

the

"OWL HOOT"



NEWSLETTER OF THE IMMOKALEE LODGE NO. 353
SOUTHWEST GEORGIA COUNCIL - B.S.A.

"...go forward in brotherhood and cheerful service to God and your country"

Spring Fellowship

WHAT: The Spring Fellowship is a chance for those honored campers to join the Immokalee Lodge #353 and for all current members to join in fellowship.

WHERE: Camp Osborn

WHEN: May 16 - 18, 1997. All Scouters who were elected to participate in the Ordeal need to arrive by 6:30 PM. All officers and any members who will help need to arrive by 5:00 PM.

WHO: All O.A. members are requested to attend. Also, if you have been an Ordeal member for at least ten (10) months, you can further seal your membership by receiving your Brotherhood.
IMPORTANT: Those who will go through the Brotherhood ceremony should review the requirements in their handbook.

COST: \$25.00 - elected Scouters who will participate in the Ordeal.
\$20.00 - current Ordeal members who will participate in the Brotherhood ceremony.
\$12.00 - all other members.

This includes meals for Saturday & Sunday plus all the essentials needed for joining the Lodge.

WHAT TO BRING: Class A & Class B uniforms, including O.A. sash
tent
work clothes & gloves
personal gear
Friday's meal

(Complete this section and return it, with your payment, to the Scout Service Center for reservations)

Name: _____

Date: _____

mail to:

New member / Ordeal / Brotherhood / Vigil
(circle one)

Amount paid: \$ _____

Scout Service Center
930 N. Oglethorpe Blvd.
Albany, Georgia 31707

Address: _____

Youth / Adult
(circle one)

Phone No. _____

Attending for Ordeal / Brotherhood / Fellowship

FROM THE CHIEF

Dear Brothers:

Recently, our Lodge attended the Section 4 Conference in Jupiter, Florida. Immokalee Lodge was represented well with 27 members attending. All of the Arrowmen in attendance had a great time and hope that you will join us next year.

Our next major event is the Spring Fellowship and Ordeal May 16-18. The fee will be \$12 for members and \$20 for members going up for Brotherhood membership. I hope that each of you will join us at Camp Osborn for this weekend of Brotherhood and Cheerful Service.

W. W. W.

J. R. Tolbert

UNIT ELECTIONS AND CAMP PROMOTION

by AUSTIN McGLAUN

Our Lodge has been conducting Unit Elections and Summer Camp Promotions since February. We have done this in several Troops. Approximately 25 Scouts and Scouters have been elected Ordeal Candidates. Several other troops have scheduled elections for the rest of April and early May. We hope to have these completed before the Spring Fellowship, May 16-18.

S-4 SECTION CONFERENCE A BIG SUCCESS

by MICHAEL COSTON

The experience of a lifetime happened at the S-4 Section Conference at Camp Tanah Keeta, Jupiter, Florida. We had a total of 27 Arrowmen from Immokalee Lodge going to this event.

On the 8 hour trip down, we stopped for gas and "rest" breaks. Then we stopped for lunch at Hooters, Daytona Beach, Florida. We arrived at the camp around 6:30PM.

We had daily activities that kept our day busy. We competed in Beach Volley Ball, raft making, Kings Cup, rock climbing. Our Advisers, Sam Thompson and Eric Ginter competed in the adult Sinkathon. We also went to seminars which gave us ideas on how to

run our Lodge in a better way. At night, we enjoyed skits at the arena shows, swimming and "Dive-in" movies.

It was a good experience for Ordeal members, like me, to see what it is like to feel the true experience of the Order of the Arrow. Everyone in our Lodge had a blast and would like to see more next year. If you have any questions on what went on, please talk to one of us.

PHILMONT--OA TRAIL CREW

The experience of a lifetime for only \$100. You get to spend two weeks in the beautiful backcountry of Philmont Scout Ranch. The first week is a trail building experience. You get to continue where your fellow Arrowmen left off building the Vaca Trail in 1996.

The second week, you hike on an itinerary that you and your crew will design. At the week's conclusion, there is a Western style buffet in your honor.

The first session begins on June 13 and the final one ends on August 22. The only requirement is that you must be 16 years old by the start of the session and not yet 21 before it's conclusion. We hope to see you come and be a part of the OA trail building history.

For more information, contact:

J. R. Tolbert: 912-883-8696

IMMOKALEE PLACES SECOND IN 5-4 VOLLEY BALL

by Cory Miller

Last year at the Section Conference, our Lodge volley ball team suffered a humiliating 0-15 loss in the first game. This year we more than redeemed ourselves.

We were better than 9 other Lodge-teams, one of which was the NOAC champion. Some teams we just barely got by; others we dominated by a score of 15-0. This wipeout game was the big enthusiasm builder just before the Section Championship.

Starters for the Championship were: J. R. Tolbert, Warren Abernathy, Cory Miller, John McDole, Michael Coston and Matthew Slater. Pinch

hitters who played a major part in keeping us in the game were: Adam Erickson, and Chris Miller.

This team not only gave us Immokalee's first ever win in a Section game, but also carried us to a big second place finish under Team Captain Warren Abernathy.

NEW SECTION OFFICERS ELECTED

by CORY MILLER

New officers for our section were elected at the Section Conference, April 16-20 at Camp Tanah Keeta, Florida. The new Section Chief is David Strebler from Echockotee Lodge 200. The other new officers are: Jeremy Pullan, Vice-Chief, Alexander Ruban, Secretary and Jason Stein, Historian. The former officers are: Joe Gonzalez, Chief, Jason Gibson, Vice-Chief, Jeff Waddy, Secretary and Jeremy Pullan, Historian.

In the election, each lodge, regardless of membership has 10 votes for each position. These 10 votes can all be cast for one candidate or split, as the lodge wishes.

Next year, we hope to have someone from Georgia run and be elected as Section Chief. Our Lodge Chief, J. R. Tolbert, says that he would like to run for Section Chief. The only way he can hope to be elected is for us to have more members attending and participating in events. Yes, we would still have only 10 votes, but if we can have 50 or 75 members in attendance, this would show other lodges that we are participating in the Section, supporting our Chief and showing spirit and enthusiasm.

NEW REGALIA FOR CEREMONIES

by ERNEST AUSBY

For many years, our Lodge has used Western Plains Native American costumes in our ceremonies. While the big headdress of feathers and other costume parts are impressive, we should be wearing clothing like that of the Native Americans who lived in South Georgia. Surprise!! We were able to buy clothing like that worn by these Native Americans at the recent Section Conference. We have enough to fully costume 5 members. We have parts for 5 others and hope to have enough additional parts to finish these 5 soon. In addition, a really "cool" knife was bought and donated to the Lodge by members Joel Abernathy and Stan McGlaun.

If you are interested in joining the Ceremonial team or the dance team we are trying to form, contact Ernest Ausby at 38-5232 for further details. We hope to see you at our Spring Fellowship and Ordeal and you will be impressed by our new regalia.

FROM THE ADVISER

OUR LODGE IS GROWING AND GETTING BETTER

Immokalee Lodge now has 129 paid members. This is the highest number of dues paying members we have had in several years. We had 27 of our members attend the recent Section Conference at Camp Tanah Keeta, in South Florida. This included several of our newest Ordeal members.

With the candidates who go through the make-up Ordeal in May and the Fall Fellowship and Ordeal in September, we will easily go over 150 members. Yet there are many of you who are still getting our newsletters who have not yet paid your 1997 dues. If all of you did, we could easily pass 200 members!

Our Lodge has a group of dedicated and enthusiastic officers. They need your support. Not only by paying your dues, but by coming to the Lodge events, volunteering for committees, etc.

It was quite a shock for some of our members, who attended the Section Conference, to see Lodges with more members at the Conference than we have in our Lodge. No, we can't hope to challenge these Lodges in membership because of our Scout numbers. But we can challenge them by having a higher percentage of our members active and working for the Lodge and the Order.

Many candidates who go through the Ordeal Ceremony and come back for other Lodge weekends, believe that W W W (Wimachtendienk, Wingolauchsik, Witahemui) are translated as Work, Work, Work!!! While this does actually mean Brotherhood, Cheerfulness and Service, we don't have to do service every time we get together. This is illustrated by the recent S-4 Conference that 27 of our members attended and the Winter Pow-Wow that our Lodge held in February. The members who attended these events will tell you that the Order of the Arrow can be fun, if you will just participate.

Yes, we do expect to work at Camp Osborn and other places. But we can have fun together. Even Ordeal weekends can be fun.

Your officers are working hard to make this Lodge bigger and better.
Come out and help them do it.

W. W. W.

Sam Thompson

FROM THE ADVISER

LODGE T-SHIRTS AVAILABLE

We now have Lodge T-shirts for sale. If you paid for one at the Winter Pow Wow, you can get it at the Spring Fellowship. Or you can buy one for only \$9 at that time. All sizes are available and they look good.

Boy Scouts of America

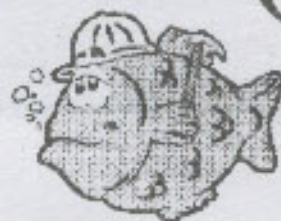
A United Way Agency

Fishing Rodeo

at



Camp Osborn
480 Camp Osborn Rd.
Sylvester, GA



Saturday, May 31, 1997

Registration Begins at 7:30 a.m.

Fishing From 8 a.m. to 12 noon

Kids Ages Up to 16 may Fish.

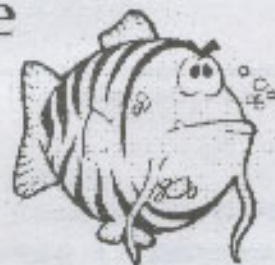
****Please Be Accompanied By An Adult****

Admission Is Free!!



A Consession Stand will be
Open!!

***Bring Your Own Bait!!**



Sponsored By:

Birdsong Peanuts and Order of the Arrow