At first bunched together, line after line,
Each seems a dull and senseless thing,
solid and simple,
worthless as pebbles.
Why spend time on them.

But like soot on a string of prisms,
the surface is misleading.
Take them carefully, one by one,
rub them, warm them,
hold them up in the sun.

You'll see:
underneath there is a clarity--
the light shines vividly
in every one.

But remember?
At first you thought they were only
sticks in a woodpile,
words on a page,
candidates walking together.

From "The Drum"