

THE OWL HOOT

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF IMMOKALEE LODGE, ORDER OF THE ARROW, CHEHAW COUNCIL, BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
VOLUME 2005, NUMBER 3 SUMMER 2005

NOTE: SOME OF THE ITEMS IN THIS ISSUE HAPPENED SOME TIME AGO, BUT THIS IS THE FIRST "OWL HOOT" PUBLISHED SINCE THESE HAPPENED.

IMMOKALEE LODGE SCORES BIG AT THE SECTION CONCLAVE

Our Lodge was well represented at the 2005 Section Conclave at Camp Tuckabatchee, Alabama with 31 members attending. BUT, the biggest thing that happened was our walking away with most of the awards!! One of the biggest was our Ordeal Ceremony Team. For the first time in many, many years we had a ceremony team entered in competition at a conclave and they walked away with First Place. (See additional articles about this.) The team was composed of Devin Hutchinson, Michael VanOteghem, Ryan Lacy and Jonathan Jenkins.

In addition to this we had the Best Website in our section; we won second place in Wischixin, Chariot Race, Tug of War, Overall in Quest Events and Publications.

We can do this and better at next year's Conclave. It will be held April 21-23 at Camp Mobilia, near Mobile, Alabama. Plan now to attend. In fact it would be great if those who plan to attend would let our Lodge know by emailing our Lodge Chief, David Scott (lordvaevictis@hotmail.com) or Lodge Adviser, Sam Thompson (negafamen353@cybersouth.com).

We will be sending out additional information later in the fall, but please go ahead and sign up now.

In addition to the awards our Lodge received a grant of \$2000 from the section to replace the staff hooch roofs.

IMMOKALEE AT THE CONCLAVE

by
MIKI HUTCHINSON
CEREMONY TEAM ADVISER

The 2005 Conclave could have been called the "Return of Immokalee"! Our lodge had an incredible weekend and showed the rest of Section 4N that we are alive and doing very well.

At the 2004 Conclave we sat during the awards program and never heard our lodge name called for a single award. This year, Immokalee was called time after time. Not only did we score a point in Wischixin, but we came in **SECOND!**

As an adult lodge member, I was very proud of the Immokalee members who attended Conclave. Out of 16 youth delegates, 11 were freshmen or younger. For a group that young to fare so well in so many events is awesome. I encourage all of our Lodge members, especially new Ordeal members to become more active in Lodge events. After performing so well at Conclave, the members who attended can say that they truly are "Firm Bound in Brotherhood".

LODGE CEREMONY TEAMS
by
DEVIN HUTCHINSON
VICE CHIEF-CEREMONIES

At the 2005 Conclave our Lodge Ordeal Ceremony Team competed for the first time in many years and won First in the Competition. The team consisted of Ryan Lacy (Kitchkinet), Jonathan Jenkins (Nutiket), Michael **Van Oteghem (Meteu)** and Devin Hutchinson (Allowat Sakima). Lodge Chief David Scott and Brotherhood members Beau Carroll and Beau Barrett made the event impressive by acting as "candidates" and the "elangomat". I believe I speak for all by saying it was an experience like no other ceremony before. The team was focused and more prepared than for any other of our ceremony events.

If you would like to serve in an acting role or would like to be part of the support during Ordeal weekends, please email me at dhutch353@mchsi.com or call me week days between 4-8 PM at 776-7710. For more information visit our lodge website, immokalee353.org and view the ceremony team information.

2005 SPRING ORDEAL AND FELLOWSHIP

Our Spring Ordeal, March 11-13 was attended by 38 members and 7 new Ordeal members were welcomed into our Lodge. They were, Justin Hartsfield, Rob Payne, Josh Carter, John Morrow, Mason Larsen, Cliff Yerta and Bernard Butler. Two members, Jonathan Jenkins and Joseph Adkins converted their membership to Brotherhood.

The weekend was a huge success!! Not only did we enjoy the fellowship of a large number of our members, we replaced the badly leaking roofs of the staff hooches. The Summer Camp Staff greatly appreciated this.

FALL FELLOWSHIP AND ORDEAL
SEPTEMBER 23-25

Members should have already gotten specific information on this event. If you have not already done so, make your plans now to attend. We have 50 scouts and scouters who are eligible to be come our new Brothers. We need a good turn-out of members to welcome these worthy candidates. The food will be good and plentiful; we will work with the candidates on Saturday morning and then enjoy some fun and fellowship in the afternoon.

ANY YOUTH WHO WISHES TO RUN FOR A LODGE OFFICE MUST MEET WITH THE LODGE ADVISERS BEFORE NOON ON SATURDAY.

NOAC 2006

The National Order of the Arrow Conclave will be July 29-August 3, 2006. It will be held at Michigan State University. It is a great event and we would like to take a large delegation. Unfortunately, public schools in Southwest Georgia start on August 2, before NOAC is over. However, there have been a few members who have said they would like to go anyhow. While complete information on registration, cost, etc won't be available until early in 2006, it would be good if we could get a tentative list of members who hope to go to this great OA event. If you just think you would like to go, email our Lodge Adviser, Sam Thompson (negatamen353@cybersouth.com). Cost is likely to be in the area of \$600-700, including travel.

BROTHERHOOD IN CHEERFUL SERVICE

by
SAM THOMPSON
LODGE ADVISER

No, Brotherhood IN Cheerful Service is not a misprint. It is what I experienced as a member of the Order of the Arrow Service Corps at the 2005 National Jamboree.

I was the adviser to a group of 26 young men, 16 to 21 years of age, from Florida to California to New York. This group was one of five similar groups of young men from all over the United States (And one from a foreign country, who was a member of BSA and the OA.), all under the supervision of an adviser and associate adviser. When we started out before the Jamboree troop contingents got there, we were strangers mostly. There were a few from the same lodge. But mostly we didn't know each other. Two weeks later we were without a doubt Brothers in Cheerful Service.

We did just about everything that could be done at a Jamboree: we worked at Merit Badge Midway, in the Action Centers, in the dining halls, we helped set up and take down the OA show, "12 cubed", we conducted the national flag ceremonies, we answered telephones, and we ushered at the arena shows. This last was something that really showed that we were Servant Leaders.

The first arena show was scheduled to have President Bush speak to us. Because of all the security, we had to be in the arena at 2:30 PM; it was 4 PM before we actually got through security. The temperature was 95+; the heat index was 110+. The troops started coming in at 4:30 and we worked to get them seated. Because of security requirement, neither we nor the troops could bring in more than one plastic water bottle. By 5:30 scouts and visitors started getting dehydrated and coming down with heat exhaustion. We saw that if something wasn't done we would have a real catastrophe. We were able to get some bottled water to many people but it wasn't nearly enough. Our service corps youth and adults were running with cases of water to as many people as we could. We were soon having to get people to the medical staff for IV fluids. Service Corps youth were running from IV supply vehicles to the ambulances carrying cases of IV fluid. We became as exhausted as the contingent scouts, but none gave up and quit. Fortunately, by 6:30 someone in authority decided to cancel the show before the President got there. Hundreds of scouts, scouters and visitors went down with heat and water problems, but none of us did. We kept working until we got everyone out of the arena. We had had no food since noon and very little water.

At the next show, when President Bush did make it, we raided the water trucks and positioned hundreds of cases of water out for the scouts and leaders to have. We continue to take water out as the show went on. This and the fact that the weather was somewhat cooler prevented another disaster.

Serving in the Corps was the greatest Order of the Arrow experience I have ever had and will likely ever have. Each service corps group meet each night to discuss the day and to assign service for the next day. On the last night of the Jamboree, we met and each member expressed his feeling about what he had done for the previous two weeks. All were glad the came and all, while they were looking forward to home, sort of wished it wasn't over.

The next Jamboree is not until 2010, when we will celebrate the 100th Anniversary of BSA. There will be a Service Corps working at that Jamboree and I hope to be there also. If any of you who are currently 15 or younger, and want to have a great experience volunteer for the Service Corps.

ONE DAY OF SERVICE

Each year for the past several years our lodge has participated in the "One Day of Service" project that the Southern Region Order of the Arrow started. This involves doing sometype of service project that does not involve our camp or scouting. We plan to do this again this year. It will be some Saturday in October. The final date or project has not been decided, but regardless when you are called upon to help with this, by all means say "Yes."
