

TORTOISE TALES

WITHLACOOCHEE
 South Georgia Council
 1841 Norman Drive
 Valdosta, Georgia, 31601



2017 No. 3 (AUGUST)

WITHLACOOCHEE LODGE ANNOUNCES 2017 SUMMER FELLOWSHIP

Withlacoochee Lodge will hold its summer fellowship at Camp Patten August 25-27, 2017 and we need you to fulfill your obligation to make it a success. Below are just some of the reasons you should attend the Withlacoochee Lodge summer fellowship:

- ✦ An opportunity to camp at a beautiful Scout camp, breath fresh air, and be physically active
- ✦ Achieve Brotherhood membership and help welcome our new Brotherhood members
- ✦ Participate in the Chief's Withlacoochee Shows Saturday night in the Copeland Center
- ✦ Complete a requirement to earn the Outstanding Arrowman Award
- ✦ Eat great food from our award-winning lodge cook team
- ✦ Learn what your fellow Arrowmen did at Jamboree 2017
- ✦ Swim and boat in the cool waters of Patten Pond
- ✦ Help your chapter earn the Spirit Stick
- ✦ Join us in our annual lodge photograph
- ✦ Receive a special lodge event patch
- ✦ Learn how to conduct Unit Elections
- ✦ Trade patches
- ✦ And lots more!



The Summer Fellowship is \$25.00 if paid before the Early Bird deadline of Monday, August 21st. The Brotherhood Candidate fee is \$40.00 if paid before the Early Bird deadline. Register using the form below or the on-line registration on the Council website. If you can't make the entire weekend; please try and join us for the annual lodge photo at 5:30 PM Saturday and stay for dinner.

Registration Form for Summer Fellowship August 25-27, 2017 at Camp Patten

(Your \$10.00 annual lodge dues must be paid to attend this event)

Please circle payment(s)	2017 Dues	Member	Brotherhood Candidate	Saturday Dinner Only
	\$10.00	\$30.00	\$45.00	
		\$25.00 (if received by 21 Aug 17)	\$40.00 (if received by 21 Aug 17)	\$10.00

Name _____ Phone* _____ Unit* _____

Address* _____ Date of Birth* _____

City* _____ Zip* _____ BSA ID#* _____

Email* _____

*Since this information is in the OA LodgeMaster database, fill out if there has been a recent change.

Please pay at the Council Office or send payment to:

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

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Developing Youth Leadership Conference National Leadership Seminar



The Developing Youth Leadership Conference (DYLC) and the National Leadership Seminar (NLS) are two unique opportunities for adults and youth to participate in training that is offered only through the Order of the Arrow that are hosted by the Southern Region of the Order of the Arrow.

DYLC is for adults to deepen an adviser's capacity to develop youth leadership within the lodge and chapter. Conference topics will include fostering a growth mindset, promoting resilience, providing constructive feedback that leads to changes in youth behavior and creating a life-long coaching/mentoring relationship.

NLS is for youth and is a weekend conference focusing on the skills and characteristics of leadership. It is intended primarily to enhance the leadership skills of the Order of the Arrow's key youth, as they seek to improve their service to the Boy Scouts of America and the greater community.

The next DYLC and NLS will be held very close to us at the Life Enrichment Center in Fruitland Park, FL on September 8-10, 2017. The cost for each course is \$210.00 but partial scholarships may be available for youth wanted to attend NLS. Additional information is available at <http://southern.oa-bsa.org>.

Do You Know the History of the OA?

In 1915, Camp Director E. Urner Goodman and Assistant Camp Director Carroll A. Edson searched for a way to recognize select campers for their cheerful spirits of service at Treasure Island Scout Camp in the Delaware River. Goodman and Edson founded the Order of the Arrow when they held the first Ordeal Ceremony on July 16th of that year. By 1921, as the popularity of the organization spread to other camps, local lodges attended the first national gathering called a Grand Lodge Meeting.

The Order of the Arrow was one of many camp honor societies that existed at local Scout camps across the country. As the years went on and more camps adopted the Order of the Arrow's program, it gained prominence and became part of the national Boy Scout program in 1934. By 1948, the OA, recognized as the BSA's national brotherhood of honor campers, became an official part of the Boy Scouts of America. Toward the end of the twentieth century, the OA expanded its focus to include conservation, high adventure, and servant-leadership.

Throughout the years, the Order of the Arrow has played an integral role in the program of the Boy Scouts and in the community service its members contribute to their communities. To date, more than one million people have been members of the Order of the Arrow.

Presently, the Order of the Arrow consists of nearly 300 lodges, which form approximately 48 sections in four regions. Leadership positions and voting rights are restricted to members under the age of 21. Through the program, members live up to the ideals of brotherhood, cheerfulness, and service set forth by E. Urner Goodman and Carroll A. Edson.



Withlacoochee Lodge is accepting Vigil Honor nominations until 6:00 PM, Monday, September 18, 2017. Any member of Withlacoochee Lodge in good standing (dues paid) may nominate an eligible Arrowman to the Vigil Honor. To make a nomination, complete the nomination form and mail or e-mail the form to Associate Lodge Adviser, Mr. Rick Green at the address below. Any member in good standing (dues paid) in Withlacoochee Lodge who has held the Brotherhood honor for at least two years as of September 23, 2017 is eligible for nomination to the Vigil Honor. The nomination form is located on the lodge website. You may email the form to Mr. Rick Green at: rgreen65@gmail.com or mail it to P.O. Box 112, Hahira, GA 31632.

2017-2018 WITHLACOOCHEE LODGE EVENT CALENDAR

Date	Event	Location / Information
August 25-27, 2017	Lodge Summer Fellowship	Camp Patten (Team Building, Camp Service, Position-Specific Youth Training, Brotherhood Ceremony)
August-September 2017	Troop OA Elections	Units & Chapter Election Teams
September 9, 2017	Camp Patten Service Day	Camp Patten (Crooked River Chapter helps with parking and preparing lunch)
September 8-10, 2017 (OA Southern Region Event)	National Leadership Seminar (NLS) & Developing Youth Leadership Conference (DYLC)	Fruitland Park, FL Cost is \$210.00, ½ NLS Scholarships <i>may</i> be available. (Great training for future lodge officers and advisers)
September 22-24, 2017	South Georgia Council Fall Camporee	Camp Okitiayakani 66 Gill Scott Road Cuthbert, GA 39840 (OA Cracker Barrel Friday Night, Vigil Nomination Committee meets Fri night, Call-out Ceremony at Saturday night campfire)
November 10-12, 2017	Lodge Fall Induction Weekend	Camp Patten (Ordeal and Brotherhood Saturday, Vigil Callout after Ordeal Ceremony, 2018 Officer Elections, LEC), Camp Service
December 1-2, 2017	Lodge Vigil Night / Vigil Reunion Breakfast	Camp Patten (Vigil Honor Friday PM, Saturday AM Vigil Reunion Breakfast)
January 20, 2018	Lodge Banquet/LLD in conjunction w/ South Ga Council University of Scouting	Planned for FUMC Tifton (LLD 8:30 AM-4:30 PM. Catered Banquet Saturday 6:00 PM to install new lodge officers, Founder's Award Recipients, and Vigil Honor members' public recognition. Hosted by Blackwater)
February 2-4, 2018 (Section SR-9 Event)	Section SR-9 Indian Winter	Black Creek Scout Reservation (Ceremony, dance, drum, costume workshops. Section Council of Chiefs) I-Tsu-La is service lodge.
February 3, 2018	South Georgia Council Annual Banquet	Tifton (Lodge Chief presents lodge annual report to Council Board)
March 2-4, 2018	Lodge Spring Induction Weekend	Camp Patten (Ordeal and Brotherhood Saturday, LEC Sunday AM) Camp Service
April 20-22, 2018 (Section SR-9 Event)	Section SR-9 Heartland Gathering	Comer Scout Reservation (Coosa is service lodge). (Support Section SR-9, provide opportunities to lead, learn, and grow.)
July 30-August 4, 2018	National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC)	Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana (12 Youth & 3 Adults)

"All men dream, but not equally.
 Those who dream by night in the
 dusty recesses of their minds, wake
 in the day to find that it was vanity;
 but **the dreamers of the day**
are DANGEROUS MEN, for they
 may act on their dreams with open
 eyes, to make them possible."

T.E.Lawrence




WITHLACOOCHEE CEREMONY TEAM

Participating in lodge ceremonies can be the most meaningful and rewarding way to contribute to the lodge and serve your fellow Arrowmen. You will have a chance to meet and work with outstanding young Arrowmen, gain a deeper understanding of our Order's customs and traditions, and learn about Native American culture and craft. If you are interested in joining the lodge ceremony team, please contact our Ceremonies Team Chairman, David Stokes, III at: davidstokes3@gmail.com



REMEMBER THE ADMONITION

 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 Summer Fellowship August 25-27, 2017 at Camp Patten. Finish what you've started and experience the best the OA has to offer!



The Outstanding Arrowman Award recognizes Arrowmen who make contributions to the lodge, support its programs, and uphold the principles in the Order of the Arrow Obligation. The Withlacoochee Lodge Outstanding Arrowman Award is a special lodge patch for active (current year's dues paid) youth and adult Arrowman. The period to earn the Outstanding Arrowman Award corresponds to the lodge's program year which starts at the lodge's summer fellowship in August and ends at the Section SR-9 Heartland Gathering in mid-April. The contributions must be completed in one single program year. The Lodge Chief will formally present the Outstanding Arrowman Award to the recipient at a lodge event. Recipients will have an opportunity to purchase one additional Outstanding Arrowman Award patch when they receive their first award. Subsequent Outstanding Arrowman Awards after the first award will be in the form of a distinctive pin that can be displayed on the patch. The award registration form and details of the program can be found on the lodge Facebook page and website. Start to earn your award today!

Cups and Water Bottles
The lodge leadership asks that Arrowmen bring their personal camp cups and water bottles to our lodge weekends. The lodge can save money by not having to purchase so many Styrofoam cups for our meal beverages. Please remember to put your name and unit on your camp cup or water bottle.



We recently resupplied our very popular Withlacoochee Lodge T-Shirts with all sizes. They are available for sale at all lodge events. Cost per T-Shirt is: **\$12.00**. You may pay with cash or a personal check made out to: **"South Georgia Council"**.

ANNUAL LODGE DUES
Annual lodge dues will increase from \$10.00 to \$15.00 per year effective January 1st, 2018. The decision to increase the annual dues was in response to a national dues increase from \$3.00 to \$5.00. Members can pay \$10.00 for their 2018 annual dues before the end of 2017 prior to the increase to \$15.00 on January 1st, 2018 if they so desire. Members may pay their lodge dues at Albany Scout Shop or South Georgia Council Service Center or through the mail by sending a check to the South Georgia Council Service Center.

As work continues to clean up the tornado debris at Camp Osborn, our council leadership is working hard to continuously improve the facilities at Camp Patten in order to meet our program requirements. Pictured below is the new pavilion being constructed on the old Pepsi Shack slab. Withlacoochee Lodge received a 2017 OA Service Grant for tables, landscaping, and a water bottle filling station to help enhance the features of the new facility. Per the requirements of the grant, Arrowmen will have an opportunity to contribute to this project at the summer fellowship and/or the Camp Patten service day this fall.

