



# *The Owl Hoot*

The official newsletter of  
**Immokalee Lodge 353**  
Order of the Arrow

*April 2007 (Edition No. 1)*

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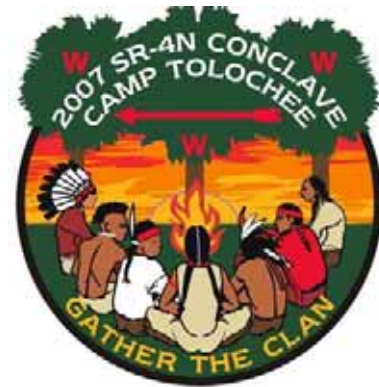
## **2007 CHRISTMAS AND AWARDS BANQUET**

Our annual banquet was held December 12, 2006. For the first time in several years it was held at a restaurant: Golden Corral in Albany. It was attended by 38 members and several guests.

The 2007 Officers were installed: Devin Hutchinson, Lodge Chief; Cory Lord, Vice Chief-Programs and Service; Beau Carroll, Vice Chief-Ceremonies; John Krywicki, Secretary and Tony Fall, Historian.

The Arrowman of the Year Award was presented to two “teams”. The youth award was presented to the Ordeal Ceremony Team: Devin Hutchinson, Ryan Lacy, Beau Carroll and Jonathan Jenkins. The adult award was presented to the “cooking team” of Mark Barrett and Tim McRae.

The program was a presentation by Beau Carroll about his participation in the Order of the Arrow Trail Crew at Philmont Scout Ranch. This is an OA program offered at Philmont for members 16-20. Participants work on improving trails for a week and then they plan and go on a week long backpacking trip at Philmont. Beau also presented information of the OA Canoe Base Service and Sea Base Service. Lodge members who will be 16 by the day they arrive at either of these 3 programs are eligible. Immokalee Lodge members who are interested should visit <http://adventure.oa-bsa.org> or contact Lodge Adviser Sam Thompson, [negatamen353@windstream.net](mailto:negatamen353@windstream.net).



## **2007 S4N CONCLAVE**

This year our section conclave will be hosted by Pilthlako Lodge. It will be held at Camp Tolochee, near Brunswick, Georgia. We have 40 members registered to attend. This is the largest delegation our lodge has had at a section conclave since we hosted the conclave in 2003. Our Pre-Ordeal Ceremony Team will be in the competition.

## **60<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY FLAPS**



The 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary flaps are still available. The cost is \$3 each. Any member wanting one should contact the Lodge Adviser



## WINTER FUN DAY AND POW WOW



## SPRING FELLOWSHIP AND ORDEAL

Our annual Lodge Fun Day and Pow Wow was held on January 27. This was also in celebration of our Lodge's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The Lodge Executive Committee has been "experimenting" with different programs for this event to try and increase attendance. This year it was for one day and no cost to members.

This year it was something like a mini-conclave. In the morning we played that "all Alabama Lodges" game, Wischixen and then learned how to play Spades, which is a competition at Conclave. After lunch, we played volley ball and more Wischixen. After a supper of barbeque chicken, we cut the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary cake.

Everyone had a good time and it was a lot of fun. A total of 35 members attended. Anyone who was not there sure missed out on a day of fun and fellowship

Cory Lord  
Vice Chief-Programs and Service



## NEW PLAN BOOK AVAILABLE

For the first time in several years our lodge has published a "Planbook". This book has the lodge calendar, officer contact info, by-laws and history of Immokalee Lodge and other items of interest. If you are interested in a copy, email Sam Thompson, at [negatamen353@windstream.net](mailto:negatamen353@windstream.net) and one will be mailed to you.

The 2007 Spring Fellowship and Ordeal was held March 9-11 with the lowest member attendance and number of candidates going through the Ordeal than we have had in many, many years. We had only 21 members present and 3 Ordeal Candidates. The new Ordeal members are Faro Palazzolo, Benny Hall and Michelle Willis. Three members became Brotherhood members: Jesse Phillips, Matthew Unruh and Andrew Horne.



## GOOGLE EARTH

For those of you with Google Earth the following are latitude and longitude coordinates for places you might want to view: Camp Osborn: 31°39'39.08"N 83°56'22.35"W -- Camp Tolochee (S4N Section Conference for 2007) 31°11'35.50"N 81°34'1.25"W -- Treasure Island (the home of the OA) 40°28'18.78"N 75° 3'55.41"W

If you do not have Google Earth simply search for it on Google and download the software. Google Earth connects directly to the internet and its free. It probably does not work well on dial-up but you might want to try it.

## LODGE SERVICE AWARD

For a number of years, our lodge has given out a service flap to those members who have given various types of service to the lodge. The service has varied from year to year and the Lodge Executive Committee has made the award at the end of the lodge year. In 2006 no Service Awards were given because the LEC was debating on the requirements. The requirements have been finalized and are listed on the lodge website and below. Individual members must keep up with the requirements and turn the completed form in to the LEC by December first of each year.

To earn this award individual members must complete the following requirements in one year: January 1<sup>st</sup> to the December Banquet. Individual members must keep up with the requirements themselves. Completed forms must be turned into the Lodge Executive Committee at least one week prior to the Lodge Banquet.

1. Attend at least one Lodge Ordeal Weekend
2. Attend 3 of the following events:
  - a. A second Ordeal Weekend
  - b. Lodge Banquet
  - c. Lodge Winter Fun Fellowship
  - d. Section Conclave
  - e. Endurance Ride
  - f. Serve as an Elangomat
  - g. Any other Lodge event not listed
3. Participate in the One Day of Service Project
4. Be active in his unit as certified by his Scoutmaster

The Lodge Chief, Lodge Adviser or Staff Adviser must approve and sign all completed Lodge requirements.

The form can be printed from the lodge website.

## EXCEPTIONAL FIRST YEAR ARROWMAN AWARD

For the past couple of years the Lodge Executive Committee has been discussing an award for new lodge members that will hopefully increase participation by new Ordeal Members. The requirements of this award have now been finalized and the requirements are listed on the lodge website ([www.immokalee353.org](http://www.immokalee353.org)) and below. Any lodge member is eligible until December 1, 2007. After that date only new Ordeal members will be eligible. At this time, the Lodge Executive Committee has not decided what will be awarded to those who receive this award. Requirements completed must be kept by the member. A T-shirt has been discussed.

New members may earn this award the first year after induction into the Lodge. Completed forms must be turned into the Lodge Executive Committee at least one week before the first anniversary of induction:

1. Attend an Ordeal, other than his own.
2. Attend 3 of the following events:
  - a. Lodge Banquet
  - b. Lodge Winter Fun Fellowship
  - c. Section Conclave
  - d. One Day of Service Project
  - e. Endurance Ride
3. Be active in his unit as certified by his Scoutmaster

The form can be printed from the lodge website.



The lodge website has the lodge history, lodge patches, a list of 2173 Immokalee members (current and past), a list of Immokalee Vigils members, old *Owl Hoots*, lots and lots of photos, and forms for the service award and new arrowman award. [www.immokalee353.org](http://www.immokalee353.org)

## The 'OLD OWLS'

*Rick Waitsman is the second in our series of biographies of the early members of Immokalee Lodge. We appreciate Rick volunteering.*

The Immokalee 'Old Owl' for this edition is Rick Waitsman an Eagle Scout from Troop 21 in Americus. Rick cheerfully went through his ordeal in the lovely Camp Osborn summer heat and humidity on July 10<sup>th</sup>, 1965.



*In 1966 Rick was selected as one of four scouts from Chehaw Council to attend the 12<sup>th</sup> World Jamboree. The photo is his World Jamboree photograph.*

After high school in Americus, Rick attended Emory University and later graduated cum laude from Boston University School of Law.

He is currently a Administrative Law Judge (federal) with the Social Security Administration in Atlanta. He has been a judge since 1994, first serving in Shreveport, Louisiana and then Atlanta. Rick has also worked in the Social Security Administration headquarters in Falls Church, Virginia. Prior to becoming a judge, Rick was a trial attorney specializing in Medicare and Medicaid fraud and abuse litigation.

In both 1991 and 1993 Rick was awarded the Inspector General's Integrity award. In 2004, the Georgia Senate recognized Rick for his public service.

Currently Rick lives in metro Atlanta with his wife Mindy, and two daughters Melissa, who is a senior at Rice University in Houston and Lily Sara, who is a senior at Lakeside High School.



### COMMENTS, SUGGESTIONS & ARTICLES

Please send suggestions to Mike Greene at [mikegreene353@bellsouth.net](mailto:mikegreene353@bellsouth.net)

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