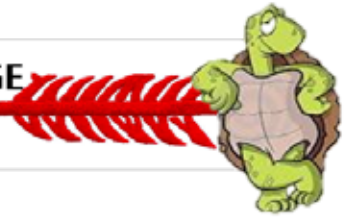


TORTOISE TALES



WITHLACOOCHEE LODGE

South Georgia Council
1841 Norman Drive
Valdosta, Georgia 31601



2016 No. 3 (September)

From our Chief

I'm happy to say that the Withlacoochee Lodge is kicking things back up a notch. Our more dormant period of the year is at its end, signaling a return to activities such as our camp service days, and fall induction weekend. Our summer fellowship was absolutely amazing, and I thank those of you who came out. A special thank you to our guests from other lodges; instructing us on drumming and singing, and giving service to the event. Our participation at the event was great for that time of the year, but I want to see even more of you at our camp service days and fall induction weekend. The camp service days are a time when we come together with Scouts and Scouters from across our great council to enhance our camp facilities. It is especially fun to work side-by-side these Scouting families. At our fall Induction weekend, we will be conducting lodge officer elections. You can witness the vigil call-out ceremony, and even welcome new members into our Order! This is typically our biggest and best event of the year, and I would hate for any of you to miss the wonderful activities we have planned. Call and register with either council office and I'll see you there!

In service,
B. Saul Crumpton



TORTY SAYS THE SUMMER FELLOWSHIP WAS A BLAST !!

Over 50 Arrowmen, including guests from Chattahoochee Lodge and Waguli Lodge, attended the Withlacoochee Lodge Summer Fellowship at Camp Osborn August 12-14, 2016. Arrowmen were greeted by an unexpected visit from our lodge totem *Torty*, who was found crossing Mike Ellis Road apparently looking for the Admin building so he could register. After paying his lodge dues, *Torty* attended the Withlacoochee Shows welcoming multi-media production in the Eagle Pavilion. *Torty* was certainly impressed by all the hard work from our Vice Chief of Programs, Matthew Stokes.



After the Friday night cracker barrel of gourmet hot dogs and nachos, *Torty* found his burrow to retire for the evening. On Saturday, *Torty* provided what little help he could to support the service projects around camp. You know he can't do much with those front legs except dig burrows. The service projects included refurbishing picnic tables, building a Ga-Ga pit, cleaning up the camp facilities, and mowing the grass on the ridge. *Torty* couldn't believe what a strong lodge he has. He observed everyone working together in cheerful service. *Torty* joined us for lunch where afterwards Vigil Honor member Mr. David Vaughan presented Jonathan Thomas a beautiful Native American painting to thank him for his commitment to our lodge and the Order of the Arrow. *Torty* actively participated in the two LLD sessions because he wanted to learn more about how to conduct unit elections and how to sustain an effective ceremony team. He also participated in the Native American drumming and singing sessions presented by Mr. Chris DeHart and his son Gabe, and Chief Dallas Adams from Waguli Lodge. He thought the training as great and he learned so much about the Native American culture. *Torty* tried to participate in the Brotherhood Hike with our three Brotherhood candidates but he just couldn't seem to keep up. He committed to sticking with his diet so perhaps one day he could serve his fellow Arrowman as a Nimat. *Torty* did attend the Brotherhood ceremony to observe an inspirational and near flawless performance from our superb ceremony team. After retreat and our annual lodge photograph, *Torty* planned on joining us for our evening meal of BBQ brisket, potato salad, green beans, rolls, garden salad and cake but remembering his diet; opted to eat his normal rations of low-growing vegetation. *Torty* was looking forward to the Saturday night lodge fellowship, "Tortoise Time", which included board games, Ga-Ga, Spikeball, banana splits, and a movie, but he is kind of old and had a long day. So he retired to his comfortable burrow for some much-needed relaxation. *Torty* is looking forward to seeing his brothers at the camp service days and lodge fall induction weekend later this year.



2016
SUMMER FELLOWSHIP



Withlacoochee Lodge Officer Elections

Elections for the 2017 Chief, Vice-Chief of Program, Vice-Chief of Administration, Secretary and Treasurer will be conducted on Sunday morning November 13th during our lodge meeting at our Fall Inductions weekend at Camp Osborn. Arrowmen desiring to serve as a Lodge Officer must meet the mandatory eligibility requirements as stated in the current printing of the Order of the Arrow *Guide for Officers and Advisers*:

- a. Be registered in Scouting, in the council that charters the lodge.
- b. Be a member in good standing in the lodge.
- c. Be younger than 21 for the entire term of service.

All nominees shall have the willingness to fulfill the duties of the position and attend the Lodge Executive Committee meetings. No experience is necessary.

All nominees must agree to attend the next Lodge Leadership Development course near the start of their term of service and consider attending the next available National Leadership Seminar. Per the Withlacoochee Lodge by-laws, all candidates must meet with the Lodge Adviser and Lodge Staff Adviser prior to nomination to ensure he meets the eligibility requirements and discuss responsibilities and expectations of that office. The candidate must get the approval of the Lodge Adviser in order to run for office. Candidates should have held a conference with their Unit Leader to discuss the duties and obligations of the Arrowman to their unit and the duties and responsibilities of the Lodge Office and review potential conflicts as well as benefits to the unit.

(Serving as a lodge officer is a great opportunity for you to apply what you learned at NYLT!!)



** ATTENTION ORDEAL MEMBERS **

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 Fall Inductions Weekend, November 11-13, 2016 at Camp Osborn.

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.



WHERE DID YOU GO?

Have you moved? Changed your email address?

Changed telephone numbers? If so, please send an email to: oalm.admin@withlacoochee.org so we can find you.



The South Georgia Council will conduct the National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) course February 24-26 and March 10-13, 2017. The NYLT Course Leader is Arrowman Rhett Redshaw. NYLT is the highest level of youth leadership training available through a council and the ideal leadership training for youth Arrowmen. NYLT is an exciting, action-packed program designed to provide youth members with leadership skills and experience they can use in their home troops and in other situations demanding leadership of self and others. The NYLT course centers around the concepts of what a leader must BE, what he must KNOW, and what he must DO.

The key elements are then taught with a clear focus on HOW TO. The course curriculum is delivered in a troop and patrol outdoor setting with an emphasis on immediate application of learning in a fun environment. Interconnecting concepts and work processes are introduced early, built upon, and aided by the use of memory aids, which allows participants to understand and employ the leadership skills much faster. NYLT participants will be engaged in a unified approach to leadership that will give them the skill and confidence to lead well. Through a wide range of activities, games, and adventures, participants will work and play together as they put into action the best Scouting has to offer. The best part of NYLT is that many of the NYLT staff are Withlacoochee Lodge Arrowmen so participants will be learning from the best Scouts in the council. Registration forms are on the South Georgia Council website. Please contact Course Director Sharon Scott at (229) 392-4757 or by e-mail at sscott@friendlycity.net.

What it Means To Be Called An Arrowman

For many, the Order of the Arrow may be the first fraternal organization with which they will be associated. As Scouting's national honor society, the OA attracts Scouts with high standards of conduct. Arrowmen display the Scout Law and Scout Oath, whether in uniform or not. Arrowmen are comfortable in the outdoors. They tend to be good team mates, and are self-reliant. Arrowmen know how to take care of themselves so they can take care of and serve others. Arrowmen deliver cheerful service without expecting reward or recognition. The OA is certainly a unique organization and is the only organization in which members are elected from outside of the membership.

Membership in the OA comes with great responsibility. Not only must an Arrowman continue to serve his unit, he must also support the lodge and serve the community. Supporting the lodge means paying annual dues, attending lodge functions, and upholding the customs and traditions that has made our Order thrive for over 100 years.

STAY IN FELLOWSHIP

Sign up now to receive text messages from the lodge through



To receive messages via text, text @86e7gk to 81010. You can opt-out of messages at any time by replying, 'unsubscribe @86e7gk'.

Trouble using 81010? Try texting @86e7gk to (706) 686-3528 instead.

Or to receive messages via email, send an email to 86e7gk@mail.remind.com. To unsubscribe, reply with 'unsubscribe' in the subject line.



**INTERESTED
IN SERVING
ON THE 2017
JAMBOREE
STAFF? →**



withlacoocheelodge



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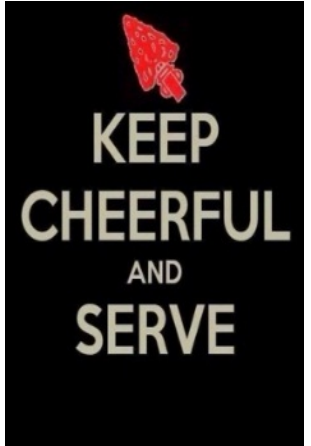


Make sure you subscribe to the latest news from Section SR-9:

<http://www.tinyurl.com/SR9updates>



2016 Withlacoochee Lodge Vigil nominations are due to Mr. Rick Green by Monday, 19 September 2016 for active members who have been Brotherhood for at least two years as of 24 September 2016. The nomination form is posted on our Facebook page. The Vigil Honor is a high mark of distinction and recognition reserved for those Arrowmen who, by reason of exceptional service, personal effort, and unselfish interest, have made distinguished contributions beyond the immediate responsibilities of their position or office to one or more of the following: their lodge, the Order of the Arrow, Scouting or their Scout camp.





On August 27, 2016, the SR-9 Council of Chiefs unanimously approved to rename the section conclave to the Heartland Gathering. This decision was made to highlight the **section's** premier event and to give a unique name to one of the largest section-level events in the nation. While brainstorming ideas for the new event name, the section officers looked at what connects Georgia and Alabama together. We considered Native American tribes and agriculture crops, but the one idea which peaked our interests is we are the center of the south. Our two states form the geographic and economic center of the Southern Region. The concept of being centrally located directly relates to the section tagline, *Serving the Southern Heartland*, which has been in use since the section was formed. As a result, the use of the word "Heartland" was an easy choice. The inaugural gathering will take place from April 21-23, 2017 at Camp Lumpkin in LaGrange, Georgia. Mark your calendars for the event and contact your lodge for registration information. The giveaways for those who register by January 31, 2017 will be a pair of Ray - Ban sunglasses or one of five Heartland Gathering patch sets. The prizes are not just for youth. Adults over the age of twenty-one will be entered for two of the patch sets. Section SR-9 is very excited about this new change and hope all Arrowmen will join with us in embracing our new event. Feel free to reach out to any section officer if you have questions or would like more information concerning the 2017 Heartland Gathering. (Reprinted with permission from the SR-9 Nine Feathers Newsletter, September 2016)

2016-2018 WITHLACOOCHEE LODGE EVENT CALENDAR

Date	Event	Location / Information
September 23-25, 2016	South Georgia Council Fall Camporee	Camp Patten (OA Cracker Barrel Friday Night, Vigil Nomination Committee meets Fri night, Call-out Ceremony at Saturday night campfire)
October 8, 2016	Camp Osborn Service Day	Camp Osborn (Ichaaway Chapter helps parking and preparing lunch)
November 11-13, 2016	Lodge Fall Induction Weekend	Camp Osborn (Ordeal and Brotherhood Saturday, Vigil Callout after Ordeal Ceremony, 2017 Officer Elections, LEC), Camp Service
December 2-3, 2016	Lodge Vigil Night / Vigil Reunion Breakfast	Camp Osborn (Vigil Honor Friday PM, Saturday AM Vigil Reunion Breakfast)
January 20-21, 2017	Lodge Banquet/LLD in conjunction w/ South Ga Council University of Scouting	Planned for FUMC Tifton (LLD) (LLD begins Friday PM and continues until Saturday's Banquet. Catered Banquet Saturday PM to install new lodge officers, Founder's Award Recipients, and Vigil Honor members' public recognition. Hosted by Blackwater)
February 3-5, 2017	Section Indian Winter	Camp Tukabatchee, Prattville, AL (Ceremony, dance, drum, costume workshops. Section Council of Chiefs)
February 4, 2017	South Georgia Council Annual Banquet	Tifton (Lodge Chief presents annual review to Council Board. OA color guard for banquet)
February 10-12, 2017	Endurance Ride	Camp Osborn (Lodge supports with trail guides. Fundraiser opportunity)
March 3-5, 2017	Lodge Spring Induction Weekend	Camp Patten (Ordeal and Brotherhood Saturday, LEC Sunday AM) Camp Service
April 21-23, 2017	Section SR9 Heartland Gathering	Camp Lumpkin, Lagrange, GA (Chattahoochee Lodge) (Support Section SR9, provide opportunities to lead, learn, and grow.)
April, 2018	Section SR9 Heartland Gathering	Location TBD (Withlacoochee is Service Lodge). Yes, this is our opportunity to host our first Conclave!