



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF IMMOKALEE LODGE 353, ORDER OF THE ARROW, BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA, SOUTHWEST GEORGIA COUNCIL, ALBANY, GEORGIA

ANNUAL FUN FELLOWSHIP MARCH 5-6, 2004

Each year our lodge has a Fun Fellowship, sometimes called the Pow Wow. Unlike our Ordeal Fellowships, this one is all fun and competition with your Brothers. Last year, there were a lot of crazy, awkward games designed by Andrew and Steve Lundsford. This included driving a riding mower, that steered backwards through an obstacle course, hillbilly golf and a number of things that required great agility.

In the past, attendance at this event has been poor. To try and increase attendance, we will be ending the program on Saturday night, after supper. We will start on Friday evening. Check in begins at 6:00 PM.

At 8:00 PM, we will have a large cracker barrel. Immediately after this, we will start fun and competition with OA Jeopardy and then Capture-the-Flag, commando style. We will start Saturday morning with a good breakfast. After breakfast, the fun begins. Some of the events will be volleyball, rifle shooting, and that famous Section 4N game, wischixin. A full list of activities will be given out on Friday night. We will have a good lunch and a fabulous supper on Saturday. After supper, awards will be made in all events and overall competition for youth and adults.

If you haven't been to our Winter Fellowship in the past, you should plan to come to this one. We will be sending out a specific letter for registration within the next few weeks.

PATRICK JOHNSON

FIRST VICE CHIEF

IMMOKALEE LODGE ON THE INTERNET

Our lodge has had a website for several years, but for various reasons has not been kept up to date. We now have a newly designed and up to date site. There is a great deal of information on it, including some history, dates for up coming events, a listing of officers and advisers, information on the ceremony teams, lodge flaps and past chiefs and advisers.

There is also an old picture from the past for Camp Osborn that we would like for all of you who have been members for many years to take a look at. It is a picture of someone with an OA sash. We don't know who this person is and we would like to know who he is. Take a look and see if you can identify him for us.

The site address is www.immokalee353.com

EMORY GREENE

LODGE HISTORIAN

SUMMER AND FALL ORDEALS FOR 2003

In July of last summer we held our "regular" Ordeal and Fellowship. We had 39 candidates for this and I was one of them. In November, we held the "make up" Ordeal and Fellowship. I was lucky enough to be asked to be on the Ordeal Ceremony team. My role was Kitchikinet, the guide. I participated in the pre-Ordeal and Ordeal ceremonies. In this Ordeal, we had 11 candidates. Being on the team and helping set up for the ceremonies is a hard job, but it is lots of fun and allows you to learn more about what the ceremonies mean. I have been told that for the past several years our ceremonies haven't been real great, with most people having to read the parts and sometimes having to beg someone to take part just hours before the ceremony is to begin. This fall with the help of Miki Hutchinson and Mike Greene and our past ceremonies chief, Patrick Johnson, we got two teams together in the early fall and practiced several times. Everybody didn't know all of their part, but we are learning and we had several comments about how good we did. It was a great experience for me and I plan to continue being a part of this.

RYAN LACY

LODGE SECRETARY

HELP NEEDED ON THE CEREMONY TEAMS

"Thus do you appear to others, on your path of cheerful service", spoke Ryan Lacy, Kitchikinet, during the pre-Ordeal ceremony at the "make up" Ordeal in November. Then he turned to the few ceremony team members to continue the ceremony.

Ryan is one of the four principal team ceremony team members that our Lodge has. We really need additional youth members for our teams. The four principal characters do need to memorize their parts. While we do have people in these positions at this time, we can always use more—for backup in case someone gets sick or is unable to perform for some reason. If you can memorize, and most youth can do this easily, we would like for you to help us. Our next ceremony won't take place for several months, so you have plenty of time to learn and practice. But not all members of the team have to memorize parts. We can use torch bearers and people to help set up and take down the ceremony ring.

Being on the ceremony team is hard work, but lots of fun too. It's a great experience and can help you learn more about the Order. And you don't have to work like all the other members and candidates. When you come to the Fun Fellowship, just see me and I will give you more information and sign you up as part of our team, or you can visit the Lodge website and sign up there.

DEVIN HUTCHINSON

SECOND VICE CHIEF

CHIEFLY SPEAKING

Greetings, fellow members of Immoaklee Lodge. As your new Lodge Chief, I want to thank all of you who made our two Ordeals and Fellowships in 2003 and our Christmas Banquet such great successes. We had 39 candidates in the Summer Ordeal and 11 in the Fall Ordeal—50 new Ordeal members for our Lodge. This the largest induction year in a number of years. The Christmas Banquet was another great event, complete with presents from our SAMta Clause. A big thanks goes to Sam also for a delicious meal.

As we get into the new year, I have some goals that I would like for our lodge to accomplish. (1) I would like to see better communication. I would ask each troop to appoint an OA Troop Representative. Please email me his name and other

information to the email address I list below. I want to make certain the very troop know about upcoming events. (2) We need an increase in Brotherhood conversions. Anyone who has been an Ordeal member for 10 or more months is eligible and it doesn't require you to do all the things you had to do as an Ordeal Candidate. Finally, I would like to see an increase in involvement in our Lodge and participation in our chapters. If you have any suggestions on how we can accomplish this or any comments about the operation of our lodge, send me a confidential email. I will keep it confidential so that you can be honest about your comments.

I look forward to serving you as your chief in 2004 and hope that with your support we can make this the best year ever.

JASON ADAMS

LODGE CHIEF

jpadams@valdosta.edu

SECTION CONCLAVE 2004

Have you ever been to a Section Conclave? If you haven't you have missed some great fun and fellowship. In 2003 we hosted our Section Conclave at Camp Osborn. It was attended by 280 members of Section SR4N, and 80 were Immokalee members. It was great! The shows were awesome, the food was better than excellent and the training was great.

There was lodge competition. My favorite was volleyball, which we won! There was ceremony competition (which we plan to enter this year, for the first time in years and years) and that favorite of almost no one in Georgia, Wischixin. But during the upcoming Winter Fun Fellowship, we will be practicing!

This year we will be going to Camp Alaffo, near Dothan, Alabama and hosted by Cowikee Lodge. It will be great. We will be traveling courtesy of Troop 21's bus and you have already received registration information. So plan now to go with us.

BEN DAVIS

CHEHAW CHAPTER CHIEF

NOAC 2004

National Order of the Arrow Conferences happen every two years and this year is one of the years. It will be at Iowa State University, July 31- August 5. It is an event that will be attended by more than 7000 Arrowmen. We stay in college dorms and eat great food in the cafeterias. We practically take over the entire campus. It's worth going just to see the shows every other night. But there is all kinds of great training, athletic competition, high-adventure demos and patch trading. At this NOAC, our Lodge Chief, Jason Adams, will be a trainer for a cell "Getting the Most out of Your Committees". It is an exciting and fun event. We will be sending out registration info in the next couple of weeks.

NATIONAL LEADERSHIP SEMINARS

Every year the Order of the Arrow National Committee conducts several National Leadership Seminars. They are for lodge leadership within each section. This past October, there was one for our section. Four youth (Patrick Johnson, Ben Davis, Jeremiah Thalheimer and Jesse England) and one adult member, Mike Johnson attended. It was held at the FFA

Center near Orlando, Florida

We were taught leadership principles by section officers (such as Jason Adams) and national officers, National Vice Chief, Rich Moore and Southern Region Chief, Frank McMillan. It was a hectic schedule, from classes on Friday night, when we got there, 8 AM to 10 PM on Saturday and until 11 AM on Sunday. But it was an excellent experience and something all of who attended plan to use in leading our lodge in 2004.

JEREMIAH THALHEIMER
ACHEWON CHAPTER CHIEF

WHAT DOES YOUR ORDER OF THE ARROW MEMBERSHIP MEAN TO YOU?

When E. Umer Goodwin founded the Order in 1915 it was to simply recognize honor campers. Since then it has grown into something much more. While it still recognizes honor campers and is the honor organization within the Boy Scouts of America, it has become a great service organization. You were inducted into the Order "not so much for what you have done, but for what you are expected to do." In taking the Obligation during the Ordeal, you promised, on your honor, "to be unselfish in service and devotion to the welfare of others."

Are you living up to this promise? Ask yourself and give an honest answer. While you do not have to be a participating member and a dues paying member to live up to this, if you wear the flap on your right pocket, it means that you are a member and are recognized as such. However, if you do wear the flap, you should be proud to pay your dues and participate. There are many scouts and scouters in our council who were once inducted into our Lodge and continue to wear their flap, but are not members because they have not paid their dues. If you are one of these you should pay your \$4 dues or take off the flap. It's that simple. So, how about going down to the Scout Office, pay your dues and start participating. We need you.

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