



# The Owl Hoot

Edition 2000 Volume 1

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Winter 2000

## 1999 Christmas Banquet and Year in Review

The Christmas and Awards Banquet marked the end of the 1999 Immokalee Lodge year and ushered in the beginning of 2000. In an evening full of food and awards, many Arrowmen in our lodge were honored for their service to the lodge, council, and community over the past year. The new officers were installed into office and the 2000 Lodge Chief, Kevin Bacon, gave his commencement speech with challenged lodge member to seek ways in which the could remain active in the lodge.

After dinner service awards were first on the program. Matt Hall was awarded with the youth Arrowmen of the Year Awards while Mike Johnson was the adult recipient. Matt Hall is currently serving as the Lodge First Vice Chief and has previously served as Activities Committee Chairman. Mike Johnson is a Vigil Honor member and was responsible for the creation of



Picture: 2000 Lodge Officers Installed into Office.

the Elangomat program in our lodge. Joe Jackson, previous Lodge Adviser, received the 1999 Founders' Award. Vigil Honor candidates for 1999 were also tapped out at the banquet. Congratulations to Mac Stevens, Austin McGlaun, and Kevin Bacon who were tapped out for this honor.

Other items on the program included gifts from Santa, who oddly resembled our Lodge Adviser, and the installation of the 2000 Immokalee Lodge officers. These officers will serve their terms of office over the next year and help to continue the lodge's ever-growing success.

As 1999 came to a close we looked back on many of our accomplishments that took place over the last year. Several committees were formed to offer more leadership roles for youth members, the lodge attended the 1999 Section S-4 Conference on a charter bus with over 50 members, we participated in the 1999 National One Day of Service program, and helped the Southwest Georgia Council in producing one of its greatest summer camp programs. With so much accomplished in 1999, what could possibly lay in store for 2000? The answer is a simple one. Already Immokalee Lodge 353 re-initiated the

chapter system which will allow the lodge to extend its program to all areas of our council. Our summer camp promotion and unit elections campaign is off in full swing to try and top the number of scouts we had at summer camp and brothers we had inducted into our Order in 1999.

The 2000 lodge year promises to hold many great things in store for our lodge. However, these things can only be achieved if we listen to the words of the legend of our Order in that we must "stand by one another".



There are so many ways for everyone to become active whether it is by serving as a lodge officer, committee chairman, or by regularly attending lodge events. Never hesitate to ask what you can do to help the lodge. A lodge is only as great as its members are and with all of the great members that compose our lodge than we should be nothing but the best.

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## Chiefly Speaking

Dear Brothers,

What a busy year it has been so far! Already this spring our lodge has successfully held its annual Winter PowWow and Spring Fellowship in March. We also actively assisted the Council in the planning of the Council Camporee. At the Camporee, we ran the "Pepsi wagon" and provided members for the production of the Saturday night campfire.

With so much accomplished already, we still have much to look forward to in the 2000 Section Conference in April and the National Order of the Arrow Conference at the end of July.

As we proceed deeper into the 2000 Immokalee Lodge year, we have further reason to focus our talents on keeping our Lodge strong. I encourage all our members, especially those new ones, to seek active participation in our Lodge. From service as a committee member to running for a lodge office, we have plenty of opportunities for every member to participate. Let us continue this year firm bound in brotherhood.

Yours in Brotherhood,

*Kevin Bacon*

Lodge Chief



## From the Adviser

As our Lodge Chief has pointed out elsewhere in this issue of the "OWL HOOT", we have done a lot in the first two and a half months of the lodge year. However, we still have a lot to do, if we are to continue to make our Lodge bigger and better.

I am a little concerned about the low participation we had at the PowWow and Spring Fellowship. While we did have fairly good turnouts, the number of members attending both events was considerably less than last year. And it looks as if participation at the Section Conference is going to be down from the past two years.

The PowWow was a lot of fun. I realize we had to postpone it from earlier because of potential bad weather, but we still should have had more members. The Activities Committee has done a great job of planning things to do at the PowWow, from fun competition, to training, to fun night in the dining hall.

It is common for members to be called and asked to serve the Lodge in some way and then not show up. Our committee chairmen have a very difficult time getting members to serve on committees. When we have events, it's the same members participating time after time. Yes, we know you have school, sports, etc., but we don't ask for much of your time.

We have some very hard working officers and a number of other members who are hard working, but we need more members to help. Our officers are trying to make chapters a working part of the lodge but they can't be unless you agree to help when your chapter chief calls.

Participate in our events; say, yes, and mean it when you are asked to do something for your Lodge. **WE NEED YOUR PARTICIPATION.**

WWW,

*Sam Thompson*

Lodge Adviser

## Keep Your Membership Active

I would like to introduce my self as the Lodge Secretary for the year 2000. I am a Brotherhood member, a Life Scout and member of Troop 21 in Americus. One of my goals is to set up a Lodge network of internet addresses of all members who have internet access. If you have such an address please send it to me at [banderws@americus.net](mailto:banderws@americus.net)

I also want to work with the other Lodge officers to keep our membership active. One of our biggest problems is in membership retention. For the past 3-4 years we have "lost" about 50 members each year. Our membership has stayed at around 200 members for the past 3 years, but only because we have inducted 50 new members each

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## Gischhatteu Chapter

To the members of Gischhatteu chapter, or Thronateeska district: We are attempting a new system using chapters, which are on the same level as the districts. Using these chapters we, the lodge, hope to gain your interest and attendance. I, Stephen Otruba, am your Chapter Chief. I am a liaison or link to the lodge. I speak to your troop through your OA unit representative. Scoutmasters, if you haven't done so already, I need you to select an OA unit representative. The OA unit representative must be in the OA and exemplary in the scouting way. He represents your troop in every way. This is a key position, in that each unit needs proper representation in the OA in order for us to grow as a lodge. If you have any questions call me at (912) 883-5381 or email to:otruba@south.com (I'd rather this route). Thank you.

**Stephen Otruba, Chapter Chief**

## Gokhotit Chapter

To my fellow Gokhotit Chapter members:

I am Adam Erickson. I have been selected as your chapter chief. I am an active member of Troop 3 from Albany and am currently serving as ASPL of the troop and Vice President of our Venture Crew. I am a Life Scout and Brotherhood member of the Lodge.

We are trying to get chapters going again as an important

part of our Lodge. Chapters are based on the scout council districts. The Gokhotit Chapter covers Albany and counties to the south. Think of a chapter as a patrol and our Lodge as the troop and me as your patrol leader. We are one of 3 chapters. You will be receiving a phone call or letter shortly concerning your new chapter and its activities. I hope to get ideas from you about chapter activities and events. Please feel free to call me at 439-7445 or email me at AE147@aol.com.

**Adam Erickson, Chapter Chief**

## Wulihan Chapter

*Hello, my Brothers.* This year we are in the process of starting chapters. Each chapter covers a Scout Council District. I have been selected to serve as Chapter Chief for the Wulihan Chapter, which serves the Achewon District (Tift, Turner, Mitchell, Worth and Baker Counties). I am excited by this challenge. I would like for us to have at least two chapter meetings this year and a community service project. For our chapter, as well as the other two chapters, to be a success, everyone in the chapter must be involved. We have a lot of new Lodge members in our chapter and we need to get them off to a good start. Wulihan Chapter can be the best chapter in our Lodge if we will all work and pull together. I will be contacting members soon about our first chapter meeting. My Adviser, Jeff Scott, and I are looking forward to an exciting year in our chapter and lodge.

**Chris Miller, Chapter Chief**

## Activities Committee

My Brothers: Our winter PowWow was great! For those of you that didn't make it, you missed a great time. Casino Night was a blast. With all kinds of "gambling" and a great (?) DJ, it was a real party. Those members who finished first in the "Quest for the Golden Owl" were Mitchell Mathews (Adult) and Chris Miller (Youth). Winners in the "Five-More-Things-We-Couldn't-Think-of-a-Name-for" event were Stan McGlaun (Adult) and Richard Thomas (Youth).

We just had our Spring Fellowship, and while the turnout was a little low and the weather didn't cooperate, we did work on some great service projects. We planted 17 Bradford Pear trees along the road-entrance to camp and worked on clearing the new bike trails on the back side of camp.

I am looking for someone to take my place as Activities Committee Chairman. If you are interested in serving the Lodge in a great and fun way, please call me at 432-2544.

**Matt Hall, Chairman**

## Elangomats Committee

The Elangomat Committee has been working extremely hard. I would like to thank all of those who have dedicated their time to serve in this very important job.

If you are a Brotherhood member, then you should consider being an Elangomat. As an Elangomat, you will experience a deeper understanding of the Ordeal process and our Order. We will soon be recruiting members to serve as Elangomats for the Fall Fellowship.

If interested call me at 273-5489 or [adambjja@sowega.net](mailto:adambjja@sowega.net).  
**Jason Adams, Chairman**

## King's Cup and Ceremonies

We are in the process of developing our Kings Cup display for the upcoming Section Conference. For the past two years, we have been very successful in this, coming in second in 1998 and third in 1999.

Thanks to member Larry Gray for making our sign for our new theme "Trails from the Past, A Road to the Future". I would like to thank those members who participated in the Camporee Campfire.

We really need to work on our ceremonies. I need volunteers, but since few people in our Lodge seem to want to volunteer, I will be calling on some members to help us with our ceremonies. It's not difficult and can help you learn more about our Order. If you do want to be a part of our team, call me at 924-7157.

**Austin McGlaun, Chairman**

## Con't from Page 2 -

year. If we could keep most of these "lost" members our please send it into the Council Office as soon as possible. Lodge would have nearly 400 members. We could do so much more with this membership.

Right now we have about 60 members who have not paid their current year's dues. If you have not paid your dues, please send it into the Council Office as soon as possible.

**Ben Andrews, Lodge Secretary**

## 2000 Lodge Officers

**Kevin Bacon**  
Lodge Chief

**Matt Hall**  
Lodge First Vice Chief

**Jason Adams**  
Lodge Second Vice Chief

**Ben Andrews**  
Lodge Secretary

**Austin McGlaun**  
Lodge Historian

**Sam Thompson**  
Lodge Adviser

**Eric Ginter**  
Lodge Staff Adviser

Immokalee@hotmail.com

Several years ago, our Lodge set up a service award to be earned by 50 hours of service to the Lodge or camp in a year. A member was expected to keep up with and document the number of hours he worked and turn this in to the Lodge Executive Committee at year's end. By the late 1990's no members were doing this. The Executive Committee then said anyone who came to at least half of the Lodge events would get a Service flap. After a couple of years of this, the Executive Committee recognized that this was not a fair way to recognize service. In 1999, they decided to award service points based on the "degree" of service: serving as an Elangomat or working on Summer Camp staff is much more service than attending the PowWow. So, each Lodge event and service participation was given a number of service points (hours) based on actual service. To earn a service award, a member has to earn at least 50 percent of the available points. Attending events, serving the Lodge through committee or officer service,

## New Service Awards

...serving as an Elangomat or on Summer Camp staff, and serving the Lodge or camp in other ways (working in the Pepsi wagon at the Camporee, Fishing Rodeo) all have a service value. The ones that have the most service value are camp staff, Elangomat, committee chairman and One Day of Service; next are working at Ordeals and working as an active committee member; then comes attendance at non-working events, such as the PowWow or Section events. Working in the kitchen at the PowWow and other events in addition to whatever regular service is involved, earn extra service

points. Working at non-lodge events, such as the Camporee, and in Lodge service projects where members are individually called, such as the Fishing Rodeo also earn extra service points.

Our Lodge's Arrowmen of the Year awards are made to the youth and adult member who earn the most service points.

So, if you want to earn our service award, you should attend events, volunteer to serve on committees, agree to serve when asked to be a committee chairman, work in other service activities, sign up for camp staff and volunteer to be an Elangomat.

## 2000 Lodge Calendar

**March 10-12** – Spring Fellowship

**April 7-9** – Section S-4 Conference (Gainesville, FL – Camp Shands)

**May 7** – Lodge Executive Committee Meeting (Camp Osborn 2:30PM)



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