

# TORTOISE TALES

## WITHLACOOCHEE LODGE

South Georgia Council  
1841 Norman Drive  
Valdosta, Georgia 31601



2014 No. 1 (MARCH)

Chief's Chatter.....

Thank you for electing me as your Chief. I am honored so serve you and look forward to working with the other lodge officers to bring you the best possible OA experience we can deliver. The weekend before our LLD and lodge banquet I had the opportunity to attend the Southern Region Section 9 Council of Chiefs meeting in Atlanta. Officers from all lodges in our section met to review the plan for the Section 9 conclave to be held on April 25-27, 2014 at Moundville Archeological Park, Alabama. The conclave plan looks awesome and I hope we can fill a bus of Withlacoochee Arrowmen to attend this special event at a special location.

Since there are no national events happening this year, it is the ideal summer to attend an OA High adventure. There are programs at Northern Tier, Florida Sea Base, Summit Bechtel Reserve, and Philmont Scout Ranch with greatly reduced rates for Arrowmen. Visit <http://adventure.oa-bsa.org> to learn more about these exciting opportunities.

In closing, I am so proud of our lodge and of your commitment to fulfilling your obligation to the Order of the Arrow. I look forward to an exciting year of fun, fellowship, and service as we fulfill the purpose of our Order in South Georgia Council.

*Noah Phillips*  
Lodge Chief



### Spring Fellowship / Ordeal is Fast Approaching

Withlacoochee Lodge will be having its spring fellowship and Ordeal at Camp Patten 7-9 March 2014. The registration form is attached. The cost for members is only \$20.00 if paid before the early bird deadline of March 3<sup>rd</sup>. The fee for Brotherhood conversion is only \$40.00. As we've shown in the past - our lodge knows how to put on a great fellowship weekend. There will be Native American activities and classes as well and LLD sessions on Saturday morning and games and competitions Saturday afternoon. You won't want to miss the Cracker Barrel's and Saturday night's Tortoise Time either. The best part, however, will be greeting and welcoming our new Ordeal members to our outstanding lodge. We look forward to seeing you there.

### WITHLACOOCHEE LODGE WEBSITE

If you haven't had a chance to see the lodge's new website, then you are in for a real treat. The site is located at:

**[www.withlacoocheelodge.org](http://www.withlacoocheelodge.org)**

The site is maintained by our lodge historian and vigil Honor member Mr. Mike Greene and contains all current information, lodge history, and loads of photographs from past events. Mr. Greene spends many hours each week maintaining the site so it can be a one-stop shop for all lodge news. Please thank Mr. Greene for his commitment to our lodge next time you pass him on the Scouting Trail.

Withlacoochee Lodge membership dues are \$10.00. You may pay your dues at any lodge event, at either SGC Service Center, or through the mail by sending a check to the SGC Valdosta Service Center. Make checks payable to "South Georgia Council-OA Dues".

OA members may only wear the lodge flap of the lodge where their dues are paid.



Withlacoochee Lodge Pins will be available at the Spring Fellowship. Pins are \$5.00 each. Proceeds will benefit the great South Georgia Council.

South Georgia Council President Mr. Julian Price thanks the Withlacoochee Lodge Chief for the presentation our lodge chief gave to the South Georgia Executive Board at their annual meeting held on February 8<sup>th</sup> at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture. Our lodge chief also presented Mr. Price with a copy of the 2014 Withlacoochee Lodge Charter indicating we achieved Gold JTE status.



**NOAC**  
100 YEARS  
**2015**  
AUGUST 3<sup>RD</sup> - 8<sup>TH</sup>

The National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC) is just around the corner. This will truly be a once in a lifetime experience for Arrowmen as we celebrate our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary with 10,000 of our brothers from across the U.S. for 6 days at Michigan State University in East Lansing, Michigan. Attending Arrowmen will get a special edition red sash. These sashes will differ from those currently worn in that the colors will be reversed, with a white arrow emblazoned on a red sash. Please contact Mr. Mike Johnson at [mike@srjarchitects.com](mailto:mike@srjarchitects.com) for more information.

Lodge T-Shirts will be available for purchase at the spring fellowship. Cost per T-Shirt is: \$ 12.00. You may pay with cash or a personal check made out to: "South Georgia Council-OA".



Becoming a Brotherhood member marks the completion of a member's induction into the Order of the Arrow. If you have been an Ordeal member for more than ten months, you are eligible to take the next step and become a Brotherhood member of Withlacoochee Lodge. The requirements to seal your membership can be found in the OA Handbook under **THE CHALLENGES OF BROTHERHOOD MEMBERSHIP**. The next opportunity to become a Brotherhood member will be at the Spring Fellowship Weekend, March 7-9, 2014 at Camp Patten.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR THESE FUTURE WITHLACOOCHEE LODGE EVENTS**

Date	Event	Location
March 7-9	Lodge Spring Fellowship/Ordeal	Camp Patten
April 25-27	Section SR-9 Conclave	Moundville, AL

**OUR 2014 LODGE EVENT CALENDAR**

Withlacoochee Lodge exists to support the South Georgia Council. As such, the lodge event calendar is nested in the council program year calendar. While the dates for all lodge events have not been finalized; 2014 will prove to be an exciting year. We will have a summer fellowship in August, support our troops with unit elections July-September, host service days at each of our camps, be an integral part of the council's fall camporee, hold a fall fellowship and ordeal weekend, and have an LLD and banquet. The council's 2014-2015 program year calendar will reflect the dates and locations for these events.



**Withlacoochee Lodge Leadership Development  
January 17-19, 2014, Camp Patten**

**Congratulations to the Arrowmen  
who completed the 2014  
Withlacoochee Lodge Leadership  
Development!**



## 2014 SR-9 Conclave



**Who:** All active (dues paid) Withlacoochee Lodge Arrowmen are welcome to attend! Come to conclave in April with their best spirits, ready to fellowship, and have fun with others in their own lodge and make some new friends!

**What:** Conclave is an annual gathering of the 11 lodges in SR-9. There will be a variety of activities for all Arrowmen offered at conclave. Between Quest events, special events, ceremony competitions, dance and drum team competitions, and patch trading/auctions. There is no such thing as boredom at an SR-9 conclave. There will also be competitions for websites, publications, and displays along with training seminars.

**Where:** Moundville Archeological Park, Alabama, hosted by Aracoma Lodge.  
(We will have transportation.)

**When:** April 25-27, 2014

**Why:** An opportunity to take advantage of the best the OA has to offer: fun, fellowship, and camping.

**How:** Register to be part of the Withlacoochee Lodge contingent by completing the attached registration form.



***"Life is the acceptance of responsibilities, or their evasion. It is the business of meeting obligations or avoiding them. To every man the choice is continually being offered, and by the manner of his choosing you may fairly measure him."*** --Ben Ames Williams





# Order of the Arrow Withlacoochee Lodge 2013-2014



## Event Registration Form for Members

- Print clearly and use one form per person.
- This form must be received (not postmarked) at the Council Office by the event's *Early Bird Deal* date in order to receive the discount
- All registrations are final. Registration fees cannot be transferred or refunded.
- Spring/Fall Weekends require current BSA Annual Health and Medical Record Parts A, B, C (Attach a copy to the first registration of the program year. We will keep it for the year.)
- Your 2013 (2014 after 1/1/14) dues must be paid to attend an event.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Unit \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ BSA ID \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ Do Not Use This Form For Ordeal Registration

Honor (circle one) **Ordeal** Brotherhood Vigil Non-Member

EVENT	SUMMER FELLOWSHIP	FALL ORDEAL	ANNUAL BANQUET	SPRING ORDEAL
<b>DATE</b>	8/9-11/2013	12/6-8/2013	1/11/2014	3/7-9/2014
<i>Early Bird Deal</i>	8/4/2013	12/2/2013	1/6/2014	3/3/2014
<b>LOCATION</b>	Camp Osborn, Sylvester	Camp Osborn, Sylvester	Camp Patten, Lakeland	Camp Patten, Lakeland
<p><b>CIRCLE ONE</b> <i>option for each event:</i></p> <p><b>You may sign up for ALL events at once:</b></p>	<b>1 Member</b> \$25.00	<b>1 Member</b> \$25.00	<b>1 Person</b> \$12.00	<b>1 Member</b> \$25.00
	<b>1 Member</b> <i>Early Bird Deal</i> (received by 8/4/13) \$20.00	<b>1 Member</b> <i>Early Bird Deal</i> (received by 12/2/13) \$20.00	<b>1 Person</b> <i>Early Bird Deal</i> (received by 1/6/14) \$10.00	<b>1 Member</b> <i>Early Bird Deal</i> (received by 8/24/12) \$20.00
	<b>1 Brotherhood Candidate</b> \$40.00	<b>1 Brotherhood Candidate</b> \$40.00	<span style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">2014 Dues \$10.00</span>	<b>1 Brotherhood Candidate</b> \$40.00
	<b>1 Brotherhood Candidate</b> <i>Early Bird Deal</i> (received by 8/4/13) \$35.00	<b>1 Brotherhood Candidate</b> <i>Early Bird Deal</i> (received by 12/2/13) \$35.00		<b>1 Brotherhood Candidate</b> <i>Early Bird Deal</i> (received by 3/3/14) \$35.00

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:  
Please pay at the Council Office  
or send payment to:

**South Georgia Council, BSA**  
**1841 Norman Drive**  
**Valdosta, GA 31601**

<b>LODGE USE ONLY:</b>  _____ Entered into OALM
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**Order of the Arrow  
Withlacoochee Lodge  
2014 SR-9 Conclave  
Event Registration Form**



- Event to be held at Moundville Archeological Park, Moundville, Al and hosted by Aracoma Lodge.
- **PRINT CLEARLY**, Fill out a separate form for each person signing up
- This form must be **RECEIVED (NOT postmarked)** at the Council Office by the event's *Early Bird Deal* date in order to receive the discount
- All registrations are **FINAL**. Transfer to another member may be possible but is not guaranteed.
- **Weekend events require current BSA Physical Annual Health and Medical Record (Parts A, B)** (Attach a copy, NOT original, to the first registration of the program year. It will be maintained by the Lodge)
- **Your 2014 Dues MUST be paid to attend this event**  
Circle Dues below and pay if not)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Unit \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ BSA ID \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Honor (circle one) **Ordeal** **Brotherhood** **Vigil**

EVENT	2014 Conclave	Lodge Dues
DATE	4/25-27/2014	
<i>Early Bird Deal</i>	3/25/2014	
LOCATION	Moundville Archeological Park, Moundville, Al	
<b>CIRCLE <u>ONE</u> option for each event:</b>	1 Member \$50.00	<b>2014 Dues \$10.00</b>
	1 Member <i>Early Bird Deal</i> (received by 3/25/14) \$34.00	

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