



# The Owl Hoot

The Official Newsletter of  
**Immokalee Lodge, #353**  
Chehaw Council, #97, BSA

September, 2009 (Edition #2009-1)

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## From the Lodge Chief

This year, I had the privilege of attending NOAC, or the National Order of the Arrow Conference. The theme this year was something that resonated in me, and I wanted to share an example of how one person affected my life, and dramatically shaped what I would become in the future.

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## Indian Affairs

The other day, our Lodge Chief asked me a very thought provoking question. He called with the usual updates regarding how the lodge and its events were proceeding along, but then asked me if I would be interested in writing an article. The article was to be about one person who had greatly influenced my life as both a Scout and an Arrowman. As I thought about a story to write, I found out what a tough question that really was. How was I supposed to choose just *one* person who had had such and influence upon me?

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## From the Lodge Advisor

I am sure that most members have heard that I am retiring at the end of this year. I won't be retiring from the lodge, just as Lodge Adviser. It has been 13 years since I was asked to become Lodge Adviser. Most of the articles in this news letter are about "THE POWER OF ONE". Every one of us can recall someone who has had this type of influence on them. I certainly had one in the young man who was Staff Adviser during 12 of the 13 years I have been Lodge Adviser. Yes, I mean Eric Ginter.

When the then Scout Executive asked me to be Lodge Adviser, I really didn't know what I was getting into. True, I had been in the Order when I was a scout some years before, going thru the Ordeal and converting to Brotherhood at that time. I had become a member of Immokalee Lodge soon after getting involved as an Assistant Scoutmaster. At the time, I was Summer Camp Program Director. The training for that really didn't have much to do with OA, but the training did help some as it related to lodge program. Eric was the Staff Adviser and I had gotten to know him during my tenure as Program Director.

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## Ceremony Team Update



(The new Ceremony Team flap)

### My Brothers...

The Power of One... what does that mean? Does it mean that the team you are a part of surrounds only around one individual? Does it mean that the one team is more powerful than the others? To answer that... I share with you the Power of One in my life. When I was a boy, there was a particular man that gave me the encouragement that I needed to get on with my life. He taught me that no matter what goals I wanted in life... to just be myself. He told me that I could be anything I wanted to be as long as I put my best effort forward. He stood by me when I fell and helped me back up. He gave the experiences that he had in life as an example for me to learn from. From the Scoutmaster's minutes to the times of breaking camp, he always had a smile on his face that helped my Scouting Spirit flow forever. Now as an adult, I have seen many things in my short lifetime. However, I will always remember that man and his strong will to see me succeed. He is a great mentor... was a great scoutmaster... and is my best friend. While I will always cherish the foundation that he helped me build my life upon... I give him a great deal of credit on how my life turned out. The Power of One is my father. The constant legacy he has left in my life has inspired me to continue to be a positive role model and influence on the boys that I advise both in lodge and in unit.

So I challenge you... learn everything from your Power of One. Seek to soak in as many experiences that you can in Scouting. Seek to preserve the cheerful spirit! For one day, the Power of One will be you... and in you is our future of our Lodge!

Steve Owens  
Indian Affairs Team Advisor

## Immokalee Fact!

Immokalee Lodge has over 2200 known alumni!



### 2009 Candidates

Congratulations to those called-out at summer camp. They include Gerald Bryant, Robert McCool, Jake Hager, Jacob Bacon, Bailey Dayhuff, Henry Spruill, Andrew Bode, Peter Davis, Jeremy Landers, Parker Lindquist, Christian Shook, Garrett Skates, Matthew Smith, Oscar Spruill, Nick Meier, Leonard Lee, Dakota Lee, Michael McMicken, Josh Sparling, Clint Ethridge, Richard Lackey, John Adams (Adult), John Adams (Youth), John Burtle, Brandon Cooper, Gage Tenhagen, Michael Webster, Joseph Cox, Steve Butler, Tyler Brown, Thomas Johnson, Jacob Dillard, Matthew Bowen, Steve Brown, Zack Bivens, Brandon Carter, Pyne Greene, Jesse Griggs, Geoffery McDonald, Pepper Greene, Jamie Griggs, Chris Hawkins, Rhyann Smith, Stephen Woodson, Bailey Nipper, Andrew Miller, Joshua Chappell, Chris Chappell, T.C. Caringola, Michael Owens, Timothy Kitchens, Tristan Yearnton, Cody Yearnton, Dakota Kirkland, Katrina Camp, David Moorhead, Will Byers, Prue Benson, Cheryl Buford, Forest Buford, Brent Goldsmith, Jason Riggie, Corbin Tilley, Miles Ulery, and Nathan McLendon.

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If it had not been for the assistance from Eric, I don't think I would have stayed more than that first year. He guided me through those first years, helping to work with the LEC in planning program and events, helping buy groceries for events, helping to get newsletters out to the membership, going to section events and NOAC. During that time we became very good friends. While Eric has not been Staff Adviser since January, I know I can still call on him for advice and help. He is the one that has had the most influence on me and my time as Lodge Advisor. He is the ONE who has gotten me involved in OA, like the 2005 Jamboree Service Corps. THANKS, ERIC!

Sam Thompson, Lodge Advisor

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It was my first year back in public schooling, after arriving in Albany. My family and I had just moved from Tallahassee, Florida to help take care of my severely diabetic grandmother. I made friends pretty easily, and this proved no different when I began to ride the school bus. As an example, the guy I usually ended up riding with was a very shy, laid back, and geekish, rather like me. We hit it off immediately, and soon we were looking forward to the trips to and from school.

As I got to know him over the next few weeks, he eventually gathered up the courage to invite me to his local Scout meeting. All I can say is that my reaction was...less than enthusiastic. I had bought in to some of the negative things people had spread about Scouting, and wasn't so eager to participate. But my new friend kept at it, and because it seemed like something he really liked I decided to throw caution to the wind and give it a shot.

My first meeting was one of instant conversion. I fell in love with the Scouting program, and I made it my ambition to go as far as I could in it. With the vision of a gleaming Eagle badge in my sights, I began to work through the ranks. Summer camps, camporees, and troop outings made some of the best adventures I'd ever had. The positions of Patrol Leader, Scribe, and Senior Patrol Leader all taught me valuable life lessons in leading others. Then I experienced a life changing event: my Ordeal, to become a member of the Order of the Arrow.

I went through the Ordeal in the spring of 2004. It was rough, and while certainly meaningful it was perhaps not the most "fun" I've ever had. Also – to my regret – after I finished my Ordeal, I succumbed to what's known as the "Sash and Dash". For almost three years, I wasn't involved with the Lodge. But then, a woman named Miki Hutchinson asked me to be on Ceremony Team. I jumped wholeheartedly into Ceremonies and the Order, and I never looked back. But I certainly didn't stop there. I became more involved at the leadership level, too; first as the Elangomat Chairman, then Vice-Chief of Programs, and finally as the Immokalee Lodge Chief.

I can say without conceit, that I have had a positive impact on peoples' lives because of my work in Scouting and the Order; certainly, I am proud of

what I have accomplished. But in the end, I can trace all of these endeavors and benefits back to these people who have encouraged me to do more, and to do it better. All of it, from my first Scout meeting to this article can be traced back, ultimately to that "One" little boy on a school bus; he who had the bravery and perseverance to reach out (and keep reaching) to a lost little boy. I believe in the Power of One; I know you have it, too. Will you prove it?

Andrew Horne,  
Chief, Immokalee Lodge



## Current Lodge Officers

Lodge Chief	Andrew Horne
Lodge Advisor	Sam Thompson
Lodge Asso. Advisor	Mark Barrett
VC- Program & Services	Ben Crawford
VC-Indian Affairs	Alan Herin
Indian Affairs Advisor	Steve Owens
Secretary	Brandon Moorhead
Staff Advisor	Marie Jones
Historian	Mike Greene
Ceremonies Chairman	Alex Paulk
Advisor	David Workman
Support Team Chairman	Richard Taylor
Advisor	Tony Crowder
Elangomat Chairman	John Barrett
Advisor	Steve Owens
Drum Team Chairman	Matthew Dickinson
Advisors	Tim McRae and Brandon Chitwood
Dance Team Chairman	Jordan Knighton
Advisor	Mike Brunson
Publications Chairman	Andrew Horne
Advisor	Sam Thompson
North Chapter Chief	
North Chapter Advisor	Mark Barrett
South Chapter Chief	Alex Paulk
South Chapter Advisor	David Workman



## Thought of the Month

(From the first *Owl Hoot* in 1960)

"He alone is worthy to wear the arrow  
that helps his fellowman."

(Continued from page 1 – Indian Affairs)

With such a deep question, I found myself setting aside my other thoughts and focusing entirely upon this one single question. I thought back to my earliest days of Scouting. I had gone through Cub Scouts with my friends, and now found myself entering the much more complex world of a full-fledged Boy Scout. Most new Scouts have seemed to take well to the new setting; I however did not. I found myself shifting away from this new program, and within weeks of crossing over I found myself avoiding the meetings and events put on by the troop. This went on for nearly an entire year and for all practical purposes I had “quit” Scouts.

Then one day, an old friend of mine approached me at school and asked if I would like to come on a camping trip with the troop the upcoming weekend. I went more for his sake, not wanting to involve myself back with those “morally straight kids”. But, this friend convinced me to come back and soon I began to appreciate what Scouting had to offer. One thing led to another, and the following summer I found myself attending Summer Camp where I was then asked to serve as a staff member. From that point on, I applied myself to Scouting and the principles it entails. Soon after, I was elected as a candidate for the Order of the Arrow in Immokalee Lodge. To this day I cannot adequately describe how excited I felt about this.

Then came winter 2006, and I found myself trudging through the rigors of my Ordeal – relentlessly – until that epic feast following the ceremony. Best spaghetti I’d ever tasted!

Once I was a part of our Order, however, the real opportunities began to flow in. I soon found myself involved with the Lodge’s ceremony team and have been at it ever since. One line in particular from the ceremonies, “Look back you on your years in Scouting,” forever reminds me of what Scouting and the Order of the Arrow have allowed me to accomplish; and, how one single person can call a lost, discouraged Scout back, and set him once more on the path to higher opportunities.

I dread the thought of what I would have become if that one friend had not been there for me. The Power of One is clear and apparent to me, and I think we all should look upon ourselves and realize that we could be that “one” for another; that we all have that power within.

Alan Herin  
VC of Indian Affairs, Immokalee Lodge



## Upcoming Events

October 23 - 25 - OA Exhibition at Webeloree

November 20 - 22 Winter Ordeal and Fellowship

December 10 - Winter Banquet

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Visit the lodge website at

**[IMMOKALEE353.ORG](http://IMMOKALEE353.ORG)**



Comments on *The Owl Hoot* should be sent to the editor,  
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